

APPROXIMATION OF THE SOLUTION TO THE MOMENT PROBLEM  
IN A HILBERT SPACE

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ABSTRACT

In this paper we obtain a construction of the solution to a moment problem. We use our results to derive a truncation error for *sinc*-interpolation, which generalizes the error bounds in the literature to the case of nonuniform sampling.

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0 INTRODUCTION

In this paper we approximate the solution  $f$  to a moment problem, by means of truncation. The moment problem consists of finding an element  $f$  of a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  which satisfies

$$\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = g_i, \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z} \quad (0.1)$$

where  $\{g_i\} \in \ell^2(\mathbb{Z})$  and the system of vectors  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  lies in  $\mathcal{H}$ , which has inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ . The space  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z})$  is the set of sequences of complex numbers  $\{g_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  such that  $\sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} |g_i|^2 < \infty$ . Without further conditions on the system  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ , (0.1) need not have a solution. It turns out that a sufficient condition for (0.1) to have a solution is that  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a Riesz basis, cf. Young [12]. The computation of  $f$  involves the inversion of an infinite matrix. For practical reasons, we want to work with finite matrices. This problem can be circumvented by first solving the truncated problem,

$$\langle f_n, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = g_i, \quad \forall i \in \{-n, \dots, n\}. \quad (0.2)$$

Repeating this procedure for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , we obtain a sequence  $f_n$ . These functions  $f_n$  are given in closed form, involving only finite sums and inverses of finite matrices. In section 2 we prove that  $f$  can be approximated by  $f_n$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f - f_n\| = 0.$$

In section 3 we introduce the space of bandlimited functions, i.e. functions whose Fourier transforms have compact support. It turns out that for bandlimited functions  $f$ , the inner product  $\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle$  is a point evaluation of  $f$  at, say,  $t_i$ . If  $t_i = i$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then we say the function  $f$  is sampled uniformly, otherwise  $f$  is said to be sampled nonuniformly. The main application is to derive a bound for the truncation error in the case of nonuniform sampling, which is an extension of an estimate of Butzer [1]. In the literature Butzer [1], Butzer and Splettstösser [3], Butzer, Splettstösser and Stens [4], and Papoulis [9], estimates for the truncation error are given only for uniform sampling. In section 4 we make some remarks on the estimates from the literature.

## 1 PRELIMINARIES

In this section we introduce notions which we use in later sections. A sequence of vectors  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a Riesz basis (see Young [12] p. 31) if there exists a bounded linear invertible operator  $T$  on  $\mathcal{H}$  such that

$$T\varphi_i = h_i, \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\{h_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ . An operator  $T$  is invertible if its inverse, denoted by  $T^{-1}$ , exists and is bounded.

The next theorem (cf. Young [12] Theorem 9, p. 32) characterizes Riesz bases, in terms of its Gram matrix and of completeness of a system of vectors. A sequence  $\{\varphi_i\} \subset \mathcal{H}$  is complete if its linear span, denoted by  $\text{span}\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$ , lies dense in  $\mathcal{H}$ . The Gram matrix of  $\{\varphi_i\}$  is defined by

$$G_{ij} := \langle \varphi_j, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}, \quad \forall i, j \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

In the case of a Riesz basis  $G$  is the matrix representation of the operator  $(TT^*)^{-1}$ , with respect to the basis  $\{h_i\}$ . So,

$$\|T^{-1}\| = \|G\|^{1/2}, \quad \text{and} \quad \|T\| = \|G^{-1}\|^{1/2}. \quad (1.2)$$

**Theorem 1.1.** *The following statements are equivalent.*

- (i)  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a Riesz basis.
- (ii)  $\{\varphi_i\}$  is complete and there exist positive real numbers  $A, B$  such that for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and for each finite sequence  $\{c_i\}_{-n, \dots, n}$

$$A \sum_{i=-n}^n |c_i|^2 \leq \left\| \sum_{i=-n}^n c_i \varphi_i \right\|^2 \leq B \sum_{i=-n}^n |c_i|^2.$$

- (iii)  $\{\varphi_i\}$  is complete and the Gram matrix  $G$  of  $\{\varphi_i\}$  generates a bounded linear invertible operator on  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z})$ .

Throughout the rest of this paper the system  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  denotes a Riesz basis. By Theorem 1.1 it follows that the definition of Riesz basis is independent of the choice of the orthonormal system  $\{h_i\}$ .

Two systems  $\{\psi_i\}, \{\varphi_i\}$  are called biorthogonal if

$$\langle \varphi_i, \psi_j \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = \delta_{ij}, \quad \forall i, j \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

A Riesz basis  $\{\varphi_i\}$  has a unique biorthogonal system  $\{\psi_i\}$ , given by  $\psi_i = T^*h_i$ , for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . The biorthogonal sequence also is a Riesz basis. Any  $f \in \mathcal{H}$  can uniquely be written as (cf. Higgins [6])

$$f = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \psi_i. \quad (1.3)$$

From this it follows that the moment problem (0.1) has the unique solution

$$f = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} g_i \psi_i. \tag{1.4}$$

If we want to compute the system  $\{\psi_i\}$ , we need a formula for the operator  $T$ , which may be hard to find. An alternative formula for  $\{\psi_i\}$  is obtained by Zwaan [13]

$$\psi_i = \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} \overline{(G^{-1})_{ij}} \varphi_j, \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

The problem in this formula is the inversion of the infinite matrix  $G$ . In section 2 we circumvent this inconvenience by inverting the truncated matrix. We thus obtain an approximation of the system  $\{\psi_i\}$  and of the solution  $f$ .

We construct an orthonormal basis  $\{h_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  for  $\mathcal{H}$  in such a way that  $\{h_i\}_{i=-n, \dots, n}$  is an orthonormal basis for

$$\mathcal{H}_n := \text{span}\{\varphi_{-n}, \dots, \varphi_n\},$$

e.g. by Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization. In this case the operator  $T$  given by (1.1) leaves all the subspaces  $\mathcal{H}_n$  invariant, and

$$T\varphi_i = h_i, \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}.$$

Note that the adjoint of  $T$  need not leave the subspaces  $\mathcal{H}_n$  invariant. Define the restriction of  $T$  to  $\mathcal{H}_n$  by  $T_n := T|_{\mathcal{H}_n}$ . Denoting the adjoint of  $T_n$  in  $\mathcal{H}_n$  by  $T_n^*$ , the system  $\{\psi_i^n\}_{i=-n, \dots, n} \subset \mathcal{H}_n$  can be defined as

$$\psi_i^n := T_n^* h_i, \quad \forall i \in \{-n, \dots, n\}, \tag{1.5}$$

which is the unique biorthogonal system of  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i=-n, \dots, n}$  in  $\mathcal{H}_n$ . An alternative formula for  $\psi_i^n$  is

$$\psi_i^n = \sum_{j=-n}^n \overline{(G_n^{-1})_{ij}} \varphi_j.$$

Here  $G_n$  is the truncated Gram matrix,

$$(G_n)_{ij} := G_{ij}, \quad \forall i, j \in \{-n, \dots, n\}.$$

A (not necessarily unique) solution to (0.2) can now be given as

$$f_n = \sum_{i=-n}^n g_i \psi_i^n. \tag{1.6}$$

(1.6) is not unique, because other solutions can be obtained by adding elements to  $f_n$ , which are orthogonal to  $\text{span}\{\varphi_{-n}, \dots, \varphi_n\}$ . The following result (cf. Young [12] Proposition 1, p.147) characterizes solutions to an arbitrary moment problem.

**Proposition 1.2 .** *Let  $I \subset \mathbb{Z}$  be an arbitrary index set and let  $\{g_i\} \in \ell^2(I)$ . If the problem*

$$\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = g_i, \quad \forall i \in I, \tag{1.7}$$

*has a solution, then there exists a unique minimum norm solution which lies in the subspace  $\overline{\text{span}}\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{H}$ .*

It follows that  $f_n \in \mathcal{H}_n$ , given by formula (1.6), is the unique minimum norm solution to (0.2) in  $\mathcal{H}$ .

## 2 CONSTRUCTION OF THE SOLUTION TO THE MOMENT PROBLEM

The aim of this section is to prove that  $\|f - f_n\| \rightarrow 0$ , (for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ) where  $f \in \mathcal{H}$  and  $f_n \in \mathcal{H}_n$  are the unique and the unique minimum norm solution to (0.1) and (0.2), respectively.

Introduce the projection operator  $P_n : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}_n$ , by

$$P_n f = \sum_{i=-n}^n \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \psi_i^n, \quad (2.1)$$

where the system  $\{\psi_i^n\}$  is given by formula (1.5).  $P_n$  is a normal operator ( $P_n^* P_n = P_n P_n^*$ ) from  $\mathcal{H}$  onto  $\mathcal{H}_n$  and it reduces to the identity operator on  $\mathcal{H}_n$ , i.e.  $P_n g = g$  for  $g \in \mathcal{H}_n$ . If  $f \in \mathcal{H}$  is the solution to (0.1), then the minimum norm solution  $f_n$  to (0.2) can be written as  $f_n = P_n f$ . For any  $g \in \mathcal{H}_n$  we have

$$(I - P_n)f = (I - P_n)(f - g).$$

Hence

$$\|(I - P_n)f\| \leq \|I - P_n\| \text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n), \quad (2.2)$$

where

$$\text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n) = \inf_{h \in \mathcal{H}_n} \|f - h\|_{\mathcal{H}}.$$

We know that for all  $f \in \mathcal{H}$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n) = 0. \quad (2.3)$$

Note that  $\|(I - P_n)f\|$  is the error due to truncation of the moment problem (0.1). The next theorem proves that  $\|I - P_n\| \leq c$ , where  $c$  is a constant independent of  $n$ .

**Theorem 2.1** . Let  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  be a Riesz basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ , and let  $P_n$  be given by (2.1). Then

$$\|I - P_n\| \leq 1 + (\|G^{-1}\| \|G\|)^{1/2}, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}. \quad (2.4)$$

**Proof:**

Using  $\psi_i = T^* h_i$ , and (1.5), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \|P_n f\| &= \left\| \sum_{i=-n}^n \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle \psi_i^n \right\| = \left\| \sum_{i=-n}^n \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} T_n^* h_i \right\| \leq \\ &\|T_n\| \left\| \sum_{i=-n}^n \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} h_i \right\| \leq \|T\| \left\| \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} T^{*-1} \psi_i \right\| \leq \|T\| \|T^{-1}\| \|f\|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by (1.2) and Theorem 1.1. (iii),

$$\|I - P_n\| \leq 1 + (\|G\| \|G^{-1}\|)^{1/2} < \infty, \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}.$$

This proves the estimate.  $\square$

By (2.2) and (2.4) it follows that,

$$\|(I - P_n)f\| \leq (1 + (\|G^{-1}\| \|G\|)^{1/2}) \text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n). \tag{2.5}$$

Hence, by (2.3), for all  $f \in \mathcal{H}$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|(I - P_n)f\| = 0. \tag{2.6}$$

We have proved the following result.

**Corollary 2.2 .** *If  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a Riesz basis and if  $f_n$  (formula (1.6)) is the minimum norm solution of the truncated problem (0.2), then  $\{f_n\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to the solution of problem (0.1).*

This applies in particular to biorthogonal sequences  $\{\psi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of a Riesz basis. It follows by definition of  $P_n$  that  $\psi_i^n = P_n \psi_i$ , for  $i \in \{-n, \dots, n\}$ . Hence by (2.6)

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\psi_i^n - \psi_i\| = 0, \tag{2.7}$$

for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ . This procedure of solving the truncated problem (0.2), instead of (0.1), is an application of a projection method of Natterer [8].

### 3 TRUNCATION ERROR FOR NONUNIFORM SAMPLING

In this section we derive a formula for the truncation error in the case of nonuniform sampling of a bandlimited function. We apply the results of the previous section in the case that  $\mathcal{H}$  is the space of bandlimited functions and  $\varphi_i := \text{sinc}_r(\cdot - t_i\pi/r)$ , where  $\{t_i\}$  is a sequence of real numbers. Here the *sinc*-function is given for  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ , by

$$\text{sinc}_r(t) := \begin{cases} \frac{\sin(rt)}{rt}, & t \neq 0 \\ 1, & t = 0 \end{cases}.$$

The space of bandlimited functions, also referred to as the Paley-Wiener space, consists of all  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ -functions  $f$  such that the Fourier transform of  $f$ , denoted by  $\hat{f}$ , is zero outside the interval  $[-r, r]$ .

**Definition 3.1.**  $\mathcal{P}_r := \{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) | \text{supp } \hat{f} \subset [-r, r]\}$

If we define the inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{P}_r}$  on  $\mathcal{P}_r$  by,

$$\langle f, g \rangle_{\mathcal{P}_r} := \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) \overline{g(x)} dx,$$

then  $\mathcal{P}_r$  is a Hilbert space. By the theorem of Paley-Wiener (see Young [12] Theorem 18, p. 101) any  $f \in \mathcal{P}_r$  can be extended to an entire function  $f : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  which satisfies  $|f(z)| \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{P}_r} e^{r|Imz|}$ , for all  $z \in \mathcal{C}$ . Hence any element of  $\mathcal{P}_r$  satisfies the inequality,

$$\|f\|_{\infty} \leq \|f\|_{\mathcal{P}_r}, \quad \forall f \in \mathcal{P}_r. \tag{3.1}$$

Here the  $\infty$ -norm is defined by  $\|f\|_{\infty} := \sup_{t \in \mathbb{R}} |f(t)|$ .

The system  $\{\varphi_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  is a Riesz basis for  $\mathcal{P}_r$  if the sequence of  $t_i$ 's satisfies

$$|t_i - i| \leq \alpha < 1/4, \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}. \tag{3.2}$$

If  $t_i = i$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ , then  $\{\varphi_i\}$  is an orthonormal basis for  $\mathbb{P}_r$ .  
 The point evaluation can be written in terms of the  $\varphi_i$ 's,

$$\langle f, \varphi_i \rangle_{P_r} = (\sqrt{\pi/r})f(t_i\pi/r), \quad \forall f \in \mathbb{P}_r.$$

So, with (1.3) we write an arbitrary element  $f$  lying in  $\mathcal{H} = \mathbb{P}_r$  as

$$f = \sum_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} (\sqrt{\pi/r})f(t_i\pi/r)\psi_i, \tag{3.3}$$

and the projection from  $f$  onto  $\mathcal{H}_n$  as (cf. definitions (2.1) and (1.5))

$$f_n := P_n f = \sum_{i=-n}^n (\sqrt{\pi/r})f(t_i\pi/r)\psi_i^n.$$

The distance from  $f$  to  $\mathcal{H}_n$  can be expressed in terms of the system  $\{h_i\}$  (cf. section 2),

$$\text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n) = \left( \sum_{|i|>n} |\langle f, h_i \rangle_{P_r}|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Because  $\{\varphi_i\}$  is a Riesz basis, we obtain by (1.1),

$$\text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n) = \left( \sum_{|i|>n} |\langle T^* f, \varphi_i \rangle_{P_r}|^2 \right)^{1/2} = \left( \sum_{|i|>n} (\pi/r) |(T^* f)(t_i\pi/r)|^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Generalizing Butzer [1], we assume  $T^* f$  to satisfy,

$$|(T^* f)(t)| \leq M_{T^* f} 1/|t|^\gamma, \tag{3.4}$$

for  $t \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$  and  $\gamma > 1/2$ . Here  $M_{T^* f}$  is a constant which depends on  $T^* f$ . It follows by a straightforward computation (for  $n > 0$ ), and by (3.4) that

$$\text{dist}(f, \mathcal{H}_n) \leq \sqrt{2} M_{T^* f} (r/\pi)^{(\gamma-1/2)} \frac{(n-1/4)^{(1-2\gamma)/2}}{\sqrt{2\gamma-1}}. \tag{3.5}$$

Define the truncation error as  $e_{tr} := \|f - f_n\|_\infty$ . By Theorem 2.1, and (3.5) we have

$$e_{tr} \leq \left( 1 + (\|G^{-1}\| \|G\|)^{1/2} \right) \left( \sqrt{2} M_{T^* f} (r/\pi)^{(\gamma-1/2)} \frac{(n-1/4)^{(1-2\gamma)/2}}{\sqrt{2\gamma-1}} \right). \tag{3.6}$$

A remark is in order. In the case of uniform sampling (i.e.  $\alpha = 0$  or, equivalently,  $t_i = i$  for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ )  $T^*$  is the identity operator on  $\mathbb{P}_r$ ;  $G$  and  $G^{-1}$  are the identity matrices. Hence, in the case of uniform sampling the biorthogonal system  $\{\psi_i\}$  is equal to the initial system  $\{\varphi_i\}$  and formula (3.3) reduces to the classical Shannon sampling series. In the case of nonuniform sampling (i.e.  $\alpha \neq 0$ ) the norms of  $G$  and  $G^{-1}$  are estimated in Zwaan [14],

$$\|G\|^{1/2} \leq 1 + \lambda \text{ and } \|G^{-1}\|^{1/2} \leq \frac{1}{1 - \lambda},$$

where  $\lambda := 1 - \cos \pi\alpha + \sin \pi\alpha$ .

In the following section we compare formula (3.6) with results from the literature.

4 CONCLUSIONS AND REMARKS

From (3.6) it follows that the moment problem (0.1) is stable for truncation (i.e.  $\lim f_n = f$ , for  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ), if the  $t_i$ 's satisfy (3.2). The rate of convergence is governed by the norms of the matrices  $G$  and  $G^{-1}$ . In the case of uniform sampling (i.e.  $\alpha = 0$  or, alternatively  $t_i = i$ , for  $i \in \mathbb{Z}$ ) the number  $\|G\|\|G^{-1}\|$  is equal to one, but if we sample nonuniformly, especially when  $\alpha$  is close to  $1/4$ , this term may become large. So, in the case of uniform sampling, the truncated solution  $f_n$  may converge faster to the solution  $f$  than in the case of nonuniform sampling.

Next we make some remarks on estimates of the truncation error which are given in the literature. The estimates given by Butzer [1], Butzer and Splettstösser [3], Butzer, Splettstösser and Stens [4] are valid for functions  $f$  which are sampled uniformly. Furthermore  $f$  is assumed to lie in the Lipschitz class of order  $\alpha$ , given by

$$\{f \in C(\mathbb{R}) \mid \sup_{|h| < \delta} \|f(\cdot + h) - f(\cdot)\| \leq L\delta^\alpha\}.$$

The estimate from Butzer [1], Lemma 2,

$$\left\| \sum_{|i| > n} \sqrt{\pi/r} f(i\pi/r) \right\| \leq \sqrt{2} M_f (r/\pi)^{\gamma-1/2} n^{(1-2\gamma)/2}, \tag{4.1}$$

holds for functions  $f$  that satisfy the additional estimate

$$|f(t)| \leq M_f 1/|t|^\gamma, \tag{4.2}$$

for  $t \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$ . This can be proved by straightforward computation. Note that for uniform sampling  $T^*$  is the identity operator on  $\mathbb{P}_r$ ;  $G$  and  $G^{-1}$  are the identity matrices. Hence condition (3.4) reduces to (4.2) and (3.6) reduces to an error bound which is similar to (4.1). By using *de la Vallée Poussin* kernels, Theorem 6.1. of Butzer and Splettstösser [3] provides the error bound, (if  $f$  satisfies (4.2) and if  $s$  is such that  $t \rightarrow t^s f(t)$  belongs to the Lipschitz class of order  $\alpha$ )

$$e_{\text{tr}} := \left\| f(\cdot) - \sum_{i=-n}^n f(i\pi/r) \text{sinc}_\pi(\cdot - i\pi/r) \right\| \leq c n^{-s-\alpha} \ln n.$$

Here  $c$  depends on  $\gamma$ ,  $L$ , and  $f$ . In Butzer [1] and Butzer, Splettstösser and Stens [4] a similar error is stated for functions  $f$  in a special subspace of  $L^1(\mathbb{R})$ ,

$$e_{\text{tr}} = O(n^{(-s-\alpha)}).$$

The truncation error is expressed in terms of its own energy, by Papoulis [9], p. 142, in the following manner. Define, for  $f \in \mathbb{P}_r$ ,

$$e_{\text{tr}}(t) := f(t) - \sum_{i=-n}^n \sqrt{\pi/r} f(i\pi/r) \text{sinc}_\pi(t - i\pi/r).$$

Since  $e_{\text{tr}} \in \mathbb{P}_r$ , it follows by (3.1) that  $|e_{\text{tr}}(t)| \leq \|e_{\text{tr}}(\cdot)\|_{L^2}$ .

In this paper we obtained a new bound for the truncation error in the case of nonuniform sampling, for functions  $f \in \mathbb{P}_r$ . We approximated the solution to the moment problem (0.1) and used this procedure to derive the error bound (3.6).

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