

CE 601: Numerical Methods

# Lecture 15

Difference Polynomials, Inverse  
Interpolation, Multi-Variate Approx.

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# Difference Polynomials

- Rather than going for divided differences, we can simply tabulate the differences in function values and correspondingly develop difference polynomials

$x_i$	$f_i$			
$x_0$	$f_0$			
$x_1$	$f_1$	$(f_1 - f_0)$	$(f_2 - 2f_1 + f_0)$	$(f_3 - 3f_2 + 3f_1 - f_0)$
$x_2$	$f_2$	$(f_2 - f_1)$	$(f_3 - 2f_2 + f_1)$	
$x_3$	$f_3$	$(f_3 - f_2)$		
$\vdots$	$\vdots$			
$\vdots$	$\vdots$			
$x_n$	$f_n$			

- You can form such difference tables. Based on the reference point, the type of differences are named.
  - Forward difference  $\Delta f_i = f_{i+1} - f_i$
  - Backward difference  $\nabla f_{i+1} = f_{i+1} - f_i$
  - Centered difference  $\delta f_{i+1/2} = f_{i+1} - f_i$
- So you can have forward, backward or centered difference table.
- In a given (n+1) data points available, you can only fit one unique  $n^{th}$  degree polynomial  $P_n(x)$ , irrespective of the methods (the polynomial has to pass through all points).

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- Newton Forward Difference Polynomial
- If the  $x$  value of a data set are uniformly spaced then let us define for the data set.

$x_i$	$f_i$
$x_0$	$f_0$
$x_1$	$f_1$
$x_2$	$f_2$
:	:
$x_n$	$f_n$

$$s = \frac{x - x_0}{\Delta x}$$

- This variable is called interpolating variable. i.e.  $s$  is linear in ' $x$ '.

Now the unique  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomial can also be represented as,

$$P_n(x) = f_0 + s\Delta f_0 + \frac{s(s-1)}{2!} \Delta^2 f_0 + \frac{s(s-1)(s-2)}{3!} \Delta^3 f_0 \\ + \dots + \frac{s(s-1)(s-2)\dots(s-(n-1))}{n!} \Delta^n f_0$$

This is Newton's forward difference polynomial.

Let us see the various situation:

$$\text{When } s = 0, \text{ i.e. } 0 = \frac{x - x_0}{\Delta x} \Rightarrow x = x_0.$$

Then  $P_n(x_0) = f_0$  same as the polynomial.

$$\text{When } s = 1, \text{ i.e. } 1 = \frac{x - x_0}{\Delta x} \Rightarrow x = x_0 + \Delta x = x_1$$

$$\therefore P_n(x_1) = f_0 + \Delta f_0 + 0 = f_0 + (f_1 - f_0) = f_1$$

In a similar note  $P_n(x)$  passes through all the  $(n+1)$  data points given.

You can also represent this forward difference polynomial using binomial coefficient representation

$$\text{i.e. } \binom{s}{i} = \frac{s(s-1)(s-2)\cdots(s-(i-1))}{i!}$$

$$\therefore P_n(x) = f_0 + \binom{s}{1} \Delta f_0 + \binom{s}{2} \Delta^2 f_0 + \cdots$$

Example : For the earlier given data, develop Newton's forward difference polynomial and interpolate  $f(t = 24 \text{ s})$ .

$t_i$	$f_i$	$\Delta f_i$	$\Delta^2 f_i$	$\Delta^3 f_i$
10.00	50.00			
		90.00		
20.00	140.00		80.00	
		170.00		-20.00
30.00	310.00		60.00	
		230.00		
40.00	540.00			

We can start with various degrees of Newton's forward difference polynomial to interpolate for  $f(t = 24 \text{ sec})$ .

- Let us begin with first degree polynomial  $P_1(t) \approx f(t)$ . As our interpolation is required at  $t = 24 \text{ sec}$  and also using forward difference, let the base point  $t_i = 20.00 \text{ sec}$ .

$$\therefore P_1(t) = f_i + s\Delta f_i = 140.00 + s \times 170.00 = 140 + 170s.$$

For  $t = 24 \text{ sec}$ ,  $s = (24 - 20)/10 = 0.4$ .

$$\therefore P_1(t = 24) = P_1(s = 0.4) = 140.00 + 170.00 \times 0.4 = 208 \text{ m.}$$

- Now let us use a second degree polynomial  $P_2(t)$ . Again keep the base point at  $t = 20.0 \text{ sec}$ .

$$P_2(t) = P_2(s) = f_i + s\Delta f_i + \frac{s(s-1)}{2!} \Delta^2 f_i$$

$$P_2(s) = 140 + s \times 170 + \frac{s(s-1)}{2!} \times 60$$

$$\text{As } s = 0.4, P_2(0.4) = 140 + 0.4 \times 170 + \frac{0.4(0.4-1)}{2!} \times 60 = 200.80 \text{ m.}$$

- The third degree polynomial will be unique for this case.

Therefore, it should begin with base point  $t_0 = 10.0$  sec.

$$\begin{aligned} P_3(s) &= f_0 + s\Delta f_0 + \frac{s(s-1)}{2!} \Delta^2 f_0 + \frac{s(s-1)(s-2)}{3!} \Delta^3 f_0 \\ &= 50.00 + s \times 90 + \frac{s(s-1)}{2!} \times 80 + \frac{s(s-1)(s-2)}{3!} \times (-20.0) \end{aligned}$$

For  $t = 24$  seconds,  $s = \frac{24-10}{10} = 1.4$

$$\begin{aligned} P_3(1.4) &= 50.00 + 1.4 \times 90 + \frac{1.4 \times (1.4-1)}{2!} \times 80 \\ &\quad + \frac{1.4 \times (1.4-1) \times (1.4-2)}{3!} \times (-20.0) \\ &= 199.52 \text{ m.} \end{aligned}$$

→ So you can see each degree polynomial gives different results.

## Newton Backward Difference Polynomial

As explained for Newton's forward difference polynomials, we can also use backward difference formulas to develop polynomials.

→ We can use backward differences

→ For a uniformly spaced data, if  $x_n$  is the base in an  $(n + 1)$  data  $(x_0, f_0), (x_1, f_1), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$ ,

$$\nabla f_n = f_n - f_{n-1}, \text{ and define } s = \frac{x - x_n}{\Delta x}.$$

We have the unique  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomial in the power series as:

$$P_n(x) = f_n + s\nabla f_n + \frac{s(s+1)}{2!} \nabla^2 f_n + \frac{s(s+1)(s+2)}{3!} \nabla^3 f_n + \dots + \frac{s(s+1)(s+2)\cdots(s+(n-1))}{n!} \nabla^n f_n$$

where  $\nabla^{(i)} f_n \rightarrow$  shows the  $i^{\text{th}}$  difference.

The proof that this polynomial passes through all the data points can be given as below,

$$\rightarrow \text{Let } s = -1; \text{ i.e. } s = -1 = \frac{x - x_n}{\Delta x} \Rightarrow x = x_n - \Delta x = x_{n-1}.$$

$$P_n(x_{n-1}) = P_n(-1) = f_n + (-1)(f_n - f_{n-1}) + 0 = f_{n-1}.$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Again for } s = -2; \text{ i.e. } s = -2 = \frac{x - x_n}{\Delta x} \Rightarrow x = x_n - 2\Delta x = x_{n-2}.$$

$$P_n(x_{n-2}) = P_n(-2) = f_n + (-2)(f_n - f_{n-1}) + \frac{(-2)(-1)}{2!} [f_n - 2f_{n-1} + f_{n-2}] = f_{n-2},$$

So it's matching.

$\rightarrow$  You may work out the examples in this topic.

# Inverse Interpolation

- For a given data set

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$x_i$	$f_i$
$x_0$	$f_0$
$x_1$	$f_1$
$x_2$	$f_2$
$\vdots$	$\vdots$
$x_n$	$f_n$

- We generally consider 'x' as the independent quantity and 'f' as the dependent quantity.
- Using polynomial approximations, we also performed interpolations  $f(x)$ .
- For the same data, one can also perform inverse interpolations. i.e. the function value 'f' may be available and we can determine the corresponding 'x' value., i.e.  $x=f(x)$

- You can now use previously mentioned procedures to form polynomials

$$P_n(f) = a_0 + a_1f + a_2f^2 + \dots + a_nf^n$$

- Directly-fit polynomials
- Lagrange polynomials
- Newton's polynomials, etc.

# Multi-Variate Approximations

- We discussed till now in using polynomials as approximating functions for uni-variate conditions i.e.  $f=f(x)$ , etc.
- Again many scientific analysis may involve multi-variate relationships i.e.  $Z=f(x,y)$ , etc.
- To analyze such multi-variate problems, again we can use exact-fit polynomials.
- In the exact-fit procedure, two methods
  - Successive univariate polynomials approximation
  - Direct multi-variate polynomial approximation

# Successive uni-variate polynomial approximation

- In some of your scientific or engineering problems you may come up with multi-variate data. E.g.

$y/x$	$x_1$	$x_2$	$x_3$	...	$x_n$
$y_1$	$z_{11}$	$z_{12}$	$z_{13}$	...	$z_{1n}$
$y_2$	$z_{21}$	$z_{22}$	$z_{23}$	...	$z_{2n}$
$y_3$	$z_{31}$	$z_{32}$	$z_{33}$	...	$z_{3n}$
...	...				
$y_m$	$z_{m1}$	$z_{m2}$	$z_{m3}$	...	$z_{mn}$

- If such multi-variate data exist, then you may be interested to find a relation  $Z = f(x, y)$ .
- Again using polynomial approximation we can do interpolation, differentiation, integration etc.
- The method here is

\* Fit uni-variate polynomials  $Z_i(x) = Z(y_i, x)$  for each row

i.e.  $Z_i = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots$

That is to find the respective coefficients for each line.

\* If  $x = x^*$  is the point where we need to do interpolation, then obtain

$$Z_1(x^*) = c_1$$

$$Z_2(x^*) = c_2$$

$$\vdots \quad \quad \quad \vdots$$

$$Z_m(x^*) = c_m. \text{ Using the } m \text{ equations available.}$$

- \* Now again a univariate polynomial can be obtained using the  $m$ -data points  $c_1, c_2, \dots, c_m$   
i.e.  $Z(y, x^*) = b_0 + b_1 y + b_2 y^2 + \dots$
- \* After forming the polynomial by finding coefficients  $b_0, b_1, \dots$  we can interpolate for  $Z(y^*, x^*)$

- Example: The enthalpy of a gaseous system ( $H$ ) measured in kJ/kg by varying pressure (kPa) and temperature ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). The observations are recorded as such:

	427	538	649
7929	3211	3489	3755
8274 Temp $^{\circ}\text{C}$	3205	3487	3753
8618 Pressure (kPa)	3199	3482	3751

- You are now requested to evaluate enthalpy at  $T = 596^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $P = 8446 \text{ kPa}$ .

## Solution

There are three different values of  $T$  and three different values of  $P$ .

Using successive univariate approximation:

$$H_1(7929, T) = a_{01} + a_{11}T + a_{21}T^2$$

$$H_2(8274, T) = a_{02} + a_{12}T + a_{22}T^2$$

$$H_3(8618, T) = a_{03} + a_{13}T + a_{23}T^2$$

You are having three different polynomials for  $H$  (i.e.  $H_1, H_2$  and  $H_3$ ). Find the coefficient for each.

$$\text{For } H_1(7929, T) = a_{01} + a_{11}T + a_{21}T^2$$

$$3211 = a_{01} + a_{11} \times 427 + a_{21} \times (427)^2$$

$$3489 = a_{01} + a_{11} \times 538 + a_{21} \times (538)^2$$

$$3755 = a_{01} + a_{11} \times 649 + a_{21} \times (649)^2$$

On solving you get,  $a_{01} = 2.029706 \times 10^3, a_{11} = 2.974433, a_{21} = -0.00048697$ .

$$\therefore H_1 = 2.029706 \times 10^3 + 2.974433T - 4.8697 \times 10^{-4}T^2$$

Similarly,

$$H_2 = H_2(8274, T) = 1.9710286 \times 10^3 + 3.167113T - 6.49298 \times 10^{-4}T^2$$

and

$$H_3 = H_3(8618, T) = 1.979827 \times 10^3 + 3.0978T - 5.681357 \times 10^{-4}T^2$$

Using these three polynomials we will evaluate enthalpy  $H$  at temperature  $T = 596^\circ \text{C}$ .

$$\text{We get, } H_1(7929, 596) = 3629.50 \text{ kJ/kg,}$$

$$H_2(8274, 596) = 3628 \text{ kJ/kg,}$$

$$H_3(8618, 596) = 3624 \text{ kJ/kg.}$$

Using these three evaluated values another polynomial of second degree is constructed

$$\text{as such: } H(P, 596) = b_0 + b_1P + b_2P^2$$

where  $b_0, b_1$  and  $b_2$  coefficients are evaluated.

$$3629.50 = b_0 + 7929 \times b_1 + (7929)^2 b_2$$

$$3628 = b_0 + 8274 \times b_1 + (8274)^2 b_2$$

$$3624 = b_0 + 8618 \times b_1 + (8618)^2 b_2$$

Solving the above you get:  $b_0 = 2970.786, b_1 = 0.166856, b_2 = -1.056616 \times 10^{-5}$ .

To interpolate,  $H(8446, 596) = 3626.31 \text{ kJ/kg}$ .