

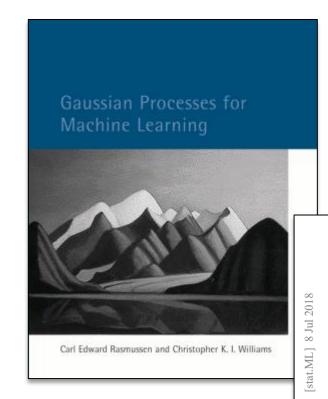
Gaussian Processes and Bayesian Optimization

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Process Systems Engineering Laboratory Department of Chemical Engineering University of the Philippines Diliman

Outline

- Motivation for GPs
- Bayesian Statistics
 - Bayes Theorem
 - Bayesians vs. Frequentists
- Gaussian Processes
 - Derivation
 - Kernels
- Bayesian Optimization
 - Algorithm
 - Acquisition Functions



Frazier (2018). A Tutorial on Bayesian Optimization

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1807.02811.pdf

Rasmussen and Williams (2006)
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MIT Press.

https://gaussianprocess.org/gpml/

A Tutorial on Bayesian Optimization

Peter I. Frazier

July 10, 2018

Abstract

Bayesian optimization is an approach to optimizing objective functions that take a long time (minutes or hours) to evaluate. It is best-airted for optimization over continuous domains of less than 20 dimensions, and tolerates stochastic noise in function evaluations. It builds a surrogate for the objective and equantifies the uncertainty in that surrogate using a Bayesian machine learning technique, Gaussian process regression, and then uses an acquisition function defined from this surrogate to decide where to sample. In this tutorial, we describe how Bayesian optimization works, including Gaussian process regression and three common acquisition functions: expected improvement, entropy search, and knowledge gradient. We then discuss more advanced techniques, including running multiple function evaluations in parallel, multi-fidelity and multi-information source optimization, expensive-to-evaluate constraints, random environmental conditions, multi-task Bayesian optimization, and the inclusion of derivative information. We conclude with a discussion of Bayesian optimization of expected improvement to noise in the field. Within our tutorial unterial we provide a generalization of expected improvement to noise valuations, beyond the noise-free setting where it is more commonly applied. This generalization is justified by a formal decision-theoretic argument, standing in contrast to previous ad hom modifications.

1 Introduction

Bayesian optimization (BayesOpt) is a class of machine-learning-based optimization methods focused on solving the problem

 $\max_{x \in A} f(x)$, (1

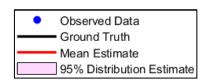
where the feasible set and objective function typically have the following properties:

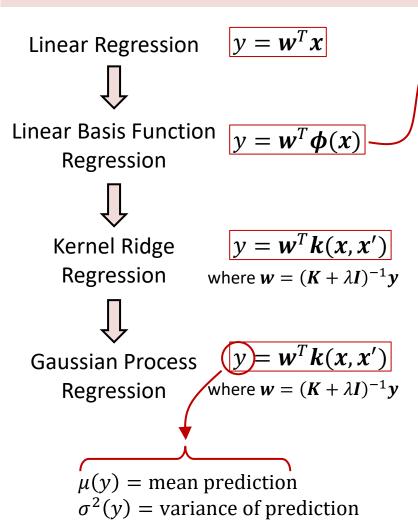
- The input x is in \mathbb{R}^d for a value of d that is not too large. Typically $d \leq 20$ in most successful applications of BayesOpt.
- The feasible set A is a simple set, in which it is easy to assess membership. Typically A is a hyper-rectangle (x ∈ ℝ^d : a_i ≤ x_i ≤ b_i) or the d-dimensional simplex {x ∈ ℝ^d : ∑_i x_i = 1}. Later (Section 5) we will relax this assumption.
- The objective function f is continuous. This will typically be required to model f using Gaussian process regression.
- f is "expensive to evaluate" in the sense that the number of evaluations that may be performed is limited, typically to a few hundred. This limitation typically arises because each evaluation takes a substantial amount of time (typically hours), but may also occur because each evaluation bears

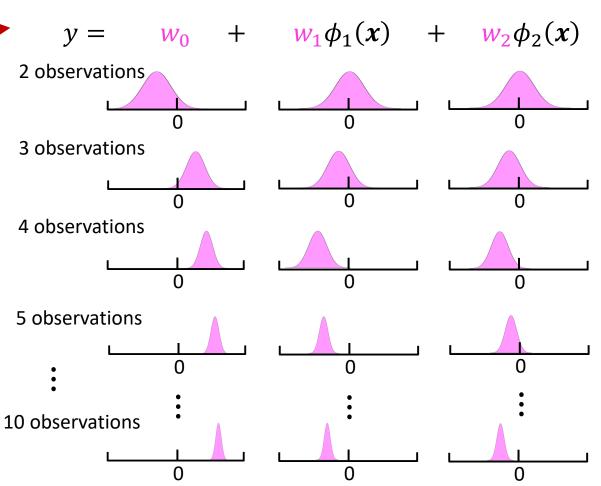
Motivation for Gaussian Processes

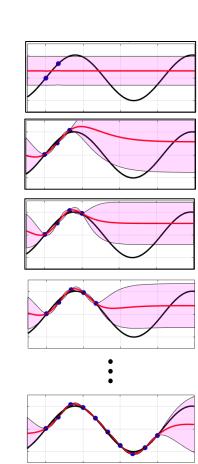
Recall:

The GP places a prior Gaussian distribution over the weights, w.



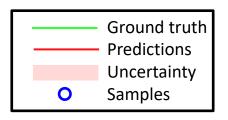


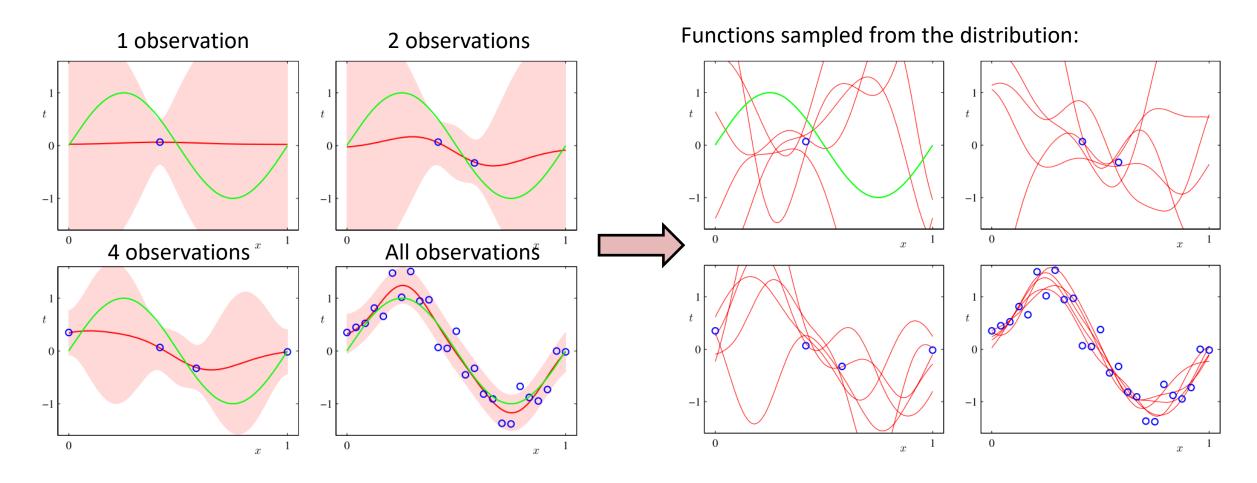




Motivation for Gaussian Processes

Having a *predictive distribution* is important in understanding the uncertainty of the model.





Bayesian Statistics

Notation:

If *X* is a random variable that is Gaussian or *normally* distributed, then:

$$p(X) = \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

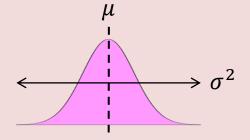
or

$$X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$$

where \mathcal{N} stands for "normal".

The normal distribution is parametrized by a mean, μ , and a variance σ^2 :

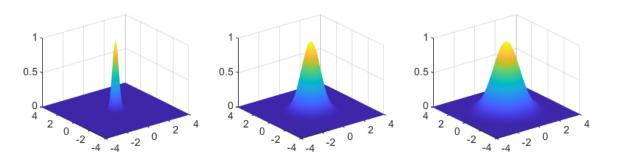
$$\mathcal{N}(X|\mu,\sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(X-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



Multivariate

Normal Distribution:

$$\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{X}|\boldsymbol{\mu},\boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\boldsymbol{X}-\boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\boldsymbol{X}-\boldsymbol{\mu})\right)$$



$$\mu \in \Re^D$$
 mean vector (D-dimensional)

$$\Sigma \in \Re^{D \times D}$$
 covariance matrix (D-by-D)

$$|\Sigma| \in \Re$$
 determinant of the covariance matrix

In order to understand Bayesian statistics, let's turn to an example involving discrete events...

Bayesian Statistics

The Coffee Meet-up Example



For the sake of example, let *Y* be the weather condition and X be the event that your friends *come* to meet you for coffee:

 y_1 = the weather is sunny

 y_2 = slightly raining

 y_3 = a storm is coming

 x_1 = Friend 1 comes

 x_2 = Friend 2 comes

 x_3 = Friend 3 comes

 x_{Δ} = Friend 4 comes

 x_5 = Friend 5 comes

X and Y are two random variables that can take on values $\{y_i\}$ and $\{x_i\}$.

In this example, events were recorded from the history of past coffee meet-ups.

y_2 y_3 x_1 x_2 x_3 x_4 x_5

Things that we can say for the next meet-up:

- The probability that $X = x_4$ is
- The joint probability, $p(x_4, y_2)$, is
- The <u>conditional probability</u>, $p(y_2|x_4)$ is $p(Y=y_2|X=x_4) = \frac{n_{ij}}{c_i} = \frac{3}{6}$
- The conditional probability, $p(x_4|y_2)$ is $p(X=x_4|Y=y_2) = \frac{n_{ij}}{r_i} = \frac{3}{7}$

$$p(X) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{13}, \frac{3}{13}, \frac{2}{13}, \frac{6}{13}, \frac{1}{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p(X) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{13}, \frac{3}{13}, \frac{2}{13}, \frac{6}{13}, \frac{1}{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p(Y) = \begin{bmatrix} p(Y) = 1 \\ p(X = x_4, Y = y_2) = \frac{n_{ij}}{N} = \frac{3}{13} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$p(Y = y_2 | X = x_4) = \frac{n_{ij}}{c_i} = \frac{3}{6}$$

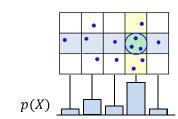
is
$$p(X = x_4 | Y = y_2) = \frac{n_{ij}}{r_i} = \frac{3}{r_i}$$

Rules of Probability:

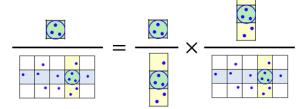
A note in notation:

The quantity $p(X = x_4)$ denotes the specific probability for event x_4 , but the quantity p(X) is a distribution of probabilities on all events of X.

$$p(X) = \sum_{Y} p(X, Y)$$



$$p(X,Y) = p(Y|X)p(X)$$



Bayesian Statistics

$$p(X) = \sum_{Y} p(X, Y)$$

Rules of Probability:
$$p(X) = \sum_{Y} p(X,Y)$$
 $p(X,Y) = p(Y|X)p(X)$

(Sum Rule)

(Product Rule)

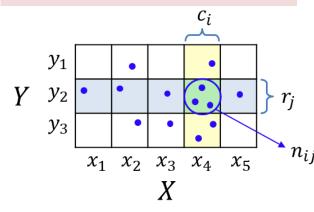
Based on the product rule and the symmetry of joint probabilities, i. e. p(X,Y) = p(Y,X), we can derive the following:

Bayes' Theorem

$$p(Y|X) = \frac{p(X|Y)p(Y)}{p(X)}$$



Example:



$$p(Y = y_2 | X = x_4) = \frac{3}{6}$$

$$p(X = x_4 | Y = y_2) = \frac{3}{7}$$

$$p(Y = y_2) = \frac{7}{13}$$

$$p(X = x_4) = \frac{6}{13}$$

$$p(X = x_4) = \frac{6}{13}$$

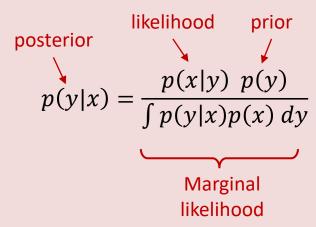
If our random variables can take continuous values rather than discrete, then:

(Sum Rule)
$$p(x) = \int p(x, y) dy$$

(Product Rule)
$$p(x,y) = p(y|x)p(x)$$

Together, we have:
$$p(x) = \int p(y|x)p(x) dy$$

Upon substituting into Bayes' Theorem:



Bayesian Statistics: A Change of Perspective

Bayes Theorem:
$$p(y|x) = \frac{p(x|y) \ p(y)}{\int p(y|x)p(x) \ dy}$$
Marginal likelihood

Frequentists vs. Bayesians

In Frequentist statistics, p(x) refers to the **frequency** of occurrence of an event. In Bayesian statistics, p(x) refers to the **belief** that event x is true.

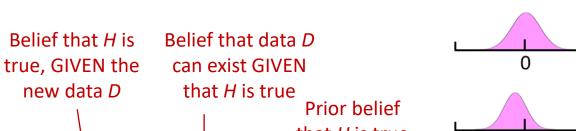
For Frequentists, p(x) is **fixed**, and its correct value can be approached with more and more data (evidence).

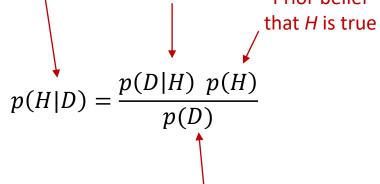
For Bayesians, beliefs p(x) can change, and there is no single correct value to aim for. New data will always cause the belief to change.

Bayesian Inference in machine learning models:

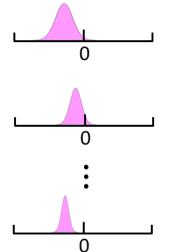
Let: H = hypothesis (current belief of the world)

D = new data





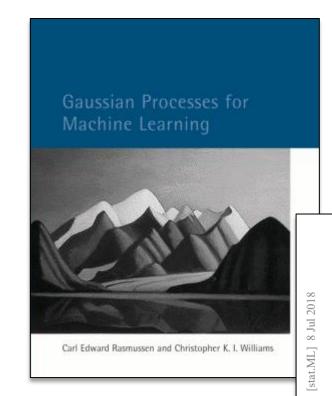
Total belief that data *D* can exist considering ALL possible hypotheses



 $p(H) = p(\mathbf{w})$

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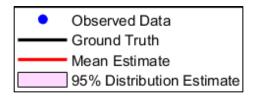
1 Introduction

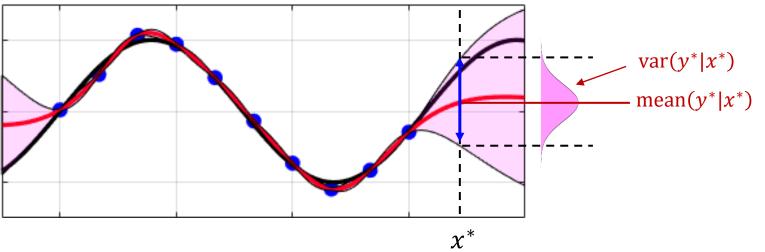
 $Bayesian\ optimization\ (BayesOpt)\ is\ a\ class\ of\ machine-learning-based\ optimization\ methods\ focused\ on\ solving\ the\ problem$

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where the feasible set and objective function typically have the following properties:

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Training Data: $\{x, y\}, x \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times D}, y \in \mathbb{R}^N$

New Data: x^*

Model (M): $y = f(x) + \varepsilon$

Desired prediction: $y^* \longrightarrow mean(y^*|x^*)$ $var(y^*|x^*)$

Assumptions:

1. The model is linear: $y = w^T x + \varepsilon$

2. The noise is Gaussian: $p(\varepsilon) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$

3. The prior on w is Gaussian: $p(w) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, K)$

4. The likelihood is Gaussian: $p(y|x, w) = \mathcal{N}(w^T x, \sigma^2 I)$

Bayes Theorem:

posterior
$$p(w|x, y) = \frac{p(y|x, w) p(w)}{\int p(y|x, w) p(w) dw}$$

Prediction,
$$y^*$$
 $y^* = \mathbf{w}^T x^* + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ posterior $p(y^*|x^*, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \int p(y^*|\mathbf{w}, x^*) p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{w}$

These are the

need to derive.

quantities that we

Bayes Theorem:

posterior
$$p(w|x,y) = \frac{p(y|x,w) p(w)}{\int p(y|x,w) p(w) dw}$$

Prediction,
$$y^*$$
 $y^* = \mathbf{w}^T x^* + \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$ posterior $p(y^*|x^*, \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \int p(y^*|\mathbf{w}, x^*) p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) d\mathbf{w}$

Using a Gaussian distribution makes the integration tractable because the result of multiplying two Gaussians is still a Gaussian.

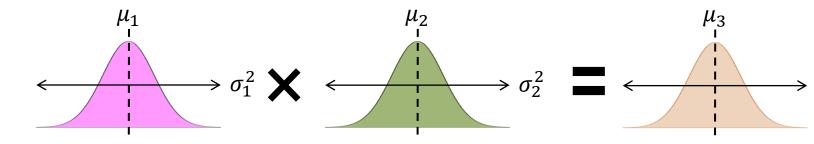
Prediction in GPR:

These are the main equations in GPR.

mean
$$(y^*|x^*) = k(x^*, x)^T [K + \sigma^2 I]^{-1} y$$

var $(y^*|x^*) = k(x^*, x^*) + \sigma^2 - k(x^*, x)^T [K + \sigma^2 I]^{-1} k(x^*, x)$

 $\{x, y\}$ = Training data x^* = New Data y^* = Desired prediction σ^2 = variance of noise, ε K = prior covariance kernel on w $k(\cdot,\cdot)$ = kernel function



$$\mu_3 = \frac{\mu_1 \sigma_2^2 + \mu_2 \sigma_1^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$$

$$\sigma_3^2 = \frac{\sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}$$

Definition of a GP: A Gaussian Process is a collection of random variables any finite number of which have (consistent) joint Gaussian distributions.

$$y = f(x) + \varepsilon$$

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

mean
$$(y^*|x^*) = k(x^*, x)^T [K + \sigma^2 I]^{-1} y$$

$$var(y^*|x^*) = k(x^*, x^*) + \sigma^2 - k(x^*, x)^T [K + \sigma^2 I]^{-1} k(x^*, x)$$

Hyper-parameters in GPR: $k(x, x'), \theta_i, \sigma^2$

To optimize hyper-parameters, GPR packages use gradient descent. The gradient can be calculated by:

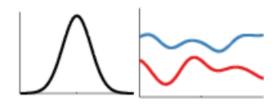
$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta_i} \ln p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\frac{1}{2} \mathrm{tr} \left(\mathbf{C}^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{C}}{\partial \theta_i} \right) + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{C}^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{C}}{\partial \theta_i} \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

where $\boldsymbol{C} = \boldsymbol{K} + \sigma^2 \boldsymbol{I}$.

Kernel Functions in GPR:

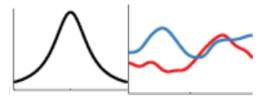
Squared Exponential

$$k_{SE} = \sigma^2 \exp\left(-\frac{(x - x')^2}{2l^2}\right)$$



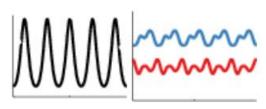
Rational Quadratic

$$k_{RQ} = \sigma^2 \left(1 + \frac{(x - x')^2}{2\alpha l^2} \right)$$



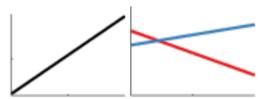
Periodic

$$k_{PER} = \sigma^2 \exp\left(-\frac{2}{l^2}\sin^2\frac{\pi|x - x'|}{p}\right)$$



Linear

$$k_{LIN} = \sigma_b^2 + \sigma_v^2 (x - c)(x' - c)$$



- Matern 3/2 kernel
- Matern 5/2 kernel
- Automatic Relevance Determination kernels

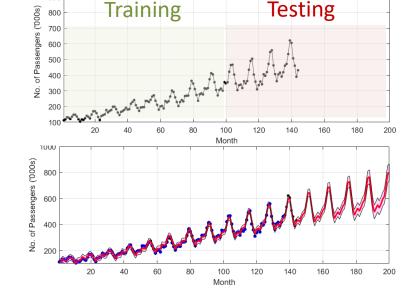
Example:

Find the mean and variance prediction of the Airline Passengers Data Set using the first 100 out of 144 data, and the following kernel function (SE x Periodic):

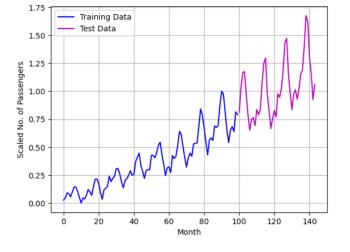
$$K(x, x') = \theta_1 \exp\left(-\frac{\|x - x'\|^2}{2\theta_2^2}\right) \times \exp\left(\frac{-2\sin^2(\pi|x - x'|/\theta_3)}{\theta_4^2}\right)$$

Given Data Set

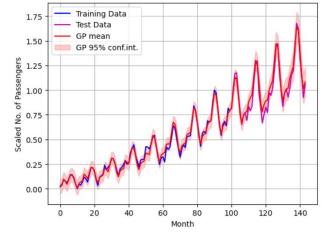
Given Data Set + GPR Predictions (MATLAB)



Given Data Set



Given Data Set + GPR Predictions (Python)



Optimized kernel:

RBF(length_scale=179) * ExpSineSquared(length_scale=1.57, periodicity=12) + WhiteKernel(noise_level=0.000967)

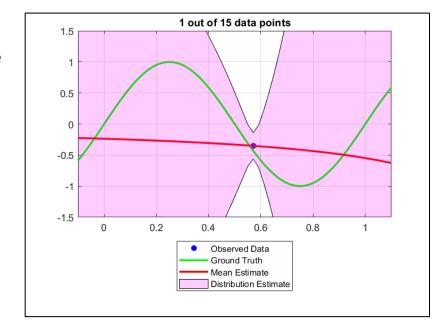
Training MSE: 0.0007858767229793949 Testing MSE: 0.004509114222736137

Side Note on GPR:

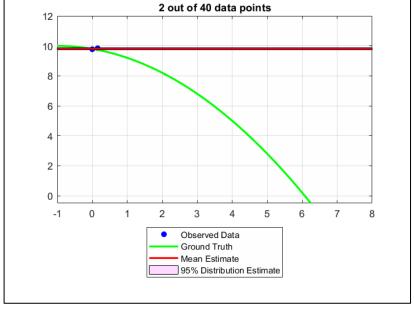
Neal (1996) has shown that for a broad class of prior distributions over w, the distribution of functions generated by a single-hidden-layer *neural network* will tend to a Gaussian Process as the number of hidden neurons tend to infinity.

Other Notable Examples:

An example where data points from a sine wave arrive one at a time at random positions. The predictive distributions show which parts are uncertain to the model.



Prediction of Battery
Degradation based on
NASA data sets.



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Gaussian Processes for 2018 Carl Edward Rasmussen and Christopher K. I. Williams

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 An efficient algorithm for finding the optimum (minimum / maximum) of a function globally.

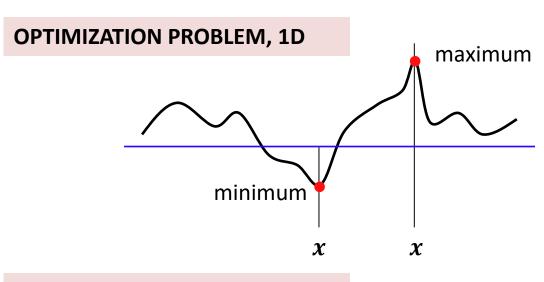
$$\min_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x}) \qquad \max_{\mathbf{x}} f(\mathbf{x})$$

- First popularized as **EGO** (Efficient Global Optimization) algorithm by Jones et al. (1998).
- Now widely used for optimizing hyper-parameters in machine learning algorithms.

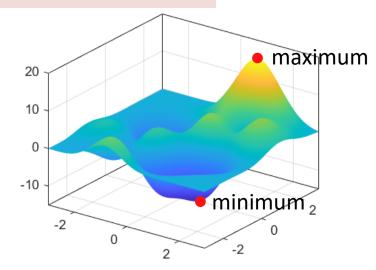
Advantage: Sample-efficient, gradient-free!

• **Disadvantage:** Good for low-dimensional x only

- Built on two basic components:
 - Surrogate Model
 - Acquisition Function



OPTIMIZATION PROBLEM, 2D



Surrogate Model (Gaussian Process)

A **proxy** for the unknown objective function that is *sequentially fitted* to every incoming sample. It must provide both mean and variance estimates.

$$mean(y|x^*) = k(x^*, \mathbf{x})^T [\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$
$$var(y|x^*) = k(x^*, x^*) + \sigma^2 - k(x^*, \mathbf{x})^T [\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} k(x^*, \mathbf{x})$$

Acquisition Functions

A **policy** that evaluates the surrogate model output to determine the best place to sample the objective function next.

Expected Improvement

$$EI_n(x) = \Delta_n(x)\Phi\left(\frac{\Delta_n(x)}{\sigma_n(x)}\right) + \sigma\phi\left(\frac{\Delta_n(x)}{\sigma_n(x)}\right)$$

Probability of Improvement

$$PI_n(x) = \phi\left(\frac{\Delta_n(x)}{\sigma_n(x)}\right)$$

Upper Confidence Bound

$$UCB_n(x) = \mu_n(x) + \beta^{1/2}\sigma_n(x)$$

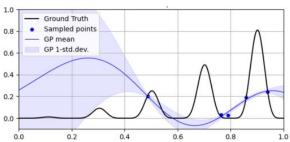
Algorithm:

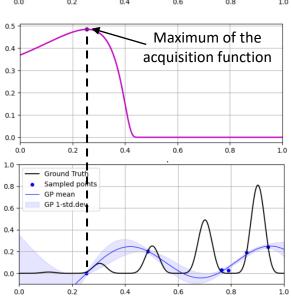
Step 1. Sample a few initial points from the objective function.

Step 2. Fit a GP surrogate on the current samples.

Step 3. Compute the acquisition function then find its maximum. This is where we should sample next, according to BayesOpt.

Step 4. Sample the objective function at the best point, then go back to **Step 2**.





Surrogate Model (Gaussian Process)

$$mean(y|x^*) = k(x^*, \mathbf{x})^T [\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$
$$var(y|x^*) = k(x^*, x^*) + \sigma^2 - k(x^*, \mathbf{x})^T [\mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}]^{-1} k(x^*, \mathbf{x})$$

Acquisition Functions

Expected Improvement

$$EI_n(x) = \Delta_n(x)\Phi\left(\frac{\Delta_n(x)}{\sigma_n(x)}\right) + \sigma\phi\left(\frac{\Delta_n(x)}{\sigma_n(x)}\right)$$

Probability of Improvement

$$PI_n(x) = \phi\left(\frac{\Delta_n(x)}{\sigma_n(x)}\right)$$

Upper Confidence Bound

$$UCB_n(x) = \mu_n(x) + \beta^{1/2}\sigma_n(x)$$

Definitions:

$$\Delta_n(x) = \begin{cases} \mu_n(x) - y_n^* - \xi & \text{if maximization} \\ y_n^* - \mu_n(x) - \xi & \text{if minimization} \end{cases}$$

At the *n*th iteration:

$$\mu_n(x) = \text{mean}(y|x) = \text{surrogate value at } x$$

$$\sigma_n(x) = \sqrt{\text{var}(y|x)} = \text{uncertainty at } x \text{ (std. dev.)}$$

$$y_n^* = \text{max/min observed so far } (n \text{th iteration})$$

$$\xi$$
 = exploration/exploitation parameter (higher ξ , more exploration)

$$\phi(a)$$
 = normal cumulative density function (CDF)

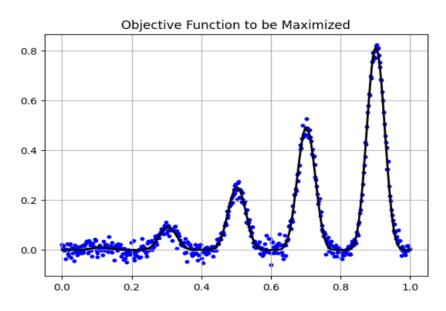
$$\Phi(a)$$
 = normal probability density function (PDF)

Example:

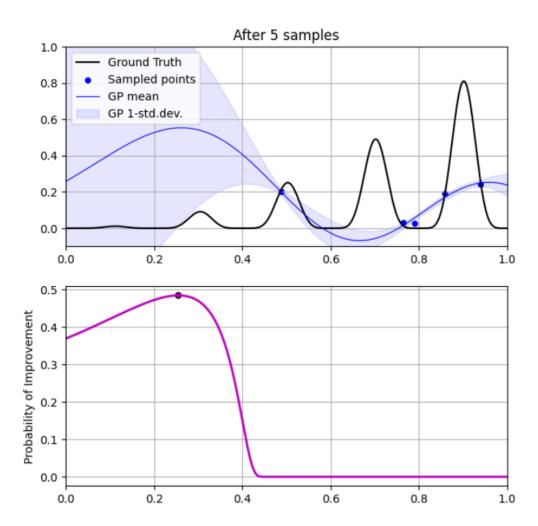
Find x within $x \in [0, 1]$ such that

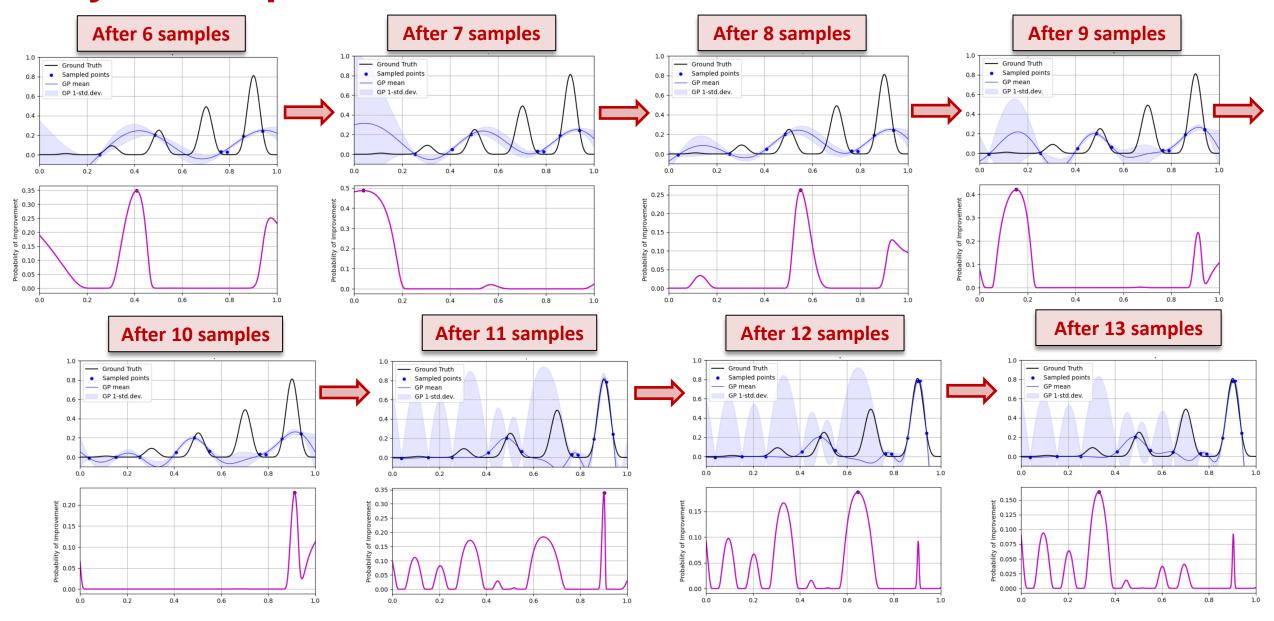
$$x^2 \sin^6(5\pi x) + \varepsilon$$

is <u>maximum</u>. The noise is distributed as $\varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.02)$. Use BayesOpt with the *Probability of Improvement* acquisition function.



Initialization:



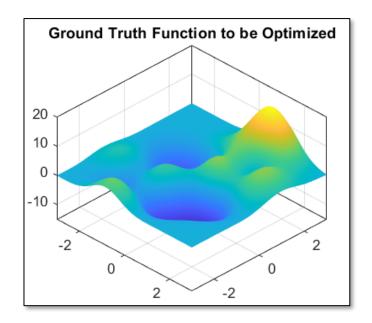


Example:

Find the point (x_1, x_2) that maximizes an *unknown* objective function given by the following surface.

Use Bayesian Optimization with the Expected Improvement policy and $\xi = 0.2$.

You can only sample the function 50 times.



Answer: Maximum (estimated):

$$(x_1, x_2) = (0.939394, 2.515152)$$

 $f(x_1, x_2) = 16.795755$

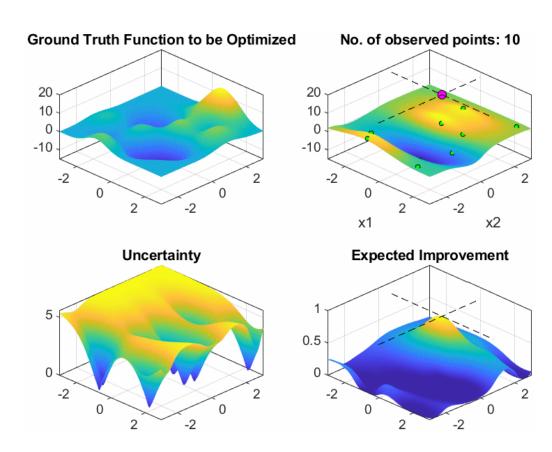
Max point of the surrogate model

Maximum (observed):

$$(x_1, x_2) = (1.060606, 2.575758)$$

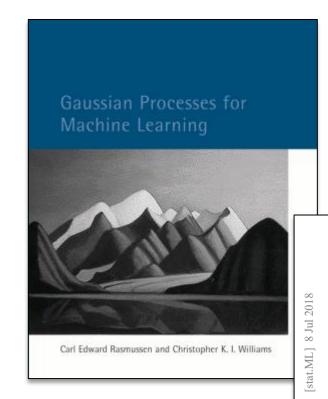
 $f(x_1, x_2) = 16.619848$

Max point among all 50 samples observed



Outline

- Motivation for GPs
- Bayesian Statistics
 - Bayes Theorem
 - Bayesians vs. Frequentists
- Gaussian Processes
 - Derivation
 - Kernels
- Bayesian Optimization
 - Algorithm
 - Acquisition Functions



Frazier (2018). A Tutorial on Bayesian Optimization

https://arxiv.org/pdf/1807.02811.pdf

Rasmussen and Williams (2006)
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MIT Press.

https://gaussianprocess.org/gpml/

A Tutorial on Bayesian Optimization

Peter I. Frazier

July 10, 2018

Abstract

Bayesian optimization is an approach to optimizing objective functions that take a long time (minutes or hours) to evaluate. It is best-airted for optimization over continuous domains of less than 20 dimensions, and tolerates stochastic noise in function evaluations. It builds a surrogate for the objective and equantifies the uncertainty in that surrogate using a Bayesian machine learning technique, Gaussian process regression, and then uses an acquisition function defined from this surrogate to decide where to sample. In this tutorial, we describe how Bayesian optimization works, including Gaussian process regression and three common acquisition functions: expected improvement, entropy search, and knowledge gradient. We then discuss more advanced techniques, including running multiple function evaluations in parallel, multi-fidelity and multi-information source optimization, expensive-to-evaluate constraints, random environmental conditions, multi-task Bayesian optimization, and the inclusion of derivative information. We conclude with a discussion of Bayesian optimization of expected improvement to noise in the field. Within our tutorial unterial we provide a generalization of expected improvement to noise valuations, beyond the noise-free setting where it is more commonly applied. This generalization is justified by a formal decision-theoretic argument, standing in contrast to previous ad hom modifications.

1 Introduction

Bayesian optimization (BayesOpt) is a class of machine-learning-based optimization methods focused on solving the problem

 $\max_{x \in A} f(x)$, (1

where the feasible set and objective function typically have the following properties:

- The input x is in \mathbb{R}^d for a value of d that is not too large. Typically $d \leq 20$ in most successful applications of BayesOpt.
- The feasible set A is a simple set, in which it is easy to assess membership. Typically A is a hyper-rectangle (x ∈ ℝ^d : a_i ≤ x_i ≤ b_i) or the d-dimensional simplex {x ∈ ℝ^d : ∑_i x_i = 1}. Later (Section 5) we will relax this assumption.
- The objective function f is continuous. This will typically be required to model f using Gaussian process regression.
- f is "expensive to evaluate" in the sense that the number of evaluations that may be performed is limited, typically to a few hundred. This limitation typically arises because each evaluation takes a substantial amount of time (typically hours), but may also occur because each evaluation bears

Further Reading

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