

# INNER PRODUCT KERNELS & THE KERNEL TRICK

## Issues With Nonlinear Feature Maps

Suppose we transform our data via

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ x^{(d)} \end{bmatrix} \longmapsto \Phi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi^{(1)}(x) \\ \vdots \\ \varphi^{(m)}(x) \end{bmatrix}, \quad m \gg d$$

where  $\varphi^{(j)}$  are nonlinear.

We just discussed how this can lead to ill-conditioned problems, which can be mitigated via regularization.

In addition, since  $m \gg d$ , there can be an increased \_\_\_\_\_ burden.

(A)

Example | In ridge regression, we would need to invert an  $m \times m$  matrix, or at least solve a linear system with  $m$  unknowns.

Fortunately, the following two facts offer a solution:

- Many machine learning algorithms only involve the data through \_\_\_\_\_.
- For certain feature maps  $\Phi$ , the function

$$k(x, x') :=$$

has a simple, closed form expression that can be evaluated without explicitly calculating  $\Phi(x)$ .

Example | Consider the case when  $d=2$  and

$$k(u, v) := (u^T v)^2$$

$$= \left( \begin{bmatrix} u^{(1)} & u^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v^{(1)} \\ v^{(2)} \end{bmatrix} \right)^2$$

⊙

$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^2 \quad \quad \quad \right)^2$$

$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^2 \quad \quad \quad \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^2 \quad \quad \quad \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2$$

=

What feature mapping  $\Phi$  does this correspond to?

$$\rightarrow \underline{\Phi} = \begin{bmatrix} (u^{(1)})^2 \\ \sqrt{2} u^{(1)} u^{(2)} \\ (u^{(2)})^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Now suppose  $d$  is arbitrary, and

$$k(u, v) = (u^T v)^2$$

$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^d u^{(i)} v^{(i)} \right)^2$$

$$= \left( \sum_{i=1}^d u^{(i)} v^{(i)} \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^d u^{(j)} v^{(j)} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^d \sum_{j=1}^d u^{(i)} u^{(j)} v^{(i)} v^{(j)}$$

What is the dimension of the corresponding feature space?

$$\Phi(u) = \left[ \underbrace{(u^{(1)})^2, \dots, (u^{(d)})^2}_d, \underbrace{\sqrt{2} u^{(1)} u^{(2)}, \dots, \sqrt{2} u^{(d-1)} u^{(d)}}_{\frac{d(d-1)}{2}} \right]^T$$

Exercise 1 Describe the feature space associated

with

$$k(u, v) = (u^T v)^3$$

when  $d = 2$ .

## Solution

$$\begin{aligned}k(u, v) &= (u^{(1)} v^{(1)} + u^{(2)} v^{(2)})^3 \\&= (u^{(1)})^3 (v^{(1)})^3 + 3 (u^{(1)})^2 u^{(2)} (v^{(1)})^2 v^{(2)} \\&\quad + 3 u^{(1)} (u^{(2)})^2 v^{(1)} (v^{(2)})^2 + (u^{(2)})^3 (v^{(2)})^3 \\&= \sum_{i=0}^3 \binom{3}{i} (u^{(1)})^{3-i} (u^{(2)})^i \cdot (v^{(1)})^{3-i} (v^{(2)})^i\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(u) = \left[ (u^{(1)})^3, \sqrt{3} (u^{(1)})^2 u^{(2)}, \sqrt{3} u^{(1)} (u^{(2)})^2, (u^{(2)})^3 \right]^T$$

More generally,

$$\begin{aligned}k(u, v) &= \left( \sum_{i=1}^d u^{(i)} v^{(i)} \right)^p \\&= \sum_{\substack{(j_1, \dots, j_d) \\ \sum j_k = p}} \binom{p}{j_1 \dots j_d} (u^{(1)})^{j_1} \dots (u^{(d)})^{j_d} \cdot (v^{(1)})^{j_1} \dots (v^{(d)})^{j_d}\end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Phi(u) = \left[ \dots, \sqrt{\binom{p}{j_1 \dots j_d}} (u^{(1)})^{j_1} \dots (u^{(d)})^{j_d}, \dots \right]^T$$

$\Rightarrow$  all \_\_\_\_\_ of degree  $p$ .

Definition | An \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ \_\_\_\_\_ ①

is a mapping  $k: \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$

for there exists an inner product space  $\mathcal{H}$

and a mapping  $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^d \longrightarrow \mathcal{H}$  such that

$$k(u, v) = \langle \Phi(u), \Phi(v) \rangle$$

for all  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

Given a function  $k(u, v)$ , when is it an IP kernel? There are two ways to verify the property

- Mercer's theorem (we won't cover)
- PSD property

Note | The  $\mathcal{H}, \Phi$  associated to an IP kernel is not necessarily unique, and these two methods will give distinct constructions of  $\mathcal{H}, \Phi$ .

## PSD kernels

Definition | We say  $k(u, v)$  is a \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ kernel if  $k$  is  $\textcircled{F}$   
symmetric and, for all  $n$  and all  
 $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , the \_\_\_\_\_ matrix

$$\left[ \quad \quad \quad \right]_{i,j=1}^n$$

is positive semi-definite.

Theorem |  $k$  is an IP kernel  $\iff$   
 $k$  is a PSD kernel

Proof | Schölkopf and Smola, Learning  
with kernels.



## Examples of IP kernels

1. Homogeneous polynomial kernel

$$k(u, v) = \langle u, v \rangle^p, \quad p=1, 2, \dots$$

2. Inhomogeneous polynomial kernel

$$k(u, v) = (\langle u, v \rangle + c)^p, \quad p=1, 2, \dots$$

$c > 0$

Ⓒ

$\mathbb{R} \rightarrow$

3. Gaussian kernel

$$k(u, v) = (2\pi\sigma^2)^{-\frac{d}{2}} \exp\left\{-\frac{\|u-v\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right\}, \quad \sigma > 0$$

→ constant can be dropped

→ also called radial basis function (RBF) kernel

→  $\mathcal{H}$  is \_\_\_\_\_ !

Ⓓ

Key

A. computational

B. inner products,  $k(x, x') = \langle \Phi(x), \Phi(x') \rangle$

$$C. \left( \sum_{i=1}^2 u^{(i)} v^{(i)} \right)^2 = \left( \sum_{i=1}^2 u^{(i)} v^{(i)} \right) \left( \sum_{j=1}^2 u^{(j)} v^{(j)} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^2 \sum_{j=1}^2 u^{(i)} u^{(j)} v^{(i)} v^{(j)}$$

$$= (u^{(1)})^2 (v^{(1)})^2 + 2 u^{(1)} u^{(2)} v^{(1)} v^{(2)} + (u^{(2)})^2 (v^{(2)})^2$$

$$= \langle \Phi(u), \Phi(v) \rangle$$

where

$$\Phi(u) = \begin{bmatrix} (u^{(1)})^2 \\ \sqrt{2} u^{(1)} u^{(2)} \\ (u^{(2)})^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

D. monomials      E. inner producting kernel

F. positive semi-definite, gram,  $[k(x_i, x_j)]_{i,j=1}^n$

G. all monomials of degree  $\leq p$

H. infinite dimensional