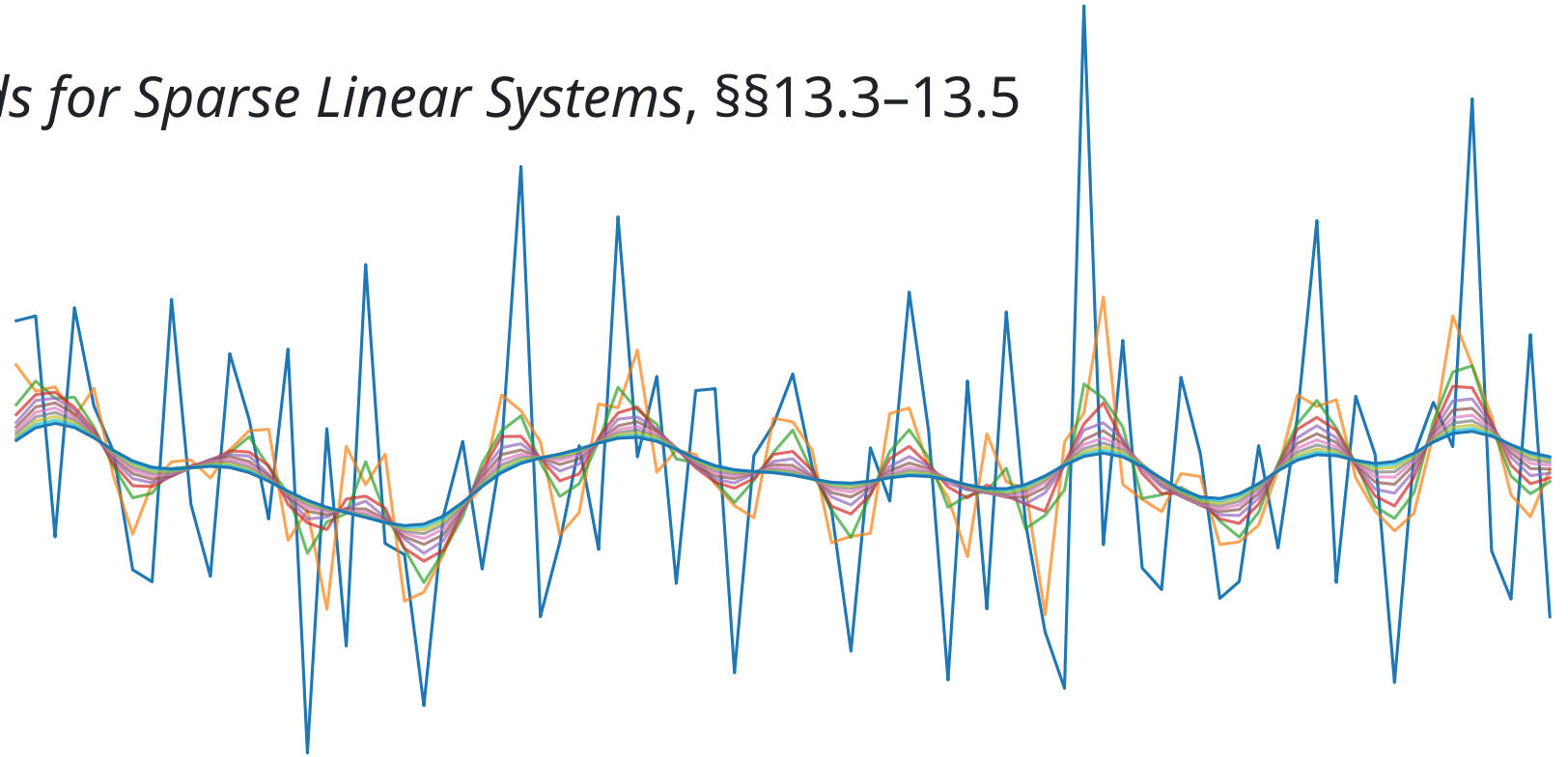


Multigrid Methods

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](https://github.com/Li-Jesse-Jiaze/multigrid-playbook).



Model Problem

1-D 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

$$x^*$$

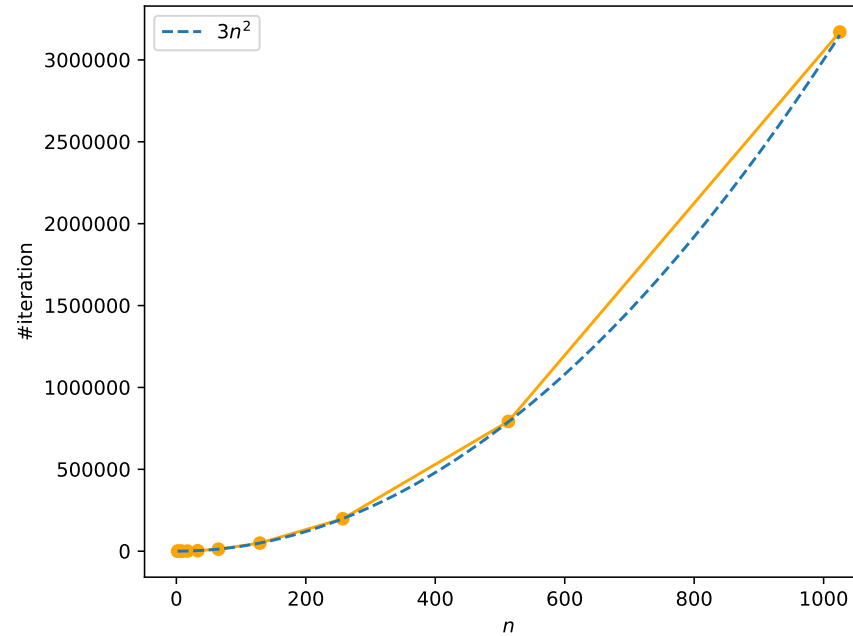
Error

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

Residual

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

How much computation do we need?



Burkardt, J., 2011. Jacobi Iterative Solution of Poisson's Equation in 1D [online]: Number of iterations required to get the tolerance of 1.0E-10 (RMS residual norm)

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \text{Jacobi : } \mathcal{O}(N) & \times \mathcal{O}(N^2) = & \mathcal{O}(N^3) \\ \text{Multigrid : } \underbrace{\mathcal{O}(N \log N)}_{\text{cost per iteration}} & \times \underbrace{\mathcal{O}(1)}_{\text{number of iterations}} = & \underbrace{\mathcal{O}(N \log N)}_{\text{total complexity}} \end{array}$$

Look at the matrix

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

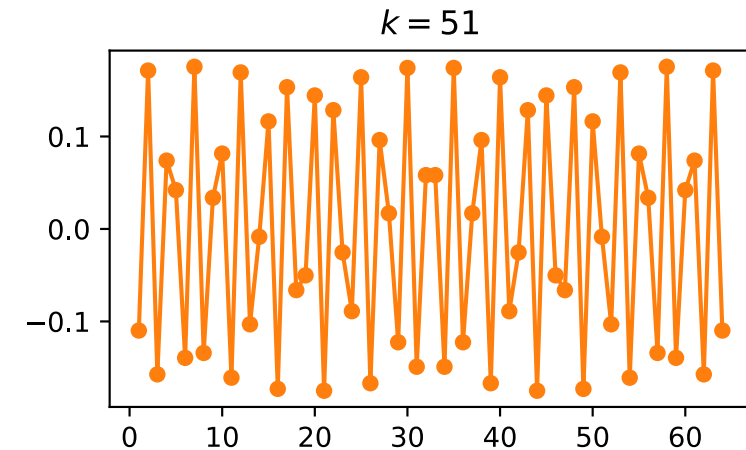
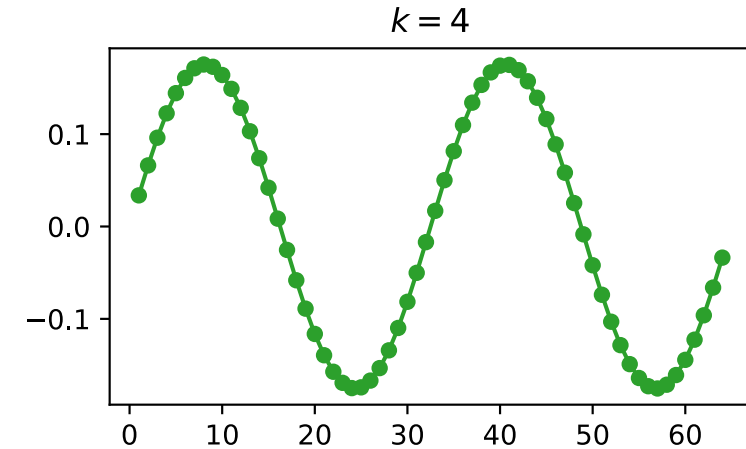
The eigenvalues

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

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?

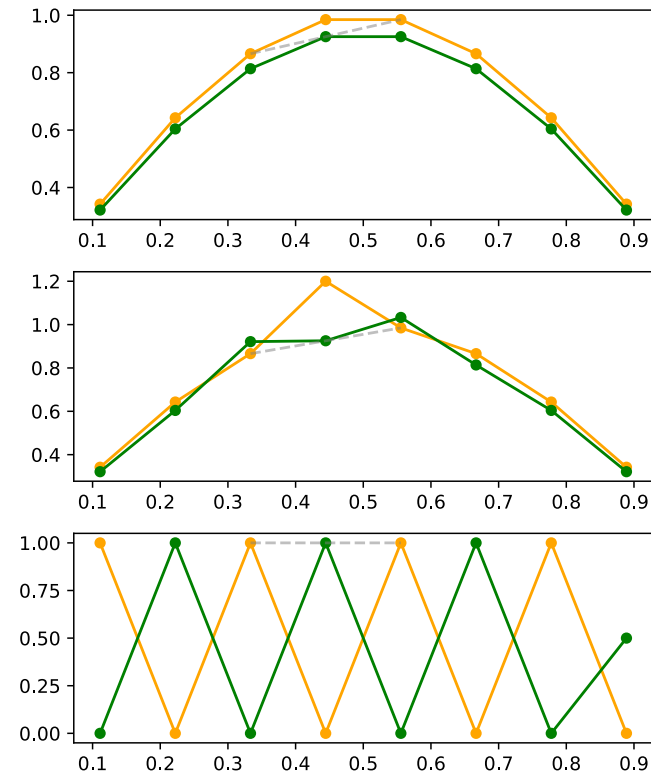
The error propagation

$$e \leftarrow Te \quad T = I - D^{-1}A$$
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1/2 & & & \\ 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & 1/2 & 0 & 1/2 \\ & & & 1/2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

It is averaging (like a mean filter)

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

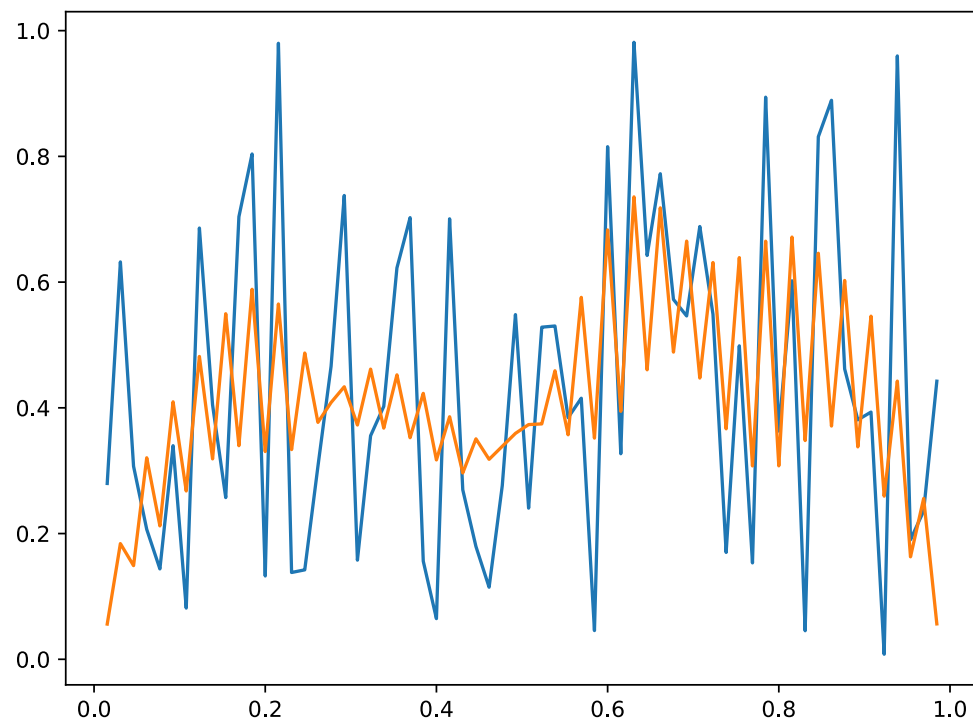
For different types of error



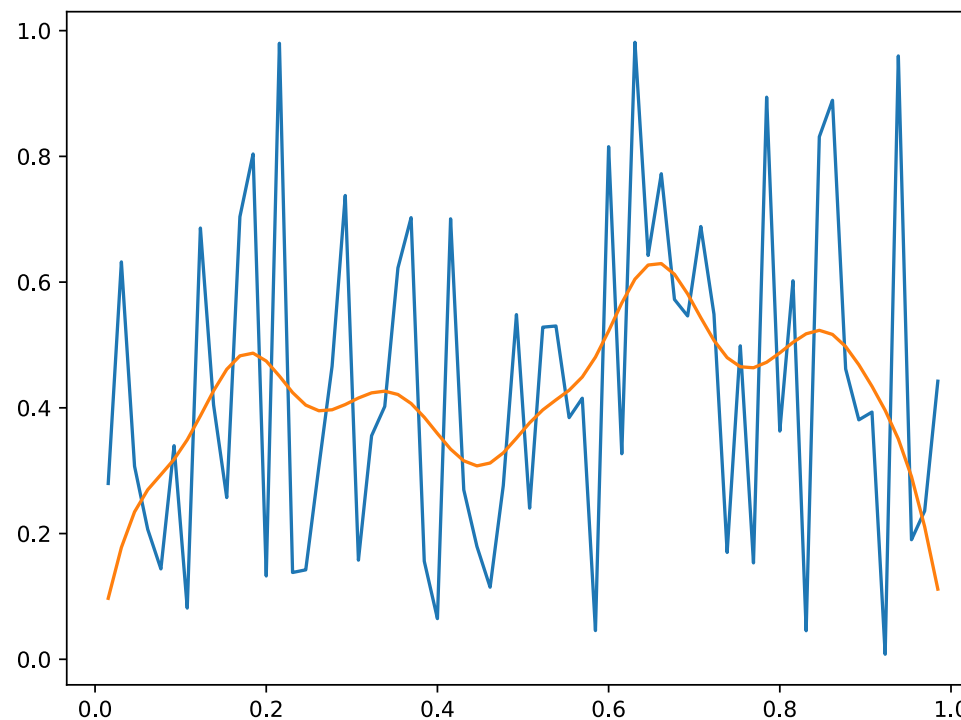
It *averages out* certain frequency quickly

From Jacobi to weighted-Jacobi

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



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



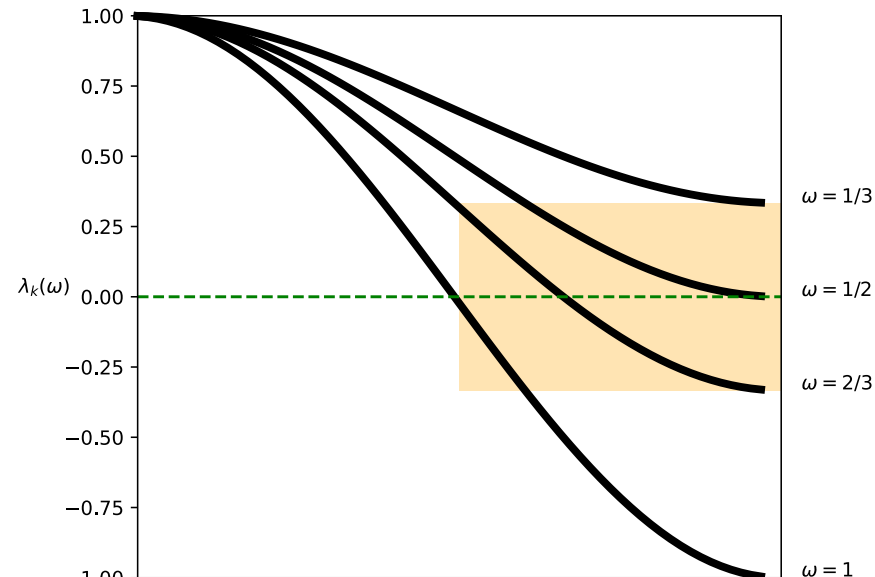
Weighted Jacobi is a better **smoother**.

Fourier Analysis

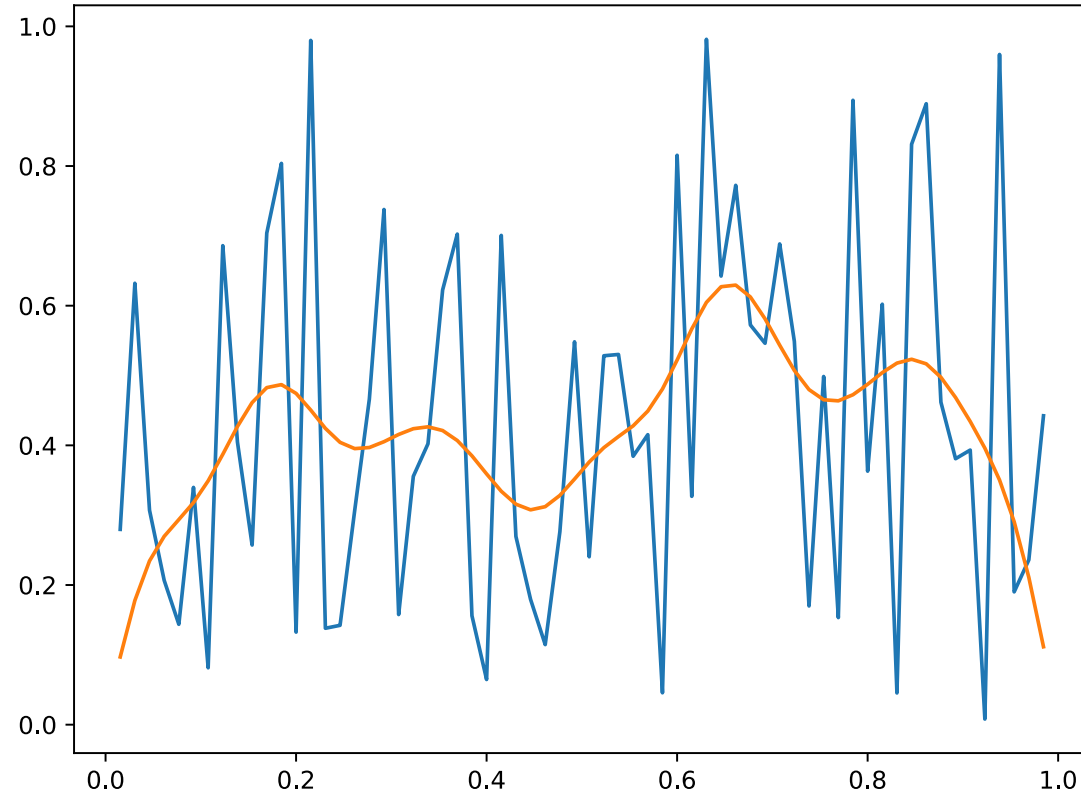
Using the eigenvectors of $T := I - \omega D^{-1}A$ as a basis for the error space

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

error on different direction v_k (or frequency k) is reduced by different magnitude of λ_k

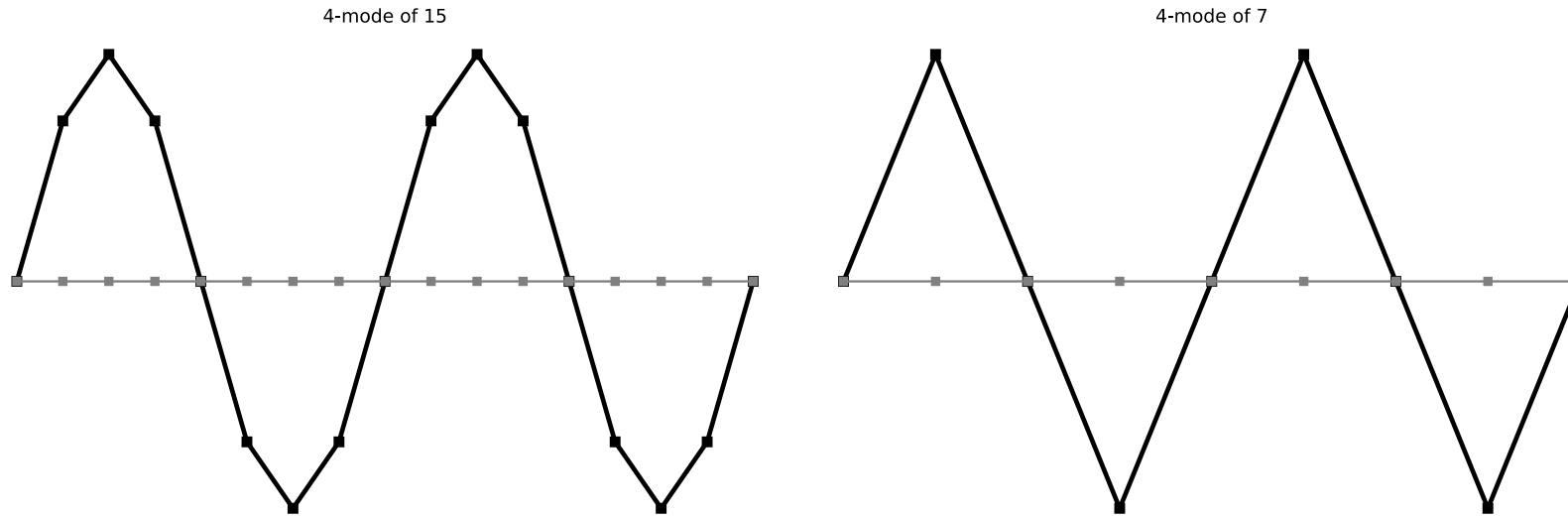


For $\omega = 2/3$, the high frequency part of the error is reduced by (at least) $1/3$



And then? How do we deal with the smooth error.

Sampling on a Coarse Grid



We lost a little bit of information. But

- Problem is smaller: Solve it directly \Rightarrow two-grid method;
- Frequency is higher: Do Jacobi again \Rightarrow multigrid method.

Solve it directly: like a projection method

Look for the "best" update:

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

Over the coarse grid

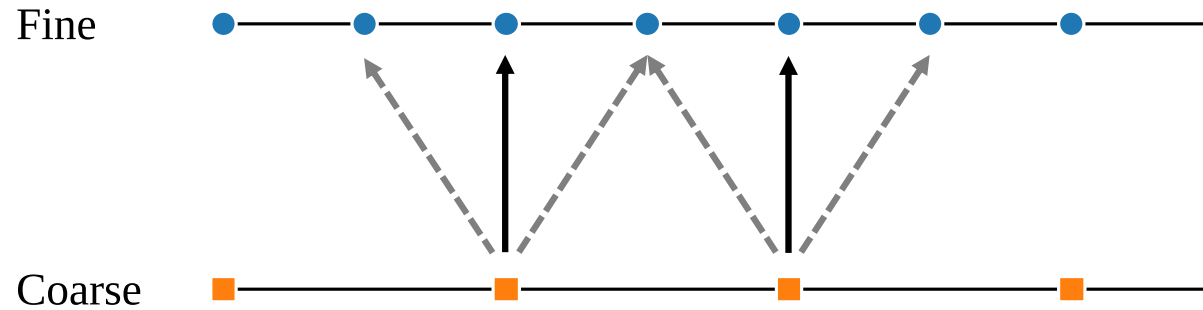
$$\min_{\Delta x \in \text{span}\{V\}} \left\| x^* - x^{(1)} \right\|_A$$

So the update looks like

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

What should be the V here? Inter-grid operations

Prolongation: From Coarse to Fine



An operator

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

where Ω^{2h} is the coarse grid and Ω^h is the fine grid

Interpolation

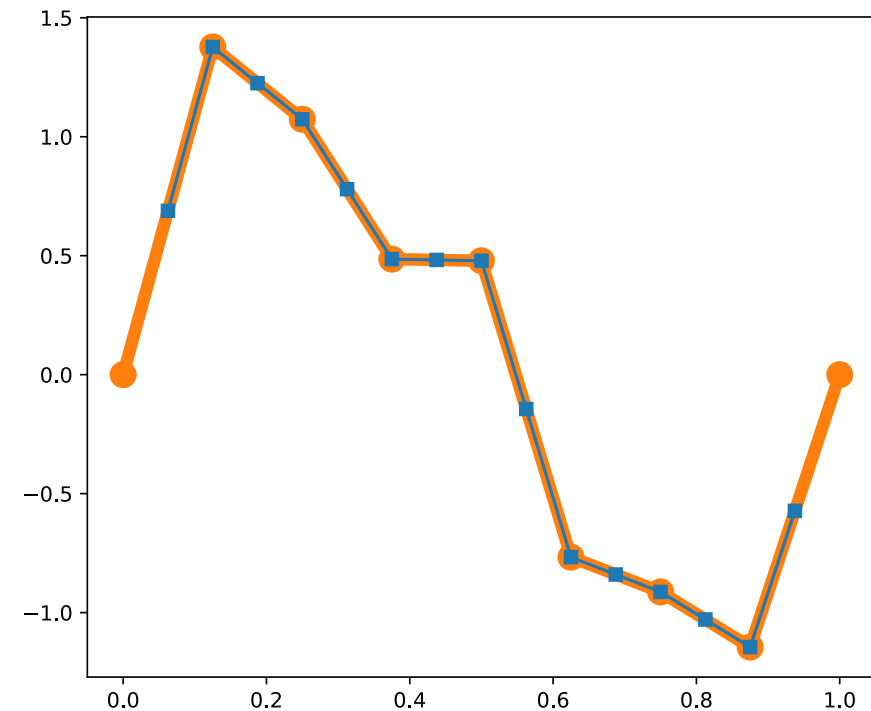
$$v_{2i}^h = v_i^{2h}$$

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

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

Two-grid Method

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

1. Given

$$x$$

2. Smooth a few times

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

3. Form residual

$$r = b - A x$$

4. Restrict the residual

$$P^\top r$$

5. Solve the coarse problem

$$P^\top A P \delta = P^\top r$$

6. Interpolate the approx error

$$P \delta$$

7. Correct

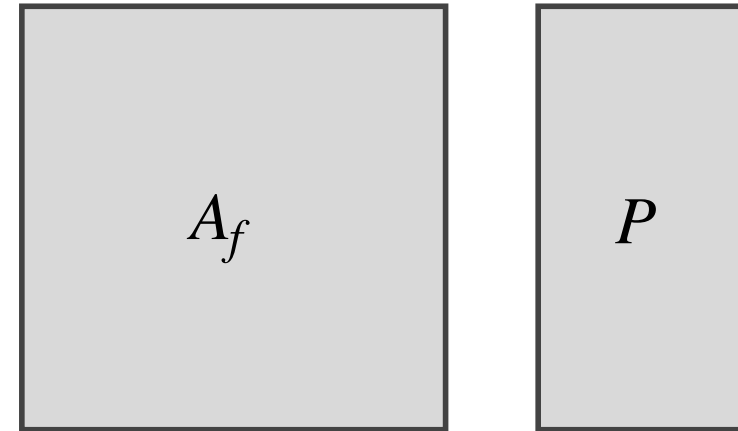
$$x \leftarrow x + P \delta$$

$R = P^\top$ 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

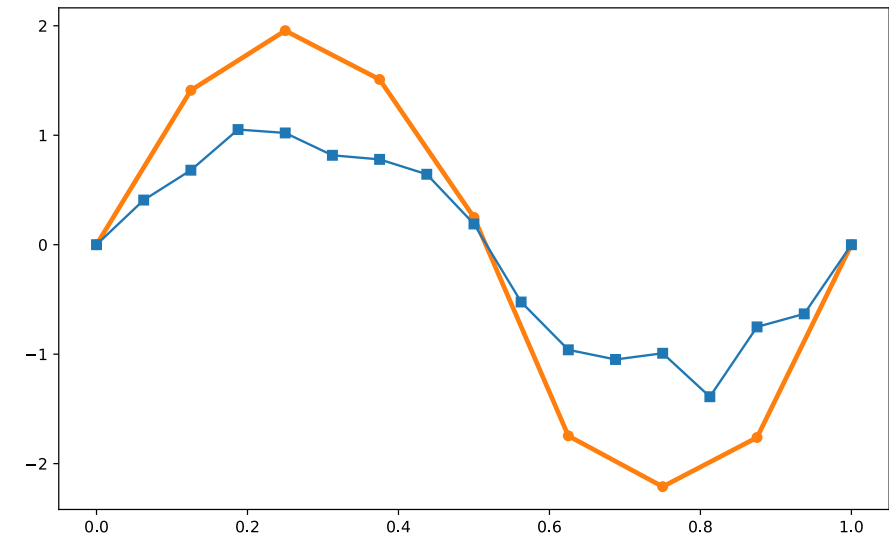
$$A_c = R$$



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

It's called a balance pair if

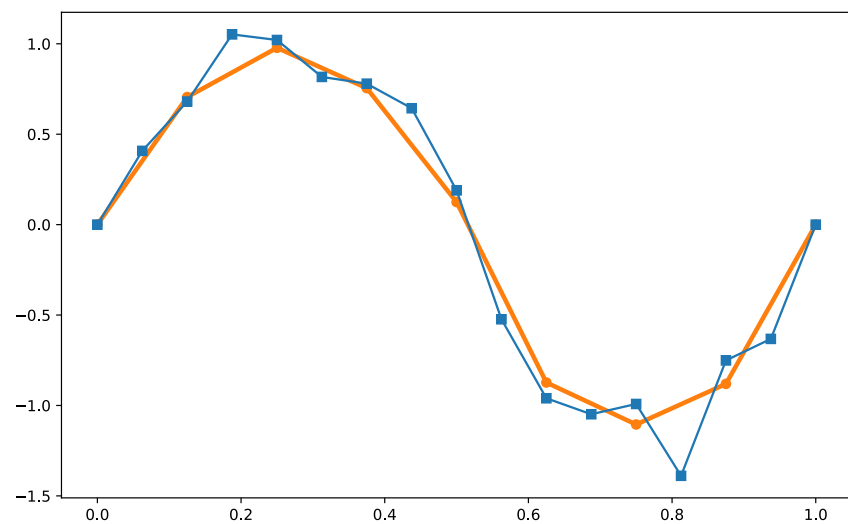
$$R = P^\top = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 & 1 & & & & \\ & 1 & 2 & 1 & & & \\ & & \dots & \dots & \dots & & \\ & & & & & 1 & 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



Other options for restriction

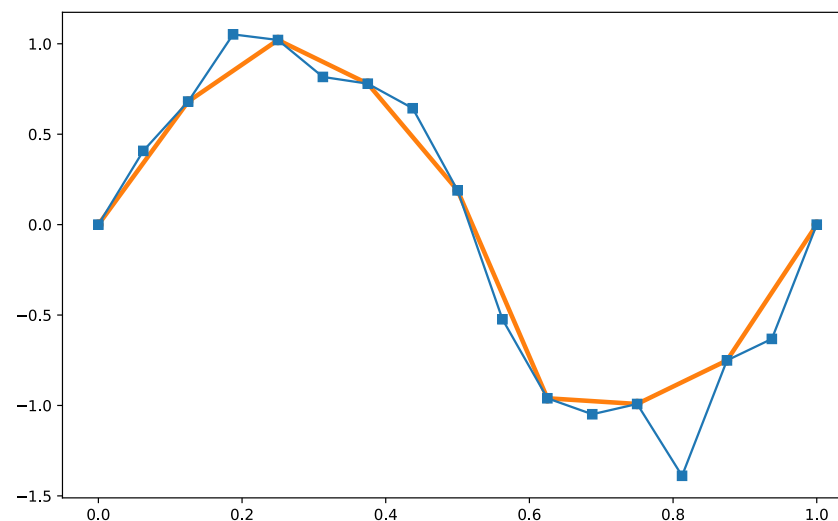
$\frac{1}{2}P^\top$:

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



Injection:

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



each row of R sums to 1

Convergence

Multigrid

$$I - \mathcal{M}_{\text{MG}}A = (I - M^\top A)^{\nu_{\text{post}}} \left(I - P (P^\top A P)^{-1} P^\top A \right) (I - MA)^{\nu_{\text{pre}}}$$
$$\mathbf{e} \leftarrow (I - \mathcal{M}_{\text{MG}}A)\mathbf{e}$$

We seek for a sharp bound of this which is independent of n .

Smoothing:

$$S \quad \text{or} \quad \mathbf{u} \leftarrow S\mathbf{u} + (I - S)A^{-1}\mathbf{f}$$

Coarse grid correction (CGC)

$$T = I - P (P^\top A P)^{-1} P^\top A = I - \Pi$$

For 1-D Weighted-Jacobi

$\text{range}(P)$ is exactly the low-frequency subspace \mathcal{V}_L

See the proof in [Practical fourier analysis for multigrid methods §3.1](#)

So, only high-frequency errors left after CGC

$$\|ST\mathbf{e}\| \leq \frac{1}{3}\|\mathbf{e}\| \text{ for all } \mathbf{e}$$

Check it out: [eigen_1d_2grid.ipynb](#)

What kind of sufficient conditions are we looking for?

Relaxation should be effective on the range of coarse grid correction

$$\|ST\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 \leq (1 - \delta)\|T\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 \text{ for all } \mathbf{e}$$

No side effects on the range of interpolation

$$\|S\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 \leq \|\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 \quad \text{for } \mathbf{e} \perp \text{range}(T)$$

Combine this two

$$\|S\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 \leq \|ST\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 + \|S(I - T)\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 \leq (1 - \delta)\|T\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 + \|(I - T)\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 = \|\mathbf{e}\|_A^2 - \delta\|T\mathbf{e}\|_A^2$$

Theorem

If there exists $\delta > 0$ (independent of n) such that

$$\|Se\|_A^2 \leq \|e\|_A^2 - \delta \|Te\|_A^2 \quad \text{for all } e,$$

then

$$\|ST\|_A^2 \leq 1 - \delta$$

Proof:

Since $Te = \mathbf{0}$ gives $\|STe\|_A = 0$:

$$\|ST\|_A^2 = \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|STe\|_A^2}{\|e\|_A^2} = \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|STe\|_A^2}{\|Te\|_A^2 + \|(I - T)e\|_A^2}$$

Let \hat{e} be the arg sup then $(I - T)\hat{e} = 0$

Proof (Cont.):

$$\|ST\|_A^2 = \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|STe\|_A^2}{\|e\|_A^2} = \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|S(Te + (I - T)e)\|_A^2}{\|Te\|_A^2} = \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|Se\|_A^2}{\|Te\|_A^2}$$

According to the assumption

$$\|Se\|_A^2 \leq \|e\|_A^2 - \delta \|Te\|_A^2 \quad \text{for all } e,$$

Finally, we get

$$\|ST\|_A^2 = \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|Se\|_A^2}{\|Te\|_A^2} \leq \sup_{e:Te \neq 0} \frac{\|e\|_A^2 - \delta \|Te\|_A^2}{\|Te\|_A^2} = 1 - \delta$$

How Accurate is Multigrid?

Consider the exact solution to the PDE

$$u^*$$

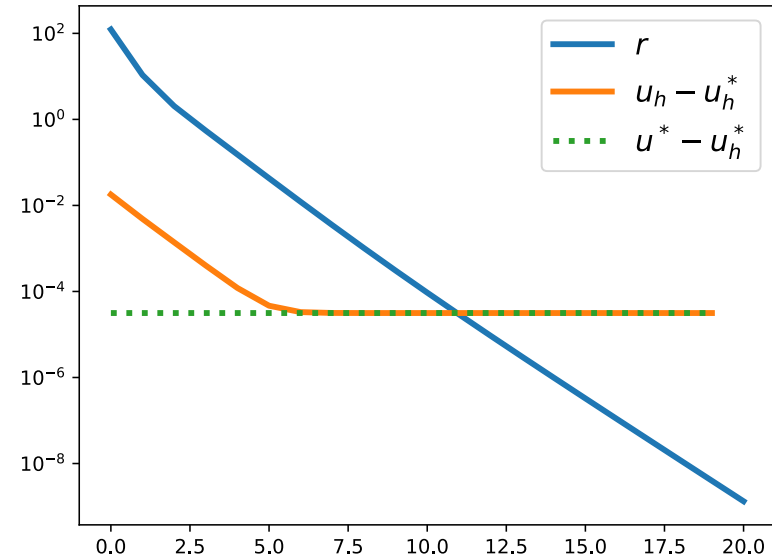
$$-u'' = f$$

The exact solution to the linear system

$$u_h^*$$

$$Au = b$$

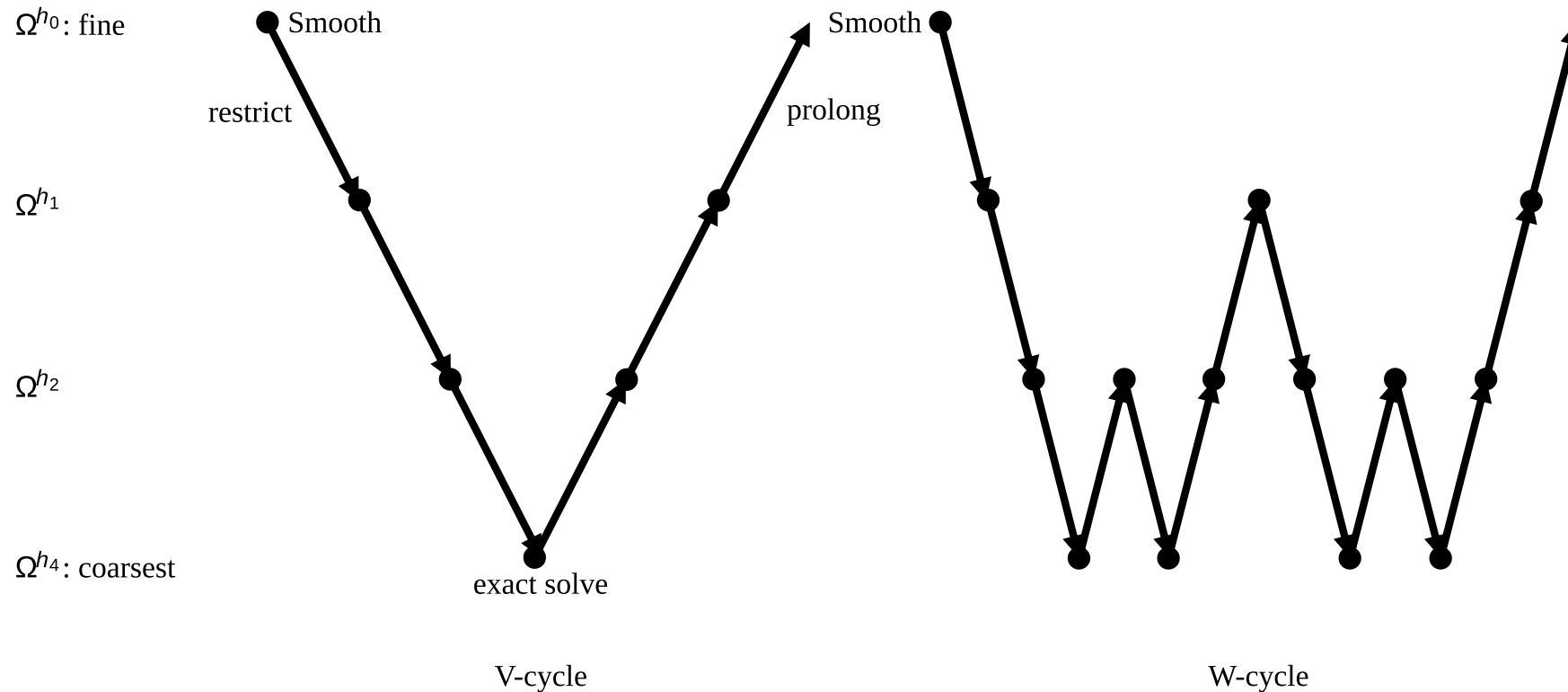
The numerical solution $u_h \approx u_h^*$



The total error is limited by the discretization error

5. Solve the coarse problem $P^\top A P \delta = P^\top r$?

Do two-grid recursively



Exact solve? A_{coarest} is small enough

Take-home Messages

- Basic idea

Multigrid \approx Damp the high frequencies + Correct the low frequencies

- Convergence rate: **Independent of n**
- Computational cost

$$\mathcal{O}(N^3) \longrightarrow \mathcal{O}(N \log N)$$