# Meshfree Approximation with MATLAB <br> Lecture II: RBF Interpolation and MLS Approximation 

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## Outline

(1) Introduction
(2) MLS Approximation
(3) MLS Approximation in MATLAB
4. Linking RBF Interpolation and MLS Approximation
(5) Generating Functions

6 Iterated AMLS Approximation
(7) Iterated AMLS Approximation in MATLAB

- Overview of MLS approximation
- Derive matrix-free meshfree approximation method for scattered data approximation based on MLS and approximate approximation $\longrightarrow$ approximate MLS
- Link (A)MLS and RBF methods


## Multivariate Kernel Interpolation

Use data-dependent linear function space

$$
\mathcal{P}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum_{j=1}^{N} c_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right), \quad \boldsymbol{x} \in \mathbb{R}^{s}
$$

Here $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^{s} \times \mathbb{R}^{s} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is strictly positive definite (reproducing) kernel

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Here $\Phi: \mathbb{R}^{s} \times \mathbb{R}^{s} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is strictly positive definite (reproducing) kernel
To find $c_{j}$ solve interpolation equations

$$
\mathcal{P}_{f}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)=f\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right), \quad i=1, \ldots, N
$$

Leads to linear system with matrix

$$
A_{i j}=\Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right), \quad i, j=1, \ldots, N
$$

## Matrix-free Methods

Kernel interpolation leads to linear system $\boldsymbol{A c}=\boldsymbol{f}$ with matrix

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Goal: Avoid solution of linear systems

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Goal: Avoid solution of linear systems

Use cardinal functions in span $\left\{\Phi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{1}\right), \ldots, \Phi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{N}\right)\right\}$

$$
u^{*}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)=\delta_{i j}, \quad i, j, \ldots, N
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Then

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$$

Problem: Cardinal functions difficult/expensive to find

## Cardinal Functions



Figure: Cardinal functions centered at an interior point: Gaussian interpolation with $\varepsilon=5$, 81 uniformly spaced points (left), multiquadric with $\varepsilon=5,81$ Halton points (right).

## MLS (Backus-Gilbert Formulation)

Assume

$$
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$$

with generating functions $\psi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)$

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Find $\Psi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)$ pointwise by solving a linearly constrained quadratic optimization problem.

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First discussed in [Bos \& Šalkauskas (1989)]
Contributions by [Allasia \& Giolito (1997), Farwig (1986), Farwig (1987), Farwig (1991), Levin (1998), Wendland (2001)] and many others

Pick positive weight functions $w\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)$ and minimize

$$
\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \Psi^{2}\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right) \frac{1}{w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{T}(\boldsymbol{x}) Q(\boldsymbol{x}) \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x})
$$

for fixed evaluation point $\boldsymbol{x}$, where

$$
\begin{equation*}
Q(\boldsymbol{x})=\operatorname{diag}\left(\frac{1}{w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{1}\right)}, \ldots, \frac{1}{w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{N}\right)}\right) \tag{1}
\end{equation*}
$$

and $\boldsymbol{\Psi}=\left[\Psi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{1}\right), \ldots, \Psi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{N}\right)\right]^{T}$

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$$

and $\boldsymbol{\Psi}=\left[\Psi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{1}\right), \ldots, \Psi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{N}\right)\right]^{T}$
subject to polynomial reproduction (discrete moment conditions)
$\sum_{i=1}^{N} p\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-\boldsymbol{x}\right) \Psi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)=p(\mathbf{0}), \quad$ for all $p \in \Pi_{d}^{S} \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad A(\boldsymbol{x}) \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x})=\boldsymbol{p}(\mathbf{0})$ where $A_{j i}(\boldsymbol{x})=p_{j}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-\boldsymbol{x}\right), j=1, \ldots, m=\binom{d+s}{d}, i=1, \ldots, N$

Using Lagrange multipliers $\boldsymbol{\lambda}(\boldsymbol{x})=\left[\lambda_{1}(\boldsymbol{x}), \ldots, \lambda_{m}(\boldsymbol{x})\right]^{T}$ we minimize

$$
\frac{1}{2} \boldsymbol{\Psi}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{x}) Q(\boldsymbol{x}) \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x})-\boldsymbol{\lambda}^{\top}(\boldsymbol{x})[A(\boldsymbol{x}) \boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x})-\boldsymbol{p}(\mathbf{0})]
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$$

This leads to the system

$$
\left[\begin{array}{cc}
Q(\boldsymbol{x}) & -A^{T}(\boldsymbol{x}) \\
A(\boldsymbol{x}) & O
\end{array}\right]\left[\begin{array}{l}
\boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) \\
\boldsymbol{\lambda}(\boldsymbol{x})
\end{array}\right]=\left[\begin{array}{c}
0 \\
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$$

with solution

$$
\begin{aligned}
\lambda(\boldsymbol{x}) & =\left(A(\boldsymbol{x}) Q^{-1}(\boldsymbol{x}) A^{T}(\boldsymbol{x})\right)^{-1} \boldsymbol{p}(\mathbf{0}) \\
\boldsymbol{\Psi}(\boldsymbol{x}) & =Q^{-1}(\boldsymbol{x}) A^{T}(\boldsymbol{x}) \lambda(\boldsymbol{x})
\end{aligned}
$$

If we use a Gram system, the $\lambda_{k}(\boldsymbol{x})$ are the solution of

$$
G(x) \lambda(x)=p(0)
$$

with Gram matrix

$$
G_{j, k}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum_{i=1}^{N} p_{j}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-\boldsymbol{x}\right) p_{k}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-\boldsymbol{x}\right) w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)
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(Small) linear system for each $\boldsymbol{x}$

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and $\boldsymbol{p}=\left[p_{1}, \ldots, p_{m}\right]^{\top}, \quad m=\binom{d+s}{d}$
(Small) linear system for each $\boldsymbol{x}$
Following either approach we have componentwise

$$
\psi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)=w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right) \sum_{j=1}^{m} \lambda_{j}(\boldsymbol{x}) p_{j}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-\boldsymbol{x}\right), \quad i=1, \ldots, N
$$

## Shepard's Method

Example $(d=0)$
For any positive weight $w$

$$
\mathcal{P}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum_{j=1}^{N} f\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right) \underbrace{\frac{w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)}{\sum_{k=1}^{N} w\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{k}\right)}}_{=: \Psi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)}
$$

partition of unity
Has approximation order $\mathcal{O}(h)$ if $w\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ has support size $\rho_{j} \propto h$
Does not interpolate - only approximates data

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Has approximation order $\mathcal{O}(h)$ if $w\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ has support size $\rho_{j} \propto h$
Does not interpolate - only approximates data

Also known as kernel method or local polynomial regression

## Example

Test function

$$
f_{s}(\boldsymbol{x})=4^{s} \prod_{d=1}^{s} x_{d}\left(1-x_{d}\right), \quad \boldsymbol{x}=\left(x_{1}, \ldots, x_{s}\right) \in[0,1]^{s}
$$

Use compactly supported weights

$$
w\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{x}\right)=\left(1-\varepsilon\left\|\boldsymbol{x}-\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right\|\right)_{+}^{4}\left(4 \varepsilon\left\|\boldsymbol{x}-\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right\|+1\right)
$$

so that evaluation matrix is sparse Stationary approximation scheme: $\varepsilon=N^{1 / s}$

Program (ShepardCS_sD.m)

```
    1 S = 2; N = 289; M = 500;
    2 global rbf; rbf_definition; ep = nthroot (N,s);
    3 [dsites, N] = CreatePoints(N, s,' h');
    4 ctrs = dsites;
    5 epoints = CreatePoints(M,s,'r');
    6 f = testfunctionsD(dsites);
    7 \text { DM_eval = DistanceMatrixCSRBF(epoints,ctrs,ep);}
    8 EM = rbf(ep,DM__eval);
    9 EM = spdiags(1./ (EM*ones (N, 1)) , O,M,M) *EM;
10 Pf = EM*f;
11 exact = testfunctionsD(epoints);
12 maxerr = norm(Pf-exact,inf)
13 rms_err = norm(Pf-exact)/sqrt(M)
```


## Remark

- DistanceMatrixCSRBF returns a sparse matrix
- $\quad \Longrightarrow \quad$ rbf defined differently


## Compactly supported RBFs/weights

To get a sparse matrix from DistanceMatrixRBF we express compactly supported functions in a shifted form $\widetilde{\varphi}=\varphi(1-\cdot)$ so that $\widetilde{\varphi}(1-\varepsilon r)=\varphi(\varepsilon r)$

| $k$ | $\varphi_{3, k}(r)$ | $\widetilde{\varphi}_{3, k}(r)$ | smoothness |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 0 | $(1-r)_{+}^{2}$ | $r_{+}^{2}$ | $C^{0}$ |
| 1 | $(1-r)_{+}^{4}(4 r+1)$ | $r_{+}^{4}(5-4 r)$ | $C^{2}$ |
| 2 | $(1-r)_{+}^{6}\left(35 r^{2}+18 r+3\right)$ | $r_{+}^{6}\left(56-88 r+35 r^{2}\right)$ | $C^{4}$ |

Table: Wendland functions $\varphi_{s, k}$ and $\widetilde{\varphi}_{s, k}=\varphi_{s, k}(1-\cdot)$

## $C^{2}$ Wendland function $\varphi_{3,1}$ in MatLAB

Instead of (full matrix version)
$r b f=@(e, r) \max (1-e * r, 0) . \wedge 4 . *(4 * e * r+1)$;
we now write
rbf $=$ @(e,r)r.^4.*(5*spones(r)-4*r);

## Remark

- We use spones since 5-4*r would have generated a full matrix (with many additional - and unwanted - ones).

```
Program (DistanceMatrixCSRBF.m)
    1 function DM = DistanceMatrixCSRBF(dsites,ctrs,ep)
    2 N = size(dsites,1); M = size(ctrs,1);
    % Build k-D tree for data sites
    % For each ctr/dsite, find the dsites/ctrs
    % in its support along with u-distance u=1-ep*r
    supp = 1/ep; nzmax = 25*N; DM = spalloc(N,M,nzmax);
    if M > N % faster if more centers than data sites
        [tmp,tmp,T] = kdtree(ctrs,[]);
        for i = 1:N
        [pts,dist,idx]=kdrangequery(T,dsites(i, :),supp);
        DM(i,idx) = 1-ep*dist;
    end
    else
        [tmp,tmp,T] = kdtree(dsites, []);
        for j = 1:M
        [pts,dist,idx]=kdrangequery(T,ctrs(j,:),supp);
        DM(idx,j) = 1-ep*dist;
        end
    end
    17 kdtree([], [],T);
```





## RBF Interpolation via MLS Approximation [Zhang (2007)]

## MLS Approximation

## Continuous Moment Conditions

## Approximate MLS Approximation

## Residual Iteration

## RBF Interpolation

In MLS approximation the generating functions satisfy discrete moment conditions

$$
\sum_{i=1}^{N} p\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}-\boldsymbol{x}\right) \Psi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)=p(\mathbf{0}), \quad \text { for all } p \in \Pi_{d}^{s}
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$$

Now we impose continuous moment conditions. If $\varphi$ is radial we want

$$
\int_{\mathbb{R}^{s}}\|\boldsymbol{x}\|^{2 k} \varphi(\|\boldsymbol{x}\|) d \boldsymbol{x}=\delta_{k, 0} \quad \text { for } 0 \leq k \leq d
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## Remark

- The concept of approximate approximations was first suggested by Maz'ya in the early 1990s.
- See the recent book [Maz'ya and Schmidt (2007)].

If $\varphi$ satisfies the continuous moment conditions, then approximate approximation guarantees that

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\frac{1}{\mathcal{D}^{s / 2}} \sum_{j=1}^{N} f\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right) \varphi\left(\left\|\frac{\boldsymbol{x}-\boldsymbol{x}_{j}}{\sqrt{\mathcal{D}} h}\right\|\right)
$$

approximates the data with

$$
\left\|f-\mathcal{Q}_{f}\right\|_{\infty}=\mathcal{O}\left(h^{2 d+2}\right)+\epsilon(\varphi, \mathcal{D})
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provided $\boldsymbol{x}_{j} \in \mathbb{R}^{s}$ are uniformly spaced and $\mathcal{D} \geq 1$

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## Remark

- $\epsilon(\varphi, \mathcal{D})$ is called saturation error
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Remark

- $\epsilon(\varphi, \mathcal{D})$ is called saturation error
- It depends only on $\varphi$ and the initial scale factor $\mathcal{D}$
- By choosing an appropriate $\mathcal{D}$, the saturation error may be pushed down to the level of roundoff error.


## Saturated Gaussian Interpolation

Interpolate with

$$
\varphi(r)=e^{-\frac{r^{2}}{\mathcal{D} h^{2}}}
$$



## Summary so far

| Data: $\left\{\boldsymbol{x}_{j}, f_{j}\right\}, j=1, \ldots, N$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| RBF interpolation | Approximate MLS approximation |
| $\mathcal{P}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum c_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ | $\mathcal{Q}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum f_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ |
| $\mathcal{P}_{f}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)=f_{i}$ (interpolation) | $\mathcal{Q}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right) \approx f_{i}$ (approximation) |
| $c_{j}$ unknown | $\Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ unknown |
| $\Phi$ strictly positive definite | $\Phi$ meets continuous moment conditions |
| solve (large) linear system | no linear system to solve |

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| $\Phi$ strictly positive definite | $\Phi$ meets continuous moment conditions |
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## Remark

We want to find basic (generating) functions that are both positive definite and satisfy moment conditions.

## Some not uncommon misconceptions

- Everyone knows: interpolation matrix is non-singular if $\Phi$ is strictly positive definite


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- The literature tells us

Theorem
$\varphi\left(\|\cdot\|^{2}\right)$ is strictly positive definite and radial on $\mathbb{R}^{s}$ for all $s$
$\varphi$ is completely monotone and not constant.

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$$

- Consequence of this definition: $\varphi$ is non-negative


## All we really need is

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Example

- Those well-known non-negative functions (such as Gaussians, inverse MQs)
- Compactly supported RBFs of Wendland, Wu and Buhmann

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## Example

- Those well-known non-negative functions (such as Gaussians, inverse MQs)
- Compactly supported RBFs of Wendland, Wu and Buhmann
- But also
- oscillatory RBFs of [Fornberg et al. (2004)] (Poisson, Schoenberg)
- Laguerre-Gaussians and generalized IMQs (below)


## Definition (Laguerre-Gaussians)

$$
\phi(t)=\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi^{s}}} e^{-t} L_{d}^{s / 2}(t)
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Theorem ([Zhang (2007)]) $\Phi(\boldsymbol{x})=\phi\left(\|\boldsymbol{x}\|^{2}\right)$ is SPD and satisfies $\int_{\mathbb{R}^{s}} \boldsymbol{x}^{\alpha} \Phi(\boldsymbol{x}) d \boldsymbol{x}=\delta_{\boldsymbol{\alpha}, \mathbf{0}}$, $0 \leq|\alpha| \leq 2 d+1$.

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Theorem ([Zhang (2007)])
$\Phi(\boldsymbol{x})=\phi\left(\|\boldsymbol{x}\|^{2}\right)$ is SPD and satisfies $\int_{\mathbb{R}^{s}} \boldsymbol{x}^{\alpha} \Phi(\boldsymbol{x}) d \boldsymbol{x}=\delta_{\alpha, 0}$,
$0 \leq|\alpha| \leq 2 d+1$.
Examples: $\Phi(\boldsymbol{x})=e^{-\|\boldsymbol{x}\|^{2}} \times$ table entry

| $s \backslash d$ | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}\left(\frac{3}{2}-\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)$ | $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}}\left(\frac{15}{8}-\frac{5}{2}\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}+\frac{1}{2}\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{4}\right)$ |
| 2 | $\frac{1}{\pi}$ | $\frac{1}{\pi}\left(2-\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)$ | $\frac{1}{\pi}\left(3-3\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}+\frac{1}{2}\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{4}\right)$ |
| 3 | $\frac{1}{\pi^{3 / 2}}$ | $\frac{1}{\pi^{3 / 2}}\left(\frac{5}{2}-\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)$ | $\frac{1}{\pi^{3 / 2}}\left(\frac{35}{8}-\frac{7}{2}\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}+\frac{1}{2}\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{4}\right)$ |



Figure: Laguerre-Gaussians with $s=1, d=2$ (left) and $s=2, d=2$ (right) centered at the origin.

## Definition (Generalized Inverse Multiquadrics)

$$
\phi(t)=\frac{1}{\pi^{s / 2}} \frac{1}{(1+t)^{2 d+s}} \sum_{j=0}^{d} \frac{(-1)^{j}(2 d+s-j-1)!(1+t)^{j}}{(d-j)!!!\Gamma(d+s / 2-j)}
$$

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Examples: $\Phi(\boldsymbol{x})$

| $s \backslash d$ | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 1 | $\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}}$ | $\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\left(3-\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{3}}$ | $\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\left(5-10\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{4}\right)}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{5}}$ |
| 2 | $\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{1}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{2}}$ | $\frac{2}{\pi} \frac{\left(2-\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{4}}$ | $\frac{3}{\pi} \frac{\left(3-6\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{4}\right)}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{6}}$ |
| 3 | $\frac{4}{\pi^{2}} \frac{1}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{3}}$ | $\frac{4}{\pi^{2}} \frac{\left(5-3\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{5}}$ | $\frac{8}{\pi^{2}} \frac{\left(7-14\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}+3\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{4}\right)}{\left(1+\\|\boldsymbol{x}\\|^{2}\right)^{7}}$ |




Figure: Generalized inverse MQ with $s=1, d=2$ (left) and $s=2, d=2$ (right) centered at the origin.

| Data: $\left\{\boldsymbol{x}_{j}, f_{j}\right\}, j=1, \ldots, N$ |  |
| :---: | :---: |
| RBF interpolation | Approximate MLS approximation |
| $\mathcal{P}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum c_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ | $\mathcal{Q}_{f}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum f_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ |
| $\mathcal{P}_{f}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right)=f_{i}$ (interpolation) | $\mathcal{Q}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}\right) \approx f_{i}$ (approximation) |
| $c_{j}$ unknown | $\Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)$ unknown |
| $\Phi$ strictly positive definite | $\Phi$ meets continuous moment conditions |
| solve (large) linear system | no linear system to solve |


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| solve (large) linear system | no linear system to solve |

## Iterated approximate MLS approximation

$\Phi$ strictly positive definite and meets continuous moment conditions
$\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(0)}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum f_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right) \quad$ (approximate MLS approximation) $\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(1)}(\boldsymbol{x})=\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(0)}(\boldsymbol{x})+\sum\left[f_{j}-\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(0)}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)\right] \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right) \quad$ (residual update) $\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(\infty)}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum c_{j} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right) \quad$ (RBF interpolation)

## Properties of RBF and MLS methods

- RBFs can be applied without any restriction on the location of the data sites
- approximate MLS (AMLS) mainly applicable to uniformly spaced data


## Remark

Approximate approximation for scattered data is significantly more complicated than in the case of uniform data (see, e.g., [Maz'ya and Schmidt (2007)]).

## Other properties of RBF and AMLS approximation

- RBFs are known to yield the best approximation to given (scattered) data with respect to the native space norm of the basic function used.
- With RBFs one needs to solve a (generally) large system of linear equations which can also be ill-conditioned.
- Using the AMLS method the solution is obtained via a simple sum based directly on the given data. Thus, the AMLS method is a quasi-interpolation approach.
- The drawback associated with the simplicity of the AMLS method is its lesser degree of accuracy.


## Iterative Refinement

For solution of $\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{b}$ in numerical linear algebra
(1) Compute an approximate solution $\boldsymbol{x}_{0}$ of $A \boldsymbol{x}=\boldsymbol{b}$
(2) For $n=1,2, \ldots$ do
(1) Compute the residual $\boldsymbol{r}_{n}=\boldsymbol{b}-\boldsymbol{A} \boldsymbol{x}_{n-1}$
(2) Solve $A \boldsymbol{e}_{n}=\boldsymbol{r}_{n}$
(3) Update $\boldsymbol{x}_{n}=\boldsymbol{x}_{n-1}+\boldsymbol{e}_{n}$

## Iterative Refinement for AMLS

(1) Initialize $\boldsymbol{r}^{(0)}=\boldsymbol{f}$

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(0)}(\boldsymbol{x})=\sum_{j=1}^{N} r_{j}^{(0)} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)
$$

(2) For $n=1,2, \ldots$ do
(1) Find the new residuals at the data points

$$
r_{i}^{(n)}=r_{i}^{(n-1)}-\sum_{j=1}^{N} r_{j}^{(n-1)} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{i}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right), \quad i=1, \ldots, N
$$

(2) Update the approximation

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n)}(\boldsymbol{x})=\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n-1)}(\boldsymbol{x})+\sum_{j=1}^{N} r_{j}^{(n)} \Phi\left(\boldsymbol{x}, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)
$$

Theorem
Part I (without acceleration)

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}=: \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n) T} \boldsymbol{f},
$$

i.e., $\left\{\Phi^{(n)}\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{1}\right), \ldots, \Phi^{(n)}\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{N}\right)\right\}$ provides new - approximately cardinal — basis for $\operatorname{span}\left\{\Phi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{1}\right), \ldots, \Phi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{N}\right)\right\}$.

## Theorem

Part I (without acceleration)

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Part II (with acceleration)

$$
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{2^{n-1}}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f} .
$$

## Theorem

Part I (without acceleration)

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Part II (with acceleration)

$$
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{2^{n}-1}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
$$

## Remark

Theorem can be formulated for any quasi-interpolation scheme provided iteration converges $(\|I-A\|<1)$ and limiting interpolant exists (A non-singular).

## Proof of Part I.

## By induction

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)} \stackrel{\text { def }}{=} \mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n)}+\sum_{j=1}^{N}\left[f\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)-\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n)}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)\right] \Phi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)
$$

## Proof of Part I.

## By induction

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\begin{aligned}
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& \stackrel{\text { IH }}{=} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}+\sum_{j=1}^{N}\left[f\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)-\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left(\boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right) \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}\right] \Phi\left(\cdot, \boldsymbol{x}_{j}\right)
\end{aligned}
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& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}+\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
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& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}+\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\end{aligned}
$$

Simplify further

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)} & =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I+\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k+1}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{n+1}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n+1) T} \boldsymbol{f}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Proof of Part II.

As in Part I: $\quad \mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}+\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}$

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Replace $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}$ by $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n) T}$ :

$$
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}+\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n) T}\left[I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
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\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)} & =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k} \boldsymbol{f}+\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n) T}\left[I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n) T}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\end{aligned}
$$

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& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(n) T}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{2 n+1}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(2 n+1) T} \boldsymbol{f}=\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(2 n+1)}
\end{aligned}
$$

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& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[\sum_{k=0}^{2 n+1}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(2 n+1) T} \boldsymbol{f}=\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(2 n+1)}
\end{aligned}
$$

We are done by observing that the upper limit of summation satisfies $\tilde{a}_{n+1}=2 \tilde{a}_{n}+1, \tilde{a}_{0}=0$, i.e., $\tilde{a}_{n}=2^{n}-1$.

## What about convergence?

- Necessary and sufficient condition for convergence: $\|I-A\|_{2}<1$


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- Necessary and sufficient condition for convergence: $\|I-A\|_{2}<1$
- Sufficient condition:

$$
\max _{i=1,2, \ldots, N}\left\{\sum_{j=1}^{N}\left|A_{i, j}\right|\right\}<2
$$

Here $A$ is specially scaled. For example, scaled s-dimensional Gaussian,

$$
\varphi(r)=\frac{\varepsilon^{s}}{\sqrt{\pi^{s}}} e^{-\varepsilon^{2} r^{2} / h^{2}}
$$

For proofs of both see [F. \& Zhang (2007)].

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For proofs of both see [F. \& Zhang (2007)].
Remark

- For convergence $\varepsilon$ must be chosen quite small.
- For such a choice the iteration will converge very slowly.
- BUT, allows stable computation for small $\varepsilon$

```
Program (IAMLS_sD.m)
    \(1 \mathrm{~s}=2 ; \mathrm{N}=289 ; \mathrm{M}=500 ; \operatorname{maxn}=50\);
    2 global rbf; rbf_definition; \(D=2 \star s\);
    3 [dsites, N] = CreatePoints(N,s,'h');
    4 ctrs = dsites;
    5 epoints = CreatePoints(M,s,'r');
    6 rhs \(=\) testfunctionsD(dsites);
    \(h=1 /(n t h r o o t(N, s)-1) ; ~ e p=1 /(\operatorname{sqrt}(D) * h) ;\)
    DM_data = DistanceMatrix(dsites,ctrs);
    IM \(=\) rbf (ep,DM_data) /(sqrt (pi*D)^s);
10 DM_eval = DistanceMatrix(epoints,ctrs);
\(11 \mathrm{EM}=\mathrm{rbf}\left(\mathrm{ep}, \mathrm{DM} \_\right.\)eval)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
\(12 \mathrm{Pf}=\mathrm{EM} *\) rhs;
13 maxerr(1) = max (abs(Pf - exact));
14 rms_err(1) = norm(Pf-exact)/sqrt(M);
15 for \(\mathrm{n}=2: \max \mathrm{n}\)
20 end
```



Figure: Convergence of iterated AMLS approximant for 1089 Halton points ( $\varepsilon=16$, left) and 289 Halton points ( $\varepsilon=1$,right).


Figure: Comparison for RBF interpolation (top) and IAMLS approximation (bottom) for 1089 Halton points ( $\varepsilon=16$, left, errors) and 289 Halton points ( $\varepsilon=1$, right, fits).

Franke-like test function



Figure: Accuracy and stability of RBF interpolant, AMLS approximant, and iterated AMLS approximant for 1089 Halton data points in 2D.

- $\varepsilon$ "large" if $\varepsilon>38$ (spiky surfaces for both RBF and AMLS)
- $\varepsilon$ too large for convergence (maximum row sum $>2$ ) if $\varepsilon>48$
- Rapid convergence for $38<\varepsilon<58$ (spiky surface, but IAMLS usually smoother)
- "Good" interpolant (slow convergence of IAMLS) for $12<\varepsilon<38$, often contains "optimal" $\varepsilon$
- Small $\varepsilon(\varepsilon<12$ here), then IAMLS more stable and may overcome ill-conditioning


## From the proof of Part I:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)} & =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I+\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k+1}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I+\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}(I-A)\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\end{aligned}
$$

## From the proof of Part I:

$$
\begin{aligned}
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& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I+\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}(I-A)\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, with $P^{(n)}=\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}$, evaluation on the data sites yields

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)}=A\left[I+P^{(n)}(I-A)\right] \boldsymbol{f}
$$

From the proof of Part I:

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)} & =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I+\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k+1}\right] \boldsymbol{f} \\
& =\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T}\left[I+\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}(I-A)\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\end{aligned}
$$

Therefore, with $P^{(n)}=\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}$, evaluation on the data sites yields

$$
\mathcal{Q}_{f}^{(n+1)}=A\left[I+P^{(n)}(I-A)\right] \boldsymbol{f}
$$

or

$$
P^{(n+1)}=I+P^{(n)}(I-A)
$$

## Program (IAMLSVectorized_sD.m)

```
    1
    2
3
```

    \(\mathrm{S}=2 ; \mathrm{N}=289 ; \mathrm{M}=500 ; \operatorname{maxn}=50\);
    ```
    \(\mathrm{S}=2 ; \mathrm{N}=289 ; \mathrm{M}=500 ; \operatorname{maxn}=50\);
    global rbf; rbf_definition; \(D=2 * s ;\)
    global rbf; rbf_definition; \(D=2 * s ;\)
    [dsites, \(N\) ] = CreatePoints(N,s,'h');
    [dsites, \(N\) ] = CreatePoints(N,s,'h');
    ctrs \(=\) dsites; respts \(=\) dsites;
    ctrs \(=\) dsites; respts \(=\) dsites;
    epoints \(=\) CreatePoints (M,s,'r');
    epoints \(=\) CreatePoints (M,s,'r');
    rhs \(=\) testfunctionsD(dsites);
    rhs \(=\) testfunctionsD(dsites);
    \(h=1 /(n t h r o o t(N, s)-1) ; ~ e p=1 /(\operatorname{sqrt}(D) * h) ;\)
    \(h=1 /(n t h r o o t(N, s)-1) ; ~ e p=1 /(\operatorname{sqrt}(D) * h) ;\)
    DM_data = DistanceMatrix(dsites,ctrs);
    DM_data = DistanceMatrix(dsites,ctrs);
    IM = rbf (ep,DM_data)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
    IM = rbf (ep,DM_data)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
    DM_eval = DistanceMatrix(epoints,ctrs);
    DM_eval = DistanceMatrix(epoints,ctrs);
EM = rbf(ep,DM_eval)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
EM = rbf(ep,DM_eval)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
    \(\mathrm{P}=\) eye (N) ;
    \(\mathrm{P}=\) eye (N) ;
    for \(\mathrm{n}=1: \operatorname{maxn}\)
    for \(\mathrm{n}=1: \operatorname{maxn}\)
        \(P=\) eye (N) + P* (eye (N) -IM);
        \(P=\) eye (N) + P* (eye (N) -IM);
        Pf \(=E M * P * r h s ;\)
        Pf \(=E M * P * r h s ;\)
    maxerr(n) \(=\) norm(Pf-exact,inf);
    maxerr(n) \(=\) norm(Pf-exact,inf);
    rms_err(n) \(=\) norm(Pf-exact)/sqrt (M) ;
    rms_err(n) \(=\) norm(Pf-exact)/sqrt (M) ;
end
```

end

```

From the proof of Part II:
\[
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\]

From the proof of Part II:
\[
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\]

Therefore, with \(P^{(n)}=\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\), evaluation on the data sites yields
\[
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)}=A P^{(n)}\left[2 I-A P^{(n)}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\]

From the proof of Part II:
\[
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)}=\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{T} \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\left[2 I-A \sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\]

Therefore, with \(P^{(n)}=\sum_{k=0}^{n}(I-A)^{k}\), evaluation on the data sites yields
\[
\widetilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{f}^{(n+1)}=A P^{(n)}\left[2 I-A P^{(n)}\right] \boldsymbol{f}
\]
or
\[
P^{(n+1)}=P^{(n)}\left[2 I-A P^{(n)}\right]
\]

\section*{Program (IAMLSAccel_sD.m)}
```

    \(1 \mathrm{~s}=2 ; \mathrm{N}=289 ; \mathrm{M}=500 ; \operatorname{maxn}=50 ;\)
    2 global rbf; rbf_definition; \(\mathrm{D}=2 * s\);
    3 [dsites, N] = CreatePoints(N,s,'h');
    4 ctrs = dsites;
    5 epoints = CreatePoints(M,s,'r');
    6 rhs = testfunctionsD(dsites);
    7 h = 1/(nthroot(N,s)-1); ep = 1/(sqrt(D)*h);
    8 DM_data = DistanceMatrix(dsites,ctrs);
    9 IM = rbf(ep,DM_data)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
    10
DM_eval = DistanceMatrix(epoints,ctrs);
11 EM = rbf(ep,DM_eval)/(sqrt(pi*D)^s);
$12 \mathrm{P}=$ eye(N); AP = IM*P;
13 for $\mathrm{n}=1: \operatorname{maxn}$

```


Figure: Errors after \(n\) iterations for 1089 Halton points (Gaussians with \(\varepsilon=16\) ). \(n\) accelerated iterations correspond to \(2^{n}-1\) iterations without acceleration.
- A few iterations of accelerated iterated AMLS can be considered as an efficient and numerically stable alternative to the RBF interpolation approach.
- While the initial iterate of the algorithm is an AMLS approximation designed for uniformly spaced data, we can see how the algorithm generates an equivalently nice solution even when the data sites are irregularly distributed.
- Convergence results for approximate approximation can be transferred to the limiting RBF interpolation. This explains saturation of stationary RBF interpolation.
- Applications of iterated AMLS to
- preconditioning (next lecture)
- smoothing of noisy data (lecture 5)

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