



Introduction

Gaussian process (GP) models are popular surrogates for emulating deterministic computer simulator outputs.

Fitting a GP model can be computationally unstable due to near-singularity of the spatial correlation matrix R . We use the nugget based approach in Ranjan et al. (2011).

GP model fitting procedure requires numerous evaluations of determinant and inverse of R (i.e., every likelihood evaluations is expensive)

Maximum likelihood approach: the log-likelihood function of the GP model can have multiple local optima.

We follow a clustering based multi-start BFGS algorithm for optimizing the log-likelihood. This is faster than genetic algorithm and more accurate than *mlegp*.

Gaussian process model

Assume the simulator is deterministic, process is stationary, and the outputs are scalar.

Data: $\{(x_i, y_i), i = 1, \dots, n\}$, where $x_i \in [0, 1]^d$.

Model:

$$y_i = \mu + z(x_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, n,$$

where μ is constant mean, $z(x_i)$ is a GP. That is,

$E(Z(x_i)) = 0$, and $Cov(Z(x_i), Z(x_j)) = \sigma^2 R_{ij}$. We use

Gaussian correlation

$$R_{ij} = \prod_{k=1}^d \exp(-\theta_k |x_{ik} - x_{jk}|^2),$$

where $\theta_k \in [0, \infty)$. The closed form estimators of μ and σ^2 are given by

$$\hat{\mu}(\theta) = (1'R^{-1}1)'(1'R^{-1}Y)$$

and

$$\hat{\sigma}^2(\theta) = \frac{(Y - 1\hat{\mu})'R^{-1}(Y - 1\hat{\mu})}{n}.$$

The deviance $(-2 \log(L_\theta))$ to be optimized is

$$\log(|R|) + n \log[(Y - 1\hat{\mu})'R^{-1}(Y - 1\hat{\mu})].$$

Near-singularity of R

An $n \times n$ correlation matrix R is said to be ill-conditioned or near-singular if its condition number

$$\kappa(R) = \|R\| * \|R^{-1}\|$$

is too large.

This is a common problem in fitting GP models which occurs if any pair of design points in the input space are close together (Neal 1997).

Popular approach: replace R by $R_\delta = R + \delta \cdot I$.

To minimize over-smoothing, Ranjan et al. (2011) suggests using the lower bound on δ , i.e.,

$$\delta_{lb} = \max \left\{ \frac{\lambda_n(\kappa(R) - e^\alpha)}{\kappa(R)(e^\alpha - 1)}, 0 \right\},$$

Where λ_n is the maximum eigenvalue of R , and e^α is the threshold of $\kappa(R)$ that ensures a well-conditioned R .

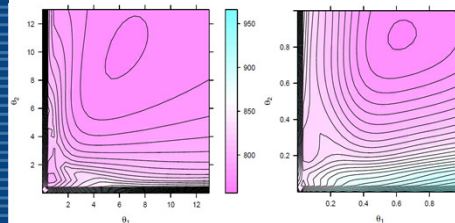
That is, we use $R_{\delta_{lb}} = R + \delta_{lb} \cdot I$ in place of R in the log-likelihood expression.

Multiple local optima of $-2\log(L_\theta)$

For the 2-d GoldPrice function, $x \in [-2, 2]^2$,

$$y(x) = [1 + (x_1 + x_2 + 1)^2 \{19 - 14x_1 + 3x_1^2 - 14x_2 + 6x_1x_2 + 3x_2^2\}] * [30 + (2x_1 - 3x_2)^2 (18 - 32x_1 + 12x_1^2 + 48x_2 - 36x_1x_2 + 27x_2^2)].$$

The inputs were scaled to $[0, 1]^2$. Generated a 30-point maximin LHD, and evaluated the log-likelihood function



Overall deviance

enlarged view near 0

Optimization near zero is tricky.

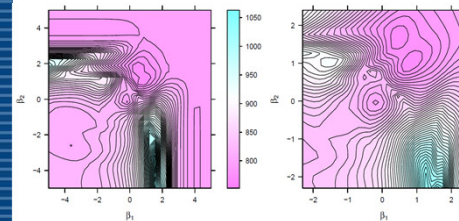
Reparametrization of R

Let $\beta_k = \log_{10}(\theta_k)$, for $k = 1, \dots, d$. Then, the Gaussian correlation is

$$R_{ij} = \prod_{k=1}^d \exp(-10^{\beta_k} |x_{ik} - x_{jk}|^2),$$

where $\beta_k \in (-\infty, \infty)$.

For the 2-d GoldPrice function, the deviance function is easier to optimize (local optima are in the middle now).



Overall deviance

enlarged view near 0

Optimization algorithm

Plausible values of β_k 's
($\exp(-5) \approx 0 \leq R_{ij} \leq 1 (\approx \exp(-10^{-4}))$)

Assuming isotropic correlation, $x \in [0, 1]^d$ and $n = 10 \cdot d$, let Ω_0 is given by

$$-2 - \log_{10}(d) \leq \beta_k \leq \log_{10}(500) - \log_{10}(d).$$

Algorithm

1. Choose 200d –point maximin LHD for $\beta \in \Omega_0^d$, and evaluate $-2 \log(L_\beta)$ for each β .
2. Choose 80d values of β that gives smallest $-2 \log(L_\beta)$
3. Use k-means clustering on these 80d values of β to find 2d groups and the cluster means.
4. For $d \geq 2$, run BFGS along the diagonal (starting at 25%, 50% and 75%) to find the best solution.
5. Use these 2d (or, 2d + 1) points as the starting points of BFGS to find the best minimizer of $-2 \log(L_\beta)$.

➤ BFGS instead of genetic algorithm makes it a bit faster

➤ Multiple starting points make the algorithm robust

GPfit package

A more complete simulation study showed:

```
> GPmodel = GP_fit(X, Y, control=c(200*d,80*d,2*d),
  nug_thres=20, trace=FALSE, maxit=100)
> Model_pred = predict.GP(GPmodel, xnew)
> plot.GP(GPmodel, range=c(0,1), resolution=50,
  surf_check=FALSE, response=TRUE)
```

Examples

```
R> library(GPfit)
R> library(lhs)
R> n = 7
R> x = maximinLHS(n,1)
R> y = matrix(0,n,1)
R> for(i in 1:n){ y[i] = computer_simulator(x[i]) }
R> GPmodel = GP_fit(x,y)
```

```
Number Of Observations: n = 7
Input Dimensions: d = 1
```

```
Correlation: Exponential (power = 2)
```

```
Correlation Parameters:
```

```
beta_hat
```

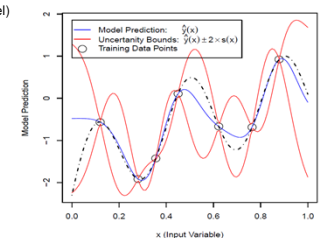
```
[1] 1.977
```

```
sigma^2_hat: [1] 0.7444
```

```
delta_lb(beta_hat): [1] 0
```

```
nugget threshold parameter: 20
```

```
> plot.GP(GPmodel)
```



References

- Ranjan, P., Haynes, R. and Karsten, R. (2011). A computationally stable approach to Gaussian process interpolation of deterministic computer simulation data, *Technometrics*, 53(5), 366-378.
- MacDonald, K.B., Ranjan, P. and Chipman, H. (2012). GPfit: An R package for Gaussian process model fitting using a new optimization algorithm, *Journal of Statistical Software* (submitted).