# Radial basis functions topics in 40 +1 slides

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1 From splines to RBF

- Error estimates, conditioning and stability
   Strategies for "controlling" errors
- 3 Stable basis approachesWSVD Basis
- 4 Rescaled, Rational RBF and some applications

### From cubic splines to RBF



### **Cubic splines**

- Let  $S_3(X) = \{s \in C^2[a, b] : s_{|[x_i, x_{i+1}]} \in \mathbb{P}_3, 1 \le i \le N-1, s_{[a, x_1]}, s_{[x_N, b]} \in \mathbb{P}_1\}$  be the space of natural cubic splines.
- S<sub>3</sub>(X) has the basis of truncated powers (· − x<sub>j</sub>)<sup>3</sup><sub>+</sub>, 1 ≤ j ≤ N plus an arbitrary basis for P<sub>3</sub>(ℝ)

$$s(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_j (x - x_j)_+^3 + \sum_{j=0}^{3} b_j x^j, \ x \in [a, b].$$
 (1)

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Every natural cubic spline s has the representation

$$s(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_j \phi(|x-x_j|) + p(x), \ x \in \mathbb{R}$$

where  $\phi(r) = r^3$ ,  $r \ge 0$  and  $p \in \mathbb{P}_1(\mathbb{R})$  s.t.

$$\sum_{j=1}^{N} a_j = \sum_{j=1}^{N} a_j x_j = 0.$$
 (2)



# Extension to $\mathbb{R}^d$

Going to  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is straightforward: "radiality" becomes more evident

$$s(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_{j} \phi(||x - x_{j}||_{2}) + p(x), \ x \in \mathbb{R}^{d},$$
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where  $\phi : [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  is a univariate fixed function and  $p \in \mathbb{P}_{l-1}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  is a low degree *d*-variate polynomial. The additional conditions in (??) become

$$\sum_{i=1}^{N} a_{i}q(x_{j}) = 0, \quad \forall \ q \in \mathbb{P}_{l-1}(\mathbb{R}^{d}).$$
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$$\tag{4}$$

#### Obs:

We can omit the side conditions on the coefficients (??) (like using "B-splines") and consider approximants of the form

$$s(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i \phi(||x - x_j||_2)$$

and also omit the 2-norm symbol



### Scattered data fitting:I

#### Setting

Given data  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_j, j = 1, ..., N\}$ , with  $\mathbf{x}_j \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and values  $Y = \{\mathbf{y}_j \in \mathbb{R}, j = 1, ..., N\}$  ( $\mathbf{y}_j = f(\mathbf{x}_j)$ ), find a (continuous) function  $P_f \in \operatorname{span}\{\phi(\cdot - \mathbf{x}_i), \mathbf{x}_i \in X\}$  s.t.

$$P_f = \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_j \phi(||\cdot - \mathbf{x}_i||), \quad s.t. \quad (P_f)_{|X} = Y \quad (interpolation)$$



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Figure: Data points, data values and data function

**Obs**: 
$$P_f = \sum_{i=j}^n u_j f_j$$
, with  $u_i(\mathbf{x}_i) = \delta_{ii}$ .



#### Problem

For which functions  $\phi : [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{R}$  such that for all  $d, N \in \mathbb{N}$  and all pairwise distrinct  $x_1, \ldots, x_n \in \mathbb{R}^d$  the matrix  $\det(A_{\phi,X}) \neq 0$ ? When the matrix  $A_{\phi,X} := (\phi(||x_i - x_j||_2)_{1 \le i,j \le N})$ , is invertible?



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#### Answer

The functions  $\phi$  should be positive definite or conditionally positive definite of some order.



### General kernel-based approximation

				-
	name	$\phi$	l	
globally supported:	Gaussian $C^{\infty}$ (GA	$e^{-\varepsilon^2 r^2}$	0	-
	Generalized Multiquadrics	$C^{\infty}$ (GM) $(1 + r^2/\varepsilon^2)^{3/2}$	2	-
locally supported: -	name	$\phi$		l
	Wendland $C^2$ (W2)	$(1-\varepsilon r)^4_+ (4\varepsilon r+1)$		0
	Buhmann $C^2$ (B2) $2r^4$	$2r^4 \log r - 7/2r^4 + 16/3r^3 - 2r^2 + 1/6$		0

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- we often consider  $\phi(\varepsilon)$ , with  $\varepsilon$  called shape parameter
- kernel notation  $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) (= K_{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})) = \Phi_{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{x} \mathbf{y}) = \phi(\varepsilon ||\mathbf{x} \mathbf{y}||_2)$



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- we often consider  $\phi(\varepsilon \cdot)$ , with  $\varepsilon$  called shape parameter
- kernel notation  $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) (= K_{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})) = \Phi_{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{x} \mathbf{y}) = \phi(\varepsilon ||\mathbf{x} \mathbf{y}||_2)$
- native space  $\mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(\Omega)$  (where K is the reproducing kernel)
- finite subspace  $\mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(X) = \operatorname{span}\{K(\cdot, x) : x \in X\} \subset \mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(\Omega).$

### Error estimates, conditioning and stability



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#### Separation distance, fill-distance and power function





Figure: Power function for the Gaussian kernel with  $\varepsilon = 6$  on a grid of 81 uniform, Chebyshev and Halton points respectively.



### Pointwise error estimates

#### Theorem

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $K \in C(\Omega \times \Omega)$  be PD on  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \ldots, \mathbf{x}_n\}$  be a set of distinct points. Take a function  $f \in \mathcal{N}_{\Phi}(\Omega)$  and denote with  $P_f$  its interpolant on X. Then, for every  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ 

$$|f(\mathbf{x}) - P_f(\mathbf{x})| \le \mathbf{P}_{\Phi_{\varepsilon}, \mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{x}) ||f||_{\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{K}}(\Omega)}.$$
(5)

#### Theorem

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  and  $\mathbf{K} \in C^{2\kappa}(\Omega \times \Omega)$  be symmetric and positive definite,  $X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\}$  a set of distinct points. Consider  $f \in \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{K}}(\Omega)$  and its interpolant  $P_f$  on X. Then, there exist positive constants  $h_0$  and C(independent of  $\mathbf{x}$ , f and  $\Phi$ ), with  $h_{X,\Omega} \leq h_0$ , such that

$$|f(\mathbf{x}) - P_f(\mathbf{x})| \le C \, \boldsymbol{h}_{\boldsymbol{X},\Omega}^{\kappa} \, \sqrt{C_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{x})} ||f||_{\mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{K}}(\Omega)} \,. \tag{6}$$

and  $C_{\mathcal{K}}(\mathbf{x}) = \max_{|\beta|=2\kappa} \max_{\mathbf{w},\mathbf{z}\in\Omega\cup B(\mathbf{x},c_{2}h_{X,\Omega})} |D_{2}^{\beta}\Phi(\mathbf{w},\mathbf{z})|$ .



### Reducing the interpolation error

#### Obs:

The choice of the shape parameter  $\varepsilon$  in order to get the smallest (possible) interpolation error is crucial.

- Trial and Error
- Power function minimization
- Leave One Out Cross Validation (LOOCV)



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Trial and error strategy: interpolation of the 1-d sinc function with Gaussian for  $\varepsilon \in [0, 20]$ , taking 100 values of  $\varepsilon$ and different equispaced data points.



### Trade-off principle

Consider the errors (RMSE and MAXERR) and the condition number  $\mu_2$  of  $A = (\Phi_{\varepsilon}(||\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j||))_{i,j=1}^N$ 



**Figure:** RMSE, MAXERR and Condition Number,  $\mu_2$ , with 30 values of  $\varepsilon \in [0.1, 20]$ , for interpolation of the Franke function on a grid of 40 × 40 Chebyshev points

#### Trade-off or uncertainty principle [Schaback 1995]

- Accuracy vs Stability
- Accuracy vs Efficiency
- Accuracy and stability vs Problem size



- The error bounds for non-stationary interpolation using infinitely smooth basis functions show that the error decreases (exponentially) as the fill distance decreases.
- For well-distributed data a decrease in the fill distance also implies a decrease of the separation distance
- But now the condition estimates above imply that the condition number of A grows exponentially
- This leads to numerical instabilities which make it virtually impossible to obtain the highly accurate results promised by the theoretical error bounds.

### Stable basis approaches



### Problem setting and questions

#### Obs:

the standard basis of translates (data-dependent) of  $N_{\kappa}(X)$  is unstable and not flexible



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#### **Question 1**

Is it possible to find a "better" basis  $\mathcal{U}$  of  $\mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(X)$ ?

#### **Question 2**

How to embed information about *K* and  $\Omega$  in the basis  $\mathcal{U}$ ?

#### **Question 3**

Can we extract  $\mathcal{U}' \subset \mathcal{U}$  s.t.  $s'_{t}$  is as good as  $s_{t}$ ?



### The "natural" basis

# The "natural" (data-independent) basis for Hilbert spaces (Mercer's theorem, 1909)

Let *K* be a continuous, positive definite kernel on a bounded  $\Omega \subset$ . Then *K* has an eigenfunction expansion with non-negative coefficients, the eigenvalues, s.t.

$$\mathcal{K}(x,y) = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \lambda_j \varphi_j(x) \varphi_j(y), \ \forall x, y \in \Omega.$$

Moreover,

$$\lambda_{j}\varphi_{j}(x) = \int_{\Omega} K(x, y)\varphi_{j}(y)dy := \mathcal{T}[\varphi_{j}](x), \ \forall x \in \Omega, \ j \geq 0$$

$$\begin{split} & \{\varphi_j\}_{j>0} & \text{orthonormal} \in \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{K}}(\Omega) \\ & \{\varphi_j\}_{j>0} & \text{orthogonal} \in L_2(\Omega), \ \|\varphi_j\|_{L_2(\Omega)}^2 = \lambda_j \xrightarrow{\infty} 0, \\ & \sum_{i>0} \lambda_j = \mathcal{K}(0,0) \ |\Omega|, \quad \text{(the operator is of trace-class)} \end{split}$$

Notice: the functions  $\varphi_i$  are explicitly in very few cases [Fasshauer,McCourt 2012, for GRBF].



### Notation

- $\mathcal{T}_X = \{K(\cdot, x_i), x_i \in X\}$ : the standard basis of translates;
- $\mathcal{U} = \{u_i \in \mathcal{N}_{\mathcal{K}}(\Omega), i = 1, ..., N\}$ : another basis s.t.

 $\operatorname{span}(\mathcal{U}) = \operatorname{span}(\mathcal{T}_X).$ 



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#### Change of basis [Pazouki,Schaback 2011]

Let  $A_{ij} = K(x_i, x_j) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ . Any other basis  $\mathcal{U}$  arises from a factorization  $A \cdot C_{u} = V_{u}$  or  $A = V_{u} \cdot C_{u}^{-1}$ , where  $V_{u} = (u_j(x_i))_{1 \le i, j \le N}$  and  $C_{u}$  is the matrix of change of basis.

- Each  $N_{\kappa}(\Omega)$ -orthonormal basis  $\mathcal{U}$  arises from an orthonormal decomposition  $A = B^T \cdot B$  with  $B = C_u^{-1}$ ,  $V_u = B^T = (C_u^{-1})^T$ .
- Each  $\ell_2(X)$ -orthonormal basis  $\mathcal{U}$  arises from a decomposition  $A = Q \cdot B$  with  $Q = V_u$ ,  $Q^T Q = I$ ,  $B = C_u^{-1} = Q^T A$ . Notice: the best bases in terms of stability are the  $N_{\kappa}(\Omega)$ -orthonormal ones!



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### Q1: Yes, we can!



#### construction

**Q2**: How to embed information on *K* and  $\Omega$  in  $\mathcal{U}$ ?

#### Symmetric Nyström method [Atkinson, Han 2001]

Idea: discretize the "natural" basis (Mercer's theorem) by a convergent cubature rule (*X*, *W*), with  $X = \{x_j\}_{j=1}^N \subset \Omega$  and positive weights  $W = \{w_j\}_{j=1}^N$ 



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$$\lambda_j \varphi_j(x_i) = \int_{\Omega} K(x_i, y) \varphi_j(y) dy \quad i = 1, \dots, N, \ \forall j > 0,$$

applying the cubature rule

$$\lambda_j \varphi_j(x_i) \approx \sum_{h=1}^N K(x_i, x_h) \varphi_j(x_h) w_h \quad i, j = 1, \dots, N.$$

Letting  $W = diag(w_i)$ , we reduce to solve the eigen-problem

$$\lambda \mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{W})\mathbf{v}$$

(7)

(8)



# WSVD basis

Rewrite (??) (using the fact that the weights are positive) as

$$\lambda_{j}(\sqrt{w_{i}}\varphi_{j}(x_{i})) = \sum_{h=1}^{N} (\sqrt{w_{i}} K(x_{i}, x_{h}) \sqrt{w_{h}}) (\sqrt{w_{h}}\varphi_{j}(x_{h})) \quad \forall i, j = 1, \dots, N,$$
(9)

and then to consider the corresponding scaled eigenvalue problem

$$\lambda\left(\sqrt{W}\cdot v\right) = \left(\sqrt{W}\cdot A\cdot \sqrt{W}\right)\left(\sqrt{W}\cdot v\right)$$

which is equivalent to the previous one, now involving the symmetric and positive definite matrix

$$A_W := \sqrt{W} \cdot A \cdot \sqrt{W}$$
(10)



Definition

 $\{\lambda_j, \varphi_j\}_{j>0}$  are then approximated by eigenvalues/eigenvectors of  $A_W$ . This matrix is normal, then a *singular value decomposition* of  $A_W$  is a unitary diagonalization.

#### Definition

A weighted SVD basis  $\mathcal{U}$  is a basis for  $\mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(X)$  s.t.

$$V_{u} = \sqrt{W^{-1}} \cdot Q \cdot \Sigma, \quad C_{u} = \sqrt{W} \cdot Q \cdot \Sigma^{-1}$$

since  $A = V_u C_u^{-1}$ , then  $Q \cdot \Sigma^2 \cdot Q^T$  is the SVD of  $A_W$ .

Here  $\Sigma_{jj} = \sigma_j$ , j = 1, ..., N and  $\sigma_1^2 \ge \cdots \ge \sigma_N^2 > 0$  are the singular values of  $A_W$ .



Properties

This basis is in fact an approximation of the "natural" one (provided  $w_i > 0$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i = |\Omega|$ )





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Properties of the new basis  ${\cal U}$  (cf. [De Marchi-Santin 2013])

• 
$$\mathcal{T}_N[u_j](x) = \sigma_j u_j(x), \quad \forall \ 1 \leq j \leq N, \ \forall x \in \Omega;$$

•  $\mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(\Omega)$ -orthonormal;

$$\ell_2^{\mathsf{w}}(X) \text{-orthogonal}, \|u_j\|_{\ell_2^{\mathsf{w}}(X)}^2 = \sigma_j^2, \quad \forall u_j \in \mathcal{U};$$

$$\bullet \sum_{j=1}^N \sigma_j^2 = K(0,0) |\Omega|.$$



Approximation

Interpolant: 
$$s_{f}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{N} (f, u_{j})_{K} u_{j}(x) \quad \forall x \in \Omega$$

WDLS: 
$$\mathbf{s}_{f}^{M} := \operatorname{argmin}\left\{\left\|f - g\right\|_{\ell_{2}^{W}(X)} : g \in \operatorname{span}\{u_{1}, \ldots, u_{M}\}\right\}$$

#### Weighted Discrete Least Squares as truncation

Let  $f \in \mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(\Omega)$ ,  $1 \leq M \leq N$ . Then  $\forall x \in \Omega$ 

$$s_{f}^{M}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{M} \frac{(f, u_{j})_{\ell_{2}^{W}(X)}}{(u_{j}, u_{j})_{\ell_{2}^{W}(X)}} u_{j}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{M} \frac{(f, u_{j})_{\ell_{2}^{W}(X)}}{\sigma_{j}^{2}} u_{j}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{M} (f, u_{j})_{K} u_{j}(x)$$



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**Q3**: Can we extract  $\mathcal{U}' \subset \mathcal{U}$  s.t.  $s'_i$  is as good as  $s_i$ ?

Yes we can! Take  $\mathcal{U}' = \{u_1, \ldots, u_M\}$ .



#### Approximation II

If we define the pseudo-cardinal functions as  $\tilde{\ell}_i = s_{\ell_i}^M$ , we get

$$s_{i}^{M}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} f(x_{i})\tilde{\ell}_{i}(x), \ \ \tilde{\ell}_{i}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{M} \frac{u_{j}(x_{i})}{\sigma_{j}^{2}} u_{j}(x).$$

Generalized Power Function and Lebesgue constant

If  $f \in \mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(\Omega)$ ,  $\left|f(x) - s_{t}^{M}(x)\right| \leq \mathcal{P}_{\kappa,x}^{(M)}(x) \left|\left|f\right|\right|_{\mathcal{N}_{\kappa}(\Omega)} \forall x \in \Omega$ , where

$$\left[P_{_{K,X}}^{^{(M)}}(x)\right]^2 = K(0,0) - \sum_{j=1}^{M} [u_j(x)]^2$$
, (generalized PF)

 $\|\boldsymbol{s}_{f}^{M}\|_{\infty} \leq \tilde{\Lambda}_{X}\|f\|_{X},$ 

where  $\tilde{\Lambda}_x = \max_{x \in \Omega} \sum_{i=1}^{N} |\tilde{\ell}_i(x)|$  is the "pseudo-Lebesgue constant".



Sub-basis

How can we extract  $\mathcal{U}' \subset \mathcal{U}$  s.t.  $s'_{t}$  is as good as  $s_{t}$ ?



■ recall that  $||u_j||_{\ell_2^w(X)} = \sigma_j^2 \to 0$ ■ we can choose *M* s.t.  $\sigma_{M+1}^2 < \tau$ ■ we don't need  $u_i, j > M$ 



Example

	$\varepsilon = 1$	$\varepsilon = 4$	$\varepsilon = 9$
Gaussian	100	340	500
IMQ	180	580	580
Matern3	460	560	580

**Table:** Optimal *M* for different kernels and shape parameter that correspond to the indexes such that the weighted least-squares approximant  $s_i^M$  provides the best approximation of the function  $f(x, y) = \cos(20(x + y))$  on the disk with center C = (1/2, 1/2) and radius R = 1/2



Example, cont'



Figure: Franke's test function, *lens*, IMQ Kernel,  $\varepsilon = 1$  and RMSE. Left: complete basis. Right:  $\sigma_{M+1}^2 < 10^{-17}$ .



Example, cont'



Figure: Franke's test function, *lens*, IMQ Kernel,  $\varepsilon = 1$  and RMSE. Left: complete basis. Right:  $\sigma_{M+1}^2 < 10^{-17}$ .

Problem: We have to compute the whole basis before truncation! Solution: Krylov methods, approximate SVD [Novati, Russo 2013]



#### New fast basis [De Marchi-Santin, BIT15]: a comparison

N	225	529	961	1521
M	110	114	115	116
RMSE	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-10}$	$6.7 \cdot 10^{-11}$	$5.5 \cdot 10^{-11}$	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-11}$
new				
RMSE	3.3 · 10 <sup>-9</sup>	1.1 · 10 <sup>-9</sup>	$8.3 \cdot 10^{-10}$	$7.9 \cdot 10^{-10}$
WSVD				
Time	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-1}$	$1.0 \cdot 10^{0}$	$2.6 \cdot 10^{0}$	$6.5 \cdot 10^{0}$
new				
Time	7.2 · 10 <sup>-1</sup>	4.2 · 10 <sup>0</sup>	2.5 · 10 <sup>1</sup>	1.1 · 10 <sup>2</sup>
WSVD				

Table: Comparison of the WSVD basis and the new basis. Computational time in seconds and corresponding RMSE for the example consisting of interpolation of a function sum of gaussians by GRBF, restricted to  $N = 15^2$ ,  $23^2$ ,  $31^2$ ,  $39^2$  equally spaced points on  $[-1, 1]^2$ .

Notice: for each *N* we computed the optimal *M* using the new algorithm with tolerance  $\tau = 10^{-4}$ 

### Rescaled, Rational RBF and some applications





### **Rescaled RBF Interpolation**

Classical interpolant:  $P_f(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{k=1}^{N} \alpha_k K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_k), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \ \mathbf{x}_k \in X.$ [Hardy and Gofert 1975] used multiquadrics  $K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sqrt{1 + \epsilon^2 ||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}||^2}.$ 



### **Rescaled RBF Interpolation**

#### Obs:

• Rescaled Localized RBF (RL-RBF) based on CSRBF introduced in [Deparis et al, SISC 2014]: they are smoother even for small radii of the support

• In [DeM et al 2017] it is shown that it is a Shepard's PU method: exacteness on constants.

• Linear convergence of localized rescaled interpolants is still an open problem [DeM and Wendland, draft 2017].



### Example

Take, f(x) = x on [0, 1] by using W2 at the points set  $X = \{0, 1/6, 1/3, 1/2, 2/3, 5/6, 1\}, \varepsilon = 5 \ (\epsilon = 1/r).$ 



Figure: (left) interpolants and (right) the abs error

For more results see [Deparis et al 14, Idda's master thesis 2015].



### **RBF- PU interpolation**

- Ω = ∪<sup>s</sup><sub>j=1</sub>Ω<sub>i</sub> (can overlap): that is, each **x** ∈ Ω belongs to a limited number of subdomains, say s<sub>0</sub> < s.</p>
- Then we consider,  $W_j$  non-negative functions on  $\Omega_j$ , s.t.  $\sum_{j=1}^{s} W_j = 1$  is a partition of unity. A possibile choice is

$$W_j(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\tilde{W}_j(\mathbf{x})}{\sum_{k=1}^s \tilde{W}_k(\mathbf{x})}, \quad j = 1, \dots, s$$
(11)

where  $\tilde{W}_j$  are compactly supported functions on  $\Omega_j$ .

#### **RBF-PU** interpolant

$$I(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{s} R_j(\mathbf{x}) W_j(\mathbf{x}), \quad \forall \ x \in \Omega$$
(12)

where  $R_j$  is a RBF interpolant on  $\Omega_j$  i.e.  $R_j(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_j} \alpha_i^j \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_i^j), \quad N_j = |\Omega_j|$  $\mathbf{x}_k^j \in X_{N_i}, \ k = 1, \dots, N_j.$  32



### Rescaling gives a Shepard method

We start by writing the interpolant of a function  $f \in N_K$  using the

cardinals 
$$u_j(\mathbf{x}_i) = \delta_{i,j}$$
,  $P_f = \sum_{j=1}^N f(\mathbf{x}_j)u_j$ , so that for  $g \equiv 1$  we get

$$P_g = \sum_{j=1}^N u_j$$



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$$\hat{P}_{f} = \frac{\sum_{j=1}^{N} f(\mathbf{x}_{j}) u_{j}}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} u_{k}} = \sum_{j=1}^{N} f(\mathbf{x}_{j}) \frac{u_{j}}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} u_{k}} =: \sum_{j=1}^{N} f(\mathbf{x}_{j}) \hat{u}_{j},$$

where we introduced the (new) cardinal functions  $\hat{u}_j := \frac{u_j}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} u_k}$ .



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#### Corollary

The rescaled interpolation method is a Shepard-PU method, where the weight functions are defined as  $\hat{u}_j = u_j / (\sum_{k=1}^N u_k)$ ,  $\{u_j\}_j$  being the cardinal basis of span{ $K(\cdot, \mathbf{x}), \mathbf{x} \in X$ }.



### Variably Scaled Kernels (VSK)

#### Definition

Let  $\psi : \mathbb{R}^d \to (0, \infty)$  be a given scale function. A Variably Scaled Kernel (VSK)  $K_{\psi}$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is

 $K_{\psi}(\mathbf{x},\mathbf{y}) := \mathcal{K}((\mathbf{x},\psi(\mathbf{x})),(\mathbf{y},\psi(\mathbf{y}))), \quad \forall \mathbf{x},\mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}^{d}.$ 

where  $\mathcal{K}$  is a kernel on  $\mathbb{R}^{d+1}$ .



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Given X and the scale functions  $\psi_j : \mathbb{R}^d \to (0, \infty), j = 1, ..., s$ , the RVSK-PU is

$$I_{\psi}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{s} R_{\psi_{j}}(\mathbf{x}) W_{j}(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Omega,$$
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#### **Obs:** (if $\Phi$ is radial)

$$(A_{\psi_j})_{ik} = \Phi(||\mathbf{x}_i^j - \mathbf{x}_k^j||^2 + (\psi_j(\mathbf{x}_i^j) - \psi_j(\mathbf{x}_k^j))^2), \ i, k = 1, \dots, N_j.$$



# Rational RBF (RRBF)

definition

$$R(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{R^{(1)}(\mathbf{x})}{R^{(2)}(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \alpha_k K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_k)}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \beta_k K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_k)}$$

#### [Jackbsson et al. 2009, Sarra and Bai 2017]

 $\implies$  RRBFs well approximate data with steep gradients or discontinuites [rational with PU+VSK in DeM et al. 2017].



#### Learning from rational functions, d = 1

polynomial case.

$$r(x) = \frac{p_1(x)}{p_2(x)} = \frac{a_m x^m + \dots + a_0 x^0}{x^n + b_{n-1} x^{n-1} \dots + b_0}.$$

M = m + n + 1 unknowns (Padé approximation). If M < N to get the coefficients we may solve the LS problem

$$\min_{p_1 \in \Pi_m^1, p_2 \in \Pi_n^1} \left( \sum_{k=1}^N |f(x_k) - r(x_k)|^2 \right).$$



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■ RBF case. Let  $X_m = {\mathbf{x}_k, ..., \mathbf{x}_{k+m-1}}, X_n = {\mathbf{x}_j, ..., \mathbf{x}_{j+n-1}} \subset X$  be non empty, such that  $m + n \le N$ 

$$R(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{R^{(1)}(\mathbf{x})}{R^{(2)}(\mathbf{x})} = \frac{\sum_{i_1=k}^{k+m-1} \alpha_{i_1} K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_{i_1})}{\sum_{i_2=j}^{j+n-1} \beta_{i_2} K(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_{i_2})},$$
(14)

provided  $R^{(2)}(\mathbf{x}) \neq 0$ , for all  $\mathbf{x} \in \Omega$ .



Find the coefficients

[Jackbsson 2009] show that this is equivalent to solve the following generalized eigenvalue problem

Problem 3

 $\Sigma \boldsymbol{q} = \lambda \Theta \boldsymbol{q},$ 

with

$$\Sigma = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{f}\|_2^2} D^T A^{-1} D + A^{-1}, \text{ and } \Theta = \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{f}\|_2^2} D^T D + I_N,$$

where  $I_N$  is the identity matrix.



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 $\hookrightarrow$  q is the eigenvector associated to the smallest eigenvalue!  $\leftarrow$ 



### New class of rational RBF [Buhmann, DeM, Perracchione 2018]

$$\hat{P}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x}) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_{i} K(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}) + \sum_{m=1}^{L} \gamma_{m} \rho_{m}(\boldsymbol{x})}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} \beta_{k} \bar{K}(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{k})} := \frac{P_{g}(\boldsymbol{x})}{P_{h}(\boldsymbol{x})}$$
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Ratio of a CPD *K* of order  $\ell$  and an associate PD  $\overline{K} \dots \Longrightarrow$  two kernel matrices,  $\Phi_K$  and  $\Phi_{\overline{K}}$ .



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Ratio of a CPD *K* of order  $\ell$  and an associate PD  $\overline{K} \dots \Longrightarrow$  two kernel matrices,  $\Phi_K$  and  $\Phi_{\overline{K}}$ .

#### Obs:

- **1** Once we know the function values  $P_h(\mathbf{x}_i) = h_i$ , i = 1, ..., N, we can construct  $P_g$ , i.e. it interpolates  $\mathbf{g} = (f_1 h_1, ..., f_N h_N)^T$ . Hence  $\hat{P}_f$  interpolates the given function values **f** at the nodes  $\mathbf{X}_N$ .
- **2** If K is PD, we fix  $\overline{K} = K$  so that we deal with the same kernel matrix for both numerator and denominator.
- **3** We can prove well-posedness, find cardinal functions and give stability analysis.



### Lectures Notes on RBF



- Learning from splines
- 2 Positive definite functions
- 3 Conditionally positive definite functions
- 4 Error estimates
- 5 Stable bases for RBFs
- 6 Rational RBFs
- 7 The Partition of unity method
- 8 Collocation method via RBF
- 9 Financial applications
- 10 Exercises



### Other references

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