
Assignment V: Gaussian Process Regression

Exercises in Machine Learning (190.013), SS2022
Stefan Nehl¹

¹stefan-christopher.nehl@stud.unileoben.ac.at, MNR: 00935188, Montanuniversität Leoben, Austria

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In the fifth assignment, I had to describe the Gaussian Process Regression and implement it with the library GPy. Furthermore, I had to test different kernel implementations and hyper parameters and verify and compare the results with the results of the last assignment.

1 Gaussian Process Regression

Gaussian processes are a class of nonparametric models for machine learning. They are commonly used for modeling spatial and time series data. (Powell, 2021) The *Gaussian Process Regression* uses the *Multivariate Conditional Distribution*.

$$f(\mathbf{x}'|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|}} \exp^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}' - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}(\mathbf{x}' - \boldsymbol{\mu})}$$

With $\mathbf{x}' = \{x'_1, \dots, x'_k\}$, $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}$ the covariance matrix and $|\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|$ the determinant of the covariance matrix. The covariance is determined by the covariance function of the kernel and has to be positive definite. (Rueckert, 2022) I tried three different kernels for the *Gaussian Process Regression*. The *Linear Kernel*, the *RBF*, *Radial Basis Function* and the *Matern 52*.

1.1 Linear Kernel

The *Linear Kernel* is based on linear classification. This classification is based on the linear combination of the characteristics. The decision function can be described with:

$$d(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^T \phi(\mathbf{x}) + b$$

where \mathbf{w} is the weight vector, b a biased value and $\phi(\mathbf{x})$ a higher dimensional vector of \mathbf{x} . If \mathbf{w} is a linear combination of training data \mathbf{w} can be calculated with:

$$\mathbf{w} = \sum_{i=1}^l \alpha_i \phi(\mathbf{x}_i)$$

for some $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^1$ The kernel function can be calculated with

$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \phi(\mathbf{x}_i)^T \phi(\mathbf{x}_j)$$

(Guo-Xun Yuan and Lin, 2021) The linear kernel is good for data with a lot of features. That's because mapping the data to a higher dimensional space does not really improve the performance. (KOWALCZYK, 2014) The implementation in the *GPy* library was the following:

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1}^D \sigma_i^2 x_i y_i$$

Where D defines the dimension and σ_i^2 the variance for each dimension.

1.2 RBF

The *Radial Basis Function* is one of the most used kernels. It's similar to the *Gaussian distribution*. The kernel calculates the similarity or how close two points are to each other.

$$K(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

Where $\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|$ is the euclidean (L_2 -Norm) and σ the variance and the hyper parameter. (Sreenivasa, 2020)

$$K(r) = \sigma^2 \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}r^2\right)$$

Implementation in the *GPy* library where $r = \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|$ and σ^2 the variance.

1.3 Matern 52

The *Matern 52* is a generalization of the *RBF* kernel.

$$K(r) = \left(1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}r}{l} + \frac{5r^2}{3l^2}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{\sqrt{5}r}{l}\right)$$

Where $r = \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|$ and l a positive parameter. (C. E. Rasmussen, 2006) However, if I take a look in the

code of the *GPy* implementation. It looks a little bit different.

$$K(r) = \sigma^2(1 + \sqrt{5}r + \frac{5}{3}r^2) \exp(-\sqrt{5}r)$$

It looks like, the positive parameter l is set to 1. As additional hyper parameter the variance, σ^2 , was introduced.

1.4 Hyper-Parameters

The *GPy* library has for every kernel a variance parameter. This parameter is a hyper parameter to adjust improve the prediction result. If I set the parameter to a lower value the values for the learning are in a smaller gap. If I increase σ^2 the gap increases. So if the variance of my data is high, an increased value for the parameter variance makes sense.

1.5 Implementation

For the implementation of the *Gaussian Process Regression* i created a the class *GaussianProcess* which derived from the class *Regression* and reused the functions, *importData*, *generateTrainingSubset*, *createFeatureVector*, *testModel*, *computMeanOfError*, *getMeanError*, *plotError* and *plotHeatMap* from the last assignment about *Ridge Regression*. I implemented than the function *computeGaussianProcessRegression* which takes the parameters *kernelSetting* and *variance*. The parameter *kernelSetting* is an enum with the following values: I checked those values with an if and set the ker-

Table 1: Values for the kernel settings

Value	String
LinearKernel	Linear Kernel
RBFWithGpu	RBF with GPU
RBF	RBF
Matern52	Matern 52

nel to the corresponding value. The kernel function, *GPY.kern.KernelName* got 2 more parameters. One was the dimension of the data and the other one the variance, which is the hyper parameter. The dimension was set to two and for the variance I tried different values. After the kernel I created the model with the function *GPY.models.GPRegression* which takes the x and y values and the kernel as a parameter. The y values where normalized to have a mean of zero in the data and I used only a subset of the training data to overcome the performance issues. The size of the subset can be set with the parameter *trainStep* which has the same implementation from assignment 4. After the model creation I optimized the model with the *model.optimize* function. This function takes the max iterations as a parameter. I set this value to 1000. After the optimization I used the *model.predict* function and

passed the y test data to the trained model. With the returned y values and the y test data from our data set, I calculated the error and the mean of the error. The last step was the plotting of the descending error, the heat map and compared the error with the error of the *Ridge Regression*.

1.6 Result

First I tested which kernel performs the best. For this I created a test with the train steps of 20 and a hyper parameter of 1 and tested all three kernels and compared the error with the error of the *Ridge Regression*. Figure 1 displays the different values. (I had an issue in the last assignment with the *Ridge Regression*. This bug is now solved.) Figure 1 shows, that in this case the *Ridge*

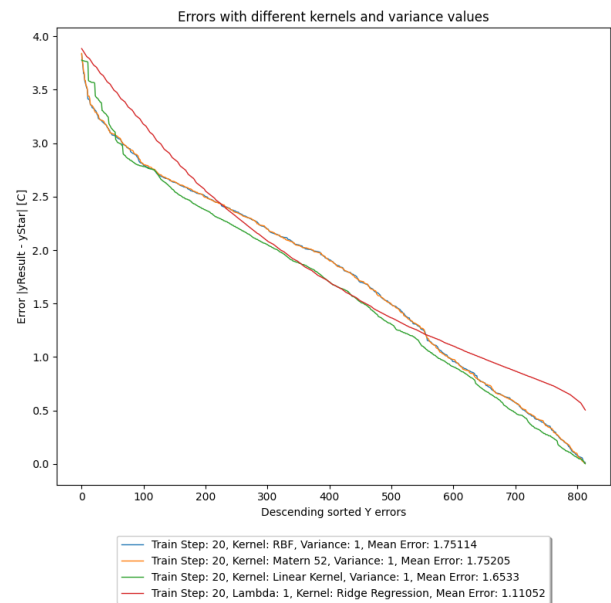


Figure 1: Error with different kernels and variance:1

Regression performs better than the *Gaussian Processes*. From the *Gaussian Processes* the *Linear Kernel* performs better than the *Matern 52* and the *RBF*. Similar picture is also displayed in Figure 2 where I repeated the test, but with a variance of two. Also the optimization process took some time. Table 2 displays the optimization times from the different kernels. The times are not

Table 2: Optimization time for the different kernels

Kernel	Opt Time
RBF	1m 13
Matern 52	1m 29s
Linear Kernel	1m 4s

exact and are depending on the pc and if there are any other programs running in the background. Next I tested the different kernels with 4 different values for the variance. The values were 0.1, 0.5, 1 and 2. Figure

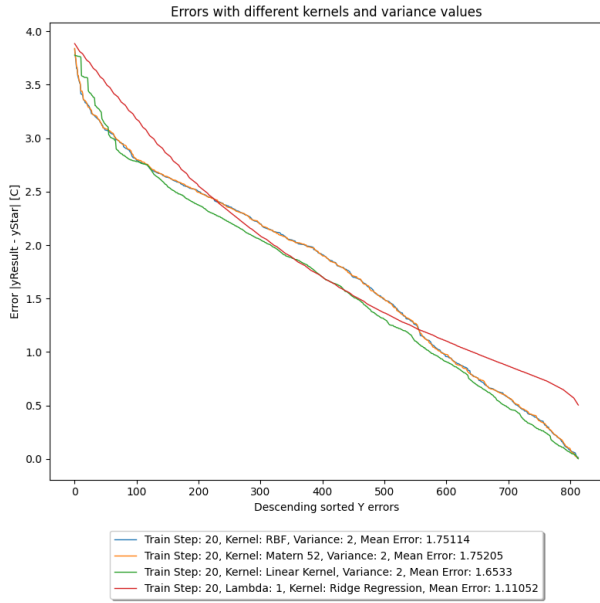


Figure 2: Error with different kernels and variance:2

3 shows the result of this test. The result displayed in

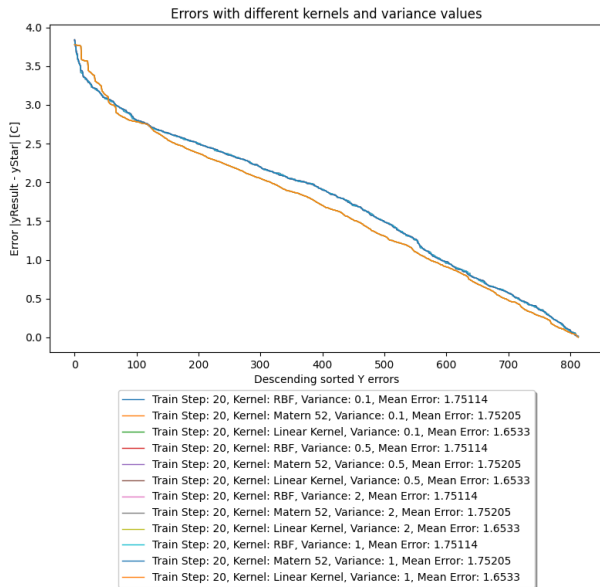


Figure 3: Error with different kernels and variance:0.1, 0.5, 1, 2

Figure 3 shows, that with a high amount of optimization iterations the variance effect is small or not even visible. I repeated the test without any optimization. Figure 4 shows that without optimization the mean error decreases with a lower variance for this dataset. This behaviour is also displayed in Figure 5 where I tested the *Matern 52* kernel with the different settings. Table 3 displays all results. Without the optimization there is no time measured for the optimization time. For the last test I used the *Linear Kernel* and compared the results with the *Ridge Regression*. For this I set the

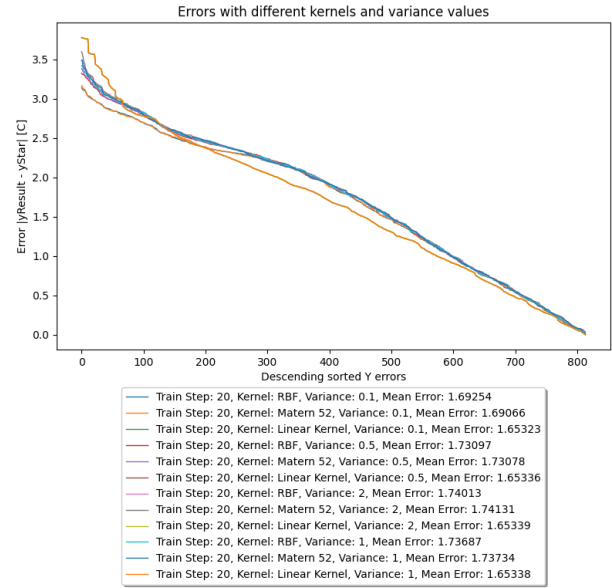


Figure 4: Error with different kernels and variance:0.1, 0.5, 1, 2 and without optimization

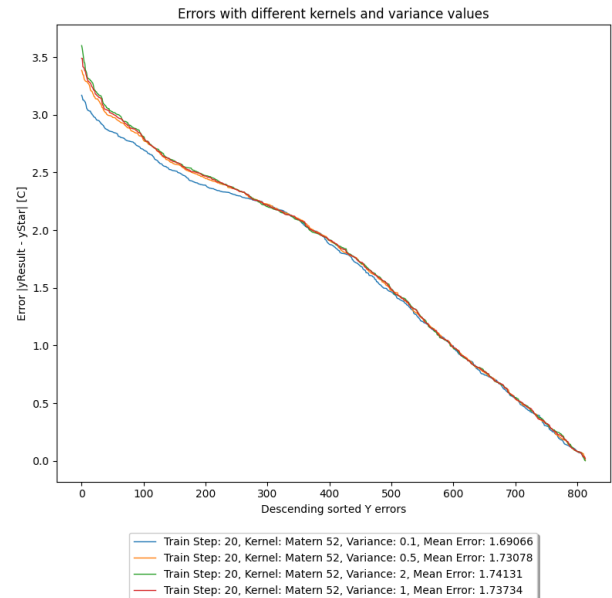


Figure 5: Error with Matern 52 kernel and variance:0.1, 0.5, 1, 2 and without optimization

Table 3: Kernel Results

Kernel	Variance	Optimized	Error Mean	Opt
RBF	0.1	True	1.7511	1m
RBF	0.5	True	1.7511	1m
RBF	1.0	True	1.7511	1m
RBF	2.0	True	1.7511	1m
Matern 52	0.1	True	1.7520	1m
Matern 52	0.5	True	1.7520	1m
Matern 52	1.0	True	1.7520	1m
Matern 52	2.0	True	1.7520	1m
LK	0.1	True	1.6533	50
LK	0.5	True	1.6533	1m
LK	1.0	True	1.6533	1m
LK	2.0	True	1.6533	1m
RBF	0.1	False	1.6925	
RBF	0.5	False	1.7309	
RBF	1.0	False	1.7368	
RBF	2.0	False	1.7401	
Matern 52	0.1	False	1.6906	
Matern 52	0.5	False	1.7307	
Matern 52	1.0	False	1.7373	
Matern 52	2.0	False	1.7413	
LK	0.1	False	1.6532	
LK	0.5	False	1.6533	
LK	1.0	False	1.6533	
LK	2.0	False	1.6533	

optimization value to 1000, the variance to 1 and the lambda value of the *Ridge Regression* to 1. I compared the error and the heat map of those regression models. Figure 6 displays the result. The mean of the *Ridge Regression* is smaller. However, the *Linear Kernel* performs better in some areas. This is also visible in Figure 7 and 8 which displays the heat map of both. The *Linear Kernel* performs better in the center of the given longitude and latitude dataset and the *Ridge Regression* better and the right side of the dataset.

1.7 Conclusion

The implementation with the *GPy* was easy and with the help of the tutorials good doable. The optimization of the kernel has a big performance impact on the mean and does not always provide better results. I mixture between smaller optimization values and a good picked hyper parameter can improve the overall results. However, in all the cases the *Ridge Regression* had a better mean than the *Gaussian Processes*.

Bibliography

C. E. Rasmussen, C. K. I. Williams (2006). *Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning*. MIT Press, p. 85.

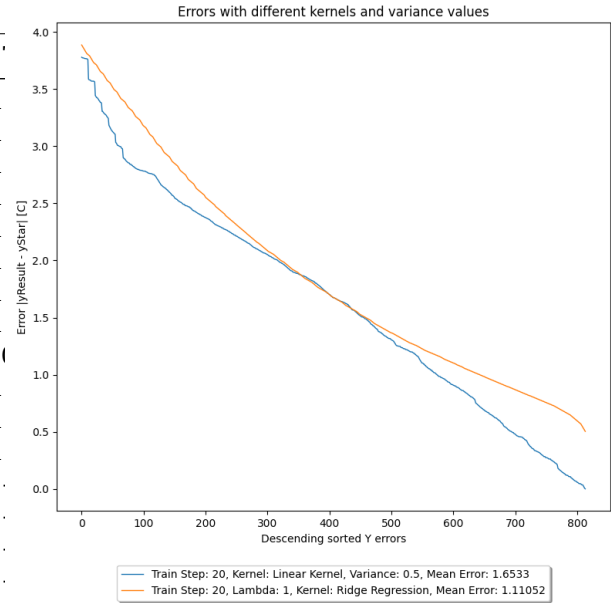


Figure 6: Error with Ridge Regression and Linear Kernel

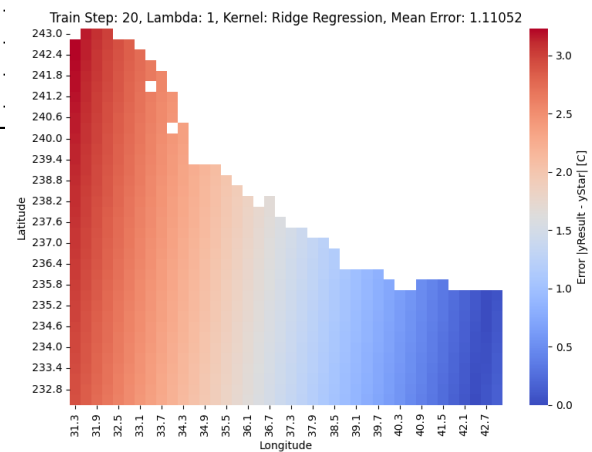


Figure 7: Heatmap Ridge Regression

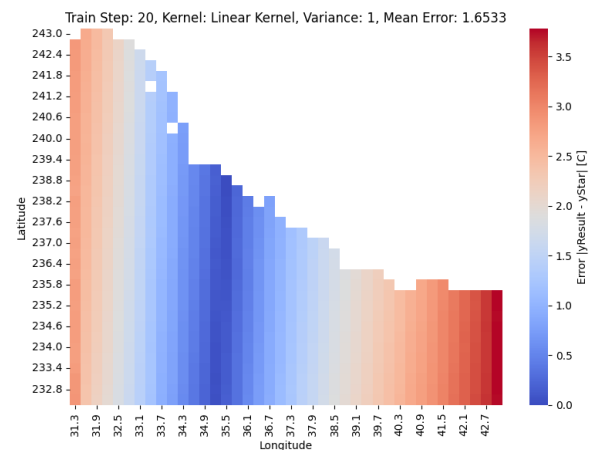


Figure 8: Heatmap Linear Kernel

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- Rueckert, Elmar (2022). *An Introduction to Probabilistic Machine Learning*. Elmar Rueckert.
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APPENDIX

```

1 import sys
2 import seaborn as sbr
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4
5 sys.path.insert(0, '../modules')
6 from RidgeRegression import RidgeRegression
7 from GaussianProcess import GaussianProcess
8 from GaussianProcess import KernelSetting
9
10 def doTestGauss(trainStep, kernelSetting:KernelSetting, variance:float, plot=
    False):
11     gausRegression = GaussianProcess(trainStep)
12     print("import data")
13     gausRegression.importData()
14     print("generate Trainingset")
15     gausRegression.generateTrainingSubset()
16     print("Train")
17     gausRegression.computeGaussianProcessRegression(kernelSetting, variance=
        variance)
18     gausRegression.testModel()
19     print("Calculate Error")
20     yTest = gausRegression.getYTestData()
21     gausRegression.computeError(yTest)
22     gausRegression.computeMeanOfError()
23     print("Mean Error with kernel: " + kernelSetting.value + " variance " + str(
        variance) + " : " + str(gausRegression.getMeanError()))
24
25     if plot:
26         print("plot error")
27         gausRegression.plotError()
28         print("plot heatmap")
29         gausRegression.plotHeatMap()
30
31     return gausRegression.getDescSortedError(), gausRegression.getSettingsString
        ()
32
33 def doTestRidge(trainStep, lambdaValue, plot=False):
34     ridgeRegression = RidgeRegression(trainStep)
35     print("import data")
36     ridgeRegression.importData()
37     print("generate Trainingset")
38     ridgeRegression.generateTrainingSubset()
39     print("Train")
40     weightVector = ridgeRegression.computeLinearRidgeRegression(lambdaValue)
41     ridgeRegression.testModel(weightVector)
42     print("Calculate Error")
43     yTest = ridgeRegression.getYTestData()
44     ridgeRegression.computeError(yTest)
45     ridgeRegression.computeMeanOfError()
46     print("Mean Error with Lambda " + str(lambdaValue) + " : " + str(
        ridgeRegression.getMeanError()))
47
48     if plot:
49         print("plot error")
50         ridgeRegression.plotError()
51         print("plot heatmap")
52         ridgeRegression.plotHeatMap()
53

```

```

54     return ridgeRegression.getDescSortedError(), ridgeRegression.
        getSettingsString()
55
56 firstTrainSetErrors = []
57
58 trainStep = 20
59 variances = {0.1}
60
61 for i in variances:
62     #firstTrainSetErrors.append(doTestGauss(trainStep, variance=i, kernelSetting=
        KernelSetting.RBF))
63     #firstTrainSetErrors.append(doTestGauss(trainStep, variance=i, kernelSetting
        =KernelSetting.Matern52))
64     firstTrainSetErrors.append(doTestGauss(trainStep, variance=i, kernelSetting=
        KernelSetting.LinearKernel, plot=True))
65
66 lambdaValues = {1}
67 for i in lambdaValues:
68     firstTrainSetErrors.append(doTestRidge(trainStep, i, plot=True))
69
70 plt.figure(figsize=(8, 8))
71 for testSet in firstTrainSetErrors:
72     errors = testSet[0]
73     settings = testSet[1]
74     x = errors["values"]
75     y = errors["error"]
76     plt.plot(x, y, linewidth=1, label=settings)
77
78 plt.title("Errors with different kernels and variance values")
79 plt.xlabel("Descending sorted Y errors")
80 plt.ylabel("Error |yResult - yStar| [C]")
81 plt.legend(loc='upper center', bbox_to_anchor=(0.5, -0.10),
82           fancybox=True, shadow=True, ncol=1)
83 plt.tight_layout()
84 plt.show()

```



```

1 import matplotlib.pyplot
2 import scipy.io as sio
3 import numpy as np
4 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
5 import matplotlib.ticker as ticker
6 import seaborn as sbr
7 import pandas as pd
8 import GPpy
9
10 from inference import Regression
11 from BasicStatistics import BasicStatistics
12 from GaussDistribution import GaussDistribution
13 from enum import Enum
14
15 class KernelSetting(Enum):
16     LinearKernel = "Linear Kernel"
17     RBFWithGpu = "RBF with GPU"
18     RBF = "RBF"
19     Matern52 = "Matern 52"
20
21 class GaussianProcess(Regression):
22
23     def __init__(self, trainStep):
24         self.trainStep = trainStep
25
26     def importData(self):
27         dataDictionary = sio.loadmat("AssignmentIV_data_set.mat")
28
29         tempTimeData = dataDictionary.get("TempField")
30         self.tempData = np.array(tempTimeData[:, :, 0])
31
32         longData = dataDictionary.get("LongitudeScale") #x-value: Long
33         latData = dataDictionary.get("LatitudeScale") #y-value: Lat
34
35         self.x_test = np.array(dataDictionary.get("x_test")) # Testdata from
36             DataSet
37
38         normalizedY_TestValues = np.matrix(BasicStatistics(dataDictionary.get("
39             y_test")[0]).getNormalizeDataSet())
40         self.y_test = np.transpose(np.array(normalizedY_TestValues)) # Testdata
41             from DataSet
42
43         longLatData = []
44         arrayValues = []
45
46         for y in range(len(self.tempData)):
47             for x in range(len(self.tempData[y])):
48                 value = self.tempData[y, x]
49                 if np.isnan(value):
50                     continue
51
52                 arrayValues.append(value)
53                 longLatData.append((latData[y][0], longData[x][0])) #[0] needed
54                     because of strange import of long/latData
55
56         self.inputValues = longLatData
57
58         normalizedYValues = BasicStatistics(arrayValues)
59         self.outputValues = np.array(normalizedYValues.getNormalizeDataSet())

```

```

56         self.numberOfSamples = len(self.inputValues)
57
58     def generateTrainingSubset(self):
59         self.trainSubsetInput = np.array(self.inputValues[0:len(self.inputValues
60                                         ):self.trainStep])
61         self.trainSubsetOutput = np.array(self.outputValues[0:len(self.
62                                         outputValues):self.trainStep])
63
64     def createFeatureVector(self, x):
65         featureVector = []
66
67         for i in range(len(x)):
68             newXVector = x[i]
69             featureVector.append(newXVector)
70
71         return featureVector
72
73     def computeGaussianProcessRegression(self, kernelSetting: KernelSetting,
74                                         variance: float):
75         X = np.vstack([self.createFeatureVector(x) for x in self.
76                       trainSubsetInput])
77         Y = np.vstack([y for y in self.trainSubsetOutput])
78
79         self.kernelSetting = kernelSetting
80         self.ard = False
81         self.iterations = 1000
82         self.variance = variance
83
84         kernel = object
85         if self.kernelSetting == KernelSetting.LinearKernel:
86             kernel = GPy.kern.Linear(2, variances=variance, ARD=self.ard)
87
88         if self.kernelSetting == KernelSetting.RBF:
89             kernel = GPy.kern.RBF(2, variance=variance, ARD=self.ard, useGPU=
90                                 False)
91
92         if self.kernelSetting == KernelSetting.RBFWithGpu:
93             kernel = GPy.kern.RBF(2, variance=variance, ARD=self.ard, useGPU=
94                                 True)
95
96         if self.kernelSetting == KernelSetting.Matern52:
97             kernel = GPy.kern.Matern52(2, variance=variance, ARD=self.ard)
98
99         self.model = GPy.models.GPRegression(X=X, Y=Y, kernel=kernel)
100        self.model.optimize(messages=True, max_iters=self.iterations)
101
102        return self.model
103
104     def testModel(self):
105         xNew = self.x_test[0:,1:]
106         result = self.model.predict(xNew)
107         self.yResult = np.array(result[0])
108
109     def getYTestData(self):
110         return self.y_test
111
112     def computeError(self, yStar):

```

```

109     self.yError = abs(self.yResult - yStar)
110     reversedArray = np.flip(np.sort(self.yError, 0))
111     self.errorDataFrame = pd.DataFrame({
112         'values': range(len(reversedArray)),
113         'error': [error[0] for error in reversedArray]
114     })
115
116     def getDescSortedError(self):
117         return self.errorDataFrame
118
119     def computMeanOfError(self):
120         self.meanError = np.mean(self.yError)
121         self.settingsString = (f"Train Step: {self.trainStep}, "
122                                f"Kernel: {self.kernelSetting.value}, "
123                                f"Variance: {self.variance}, "
124                                f"Mean Error: {round(self.meanError, 5)}")
125
126     def getSettingsString(self):
127         return self.settingsString
128
129     def getMeanError(self):
130         return self.meanError
131
132     def plotError(self):
133         plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
134         errorPlot = sbr.barpot(data=self.errorDataFrame, x="values", y="error",
135                                palette="coolwarm_r")
136
137         plt.xlabel("Descending Sorted Y Errors")
138         plt.ylabel("Error |yResult - yStar| [C]")
139         plt.title(self.settingsString)
140         plt.tight_layout()
141         matplotlib.pyplot.show()
142
143     def plotHeatMap(self):
144         tempErrorData = \
145             {
146                 'Lat': [round(long,2) for long in self.x_test[:, 1]],
147                 'Long': [round(lat,2) for lat in self.x_test[:, 2]],
148                 'error': [error[0] for error in self.yError]
149             }
150
151         tempDataFrame = pd.DataFrame(tempErrorData)
152         tempDataFrame = tempDataFrame.pivot("Long", "Lat", "error")
153         reversedTempErrorData = tempDataFrame.sort_values(("Long"), ascending=
154             False)
155
156     def fmt(x, y):
157         return '{:,.2f}'.format(x)
158
159     plt.figure(figsize=(8,6))
160     errorHeatMap = sbr.heatmap(reversedTempErrorData, vmin=0.0, cmap="
161                                coolwarm", cbar_kws={"label": "Error |yResult - yStar| [C]"}))
162     ax = errorHeatMap.axes
163
164     plt.xlabel("Longitude")
165     plt.ylabel("Latitude")
166     plt.title(self.settingsString)
167     plt.tight_layout()
168     matplotlib.pyplot.show()

```

```
1 import csv
2 import numpy as np
3 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
4 import math
5
6 from abc import ABC, abstractmethod
7
8 class ContiniousDustribution():
9
10     @abstractmethod
11     def importCsv(self, filename):
12         pass
13
14     @abstractmethod
15     def exportCsv(self, filename):
16         pass
17
18     @abstractmethod
19     def calculateMean(self):
20         pass
21
22     @abstractmethod
23     def calculateVariance(self):
24         pass
25
26     @abstractmethod
27     def calculateStandardDeviation(self):
28         pass
29
30     @abstractmethod
31     def normalizeDataSet(self):
32         pass
33
34     @abstractmethod
35     def generateSampels(self):
36         pass
37
38     @abstractmethod
39     def plotData(self):
40         pass
41
42 class Regression():
43
44     @abstractmethod
45     def importData(self):
46         pass
47
48     @abstractmethod
49     def generateTrainingSubset(self):
50         pass
51
52     @abstractmethod
53     def computeLinearRidgeRegression(self, lambdaValue):
54         pass
55
56     @abstractmethod
57     def testModel(self, weight):
58         pass
59
```

```
60     @abstractmethod
61     def computeError(self, yStar):
62         pass
63
64     @abstractmethod
65     def plotError(self):
66         pass
67
68     @abstractmethod
69     def plotHeatMap(self):
70         pass
71
72     @abstractmethod
73     def computMeanOfError(self):
74         pass
```