
Characteristic Tensor Product Kernels*

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Abstract

Hilbert-Schmidt independence criterion (HSIC) is among the most popular and efficient approaches in data science and statistics to measure the dependence of random variables. Thanks to its kernel-based foundations, HSIC is applicable on numerous domains; examples include documents, images, trees, graphs, time series, dynamical systems, sets or permutations. Despite its tremendous practical success, quite little is known about when HSIC characterizes independence. I am going to provide a complete answer to this question.

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