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:

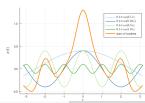
$$f(x) = \sum_{k} a_k \cos(2\pi s_k x) + \sum_{k} b_k \sin(2\pi s_k x)$$

$$a_k = \int f(x) \cos(2\pi s_k x) dx$$
 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

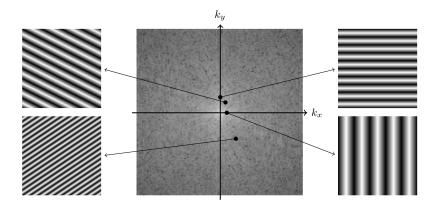
$$k(t) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^D} e^{2\pi i s t} S(s) ds$$

- 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 $S(s) = (2\pi\ell^2)^{D/2} \exp(-2\pi^2\ell^2 s^2)$.
- ▶ 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:

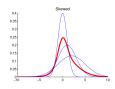
$$k(t) = \int e^{2\pi i s t} S(s) ds.$$

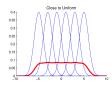
■ Mixture of normals in frequency domain

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

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

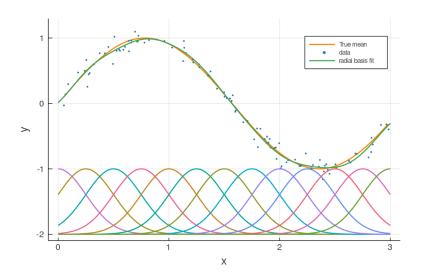
$$k(x_p, x_q) = \operatorname{cov}\left(\sum_{c=1}^N w_c \phi_c(x_p), \sum_{c=1}^N w_c \phi_c(x_q)\right) = \frac{\sigma_p^2}{N} \sum_{c=1}^N \phi_c(x_p) \phi_c(x_p) \to \sigma_p^2 \int_{c_{\min}}^{c_{\max}} \phi_c(x_p) \phi_c(x_p) dc$$

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:

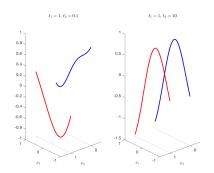
$$\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x_1-x_1'}{\ell_1}\right)^2\right)\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x_2-x_2'}{\ell_2}\right)^2\right)$$

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

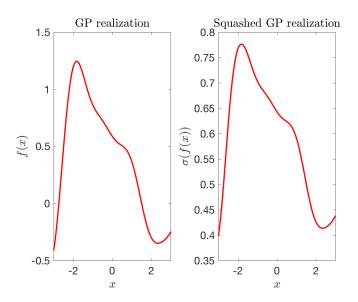
$$f(\mathbf{x}) \sim GP(0, k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$$

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

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

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

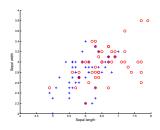
$$\mathbf{f}_*|\mathbf{f}^{(i)},\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}_* \sim \textit{N}\left(\textit{K}(\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{x})\textit{K}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x})^{-1}\mathbf{f}^{(i)},\textit{K}(\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{x}_*) - \textit{K}(\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{x})\textit{K}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x})^{-1}\textit{K}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{x}_*)\right)$$

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.

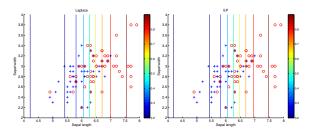
For each $f_*^{(i)}$, sample a prediction from

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

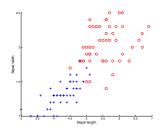
Iris data - sepal - SE kernel with ARD



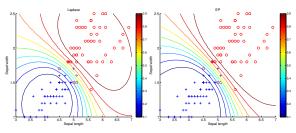
Laplace: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.7214$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 185.5040$, $\sigma_f = 1.4361$ EP: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.7189$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 55.5003$, $\sigma_f = 1.4343$



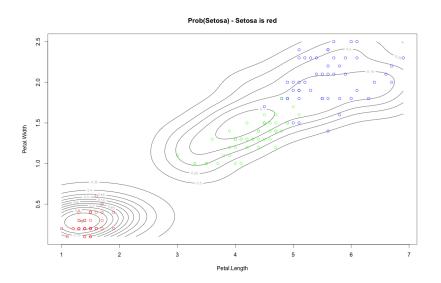
Iris data - petal - SE kernel with ARD



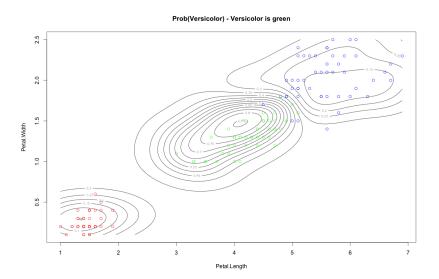
Laplace: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 1.7606$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 0.8804$, $\sigma_f = 4.9129$ EP: $\hat{\ell}_1 = 2.1139$, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 1.0720$, $\sigma_f = 5.3369$



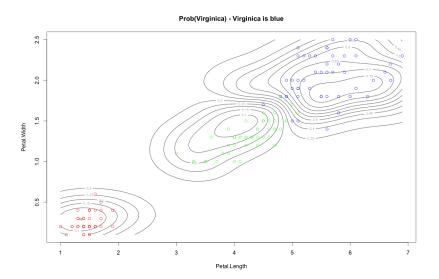
Iris data - petal - all three classes



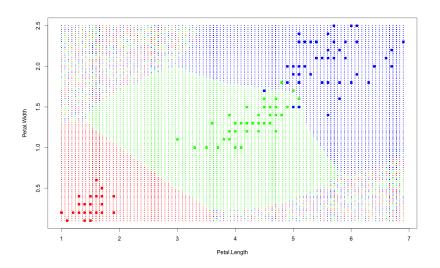
Iris data - petal - all three classes



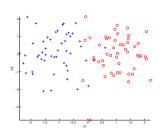
Iris data - petal - all three classes



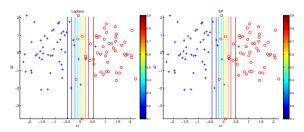
Iris data - petal - decision boundaries



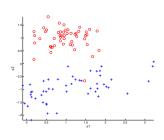
Toy data 1 - SE kernel with ARD



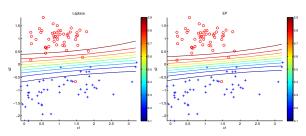
EP:
$$\hat{\ell}_1 =$$
 2.4503, $\hat{\ell}_2 =$ 721.7405, $\sigma_f =$ 4.7540



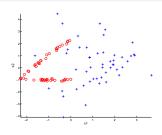
Toy data 2 - SE kernel with ARD



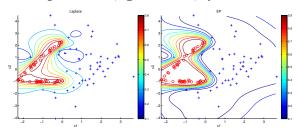
EP:
$$\hat{\ell}_1 = 8.3831$$
, $\hat{\ell}_2 = 1.9587$, $\sigma_f = 4.5483$



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

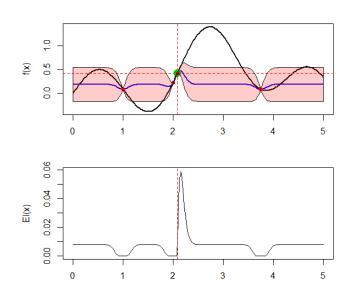
$$\gamma(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{f(\mathbf{x}_{\text{best}}) - \mu(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n)}{\sigma(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n)}$$

Expected Improvement (EI)

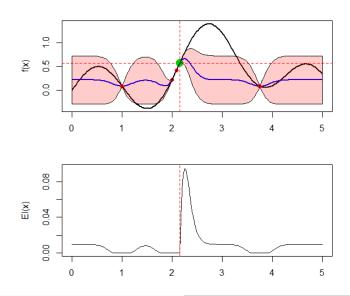
$$a_{EI}(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n) = \sigma(\mathbf{x}; \mathcal{D}_n) \left[\gamma(\mathbf{x}) \Phi(\gamma(\mathbf{x})) + \phi(\gamma(\mathbf{x})) \right]$$

- 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

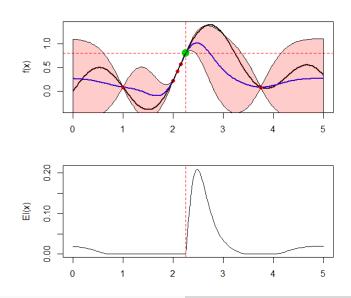
 $^{^3}$ Gustafsson et al (2020). Bayesian Optimization of Hyperparameters when the Marginal Likelihood is Estimated by MCMC. On arXiv next week ...



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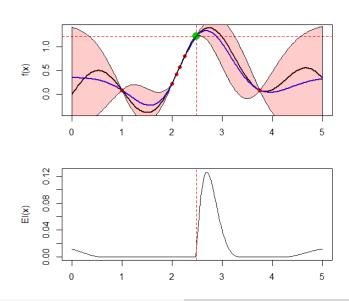


Advanced Bayesian Learning

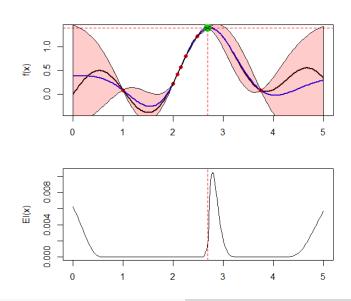


Advanced Bayesian Learning

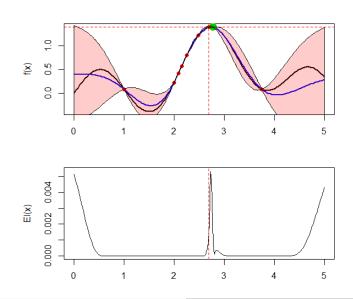
Gaussian Process Regression and Classification



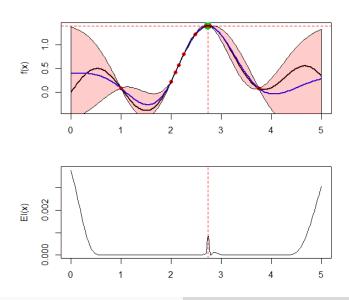
Advanced Bayesian Learning



Advanced Bayesian Learning

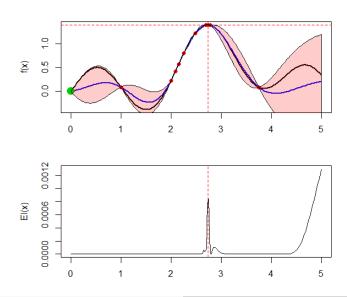


Advanced Bayesian Learning

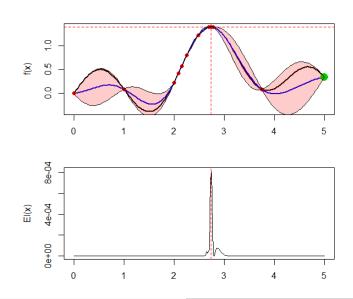


Advanced Bayesian Learning

Gaussian Process Regression and Classification



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