

Distributed Gaussian Processes

Recommended reading:

Deisenroth & Ng (2015) [1]

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February 15, 2018

Limitations of Gaussian Processes

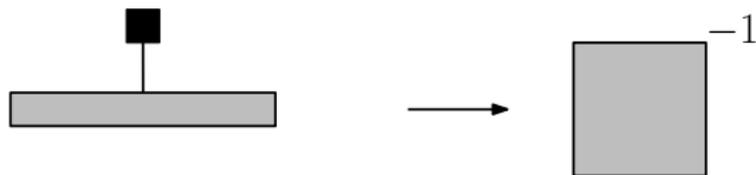
Computational and memory complexity

Training set size: N

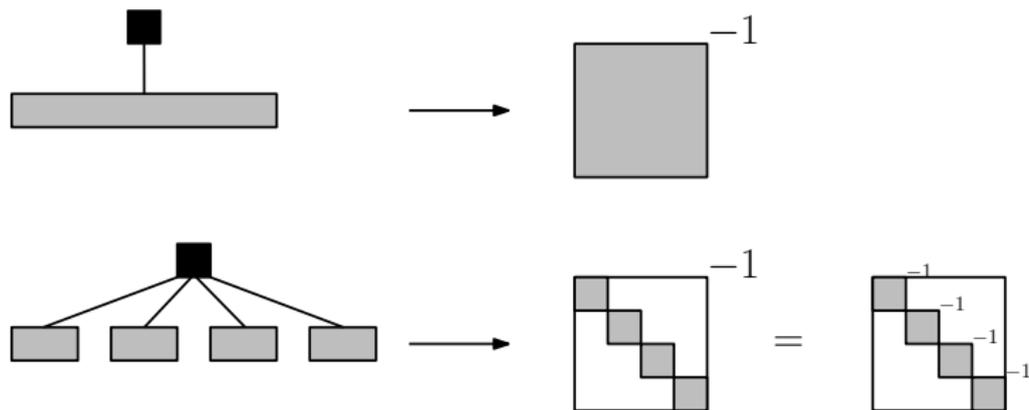
- ▶ Training scales in $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$
- ▶ Prediction (variances) scales in $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
- ▶ Memory requirement: $\mathcal{O}(ND + N^2)$

▶ **Practical limit** $N \approx 10,000$

Large-Scale GPs via Distributed Inference

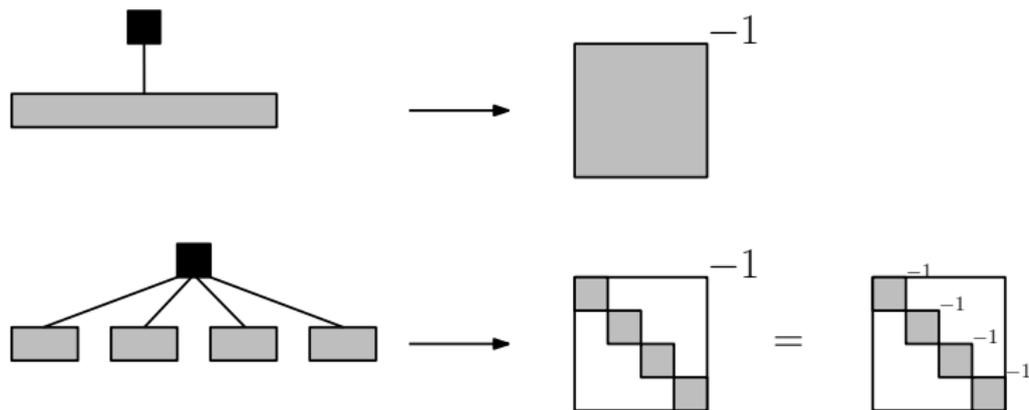


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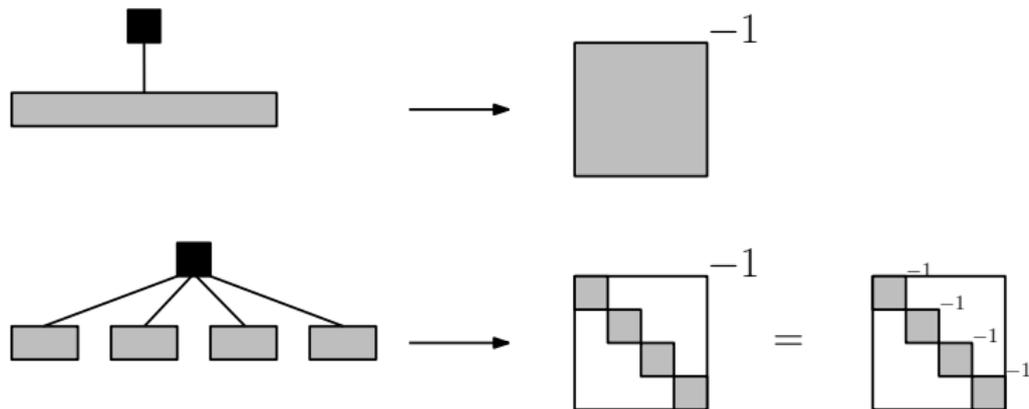
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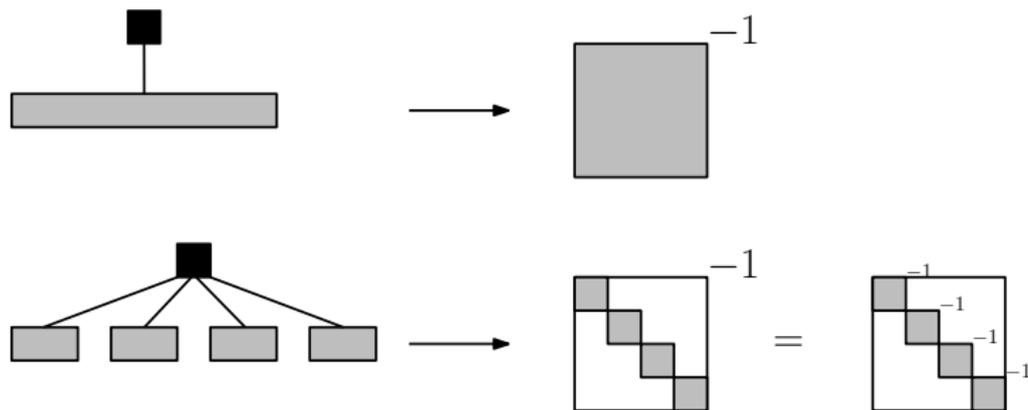
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- ▶ Place M **independent GP models** (experts) on these small chunks

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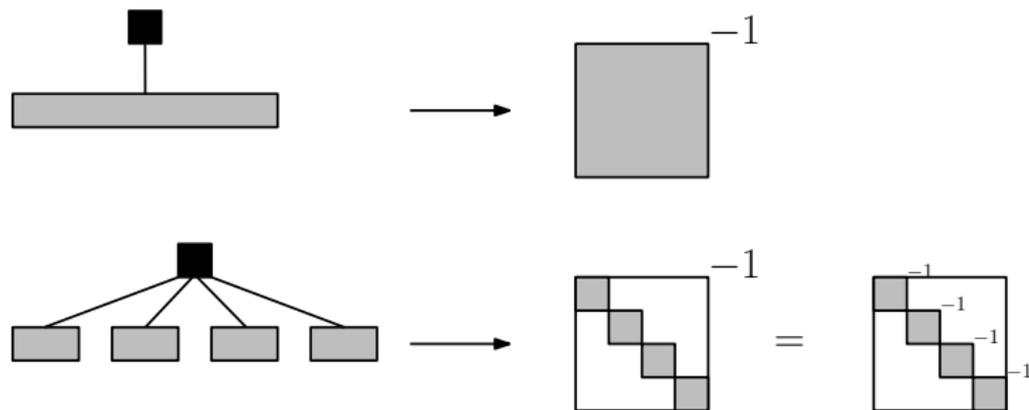
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- ▶ Independent computations can be distributed
- ▶ Block-diagonal approximation of kernel matrix \mathbf{K}
- ▶ Combine independent computations to an overall result

Training the Distributed GP

- ▶ Split data set of size N into M chunks of size P
- ▶ Independence of experts \blacktriangleright Factorization of marginal likelihood:

$$\log p(\mathbf{y}|\mathbf{X}, \boldsymbol{\theta}) \approx \sum_{k=1}^M \log p_k(\mathbf{y}^{(k)}|\mathbf{X}^{(k)}, \boldsymbol{\theta})$$

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- ▶ Distributed optimization and training straightforward

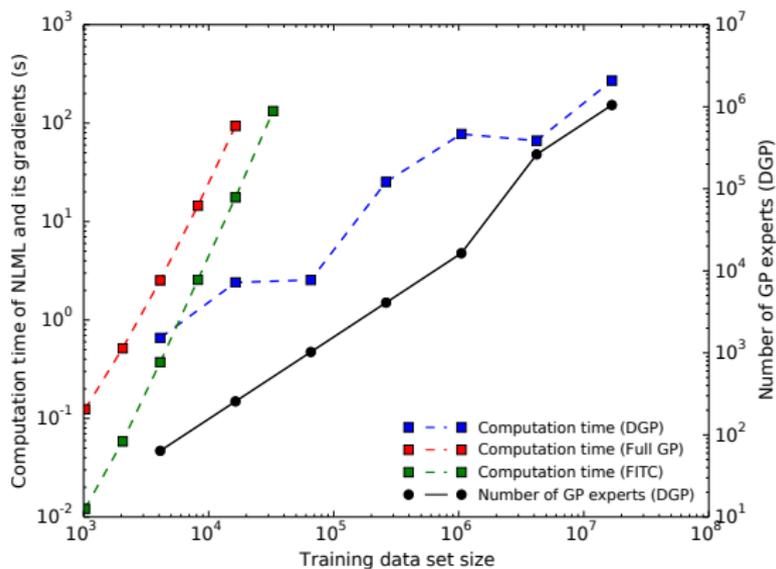
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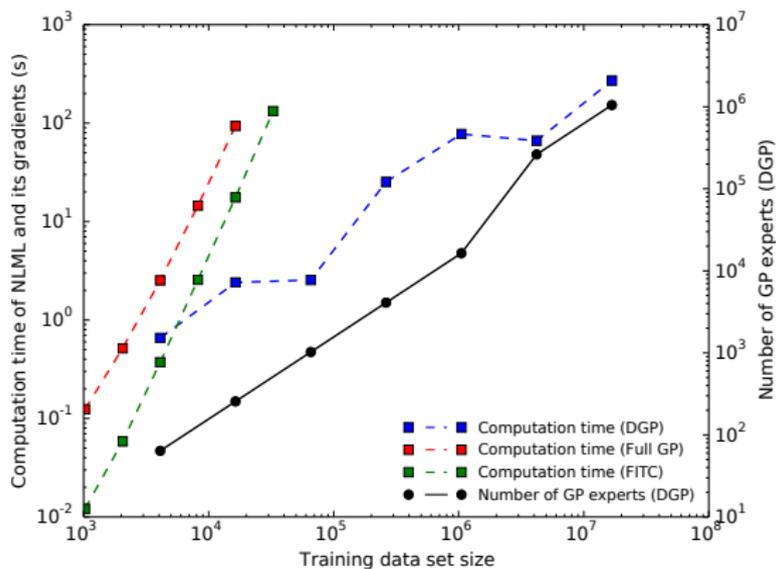
- ▶ Distributed optimization and training straightforward
- ▶ Computational complexity: $\mathcal{O}(MP^3)$ [instead of $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$]
But distributed over many machines
- ▶ Memory footprint: $\mathcal{O}(MP^2 + ND)$ [instead of $\mathcal{O}(N^2 + ND)$]

Empirical Training Time



- ▶ NLML is proportional to training time

Empirical Training Time



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- ▶ Full GP (16K training points) \approx sparse GP (50K training points) \approx distributed GP (16M training points)

▶ Push practical limit by order(s) of magnitude

Practical Training Times

- ▶ Training* with $N = 10^6, D = 1$ on a laptop: ≈ 30 min
- ▶ Training* with $N = 5 \times 10^6, D = 8$ on a workstation: ≈ 4 hours

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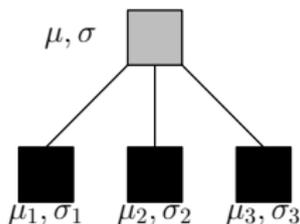
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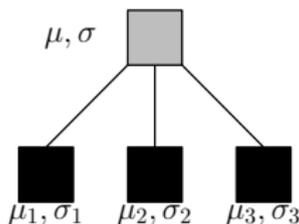
***: Line search ≈ 2 –3 evaluations of marginal likelihood and its gradient (usually $\mathcal{O}(N^3)$)

Predictions with the Distributed GP



- ▶ Prediction of each GP expert is Gaussian $\mathcal{N}(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$
- ▶ How to combine them to an overall prediction $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$?

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▶▶ Product-of-GP-experts

- ▶ PoE (product of experts) ▶▶ (Ng & Deisenroth, 2014)
- ▶ gPoE (generalized product of experts) ▶▶ (Cao & Fleet, 2014)
- ▶ BCM (Bayesian Committee Machine) ▶▶ (Tresp, 2000)
- ▶ rBCM (robust BCM) ▶▶ (Deisenroth & Ng, 2015)

Objectives

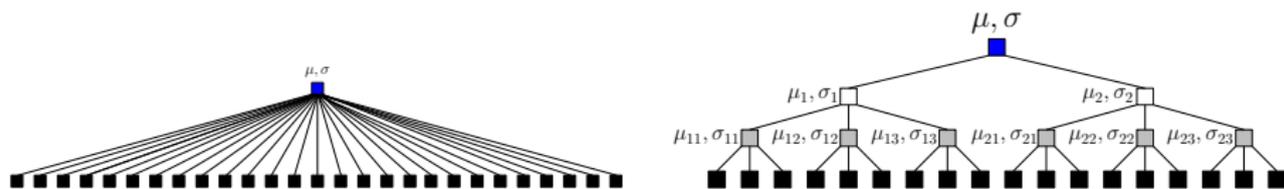


Figure: Two computational graphs

- **Scale** to large data sets ✓

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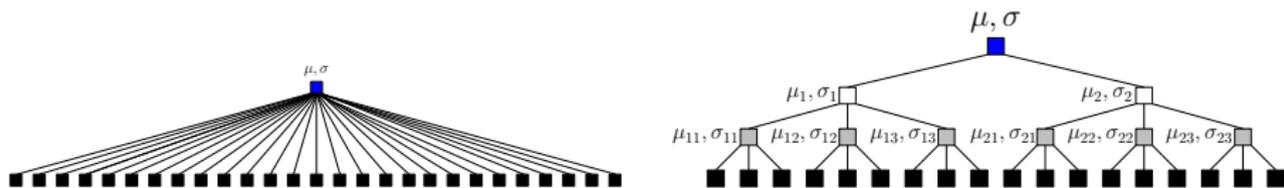


Figure: Two computational graphs

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- ▶ **Good approximation** of full GP (“ground truth”)

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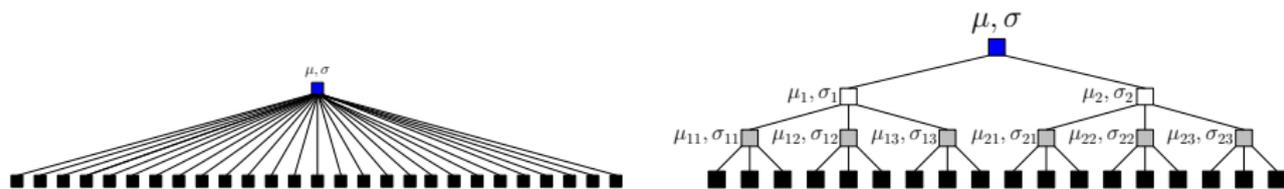


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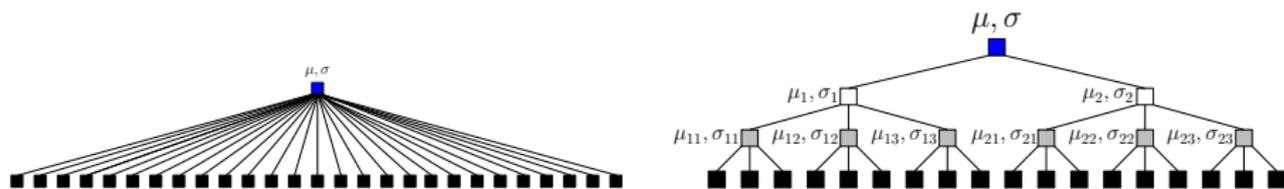
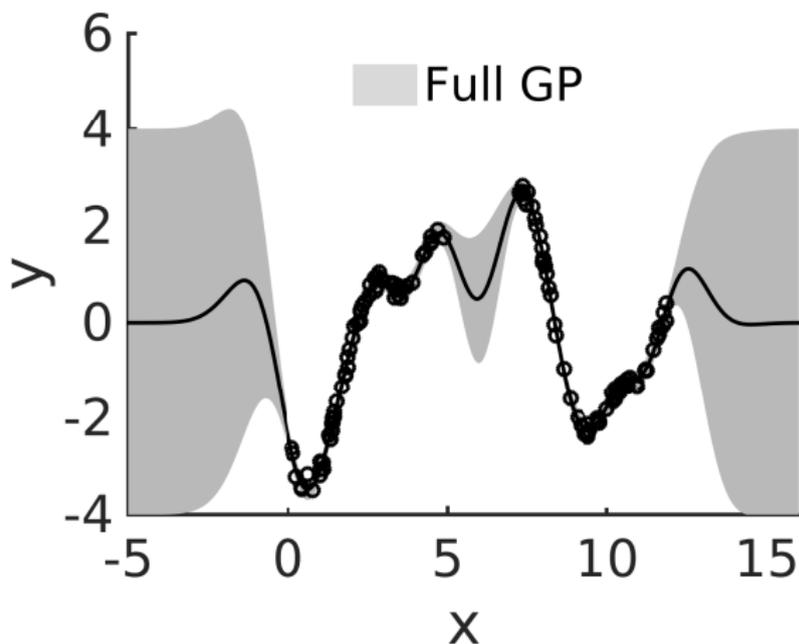


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 - ▶▶ Runs on heterogeneous computing infrastructures (laptop, cluster, ...)
- ▶ **Reasonable predictive variances**

Running Example



- ▶ Investigate various product-of-experts models
Same training procedure, but different mechanisms for predictions

Product of GP Experts

- ▶ Prediction model (independent predictors):

$$p(f_* | \mathbf{x}_*, \mathcal{D}) = \prod_{k=1}^M \overbrace{p_k(f_* | \mathbf{x}_*, \mathcal{D}^{(k)})}^{\text{GP expert}},$$
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- ▶ Predictive precision (inverse variance) and mean:

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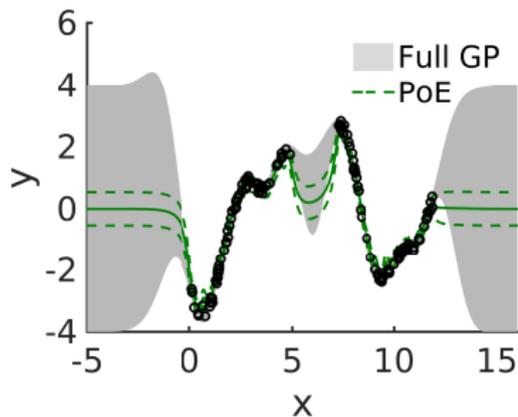
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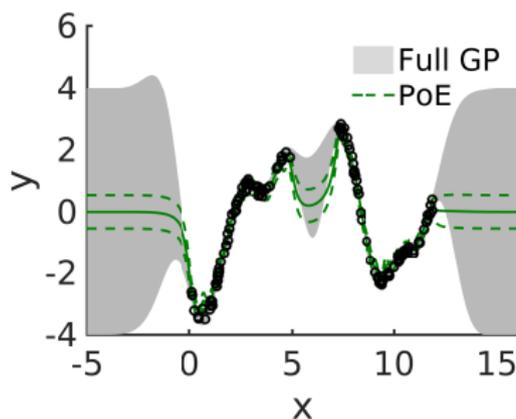
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Product of GP Experts



- ▶ Unreasonable variances for $M > 1$:

$$(\sigma_*^{\text{poe}})^{-2} = \sum_k \sigma_k^{-2}(x_*)$$

- ▶ The more experts the more certain the prediction, even if every expert itself is very uncertain **X** ▶▶ Cannot fall back to the prior

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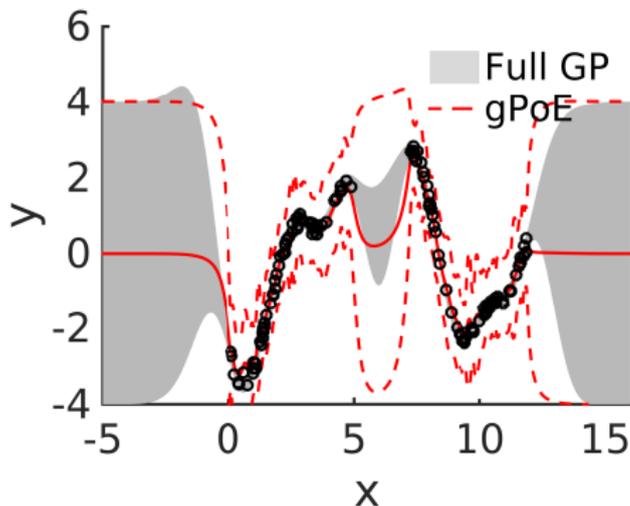
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- ▶ With $\sum_k \beta_k = 1$, the model can fall back to the prior ✓
- ▶ “Log-opinion pool” model (Heskes, 1998)
- ▶ Independent of computational graph for $\beta_k = 1/M$ ✓

Generalized Product of GP Experts (Cao & Fleet, 2014)



- ▶ Same mean as PoE
- ▶ Model no longer overconfident and falls back to prior ✓
- ▶ **Very conservative** variances ✗

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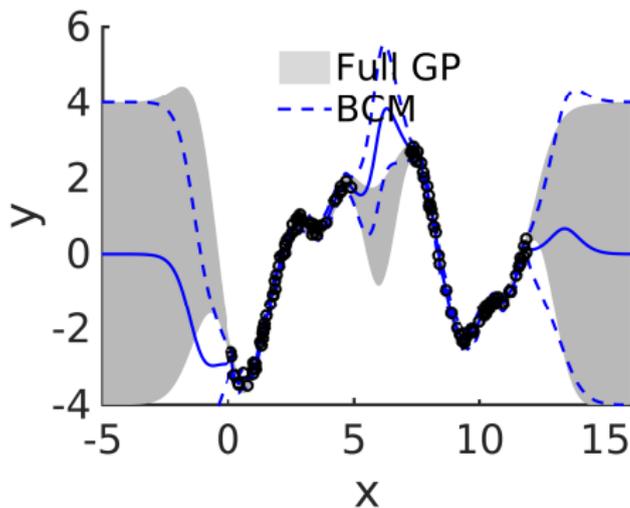
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- ▶ Product of GP experts, divided by $M-1$ times the prior
- ▶ Guaranteed to fall back to the prior outside data regime ✓
- ▶ Independent of computational graph ✓

Bayesian Committee Machine



- ▶ Variance estimates are about right ✓
- ▶ When leaving the data regime, the BCM can produce junk ✗

▶▶ **Robustify**

Robust Bayesian Committee Machine

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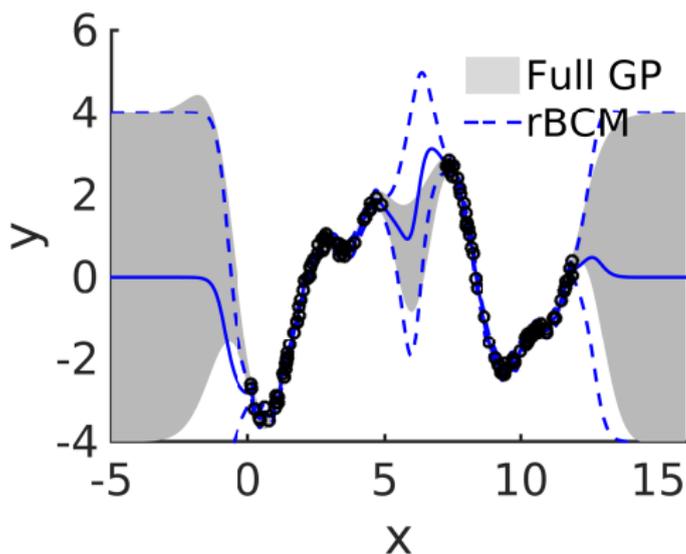
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Robust Bayesian Committee Machine



- ▶ Does not break down in case of weak experts ▶ Robustified ✓
- ▶ Robust version of BCM ▶ Reasonable predictions ✓
- ▶ Independent of computational graph (for all choices of β_k) ✓

Setting the Weighting β_k

- ▶ The gPoE and the rBCM have a β_k parameter that assigns individual experts different weights when predicting:

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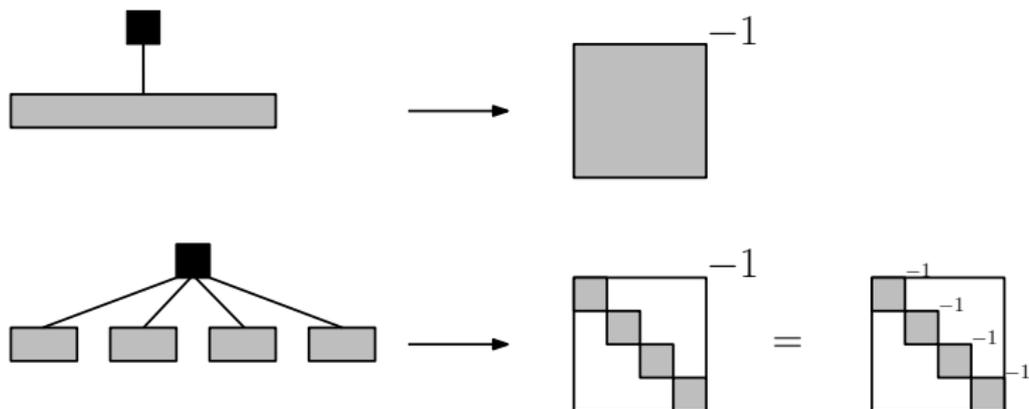
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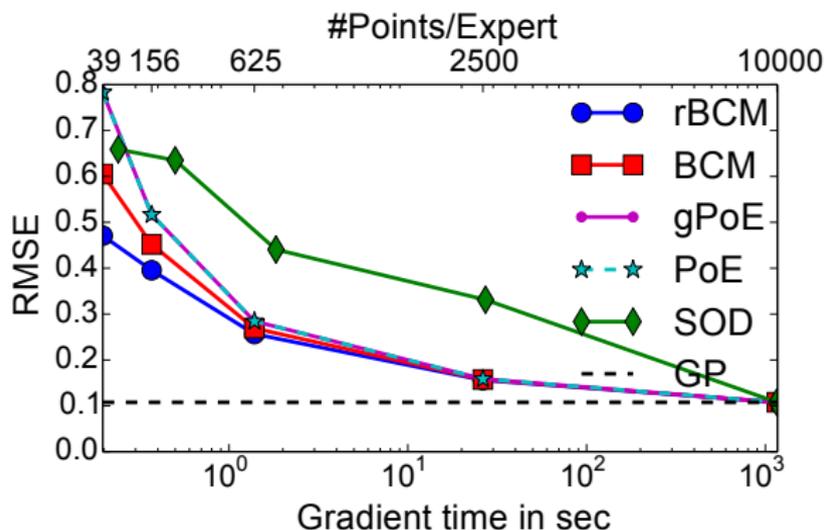
- ▶ Intuition: Set $\beta_k(\mathbf{x}_*)$ such that “informed” GP experts get more influence
- ▶ Use some distance/divergence between GP prior and GP posterior at test point \mathbf{x}_*
- ▶ Some options for β_k :
 - ▶ $\beta_k \propto \text{KL}(\text{prior} || \text{posterior})$
 - ▶ $\beta_k \propto \text{DiffEnt}(\text{prior}, \text{posterior})$

Splitting the Data



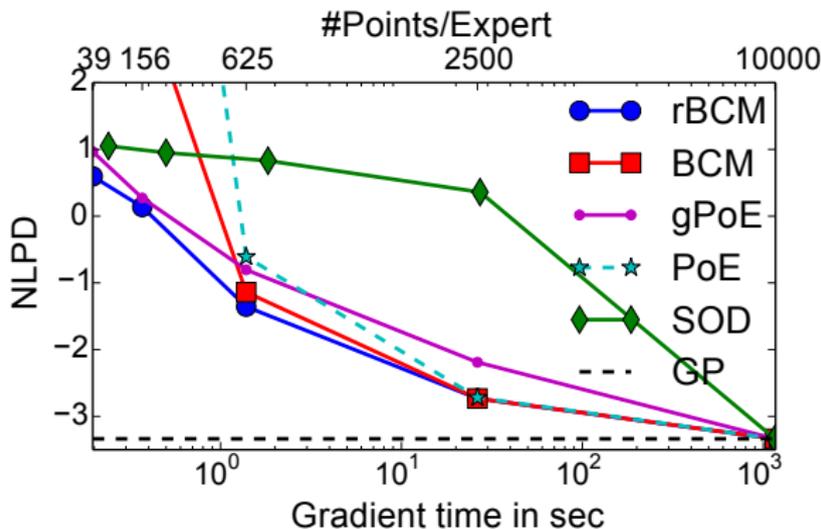
- ▶ Data sets should be of approximately the same size
- ▶ Random assignment of data points to experts
- ▶ Cluster inputs (e.g., k-means), assign clusters to experts

Empirical Approximation Error (1)



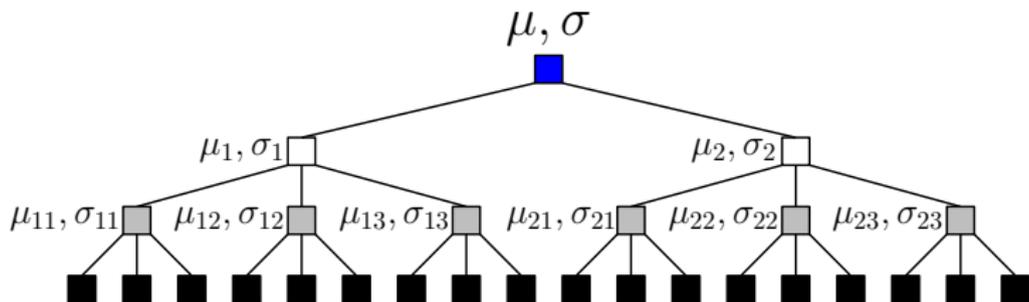
- ▶ Simulated robot arm data (10K training, 10K test)
- ▶ Hyper-parameters of ground-truth full GP
- ▶ RMSE as a function of the training time
- ▶ Subset of data (SOD) performs worse than any distributed GP
- ▶ **rBCM performs best with “weak” GP experts**

Empirical Approximation Error (2)



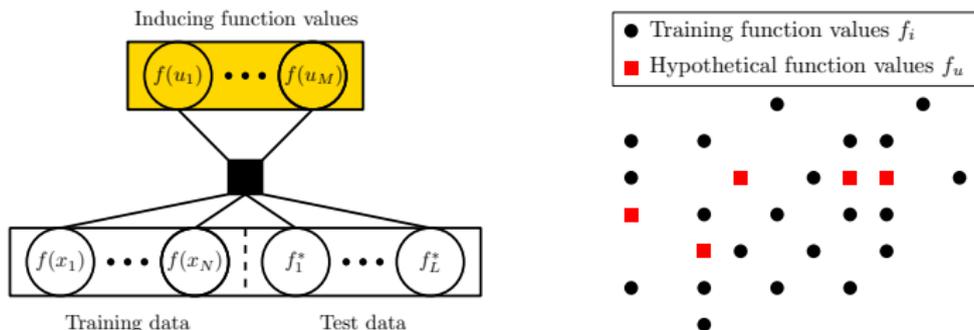
- ▶ NLPD as a function of the training time ►► Mean and variance
- ▶ BCM and PoE are not robust for weak experts
- ▶ gPoE suffers from too conservative variances
- ▶ rBCM consistently outperforms other methods

Summary: Distributed Gaussian Processes



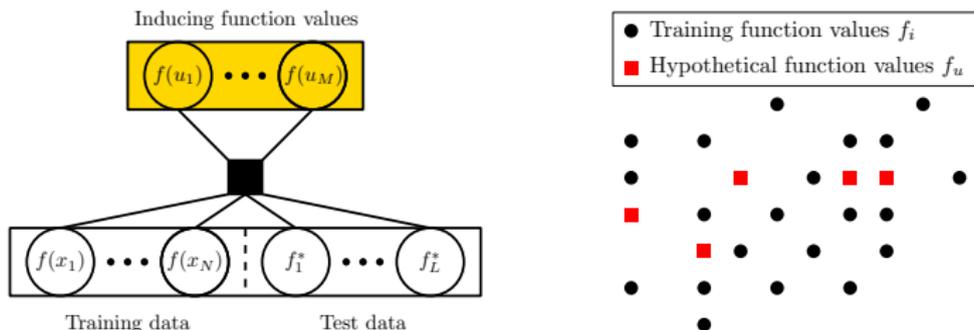
- ▶ Scale Gaussian processes to large data (beyond 10^6)
- ▶ Model **conceptually straightforward** and **easy to train**
- ▶ Key: **Distributed computation**
- ▶ Currently tested with $N > 10^7$
- ▶ Scales to arbitrarily large data sets (with enough computing power)

Scaling GPs using Inducing Inputs



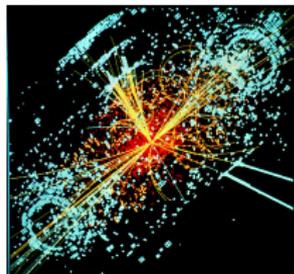
- ▶ Introduce **inducing function values** f_u
 - ▶▶ “Hypothetical” function values

Scaling GPs using Inducing Inputs



- ▶ Introduce **inducing function values** f_u
 - ▶ “Hypothetical” function values
- ▶ All function values are still jointly Gaussian distributed (e.g., training, test and inducing function values)
- ▶ **Compress** information into inducing function values
- ▶ Selected references: [6–13]

Gaussian Processes in High-Energy Physics

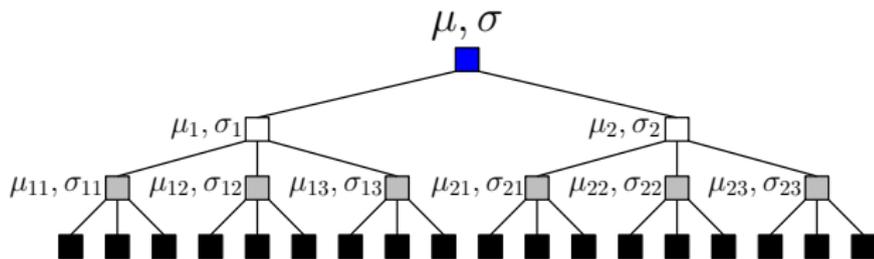
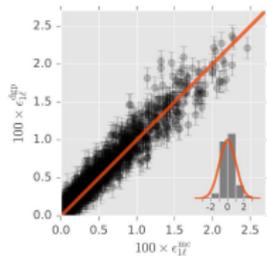


- ▶ LHC BSM simulator experiments (e.g., predicting natural supersymmetry signal events) can be very time consuming
- ▶ Sampling in a high-dimensional parameter space of theoretical models
 - ▶ Monte Carlo sampling of collision events
 - ▶ Run samples through a detector simulation
 - ▶ Compare predicted signal with real data
- ▶▶ Bottleneck for global theoretical analysis of BSM theories

Rapid Predictions

- ▶ Learn mapping between theory and data
- ▶ Rapidly predict signal region (SR) differences
- ▶ Model the relationship between BSM parameters θ and SR efficiency ϵ with Gaussian processes: $\epsilon = f(\theta), f \sim GP$.

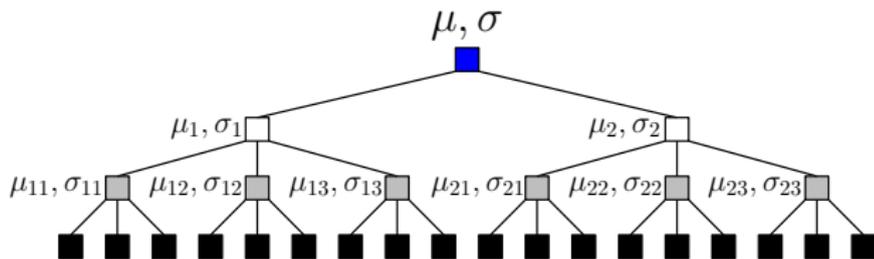
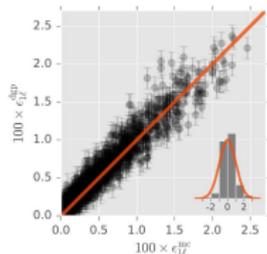
GP Surrogate Model for the Full Simulation Chain



Challenges:

- ▶ Training set is moderately large (18,000) ▶ Distributed GPs

GP Surrogate Model for the Full Simulation Chain



Challenges:

- ▶ Training set is moderately large (18,000) ▶ Distributed GPs

Results:

- ▶ Similar to expensive MC simulator (event generator)
- ▶ 10,000-fold speedup for reconstruction of theory parameters
- ▶ Rapid reconstruction of the theory parameters of a BSM model
- ▶ New opportunities in the interpretation of LHC data

Deisenroth & Ng (ICML, 2015): *Distributed Gaussian Processes*

Bertone et al. (arXiv 1611.02704): *Accelerating the BSM Interpretation of LHC Data with Machine Learning*

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Appendix

BCM: Derivation

Conditional Independence Assumption (BCM)

$$\mathcal{D}^{(j)} \perp\!\!\!\perp \mathcal{D}^{(k)} | f_*$$

$$\begin{aligned} p(f_* | \mathcal{D}^{(j)}, \mathcal{D}^{(k)}) &\propto p(\mathcal{D}^{(j)}, \mathcal{D}^{(k)} | f_*) p(f_*) \\ &\stackrel{\text{BCM}}{=} p(\mathcal{D}^{(j)} | f_*) p(\mathcal{D}^{(k)} | f_*) p(f_*) \\ &= \frac{p(\mathcal{D}^{(j)}, f_*) p(\mathcal{D}^{(k)}, f_*)}{p(f_*)} \\ &\propto \frac{p_k(f_* | \mathcal{D}^{(k)}) p_j(f_* | \mathcal{D}^{(j)})}{p(f_*)} \end{aligned}$$