

Homework 5 - Due Mon. Mar. 6th

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Homework Policies

As in the first homework set.

Exercises

Exercise 1 (100 pts). Consider the space $L^2([-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]) = \{g : \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} |g(x)|^2 dx < +\infty\}$ with the norm $\|g\| := \sqrt{\int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} |g(x)|^2 dx}$, associated to the inner product $\langle g, h \rangle := \int_{-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} g(x)\overline{h(x)} dx$.

- Show that $\{\mathbf{1}, \sqrt{2} \cos(2\pi nx), \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi mx)\}_{m,n \geq 1}$ is an orthonormal set (here $\mathbf{1}$ denotes the constant function 1). To simplify the notation in what follows let

$$(\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \varphi_3, \varphi_4, \varphi_5 \dots) := \{\mathbf{1}, \sqrt{2} \cos(2\pi x), \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi x), \sqrt{2} \cos(2\pi 2x), \sqrt{2} \sin(2\pi 2x), \dots\}.$$

This is in fact an orthonormal basis: recall that this means that for any $f \in L^2([-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}])$ we have

$$\left\| f - \sum_{l=1}^L \langle f, \varphi_l \rangle \varphi_l \right\|_{\mathbb{L}^2} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } L \rightarrow +\infty,$$

and prove this statement by using what we stated in class, i.e. that $\{e^{2\pi i k x}\}_{k \in \mathbb{Z}}$ is an orthonormal basis.

- We let $P_L f = \sum_{l=1}^L \langle f, \varphi_l \rangle \varphi_l$ be the L -th partial sum used above. Interpret this as an orthogonal projection of f onto the span of the first L Fourier modes.
- Sample the interval $[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$ at p equispaced points x_1, \dots, x_p (for example using the `linspace` function in Matlab), and implement a function that computes $P_L f$ for any given f (sampled at the points x_i) and given $L > 0$. Check your function is reasonable by using it to (approximately) verify that $\{\varphi_l\}_{l=1}^L$, for moderate values of L , is an orthonormal basis. Discuss how this may be implemented in matrix form, and how many basic computations this function takes, as a function of p and L .
- Choose various functions (for example $f(x) = e^{\sin(2\pi x)}$ or $f(x) = \mathbf{1}_{[-\frac{1}{2}, 0]}(x) + \mathbf{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2}]}(x)$ and/or others) and a suitable p (e.g. $p = 1024$, or multiples thereof), and study $\|f - P_L f\|$ as a function of L : this is monotonically decreasing (why?) and tending to 0 as $L \rightarrow +\infty$, and if plotted in \log_{10} scale you may see a trend in the decay rate. Try this for smooth periodic functions (recall: a function is periodic (with period 1) if $f(x+1) = f(x)$ for all x , i.e. f “repeats itself” from each interval I of width 1 to any interval $I+k$, for any k positive or negative integer), and for periodic functions that are not smooth (e.g. they have one or more jump discontinuities).
- The same as the previous point, but by adding Gaussian noise of size σ (e.g. for $\sigma = 0.01, 0.1$) to each of the functions f you considered, obtaining a sampled function \tilde{f} ¹.

- Let $f = 0$, i.e. the constant function equal to 0 everywhere. What does \tilde{f} look like? And $\widehat{\tilde{f}}$? How does $\widehat{\tilde{f}}$ depend on the noise level σ ?

¹you may do this in Matlab as follows: if `f` is a vector consisting of the values of the function f at various locations, you may let `f_tilde=f+sigma*randn(size(f));`.

- Look at $P_L \tilde{f}$ for a smooth (nontrivial/nonconstant) f : How do the approximations $P_L f$ look like compared to the noisy f ? More or less noisy? Explain why $P_L \tilde{f}$ sometimes looks like a “de-noised” version of f . Then comment on what happens when L becomes too large.
- Can you tell what $\|\tilde{f} - P_L \tilde{f}\|$ tends to as $L \rightarrow +\infty$?
- If you look instead at $\|f - P_L \tilde{f}\|$, how does this “error” behave as a function of L ? Is it still monotone? Make sure you try both a smooth 1-periodic function such as $e^{\sin(2\pi x)}$ and a non-smooth 1-periodic function such as (the periodization of) $f(x) = \mathbf{1}_{[-\frac{1}{2}, 0]}(x) + \mathbf{1}_{[0, \frac{1}{2})}(x)$, as the answer to the last question may depend on the smoothness of f , at least in the regimes of values of p , L and σ that you are exploring. In this example it may pay off to choose σ “rather large”.

These experiments need to be done a bit carefully: make sure you keep L much smaller than the number of sample points p , e.g. $L \ll \sqrt{p}$ should suffice.