

ℓ^1 minimization and function interpolation

Ben Adcock

Department of Mathematics
Simon Fraser University

Outline

Introduction

Background

Infinite-dimensional framework

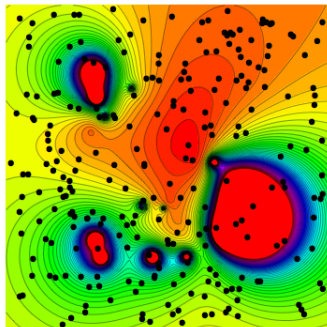
The role of the weights

Recovery guarantees

Setup

Let

- $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ be a domain
- $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be a (smooth) function
- $T = \{t_i\}_{i=1}^m \subseteq D$ a set of points
- $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ an orthonormal system of functions (e.g. polynomials)



Problem: Recover f in the basis $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ from the samples $\{f(t_i)\}_{i=1}^m$.

Motivations

Applications:

- Uncertainty Quantification (UQ)
- Scattered data approximation
- Numerical PDEs
-

Issues:

1. Amount of data is severely limited.
2. Dimension may be high (curse of dimensionality).
3. In some cases the data points T may be **fixed** and unstructured, in others they can be **chosen** to get the best approximation.

Questions

Over the last decade, ℓ^1 minimization has been shown to be effective for recovering sparse vectors from limited data (i.e. compressed sensing).

1. How does one properly use ℓ^1 minimization techniques for the function approximation problem?
2. What can we say about the **approximation error**?
3. What are the **advantages** over standard techniques, e.g. least squares?

This talk

- (1) An overview of recent progress on using ℓ^1 minimization techniques for function interpolation.
- (2) A new infinite-dimensional framework for this problem.
- (3) Discussion of the role weights play in the optimization.
- (4) Approximation theory for ℓ^1 minimization in various settings.

Outline

Introduction

Background

Infinite-dimensional framework

The role of the weights

Recovery guarantees

Polynomial approximation

Univariate orthogonal polynomials:

- Bounded domains, $D = (-1, 1)$
 - Legendre, $\nu(t) \propto 1$,
 - Chebyshev, $\nu(t) \propto \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-t^2}}$,
 - Jacobi, $\nu(t) \propto (1-t)^\alpha(1+t)^\beta$.
- Unbounded domains
 - Laguerre, $D = (0, \infty)$, $\nu(t) \propto e^{-t}$
 - Hermite, $D = (-\infty, \infty)$, $\nu(t) \propto e^{-t^2}$.

Multivariate orthogonal polynomials:

- Extension via tensor products.
- Truncated spaces: tensor product (too large in high dimensions), total degree, hyperbolic cross,...

Sampling: typically, points t_i are chosen randomly from the measure $\nu(t)$.

Polynomial approximation with ℓ^1 minimization

Rauhut & Ward (2011)

- One-dimensional Legendre polynomials with **preconditioning trick**.
- Compressed sensing recovery guarantees for sparse coefficients.
- Sampling points drawn randomly from the **Chebyshev measure**.

Yan, Guo & Xiu (2012)

- Generalize Rauhut & Ward to d -dimensions. **Exponential growth** in recovery guarantee with dimension.
- Uniform sampling points: d -independent recovery guarantee for **large d** . Holds whenever the **total degree** polynomial space is used, and for $d \geq P$.

See also:

- Doostan & Owhadi (2011), Mathelin & Gallivan (2012),...

ℓ^1 minimization and sampling strategies

Hampton & Doostan (2014)

- Random sampling from continuous measures, based on analytical estimates for coherence.

Xu & Zhou (2014)

- Deterministic sampling based on Weyl points.
- Quadratic bottleneck.

Tang & Iaccarino (2014)

- Legendre polynomials, random subsampling from **deterministic Gauss–Legendre** nodes.
- Enhanced performance over Chebyshev sampling in some situations.

Guo, Narayan, Xiu & Zhou (2015)

- General polynomials, random subsampling from Gaussian nodes.

Weighted ℓ^1 minimization

Yang & Karniadakis (2013)

- Sparsity enhancement via iteratively **reweighted** ℓ^1 minimization (based on a general technique of Candès et al.).

Peng, Hampton & Doostan (2014)

- Weights chosen according to ***a priori estimates*** for expansion coefficients.
- Moderate improvements over unweighted case.

Rauhut & Ward (2014)

- Compressed sensing recovery estimates for **fixed weights**.
- Based on weighted sparsity and a weighted version of the RIP.
- Weights remove exponentially-large dimension dependence in some circumstances (**caveat: weighted sparsity**, not sparsity).

See also:

- Jo (2014), Rauhut & Schwab (2014), Bah & Ward (2015),...

First issue: dealing with infinity

Let $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an orthonormal system and write

$$f = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}} x_j \phi_j, \quad x_j = \langle f, \phi_j \rangle,$$

where $\{x_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ are the **coefficients** of f in the system $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$. Even though f may be highly compressible, its expansion is typically **infinite**.

As we shall see, most current approaches do not deal with infinite expansions in a **rigorous** way.

Question 1

How do we deal with infinite expansions faithfully?

First issue: dealing with infinity

Let $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an orthonormal system and write

$$f = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}} x_j \phi_j, \quad x_j = \langle f, \phi_j \rangle,$$

where $\{x_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ are the **coefficients** of f in the system $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$. Even though f may be highly compressible, its expansion is typically **infinite**.

As we shall see, most current approaches do not deal with infinite expansions in a **rigorous** way.

Question 1

How do we deal with infinite expansions faithfully?

Second issue: best and worst case guarantees

Good sampling: In some applications, we can sample in the right way to ensure the best CS recovery guarantee.

- Typically, this is random sampling from an appropriate measure.
- But is this **empirically optimal**?

Bad sampling: But in other problems, the samples may be **fixed and unstructured**.

- Does ℓ^1 minimization still work well here?
- How does it compare to classical techniques, i.e. least squares?

Question 2

Can we provide recovery guarantees for a variety of scenarios?

Second issue: best and worst case guarantees

Good sampling: In some applications, we can sample in the right way to ensure the best CS recovery guarantee.

- Typically, this is random sampling from an appropriate measure.
- But is this **empirically optimal**?

Bad sampling: But in other problems, the samples may be **fixed and unstructured**.

- Does ℓ^1 minimization still work well here?
- How does it compare to classical techniques, i.e. least squares?

Question 2

Can we provide recovery guarantees for a variety of scenarios?

Second issue: best and worst case guarantees

Good sampling: In some applications, we can sample in the right way to ensure the best CS recovery guarantee.

- Typically, this is random sampling from an appropriate measure.
- But is this **empirically optimal**?

Bad sampling: But in other problems, the samples may be **fixed and unstructured**.

- Does ℓ^1 minimization still work well here?
- How does it compare to classical techniques, i.e. least squares?

Question 2

Can we provide recovery guarantees for a variety of scenarios?

Third issue: weighted ℓ^1 minimization

A number of works have suggested to consider **weighted** ℓ^1 minimization:

- Yang and Karniadakis (2013)
- Peng, Hampton & Doostan (2014)
- Rauhut & Ward (2014)
- Jo (2014)
- Rauhut & Schwab (2014)
- Bah & Ward (2015)

Question 3

What role do the weights play?

Third issue: weighted ℓ^1 minimization

A number of works have suggested to consider **weighted** ℓ^1 minimization:

- Yang and Karniadakis (2013)
- Peng, Hampton & Doostan (2014)
- Rauhut & Ward (2014)
- Jo (2014)
- Rauhut & Schwab (2014)
- Bah & Ward (2015)

Question 3

What role do the weights play?

Outline

Introduction

Background

Infinite-dimensional framework

The role of the weights

Recovery guarantees

Setup

Let

- $T = \{t_i\}_{i=1}^m \subseteq D$, $m \in \mathbb{N}$ be a set of m points in D ,
- ν be a measure on D with $\int_D d\nu = 1$,
- $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ be an orthonormal system in $L^2_\nu(D) \cap L^\infty(D)$ (typically, tensor algebraic polynomials).

Suppose that

$$f = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{N}} x_j \phi_j, \quad x_j = \langle f, \phi_j \rangle_{L^2_\nu},$$

where $\{x_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$ are the **coefficients** of f in the system $\{\phi_j\}_{j \in \mathbb{N}}$.

The current state-of-the-art

Roughly speaking, all existing approaches use the following **discretize first** technique.

Choose $M \geq m$ and solve the finite-dimensional problem

$$\min_{z \in \mathbb{C}^M} \|z\|_{1,w} \text{ subject to } \|Az - y\|_2 \leq \delta, \quad (\star)$$

for some $\delta \geq 0$, where $\|z\|_{1,w} = \sum_{i=1}^M w_i |z_i|$, $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^M$ are weights and

$$A = \{\phi_j(t_i)\}_{i=1, j=1}^{m, M}, \quad y = \{f(t_i)\}_{i=1}^m.$$

If $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{C}^M$ is a minimizer, set $f \approx \tilde{f} = \sum_{i=1}^M \hat{x}_i \phi_i$.

The choice of δ

All current approaches pick δ so that the **best approximation** $\sum_{i=1}^M x_i \phi_i$ to f from $\text{span}\{\phi_1, \dots, \phi_M\}$ is feasible for (\star) .

In other words, we require

$$\delta \geq \left\| f - \sum_{i=1}^M x_i \phi_i \right\|_{L^\infty} = \left\| \sum_{i>M} x_i \phi_i \right\|_{L^\infty} .$$

Equivalently, we treat the expansion tail as **noise** in the data.

Problems

- (1) This tail error is **unknown** in general.
- (2) A good estimation is necessary in order to get good accuracy (Yang & Karniadakis).
- (3) Empirical estimation via cross validation (Yang & Karniadakis, Doostan & Owhadi,...) is expensive and wasteful.
- (4) Solutions of (\star) do not **interpolate** the data.
- (5) All **existing theoretical** recovery guarantees (Rauhut & Ward, Yan, Guo & Xiu, Hampton & Doostan,...) assume the tail error is known.

Computations in infinite dimensions

Principle

Formulate the problem in infinite dimensions first and **then** discretize.

Examples: Bayesian inverse problems, computational spectral theory, numerical PDEs,...

Quoting A. Stuart: *The list of problems where it is beneficial to defer discretization to the very end of the algorithmic formulation is almost endless.* (Acta Numerica, 2010).

Most closely related to this talk:

- BA & Hansen, *A generalized sampling theorem for stable reconstructions in arbitrary bases*, J. Fourier Anal. Appl. 18(4):685–716 (2012).
- BA & Hansen, *Generalized sampling and infinite-dimensional compressed sensing*, Found. Comput. Math. (to appear) (2015).

A new approach

We propose the infinite-dimensional ℓ^1 minimization

$$\inf_{z \in \ell_w^1(\mathbb{N})} \|z\|_{1,w} \text{ subject to } Uz = y,$$

where $y = \{f(t_i)\}_{i=1}^m$, $\{w_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are weights and

$$U = \{\phi_j(t_i)\}_{i=1, j=1}^{m, \infty} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times \infty},$$

is an **infinitely fat** matrix.

Advantages

- Solutions are interpolatory.
- No need to know the expansion tail.
- Agnostic to the ordering of the functions $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$.

Note: a similar setup can also handle noisy data.

A new approach

We propose the infinite-dimensional ℓ^1 minimization

$$\inf_{z \in \ell_w^1(\mathbb{N})} \|z\|_{1,w} \text{ subject to } Uz = y,$$

where $y = \{f(t_i)\}_{i=1}^m$, $\{w_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ are weights and

$$U = \{\phi_j(t_i)\}_{i=1, j=1}^{m, \infty} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times \infty},$$

is an **infinitely fat** matrix.

Advantages

- Solutions are interpolatory.
- No need to know the expansion tail.
- Agnostic to the ordering of the functions $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$.

Note: a similar setup can also handle noisy data.

Discretization

We cannot numerically solve the problem

$$\inf_{z \in \ell_w^1(\mathbb{N})} \|z\|_{1,w} \text{ subject to } Uz = y. \quad (1)$$

Discretization strategy: Introduce a parameter $K \in \mathbb{N}$ and solve the **finite-dimensional** problem

$$\min_{z \in P_K(\ell_w^1(\mathbb{N}))} \|z\|_{1,w} \text{ subject to } UP_K z = y, \quad (2)$$

where P_K is defined by $P_K z = \{z_1, \dots, z_K, 0, 0, \dots\}$.

- Note: UP_K is equivalent to a **fat** $m \times K$ matrix.

Key Idea

Choose K suitably large, and **independent of f** , so that solutions of (2) are **close** to solutions of (1).

How to choose K

Let $T_K(x)$ be the additional error introduced by this discretization.

Theorem (BA)

Let $x \in \ell_{\tilde{w}}^1(\mathbb{N})$, where $\tilde{w}_i \geq \sqrt{i}w_i^2, \forall i$. Suppose that K is sufficiently large so that $\sigma_r = \sigma_r(P_K U^*) > 0$, where $r = \text{rank}(U)$. Then

$$T_K(x) \leq \|x - P_K x\|_{1,w} + 1/\sigma_r \|x - P_K x\|_{1,\tilde{w}}.$$

The truncation condition $\sigma_r \approx 1$ depends only on T and $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ and is **independent** of the function f to recover.

Examples: Let $D = (-1, 1)^d$ with tensor Jacobi polynomials or the Fourier basis and equispaced data. Then $K = \mathcal{O}(m^{1+\epsilon})$, $\epsilon > 0$, suffices.

Rule-of-thumb

Letting $K \approx 4m$ works fine in most settings.

Outline

Introduction

Background

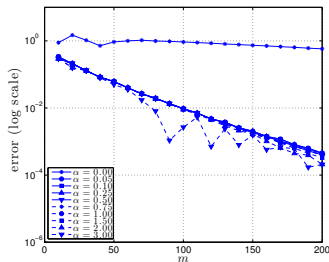
Infinite-dimensional framework

The role of the weights

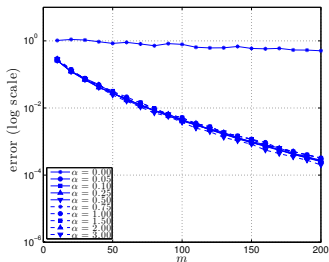
Recovery guarantees

First experiment: deterministic samples in 1D

Example: deterministic equispaced samples and Chebyshev polynomials with weights $w_i = i^\alpha$.



$$f(t) = \frac{1}{1+25t^2}$$

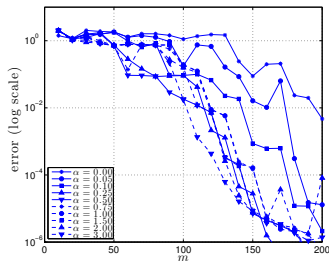


$$f(t) = \frac{1}{35-34t}$$

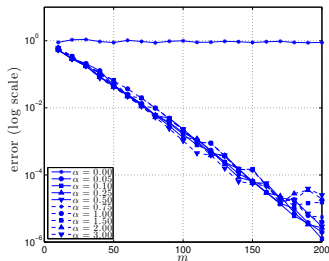
The error $\|f - \tilde{f}\|_{L^\infty}$ against m for different weights.

First experiment: deterministic samples in 1D

Example: deterministic equispaced samples and Chebyshev polynomials with weights $w_i = i^\alpha$.



$$f(t) = \cos(30t)$$

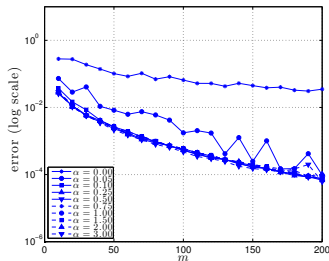


$$f(t) = \frac{\cosh(30t^2)}{\cosh(30)}$$

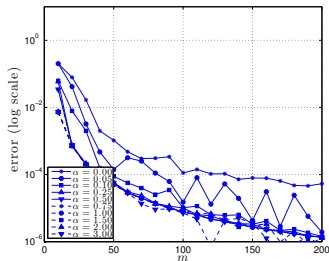
The error $\|f - \tilde{f}\|_{L^\infty}$ against m for different weights.

First experiment: deterministic samples in 1D

Example: deterministic equispaced samples and Chebyshev polynomials with weights $w_i = i^\alpha$.



$$f(t) = \sqrt{1.01 + t}$$



$$f(t) = t^5 \log(t^2)$$

The error $\|f - \tilde{f}\|_{L^\infty}$ against m for different weights.

Conclusions

(1) Unweighted ℓ^1 minimization ($\alpha = 0$) may not work in general.

Claim

This is due to an **aliasing phenomenon** in ℓ^1 minimization. In general, one needs the weights to satisfy

$$w_i / \|\phi_i\|_{L^\infty} \rightarrow \infty, \quad i \rightarrow \infty.$$

(2) Once $\alpha > 0$ there is no further gain from increasing α .

Remark: The use of weights has often been motivated by **matching** the decay rate of polynomial coefficients.

- See Peng, Hampton & Doostan, Rauhut & Ward.

Conclusions

(1) Unweighted ℓ^1 minimization ($\alpha = 0$) may not work in general.

Claim

This is due to an **aliasing phenomenon** in ℓ^1 minimization. In general, one needs the weights to satisfy

$$w_i / \|\phi_i\|_{L^\infty} \rightarrow \infty, \quad i \rightarrow \infty.$$

(2) Once $\alpha > 0$ there is no further gain from increasing α .

Remark: The use of weights has often been motivated by **matching** the decay rate of polynomial coefficients.

- See Peng, Hampton & Doostan, Rauhut & Ward.

Example: Fourier basis

Consider $D = (-1, 1)$, $\nu(t) = 1/2$ and the **Fourier basis**:

$$\phi_j(t) = e^{ij\pi t}, \quad j \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

In this case, $\|\phi_j\|_{L^\infty} = 1$, so we consider **unweighted** ℓ^1 minimization:

$$\inf_{z \in \ell^1(\mathbb{N})} \|z\|_1 \text{ subject to } Uz = y. \quad (\star)$$

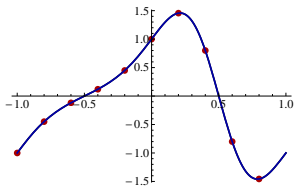
Proposition (Aliasing phenomenon)

Suppose that there exists a $P \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that

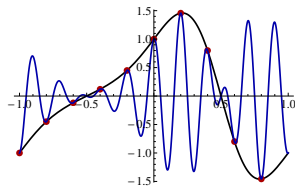
$$t_i P \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

If \hat{x} is a solution of (\star) then so is every shift of \hat{x} by a multiple of $2P$.

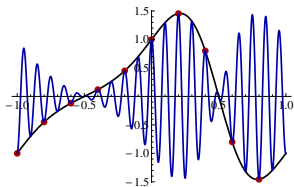
Aliased solutions are poor approximations



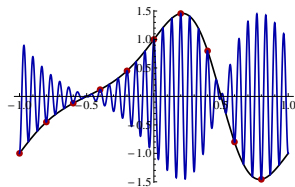
Good minimizer \hat{x}



Bad minimizer ($2P$)



Bad minimizer ($4P$)



Bad minimizer ($6P$)

Besides the first, none of these minimizers **approximate** f to any accuracy.

Example: Fourier basis

Now consider the weighted problem

$$\inf_{z \in \ell_w^1(\mathbb{N})} \|z\|_{1,w} \text{ subject to } Uz = y,$$

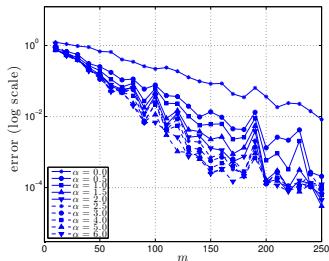
with **any monotonically growing** weights $w_i \rightarrow \infty$ as $|i| \rightarrow \infty$. Aliased solutions will generally no longer be minimizers, since they have larger weighted norm.

Summary

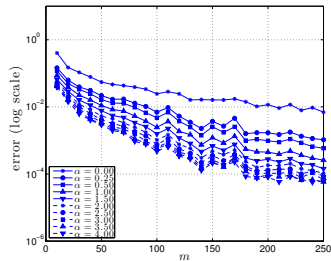
Growing weights **regularize** the minimization problem by removing (bad) aliased solutions.

Experiment 2: random sampling in 1D and 2D

Example: random samples from Chebyshev (C) or Uniform (U) measures with (tensor) Chebyshev (C) or Legendre (L) polynomials.



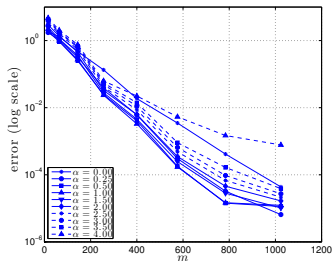
$$1D \text{ LC, } f(t) = \frac{1+3t}{1+50t^2}$$



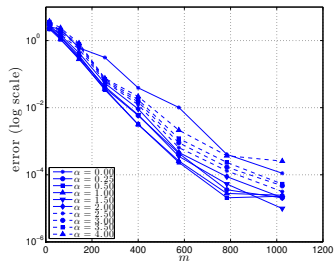
$$1D \text{ LU, } f(t) = \sqrt{1.05 + t}$$

Experiment 2: random sampling in 1D and 2D

Example: random samples from Chebyshev (C) or Uniform (U) measures with (tensor) Chebyshev (C) or Legendre (L) polynomials.



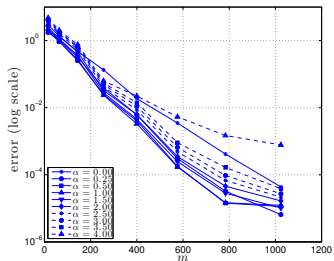
2D CC, $f(t_1, t_2) = \sin(\exp(2t_1 t_2))$



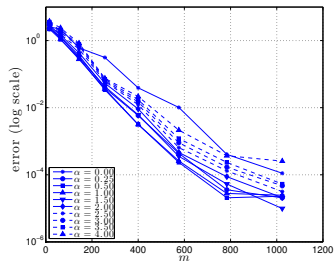
2D CC, $f(t_1, t_2) = \sin(\exp(2t_1 t_2))$

Experiment 2: random sampling in 1D and 2D

Example: random samples from Chebyshev (C) or Uniform (U) measures with (tensor) Chebyshev (C) or Legendre (L) polynomials.



2D CC, $f(t_1, t_2) = \sin(\exp(2t_1t_2))$



2D CC, $f(t_1, t_2) = \sin(\exp(2t_1t_2))$

Conclusion: Although convergence occurs in the unweighted case, weights appear to offer some moderate benefits.

Outline

Introduction

Background

Infinite-dimensional framework

The role of the weights

Recovery guarantees

Worst-case scenario

Data points $T = \{t_i\}_{i=1}^m$ are **fixed**, deterministic and unstructured.

Scattered data approximation: Quantify data in terms of the **density**

$$h = \sup_{t \in D} \min_{i=1, \dots, m} |t - t_i|.$$

(also known as the **fill distance**).

Goal

We cannot expect to achieve the best s -term approximation rate in this setting. Instead, we aim to show near-optimal **linear** approximation (first s term) rates as $h \rightarrow 0$.

Example result

Theorem (BA)

Let $D = (-1, 1)$ and consider a Jacobi (e.g. Legendre, Chebyshev, Gegenbauer) polynomial basis $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$. Suppose that $w_i \sim ci^\alpha$, $i \rightarrow \infty$, for $\alpha > 1$. Then

$$\|\hat{x} - x\| \lesssim \|x - P_s x\|_{1,w} + T_K(x),$$

where $\|x - P_s x\|_{1,w}$ is the *linear* approximation error, provided

$$h^{-1} \gtrsim s^2 \log s.$$

This scaling is optimal, up to the log factor in s .

Remarks

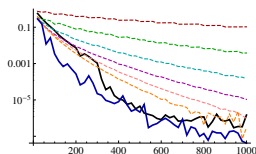
(1) Weighted ℓ^1 minimization achieves the **optimal** linear approximation rate as $h \rightarrow 0$, up to a log factor.

- Optimality is due to Platte, Trefethen & Kuijlaars.
- In particular, it is guaranteed to **never perform worse** than classical least-squares fitting.
- Note: this result extends to higher dimensions.

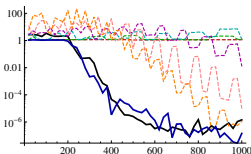
(2) The condition $h^{-1} \gtrsim s^2 \log s$ is **independent** of the weights used.

- Recall the earlier experiment.

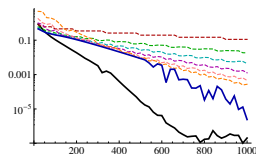
How well does ℓ^1 perform in bad scenarios?



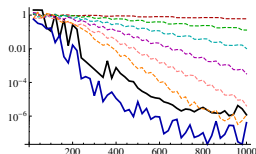
$$f(t) = \frac{1}{50/49 - \sin(\pi t)}$$



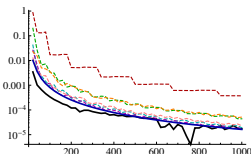
$$f(t) = \sin(50t^2)$$



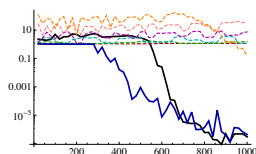
$$f(t) = \frac{1}{1+50t^2}$$



$$f(t) = \frac{\cosh(100t^2)}{\cosh(100)}$$



$$f(t) = |t|^3$$



$$f(t) = \sin(80t)$$

Black line is weighted ℓ^1 minimization. Dashed lines are least squares with $M = c\sqrt{m}$ and $c = 0.5, 1.0, 1.5, 2, 2.5, 3.0$. Blue line is oracle least squares based on choosing the aspect ratio to minimize the error for a given m and f . Random noise of magnitude 10^{-8} was added to the data.

Ideal scenario

Data points: The points $T = \{t_1, \dots, t_m\}$ will now be drawn randomly from the orthogonality measure $\nu(t)$ of the functions $\{\phi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$.

Goal

Show near-optimal **s-term** approximation rates.

However.....weighted sparsity

We solve a weighted ℓ^1 minimization problem, so it is more natural to consider **weighted** cardinality:

$$|\Delta|_w := \sum_{i \in \Delta} w_i^2,$$

and the **weighted s-term** approximation error

$$\sigma_{s,w}(x) = \min \{ \|x - P_{\Delta}x\|_{1,w} : |\Delta|_w \leq s \}.$$

Note that $s \in (0, \infty)$ in the weighted setup.

- See Rauhut & Ward (2014).

Weighted sparsity recovery guarantee

Theorem (BA)

Let $w = \{w_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be weights with $w_i \geq \|\phi_i\|_{L^\infty}$ and $\Delta \subseteq \{1, \dots, K\}$. Let $x \in \ell_w^1(\mathbb{N})$ and suppose that t_1, \dots, t_m are drawn independently from ν . If \hat{x} is any minimizer, then

$$\|x - \hat{x}\| \lesssim \|x - P_\Delta x\|_{1,w} + T_K(x),$$

with probability at least $1 - \epsilon$, provided

$$m \gtrsim |\Delta|_w \cdot \log(\epsilon^{-1}) \cdot \log(2N\sqrt{|\Delta|_w}).$$

Earlier work: Rauhut & Ward (2014).

- Require knowledge of the tail bound δ .
- Provide uniform recovery guarantees (with additional log factors).

Is this good enough?

Let $w_j = i^\alpha$ and suppose that f is such that

$$x_j \neq 0, \quad 1 \leq j \leq k, \quad x_j = 0, \quad j > k.$$

This is reasonable for **oscillatory** functions, for example.

Question: How many samples m do we need to recover f exactly?

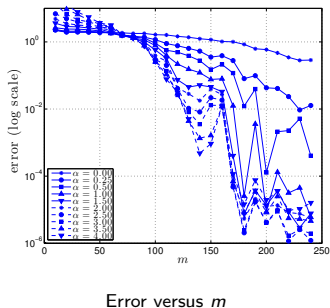
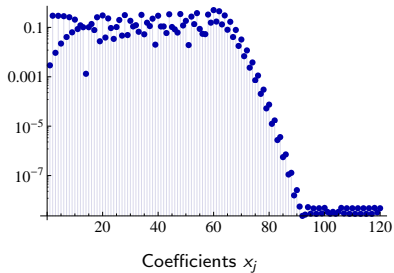
- According to the previous theorem, we set $\Delta = \{1, \dots, k\}$.
- Then we need $m \gtrsim |\Delta|_w \times \log$ factors, i.e.

$$m \gtrsim k^{2\alpha+1} \times \log \text{ factors.}$$

- This estimate **deteriorates** with increasing α .

Example

Take $f(t) = \cos(45\sqrt{2}t + 1/3)$ and consider Chebyshev polynomials with random samples drawn from the Chebyshev measure.

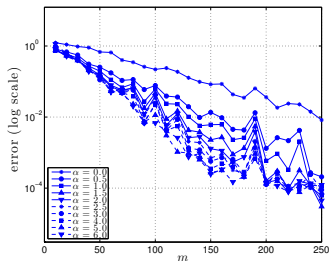


Infinite expansions and weighted sparsity

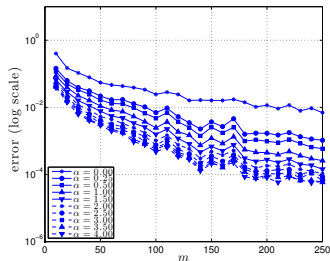
Proposition

Let $w_i = i^\alpha$ and suppose that $|x_j| = j^{-\alpha-\beta-1}$ for some $\beta > 0$. Then $\sigma_{s,w}(x) = \mathcal{O}\left(s^{-\frac{\beta}{2\alpha+1}}\right)$ as $s \rightarrow \infty$.

Thus the predicted convergence rate of the approximation in terms of s (equivalently, m) **deteriorates** with increasing α .



$$1D \text{ LC, } f(t) = \frac{1+3t}{1+50t^2}$$



$$1D \text{ LU, } f(t) = \sqrt{1.05 + t}$$

An improved recovery guarantee

Theorem (BA)

Let $w = \{w_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be weights, $x \in \ell_w^1(\mathbb{N})$ and $\Delta \subseteq \{1, \dots, K\}$ be such that $\min_{i \in \{1, \dots, K\} \setminus \Delta} \{w_i\} \geq 1$. Let t_1, \dots, t_m be drawn independently from ν . Then

$$\|x - \hat{x}\| \lesssim \|x - P_{\Delta}x\|_{1,w} + T_K(x),$$

with probability at least $1 - \epsilon$, provided

$$m \gtrsim \left(|\Delta|_u + \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, K\} \setminus \Delta} \{u_i^2/w_i^2\} \max\{|\Delta|_w, 1\} \right) \cdot L,$$

where $u_i = \|\phi_i\|_{L^\infty}$ and $L = \log(\epsilon^{-1}) \cdot \log(2N\sqrt{\max\{|\Delta|_w, 1\}})$.

Note: All constants in the \lesssim and \gtrsim are **independent** of the weights w_i .

Consequences

Consider the main estimate:

$$m \gtrsim \left(|\Delta|_u + \max_{i \in \{1, \dots, K\} \setminus \Delta} \{u_i^2 / w_i^2\} \max\{|\Delta|_w, 1\} \right) \cdot L$$

Linear model: Let $\Delta = \{1, \dots, k\}$. Suppose that $u_i = \mathcal{O}(i^\gamma)$ and $w_i = \mathcal{O}(i^\alpha)$ for $\alpha > \gamma \geq 0$. Then

$$m \gtrsim k^{2\gamma+1} \times \log \text{ factors.}$$

- This is independent of the weights and **optimal**, up to log factors.
- It addresses both examples considered previously.

Towards establishing the benefits of weights

The case $w_j = 1$. We get the estimate

$$m \gtrsim \left(|\Delta|_u + \max_{1 \leq i \leq K} \{u_i^2\} |\Delta| \right) \cdot L. \quad (1)$$

The case $w_j = u_j$. We get the estimate

$$m \gtrsim |\Delta|_u \cdot L. \quad (2)$$

Note: In general, the estimate (2) is no worse than (1). Hence, it makes sense to use weights with w_j at least as large as u_j .

Examples: the benefits of weights $w_i = u_i$

Example 1: Consider Legendre polynomials with points drawn from the uniform measure.

- If $w_i = 1$ then $m \gtrsim 3^{\min\{p,d\}} \cdot s \cdot L$, where $s = |\Delta|$, provided the index set $\{1, \dots, K\}$ corresponds to a total degree space of degree p .
- If $w_i = u_i$ then $m \gtrsim s^2 \cdot L$ provided Δ is a lower set.
- Note that s^2 is sharp.

Example 2: Consider Chebyshev polynomials with points drawn from the Chebyshev measure. Then

- If $w_i = 1$ then $m \gtrsim 2^{\min\{p,d\}} \cdot s \cdot L$, provided the index set $\{1, \dots, K\}$ corresponds to a total degree space of degree p .
- If $w_i = u_i$ then $m \gtrsim s^{\log(3)/\log(2)} \cdot L$ provided Δ is a lower set.

BA thanks A. Chkifa, H. Tran, C. Webster & G. Zhang for the observations about lower sets.

Examples: the benefits of weights $w_i = u_i$

Example 1: Consider Legendre polynomials with points drawn from the uniform measure.

- If $w_i = 1$ then $m \gtrsim 3^{\min\{p,d\}} \cdot s \cdot L$, where $s = |\Delta|$, provided the index set $\{1, \dots, K\}$ corresponds to a total degree space of degree p .
- If $w_i = u_i$ then $m \gtrsim s^2 \cdot L$ provided Δ is a lower set.
- Note that s^2 is sharp.

Example 2: Consider Chebyshev polynomials with points drawn from the Chebyshev measure. Then

- If $w_i = 1$ then $m \gtrsim 2^{\min\{p,d\}} \cdot s \cdot L$, provided the index set $\{1, \dots, K\}$ corresponds to a total degree space of degree p .
- If $w_i = u_i$ then $m \gtrsim s^{\log(3)/\log(2)} \cdot L$ provided Δ is a lower set.

BA thanks A. Chkifa, H. Tran, C. Webster & G. Zhang for the observations about lower sets.

Towards establishing the benefits of weights

Related work:

- Peng, Hampton & Doostan, Yang & Karniadakis: Empirical improvements for weights based on prior support information.
- Rauhut & Ward: Error is bounded in a stronger norm. However, guarantee deteriorates with w_i .
- Bah & Ward: Sample complexity of weighted minimization. But consider weighted cardinality.

Support estimation

Corollary (BA)

Let $u_i = 1$. Assume x is s -sparse with support Δ . Let $\Gamma \subseteq \{1, \dots, K\}$ and suppose that $w_i = \sigma < 1$, $i \in \Gamma$, and $w_i = 1$, $i \notin \Gamma$. Then we require

$$m \gtrsim (2(1 - \rho\alpha) + (1 + \gamma)\rho) \cdot s \cdot L,$$

where

$$\alpha = |\Delta \cap \Gamma|/|\Gamma|, \quad |\Gamma|/|\Delta| = \rho.$$

- Recall that $m \gtrsim 2 \cdot s \cdot L$ in the unweighted case.
- Hence we see an improvement whenever $\alpha > \frac{1}{2}(1 + \gamma)$.
- That is, we estimate $\approx 50\%$ of the support correctly, for small γ .
- Caveat: comparing sufficient conditions.

Related work:

- Friedlander et al., Yu & Baek (random Gaussian measurements).

Thanks!

For more info, see the paper:

B. Adcock, *Infinite-dimensional weighted ℓ^1 minimization and function approximation from pointwise data*, arXiv:1503.02352 (2015).

Also, coming later in the summer:

B. Adcock, *Infinite-dimensional compressed sensing and function interpolation*, in preparation (2015).