

STATG019 – Selected Topics in Statistics 2015

# Lecture 4

## **Kernel Methods for Big Data**

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# Course organization

## In-Course-Assessment

Two take-home ICA, one on kernels, one on point processes

Each counts 50% towards your final grade

**Handing out:** no.1 on Feb 9, no.2 on Mar 23 (on moodle)

**Submission:** no.1 on Mar 4, no.2 on Apr 29 (via moodle/Turnitin)

Submission details for ICA no.1 will be announced

## Tutorials and/or practical sessions

Thursday, 11am - 1pm, February 26

Tutorial will be mainly on mathematical concepts and the exercises

Also a bit of R and programming issues, if we have the time

Thursday, 11am - 1pm, February 12?

R programming, kernlab, help on getting started with the ICA?

String kernels: combinatorial kernels for text mining, document classification and genome analysis	<div><div></div></div> 10%	3
Graph kernels: combinatorial kernels on graphs and between graphs for learning molecules, or biological and social networks	<div><div></div></div> 7%	2
Kernel quantile regression: predicting the median and other quantiles in non-linear distributional data, e.g. population analysis	<div><div></div></div> 3%	1
Kernel CCA: finding highly correlating non-linear features in high-dimensional data, e.g. time series	<div><div></div></div> 13%	4
Kernel k-means: non-linear clustering with kernels	<div><div></div></div> 10%	3
More on novelty and outlier detection with kernels	<div><div></div></div> 7%	2
Vapnik-Chervonenkis learning theory; the VC inequality and the main ideas behind its proof	<div><div></div></div> 10%	3
Cross-validation techniques in general and for kernels in particular	<div><div></div></div> 10%	3
Kernel on-line learning: how to modify kernel methods to cope with sequential data; algorithmic techniques and learning guarantees	<div><div></div></div> 13%	4
Kernels for big data: how to cope with huge data sets; kernel Hebbian, Nyström approximation, sub-sampling, inducing variables	<div><div></div></div> 13%	4
Other: MMD	<div><div></div></div> 3%	1

**Today**

Arthur is doing MMD!

# Kernel learning in the presence of BIG DATA

**Input:** independent data points  $x_1, \dots, x_N \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
 when supervised: labels  $y_1, \dots, y_N \in \mathbb{R}$

Kernel ridge regression:

$$f(x) = y^\top (K + \lambda I)^{-1} \cdot \kappa(x) = \hat{\alpha}^\top \kappa(x)$$

$$K = (k(x_i, x_j))_{ij} \quad \kappa(x) = (k(x_i, x))_i$$

Kernel PCA:  $(U, \lambda) = \text{eig}(K_\mu) \quad \tau_i(x) = \tau_i(U, \lambda, \kappa(x), K)$

Kernel SVM:

$$f(x) = \text{sgn} \left( b + \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i k(x_i, x) \right) = \text{sgn} (\alpha^\top \kappa(x))$$

$$\max_{\alpha} W(\alpha) = \|\alpha\|_1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \alpha^\top \tilde{K} \alpha \quad \text{s.t.} \quad \alpha \geq 0, \quad 0 = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i y_i$$

Naïve implementation costs  $O(N^2)$  to  $O(N^3)$   
 anything but  $O(N \cdot \text{polylog}(N))$  is infeasible for  $N \approx 10^6$

## Idea no.1: low-rank approximation

main idea:  $K \approx Q \cdot Q^\top$ , with  $Q \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times M}$   
 operate with tall matrices only, e.g.  $Q$   
*yields low-dimensional feature vectors*

## no.2: iterative/incremental methods

main idea: add  $x_i$  incrementally  
 update  $f, \tau$ , etc, for each addition  
*directly applicable to on-line setting*



# Low-Rank Approximation

# The Pseudo-inverse and row-span projectors

## Definition (Penrose-Moore-pseudoinverse):

Let  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  be a matrix.

Pseudoinverse of  $A$  is matrix  $A^+$  such that

$$AA^+A = A \quad A^+AA^+ = A^+ \quad (AA^+)^T = AA^+ \quad (A^+A)^T = A^+A$$

## Proposition:

Given  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$ , the pseudo-inverse  $A^+$  exists and is unique.

*Existence:* Let  $A = USV^T$  the SVD of  $A$ , take  $A^+ := VS^+U^T$   
with diagonal matrix  $S^+$ , where  $S_{ii}^+ = \begin{cases} 1/S_{ii}, & \text{if } S_{ii} \neq 0, \\ 0, & \text{if } S_{ii} = 0. \end{cases}$

*Uniqueness:* For two pseudo-inverses  $B, C$  of  $A$ :

$$C = CAC = CC^T \cdot (ABA)^T = C \cdot (ACAB) = CAB = BAB = B$$

**Remark:** For a data matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$

projection matrix onto the row-span of  $X$  is given as

$$P_X := X^+X = X^T(XX^T)^+X$$

since  $P_X P_X = P_X$  and  $P_X v = 0$  for any  $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$  with  $Xv = 0$

***in the middle: (pseudo-)inverse of Gram matrix!***

# The Nyström approximation (E. Nyström, 1928; idea in the context of integral equations)

**Remark:** projection matrix onto the row-span of  $X$  is given as  $P_X := X^\top (X X^\top)^+ X$

**Main idea:** maybe rowspan  $X$  is well-approximated by rowspan  $Z$

where  $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times n}$  consists of  $M$  rows of  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$

$$\text{so } X X^\top \approx (X P_Z)(X P_Z)^\top = X P_Z X^\top = (X Z^\top)(Z Z^\top)^+(Z X^\top)$$

**Rewriting** with  $K_{AB} := A B^\top$ :  $K_{XX} \approx K_{XZ} \cdot K_{ZZ}^+ \cdot K_{ZX} =: K_{XX|Z}$

**Proposition (deterministic approximation):**

- (i) the residual matrix  $K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z}$  is positive semi-definite
- (ii)  $\lambda_i(K_{XX}) \geq \lambda_i(K_{XX|Z}) \geq \lambda_{i+\Delta}(K_{XX})$  where  $\Delta = \text{rank } X - \text{rank } Z$   
(by Weyl's theorem) and  $\lambda_i$  denotes the  $i$ -th largest eigenvalue
- (iii)  $\|K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z}\|_F \leq \text{Tr}(K_{XX}) - \text{Tr}(K_{ZZ})$  (use positive semi-definiteness)

**Theorem (Kumar et al, NIPS 2009):** (one example for probabilistic approximation)

Denote by  $K_{XX}^{(r)}$  the Frobenius-best rank  $r$  approximation to  $K_{XX}$ .

Assume  $Z$  is uniformly subsampled. If  $M \geq 64 \frac{r}{\epsilon^4}$ , then

$$\mathbb{E} \|K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z}\|_F \leq \|K_{XX} - K_{XX}^{(r)}\|_F + \epsilon \cdot \max_i (N \cdot k(x_i, x_i))$$

**Remark:** Data dimension  $n$  does not enter the proofs!  
*so statements are fine for arbitrary kernels*

(more precisely: use existence of Cholesky decomposition)

# Speeding up kernels with Nyström

**Nyström-approximation:**  $K_{XX} \approx K_{XZ} \cdot K_{ZZ}^+ \cdot K_{ZX} =: K_{XX|Z}$

**Idea for speed-up:**  $K_{XX|Z} = \left( K_{XZ} \cdot K_{ZZ}^{-1/2} \right) \cdot \left( K_{XZ} \cdot K_{ZZ}^{-1/2} \right)^\top =: K_{X|Z} \cdot K_{X|Z}^\top$

		<b>time cost</b>
kPCA	<b>Vanilla:</b> compute eigenpairs of $K_\mu := (I - \mathbb{1}_N) \cdot K_{XX} \cdot (I - \mathbb{1}_N)$	$O(N^2m)$
	<b>Nyström:</b> compute left singular pairs of $(I - \mathbb{1}_N) \cdot K_{X Z}$	$O(NMm)$ for $m$ pairs
SVM	<b>Vanilla:</b> $\max_{\alpha} W(\alpha) = \ \alpha\ _1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot \alpha^\top \tilde{K} \alpha \quad \tilde{K} = \text{diag}(y) K_{XX} \text{diag}(y)$	$O(h(N))$
	<b>Nyström:</b> restrict $\alpha$ to column-span of $\text{diag}(y) K_{X Z}$ $\tilde{\alpha} := K_{X Z}^\top \text{diag}(y) \cdot \alpha$ so $\alpha = (K_{X Z}^\top \text{diag}(y))^\dagger \tilde{\alpha}$	$O(\frac{N}{M} h(M))$
Ridge regression	<b>Vanilla:</b> compute $\hat{\alpha} = (K_{XX} + \lambda I)^{-1} y$ then $f(x) = \hat{\alpha}^\top \kappa(x)$	$O(N^3)$
	<b>Nyström:</b> $(K_{XX} + \lambda I)^{-1} \approx (K_{XX Z} + \lambda I)^{-1} = (K_{X Z} K_{X Z}^\top + \lambda I)^{-1}$ observe, going backwards in the derivation of ridge regression $(K_{X Z} K_{X Z}^\top + \lambda I)^{-1} = \lambda^{-1} I - \lambda^{-1} K_{X Z} (K_{X Z}^\top K_{X Z} + \lambda I)^{-1} K_{X Z}^\top$ alternative: the Woodbury identity (later today) so compute $\hat{\alpha} = \lambda^{-1} y - \lambda^{-1} K_{X Z} (K_{X Z}^\top K_{X Z} + \lambda I)^{-1} K_{X Z}^\top \cdot y$	$O(NM^2)$



# Sparse Gaussian processes regression

**Input:** independent data points  $x_1, \dots, x_N \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
 dependent data points/labels  $y_1, \dots, y_N \in \mathbb{R}$

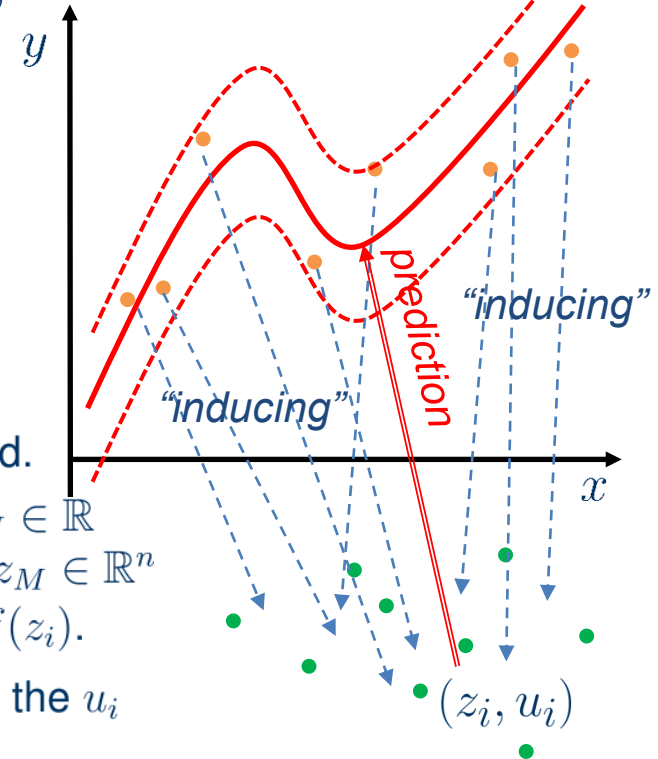
**Output:** Regressor  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  such that  $y_i \approx f(x_i)$   
 and which predicts well unseen labels  $f(x)$

## Main assumptions:

The "true"  $f$  is outcome of Gaussian process  
 jointly Gaussian  $y_i = f(x_i) + \varepsilon_i$  with  $\varepsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \lambda)$  i.i.d.

There are jointly Gaussian "inducing variables"  $u_1, \dots, u_M \in \mathbb{R}$   
 corresponding to (hypothetical) pseudo-inputs  $z_1, \dots, z_M \in \mathbb{R}^n$   
 (hypothetically) observed without noise, i.e.,  $u_i = f(z_i)$ .

test label  $f(x)$  and  $f(x_i)$  are independent conditioned on the  $u_i$



## Derivation of posterior distribution: (in the case $x \neq x_1, \dots, x_N$ )

By assumption:  $y_1, \dots, y_N | u_1, \dots, u_M \sim \mathcal{N}(K_{XZ}K_{ZZ}^+u, K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z})$

$f(x) | u_1, \dots, u_M \sim \mathcal{N}(K_{xZ}K_{ZZ}^+u, k(x, x) - K_{xx|Z})$

Marginalization over  $u_i$  yields

$f(x) | y_1, \dots, y_N \sim \mathcal{N}(K_{xX|Z}(K_{XX|Z} + \lambda \cdot I)^{-1}y, K_{xx|Z} - K_{xX|Z}(K_{XX|Z} + \lambda \cdot I)^{-1}K_{Xx|Z})$

equivalent to GP regression with covariance function  $k(x, y) = K_{xy|Z} = K_{xZ}K_{ZZ}^+K_{Zy}$

mean and variance efficiently computable in analogy to ridge regression  $O(NM^2)$

**how to choose  $Z$  for the Nyström approximation  $K_{XX} \approx K_{XX|Z}$**

**Williams, Seeger (2001): uniformly random sub-sample**

will be fine due to  $\|K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z}\|_F \leq \text{Tr}(K_{XX}) - \text{Tr}(K_{ZZ})$

and  $\mathbb{E}\|K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z}\|_F \leq \|K_{XX} - K_{XX}^{(r)}\|_F + \varepsilon \cdot \max_i (N \cdot k(x_i, x_i))$

**Pros:** works very often, fast      **Cons:** slow on degenerate/clustered data

**Fine et al, Bach et al (2001/2): Greedy for approximation (unsupervised)**

**Bach et al (2005): Greedy for goodness of prediction (supervised)**

due to factorization method called “incomplete Cholesky decomposition”

**Pros:** informed, thus converges quickly      **Cons:** greedy  $\neq$  optimal

**Snelson et al (2006): Bayesian inference on inducing variables**

**Pros:** Bayesian      **Cons:** Bayesian

**Kiraly et al (2014): sample rows of  $Z$  i.i.d. from random variable  $\mathcal{Z}$**

**Theorem:**  $\|K_{XX} - K_{XX|Z}\|_F = O(M^{-1/4})$  (if support of  $\mathcal{Z}$  covers  $X$ )  
(constants depending on  $\mathcal{Z}, k$ )

**Pros:** independent of data degeneracies      **Cons:** slower convergence (constants)

**An overview can also be found in Kumar (2012):**

**Sampling methods for the Nyström method**

# Iterative kernel methods

# Low-rank updates for inversion

**Proposition (Sherman, Morrison, Woodbury):**

*“the Woodbury formula”*

(despite Sherman & Morrison being earlier)

$$(A + UV)^{-1} = A^{-1} - A^{-1}U(I + VA^{-1}U)^{-1}VA^{-1}$$

for matrices of the right size where all the above is invertible

*Proof:* verify that  $(A + UV) \cdot$  the right hand side  $= I$  (or use the SVD argument)

**On-line learning update for ridge regression/Gaussian processes:**

$X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$  old data batch       $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$  old labels       $Z \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times n}$  row-subsample

$Y \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell \times n}$  new data batch       $y' \in \mathbb{R}^{\ell}$  new labels

old coefficients:  $\hat{\alpha} = \lambda^{-1}y - \lambda^{-1}BK_{X|Z}^{\top} \cdot y$  where  $B = (K_{X|Z}^{\top}K_{X|Z} + \lambda I)^{-1}$

naive recomputation comes at a cost of  $O(NM^2)$

new coeff's:  $\hat{\alpha}_{new} = \lambda^{-1}(y, y') - \lambda^{-1}K_{X,Y|Z} \cdot B' \cdot K_{X,Y|Z}^{\top} \cdot (y, y')$  where  $K_{X,Y|Z} = \begin{bmatrix} K_{X|Z} \\ K_{Y|Z} \end{bmatrix}$

and where  $B' = (K_{X,Y|Z}^{\top}K_{X,Y|Z} + \lambda I)^{-1} = (K_{X|Z}^{\top}K_{X|Z} + K_{Y|Z}^{\top}K_{Y|Z} + \lambda I)^{-1}$

SMW-formula yields  $B' = B - BK_{Y|Z}^{\top}(I + K_{Y|Z} \cdot B \cdot K_{Y|Z}^{\top})^{-1}K_{Y|Z}B$

so  $B$ -matrix and  $\hat{\alpha}$  can be updated at time cost of  $O(NM\ell)$

Similar updates can be derived for posterior variance and  $Z$

*Note that repeated updating may lead to cumulative time cost of  $O(N^2M)$*

# The (kernel) Hebbian algorithm

or Sanger's rule (1989)  
(for neural networks)

**Goal:** Given data matrix  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times n}$ , whose rows are presented at times  $t = 1, 2, \dots$  as an  $n$ -variate time series  $x(t)$  compute eigenvectors of  $X^\top X = \text{Cov}(X, X)$

**Idea (Sanger):** sequential update with candidate matrix  $W(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{r \times n}$  (rows=eigenvectors)  

$$W(t+1) = W(t) + \gamma(t) (y(t)x(t)^\top - \text{LT} [y(t)y(t)^\top] W(t))$$
 where  $y(t) = W(t)x(t)$   
 $\gamma(t)$  is "learning rate"      LT sets everything above diagonal to zero

Sanger's rule combines gradient descent (Oja's rule) and Gram-Schmidt

**Theorem** (Oja, Sanger, 1982/1989): converges under very mild conditions

**Kernelization:** compute eigenvectors of  $K = XX^\top$

by a search in the feature span of the data:  $W(t) = A(t)X^\top$  (compare representer thm)

$$A(t+1)X^\top = A(t)X^\top + \gamma(t) (y(t)x(t)^\top - \text{LT} [y(t)y(t)^\top] A(t)X^\top)$$

If the columns of  $X$  are linearly independent,  
 then right multiplication with  $X^\top$  is injective, so

$$A(t+1) = A(t) + \gamma(t) (y(t)e_{i(t)}^\top - \text{LT} [y(t)y(t)^\top] A(t))$$

where  $e_{i(t)}$  denotes the standard unit vector selecting  $x(t)$

**Theorem** (Kim et al, 2003): converges under very mild conditions

Günter et al, 2007: even faster (empirically) for a good  $\gamma(t)$

$O(Nr)$  per iteration

# Stochastic gradient descent on regularized risk

**Setting:** Given sequential data  $x(t) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , labels  $y(t) \in \mathbb{R}$

Learn predictor/classifier  $f$  such that  $f(x(t)) \approx y(t)$

**Idea (various):** sequential update of candidate predictor  $f_t$

$$f_{t+1} = f_t - \gamma(t) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial f} R_{reg,t}(f)|_{f=f_t} = f_t - \gamma(t) \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial f} \ell(f, x(t), y(t)) + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|f\|^2|_{f=f_t}$$

$\gamma(t)$  is “learning rate”       $\ell$  is some loss, e.g.  $\ell = (y(t) - f_t(x(t)))^2$

by representer theorem, current minimizer  $f_t(\cdot) = \sum_{\tau=1}^t \alpha_\tau k(x(\tau), \cdot)$

so  $f_{t+1} = (1 - \gamma(t)\lambda) \cdot f_t - \gamma(t) \cdot \ell'(f_t(x(t)), y(t)) \cdot k(x(t), \cdot)$

**Observation:**  $f_t$  is “phased out” in  $f_{t+m}$  by factor  $(1 - \gamma(t)\lambda)^m$

(so  $\gamma(t)$  is rather the “forgetting rate”)

**Theorem (Kivinen et al, 2004):**

Let  $N$  be any number of seen data, let  $g$  be any function (in the RKHS)

$$\text{then } \sum_{t=1}^N R_{reg,t}(f_t) \leq \left( \sum_{t=1}^N R_{reg,t}(g) \right) + a\sqrt{N} + b$$









where  $a, b$  are constants depending only on  $\lambda, \gamma, k, \ell$

# And there is much more...

... but not in kernlab

Some methods are implemented in  
scikit, Shogun, LibSVM, etc

# Next week: ?

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