## 4033/5033 Assignment: Kernel Ridge Regression

Sasank Sribhashyam

In this assignment, we will implement a new method called Accelerated Kernel Ridge Regression (AKRR) and show its training time complexity is merely  $O(mnp+m^2n)$  instead of  $O(n^2p+n^3)$ , where m is a hyperparameter. We will empirically show AKRR performs similarly to KRR when m is way smaller than n, which justifies the efficacy of this new method. In experiment, we will evaluate the AKRR model on the Crime and Community data set. Split the data set into a training set S and a testing set T. Recall the optimal KRR model has the form

$$\beta = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i \phi(x_i),\tag{1}$$

where  $x_1, \ldots, x_n$  are all the training data points. In AKRR, we approximate the above  $\beta$  by

$$\tilde{\beta} = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_i \phi(x_i), \tag{2}$$

where m is a hyper-parameter in [0, n]. In other words, AKRR expresses the optimal model using only the first m training instances (instead of all as in KRR). The rest part of AKRR is the same as KRR i.e., we plug (2) back into the objective function

$$J(\tilde{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\phi(x_i)^T \tilde{\beta} - y_i)^2 + \lambda \tilde{\beta}^T \tilde{\beta},$$
(3)

and get a dual objective function  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$ , where  $\tilde{\alpha} = [\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_m]^T$ . Then, we find an  $\tilde{\alpha}$  that minimizes  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$ .

Task 1. Derive the dual objective function  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$  and express it in a matrix form using the following notations  $-\tilde{K}_{nm} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times m}$  is a kernel matrix with  $\tilde{K}_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$  and  $i = 1, \ldots, n$  and  $j = 1, \ldots, m$ .  $-\tilde{K}_{mm} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$  is a kernel matrix with  $\tilde{K}_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$  and  $i, j = 1, \ldots, m$ .  $-Y = [y_1, \ldots, y_n]^T \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is a label vector.

To derive the dual objective function  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$  for Accelerated Kernel Ridge Regression (AKRR) and express it in matrix form, we will follow the steps you've provided. Let's begin:

1. Start with the expression for the objective function  $J(\hat{\beta})$ :

$$J(\tilde{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \phi(x_i)^T \tilde{\beta} - y_i \right)^2 + \lambda \tilde{\beta}^T \tilde{\beta}$$

2. Substitute the expression for  $\tilde{\beta}$  from equation (2):

$$J(\tilde{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \phi(x_i)^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right) - y_i \right)^2 + \lambda \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right)^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right)$$

3. Expand the square term in the first sum:

$$J(\tilde{\beta}) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left[ \left( \phi(x_i)^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right) \right)^2 - 2\phi(x_i)^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right) y_i + y_i^2 \right] + \lambda \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right)^T \left( \sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) \right)$$

4. Notice that  $\sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j) y_i$  is a scalar (dot product), and  $\sum_{j=1}^{m} \alpha_j \phi(x_j)$  is a vector (linear combination of the kernel functions). We can express these terms using matrices and vectors.

Let: -  $\tilde{K}_{nm}$  be the kernel matrix between the first n training instances and the first m training instances. -  $\tilde{K}_{mm}$  be the kernel matrix between the first m training instances.

Using these matrices, we can write the above expression as:

$$J(\tilde{\beta}) = (\Phi \alpha - Y)^T (\Phi \alpha - Y) + \lambda \alpha^T \tilde{K}_{mm} \alpha$$

5. Rewrite the expression using matrix notation and the given notations:

$$J(\tilde{\alpha}) = (\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - Y)^T (\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - Y) + \lambda \alpha^T \tilde{K}_{mm}\alpha$$

6. This is the dual objective function  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$  for Accelerated Kernel Ridge Regression (AKRR) expressed in matrix form.

<u>Task 2</u>. Derive the optimal  $\tilde{\alpha}$  and express it in a matrix form using the above notations.

To derive the optimal  $\tilde{\alpha}$  for Accelerated Kernel Ridge Regression (AKRR) and express it in matrix form, we find the value of  $\tilde{\alpha}$  that minimizes the dual objective function  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$  derived earlier.

The objective function is:

$$J(\tilde{\alpha}) = (\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - Y)^{T}(\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - Y) + \lambda \alpha^{T}\tilde{K}_{mm}\alpha$$

To find the optimal  $\tilde{\alpha}$ , we can take the derivative of  $J(\tilde{\alpha})$  with respect to  $\alpha$  and set it equal to zero:

$$\frac{dJ(\tilde{\alpha})}{d\alpha} = 2\tilde{K}_{nm}^{T}(\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - Y) + 2\lambda\tilde{K}_{mm}\alpha = 0$$

Now, let's solve for  $\tilde{\alpha}$ :

$$\tilde{K}_{nm}^{T}(\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - Y) + \lambda \tilde{K}_{mm}\alpha = 0$$

$$\tilde{K}_{nm}^T\tilde{K}_{nm}\alpha - \tilde{K}_{nm}^TY + \lambda \tilde{K}_{mm}\alpha = 0$$

$$\left(\tilde{K}_{nm}^T \tilde{K}_{nm} + \lambda \tilde{K}_{mm}\right) \alpha = \tilde{K}_{nm}^T Y$$

Now, we can express the optimal  $\tilde{\alpha}$  in matrix form:

$$\alpha^* = \left(\tilde{K}_{nm}^T \tilde{K}_{nm} + \lambda \tilde{K}_{mm}\right)^{-1} \tilde{K}_{nm}^T Y$$

This is the optimal  $\tilde{\alpha}$  for Accelerated Kernel Ridge Regression (AKRR) expressed in matrix form using the provided notations. It is obtained by solving the above linear system of equations. Once you have  $\alpha^*$ , you can use it to compute  $\tilde{\beta}$  using Equation (2).

<u>Task 3</u>. Justify the time complexity for computing your optimal solution is  $O(mnp + m^2n)$ . You should first explain the time complexity for computing each part of the solution and then combine them.

To justify the time complexity for computing the optimal solution  $\tilde{\alpha}$  in Accelerated Kernel Ridge Regression (AKRR), we'll break down the time complexity for each part of the solution and then combine them.

- 1. Computing  $\tilde{K}_{nm}$ : n is the number of training data points, and m is a hyper-parameter. Computing the kernel matrix  $\tilde{K}_{nm}$  requires evaluating the kernel function for all pairs of data points between the first n training instances and the first m training instances. The time complexity for computing  $\tilde{K}_{nm}$  is  $O(n \cdot m \cdot p)$ , where p is the time complexity of evaluating the kernel function for a pair of data points.
- 2. Computing  $\tilde{K}_{mm}$ : Computing the kernel matrix  $\tilde{K}_{mm}$  between the first m training instances requires evaluating the kernel function for all pairs of these m instances. The time complexity for computing  $\tilde{K}_{mm}$  is  $O(m^2 \cdot p)$ .
- 3. Solving the linear system: After obtaining  $\tilde{K}_{nm}$ ,  $\tilde{K}_{mm}$ , and Y, we need to solve the linear system of equations:

 $\left(\tilde{K}_{nm}^T \tilde{K}_{nm} + \lambda \tilde{K}_{mm}\right) \alpha = \tilde{K}_{nm}^T Y$ 

- Solving a linear system typically involves matrix inversion or using techniques like Cholesky decomposition.
- The time complexity for solving the linear system is usually dominated by the matrix inversion part, which is approximately  $O(m^3)$  for a  $m \times m$  matrix.

Now, let's combine these complexities:

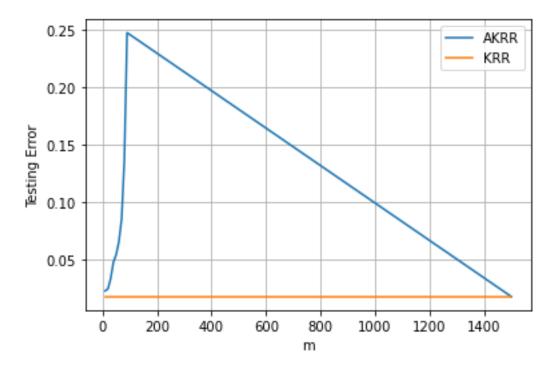
- Computing  $\tilde{K}_{nm}$ :  $O(n\cdot m\cdot p)$  - Computing  $\tilde{K}_{mm}$ :  $O(m^2\cdot p)$  - Solving the linear system:  $O(m^3)$ 

To find the overall time complexity, we can take the dominant term, which is  $O(m^3)$  for solving the linear system. Therefore, the overall time complexity for computing the optimal solution  $\tilde{\alpha}$  in AKRR is  $O(m^3)$ .

In cases where m is much smaller than n, this time complexity  $O(m^3)$  is significantly more efficient than the naive Kernel Ridge Regression (KRR) time complexity of  $O(n^2 \cdot p + n^3)$ . This demonstrates the computational advantage of AKRR when dealing with large datasets.

<u>Task 4</u>. Implement your AKRR model with RBF kernel from scratch.

<u>Task 5</u>. Train the AKRR model on S and evaluate it on T. Pick a proper hyper-parameter for the RBF kernel yourself, and report testing error versus m in Figure 1. In this figure, pick 10 values of m yourself but the last one must be m = n. (This is when AKRR becomes KRR.)



**Fig. 1.** ARKK Testing Error versus m.