# Gaussian Processes 

Neil D. Lawrence

## GPRS

9th August 2013

## Outline

Multivariate Gaussian Properties

Distributions over Functions

Covariance from Basis Functions

Basis Function Representations

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Multivariate Gaussian Properties

Distributions over Functions

Covariance from Basis Functions

## Basis Function Representations

## Recall Univariate Gaussian Properties

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\end{aligned}
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2. Scaling a Gaussian leads to a Gaussian.

$$
\begin{gathered}
y \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mu, \sigma^{2}\right) \\
w y \sim \mathcal{N}\left(w \mu, w^{2} \sigma^{2}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

Multivariate Consequence

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$$
\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)
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## Multivariate Consequence

- If

$$
\mathbf{x} \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \Sigma)
$$

- And

$$
\mathbf{y}=\mathbf{W x}
$$

- Then

$$
\mathbf{y} \sim \mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{W} \mu, \mathbf{W} \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \mathbf{W}^{\top}\right)
$$

## Multivariate Regression Likelihood

- Noise corrupted data point

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y_{i}=\mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}_{i,:}+\epsilon_{i}
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- Multivariate regression likelihood:

$$
p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w})=\frac{1}{\left(2 \pi \sigma^{2}\right)^{n / 2}} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2 \sigma^{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{n}\left(y_{i}-\mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}_{i,:}\right)^{2}\right)
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$$

- Now use a multivariate Gaussian prior:

$$
p(\mathbf{w})=\frac{1}{(2 \pi \alpha)^{\frac{p}{2}}} \exp \left(-\frac{1}{2 \alpha} \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{w}\right)
$$

## Posterior Density

- Once again we want to know the posterior:

$$
p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{X}) \propto p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{X}, \mathbf{w}) p(\mathbf{w})
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- And we can compute by completing the square.


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$$

- And we can compute by completing the square.

$$
\begin{gathered}
\log p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{X})=-\frac{1}{2 \sigma^{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i}^{2}+\frac{1}{\sigma^{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} y_{i} \mathbf{x}_{i,:}^{\top} \mathbf{w} \\
\\
-\frac{1}{2 \sigma^{2}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{x}_{i,:} \mathbf{x}_{i,:}^{\top} \mathbf{w}-\frac{1}{2 \alpha} \mathbf{w}^{\top} \mathbf{w}+\text { const. } \\
p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{X})=\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{w} \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}_{w}, \mathbf{C}_{w}\right) \\
\mathbf{C}_{w}=\left(\sigma^{-2} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X}+\alpha^{-1}\right)^{-1} \text { and } \mu_{w}=\mathbf{C}_{w} \sigma^{-2} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{y}
\end{gathered}
$$

## Bayesian vs Maximum Likelihood

- Note the similarity between posterior mean

$$
\boldsymbol{\mu}_{w}=\left(\sigma^{-2} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X}+\alpha^{-1}\right)^{-1} \sigma^{-2} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{y}
$$

- and Maximum likelihood solution

$$
\hat{\mathbf{w}}=\left(\mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{X}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^{\top} \mathbf{y}
$$

Marginal Likelihood is Computed as Normalizer
$p(\mathbf{w} \mid \mathbf{y}, \mathbf{X}) p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{X})=p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{w}, \mathbf{X}) p(\mathbf{w})$

## Marginal Likelihood

- Can compute the marginal likelihood as:

$$
p(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{X}, \alpha, \sigma)=\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{y} \mid \mathbf{0}, \alpha \mathbf{X} \mathbf{X}^{\top}+\sigma^{2} \mathbf{I}\right)
$$

## Polynomial Fits to Olympics Data




Left: fit to data, Right: marginal log likelihood. Polynomial order 0, model error 29.757, $\sigma^{2}=0.286, \sigma=0.535$.

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Left: fit to data, Right: marginal log likelihood. Polynomial order 1, model error 14.942, $\sigma^{2}=0.0749, \sigma=0.274$.

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Left: fit to data, Right: marginal log likelihood. Polynomial order 2, model error 9.7206, $\sigma^{2}=0.0427, \sigma=0.207$.

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Left: fit to data, Right: marginal log likelihood. Polynomial order 4, model error 11.34, $\sigma^{2}=0.0401, \sigma=0.200$.

## Polynomial Fits to Olympics Data




Left: fit to data, Right: marginal log likelihood. Polynomial order 5, model error 11.986, $\sigma^{2}=0.0399, \sigma=0.200$.

## Polynomial Fits to Olympics Data




Left: fit to data, Right: marginal log likelihood. Polynomial order 6, model error 12.369, $\sigma^{2}=0.0384, \sigma=0.196$.

## Validation Set



Left: fit to data, Right: model error. Polynomial order 0, training error 29.757, validation error $-0.29243, \sigma^{2}=0.302, \sigma=0.550$.

## Validation Set



Left: fit to data, Right: model error. Polynomial order 1, training error 14.942, validation error 4.4027, $\sigma^{2}=0.0762, \sigma=0.276$.

## Validation Set



Left: fit to data, Right: model error. Polynomial order 2, training error 9.7206, validation error -8.6623, $\sigma^{2}=0.0580, \sigma=0.241$.

## Validation Set



Left: fit to data, Right: model error. Polynomial order 3, training error 10.416, validation error $-6.4726, \sigma^{2}=0.0555, \sigma=0.236$.

## Validation Set



Left: fit to data, Right: model error. Polynomial order 4, training error 11.34, validation error -8.431, $\sigma^{2}=0.0555, \sigma=0.236$.

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## Validation Set



Left: fit to data, Right: model error. Polynomial order 6, training error 12.369, validation error -3.3823, $\sigma^{2}=0.0537, \sigma=0.232$.

## Reading

- Section 2.3 of Bishop up to top of pg 85 (multivariate Gaussians).
- Section 3.3 of Bishop up to 159 (pg 152-159).


## Book



Rasmussen and Williams (2006)

## Outline

## Multivariate Gaussian Properties

Distributions over Functions

## Covariance from Basis Functions

## Basis Function Representations

## 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, $\mathbf{f}=\left[f_{1}, f_{2} \ldots f_{25}\right]$.
- We will plot these points against their index.


## Gaussian Distribution Sample


(a) A 25 dimensional correlated random variable (values ploted against index)
(b) colormap ishowing correlations between dimensions.

Figure: A sample from a 25 dimensional Gaussian distribution.

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## Prediction of $f_{2}$ from $f_{1}$



- The single contour of the Gaussian density represents the joint distribution, $p\left(f_{1}, f_{2}\right)$.


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- Conditional density: $p\left(f_{2} \mid f_{1}=-0.313\right)$.


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## Prediction with Correlated Gaussians

- Prediction of $f_{2}$ from $f_{1}$ requires conditional density.
- Conditional density is also Gaussian.

$$
p\left(f_{2} \mid f_{1}\right)=\mathcal{N}\left(f_{2} \left\lvert\, \frac{k_{1,2}}{k_{1,1}} f_{1}\right., k_{2,2}-\frac{k_{1,2}^{2}}{k_{1,1}}\right)
$$

where covariance of joint density is given by

$$
\mathbf{K}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
k_{1,1} & k_{1,2} \\
k_{2,1} & k_{2,2}
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Prediction of $f_{5}$ from $f_{1}$



- The single contour of the Gaussian density represents the joint distribution, $p\left(f_{1}, f_{5}\right)$.


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## Prediction of $f_{5}$ from $f_{1}$



- The single contour of the Gaussian density represents the joint distribution, $p\left(f_{1}, f_{5}\right)$.
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- Conditional density: $p\left(f_{5} \mid f_{1}=-0.313\right)$.


## Prediction with Correlated Gaussians

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

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

- Here covariance of joint density is given by

$$
\mathbf{K}=\left[\begin{array}{ll}
\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{f}} & \mathbf{K}_{*, \mathbf{f}} \\
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\begin{gathered}
p\left(\mathbf{f}_{*} \mid \mathbf{f}\right)=\mathcal{N}\left(\mathbf{f}_{*} \mid \boldsymbol{\mu}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}\right) \\
\boldsymbol{\mu}=\mathbf{K}_{*, \mathbf{f}} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{f}}^{-1} \mathbf{f} \\
\boldsymbol{\Sigma}=\mathbf{K}_{*, *}-\mathbf{K}_{*, \mathbf{f}} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{f}}^{-1} \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f}, *}
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\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{f}, *} & \mathbf{K}_{*, *}
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?
Exponentiated Quadratic Kernel Function (RBF, Squared Exponential, Gaussian)

$$
k\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|\mathbf{x}-\mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right\|_{2}^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
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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 know as a kernel.


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$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

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

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00
$$

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\begin{gathered}
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)
\end{gathered} \quad\left[\begin{array}{l}
1.00 \\
\end{array}\right.
$$

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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) \\
0.110 \\
\\
\end{gathered}
$$

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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) \\
1.00 \\
0.110 \\
\end{array}\right]
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x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00
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k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
x_{2}=1.20, x_{2}=1.20 \quad\left[\begin{array} { l l } 
{ 1 . 0 0 } & { 0 . 1 1 0 } \\
{ } \\
{ k _ { 2 , 2 } = 1 . 0 0 \times \operatorname { e x p } ( - \frac { ( 1 . 2 0 - 1 . 2 0 ) ^ { 2 } } { 2 \times 2 . 0 0 ^ { 2 } } ) }
\end{array} \quad \left[\begin{array}{l} 
\\
\end{array}\right.\right.
$$

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\begin{gathered}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{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)
\end{gathered}\left[\begin{array}{rr}
1.00 & 0.110 \\
0.110 & 1.00
\end{array}\right.
$$

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x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00
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## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
& =-3.0 \\
& \left.-\frac{(1.40-3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 2.00^{2}}\right)
\end{aligned}\left[\begin{array}{rr}
1.00 & 0.110 \\
0.110 & 1.00 \\
0.0889
\end{array}\right.
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00 .
$$

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k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{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) \quad\left[\begin{array}{ccc}
1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\
0.110 & 1.00 \\
0.0889 & \\
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00 .
\end{array}\right]
\end{array}\right]
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$$

$x_{3}=1.40, x_{2}=1.20 \quad\left[\begin{array}{lll}1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & \\ k_{3,2}=1.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40-1.20)^{2}}{2 \times 2.00^{2}}\right)\end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00
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k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{3}=1.40, x_{2}=1.20 \\
k_{3,2}=1.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40-1.20)^{2}}{2 \times 2.00^{2}}\right) \\
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00 .
\end{array}\right]
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k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{3}=1.40, x_{3}=1.40 \\
k_{3,3}=1.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40-1.40)^{2}}{2 \times 2.00^{2}}\right) \\
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00 .
\end{array}\right]
$$

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$$

$x_{3}=1.40, x_{3}=1.40\left[\begin{array}{lll}1.00 & 0.110 & 0.0889 \\ 0.110 & 1.00 & 0.995 \\ 0.0889 & 0.995 & 1.00\end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

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

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=2.00 \text { and } \alpha=1.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{1}=-3
$$

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

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

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

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
x_{2}=1.2, x_{1}=-3 \\
k_{2,1}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.2--3)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered} \quad\left[\begin{array}{l}
1.0 \\
\end{array}\right.
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|c}
x_{2}=1.2, x_{1}=-3 & 1.0 \\
k_{2,1}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.2--3)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) &
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|cc}
x_{2}=1.2, x_{1}=-3 & 1.0 & 0.11 \\
k_{2,1}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.2--3)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) & 0.11 &
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|cc}
x_{2}=1.2, x_{2}=1.2 & 1.0 & 0.11 \\
k_{2,2}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.2-1.2)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) & 0.11 \\
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|c}
x_{2}=1.2, x_{2}=1.2 & 1.0 \\
0.11 \\
k_{2,2}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.2-1.2)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) &
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|cc}
x_{3}=1.4, x_{1}=-3 & 1.0 & 0.11 \\
k_{3,1}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.4--3)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) & & \\
0.11 & 1.0
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$


|

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|cc}
x_{3}=1.4, x_{2}=1.2 & 1.0 & 0.11 \\
0.089 \\
k_{3,2}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.4-1.2)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) & 0.11 & 1.0 \\
0.089 &
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|ccc}
x_{3}=1.4, x_{2}=1.2 & \begin{array}{rrr}
1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\
& 0.11 & 1.0 \\
1.0 \\
k_{3,2}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.4-1.2)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) & 0.089 & 1.0
\end{array} \\
& &
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{array}{c|ccc}
x_{3}=1.4, x_{3}=1.4 & \begin{array}{rrr}
1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\
& 0.11 & 1.0 \\
k_{3,3}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.4-1.4)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) & 0.089 & 1.0
\end{array} \\
& &
\end{array}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\left.\left.\begin{array}{c}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{4}=2.0, x_{1}=-3 \\
k_{4,1}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(2.0--3)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) \\
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{lll}
1.0 & 0.11 & 0.0890 .044 \\
0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\
0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\left.\left.\begin{array}{c}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{4}=2.0, x_{2}=1.2 \\
k_{4,2}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(2.0-1.2)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right) \\
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
\end{array}\right] \begin{array}{lll}
1.0 & 0.11 & 0.0890 .044 \\
0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\
0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{aligned}
& k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
& =1.2 \\
& \left(-\frac{(2.0-1.2)^{2}}{2 \times 2.0^{2}}\right)
\end{aligned}\left[\begin{array}{lll}
1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 \\
0.044 \\
0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\
0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 \\
0.044 & 0.92
\end{array}\right] .
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$x_{4}=2.0, x_{2}=1.2 \quad\left[\begin{array}{llll}1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & & \end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$x_{4}=2.0, x_{3}=1.4 \quad\left[\begin{array}{llll}1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & & \end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$x_{4}=2.0, x_{3}=1.4 \quad\left[\begin{array}{llll}1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96\end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$x_{4}=2.0, x_{3}=1.4 \quad\left[\begin{array}{cccc}1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.96 \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96 & \end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$x_{4}=2.0, x_{4}=2.0 \quad\left[\begin{array}{cccc}1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.96 \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96 & \end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$x_{4}=2.0, x_{4}=2.0 \quad\left[\begin{array}{cccc}1.0 & 0.11 & 0.089 & 0.044 \\ 0.11 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.92 \\ 0.089 & 1.0 & 1.0 & 0.96 \\ 0.044 & 0.92 & 0.96 & 1.0\end{array}\right]$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
x_{4}=2.0, x_{4}=2.0 \\
k_{4,4}=1.0 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(2.0-2.0)^{2}}{2 \times 2.00^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3, x_{2}=1.2, x_{3}=1.4, \text { and } x_{4}=2.0 \text { with } \ell=2.0 \text { and } \alpha=1.0 .
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

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

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{gathered}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{1,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(-3.0--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
x_{2}=1.20, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{2,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.20--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered} \quad\left[\begin{array}{l}
4.00 \\
\end{array}\right.
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
x_{2}=1.20, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{2,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.20--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered} \quad \begin{aligned}
& 4.00 \\
& 2.81 \\
&
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{gathered}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{2}=1.20, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{2,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.20--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{gathered}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{2}=1.20, x_{2}=1.20 \\
k_{2,2}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.20-1.20)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right) \\
4.002 .81 \\
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
\end{gathered}
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$



$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{gathered}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{3}=1.40, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{3,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right)
\end{gathered} \quad\left[\begin{array}{rr}
4.00 & 2.81 \\
2.81 & 4.00
\end{array}\right.
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\begin{gathered}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{3}=1.40, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{3,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right) \quad\left[\begin{array}{rr}
4.00 & 2.81 \\
2.81 & 4.00 \\
2.72
\end{array}\right.
\end{gathered}
$$

$$
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\left.\left.\begin{array}{c}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{3}=1.40, x_{1}=-3.0 \\
k_{3,1}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40--3.0)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right) \\
2.81 \\
4.00 \\
2.81
\end{array}\right] 2.72\right] \text { }\left[\begin{array}{ccc} 
\\
2.72
\end{array}\right] .
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

$$
\left.\begin{array}{c}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x_{i}-x_{j}\right\|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
x_{3}=1.40, x_{2}=1.20 \\
k_{3,2}=4.00 \times \exp \left(-\frac{(1.40-1.20)^{2}}{2 \times 5.00^{2}}\right) \\
4.00 \\
2.81 \\
x_{1}=-3.0, x_{2}=1.20, \text { and } x_{3}=1.40 \text { with } \ell=5.00 \text { and } \alpha=4.00 \\
2.72
\end{array}\right]
$$

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?

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4.00 & 2.81 & 2.72 \\
2.81 & 4.00 & 4.00 \\
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\end{array}\right] \\
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## Outline

Multivariate Gaussian Properties<br>Distributions over Functions

Covariance from Basis Functions

## Basis Function Representations

## Basis Function Form

Radial basis functions commonly have the form

$$
\phi_{k}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)=\exp \left(-\frac{\left|\mathbf{x}_{i}-\mu_{k}\right|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

- Basis function maps data into a "feature space" in which a linear sum is a non linear function.


Figure: A set of radial basis functions with width $\ell=2$ and location parameters $\mu=\left[\begin{array}{lll}-4 & 0 & 4\end{array}\right]^{\top}$.

## Basis Function Representations

- Represent a function by a linear sum over a basis,

$$
\begin{equation*}
f\left(\mathbf{x}_{i,:} ; \mathbf{w}\right)=\sum_{k=1}^{m} w_{k} \phi_{k}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i,:}\right), \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

- Here: $m$ basis functions and $\phi_{k}(\cdot)$ is $k$ th basis function and

$$
\mathbf{w}=\left[w_{1}, \ldots, w_{m}\right]^{\top}
$$

- For standard linear model: $\phi_{k}\left(\mathbf{x}_{i,:}\right)=x_{i, k}$.


## Random Functions

Functions derived using:

$$
f(x)=\sum_{k=1}^{m} w_{k} \phi_{k}(x)
$$

where $\mathbf{W}$ is sampled from a Gaussian density,

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



Figure: Functions sampled using the basis set from figure 2. Each line is a separate sample, generated by a weighted sum of the basis set. The weights, w are sampled from a Gaussian density with variance $\alpha=1$.

## Covariance Functions

## RBF Basis Functions

$$
k\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right)=\alpha \boldsymbol{\phi}(\mathbf{x})^{\top} \phi\left(\mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right)
$$

$$
\begin{gathered}
\phi_{i}(x)=\exp \left(-\frac{\left\|x-\mu_{i}\right\|_{2}^{2}}{\ell^{2}}\right) \\
\mu=\left[\begin{array}{c}
-1 \\
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## Direct Construction of Covariance Matrix

- Use matrix notation to write function,

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$\boldsymbol{\Phi}$ is fixed and non-stochastic for a given training set.
$\mathbf{f}$ is Gaussian distributed.

## Expectations

- We have

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\langle\mathbf{f}\rangle=\boldsymbol{\Phi}\langle\mathbf{w}\rangle .
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We use $\langle\cdot\rangle$ to denote expectations under prior distributions.

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\begin{gathered}
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\left\langle\mathbf{f f}^{\top}\right\rangle=\boldsymbol{\Phi}\left\langle\mathbf{w} \mathbf{w}^{\top}\right\rangle \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{\top},
\end{gathered}
$$

giving

$$
\mathbf{K}=\gamma^{\prime} \boldsymbol{\Phi} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{\top}
$$

We use $\langle\cdot\rangle$ to denote expectations under prior distributions.

## Covariance between Two Points

- The prior covariance between two points $\mathbf{x}_{i}$ and $\mathbf{x}_{j}$ is

$$
k\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j}\right)=\phi:\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}\right)^{\top} \phi:\left(\mathbf{x}_{j}\right),
$$

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$$

or in sum notation

$$
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$$

- For the radial basis used this gives

$$
k\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j}\right)=\gamma^{\prime} \sum_{k=1}^{m} \exp \left(-\frac{\left|\mathbf{x}_{i}-\mu_{k}\right|^{2}+\left|\mathbf{x}_{j}-\mu_{k}\right|^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

## 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 Regression



Figure: Examples include WiFi localization, C14 callibration curve.

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## Learning Covariance Parameters

Can we determine covariance parameters from the data?

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

The parameters are inside the covariance function (matrix).

$$
k_{i, j}=k\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j} ; \boldsymbol{\theta}\right)
$$

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k_{i, j}=k\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j} ; \boldsymbol{\theta}\right)
$$

## Learning Covariance Parameters

Can we determine covariance parameters from the data?

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

The parameters are inside the covariance function (matrix).

$$
k_{i, j}=k\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j} ; \boldsymbol{\theta}\right)
$$

## Learning Covariance Parameters

Can we determine covariance parameters from the data?

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

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

$$
k_{i, j}=k\left(\mathbf{x}_{i}, \mathbf{x}_{j} ; \boldsymbol{\theta}\right)
$$

## Eigendecomposition of Covariance

A useful decomposition for understanding the objective function.

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



Diagonal of $\boldsymbol{\Lambda}$ represents distance along axes.
$\mathbf{R}$ gives a rotation of these axes.

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



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$|\boldsymbol{\Lambda}|=\lambda_{1} \lambda_{2} \lambda_{3}$

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$\mid \mathbf{R} \boldsymbol{\Lambda} \boldsymbol{|}=\lambda_{1} \lambda_{2}$

## Data Fit: $\frac{\mathrm{y}^{-1} \mathrm{~K}^{-1} \mathrm{y}}{2}$



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## Learning Covariance Parameters

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


$$
E(\boldsymbol{\theta})=\frac{1}{2} \log |\mathbf{K}|+\frac{\mathbf{y}^{\top} \mathbf{K}^{-1} \mathbf{y}}{2}
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Can we determine length scales and noise levels from the data?


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## Gene Expression Example



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


## Contour plot of Gaussian

 process likelihood.

Optima: length scale of 1.2221 and $\log _{10}$ SNR of $1.9654 \log$ likelihood is -0.22317 .


Optima: length scale of 1.5162 and $\log _{10}$ SNR of $0.21306 \log$ likelihood is -0.23604 .


Optima: length scale of 2.9886 and $\log _{10}$ SNR of $-4.506 \log$ likelihood is -2.1056 .

## Gaussian Process Fit to Olympic Marathon Data



## Selecting Number and Location of Basis

- Need to choose

1. location of centers

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1. location of centers
2. number of basis functions

## Selecting Number and Location of Basis

- Need to choose

1. location of centers
2. number of basis functions

- Consider uniform spacing over a region:

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\gamma \Delta \sum_{k=1}^{m} \exp \left(-\frac{x_{i}^{2}+x_{j}^{2}-2 \mu_{k}\left(x_{i}+x_{j}\right)+2 \mu_{k}^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

Restrict analysis to 1-D input, $x$.

## Uniform Basis Functions

- Set each center location to

$$
\mu_{k}=a+\Delta \mu \cdot(k-1)
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## Uniform Basis Functions

- Set each center location to

$$
\mu_{k}=a+\Delta \mu \cdot(k-1) .
$$

- Specify the basis functions in terms of their indices,

$$
\begin{aligned}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)= & \gamma \Delta \mu \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} \exp \left(-\frac{x_{i}^{2}+x_{j}^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right. \\
& \left.-\frac{2(a+\Delta \mu \cdot k)\left(x_{i}+x_{j}\right)+2(a+\Delta \mu \cdot k)^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right)
\end{aligned}
$$

## Infinite Basis Functions

- Take $\mu_{0}=a$ and $\mu_{m}=b$ so $b=a+\Delta \mu \cdot(m-1)$.


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$$
\begin{aligned}
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)= & \gamma \int_{a}^{b} \exp \left(-\frac{x_{i}^{2}+x_{j}^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right. \\
& \left.+\frac{2\left(\mu-\frac{1}{2}\left(x_{i}+x_{j}\right)\right)^{2}-\frac{1}{2}\left(x_{i}+x_{j}\right)^{2}}{2 \ell^{2}}\right) \mathrm{d} \mu
\end{aligned}
$$

where we have used $k \cdot \Delta \mu \rightarrow \mu$.

## Result

- Performing the integration leads to

$$
\begin{aligned}
& k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\gamma \frac{\sqrt{\pi \ell^{2}}}{2} \exp \left(-\frac{\left(x_{i}-x_{j}\right)^{2}}{4 \ell^{2}}\right) \\
& \quad \times\left[\operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\left(b-\frac{1}{2}\left(x_{i}+x_{j}\right)\right)}{\ell}\right)-\operatorname{erf}\left(\frac{\left(a-\frac{1}{2}\left(x_{i}+x_{j}\right)\right)}{\ell}\right)\right]
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\end{aligned}
$$

- Now take limit as $a \rightarrow-\infty$ and $b \rightarrow \infty$

$$
k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left(x_{i}-x_{j}\right)^{2}}{4 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

where $\alpha=\gamma \sqrt{\pi \ell^{2}}$.

## Infinite Feature Space

- An RBF model with infinite basis functions is a Gaussian process.


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- An RBF model with infinite basis functions is a Gaussian process.
- The covariance function is given by the exponentiated quadratic covariance function.

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k\left(x_{i}, x_{j}\right)=\alpha \exp \left(-\frac{\left(x_{i}-x_{j}\right)^{2}}{4 \ell^{2}}\right)
$$

where $\alpha=\gamma \sqrt{\pi \ell^{2}}$.

## Infinite Feature Space

- An RBF model with infinite basis functions is a Gaussian process.
- The covariance function is the exponentiated quadratic.
- Note: The functional form for the covariance function and basis functions are similar.
- this is a special case,
- in general they are very different

Similar results can obtained for multi-dimensional input models Williams (1998); Neal (1996).

## Covariance Functions

Where did this covariance matrix come from?
Exponentiated Quadratic Kernel Function (RBF, Squared Exponential, Gaussian)

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

- 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 know as a kernel.


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## Covariance Functions

Linear Covariance Function

$$
k\left(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^{\prime}\right)=\alpha \mathbf{x}^{\top} \mathbf{x}^{\prime}
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- Bayesian linear regression.

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\alpha=1
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## Covariance Functions

## MLP Covariance Function

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

- Based on infinite neural network model.

$$
\begin{aligned}
w & =40 \\
b & =4
\end{aligned}
$$



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## Covariance Functions

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## Ornstein-Uhlenbeck (stationary Gauss-Markov) covariance function

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