

1a.) We have the following piecewise polynomials and conditions given for the quadratic spline.

$$S(x) = \begin{cases} S_0(x) = a_0 + b_0(x - x_0) + c_0(x - x_0)^2 & [x_0, x_1] \\ S_i(x) = a_i + b_i(x - x_i) + c_i(x - x_i)^2 & [x_i, x_{i+1}] \\ S_{i+1}(x) = a_{i+1} + b_{i+1}(x - x_{i+1}) + c_{i+1}(x - x_{i+1})^2 & [x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}] \end{cases}$$

$$S'(x) = \begin{cases} S'_0(x) = b_0 + 2c_0(x - x_0) & [x_0, x_1] \\ S'_i(x) = b_i + 2c_i(x - x_i) & [x_i, x_{i+1}] \\ S'_{i+1}(x) = b_{i+1} + 2c_{i+1}(x - x_{i+1}) & [x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}] \end{cases}$$

Conditions:

$$1. S_i(x_i) = f(x_i) \quad 2. S_i(x_{i+1}) = f(x_{i+1}) \quad 3. S'_i(x_{i+1}) = S'_{i+1}(x_{i+1}) \quad 4. S'_0(x_0) = f'(x_0)$$

First, we must find a_0 , b_0 , and c_0 . This can be done with the following equations:

$$a_0 = S_0(x_0) = f(x_0)$$

$$b_0 = S'_0(x_0) = f'(x_0)$$

$$c_0 = \frac{S_0(x_1) - a_0 - b_0(x_1 - x_0)}{(x_1 - x_0)^2} = \frac{f(x_1) - a_0 - b_0(x_1 - x_0)}{(x_1 - x_0)^2}$$

Now we must find a_{i+1} , b_{i+1} , and c_{i+1} for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$. We get the following:

$$a_{i+1} = a_i + b_i(x_{i+1} - x_i) + c_i(x_{i+1} - x_i)^2 = f(x_{i+1})$$

$$b_{i+1} = b_i + 2c_i(x_{i+1} - x_i)$$

$$c_{i+1} = \frac{S_{i+1}(x_{i+2}) - a_{i+1} - b_{i+1}(x_{i+2} - x_{i+1})}{(x_{i+2} - x_{i+1})^2}$$

Using these equations, we can get a_i , b_i , and c_i for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$.

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1b.

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```
function [pp] = quadspline(x,y,k)
%QUADSPLINE - computes the quadratic spline with given slope at the left
% endpoint.
% -Input:
% x - the vector of x_i values
% y - the vector of f(x_i)
% k - derivative f'(x) at left endpoint
% -Output :
% pp - A piecewise polynomial structure for the quadratic spline
%% initialize coefficient matrix
n = length(x)-1;
A = zeros(n,3);
%% Calculate a_0, b_0, and c_0
A(1,3) = y(1);
A(1,2) = k;
A(1,1) = (y(2)-A(1,3)-A(1,2)*(x(2)-x(1)))/(x(2)-x(1))^2;
%% Complete the coefficient matrix for a_i, b_i, and c_i
for i = 1:n-1
    A(i+1,3) = A(i,3)+A(i,2)*(x(i+1)-x(i))+A(i,1)*(x(i+1)-x(i))^2;
    A(i+1,2) = A(i,2)+2*A(i,1)*(x(i+1)-x(i));
    A(i+1,1) = (y(i+2)-A(i+1,3)-A(i+1,2)*(x(i+2)-x(i+1)))/(x(i+2)-x(i+1))^2;
end
%% Store spline in pp format
pp = mkpp(x,A);
```

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2a.) The order of accuracy for this quadratic spline should be three. This is because the spline uses quadratic polynomials where the error is contained in the cubic term with h^3 . α is consistent with this expectation.

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```
function [S] = P2a(a)
%P2a - Creates a table of numerical error and order of accuracy for k
% piecewise polynomials, each with n_k polynomials, at h_k stepsize for
% f = xe^(-x) using quadratic spline.
% -Input:
% a - number of piecewise polynomials to compute
% -Output :
% S - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial
%% set the function to interpolate
f = @(x) x*exp(-x);
%% initialize each column of the output table
n = zeros(a,1);
k = zeros(a,1);
h = zeros(a,1);
enum = zeros(a,1);
alpha = zeros(a,1);
%% loop for each entry in every vector previously initialized
for i = 1:a
    %% calculate ith entry for k, n_k, and h_k
    k(i) = i;
    n(i) = 2^(i+1);
    h(i) = 2^(1-i);
    %% calculate x and f(x) vectors to use in quadspline
    X = 0:h(i):n(i);
    Y = zeros(n(i)+1,1);
    for l = 0:h(i):n(i)
        Y(l/h(i)+1) = f(l);
    end
    pp = quadspline(X,Y,1);
    %% calculate numerical error and order of accuracy for each quadspline
    for m = 0:0.001:4
        if abs(f(m)-ppval(pp,m)) > enum(i)
            enum(i) = abs(f(m)-ppval(pp,m));
        end
    end
    if i ~= 1
        alpha(i) = log(enum(i)/enum(i-1))/log(h(i)/h(i-1));
    end
end
alpha(1) = "NaN";
%% create a results table for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order or accuracy
R = table(k,n,h,enum,alpha,'VariableNames',{'k','n','h','error','accuracy'});
S = table(R,'VariableNames',{'Results'});
```

```
a = 5;  
P2a(a)
```

```
ans =
```

```
5x1 table
```

k	n	h	Results	
			error	accuracy
1	4	1	0.057408	NaN
2	8	0.5	0.0084533	2.7637
3	16	0.25	0.0011163	2.9208
4	32	0.125	0.00014239	2.9708
5	64	0.0625	1.795e-05	2.9878

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2b.) The splines would be ranked as follows:

1. Clamped cubic spline – 4th order of accuracy
 - Advantages: Smallest error
 - Disadvantages: Needs $f'(x)$ at both endpoints
2. Not-a-knot spline – 4th order of accuracy
 - Advantages: 4th order of accuracy, does not need endpoint conditions
 - Disadvantages: Third derivatives must be continuous
3. Quadratic spline – 3rd order of accuracy
 - Advantages: Does not need to compute a d_i column
 - Disadvantages: Needs $f'(x)$ at one endpoint
4. Natural cubic spline – 2nd order of accuracy
 - Advantages: Simple endpoint conditions
 - Disadvantages: Low order of accuracy

Natural cubic spline does not work well for this problem since the boundary conditions are set so that $f''(0) = f''(4) = 0$. Since $f''(x) = xe^{-x} - 2e^{-x}$, $f''(0) = -2 \neq 0$, and $f''(4) = 2e^{-4} \neq 0$, the boundary conditions of the natural cubic spline inhibit its performance interpolating $f(x)$.

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```
function [T1,T2,T3,T4] = P2b(a)
%P2b - Creates a table of numerical error and order of accuracy for k
% piecewise polynomials, each with n_k polynomials, at h_k stepsize for
% f = xe^(-x) using quadratic spline and the three cubic splines.
% -Input:
% a - number of piecewise polynomials to compute
% -Output :
% T1 - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial using a quadratic spline
% T2 - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial using a natural cubic spline
% T3 - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial using a clamped cubic spline
% T4 - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial using a not-a-knot cubic spline
%% set the function to interpolate
f = @(x) x.*exp(-x);
%% setup x and f(x) vectors for quadratic, natural, and not-a-knot splines
x = [0,1,2,3,4];
y = [0,exp(-1),2*exp(-2),3*exp(-3),4*exp(-4)];
%% setup f(x) vector with f'(0) and f'(4) for clamped spline
y2 = [1,0,exp(-1),2*exp(-2),3*exp(-3),4*exp(-4),exp(-4)-4*exp(-4)];
%% calculate the four splines and store in pp format
pp1 = quadspline(x,y,1);
pp2 = myspline(x,y,1);
pp3 = myspline(x,y2,2);
pp4 = myspline(x,y,3);
%% graph the four splines along with the original function f, and the 5 nodes
hold on
xq = 0:0.001:4;
fplot(f,[0,4],'black')
plot(xq,ppval(pp1,xq),'red');
plot(xq,ppval(pp2,xq),'green');
plot(xq,ppval(pp3,xq),'blue');
plot(xq,ppval(pp4,xq),'cyan');
scatter(x,y,'filled','black');
legend('f','quad','natural','clamped','not-a-knot','nodes');
%% create an error and accuracy table for each of the four splines
T1 = P2a(a);
T2 = mysplinetable(a,1);
T3 = mysplinetable(a,2);
T4 = mysplinetable(a,3);
```

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```
function [S] = mysplinetable(a,b)
%P2a - Creates a table of numerical error and order of accuracy for k
% piecewise polynomials, each with n_k polynomials, at h_k stepsize for
% f = xe^(-x) using either natural, clamped, or not-a-knot cubic spline.
% -Input:
% a - number of piecewise polynomials to compute
% -Output :
% S - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial
%% set the function to interpolate
f = @(x) x*exp(-x);
%% initialize each column of the output table
n = zeros(a,1);
k = zeros(a,1);
h = zeros(a,1);
enum = zeros(a,1);
alpha = zeros(a,1);
%% loop for each entry in every vector previously initialized
for i = 1:a
    %% calculate ith entry for k, n_k, and h_k
    k(i) = i;
    n(i) = 2^(i+1);
    h(i) = 2^(1-i);
    %% calculate x and f(x) vectors to use in myspline
    X = 0:h(i):n(i);
    Y = zeros(n(i)+1,1);
    for l = 0:h(i):n(i)
        Y(l/h(i)+1) = f(l);
    end
    %% calculate f'(0) and f'(4) for clamped spline
    if b == 2
        Y = zeros(n(i)+3,1);
        Y(1) = 1;
        Y(n(i)/h(i)+3) = exp(-4)-4*exp(-4);
        for l = 0:h(i):n(i)
            Y(l/h(i)+2) = f(l);
        end
    end
    %% use myspline to create either a natural, clamped, or not-a-knot spline
    pp = myspline(X,Y,b);
    %% calculate numerical error and order of accuracy for each quadspline
    for m = 0:0.001:4
        if abs(f(m)-ppval(pp,m)) > enum(i)
            enum(i) = abs(f(m)-ppval(pp,m));
        end
    end
    if i ~= 1
        alpha(i) = log(enum(i)/enum(i-1))/log(h(i)/h(i-1));
    end
end
```

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```
end
alpha(1) = "NaN";
%% create a results table for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order or accuracy
R = table(k,n,h,enum,alpha,'VariableNames',{'k','n','h','error','accuracy'});
S = table(R,'VariableNames',{'Results'});
```

```
a = 5;  
[quadratic,natural,clamped,notaknot] = P2b(a)
```

quadratic =

5×1 table

k	n	h	Results	accuracy
			error	
1	4	1	0.057408	NaN
2	8	0.5	0.0084533	2.7637
3	16	0.25	0.0011163	2.9208
4	32	0.125	0.00014239	2.9708
5	64	0.0625	1.795e-05	2.9878

natural =

5×1 table

k	n	h	Results	accuracy
			error	
1	4	1	0.080493	NaN
2	8	0.5	0.023188	1.7955
3	16	0.25	0.0060438	1.9399
4	32	0.125	0.001528	1.9838
5	64	0.0625	0.00038312	1.9957

clamped =

5×1 table

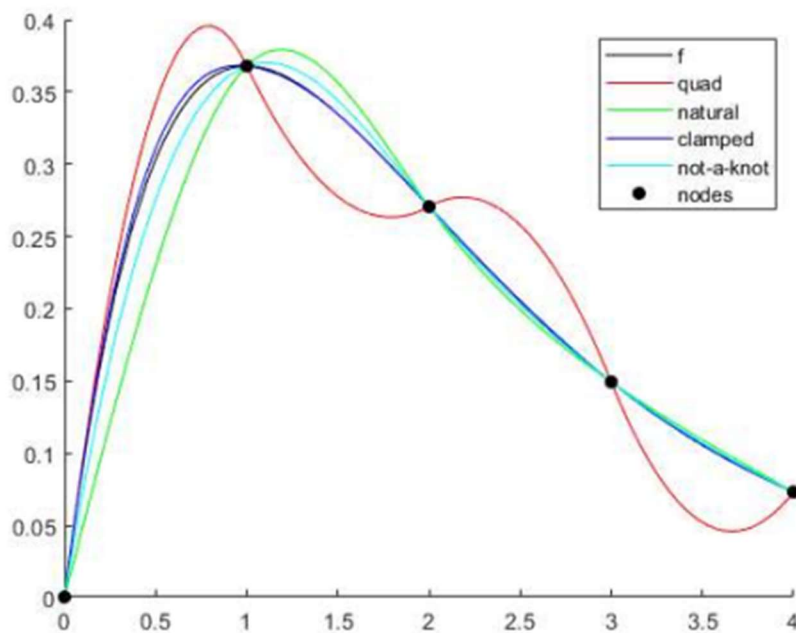
k	n	h	Results	accuracy
			error	
1	4	1	0.007331	NaN
2	8	0.5	0.00056371	3.701
3	16	0.25	3.8241e-05	3.8818
4	32	0.125	2.4723e-06	3.9512
5	64	0.0625	1.5678e-07	3.979

notaknot =

5×1 table

k	n	h	Results	
			error	accuracy
1	4	1	0.031593	NaN

2	8	0.5	0.003714	3.0886
3	16	0.25	0.00032003	3.5367
4	32	0.125	2.3494e-05	3.7678
5	64	0.0625	1.5913e-06	3.884



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3a.) quadspline2 will maintain the order of accuracy of quadspline since $f'(x_0)$ was derived using the five-point forward difference formula. Since the order of accuracy for the five-point forward difference formula is greater than that of quadspline, quadspline will maintain its order of accuracy.

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3b.)

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```
function [pp] = quadspline2(x,y)
%QUADSPLINE2 - computes the quadratic spline with slope at the left
% endpoint approximated by finite difference.
% -Input:
% x - the vector of x_i values
% y - the vector of f(x_i)
% -Output :
% pp - A piecewise polynomial structure for the quadratic spline
%% initialize coefficient matrix
n = length(x)-1;
A = zeros(n,3);
%% Calculate a_0, b_0, and c_0 using finite difference approximation
A(1,3) = y(1);
A(1,2) = finitder(0.001);
A(1,1) = (y(2)-A(1,3)-A(1,2)*(x(2)-x(1)))/(x(2)-x(1))^2;
%% Complete the coefficient matrix for a_i, b_i, and c_i
for i = 1:n-1
    A(i+1,3) = A(i,3)+A(i,2)*(x(i+1)-x(i))+A(i,1)*(x(i+1)-x(i))^2;
    A(i+1,2) = A(i,2)+2*A(i,1)*(x(i+1)-x(i));
    A(i+1,1) = (y(i+2)-A(i+1,3)-A(i+1,2)*(x(i+2)-x(i+1)))/(x(i+2)-x(i+1))^2;
end
%% Store spline in pp format
pp = mkpp(x,A);
```

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```
function [f0] = finitder(h)
%FINITDER - computes the slope at the left endpoint using five-point
% forward difference
% -Input:
% h - distance between x_i and x_{i+1}
% -Output :
% f0 - f'(0) when f = xe^(-x)
%% First five interpolation points of the function given in 2a
f = @(x) x.*exp(-x);
X0 = [0,h,2*h,3*h,4*h];
Y0 = f(X0);
%% approximate f'(0) with five-point forward difference formula
f0 = (-25*Y0(1)+48*Y0(2)-36*Y0(3)+16*Y0(4)-3*Y0(5))/(12*h);
```

3c.) Yes, the convergence order is the same.

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```
function [S] = P3c(a)
%P2a - Creates a table of numerical error and order of accuracy for k
% piecewise polynomials, each with n_k polynomials, at h_k stepsize for
% f = xe^(-x) using quadratic spline with finite difference approximation.
% -Input:
% a - number of piecewise polynomials to compute
% -Output :
% S - A table of values for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order of
% accuracy of each piecewise polynomial
%% set the function to interpolate
f = @(x) x*exp(-x);
%% initialize each column of the output table
n = zeros(a,1);
k = zeros(a,1);
h = zeros(a,1);
enum = zeros(a,1);
alpha = zeros(a,1);
%% loop for each entry in every vector previously initialized
for i = 1:a
    %% calculate ith entry for k, n_k, and h_k
    k(i) = i;
    n(i) = 2^(i+1);
    h(i) = 2^(1-i);
    %% calculate x and f(x) vectors to use in quadspline2
    X = 0:h(i):n(i);
    Y = zeros(n(i)+1,1);
    for l = 0:h(i):n(i)
        Y(l/h(i)+1) = f(l);
    end
    pp = quadspline2(X,Y);
    %% calculate numerical error and order of accuracy for each quadspline
    for m = 0:0.001:4
        if abs(f(m)-ppval(pp,m)) > enum(i)
            enum(i) = abs(f(m)-ppval(pp,m));
        end
    end
    if i ~= 1
        alpha(i) = log(enum(i)/enum(i-1))/log(h(i)/h(i-1));
    end
end
alpha(1) = "NaN";
%% create a results table for k, n_k, h_k, numerical error, and order or accuracy
R = table(k,n,h,enum,alpha,'VariableNames',{'k','n','h','error','accuracy'});
S = table(R,'VariableNames',{'Results'});
```

```
a = 5;  
P3c(a)
```

```
ans =
```

```
5×1 table
```

k	n	h	Results	
			error	accuracy
1	4	1	0.057408	NaN
2	8	0.5	0.0084533	2.7637
3	16	0.25	0.0011163	2.9208
4	32	0.125	0.00014239	2.9708
5	64	0.0625	1.795e-05	2.9878

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3d.) Aside from different finite difference approximations of $f'(x_0)$, I cannot think of any other ways to compute the quadratic spline without $f'(x_0)$. Since we need b_0 , and b_0 comes from the derivative of x_0 , we need the derivative of x_0 for the quadratic spline.