

# TD 3 + 4 – Wavelets

The following exercises are meant to illustrate chapter 3 of Gabriel Peyré's **Mathematics of Data** course ([mathematical-tours.github.io](https://github.com/gpeyre/mathematics-of-data)). Some of them are adapted from the past years' exams.

Please refer to Geert-Jan Huizing ([huizing@ens.fr](mailto:huizing@ens.fr)) for questions regarding these exercises and their solutions.

**Notes** We will be playing with different wavelet bases and with Fast Wavelet Transform (FWT).

Multiresolution approximations of  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$  are families  $(V_j)_{j \in \mathbb{Z}}$  of nested closed subspaces of  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , s.t.

$$L^2(\mathbb{R}) \supset \dots \supset V_{j-1} \supset V_j \supset V_{j+1} \supset \dots \supset \{0\},$$

$$f \in V_j \iff f(\cdot/2) \in V_{j+1} \quad \text{and} \quad f \in V_j \iff \forall n \in \mathbb{Z}, f(\cdot + n2^j) \in V_j,$$

and  $\exists \varphi \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  so that  $\{\varphi(\cdot - n)\}_n$  is an Hilbertian orthonormal basis of  $V_0$ .

This implies that  $\varphi_{j,n}$  form an orthonormal basis of  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ :

$$\left\{ \varphi_{j,n}(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^j}} \varphi \left( \frac{t - 2^j n}{2^j} \right) \right\}_{(j,n) \in \mathbb{Z}^2}.$$

## Exercises

### [★] Multi-resolution Approximation Spaces

Show that these families  $(V_j)_j$  are multiresolution approximations of  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ , with scaling functions  $\varphi$ .

1. (Piecewise constant functions)

$$V_j = \{f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}); \forall n, f \text{ is constant on } [2^j n, 2^j(n+1)[\} \text{ and } \varphi(t) = \mathbf{1}_{[0,1[}$$

2. (Shannon approximations)

$$V_j = \left\{ f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}); \forall n, \hat{f} \text{ is zero outside of } [-2^{-j}\pi, 2^{-j}\pi] \right\} \text{ and } \varphi(t) = \frac{\sin \pi t}{\pi t}$$

### [★] Haar Wavelets

For  $j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , we define the space  $V_j \subset L^2(\mathbb{R})$  of functions which are constant on each interval  $I_{j,k}$ , where

$$\forall k \in \mathbb{Z}, I_{j,k} \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} [2^j k, 2^j(k+1)[$$

We also define the functions

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \varphi(x) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1[ \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad \text{and} \quad \psi(x) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1/2[ \\ -1 & \text{if } x \in [1/2, 1[ \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Their dilated and translated versions are defined as

$$\forall (j, k) \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad \psi_{j,k}(t) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^j}} \psi(2^{-j}t - k) \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi_{j,k}(t) \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^j}} \varphi(2^{-j}t - k).$$

The functions  $\psi_{j,k}$  are the so-called “Haar wavelets”.

1. Draw the graphs of the functions  $\varphi_{0,0}$ ,  $\varphi_{1,0}$  and  $\varphi_{2,2}$ . Do the same for  $\psi_{0,0}$ ,  $\psi_{1,0}$  and  $\psi_{2,2}$ .
2. Show that  $\forall j \in \mathbb{Z}$ , there exists a space  $W_j \subset L^2(\mathbb{R})$  such that

$$W_j \perp V_j \quad \text{and} \quad V_{j-1} = V_j \oplus W_j,$$

3. Show that

$$\mathcal{B}_j^\varphi \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \{\varphi_{j,k} ; k \in \mathbb{Z}\} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{B}_j^\psi \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \{\psi_{j,k} ; k \in \mathbb{Z}\}$$

are ortho-bases of respectively  $V_j$  and  $W_j$ .

### [★] Up and down sampling (from exam 2020)

We consider  $\ell^2(\mathbb{Z})$  the set of sequences  $(x_i)_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  with  $\sum_i x_i^2 < +\infty$  with the inner product  $\langle x, y \rangle = \sum_i x_i y_i$ .

1. The down and up-sampling operators are

$$x \downarrow_2 \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} (x_{2i})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}} \quad \text{and} \quad (x \uparrow^2)_i \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \begin{cases} x_{i/2} & \text{if } i \text{ even,} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Prove that  $\downarrow_2$  and  $\uparrow^2$  are adjoints i.e.  $\langle x \downarrow_2, y \rangle = \langle x, y \uparrow_2 \rangle$ .

2. What is the adjoint of the linear operator  $x \mapsto x \star h$ , where  $(x \star h)_i \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \sum_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} x_j h_{i-j}$ ?
3. Prove that  $(x \downarrow_2) \star h = (x \star (h \uparrow^2)) \downarrow_2$ . Then use this recursively to show

$$f^k(x) = (x \star H^k) \downarrow_{2^k} \quad \text{where} \quad H^k \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} h^0 \star h^1 \star \dots \star h^{k-1} \quad \text{and} \quad f : x \mapsto (x \star h) \downarrow_2.$$

We denote  $h^s = h \uparrow^{2^s}$  ( $\uparrow^{2^s}$  is defined similarly to  $\uparrow^2$  by inserting  $2^s - 1$  zeros).

4. What is  $H^k$  in the case of a box filter  $[h_0, h_1] = [1, 1]/2$  (the other entries of the vector being 0) ?

### [★★] Heisenberg inequality

A wavelet is a filter with mean 0, localized both in the spatial and Fourier domains. How localized can it be ? For a function  $f \in L^2(\mathbb{R})$  such that the following quantities exist, we define:

- Time mean  $m : f \mapsto \frac{1}{\|f\|_2^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} t |f(t)|^2 dt$  and variance  $s^2 : f \mapsto \frac{1}{\|f\|_2^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (t - m(f))^2 |f(t)|^2 dt$
- Fourier mean  $\mu : f \mapsto \frac{1}{2\pi\|f\|_2^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \omega |\hat{f}(\omega)|^2 d\omega$  and variance  $\sigma^2 : f \mapsto \frac{1}{2\pi\|f\|_2^2} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} (\omega - \mu(f))^2 |\hat{f}(\omega)|^2 d\omega$

1. Let us consider a scaling factor  $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}_+^*$  and  $f_\gamma(t) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\gamma}} f(\frac{t}{\gamma})$ .

- (a) Show that  $\|f_\gamma\|_2^2 = \|f\|_2^2$
- (b) Derive the time mean and variance of  $f_\gamma$  as a function of those of  $f$ .
- (c) Derive the Fourier mean and variance of  $f_\gamma$  as a function of those of  $f$ .
- (d) How does scaling affect time and Fourier resolution ?

2. Let's assume  $m = \mu = 0$  (this amounts to replacing  $f$  with  $g : t \mapsto f(t - m)e^{i\mu t}$ ). Using the Plancherel identity ( $2\pi \|u\|_2^2 = \|\hat{u}\|_2^2$ ), prove that

$$s^2 \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\|f\|_4^4} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |t f(t)|^2 dt \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |f'(t)|^2 dt.$$

3. Prove that

$$s^2 \sigma^2 \geq \frac{1}{\|f\|_4^4} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} t f(t) \overline{f'(t)} dt \right)^2.$$

4. Assuming  $\lim_{|t| \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt{t} f(t) = 0$ , prove the Heisenberg inequality:

$$s^2 \sigma^2 \geq 1/4$$

5. Find  $f$  such that this is an equality. You should recover what is called the *Morlet wavelet*.

## Solutions

### Multi-resolution Approximation Spaces

1. Since  $f \in V_j$  is constant on intervals of length  $2^j$ , clearly  $V_{j+1} \subset V_j$ .  
 $\overline{\bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} V_j} = L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\bigcap_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} V_j = \{0\}$  (because non-zero constant functions of  $\mathbb{R}$  are not in  $L^2(\mathbb{R})$ ).  
Finally,  $f = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(n) \mathbf{1}_{[n, n+1[} = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \langle f, \varphi(\cdot - n) \rangle \varphi(\cdot - n)$
2. It clearly follows from definition that  $V_{j+1} \in V_j$ .  
 $\overline{\bigcup_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} V_j} = L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\bigcap_{j \in \mathbb{Z}} V_j = \{0\}$ , because  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}(L^2(\mathbb{R})) = L^2(\mathbb{R})$  and  $\mathcal{F}^{-1}(0) = 0$ .  
The Nyquist-Shannon theorem yields  $f(t) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} f(n) \varphi(t - n)$ . And  $f(n) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\hat{f} \mathbf{1}_{[-\pi, \pi[)}(n) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\hat{f} \hat{\varphi})(n) = \mathcal{F}^{-1}(\widehat{f \star \varphi})(n) = (f \star \varphi)(n) = \langle f, \varphi(\cdot - n) \rangle$ , hence the result.

### Haar Wavelets

1. Notice the translation and the dilation.
- 2.

$$W_j \stackrel{\text{def.}}{=} \left\{ f \in L^2(\mathbb{R}) \text{ s.t. } f \text{ constant on } I_{j-1,k} \text{ and } \int_{I_{j,k}} f = 0 \right\}$$

Orthogonal to  $V_j$  because of the zero integral in the segments  $I_{j,k}$ .

3. Orthogonality should be clear from the drawing.

$$f \in V_j = \sum_k 2^{j/2} \varphi_{j,k} f(2^j k) = \sum_k \langle \varphi_{j,k}, f \rangle \varphi_{j,k}$$

$$\forall g \in W_j, \sum_k \langle g, \psi_{j,k} \rangle \psi_{j,k} \propto \sum_j \varphi_{j-1,k} \begin{cases} g(2^{j-1}k) - g(2^{j-1}(k+1)) = 2 \times g(2^{j-1}k) & \text{if } k \text{ even} \\ g(2^{j-1}k) - g(2^{j-1}(k-1)) = 2 \times g(2^{j-1}k) & \text{if } k \text{ odd} \end{cases} \propto g$$

### Up and down sampling

1. One has

$$\langle x \downarrow_2, y \rangle = \sum_i x_{2i} y_i = \sum_i (x_{2i} y_i + x_{2i+1} 0) = \sum_i (x_{2i} (y \uparrow^2)_{2i} + x_{2i+1} (y \uparrow^2)_{2i+1}).$$

2. It is the convolution against  $h_{-i}$ .
3. One has

$$[(x \downarrow_2) \star h]_i = \sum_k x_{2k} h_{i-k} = \sum_k (x_{2k} h_{i-k} + x_{2k+1} 0) = \sum_k (x_{2k} (h \uparrow^2)_{2(i-k)} + x_{2k+1} (h \uparrow^2)_{2(i-k)-1}) = (\downarrow_2 (x \star (h \uparrow^2)))_i$$

One thus has

$$[(x \star H^k) \downarrow_{2^k} \star h] \downarrow_2 = [x \star H^k \star (h \uparrow^{2^k})] \downarrow_{2^{k+1}} = [x \star H^{k+1}] \downarrow_{2^{k+1}}$$

4. One has

$$H^1 = [1, 1]/2 \star [1, 0, 1, 0]/2 = [1, 1, 1, 1]/4$$

and more generally  $H^s = \mathbf{1}_{[0, \dots, 2^{s+1}-1]}/2^{s+1}$

## Heisenberg inequality

1. (a) Change of variables  
 (b) By change of variables,  $m(f_\gamma) = \gamma \times m(f)$  and  $s(f_\gamma) = \gamma \times s(f)$   
 (c) Since  $\hat{f}_\gamma(\omega) = \sqrt{\gamma} \hat{f}(\omega)$ , by change of variables,  $\mu(f_\gamma) = \mu(f)/\gamma$  and  $\sigma(f_\gamma) = \sigma(f)/\gamma$   
 (d) Reducing variance in one domain makes it bigger in the other.

2. The product reads

$$s^2 \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{2\pi \|f\|^4} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |tf(t)|^2 dt \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |\omega \hat{f}(\omega)|^2 d\omega.$$

We notice that since  $\omega \mapsto i\omega \hat{f}(\omega)$  is the Fourier transform of  $t \mapsto f'(t)$ , the Plancherel equality gives

$$s^2 \sigma^2 = \frac{1}{\|f\|^4} \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |tf(t)|^2 dt \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} |f'(t)|^2 dt.$$

3. By applying Cauchy-Schwarz,

$$s^2 \sigma^2 \geq \frac{1}{\|f\|^4} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} tf(t) \overline{f'(t)} dt \right)^2.$$

4. We can rewrite this as

$$s^2 \sigma^2 \geq \frac{1}{\|f\|^4} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{t}{2} \left( \overline{f'(t)} f(t) + \overline{f(t)} f'(t) \right) dt \right)^2$$

then

$$s^2 \sigma^2 \geq \frac{1}{4\|f\|^4} \left( \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} t(|f(t)|^2)' dt \right)^2$$

Finally, integration by parts (since  $\lim_{|t| \rightarrow +\infty} \sqrt{t} f(t) = 0$ ) gives

$$\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} t(|f(t)|^2)' dt = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} f(t)^2 dt,$$

hence

$$s^2 \sigma^2 \geq \frac{1}{4}.$$

5. Equality case of Cauchy-Schwarz,  $f'(t) = \lambda t f(t)$ . So  $f(t) \propto e^{\lambda t^2/2}$ .