

# Composition of Movement Primitives

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## 1 ProMPs

### 1.1 Recap

From (Paraschos et al., 2013, 2018):

- $q_t$ : joint angle over time
- $\dot{q}_t$ : joint velocity over time
- $\tau = \{q_t\}_{t=0\dots T}$ : trajectory
- $w$ : weight vector of a single trajectory  $[n \times 1]$
- $\phi_t$ : basis function
- $n$ : number of basis functions
- $\Phi_t = [\phi_t, \dot{\phi}_t]$ :  $n \times 2$  dimensional time-dependent basis matrix
- $z(t)$ : monotonically increasing phase variable
- $\epsilon_y \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \Sigma_y)$ : zero-mean i.i.d. Gaussian noise

$$\Phi_t = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1 & \dot{\phi}_1 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \phi_n & \dot{\phi}_n \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$\mathbf{y}_t = \begin{bmatrix} q_t \\ \dot{q}_t \end{bmatrix} = \Phi_t^\top \mathbf{w} + \epsilon_y \quad (2)$$

$$p(\boldsymbol{\tau}|\mathbf{w}) = \prod_t \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \Phi_t^\top \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_y) \quad (3)$$

$$p(\boldsymbol{\tau}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int p(\boldsymbol{\tau}|\mathbf{w}) \cdot p(\mathbf{w}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{w} \quad (4)$$

## 1.2 Coupling between joints

$$p(\mathbf{y}_t|\mathbf{w}) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}_{1,t} \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}_{d,t} \end{bmatrix} \middle| \begin{bmatrix} \Phi_t^\top & \cdots & \mathbf{0} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \cdots & \Phi_t^\top \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_y\right) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \Psi_t \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_y) \quad (5)$$

with:

- $\mathbf{w} = [\mathbf{w}_1^\top, \dots, \mathbf{w}_n^\top]^\top$ : combined weight vector  $[n \times n]$
- $\Psi_t$ : block-diagonal basis matrix containing the basis functions and their derivatives for each dimension
- $\mathbf{y}_{i,t} = [q_{i,t}, \dot{q}_{i,t}]^\top$ : joint angle and velocity for the  $i^{\text{th}}$  joint

## 1.3 Hierarchical Bayesian Model

The Hierarchical Bayesian Model used in ProMPs is illustrated in Fig. 1.

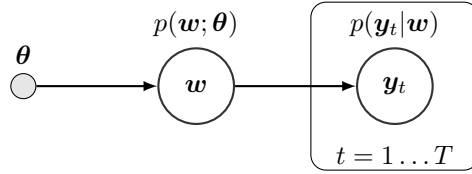


Figure 1: Hierarchical Bayesian Model used in ProMPs.

- $\boldsymbol{\theta} = \{\boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Sigma_w\}$
- $p(\mathbf{w}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Sigma_w)$ : prior over the weight vector  $\mathbf{w}$ , with parameters  $\boldsymbol{\theta}$ , assumed to be Gaussian

$$p(\mathbf{y}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \Psi_t^\top \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_y) \cdot p(\mathbf{w}; \boldsymbol{\theta}) d\mathbf{w} \quad (6)$$

$$= \int \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \Psi_t^\top \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_y) \cdot \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Sigma_w) d\mathbf{w} \quad (7)$$

$$= \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t + \Sigma_y) \quad (8)$$

See Appendix A for the proof.

## 1.4 Via-Points Modulation

- $\mathbf{x}_t^* = [\mathbf{y}_t^*, \Sigma_t^*]$ : desired observation
- $\mathbf{y}_t^*$ : desired position and velocity vector at time  $t$
- $\Sigma_t^*$ : accuracy of the desired observation

Using Bayes rule:

$$p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_t^*) = \frac{p(\mathbf{x}_t^*|\mathbf{w}) \cdot p(\mathbf{w})}{p(\mathbf{x}_t^*)} \quad (9)$$

$$p(\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_t^*) \propto \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t^*|\Psi_t^\top \mathbf{w}, \Sigma_t^*) \cdot \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_w, \Sigma_w) \quad (10)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_w^{[new]} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_w + \Sigma_w \Psi_t \left( \Sigma_y^* + \Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_t^* - \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w) \quad (11)$$

$$\Sigma_w^{[new]} = \Sigma_w - \Sigma_w \Psi_t \left( \Sigma_y^* + \Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t \right)^{-1} \Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \quad (12)$$

See Appendix B for the proof.

#### 1.4.1 Do we actually get the desired mean by applying the conditioning update?

*Proof that the posterior mean equals the observed mean.*

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}_t|\mathbf{x}_t^*] = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}_t|\mathbf{x}_t^*} = \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_t^*} = \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w + \Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t \left( \Sigma_y^* + \Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_t^* - \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w) \quad (13)$$

We set the observed covariance  $\Sigma_t^*$  to 0 so as to have perfect accuracy around our observed position.

$$\Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_t^*} = \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w + \cancel{\Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t} \left( \cancel{\Psi_t^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_t} \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_t^* - \Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w) \quad (14)$$

$$= \cancel{\Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w} + \mathbf{y}_t^* - \cancel{\Psi_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w} \quad (15)$$

$$= \mathbf{y}_t^* \quad (16)$$

□

#### 1.4.2 Multi via-points

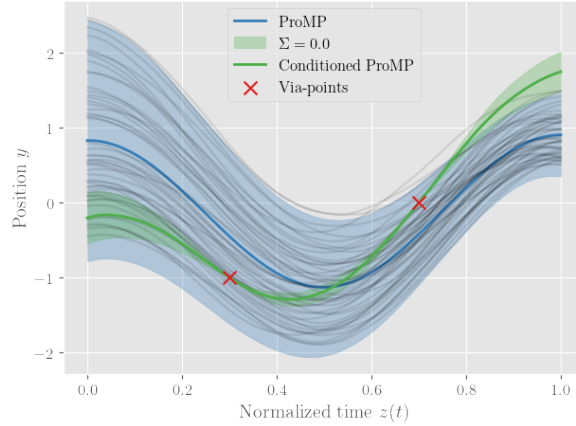


Figure 2: Example of ProMP with two via-points.

1. For the first via-point conditioning update with the observed via-point  $\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^* = [\mathbf{y}_{t_1}^*, \Sigma_{t_1}^*]$ , we can directly apply Eq. (11) and (12), with  $\Psi_{t_1}$  the observation matrix at time  $t_1$ :

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_w + \Sigma_w \Psi_{t_1} \left( \Sigma_{t_1}^* + \Psi_{t_1}^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_{t_1} \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_{t_1}^* - \Psi_{t_1}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w) \quad (17)$$

$$\Sigma_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} = \Sigma_w - \Sigma_w \Psi_{t_1} \left( \Sigma_{t_1}^* + \Psi_{t_1}^\top \Sigma_w \Psi_{t_1} \right)^{-1} \Psi_{t_1}^\top \Sigma_w \quad (18)$$

2. For the second via-point conditioning update with the observed via-point  $\mathbf{x}_{t_2}^* = [\mathbf{y}_{t_2}^*, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_2}^*]$ , the prior is the posterior from the first via-point, *i.e.*,  $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*})$ , the likelihood is  $\mathbf{y}_{t_2}^* \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2}^\top \mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_2}^*)$ , with  $\boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2}$  the observation matrix at time  $t_2$ , and the posterior update becomes:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \mathbf{x}_{t_2}^*} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_2}^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2} \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_{t_2}^* - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*}) \quad (19)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \mathbf{x}_{t_2}^*} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_2}^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2} \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_2}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*} \quad (20)$$

3. For the  $k^{\text{th}}$  via-point conditioning update with the observed via-point  $\mathbf{x}_{t_k}^* = [\mathbf{y}_{t_k}^*, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_k}^*]$ , the prior is the posterior after conditioning on the previous  $k-1$  via-points, *i.e.*,  $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*})$ , the likelihood is  $\mathbf{y}_{t_k}^* \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k}^\top \mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_k}^*)$ , with  $\boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k}$  the observation matrix at time  $t_k$ , and the posterior update becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_k}^*} &= \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \\ &\quad + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_k}^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k} \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_{t_k}^* - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*}) \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_k}^*} &= \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \\ &\quad - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_k}^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k} \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\mathbf{x}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{t_{k-1}}^*} \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

**Alternative Batch Formulation** Instead of iterative updates, we could condition on all via-points simultaneously by stacking the observations:

$$\mathbf{y}^* = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}_{t_1}^* \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{y}_{t_k}^* \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Psi} = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_1} \\ \vdots \\ \boldsymbol{\Psi}_{t_k} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* = \text{diag}(\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_1}^*, \dots, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{t_k}^*) \quad (23)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}|\{\mathbf{x}_{t_k}^*\}_{k=1}^K} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi} \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}^* - \boldsymbol{\Psi}^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}}) \quad (24)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}|\{\mathbf{x}_{t_k}^*\}_{k=1}^K} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi} \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi} \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \quad (25)$$

## 2 Gaussian mixture modeling (GMM)/Gaussian mixture regression (GMR) recap

### 2.1 Gaussian Mixture Modeling (GMM)

- $\pi_k$ : mixture weights
- $\boldsymbol{\theta} := \{\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k, \pi_k : k = 1, \dots, K\}$ : collection of all parameters of the model
- $r_{nk}$ : responsibility of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  mixture component for the  $n^{\text{th}}$  data point
- $N$ : number of data points
- $N_k := \sum_{n=1}^N r_{nk}$ : total responsibility of the  $k^{\text{th}}$  mixture component for the entire dataset

$$p(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k) \quad (26)$$

$$0 \leq \pi_k \leq 1, \quad \sum_{k=1}^K \pi_k = 1 \quad (27)$$

$$r_{nk} := \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n|\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n|\boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)} \quad (28)$$

Update of the GMM means:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_k^{new} = \frac{\sum_{n=1}^N r_{nk} \mathbf{x}_n}{\sum_{n=1}^N r_{nk}} \quad (29)$$

Update of the GMM covariances:

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k^{new} = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N r_{nk} (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)(\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^\top \quad (30)$$

Update of the GMM mixture weights:

$$\pi_k^{new} = \frac{N_k}{N}, \quad k = 1, \dots, K \quad (31)$$

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**Algorithm 1:** EXPECTATION MAXIMIZATION (EM) ALGORITHM

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1. Initialize  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k, \pi_k$
2. *E-step*: Evaluate responsibilities  $r_{nk}$  for every data point  $\mathbf{x}_n$  using current parameters  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k, \pi_k$ :

$$r_{nk} = \frac{\pi_k \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k)}{\sum_{j=1}^K \pi_j \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_n | \boldsymbol{\mu}_j, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_j)} \quad (32)$$

3. *M-step*: Re-estimate parameters  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_k, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k, \pi_k$  using the current responsibilities  $r_{nk}$  (from E-step):

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N r_{nk} \mathbf{x}_n \quad (33)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_k = \frac{1}{N_k} \sum_{n=1}^N r_{nk} (\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)(\mathbf{x}_n - \boldsymbol{\mu}_k)^\top \quad (34)$$

$$\pi_k = \frac{N_k}{N} \quad (35)$$


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## 2.2 Gaussian Mixture Regression (GMR)

Requires to add a series of timesteps  $t = (t_1, \dots, t_j, \dots, t_m)$  to divide each demonstration path evenly, and the points of each path can be re-written as  $[(t_1, p_1), \dots, (t_j, p_j), \dots, (t_m, p_m)]$ , so that each path has the same number of points for better alignment between demonstrations.

- $p_j$ : position of a constructive point from demonstration,  $j = 1, \dots, m$
- $m$ : total number of points in all the demonstrations

Joint probability  $\mathcal{P}(t, \mathbf{x})$  learned with GMM:

$$\mathcal{P}(t_j, x_j) = \sum_{i=1}^K \pi_i \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(x_j | t_j; m_i(t_j), cov_i) \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(t_j | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{it}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{it}) \quad (36)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_i = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{it} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{ix} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_i = \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{itt} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{itx} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ixt} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ixx} \end{bmatrix} \quad (37)$$

$$(38)$$

$$m_i(t_j) = \boldsymbol{\mu}_{ix} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ixt} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{itt}^{-1} \cdot (t_j - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{it}) \quad (39)$$

$$cov_i = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ixx} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ixt} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{itt}^{-1} \cdot \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{itx} \quad (40)$$

Marginal probability  $P(t_j)$ :

$$P(t_j) = \int \mathcal{P}(t_j, x_j) dx = \sum_{i=1}^K \pi_i \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(t_j | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{it}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{it}) \quad (41)$$

Retrieve the conditional probability  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{x}|t)$  with GMR for each timestep:

$$P(x_j|t_j; m_i(t_j), cov_i) = \frac{P(t_j, x_j)}{P(t_j)} \quad (42)$$

$$= \frac{\sum_{i=1}^K \pi_i \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(x_j|t_j; m_i(t_j), cov_i) \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(t_j|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{it}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{it})}{\sum_{i=1}^K \pi_i \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(t_j|\boldsymbol{\mu}_{it}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{it})} \quad (43)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^K r_{nk} \cdot \mathcal{N}_i(x_j|t_j; m_i(t_j), cov_i) \quad (44)$$

Regression function (Eq. (45)) and conditional variance (Eq. (46)):

$$m(x) = \mathbb{E}(x_j|t_j) = \sum_{i=1}^K r_{nk} \cdot m_i(t_j) \quad (45)$$

$$var(\hat{y}) = \sum_{j=1}^K r_{nk} \cdot cov_i \quad (46)$$

### 3 Composition of MPs

#### 3.1 Stitching

See Fig. 3.

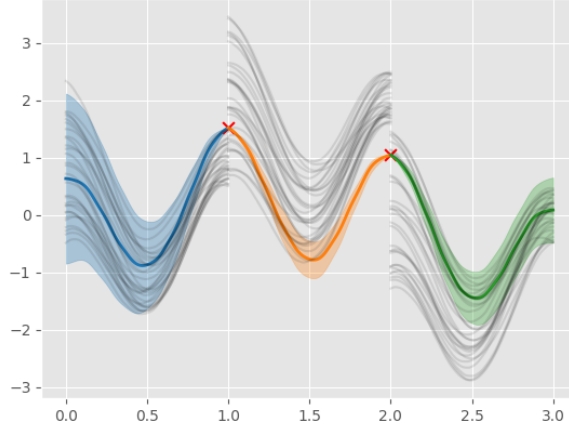


Figure 3: Stitching three ProMPs.

#### 3.2 Piecewise Gaussian Process

### References

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- A. Paraschos, C. Daniel, J. Peters, and G. Neumann, “Using probabilistic movement primitives in robotics,” *Autonomous Robots*, vol. 42, no. 3, pp. 529–551, Mar. 2018. [Online]. Available: <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10514-017-9648-7>
- M. P. Deisenroth, A. A. Faisal, and C. S. Ong, *Mathematics for machine learning*. Cambridge University Press, 2020.

## A Hierarchical Bayesian Model proof

*Proof of Eq. (8).* From (Deisenroth et al., 2020), we have the joint distribution:

$$p(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b) = \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_a \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_b \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{aa} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ab} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ba} & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{bb} \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad (47)$$

and the marginal distribution  $p(\mathbf{x}_a)$  of a joint Gaussian distribution  $p(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b)$ :

$$p(\mathbf{x}_a) = \int p(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b) d\mathbf{x}_b = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{x}_a | \boldsymbol{\mu}_a, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{aa}) \quad (48)$$

Since  $\mathbf{y}_t$  and  $\mathbf{w}$  are jointly Gaussian, we have:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}_t \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}_t} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \text{Cov}[\mathbf{y}_t, \mathbf{y}_t] & \text{Cov}[\mathbf{y}_t, \mathbf{w}] \\ \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{y}_t] & \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}] \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad (49)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{y}_t} = \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{y}_t] \quad (50)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y] \quad (51)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbb{E}[\mathbf{w}] + \mathbb{E}[\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y] \quad (52)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}} + 0 \quad (53)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}} \quad (54)$$

$$\text{Cov}[\mathbf{y}_t, \mathbf{y}_t] = \text{Cov}[\boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y] \quad (55)$$

$$= \text{Cov}[\boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w}] + \text{Cov}[\boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y] \quad (56)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}] \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y \quad (57)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y \quad (58)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{y}_t \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}} \\ \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y & \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \\ \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad (59)$$

$$p(\mathbf{y}_t; \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t | \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}}, \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_y) \quad (60)$$

□

## B Via-Points conditioning proof

*Proof of Eq. (11) and Eq. (12).* With the joint distribution  $p(\mathbf{x}_a, \mathbf{x}_b)$  in Eq. (47), and from (Bishop and Bishop, 2024), the parameters of a conditional multivariate Gaussian  $p(\mathbf{x}_a | \mathbf{x}_b) = \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_{a|b}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{a|b})$  are the following:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{a|b} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_a + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ab} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{bb}^{-1} (\mathbf{x}_b - \boldsymbol{\mu}_b) \quad (61)$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{a|b} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{aa} - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ab} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{bb}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ba} \quad (62)$$

We want the posterior  $p(\mathbf{w} | \mathbf{x}_t^*)$ , knowing the likelihood  $\mathbf{x}_t^* | \mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}_t^* | \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t^*)$ , and the prior  $\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{w} | \boldsymbol{\mu}_{\mathbf{w}}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{\mathbf{w}})$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x}_t^* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_w \\ \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}] & \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_t^*] \\ \text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{w}] & \text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{x}_t^*] \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad (63)$$

$\text{Cov}[\mathbf{x}_t^*, \mathbf{x}_t^*]$  follows from Eq. (58).

$$\text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_t^*] = \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y] \quad (64)$$

$$= \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w}] \quad (\text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y] = 0 \text{ since } \boldsymbol{\epsilon}_y \text{ is independent of } \mathbf{w}) \quad (65)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_w)(\boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w)^\top] \quad (66)$$

$$= \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_w)(\mathbf{w} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_w)^\top \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t] \quad (67)$$

$$= \text{Cov}[\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{w}] \cdot \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \quad (68)$$

$$= \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \quad (69)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{w} \\ \mathbf{x}_t^* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\mu}_w \\ \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w & \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \\ \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w & \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t^* \end{bmatrix} \right) \quad (70)$$

Using Eq. (61) we get:

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w|\mathbf{x}_t^*} = \boldsymbol{\mu}_w + \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \right)^{-1} (\mathbf{y}_t^* - \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\mu}_w) \quad (71)$$

Using Eq. (62) we get:

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{w|\mathbf{x}_t^*} = \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w - \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \left( \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_t^* + \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t \right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{\Psi}_t^\top \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_w \quad (72)$$

□