



Gaussian Process with Pseudo Data

2 FITC Approximation

Snelson and Ghahramani [2006] proposes the idea of having pseudo data, which is later referred to as NIMly independent training condition (FITC).

Key Idea

Augment the training data (\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}) with pseudo data \mathbf{u} at location \mathbf{Z} . Then try to use $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}}$ to approximate $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}}$

$$p \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} \middle| \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X} \\ \mathbf{Z} \end{bmatrix} \right) = \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} \middle| \mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}} & \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NM}} \\ \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NM}}^\top & \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

where $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}} = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X})$, $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NM}} = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})$, $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}} = \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{Z}, \mathbf{Z})$.



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- Thanks to the marginalization property of Gaussian distribution,

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}) = \int_{\mathbf{u}} p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{u}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z})$$

- Further re-arrange the notation:

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

where $p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NM}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}}^{-1}\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}} - \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MN}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{uu}}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{fu}}^{\top}) + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$,
 $p(\mathbf{u}|\mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{u}|0, \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}})$



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Key Idea

The FITC approximation assumes

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NM}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}}^{-1}\mathbf{u}, \text{diag}[\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}} - \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}}] + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}}),$$

where $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}} = \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NM}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{fu}}^{\top}$

- Marginalize \mathbf{u} from the model definition:

$$\tilde{p}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Z}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|0, \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}} + \text{diag}[\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}} - \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}}] + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}} + \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}).$$

where $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}} = \text{diag}[\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{NN}} - \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}}] + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{N}}$



FITC Approximation

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- Start by considering the Cholesky decomposition $\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MM}} = \mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{M}}\mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{M}}^{\top} \cdot (\mathcal{O}(M^3))$
- We have $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{NN}} = \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{MN}}^{\top}\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{MN}}$, where $\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{MN}} = \mathbf{U}_{\mathbf{M}}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{MN}} \cdot (\mathcal{O}(M^2N))$
- The log-determinant term $\log(|\mathbf{K}_{*}|)$ can be rewritten as

$$\log(|\mathbf{V}^{\top}\mathbf{V} + \mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}|) = \log(|\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}| \cdot |\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{M}} + \mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}^{-1}\mathbf{V}^{\top}|) = \sum_i \log(\mathbf{d}_i) + 2 \sum_i \log(\mathbf{L}_{ii}),$$

where \mathbf{d}_i is the i th diagonal terms of $\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}$, $\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{M}}\mathbf{L}_{\mathbf{M}}^{\top} = \mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{M}} + \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{MN}}\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}^{-1}\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{MN}}^{\top} \cdot (\mathcal{O}(M^2N))$

- Using Woodbury formula, we have:

$$\mathbf{K}_{*}^{-1} = \mathbf{D}^{-1} - \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{V}^{\top}(\mathbf{I}_{\mathbf{M}} + \mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}_{\mathbf{N}}^{-1}\mathbf{V}^{\top})^{-1}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}^{-1} = \mathbf{D}^{-1} - \underbrace{(\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}^{-1})^{\top}}_{\mathcal{O}(M^2N)}(\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{V}\mathbf{D}^{-1}).$$