

6. Kernel Composition Rules

Kernel Composition Rules



Feature engineering, kernels

Composition rules:

1. $K(x, x') = 1$ is a kernel function. $\phi(x) = 1$
2. Let $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $K(x, x')$ is a kernel. Then so is $\tilde{K}(x, x') = f(x)K(x, x')f(x')$ $\tilde{\phi}(x) = f(x)\phi(x)$
3. If $K_1(x, x')$ and $K_2(x, x')$ are kernels, then $K(x, x') = K_1(x, x') + K_2(x, x')$ is a kernel
4. If $K_1(x, x')$ and $K_2(x, x')$ are kernels, then $K(x, x') = K_1(x, x')K_2(x, x')$ is a kernel



of the previous feature vector.



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to this kernel, then the new kernel has a feature vector of ϕ twiddle, that's just that scalar function multiplying all the coordinates

of the previous feature vector.

OK?

If I have two kernel functions k_1 and k_2 .

So they have their own feature representations.

If I add the two kernels together,

I will get a kernel, a valid kernel function that

now has a feature representation that's just the coordinate

dependent from the two previous kernels.

That means if you take an inner product between these two,

you see that you get two inner products--

one which goes back to the ϕ_1 representation giving k_1

and added to that as the inner product between the feature

Kernel Composition Rules 1

1/1 point (graded)

Recall from the video above that if $f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $K(x, x')$ is a kernel, so is

$$\tilde{K}(x, x') = f(x)K(x, x')f(x').$$

If there exists $\phi(x)$ such that

$$K(x, x') = \phi(x) \cdot \phi(x'),$$

then which of the following φ gives

$$\tilde{K}(x, x') = \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(x')?$$

☐ $\varphi(x) = f(x)K(x, x)$

☐ $\varphi(x) = f(x)K(x, x')$

☐ $\varphi(x) = f(x)$

☒ $\varphi(x) = f(x)\phi(x)$ ✓

Solution:

As $f(x), f(x') \in \mathbb{R}$, we have $(f(x)\phi(x)) \cdot (f(x')\phi(x')) = \widetilde{K}(x, x')$ Hence $\varphi(x) = f(x)\phi(x)$ gives $\widetilde{K}(x, x') = \varphi(x) \cdot \varphi(x')$.

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You have used 1 of 2 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem

Kernel Composition Rules 2

1/1 point (graded)
Let x and x' be two vectors of the same dimension. Use the the definition of kernels and the kernel composition rules from the video above to decide which of the following are kernels. (Note that you can use feature vectors $\phi(x)$ that are not polynomial.)
(Choose all those apply.)

☒ 1 ✓

☒ $x \cdot x'$ ✓

☒ $1 + x \cdot x'$ ✓

☒ $(1 + x \cdot x')^2$ ✓

☒ $\exp(x + x')$, for $x, x' \in \mathbb{R}$ ✓

☐ $\min(x, x')$, for $x, x' \in \mathbb{Z}$



Solution:

We go through the choices in order:

- Yes, for $\phi(x) = 1$.
- Yes, for $\phi(x) = x$.
- Yes, since the sum of kernels are kernels. In this case, we can also easily see $\phi(x) = [1, x]^T$ works.
- Yes, since the product of kernels are kernels. (In this case, factoring the kernel as dot products are more involved, and the composition rule saves this work.)
- Yes, for $\phi(x) = \exp(x)$. $\exp(x) = 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{6} + \dots$
- No. For example, $\min(-1, -1) = -1 < 0$ and hence cannot be written as a dot product and is not a valid kernel.

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You have used 1 of 3 attempts

Answers are displayed within the problem