

# Machine learning for graphs and with graphs

## Graph kernels

Titouan Vayer & Pierre Borgnat  
email: [titouan.vayer@inria.fr](mailto:titouan.vayer@inria.fr), [pierre.borgnat@ens-lyon.fr](mailto:pierre.borgnat@ens-lyon.fr)

September 23, 2024



# Table of contents

---

## Kernels in Machine Learning

A bit of kernels theory

Back to machine learning: the representer theorem

## Kernels for structured data

Basics of graphs-kernels

Focus on Weisfeler-Lehman Kernel

Conclusion

# Acknowledgments

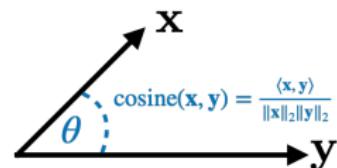
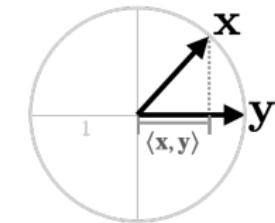
---

Some slides adapted from those of Jean-Philippe Vert and Rémi Flamary.

# What is a kernel ?

Measuring similarities between objects

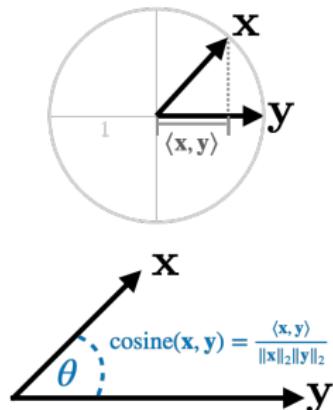
- ▶ Two “objects”  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  in **an abstract space  $\mathcal{X}$** .
- ▶ A kernel aims at measuring “how similar” is  $\mathbf{x}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- ▶ e.g.  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\text{kernel}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  or cosine similarity.



# What is a kernel ?

Measuring similarities between objects

- ▶ Two “objects”  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  in **an abstract space  $\mathcal{X}$** .
- ▶ A kernel aims at measuring “how similar” is  $\mathbf{x}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- ▶ e.g.  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\text{kernel}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  or cosine similarity.



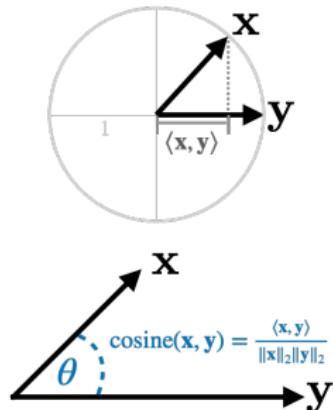
## ML with kernels

- ▶ ML methods based on **pairwise comparisons**.
- ▶ By imposing constraints on the kernel (positive definite), we obtain a **general framework for learning from data** (RKHS).
- ▶ + **without making any assumptions regarding the type of data** (vectors, strings, graphs, images, ...)

# What is a kernel ?

Measuring similarities between objects

- ▶ Two “objects”  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}$  in **an abstract space  $\mathcal{X}$** .
- ▶ A kernel aims at measuring “how similar” is  $\mathbf{x}$  from  $\mathbf{y}$ .
- ▶ e.g.  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $\text{kernel}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  or cosine similarity.



## ML with kernels

- ▶ ML methods based on **pairwise comparisons**.
- ▶ By imposing constraints on the kernel (positive definite), we obtain a **general framework for learning from data** (RKHS).
- ▶ + **without making any assumptions regarding the type of data** (vectors, strings, graphs, images, ...)

## A principle method for ERM

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{F}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\mathbf{y}_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) \rightarrow \text{look for } f \text{ in specific space (RKHS)}$$

## A feature map $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$

---

From feature map to functions: motivating example

- ▶ Feature map can be used to define functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$\Phi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 = \mathcal{H}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_1x_2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } f(\mathbf{x}) = a \cdot x_1 + b \cdot x_2 + c \cdot x_1x_2 \quad (\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$$

- ▶ Consider  $\theta = (a, b, c)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^3$  then  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \theta, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle$ .
- ▶ **Evaluation of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{x}$  is an inner product in feature space.**

# A feature map $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$

---

From feature map to functions: motivating example

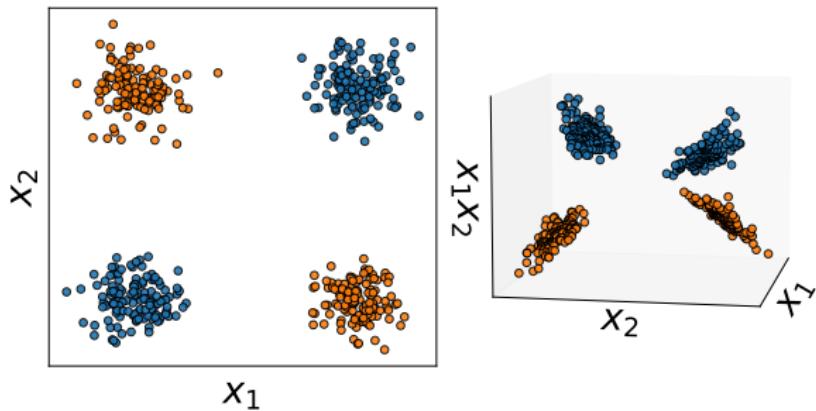
- ▶ Feature map can be used to define functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$\Phi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 = \mathcal{H}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} \mapsto \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_1x_2 \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } f(\mathbf{x}) = a \cdot x_1 + b \cdot x_2 + c \cdot x_1x_2 (\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R})$$

- ▶ Consider  $\theta = (a, b, c)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^3$  then  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \theta, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle$ .
- ▶ **Evaluation of  $f$  at  $\mathbf{x}$  is an inner product in feature space.**

Go into higher dimensions to  
**linearly** separate the classes !



# Table of contents

---

## Kernels in Machine Learning

A bit of kernels theory

Back to machine learning: the representer theorem

## Kernels for structured data

Basics of graphs-kernels

Focus on Weisfeler-Lehman Kernel

Conclusion

# The definition

---

## Positive definite (PD) kernel

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be some space. A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  is a PD kernel if

- ▶ It is symmetric  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \kappa(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})$ .
- ▶ For any  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n c_i c_j \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \geq 0. \quad (1)$$

# The definition

---

## Positive definite (PD) kernel

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be some space. A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$  is a PD kernel if

- ▶ It is symmetric  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \kappa(\mathbf{y}, \mathbf{x})$ .
- ▶ For any  $\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{R}$

$$\sum_{i,j=1}^n c_i c_j \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \geq 0. \quad (1)$$

## Remarks

- ▶ (1) equiv.  $\mathbf{K} := (\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j))_{ij} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is a PSD matrix  $\forall \mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n \in \mathcal{X}$ .
- ▶ For  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  if  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)^\top$  then  $\mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{K} \mathbf{c} = \|\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{c}\|_2^2 \geq 0$ .
- ▶ Works also for  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle$  for any  $\Phi$ .
- ▶ Not entirely obvious  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2 / 2\sigma^2)$ . (see TD)

# Properties of PD kernel

---

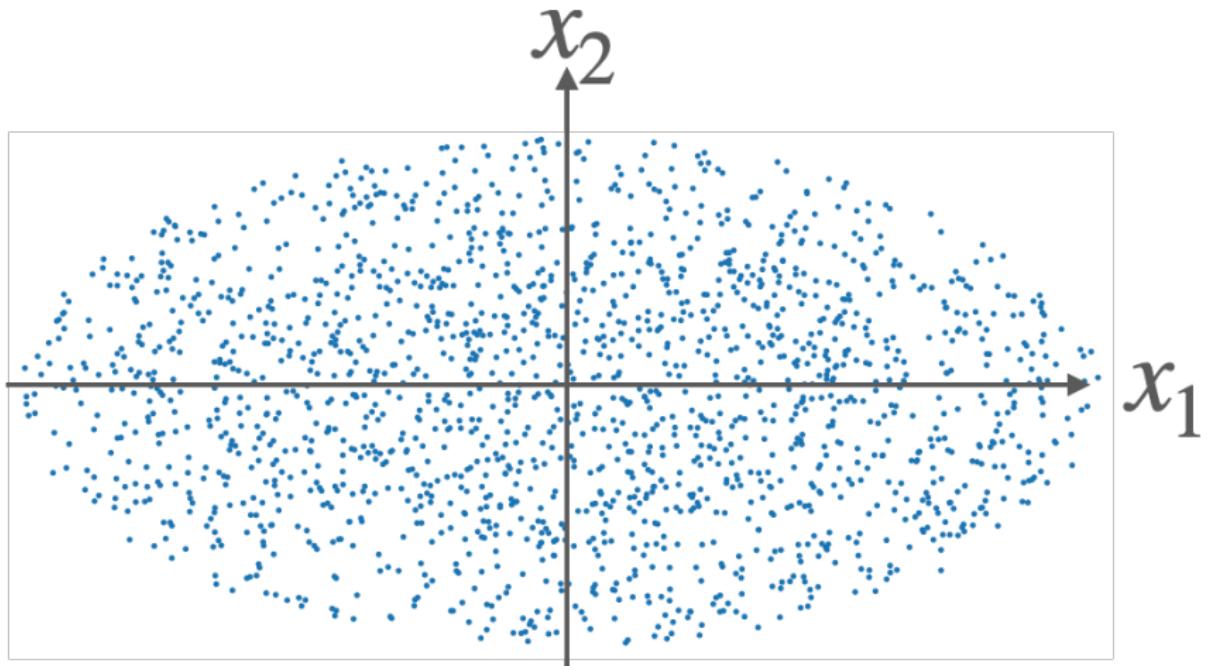
## Basic properties (see TD)

Let  $\kappa_1, \kappa_2, \dots$  be fixed PD kernels.

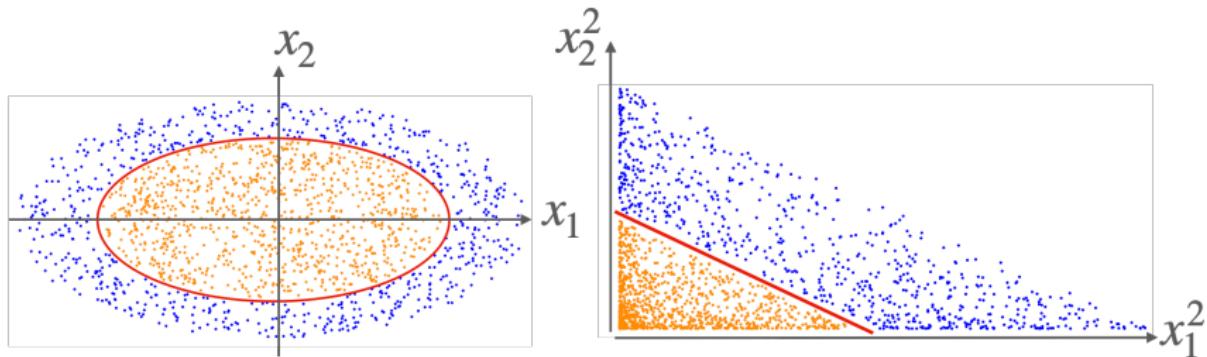
- ▶  $\gamma\kappa_1$  for any  $\gamma > 0$  is a PD kernel.
- ▶  $\kappa_1 + \kappa_2$  is a PD kernel.
- ▶  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \lim_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \kappa_n(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is a PD kernel (provided it exists).
- ▶  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \kappa_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})\kappa_2(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is a PD kernel.
- ▶ If  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  then  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := f(\mathbf{x})\kappa_1(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})f(\mathbf{y})$  is a PD kernel.

## Changing the features

---



# Changing the features



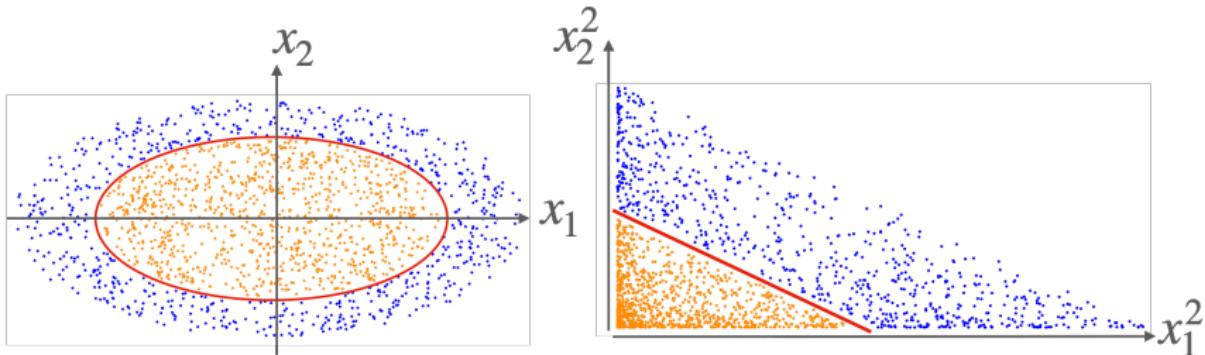
## Polynomial kernel

Consider  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by  $\Phi(\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)) = (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$ . Then:

$$\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^3} = \dots = (\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^2})^2.$$

Basic properties show that it defines a PD kernel.

# Changing the features



## Polynomial kernel

Consider  $\Phi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  defined by  $\Phi(\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)) = (x_1^2, \sqrt{2}x_1x_2, x_2^2)$ . Then:

$$\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^3} = \dots = (\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^2})^2.$$

Basic properties show that it defines a PD kernel.

- More generally  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle^m$ .

# Translation invariant kernels

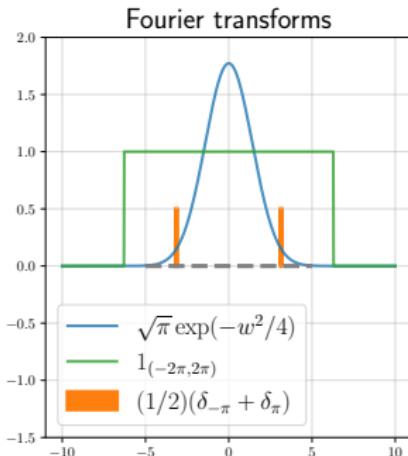
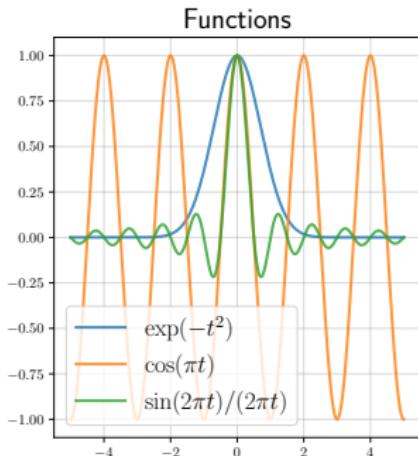
A generic form of kernel on  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$

- ▶ For  $\kappa_0 : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , kernel defined by

$$\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \kappa_0(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

- ▶ e.g. Gaussian kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \exp(-\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2/(2\sigma^2))$ .
- ▶ Recall Fourier transform:  $\widehat{f}(\omega) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} f(\mathbf{x}) e^{-i\langle \omega, \mathbf{x} \rangle} d\mathbf{x}$ .
- ▶ Based on Bochner's theorem (see Wendland 2004, Theorem 6.11):

$$\kappa \text{ is a PD kernel} \iff \forall \omega \in \mathbb{R}^d, \widehat{\kappa}_0(\omega) \geq 0$$



# Main property of PD kernel

Main property: Moore–Aronszajn theorem Aronszajn 1950

A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a PD kernel if and only if **there exists a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and a mapping  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$**  such that

$$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}, \quad \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

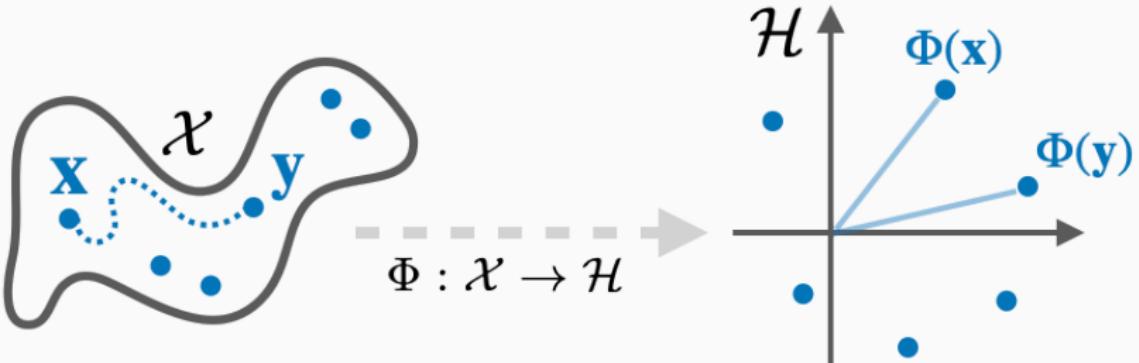
# Main property of PD kernel

Main property: Moore–Aronszajn theorem Aronszajn 1950

A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a PD kernel if and only if **there exists a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  and a mapping  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that**

$$\forall \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathcal{X}, \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

Embedding property:  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$



# Main property of PD kernel

---

## Some reminders

- ▶  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} : \mathcal{H} \times \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a bilinear, symmetric and such that  $\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} > 0$  for any  $\mathbf{x} \neq 0$ .
- ▶ A vector space endowed with an inner product is called pre-Hilbert. It is endowed with  $\|\mathbf{x}\|_{\mathcal{H}} := \sqrt{\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}}$ .
- ▶ A Hilbert space is a pre-Hilbert space complete for the norm defined by the inner product.

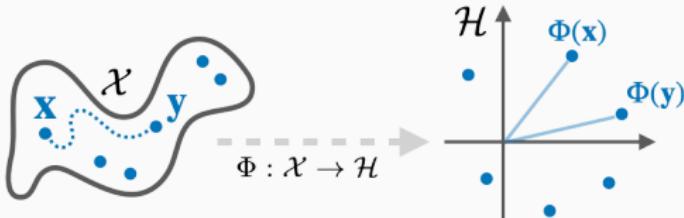
## Proof of the theorem in the discrete case

### On the board

Complete proof Steinwart and Christmann 2008, Theorem 4.16.

# About the feature space

Embedding property:  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$



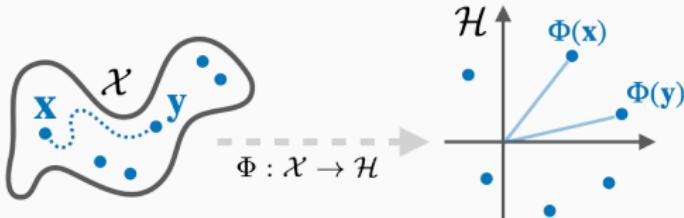
## The feature map $\Phi$ and feature space $\mathcal{H}$

- ▶ The feature space may have **infinite dimension** and is **not unique**.
- ▶ Polynomial kernel in 2D  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle)^2$ :

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1 x_2, x_1 x_2), \quad \mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^4$$

# About the feature space

Embedding property:  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$



The feature map  $\Phi$  and feature space  $\mathcal{H}$

- The feature space may have **infinite dimension** and is **not unique**.
- Polynomial kernel in 2D  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle)^2$ :

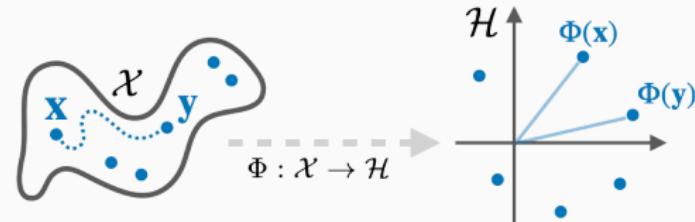
$$\Phi(\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, x_1 x_2, x_1 x_2), \quad \mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^4$$

- Another possibility:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{x} = (x_1, x_2)) = (x_1^2, x_2^2, \sqrt{2}x_1 x_2), \quad \mathcal{H} = \mathbb{R}^3$$

# About the feature space

Embedding property:  $\kappa(x, y) = \langle \Phi(x), \Phi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$



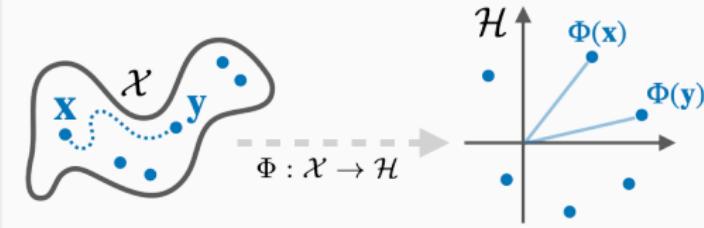
## The feature map $\Phi$ and feature space $\mathcal{H}$

- The feature space may have **infinite dimension** and is **not unique**.
- Gaussian Kernel in 1D  $\kappa(x, y) = \exp(-|x - y|_2^2 / (2\sigma^2))$ :

$$\Phi(x) = e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}} \left( 1, \sqrt{\frac{1}{1!\sigma^2}}x, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2!\sigma^4}}x^2, \sqrt{\frac{1}{3!\sigma^6}}x^3, \dots \right)^{\top} \text{(Taylor series)}$$

# About the feature space

Embedding property:  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$



## The feature map $\Phi$ and feature space $\mathcal{H}$

- The feature space may have **infinite dimension** and is **not unique**.
- Gaussian Kernel in 1D  $\kappa(x, y) = \exp(-|x - y|_2^2 / (2\sigma^2))$ :

$$\Phi(x) = e^{-\frac{x^2}{2\sigma^2}} \left( 1, \sqrt{\frac{1}{1!\sigma^2}}x, \sqrt{\frac{1}{2!\sigma^4}}x^2, \sqrt{\frac{1}{3!\sigma^6}}x^3, \dots \right)^{\top} \text{(Taylor series)}$$

- Or  $\mathcal{H} = L_2(\mathbb{R})$  using  $\kappa(x, y) = \frac{1}{\sigma} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right) \exp\left(-\frac{(y-t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right) dt$ :

$$\Phi(x) = t \rightarrow \frac{2^{\frac{1}{4}}}{\sqrt{\sigma\pi^{\frac{1}{4}}}} \exp\left(-\frac{(x-t)^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

---

From kernels to functions: first idea

- ▶ Given  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0$ : defines a kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$
- ▶ And a space of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$\mathcal{H} := \{f : \exists \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{H}_0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}\}.$$

- ▶ Endowed with the norm

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} := \inf\{\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_{\mathcal{H}_0} : \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{H}_0 \text{ with } f = \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Phi(\cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}\} \quad (2)$$

- ▶ It is a Hilbert space of functions called the RKHS of  $\kappa$ .
- ▶ We can stop here... but...

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

---

## From kernels to functions: first idea

- ▶ Given  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0$ : defines a kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$
- ▶ And a space of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$\mathcal{H} := \{f : \exists \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{H}_0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}\}.$$

- ▶ Endowed with the norm

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} := \inf\{\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_{\mathcal{H}_0} : \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{H}_0 \text{ with } f = \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Phi(\cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}\} \quad (2)$$

- ▶ It is a Hilbert space of functions called the RKHS of  $\kappa$ .
- ▶ We can stop here... but...

## From kernels to functions: second idea

- ▶ Given a PSD kernel  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- ▶ 1°) Find a “suitable”  $(\Phi, \mathcal{H})$  such that  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  (recall: many possible)
- ▶ 2°) Build upon it to define a suitable space of functions.

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## From kernels to functions: first idea

- ▶ Given  $\mathcal{H}$  and  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_0$ : defines a kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}$
- ▶ And a space of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

$$\mathcal{H} := \{f : \exists \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{H}_0, \forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}\}.$$

- ▶ Endowed with the norm

$$\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}} := \inf\{\|\boldsymbol{\theta}\|_{\mathcal{H}_0} : \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathcal{H}_0 \text{ with } f = \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \Phi(\cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_0}\} \quad (2)$$

- ▶ It is a Hilbert space of functions called the RKHS of  $\kappa$ .
- ▶ We can stop here... but...

## From kernels to functions: second idea

- ▶ Given a PSD kernel  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- ▶ 1°) Find a “suitable”  $(\Phi, \mathcal{H})$  such that  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \Phi(\mathbf{x}), \Phi(\mathbf{y}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  (recall: many possible)
- ▶ 2°) Build upon it to define a suitable space of functions. (**RKHS**).

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

---

Let  $\kappa$  be fixed

- ▶ Among all  $(\Phi, \mathcal{H})$  mentioned in Aronszjan's theorem one  $\mathcal{H}$ , called **RKHS**, is of interest to us.
- ▶ This is a **space of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$** .
- ▶ Each data point  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  will be represented **by a function** given by the **canonical feature map**

$$\Phi(x) = \kappa(\cdot, x) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

---

Let  $\kappa$  be fixed

- ▶ Among all  $(\Phi, \mathcal{H})$  mentioned in Aronszjan's theorem one  $\mathcal{H}$ , called **RKHS**, is of interest to us.
- ▶ This is a **space of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$** .
- ▶ Each data point  $x \in \mathcal{X}$  will be represented **by a function** given by the **canonical feature map**

$$\Phi(x) = \kappa(\cdot, x) : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

## Example

- ▶ Consider  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}$  we could decide to represent  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  as a Gaussian function centered at  $x$ :

$$\Phi(x) = y \rightarrow \exp(-(x - y)^2 / (2\sigma^2))$$

- ▶ What is the corresponding space  $\mathcal{H}$  (if it exists)? What would be the inner-product?

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## Reproducing kernel and RKHS

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a **Hilbert space** of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a **reproducing kernel** of  $\mathcal{H}$  if

- ▶  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{H}$
- ▶  $\kappa$  satisfies the reproducing property: for any  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

If a reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{H}$  exists, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is called a **RKHS**.

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## Reproducing kernel and RKHS

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a **Hilbert space** of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a **reproducing kernel** of  $\mathcal{H}$  if

- ▶  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{H}$
- ▶  $\kappa$  satisfies the reproducing property: for any  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

If a reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{H}$  exists, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is called a **RKHS**.

## Important properties

- ▶ If  $\mathcal{H}$  is a RKHS, then it has a unique reproducing kernel  $\kappa$ .
- ▶ (the feature map is not unique only the kernel is)
- ▶ A function  $\kappa$  can be the reproducing kernel of at most one RKHS.

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## Reproducing kernel and RKHS

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a **Hilbert space** of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is called a **reproducing kernel** of  $\mathcal{H}$  if

- ▶  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{H}$
- ▶  $\kappa$  satisfies the reproducing property: for any  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

If a reproducing kernel of  $\mathcal{H}$  exists, then  $\mathcal{H}$  is called a **RKHS**.

## RKHS and feature spaces

Let  $\mathcal{H}$  be a RKHS with reproducing kernel  $\kappa$ . Then  $\mathcal{H}$  is **one** feature space associated to  $\kappa$ , where the feature map is  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) = \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x})$ .

# Examples of RKHS

---

So far these functions are a little bit abstract:

## Two questions

- ▶ Given a PD kernel  $\kappa$  what is the RKHS associated to  $\kappa$  ?
- ▶ Given a function space, is it a RKHS and what is the reproducing kernel ?

# Examples of RKHS

---

So far these functions are a little bit abstract:

## Two questions

- ▶ Given a PD kernel  $\kappa$  what is the RKHS associated to  $\kappa$  ?
- ▶ Given a function space, is it a RKHS and what is the reproducing kernel ?

## Battery of examples

- ▶ (on the board) The RKHS associated to  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$  is

$$\mathcal{H} = \{f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}} = \mathbf{x} \rightarrow \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}, \mathbf{x} \rangle; \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$$

endowed with the dot product  $\langle f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_1}, f_{\boldsymbol{\theta}_2} \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := \langle \boldsymbol{\theta}_1, \boldsymbol{\theta}_2 \rangle$ .

- ▶ (homework) What is the RKHS associated to  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle^2$  ?
- ▶ The space  $L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is **not** a RKHS.

# Examples of RKHS

---

## Battery of examples

- ▶ The Paley-Wiener space (bandwidth limited Fourier transform):

$$\mathcal{F}_\pi := \{f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}) : \text{supp } \hat{f} \in [-\pi, \pi]\}$$

where  $\hat{f}$  is the Fourier transform of  $f$ .

# Examples of RKHS

---

## Battery of examples

- ▶ The Paley-Wiener space (bandwidth limited Fourier transform):

$$\mathcal{F}_\pi := \{f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}) : \text{supp } \hat{f} \in [-\pi, \pi]\}$$

where  $\hat{f}$  is the Fourier transform of  $f$ .

- ▶ Inverse Fourier transform

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \hat{f}(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega = \langle \hat{f}, \omega \rightarrow \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \rangle_{L_2([-\pi, \pi])}$$

- ▶ Plancherel-Parseval theorem

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{R}, f(t) = \langle \hat{f}, \omega \rightarrow \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \rangle_{L_2([-\pi, \pi])} = \langle f, \frac{\sin(\pi(\cdot - t))}{\pi(\cdot - t)} \rangle_{L_2(\mathbb{R})}$$

- ▶ The kernel  $\kappa(s, t) = \frac{\sin(\pi(s-t))}{\pi(s-t)}$

# Examples of RKHS

## Battery of examples

- The Paley-Wiener space (bandwidth limited Fourier transform):

$$\mathcal{F}_\pi := \{f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}) : \text{supp } \hat{f} \in [-\pi, \pi]\}$$

where  $\hat{f}$  is the Fourier transform of  $f$ .

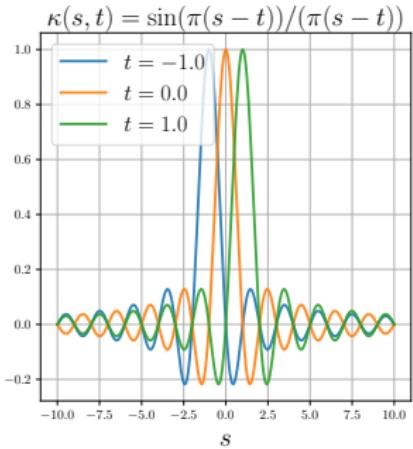
- Inverse Fourier transform

$$f(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \hat{f}(\omega) e^{i\omega t} d\omega = \langle \hat{f}, \omega \rightarrow \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \rangle_{L_2([-\pi, \pi])}$$

- Plancherel-Parseval theorem

$$\forall t \in \mathbb{R}, f(t) = \langle \hat{f}, \omega \rightarrow \frac{e^{-i\omega t}}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \rangle_{L_2([-\pi, \pi])} = \langle f, \frac{\sin(\pi(\cdot - t))}{\pi(\cdot - t)} \rangle_{L_2(\mathbb{R})}$$

- The kernel  $\kappa(s, t) = \frac{\sin(\pi(s-t))}{\pi(s-t)}$



# Examples of RKHS

---

## Battery of examples

- ▶ Translation invariant PD kernels on  $\mathbb{R}^d$   $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \kappa_0(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$  with  $\kappa_0 \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\forall \omega \in \mathbb{R}^d, \widehat{\kappa_0}(\omega) \geq 0$ .

# Examples of RKHS

---

## Battery of examples

- ▶ Translation invariant PD kernels on  $\mathbb{R}^d$   $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \kappa_0(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$  with  $\kappa_0 \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\forall \omega \in \mathbb{R}^d, \widehat{\kappa_0}(\omega) \geq 0$ .
- ▶ The corresponding RKHS is

$$\mathcal{H} = \{f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^d) : \hat{f}/\sqrt{\widehat{\kappa_0}} \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)\}$$

- ▶ The inner product is given by:

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{\hat{f}(\omega) \overline{\hat{g}(\omega)}}{\widehat{\kappa_0}(\omega)} d\omega.$$

# Examples of RKHS

---

## Battery of examples

- ▶ Translation invariant PD kernels on  $\mathbb{R}^d$   $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \kappa_0(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$  with  $\kappa_0 \in L_1(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^d)$  and  $\forall \omega \in \mathbb{R}^d, \widehat{\kappa_0}(\omega) \geq 0$ .
- ▶ The corresponding RKHS is

$$\mathcal{H} = \{f \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^d) \cap C(\mathbb{R}^d) : \hat{f}/\sqrt{\widehat{\kappa_0}} \in L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)\}$$

- ▶ The inner product is given by:

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} := (2\pi)^{-d/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{\hat{f}(\omega) \overline{\hat{g}(\omega)}}{\widehat{\kappa_0}(\omega)} d\omega.$$

- ▶ Special case: Matérn kernel  $\widehat{\kappa_0}(\omega) \propto (\alpha^2 + \|\omega\|_2^2)^{-s}$ ,  $s > d/2$
- ▶ Sobolev spaces of order  $s$ :  $\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 =$  smoothness of the functions as its derivatives in  $L_2(\mathbb{R}^d)$ .

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## Reproducing kernels are PD kernels

A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a reproducing kernel if and only if it is a PD kernel.

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## Reproducing kernels are PD kernels

A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a reproducing kernel if and only if it is a PD kernel.

### Remarks

- ▶ One direction easy: a reproducing kernel is a PD kernel (on the board).
- ▶ The other more work: use Moore–Aronszajn theorem +  $\mathcal{F}$  + Steinwart and Christmann 2008, Theorem 4.21.

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space (RKHS)

## Reproducing kernels are PD kernels

A function  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a reproducing kernel if and only if it is a PD kernel.

### Remarks

- ▶ One direction easy: a reproducing kernel is a PD kernel (on the board).
- ▶ The other more work: use Moore–Aronszajn theorem +  $\mathcal{F}$  + Steinwart and Christmann 2008, Theorem 4.21.

### Important consequence

- ▶ Any PSD kernel defines a Hilbert space of functions from  $\mathcal{X}$  to  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- ▶ These functions satisfy

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

- ▶ Abstract view of  $\mathcal{H}$ :

$$\mathcal{H} = \overline{\text{Span}\{\kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}); \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}\}}.$$

# Table of contents

---

## Kernels in Machine Learning

A bit of kernels theory

Back to machine learning: the representer theorem

## Kernels for structured data

Basics of graphs-kernels

Focus on Weisfeler-Lehman Kernel

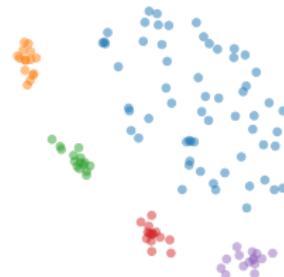
Conclusion

# Recap on supervised ML

Samples + labels:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{x}_2^\top \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Classification



Regression



## Supervised learning

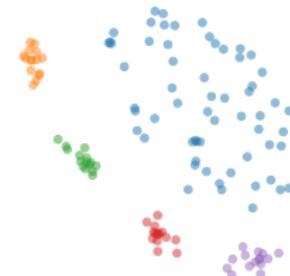
- ▶ The dataset contains the samples  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$  where  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is the feature sample and  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y}$  its label.
- ▶ Prediction space  $\mathcal{Y}$  can be:
  - ▶  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$  or  $\mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, K\}$  for classification problems.
  - ▶  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}$  for regression problems ( $\mathbb{R}^p$  for multi-output regression).

# Recap on supervised ML

Samples + labels:

$$\mathbf{X} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_1^\top \\ \mathbf{x}_2^\top \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_n^\top \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}$$

Classification



Regression



## Supervised learning

- ▶ The dataset contains the samples  $(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n$  where  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is the feature sample and  $y_i \in \mathcal{Y}$  its label.
- ▶ Prediction space  $\mathcal{Y}$  can be:
  - ▶  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$  or  $\mathcal{Y} = \{1, \dots, K\}$  for classification problems.
  - ▶  $\mathcal{Y} = \mathbb{R}$  for regression problems ( $\mathbb{R}^p$  for multi-output regression).

## Minimizing the averaged error on the training data

To find  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  the idea is to minimize:

$$\min_f \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \text{Reg}(f) \quad (\text{ERM})$$

# Supervised learning

---

Minimizing the averaged error on the training data

To find  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  the idea is to minimize:

$$\min_{f \in ???} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \text{Reg}(f) \quad (\text{ERM})$$

## Problems

- ▶ How to choose the adequate space of functions for  $f$  ?
- ▶ How to properly regularize ?
- ▶ How to efficiently minimize the quantity ?

# Supervised learning

---

Minimizing the averaged error on the training data

To find  $f : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{Y}$  the idea is to minimize:

$$\min_{f \in ???} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \text{Reg}(f) \quad (\text{ERM})$$

## Problems

- ▶ How to choose the adequate space of functions for  $f$  ?
- ▶ How to properly regularize ?
- ▶ How to efficiently minimize the quantity ?

## One solution

- ▶ When  $\mathcal{Y} \subset \mathbb{R}$  we can consider  $f \in \mathcal{H}$  where  $\mathcal{H}$  is a RKHS.
- ▶ A natural candidate  $\text{Reg}(f) = \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$ : the higher the smoother  $f$  is.
- ▶ How to ensure that this is not so difficult ?

# Interpretation of minimization on a RKHS

---

- ▶ Suppose  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  a RKHS. Consider ERM

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

- ▶ Since  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ , then  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle f, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .
- ▶ Rewriting ERM in RKHS as

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \langle \theta, \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}) + \lambda \|\theta\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

# Interpretation of minimization on a RKHS

---

- ▶ Suppose  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  a RKHS. Consider ERM

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

- ▶ Since  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ , then  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle f, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .
- ▶ Rewriting ERM in RKHS as

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \langle \theta, \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}) + \lambda \|\theta\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

## Important interpretation

- ▶  $\Phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  pushes the points to a potentially very high-dimensional space (even  $\infty$ ): more powerful representation.
- ▶ Then linear classification/regression is made on this high-dim space  $\mathcal{H}$
- ▶ We can deduce the function in low-dim from the high-dim.

# Interpretation of minimization on a RKHS

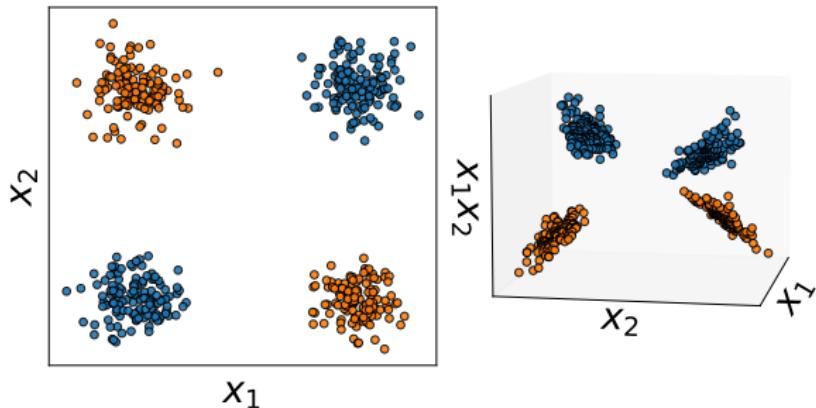
- ▶ Suppose  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  a RKHS. Consider ERM

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

- ▶ Since  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ , then  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle f, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .
- ▶ Rewriting ERM in RKHS as

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \langle \theta, \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}) + \lambda \|\theta\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

Go into higher dimensions to  
**linearly** separate the classes !



# Interpretation of minimization on a RKHS

- ▶ Suppose  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\mathcal{H}$  a RKHS. Consider ERM

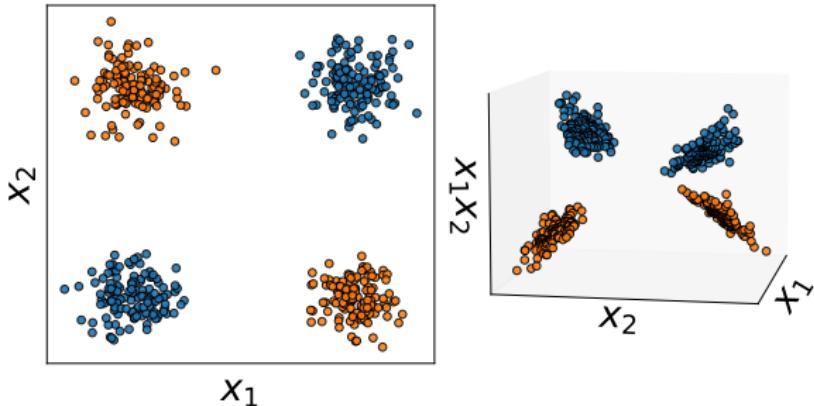
$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

- ▶ Since  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ , then  $f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle f, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \langle f, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .
- ▶ Rewriting ERM in RKHS as

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, \langle \theta, \Phi(\mathbf{x}_i) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}) + \lambda \|\theta\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2$$

Go into higher dimensions to  
**linearly** separate the classes !

- ▶ But how to implement  $\Phi(\mathbf{x}) \in \mathcal{H}$  on a computer if  $\dim \mathcal{H} = \infty$  ?????
- ▶ How to solve ERM in  $\mathcal{H}$  ?????



# The representer theorem

## Main result

- ▶ Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be any space,  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\} \subset \mathcal{X}$  a finite set of points.
- ▶  $\mathcal{H}$  a RKHS with reproducing kernel  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- ▶ Let  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  any function that is strictly increasing with respect to the last variable.
- ▶ Then any solution  $f^*$  of the minimization problem

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \Psi(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n), \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2)$$

can be written as

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \quad f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) \text{ for some } \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

# The representer theorem

## Main result

- ▶ Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be any space,  $\mathcal{D} = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n\} \subset \mathcal{X}$  a finite set of points.
- ▶  $\mathcal{H}$  a RKHS with reproducing kernel  $\kappa : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- ▶ Let  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  any function that is strictly increasing with respect to the last variable.
- ▶ Then any solution  $f^*$  of the minimization problem

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \Psi(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n), \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2)$$

can be written as

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, \quad f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) \text{ for some } \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

## Important remarks

- ▶ Although the RKHS can be of infinite dimension any solution lives in  $\text{Span}\{\kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_1), \dots, \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_n)\}$  which is a subspace of dimension  $n$ .
- ▶ Works for any  $\mathcal{X}$  and  $\Psi = \Psi_0 + g$  with  $g \nearrow !!!$

## Practical use of the representer theorem (1/2)

---

- ▶ When the representer theorem holds we can simply look for  $f$  as

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) \text{ for some } \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

- ▶ Define  $\mathbf{K} := (\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j))_{ij}$ .
- ▶ Then , for any  $j \in \llbracket n \rrbracket$

$$f(\mathbf{x}_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = [\mathbf{K}\boldsymbol{\theta}]_j.$$

## Practical use of the representer theorem (1/2)

- When the representer theorem holds we can simply look for  $f$  as

$$\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}, f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) \text{ for some } \boldsymbol{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^n.$$

- Define  $\mathbf{K} := (\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j))_{ij}$ .
- Then , for any  $j \in \llbracket n \rrbracket$

$$f(\mathbf{x}_j) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) = [\mathbf{K}\boldsymbol{\theta}]_j.$$

- Also

$$\begin{aligned} \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 &= \left\| \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_i) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 = \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_i), \sum_{j=1}^n \theta_j \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_j) \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \\ &= \sum_{ij} \theta_i \theta_j \langle \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_i), \kappa(\cdot, \mathbf{x}_j) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \sum_{ij} \theta_i \theta_j \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j) \\ &= \boldsymbol{\theta}^\top \mathbf{K} \boldsymbol{\theta}. \end{aligned}$$

## Practical use of the representer theorem (2/2)

---

- ▶ Therefore the problem

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \Psi(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n), \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2)$$

- ▶ is equivalent to

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Psi([\mathbf{K}\theta]_1, \dots, [\mathbf{K}\theta]_n, \theta^\top \mathbf{K}\theta)$$

- ▶ 1°) To tackle it we only need the Gram matrix  $\mathbf{K}$ : **kernel trick** !
- ▶ 2°) Can be used whatever  $\mathcal{X}, \kappa$  !
- ▶ 3°) We can solve it on a computer since finite dimensional !
- ▶ 4°) It can usually be solved analytically or by numerical methods.

## Practical use of the representer theorem (2/2)

- ▶ Therefore the problem

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \Psi(f(\mathbf{x}_1), \dots, f(\mathbf{x}_n), \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2)$$

- ▶ is equivalent to

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n} \Psi([\mathbf{K}\theta]_1, \dots, [\mathbf{K}\theta]_n, \theta^\top \mathbf{K}\theta)$$

- ▶ 1°) To tackle it we only need the Gram matrix  $\mathbf{K}$ : **kernel trick** !
- ▶ 2°) Can be used whatever  $\mathcal{X}, \kappa$  !
- ▶ 3°) We can solve it on a computer since finite dimensional !
- ▶ 4°) It can usually be solved analytically or by numerical methods.

### Application to ERM

If we look for  $f$  in a RKHS then we need to solve

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(\mathbf{y}_i, [\mathbf{K}\theta]_i) + \lambda \theta^\top \mathbf{K}\theta$$

# Application to regression

---

## Setting

- ▶  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{X}$  (not necessarily  $\mathbb{R}^d$  !) and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- ▶ We consider the square loss  $\ell(y, y') = (y - y')^2$
- ▶ The ERM in the RKHS is

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(\mathbf{x}_i))^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2.$$

# Application to regression

---

## Setting

- ▶  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{X}$  (not necessarily  $\mathbb{R}^d$  !) and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- ▶ We consider the square loss  $\ell(y, y') = (y - y')^2$
- ▶ The ERM in the RKHS is

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(\mathbf{x}_i))^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2.$$

## Kernel Ridge Regression

The ERM in the RKHS is equivalent to the minimization problem:

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{K}\theta\|_2^2 + \lambda \theta^\top \mathbf{K}\theta$$

How can we solve it ? What is the time/memory complexity ?

# Application to regression

---

## Setting

- ▶  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathcal{X}$  (not necessarily  $\mathbb{R}^d$  !) and  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- ▶ We consider the square loss  $\ell(y, y') = (y - y')^2$
- ▶ The ERM in the RKHS is

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(\mathbf{x}_i))^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2.$$

## Kernel Ridge Regression

The ERM in the RKHS is equivalent to the minimization problem:

$$\min_{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^n} \frac{1}{n} \|\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{K}\theta\|_2^2 + \lambda \theta^\top \mathbf{K}\theta$$

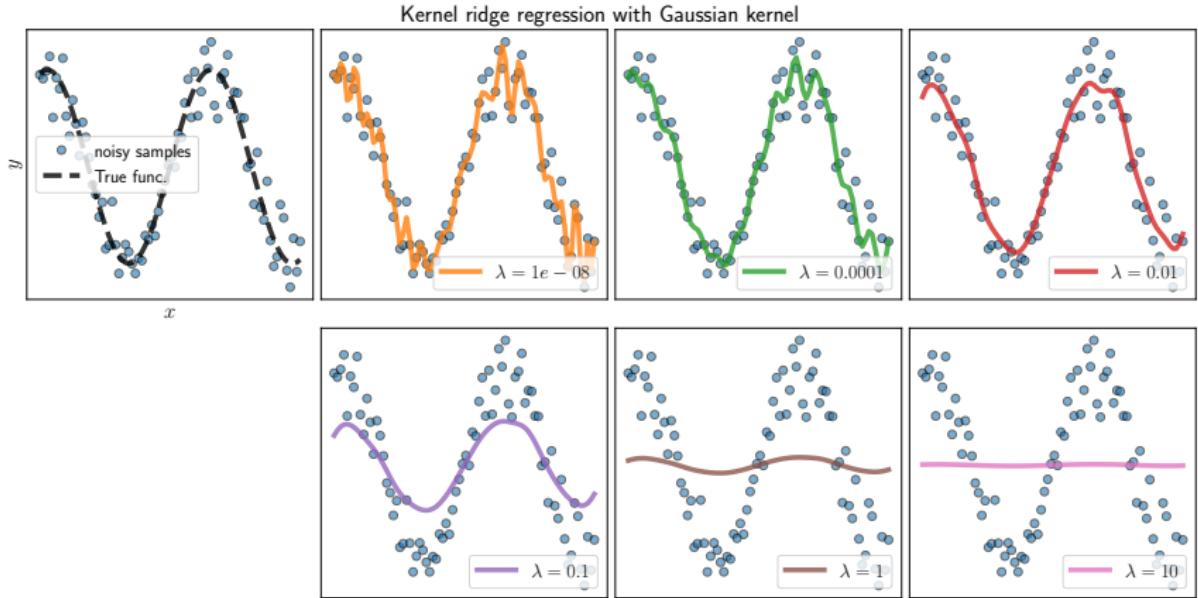
How can we solve it ? What is the time/memory complexity ?

## Solution

Given by  $\theta^* = (\mathbf{K} + \lambda n \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{y}$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{x} \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i)$ .

# Application to regression

- ▶ Gaussian kernel  $\kappa(x, x') = \exp(-|x - x'|^2/(2\sigma^2))$
- ▶ Regularization parameter  $\lambda$



# Kernel ridge regression vs linear regression

---

- ▶ Take  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and the linear kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ .
- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  the data. The Gram matrix is  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top$ .
- ▶ Then corresponding function is

$$f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \mathbf{x}_i \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^* \rangle.$$

- ▶ We have  $\mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{X}^\top (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1} \mathbf{y}$ .

# Kernel ridge regression vs linear regression

- ▶ Take  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and the linear kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ .
- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  the data. The Gram matrix is  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top$ .
- ▶ Then corresponding function is

$$f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \mathbf{x}_i \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^* \rangle.$$

- ▶ We have  $\mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{X}^\top (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1} \mathbf{y}$ .

$\ell_2$  penalized linear regression: ridge regression

The problem

$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i)^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \text{ has solution } \mathbf{w}^* = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_d)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

# Kernel ridge regression vs linear regression

- ▶ Take  $\mathcal{X} = \mathbb{R}^d$  and the linear kernel  $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle$ .
- ▶ Let  $\mathbf{X} = (\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  the data. The Gram matrix is  $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top$ .
- ▶ Then corresponding function is

$$f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) = \langle \mathbf{x}, \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \mathbf{x}_i \rangle = \langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{w}^* \rangle.$$

- ▶ We have  $\mathbf{w}^* = \mathbf{X}^\top (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1} \mathbf{y}$ .

$\ell_2$  penalized linear regression: ridge regression

The problem

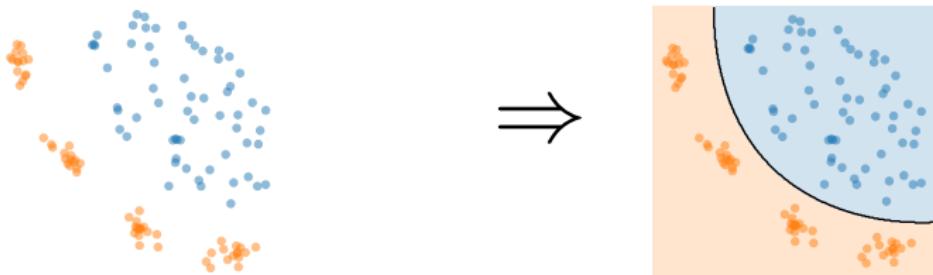
$$\min_{\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \mathbf{w}^\top \mathbf{x}_i)^2 + \lambda \|\mathbf{w}\|_2^2 \text{ has solution } \mathbf{w}^* = (\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_d)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{y}.$$

Matrix inversion lemma

$$(\mathbf{X}^\top \mathbf{X} + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_d)^{-1} \mathbf{X}^\top = \mathbf{X}^\top (\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^\top + \lambda n \mathbf{I}_n)^{-1}$$

- ▶ Both agree !
- ▶ Complexity roughly: KRR  $O(n^3)$ , RR  $O(\min\{d^3, n^3\})$ .

# Binary classification



## Objective

$$(\mathbf{x}_i, y_i)_{i=1}^n \quad \Rightarrow \quad f : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \{-1, 1\}$$

- ▶ Train a function  $f(\mathbf{x}) = y \in \mathcal{Y}$  predicting a binary value ( $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$ ).
- ▶  $f(\mathbf{x}) = 0$  defines the boundary on the partition of the feature space.

## ERM in RKHS

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 .$$

## Loss functions

---

A focus on classification problems  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$

$$\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \Phi(y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) \text{ with } \Phi \text{ non-increasing.}$$

# Loss functions

---

A focus on classification problems  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$

$\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \Phi(y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$  with  $\Phi$  non-increasing.

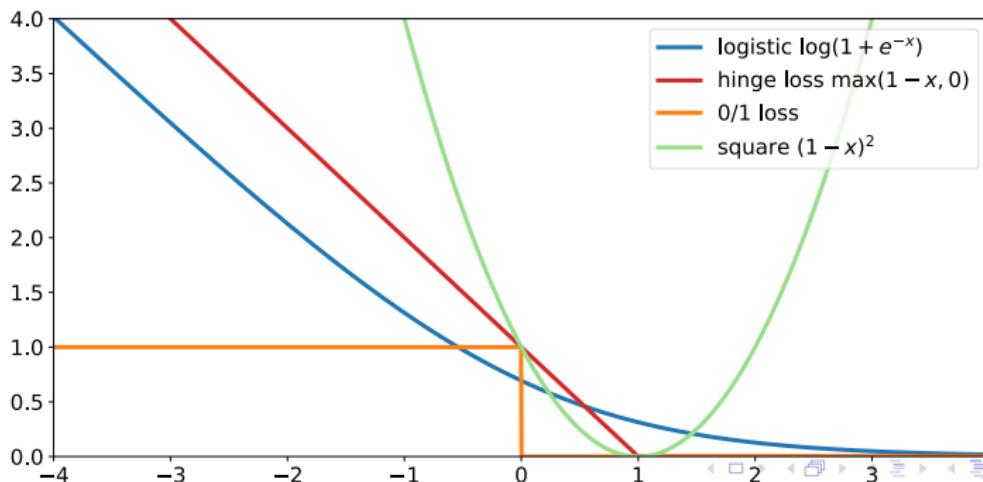
- ▶  $y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)$  is the margin.
- ▶  $\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \mathbf{1}_{y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0}$  (0/1 loss)
- ▶  $\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \max\{0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)\}$  (hinge loss: SVM)
- ▶  $\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \log(1 + e^{-y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)})$  (logistic loss)

# Loss functions

A focus on classification problems  $\mathcal{Y} = \{-1, 1\}$

$\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \Phi(y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i))$  with  $\Phi$  non-increasing.

- ▶  $y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)$  is the margin.
- ▶  $\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \mathbf{1}_{y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i) \leq 0}$  (0/1 loss)
- ▶  $\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \max\{0, 1 - y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)\}$  (hinge loss: **SVM**)
- ▶  $\ell(y_i, f(\mathbf{x}_i)) = \log(1 + e^{-y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)})$  (logistic loss)

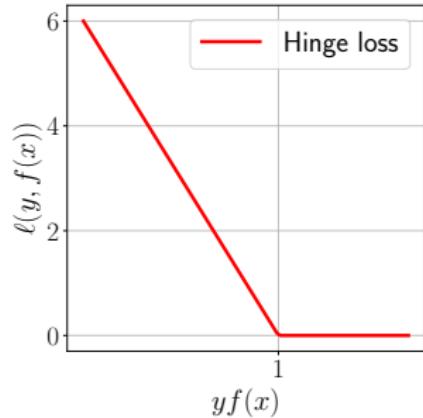


# Support Vector Machines (SVM)

## Definition

- The hinge-loss is the function  $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\Phi_{\text{hinge}}(x) &= \max(1 - x, 0) \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \geq 1 \\ 1 - x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}\end{aligned}$$



Interpretation of the loss  $\ell(y, f(x)) = \Phi_{\text{hinge}}(yf(x))$

- When  $yf(x) \geq 0$ :  $\text{sign}(y) = \text{sign}(f(x))$  thus good prediction  $\rightarrow$  the loss should be “small”.
- When  $yf(x) \geq 1$ : if  $y = +1 \Rightarrow f(x) \geq 1$ , if  $y = -1 \Rightarrow f(x) \leq -1 \rightarrow$  zero loss is a good idea.
- When  $yf(x) \leq 1$  we can do better.

# Support Vector Machines (SVM)

---

## Definition

- ▶ SVM is the corresponding large-margin classifier, which solves:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\text{hinge}}(y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2.$$

# Support Vector Machines (SVM)

---

## Definition

- ▶ SVM is the corresponding large-margin classifier, which solves:

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \Phi_{\text{hinge}}(y_i f(\mathbf{x}_i)) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2.$$

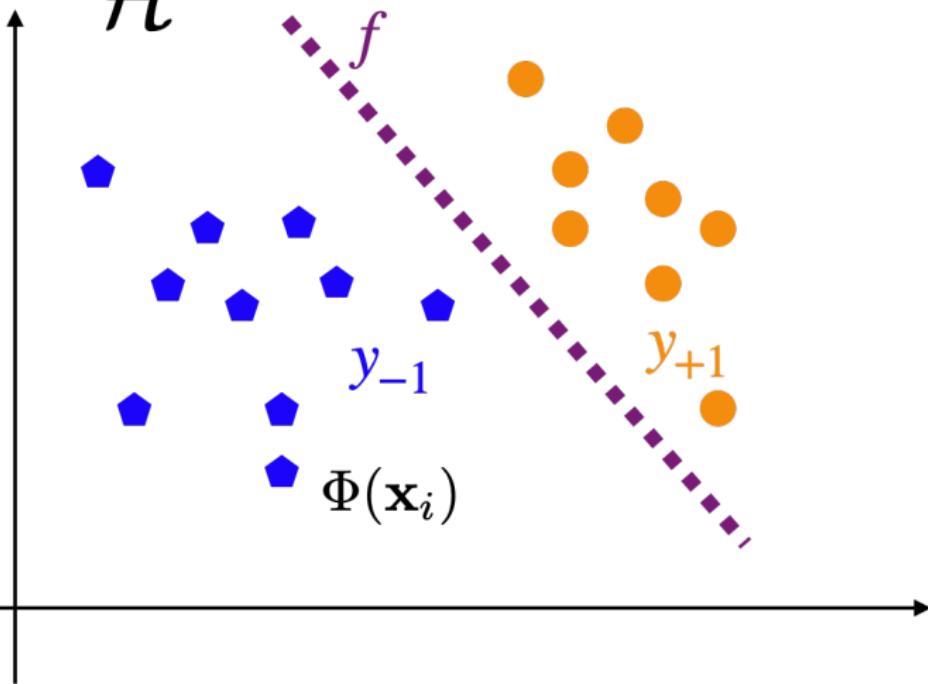
## Solving for the SVM (details in Steinwart and Christmann 2008)

- ▶ Representer theorem: sol. of the form  $f^*(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n \theta_i^* \kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i)$ .
- ▶  $\theta^*$  can be found by solving a quadratic program (QP).
- ▶ Again: we only need to know the Gram matrix  $\mathbf{K} = (\kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j))_{ij}$ .

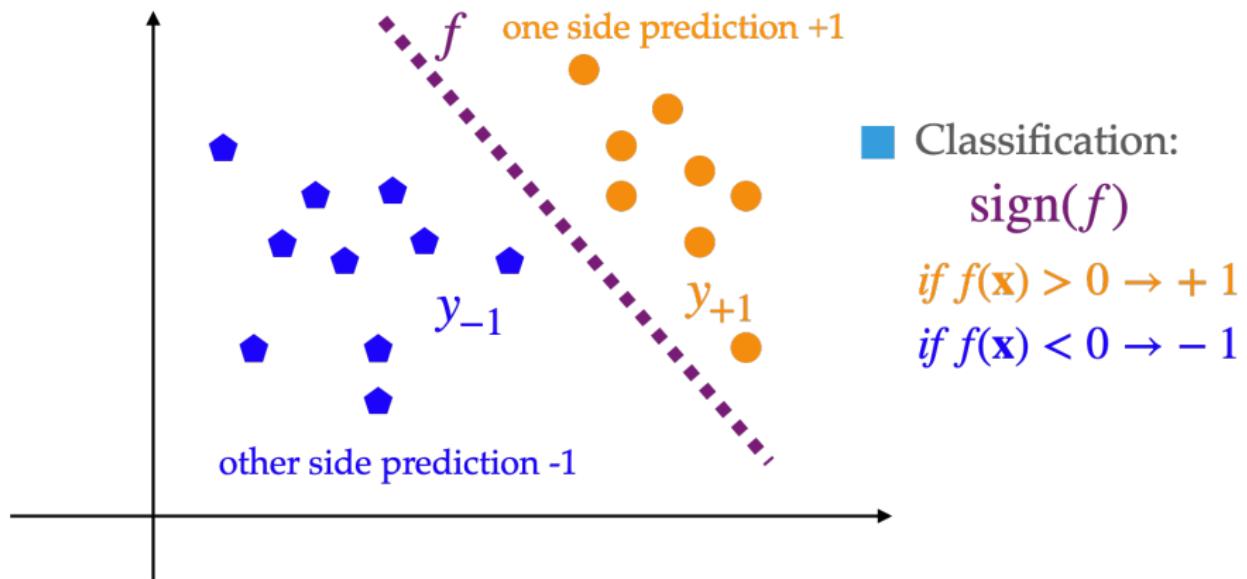
# What is SVM doing ?

Find a separating hyperplane in the RKHS

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \langle \mathbf{w}, \Phi(\mathbf{x}) \rangle_H + b$$

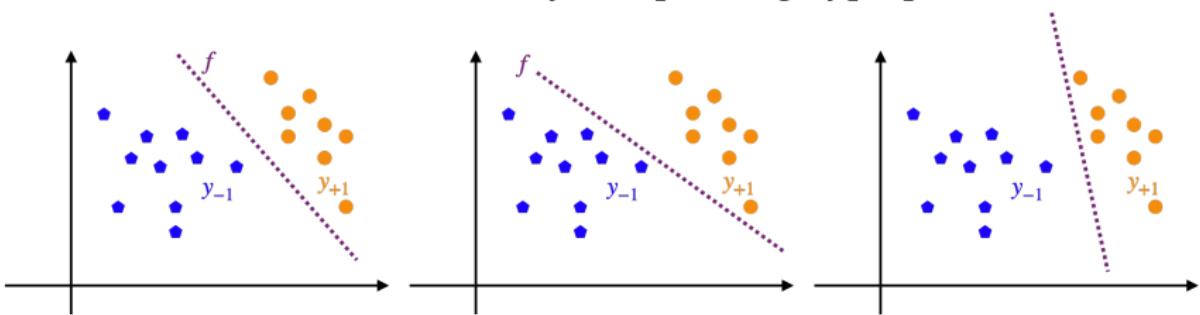


# What is SVM doing ?

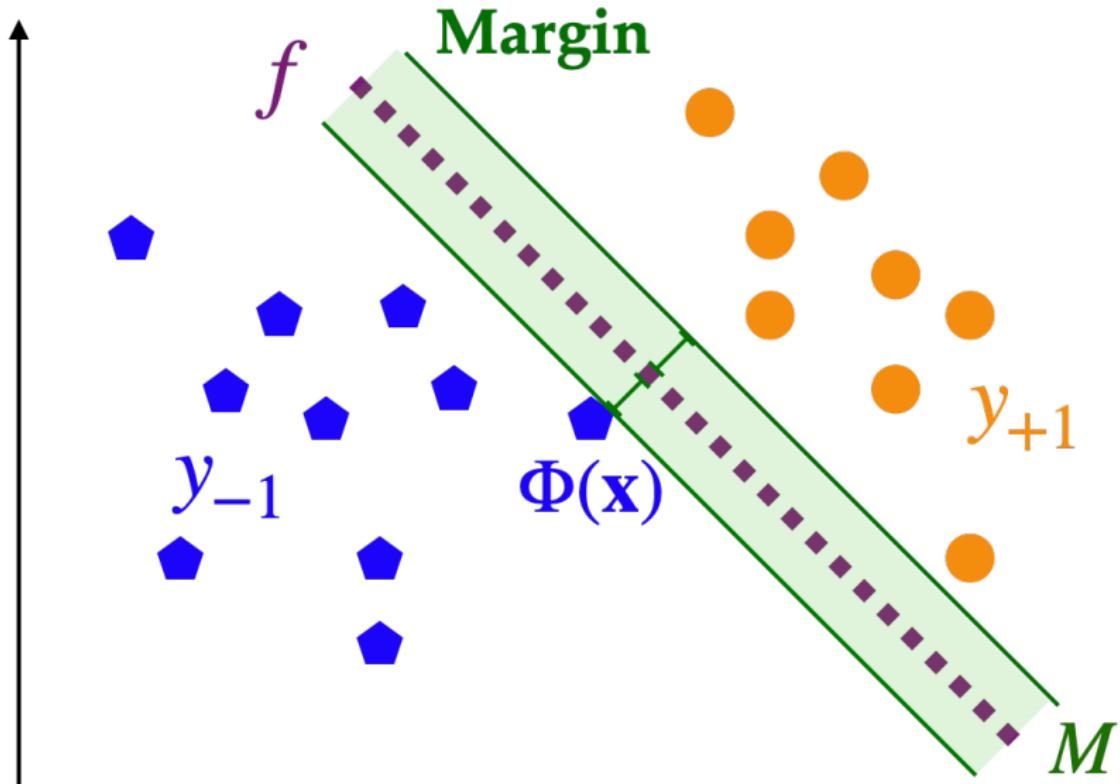


# What is SVM doing ?

But there could be an infinity of separating hyperplanes or zero !

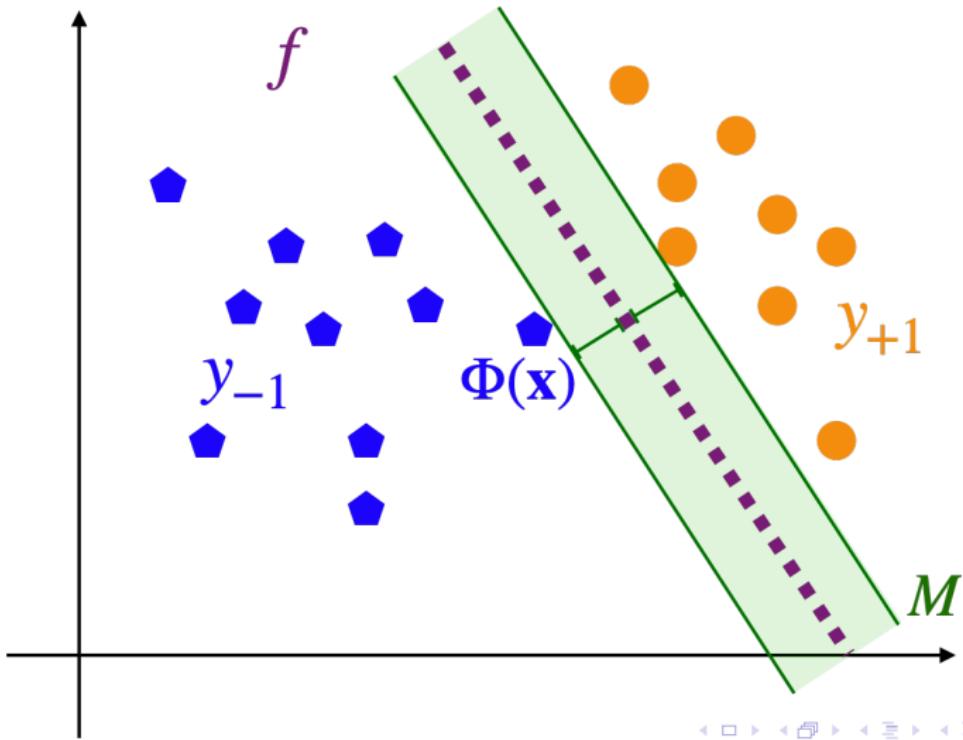


# What is SVM doing ?



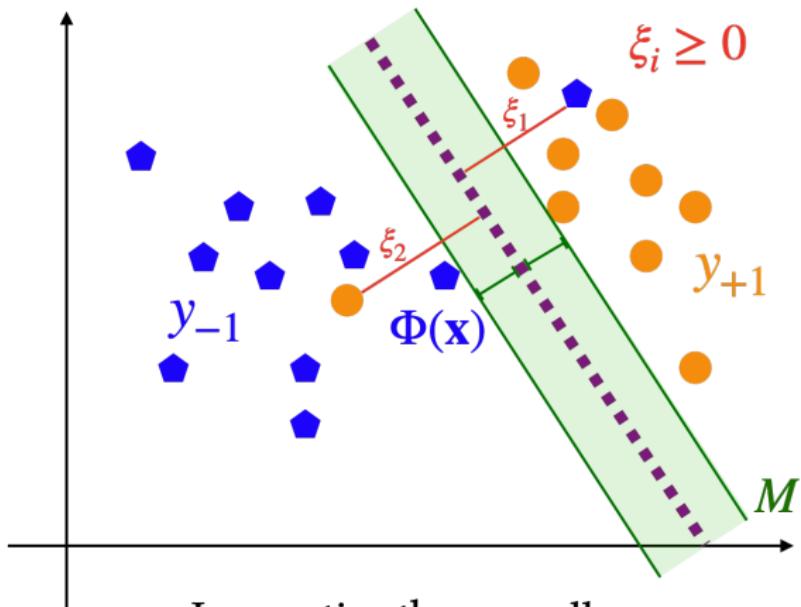
# What is SVM doing ?

SVM finds the hyperplane that maximizes the **margin**



# What is SVM doing ?

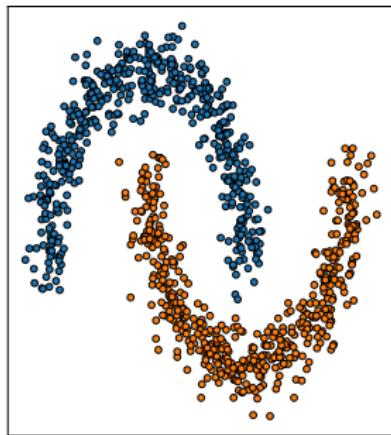
+ We allow **some errors** to be made



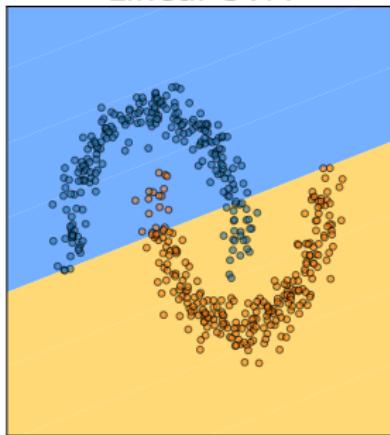
In practice the overall **error**  
is controlled by a regularization param. C

# Example

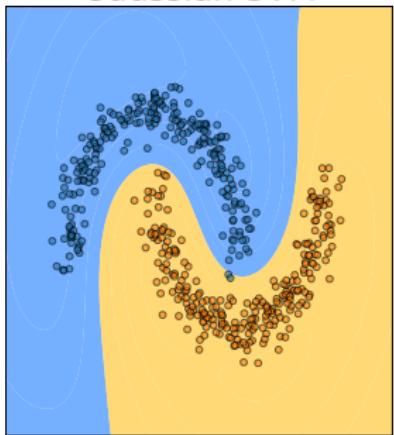
---



Linear SVM



Gaussian SVM



# Conclusion

---

- ▶ Kernel theory is very rich, kernels are quite simple but also versatile.
- ▶ Defines a very general way of learning classifiers/regressors on any kind of space.
- ▶ Based on the representer theorem: we only need the Gram matrix !
- ▶ Difficulties: the choice of the kernel (see TD), also can be expensive.

# References I

---

-  Aronszajn, Nachman (1950). "Theory of reproducing kernels". In: *Transactions of the American mathematical society* 68.3, pp. 337–404.
-  Babai, László (2016). "Graph isomorphism in quasipolynomial time". In: *Proceedings of the forty-eighth annual ACM symposium on Theory of Computing*, pp. 684–697.
-  Borgwardt, Karsten et al. (2020). "Graph kernels: State-of-the-art and future challenges". In: *Foundations and Trends® in Machine Learning* 13.5-6, pp. 531–712.
-  Borgwardt, Karsten M and Hans-Peter Kriegel (2005). "Shortest-path kernels on graphs". In: *Fifth IEEE international conference on data mining (ICDM'05)*. IEEE, 8-pp.
-  Datar, Mayur et al. (2004). "Locality-sensitive hashing scheme based on p-stable distributions". In: *Proceedings of the twentieth annual symposium on Computational geometry*, pp. 253–262.
-  Feragen, Aasa et al. (2013). "Scalable kernels for graphs with continuous attributes". In: *Advances in neural information processing systems* 26.

## References II

---

-  Gärtner, Thomas, Peter Flach, and Stefan Wrobel (2003). "On graph kernels: Hardness results and efficient alternatives". In: *Learning Theory and Kernel Machines: 16th Annual Conference on Learning Theory and 7th Kernel Workshop, COLT/Kernel 2003, Washington, DC, USA, August 24-27, 2003. Proceedings*. Springer, pp. 129–143.
-  Haussler, David et al. (1999). *Convolution kernels on discrete structures*. Tech. rep. Citeseer.
-  Kriege, Nils M, Pierre-Louis Giscard, and Richard Wilson (2016). "On valid optimal assignment kernels and applications to graph classification". In: *Advances in neural information processing systems* 29.
-  Leman, AA and Boris Weisfeiler (1968). "A reduction of a graph to a canonical form and an algebra arising during this reduction". In: *Nauchno-Technicheskaya Informatsiya* 2.9, pp. 12–16.
-  Morris, Christopher et al. (2016). "Faster kernels for graphs with continuous attributes via hashing". In: *2016 IEEE 16th International Conference on Data Mining (ICDM)*. IEEE, pp. 1095–1100.

## References III

---

-  Nikolentzos, Giannis, Giannis Siglidis, and Michalis Vazirgiannis (2021). “Graph kernels: A survey”. In: *Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research* 72, pp. 943–1027.
-  Shervashidze, Nino, Pascal Schweitzer, et al. (2011). “Weisfeiler-lehman graph kernels.”. In: *Journal of Machine Learning Research* 12.9.
-  Shervashidze, Nino, SVN Vishwanathan, et al. (2009). “Efficient graphlet kernels for large graph comparison”. In: *Artificial intelligence and statistics*. PMLR, pp. 488–495.
-  Steinwart, Ingo and Andreas Christmann (2008). *Support vector machines*. Springer Science & Business Media.
-  Wendland, Holger (2004). *Scattered data approximation*. Vol. 17. Cambridge university press.
-  Yanardag, Pinar and SVN Vishwanathan (2015). “Deep graph kernels”. In: *Proceedings of the 21th ACM SIGKDD international conference on knowledge discovery and data mining*, pp. 1365–1374.