

# PolyChaos.jl – An open source Julia package for polynomial chaos expansion

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[github.com/timueh/PolyChaos.jl](https://github.com/timueh/PolyChaos.jl)

## Abstract

Polynomial chaos expansion (PCE) is a Hilbert space technique for random variables that alleviates uncertainty propagation. Random variables are expanded in terms of polynomials that are orthogonal relative to a given probability density function. The applicability of PCE hinges on software that allows, among others, to construct orthogonal polynomials. We offer a package for (intrusive) PCE written in the Julia programming language, a trending programming language dedicated to scientific computing.

## 1. Polynomial Chaos

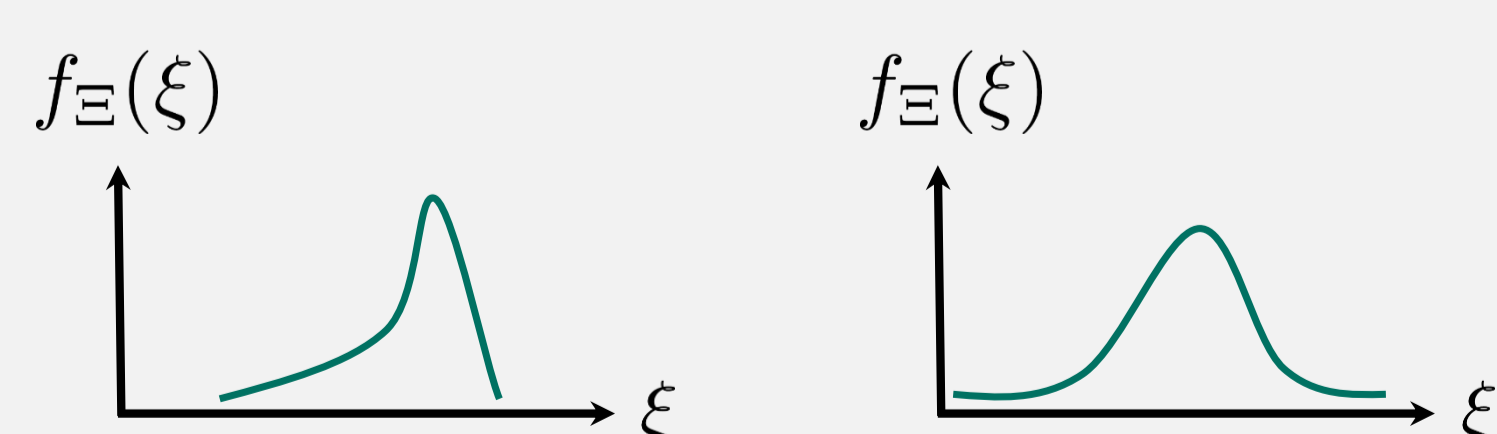
Hilbert space method for random variables.

Orthogonal basis	$\{\phi_k(\xi)\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$ with $\deg \phi_k(\xi) = k$
Hilbert space	$L^2(\mathbb{R}) \equiv L^2(\Omega, \mu; \mathbb{R})$ with $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$
Scalar product	$\langle x, y \rangle_{L^2} = \text{Cov}[x, y]$
Norm	$\ x\ _{L^2} = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle_{L^2}}$
Expansion	$X = X(\xi) = \sum_{l=0}^{\infty} x_l \phi_l(\xi)$
Truncation	$\tilde{x} = \tilde{x}(\xi) = \sum_{l=0}^L x_l \phi_l(\xi)$
Coefficients	$x_l = \frac{\langle x, \phi_l(\xi) \rangle_{L^2}}{\langle \phi_l(\xi), \phi_l(\xi) \rangle_{L^2}}$
Optimality	$\ x - \tilde{x}\ _{L^2} = \min_{y \in \mathfrak{D}} \ x - y\ _{L^2}$ $\mathfrak{D} = \text{span}\{\phi_l(\xi)\}_{l=0}^L$

Several well-known analytic bases (Askey).

Distribution	Polynomial basis
Normal	Hermite
Uniform	Legendre
Beta	Jacobi
Gamma	Laguerre

### → Arbitrary densities?



## 2. Desired Features

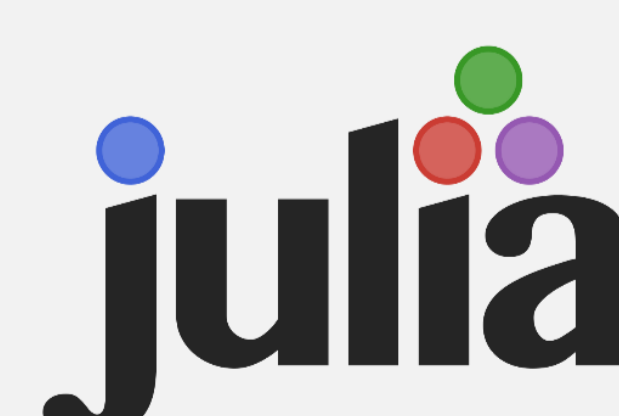
- Compute orthogonal polynomials for arbitrary densities
- Provide scalar products for intrusive PCE
 
$$\langle \phi_{i_1}, \phi_{i_2} \cdots \phi_{i_m} \rangle$$
- Multivariate support
- Comprehensible documentation

## 3. Existing Software

Name	Features
UQLab	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Matlab</li> <li>– BSD 3-clause license</li> <li>– Classic and arbitrary distributions</li> <li>– Stieltjes procedure</li> <li>– Gauss and sparse quadrature</li> <li>– Basis-adaptive sparse PCE</li> <li>– Least-angle regression</li> </ul>
Chaospy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– Python</li> <li>– MIT license</li> <li>– Classic and arbitrary distributions</li> <li>– Gram-Schmidt</li> <li>– Stieltjes procedure</li> <li>– Gauss quadrature</li> <li>– Clenshaw-Curtis</li> </ul>
MUQ	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– C++, Python</li> <li>– Classic distributions</li> <li>– Gauss quadrature</li> </ul>
UQToolkit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>– C++, Python</li> <li>– GNU LGPL license</li> <li>– Classic distributions</li> <li>– Gauss quadrature</li> </ul>

## 4. Julia

- "Walks like Python, runs like C"
- Solves the two-language problem
- Easy syntax
- Multiple dispatch
- Dynamically-typed
- Metaprogramming
- Package management
- Open source
- Unicode support



## 5. Details

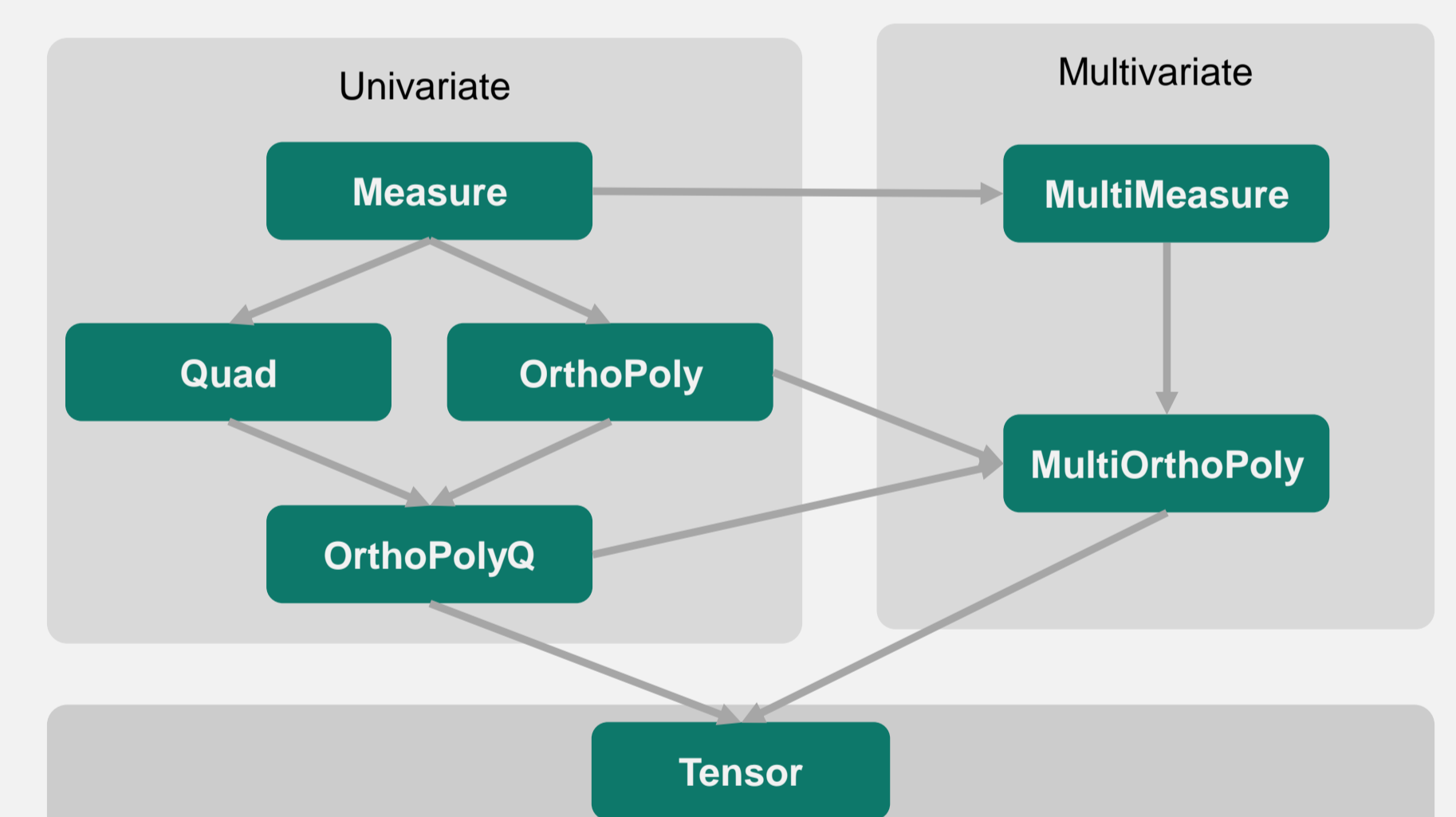
Given an absolutely continuous nonnegative measure, PolyChaos.jl allows

- To compute the coefficients for the monic three-term recurrence relation
- To evaluate orthogonal polynomials at arbitrary points
- To compute the quadrature rule
- To compute tensors of scalar products
- To do all of the above in a multivariate setting

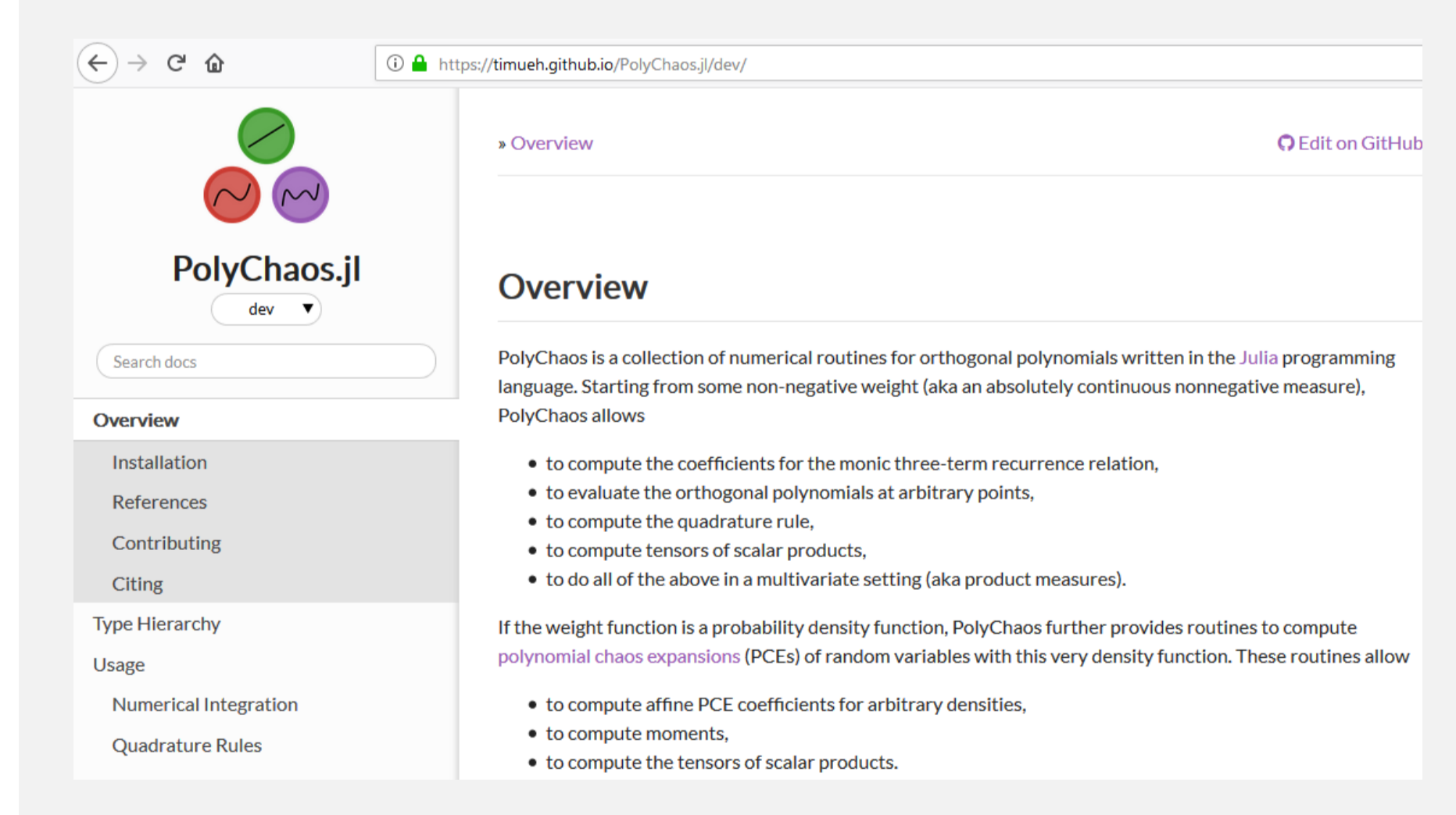
### Methods

- Stieltjes procedure
- Lanczos procedure
- Gauss quadrature (+ Lobatto, Radau)
- Fejér's rules, Clenshaw-Curtis
- Sparse computation of scalar products

### Type hierarchy



### Documentation & Examples



## Contributors welcome

[github.com/timueh/PolyChaos.jl](https://github.com/timueh/PolyChaos.jl)

[timueh.github.io/PolyChaos.jl/stable/](https://timueh.github.io/PolyChaos.jl/stable/)

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