

MM7 Spline Interpolation Methods

- kl.8.15-9.10 review of MM6 and some examples
- kl.9.10 – 10.40 exercise (see notes)
- kl.10.50-11.30 MM7 lecture (I)

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Introduction to Interpolation (MM6)

- **Motivation:**
Approximate evaluation of a function which is known only by its values at a set of data points
- **Interpolation:**
the process of fitting a function of a particular nature (typically a **polynomial**, or a **collection of polynomials**) through the data.
- **Classification:**
 - Polynomial interpolation, C
 - Cubic spline approximation,
 - Least square approximation

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Polynomial Interpolation (MM6)

- Any continuous function can be approximated to any required accuracy by a polynomial ([Weierstrass Theorem](#))
- Polynomials are the **only** functions, which we can, theoretically at least, evaluate **exactly**
- Efficient evaluation of a polynomial ([Horner's Rule](#))

$$p(x) = a_n x^n + a_{n-1} x^{n-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$$

$$p(x) = \{[(a_n x + a_{n-1})x + a_{n-2}]x + \dots + a_1\}x + a_0$$

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Horner's Rule - Example

[Download horner.m and horner2.m](#)

```
function p=horner(a,x)
% horner's rule for evaluating the polynomial
% p(x)= a(1) + a(2) x + .... a(n)x^(n-1)
n=length(a);
p=a(n);
for k=n-1:-1:1
    p=p*x+ a(k);
end
```

```
function p=horner2(a,x)
% horner's rule for evaluating the polynomial
% p(x)= a(1)x^(n-1)+ a(2) x^[n-2] + ... a(n)
n=length(a);
p=a(1);
for k=2:n
    p=p*x+ a(k);
end
```

```
>> horner([1,2,3,4,5,6],0.1234)
ans = 1.3013
```

```
>> format long
>> horner([1,2,3,4,5,6],0.1234)
ans = 1.301330079437031
```

```
>> polyval([1,2,3,4,5,6],0.1234)
ans = 6.684039853696318
```

```
>> polyval([6,5,4,3,2,1],0.1234)
ans = 1.301330079437031
```

```
>> horner2([6,5,4,3,2,1],0.1234)
ans = 1.301330079437031
```

Lagrange Interpolation (MM6)

- Problem formulation:**

Suppose we are given the values of a function f at $N+1$ distinct points (nodes), we wish to find a polynomial p with minimum degree such as

$$p(x_k) = f(x_k), \quad k=0, 1, 2, \dots, N$$

- uniqueness**

$$p(x) = a_m x^m + a_{m-1} x^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 x + a_0$$

Vandermonde determinant :

$$\begin{cases} a_m x_0^m + a_{m-1} x_0^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 x_0 + a_0 = f(x_0) \\ a_m x_1^m + a_{m-1} x_1^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 x_1 + a_0 = f(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ a_m x_N^m + a_{m-1} x_N^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 x_N + a_0 = f(x_N) \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow AX = F$$

$$V = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & x_0 & \dots & x_0^N \\ 1 & x_1 & \dots & x_1^N \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_N & \dots & x_N^N \end{vmatrix}$$

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Lagrange Polynomial (MM6)

If we can find a number of polynomials $l_j(x)$ ($j = 0, 1, \dots, N$) of degree at most N such that

$$l_j(x_k) = \delta_{jk} = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } j = k \\ 0 & \text{if } j \neq k \end{cases}$$

then the Lagrange polynomial is defined as

$$p(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N f(x_j) l_j(x)$$

The Lagrange basis polynomials $l_j(x)$ ($j = 0, 1, \dots, N$) are defined as

$$l_j(x) = \frac{(x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_{j-1})(x - x_{j+1}) \cdots (x - x_N)}{(x_j - x_0) \cdots (x_j - x_{j-1})(x_j - x_{j+1}) \cdots (x_j - x_N)}$$

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Lagrange Method - Example

find the Lagrange interpolation polynomial for the following data:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} x & 1 & 1.5 & 2 \\ f(x) & 0.0000 & 0.4055 & 0.6931 \end{array}$$

Lagrange basis polynomials:

$$l_1(x) = \frac{(x-x_2)(x-x_3)}{(x_1-x_2)(x_1-x_3)} = \frac{(x-1.5)(x-2)}{(1-1.5)(1-2)} = 2(x-1.5)(x-2)$$

$$l_2(x) = \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_3)}{(x_2-x_1)(x_2-x_3)} = \frac{(x-1)(x-2)}{(1.5-1)(1.5-2)} = -4(x-1)(x-2)$$

$$l_3(x) = \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)}{(x_3-x_1)(x_3-x_2)} = \frac{(x-1)(x-1.5)}{(2-1)(2-1.5)} = 2(x-1)(x-1.5)$$

The Lagrange polynomial is:

$$\begin{aligned} p(x) &= f(x_1)l_1(x) + f(x_2)l_2(x) + f(x_3)l_3(x) \\ &= -1.6220(x-1)(x-2) + 1.3862(x-1)(x-1.5) \end{aligned}$$

The estimation of $f(1.2)$ is

$$p(1.2) = \dots = 0.176348$$

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Lagrange Method – Matlab Codes

```
function y=lagrange(xdat,ydat,x)
% Computes the Lagrange polynomial
% using the datapoints in (xdat, ydat)
```

```
N=length(x); M=length(xdat);
D=zeros(M,M); y=zeros(1,N);
for k=1:N
    xtst=x(k);
    [xb,ind]=sort(abs(xtst-xdat));
    xsort=xdat(ind); D(:,1)=ydat(ind)';
    for j=1:M
        for i=1:M-j
            D(i,j+1)=(D(i+1,j)-D(i,j))/(xsort(i+j)-xsort(i));
        end
    end
    xdiff=xtst-xsort;
    prod=1;
    for i=1:M
        y(k)=y(k)+prod*D(1,i);
        prod=prod*xdiff(i);
    end
end
```

```
>> format long
>> lagrange([1,1.5,2],[0.0,0.4055,0.6931],1.2)
ans = 0.176348000000000
```

```
% Eksempel: Befolkningstal i Danmark.
```

```
clear, clc
```

```
xdat=[1930,1940,1950,1960,1970,1980,1990,2000];
ydat=[3.55,3.84,4.28,4.59,4.94,5.12,5.14,5.33];
```

```
x=1930:2000;
y=lagrange(xdat,ydat,x);
```

```
plot(xdat,ydat,'x,y')
```

```
format short
disp('Befolkningstal i 1955 (i millioner):')
disp(lagrange(xdat,ydat,1955))
```

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Lagrange Interpolation Error

Suppose the function $f(x)$ is $N + 1$ times continuously differentiable on the interval $[a, b]$ which contains the distinct nodes x_0, x_1, \dots, x_N . Let $p(x)$ be the Lagrange interpolation polynomial, then for any $x \in [a, b]$, there is

$$f(x) - p(x) = \frac{(x - x_0)(x - x_1) \cdots (x - x_N)}{(N + 1)!} f^{(N+1)}(\zeta)$$

for some $\zeta \in [a, b]$.

Continue the example: find the Lagrange interpolation polynomial for data:

x	1	1.5	2
$f(x)$	0.0000	0.4055	0.6931

The Lagrange polynomial is:

$$p(x) = f(x_1)l_1(x) + f(x_2)l_2(x) + f(x_3)l_3(x) = -1.6220(x-1)(x-2) + 1.3862(x-1)(x-1.5)$$

The estimation of $f(1.2)$ is $p(1.2) = \dots = 0.176348$

The original data from the function $\ln x$. The estimation error at $x = 1.2$ can be analyzed as

$$\ln(1.2) - p(1.2) = 0.1823 - 0.1763 = 0.0060.$$

According to the error analysis, there is

$$\ln(1.2) - p(1.2) = \frac{(1.2-1)(1.2-1.5)(1.2-2)}{4!} \frac{d^4(\ln x)}{dx^4} \Big|_{x=\zeta} = \frac{0.048}{24} * \frac{6}{x^4} \Big|_{x=\zeta} \leq 0.012$$

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Exercises (MM6)



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Question One (Exercise 4.2.1, 4.2.2, pp.83):

Find the Lagrange interpolation polynomial for the data

x	1	2	4
$f(x)$	3	2	1

- Use this to estimate $f(1.5)$;
- Repeat the above exercise with the additional data $f(0) = 4$, $f(3) = 1$.

Question Two (Exercise 4.2.4, 4.2.5, pp.83):

Consider the following table of values of the cosine function:

x	0.0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.5	0.6	0.7	0.8
$\cos(x)$	1.000	0.9950	0.9801	0.9553	0.9211	0.8776	0.8253	0.7648	0.6967

- write down the Lagrange interpolation polynomial using the nodes 0.0, 0.1, 0.2 and 0.3;
- Estimate the value of $\cos(1.4)$ using this polynomial;
- Obtain the error bound for the above approximation.

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MM7 Spline Interpolation Methods

Reading materials: Section 4.4 and 4.5

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Motivation

- Accuracy of using single polynomial
- Computation efficiency
- Piecewise polynomials
- Continuity/smoothness problem at the transition points

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Spline Function

Let $a=x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N=b$. A function $s: [a,b] \rightarrow R$ is a **spline** or **spline function** of degree m with knots (or nodes) x_0, x_1, \dots, x_N if

- 1) s is a piecewise polynomial such that, on each subinterval $[x_k, x_{k+1}]$, s has degree at most m , and
- 2) s is $m-1$ times differentiable everywhere

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Spline Function - Examples

Example 11: show that the following function is a spline of degree 2 (quadratic spline):

$$s(x) = \begin{cases} x^2 + x & x \in [-1, 0] \\ x & x \in [0, 2] \\ x^2 - 3x + 4 & x \in [2, 5] \end{cases}$$

Example 12: is the following function a spline (cubic spline)?

$$s(x) = \begin{cases} x^3 + 2x & x \in [-1, 0] \\ 2x + 2x^2 & x \in [0, 1] \\ x^3 - x^2 + 5x - 1 & x \in [1, 3] \end{cases}$$

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Linear Spline Interpolation

- Spline of degree 1

At the nodes $a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 \cdots < x_n = b$, there is

$$s(x_k) = f(x_k) \quad \text{for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$$

In the node interval $[x_k, x_{k+1}]$, s is a polynomial of degree 1 passing through the points $(x_k, f(x_k))$ and $(x_{k+1}, f(x_{k+1}))$, thereby

$$s(x) = f(x_k) + \frac{f(x_{k+1}) - f(x_k)}{x_{k+1} - x_k}(x - x_k), \quad x \in [x_k, x_{k+1}]$$

simply

$$s_k(x) = a_k + b_k(x - x_k)$$

Example: Find the linear spline which takes the following values:

$$x_0 = 0.0, f(x_0) = 0.00; \quad x_1 = 0.2, f(x_1) = 0.18;$$

$$x_3 = 0.3, f(x_3) = 0.26; \quad x_4 = 0.5, f(x_4) = 0.41;$$

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