

Gaussian Process

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This note aims to cover some materials on the Gaussian process. The primary references are [Gaussian Process for Machine Learning](#) by C. E. Rasmussen and CS-E4895 by Arno Solin.

1 Multivariate Normal Distribution

1.1 Linear transformation theorem for the multivariate normal distribution

Let x follow a multivariate normal distribution:

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (1)$$

Then, any affine transformation of x is also multivariate normally distributed:

$$y = Ax + b \sim \mathcal{N}(A\mu + b, A\Sigma A^\top) \quad (2)$$

Proof:

The moment-generating function of random vector x is

$$M_x(t) = \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top x)] \quad (3)$$

and therefore, the moment-generating function of the random vector y is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M_y(t) &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top (Ax + b))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top Ax) \exp(t^\top b)] \\ &= \exp(t^\top b) \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top Ax)] \\ &= \exp(t^\top b) M_x(A^\top t) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

The moment-generating function of the multivariate normal distribution is

$$M_x(t) = \exp(t^\top \mu + \frac{1}{2} t^\top \Sigma t) \quad (5)$$

and therefore, the moment-generating function of random vector y becomes

$$M_y(t) = \exp(t^\top (A\mu + b) + \frac{1}{2} t^\top A\Sigma A^\top t) \quad (6)$$

Since the moment-generating function and the probability density function of a random variable are equivalent, this demonstrates that y follows a multivariate normal distribution with mean $A\mu + b$ and covariance $A\Sigma A^\top$.

1.2 Marginal distribution of the multivariate normal distribution

Let x follow a multivariate normal distribution:

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (7)$$

Then, the marginal distribution of any subset vector x_s is also a multivariate normal distribution.

$$x_s \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_s, \Sigma_s) \quad (8)$$

where μ_s drops the irrelevant variables (the ones not in the subset, i.e., marginalized out) from the mean vector μ and Σ_s drops the corresponding rows and columns from the covariance matrix Σ .

Proof: Define an $m \times n$ subset matrix S such that $s_{ij} = 1$, if the j -th element in x_s corresponds to the i -th element in x , and $s_{ij} = 0$ otherwise. Then,

$$x_s = Sx \quad (9)$$

and we can apply the linear transformation theorem to give

$$x_s \sim \mathcal{N}(S\mu, S\Sigma S^\top) \quad (10)$$

Finally, we see that $S\mu = \mu_s$ and $S\Sigma S^\top = \Sigma_s$

1.3 Conditional distribution of the multivariate normal distribution

Let x follow a multivariate normal distribution

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (11)$$

Then, the conditional distribution of any subset vector x_1 , given the complement vector x_2 , is also a multivariate normal distribution

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{1|2} &= \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2) \\ \Sigma_{1|2} &= \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

with block-wise mean and covariance defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Sigma &= \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

Proof: Without loss of generality, we assume that in parallel to 13,

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

where $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1}$, $x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times 1}$, and $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$. The joint distribution of x_1 and x_2 is

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (15)$$

Moreover, the marginal distribution of x_2 follows from 11 and 13 as

$$x_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \Sigma_{22}) \quad (16)$$

According to conditional probability, it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{p(x_1, x_2)}{p(x_2)} \\ &= \frac{\mathcal{N}(x, \mu, \Sigma)}{\mathcal{N}(x_2, \mu_2, \Sigma_{22})} \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Using the probability density of multivariate-normal, this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma|} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right)}{1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n_2} |\Sigma_{22}|} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)\right)} \\ &= 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) + \frac{1}{2}(x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)\right) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Writing the inverse Σ as

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

and applying 13 to 18, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^\top \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \left(\begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}(x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Multiplying within 20, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}((x_1 - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma^{11}(x_1 - \mu_1) + 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma^{12}(x_2 - \mu_2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{22}(x_2 - \mu_2)) + \frac{1}{2}(x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)\right) \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

where we have used the fact that $\Sigma^{12} = \Sigma^{21^\top}$, because Σ^{-1} is symmetric. The inverse of a block matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1} & -(A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1}BD^{-1} \\ -D^{-1}C(A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1} & D^{-1} + D^{-1}C(A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1}BD^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (22)$$

Thus, the inverse of Σ^{-1} in 19 is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} & -(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} \\ -\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} & \Sigma_{22}^{-1} + \Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (23)$$

Plugging this into 20, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \\ &\exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left((x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) - \right. \right. \\ &\quad 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) + \\ &\quad (x_2 - \mu_2)^T [\Sigma_{22}^{-1} + \Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}] (x_2 - \mu_2) \\ &\quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2} ((x_2 - \mu_2)^T \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2)) \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Eliminating some terms, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \\ &\exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \left((x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) - \right. \right. \\ &\quad 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) + \\ &\quad \left. \left. (x_2 - \mu_2)^T \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21} (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Rearranging the terms, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \right. \\ &\quad \left. [(x_1 - \mu_1) - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)]^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} [(x_1 - \mu_1) - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)] \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \right. \\ &\quad \left. [x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2))]^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} [x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2))] \right] \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where we used the fact that $\Sigma_{21} = \Sigma_{12}^T$. The determinant of a block matrix is

$$\begin{vmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{vmatrix} = |D| \cdot |A - BD^{-1}C|, \quad (27)$$

such that we have for Σ that

$$\begin{vmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{vmatrix} = |\Sigma_{22}| \cdot |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}| \quad (28)$$

with this and $n - n_2 = n_1$, we finally arrive at

$$p(x_1|x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n_1} |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}|}} \cdot \exp \left[-\frac{1}{2} \cdot [x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2))]^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} [x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2))] \right] \quad (29)$$

which is the pdf of a multivariate normal distribution

$$p(x_1|x_2) = \mathcal{N}(x_1; \mu_{1|2}, \Sigma_{1|2}) \quad (30)$$

with mean $\mu_{1|2}$ and covariance $\Sigma_{1|2}$ given by 12.

2 The Marginal Likelihood

- Occam's razor: "When you have two competing models that produce similar predictions, the simpler, the better." The same concept goes for GP.
- The marginal likelihood $p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$ implements a version of Occam's razor.
- Marginal likelihood for Gaussian likelihood

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\boldsymbol{\theta})d\mathbf{f} \\ &= \int \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}, \sigma^2\mathbf{I})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}|0, \mathbf{K})d\mathbf{f} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|0, \sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}) \end{aligned}$$

- Then

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underbrace{-\frac{N}{2} \log(2\pi)}_{\text{constant}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \log |\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}|}_{\text{complexity penalty}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^\top (\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K})^{-1} \mathbf{y}}_{\text{data fit}}$$

2.1 The Marginal Likelihood Computation

- In practice, we should avoid computing determinants and inverses.
- Step 1: Compute Cholesky factorization of $\mathbf{C} = \sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}$ such that $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^\top$
- Step 2: Compute the log determinant as follows:

$$\log |\mathbf{C}| = \log |\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^\top| = \log |\mathbf{L}||\mathbf{L}^\top| = \log |\mathbf{L}|^2 = 2 \log |\mathbf{L}| = 2 \sum_{n=1}^N \log \mathbf{L}_{nn}$$

- Step 3: Compute quadratic term as follows

$$\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^\top (\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^\top)^{-1} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{L}^{-\top} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{y})^\top \underbrace{(\mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{y})}_{=\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v}$$

- Step 4: Sum up components

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\frac{N}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{n=1}^N \log \mathbf{L}_{nn} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v}$$

- Note that we never compute the determinant or the inverse of \mathbf{C} directly.

3 Kernel Theory

3.1 Hilbert Space

- A vector space \mathcal{V} is a set of closed vectors under addition and scalar multiplication.
- If \mathcal{V} is equipped with a norm $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{V}} \in \mathbb{R}$, it is a norm space.
- A Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is a complete inner product space, with inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ and induced norm $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}$.

3.2 Kernel Function and Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

- A function $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a kernel function if and only if there exists a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} and a map $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ such that:

$$k(x, y) = \langle \phi(x), \phi(y) \rangle \quad (31)$$

for all $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$.

- Let $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{X}}$ and let us define:

$$k_x := \phi(x) = k(x, \cdot) \quad (32)$$

Therefore, we have $k_x(y) = k(x, y)$.

- Let \mathcal{G} denote a vector space with span based on the images $\{k_x | x \in \mathcal{X}\}$, i.e.,

$$\{\mathcal{G} := \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i k_{x_i} | \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}, m \in \mathbb{N}, x_i \in \mathcal{X}\} \quad (33)$$

- By the definition of the kernel function, the inner product on \mathcal{G} is defined as follows:

$$\langle k_x, k_y \rangle := k(x, y) \quad (34)$$

Recall that $k_x = k(x, \cdot)$, hence, $\langle k_x, k_y \rangle = \langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle$.

- Therefore, for any $f, g \in \mathcal{G}$, with $f = \sum_i \alpha_i k_{x_i}$ and $g = \sum_j \beta_j k_{y_j}$, we have:

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \left\langle \sum_i \alpha_i k_{x_i}, \sum_j \beta_j k_{y_j} \right\rangle \quad (35)$$

$$= \sum_{ij} \alpha_i \beta_j \langle k_{x_i}, k_{y_j} \rangle \quad (36)$$

$$= \sum_{ij} \alpha_i \beta_j k(x_i, y_j) \quad (37)$$

- To make \mathcal{G} a Hilbert space, we need to make it complete, i.e., ensure all Cauchy sequences converge.

Definition 1. Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert space of real function f defined on an index set \mathcal{X} . Then \mathcal{H} is called a reproducing kernel Hilbert space endowed with an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ if there exists a kernel function $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with the following properties:

1. For every $x \in \mathcal{X}$, $k_x(y) = k(x, y)$ as function of $y \in \mathcal{X}$ belongs to \mathcal{H} , and
2. k has the reproducing property.

- Reproducing property:

$$\langle k_x, f \rangle = \left\langle k_x, \sum_i \alpha_i k_{x_i} \right\rangle \quad (38)$$

$$= \sum_i \alpha_i \langle k_x, k_{x_i} \rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i k(x, x_i) = f(x) \quad (39)$$

- Moore-Aronszajn theorem: Given a kernel, there is a unique RKHS, Given an RKHS, there is a unique kernel.

3.3 Representer Theorem

Settings:

- We are given kernel k and denote the corresponding RKHS at \mathcal{H} .
- We want to learn a linear function $f(\mathbf{x})$ from a finite data set $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

Theorem 1. Consider the risk minimization problem of the form:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \underbrace{R_n(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f})}_{\text{Empirical Risk}} + \underbrace{\lambda \Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}})}_{\text{Regularizer}} \quad (40)$$

where $\mathbf{f} = \{f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n)\}$, $\mathbf{y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$, and λ is a scaling parameter. Then 40 always has an optimal solution of the form:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}) \quad (41)$$

4 Spectral Kernel

4.1 Fourier Transforms

- Fourier transform $S(\omega)$ of a function $f(x)$,

$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \exp(-2\pi i x \omega) dx \quad (42)$$

- Inverse Fourier transform $f(x)$ of a spectral density $S(\omega)$

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) \exp(2\pi i x \omega) d\omega \quad (43)$$

- Euler's identity:

$$\exp(ix) = \cos x + i \sin x \quad (44)$$

Hence

$$\exp(\pm 2\pi i x \omega) = \cos(2\pi x \omega) \pm i \sin(2\pi x \omega) \quad (45)$$

4.2 Fourier Duals

Theorem 2. *Bochner's theorem: Any stationary kernel $k : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and its spectral density $S : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are Fourier duals*

$$\begin{aligned} k(x - x') &\equiv k(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) \exp(2\pi i x \omega^\top \tau) d\omega \\ S(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k(\tau) \exp(-2\pi i x \omega^\top \tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

5 Marginal Likelihood via Laplace Approximation

- Marginal likelihood to do model selection:

$$p(\mathbf{y}) = \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) p(\mathbf{f}) d\mathbf{f} \quad (46)$$

- Let $\psi(\mathbf{f}) = \log h(\mathbf{f}) = \log(p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}))$

$$\psi(\mathbf{f}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f} \quad (47)$$

- Second order Taylor approximation around the mode $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$

$$\psi(\mathbf{f}) = \psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})^\top \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}}) \quad (48)$$

- Substituting back

$$p(\mathbf{y}) \approx q(\mathbf{y}) = \int \exp(\psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})^\top \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})) d\mathbf{f} \quad (49)$$

$$= \exp(\psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})) \int \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})^\top \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})) d\mathbf{f} \quad (50)$$

$$= \exp(\psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})) (2\pi)^{N/2} |\mathbf{A}^{-1}|^{1/2} \quad (51)$$

$$= \exp(\log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}}) (2\pi)^{N/2} |\mathbf{A}^{-1}|^{1/2} \quad (52)$$

- Taking the log of $q(\mathbf{y})$

$$\begin{aligned} \log q(\mathbf{y}) &= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} \\ &\quad + \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi + \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{A}^{-1}| \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

$$= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} + \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{A}^{-1}| \quad (54)$$

- We can now use the fact that $|\mathbf{A}^{-1}| = |\mathbf{A}|^{-1}$

$$\log q(\mathbf{y}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} - \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{A}| \quad (55)$$

- Recall that $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \mathbf{W}$

$$\log q(\mathbf{y}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} - \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{K}^{-1} + \mathbf{W}| \quad (56)$$

- We optimize $\log q(\mathbf{y})$ using gradient based methods to choose hyperparameters.

6 Multi-output GP

6.1 Intrinsic coregionalization model (ICM): two-outputs

- Consider two output $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ and $f_2(\mathbf{x})$ with $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Assume the following generative model:
 1. Sample from a GP $u(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$ to obtain $u^1(\mathbf{x})$
 2. Obtain $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ and $f_2(\mathbf{x})$ by linearly transforming $u^1(\mathbf{x})$

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) = a_1^1 u(\mathbf{x})$$

$$f_2(\mathbf{x}) = a_2^1 u(\mathbf{x})$$

6.2 ICM: covariance

- For a fixed value \mathbf{x} , we can group $f_1(\mathbf{x})$ and $f_2(\mathbf{x})$ in a vector $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}$$

We refer to this as a vector-valued function.

- The covariance for $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ is computed as

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')^\top] - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})]\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')]^\top$$

- We compute the term $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')^\top]$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[\begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}') & f_2(\mathbf{x}') \end{bmatrix} \right] &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[f_1(\mathbf{x})f_1(\mathbf{x}')] & \mathbb{E}[f_1(\mathbf{x})f_2(\mathbf{x}')] \\ \mathbb{E}[f_2(\mathbf{x})f_1(\mathbf{x}')] & \mathbb{E}[f_2(\mathbf{x})f_2(\mathbf{x}')] \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (a_1^1)^2 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] & a_1^1 a_2^1 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] \\ a_1^1 a_2^1 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] & (a_2^1)^2 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (a_1^1) & a_1^1 a_2^1 \\ a_1^1 a_2^1 & (a_2^1)^2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] \end{aligned}$$

- The term $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})]$ is computed as

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[f_1(\mathbf{x})] \\ \mathbb{E}[f_2(\mathbf{x})] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^1 \\ a_2^1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})]$$

- Putting the terms together, the covariance for $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$ follows

$$\begin{bmatrix} (a_1^1) & a_1^1 a_2^1 \\ a_1^1 a_2^1 & (a_2^1)^2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] - \begin{bmatrix} a_1^1 \\ a_2^1 \end{bmatrix} [a_1^1 \quad a_2^1] \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})]\mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x}')]^T$$

- Defining $\mathbf{a} = [a_1^1 \quad a_2^1]^\top$ and $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\top$,

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')) = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\top k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{B}^\top k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

6.3 ICM: Observed data

- Given $\mathcal{D}_1 = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, f_1(\mathbf{x}_i)) | i = 1, \dots, N\}$ and $\mathcal{D}_2 = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, f_2(\mathbf{x}_i)) | i = 1, \dots, N\}$, then

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1 \\ \mathbf{f}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ f_1(\mathbf{x}_N) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} b_{11}\mathbf{K} & b_{12}\mathbf{K} \\ b_{21}\mathbf{K} & b_{22}\mathbf{K} \end{bmatrix} \right) = \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{K} \right)$$

- The inversion rule: $(A \otimes B)^{-1} = A^{-1} \otimes B^{-1}$

7 Computational Complexity of GP Regression

- Data set with N observations, computing posterior for 1 test point:

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_* &= \mathbf{K}_{f_*f}(\mathbf{K}_{ff} + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{y} \\ \sigma_*^2 &= \mathbf{K}_{f_*f_*} - \mathbf{K}_{f_*f}(\mathbf{K}_{ff} + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{f_*f}^\top\end{aligned}$$

- Matrix-vector multiplication (mvm): for $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$ and $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^M$, computing $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{b}$ costs $\mathcal{O}(NM)$
- Matrix inverse: for $\mathbf{C} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$, computing \mathbf{C}^{-1} costs $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$
- $(\mathbf{K}_{ff} + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{y}$ scales as $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$.

8 Approximately solving linear system

8.1 Matrix inverse as quadratic optimization

- Rewrite matrix inverse

$$\mathbf{v} = \hat{\mathbf{K}}^{-1}\mathbf{y}, \quad \hat{\mathbf{K}} = \mathbf{K} + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$$

as a linear system:

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{y} = 0$$

- Solve as a quadratic optimization problem:

$$\mathbf{v}^* = \arg \min_{\mathbf{v}} \mathbf{v}^\top \hat{\mathbf{K}}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{y}$$

8.2 Conjugate gradient

- Using conjugate gradient to solve the quadratic optimization
 1. Iterative method
 2. Each step is $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
 3. Recovers exact solution after N steps $\rightarrow \mathcal{O}(N^3)$
 4. Approximate solution in much fewer steps: less steps.

8.3 Convergence and preconditioning

- Condition number: ratio of largest to smallest eigenvalue $\lambda_{\min}(\hat{\mathbf{K}})/\lambda_{\max}(\hat{\mathbf{K}})$.
- High condition numbers: numerically unstable, slow convergence.
- Improve by preconditioning: Instead of $\hat{\mathbf{K}}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{y} = 0$, solve

$$\mathbf{P}^{-1}\hat{\mathbf{K}}\mathbf{v} - \mathbf{P}^{-1}\mathbf{y} = 0$$

9 Low-rank approximation

- Recall GP marginal log-likelihood:

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}) = \log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|0, \mathbf{K} + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})$$

Assume \mathbf{K} to be low rank.

9.1 Approximation by subset

- Let's randomly pick a subset from training data: $\mathbf{Z} \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times Q}$

- Approximate the covariance matrix \mathbf{K} by $\hat{\mathbf{K}}$

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} = \mathbf{K}_z \mathbf{K}_{zz}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_z^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

$$\mathbf{K}_z = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{zz} = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Z}) \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times M}$$

- The log-likelihood is approximated by

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}) = \log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|0, \mathbf{K}_z \mathbf{K}_{zz}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_z^\top + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})$$

- Furthermore, apply Woodbury matrix identity:

$$(UCV + A)^{-1} = A^{-1} - A^{-1}U(C^{-1} + VA^{-1}U)^{-1}VA^{-1}$$

$$(\mathbf{K}_z \mathbf{K}_{zz}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_z^\top + \sigma^2\mathbf{I})^{-1} = \sigma^{-2}\mathbf{I} - \sigma^{-4}\mathbf{K}_z(\mathbf{K}_{zz} + \sigma^{-2}\mathbf{K}_z^\top \mathbf{K}_z)^{-1}\mathbf{K}_z^\top$$

- The complexity reduces to $\mathcal{O}(NM^2)$.

10 Variational Inference for Sparse GP

10.1 Inducing point methods: the joint model

- Goal: choose a set of inducing points s.t. it contains the same information as a full data set.

- The augmented model

$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}) = p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}) = p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u})p(\mathbf{u})$$

- Recover the original model by marginalizing over \mathbf{u} :

$$p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}) = \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u})d\mathbf{u} = p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) \int p(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u})d\mathbf{u} = p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f})$$

- Using Gaussian conditional densities:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}, \sigma^2\mathbf{I})$$

$$p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{K}_{nm}\mathbf{K}_{mm}^{-1}\mathbf{u}, \hat{\mathbf{K}}), \quad \hat{\mathbf{K}} = \mathbf{K}_{nn} - \mathbf{K}_{nm}\mathbf{K}_{mm}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{mn}$$

$$p(\mathbf{u}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}|0, \mathbf{K}_{mm})$$

- Covariance of inducing points: $[\mathbf{K}_{mm}]_{ij} = k(z_i, z_j)$
- Cross-covariance between inducing points and training: $[\mathbf{K}_{mn}]_{ij} = k(z_i, x_j)$
- Covariance of training points: $[\mathbf{K}_{nn}]_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$

10.2 Variational Sparse GP

- Variational lower bound of a marginal likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}) &= \log \int_{\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}} p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})p(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{Z}) \\ &\geq \int_{\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}} q(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})p(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{Z})}{q(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u})} \equiv \mathcal{L}\end{aligned}$$

- Defining the variational posterior as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}q(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}) &= p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})q(\mathbf{u}) \\ q(\mathbf{u}) &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{S})\end{aligned}$$

- Thus, we have:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L} &= \int_{\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{u}} p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})q(\mathbf{u}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})p(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{Z})}{p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})q(\mathbf{u})} \\ &= \langle \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) \rangle_{p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})q(\mathbf{u})} - \text{KL}[q(\mathbf{u})|p(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{Z})]\end{aligned}$$

10.3 Likelihood

- Recall that $p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(y_i|f_i)$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{f})}[\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})] &= \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{f})} \left[\log \prod_{i=1}^N p(y_i|f_i) \right] = \sum_{i=1}^N \mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{f})} [\log p(y_i|f_i)] \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int \int q(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{f}) \log p(y_i|f_i) d\mathbf{u} d\mathbf{f} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int \int p(f_i|\mathbf{u})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{S}) \log p(y_i|f_i) d\mathbf{u} df_i \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^N \int \int p(f_i|\mathbf{u})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{S}) d\mathbf{u} \log p(y_i|f_i) df_i\end{aligned}$$

- Let $\int p(f_i|\mathbf{u})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{S}) d\mathbf{u} \approx q(f_i) = \mathcal{N}(f_i|\mathbf{K}_{im}\mathbf{K}_{mm}^{-1}\mathbf{m}, \hat{K}_{ii} + \mathbf{K}_{im}\mathbf{K}_{mm}^{-1}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{K}_{mm}^{-1})\mathbf{K}_{mi}$
- Thus,

$$\mathbb{E}_{q(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{f})}[\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})] = \sum_{i=1}^N \int q(f_i) \log p(y_i|f_i) df_i$$

11 State space GP

11.1 State space representation

- State space representation as a solution to a linear time-invariant stochastic differential equation (SDE):

$$d\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{f}dt + \mathbf{L}d\beta$$

where $\beta(t)$ is a vector of a Wiener process.

- Equivalently,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{f}(t)}{dt} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{f}(t) + \mathbf{L}\mathbf{w}(t)$$

The model consists of a drift matrix $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$, diffusion matrix $\mathbf{L} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times s}$, and spectral density matrix of the white noise process $\mathbf{Q} \in \mathbb{R}^{s \times s}$.

- The initial state is given by a stationary state $\mathbf{f}(0) \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{P}_\infty)$ which satisfies

$$\mathbf{F}\mathbf{P}_\infty + \mathbf{P}_\infty\mathbf{F}^\top + \mathbf{L}\mathbf{Q}_c\mathbf{L}^\top = 0$$

- The covariance function at the stationary state can be recovered by

$$\kappa(t, t') = \begin{cases} \mathbf{P}_\infty \exp((t' - t)\mathbf{F})^\top & t' \geq t \\ \exp((t' - t)\mathbf{F})\mathbf{P}_\infty & t' < t \end{cases}$$

- Spectral density function at the stationary state:

$$S(\omega) = (\mathbf{F} + i\omega\mathbf{I})^{-1}\mathbf{L}\mathbf{Q}_c\mathbf{L}^\top(\mathbf{F} - i\omega\mathbf{I})^{-\top}$$

- Discrete state space model:

$$\mathbf{f}_i = \mathbf{A}_{i-1}\mathbf{f}_{i-1} + \mathbf{q}_{i-1}, \quad \mathbf{q}_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{Q}_i)$$

$$\mathbf{A}_i = \exp(\mathbf{F}\Delta t_i)$$

$$\mathbf{Q}_i = \int_0^{\Delta t_i} \exp(\mathbf{F}(\Delta t_i - \tau))\mathbf{L}\mathbf{Q}_c\mathbf{L}^\top \exp(\mathbf{F}(\Delta t_i - \tau))^\top d\tau$$

$$\Delta t_i = t_{i+1} - t_i$$

- If the model is stationary:

$$\mathbf{Q}_i = \mathbf{P}_\infty - \mathbf{A}_i\mathbf{P}_\infty\mathbf{A}_i^\top$$

11.2 Sequential GP regression

- Also known as Kalman filter → considers one data point at a time.
- Kalman prediction:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{m}_{i|i-1} &= \mathbf{A}_{i-1}\mathbf{m}_{i-1|i-1} \\ \mathbf{P}_{i|i-1} &= \mathbf{A}_{i-1}\mathbf{P}_{i-1|i-1}\mathbf{A}_{i-1}^\top + \mathbf{Q}_{i-1}\end{aligned}$$

- Kalman update:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{v}_i &= y_i - \mathbf{H}\mathbf{m}_{i|i-1} \\ \mathbf{S}_i &= \mathbf{H}_i\mathbf{P}_{i|i-1}\mathbf{H}_i^\top + \sigma_n^2 \\ \mathbf{K}_i &= \mathbf{P}_{i|i-1}\mathbf{H}_i^\top\mathbf{S}_i^{-1} \\ \mathbf{m}_{i|i} &= \mathbf{m}_{i|i-1} + \mathbf{K}_i\mathbf{v}_i \\ \mathbf{P}_{i|i} &= \mathbf{P}_{i|i-1} - \mathbf{K}_i\mathbf{S}_i\mathbf{K}_i^\top\end{aligned}$$

- To condition all time-marginals on all data, run a backward sweep (Rauch–Tung–Striebel smoother):

$$\begin{aligned}\mathbf{m}_{i+1|i} &= \mathbf{A}_i\mathbf{m}_{i|i} \\ \mathbf{P}_{i+1|i} &= \mathbf{A}_i\mathbf{P}_{i|i}\mathbf{A}_i^\top + \mathbf{Q}_i \\ \mathbf{G}_i &= \mathbf{P}_{i|i}\mathbf{A}_i^\top\mathbf{P}_{i+1|i}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{m}_{i|n} &= \mathbf{m}_{i|i} + \mathbf{G}_i(\mathbf{m}_{i+1|n} - \mathbf{m}_{i+1|i}) \\ \mathbf{P}_{i|n} &= \mathbf{P}_{i|i} - \mathbf{G}_i(\mathbf{P}_{i+1|n} - \mathbf{P}_{i+1|i})\mathbf{G}_i^\top\end{aligned}$$