# SDS 383D Ex 03: Linear Smoothing and Gaussian Processes

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# **Basic Concepts**

# **Bias-Variance Decomposition**

Let  $\hat{f}(x)$  be a noisy estimate of some function f(x), evaluated at some point x. Define the mean-squared error of the estimate as

$$MSE(\hat{f}, f) = E\{[f(x) - \hat{f}]^2\}$$

Prove that  $MSE(f, \hat{f}) = B^2 + v$ , where

$$B = E\{\hat{f}(x)\} - f(x) \text{ and } v = var\{f(x)\} = E\left[\left(\hat{f} - E\left(\hat{f}\right)\right)^2\right]$$

Begin with the definition of MSE.

$$MSE [f, \hat{f}] = E [(f - \hat{f})^{2}]$$

$$= E [(\hat{f} - f)^{2}]$$

$$= E [(\hat{f} - E(\hat{f}) + E(\hat{f}) - f)^{2}], \text{ adding/subtracting } E(\hat{f})$$

$$= E [(\hat{f} - E(\hat{f}) + E(\hat{f}) - f) (\hat{f} - E(\hat{f}) + E(\hat{f}) - f)]$$

$$= E [(\hat{f} - E(\hat{f}))^{2}] - E [(E(\hat{f}) - f)^{2}] + 2E [(\hat{f} - E(\hat{f})) (E(\hat{f}) - f)]$$

$$= E [(\hat{f} - E(\hat{f}))^{2}] - (E(\hat{f}) - f)^{2} + 2E [(\hat{f} - E(\hat{f})) (E(\hat{f}) - f)]$$

$$\text{since } E(E(X)) = E(X)$$

$$= Var(\hat{f}) - (Bias(\hat{f}, f))^{2} + 0$$

The last term reduces to zero as shown below.

$$2E\left[\left(\hat{f} - E\left(\hat{f}\right)\right)\left(E\left(\hat{f}\right) - f\right)\right]$$

$$= E\left[\hat{f}E\left(\hat{f}\right) - E\left(\hat{f}\right)E\left(\hat{f}\right) - \hat{f}f + E\left(\hat{f}\right)f\right]$$

Then  $\hat{f} = E(\hat{f})$ , giving us

$$= E\left[E\left(\hat{f}\right)E\left(\hat{f}\right) - E\left(\hat{f}\right)E\left(\hat{f}\right) - E\left(\hat{f}\right)f + E\left(\hat{f}\right)f\right]$$
  
= 0

# Part A

Suppose we observe  $x_1, ..., x_n$  from some distribution F, and want to estimate f(0), the value of the probability density function at 0. Let h be a small positive number, called the bandwidth, and define the quantity

$$\pi_h = P\left(-\frac{h}{2} < X < \frac{h}{2}\right) = \int_{-h/2}^{h/2} f(x) dx$$

Clearly  $\pi_h \approx hf(0)$ . Let Y be the number of observations in a sample of size n that fall within the interval (-h/2, h/2). What is the distribution of Y? What are its mean and variance in terms of n and  $\pi_h$ ? Propose a simple estimator  $\hat{f}(0)$  involving Y.

Let Y be the number of  $x_i$  in  $\left(-\frac{h}{2}, \frac{h}{2}\right)$ . Then

$$Y \sim Binom(n, \pi_h)$$

To estimate  $\hat{\pi}_h$ ,

$$\hat{\pi}_h = \frac{y}{n}$$
, the Binomial MLE

Therefore  $y = n\pi_h$ .

Then our simple estimator for  $\hat{f}(0)$  is

$$\hat{f}(0) = \frac{\hat{\pi}_h}{h} = \frac{y}{nh}$$

Then, since  $Y \sim Binom(n, \pi_h)$ , expectation and variance are

$$E(Y) = n\pi_h$$
$$Var(Y) = n\pi_h(1 - \pi_h)$$

# Part B

Suppose we expand f(x) in a second-order Taylor series about 0:

$$f(x) \approx f(0) + xf'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2}f''(0)$$
.

*Use this in the above expression for*  $\pi_h$ *, together with the bias–variance decomposition, to show that* 

$$MSE\{\hat{f}(0), f(0)\} \approx Ah^4 + \frac{B}{nh}$$

for constants A and B that you should (approximately) specify. What happens to the bias and variance when you make h small? When you make h big?

Plug in Taylor series approximation to definition of  $\pi_h$ .

$$\hat{\pi}_h \approx \int_{-\frac{h}{2}}^{\frac{h}{2}} \left[ f(0) + xf'(0) + \frac{x^2}{2} f''(0) \right] dx$$
$$= hf(0) + \frac{h^3 f''(0)}{24}$$

Plug in  $\hat{\pi}_h$  to E(Y) and Var(Y) to obtain components of  $MSE = Var + Bias^2$ . Mean:

$$E\left[\hat{f}(0)\right] = E\left[\frac{Y}{nh}\right] = \frac{1}{nh}E\left[Y\right] = \frac{1}{nh}n\pi_h \approx \frac{1}{h}\left(\frac{h^2f''(0)}{24}\right) = f(0) + \frac{h^2f''(0)}{24}$$

Variance:

$$Var\left[\hat{f}(0)\right] = Var\left[\frac{Y}{nh}\right] = \frac{Var\left[Y\right]}{n^2h^2} = \frac{n\pi_h(1-\pi_h)}{n^2h^2} = \frac{\pi_h(1-\pi_h)}{nh^2} \approx \frac{\pi_h}{nh^2}^{(**)}$$
$$= \frac{hf(0) + \frac{h^3f''(0)}{24}}{nh^2} = \frac{f(0)}{nh} + \frac{hf''(0)}{24n} \approx \frac{f(0)}{nh}^{(***)}$$

(\*\*) Because *h* small positive number, so  $\pi_h$  small, so  $(1 - \pi_h) \approx 1$ .

(\*\*\*) Because h small and h < 1, first term bigger than second by 24x, so can simplify. Bias:

bias = 
$$E\left[\hat{f}(0)\right] - f(0) = f(0) + \frac{h^2 f''(0)}{24} - f(0) = \frac{h^2 f''(0)}{24}$$

Then MSE is as follows.

$$MSE = var + bias^2 \approx \frac{f(0)}{nh} + \left(\frac{h^2 f''(0)}{24}\right)^2 = \frac{f(0)}{nh} + \frac{h^4 (f''(0))^4}{576}$$

- Smaller  $h \rightarrow$  smaller bias, but larger variance.
- Large  $h \rightarrow larger$  bias, but smaller variance.

Note: Could include all of the algebraic terms, but these two dominate in order of h.

# Part C

Use this result to derive an expression for the bandwidth that minimizes mean-squared error, as a function of n. You can approximate any constants that appear, but make sure you get the right functional dependence on the sample size.

Could solve previous MSE expression for the optimal h by taking the first derivative, setting equal to zero, and getting an expression in terms of h. This expression would include n, so the optimal bandwidth depends on sample size.

# **Curve Fitting by Linear Smoothing**

Consider a nonlinear regression problem with one predictor and one response:  $y_i = f(x_i) + \epsilon_i$ , where the  $\epsilon_i$  are mean-zero random variables.

# Part A

Suppose we want to estimate the value of the regression function  $y^*$  at some new point  $x^*$ , denoted  $\hat{f}(x^*)$ . Assume for the moment that f(x) is linear, and that y and x have already had their means subtracted, in which case  $y_i = \beta x_i + \epsilon_i$ . Return to your least-squares estimator for multiple regression. Show that for the one-predictor case, your prediction  $y^* = f(x^*) = \hat{\beta}x^*$  may be expressed as a linear smoother of the following form:

$$\hat{f}(x^*) = \sum_{i=1}^n w(x_i, x^*) y_i$$

for any  $x^*$ . Inspect the weighting function you derived. Briefly describe your understanding of how the resulting smoother behaves, compared with the smoother that arises from an alternate form of the weight function  $w(x_i, w^*)$ :

$$w_K(x_i, x^*) = \begin{cases} 1/K, x_i \text{ one of the closest } K \text{ sample points to } x_i \\ 0, \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

This is referred to as K-nearest-neighbor smoothing.

The weighting function for smoothing is derived using the following.

$$\begin{split} \hat{f}(x^*) &= \hat{\beta}x^* \\ &= X^*(X'X)^{-1}X'y \\ &= x^* \cdot \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})(y_i - \bar{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - \bar{x})^2} \\ &= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i x^* y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2} \end{split}$$

since we are working in the single-predictor, single-response, mean-zero case.

Therefore,

$$\hat{f}(x^*) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w(x_i, x^*) y_i, \text{ with}$$

$$w(x_i, x^*) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i x^*}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} x_i^2}$$

This is a linear smoother in the sense that all  $x^*$  points have their corresponding  $y^* = \hat{f}(x^*)$  estimates 'smoothed' to the regression line represented by intercept 0, slope  $\hat{\beta}$ .

This is a different behavior than the *K-nearest-neighbor* smoothing. KNN smoothing is not fitting a line which is constructed by using all of the points. KNN smoothing is calculating each new  $y^*$  as the straight average of the closest K points  $y_i$ .

# Part B

A kernel function K(x) is a smooth function satisfying

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} K(x)dx = 1 , \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} xK(x)dx = 0 , \quad \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2K(x)dx > 0.$$

A very simple example is the uniform kernel,

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{2}I(x)$$
 where  $I(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x| \le 1 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise}. \end{cases}$ 

Another common example is the Gaussian kernel:

$$K(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-x^2/2} \,.$$

Kernels are used as weighting functions for taking local averages. Specifically, define the weighting function

$$w(x_i, x^*) = \frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x_i - x^*}{h}\right)$$
,

where h is the bandwidth. Using this weighting function in a linear smoother is called kernel regression. (The weighting function gives the unnormalized weights; you should normalize the weights so that they sum to 1.) Write your own R function that will fit a kernel smoother for an arbitrary set of x-y pairs, and arbitrary choice of (positive real) bandwidth h. Set up an R script that will simulate noisy data from some nonlinear function,  $y = f(x) + \epsilon$ ; subtract the sample means from the simulated x and y; and use your function to fit the kernel smoother for some choice of h. Plot the estimated functions for a range of bandwidths large enough to yield noticeable changes in the qualitative behavior of the prediction functions.

See **R Appendix**, **R Functions**. Function is called **linear\_smoother**. There are also functions to specify which kernel function the linear smoother should use. These functions are called **K\_gaussian** and **K\_uniform**.

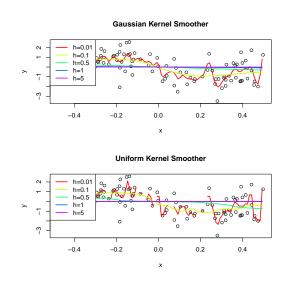


Figure 1: Kernel smoother for varying bandwidths *h* 

# **Cross Validation**

Left unanswered so far in our previous study of kernel regression is the question: how does one choose the bandwidth h used for the kernel? Assume for now that the goal is to predict well, not necessarily to recover the truth. (These are related but distinct goals.)

# Part A

Presumably a good choice of h would be one that led to smaller predictive errors on fresh data. Write a function or script that will: (1) accept an old ("training") data set and a new ("testing") data set as inputs; (2) fit the kernel-regression estimator to the training data for specified choices of h; and (3) return the estimated functions and the realized prediction error on the testing data for each value of h. This should involve a fairly straightforward "wrapper" of the function you've already written.

See **R** Appendix, **R** Functions. Function is called **tune\_h**.

# Part B

Imagine a conceptual two-by-two table for the unknown, true state of affairs. The rows of the table are "wiggly function" and "smooth function," and the columns are "highly noisy observations" and "not so noisy observations." Simulate one data set (say, 500 points) for each of the four cells of this table, where the x's take values in the unit interval. Then split each data set into training and testing subsets. You choose the functions. Apply your method to each case, using the testing data to select a bandwidth parameter. Choose the estimate that minimizes the average squared error in prediction, which estimates the mean-squared error:

$$L_n(\hat{f}) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n^*} (y_i^* - \hat{y}_i^*)^2,$$

where  $(y_i^*, x_i^*)$  are the points in the test set, and  $\hat{y}_i^*$  is your predicted value arising from the model you fit using only the training data. Does your out-of-sample predictive validation method lead to reasonable choices of h for each case?

My function found optimal bandwidths of h as below, using a 70/30 train-test split. My functions were  $sin(2\pi x)$  for smooth, and  $sin(2\pi x)$  for wiggly.

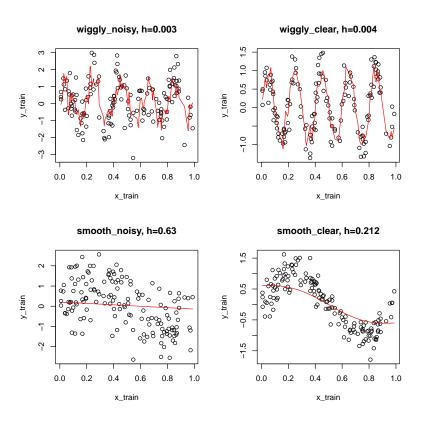


Figure 2: Bandwidth selection for various function types

These bandwidths look generally reasonable in terms of recovering the underlying functions, though the smooth/noisy function's bandwidth was smaller than I anticipated, and looks rather overfitted. My results also varied noticeably in quality as I reran the simulations for various random test/train splits, enough that I would recommend cross-validation each bandwidth selection via a few different test/train splits.

# Part C

Splitting a data set into two chunks to choose h by out-of-sample validation has some drawbacks. List at least two. Then consider an alternative: leave-one-out cross validation. Define

LOOCV = 
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( y_i - \hat{y}_i^{(-i)} \right)^2,$$

where  $\hat{y}_i^{(-i)}$  is the predicted value of  $y_i$  obtained by omitting the ith pair and fitting the model to the reduced data set.

The intuition here is straightforward: for each possible choice of h, you have to predict each data point using all the others. The bandwidth that with the lowest prediction error is the "best" choice by the LOOCV criterion. This is contingent upon a particular bandwidth, and is obviously a function of  $x_i$ , but these dependencies are suppressed for notational ease. This looks expensive to compute: for each value of h, and for each data point to be held out, fit a whole nonlinear regression model. But you will derive a shortcut!

Observe that for a linear smoother, we can write the whole vector of fitted values as  $\hat{y} = Hy$ , where H is called the smoothing matrix (or "hat matrix") and y is the vector of observed outcomes.

Remember that in multiple linear regression this is also true:

$$\hat{y} = X\hat{\beta} = X(X^TX)^{-1}X^Ty = Hy.$$

Write  $\hat{y}_i$  in terms of H and y, and show that  $\hat{y}_i^{(-i)} = \hat{y}_i - H_{ii}y_i + H_{ii}\hat{y}_i^{(-i)}$ . Deduce that, for a linear smoother,

LOOCV = 
$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \frac{y_i - \hat{y}_i}{1 - H_{ii}} \right)^2.$$

#### Test/Train Split Issues:

A few problems regarding splitting the data into test/train chunks as in previous problem:

- 1. Lose potentially valuable information about outliers or patterns in the data by only using a portion of your data to train the model.
- 2. As mentioned previously, optimal bandwidth selection and the resulting model fit depended on the test/train split.

# Plotting of Optimal Bandwidth h:

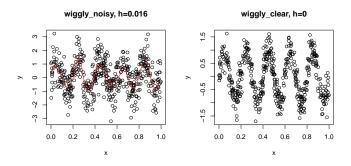


Figure 3: LOOCV Bandwidth selection for various function types

#### Derivation of H Matrix

Begin with definition of  $\hat{y}$  for a single  $x^*$  value.

$$\hat{y} = \sum_{i=1}^{n} w(x_i, x^*) y_i$$
 for any value of  $x^*$ 

Extend to a vector of  $x^*$  values, and expression  $\hat{y} = Hy$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{y}_1 \\ \vdots \\ \hat{y}_n \end{bmatrix}_{(nx1)} = \begin{bmatrix} w(x_1, x_1^*) \dots w(x_n, x_1^*) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ w(x_1, x_p^*) \dots w(x_n, x_p^*) \end{bmatrix}_{(nxp)} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}_{(nx1)}$$

Note that p is the length of the  $x^*$  vector, which will be n in the case of LOOCV, since we are using the x values in the existing data set to compute LOOCV prediction error. So H is (nxn).

Must also normalize the weights, so that H = H/rowsums(H). Can formalize this properly as follows.

$$H = \{H_{ij}\} = \frac{w(x_j, x_i^*)}{\sum_{j=1}^n w(x_j, x_i^*)}$$

# Accompanying Proof

Goal: Show

$$\hat{y}_{i}^{(-i)} = \hat{y}_{i} - H_{ii}y_{i} + H_{ii}\hat{y}_{i}^{(-i)}$$

Begin with the following two definitions.

$$\hat{y}_i = H_{ij} y_i \tag{1}$$

$$\hat{y}_i^{(-i)} = \sum_j H_{ij} a_j \tag{2}$$

where we define

$$a_{j} = \begin{cases} y_{i} & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \hat{y}_{i}^{(-i)} & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

We define  $a_i$  in this way because we are fixing i, and

$$y^{(-i)} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_{i-1} \\ y_i^{(-i)} \\ y_{i+1} \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$
, where  $y_i^{(-i)}$  is the LOOCV obs calculated using the non-i data.

Then

$$\begin{split} \hat{y}_{i} - \hat{y}_{i}^{(-i)} &= \sum_{j} H_{ij} y_{i} - \sum_{j} H_{ij} a_{j} \\ &= \sum_{j} H_{ij} \left( y_{i} - a_{j} \right) \\ &= \begin{cases} \sum_{j} H_{ij} \left( y_{i} - y_{i} \right) = 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ \sum_{j} H_{ij} \left( y_{i} - \hat{y}_{i}^{(-i)} \right) & \text{if } i = j \end{cases} \end{split}$$

This zeros out all non-diagonal terms, and we have chosen a fixed *i*, so are left with this expression.

$$\hat{y}_i - \hat{y}_i^{(-i)} = H_{ii} \left( y_i - \hat{y}_i^{(-i)} \right)$$

Distribute  $H_{ii}$  and rearrange to obtain our goal

$$\hat{y}_i^{(-i)} = \hat{y}_i - H_{ii}y_i + H_{ii}\hat{y}_i^{(-i)}$$

# **Local Polynomial Regression**

Kernel regression has a nice interpretation as a "locally constant" estimator, obtained from locally weighted least squares. To see this, suppose we observe pairs  $(x_i, y_i)$  for i = 1, ..., n from our new favorite model,  $y_i = f(x_i) + \epsilon_i$  and wish to estimate the value of the underlying function f(x) at some point x by weighted least squares. Our estimate is the scalar quantity

$$\hat{f}(x) = a = \arg\min_{\mathbb{R}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i (y_i - a)^2$$
,

where the  $w_i$  are the normalized weights (i.e. they have been rescaled to sum to 1 for fixed x). Clearly if  $w_i = 1/n$ , the estimate is simply  $\bar{y}$ , the sample mean, which is the "best" globally constant estimator. Using elementary calculus, it is easy to see that if the unnormalized weights are

$$w_i \equiv w(x, x_i) = \frac{1}{h} K\left(\frac{x_i - x}{h}\right)$$
,

then the solution is exactly the kernel-regression estimator.

#### Part A

A natural generalization of locally constant regression is local polynomial regression. For points u in a neighborhood of the target point x, define the polynomial

$$g_x(u;a) = a_0 + \sum_{k=1}^{D} a_j (u-x)^k$$

for some vector of coefficients  $a = (a_0, ..., a_D)$ . As above, we will estimate the coefficients a in  $g_x(u; a)$  at some target point x using weighted least squares:

$$\hat{a} = \arg\min_{R^{D+1}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i \{ y_i - g_x(x_i; a) \}^2 ,$$

where  $w_i \equiv w(x_i, x)$  are the kernel weights defined just above, normalized to sum to one.<sup>2</sup> Derive a concise (matrix) form of the weight vector  $\hat{a}$ , and by extension, the local function estimate  $\hat{f}(x)$  at the target value x.<sup>3</sup> Life will be easier if you define the matrix  $R_x$  whose (i, j) entry is  $(x_i - x)^{j-1}$ , and remember that (weighted) polynomial regression is the same thing as (weighted) linear regression with a polynomial basis.

#### Matrix form of â

$$\hat{a} = \underset{a \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i} [y_{i} - g_{x}(x_{i}; a)]^{2}$$

Sub in expression for  $g_x(x_i; a)$ .

$$\hat{a} = \underset{a \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i \left[ y_i - a_0 - \sum_{k=1}^{D} a_j (x_i - x)^k \right]^2$$

 $<sup>^{1}</sup>$ Because we are only talking about the value of the function at a specific point x, not the whole function.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>We are fitting a different polynomial function for every possible choice of x. Thus  $\hat{a}$  depends on the target point x, but we have suppressed this dependence for notational ease.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup>Observe that at the target point x,  $g_x(u = x; a) = a_0$ . That is, only the constant term appears. But this is not the same thing as fitting only a constant term!

Switch to *j* indices, instead of *k*, for ease of notation. For clarify, we can expand the summation expression.

$$a_0 - \sum_{k=1}^{D} a_j (x_i - x)^k = a_0 + a_1 (x_i - x) + a_2 (x_i - x)^2 + \dots + a_D (x_i - x)^{D+1}$$
$$= a_0 (x_i - x)^0 + a_1 (x_i - x)^1 + a_2 (x_i - x)^2 + \dots + a_D (x_i - x)^{D+1}$$

We will therefore define two matrices:

 $W = diag(w_1, ..., w_n)$ , a diagonal (nxn) matrix containing weights

$$R = \begin{bmatrix} (x_1 - x)^0 & (x_1 - x)^1 & (x_1 - x)^2 & \dots & (x_1 - x)^D \\ \vdots & & & \vdots \\ (x_n - x^0) & (x_n - x)^1 & (x_n - x)^2 & \dots & (x_n - x)^D \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \{R_{ij}\} = (x_i - x)^{j=1}, \text{ for } j = \{1, 2, \dots, D+1\}$$

Then we can rewrite  $\hat{a}$  as

$$\hat{a} = \underset{a \in \mathbb{R}^{D+1}}{\operatorname{argmin}} (y - Ra)^{T} W (y - Ra)$$

Minimize by taking derivative wrt *a* and solving for zero.

$$\frac{d}{da} (y - Ra)^{T} W (y - Ra)$$

$$= \frac{d}{da} \left[ y^{T} W y - 2 y^{T} W R a + a^{T} R^{T} W R a \right]$$

$$- 2 y^{T} W R + 2 R^{T} W R a = 0$$

$$R^{T} W R a = R^{T} W y$$

$$\hat{a} = (R^{T} W R)^{-1} R^{T} W y$$

in a result with the same form as our usual weighted regression.

Form of f(x)

$$f(x) = \hat{a}_0$$
, the first element of  $\hat{a}$ 

This is because at target point x, only the constant term appears. This is not same as fitting only a constant term. A Taylor Approximation is the underlying intuition here. We can approximate polynomial f(x) around some target point  $x_0$  using a D-degree Taylor polynomial.

$$f(x) \approx f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x - x_0)^2 + \dots$$

When we approximate f(x) centered at  $x_0$  for the value  $x_0$ , only the first term  $f(x_0)$  is left, and all other terms include  $(x_0 - x_0)$  and so drop out.

Therefore,  $\hat{f}(x^*) = \hat{a}_0$ .

We can write this more compactly as:

$$\hat{f}(x) = e_1^T \hat{a} = e_1^T (R^T W R)^{-1} R^T W y$$
, with  $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, ...)_{(D+1x1)}$ 

# Part B

From this, conclude that for the special case of the local linear estimator (D=1), we can write  $\hat{f}(x)$  as a linear smoother of the form

$$\hat{f}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i(x) y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i(x)},$$

where the unnormalized weights are

$$w_i(x) = K\left(\frac{x-x_i}{h}\right) \left\{s_2(x) - (x_i - x)s_1(x)\right\}$$
  
$$s_j(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x-x_i}{h}\right) (x_i - x)^j.$$

Begin with the previous result for  $\hat{f}(x)$ .

$$\hat{f}(x) = e_1^T \hat{a} = e_1^T (R^T W R)^{-1} R^T W y \qquad \text{where } R = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & (x_1 - x) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & (x_1 n - x) \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } w_i = K \left( \frac{x - x_i}{h} \right)$$

Then  $\hat{f}(x)$  can be expanded as follows.

$$\begin{split} \hat{f}(x) &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{e_{1}^{T}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ (x_{1}-x) & \cdots & (x_{n}-x) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_{1} & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & w_{n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & (x_{1}-x) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (x_{1}n-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(x_{1}n-x)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \cdots & 1 \\ (x_{1}-x) & \cdots & (x_{n}-x) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} w_{1} & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & w_{n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_{1} \\ \vdots \\ y_{n} \end{bmatrix}}_{R^{T}Wy} \end{split}}_{R^{T}Wy} \\ &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{(2x1)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_{1} & \cdots & w_{n} \\ w_{1}(x_{1}-x) & \cdots & w_{n}(x_{n}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(2xn)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & (x_{1}-x) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ (x_{n}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(nx2)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} w_{1} & \cdots & w_{n} \\ w_{1}(x_{1}-x) & \cdots & w_{n}(x_{n}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(nx1)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} y_{1} \\ \vdots \\ y_{n} \end{bmatrix}}_{(nx1)} \\ &= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}}_{(2x1)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(2x2)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(2x1)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(2x2)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}y_{i} \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \end{bmatrix}}_{(2x1)} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}y_{i} \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} w_{i}(x_{i}-x) \end{bmatrix}}$$

Let 
$$s_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i(x_i - x)$$
 and  $s_2 = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i(x_i - x)^2$ 

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i y_i s_2 - \sum_{i=1}^n w_i (x_i - x) y_i s_1}{\sum_{i=1}^n w_i (s_2 - (x_i - x) s_1)}$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x - x_i}{h}\right) \left[s_2 - (x_i - x) s_1\right] y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^n K\left(\frac{x - x_i}{h}\right) \left[s_2 - (x_i - x) s_1\right]}$$

We can further simplify by defining an updated 'polynomial weight', call it  $w_i^*$  so that we can write  $\hat{f}(x)$  in linear smoother form.

$$w_i^* = K\left(\frac{x - x_i}{h}\right) [s_2 - (x_i - x)s_1]$$

Then rewrite the previous expression in the desired form.

$$\hat{f}(x) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i^* y_i}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} w_i^*}$$

# Part C

Suppose that the residuals have constant variance  $\sigma^2$  (that is, the spread of the residuals does not depend on x). Derive the mean and variance of the sampling distribution for the local polynomial estimate  $\hat{f}(x)$  at some arbitrary point x. Note: the random variable  $\hat{f}(x)$  is just a scalar quantity at x, not the whole function.

Note that E(y) = E(y) and  $Var(y) = \sigma^2 I$ .

Expectation.

$$\begin{split} E\left[\hat{f}(x)\right] &= E\left[e_1^T R \hat{a}\right] \\ &= e_1^T (R^T W R)^{-1} R^T W E(y) \\ &= e_1^T R^{-1} W^{-1} R^{-T} R^T W E(y) \\ &= e_1^T R^{-1} E(y) \end{split}$$

Variance:

$$\begin{split} Var\left[\hat{f}(x)\right] &= Var\left[e_1^T\hat{a}\right] \\ &= e_1^T(R^TWR)^{-1}R^TWVar(y)\left[e_1^T(R^TWR)^{-1}R^TW\right]^T \\ &= \sigma^2e_1^TR^{-1}W^{-1}R^{-T}R^TW\left[e_1^T(R^TWR)^{-1}R^TW\right]^T \\ &= \sigma^2e_1^TR^{-1}W^TRR^{-1}W^{-T}R^{-T}e_1 \\ &= \sigma^2e_1^Te_1 \\ &= \sigma^2 \end{split}$$

# Part D

We don't know the residual variance, but we can estimate it. A basic fact is that if x is a random vector with mean  $\mu$  and covariance matrix  $\Sigma$ , then for any symmetric matrix Q of appropriate dimension, the quadratic form  $x^TQx$  has expectation

$$E(x^TQx) = \operatorname{tr}(Q\Sigma) + \mu^TQ\mu.$$

Write the vector of residuals as  $r = y - \hat{y} = y - Hy$ , where H is the smoothing matrix. Compute the expected value of the estimator

$$\hat{\sigma}^2 = \frac{\|r\|_2^2}{n - 2\operatorname{tr}(H) + \operatorname{tr}(H^T H)},$$

and simplify things as much as possible. Roughly under what circumstances will this estimator be nearly unbiased for large n? Note: the quantity  $2tr(H) - tr(H^TH)$  is often referred to as the "effective degrees of freedom" in such problems.

$$E\left[\hat{\sigma}^{2}\right] = E\left[\frac{||r||_{2}^{2}}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)}\right]$$

$$= E\left[\frac{(y - Hy)^{T}(y - Hy)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)}\right]$$

$$= \frac{E\left[y^{T}y\right] - 2E\left[y^{T}Hy\right] + E\left[y^{T}H^{T}Hy\right]}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)}$$

Then  $E[x^TQx] = tr(Q\Sigma) + \mu^TQ\mu$ , where  $E(X) = \mu = f(x)$  and  $Var(X) = \Sigma = \sigma^2I$ .

$$\begin{split} E\left[\hat{\sigma}^{2}\right] &= \frac{tr(\Sigma) + \mu^{T}\mu - 2tr(H\Sigma) - 2\mu^{T}H\mu + tr(H^{T}H\Sigma) + \mu H^{T}H\mu}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \\ &= \frac{tr(\sigma^{2}I) + f(x)^{T}f(x) - 2tr(H\sigma^{2}I) - 2f(x)^{T}Hf(x) + tr(H^{T}H\sigma^{2}I) + f(x)H^{T}Hf(x)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \\ &= \frac{\sigma^{2}n + f(x)^{T}f(x) - 2\sigma^{2}tr(H) - 2f(x)^{T}Hf(x) + \sigma^{2}tr(H^{T}H) + f(x)^{T}H^{T}Hf(x)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \\ &= \frac{\sigma^{2}\left(n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)\right) + f(x)^{T}\left[I - 2H + H^{T}H\right]f(x)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \\ &= \sigma^{2} + \frac{f(x)^{T}\left[I - 2H + H^{T}H\right]f(x)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \\ &= \sigma^{2} + \frac{f(x)^{T}\left(I - H\right)^{T}\left(I - H\right)f(x)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \\ &= \sigma^{2} + \frac{(f(x) - Hf(x))^{T}\left(f(x) - Hf(x)\right)}{n - 2tr(H) + tr(H^{T}H)} \end{split}$$

This estimator will be unbiased when the second term equals zero. This will occur when smoothing matrix H is a projection matrix into the space of f(x). If H is a projection matrix into the space of f(x), by definition, Hf(x) = f(x) as projections leave elements in their target space unchanged.

This is a fancy way of saying that the estimator will be unbiased if we are recovering the function well using the smoothing matrix.

# Part E

Write a new R function that fits the local linear estimator using a Gaussian kernel for a specified choice of bandwidth h. Then load the data in "utilities.csv" into R. This data set shows the monthly gas bill (in dollars) for a single-family home in Minnesota, along with the average temperature in that month (in degrees F), and the number of billing days in that month. Let y be the average daily gas bill in a given month (i.e. dollars divided by billing days), and let x be the average temperature. Fit y versus x using local linear regression and some choice of kernel. Choose a bandwidth by leave-one-out cross-validation.

See R code appendix for function details.

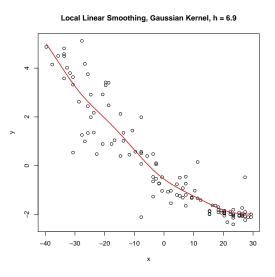


Figure 4: Local Linear Regression with LOOCV Bandwidth

For fun, an illustration of how fit changes with increased degrees.

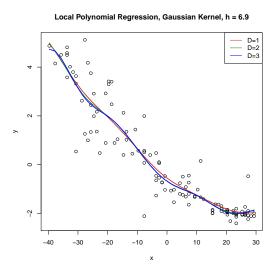


Figure 5: Local Polynomial Regression for Varying Degrees

# Part F

Inspect the residuals from the model you just fit. Does the assumption of constant variance (homoscedasticity) look reasonable? If not, do you have any suggestion for fixing it?

The residuals do not look homoscedastic. Some kind of variance stabilizing transform for the y variable could improve this, such as log or Anscombe.

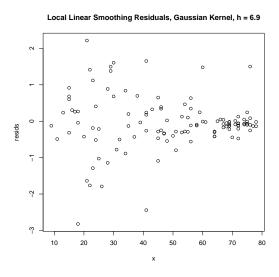


Figure 6: Local Linear Residuals

# Part G

Put everything together to construct an approximate point-wise 95% confidence interval for the local linear model (using your chosen bandwidth) for the value of the function at each of the observed points  $x_i$  for the utilities data. Plot these confidence bands, along with the estimated function, on top of a scatter plot of the data. (It's fine to use Gaussian critical values for your confidence set.)

### Local Lin Smoothing 95% Confidence Bands, h = 6.9

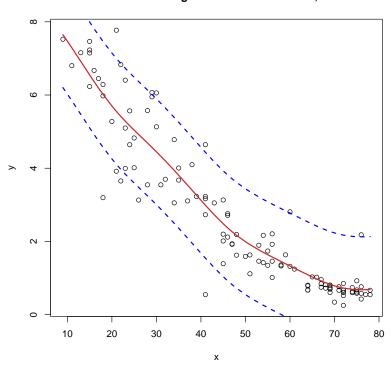


Figure 7: Confidence Bands

# **Gaussain Processes**

A Gaussian Process is a collection of random variables  $\{f(x): x \in \mathcal{X}\}$  such that, for any finite collection of indices  $x_1, \ldots, x_N \in \mathcal{X}$ , the random vector  $[f(x_1), \ldots, f(x_N)]^T$  has a multivariate normal distribution. It is a generalization of the multivariate normal distribution to infinite-dimensional spaces. The set  $\mathcal{X}$  is called the index set or the state space of the process, and need not be countable.

A Gaussian process can be thought of as a random function defined over  $\mathcal{X}$ , often the real line or  $\mathbb{R}^p$ . We write  $f \sim GP(m,C)$  for some mean function  $m: \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$  and a covariance function  $C: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}^+$ . These functions define the moments<sup>4</sup> of all finite-dimensional marginals of the process, in the sense that

$$E\{f(x_1)\}=m(x_1)$$
 and  $cov\{f(x_1),f(x_2)\}=C(x_1,x_2)$ 

for all  $x_1, x_2 \in \mathcal{X}$ . More generally, the random vector  $[f(x_1), \ldots, f(x_N)]^T$  has covariance matrix whose (i, j) element is  $C(x_i, x_j)$ . Typical covariance functions are those that decay as a function of increasing distance between points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . The notion is that  $f(x_1)$  and  $f(x_2)$  will have high covariance when  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  are close to each other.

# Part A

Read up on the Matern Class of covariance functions. The Matern class has the squared exponential covariance function as a special case:

$$C_{SE}(x_1, x_2) = \tau_1^2 \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2} \left( \frac{d(x_1, x_2)}{b} \right)^2 \right\} + \tau_2^2 \delta(x_1, x_2),$$

where  $d(x_1, x_2) = ||x_1 - x_2||_2$  is Euclidean distance (or just |x - y| for scalars). The constants  $(b, \tau_1^2, \tau_2^2)$  are often called hyperparameters, and  $\delta(a,b)$  is the Kronecker delta function that takes the value 1 if a = b, and 0 otherwise. But usually this covariance function generates functions that are "too smooth," and so we use other covariance functions in the Matern class as a default. (See the speed comparison in kernel-benchmark.R on the class GitHub site if you want to see how Rcpp can be used to speed things up here. My code is for the squared-exponential covariance function.)

Let's start with the simple case where  $\mathcal{X} = [0,1]$ , the unit interval. Write a function that simulates a mean-zero Gaussian process on [0,1] under the Matern(5/2) covariance function. The function will accept as arguments: (1) finite set of points  $x_1, \ldots, x_N$  on the unit interval; and (2) a triplet  $(b, \tau_1^2, \tau_2^2)$ . It will return the value of the random process at each point:  $f(x_1), \ldots, f(x_N)$ .

Use your function to simulate (and plot) Gaussian processes across a range of values for b,  $\tau_1^2$ , and  $\tau_2^2$ . Try starting with a very small value of  $\tau_2^2$  (say,  $10^{-6}$ ) and playing around with the other two first. On the basis of your experiments, describe the role of these three hyperparameters in controlling the overall behavior of the random functions that result. What happens when you try  $\tau_2^2 = 0$ ? Why? If you can fix this, do—remember our earlier discussion on different ways to simulate the MVN.

Now simulating a few functions with a different covariance function, the Matérn with parameter 5/2:

$$C_{M52}(x_1, x_2) = \tau_1^2 \left\{ 1 + \frac{\sqrt{5}d}{b} + \frac{5d^2}{3b^2} \right\} \exp\left(\frac{-\sqrt{5}d}{b}\right) + \tau_2^2 \delta(x_1, x_2),$$

where  $d = '||x_1 - x_2||_2$  is the distance between the two points  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ . Comment on the differences between the functions generated from the two covariance kernels. (The Matern covariance is actually a whole family of functions. See Wikipedia article.)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>And therefore the entire distribution, because it is normal

See R code appendix for functions.

Below are the results of varying each hyperparameter for both covariance functons.

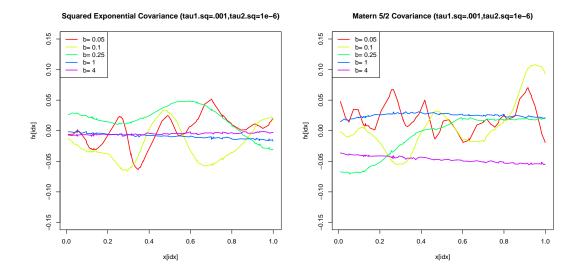


Figure 8: Varying *b* for Squared Exponential and Matern 5/2

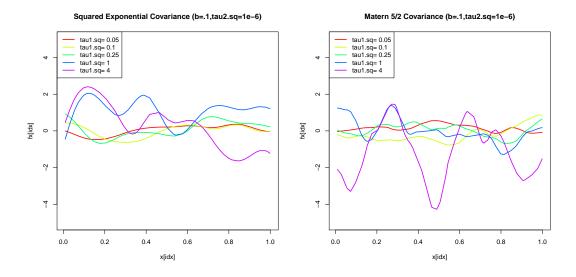


Figure 9: Varying  $\tau_1^2$  for Squared Exponential and Matern 5/2

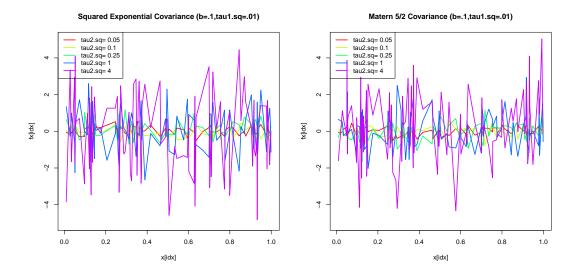


Figure 10: Varying  $\tau_2^2$  for Squared Exponential and Matern 5/2

The parameters appear to have the following effects on the function, ie the generation from the gaussian process.

- 1. *b* controls the how wiggly the function is, ie how long or short is its period.
- 2.  $\tau_1^2$  is the variance of the function; it determines how far on average the function output is from its mean.
- 3.  $\tau_2^2$  is a noise-level parameter; it is controlling how much noise appears in the function.

The two covariance kernel functions look similar, but squared exponential appears smoother. This could be a benefit due to nicer properties, but could also be a drawback in modeling real-life processes that are not as nicely smoothed.

# Part B

Suppose you observe the value of a Gaussian process  $f \sim GP(m,C)$  at points  $x_1, \ldots, x_N$ . What is the conditional distribution of the value of the process at some new point  $x^*$ ? For the sake of notational ease simply write the value of the (i,j) element of the covariance matrix as  $C_{i,j}$ , rather than expanding it in terms of a specific covariance function.

# Part C

Prove the following lemma.

**Lemma:** Suppose that the joint distribution of two vectors y and  $\theta$  has the following properties: (1) the conditional distribution for y given  $\theta$  is multivariate normal,  $(y \mid \theta) \sim N(R\theta, \Sigma)$ ; and (2) the marginal distribution of  $\theta$  is multivariate normal,  $\theta \sim N(m, V)$ . Assume that R,  $\Sigma$ , m, and V are all constants. Then the joint distribution of y and  $\theta$  is multivariate normal.

The given pdfs for  $y|\theta$  and  $\theta$  are as follows.

$$p(y|\theta) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(y - R\theta)^T \Sigma^{-1}(y - R\theta)\right]$$
$$p(\theta) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\theta - m)^T V^{-1}(\theta - m)\right]$$

By the definition of conditional probability

$$\begin{split} p(y,\theta) &\propto p(y|\theta)p(\theta) \\ &\propto \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(y-R\theta)^T\Sigma^{-1}(y-R\theta)\right] \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}(\theta-m)^TV^{-1}(\theta-m)\right] \\ &\propto \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2}\left\{(y-R\theta)^T\Sigma^{-1}(y-R\theta) + (\theta-m)^TV^{-1}(\theta-m)\right\}\right] \end{split}$$

As shown in previous exercises, this result has the form of the multivariate normal distribution  $N(m^*, V^*)$  with

$$(V^*)^{-1} = (R^T \Sigma^{-1} R + V^{-1})$$
  
 $m^* = V^* (y^T \Sigma^{-1} R + m^T V^{-1})$ 

To show the details for this proof, we can rearrange the  $-\frac{1}{2}(...)$  terms and complete the square.

$$y^T \Sigma^{-1} y - 2 y^T \Sigma^{-1} R \theta + \theta^T R^T \Sigma^{-1} R \theta + \theta^T V^{-1} \theta - 2 m^T V^{-1} \theta + m^T V^{-1} m$$

# Appendix: R Code

#### **R Functions**

```
#SDS 383D - Exercise 3
  #Functions
  #Jennifer Starling
  #Feb 2017
  K_uniform = function(x){
     #FUNCTION: Uniform kernel.
     #INPUTS:
              x = a scalar or vector of values.
     #OUTPUT: k = a \ scalar \ or \ vector \ of \ smoothed \ x \ values.
15
     k = .5 * ifelse(abs(x) \le 1, rep(1, length(x)), rep(0, length(x)))
     return(k)
  K_{gaussian} = function(x){
     #FUNCTION: Gaussian kernel.
     #INPUTS: x = a \ scalar \ or \ vector \ of \ values.
     \#OUTPUT: k = a \ scalar \ or \ vector \ of \ smoothed \ x \ values.
     k = (1/sqrt(2*pi)) * exp(-x^2/2)
     return(k)
  sim_noisy_data = function(x,f,sig2){
     \#FUNCTION: Simulates noisy data from some nonlinear function f(x).
     #INPUTS:
              x = independent observations.
               f = function f(x) to simulate from
              sig2 = variance of the e^{N(0,sig2)} noise.
     #OUTPUTS: x = generated x values.
              y = generated y = f(x) + e values.
     fx = f(x)
     e = rnorm(length(x),0,sqrt(sig2))
     return(y = fx+e)
  #-----
  linear_smoother = function(x,y,x_star,h=1,K){
```

```
#FUNCTION: Linear smoothing function for kernel regression.
                   x = a scalar or vector of regression covariates.
       #INPUTS:
60
                   x_star = scalar or vector of new x values for prediction.
                   h = a positive bandwidth.
                   K = a kernel function. Default is set to Gaussian kernel.
                   yhat = a scalar or vector of smoothed x values.
       #OUTPUT:
65
       yhat=0 #Initialize yhat.
       for (i in 1:length(x_star)){
           w = (1/h) * K((x-x_star[i])/h) #Calculates weights.
           w = w / sum(w)
                                            #Normalize weights.
           yhat[i] = crossprod(w,y)
       return(yhat) #UPDATE TO INCLUDE WEIGHTS AS PART OF OUTPUT
75
   local_linear_smoother = function(x,y,x_star,h=1,K){
       #FUNCTION: Local linear smoothing function for special case D=1 polynomial
           regression.
       #INPUTS:
                  x = a scalar or vector of regression covariates.
                   x_star = a scalar or vector of target point(s)
                   h = a positive bandwidth.
                   K = a kernel function. Default is set to Gaussian kernel.
       #OUTPUT:
                   yhat = a scalar or vector of smoothed x values.
85
                                        #Number of obs.
       n = length(x)
       D = 1
                                        #Degrees of local polynomial fctn.
       n_star = length(x_star)
                                        #Number of target points at which to predict.
       yhat = rep(0, n_star)
                                    #Vector to hold predicted function values at target
90
           point(s).
       #Error check for appropriate h value.
       \#try(if(h < 2/n \mid | h > 1) stop("Enter h between (D+1)/n and 1"))
       #Matrix to hold diags of weight matrices. (Col of weights for each x_star.)
       weights = matrix(0,n,n_star)
       #NOTE: There is a separate H matrix for each x_star. Diagonals stored as columns.
       #Loop through each target point.
       for (b in 1:n_star){
           #Calculate unnormalized weights.
           s = rep(0,2)
           for (j in 1:2){
105
               s[j] = sum(K((x_star[b]-x)/h) * (x-x_star[b])^j)
           w = K((x_star[b]-x)/h) * (s[2] - (x-x_star[b])*s[1])
           #Normalize weights.
110
           w = w / sum(w)
           #Save normalized weights.
           weights[,b] = w
115
           #Calculate function value for target point b.
           yhat[b] = crossprod(w,y)
```

```
#CHECK: Print non-zero weight contributors.
            #print('Non-zero contributors to estimate:')
120
            \#test\_df = cbind(x=x, y=round(y, 2), w=round(w, 2), fhat=as.numeric(fhat_xstar[b]))
            #print(test_df[w>.001,])
        #Return function output.
125
       return(list(yhat=yhat, weights=weights))
   }
   local_poly_smoother = function(x,y,x_star,h=1,K=K_gaussian,D=1){
130
        #FUNCTION: Smoothing function for local polynomial regression.
        #INPUTS:
                    x = a scalar or vector of regression covariates.
                    x_star = scalar new x value for prediction.
                    h = a positive bandwidth.
135
                    K = a kernel function. Default is set to Gaussian kernel.
                    D = degree \ of \ polynomial. Default = 1.
        #OUTPUT:
                    yhat = a \ scalar \ or \ vector \ of \ smoothed \ x \ values.
140
       n = length(x)
                        #For i indices.
        yhat = rep(0, length(x_star))
                                         #To store function outputs.
       weights.mat = matrix(0, nrow=n, ncol=length(x_star)) #To hold weights for each x_s
           star.
        ahat = matrix(0,ncol=length(x_star),nrow=D+1)
                                             #Store projection matrix. Consists of row 1
       Hat = matrix(0, length(x_star), n)
145
           of R times each xstar intercept element.
        for (b in 1:length(x_star)){
                                        #Loop through x_star points.
            xstar.i = x_star[b] #Pick off current x_star.
150
            #Calculate (nxn) weights matrix W.
            W = diag( (1/h) * K((x-xstar.i)/h) )
            #Set up R matrix. \{R_{ij}\} = (x_{i-x})^{j} for j in 1...D+1.
            R = matrix(0, nrow=n, ncol=D+1)
155
            for (i in 1:n){
                for (j in 1:(D+1)){
                    R[i,j] = (x[i]-xstar.i)^{(j-1)}
                }
160
            }
            #Precache t(R) %*% W.
            RtW = t(R) \%*\% W
165
            #Calculate ahat.
            ahat.xstar = solve(RtW %*% R) %*% RtW %*% y
            #Calculate hat matrix. First row of ahat.xstar, without y.
            Hat[b,] = (solve(RtW %*% R) %*% RtW)[1,]
170
            #Estimated function value.
            yhat[b] = ahat.xstar[1]
175
            #Save ahat parameters for each x_star.
            ahat[,b] = ahat.xstar
       }
```

```
return(list(yhat=yhat, weights=weights.mat, ahat=ahat, Hat = Hat))
   }
180
   #-----
   # Cross-Validation / Bandwidth Tuning =======================
   #-----
   tune_h = function(test, train, K, h){
185
       #FUNCTION: Function to tune bandwidth h for
                      specified test/train data sets and
                      specified kernel K for linear smoother.
190
       #INPUTS:
                 test = a test data set. Must have two cols, x and y.
                  train = a training data set. Must have two cols, x and y.
                  K = the kernel function
                  h = a scalar or vector of bandwidths to try.
       #OUTPUTS:
                  pred_err_test = prediction error for testing data for each h.
                  fhat_test = predicted values for testing data's x vals.
       #Extract training and test x and y vectors.
       x = train[,1]
       y = train[,2]
200
       x_star = test[,1]
       y_star = test[,2]
       #Calculate predicted points for test data set, and prediction error.
       yhat = linear_smoother(x,y,x_star,h,K)
205
       #Calculate predicted points for test data set, and prediction error.
       pred_err_test = sum(yhat-y_star)^2 / (length(x))
       #Return function outputs:
210
       return(list(yhat=yhat, pred_err_test = pred_err_test))
   }
   tune_h_loocv = function(x,y,K,h){
       #FUNCTION: Function to use leave on out LOOCV to tune
                      bandwidth h for specified test/train data sets and
                      specified kernel K for linear smoother.
       #INPUTS:
                  x = a scalar or vector; the dependent variable.
220
                  y = a scalar or vector; the independent var. Same length as x.
                  K = the kernel function
                  h = a scalar or vector of bandwidths to try.
       #OUTPUTS:
                  pred_err_test = prediction error for testing data for each h.
                  fhat_test = predicted values for testing data's x vals.
225
       #Define ppm H, the 'smoothing matrix'. \{H_{-}ij\} = 1/h * K((xi-xj*)/h)
       #For loocv, x=x*, since calculating on single data set instead of test/train.
230
       Hat = matrix(0, nrow=length(x), ncol=length(x)) #Empty matrix.
       for (i in 1:length(x)){
                                      #Loop through H rows.
           for (j in 1:length(x)){
                                     #Loop through H cols.
               Hat[i,j] = (1/h) * K((x[j] - x[i])/h)
           #Normalize weights by dividing H by rowsums (H).
          Hat[i,] = Hat[i,] / sum(Hat[i,])
       }
```

```
240
       #Calculate predicted values.
       yhat = Hat %*% y
       #Calculate loocv prediction error.
       loocv_err = sum(((y-yhat)/(1-diag(Hat)))^2)
       #Return function outputs:
       return(list(yhat=yhat,loocv_err=loocv_err))
   }
250
   tune_h_local_poly_loocv = function(x,y,K,h){
       #FUNCTION: Function to use leave on out LOOCV to tune
                      bandwidth h for specified test/train data sets and
                      specified kernel K for local linear smoother.
255
       #INPUTS:
                 x = a scalar or vector; the dependent variable.
                  y = a scalar or vector; the independent var. Same length as x.
                  K = the kernel function
                  h = a scalar or vector of bandwidths to try.
260
       #OUTPUTS:
                  pred_err_test = prediction error for testing data for each h.
                  fhat_test = predicted values for testing data's x vals.
       #Use existing x obs as target points for LOOCV.
265
       x_star = x
       #Call local_linear_smoother function to obtain yhat for each x point.
       output = local_poly_smoother(x,y,x_star,h=h,K_gaussian,D=1)
       yhat = output$yhat
       Hat = output$Hat
       Hii = diag(Hat)
       #Calculate loocv prediction error.
       loocv_err = sum(((y-yhat)/(1-Hii))^2)
       return(list(yhat=yhat,loocv_err=loocv_err))
   }
280
   #______
   gaussian_process = function(x,mu,cov.fun,params){
285
       #FUNCTION: Generates realizations from the Gaussian Process on unit [0,1]
                 with mean zero, and the specified covariance matrix.
       #INPUTS:
                 x = vector(x1,...,xn) on unit interval [0,1]
                  params = vector(b, tau1.sq, tau2.sq) of 3 hyperparameters,
                      where:
                      b =
                      tau1.sq =
                      tau2.sq =
295
                  mu = vector of means, length n.
                  cov.fun = covariance matrix function.
       #OUTPUTS:
                 fx = vector \ of \ realizations \ from \ gaussian \ process.
300
       n = length(x)
```

```
#Generate covariance matrix.
       cov = make.covmatrix(x,cov.fun,params)
       \#Generate\ realizations\ f(x1)...f(xn).
       #Require the mytnorm package for random normal generation.
       #require(mvtnorm)
       #fx = rmvnorm(n, mu, cov)
       fx = my.rmvnorm(n, mu, cov)
310
       return(fx)
   }
   12norm = function(x){
315
       #FUNCTION: Calculates the Euclidean (12) norm for a vector.
       #INPUTS:
                   x = vector (x1, ..., xn)
       #OUTPUTS: norm = 12 norm for vector x.
       return(norm=sqrt(sum(x^2)))
   }
325
   cov.se = function(x.i,x.j,params){
       #FUNCTION: Computes the (i,j) element for squared exponential cov matrix.
                   x.i, x.j = two points from two vectors in same space.
       #TNPUTS:
                    params = vector(b, tau1.sq, tau2.sq) of 3 hyperparameters,
330
       #
                        where:
                        b =
                        tau1.sq =
                        tau2.sq =
335
       #OUTPUT:
                    cov = (i,j) element for squared exponential cov matrix.
       #Check for valid hyperparameters.
       if(length(params)!=3 || prod(is.na(params))){
340
           return('Enter three valid hyperparameters in param vector.')
       }
       #Extract elements of triplet.
       b = params[1]
       tau1.sq = params[2]
       tau2.sq = params[3]
       #Kronecker delta function.
       kd = function(a,b) (a==b)
350
       #Euclidean distance for x.i, x.j.
       ed = 12norm(x.i-x.j)
       #Caluclate cov function value.
355
       cov = tau1.sq * exp(-.5 * (ed/b)^2) + tau2.sq * kd(x.i,x.j)
       #Return function output.
       return(cov)
360
   cov.m52 = function(x.i,x.j,params){
```

```
#FUNCTION:
                  Computes the (i,j) element for Matern 5/2 cov matrix.
365
                    x.i, x.j = two points from two vectors in same space.
       #INPUTS:
                    params = vector(b, tau1.sq, tau2.sq) of 3 hyperparameters,
                        b =
                        tau1.sq =
370
                        tau2.sq =
       \#OUTPUT:
                    cov = (i, j) element for Matern 5/2 cov matrix.
       #Check for valid hyperparameters.
       if(length(params)!=3 || prod(is.na(params))){
            return('Enter three valid hyperparameters in param vector.')
       #Extract elements of triplet.
       b = params[1]
       tau1.sq = params[2]
       tau2.sq = params[3]
       #Kronecker delta function.
385
       kd = function(a,b) (a==b)
       #Euclidean distance for x.i, x.j.
       ed = 12norm(x.i-x.j)
390
       #Caluclate cov function value.
       cov = tau1.sq * (1 + (sqrt(5)*ed / b) + (5/3 * (ed/b)^2)) * exp(-sqrt(5) * ed / b)
           ) + tau2.sq * kd(x.i,x.j)
       #Return function output.
       return(cov)
395
   make.covmatrix = function(x,cov.fun,params=NA){
        #FUNCTION: Assemble covariance matrix for a Gaussian Process w specified cov.
           function.
                    x.i, x.j = two points from two vectors in same space.
       #TNPUTS:
                    params = vector(b, tau1.sq, tau2.sq) of 3 hyperparameters,
                        where:
                        b =
                        tau1.sq =
                        tau2.sq =
       #OUTPUTS:
410
       #Check for valid hyperparameters.
       if(length(params)!=3 || prod(is.na(params))){
           return('Enter three valid hyperparameters in param vector.')
       }
415
       n = length(x)
       covmatrix = matrix(nrow=n,ncol=n)
       for (i in 1:n){
            for (j in 1:n)
420
                covmatrix[i,j] = cov.fun(x[i],x[j],params)
                covmatrix[j,i] = covmatrix[i,j]
       }
```

```
return(covmatrix)
   }
425
   #NOT USED: Alternative to rmvnorm:
   my.rmvnorm = function(n,mu,Sigma){
       #FUNCTION: Simulates mvn random variables given a mean mu and cov Sigma. (From Ex
430
           1 - Bootstrap)
       #This function returns n X \tilde{\ } MVN(mu,Sigma) realization.
       #INPUTS: mu = desired vector of means. Must be length p.
                  Sigma = desired covariance matrix. Must be (pxp), symmetric, pos
          semidef.
                  n = number of mvn random variables to generate.
435
       \#OUTPUTS: x = a matrix of realizations from <math>MVN(mu, Sigma). (Each x is a column
           .)
       p = length(mu) #Set length of mu vector.
       z = matrix(rnorm(n*p,0,1),nrow=p,ncol=n) #Generate p iid standard normals z_i
440
           for each realization
       eg = eigen(Sigma)
                                    #Store spectoral value decomposition of Sigma.
       V = eg$vectors
                                    #Extract eigen vectors.
       lam = diag(eg$values)
                                    #Extract diagonal matrix of eigenvalues.
445
       L = V \% *\%  sqrt(lam)
                                   #Assign L so LL^T = Sigma
       \#Compute \ realizations \ of \ x \ \ mvn (mu, Sigma)
       \#x = L \% *\% z + mu
       x = apply(z, 2, function(a) L %*% a + mu)
       return(x)
   }
```

# Part B Script - Curve Fitting by Linear Smoothing

```
#Stats Modeling 2
#Exercise 3
#Curve Fitting by Linear Smoothing - Part B
#Jennifer Starling
#Feb 15, 2017
###
        Simulate noisy data from a non-linear function,
###
        subtract the sample means from the simulated x and y,
        and use the smoother function to fit the kernel smoother
###
###
       for some choice of h. Plot estimated functions for a
###
       range of bandwidths large enough to yield noticeable changes
###
        in the qualitative behavior of the prediction functions.
### Environment setup.
#Housekeeping.
rm(list=ls())
#Load functions.
source("/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/RCode/SDS383D_
   Ex3_FUNCTIONS.R")
### Data generation.
# Simulate x and y from a non-linear function x.
x = runif(100,0,1) #Generate a sample of x values.
f = function(x) sin(2*pi*x) #Set the non-linear function.
#Generate noisy data, and extract x and y.
y = sim_noisy_data(x, f, sig2=.75)
#Subtract means from simulated x and y.
x = x - mean(x)
y = y - mean(y)
#Plot noisy data, with means subtracted.
pdf(file='/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/
   noisydata.pdf')
plot(x,y,main='Noisy data',xlab='x',ylab='y')
dev.off()
#Set up a vector of x_star values, and estimate function value at these points.
x_star = seq(min(x), max(x), by=.01)
yhat = linear_smoother(x,y,x_star,h=.01,K=K_gaussian)
plot(x,y,main='Gaussian Kernel Smoother')
lines(x_star,yhat,col='red')
### Plot linear smoothing output for various bandwidths.
#Set up bandwidths to try, and corresponding colors.
H = c(.01, .1, .5, 1, 5)
col = rainbow(length(H))
#Open pdf file for two plots.
```

```
pdf(file='/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/
   Smoothers.pdf')
par(mfrow=c(2,1))
#Plot for a variety of bandwidths using Gaussian kernel.
plot(x,y,main='Gaussian Kernel Smoother')
for (i in 1:length(H)){
    yhat = linear_smoother(x,y,x_star,h=H[i],K=K_gaussian)
    lines(x_star,yhat,col=col[i],lwd=2)
legend('topleft',legend=paste("h=",H,sep=''),lwd=2,lty=1,col=col,bg='white')
#Plot for a variety of bandwidths using uniform kernel.
plot(x,y,main='Uniform Kernel Smoother')
for (i in 1:length(H)){
    yhat = linear_smoother(x,y,x_star,h=H[i],K=K_uniform)
    lines(x_star,yhat,col=col[i],lwd=2)
legend('topleft',legend=paste("h=",H,sep=''),lwd=2,lty=1,col=col,bg='white')
dev.off() #Close pdf file for two plots.
```

# **Part C Script - Cross Validation**

```
#Stats Modeling 2
#Exercise 3
#Cross-Validation - Part B
#Jennifer Starling
#Feb 15, 2017
### Imagine a 2x2 tablefor the unknown, true
### state of affairs. Rows are 'wiggly' and 'smooth' functions,
### and cols are 'highly noisy obs' and 'less noisy obs'.
### Simulate one data set (n=500) for each of four cells of table.
### Split each data set into test and train sets. Apply method to
### each case. Apply function from part A to select bandwidth.
#-----
#Housekeeping.
rm(list=ls())
#Load latex table library.
library(xtable) #For table output to latex.
options(xtable.floating = FALSE)
options(xtable.timestamp = "")
#Load functions.
source('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/RCode/SDS383D_
   Ex3_FUNCTIONS.R')
# Data and function generation. =============================
#Set up wiggly and less-wiggly functions.
fwiggly = function(x) sin(10*pi*x)
fsmooth = function(x) sin(2*pi*x)
#Set up x values on the unit interval.
n = 500
x = runif(n, 0, 1)
#Generate noisy and less-noisy data for
#each fwiggly and fsmooth function.
y_wiggly_noisy = sim_noisy_data(x,fwiggly,sig2=.75)
y_wiggly_clear = sim_noisy_data(x,fwiggly,sig2=.1)
y_smooth_noisy = sim_noisy_data(x,fsmooth,sig2=.75)
y_smooth_clear = sim_noisy_data(x,fsmooth,sig2=.1)
#Combine into single matrix for convenience.
y = \texttt{matrix}(\texttt{c}(\texttt{y\_wiggly\_noisy}, \texttt{y\_wiggly\_clear}, \texttt{y\_smooth\_noisy}, \texttt{y\_smooth\_clear}), \texttt{ncol=4}, \texttt{byrow})
colnames(y) = c('wiggly_noisy','wiggly_clear','smooth_noisy','smooth_clear')
#Scatter plots to preview the four data sets.
#pdf(file='/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/cv_
   function_grid.pdf')
    par(mfrow=c(2,2))
    for(j in 1:ncol(y)){
```

```
plot(x,y[,j],main=paste(colnames(y)[j]),xlab='x',ylab='y',ylim=c(-5,5))
       }
   #dev.off()
   # Cross-Validation to Tune h (One Split) ====================
   \#\#\# Split each data set into train and test sets. (70-30)
   test_idx = sample(1:n,size=n*.3,replace=F)
   test = cbind(x[test_idx],y[test_idx,])
   train = cbind(x[-test_idx],y[-test_idx,])
   ### Optimize bandwidth h.
   # For each case, select a bandwidth parameter. (Used Gaussian kernel.)
                     #Vector to hold optimal h values.
   h_{opt} = rep(0,4)
   names(h_opt) = colnames(test)[-1]
  H = seq(.001,1,by=.001) #Candidate h values.
   yhat = list()
                          #To hold estimated function values.
   x_star = test[,1]
   #Iterate through each setup.
   for (i in 1:4){
       \# Extract \ x \ and \ just \ the \ y \ column \ required.
       tr = train[,c(1,i+1)]
       te = test[,c(1,i+1)]
       #Temp vector to hold prediction errors.
90
       temp_pred_err = rep(0,length(H))
       for (j in 1:length(H)){
           h = H[j]
           results = tune_h(test=te,train=tr,K=K_gaussian,h=h)
           temp_pred_err[j] = results$pred_err_test
       }
       h_opt[i] = H[which.min(temp_pred_err)]
       yhat[[i]] = tune_h(te,tr,K=K_gaussian,h_opt[i])$fhat_star
100
   }
   ### Output results as table and plot.
105
   #Format optimal h results as matrix.
   h_opt_mat = matrix(h_opt,nrow=2,byrow=T)
   colnames(h_opt_mat) = c('noisy','clear')
   rownames(h_opt_mat) = c('wiggly', 'smooth')
  xtable(h_opt_mat, digits=3) #Output latex table.
   #Plot output with fitted data using optimal h values.
   pdf('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/Bandwidth
       _selection.pdf')
   par(mfrow=c(2,2))
   for (i in 1:4){
       \#Scatterplot\ of\ test\ x/y.
       plot(test[,1],test[,i+1],
           main=paste(names(h_opt)[i], ", h=",h_opt[i],sep=''),
```

```
xlab='x_train',ylab='y_train')
       #Overlay estimated fit.
120
       idx = sort(x_star, index.return = T)$ix
       lines(sort(x_star), yhat[[i]][idx], col='red') #Fitted line.
   dev.off()
125
   # (Part C)
   #_____
   # For each case, select a bandwidth parameter. (Used Gaussian kernel.)
   h_{opt}loocv = rep(0,4)
                                     #Vector to hold optimal h values.
   names(h_opt_loocv) = colnames(y)
                                     #Candidate h values.
   H = seq(.001, 1, by=.001)
   yhat_loocv = list()
                                 #To hold estimated function values.
   #Iterate through each setup.
   for (i in 1:4){
       #Extract y column.
140
       ytemp = y[,i]
       #Temp vector to hold prediction errors.
       temp_pred_err = rep(0,length(H))
145
       for (j in 1:length(H)){
          h = H[j]
          results = tune_h_loocv(x=x,y=ytemp,K=K_gaussian,h=h)
           temp_pred_err[j] = results$loocv_err
       h_opt_loocv[i] = H[which.min(temp_pred_err)]
       yhat_loocv[[i]] = tune_h_loocv(x,ytemp,K=K_gaussian,h_opt_loocv[i])$yhat
   }
155
   ### Output results as table and plot.
   #Format optimal h results as matrix.
   h_opt_mat_loocv = matrix(h_opt_loocv,nrow=2,byrow=T)
   colnames(h_opt_mat_loocv) = c('noisy','clear')
   rownames(h_opt_mat_loocv) = c('wiggly','smooth')
   xtable(h_opt_mat_loocv, digits=3)
                                     #Output latex table.
   #Plot output with fitted data using optimal h values.
165
   pdf('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/Bandwidth
      _selection_loocv.pdf')
   par(mfrow=c(2,2))
   for (i in 1:4){
       \#Scatterplot\ of\ test\ x/y.
170
       plot(x,y[,i],
          main=paste(names(h_opt_loocv)[i],", h=",h_opt_loocv[i],sep=''),
          xlab='x',ylab='y')
       #Overlay estimated fit.
       idx = sort(x, index.return = T)$ix
175
       lines(sort(x),yhat_loocv[[i]][idx],col='red') #Fitted line.
   dev.off()
```

# Part D Script - Local Polynomial Regression

```
#Stats Modeling 2
  #Exercise 3
  #Local Polynomial Regression - Part E-G
  #Jennifer Starling
 #Feb 21, 2017
  # Environment Setup & Data Load =============================
  #-----
10
  #Housekeeping.
  rm(list=ls())
  #Load functions.
 source('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/RCode/SDS383D_
    Ex3_FUNCTIONS.R')
  #Load data.
  utilities = read.csv('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/statsmod/
     Course - Data/utilities.csv', header = T)
  #Extract data for model.
  x = utilities$temp
                                            #average temp.
  y = utilities$gasbill / utilities$billingdays
                                           #avg daily bill
  #Center variables
 x = x - mean(x)
  y = y - mean(y)
  #-----
  # Local Linear Smoother: Optimize bandwidth h using loocv ======
  #-----
  #Candidate h values.
  H = seq(1, 8, by=.1)
  #Vectors to hold prediction errors and estimated function values for each h.
  pred_err = rep(0,length(H))
  #Loop through h values.
  for (m in 1:length(H)){
     h = H[m]
     results = tune_h_local_poly_loocv(x,y,K=K_gaussian,h=h)
     pred_err[m] = results$loocv_err
  }
  #Select optimal h and obtain fitted values.
  h_opt = H[which.min(pred_err)]
  yhat = local_linear_smoother(x,y,x,h=h_opt,K_gaussian)$yhat
  ### Plot output with fitted data using optimal h value.
  pdf('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/Local_
     Linear_Opt_h.pdf')
  \#Scatterplot\ of\ x/y.
 plot(x,y,main=paste('Local Linear Smoothing, Gaussian Kernel, h = ',sep="",h_opt))
  #Overlay estimated fit.
```

```
x_star=x
  idx = sort(x_star, index.return = T)$ix
     lines(sort(x_star),yhat[idx],col='firebrick3',lwd=2) #Fitted line.
  dev.off()
  #-----
  #Fit D=1 local polynomial model (local linear) using optimal h.
  #Inspect residuals. Does homoscedasticity look reasonable? If not, propose fix.
  yhat = local_linear_smoother(x,y,x,h=h_opt,K_gaussian)$yhat
  resids = (y-yhat)
  ### Plotting
  pdf('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/Local_
     Linear_Residuals.pdf')
  plot(x,resids,main=paste('Local Linear Smoothing Residuals, Gaussian Kernel, h = ',sep
     ="",h_opt))
  dev.off()
  #Looks like residuals follows a trend.
  #Try an Anscombe variance stabilizing transformation of y to fix this.
  #Or other appropriate var stabilizing transforms.
  #-----
  #_____
  RSS = sum(resids^2)
  sigma2_hat = RSS / (length(yhat)-1)
  lb = yhat - 1.96*sqrt(sigma2_hat)
  ub = yhat + 1.96*sqrt(sigma2_hat)
  #Plot bands.
  pdf('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/LLS_Conf_
     Bands.pdf')
  \#Scatterplot\ of\ x/y.
  plot(x,y,main=paste('Local Lin Smoothing 95% Confidence Bands, h = ',sep="",h_opt))
  #Overlay estimated fit.
  x_star=x
  idx = sort(x_star, index.return = T)$ix
     lines(sort(x_star),yhat[idx],col='firebrick3',lwd=2) #Fitted line.
100
  #Overlay confidence bands.
  lines(sort(x_star), lb[idx], col='blue', lwd=2, lty=2)
  lines(sort(x_star), ub[idx], col='blue', lwd=2, lty=2)
  dev.off()
  #-----
  # Local Polynomial Smoother Degrees Demo: ============
  x_star = x
  h = 6.9
  #Local linear smoother - James solution.
  fx_hat = local_poly_smoother(x,y,x_star,h,K=K_gaussian,D=1)$yhat
```

```
#Local linear smoother - via polynomial smoother with D=1.
   fx_hat2 = local_poly_smoother(x,y,x_star,h,K=K_gaussian,D=2)$yhat
   #Compare to linear smoother from previous ex part.
   fx_hat3 = local_poly_smoother(x,y,x_star,h,K=K_gaussian,D=3)$yhat
   pdf('/Users/jennstarling/UTAustin/2017S_Stats Modeling 2/Exercise-03/Figures/
       Polynomial_Degree_Comparison.pdf')
   \#Scatterplot\ of\ x/y.
   plot(x,y,main=paste('Local Polynomial Regression, Gaussian Kernel, h = ',sep="",h))
   #Overlay estimated fits.
   idx = sort(x_star, index.return = T)$ix
       lines(sort(x_star),fx_hat[idx],col='firebrick3',lwd=2) #Fitted line.
   idx = sort(x_star, index.return = T)$ix
       lines(sort(x_star),fx_hat2[idx],col='forestgreen',lwd=2) #Fitted line.
   idx = sort(x_star, index.return = T)$ix
135
       lines(sort(x_star),fx_hat3[idx],col='blue',lwd=2) #Fitted line.
   legend('topright',col=c('firebrick3','forestgreen','blue'),legend=c('D=1','D=2','D=3')
      ,lty=1)
   dev.off()
```