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# **Samplet basis pursuit**

**Multiresolution scattered data approximation with sparsity  
constraints**

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joint work with D. Baroli and H. Harbrecht

SNSF StG: “Multiresolution methods for unstructured data”

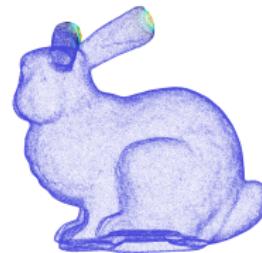
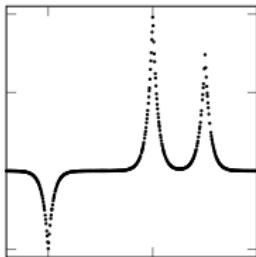


## Outline

- 1. Samples**
- 2. Samplet basis pursuit**
- 3. Numerical examples**
- 4. Conclusion**



## Scattered data



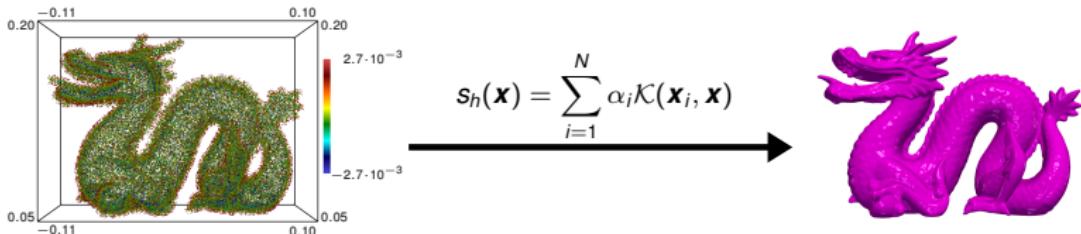
- In many applications, we are given a set of data points.
- Examples are measurements or sample values.
- We denote the set of *data sites* by

$$X = \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \subset \mathbb{R}^d.$$

- If the data sites have no regular structure, we refer to them as *scattered data*.



## Scattered data



- Given data values  $f(\mathbf{x}_i)$ ,  $\mathbf{x}_i \in X$ , we want to detect features or compress them.
- To make predictions, we want to interpolate or fit the data values.
- In this talk, we consider a dictionary of reproducing kernels to sparsely approximate data.
- To this end, we consider the RKHS embeddings of samplet bases.



## Functional analytic setting

- Let  $X := \{\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N\} \subset \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  denote a set of data sites.
- We introduce the Dirac- $\delta$ -distributions

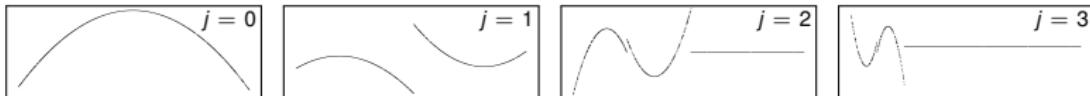
$$\delta_{\mathbf{x}_1}, \dots, \delta_{\mathbf{x}_N} \in [C(\Omega)]'.$$

- The Dirac- $\delta$ -distributions satisfy  $(f, \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i})_{\Omega} := \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}(f) = f(\mathbf{x}_i)$  for all  $f \in C(\Omega)$ .
- The *data values*  $f_i := (f, \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i})_{\Omega}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , amount to the available information of the function  $f \in C(\Omega)$ .
- We define the Hilbert space  $\mathcal{X} := \text{span}\{\delta_{\mathbf{x}_1}, \dots, \delta_{\mathbf{x}_N}\} \subset [C(\Omega)]'$  with inner product given by

$$\langle u, v \rangle_{\mathcal{X}} := \sum_{i=1}^N u_i v_i, \quad \text{where } u = \sum_{i=1}^N u_i \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}, \quad v = \sum_{i=1}^N v_i \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i}.$$



## Samplets



- Let  $\mathcal{X}_0 \subset \mathcal{X}_1 \subset \dots \subset \mathcal{X}_J := \mathcal{X}$  be a multiresolution analysis with

$$\mathcal{X}_j := \text{span } \Phi_j, \quad \Phi_j := \{\varphi_{j,k}\}_k.$$

- Each distribution  $\varphi_{j,k}$  is a linear combination of Dirac- $\delta$ -distributions.
- Since  $\mathcal{X}_j \subset \mathcal{X}_{j+1}$ , we can (orthogonally) decompose  $\mathcal{X}_{j+1} = \mathcal{X}_j \oplus \mathcal{S}_j$ .
- For  $\mathcal{S}_j$ , we introduce the orthonormal bases  $\Sigma_j := \{\sigma_{j,k}\}_k$ .
- Recursively applying the decomposition, the set  $\Sigma_J = \Phi_0 \cup \bigcup_{j=0}^{J-1} \Sigma_j$  is a basis of  $\mathcal{X}_J$ , which we call *samplet basis*.
- For data compression, we may construct samplets with vanishing moments

$$(p, \sigma_{j,k})_\Omega = 0 \quad \text{for all } p \in \mathcal{P}_q(\Omega).$$



## Properties of samplets

[Harbrecht-M. '22]



- The samplet basis can be constructed with cost  $\mathcal{O}(N)$ .
- The number of all samplets on level  $j$  scales like  $2^j$ .
- They are orthonormal and have vanishing moments of order  $q + 1$ .
- For  $f \in C^{q+1}(O)$ ,  $\tau \subset O$ , where  $\tau$  is the support of a samplet  $\sigma_{j,k}$ , there holds

$$|(f, \sigma_{j,k})_\Omega| \leq \left(\frac{d}{2}\right)^{q+1} \frac{\text{diam}(\tau)^{q+1}}{(q+1)!} \|f\|_{C^{q+1}(O)} \|\omega_{j,k}\|_1.$$

- Herein,  $\omega_{j,k}$  is the coefficient vector of the measure  $\sigma_{j,k}$ .
- For quasi-uniform data sets  $X$ , we have  $\text{diam}(\tau) \sim 2^{-j/d}$ .



## Properties of samplets II

- The mapping  $f \mapsto If := [(f, \delta_{x_1})_\Omega, \dots, (f, \delta_{x_N})_\Omega]^\top$  defines an operator  $I: C(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N$ .
- Samplets represent  $\mathbf{f} = If$  in a multiresolution fashion, i.e.,

$$\mathbf{f}^\Sigma = \mathbf{T}\mathbf{f},$$

where  $\mathbf{f}^\Sigma := [(f, \sigma_{j,k})_\Omega]^\top$  and  $\mathbf{T} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  is orthogonal.

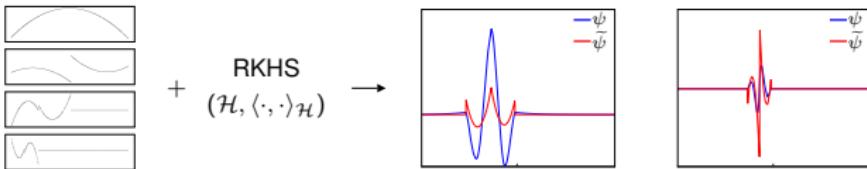
- The cost for the fast samplet transform is  $\mathcal{O}(N)$ .
- If  $\mathcal{K} \in C(\Omega \times \Omega)$  is *asymptotically smooth* and  $X$  is quasi-uniform, we can approximate the samplet representation of  $\mathbf{K} := (I \otimes I)\mathcal{K}$  with cost  $\mathcal{O}(N \log N)$ .
- Setting all entries of  $\mathbf{K}^\Sigma$  whose corresponding samplets' supports  $\tau, \tau'$  satisfy  $\text{dist}(\tau, \tau') \geq \eta \max\{\text{diam}(\tau), \text{diam}(\tau')\}$  to zero yields

$$\|\mathbf{K}^\Sigma - \mathbf{K}_\varepsilon^\Sigma\|_F \lesssim m_q(\rho\eta/d)^{-2(q+1)} \|\mathbf{K}^\Sigma\|_F.$$



## Samplets in RKHS

[Baroli-Harbrecht-M. '24]



- Let  $\mathcal{H} \subset C(\Omega)$  be a Hilbert space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}$ .
- Then,  $\mathcal{H}$  is a *reproducing kernel Hilbert space* (RKHS) with reproducing kernel

$$\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := (R\delta_{\mathbf{x}})(\mathbf{y}),$$

by the Riesz representation theorem.

- Given a subspace  $\mathcal{H}_X := \text{span}\{\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}_1, \cdot), \dots, \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}_N, \cdot)\} \subset \mathcal{H}$ , samplets induce a multiresolution basis for  $\mathcal{H}_X$  via the embedding

$$\sigma_{j,k} = \sum_{i=1}^N \omega_{j,k,i} \delta_{\mathbf{x}_i} \mapsto \psi_{j,k} = R\sigma_{j,k} = \sum_{i=1}^N \omega_{j,k,i} \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}_i, \cdot).$$

- There holds  $\langle \psi_{j,k}, h \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = 0$  if  $h|_O \in \mathcal{P}_q(O)$ .



## Dual samplets in RKHS

- The dual basis is characterized by

$$\tilde{\psi}_{j,k} = \sum_{i=1}^N \tilde{\omega}_{j,k,i} \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}_i, \cdot), \quad \tilde{\omega}_{j,k} := \mathbf{K}^{-1} \boldsymbol{\omega}_{j,k}, \quad \text{where } \mathbf{K} = [\mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{x}_j)]_{i,j=1}^N.$$

- For  $h \in \mathcal{H}$ , the orthogonal projection onto  $\mathcal{H}_X$  is given by

$$s_h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \langle \tilde{\psi}_i, h \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} \psi_i(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{i=1}^N \alpha_i \mathcal{K}(\mathbf{x}_i, \cdot), \quad \boldsymbol{\alpha} = \mathbf{T}^{\top} [\langle \tilde{\psi}_i, h \rangle_{\mathcal{H}}]_{i=1}^N.$$

- It satisfies  $s_h(\mathbf{x}_i) = h(\mathbf{x}_i)$  for all  $\mathbf{x}_i \in X$ .

- There holds

$$\langle \tilde{\psi}_{j,k}, h \rangle_{\mathcal{H}} = 0 \quad \text{if } \alpha_i = p(\mathbf{x}_i) \text{ for some } p|_O \in \mathcal{P}_q(O).$$

- If a signal is sparse in the kernel basis, it is also sparse in the samplet basis.
- This means that sparsity in the samplet basis is the more general concept.



## Samplet basis pursuit

- For data  $\mathbf{h} := [h(\mathbf{x}_i)]_{i=1}^N$ , and a dictionary of kernels  $\mathcal{K}_1, \dots, \mathcal{K}_L$  we are looking for a sparse approximation

$$s_h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^L \sum_{i=1}^N \beta_i^{(j)} \psi_i^{(j)}(\mathbf{x}).$$

- To this end, we solve the underdetermined least squares problem

$$\min_{\alpha \in \mathbb{R}^{L \cdot N}} \frac{1}{2} \|\mathbf{h} - \mathbf{K}\alpha\|_2^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{L \cdot N} w_i |\beta_i|,$$

where  $\mathbf{K} := [\mathbf{K}_1, \dots, \mathbf{K}_L]$ ,  $\alpha^\top := [\alpha_1^\top, \dots, \alpha_L^\top]$  and  $\beta^\top := [(\mathbf{T}\alpha_1)^\top, \dots, (\mathbf{T}\alpha_L)^\top]$  (we set  $w_i = \lambda$ ).

- Note that the Euclidean norm is invariant under the samplet transform.
- Computations can efficiently be carried out in samplet coordinates.



## Numerical solution

[Griesse-Lorenz '08]

- Numerical algorithms to solve the  $\ell^1$ -regularized minimization problem are based on soft-thresholding.
- The optimal coefficient can be retrieved from the root finding problem

$$\mathbf{0} = \boldsymbol{\beta}^* - \text{SS}_{\gamma \mathbf{w}} (\boldsymbol{\beta}^* + \gamma (\mathbf{K}^\Sigma)^\top (\mathbf{h}^\Sigma - \mathbf{K}^\Sigma \boldsymbol{\beta}^*)) \quad \text{for any } \gamma > 0.$$

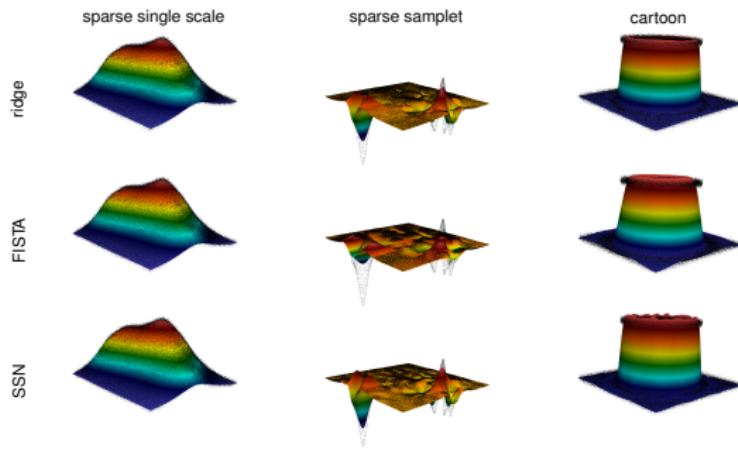
- Herein, the soft-shrinkage operator is given by

$$\text{SS}_{\mathbf{w}}(\mathbf{v}) := \text{sign}(\mathbf{v}) \max\{\mathbf{0}, |\mathbf{v}| - \mathbf{w}\}.$$

- The root finding problem is solved by the semi-smooth Newton method (with iterative regularization).



# Sparse reconstruction



sparse single scale			
	ridge	FISTA	MRSSN
iterations	103	10 000	411
comp. time	4.51s	1 777.42s	58.48s
final $ A $	973 731	32 963	101
residual	$8.3 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$2.0 \cdot 10^{-9}$

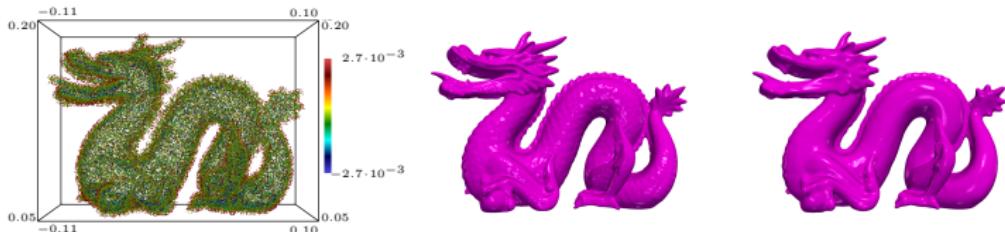
sparse samplet			
	ridge	FISTA	MRSSN
iterations	170	10 000	422
comp. time	11.3s	1 857.19s	57.86s
final $ A $	827 864	35 194	163
residual	$1.2 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$2.6 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$2.3 \cdot 10^{-7}$

cartoon			
	ridge	FISTA	MRSSN
iterations	118	10 000	646
comp. time	5.17s	1 970.76s	80.46s
final $ A $	978 740	218 570	261
residual	$9.6 \cdot 10^{-8}$	$7.1 \cdot 10^{-2}$	$3.4 \cdot 10^{-7}$

- The kernel is a Matérn-3/2 kernel.
- We employ samplets with  $q + 1 = 4$  vanishing moments.
- Examples 1 and 2 have 10 non vanishing coefficients each.



## Surface reconstruction



- We consider  $N = 10^6$  values of the signed distance function.
- The same regularization parameter for ridge- and  $\ell^1$ -regularization is used.
- The kernel is a scaled exponential kernel.
- The approximate signed distance function is evaluated on a grid with  $400 \times 400 \times 400$  points.
- For  $\ell^1$ -regularization, we obtain  $\|\beta\|_0 = 6\,233$  non-zero coefficients.



## Setup

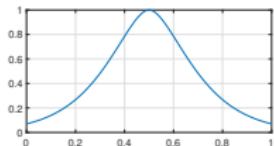
[Contains modified Copernicus Climate Change Service information 2022]

- We approximate an adaptive subsample ( $N = 1.2 \cdot 10^6$ ) of the ERA5 monthly temperature data set of 2022.
- We set  $q + 1 = 4$  and  $\lambda = 10^{-6}$ .
- The data are rescaled to  $[0, 1]^3$ . We employ the kernels

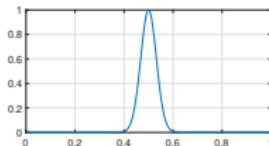
$$\mathcal{K}_1((\mathbf{x}, t), (\mathbf{y}, t')) := k_{3/2}(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}\|_2)k_{\text{per}}(|t - t'|)$$

and

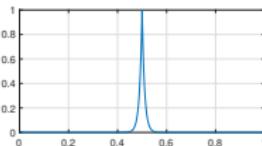
$$\mathcal{K}_2(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{z}') := k_{\text{exp}}(\|\mathbf{z} - \mathbf{z}'\|_2), \quad \mathbf{z} := (\mathbf{x}, t), \quad \mathbf{z}' := (\mathbf{y}, t').$$



$$k_{3/2}(r) := (1 + 5\sqrt{3})e^{-5\sqrt{3}r}$$



$$k_{\text{per}}(r) := e^{-50 \sin^2(\pi r)}$$



$$k_{\text{exp}}(r) := e^{-100r}$$



## Reconstruction

- We obtain  $\|\beta\|_0 = 6\,554$  with  $\|\beta_1\|_0 = 671$  and  $\|\beta_2\|_0 = 5\,883$ .
- The relative error is computed at all ( $\approx 12M$ ) points of the data set and smaller than 9.73% for all time steps.



# Conclusion



- Samplets are a multiresolution analysis of discrete signed measures with vanishing moments.
- Samplets can be constructed on general scattered data sets.
- The embedding of samplets into RKHS is straightforward.
- Samplets compress kernel matrices of asymptotically smooth kernels to  $N \log N$  relevant entries.
- Samplet basis pursuit facilitates the retrieval of sparse representations.
- Code (C++ with pybind11) is available on [github.com/muchip/fmca](https://github.com/muchip/fmca).



# Thank you

## References

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