CPSC 340:
Machine Learning and Data Mining

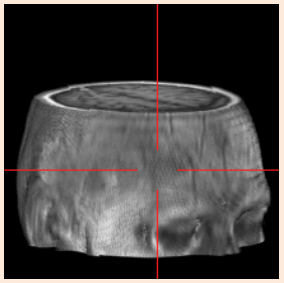
Kernel Trick

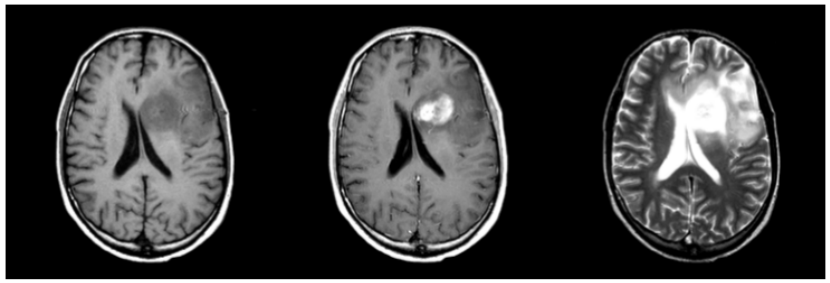
Fall 2020

Motivation: Automatic Brain Tumor Segmentation

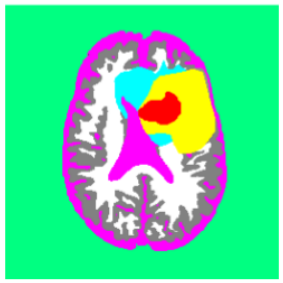
- Task: segmentation tumors and normal tissue in multi-modal MRI data.
  - We previously discussed using convolutions to engineer features.

Input:





Output:



- Best performance was obtained with linear classifiers (SVMs/logistic).
  - Provided you did feature selection or used regularization.

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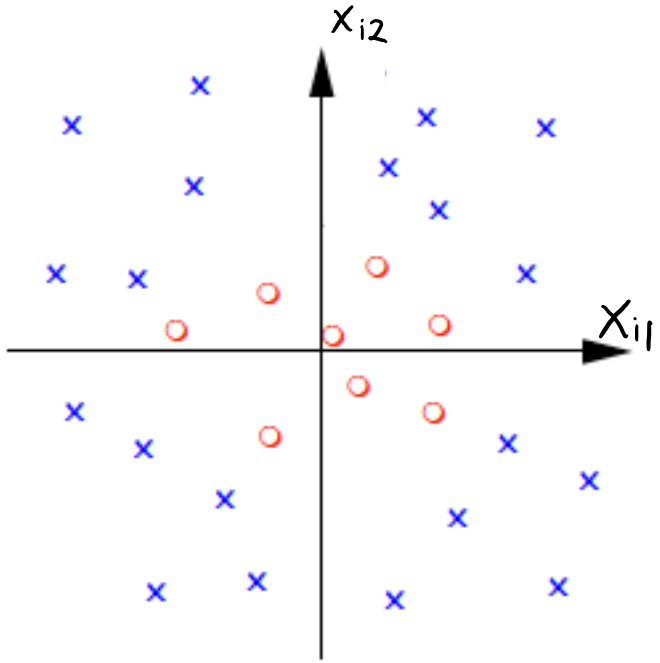
Support Vector Machines for Non-Separable

- Can we use linear models for data that is not close to separable?



http://math.stackexchange.com/questions/353607/how-do-inner-product-space-determine-half-planes

Support Vector Machines for Non-Separable

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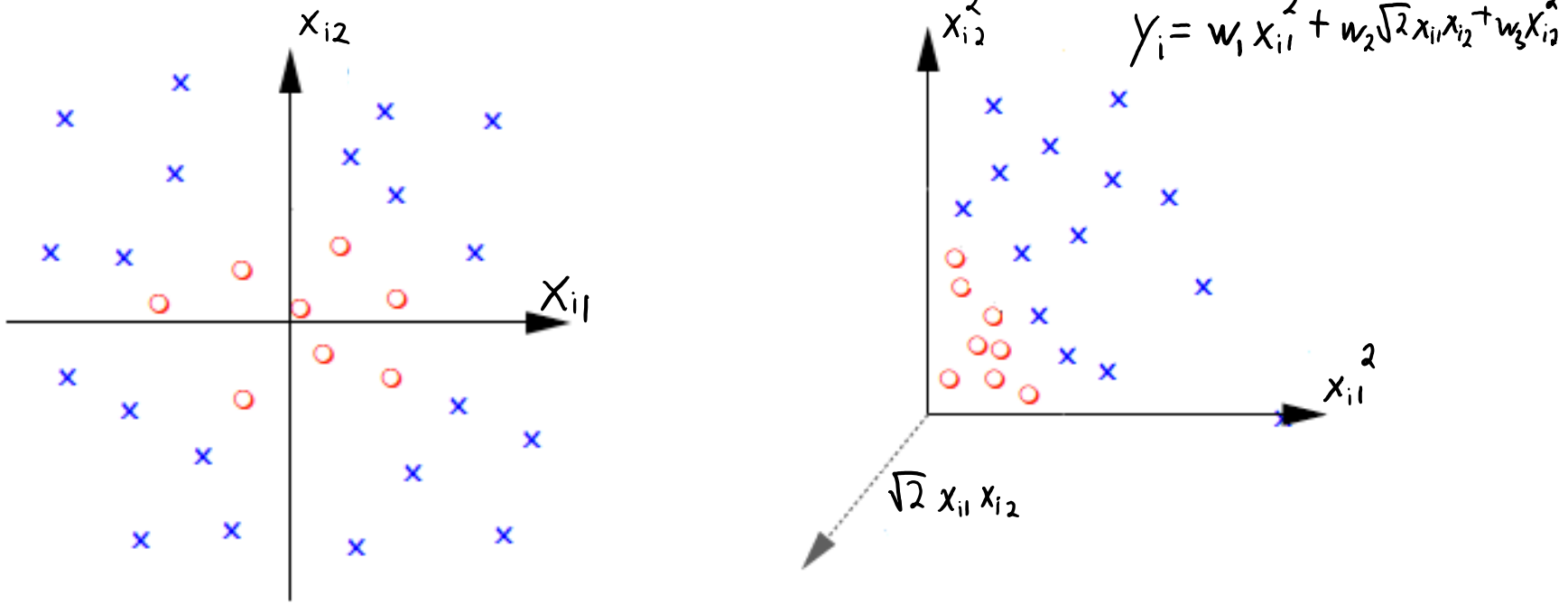
  - It may be separable under change of basis (or closer to separable).



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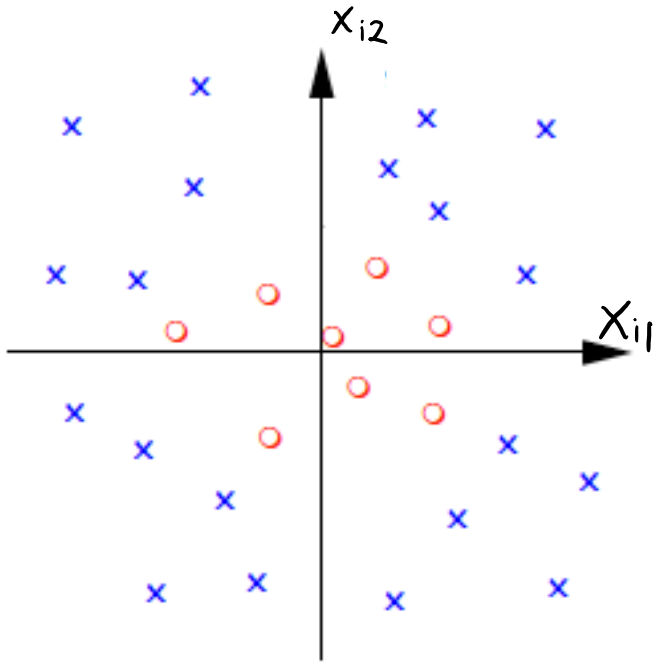

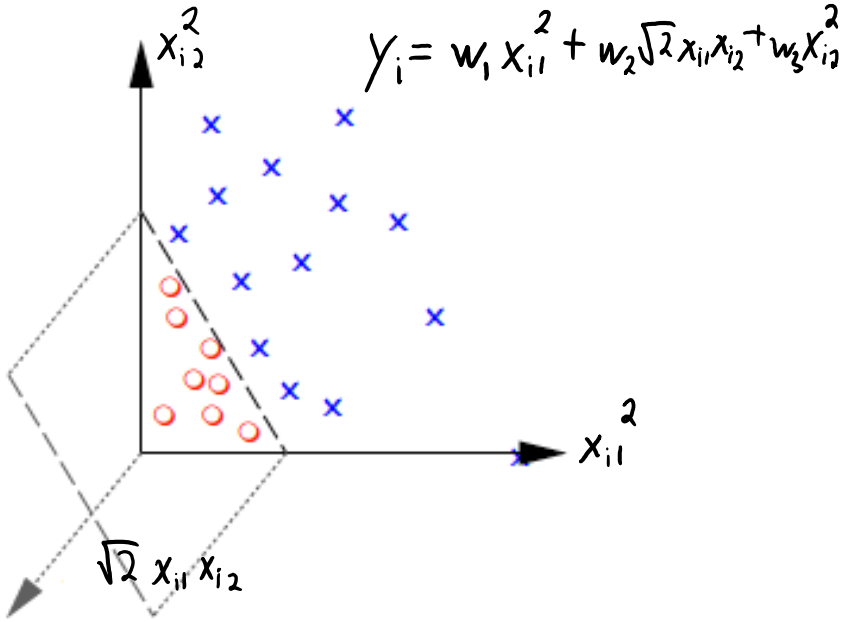

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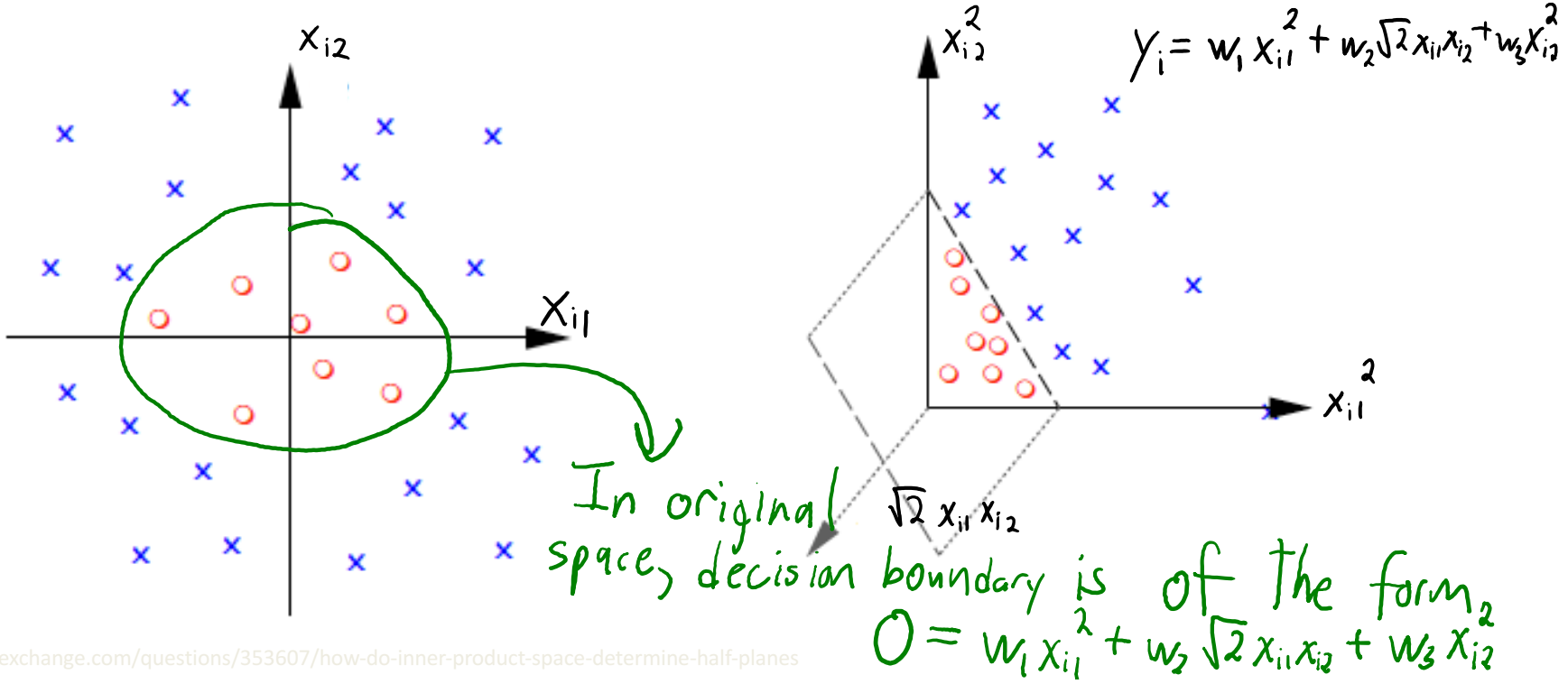

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Multi-Dimensional Polynomial Basis

- Recall fitting polynomials when we only have 1 feature:

$$\hat{y}_i = w_0 + w_1 x_i + w_2 x_i^2$$

- We can fit these models using a change of basis:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 \\ -0.5 \\ 1 \\ 4 \end{bmatrix} \qquad Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.2 & (0.2)^2 \\ 1 & -0.5 & (-0.5)^2 \\ 1 & 1 & (1)^2 \\ 1 & 4 & (4)^2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- How can we do this when we have a lot of features?

Multi-Dimensional Polynomial Basis

- Polynomial basis for d=2 and p=2:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 0.2 & 0.3 \\ 1 & 0.5 \\ -0.5 & -0.1 \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow Z = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0.2 & 0.3 & (0.2)^2 & (0.3)^2 & (0.1)(0.3) \\ 1 & 1 & 0.5 & (1)^2 & (0.5)^2 & (1)(0.5) \\ 1 & 0.5 & -0.1 & (0.5)^2 & (-0.1)^2 & (-0.5)(-0.1) \end{bmatrix}$$

bias x_{i1} x_{i2} $(x_{i1})^2$ $(x_{i2})^2$ $(x_{i1})(x_{i2})$

- With d=4 and p=3, the polynomial basis would include:
  - Bias variable and the x_{ij}: 1, x_{i1}, x_{i2}, x_{i3}, x_{i4}.
  - The x_{ij} squared and cubed: $(x_{i1})^2$, $(x_{i2})^2$, $(x_{i3})^2$, $(x_{i4})^2$, $(x_{i1})^3$, $(x_{i2})^3$, $(x_{i3})^3$, $(x_{i4})^3$.
  - Two-term interactions: $x_{i1}x_{i2}$, $x_{i1}x_{i3}$, $x_{i1}x_{i4}$, $x_{i2}x_{i3}$, $x_{i2}x_{i4}$, $x_{i3}x_{i4}$.
  - Cubic interactions: $x_{i1}x_{i2}x_{i3}$, $x_{i2}x_{i3}x_{i4}$, $x_{i1}x_{i3}x_{i4}$, $x_{i1}x_{i2}x_{i4}$, $x_{i1}^2x_{i2}$, $x_{i1}^2x_{i3}$, $x_{i1}^2x_{i4}$, $x_{i1}x_{i2}^2$, $x_{i2}^2x_{i3}$, $x_{i2}^2x_{i4}$, $x_{i1}x_{i3}^2$, $x_{i2}x_{i3}^2$, $x_{i3}^2x_{i4}$, $x_{i1}x_{i4}^2$, $x_{i2}x_{i4}^2$, $x_{i3}x_{i4}^2$.

Kernel Trick

- If we go to degree p=5, we'll have $O(d^5)$ quintic terms:

$$x_{i1}^5, x_{i1}^4 x_{i2}, x_{i1}^4 x_{i3}, \ldots, x_{i1}^4 x_{id}, x_{i1}^3 x_{i2}^2, x_{i1}^3 x_{i3}^2, \ldots, x_{i1}^3 x_{id}^2, \ldots, x_{i2}^5, x_{i2}^4 x_{i3}, \ldots, x_{id}^5$$

- For large 'd' and 'p', storing a polynomial basis is intractable!
  - 'Z' has $k=O(d^p)$ columns, so it does not fit in memory.

- Could try to search for a good subset of these.
  - "Hierarchical forward selection" (bonus).

- Alternating, you can use all of them with the "kernel trick".
  - For special case of L2-regularized linear models.

The "Other" Normal Equations

- Recall the L2-regularized least squares objective with basis 'Z':

$$f(v) = \frac{1}{2}\|Zv - y\|^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2}\|v\|^2$$

- We showed that the minimum is given by

$$v = \underbrace{(Z^TZ + \lambda I)}_{k \times k}{}^{-1} Z^T y$$

(in practice you still solve the linear system, since inverse can be numerically unstable – see CPSC 302)

- With some work (bonus), this can equivalently be written as:

$$v = Z^T \underbrace{(ZZ^T + \lambda I)}_{n \times n}{}^{-1} y$$

- This is faster if $n << k$:
  - Cost is $O(n^2k + n^3)$ instead of $O(nk^2 + k^3)$.
  - But for the polynomial basis, this is still too slow since $k = O(d^p)$.

The "Other" Normal Equations

- With the "other" normal equations we have $v = Z^T(ZZ^T + \lambda I)^{-1} y$
- Given test data $\tilde{X}$, predict $\hat{y}$ by forming $\tilde{Z}$ and then using:

$$\hat{y} = \tilde{Z} v$$

$$= \tilde{Z} Z^T (ZZ^T + \lambda I)^{-1} y$$

$$= \tilde{K} (K + \lambda I)^{-1} y$$

$t \times 1$; $\tilde{K}$: $t \times n$, $(K + \lambda I)^{-1}$: $n \times n$, y: $n \times 1$

- Notice that if you have K and $\tilde{K}$ then you do not need Z and $\tilde{Z}$.
- Key idea behind "kernel trick" for certain bases (like polynomials):
  - We can efficiently compute K and $\tilde{K}$ even though forming Z and $\tilde{Z}$ is intractable.

Gram Matrix

- The matrix $K = ZZ^T$ is called the Gram matrix K.

$$K = ZZ^T = \begin{bmatrix} — & z_1^T & — \\ — & z_2^T & — \\ & \vdots & \\ — & z_n^T & — \end{bmatrix} \underbrace{\qquad}_{Z} \quad \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} | & | & & | \\ z_1 & z_2 & \cdots & z_n \\ | & | & & | \end{bmatrix}}_{Z^T}$$

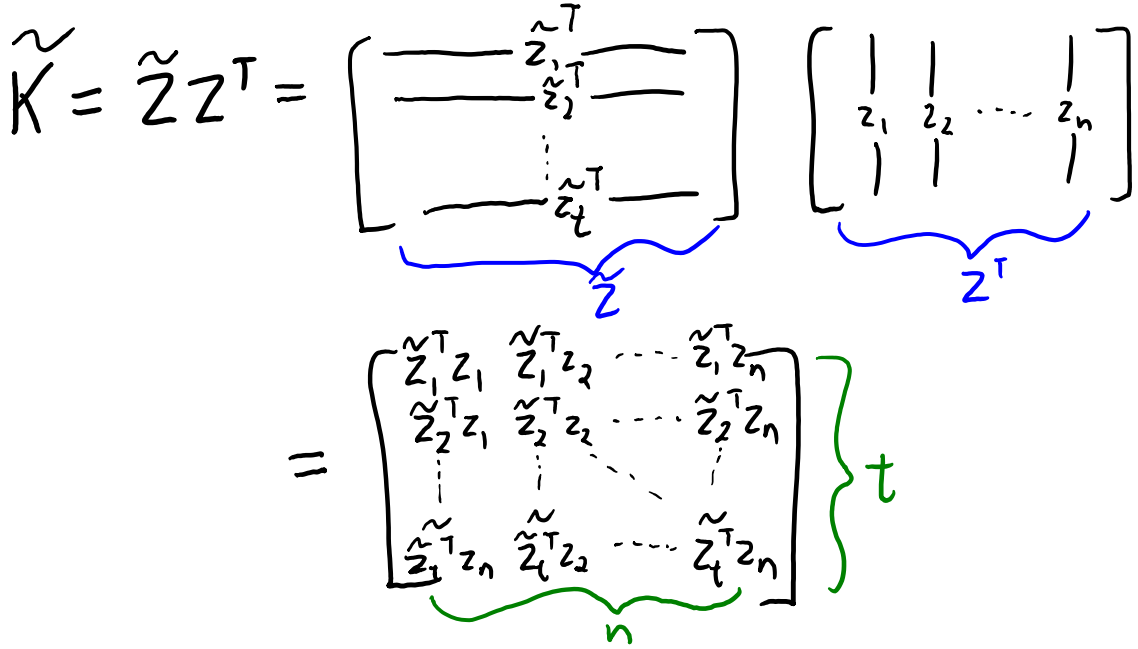
$$= \begin{bmatrix} z_1^T z_1 & z_1^T z_2 & \cdots & z_1^T z_n \\ z_2^T z_1 & z_2^T z_2 & \cdots & z_2^T z_n \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ z_n^T z_1 & z_n^T z_2 & \cdots & z_n^T z_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} \\ \\ \\ \} n \end{matrix}$$

$$\underbrace{\qquad}_{n}$$

- K contains the dot products between all training examples.
  - Similar to 'Z' in RBFs, but using dot product as "similarity" instead of distance.

Gram Matrix

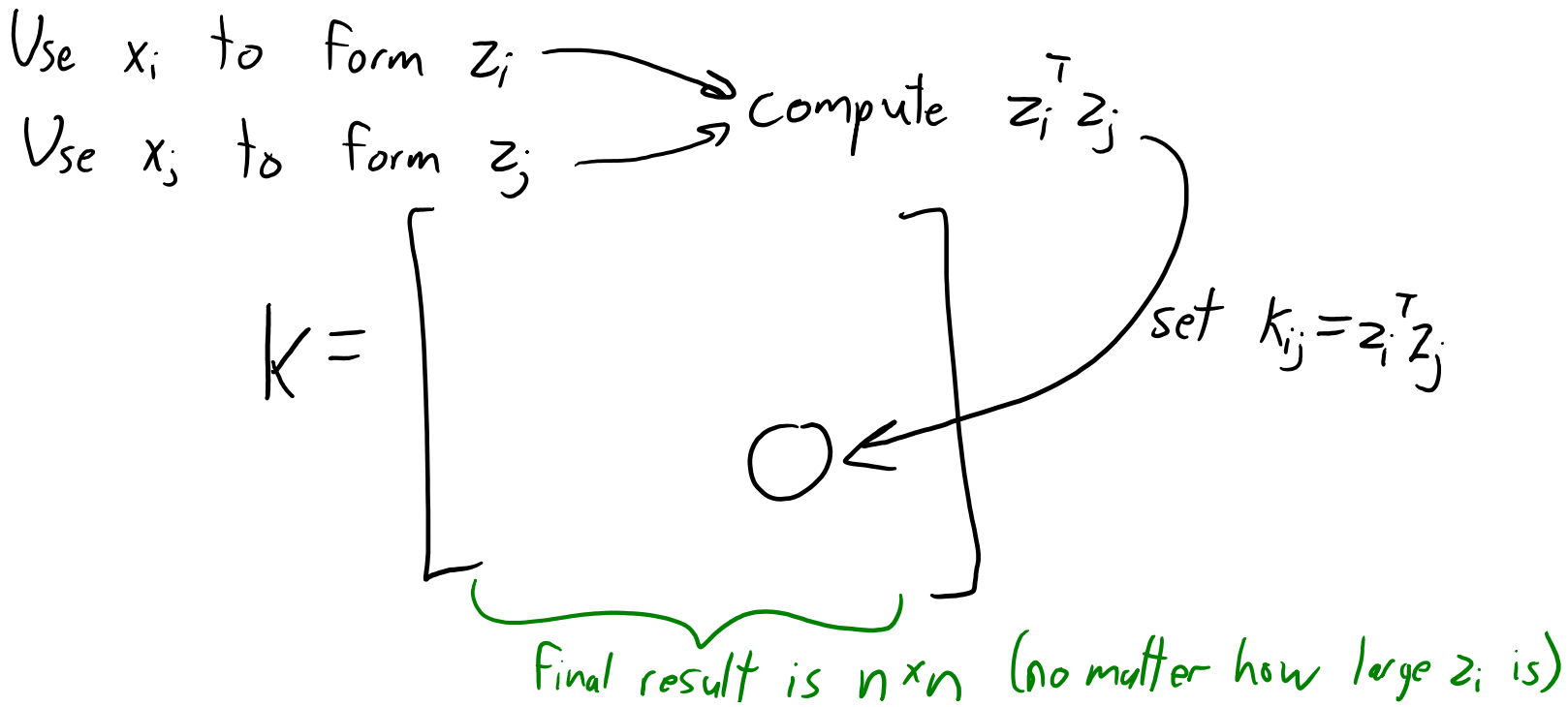
- The matrix $\tilde{K} = \tilde{Z}Z^T$ has dot products between train and test examples:



- Kernel function: $k(x_i, x_j) = z_i^T z_j$.
  - Computes dot product between in basis $(z_i^T z_j)$ *using original features* x_i and x_j.

Kernel Trick

To apply linear regression, I only need to know K and $\tilde{K}$



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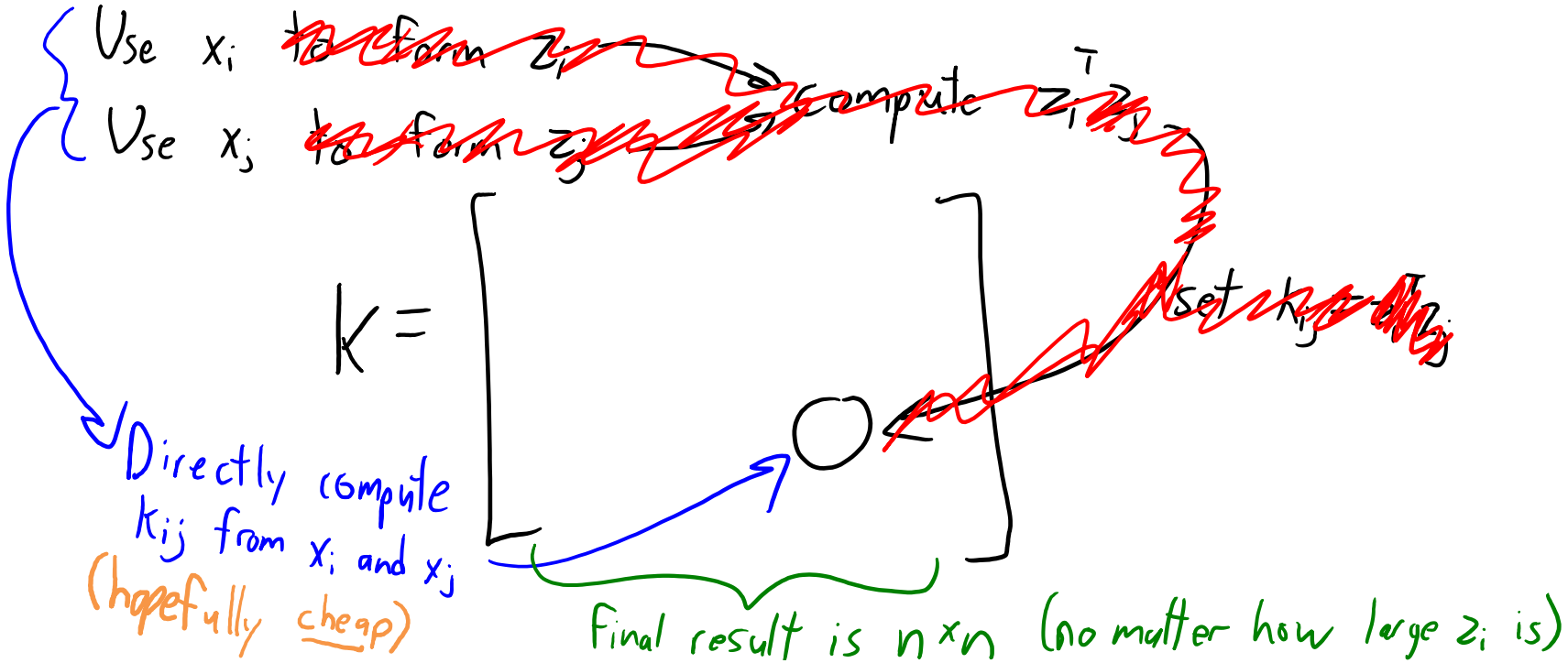


Linear Regression vs. Kernel Regression

Linear Regression

Training

1. Form basis Z from X.
2. Compute $v = (Z^T Z + \lambda I)^{-1} (Z^T y)$ (v: $k \times 1$)

Testing

1. Form basis $\tilde{Z}$ from $\tilde{X}$
2. Compute $\hat{y} = \tilde{Z} v$ ($\tilde{Z}$: $t \times k$, v: $k \times 1$)

Kernel Regression

Training:

1. Form inner products K from X.
2. Compute $u = (K + \lambda I)^{-1} y$ (u: $n \times 1$)

Non-parametric

Testing:

1. Form inner products $\tilde{K}$ from X and $\tilde{X}$
2. Compute $\hat{y} = \tilde{K} u$ ($\tilde{K}$: $t \times n$, u: $n \times 1$)

(Everything you need to know about Z and $\tilde{Z}$ is contained within K and $\tilde{K}$)

Degenerate Example: "Linear Kernel"

- Consider two examples x_i and x_j for a 2-dimensional dataset:

$$x_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}) \qquad x_j = (x_{j1}, x_{j2})$$

- And our standard ("linear") basis:

$$z_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}) \qquad z_j = (x_{j1}, x_{j2})$$

- In this case the inner product $z_i^T z_j$ is $k(x_i, x_j) = x_i^T x_j$:

$$z_i^T z_j = x_i^T x_j$$

(x_i x_j)

Example: Degree-2 Kernel

- Consider two examples x_i and x_j for a 2-dimensional dataset:

$$x_i = (x_{i1}, x_{i2}) \qquad x_j = (x_{j1}, x_{j2})$$

- Now consider a particular degree-2 basis:

$$z_i = (x_{i1}^2, \sqrt{2}\, x_{i1} x_{i2}, x_{i2}^2) \qquad z_j = (x_{j1}^2, \sqrt{2}\, x_{j1} x_{j2}, x_{j2}^2)$$

- In this case the inner product $z_i^T z_j$ is $k(x_i, x_j) = (x_i^T x_j)^2$:

$$\begin{aligned} z_i^T z_j &= x_{i1}^2 x_{j1}^2 + (\sqrt{2}\, x_{i1} x_{i2})(\sqrt{2}\, x_{j1} x_{j2}) + x_{i2}^2 x_{j2}^2 \\ &= x_{i1}^2 x_{j1}^2 + 2 x_{i1} x_{i2} x_{j1} x_{j2} + x_{i1}^2 x_{i2}^2 \\ &= (x_{i1} x_{j1} + x_{i2} x_{j2})^2 \qquad \text{"completing the square"} \\ &\quad \underbrace{\phantom{x_{i1} x_{j1} + x_{i2} x_{j2}}}_{x_i^T x_j} \\ &= (x_i^T x_j)^2 \end{aligned}$$

← No need for z_i to compute $z_i^T z_j$

Polynomial Kernel with Higher Degrees

- Let's add a bias and linear terms to our degree-2 basis:

$$z_i = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{2}x_{i1} & \sqrt{2}x_{i2} & x_{i1}^2 & \sqrt{2}x_{i1}x_{i2} & x_{i2}^2 \end{bmatrix}^T$$

- In this case the inner product $z_i^T z_j$ is $k(x_i,x_j) = (1 + x_i^T x_j)^2$:

$$(1 + x_i^T x_j)^2 = 1 + 2x_i^T x_j + (x_i^T x_j)^2$$

$$= 1 + 2x_{i1}x_{j1} + 2x_{i2}x_{j2} + x_{i1}^2 x_{j1}^2 + 2x_{i1}x_{i2}x_{j1}x_{j2} + x_{i2}^2 x_{j2}^2$$

$$= \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & \sqrt{2}x_{i1} & \sqrt{2}x_{i2} & x_{i1}^2 & \sqrt{2}x_{i1}x_{i2} & x_{i2}^2 \end{bmatrix}}_{z_i^T} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ \sqrt{2}x_{j1} \\ \sqrt{2}x_{j2} \\ x_{j2}^2 \\ \sqrt{2}x_{j1}x_{j2} \\ x_{j2}^2 \end{bmatrix}}_{z_j}$$

$$= z_i^T z_j$$

Polynomial Kernel with Higher Degrees

- To get all degree-4 "monomials" I can use:

$$k(x_i, x_j) = (x_i^T x_j)^4$$

Equivalent to using a z_i with weighted versions of $x_{i1}^4, x_{i1}^3 x_{i2}, x_{i1}^2 x_{i2}^2, x_{i1} x_{i2}^3, x_{i2}^4, \ldots$

- To also get lower-order terms use $k(x_i,x_j) = (1 + x_i^T x_j)^4$
- The general degree-p polynomial kernel function:

$$k(x_i, x_j) = (1 + x_i^T x_j)^p$$

  - Works for any number of features 'd'.
  - But cost of computing one $k(x_i,x_j)$ is $O(d)$ instead of $O(d^p)$ to compute $z_i^T z_j$.
  - Take-home message: I can compute dot-products without the features.

Kernel Trick with Polynomials

- Using polynomial basis of degree 'p' with the kernel trick:
  - Compute K and $\tilde{K}$ using:

$$K_{ij} = (1 + x_i^T x_j)^p \qquad \tilde{K}_{ij} = (1 + \tilde{x}_i^T x_j)^p$$

test example; train example

  - Make predictions using:

$$\hat{y} = \tilde{K}(K + \lambda I)^{-1} y = \tilde{K} u$$

$\hat{y}$: $t \times 1$; $\tilde{K}$: $t \times n$; $(K + \lambda I)^{-1}$: $n \times n$; y: $n \times 1$

$u = (K + \lambda I)^{-1} y$

- Training cost is only $O(n^2 d + n^3)$, despite using $k = O(d^p)$ features.
  - We can form 'K' in $O(n^2 d)$, and we need to "invert" an 'n x n' matrix.
  - Testing cost is only O(ndt), cost to form $\tilde{K}$.

Gaussian-RBF Kernel

- Most common kernel is the Gaussian RBF kernel:

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{2\sigma^2}\right)$$

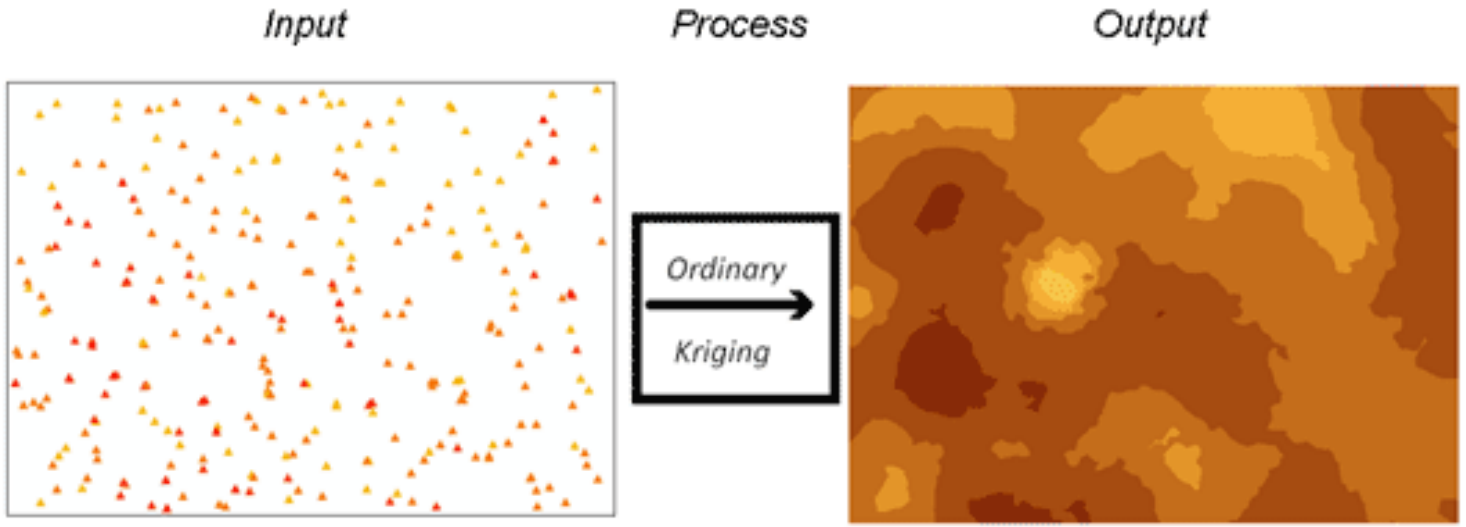
- Same formula and behaviour as RBF basis, but not equivalent:
  - Before we used RBFs as a basis, now we're using them as inner-product.

- Basis z_i giving Gaussian RBF kernel is *infinite-dimensional*.
  - If d=1 and σ=1, it corresponds to using this basis (bonus slide):

$$z_i = \exp(-x_i^2)\left[1 \quad \sqrt{\frac{2}{1!}}x_i \quad \sqrt{\frac{2^2}{2!}}x_i^2 \quad \sqrt{\frac{2^3}{3!}}x_i^3 \quad \sqrt{\frac{2^4}{4!}}x_i^4 \quad \cdots\right]$$

Motivation: Finding Gold

- Kernel methods first came from mining engineering ("Kriging"):
  - Mining company wants to find gold.
  - Drill holes, measure gold content.
  - Build a kernel regression model (typically use RBF kernels).



http://www.bisolutions.us/A-Brief-Introduction-to-Spatial-Interpolation.php

Kernel Trick for Non-Vector Data

- Consider data that doesn't look like this:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5377 & 0.3188 & 3.5784 \\ 1.8339 & -1.3077 & 2.7694 \\ -2.2588 & -0.4336 & -1.3499 \\ 0.8622 & 0.3426 & 3.0349 \end{bmatrix}, \quad y = \begin{bmatrix} +1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ +1 \end{bmatrix},$$

- But instead looks like this:

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} \text{Do you want to go for a drink sometime?} \\ \text{J'achète du pain tous les jours.} \\ \text{Fais ce que tu veux.} \\ \text{There are inner products between sentences?} \end{bmatrix}, y = \begin{bmatrix} +1 \\ -1 \\ -1 \\ +1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

- We can interpret k(xi,xj) as a "similarity" between objects xi and xj.
  - We don't need features if we can compute "similarity" between objects.
  - Kernel trick lets us fit regression models without explicit features.
  - There are "string kernels", "image kernels", "graph kernels", and so on.

Valid Kernels

- What kernel functions $k(x_i,x_j)$ can we use?
- Kernel 'k' must be an inner product in some space:
  - There must exist a mapping from the x_i to some z_i such that $k(x_i,x_j) = z_i^T z_j$.
- It can be hard to show that a function satisfies this.
  - Infinite-dimensional eigenfunction problem.
- But like convex functions, there are some simple rules for constructing "valid" kernels from other valid kernels (bonus slide).

Kernel Trick for Other Methods

- Besides L2-regularized least squares, when can we use kernels?
  - We can compute Euclidean distance with kernels:

$$\|z_i - z_j\|^2 = z_i^T z_i - 2 z_i^T z_j + z_j^T z_j = k(x_i, x_i) - 2k(x_i, x_j) + k(x_j, x_j)$$

  - All of our distance-based methods have kernel versions:
    - Kernel k-nearest neighbours.
    - Kernel clustering k-means (allows non-convex clusters)
    - Kernel density-based clustering.
    - Kernel hierarchical clustering.
    - Kernel distance-based outlier detection.
    - Kernel "Amazon Product Recommendation".

Kernel Trick for Other Methods

- Besides L2-regularized least squares, when can we use kernels?
  - "Representer theorems" (bonus slide) have shown that any L2-regularized linear model can be kernelized:

If learning can be written in the form $\min_v f(Zv) + \frac{1}{2}\|v\|^2$ for some 'Z'

then under weak conditions ("representer theorem")

we can re-parameterize in terms of $v = Z^T u$

giving $\min_u f(ZZ^T u) + \frac{1}{2} u^T Z Z^T u$

(ZZ^T is K; $v^T v$ is $u^T Z Z^T u$; K)

Only need 'K'

At test time you would use $\tilde{Z}v = \tilde{Z}Z^T u = \tilde{K}u$

($Z^T u$; $\tilde{K}$)

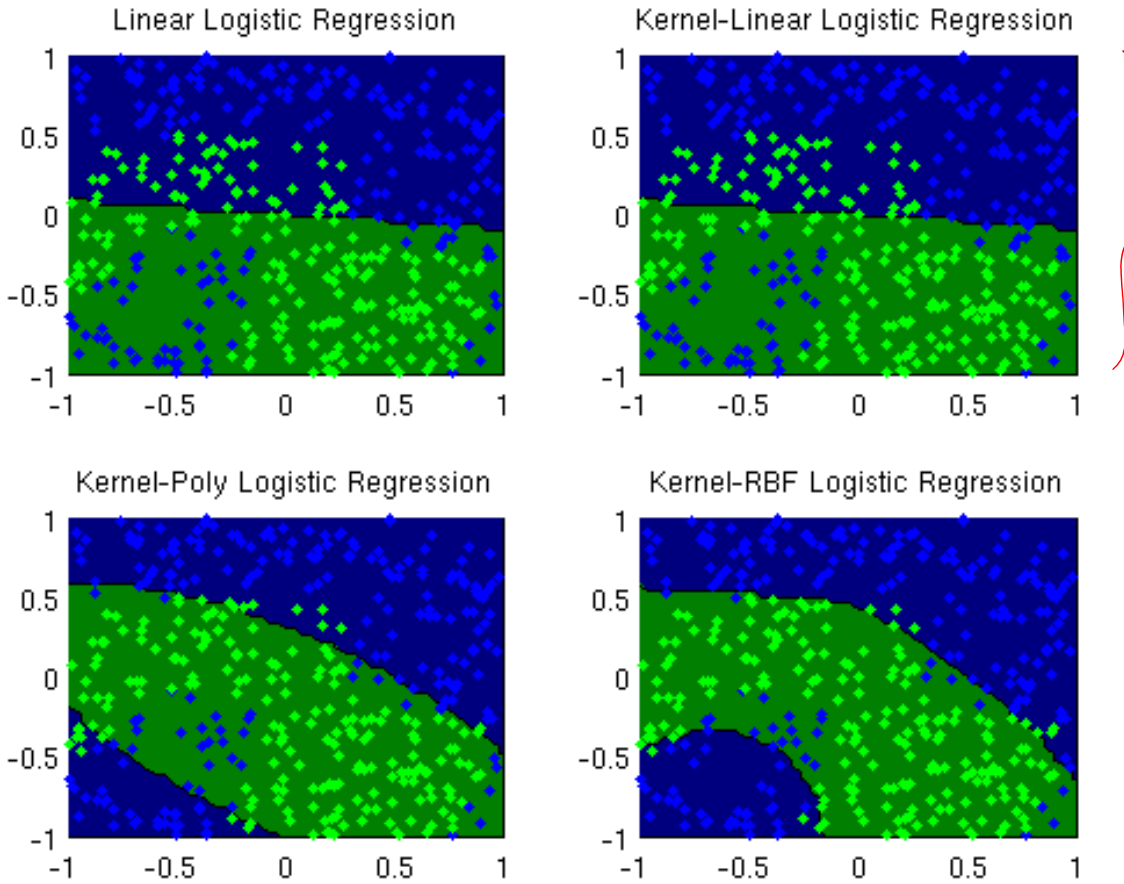
Kernel Trick for Other Methods

- Besides L2-regularized least squares, when can we use kernels?
  - "Representer theorems" (bonus slide) have shown that any L2-regularized linear model can be kernelized:
    - L2-regularized robust regression.
    - L2-regularized brittle regression.
    - L2-regularized logistic regression.
    - L2-regularized hinge loss (SVMs).

With a particular implementation, can reduce prediction cost from $O(ndt)$ to $O(mdt)$.

m: Number of support vectors.

Logistic Regression with Kernels



Using "linear" Kernel is the same as using original features

(pause)

Motivation: Big-N Problems

- Consider fitting a least squares model:

$$f(w) = \frac{1}{2}\sum_{i=1}^{n}(w^T x_i - y_i)^2$$

- Gradient methods are effective when 'd' is very large.
  - O(nd) per iteration instead of $O(nd^2 + d^3)$ to solve as linear system.

- But what if number of training examples 'n' is very large?
  - All Gmails, all products on Amazon, all homepages, all images, etc.

Gradient Descent vs. Stochastic Gradient

- Recall the gradient descent algorithm:

$$w^{t+1} = w^t - \alpha^t \nabla f(w^t)$$

- For least squares, our gradient has the form:

$$\nabla f(w) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} (\underbrace{w^T x_i - y_i}_{\text{scalar}}) \underbrace{x_i}_{d \times 1}$$

- So the cost of computing this gradient is linear in 'n'.
  - As 'n' gets large, gradient descent iterations become expensive.

Gradient Descent vs. Stochastic Gradient

- Common solution to this problem is stochastic gradient algorithm:

$$w^{t+1} = w^t - \alpha^t \nabla f_i(w^t)$$

- Uses the gradient of a randomly-chosen training example:

$$\nabla f_i(w) = (\underbrace{w^T x_i - y_i}_{\text{scalar}}) \underbrace{x_i}_{d \times 1}$$

- Cost of computing this one gradient is independent of 'n'.
  - Iterations are 'n' times faster than gradient descent iterations.
  - With 1 billion training examples, this iteration is 1 billion times faster.

Summary

- High-dimensional bases allows us to separate non-separable data.
- "Other" normal equations are faster when n < d.
- Kernel trick allows us to use high-dimensional bases efficiently.
  - Write model to only depend on inner products between features vectors.

$$\hat{y} = \tilde{K}(K + \lambda I)^{-1} y$$

$t \times n$ matrix $\tilde{Z}Z^T$ containing inner products between test examples and training examples.

$n \times n$ matrix ZZ^T containing inner products between all training examples.

- Kernels let us use similarity between objects, rather than features.
  - Allows some exponential- or infinite-sized feature sets.
  - Applies to distance-based and linear models with L2-regularization.
- Stochastic gradient methods let us use huge datasets.

- Next time:
  - How do we train on all of Gmail?

Feature Selection Hierarchy

- Consider a linear models with higher-order terms,

$$\hat{y}_i = w_0 + w_1 x_{i1} + w_2 x_{i2} + w_3 x_{i3} + w_{12} x_{i1} x_{i2} + w_{13} x_{i1} x_{i3} + w_{23} x_{i2} x_{i3} + w_{123} x_{i1} x_{i2} x_{i3}$$

- The number of higher-order terms may be too large.
  - Can't even compute them all.
  - We need to somehow decide which terms we'll even consider.

- Consider the following hierarchical constraint:
  - You only allow $w_{12} \neq 0$ if $w_1 \neq 0$ and $w_2 \neq 0$.
  - "Only consider feature interaction if you are using both features already."

Hierarchical Forward Selection

- Hierarchical Forward Selection:
  - Usual forward selection, but consider interaction terms obeying hierarchy.
  - Only consider $w_{12} \neq 0$ once $w_1 \neq 0$ and $w_2 \neq 0$.
  - Only allow $w_{123} \neq 0$ once $w_{12} \neq 0$ and $w_{13} \neq 0$ and $w_{23} \neq 0$.
  - Only allow $w_{1234} \neq 0$ once all threeway interactions are present.

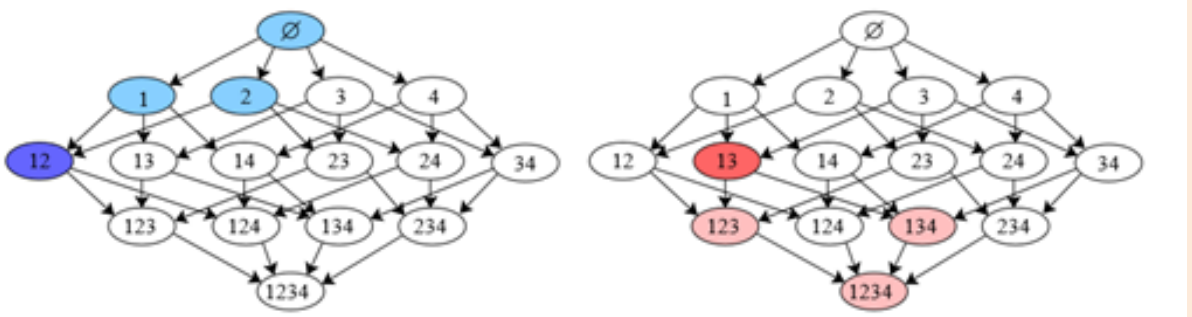


Fig 9: Power set of the set $\{1, \ldots, 4\}$: in blue, an authorized set of selected subsets. In red, an example of a group used within the norm (a subset and all of its descendants in the DAG).

http://arxiv.org/pdf/1109.2397v2.pdf

Bonus Slide: Equivalent Form of Ridge Regression

Note that $\hat{X}$ and Y are the same on the left and right side, so we only need to show that

$$(X^T X + \lambda I)^{-1} X^T = X^T (X X^T + \lambda I)^{-1}. \tag{1}$$

A version of the matrix inversion lemma (Equation 4.107 in MLAPP) is

$$(E - FH^{-1}G)^{-1} FH^{-1} = E^{-1}F(H - GE^{-1}F)^{-1}.$$

Since matrix addition is commutative and multiplying by the identity matrix does nothing, we can re-write the left side of (1) as

$$(X^T X+\lambda I)^{-1} X^T = (\lambda I+X^T X)^{-1} X^T = (\lambda I+X^T I X)^{-1} X^T = (\lambda I-X^T(-I)X)^{-1} X^T = -(\lambda I-X^T(-I)X)^{-1} X^T(-I)$$

Now apply the matrix inversion with $E = \lambda I$ (so $E^{-1} = \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right) I$), $F = X^T$, $H = -I$ (so $H^{-1} = -I$ too), and $G = X$:

$$-(\lambda I - X^T(-I)X)^{-1} X^T(-I) = -(\frac{1}{\lambda}) I X^T (-I - X \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right) X^T)^{-1}.$$

Now use that $(1/\alpha)A^{-1} = (\alpha A)^{-1}$, to push the $(-1/\lambda)$ inside the sum as $-\lambda$,

$$-(\frac{1}{\lambda}) I X^T (-I - X \left(\frac{1}{\lambda}\right) X^T)^{-1} = X^T (\lambda I + X X^T)^{-1} = X^T (X X^T + \lambda I)^{-1}.$$

Why is inner product a similarity?

- It seems weird to think of the inner-product as a similarity.
- But consider this decomposition of squared Euclidean distance:

$$\frac{1}{2}\|x_i - x_j\|^2 = \frac{1}{2}\|x_i\|^2 - x_i^T x_j + \frac{1}{2}\|x_j\|^2$$

- If all training examples have the same norm, then minimizing Euclidean distance is equivalent to maximizing inner product.
  - So "high similarity" according to inner product is like "small Euclidean distance".
  - The only difference is that the inner product is biased by the norms of the training examples.
  - Some people explicitly normalize the x_i by setting $x_i = (1/||x_i||)x_i$, so that inner products act like the negation of Euclidean distances.
    - E.g., Amazon product recommendation.

Guasian-RBF Kernels

- The most common kernel is the Gaussian-RBF (or 'squared exponential') kernel,

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{\sigma^2}\right).$$

- What function $\phi(x)$ would lead to this as the inner-product?
  - To simplify, assume $d = 1$ and $\sigma = 1$,

$$\begin{aligned} k(x_i, x_j) &= \exp(-x_i^2 + 2x_i x_j - x_j^2) \\ &= \exp(-x_i^2)\exp(2x_i x_j)\exp(-x_j^2), \end{aligned}$$

    so we need $\phi(x_i) = \exp(-x_i^2)z_i$ where $z_i z_j = \exp(2x_i x_j)$.
    - For this to work for *all* x_i and x_j, z_i must be infinite-dimensional.
  - If we use that

$$\exp(2x_i x_j) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{2^k x_i^k x_j^k}{k!},$$

    then we obtain

$$\phi(x_i) = \exp(-x_i^2)\left[1 \quad \sqrt{\tfrac{2}{1!}}x_i \quad \sqrt{\tfrac{2^2}{2!}}x_i^2 \quad \sqrt{\tfrac{2^3}{3!}}x_i^3 \quad \cdots\right].$$

question

stop following 83 views

Why RBF-kernel not the same as RBF-basis?

I do not quite understand the two statements in red box? I think with k as defined that way, it is just the $g(||x_i - x_j||)$ as we saw in the last lecture of RBF basis? Why they are not equivalent? What does "equivalent" here mean?

Also, why now "we are using them as inner product"? Is it because we now regard $k(x_i, x_j)$ as the inner product of z_i and z_j, which are some magical transformation of x_i and x_j? (Like $k(x_i, x_j) = (1 + x_i^T x_j)^p$ is the inner product of z_i and z_j, which are polynomial transformation of x_i and x_j)?

Chenliang Zhou 8 months ago Oh so is my following reasoning correct?:

Let Z and $\tilde{Z}$ be as defined in lecture 22a.

In Gaussian RBF basis, $\tilde{y} = \tilde{Z}(Z^T Z + \lambda I)^{-1} Z^T y = \tilde{Z} Z^T (Z Z^T + \lambda I)^{-1} y$.

In Gaussian RBF kernel, we have $\tilde{y} = \tilde{K}(K + \lambda I)^{-1} y$ where where K and $\tilde{K}$ are those 2 horrible matrices for Gaussian RBF kernels. Since they are the same formula, $K = Z$ and $\tilde{K} = \tilde{Z}$, so $\tilde{y} = \tilde{Z}(Z + \lambda I)^{-1} y$.

So Gaussian RBF basis and Gaussian RBF kernel are different because in general,
$\tilde{Z} Z^T (Z Z^T + \lambda I)^{-1} (\text{for G-RBF basis}) \neq \tilde{Z}(Z + \lambda I)^{-1} (\text{for G-RBF kernel})$.

Constructing Valid Kernels

- If $k_1(x_i, x_j)$ and $k_2(x_i, x_j)$ are valid kernels, then the following are valid kernels:
  - $k_1(\phi(x_i), \phi(x_j))$.
  - $\alpha k_1(x_i, x_j) + \beta k_2(x_i, x_j)$ for $\alpha \geq 0$ and $\beta \geq 0$.
  - $k_1(x_i, x_j)k_2(x_i, x_j)$.
  - $\phi(x_i)k_1(x_i, x_j)\phi(x_j)$.
  - $\exp(k_1(x_i, x_j))$.
- Example: Gaussian-RBF kernel:

$$k(x_i, x_j) = \exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i - x_j\|^2}{\sigma^2}\right)$$

$$= \underbrace{\exp\left(-\frac{\|x_i\|^2}{\sigma^2}\right)}_{\phi(x_i)} \underbrace{\exp\left(\underbrace{\frac{2}{\sigma^2}}_{\alpha \geq 0} \underbrace{x_i^T x_j}_{\text{valid}}\right)}_{\exp(\text{valid})} \underbrace{\exp\left(-\frac{\|x_j\|^2}{\sigma^2}\right)}_{\phi(x_j)}.$$

Representer Theorem

- Consider linear model differentiable with losses f_i and L2-regularization,

$$\underset{w \in \mathbb{R}^d}{\text{argmin}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f_i(w^T x_i) + \frac{\lambda}{2}\|w\|^2.$$

- Setting the gradient equal to zero we get

$$0 = \sum_{i=1}^{n} f_i'(w^T x_i) x_i + \lambda w.$$

- So any solution w^* can written as a linear combination of features x_i,

$$\begin{aligned} w^* &= -\frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^{n} f_i'((w^*)^T x_i) x_i = \sum_{i=1}^{n} z_i x_i \\ &= X^T z. \end{aligned}$$

- This is called a representer theorem (true under much more general conditions).

Kernel Trick for Other Methods

- Besides L2-regularized least squares, when can we use kernels?
  - "Representer theorems" have shown that
    any L2-regularized linear model can be kernelized.

  - Linear models without regularization fit with gradient descent.
    - If you starting at v=0 or with any other value in span of rows of 'Z'.

Iterations of gradient descent on $f(Zv)$ can be written as $v = Z^T u$
which lets us re-parameterize as $f(ZZ^T u)$

At test time you would use $\tilde{Z}v = \tilde{Z}Z^T u = \tilde{K}u$

($Z^T u$ = X, $\tilde{Z}Z^T$ = $\tilde{K}$)