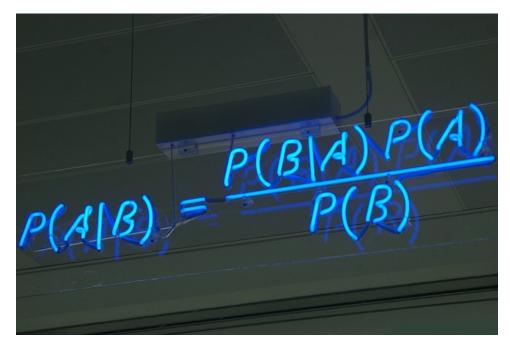
# **Bayesian Learning**



NB

Note, we'll use another library in this notebook: GPy Installation:

```
[2]: import GPy import pods
```

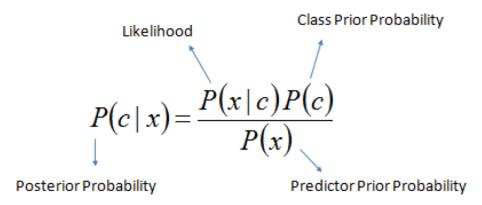
### **Naive Bayes**

Predict the probability that a point belongs to each class, using Bayes' Theorem, assuming that the features are independent from each other.

Very fast: only needs to extract statistics from each feature.

#### **Naive Bayes Classifier**

A Naive Bayes classifier learns the joint probability P(x,c) = P(x|c)P(c) of the data, and predicts the class of each sample using Bayes' rule:



**Bayes Rule** 

P(c|x) is the posterior probability of class (target) given predictor (attribute).

P(c) is the *prior* probability of class: what you believed before you saw the evidence x

P(x|c) is the *likelihood* of seeing that evidence if your class is correct

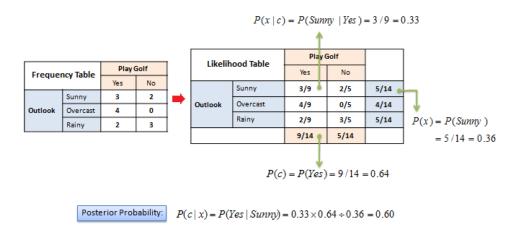
P(x) is the prior probability of predictor (*marginal likelihood*): the likelihood of the evidence x under any circumstance

*Naive* Bayes assumes that all features are conditionally independent from each other, in which case:

$$P(\mathbf{x}|c) = P(x_1|c) \times P(x_2|c) \times ... \times P(x_n|c)$$

Since it models the entire joint distribution, it can generate new (likely) points: *generative model* 

Example. True or not? Players will play if weather is sunny.



nb example

Compute the posterior for every class and predict the class with highest probability

#### On numeric data

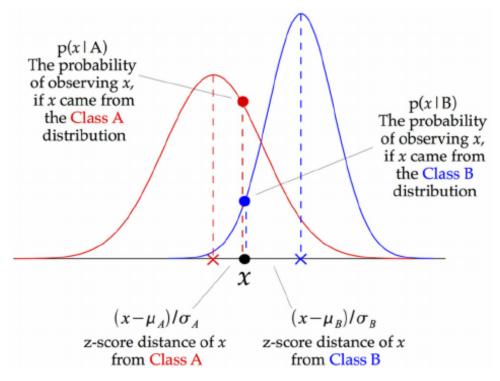
GaussianNB:

- Computes mean  $\mu_c$  and standard deviation  $\sigma_c$  of the feature values per class
- It then fits a Gaussian distribution around the mean

$$p(x = v \mid c) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma_c^2}} e^{-\frac{(v - \mu_c)^2}{2\sigma_c^2}}$$

• Prediction are made using Bayes' theorem, by computing the joint probability given all features

$$p(c \mid \mathbf{x}) = \frac{p(c) \ p(\mathbf{x}|c)}{p(\mathbf{x})}$$



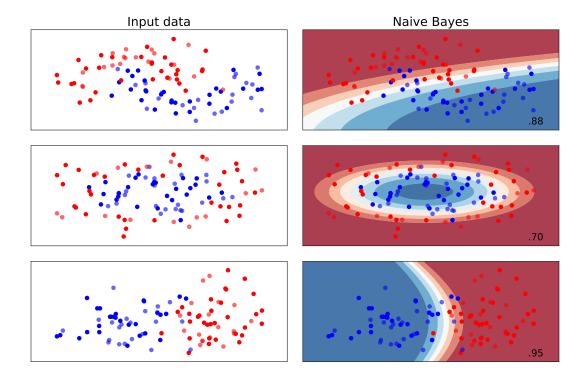
Naive Bayes image

### Visualizing Naive Bayes

```
[32]: from sklearn.naive_bayes import GaussianNB
   import plot_classifiers as pc

names = ["Naive Bayes"]
   classifiers = [GaussianNB()]

plt.rcParams.update({'font.size': 16})
   pc.plot_classifiers(names, classifiers, figuresize=(12,8))
```



Other Naive Bayes classifiers:

- BernoulliNB
  - Assumes binary data
  - Feature statistics: Number of non-zero entries per class
- MultinomialNB
  - Assumes count data
  - Feature statistics: Average value per class

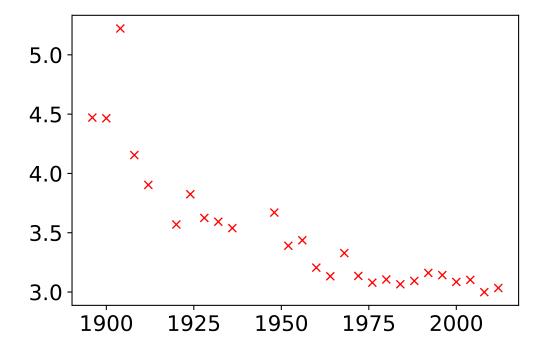
Mostly used for text classification (bag-of-words data)

## Probabilistic interpretation of regression

Let's look at a the following regression problem

```
[4]: data = pods.datasets.olympic_marathon_men()
    x = data['X']
    y = data['Y']
    plt.plot(x, y, 'rx')

[<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11c4d9940>]
```



Let's first try to fit a linear model

$$f(\mathbf{x}_i) = \mathbf{x}_i^{\top} \mathbf{w}$$

We can solve this via linear algebra by making a design matrix of the data, which includes the  $x_0 = 1$  column, to represent the bias. Hence, each vector  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is given by appending a 1 onto the original vector

$$\mathbf{x}_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x_i \end{bmatrix}$$

We can do this for the entire data set to form a design matrix X,

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{x}_2^\top \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_N^\top \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_1 \\ 1 & x_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_N \end{bmatrix},$$

which in numpy is done and solved with the following commands:

```
[5]: X = np.hstack((np.ones_like(x), x)) # [ones(size(x)) x]
    w = np.linalg.solve(np.dot(X.T, X), np.dot(X.T, y))
    print(w)

[[28.895]
[-0.013]]
```

We can now fit the function

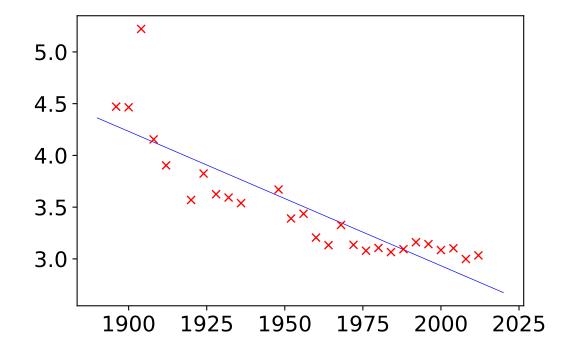
$$y = mx + c$$

```
[6]: m = w[1]; c=w[0]
    x_test = np.linspace(1890, 2020, 130)[:, None]

    f_test = m*x_test + c

    plt.plot(x_test, f_test, 'b-')
    plt.plot(x, y, 'rx')

[<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11c4807f0>]
```

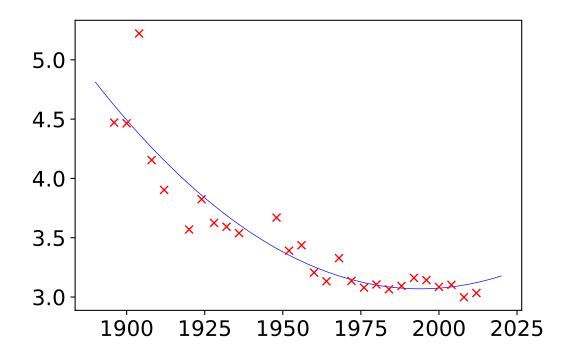


Now we will fit a quadratic model using more *basis functions*. Firstly, we need to create a new design matrix that contains the quadratic basis,

$$oldsymbol{\Phi} = egin{bmatrix} oldsymbol{1} & \mathbf{x} & \mathbf{x}^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

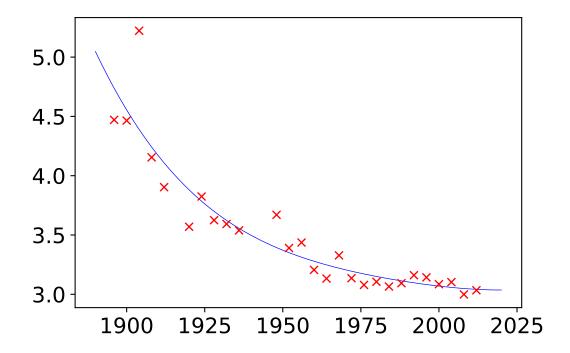
```
[7]: Phi = np.hstack([np.ones(x.shape), x, x**2])
    w = np.linalg.solve(np.dot(Phi.T, Phi), np.dot(Phi.T, y))
    print(w)
    f_test = w[2]*x_test**2 + w[1]*x_test + w[0]
    plt.plot(x_test, f_test, 'b-')
    plt.plot(x, y, 'rx')

[[643.642]
    [ -0.643]
    [ 0.  ]]
```



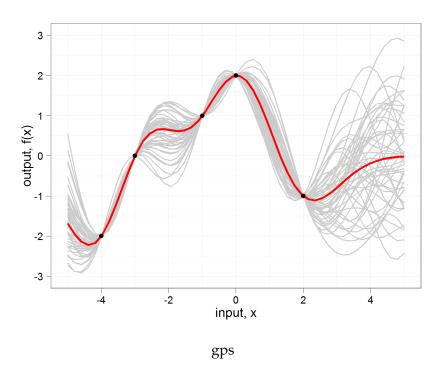
```
[8]: Phi = np.hstack([np.ones(x.shape), x, x**2, x**3, x**4, x**5, x**6])
    w = np.linalg.solve(np.dot(Phi.T, Phi), np.dot(Phi.T, y))
    f_test = w[6]*x_test**6 + w[5]*x_test**5 + w[4]*x_test**4 + w[3]*x_test**3
    plt.plot(x_test, f_test, 'b-')
    plt.plot(x, y, 'rx')
```

[<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11cf6a6d8>]



#### Gaussian processes

Processes where the probabilities of possible base functions are learned/updated based on new data.



#### Probabilistic interpretation or regression

When there are more observations than unknowns (overdetermined systems), we cannot perfectly fit

$$y = mx + c$$

This issue can be solved by assuming that the data in inherently uncertain, and model it explictly by introducing a type of slack variable,  $\epsilon_i$ , known as noise.

For each observation we now have the equation

$$y_i = mx_i + c + \epsilon_i$$
.

The slack variable represented the difference between our actual prediction and the true observation. This is also known as the *residual*.

We now have an additional n variables to estimate, one for each data point,  $\{\epsilon_i\}$ . With the original m and c we now have n+2 parameters to be estimated from n observations (underdetermined system).

We can however make assumptions about the noise distribution, i.e. that the slack variables are distributed according to a probability density. One often assumes Gaussian noise:

$$\epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2),$$

with zero mean and variance  $\sigma^2$ .

In the Bayesian approach, we also assume a *prior distribution* for the parameters, w:

$$\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \alpha \mathbf{I})$$

I.e, each element of the parameters vector,  $w_i$ , was drawn from a Gaussian density with variance  $\alpha$ 

$$w_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \alpha)$$

Gaussian process model parameters:

- parameters of the prior
- parameters of the basis functions
- noise level

```
[9]: # set prior variance on w
    alpha = 4.
    # set the order of the polynomial basis set
    degree = 5
    # set the noise variance
    sigma2 = 0.01
```

Now we have the variance, we can sample from the prior distribution to see what form we are imposing on the functions *a priori*.

```
[10]: # Build the basis matrices (on Olypics data)

def polynomial(x, degree, loc, scale):
    degrees = np.arange(degree+1)
    return ((x-loc)/scale)**degrees

scale = np.max(x) - np.min(x)
    loc = np.min(x) + 0.5*scale

num_data = x.shape[0]
    num_pred_data = 100 # how many points to use for plotting predictions
    x_pred = np.linspace(1880, 2030, num_pred_data)[:, None] # input locations
    Phi_pred = polynomial(x_pred, degree=degree, loc=loc, scale=scale)
    Phi = polynomial(x, degree=degree, loc=loc, scale=scale)
```

#### **Weight Space View**

To generate typical functional predictions from the model, we need a set of model parameters. We assume that the parameters are drawn independently from a Gaussian density,

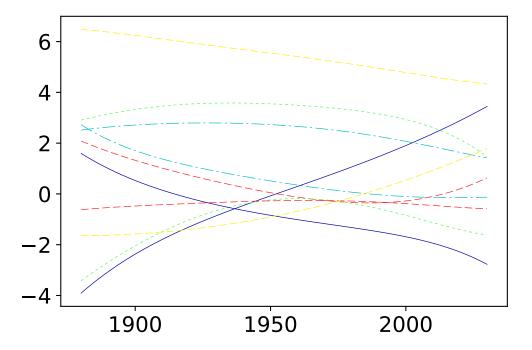
$$\mathbf{w} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \alpha \mathbf{I}),$$

then we can combine this with the definition of our prediction function  $f(\mathbf{x})$ ,

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{w}^{\top} \phi(\mathbf{x}).$$

We can now sample from the prior density to obtain a vector  ${\bf w}$  using the function np.random.normal and combine these parameters with our basis to create some samples of what  $f({\bf x})$  looks like,

```
[11]: num_samples = 10
   K = degree+1
   for i in range(num_samples):
        z_vec = np.random.normal(size=(K, 1))
        w_sample = z_vec*np.sqrt(alpha)
        f_sample = np.dot(Phi_pred,w_sample)
        plt.plot(x_pred, f_sample)
```



#### **Function space view**

We can use standard properties of multivariate Gaussians to write down the probability density that is implied over **f**.

We know that if  $\mathbf{w}$  is sampled from a multivariate Gaussian with covariance  $\alpha \mathbf{I}$  and zero mean, then assuming that  $\Phi$  is a deterministic matrix (i.e. it is not sampled from a probability density) then the vector  $\mathbf{f}$  will also be distributed according to a zero mean multivariate normal as follows,

$$\mathbf{f} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, \alpha \mathbf{\Phi} \mathbf{\Phi}^{\top}).$$

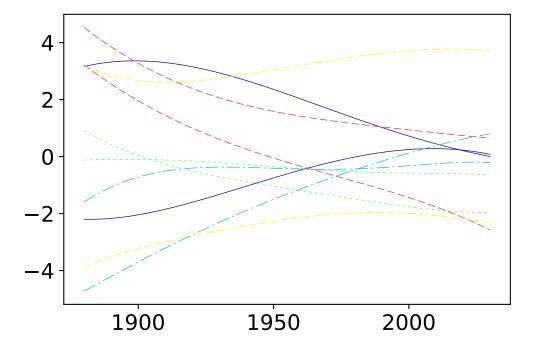
What happens if we sample f directly from this density, rather than first sampling w and then multiplying by  $\Phi$ .

Let's try this. First of all we define the covariance (joined variability between 2 variables) as

$$\mathbf{K} = \alpha \mathbf{\Phi} \mathbf{\Phi}^{\mathsf{T}}.$$

```
[12]: K = alpha*np.dot(Phi_pred, Phi_pred.T)
```

We can use  $np.random.multivariate\_normal$  for sampling from a multivariate normal with covariance given by K and zero mean,

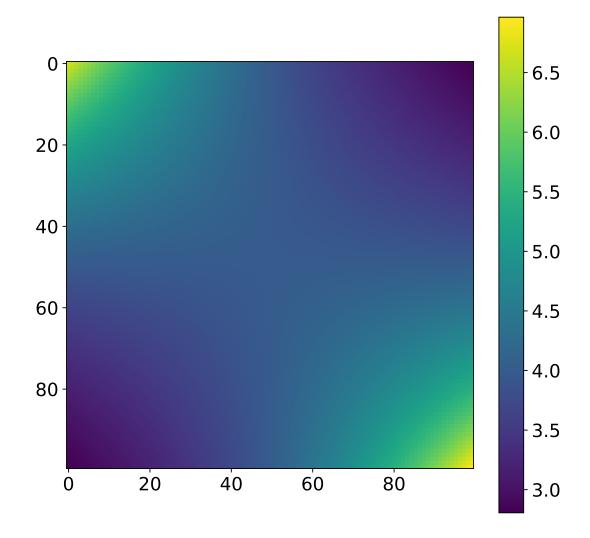


These look very similar! Indeed, they are effectively drawn from the same mutivariate normal density.

When sampling  ${\bf f}$  directly we created the covariance for  ${\bf f}$ . We can visualise the covariance matrix:

```
[14]: fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8,8))
    im = ax.imshow(K, interpolation='none')
    fig.colorbar(im)

<matplotlib.colorbar.Colorbar at 0x11d349438>
```

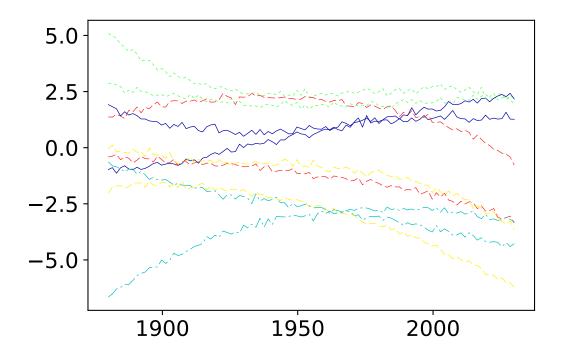


### **Noisy functions**

We normally add Gaussian noise to obtain our observations:

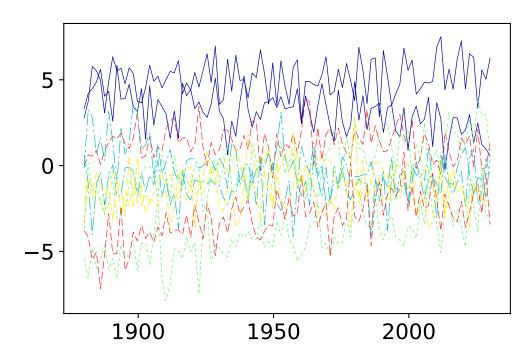
$$\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{f} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

```
[15]: K = alpha*np.dot(Phi_pred, Phi_pred.T) + sigma2*np.eye(x_pred.size)
    for i in range(10):
        y_sample = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean=np.zeros(x_pred.size), complt.plot(x_pred.flatten(), y_sample.flatten())
```



#### We can also increase the variance of the noise

```
[16]: sigma2 = 1.
    K = alpha*np.dot(Phi_pred, Phi_pred.T) + sigma2*np.eye(x_pred.size)
    for i in range(10):
        y_sample = np.random.multivariate_normal(mean=np.zeros(x_pred.size), complt.plot(x_pred.flatten(), y_sample.flatten())
```



#### **Gaussian Process**

In a Gaussian process you specify the *covariance function* directly, rather than *implicitly* through a basis matrix and a prior over parameters.

Gaussian processes have the advantage that they can be *nonparametric*: they can have *infinite* basis functions.

The RBF (Gaussian) covariance function is specified by

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right).$$

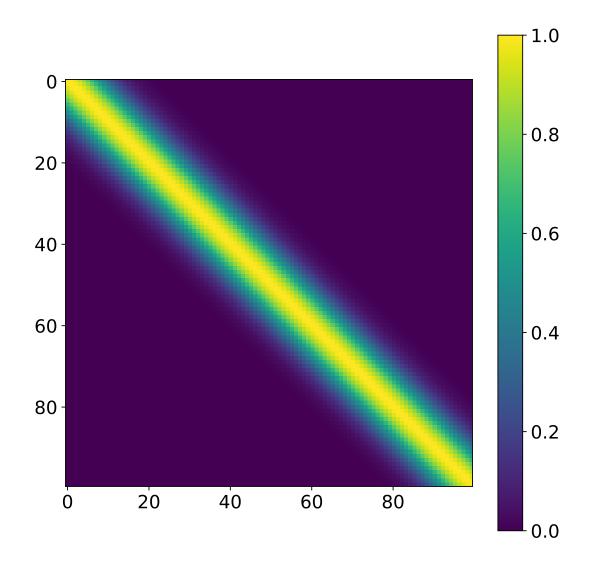
where  $\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2$  is the squared distance between the two input vectors

$$\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|^2 = (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')^{\top} (\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}')$$

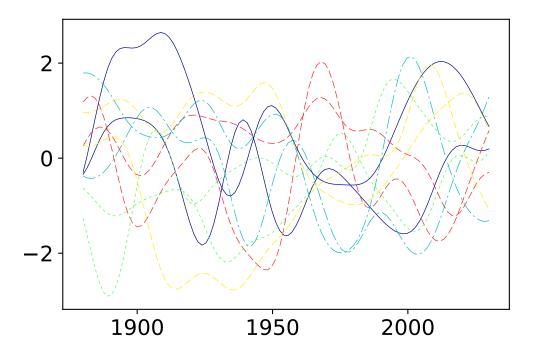
Let's build a covariance matrix based on this function.

<matplotlib.colorbar.Colorbar at 0x11b03fa58>

```
[17]: # Exponentiated quadratic is another name for RBF
     def exponentiated_quadratic(x, x_prime, variance, lengthscale):
         squared\_distance = ((x-x\_prime)**2).sum()
         return variance*np.exp((-0.5*squared_distance)/lengthscale**2)
     # Compute covariances directly
     def compute_kernel(X, X2, kernel, **kwargs):
         K = np.zeros((X.shape[0], X2.shape[0]))
         for i in np.arange(X.shape[0]):
              for j in np.arange(X2.shape[0]):
                  K[i, j] = kernel(X[i, :], X2[j, :], **kwargs)
         return K
     # Visualize
     K = compute_kernel(x_pred, x_pred, exponentiated_quadratic, variance=1., 1
     fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8,8))
     im = ax.imshow(K, interpolation='none')
     fig.colorbar(im)
```



Finally, we can sample functions with this kernel (covariance matrix)



### Gaussian process optimization

The Gaussian process perspective takes the marginal likelihood of the data to be a joint Gaussian density with a covariance given by K.

The model likelihood is of the form,

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}|\mathbf{K}|^{\frac{1}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2}\mathbf{y}^{\top} \left(\mathbf{K} + \sigma^{2}\mathbf{I}\right)^{-1}\mathbf{y}\right)$$

where the input data,  $\mathbf{X}$ , influences the density through the covariance matrix,  $\mathbf{K}$  whose elements are computed through the covariance function,  $k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$ .

Hence, the negative log likelihood (the objective function) is given by,

$$E(\boldsymbol{\theta}) = \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^{\top} \left( \mathbf{K} + \sigma^{2} \mathbf{I} \right)^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

where the *parameters* of the model are also embedded in the covariance function, they include the parameters of the kernel (such as lengthscale and variance), and the noise variance,  $\sigma^2$ .

```
[19]: class GP():
    def __init__(self, X, y, sigma2, kernel, **kwargs):
        self.K = compute_kernel(X, X, kernel, **kwargs)
        self.X = X
        self.y = y
        self.sigma2 = sigma2
        self.kernel = kernel
        self.kernel_args = kwargs
        self.update_inverse()
```

```
self.Kinv = np.linalg.inv(self.K+self.sigma2*np.eye(self.K.shape[0
# the log determinant of the covariance matrix.
self.logdetK = np.linalg.det(self.K+self.sigma2*np.eye(self.K.shap
# The matrix inner product of the inverse covariance
self.Kinvy = np.dot(self.Kinv, self.y)
self.yKinvy = (self.y*self.Kinvy).sum()

def log_likelihood(self):
    # use the pre-computes to return the likelihood
    return -0.5*(self.K.shape[0]*np.log(2*np.pi) + self.logdetK + self

def objective(self):
    # use the pre-computes to return the objective function
```

# Preompute the inverse covariance and some quantities of interest ## NOTE: This is not the correct \*numerical\* way to compute this!

#### **Making predictions**

The model makes predictions for f that are unaffected by future values of  $f^*$ .

return -self.log\_likelihood()

If we think of  $f^*$  as test points, we can still write down a joint probability density over the training observations, f and the test observations,  $f^*$ .

This joint probability density will be Gaussian, with a covariance matrix given by our covariance function,  $k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$ .

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ \mathbf{f}^* \end{bmatrix} \sim \mathcal{N} \left( \mathbf{0}, \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K} & \mathbf{K}_* \\ \mathbf{K}_*^\top & \mathbf{K}_{*,*} \end{bmatrix} \right)$$

where  ${\bf K}$  is the covariance computed between all the training points,  ${\bf K}_*$  is the covariance matrix computed between the training points and the test points,

 $\mathbf{K}_{*,*}$  is the covariance matrix computed between all the tests points and themselves.

## **Conditional Density**

Just as in naive Bayes, we defined the joint density (although there it was over both the labels and the inputs,  $p(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{X})$  and now we need to define *conditional* distributions that answer particular questions of interest.

We will need the conditional density for making predictions.

$$\mathbf{f}^* | \mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_f, \mathbf{C}_f)$$

with a mean given by

$$\boldsymbol{\mu}_f = \mathbf{K}_*^{\top} \left[ \mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{y}$$

and a covariance given by

$$\mathbf{C}_f = \mathbf{K}_{*,*} - \mathbf{K}_*^\top \left[ \mathbf{K} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{K}_*.$$

Let's compute what those posterior predictions are for the olympic marathon data.

```
[20]: # set covariance function parameters
    variance = 16.0
    lengthscale = 32
# set noise variance
```

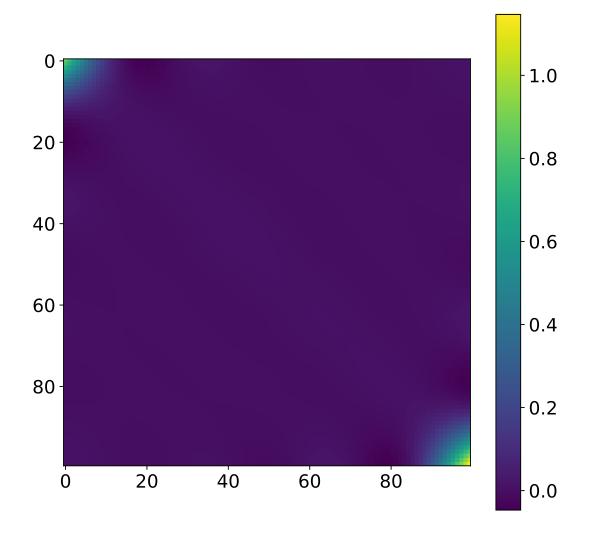
```
def posterior_f(self, X_test):
    K_star = compute_kernel(self.X, X_test, self.kernel, **self.kernel_arg
    K_starstar = compute_kernel(X_test, X_test, self.kernel, **self.kernel
    A = np.dot(self.Kinv, K_star)
    mu_f = np.dot(A.T, y)
    C_f = K_starstar - np.dot(A.T, K_star)
    return mu_f, C_f

# attach the new method to class GP():
GP.posterior_f = posterior_f

model = GP(x, y, sigma2, exponentiated_quadratic, variance=variance, lengt
mu_f, C_f = model.posterior_f(x_pred)

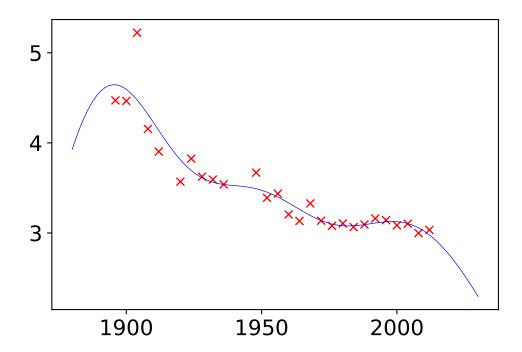
fig, ax = plt.subplots(figsize=(8,8))
im = ax.imshow(C_f, interpolation='none')
fig.colorbar(im)
```





### We can now plot the mean

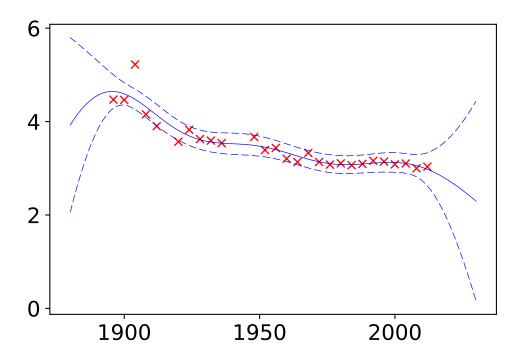
```
[21]: plt.plot(x, y, 'rx')
        plt.plot(x_pred, mu_f, 'b-')
[<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11b464668>]
```



#### as well as the associated error bars

```
[22]: var_f = np.diag(C_f)[:, None]
    std_f = np.sqrt(var_f)

    plt.plot(x, y, 'rx')
    plt.plot(x_pred, mu_f, 'b-')
    plt.plot(x_pred, mu_f+2*std_f, 'b--')
    plt.plot(x_pred, mu_f-2*std_f, 'b--')
[<matplotlib.lines.Line2D at 0x11f151b00>]
```



## **Gaussian Processes with GPy**

- GPyRegression
- Generate a kernel first
  - State the dimensionality of your input data
  - Variance and lengthscale are optional, default = 1

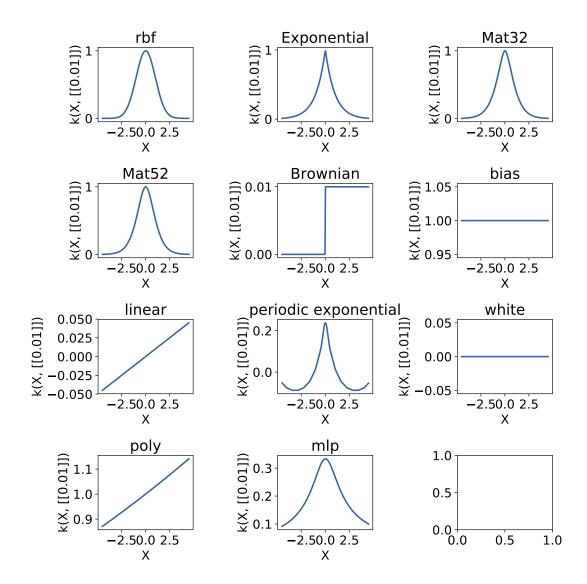
```
kernel = GPy.kern.RBF(input_dim=1, variance=1., lengthscale=1.)
```

- Other kernels:

GPy.kern.BasisFuncKernel?

• Build model:

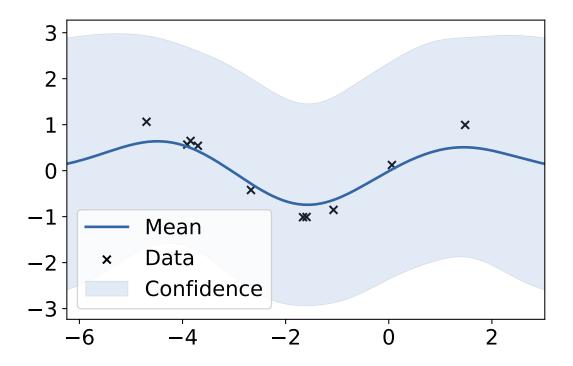
a.set\_title(k.name.replace('\_', ''))



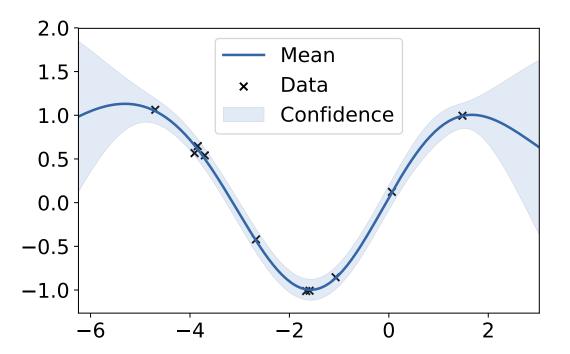
Matern is a generalized RBF kernel that can scale between RBF and Exponential Build the untrained GP. The shaded region corresponds to ~95% confidence intervals (i.e. +/- 2 standard deviation)

```
[24]: # Generate noisy sine data
   X = np.random.uniform(-5.,5.,(10,1))
   Y = np.sin(X) + np.random.randn(10,1)*0.05

# Build untrained model
   kernel = GPy.kern.RBF(input_dim=1, variance=1., lengthscale=1.)
   m = GPy.models.GPRegression(X,Y,kernel)
   fig = m.plot()
```

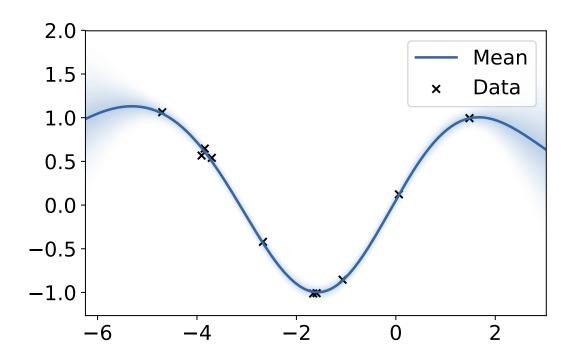


Train the model (optimize the parameters): maximize the likelihood of the data. Best to optimize with a few restarts: the optimizer may converges to the high-noise solution. The optimizer is then restarted with a few random initialization of the parameter values.



### You can also plot densities

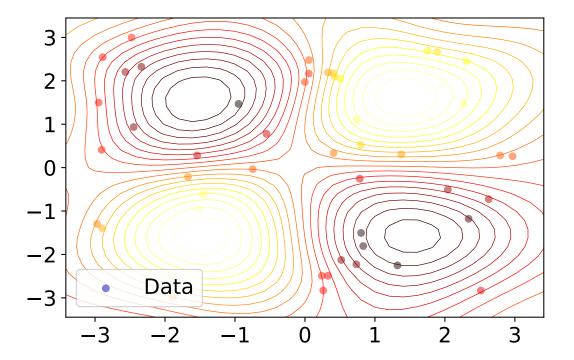
[26]: fig = m.plot(plot\_density=True)



#### You can also show results in 2D

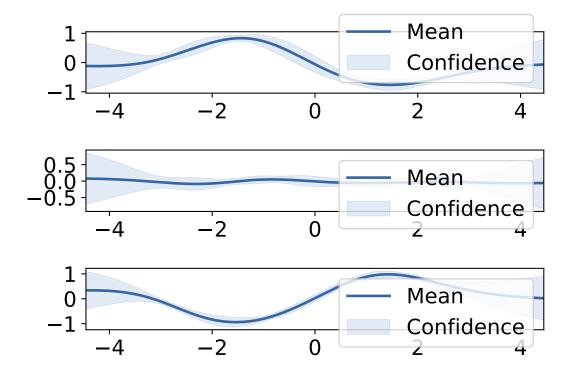
```
[27]: # sample inputs and outputs
X = np.random.uniform(-3.,3.,(50,2))
```

```
Y = np.sin(X[:,0:1]) * np.sin(X[:,1:2])+np.random.randn(50,1)*0.05
# define kernel
ker = GPy.kern.Matern52(2,ARD=True) + GPy.kern.White(2)
# create simple GP model
m = GPy.models.GPRegression(X,Y,ker)
# optimize and plot
m.optimize(max_f_eval = 1000)
fig = m.plot()
```



We can plot 2D slices using the fixed\_inputs argument to the plot function. fixed\_inputs is a list of tuples containing which of the inputs to fix, and to which value.

```
[28]: slices = [-1, 0, 1.5]
    figure = GPy.plotting.plotting_library().figure(3, 1)
    for i, y in zip(range(3), slices):
        canvas = m.plot(figure=figure, fixed_inputs=[(1,y)], row=(i+1), plot_d
```



For vertical slices, simply fix the other input: fixed\_inputs=[(0,y)]

```
[29]: slices = [-1, 0, 1.5]
     figure = GPy.plotting.plotting_library().figure(3, 1)
     for i, y in zip(range(3), slices):
         canvas = m.plot(figure=figure, fixed_inputs=[(0,y)], row=(i+1), plot_d
                                              Mean
      1
                                              Confidence
      0
    -1
                     _<sub>2</sub>
         -4
                                  0
                                                          4
                               Mean
      1
                                Confidence
      0
    -1
                     –2
                                  0
                                              2
         -4
                                                          4
      1
                                              Mean
      0
                                              Confidence
    -1
                                  0
```

#### Gaussian Processes with scikit-learn

- GaussianProcessRegressor
- Hyperparameters:
  - kernel: kernel specifying the covariance function of the GP
    - \* Default: "1.0 \* RBF(1.0)"
    - \* Typically leave at default. Will be optimized during fitting
  - alpha: regularization parameter
    - \* Tikhonov regularization of the assumed covariance between the training points.
    - \* Adds a (small) value to the diagonal of the kernel matrix during fitting.
    - \* Larger values:
      - · correspond to increased noise level in the observations
      - · also reduce potential numerical issues during fitting
    - \* Default: 1e-10
  - n\_restarts\_optimizer: number of restarts of the optimizer
    - \* Default: 0. Best to do at least a few iterations.
    - \* Optimizer finds the kernel's parameters which maximize the log-marginal likelihood
- Retrieve predictions and confidence interval after fitting:

```
y_pred, sigma = gp.predict(x, return_std=True)
```

#### Example

gp.fit(X, y)

```
[30]: from sklearn.gaussian_process import GaussianProcessRegressor
    from sklearn.gaussian_process.kernels import RBF, ConstantKernel as C

def f(x):
        """The function to predict."""
        return x * np.sin(x)

X = np.atleast_2d([1., 3., 5., 6., 7., 8.]).T

# Observations
y = f(X).ravel()

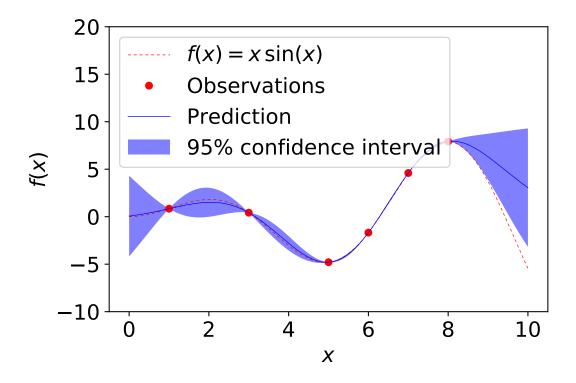
# Mesh the input space for evaluations of the real function, the prediction
# its MSE
x = np.atleast_2d(np.linspace(0, 10, 1000)).T

# Instanciate a Gaussian Process model
kernel = C(1.0, (1e-3, 1e3)) * RBF(10, (1e-2, 1e2))
gp = GaussianProcessRegressor(kernel=kernel, n_restarts_optimizer=9)

# Fit to data using Maximum Likelihood Estimation of the parameters
```

# Make the prediction on the meshed x-axis (ask for MSE as well)

<matplotlib.legend.Legend at 0x11cbdc9e8>



#### Example with noisy data

```
[31]: X = np.linspace(0.1, 9.9, 20)
    X = np.atleast_2d(X).T

# Observations and noise
    y = f(X).ravel()
    dy = 0.5 + 1.0 * np.random.random(y.shape)
    noise = np.random.normal(0, dy)
```

```
y += noise
# Instanciate a Gaussian Process model
gp = GaussianProcessRegressor(kernel=kernel, alpha=(dy / y) ** 2,
                              n_restarts_optimizer=10)
# Fit to data using Maximum Likelihood Estimation of the parameters
gp.fit(X, y)
# Make the prediction on the meshed x-axis (ask for MSE as well)
y_pred, sigma = gp.predict(x, return_std=True)
# Plot the function, the prediction and the 95% confidence interval based
# the MSE
fig = plt.figure()
plt.plot(x, f(x), 'r:', label=u'f(x) = x\,\sin(x)f(x)
plt.errorbar(X.ravel(), y, dy, fmt='r.', markersize=10, label=u'Observation
plt.plot(x, y_pred, 'b-', label=u'Prediction')
plt.fill(np.concatenate([x, x[::-1]]),
         np.concatenate([y_pred - 1.9600 * sigma,
                        (y_pred + 1.9600 * sigma)[::-1]]),
         alpha=.5, fc='b', ec='None', label='95% confidence interval')
plt.xlabel('$x$')
plt.ylabel('$f(x)$')
plt.ylim(-10, 20)
plt.legend(loc='upper left')
plt.show()
   20
                f(x) = x \sin(x)
   15
                Prediction
                95% confidence interval
   10
                Observations
     5
     0
   -5
 -10
                  2
                           4
                                     6
                                              8
                                                       10
                                X
```

# Gaussian processes

The advantages of Gaussian processes are: - The prediction interpolates the observations (at least for regular kernels). - The prediction is probabilistic (Gaussian) so that one can compute empirical confidence intervals. - Versatile: different kernels can be specified.

The disadvantages of Gaussian processes include: - They are not sparse, i.e., they use the whole samples/features information to perform the prediction. - They lose efficiency in high dimensional spaces – namely when the number of features exceeds a few dozens.