Localized Multiple Kernel Learning

M. Tech. Thesis

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Abstract

Kernel functions are widely used in several algorithms in machine learning and statistics. In recent years instead of using a single kernel people are using combination multiple kernels. These different kernels may use information acquired from different sources or different similarity measures. Several Multiple Kernel Learning (MKL) methods are present for combining the Kernels with same weights over all the points. Localized MKL is where the weights of the Kernels will change for every point.

In the project we studied different MKL methods and Localized MKL method and did an unbiased comparison by performing experiments on different real world datasets. We also modified the current localized MKL approach in different ways to achieve better results. We changed the gating function into linear function used in the Localized MKL to linear function that ended up giving mixed results. We used Localized mkl with local SVM instead of global classifier which also ended up giving mixed results.

Contents

1	Inti	roduct	ion	1						
2	Lite	erature	e of Multiple Kernel Learning	3						
3	Modifications on Localized MKL									
	3.1	Gatin	g functions	6						
		3.1.1	η_m as a linear function of x	6						
		3.1.2	Using a gating Kernel	7						
	3.2	Locali	zed MKL with local classifier	8						
		3.2.1	Locally linear SVM	8						
		3.2.2	Localized MKL with local SVM	9						
4	Exp	experiments								
	4.1	Datas	ets	11						
		4.1.1	Pendigits	11						
		4.1.2	Protein Fold Prediction	12						
		4.1.3	CAL500	12						
	4.2	Result	S	13						
5	Cor	nclusio	n and Future Work	14						

Introduction

Support Vector Machine (SVM) methods [CORTES and VAPNIK, 1995] become widely used in many classification tasks due to their success. The main advantage using SVM's is we can get linear separation by mapping the instances from input space to new feature space. But finding the map to every instance in the new feature space is costly. Given N iid instances $\{(x_i, y_i)\}_{i=1}^N$ where x_i is *d*-dimensional input vector and y_i is its label. SVM finds the linear discriminant with maximum margin in the the new feature space given by the mapping function $\phi : \mathbb{R}^d \to \mathbb{R}^t$.

$$f(x) = \langle w, x \rangle + b$$

The classifier can be trained by solving the following optimization problem is:

$$\min_{w,b,\xi_i} \frac{1}{2} ||w||^2 + C \sum_i \xi_i$$

s.t. $y_i(\langle w, x_i \rangle + b) \ge 1 - \xi_i, \xi_i \ge 0 \ \forall i$

where C is the regularization parameter and ξ_i 's are the slack variables. The Dual problem for the above optimization problem will be

$$\max_{\alpha_{i}} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_{i} - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_{i} \alpha_{j} y_{i} y_{j} \langle x_{i}, x_{j} \rangle$$

$$s.t. \qquad \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_{i} y_{i} = 0, \qquad C \ge \alpha_{i} \ge 0 \forall i$$

$$(1.1)$$

where α_i 's are the dual variables. From Equation (1.1) notice that the data is appeared only in inner products products $\langle x_i, x_j \rangle$. At this point Kernels gives as good advantage so that we don't have to find the map to any instance in the new feature space. If there is a function such that $K(x_i, x_j) = \langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x_j) \rangle$ then no need for calculating $\Phi(x)$. The hypothesis function will be

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i y_i \langle \phi(x_i), \phi(x) \rangle + b.$$

Selecting a kernel function for the training is an important part in the training. Generally, a cross-validation procedure is used to choose the best performing kernel function among a set of kernel functions. In recent years many multiple kernel learning methods are proposed so that we can combine them to get a better kernel. Simplest way to do this is taking the unweighted sum of all kernels. This gives equal priority to every kernel but this method may not be an ideal because some kernels may not be as good as other kernels. One better method is taking the weighted sum of the given kernels. [Bach et al., 2004, Aflalo et al., 2011, Lanckriet et al., 004a] takes the convex combination of kernels. And some methods [Corinna Cortes and Rostamizadeh, 2009] took the non-linear combination of kernels. These methods gives fixed weights to the kernels over whole input space. Using different weights for different points may produce a better classifier overall. With this idea Localized MKL[Gonen and Alpaydn, 2004] method is proposed which combines the Kernels linearly by giving different weights at each data point. In the first stage of project we compared different MKL algorithms with Localized MKL where it is giving better results in most of the cases so in the second stage tried different variations with localized MKL to achieve better performance.

In chapter 2 we explained some Multiple Kernel Learning methods highlighting the similarities and differences between them. In chapter 3 we discussed some improvements for Localized MKL method. Experimental results are discussed in chapter 4 and conclusion are given in chapter 5.

Literature of Multiple Kernel Learning

In the recent years lot of research was done on Multiple Kernel Learning problem. Linear combination of kernels as weighted sum is the most popular approach taken by many researchers. In this various approaches are proposed for sparse and non-sparse combination of Kernels.

$$K_{\eta}(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m K_m(x_i, x_j)$$

where p is the no. of Kernels and K_m represents the m^{th} Kernel. Different versions of this approach put different restrictions on η 's:

- Linear Sum (i.e. $\eta \in \mathbb{R}^p$)
- Conic Sum (i.e. $\eta \in R^p_+$)
- Convex Sum (i.e. $\eta \in R^p_+$ and $\sum_{m=1}^p \eta_m = 1$)

The conic and convex sums have different advantages than linear sum in terms of interpretability. First, when we have positive kernel weights, we can extract the relative importance of the combined kernels by looking at the weights of kernels. Second, when we restrict the kernel weights to be nonnegative, this corresponds to scaling the feature spaces and using the concatenation of them as the combined feature representation. The discriminant function for the above combination looks like:

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{p} \sqrt{\eta_m} \langle w_m, \phi_m(x) \rangle + b.$$

And the optimization problem for MKL looks like:

$$\min_{\eta_m, w, b, \xi_i} \Omega(w) + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i$$

$$s.t. \ y_i (\sum_{m=1}^p \sqrt{\eta_m} \langle w_m, \phi_m(x_i) \rangle + b) \ge 1 - \xi_i \ , \xi_i \ge 0 \ \forall i, \ \sum_{m=1}^p \eta_m^l \le 1$$

$$(2.1)$$

 $\Omega(w)$ represents some norm function on w, some people also tried mixed norms [Aflalo et al., 2011] and different norms are used to restrict η value. After finding the weights and solving the problem the discriminant function is:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m \alpha_i y_i K_m(x_i, x) + b.$$

[Lanckriet et al., 004a] formulated this as a semidefinite programming problem which finds the combination weights and support vector coefficients together. [Bach et al., 2004, Vishwanathan et al., 2010] used SMO approach to solve the problem by using little variations of the formulation. [Bach et al., 2008] used gradient descent method to find the weights and [Aflalo et al., 2011] used the mirror descent approach to solve the problem.

All these methods used same weights kernels all over the input space. By using different weights in different localities we may get better classifier. Using this [Gonen, 2004] proposed localized multiple kernel method i.e., the weights of kernels depends on the data points.

$$K_{\eta}(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m(x_i) K_m(x_i, x_j) \eta_m(x_j)$$
(2.2)

where $\eta_m(x)$ is the gating function that takes input as x. The discriminant function look like:

$$f(x) = \sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m(x) \langle w_m, \phi_m(x) \rangle + b.$$

The optimization problem will be:

$$\min_{\eta_m(x), w, b, \xi_i} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^p \|w_m\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i$$
(2.3)

s.t.
$$y_i(\sum_{m=1}^p \eta_m(x_i) \langle w_m, \phi_m(x_i) \rangle + b) \ge 1 - \xi_i, \xi_i \ge 0 \ \forall i$$

they used a softmax gating function for $\eta_m(x)$

$$\eta_m(x) = \frac{exp(\langle v_m, x \rangle + v_{m0})}{\sum_{i=1}^p exp(\langle v_i, x \rangle + v_{i0})}$$
(2.4)

where v_m and v_{m0} are the parameters of gating function.

They used the alternate optimization, first solving the problem with constant $\eta_m(x)$ and then gradient descent method to find the parameters of $\eta_m(x)$ i.e. v_m, v_m). The final discriminant function after solving for $\eta_m(x)$ is:

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m(x_i) \alpha_i y_i K_m(x_i, x) \eta_m(x) + b.$$

Modifications on Localized MKL

We tried some modifications to the localized MKL to achieve better classifier. First we tried to use different gating functions, after that we used localized MKL with local classifiers.

3.1 Gating functions

3.1.1 η_m as a linear function of x.

[Gonen and Alpaydn, 2004] used softmax gating function so that $\eta_m(x)$ is non-negative and to get a positive semidefinite kernel matrix. From 2.2 the resulting kernel matrix will be:

$$K_{\eta} = \sum_{m=1}^{p} (\eta_{m} \eta_{m}^{T}) \cdot * K_{m}$$
(3.1)

where η_m is a $N \times 1$ vector that gives values of all $\eta_m(x_i) \forall i \in [1, N]$. With this we can say that we don't have to select non-negative $\eta_m(x)$ we have to select the function as η_m is a Kernel matrix. So we represented $\eta(x)$ as a linear function instead of using a gating function:

$$\eta_m(x) = v_m^T x \tag{3.2}$$

By taking this linear function also the resulting kernel matrix will also be a positive semidefinite matrix. Previously because of using the gating function we will get a sparse combination of kernels. But here the weights will be non-sparse. Here we used a 2-norm regularizer on the parameter v_m to get some sparsity. Then the primal optimization problem will be

$$\min_{\eta_m(x), w, b, \xi_i} \frac{1}{\sum_{m=1}^{p}} p \|w_m\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^{N} \xi_i + C_1 \|v_m\|^2$$

$$s.t. \ y_i (\sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m(x_i) \langle w_m, \phi_m(x_i) \rangle + b) \ge 1 - \xi_i \ , \xi_i \ge 0 \ \forall i$$
(3.3)

The dual for 3.3 by using the η_m as in 3.2 and at constant η_m is

$$\max_{\alpha_i} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K_{\eta}(x_i, x_j) + C_1 \|v_m\|^2$$
(3.4)

We will find η_m by gradient descent method same as used in [Gonen and Alpaydn, 2004]. Using 3.4 objective value $J(\eta)$ we can calculate the derivatives with respect to the parameters of $\eta_m(x)$.

$$\frac{\partial J(\eta)}{\partial v_m} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K_m(x_i, x_j) (x_i \eta_m(x_j) + x_j \eta_m(x_i)) + 2C_1 v_m.$$

After updating $\eta_m(x)$ we will solve single kernel SVM with $K_\eta(x_i, x_j)$ at each step. The experimental results of this are discussed in next chapter.

3.1.2 Using a gating Kernel

Instead of taking gating function on each data point as in 2.2, we can use a gating function η_m such that

$$K_{\eta}(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_m(x_i, x_j) K_m(x_i, x_j)$$

Because using gating function on pairs of data points makes more naive and effective than using gating function on each data point. If the gating function is a kernel function we won't have any problem. Because the resulting kernel matrix will be a positive semi definite. So we can take any generally known kernel functions as η_m . But here we used a sigmoid kernel as η_m because it works as a good gating function. Since it is not always gives positive semi definite Kernel matrix we added ridge to make it positive semi definite. We used the same alternate minimization approach as in [Gonen and Alpaydn, 2004]. We didn't perform any experiments on this because it is converging in just one step without any change in the objective value.

3.2 Localized MKL with local classifier

Up to now MKL is applied on the global classifiers. [Ladicky and Torr, 2011] proposed local SVM that gives different classifier at different regions of the input space.

3.2.1 Locally linear SVM

The standard SVM linear discriminant is:

$$f(x) = w^T x + b$$

To encode local linearity of the SVM classifier by allowing the weight vector w and bias b to vary depending in the location of the point x in the feature space as:

$$f(x) = w(x)^{T} x + b(x)$$
(3.5)

Here they local codings methods that approximate any data point x as a linear combination of surrounding anchor points.

$$x\approx \sum_{v\in A}\gamma_v(x)v$$

where A is the set of anchor points and $\gamma_v(x)$ is the vector of coefficients called local coordinates constrained by $\sum_{v \in A} \gamma_v(x) = 1$. The anchor points can evaluated by different approaches. Using the manifold learning property any Lipschitz function f(x) can be approximated as:

$$f(x) \approx \sum_{v \in A} \gamma_v(x) f(v).$$
(3.6)

Using 3.6, 3.5 we can be rewritten as

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i(x)x_i + b(x)$$

= $\sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{v \in A} \gamma_v(x)w_i(v)x_i + \sum_{v \in A} \gamma_v(x)b(v).$
= $\sum_{v \in A} \gamma_v(x)(\sum_{i=1}^{N} w_i(v)x_i + b(v)).$ (3.7)

Here learning the classifier involves finding optimal $w_i(v)$ and b(v) for each anchor point v. Let the number of anchor points be m = |A|. Let W be the $m \times n$ matrix where each row is equal to $w_i(v)$

of corresponding anchor point v and b be the vector of b(v) for each anchor point. Then 3.7 can be written as:

$$f(x) = \gamma(x)^T W x + \gamma(x)^T b.$$
(3.8)

The optimization problem will be:

$$\min_{W,b,\xi_i} \frac{1}{2} \|W\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i$$

$$y_i(\gamma(x_i)^T W x_i + \gamma(x_i)^T b) \ge 1 - \xi_i, \xi_i \ge 0$$
(3.9)

where $||W||^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{m} \sum_{j=1}^{n} W_{ij}^2$. We can solve this QP problem 3.9 in different ways by using SMO like algorithms on the dual representation. But [Ladicky and Torr, 2011] used stochastic gradient method to solve the above optimization problem.

3.2.2 Localized MKL with local SVM

 $\forall i$

By using the Localized MKL idea in LLSVM the optimization problem 3.9 will become:

$$\min_{W,b,\eta \ge 0,\xi_i} \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^p \|W_m\|^2 + C \sum_{i=1}^N \xi_i$$
(3.10)
 $\forall i \quad y_i (\sum_{m=1}^p \eta_m(x_i)\gamma(x_i)^T W x_i + \gamma(x_i)^T b) \ge 1 - \xi_i, \xi_i \ge 0$

We will also use the same method for solving the optimization problem as in [Gonen and Alpaydn, 2004] by solving 3.10 with respect to w_m , b and ξ_i and then updating $\eta_m(x)$ by gradient descent method. For a fixed $\eta_m(x)$ the Lagrangian of 3.10 will be

$$L_{D} = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{m=1}^{p} ||W_{m}||^{2} + C \sum_{i=1}^{N} \xi_{i} + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_{i} (1 - \xi_{i} - y_{i} (\sum_{m=1}^{p} \eta_{m}(x_{i})\gamma(x_{i})^{T}W_{m}x_{i} + \gamma(x_{i})^{T}b)) + \sum_{i=1}^{N} \beta_{i} (-\xi_{i})$$
$$\frac{\partial L_{D}}{\partial W_{m}} = 0 \Longrightarrow W_{m} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_{i}y_{i}\eta_{m}(x_{i})\gamma(x_{i})x_{i}^{T}$$
$$\frac{\partial L_{D}}{\partial b} = 0 \Longrightarrow \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_{i}y_{i}\gamma(x_{i}) = 0$$
$$\frac{\partial L_{D}}{\partial \xi_{i}} = 0 \Longrightarrow C = \alpha_{i} + \beta_{i}$$
(3.11)

From 3.10 and 3.11 the dual formulation will be

$$\max_{\alpha \ge 0} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j K_{\eta}^{\gamma}(x_i, x_j)$$

$$s.t. \quad \sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha_i y_i \gamma(x_i)^T = 0, \qquad C \ge \alpha_i \ge 0 \forall i$$
(3.12)

where K_{η}^{γ} is

$$K_{\eta}^{\gamma}(x_i, x_j) = \sum_{m=1}^{p} \gamma(x_i)^T \gamma(x_j) \eta_m(x_i) \eta_m(x_j) K_m(x_i, x_j)$$

where $\eta_m(x)$ is same as in 2.4. The gradient of $J(\eta)$ objective value obtained from 3.12 with respect to the parameters of $\eta_m(x)$. The derivatives of $J(\eta)$ with respect to v_m, v_{m0} are

$$\frac{\partial J(\eta)}{\partial v_{m0}} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{p} \alpha_i \alpha_j y_i y_j \gamma(x_i)^T \gamma(x_j) \eta_k(x_i) K_k(x_i, x_j) \eta_k(x_j) (2\delta_m^k - \eta_m(x_i) - \eta_m(x_j))$$

$$\frac{\partial J(\eta)}{\partial v_{m0}} = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \sum_{j=1}^{N} \sum_{k=1}^{p} \alpha_{i} \alpha_{j} y_{i} y_{j} \gamma(x_{i})^{T} \gamma(x_{j}) \eta_{k}(x_{i}) K_{k}(x_{i}, x_{j}) \eta_{k}(x_{j}) (x_{i}(\delta_{m}^{k} - \eta_{m}(x_{i})) + x_{j}(\delta_{m}^{k} - \eta_{m}(x_{j})))$$

where $\delta_m^k = 1$ if m = k otherwise 0. After updating $\eta_m(x)$ we will solve single kernel SVM with $K_\eta(x_i, x_j)$ at each step. After determining the final $\eta_m(x)$ and SVM solution the discriminant function will be:

$$f(x) = \gamma(x)^T \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{m=1}^p \alpha_i y_i \gamma(x_i) \eta_m(x_i) K_m(x_i, x_j) \eta_m(x_j) + b\right)$$

Experiments

We did experiments on the real world datasets taken from [UCS,]. We compared some MKL methods like [Aflalo et al., 2011] and [Vishwanathan et al., 2010] with Localized MKL[Gonen and Alpaydn, 2004] Then we compared our modified formulations 3.1.1 and 3.2.2 with these methods.

4.1 Datasets

4.1.1 Pendigits

Name	Dimension	Data Source			
dyn	16	eight successive pen points on two-dimensional coordinate system			
sta16	256	$16 \ge 16$ image bitmap representation formed by connecting the points in dyn representation with line segments			
sta8	64	$8 \ge 8$ subsampled bitmap representation			
sta4	16	$4 \ge 4$ subsampled bitmap representation			

Table 4.1: Pendigits

The pendigits dataset 4.1 is on pen-based digit recognition (multiclass classification with 10 classes) and contains four different feature representations. The data set is split into independent training and test sets with 7494 samples for training and 3498 samples for testing.

Name	Dimension	Data Source		
Composition	D=20	amino acid Composition - Global protein characteristic		
Secondary	D=21	predicted secondary structure - Global protein characteristi		
Hydrophobicity	D=21	Global protein characteristic		
Volume	D=21	Van der Waals volume - Global protein characteristic		
Polarity	D=21	Global protein characteristic		
Polarizability	D=21	Global protein characteristic		
L1	D=22	PseAA pseudo-amino-acid composition at interval 1		
L4	D=28	PseAA pseudo-amino-acid composition at interval 4		
L14	D=48	PseAA pseudo-amino-acid composition at interval 14		
L30	D=80	PseAA pseudo-amino-acid composition at interval 30		

4.1.2 Protein Fold Prediction

Table 4.2: Protein Fold Prediction

This dataset is on protein fold prediction 4.2(multi-class classification with 27 classes) based on a subset of the PDB-40D SCOP collection. It is an extension of the original dataset by Ding that also includes the pseudo-amino acid compositions proposed by Shen and Chou and the Smith-Waterman String kernels employed in Damoulas and Girolami. The data is split to independent train and test sets with 311 samples for training and 383 samples for testing.

4.1.3 CAL500

The CAL500 dataset 4.3 is a collection of 500 songs tagged with 174 tags by paid human labellers. 500 songs annotated using a vocab of 174 tags from 8 semantic categories that describe the genre (multiple and best), emotion, instruments, solos, vocal style, song characteristics and usage. Both binary (relevant / irrelevant) and affinity labels are included. This CAL500 multi-kernel dataset contains 6 kernels derived from various features that describe the music.

Name	Data Source		
K_subsamplePPK	Probability Product Kernel (PPK) between Gaussian mixture models		
	(GMM) of a sub-sampling of each songs Delta-MFCC feature vectors.		
K_30sec_PPK	PPK betweens GMMs of 30 continuous seconds, starting 30 seconds into the		
	song, of each song's Delta-MFCC feature vectors.		
K_30sec_CHROMAPPK	PPK betweens GMMs of 30 continuous seconds, starting 30 seconds into the		
	song, of each song's Chroma (pitch-histogram) feature vectors.		
K_fpRBF	Radial basis function (RBF) kernel between the Fluctuation Pattern features.		
K_lastfm	RBF kernel between document vectors derived from Last.fm's social tags		
K_webdoc	RBF kernel between document vectors describing web pages returned by		
	searching for each song on Google.		

Table 4.3: CAL500

4.2 Results

For all the methods we did 5 fold Cross validation on datasets to choose the C value. For every dataset the manifold is trained with relative number of anchor points according to the size of dataset. Coefficients of the local coding were obtained using inverse Euclidean distance based weighting solved for 5-8 nearest neighbors according to the number of anchor points.

Dataset	p-norm MKL	VSKL	LMKL	LMKL-l	LMKL-LSVM
CAL500	$84.8 \pm 1.54 (p = 10000)$	$86.16 \pm 1.65(q = \inf)$	84.83 ± 1.56	84.80 ± 1.55	86.08 ± 1.79
Protien Fold Prediction	$96.29 \pm 0.56 (p = 10000)$	$94.81 \pm 1.34(q = \inf)$	96.94 ± 0.73	97.15 ± 0.69	96.79 ± 0.81
Pendigits	$90.00 \pm 0.44 (p = 10000)$	$97.40 \pm 0.22(q = \inf)$	99.78 ± 0.07	98.77 ± 0.11	99.90 ± 0.05

Table 4.4: Results

Conclusion and Future Work

In the project we tried to understand the MKL problem and to come up with a good solution. We modified the existing approach slightly and we also applied the existing approach on also local classifier instead of global classifier. In the end we came up with some methods that are giving comparable results as the previous methods.

We used the local SVM concept with MKL problem that gives one future approach that may be useful for further research in the MKL problem. And also using some good gating kernels in localized MKL may give some good results.

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