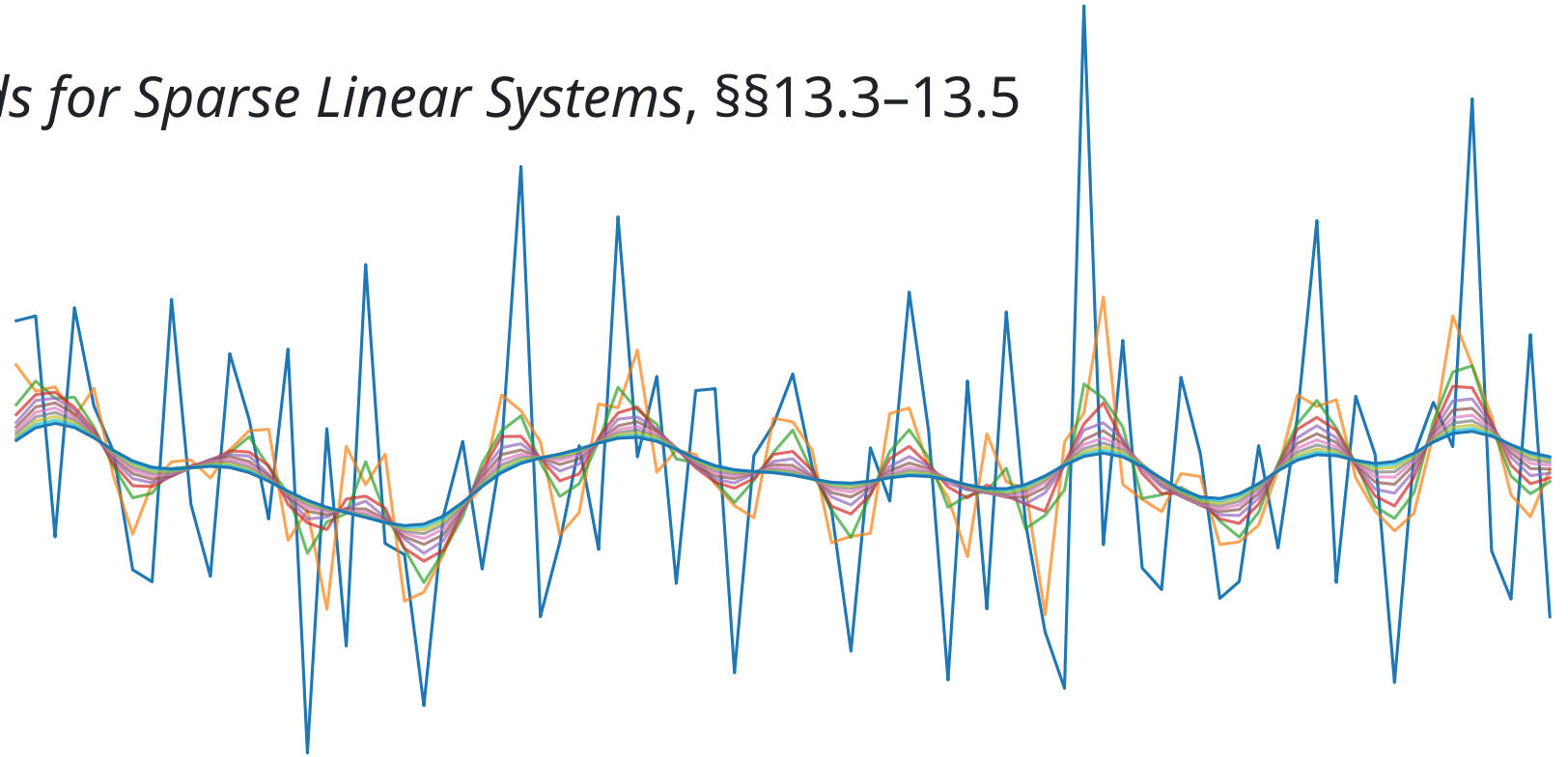


# Multigrid Methods

Y. Saad, *Iterative Methods for Sparse Linear Systems*, §§13.3–13.5

**Presenter: Jiaze Li**



**"Talk is cheap. Show me the code."** – Linus Torvalds

Code is available on [Li-Jesse-Jiaze/multigrid-playbook](#).

# Model Problem

1D model problem

$$\begin{aligned} -u_{xx} &= f \\ u(0) &= u(1) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

With finite differences

$$\frac{-u_{i-1} + 2u_i - u_{i+1}}{h^2} = f_i \quad i = 1, \dots, n \quad u_0 = u_{n+1} = 0$$

As matrix form

$$\frac{1}{h^2} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & 2 & -1 \\ & & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{bmatrix}$$

## Use the Jacobi Method

Solve the problem

$$Ax = b$$

Iteratively

$$x^{(1)} = x^{(0)} + D^{-1}r^{(0)}$$

Or consider it as a gradient descent with fixed step size 1 and preconditioner  $D^{-1}$

Exact solution

$$x^*$$

Error

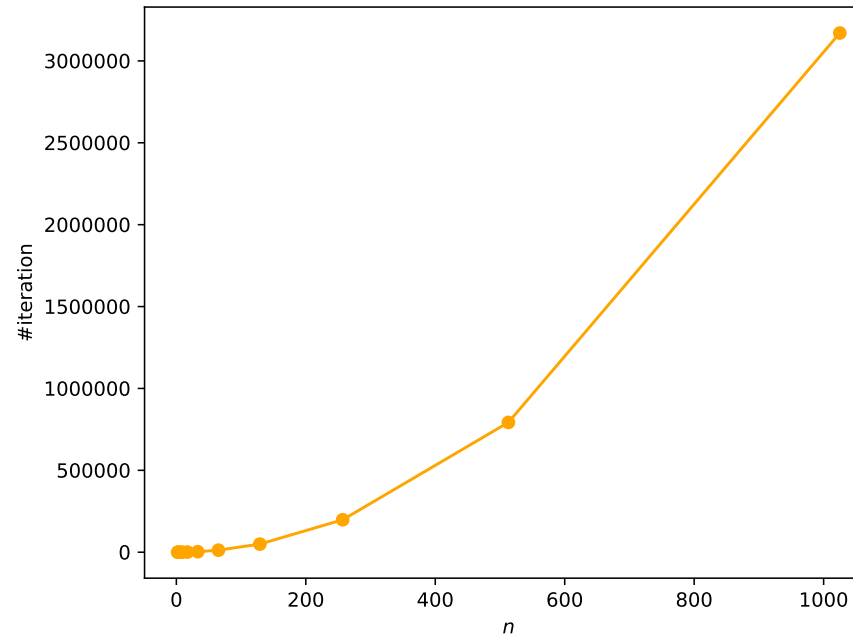
$$e^{(0)} = x^* - x^{(0)}$$

Residual

$$r^{(0)} = b - Ax^{(0)} = Ae^{(0)}$$

## Some Convergence Test

The number of iterations required to get the tolerance of  $1.0\text{E-}10$  (RMS residual norm)



Burkardt, J., 2011. Jacobi Iterative Solution of Poisson's Equation in 1D [online]

The computational cost is about  $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ . But why is that? Let's look at the details.

Look at the matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

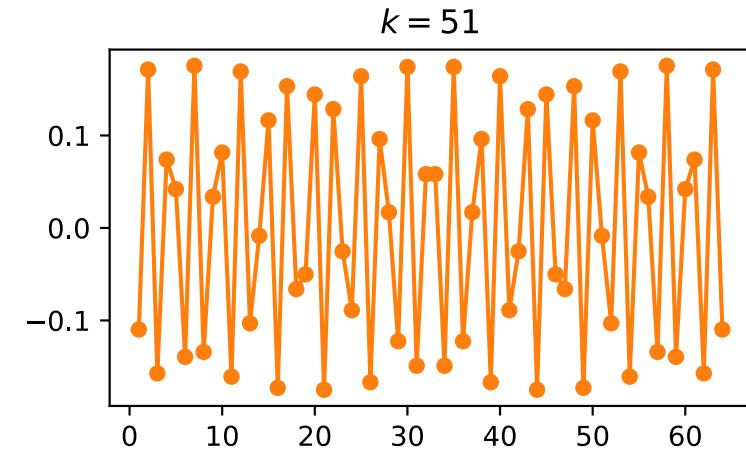
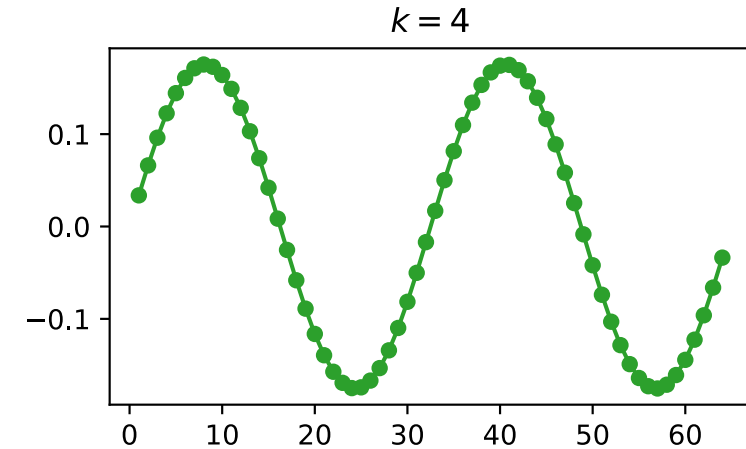
The eigenvalues

$$\lambda_k = 4 \sin^2 \left( \frac{k\pi}{2(n+1)} \right)$$

The eigenvectors (are Fourier modes)

$$v_k[j] = \sin \left( \frac{(j+1) * k\pi}{n+1} \right)$$

Eigenvectors for  $n = 64$



Performs like **low** and **high** frequencies

# What does Jacobi do to error?

The error propagation

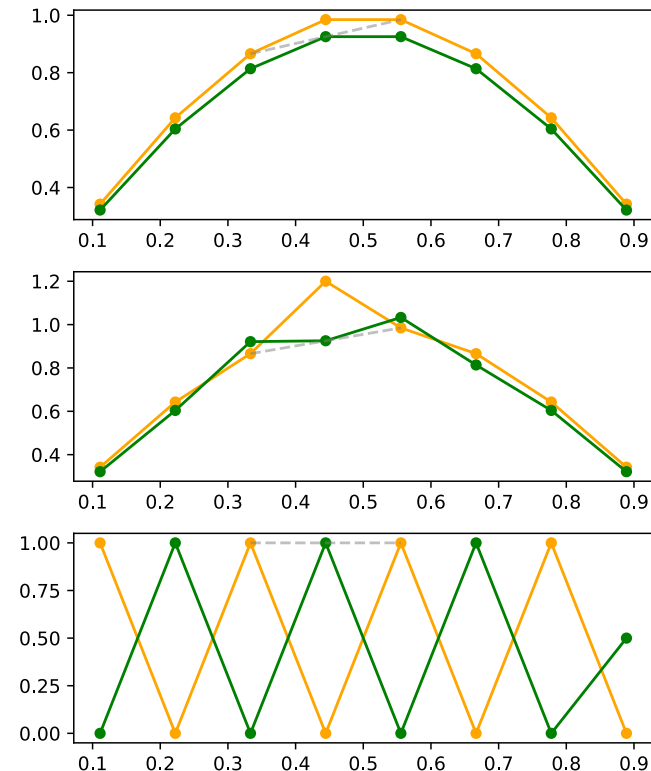
$$e \leftarrow Te \quad T = I - D^{-1}A$$

$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & & & \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ & & & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is averaging (like a mean filter)

$$e_i^{\text{new}} \leftarrow \frac{1}{2} (e_{i-1}^{\text{old}} + e_{i+1}^{\text{old}})$$

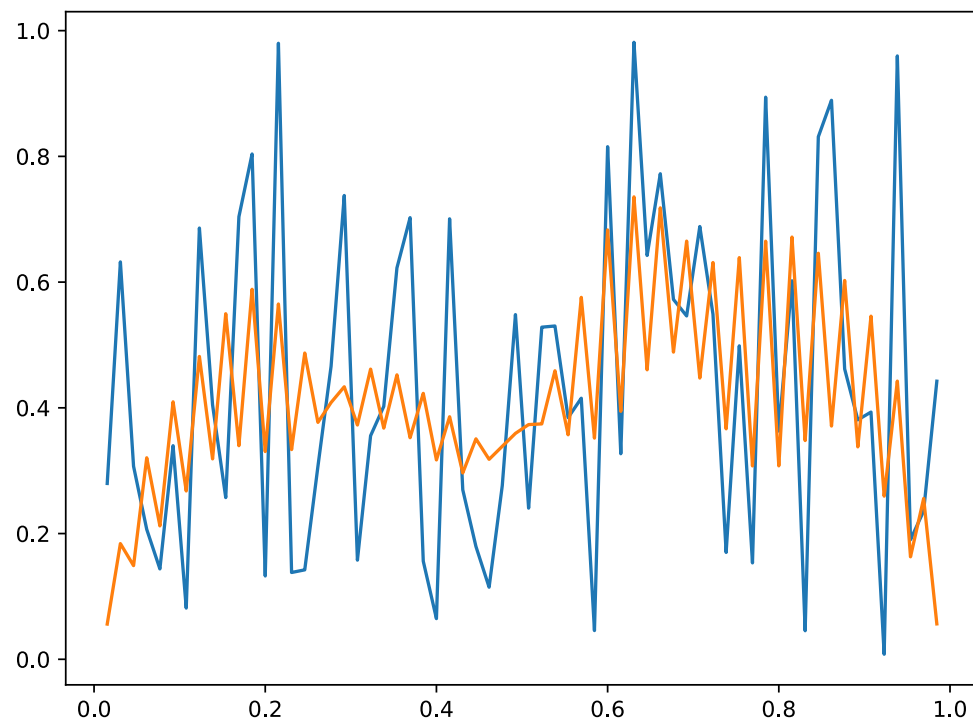
For different types of error



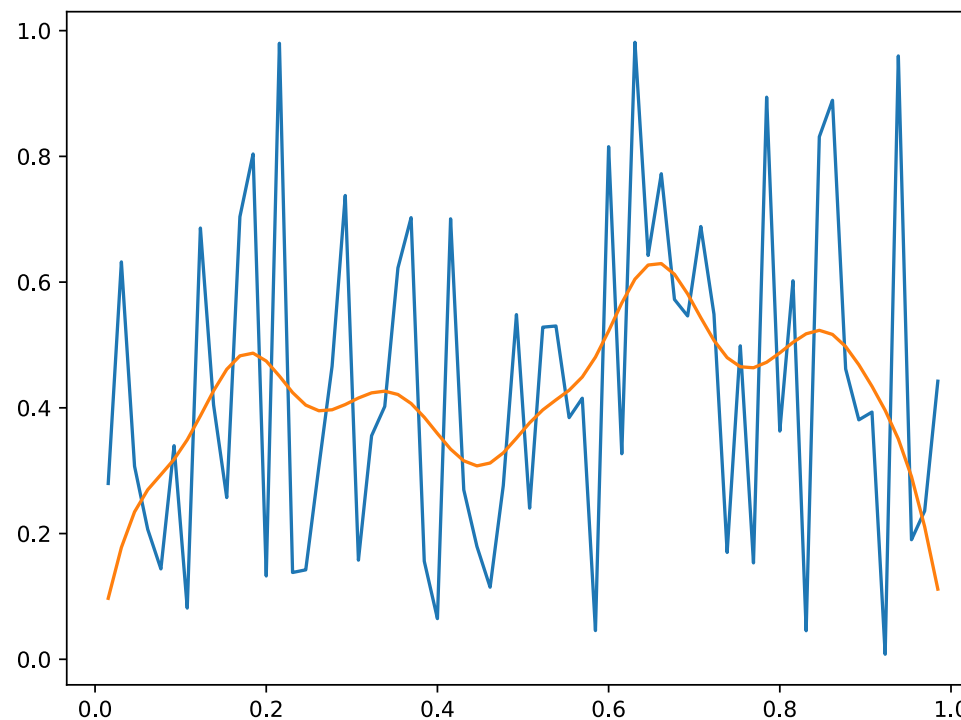
It *averages out* certain frequency quickly

## From Jacobi to weighted-Jacobi

$$u \leftarrow u + D^{-1}r$$



$$u \leftarrow u + \omega D^{-1}r, \omega = 2/3$$



Like a low-pass filter. Why?



# Fourier Analysis

Error propagation  $T$

$$e \leftarrow (I - \omega D^{-1} A) e = Te$$

Using the eigenvectors of  $T$  as a basis for the error space

$$e^{(0)} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k v_k$$

Then the error transforms like

$$e^{(\sigma)} = T^\sigma e^{(0)} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k T^\sigma v_k = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \lambda_k^\sigma v_k$$

Converge with the factor  $\|T\|$  or  $\rho(T)$

For Jacobi and weighted-Jacobi

$$T = I - D^{-1}A \longrightarrow \lambda_k = 1 - \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot \sin^2 \left( \frac{k\pi}{2(n+1)} \right)$$

$$T = I - (2/3)D^{-1}A \longrightarrow \lambda_k = 1 - \frac{2}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{2} \cdot 4 \cdot \sin^2 \left( \frac{k\pi}{2(n+1)} \right)$$

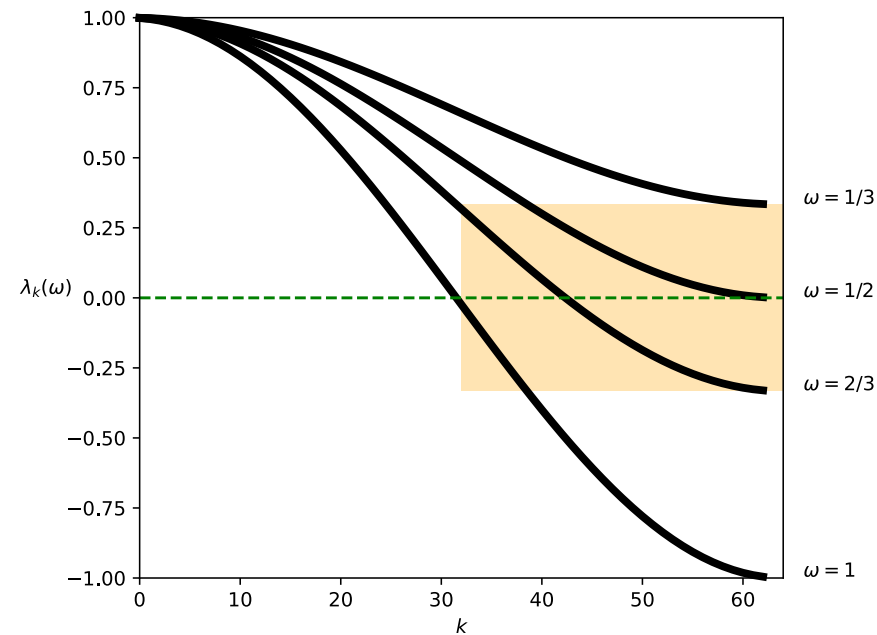
The spectral radius  $\rho_n \approx 1 - C/n^2$

But

$$e^{(\sigma)} = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k \lambda_k^{\sigma} v_k$$

error on different direction  $v_k$  (or frequency  $k$ ) is reduced by different magnitude of  $\lambda_k$

$\lambda_k$  corresponding to different  $\omega$

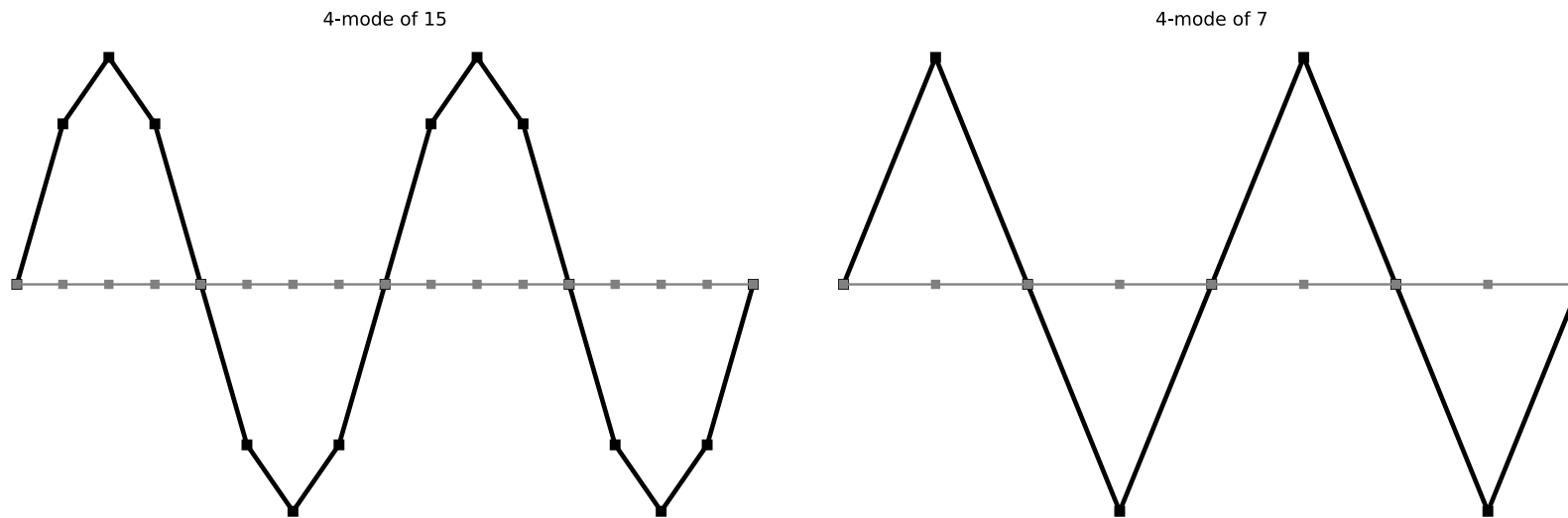


For  $\omega = 2/3$ , the high frequency part of the error is reduced by (at least)  $1/3$

**Smoothing factor** of  $T$ : the maximum magnitude of the upper half spectrum

# How can we turn low frequency errors to high frequency?

Sampling on a coarse grid



After this, smooth modes look like oscillatory modes, with little loss of information.

## So far we got

Classical iterative methods converge slowly as  $n \uparrow$ , but have the smoothing property.

Low-frequency information is well approximated on the coarse grid and becomes high-frequency.

## Next questions

How to transfer between fine and coarse?

What do we do “solve” on a coarse grid?

## Remind the Projection Methods

Look for the "best" update:

$$x^{(1)} \leftarrow x^{(0)} + u$$

Over a smaller space (with  $A$ -norm)

$$\min_{u \in \text{span}\{V\}} \left\| x^* - x^{(1)} \right\|_A$$

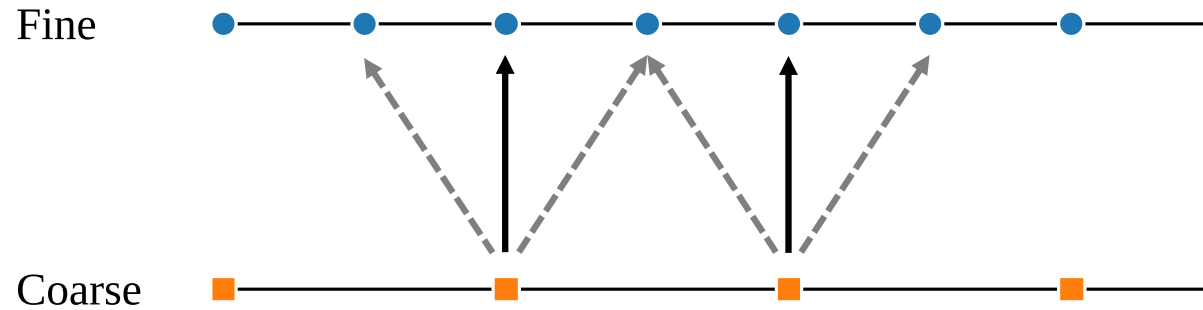
So the update looks like

$$x^{(1)} = x^{(0)} + V (V^\top A V)^{-1} V^\top r^{(0)}$$

The error

$$e^{(1)} = (I - \underbrace{V (V^\top A V)^{-1} V^\top A}_{A\text{-orthogonal projection}}) e^{(0)}$$

## Prolongation: From Coarse to Fine



Construct an operator

$$P : \Omega^{2h} \rightarrow \Omega^h$$

where  $\Omega^{2h}$  is the coarse grid and  $\Omega^h$  is the fine grid

# Interpolation

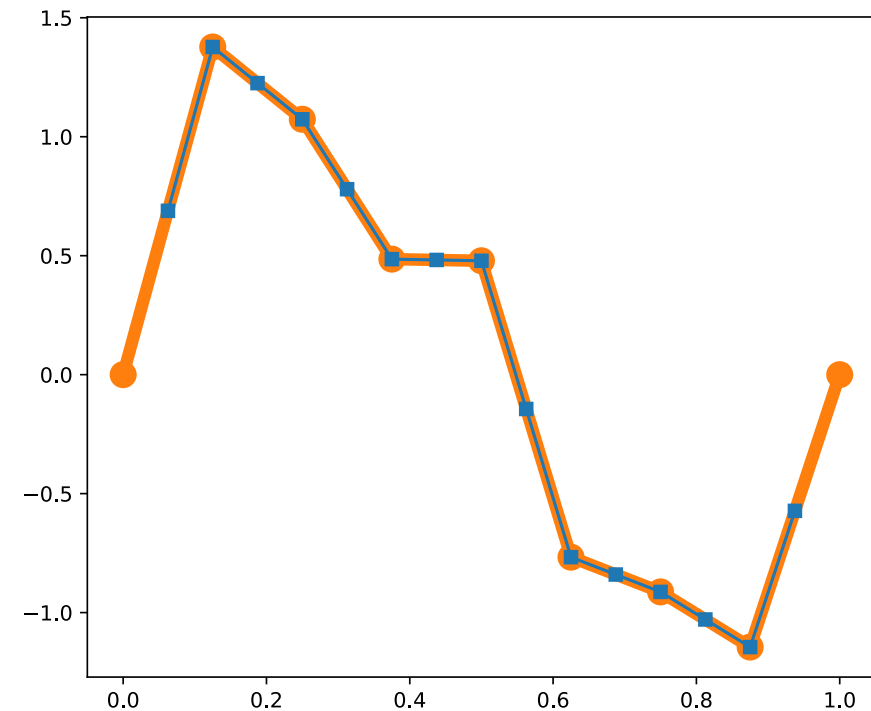
$$v_{2i}^h = v_i^{2h}$$

$$v_{2i+1}^h = \frac{1}{2} (v_i^{2h} + v_{i+1}^{2h})$$

Or in matrix form

$$P = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ 2 & & & & & \\ 1 & 1 & & & & \\ & 2 & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & \\ & & 1 & 1 & & \\ & & & 2 & & \\ & & & 1 & & \end{bmatrix}$$

Looks like



Notice:  $P$  is full rank



In projection method

$$x^{(1)} = x^{(0)} + V (V^\top A V)^{-1} V^\top r^{(0)}$$

If  $V$  is  $\text{span } \{p\}$ , or just  $P$

$$x^{(1)} = x^{(0)} + P (P^\top A P)^{-1} P^\top r^{(0)}$$

We get the **two-grid method**

## Two-grid Method

$$x^{(1)} = x^{(0)} + P (P^\top A P)^{-1} P^\top r^{(0)}$$

1. Given

2. Smooth a few times

3. Form residual

4. Restrict the residual

5. Solve the coarse problem

6. Interpolate the approx error

7. Correct

$$x^{(0)} \leftarrow x^{(0)} + \omega D^{-1} A r^{(0)}$$

$$r^{(0)} = b - A x^{(0)}$$

$$P^\top r^{(0)}$$

$$P^\top A P \delta = P^\top r^{(0)}$$

$$P \delta$$

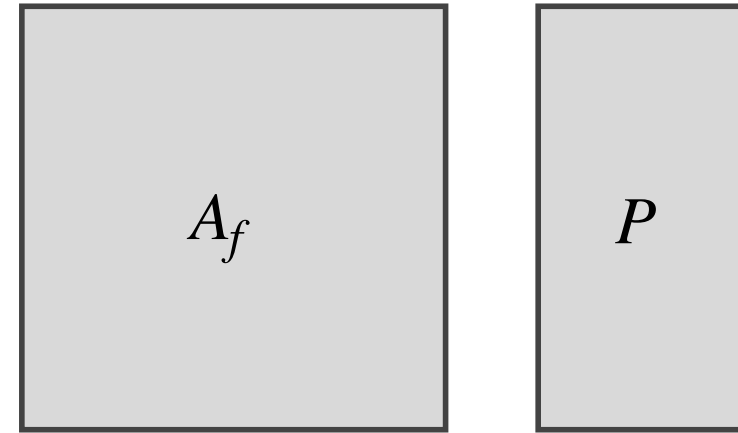
$$x^{(1)} = x^{(0)} + P \delta$$

$R = P^\top$  is the **restriction** here

$A_c = P^\top A P$  is the **coarse level operator** here

Let's look at the coarse level operator  $A_c$

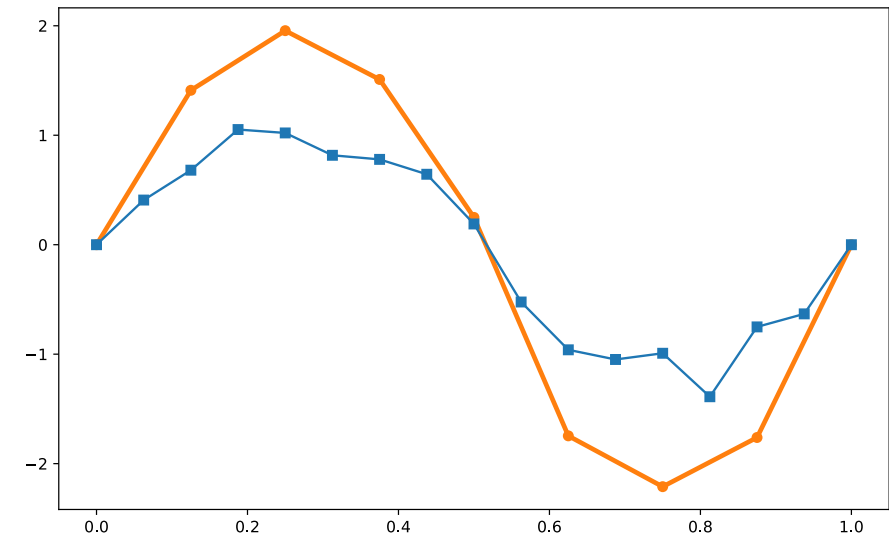
$$A_c = R$$



The restriction  $R$  don't have to be  $P^\top$

It's called a balance pair if

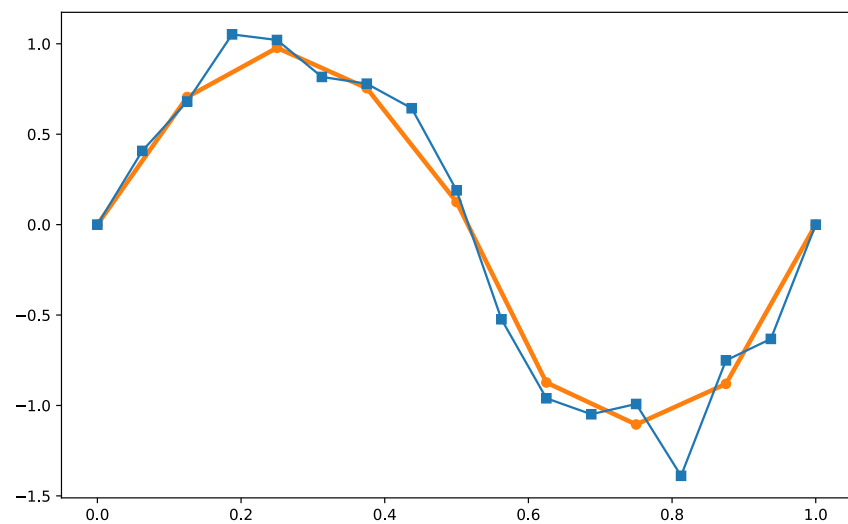
$$R = P^\top = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & & & & \\ & 1 & 2 & 1 & & & \\ & & \dots & \dots & \dots & & \\ & & & & & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



## Other options for restriction

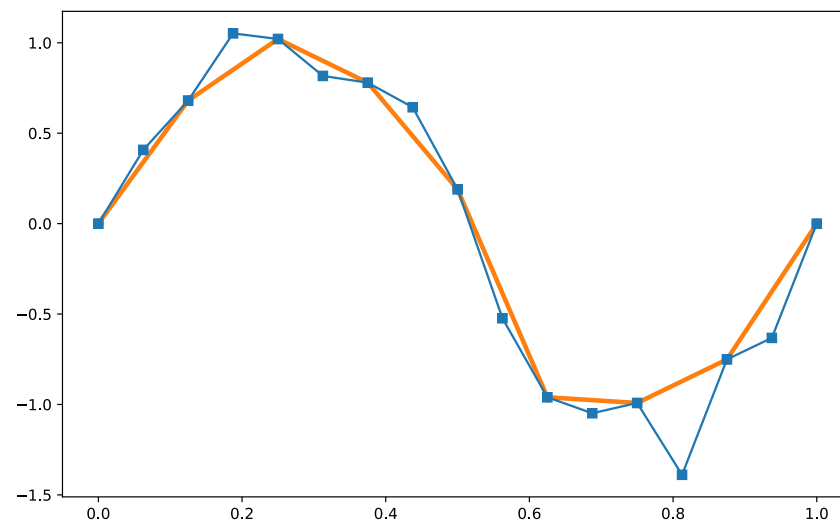
$\frac{1}{2}P^\top$ :

$$\frac{1}{4} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & & & & & & & \\ & & 1 & 2 & 1 & & & & & \\ & & & \dots & \dots & \dots & & & & \\ & & & & & & 1 & 2 & 1 & \end{bmatrix}$$



Injection:

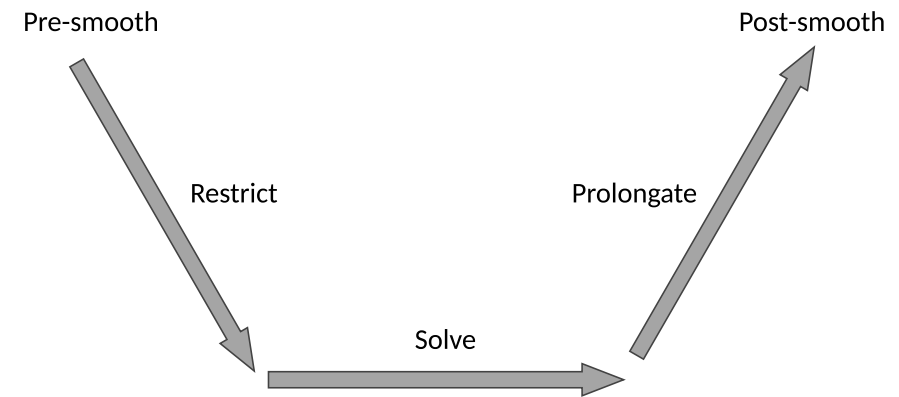
$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & & & & & & & \\ & & 0 & 1 & 0 & & & & & \\ & & & \dots & \dots & \dots & & & & \\ & & & & & & 0 & 1 & 0 & \end{bmatrix}$$



each row of  $R$  sums to 1

## Algorithm: Two-grid Method

1. Smooth  $\nu_{pre}$  times on  $Au = f$
2. Compute  $r = f - Au$
3. Compute  $r_c = Rr$
4. Solve  $A_c \delta_c = r_c$
5. Interpolate  $\hat{\delta} = P\delta_c$
6. Correct  $u \leftarrow u + \hat{\delta}$
7. Smooth  $\nu_{post}$  times on  $Au = f$



A two-level V cycle

**Convergence (written)**

## How Accurate is Multigrid?

Consider the exact solution to the PDE

$$u^*$$

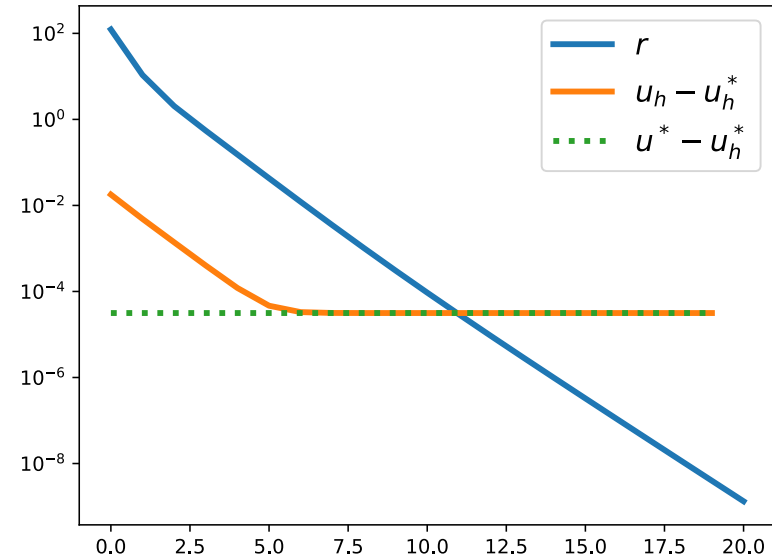
$$-u'' = f$$

The exact solution to the linear system

$$u_h^*$$

$$Au = b$$

The numerical solution  $u_h \approx u_h^*$



The total error is limited by the discretization error

# W/V cycle

Do two-grid recursively

