

Infinite-Dimensional Stochastic Transforms and Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Spaces

Overview

The paper by Jorgensen, Song, and Tian presents a comprehensive theoretical framework for constructing infinite-dimensional stochastic transforms at the intersection of Gaussian fields and reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces (RKHS). The authors develop a new infinite-dimensional Fourier transform in the general setting of Gaussian processes, serving to unify existing tools from infinite-dimensional analysis^{[1] [2]}.

Main Theoretical Contributions

General Transform for RKHS

The authors address a fundamental limitation of RKHS theory: while RKHS constitute versatile tools for applications in statistical inference, machine learning, PDEs, harmonic analysis, and stochastic processes, their realization requires an abstract completion step^[1]. To overcome this, they present a general transform that applies universally to RKHS but provides more concrete presentations.

Effective Sequences Framework

The cornerstone of their approach is the concept of "effective sequences" of orthogonal projections (P_n) in a Hilbert space \mathcal{H} . For a sequence of projections, they define operators:

- $T_n = (1 - P_n)(1 - P_{n-1}) \cdots (1 - P_0)$
- $Q_n = P_n(1 - P_{n-1}) \cdots (1 - P_0)$

Theorem 2.1 establishes the fundamental decomposition:

$$\|x\|^2 = \|T_n x\|^2 + \sum_{k=0}^n \|Q_k x\|^2$$

The system is called "effective" when $T_n \rightarrow 0$ strongly, which occurs if and only if:

$$I = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0} Q_j^* Q_j$$

This yields a generalized Parseval identity: $\|x\|^2 = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}_0} \|Q_j x\|^2$ ^[1].

Stochastic Analysis and Gaussian Process Construction

The authors establish a connection between effective sequences and Gaussian processes.

Lemma 2.3 shows that for i.i.d. $N(0, 1)$ random variables $\{Z_n\}$ and an effective system $\{Q_n\}$, the process:

$$W(\cdot) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} Q_n Z_n(\cdot)$$

defines an operator-valued Gaussian process with covariance $E(\langle W(\cdot)u, W(\cdot)v \rangle) = \langle u, v \rangle$ ^[1].

This construction bridges the gap between abstract RKHS theory and concrete probabilistic representations, providing a unified framework for analyzing positive definite kernels and their associated Gaussian processes^{[3] [4]}.

The Isomorphism $T_K : L^2(K) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(K)$

A central technical achievement is the construction of an isometric isomorphism between spaces of linear functionals and RKHS. The authors define:

Definition 2.8: $L^2(K)$ consists of continuous linear functionals on $\mathcal{H}(K)$

Definition 2.9: $M^2(K)$ consists of signed measures μ where $\iint \mu(ds)K(s,t)\mu(dt) < \infty$

The transform T_K is defined as:

- For measures: $(T_K\mu)(t) = \int \mu(ds)K(s,t)$
- For functionals: $T_K(l) = F_l$ where $l(G) = \langle F_l, G \rangle_{\mathcal{H}(K)}$

Theorem 2.25 establishes that T_K maps $L^2(K)$ isometrically onto $\mathcal{H}(K)$, providing a complete characterization of RKHS in terms of more concrete functional spaces^[1].

Infinite-Dimensional Fourier Transform

Construction and Properties

The authors develop an infinite-dimensional Fourier transform for Gaussian processes using the kernel $K(s,t) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}|s-t|}$, which serves as the covariance kernel for the complex process e^{iX_t} where X_t is standard Brownian motion^[1].

Definition 3.3 introduces the transform:

$$T : L^2(\mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(K), \quad T(F)(t) = E[e^{-iX_t}F]$$

This transform exhibits fundamental properties analogous to classical Fourier transforms:

- $T(e^{iX_t}) = K_t$ where $K_t(\cdot) = e^{-\frac{1}{2}|t-\cdot|}$
- $T^*(K_t) = e^{iX_t}$

Corollary 3.5 establishes that T is an isometric isomorphism from the complex Hilbert space $L^2(\mathbb{P})$ onto the real Hilbert space $\mathcal{H}(K)$ ^[1].

Extensions and Applications

The framework extends to Gaussian kernels $K_{Gauss}(x,y) = e^{-\frac{1}{2t}(x-y)^2}$, with the relationship:
 $e^{-x^2/2t} = E[e^{ixX_{1/t}}]$
 $e^{-(x-y)^2/2t} = E[e^{ixX_{1/t}}e^{-iyX_{1/t}}]$

For Hermite polynomial expansions, the authors derive:

$$T(X_s^n)(t) = i^n e^{-t/2} s^{n/2} H_n(\sqrt{s})$$

where H_n are Hermite polynomials^[1].

Theoretical Significance

Unification of Existing Tools

The paper unifies disparate approaches in infinite-dimensional analysis by establishing explicit connections between:

- Positive definite kernels and Gaussian processes via Kolmogorov's theorem^[5]
- RKHS and concrete function spaces through isometric transforms^{[6] [7]}
- Frame theory and stochastic analysis through effective sequences^{[8] [9]}

Applications to Machine Learning and Data Analysis

The framework provides theoretical foundations for:

- Kernel methods in machine learning^{[7] [10]}
- Principal Component Analysis in infinite dimensions^{[11] [12]}
- Sampling theory and approximation algorithms^[1]
- Kaczmarz algorithms and optimization^{[13] [14]}

Connection to Broader Mathematical Frameworks

The work connects to several fundamental areas:

- Spectral theory of operators in Hilbert spaces^[15]
- Stochastic calculus and infinite-dimensional analysis^{[16] [17]}
- Harmonic analysis and boundary value problems^{[18] [19]}
- Optimal transport and probability theory^{[20] [21]}

Mathematical Rigor and Innovation

The paper demonstrates mathematical rigor through:

- Precise characterization of effective sequences and their convergence properties
- Detailed construction of isometric isomorphisms between abstract and concrete spaces
- Extension of classical Fourier analysis to infinite-dimensional stochastic settings
- Integration of measure theory, functional analysis, and probability theory

The theoretical framework established provides a foundation for future research in kernel methods, stochastic analysis, and machine learning applications, offering both theoretical insights and practical computational tools for infinite-dimensional problems.



1. <https://link.springer.com/10.1007/s43670-023-00051-z>

2. <https://arxiv.org/pdf/2209.03801.pdf>

3. https://www.opuscula.agh.edu.pl/vol39/4/art/opuscula_math_3930.pdf
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