

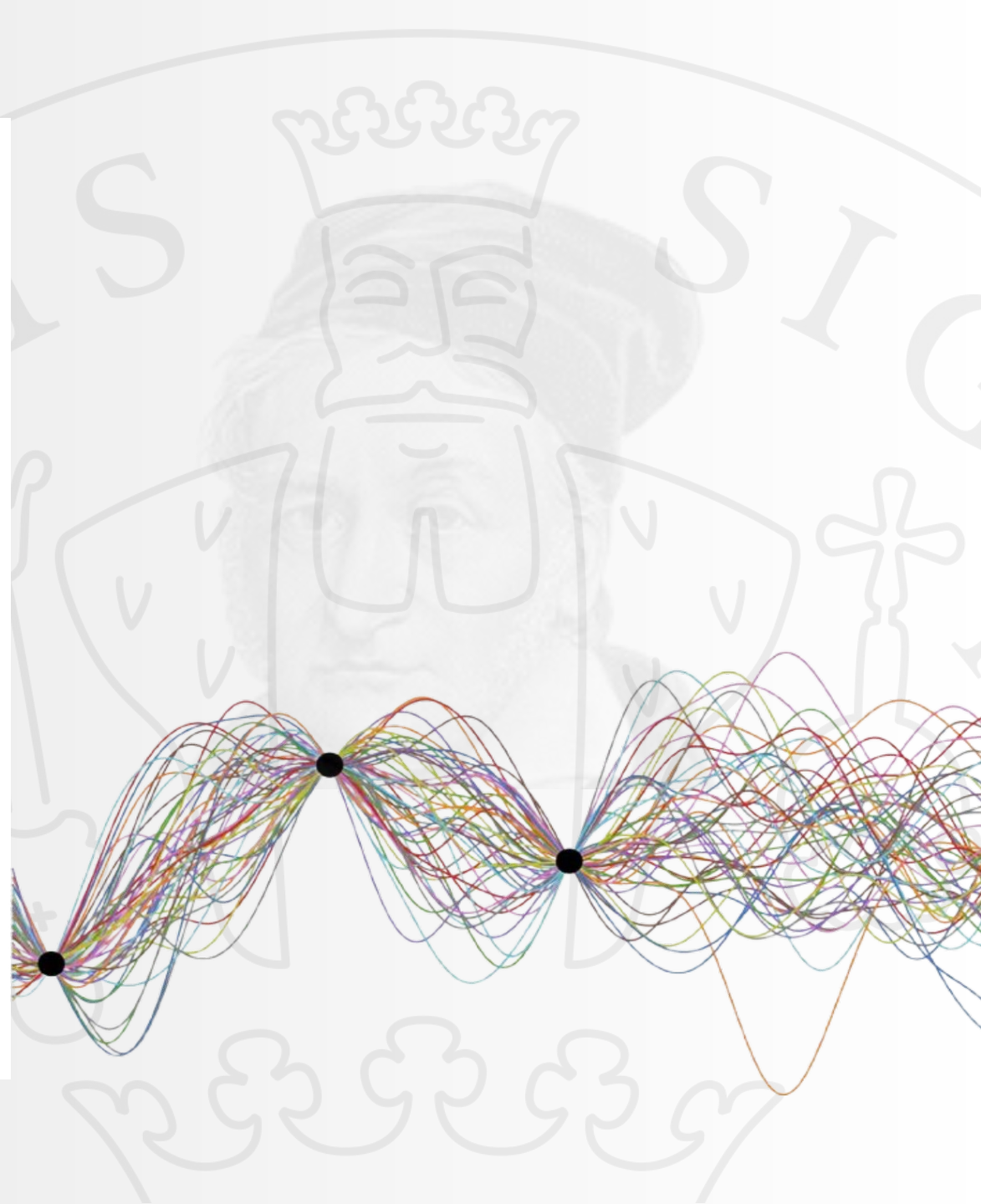
# AutoIP: A United Framework to Integrate Physics into Gaussian Processes

Da Long, Zheng Wang, Aditi Krishnapriyan, Robert Kirby, Shandian Zhe, Michael Mahoney (2022)

Advanced Methods in Applied Statistics  
March 6, 2025

Alexandra Haslund-Gourley and Søren Jepsen

UNIVERSITY OF COPENHAGEN



# Modeling Physical Systems

## Our goals are to:

- Minimizing misfit
- Require few training data points
- Ensuring our model is physically realistic
- Quantifying uncertainty

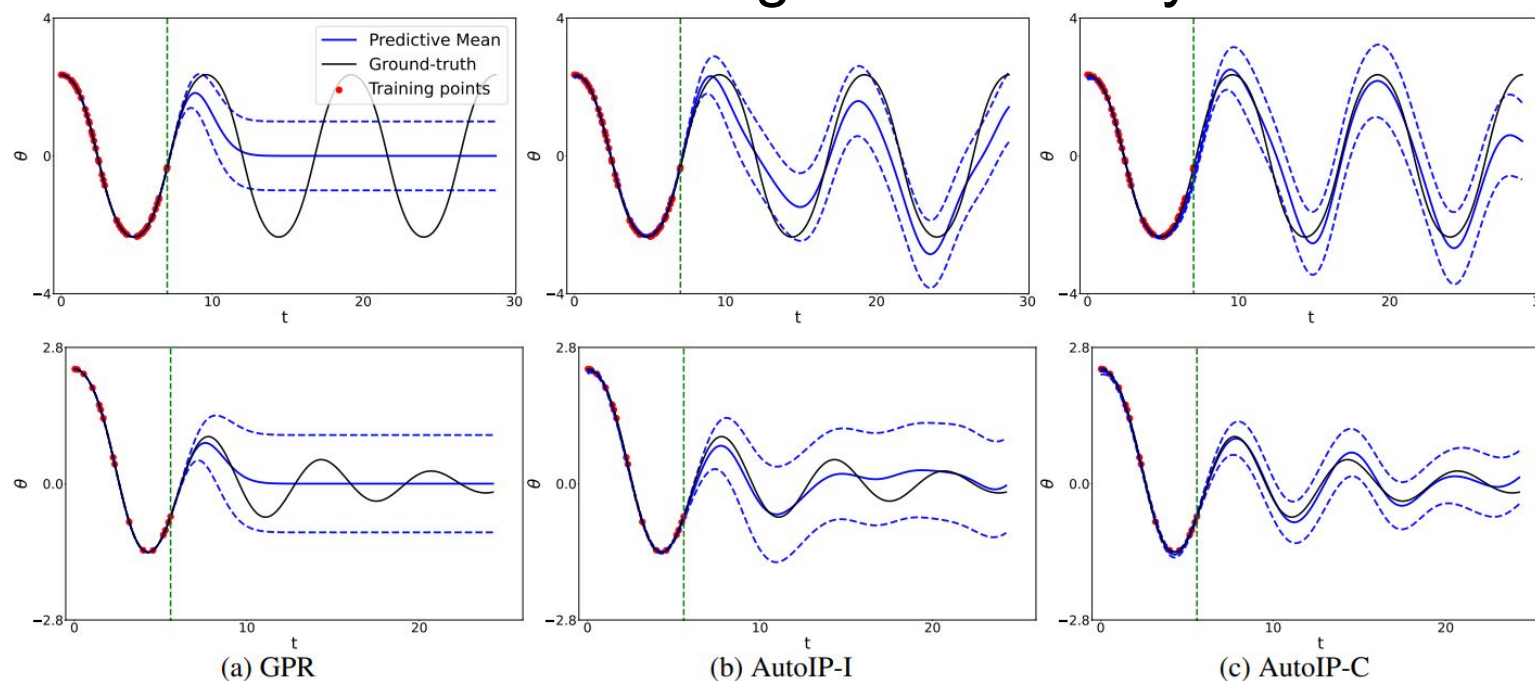
## Common methods:

- Analytical Expressions
- Physics Informed Neural Networks (PINNs)

# Automatically Incorporating Physics (AutoIP)

- AutoIP leverages Gaussian Processes (GPs) to predict functions that both:
  - Fits training data
  - Conforms to physically motivated partial differential equations (PDE)

## AutoIP- Predicting Pendulum Dynamics



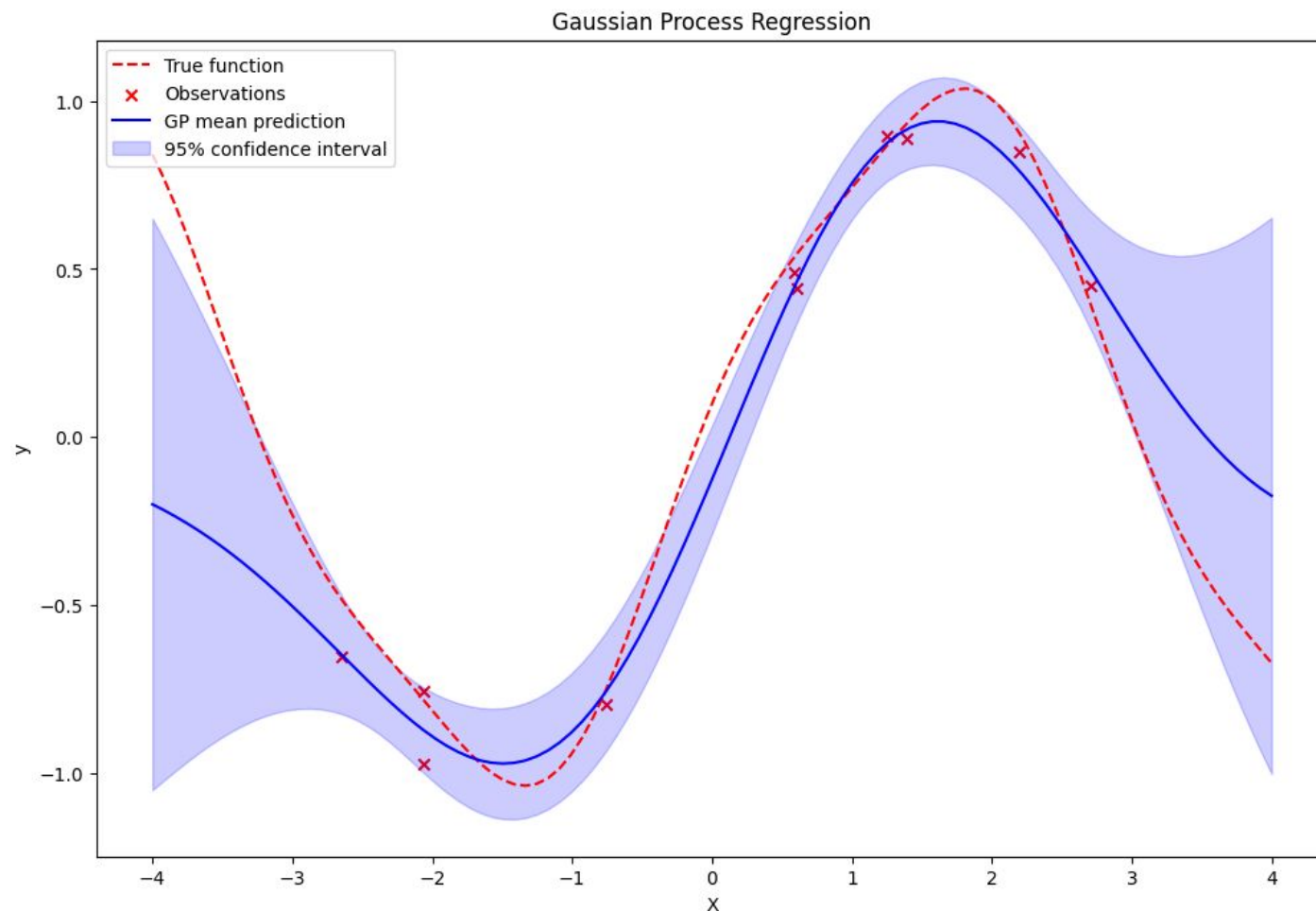
# Gaussian Processes

A method that allows you to find a family of curves that fit a set of points.

Parameterized by:

- Mean Function  $\mu(x)$ 
  - Often set to 0
- Covariance Function
  - Kernel Function  $k(x, x')$
  - Radial Basis Function is a

$$K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$



# Gaussian Processes – Understanding the Covariance Function

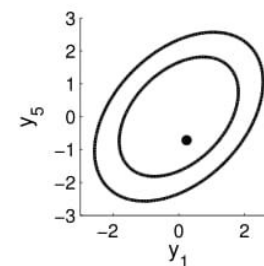
- **Key idea:** Describe  $f(x)$  values over  $x$  with covariance matrices
  - Each column of covariance matrix is a separate  $x$  value.
- To illustrate this idea, we show sampling in five dimensional joint Gaussian distribution in the GIF below.

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|}}$$

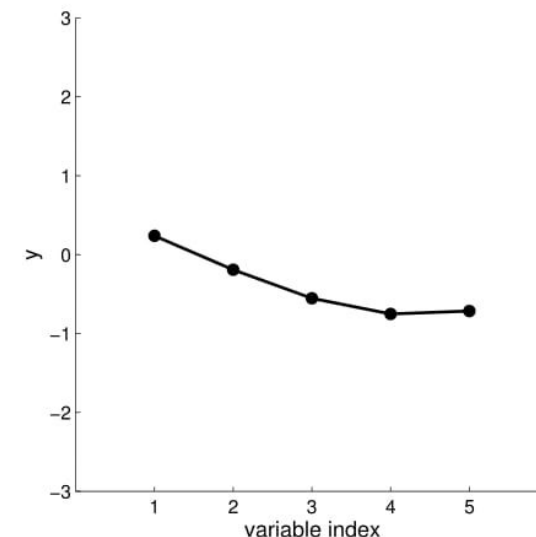
# Gaussian Processes – Understanding the Covariance Function

- **Key idea:** Describe  $f(x)$  values over  $x$  with covariance matrices
  - Each column of covariance matrix is a separate  $x$  value.
- To illustrate this idea, we show sampling in five dimensional joint Gaussian distribution in the GIF below.

$$f_{\mathbf{X}}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \frac{\exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})^T \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^{-1} (\mathbf{x} - \boldsymbol{\mu})\right)}{\sqrt{(2\pi)^k |\boldsymbol{\Sigma}|}}$$



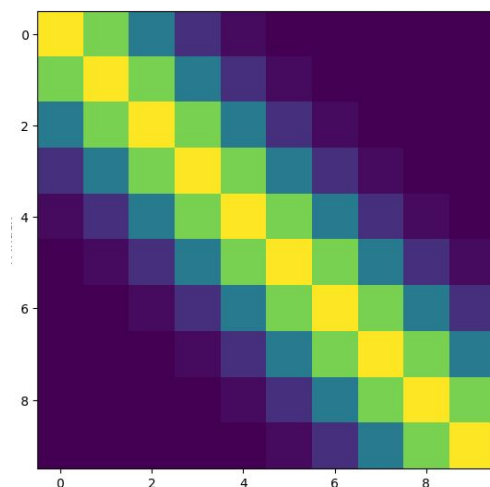
$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & .9 & .8 & .6 & .4 \\ .9 & 1 & .9 & .8 & .6 \\ .8 & .9 & 1 & .9 & .8 \\ .6 & .8 & .9 & 1 & .9 \\ .4 & .6 & .8 & .9 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



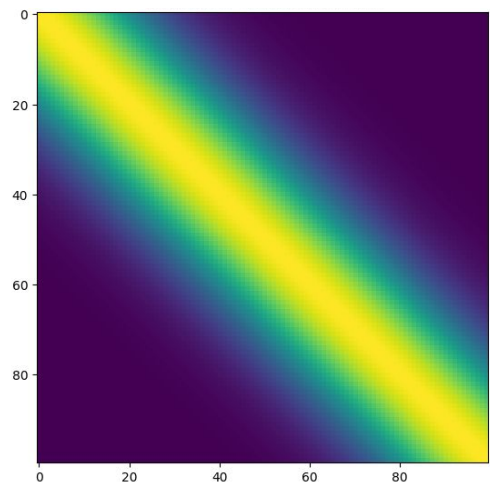


# Gaussian Processes – Understanding the Covariance Function

Covariance matrices

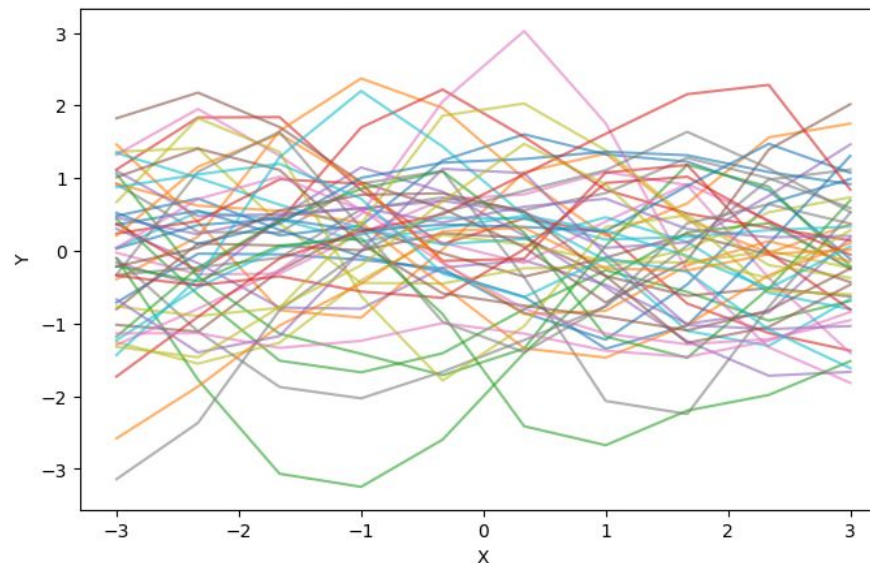


10 Indices



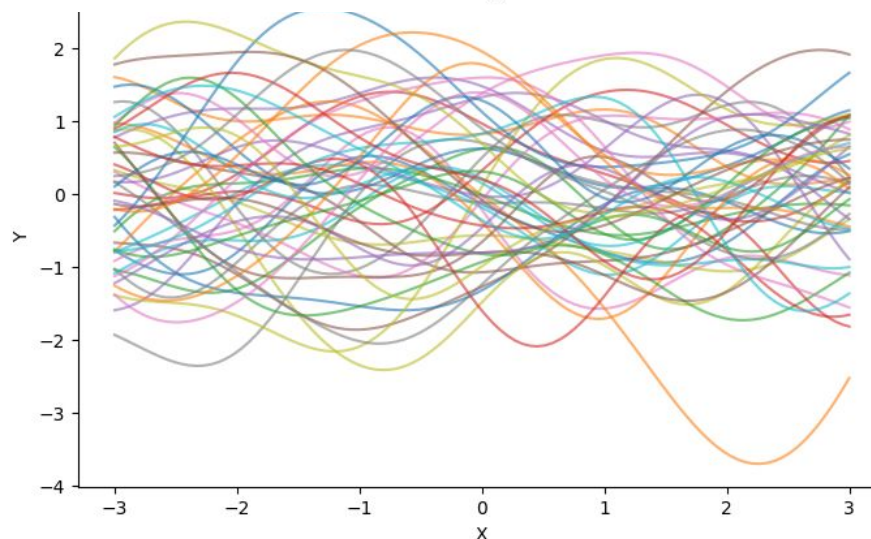
100 Indices

Sampled Functions



**Low N  
prior samples**

**Rugged functions**



**High N  
prior samples**

**Smooth functions**

# Gaussian Processes Regression

What if we wish to infer function values on unseen points  $X^*$ ?

➡ We create a joint distribution function  $p(f, f^* | X^*, X)$  and then marginalize over  $p(f)$

## Joint gaussian distribution

- Adding unknown observations

$$\mathbf{K} = K(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}), \quad \mathbf{K}_* = K(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}_*) \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{K}_{**} = K(\mathbf{X}_*, \mathbf{X}_*)$$

## Apply Bayes' Rule

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{f}_* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} m(\mathbf{X}) \\ m(\mathbf{X}_*) \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K} & \mathbf{K}_* \\ \mathbf{K}_*^\top & \mathbf{K}_{**} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

$$p(f^* | f) = \frac{p(f^*, f)}{p(f)}$$

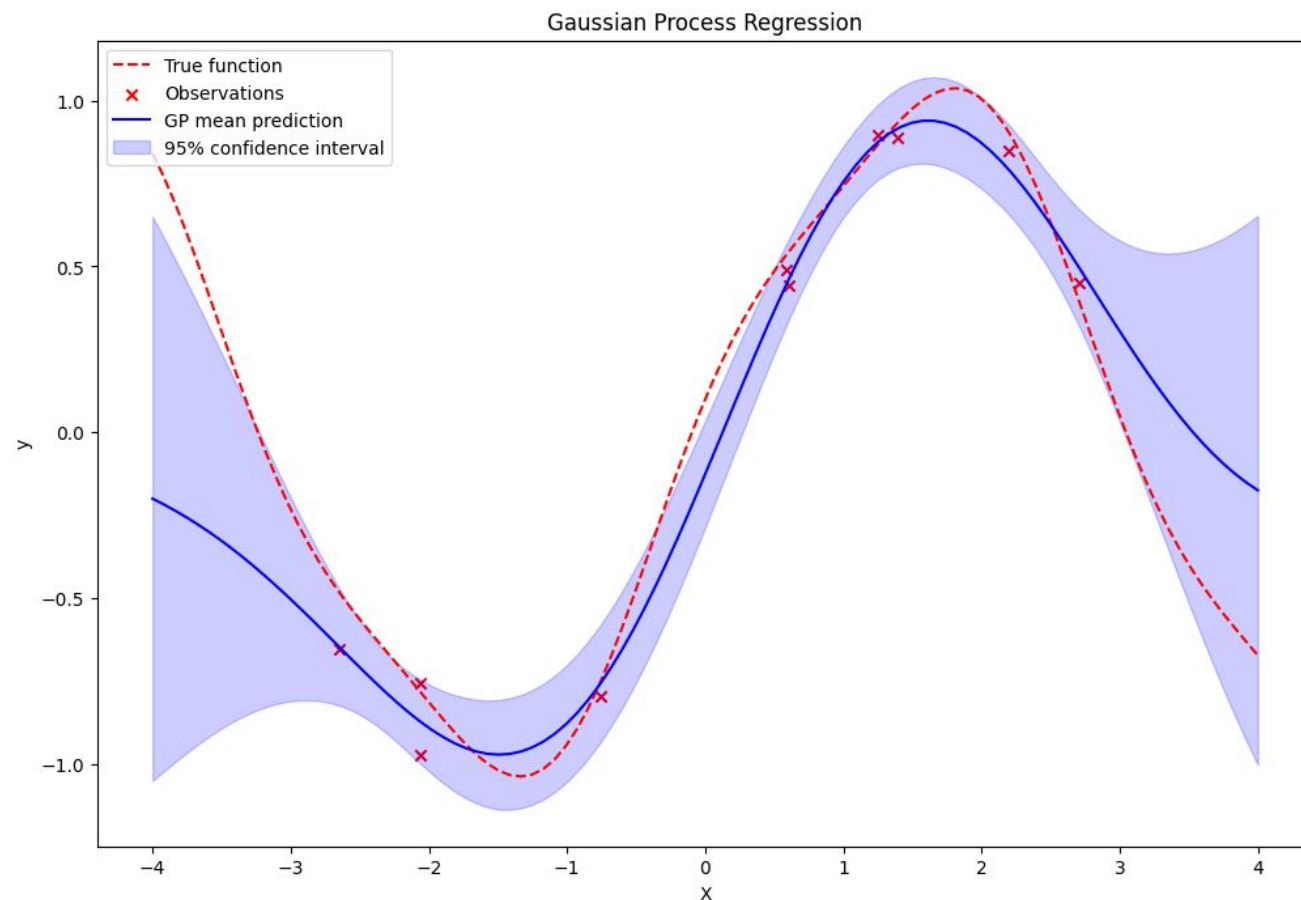
## Solve for Posterior

$$\mathbf{f}_* \mid \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}_* \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{K}_*^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{K}_{**} - \mathbf{K}_*^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_*)$$



# Gaussian Processes Regression

$$\mathbf{f}_* \mid \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{X}_* \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \overset{\text{Mean}}{\mathbf{K}_*^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{f}}, \overset{\text{Variance}}{\mathbf{K}_{**} - \mathbf{K}_*^T \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_*} \right)$$



# AutoIP

- Restricting Gaussian Process to a PDE

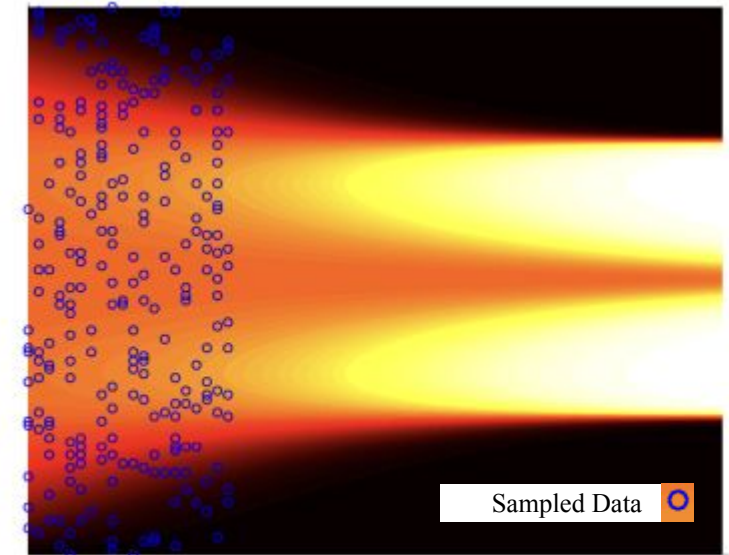
## Example: Reaction-Diffusion System

Data Points Collected  $(\mathbf{z}_1, y_1) \longrightarrow \mathbf{z}_n = (x_n, t_n)$

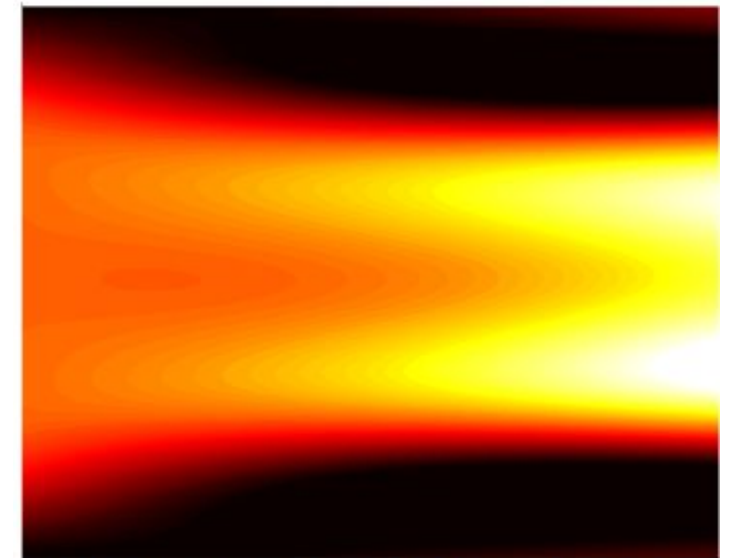
Collocation points selected  $\hat{\mathcal{Z}} = \{\hat{\mathbf{z}}_1, \dots, \hat{\mathbf{z}}_M\}$

### Incomplete Allen-Cahn Equation

$$\partial_t u - \nu \cdot \partial_x^2 u + \gamma \cdot u(u^2 - 1) + g(x, t) = 0$$



(a) Ground-truth



(d) AutoIP-C: RMSE = 0.1865

# AutoIP

How do we incorporate derivatives into GP's?

Construct GP prior over  $u$  and  $g$

$$u \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, \kappa_u(\cdot, \cdot)) \quad g \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, \kappa_g(\cdot, \cdot))$$

Getting derivatives from kernel differentiation

$$\text{cov}(\hat{A}u(z_1), \hat{B}u(z_2)) = \hat{A}\hat{B}\kappa(z_1, z_2)$$

Constructing Gaussian Prior with derivatives

Examples of Kernel Derived Derivatives

$$\begin{aligned} \text{cov}(u(\mathbf{z}_1), u(\mathbf{z}_2)) &= \kappa_u(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2), \\ \text{cov}(\partial_t u(\mathbf{z}_1), \partial_t u(\mathbf{z}_2)) &= \frac{\partial^2 \kappa_u(\mathbf{z}_1, \mathbf{z}_2)}{\partial t_1 \partial t_2}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{f} = [\mathbf{u}; \hat{\mathbf{u}}; \hat{\mathbf{u}}_t; \hat{\mathbf{u}}_{xx}; \mathbf{g}] \quad \longrightarrow \quad p(\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f} | \mathbf{0}, \Sigma)$$

## AutoIP - Construct Joint Prior

Next, we feed the joint prior to two likelihoods:

- I. To fit the actual observations from a Gaussian noise model

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \beta^{-1}\mathbf{I})$$

- II. A virtual Gaussian likelihood that integrates the physics into the differential equation

$$p(\mathbf{0}|\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}|\hat{\mathbf{u}}_t - \nu\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{xx} + \gamma\hat{\mathbf{u}} \circ (\hat{\mathbf{u}} \circ \hat{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{1}) + \mathbf{g}, v\mathbf{I})$$

# AutoIP

Next, construct the Joint Probability for the model:

$$p(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{0}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{\Sigma})\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{u}, \beta^{-1}\mathbf{I}) \cdot \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}|\hat{\mathbf{u}}_t - \nu\hat{\mathbf{u}}_{xx} + \gamma\hat{\mathbf{u}} \circ (\hat{\mathbf{u}} \circ \hat{\mathbf{u}} - \mathbf{1}) + \mathbf{g}, v\mathbf{I})$$

This joint probability distribution is maximized using a stochastic variational learning algorithm.

# Experimenting with AutoIP - Reaction Diffusion Equations

**Complete Equation (AutoIP-C)**  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - 0.0001 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + 5u^3 - 5u = 0,$

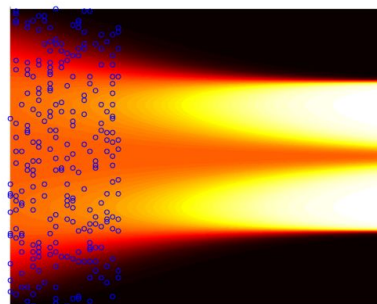
**Incomplete Equation (AutoIP-I)**  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - 0.0001 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + g(x, t) = 0,$

Comparing Modeling Methods

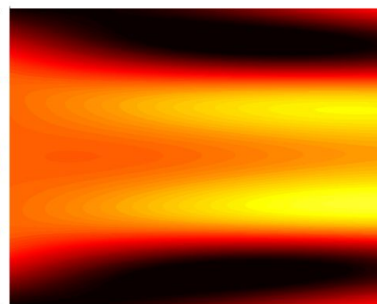
	GPR	AutoIP-I	AutoIP-C	PINN (100)	PINN (10K)
RMSE	0.2528	0.1869	0.1865	0.4388	<b>0.0169</b>
# Collocation Points	100	100	100	100	10,000



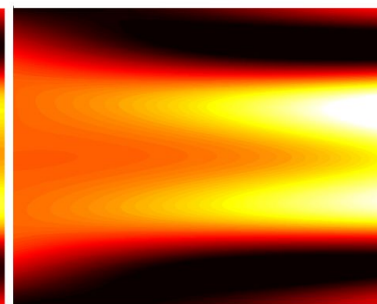
Reaction Diffusion Predictions



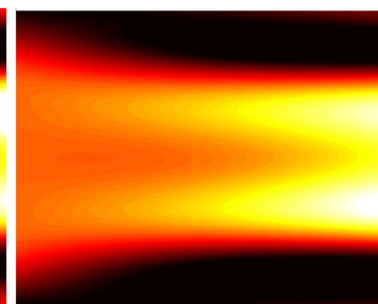
(a) Ground-truth



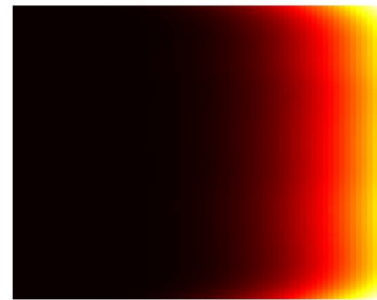
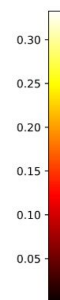
(b) GPR: RMSE = 0.2528



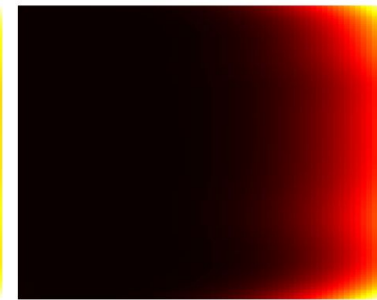
(c) AutoIP-I: RMSE = 0.1869



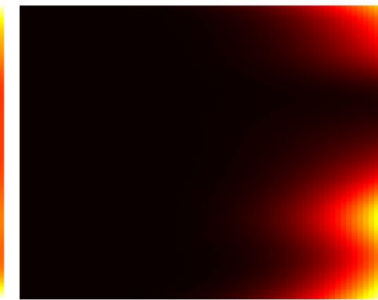
(d) AutoIP-C: RMSE = 0.1865



(e) GPR predictive variance



(f) AutoIP-I predictive variance



(g) AutoIP-C predictive variance



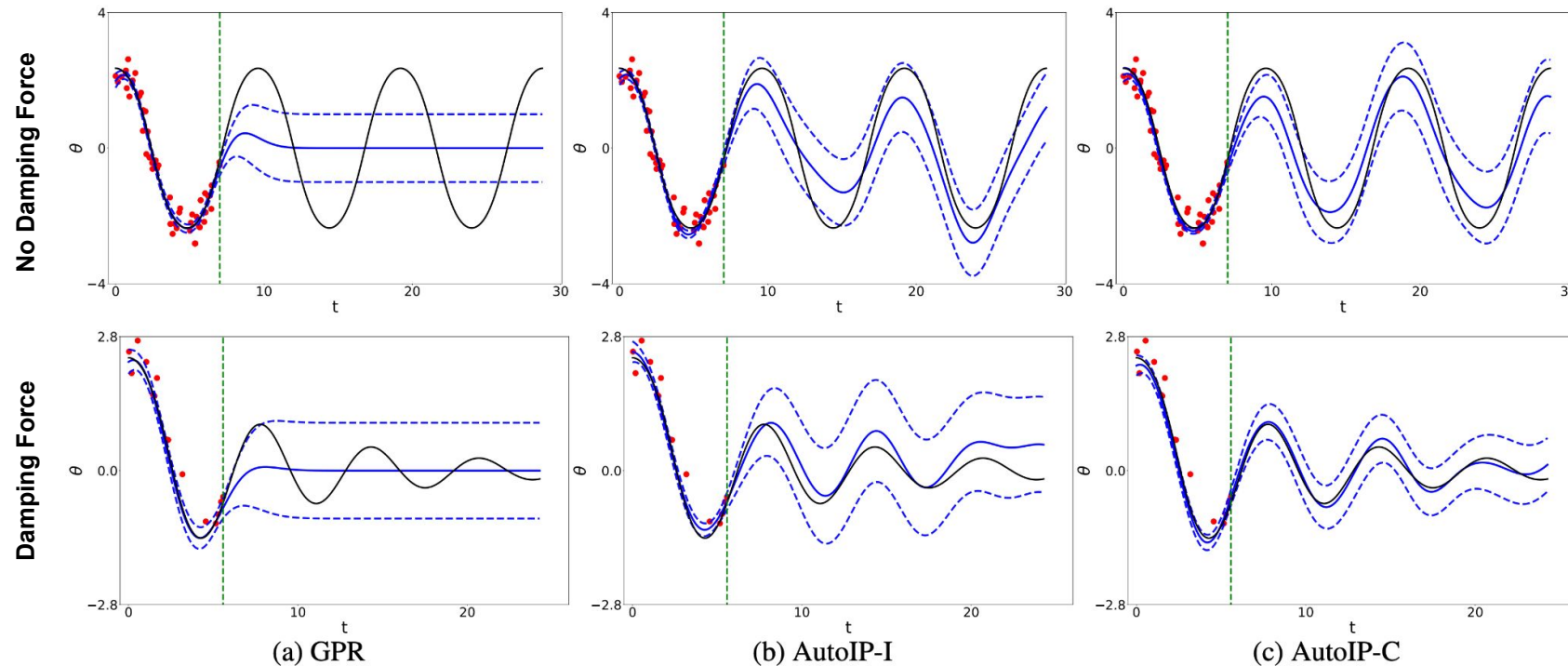
# Experimenting with AutoIP - Nonlinear Pendulum

Method (CL Points)	No damping/Exact training	No damping/Noisy training	Damping/Exact training	Damping/Noisy training
PINN-50 (10k)	$1.367 \pm 0.575$	$1.658 \pm 0.074$	<b><math>0.00007 \pm 0.00001</math></b>	$0.157 \pm 0.051$
PINN-100 (10k)	$1.862 \pm 0.584$	$1.993 \pm 0.357$	<b><math>0.00007 \pm 0.00002</math></b>	$0.186 \pm 0.045$
AutoIP-I (20)	$0.585 \pm 0.017$	$0.691 \pm 0.030$	$0.212 \pm 0.014$	$0.268 \pm 0.013$
AutoIP-C (20)	<b><math>0.416 \pm 0.050</math></b>	<b><math>0.488 \pm 0.036</math></b>	$0.096 \pm 0.004$	<b><math>0.133 \pm 0.010</math></b>

$$\text{AutoIP-C} \quad \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + \sin(\theta) + b \frac{d\theta}{dt} = 0,$$

$$\text{AutoIP-I} \quad \frac{d^2\theta}{dt^2} + g(t) = 0.$$

## Nonlinear Pendulum Predictions



No damping	RMSE
GPR	$1.354 \pm 0.005$
AutoIP-I	$0.585 \pm 0.017$
AutoIP-C	<b><math>0.416 \pm 0.050</math></b>
<i>With damping</i>	
GPR	$0.262 \pm 0.0003$
AutoIP-I	$0.212 \pm 0.014$
AutoIP-C	<b><math>0.096 \pm 0.0035</math></b>

## Remarks

- Adding physical constraints to GPs improves performance and ability to extrapolate outside of training regions
- Adding more collocation points improves performance
- This method scales with at least  $O(N^3)$  points, making it computationally expensive for large datasets.
- AutoIP outperformed PINNs on sparse and noisy data