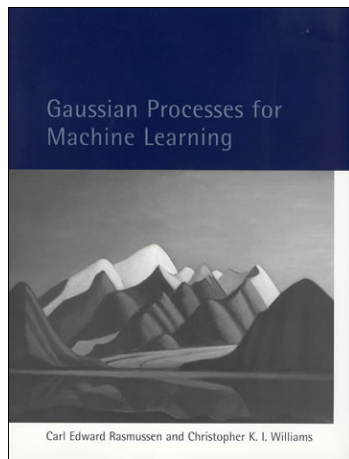


# A Brief Introduction to Gaussian Processes

Neil D. Lawrence

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27th July 2012



Rasmussen and Williams (2006)

# Outline

- 1 The Gaussian Density
- 2 Constructing Covariance
- 3 GP Limitations
- 4 Conclusions

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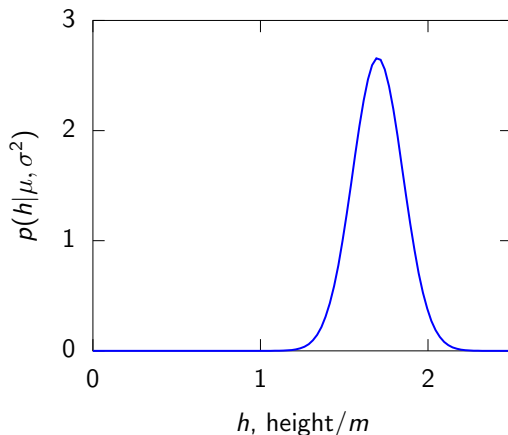
# The Gaussian Density

- Perhaps the most common probability density.

$$\begin{aligned} p(y|\mu, \sigma^2) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y-\mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right) \\ &= \mathcal{N}(y|\mu, \sigma^2) \end{aligned}$$

- The Gaussian density.

# Gaussian Density



The Gaussian PDF with  $\mu = 1.7$  and variance  $\sigma^2 = 0.0225$ . Mean shown as red line. It could represent the heights of a population of students.

# Gaussian Density

$$\mathcal{N}(y|\mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi\sigma^2}} \exp\left(-\frac{(y - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

# Two Important Gaussian Properties

- 1 Sum of Gaussian variables is also Gaussian.

$$y_i \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i^2\right)$$

(*Aside:* As sum increases, sum of non-Gaussian, finite variance variables is also Gaussian [central limit theorem].)

- 2 Scaling a Gaussian leads to a Gaussian.

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# Two Simultaneous Equations

A system of two differential equations with two unknowns.

$$y_1 = mx_1 + c$$

$$y_2 = mx_2 + c$$

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$$y_1 - y_2 = m(x_1 - x_2)$$

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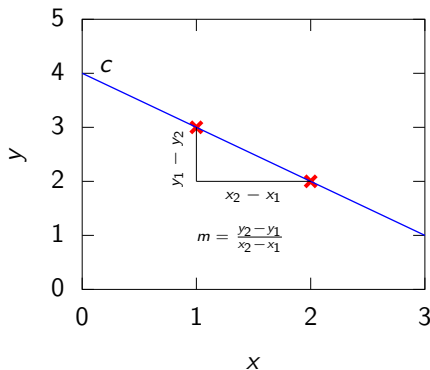
$$\frac{y_1 - y_2}{x_1 - x_2} = m$$



# Two Simultaneous Equations

A system of two differential equations with two unknowns.

$$m = \frac{y_2 - y_1}{x_2 - x_1}$$
$$c = y_1 - mx_1$$



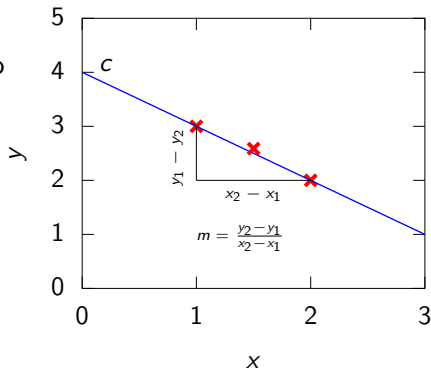
# Two Simultaneous Equations

How do we deal with three simultaneous equations with only two unknowns?

$$y_1 = mx_1 + c$$

$$y_2 = mx_2 + c$$

$$y_3 = mx_3 + c$$



# Overdetermined System

- With two unknowns and two observations:

$$y_1 = mx_1 + c$$

$$y_2 = mx_2 + c$$

- Additional observation leads to *overdetermined* system.

$$y_3 = mx_3 + c$$

- This problem is solved through a noise model  $\epsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

$$y_1 = mx_1 + c + \epsilon_1$$

$$y_2 = mx_2 + c + \epsilon_2$$

$$y_3 = mx_3 + c + \epsilon_3$$

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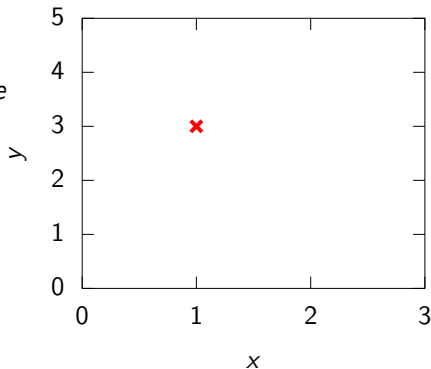
# Noise Models

- We aren't modeling entire system.
- Noise model gives mismatch between model and data.
- Gaussian model justified by appeal to central limit theorem.
- Other models also possible (Student- $t$  for heavy tails).
- Maximum likelihood with Gaussian noise leads to *least squares*.

# Underdetermined System

What about two unknowns and *one* observation?

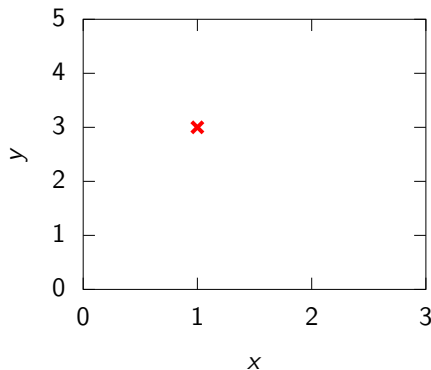
$$y_1 = mx_1 + c$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

$$m = \frac{y_1 - c}{x}$$

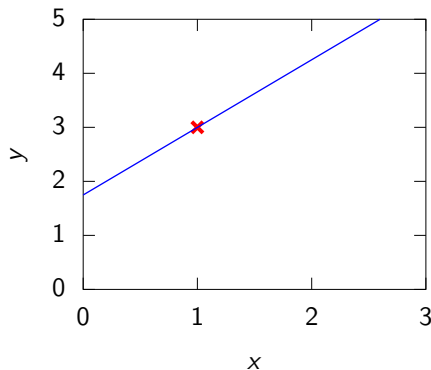




# Underdetermined System

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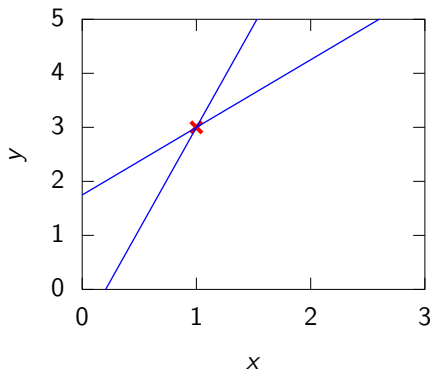
$$c = 1.75 \implies m = 1.25$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

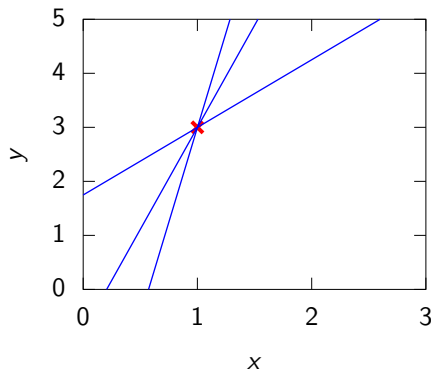
$$c = -0.777 \implies m = 3.78$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

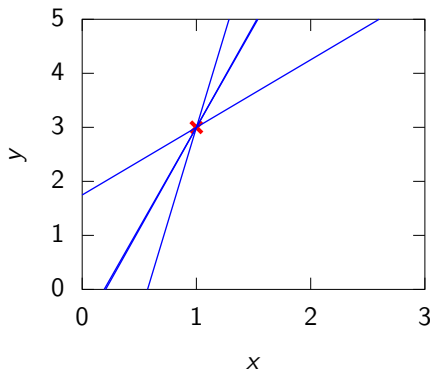
$$c = -4.01 \implies m = 7.01$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

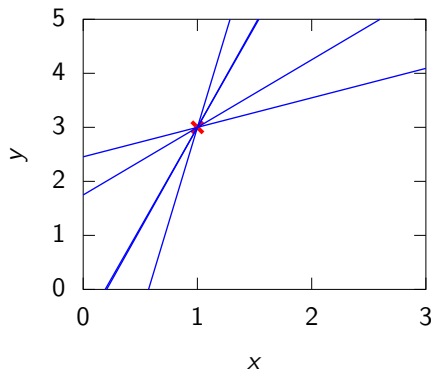
$$c = -0.718 \implies m = 3.72$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

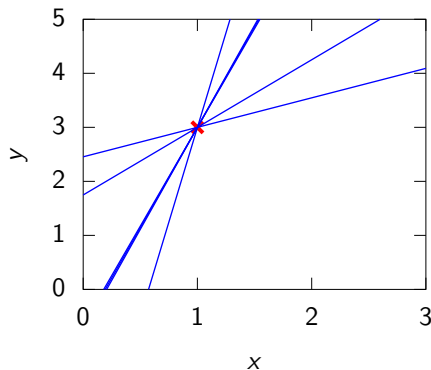
$$c = 2.45 \implies m = 0.545$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

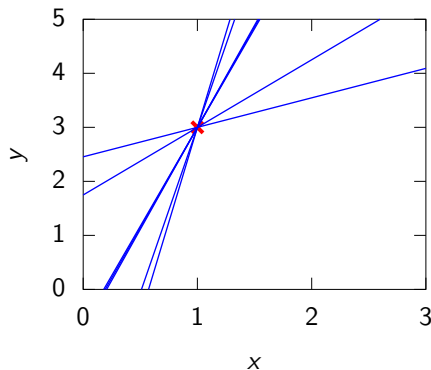
$$c = -0.657 \implies m = 3.66$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

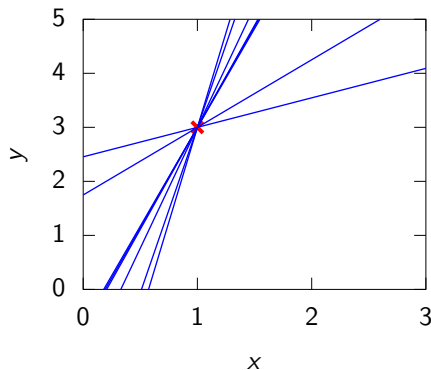
$$c = -3.13 \implies m = 6.13$$



# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

$$c = -1.47 \implies m = 4.47$$





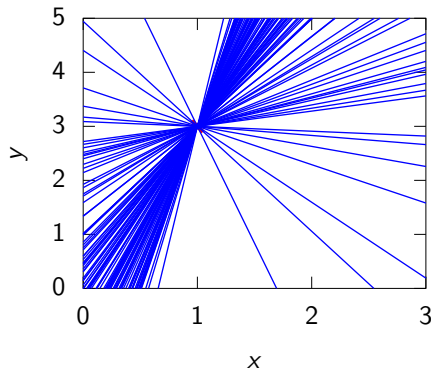
# Underdetermined System

Can compute  $m$  given  $c$ .

Assume

$$c \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 4),$$

we find a distribution of solutions.



# Probability for Under- and Overdetermined

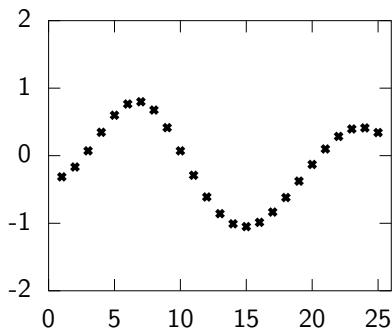
- To deal with overdetermined introduced probability distribution for 'variable',  $\epsilon_j$ .
- For underdetermined system introduced probability distribution for 'parameter',  $c$ .
- This is known as a Bayesian treatment.

# Sampling a Function

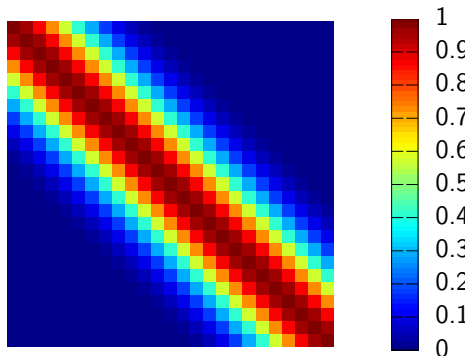
## Multi-variate Gaussians

- We will consider a Gaussian with a particular structure of covariance matrix.
- Generate a single sample from this 25 dimensional Gaussian distribution,  $\mathbf{f} = [f_1, f_2 \dots f_{25}]$ .
- We will plot these points against their index.

# Gaussian Distribution Sample



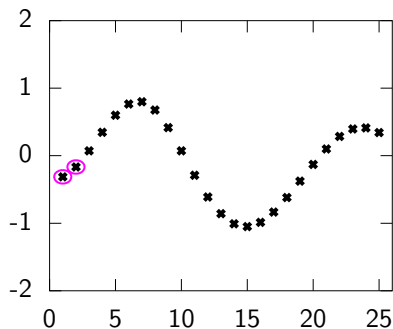
(a) A 25 dimensional correlated random variable (values plotted against index)



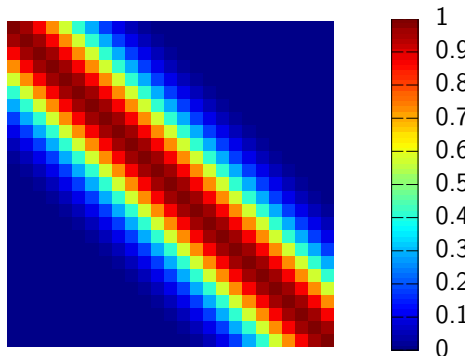
(b) colormap showing correlations between dimensions.

**Figure:** A sample from a 25 dimensional Gaussian distribution.

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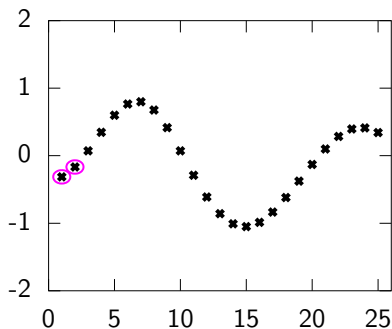
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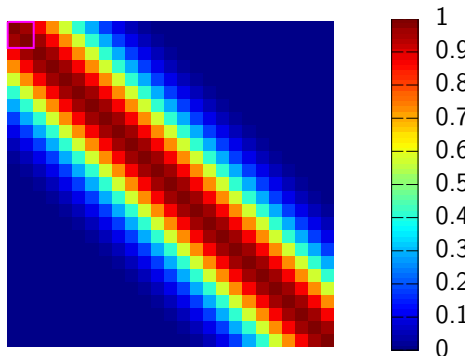
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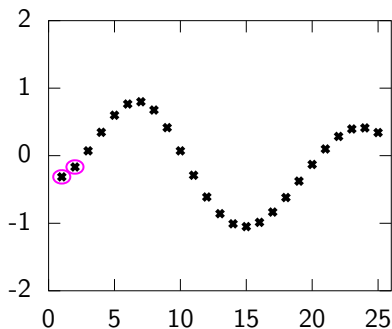
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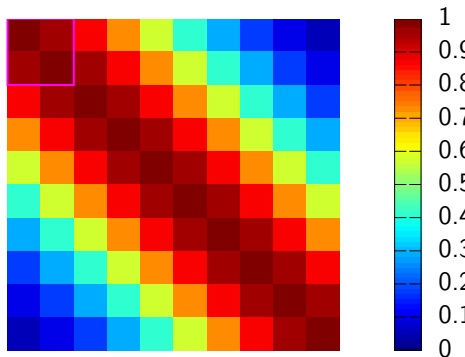
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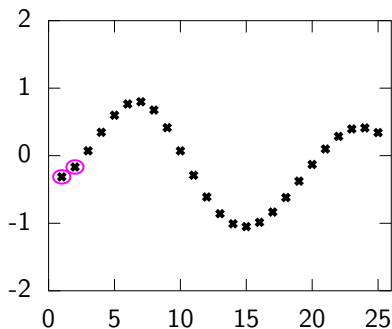
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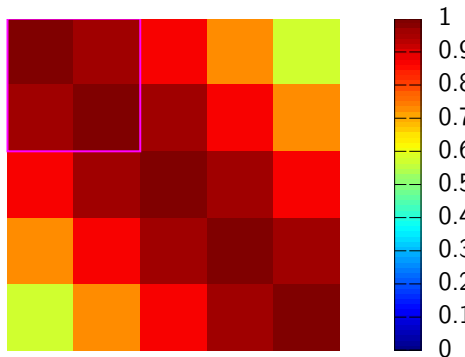
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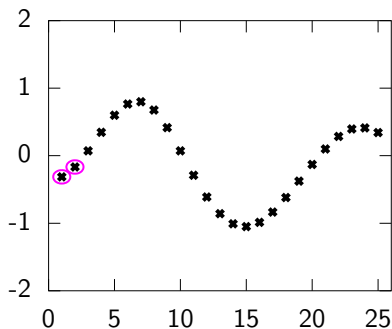


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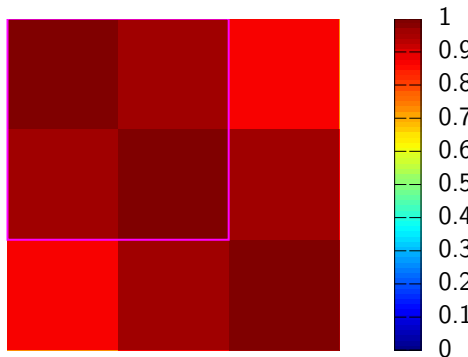
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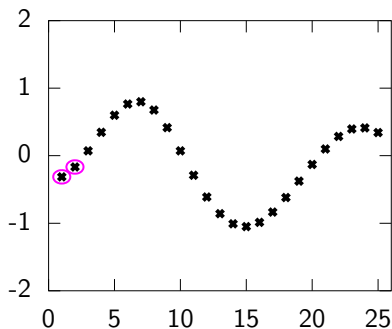
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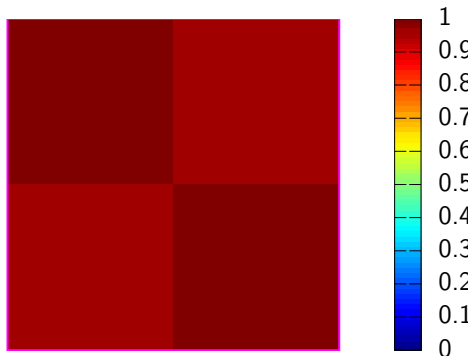
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**Figure:** A sample from a 25 dimensional Gaussian distribution.

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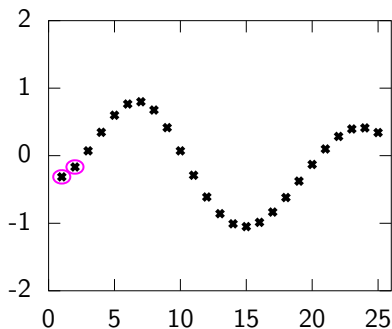
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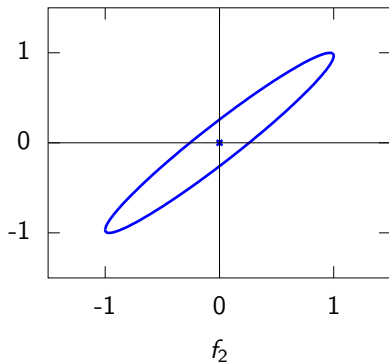
(a) A 25 dimensional correlated random variable (values plotted against index)

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.96587 \\ 0.96587 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) correlation between  $f_1$  and  $f_2$ .

Figure: A sample from a 25 dimensional Gaussian distribution.

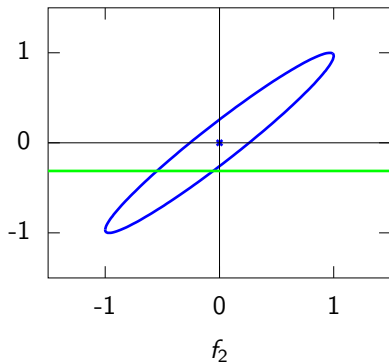
## Prediction of $f_2$ from $f_1$



$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.96587 \\ 0.96587 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The single contour of the Gaussian density represents the **joint distribution**,  $p(f_1, f_2)$ .
- We observe that  $f_1 = -0.313$ .
- Conditional density:  $p(f_2|f_1 = -0.313)$ .

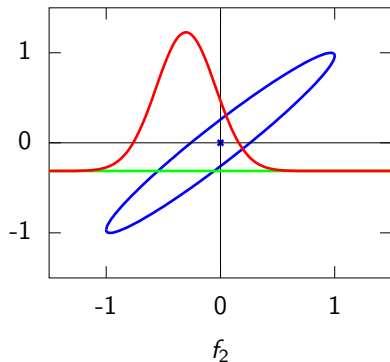
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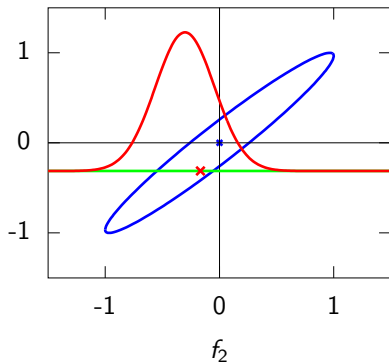
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# Prediction with Correlated Gaussians

- Prediction of  $f_2$  from  $f_1$  requires *conditional density*.
- Conditional density is *also* Gaussian.

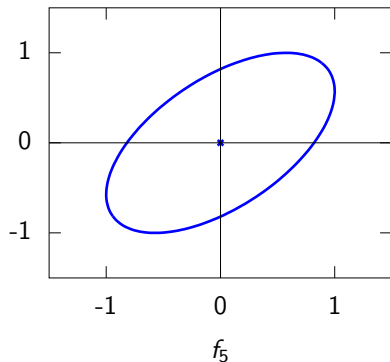
$$p(f_2|f_1) = \mathcal{N}\left(f_2 \middle| \frac{k_{1,2}}{k_{1,1}} f_1, k_{2,2} - \frac{k_{1,2}^2}{k_{1,1}}\right)$$

where covariance of joint density is given by

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} k_{1,1} & k_{1,2} \\ k_{2,1} & k_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}$$



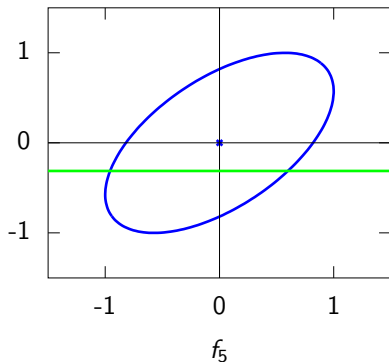
## Prediction of $f_5$ from $f_1$



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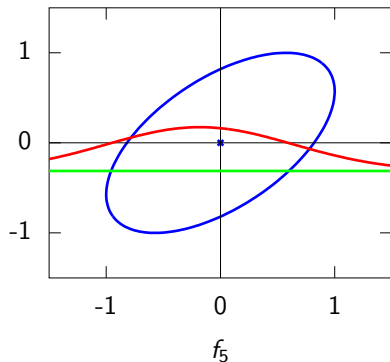
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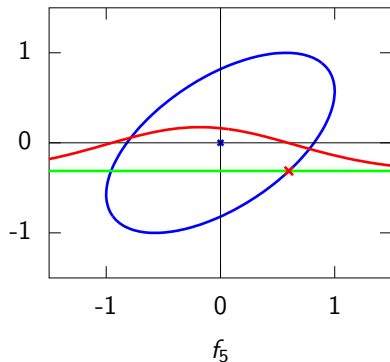
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# Prediction with Correlated Gaussians

- Prediction of  $\mathbf{f}_*$  from  $\mathbf{f}$  requires multivariate *conditional density*.
- Multivariate conditional density is *also* Gaussian.

$$p(\mathbf{f}_*|\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}_* | \mathbf{K}_{*,\mathbf{f}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},\mathbf{f}}^{-1}\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{K}_{*,*} - \mathbf{K}_{*,\mathbf{f}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},\mathbf{f}}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},*})$$

- Here covariance of joint density is given by

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},\mathbf{f}} & \mathbf{K}_{*,\mathbf{f}} \\ \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},*} & \mathbf{K}_{*,*} \end{bmatrix}$$

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$$p(\mathbf{f}_*|\mathbf{f}) = \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{f}_*|\boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma})$$

$$\boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{K}_{*,\mathbf{f}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},\mathbf{f}}^{-1}\mathbf{f}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\Sigma} = \mathbf{K}_{*,*} - \mathbf{K}_{*,\mathbf{f}}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},\mathbf{f}}^{-1}\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f},*}$$

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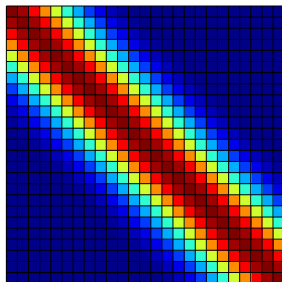
# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

## Exponentiated Quadratic Kernel Function (RBF, Squared Exponential, Gaussian)

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}'\|_2^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

- Covariance matrix is built using the *inputs* to the function  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- For the example above it was based on Euclidean distance.
- The covariance function is also known as a kernel.



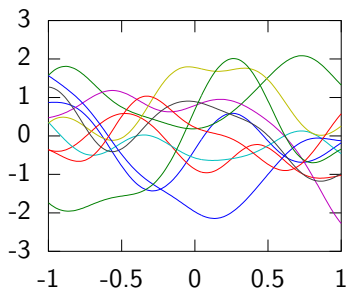
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- Covariance matrix is built using the *inputs* to the function  $\mathbf{x}$ .
- For the example above it was based on Euclidean distance.
- The covariance function is also known as a kernel.





# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3.0, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{1,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(-3.0 - -3.0)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3.0, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{1,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(-3.0 - -3.0)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.20, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{2,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.20, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{2,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20 - 1.20)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 \\ 0.110 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.20, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{2,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = 1.20, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{2,2} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20-1.20)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = 1.20, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{2,2} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20-1.20)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{3,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .



# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{3,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 \\ 0.0889 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{3,1} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & \\ 0.0889 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{3,2} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40-1.40)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & \\ 0.0889 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{3,2} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40-1.20)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & \\ 0.0889 & 0.995 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{3,2} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40-1.20)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & 0.995 \\ 0.0889 & 0.995 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_3 = 1.40$$

$$k_{3,3} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40-1.40)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & 0.995 \\ 0.0889 & 0.995 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_3 = 1.40$$

$$k_{3,3} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40-1.40)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & 0.995 \\ 0.0889 & 0.995 & 1.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .

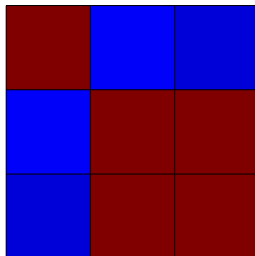
# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_3 = 1.40$$

$$k_{3,3} = 1.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40-1.40)^2}{2 \times 2.00^2}\right)$$



$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 2.00$  and  $\alpha = 1.00$ .



# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{1,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(-3 - -3)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{1,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(-3 - -3)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.2, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{2,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.2 - (-3))^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.2, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{2,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.2 - (-3))^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 \\ 0.11 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.2, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{2,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.2 - (-3))^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 \\ 0.11 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4, \text{ and } x_4 = 2.0$$

$$k_{2,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.2-1.2)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.09 & 0.02 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 0.98 & 0.82 \\ 0.09 & 0.98 & 1.0 & 0.95 \\ 0.02 & 0.82 & 0.95 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4, \text{ and } x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.2, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{2,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.2-1.2)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{3,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4 - (-3))^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .



# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{3,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4 - (-3))^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 \\ 0.089 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{3,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4 - (-3))^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & \\ 0.089 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{3,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4-1.2)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & \\ 0.089 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{3,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4-1.4)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{3,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4-1.2)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_3 = 1.4$$

$$k_{3,3} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4-1.4)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.4, x_3 = 1.4$$

$$k_{3,3} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.4-1.4)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{4,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .



# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{4,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\ 0.044 & 1.0 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_1 = -3$$

$$k_{4,1} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0 - 2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3, x_2 = 1.2, x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{4,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{4,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-1.2)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_2 = 1.2$$

$$k_{4,2} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-1.2)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_3 = 1.4$$

$$k_{4,3} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_3 = 1.4$$

$$k_{4,3} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & \boxed{0.96} & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.96 \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .



# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_4 = 2.0$$

$$k_{4,4} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.96 \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

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Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_4 = 2.0$$

$$k_{4,4} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.96 \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96 & 1.0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

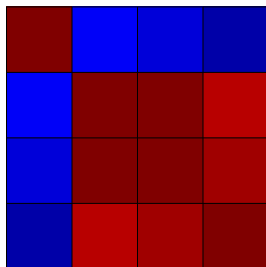
# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_4 = 2.0, x_4 = 2.0$$

$$k_{4,4} = 1.0 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^2}{2 \times 2.0^2}\right)$$



$x_1 = -3$ ,  $x_2 = 1.2$ ,  $x_3 = 1.4$ , and  $x_4 = 2.0$  with  $\ell = 2.0$  and  $\alpha = 1.0$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3.0, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{1,1} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(-3.0 - -3.0)^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.20, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{2,1} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20 - 1.20)^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} & \\ & 4.00 \\ & \\ & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.20, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{2,1} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 \\ 2.81 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_2 = 1.20, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{2,1} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 \\ 2.81 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .



# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = 1.20, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{2,2} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20-1.20)^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 \\ 2.81 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_1 = -3.0, x_2 = 1.20$$

$$k_{2,2} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.20-1.20)^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 \\ 2.81 & 4.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

$$x_3 = 1.40, x_1 = -3.0$$

$$k_{3,1} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40 - (-3.0))^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

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$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

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$$k_{3,1} = 4.00 \times \exp\left(-\frac{(1.40 - 1.40)^2}{2 \times 5.00^2}\right)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 \\ 2.81 & 4.00 \\ 2.72 & 2.72 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

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Where did this covariance matrix come from?

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 & 2.72 \\ 2.81 & 4.00 & \\ 2.72 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

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$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

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$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .



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$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 & 2.72 \\ 2.81 & 4.00 & 4.00 \\ 2.72 & 4.00 & \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Covariance Functions

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$$x_3 = 1.40, x_3 = 1.40$$

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$$\begin{bmatrix} 4.00 & 2.81 & 2.72 \\ 2.81 & 4.00 & 4.00 \\ 2.72 & 4.00 & 4.00 \end{bmatrix}$$

$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

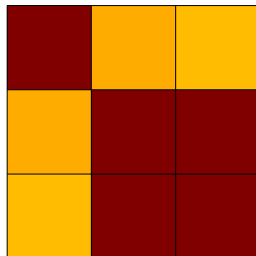
# Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\ell^2}\right)$$

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$x_1 = -3.0$ ,  $x_2 = 1.20$ , and  $x_3 = 1.40$  with  $\ell = 5.00$  and  $\alpha = 4.00$ .

# Outline

- 1 The Gaussian Density
- 2 Constructing Covariance**
- 3 GP Limitations
- 4 Conclusions

# Constructing Covariance Functions

- Sum of two covariances is also a covariance function.

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = k_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') + k_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

# Constructing Covariance Functions

- Product of two covariances is also a covariance function.

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = k_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')k_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$$

# Multiply by Deterministic Function

- If  $f(\mathbf{x})$  is a Gaussian process.
- $g(\mathbf{x})$  is a deterministic function.
- $h(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x})g(\mathbf{x})$
- Then

$$k_h(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = g(\mathbf{x})k_f(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')g(\mathbf{x}')$$

where  $k_h$  is covariance for  $h(\cdot)$  and  $k_f$  is covariance for  $f(\cdot)$ .

# Covariance Functions

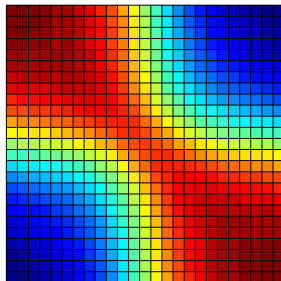
## MLP Covariance Function

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \alpha \sin \left( \frac{w \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' + b}{\sqrt{w \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} + b + 1} \sqrt{w \mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{x}' + b + 1}} \right)$$

- Based on infinite neural network model.

$$w = 40$$

$$b = 4$$





# Covariance Functions

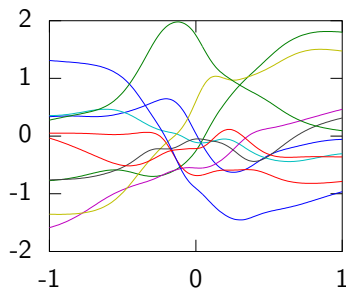
## MLP Covariance Function

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \alpha \sin \left( \frac{w \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' + b}{\sqrt{w \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x} + b + 1} \sqrt{w \mathbf{x}'^\top \mathbf{x}' + b + 1}} \right)$$

- Based on infinite neural network model.

$$w = 40$$

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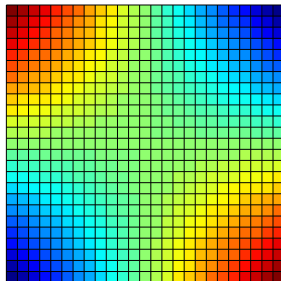
# Covariance Functions

## Linear Covariance Function

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \alpha \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}'$$

- Bayesian linear regression.

$$\alpha = 1$$



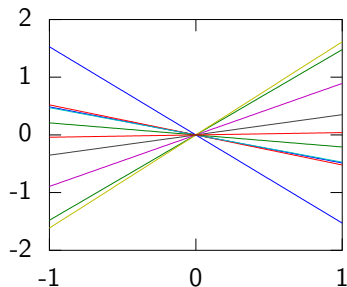
# Covariance Functions

## Linear Covariance Function

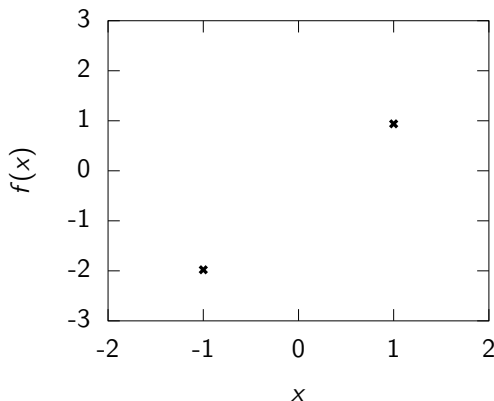
$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \alpha \mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}'$$

- Bayesian linear regression.

$$\alpha = 1$$

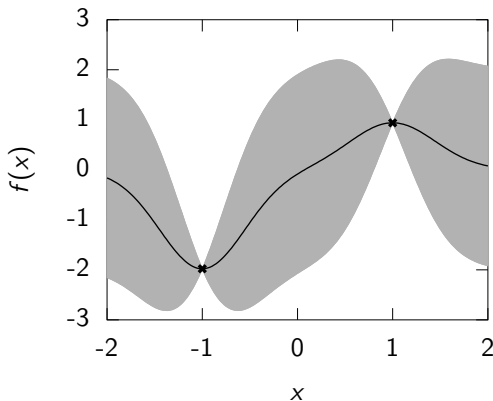


# Gaussian Process Interpolation



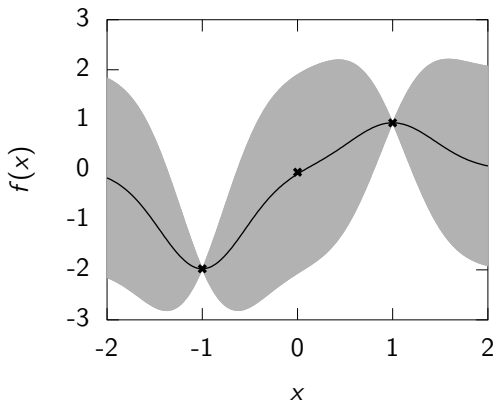
**Figure:** Real example: BACCO (see e.g. (Oakley and O'Hagan, 2002)). Interpolation through outputs from slow computer simulations (e.g. atmospheric carbon levels).

# Gaussian Process Interpolation



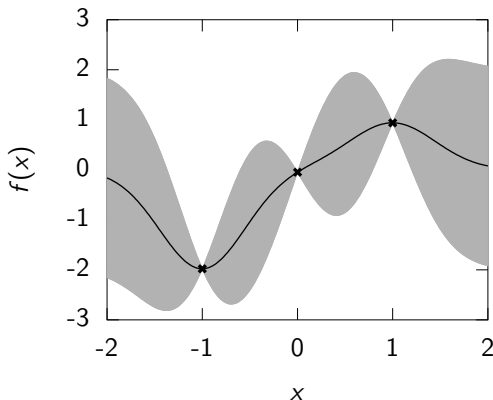
**Figure:** Real example: BACCO (see e.g. (Oakley and O'Hagan, 2002)). Interpolation through outputs from slow computer simulations (e.g. atmospheric carbon levels).

# Gaussian Process Interpolation



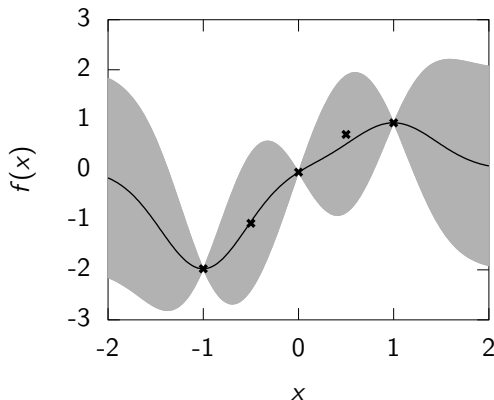
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# Gaussian Process Interpolation



**Figure:** Real example: BACCO (see e.g. (Oakley and O'Hagan, 2002)). Interpolation through outputs from slow computer simulations (e.g. atmospheric carbon levels).

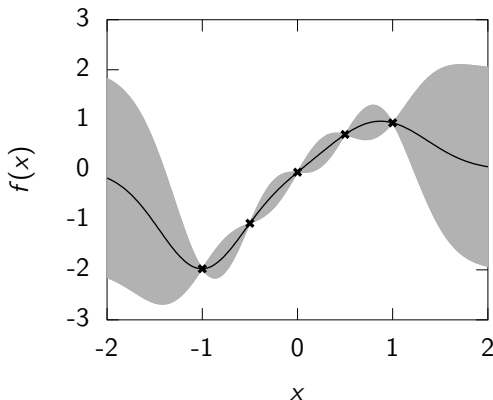
# Gaussian Process Interpolation



**Figure:** Real example: BACCO (see e.g. (Oakley and O'Hagan, 2002)). Interpolation through outputs from slow computer simulations (e.g. atmospheric carbon levels).

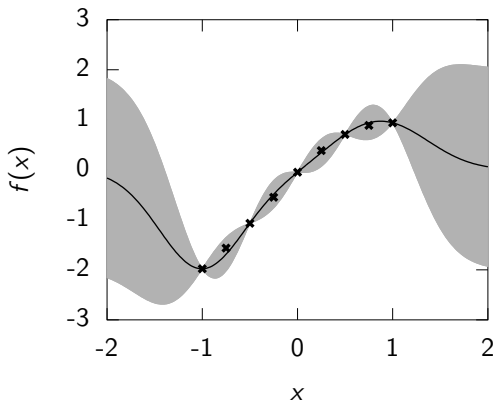


# Gaussian Process Interpolation



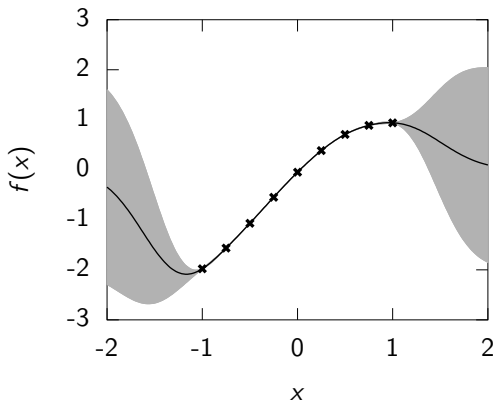
**Figure:** Real example: BACCO (see e.g. (Oakley and O'Hagan, 2002)). Interpolation through outputs from slow computer simulations (e.g. atmospheric carbon levels).

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# Gaussian Process Interpolation

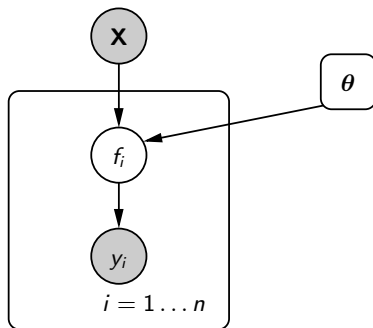


**Figure:** Real example: BACCO (see e.g. (Oakley and O'Hagan, 2002)). Interpolation through outputs from slow computer simulations (e.g. atmospheric carbon levels).

# Noise Models

## Graph of a GP

- Relates input variables,  $\mathbf{X}$ , to vector,  $\mathbf{y}$ , through  $\mathbf{f}$  given kernel parameters  $\theta$ .
- Plate notation indicates independence of  $y_i|f_i$ .
- Noise model,  $p(y_i|f_i)$  can take several forms.
- Simplest is Gaussian noise.



**Figure:** The Gaussian process depicted graphically.

# Gaussian Noise

- Gaussian noise model,

$$p(y_i|f_i) = \mathcal{N}(y_i|f_i, \sigma^2)$$

where  $\sigma^2$  is the variance of the noise.

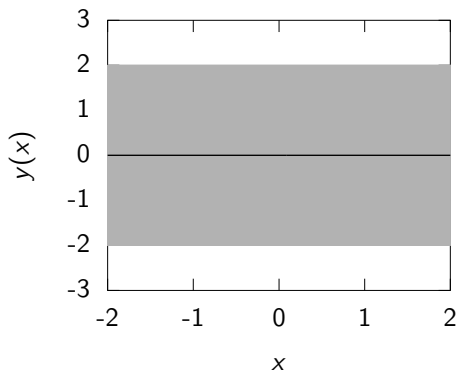
- Equivalent to a covariance function of the form

$$k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = \delta_{i,j} \sigma^2$$

where  $\delta_{i,j}$  is the Kronecker delta function.

- Additive nature of Gaussians means we can simply add this term to existing covariance matrices.

# Gaussian Process Regression



**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

# Gaussian Process Regression

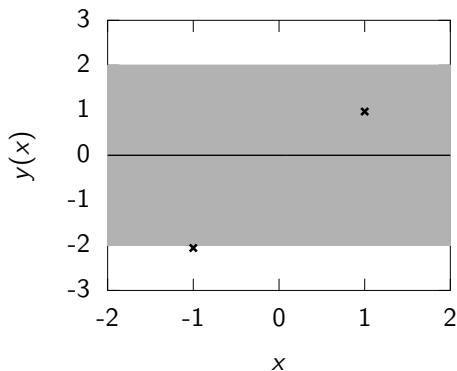
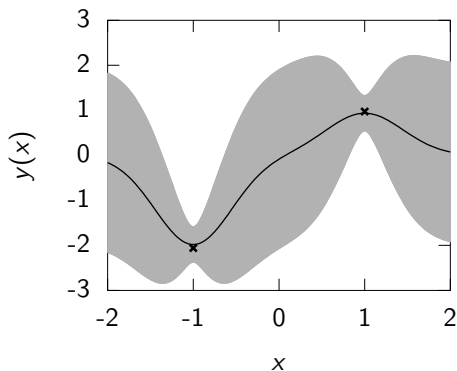


Figure: Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

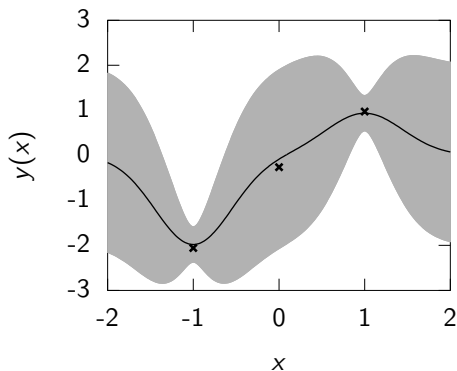
# Gaussian Process Regression



**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

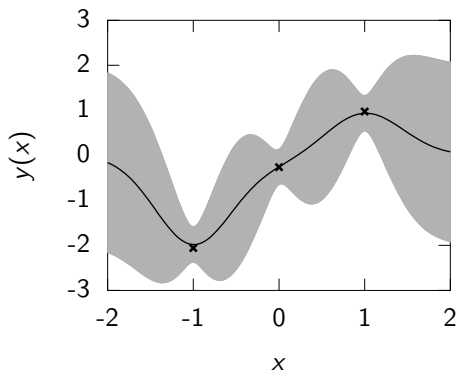


# Gaussian Process Regression



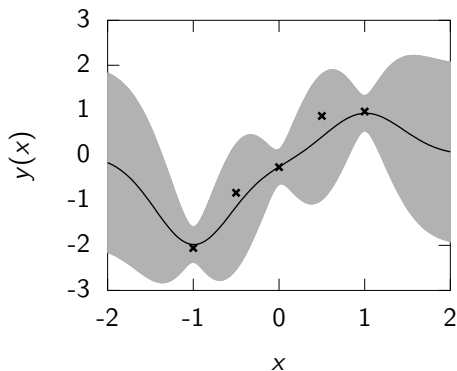
**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

# Gaussian Process Regression



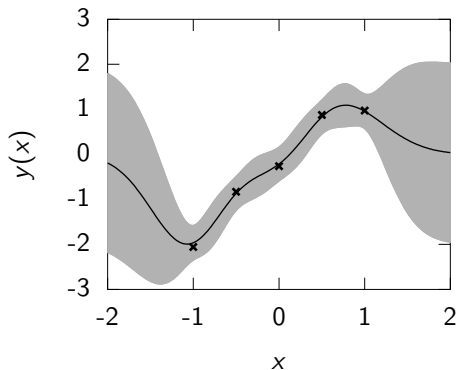
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# Gaussian Process Regression



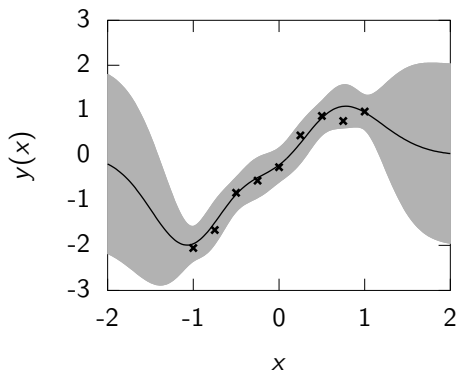
**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

# Gaussian Process Regression



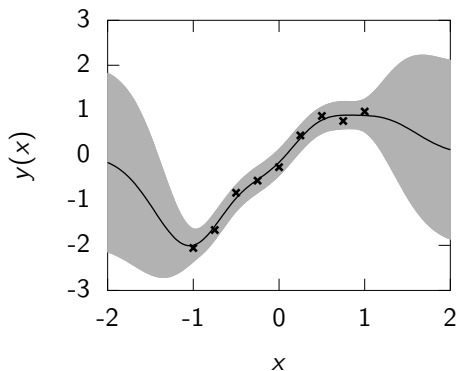
**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

# Gaussian Process Regression



**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

# Gaussian Process Regression



**Figure:** Examples include WiFi localization, C14 calibration curve.

# Learning Covariance Parameters

Can we determine covariance parameters from the data?

$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{\frac{n}{2}}|\mathbf{K}|} \exp\left(-\frac{\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{y}}{2}\right)$$

The parameters are *inside* the covariance function (matrix).

$$k_{i,j} = k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j; \theta)$$

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Can we determine covariance parameters from the data?

$$\log \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y} | \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}) = -\frac{n}{2} \log 2\pi - \frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{y}}{2}$$

The parameters are *inside* the covariance function (matrix).

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

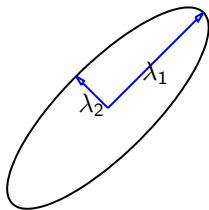
The parameters are *inside* the covariance function (matrix).

$$k_{i,j} = k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j; \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

# Eigendecomposition of Covariance

A useful decomposition for understanding the objective function.

$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{R}\mathbf{\Lambda}^2\mathbf{R}^\top$$



Diagonal of  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  represents distance along axes.

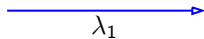
$\mathbf{R}$  gives a rotation of these axes.

where  $\mathbf{\Lambda}$  is a *diagonal* matrix and  $\mathbf{R}^\top \mathbf{R} = \mathbf{I}$ .

Useful representation since  $|\mathbf{K}| = |\mathbf{\Lambda}^2| = |\mathbf{\Lambda}|^2$ .

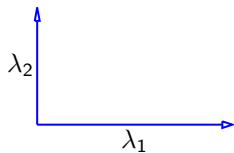
## Capacity control: $\log |\mathbf{K}|$

$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \boxed{\lambda_1 & 0} \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}$$


$$\lambda_1$$

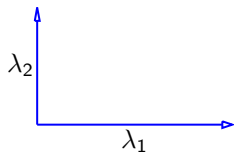
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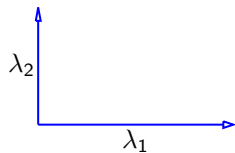
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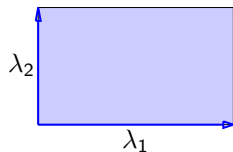
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$$|\mathbf{\Lambda}| = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$

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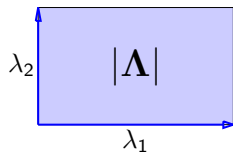


$$|\mathbf{\Lambda}| = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$



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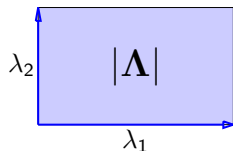
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## Capacity control: $\log |\mathbf{K}|$

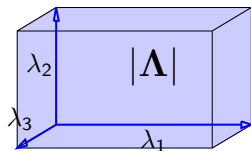
$$\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \lambda_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \lambda_3 \end{bmatrix}$$



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## Capacity control: $\log |\mathbf{K}|$

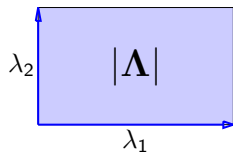
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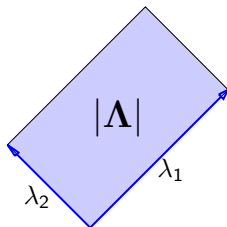
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$$|\mathbf{\Lambda}| = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$

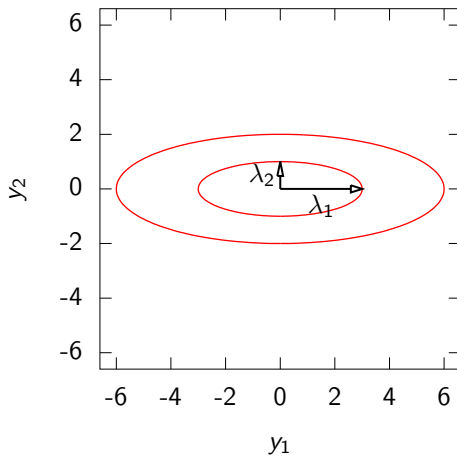
## Capacity control: $\log |\mathbf{K}|$

$$\mathbf{R}\mathbf{\Lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} w_{1,1} & w_{1,2} \\ w_{2,1} & w_{2,2} \end{bmatrix}$$

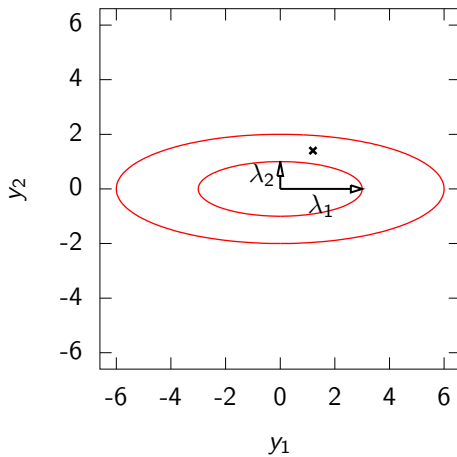


$$|\mathbf{R}\mathbf{\Lambda}| = \lambda_1 \lambda_2$$

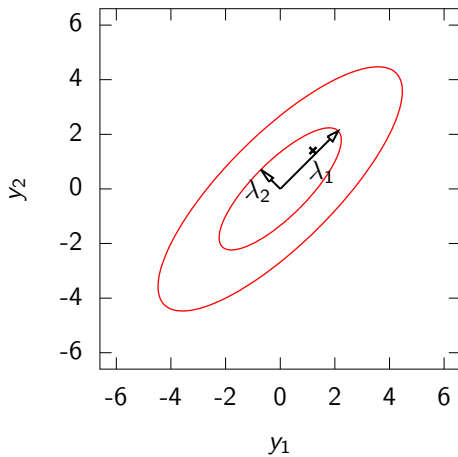
Data Fit:  $\frac{\mathbf{y}^{-1}\mathbf{K}^{-1}\mathbf{y}}{2}$



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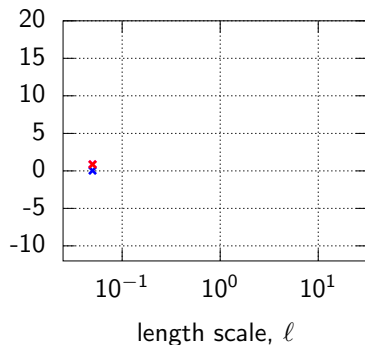
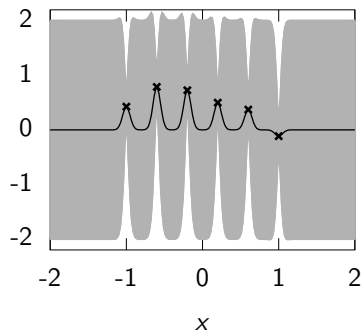
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# Learning Covariance Parameters

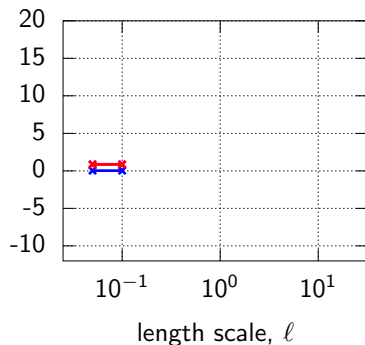
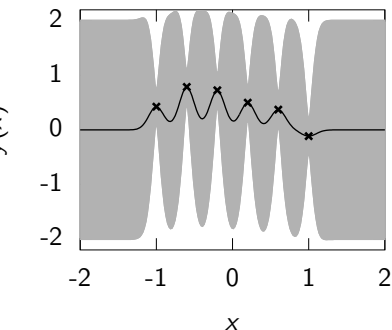
Can we determine length scales and noise levels from the data?



$$E(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{K}| + \frac{\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{y}}{2}$$

# Learning Covariance Parameters

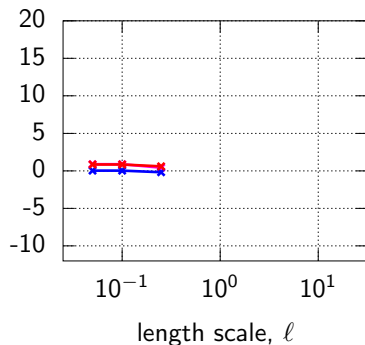
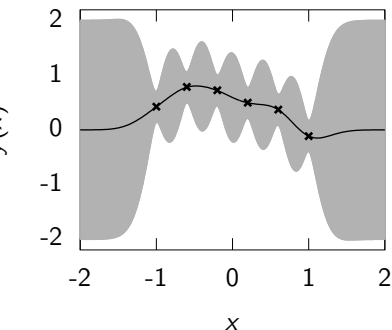
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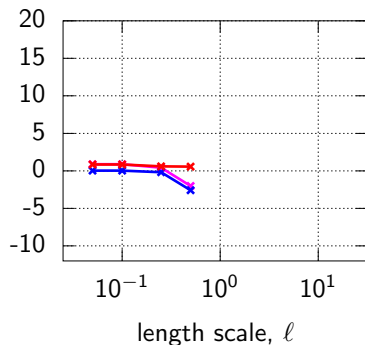
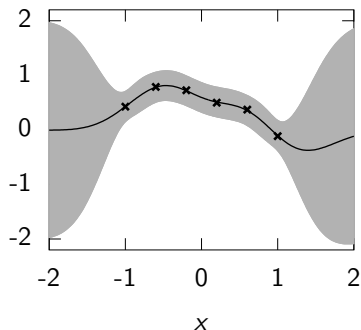
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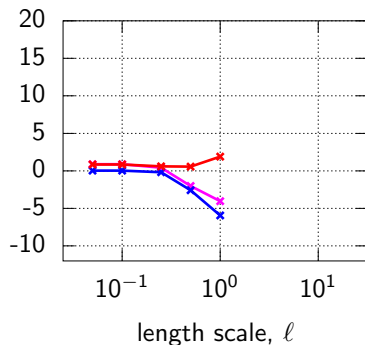
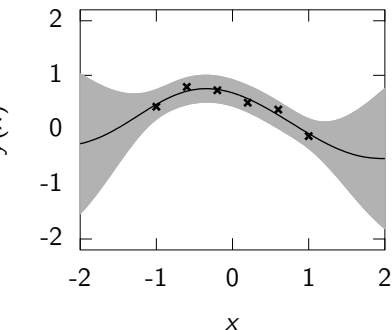
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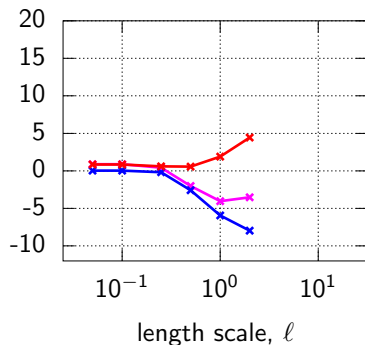
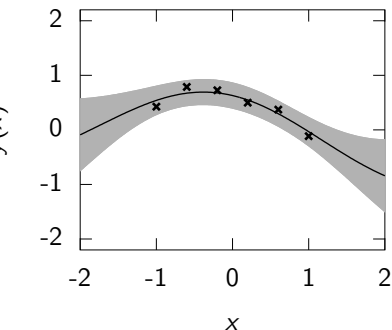
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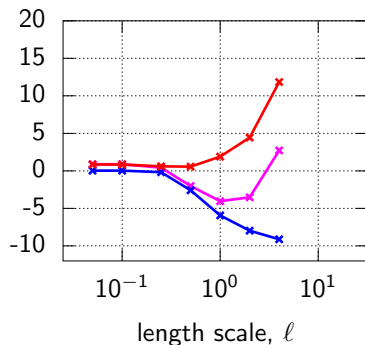
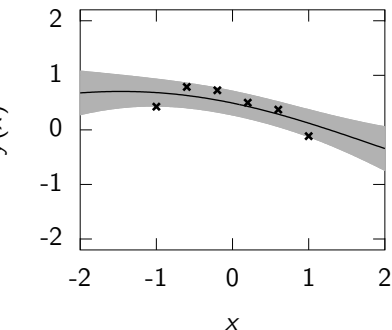
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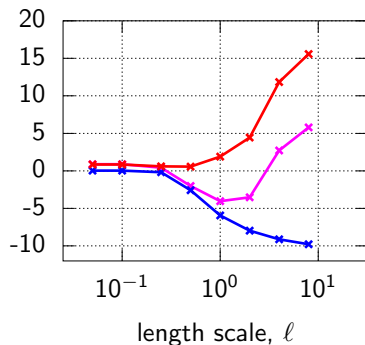
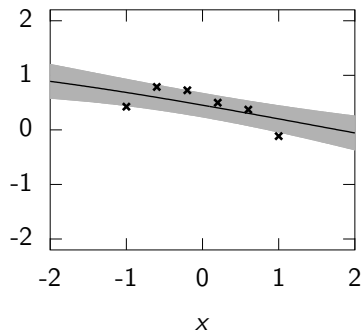
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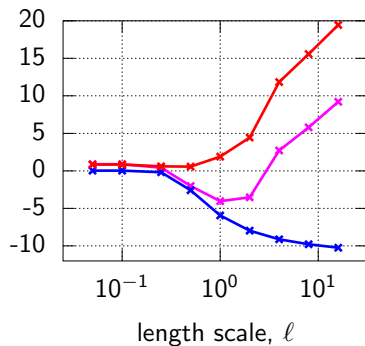
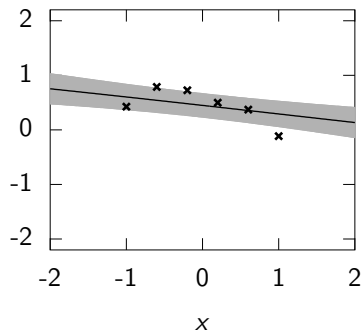


$$E(\theta) = \frac{1}{2} |\mathbf{K}| + \frac{\mathbf{y}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{y}}{2}$$



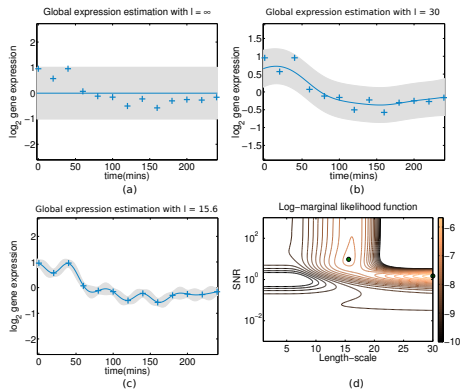
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# Gene Expression Example



Data from Della Gatta et al. (2008). Figure from Kalaitzis and Lawrence (2011).

# Outline

- 1 The Gaussian Density
- 2 Constructing Covariance
- 3 GP Limitations**
- 4 Conclusions

# Limitations of Gaussian Processes

- Inference is  $O(n^3)$  due to matrix inverse (in practice use Cholesky).
- Gaussian processes don't deal well with discontinuities (financial crises, phosphorylation, collisions, edges in images).
- Widely used exponentiated quadratic covariance (RBF) can be too smooth in practice (but there are many alternatives!!).

# Summary

- Broad introduction to Gaussian processes.
  - ▶ Started with Gaussian distribution.
  - ▶ Motivated Gaussian processes through the multivariate density.
- Emphasized the role of the covariance (not the mean).
- Performs nonlinear regression with error bars.
- Parameters of the covariance function (kernel) are easily optimized with maximum likelihood.

# References I

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- C. E. Rasmussen and C. K. I. Williams. *Gaussian Processes for Machine Learning*. MIT Press, Cambridge, MA, 2006. [[Google Books](#)] .