



# Machine Learning for Time Series

(MLTS or MLTS-Deluxe Lectures)

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- Time series fundamentals and definitions (2 lectures)
  - Bayesian Inference (1 lecture)
  - Gaussian processes (2 lectures) ←
  - State space models (2 lectures)
  - Autoregressive models (1 lecture)
  - Data mining on time series (1 lecture)
  - Deep learning on time series (4 lectures)
  - Domain adaptation (1 lecture)
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## In this lecture...

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1. Prior on functions
  2. Gaussian processes
  3. Gaussian process regression
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# Gaussian Process Regression

## Prior on functions

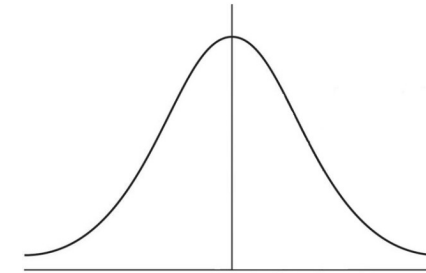


# Concepts review: Gaussian Distribution

Univariate vs. Multivariate

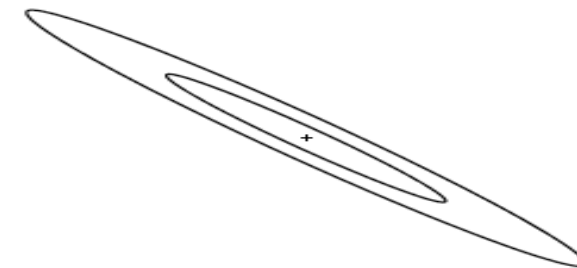
The **univariate Gaussian distribution** is given by

$$\mathcal{N}(x|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} e^{-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-\mu)^2}$$



The **multivariate Gaussian distribution** is given by

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



# Concept review: Conditional and Marginal of a Gaussian

If  $x$  and  $y$  are jointly Gaussian

$$p(x, y) = p\left(\begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}\right) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B^T & C \end{bmatrix}\right)$$

we get the marginal distribution of  $x$  by

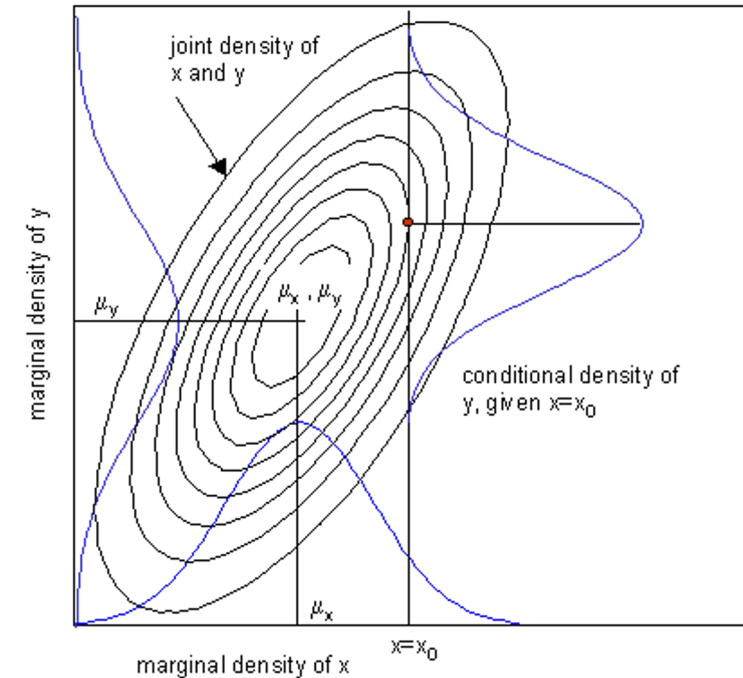
$$p(x, y) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B^T & C \end{bmatrix}\right) \Rightarrow p(x) = \mathcal{N}(a, A)$$

and the conditional distribution of  $x$  given  $y$  by

$$p(x, y) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ B^T & C \end{bmatrix}\right) \Rightarrow p(x|y) = \mathcal{N}(a + BC^{-1}(y - b), A - BC^{-1}B^T)$$

where  $x$  and  $y$  can be scalars or vectors.

Both the conditional  $p(x|y)$  and the marginal  $p(x)$  of a joint Gaussian  $p(x, y)$  are Gaussian.



In **supervised learning**, we:

- observe some inputs  $x_i$  and some outputs  $y_i$
- Assume that  $y_i = f(x_i)$ 
  - for some unknown function  $f$
  - Possibly subject to noise

**The optimal approach is to:**

- infer a distribution over functions given the data,  $p(f | X, y)$
- Then use it for prediction

$$p(y_* | x_*, X, y) = \int p(y_* | f, x_*) p(f | X, y) df$$



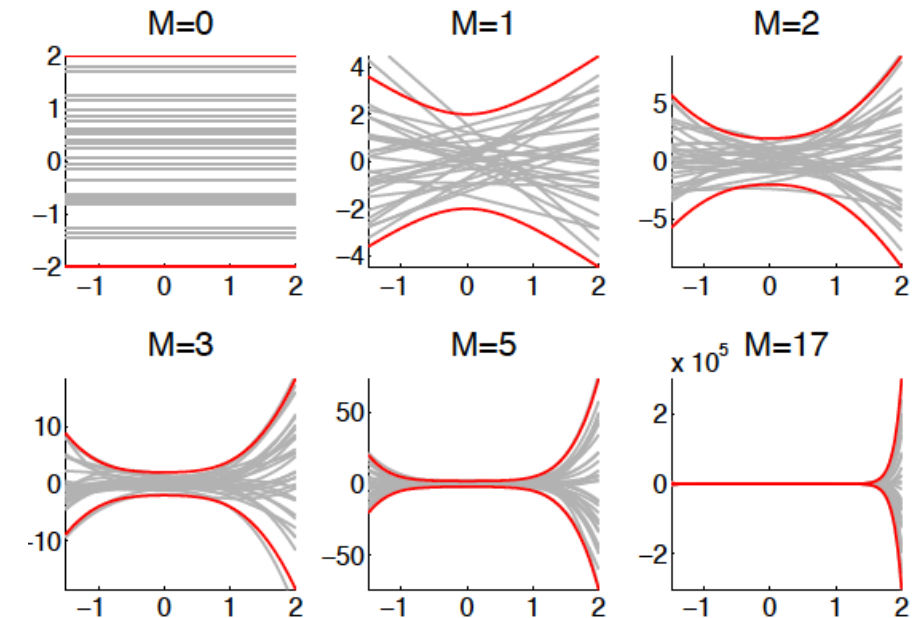
A model  $M$  is the result of the choice of:

- A **model structure**
- The **model's parameters**

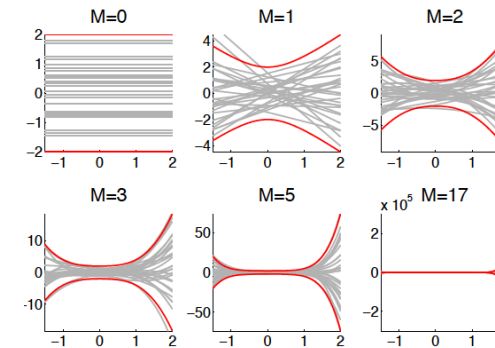
In the example:

$$f_w(x) = \sum_{m=0}^M \omega_m \Phi_m(x), \quad \text{with } \Phi_m(x) = x^m$$

We have defined a prior distribution over functions  
but **in an indirect way**

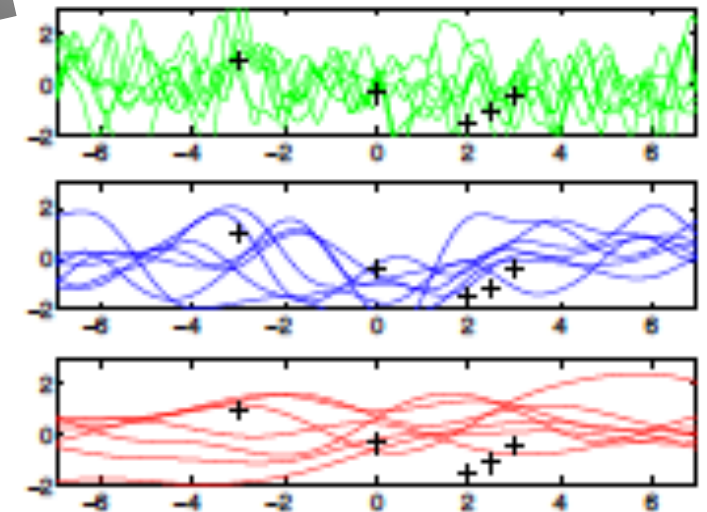
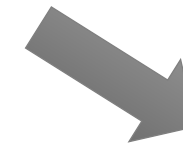
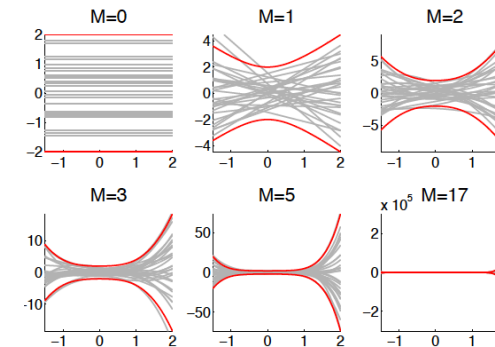


Models with priors on the weights *indirectly* specify priors over functions.



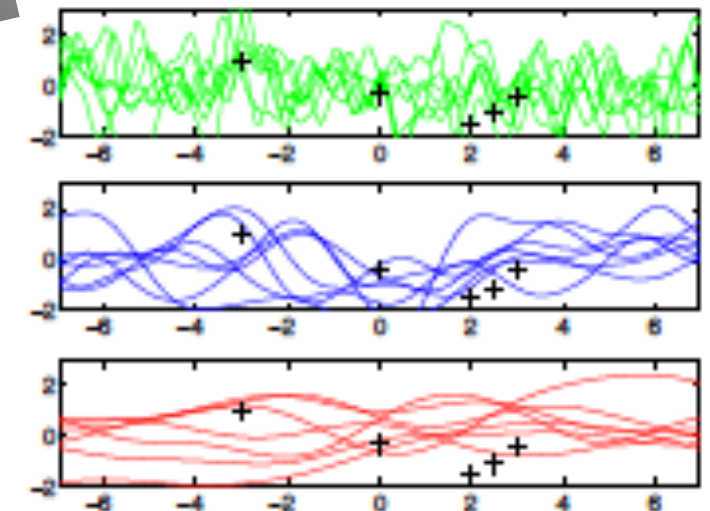
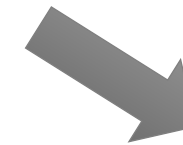
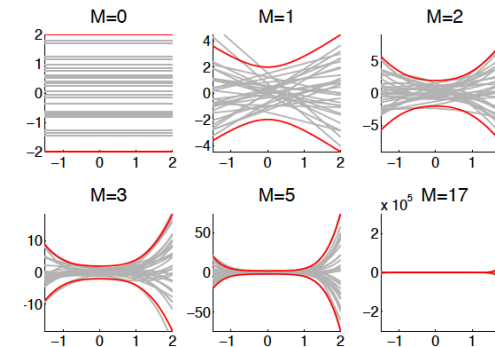
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- What about specifying priors on functions directly?
- What does a probability density over functions even look like?



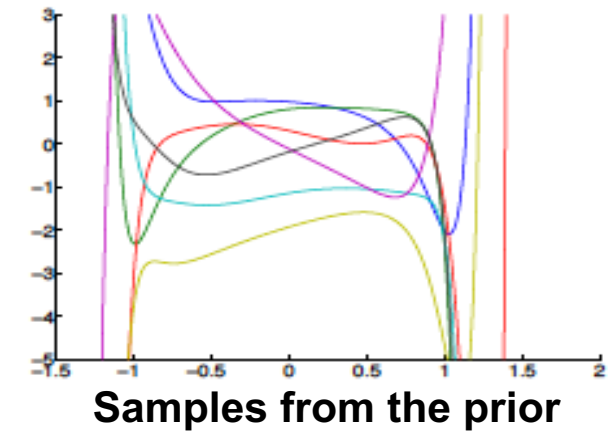
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The Bayes rule can be written as:

$$p(f|y) = \frac{p(y|f)p(f)}{p(y)}$$

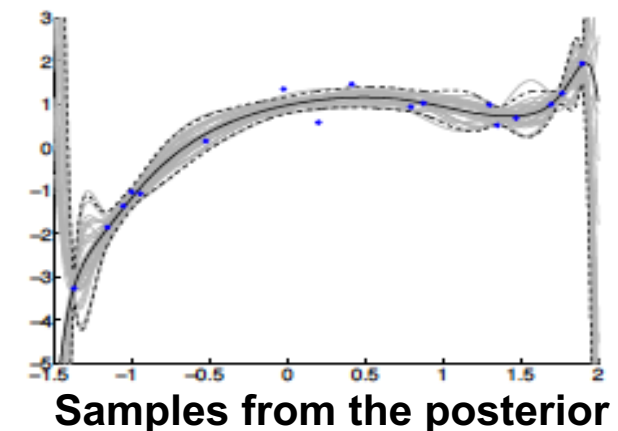
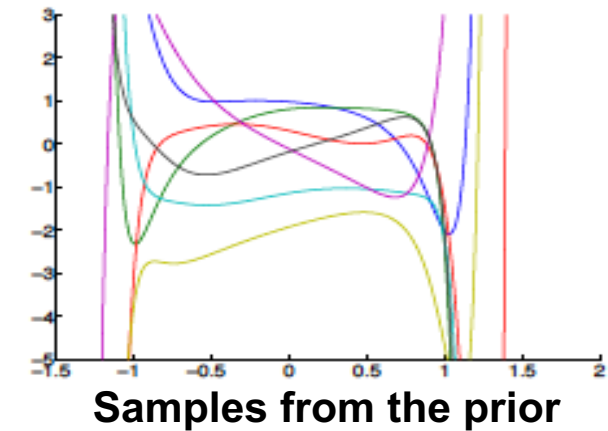


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We keep the functions which are “closer” to the data

→ Notion of **closeness** is given by the likelihood  $p(y|f)$



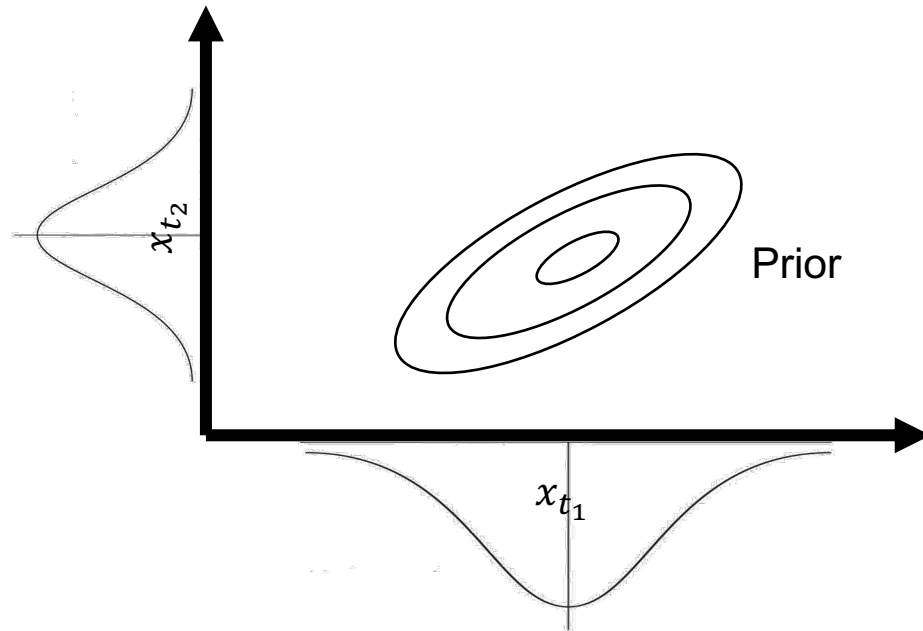


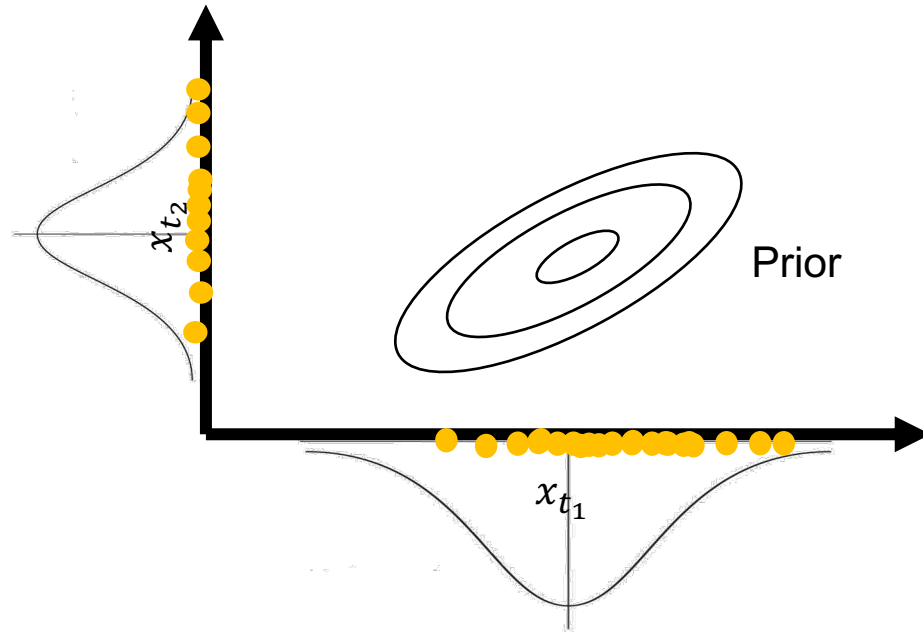


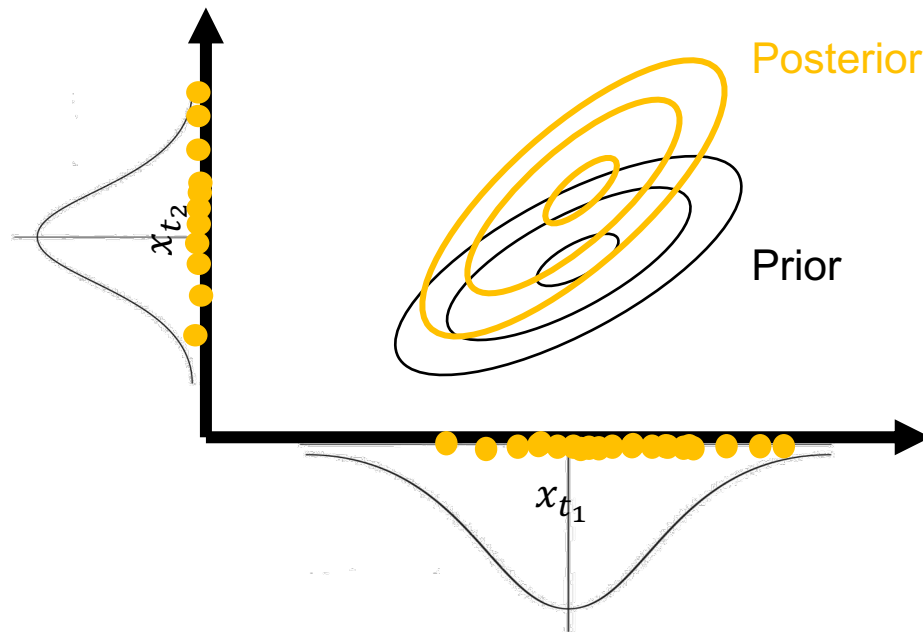
# Gaussian Process Regression

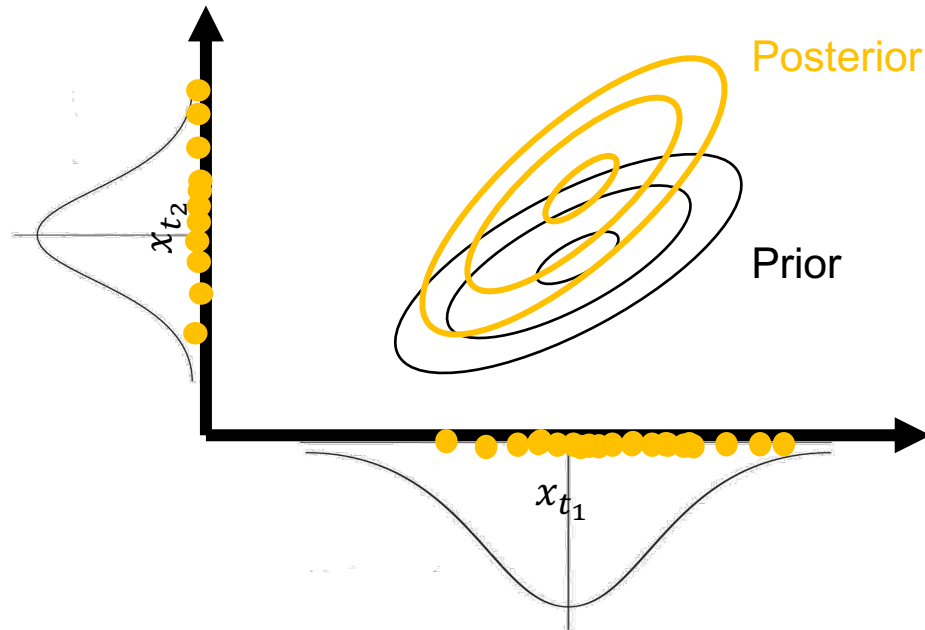
## Gaussian Processes (GP)





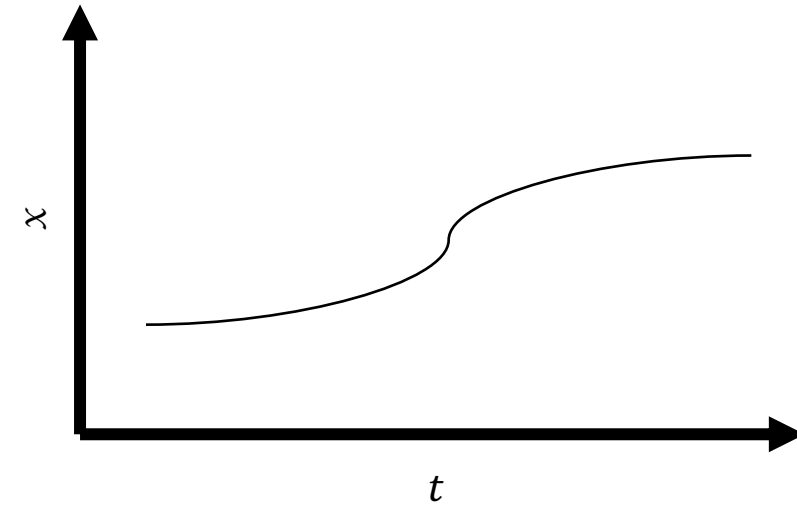
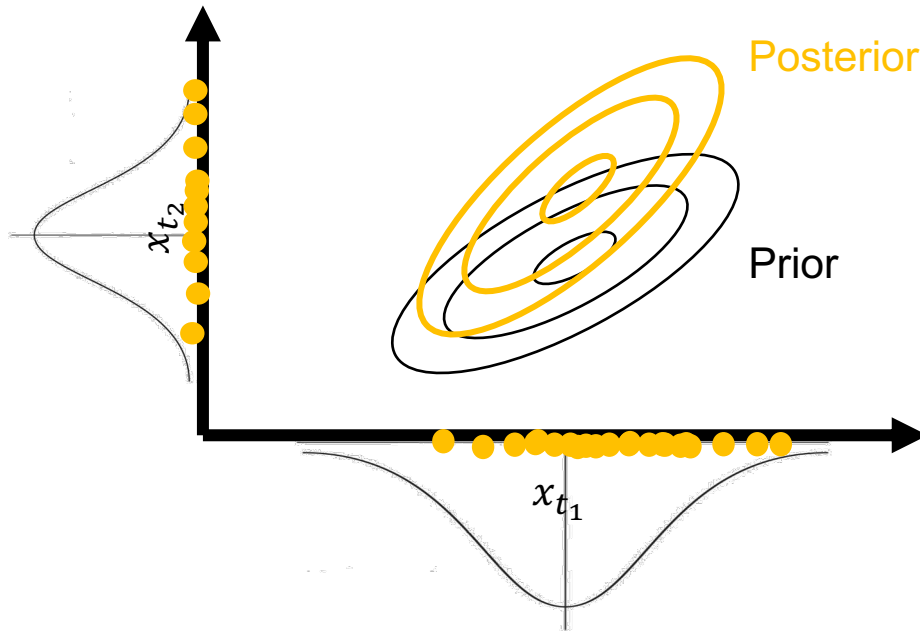




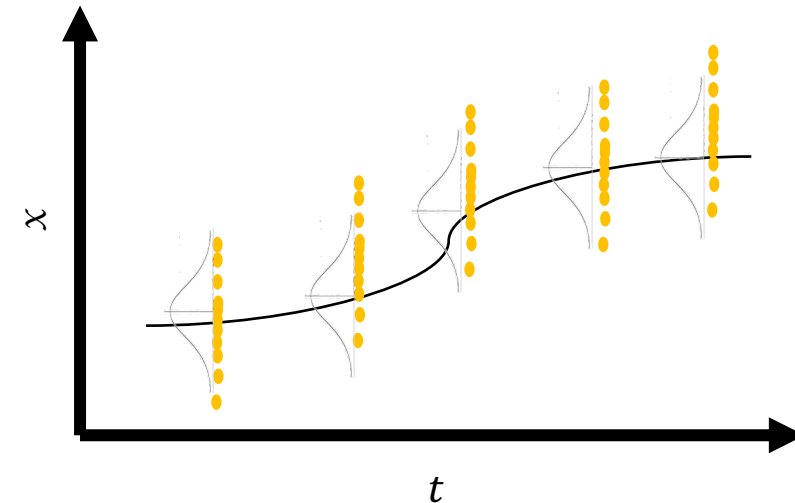
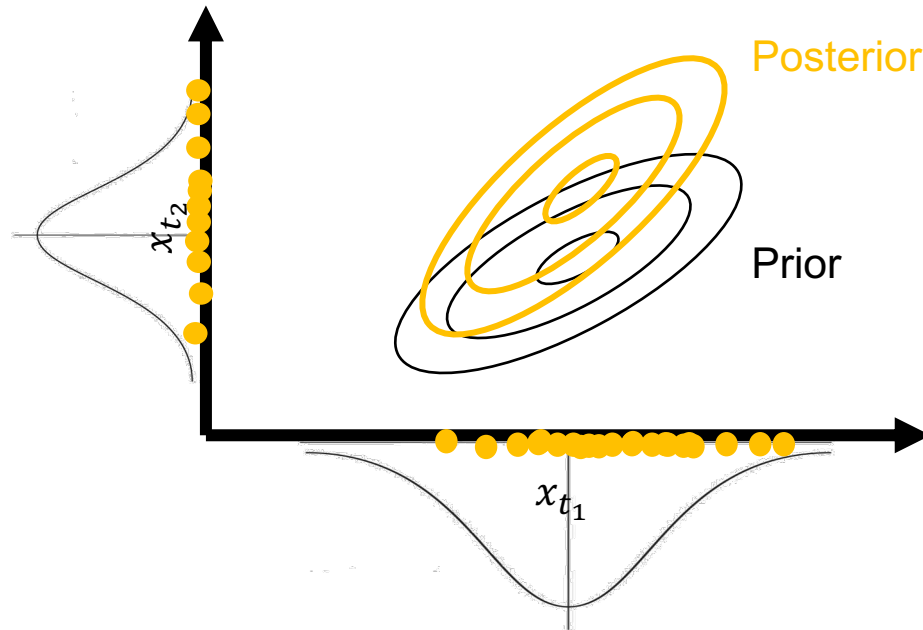


For **multivariate Gaussian distributions** we look at groups of real-valued variables.

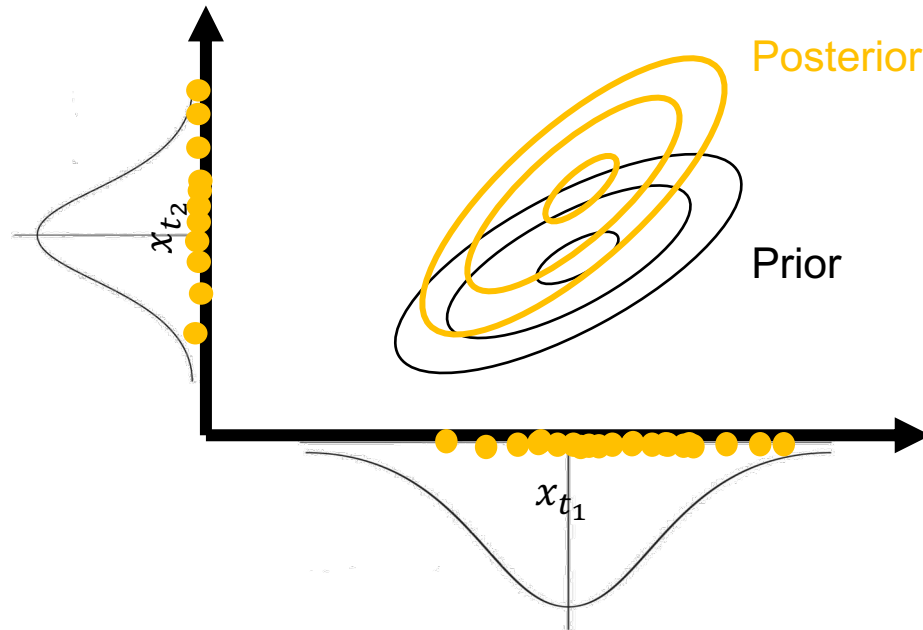




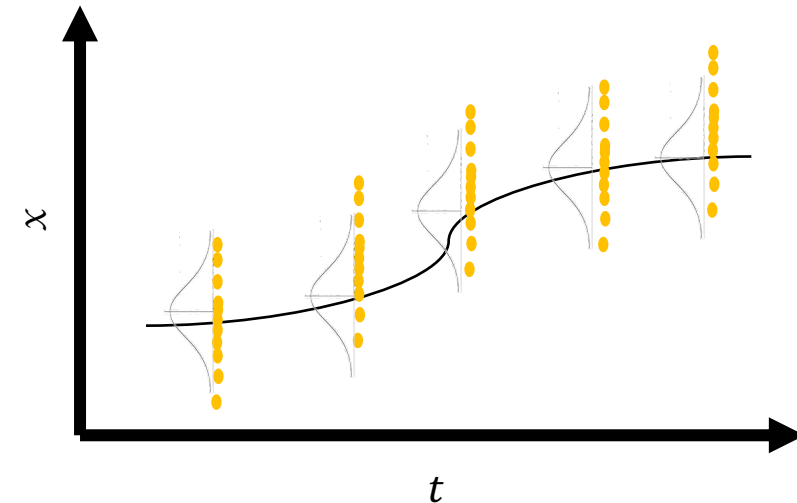
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For **Gaussian processes** we look at very many random variables with Gaussian distribution.

→ GP are functions of (potentially infinite) number of real-valued variables.

## Definition:

A function  $f$  is a Gaussian process if  $f(t) = [f(t_1), \dots, f(t_N)]^T$  has multivariate distribution for each  $t = [t_1, \dots, t_N]^T$ .

For any subset of  $t$ :  $f(t) \sim N(\mu(t), \Sigma(t, t'))$

Notice: here we use  $t$  for time, but in general we can have a  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

The **mean function** is defined as

$$\mu: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \quad (\text{or, } \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$$

- Often, we subtract the mean from the data to have  $\mu(t) = 0, \forall t$

The **covariance function** is defined as  $\Sigma: \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ ; positive semidefinite matrix.

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We can, then, rewrite the Gaussian process as:

$$\bullet \quad f(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu(t), k(t, t')) \quad \text{or} \quad f(t) \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, k(t, t'))$$



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A GP is defined by its mean and kernel function, so we can write:

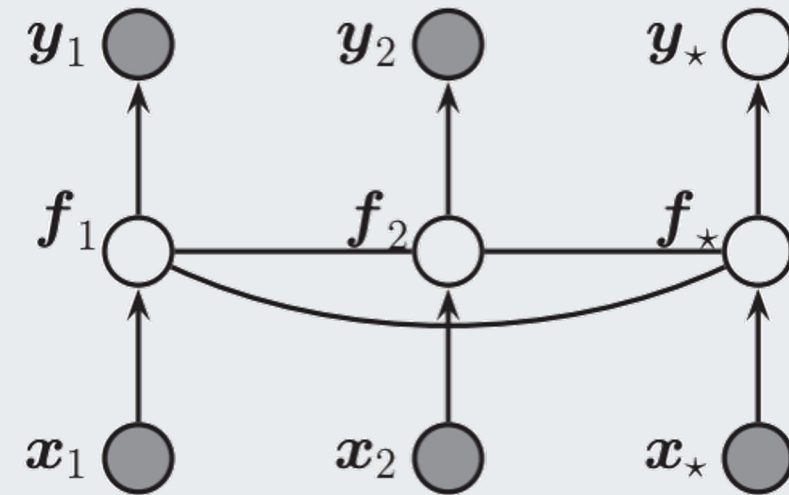
$$f \sim GP(\mu, k)$$

Then, a Gaussian Process assumes that the distribution over the function's on a finite (and arbitrary) set of points,

$$p(f(x_1), \dots, f(x_N)),$$

is jointly Gaussian, with mean  $\mu(x)$  and covariance  $\Sigma(x)$ , where the covariance is given by  $\Sigma_{ij} = \kappa(x_i, x_j)$  and  $\kappa$  being a positive definite kernel function.

Key idea: if  $x_i$  and  $x_j$  are similar w.r.t. the kernel, their output through  $f$  will also be similar.



**Gaussian process  
(graphical illustration)**

$$p(y, f | x) = \mathcal{N}(0, \kappa(x)) \prod_i p(x_i, f_i)$$

# Example of Gaussian process

## Random lines

Let's  $t = \mathbb{R}$ , be the entire real line. We define:

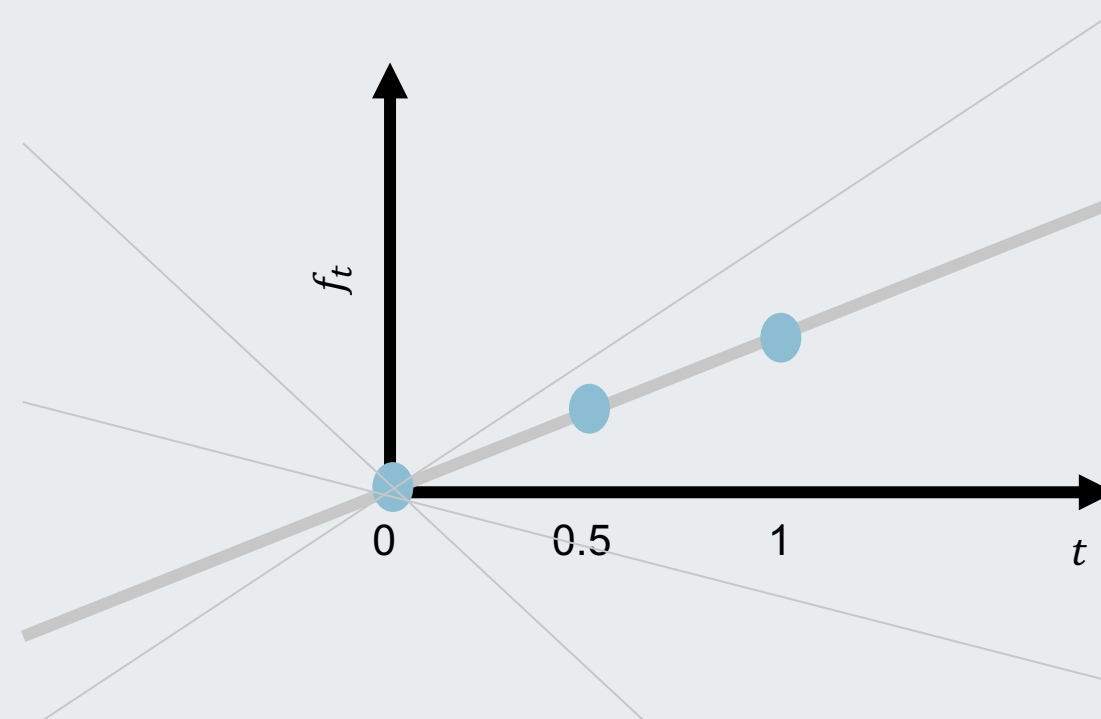
$$f_t = t \cdot w$$

with  $w \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$ ,  $w \in \mathbb{R}$ .

We verify that  $f$  is a GP:

$$\begin{aligned} [f_{t_1}, \dots, f_{t_N}]^T &= \\ &= [wt_1, \dots, wt_N]^T = \\ &= w[t_1, \dots, t_N]^T \end{aligned}$$

→ Since  $w \sim \mathcal{N}(0,1)$  is (multivariate) Gaussian, the result is also (multivariate) Gaussian.





# Gaussian Process Regression

## Gaussian Processes (GP) regression



Suppose:

$$\begin{bmatrix} f \\ y \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mu_f \\ \mu_y \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{ff} & \Sigma_{fy} \\ \Sigma_{fy}^T & \Sigma_{yy} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

Then,

$$p(f|y) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_{f|y}, \Sigma_{f|y})$$

where:

- $\mu_{f|y} = \mu_f + \Sigma_{fy} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} (y - \mu_y)$
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The mean “update” is linear function of the observation  $y$

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How much does the data explain?

Small  $\rightarrow$  it can approach 0  $\rightarrow$  Uncertain  $\sim \Sigma_{ff}$

Large  $\rightarrow$  it can approach  $\Sigma_{ff} \rightarrow$  zero covariance!

Suppose:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y \\ y^* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \mu_y \\ \mu_{y^*} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \Sigma_{yy} & \Sigma_{y^*y} \\ \Sigma_{y^*y}^T & \Sigma_{y^*y^*} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

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Predictive mean

Predictive covariance

**Function to be estimated:**  $y(t) = t \sin(t)$

**Sampling interval:**  $t \in [0, 10]$

Remember the conditioning:

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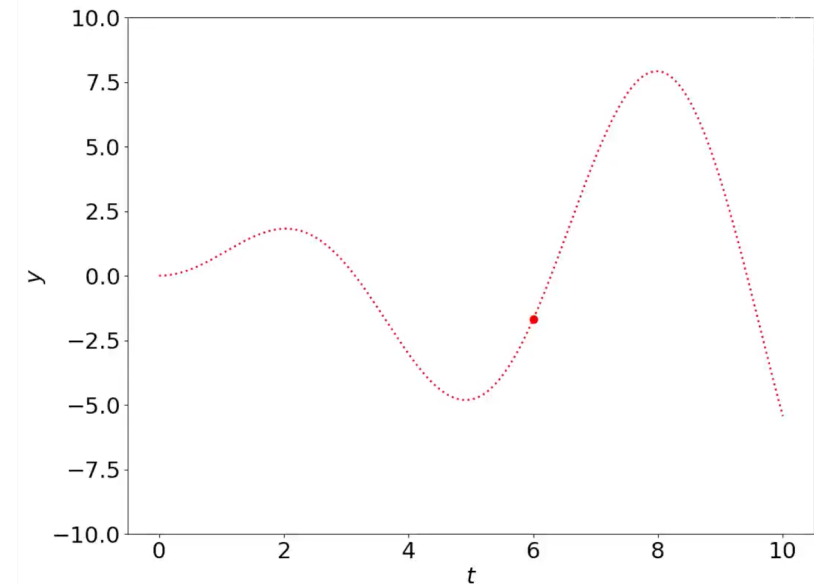
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Now, we can plug in particular values for  $y$ , e.g.,

$$p(f|\mathbf{y}(t=6)) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_{f|\mathbf{y}(t=6)}, \Sigma_{f|\mathbf{y}(t=6)})$$



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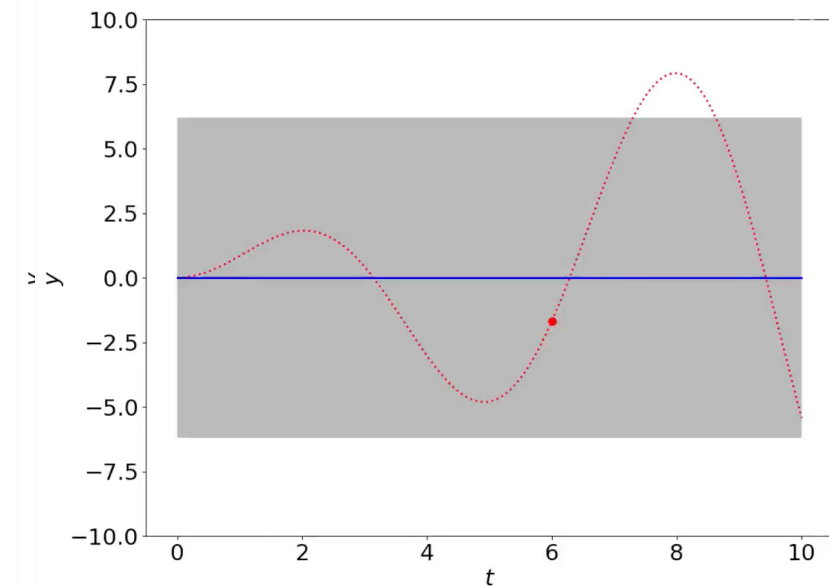
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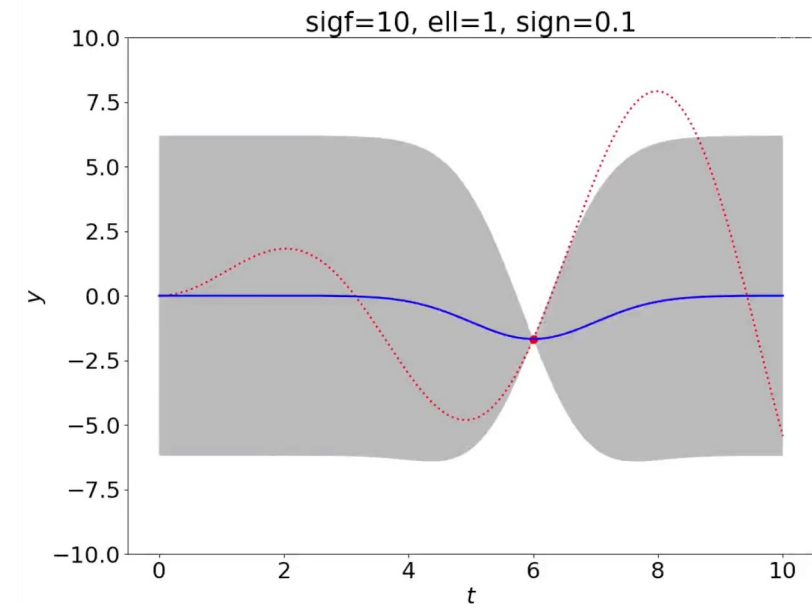
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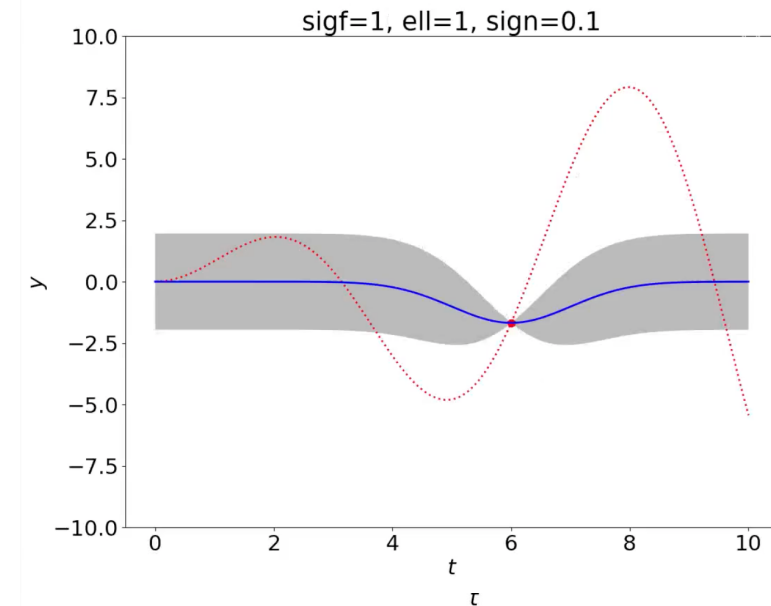
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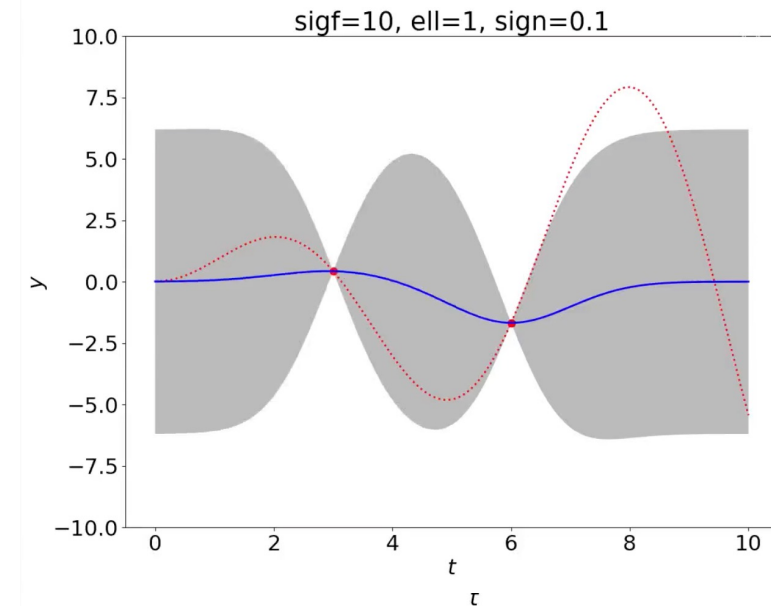
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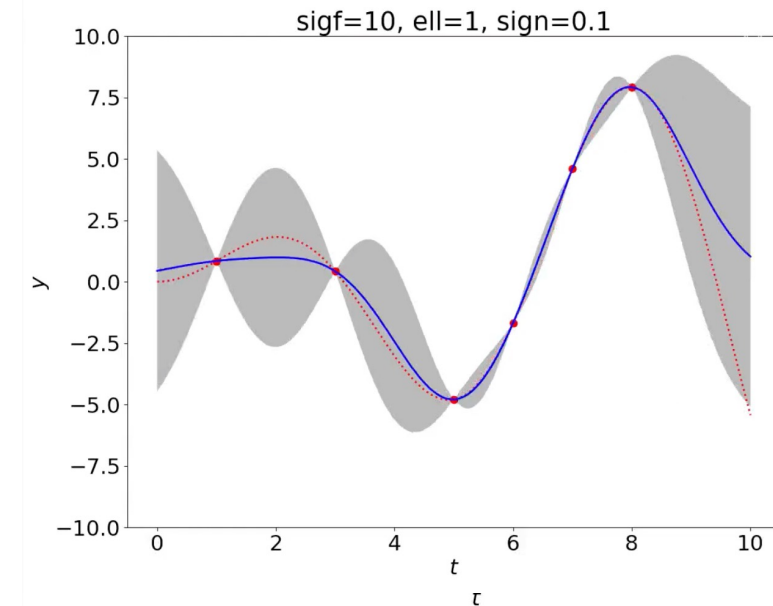
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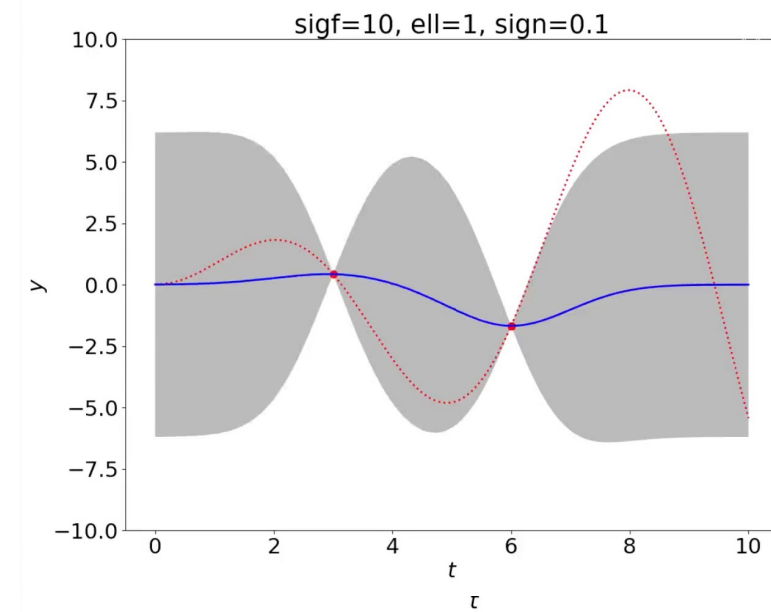
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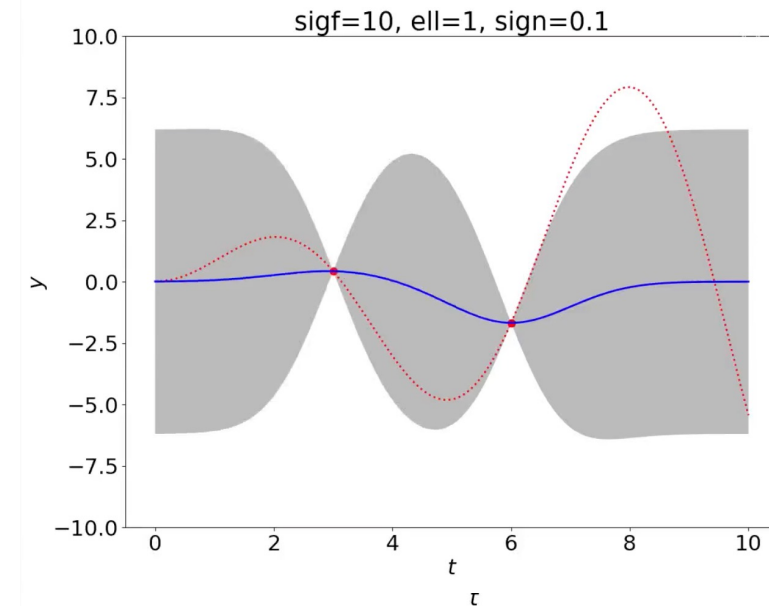
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- $\Sigma_{y^*|y} = \Sigma_{y^*y^*} - \Sigma_{y^*y} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} \Sigma_{y^*y}^T$



Remember the conditioning:

$$p(f|y) = \mathcal{N}(\mu_{f|y}, \Sigma_{f|y})$$

where:

- $\mu_{f|y} = \mu_f + \Sigma_{fy} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} (y - \mu_y)$
- $\Sigma_{f|y} = \Sigma_{ff} - \Sigma_{fy} \Sigma_{yy}^{-1} \Sigma_{fy}^T$

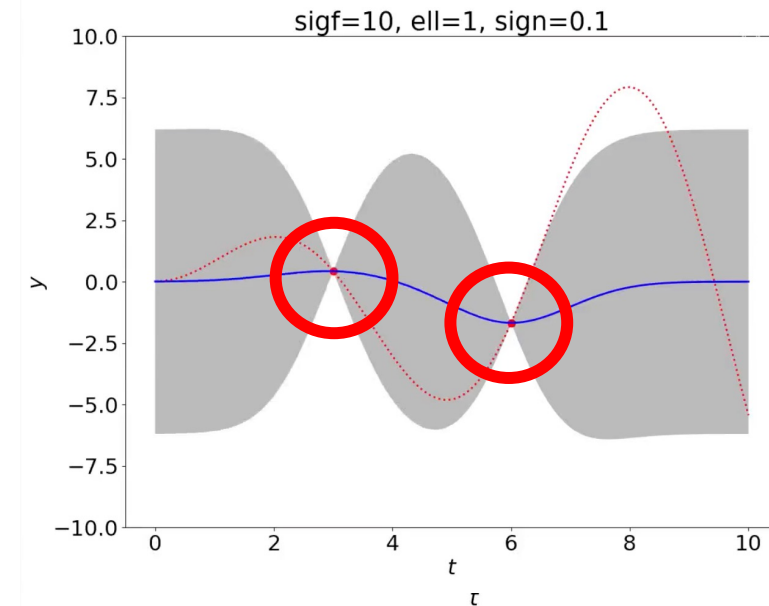
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Test the prediction on  $y = \begin{bmatrix} t = 3 \\ t = 6 \end{bmatrix}$



Remember the conditioning:

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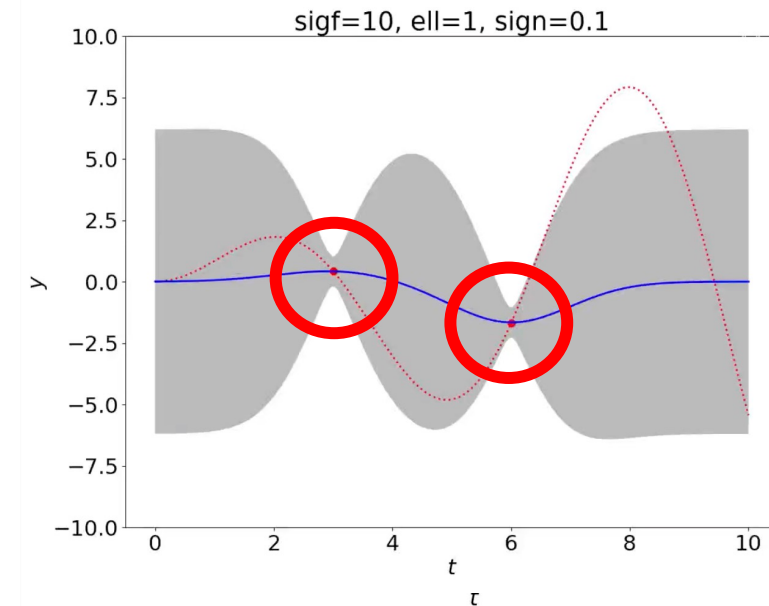
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Test the prediction on  $y = \begin{bmatrix} t = 3 \\ t = 6 \end{bmatrix}$









# Lecture title

## Recap



- 
- Prior on functions
    - Recap of Gaussian distributions
    - Prior on parameters (indirect prior on functions)
  - Gaussian processes
    - Multivariate Gaussian vs. GP
    - Definition
    - Example
  - Gaussian process regression
    - Conditioning and inference
    - Prediction
    - Example
-

