# Scalable Gaussian Processes with Billions of Inducing Inputs via Tensor Train Decomposition





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# Summary

- Gaussian processes are powerful and elegant models, but exact inference requires  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$  computations, where n is the number of training data
- We propose the Tensor Train GP (TT-GP) framework with linear complexity  $\mathcal{O}(n)$
- $\bullet$  TT-GP allows to build flexible posterior approximations and train expressive deep kernels by using billions of inducing points for datasets containing millions of data points of dimensionality up to 10
- TT-GP achieves state-of-the-art results on several important benchmarks both with RBF and deep kernels

# **Inducing Inputs**

• Inducing points (Z, u) are m imaginary points that compress information in data. The joint distribution of labels y, process values  $f \in \mathbb{R}^n$  at data points and process values  $u \in \mathbb{R}^m$  at inducing points is given by

$$p(y, f, u) = \prod_{i} p(y_i|f) \cdot p(f|u) \cdot p(u),$$

where  $p(f|u) = \mathcal{N}(f|K_{nm}K_{mm}^{-1}u, K_{nn} - K_{nm}K_{mm}^{-1}K_{nm}^T)$ ,  $p(u) = \mathcal{N}(u|0, K_{mm})$ . Here  $K_{mm} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$ ,  $K_{nm} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$ ,  $K_{nn} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  are covariance matrices computed between Z and Z, X and Z, X and X respectively

• Using the variational distribution of the form q(f,u)=p(f|u)q(u) with  $q(u)=\mathcal{N}(u|\mu,\Sigma)$  we can derive the variational lower bound

$$\log p(y) \ge \sum_{i} \mathbb{E}_{q(f_i)} \log p(y_i|f_i) - \text{KL}(q(u)||p(u))$$

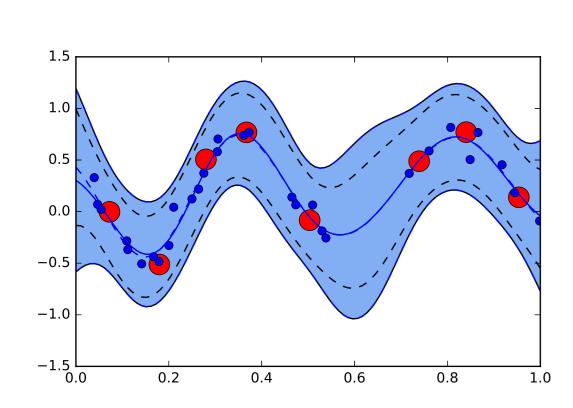
• The complexity of computing this bound is  $\mathcal{O}(nm^2+m^3)$ 

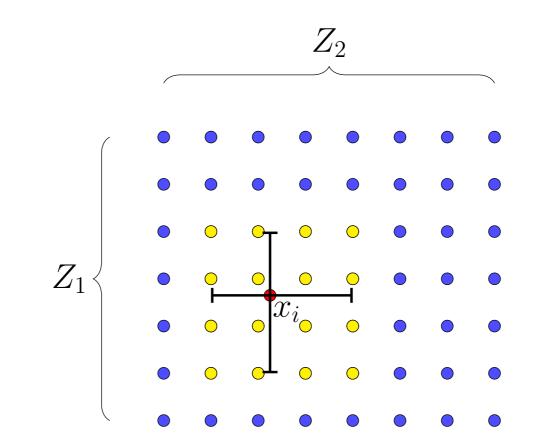
# **Structured Kernel Interpolation**

• SKI (Wilson and Nickisch, 2015): set inducing points on a multi-dimensional grid

$$Z = Z^1 \times Z^2 \times \ldots \times Z^D$$

Assume the kernel decomposes as  $k(x, x') = k^1(x^1, x'^1) \cdot k^2(x^2, x'^2) \cdot \ldots \cdot k^D(x^D, x'^D)$ Covariance matrix  $K_{mm}$  takes form  $K_{mm} = K^1_{m_1m_1} \otimes K^2_{m_2m_2} \otimes \ldots \otimes K^D_{m_Dm_D}$ 





- $\det(K_{mm})$  and  $K_{mm}^{-1}$  can be computed in  $\mathcal{O}(Dm^{3/D})$
- Inducing points can be considered as inteprolation points for the kernel

$$k_i \approx K_{mm} w_i$$

where  $k_i \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the vector of covariances between the *i*-th training object and the inducing points,  $w_i \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is the vector of interpolation coefficients

• KISS-GP uses cubic convolutional interpolation for which

$$w_i = w_i^1 \otimes w_i^2 \otimes \ldots \otimes w_i^D$$

#### Gaussian Process ELBO

Evidence Lower Bound (Hensman et al., 2013) with KISS-GP approximation of  $k_i$ :

$$\log p(y) \ge \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \log \mathcal{N}(y_i | w_i^T \mu, \sigma^2) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} (\delta - w_i^T K_{mm} w_i) - \frac{1}{2\sigma^2} \text{tr}(w_i^T \Sigma w_i) \right)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} \left( \log \frac{\det(K_{mm})}{\det(\Sigma)} - m + \operatorname{tr}(K_{mm}^{-1}\Sigma) + \mu^T K_{mm}^{-1} \mu \right)$$

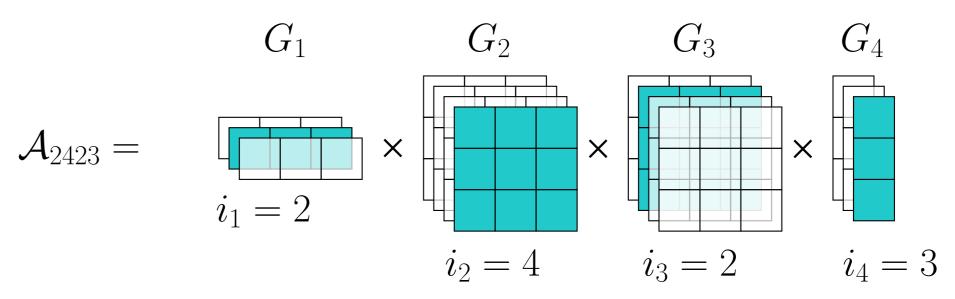
where  $\sigma^2$  is the noise variance,  $\delta$  is the prior variance of the process at any point and  $\mu \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $\Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  are variational parameters

#### **Tensor Train Format**

Tensor  $\mathcal{A}$  is said to be represented in Tensor Train (Oseledets, 2011) format if:

$$\mathcal{A}_{i_1...i_d} = \underbrace{G_1[i_1]}_{1 \times r} \underbrace{G_2[i_2]}_{r \times r} \dots \underbrace{G_d[i_d]}_{r \times 1}$$

An example of computing one element of a 4-dimensional tensor:



- TT-format uses  $O\left(dnr^2\right)$  memory to approximate a tensor with  $n^d$  elements
- Allows for efficient implementation of linear algebra operations

#### **TT-GP**

- ullet Set inducing points Z on a grid in the feature space
- Restrict  $\Sigma$  to be in a Kronecker product format  $\Sigma = \Sigma^1 \otimes \Sigma^2 \otimes \ldots \otimes \Sigma^D$
- Represent  $\mu$  as a d-dimensional tensor, restrict to be in TT format with TT-ranks r
- Maximize ELBO with respect to TT-cores of  $\mu$ , Kronecker factors of  $\Sigma$  using stochastic optimization

#### **Properties**

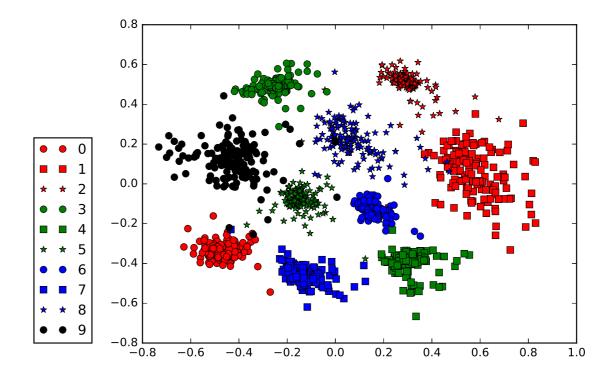
- Linear computational complexity in the size of the data  $\mathcal{O}(nDm^{1/D}r^2 + Dm^{1/D}r^3 + Dm^{3/D})$ . TT-ranks are in general on the scale of  $r \approx 10$ . Here  $m = m_0^D$ , where  $m_0$  is the number of inducing points per dimension
- TT-GP can be applied for  $n \approx 10^6$  and  $m \approx 10^{10}$

# **RBF Kernel Experiments**

Dataset			SVI-GP / KLSP-GP			TT-GP			
Name	n	$\overline{D}$	acc.	m	<i>t</i> (s)	acc.	$\overline{m}$	$\overline{d}$	t (s)
Powerplant	7654	4	0.94	200	10	0.95	$35^4$	-	5
Protein	36584	9	0.50	200	45	0.56	$30^{9}$	_	40
YearPred	463K	90	0.30	1000	597	0.32	$10^{6}$	6	105
Airline	6M	8	0.665*	_	-	0.694	$20^{8}$	_	5200
svmguide1	3089	4	0.967	200	4	0.969	$20^{4}$	_	1
EEG	11984	14	0.915	1000	18	0.908	$12^{10}$	10	10
covtype bin	465K	54	0.817	1000	320	0.852	$10^{6}$	6	172

# Comparison with SVI-GP (Hensman et al., 2013) on regression and classification tasks

#### **Deep Kernel Experiments**



Embedding learned by TT-GP with a deep kernel on digits dataset

Dataset		SV-DKL	DNN		TT-GP		
Name	n	acc.	acc.	<i>t</i> (s)	acc.	d	<i>t</i> (s)
Airline	6M	0.781	0.780	1055	$0.788 \pm 0.002$	2	1375
CIFAR-10	50K	_	0.915	166	$0.908 \pm 0.003$	9	220
MNIST	60K	_	0.993	23	$0.9936 \pm 0.0004$	10	64
Compariso	n with	SV-DKL (	Wilson	et al.,	2016) and stand-alo	ne	DNN

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