### Non-IID: non-stationnarité et dépendances



# EPAT'14: École de Printemps sur l'Apprentissage arTificiel

11 juin 2014

# Outline

Overview and Motivating Examples

#### Recall: the Blessings of IIDness

Setting A Control on the Generalization Error Warming up:  $|\mathcal{H}| < +\infty$ Rademacher-based Generalization Bound Beyond IIDness

Non-Stationarity

(Non-)assumptions Quick Reminder on Kernels and RKHS Forgetting is Nice when Online Learning with Kernels Sequential Rademacher Complexity

#### Non-Independence

Mixing Processes Dependent Data

#### Conclusion

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### Problems

#### Learning from non-IID data

- Bipartite ranking and pairwise classification
- Similarity learning
- Classification of sequence data (mixing processes)
- Classification of connected webpages
- Active learning
- Covariate Shift
- ▶ ...

### Questions

- Algorithmic: how to deal with non-IIDness?
- Theoretical: what statistical guarantees can be exhibited?
- Algorithmic and theoretical: may theoretical results motivate new algorithms? vice versa?

Virtual Screening



- A scoring function f : M → ℝ that gives higher scores to toxic molecules
- Maximization of the Auc

### Learning *f*

A usual strategy is to learn a pairwise binary classifier on (toxic, non toxic) pairs (with default class +1)

Brain computer Interface: P300 speller



(from A. Rakotomamonjy)

#### Goal

Detect P300's in EEG signal.

### Nature of non-IIDness

- Drifting distribution (patient adaptation)
- Change of sampling distribution (covariate shift)

Edge prediction, relational learning, etc.



#### Interdependencies

- In training data
- In test data
- In general: a problem not obvious to formalize in the statistical learning framework

#### Robot navigation



#### Temporal dependencies (cf. mixing processes)

- The robot has to make a decision (e.g. {stop, right, left, forward}) at each time step t according to its environment X<sub>t</sub>
- X<sub>t</sub> depends on the past X<sub>t</sub>'s (t' < t) with a fading influence between the X<sub>t</sub>'s over time (cf. mixing processes)

Covariate Shift

"Learning when training and test distributions are different" (NIPS 06 wshp)



(from Storkey and Sugiyama [Storkey and Sugiyama, 2007])

Results:  $\mathbb{P}_{\text{train}}(Y|x) = \mathbb{P}_{\text{test}}(Y|x)$  and  $p_{\text{train}}(X) \neq p_{\text{test}}(X)$ Learning setting:  $S_{\text{train}} = \{(X_i, Y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $S_{\text{test}} = \{X_i\}_{i=1}^m$ 

- Importance Sampling (reweighting examples) by an estimation of β(X) = p<sub>test</sub>(X)/p<sub>train</sub>(X)
- Algorithmic and consistency results [Storkey and Sugiyama, 2007, Shimodaira, 2000, Smola et al., 2006]

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#### Beyond IIDness

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# IID Setting (supervised learning)

### Notation

▶ <i>X</i> : i	input space	$\mathbb{R}^{d}$
▶ 𝒴: t	target space	$\{-1,+1\}$
► <i>T</i> : c	output space	$\mathcal{T}=\mathbb{R}$

- D: probability distribution over  $\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y}$  (fixed and unknown)
- $S = \{(X_i, Y_i)\}_{i=1}^n$  IID sample  $\sim D$
- $\mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{T}^{\mathcal{X}}$ : function class

#### Loss function and risks

- $\blacktriangleright \ \ell: \mathcal{Y} \times \mathcal{T} \to \mathbb{R}$
- Empirical risk of h

$$\hat{R}_{\ell}(h,S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell(Y_i, h(X_i))$$

► True risk of *h* 

 $R_{\ell}(h,D) = \mathbb{E}_{X,Y \sim D}\ell(Y,h(X))$ 

# IID Setting (supervised learning)

### Example (Classification)

- 0-1 loss:  $\ell(y, t) = \mathbb{I}[yt < 0]$
- hinge loss:  $\ell(y, t) = |1 yt|_+$



### Example (Regression)

- Square loss:  $\ell(y, t) = (y t)^2$
- Absolute loss:  $\ell(y, t) = |y t|$



# IID Setting (supervised learning)

Ultimate goal Find a predictor with smallest risk within  $\ensuremath{\mathcal{H}}$ 

 $h^* = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{h\mathcal{H}} R_\ell(h,D)$ 

Key ingredients to devise and analyze learning procedures

Identical distribution

$$R_{\ell}(h,D) = \mathbb{E}_{S}R_{\ell}(h,S) \quad (=\mathbb{E}_{S}\frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\ell(Y_{i},h(X_{i})))$$

- Relevant concentration inequality (usually requires some form of indepedence)
- Capacity measure of *H* or of the class of hypotheses generated by the learning algorithm (cf. sample compression schemes, stability, robustness, ...)

### A Control on the Generalization Error

Targeted result  $\forall \delta \in (0, 1], \text{ with probability at least } 1 - \delta \text{ over the draw of } S:$   $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \qquad \mathbb{E}_{XY}\ell(h, X, Y) \leq \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \ell(Y_i, h(X_i)) + \varepsilon \left(\frac{1}{\delta}, \frac{1}{n}, \ldots\right).$ For binary classification  $(\ell = \ell_{0-1})$ : with prob.  $1 - \delta$   $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \qquad \mathbb{P}_{XY}(h(X) \neq Y) \leq \hat{R}(h, S) + \varepsilon \left(\frac{1}{\delta}, \frac{1}{n}, \ldots\right).$ where  $\hat{R}(h, S) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_i) \neq Y_i]$ 

#### On $\varepsilon$

- decreases when *n* increases and when  $\delta$  increases
- usually contains something related to the *capacity* of  $\mathcal{H}$

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#### Many ways to get generalization bounds

- ▶ VC dimension-based arguments [Vapnik, 1998]
- ▶ PAC-Bayesian theory [McAllester, 1999]
- ► Algorithmic stability theory [Bousquet and Elisseeff, 2002]
- Rademacher-complexity based arguments (our focus) [Bartlett and Mendelson, 2002]

▶ ...

Bound With prob. at least  $1 - \delta$ ,  $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \ R(h) \leq \hat{R}(h, S) + \sqrt{\frac{\log |\mathcal{H}| + \log \frac{1}{\delta}}{2n}}$ 

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Proof.

The proof hinges on Chernoff/Hoeffding concentration inequality: for  $Z_1, \ldots, Z_n$  independent (and identically distributed) variables with range [0; 1]

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\mathbb{E}Z_1 - \frac{1}{n}\sum_{i=1}^n Z_i \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq \exp(-2n\varepsilon^2)$$

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and, by the union bound  $(\mathbb{P}(A_1 \lor \ldots \lor A_m) \le \sum_{i=1}^m \mathbb{P}(A_i))$ ,

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#### Bound

With prob. at least  $1 - \delta$ ,

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$$\mathbb{P}\left(\exists h \in \mathcal{H} : R(h) - \hat{R}(h, S) \geq \varepsilon\right) \leq |\mathcal{H}| \exp(-2n\varepsilon^2).$$

Solving for the upper bound to be equal to  $\delta$  gives the result.

# Bound With prob. at least $1 - \delta$ , $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}, \ R(h) \leq \hat{R}(h, S) + \sqrt{\frac{\log |\mathcal{H}| + \log \frac{1}{\delta}}{2n}}$

### Keys

- Identical distribution: relation between R and  $\hat{R}$
- Independence: concentration inequality
- Finite number of hypotheses

#### Rademacher-based Generalization Bound

Theorem (Rademacher generalization bound [Bartlett and Mendelson, 2002, Shawe-Taylor and Cristianini, 2004])  $\forall \delta \in [0, 1)$ , with probability at least  $1 - \delta$ ,  $\forall h \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}_{XY}(Yh(X) \le 0) \le \hat{R}(h, S) + \frac{\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S)}{2} + c\sqrt{\frac{\ln 4/\delta}{2n}}$$

where c > 0 and  $\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S) = \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_i h(X_i)$  is the empirical Rademacher complexity of  $\mathcal{H}$  with respect to S.

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Theorem (Bounded Difference Inequality [McDiarmid, 1989]) Assume that  $f : \mathcal{X}^n \to \mathbb{R}$  satisfies  $\sup_{\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_n,\mathbf{x}'_i \in \mathcal{X}} |f(\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_n) - f(\mathbf{x}_1,...,\mathbf{x}_{i-1},\mathbf{x}'_i,\mathbf{x}_{i+1},...,\mathbf{x}_n)| \le c_i, \forall i = 1,...,n$ 

If  $X_1, \ldots, X_n$  are independent r.v.'s taking values in  $\mathcal{X}$ , then, for every t > 0,

$$\mathbb{P}\left\{\mathbb{E}f(X_1,\ldots,X_n)-f(X_1,\ldots,X_n)\geq t\right\}\leq \exp\left(-2t^2/\sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2\right)$$
$$\mathbb{P}\left\{f(X_1,\ldots,X_n)-\mathbb{E}f(X_1,\ldots,X_n)\geq t\right\}\leq \exp\left(-2t^2/\sum_{i=1}^n c_i^2\right).$$

### Rademacher complexity of ${\cal H}$

Definition (Rademacher complexity of  $\mathcal{H}$ )

$$\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{H}) = \mathbb{E}_{S\sigma} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \sigma_i h(X_i),$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \{\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_n\}$ , and  $\mathbb{P}(\sigma_i = +1) = \mathbb{P}(\sigma_i = -1) = 1/2$ .

#### On $\mathcal{R}_n$

- It measures the richness of the class  $\mathcal{H}$
- $\blacktriangleright$  Says how well  ${\cal H}$  is capable of correlating with randomly assigned labels
- $\blacktriangleright$  The marginal distribution over  ${\cal X}$  is directly taken into account
- It cannot be directly computed...

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Definition (Empirical Rademacher complexity 
$$\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S)$$
)  
 $\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S) = \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{2}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_i h(X_i)$ 

# Concentration of $\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S)$

Using McDiarmid inequality, with prob. at least  $1-\delta$ 

$$\mathcal{R}(\mathcal{H}) \leq \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S) + c \sqrt{rac{\log 2/\delta}{2n}}$$

For all h (simultaneously), the following trivially holds

$$R(h) - \hat{R}(h,S) \leq \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \hat{R}(h,S) 
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$$H((x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)) = \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}[h(x_i) \neq y_i] \right)$$

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Note that, for  $i \in \{1, ..., n\}$  and g realizing the sup of  $H((x_1, y_1), ..., (x_n, y_n))$ 

$$H((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)) - H((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x'_i, y'_i) \dots, (x_n, y_n))$$
  
=  $\left(R(g) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}[g(x_i) \neq y_i]\right) - \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left(R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j \neq i}^n \mathbb{I}[h(x_j) \neq y_j] - \frac{1}{n} \mathbb{I}[h(x'_i) \neq y'_i]\right)$ 

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For all h (simultaneously), the following trivially holds

$$R(h) - \hat{R}(h, S) \leq \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \hat{R}(h, S) \right) = \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_i) \neq Y_i] \right)$$

and we may want to take care of the upper bound. Let us define  $H : (\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{Y})^n \to [0; 1]$  as

$$H((x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_n, y_n)) = \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbb{I}[h(x_i) \neq y_i] \right)$$

We thus have

$$|H((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)) - H((x_1, y_1), \dots, (x'_i, y'_i) \dots, (x_n, y_n))| \le \frac{1}{n}$$

and we may use McDiarmid's concentration inequality:

$$\mathbb{P}\left(H(S) - \mathbb{E}_{S}H(S) \geq arepsilon
ight) \leq \exp(-2narepsilon^{2})$$

or, with probability  $1 - \delta$ 

$$H(S) \leq \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_i) \neq Y_i] \right) + \sqrt{\frac{\log 1/\delta}{2n}}$$

We now have

$$R(h) - \hat{R}(h, S) \leq_{\delta} \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I} \left[ h(X_i) \neq Y_i \right] \right) + \sqrt{\frac{\log 1/\delta}{2n}}$$

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=  $\mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \mathbb{E}_{S'} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'] - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right)$ 

We now have

$$R(h) - \hat{R}(h, S) \leq_{\delta} \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I} \left[ h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i} \right] \right) + \sqrt{\frac{\log 1/\delta}{2n}}$$

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \mathbb{E}_{S'} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}_{SS'} \frac{1}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \quad \text{(convexity of sup)} \end{split}$$

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$$\leq \mathbb{E}_{SS'} \frac{1}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \quad \text{(convexity of sup)}$$

$$= \mathbb{E}_{SS'\sigma} \frac{1}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} \left( \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \quad \text{(identical distribution)}$$
Proof of the Rademacher-based bound (we don't back down)

We now have

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and the crux is, again, to work out the upper bound.

$$\begin{split} \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( R(h) - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{S} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \mathbb{E}_{S'} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \\ &\leq \mathbb{E}_{SS'} \frac{1}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \left( \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \quad \text{(convexity of sup)} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{SS'\sigma} \frac{1}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} \left( \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \quad \text{(identical distribution)} \\ &= \mathbb{E}_{SS'\sigma} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} \mathbb{I}\left[h(X_{i}') \neq Y_{i}'\right] - \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} \mathbb{I}[h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i}] \right) \end{split}$$

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We are at the point where

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and the upper bound might be tamed as follows.

$$\mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \frac{2}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} \mathbb{I} \left[ h(X_{i}) \neq Y_{i} \right] = \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \frac{2}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} (1 - Y_{i} h(X_{i}))/2$$
$$= \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \frac{2}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} Y_{i} h(X_{i})/2$$
$$= \mathbb{E}_{\sigma} \frac{2}{n} \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{i=1}^{n} \sigma_{i} h(X_{i})/2$$

and, therefore,

$$\mathbb{E}_{S\sigma}\frac{2}{n}\sup_{h\in\mathcal{H}}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\sigma_{i}\mathbb{I}[h(X_{i})\neq Y_{i}]=\mathbb{E}_{S\sigma}\frac{2}{n}\sup_{h\in\mathcal{H}}\sum_{i=1}^{n}\sigma_{i}h(X_{i})/2=\frac{\mathcal{R}_{n}(\mathcal{H})}{2}$$

# Proof of the Rademacher-based bound (we are done)

Previous calculations amount to

$$R(h) - \hat{R}(h, S) \leq_{\delta} \frac{\mathcal{R}_n(\mathcal{H})}{2} + \sqrt{\frac{\log 1/\delta}{2n}}$$

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This finally gives, using the concentration of  $\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S)$ 

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#### Critical observations

- Identical distributions is pivotal to relate  $\mathbb{E}_S$  to  $\mathbb{E}_{XYY}$
- It is important as well for the double-sample trick
- Independence is a necessary condition for the proof (even though there are concentration inequalities for dependent data)
- On a side note:
  - $\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\mathcal{H}, S)$  can be computed from data
  - ▶ there are *local* versions of Rademacher complexities [Bartlett et al., 2005]

# Beyond IIDness







# Outline

**Overview and Motivating Examples** 

Recall: the Blessings of IIDness

Setting A Control on the Generalization Error Warming up:  $|\mathcal{H}| < +\infty$ Rademacher-based Generalization Bound Beyond IIDness

Non-Stationarity

(Non-)assumptions Quick Reminder on Kernels and RKHS Forgetting is Nice when Online Learning with Kernels Sequential Rademacher Complexity

#### Non-Independence

Mixing Processes Dependent Data

#### Conclusion

# Non-stationarity

# (Non-)assumptions

- Training data:  $Z_1, \ldots, Z_n$  observations not identically distributed;
- ▶ Test data:  $Z'_1, ..., Z'_m$  observations not identically distributed.

#### Formal frameworks

- Learning from noisy data: privacy learning, semi-supervised learning,...
- Transfer learning
- Drifting distributions
  - switching regimes
  - smoothly changing parameterized distributions
- Online learning (with adversarial oracle)

#### Quick Reminder on Kernels

Kernel Trick Basics



We are happy if we know  $k: \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \to \mathbb{R}$  such that  $k(x, x') = \langle \phi(x), \phi(x') \rangle$ 

#### Quick Reminder on Kernels

#### RKHS

Given a *positive kernel* k, the associated RKHS is the Hilbert space

$$\mathbb{H}=\overline{\left\{f:f=\sum_{i=1}^n\alpha_ik(\cdot,x_i),\ x_i\in\mathcal{X}\right\}},$$

such that for  $f = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i k(\cdot, x_i)$ ,  $g = \sum_{j=1}^m \beta_j k(\cdot, z_j)$ ,

$$\langle f,g\rangle = \sum_{ij} \alpha_i \beta_j k(x_i,z_j).$$

Mapping  $\phi$  might be thought of as  $\phi(x) = k(\cdot, x)$ .

#### Quick Reminder on Kernels

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Mapping  $\phi$  might be thought of as  $\phi(x) = k(\cdot, x)$ .

#### Evaluation operator $k(\cdot, \mathbf{x})$

With the definition of  $\mathbb{H}$ , it comes that  $\forall h \in \mathbb{H}$ :

 $\forall x \in \mathcal{X}, \ h(x) = \langle h, k(\cdot, x) \rangle.$ 

General scheme for online learning,

[Cesa-Bianchi and Lugosi, 2006, Shalev-Shwartz, 2007]

 $(x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_t, y_t), \ldots$  data stream

- ▶ initialize *h*<sub>0</sub>
- Repeat
  - predict  $\hat{y}_t = h_{t-1}(x_t)$
  - receive correct target  $\hat{y}_t$
  - incur loss  $\ell_t = \ell(y_t, \hat{y}_t, h_{t-1}, x_t)$
  - adjust  $h_{t-1} \rightarrow h_t$  using  $\{\ell_t, y_t, \hat{y}_t, h_{t-1}, x_t\}$

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Example (The Immortal Perceptron [Block, 1962, Novikoff, 1963]) Update of  $w_t$  when  $w_{t-1}$  errs on  $(x_t, y_t)$ :

 $w_t \leftarrow w_{t-1} + y_t x_t$ 

- ► Second-Order Perceptron [Cesa-Bianchi and Lugosi, 2006]
- Ultraconservative Algorithms [Crammer and Singer, 2003]
- ▶ Passive-Aggressive Learning [Crammer et al., 2006]

...

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# Example (Stochastic Optimization)

- ▶ Pegasos [Shwartz et al., 2007, Shalev-Shwartz et al., 2011]
- Stochastic Gradient Descent [Kivinen et al., 2010, Bordes et al., 2005]

► ...

General scheme for online learning,

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Example (Winnow algorithm [Littlestone, 1988]) Update of  $w_t$  when  $w_{t-1}$  errs on  $(x_t, y_t)$ :

 $w_t \propto w_{t-1} \exp(\eta y_t x_t)$ 

General scheme for online learning,

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Example (Recursive Least Squares / Optimal Control)

 $w_t \leftarrow w_{t-1} + A_t x_t$ 

- ► Online Kernel Recursive Least Squares [Engel et al., 2003]
- ► Sparse Online Gaussian Processes [Csato and Opper, 2002]

General scheme for online learning,

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# Example (Bandits)

- ► Thompson Sampling [Thompson, 1933, Chapelle and Li, 2012]
- ▶ UCB, UCT and variants [Bubeck and Cesa-Bianchi, 2012, Munos, 2014]
- ▶ Exp3, and variants [Auer et al., 2002]

▶ ...

Study of Online Learning with Kernels of [Kivinen et al., 2010]

- Target: a kernel classifier  $h = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \alpha_i k(\cdot, x)$
- Philosophical update when processing  $(x_t, y_t)$  at time t

 $h_t \leftarrow \beta_t h_{t-1} + \alpha_t k(\cdot, x_t)$ 

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#### Drawbacks

- The kernel expansion grows with time (and so do prediction time and storage)
- There is no recovery of the algorithm to change of distribution (old examples have 'too much weight')

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#### Drawbacks

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#### Solution

- Implement a strategy to forget old information
- Do it so the regret of the algorithm is controlled

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 $h_t \leftarrow \beta_t h_{t-1} + \alpha_t k(\cdot, x_t)$ 

#### Many related works

- Kernel Perceptron [Shawe-Taylor and Cristianini, 2004], Passive-Aggressive Learning [Crammer et al., 2006], Pegasos
  [Shwartz et al., 2007, Shalev-Shwartz et al., 2011]
- Budget online learning: Budget Perceptron [Crammer et al., 2003], Forgetron [Dekel et al., 2008], Last Recent Budget Perceptron [Cavallanti et al., 2007], Projectron [Orabona and Keshet, 2008]

Setting

- Stream of data  $(x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_t, y_t), \ldots$
- In the hindsight, a batch procedure

$$h = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{f \in \mathbb{H}} \frac{\lambda}{2} \|f\|^2 + \frac{1}{n} \sum_{t=1}^n \ell(f(x_t), y_t),$$

where  $\ell$  is some convex loss function and  $\lambda > 0$ .

A stochastic (sub-)gradient descent procedure General update:

$$h_t \leftarrow h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$$

for

$$R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) = \frac{\lambda}{2} ||f||^2 + \ell(f(x_t), y_t)$$

and  $(x_t, y_t)$  'randomly' chosen.

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Working out 
$$\nabla_f R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$$
  
Thanks to  $||f||^2 = \langle f, f \rangle$  and  $f(x) = \langle f, k(\cdot, x) \rangle$ , we have  
 $\nabla_f R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) = \lambda f + \nabla_f \ell(\langle f, k(\cdot, x_t) \rangle, y_t)$ 

where  $\partial \ell$  denotes the derivative (or subderivative) of  $\ell$  wrt its first variable

# A stochastic (sub-)gradient descent procedure General update:

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$$\nabla_f R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$$
  
Thanks to  $||f||^2 = \langle f, f \rangle$  and  $f(x) = \langle f, k(\cdot, x) \rangle$ , we have  
 $\nabla_f R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) = \lambda f + \nabla_f \ell (\langle f, k(\cdot, x_t) \rangle, y_t)$   
 $= \lambda f + \partial \ell (\langle f, k(\cdot, x_t) \rangle, y_t) k(\cdot, x_t)$ 

where  $\partial \ell$  denotes the derivative (or subderivative) of  $\ell$  wrt its first variable

A stochastic (sub-)gradient descent procedure General update:

$$h_t \leftarrow h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$$

for

$$R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) = \frac{\lambda}{2} \|f\|^2 + \ell(f(x_t), y_t)$$

and  $(x_t, y_t)$  'randomly' chosen.

Working out  $\nabla_f R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$ Thanks to  $||f||^2 = \langle f, f \rangle$  and  $f(x) = \langle f, k(\cdot, x) \rangle$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla_f R_t(f,(x_t,y_t)) &= \lambda f + \nabla_f \ell \left( \langle f, k(\cdot,x_t) \rangle, y_t \right) \\ &= \lambda f + \partial \ell (\langle f, k(\cdot,x_t) \rangle, y_t) k(\cdot,x_t) \\ &= \lambda f + \partial \ell (f(x_t),y_t) k(\cdot,x_t) \end{aligned}$$

where  $\partial \ell$  denotes the derivative (or subderivative) of  $\ell$  wrt its first variable

Update

$$h_t = h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$$

Update

$$\begin{split} h_t &= h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) \\ &= h_{t-1} - \eta \left[ \lambda h_{t-1} + \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t) k(\cdot, x_t) \right] \end{split}$$

Update

$$\begin{split} h_t &= h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) \\ &= h_{t-1} - \eta \left[ \lambda h_{t-1} + \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t) k(\cdot, x_t) \right] \\ &= (1 - \lambda \eta) h_{t-1} - \eta \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t) k(\cdot, x_t) \end{split}$$

Update

$$h_t = h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t))$$
  
=  $h_{t-1} - \eta [\lambda h_{t-1} + \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t) k(\cdot, x_t)]$   
=  $(1 - \lambda \eta) h_{t-1} \underbrace{-\eta \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t)}_{\alpha_t^t} k(\cdot, x_t)$ 

Update

We have

$$\begin{split} h_t &= h_{t-1} - \eta \nabla_f |_{f=h_{t-1}} R_t(f, (x_t, y_t)) \\ &= h_{t-1} - \eta \left[ \lambda h_{t-1} + \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t) k(\cdot, x_t) \right] \\ &= (1 - \lambda \eta) h_{t-1} \underbrace{- \eta \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t)}_{\alpha_t^t} k(\cdot, x_t) \end{split}$$

Compact representation

At time t,

$$h_t = \sum_{\tau=1}^t \alpha_\tau^t k(\cdot, x_\tau)$$

where (by induction, with  $h_0 = 0$ )

$$\alpha_{\tau}^{t} = \begin{cases} -\eta \partial \ell(h_{t-1}(x_{t}), y_{t}) & \text{if } \tau = t \\ (1 - \eta \lambda)^{t-\tau} \alpha_{\tau}^{\tau} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
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### Observations

- ▶ If  $0 < 1 \eta \lambda < 1$ , the weights of old examples decrease exponentially fast
- ▶ This calls for a (smooth) truncation procedure motivated by
  - numerical representation purposes
  - adaptation purposes
  - compactness purposes

Compact representation At time t,

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Theorem (Truncation error, smooth forgetting of old examples) If the loss function is such that  $|\partial_z \ell(z, y)| \leq C$ ,  $||k|| \leq X$  and

$$h_t^{trunc} = \sum_{i=\max(1,t-\tau)}^t \alpha_i^t k(\cdot, x_i),$$

then

$$\left\|h_t - h_t^{trunc}\right\| \leq (1 - \eta \lambda)^{ au} CX/\lambda$$

A Controlled Drifting Class of Sequence of Predictors  $\mathcal{G}(B, D_1, D_2) = \left\{ (g_1, \dots, g_t) : \sum_{\tau} \|g_{\tau} - g_{\tau+1}\| \le D_1, \sum_{\tau} \|g_{\tau} - g_{\tau+1}\|^2 \le D_2, \|g_{\tau}\| \le B \right\}$ 

Cumulative Loss L<sub>cum</sub>

$$L_{\text{cum}}(\mathbf{h}, S) = \sum_t \ell(h_{t-1}(x_t), y_t),$$

where **h** =  $(h_1, ..., h_t)$ .

Theorem (Mistake Bound of Norma with Non-Stationary Targets) *Suppose that:* 

- $\ell(h(x), y) = \max(0, \rho yh(x))$  for  $\rho > 0$
- ▶  $\exists \mathbf{g} \in \mathcal{G}(B, D_1, D_2)$

Then there exists right choices for  $\eta$  and  $\lambda$  such that

$$\left| \{ 1 \leq \tau \leq t : y_{\tau} h_{\tau-1}(x_{\tau}) \leq \rho \} \right| \leq \mathcal{K}(\eta, \lambda, \rho, D_1, D_2, B)$$

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Proof. Just kidding

# What to take home from online learning with kernels

# Algorithmically

- Many algorithms for online learning
- They implement some sort of forgetting to be able to adapt to drifting distribution.

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- Many algorithms for online learning
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### Regret, Mistake bounds

- > Natural way to analyze online learning algorithms: mistake bounds, regret
- It is known that small regret gives good generalization error under the right assumptions [Cesa-Bianchi et al., 2004]

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### Where is Rademacher???

# Online Learning and Sequential Rademacher Complexity

#### Issues

- seems that the tools used to analyze online learning algorithm are very different from those for batch algorithm
- not easy to take advantage of things made in one field in the other field
- connections between the learning approach is not straightforward

# Online Learning and Sequential Rademacher Complexity

### Issues

- seems that the tools used to analyze online learning algorithm are very different from those for batch algorithm
- > not easy to take advantage of things made in one field in the other field
- connections between the learning approach is not straightforward

A beautiful contribution to address these issues Work of [Rakhlin et al., 2010a, Rakhlin et al., 2010b]. One of the pivotal notion: Sequential Rademacher Complexity (where  $\mathbf{x}_{\tau} : \{\pm 1\}^{\tau} \to \mathcal{X}$ )

$$\mathcal{R}_t(\mathcal{H}) = \sup_{\mathsf{x}} \mathbb{E}_\epsilon \left[ \sup_{h \in \mathcal{H}} \sum_{ au=1}^t \epsilon_ au f(\mathsf{x}_ au(\epsilon)) 
ight],$$



$$\begin{array}{l} \text{Example}: \ \epsilon = (+1,-1,-1) \\ \sum_{i=1}^{n} \epsilon_t f(\mathbf{x}_t(\epsilon)) = + f(x_1) - f(x_3) - f(x_6) \end{array}$$

(picture from Rakhlin's poster)

# Outline

Overview and Motivating Examples

### Recall: the Blessings of IIDness

Setting A Control on the Generalization Error Warming up:  $|\mathcal{H}| < +\infty$ Rademacher-based Generalization Bound Beyond IIDness

#### Non-Stationarity

(Non-)assumptions Quick Reminder on Kernels and RKHS Forgetting is Nice when Online Learning with Kernels Sequential Rademacher Complexity

#### Non-Independence

Mixing Processes Dependent Data

#### Conclusion

### Mixing processes

## Setting

- ▶  $\mathbf{Z} = \{Z_t\}_{t=-\infty}^{+\infty}$  stationary: for any t and m, k ≥ 0, the random subsequences  $(Z_t, \ldots, Z_{t+m})$  and  $(Z_{t+k}, \ldots, Z_{t+m+k})$  are identically distributed
- The dependencies are fading over time, e.g.,  $\phi$ -mixing process:

$$\varphi(k) = \sup_{\substack{n, A \in \sigma_{n+k}^{+\infty}, B \in \sigma_{-\infty}^{n}}} \left| \mathbb{P}\left[A|B\right] - \mathbb{P}\left[A\right] \right|.$$

**Z** is  $\varphi$ -mixing if  $\varphi(k) \to 0$  as  $k \to 0$ 

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**Z** is  $\varphi$ -mixing if  $\varphi(k) \to 0$  as  $k \to 0$ 

#### Theorem

([Kontorovich and Ramanan, 2008, Mohri and Rostamizadeh, 2008]) Let  $\psi : \mathcal{U}^m \to \mathbb{R}$  be a function defined over a countable space  $\mathcal{U}$ , and  $\underline{X}$  be a stationary  $\varphi$  mixing process. If  $\psi$  is *l*-Lipschitz with respect to the Hamming metric for some l > 0, then the following holds for all t > 0:

$$\mathbb{P}_{\underline{X}}\left[|\psi(\underline{X}) - \mathbb{E}\psi(\underline{X})| > t\right] \le 2\exp\left[-\frac{t^2}{2ml^2 \|\Lambda_m\|_{\infty}^2}\right],\tag{1}$$

where  $\|\Lambda_m\|_{\infty} \leq 1 + 2\sum_{k=1}^m \varphi(k)$ .

### Mixing processes

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**Z** is 
$$\varphi$$
-mixing if  $\varphi(k) \to 0$  as  $k \to 0$ 

### Recent results

- Stability bound for β- and φ-mixing processes [Mohri and Rostamizadeh, 2008]
- Rademacher complexity fpr β-mixing processes [Mohri and Rostamizadeh, 2009]
- Consistency of learning in α-mixing non stationary processes [Steinwart et al., 2009]

•

# Interdependent and Identically Distributed Data

## Basic assumptions

- $\mathbf{Z}_{\text{train}} = \{Z_i\}_{i=1}^m$  distributed according to  $D_m$
- $p(\mathbf{Z}_{train}) \neq \prod_{i=1}^{m} p(Z_i)$
- ▶  $p_{\text{train}}(Z_i) = p_{\text{train}}(Z) = p_{\text{test}}(Z)$  (similar to a stationarity condition)
- Goal: control the risk of a learned function wrt  $p_{\text{test}}(Z)$

### Illustration



## Graph Fractional Chromatic Number

Definition (Dependency Graph)

Let  $Z = \{Z_i\}_{i=1}^m$  be a set of r.v. taking values in  $\mathcal{Z}$ . The *dependency graph*  $\Gamma(Z)$  of Z is such that the vertices of  $\Gamma(Z)$  are  $\{1, \ldots, m\}$  and:

 $i \sim j \Leftrightarrow p(Z_i, Z_j) \neq p(Z_i)p(Z_j).$ 

Definition (Fractional Covers, [Schreinerman and Ullman, 1997])

Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be an undirected graph, with  $V = \{1, \dots, m\}$ .

- ► A cover  $C = \{C_j\}_{j=1}^n$  of  $\Gamma$ , with  $C_j \subseteq V$ , is such that no two nodes in  $C_j$  are connected
- ▶ A fractional cover  $C = \{(C_j, \omega_j)\}_{j=1}^n$  is a slightly refined version of a cover which assigns weights to each element of C

Finding a minimal (fractional) cover amounts to finding a minimal coloring of  $\Gamma$ 

 $\chi(\Gamma)$  ( $\chi^*(\Gamma)$ ) is the (fractional) chromatic number of  $\Gamma$ 

## Graph Fractional Chromatic Number

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 $i \sim j \Leftrightarrow p(Z_i, Z_j) \neq p(Z_i)p(Z_j).$ 

Property on  $\chi(\Gamma)$  and  $\chi^*(\Gamma)$ [Schreinerman and Ullman, 1997] Let  $\Gamma = (V, E)$  be a graph. Let  $c(\Gamma)$  be the *clique number* of  $\Gamma$ . Let  $\Delta(\Gamma)$  be the maximum degree of a vertex in  $\Gamma$ . The following holds

 $1 \leq c(\Gamma) \leq \chi^*(\Gamma) \leq \chi(\Gamma) \leq \Delta(\Gamma) + 1.$ 

In addition,  $1 = c(\Gamma) = \chi^*(\Gamma) = \chi(\Gamma) = \Delta(\Gamma) + 1$  if and only if  $\Gamma$  is totally disconnected.

### On the (fractional) chromatic number

- Computing  $\chi$  and  $\chi^*$  is an NP-hard problem, but...
- ▶ we will consider instances of graphs for which they can be computed

# Graph Fractional Chromatic Number

Definition (Dependency Graph)

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 $i \sim j \Leftrightarrow p(Z_i, Z_j) \neq p(Z_i)p(Z_j).$ 

### Example: Bipartite Ranking



#### Usefulness of covers

A (fractional) cover of minimal weight breaks a set of *dependent* r.v.'s into a minimal set of (large) subsets of *independent* r.v.'s

### Concentration Inequalities

Theorem (McDiarmid's inequality for dependent variables)

With mild assumptions as so that  $Z = f(X_1, ..., X_N)$  decomposes according to a fractional cover of  $X_1, ..., X_N$ , the following concentration inequalities hold:

$$\mathbb{P}(Z - \mathbb{E}Z \ge \varepsilon) \le \exp\left\{-rac{Narepsilon^2}{4\chi_f}
ight\}$$
  
 $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{E}Z - Z \ge \varepsilon) \le \exp\left\{-rac{Narepsilon^2}{4\chi_f}
ight\}$ 

### Concentration Inequalities

### Theorem (Bennett's Inequality for Dependent Variables)

Suppose some mild assumptions hold, with  $Z = f(X_1, ..., X_N)$  which decomposes according to a fractional cover of  $X_1, ..., X_N$ . We have the following results:

► for all  $t \ge 0$  $\mathbb{P}(Z \ge \mathbb{E}Z + t) \le \exp\left(-\frac{v}{\chi_f}h\left(\frac{4t}{5v}\right)\right),$ 

with  $h(x) = (1 + x) \log(1 + x) - x$  and  $v \doteq (1 + b) \mathbb{E}Z + N\sigma^2$ 

► for all  $t \ge 0$  $\mathbb{P}\left(Z \ge \mathbb{E}Z + \sqrt{2cvt} + \frac{ct}{3}\right) \le e^{-t}$ with  $c \doteq 25\chi/16$ .

#### Notes

- secret tool to get these concentration inequalities
- ▶ Rademacher-based bound on generalization can be obtained... and more

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## What to take home

# IID

- Much has been done in the field of IID learning
- > This assumption allows one to get strong generalization results

## Non-IIDness

- No agreed-upon parametrization of non-stationarity
- A lot of work to do in online learning
- Nice tools from graph theory and concentration inequality for the dependent case

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