### 1 Optimization Problem

Suppose  $Y \sim (\mu, 1)$  and let

$$L_{q}(\mu) = 2^{q-2}(Y-\mu)^{2} + \lambda |\mu|^{q}$$

and

$$\hat{\mu}_q = \underset{\mu}{\arg\min} L_q(\mu)$$

One approach to solve this optimization problem is *subdifferentiation*.

#### 2 Subdifferential

**Definition 2.1.** c is a subderivative of f at  $X_0$  when:

$$f(X) - F(X_0) \ge c(X - X_0)$$

Denote the set of subderivatives by  $\partial f|_{X_0}$ .

A convex function can be optimized by setting it's subderivative to zero.

### **3** $\ell_1$ and Soft-Thresholding

 $\hat{\mu}_1$  minimizes  $L_1$  if and only if  $0 \in L_1|_{\hat{\mu}_1}$ 

We define *soft thresholding* as follows:

$$\hat{\mu}_1 = \begin{cases} Y + \lambda; & Y < -\lambda \\ 0; & -\lambda \le Y \le \lambda = \operatorname{sgn}(Y)(|Y| - \lambda)_+ \\ Y - \lambda; & Y > \lambda \end{cases}$$

# 4 Example of Orthogonal Design

Let  $p \leq n$  and  $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbb{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}$  where  $\frac{1}{n}\mathbb{X}^T\mathbb{X} = \mathbf{I}$ .

We solve the following minimization problem:

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{\beta}}_{\lambda} = \operatorname*{arg\,min}_{\boldsymbol{\beta}} \frac{1}{2n} \| \mathbb{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} - \mathbf{Y} \|_{2}^{2} + \lambda \| \boldsymbol{\beta} \|_{1}$$

This can be minimized component wise by minimizing  $L(\beta) = \beta^2 - \beta \hat{\beta}_{LS} + \lambda |\beta|$ This can be optimized by subdifferentials.

# 5 Normal Means Problem

Let  $\boldsymbol{\epsilon} \sim N(0, 1)$ , then

$$\mathbf{Y} = \mathbb{X}\boldsymbol{\beta} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon} \Leftrightarrow W \stackrel{D}{=} \boldsymbol{\beta} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}}\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$$

Let

- $\mathcal{H}$  be a real, separable Hilbert space with inner product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ .
- $(\phi_i)$  be an orthonormal basis for  $\mathcal{H}$ .

Define Gaussian process:

$$Y(t)dt = h(t)dt + d\epsilon(t)$$

$$y_i = \langle \boldsymbol{Y}, \boldsymbol{\phi_i} \rangle = \langle \boldsymbol{h} + \boldsymbol{\epsilon}, \boldsymbol{\phi_i} \rangle = h_i + \epsilon_i$$