
Supervised Learning for Dynamical System Learning (Supplementary)

A Spectral and HSE Dynamical System Learning as Regression

In this section we provide examples of mapping some of the successful dynamical system learning algorithms to our framework.

A.1 HMM

In this section we show that we can use instrumental regression framework to reproduce the spectral learning algorithm for learning HMM [1]. We consider 1-observable models but the argument applies to k -observable models. In this case we use $\psi_t = e_{o_t}$ and $\xi_t = e_{o_{t:t+1}} = e_{o_t} \otimes_k e_{o_{t+1}}$, where \otimes_k denotes the kronecker product. Let $P_{i,j} \equiv \mathbb{E}[e_{o_i} \otimes e_{o_j}]$ be the joint probability table of observations i and j and let $\hat{P}_{i,j}$ be its estimate from the data. We start with the (very restrictive) case where $P_{1,2}$ is invertible. Given samples of $h_2 = e_{o_1}$, $\psi_2 = e_{o_2}$ and $\xi_2 = e_{o_{2:3}}$, in S1 regression we apply linear regression to learn two matrices $\hat{W}_{2,1}$ and $\hat{W}_{2:3,1}$ such that:

$$\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\psi_2|h_2] = \hat{\Sigma}_{o_2 o_1} \hat{\Sigma}_{o_1}^{-1} h_2 = \hat{P}_{2,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} h_2 \equiv \hat{W}_{2,1} h_2 \quad (\text{A.1})$$

$$\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\xi_2|h_2] = \hat{\Sigma}_{o_{2:3} o_1} \hat{\Sigma}_{o_1}^{-1} h_2 = \hat{P}_{2:3,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} h_2 \equiv \hat{W}_{2:3,1} h_2, \quad (\text{A.2})$$

where $P_{2:3,1} \equiv \mathbb{E}[e_{o_{2:3}} \otimes e_{o_1}]$

In S2 regression, we learn the matrix \hat{W} that gives the least squares solution to the system of equations

$$\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\xi_2|h_2] \equiv \hat{W}_{2:3,1} e_{o_1} = \hat{W} (\hat{W}_{2,1} e_{o_1}) \equiv \hat{W} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[\psi_2|h_2] \quad , \text{ for given samples of } h_2$$

which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{W} &= \hat{W}_{2:3,1} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[e_{o_1} e_{o_1}^\top] \hat{W}_{2,1}^\top \left(\hat{W}_{2,1} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[e_{o_1} e_{o_1}^\top] \hat{W}_{2,1}^\top \right)^{-1} \\ &= \left(\hat{P}_{2:3,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} \hat{P}_{2,1}^\top \right) \left(\hat{P}_{2,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} \hat{P}_{2,1}^\top \right)^{-1} \\ &= \hat{P}_{2:3,1} \left(\hat{P}_{2,1} \right)^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.3})$$

Having learned the matrix \hat{W} , we can estimate

$$\hat{P}_t \equiv \hat{W} q_t$$

starting from a state q_t . Since p_t specifies a joint distribution over $e_{o_{t+1}}$ and e_{o_t} we can easily condition on (or marginalize o_t) to obtain q_{t+1} . We will show that this is equivalent to learning and applying observable operators as in [1]:

For a given value x of o_2 , define

$$B_x = u_x^\top \hat{W} = u_x^\top \hat{P}_{2:3,1} \left(\hat{P}_{2,1} \right)^{-1}, \quad (\text{A.4})$$

where u_x is an $|\mathcal{O}| \times |\mathcal{O}|^2$ matrix which selects a block of rows in $\hat{P}_{2:3,1}$ corresponding to $o_2 = x$. Specifically, $u_x = \delta_x \otimes_k I_{|\mathcal{O}|}$.¹

$$\begin{aligned} q_{t+1} &= \hat{\mathbb{E}}[e_{o_{t+1}} | o_{1:t}] \propto u_{o_t}^\top \hat{\mathbb{E}}[e_{o_{t+1}} | o_{1:t-1}] \\ &= u_{o_t}^\top \hat{\mathbb{E}}[\xi_t | o_{1:t-1}] = u_{o_t}^\top \hat{W} \mathbb{E}[\psi_t | o_{1:t-1}] = B_{o_t} q_t \end{aligned}$$

with a normalization constant given by

$$\frac{1}{1^\top B_{o_t} q_t} \quad (\text{A.5})$$

Now we move to a more realistic setting, where we have $\text{rank}(P_{2,1}) = m < |\mathcal{O}|$. Therefore we project the predictive state using a matrix U that preserves the dynamics, by requiring that $U^\top O$ (i.e. U is an independent set of columns spanning the range of the HMM observation matrix O).

It can be shown [1] that $\mathcal{R}(O) = \mathcal{R}(P_{2,1}) = \mathcal{R}(P_{2,1} P_{1,1}^{-1})$. Therefore, we can use the leading m left singular vectors of $\hat{W}_{2,1}$, which corresponds to replacing the linear regression in S1A with a reduced rank regression. However, for the sake of our discussion we will use the singular vectors of $P_{2,1}$. In more detail, let $[U, S, V]$ be the rank- m SVD decomposition of $P_{2,1}$. We use $\psi_t = U^\top e_{o_t}$ and $\xi_t = e_{o_t} \otimes_k U^\top e_{o_{t+1}}$. S1 weights are then given by $\hat{W}_{2,1}^{rr} = U^\top \hat{W}_{2,1}$ and $\hat{W}_{2:3,1}^{rr} = (I_{|\mathcal{O}|} \otimes_k U^\top) \hat{W}_{2:3,1}$ and S2 weights are given by

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{W}^{rr} &= (I_{|\mathcal{O}|} \otimes_k U^\top) \hat{W}_{2:3,1} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[e_{o_1} e_{o_1}^\top] \hat{W}_{2,1}^\top U \left(U^\top \hat{W}_{2,1} \hat{\mathbb{E}}[e_{o_1} e_{o_1}^\top] \hat{W}_{2,1}^\top U \right)^{-1} \\ &= (I_{|\mathcal{O}|} \otimes_k U^\top) \hat{P}_{2:3,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} V S \left(S V^\top \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} V S \right)^{-1} \\ &= (I_{|\mathcal{O}|} \otimes_k U^\top) \hat{P}_{2:3,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} V \left(V^\top \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} V \right)^{-1} S^{-1} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A.6})$$

In the limit of infinite data, V spans $\text{range}(O) = \text{rowspan}(P_{2:3,1})$ and hence $P_{2:3,1} = P_{2:3,1} V V^\top$. Substituting in (A.6) gives

$$W^{rr} = (I_{|\mathcal{O}|} \otimes_k U^\top) P_{2:3,1} V S^{-1} = (I_{|\mathcal{O}|} \otimes_k U^\top) P_{2:3,1} (U^\top P_{2,1})^+$$

Similar to the full-rank case we define, for each observation x an $m \times |\mathcal{O}|^2$ selector matrix $u_x = \delta_x \otimes_k I_m$ and an observation operator

$$B_x = u_x^\top \hat{W}^{rr} \rightarrow U^\top P_{3,x,1} (U^\top P_{2,1})^+ \quad (\text{A.7})$$

This is exactly the observation operator obtained in [1]. However, instead of using A.6, they use A.7 with $P_{3,x,1}$ and $P_{2,1}$ replaced by their empirical estimates.

Note that for a state $b_t = \mathbb{E}[\psi_t | o_{1:t-1}]$, $B_x b_t = P(o_t | o_{1:t-1}) \mathbb{E}[\psi_{t+1} | o_{1:t}] = P(o_t | o_{1:t-1}) b_{t+1}$. To get b_{t+1} , the normalization constant becomes $\frac{1}{P(o_t | o_{1:t-1})} = \frac{1}{b_\infty^\top B_x b_t}$, where $b_\infty^\top b = 1$ for any valid predictive state b . To estimate b_∞ we solve the aforementioned condition for states estimated from all possible values of history features h_t . This gives,

$$b_\infty^\top \hat{W}_{2,1}^{rr} I_{|\mathcal{O}|} = b_\infty^\top U^\top \hat{P}_{2,1} \hat{P}_{1,1}^{-1} I_{|\mathcal{O}|} = 1_{|\mathcal{O}|}^\top,$$

where the columns of $I_{|\mathcal{O}|}$ represent all possible values of h_t . This in turn gives

$$\begin{aligned} b_\infty^\top &= 1_{|\mathcal{O}|}^\top \hat{P}_{1,1} (U^\top \hat{P}_{2,1})^+ \\ &= \hat{P}_1^\top (U^\top \hat{P}_{2,1})^+, \end{aligned}$$

the same estimator proposed in [1].

¹Following the notation used in [1], $u_x^\top \hat{P}_{2:3,1} \equiv \hat{P}_{3,x,1}$

A.2 Stationary Kalman Filter

A Kalman filter is given by

$$\begin{aligned} s_t &= Os_{t-1} + \nu_t \\ o_t &= Ts_t + \epsilon_t \\ \nu_t &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_s) \\ \epsilon_t &\sim \mathcal{N}(0, \Sigma_o) \end{aligned}$$

We consider the case of a *stationary* filter where $\Sigma_t \equiv \mathbb{E}[s_t s_t^\top]$ is independent of t . We choose our statistics

$$\begin{aligned} h_t &= o_{t-H:t-1} \\ \psi_t &= o_{t:t+F-1} \\ \xi_t &= o_{t:t+F}, \end{aligned}$$

Where a window of observations is represented by stacking individual observations into a single vector. It can be shown [2, 3] that

$$\mathbb{E}[s_t | h_t] = \Sigma_{s,h} \Sigma_{h,h}^{-1} h_t$$

and it follows that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\psi_t | h_t] &= \Gamma \Sigma_{s,h} \Sigma_{h,h}^{-1} h_t = W_1 h_t \\ \mathbb{E}[\xi_t | h_t] &= \Gamma_+ \Sigma_{s,h} \Sigma_{h,h}^{-1} h_t = W_2 h_t \end{aligned}$$

where Γ is the extended observation operator

$$\Gamma \equiv \begin{pmatrix} O \\ OT \\ \vdots \\ OT^F \end{pmatrix}, \Gamma_+ \equiv \begin{pmatrix} O \\ OT \\ \vdots \\ OT^{F+1} \end{pmatrix}$$

It follows that F and H must be large enough to have $\text{rank}(W) = n$. Let $U \in \mathbb{R}^{mF \times n}$ be the matrix of left singular values of W_1 corresponding to non-zero singular values. Then $U^\top \Gamma$ is invertible and we can write

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[\psi_t | h_t] &= UU^\top \Gamma \Sigma_{s,h} \Sigma_{h,h}^{-1} h_t = W_1 h_t \\ \mathbb{E}[\xi_t | h_t] &= \Gamma_+ \Sigma_{s,h} \Sigma_{h,h}^{-1} h_t = W_2 h_t \\ \mathbb{E}[\xi_t | h_t] &= \Gamma_+ (U^\top \Gamma)^{-1} U^\top \left(UU^\top \Gamma \Sigma_{s,h} \Sigma_{h,h}^{-1} h_t \right) \\ &= W \mathbb{E}[\psi_t | h_t] \end{aligned}$$

which matches the instrumental regression framework. For the steady-state case (constant Kalman gain), one can estimate Σ_ξ given the data and the parameter W by solving Riccati equation as described in [3]. $\mathbb{E}[\xi_t | o_{1:t-1}]$ and Σ_ξ then specify a joint Gaussian distribution over the next $F+1$ observations where marginalization and conditioning can be easily performed.

We can also assume a Kalman filter that is not in the steady state (i.e. the Kalman gain is not constant). In this case we need to maintain sufficient statistics for a predictive Gaussian distribution (i.e. mean and covariance). Let vec denote the vectorization operation, which stacks the columns of a matrix into a single vector. We can stack h_t and $\text{vec}(h_t h_t^\top)$ into a single vector that we refer to as 1st+2nd moments vector. We do the same for future and extended future. We can, in principle, perform linear regression on these 1st+2nd moment vectors but that requires an unnecessarily large number of parameters. Instead, we can learn an S1A regression function of the form

$$\mathbb{E}[\psi_t | h_t] = W_1 h_t \tag{A.8}$$

$$\mathbb{E}[\psi_t \psi_t^\top | h_t] = W_1 h_t h_t^\top W_1 + R \tag{A.9}$$

$$\tag{A.10}$$

Where R is simply the covariance of the residuals of the 1st moment regression (i.e. covariance of $r_t = \psi_t - \mathbb{E}[\psi_t | h_t]$). This is still a linear model in terms of 1st+2nd moment vectors and hence we can do the same for S1B and S2 regression models. This way, the extended belief vector p_t (the expectation of 1st+2nd moments of extended future) fully specifies a joint distribution over the next $F + 1$ observations.

A.3 HSE-PSR

We define a class of non-parametric two-stage instrumental regression models. By using conditional mean embedding [4] as S1 regression model, we recover a single-action variant of HSE-PSR [5]. Let $\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{Y}, \mathcal{Z}$ denote three reproducing kernel Hilbert spaces with reproducing kernels $k_{\mathcal{X}}, k_{\mathcal{Y}}$ and $k_{\mathcal{Z}}$ respectively. Assume $\psi_t \in \mathcal{X}$ and that $\xi_t \in \mathcal{Y}$ is defined as the tuple $(o_t \otimes o_t, \psi_{t+1} \otimes o_t)$. Let $\Psi \in \mathcal{X} \otimes \mathbb{R}^N$, $\Xi \in \mathcal{Y} \otimes \mathbb{R}^N$ and $\mathbf{H} \in \mathcal{Z} \otimes \mathbb{R}^N$ be operators that represent training data. Specifically, ψ_s, ξ_s, h_s are the s^{th} "columns" in Ψ and Ξ and \mathbf{H} respectively. It is possible to implement S1 using a non-parametric regression method that takes the form of a linear smoother. In such case the training data for S2 regression take the form

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\mathbb{E}}[\psi_t | h_t] &= \sum_{s=1}^N \beta_{s|h_t} \psi_s \\ \hat{\mathbb{E}}[\xi_t | h_t] &= \sum_{s=1}^N \gamma_{s|h_t} \xi_s,\end{aligned}$$

where β_s and γ_s depend on h_t . This produces the following training operators for S2 regression:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\Psi} &= \Psi \mathbf{B} \\ \tilde{\Xi} &= \Xi \Gamma,\end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{B}_{st} = \beta_{s|h_t}$ and $\Gamma_{st} = \gamma_{s|h_t}$. With this data, S2 regression uses a Gram matrix formulation to estimate the operator

$$W = \Xi \Gamma (\mathbf{B}^\top G_{\mathcal{X}, \mathcal{X}} \mathbf{B} + \lambda I_N)^{-1} \mathbf{B}^\top \Psi^* \quad (\text{A.11})$$

Note that we can use an arbitrary method to estimate \mathbf{B} . Using conditional mean maps, the weight matrix \mathbf{B} is computed using kernel ridge regression

$$\mathbf{B} = (G_{\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{Z}} + \lambda I_N)^{-1} G_{\mathcal{Z}, \mathcal{Z}} \quad (\text{A.12})$$

HSE-PSR learning is similar to this setting, with ψ_t being a conditional expectation operator of test observations given test actions. For this reason, kernel ridge regression is replaced by application of kernel Bayes rule [6].

For each t , S1 regression will produce a denoised prediction $\hat{E}[\xi_t | h_t]$ as a linear combination of training feature maps

$$\hat{E}[\xi_t | h_t] = \Xi \alpha_t = \sum_{s=1}^N \alpha_{t,s} \xi_s$$

This corresponds to the covariance operators

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\Sigma}_{\psi_{t+1} o_t | h_t} &= \sum_{s=1}^N \alpha_{t,s} \psi_{s+1} \otimes o_s = \Psi' \text{diag}(\alpha_t) \mathbf{O}^* \\ \hat{\Sigma}_{o_t o_t | h_t} &= \sum_{s=1}^N \alpha_{t,s} o_s \otimes o_s = \mathbf{O} \text{diag}(\alpha_t) \mathbf{O}^*\end{aligned}$$

Where, Ψ' is the shifted future training operator satisfying $\Psi' e_t = \psi_{t+1}$. Given these two covariance operators, we can use kernel Bayes rule [6] to condition on o_t which gives

$$q_{t+1} = \hat{E}[\psi_{t+1} | h_t] = \hat{\Sigma}_{\psi_{t+1} o_t | h_t} (\hat{\Sigma}_{o_t o_t | h_t} + \lambda I)^{-1} o_t. \quad (\text{A.13})$$

Replacing o_t in (A.13) with its conditional expectation $\sum_{s=1}^N \alpha_s o_s$ corresponds to marginalizing over o_t (i.e. prediction). A stable Gram matrix formulation for (A.13) is given by [6]

$$\begin{aligned} q_{t+1} &= \Psi' \text{diag}(\alpha_t) G_{\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}} ((\text{diag}(\alpha_t) G_{\mathcal{O}, \mathcal{O}})^2 + \lambda N I)^{-1} \\ &\quad \cdot \text{diag}(\alpha_t) \mathbf{O}^* o_{t+1} \\ &= \Psi' \tilde{\alpha}_{t+1}, \end{aligned} \tag{A.14}$$

which is the state update equation in HSE-PSR. Given $\tilde{\alpha}_{t+1}$ we perform S2 regression to estimate

$$\hat{P}_{t+1} = \hat{\mathbb{E}}[\xi_{t+1} \mid o_{1:t+1}] = \Xi \alpha_{t+1} = W \Psi' \tilde{\alpha}_{t+1},$$

where W is defined in (A.11).

B Proofs

B.1 Proof of Main Theorem

In this section we provide a proof for theorem 2. We provide finite sample analysis of the effects of S1 regression, covariance estimation and regularization. The asymptotic statement becomes a natural consequence.

We will make use of matrix Bernstein's inequality stated below:

Lemma B.1 (Matrix Bernstein's Inequality [7]). *Let A be a random square symmetric matrix, and $r > 0$, $v > 0$ and $k > 0$ be such that, almost surely,*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[A] &= 0, \quad \lambda_{\max}[A] \leq r, \\ \lambda_{\max}[\mathbb{E}[A^2]] &\leq v, \quad \text{tr}(\mathbb{E}[A^2]) \leq k. \end{aligned}$$

If A_1, A_2, \dots, A_N are independent copies of A , then for any $t > 0$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr \left[\lambda_{\max} \left[\frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N A_t \right] > \sqrt{\frac{2vt}{N}} + \frac{rt}{3N} \right] \\ \leq \frac{kt}{v} (e^t - t - 1)^{-1}. \end{aligned} \tag{B.1}$$

If $t \geq 2.6$, then $t(e^t - t - 1)^{-1} \leq e^{-t/2}$.

Recall that, assuming $x_{test} \in \mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}})$, we have three sources of error: first, the error in S1 regression causes the input to S2 regression procedure (\hat{x}_t, \hat{y}_t) to be a perturbed version of the true (\bar{x}_t, \bar{y}_t) ; second, the covariance operators are estimated from a finite sample of size N ; and third, there is the effect of regularization. In the proof, we characterize the effect of each source of error. To do so, we define the following intermediate quantities:

$$W_\lambda = \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} \tag{B.2}$$

$$\bar{W}_\lambda = \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} \left(\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I \right)^{-1}, \tag{B.3}$$

where

$$\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} \equiv \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N \bar{y}_t \otimes \bar{x}_t$$

and $\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ is defined similarly. Basically, W_λ captures only the effect of regularization and \bar{W}_λ captures in addition the effect of finite sample estimate of the covariance. \bar{W}_λ is the result of S2 regression if \bar{x} and \bar{y} were perfectly recovered by S1 regression. It is important to note that $\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{y}}$ and $\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ are *not* observable quantities since they depend on the true expectations \bar{x} and \bar{y} . We will use λ_{xi} and λ_{yi} to denote the i^{th} eigenvalue of $\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ and $\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}$ respectively in descending order and we will use $\|\cdot\|$ to denote the operator norm.

Before we prove the main theorem, we define the quantities $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ and $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}}$ which we use to bound the effect of covariance estimation from finite data, as stated in the following lemma:

Lemma B.2 (Covariance error bound). *Let N be a positive integer and $\delta \in (0, 1)$ and assume that $\|\bar{x}\|, \|\bar{y}\| < c < \infty$ almost surely. Let $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}}$ be defined as:*

$$\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}} = \sqrt{\frac{2vt}{N}} + \frac{rt}{3N}, \quad (\text{B.4})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} t &= \max(2.6, 2 \log(4k/\delta v)) \\ r &= c^2 + \|\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}}\| \\ v &= c^2 \max(\lambda_{y1}, \lambda_{x1}) + \|\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{y}}\|^2 \\ k &= c^2 (\text{tr}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}) + \text{tr}(\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}})) \end{aligned}$$

In addition, let $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ be defined as:

$$\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}} = \sqrt{\frac{2v't'}{N}} + \frac{r't'}{3N}, \quad (\text{B.5})$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} t' &= \max(2.6, 2 \log(4k'/\delta v')) \\ r' &= c^2 + \lambda_{x1} \\ v' &= c^2 \lambda_{x1} + \lambda_{x1}^2 \\ k' &= c^2 \text{tr}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}) \end{aligned}$$

and define $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{y}\bar{y}}$ similarly for $\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}$.

It follows that, with probability at least $1 - \delta/2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} - \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}}\| &< \zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}} \\ \|\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}\| &< \zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}} \\ \|\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{y}} - \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}\| &< \zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{y}\bar{y}} \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We show that each statement holds with probability at least $1 - \delta/6$. The claim then follows directly from the union bound. We start with $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$. By setting $A_t = \bar{x}_t \otimes \bar{x}_t - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ then we would like to obtain a high probability bound on $\|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N A_t\|$. Lemma B.1 shows that, in order to satisfy the bound with probability at least $1 - \delta/6$, it suffices to set t to $\max(2.6, 2k \log(6/\delta v))$. So, it remains to find suitable values for r, v and k :

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda_{\max}[A] &\leq \|\bar{x}\|^2 + \|\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}\| \leq c^2 + \lambda_{x1} = r' \\ \lambda_{\max}[\mathbb{E}[A^2]] &= \lambda_{\max}[\mathbb{E}[\|\bar{x}\|^2(\bar{x} \otimes \bar{x}) - (\bar{x} \otimes \bar{x})\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}(\bar{x} \otimes \bar{x}) + \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^2]] \\ &= \lambda_{\max}[\mathbb{E}[\|\bar{x}\|^2(\bar{x} \otimes \bar{x}) - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^2]] \leq c^2 \lambda_{x1} + \lambda_{x1}^2 = v' \\ \text{tr}[\mathbb{E}[A^2]] &= \text{tr}[\mathbb{E}[\|\bar{x}\|^2(\bar{x} \otimes \bar{x}) - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^2]] \leq \text{tr}[\mathbb{E}[\|\bar{x}\|^2(\bar{x} \otimes \bar{x})]] \leq c^2 \text{tr}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}) = k' \end{aligned}$$

The case of $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{y}\bar{y}}$ can be proven similarly. Now moving to $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}}$, we have $B_t = \bar{y}_t \otimes \bar{x}_t - \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}}$. Since B_t is not square, we use the Hermitian dilation $\mathcal{H}(B)$ defined as follows[8]:

$$A = \mathcal{H}(B) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & B \\ B^* & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Note that

$$\lambda_{\max}[A] = \|B\|, \quad A^2 = \begin{bmatrix} BB^* & 0 \\ 0 & B^*B \end{bmatrix}$$

therefore suffices to bound $\|\frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N A_t\|$ using an argument similar to that used in $\zeta_{\delta, N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ case. \square

To prove theorem 2, we write

$$\begin{aligned}\|\hat{W}_\lambda x_{\text{test}} - W x_{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} &\leq \|(\hat{W}_\lambda - \bar{W}_\lambda) \bar{x}_{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \\ &\quad + \|(\bar{W}_\lambda - W_\lambda) \bar{x}_{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \\ &\quad + \|(W_\lambda - W) \bar{x}_{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{Y}}\end{aligned}\tag{B.6}$$

We will now present bounds on each term. We consider the case where $\bar{x}_{\text{test}} \in \mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}})$. Extension to $\overline{\mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}})}$ is a result of the assumed boundedness of W , which implies the boundedness of $\hat{W}_\lambda - W$.

Lemma B.3 (Error due to S1 Regression). *Assume that $\|\bar{x}\|, \|\bar{y}\| < c < \infty$ almost surely, and let $\eta_{\delta,N}$ be as defined in Definition 1. The following holds with probability at least $1 - \delta$*

$$\begin{aligned}\|\hat{W}_\lambda - \bar{W}_\lambda\| &\leq \sqrt{\lambda_{y1} + \zeta_{\delta,N}^{\bar{y}\bar{y}}} \frac{(2c\eta_{\delta,N} + \eta_{\delta,N}^2)}{\lambda^{\frac{3}{2}}} \\ &\quad + \frac{(2c\eta_{\delta,N} + \eta_{\delta,N}^2)}{\lambda} \\ &= O\left(\eta_{\delta,N} \left(\frac{1}{\lambda} + \frac{\sqrt{1 + \frac{\log(1/\delta)}{\sqrt{N}}}}{\lambda^{\frac{3}{2}}}\right)\right).\end{aligned}$$

The asymptotic statement assumes $\eta_{\delta,N} \rightarrow 0$ as $N \rightarrow \infty$.

Proof. Write $\hat{\Sigma}_{\hat{x}\hat{x}} = \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x$ and $\hat{\Sigma}_{\hat{y}\hat{x}} = \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} + \Delta_{yx}$. We know that, with probability at least $1 - \delta/2$, the following is satisfied for all unit vectors $\phi_x \in \mathcal{X}$ and $\phi_y \in \mathcal{Y}$

$$\begin{aligned}\langle \phi_y, \Delta_{yx} \phi_x \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_{t=1}^N \langle \phi_y, \hat{y}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \langle \phi_x, \hat{x}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &\quad - \langle \phi_y, \hat{y}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \langle \phi_x, \bar{x}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &\quad + \langle \phi_y, \hat{y}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \langle \phi_x, \bar{x}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} - \langle \phi_y, \bar{y}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \langle \phi_x, \bar{x}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &= \frac{1}{N} \sum_t \langle \phi_y, \bar{y}_t + (\hat{y}_t - \bar{y}_t) \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \langle \phi_x, \hat{x}_t - \bar{x}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &\quad + \langle \phi_y, \hat{y}_t - \bar{y}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \langle \phi_x, \bar{x}_t \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &\leq 2c\eta_{\delta,N} + \eta_{\delta,N}^2\end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$\|\Delta_{yx}\| = \sup_{\|\phi_x\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq 1, \|\phi_y\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \leq 1} \langle \phi_y, \Delta_{yx} \phi_x \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \leq 2c\eta_{\delta,N} + \eta_{\delta,N}^2,$$

and similarly

$$\|\Delta_x\| \leq 2c\eta_{\delta,N} + \eta_{\delta,N}^2,$$

with probability $1 - \delta/2$. We can write

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{W}_\lambda - \bar{W}_\lambda &= \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} \left((\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} - (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} \right) \\ &\quad + \Delta_{yx} (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Using the fact that $B^{-1} - A^{-1} = B^{-1}(A - B)A^{-1}$ for invertible operators A and B we get

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{W}_\lambda - \bar{W}_\lambda &= -\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} \Delta_x (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} \\ &\quad + \Delta_{yx} (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

we then use the decomposition $\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} = \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}^{\frac{1}{2}} V \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$, where V is a correlation operator satisfying $\|V\| \leq 1$. This gives

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{W}_\lambda - \bar{W}_\lambda &= \\ &\quad - \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}^{\frac{1}{2}} V \hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta_x (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} \\ &\quad + \Delta_{yx} (\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Noting that $\|\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}}(\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq 1$, the rest of the proof follows from triangular inequality and the fact that $\|AB\| \leq \|A\|\|B\|$ \square

Lemma B.4 (Error due to Covariance). *Assuming that $\|\bar{x}\|_{\mathcal{X}}, \|\bar{y}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} < c < \infty$ almost surely, the following holds with probability at least $1 - \frac{\delta}{2}$*

$$\|\bar{W}_{\lambda} - W_{\lambda}\| \leq \sqrt{\lambda_{y1}} \zeta_{\delta,N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}} \lambda^{-\frac{3}{2}} + \frac{\zeta_{\delta,N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}}}{\lambda}$$

, where $\zeta_{\delta,N}^{\bar{x}\bar{x}}$ and $\zeta_{\delta,N}^{\bar{x}\bar{y}}$ are as defined in Lemma B.2.

Proof. Write $\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} = \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x$ and $\hat{\Sigma}_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} = \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} + \Delta_{yx}$. Then we get

$$\bar{W}_{\lambda} - W_{\lambda} = \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} \left((\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} - (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} \right) + \Delta_{yx} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1}$$

Using the fact that $B^{-1} - A^{-1} = B^{-1}(A - B)A^{-1}$ for invertible operators A and B we get

$$\bar{W}_{\lambda} - W_{\lambda} = -\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} \Delta_x (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} + \Delta_{yx} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1}$$

we then use the decomposition $\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} = \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}^{\frac{1}{2}} V \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$, where V is a correlation operator satisfying $\|V\| \leq 1$. This gives

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{W}_{\lambda} - W_{\lambda} &= \\ &= -\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}}^{\frac{1}{2}} V \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-\frac{1}{2}} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-\frac{1}{2}} \\ &\quad \cdot \Delta_x (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} \\ &\quad + \Delta_{yx} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \Delta_x + \lambda I)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Noting that $\|\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}} (\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq 1$, the rest of the proof follows from triangular inequality and the fact that $\|AB\| \leq \|A\|\|B\|$ \square

Lemma B.5 (Error due to Regularization on inputs within $\mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}})$). *For any $x \in \mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}})$ s.t. $\|x\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq 1$ and $\|\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{-\frac{1}{2}} x\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq C$. The following holds*

$$\|(W_{\lambda} - W)x\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\lambda} \|W\|_{HS} C$$

Proof. Since $x \in \mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}) \subseteq \mathcal{R}(\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}})$, we can write $x = \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v$ for some $v \in \mathcal{X}$ s.t. $\|v\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq C$. Then

$$(W_{\lambda} - W)x = \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} ((\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{-1}) \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}} v$$

Let $D = \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} ((\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}} + \lambda I)^{-1} - \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{-1}) \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{\frac{1}{2}}$. We will bound the Hilbert-Schmidt norm of D . Let $\psi_{xi} \in \mathcal{X}$, $\psi_{yi} \in \mathcal{Y}$ denote the eigenvector corresponding to λ_{xi} and λ_{yi} respectively. Define $s_{ij} = |\langle \psi_{yj}, \Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{y}} \psi_{xi} \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}}|$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} |\langle \psi_{yj}, D\psi_{xi} \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}}| &= \left| \langle \psi_{yj}, \Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{x}} \frac{\lambda}{(\lambda_{xi} + \lambda) \sqrt{\lambda_{xi}}} \psi_{xi} \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}} \right| \\ &= \frac{\lambda s_{ij}}{(\lambda_{xi} + \lambda) \sqrt{\lambda_{xi}}} = \frac{s_{ij}}{\sqrt{\lambda_{xi}}} \frac{1}{\frac{1}{\lambda_{xi}} + 1} \\ &\leq \frac{s_{ij}}{\sqrt{\lambda_{xi}}} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\frac{\lambda}{\lambda_{xi}}} = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\lambda} \frac{s_{ij}}{\lambda_{xi}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\lambda} |\langle \psi_{yj}, W\psi_{xi} \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}}|, \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality follows from the arithmetic-geometric-harmonic mean inequality. This gives the following bound

$$\|D\|_{HS}^2 = \sum_{i,j} \langle \psi_{yj}, D\psi_{xi} \rangle_{\mathcal{Y}}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\lambda} \|W\|_{HS}^2$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned} \|(W_\lambda - W)x\|_{\mathcal{Y}} &\leq \|D\| \|v\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq \|D\|_{HS} \|v\|_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\lambda} \|W\|_{HS} C \end{aligned}$$

□

Note that the additional assumption that $\|\Sigma_{\bar{x}\bar{x}}^{-\frac{1}{2}}x\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq C$ is not required to obtain an asymptotic $O(\sqrt{\lambda})$ rate for a given x . This assumption, however, allows us to uniformly bound the constant. Theorem 2 is simply the result of plugging the bounds in Lemmata B.3, B.4, and B.5 into (B.6) and using the union bound.

B.2 Proof of Lemma 3

for $t = 1$: Let \mathcal{I} be an index set over training instances such that

$$\hat{q}_1^{\text{test}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \hat{q}_i$$

Then

$$\|\hat{q}_1^{\text{test}} - \tilde{q}_1^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{X}} = \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \|\hat{q}_i - \tilde{q}_i\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq \frac{1}{|\mathcal{I}|} \sum_{i \in \mathcal{I}} \|\hat{q}_i - q_i\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq \eta_{\delta, N}$$

for $t > 1$: Let A denote a projection operator on $\mathcal{R}^\perp(\Sigma_{\bar{y}\bar{y}})$

$$\begin{aligned} \|\hat{q}_{t+1}^{\text{test}} - \tilde{q}_{t+1}^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{X}} &\leq L \|\hat{p}_t^{\text{test}} - \tilde{p}_t^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \leq L \|A\hat{W}_\lambda \hat{q}_t^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \\ &\leq L \left\| \frac{1}{N} \left(\sum_{i=1}^N A\hat{p}_i \otimes \hat{q}_i \right) \left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \hat{q}_i \otimes \hat{q}_i + \lambda I \right)^{-1} \right\| \|\hat{q}_t^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{X}} \\ &\leq L \left\| \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N A\hat{p}_i \otimes A\hat{p}_i \right\|^{\frac{1}{2}} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \|\hat{q}_t^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq L \frac{\eta_{\delta, N}}{\sqrt{\lambda}} \|\hat{q}_t^{\text{test}}\|_{\mathcal{X}}, \end{aligned}$$

where the second to last inequality follows from the decomposition similar to $\Sigma_{YX} = \Sigma_Y^{\frac{1}{2}} V \Sigma_X^{\frac{1}{2}}$, and the last inequality follows from the fact that $\|A\hat{p}_i\|_{\mathcal{Y}} \leq \|\hat{p}_i - \bar{p}_i\|_{\mathcal{Y}}$. □

C Examples of S1 Regression Bounds

The following propositions provide concrete examples of S1 regression bounds $\eta_{\delta, N}$ for practical regression models.

Proposition C.1. Assume $\mathcal{X} \equiv \mathbb{R}^{d_x}, \mathbb{R}^{d_y}, \mathbb{R}^{d_z}$ for some $d_x, d_y, d_z < \infty$ and that \bar{x} and \bar{y} are linear vector functions of z where the parameters are estimated using ordinary least squares. Assume that $\|\bar{x}\|_{\mathcal{X}}, \|\bar{y}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} < c < \infty$ almost surely. Let $\eta_{\delta, N}$ be as defined in Definition 1. Then

$$\eta_{\delta, N} = O \left(\sqrt{\frac{d_z}{N}} \log((d_x + d_y)/\delta) \right)$$

Proof. (sketch) This is based on results that bound parameter estimation error in linear regression with univariate response (e.g. [9]). Note that if $\tilde{x}_{ti} = U_i^\top z_t$ for some $U_i \in \mathcal{Z}$, then a bound on the error norm $\|\hat{U}_i - U_i\|$ implies a uniform bound of the same rate on $\hat{x}_i - \tilde{x}$. The probability of exceeding the bound is scaled by $1/(d_x + d_y)$ to correct for multiple regressions. \square

Variants of Proposition C.1 can also be developed using bounds on non-linear regression models (e.g., generalized linear models).

The next proposition addresses a scenario where \mathcal{X} and \mathcal{Y} are infinite dimensional.

Proposition C.2. *Assume that x and y are kernel evaluation functionals, \bar{x} and \bar{y} are linear vector functions of z where the linear operator is estimated using conditional mean embedding [4] with regularization parameter $\lambda_0 > 0$ and that $\|\bar{x}\|_{\mathcal{X}}, \|\bar{y}\|_{\mathcal{Y}} < c < \infty$ almost surely. Let $\eta_{\delta,N}$ be as defined in Definition 1. It follows that*

$$\eta_{\delta,N} = O \left(\sqrt{\lambda_0} + \sqrt{\frac{\log(N/\delta)}{\lambda_0 N}} \right)$$

Proof. (sketch) This bound is based on [4], which gives a bound on the error in estimating the conditional mean embedding. The error probability is adjusted by $\delta/4N$ to accommodate the requirement that the bound holds for all training data. \square

References

- [1] Daniel Hsu, Sham M. Kakade, and Tong Zhang. A spectral algorithm for learning hidden markov models. In *COLT*, 2009.
- [2] Byron Boots. *Spectral Approaches to Learning Predictive Representations*. PhD thesis, Carnegie Mellon University, December 2012.
- [3] P. van Overschee and L.R. de Moor. *Subspace identification for linear systems: theory, implementation, applications*. Kluwer Academic Publishers, 1996.
- [4] Le Song, Jonathan Huang, Alexander J. Smola, and Kenji Fukumizu. Hilbert space embeddings of conditional distributions with applications to dynamical systems. In *Proceedings of the 26th Annual International Conference on Machine Learning, ICML 2009, Montreal, Quebec, Canada, June 14-18, 2009*, pages 961–968, 2009.
- [5] Byron Boots, Arthur Gretton, and Geoffrey J. Gordon. Hilbert Space Embeddings of Predictive State Representations. In *Proc. 29th Intl. Conf. on Uncertainty in Artificial Intelligence (UAI)*, 2013.
- [6] Kenji Fukumizu, Le Song, and Arthur Gretton. Kernel bayes’ rule: Bayesian inference with positive definite kernels. *Journal of Machine Learning Research*, 14(1):3753–3783, 2013.
- [7] Daniel Hsu, Sham M Kakade, and Tong Zhang. Tail inequalities for sums of random matrices that depend on the intrinsic dimension. *Electronic Communications in Probability*, 17(14):1–13, 2012.
- [8] Joel A. Tropp. User-friendly tools for random matrices: An introduction. NIPS Tutorial, 2012.
- [9] Daniel Hsu, Sham M. Kakade, and Tong Zhang. Random design analysis of ridge regression. In *COLT 2012 - The 25th Annual Conference on Learning Theory, June 25-27, 2012, Edinburgh, Scotland*, pages 9.1–9.24, 2012.