
It is all in the noise: Efficient multi-task Gaussian process inference with structured residuals

Supplementary Material

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1 Kronecker Identities

Let \mathbf{A} be a $m \times n$ matrix, and \mathbf{B} be a $p \times q$ matrix. The Kronecker product $\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}$ is a $mp \times nq$ matrix and defined as follows:

$$\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B} = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11}\mathbf{B} & \dots & A_{1n}\mathbf{B} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ A_{m1}\mathbf{B} & \dots & A_{mn}\mathbf{B} \end{pmatrix} \quad (1)$$

The following equalities hold [1]:

$$(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B})(\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{D}) = \mathbf{AC} \otimes \mathbf{BD} \quad (2)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B})^\top = \mathbf{A}^\top \otimes \mathbf{B}^\top \quad (3)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B})^{-1} = \mathbf{A}^{-1} \otimes \mathbf{B}^{-1} \quad (4)$$

$$|\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}| = |\mathbf{A}|^p \cdot |\mathbf{B}|^n \quad (5)$$

$$(\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B}) \text{vec}(\mathbf{Y}) = \text{vec}(\mathbf{BYA}^\top) \quad (6)$$

Let $\mathbf{U}_A \mathbf{S}_A \mathbf{U}_A^\top$ be the eigenvalue decomposition of \mathbf{A} and $\mathbf{U}_B \mathbf{S}_B \mathbf{U}_B^\top$ the eigenvalue decomposition of \mathbf{B} , then

$$(\mathbf{U}_A \otimes \mathbf{U}_B) (\mathbf{S}_A \otimes \mathbf{S}_B + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}) (\mathbf{U}_A^\top \otimes \mathbf{U}_B^\top) \quad (7)$$

is the eigenvalue decomposition of $\mathbf{A} \otimes \mathbf{B} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$, where σ^2 is a non-negative scalar.

1.1 Task Cancellation when the task covariance matrices are equal

For the special case $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{\Sigma}$, the predictions become independent across tasks:

$$\begin{aligned}
\text{vec } \mathbf{M}^* &= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{\Sigma} \otimes \mathbf{I})^{-1} \text{vec } \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{I})^{-1} \text{vec } \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) (\mathbf{C} \otimes (\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{I}))^{-1} \text{vec } \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) (\mathbf{C}^{-1} \otimes (\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{I})^{-1}) \text{vec } \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{C}\mathbf{C}^{-1} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{I})^{-1}) \text{vec } \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{I})^{-1}) \text{vec } \mathbf{Y} \\
&= \text{vec } (\mathbf{R}^*(\mathbf{R} + \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{Y})
\end{aligned} \tag{8}$$

For the noiseless case $\mathbf{\Sigma} \rightarrow \mathbf{0}$, a similar proof can be obtained [2].

2 Efficient inference in matrix-variate sum of Kronecker products Gaussian models

In the following, we will show how to efficiently evaluate the marginal likelihood and parameter gradients for matrix-variate normal models with a sum of two Kronecker products as covariance.

Efficient likelihood evaluation In a first step, we bring the covariance matrix in a more amenable form by factoring out the structured noise [3]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{K} &= \mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{\Sigma} \otimes \mathbf{\Omega} \\
&= \mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R} + \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma} \mathbf{S}_{\Sigma} \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma}^{\top} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\Omega} \mathbf{S}_{\Omega} \mathbf{U}_{\Omega}^{\top} \\
&= \left(\mathbf{U}_{\Sigma} \mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\Omega} \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \left(\mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma}^{\top} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma} \mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Omega}^{\top} \mathbf{R} \mathbf{U}_{\Omega} \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{-\frac{1}{2}} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I} \right) \left(\mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma}^{\top} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Omega}^{\top} \right) \\
&= \left(\mathbf{U}_{\Sigma} \mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\Omega} \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \left(\tilde{\mathbf{C}} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{R}} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I} \right) \left(\mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma}^{\top} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Omega}^{\top} \right) \\
&= \left(\mathbf{U}_{\Sigma} \mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\Omega} \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}} \left(\mathbf{S}_{\Sigma}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Sigma}^{\top} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\Omega}^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\Omega}^{\top} \right),
\end{aligned} \tag{9}$$

where $\tilde{\mathbf{C}} \otimes \tilde{\mathbf{R}} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I}$ is the projected covariance matrix $\tilde{\mathbf{K}}$.

At the slight cost of computing the eigenvalue decompositions of Σ and Ω , we can now bring the log likelihood in a similar form as for multi-task GP regression with iid noise [2, 4]:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L} &= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln|\mathbf{K}| - \frac{1}{2} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y}^\top \mathbf{K}^{-1} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \ln \left| \left(\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \right| \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y}^\top \left[\left(\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \right]^{-1} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top| - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\tilde{\mathbf{K}}| \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y}^\top \left(\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \ln |\mathbf{S}_\Sigma \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega| - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\tilde{\mathbf{K}}| \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \right]^\top \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \left[\left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \right] \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \ln |\mathbf{S}_\Sigma \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega| - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\tilde{\mathbf{K}}| \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \text{vec} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)^\top \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \text{vec} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^T \ln \mathbf{S}_\Sigma[i, i] - \frac{T}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \ln \mathbf{S}_\Omega[j, j] - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\tilde{\mathbf{K}}| - \frac{1}{2} \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}
\end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

where $\mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \mathbf{Y} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}}$ is the projected outcome $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}$. Computing the eigenvalue decompositions of Σ and Ω takes $O(N^3 + T^3)$ time, and transforming \mathbf{Y} to $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}$ takes $O(N^2T + T^2N)$ time, since $\mathbf{S}_\Omega, \mathbf{S}_\Sigma$ are diagonal.

Along similar lines as discussed for the iid case, we can now efficiently evaluate the marginal log likelihood:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L} &= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^T \ln \mathbf{S}_\Sigma[i, i] - \frac{T}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \ln \mathbf{S}_\Omega[j, j] - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\tilde{\mathbf{K}}| - \frac{1}{2} \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^T \ln \mathbf{S}_\Sigma[i, i] - \frac{T}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \ln \mathbf{S}_\Omega[j, j] - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I}| \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left(\text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \right)^\top \left[\left(\mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} \right) \left(\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I} \right) \left(\mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} \right)^\top \right]^{-1} \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^T \ln \mathbf{S}_\Sigma[i, i] - \frac{T}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \ln \mathbf{S}_\Omega[j, j] - \frac{1}{2} \ln |\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I} \otimes \mathbf{I}| \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left[\left(\mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}}^\top \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}}^\top \right) \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \right]^\top \left(\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I} \right)^{-1} \left[\left(\mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}}^\top \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}}^\top \right) \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \right] \\
&= -\frac{NT}{2} \ln(2\pi) - \frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^T \ln \mathbf{S}_\Sigma[i, i] - \frac{T}{2} \sum_{j=1}^N \ln \mathbf{S}_\Omega[j, j] - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^T \sum_{j=1}^N (\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}}[i, i] \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}}[j, j] + 1) \\
&\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left(\mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \right)^\top \left(\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I} \right)^{-1} \text{vec} \left(\mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}}^\top \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{U}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}} \right)
\end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

$$\tag{12}$$

In line (11), we exploit the fact that the eigenvalue decomposition of $\tilde{\mathbf{K}}$ can be recovered by the eigenvalue decompositions of $\tilde{\Sigma}$ and $\tilde{\Omega}$. Computing these decompositions takes $O(N^3 + T^3)$ time, the log determinant can then be computed in $O(NT)$ time and the squared form in $O(N^2T + NT^2)$ time since $\mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{C}}}, \mathbf{S}_{\tilde{\mathbf{R}}}$ are diagonal.

Efficient gradient evaluation

[illegible]

where $(\mathbf{S}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}}^{\top} \otimes \mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}}^{\top}) \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} = (\mathbf{S}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}} \otimes \mathbf{S}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}} + \mathbf{I})^{-1} \text{vec} (\mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}}^{\top} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}})$ is $\hat{\mathbf{Y}}$.

Efficient prediction

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{m}^* &= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R} + \boldsymbol{\Sigma} \otimes \mathbf{I})^{-1} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) \left[\left(\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \right]^{-1} \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \\
&= (\mathbf{C} \otimes \mathbf{R}^*) \left(\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \otimes \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Omega^\top \right) \text{vec} \mathbf{Y} \\
&= \left(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{R}^* \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \text{vec} \left(\left(\mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \right) \mathbf{Y} \left(\mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \right) \\
&= \left(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{R}^* \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \left(\tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \text{vec} \tilde{\mathbf{Y}} \right) \\
&= \left(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \otimes \mathbf{R}^* \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \text{vec} \left(\mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}} \hat{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}}^\top \right) \\
&= \text{vec} \left(\left(\mathbf{R}^* \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right) \left(\mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}} \hat{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}}^\top \right) \left(\mathbf{C} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \right)^\top \right) \\
&= \text{vec} \left(\mathbf{R}^* \mathbf{U}_\Omega \mathbf{S}_\Omega^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{R}}} \hat{\mathbf{Y}} \mathbf{U}_{\hat{\mathbf{C}}}^\top \mathbf{S}_\Sigma^{-\frac{1}{2}} \mathbf{U}_\Sigma^\top \mathbf{C}^\top \right) \tag{14}
\end{aligned}$$

References

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