## Computational complexity of kernel-based density-ratio estimation: a condition number analysis

Takafumi Kanamori · Taiji Suzuki · Masashi Sugiyama

Received: 2 March 2011 / Accepted: 13 September 2012 / Published online: 12 December 2012 © The Author(s) 2012

**Abstract** In this study, the computational properties of a kernel-based least-squares densityratio estimator are investigated from the viewpoint of *condition numbers*. The condition number of the Hessian matrix of the loss function is closely related to the convergence rate of optimization and the numerical stability. We use smoothed analysis techniques and theoretically demonstrate that the kernel least-squares method has a smaller condition number than other M-estimators. This implies that the kernel least-squares method has desirable computational properties. In addition, an alternate formulation of the kernel least-squares estimator that possesses an even smaller condition number is presented. The validity of the theoretical analysis is verified through numerical experiments.

Keywords Kernel · Density-ratio · Condition number · Smoothed analysis

## 1 Introduction

In this section, we introduce background materials of our target problem addressed in this study.

Editor: Massimiliano Pontil.

T. Kanamori (🖂)

Nagoya University Department of Computer Science and Mathematical Informatics, Nagoya University, Furocho, Chikusaku, Nagoya 464-8601, Japan e-mail: kanamori@is.nagoya-u.ac.jp

T. Suzuki

Department of Mathematical Informatics, University of Tokyo, 3-1 Hongo 7-Chome, Bunkyo-ku, Tokyo 113-8656, Japan e-mail: s-taiji@stat.t.u-tokyo.ac.jp

M. Sugiyama Department of Computer Science, Tokyo Institute of Technology, 2-12-1 O-okayama, Meguro-ku, Tokyo 152-8552, Japan e-mail: sugi@cs.titech.ac.jp