

# Data-adaptive RKHS regularization for learning kernels in operators

Fei Lu

Department of Mathematics, Johns Hopkins University

Numerical Analysis Seminar @UMD, March, 2024



JOHNS HOPKINS  
UNIVERSITY



- 1 Learning kernels
- 2 Regression and regularization
- 3 Identifiability and DARTR
- 4 Iterative method

# Learning kernels in operators

Learn the **kernel**  $\phi$ :

$$R_\phi[u] + \epsilon = f$$

from data:

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(u_k, f_k)\}_{k=1}^N, \quad (u_k, f_k) \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y}$$

- Operator  $R_\phi[u](x) = \int \phi(x - y)g[u](x, y)dy$

# Learning kernels in operators

Learn the **kernel**  $\phi$ :

$$R_\phi[u] + \epsilon = f$$

from data:

$$\mathcal{D} = \{(u_k, f_k)\}_{k=1}^N, \quad (u_k, f_k) \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y}$$

- Operator  $R_\phi[u](x) = \int \phi(x-y)g[u](x,y)dy$

- ▶ Interacting particles/agents

$$R_\phi[u] = \nabla \cdot [u(K_\phi * u)] = \partial_t u - \sigma \Delta u, \quad K_\phi(x) = \phi(|x|) \frac{x}{|x|} \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

$$R_\phi[\mathbf{X}_t] = \left[ -\frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n K_\phi(\mathbf{X}_t^i - \mathbf{X}_t^j) \right]_i = \dot{\mathbf{X}}_t + \dot{\mathbf{W}}_t, \quad \mathbb{R}^{nd}$$

- ▶ Nonlocal PDEs:

$$R_\phi[u](x) = \int_{\Omega} \phi(x-y)[u(y) - u(x)]dy = \partial_{tt} u - v.$$

- ▶ Integral operators, Toeplitz matrix:  $R_\phi u = (\phi(x_i - x_j)u_j) = f$

# Learning kernels in operators

Learn the kernel  $\phi$ :  $R_\phi[u] + \epsilon = f$

from data:

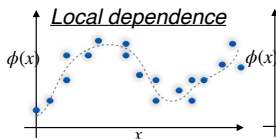
$$\mathcal{D} = \{(u_k, f_k)\}_{k=1}^N, \quad (u_k, f_k) \in \mathbb{X} \times \mathbb{Y}$$

- Operator  $R_\phi[u](x) = \int \phi(x - y)g[u](x, y)dy$
- Statistical learning  $\cap$  inverse problem
  - ▶ random  $\{(u_k, f_k)\}$ : statistical learning
  - ▶ deterministic (e.g., N small): inverse problem

# Learning kernels in operators

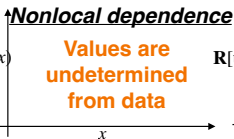
## Classical learning

$$\{(x_i, \phi(x_i) + \epsilon_i)\}$$



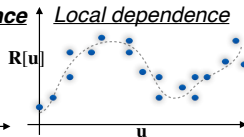
## Learning kernels

$$\{(u_k, R_\phi[u_k] + \eta_k)\}$$



## Operator learning

$$\{(u_k, R[u_k] + \eta_k)\}$$

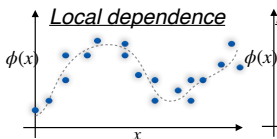


- **Nonlocal dependence**
- low-dimensional structure; linear in  $\phi$
- methods: regression/Neural network

# Learning kernels in operators

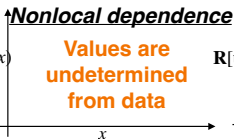
## Classical learning

$$\{(x_i, \phi(x_i) + \epsilon_i)\}$$



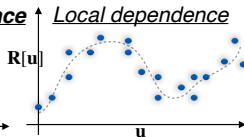
## Learning kernels

$$\{(u_k, R_\phi[u_k] + \eta_k)\}$$



## Operator learning

$$\{(u_k, R[u_k] + \eta_k)\}$$



- **Nonlocal dependence**
- low-dimensional structure; linear in  $\phi$
- methods: regression/Neural network

This talk:  $\Rightarrow$  Convergent estimator as mesh refines

- understand the **ill-posed** inverse problem
- introduce a new **regularization norm**

## Part 2: Regression and regularization



# Nonparametric regression

Loss functional:  $\mathcal{E}(\phi) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|R_\phi[u_i] - f_i\|_{L^2}^2.$

Hypothesis space:  $\phi = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{c}_i \phi_i \in \mathcal{H}_n = \text{span}\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^n:$

$\mathcal{E}(\phi) = \mathbf{c}^\top \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n \mathbf{c} - 2\mathbf{c}^\top \bar{\mathbf{b}}_n + \mathbf{C}_N^f, \Rightarrow \hat{\phi}_{\mathcal{H}_n} = \sum_i \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i \phi_i, \text{ where } \hat{\mathbf{c}} = \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{b}}_n,$

# Nonparametric regression

Loss functional:  $\mathcal{E}(\phi) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|R_\phi[u_i] - f_i\|_{L^2}^2.$

Hypothesis space:  $\phi = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{c}_i \phi_i \in \mathcal{H}_n = \text{span}\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^n:$

$\mathcal{E}(\phi) = \mathbf{c}^\top \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n \mathbf{c} - 2\mathbf{c}^\top \bar{\mathbf{b}}_n + \mathbf{C}_N^f, \Rightarrow \hat{\phi}_{\mathcal{H}_n} = \sum_i \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i \phi_i, \text{ where } \hat{\mathbf{c}} = \bar{\mathbf{A}}_n^{-1} \bar{\mathbf{b}}_n,$

## Three issues

- $\bar{\mathbf{A}}^{-1}$ : ill-conditioned/singular
- Choice of  $\mathcal{H}_n$ :  $\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^n$  and  $n$
- Convergence when data mesh refines  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$

# Regularization

Regularization is necessary:

- $\bar{A}_n$  ill-conditioned
- $\bar{b}_n$ : noise or numerical error

Tikhonov/ridge Regularization:

$$\mathcal{E}_\lambda(\phi) = \mathcal{E}(\phi) + \lambda \|\phi\|_*^2 \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}^\top \bar{A}_n \mathbf{c} - 2\bar{b}_n^\top \mathbf{c} + \lambda \|\mathbf{c}\|_{B_*}^2$$

$$\hat{\phi}_{\mathcal{H}_n}^\lambda = \sum_i \hat{\mathbf{c}}_i^\lambda \phi_i, \quad \text{where } \hat{\mathbf{c}} = (\bar{A}_n + \lambda B_*)^{-1} \bar{b}_n,$$

# Regularization

Regularization is necessary:

- $\bar{A}_n$  ill-conditioned
- $\bar{b}_n$ : noise or numerical error

Tikhonov/ridge Regularization:

$$\mathcal{E}_\lambda(\phi) = \mathcal{E}(\phi) + \lambda \|\phi\|_*^2 \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}^\top \bar{A}_n \mathbf{c} - 2\bar{b}_n^\top \mathbf{c} + \lambda \|\mathbf{c}\|_{B_*}^2$$

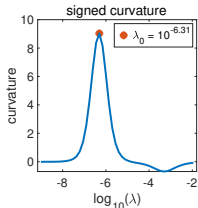
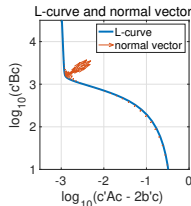
$$\hat{\phi}_{\mathcal{H}_n}^\lambda = \sum_i \hat{c}_i^\lambda \phi_i, \quad \text{where } \hat{\mathbf{c}} = (\bar{A}_n + \lambda B_*)^{-1} \bar{b}_n,$$

- $\lambda$  by the L-curve method [Hansen00]

$$(x(\lambda), y(\lambda)) := (\log(\mathcal{E}(\hat{\mathbf{c}}_\lambda)), \log(\|\hat{\mathbf{c}}_\lambda\|_*^2)),$$

$\lambda_*$  = maximal curvature

- Which norm  $\|\cdot\|_*$  to use?  $B_* = I_n$ ?



Principle: [Stuart2010]

Avoid **discretization** until the last possible moment



Avoid **basis selection** until the last possible moment

---

Hypothesis space:  $\phi = \sum_{i=1}^n \mathbf{c}_i \phi_i \in \mathcal{H}_n = \text{span}\{\phi_i\}_{i=1}^n$ :

$$R_\phi[u](x) = \int_{\Omega} \phi(|x - y|) g[u](x, y) dy = f$$

Function space of  $\phi$ ? Identifiability?

## Part 3: Identifiability & regularization

DARTR: Data adaptive RKHS Tikhonov regularization

# Identifiability

- An exploration measure:  $\rho(dr) \Rightarrow \phi \in L^2_\rho$

$$R_\phi[u](x) = \int_\Omega \phi(|x-y|)g[u](x,y)dy, \quad \rho(dr) \propto \int \int \delta_{|x-y|}(dr)|g[u](x,y)|dxdy$$

# Identifiability

- An exploration measure:  $\rho(dr) \Rightarrow \phi \in L^2_\rho$

$$R_\phi[u](x) = \int_\Omega \phi(|x-y|)g[u](x,y)dy, \quad \rho(dr) \propto \int \int \delta_{|x-y|}(dr)|g[u](x,y)|dxdy$$

- An integral operator  $\Leftarrow$  the Fréchet derivative of loss functional

$$\mathcal{E}(\psi) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|R_\psi[u_i] - f_i\|_{L^2}^2 = \langle \mathcal{L}_{\overline{\mathcal{G}}}\psi, \psi \rangle_{L^2_\rho} - 2\langle \phi^D, \psi \rangle_{L^2_\rho}$$

$$\nabla \mathcal{E}(\psi) = 2\mathcal{L}_{\overline{\mathcal{G}}}\psi - 2\phi^D = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\phi} = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{\mathcal{G}}}^{-1}\phi^D$$

- ▶  $\mathcal{L}_{\overline{\mathcal{G}}}$ : nonnegative compact,  $\{(\lambda_i, \psi_i)\}$ ,  $\lambda_i \downarrow 0$
- ▶  $\phi^D = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{\mathcal{G}}}\phi_{true} + \phi^{error}$



# Identifiability

- An exploration measure:  $\rho(dr) \Rightarrow \phi \in L^2_\rho$

$$R_\phi[u](x) = \int_\Omega \phi(|x-y|)g[u](x,y)dy, \quad \rho(dr) \propto \int \int \delta_{|x-y|}(dr)|g[u](x,y)|dxdy$$

- An integral operator  $\Leftarrow$  the Fréchet derivative of loss functional

$$\mathcal{E}(\psi) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \|R_\psi[u_i] - f_i\|_{L^2}^2 = \langle \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}\psi, \psi \rangle_{L^2_\rho} - 2\langle \phi^D, \psi \rangle_{L^2_\rho}$$

$$\nabla \mathcal{E}(\psi) = 2\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}\psi - 2\phi^D = 0 \Rightarrow \hat{\phi} = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1}\phi^D$$

- ▶  $\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}$ : nonnegative compact,  $\{(\lambda_i, \psi_i)\}$ ,  $\lambda_i \downarrow 0$
- ▶  $\phi^D = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}\phi_{true} + \phi^{error}$

- Function space of identifiability (FSOI):

$$\hat{\phi} = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1}(\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}\phi_{true} + \phi^{error}) \Rightarrow H = \text{Null}(\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}})^\perp = \overline{\text{span}\{\psi_i\}_{i:\lambda_i>0}}$$

- ▶ ill-defined beyond  $H$ ; ill-posed in  $H$

## DARTR: Data Adaptive RKHS Tikhonov Regularization

A new task for Regularization:

**ensure that the learning takes place in the FSOI**

data-dependent  $H = \overline{\text{span}\{\psi_i\}_{i:\lambda_i>0}}$

## DARTR: Data Adaptive RKHS Tikhonov Regularization

A new task for Regularization:

**ensure that the learning takes place in the FSOI**

data-dependent  $H = \overline{\text{span}\{\psi_i\}_{i:\lambda_i>0}} = \overline{H_G}^{L_p^2}$

- $\overline{G} \Rightarrow \text{RKHS}: H_G = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1/2}(L_\rho^2)$
- For  $\phi = \sum_k c_k \psi_k$ ,  $\|\phi\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 = \sum_k c_k^2$ ,

$$\|\phi\|_{H_G}^2 = \sum_k \lambda_k^{-1} c_k^2 = \langle \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1} \psi, \psi \rangle_{L_\rho^2}$$

## DARTR: Data Adaptive RKHS Tikhonov Regularization

A new task for Regularization:

**ensure that the learning takes place in the FSOI**

data-dependent  $H = \overline{\text{span}\{\psi_i\}_{i:\lambda_i>0}} = \overline{H_G}^{L_p^2}$

- $\overline{G} \Rightarrow$  RKHS:  $H_G = \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1/2}(L_\rho^2)$
- For  $\phi = \sum_k c_k \psi_k$ ,  $\|\phi\|_{L_\rho^2}^2 = \sum_k c_k^2$ ,

$$\|\phi\|_{H_G}^2 = \sum_k \lambda_k^{-1} c_k^2 = \langle \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1} \psi, \psi \rangle_{L_\rho^2}$$

$\Rightarrow$  Regularization norm:  $\|\phi\|_{H_G}^2$

$$\mathcal{E}_\lambda(\phi) = \mathcal{E}(\phi) + \lambda \|\phi\|_{H_G}^2 = \langle (\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}} + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1}) \phi, \phi \rangle_{L_\rho^2} - 2 \langle \phi^D, \phi \rangle_{L_\rho^2}$$

$$\hat{\phi}_\lambda = (\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}} + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^{-1})^{-1} \phi^D = (\mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}}^2 + \lambda I)^{-1} \mathcal{L}_{\overline{G}} \phi^D$$

**What DARTR has done:** remove error outside FSOI:  
(Adaptive to data; regularize in FSOI )

- No regularization:

$$\hat{\phi} = \mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}}^{-1} \phi^D = \mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}}^{-1} (\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} \phi_{true} + \phi_H^{error} + \phi_{H^\perp}^{error})$$

- DARTR:  $\|\phi_{H^\perp}^{error}\|_{H_G}^2 = \infty$

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}}^{-1})^{-1} \phi^D = (\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} + \lambda \mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}}^{-1})^{-1} (\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} \phi_{true} + \phi_H^{error})$$

- $l^2$  or  $L^2$  regularizer: with  $C = \sum \phi_i \otimes \phi_j$  or  $C = I$

$$(\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} + \lambda C)^{-1} \phi^D = (\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} + \lambda C)^{-1} (\mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}} \phi_{true} + \phi_H^{error} + \phi_{H^\perp}^{error})$$

# DARTR: computation

$$\mathcal{E}_\lambda(\phi) = \mathcal{E}(\phi) + \lambda \|\phi\|_{H_G}^2 \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}^\top \mathbf{A}_n \mathbf{c} - 2\mathbf{b}_n^\top \mathbf{c} + \lambda \|\mathbf{c}\|_{B_{rkhs}}^2$$

**Input:**  $\mathbf{A}_n$ ,  $\mathbf{b}_n$  and  $\mathbf{B}_n = (\langle \phi_i, \phi_j \rangle L_\rho^2)_{i,j}$ .

**Output:** reguarized estimator

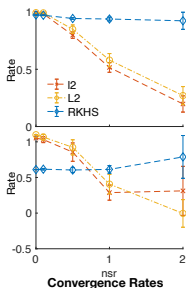
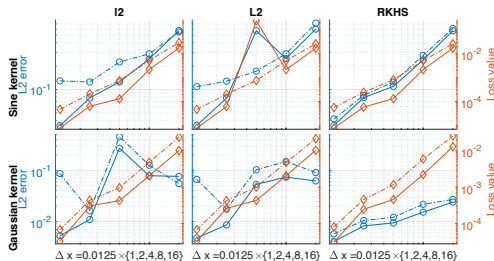
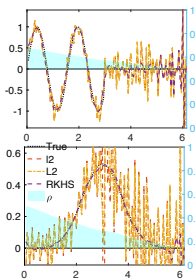
$$\hat{\mathbf{c}}_\lambda = (\mathbf{A}_n + \lambda_* \mathbf{B}_{rkhs})^{-1} \mathbf{b}_n$$

- Generalized eigenvalue problem  $(\mathbf{A}_n, \mathbf{B}_n) \leftrightarrow \mathcal{L}_{\bar{G}}$   
 $\mathbf{A}_n \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{B}_n \mathbf{V} \Lambda$  and  $\mathbf{V}^\top \mathbf{B}_n \mathbf{V} = \mathbf{I}_n$   
 $\mathbf{B}_{rkhs} = (\mathbf{V} \Lambda \mathbf{V}^\top)^\dagger$
- L-curve to select  $\lambda_*$

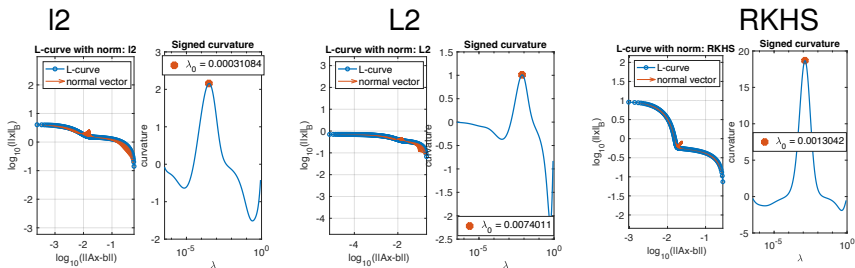
# Interaction kernel in a nonlinear operator

$$R_\phi[u] = \nabla \cdot [u(K_\phi * u)] = f, \quad K_\phi = \phi(|x|) \frac{x}{|x|}$$

- Recover kernel from **discrete noisy data**
- **Robust in accuracy, consistent rates** as mesh refines



## More robust L-curve



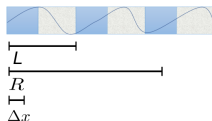


# Homogenization of wave propagation in meta-material

- heterogeneous bar with microstructure + DNS  $\Rightarrow$  Data
- Homogenization: [LAY23]

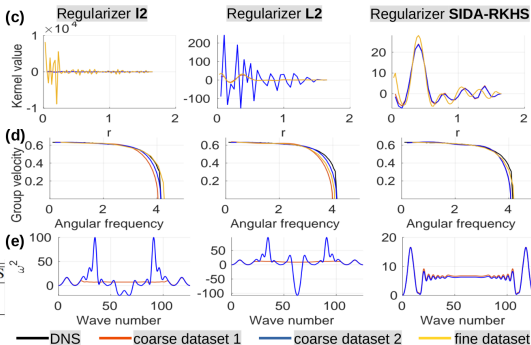
$$R_\phi[u] = \int_\Omega \phi(|y|)[u(x+y) - u(x)]dy = \partial_{tt}u - g.$$

(a) Wave propagation in a heterogeneous bar



(b) Displacement error on a cross-validation dataset

Resolution	I2	L2	SIDA-RKHS
Coarse ( $\Delta x = 0.05$ )	23.5%	28.4%	<b>21.8%</b>
Fine ( $\Delta x = 0.025$ )	INF	23.4%	<b>19.2%</b>



- (c): resolution-invariant
- (e):  $l^2$  and  $L2$  leading to non-physical kernel

## Part 4: Iterative method

Large scale  $Ax = b$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$  ill-conditioned,  $n \gg 1$   
 $b$ : noisy

# DARTR for $Ax = b$

$$A_n = A^\top A, b_n = A^\top b \text{ and } B_n = \text{diag}(\rho).$$

$$\hat{c}_\lambda = (A_n + \lambda_* B_{rkhs})^{-1} b_n$$

- $\rho =$  normalized column sum of  $(|A_{ij}|)$ : pre-conditioning
- Generalized eigenvalue problem  $(A_n, B_n)$   
 $A_n V = B_n V \Lambda$  and  $V^\top B_n V = I_n \Rightarrow B_{rkhs} = (V \Lambda V^\top)^\dagger$   
 $B_{rkhs} = A_n^\dagger$  when  $B_n = I_n$
- L-curve to select  $\lambda_*$

# DARTR for $Ax = b$

$$A_n = A^\top A, b_n = A^\top b \text{ and } B_n = \text{diag}(\rho).$$

$$\hat{c}_\lambda = (A_n + \lambda_* B_{rkhs})^{-1} b_n$$

- $\rho =$  normalized column sum of  $(|A_{ij}|)$ : pre-conditioning
- Generalized eigenvalue problem  $(A_n, B_n)$   
 $A_n V = B_n V \Lambda$  and  $V^\top B_n V = I_n \Rightarrow B_{rkhs} = (V \Lambda V^\top)^\dagger$   
 $B_{rkhs} = A_n^\dagger$  when  $B_n = I_n$
- L-curve to select  $\lambda_*$

---

Direct method: based on **costly** matrix decomposition.

Iterative method: use but without computing  $B_{rkhs}$ ?

# Iterative Data Adaptive RKHS regularization

Solve:  $x_k = \arg \min_{x \in \mathcal{X}_k} \|x\|_{B_{rkhs}}$ ,  $\mathcal{X}_k = \{x : \min_{x \in \mathcal{S}_k} \|Ax - b\|\}$

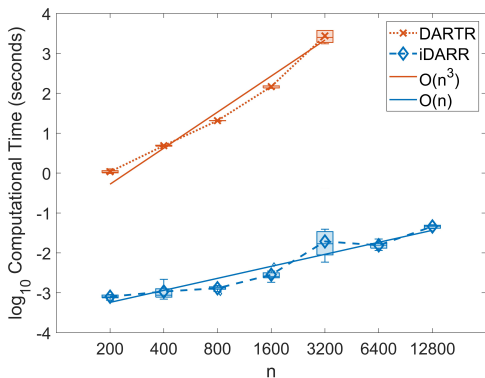
$$\mathcal{S}_k = \text{span}\{(B_{rkhs}^\dagger A^\top A)^i B_{rkhs}^\dagger A^\top b\}_{i=0}^k$$

- Use  $B_{rkhs}^\dagger$ , not  $B_{rkhs}$ :  $B_{rkhs}^\dagger = B^{-1} A^\top A B^{-1}$
- generalized Golub-Kahan bidiagonalization (gGKB)  
 $\Rightarrow$  construct  $\mathcal{S}_k$  only using matrix-vector product
- $\mathcal{S}_k =$  RKHS-restricted Krylov subspace
- Early stopping: select  $k$

# Computational complexity

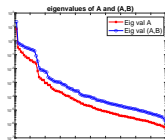
DARTR:  $O(n^3)$

iDARR:  $O(3mnk)$

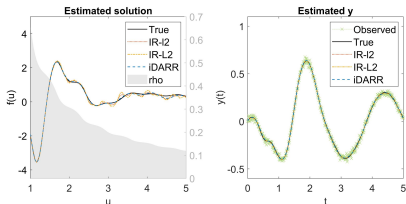


# Fredholm integral equation: 1st kind

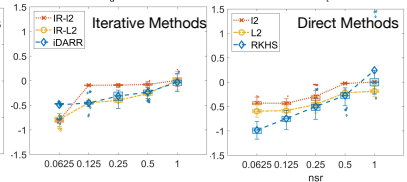
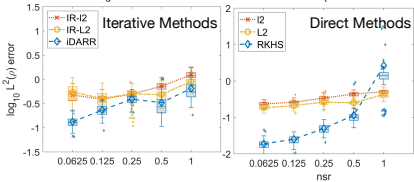
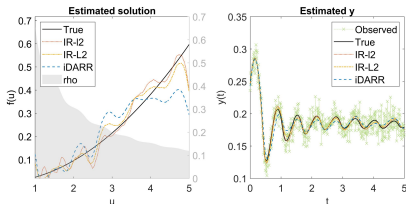
Polynomial decaying spectrum:



True function in FSOI



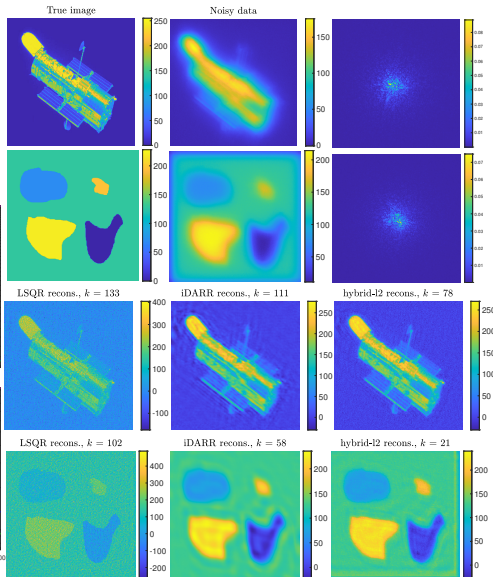
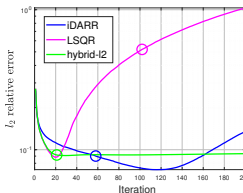
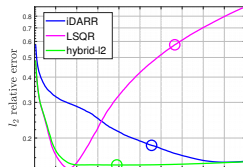
True function outside FSOI



# Image deblurring

## Image deblurring

Gazzola+Hansen+Nagy2019  
256x256; 320x320





Regularization:

## Is DA-RKHS better than other norms?

- No regularizer is universally "best"
  - ▶ no universal criteria: similar to Prior in Bayesian learning
  - ▶ Multiple factors: Smoothness of true function, Operator spectral decay, Noise distribution, hyper-parameter

Regularization:

## Is DA-RKHS better than other norms?

- No regularizer is universally "best"
  - ▶ no universal criteria: similar to Prior in Bayesian learning
  - ▶ Multiple factors: Smoothness of true function, Operator spectral decay, Noise distribution, hyper-parameter
- Small noise analysis [CLLW22,LuOu23,LangLu23]
  - ▶ Data-Adaptive is important  
fractional RKHS  $H_G^s = L_G^{s/2} L_\rho^2$
  - ▶ Convergence rate: same as  $L^2$ , a smaller factor
  - ▶ Robust for selection of hyper-parameter

# Summary

Learning kernels in operators:

$$R_\phi[u] = f \quad \Leftarrow \quad \mathcal{D} = \{(u_k, f_k)\}_{k=1}^N$$

## Nonlocal dependence

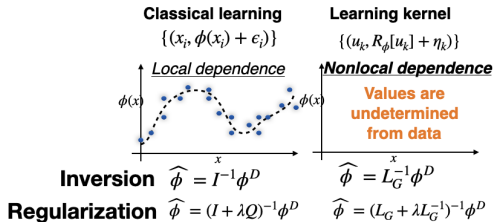
- Identifiability: FSOI
- DARTR: data adaptive RKHR Tikhonov-Reg
  - ▶ Synthetic data: convergent, robust to noise
  - ▶ Homogenization: resolution-independent
- Iterative method: iDARR

Regularization:  $Ax = b \Rightarrow x_\lambda = (A + \lambda A^{-1})b$

## Future directions

### Learning with nonlocal dependence

- Convergence:  $\Delta x, N$
- Data-adaptive basis
- Regularization for ML:  
 $\|\phi_\theta\|_{r\text{rhs}}^2$ , not  $\|\theta\|$



## References

- LLA22: Lu, Lang, and An. MSML22. (Matlab code)
- LAY22: Lu, An and Yu. J. Peridynamics& Nonlocal Modeling, 2023
- CLLW22: Chada, Lang, Lu, and Wang. arXiv2212
- LO23: Lu and Ou. arXiv2303.
- LL23: Lang and Lu, arXiv2305
- LFL24: Li, Feng and Lu, arXiv2401. (Matlab code)