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:

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

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

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

Proof:

The moment-generating function of random vector x is

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

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

$$M_y(t) = \mathbb{E}\left[\exp(t^T(Ax+b))\right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[\exp(t^TAx)\exp(t^Tb)]$$

$$= \exp(t^Tb)\mathbb{E}[\exp(t^TAx)]$$

$$= \exp(t^Tb)M_x(A^Tt)$$
(4)

The moment-generating function of the multivariate normal distribution is

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

and therefore, the moment-generating function of random vector \boldsymbol{y} becomes

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

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

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

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

where μ_s drops the irrelevant variables (the ones not in the subset, i.e., marginalized out) from the mean vector μ and Σ_s drops the corresponding rows and columns from the covariance matrix Σ .

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,

$$x_s = Sx \tag{9}$$

and we can apply the linear transformation theorem to give

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

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

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

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

$$\mu_{1|2} = \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x_2 - \mu_2)$$

$$\Sigma_{1|2} = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} \Sigma_{21}$$
(12)

with block-wise mean and covariance defined as:

$$\mu = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1 \\ \mu_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{11} & \Sigma_{12} \\ \Sigma_{21} & \Sigma_{22} \end{bmatrix}$$
(13)

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

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \tag{14}$$

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

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

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

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

According to conditional probability, it holds that

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

Using the probability density of multivariate-normal, this becomes

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

Writing the inverse Σ as

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

and applying 13 to 18, we obtain:

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

$$+ \frac{1}{2} (x - \mu_2)^{\top} \Sigma_{22}^{-1} (x - \mu_2)$$

$$(20)$$

Multiplying within 20, we have

$$p(x_1|x_2) = 1/\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_2}} \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \exp(-\frac{1}{2}((x_1 - \mu_1)^\top \Sigma^{11}(x_1 - \mu_1) + 2(x_1 - \mu_1)\Sigma^{12}(x_2 - \mu_2)) + (x_2 - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{22}(x_2 - \mu_2)) + \frac{1}{2}(x - \mu_2)^\top \Sigma^{-1}_{22}(x - \mu_2))$$
(21)

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

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

Thus, the inverse of Σ^{-1} in 19 is

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

$$(23)$$

Plugging this into 20, we have

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

$$(24)$$

Eliminating some terms, we have

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

Rearranging the terms, we have

$$p(x_{1}|x_{2}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_{2}}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[(x_{1} - \mu_{1}) - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_{2} - \mu_{2})\right]^{\mathrm{T}} \left(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\right)^{-1} \left[(x_{1} - \mu_{1}) - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_{2} - \mu_{2})\right]\right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{n-n_{2}}}} \cdot \sqrt{\frac{|\Sigma_{22}|}{|\Sigma|}} \cdot \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2} \cdot \left[x_{1} - (\mu_{1} + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_{2} - \mu_{2}))\right]^{\mathrm{T}} \left(\Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\right)^{-1} \left[x_{1} - (\mu_{1} + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_{2} - \mu_{2}))\right]\right]$$

$$(26)$$

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

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

such that we have for Σ that

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

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

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

which is the pdf of a multivariate normal distribution

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

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

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

• 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 $\mathbf{C} = \sigma^2 \mathbf{I} + K$ such that $C = \mathbf{L} \mathbf{L}^\top$
- 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

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

• Note that we never compute the determinant or the inverse of C directly.

3 Kernel Theory

3.1 Hilbert Space

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

3.2 Kernel Function and Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

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

$$k(x,y) = \langle \phi(x), \phi(y) \rangle \tag{31}$$

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

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

$$k_x := \phi(x) = k(x,.) \tag{32}$$

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.,

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

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

$$\langle k_x, k_y \rangle := k(x, y) \tag{34}$$

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

• 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:

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \langle \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} k_{x_{i}}, \sum_{j} \beta_{j} k_{y_{j}} \rangle$$
 (35)

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

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

 \bullet 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 $\langle ., . \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ if there exists a kernel function $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$ 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:

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

$$= \sum_{i} \alpha_{i} \langle k_{x}, k_{x_{i}} \rangle = \sum_{i} k(x, x_{i}) = f(x)$$
 (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:

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

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

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

4 Spectral Kernel

4.1 Fourier Transforms

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

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

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

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

• Euler's identity:

$$\exp(ix) = \cos x + i\sin x \tag{44}$$

Hence

$$\exp(\pm 2\pi ix\omega) = \cos(2\pi x\omega) \pm i\sin(2\pi x\omega) \tag{45}$$

4.2 Fourier Duals

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

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

5 Marginal Likelihood via Laplace Approximation

• Marginal likelihood to do model selection:

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

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

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

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

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

• Substituting back

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

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

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

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

• Taking the log of $q(\mathbf{y})$

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

$$+ \frac{N}{2} \log 2\pi + \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{A}|^{-1}$$

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

$$(53)$$

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

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

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

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

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