
Lecture notes on Scientific Computing 2

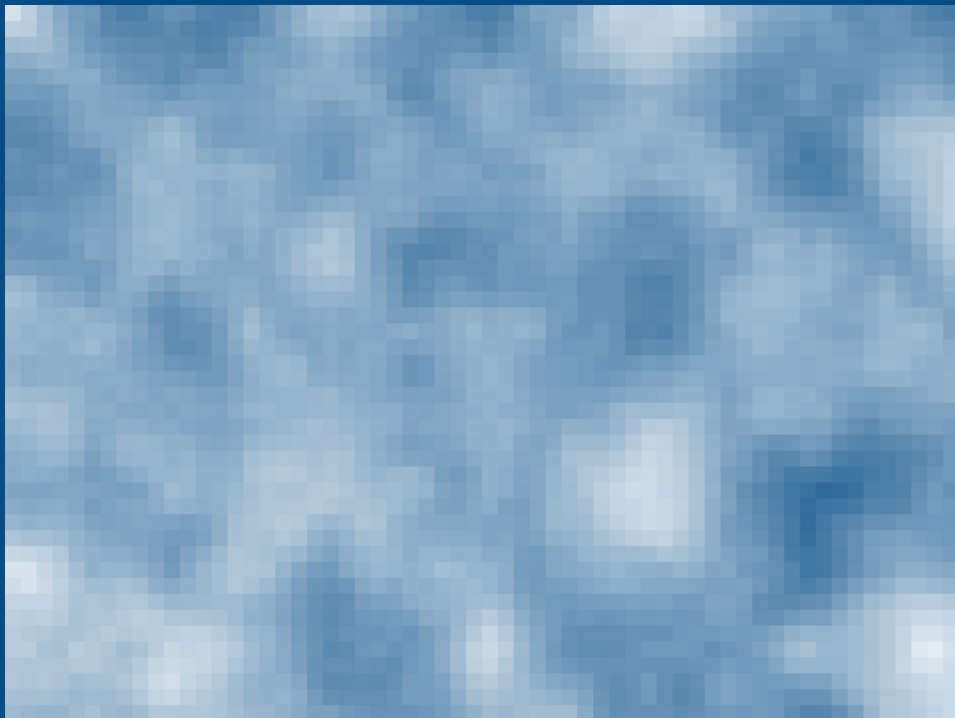
Written by
Manuel Hinz

mh@mssh.dev or s6mlhinz@uni-bonn.de

Lecturer

Prof. Dr. Jochen Garcke

garcke@ins.uni-bonn.de



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Chapter 0:

Manuel's notes and introduction

Warning

These are unofficial lecture notes written by a student. They are messy, will almost surely contain errors, typos and misunderstandings and may not be kept up to date! I do however try my best and use these notes to prepare for my exams. Feel free to email me any corrections to mh@mssh.dev or s6mlhinz@uni-bonn.de.
Happy learning!

General Information

- Ecampus: [Ecampus link](#)
- Basis: [Basis link](#)
- Website: <https://ins.uni-bonn.de/teachings/ss-2024-440-v3e2-wissenschaftlich/>
- Time slot(s): Tuesday 10-12 and Thursday 08-10
- Exams: Oral, unless more than 50 people take the exam
- Deadlines: tbd
- Two topics:
 - Kernel based methods for function approximation
 - Nonlinear dimensionality reduction / manifold learning / latent space embeddings
- Official lecture notes for most of the lectures
- Exercises are a mix of theory (proofs, (counter-)examples) and programming tasks

Start of lecture 01
(09.04.23)

0.1 Overview

We begin with a quick overview of the two parts of the lecture:

0.1.1 Function approximation / Interpolation

Consider $x_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$, $\hat{f}_i \in \mathbb{R}$:

$$\{(x_i, \hat{f}_i)\}_{i=1}^N.$$

Aim: Find a “good” function f such that

$$f(x_i) = \hat{f}_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

To compute f , we can make use of a discrete representation of f using **Ansatzfunctions** $\{b_j\}_{j=1}^N$:

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j b_j(x).$$

Here we assume the same number of data and functions b_j .

For interpolation, we can solve this via:

$$BC = \hat{F}$$

Kernel functions that are centered at the locations x_j turn out to be a good choice:

$$b_j(x) = k(x_j, x)$$

which gives

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N c_j k(x_j, x).$$

We will also consider approximation instead of interpolation

$$f(x_i) \approx \hat{f}_i.$$

This is in particular relevant in machine learning, where one usually assumes, and actually has noise and measurement errors in the given data.

Example: Assess credit risk

Example: Chemistry / energy of molecules. This needs a kernel on graphs

Example: Time series. This needs a kernel on time series

Remark. We will also see that kernels relate to similarity measures and therefore to distances (dissimilarity).

Lagrangian Interpolation does not work great for a lot of points and higher dimensions

Careful not to discriminate, credit risk should be independent of neighbourhood for example!

Topics in part 1:

- What are kernels and their properties
- Reproducing Kernel Hilbert spaces as the function space in which we are working
- Function interpolation and their approximation properties
- Generalized interpolation for solving partial differential equations
- Kernel methods for prediction in machine learning, representer theorem and regularization
- Gaussian Process Regression and Support Vector Machines

0.1.2 Dimensionality reduction

Distances and similarities are a key aspect of the second topic of the course:

Dimensionality reduction for high-dimensional data

The key idea is to find a “good” low dimensional representation (called embedding), such that chosen properties in high dimensions are approximately preserved.

- Linear dimensionality reduction (numerical linear algebra)
- Nonlinear dimensionality reduction (numerical linear algebra with Non-euclidean geometry)
- Dimensionality reduction with neural networks and other nonlinear function representations

Chapter 1:

Kernel based methods

1.1 Kernels

Definition (Gaussian kernel). The **gaussian kernel** is a prime example of a kernel:

$$k(x, y) := \exp(-\alpha \|x - y\|_2^2) = \phi(\|x - y\|_2)$$

for all $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ where α is a scaling parameter.

Definition 1.1. Let Ω be an arbitrary nonempty set. A function $k : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called **kernel** on Ω . We call k a **symmetric kernel** if

$$k(x, y) = k(y, x)$$

for all $x, y \in \Omega$.

Definition 1.2. A function $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is said to be **radial** if there exists a function $\phi : [0, \infty] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\Phi(x) = \phi(\|x\|_2)$$

for all $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$. Such a function is traditionally called a **radial basis function (rbf)**.

1.1.1 Examples

Example ((Inverse) multiquadratics). **Multiquadratics** are of the form

$$\phi(r) = (1 + \alpha r^2)^\beta$$

for positive β , while **inverse multiquadratics** have a $\beta < 0$.

Example (Polyharmonic kernels). **Polyharmonic kernels** are of the form

$$\phi(r) = r^\beta \log(|r|)$$

where $\beta \in 2\mathbb{Z}$.

The special case $\beta = 2$ is the so-called **thin-plate spline**. It relates to the partial differential equation that describes the bending of thin plates.

While the previous examples were monotone kernels (as a function of r), these are not!

Example (Wendland's kernels). **Wendland's kernels** are of the form

$$\phi_{a,1} := (1 - r)_+^{(a+1)} (1 + (a+1)r)$$

with the **cut-off function**

$$(x)_+ := \begin{cases} x & x \geq 0 \\ 0 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Remark. There are also non radial kernels:

Translation-invariant or **stationary** kernels are functions of differences:

$$k(x, y) = \Phi(x - y).$$

For periodic setups, we have the **Dirichlet kernel** as an example:

$$D(\phi) := \frac{1}{2} + \sum_{j=1}^N \cos(j\phi) = \frac{\sin\left(\left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)\phi\right)}{2 \sin\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right)}.$$

This is applied to differences $\phi = \alpha - \beta$ of angles or 2π -periodic arguments and is an important tool for Fourier series theory.

There are so called **zonal kernels**, for working on a sphere, where the kernel can be represented as a function of an angle. An example are functions of inner products, such as

$$k(x, y) = \exp(x^\top y).$$

Remember, $x^\top y$ is the (scaled) cosine of the angle between the two vectors.

Remark. We will see that a kernel k on Ω defines a function $k(x, \cdot)$ for all fixed $x \in \Omega$. The space

$$\mathcal{K}_0 := \text{span}\{k(x, \cdot) \mid x \in \Omega\}$$

can for example be used as a so called trial space in meshless methods for solving partial differential equations.

Remark. Kernels can always be restricted to subsets without losing essential properties. This easily allows kernels on embedded manifolds, e.g. the sphere.

Remark. Most of this works for complex kernels too.

1.1.2 Kernels in machine learning

In machine learning the data $x \in \Omega$ can be quite diverse and without (much) structure on first glance. For example consider images, text documents, customers, graphs, ...

Here, one views the kernel as a **similarity measure**, i.e.

$$k : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

return a number $k(x, y)$ describing the similarity of two patterns x and y .

To work with general data, we first need to represent it in a Hilbert space \mathcal{F} , the so-called **feature space**. One considers the (application dependent) **feature map**

$$\Phi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathcal{F}.$$

The map describes each $x \in \Omega$ by a collection of **features** which are characteristic for a x and capture the essentials of elements of Ω . Since we are now in \mathcal{F} we can work with linear techniques. In particular we can use the scalar product in \mathcal{F} of two elements of Ω represented by their features:

$$\langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} =: k(x, y)$$

and define a kernel that way.

Remark. Given a kernel, neither the feature map nor the feature space are unique, as the following example shows:

Example. Let $\Omega = \mathbb{R}, k(x, y) = x \cdot y$. A feature map, with feature space $\mathcal{F} = \mathbb{R}$ is given by the identity map.

In \mathbb{R}^d , we can work with the standard scalar product

Reminder: A Hilbert space is a complete vector space with a scalar product

Such a construction can be made for any arbitrary kernel, therefore every kernel has many different feature spaces

But, the map $\Phi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$ defined by

$$\Phi(x) := (x/\sqrt{2}, x/\sqrt{2})$$

is also a feature map given the same k !

The following two examples show how one can handle non-euclidean origin spaces:

Example (Kernels on a set of documents). Consider a collection of documents. We represent each document as a **bag of words** and describe a bag as a vector in a space in which each dimension is associated with a term from the set of words, i.e. the dictionary. The feature map is

that is a set of frequencies of (chosen) words

$$\Phi(t) := (wf(w_1, t), wf(w_2, t), \dots, wf(w_d, t)) \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

where $wf(w_i, t)$ is the frequency of word w_i in document t .

A simple kernel is the vector space kernel

$$k(t_1, t_2) = \langle \Phi(t_1), \Phi(t_2) \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^d wf(w_j, t_1) wf(w_j, t_2).$$

Natural extensions to this kernel take e.g. word order, relevance or semantics into account, which can be achieved by using matrices in the scalar product:

$$k(t_1, t_2) = \langle S\Phi(t_1), S\Phi(t_2) \rangle = \Phi^\top(t_1) S^\top S \Phi(t_2).$$

Example (Graph kernels). Another non-euclidean data object are graphs, where the class of **random walk kernels** can be defined. These are based on the idea that given a pair of graphs, one performs random walks on both and counts the number of matching walks. With \tilde{A}_\times the adjacency matrix of the **direct product graph** of the two involved graphs, one defines:

$$k(G, H) := \sum_{j=1}^{N_G} \sum_{k=1}^{N_H} \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \lambda_l [\tilde{A}_\times^l]_{j,k}.$$

More generally, one can define a **random walk graph kernel** k as

$$k(G, H) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \lambda_k q_\times^T W_\times^k p_\times,$$

where W_\times is the **weight matrix** of the direct product graph, q_\times^T is the **stopping probability** on the direct product graph, and p_\times is the initial product distribution on the direct product graph.

1.1.3 Mercer kernels

More generally, one can consider kernels of the **Hilbert-Schmidt** or **Mercer** form

$$k(x, y) = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y),$$

with certain functions $\varphi_i : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, certain positive **weights** λ_i and an index set I such that the following **summability condition** holds for all $x \in \Omega$:

$$k(x, x) = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \varphi_i(x)^2 < \infty \quad (1)$$

Remark. Such kernels arise in machine learning if the functions φ_i each describe a feature of x and the feature space is the weighted l_2 -space of sequences with indices in I :

$$l_{2,I,\lambda} := \left\{ \{\xi_i\}_{i \in I} : \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \xi_i^2 < \infty \right\}.$$

This expansion also occurs when kernels generating positive operators are expanded into eigenfunctions on Ω . Such kernels can be views as arising from generalized convolutions. Generally kernels have three major application fields:

- Convolutions
- Trial spaces
- Covariances

We are mainly concerned with the last two.

Start of lecture 02
(11.04.24)

1.1.4 Properties of kernels

Consider an arbitrary set $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\}$ of N **distinct** elements of Ω and a symmetric Kernel K on $\Omega \times \Omega$.

N is the number of data points (always!)

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j k(x_j, x), x \in \Omega$$

Remark. The set of $k(x_j, \cdot)$ might not be linear independent!

For X we construct the symmetric $N \times N$ Kernel matrix

$$K = K_{X,X} = (k(x_j, x_k))_{1 \leq j, k \leq N}$$

and obtain the interpolation problem

$$\hat{f}_k = f(x_k) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j k(x_j, x_k)$$

in matrix form

$$K_{X,X} a = \hat{F}$$

Remark. With kernels, we will see that this is indeed solvable, because our matrix is symmetric and positive definite.

Definition 1.3. A Kernel on $\Omega \times \Omega$ is **symmetric and positive semidefinite**, if all Kernel matrices for all finite sets of distinct elements of Ω are symmetric and positive definite

semidefinite and definite have conflicting definitions in the literature!

Theorem 1.4. 1. Kernels arising from **feature maps** via

$$k(x, y) = \langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle$$

are positive semidefinite.

2. **Hilbert-Schmidt** or **Mercer Kernels**

$$k(x, y) = \sum_{i \in I} \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y)$$

are positive semidefinite.

Proof. 1. K is a **Gram(-ian)** matrix

2.

$$\begin{aligned} a^\top K a &= \sum_{j,k=1}^N a_j a_k k(x_j, x_k) = \sum_{j,k=1}^N a_j a_k \sum_{i \in I} \varphi_i(x_j) \varphi_i(x_k) \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \sum_{j=1}^N a_j \varphi_i(x_j) \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \varphi_i(x_k) = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \left(\sum_{j=1}^N a_j \varphi_i(x_j) \right)^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

A Gram matrix, is a matrix whose entries are given by inner products $K_{i,j} = \langle v_i, v_j \rangle$

□

Theorem 1.5. Let K be a symmetric positive semidefinite (spsd) Kernel on Ω . Then

1. $k(x, x) \geq 0$ for all $x \in \Omega$
2. $|k(x, y)|^2 \leq k(x, x)k(y, y)$ for all $x, y \in \Omega$
3. $2|k(x, y)|^2 \leq k(x, x)^2 + k(y, y)^2$ for all $x, y \in \Omega$
4. Any finite linear combination spsd Kernels with nonnegative coefficients gives a spsd Kernel. If any of these kernels is positive definite, and its coefficient is positive, then the combination of kernels is positive definite.
5. The product of two spsd kernels is spsd.
6. The product of two spd kernels is spd.

Proof. 1.: Use the set $\{x\}$ in Definition 1.3.

2.: Consider K of $\{x, y\}$. The determinant of such a positive semidefinite matrix is nonnegative, therefore

$$k(x, x)k(y, y) - k(x, y)^2 \geq 0$$

3.: $2ab \leq a^2 + b^2$ for all $a, b \in \mathbb{R}_0^+$. Therefore this follows from 2.

4.: Expand $a^\top K a$ to see this.

5.: Follows from Lemma 1.6.

6.: Follows from Lemma 1.6 and a bit more linear algebra. □

Lemma 1.6 (Schur's Lemma). For two matrices A, B , the matrix C with elements

$$C_{jk} = A_{jk}B_{jk}$$

is called the **Schur product** or **Hardarmard product**. The Schur product of two psd matrices is psd.

Proof. Decompose $A = S^\top D S$ with S an orthogonal matrix and $D = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n)$ a diagonal matrix with $\lambda_i \geq 0$ the eigenvalues of A .

For all $q \in \mathbb{R}^N$ we look at

$$\begin{aligned} q^\top C q &= \sum_{j,k} q_j q_k a_{jk} b_{jk} = \sum_{j,k=1}^N q_j q_k \sum_{m=1}^N \lambda_m S_{jm} S_{km} \\ &= \sum_{m=1}^N \lambda_m \sum_{j,k=1}^N \underbrace{q_j S_{jm}}_{P_{j,m}} \underbrace{q_k S_{km}}_{P_{k,m}} b_{jk} = \sum_{m=1}^N \sum_{j,k=1}^N \underbrace{P_{jm} P_{km} b_{jk}}_{\geq 0 \text{ since } B \text{ is psd}} \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

Remark. Note that we only considered symmetric matrices, the above also holds if one of the matrices is not symmetric, but positive definite instead.

Remark. Our overall aim is to go from kernels to a **Reproducing Kernel Hilbert space (RKHS)**. Therefore we define candidate spaces and a bilinear form in a way we would expect them.

Definition. For spsd K we define

$$H := \text{span}\{k(x, \cdot) \mid x \in \Omega\}.$$

In the same way

$$L := \text{span}\{\delta_x \mid x \in \Omega, \delta_x : H \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$$

the linear space of all finite linear combinations of pointevaluation functionals actions on functions of H , where

$$\delta_x(f) = f(x).$$

It is important that elements of L act on elements of H ! These two spaces are paired in some sense.

We can, by definition, write all Elements from L and H as

$$\lambda_{a,X} := \sum_{j=1}^N a_j \delta_{x_j}$$

$$f_{a,X} := \sum_{j=1}^N a_j k(x_j, x) = \lambda_{a,X}^{(y)} k(x, y)$$

with $a \in \mathbb{R}^n, X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \Omega$ any arbitrary finite subset of Ω .

Remark. From $f_{a,X} = 0$ or $\lambda_{a,X} = 0$ it does not follow that $a = 0$!

There might be different representations of elements in L, H . While the representation is not unique, the element is

We now define a bilinear form on L

$$\langle \lambda_{a,X}, \lambda_{b,Y} \rangle_L := \sum_{j=1}^M \sum_{k=1}^N a_j b_k k(x_j, x_k) = \lambda_{a,X}^{(x)} \lambda_{b,Y}^{(y)} k(x, y) = \lambda_{a,X}(f_{b,Y})$$

Added remark. One has to be a bit careful here: $\lambda_{a,X}^{(x)} \lambda_{b,Y}^{(y)} k(x, y)$ does not mean point wise multiplication, but concatenation:

$$\lambda_{a,X}^{(x)} \lambda_{b,Y}^{(y)} k(x, y) = \lambda_{a,X}^{(x)} (\lambda_{b,Y}^{(y)} k(x, y))$$

This is well-defined, since it is based on the actions of the functional and not the specific representation.

We can observe that the bilinear form is psd, since the kernel matrices have this property.

$$|\lambda_{a,X}(f_{b,Y})| = |\langle \lambda_{a,X}, \lambda_{b,Y} \rangle_L| \leq \|\lambda_{a,X}\|_L \|\lambda_{b,Y}\|_L \quad (*)$$

Theorem 1.7. If K is spsd Kernel on Ω , the bilinear form $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_L$ is positive definite in the space L of functionals defined on H . This L is a pre-Hilbert-space.

Proof. $0 = \langle \lambda_{a,X}, \lambda_{a,X} \rangle_L$ for $a \in \mathbb{R}^n, X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \Omega$.

Then by $(*)$ we have $\lambda_{a,X} = 0$ as a functional on H . □

Here we use that the functionals in L are restricted to functions in H

Theorem 1.8. The mapping $R : \lambda_{a,X} \mapsto f_{a,X} = \lambda_{a,X}(k(\cdot, y))$ is linear and bijective from L onto H . Thus

$$\langle f_{a,X}, f_{b,Y} \rangle_H := \langle \lambda_{a,X}, \lambda_{b,Y} \rangle_L = \langle R(\lambda_{a,X}), R(\lambda_{b,Y}) \rangle_H$$

is an inner product on H . R acts as the Riesz map.

Proof. Linearity is obvious. If $f_{b,Y} = R(\lambda_{b,Y}) \in H$ vanishes, the definition of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_L$ implies that $\lambda_{b,Y}$ is orthogonal to all of L . Due to Theorem 1.7 it is zero. The Riesz property comes from the definition of $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_L$:

$$\lambda_{a,X}(f_{b,Y}) = \langle \lambda_{a,X}, \lambda_{b,Y} \rangle_L = \langle f_{a,X}, f_{b,Y} \rangle_H = \langle R(\lambda_{a,X}), f_{b,Y} \rangle$$

□

Specializing to $\lambda_{1,x}$, i.e. to a point $x \in \Omega$, we get:

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \lambda_{1,x}, \lambda_{b,Y} \rangle_L &= \lambda_{1,x}(f_{b,Y}) = \delta_x(f_{b,Y}) = f_{b,Y}(x) \\ &= \langle R(\lambda_{1,x}), R(\lambda_{b,Y}) \rangle_H = \langle R(\lambda_{1,x}), f_{b,Y} \rangle_H = \langle k(x, \cdot), f_{b,Y} \rangle_H \end{aligned}$$

In other words, for all $f \in H, x \in \Omega$, we have

$$f(x) = \underline{\delta_x(f)} = \langle f, R(\delta_x) \rangle_H = \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_H$$

which is the so-called **reproduction equation** for values of functions from the inner product.

Start of lecture 03
(16.04.24)

Added remark. In this lecture (\star) refers to the reproduction equation.

For $f = k(\cdot, y)$, we set $k(x, y) = \langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle_H$. We furthermore can observe $\forall f \in H, x \in \Omega$:

$$|\delta_x(f)| = |f(x)| = |\langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_H| \leq \|f\|_H \|k(x, \cdot)\|_H = \|f\|_H \sqrt{K(x, x)}$$

and

$$\langle \delta_x, \delta_y \rangle_L = \langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle_H = k(x, y) \forall x, y \in \Omega$$

$$\|\delta_x - \delta_y\|_L^2 = \|\delta_x\|_L^2 - 2\langle \delta_x, \delta_y \rangle + \|\delta_y\|_L^2 = k(x, x) - 2\langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle_H + k(y, y)$$

is a **distance** on Ω :

$$\text{dist}(x, y) := \|\delta_x - \delta_y\|_L = \sqrt{k(x, x) - 2\langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle_H + k(y, y)}.$$

We see that for all $x, y \in \Omega$

$$|f(x)f(y)| \leq \|f\|_H \|\delta_x - \delta_y\|_L = \|f\|_H \text{dist}(x, y)$$

and therefore all functions in H are continuous with respect to this distance.

Theorem 1.9. Each symmetric positive definite kernel k on a set Ω is the **reproducing kernel** of a Hilbert space called the **native space** $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{N}_k$ of the kernel. This Hilbert space is unique and it is a space of functions on Ω . The kernel k fulfills

$$\langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = f(x) \quad (2)$$

Proof. Citation: The existence of native spaces follows from standard Hilbert space arguments, see e.g. chapter 11 from the lecture notes of Schaback. \square

Added remark. The good ideas are from Schaback, the errors are from me, Prof. Garcke

\mathcal{H} can be constructed as the closure of H

The errors in this script are largely due to me :)

Proof of uniqueness:

If k is a reproducing kernel in a different Hilbert space T , we observe

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

which shows that the inner products coincide on H . Since T is a Hilbert space, it must contain the closure \mathcal{N}_k of H as a closed subspace. For T to be larger than \mathcal{H} non-zero element $f \in T$ must exist that is orthogonal to \mathcal{N}_k and in particular to H . We observe

$$f(x) = \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_T = 0 \quad \forall x \in \Omega.$$

which is a contradiction to $f \neq 0$, because of (2) for T .

Dual spaces:

$\delta_x : \mathcal{N}_k \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, f \mapsto f(x)$ for all $f \in \mathcal{N}_k, x \in \Omega$.

The dual space \mathcal{N}_k^* of \mathcal{N}_k is again a Hilbert space.

$$\begin{aligned} R : \mathcal{N}_k^* &\rightarrow \mathcal{N}_k \\ \lambda(f) &= \langle f, R(\lambda) \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k} \forall f \in \mathcal{N}_k, \lambda \in \mathcal{N}_k^* \\ \langle \lambda, \mu \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k^*} &= \langle R(\lambda), R(\mu) \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k} \forall \lambda, \mu \in \mathcal{N}_k^* \end{aligned}$$

Also via the reproducing equation 2

$$\delta_x(f) = \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k} \forall f \in \mathcal{N}_k, x \in \Omega.$$

So $k(x, \cdot)$ is the **Riesz representer** $R(\delta_x)$ of δ_x

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \delta_x, \delta_y \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k^*} &= \langle R(\delta_x), R(\delta_y) \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k} = k(x, y) & \forall x, y \in \Omega \\ \|\delta_x\|_{\mathcal{N}_k^*} &= \|k(x, \cdot)\|_{\mathcal{N}_k} = \sqrt{k(x, x)} & \forall x \in \Omega \\ \lambda(f) &= \langle f, \lambda^* k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{N}_k} & \forall f \in \mathcal{N}_k, \lambda \in \mathcal{N}_k^* \end{aligned}$$

so that $\lambda^* k(x, \cdot)$ is the Riesz representer of λ .

1.2 Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

Definition 1.10. A Hilbert space \mathcal{H} of functions on a set Ω with an inner product $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ is called **RKHS** if there is a kernel function $k : \Omega \times \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ with $k(x, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}$ for all $x \in \Omega$ and the reproducing kernel property

$$f(x) = \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \quad \forall x \in \Omega, f \in \mathcal{H}$$

This directly implies

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

For positive semi-definiteness one can use a Gram matrix argument or take any $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_N\} \subset \Omega$ and $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j,k=1}^N a_j a_k k(x_j, x_k) &= \sum_{j,k=1}^N a_j a_k \langle k(x, \cdot), k(y, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \left\langle \sum_{j=1}^N a_j k(x_j, \cdot), \sum_{k=1}^N a_k k(x_k, \cdot) \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \left\| \sum_{j=1}^N a_j k(x, \cdot) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 1.11. Each Hilbert space \mathcal{H} of real valued functions on some set Ω with point evaluation functionals

$$\delta_x : f \mapsto f(x) \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{H}$$

is a RKHS with a unique positive definite kernel k on Ω . The kernel is uniquely defined by providing the Riesz representers of the (continuous) point evaluation functionals. The space \mathcal{H} is the native space of the kernel.

Proof. Under the given hypothesis, there must be a Riesz representer of δ_x . By the definition of the Riesz map it takes the form $k(x, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}$ satisfying the reproduction equation 2.

In other words, any such Hilbert space has a symmetric positive definite kernel.

The final statement follows from theorem 1.9, because the native space and \mathcal{H} are Hilbert spaces that contain all $k(x, y)$. \square

Theorem 1.12. If a Hilbert (sub-)space of functions on Ω has a finite orthogonal basis v_1, \dots, v_N the reproducing kernel is

$$k_N(x, \cdot) = \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) v_j(\cdot) \quad \forall x \in \Omega$$

In case of a subspace we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^N |v_j(x)|^2 = k_N(x, x) \leq k(x, x) \quad \forall x \in \Omega$$

Which in some sense means that larger dimensions of the subspace can't add too much to the norm

Proof. The kernel must have a representation in the ONB

$$k_N(x, \cdot) = \sum_{j=1}^N \langle k_N(x, \cdot), v_j \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} v_j(\cdot) \stackrel{(2)}{=} \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) v_j(\cdot)$$

For the subspace,

$$\begin{aligned} k_N(x, x) &= \langle k_N(x, \cdot), k_N(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &\stackrel{\text{Hilbert subspace}}{=} \langle k_N(x, \cdot), k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &\leq \sqrt{k_N(x, x)} \sqrt{k(x, x)} \quad \forall x \in \Omega \end{aligned}$$

\square

Added remark. The subspace property does not hold for arbitrary Hilbert spaces, this tells us that a RKHS is really not the same as a normal Hilbert space!

Remember: Kernels of the Mercer form

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$$k(x, y) = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \varphi_i(x) \varphi_i(y)$$

with the summability condition

$$k(x, x) = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \varphi_i^2(x) < \infty.$$

Then observe

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x)| &= \left| \sum_{i \in I} \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \varphi_i(x) \right| \\ &\leq \sum_{i \in I} \left| \frac{\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}{\sqrt{\lambda_i}} \right| |\varphi_i(x)| \sqrt{\lambda_i} \\ &\leq \sqrt{\sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}^2}{\lambda_i}} \sqrt{\underbrace{\sum_{i \in I} \varphi_i^2(x) \lambda_i}_{< \infty}} \\ \mathcal{H} &:= \left\{ f \in \mathcal{H} : \|f\|_{\lambda}^2 = \sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}^2}{\lambda_i} \right\} \\ \langle f, g \rangle_{\lambda} &= \sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \langle g, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}{\lambda_i} \quad \forall f, g \in \mathcal{H}_{\lambda} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Using 3 as the kernel, we have to check if all $f_x := k(x, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}_{\lambda}$.
Observe

$$\langle f_x, \varphi \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \lambda_i \varphi_i(x)$$

and

$$\sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle f_x, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}^2}{\lambda_i} = \sum_{i \in I} \lambda_i \varphi_i^2(x) < \infty$$

to see $f_x \in \mathcal{H}_{\lambda}$.

Check the reproduction equation

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\lambda} &= \sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \langle k(x, \cdot), \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}{\lambda_i} \\ &= \sum_{i \in I} \frac{\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \lambda_i \varphi_i(x)}{\lambda_i} = f(x) \quad \forall x \in \Omega \end{aligned}$$

The kernel therefore reproduces on \mathcal{H}_{λ} . The proves theorem ??.

If a Hilbert space of functions on Ω has a countable ONB $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in I}$, each summability condition (**) leads to a reproducing mercer kernel (*) for a suitable subspace of functions with continuous point evaluations.

Corollary 1.13. The spaces \mathcal{H}_{λ} defined above are the natives spaces of the corresponding Mercer kernels.

Example (Trigonometric polynomials). Consider the space of trigonometric polynomials $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \cos(nx), \sin(nx), n \in \mathbb{N}$ which are **orthonormal** in the inner product

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t)g(t)dt.$$

With $I = (0, 0) \cup (\mathbb{N}, 0) \cup (0, \mathbb{N})$

$$\varphi_i(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & i = (0, 0) \\ \cos(nx) & i = (n, 0), n \geq 1 \\ \sin(nx) & i = (n, 0), n \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

So for $f \in \mathcal{H}$

$$f = \sum_{i \in I} \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \varphi_i.$$

All φ_i are uniformly bounded, so the summability condition does hold when the weights are summable.

Fixing some $m \geq 1$, we define

$$\lambda_i = \begin{cases} 1 & i = (0, 0) \\ n^{-2m} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

We set the Mercer kernel

$$k_{2m}(x, y) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} n^{-2m} (\cos(nx) \cos(ny) + \sin(nx) \sin(ny))$$

One can see $K_{2m}'' = K_{2m-2}$, so K_{2m} piecewise polynomial of degree $2m$, which is $2m - 2$ times differentiable.

this can also be thought of as an **extension kernel**

This can be rewritten with the usual trigonometric rules

1.2.1 Kernels for subspaces

Let us fix a nonempty set $X \subset \Omega$ and look at the closed subspace

$$\mathcal{H}_X := \overline{\text{span}\{k(x, \cdot) | x \in X\}} \subseteq \mathcal{H}$$

Projector for \mathcal{H} to the closed subspace \mathcal{H}_0 : $\pi_0 : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0$ with properties

This is NOT $\{\mathcal{H}_0\}$, but a generic subspace

- $\pi_0^2 = \pi_0$
- π_0 gives unique best approximation in \mathcal{H}_0 , $u \mapsto u_0$
- $u_0 \perp u - u_0$
- $\text{Id} - \pi_0$ projects onto the orthogonal complement $\mathcal{H}_0^\perp = \{u \in \mathcal{H} \mid \langle u, v \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = 0 \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_0\}$
- $\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_0 + \mathcal{H}_0^\perp$

Theorem 1.14. Let \mathcal{H}_0 be a closed subspace of \mathcal{H} with reproducing kernel k_0 and let $\pi_0 : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0$ be the projection onto \mathcal{H}_0 .

The subspace kernel is

$$k_0(x, \cdot) = \pi_0 k(x, \cdot)$$

for all $x \in \Omega$. The reproducing kernel for the orthogonal complement \mathcal{H}_0^\perp is $k - k_0$.

Proof. $\text{Id} = \pi_0 + (\text{Id} - \pi_0) = \pi_0 + \pi_0^\perp$.

Thus $f(x) = (\pi_0 \circ f)(x) + (\pi_0^\perp \circ f)(x)$ inserted into the reproducing equation

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle \pi_0 f + \pi_0^\perp f, \pi_0 k(x, \cdot) + \pi_0^\perp k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle \pi_0 f, \pi_0 k(x, \cdot) \rangle + \langle \pi_0^\perp f, \pi_0^\perp k(x, \cdot) \rangle \end{aligned}$$

Using $f \in \mathcal{H}_0$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}_0^\perp$ eliminates on part of the sum each and the statements follow. \square

Remark. *Orthogonal space decompositions correspond to additive kernel decompositions using the appropriate projections.*

Theorem 1.15. *Let $X \subseteq \Omega$ be nonempty. For the closed subspace \mathcal{H}_X it holds*

$$\mathcal{H}_X^\perp = \{f \mid f \in \mathcal{H} : f(X) = \{0\}\}.$$

Proof. If $f(X) = \{0\}$, then $\langle f, v \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = 0 \forall v \in \mathcal{H}_X$.

$$f(x) = \langle f, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

since $f \in \mathcal{H}_X^\perp$ by the reproduction equation and conversely we set for $f \in \mathcal{H}_X^\perp$ that $f(X) = \{0\}$. \square

With π_X the projector from \mathcal{H} to \mathcal{H}_X we denote

$$f_X := \pi_X(f).$$

Standard results from Hilbert space theory gives us

Theorem 1.16. *Each function $f \in \mathcal{H}$ has an orthogonal decomposition*

$$f = f_X + f_{X^\perp}$$

with $f_X \in \mathcal{H}_X$ and $f_{X^\perp} \in \mathcal{H}_X^\perp$. In particular each $f \in \mathcal{H}$ has an interpolant $f_X \in \mathcal{H}_X$ recovering the values of f on X . Additionally

$$\|f - f_X\|_{\mathcal{H}} = \inf_{g \in \mathcal{H}_X} \|f - g\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

and

$$\|f_X\|_{\mathcal{H}} = \inf_{\substack{g \in \mathcal{H}: \\ f(x)=g(x) \\ \forall x \in X}} \|g\|_{\mathcal{H}} = \inf_{v \in \mathcal{H}_{X^\perp}} \|f - v\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Corollary 1.17. *The interpolant $f_X \in \mathcal{H}_X$ to a function f on X is at the same time the best approximation to f from all functions in \mathcal{H}_X .*

This is just the previous theorem in words

Corollary 1.18. *The interpolant $f_X \in \mathcal{H}_X$ to a function f on X minimizes the norm under all interpolants from the full space \mathcal{H} .*

This property is usefull, if the norm encodes smoothness as well.

Corollary 1.19. *For all sets $X \subseteq Y \subseteq \Omega$ and $f \in \mathcal{H}$ we have*

$$\|f_X\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \|f_Y\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Penalizing unnecessary changes of the function

and

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \geq \|f - f_X\|_{\mathcal{H}} \geq \|f - f_Y\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

where for completeness we define $f_\emptyset = 0$, $f_{\emptyset^\perp} = f$ and $\mathcal{H}_\emptyset = \{0\}$ with $\mathcal{H}_{\emptyset^\perp} = \mathcal{H}$.

Consider only $f(\cdot) = k(x, \cdot)$ for a fixed $f, x \in \Omega$.

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Definition 1.20. *The function*

$$P_X(x) := \|k(x, \cdot) - k_X(x, \cdot)\|_{\mathcal{H}} \quad x \in \Omega$$

is called **power function** w.r.t. the set X and the kernel k .

A different definition goes with the **error functional** $\epsilon_{X,x} \in \mathcal{H}^*$

$$\epsilon_{X,x} f \mapsto f(x) - (\Pi_X(f))(x).$$

The power function is then defined as $P_X(x) := \|\epsilon_{X,x}\|_{\mathcal{H}^*}$.

Theorem 1.21. *The two definitions for the power function are equivalent. P_X has the following properties*

1. $P_X(x) = 0 \ \forall x \in X$
2. $P_\emptyset(x)^2 = k(x, x) \ \forall x \in \Omega$
3. $P_\Omega(x) = 0 \ \forall x \in \Omega$
4. $0 = P_\Omega(x) \leq P_Y(x) \leq P_X(x) \leq P_\emptyset(x)$ for $X \subseteq Y \subseteq \Omega$
5. $P_X(x) = \inf_{g \in \mathcal{H}_X} \|k(x, \cdot) - g\|_{\mathcal{H}}$
6. $P_X(x) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{H}, \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq 1, f(X) = \{0\}} f(x) \ \forall x \in \Omega$
7. $\forall x \in \Omega, f \in \mathcal{H}$

$$|f(x) - f_X(x)| = |f_X^\top(x)| \leq P_X(x) \|f_X^\top(x)\|_{\mathcal{H}} = P_X(x) \|f - f_X\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq P_X(x) \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Added remark. *General approximation goal: Split the approximation error into an error of the space and an error of the function (similarly to SC1).*

One aim is to generalize 7. to not rely on a specific point.

Proof. Due to $\langle \epsilon_{X,x}, \epsilon_{X,x} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}^*} = \langle R(\epsilon_{X,x}), R(\epsilon_{X,x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ we have to show that the Riesz representer of $\delta_x \circ \Pi_X$ is $K_X(x, \cdot)$.

$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, R(\delta_x \circ \Pi_X) \rangle &= \delta_x \circ \Pi_X(f) = f_X(x) = \langle f_X, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle f_X, k_X(x, \cdot) + k_{X^\top}(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &\stackrel{f_X \perp K_{X^\top}}{=} \langle f_X, k_X(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle f - f_{X^\top}, k_X(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &\stackrel{f_{X^\top} \perp K_X}{=} \langle f, k_X(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof of 7.:

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - f_X(x) &= f_{X^\top}(x) = \langle f_{X^\top}, k(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \langle f_{X^\top}, k(x, \cdot) - \underbrace{k_X(x, \cdot)}_{f_{X^\top} \perp} k_X(x, \cdot) \rangle \\ &\stackrel{\text{C.S.}}{\leq} \dots = \|f_{X^\top}\|_{\mathcal{H}} P_X(x) \end{aligned}$$

Proof of 6.:

We see from the first inequality

$$P_X(x) \geq \sup_{\|f_{X^\top}\|_{\mathcal{H}} \leq 1} |f_{X^\top}(x)|$$

and equality must hold for the representer of $\epsilon_{X,x}$.

□

Notice the connection to operator norm approaches to 6.

Remark. *Consider the subspace $\mathcal{H}_X^* = \overline{\text{span}\{\delta_x \mid x \in X\}}$ of the dual space of \mathcal{H} . Then 5. can equivalently be given as*

$$P_X(x) = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathcal{H}_X^*} \|\delta_x\|_{\mathcal{H}^\top} \quad (4)$$

Consider the interpolation of $f(x) = k(x, \cdot) \in \mathcal{H}$.

For $x \in \Omega$ we get for the interpolant in \mathcal{H}_X

$$k(x_k, x) = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x_j, x_k) \quad 1 \leq k \leq N \quad (5)$$

which has solution coefficients $u_j(x)$ as a function on Ω .

Added remark. If the kernel matrix is invertible, u_j is either 0 or 1. See Lagrange interpolation? In our setting it is enough to know that it exists, but might not be unique.

Theorem 1.22. If the kernel matrix is non-singular the u_j from 4 are $\in \mathcal{H}_X$ and there is a Lagrange basis $u_j(x_k) = \delta_{jk}, 1 \leq j, k \leq N$.

In general it still holds

$$f_X(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) f(x_j)$$

In the formula the influence of X and f are separated.

Proof. The first statement follows from 5. From the second:

$$\begin{aligned} f_X(x) &= \sum_{k=1}^N a_k k(x_k, x) \\ &= \sum_{k=1}^N a_k \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x_j, x_k) \\ &= \sum_{j=1}^N a_j(x) \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^N a_k k(x_j, x_k)}_{=f_{a,X}=f(x_j) \forall x_j \in X} = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) f(x_j) \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

This is sometimes called quasi-interpolation

Theorem 1.23. The power function has the following explicit representation:

$$P_X(x) = k(x, x) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x_j, x) + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j(x) u_k(x) k(x_j, x_k) = k(x, x) - k_X(x, x)$$

Proof. For $K_X \in \mathcal{H}_X$ $k_X(x, z) = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x_j, z)$

$$\begin{aligned} P_X^2(x) &= \langle k(x, \cdot) - k_X(x, \cdot), k(x, \cdot) - k_X(x, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= k(x, x) - 2 \langle k(x, \cdot), \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x_j, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j(x) \underbrace{u_k(x) k(x_j, x_k)}_{\text{with } a = k(x, x_j)} \\ &= k(x, x) - \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x_j, x)}_{k_X(x, x)} \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

Consider $f_X(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) f(x_j)$ the interpolant on X .

Let us also consider arbitrary estimation formulas

$$(x, f) \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) f(x_j)$$

with no assumptions on the scalars v_j . For fixed x we get for the error functional

$$f \mapsto f(x) - \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) f(x_j) = \left(\delta_x - \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) \delta_{x_j} \right) (f).$$

Ad for optimal estimation for all $f \in \mathcal{H}$, we should choose v_j to minimize the following expression:

$$V_{X,v}(x) := \left\| \delta_x - \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) \delta_{x_j} \right\|_{\mathcal{H}^*}.$$

Remember the dual form of the fifth property 4:

$$P_X(x) = \inf_{\lambda \in \mathcal{H}^*} \|\delta_x - \lambda\|_{\mathcal{H}^*}$$

we also saw that the function u_j are the solution.

We also see that the optimal error, in the worst case sense, is described to be the power function.

Theorem 1.24. *In the above sense, kernel based approximation yields the best linear estimation of unknown function values $f(x)$ from known function values $f(x_j)$ at points x_j .*

$$k(s, t) = \text{cov}(X_s, X_t)$$

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The kernel comes from a covariance, where for every t in some Ω , we have a random variable with finite second moments.

Consider X_t with zero mean. In this case, what we did is called **(simple) Kriging**

connection to
geo-statistics!

$V_{X,v}^2(x)$ can be understood as the variance of the prediction error.

Now define the error of some general linear predictor at x

$$\mathcal{E}_{X,V,x} := X_x - \sum_{j=1}^n V_j(x) X_{x_j}$$

Statistics pov: This is an
unbiased estimator

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}(\mathcal{E}_{X,V,x}^2) &= \underbrace{\text{cov}(X_x, X_x)}_{=k} - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N V_j(x) \text{cov}(X_x, X_{x_j}) + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N V_j(x) V_k(x) \text{cov}(X_{x_j}, X_{x_k}) \\ &= \langle \delta_x, \delta_x \rangle_{\mathcal{H}^*} - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N V_j \langle \delta_x, \delta_{x_j} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}^*} + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N V_j(x) V_k(x) \langle \delta_{x_j}, \delta_{x_k} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}^*} \\ &= V_{X,v}^2(x) \end{aligned}$$

Short revision of the condition number:

$$\begin{aligned} \kappa(A) &= \frac{|\lambda_{\max}(A)|}{|\lambda_{\min}(A)|} \\ Ax = b \frac{\Delta x}{|x|} &\leq \kappa(A) \frac{|\Delta b|}{|b|} \end{aligned}$$

Power function and stability

There is an uncertainty principle (Schabach 1995):

It is impossible to make the power function and the condition number of the kernel matrix small at the same time.

To make this precise: enrich $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ with another point $X_0 = x$ and define $u_0(\cdot) = -1$

$$A = k(x_j, x_k)_{0 \leq j, k \leq N}$$

We can somehow fix this
via regularisation, which
in this case is both usefull
numerically and
meaningful from a
statistics point of view

$$\begin{aligned} u^\top A u &= \sum_{j=0}^N \sum_{k=0}^N u_j(x) u_k(x) k(x_j, x_k) \\ &\stackrel{u_0=-1}{=} k(x, x) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) k(x, x_j) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j(x) u_k(x) k(x_j, x_k) \\ &\stackrel{\text{thm. 1.23}}{=} P_X^2(x) \end{aligned}$$

A has $n + 1$ non-negative real eigenvalues $\lambda_0 \geq \lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_N \geq 0$.

$$\lambda_N \|u\|_2^2 \leq u^\top A u \leq \lambda_0 \|u\|_2^2$$

gives

$$P_X^2(x) \geq \lambda_N \left(1 + \sum_{j=1}^N |u_j(x)|^2 \right) \geq \lambda_N$$

Elimination of the special value of the point x gives

Theorem 1.25. The kernel matrix for N points $\{x_1, \dots, x_n\} = X$ has a smallest eigenvalue λ bounded from above by

$$\lambda \leq \min_{1 \leq j \leq N} P_{X \setminus \{x_j\}}^2$$

This holds for every $x \in \Omega$

Back to approximation

$$|f(x) - f_X(x)| \leq |P_X(x)| \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Assume that any directional derivative of both f and f_X is bounded by some C :

$$|f(x) - f_X(x)| \leq \underbrace{|f(x_j) - f_X(x_j)|}_{=0} + 2C\|x - x_j\|_2 \leq 2Ch_{X,\Omega}$$

if the connecting line between x and x_j is in Ω

Definition 1.26. The fill distance of a set of points $X \subseteq \Omega$ for a bounded Ω is defined to be

$$h_{X,\Omega} = \sup_{x \in \Omega} \min_{1 \leq j \leq N} \|x - x_j\|_2$$

How large are the holes in Ω such that we don't hit an $x \in X$. It describes the size of the largest data free domain

To get bounds on the optimal approximation, we can consider some functions v_0, \dots, v_N instead of the optimal u_j .

$$P_X^2(x) \leq k(x, x) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) k(x_j, x) + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N v_j(x) v_k(x) k(x_j, x_k) \quad (6)$$

The simplest case uses nearest neighbor reconstruction.

Assume that for each $x \in \Omega$ we pick a $x_{nn(x)}$ and define

$$v_j(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & j = nn(x) \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

Then

$$P_X^2(x) \leq k(x, x) - 2k(x_{nn(x)}, x) + k(x_{nn(x)}, x_{nn(x)})$$

$$(7) \quad d_k((x, x_{nn(x)}))^2 = \text{dist}(x, x_{nn(x)})^2$$

Theorem 1.27. For k positive semi-definite the power function on non-empty sets X of interpolation points satisfies

$$p_X^2(x) \leq \min_{x_j \in X} d_k(x, x_j)$$

with d_k as in (7).

Assume that we can prove $P_X(x) \leq CE(x, h)$ for all data sets X with fill distance h .

This implies (by theorem 1.21)

$$|f(x) - \sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) f(x_j)| \leq CE(x, h) \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

We now introduce the error operator

$$E_x^y(f(y)) := f(x) - \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) f(x_j)$$

This simplifies the notation, once one understands what is happening :)

to set

$$\begin{aligned} P_X^2(x) &\leq (6) = k(x, x) + \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) \left(\sum_{k=1}^N v_k(x) k(x_j, x_k) - k(x_j, x) \right) \\ &= E_x^z(k(z, x)) - \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) E_x^z(k(z, x_j)) \\ &= E_x^y E_x^z(k(z, y)) \end{aligned}$$

We are after a bound such as

$$|E_x^y(f(y))| = \left| f(x) - \sum_{j=1}^N v_j(x) f(x_j) \right| \leq \mathcal{E}_{X,k}(h) \|Lf\|$$

We then bound the power function by

$$P_X^2(x) |E_x^y E_x^z k(z, y)| \leq \mathcal{E}_{X,k}(h) \|L^y E_x^z k(z, y)\| \leq \mathcal{E}_{X,k}^2 \|L^y\| \|L^z k(y, z)\|$$

assume the final expression makes sense.

First, univariate case, $\Omega = [a, b]$, $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\} \subset \Omega$. For a given $x \in \Omega$

$$X_x = \{x_j \in X \mid j \in N(x) \subseteq \{1, \dots, N\}\}$$

$f \in C^k$, Taylor polynomial at x_0

$$p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \frac{f^{(j)}(x_0)}{j!} (x - x_0)^j$$

for $|x - x_0| \leq h$ we have the local approximation error

$$|f(x) - p(x)| = \frac{|f^{(k)}|}{k!} |x - x_0|^k \leq C(f) h^k$$

From formula for interpolation in Newton form

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - p_X(x) &= [x, X_x] f \prod_{x_j \in X_x} (x - x_j) \forall x \in [a, b] \\ &\leq \frac{\|f^{(k)}\|_{\infty, [a, b]}}{k!} \underbrace{\prod_{x_j \in X_x} (x - x_j)}_{\leq C h^k} \end{aligned}$$

We can now use this to bound

$$p_X^2(x) \leq (C h^k)^2 \sup_{a \leq z \leq b} \sup_{a \leq y \leq b} \left| \frac{\partial^k}{\partial z^k} \frac{\partial^k}{\partial y^k} k(a, b) \right|$$

Theorem 1.28. Assume a psd kernel k on $[a, b]$ that is k times differentiable. Then for every point set $X \subset [a, b]$ of at least k points with fill distance at most h the power function can be bounded

$$P_X(x) \leq C_k h^k \quad (7)$$

with C_k depending on k and X .

Definition 1.29. A compact domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ allows

uniformly stable local polynomial reproduction of order $l \geq 1$, if there are positive constants c_1, c_2, h_0 , s.t. for all finite sets of points $X := \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ with fill distance $h_{X, \Omega} \leq h_0$ there are scalar functions $u_1(x), \dots, u_N(x)$ s.t.

1.

$$\sum_{j=1}^N u_j(x) p(x_j) = p(x)$$

for all polynomials $p \in \mathcal{P}_l^d$ and $x \in \Omega$.

$$2. \sum_{j=1}^N |u_j(x)| \leq c_1$$

$$3. u_j(x) = 0 \text{ if } \|x - x_j\|_2 > C_s h_{X, \Omega}.$$

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This approximation error
holds for approximation
which recovers
polynomials locally!

If we are careful, we can
control the constant C
above!

Added remark. We will only handle positive definite kernels, the results generalizes for psd kernels with additional conditions on the kernel.

We know focus on positive definite kernels.

Theorem 1.30. Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and let $k : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a p.d. kernel. Let X be a set of N distinct points of Ω and define the quadratic form $Q : \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ for any $x \in \Omega$ (see 1.23)

$$Q(u) = k(x, x) - 2 \sum_{j=1}^N a_j(x, x_j) + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j u_k k(x_j, x_k)$$

The min of $Q(u)$ is given for the vector from 1.22 denoted as u^* with $u_j^*(x_k) = \delta_{jk}$ and we have

$$Q(u^*(x)) \leq Q(u)$$

Proof. With $b = [k(x, \cdot), \dots, k(x_k, \cdot)]^\top$ and $A_{i,j} = k(x_i, x_j)$, $i, j = 1, \dots, N$ we have

$$Q(u) = k(x, x) - 2b^\top(x)u + u^\top Au.$$

The min is the solution of $Au = b$

Remark. in the positive definite setup only!, which is fulfilled by $u = u^*(x)$. \square

Theorem 1.31. Assume $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ bounded and satisfies an interior cone condition. Suppose $k \in C^{2k}(\Omega \times \Omega)$ is a symmetric positive definite kernel with native space \mathcal{H} . Let f_X be the interpolant to $f \in \mathcal{H}$ on the set $X = \{x_1, \dots, x_n\}$. Then there are positive constants h_0, C (independent of x, f, k) s.t.

$$|f(x) - f_X(x)| \leq Ch_{X,\Omega}^k \sqrt{C_k(x)} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$$

provided $h_{X,\Omega} \leq Ch_0$. Here

$$C_k(x) = \max_{|\beta|=2k} \sup_{x,y \in \Omega \cap B(x, C_2 h_{X,\Omega})} \left| D_2^\beta(k(x, y)) \right|$$

First some further notation:

For $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_d) \in \mathbb{N}_0^d$ we define

$$D^\beta = \frac{\partial^{|\beta|}}{(\partial x_1)^{\beta_1} \dots (\partial x_d)^{\beta_d}}$$

with D_2^β we indicate that D^β is applied to $k(x, \cdot)$. Multivariate Taylor expansion of $k(x, \cdot)$ centered at x :

$$k(x, y) = \underbrace{\sum_{|\beta| < 2l} \frac{D_2^\beta k(x, x)}{\beta!} (y - x)^\beta}_{\sum_\beta T(x, \beta)} + R(x, y)$$

$$R(x, y) = \sum_{|\beta|=2l} \frac{D_2^\beta k(x, \xi_{x,y})}{\beta} (y - x)^\beta$$

where $\xi_{x,y}$ lies on the line connecting x, y .

Proof. Theorem 1.21 $|f(x) - f_X(x)| \leq P_X(x) \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}$. We know $P_X^2(x) = Q(u^*(x))$. Given the interior cone condition, we can obtain a $u(x)$ that has polynomial precision of degree $l \geq 2k - 1$. For those u we see

$$P_X^2(x) \leq Q(u) = k(x, x) - 2 \sum_{k=1}^N u_k(x, x_k) + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j u_k k(x_j, x_k)$$

Apply Taylor expansion centered at x to $K(x, \cdot)$ and centered at x_j to $k(x_j, \cdot)$

$$Q(u) = k(x, x) - 2 \sum_{k=1}^N u_k \left[\sum T(x, \beta)(x_k - x)^\beta + R(x, x_k) \right] + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j u_k \left[\sum T(x_j, \beta)(x_k - x_j)^\beta R(x_j, x_k) \right]$$

We identify $p(z) = (z - x)^\beta$, so that $p(x) = 0$ unless $\beta = 0$.

With the polynomial reproduction of u , this simplifies to

$$Q(u) = k(x, x) - \underbrace{2k(x, x)}_{\beta=0} - 2 \sum_{k=1}^N u_k R(x, x_k) + \sum_{j=1}^N u_j \sum T(x_j, \beta)(x - x_j)^\beta + \sum_{j=1}^N \sum_{k=1}^N u_j u_k R(x_j, x_k)$$

Look at Taylor expansion

$$\sum T(x_j, \beta)(x - x_j)^\beta = k(x_j, x) - R(x_j, x)$$

This gives

$$Q(u) = k(x, x) - \sum_k u_k \left[2R(x, x_k) - \sum_{j=1}^N u_j R(x_j, x_k) \right] + \sum_{j=1}^N u_j [k(x_j, x) - R(x_j, x)]$$

Once more Taylor: $k(x_j, x) = k(x, x_j) = \sum_\beta T(x, \beta)(x - x_j)^\beta + R(x, x_j)$

$$= 0 - \sum_k u_k \left[R(x, x_k) - \sum_{j=1}^N u_j R(x_j, x_k) + R(x_k, x) \right]$$

The polynomial reproduction gives

uniform stability

$$\sum_k |u_k| \leq C_1$$

For $u_j \neq 0$ (with 3.) we have $\|x - x_j\|_2 \leq C_2 h_{X, \Omega}$ and it holds $\|x_j - x_k\| \leq 2C_2 h_{X, \Omega}$. Thereby all three can be bounded by an expression such as $Ch_{X, \Omega}^{2k} C_k(x)$.

The interior cone condition shows that the ball remains inside, so that $C_k(x)$ is well defined.

Combining these bounds and taking the square root gives the bound for the power function. \square

Appendix

Tutorials

All norms and scalar products w.r.t. H if not specified.

Start of tutorial 02
(23-04-24)

a)

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} |h_n(t) - h_m(t)| &\stackrel{\text{Reproduction equality}}{\leq} |\langle h_n - h_m, k(t, \cdot) \rangle| \\ &\stackrel{\text{C.S.}}{\leq} \|h_n - h_m\|_H \|k(t, \cdot)\|_H \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore $h_n(t)$ is Cauchy $\implies h_n(t)$ converges. □

b)

Proof. Show definition is well defined:

1.: $\langle f, g \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$ for all $f, g \in \mathcal{N}_k$.

f_n, g_n Cauchy sequences, $f_n \rightarrow f, g_n \rightarrow g$ pointwise.

1.1.: Show that $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n\|_H$ exists in \mathbb{R} .

$$|\|f_n\|_H - \|f_m\|_H| \leq \|f_n - f_m\|_H \implies \|f_n\|_H \text{ is Cauchy}$$

and therefore bounded.

1.2.: Show $\langle f, g \rangle_H = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle f_n, g_n \rangle_H$ exists in \mathbb{R} .

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle f_n, g_n \rangle_H - \langle f_m, g_m \rangle_H| &= |\langle f_n - f_m, g_n \rangle_H + \langle f_m, g_n - g_m \rangle_H| \\ &\leq \|f_n - f_m\|_H \|g_n\|_H + \|f_m\|_H \|g_n - g_m\|_H \end{aligned}$$

Let f_n, f'_n, g_n Cauchy, $f_n \rightarrow f, f'_n \rightarrow f, g_n \rightarrow g$ pointwise.

We need:

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle f_n, g_n \rangle_H &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle f'_n, g_n \rangle_H \\ &\iff \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle f_n - f'_n, g_n \rangle_H = 0 \\ &\iff f_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ pointwise} \implies \langle f_n, g_n \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ &\iff \forall f_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ pointwise } \langle f_n, f_n \rangle \rightarrow 0 \\ &\iff f = 0 \implies \langle f, f \rangle_H = 0 \end{aligned}$$

$h_n = f_n - f'_n$.

1.: f_n is Cauchy in H

$$\|(f_n - f'_n) - (f_m - f'_m)\|_H \leq \|f_n - f_m\|_H + \|f'_n - f'_m\|_H$$

2.: h_n bounded by M (follows from Cauchy)

3.: $h_n \rightarrow 0$ in H

Fix $l \in \mathbb{N}$ and let $h_l = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i k(x, \cdot)$

$$\langle h_n, h_l \rangle = \lambda_{A^{(l)}, x^{(l)}}(h_n) = \sum_{i=1}^m a_i h_m(x_i) \rightarrow 0$$

$$\implies (\star) : \forall \epsilon > 0 : \exists n_0 \in \mathbb{N} : \forall n \geq n_0 |\langle h_n, h_l \rangle| < \epsilon$$

h_n is Cauchy $\implies \forall \delta > 0 \exists l \in \mathbb{N} \forall n \geq l$:

$$\|h_n - h_l\| < \delta/M.$$

Choose n_0 s.t. (\star) holds with δ

$$\begin{aligned} \|h_n\|_H^2 &= \langle h_n, h_n \rangle_H = \langle h_n, h_l \rangle + \langle h_n, h_n - h_l \rangle \\ &\leq \delta + \|h_n\|_H \|h_n - h_l\| < \delta + M \frac{\delta}{M} \end{aligned}$$

Choose $\delta = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$.

Still have to show $\langle f, f \rangle = 0$:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(t) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \langle f_n, k(t, \cdot) \rangle_H \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n\| \underbrace{\|k(t, \cdot)\|}_{\text{bounded}}$$

□

c)

Proof. f_n Cauchy:

$f_n \rightarrow f$ in \mathcal{N}_k and $f \in \mathcal{N}_k$.

Construct Cauchy sequence in H :

$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(k) = f_n$ and $f_n^{(k)} \in H$.

$\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ choose $k(n)$ such that

$$\|f_n - f_n^{(k(n))}\| < \frac{1}{n}$$

$g_n = f_n^{(k(n))}$. Let $\epsilon > 0$, $n_0 = \max\{\frac{3}{\epsilon}, m\}$

$\forall k, l \geq m : \|f_k - f_l\| < \epsilon/3$

$$\begin{aligned} \|g_n - g_m\| &\leq \|f_n^{(k(n))} - f_n\| + \|f_n - f_m\| + \|f_m - f_m^{(k(n))}\| \\ &\leq \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

for all $n, m \geq n_0$.

Set $f \in \mathcal{N}_k$ as the limit of g_n (because it is a Cauchy sequence in H).

2.: f_n converges to f in \mathcal{N}_k .

$$\begin{aligned} \|f_n - f\| &\leq \|f_n - f_{n+1}\| + \|f_{n+1} - f_{n+1}^{(k(n+1))}\| + \|g_{n+1} - f\| \\ &< \frac{\epsilon}{3} + \frac{1}{n+1} + \frac{\epsilon}{3} = \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

□

$$\begin{aligned}\exp(-(x-y)^2) &= \exp(-(x^2 - 2xy + y^2)) \\ &= \exp(-x^2) \exp(+2xy) \exp(-y^2) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{(2xy)^k}{k!} \exp(-x^2) \exp(-y^2) \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \underbrace{\frac{2^k}{k!}}_{=\lambda_k} \underbrace{\frac{x^k}{\exp(x^2)}}_{\varphi_k(x)} \underbrace{\frac{y^k}{\exp(y^2)}}_{\varphi_k(y)}\end{aligned}$$

$$D_n(x, y) = \sum_{k=-n}^n \overline{\exp(-ikx)} \exp(-iky)$$

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