

# STAT 37710: Homework 3

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## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Problem 1</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Problem 2</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>3</b>	<b>Problem 3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Problem 4</b>	<b>5</b>
1	Problem 4, part a . . . . .	5
2	Problem 4, part b . . . . .	6
3	Problem 4, part c . . . . .	7
4	Problem 4, part d . . . . .	8
<b>5</b>	<b>Problem 5</b>	<b>9</b>
1	Problem 5, part a . . . . .	9
2	Problem 5, part b . . . . .	11
3	Problem 5, part c . . . . .	12
<b>6</b>	<b>Problem 6</b>	<b>13</b>
1	Problem 6, part a . . . . .	14
2	Problem 6, part b . . . . .	17
3	Problem 6, part c . . . . .	18
4	Problem 6, part d . . . . .	19
5	Problem 6, part e . . . . .	20

## Problem 1

An online algorithm, like the perceptron, is said to be conservative if it changes its hypothesis only when it makes a mistake. Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a concept class and  $A$  be a (not necessarily conservative) online algorithm which has a finite mistake bound  $M$  on  $\mathcal{C}$ . Prove that there is a conservative algorithm  $A'$  for  $\mathcal{C}$  which also has mistake bound  $M$ .

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### Solution:

With our given  $A$ , we understand that it updates its hypothesis for any input in the concept class. Define the algorithm  $A'$  to be equivalent to  $A$  only when we encounter a mistake in prediction, else  $A'$  does nothing for correct predictions. Suppose we have a concept class of the form  $\mathcal{C} = \{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$ , where the  $y_i$  are the correct classification of the respective example  $x_i$ . We know that our original algorithm  $A$ , when every example in our concept class has been applied, will only make at most  $M$  mistakes (suppose without loss of generality  $M \leq n$ ). Denote the subset  $S$  of  $\mathcal{C}$  to be the examples which  $A'$  makes a mistake in classification. Note that, when we rerun our training, both algorithms  $A$  and  $A'$  will perform identically when run on  $S$ . Therefore, on this set,  $A'$  will make the same number of mistakes as  $A$ , the latter of which is bounded above by  $M$ . This implies that  $A'$  will itself make at most  $M$  mistakes on this set. This gives us that  $A'$  will make at most  $M$  mistakes. Therefore, the claim has been proven.

## Problem 2

Give an example of a function  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  that is symmetric ( $k(x, x') = k(x', x)$ ) and positive in the sense that  $k(x, x') \geq 0$  for all  $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$ , but is not positive semidefinite. Conversely, give an example of a kernel that is positive semidefinite, but does not satisfy  $k(x, x') \geq 0$  for all  $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$ .

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### Solution:

Let us first define the dataset  $\mathcal{X}$  we are working with. For the first example, let  $\mathcal{X} = \{0, 1\}$ , which is just the set containing just zero and one. For the first example, let

$$k(x, x') = (x - x')^2 + (xx')^2.$$

This function is clearly symmetric and positive on our dataset. Define  $A$  to then be the Gram matrix of this function, that is

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} k(0, 0) & k(0, 1) \\ k(1, 0) & k(1, 1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

In order for our function  $k$  to be psd, it is sufficient to show that this matrix is psd. Note that this is not the case, however, as one of its eigenvalues is negative. In fact, its eigenvalues are

$$\lambda_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2}(1 \pm \sqrt{5}).$$

Clearly showing that this matrix is not psd, we can explicitly write show an example of a vector  $\mathbf{c}$  for which  $\mathbf{c}^\top A \mathbf{c} < 0$ . By explicitly writing this out, we see

$$\mathbf{c}^\top A \mathbf{c} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1 & c_2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix} = c_2(c_2 + 2c_1).$$

Taking  $c_2 = 1, c_1 = -1$ , we get the above to equal  $-1$ . Therefore,  $A$  is doubly not psd.

For the second example, let our data set be  $\mathcal{X} = \{-1, 1\}$  and our function to be simply  $k(x, x') = xx'$ . Forming the matrix  $A$  as in the above example gives us

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix},$$

which has eigenvalues 0, 2. This makes  $A$  psd, which in turn makes the function  $k$  psd. However,  $k$  is clearly not positive for all  $x, x' \in \mathcal{X}$ , since  $k(-1, 1) = -1 < 0$ . Therefore, both examples have been given.

### Problem 3

Given any function  $\psi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'$ , prove that if  $k'$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X}'$ , then  $k(x, x') = k'(\psi(x), \psi(x'))$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X}$ .

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#### Solution:

We will first show symmetry. Let  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathcal{X}$ , then

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = k'(\psi(\mathbf{x}), \psi(\mathbf{x}')) = k'(\psi(\mathbf{x}'), \psi(\mathbf{x})) = k(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{x}).$$

The above holds since  $k'$  is given to be psd, in particular symmetric. Next, let the vector  $\xi$  be given as the following: suppose  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ , then, we have

$$\xi = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \psi(\mathbf{x}_i) \in \mathcal{X}'.$$

Since  $\xi \in \mathcal{X}'$ , we then have that

$$\langle \xi, \xi \rangle \geq 0 \implies \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n c_i c_j k'(\psi(\mathbf{x}_i), \psi(\mathbf{x}_j)) \geq 0.$$

Since we have the given relation between the two kernels, we have that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n c_i c_j k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \geq 0.$$

Therefore, we have that  $k$  is a psd kernel.

## Problem 4

Prove that if  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are two positive semi-definite (psd) kernels on a space  $\mathcal{X}$ , then

### Problem 4, part a

The function,  $k(x, x') := k_1(x, x') + k_2(x, x')$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X}$ ;

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#### Solution:

In order for the given function to be a psd kernel, we require  $k$  to be both symmetric and have the property that

$$\sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k(x_i, x_j) \geq 0.$$

Symmetry is simple, since

$$k(x, x') = k_1(x, x') + k_2(x, x') = k_1(x', x) + k_2(x', x) = k(x', x).$$

The above actions are justified since  $k_1, k_2$  are psd, hence symmetric. Next, we write down the given sum in terms of  $k_1$  and  $k_2$ .

$$\sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k_1(x_i, x_j) + \sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k_2(x_i, x_j).$$

Since both  $k_1$  and  $k_2$  are psd, the two sums on the left are positive for any choice  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$ . Hence, the right hand side is positive, so  $k$  is shown to be psd.

## Problem 4, part b

The function  $k_{\oplus}((x_1, x_2), (x'_1, x'_2)) = k_1(x_1, x'_1) + k_2(x_2, x'_2)$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X}'$ .

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### Solution:

We will repeat the same process as in the previous example.  $k_{\oplus}$  is symmetric, since

$$k_{\oplus}((x_1, x_2), (x'_1, x'_2)) = k_1(x_1, x'_1) + k_2(x_2, x'_2) = k_1(x'_1, x_1) + k_2(x'_2, x_2) = k_{\oplus}((x'_1, x'_2), (x_1, x_2)).$$

Again, this works since  $k_1, k_2$  are symmetric. Then, showing its sum is positive, we have

$$\sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k_{\oplus}((x_i^1, x_i^2), (x_j^2, x_j^2)) = \sum_{i,j} c_i c_j (k_1(x_i^1, x_j^1) + k_2(x_i^2, x_j^2)) = \sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k_1(x_i^1, x_j^1) + \sum_{i,j} c_i c_j k_2(x_i^2, x_j^2).$$

Since  $k_1, k_2$  are psd, then the two sums on the right are positive. This implies that the sum on the left are positive. Therefore, the function  $k_{\oplus}$  is a psd kernel.

### Problem 4, part c

Given any function  $\psi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'$ , prove that if  $k'$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X}'$ , then  $k(x, x') = k'(\psi(x), \psi(x'))$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X}$ .

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#### Solution:

This is problem 3, just repeated. Please see my answer to problem 3 for my answer.

## Problem 4, part d

Let  $\alpha(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$  be the angle between  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Prove that the cosine kernel  $k_{\angle}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \cos(\alpha(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$  is a psd kernel on  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^n$ .

---

### Solution:

First, we should define the angle between two vectors in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  space. Note the inner product between  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{x}'$  can be written as

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle = \|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{x}'\| \cos(\alpha),$$

where  $\alpha$  denotes the angle between the two. Rewriting for  $\theta$ , we have

$$\alpha(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \arccos \left( \frac{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle}{\|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{x}'\|} \right).$$

This implies that, when plugging into  $k_{\angle}$ , we have that

$$k_{\angle}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \frac{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}' \rangle}{\|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{x}'\|}.$$

This is clearly symmetric, since the inner product is symmetric. Furthermore, the cosine kernel defines the entry-wise normalized Gram matrix <sup>1</sup>, which is indeed symmetric, hence positive semidefinite. Therefore, the claim has been shown.

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<sup>1</sup>Instead of this entry-wise normalized Gram matrix, we can first normalize our data. Then the cosine kernel simply defines the Gram Matrix. Either way, the claim that this defines a symmetric matrix is not lost.



## Problem 5

Recall that a training set  $\{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_m, y_m)\}$  is said to have edge  $\gamma$  over a set of weak classifiers  $H$  if for any distribution  $D$  over the training set, there is at least one weak learner  $h \in H$  such that  $\varepsilon_h = \sum_{i=1}^m D(i) \ell_{0/1}(h(x_i), y_i) \leq 1/2 - \gamma$ .

### Problem 5, part a

Using the inequality  $\ell_{0/1}(z, 1) \leq e^{-z}$  prove that after  $t$  rounds of boosting the running hypothesis  $\hat{h}(x) = \text{sgn}\left(\sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x)\right)$  satisfies

$$\ell_{0/1}(\hat{h}(x_i), y_i) \leq m \left( \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s \right) D_{t+1}(i)$$

for every example  $i = 1, 2, \dots, m$ .

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#### Solution:

The Distribution  $D_{t+1}(i)$  is given by

$$D_{t+1}(i) = \frac{1}{m} \left( \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s \right)^{-1} \exp \left( -y_i \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i) \right).$$

This is given in the slides. We can rearrange this to get

$$m \left( \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s \right) D_{t+1}(i) = \exp \left( -y_i \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i) \right).$$

By the bound given, we have

$$\ell_{0/1} \left( y_i \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i), 1 \right) \leq m \left( \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s \right) D_{t+1}(i).$$

This is equal to the given inequality above, we just need to massage the penalty function. Note that the  $\ell_{0/1}$  loss function is given by

$$\ell_{0/1}(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0, & x = y \\ 1, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}.$$

For our case, we have

$$\ell_{0/1} \left( y_i \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i), 1 \right) = \begin{cases} 0, & 1 = y_i \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i) \\ 1, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}$$

The equality  $1 = y_i \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i)$  can be rephrased as  $1 = y_i \hat{h} \left| \sum_{s=1}^t \alpha_s h_s(x_i) \right|$ . This gives us the size of the magnitude of the sum, but for the purposes of this problem, we can neglect it. We are primarily concerned with

the equality  $1 = y_i \hat{h}$ , which when plugging into our loss function, we have

$$\ell_{0/1}(y_i, \hat{h}) = \begin{cases} 0, & y_i = \hat{h} \\ 1, & \text{o.w.} \end{cases}.$$

We can then write

$$\ell_{0/1}(y_i, \hat{h}) \leq m \left( \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s \right) D_{t+1}(i),$$

which is what we wanted to show.

## Problem 5, part b

Use this to show that

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \prod_{s=1}^t 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_s(1 - \varepsilon_s)}.$$

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### Solution:

By the definition of the training error,

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) = \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \ell_{0/1}(\hat{h}(x_i), y_i),$$

we can plug in our bound in part a to get

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m D_{t+1}(i) \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s = \left( \sum_{i=1}^m D_{t+1}(i) \right) \left( \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s \right).$$

Since the given distribution is discrete, summing over all its entries is equal to one. Hence

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \prod_{s=1}^t Z_s.$$

Note that for any  $s$ ,  $Z_s = 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_s(1 - \varepsilon_s)}$ . This can be substituted in to get

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \prod_{s=1}^t 2\sqrt{\varepsilon_s(1 - \varepsilon_s)},$$

which is what we wanted to show.

### Problem 5, part c

By plugging into the definition of the edge at round  $s$ , which is  $\gamma_s = 1/2 - \varepsilon_s$  and using the inequality  $1 - z \leq e^{-z}$  prove that the training error decreases exponentially,

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \exp(-2\gamma^2 t),$$

as stated in a Theorem in class.

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**Solution:** Substituting in the given form for  $\gamma_s$  from the result of part b, we have

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \prod_{s=1}^t 2\sqrt{(1/2 - \gamma_s)(1/2 + \gamma_s)} = \prod_{s=1}^t \sqrt{1 - 4\gamma_s^2}.$$

By the given bound, we can say that

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \prod_{s=1}^t \sqrt{\exp(-4\gamma_s^2)} = \prod_{s=1}^t \exp(-2\gamma_s^2).$$

Since the negative exponential is a monotonically decreasing function, another upper bound can be made by instead substituting the minimum of the  $\gamma_s$ 's in the exponential. In particular, we have

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \prod_{s=1}^t \exp(-2\gamma^2),$$

which after exponent properties, we get

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{train}}(\hat{h}) \leq \exp\left(-2\gamma^2 \sum_{s=1}^t 1\right) = \exp(-2\gamma^2 t).$$

This then proves the theorem stated in class.

## Problem 6

Recall that a Gaussian Process is a distribution over functions, not just over some finite collection of variables. Specifically, a GP  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$  on the real line is a distribution for which we fix  $n$  points  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$  and draw a function  $f$  from  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$ , the function values  $f(x_1), f(x_2), \dots, f(x_n)$  are jointly normally distributed with

$$\mathbb{E}(f(x_i)) = \mu(x_i),$$

$$\text{Cov}(f(x_i), f(x_j)) = k(x_i, x_j).$$

Here,  $\mu$  and  $k$  are considered parameters of the GP, just like the vector mean vector  $\mu$  and the covariance matrix  $\Sigma$  are parameters of the normal distribution:  $\mu$  can be any function  $\mu : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , and  $k : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  can be any positive semi-definite kernel on  $\mathbb{R}$ . (It takes a little bit of theoretical work to show that for any  $\mu, k$ ,  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$  really is a valid distribution over functions, and this is essentially unique.) For simplicity, in the following we will take  $\mu(x) = 0$ , and set  $k$  to be our favorite kernel, the Gaussian RBF kernel  $k(x, x') = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\tau^2}(x - x')^2\right)$ .

In the Bayesian framework, GPs are used as a prior for the function  $\hat{f}$  that we are trying to estimate. The beauty of GPs is that there are several complicated looking things that one can do with them in a very simple way:

1. We can draw function from the prior  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$ .
2. In a regression setting, if we assume that the observed data  $S = \{(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_m, y_m)\}$  are distributed around  $f$  according to a second univariate Gaussian:

$$y = f(x) + \eta \quad \eta \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2), \quad (1)$$

we can invoke Bayes' rule

$$p(f|S) = \frac{p(S|f)p(f)}{p(S)}$$

to get the posterior distribution over  $f$ . Miraculously, in the case the posterior also turns out to be a Gaussian Process,  $\mathcal{G}(\mu', k')$ .

3. We can draw further functions from this update GP  $\mathcal{G}(\mu', k')$ , or just use its mean  $\hat{f} = \mu'$  as our regression estimate (which will be the same as doing Ridge Regression), and  $k'$  as a measure of uncertainty about  $\hat{f}$ .

In this problem, you are asked to do the following: Assume that for  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}$ , the function values  $f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n)$  are known, and we want to estimate the value of  $f$  at some point  $x$ . Define the Gram matrix  $\mathbf{K} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ , the vector  $\mathbf{k}_x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and the scalar  $\kappa_x$  as

$$\mathbf{K}_{i,j} = k(x_i, x_j)$$

$$[\mathbf{k}_x]_i = k(x, x_i)$$

$$\kappa_x = k(x, x),$$

and let  $\mathbf{f} = (f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n))^\top$ . Assume for simplicity that  $\mu(x) = 0$ . The key to using GP's is that since  $(f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n), f(x))$  are jointly normal with covariance matrix

$$\mathbf{K}^{(n+1)} = \left[ \begin{array}{c|c} \mathbf{K} & \mathbf{k}_x \\ \hline \mathbf{k}_x^\top & \kappa_x \end{array} \right],$$

the distribution of  $f(x)$  given  $(f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n))$  is also normal.

## Problem 6, part a

<sup>2</sup> Show that the mean and variance of  $f(x)$  given  $(f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n))$  is

$$\mathbb{E}(f(x)) = \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}$$

$$\text{Var}(f(x)) = \kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x.$$

### Solution:

We will investigate the probability of the  $f(x)$  given  $\mathbf{f} \equiv (f(x_1), \dots, f(x_n))$ . Note that Bayes rule tells us

$$p(f(x)|\mathbf{f}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{f}|f(x))p(f(x))}{p(\mathbf{f})} = \frac{p(\mathbf{f}, f(x))}{p(\mathbf{f})}$$

Define  $\mathbf{f}' = (\mathbf{f}^\top, f(x))^\top$ . By the properties of GPs, (this is given as i), we can draw functions from the prior. Hence,

$$p(f(x)|\mathbf{f}) = \frac{(2\pi)^{-(n+1)/2} |\mathbf{K}_{n+1}|^{-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}'^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}'\right)}{(2\pi)^{-n/2} |\mathbf{K}_n|^{-1} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}\right)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \frac{|\mathbf{K}|}{|\mathbf{K}_{n+1}|} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{f}'^\top \mathbf{K}_{n+1}^{-1} \mathbf{f}' - \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}\right]\right)$$

We will first investigate and simplify the exponential term. Taking the first term, we will expand it to get

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^\top & f(x) \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{n+1}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ f(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^\top & f(x) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} (\mathbf{K} - \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top)^{-1} & -(\mathbf{K} - \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top)^{-1} \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \mathbf{k}_x \\ \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top}{\kappa_x} (\mathbf{K} - \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top)^{-1} & \frac{1}{\kappa_x} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top}{\kappa_x} \left(\mathbf{K} - \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top\right)^{-1} \frac{\mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ f(x) \end{bmatrix} \quad (2)$$

The Expansion seen above was performed using the Sherman Morrison Woodberry formula. You will notice that there is a repeating term which shows up in each entry of the expansion, for the sake of legibility I will

<sup>2</sup>This is gonna get really ugly, really quickly.

rewrite this. Implementing the Sherman-Morrison formula to this term, we get

$$\left(\mathbf{K} - \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top\right)^{-1} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \frac{1}{\kappa_x} \left( \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{1 - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x} \right) = \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x} \quad (3)$$

I will define the denominator in the above to be equal to  $\lambda$ . For the simplification of the expansion of  $\mathbf{K}_{n+1}^{-1}$ , I will denote its block entries as  $A, B, C, D$ , where each entry is labelled in the standard sense. Note that (3) is equal to  $A$ . I will simplify each term separately below:

$B :$

$$= - \left( \mathbf{K}^{-1} - \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x} \right) \frac{\mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x} \quad (\text{Applying (3.)})$$

$$= - \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x} + \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x \lambda} \quad (\text{Rearranging.})$$

$$= \frac{-\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x (\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x) + \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x \lambda} \quad (\text{Combining fractions.})$$

$$= - \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\lambda} \quad (\text{Simplifying.})$$

$C :$

$$\frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top}{\kappa_x} \left( \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x} \right) \quad (\text{Applying (3.)})$$

$$= \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x \lambda} \quad (\text{Rearranging.})$$

$$= \frac{-\mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} (\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x) + \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x \lambda} \quad (\text{Combining fractions.})$$

$$= - \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\lambda} \quad (\text{Simplifying.})$$

$D :$

$$\frac{1}{\kappa_x} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top}{\kappa_x} \left( \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x} \right) \frac{\mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x} \quad (\text{Applying (3.)})$$

$$= \frac{1}{\kappa_x} - \frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x \lambda} \quad (\text{Using } B.)$$

$$= \frac{\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x + \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\kappa_x \lambda} \quad (\text{Combining fractions.})$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} \quad (\text{Simplifying.})$$

According to the calculations above, we can rewrite (2) as the following:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^\top & f(x) \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{n+1}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ f(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}^\top & f(x) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\lambda} & -\frac{\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}{\lambda} \\ -\frac{\mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1}}{\lambda} & \frac{1}{\lambda} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ f(x) \end{bmatrix}$$

After all the matrix vector multiplication, this equates to

$$\mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f} + \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f} - \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x f(x) - \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f} + \frac{f(x)^2}{\lambda}$$

Note that in  $p(f(x)|\mathbf{f})$ , we are subtracting away  $\mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}$ , so the first term in the above expression is subtracted away. After grouping, we have

$$\frac{1}{\lambda} \left( f(x) - \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \right)^2 \quad (4)$$

Next, we'll simplify the normalization constant in  $p(f(x)|\mathbf{f})$ . This equates to finding the determinant of  $\mathbf{K}_{n+1}$ . In this form, the determinant of a block matrix is given as

$$\det \left( \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} \right) = \det(A) \det(D - CA^{-1}B),$$

so the determinant is given as

$$\det(\mathbf{K}_{n+1}) = \det(\mathbf{K}) \det(\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x) = \lambda \det(\mathbf{K})$$

Therefore,  $p(f(x)|\mathbf{f})$  simplifies to

$$p(f(x)|\mathbf{f}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi|\lambda|^2}} \exp \left( -\frac{1}{2\lambda} \left( f(x) - \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x \right)^2 \right)$$

Therefore, the mean of  $f(x)$  is  $\mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x$  and the variance is  $\lambda$ .



## Problem 6, part b

Similarly, show that if  $y_1, \dots, y_n$  are distributed around  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  according to (1), then given  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$ ,

$$p(f(x)|y_1, \dots, y_n) \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{k}_x^\top (\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{y}, \kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top (\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x\right)$$

---

### Solution:

According to (1), the  $y_i$ 's are distributed around  $f(x)$  according to a normal distribution with variance  $\sigma^2$ . Thus,

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \\ f(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ f(x_n) \\ f(x) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} \eta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \eta_n \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We can then repeat the process done in the previous part, except with using  $\mathbf{y}$  over  $\mathbf{f}$  to get the form above. Note that the covariance should be replaced with  $\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbb{I}$ , due to the distribution of the  $y_i$ 's.

### Problem 6, part c

Let  $\mu(x) = 0$  and  $k(x, x') = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{(2\tau)^2}(x - x')^2\right)$  with  $\tau^2 = 0.12$ . Draw 20 different samples from  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$  and plot them, restricted to the unit interval  $[0, 1]$  on the  $x$  axis. For this, all you need to do is let  $z_1, \dots, z_n$  be a sufficient number of equispaced points on  $[0, 1]$ , and plot the line connecting  $f(z_1), \dots, f(z_N)$ , where  $f \sim \mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$ .

---

#### Solution:

The results are shown in Figure 1.

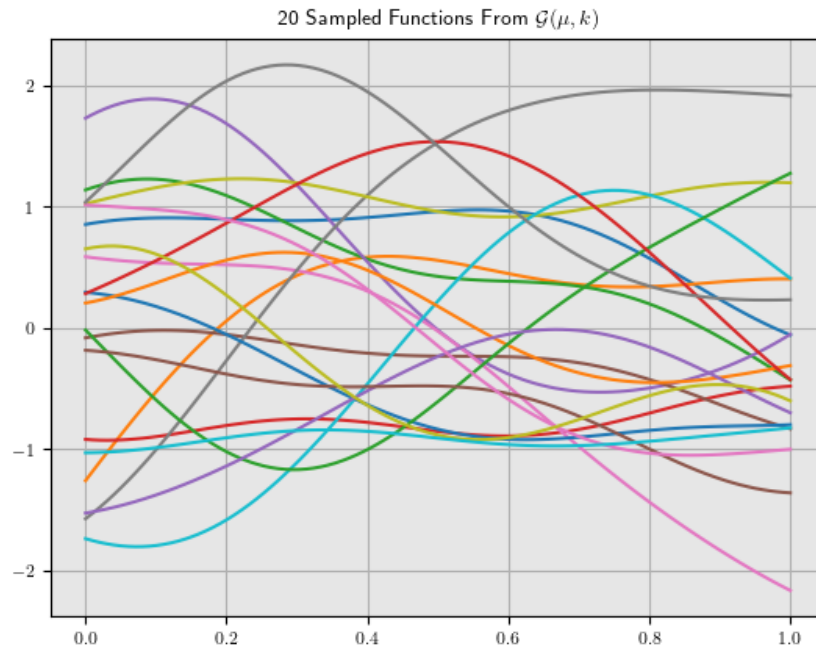


Figure 1: 20 Equispaced points drawn from given kernel.

## Problem 6, part d

Now apply GP regression to the dataset `gp.dat`. Your prior should be  $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$  as before. Given the data in `gp.dat` (the first column are the  $x$  values and the second column are the  $y$  values, plot the posterior mean

$$\mu'(x) = \mathbf{k}_x^\top (\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

and the two standard deviation bounds around it

$$s'_\pm = \mathbf{k}_x^\top (\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{y} \pm 2\sqrt{\kappa_x - \mathbf{k}_x^\top (\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbb{I})^{-1} \mathbf{k}_x}.$$

---

### Solution:

I have implemented GP Regression (this time, in Python. In retrospect, it wasn't that difficult, so I could have maybe done it in C++). My plot is shown below. Note that I was a little confused on what exactly I should set the  $\sigma$  value to be. It just so happens that  $\sigma = 1$  looks perfectly reasonable for this data set, so I did not touch it. My plot is shown below, which gives the mean and two deviations away from the mean for the data in `gp.dat`.

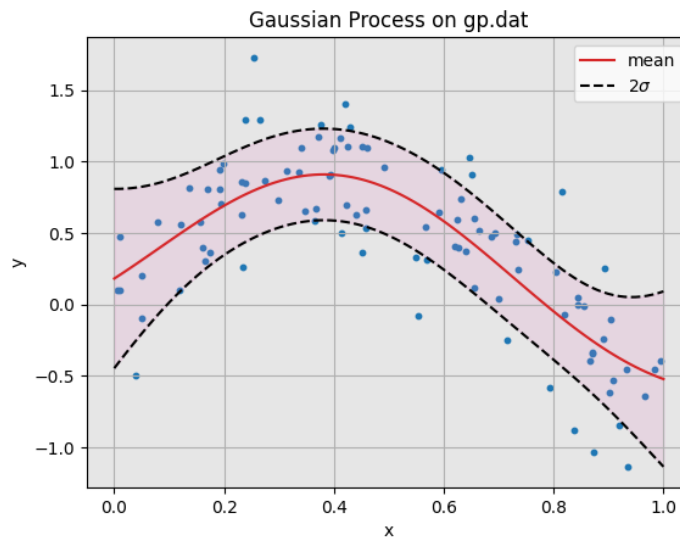


Figure 2: GP Process on `gp.dat`

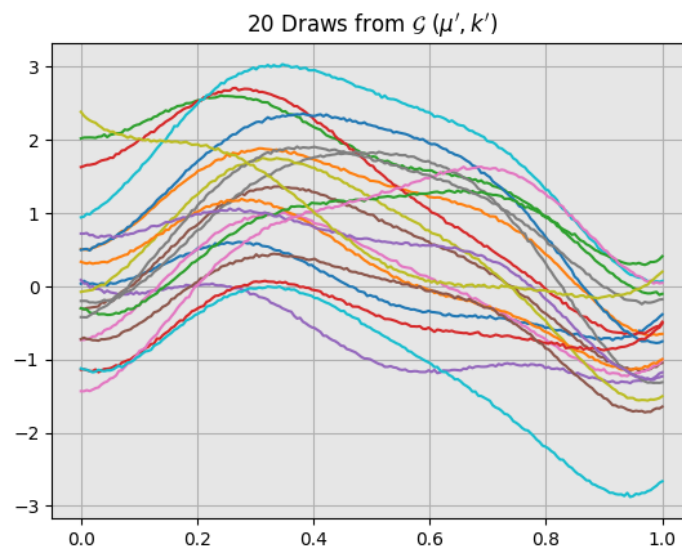
## Problem 6, part e

Plot 20 samples from the posterior GP  $\mathcal{G}(\mu', k')$ . Similarly to part (c).

---

### Solution:

My results are below. The entirety of my code will follow.



```
In [ ]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import scipy
import math
```

```
In [ ]: def RBFkernel(x1: float, x2: float, sigma_sq: float = 1):
    """
    RBF kernel.
    """
    pow = -1/(2*sigma_sq) * (x1 - x2)**2
    return math.exp(pow)

def cov_mat(x1: np.ndarray, x2: np.ndarray, ker: callable, sigma_sq: float = 1) -> np.ndarray:
    """
    Returns the Covariance matrix for the given kernel.
    """
    n = max(x1.shape)
    cov = np.zeros((n, n))
    for i in range(n):
        for j in range(n):
            cov[i][j] = ker(x1[i], x2[j], sigma_sq)

    return cov
```

```
In [ ]: plt.figure(figsize=[9, 12])
plt.rcParams.update({
    'font.size': 8,
    'text.usetex': True,
    'text.latex.preamble': r'\usepackage{amsfonts}'
})
```

```
In [ ]: n_points = 100
n_draws = 20
interval = (0, 1)
xs = np.linspace(interval[0], interval[1], n_points).reshape(-1, 1)
Si = cov_mat(xs, xs, ker = RBFkernel, sigma_sq=0.12)
mean = np.zeros(n_points)
ys = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean=mean, cov=Si, size=n_draws).reshape(-1, 1)

for i in range(n_draws):
    plt.plot(xs, ys[i])

plt.grid()
plt.gca().set_facecolor((0.9, 0.9, 0.9))
plt.title(r"$20$ Sampled Functions From $\mathcal{G}(\mu, k)$")
```

```
In [ ]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import scipy
import math
```

```
In [ ]: def RBFkernel(x1: float, x2: float, sigma_sq: float = 1):
    """
    RBF kernel.
    """
    pow = -1/(2*sigma_sq) * (x1 - x2)**2
    return math.exp(pow)

def cov_mat(x1: np.ndarray, x2: np.ndarray, ker: callable, sigma_sq: float = 1) -> np.ndarray:
    """
    Returns the Covraiance matrix for the given kernel.
    """
    n = max(x1.shape)
    cov = np.zeros((n, n))
    for i in range(n):
        for j in range(n):
            cov[i][j] = ker(x1[i], x2[j], sigma_sq)

    return cov

def GPRegression(x1: np.ndarray, y1: np.ndarray, n_points: int,
                 interval : tuple, sigma_sq: float) -> tuple:
    """
    GP Regression with specified parameters. Returns mean and
    standard deviation (for each point).
    """
    n = x1.__len__()

    x2 = np.linspace(interval[0], interval[1], n_points)#.reshape(-1, 1)
    cov = cov_mat(x1, x1, RBFkernel, sigma_sq=0.12)

    mean = np.zeros(n_points)
    stdev = np.zeros(n_points)
    i = 0
    while i < n_points:

        # First generate the mean, then stdev
        # Form k_x
        k_x = np.zeros(n)
        for j in range(n):
            k_x[j] = RBFkernel(x2[i], x1[j], 0.12)
        # Set kappa_x
        kappa_x = RBFkernel(x2[i], x2[i])
        # Make K + si_sq*I
        K_mod = cov + sigma_sq*np.eye(n)
        mean_right = scipy.linalg.solve(K_mod, y1, assume_a='pos')
        mean[i] = np.dot(k_x, mean_right)

        # Now do stdev
        stdev_right = scipy.linalg.solve(K_mod, k_x, assume_a='pos')
        if kappa_x - np.dot(k_x, stdev_right) < 0:
            print("Error, standard deviation too small. Increasing...")
            i = 0
            sigma_sq = sigma_sq*2
            continue

        stdev[i] = kappa_x - np.dot(k_x, stdev_right)
        stdev[i] = np.sqrt(stdev[i])
        i+=1
    print("Ending sigma: ", sigma_sq)
    return (mean, stdev)
```

```
In [ ]: # Fetching data
data = np.genfromtxt("gp.dat")
x1 = data[:, 0]
y1 = data[:, 1]

#Desired output
n_points = 200
x2 = np.linspace(0, 1, n_points)

interval = (0, 1)
sigma_sq = 1
# Get Mean, stdev
mean, stdev = GPRegression(x1, y1, n_points, interval, sigma_sq)
```

```
In [ ]: plt.scatter(x1, y1, s=10)
plt.plot(x2, mean, color='tab:red', label= "mean")
plt.plot(x2, mean+2*stdev, color='k', linestyle='--', label = "2$\sigma$")
plt.plot(x2, mean-2*stdev, color='k', linestyle='--')
plt.fill_between(x2, mean+2*stdev, mean, alpha=0.15, color='tab:pink')
plt.fill_between(x2, mean-2*stdev, mean, alpha=0.15, color='tab:pink')
```

```
plt.gca().set_facecolor((0.9, 0.9, 0.9))
plt.grid(True)
plt.title("Gaussian Process on gp.dat")
plt.xlabel("x")
plt.ylabel("y")
plt.legend()
plt.show()
```

```
In [ ]: n_draws = 20
K_mod = cov_mat(x2, x2, ker=RBfkernel, sigma_sq=0.12) + sigma_sq*np.eye(x2.__len__())
ys = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean=mean, cov=K_mod, size=n_draws).reshape(-1, 1)

for i in range(n_draws):
    plt.plot(x2, ys[i])
plt.gca().set_facecolor((0.9, 0.9, 0.9))
plt.grid(True)
plt.title(r"20 Draws from $\mathcal{G}(\mu', k')$")
plt.show()
```