

”Kernel methods in machine learning”

Homework 2

1 General instructions:

1. The delivery must be a single PDF file containing answers to all questions.
2. You must upload the PDF to the GradeScope platform after creating an account there. See instructions in the course webpage for using GradeScope.

This homework contains both mathematical and coding questions:

- Some questions require providing equations **without proofs** (see exercise 3). In that case, please only include the final results, without the details of the derivations. For exercises 1 and 2 you must provide proofs.
- Exercises 3 essentially coding questions. These require implementing some methods that are described in a Jupyter notebook (Homework.ipnb) attached to this homework. Please follow the template of the notebook and only fill in the gaps whenever asked for. You should **take a screenshot of the code** you wrote and include it to the PDF.
- Some questions require running a code block in the Jupyter notebook to check your implementation. You should take a screenshot of all whole output of the (figures + any text that appears) and include it to the PDF.

Exercise 1. Sobolev spaces

Let $\mathcal{H} = \{f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \text{ absolutely continuous, } f' \in L^2([0, 1]), f(0) = 0\}$,
endowed with the bilinear form

$$\forall f, g \in \mathcal{H}, \quad \langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \int_0^1 (f(u)g(u) + f'(u)g'(u)) du.$$

Show that \mathcal{H} is an RKHS, and compute its reproducing kernel.

Exercise 2. Gaussian RKHS

For any $\sigma > 0$, let K_σ be the normalized Gaussian kernel on \mathbb{R}^d :

$$\forall x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad K_\sigma(x, y) = \frac{1}{(\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma)^d} \exp\left(-\frac{\|x - y\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right),$$

and let \mathcal{H}_σ be its reproducing kernel Hilbert space (RKHS).

1. Recall a proof of the positive definiteness of K .
2. For any $0 < \sigma < \tau$, show that

$$\mathcal{H}_\tau \subset \mathcal{H}_\sigma \subset L_2(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

3. For any $0 < \sigma < \tau$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}_\tau$, show that

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_\tau} \geq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_\sigma} \geq \|f\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)},$$

and that

$$0 \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_\sigma}^2 - \|f\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 \leq \frac{\sigma^2}{\tau^2} \left(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_\tau}^2 - \|f\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 \right).$$

4. For any $\tau > 0$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}_\tau$, show that

$$\lim_{\sigma \rightarrow 0} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_\sigma} = \|f\|_{L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)}.$$

Exercise 3. Support Vector Classifier

Consider a dataset of N pairs (x_i, y_i) where each x_i is a vector of dimension d

and y_i is a binary class, i.e. $y_i \in \{-1, 1\}$. We would like to separate the two classes of samples with a **separating hyper-surface** of equation $f(x_i) + b = 0$ such that $f(x_i) + b \leq 0$ if x_i belongs to the class $y_i = -1$ and $f(x_i) + b \geq 0$ if $y_i = 1$. To achieve this, we consider functions f that belong to a Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space \mathcal{H} of kernel k . Such choice allows to represent highly non-linear hyper-surfaces while still solving a convex problem of the form:

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{f, b, \xi_i} \quad & \frac{1}{2} \|f\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^n \xi_i \\ \text{s.t.} \quad & y_i(f(x_i) + b) \geq 1 - \xi_i \\ & \xi_i \geq 0 \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

1. **Without proofs:**

(a) Provide an expression for the Lagrangian of the problems in eq. (1) in terms of N dual parameters $\alpha_i \geq 0$ corresponding the margin inequalities and N dual parameters $\mu_i \geq 0$ corresponding to the positivity constraints on ξ_i whenever applicable.

(b) Using the optimality condition on the Lagrangian, express the dual problem as a **constrained minimization** over $(\alpha_i)_{i \in \{1, \dots, N\}}$ and express $f(x)$ in terms of α_i and relevant quantities.

(c) Using Strong duality (KKT conditions), find a condition characterizing the support vector points.

2. (a) In the notebook, implement the method `kernel` of the classes RBF and Linear, which takes as input two data matrices X and Y of size $N \times d$ and $M \times d$ and returns a gram matrix G of shape $N \times M$ whose components are $k(x_i, y_j) = \exp(-\|x_i - y_j\|^2 / (2\sigma^2))$ for RBF and $k(x_i, y_j) = x_i^\top y_j$ for the linear kernel. (The fastest solution does not use any for loop!)

In the notebook, the class `KernelSVC` corresponds to eq. (1):

(b) Implement the method `fit` that computes the optimal dual parameters α_i , the parameter b and the support vectors.

(c) Implement the method `separating_function` that takes a matrix of shape $N' \times d$ and returns a vector of size N' of evaluations of f .

(d) Complete the implement the function `plotClassification` and report the outputs for the code block that performs classification.