

# Gaussian Process

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This note aims to cover some materials on the Gaussian process. The primary references are [Gaussian Process for Machine Learning](#) by C. E. Rasmussen and CS-E4895 by Arno Solin.

## 1 Multivariate Normal Distribution

### 1.1 Linear transformation theorem for the multivariate normal distribution

Let  $x$  follow a multivariate normal distribution:

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (1)$$

Then, any affine transformation of  $x$  is also multivariate normally distributed:

$$y = Ax + b \sim \mathcal{N}(A\mu + b, A\Sigma A^\top) \quad (2)$$

**Proof:**

The moment-generating function of random vector  $x$  is

$$M_x(t) = \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top x)] \quad (3)$$

and therefore, the moment-generating function of the random vector  $y$  is given by

$$\begin{aligned} M_y(t) &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top (Ax + b))] \\ &= \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top Ax) \exp(t^\top b)] \\ &= \exp(t^\top b) \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^\top Ax)] \\ &= \exp(t^\top b) M_x(A^\top t) \end{aligned} \quad (4)$$

The moment-generating function of the multivariate normal distribution is

$$M_x(t) = \exp(t^\top \mu + \frac{1}{2} t^\top \Sigma t) \quad (5)$$

and therefore, the moment-generating function of random vector  $y$  becomes

$$M_y(t) = \exp(t^\top (A\mu + b) + \frac{1}{2} t^\top A\Sigma A^\top t) \quad (6)$$

Since the moment-generating function and the probability density function of a random variable are equivalent, this demonstrates that  $y$  follows a multivariate normal distribution with mean  $A\mu + b$  and covariance  $A\Sigma A^\top$ .

## 1.2 Marginal distribution of the multivariate normal distribution

Let  $x$  follow a multivariate normal distribution:

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (7)$$

Then, the marginal distribution of any subset vector  $x_s$  is also a multivariate normal distribution.

$$x_s \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_s, \Sigma_s) \quad (8)$$

where  $\mu_s$  drops the irrelevant variables (the ones not in the subset, i.e., marginalized out) from the mean vector  $\mu$  and  $\Sigma_s$  drops the corresponding rows and columns from the covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ .

**Proof:** Define an  $m \times n$  subset matrix  $S$  such that  $s_{ij} = 1$ , if the  $j$ -th element in  $x_s$  corresponds to the  $i$ -th element in  $x$ , and  $s_{ij} = 0$  otherwise. Then,

$$x_s = Sx \quad (9)$$

and we can apply the linear transformation theorem to give

$$x_s \sim \mathcal{N}(S\mu, S\Sigma S^\top) \quad (10)$$

Finally, we see that  $S\mu = \mu_s$  and  $S\Sigma S^\top = \Sigma_s$

## 1.3 Conditional distribution of the multivariate normal distribution

Let  $x$  follow a multivariate normal distribution

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (11)$$

Then, the conditional distribution of any subset vector  $x_1$ , given the complement vector  $x_2$ , is also a multivariate normal distribution

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_{1|2} &= \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2) \\ \Sigma_{1|2} &= \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21} \end{aligned} \quad (12)$$

with block-wise mean and covariance defined as:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu &= \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \\ \Sigma &= \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

**Proof:** Without loss of generality, we assume that in parallel to 13,

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (14)$$

where  $x_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_1 \times 1}$ ,  $x_2 \in \mathbb{R}^{n_2 \times 1}$ , and  $x \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times 1}$ . The joint distribution of  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  is

$$x \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma) \quad (15)$$

Moreover, the marginal distribution of  $x_2$  follows from 11 and 13 as

$$x_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \Sigma_{22}) \quad (16)$$

According to conditional probability, it holds that

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{p(x_1, x_2)}{p(x_2)} \\ &= \frac{\mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)}{\mathcal{N}(\mu_2, \Sigma_{22})} \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

Using the probability density of multivariate-normal, this becomes

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= \frac{1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^n |\Sigma|} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu)\right)}{1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n_2} |\Sigma_{22}|} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x - \mu_2)\right)} \\ &= 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(x - \mu)^\top \Sigma^{-1}(x - \mu) + \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x - \mu_2)\right) \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

Writing the inverse  $\Sigma$  as

$$\Sigma^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

and applying 13 to 18, we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left( \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \right)^\top \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix} \left( \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix} \right) \right) \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x - \mu_2)) \end{aligned} \quad (20)$$

Multiplying within 20, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) &= 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}((x_1 - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma^{11}(x_1 - \mu_1) + 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma^{12}(x_2 - \mu_2) \right. \\ &\quad \left. + (x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{22}(x_2 - \mu_2)) + \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x - \mu_2)) \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

where we have used the fact that  $\Sigma^{12} = \Sigma^{21^\top}$ , because  $\Sigma^{-1}$  is symmetric. The inverse of a block matrix is

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1} & -(A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1}BD^{-1} \\ -D^{-1}C(A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1} & D^{-1} + D^{-1}C(A - BD^{-1}C)^{-1}BD^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (22)$$

Thus, the inverse of  $\Sigma^{-1}$  in 19 is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} & -(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} \\ -\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} & \Sigma_{22}^{-1} + \Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad (23)$$

Plugging this into 20, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) = & \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \\ & \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( (x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) - \right. \right. \\ & \quad 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) + \\ & \quad (x_2 - \mu_2)^T [\Sigma_{22}^{-1} + \Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}] (x_2 - \mu_2)) \\ & \quad \left. \left. + \frac{1}{2} ((x_2 - \mu_2)^T \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2)) \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (24)$$

Eliminating some terms, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) = & \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \\ & \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \left( (x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} (x_1 - \mu_1) - \right. \right. \\ & \quad 2(x_1 - \mu_1)^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) + \\ & \quad \left. \left. (x_2 - \mu_2)^T \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21} (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2) \right) \right]. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

Rearranging the terms, we have

$$\begin{aligned} p(x_1|x_2) = & \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \right. \\ & \left. [(x_1 - \mu_1) - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)]^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} [(x_1 - \mu_1) - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)] \right] \\ = & \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \right. \\ & \left. [x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2))]^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} [x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2))] \right] \end{aligned} \quad (26)$$

where we used the fact that  $\Sigma_{21} = \Sigma_{12}^T$ . The determinant of a block matrix is

$$\begin{vmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{vmatrix} = |D| \cdot |A - BD^{-1}C|, \quad (27)$$

such that we have for  $\Sigma$  that

$$\begin{vmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{vmatrix} = |\Sigma_{22}| \cdot |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}| \quad (28)$$

with this and  $n - n_2 = n_1$ , we finally arrive at

$$p(x_1|x_2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n_1} |\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}|}} \cdot \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[ x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)) \right]^T (\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21})^{-1} \left[ x_1 - (\mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)) \right] \right] \quad (29)$$

which is the pdf of a multivariate normal distribution

$$p(x_1|x_2) = \mathcal{N}(x_1; \mu_{1|2}, \Sigma_{1|2}) \quad (30)$$

with mean  $\mu_{1|2}$  and covariance  $\Sigma_{1|2}$  given by 12.

## 2 The Marginal Likelihood

- Occam's razor: "When you have two competing models that produce similar predictions, the simpler, the better." The same concept goes for GP.
- The marginal likelihood  $p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta})$  implements a version of Occam's razor.
- Marginal likelihood for Gaussian likelihood

$$\begin{aligned} p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) &= \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}|\boldsymbol{\theta})d\mathbf{f} \\ &= \int \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}, \sigma^2\mathbf{I})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}|0, \mathbf{K})d\mathbf{f} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|0, \sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}) \end{aligned}$$

- Then

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \underbrace{-\frac{N}{2} \log(2\pi)}_{\text{constant}} \underbrace{-\frac{1}{2} \log |\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}|}_{\text{complexity penalty}} - \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^\top (\sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K})^{-1} \mathbf{y}}_{\text{data fit}}$$

### 2.1 The Marginal Likelihood Computation

- In practice, we should avoid computing determinants and inverses.
- Step 1: Compute Cholesky factorization of  $\mathbf{C} = \sigma^2\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}$  such that  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^\top$
- Step 2: Compute the log determinant as follows:

$$\log |\mathbf{C}| = \log |\mathbf{L}\mathbf{L}^\top| = \log |\mathbf{L}||\mathbf{L}^\top| = \log |\mathbf{L}|^2 = 2 \log |\mathbf{L}| = 2 \sum_{n=1}^N \log \mathbf{L}_{nn}$$

- Step 3: Compute quadratic term as follows

$$\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^\top (\mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^\top)^{-1} \mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{L}^{-\top} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{y})^\top \underbrace{(\mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{y})}_{=\mathbf{v}} = \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v}$$

- Step 4: Sum up components

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = -\frac{N}{2} \log(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} 2 \sum_{n=1}^N \log \mathbf{L}_{nn} - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{v}^\top \mathbf{v}$$

- Note that we never compute the determinant or the inverse of  $\mathbf{C}$  directly.

### 3 Kernel Theory

#### 3.1 Hilbert Space

- A vector space  $\mathcal{V}$  is a set of closed vectors under addition and scalar multiplication.
- If  $\mathcal{V}$  is equipped with a norm  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{V}} \in \mathbb{R}$ , it is a norm space.
- A Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  is a complete inner product space, with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  and induced norm  $\|x\| = \sqrt{\langle x, x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}$ .

#### 3.2 Kernel Function and Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

- A function  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a kernel function if and only if there exists a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and a map  $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that:

$$k(x, y) = \langle \phi(x), \phi(y) \rangle \quad (31)$$

for all  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$ .

- Let  $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\mathcal{X}}$  and let us define:

$$k_x := \phi(x) = k(x, \cdot) \quad (32)$$

Therefore, we have  $k_x(y) = k(x, y)$ .

- Let  $\mathcal{G}$  denote a vector space with span based on the images  $\{k_x | x \in \mathcal{X}\}$ , i.e.,

$$\{\mathcal{G} := \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i k_{x_i} | \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}, m \in \mathbb{N}, x_i \in \mathcal{X}\} \quad (33)$$

- By the definition of the kernel function, the inner product on  $\mathcal{G}$  is defined as follows:

$$\langle k_x, k_y \rangle := k(x, y) \quad (34)$$

Recall that  $k_x = k(x, \cdot)$ , hence,  $\langle k_x, k_y \rangle = \langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle$ .

- Therefore, for any  $f, g \in \mathcal{G}$ , with  $f = \sum_i \alpha_i k_{x_i}$  and  $g = \sum_j \beta_j k_{y_j}$ , we have:

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \langle \sum_i \alpha_i k_{x_i}, \sum_j \beta_j k_{y_j} \rangle \quad (35)$$

$$= \sum_{ij} \alpha_i \beta_j \langle k_{x_i}, k_{y_j} \rangle \quad (36)$$

$$= \sum_{ij} \alpha_i \beta_j k(x_i, y_j) \quad (37)$$

- To make  $\mathcal{G}$  a Hilbert space, we need to make it complete, i.e., ensure all Cauchy sequences converge.

**Definition 1.** Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a Hilbert space of real function  $f$  defined on an index set  $\mathcal{X}$ . Then  $\mathcal{H}$  is called a reproducing kernel Hilbert space endowed with an inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  if there exists a kernel function  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  with the following properties:

1. For every  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $k_x(y) = k(x, y)$  as function of  $y \in \mathcal{X}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{H}$ , and
2.  $k$  has the reproducing property.

- Reproducing property:

$$\langle k_x, f \rangle = \langle k_x, \sum_i \alpha_i k_{x_i} \rangle \quad (38)$$

$$= \sum_i \alpha_i \langle k_x, k_{x_i} \rangle = \sum_i \alpha_i k(x, x_i) = f(x) \quad (39)$$

- Moore-Aronszajn theorem: Given a kernel, there is a unique RKHS, Given an RKHS, there is a unique kernel.

### 3.3 Representer Theorem

Settings:

- We are given kernel  $k$  and denote the corresponding RKHS at  $\mathcal{H}$ .
- We want to learn a linear function  $f(\mathbf{x})$  from a finite data set  $\{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$

**Theorem 1.** Consider the risk minimization problem of the form:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \underbrace{R_n(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{f})}_{\text{Empirical Risk}} + \underbrace{\lambda \Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}})}_{\text{Regularizer}} \quad (40)$$

where  $\mathbf{f} = \{f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n)\}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \{y_1, \dots, y_n\}$ , and  $\lambda$  is a scaling parameter. Then 40 always has an optimal solution of the form:

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}) \quad (41)$$

## 4 Spectral Kernel

### 4.1 Fourier Transforms

- Fourier transform  $S(\omega)$  of a function  $f(x)$ ,

$$S(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \exp(-2\pi i x \omega) dx \quad (42)$$

- Inverse Fourier transform  $f(x)$  of a spectral density  $S(\omega)$

$$f(x) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) \exp(2\pi i x \omega) d\omega \quad (43)$$

- Euler's identity:

$$\exp(ix) = \cos x + i \sin x \quad (44)$$

Hence

$$\exp(\pm 2\pi i x \omega) = \cos(2\pi x \omega) \pm i \sin(2\pi x \omega) \quad (45)$$

### 4.2 Fourier Duals

**Theorem 2.** *Bochner's theorem: Any stationary kernel  $k : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  and its spectral density  $S : \mathbb{R}^D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are Fourier duals*

$$\begin{aligned} k(x - x') &\equiv k(\tau) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} S(\omega) \exp(2\pi i x \omega^\top \tau) d\omega \\ S(\omega) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} k(\tau) \exp(-2\pi i x \omega^\top \tau) d\tau \end{aligned}$$

## 5 Marginal Likelihood via Laplace Approximation

- Marginal likelihood to do model selection:

$$p(\mathbf{y}) = \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) p(\mathbf{f}) d\mathbf{f} \quad (46)$$

- Let  $\psi(\mathbf{f}) = \log h(\mathbf{f}) = \log(p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f})p(\mathbf{f}))$

$$\psi(\mathbf{f}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{f}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f} \quad (47)$$

- Second order Taylor approximation around the mode  $\hat{\mathbf{f}}$

$$\psi(\mathbf{f}) = \psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})^\top \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}}) \quad (48)$$



- Substituting back

$$p(\mathbf{y}) \approx q(\mathbf{y}) = \int \exp(\psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})^\top \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})) d\mathbf{f} \quad (49)$$

$$= \exp(\psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})) \int \exp(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})^\top \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{f} - \hat{\mathbf{f}})) d\mathbf{f} \quad (50)$$

$$= \exp(\psi(\hat{\mathbf{f}})) (2\pi)^{N/2} |\mathbf{A}^{-1}|^{1/2} \quad (51)$$

$$= \exp(\log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}}) (2\pi)^{N/2} |\mathbf{A}^{-1}|^{1/2} \quad (52)$$

- Taking the log of  $q(\mathbf{y})$

$$\begin{aligned} \log q(\mathbf{y}) &= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} \\ &\quad + \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi + \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{A}|^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

$$= \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} + \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{A}^{-1}| \quad (54)$$

- We can now use the fact that  $|\mathbf{A}^{-1}| = |\mathbf{A}|^{-1}$

$$\log q(\mathbf{y}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} - \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{A}| \quad (55)$$

- Recall that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \mathbf{W}$

$$\log q(\mathbf{y}) = \log p(\mathbf{y}|\hat{\mathbf{f}}) - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{f}}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{f}} - \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{K}^{-1} + \mathbf{W}| \quad (56)$$

- We optimize  $\log q(\mathbf{y})$  using gradient based methods to choose hyperparameters.

## 6 Multi-output GP

### 6.1 Intrinsic coregionalization model (ICM): two-outputs

- Consider two output  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $f_2(\mathbf{x})$  with  $\mathbf{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- Assume the following generative model:
  1. Sample from a GP  $u(\mathbf{x}) \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'))$  to obtain  $u^1(\mathbf{x})$
  2. Obtain  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $f_2(\mathbf{x})$  by linearly transforming  $u^1(\mathbf{x})$

$$f_1(\mathbf{x}) = a_1^1 u(\mathbf{x})$$

$$f_2(\mathbf{x}) = a_2^1 u(\mathbf{x})$$

## 6.2 ICM: covariance

- For a fixed value  $\mathbf{x}$ , we can group  $f_1(\mathbf{x})$  and  $f_2(\mathbf{x})$  in a vector  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix}$$

We refer to this as a vector-valued function.

- The covariance for  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  is computed as

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})) = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')^\top] - \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})]\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')]^\top$$

- We compute the term  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')^\top]$

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}') & f_2(\mathbf{x}') \end{bmatrix} \right] &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[f_1(\mathbf{x})f_1(\mathbf{x}')] & \mathbb{E}[f_1(\mathbf{x})f_2(\mathbf{x}')] \\ \mathbb{E}[f_2(\mathbf{x})f_1(\mathbf{x}')] & \mathbb{E}[f_2(\mathbf{x})f_2(\mathbf{x}')] \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (a_1^1)^2 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] & a_1^1 a_2^1 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] \\ a_1^1 a_2^1 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] & (a_2^1)^2 \mathbb{E}[u_1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} (a_1^1) & a_1^1 a_2^1 \\ a_1^1 a_2^1 & (a_2^1)^2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] \end{aligned}$$

- The term  $\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})]$  is computed as

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}) \end{bmatrix} \right] = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[f_1(\mathbf{x})] \\ \mathbb{E}[f_2(\mathbf{x})] \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1^1 \\ a_2^1 \end{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})]$$

- Putting the terms together, the covariance for  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x})$  follows

$$\begin{bmatrix} (a_1^1) & a_1^1 a_2^1 \\ a_1^1 a_2^1 & (a_2^1)^2 \end{bmatrix} \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})u^1(\mathbf{x}')] - \begin{bmatrix} a_1^1 \\ a_2^1 \end{bmatrix} [a_1^1 \quad a_2^1] \mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x})]\mathbb{E}[u^1(\mathbf{x}')]^\top$$

- Defining  $\mathbf{a} = [a_1^1 \quad a_2^1]^\top$  and  $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\top$ ,

$$\text{cov}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}), \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}')) = \mathbf{a}\mathbf{a}^\top k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbf{B}^\top k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

## 6.3 ICM: Observed data

- Given  $\mathcal{D}_1 = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, f_1(\mathbf{x}_i)) | i = 1, \dots, N\}$  and  $\mathcal{D}_2 = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, f_2(\mathbf{x}_i)) | i = 1, \dots, N\}$ , then

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1 \\ \mathbf{f}_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ f_1(\mathbf{x}_N) \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ f_2(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} b_{11}\mathbf{K} & b_{12}\mathbf{K} \\ b_{21}\mathbf{K} & b_{22}\mathbf{K} \end{bmatrix} \right) = \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{B} \otimes \mathbf{K} \right)$$