## Exact recovery from 'projections' onto polynomial spaces over compact manifolds

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## **Case I: Trigonometric polynomials**

• Spike train 
$$f(t) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} a_m \delta_{t_m}(t)$$
,  $\delta_x$  Dirac,

 $a_m \in \mathbb{C}$  coefficients,  $-\pi \leq t_1 < t_2 < \cdots < t_M < \pi$  knots.

• 
$$\langle f,g \rangle = \sum_{m} a_{m}g(t_{m}), \quad \forall g \in C[-\pi,\pi].$$

- f in dual space of Borel measures  $\mathcal{M}([-\pi,\pi])$ .
- Total variation of a complex measure over a compact  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\|\mu\|_{TV} = |\mu|(A) := \sup \sum_{k} |\mu(A_{k})|, \quad A = \bigcup_{k} A_{k}$$
, interior disjoint finite collection.

- For a spike train  $f(t) = \sum_{m} a_m \delta_{t_m}(t)$ ,  $||f||_{TV} = \sum_{m} |a_m|$ .
- Input: For some degree N, Fourier 'coefficients':

$$y_k \coloneqq \langle f, e^{ik \cdot} \rangle = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_m a_m e^{-ikt_m}, -N \leq k \leq N.$$

Note: number of spikes and the coefficients are unknown.

- Goal: Recover f exactly from  $\{y_k\}_{k=-N}^N$ .
- E Candés & C. Fernandez-Granda, Towards a Mathematical Theory of Super-Resolution, 2012.



#### Spikes and their lower-resolution 'projection'

(\*) E Candés & C. Fernandez-Granda, Towards a Mathematical Theory of Super-Resolution, 2012.



#### Two different trains with qualitatively similar 'projections'

(\*) E Candés & C. Fernandez-Granda, Towards a Mathematical Theory of Super-Resolution, 2012.

• Separation condition [CF] Assume that for  $N \ge 128$ 

$$\Delta(T) \coloneqq \min_{j,k} \left| t_j - t_k \right| \ge \frac{4\pi}{N} \quad \text{(Cyclic distance)}.$$

**Theorem [CF 2012]** If the knots of a spike train f satisfy the separation condition and  $y_k = \langle f, e^{ik \cdot} \rangle$ ,  $-N \le k \le N$ , are given, then f is the *unique complex measure* solving

$$\min_{\tilde{f}\in\mathcal{M}[-\pi,\pi]} \|\tilde{f}\|_{TV}, \quad \text{s.t. } \langle \tilde{f}, e^{ik\cdot} \rangle = y_k, \quad -N \leq k \leq N.$$

- CF also analyzed the 'applied setting':
  - (i) Resilience to noise,
  - (ii) Stable recovery algorithm.

#### The 'dual interpolating polynomial'

**Theorem 7.** Let  $f = \sum_{m} c_m \delta_{x_m}$  where  $X := \{x_m\} \subseteq A$ , and  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is compact. Let  $\Theta_D$  be a linear space of continuous functions of dimension D+1in A. For any basis  $\{\theta_k\}_{k=0}^D$ , of  $\Theta_D$ , let  $y_k = \langle f, \theta_k \rangle$  for all  $0 \leq k \leq D$ . If for any set  $\{u_m\}, u_m \in \mathbb{C}$ , with  $|u_m| = 1$ , there exists  $q \in \Theta_D$  such that

$$q(x_m) = u_m, \,\forall x_m \in X,\tag{2.1}$$

$$|q(x)| < 1, \,\forall x \in A \backslash X,\tag{2.2}$$

then f is the unique complex Borel measure satisfying

$$\min_{g \in \mathcal{M}(A)} \|g\|_{TV} \quad subject \ to \quad y_k = \langle g, \theta_k \rangle, \ 0 \le k \le D.$$
(2.3)

Constructions of interpolating polynomials (with certain properties) ⇒ Exact recovery of spike trains through TV-minimization.



### **Non-negative signals**

• Assume the unknown spike-train is of form

$$f(t) = \sum_{m=1}^{M} a_m \delta_{t_m}(t), \quad a_m > 0, \quad t \in [-\pi, \pi].$$

**Theorem** If  $M \le N$ , then f is the unique minimizer over all nonnegative real measures of

$$\min_{\tilde{f}\in\mathcal{M}_{\geq 0}[-\pi,\pi]} \|\tilde{f}\|_{TV}, \quad \text{s.t. } \langle \tilde{f}, e^{ik\cdot} \rangle = y_k, \quad -N \leq k \leq N.$$

**Remark:** Discrete 'non-negative' version known from Donoho-Tanner (2005). Very different arguments. Here, we use a simple version of the 'duality' theorem for nonnegative measures (the polynomial needs to be real).

The construction of q:

$$q(t) := 1 - 2^{-M-1} \prod_{m=1}^{M} (1 - \cos(t - t_m))$$

q is a real trigonometric polynomial that satisfies

(i) *q* is a polynomial of degree 
$$\leq N$$
.  
(ii)  $q(t_m) = 1$ , for  $1 \leq m \leq M$ .  
(iii)  $0 < q(t) < 1$ , for  $t \neq t_m$ ,  $1 \leq m \leq M$ .

## **Case II: Algebraic polynomials**

• Spike train 
$$f(x) = \sum_{m} a_{m} \delta_{x_{m}}(x)$$
,  $\delta_{t}$  Dirac,

 $a_m \in \mathbb{C}$  coefficients,  $-1 \le x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_M < 1$  knots.

• Input: For some degree N and polynomial basis  $\{P_k\}$  of  $V_N$ :

$$y_k \coloneqq \langle f, P_k \rangle = \sum_m a_m P_k(x_m), \ 0 \le k \le N.$$

Recall: number of spikes and the coefficients are unknown.

• **Goal:** Recover f exactly from  $\{y_k\}_{k=-N}^N$ .

• Separation condition Assume for  $N \ge 128$ , that the knots satisfy

$$\frac{x_{k+1} - x_k}{\sqrt{1 - \overline{x}^2}} \ge \frac{4\pi}{N}, \ \overline{x} \coloneqq \arg\min_{z \in [x_k, x_{k+1}]} |z|,$$
  
(+ another technical condition)

• Condition aligns with the classical metric over the interval. We can allow closer knots near the endpoints.

**Theorem** If the knots of a spike train f satisfy the (algebraic) separation condition and  $y_k = \langle f, P_k \rangle$ ,  $0 \le k \le N$ , are given, then f is the *unique complex measure* solving

$$\min_{\tilde{f}\in\mathcal{M}[-1,1]} \|\tilde{f}\|_{TV}, \quad \text{s.t. } \langle \tilde{f}, P_k \rangle = y_k, \quad 0 \leq k \leq N.$$

Algebraic polynomials over  $[-1,1]^2$ 

• Spike train 
$$f(x) = \sum_{m} a_m \delta_{x_m}(x)$$
,  $\delta_t$  Dirac,  
 $a_m \in \mathbb{R}$  coefficients,  $x_m = (x_m(1), x_m(2)) \in (-1, 1)^2$ .

• **2D separation condition** Assume for  $N \ge 128$ , that

$$\min_{j,k} \left\{ \frac{\left| x_{k}\left(1\right) - x_{j}\left(1\right) \right|}{\sqrt{1 - \overline{x_{1}}^{2}}}, \frac{\left| x_{k}\left(2\right) - x_{j}\left(2\right) \right|}{\sqrt{1 - \overline{x_{2}}^{2}}} \right\} \geq \frac{4\pi}{N}, \\ (+ \text{ technical condition}).$$

**Theorem** If the knots of a 2D spike train f satisfy the 2D separation condition and  $y_k = \langle f, P_k \rangle$ ,  $k = (k_1, k_2)$ ,  $0 \le k_1, k_2 \le N$ , are given, then f is the *unique real measure* solving

$$\min_{\tilde{f}\in\mathcal{M}[-1,1]^2} \|\tilde{f}\|_{TV}, \quad \text{s.t. } \langle \tilde{f}, P_k \rangle = y_k.$$

## Spline case

Assume the unknown f is a piecewise constant (order r = 1)

$$f(t) = c_0 \mathbf{1}_{[-1,t_1)} + \sum_{m=1}^{M-1} c_m \mathbf{1}_{[t_m,t_{m+1})}(t) + c_M \mathbf{1}_{[t_M,1]}(t),$$

With known:

(i) boundary conditions  $f(-1) = c_0$ ,  $f(1) = c_M$  (*M* unknown!).

(ii) 
$$y_k = \langle f, P_k \rangle$$
,  $\{P_k\}$  some polynomial basis of  $V_N$ .

The distributional derivative is a spike train

$$f'(t) = \sum_{m=1}^{M-1} (c_m - c_{m-1}) \delta_{t_m}(t)$$
  
What are  $\{\langle f', P_k \rangle\} = ?$ 

• Let  $\{\alpha_{k,n}\}$  coefficients such that

$$P'_k = \sum_n \alpha_{k,n} P_n, \quad \forall k \; .$$

• Then with  $y_k = \langle f, P_k \rangle$ , integration by parts gives

$$\langle f', P_k \rangle = f(1)P_k(1) - f(-1)P_k(-1) - \sum_n \alpha_{k,n} y_n.$$

- Exact recovery of the spike train f' yields exact recovery of the piecewise constant f.
- Generalization to spline of arbitrary order r (degree r-1):
  - Assume boundary conditions  $f^{(j)}(-1), f^{(j)}(1), j = 0, ..., r-1$ , are known.
  - $\circ$  Recover (via recursion) f from the spike train  $f^{(r)}$ .

## **Case III: Spherical Harmonics on** $\mathbb{S}^{d-1}$

- $\mathbb{Y}_n(\mathbb{R}^d)$  Homogeneous Harmonic polynomials of degree n.
- $\mathbb{Y}_{n}^{d} \coloneqq \mathbb{Y}_{n}(\mathbb{R}^{d})|_{\mathbb{S}^{d-1}}$  Spherical Harmonics of degree *n* in *d* dimensions.
- Generalization of trigonometric polynomials.
- Let  $\{P_{n,k}\}$ ,  $n \le N$ ,  $1 \le k \le Z_{n,d}$  be a basis for spherical harmonics of degree N

$$Z_{n,d} = \frac{(2n+d-2)(n+d-3)!}{n!(d-2)!}$$

$$f(\xi) = \sum_{m} a_{m} \delta_{\xi_{m}}(\xi), \quad a_{m} \in \mathbb{R} , \ \Xi = \{\xi_{m}\}, \ \xi_{m} \in \mathbb{S}^{2} \subset \mathbb{R}^{3}.$$

• Sphere separation condition For a fixed constant v > 1, assume the points  $\Xi = \{\xi_m\}$  satisfy for (sufficiently large) N,

$$\min_{\xi_j,\xi_k\in\Xi} \arccos(\xi_j\cdot\xi_k) \geq \frac{\nu}{N}.$$

**Theorem** If the set  $\Xi = \{\xi_m\}$  satisfies the separation condition for sufficiently large *N* and  $y_{n,k} = \langle f, P_{n,k} \rangle$ ,  $n \le N$ , are given, then *f* is the *unique real measure* solving

$$\min_{\tilde{f}\in\mathcal{M}\left(\mathbb{S}^{2}\right)}\left\|\tilde{f}\right\|_{TV},\quad \text{s.t.}\left\langle\tilde{f},P_{n,k}\right\rangle=y_{n,k}.$$

# So what's under the hood? A localization principle!



## Localization principle

- Recall that we need to construct q, such that
  - (i)  $q(t_m) = u_m$ ,  $t_m$  knots,  $u_m \in \mathbb{C}$ ,  $|u_m| = 1$  prescribed. (ii) |q(t)| < 1,  $t \neq t_m$ .
- Proof relies on finding well-localized polynomial kernel  $K_N(x, y)$  of the given degree N.
- Trigonometric polynomials

$$q(t) = \sum_{m} (\alpha_{m} K(t-t_{m}) + \beta_{m} K'(t-t_{m})),$$

 $K_N(x, y) = K(x - y)$ , the Jackson kernel,  $\{\alpha_m\}, \{\beta_m\}$  selected to satisfy conditions  $(q(t_m) = u_m, ...)$ .

- Algebraic polynomials
  - Well localized kernel exists, but not translation invariant!
  - Direct proof exists...but easier to reduce the problem to the trigonometric case.
- Spherical harmonics

o Rotation invariant well-localized(!) kernel,

$$K_N(\xi_1\cdot\xi_2)=\kappa_N\sum_{n=0}^{\infty}\varphi\left(\frac{n}{N}\right)\mathcal{P}_n(\xi_1\cdot\xi_2),$$

 $\mathcal{P}_n(\xi_1 \cdot \xi_2)$  - ortho-projection onto harmonics of degree *n*,

$$\varphi \in C^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}_{+}), \varphi(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & t \leq 1/2, \\ 0 \leq \varphi(t) \leq 1 & 1/2 \leq t < 1, \\ 0 & else. \end{cases}$$

$$\left|K_{N}\left(\xi_{1}\cdot\xi_{2}\right)\right| \leq \frac{c_{k}}{\left(1+N\,\operatorname{arcos}\left(\xi_{1}\cdot\xi_{2}\right)\right)^{k}}, \quad \xi_{1},\xi_{2}\in\mathbb{S}^{d-1}.$$

- Lie algebra structure rotational derivatives.
- With *v* the constant from the separation condition, we prove estimates of the type

$$\left\|I - \left(K_N\left(\xi_j \cdot \xi_k\right)\right)_{j,k}\right\|_{\infty} \leq \frac{c_k}{\nu^{k-1}}.$$