

1. Bilinear functionals and quadratic forms

Exercise 10, pages 17 & 18 of the lecture notes; look through section 2.1.7 first.

2. Restriction of functionals

(≈ Exercise 12, pages 19, 20)

Consider the functional

$$\mathcal{L}(u) = \int_{-1}^1 (u(x) - \sin(x))^2 dx$$

for functions in  $\{u : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\}$  where it is well defined. Minimizing this functional is an example of the least squares method to approximate the function  $\sin$  by a function  $u$  from a given subset. Clearly, if any function  $u$  would be allowed, the solution of the minimization problem would be  $u_{\min} = \sin$ .

(a) Let  $P_2$  be the set of polynomials of degree at most two:

$$P_2 = \{u : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, u(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 \mid a_0, a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

This is a three dimensional space. A set of polynomials  $P_3$  of degree three is defined analogously. Restrict the functional to the spaces  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  and find the corresponding functions  $L_{P_2}$  and  $L_{P_3}$  (these are functions of three or four variables, respectively; evaluate them as far as possible).

(b) Find the minimizers of these functions and write down the minimizing polynomials. Illustrate the approximations of the  $\sin$  function by means of suitable plots.

(c) Interpret the minimizing polynomials as the projection of the function  $\sin$  on the sets of polynomials. To make that statement explicit, show that a function  $u_P$  minimizes the functional  $\mathcal{L}$  on a given set  $P$ ,  $u_P \in \text{Min}_{u \in P} \{\mathcal{L}(u)\}$ , if it is given by  $u_P = \rho_P v_P$  with  $\rho_P = \langle \sin, v_P \rangle$ , where  $v_P$  is the solution of the maximization problem  $v_P \in \text{Max}_{v \in P} \{\langle v, \sin \rangle \mid \|v\|^2 = 1\}$ . Here  $\| \cdot \|$  and  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  denote the usual  $L_2$ -norm and inner product. Start with the identity

$$\|u - \sin\|^2 = \|u\|^2 - 2\langle u, \sin \rangle + \|\sin\|^2,$$

and replace  $u$  by its ‘length’  $\rho = \|u\|$  and its ‘orientation’  $v = u/\|u\|$  (Draw the corresponding situation for the projection of a given vector on a subspace).

(d) Find the projection of  $\sin$  (the least squares approximation) on the polynomial sets  $P_2$  and  $P_3$  for the norm  $\| \cdot \|_1$  given by

$$\|u\|_1^2 = \int_{-1}^1 u_x^2(x) dx.$$

Wherever possible, use Maple to do the manipulations.

3. Lagranges Lemma

(Exercise 24)

Give a *sketch* of a proof of the Lagrange Lemma as stated on page 24 of the lecture notes. Remarks:

- For the definition of the space of test functions  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$  you might wish to consider section 2.1.2.
- In case you need a test function with specific properties that are compatible with the definition of  $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ : State the properties explicitly, and assume that such a function exists; do not try to construct it explicitly. Note that in general  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ .
- The Lemma addresses functions that map to real numbers  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as well as vector functions  $f : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  (with the dot product  $f \cdot \eta$ ). It may be convenient to consider these cases separately.