Mathematical Methods for Inverse Problems

Fallstudien der Mathematischen Modellbildung, Teil 2 20.10.2023 - 21.11.2023, paul.catala@tum.de

- 10 Vorlesungen, 5 Übungen
- Vorlesungen: Montags 16.15 17.45 Uhr und Mittwochs 17 18.30 Uhr
- Übungen: Dienstags 12.15 13.45 Uhr
- Bewertung: Hausarbeit in Gruppen von Drei. Gruppen müssen per e-mail sich bis zum 31.1.24 anmelden. Abgabetermin: 15.03.24.
- für Fragen: paul.catala@tum.de , Büro 02.08.038

Direct problem: determine the observations (*i.e.* results of measurements) y given the input x_0 and the parameters of a model \mathcal{A} (and possible noise w).



- Mathematical models based on physical laws allow to predict such measurements.
- Similar inputs x₀ produce similar measurements y.

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 Optics: given a source distribution and a diffracting object or aperture, determine the light intensity on a screen



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 \rightarrow Lax-Milgram theorem for elliptic EDP ensures existence and unicity

Direct problems are usually well-posed!

Definition (Hadamard 1923). A problem is well-posed¹ when:

- there is a solution (existence)
- there is at most one solution (unicity)
- the solution depends continuously on the data (stability)



¹Hadamard, 1923, Lectures on the Cauchy Problem in Linear Partial Differential Equations

Inverse problem: determine the source x_0 given indirect, incomplete and possibly noisy observations $y = A(x_0) + w$.



- Inverse problems are usually ill-posed
 - experimental data are noisy, there can be model mismatches: existence
 - different parameters may lead to the similar measurements: unicity, stability



INVERSE PROBLEMS ARE USUALLY ILL-POSED

Example (Deconvolution). If y = a * x =: A(x), then in Fourier $\hat{y} = \hat{a} \cdot \hat{x}$. Assuming that the support of \hat{a} is sufficiently large, a solution of the deconvolution problem is given by

$$x = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\hat{y} \oslash \hat{a}) =: \mathcal{A}^{-1}(y).$$





INVERSE PROBLEMS ARE USUALLY ILL-POSED

Example (Interpolation). If samples $\{(x_j, y_j)\}_{0 \le j \le n}$ are given, then

$$\tilde{p}(x) := \sum_{j=1}^{n} y_j \prod_{i=0, i \neq j}^{n} \frac{x - x_i}{x_j - x_j}$$

is the only polynomial of degree at most *n* that takes the value y_i at x_i .





X-RAY TOMOGRAPHY









Example (Radon transform).







■ Inverse problems arise in^{1,2}

- microscopy,
- medical imaging,
- hydrogeology,

- chemistry,
- radar,
- quantum mechanics, ...

¹Kirsch, 1996, An Introduction to the Mathematical Theory of Inverse Problems

² Engl, Hanke, and Neubauer, 1996, Regularization of Inverse Problems



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 - \rightarrow instability can be tackled via *regularization* of the problem

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- *E*, *F* are typically Hilbert spaces (*e.g.* $E = F = L^2(\Omega)$, $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ in imaging), can even be Banach spaces¹ (*e.g.* space of measures²).

In this course, $E = \mathbb{R}^n$ (x_0 models coefficients wrt *e.g.* standard basis, Fourier basis, wavelet basis) and $F = \mathbb{R}^m$ (y is the data vector, or feature vector).

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² Bredies and Pikkarainen, 2013, Inverse problems in spaces of measures

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■ *A* may be linear or non-linear

In this course, $\mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{L}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}^m)$ may be seen as a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$, and y = Ax.

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Given $A \in \mathcal{L}(E, F)$, $y \in F$, solve

$$Ax = y, \quad x \in E$$

- General study via the singular value decomposition
- ℓ^2 -regularization: Tikhonov regularization, spectral truncation, algorithms
- **sparse regularization**: ℓ^0 and ℓ^1 -regularization, sparsity wrt dictionary, algorithms