

# Inverse learning in Hilbert Scales

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## Problem of Interest

Within inverse learning we are given data  $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^m$  which follow the model

$$y_i = g(x_i) + \varepsilon_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, m, \quad (1)$$

where  $\varepsilon_i$  is the observational noise, and  $m$  denotes the sample size.

The unknown  $g$  follows the model

$$g = A(f) \quad \text{for } f \in \mathcal{H}.$$

**Penalized least squares:** In this standard approach the estimator  $f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda}$  is the minimizer of

$$\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \|A(f)(x_i) - y_i\|_Y^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2, \quad (2)$$

where  $\lambda$  is a positive regularization parameter in form of the penalty  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$ .

**Regularization in Hilbert Scales:** Suppose that additional information is given by  $f_\rho \in \mathcal{D}(L)$ , where  $L$  is some unbounded self-adjoint operator  $L: \mathcal{D}(L) \subset \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$ .

This additional information  $f_\rho \in \mathcal{D}(L)$  is taken into account by replacing the above minimization problem (2) by

$$f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda} = \arg \min_{f \in \mathcal{D}(L)} \left\{ \frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \|A(f)(x_i) - y_i\|_Y^2 + \lambda \|Lf\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \right\}. \quad (3)$$

The minimizer  $f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda}$  will be the estimator for  $f_\rho$ .

### Focus of the study

- What will be the rate of reconstruction (as the sample size tends to infinity), and is this comparable to the known (minimax) rate when using (2)?
- What happens under mis-specification, i.e., when the true underlying element  $f_\rho$  does not belong to  $\mathcal{D}(L)$ ?

## Link condition

In inverse learning the following operators, in population and sampling form are relevant:

- The operator  $A: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}'$
- the smoothness promoting unbounded operator  $L$
- the canonical injection map

$$I_\nu: \mathcal{H}' \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^2(X, \rho_X; Y)$$

- Composition of operators

$$B_\nu := I_\nu A L^{-1}: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{L}^2(X, \rho_X; Y),$$

and its self-adjoint companion

$$T_\nu := B_\nu^* B_\nu: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H},$$

$$L_\nu := A^* I_\nu^* I_\nu A: \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$$

- The sampling variants

$$B_{\mathbf{x}}, \quad T_{\mathbf{x}}, \quad L_{\mathbf{x}}$$

For the analysis it is important to adjust how the covariance operator  $T_\nu$  relates to the smoothness promoting  $L$ . This is done by a link condition of the form

**Assumption 1 (Link condition)** There exist a power  $q > 1$  and an index function  $\varrho$ , for which the function  $\varrho^2$  is sub-linear.

There are constants  $1 \leq \beta < \infty$  such that

$$\|L^{-q}u\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \|\varrho^q(T_\nu)u\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \beta^q \|L^{-q}u\|_{\mathcal{H}}, \quad u \in \mathcal{H}.$$

The function  $t \mapsto \varphi(t) := \varrho^{q-1}(t)$  belongs to the class  $\mathcal{F} = \{\varphi = \varphi_1 \varphi_2: \varphi_1, \varphi_2: [0, \kappa^2] \rightarrow [0, \infty), \varphi_1 \text{ nondecreasing continuous sub-linear, } \varphi_2 \text{ nondecreasing Lipschitz, } \varphi_1(0) = \varphi_2(0) = 0\}$ .

Calculus from Interpolation theory is used to transfer this to other powers of  $T_\nu$ .

## Distance functions

Instead of assuming smoothness of  $f_\rho$  in terms of source conditions we use *distance functions* to analyze the behavior of the estimator  $f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda}$ .

Distance functions measure for an element  $f$  the *violation of some benchmark source condition*, they are thus called to *approximate source conditions*.

### Regular case

**Definition 1** Given  $q \geq 1$  we define the distance function  $d_q: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by

$$d_q(R) = \inf \{ \|L(f - f_\rho)\|_{\mathcal{H}} : f = L^{-q}v \text{ and } \|v\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq R \}, \quad R > 0. \quad (4)$$

### Oversmoothing case

Of particular interest is the case when  $f_\rho \notin \mathcal{D}(L)$ , i.e., when the promoted smoothness is not met.

**Definition 2** We define the distance function  $d: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  by

$$d(R) = \inf \{ \|f_\rho - f\|_{\mathcal{H}} : f = L^{-1}v \text{ and } \|v\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq R \}, \quad R > 0. \quad (5)$$

We denote  $f_\rho^R$  the element which realizes the above minimization problem.

## Results

Under 'standard assumptions' on the noise, and the 'effective dimension', we obtain the following results.

### Regular case

**Theorem 1** Let  $\varrho, \varphi$  from the link condition. The function  $\varrho^q$  is sublinear.

For all  $0 < \eta < 1$ , and for  $\lambda$  small enough, the following upper bound holds for the regularized solution  $f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda}$  (3) with confidence  $1 - \eta$ :

$$\|f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda} - f_\rho\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C \varrho(\lambda) \left\{ d_q(R) + R \left( \varphi(\lambda) + \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}} \right) + C' \sqrt{\frac{\mathcal{N}_{T_\nu}(\lambda)}{m\lambda}} \right\} \times \log^4 \left( \frac{4}{\eta} \right).$$

### Oversmoothing case

**Theorem 2** Let  $\varrho, \varphi$  from the link condition.

Under certain concavity assumptions for the function  $\varrho^{-1}$  we have the following.

For all  $0 < \eta < 1$ , and for  $\lambda$  small enough, the following upper bound holds for the regularized solution  $f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda}$  (3) with confidence  $1 - \eta$ :

$$\|f_{\mathbf{z}, \lambda} - f_\rho\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq C \{d(R) + 2R\varrho(\lambda)\} \log^4 \left( \frac{4}{\eta} \right), \quad R \text{ large enough.}$$

Suppose that smoothness is given explicitly in terms of a **General source condition**:

**Assumption 2** For an index function  $\theta$ , the true solution  $f_\rho$  belongs to the class  $\Omega(\theta, R^\dagger)$  with

$$\Omega(\theta, R^\dagger) := \left\{ f \in \mathcal{H} : f = \theta(L^{-1})v \text{ and } \|v\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq R^\dagger \right\}.$$

Then the above bounds can be expressed in terms of the composed function  $\theta \circ \varrho$ , and it is shown that in many cases this yields order optimal bounds.

## References

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