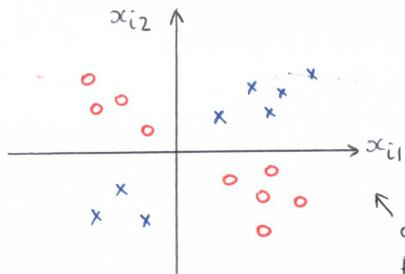


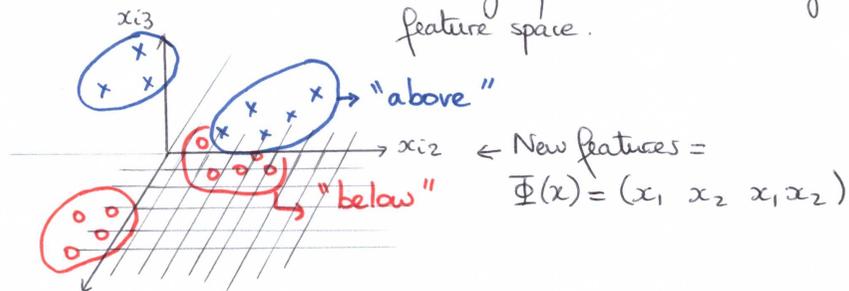
SL = REPRODUCING KERNEL HILBERT SPACES (RKHS)

Motivating example: Binary Classification

Learning sample $\mathcal{L}_n = \{(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)\}$, $X_i \in \mathbb{R}^2$
 $Y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$

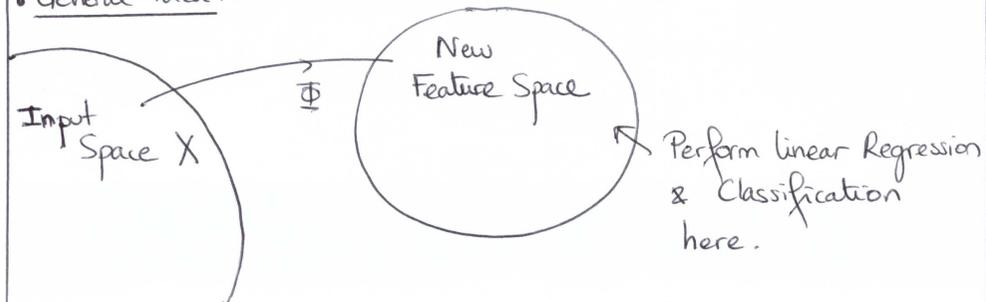


data is not linearly separable here. However, if we introduce a third variable $x_3 = x_1 x_2$, the points are linearly separable in the enlarged feature space.



Linear classification techniques can be applied in the enlarged feature space.

General idea:



A general strategy to predict the label of a new observation x is to choose a value y such that (x, y) is similar in some sense to some training examples.

↳ Similarity measure for input points x_1, \dots, x_n is needed.

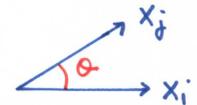
A natural candidate is the inner product:

Assuming that $\|x_i\| = 1$, $i=1, \dots, n$, then

$$\langle x_i, x_j \rangle = x_i^t x_j = \cos \theta,$$

where

$\theta =$ angle between x_i and x_j .



$\langle x_i, x_j \rangle \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow x_i$ and x_j are pointing in the same direction.

In addition, vectors x_i & x_j such that $\langle x_i, x_j \rangle$ is close to 1 "look more alike" than vectors for which the inner product is small, or negative.

↳ The new feature space should support an inner product structure to allow us to evaluate similarity between new features; and then apply any machine learning algorithm there.

⇒ Natural candidates are Hilbert Spaces.

As we shall see, not all Hilbert Spaces are good candidates. We need nice ones, called Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Spaces.

Outline.

- ↳ Elements of Functional Analysis (Hilbert Spaces / Operators)
- ↳ Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Spaces
- ↳ Constructing kernels
- ↳ Mercer Representation
- ↳ Applications in Machine Learning

I. ELEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL ANALYSIS

3

I.1. HILBERT SPACES

Definition (Norm). Let \mathcal{F} be a vector space over \mathbb{R} .

A function $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{F}} : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is said to be a NORM on \mathcal{F} if

- (i) $\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}} = 0 \iff f = 0$ (norm separates points)
- (ii) $\|\lambda f\|_{\mathcal{F}} = |\lambda| \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}} \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{F}$
- (iii) $\|f+g\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}} + \|g\|_{\mathcal{F}} \quad \forall f, g \in \mathcal{F}$ (triangle ineq.)

→ In every normed vector space, one can define a metric induced by the norm: $d(f, g) = \|f - g\|_{\mathcal{F}}$.

- Ex:
- $(\mathbb{R}, |\cdot|)$ $(\mathbb{C}, |\cdot|)$
 - $(\mathbb{R}^d, \|\cdot\|_p)$, where $\|x\|_p = \sum_{i=1}^d |x_i|^p$
As $p \rightarrow \infty$, $\|x\|_{\infty} = \max |x_i|$
 - $(\mathcal{C}[a, b], \|f\|_p)$, where $\|f\|_p = \int_a^b |f(x)|^p dx$, $p \geq 1$

Definition (Inner product). Let \mathcal{F} be a vector space over \mathbb{R} .

A function $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} : \mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be an INNER PRODUCT on \mathcal{F} if

- (i) $\langle \lambda_1 f_1 + \lambda_2 f_2, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \lambda_1 \langle f_1, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} + \lambda_2 \langle f_2, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \quad \forall \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R}$
- (ii) $\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \langle g, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$
- (iii) $\langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \geq 0$ and $\langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = 0 \iff f = 0$.

→ In every inner product vector space, one can define a norm induced by the inner product $\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}} = \langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}^{1/2}$.

Ex: • $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{R}^n$, $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i$

• $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{C}[a, b]$, $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_a^b f(x) g(x) dx$.

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Remark: Inner product is needed to study useful geometrical notions analogous to those of Euclidean space \mathbb{R}^d . For example, the angle θ between $f, g \in \mathcal{F} \setminus \{0\}$ is given by

$$\cos \theta = \frac{\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}}{\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}} \|g\|_{\mathcal{F}}} \quad [\text{Not possible if } \mathcal{F} \text{ is only equipped with a norm}]$$

- Key relations • $|\langle f, g \rangle| \leq \|f\| \|g\|$ (CS ineq.)
- $4 \langle f, g \rangle = \|f+g\|^2 - \|f-g\|^2 \dots / \dots$

Definition (Convergent sequence) A sequence $\{f_n\}$ of elements of a normed space $(\mathcal{F}, \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{F}})$ is said to converge to $f \in \mathcal{F}$ if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \quad \forall n \geq N \quad \|f_n - f\|_{\mathcal{F}} < \varepsilon$$

Definition (Cauchy sequence) A sequence $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ of elements of a normed vector space $(\mathcal{F}, \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{F}})$ is said to be a CAUCHY SEQUENCE if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists N \in \mathbb{N} \quad \forall n, m \geq N \quad \|f_n - f_m\|_{\mathcal{F}} < \varepsilon$$

→ Since $\|f_n - f_m\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq \|f_n - f\|_{\mathcal{F}} + \|f - f_m\|_{\mathcal{F}}$
A convergent sequence \Rightarrow it is a Cauchy sequence

→ However, the converse is not true = Cauchy $\not\Rightarrow$ convergent

Ex: sequence in \mathbb{Q} converging to $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$

→ A COMPLETE space \mathcal{F} is such that every Cauchy sequence $\{f_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ in \mathcal{F} converges: it has a limit, and this limit is in \mathcal{F} .

Definition (Hilbert space)

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A HILBERT SPACE is a complete inner product space

Ex: • Space $L_2(X) = \{f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \int_X |f(x)|^2 dx < \infty\}$

is a Hilbert space with inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_X f(x)g(x)dx \quad (\text{e.g. } X = \mathbb{R})$$

• Space $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$ of sequences $\{x_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ of real numbers satisfying $\sum |x_n|^2 < \infty$ is a Hilbert space, endowed with the inner product $\langle \{x_n\}, \{y_n\} \rangle_{\ell^2(\mathbb{N})} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} x_n y_n$

• Space \mathbb{R}^3 with $\langle x, y \rangle = x^t y$.

I.2. LINEAR OPERATORS.

Let \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{G} be two normed vector spaces over \mathbb{R} .

Definition (Linear Operator) A function $A: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ is said to be a LINEAR OPERATOR if

$$A(\lambda_1 f_1 + \lambda_2 f_2) = \lambda_1 A(f_1) + \lambda_2 A(f_2)$$

$$\forall \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathbb{R} \quad \forall f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{F}.$$

Remark: Operators with $\mathcal{G} = \mathbb{R}$ are called FUNCTIONALS

Ex: Let \mathcal{F} = inner product space and $g \in \mathcal{F}$.

$$A_g: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$f \mapsto A_g(f) = \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$$

A_g is a linear functional (obvious?)

Definition (Continuity) A function $A: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ is said to be continuous at $f_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ if

$$\forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad \exists \delta > 0 \quad \|f - f_0\|_{\mathcal{F}} < \delta \Rightarrow \|Af - Af_0\|_{\mathcal{G}} < \varepsilon$$

- A is continuous on \mathcal{F} if it is continuous at every point of \mathcal{F}

Remark: Continuity means that a convergent sequence in \mathcal{F} is mapped to a convergent sequence in \mathcal{G} .

6

A stronger form of continuity is that of LIPSCHITZ CONTINUITY.
 $\exists C > 0 \quad \forall f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{F} \quad \|Af_1 - Af_2\|_{\mathcal{G}} \leq C \|f_1 - f_2\|_{\mathcal{F}}$.

Ex: A_g previously defined is Lipschitz continuous:

$$A_g: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$|A_g(f_1) - A_g(f_2)| = |\langle f_1 - f_2, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}| \leq \|g\|_{\mathcal{F}} \|f_1 - f_2\|_{\mathcal{F}}$$

↑
CS

Definition (Operator norm) The operator norm of a linear operator $A: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathcal{G}$ is defined as

$$\|A\| = \sup_{\substack{f \in \mathcal{F} \\ f \neq 0}} \frac{\|Af\|_{\mathcal{G}}}{\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}}$$

If $\|A\| < \infty$, A is called a BOUNDED LINEAR OPERATOR

$\|A\|$ is the smallest number λ such that $\|Af\|_{\mathcal{G}} \leq \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}$ holds $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}$.

Interpretation: A maps the closed unit ball in \mathcal{F} , into a subset of the closed ball in \mathcal{G} centered at $0 \in \mathcal{G}$, with radius $\|A\|$.

Theorem. Let $(\mathcal{F}, \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{F}})$ and $(\mathcal{G}, \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{G}})$ be two normed linear spaces.

If L is a linear operator, then the following three conditions are equivalent:

(i) L is a bounded operator

(ii) L is continuous on \mathcal{F}

(iii) L is continuous at one point of \mathcal{F} .

Proof = (i) \Rightarrow (ii) Suppose $\exists \lambda < \infty$ s.t. $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}$, (7)

$$\|Lf\|_g \leq \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}$$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$

Put $\delta = \varepsilon/\lambda$

Let $f_0 \in \mathcal{F}$ such that $\|f - f_0\|_{\mathcal{F}} < \varepsilon/\lambda$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \|Lf - Lf_0\|_g &= \|L(f - f_0)\|_g \quad \text{Boundedness} \\ &\leq \lambda \|f - f_0\|_{\mathcal{F}} \\ &< \lambda \frac{\varepsilon}{\lambda} \\ &= \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow Continuity at f_0 (f_0 arbitrary)

(ii) \Rightarrow (iii) Obvious

(iii) \Rightarrow (i) Assume that L is continuous at one point $f_0 \in \mathcal{F}$.

Then $\exists \delta > 0 \forall \|\Delta\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq \delta \Rightarrow \|L\Delta\|_g = \|L(f_0 + \Delta) - Lf_0\|_g \leq 1$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } \forall f \in \mathcal{F}, f \neq 0, \quad \left\| \frac{\delta f}{2\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}} \right\|_{\mathcal{F}} &< \delta \quad \text{Apply } L \\ \left\| L \left(\frac{\delta f}{2\|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}} \right) \right\|_g &\leq 1 \quad \text{Linearity of } L \\ \Rightarrow \|Lf\|_g &\leq \frac{2}{\delta} \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}} \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow Boundedness

Remark: Closed versus Complete

$\rightarrow M \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ is CLOSED (in \mathcal{F}) if it contains limits of all sequences in M that converge in \mathcal{F} .

$\rightarrow M$ is COMPLETE (with no reference to a larger space) if all Cauchy sequences in M converge in M .

\rightarrow The KERNEL of L is $\ker L = \{f \in \mathcal{F} \mid Lf = 0\}$ (8)



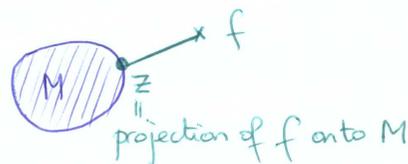
The kernel of a continuous functional necessarily is closed, as the preimage of the closed set $\{0\}$.

[See remark at the top of page 6.]

Theorem (Projections in Hilbert Spaces)

Let \mathcal{F} be a Hilbert Space and M a closed subspace.

Then $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}$, we have the decomposition $f = z + z^\perp$



$$\begin{aligned} f &= z + z^\perp \\ &\uparrow \quad \quad \uparrow \\ &EM \quad \quad EM^\perp \\ &\forall m \in M \quad \langle z^\perp, m \rangle = 0 \end{aligned}$$

We have seen page 5 that $A_g := \langle \cdot, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$ is a linear functional.

Theorem (RIESZ REPRESENTATION THEOREM)

In a Hilbert space \mathcal{F} , for every continuous linear functional $L: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, there exists a unique $g \in \mathcal{F}$, such that $Lf = \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$

Proof =
 • If $L = 0$, then $g = 0$ will do
 • If $L \neq 0$, then take $y \in (\ker L)^\perp$, $y \neq 0$

Since $L \neq 0$, we have $\ker L \subsetneq \mathcal{F}$
 $\Rightarrow (\ker L)^\perp \neq \{0\}$

Rk: Since L is a continuous linear functional, $\ker L$ is closed & thus the theorem of projections in Hilbert Spaces ensure the existence of a $y \neq 0$ in $(\ker L)^\perp \neq \{0\}$

Put $z = \frac{y}{Ly}$ \leftarrow Note that $Ly \neq 0$ since $y \in (\ker L)^\perp$

We have that $Lz = 1$.

(9)

$\forall f \in \mathcal{F}$, $f - zLf \in \ker L$ since

$$L(f - zLf) \underset{\text{linearity}}{=} Lf - LzLf = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\langle f - zLf, z \rangle}_{\in \ker L} \underset{\mathcal{F}}{=} 0 \Rightarrow Lf = \langle f, \underbrace{\frac{z}{\langle z, z \rangle}}_{\in (\ker L)^\perp} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$$

This is our g !

Uniqueness: Suppose $\exists f_1, f_2 \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}$,

$$\langle f, g_1 \rangle = \langle f, g_2 \rangle \Rightarrow \langle f, g_1 - g_2 \rangle = 0$$

Take $f = g_1 - g_2$ and the result follows. \blacksquare

Remark: Orthonormal basis

An orthonormal set $\{u_j\}$ is such that $\langle u_j, u_k \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j=k \\ 0 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$

If it is also a basis, then denoting $\hat{f}_j = \langle f, u_j \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$, we have

$$f = \sum \hat{f}_j u_j \Rightarrow \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \sum \hat{f}_j \hat{g}_j = \langle \{\hat{f}_j\}, \{\hat{g}_j\} \rangle_{\ell^2(\mathbb{N})}$$

Definition. Two Hilbert spaces \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{F} are said to be ISOMETRICALLY ISOMORPHIC if there is a linear bijective map $U: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{F}$ which preserves the inner product $\langle h_1, h_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle Uh_1, Uh_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$

Although \mathcal{H} and \mathcal{F} may have elements of a different nature, (functions vs sequences), they still have the same geometric structure.

Theorem Every Hilbert space has an orthonormal basis. Thus, all Hilbert spaces are isometrically isomorphic to $\ell^2(\mathbb{N})$.

\uparrow we need a separable Hilbert space [contains a dense subset. Ex: \mathbb{R}]

II. REPRODUCING KERNEL HILBERT SPACES (RKHS)

(10)

II.1. Evaluation Functional View of RKHS.

Let $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$, and \mathcal{H} = Hilbert Space of functions $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

For a fixed $x \in X$, the map $\delta_x: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called the
 $f \mapsto f(x)$

evaluation functional at x .

\hookrightarrow Evaluation functionals are always linear since $\forall f, g \in \mathcal{H}$,
 $\forall \lambda, \nu \in \mathbb{R}$,

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_x(\lambda f + \nu g) &= (\lambda f + \nu g)(x) \\ &= \lambda f(x) + \nu g(x) = \lambda \delta_x f + \nu \delta_x g. \end{aligned}$$

\hookrightarrow Evaluation functionals are not always continuous.

Definition:

A Hilbert Space \mathcal{H} of functions $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined on a non-empty set X is said to be a Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS) if the evaluation functional δ_x is continuous $\forall x \in X$.

\hookrightarrow Consequence: if two functions converge in the RKHS norm, they converge pointwise at any point: $\forall x \in X$,

$$\begin{aligned} |f_n(x) - f(x)| &= |\delta_x f_n - \delta_x f| \\ &= |\delta_x(f_n - f)| \leq \|\delta_x\| \|f_n - f\| \end{aligned}$$

The norm $\|\delta_x\|$ is bounded, since δ_x is a continuous linear operator on \mathcal{H} .

Next: We discuss 3 distinct topics: Reproducing Kernel, Kernel, Positive Definite Function, and then show that they are equivalent

II.2. REPRODUCING KERNEL

(11)

Definition. (Reproducing Kernel)

Let \mathcal{H} be a Hilbert Space of functions $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined on a non-empty set X .

A function $K: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a REPRODUCING KERNEL of \mathcal{H} if it satisfies

(i) $\forall x \in X \quad K_x = K(\cdot, x) \in \mathcal{H}$

(ii) $\forall x \in X \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{H} \quad \langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = f(x)$

Quite restrictive: does such a function exist at all?

The reproducing property.

In particular, $\forall x, y \in X, K_y = K(\cdot, y) \in \mathcal{H} \Rightarrow$

$$K(x, y) = \langle K(\cdot, y), K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle K(\cdot, x), K(\cdot, y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Remark: If it exists, the reproducing kernel is unique. Indeed, assume that \mathcal{H} has two reproducing kernels K_1 and K_2 . Then

$$\langle f, K_1(\cdot, x) - K_2(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = f(x) - f(x) = 0 \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{H} \quad \forall x \in X.$$

In particular, taking $f(\cdot) = K_1(\cdot, x) - K_2(\cdot, x)$ gives uniqueness.

What about existence?

abstract definition

less abstract: we start characterizing the elements of an RKHS

Theorem: \mathcal{H} is a RKHS $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{H}$ has a reproducing kernel.

Proof \Leftarrow Suppose that \mathcal{H} has a reproducing kernel. Then

$$\begin{aligned} |\delta_x f| &= |f(x)| = |\langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}| \\ &\leq \|K(\cdot, x)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle K(\cdot, x), K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}^{1/2} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= K(x, x)^{1/2} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow \delta_x: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a bounded linear operator, hence a continuous one. (11a)

\Rightarrow Suppose that $\delta_x: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a bounded linear functional. The Riesz representation theorem ensures the existence of an element $f_{\delta_x} \in \mathcal{H}$ such that

$$\delta_x f = \langle f, f_{\delta_x} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{H}.$$

Define $K(y, x) = f_{\delta_x}(y) \quad \forall x, y \in X$.

Then $\rightarrow K(\cdot, x) = f_{\delta_x} \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\rightarrow \langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \delta_x f = f(x)$$

Thus K is the reproducing kernel □

II.3. INNER PRODUCT BETWEEN FEATURES.

Definition (Kernel) A function $K: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a KERNEL on X

if (i) \exists a Hilbert Space \mathcal{H}

(ii) A mapping $\Phi: X \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$

such that $\forall x, y \in X \quad K(x, y) = \langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$

We drop the reproducing property, as \mathcal{H} may not be an RKHS (not even necessarily a function space)

Φ known as a FEATURE MAP

\mathcal{H} known as a FEATURE SPACE

Corollary: Every Reproducing Kernel is a Kernel.

\rightarrow Take $\Phi: x, y \mapsto K(\cdot, x), K(\cdot, y) \in \mathcal{H}$ here, a function space Reproducing kernel

Then $\langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle K(\cdot, x), K(\cdot, y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = K(x, y)$

x Examples

(12)

• $X = \mathbb{R}^2$

$$K(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle^2$$

$$= (x_1 y_1)^2 + (x_2 y_2)^2 + 2 x_1 x_2 y_1 y_2$$

$$= (x_1^2 \ x_2^2 \ \sqrt{2} x_1 x_2) (y_1^2 \ y_2^2 \ \sqrt{2} y_1 y_2)^t$$

$$= \Phi(x)^t \Phi(y)$$

where we defined $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2} x_1 x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

monomials of order 2

Take $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^3 =$ Feature space.

Note that the feature map & the feature space are not unique, since we can as well define

$$K(x, y) = \bar{\Phi}(x) \bar{\Phi}(y)$$
, with $\bar{\Phi}: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^4$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ x_1 x_2 \\ x_1 x_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$\bar{\mathcal{H}} = \mathbb{R}^4$

\mathcal{H} & $\bar{\mathcal{H}}$ are not RKHS (they are not spaces of functions)

• $X = \mathbb{R}^d$

$$K(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle^m$$

$$= \left(\sum x_i y_i \right)^m$$

$$= \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_d = m} \frac{m!}{j_1! \dots j_d!} (x_1 y_1)^{j_1} \dots (x_d y_d)^{j_d}$$

$x = (x_1 \dots x_d)^t$
 $y = (y_1 \dots y_d)^t$

$$K(x, y) = \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_d = m} \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{m!}{j_1! \dots j_d!}}}_{\Phi_j(x)} x_1^{j_1} \dots x_d^{j_d} \underbrace{\sqrt{\frac{m!}{j_1! \dots j_d!}}}_{\Phi_j(y)} y_1^{j_1} \dots y_d^{j_d}$$

$j = (j_1, \dots, j_d)$

$$= \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_d = m} \Phi_j(x) \Phi_j(y)$$

$$= (\Phi_{m,0,\dots,0}(x), \Phi_{0,m,0,\dots,0}(x), \dots)$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$(\Phi_{m,0,\dots,0}(y), \Phi_{0,m,0,\dots,0}(y), \dots)^t$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$=: \Phi(x)$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$\Phi(y)^t$$

\Rightarrow We extracted a feature map $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\binom{d+m-1}{m}}$ and a feature space $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^{\binom{d+m-1}{m}}$, so K is a kernel indeed.

Note that elements of Φ contains all monomials of order m .

• $X = \mathbb{R}^2$

$$K(x, y) = (1 + \langle x, y \rangle)^2$$

$$= (1 + x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2)^2$$

$$= 1 + (x_1 y_1)^2 + (x_2 y_2)^2 + 2 x_1 y_1 + 2 x_2 y_2 + 2 x_1 x_2 y_1 y_2$$

$$= (1 \ \sqrt{2} x_1 \ \sqrt{2} x_2 \ x_1^2 \ x_2^2 \ \sqrt{2} x_1 x_2)$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$\Phi(x)$$

$$\uparrow$$

$$(1 \ \sqrt{2} y_1 \ \sqrt{2} y_2 \ y_1^2 \ y_2^2 \ \sqrt{2} y_1 y_2)^t$$

constant original features 2nd order polynomial product

$$K(x, y) = e^{-\|x\|^2/2\sigma^2} e^{-\|y\|^2/2\sigma^2} \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{\sigma^{2k} k!} \langle x, y \rangle^k \quad (16)$$

with

$$\langle x, y \rangle^k = \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_d = k} \frac{k!}{j_1! \dots j_d!} (x_1, y_1)^{j_1} \dots (x_d, y_d)^{j_d}$$

$$= e^{-\|x\|^2/2\sigma^2} e^{-\|y\|^2/2\sigma^2} \sum_{j_1 + \dots + j_d \geq 0} \frac{1}{\sigma^{2(j_1 + \dots + j_d)} j_1! \dots j_d!} x_1^{j_1} \dots x_d^{j_d} y_1^{j_1} \dots y_d^{j_d}$$

⇒ Put $\phi_j(x) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\sigma^{2(j_1 + \dots + j_d)} j_1! \dots j_d!}} x_1^{j_1} \dots x_d^{j_d}$

↑

$j = (j_1, \dots, j_d)$; positive entries.

We have the representation $K(x, y) = \Phi(x)^t \Phi(y)$, with

$$\Phi(x) := e^{-\|x\|^2/2\sigma^2} (\phi_{0, \dots, 0}(x), \phi_{1, 0, \dots, 0}(x), \dots)$$

↑

Infinite dimensional

⇒ The feature space is infinite dimensional as well.

(compare with polynomial kernels)

• Remark:

$$K(x, y) = \frac{K'(x, y)}{\sqrt{K'(x, x) K'(y, y)}}, \text{ with } K'(x, y) := e^{\frac{\langle x, y \rangle}{\sigma^2}}$$

↑ kernel ↑ kernel ↑ also a kernel

II.4. Positive definite functions.

(17)

A symmetric function $h: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is positive definite if for any $n \geq 1$, for any $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}$ & for any $x_1, \dots, x_n \in X$, holds

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i \lambda_j h(x_i, x_j) \geq 0$$

↑ In other words, the GRAM MATRIX $H := [h(x_i, x_j)]_{i, j=1, \dots, n}$ is symmetric positive semi-definite: $\lambda^t H \lambda \geq 0$; $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$.

* Consequence: A Kernel is a positive definite function.

Indeed, consider a kernel $K: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, associated with a Hilbert Space \mathcal{H} , and the feature map $\Phi: X \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$.

Then

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i \lambda_j K(x_i, x_j) &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_i \lambda_j \langle \Phi(x_i), \Phi(x_j) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &\stackrel{\text{definition of a kernel}}{=} \langle \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \Phi(x_i), \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j \Phi(x_j) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &\stackrel{\text{bilinearity}}{=} \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i \Phi(x_i) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

* Summary:

\mathcal{H} is an RKHS $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{H}$ has a unique reproducing kernel

& Reproducing kernel \Rightarrow kernel \Rightarrow Positive Definite function

⇒ Given an RKHS \mathcal{H} , \mathcal{H} defines a unique reproducing kernel, which is a positive definite function. (18)

It turns out that the converse is also true, as the next theorem shows:

Theorem (Moore - Aronszajn)

Let $K: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a positive definite function.

Then there exists a unique RKHS \mathcal{H} (space of functions $X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$) with reproducing kernel K .

↪ The RKHS & the reproducing kernel are unique. The feature map is not.

To prove the Moore - Aronszajn theorem, we proceed in several steps:

(i) First, we construct a pre-Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_0 .

\mathcal{H}_0 is not a Hilbert space, but is equipped with an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$.

↪ The structure of \mathcal{H}_0 informs us about what the elements in the final RKHS look like.

(ii) Add limit points: completion of $\mathcal{H}_0 \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$

Define a new object $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$, constructed from $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$, and show that it is an inner product on \mathcal{H} .

(iii) Show that \mathcal{H} is complete + evaluation functionals are continuous on \mathcal{H} .

Step (a) Let $K =$ Positive Definite, Symmetric function on $X \times X$

Put $\mathcal{H}_0 := \left\{ f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i), \quad n \geq 1, \lambda_i \in \mathbb{R}, x_i \in X \right\}$

Let $f, g \in \mathcal{H}_0$; $f(\cdot) = \sum \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i)$ (19)
 $g(\cdot) = \sum \gamma_j K(\cdot, y_j)$,

for some $\lambda_i, x_i, \gamma_j, y_j$.

Put $\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} := \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \gamma_j K(x_i, y_j)$

Q: Does $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$ defines an inner product on \mathcal{H}_0 ?

First of all, note that the definition of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$ does not depend on the representation of f and g . Indeed, consider

$$f(\cdot) = \sum_i \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i) = \sum_i \lambda'_i K(\cdot, x'_i)$$

$$g(\cdot) = \sum_j \gamma_j K(\cdot, y_j) = \sum_j \gamma'_j K(\cdot, y'_j)$$

Then

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} = \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \gamma_j K(x_i, y_j)$$

$$= \sum_i \lambda_i \underbrace{\sum_j \gamma_j K(x_i, y_j)}_{= g(x_i)}$$

$$= \sum_i \lambda_i g(x_i)$$

$$= \sum_i \lambda_i \sum_j \gamma'_j K(x_i, y'_j)$$

$$= \sum_j \gamma'_j \underbrace{\sum_i \lambda_i K(x_i, y'_j)}_{= f(y'_j)}$$

$$= \sum_j \gamma'_j f(y'_j)$$

$$= \sum_j \gamma'_j \sum_i \lambda'_i K(x'_i, y'_j)$$

$$= \sum_{i,j} \lambda'_i \gamma'_j K(x'_i, y'_j), \text{ as required. } \blacksquare$$

→ Symmetry of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$ follows from the symmetry of K . (20)

→ Bilinearity is a direct consequence of the definition of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$.

→ $\forall f \in \mathcal{H}_0$, $\langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} = \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \lambda_j K(x_i, x_j) \geq 0$, since K is a kernel, hence positive definite.

Note in addition that $\forall n \geq 1$, $\forall \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n$,

$$\forall f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathcal{H}_0, \lambda^t F \lambda = \left\langle \underbrace{\sum_i \lambda_i f_i}_{\in \mathcal{H}_0}, \underbrace{\sum_j \lambda_j f_j}_{\in \mathcal{H}_0} \right\rangle$$

$$\lambda = (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$$

$$F := [\langle f_i, f_j \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}]$$

= Gram matrix

$$\geq 0$$

⇒ Matrix F is positive semi-definite.

• Consequence: K satisfies the Cauchy-Schwartz ineq:

Indeed, taking $n=2$, the determinant of F must

be non negative: $\begin{vmatrix} \langle f_1, f_1 \rangle & \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle \\ \langle f_2, f_1 \rangle & \langle f_2, f_2 \rangle \end{vmatrix} \geq 0$

$$\langle f_1, f_1 \rangle \langle f_2, f_2 \rangle - \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle^2 \geq 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \langle f_1, f_2 \rangle^2 \leq \langle f_1, f_1 \rangle \langle f_2, f_2 \rangle \quad (*)$$

& similarly for K using $\begin{pmatrix} K(x,x) & K(x,y) \\ K(y,x) & K(y,y) \end{pmatrix}$,

$$\text{we get } K(x,y)^2 \leq K(x,x) K(y,y)$$

→ It remains to show that $\langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} = 0 \Rightarrow f = 0$ (21)

Let $f \in \mathcal{H}_0$.

Then $f(x) = \sum_i \lambda_i K(x, x_i)$ for some λ_i, x_i

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} f(x) \\ \uparrow \end{cases} = \langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$$

↑ by definition of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$.

The reproducibility property!

(& in particular, taking $f(x) = K(x, y)$, $f(x) = K(x, y) = \langle K(\cdot, y), K(\cdot, x) \rangle$)
↑
reproducible kernel

Next,

$$|f(x)|^2 = |\langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}|^2$$

$$\leq \langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} \langle K(\cdot, x), K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$$

from (*) page 20 = $K(x, x) \langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$

And indeed, $\langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} = 0 \Rightarrow f(x) = 0 \forall x$.

← Summary: Given $K =$ symmetric, positive definite function, we may define the space of functions

$$\mathcal{H}_0 := \left\{ f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i) \right\},$$

endowed with the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0} := \sum_{i,j} \lambda_i \gamma_j K(x_i, y_j), \quad \begin{aligned} f(\cdot) &= \sum \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i) \\ g(\cdot) &= \sum \gamma_j K(\cdot, y_j) \end{aligned}$$

• Remark: Evaluation functionals are continuous on \mathcal{H}_0 .

(22)

Take $f, g \in \mathcal{H}_0$.

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then } \forall x \in X, \quad f(x) &= \langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle = \delta_x f \\ g(x) &= \langle g, K(\cdot, x) \rangle = \delta_x g. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow |\delta_x f - \delta_x g| &= |\langle f - g, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}| \\ &\leq \sqrt{K(x, x)} \|f - g\|_{\mathcal{H}_0} \quad \text{(*)} \end{aligned}$$

\Rightarrow The functional δ_x is continuous on \mathcal{H}_0 for all $x \in X$. ■

\hookrightarrow Next: Complete \mathcal{H}_0 with all its limit points:

Let $\{f_n\}$ be a Cauchy sequence in $(\mathcal{H}_0, \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0})$.

Since

$$|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq \underbrace{\|f_n - f_m\|_{\mathcal{H}_0}}_{\downarrow 0} \sqrt{K(x, x)},$$

we conclude that the sequence $\{f_n(x)\}$ is a Cauchy sequence in \mathbb{R} , and therefore that it converges.

\Rightarrow Add in \mathcal{H}_0 the functions that are pointwise limits of Cauchy sequences in \mathcal{H}_0 .

— Call this enlarged space \mathcal{H} —

It "remains" to define an inner product on \mathcal{H} , show that \mathcal{H} is complete for this inner product, and that the evaluation functional is continuous on \mathcal{H} . Before we complete the proof, we illustrate what elements of \mathcal{H}_0 look like for some specific choices of K .

• Examples / Digression

(23)

(i). $X = \mathbb{R}^d$

$$\begin{aligned} K(x, y) &= \langle x, y \rangle = x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_d y_d \\ &= (x_1 \dots x_d)(y_1 \dots y_d)^t \\ &= \Phi(x) \Phi(y) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{cases} \Phi(x) = (x_1, \dots, x_d) = \text{feature map} = \text{Identity} \\ \mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^d = \text{feature space} \end{cases}$$

\uparrow not the RKHS, nor the pre-RKHS.

The pre-Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_0 associated with K has elements of the form $f(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i)$, for $n \geq 1$, & some $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R}$, $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \lambda_1 K(x, x_1) + \dots + \lambda_n K(x, x_n) \\ &= \lambda_1 x^t x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x^t x_n \\ &= x^t \underbrace{(\lambda_1 x_1 + \dots + \lambda_n x_n)}_{\in \mathbb{R}^d} \\ &\quad \text{Denote this vector } \gamma \\ &= x^t \gamma \\ &= \underline{\text{linear function of } x}. \end{aligned}$$

The pre-Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_0 contains linear functions of x (and, of course, the after completion, the RKHS contains as well linear functions of x).

\Rightarrow There is no substantial gain in using the kernel $K(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle$.

(ii) . $X = \mathbb{R}^2$

(24)

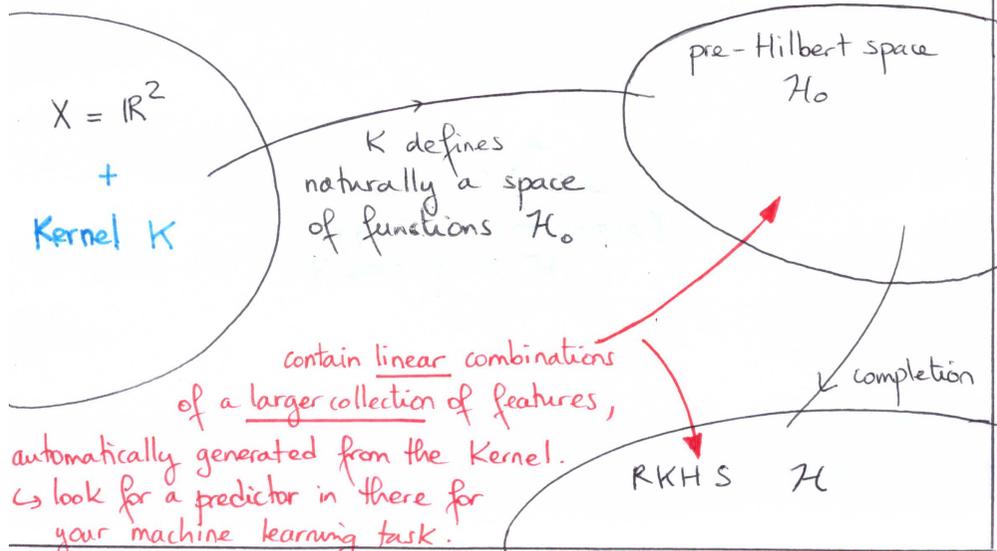
$$K(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle^2 = (x_1, y_1)^2 + (x_2, y_2)^2 + 2x_1x_2y_1y_2$$

Let $f \in \mathcal{H}_0$. Then

$$f(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i K(\cdot, x_i) \quad \begin{matrix} n \geq 1 \\ \lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n \in \mathbb{R} \\ x_1, \dots, x_n \in X = \mathbb{R}^2 \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \lambda_1 \langle x, x_1 \rangle^2 + \dots + \lambda_n \langle x, x_n \rangle^2 \\ &= x_1^2 [\lambda_1 x_{11}^2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_{n1}^2] \\ &\quad + x_2^2 [\lambda_1 x_{12}^2 + \dots + \lambda_n x_{n2}^2] \\ &\quad + 2x_1x_2 [\lambda_1 x_{11}x_{12} + \dots + \lambda_n x_{n1}x_{n2}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= a x_1^2 + b x_2^2 + c x_1x_2 \\ &= \text{linear combination of monomials of order 2} \\ & (= \text{elements of the feature map } \Phi(x) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1^2 \\ x_2^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_1x_2 \end{pmatrix}) \end{aligned}$$



(iii) . $X = \mathbb{R}$

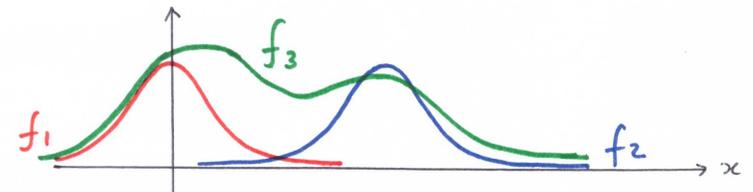
(25)

. $K(x, y) = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma^2}(x-y)^2\right) = \text{Gaussian kernel}$

↳ $f_1(x) := K(x, 0) = e^{-x^2/2\sigma^2} \in \mathcal{H}$

$f_2(x) := K(x, 1) = e^{-(x-1)^2/2\sigma^2} \in \mathcal{H}$

$f_3(x) := K(x, 0) + \frac{1}{2}K(x, 1) \in \mathcal{H}$



Step (b) = Completion

↳ See Appendix

III. CONSTRUCTING KERNELS

(26)

Standard operations can be used to define new kernels.
Given kernels K_1 and K_2 , the following functions K are also kernels:

(i) $K(x, y) = c K_1(x, y)$, $c > 0$

Since K_1 is a kernel, there exists a feature map Φ and a Hilbert Space \mathcal{H} s.t. $K_1(x, y) = \langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$.
 $\Rightarrow c K_1(x, y) = \langle \sqrt{c} \Phi(x), \sqrt{c} \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$
 $\Rightarrow c K_1$ is also a kernel.

(ii) $K(x, y) = f(x) K_1(x, y) f(y)$, $f = \text{any function}$.

Similarly, $f(x) K_1(x, y) f(y) = \langle f(x) \Phi(x), f(y) \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$

(iii) $K(x, y) = K_1(x, y) + K_2(x, y)$

Consider the Gram matrices \underline{K}_1 & \underline{K}_2 associated with the kernels K_1 & K_2 .

\underline{K}_1 & \underline{K}_2 are positive semi-definite $\Rightarrow \lambda^t \underline{K}_1 \lambda \geq 0$
 $\lambda^t \underline{K}_2 \lambda \geq 0$

Thus $\lambda^t \underline{K} \lambda = \lambda^t \underline{K}_1 \lambda + \lambda^t \underline{K}_2 \lambda \geq 0$
 \uparrow Gram matrix associated with K .

(iv) $K(x, y) = K_1(x, y) K_2(x, y)$ [HADAMARD product]

We consider the Gram Matrices of K, K_1, K_2 , denoted $\underline{K} = (K_{ij})$, $\underline{K}_1 = (K_{ij}^{(1)})$, $\underline{K}_2 = (K_{ij}^{(2)})$, respectively.

Then $K_{ij} = K_{ij}^{(1)} K_{ij}^{(2)}$.

We show that \underline{K} is positive semi-definite. To do so, we show that \underline{K} is the covariance matrix of some random

vector.

Let $u \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \underline{K}_1^{(1)})$ $u = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^t$
 $v \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \underline{K}_2^{(2)})$ $v = (v_1, \dots, v_n)^t$ \uparrow indpt

and put $w := (u_1 v_1, \dots, u_n v_n) = (w_1, \dots, w_n)$

Then $\mathbb{E}w = 0$ since $\mathbb{E}(u_i v_i) = \mathbb{E}u_i \mathbb{E}v_i = 0$
 \uparrow independence

$\Sigma_w = \mathbb{E}(w w^t)$,

where $(\Sigma_w)_{ij} = \mathbb{E}(w_i w_j)$
 $= \mathbb{E}(u_i v_i u_j v_j)$
 $= \mathbb{E}(u_i u_j) \mathbb{E}(v_i v_j)$
 $= K_{ij}^{(1)} K_{ij}^{(2)}$

$\Rightarrow \Sigma_w = \underline{K}$.

(v) $K(x, y) = q(K_1(x, y))$, $q = \text{polynomial with } \geq 0 \text{ coef}$

From (iv) we see that any power of K_1 is a kernel
 (take $K_1 = K_2 \Rightarrow K_1^2(x, y)$ is a kernel, etc).
 Combined with (i) + (iii) gives the result.

(vi) $K(x, y) = \exp(K_1(x, y))$

$K(x, y) = \sum_{k \geq 0} \frac{1}{k!} (K_1(x, y))^k$

= polynomial with positive coefficients.

(In fact, one can show that if $\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n x^n$ is a power series with radius of convergence e , and $a_n \geq 0$, and if K is a kernel taking values in $(-e, e)$, then $\sum_{n \geq 0} a_n K^n$ is also a kernel.)

(27)

IV. MERCER REPRESENTATION

(28)

- Let $X =$ compact metric space
- $K =$ continuous and symmetric function $X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Then K admits a uniformly convergent expansion of the form

$$K(x, y) = \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \psi_j(x) \psi_j(y), \text{ with } \lambda_j > 0$$

iff. \forall square integrable function $f \in l_2(X)$, the following condition holds

$$\iint_{X \times X} K(x, y) f(x) f(y) dx dy \geq 0$$

aka MERCER'S CONDITION

* Remarks (i) Let $K_n(x, y) := \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j \psi_j(x) \psi_j(y)$

Uniform convergence of K_n towards K means that

$$\sup_{\substack{(x, y) \\ \in X \times X}} |K_n(x, y) - K(x, y)| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow +\infty.$$

(ii) Consider the integral operator $T_K: l_2(X) \rightarrow l_2(X)$:

$$(T_K f)(x) = \int K(x, y) f(y) dy.$$

↳ Note that if $\iint |K(x, y)|^2 dx dy < \infty$, then indeed $T_K f \in l_2(X)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \int |(T_K f)(x)|^2 dx &= \int \left(\int K(x, y) f(y) dy \right)^2 dx \\ &\leq \int \left(\int |K(x, y)|^2 dy \right) \left(\int |f(y)|^2 dy \right) dx \\ &= \|f\|_2 \iint |K(x, y)|^2 dx dy. \end{aligned}$$

Then one can show that the functions ψ_j appearing in the expansion of K correspond to the eigenfunctions associated with the operator T_K , and that $\{\psi_j\}$ are orthonormal in $l_2(X)$:

$$\int \psi_i(x) \psi_j(x) dx = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$$

Coefficients $\lambda_j > 0$ are the associated eigenvalues.

↳ More generally, we can consider a measure space (X, μ) , so that $\int \psi_i(x) \psi_j(y) \mu(dx) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{o/w} \end{cases}$.
Here, we take $\mu =$ Lebesgue measure.

(iii) The sequence $\{\sqrt{\lambda_j} \psi_j(x)\}_{j \geq 1}$ is square integrable (the space of square integrable sequences is denoted $l_2(\mathbb{N})$),

since

$$\sum_{j \geq 1} (\sqrt{\lambda_j} \psi_j(x))^2 = \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \psi_j^2(x) = K(x, x) < +\infty$$

We can easily extract a feature map and a feature space from Mercer's representation:

$$\Phi(x) = (\dots \sqrt{\lambda_j} \psi_j(x) \dots)^t \Rightarrow K(x, y) = \langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle_{l_2(\mathbb{N})}$$

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{l_2(\mathbb{N})}$ denotes the inner product in the Hilbert space $l_2(\mathbb{N})$: $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_{n \geq 1} x_n y_n$, where

$$x = \{x_n\}_{n \geq 1}, y = \{y_n\}_{n \geq 1} \in l_2(\mathbb{N}).$$

(iv) The series $\sum_{j \geq 1} c_j \psi_j(x)$ converges absolutely $\forall x \in X$ whenever the sequence $\{c_j / \sqrt{\lambda_j}\}$ is square integrable:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \geq 1} |c_j \psi_j(x)| &\leq \left(\sum_{j \geq 1} \left(\frac{c_j}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} \right)^2 \right)^{1/2} \left(\sum_{j \geq 1} (\sqrt{\lambda_j} \psi_j(x))^2 \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \| \{c_j / \sqrt{\lambda_j}\} \|_{l_2(\mathbb{N})} \sqrt{K(x, x)}. \end{aligned}$$

(29)

Theorem = Let $X =$ compact metric space
 $K: X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a continuous kernel.

Define

$$\mathcal{H} := \left\{ f \mid f(x) = \sum_{j \geq 1} c_j \psi_j(x) ; \left\{ \frac{c_j}{\sqrt{\lambda_j}} \right\} \in \ell_2(\mathbb{N}) \right\},$$

with inner product

$$\left\langle \sum_{j \geq 1} c_j \psi_j, \sum_{j \geq 1} d_j \psi_j \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{c_j d_j}{\lambda_j}$$

Then \mathcal{H} is the RKHS associated with K .

proof: We do not prove that $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ defines an inner product, and that \mathcal{H} is an Hilbert space.

We show that K is a reproducing kernel.

$$\rightarrow K(\cdot, x) \in \mathcal{H} \text{ since } K(\cdot, x) = \sum_{j \geq 1} \underbrace{\lambda_j \psi_j(x)}_{=: c_j} \psi_j(\cdot)$$

$$\text{and } \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{c_j^2}{\lambda_j} = \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{\lambda_j^2 \psi_j^2(x)}{\lambda_j} = \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \psi_j^2(x) = K(x, x) < +\infty$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow \langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} &= \left\langle \sum_{j \geq 1} c_j \psi_j(\cdot), \sum_{k \geq 1} \lambda_k \psi_k(x) \psi_k(\cdot) \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{c_j \cancel{\lambda_j} \psi_j(x)}{\cancel{\lambda_j}} \\ &= \sum_{j \geq 1} c_j \psi_j(x) = f(x) \end{aligned}$$

\mathcal{H} is a Hilbert space of functions with reproducing kernel K , so it must be equal to the RKHS \mathcal{H} by uniqueness of RKHS.

Remark: The inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ defined previously coincides with the inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$ defined on the pre-Hilbert space \mathcal{H}_0 (page 19):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } f, g \in \mathcal{H}_0 : f(\cdot) &= \sum \alpha_i K(\cdot, x_i) = \sum_{i,j} \alpha_i \lambda_j \psi_j(x_i) \psi_j(\cdot) \\ g(\cdot) &= \sum \delta_k K(\cdot, y_k) = \sum_{k,j} \delta_k \lambda_j \psi_j(y_k) \psi_j(\cdot) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$f(\cdot) = \sum_j \left(\lambda_j \sum_i \alpha_i \psi_j(x_i) \right) \psi_j(\cdot)$$

$$g(\cdot) = \sum_j \left(\lambda_j \sum_k \delta_k \psi_j(y_k) \right) \psi_j(\cdot)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} &= \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{c_j d_j}{\lambda_j} \\ &= \sum_{j \geq 1} \frac{1}{\lambda_j} \left(\lambda_j \sum_i \alpha_i \psi_j(x_i) \right) \left(\lambda_j \sum_k \delta_k \psi_j(y_k) \right) \\ &= \sum_{j \geq 1} \lambda_j \left(\sum_i \alpha_i \psi_j(x_i) \right) \left(\sum_k \delta_k \psi_j(y_k) \right) \\ &= \sum_{i,k} \alpha_i \delta_k \underbrace{\left(\sum_j \lambda_j \psi_j(x_i) \psi_j(y_k) \right)}_{= K(x_i, y_k)} \\ &= \sum_{i,k} \alpha_i \delta_k K(x_i, y_k) \\ &= \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}. \end{aligned}$$

V. APPLICATIONS IN MACHINE LEARNING.

32

In this section, we prove the representer theorem, which states that when looking for a function in an RKHS (possibly of ∞ dimension) to optimize some penalized cost function, it is sufficient to look for a solution in a finite dimensional subspace of the RKHS.

Let $\mathcal{L}_n = \{(X_1, Y_1), \dots, (X_n, Y_n)\}$ be our learning sample, with $X_i \in X$, $Y_i \in \mathbb{R}$.

Let $\ell: \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a loss function.

K = a kernel on X , with associated RKHS \mathcal{H} .

Consider the minimization of the penalized criterion

$$\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(Y_i, f(X_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

goodness of fit term.

$\lambda > 0$
(tuning parameter)

penalty term

↳ Why considering $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$ as a penalty term?

- (i) First, note that $f \in \mathcal{H}$ implies that $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} < +\infty$. This in turn means that f cannot fluctuate too much. Consider the Gaussian kernel $K(x, y) = \exp\left(-\frac{(x-y)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$, $X = \text{compact} \subset \mathbb{R}$.

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Mercer representation: $f(x) = \sum_{j \geq 1} a_j \sqrt{\lambda_j} \psi_j(x)$, with $\{a_j\} \in \ell_2(\mathbb{N})$, and $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{j \geq 1} a_j^2$.

⇒ The coefficients a_j must be decaying fast enough to 0 with the index j : we are penalizing functions ψ_j with a large index more.

For a Gaussian kernel, it is possible to show that

$$\lambda_j = \sqrt{\frac{2a}{A}} B^j$$

$$\psi_j(x) = \exp\{-(c-a)x^2\} H_j(x\sqrt{2c}),$$

where

$$a^{-1} = 4\sigma^2$$

$$b^{-1} = 2\sigma^2$$

$$c = \sqrt{a^2 + 2ab}$$

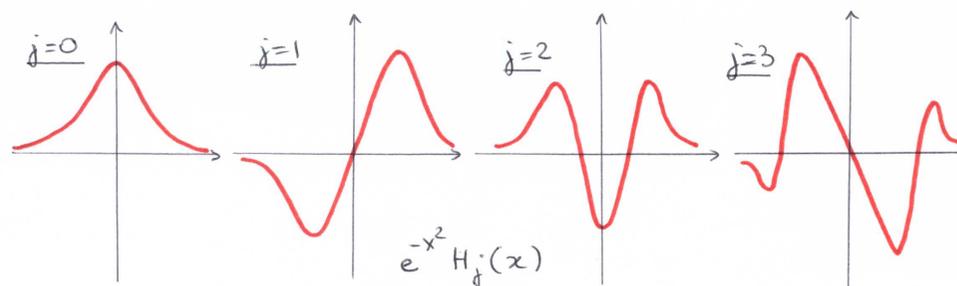
$$A = a + b + c$$

$$B = b/A < 1$$

&

H_j = j -th order Hermite polynomial

$$H_j(x) = (-1)^j e^{x^2} \frac{d^j}{dx^j} e^{-x^2} \rightarrow \begin{cases} H_0(x) = 1 \\ H_1(x) = 2x \\ H_2(x) = 2(2x^2 - 1) \end{cases}$$



⇒ Functions ψ_j with a large index are more wiggly!

⇒ Functions in the RKHS cannot be too wild → what we want.

(ii) Second, recall that $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$ close to 0 implies that $\forall x \in X, f(x)$ is also nearly 0.

(since the evaluation functional is continuous)

(iii) Third, for $f \in \mathcal{H}, \forall x, y \in X,$

$$|f(x) - f(y)| = |\langle f, K(\cdot, x) \rangle - \langle f, K(\cdot, y) \rangle|$$

$$= |\langle f, K(\cdot, x) - K(\cdot, y) \rangle|$$

$$\leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \|K(\cdot, x) - K(\cdot, y)\|_{\mathcal{H}},$$

where

$$\|K(\cdot, x) - K(\cdot, y)\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

$$= \sqrt{\langle K(\cdot, x) - K(\cdot, y), K(\cdot, x) - K(\cdot, y) \rangle}$$

$$= \sqrt{K(x, x) + K(y, y) - 2K(x, y)}$$

$$=: d_K(x, y)$$

This quantity is ≥ 0 since it corresponds to

$$(1-1) \begin{pmatrix} K(x,x) & K(x,y) \\ K(x,y) & K(y,y) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

& K is positive definite

Check: d_K is a distance:

- (i) $d_K(x, y) \geq 0$
- (ii) Symmetry
- (iii) $d_K(x, y) = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = y$
- (iv) $d_K(x, z) \leq d_K(x, y) + d_K(y, z)$.

Thus $|f(x) - f(y)| \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} d_K(x, y)$

$\hookrightarrow f$ is Lipschitz with respect to d_K , with Lipschitz constant $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$

$\Rightarrow \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$ controls the smoothness of f .

Theorem (Representer Theorem)

Let $\cdot, K = \text{kernel } X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with associated RKHS \mathcal{H}

- $\cdot G = \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a strictly increasing function.
- $\cdot \mathcal{d}_n = \{(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\} = \text{learning sample}$.

Then the solutions to the optimization problem

$$\underset{f \in \mathcal{H}}{\text{argmin}} \quad \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(x_i)) + G(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}})$$

all have the form $f^*(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i K(x, x_i)$

proof = Let $f \in \mathcal{H}$.

Consider the finite dimensional subspace spanned by the $K(\cdot, x_i), i=1, \dots, n$.

\hookrightarrow A closed subspace of \mathcal{H} ; denote it M

The theorem of projections in Hilbert spaces yields the decomposition

$$f = f_1 + f_2, \text{ where } f_1 = \text{orthogonal projection of } f \text{ onto } M$$

$$f_2 = \text{the orthogonal complement } (\in M^\perp)$$

Then

$$f(x_i) = \langle f, K(\cdot, x_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

$$= \langle f_1 + f_2, K(\cdot, x_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \quad \text{Since } f_2 \in M^\perp$$

$$= \langle f_1, K(\cdot, x_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

$$= \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j K(\cdot, x_j), K(\cdot, x_i) \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \quad \text{Since } f_1 \in M$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \langle K(\cdot, x_j), K(\cdot, x_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j K(x_i, x_j)$$

Thus $\hat{\alpha} = (K + \lambda I_n)^{-1} y = (XX^t + \lambda I_n)^{-1} y$,
 and $\hat{y} = K\hat{\alpha}$
 $= XX^t (XX^t + \lambda I_n)^{-1} y$. (38)

We use the following identity:

$$\begin{matrix} P & B^t & (& B & P & B^t & + & R &)^{-1} & = & (& P^{-1} & + & B^t R^{-1} B &)^{-1} & B^t & R^{-1} \\ \mathbb{I}_d & X^t & X & \mathbb{I}_d & X^t & \lambda \mathbb{I}_n & & & & \mathbb{I}_d & X^t & \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbb{I}_n & X & X^t & \frac{1}{\lambda} \mathbb{I}_n \end{matrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow X^t (XX^t + \lambda I_n)^{-1} = \frac{1}{\lambda} (I_d + \frac{1}{\lambda} X^t X)^{-1} X^t = (X^t X + \lambda I_d)^{-1} X^t$$

so that

$$\hat{y} = XX^t (XX^t + \lambda I_n)^{-1} y = X \underbrace{(X^t X + \lambda I_d)^{-1} X^t}_{= H_\lambda} y = X \hat{\beta}_\lambda, \text{ where}$$

$$\hat{\beta}_\lambda = (X^t X + \lambda I_d)^{-1} X^t y = \text{ridge solution} \rightarrow \text{cf } \underline{\text{SL: RIDGE REG \& LASSO}}$$

I.2. Kernel SVM.

Empirical Risk Minimization formulation of the SVM objective

$$\text{is } \min_{\beta_0, \beta} \left[\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - y_i f(x_i))_+ + \lambda \|\beta\|^2 \right]$$

↑ hinge loss
↑ $f(x) = \beta_0 + \beta^t x$

→ cf SL: SUPPORT VECTOR MACHINE

Let $K =$ kernel with associated RKHS \mathcal{H} . (39)
 Consider the following optimization problem:

$$(*) \min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (1 - y_i f(x_i))_+ + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

The representer theorem ensures that the minimizer of (*) is of the form $\sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j K(x, x_j)$.

$$\hookrightarrow \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 = \langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \beta^t K \beta \text{ (same as before).}$$

Optimization problem (*) can be re-expressed in its equivalent form

$$\begin{matrix} \text{minimize} & \frac{1}{2} \beta^t K \beta + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \\ \beta, \xi & \\ \text{s.t.} & y_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j K(x_i, x_j) \right) \geq 1 - \xi_i \\ & \xi_i \geq 0 \end{matrix}$$

PRIMAL PROBLEM

Analysis of the solution to the primal problem using KKT conditions make the equivalence formal.

The Lagrangian is

$$\mathcal{L}(\beta, \xi, \lambda, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \beta^t K \beta + C \sum \xi_i - \sum \lambda_i (y_i f(x_i) + \xi_i - 1) - \sum \nu_i \xi_i$$

KKT conditions:

① Primal Constraints $y_i f(x_i) - 1 + \xi_i \geq 0$
 $\xi_i \geq 0$

② Dual Constraints $\lambda_i \geq 0$
 $\nu_i \geq 0$

③ Complementary Slackness $\lambda_i (y_i f(x_i) - 1 + \xi_i) = 0$ (40)
 $\nu_i \xi_i = 0$

④ Gradient of \mathcal{L} w.r.t. β, ξ vanishes

[4.1] $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \xi_i} = C - \nu_i - \lambda_i = 0$

[4.2] $\frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \beta_k} = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j K(x_j, x_k) - \sum_{i=1}^n y_i \lambda_i K(x_i, x_k) = 0$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_k} \frac{1}{2} \beta^T K \beta = \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_k} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} \beta_i \beta_j K(x_i, x_j)$

$= \frac{1}{2} \left\{ 2 \beta_k K(x_k, x_k) + 2 \sum_{j \neq k} \beta_j K(x_k, x_j) \right\}$
 $= \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j K(x_j, x_k)$

$\frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_k} y_i \lambda_i f(x_i) = \frac{\partial}{\partial \beta_k} y_i \lambda_i \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j K(x_i, x_j)$
 $= y_i \lambda_i K(x_i, x_k)$

• Dual problem.

Expression [4.1] allows us to express the coefficients β as a function of $\lambda \rightarrow \beta = \beta(\lambda)$.

$\mathcal{L}(\beta(\lambda), \xi, \lambda, \nu) = \frac{1}{2} \beta(\lambda)^T K \beta(\lambda) + C \sum \xi_i$ since [4.1]
 $= \sum y_i f(x_i) f(x_i)$ $\nu_i = C - \lambda_i$
 $= \sum \xi_i \lambda_i + \sum \lambda_i - \sum \xi_i \nu_i$

$\Rightarrow \mathcal{L}(\beta(\lambda), \lambda) = \underbrace{\sum \lambda_i}_{\text{I}} + \underbrace{\frac{1}{2} \beta(\lambda)^T K \beta(\lambda)}_{\text{I}} - \underbrace{\sum y_i \lambda_i f(x_i)}_{\text{II}}$ (41)

① $= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} \beta_j(\lambda) \beta_k(\lambda) K(x_j, x_k)$
 $= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} \beta_k(\lambda) y_j \lambda_j K(x_j, x_k)$
 $= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} \beta_k(\lambda) y_j \lambda_j K(x_j, x_k)$
 $= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{j,k} y_j y_k \lambda_j \lambda_k K(x_j, x_k)$

② $= \sum_i y_i \lambda_i \sum_j \beta_j K(x_i, x_j) \stackrel{[4.2]}{=} \sum_{i,j} y_i y_j \lambda_i \lambda_j K(x_i, x_j)$

* The Lagrange dual function is

$\mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} y_i y_j \lambda_i \lambda_j K(x_i, x_j)$.

Put $H = (H_{ij})$; $H_{ij} := y_i y_j K(x_i, x_j)$
 $= y_i y_j \langle \Phi(x_i), \Phi(x_j) \rangle_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}}$

$\lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \vdots \\ \lambda_n \end{pmatrix}$
 $1 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$

$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} =$ feature space
(not the RKHS)

Inner product in the feature space $\tilde{\mathcal{H}}$.
 \hookrightarrow Can be efficiently computed by simply evaluating the bivariate function K at x_i and x_j .
 $\underline{\&}$ we do not need to explicitly construct the feature map Φ : all is done automatically.

The dual problem is

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{maximize } 1^t \lambda - \frac{1}{2} \lambda^t H \lambda \\ & \text{s.t. } 0 \preceq \lambda \preceq C \end{aligned}$$

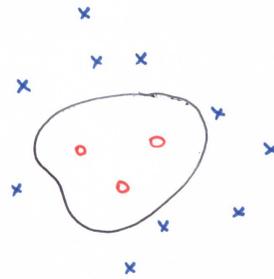
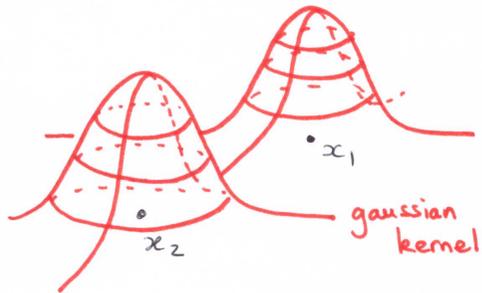
(42)

DUAL PROBLEM

Denote the optimal point λ^* .

↳ The (kernel) soft classifier is $\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \lambda_i^* K(x, x_i)$,
and the associated hard classifier $\text{sign}\left(\sum_{i=1}^n y_i \lambda_i^* K(x, x_i)\right)$.

Compare with the SVM original classifier, associated with $K(x, y) = \langle x, y \rangle = x^t y$: $\text{sign}\left(\sum_i y_i \lambda_i^* x_i^t x\right)$.



The substitution $\langle x, y \rangle \rightarrow K(x, y)$ is known in the literature as the kernel trick: "Any algorithm that process finite-dimensional vectors that can be expressed only in terms of pairwise inner-products can be applied to potentially ∞ -dimensional vectors in the feature space of a positive definite kernel by replacing each inner product evaluation by a kernel evaluation".