

# Reproducing kernel Hilbert $C^*$ -module for data analysis

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May 2nd, 2023

- Y. Hashimoto, I. Ishikawa, M. Ikeda, F. Komura, T. Katsura, and Y. Kawahara, JMLR, 22(267):1–56 (updated version : arXiv:2101.11410v2)
- Y. Hashimoto, F. Komura, and M. Ikeda, Matrix and Operator Equations, to appear
- Y. Hashimoto, M. Ikeda, and H. Kadri, AISTATS 2023

## Yuka Hashimoto

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- 2018 Received Master's degree from Keio University
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- 2022 Received Ph.D. from Keio University
- 2022- Visiting researcher at RIKEN AIP

## Backgrounds / Interests

- Operator theoretic data analysis
- Kernel methods
- Numerical linear algebra

## 1. Motivation and Background

## 2. Reproducing kernel Hilbert $C^*$ -module (RKHM)

### 2.1 Hilbert $C^*$ -module and RKHM

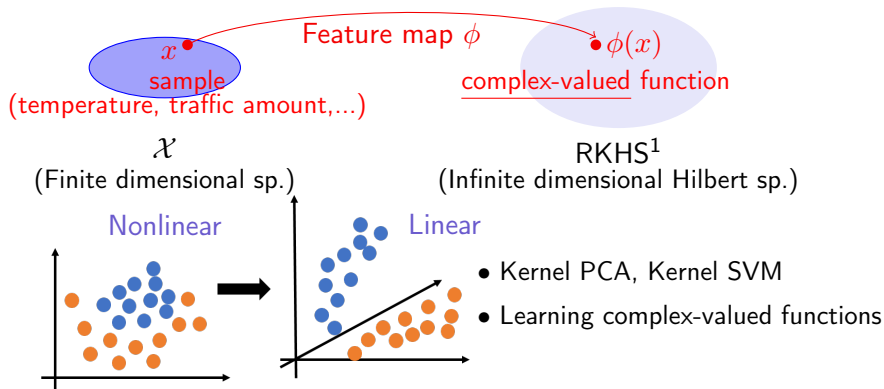
### 2.2 Representer theorems and kernel mean embedding in RKHMs

## 3. Applications

### 3.1 Supervised learning for image data

## 4. Conclusion

# Kernel methods



## Advantages of RKHS

- Nonlinearity in the original space is transformed into a linear one.
- We can compute inner products in RKHS exactly by computers.

<sup>1</sup>Schölkopf and Smola, MIT Press, Cambridge, 2001

# Reproducing kernel Hilbert space (RKHS)

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a set. A map  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is called a **positive definite kernel** if it satisfies:

1.  $k(x, y) = \overline{k(y, x)}$  for  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$  and
2.  $\sum_{t,s=1}^n \overline{c_t} k(x_t, x_s) c_s \geq 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$ .

$\phi(x) := k(\cdot, x)$  ( $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{\mathcal{X}}$ : feature map associated with  $k$ ),

$$\mathcal{H}_{k,0} := \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^n \phi(x_t) c_t \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, c_t \in \mathbb{C}, x_t \in \mathcal{X} \right\}. \quad (1)$$

We can define an **inner product**  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_k : \mathcal{H}_{k,0} \times \mathcal{H}_{k,0} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  as

$$\left\langle \sum_{s=1}^n \phi(x_s) c_s, \sum_{t=1}^l \phi(y_t) d_t \right\rangle_k := \sum_{s=1}^n \sum_{t=1}^l \overline{c_s} k(x_s, y_t) d_t. \quad (2)$$

**RKHS  $\mathcal{H}_k$ : completion of  $\mathcal{H}_{k,0}$**

# Representer theorem in RKHSs

The representer theorem guarantees that solutions of a minimization problem are **represented only with given samples**<sup>2</sup>.

$\mathcal{H}_k$ : RKHS

$$\mathbb{R}_+ := \{a \in \mathbb{R} \mid a \geq 0\}$$

## Theorem 1 Representer theorem in RKHSs

Let  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{C}$ . Let  $h : \mathcal{X} \times \mathbb{C}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  be an error function and  $g : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$  satisfy  $g(c) < g(d)$  for  $c < d$ . Then, any  $u \in \mathcal{H}_k$  minimizing  $\sum_{i=1}^n h(x_i, a_i, u(x_i)) + g(\|u\|_k)$  admits a representation of the form  $\sum_{i=1}^n \phi(x_i) c_i$  for some  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathbb{C}$ .

The result can be applied to supervised problems.

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<sup>2</sup>Schölkopf et al., COLT 2001.

# Kernel mean embedding in RKHSs

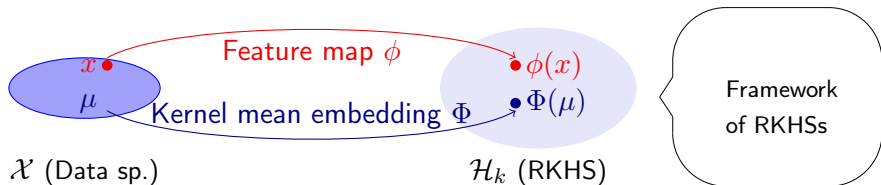
The kernel mean embedding enables us to generalize the framework of RKHSs to **analyzing measures**.

$k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ : positive definite kernel,  $\mathcal{H}_k$ : RKHS

$\mathcal{D}(\mathcal{X})$ : set of all complex-valued finite regular Borel measures

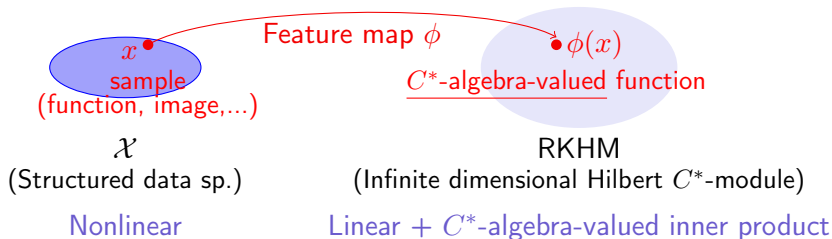
Kernel mean embedding in  $\mathcal{H}_k$ <sup>3</sup>:

$$\Phi : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{X}) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_k, \langle \Phi(\mu), v \rangle_k = \int_{x \in \mathcal{X}} v(x) d\mu(x)$$



<sup>3</sup>Muandet et al., Kernel Mean Embedding of Distributions: A Review and Beyond, 2017.

# Goal: Generalization of data analysis in RKHS to RKHM



## Advantages of RKHM:

- $C^*$ -algebra-valued inner products extract information of **structures**.

## We constructed a framework of data analysis with RKHM.

- We can reconstruct existing RKHSs by using RKHMs.
- We have shown fundamental properties for data analysis in RKHMs (e.g. representer theorem, kernel mean embedding).



# $C^*$ -algebra and von Neumann-algebra

**$C^*$ -algebra** : Banach space equipped with a product & an involution  $*$  +  $\alpha$   
e.g.

- $C(\mathcal{Z})$  for a compact space  $\mathcal{Z}$   
**Norm** : sup norm, **Product** : pointwise product,  
**Involution** : pointwise complex conjugate
- $\mathcal{K}(\mathcal{H}) = \{\text{compact operators on a Hilbert space } \mathcal{H}\}$   
**Norm** : operator norm, **Product** : composition, **Involution** : adjoint

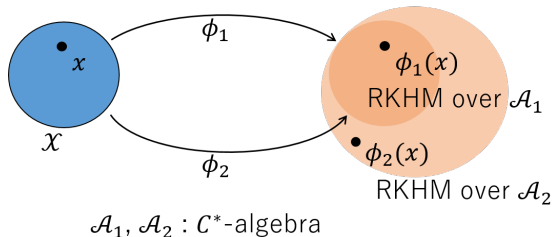
**Von Neumann-algebra** :  $C^*$ -algebra that is closed in the strong operator topology

e.g.

- $L^\infty(\mathcal{Z})$  for a measure space  $\mathcal{Z}$
- $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) = \{\text{bounded linear operators on a Hilbert space } \mathcal{H}\}$

# Advantages of RKHM

- **Enlarge representation spaces** using  $C^*$ -algebras (e.g. use the  $C^*$ -algebra of continuous functions for functional data).



- Construct positive definite kernels from the perspective of  $C^*$ -algebra. (Make use of the **product structure**.)  
e.g. polynomial kernel  $k(x, y) = x^*y + x^*x^*yy$  ( $x, y \in \mathcal{A}_1$  or  $\mathcal{A}_2$ )

# Hilbert $C^*$ -module

$\mathcal{A}$ :  $C^*$ -algebra

$\mathcal{M}$ : right  $\mathcal{A}$ -module ( $u \in \mathcal{M}, c \in \mathcal{A} \rightarrow uc \in \mathcal{M}$ )

## Definition 1 $\mathcal{A}$ -valued inner product

A map  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \mathcal{M} \times \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is called an  $\mathcal{A}$ -valued inner product if it satisfies the following properties for  $u, v, w \in \mathcal{M}$  and  $c, d \in \mathcal{A}$ :

1.  $\langle u, vc + wd \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle c + \langle u, w \rangle d$ ,
2.  $\langle v, u \rangle = \langle u, v \rangle^*$ ,
3.  $\langle u, u \rangle \geq 0$  and if  $\langle u, u \rangle = 0$  then  $u = 0$ .

$\rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ -valued absolute value  $|u| := \langle u, u \rangle^{1/2} \rightarrow$  Norm  $\|u\| := \|\langle u, u \rangle\|_{\mathcal{A}}^{1/2}$

**Hilbert  $C^*$ -module  $\mathcal{M}^4$ :** complete  $\mathcal{A}$ -module equipped with an  $\mathcal{A}$ -valued inner-product

<sup>4</sup>Lance, Cambridge University Press, 1995.

# Review of reproducing kernel Hilbert $C^*$ -module

$\mathcal{A}$ :  $C^*$ -algebra

RKHS ( $\mathcal{H}_k$ ):

- $\mathbb{C}$ -valued positive definite kernel  $k$
- $\mathbb{C}$ -valued functions
- $\mathbb{C}$ -valued inner product

RKHM over  $\mathcal{A}$  ( $\mathcal{M}_k$ ):

- $\mathcal{A}$ -valued positive definite kernel  $k$
- $\mathcal{A}$ -valued functions
- $\mathcal{A}$ -valued inner product

# Reproducing kernel Hilbert $C^*$ -module (RKHM)

Let  $\mathcal{X}$  be a set. A map  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is called an  **$\mathcal{A}$ -valued positive definite kernel** if it satisfies:

1.  $k(x, y) = k(y, x)^*$  for  $x, y \in \mathcal{X}$  and
2.  $\sum_{t,s=1}^n c_t^* k(x_t, x_s) c_s \geq 0$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathcal{A}$ ,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$ .

$\phi(x) := k(\cdot, x)$  ( $\phi : \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{\mathcal{X}}$ : feature map associated with  $k$ ),

$$\mathcal{M}_{k,0} := \left\{ \sum_{t=1}^n \phi(x_t) c_t \mid n \in \mathbb{N}, c_t \in \mathcal{A}, x_t \in \mathcal{X} \right\}. \quad (3)$$

We can define an  **$\mathcal{A}$ -valued inner product**  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_k : \mathcal{M}_{k,0} \times \mathcal{M}_{k,0} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  as

$$\left\langle \sum_{s=1}^n \phi(x_s) c_s, \sum_{t=1}^l \phi(y_t) d_t \right\rangle_k := \sum_{s=1}^n \sum_{t=1}^l c_s^* k(x_s, y_t) d_t. \quad (4)$$

**RKHM  $\mathcal{M}_k$** : completion of  $\mathcal{M}_{k,0}$

# Representer theorem in RKHMs

To generalize complex-valued supervised problems to  $\mathcal{A}$ -valued ones, we show a representer theorem.

$\mathcal{M}_k$ : RKHM over  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $|\cdot|_k$ : absolute value in  $\mathcal{M}_k$   
 $\mathcal{A}_+ := \{a \in \mathcal{A} \mid \exists b \in \mathcal{A} \text{ such that } a = b^*b\}$

## Theorem 2 Representer theorem in RKHMs

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a unital  $C^*$ -algebra,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $h : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{A}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_+$  be an error function and  $g : \mathcal{A}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_+$  satisfy  $g(c) < g(d)$  for  $c < d$ . If  $\text{Span}_{\mathcal{A}}\{\phi(x_i)\}_{i=1}^n$  is closed, any  $u \in \mathcal{M}_k$  minimizing  $\sum_{i=1}^n h(x_i, a_i, u(x_i)) + g(|u|_k)$  admits a representation of the form  $\sum_{i=1}^n \phi(x_i)c_i$  for some  $c_1, \dots, c_n \in \mathcal{A}$ .

### Key point of the proof:

For a Hilbert  $C^*$ -module  $\mathcal{M}$  over a unital  $C^*$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  and any finitely generated closed submodule  $\mathcal{V}$  of  $\mathcal{M}$ ,  $u \in \mathcal{M}$  is decomposed into  $u = u_1 + u_2$  where  $u_1 \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $u_2 \in \mathcal{V}^\perp$ .

# Approximate representer theorem in RKHMs

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a von Neumann algebra, we can show an approximate representer theorem under mild conditions.

## Theorem 3 Approximate representer theorem in RKHMs

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a **von Neumann-algebra**,  $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathcal{A}$ . Let  $h : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{A}^2 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_+$  be a **Lipschitz continuous** error function with Lipschitz constant  $L$  and  $g : \mathcal{A}_+ \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_+$  satisfy  $g(c) < g(d)$  for  $c < d$ . Assume  $f(u) := \sum_{i=1}^n h(x_i, a_i, u(x_i)) + g(|u|_k)$  has a minimizer  $u$ . Then, for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists  $v \in \mathcal{M}_k$  of the form  $\sum_{i=1}^n \phi(x_i)c_i$  such that  $\|f(v) - f(u)\| \leq Ln\epsilon\|u\|$ .

### Key point of the proof:

If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a von Neumann-algebra, we can apply the spectral decomposition and construct an “orthonormalization” to the module generated by  $\{\phi(x_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ .

# Kernel mean embedding in RKHMs

$\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$ ,  $\mathcal{M}$  : Hilbert  $\mathcal{A}$ -module.

## Definition 2 Internal tensor

The completion of  $\mathcal{M} \otimes \mathcal{H}$  w.r.t.

$\langle w_1 \otimes u_1, w_2 \otimes u_2 \rangle = \langle u_1, \langle w_2, w_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} u_2 \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$  is denoted as  $\mathcal{M} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{H}$ .

## Definition 3 Von Neumann module

$\mathcal{W} = \mathcal{M} \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{H}$ . Identify  $w \in \mathcal{M}$  with the map  $u \mapsto w \otimes_{\mathcal{A}} u$  and regard  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{W})$ . If  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}, \mathcal{W})$  is strongly closed,  $\mathcal{M}$  is called a **von Neumann  $\mathcal{A}$ -module**.

Assume  $k$  is bounded and  $\phi(x) = k(\cdot, x) \in C_0(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{A})$  for any  $x \in \mathcal{X}$ .

Assume  $\mathcal{M}_k$  is a von Neumann-module (**Riesz representation theorem** is available). Kernel mean embedding  $\Phi : \mathcal{D}(\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}_k$  is defined as

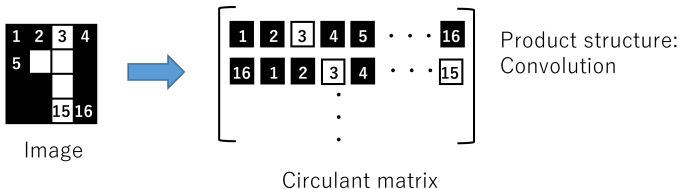
$$\Phi(\mu) = \int_{x \in \mathcal{X}} \phi(x) d\mu(x). \quad (5)$$



# Supervised learning in RKHM

$x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{X}$  : input training samples (e.g.  $\text{Circ}(p)$ )

$a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathcal{A}$  : output training samples (e.g.  $\mathbb{C}^{p \times p}$ )



Minimization problem ( $\lambda \geq 0$  : regularization parameter)

$$\min_{f \in \mathcal{M}_k} \left( \sum_{i=1}^n |f(x_i) - a_i|_{\mathcal{A}}^2 + \lambda |f|_k^2 \right). \quad (6)$$

→ Apply representer theorem in RKHM.

→ Solve the minimization problem using the Gram matrix.

# Supervised learning in RKHM

Example of kernels ( $q$ -th degree polynomial kernel)

$\mathcal{A}_1 := \text{Circ}(p) \subset \mathbb{C}^{p \times p} =: \mathcal{A}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathcal{A}_1^d$  (e.g. images),

$a_{i,j} \in \mathcal{A}_2$  ( $i = 1, \dots, d, j = 1, \dots, q + 1$ ),  $x_1 = [x_{1,1}, \dots, x_{1,n}]$

$$k(x_1, x_2) = \sum_{i=1}^d \left( \prod_{j=1}^q a_{i,j}^* x_{1,i}^* \right) a_{i,q+1}^* a_{i,q+1} \left( \prod_{j=1}^q x_{2,i} a_{i,q+1-j} \right) \in \mathcal{A}_2. \quad (7)$$

Product in  $\mathcal{A}_1$  (convolution):

Pointwise product of each Fourier component (FC)

$$\mathcal{A}_1 = \text{Circ}(p)$$

Product in  $\mathcal{A}_2$ :

Interaction of different FCs

$$\mathcal{A}_2 = \mathbb{C}^{p \times p}$$

By setting  $a_{i,j} \in \mathcal{A}_2$ , we go beyond the convolution in existing methods.

## Connection with CNN

$\mathcal{A}_1 := \text{Circ}(p)$ ,  $a_1, \dots, a_L, b_1, \dots, b_L \in \mathcal{A}_1$ ,  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_L : \mathcal{A}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_1$

$$\hat{k}(x, y) := \sigma_L(b_L^* b_L + \sigma_{L-1}(b_{L-1}^* b_{L-1} + \dots + \sigma_2(b_2^* b_2 + \sigma_1(b_1^* b_1 + x^* a_1^* a_1 y) a_2^* a_2) \dots a_{L-1}^* a_{L-1}) a_L^* a_L). \quad (8)$$

Then,  $\hat{k}$  is an  $\mathcal{A}_1$ -valued positive definite kernel.

The solution  $f$  of the supervised problem is

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_L(b_L^* b_L + \underbrace{\sigma_{L-1}(b_{L-1}^* b_{L-1} + \dots}_{\text{Bias}} + \sigma_2(b_2^* b_2 + \underbrace{\sigma_1(b_1^* b_1 + x^* a_1^* a_1 x_i)}_{\text{Convolution}}) a_2^* a_2) \dots a_{L-1}^* a_{L-1}) a_L^* a_L) c_i, \quad (9)$$

Activation

By setting  $a_1, \dots, a_L, b_1, \dots, b_L \in \mathcal{A}_2 \supset \mathcal{A}_1$ , we beyond CNNs.

# Numerical results

Noise reduction for MNIST (number of samples : 20)

Original



Input



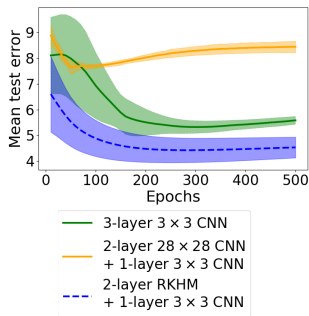
3-layer CNN



RKHM + 1-layer CNN



Input and output images



Mean test error versus the number of epochs

A CNN with an RKHM outperformed a CNN without an RKHM.

# Conclusion

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- RKHM is a natural generalization of RKHS.
- We showed a representer theorem and an approximate representer theorem in RKHMs and defined a kernel mean embedding in RKHMs.
- RKHMs are useful for analyzing image data.