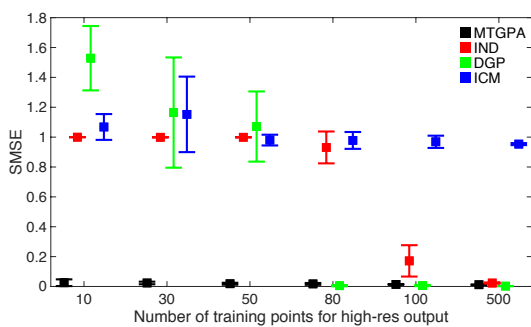


1 We thank all reviewers for their useful comments and positive feedback. We'll fix all minor comments and typos.
2 **Reviewer (R) 1** "The paragraph in the introduction reads very technical (...)" In the Introduction, we focus on GP
3 models for aggregated data and multiple instance learning whereas the Related work section mentions work beyond
4 GPs. At the time of submission, we didn't know of any other multi-task GP model for aggregated data. There are two
5 recent submissions to arxiv (see reply to R2) that we'll use to follow the reviewer's recommendation. "Section 2 was
6 straightforward to follow up to 2.3 (SVI). (...)" Due to space restrictions we summarised the theory from Section 2.3
7 since this piece of literature has been described before in Moreno-Muñoz et al. (2018). We'll expand the description of
8 Section 2.3 in the Appendix. "l.145ff: The notation has confused me when first reading, (...)" In L132 we use $\mathbf{y}(v)$
9 to refer to the vector of outputs as a function of v and in L145 y, without the argument v , to refer to the output vector of
10 the dataset. We'll clarify in the paper. "Also l.155: do you mean the process $f(\dots)$ " Yes, we refer to f "l.150ff: How
11 are the inducing inputs Z chosen? (...)" We use k -means over the input data with $k = M$, the number of inducing
12 inputs. We fix them during optimisation and assume the inducing inputs are points, but we could have also defined
13 them as intervals or supports. "(...) computational complexity?" Similar to the one in Moreno-Muñoz et al. (2018):
14 $\mathcal{O}(QM^3 + JNQM^2)$, where J depends on the type of likelihood. "synthetic data: Could you give an example (...)"
15 These could represent two histograms, for example, defined over bins with different sizes. "what is meant by "support
16 data" (...)" One-unit support data: data with a support of one unit. "predicted training count data" Predictions made
17 by the trained model over the training data. "what you mean by 5x5" a squared support of 5 years for the input age
18 times 5 years for the input years of the study. "Now that the likelihood is Gaussian, why not go for exact inference"
19 That's true, but this wouldn't work in the general case, for example, we couldn't apply this for the toy example. "Figure
20 3: I don't understand the red line:" It is the ground truth obtained directly by the sensor. We'll clarify this in the new
21 version. "Do you have a thought (...) sensors (...)" An idea previously used in other papers is to assume that each
22 spatial location is a different output. We're looking into this for our application in air pollution. "Extend explanation in
23 Section 2.3 (...)" "Rewrite the section on experiments (...)" We'll do this as explained above. **Reviewer 2** "graphical
24 models(...)" We'll add graphical models to the final version. "bars in Figure 1 (...)" These are meant to be read as
25 histograms. We'll add another plot zooming in the prediction range. "(...) assumption that 'the correlation between
26 tasks will remain constant (...)" Our most sincere apologies. This is in no way straightforward and will involve a
27 model along the lines of the Gaussian process regression networks (Wilson et al, 2011). We will remove this statement
28 from the manuscript. "(...) availability of the code" We have our code on GPy, and we'll make it available after the
29 decision. "P.S. A paper having similar goals appeared on arXiv (...)" Two papers with similar goals appeared on arXiv
30 recently, the one mentioned by the reviewer, "Multi-resolution Multi-task GPs" (arxiv1) and "Spatially Aggregated GPs
31 with Multivariate Areal Outputs" (arxiv2). Differences: we allow heterogeneous likelihoods (compared to arxiv1 and
32 arxiv2), an exact solution to the integration of the latent function through the kernel in Smith et al (2018) (different
33 to arxiv1); and inducing inputs for computational complexity (different to arxiv2). We'll add these references. "(...)
34 discussion regarding multi-fidelity methods (...)" Very relevant, thanks. We'll add this to the discussion. "If possible,
35 adding a more involved experiment (...)" See reply to R3 (experiment on more tasks). **Reviewer 3** "(...) mention
36 several related multi-task GPs (e.g., [1],[2],[3])." We'll add the references. [1] and [3] are particular cases of LMC
37 as it has been described in detail by Alvarez et al (2012). "(...) related work missing here: [4] (...)" differences and
38 advantages "(...)" [4] does not attempt to do simultaneous prediction of several variables, only one variable is considered.
39 They mainly use GPs for creating data from different auxiliary sources. Other differences: they only consider Gaussian
40 regression and they do not include inducing variables. "the data might be aggregated by another procedure, e.g.,
41 simple summation or population weighted average;" Agreed. Our motivation was to have a general purpose model.
42 Other types of aggregation will require prior knowledge by the user. This can be extended in future work. "(...)
43 aggregation (...) at the likelihood level?" It's happening in a sense because the latent functions obtained after the



55 Figure 1: Fertility rates 2×2 low resolution case. MTGPA (our method);
56 IND (Independent GP with aggregated inputs); DGP (Dependent GPs,
57 ref [2], R3); ICM (Intrinsic Co-regionalisation Model or Multi-task GPs,
58 ref [3], R3). DGP and ICM use the centroid of the area as input. MT-
59 GPA performs better or similar to baselines as we increase the number
of training points for the high-res output.

integration modulate the parameters of each likelihood in different
ways, depending on $a_{d,q}$. "(...) I think it would be more efficient to
estimate $a_{d,q}$ instead of B_q ." We estimate \mathbf{B}_q by estimating first
the Cholesky factor \mathbf{L}_q . See L187. This is efficient. "the proposed
model should be compared with any typical baseline" See Fig 1.
We'll include the 5×5 resolution case and the SNLP metric in the
new version and similar baselines for the other experiments (toy
and air pollution). "experimental results considering more tasks"
We ran another experiment with the Fertility dataset: four outputs
(two high-res few data points, two low-res many more data points)
and compared two versions of our model: all outputs as Gaussians
and all outputs as heteroscedastic Gaussians. SMSEs for both
models are comparable, but the model with heteroscedastic Gaus-
sians outperforms in terms of the SNLP. We'll add this experiment
to the new version with many more details. "*resolution 5×5 *
(...)" See reply to R1.