

# Lab 9 (solution)

FTP MachLe MSE  
HS 2023

## Gaussian Processes

Machine Learning  
WÜRCH

*Essentially, all models are wrong, but some are useful.*  
GEORGE E.T. BOX

After this unit, ...

### Lernziele/Kompetenzen

- you know the principle of maximum likelihood (ML) and maximum a posteriori probability (MAP) and you know their difference.
- you know (K1), that both the *conditionals*  $p(x|y)$  and the *marginals*  $p(x)$  of a joint Gaussian  $p(x, y)$  are again Gaussian.
- you know (K1) that a *Gaussian process*  $\mathcal{GP}(\mu, k)$  is a generalization of a multivariate Gaussian distribution to infinitely many variables. A Gaussian process is a *prior* over *functions*  $p(f)$  which can be used for Bayesian regression. Sampling from a Gaussian process means sampling *functions* (instead of samples of a random variable) out of a pool of functions characterized by a mean function  $\mu$  and a covariance function  $k(x, x')$ .
- you know (K1), that every model relies on (explicit or implicit) *assumptions*. We discriminate *knowledge*, *assumptions* and *simplifying assumptions*. In Bayesian reasoning, assumptions are formulated as *prior distribution*  $p(\theta)$  over the parameters  $\theta$  of a model. Using Bayes rule, one can calculate the posterior parameter distribution  $p(\theta|x, y)$  given the data  $(x, y)$  and the model assumptions.

$$\text{posterior} = p(\theta|x, y) = \frac{p(y|x, \theta) \cdot p(\theta)}{\int_{\theta} p(y|x, \theta) \cdot p(\theta) d\theta} = \frac{\text{likelihood} \cdot \text{prior}}{\text{marginal}} \quad (1)$$

- you are able to formulate *probabilistic models* that use *priors* to express knowledge (or beliefs) about aspects of the model. You can formulate a *probabilistic model* for a process  $f(x, \theta)$  with additive Gaussian noise  $\varepsilon$ . You can derive the *likelihood function*  $p(y|x, \varepsilon, \theta)$  for this model given the parameters  $\theta$ .
- you are able (K3) to *sample functions* from a Gaussian Process  $\mathcal{GP}(\mu, k)$  with given mean  $\mu(x)$  and covariance function  $k(x, x')$  using the `GaussianProcessRegressor` of the class `sklearn.gaussian_process`.

- you are able (K3) to *fit*  $n$ -dimensional data using a Gaussian Process, i.e. you are able to *infer* hyperparameters of the model from given data using the `GaussianProcessRegressor` of the class `sklearn.gaussian_process`.
- you are able (K3) to *make predictions* using the `GaussianProcessRegressor` of the class `sklearn.gaussian_process`.
- you know (K1) that the *predictive distribution* which is used for making predictions for unknown data  $(x^*, y^*)$  can be calculated by *marginalizing* (integrating or averaging) over the parameter distribution.

$$p(y^*|x^*, x, y) = \int_{\theta} p(y^*|x^*, x, y, \theta) \cdot p(\theta|x, y) d\theta \quad (2)$$

- you know (K1) the most important covariance functions (kernels)  $k(x, x')$ , namely the *constant* kernel, the *Gaussian* kernel, the *RBF*-kernel (radial basis function), the *Dot-Product* kernel and the *sine-exponential* kernel.
- you are able (K3) to apply *kernel operations* (namely sum and product) in order to construct a probabilistic model adapted to a given dataset.

## 1. Medical Inference (Bayes Theorem) [M,I]

Breast cancer facts:

- 1 % of scanned women have breast cancer
- 80 % of women with breast cancer get positive mammography scans
- 9.6 % of women without breast cancer also get positive mammography scans

Question: A woman gets a scan, and it is positive. what is the probability that she has breast cancer?

Welche der folgenden Aussagen sind wahr und welche falsch?	wahr	falsch
<b>a)</b> less than 1 %	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>b)</b> less than 10 %	<input checked="" type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
<b>c)</b> around 80 %	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>
<b>d)</b> around 90 %	<input type="radio"/>	<input checked="" type="radio"/>

## 2. Likelihood function, MAP and linear regression [L,II]

- a) The likelihood is the probability of each datapoint  $y_i$  given the model and its parameters.

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \theta) \quad (3)$$

The probability of *one* datapoint  $y_i$  given the model  $\hat{y}(\theta, x_i)$  for a Gaussian noise  $\varepsilon$  is:

$$p(y_i|x_i, \theta) \sim \mathcal{N}(y_i|\hat{y}, \sigma_n^2) \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_n^2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} (y_i - \hat{y}(x_i, \theta))^2 \right\} \quad (5)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_n^2}} \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} (y_i - f(x_i|\theta))^2 \right\} \quad (6)$$

The likelihood of all data points is the product of the probabilities of each datapoint  $(x_i, y_i)$ :

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \theta) = \prod_{i=1}^N p(y_i|x_i, \theta) \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma_n^2)^{N/2}} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - f(x_i|\theta))^2 \right\} \quad (8)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma_n^2)^{N/2}} \cdot \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \|\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\theta)\|^2 \right\} \quad (9)$$

- b) By taking the natural logarithm of (7), the result immediately follows:

$$\log [p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \theta)] = -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \sum_{i=1}^N (y_i - f(x_i|\theta))^2 - \frac{N}{2} \cdot \log (2\pi\sigma_n^2) \quad (10)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \|\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\theta)\|^2 - \frac{N}{2} \cdot \log (2\pi\sigma_n^2) \quad (11)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \text{SSE}(\theta) - \frac{N}{2} \cdot \log (2\pi\sigma_n^2) \quad (12)$$

- c) In case of a linear model, we can write the sum of the squared error  $\text{SSE}(\theta)$  in matrix form:

$$\text{SSE}(\theta) = \|\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\theta)\|^2 \quad (13)$$

$$= (\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\theta))^T \cdot (\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\theta)) \quad (14)$$

$$= (\mathbf{Y} - \Phi \cdot \theta)^T \cdot (\mathbf{Y} - \Phi \cdot \theta) \quad (15)$$

The square norm can always be written in form of a scalar product, so it is sufficient to consider only one term of the scalar product:

$$(\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\theta)) = \begin{pmatrix} y_1 - (\theta_1 + \theta_2 x_1) \\ y_2 - (\theta_1 + \theta_2 x_2) \\ \vdots \\ y_N - (\theta_1 + \theta_2 x_N) \end{pmatrix} \quad (16)$$

$$= \left( \mathbf{Y} - [\mathbf{1}_N \mathbf{X}] \begin{pmatrix} \theta_1 \\ \theta_2 \end{pmatrix} \right) \quad (17)$$

$$= (\mathbf{Y} - \Phi \cdot \theta) \quad (18)$$

d) The two following results from matrix calculus are useful. For column vectors  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  and  $\mathbf{x}$  of the same length, the following statement is valid:

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\mathbf{a}^T \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{a}) = \mathbf{a} \quad (19)$$

For a column vector  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  and matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , the following identity holds:

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\theta}) = (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T) \boldsymbol{\theta} \quad (20)$$

Especially, if  $\mathbf{A}$  is symmetric:

$$\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}}(\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\theta}) = 2\mathbf{A} \boldsymbol{\theta} \quad (21)$$

To find the maximum likelihood solution, we set the gradient of the log likelihood function to zero:

$$0 = \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \log [p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\theta})] \quad (22)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \|\mathbf{Y} - f(\mathbf{X}|\boldsymbol{\theta})\|^2 \quad (23)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} [(\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbf{Y})^T \cdot (\Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbf{Y})] \quad (24)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} \nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} [\boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T \mathbf{Y} - \mathbf{Y}^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{Y}] \quad (25)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} [\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - 2\nabla_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} \boldsymbol{\theta}^T \Phi^T \mathbf{Y} - 0] \quad (26)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2} [2\Phi^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} - 2\Phi^T \mathbf{Y}] \quad (27)$$

This leads to the definition of the *Least Squares Normal Equations*:

$$\Phi \mathbf{Y} = \Phi^T \Phi \boldsymbol{\theta} \quad (28)$$

The Least Squares estimate  $\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{ML}}$  of the parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$  is then given by:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\theta}}_{\text{ML}} = (\Phi^T \Phi)^{-1} \Phi^T \mathbf{Y} \quad (29)$$

### 3. Prior samples and posterior distributions from different kernels of a $\mathcal{GP}$ [A,II]

The solution Jupyter notebook can be found on moodle:

Lab9\_A3\_plot\_gpr\_prior\_posterior.ipynb

### 4. Model fitting, prediction and noise estimation using a $\mathcal{GP}$ [A,II]

The solution Jupyter notebook can be found on moodle:

Lab9\_A4\_FitGPModel\_NoiseEstimation\_solution.ipynb