
Supplementary Material for “Multi-label Multiple Kernel Learning by Stochastic Approximation: Application to Visual Object Recognition”

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Proposition 1. *Eq. (2) is the dual problem of Eq. (1).*

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \min_{\{f_k \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{p})\}_{k=1}^m} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m H_k = \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \|f_k\|_{\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{p})}^2 + \sum_{i=1}^n \ell(y_i^k f_k(\mathbf{x}_i)) \right\} \right\}, \quad (1)$$

where $\ell(z) = \max(0, 1 - z)$ and $\mathcal{H}(\mathbf{p})$ is a Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space endowed with kernel $\kappa(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}'; \mathbf{p}) = \sum_{a=1}^s p^a \kappa_a(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}')$.

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in \mathcal{Q}_1} \left\{ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ [\boldsymbol{\alpha}^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) \right\} \right\}, \quad (2)$$

where $\mathcal{Q}_1 = \{\boldsymbol{\alpha} = (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^1, \dots, \boldsymbol{\alpha}^m) : \boldsymbol{\alpha}^k \in [0, C]^n, k = 1, \dots, m\}$.

Proof. We first rewrite $\ell(z)$ as

$$\ell(z) = \max_{x \in [0, 1]} (x - xz),$$

Using the above expression for $\ell(z)$, the second term of H_k can be rewritten as,

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \max_{\alpha_i^k \in [0, C]} (\alpha_i^k - \alpha_i^k y_i^k f_k(\mathbf{x}_i)),$$

According to von Newman’s lemma, we can switch minimization (over f_k) with maximization (over $\boldsymbol{\alpha}$). By taking the minimization over f_k first, we have

$$f_k(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n y_i^k \alpha_i^k \kappa(\mathbf{x}_i, x).$$

Finally the problem becomes

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \max_{\boldsymbol{\alpha} \in [0, C]} \left\{ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \boldsymbol{\alpha}) = \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ [\boldsymbol{\alpha}^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) \right\} \right\}.$$

□

Proposition 2. Eq. (4) is the dual problem of (3).

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \min_{\{f_k \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{p})\}_{k=1}^m} \max_{1 \leq k \leq m} H_k, \quad (3)$$

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \max_{\beta \in B} \left\{ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \beta) = \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ [\beta^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}^2 \right\}. \quad (4)$$

where

$$B = \left\{ (\beta^1, \dots, \beta^m) : \beta^k \in \mathbb{R}_+^n, k = 1, \dots, m, \beta^k \in [0, C\lambda_k]^n \text{ s.t. } \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k = 1 \right\}.$$

Proof. We start by formulating (3) as,

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \min_{\{f_k \in \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{p})\}_{k=1}^m} \min t \quad (5)$$

$$\text{subject to } H_k \leq t, \text{ for } k = 1, \dots, m, \quad (6)$$

with extra variable $t \in \mathbb{R}$. Introducing the multiplier λ_k for $H_k \leq t$, and using Proposition 1, the Lagrangian is

$$t + \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k \left\{ [\alpha^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) - t \right\} = (1 - \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\lambda})t + \sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k \left\{ [\alpha^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) \right\},$$

where $\alpha \in [0, C]^n$. So, the dual function is

$$g(\mathbf{p}, \beta, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \begin{cases} \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ [\beta^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \frac{\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p})}{\lambda_k} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) - t \right\} & \mathbf{1}^\top \boldsymbol{\lambda} = 1 \\ -\infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases},$$

where $\beta_k = \alpha^k \lambda_k$. Then the dual problem is

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \max_{\beta \in B} \max_{\boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \Lambda} \left\{ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \beta, \boldsymbol{\lambda}) = \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ [\beta^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \frac{\mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p})}{\lambda_k} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) \right\} \right\},$$

where

$$B = \left\{ (\beta^1, \dots, \beta^m) : \beta^k \in \mathbb{R}_+^n, k = 1, \dots, m, \beta^k \in [0, C\lambda_k]^n \right\}.$$

Let $\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \max_{\beta \in B} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) = \rho^k$. To eliminate $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$, we rewrite the dual problem as maximization over $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$ for optimal ρ^k . Then, the Lagrangian becomes

$$\max_{\boldsymbol{\lambda} \in \Lambda} -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{\rho^k}{\lambda_k} + v \left(\sum_{k=1}^m \lambda_k - 1 \right).$$

Maximizing over $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$, we get

$$v = \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m \sqrt{\rho_k} \right\}^2$$

$$\lambda_k = \frac{\sqrt{\rho_k}}{\sum_{j=1}^m \sqrt{\rho_j}}$$

By eliminating $\boldsymbol{\lambda}$, we obtain the following dual of (3):

$$\min_{\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}} \max_{\beta \in B} \left\{ \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \beta) = \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^m \left\{ [\beta^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top \mathbf{K}(\mathbf{p}) (\beta^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) \right\}^{\frac{1}{2}} \right\}^2 \right\}.$$

□

Proposition 3. We define potential functions $\Phi_p = \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \sum_{a=1}^s p^a \ln p^a$ for \mathbf{p} and $\Phi_\gamma = \sum_{i=1}^m \gamma^i \ln \gamma^i$ for γ , and have the following equations for updating \mathbf{p}_t and γ_t as

$$p_{t+1}^a = \frac{p_t^a}{Z_t^p} \exp(-\eta_p \nabla_{p^a} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)), \quad \gamma_{t+1}^k = \frac{\gamma_t^k}{Z_t^\gamma} \exp(-\eta_\gamma \nabla_{\gamma^k} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)), \quad (7)$$

where Z_t^p and Z_t^γ are normalization factors that ensure $\mathbf{p}_t^\top \mathbf{1} = \gamma_t^\top \mathbf{1} = 1$.

Proof. We denote by $D_{\Phi_p}(\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{p}') : \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P} \mapsto \mathbb{R}_+$ and $D_{\Phi_\gamma}(\gamma, \gamma') : \Gamma \times \Gamma \mapsto \mathbb{R}_+$ the Bregman distance functions for \mathbf{p} and γ that are induced by Φ_p and Φ_γ , respectively. Note that the Bregman distance between z and z' induced by the strictly convex function Φ , denoted by $D_\Phi(z, z')$, is defined as

$$D_\Phi(z, z') = \Phi(z) - \Phi(z') - \nabla \Phi(z')^\top (z - z')$$

Using the Bregman distance function, we introduce two projection operators: $A_p(\mathbf{g}_p; \mathcal{P})$ that projects solution \mathbf{p} into domain \mathcal{P} along the direction $\mathbf{g}_p \in \mathbb{R}^s$ and $B_\gamma(\mathbf{g}_\gamma; \Gamma)$ that projects solution γ into domain Γ along the direction $\mathbf{g}_\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^m$. These two operators are defined as follows:

$$A_p(\mathbf{g}_p) = \min_{\mathbf{p}' \in \mathcal{P}} \mathbf{g}_p^\top \mathbf{p}' + D_{\Phi_p}(\mathbf{p}', \mathbf{p}), \quad B_\gamma(\mathbf{g}_\gamma) = \min_{\gamma' \in \Gamma} \mathbf{g}_\gamma^\top \gamma' + D_{\Phi_\gamma}(\gamma', \gamma)$$

Based on the mirror prox method, we can solve the optimization problem in Eq. (5) on the paper iteratively. Given the solution \mathbf{p}_t and γ_t of the current iteration, the new solution, denoted by \mathbf{p}_{t+1} and γ_{t+1} , is computed as

$$p_{t+1} = A_p(\eta_p \nabla_{\mathbf{p}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t, \alpha_t)), \quad \gamma_{t+1} = B_\gamma(-\eta_\gamma \nabla_\gamma \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t, \alpha_t)), \quad (8)$$

where $\eta_p > 0$ and $\eta_\gamma > 0$ are the step sizes. The two gradients are computed as

$$g_i(\mathbf{p}) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \gamma, \alpha)}{\partial p_i} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^m \gamma_k (\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top K_i(\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k), i = 1, \dots, s \quad (9)$$

$$g_k(\gamma) = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}, \gamma, \alpha)}{\partial \gamma_k} = [\alpha^k]^\top \mathbf{1} - \frac{1}{2} (\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k)^\top K(\mathbf{p})(\alpha^k \circ \mathbf{y}^k) i = k, \dots, m \quad (10)$$

$$(11)$$

By choosing the potential functions as

$$\Phi_p = \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \sum_{a=1}^s p_a \ln p_a, \quad \Phi_\gamma = \sum_{a=1}^m \gamma_a \ln \gamma_a, \quad (12)$$

we have the following updating rules for $\mathbf{p}_{t+1} = (p_{t+1}^1, \dots, p_{t+1}^s)$ and $\gamma_{t+1} = (\gamma_{t+1}^1, \dots, \gamma_{t+1}^m)$

$$p_{t+1}^i = \frac{p_t^i}{Z_t^p} \exp(-\eta_\gamma g_i(\mathbf{p}_t)), i = 1, \dots, s \quad (13)$$

$$\gamma_{t+1}^i = \frac{\gamma_t^i}{Z_t^\gamma} \exp(\eta_p g_i(\gamma_t)), i = 1, \dots, m \quad (14)$$

where Z_t^p and Z_t^γ are defined as

$$Z_t^p = \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \exp(-\eta_\gamma g_i(\mathbf{p}_t)) \quad Z_t^\gamma = \sum_{i=1}^m \gamma_t^i \exp(\eta_p g_i(\gamma_t))$$

□

Theorem 1. After running Algorithm 1 over T iterations, we have the following inequality for the solution $\hat{\mathbf{p}}$ and $\hat{\gamma}$ obtained by Algorithm 1

$$\mathbb{E} [\Delta(\hat{\mathbf{p}}, \hat{\gamma})] \leq \frac{1}{\eta_\gamma T} (\ln m + \ln s) + \eta_\gamma \left(d \frac{m^2}{2\delta^2} \lambda_0^2 n^2 C^4 + n^2 C^2 \right),$$

where d is a constant term and $\mathbb{E}[\cdot]$ stands for the expectation over the sampled task indices of all iterations.

Proof. Define

$$\hat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) = (\hat{g}_1^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t), \dots, \hat{g}_s^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)), \quad \hat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) = (\hat{g}_1^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t), \dots, \hat{g}_m^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)).$$

Using the result of variation inequality [1], we have the following inequality for any $\mathbf{p} \in \mathcal{P}$ and $\gamma \in \Gamma$

$$\Delta(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \leq (\mathbf{p}_t - \mathbf{p})^\top \nabla_{\mathbf{p}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) - (\gamma_t - \gamma)^\top \nabla_{\gamma} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t). \quad (15)$$

According to Proposition 1, we have

$$\mathbb{E}_t [\hat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)] = \nabla_{\mathbf{p}} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t), \quad \mathbb{E}_t [\hat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)] = \nabla_{\gamma} \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t).$$

We therefore can rewrite Eq. (15) as

$$\mathbb{E}_t [\Delta(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)] \leq \mathbb{E}_t [(\mathbf{p}_t - \mathbf{p})^\top \hat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) - (\gamma_t - \gamma)^\top \hat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)].$$

From [2] (chapter 11), we know that

$$\eta_\gamma (\mathbf{p}_t - \mathbf{p})^\top \hat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \leq \text{KL}(\mathbf{p} \parallel \mathbf{p}_t) - \text{KL}(\mathbf{p} \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1}) + \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}_t \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1}),$$

and

$$-\eta_\gamma (\gamma_t - \gamma)^\top \hat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \leq \text{KL}(\gamma \parallel \gamma_t) - \text{KL}(\gamma \parallel \gamma_{t+1}) + \text{KL}(\gamma_t \parallel \gamma_{t+1}).$$

Therefore, we have

$$\eta_\gamma \sum_{t=1}^T \Delta(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \leq \text{KL}(\mathbf{p} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) + \text{KL}(\gamma \parallel \gamma_1) + \sum_{t=1}^T \{\text{KL}(\mathbf{p}_t \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1}) + \text{KL}(\gamma_t \parallel \gamma_{t+1})\}.$$

We are going to bound each of the three terms on the right hand side of the inequality. First, it is obvious that $\text{KL}(\mathbf{p} \parallel \mathbf{p}_1) \leq \ln s$ and $\text{KL}(\gamma \parallel \gamma_1) \leq \ln m$ given both γ_1 and \mathbf{p}_1 are uniform distributions. Second, we bound $\text{KL}(\mathbf{p}_t \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1})$ as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \text{KL}(\mathbf{p}_t \parallel \mathbf{p}_{t+1}) &= \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \ln \left(\frac{p_t^i}{p_{t+1}^i} \right) \right\} = \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \ln (Z_t^p \exp\{\eta_\gamma \hat{g}_i^p\}) \right\} \\ &= \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \eta_\gamma \hat{g}_i^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) + \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \ln(Z_t^p) \right\} \\ &= \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \eta_\gamma \hat{g}_i^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) + \sum_{i=1}^s p_t^i \ln \left(\sum_{j=1}^s p_t^j \exp[-\eta_\gamma \hat{g}_j^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)] \right) \right\} \\ &= \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \left\{ -(-\eta_\gamma E[\hat{g}_i^p]) + \ln(E[\exp(-\eta_\gamma \hat{g}_j^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t))]) \right\} \\ &\leq \frac{\eta_p}{\eta_\gamma} \left\{ \frac{\eta_\gamma^2}{2} \max_{1 \leq i \leq s} [\hat{g}_i^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)]^2 \right\} = \frac{c\eta_\gamma^2}{2} |\hat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty^2, \end{aligned}$$

where the inequality follows directly from the Hoeffding inequality, and c is a constant such that $\eta_p = c\eta_\gamma$. Similarly, we have $\text{KL}(\gamma_t \parallel \gamma_{t+1}) \leq \frac{\eta_\gamma^2}{2} |\hat{\gamma}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty^2$.

By combining the above results together, we have

$$\eta_\gamma \mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{t=1}^T \Delta(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \right] \leq \ln m + \ln s + \eta_\gamma^2 \sum_{t=1}^T \mathbb{E} [c|\widehat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty^2 + |\widehat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty^2]$$

Using Eq. (8) on the paper, we can bound $|\widehat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty$ as follows

$$\begin{aligned} |\widehat{\mathbf{g}}^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty &= \max_{1 \leq a \leq s} \widehat{g}_a^p(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \\ &= \max_{1 \leq a \leq s} \left| -\frac{1}{2} (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{j_t} \circ \mathbf{y}^{j_t})^\top \mathbf{K}^a (\boldsymbol{\alpha}^{j_t} \circ \mathbf{y}^{j_t}) \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} (C\mathbf{1})^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^{-1} (C\mathbf{1}) \leq \frac{\lambda_0}{2} (C\mathbf{1})^\top \mathbf{V} \mathbf{I} \mathbf{V}^{-1} (C\mathbf{1}) = \frac{\lambda_0}{2} (C\mathbf{1})^\top \mathbf{I} (C\mathbf{1}) \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} n C^2 \lambda_0, \end{aligned}$$

where $\mathbf{K} = \mathbf{V} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{V}^{-1}$ is the eigendecomposition of the PSD matrix \mathbf{K} , $\lambda_0 = \max_{1 \leq a \leq s} \lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{K}^a)$, and $\lambda_{\max}(\mathbf{Z})$ stands for the maximum eigenvalue of matrix \mathbf{Z} . Similarly, by using Eq. (9) on the paper we can bound $|\widehat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty$ as

$$|\widehat{\mathbf{g}}^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t)|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq k \leq m} \widehat{g}_k^\gamma(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \leq \frac{m}{\delta} \max \left(nC, \frac{\lambda_0}{2} nC^2 \right).$$

Next, we have the bound simplified as

$$\mathbb{E} \left[\sum_{t=1}^T \Delta(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \right] \leq \frac{1}{\eta_\gamma} (\ln m + \ln s) + \eta_\gamma T \left(d \frac{m^2}{2\delta^2} \lambda_0^2 n^2 C^4 + n^2 C^2 \right),$$

where d is a constant. We complete the proof by using the fact $\Delta(\mathbf{p}, \gamma)$ is jointly convex in both \mathbf{p} and γ and therefore $\sum_{t=1}^T \Delta(\mathbf{p}_t, \gamma_t) \geq T \Delta(\widehat{\mathbf{p}}, \widehat{\gamma})$. \square

Corollary 1. With $\delta = m^{\frac{2}{3}}$ and $\eta_\gamma = \frac{1}{n} m^{-\frac{1}{3}} \sqrt{(\ln m)/T}$, after running Algorithm 1 (on the paper) over T iterations, we have $\mathbb{E}[\Delta(\widehat{\mathbf{p}}, \widehat{\gamma})] \leq O(m^{1/3} \sqrt{(\ln m)/T})$ in terms of m and T .

References

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- [2] N. Cesa-Bianchi and G. Lugosi, *Prediction, Learning, and Games*. Cambridge University Press, 2006.