

# Latent Variable Modelling with Gaussian Processes

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# Outline

## 1 Motivation

- Statistical Interpretation of Inverse Problem
- Examples

## 2 Extensions

- Back Constraints
- Dynamics
- Hierarchical GP-LVM

## 3 Conclusions

- Summary

# Online Resources

All source code and slides are available online

- This talk available from my home page (see talks link on left hand side).
- MATLAB examples in the 'oxford' toolbox (vrs 0.131),  
`demGplvmTalk`.
  - <http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/~neill/oxford/>.
- And the 'fgplvm' toolbox (vrs 0.15).
  - <http://www.cs.man.ac.uk/~neill/fgplvm/>.
- MATLAB commands used for examples given in typewriter font.

# Bayes' Rule

## Posterior Distribution over Variables

$$p(\mathbf{X}|\mathbf{Y}, \mathbf{W}) = \frac{p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{W}) p(\mathbf{X})}{p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{W})}$$

$\mathbf{Y}$ — data

$\mathbf{X}$ — latent variables

$\mathbf{W}$ — parameters

e.g. for EEG signals  $\mathbf{X}$  is true source signal,  $\mathbf{Y}$  is observed signals and  $\mathbf{W}$  is a mixing matrix and noise.

# Notation

$q$ — dimension of latent/embedded space

$d$ — dimension of data space

$n$ — number of data points

centred data,  $\mathbf{Y} = [\mathbf{y}_{1,:}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{n,:}]^T = [\mathbf{y}_{:,1}, \dots, \mathbf{y}_{:,d}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$

latent variables,  $\mathbf{X} = [\mathbf{x}_{1,:}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{n,:}]^T = [\mathbf{x}_{:,1}, \dots, \mathbf{x}_{:,q}] \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times q}$

mapping matrix,  $\mathbf{W} \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times q}$

$\mathbf{a}_{i,:}$  is a vector from the  $i$ th row of a given matrix  $\mathbf{A}$

$\mathbf{a}_{:,j}$  is a vector from the  $j$ th row of a given matrix  $\mathbf{A}$

# Reading Notation

**X** and **Y** are *design matrices*

- Covariance given by  $n^{-1}\mathbf{Y}^T\mathbf{Y}$ .
- Inner product matrix given by  $\mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}^T$ .

# Linear Dimensionality Reduction

## Linear Latent Variable Model

- Represent data,  $\mathbf{Y}$ , with a lower dimensional set of latent variables  $\mathbf{X}$ .
- Assume a linear relationship of the form

$$\mathbf{y}_{i,:} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}_{i,:} + \boldsymbol{\eta}_{i,:},$$

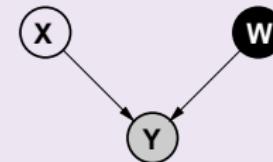
where

$$\boldsymbol{\eta}_{i,:} \sim N(\mathbf{0}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}).$$

# Linear Latent Variable Model

Probabilistic PCA [Tipping and Bishop, 1999, Roweis, 1998]

- Define *linear-Gaussian relationship* between latent variables and data.
- Standard Latent variable approach:
  - Define Gaussian prior over *latent space*,  $\mathbf{X}$ .
  - Integrate out *latent variables*.

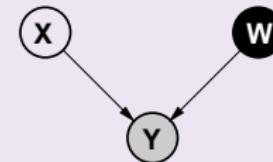


$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{W}) = \prod_{i=1}^n N(\mathbf{y}_{i,:} | \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}_{i,:}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

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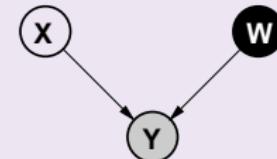


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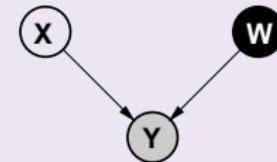
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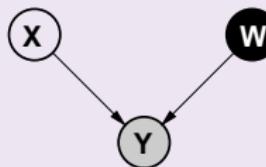
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# Linear Latent Variable Model II

Probabilistic PCA Max. Likelihood Soln [Tipping and Bishop, 1999]



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$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{W}) = \prod_{i=1}^n N(\mathbf{y}_{i,:}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{C}), \quad \mathbf{C} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{W}^T + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$$

$$\log p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{W}) = -\frac{n}{2} \log |\mathbf{C}| - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{C}^{-1} \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{Y}) + \text{const.}$$

If  $\mathbf{U}_q$  are first  $q$  principal eigenvectors of  $n^{-1} \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{Y}$  and the corresponding eigenvalues are  $\Lambda_q$ ,

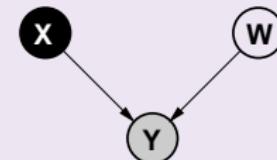
$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{U}_q \mathbf{L} \mathbf{V}^T, \quad \mathbf{L} = (\Lambda_q - \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

where  $\mathbf{V}$  is an arbitrary rotation matrix.

# Linear Latent Variable Model III

## Dual Probabilistic PCA

- Define *linear-Gaussian relationship* between latent variables and data.
- Novel Latent variable approach:
  - Define Gaussian prior over *parameters*,  $W$ .
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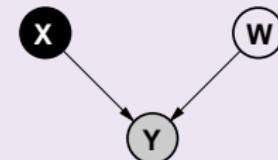


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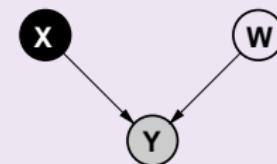


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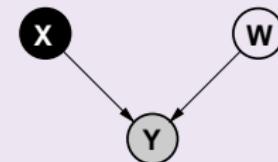
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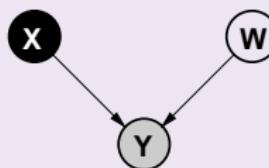
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$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{j=1}^d N(\mathbf{y}_{:,j} | \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

# Linear Latent Variable Model IV

Dual Probabilistic PCA Max. Likelihood Soln [Lawrence, 2004, 2005]



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Dual Probabilistic PCA Max. Likelihood Soln [Lawrence, 2004, 2005]

$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{j=1}^d N(\mathbf{y}_{:,j}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}), \quad \mathbf{K} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$$

$$\log p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = -\frac{d}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \text{tr}(\mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^T) + \text{const.}$$

If  $\mathbf{U}'_q$  are first  $q$  principal eigenvectors of  $d^{-1} \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^T$  and the corresponding eigenvalues are  $\Lambda_q$ ,

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# Equivalence of Formulations

The Eigenvalue Problems are equivalent

- Solution for Probabilistic PCA (solves for the mapping)

$$\mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{U}_q = \mathbf{U}_q \Lambda_q \quad \mathbf{W} = \mathbf{U}_q \mathbf{L} \mathbf{V}^T$$

- Solution for Dual Probabilistic PCA (solves for the latent positions)

$$\mathbf{Y} \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{U}'_q = \mathbf{U}'_q \Lambda_q \quad \mathbf{X} = \mathbf{U}'_q \mathbf{L} \mathbf{V}^T$$

- Equivalence is from

$$\mathbf{U}_q = \mathbf{Y}^T \mathbf{U}'_q \Lambda_q^{-\frac{1}{2}}$$

# Gaussian Process (GP)

## Prior for Functions

- Probability Distribution over Functions
  - Functions are infinite dimensional.
  - Prior distribution over *instantiations* of the function: finite dimensional objects.
- Can prove by induction that GP is ‘consistent’.
- Mean and Covariance Functions
  - Instead of mean and covariance matrix, GP is defined by mean function and covariance function.
  - Mean function often taken to be zero or constant.
  - Covariance function must be *positive definite*.
  - Class of valid covariance functions is the same as the class of *Mercer kernels*.

# Gaussian Processes II

## Zero mean Gaussian Process

- A (zero mean) Gaussian process likelihood is of the form

$$p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}) = N(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K}),$$

where  $\mathbf{K}$  is the covariance function or *kernel*.

- The *linear kernel* with noise has the form

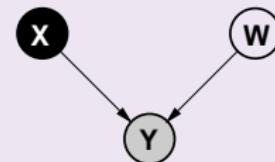
$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$$

- Priors over non-linear functions are also possible.
  - To see what functions look like, we can sample from the prior process.

# Non-Linear Latent Variable Model

## Dual Probabilistic PCA

- Define *linear-Gaussian relationship* between latent variables and data.
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$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{W}) = \prod_{i=1}^n N(\mathbf{y}_{i,:} | \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}_{i,:}, \sigma^2 \mathbf{I})$$

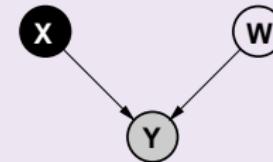
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# Non-Linear Latent Variable Model

## Dual Probabilistic PCA

- Inspection of the marginal likelihood shows ...
  - The covariance matrix is a covariance function.
  - We recognise it as the 'linear kernel'.
  - We call this the Gaussian Process Latent Variable model (GP-LVM).

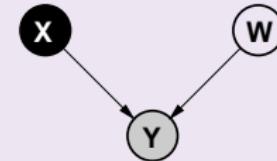


$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{j=1}^d N \left( \mathbf{y}_{:,j} | \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I} \right)$$

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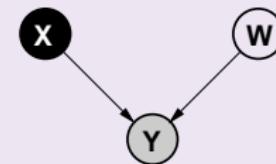
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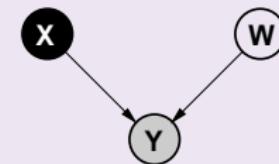
$$\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T + \sigma^2\mathbf{I}$$

This is a product of Gaussian processes with linear kernels.

# Non-Linear Latent Variable Model

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$$p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X}) = \prod_{j=1}^d N(\mathbf{y}_{:,j}|\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{K})$$

$$\mathbf{K} = ?$$

Replace linear kernel with non-linear kernel for non-linear model.

# Non-linear Latent Variable Models

## RBF Kernel

- The RBF kernel has the form  $k_{ij} = k(\mathbf{x}_{i,:}, \mathbf{x}_{j,:})$ , where

$$k(\mathbf{x}_{i,:}, \mathbf{x}_{j,:}) = \alpha \exp\left(-\frac{(\mathbf{x}_{i,:} - \mathbf{x}_{j,:})^T (\mathbf{x}_{i,:} - \mathbf{x}_{j,:})}{2l^2}\right).$$

- No longer possible to optimise wrt  $\mathbf{X}$  via an eigenvalue problem.
- Instead find gradients with respect to  $\mathbf{X}, \alpha, l$  and  $\sigma^2$  and optimise using conjugate gradients.

# Applications

## Style Based Inverse Kinematics

Facilitating animation through modelling human motion with the GP-LVM [Grochow et al., 2004]

## Tracking

Tracking using models of human motion learnt with the GP-LVM [Urtasun et al., 2005, 2006]

# Stick Man

## Generalization with less Data than Dimensions

- Powerful uncertainty handling of GPs leads to surprising properties.
- Non-linear models can be used where there are fewer data points than dimensions *without overfitting*.
- Example: Modelling a stick man in 102 dimensions with 55 data points!

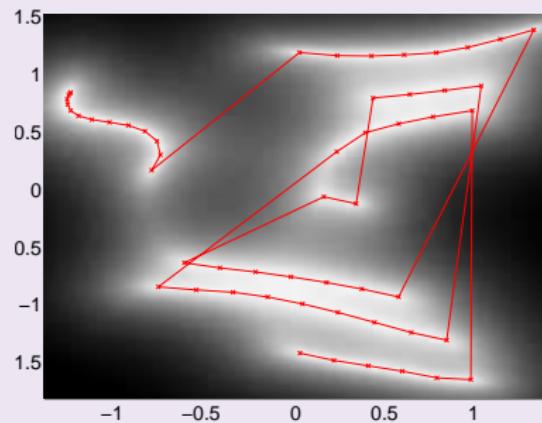
# Stick Man II

demStick1

Figure: The latent space for the stick man motion capture data.

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**Figure:** The latent space for the stick man motion capture data.

# Back Constraints I

## Local Distance Preservation [Lawrence and Quiñonero Candela, 2006]

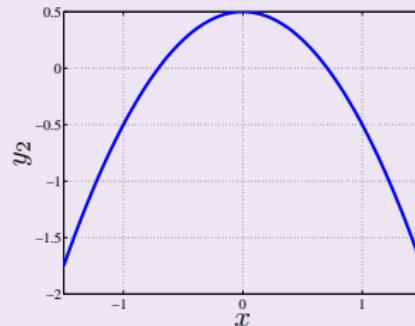
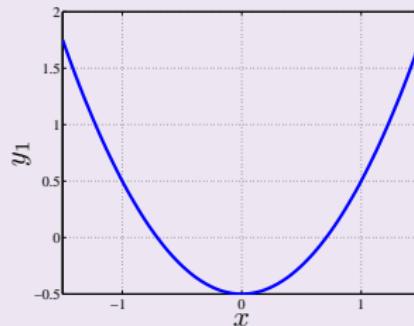
- Most dimensional reduction techniques preserve local distances.
- The GP-LVM does not.
- GP-LVM maps smoothly from latent to data space.
  - Points close in latent space are close in data space.
  - This does not imply points close in data space are close in latent space.
- Kernel PCA maps smoothly from data to latent space.
  - Points close in data space are close in latent space.
  - This does not imply points close in latent space are close in data space.

# Back Constraints II

## Forward Mapping (demBackMapping in oxford toolbox)

- Mapping from 1-D latent space to 2-D data space.

$$y_1 = x^2 - 0.5, \quad y_2 = -x^2 + 0.5$$

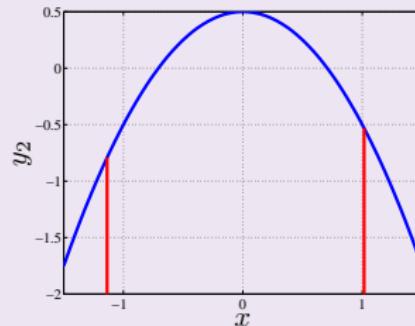
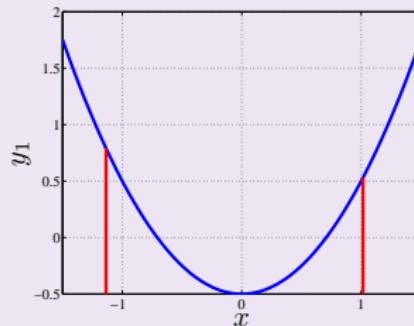


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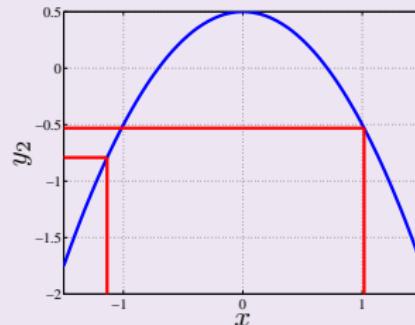
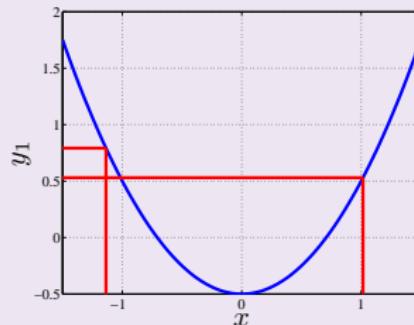


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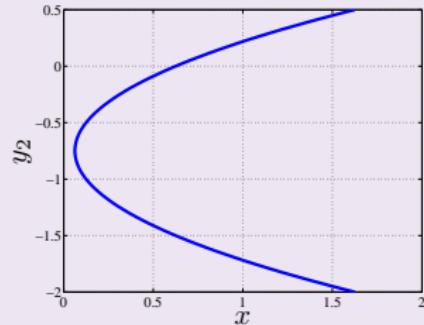
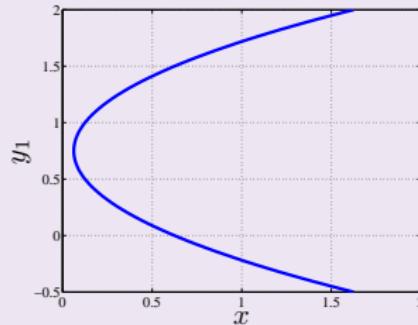


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$$x = 0.5 (y_1^2 + y_2^2 + 1)$$

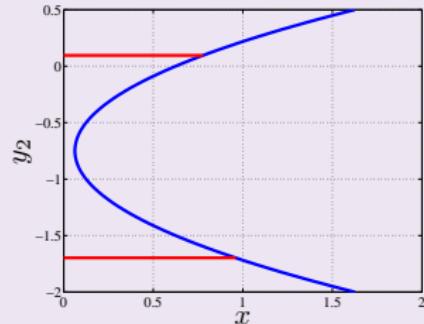
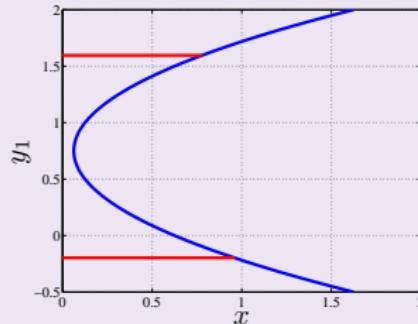


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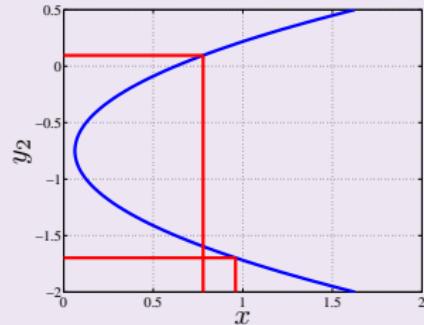
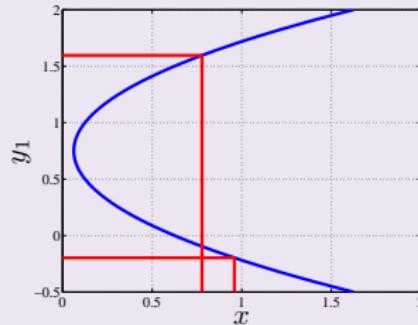


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# NeuroScale

## Multi-Dimensional Scaling with a Mapping

- Lowe and Tipping [1997] made latent positions a function of the data.
$$x_{ij} = f_j(\mathbf{y}_i; \mathbf{w})$$
- Function was either multi-layer perceptron or a radial basis function network.
- Their motivation was different from ours:
  - They wanted to add the advantages of a true mapping to multi-dimensional scaling.

# Back Constraints in the GP-LVM

## Back Constraints

- We can use the same idea to force the GP-LVM to respect local distances.[Lawrence and Quiñonero Candela, 2006]
  - By constraining each  $x_i$  to be a 'smooth' mapping from  $y_i$  local distances can be respected.
- This works because in the GP-LVM we maximise wrt latent variables, we don't integrate out.
- Can use any 'smooth' function:
  - ① Neural network.
  - ② RBF Network.
  - ③ Kernel based mapping.

# Optimising BC-GPLVM

## Computing Gradients

- GP-LVM normally proceeds by optimising

$$L(\mathbf{X}) = \log p(\mathbf{Y}|\mathbf{X})$$

with respect to  $\mathbf{X}$  using  $\frac{dL}{d\mathbf{X}}$ .

- The back constraints are of the form

$$x_{ij} = f_j(\mathbf{y}_{i,:}; \mathbf{B})$$

where  $\mathbf{B}$  are parameters.

- We can compute  $\frac{dL}{d\mathbf{B}}$  via chain rule and optimise parameters of mapping.

# Motion Capture Results

demStick1 and demStick3

Figure: The latent space for the motion capture data with (*right*) and without (*left*) dynamics. The dynamics us a Gaussian process with an RBF kernel.

# Motion Capture Results

demStick1 and demStick3

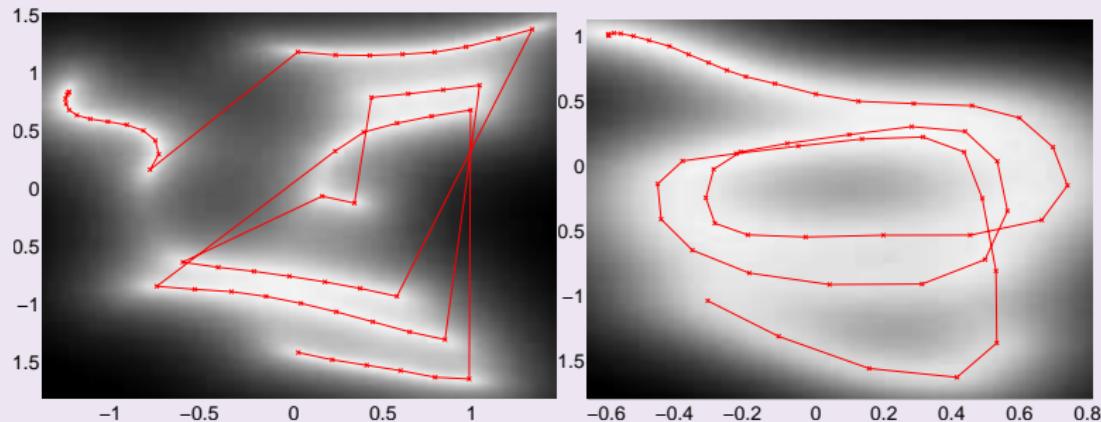
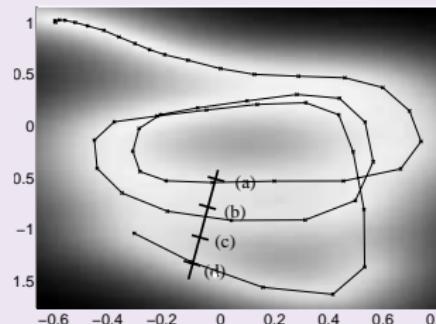


Figure: The latent space for the motion capture data with (*right*) and without (*left*) dynamics. The dynamics us a Gaussian process with an RBF kernel.

# Stick Man Results

demStickResults



(a)



(b)



(c)



(d)

Projection into data space from four points in the latent space. The inclination of the runner changes becoming more upright.

# Adding Dynamics

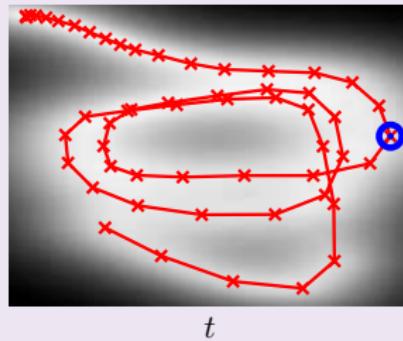
## MAP Solutions for Dynamics Models

- Data often has a temporal ordering.
- Markov-based dynamics are often used.
- For the GP-LVM
  - Marginalising such dynamics is intractable.
  - But: MAP solutions are trivial to implement.
- Many choices: Kalman filter, Markov chains *etc..*
- Wang et al. [2006] suggest using a Gaussian Process.

# Gaussian Process Dynamics

## GP-LVM with Dynamics

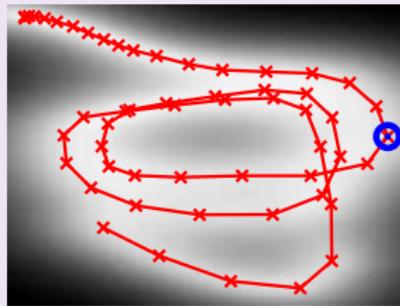
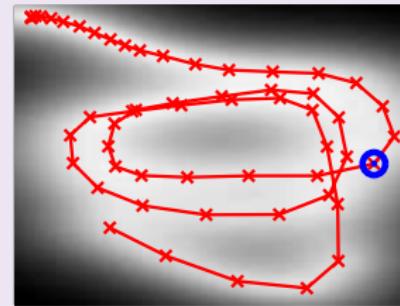
- Autoregressive Gaussian process mapping in latent space between time points.



# Gaussian Process Dynamics

## GP-LVM with Dynamics

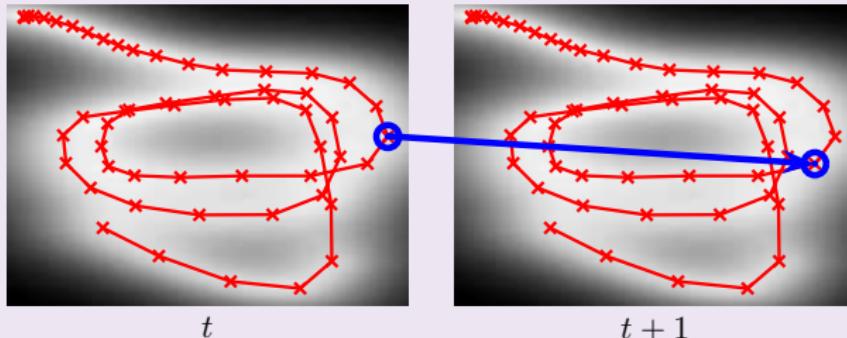
- Autoregressive Gaussian process mapping in latent space between time points.

 $t$  $t + 1$

# Gaussian Process Dynamics

## GP-LVM with Dynamics

- Autoregressive Gaussian process mapping in latent space between time points.



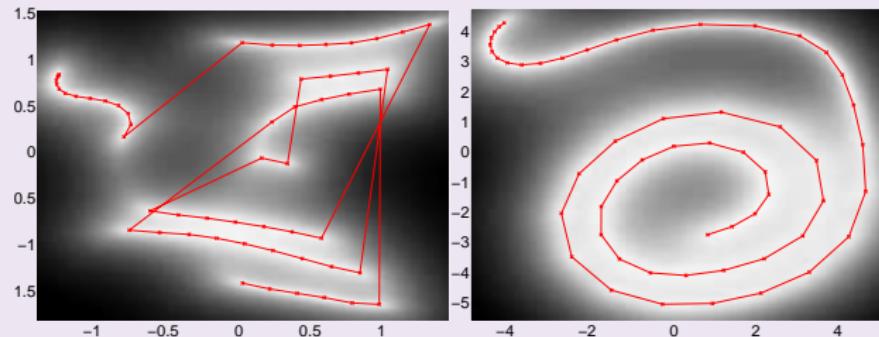
# Motion Capture Results

demStick1 and demStick2

**Figure:** The latent space for the motion capture data without dynamics (*left*), with auto-regressive dynamics (*right*) based on an RBF kernel.

# Motion Capture Results

demStick1 and demStick2

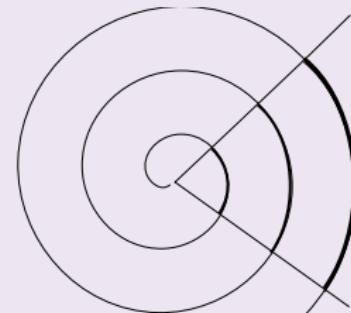


**Figure:** The latent space for the motion capture data without dynamics (*left*), with auto-regressive dynamics (*right*) based on an RBF kernel.

# Regressive Dynamics

## Inner Groove Distortion

- Autoregressive unimodal dynamics,  $p(\mathbf{x}_t | \mathbf{x}_{t-1})$  .
- Forces spiral visualisation.
- Poorer model due to inner groove distortion.



# Regressive Dynamics

## Direct use of Time Variable

- Instead of auto-regressive dynamics, consider regressive dynamics.
- Take  $t$  as an input, use a prior  $p(\mathbf{X}|t)$ .
- Use a Gaussian process prior for  $p(\mathbf{X}|t)$ .
- Also allows us to consider variable sample rate data.

# Motion Capture Results

demStick1, demStick2 and demStick5

Figure: The latent space for the motion capture data without dynamics (*left*), with auto-regressive dynamics (*middle*) and with regressive dynamics (*right*) based on an RBF kernel.

# Motion Capture Results

demStick1, demStick2 and demStick5

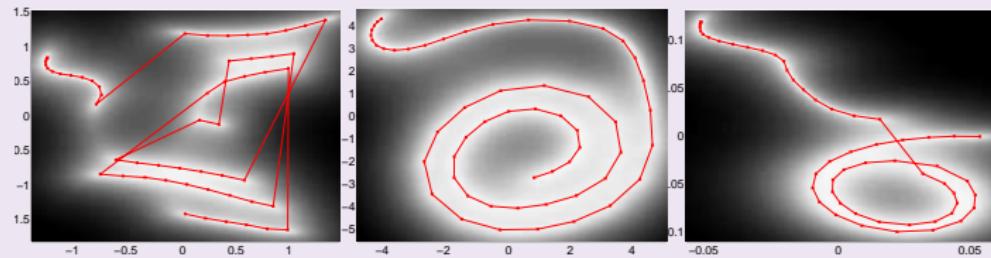


Figure: The latent space for the motion capture data without dynamics (*left*), with auto-regressive dynamics (*middle*) and with regressive dynamics (*right*) based on an RBF kernel.

# Hierarchical GP-LVM

## Stacking Gaussian Processes

- Regressive dynamics provides a simple hierarchy.
  - The input space of the GP is governed by another GP.
- By stacking GPs we can consider more complex hierarchies.
- Ideally we should marginalise latent spaces
  - In practice we seek MAP solutions.

# Two Correlated Subjects

demHighFive1

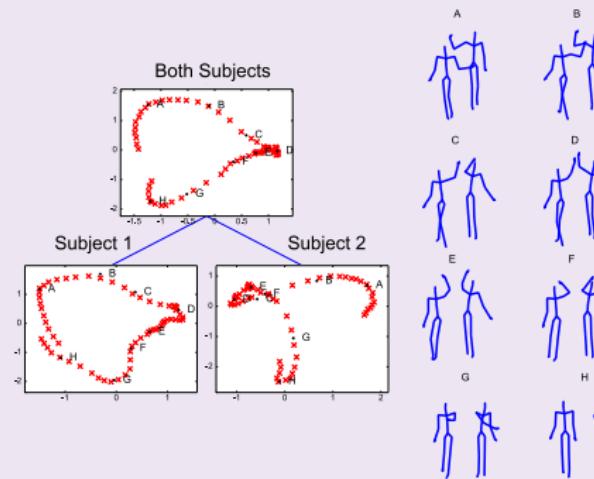


Figure: Hierarchical model of a 'high five'.

# Within Subject Hierarchy

## Decomposition of Body

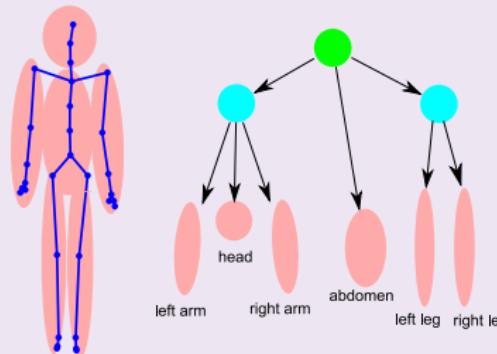


Figure: Decomposition of a subject.

# Single Subject Run/Walk

demRunWalk1

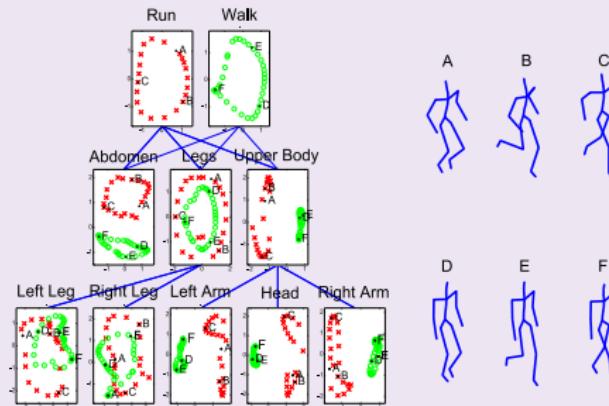


Figure: Hierarchical model of a walk and a run.

# Summary

- We maximised latent variables integrated out parameters.
- This allowed us to:
  - Optimise latent variables by constrained maximum likelihood.
  - Apply complex dynamics models to the latent space and seek MAP solutions.
  - Build hierarchies of the MAP models for decomposition of data structure.

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