

# Polynomial Interpolation :

Note Title

2/26/2012

Most important topic. Many results will be based on this topic

Numerical Integration / differentiation

Solution of IVP / BVP

Root finding

# Interpolation

Note Title

2/25/2012

$f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  continuous

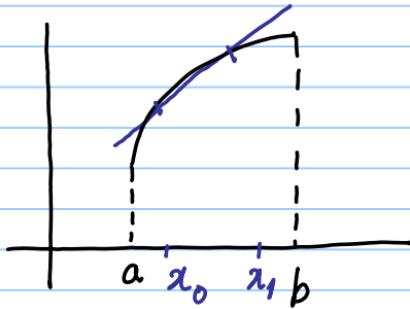
$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ : distinct points  
in  $[a, b]$

To find a polynomial  $p_n$  of  
degree  $\leq n$  such that

$$p_n(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

$n=0 : p_n(x) = f(x_0) : \text{constant polynomial}$

$n=1,$



fitting a  
straight line

$n=2 : \text{fitting a parabola}$

## General Case :

$f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  continuous

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  : distinct point in  $[a, b]$

Define

$$l_i(x) = \frac{(x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_{i-1})(x - x_{i+1}) \cdots (x - x_n)}{(x_i - x_0) \cdots (x_i - x_{i-1})(x_i - x_{i+1}) \cdots (x_i - x_n)}$$

Lagrange polynomial : degree n

$$l_i(x_i) = 1, \quad l_i(x_j) = 0 \quad \text{for } j \neq i$$

## Interpolating Polynomial : Existence

$$l_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{(x - x_j)}{(x_i - x_j)}, \quad l_i(x_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & j=i, \\ 0, & j \neq i. \end{cases}$$

$l_i$  : polynomial of degree n

Let

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n f(x_i) l_i(x).$$

Then  $p_n(x_j) = f(x_j)$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots, n$

Let  $p_n$  be a polynomial of degree  $n$ .

Then by the Fundamental theorem of algebra ,  $p_n(z_1) = 0$  for some  $z_1 \in \mathbb{C}$  .

$$p_n(x) = (x - z_1) q_{n-1}(x)$$

$q_{n-1}$  : polynomial of degree  $n-1$

$$p_n(x) = \alpha (x - z_1)^{m_1} \cdots (x - z_k)^{m_k},$$

$$m_1 + \cdots + m_k = n . \quad \underline{\text{Factorization Thm.}}$$

A polynomial of degree  $n$  has exactly  $n$  zeroes, counted according to their multiplicities.

A non-zero polynomial of degree  $\leq n$  has at most  $n$  distinct zeroes.

If a polynomial of degree  $\leq n$  has more than  $n$  zeroes, then it is a zero polynomial.

## Interpolating Polynomial: Uniqueness

$f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  continuous

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ : distinct points

Let  $p_n$  and  $q_n$  be polynomials  
of degree  $\leq n$  such that

$$p_n(x_j) = f(x_j) = q_n(x_j), j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

$$\Rightarrow (p_n - q_n)(x_j) = 0 \Rightarrow p_n(x) = q_n(x)$$

Theorem : Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be continuous.

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  :  $n+1$  distinct points

in  $[a, b]$ . Then **there exists** a

**unique** polynomial  $p_n$  of degree  $\leq n$

such that

$$p_n(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Corollary:  $f = q_m$  : polynomial of  
of degree  $m < n$ ,

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  : distinct points  
in  $[a, b]$

$p_n$  : interpolating polynomial of degree  $\leq n$

$$p_n(x_j) = f(x_j), j=0, 1, \dots, n$$

$$\Rightarrow p_n = q_m$$

Lagrange form of the interpolating polynomial

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n f(x_i) l_i(x), \quad l_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{(x - x_j)}{(x_i - x_j)}$$

$$p_n(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

$p_{n+1}$  : interpolates  $f$  at  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  &  $x_{n+1}$

$$p_{n+1}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{n+1} f(x_i) \tilde{l}_i(x), \quad \tilde{l}_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^{n+1} \frac{(x - x_j)}{(x_i - x_j)}$$

not recursive

## Divided Difference : Definition

$f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  :  $n+1$  distinct points in  
     $[a, b]$

$P_n$  : unique interpolating polynomial.

Define the divided difference

$f[x_0 \ x_1 \ \dots \ x_n] = \text{coefficient of } x^n \text{ in } P_n(x)$

## Properties of the divided difference

$f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]$  = coefficient of  $x^n$  in  $p_n(x)$

1. independent of the order of

$x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

2. If  $f$  is a polynomial of degree  $m < n$ ,

then  $p_n(x) = f(x)$  and

$$f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n] = 0$$

## Recurrence Relation

Let  $p_{n-1}$  and  $q_{n-1}$  be polynomials of degree  $\leq n-1$  such that

$$p_{n-1}(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n-1,$$

$$q_{n-1}(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Consider

$$p_n(x) = \frac{(x-x_0) q_{n-1}(x) + (x_n-x) p_{n-1}(x)}{x_n - x_0}$$

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 x_0 & f(x_0) \\
 x_1 & f(x_1) \\
 \vdots & \vdots \\
 x_{n-1} & f(x_{n-1}) \\
 x_n & f(x_n)
 \end{array}
 \quad
 \left.
 \begin{array}{l}
 p_{n-1}(x) \\
 q_{n-1}(x)
 \end{array}
 \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_n(x_0) &= p_{n-1}(x_0) \\
 &= f(x_0)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_n(x_n) &= q_{n-1}(x_n) \\
 &= f(x_n)
 \end{aligned}$$

Define

$$p_n(x) = \frac{(x-x_0)q_{n-1}(x) + (x_n-x)p_{n-1}(x)}{(x_n-x_0)}$$

$$P_{n-1}(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$$

$$Q_{n-1}(x_j) = f(x_j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

$$P_n(x) = \frac{(x - x_0) Q_{n-1}(x) + (x_n - x) P_{n-1}(x)}{x_n - x_0}$$

For  $j = 1, \dots, n-1$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(x_j) &= \frac{(x_j - x_0) f(x_j) + (x_n - x_j) f(x_j)}{x_n - x_0} \\ &= f(x_j) \end{aligned}$$

$$p_n(x) = \frac{(x-x_0) q_{n-1}(x) + (x_n-x) p_{n-1}(x)}{x_n - x_0}$$

$p_n$  : interpolates  $f$  at  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,

$q_{n-1}$  : interpolates  $f$  at  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ ,

$p_{n-1}$  : interpolates  $f$  at  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$

Coeff. of  $x^n$  in  $p_n(x)$

$$= \frac{\text{Coeff. of } x^{n-1} \text{ in } q_{n-1}(x) - \text{Coeff. of } x^{n-1} \text{ in } p_{n-1}(x)}{x_n - x_0}$$

Coeff. of  $x^n$  in  $p_n(x)$

$$= \frac{\text{Coeff. of } x^{n-1} \text{ in } q_{n-1}(x) - \text{Coeff. of } x^{n-1} \text{ in } p_{n-1}(x)}{x_n - x_0}$$

$$f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n] = \frac{f[x_1, \dots, x_n] - f[x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}]}{x_n - x_0}$$

### Formula for $f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]$

$$P_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n f(x_i) l_i(x), \quad l_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{(x-x_j)}{(x_i-x_j)}$$

$$l_i(x_j) = \begin{cases} 1, & j=i, \\ 0, & j \neq i. \end{cases}$$

$$\text{Define } \omega(x) = (x-x_0)(x-x_1) \cdots (x-x_n)$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega'(x) = (x-x_1) \cdots (x-x_n) + (x-x_0)(x-x_2) \cdots (x-x_n) + \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow \omega'(x_i) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n (x_i - x_j) \text{ and coeff. of } x^n \text{ in } l_i(x) = \frac{1}{\omega'(x_i)}$$

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n f(x_i) l_i(x),$$

Coefficient of  $x^n$  in  $l_i(x) = \frac{1}{w'(x_i)}$

where  $w(x) = \prod_{j=0}^n (x - x_j)$

$\Rightarrow$  Coefficient of  $x^n$  in  $p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f(x_i)}{w'(x_i)}.$

4)  $f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n] = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{f(x_i)}{w'(x_i)}$