

### 3 - KRR and Non-monotonic Risk Curves

- We start with generalization of kernel ridge regression.
- Give linear regression as an example and show 'double descent'.

#### \* Kernel Ridge Regression (KRR):

- Observe  $n$  i.i.d. samples  $(x_i, y_i) \sim p(x, y)$

$$(KRR) \quad \hat{f} = \underset{f \in \mathcal{F}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \left\{ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - f(x_i))^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 := \hat{\mathcal{R}}_{KRR}(f) \right\}$$

$\hookrightarrow$  RKHS

- $x_i \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $y_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is the feature map.

$\mathcal{F}$  is an RKHS and  $k(\cdot, \cdot)$  is the associated kernel.

#### - RKHS recap:

**Def (Kernel):** A kernel is a fnc  $k: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t. for any  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$ , the matrix  $K_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$  is PSD.

**Def (Hilbert space):** A HS is an inner product space that is also a complete metric space wrt its norm.  
 $\mathcal{F}$  is HS,  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$  is inner product, which defines a norm  $\| \cdot \|_{\mathcal{F}} = \sqrt{\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}}$

**Thm ( $\phi \rightarrow k$ ):** A feature map  $\phi: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}$  defines a kernel.

proof: -  $k(x, x') = \langle \phi(x), \phi(x') \rangle$

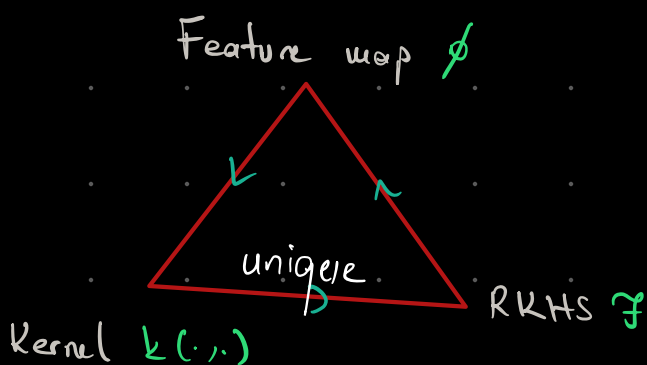
- For any  $x_1, \dots, x_n$   $K_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$  is PSD.  $\square$

$\hookrightarrow$  kernel matrix  $K \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$

**Def (RKHS)**: An RKHS  $\mathcal{F}$  is a "nice" Hilbert space. Key property:

\* Function evaluations can be written as inner products in  $\mathcal{F}$   
 $\forall f \in \mathcal{F}, f(x) = \langle f, \Psi_x \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$  for some  $\Psi_x \in \mathcal{F}$ .  
 $\downarrow$  called the representer.

**Thm ( $\mathcal{F} \leftrightarrow k$ )**: Every RKHS  $\mathcal{F}$  is associated with a unique kernel  $k$ .



**Theorem (Representer thm)**: Any minimizer  $\hat{f}$  of KRR is given by

$$\hat{f} = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \underbrace{k(x_i, \cdot)}_{\Psi_{x_i} \text{ the representer}} \left\{ \text{where } \alpha = (K + n\lambda I)^{-1} y \right\}$$

linear combination of representer.

**Model**:  $y_i = f_x(x_i) + \epsilon_i$  where  $\epsilon_i \perp x_i$ ,  $\mathbb{E}\epsilon_i = 0$ ,  $\mathbb{E}\epsilon_i^2 = \sigma^2$ .

Sets  $p(y|x)$  but nothing on  $p(x)$  yet.

$$\Rightarrow \hat{R}_{\text{reg}}(f) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i y_i^2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_i f(x_i)^2 - \frac{2}{n} \sum_i y_i f(x_i) + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2$$

Recall: Representer  $\Psi_x = k(x, \cdot)$   $\langle f, \Psi_x \rangle = f(x)$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_i y_i^2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \langle f, \Psi_{x_i} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}^2 - \frac{2}{n} \sum_i y_i \langle f, \Psi_{x_i} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2$$

Define:  $\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \Psi_{x_i} \otimes \Psi_{x_i} \rightarrow$  self-adjoint operator

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_i^2 + \langle f, \hat{\Sigma} f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} - 2 \left\langle \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_i \Psi_{x_i}, f \right\rangle_{\mathcal{F}} + \lambda \langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}$$

and define  $\hat{b} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_i \Psi_{x_i}$

$$= \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_i^2 + \langle f, \hat{\Sigma} f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} - 2 \langle \hat{b}, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} + \lambda \langle f, f \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \text{ (quadratic in } f)$$

$\longrightarrow$  minimized at  $\hat{f} = (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \hat{b}$ .

- We are interested in **expected excess risk**:  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{f} - f_*\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right]$

$\downarrow$   
 $\rho(x)$

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{f} - f_*\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right] = \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \gamma_i \Psi_{x_i} - f_* \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right]$$

$\hookrightarrow = f_*(x_i) + \varepsilon_i$   
 $= \langle \Psi_{x_i}, f_* \rangle + \varepsilon_i$  (!!) can we do this?

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \Psi_{x_i} \left\{ \underbrace{\langle \Psi_{x_i}, f_* \rangle}_{\varepsilon_i \perp x_i} + \varepsilon_i \right\} - f_* \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \varepsilon_i \Psi_{x_i} \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right] + \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \Psi_{x_i} \langle \Psi_{x_i}, f_* \rangle - f_* \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right]$$

Variance  $\triangleq V(\lambda)$

Bias  $\triangleq B(\lambda)$

Let  $\Sigma = \mathbb{E} \hat{\Sigma}$  (or  $\mathbb{E}[\Psi_x \otimes \Psi_x]$ ) and observe

$$\begin{aligned} \int \|g\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 &= \int g(x)^2 d\rho(x) = \int \langle g, \Psi_x \rangle_{\mathcal{F}}^2 d\rho(x) = \left\langle g, \int \Psi_x \otimes \Psi_x d\rho(x) g \right\rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \\ &= \langle g, \Sigma g \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \end{aligned}$$

$$V(\lambda) \stackrel{\text{by } \nabla}{=} \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\langle (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \varepsilon_i \Psi_{x_i}, \Sigma (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda I)^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \varepsilon_i \Psi_{x_i} \right\rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{n^2} \mathbb{E} \left[ \text{Tr} \left( (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Sigma (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \sum_i \varepsilon_i^2 \Psi_{x_i} \otimes \Psi_{x_i} \right) \right] \\
(\vee) \quad &= \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[ \text{Tr} \left( (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Sigma (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} \right) \right] \quad \mathbb{E}_{\varepsilon} \rightarrow = \hat{\Sigma} \cdot n \cdot \sigma^2 \\
&\leq \mathbf{I} \quad \text{since} \quad (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} \leq \mathbf{I} \\
&\leq \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[ \text{Tr} \left( (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Sigma \right) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

To simplify calculations, we assume  $f_* \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow \langle f_*, \Psi_x \rangle = f_*(x)$

$$\mathcal{B}(\lambda): \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \frac{1}{n} \sum_i \Psi_{x_i} \langle \Psi_{x_i}, f_* \rangle - f_* \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right]$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} f_* - f_* \right\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right]$$

by  $\nabla$ !

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\langle \left\{ (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} - \mathbf{I} \right\} f_*, \Sigma \left\{ (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} - \mathbf{I} \right\} f_* \right\rangle_{\mathcal{F}} \right]$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \hat{\Sigma} - \mathbf{I} &= (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) - \mathbf{I} \\
&= \mathbf{I} - \lambda (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} - \mathbf{I}
\end{aligned}$$

$$= \mathbb{E} \left[ \left\| \lambda \Sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} f_* \right\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2 \right]$$

-  $\hat{\Sigma}$  concentrates around  $\Sigma$  (Bach p185) for constant  $d$ . Need  $\|\Psi_x\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq R$

- First term  $\approx \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \text{Tr}((\Sigma + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Sigma) = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\sigma^2}{n\lambda}\right)$

- Second term  $\approx \lambda^2 \left\langle f_*, \underbrace{(\Sigma + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1} \Sigma}_{\leq \mathbf{I}} \cdot \underbrace{(\Sigma + \lambda \mathbf{I})^{-1}}_{\leq \frac{1}{\lambda}} f_* \right\rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \mathcal{O}(\lambda \|f_*\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2)$

$$\Rightarrow \text{Excess Risk} \lesssim \frac{\sigma^2}{n\lambda} + \lambda \|f_*\|_{\mathcal{F}}^2$$

- choosing  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$   $\approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \Rightarrow$  generalization  $\downarrow$

**Theorem**. Let  $y_i = f^*(x_i) + \varepsilon_i$  for  $i=1, \dots, n$  for  $f^* \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\hat{f} = \underset{\mathcal{F}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \hat{R}_{\text{ker}}(f)$  for  $\lambda = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$ . Then, if  $\|\Psi_x\|_{\mathcal{F}} \leq R \ \forall x$ , we have

$$\mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{f} - f^*\|_{L^2(\rho)}^2 \right] \lesssim \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}$$

- Double descent in linear regression

- RKHS:  $\mathcal{F} = \{f_{\theta}(x) = \langle \theta, x \rangle : \theta \in \mathbb{R}^d\}$

-  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} : \langle f_{\theta}, f_w \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = \langle \theta, w \rangle_{\mathbb{R}^d} = \theta^T w$

- Representer:  $\langle \Psi_x, f_{\theta} \rangle_{\mathcal{F}} = f_{\theta}(x) = \langle \theta, x \rangle$   
 $\Psi_x(y) = \langle x, y \rangle$  (or  $\Psi_x = f_x$ )

- Model:  $y = \langle \theta_*, x \rangle + \varepsilon \quad \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \mathbf{I}) \\ \theta_* \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{d} \mathbf{I}) \end{array} \right\} \mathbb{E} \langle \theta_*, x \rangle^2 = 1$$

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\theta} &= \underset{\theta}{\operatorname{argmin}} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \langle \theta, x_i \rangle)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\theta\|_2^2 \\ &= \underbrace{\left( \frac{1}{n} X^T X + \lambda \mathbf{I} \right)^{-1}}_{\hat{\Sigma}} \frac{1}{n} X^T y \end{aligned}$$

- Excess Risk:  $\mathbb{E} \left[ \|\hat{\theta} - \theta_*\|^2 \right] \triangleq \mathbb{E} R(\lambda)$

By (V) and (B)

$$\mathbb{E} R(\lambda) = \mathcal{B}(\lambda) + \mathcal{V}(\lambda) \quad \text{where}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 B(\lambda) &= \lambda^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \langle \theta^*, (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \Sigma)^{-2} \theta^* \rangle \right] & V(\lambda) &= \frac{\sigma^2}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[ \text{Tr} \left( (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \Sigma)^{-2} \hat{\Sigma} \right) \right] \\
 &= \frac{\lambda^2}{d} \mathbb{E} \left[ \text{Tr} \left( (\hat{\Sigma} + \lambda \Sigma)^{-2} \right) \right] & &= \sigma^2 \frac{d}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\lambda_i}{(\lambda_i + \lambda)^2} \right] \\
 &= \lambda^2 \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{1}{(\lambda_i + \lambda)^2} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda_i$ 's are the eigenvalues of  $\hat{\Sigma}$ .

— **Marchenko-Pastur Law:** Let  $d, n \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\frac{d}{n} \rightarrow \gamma$ .

Let  $X \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times d}$  s.t.  $X_{ij}$  are iid mean, variance 1.

Then, for any reasonable fnc  $\phi$  and  $\hat{\Sigma} = \frac{1}{n} X^T X$

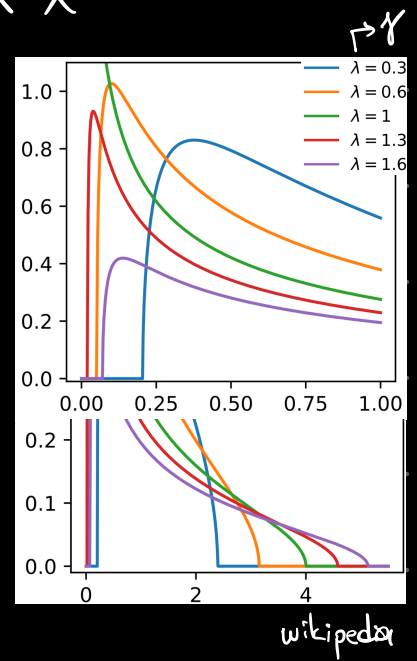
$$\frac{1}{d} \sum_{j=1}^d \phi(\lambda_j(\hat{\Sigma})) \xrightarrow{\text{a.s.}} \int \phi d\mu$$

where  $\mu$  is the M-P law given as

$$\frac{d\mu}{dz} = \begin{cases} (1-\gamma^{-1})\delta_0(z) + \nu(z) & \text{if } \gamma > 1 \\ \nu(z) & \text{if } \gamma \in [0, 1] \end{cases}$$

$$\text{and } \nu(z) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{\sqrt{(\gamma_+ - z)(z - \gamma_-)}}{\gamma z} & z \in [\gamma_-, \gamma_+] \\ 0 & \text{otw} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{with } \gamma_{\pm} = (1 \pm \sqrt{\gamma})^2$$



\* **Stieltjes transform:**

$$s(z) = \int \frac{1}{x-z} d\mu(x)$$

of M-P law:

$$s(-z) = \frac{-1 + \gamma - z + \sqrt{(1 - \gamma + z)^2 + 4\gamma z}}{2\gamma z} \quad \text{for } z > 0.$$

\* For linear regression:  $ER(\lambda) = V(\lambda) + B(\lambda)$

$$V: \quad V(\lambda) = \sigma^2 \frac{d}{n} \mathbb{E} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\lambda_i}{(\lambda_i + \lambda)^2} \right]$$

$$\rightarrow \sigma^2 \gamma \int \frac{z}{(\lambda+z)^2} d\mu(z) = \sigma^2 \gamma \left\{ \int \frac{1}{\lambda+z} d\mu(z) - \int \frac{\lambda}{(\lambda+z)^2} d\mu(z) \right\}$$

$$= \sigma^2 \gamma \left\{ s(-\lambda) - \lambda s'(-\lambda) \right\}.$$

$$B: \quad B(\lambda) \rightarrow \lambda^2 \int \frac{1}{(\lambda+x)^2} d\mu(x) = \lambda^2 s'(-\lambda)$$

**Theorem:** Let  $y_i = \langle \theta_*, x_i \rangle + \varepsilon_i$  for  $x \sim \mathcal{N}(0, I) \perp \varepsilon \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$  and  $\theta_* \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \frac{1}{\gamma} I)$ . Then, the ridge regression solution

$$\hat{\theta}_\lambda = \operatorname{argmin}_{\theta} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (y_i - \langle \theta, x_i \rangle)^2 + \frac{\lambda}{2} \|\theta\|_2^2$$

satisfies  $\mathbb{E}[\|\hat{\theta}_\lambda - \theta_*\|^2] \triangleq \mathbb{E}R(\lambda) = B(\lambda) + V(\lambda)$  where as  $\frac{d}{n} \rightarrow \gamma$

$$B(\lambda) \rightarrow \lambda^2 s'(-\lambda)$$

$$V(\lambda) \rightarrow \sigma^2 \gamma \left\{ s(-\lambda) - \lambda s'(-\lambda) \right\} \text{ almost surely.}$$

### Remarks:

- "Ridgeless" case ( $\lambda \downarrow 0$ )  $\Rightarrow$  Minimum norm solution when  $d > n$ .  
 Gradient descent can find this!  
 Implicit regularization (A1)

$$\lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} B(\lambda) = B(0_+) = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \lambda^2 s'(-\lambda) = \begin{cases} 0 & \gamma < 1 \\ 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} & \gamma \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

$$\lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} V(\lambda) = V(0_+) = \lim_{\lambda \downarrow 0} \sigma^2 \gamma \left\{ s(-\lambda) - \lambda s'(-\lambda) \right\} = \sigma^2 \begin{cases} \frac{\gamma}{1-\gamma} & \gamma < 1 \\ \frac{1}{\gamma-1} & \gamma \geq 1 \end{cases} \quad (A1)$$

\* Variance diverges only when  $\lambda = 0_+$ .

