Advanced Bayesian Learning

Gaussian Process Regression and Classification - Lecture 2

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Stationary processes and smoothness

A stochastic process (field) $\{f(\mathbf{x}), x \in \mathbb{R}^D\}$ is weakly stationary if $E(f(\mathbf{x})) = \mu$ and its covariance function $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ is a function of $\mathbf{t} = \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'$

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = Cov [f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')] = k(\mathbf{t}).$$

The covariance function is **isotropic** if it only depends on the distance $t = \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}\|$ (invariant to directions)

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = Cov[f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')] = k(t).$$

A stationary process is continuous in quadratic mean

$$E\left(\left|f(x+t)-f(x)\right|^2\right)\to 0 \text{ as } t\to 0$$

iff k(t) is continuous at t = 0.

A stationary process is differentiable in quadratic mean

$$\frac{f(x+t)-f(x)}{t} \stackrel{q.m.}{\to} f'(x) \text{ as } t \to 0$$

iff k(t) is twice continuously differentiable at t = 0.

Fourier analysis and orthogonal functions

Fourier series for functions:

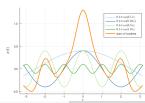
$$f(x) = \sum_{k} a_k \cos(2\pi s_k x) + \sum_{k} b_k \sin(2\pi s_k x)$$

$$a_k = \int f(x) \cos(2\pi s_k x) dx$$
 and $b_k = \int f(x) \sin(2\pi s_k x) dx$.

 \blacksquare cos and sin are orthogonal at Fourier frequencies s_k and s_l :

$$\int \sin(2\pi s_k x)\cos(2\pi s_l x)dx = \delta_{kl}$$

- **Complex exponential**: $e^{it} \equiv \cos t + i \cdot \sin(t)$.
- Fourier: $f(x) = \sum_k c_k e^{i2\pi s_k x}$ where $c_k = \int f(x)e^{i2\pi s_k x} dx$.



Spectral density

Bochner's theorem: A function $k(\cdot)$ is the covariance function of a stationary continuous process iff

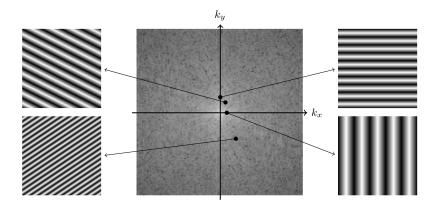
$$k(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^D} e^{2\pi i s t} S(s) ds$$

- S(s) is the spectral density. S(s) is the energy allocated to the basis function $e^{2\pi i s t}$ at frequency s.
- $S(s) \iff k(t) \iff \text{Smoothness of } f(x).$
- Multivariate Bochner's: A function $k(\cdot)$ on \mathbb{R}^D is the covariance function of a stationary continuous process iff

$$k(\mathbf{t}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^D} e^{2\pi i \mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{t}} S(\mathbf{s}) d\mathbf{s}$$

 $e^{2\pi i \mathbf{s}^T \mathbf{t}}$ is a *D*-dimensional sine wave with frequency \mathbf{s} (with direction).

Fourier in 2D



Spectral density determines smoothness

 \blacksquare A stationary process f(x) is continuous in q.m. if

$$\int S(s)ds < \infty$$

■ The kth q.m. derivative process $f^{(k)}(x)$ has spectral density

$$S_{f^{(k)}}(s) = s^{2k}S_f(s)$$

f(x) is q.m. differentiable of order k iff S(s) has moments order 2k.

Spectral densities of common kernels

- Let r = ||x x'||. All kernels can be scaled by $\sigma_f > 0$.
- **Squared** exponential (SE) $(\ell > 0)$

$$K_{SE}(r) = \exp\left(-rac{r^2}{2\ell^2}
ight)$$

- ► Spectral density $S(s) = (2\pi\ell^2)^{D/2} \exp(-2\pi^2\ell^2s^2)$.
- ▶ Higher freq tail of like a Gaussian with variance $1/(4\pi^2\ell^2)$.
- ▶ Infinitely mean square differentiable. Very smooth.
- Matérn $(\ell > 0, \nu > 0)$

$$\mathit{K}_{\mathit{Matern}}(r) = rac{2^{1-
u}}{\Gamma(
u)} \left(rac{\sqrt{2
u r}}{\ell}
ight)^{
u} \mathit{K}_{
u} \left(rac{\sqrt{2
u r}}{\ell}
ight)$$

- ▶ Spectral density: student-t density with 2ν degrees of freedom.
- $\nu = 1/2$, S(s) is Cauchy. Continuous in q.m., no derivatives.
- ▶ As $\nu \to \infty$, Matérn approaches SE.

Spectral mixture kernels

Bochner's theorem for stationary processes:

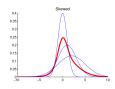
$$k(t) = \int e^{2\pi i s t} S(s) ds.$$

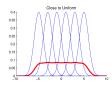
■ Mixture of normals in frequency domain

$$S(s) = \sigma^2 \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \mathcal{N}(s|\mu_k, \psi_k^2)$$

Bochner's theorem gives kernel in time domain

$$k(t) = \sigma^2 \sum_{k=1}^{K} \pi_k \cos(2\pi \mu_k t) \exp\left(-2\pi^2 \psi_k^2 t^2\right)$$





SE as infinite basis expansion

Regression with basis functions $\phi_1(x), \ldots, \phi_N(x)$

$$y = \sum_{c=1}^{N} w_c \phi_c(x) + \varepsilon$$

$$\phi_c(x) = \exp\left(-\frac{(x-c)^2}{2\ell^2}\right).$$

- Prior $\mathbf{w} \sim N\left(0, \frac{\sigma_p^2}{N}I\right)$.
- This is a GP with kernel

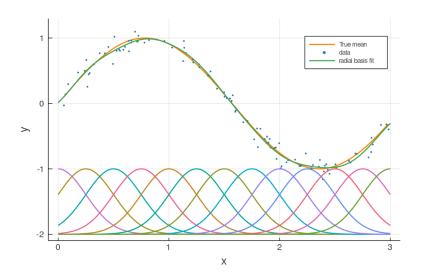
$$k(x_p, x_q) = \operatorname{cov}\left(\sum_{c=1}^N w_c \phi_c(x_p), \sum_{c=1}^N w_c \phi_c(x_q)\right) = \frac{\sigma_p^2}{N} \sum_{c=1}^N \phi_c(x_p) \phi_c(x_p) \to \sigma_p^2 \int_{c_{\min}}^{c_{\max}} \phi_c(x_p) \phi_c(x_p) dc$$

as the number of bases $N \to \infty$ over $[c_{\min}, c_{\max}]$.

Letting $c_{\mathsf{min}} \to -\infty$ and $c_{\mathsf{max}} \to \infty$ we get

$$k(x_p,x_q) = \sigma_p^2 \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(x_p-c)^2}{2\ell^2}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{(x_c-c)^2}{2\ell^2}\right) dc = \sqrt{\pi}\ell\sigma_p^2 \exp\left(-\frac{(x_p-x_q)^2}{2(\sqrt{2}\ell)^2}\right)$$

Fitting basis expansion



Kernel composition

Periodic kernels. When f(x) is believed to be periodic with period d. Example:

$$k(x,x') = \sigma_f^2 \exp\left(-\frac{2\sin^2\left(\pi \left|x - x'\right|/d\right)}{\ell^2}\right).$$

- Product of kernels is a kernel.
- Example: Locally periodic. Two nearby peaks are more dependent than two distant peaks.

$$k(x,x') = \sigma_f^2 \exp\left(-\frac{2\sin^2\left(\pi \left|x - x'\right|^2 / d\right)}{\ell^2}\right) \times \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \frac{\left|x - x'\right|^2}{\ell^2}\right)$$

- Sum of kernels is a kernel.
- Let $f_a \sim GP\left[m_a(\mathbf{x}), k_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')\right]$ independently of $f_b \sim GP\left[m_b(\mathbf{x}), k_b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')\right]$ then

$$f_a + f_b \sim GP \left[m_a(\mathbf{x}) + m_b(\mathbf{x}), k_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + k_b(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \right]$$

Anisotropic kernels - ARD

- Anisotropic version of isotropic kernels by setting $r^2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = (\mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}')^T \mathbf{M} (\mathbf{x} \mathbf{x}')$ where \mathbf{M} is positive definite.
- Automatic Relevance Determination (ARD): $M = Diag(\ell_1^{-2}, ..., \ell_D^{-2})$ is diagonal with different length scales.
- ARD does 'variable selection' since large ℓ_j means that the *j*th input essentially drops out of $f(\mathbf{x})$.
- ARD is a product of D one-dimensional kernels, one for each input variable

$$k_{ARD}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \prod_{d=1}^{D} k_{SE,\ell_d}(x_d, x_d')$$

Factor kernels: $M = \Lambda \Lambda^T + \Psi$, where Λ is $D \times k$ for low rank k.

Discrete covariates

- Suppose: x_1 is continuous (mg/week) and x_2 is binary (sex).
- Linear regression: just use x_2 coded as $x_2 = 0$ if male, $x_2 = 1$ if female.
- Implicit model:

$$y = \begin{cases} \beta_0 + \beta_1 x_1 & \text{if } x_2 = 0\\ \beta_0 + \tilde{\beta}_0 + (\beta_1 + \tilde{\beta}_1) x_1 & \text{if } x_2 = 1 \end{cases}$$

■ GP: add the 0-1 coded covariate and use ARD kernel:

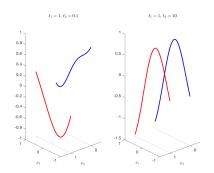
$$\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x_1-x_1'}{\ell_1}\right)^2\right)\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x_2-x_2'}{\ell_2}\right)^2\right)$$

So the covariance between $f(x_1, 0)$ and $f(x_1, 1)$ is

$$\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{1}{\ell_2}\right)^2\right)$$

Discrete covariates

- Large ℓ_2 : men and female are believed to have similar profiles with respect to x_1 .
- Small ℓ_2 : men and female are believed to have potentially very different profiles with respect to x_1 .



■ Categorical covariates with *K* levels: create *K* one-hot variables.

Eigenfunction decomposition

Eigenvalue decomposition of a $n \times n$ covariance matrix: $K = V\Lambda V^T$, or

$$K = \sum_{j=1}^{n} \lambda_j \mathbf{v}_j \mathbf{v}_j^T$$
,

where $\Lambda = \text{Diag}(\lambda_1, ..., \lambda_n)$, $Kv_j = \lambda_j v_j$, $\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{v}_j = \delta_{ij}$.

- Simulation from $y \sim N(\mu, K)$: $y = \mu + V\Lambda^{1/2}z$, and $z \sim N(0, I)$. Principal components.
- Mercer's theorem for covariance kernels

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \lambda_i \phi_i(\mathbf{x}) \phi_i^*(\mathbf{x}')$$

$$\int k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \phi(\mathbf{x}) p(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} = \lambda \phi(\mathbf{x}')$$

the eigenfunctions $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ are orthogonal with respect $p(\mathbf{x})$.

- The eigenvalues determine the smoothness of the kernel.
- Bochner: $e^{2\pi i \mathbf{s} \cdot \mathbf{x}}$ are the eigenfunctions of stationary kernels.

Karhunen-Loève decomposition

Karhunen–Loève theorem: a stochastic process X_t can be represented as

$$X_t = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} Z_k e_k(t),$$

where Z_k are uncorrelated variables and $e_k(t)$ orthogonal basis.

- $= e_k(t)$ are determined by the covariance function of X_t .
- \blacksquare Karhunen-Loève adapts to X_t optimally.
- If X_t is a GP: the Z_k are Gaussian and independent.
- Can be use for simulation
- Truncate an infinite-dimensional process to finite dimension.

Large scale GPs

- GPs are computationally challenging.
- Need to invert $n \times n$ matrices such as $\left[K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) + \sigma^2 I\right]^{-1}$.
- **Scales** as $O(n^3)$. Also with Cholesky.
- Banded covariance functions.
 - ▶ Special covariance functions that makes $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x})$ sparse.
 - Observations at a certain distance apart are uncorrelated.
 - Sparse matrix algebra.

Large scale GPs

- Introduce m latent inducing variables $\mathbf{u} = \{u_1, ..., u_m\}$ with inputs $\mathbf{X}_u = \{\mathbf{x}_{u_1}, \mathbf{x}_{u_2}, ..., \mathbf{x}_{u_m}\}$. Pseudo inputs.
- The Fully Independent Conditional (FIC) method assumes elements in f are independent given u

$$p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{X}_u,\mathbf{u},\theta) = \prod_{i=1}^n p_i(f_i|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{X}_u,\mathbf{u},\theta)$$

- Computations are now $O(m^2n)$, and often $m \ll n$. Fast!
- Partially Independent Conditional (PIC). Partition into blocks $\mathbf{f} = (\mathbf{f}_1, ..., \mathbf{f}_k)$, where each \mathbf{f}_i has b elements. Assume indep. blocks given \mathbf{u} , but full dependence with blocks.
- b=1 gives FIC. b=n gives the original GP.
- The locations of X_u are learned by optimization.

Classification with logistic regression

- Classification: binary response $y \in \{-1, 1\}$.
- Example: linear logistic regression

$$Pr(y = 1|\mathbf{x}) = \lambda(\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{w})$$

where $\lambda(z)$ is the logistic link function

$$\lambda(z) = \frac{1}{1 + \exp(-z)}$$

- lacksquare $\lambda(z)$ 'squashes' the linear prediction $\mathbf{x}^T\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}$ into $\in [0,1]$.
- Logistic regression has linear decision boundaries.

GP classification

Obvious GP extension of logistic regression: replace $x^T w$ by

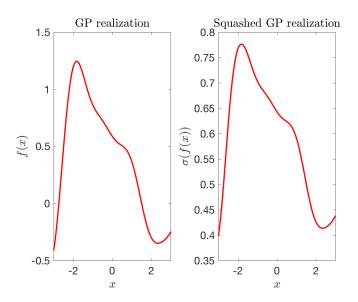
$$f(\mathbf{x}) \sim GP(0, k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$$

and squash

$$Pr(y = 1|\mathbf{x}) = \lambda(f(\mathbf{x}))$$

Flexible decision boundaries (non-parametric, GP-style).

Squashing a GP function



GP classification - inference

Prediction for a test case x*:

$$Pr(y_* = +1|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x}_*) = \int \sigma(f_*) \rho(f_*|\mathbf{x}_*, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{y}) df_*$$

- $ightharpoonup \sigma(f_*)$ is some sigmoidal function (logistic, normal CDF...)
- $ightharpoonup f_*$ is the latent f at the test input \mathbf{x}_* .
- The posterior distribution of f_* is

$$\rho(f_*|\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y}) = \int \rho(f_*|\mathbf{f},\mathbf{X},\mathbf{x}_*)\rho(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y})d\mathbf{f}$$

where p(f|X, y) is the posterior of f from the training data

$$p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y}) \propto p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X})$$

 $\rho(y|f)$ is no longer Gaussian. Posterior $\rho(f|X,y)$ intractable.

The Laplace approximation

- Approximates $p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X},\mathbf{y})$ with $N(\hat{\mathbf{f}},\mathbf{A}^{-1})$, where
 - ightharpoonup $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$ is the posterior mode
 - ▶ $\mathbf{A} = -\nabla\nabla \log p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{y})$ is negative Hessian at $\mathbf{f} = \hat{\mathbf{f}}$.
- Log posterior

$$\begin{split} \Psi(\mathbf{f}) &= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) + \log p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X}) \\ &= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) - \frac{1}{2}\mathbf{f}^T K^{-1}\mathbf{f} - \frac{1}{2}\log |K| - \frac{n}{2}\log 2\pi \end{split}$$

Differentiating wrt f

$$abla \Psi(\mathbf{f}) =
abla \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) - K^{-1}\mathbf{f}$$

$$abla \nabla \Psi(\mathbf{f}) =
abla \nabla \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) - K^{-1} = -W - K^{-1}$$

where W is a diagonal matrix since y_i only depends on f_i .

- Use Newton's method to iterate to the mode.
- Approximate inference for f_* is possible.
- **Predictions** of y_* by one-dim numerical integration.

Saddlepoint approximation of marginal likelihood

■ Saddlepoint approximation of marginal likelihood

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\theta) = \int p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}|\theta) d\mathbf{f} \approx (2\pi)^{-n/2} p(\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\theta}|\theta) \left| -\frac{\partial^2 \log p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}|\theta)}{\partial \mathbf{f} \partial \mathbf{f}^T} \right|_{\mathbf{f} = \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\theta}} \right|^{-1/2}$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\theta}$ and $\frac{\partial^2 \log p(\mathbf{f},\theta|\mathbf{y})}{\partial \mathbf{f} \partial \mathbf{f}^T}$ are the mode and (negative) Hessian for given θ .

■ Joint posterior

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f}|\theta) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}, \theta) + \log p(\mathbf{f}|\theta)$$

■ Saddlepoint approx = local Laplace approximation for given θ .

Hamiltonian Monte Carlo

■ HMC/MCMC to sample from training posterior

$$f|x, y, \theta$$

Produces $\mathbf{f}^{(1)}, ..., \mathbf{f}^{(N)}$ draws.

For each $f^{(i)}$, sample the test posterior f_* from

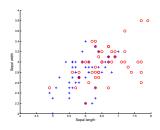
$$\mathbf{f}_*|\mathbf{f}^{(i)},\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}_* \sim \textit{N}\left(\textit{K}(\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{x})\textit{K}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x})^{-1}\mathbf{f}^{(i)},\textit{K}(\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{x}_*) - \textit{K}(\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{x})\textit{K}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x})^{-1}\textit{K}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}_*)\right)$$

Note that this does not depend on **y** since we condition on **f**. Noise-free GP fit. Produces $\mathbf{f}_*^{(1)}, \dots, \mathbf{f}_*^{(N)}$ draws.

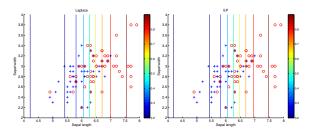
For each $f_*^{(i)}$, sample a prediction from

$$p(\mathbf{y}_*|\mathbf{f}_*^{(i)},\theta).$$

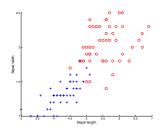
Iris data - sepal - SE kernel with ARD



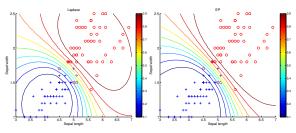
Laplace: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.7214$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 185.5040$, $\sigma_f = 1.4361$ EP: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.7189$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 55.5003$, $\sigma_f = 1.4343$



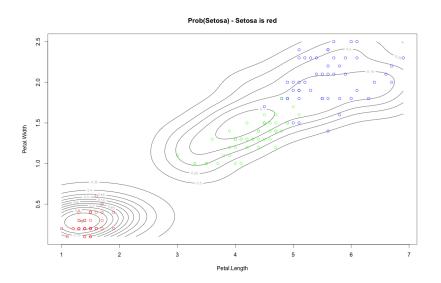
Iris data - petal - SE kernel with ARD



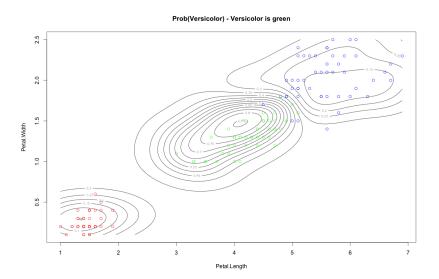
Laplace: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.7606$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 0.8804$, $\sigma_f = 4.9129$ EP: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 2.1139$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 1.0720$, $\sigma_f = 5.3369$



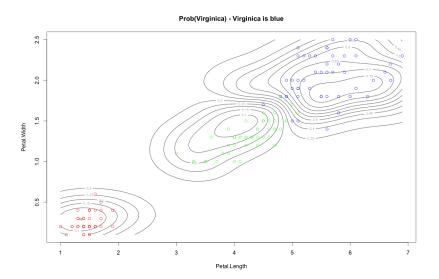
Iris data - petal - all three classes



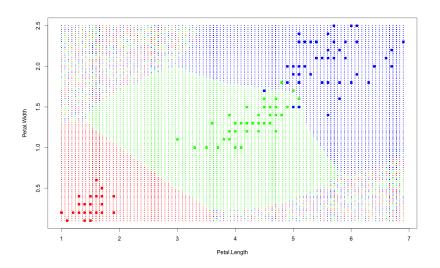
Iris data - petal - all three classes



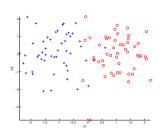
Iris data - petal - all three classes



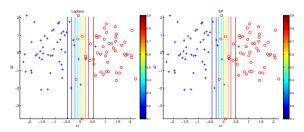
Iris data - petal - decision boundaries



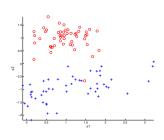
Toy data 1 - SE kernel with ARD



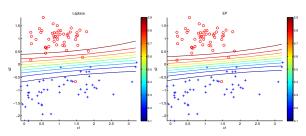
EP:
$$\hat{\ell}_1 =$$
 2.4503, $\hat{\ell}_2 =$ 721.7405, $\sigma_f =$ 4.7540



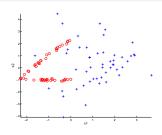
Toy data 2 - SE kernel with ARD



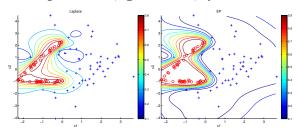
EP:
$$\hat{\ell}_1 = 8.3831$$
, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 1.9587$, $\sigma_f = 4.5483$



Toy data 3 - SE kernel with ARD



Laplace:
$$\hat{\ell}_1 = 0.7726$$
, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 0.6974$, $\sigma_f = 11.7854$
EP: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.2685$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 1.0941$, $\sigma_f = 17.2774$



Bayesian Optimization (BO)

Minimization of expensive function

$$\operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

- Hyperparameter estimation from marginal likelihood.
- BO idea¹:
 - ightharpoonup Assign GP prior to the unknown function f.
 - \triangleright Evaluate the function at some values $x_1, x_2, ..., x_n$.
 - ▶ Update posterior $f | x_1, ..., x_n \sim GP$.
 - ▶ Use GP posterior of f to find new eval point x_{n+1} .
 - Repeat until convergence
- Explore vs Exploit.
- **Bayesian Numerics**². Posterior of $\int f(x)dx$ from $\{f(x_i)\}$.

¹Snoek et al (2012). Practical Bayesian Optimization of Machine Learning Algorithms.

²Hennig et al (2015). Probabilistic numerics and uncertainty in computations.

Acquisition functions

Probability of Improvement (PI)

$$a_{PI}(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n) \equiv \Pr(f(\mathbf{x}) < f(\mathbf{x}_{best}) | \mathcal{D}_n) = \Phi(\gamma(\mathbf{x}))$$

where $\mathcal{D}_n = \{y_i, \mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ are previous function evaluations and

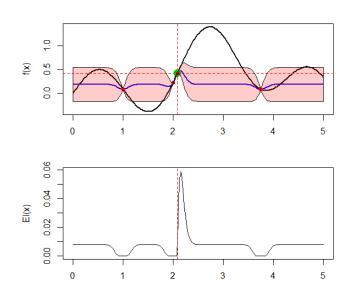
$$\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f(\mathbf{x}_{\text{best}}) - \mu(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n)}{\sigma(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n)}$$

Expected Improvement (EI)

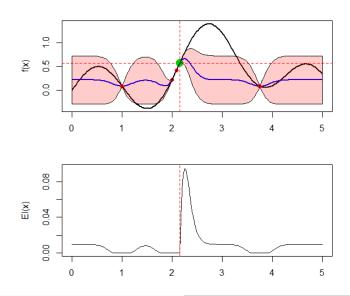
$$a_{EI}(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n) = \sigma(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n) \left[\gamma(\mathbf{x}) \Phi(\gamma(\mathbf{x})) + \phi(\gamma(\mathbf{x})) \right]$$

- Maximizing $a(\mathbf{x})$ to find \mathbf{x}_{n+1} is simpler than minimizing $f(\mathbf{x})$.
- Noisy function evaluations $\hat{f}(x)$ (e.g. MCMC). Noisy GP.
- When precision of $\hat{f}(x)$ is controlled by user: BOOP. ³

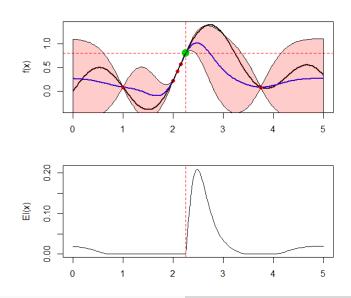
 $^{^3}$ Gustafsson et al (2020). Bayesian Optimization of Hyperparameters when the Marginal Likelihood is Estimated by MCMC. On arXiv next week ...



Advanced Bayesian Learning

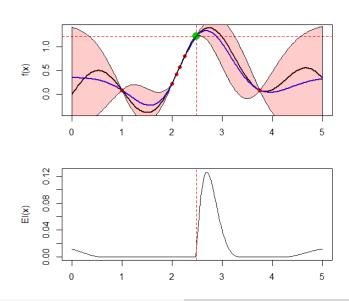


Advanced Bayesian Learning

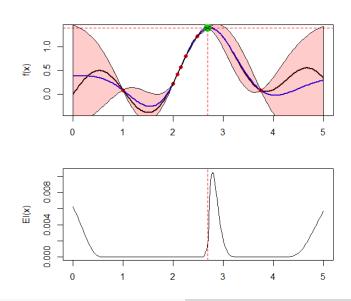


Advanced Bayesian Learning

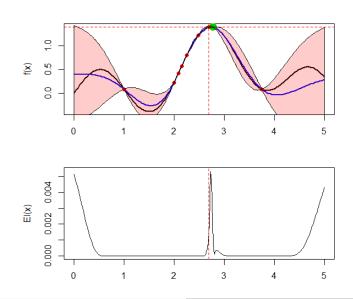
Gaussian Process Regression and Classification



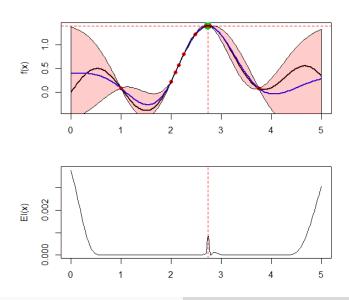
Advanced Bayesian Learning



Advanced Bayesian Learning

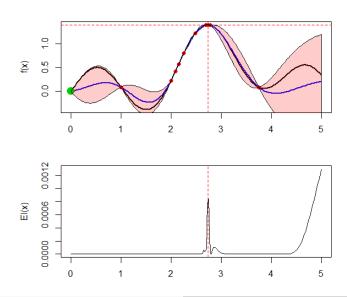


Advanced Bayesian Learning

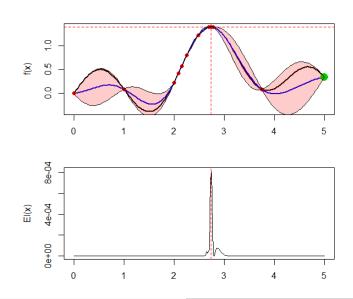


Advanced Bayesian Learning

Gaussian Process Regression and Classification



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