# 732A96/TDDE15 Advanced Machine Learning Gaussian Process Regression and Classification

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Lectures 10: Gaussian Process Regression

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- Linear Regression
- Bayesian Linear Regression
- Gaussian Process Regression
- Squared Exponential Covariance Function
- Gaussian Process Regression: Canadian Wages

#### Literature

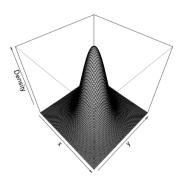
- Main source
  - Rasmussen, C. E. and Williams, K. I. Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning. MIT Press, 2006. Chapters 2.1-2.5.
- Additional source
  - Bishop, C. M. Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning. Springer, 2006. Chapters 6.4.1-6.4.2.

#### Gaussian Distribution

 Density function of the Gaussian (a.k.a normal) distribution for a D-dimensional random variable x:

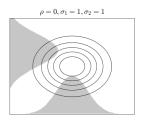
$$\mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{x}|\mu, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{D/2}} \frac{1}{|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|^{1/2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{1}{2}(\boldsymbol{x} - \mu)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{x} - \mu)\right\}$$

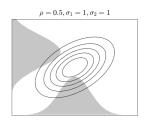
• Recall that  $E[x] = \mu$  and  $var(x) = \Sigma$ .

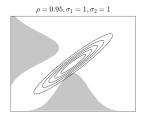


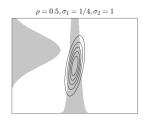
#### Gaussian Distribution

• Example:  $\mathcal{N}(x_1, x_2 | \mu, \Sigma)$  with  $\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_1^2 & \rho \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \\ \rho \sigma_1 \sigma_2 & \sigma_2^2 \end{bmatrix}$ .









#### Gaussian Distribution

Recall that if

$$p(x) = \mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \Lambda^{-1})$$
$$p(y|x) = \mathcal{N}(y|Ax + B, L^{-1})$$

then

$$p(x,y) = \mathcal{N}(x,y|A\mu + B,R^{-1})$$

where

$$R^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda^{-1} & \Lambda^{-1}A^T \\ A\Lambda^{-1} & L^{-1} + A\Lambda^{-1}A^T \end{pmatrix}.$$

▶ Recall also that if  $p(x) = \mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \Sigma)$  and  $\Lambda = \Sigma^{-1}$  and

$$x = (x_a, x_b)^T \qquad \mu = (\mu_a, \mu_b)^T$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \Sigma_{aa} & \Sigma_{ab} \\ \Sigma_{ba} & \Sigma_{bb} \end{pmatrix} \qquad \Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \Lambda_{aa} & \Lambda_{ab} \\ \Lambda_{ba} & \Lambda_{bb} \end{pmatrix}$$

then

$$\begin{split} p(x_a) &= \mathcal{N}(x_a|\mu_a, \Sigma_{aa}) \\ p(x_a|x_b) &= \mathcal{N}(x_a|\mu_{a|b}, \Lambda_{aa}^{-1}) \qquad \text{where } \mu_{a|b} = \mu_a - \Lambda_{aa}^{-1} \Lambda_{ab}(x_b - \mu_b) \text{ or } \\ p(x_a|x_b) &= \mathcal{N}(x_a|\mu_{a|b}, \Sigma_{a|b}) \qquad \text{where } \mu_{a|b} = \mu_a + \Sigma_{ab} \Sigma_{bb}^{-1}(x_b - \mu_b) \\ &\qquad \qquad \text{and } \Sigma_{a|b} = \Sigma_{aa} - \Sigma_{ab} \Sigma_{bb}^{-1} \Sigma_{ba}. \end{split}$$

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## Linear Regression

- ► Training data:  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) | i = 1, ..., n\} = (X, \mathbf{y}).$
- ▶ Deterministic function:  $f(x) = x^T w$ .
- Additive noisy observations:  $y = f(x) + \epsilon$ .
- Gaussian noise:  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_n^2)$ .
- Likelihood function:  $p(\mathbf{y}|X, \mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}(X^T \mathbf{w}, \sigma_n^2 I) \propto \exp\left\{\frac{1}{2\sigma_n^2}||\mathbf{y} X^T \mathbf{w}||^2\right\}$ .
- To obtain w<sup>ML</sup>,
  - take the derivative of the log lik function wrt w, and
  - set it to zero, and
  - solve to obtain  $\mathbf{w}^{ML} = (XX^T)^{-1}X\mathbf{y}$ .
- Minimizing the least squared error (i.e.,  $\frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(y_i \boldsymbol{x}_i^T\boldsymbol{w})^2$ ) gives the same result. This justifies the use of LSE.

#### Bayesian Linear Regression

- ▶ Prior distribution:  $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_p)$ , e.g. ridge regression  $\Sigma_p = \alpha^{-1}I$ .
- Posterior distribution:

$$\log p(\boldsymbol{w}|X,\boldsymbol{y}) \propto \log p(\boldsymbol{y}|X,\boldsymbol{w}) + \log p(\boldsymbol{w}) \propto \frac{1}{2\sigma_p^2} ||\boldsymbol{y} - \boldsymbol{X}^T \boldsymbol{w}||^2 - \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{w}^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_p^{-1} \boldsymbol{w}.$$

- ▶ So,  $\mathbf{w}^{MAP}$  can be seen as a penalized/regularized ML estimate.
- ▶ Specifically,  $p(\boldsymbol{w}|X,\boldsymbol{y}) = \mathcal{N}(\bar{\boldsymbol{w}} = \frac{1}{\sigma_n^2}A^{-1}X\boldsymbol{y},A^{-1})$  where  $A = \sigma_n^{-2}XX^T + \Sigma_p^{-1}$ , and thus  $\boldsymbol{w}^{MAP} = \bar{\boldsymbol{w}}$ .
- ▶ A full Bayesian approach does not use **w**<sup>MAP</sup> but the predictive distribution:

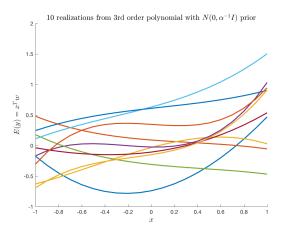
$$p(f_*|\mathbf{x}_*,X,\mathbf{y}) = \int p(f_*|\mathbf{x}_*,\mathbf{w})p(\mathbf{w}|X,\mathbf{y})d\mathbf{w} = \mathcal{N}(\frac{1}{\sigma_n^2}\mathbf{x}_*A^{-1}X\mathbf{y},\mathbf{x}_*^TA^{-1}\mathbf{x}_*).$$

▶ The above carries over to the feature space  $\phi(x)$ . The kernel trick applies. See p. 12 of Rasmussen and Williams.

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# Bayesian Linear Regression

• A prior on  $\mathbf{w}$  is a prior on f.



#### Gaussian Processes Regression

- A GP defines a prior distribution over functions directly, instead of indirectly through weights as before. Therefore, a GP operates on the space of functions rather than on the space of weights. Operating in either space is equivalent. A GP defines a prior over functions by defining a prior over a finite number of points.
- Formally, a GP is a collection of random variables, any finite number of which have a joint Gaussian distribution.<sup>1</sup> Hence, a GP is defined as
  - $f(x) \sim \mathcal{GP}(m(x), k(x, x'))$  where
  - m(x) = E[f(x)] is the mean function (assumed to be zero hereinafter), and
  - k(x,x') = E[(f(x) m(x))(f(x') m(x'))] is the covariance function.
- ► E.g., squared exponential covariance function:

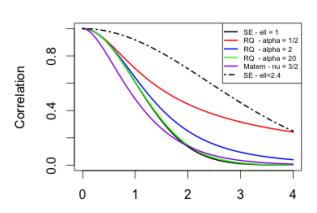
$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = cov(f(\mathbf{x}), f(\mathbf{x}')) = \sigma_f^2 \exp\left\{-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right\}$$
, i.e. highly correlated function values for close points.

- Note that each random variable or dimension in a GP is a function value at a point. Hence, a GP specifies a probability distribution over functions at a finite number of points.
- ▶ We can sample the function space by sampling the GP at any number of chosen points  $X_*$ . To do so, we sample a multivariate Gaussian distribution with the corresponding covariance matrix, i.e.  $f_*|X_* \sim \mathcal{N}(0, K(X_*, X_*))$ .
- Demo of GaussianProcesses.R.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>If the collection of random variables is finite, then a GP is a Gaussian distribution.

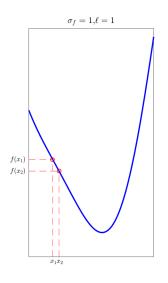
## Squared Exponential Covariance Function

#### **Correlation functions**



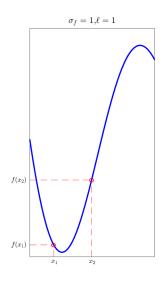
#### Squared Exponential Covariance: Smooth Function, Close Points

• If  $\sigma_f = 1$ , then k(x,x) = 1,  $0 \le k(x,x') \le 1$ ,  $k(x,x') = \rho(f(x),f(x'))$  and  $slope(x',x) = cov(f(x),f(x'))/cov(f(x),f(x)) = \rho(f(x),f(x'))$ .



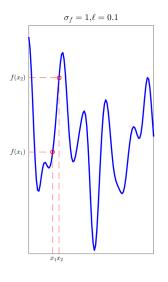


#### Squared Exponential Covariance: Smooth Function, Distant Points



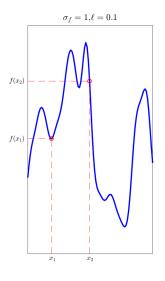


## Squared Exponential Covariance: Jagged Function, Close Points





## Squared Exponential Covariance: Jagged Function, Distant Points

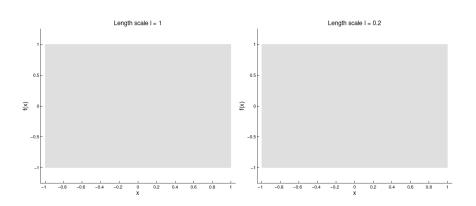




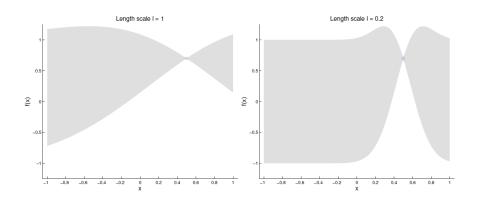


#### Gaussian Process Sampling: Before First Draw

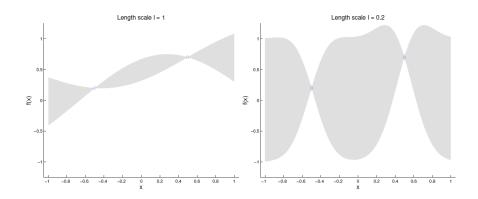
- ▶ To sample a GP at points  $X_* = \{x_1, ..., x_n\}$ , we sample a multivariate Gaussian distribution  $\mathcal{N}(0, K(X_*, X_*))$ .
- Alternatively, we can sample univariate Gaussian distributions, since  $p(f(x_1),...,f(x_n)) = \prod_{i=1}^n p(f(x_i)|f(x_1),...,f(x_{i-1})).$



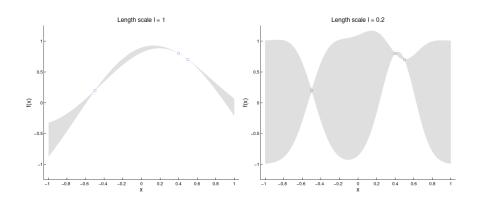
## Gaussian Process Sampling: Before Second Draw



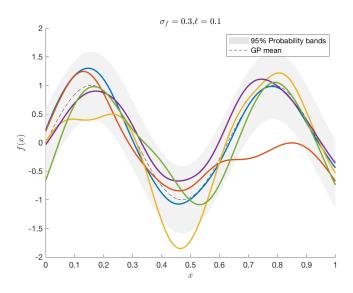
# Gaussian Process Sampling: Before Third Draw



## Gaussian Process Sampling: Before Fourth Draw



# Gaussian Process Sampling



#### Gaussian Processes Regression

- ▶ With no data, sample from  $f_*|X_* \sim \mathcal{N}(0, K(X_*, X_*))$ .
- With noise-free training data  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\boldsymbol{x}_i, f_i) | i = 1, ..., n\} = (X, \boldsymbol{f}), \text{ build }$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{f}_* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( 0, \begin{bmatrix} K(X,X) & K(X,X_*) \\ K(X_*,X) & K(X_*,X_*) \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

and sample from  $f_*|X_*, X, f_* \sim \mathcal{N}(K(X_*, X)K(X, X)^{-1}f, K(X_*, X_*) - K(X_*, X)K(X, X)^{-1}K(X, X_*)).$ 

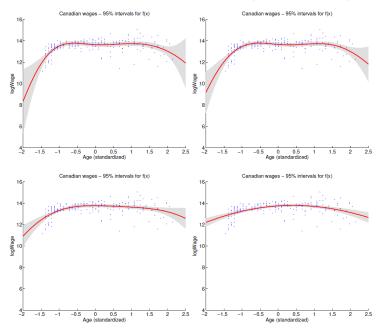
• With noisy training data  $\mathcal{D} = \{(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i) | i = 1, ..., n\} = (X, \mathbf{y}), \text{ build }$ 

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y} \\ \mathbf{f}_* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( 0, \begin{bmatrix} K(X, X) + \sigma_n^2 I & K(X, X_*) \\ K(X_*, X) & K(X_*, X_*) \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

and sample from  $f_*|X_*, X, y \sim \mathcal{N}(K(X_*, X)[K(X, X) + \sigma_n^2 I]^{-1}y, K(X_*, X_*) - K(X_*, X)[K(X, X) + \sigma_n^2 I]^{-1}K(X, X_*)).$ 

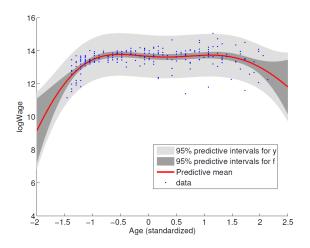
- See p. 17 of Rasmussen and Williams for the correspondence between the weight and function space views: Every covariance function can be mapped into a set of features, and vice versa.
- Demo of KernLabDemo.R.

# Gaussian Process Regression: Canadian Wages ( $\ell = 0.2, 0.5, 1, 2$ )



# Gaussian Process Regression: Canadian Wages ( $\ell = 0.5$ )

- ▶ Predictive interval for  $f_*$ : mean( $f_*$ ) ± 1.96 sd( $f_*$ ).
- Predictive interval for  $y_*$ : mean( $f_*$ )  $\pm 1.96$  [ sd( $f_*$ ) +  $\sigma_n$  ].



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Thank you