

Orthogonal Polynomials

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Interpolation works for a
"black-box" function.

Equi-spaced nodes not a good
choice in general

$$P_n(x_k) = f(x_k)$$

← nodes →

$$? \quad \varepsilon(x) = |P_n(x) - f(x)|$$

$$x \neq x_k$$

Piece-wise polynomial interp
works for any nodes, but $\varepsilon(x)$ is
not very small

Another way to approximate
 $f(x) \approx p_n(x) \in \mathcal{P}_n$ on $[a, b]$

$$P_n^* = \arg \min_{P_n \in \mathcal{P}_n} \|f(x) - p_n(x)\|$$

L_2 -approximation

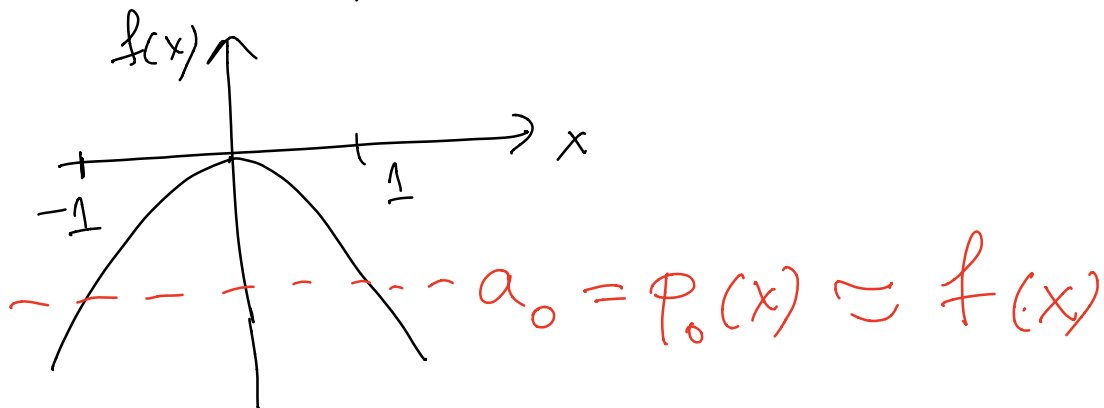
$$P_n^* = \arg \min_{P_n \in \mathcal{P}_n} \|f(x) - p_n(x)\|_2$$

Least-squares
"fitting"

$$\left(\int |f(x) - p_n(x)|^2 dx \right)^{1/2}$$

E.g. Approximate $f(x) = -2x^2$
in $\mathcal{P}_{n=0}$ (space of constants)

on $[-1, 1]$



Idea: Average of function

$$a_0 = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx}{2} \quad (?)$$

$$= \frac{\int_{-1}^1 -2x^2 dx}{2} = -\frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_{-1}^1 = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$\underline{L_2}: \quad \|f - a_0\|^2 = \int_{-1}^1 (-2x^2 - a_0)^2 dx$$

$$a_0^* = \arg \min_{a_0} 2a_0^2 + \frac{8a_0}{3} + \frac{8}{5}$$

$$\text{Derivative} = 0 \Rightarrow a_0^* = -\frac{2}{3}$$

$$p_0^* \simeq a_0^* = -\frac{2}{3}$$

More generally:

$$a_0^* = \arg \min_{a_0} \int (f(x) - a_0)^2 dx$$

$$= \arg \min_{a_0} \left[\int f^2(x) dx - 2a_0 \int f(x) dx + a_0^2 \int dx \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial a_0} \left[\int \cancel{f^2} dx - 2a_0 \int f dx + a_0^2 \int dx \right]$$

$$-2 \int f dx + 2a_0 \int dx = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow a_0 = \frac{\int f dx}{\int dx} = \frac{\int f(x) dx}{b-a}$$

average of function

Now make even more general

$$p_n^* \in \mathcal{P}_n$$

$$\text{Step 1: } \text{basis} = \left\{ \overbrace{p_0(x), p_1(x), \dots, p_n(x)}^{n+1} \right\} \subset \mathcal{P}_n$$

and linearly independent

$$P_n^*(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j P_j(x) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Best} \\ L_2 \\ \text{approx} \end{array}$$

$$F(\vec{a}) = \int_a^b \left(f(x) - \sum_{j=0}^n a_j P_j(x) \right)^2 dx$$

given
unknown

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial a_k} = 0, \quad k=0, \dots, n$$

← "normal equations"

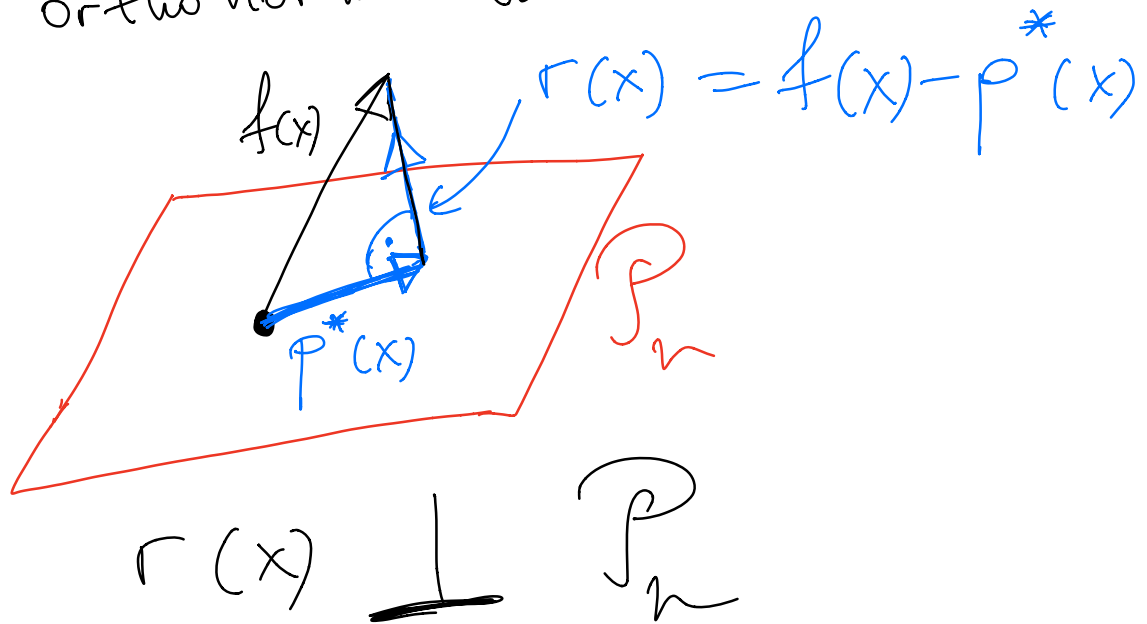
Linear System of $(n+1)$ equations for $(n+1)$ unknowns \vec{a}

Reminder: $Ax = b$, overdetermined

$$x^* = \arg \min_x \|Ax - b\|^2$$

① Normal eqs: $(A^T A)x = A^T b$

(2) QR factorization, Gram-Schmidt orthogonalization.



Conclusion: $r(x)$ must be orthogonal to all polynomials of degree n \Leftrightarrow

$$r(x) \perp p_k(x), k=0, \dots, n$$

$$(r(x), p_k(x)) = 0 \quad \forall k$$

$$\left(\overset{\downarrow}{f} - p^*, p_k \right)_2 = 0 \quad \forall k$$

$$\left(f - \sum_{j=0}^n a_j p_j, p_k \right) = 0$$

$$(f, p_k) = \sum_{j=0}^n a_j (p_j, p_k)$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^n (p_j, p_k) a_j = (f, p_k) \quad k=0, \dots, n$$

$(n+1)$ equations for $(n+1)$ coeffs.

$$\overleftrightarrow{V} \vec{a} = \vec{f}$$

Vandermonde matrix

$V_{jk} = (P_j, P_k) =$
 Can pre-compute exactly $= \int_{x=a}^b P_j(x) P_k(x) dx$

$f_k = (f, P_k) = \int_{x=a}^b f(x) P_k(x) dx$

cannot compute exactly for any $f(x)$

E.g.

Take monomials as basis for

$P_n : \{ 1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n \}$
 $\{ P_0(x), P_1(x), \dots, P_n(x) \}$
 $a=0, b=1$

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_{ij} &= \int_0^1 P_i(x) P_j(x) dx = \\
 &= \int_0^1 x^i x^j dx = \int_0^1 x^{i+j} dx \\
 &= \frac{x^{i+j+1}}{i+j+1} \Big|_0^1 = \frac{1}{i+j+1}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$V_{ij} = \frac{1}{i+j+1} \leftarrow \text{Hilbert matrix}$$

Very ill conditioned for $n \geq 10$
(Worksheets)

Using monomials as a basis
is a bad idea (ill-conditioned)

$$\vec{V} \vec{a} = \vec{f}$$

What's the simplest \vec{v} ?

$$V = I \Rightarrow \vec{a} = \vec{f}$$

$$V_{ij} = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \\ 1 & \text{if } i = j \end{cases}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \int P_i(x) P_j(x) dx = 0 \quad \text{if } i \neq j \\ \int P_i^2(x) dx = 1 \end{array} \right. \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{skip this} \\ \text{in} \\ \text{practice} \end{array}$$

or the normal polynomials

$$a_k = f_k = (f, P_k) = \int f(x) P_k(x) dx$$

$$P_n^* = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k P_k(x)$$

aside: Often polynomials are orthogonal but not normalized

$$a_k = \frac{(f, p_k)}{(p_k, p_k)}$$

Orthogonal polynomials

How to find an orthogonal basis for \mathcal{P}_n ?

Recall:

How to find an orthogonal basis for $\text{col } A$?

$$A = QR \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{orthonormal} \\ \text{upper triangular} \end{array}$$

Compute by Gram-Schmidt process

"columns of A " $\equiv \{1, x, x^2, \dots, x^n\}$

$\text{col}(A) \equiv P_n$

$\downarrow \text{GS}$
 $Q \equiv$ orthonormal basis for P_n

Start with monomials, then do GS on them one by one to get orthogonal polynomials

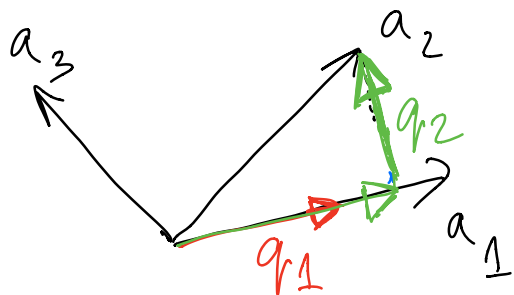
Review:

q_1, q_2, q_3

$q_1 \perp q_2 \perp q_3$

$q_1 = a_1$

\uparrow
skip normalization

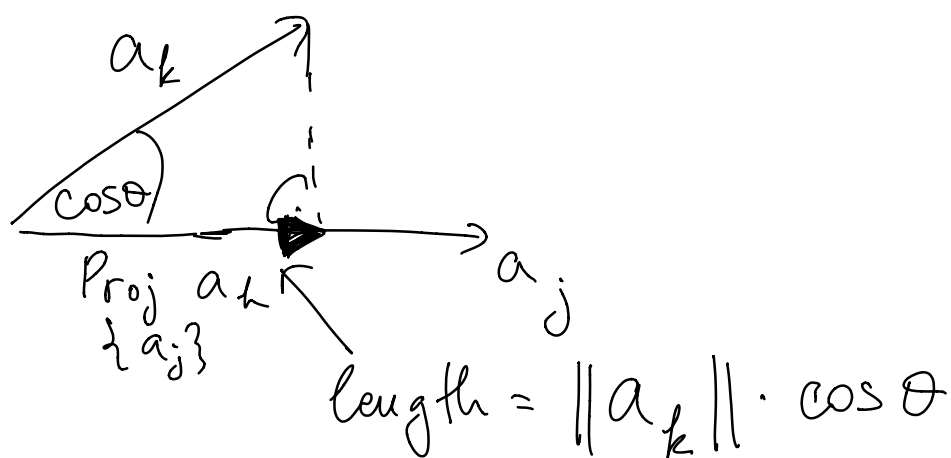


$$q_2 = a_2 - \text{Proj}_{\{a_1\}} a_2$$

$$q_3 = a_3 - \text{Proj}_{\{a_1, a_2\}} a_3 =$$

$$= a_3 - \text{Proj}_{\{a_1\}} a_3 - \text{Proj}_{\{a_2\}} a_3$$

$$\rightarrow \text{Proj}_{\{\vec{a}_j\}} \vec{a}_k = \underbrace{\alpha_{kj}}_{\text{coefficient}} \vec{a}_j$$



$$(\alpha_{kj} a_j, a_j) = (a_k, a_j)$$

$$\alpha_{kj} = \frac{a_k \cdot a_j}{a_j \cdot a_j} = \frac{(a_k, a_j)}{\|a_j\|^2}$$

$$\text{Proj}_{\{\vec{a}_j\}} \vec{a}_k = \frac{(\vec{a}_k, \vec{a}_j)}{\|a_j\|^2} \vec{a}_j$$

GS for polynomials

$$\{1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots\}$$

$$\{P_0, P_1, P_2, P_3, \dots\}$$

Orthogonal polynomials

$$\{\psi_1, \psi_2, \dots\}$$

$$\psi_1 = P_0 = 1 \quad (\text{degree zero})$$

$$\psi_2 = P_1 - \text{Proj}_{\{\psi_1\}} P_1$$

$$= P_1 - \frac{(\psi_0, P_1)}{(\psi_0, \psi_0)} \psi_0$$

$$= P_1 - \frac{\int_{-1}^1 x \cdot dx}{\int_{-1}^1 dx} \cdot 1$$

$$= P_1 - \text{zero by anti-symmetry} = P_1 = X$$

$$\Psi_1 = X$$

$$\Psi_2 = P_2 - \frac{(\Psi_0, P_2)}{(\Psi_0, \Psi_0)} \Psi_0 - \frac{(\Psi_1, P_2)}{(\Psi_1, \Psi_1)} \Psi_1$$

$$= X^2 - \frac{\int X^2 dx}{\int dx} - \frac{\int X^3 dx}{\int X^2 dx} \cdot X$$

zero by antisymmetry

$$= X^2 - \frac{\frac{X^3}{3} \Big|_1^{-1}}{2} \Rightarrow$$

$$\Psi_2 = X^2 - \frac{1}{3}$$

$$\psi_n(x) = X^n - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \frac{\left(\int_{-1}^1 \psi_n(x) \psi_j(x) dx \right)}{\left(\int_{-1}^1 \psi_j^2 dx \right)} \psi_j(x)$$

Orthogonal polynomials on $[-1, 1]$
in the standard L_2 inner product

Legendre polynomials
(table in Wiki)

For a general $[a, b]$

$$t = \frac{x+1}{2} (b-a) + a$$

$t \in [a, b]$ when

$x \in [-1, 1]$

$$0 = \int_{-1}^1 \psi_j(x) \psi_k(x) dx \quad (i \neq k) = \int_a^b \psi_j(t) \psi_k(t) dt$$

$x \leftrightarrow t$
 Legendre polys on $[-1, 1]$ \leftrightarrow Orthogonal polys on $[a, b]$

Recall: Optimal L_2 approx:

$$f(x) \approx P_n^*(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n a_k \psi_k(x)$$

Legendre polynomials

$$a_k = \frac{(f, \psi_k)}{(\psi_k, \psi_k)} = \frac{\int f(x) \psi_k(x) dx}{\int \psi_k^2(x) dx}$$

Homework: $f(x) = \sin(x)$ on $[0, \pi]$

E.g. $\psi_2(t) = x^2 - \frac{1}{3} = \left(\frac{2t}{\pi} - 1\right)^2 - \frac{1}{3}$

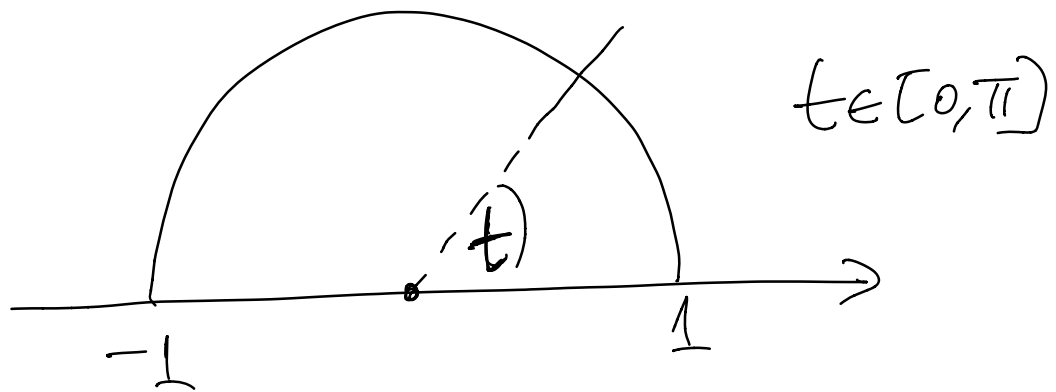
Chebyshev polynomials

$$e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$$

$$\rightarrow \int_0^{\pi} \cos(nt) \cos(mt) dt = 0$$

if $m \neq n$

cos's are orthogonal in L_2
on $(0, \pi)$ (trigonometric
orthogonal polynomials)



$$x = \cos t \in [-1, 1]$$

$$t = \arccos(x)$$

$$dt = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$$

$$\int_{x=-1}^1 \underbrace{\cos(m \cdot a \cos x)}_{T_m(x)} \underbrace{\cos(n \cdot a \cos x)}_{T_n(x)} \cdot \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = 0$$

$$T_k(x) = \cos(k \cdot a \cos x)$$

$k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

A polynomial

$$\begin{cases} T_0 = 1 \\ T_1 = x \\ T_2 = 2x^2 - 1 \\ T_3 = 4x^3 - 3x \\ \dots \end{cases}$$

not $x^2 - \frac{1}{3}$
Legendre

$$x^2 - \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x^3 - \frac{3}{4}x$$

$$\int_{x=-1}^1 T_m(x) T_n(x) \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} = 0$$

$$(T_m, T_n)_{(1-x^2)^{-1/2}} = 0$$

$$(f, g) = \int_{x=-1}^1 \frac{f(x)g(x) dx}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$$

Chebyshev polynomials are orthogonal w.r.t. the weighted L_2 inner product with weight function

$$w(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} \geq 0 \quad \forall x \text{ in } [-1, 1]$$

Orthogonal polys & computing

Theorem:

(#1) The roots of an orthogonal polynomial $\psi_{j \geq 1}$ are real & distinct and in (a, b)

[See th 9.4 in theory textbook]

(#2) These roots are "good" nodes for polynomial interpolation

e.g. Legendre: $x^2 - \frac{1}{3} = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}$

Chebyshev: $x^2 - \frac{1}{2} = 0 \Rightarrow x = \pm \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}$

Roots of Chebyshev polys:

$$T_n(x) = \cos(k \cdot a \cos(x)) = 0$$

$$k \cdot a \cos(x) = (2n+1) \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

$$a \cos x = \frac{2n+1}{k} \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_n = \cos\left(\frac{2n+1}{k} \frac{\pi}{2}\right) \\ \text{is a root of } T_n(x) \end{array} \right.$$

$$t \in (0, \pi)$$

$$x \in (-1, 1)$$

$$0 \leq \frac{2n+1}{k} \leq 2$$

$$\Rightarrow 0 \leq n \leq \frac{(2k-1)}{2}$$

Do not
include $-1, 1$

$$x_n = \cos \left(\frac{(n+1/2)\pi}{k} \right)$$

$$n = 0, \dots, \frac{2k-1}{2}$$

or equally good

$$x_n = \cos \left(\frac{n\pi}{k+1} \right)$$