

## Notes on GVI in FS for Image Data

### 1. Gaussian Processes for Classification

Notes taken from chapter 4 from Matthews (2017).

For Gaussian process regression (GPR), a class of models is defined:

$$f \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, K(\theta))$$

where  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , mapping to the set of real numbers  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $K$  is the covariance function  $K : X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  parameterised by  $\theta$ .

For binary Gaussian process classification (GPC), a mapping is defined:

$$g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

transforming a value on the real line to the unit interval to represent a probability. A bernoulli random variable  $\mathcal{B}$  can be defined such that:

$$f_c \sim \mathcal{B}(g(f))$$

where  $f_c : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ , the desired binary classifier.

For multiclass classification of  $J$  different classes, models are defined:

$$f^{(j)} \sim \mathcal{GP}(0, K(\theta^{(j)}))$$

where  $j = 1, \dots, J$ , defining  $J$  i.i.d. Gaussian processes. Concatenating  $\mathbf{f} = [f_1 \dots f_J]^T$ , the classification operation can be defined:

$$\mathbf{f}_c \sim \text{Cat}(\mathcal{S}(\mathbf{f}))$$

where  $\mathbf{f}_c : X \rightarrow \{0, \dots, J\}$ , the desired multiclass classifier.  $\mathcal{S} : \mathbb{R}^J \rightarrow \Delta(J)$ , a mapping from a  $J$  dimensional real vector to a  $J$  dimensional probability simplex.  $\text{Cat}$  is the categorical distribution (generalisation of Bernoulli distribution for Categorical Data).

There are different possible choices for  $\mathcal{S}$ . The multiclass generalisation of the logit likelihood:

$$\mathcal{S}_{softmax}(\mathbf{f})_i = \frac{\exp(f^{(i)})}{\sum_{j=1}^J \exp(f^{(j)})}$$

The robust max function:

$$\mathcal{S}_{robust}^{(\epsilon)}(\mathbf{f})_i = \begin{cases} 1 - \epsilon, & \text{if } i = \arg \max(\mathbf{f}) \\ \epsilon, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

taking class label of the maximum value with probability of  $1 - \epsilon$  and probability  $\epsilon$  of picking one of the other classes uniformly at random, where  $\epsilon$  is chosen. This formulation provides robustness to outliers, as it only considers the ranking of the GPR models for each class.

A benefit of the robust max function is that the variational expectation is analytically tractable with respect to the normal CDF ( $q(\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mu, C)$ ,  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathbb{R}^J$ ) and one dimensional quadrature ( $\mathcal{S}_{robust}^{(\epsilon)}(\mathbf{f})_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ):

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^J} q(\mathbf{f}) \log(\mathcal{S}_{robust}^{(\epsilon)}(\mathbf{f})_y) d\mathbf{f} = \log(1 - \epsilon)S + \log\left(\frac{\epsilon}{J-1}\right)(1 - S)$$

where  $S$  is the probability that the function value corresponding to observed class  $y$  is larger than the other function values at that point:

$$S = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{f}^{(y)} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}^{(y)} | \mu^{(y)}, C^{(y)})} \left[ \prod_{i \neq y} \phi\left(\frac{\mathbf{f}^{(y)} - \mu^{(i)}}{\sqrt{C^{(i)}}}\right) \right]$$

where  $\phi$  is the standard normal CDF. This one dimensional integral can be evaluated using Gauss-Hermite quadrature.

## 2. GWI for Multiclass Classification

Notes taken from A.6 from Wild et al. (2022).

### 2.1 Objective Function

The likelihood:

$$p(y|f_1, \dots, f_J) = \prod_{n=1}^N p(y_n|f_1, \dots, f_J)$$

where  $p(y_n|f_1, \dots, f_J) := h_{y_n}^\epsilon(f_1(x_n), \dots, f_J(x_n))$  and  $y_n \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ .  $h_{y_n}^\epsilon$  is the robust max function  $\mathcal{S}_{robust}^{(\epsilon)}$  as described in Matthews (2017). Wild et al. (2022) used  $\epsilon = 1\%$ .

The model consists of  $J$  independent Gaussian Random Elements such that:

$$f_j \sim P_j = \mathcal{N}(m_{\mathbb{P},j}, C_{\mathbb{P},j})$$

with the corresponding variational measures:

$$Q_j = \mathcal{N}(m_{\mathbb{Q},j}, C_{\mathbb{Q},j})$$

The objective to minimise:

$$\mathcal{L} = -\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}} [\log p(y_n|F_1, \dots, F_J)] + \sum_{j=1}^J W_2^2(P_j, Q_j)$$

The variational (posterior) approximation of the probability of  $\{(F_1(x), \dots, F_J(x)) \in A\}$  will be denoted:

$$\mathbb{Q}((F_1(x), \dots, F_J(x)) \in A)$$

where  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^J$ . We get the expected log-likelihood:

$$\mathbb{E}_{\mathbb{Q}} [\log p(y_n | F_1, \dots, F_J)] \approx \sum_{n=1}^N \log(1 - \epsilon) S(x_n, y_n) + \log \left( \frac{\epsilon}{J-1} \right) (1 - S(x_n, y_n))$$

where:

$$S(x, j) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \sum_{i=1}^I w_i \prod_{l \neq j} \phi \left( \frac{\sqrt{2r_j(x, x)} \xi_i + m_{Q,j}(x) - m_{Q,l}(x)}{\sqrt{r_l(x, x)}} \right)$$

for any  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, J$  where  $(w_i, \xi_i)_{i=1}^I$  are the weights and roots of the Hermite polynomial of order  $I \in \mathbb{N}$ , calculated with `scipy.special.roots_hermite`.  $\phi$  is the standard normal cumulative distribution function.

The Wasserstein distance  $W_2^2(P_j, Q_j)$  can be estimated in the same way as for regression:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{W}^2 := & \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N (m_{\mathbb{P}}(x_n) - m_{\mathbb{Q}}(x_n))^2 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N k(x_n, x_n) \\ & + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N r(x_n, x_n) - \frac{2}{\sqrt{NN_S}} \sum_{s=1}^{N_S} \sqrt{\lambda_s(r(X_S, X)k(X, X_S))} \end{aligned}$$

where:

- $X_S := (x_{S,1}, \dots, x_{S,N_S})$  with  $x_{S,1}, \dots, x_{S,N_S} \in \mathbb{R}^D$ , a set of  $N_S$  points sub-sampled from the input data  $X$
- $r(X_S, X) := (r(x_{S,s}, x_n))_{s,n} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_S \times N}$
- $k(X, X_S) := (k(x_n, x_{S,s}))_{n,s} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N_S}$
- $\lambda_s(\cdot)$  calculates the  $s$ -th eigenvalue

and  $n = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $s = 1, \dots, N_S$ ,  $k$  is the kernel for  $\mathbb{P}$ ,  $r$  is the kernel for  $\mathbb{Q}$

## 2.2 Prediction

For an unseen point  $x^* \in \mathcal{X}$ , the probability that it belongs to class  $j \in \{1, \dots, J\}$ :

$$\mathbb{Q}(Y^* = j) = (1 - \epsilon) S(x^*, j) + \frac{\epsilon}{J-1} (1 - S(x^*, j))$$

where the predicted label class is the maximiser of this probability:

$$Cat(\mathbb{Q}(Y^*)) = \arg \max_{j \in \{1, \dots, J\}} \mathbb{Q}(Y^* = j)$$

**References**

- Alexander Graeme de Garis Matthews. *Scalable Gaussian process inference using variational methods*. PhD thesis, University of Cambridge, 2017.
- Veit D Wild, Robert Hu, and Dino Sejdinovic. Generalized variational inference in function spaces: Gaussian measures meet bayesian deep learning. *arXiv preprint arXiv:2205.06342*, 2022.