

# Sparse Kernel Density Estimation Technique Based on Zero-Norm Constraint

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# Outline

- 1 Motivations
  - Existing Regularisation Approaches
  - Our Contributions
- 2 Proposed Sparse Kernel Density Estimator
  - Problem Formulation
  - Approximate Zero-Norm Regularisation
  - $D$ -Optimality Based Subset Selection
- 3 Numerical Examples
  - Experimental Set Up
  - Experimental Results
- 4 Conclusions

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# Regularisation Methods

- **Two-norm** of weight vector
  - Naturally combined with quadratic main cost function, and computationally efficient implementation
  - Only drive many weights to small near-zero values
- **One-norm** of weight vector
  - Can drive many weights to zero, and hence should achieve sparser results than two-norm based method
  - Harder to minimise and higher complexity implementation
- **Zero-norm** of weight vector
  - Ultimate model sparsity and generalisation performance
  - Intractable in implementation, and even with approximation, very difficult to minimise and impose very high complexity

Two-norm and one-norm based regularisations have been combined with OLS algorithm, with the former approach providing highly efficient sparse kernel modelling

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# Our Contributions

- We incorporate an effective **approximate zero-norm** regularisation into **sparse kernel density** estimation
  - Approximate zero-norm naturally merges into underlying **constrained nonnegative quadratic programming**
  - Various SVM algorithms can readily be applied to obtain SKD estimate efficiently
- Proposed sparse kernel density estimator:
  - use  $D$ -optimality OLS subset selection to select a small number of significant kernels, in terms of kernel eigenvalues
  - then solve final SKD estimate from associate subset constrained nonnegative quadratic programming

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# Kernel Density Estimation

- Give finite data set  $D_N = \{\mathbf{x}_k\}_{k=1}^N$ , drawn from unknown **density**  $p(\mathbf{x})$ , where  $\mathbf{x}_k \in \mathcal{R}^m$
- Infer  $p(\mathbf{x})$  based on  $D_N$  using **kernel density estimate**

$$\hat{p}(\mathbf{x}; \beta_N, \rho) = \sum_{k=1}^N \beta_k K_\rho(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_k)$$

$$\text{s.t. } \beta_k \geq 0, 1 \leq k \leq N, \beta_N^T \mathbf{1}_N = 1$$

- Here  $\beta_N = [\beta_1 \ \beta_2 \ \cdots \ \beta_N]^T$ : kernel weight vector,  $\mathbf{1}_N$ : the vector of ones with dimension  $N$ , and  $K_\rho(\bullet, \bullet)$ : chosen kernel function with **kernel width**  $\rho$
- **Unsupervised** density estimation  $\Rightarrow$  “**supervised**” regression
  - using **Parzen window** estimate as “desired response”



# Regression Formulation

- For  $\mathbf{x}_k \in D_N$ , denote  $\hat{y}_k = \hat{p}(\mathbf{x}_k; \beta_N, \rho)$ ,  $y_k$  as Parzen window estimate at  $\mathbf{x}_k$ , and  $\varepsilon_k = y_k - \hat{y}_k \Rightarrow$  **regression** formulation

$$y_k = \hat{y}_k + \varepsilon_k = \phi_N^T(k)\beta_N + \varepsilon_k$$

or over  $D_N$

$$\mathbf{y} = \Phi_N \beta_N + \varepsilon$$

- Associated **constrained nonnegative quadratic programming**

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_N} & \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \beta_N^T \mathbf{B}_N \beta_N - \mathbf{v}_N^T \beta_N \right\} \\ \text{s.t.} & \beta_N^T \mathbf{1}_N = 1 \text{ and } \beta_i \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq N \end{aligned}$$

where  $\mathbf{B}_N = \Phi_N^T \Phi_N$  is the design matrix and  $\mathbf{v}_N = \Phi_N^T \mathbf{y}$

- This is **not** using kernel density estimate to fit Parzen window estimate !

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# Zero-Norm Constraint

- Given  $\alpha > 0$ , an approximation to **zero norm**  $\|\beta_N\|_0$  is

$$\|\beta_N\|_0 \approx \sum_{i=1}^N \left(1 - e^{-\alpha|\beta_i|}\right)$$

- Combining this zero-norm constraint with constrained NNQP

$$\begin{aligned} \min_{\beta_N} & \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \beta_N^T \mathbf{B}_N \beta_N - \mathbf{v}_N^T \beta_N + \lambda \sum_{i=1}^N \left(1 - e^{-\alpha|\beta_i|}\right) \right\} \\ \text{s.t. } & \beta_N^T \mathbf{1}_N = 1 \text{ and } \beta_i \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq N \end{aligned}$$

with  $\lambda > 0$  a small “regularisation” parameter

- With 2nd order **Taylor series expansion** for  $e^{-\alpha|\beta_i|}$

$$e^{-\alpha|\beta_i|} \approx 1 - \alpha|\beta_i| + \frac{\alpha^2 \beta_i^2}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^N \left(1 - e^{-\alpha|\beta_i|}\right) \approx \alpha \sum_{i=1}^N |\beta_i| - \frac{\alpha^2}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_i^2$$

# Constrained NNQP

- Hence, “new” constrained NNQP

$$\min_{\beta_N} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \beta_N^T \mathbf{A}_N \beta_N - \mathbf{v}_N^T \beta_N \right\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \beta_N^T \mathbf{1}_N = 1 \text{ and } \beta_i \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq N$$

$\mathbf{A}_N = \mathbf{B}_N - \delta \mathbf{I}_N$  and  $\delta = \lambda \alpha^2$  predetermined small parameter

- Remark:** Under convexity constraint on  $\beta_N$ , **minimisation** of approximate **zero norm**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **maximisation** of **two norm**  $\beta_N^T \mathbf{I}_N \beta_N$
- Design matrix  $\mathbf{B}_N$  should **positive definite**, and  $\delta$  bounded by smallest **eigenvalue** of  $\mathbf{B}_N$  so that  $\mathbf{A}_N$  also positive definite
  - Common for  $\mathbf{B}_N$  of large data set to be ill-conditioned
  - Approach most **effective** when it is applied following some model **subset selection** preprocessing

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# D-Optimality Design

- **Least squares** estimate  $\hat{\beta}_N = \mathbf{B}_N^{-1} \Phi_N^T \mathbf{y}$  is unbiased and covariance matrix of estimate  $\text{Cov}[\hat{\beta}_N] \propto \mathbf{B}_N^{-1}$ 
  - Estimation accurate depends on **condition number**

$$C = \frac{\max\{\sigma_i, 1 \leq i \leq N\}}{\min\{\sigma_i, 1 \leq i \leq N\}}$$

where  $\sigma_i, 1 \leq i \leq N$ , are eigenvalues of  $\mathbf{B}_N$

- *D*-optimality design maximises **determinant** of design matrix
  - Selected subset model  $\Phi_{N_s}$  maximises

$$\det(\Phi_{N_s}^T \Phi_{N_s}) = \det(\mathbf{B}_{N_s})$$

- Prevent oversized ill-posed model and high estimate variances
- **“Unsupervised”** *D*-optimality design particularly suitable for determining structure of kernel density estimate

# OFR Aided Algorithm

- **Orthogonal forward regression** selects  $\Phi_{N_s}$  of  $N_s$  significant kernels based on  $D$ -optimality criterion
  - Complexity of this **preprocessing** no more than  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$
- This preprocessing results in subset constrained NNQP

$$\min_{\beta_{N_s}} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \beta_{N_s}^T \mathbf{A}_{N_s} \beta_{N_s} - \mathbf{v}_{N_s}^T \beta_{N_s} \right\}$$

$$\text{s.t. } \beta_{N_s}^T \mathbf{1}_{N_s} = 1 \text{ and } \beta_i \geq 0, 1 \leq i \leq N_s$$

with  $\mathbf{v}_{N_s} = \Phi_{N_s}^T \mathbf{y}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_{N_s} = \mathbf{B}_{N_s} - \delta \mathbf{I}_{N_s}$ ,  $\mathbf{B}_{N_s} = \Phi_{N_s}^T \Phi_{N_s}$ ,  $\delta < \mathbf{w}_{N_s}^T \mathbf{w}_{N_s}$

- Various **SVM** algorithms can be used to solve this problem
- As  $N_s$  is very small and  $\mathbf{A}_{N_s}$  is well-conditioned, we use simple **multiplicative** nonnegative quadratic programming algorithm
  - Complexity of which is negligible, in comparison with  $\mathcal{O}(N^2)$  of  $D$ -optimality based OFR preprocessing

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# Experimental Setup

- **Training** set had  $N$  randomly drawn samples, while **test** set of  $N_{\text{test}} = 10,000$  samples for calculating  $L_1$  test error

$$L_1 = \frac{1}{N_{\text{test}}} \sum_{k=1}^{N_{\text{test}}} |p(\mathbf{x}_k) - \hat{p}(\mathbf{x}_k; \beta_N, \rho)|$$

between true density  $p(\mathbf{x})$  and estimate  $\hat{p}(\mathbf{x}_k; \beta_N, \rho)$

- Numerical approximation of Kullback-Leibler **divergence** (KLD)

$$D_{\text{KL}}(p|\hat{p}) = \int_{\mathcal{R}^m} p(\mathbf{x}) \log \frac{p(\mathbf{x})}{\hat{p}(\mathbf{x}; \beta_N, \rho)} d\mathbf{x}$$

also used for testing in 2-D case

- Proposed SKD estimator compared with **PW** estimator, our **previous** SKD estimator and reduced set density estimator (**RSDE**), as well as Gaussian mixture model (**GMM**) estimator

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# First 2-D Example

- True density: **mixture** of Gaussian and Laplacian distributions

$$p(x_1, x_2) = \frac{1}{4\pi} e^{-\frac{(x_1-2)^2}{2}} e^{-\frac{(x_2-2)^2}{2}} + \frac{0.35}{8} e^{-0.7|x_1+2|} e^{-0.5|x_2+2|}$$

$N = 500$ , and experiment repeated  $N_{\text{run}} = 100$  times

- Performance comparison,  $N = 500$  and average over 100 runs

estimator	PW	previous SKD	RSDE	GMM	proposed SKD
kernel	$\rho^{\text{Par}} = 0.42$	$\rho = 1.1$	$\rho = 1.2$	tunable	$\rho = 1.1$
$L_1 \times 10^3$	$4.04 \pm 0.69$	$3.84 \pm 0.78$	$4.05 \pm 0.45$	$3.47 \pm 0.99$	$3.56 \pm 0.69$
KLC $\times 10$	$1.47 \pm 0.23$	$1.40 \pm 0.53$	$0.90 \pm 0.41$	$0.61 \pm 0.17$	$1.30 \pm 0.31$
kernel no.	500	$15.3 \pm 3.9$	$16.2 \pm 3.4$	11	$11.0 \pm 1.5$
maximum	500	25	24	11	14
minimum	500	8	9	11	8

- Similar** test performance to existing kernel density estimators, but **sparser** estimate

## Second 2-D Example

- True density: **mixture** of five Gaussian distributions

$$p(x, y) = \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{10\pi} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu_{i,1})^2}{2}} e^{-\frac{(y-\mu_{i,2})^2}{2}}$$

Five means of Gaussian distributions:  $[0.0 - 4.0]$ ,  $[0.0 - 2.0]$ ,  $[0.0 0.0]$ ,  $[-2.0 0.0]$ , and  $[-4.0 0.0]$

- Performance comparison,  $N = 500$  and average over 100 runs

estimator	PW	previous SKD	RSDE	GMM	proposed SKD
kernel	$\rho^{\text{Par}} = 0.5$	$\rho = 1.1$	$\rho = 1.2$	tunable	$\rho = 1.0$
$L_1 \times 10^3$	$3.62 \pm 0.44$	$3.61 \pm 0.50$	$3.63 \pm 0.36$	$3.68 \pm 0.67$	$3.32 \pm 0.63$
$\text{KLC} \times 10^2$	$3.42 \pm 0.55$	$3.67 \pm 0.92$	$3.54 \pm 0.49$	$3.39 \pm 0.87$	$2.90 \pm 1.09$
kernel no.	500	$13.2 \pm 2.9$	$13.2 \pm 3.0$	8	$7.8 \pm 1.3$
maximum	500	22	21	8	11
minimum	500	8	6	8	5

- Similar** test performance to existing kernel density estimators, but **sparser** estimate

# 6-D Example

- True density: **mixture** of three Gaussian distributions

$$p(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{3} \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{6/2}} \frac{1}{\det^{1/2} |\Gamma_i|} e^{-\frac{1}{2}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu}_i)^T \Gamma_i^{-1}(\mathbf{x}-\boldsymbol{\mu}_i)}$$

with

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_1 &= [1.0 \ 1.0 \ 1.0 \ 1.0 \ 1.0 \ 1.0]^T \\ \Gamma_1 &= \text{diag}\{1.0, 2.0, 1.0, 2.0, 1.0, 2.0\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_2 &= [-1.0 \ -1.0 \ -1.0 \ -1.0 \ -1.0 \ -1.0]^T \\ \Gamma_2 &= \text{diag}\{2.0, 1.0, 2.0, 1.0, 2.0, 1.0\} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\mu}_3 &= [0.0 \ 0.0 \ 0.0 \ 0.0 \ 0.0 \ 0.0]^T \\ \Gamma_3 &= \text{diag}\{2.0, 1.0, 2.0, 1.0, 2.0, 1.0\} \end{aligned}$$

- Estimation set had  $N = 600$  samples, and experiment was repeated  $N_{\text{run}} = 100$  times

# 6-D Example Results

- Performance comparison,  $N = 600$  and average over 100 runs

estimator	PW	previous SKD	RSDE	GMM	proposed SKD
kernel	$\rho^{\text{Par}} = 0.65$	$\rho = 1.2$	$\rho = 1.2$	tunable	$\rho = 1.2$
$L_1 \times 10^5$	$3.52 \pm 0.16$	$3.11 \pm 0.53$	$2.74 \pm 0.50$	$1.74 \pm 0.29$	$2.77 \pm 0.24$
kernel no.	600	$9.4 \pm 1.9$	$14.2 \pm 3.6$	8	$7.9 \pm 1.3$
maximum	600	16	25	8	12
minimum	600	7	8	8	5

- Similar** test performance to existing kernel density estimators, but **sparser** estimate

# Conclusions

- We have integrated zero-norm regularisation naturally into construction of sparse kernel density estimator
  - Classical Parzen window estimate as “desired response”
  - Convexity constraint with zero-norm approximation turns problem into tractable nonnegative quadratic programming
  - $D$ -optimality preprocessing selects small significant kernel subset to ensure well-conditioned solution
  - Complexity compares favourably with existing sparse kernel density estimators
- Zero-norm regularisation and  $D$ -optimality aided estimator offers an efficient means
  - for selecting very sparse kernel density estimates with excellent generalisation performance