

# Reproducing Kernel Hilbert Space

Consider a Mercer kernel  $k(\underline{x}, \cdot)$  where  $\underline{x} \in \mathcal{X}$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  be any vector space of all real valued functions of  $\underline{x}$  generated by  $k(\underline{x}, \cdot)$ . Suppose we pick two functions  $f(\cdot)$  and  $g(\cdot)$  from  $\mathcal{F}$  (I.P. space)

$$\begin{aligned} f(\cdot) &= \sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(\underline{x}_i, \cdot) \\ g(\cdot) &= \sum_{j=1}^m b_j k(\tilde{\underline{x}}_j, \cdot) \end{aligned} \quad \text{for all } \underline{x}_i, \tilde{\underline{x}}_j \in \mathcal{X}$$

||| by  $\underline{x}$

Consider the bilinear form

Defn  $\langle f, g \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^l \sum_{j=1}^n a_i b_j K(\underline{x}_i, \tilde{\underline{x}}_j)$

$$= \underline{a}^T K \underline{b}$$

Gram matrix/  
kernel matrix

$$\langle K(\underline{x}_i, \cdot), K(\underline{x}_j, \cdot) \rangle = K(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}_j)$$

One element of  
the Gram matrix

We can rewrite  $\langle f, g \rangle$  as

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^l a_i \sum_{j=1}^n b_j k(\underline{x}_i, \tilde{x}_j)$$

$g(\underline{x}_i)$

$$\left( \begin{array}{l} \because k(\underline{x}_i, \tilde{x}_j) \\ = k(\tilde{x}_j, \underline{x}_i) \end{array} \right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^l a_i g(\underline{x}_i)$$

$$\text{||| by } \langle f, g \rangle = \sum_{j=1}^n b_j f(\tilde{x}_j)$$

## Properties

- 1) Symmetry: For all fns  $f$  and  $g \in \mathcal{F}$   
the term  $\langle f, g \rangle$  is symmetric  
i.e.,  $\langle f, g \rangle = \langle g, f \rangle$
- 2) Scaling and distribution  
For any pair of constants  $c$  and  $d$  and any set of  
functions  $f, g$  and  $h \in \mathcal{F}$   
 $\langle (cf + dg), h \rangle = c \langle f, h \rangle + d \langle g, h \rangle$

### 3) Squared norm

For any real valued fn  $f \in \mathcal{F}$

$$\|f\|^2 = \langle f, f \rangle$$

$$= \underline{a}^T K \underline{a}$$

$$\|f\|^2 \geq 0$$

(non negative  
definite)

4) Reproducing Kernel Property  
Suppose  $g(\cdot) = k(\underline{x}, \cdot)$

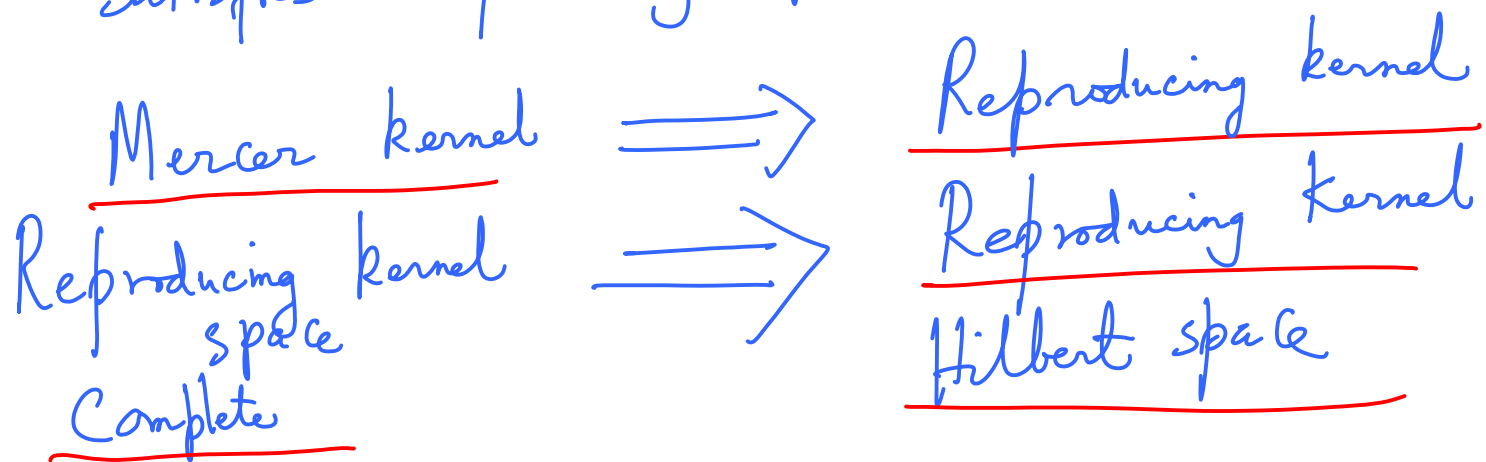
$$\begin{aligned} \langle f, k(\underline{x}, \cdot) \rangle &= \sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x}) \end{aligned}$$

( $\because$  Symmetry)  
 $k(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i) = k(\underline{x}_i, \underline{x})$

Mercer kernel reproduces  $f(\cdot)$  (Reproducing Kernel)

1) For every  $x_i \in \mathcal{X}$ ,  $K(x, x_i)$  as a function of  $x \in \mathcal{F}$

2) Satisfies reproducing property



## Representer Theorem

Theorem : Any function defined in a RKHS can be represented as a linear combination of Mercer kernel functions.

Proof : Define a space  $\mathcal{H}$  to represent RKHS induced by a Mercer kernel  $K(\underline{x}, \cdot)$ .  
Given any real valued fn  $f(\cdot) \in \mathcal{H}$ , we could decompose  $f(\cdot)$  into 2 components lying in  $\mathcal{H}$ .



The first component  $f_{\parallel}(\cdot)$  is contained in  
the span of the kernel fns  $K(x_1, \cdot), K(x_2, \cdot), \dots$

$$f_{\parallel}(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^L a_i K(x_i, \cdot) \quad \text{—————} \quad \textcircled{1}$$

The second component is orthogonal to the span  
of the kernel fns;  $f_{\perp}(\cdot)$

$$f(\cdot) = f_{\parallel}(\cdot) + f_{\perp}(\cdot) \quad \text{—————} \quad \textcircled{2}$$

$$f(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(x_i, \cdot) + \underline{f_{\perp}(\cdot)} \quad \textcircled{3}$$

From the reproducing property

$$f(x_j) = \langle f(\cdot), k(x_j, \cdot) \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \quad \textcircled{4}$$

Plug in  $\textcircled{3}$  into  $\textcircled{4}$

$$f(x_j) = \left\langle \left[ \sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(x_i, \cdot) + f_{\perp}(\cdot) \right], k(x_j, \cdot) \right\rangle$$

$$f(x_j) = \left\langle \sum_{i=1}^l a_i K(x_i, \cdot), K(x_j, \cdot) \right\rangle + \left\langle \frac{f_{\perp}(\cdot)}{0}, K(x_j, \cdot) \right\rangle$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^l a_i K(x_i, x_j)$$

$$\left( \cdot, K(x_i, x_j) \right) = \left\langle K(x_i, \cdot), K(x_j, \cdot) \right\rangle$$

Mercer kernel functions

# Generalized Applicability

Theorem:  $f(x_j) = \sum_{i=1}^l a_i K(x_i, x_j)$  is the

minimizer of the regularized empirical risk

$$\mathcal{L}(f) = \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{i=1}^N \underbrace{(d^{(n)} - f(x^{(n)}))^2}_{\text{std error}} + \underbrace{\Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}})}_{\text{regularizing fn.}}$$

( $\Omega(\cdot)$  must be a non decreasing fn.)

$f(\cdot)$  unknown

$(x^{(n)}, d^{(n)})$

Data pairs

$n = 1, \dots, N$

Proof:

Step 1: Let  $f_{\perp}$  denote the orthogonal complement to the span of the kernel fns  $\left\{ K(x_i, \cdot) \right\}_{i=1}^l$

Now, every fn can be expressed as a kernel expansion on the training +  $f_{\perp}$

$$\Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}) = \Omega\left(\left\| \sum_{i=1}^l a_i K(x_i, \cdot) + f_{\perp}(\cdot) \right\|_{\mathcal{H}}\right)$$

Introduce

$$\tilde{\Omega}(\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2) = \Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}})$$

$$\tilde{\Omega}(\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2) = \tilde{\Omega}\left(\left\|\sum_{i=1}^{\ell} a_i k(x_i, \cdot) + f_{\perp}(\cdot)\right\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2\right)$$

Step 2 : Apply Pythagoras theorem

$$\tilde{\Omega}(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2) = \tilde{\Omega}\left(\left\|\sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(x_i, \cdot)\right\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2 + \|f_{\perp}(\cdot)\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2\right)$$

Set  $f_{\perp}(\cdot) = 0$  for optimality  $\Rightarrow$

$$\tilde{\Omega}(\|f\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2) = \tilde{\Omega}\left(\left\|\sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(x, \cdot)\right\|_{\mathcal{H}}^2\right)$$

Step 3 : In light of monotonicity

$$\Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}}) = \Omega\left(\left\|\sum_{i=1}^l a_i k(x_i, \cdot)\right\|\right)$$

$\Rightarrow$  For fixed  $a_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , the representer theorem is also a minimizer of the regularizing fn  $\Omega(\|f\|_{\mathcal{X}})$  provided monotonicity is satisfied!



## MOTIVATION TO REGULARIZATION THEORY

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Often, in machine learning problems, we encounter situations where problems are not well-posed.

For example, when the # of data points in the training samples  $\gg$  # of degrees of freedom, the problem is over determined.

One may fit misleading variations in the data!

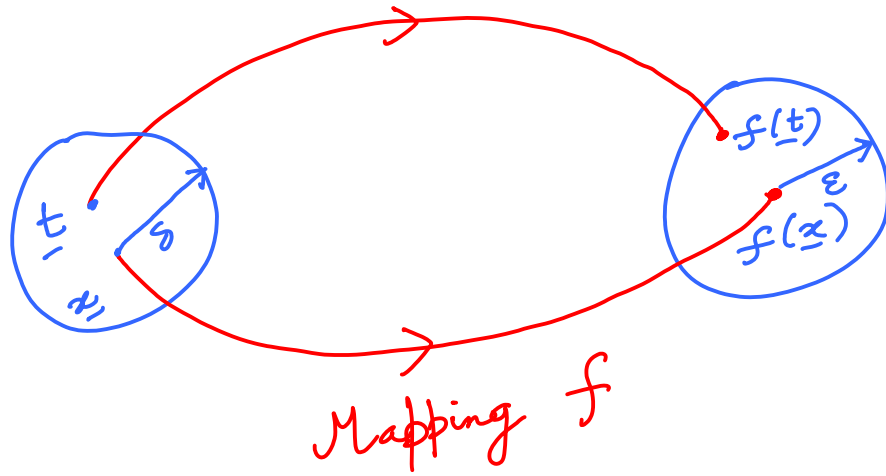
Learning is a sort of multi-D mapping ( $f$ ), and can be viewed as a problem of hyper surface reconstruction given a set of sparse points

Now, given  $X$  (domain) and  $Y$  (range) that are metric spaces, related by a fixed but unknown mapping

$$f: X \rightarrow Y$$

The problem of reconstructing  $f$  is well-posed if it satisfies the following:

- a) Existence: For every input vector  $\underline{x} \in X$ ,  $\exists$  a  
 $\underline{y} = f(\underline{x})$ ,  $\underline{y} \in Y$
- b) Uniqueness: For any pair of input vectors  $\underline{x}, \underline{t} \in X$   
 $f(\underline{x}) = f(\underline{t})$  iff  $\underline{x} = \underline{t}$
- c) Continuity: For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists \delta = \delta(\varepsilon)$ /  
 $d(\underline{x}, \underline{t}) < \delta \implies d(f(\underline{x}), f(\underline{t})) < \varepsilon$



How can one make an ill-posed problem, well-posed?

SOLN: Regularization (Tikhonov)

Consider the following problem

Input signal :  $\underline{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{m_0}$   $i = 1, \dots, N$

Desired signal :  $d_i \in \mathbb{R}$   $i = 1, \dots, N$

Let the approximating function be  $F(\underline{x})$

$$\xi_s(F) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F(\underline{x}_i))^2$$

(Approximation error)

Data  
 $\left\{ \underline{x}_i, d_i \right\}_{i=1}^N$

Introduce the regularization term that depends on the geometry of the problem

$$\xi_c^{(\text{Reg})}(F) = \frac{1}{2} \|D F\|^2$$

Linear differential operator  $D$

Choice of ' $D$ ' is problem dependent!

$\|\cdot\|$  is the norm over which the function space belongs to.

$$\mathcal{E}(F) = \mathcal{E}_S(F) + \lambda \mathcal{E}_C(F)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F(x_i))^2 + \frac{1}{2} \lambda \underbrace{\|DF\|^2}_{\text{regularization term}}$$

approx. error

$\mathcal{E}(F)$  is also called the Tikhonov functional

$\lambda \rightarrow 0$  ;  
 $\lambda \rightarrow \infty$  ;

unconstrained  
 $x_i$ s are unreliable

- | Choose  $\lambda$  in between  $(0, \infty)$
- | Normalize  $\lambda \in (0, 1)$
- | i.e., a fraction

Now  $F_{\lambda}(x) = \min_{\lambda, \underline{w}} \mathcal{E}(F)$  (min. Tikhonov functional)

parameter in  $F(i)$

Consider the standard error term differential

$$d \mathcal{E}_s(F, h) = \left[ \frac{d}{d\beta} \mathcal{E}_s(F + \beta h) \right]_{\beta=0}$$

$h(\underline{x})$  is a fixed function of 'x'



$$d(\mathcal{L}(F, h)) \Rightarrow d(\mathcal{L}_s(F, h)) + \lambda d(\mathcal{L}_c(F, h)) = 0 \quad 2$$

$$d(\mathcal{L}_s(F, h)) = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\beta} \sum_{i=1}^N [d_i - F(x_i) - \beta h(x_i)]^2$$

$$= - \sum_{i=1}^N [d_i - F(x_i) - \beta h(x_i)] h(x_i) \Big|_{\beta=0}$$

$$= - \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F(x_i)) h(x_i)$$

$$= \left\langle h, \left( \underline{d} - F(\underline{x}) \right) \delta(\underline{x} - \underline{x}_i) \right\rangle$$

||| by doing it over the regularization term

$$\begin{aligned}
 d(\mathcal{E}_c(F, h)) &= \frac{d}{d\beta} \mathcal{E}_c(F + \beta h) \Big|_{\beta=0} \\
 &= \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{d\beta} \int_{\mathbb{R}^{m_0}} (D(F + \beta h))^2 \underline{dx} \Big|_{\beta=0} \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{m_0}} D(F + \beta h) \cdot Dh \underline{dx} \Big|_{\beta=0} \\
 &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^{m_0}} DF \cdot Dh \underline{dx} = \langle DF, Dh \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}
 \end{aligned}$$

## Euler-Lagrange equation

Given a linear differential operator  $D$ , we can find a uniquely determined adjoint operator by  $\tilde{D}$  for any pair of functions  $u(\underline{x})$  and  $v(\underline{x})$  that are sufficiently differentiable (upto a certain degree) & satisfy proper boundary conditions

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^m} u(\underline{x}) D v(\underline{x}) d\underline{x} = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} v(\underline{x}) \tilde{D} u(\underline{x}) d\underline{x}$$

$\mathbb{R}^m$   $D$  is a matrix.

With  $\underline{u}(\underline{x}) \triangleq DF(\underline{x})$

and  $\underline{v}(\underline{x}) \triangleq h(\underline{x})$

$$d\mathcal{E}_c(F, h) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} \underbrace{h(\underline{x})}_{\underline{v}(\underline{x})} \tilde{D} \underbrace{DF(\underline{x})}_{\underline{u}(\underline{x})} d\underline{x}$$

$$= \langle h(\underline{x}), \tilde{D}DF \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Interpret  
this as  
an inner  
product

With the inclusion of a regularization parameter,

$$d\mathcal{L}(F, h) = \left\langle h, \left[ \overset{\text{regulatory}}{\tilde{D}DF} - \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F) \delta_{x_i} \right] \right\rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$$

Fréchet differential

$\lambda \in (0, \infty)$

desired value

approximating fn

$d\mathcal{L}(F, h)$  is zero for every  $h(\underline{x})$  in  $\mathcal{H}$  space

iff  $\tilde{D}DF - \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F) \delta_{x_i} = 0$

i.e.,  $\tilde{D}DF_{\underline{x}}(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F(\underline{x}_i)) \delta(\underline{x} - \underline{x}_i)$

(A)

## Green's Function

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Eq<sup>n</sup> (A) represents a partial differential eq<sup>n</sup> in the  
approximating function  $F$ , whose solution is of interest.

Let  $G(x, \xi)$  be a function of  $x$  and  $\xi$ .  
(Green's function) ↑  
Some argument

satisfying certain properties.

For a given linear differential operator  $L$ ,  $G(x, \xi)$  satisfies the following properties: (Courant & Hilbert)

- 1) For a fixed  $\xi$ ,  $G(x, \xi)$  is a function of  $x$  satisfying the boundary conditions
- 2) Except @  $x = \xi$ , the derivatives of  $G(x, \xi)$  w.r.t  $x$  are all continuous; the # of derivatives is determined by  $L$

3)  $LG(\underline{x}, \underline{\xi}) = 0$  everywhere except

@  $\underline{x} = \underline{\xi}$ , where it is singular.

$LG(\underline{x}, \underline{\xi}) = \delta(\underline{x} - \underline{\xi})$  @  $\underline{x} = \underline{\xi}$  exists

The function  $G(\underline{x}, \underline{\xi})$  is called the Green's  
function of operator L.

( Similar to the inverse of a matrix eq<sup>n</sup>! )



Let  $\varphi(\underline{x})$  be a continuous / piecewise continuous function of  $\underline{x} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , then

Claim:  $F(\underline{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} G(\underline{x}, \underline{z}) \varphi(\underline{z}) d\underline{z}$  is a solution to  $F(\underline{x}) = \varphi(\underline{x})$

Let us verify the validity!

$$L F(\underline{x}) = L \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} G(\underline{x}, \underline{\xi}) \varphi(\underline{\xi}) d\underline{\xi} \quad F(\underline{x})$$

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} L G(\underline{x}, \underline{\xi}) \varphi(\underline{\xi}) d\underline{\xi}$$

↓ From the property of Green's functions.

$$= \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} \delta(\underline{x} - \underline{\xi}) \varphi(\underline{\xi}) d\underline{\xi} = \varphi(\underline{x})$$

$$L F(\underline{x}) = \varphi(\underline{x})$$

Let us look into the regularization problem

$$L = \tilde{D} D$$

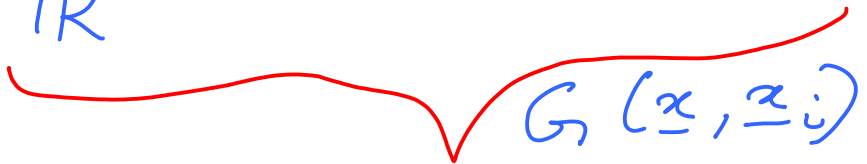
$$\varphi(\underline{\xi}) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F(\underline{x}_i)) \delta(\underline{x}_i - \underline{\xi})$$

↓ Plug in

$$F_{\lambda}(\underline{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} G(\underline{x}, \underline{\xi}) \varphi(\underline{\xi}) d\underline{\xi}$$

$$F_{\lambda}(\underline{x}) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} G(\underline{x}, \underline{z}) \left\{ \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N [d_i - F(\underline{x}_i)] \delta(\underline{x}_i - \underline{z}) \right\} d\underline{z}$$

$$= \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N [d_i - F(\underline{x}_i)] \int_{\mathbb{R}^m} G(\underline{x}, \underline{z}) \delta(\underline{x}_i - \underline{z}) d\underline{z}$$


 $G(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i)$

$$F_{\lambda}(\underline{x}) = \frac{1}{\lambda} \sum_{i=1}^N (d_i - F(\underline{x}_i)) G(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i)$$

The minimizing function to the regularization problem is a linear superposition of  $N$ -green functions.

The points  $\underline{x}_i$  represent the centers of the expansion and  $(d_i - F(\underline{x}_i)) / \lambda$  represent the weights of the expansion

$\{ G(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i) \}_{i=1}^N$  centered @  $\underline{x} = \underline{x}_i$  constitute the basis of a subspace of smooth fn. where the soln to the regularization problem lies

How do we determine the coeffs ( $w_i$ )?

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$$\text{Let } w_i \triangleq \frac{1}{\lambda} [d_i - F(x_i)]; \quad i=1, \dots, N$$

Continuous

$$F_{\lambda}(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i G(x, x_i) \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

(# of Green's functions = # of data points)

Evaluate (1) @  $x_j$ ;  $j = 1, \dots, N$   
data points

Matrix/Vector Notations

$$\text{Let } \underline{F}_\lambda \triangleq \left[ F_\lambda(\underline{x}_1) \quad \dots \quad F_\lambda(\underline{x}_N) \right]^T$$

$$\underline{d} \triangleq [d_1 \quad \dots \quad d_N]^T; \quad \underline{w} = [w_1 \quad \dots \quad w_N]^T$$

$$G \triangleq \begin{bmatrix} G(\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_1) & \dots & G(\underline{x}_1, \underline{x}_N) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ G(\underline{x}_N, \underline{x}_1) & & G(\underline{x}_N, \underline{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}_{N \times N}$$

(Gram matrix)

Writing in matrix form,

$$\underline{w} = \frac{1}{\lambda} [\underline{d} - \underline{F}_\lambda] \Rightarrow \underline{F}_\lambda = \underline{d} - \lambda \underline{w}$$

$$\underline{F}_\lambda = G_1 \underline{w}$$

$$G_1 := [G_1(x_i, x_j)]$$

$$\therefore (G_1 + \lambda I) \underline{w} = \underline{d}$$

But, the adjoint of the linear differential operator  $L$

$$\tilde{L} = L' \Rightarrow$$

Green's fns are symmetric!  
 $G_1(x_i, x_j) = G_1(x_j, x_i)$



However, all functions in the null space  
of  $D$  are invisible to the smoothing term

regulatory constraints  $\|D F\|^2$   
and is problem dependent.

The RBF happens to be a special case of Green's function that is translationally and rotationally invariant

i.e., if  $G(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i) = G(\|\underline{x} - \underline{x}_i\|)$

For RBF,

$$F_{\lambda}(\underline{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i G(\|\underline{x} - \underline{x}_i\|)$$

(Linear function space) (depends on data!)

Assuming

Gaussian units,

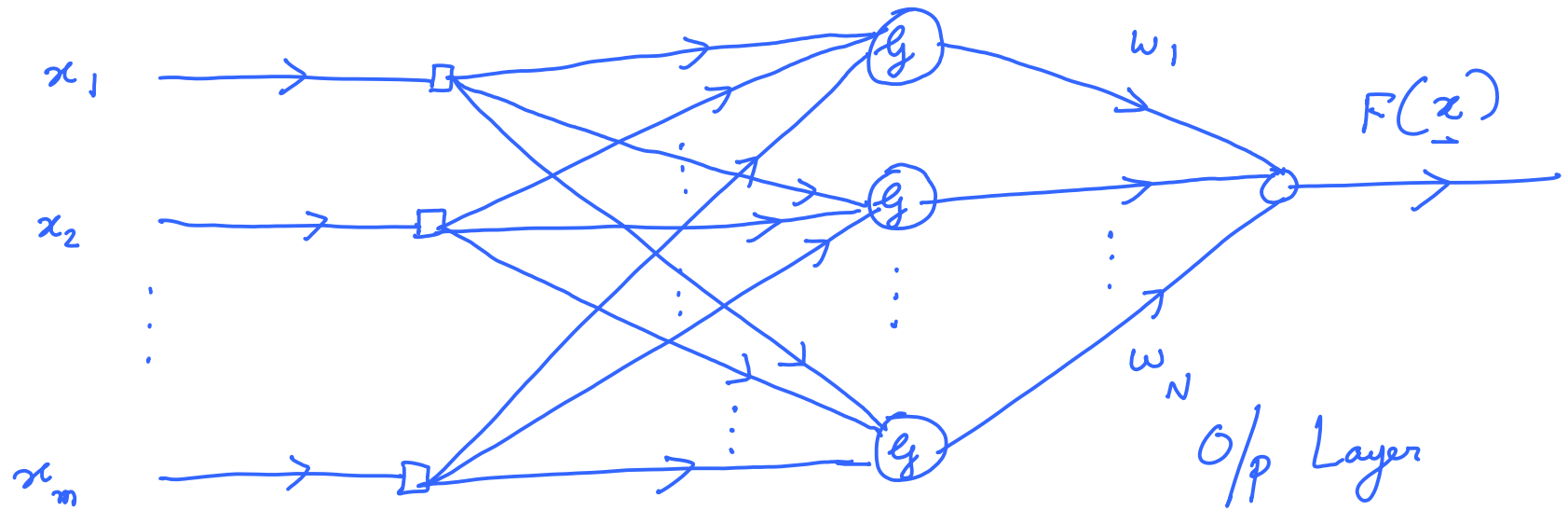
$$F_{\rightarrow}(\underline{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^N w_i \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\sigma_i^2} \|\underline{x} - \underline{x}_i\|^2\right)$$

$w_i$  usual weight

## Regularization Networks

The idea of Green's fns  $G(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i)$  centered @  $\underline{x}_i$  gives us a feel of the n/w structure

- 1) One hidden unit for each data point  $\underline{x}_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ . The o/p of the hidden unit is  $G(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i)$ .
- 2) The o/p of the n/w is  $f(\underline{x})$  by combining the Green's functions



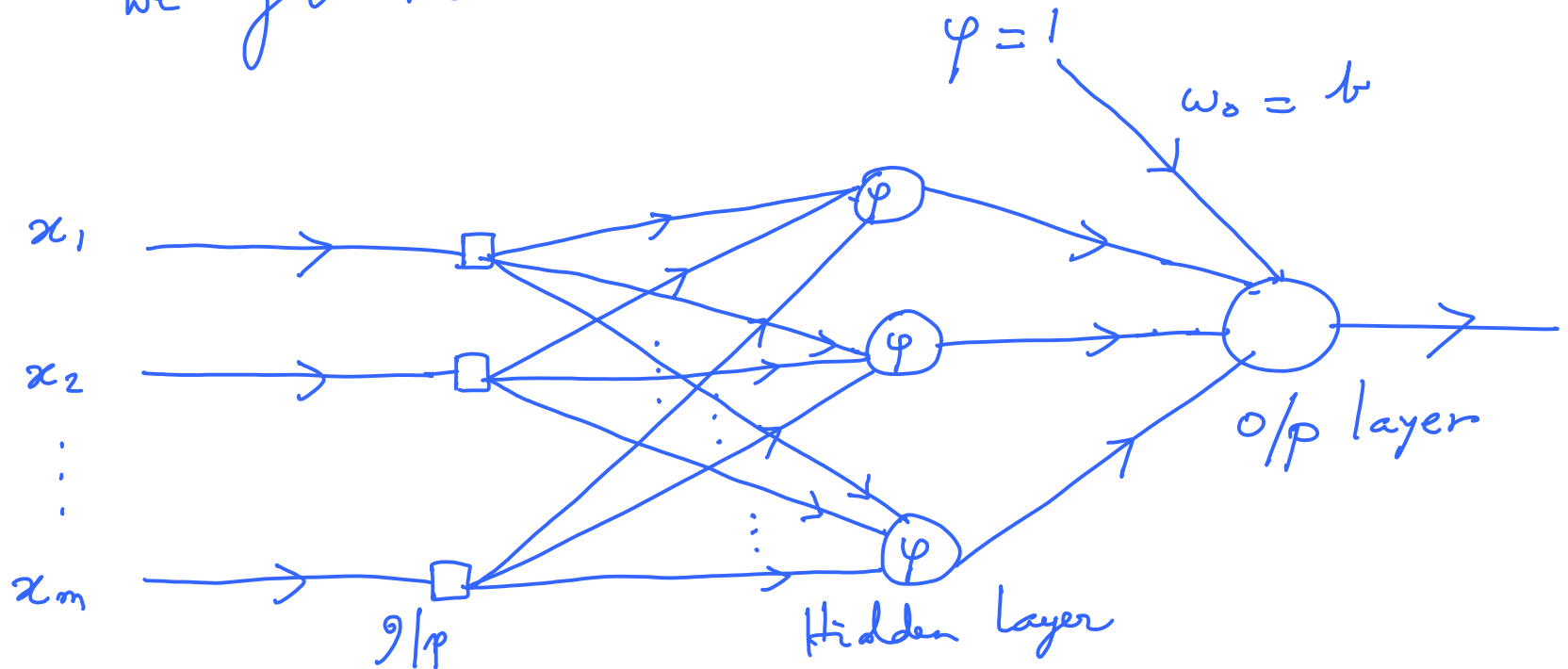
Input Layer

Hidden layer of  
N Green's functions

O/p Layer

For the  $i$ th hidden unit, the o/p is  $g(\underline{x}, \underline{x}_i)$

By imposing certain constraints such as ( +ve definite )  
 and making  $G(\cdot)$  to be rotationally invariant,  
 we get the Gaussian form used in RBF n/w's.



3 desirable properties for regularization  
n/ws from approximation theory perspective

- 1) It is a universal approximator; approx. any multivariate continuous fn very well.
- 2) Since the approx. scheme is derived from regularization theory & linear in the unknown coeffs, the unknown non-linear function can be always be approx. through an appropriate choice of the coeffs.

3) The soln. computed by a regularization n/w is optimal, and based on minimizing a functional