## Distributed Nyström Kernel Learning with Communications ICML 2021 Rong Yin, Yong Liu, Weiping Wang, and Dan Meng

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#### Motivation

Given dataset  $D = \bigcup_{j=1}^{p} D_j = \{(x_i, y_i)_{i=1}^{N}\}$  with p disjoint subsets  $\{D_j\}_{j=1}^{p}$ ,  $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_D = [y_1, \dots, y_{|D|}]^T$ : data labels,  $\mathbf{K}_N$ : kernel matrix, |D|: the number of data in D.

## Kernel Ridge Regression (KRR)

$$\hat{f}_{D,\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{|D|} \hat{\alpha}_i K(x_i, x) \quad \text{with} \quad \hat{\alpha} = (\mathbf{K}_N + \lambda |D| \mathbf{I})^{-1} \mathbf{y}, \tag{1}$$

are deduced from the square loss problem

$$\hat{f}_{D,\lambda} = \arg\min_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \frac{1}{|D|} \sum_{i=1}^{|D|} (f(x_i) - y_i)^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2, \lambda > 0.$$
(2)

- Time complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(|D|^3)$ ,
- Space complexity:  $\mathcal{O}(|D|^2)$ .

## Contributions

In this paper, we study the statistical performance for distributed KRR with Nyström (DKRR-NY) and with Nyström and PCG (DKRR-NY-PCG).



# Our theoretical analysis show that DKRR-NY and DKRR-NY-PCG achieve the same optimal learning rates as the exact KRR requiring essentially $\mathcal{O}(|D|^{1.5})$ time and $\mathcal{O}(|D|)$ memory with relaxing the restriction on the number of local processors p in expectation, which exhibits the average effectiveness of multiple trials.

Note:

- DKRR-NY: distributed KRR with Nyström;
- DKRR-NY-PCG: distributed KRR with Nyström and PCG;
- DKRR-NY-CM: distributed KRR with Nyström and communication strategy.

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#### ₩

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- Por showing the generalization performance in a single trial, we deduce the optimal learning rates for DKRR-NY and DKRR-NY-PCG in probability.

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 $\begin{array}{ccc} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{KRR-NY} \ \longrightarrow \ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{DKRR-NY} \ \longrightarrow \ \mathsf{DKRR-NY-CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right. \end{array}$ 

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- Por showing the generalization performance in a single trial, we deduce the optimal learning rates for DKRR-NY and DKRR-NY-PCG in probability.
- We propose a novel algorithm DKRR-NY-CM based on DKRR-NY, which employs a communication strategy to further improve the learning performance, whose effectiveness of communications is validated in theoretical and experimental analysis.

#### Note:

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## Introduction

## KRR with Nyström (KRR-NY)

Consider a smaller hypothesis space  $\mathcal{H}_m$ 

$$\mathcal{H}_m = \{ f | f = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i K(\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}_i, \cdot), \boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathbb{R}^m \}$$

of functions

$$\tilde{f}_{m,\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \tilde{\alpha}_i K(\tilde{\boldsymbol{x}}_i, x),$$
(3)

The corresponding minimizer over the space  $\mathcal{H}_m$  is

$$\tilde{\alpha} = \left(\underbrace{\mathbf{K}_{Nm}^{T}\mathbf{K}_{Nm} + \lambda |D|\mathbf{K}_{mm}}_{\mathbf{H}}\right)^{\dagger}\underbrace{\mathbf{K}_{Nm}^{T}\mathbf{y}}_{\mathbf{z}}.$$
(4)

where  $\{\tilde{x}_1,\ldots,\tilde{x}_m\}$  are Nyström centers sampled uniformly at random without replacement from the training set.

Procedure: KRR 
$$\rightarrow$$
 KRR-NY  $\rightarrow$ 
 DKRR-NY  $\rightarrow$  DKRR-NY-CM

 DKRR-NY-PCG
 DKRR-NY-PCG

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To quickly compute  $\tilde{\alpha}$  in the above (Eq.(4)), preconditioning and conjugate gradient (PCG) is introduced.

## KRR with Nyström and PCG (KRR-NY-PCG)

$$\mathbf{P}^{T}\mathbf{H}\hat{\boldsymbol{\alpha}} = \mathbf{P}^{T}\mathbf{z}, \text{ with } \hat{f}_{m,\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \hat{\alpha}_{i}K(\tilde{x}_{i}, x),$$
(5)

where

•  $\hat{\alpha}$  is solved via *t*-step conjugate gradient algorithm,

• 
$$\mathbf{P} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|D|}} \mathbf{T}^{-1} \mathbf{A}^{-1},$$

• 
$$\mathbf{T} = \operatorname{chol}(\mathbf{K}_{mm})$$

• 
$$\mathbf{A} = \operatorname{chol}(\frac{1}{m}\mathbf{T}\mathbf{T}^T + \lambda \mathbf{I}),$$

chol() represents the Cholesky decomposition.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \begin{cases} \mathsf{KRR}\text{-}\mathsf{NY} \\ \mathsf{KRR}\text{-}\mathsf{NY}\text{-}\mathsf{PCG} \end{cases} & \overset{\mathsf{DKRR}\text{-}\mathsf{NY} \longrightarrow \mathsf{DKRR}\text{-}\mathsf{NY}\text{-}\mathsf{CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR}\text{-}\mathsf{NY}\text{-}\mathsf{PCG} \end{cases}$$

#### Distributed KRR with Nyström (DKRR-NY) and with Nyström and PCG (DKRR-NY-PCG)

## DKRR-NY-PCG

$$\bar{f}_{D,m,t}^{0} = \sum_{j=1}^{p} \frac{|D_{j}|}{|D|} f_{D_{j},m,t},$$

where  $f_{D_j,m,t}$  is the solver of KRR-NY-PCG in Eq.(5). When  $t \to \infty$ , Eq.(6) is distributed KRR-NY (DKRR-NY),  $f_{D_j,m,t}$  is rewritten as  $f_{D_j,m,\lambda}$ .

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{KRR-NY} \\ \mathsf{KRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{DKRR-NY} \longrightarrow \mathsf{DKRR-NY-CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right. \end{array}$ 

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(6)

## Theorem (DKRR-NY in Expectation)

Under basic Assumptions, let  $r \in [1/2, 1]$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$ ,  $\lambda = \Omega(|D|^{-\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , with probability  $1 - \delta$ , when  $p \leq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{2r+\gamma}})$  and  $m \geq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , we have  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}(\bar{f}_{D,m,\lambda}^0)] - \mathcal{E}(f_{\mathcal{H}}) = \mathcal{O}(|D|^{-\frac{2r}{2r+\gamma}}).$ 

## Corollary (DKRR-NY-PCG in Expectation)

Under basic Assumptions, let  $r \in [1/2, 1]$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$ ,  $\lambda = \Omega(|D|^{-\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , with probability  $1 - \delta$ , when  $t \geq \mathcal{O}(\log(|D|))$ ,  $p \leq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , and  $m \geq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , we have  $\mathbb{E}[\mathcal{E}(\bar{f}_{D,m,t}^0)] - \mathcal{E}(f_{\mathcal{H}}) = \mathcal{O}(|D|^{-\frac{2r}{2r+\gamma}})$ .

NOTE:

- $\mathcal{O}(N^{-\frac{2r}{2r+\gamma}})$  is the optimal learning rate of KRR.
- Under the basic setting  $(r = 1/2 \text{ and } \gamma = 1)$ , the upper bound of the number of local processors p is enlarged from  $\mathcal{O}(1)$  of previous work [Yin et al., 2020a] to our  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{|D|})$  with the optimal learning rate.

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{KRR}\mathsf{-NY} \ \longrightarrow \ \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{DKRR}\mathsf{-NY} \ \longrightarrow \ \mathsf{DKRR}\mathsf{-NY}\mathsf{-CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR}\mathsf{-NY}\mathsf{-PCG} \end{array} \right. \right\} \end{array}$$

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#### Theoretical Analysis of DKRR-NY and DKRR-NY-PCG in Probability

For showing the generalization performance in a single trial, we deduce the learning rates for DKRR-NY and DKRR-NY-PCG in probability.

## Theorem (DKRR-NY in Probability)

 $\begin{array}{l} \text{Under basic Assumptions, let } r \in [1/2,1], \ \gamma \in (0,1], \ \lambda = \Omega(|D|^{-\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}}), \ \text{with probability } 1-\delta, \\ \text{when } p \leq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{4r+2\gamma}}) \ \text{and} \ m \geq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}}), \ \text{we have} \ \|\bar{f}_{D,m,\lambda}^0 - f_{\mathcal{H}}\|_{\rho}^2 = \mathcal{O}(|D|^{-\frac{2r}{2r+\gamma}}). \end{array}$ 

## Corollary (DKRR-NY-PCG in Probability)

Under basic Assumptions, let  $r \in [1/2, 1]$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$ ,  $\lambda = \Omega(|D|^{-\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , with probability  $1 - \delta$ , when  $t \ge \mathcal{O}(\log(|D|))$ ,  $p \le \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{4r+2\gamma}})$ , and  $m \ge \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , we have  $\|\bar{f}_{D,m,t}^0 - f_{\mathcal{H}}\|_{\rho}^2 = \mathcal{O}(|D|^{-\frac{2r}{2r+\gamma}})$ .

Note:

• Since the error decomposition in probability is not easy to separate a distributed error to control the number of local processors, the upper bound  $\mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{4r+2\gamma}})$  of p in probability is stricter than  $\mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{2r+\gamma}})$  in expectation.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{KRR}\mathsf{-NY} \ \longrightarrow \ \\ \mathsf{KRR}\mathsf{-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{DKRR}\mathsf{-NY} \ \longrightarrow \ \mathsf{DKRR}\mathsf{-NY-CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR}\mathsf{-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$

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To further enlarge the number of local processors p, we present a novel communication strategy for DKRR-NY (called DKRR-NY-CM).

## DKRR-NY-CM

$$\bar{f}_{D,m,\lambda}^{l} = \bar{f}_{D,m,\lambda}^{l-1} - \sum_{j=1}^{p} \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} \beta_j^{l-1}, l > 0$$

where 
$$\begin{split} &\beta_j^{l-1} = (P_m C_n P_m + \lambda I)^{-1} G_{D,m,\lambda}(\bar{f}_{D,m,\lambda}^{l-1}), \\ &\text{local gradient: } G_{D_j,m,\lambda}(f) = (P_m C_n P_m + \lambda I) f - \frac{1}{\sqrt{|D_j|}} P_m S_n^* \mathbf{y}_{D_j}, \text{ and} \\ &\text{global gradient: } G_{D,m,\lambda}(f) = \sum_{j=1}^p \frac{|D_j|}{|D|} G_{D_j,m,\lambda}(f). \end{split}$$

Note:

• DKRR-NY-CM communicates the gradients instead of data between local processors, which can protect the privacy of datasets in each local processor.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{KRR-NY} \\ \mathsf{KRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{DKRR-NY} \longrightarrow \mathsf{DKRR-NY-CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \end{array} \right.$$

## Theorem (3DKRR-NY-CM in Probability)

Under basic Assumptions, let  $r \in [1/2, 1]$ ,  $\gamma \in (0, 1]$ ,  $\lambda = \Omega(|D|^{-\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , with probability  $1 - \delta$ , when  $p \leq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{(2r+\gamma-1)(M+1)}{(2r+\gamma)(M+2)}})$  and  $m \geq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{1}{2r+\gamma}})$ , we have  $\|\bar{f}_{D,m,\lambda}^M - f_{\mathcal{H}}\|_{\rho}^2 = \mathcal{O}(|D|^{-\frac{2r}{2r+\gamma}}).$ 

Note:

- DKRR-NY-CM enlarges the upper bound of p compared with DKRR-NY:  $p \leq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{2r+\gamma-1}{4r+2\gamma}}) \longrightarrow p \leq \mathcal{O}(|D|^{\frac{(2r+\gamma-1)(M+1)}{(2r+\gamma)(M+2)}}).$
- The upper bound of p is monotonically increasing with the number of communications M, showing the power of communications.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathsf{Procedure:} \ \mathsf{KRR} \ \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{KRR-NY} \\ \mathsf{KRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \longrightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{c} \mathsf{DKRR-NY} \longrightarrow \mathsf{DKRR-NY-CM} \\ \mathsf{DKRR-NY-PCG} \end{array} \right. \end{array}$$

#### **Compared Methods**

Table 1: Computational complexity of the approximation KRR with the optimal learning rate and  $\lambda = 1/\sqrt{|D|}$ . "Comm" is communication complexity. d > 0,  $\Delta_1 = \frac{(1-\gamma)\gamma}{2} \ge 0$ ,  $\Delta_2 = \frac{\gamma}{2} > 0$ , and  $\gamma \in (0,1]$ .

Algorithms	Time	Space	Comm	p	m	Types
Nyström[Rudi et al., 2015]	$ D ^{2}$	$ D ^{1.5}$	/	/	$ D ^{0.5}$	In probability
Nyström-PCG[Rudi et al., 2017]	$ D ^{1.5}$	$ D ^{1.5}$	/	/	$ D ^{0.5}$	In probability
Random Features[Rudi et al., 2016	$ D ^{2+2\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{1.5+\Delta_1}$	/	1	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta}$	<sup>1</sup> In probability
DKRR-RF[Li et al., 2019]	$ D ^{1.5+2\Delta_1+\Delta}$	$2 D ^{1+\Delta_1+\Delta_2}$	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{0.5-\Delta_2}$	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta}$	In expectation
DKRR-RF[Liu et al., 2021]	$ D ^{1.5+2\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{1+\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta}$	<sup>1</sup> In expectation
DKRR-RF[Liu et al., 2021]	$ D ^{1.75+2\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{1.25+\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta_1}$	$ D ^{0.25}$	$ D ^{0.5+\Delta}$	In probability
DKPP PE CMILiu et al. 2021	$\frac{3M+7}{2M+4} + 2\Delta_1$	$\frac{2M+5}{2M+4} + \Delta$	$1_{M D }^{0.5+\Delta}$	$\frac{M+1}{2(M+2)}$	$\overline{\Sigma}_{ D }^{0.5+\Delta}$	lla arobability
DKRR-RF-CM[Eld et al., 2021]	$ D ^{2}$		$ D _{0.5}$	$ D ^{(1)}$		
DKRR[Chang et al., 2017b]	D	D	$ D ^{-1}$	$ D ^{-1}$	1	In expectation
DKRR[Lin et al., 2020]	$ D ^{2.20}$	$ D ^{1.0}$	$ D ^{0.10}$	$ D ^{0.20}$	/	In probability
DKRR-CM[Lin et al., 2020]	$ D ^{\frac{3(M+3)}{2(M+2)}}$	$ D ^{\frac{M+3}{M+2}}$	Md D	$ D ^{\frac{M+1}{2(M+2)}}$	<u>)</u> /	In probability
DKRR-NY-PCG[Yin et al., 2020a]	$ D ^{1.5}$	$ D ^{1+\Delta_2}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.5-\Delta_2}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	In expectation
DKRR-NY-PCG [This paper]	$ D ^{1.5}$	D	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	In expectation
DKRR-NY-PCG [This paper]	$ D ^{1.75}$	$ D ^{1.25}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.25}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	In probability
DKRR-NY [This paper]	$ D ^{1.5}$	D	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	In expectation
DKRR-NY [This paper]	$ D ^{1.75}$	$ D ^{1.25}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{0.25}$	$ D ^{0.5}$	In probability
DKRR-NY-CM [This paper]	$ D ^{\frac{3M+7}{2M+4}}$	$ D ^{\frac{2M+5}{2M+4}}$	$M D ^{0.5}$	$ D ^{\frac{M+1}{2(M+2)}}$	$(D ^{0.5})$	In probability

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#### Simulation Experiment



Figure 1: The mean square error on testing sampling with different partitions on KRR, DKRR-NY, and our DKRR-NY-CM. The numbers 2, 4 and 8 represent the number of communications.

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## Thank You for Listening

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