

# Inverse Problem of Diffusion

*Martin Outzen Berild*

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We consider an inverse problem with a basis in the following differential equation

$$\frac{du(x,t)}{dt} = \frac{d^2u(x,t)}{dx^2}, \quad u(x,0) = h_0(x), \quad x \in (0,1), t \geq 0. \quad (1)$$

Data is  $u(x,t) = h_t(x)$  for a given time  $t > 0$ . The aim of the inverse problem is  $h_0(x)$ .

The forward model can be written as

$$u(x,t) = h_t(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} \int e^{-(x-y)^2/(4t)} h_0(y) dy, \quad t \geq 0. \quad (2)$$

Using discretization we get

$$\mathbf{h}_t = \begin{bmatrix} h_t(x_1) \\ h_t(x_2) \\ \vdots \\ h_t(x_N) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A} \begin{bmatrix} h_0(x_1) \\ h_0(x_2) \\ \vdots \\ h_0(x_N) \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{h}_0, \quad (3)$$

where a regular grid of  $N = 100$  points is used, such that  $x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0.01, \dots, x_N = 0.99$ . The sequence  $x$  is created in **R** by the the code

```
x = seq(from = 0, to = 0.99, by = 0.01)
```

The interval  $(0,1)$  is made into a circle, i.e. 1 corresponds to 0. The matrix  $A$  has elements

$$A(i,j) = \frac{0.01}{\sqrt{4\pi t}} e^{-|x_i - x_j|^2/(4t)}. \quad (4)$$

The distance  $|x_i - x_j|$  is modular on the circle  $(0,1)$ . The *createA* function in below calculates the matrix  $A$  for a given position  $x$  and time  $t$

```
createA <- function(x,t){  
  A = diag(0.01/sqrt(4*pi*t), nrow = length(x), ncol = length(x))  
  for (i in seq(1,length(x)-1)){  
    for (j in seq(i+1,length(x))){  
      A[i,j] = 0.01/sqrt(4*pi*t)*exp(-(x[i]-x[j])^2/(4*t))  
      A[j,i] = A[i,j]  
    }  
  }  
  A  
}
```

Measurements  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, \dots, y_N)'$  are acquired at time  $t = 0.001$  (1ms):

$$y_i = h_t(x_i) + \epsilon_i, \quad \epsilon_i \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 0.025^2), \quad \text{iid.} \quad (5)$$

The observations  $y$  are downloaded, imported into **R** and converted to vector form.

```
y = read.delim2(file = "OppgA.txt", header = F, sep = "\n", dec = ".")[1]
```

The observations are presented in Figure 1

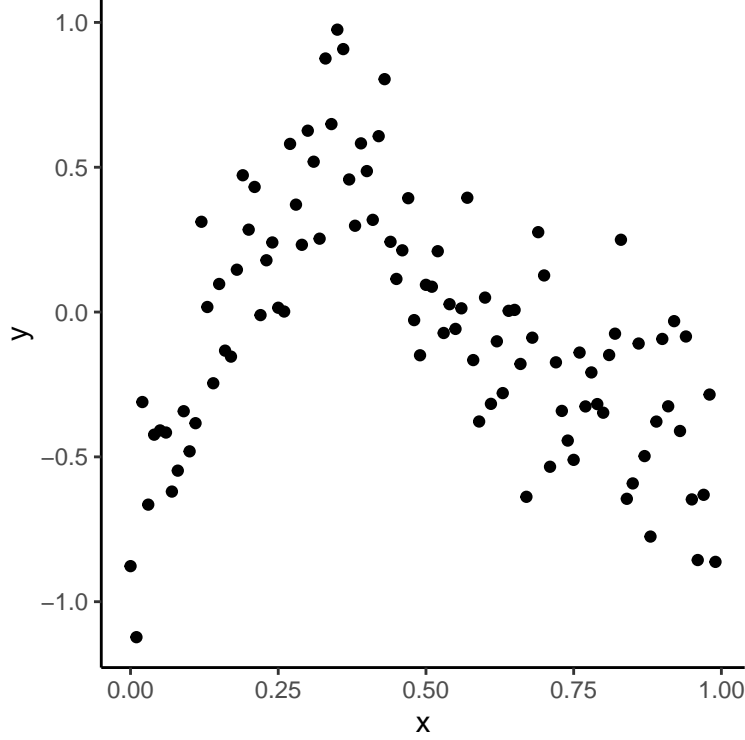


Figure 1: Observations  $(y_1, \dots, y_{100})'$  that are informative of the latent process  $h_t(x)$  at time  $t = 1\text{ms}$ .

## Exercise a

We want to solve the inverse problem directly by  $A^{-1}\mathbf{y}$ . First we compute the eigenvalues of the matrix. The observations  $y$  are collected at time  $t = 1\text{ms}$ , and we firstly initialize the matrix  $A$ .

```
A = createA(x, t = 0.001)
```

The eigenvalues of  $A$  can easily be calculated in **R** and are shown in Figure 2.

```
S = eigen(A)[[1]]
```

The singular value decomposition can be found by finding the eigenvectors of  $A^T A$  and  $AA^T$ . Then since our matrix  $A$  is square we can use its eigenvalues in the formula

$$A = USV^T, \quad (6)$$

where  $U$  contains the eigenvectors of  $AA^T$ ,  $V$  the eigenvectors of  $A^T A$  and  $S$  the eigenvalues of  $A$ .

```
U = eigen(A%*%t(A))[[2]]
```

```
V = eigen(t(A)%*%A)[[2]]
```

We want to approximate this solution using a filter. The approximation is given by

$$\hat{\mathbf{h}}_0 = \sum_{\{i: \sigma_i > 0\}} \phi_i(\alpha) \frac{\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{y} \rangle}{\sigma_i} \mathbf{v}_i, \quad (7)$$

where  $\phi_i(\alpha)$  is the filter applied. In our case we want to truncate the small eigenvalue of  $A$ , and this is done by the truncated singular value expansion which uses the filter  $\phi_i(\alpha) = I\{\sigma_i > \alpha\}$ . The choice of  $\alpha$  which yields the best solution is not known however.

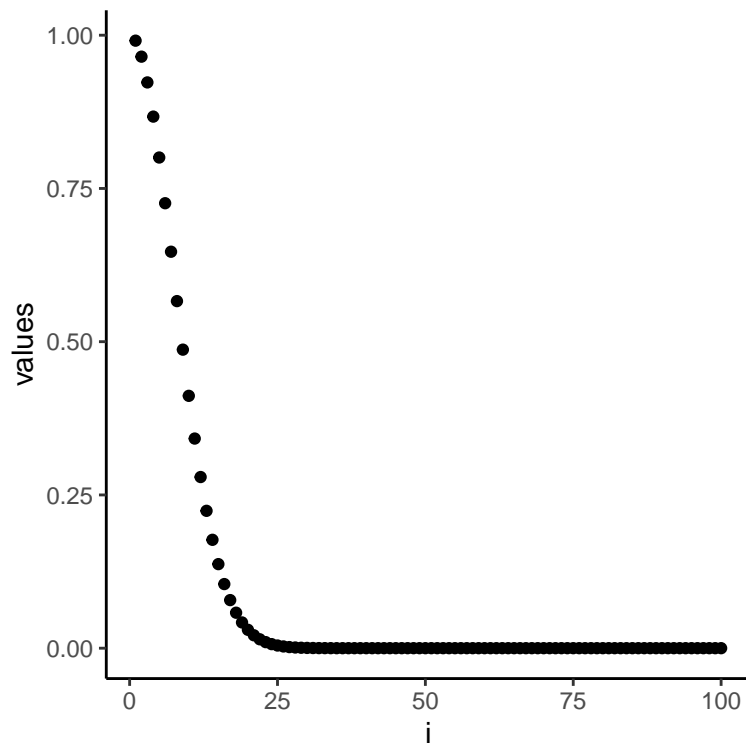
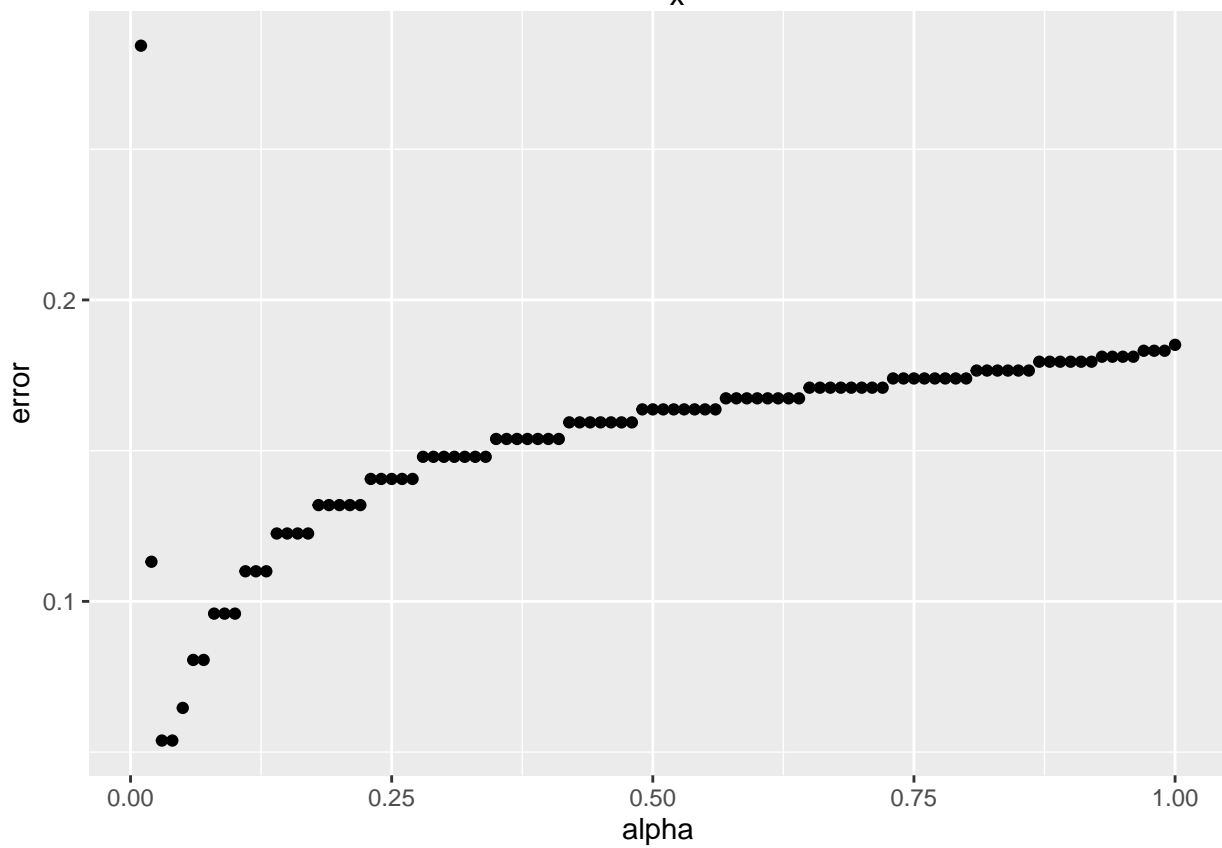
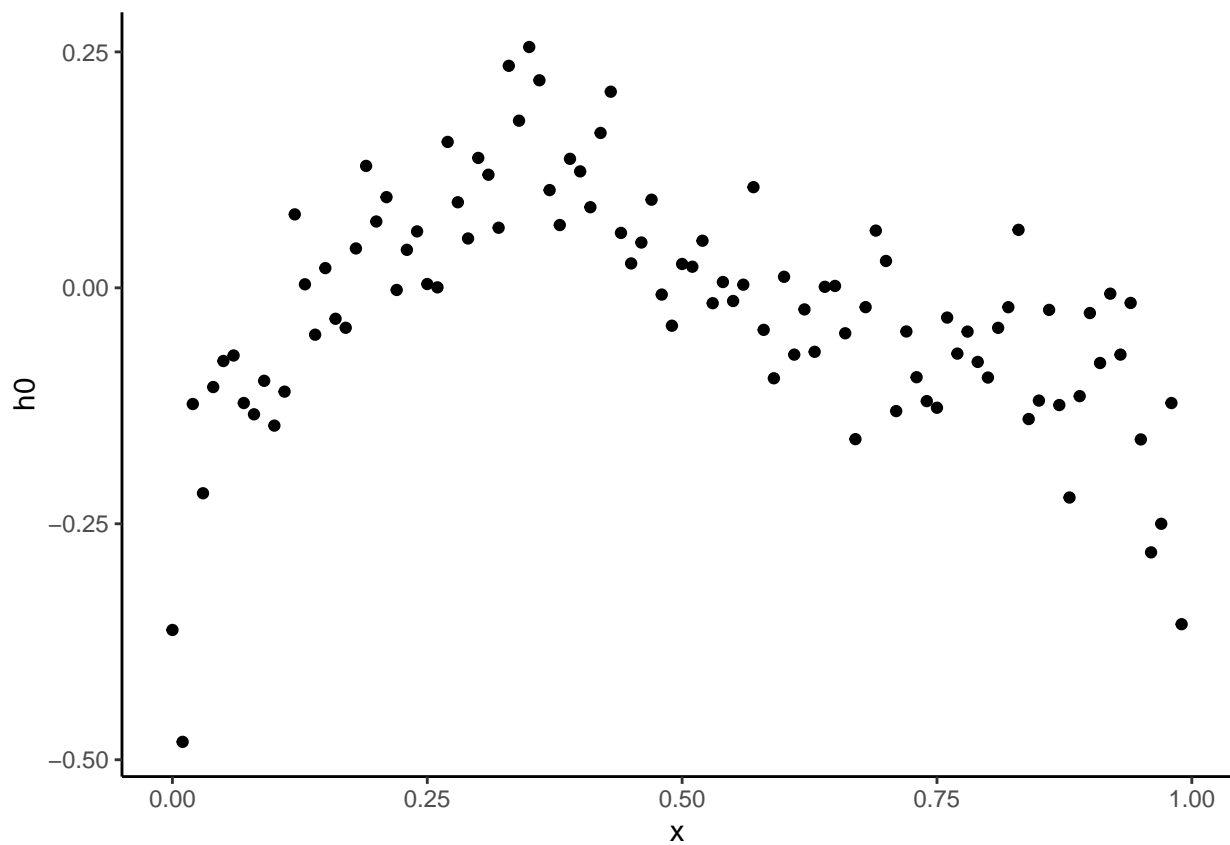


Figure 2: Eigenvalues of  $A$  at time  $t = 1\text{ms}$

```
trunc.svd <- function(alpha,y,U,S,V){
  res = numeric(length(S))
  for (i in seq(length(S))){
    if(S[i]>alpha){
      res = res + (U[,i]*y)/S[i]*V[,i]
    }
  }
  res
}

h0 <- trunc.svd(alpha = 0.2, y,U,S,V)
```



**Exercise b**

**Exercise c**