

Problem 4. a) Let $x_1, \dots, x_n$ be real numbers. Prove that

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\sin(x_i - x_j)}{x_i - x_j} \geq \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{\sin(x_i + x_j)}{x_i + x_j}$$

with the convention that $\frac{\sin x}{x} = 1$ when $x = 0$.

b) Compute $\int_0^1 \sin 2x \sin 5x \, dx$.

Solution. We start with part b) as it will give us a clue how to solve a).

Recall that $\cos u - \cos w = -2 \sin \frac{(u+w)}{2} \sin \frac{(u-w)}{2}$. Setting $u = a - b$, $w = a + b$, we get

$$2 \sin a \sin b = \cos(a - b) - \cos(a + b).$$

Thus

$$2 \int_0^1 \sin ax \sin bx \, dx = \int_0^1 \cos(x(a - b)) \, dx - \int_0^1 \cos(x(a + b)) \, dx = \frac{\sin(a - b)}{a - b} - \frac{\sin(a + b)}{a + b}. \quad (1)$$

Note that (1) works for $a = b$ too.

In particular, $\int_0^1 \sin 2x \sin 5x \, dx = \frac{\sin 3}{6} - \frac{\sin 7}{14}$.

We can now solve a). Taking (1) with $a = x_i$, $b = x_j$ yields

$$\frac{\sin(x_i - x_j)}{x_i - x_j} - \frac{\sin(x_i + x_j)}{x_i + x_j} = 2 \int_0^1 \sin tx_i \sin tx_j \, dt.$$

Adding these equalities, we get

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{\sin(x_i - x_j)}{x_i - x_j} - \frac{\sin(x_i + x_j)}{x_i + x_j} \right) &= 2 \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \int_0^1 \sin tx_i \sin tx_j \, dt = \\ 2 \int_0^1 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \sin tx_i \sin tx_j \right) dt &= 2 \int_0^1 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sin tx_i \right)^2 dt \geq 0 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the inequality in part a).

A (slightly) different solution. We now show a solution which does not use integration. Consider the function

$$g(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \left(\frac{\sin t(x_i - x_j)}{x_i - x_j} - \frac{\sin t(x_i + x_j)}{x_i + x_j} \right)$$

with the convention that $\sin ta/a = t$ when $a = 0$. We need to prove that $g(1) \geq 0$. Note that $g(0) = 0$ and

$$g'(t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n (\cos t(x_i - x_j) - \cos t(x_i + x_j)) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n 2 \sin tx_i \sin tx_j = 2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \sin tx_i \right)^2 \geq 0.$$

Thus the function g is nondecreasing and therefore $g(1) \geq g(0) = 0$.

Exercise. When does the equality hold in part a)?