

can only be achieved by defining new kernels as linear combinations of differently scaled kernels. This is due to the fact that once a regularization operator is chosen, the solution minimizing the regularized risk function has to be expanded into the corresponding Green's functions of P^*P (Chapter 4). In these cases, a possible way out is to resort to the LP version (Section 9.4). A final area of research left out of this chapter is the problem of estimating the values of functions at given test points, sometimes referred to as transduction [103].

9.8 Problems

9.1 (Product of SVR Lagrange Multipliers [561] •) Show that for $\varepsilon > 0$, the solution of the SVR dual problem satisfies

$$\alpha_i \alpha_i^* = 0 \quad (9.58)$$

for all $i = 1, \dots, m$. Prove it either directly from (9.17), or from the KKT conditions.

Show that for $\varepsilon = 0$, we can always find a solution which satisfies (9.58) and which is optimal, by subtracting $\min\{\alpha_i, \alpha_i^*\}$ from both multipliers.

Give a mechanical interpretation of this result, in terms of forces on the SVs (cf. Chapter 7).

9.2 (SV Regression with Fewer Slack Variables ••) Prove geometrically that in SV regression, we always have $\xi_i \xi_i^* = 0$. Argue that it is therefore sufficient to just introduce slacks ξ_i and use them in both (9.9) and (9.10). Derive the dual problem and show that it is identical to (9.17) except for a modified constraint $0 \leq \alpha_i + \alpha_i^* \leq C$. Using the result of Problem 9.1, prove that this problem is equivalent to (9.10).

Hint: although the number of slacks is half of the original quantity, you still need both α_i and α_i^* to deal with the constraints.

9.3 (ν -Property from the Primal Objective Function •) Try to understand the ν -property from the primal objective function (9.31). Assume that at the point of the solution, $\varepsilon > 0$, and set $(\partial/\partial\varepsilon)\tau(\mathbf{w}, \varepsilon)$ equal to 0.

9.4 (One-Sided Regression ••) Consider a situation where you are seeking a flat function that lies above all of the data points; that is, a regression that only measures errors in one direction. Formulate an SV algorithm by starting with the linear case and later introducing kernels. Generalize to the soft margin case, using the ν -trick. Discuss the applicability of such an algorithm. Also discuss how this algorithm is related to ν -SVR using different values of ν for the two sides of the tube.

9.5 (Basis Pursuit ••) Formulate a basis pursuit variant of SV regression, where, starting from zero, SVs are added iteratively in a greedy way (cf. [577]).

9.6 (SV Regression with Hard Constraints •) Derive dual programming problems for variants of ε -SVR and ν -SVR where all points are required to lie inside the ε -tubes (in