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# Towards Unbiased Random Features with Lower Variance For Stationary Indefinite Kernels

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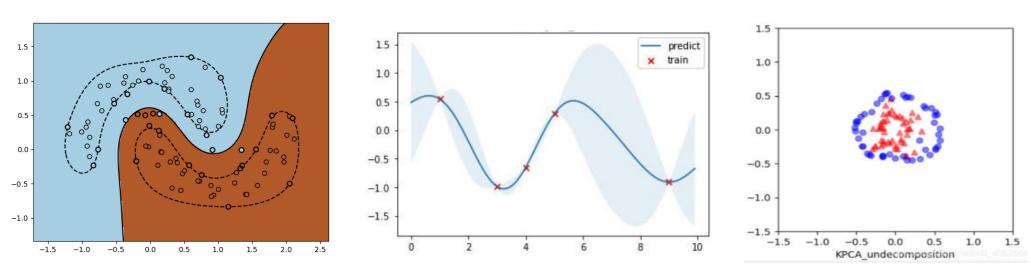


- Background
- Motivation
- Methods
- Experiments
- Conclusion

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# **Background**

- Kernel methods are extensively used in classification [1], regression [2] and dimension reduction [3].
- Kernel methods scale poorly to large datasets because of  $O(N^3)$  time complexity and  $O(N^2)$  space complexity
- Random Fourier Features reduce the computation cost and storage space to  $\mathcal{O}(Ns^2)$  and  $\mathcal{O}(Ns)$  ( $s \ll N$ )



[1] Schölkopf B, Smola A J, Bach F. Learning with kernels: support vector machines, regularization, optimization, and beyond[M]. MIT press, 2002. [2] Wilson A, Adams R. Gaussian process kernels for pattern discovery and extrapolation[C]//International conference on machine learning. PMLR, 2013: 1067-1075.

[3] Schölkopf B, Smola A, Müller K R. Kernel principal component analysis[C]//International conference on artificial neural networks. Springer, Berlin, Heidelberg, 1997: 583-588.

# **Background**

- Random Fourier Features are restricted to the kernels:
  - 1) shift-invariant (stationary)

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = k(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$

2) positive definite (PD)

$$\alpha^T K \alpha \geq 0$$
 for all  $\alpha \neq 0$  and  $K_{ij} = k(x_i, x_j)$ 

- Not satisfy the requirement
  - 1) **non-stationary kernels**: polynomial kernel, neural tangent kernel (NTK) When data is restricted on the sphere  $\rightarrow$  stationary but indefinite kernel
  - 2) non-PD kernel: linear combination of Gaussian kernel (Delta-Gaussian kernel), TL1-kernel

(Bohner's Theorem) A continuous and **stationary** function  $k: \mathbb{R}^d \times \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}$  is **positive definite** if and only if it can be represented as

$$k(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \exp(i\mathbf{w}^T(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})) p(d\mathbf{w}) = \mathbb{E}_{\mathbf{w} \sim p(\mathbf{w})} [\exp(i\mathbf{w}^T(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}))]$$

where  $p(\mathbf{w})$  is the positive finite measure over  $\mathbf{w}$ , i is imaginary unit.

# **Background**

#### **Related Work**

Methods	Kernel Types	Unbiasedness	Variance
Random Maclaurin (RM) [1]	Polynomial	V	$\mathcal{O}\left(\left(\frac{32RL}{\epsilon}\right)^{2d}\exp\left(-\frac{D\epsilon^2}{8C_{\Omega}^2}\right)\right)$
Tensor Sketch (TS) [2]	Polynomial	٧	$\mathcal{O}(\exp\left(-\frac{t\epsilon^2}{2R^{4p}}\right))$
Spherical Random Features (SRF) [3]	Stationary Indefinite	×	
Double Variation Random Features (DIGMM) [4]	Stationary Indefinite	×	
Generalized Random Fourier Features (GRFF) [5]	Stationary Indefinite	V	$\mathcal{O}\left(\left(\frac{2\sigma R}{\epsilon}\right)^{2d} \exp\left(-\frac{s\epsilon^2}{32(d+2)}\right)\right)$

<sup>[1]</sup> Kar P, Karnick H. Random feature maps for dot product kernels[C]//Artificial intelligence and statistics. PMLR, 2012: 583-591.

- [3] Pennington J, Felix X Y, Kumar S. Spherical Random Features for Polynomial Kernels[C]//NIPS. 2015.
- [4] Liu F, Huang X, Shi L, et al. A double-variational bayesian framework in random fourier features for indefinite kernels[J]. IEEE transactions on neural networks and learning systems, 2019, 31(8): 2965-2979.
- [5] Liu F, Huang X, Chen Y, et al. Fast Learning in Reproducing Kernel Krein Spaces via Signed Measures[C]//International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics. PMLR, 2021: 388-396.

<sup>[2]</sup> Pham N, Pagh R. Fast and scalable polynomial kernels via explicit feature maps[C]//Proceedings of the 19th ACM SIGKDD international conference on Knowledge discovery and data mining. 2013: 239-247.

- Background
- Motivation
- Methods
- Experiments
- Conclusion

## **Motivation**

**Objective**: Unbiased random Fourier approximation with lower variance for stationary indefinite kernels

#### **Contribution:**

- Unbiased approximation and lower the variance utilizing orthogonal sampling
- Theoretical analysis of the unbiasedness and variance reduction
- Experimental validation of the approximation error and classification or regression performance compared with the existing approximation method

- Background
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#### **Preliminaries**

(Signed Measure) Let  $\Omega$  be some set, and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets on  $\Omega$ . A signed measure is a function  $\mu: \mathcal{A} \to [-\infty, +\infty)$  or  $(-\infty, +\infty]$  satisfying  $\sigma$ -additivity.

(Jordan Decomposition) Let  $\mu$  be a signed measure defined on the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{A}$ . There exists two nonnegative measures  $\mu_+$  and  $\mu_-$  (one of the measure) such that  $\mu = \mu_+ - \mu_-$ . The total mass is defined as:  $||\mu|| = ||\mu_+|| + ||\mu_-||$ 

p(w) is not a probability measure, viewed as a signed measure.

$$k(\boldsymbol{x} - \boldsymbol{y}) = k(\boldsymbol{z}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \exp(i\boldsymbol{w}^T\boldsymbol{z}) \, p(d\boldsymbol{w}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \exp(i\boldsymbol{w}^T\boldsymbol{z}) \, p_+(d\boldsymbol{w}) - \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \exp(i\boldsymbol{w}^T\boldsymbol{z}) \, p_-(d\boldsymbol{w})$$

$$= \left| |p_+| \left| \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{w} \sim \widetilde{p_+}}(\boldsymbol{w}) \left( \exp(i\boldsymbol{w}^T\boldsymbol{z}) \right) - \left| |p_-| \right| \mathbb{E}_{\boldsymbol{w} \sim \widetilde{p_-}}(\boldsymbol{w}) \left( \exp(i\boldsymbol{w}^T\boldsymbol{z}) \right) \right|$$
where  $\widetilde{p_+} = \frac{p_+(\boldsymbol{w})}{||p_+||}$  and  $\widetilde{p_-} = \frac{p_-(\boldsymbol{w})}{||p_-||}$ 

Define 
$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{s}} [\psi_1(x), \psi_2(x), \psi_3(x), ..., \psi_s(x)]^T$$
 with  $\psi_i(x)$ :

 $\psi_i(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \sqrt{||p_+||} \cos(\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{x}), \sqrt{||p_+||} \sin(\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{x}), i \sqrt{||p_-||} \cos(\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x}), i \sqrt{||p_-||} \sin(\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x}) \right]^T - \mathbf{v}_i(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \sqrt{||p_+||} \cos(\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{x}), \sqrt{||p_+||} \sin(\mathbf{w}_i^T \mathbf{x}), i \sqrt{||p_-||} \cos(\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x}), i \sqrt{||p_-||} \sin(\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x}), i \sqrt{||p_-||} \cos(\mathbf{v}_i^T \mathbf{x})$ 

$$k(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) \approx \frac{1}{S} \sum_{i=1}^{S} \langle \psi_i(\mathbf{x}), \psi_i(\mathbf{y}) \rangle = \phi(\mathbf{x})^T \phi(\mathbf{y})$$

Generalized Random Fourier Features

#### **Unbiased Approximation**

$$\mathbb{E}\big(K_{GRFF}(\mathbf{z})\big) = k(\mathbf{z})$$

Variance determines the whole approximation error. Orthogonal sampling could reduce the variance.

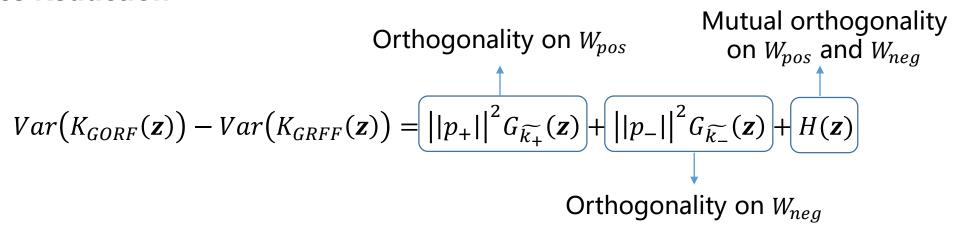
#### **QR** decomposition

1) Amplitude sampling 
$$||\boldsymbol{w}_i||_2 \sim \widetilde{p_+(\boldsymbol{w})}$$
  $||\boldsymbol{v}_i||_2 \sim \widetilde{p_-(\boldsymbol{w})}$ 

2) Orthogonal direction 
$$a_j \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I_{2m})$$
  $b_j \sim \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, I_{2m})$   $M = [a_1, ..., a_m, b_1, ..., b_m]$   $M^{orth} = QR(M)$ 

3) Composition 
$$\mathbf{w}_i = ||\mathbf{w}_i||_2 M_i^{orthn} \quad \mathbf{v}_i = ||\mathbf{v}_i||_2 M_{s+i}^{orthn}$$

#### **Variance Reduction**



Theorem 5 [1] For a PD radial kernel k on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with Fourier measure p(w) and  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^d$ , writing z = x - y, we have:

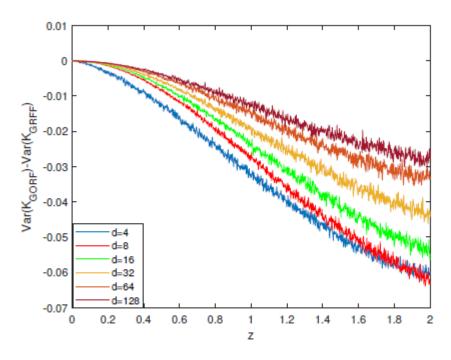
$$G_{k}(\mathbf{z}) = Var\left(K_{ORF}(\mathbf{z})\right) - Var\left(K_{RFF}(\mathbf{z})\right) = \frac{s-1}{s} \mathbb{E}_{R_{1}} \left[ \frac{J_{\frac{d}{2}-1}\left(R_{1}||\mathbf{z}||\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{R_{1}||\mathbf{z}||}{2}\right)^{\frac{d}{2}-1}} \right]^{2} - \frac{s-1}{s} \mathbb{E}_{R_{1},R_{2}} \left[ \frac{J_{\frac{d}{2}-1}\left(\sqrt{R_{1}^{2}+R_{2}^{2}}||\mathbf{z}||\right)\Gamma\left(\frac{d}{2}\right)}{\left(\frac{\sqrt{R_{1}^{2}+R_{2}^{2}}||\mathbf{z}||}{2}\right)^{\frac{d}{2}-1}} \right]^{2}$$

where  $R_1$ ,  $R_2 \sim p(\mathbf{w})$ , and  $J_{\alpha}$  is the Bessel function of the first kind of degree  $\alpha$ .

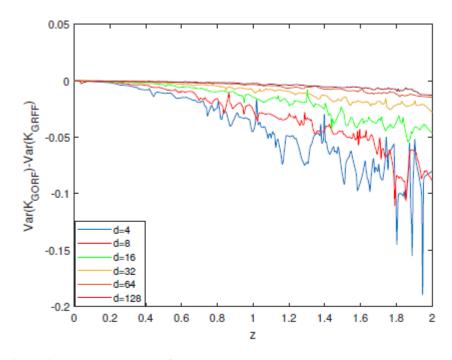
$$H(\mathbf{z}) = 2||p_+||||p_-||[\mathbb{E}(a_1)\mathbb{E}(b_1) - \mathbb{E}(a_1b_1)], \qquad a_1 = \cos(\mathbf{w}_1^T\mathbf{z}), \qquad b_1 = \cos(\mathbf{v}_1^T\mathbf{z})$$

[1] Choromanski K, Rowland M, Sarlos T, et al. The geometry of random features[C]//International Conference on Artificial Intelligence and Statistics. PMLR, 2018: 1-9.

#### **Variance Reduction**



(a) polynomial kernel on the unit sphere (a=3,m=1)



(b) delta-gaussian kernel ( $a_1=1, a_2=-1, \sigma_1=1, \sigma_2=10$ )

- Background
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# **Experiments**

#### Setup

Kernels
 Polynomial kernel

$$k(x, y) = \alpha(q + \langle x, y \rangle)^m = \left(1 - \frac{||x - y||^2}{a^2}\right)^m$$

where  $q = a^2/2 - 1$ ,  $\alpha = (2/\alpha^2)^m$ 

Delta-Gaussian kernel

$$k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \alpha_i e^{-\frac{||\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}||^2}{2\sigma_i^2}}$$

2) Datasets

Datasets	d	training	testing
letter	16	12000	6000
ijcnn1	22	49990	91701
usps	256	7291	2007

housing: d=13, training=405, testing=101

## **Experiments**

#### **Approximation error**

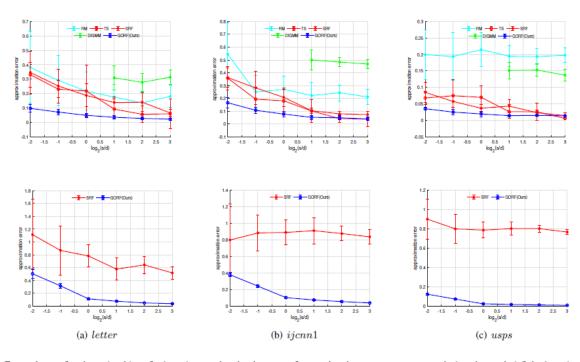


TABLE II
COMPARISON RESULTS BETWEEN APPLYING ORTHOGONAL SAMPLING AND I.I.D SAMPLING ON STATIONARY INDEFINITE KERNELS IN TERMS OF APPROXIMATION ERROR (MEAN±STD.). THE LOWEST ERROR IS HIGHLIGHTED IN BOLDFACE

Kernel	DataSet	Method	s=1/2d	s=d	s=2d	s=8d
	letter	GRFF	$0.0859\pm0.0309$	$0.0547 \pm 0.0078$	$0.0469\pm0.0109$	$0.0261\pm0.0059$
		GORF	$0.0716 \pm 0.0175$	$0.0495 \pm 0.0139$	$0.0360 \pm 0.0110$	$0.0231 \pm 0.0078$
nalunamial	221	GRFF	$0.1159\pm0.0158$	$0.0907\pm0.0194$	$0.0794\pm0.0142$	$0.0433\pm0.0059$
polynomial	ijcnn1	GORF	$0.1072\pm0.0228$	$0.0775 \pm 0.0204$	$0.0487 \pm 0.0155$	$0.0397 \pm 0.0135$
	usps	GRFF	$0.0270\pm0.0056$	$0.0213\pm0.0063$	$0.0160\pm0.0029$	$0.0137\pm0.0020$
		GORF	$0.0251 \pm 0.0078$	$0.0194 \pm 0.0087$	$0.0143 \pm 0.0030$	$0.0137 \pm 0.0016$
	letter	GRFF	$0.3918 \pm 0.0428$	$0.2736\pm0.0345$	$0.1887\pm0.0201$	$0.1017\pm0.0088$
delta-gaussian ij	tetter	GORF	$0.3154 \pm 0.0424$	$0.1133 \pm 0.0181$	$0.0760\pm0.0090$	$0.0376\pm0.0039$
	ijcnn1	GRFF	$0.2924\pm0.0188$	$0.2171\pm0.0222$	$0.1504\pm0.0134$	$0.0757\pm0.0081$
		GORF	$0.2415\pm0.0190$	$0.1026 \pm 0.0129$	$0.0739 \pm 0.0065$	$0.0383 \pm 0.0022$
	usps	GRFF	$0.1005\pm0.0061$	$0.0690\pm0.0050$	$0.0500\pm0.0024$	$0.0253\pm0.0023$
		GORF	$0.0724 \pm 0.0049$	$0.0235 \pm 0.0009$	$0.0166 \pm 0.0008$	$0.0083 \pm 0.0003$

Fig. 2. Comparisons of various algorithms for kernel approximation in terms of approximation error across two typical stationary indefinite kernels and three datasets with different dimensions. Top: polynomial kernel on the unit sphere. Below: delta-gaussian kernel

Unbiased estimation + Lower variance = Lower approximation error

# **Experiments**

#### **SVM classification problem**

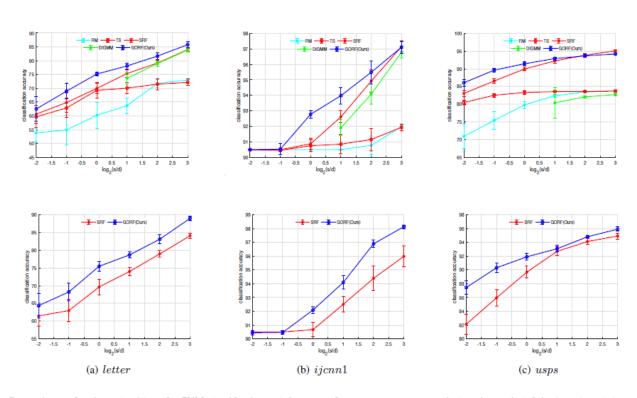


Fig. 3. Comparisons of various algorithms for SVM classification task in terms of accuracy across two typical stationary indefinite kernels and three datasets with different dimensions. Top: polynomial kernel on the unit sphere. Below: delta-gaussian kernel

#### **SVR regression problem**

TABLE III
REGRESSION ERROR FOR KERNEL APPROXIMATION
METHODS ON POLYNOMIAL KERNEL AND HOUSING
DATASET (RMSE: MEAN±STD). THE LOWEST ERROR IS
HIGHLIGHTED IN BOLDFACE

Methods	s=2d	s=4d	s=8d
RM	$7.153\pm1.772$	$5.436\pm0.917$	$4.491\pm0.008$
TS	$5.414\pm0.879$	$4.772\pm0.177$	$4.657\pm0.316$
SRF	$4.391\pm0.368$	$3.906\pm0.219$	$3.555\pm0.130$
DIGMM	$4.897 \pm 0.368$	$4.130\pm0.324$	$4.000\pm0.475$
GORF(OURS)	$4.079\pm0.233$	$3.817 \pm 0.204$	$3.472\pm0.137$

TABLE IV
REGRESSION ERROR FOR KERNEL APPROXIMATION
METHODS ON DELTA-GAUSSIAN KERNEL AND HOUSING
DATASET (RMSE: MEAN±STD). THE LOWEST ERROR IS
HIGHLIGHTED IN BOLDFACE

Methods	s=2d	s=4d	s=8d
SRF	$5.432\pm0.729$	$3.845\pm0.379$	$3.321\pm0.274$
GORF(OURS)	$3.739\pm0.360$	$3.474\pm0.330$	$3.164\pm0.452$

- Background
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### Conclusion

- 1) Propose an unbiased random feature approximation with lower variance for stationary indefinite kernels
- 2) Verify the unbiasedness and numerically calculate the reduced variance.
- 3) Experimentally demonstrate the approximation error and performance in classification and regression task compared with other methods.