

CEE 616: Probabilistic Machine Learning  
M4 Nonparametric Methods:  
L4b: Gaussian Processes

**Jimi Oke**

UMassAmherst  

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College of Engineering

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# Outline

# Gaussian processes

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$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{GP}(\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}_{ij}) \quad (1)$$

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Source: <http://krasserm.github.io/2018/03/19/gaussian-processes/>

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- Thus, a Mercer kernel is also known as a positive definite kernel

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- Kernels can be composed by addition, multiplication and other operations

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- SE is also referred to as Gaussian, RBF or exponentiated quadratic

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Marginal distributions are also Gaussian.

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To predict function outputs for new inputs  $\mathbf{x}^*$ , we estimate the *posterior conditional distribution*

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GPR example with noisy inputs. Source: <https://www.aidanscannell.com/post/gaussian-process-regression/>

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- Hyperparameters can be learned via **maximum marginal likelihood**

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$$p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}) \quad (25)$$

and the likelihood of each observation (conditioned on the latent function  $\mathbf{f}$ ) can be written as:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{X}) = \prod_{n=1}^N \mathcal{N}(y_n|f_n, \sigma_y^2) \quad (26)$$

The marginal likelihood is thus given by:

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) = \int p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{X})p(\mathbf{f}|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\theta})d\mathbf{f} \quad (27)$$



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- **PMLI 17.1-2**

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- <https://peterroelants.github.io/posts/gaussian-process-kernels/>
- <https://github.com/aidanscannell/probabilistic-modelling/blob/master/notebooks/gaussian-process-regression.ipynb>