

**Kernels
Part III: Large scale**

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Outline

Large scale

Random features

Nyström

Optimization

Conclusion

Learning with kernels

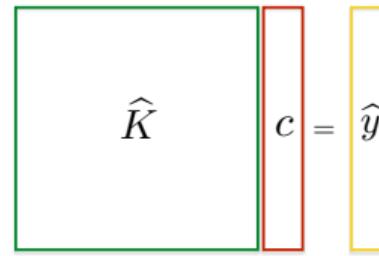
$$\widehat{f}_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) c_i, \quad \mathbf{c} = (\widehat{\mathbf{K}} + \lambda n \mathbf{I})^{-1} \widehat{\mathbf{y}}$$
$$(\widehat{\mathbf{K}})_{ij} = k(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)$$

Requires¹: time $O(c_k n^2 + n^3)$ space $O(n^2)$.

Bottlenecks for kernels

$$\hat{f}_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) c_i$$

$$(\hat{K} + \lambda n I) \mathbf{c} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



Computations: **Space** $O(n^2)$ **Kernel eval.** $O(n^2)$ **Time** $O(n^3)$

Kernel space//time

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- ▶ Kernel methods require manipulating \hat{K} .
- ▶ Memory is the main bottleneck.
- ▶ On the fly kernel evaluation helps but does not solve the problem.

Outline

Large scale

Random features

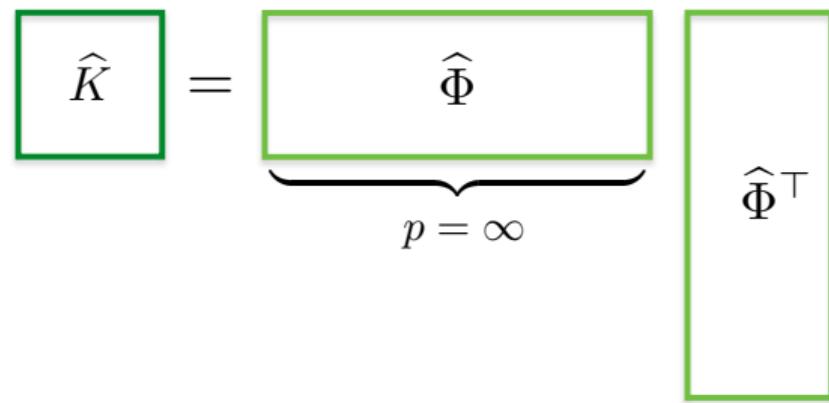
Nyström

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Feature maps

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \Phi(\mathbf{x})^\top \Phi(\mathbf{x}')$$



$$p \gg n$$

LS with features

Let $\hat{\Phi} \in \mathbb{R}^{np}$, $p \leq \infty$ Then,

$$\hat{w}_\lambda = (\hat{\Phi}^\top \hat{\Phi} + \lambda n I)^{-1} \hat{\Phi}^\top \hat{y}$$

Requires: time $O(np^2 + p^3)$ space $O(np \vee p^2)$.

$p = \infty....$

Approximate feature maps

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \approx \Phi_M(\mathbf{x})^\top \Phi_M(\mathbf{x}')$$

$$\hat{K} \approx \underbrace{\hat{\Phi}_M^\top \hat{\Phi}_M}_{M < n}$$

$M \ll n$

Least squares with features

Let $\hat{\Phi}_M \in \mathbb{R}^{nM}$ with $(\hat{\Phi}_M)_{ij} = \Phi_M(x_i)^j$

Then,

$$\hat{w}_\lambda = (\hat{\Phi}_M^\top \hat{\Phi}_M + \lambda n I)^{-1} \hat{\Phi}_M^\top \hat{y}$$

Requires: time $O(nM^2 + M^3)$ space $O(M^2)$.

Example: linear sketching

Let S be a $d \times M$ matrix and

$$\widehat{\Phi}_M = \widehat{X}S$$

Equivalently

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad \mapsto \quad \Phi_M(x) = (s_j^\top x)_{j=1}^M \in \mathbb{R}^M$$

with s_1, \dots, s_M columns of S .

Random linear sketching

Let $s_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I)$ iid, then

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' = \frac{1}{M} \mathbb{E}[\Phi_M(\mathbf{x})^\top \Phi_M(\mathbf{x}')].$$

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Proof

$$\frac{1}{M} \mathbb{E}[\Phi_M(\mathbf{x})^\top \Phi_M(\mathbf{x}')]=\frac{1}{M} \mathbb{E}\left[\sum_{j=1}^M \mathbf{x}^\top s_j s_j^\top \mathbf{x}'\right]=\frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \mathbf{x}^\top \underbrace{\mathbb{E}[s_j s_j^\top]}_{\text{Identity}} \mathbf{x}'=\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}'.$$

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Note:

- Related to Johnson-Lindenstrauss Lemma...

Linear random features

$$\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}' = \mathbb{E}[(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{s})(\mathbf{s}^\top \mathbf{x}')]$$

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with $\Phi_M(\mathbf{x}) = (\mathbf{s}_j^\top \mathbf{x})_{j=1}^M \in \mathbb{R}^M$

Random features

$$\mathbf{k}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbb{E}[\psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s})\psi(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{s})]$$

Random features

$$k(x, x') = \mathbb{E}[\psi(x, s)\psi(x', s)]$$

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$$k(x, x') \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \psi(x, s_j)\psi(x', s_j)$$

Random features

$$k(x, x') = \mathbb{E}[\psi(x, s)\psi(x', s)]$$

⇓

$$k(x, x') \approx \frac{1}{M} \sum_{j=1}^M \psi(x, s_j) \psi(x', s_j) = \frac{1}{M} \Phi_M(x)^\top \Phi_M(x')$$

with $\Phi_M(x) = (\psi(x, s_1), \psi(x, s_2), \dots, \psi(x, s_M))$.

Random Fourier features

Let $X = \mathbb{R}$, $s_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ iid and

$$\psi(x, s_j) = \underbrace{e^{is_j x}}_{\text{complex exp.}}.$$

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Proof: from basic properties of the Fourier transform

$$e^{-|x-x'|^2/\gamma} = \text{const.} \int ds \underbrace{e^{isx}}_{\text{Inv. transf.}} \underbrace{e^{-isx'}}_{\text{- Transl.}} \underbrace{e^{\frac{s^2}{\gamma}}}_{\text{- Tranf. of Gaussian}}.$$

Random Fourier features (cont.)

- ▶ The above reasoning immediately extends to $X = \mathbb{R}^d$.
- ▶ Using symmetry one can show the same result holds for

$$\psi(x, (\beta_j, b_j)) = \cos(\beta_j^\top x + b_j)$$

with b_j uniformly distributed.

Random ReLU features

Let $(\beta_j, b_j) \sim U[\mathbb{S}^{d+1}]$

$$\psi(\mathbf{x}, (\beta_j, b_j)) = |\beta_j \mathbf{x} + b_j|_+$$

If

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \sin \theta + (\pi - \theta) \cos \theta, \quad \theta = \arccos(\mathbf{x}^\top \mathbf{x}')$$

then

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') = \mathbb{E}[\psi(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{s})\psi(\mathbf{x}', \mathbf{s})]$$

Kernels and random features

- ▶ Pick a kernel and derive a random feature map, or ...

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- ▶ ...pick random features and derive the limit kernel.

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Useful perspective for neural nets?

Random features and neural nets

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \sigma(\beta_j^\top \mathbf{x} + b_j)$$

- ▶ $\sigma : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a non linear activation function.
- ▶ For $j = 1, \dots, M$, β_j , w_j , b_j parameters to be determined.

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Some references

- ▶ **History** [McCulloch, Pitts '43; Rosenblatt '58; Minsky, Papert '69; Y. LeCun, '85; Hinton et al. '06]
- ▶ **Deep learning** [Krizhevsky et al. '12 - 18705 Cit.!!!]
- ▶ **Theory** [Barron '92-94; Bartlett, Anthony '99; Pinkus, '99]

Learning with random features

$$f(x) = \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \sigma(\beta_j^\top x + b_j)$$

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- ▶ For $j = 1, \dots, M$, β_j, b_j chosen at random

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Some references

- ▶ **Neural nets** [Block '62], **Extreme learning machine** [Huang et al. '06] 5196 Cit.??
- ▶ **Gaussian processes/kernel methods** [Neal '95, Rahimi, Recht '06'08'08, Acot et al. '18 (Neural tangent kernel)]

Mean field neural nets model

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^M w_j \sigma(\beta_j^\top \mathbf{x} + b_j)$$

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Infinitely wide neural nets define RKHS

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Mean field neural nets model

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Infinitely wide neural nets define RKHS

$$f(\mathbf{x}) = \int d\pi(\beta, \mathbf{b}) w(\beta, \mathbf{b}) \sigma(\beta^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b}) = \mathbb{E}[w(\beta, \mathbf{b}) \sigma(\beta^\top \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{b})].$$

...

Least squares and random features

$$\hat{K} \approx \underbrace{\hat{\Phi}_M}_{M < n} \hat{\Phi}_M^\top$$

$$\hat{w}_\lambda = (\hat{\Phi}_M^\top \hat{\Phi}_M + \lambda n I)^{-1} \hat{\Phi}_M^\top \hat{y}$$

Requires: time $O(nM^2 + M^3)$ space $O(nM)$.

Even better: SGD

$$w_{t+1} = w_t - \gamma_t \Phi_M(x_t) (w_t^\top \Phi_M(x_t) - y_t)$$

Requires: time $O(nMt)$ space $O(M)$.

How many random features?

$$\hat{K} \approx \hat{\Phi}_M^\top \hat{\Phi}_M$$

$M < n$

kernel approximation

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}') \approx \Phi_M(\mathbf{x})^\top \Phi_M(\mathbf{x}')$$

vs

learning

$$\mathbb{E}[\ell(\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{w}}_\lambda \Phi_M(\mathbf{x}))]$$

The number of RF needed for learning can be much smaller than $n!$

But...

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But...there's no time today!

What about data dependent approximations?

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Large scale

Random features

Nyström

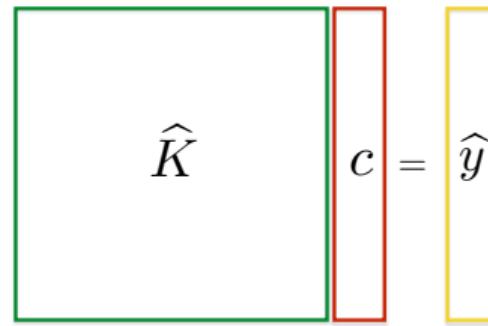
Optimization

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Representer theorem

$$\hat{f}_\lambda(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^n k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i) c_i$$

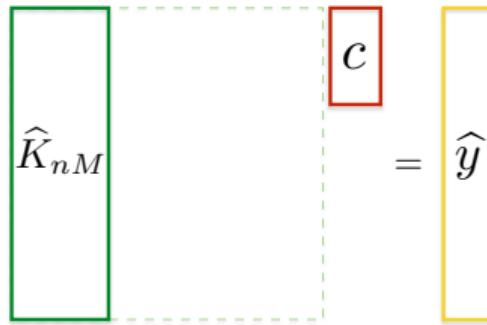
$$(\hat{K} + \lambda n I) \mathbf{c} = \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



Nyström

$$\hat{f}_{\lambda, M}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^M K(x, \tilde{x}_i) c_i$$

$$(\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM}) c = \hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{y}$$

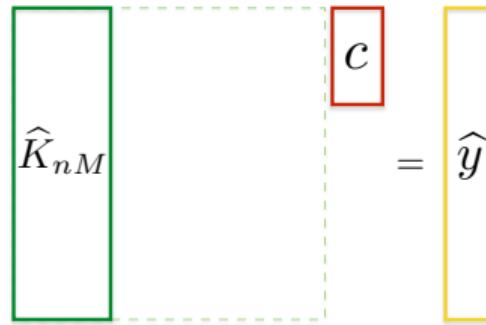


with $\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_M \subset x_1, \dots, x_n$ and corresponding columns chosen at random

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with $\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_M \subset x_1, \dots, x_n$ and corresponding columns chosen at random

Not throwing data! Just using a subset for modeling functions!

Why should it work?

Why should it work?

$$\left(\underbrace{\hat{\mathbf{X}}^\top \hat{\mathbf{X}}}_{\text{Cov.matrix}} + \lambda \mathbf{n} \right)^{-1}$$

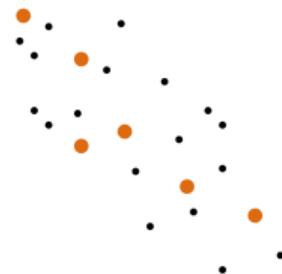
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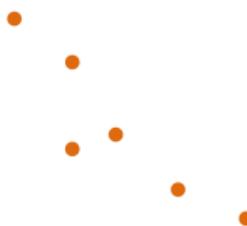
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Why should it work?

$$(\hat{\mathbf{K}} + \lambda \mathbf{n})^{-1}$$

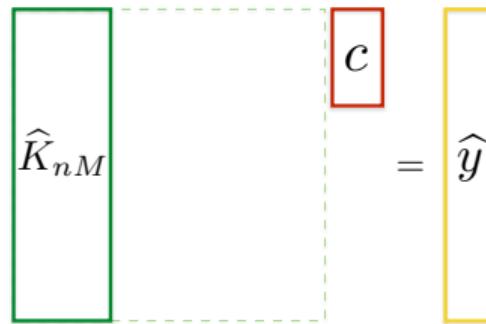


We apply the same idea to the feature/kernel space!

Name game

$$\hat{f}_{\lambda, M}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^M K(\mathbf{x}, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) c_i$$

$$(\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM}) \mathbf{c} = \hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



Some references

- ▶ **Nyström methods** (Smola, Scholkopf '00)
- ▶ Gaussian processes: inducing points (Quiñonero-Candela et al '05)
- ▶ Randomized numerical linear algebra: column sampling (Halko et al. '11)

Why the name Nyström approximation?

Why the name Nyström approximation?

Discrete approximation of integral operators

For all x

$$\int k(x, x') c(x') dx' = y(x) \quad \mapsto \quad \sum_{j=1}^M k(x, \tilde{x}_j) c(\tilde{x}_j) = y(\tilde{x}_j)$$

Related to **quadrature** methods.

Why the name Nyström approximation?

Discrete approximation of integral operators

For all x

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Related to quadrature methods.

From operators to (large)matrices

For all $i = 1, \dots, n$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n k(x_i, x_j) c_j = y_j \quad \mapsto \quad \sum_{j=1}^M k(x_i, \tilde{x}_j) c_i = y_j$$

Nyström approximation and subsampling

For all $i = 1, \dots, n$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n k(x_i, x_j) c_j = y_i \quad \mapsto \quad \sum_{j=1}^M k(x_i, \tilde{x}_j) c_j = y_i$$

The above formulation highlights connection to columns subsampling

$$\hat{K}c = \hat{y} \quad \mapsto \quad \hat{K}_{nM}c_M = \hat{y}$$

Nyström as sketching

Consider the $d \times M$ matrix $S = (\tilde{x}_1, \dots, \tilde{x}_M)$ and

$$\hat{\Phi}_M = \hat{X}S$$

Equivalently

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad \mapsto \quad \Phi_M(x) = (\tilde{x}_j^\top x)_{j=1}^M \in \mathbb{R}^M$$

with s_1, \dots, s_M columns of S .

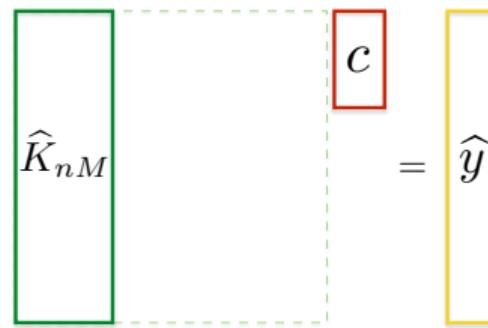
Nyström (for the linear kernels) is a form of data driven sketching.

Nyström as projection regularization

The cost of Nyström kernel ridge regression

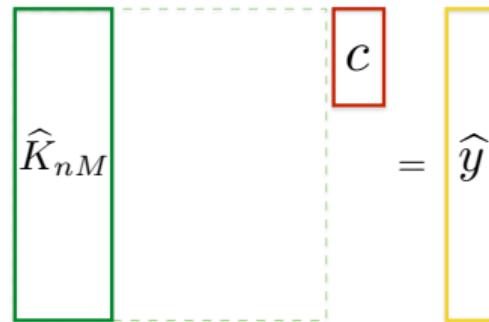
$$\hat{f}_{\lambda, M}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^M K(\mathbf{x}, \tilde{\mathbf{x}}_i) c_i$$

$$(\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM}) \mathbf{c} = \hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{\mathbf{y}}$$



Requires: time $O(nM^2 + M^3)$ space $O(nM)$.

How many Nyström centers?



kernel approximation

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} \approx \hat{\mathbf{K}}_{nM} \hat{\mathbf{K}}_{MM}^{-1} \hat{\mathbf{K}}_{nM}^\top$$

vs

learning

$$\mathbb{E}[\ell(\mathbf{y}, \hat{\mathbf{f}}_{\lambda, M}(\mathbf{x}))]$$

The number of Nyström centers needed for learning can be much smaller than $n!$

But...

The number of Nyström centers needed for learning can be much smaller than $n!$

But...there's no time today!

Can we do better?

Possible improvements

- ▶ adaptive sampling (leverage scores)
- ▶ optimization

Leverage scores and sampling

$$\ell(i, \lambda) = (\widehat{\mathbf{K}}(\widehat{\mathbf{K}} + \lambda n \mathbf{I})^{-1}))_{ii}$$

Sampling $J = \widetilde{x}_1, \dots, \widetilde{x}_M \subset x_1, \dots, x_n$ according to $\ell(1, \lambda), \dots, \ell(n, \lambda)$.

- ▶ Can lead to smaller M than uniform sampling.
- ▶ Fast algorithms needed...

Approximate leverage scores

Basic idea: use only a subset of points to compute lev. scores.

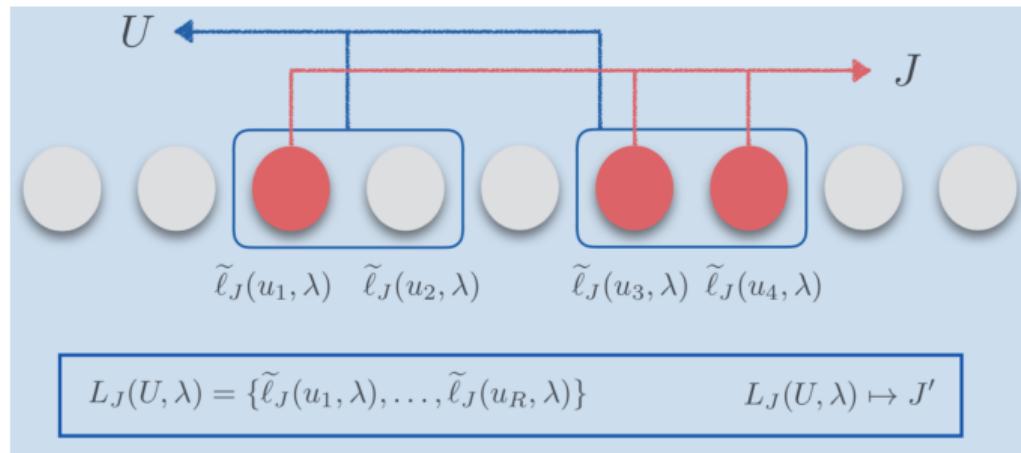
$$\tilde{\ell}(i, \lambda) = \frac{1}{\lambda n} (\hat{K}_{ii} - \hat{K}_{J,i}^\top (\hat{K}_{JJ} + \lambda n W)^{-1} \hat{K}_{J,i})$$

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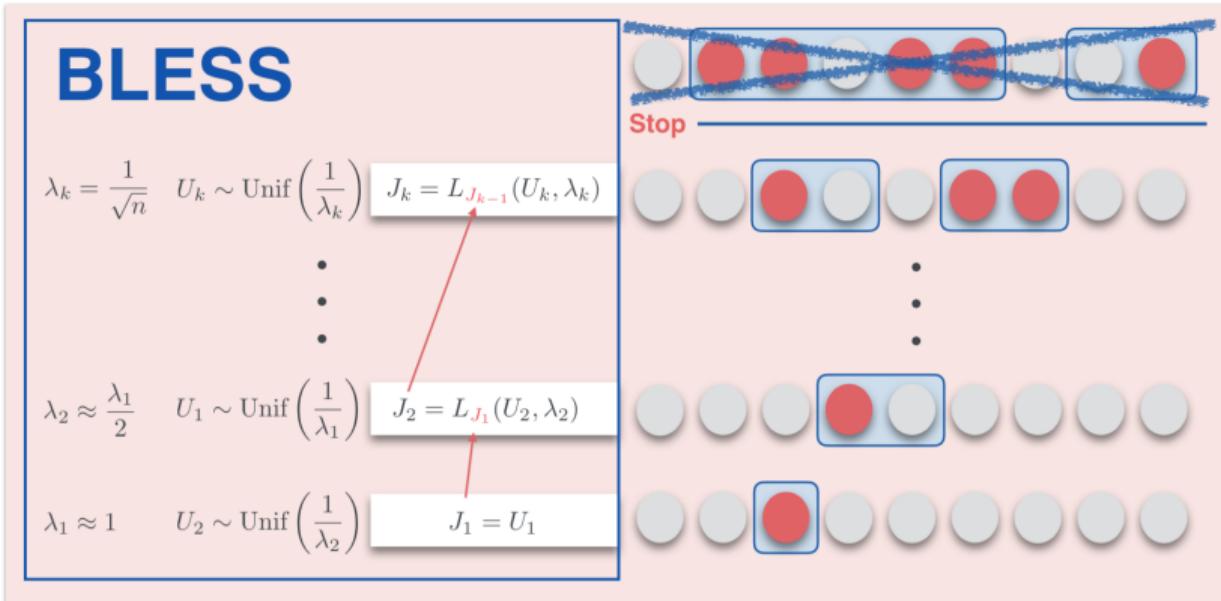
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Basic algorithm: uniform+lev. scores sampling.



Fast leverage scores sampling

BLESS algorithm: coarse to fine uniform+lev. scores sampling.



Possible improvements

- ▶ adaptive sampling (leverage scores)
- ▶ **optimization**

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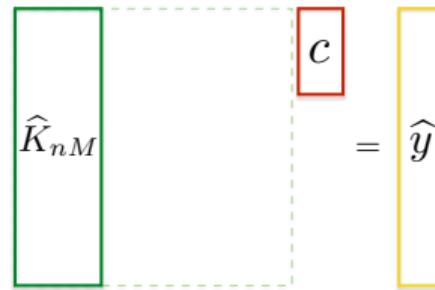
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Beyond $O(n^2)$ time?

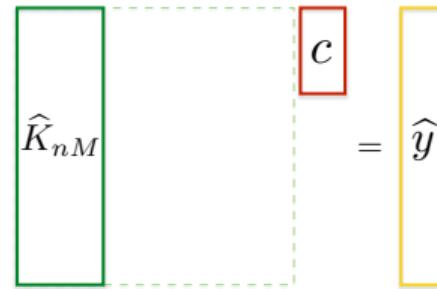
$$(\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM}) c = \hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{y}.$$



Bottleneck: computing $\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM}$ requires $O(nM^2)$ time.

Optimization to rescue

$$\underbrace{\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM}}_H \mathbf{c} = \underbrace{\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{\mathbf{y}}}_b.$$



Idea: First order methods

$$\mathbf{c}_t = \mathbf{c}_{t-1} - \frac{\tau}{n} [\hat{K}_{nM}^\top (\hat{K}_{nM} \mathbf{c}_{t-1} - \hat{\mathbf{y}}_n) + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM} \mathbf{c}_{t-1}]$$

Pros: requires $O(nMt)$

Cons: $t \propto \kappa(H)$ arbitrarily large- $\kappa(H) = \sigma_{\max}(H)/\sigma_{\min}(H)$ condition number.

Preconditioning

Idea: solve an equivalent linear system with better condition number

Preconditioning

$$Hc = b \quad \mapsto \quad P^T H P \beta = P^T b, \quad c = P \beta.$$

Ideally $P P^T = H^{-1}$, so that

$$t = O(\kappa(H)) \quad \mapsto \quad t = O(1)!$$

Computing a good preconditioning can be hard!

Remarks

- ▶ Preconditioning kernel ridge regression
(Fasshauer et al '12, Avron et al '16, Cutajat '16, Ma, Belkin '17)

$$H = \hat{K} + \lambda n I$$

Can we precondition Nystrom-KRR?

Preconditioning Nyström-KRR

Consider

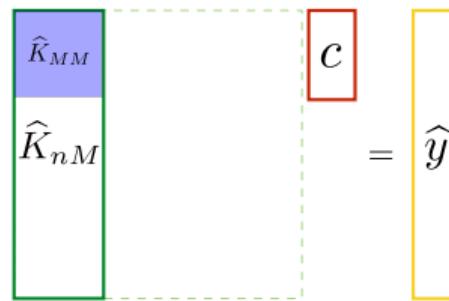
$$H = \hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n \hat{K}_{MM}$$

Proposed Preconditioning

$$PP^\top = \left(\frac{n}{M} K_{MM}^2 + \lambda n K_{MM} \right)^{-1}$$

Compare to naive preconditioning

$$PP^\top = \left(\hat{K}_{nM}^\top \hat{K}_{nM} + \lambda n K_{MM} \right)^{-1}.$$



Baby FALKON

Proposed Preconditioning

$$PP^\top = \left(\frac{n}{M} K_{MM}^2 + \lambda n K_{MM} \right)^{-1},$$

Gradient descent

$$\hat{f}_{\lambda, M, t}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^M K(x, \tilde{x}_i) c_{t,i}, \quad c_t = P \beta_t$$

$$\beta_t = \beta_{t-1} - \frac{\tau}{n} P^\top [K_{nM}^\top (K_{nM} P \beta_{t-1} - y_n) + \lambda n K_{MM} P \beta_{t-1}]$$

FALKON

- Gradient descent \mapsto conjugate gradient
- Computing P

$$P = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} T^{-1} A^{-1}, \quad T = \text{chol}(K_{MM}), \quad A = \text{chol}\left(\frac{1}{M} TT^\top + \lambda I\right),$$

where $\text{chol}(\cdot)$ is the Cholesky decomposition.



Relevant works

References

- ▶ Less is more (Rudi et al. '15)
- ▶ Divide and conquer (Zhang et al. '13)
- ▶ NYTRO (Angles et al '16)
- ▶ Nyström SGD (Lin, R. '17)
- ▶ EIGENPRO (Belkin al '16)

Computational costs for FALKON

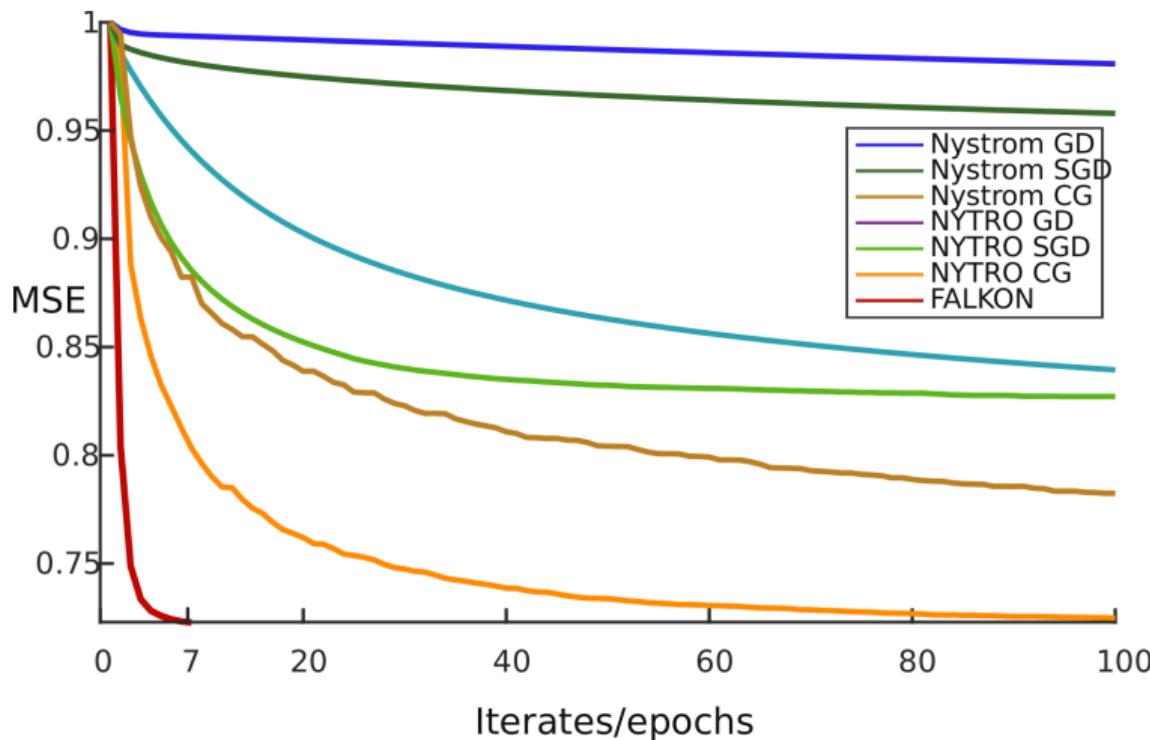


$\log n$ iterations suffice leading to

Space: $O(n)$
Kernel eval.: $O(nM)$
Time: $O(nM \log n)$
Model: $O(M)$

In practice

Higgs dataset: $n = 10,000,000$, $M = 50,000$



Some experiments

	MillionSongs (n ~ 10^6)			YELP (n ~ 10^6)		TIMIT (n ~ 10^6)	
	MSE	Relative error	Time(s)	RMSE	Time(m)	c-err	Time(h)
FALKON	80.30	4.51×10^{-3}	55	0.833	20	32.3%	1.5
Prec. KRR	-	4.58×10^{-3}	289 [†]	-	-	-	-
Hierarchical	-	4.56×10^{-3}	293*	-	-	-	-
D&C	80.35	-	737*	-	-	-	-
Rand. Feat.	80.93	-	772*	-	-	-	-
Nyström	80.38	-	876*	-	-	-	-
ADMM R. F.	-	5.01×10^{-3}	958 [†]	-	-	-	-
BCD R. F.	-	-	-	0.949	42 [‡]	34.0%	1.7 [‡]
BCD Nyström	-	-	-	0.861	60 [‡]	33.7%	1.7 [‡]
KRR	-	4.55×10^{-3}	-	0.854	500 [‡]	33.5%	8.3 [‡]
EigenPro	-	-	-	-	-	32.6%	3.9 [‡]
Deep NN	-	-	-	-	-	32.4%	-
Sparse Kernels	-	-	-	-	-	30.9%	-
Ensemble	-	-	-	-	-	33.5%	-

Table: MillionSongs, YELP and TIMIT Datasets. Times obtained on: [‡] = cluster of 128 EC2 r3.2xlarge machines, [†] = cluster of 8 EC2 r3.8xlarge machines, [‡] = single machine with two Intel Xeon E5-2620, one Nvidia GTX Titan X GPU and 128GB of RAM, * = cluster with 512 GB of UniGe RAM and IBM POWER8 12-core processor, * = unknown platform.

Some more experiments

	SUSY (n ~ 10 ⁶)			HIGGS (n ~ 10 ⁷)		IMAGENET (n ~ 10 ⁶)	
	c-err	AUC	Time(m)	AUC	Time(h)	c-err	Time(h)
FALKON	19.6%	0.877	4	0.833	3	20.7%	4
EigenPro	19.8%	-	6 [‡]	-	-	-	-
Hierarchical	20.1%	-	40 [†]	-	-	-	-
Boosted Decision Tree	-	0.863	-	0.810	-	-	-
Neural Network	-	0.875	-	0.816	-	-	-
Deep Neural Network	-	0.879	4680 [‡]	0.885	78 [‡]	-	-
Inception-V4	-	-	-	-	-	20.0%	-

Table: Architectures: † cluster with IBM POWER8 12-core cpu, 512 GB RAM, [‡] single machine with two Intel Xeon E5-2620, one Nvidia GTX Titan X GPU, 128GB RAM, [‡] single machine.

Image classification

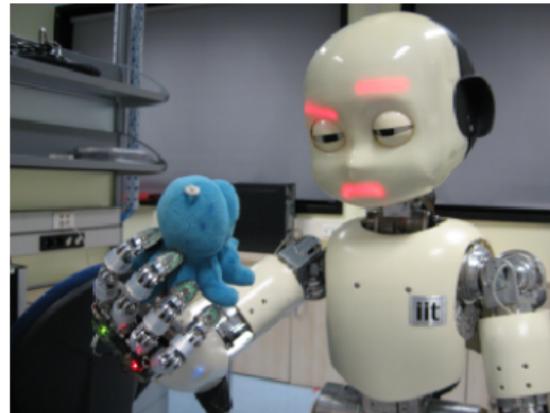
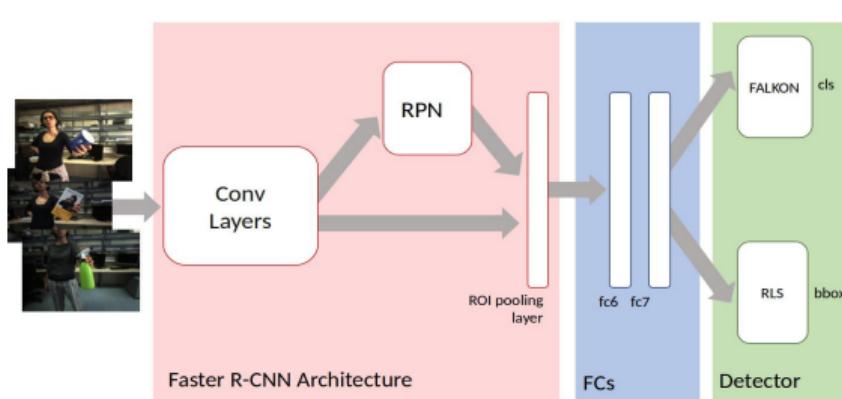
$$f(x) = \langle w, \Phi(x) \rangle, \quad x \mapsto \underbrace{\Phi_L}_{\text{Kernel representation}} \circ \underbrace{\Phi_{L-1} \cdots \circ \Phi_1(x)}_{\text{Convolutional}}$$

Imagenet

Top-1 class error	
FALKON + I-v4 feat.	20.7%
Inception-v4	20.0%
Inception-v3	21.2%
Inception-v2	23.4%
BN-Inception	25.2%
BN-GoogLeNet	26.8%
GoogLeNet	29.0%

Table: Single crop experimental results on the validation set of ILSVRC 2012.

Real time object detection in robotics



Method	mAP [%]	Train Time
Faster R-CNN	51,9	~25 min
FALKON + Full Bootstrap ($\sim 1K \times 1000$)	51,5	~8 min
FALKON + Random BKG (0×7000)	47,7	~25 sec



Take home message

You can train an SVM on millions of points in seconds/minutes

Outline

Large scale

Random features

Nyström

Optimization

Conclusion

Who cares about kernels?