

## Problems

1. Consider the data points  $\{(-1, 2), (0, 6), (1, 21), (2, 70)\}$ .

(a) Write the interpolation polynomial using a monomial basis (Vandermonde form). *The monomial basis for the polynomial space of degree  $n$  is  $\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$ . We write*

$$\mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R}) = \text{span}\{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}.$$

(b) Write the interpolation polynomial using a Lagrange basis (Lagrange form). Verify that it is the same polynomial as in (a) by converting to monomial basis form.

**Definition 1.** *A set of polynomial functions  $\{l_i\}_{i=0}^n$  is said to be a Lagrange basis or cardinal basis for the space of polynomials of degree  $n$  with respect to the set of distinct points  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^n$  if  $l_i(x_j) = \delta_{ij}$ . We have*

$$\mathcal{P}_n(\mathbb{R}) = \text{span}\{l_1(x), l_2(x), l_3(x), \dots, l_n(x)\}.$$

2. What is the largest  $k$  for the function  $f(x) = |x|$  so that  $f \in C^k(\mathbb{R})$ ?

3. Let  $\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$  and  $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be defined as

$$u(x, y) = x^2 + y^2.$$

Compute the norms  $\|u\|_{C^1(\bar{\Omega})}$  and  $\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$ .

*Hint: If  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$  is a bounded open set,  $C^k(\bar{\Omega})$  denotes the set of all  $u \in C^k(\Omega)$  such that  $D^\alpha u$  can be extended to a continuous function on  $\bar{\Omega}$ , the closure of  $\Omega$ , for all*

$$\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_d) \quad \text{with} \quad |\alpha| \leq k.$$

*We can use the following norm for functions in  $C^k(\bar{\Omega})$  :*

$$\|u\|_{C^k(\bar{\Omega})} = \sum_{|\alpha| \leq k} \sup |D^\alpha u(x_1, \dots, x_d)|.$$

*It is standard to write  $C(\bar{\Omega})$  for  $C^0(\bar{\Omega})$  when  $k = 0$ . Also note that*

$$\|u\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = \sqrt{\int_{\Omega} u^2(x_1, \dots, x_d) dx_1 dx_2 \dots dx_d}.$$

4. Derive Simpson's rule with  $O(h^5)$  error term by using the fact that the rule is exact for  $x^n$  when  $n = 1, 2$ , and  $3$  to determine  $a_0, a_1$ , and  $a_2$  in the formula

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_2} f(x) dx = a_0 f(x_0) + a_1 f(x_1) + a_2 f(x_2) + k f^{(4)}(\xi),$$

where  $x_1 = (x_0 + x_2)/2$  and  $\xi$  is any suitable number. Then find  $k$  by applying this integration formula for  $f(x) = x^4$ . The following numerical integration rule is called the Simpson's rule:

$$\int_a^b g(y) dy \approx \frac{(b-a)}{6} \left[ g(a) + 4g\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + g(b) \right].$$

5. Let  $f \in C^4(a, b)$  and  $x_0 \in (a, b)$ . Derive a formula to approximate  $f'(x)$  and  $f''(x)$  at  $x = x_0$  using  $f(x_0 - h)$ ,  $f(x_0)$ ,  $f(x_0 + h)$  where  $x_0 - h, x_0 + h \in (a, b)$ . *Hint: consider the expression*

$$Af(x_0 - h) + Bf(x_0 + h) + Cf(x_0),$$

and expand all terms in Taylor polynomials of suitable order about  $x_0$ , and compare with  $f'(x_0)$  and  $f''(x_0)$  What are the truncation errors in these formulas?

6. The sine function has the power series definition

$$\sin(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}.$$

Write a function `SineTaylor.m` that has input  $n$  and  $x$  and output the relative error in the partial sums

$$S_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n (-1)^k \frac{x^{2k+1}}{(2k+1)!}.$$

The relative error  $R_n$  is then defined as

$$R_n = \frac{|\sin(x) - S_n(x)|}{|\sin(x)|}.$$

Think of an efficient way of computing  $S_n$ . You can start your function file in the following way:

```
function relErr = SineTaylor(x,n)
% SineTaylor(x,n) evaluates the relative error between sin(x)
% and its n-term MacLaurin series at x
% Usage: relErr=SineTaylor(x,n)
%inputs: x point where we want to compute the error
%        n number of terms in MacLaurin series
%output: relErr the relative error in approximation
```

Plot the errors for  $n = 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20$  using  $x = 4$  using the logarithmic scale. What happens when  $n$  is large?

## Solutions

1. (a) We want to find a cubic polynomial  $p_3(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + a_3x^3$  that interpolates the data. Each interpolation point leads to a linear equation relating the four unknowns  $a_0, a_1, a_2$ , and  $a_3$ :

$$p_3(-1) = 2 \Rightarrow a_0 - a_1 + a_2 - a_3 = 2$$

$$p_3(0) = 6 \Rightarrow a_0 = 6$$

$$p_3(1) = 21 \Rightarrow a_0 + a_1 + a_2 + a_3 = 21$$

$$p_3(2) = 70 \Rightarrow a_0 + 2a_1 + 4a_2 + 8a_3 = 70.$$

These equations can be expressed in a matrix/vector form

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 & 4 & 8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 6 \\ 21 \\ 70 \end{bmatrix}$$

The polynomial in the monomial form is

$$p(x) = 6 + 17/3x + 11/2x^2 + 23/6x^3.$$

(b) The four Lagrange basis are given by

$$l_1(x) = -\frac{x(x-1)(x-2)}{6}, \quad l_2(x) = \frac{(x-1)(x+1)(x-2)}{2},$$

$$l_3(x) = -x\left(\frac{x}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)(x-2), \quad l_4(x) = \frac{x(x^2-1)}{6}.$$

The required Lagrange interpolation polynomial is

$$p(x) = 2l_1(x) + 6l_2(x) + 21l_3(x) + 70L_4(x).$$

A simplification yields

$$p(x) = 6 + 17/3x + 11/2x^2 + 23/6x^3.$$

2. Here, the function is only continuous not even differentiable at  $x = 0$ . Thus,  $k = 0$ .
3. 6 and  $\sqrt{\frac{28}{45}}$
4. Let  $h = x_1 - x_0$ . Thus  $x_1 = x_0 + h$  and  $x_2 = x_0 + 2h$ . Using the fact that the formula is exact  $x^n$  with  $n = 1, 2, 3$ , we have three equations

$$\begin{aligned} a_0x_0 + a_1(x_0 + h) + a_2(x_0 + 2h) &= 2x_0h + 2h^2 \quad [\text{using } f(x) = x] \\ a_0x_0^2 + a_1(x_0 + h)^2 + a_2(x_0 + 2h)^2 &= 2x_0^2h + 4x_0h^2 + \frac{8h^3}{3} \quad [\text{using } f(x) = x^2] \\ a_0x_0^3 + a_1(x_0 + h)^3 + a_2(x_0 + 2h)^3 &= 2x_0^3h + 6x_0^2h^2 + 8x_0h^3 + 4h^4 \quad [\text{using } f(x) = x^3]. \end{aligned}$$

Solving these equations for  $a_0, a_1$  and  $a_2$ , we get

$$a_0 = h/3, \quad a_1 = 4h/3, \quad a_2 = h/3.$$

Using  $f(x) = x^4$ , we get

$$\frac{1}{5}(x_2^5 - x_0^5) = \frac{h}{3}(x_0^4 + 4x_1^4 + x_2^4) + 24k.$$

Hence

$$k = \frac{1}{120}(x_2^5 - x_0^5) - \frac{h}{72}(x_0^4 + 4x_1^4 + x_2^4).$$

Using  $x_1 = (x_0 + h)$  and  $x_2 = (x_0 + 2h)$  we get

$$k = \frac{1}{120}(x_0^5 + 10hx_0^4 + 40h^2x_0^3 + 80h^3x_0^2 + 80h^4x_0 + 32h^5 - x_0^5) - \frac{h}{72} [x_0^4 + 4(x_0^4 + 4hx_0^3 + 6h^2x_0^2 + 4h^3x_0 + h^4) + (x_0^4 + 8hx_0^3 + 24h^2x_0^2 + 32h^3x_0 + 16h^4)].$$

This simplifies to  $k = -h^5/90$ .

5. From Taylor's Remainder theorem, we have

$$f(x_0 - h) = f(x_0) - hf'(x_0) + \frac{h^2}{2}f''(x_0) - \frac{h^3}{6}f'''(x_0) + \frac{h^4}{24}f^{(4)}(\xi)$$

$$f(x_0 + h) = f(x_0) + hf'(x_0) + \frac{h^2}{2}f''(x_0) + \frac{h^3}{6}f'''(x_0) + \frac{h^4}{24}f^{(4)}(\xi)$$

We combine these equations to get

$$\frac{1}{h^2}[f(x_0 + h) + f(x_0 - h) - 2f(x_0)] = f''(x_0) + O(h^2)$$

and

$$\frac{1}{2h}[f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0 - h)] = f'(x_0) + O(h^2).$$

Here we have used the big "O" notation.

6. Include the following lines of code in the function definition.

```
r1=[0:1:n];
r2=(-1).^r1;
Sn=sum(r2.*(x*(x.^(2*r1))./factorial(2*r1+1)));
relErr=abs(sin(x)-Sn)/abs(sin(x));
```

You can use the following piece of MATLAB code to plot the result.

```
idx =2:2:20;
for j=1:length(idx)
RE(j) =SineTaylor(4,idx(j));
end
loglog(idx,RE,'-*','markersize',20);
```