
Spatial Gaussian Process Regression for Bayesian Optical Flow Estimation (Appendices)

Andy Wang & Luca Orquiza
awang1@jh.edu lorquiza1@jh.edu

Appendix A

Here we prove $\tilde{\mathbf{F}}|\mathbf{F} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{F}, \Sigma_{\tilde{\mathbf{F}}})$ and $\mathbf{F} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{K})$ implies $\tilde{\mathbf{F}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{K})$. For simplicity of derivations, we assume $\Sigma_{\tilde{\mathbf{F}}} = \sigma_{\eta}^2 \mathbf{I}$:

$$\begin{aligned} p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) &= \int p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}|\mathbf{F}) p(\mathbf{F}) d\mathbf{F} \\ &\propto \int \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \mathbf{F})^T \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{I} (\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \mathbf{F})\right) \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{F} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} (\mathbf{F} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right) d\mathbf{F} \\ &= \int \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[\frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{F} - \frac{2}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{F} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + \mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{F} - 2\boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{F} + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right]\right) d\mathbf{F} \end{aligned}$$

We are integrating over \mathbf{F} and briefly group all terms not involving \mathbf{F} into a constant:

$$p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \propto \int \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{F}^T \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}^{-1} \right) \mathbf{F} - 2 \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \right) \mathbf{F} + \text{const.} \right]\right) d\mathbf{F}$$

Let $\mathbf{A} := \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{I} + \mathbf{K}^{-1}$, $\mathbf{b}^T := \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1}$. We complete the square:

$$\mathbf{F}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{F} - 2\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{F} = (\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b})^T \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b}) - \mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$$

This yields:

$$p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \propto \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b})^T \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{F} - \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b})\right) \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right]\right) d\mathbf{F}$$

The first term integrates to the inverse of the Gaussian normalizing factor. Meanwhile, the second term does not depend on \mathbf{F} . Reincorporating the initial normalizing factor, we obtain:

$$p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi\sigma_{\eta})^{2N} \sqrt{\det(\mathbf{K})}} \sqrt{(2\pi)^{2N} \det(\mathbf{A}^{-1})} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right]\right)$$

We use the intermediate result:

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{I} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} \left(\mathbf{I} + \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{K} \right) = \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \mathbf{K}^{-1} (\mathbf{K} + \sigma_{\eta}^2 \mathbf{I})$$

to compute $\det(\mathbf{A}^{-1})$:

$$\det(\mathbf{A})^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \right)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \det(\mathbf{K}^{-1})^{-\frac{1}{2}} \det(\mathbf{K} + \sigma_{\eta}^2 \mathbf{I})^{-\frac{1}{2}} = \sigma_{\eta}^n \det(\mathbf{K})^{\frac{1}{2}} \det(\mathbf{K} + \sigma_{\eta}^2 \mathbf{I})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Substituting this into the above expression yields:

$$p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \det(\mathbf{K} + \sigma_{\eta}^2 \mathbf{I})}} \exp\left(\frac{1}{2} \left[\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b} - \frac{1}{\sigma_{\eta}^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right]\right)$$

We express $\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b}$ in terms of $\tilde{\mathbf{F}}, \boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{K}$. Let $\mathbf{K}_\sigma := \mathbf{K} + \sigma_\eta^2 \mathbf{I}$:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{b} &= \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^T \left(\mathbf{I} + \frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^2} \mathbf{K} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{K} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \\
&= \sigma_\eta^2 \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \mathbf{K} \left(\frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \\
&= \sigma_\eta^2 \left[\frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^4} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \mathbf{K} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + \frac{2}{\sigma_\eta^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} \right] \\
&= \frac{1}{\sigma_\eta^2} \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + 2 \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \sigma_\eta^2 \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}
\end{aligned}$$

Using this, the previous expression becomes:

$$\begin{aligned}
p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) &\propto \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \left[-\tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + 2 \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T (\sigma_\eta^2 \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{K}^{-1}) \boldsymbol{\mu} \right] \right) \\
&= \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \left[-\tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + 2 \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} + \text{const.} \right] \right)
\end{aligned}$$

We again complete the square:

$$-\tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{F}} + 2 \tilde{\mathbf{F}}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu} = - \left(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \left(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) + \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}$$

This yields:

$$p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^T \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} \left(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \right) \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\mu}^T \left[\mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} + \sigma_\eta^2 \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{K}^{-1} \right] \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)$$

The middle term in the second exponent is:

$$\mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} + \sigma_\eta^2 \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{K}^{-1} = (\mathbf{I} + \sigma_\eta^2 \mathbf{K}^{-1}) \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{K}^{-1} = \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_\sigma \mathbf{K}_\sigma^{-1} - \mathbf{K}^{-1} = \mathbf{O}$$

Thus we achieve the final expression for the density:

$$p(\tilde{\mathbf{F}}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi \det(\mathbf{K} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\tilde{\mathbf{f}}})}} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \left(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right)^T \left(\mathbf{K} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\tilde{\mathbf{f}}} \right)^{-1} \left(\tilde{\mathbf{F}} - \boldsymbol{\mu} \right) \right)$$

and subsequently the target distribution:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{F}} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \mathbf{K} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\tilde{\mathbf{f}}})$$

Appendix B

Here we prove that if $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2$ are multivariate normal, i.e.:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{X}_1 \\ \mathbf{X}_2 \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left(\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{11} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{12} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{21} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

then the conditional distribution of $\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2$ is:

$$\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_1 + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{12}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22}^{-1}(\mathbf{X}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2), \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{11} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{12}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{22}^{-1}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{21})$$

Conditioning on \mathbf{X}_2 means \mathbf{X}_2 is fixed. Thus:

$$p_{\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_1|\mathbf{x}_2) = \frac{p_{\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)}{p_{\mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_2)} \propto p_{\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2}(\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2)$$

Let $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1}$. This density is proportional to:

$$\exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} & \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12} \\ \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{21} & \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 \\ \mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

Notice that $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{ij}$ equals $(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1})_{ij}$ and not $(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ij})^{-1}$. Let Q be the exponent. We expand:

$$Q \propto (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1)^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1) + 2(\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_1)^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2) + (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{22} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)$$

We expand further and ignore all constant terms (those not involving \mathbf{x}_1):

$$Q = \mathbf{x}_1^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \mathbf{x}_1 - 2\mathbf{x}_1^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 + 2\mathbf{x}_1^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2) + \text{const.}$$

We complete the square by finding $\boldsymbol{\mu}_*, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*$:

$$(\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_*)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_*) = \mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} \mathbf{x}_1 - 2\mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_* = Q$$

The quadratic terms must equate:

$$\mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} \mathbf{x}_1 = \mathbf{x}_1^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \mathbf{x}_1 \implies \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \implies \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_* = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11}^{-1}$$

The linear terms must also equate:

$$-2\mathbf{x}_1^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} \boldsymbol{\mu}_* = -2\mathbf{x}_1^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 + 2\mathbf{x}_1^T \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)$$

Substituting $\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11}$ and simplifying yields:

$$\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \boldsymbol{\mu}_* = \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2) \implies \boldsymbol{\mu}_* = \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 - \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11}^{-1} \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12} (\mathbf{x}_2 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_2)$$

Thus, we have:

$$p_{\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2} \propto \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_*)^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_1 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_*) \right) \implies \mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2 \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_*, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_*)$$

We have absorbed all constants into the final density's normalizing factor.

All that remains is to determine $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{11}, \tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}_{12}$. Zhang (2005) gives:

$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A} & \mathbf{B} \\ \mathbf{C} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{D} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix}$$

where Schur complement $\mathbf{S} := \mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}$. We invert:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{M}^{-1} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & -\mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}^{-1} & \mathbf{O} \\ \mathbf{O} & \mathbf{D}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{I} & \mathbf{O} \\ -\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C} & \mathbf{I} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S}^{-1} & -\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1} \\ -\mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{S}^{-1} & \mathbf{D}^{-1} + \mathbf{D}^{-1}\mathbf{C}\mathbf{S}^{-1}\mathbf{B}\mathbf{D}^{-1} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

For $M = \Sigma$, Schur complement $\Sigma_S := \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}$, and:

$$\tilde{\Sigma}_{11} = (\Sigma^{-1})_{11} = \Sigma_S^{-1} \quad \tilde{\Sigma}_{12} = (\Sigma^{-1})_{12} = -\Sigma_S^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}$$

From these we derive the intermediate result:

$$\tilde{\Sigma}_{11}^{-1}\tilde{\Sigma}_{12} = \Sigma_S (-\Sigma_S^{-1}\Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}) = \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}$$

These results yield expressions for μ_* , Σ_* in terms of μ , Σ :

$$\mu_* = \mu_1 - \tilde{\Sigma}_{11}^{-1}\tilde{\Sigma}_{12}(x_2 - \mu_2) = \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2)$$

$$\Sigma_* = \tilde{\Sigma}_{11}^{-1} = \Sigma_S = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}$$

We have fully derived conditional distribution $X_1|X_2$. Substituting the appropriate mean and covariance parameters from the formulation of Gaussian process regression into this general expression yields the posterior distribution:

$$F|\tilde{F} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu + K(K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}})^{-1}(\tilde{F} - \mu), K - K(K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}})^{-1}K\right)$$

Appendix C

Here we show how to maximize the marginal likelihood of $\tilde{F} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}})$:

$$p(\tilde{F}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^{2N} \det(K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}})}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\tilde{F} - \mu)^T (K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}})^{-1}(\tilde{F} - \mu)\right)$$

Maximizing the likelihood is equivalent to minimizing the negative log-likelihood:

$$-\log p(\tilde{F}) = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{F} - \mu)^T (K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}})^{-1}(\tilde{F} - \mu) + \frac{1}{2} \log \det(K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}}) + N \log 2\pi$$

Let $\mathcal{L} = -\log p(\tilde{F})$, $y = \tilde{F} - \mu$, $K_y = K + \Sigma_{\tilde{f}}$, and φ be a parameter of m :

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \varphi} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\frac{\partial y^T}{\partial \varphi} \right) K_y^{-1} y + y^T K_y \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \varphi} \right) \right] = \frac{1}{2} \left(2y^T K_y \left(\frac{\partial y}{\partial \varphi} \right) \right) = -y^T K_y \left(\frac{\partial \mu}{\partial \varphi} \right)$$

Let θ be a parameter of k . Jacobi's formula (Magnus & Neudecker, 1999) gives:

$$\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \theta} = y^T \left(\frac{\partial K_y^{-1}}{\partial \theta} \right) y + \frac{\partial |K_y|}{\partial \theta} = -\frac{1}{2} y^T K^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial K_y}{\partial \theta} \right) K^{-1} y + \frac{1}{2} \text{tr} \left(K_y^{-1} \left(\frac{\partial K_y}{\partial \theta} \right) \right)$$

Partials $\frac{\partial m}{\partial \varphi}$ and $\frac{\partial K_y}{\partial \theta}$ depend on the specific kernels. Our choices were:

$$m(\cdot) = c \quad k(\cdot, \cdot) = \sigma^2 \exp(-z) \Sigma \quad z = \frac{\|\cdot - \cdot'\|^2}{2\lambda^2} \quad \Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{uu} & \sigma_{uv} \\ \sigma_{vu} & \sigma_{vv} \end{bmatrix}$$

We set $\Sigma = I$, but let's consider $\frac{\partial K}{\partial \sigma_{uu}}$ (the others are analogous). We have:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial m}{\partial c} &= 1 & \frac{\partial k}{\partial \lambda} &= \sigma^2 \exp(-z) \Sigma \left(\frac{\|\cdot - \cdot'\|^2}{\lambda^3} \right) = \frac{k \|\cdot - \cdot'\|^2}{\lambda^3} \\ \frac{\partial k}{\partial \sigma} &= 2\sigma \exp(-z) \Sigma = \frac{2k}{\sigma} & \frac{\partial k}{\partial \sigma_{uu}} &= \sigma^2 \exp(-z) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

These extend naturally to the partials below:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \mu}{\partial c} &= 1 & \frac{\partial K}{\partial \lambda} &= K \odot \frac{\|\cdot - \cdot'\|^2}{\lambda^3} & \frac{\partial K}{\partial \sigma} &= \frac{2K}{\sigma} \\ \frac{\partial K}{\partial \sigma_{uu}} &= \sigma^2 \exp(-z) \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{1}_{n \times n} & \mathbf{O}_{n \times n} \\ \mathbf{O}_{n \times n} & \mathbf{O}_{n \times n} \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

These derivatives compose the gradient vector at each descent step.