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

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Appendix A

Here we prove $\tilde{\mathbf{F}}|\mathbf{F} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{F}, \Sigma_{\tilde{\mathbf{f}}}\right)$ 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 $\det(\mathbf{A}^{-1})$:

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

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:

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

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:

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

and subsequently the target distribution:

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

Appendix B

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The quadratic terms must equate:

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

The linear terms must also equate:

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

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

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

Thus, we have:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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:

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

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

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_* &= \mu_1 - \tilde{\Sigma}_{11}^{-1}\tilde{\Sigma}_{12}(x_2 - \mu_2) = \mu_1 + \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}(x_2 - \mu_2) \\ \Sigma_* &= \tilde{\Sigma}_{11}^{-1} = \Sigma_S = \Sigma_{11} - \Sigma_{12}\Sigma_{22}^{-1}\Sigma_{21}\end{aligned}$$

We have fully derived conditional distribution $\mathbf{X}_1|\mathbf{X}_2$. Substituting the appropriate mean and covariance parameters from the formulation of Gaussian process regression into this general expression yields the posterior distribution:

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

Appendix C

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

These extend naturally to the partials below:

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

These derivatives compose the gradient vector at each descent step.