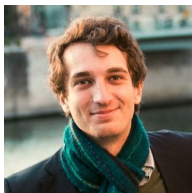


# When Shape Constraints Meet Kernel Machines

Zoltán Szabó

Joint work with: Pierre-Cyril Aubin-Frankowski @ MINES ParisTech



EcoSta: Recent Advances in Machine Learning session  
June 4, 2022

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- 4  $n$ -monotonicity:  $0 \leq f^{(n)}(x)$ ,
- 5  $(n - 1)$ -alternating monotonicity: for  $n \geq 2$

$$(-1)^j f^{(j)} : \geq 0, \nearrow \text{ and convex } \forall j \in \llbracket 0, n - 2 \rrbracket.$$

Example: generator of a  $d$ -variate Archimedean copula is  $(d - 2)$ -alternating monotone.

- ⑥ Monotonicity w.r.t. partial ordering ( $\mathbf{u} \preceq \mathbf{v} \Rightarrow f(\mathbf{u}) \leq f(\mathbf{v})$ ):

$\mathbf{u} \preceq \mathbf{v}$  iff

- $u_i \leq v_i$  ( $\forall i$ ; product ordering),
- $\sum_{j \in [i]} u_j \leq \sum_{j \in [i]} v_j$  ( $\forall i$ ; unordered weak majorization).



## Examples continued

- ⑥ Monotonicity w.r.t. partial ordering ( $\mathbf{u} \preceq \mathbf{v} \Rightarrow f(\mathbf{u}) \leq f(\mathbf{v})$ ):

$$0 \leq \partial^{e_j} f(\mathbf{x}), \quad (\forall j \in [d], \forall \mathbf{x}),$$

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- ⑦ Supermodularity:


$$0 \leq \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_i \partial x_j} \quad (\forall i \neq j \in [d], \forall \mathbf{x}),$$

i.e.  $f(\mathbf{u} \vee \mathbf{v}) + f(\mathbf{u} \wedge \mathbf{v}) \geq f(\mathbf{u}) + f(\mathbf{v})$  for all  $\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ .

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- RL and stochastic optimization: value functions are often **convex** [Keshavarz et al., 2011, Shapiro et al., 2014].
- Supply chain models, game theory: **supermodularity** [Topkis, 1998, Simchi-Levi et al., 2014].

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Towards flexible  $\mathcal{H}$ -s ...



- Def-1 (feature space):  $k : \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  kernel if

$$k(x, y) = \langle \varphi(x), \varphi(y) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

- Examples ( $\gamma > 0$ ,  $c \geq 0$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ):

$$k_p(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = (\langle \mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \rangle + c)^p, \quad k_G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) = e^{-\gamma \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2^2},$$

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- Def-2 (reproducing kernel):

$$k(\cdot, x) := [x' \mapsto k(x', x)] \in \mathcal{H}, \quad f(x) = \langle f, k(\cdot, x) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

Constructively,  $\mathcal{H}_k = \overline{\{\sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i k(\cdot, x_i) : \alpha_i \in \mathbb{R}, x_i \in \mathcal{X}, n \in \mathbb{N}^*\}}$ .

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- Equivalent definitions,  $k \stackrel{1:1}{\leftrightarrow} \mathcal{H}_k$ .
- Included: Fourier analysis, polynomials, splines, ...
- Examples ( $\gamma > 0, c \geq 0, p \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ):

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- Given:  $(\tau_q)_{q \in [Q]} \subset (0, 1)$  levels  $\nearrow$ ,  $\{(\mathbf{x}_n, y_n)\}_{n \in [M]}$  samples.
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- Objective:

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{N} \sum_{q \in [Q]} \sum_{n \in [N]} l_{\tau_q}(y_n - [f_q(\mathbf{x}_n) + b_q])}_{\text{quantile property}} + \underbrace{\lambda_{\mathbf{b}} \|\mathbf{b}\|_2^2 + \lambda_{\mathbf{f}} \sum_{q \in [Q]} \|f_q\|_k^2}_{\text{regularization}},$$

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## Constraints

function values ( $f_q$ ) with interaction ( $f_{q+1} - f_q$ ), bias terms ( $b_q$ ) with interaction ( $b_q - b_{q+1}$ ).

## Task-2: convoy localization, one vehicle ( $Q = 1$ )

- Given: noisy time-location samples  $\{(t_n, x_n)\}_{n \in [M]} \subset \underbrace{[0, T]}_{=: \mathcal{T}} \times \mathbb{R}$ .
- Goal: learn the  $(t, x)$  relation.
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- Goal: learn the  $(t, x)$  relation.
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- Objective:

$$b \in \mathbb{R}, f \in \mathcal{H}_k \left[ \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n \in [N]} |x_n - [b + f(t_n)]|^2 + \lambda \|f\|_{\mathcal{H}_k}^2 \right]$$

s.t.

$$v_{\min} \leq f'(t), \quad \forall t \in \mathcal{T}.$$

## Task-2b: convoy localization, multiple vehicles ( $Q \geq 1$ )

- Data:  $\left\{ (t_{q,n}, x_{q,n})_{n \in [N_q]} \right\}_{q \in [Q]} \subseteq \mathcal{T} \times \mathbb{R}$ .
- Constraints: speed ( $v_{\min}$ ), inter-vehicular distance ( $d_{\min}$ ).
- Objective:

$$\min_{\substack{f_1, \dots, f_Q \in \mathcal{H}_k, \\ b_1, \dots, b_Q \in \mathbb{R}}} \frac{1}{Q} \sum_{q=1}^Q \left[ \left( \frac{1}{N_q} \sum_{n=1}^{N_q} |x_{q,n} - (b_q + f_q(t_{q,n}))|^2 \right) + \lambda \|f_q\|_{\mathcal{H}_k}^2 \right]$$

s.t.

$$d_{\min} + b_{q+1} + f_{q+1}(t) \leq b_q + f_q(t), \quad \forall q \in [Q-1], t \in \mathcal{T},$$

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### Constraints

function values ( $f_q$ ) and derivatives ( $f'_q$ ) with interaction ( $f_q - f_{q+1}$ ), bias terms ( $b_q$ ) with interaction ( $b_{q+1} - b_q$ ).

# Our task

$$\begin{aligned} (\bar{\mathbf{f}}, \bar{\mathbf{b}}) = & \arg \min \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}), \\ & \mathbf{f} = (f_q)_{q \in [Q]} \in (\mathcal{H}_k)^Q, \\ & \mathbf{b} = (b_q)_{q \in [Q]} \in \mathcal{B}, \\ & (\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) \in \mathcal{C} \end{aligned}$$

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$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) = L \left( \mathbf{b}, \left( \mathbf{x}_n, y_n, (f_q(\mathbf{x}_n))_{q \in [Q]} \right)_{n \in [N]} \right) + \Omega \left( (\|f_q\|_{\mathcal{H}_k})_{q \in [Q]} \right),$$

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$$\mathcal{C} = \{(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) \mid (\mathbf{b}_0 - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{b})_i \leq D_i(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}_0)_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in K_i, \forall i \in [I]\},$$

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$$\mathcal{C} = \{(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) \mid (\mathbf{b}_0 - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{b})_i \leq D_i(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}_0)_i(\mathbf{x}), \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in K_i, \forall i \in [I]\},$$

$$(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{f})_i = \sum_{q \in [Q]} W_{i,q} f_q,$$

$$D_i = \sum_{j \in [n_{i,j}]} \gamma_{i,j} \partial^{\mathbf{r}_{i,j}}, \quad |\mathbf{r}_{i,j}| \leq s, \quad \gamma_{i,j} \in \mathbb{R}, \quad \partial^{\mathbf{r}} f(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\partial^{|\mathbf{r}|} f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1^{r_1} \cdots \partial x_d^{r_d}}.$$



# Blanket assumptions

- 1 Domain  $\mathcal{X} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ : open. Kernel  $k \in \mathcal{C}^s(\mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X})$ .
- 2  $K_i \subset \mathcal{X}$ : compact,  $\forall i$ .
- 3  $\mathbf{f}_{0,i} \in \mathcal{H}_k$  for  $\forall i$ .
- 4 Bias domain  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^Q$ : convex.
- 5 Loss  $L$  restricted to  $\mathcal{B}$ : strictly convex in  $\mathbf{b}$ .
- 6 Regularizer  $\Omega$ : strictly increasing in each of its argument.

# Our strengthened SOC-constrained formulation

$$(\mathbf{f}_\eta, \mathbf{b}_\eta) = \arg \min_{\mathbf{f} \in (\mathcal{H}_k)^Q, \mathbf{b} \in \mathcal{B}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) \quad (\mathcal{P}_\eta)$$

s.t.

$$\begin{aligned} & (\mathbf{b}_0 - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{b})_i + \eta_i \|(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}_0)_i\|_{\mathcal{H}_k} \\ & \leq \min_{m \in [M_i]} D_i(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}_0)_i(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{i,m}), \quad \forall i \in [I], \end{aligned} \quad (\mathcal{C}_\eta)$$

where

- $\{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{i,m}\}_{m \in [M_i]}$ : a  $\delta_i$ -net of  $K_i$  in  $\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{X}}$ ,
- $\eta_i = \sup_{m \in [M_i], \mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{B}_{\|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{X}}}(\mathbf{0}, 1)} \|D_{i,\mathbf{x}}k(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{i,m}, \cdot) - D_{i,\mathbf{x}}k(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{i,m} + \delta_i\mathbf{u}, \cdot)\|_{\mathcal{H}_k}$ ,
- $D_{i,\mathbf{x}}k(\mathbf{x}_0, \cdot) := \mathbf{y} \mapsto D_i(\mathbf{x} \mapsto k(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}))(\mathbf{x}_0)$ .

# Tightening idea

Let  $s = 0$ ,  $l = 1$ . Recall constraint (C):

$$\{(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b}) \mid \underbrace{(b_0 - \mathbf{U}\mathbf{b})}_{\beta} \leq \underbrace{(\mathbf{W}\mathbf{f} - f_0)(\mathbf{x})}_{\phi}, \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \in K\}$$

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$$\Phi(K) := \{k(\mathbf{x}, \cdot) : \mathbf{x} \in K\} \subseteq H_{\phi, \beta}^+ := \{g \in \mathcal{H}_k \mid \beta \leq \langle \phi, g \rangle_{\mathcal{H}_k}\}$$

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- $(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$  means: covering of  $\Phi(K)$  by balls with  $\eta$ -radius centered at the  $k(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_m, \cdot)$  is in the halfspace  $H_{\phi, \beta}^+$ ; hence it is tightening.

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- $\eta$  is obtained as the minimal radius.

# Theorem

- Minimal values:  $v_{\text{disc}} = \text{value of } (\mathcal{P}_\eta) \text{ with } \eta = \mathbf{0}, \bar{v} = \mathcal{L}(\bar{\mathbf{f}}, \bar{\mathbf{b}}),$   
 $v_\eta = \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{f}_\eta, \mathbf{b}_\eta).$
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Then,

- (i) Tightening: any  $(\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{b})$  satisfying  $(\mathcal{C}_\eta)$  also satisfies  $(\mathcal{C}),$  hence

$$v_{\text{disc}} \leq \bar{v} \leq v_\eta.$$



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- (ii) Representer theorem: For  $\forall q \in [Q]$ ,  $\exists \tilde{a}_{i,0,q}, \tilde{a}_{i,m,q}, a_{n,q} \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

$$f_{\eta,q} = \sum_{i \in [I]} \left[ \tilde{a}_{i,0,q} f_{0,i} + \sum_{m \in [M_i]} \tilde{a}_{i,m,q} D_{i,\mathbf{x}} k(\tilde{\mathbf{x}}_{i,m}, \cdot) \right] + \sum_{n \in [N]} a_{n,q} k(\mathbf{x}_n, \cdot).$$

## Theorem – continued

- (iii) Performance guarantee: if  $\mathcal{L}$  is  $(\mu_{f_q}, \mu_{\mathbf{b}})$ -strongly convex w.r.t.  $(f_q, \mathbf{b})$  for any  $q \in [Q]$ , then

$$\|f_{\eta, q} - \bar{f}_q\|_{\mathcal{H}_k} \leq \sqrt{\frac{2(v_{\eta} - v_{\text{disc}})}{\mu_{f_q}}}, \quad \|\mathbf{b}_{\eta} - \bar{\mathbf{b}}\|_2 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2(v_{\eta} - v_{\text{disc}})}{\mu_{\mathbf{b}}}}.$$

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If in addition  $\mathbf{U}$  is surjective,  $\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{R}^Q$ , and  $\mathcal{L}(\bar{\mathbf{f}}, \cdot)$  is  $L_b$ -Lipschitz continuous on  $\mathbb{B}_{\|\cdot\|_2}(\bar{\mathbf{b}}, c_f \|\boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{\infty})$  where  $c_f = \sqrt{d} \left\| (\mathbf{U}^T \mathbf{U})^{-1} \mathbf{U}^T \right\| \max_{i \in [I]} \left\| (\mathbf{W} \bar{\mathbf{f}} - \mathbf{f}_0)_i \right\|_{\mathcal{H}_k}$ , then

$$\|f_{\eta, q} - \bar{f}_q\|_{\mathcal{H}_k} \leq \sqrt{\frac{2L_b c_f \|\boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{\infty}}{\mu_{f_q}}}, \quad \|\mathbf{b}_{\eta} - \bar{\mathbf{b}}\|_2 \leq \sqrt{\frac{2L_b c_f \|\boldsymbol{\eta}\|_{\infty}}{\mu_{\mathbf{b}}}}.$$

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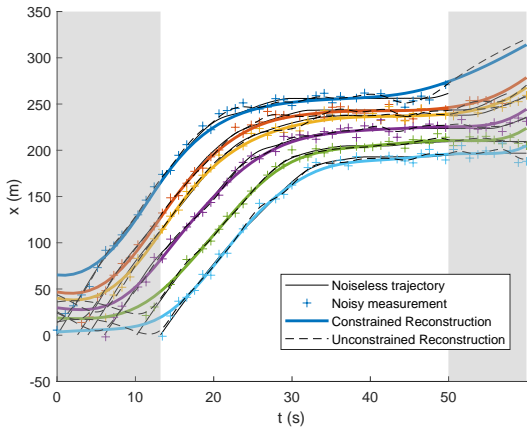
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1st bound: computable. 2nd: Larger  $M_i \Rightarrow$  smaller  $\delta_i \Rightarrow$  smaller  $\eta_i \Rightarrow$  tighter bound.

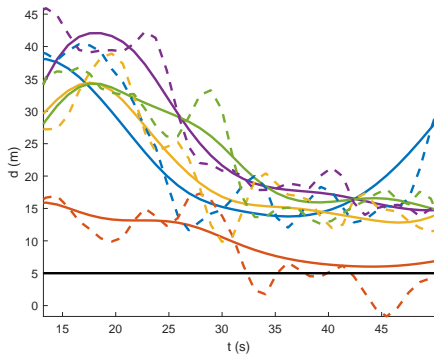
# Demo (task-1): convoy localization with traffic jam

Setting:  $Q = 6$ ,  $d_{\min} = 5m$ ,  $v_{\min} = 0$ .



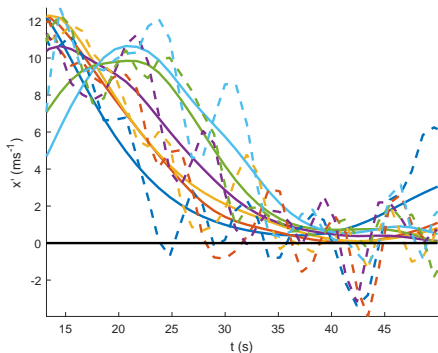
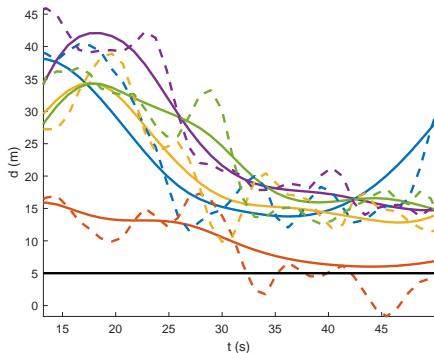
# Demo (task-1): continued

Pairwise distances:  $t \mapsto f_q(t) - f_{q+1}(t)$



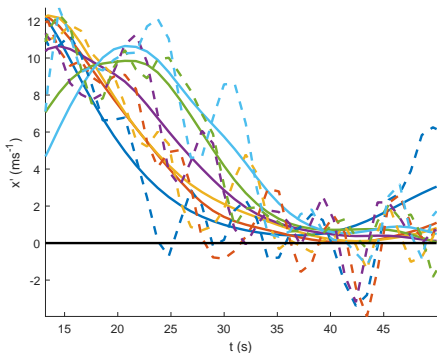
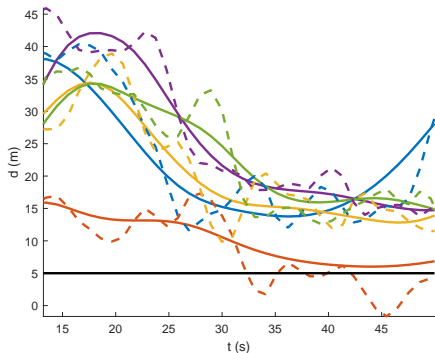
# Demo (task-1): continued

Pairwise distances:  $t \mapsto f_q(t) - f_{q+1}(t)$     Speed:  $t \mapsto f'_q(t)$



# Demo (task-1): continued

Pairwise distances:  $t \mapsto f_q(t) - f_{q+1}(t)$     Speed:  $t \mapsto f'_q(t)$



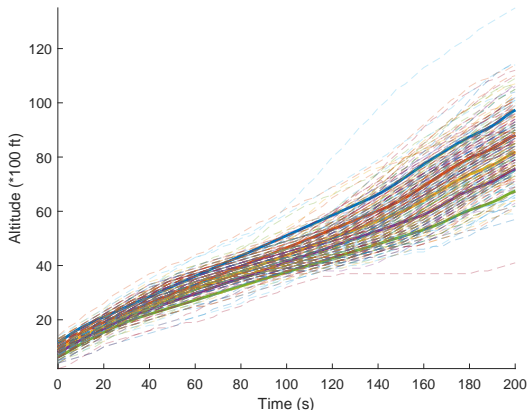
Shape constraints: especially relevant in **noisy** situations.



# Demo (task-2): joint quantile regression

## Analysis of aircraft trajectories, ENAC [Nicol, 2013]

- $y$ : radar-measured altitude of aircrafts flying between two cities (Paris & Toulouse);  $x$ : time.  $d = 1$ ,  $N = 15657$ .
- Demo:  $\tau_q \in \{0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7, 0.9\}$ .
- Constraint: non-crossing,  $\nearrow$  (takeoff).



# Summary

- Focus: hard affine shape constraints on derivatives & RKHS.
- Proposed framework: SOC-based tightening.
- Applications:
  - convoy localization,
  - joint quantile regression: aircraft trajectories.

# References & acknowledgements

- Transportation systems [Aubin-Frankowski et al., 2020].
- Method:
  - $\dim(y) = 1$ : [Aubin-Frankowski and Szabó, 2020]. Code @ GitHub.
  - $\dim(y) \geq 1$  (ex: safety-critical control) and SDP constraints (ex: production functions  $\rightarrow$  joint convexity): [Aubin-Frankowski and Szabó, 2021].

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