



# On complexity of numerical problems of continuous mathematics

---

Leszek Plaskota  
leszekp@mimuw.edu.pl

Colloquium WMIM  
November 18, 2021

**Numerical analysis** deals with solving numerically problems of continuous mathematics

- Creation and analysis of algorithms
- Software implementations
- Computational complexity

① Linear equations

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{m,n}, \quad \vec{b} \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

② Integration

$$\int_D f(\vec{x}) \, d\vec{x}, \quad f \in F$$

③ Approximation

$$f \in F \hookrightarrow G$$

④ .....

# What is going on?

Consider  $n \times n$  system

$$A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & & & & & & 1 \\ -1 & 1 & & & & & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & 1 & & & & 1 \\ -1 & -1 & -1 & 1 & & & 1 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ -1 & -1 & \dots & -1 & -1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{b} = A \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ 1 \\ \vdots \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

MATLAB returns a solution with relative  $l_\infty$  error

$$\begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } 1 \leq n \leq 54 \\ 1 & \text{for } n = 55 \end{cases}$$

even though  $A$  is very well conditioned

# A general framework

# IBC = Information-Based Complexity

*The problem:*  $S : F \rightarrow G$

*Information:*  $\mathcal{I} : F \rightarrow Y$

*Algorithm:*  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow \mathcal{Z}$        $Y, \mathcal{Z} \subset \cup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{R}^n$

*Interpretation:*  $\mathcal{Z} : Y \rightarrow G$

If  $S$  a functional then  $G = \mathcal{Z} = \mathbb{R}$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F & \xrightarrow{S} & \mathbb{R} \\ \mathcal{I} \downarrow & \nearrow \varphi & \\ Y & & \end{array}$$

or

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F & \xrightarrow{S} & G \\ \mathcal{I} \downarrow & & \uparrow \tau \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & Z \end{array}$$

$$\mathcal{I}f = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \in Y$$

*Nonadaptive information* ( $Y = \mathbb{R}^n$ ):

$$y_i = L_i f, \quad L_i \in \Lambda$$

*Adaptive information* ( $Y$  is a prefix-free set):

$$y_i = L_i(f; y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}), \quad L_i(\cdot; y_1, \dots, y_{i-1}) \in \Lambda$$

Here  $\Lambda$  is a class of permissible functionals

In what follows  $\Phi = \mathcal{T} \circ \varphi$

$$\text{comp}(\varepsilon) = \inf \{ \text{cost}(\mathcal{I}) : \Phi \text{ s.t. } \text{error}(\Phi, \mathcal{I}) \leq \varepsilon \}$$

Cost and error are defined depending on the setting:

- worst case setting
- average case setting
- asymptotic setting
- randomized settings
- various mixed settings
- .....



Let  $\mathcal{F} \subset F$  be a class problem instances

$$\begin{aligned}\text{error}(\Phi, \mathcal{I}) &= \sup \{ \|Sf - \Phi(\mathcal{I}f)\|_G : f \in \mathcal{F} \} \\ \text{cost}(\mathcal{I}) &= \sup \{ n = |\mathcal{I}f|, f \in \mathcal{F} \}\end{aligned}$$

Some general issues (for linear problems):

- linear vs. nonlinear algorithms
- adaptive vs. nonadaptive information
- worst case vs. asymptotic approach
- .....

*Radius of information:*

$$\text{rad}(\mathcal{I}) = \inf \{ \text{error}(\Phi, \mathcal{I}) : \Phi - \text{arbitrary} \}$$

## Theorem (Smolyak 1963)

*Let*

- *the problem  $S : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a linear functional*
- *information  $\mathcal{I} = (L_1, \dots, L_n)$  be nonadaptive*
- *the class  $\mathcal{F} \subset F$  be convex and balanced*

*Then there is a linear algorithm  $\varphi$  that is optimal, i.e.,*

$$\text{error}(\varphi, \mathcal{I}) = \text{rad}(\mathcal{I}).$$

Theorem (Bakhvalov 1971, Taub & Woźniakowski 1980)

*Let*

- *the problem  $S : F \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a linear operator*
- *the class  $\mathcal{F} \subset F$  be convex and balanced*

*Then for any adaptive information  $\mathcal{I}^{\text{ada}}$  there is nonadaptive information  $\mathcal{I}^{\text{non}}$  such that*

$$\begin{aligned}\text{cost}(\mathcal{I}^{\text{non}}) &\leq \text{cost}(\mathcal{I}^{\text{ada}}) \\ \text{rad}(\mathcal{I}^{\text{non}}) &\leq 2 * \text{rad}(\mathcal{I}^{\text{ada}})\end{aligned}$$

*If  $S$  is a functional then  $\text{rad}(\mathcal{I}^{\text{non}}) \leq \text{rad}(\mathcal{I}^{\text{ada}})$ .*

In the asymptotic approach we are interested in the behavior of

$$\|Sf - \Phi_n(\mathcal{I}_n f)\|_G \quad \text{as } n \rightarrow +\infty$$

for *each* individual  $f \in F$ , where  $\mathcal{I}_n$  uses  $n$  evaluations

## Theorem (Trojan 1980)

Let

- $F$  be a Banach space
- the problem  $S : F \rightarrow G$  be a linear operator

Then for any positive sequence  $\{\delta_n\}_{n \geq 1}$  converging to zero the set

$$\left\{ f \in F : \limsup_{n \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{\|Sf - \Phi_n(\mathcal{I}_n f)\|_G}{\delta_n * \text{rad}(\mathcal{I}_n)} < +\infty \right\}$$

does not contain any nontrivial ball.

(Here the radius is with respect to the unit ball of  $F$ )

# Numerical integration

Let  $F$  be a Banach space of functions  $f \in C^r([a, b])$  with norm

$$\|f\| = \|f\|_\infty + \|f^{(r)}\|_\infty$$

and the class  $\mathcal{F} = \{f \in F : \|f\|_F \leq 1\}$

The problem:

$$S(f) = \int_a^b f(x) \, dx, \quad f \in F$$

Information:

$$L \in \Lambda \quad \text{iff} \quad Lf = f(x) \quad \text{for some} \quad x \in [a, b]$$

## Theorem

*For the integration problem, the worst case complexity is*

$$\text{comp}(\varepsilon) \asymp \varepsilon^{-r}$$

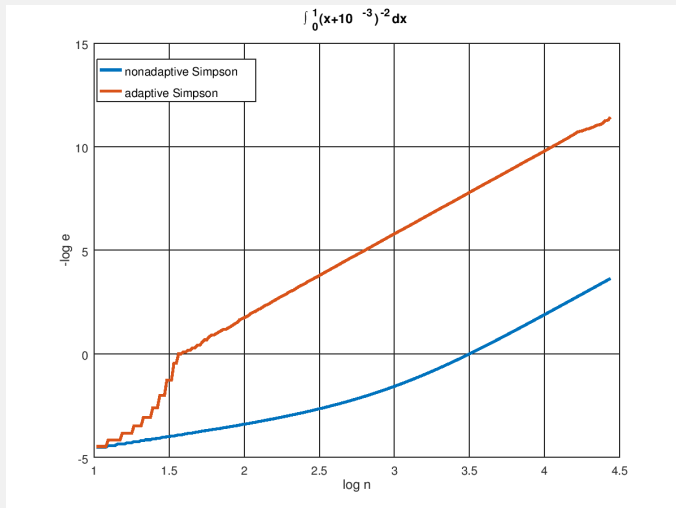
*and is achieved by nonadaptive quadratures*

$$Q_n(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_{if}(x_i)$$

*that are composed of simple quadratures of degree of exactness  $r$ .  
In particular, adaption does not help.*

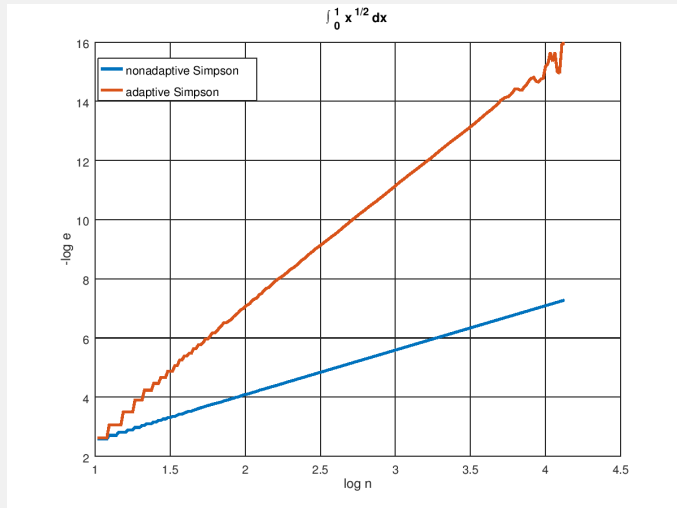
Moreover, in the asymptotic approach the worst case convergence rate  $n^{-r}$  cannot be beaten

# Adaption does not help?





# Adaption does not help?



$L^p$  approximation of Hölder classes  
from noisy data

Let  $K = [0, 1]^d$ ,  $r \geq 0$ ,  $0 < \varrho \leq 1$

$H_{r,\varrho}^d$  be the space of functions  $f \in C^r(K)$  s.t. all the derivatives

$$\mathcal{D}^{(\alpha)}f = \frac{\partial^{|\alpha|}f}{\partial x_1^{\alpha_1} \dots \partial x_d^{\alpha_d}} \quad \text{with} \quad \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d), \quad |\alpha| = r$$

are Hölder continuous with exponent  $\varrho$ . The problem is to approximate  $f \in H_{r,\varrho}^d$  in the  $L^p$ -norm with

$$1 \leq p < +\infty,$$

based on noisy observations of  $f$ .

*Nonadaptive* information  $\mathbf{y} = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \in Y$  where

$$y_j = f(\mathbf{x}_j) + e_j, \quad e_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_j^2), \quad 1 \leq j \leq n$$

*Adaptive* information

$$y_j = f(\mathbf{x}_j(y_1, \dots, y_{j-1})) + e_j, \quad e_j \sim \mathcal{N}(0, \sigma_j^2(y_1, \dots, y_{j-1}))$$

The points  $\mathbf{x}_j$  and precisions  $\sigma_j$  are subject to our choice.

Let  $\pi_f$  be the probability measure corresponding to the distribution of information  $\mathbf{y}$  about  $f$ ,

$$\Pi = \{\pi_f\}_{f \in F}$$

For  $f \in H_{r,\rho}^d$  define the seminorm

$$[f]_{r,\rho} = \max_{|\alpha|=r} \sup_{\mathbf{t}_1, \mathbf{t}_2 \in K} \frac{|\mathcal{D}^{(\alpha)}f(\mathbf{t}_1) - \mathcal{D}^{(\alpha)}f(\mathbf{t}_2)|}{\|\mathbf{t}_1 - \mathbf{t}_2\|_\infty^\rho} < +\infty$$

and the class

$$\mathcal{H} = \mathcal{H}_{r,\rho}^d = \left\{ f \in H_{r,\rho}^d : [f]_{r,\rho} \leq 1 \right\}$$

The (worst case)  $L^p$ -error of  $\Phi$  using information  $\Pi$  is

$$\text{error}(\Phi, \Pi) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \left( \int_Y \|f - \Phi(\mathbf{y})\|_{L^p}^p \pi_f(d\mathbf{y}) \right)^{1/p}$$

where  $\|f - \Phi(\mathbf{y})\|_{L^p} = \left( \int_K |(f - \Phi(\mathbf{y}))(\mathbf{x})|^p d\mathbf{x} \right)^{1/p}$ .

The cost of a single observation with variance  $\sigma^2$  equals  $c(\sigma)$ ,

$$c : [0, +\infty) \rightarrow (0, +\infty]$$

is a non-trivial and non-increasing *cost function*. Then

$$\text{cost}(\Pi) = \sup_{f \in \mathcal{H}} \int_Y \sum_{i=1}^{n(\mathbf{y})} c(\sigma_i(y_1, \dots, y_{i-1})) \pi_f(d\mathbf{y})$$

If

$$c(\sigma) = \begin{cases} +\infty, & 0 \leq \sigma < \sigma_0, \\ 1, & \sigma_0 \leq \sigma, \end{cases}$$

then we observe with fixed variance  $\sigma_0^2 \geq 0$  at cost 1.

## Theorem

For exact information  $\text{comp}(\varepsilon) \asymp \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{d}{r+q}}$ .

Otherwise, letting  $\hat{c}(x) = c(x^{-1/2})$ , we have

- (i) If  $\hat{c}$  is concave then  $\text{comp}(\varepsilon) \asymp c(\varepsilon) \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{d}{r+q}}$
- (ii) If  $\hat{c}$  is convex and  $\hat{c}(0) > 0$  or  $\hat{c}'(0) > 0$  then  
 $\text{comp}(\varepsilon) \asymp \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{d}{r+q}+2}$
- (iii) If  $\hat{c}$  is convex and  $\hat{c}(0) = \hat{c}'(0) = 0$  then  $\text{comp}(\varepsilon) = 0$

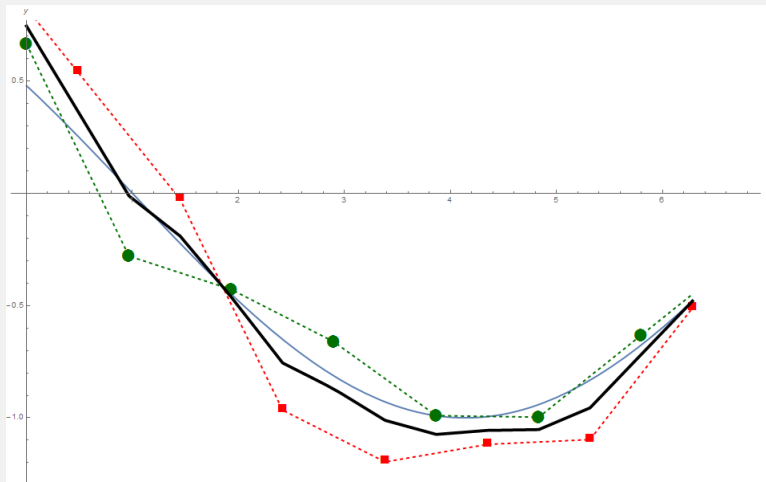
For instance, for  $c(\sigma) = 1 + \sigma^{-2t}$ ,  $t \geq 0$ , we have

$$\text{comp}(\varepsilon) \asymp \left(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}\right)^{\frac{d}{r+q} + 2 \min(t, 1)}$$

- ① Importance of the one-dimensional problem: approximate  $f \in [-\tau, \tau]$  from its noisy observations with Gaussian noise
- ② Adaption may help by a constant only
- ③ Nonlinear algorithms are better than linear once by a constant only
- ④ To achieve complexity bounds it is enough to use:
  - observations on regular grid with variance  $\sigma^2 = \varepsilon^2$  and piecewise polynomial interpolation on exact data (in case of concave  $\hat{c}$ ), or
  - observations on regular grid with variance  $\sigma_0^2$  independent of  $\varepsilon$  and piecewise polynomial interpolation on smoothed data (in case of convex  $\hat{c}$ ).



# Smoothing ( $d = 1, r = 1$ )



- Traub J.F., Wasilkowski G.W., Woźniakowski H., *Information-Based Complexity*. Academic Press, New York, 1988
- Plaskota L., *Noisy Information and Computational Complexity*, Cambridge Univ. Press, Cambridge, 1996
- Novak E., Woźniakowski H., *Tractability of Multivariate Problems*, Tracts in Mathematics **6**, EMS, Vol. I (2008), Vol. II (2010), Vol. III (2012)
- Plaskota L., Automatic integration using asymptotically optimal adaptive Simpson quadrature, *Numerische Mathematik*, **131** (2015)
- Morkisz P., Plaskota L., Complexity of approximating Hölder classes from information with varying Gaussian noise, *J. Complexity* **60** (2020) 101497
- Plaskota L., Samoraj P., Automatic approximation using asymptotically optimal adaptive interpolation, *Numerical Algorithms* (2021)

Thank you