

Computational Physics I - Polynomial Interpolation

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In [4]:

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

def equidistant_nodes(n: int):
    """Equidistant grid as per  $x_j = 2j/n - 1$ """
    j = np.arange(n + 1)
    return 2 * j / n - 1

def lagrange_basis(x, nodes, k):
    """Lagrange basis polynomial  $L_k(x)$ """
    x = np.asarray(x, dtype=float)
    n = len(nodes) - 1
    L = np.ones_like(x)
    xk = nodes[k]
    for j in range(n + 1):
        if j != k:
            L *= (x - nodes[j]) / (xk - nodes[j])
    return L

def interpolate_lagrange(x_eval, nodes, y_nodes):
    """Interpolating polynomial  $p(x) = \sum f(x_k) * L_k(x)$ """
    p = np.zeros_like(x_eval)
    for k in range(len(nodes)):
        p += y_nodes[k] * lagrange_basis(x_eval, nodes, k)
    return p

def f_fun(x):
    """First function"""
    return np.sin(np.pi * x)

def g_fun(x):
    """Second function"""
    return 1.0 / (1.0 + (3.0 * x)**2)

# Setup
x_plot = np.linspace(-1, 1, 1000)
nodes_list = [6, 10, 14]  # degrees to test

for n in nodes_list:
    nodes = equidistant_nodes(n)

    # (a) Plot some  $L_k(x)$ 
    ks = [0, n//2, n]
    for k in ks:
        plt.figure()
        Lk = lagrange_basis(x_plot, nodes, k)
        plt.plot(x_plot, Lk, label=f"L_{k}(x)")
        plt.scatter(nodes, (nodes == nodes[k]).astype(int), s=20, color='red')
        plt.title(f'Lagrange basis  $L_{k}(x)$  for n={n}')
        plt.xlabel("x")
        plt.ylabel("L_k(x)")
        plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
```

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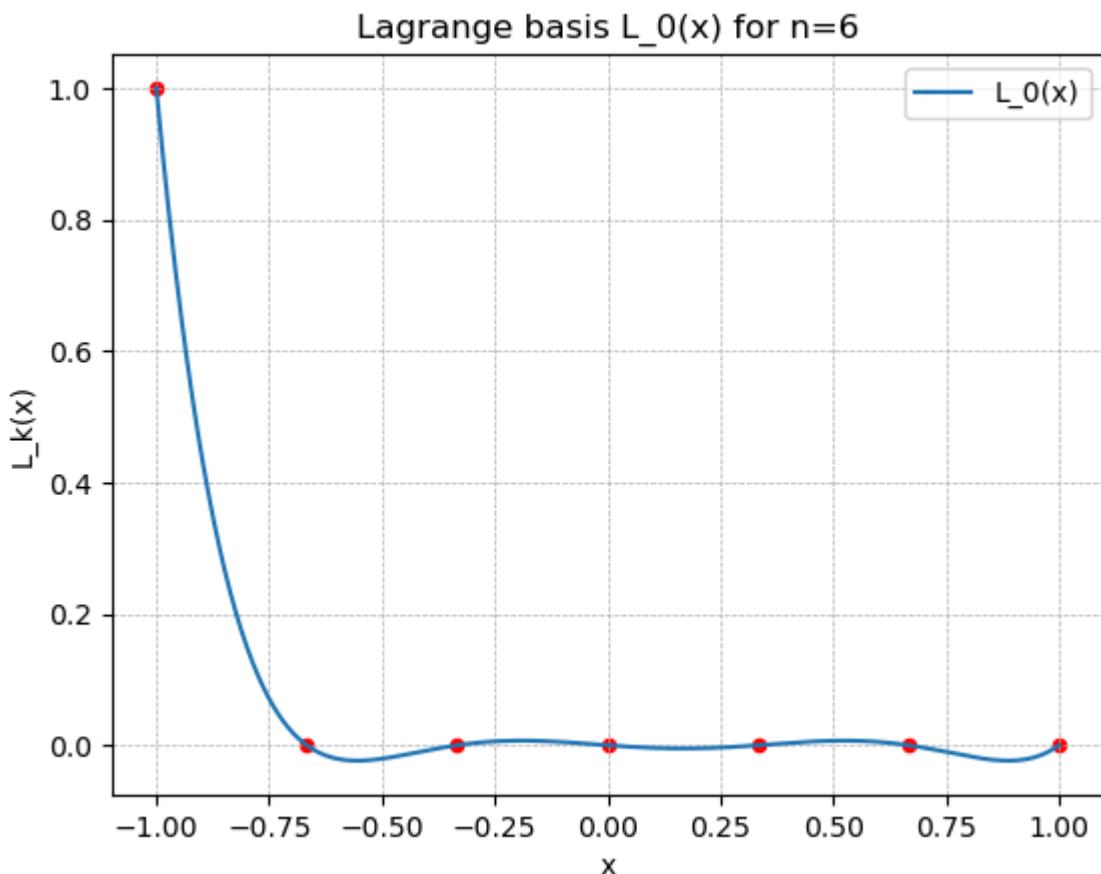
plt.legend()
plt.show()

# (b) Interpolation + Error
for name, fun in [("sin(pi * x)", f_fun), ("1 / (1 + (3x)^2)", g_fun)]:
    y_nodes = fun(nodes)
    p_vals = interpolate_lagrange(x_plot, nodes, y_nodes)
    f_vals = fun(x_plot)

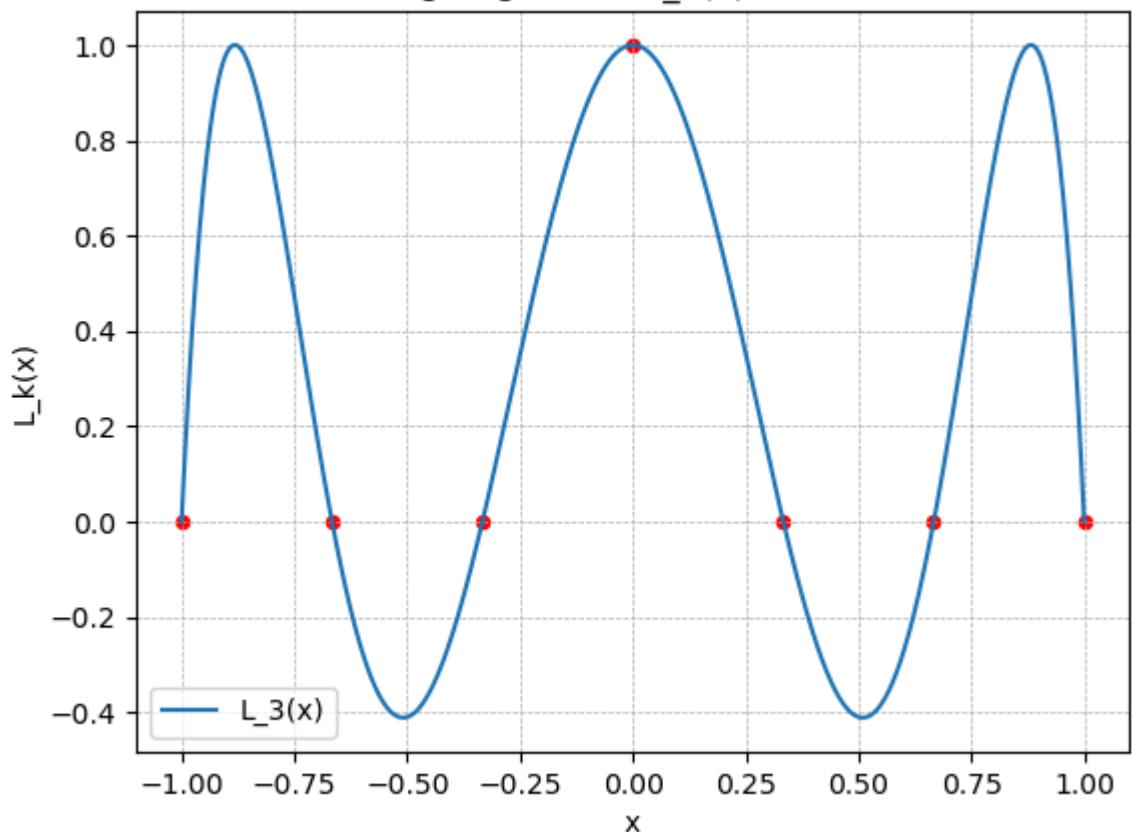
    # Plot function vs interpolant
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(x_plot, f_vals, label=f"{name}")
    plt.plot(x_plot, p_vals, "--", label=f"Interpolating polynomial p")
    plt.scatter(nodes, y_nodes, color='red', s=20, label="Interpolating points")
    plt.title(f"Interpolation of {name} with degree n={n}")
    plt.xlabel("x")
    plt.ylabel("y")
    plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
    plt.legend()
    plt.show()

    # Plot interpolation error
    err = p_vals - f_vals
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(x_plot, err, label=f"Error p(x) - f(x), n={n}")
    plt.axhline(0.0, color="black", linewidth=0.8)
    plt.title(f"Interpolation error for {name}, n={n}")
    plt.xlabel("x")
    plt.ylabel("Error")
    plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
    plt.legend()
    plt.show()

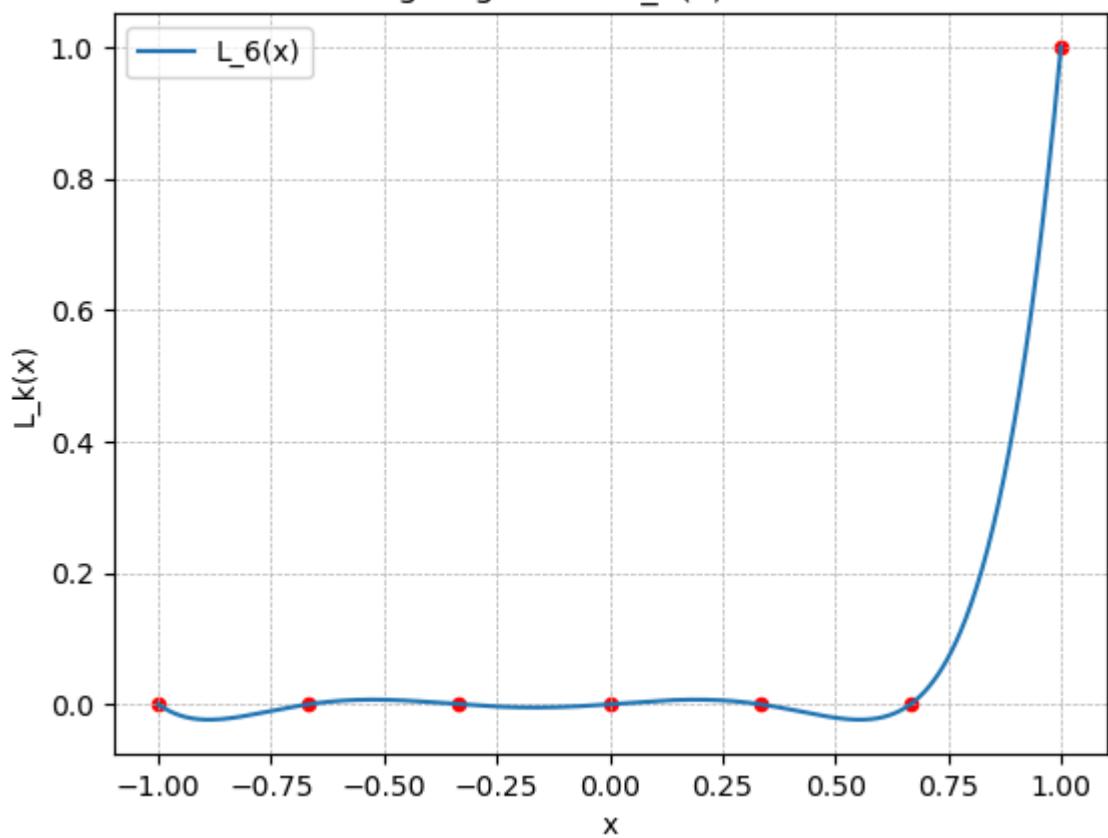
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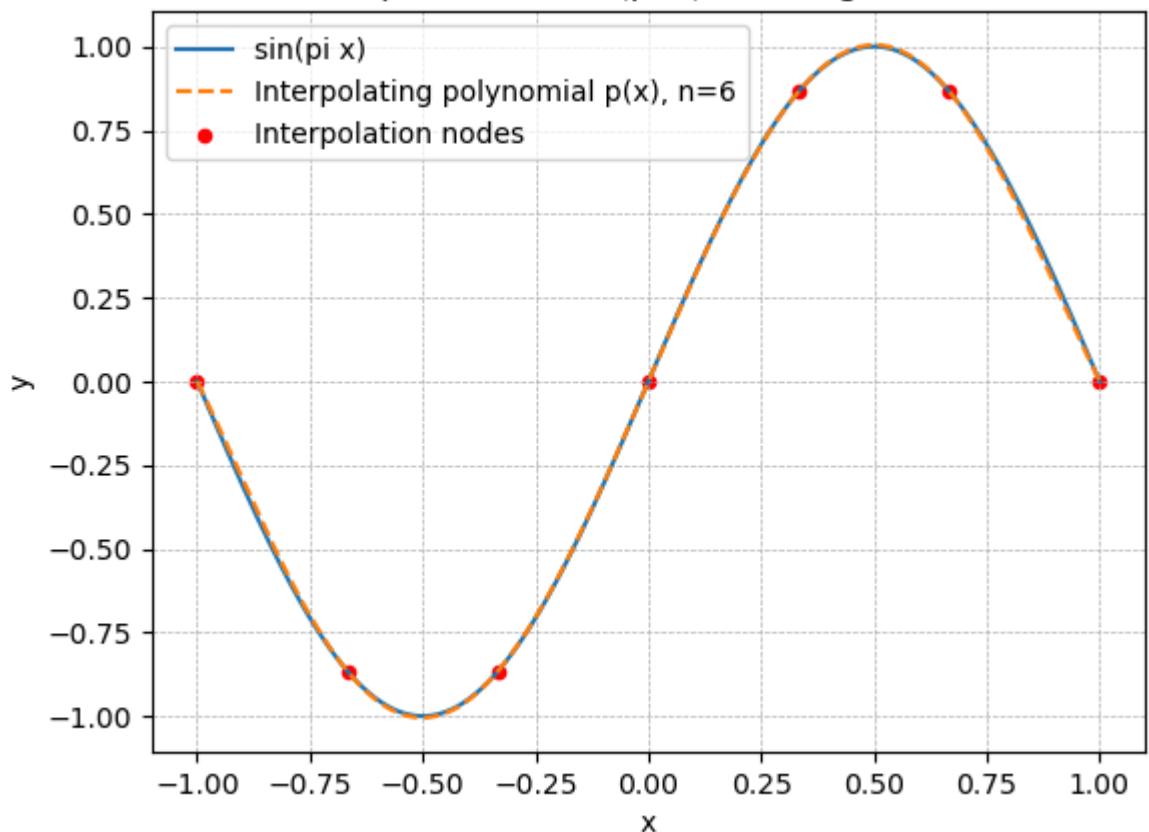
Lagrange basis $L_3(x)$ for $n=6$



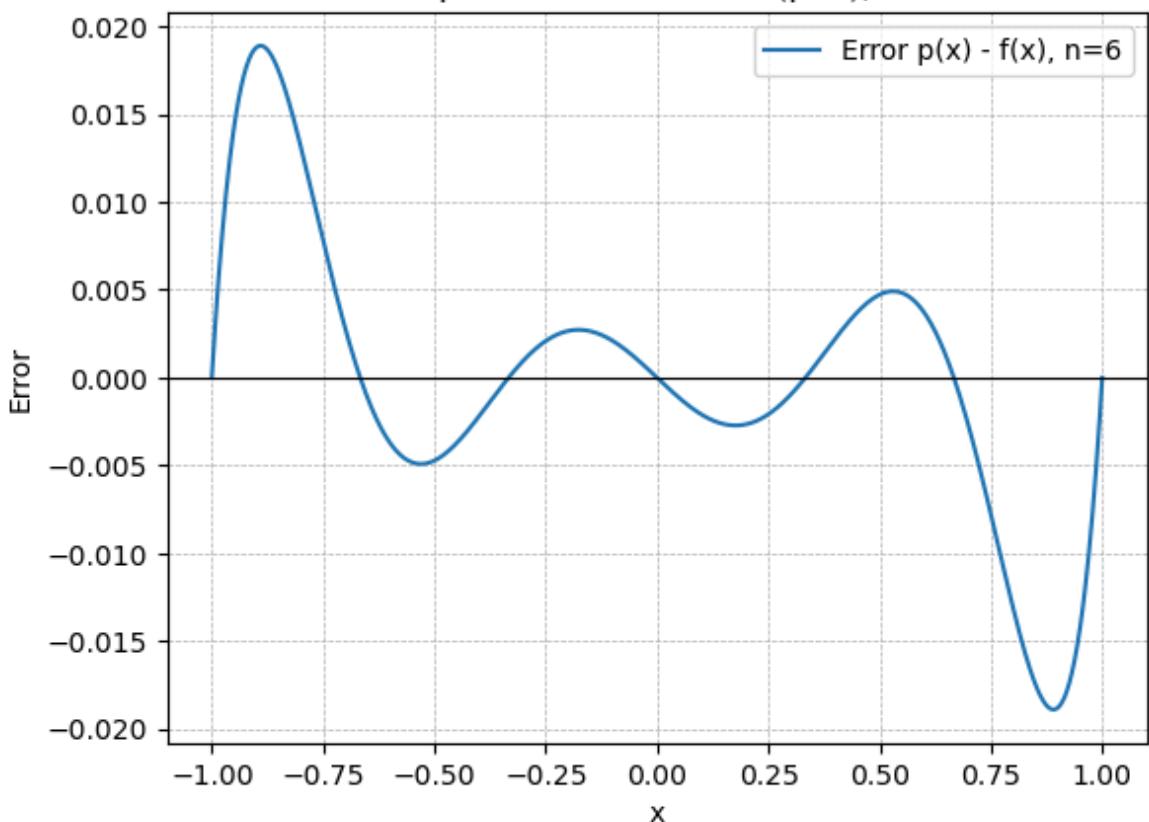
Lagrange basis $L_6(x)$ for $n=6$



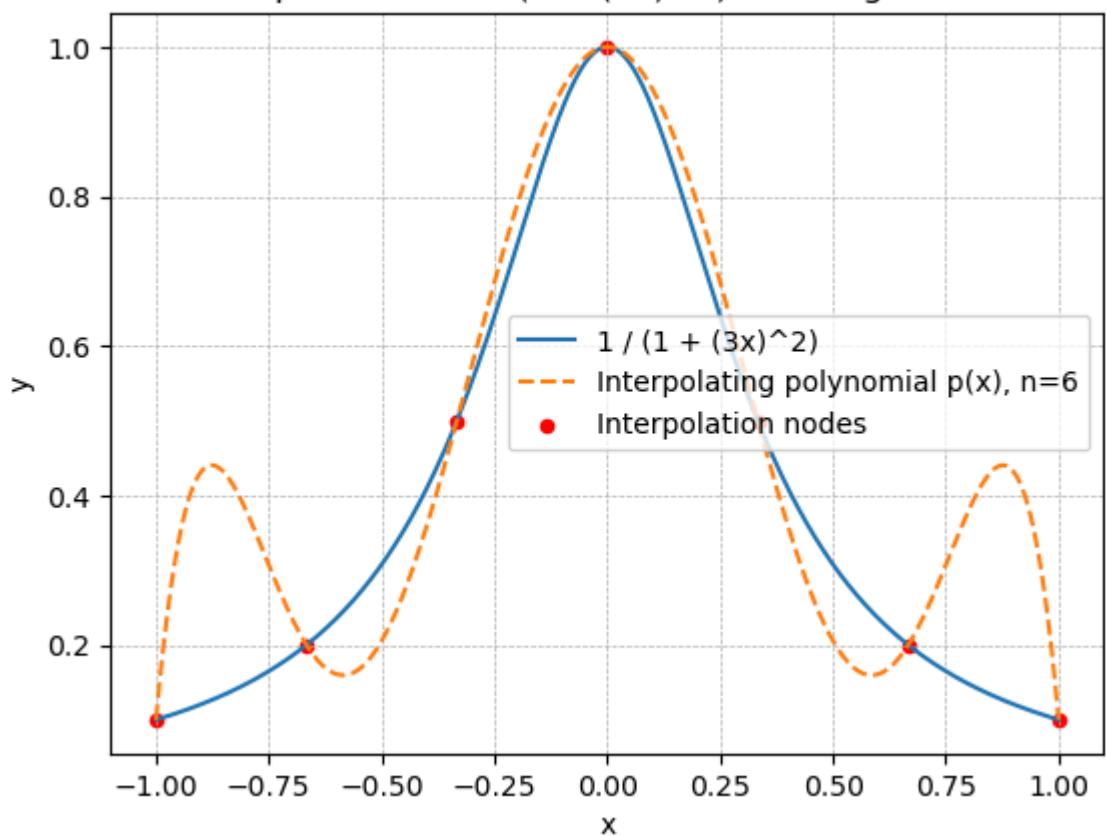
Interpolation of $\sin(\pi x)$ with degree n=6



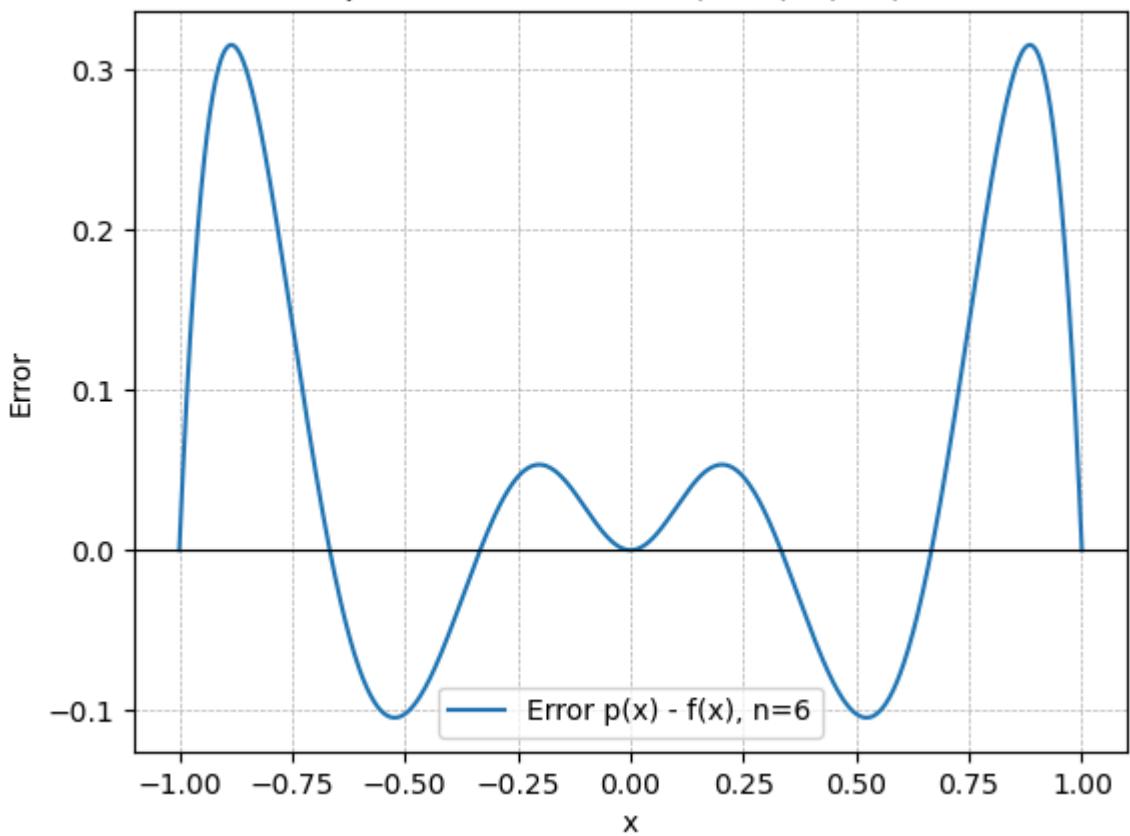
Interpolation error for $\sin(\pi x)$, n=6



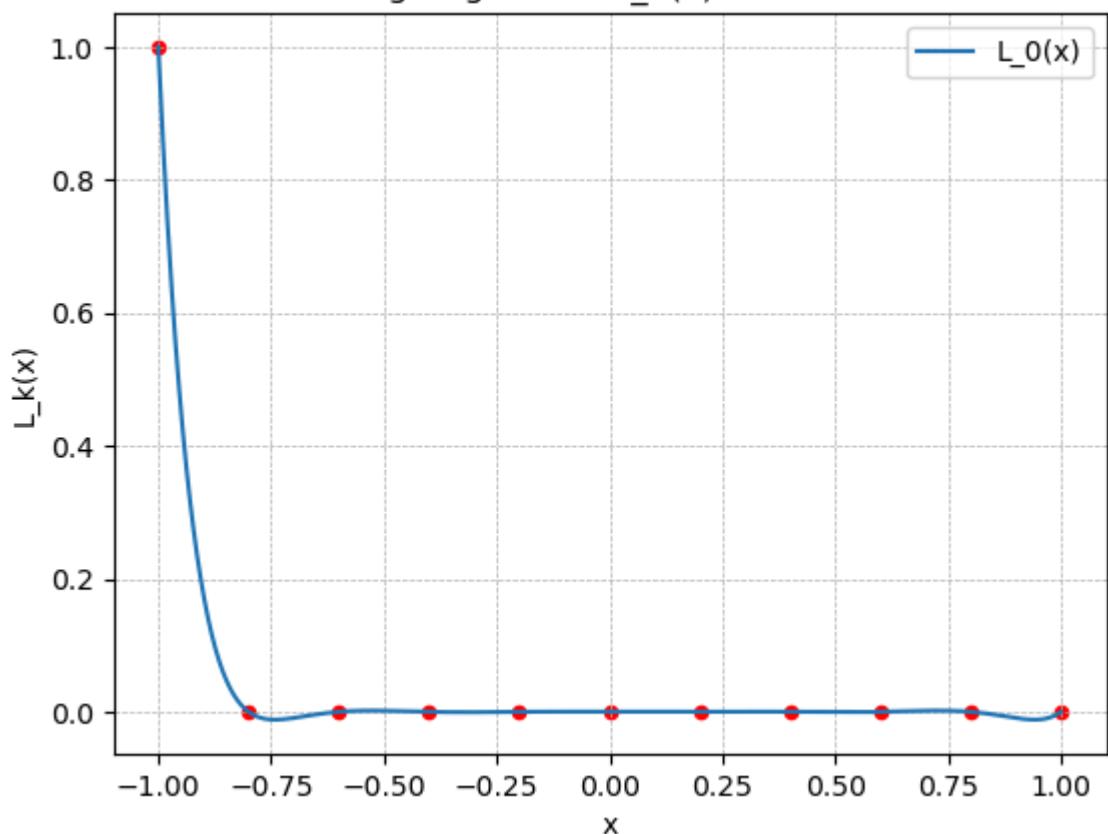
Interpolation of $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$ with degree n=6



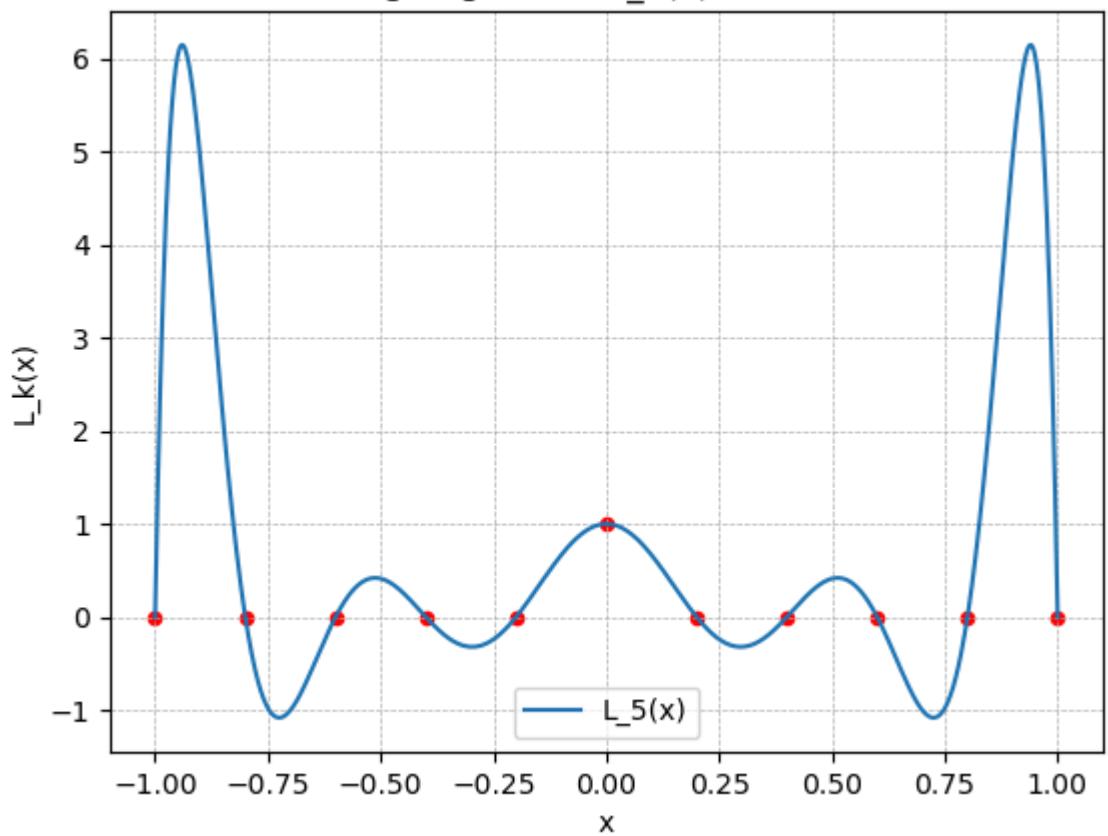
Interpolation error for $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$, n=6



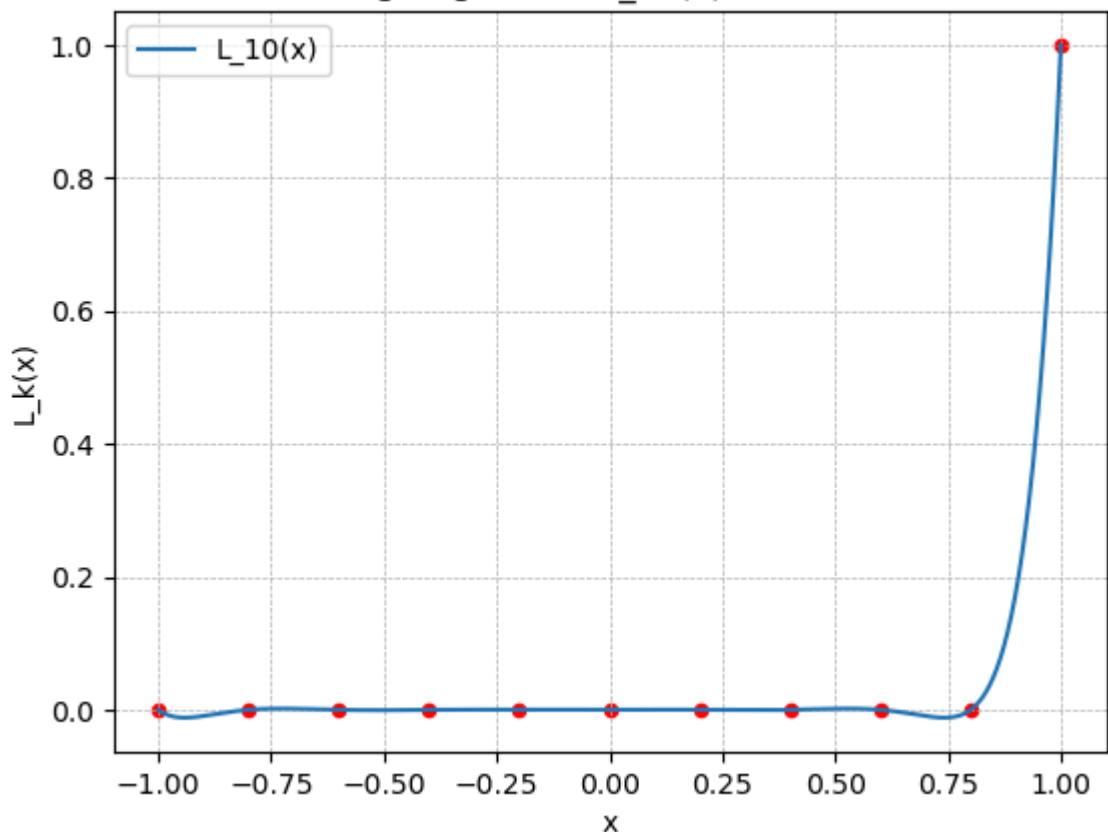
Lagrange basis $L_0(x)$ for $n=10$



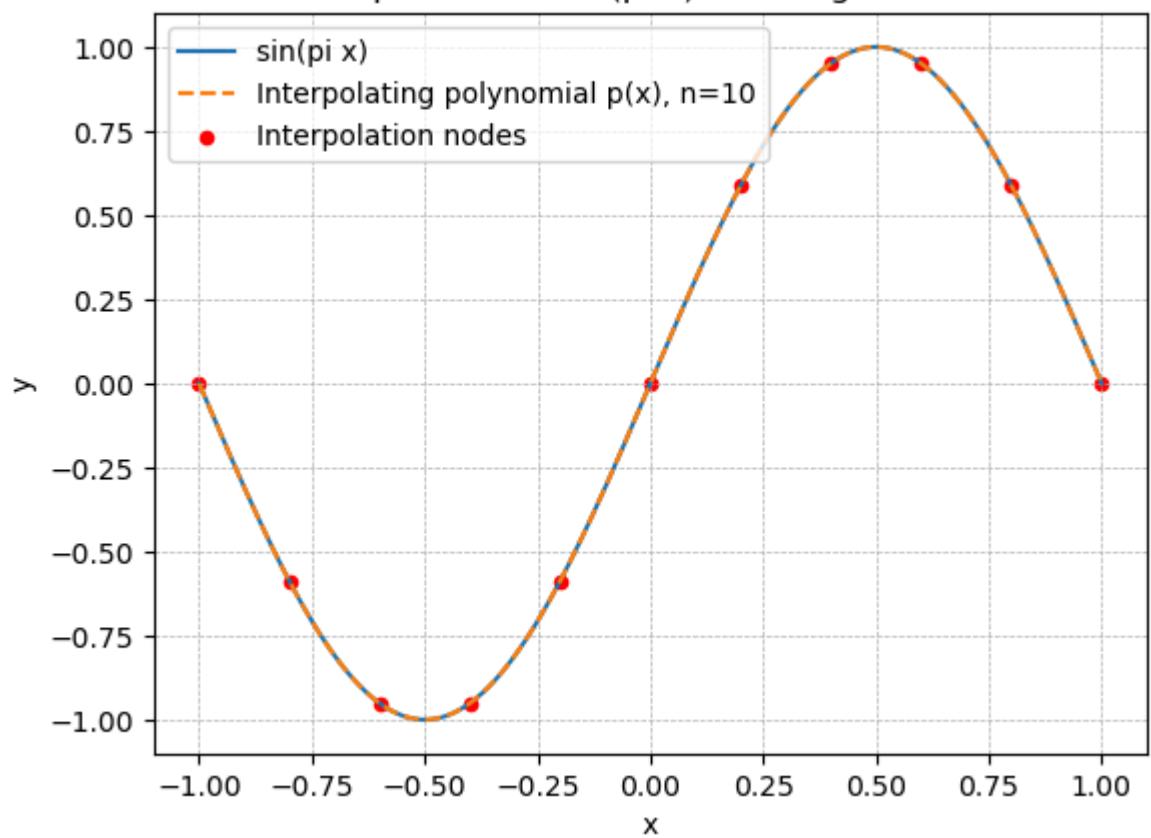
Lagrange basis $L_5(x)$ for $n=10$

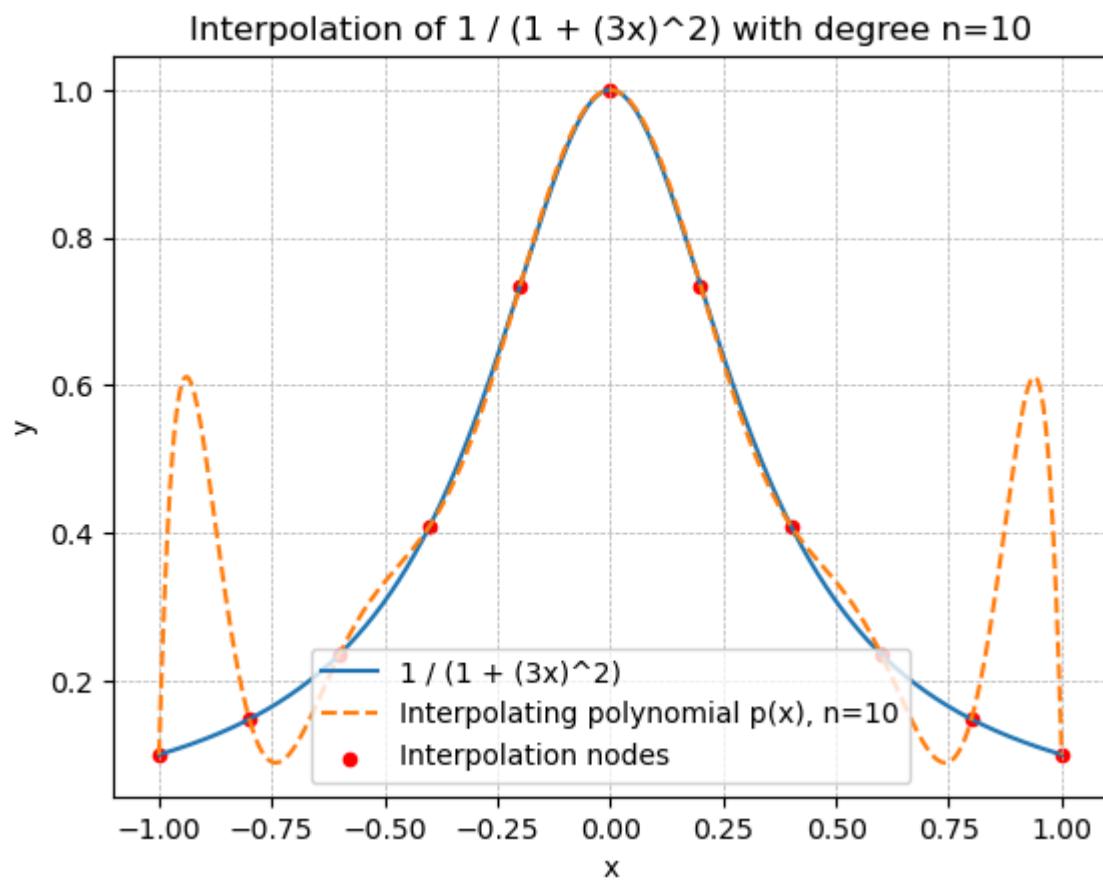
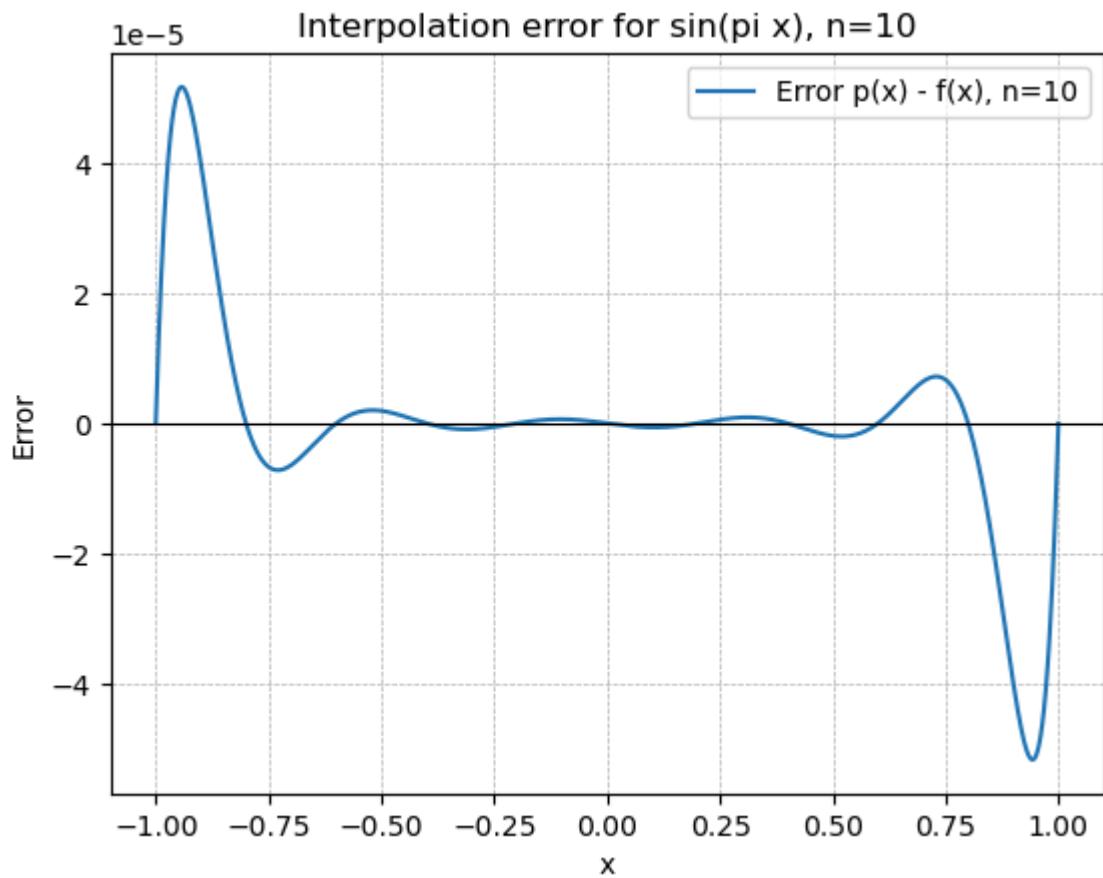


Lagrange basis $L_{10}(x)$ for $n=10$

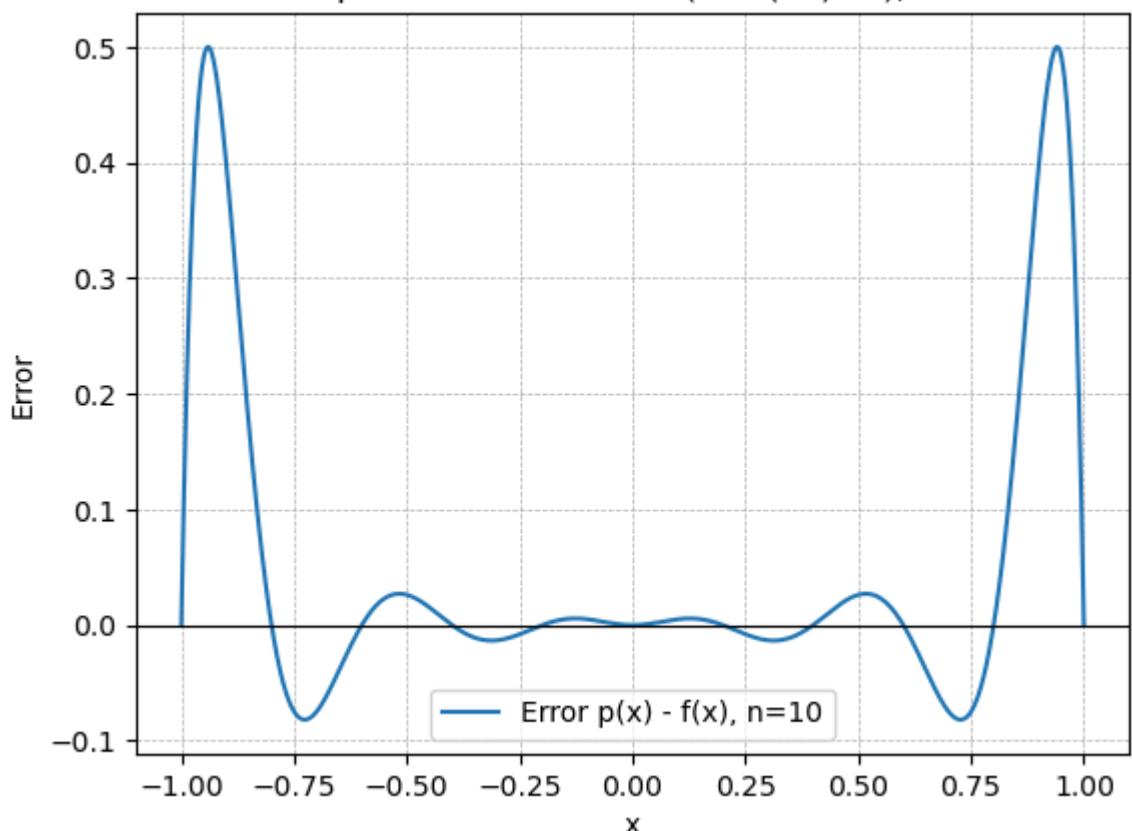


Interpolation of $\sin(\pi x)$ with degree $n=10$

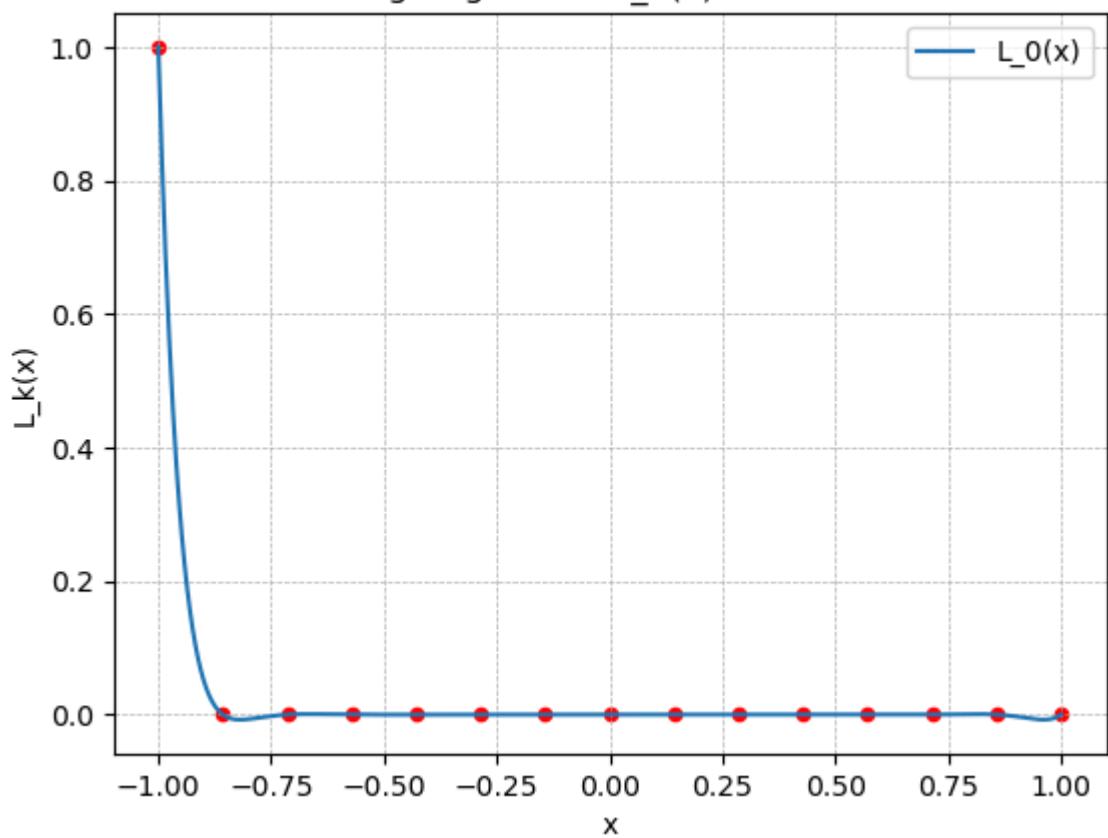




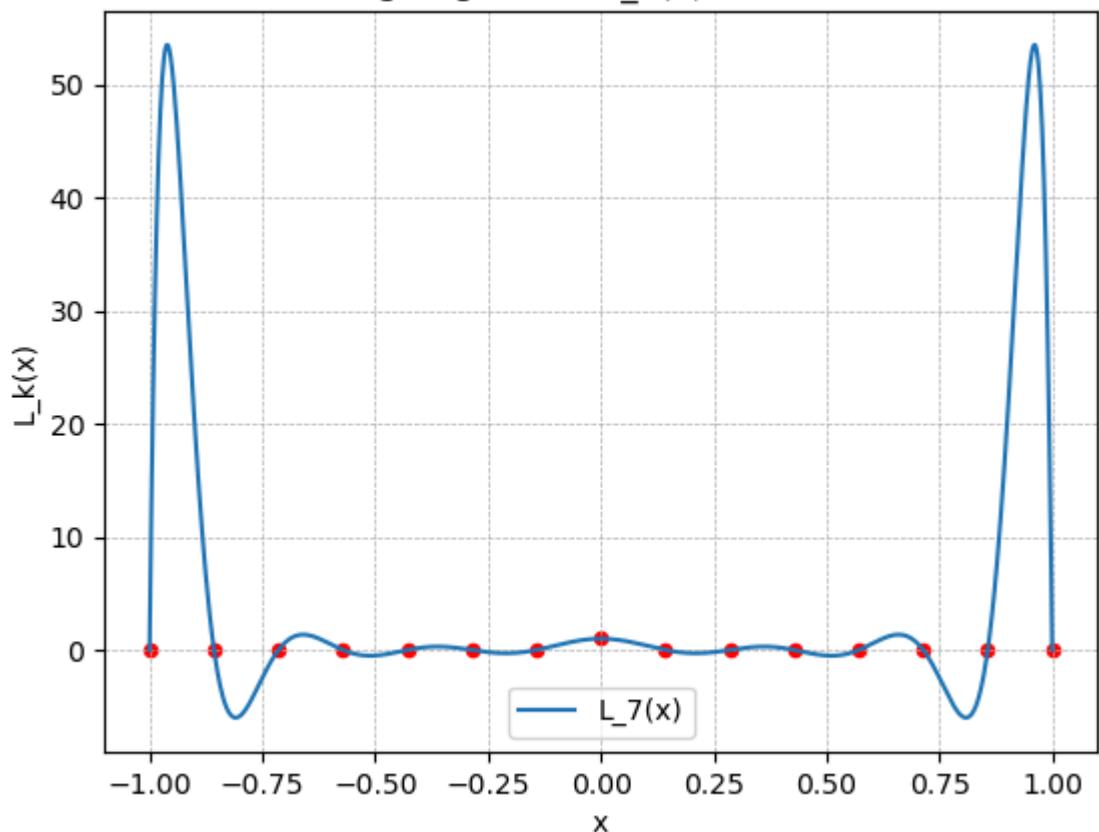
Interpolation error for $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$, n=10



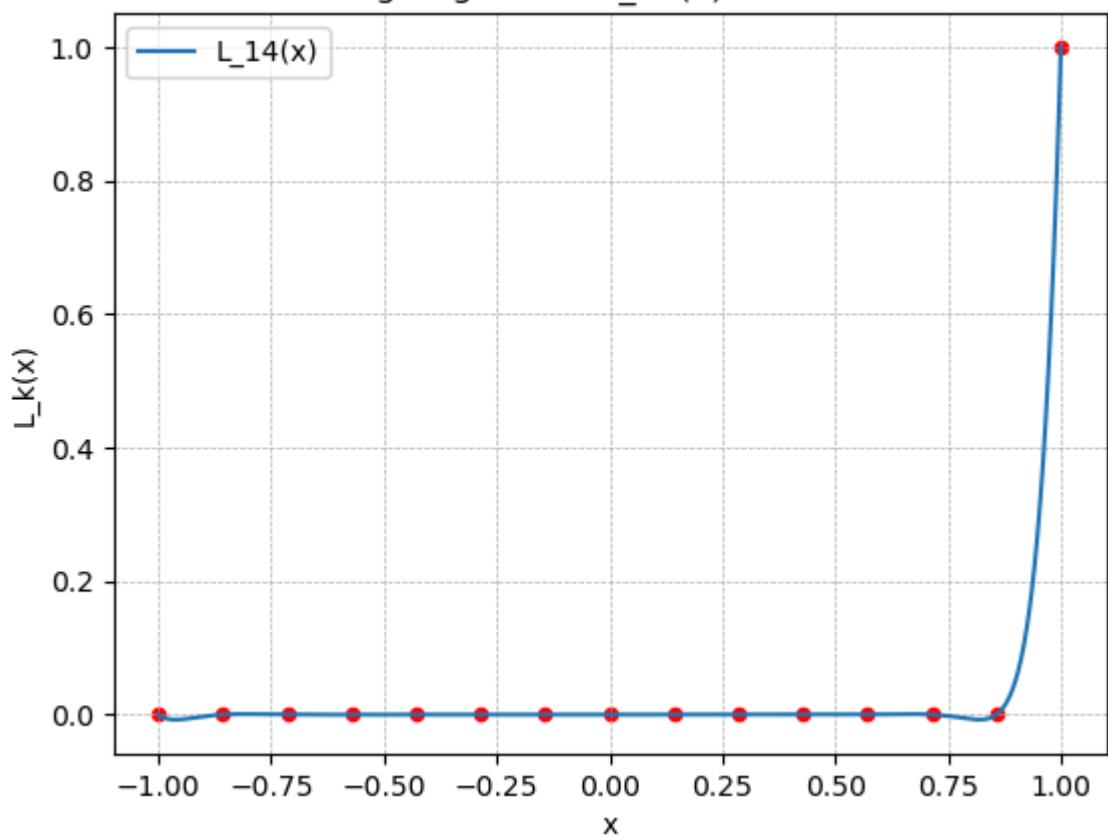
Lagrange basis $L_0(x)$ for n=14



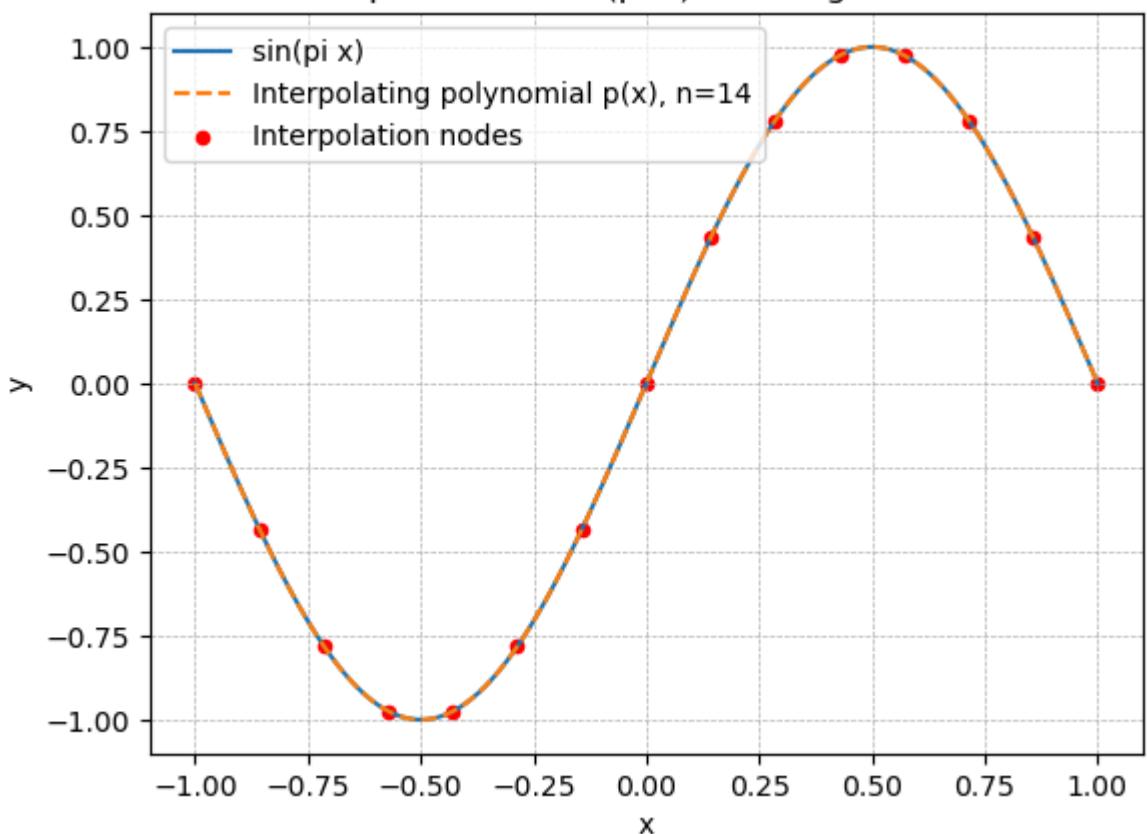
Lagrange basis $L_7(x)$ for $n=14$



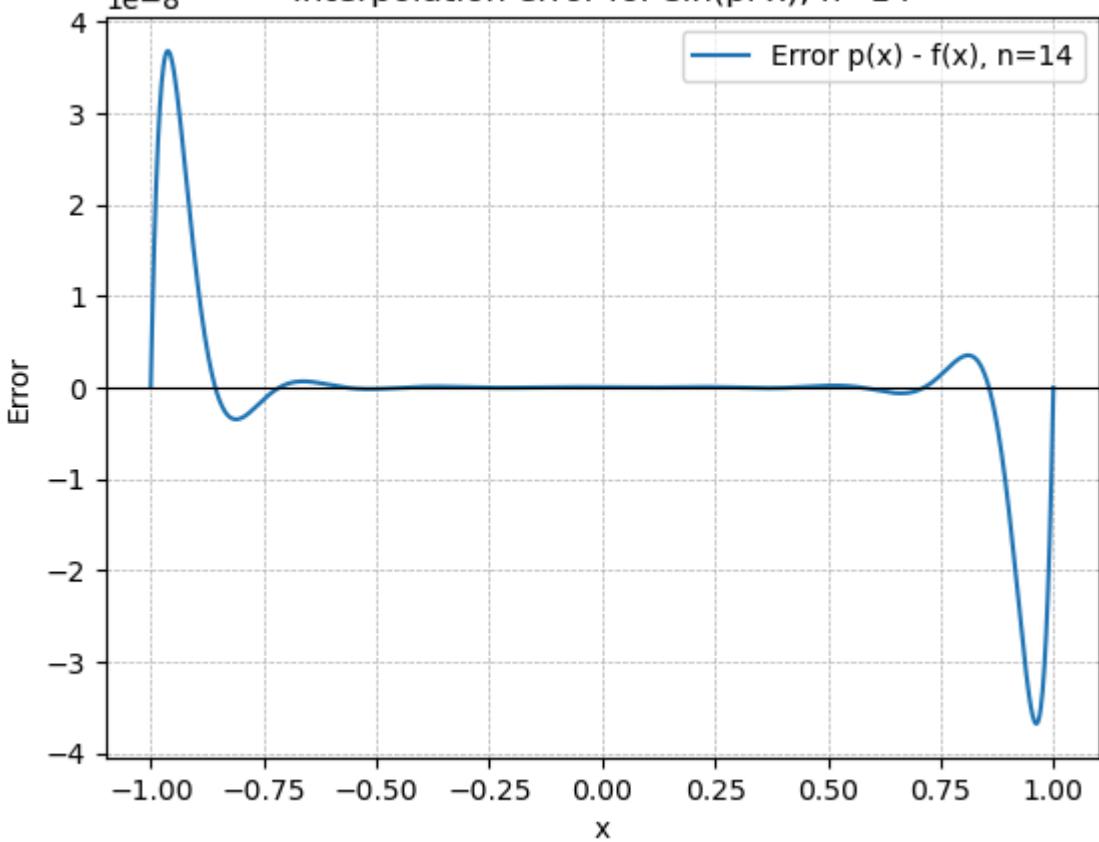
Lagrange basis $L_{14}(x)$ for $n=14$



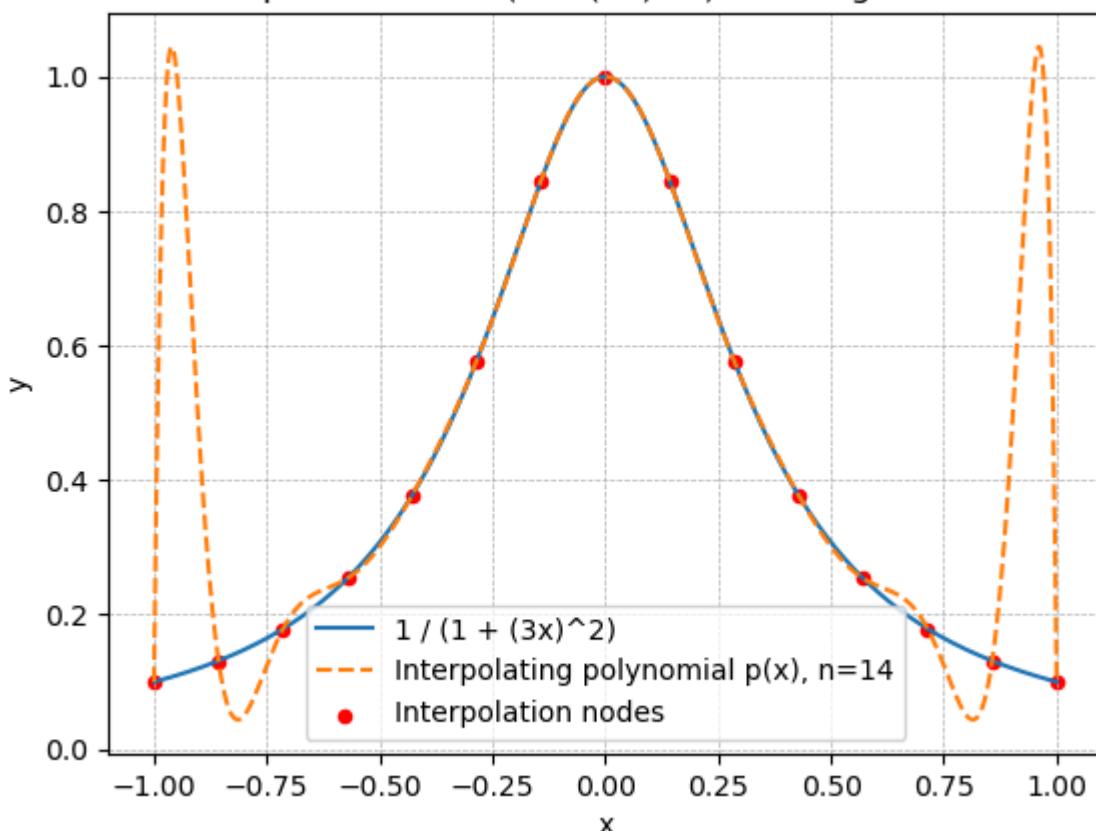
Interpolation of $\sin(\pi x)$ with degree n=14



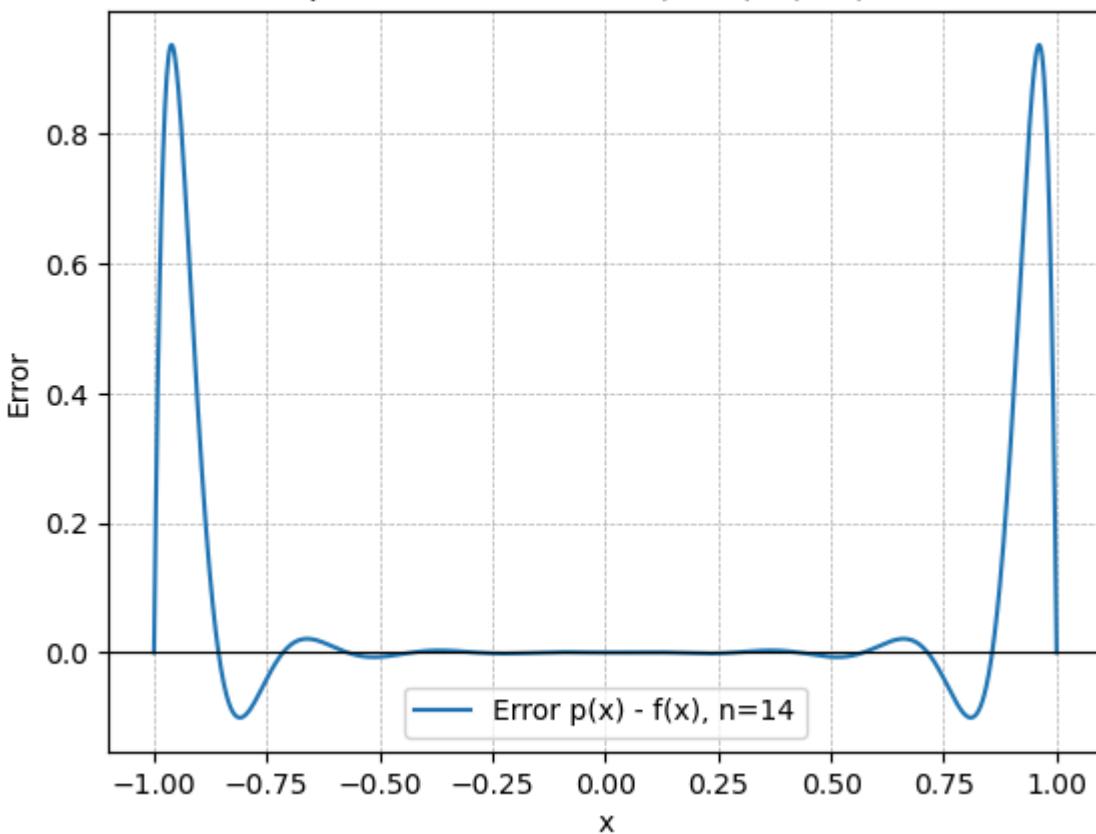
Interpolation error for $\sin(\pi x)$, n=14



Interpolation of $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$ with degree n=14



Interpolation error for $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$, n=14



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In [5]: # === Second part: Chebyshev nodes (first kind) ===

def chebyshev_nodes_first_kind(n: int):
    """Chebyshev nodes (first kind, Gauss type): x_j = cos(pi*(j+1/2)/(n+1))
    = np.arange(n + 1)
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    return np.cos(np.pi * (j + 0.5) / (n + 1))

# Setup
x_plot = np.linspace(-1, 1, 1000)
nodes_list = [6, 10, 14]

for n in nodes_list:
    nodes = chebyshev_nodes_first_kind(n)

    # (a) Plot a few L_k(x)
    ks = [0, n // 2, n]
    for k in ks:
        plt.figure()
        Lk = lagrange_basis(x_plot, nodes, k)
        plt.plot(x_plot, Lk, label=f"L_{k}(x)")
        plt.scatter(nodes, (nodes == nodes[k]).astype(int), s=20, color='red')
        plt.title(f'Lagrange basis L_{k}(x) for n={n} (Chebyshev nodes)')
        plt.xlabel("x")
        plt.ylabel("L_k(x)")
        plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
        plt.legend()
        plt.show()

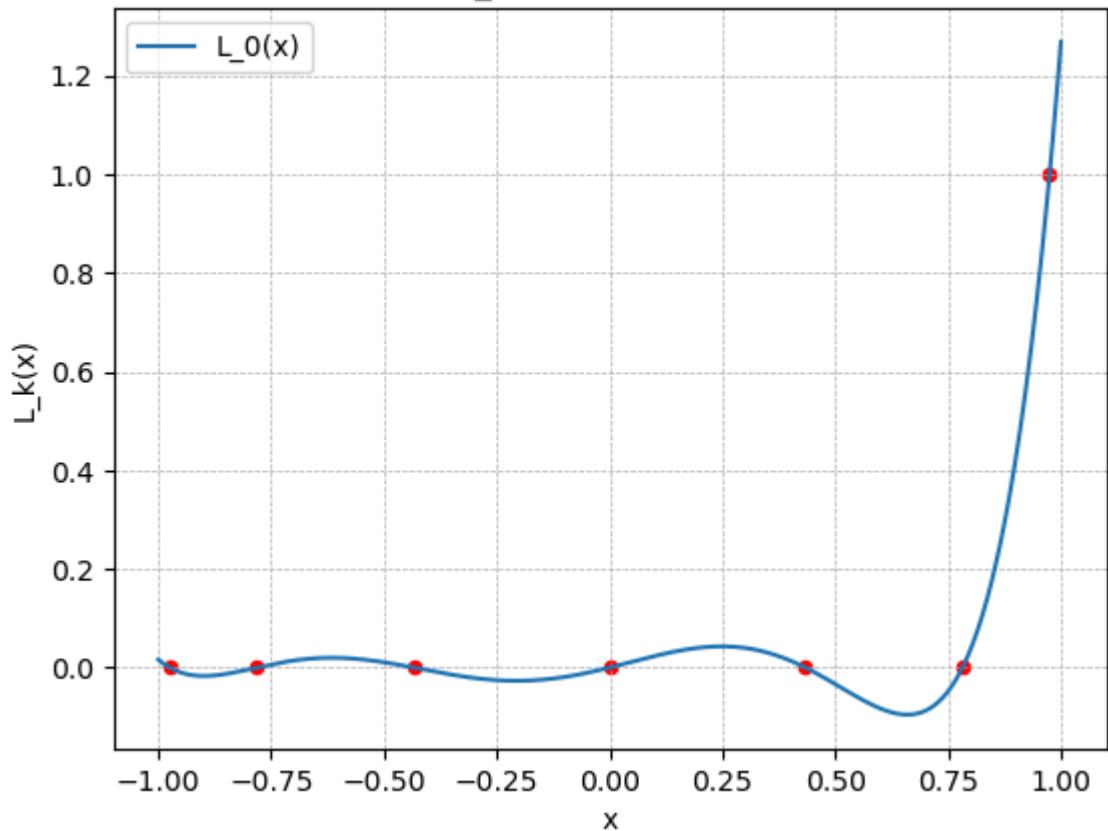
    # (b) Interpolation and comparison
    for name, fun in [("sin(pi x)", f_fun), ("1 / (1 + (3x)^2)", g_fun)]:
        y_nodes = fun(nodes)
        p_vals = interpolate_lagrange(x_plot, nodes, y_nodes)
        f_vals = fun(x_plot)

        # Plot function vs interpolant
        plt.figure()
        plt.plot(x_plot, f_vals, label=f"{name}")
        plt.plot(x_plot, p_vals, "--", label=f"Interpolating polynomial p")
        plt.scatter(nodes, y_nodes, color='red', s=20, label="Interpolating nodes")
        plt.title(f'Interpolation of {name} with degree n={n} (Chebyshev nodes)')
        plt.xlabel("x")
        plt.ylabel("y")
        plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
        plt.legend()
        plt.show()

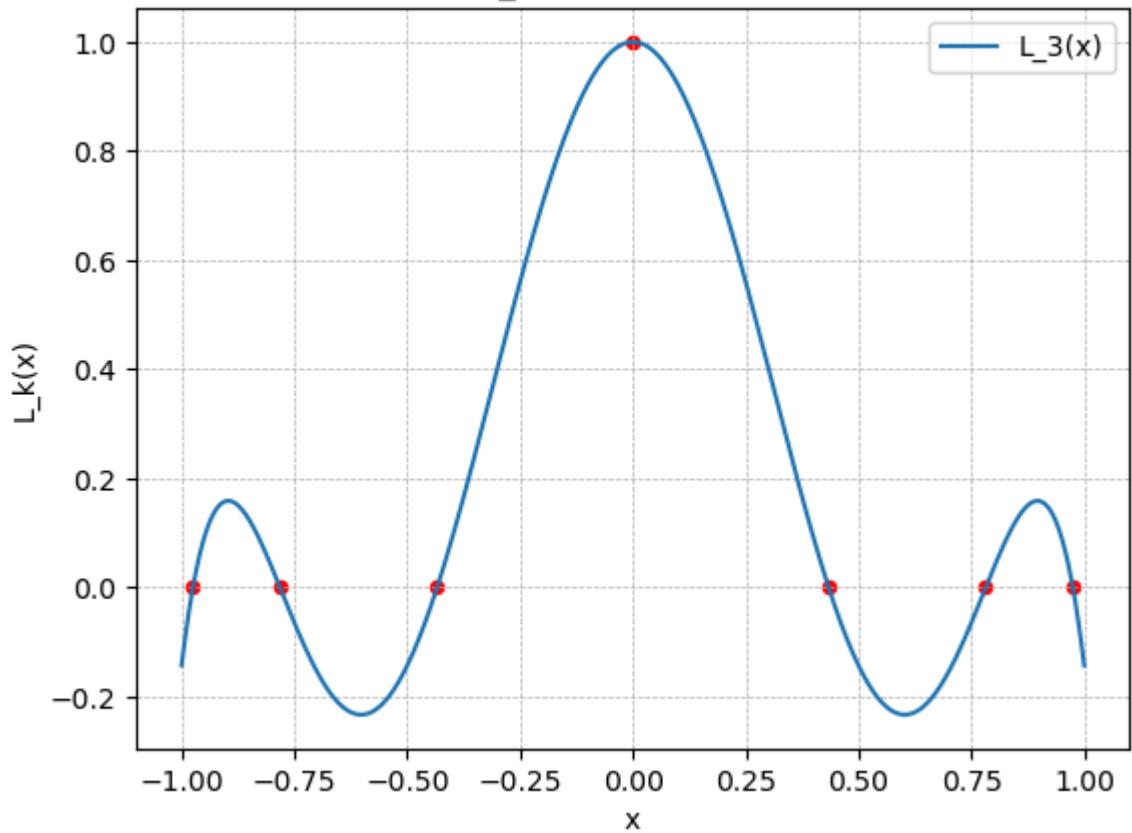
    # Error plot (optional but insightful)
    err = p_vals - f_vals
    plt.figure()
    plt.plot(x_plot, err, label=f"Error p(x) - f(x), n={n}")
    plt.axhline(0.0, color="black", linewidth=0.8)
    plt.title(f'Interpolation error for {name}, n={n} (Chebyshev nodes)')
    plt.xlabel("x")
    plt.ylabel("Error")
    plt.grid(True, linestyle="--", linewidth=0.5)
    plt.legend()
    plt.show()

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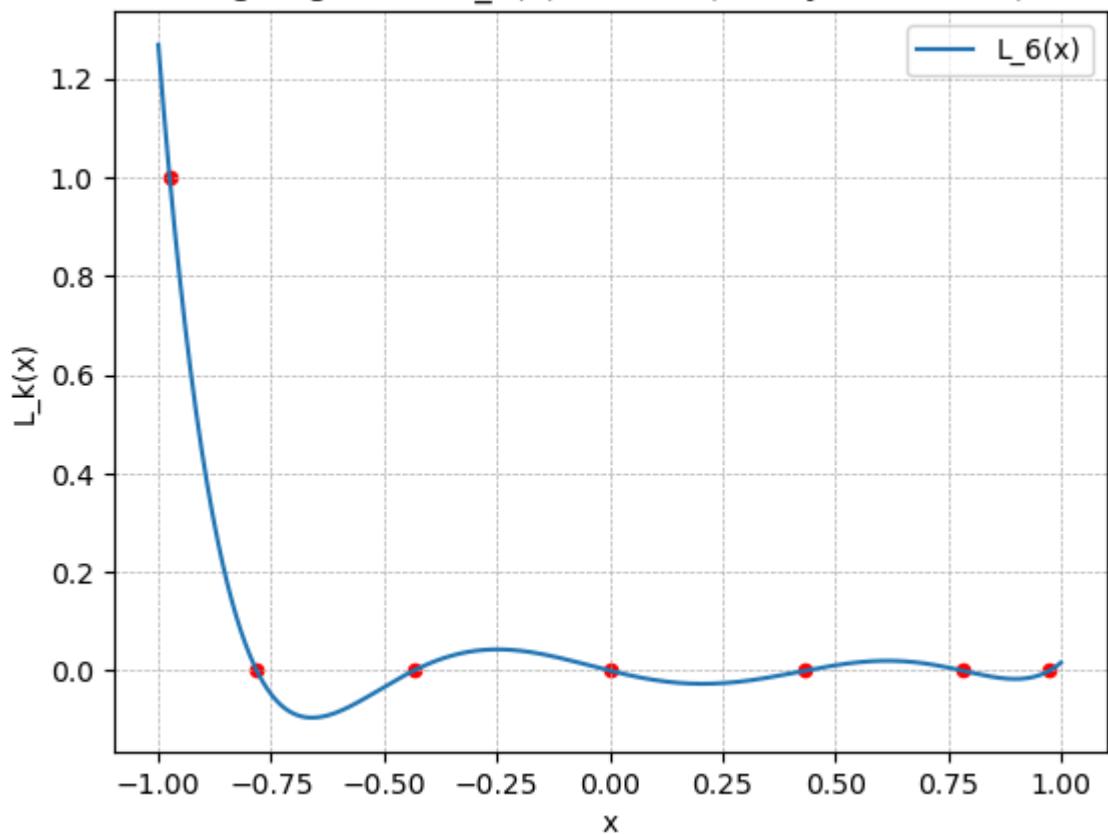
Lagrange basis $L_0(x)$ for n=6 (Chebyshev nodes)



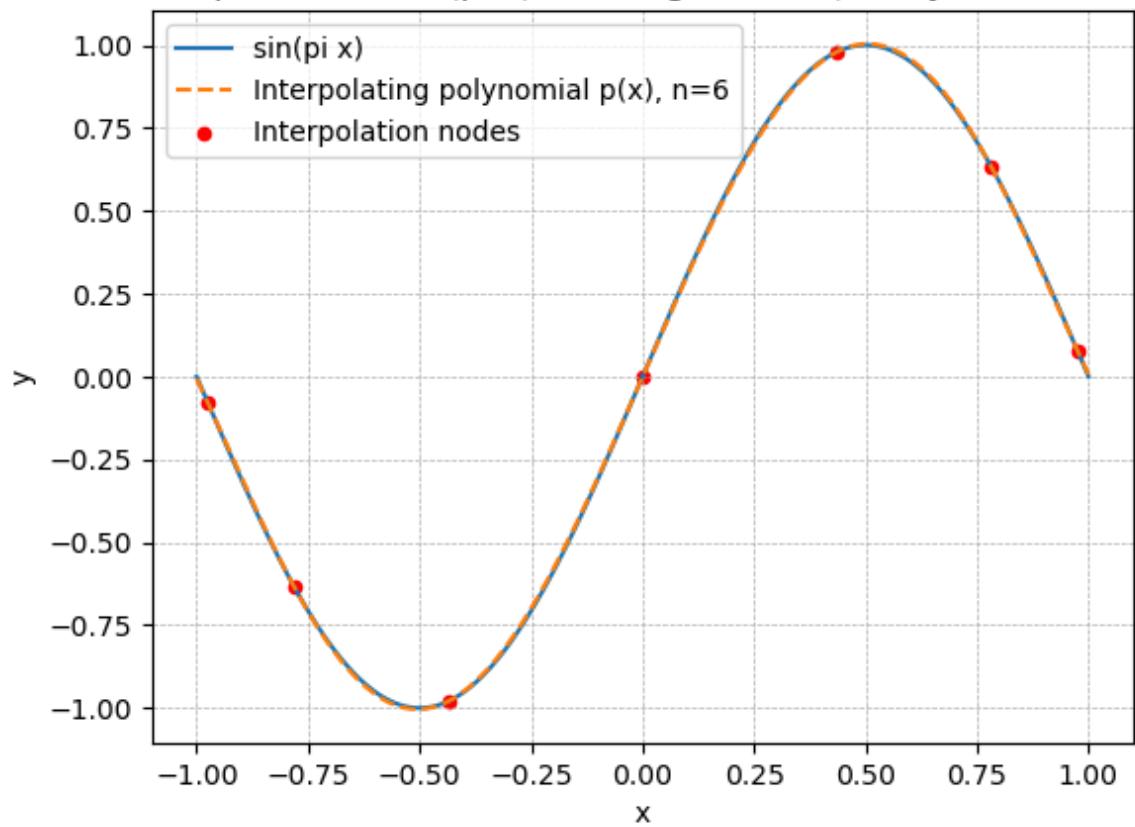
Lagrange basis $L_3(x)$ for n=6 (Chebyshev nodes)

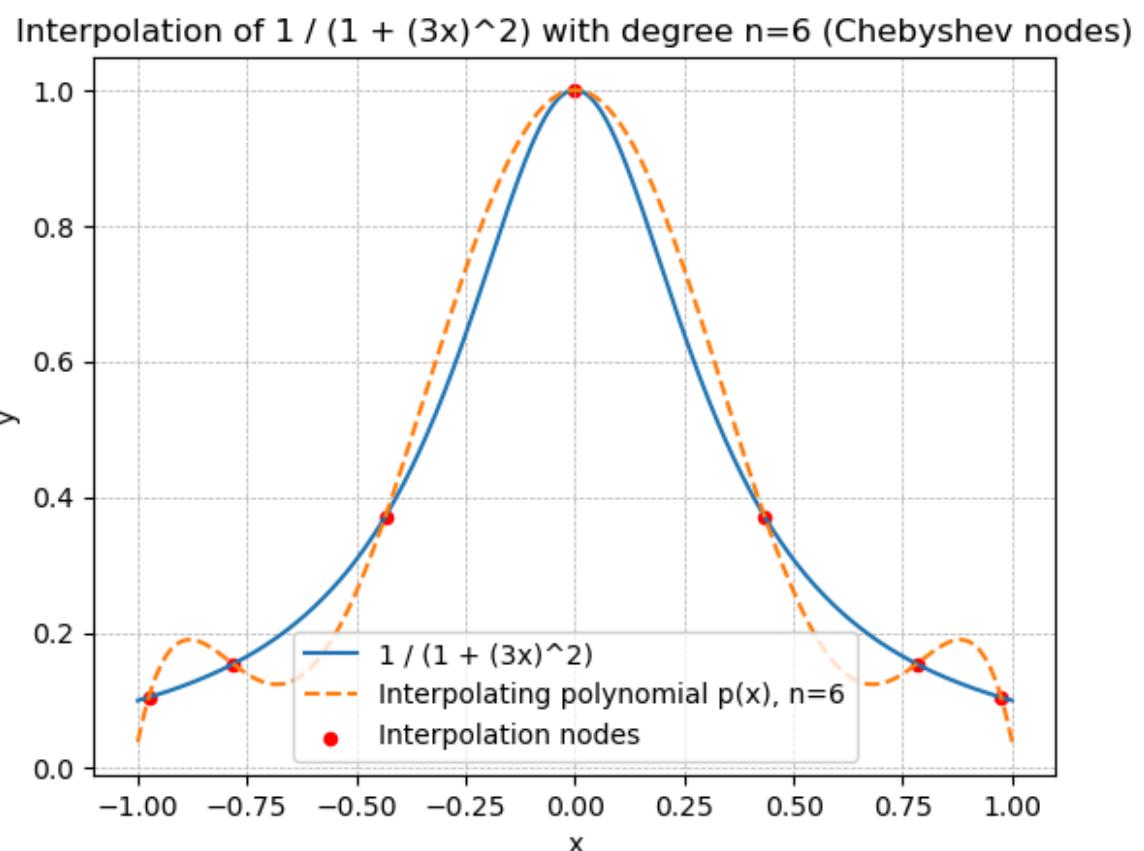
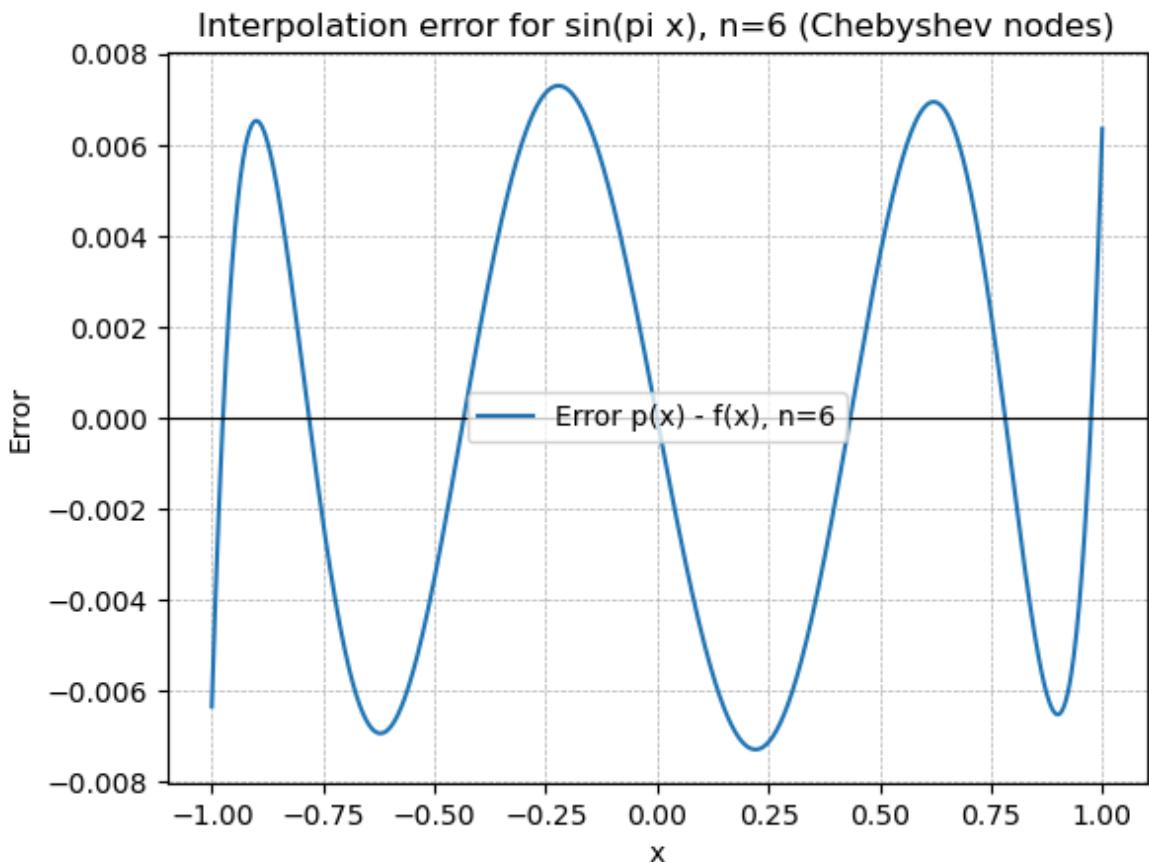


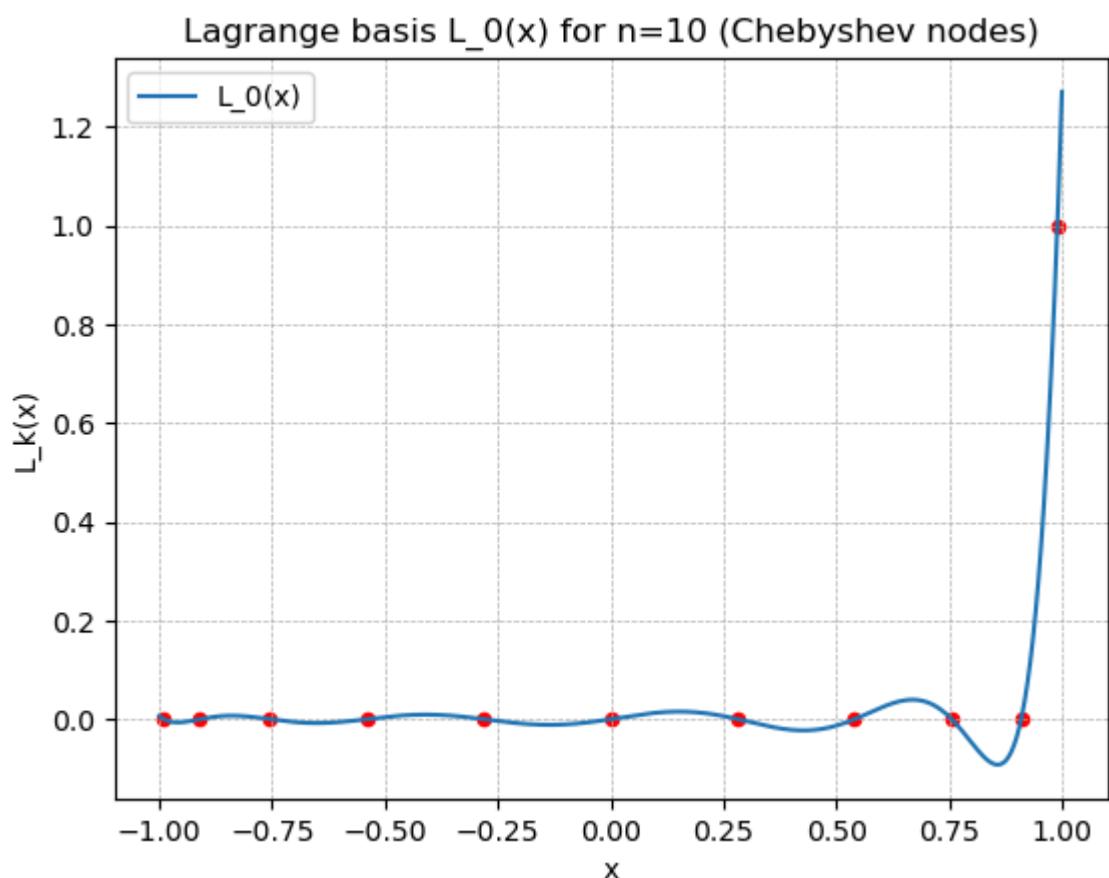
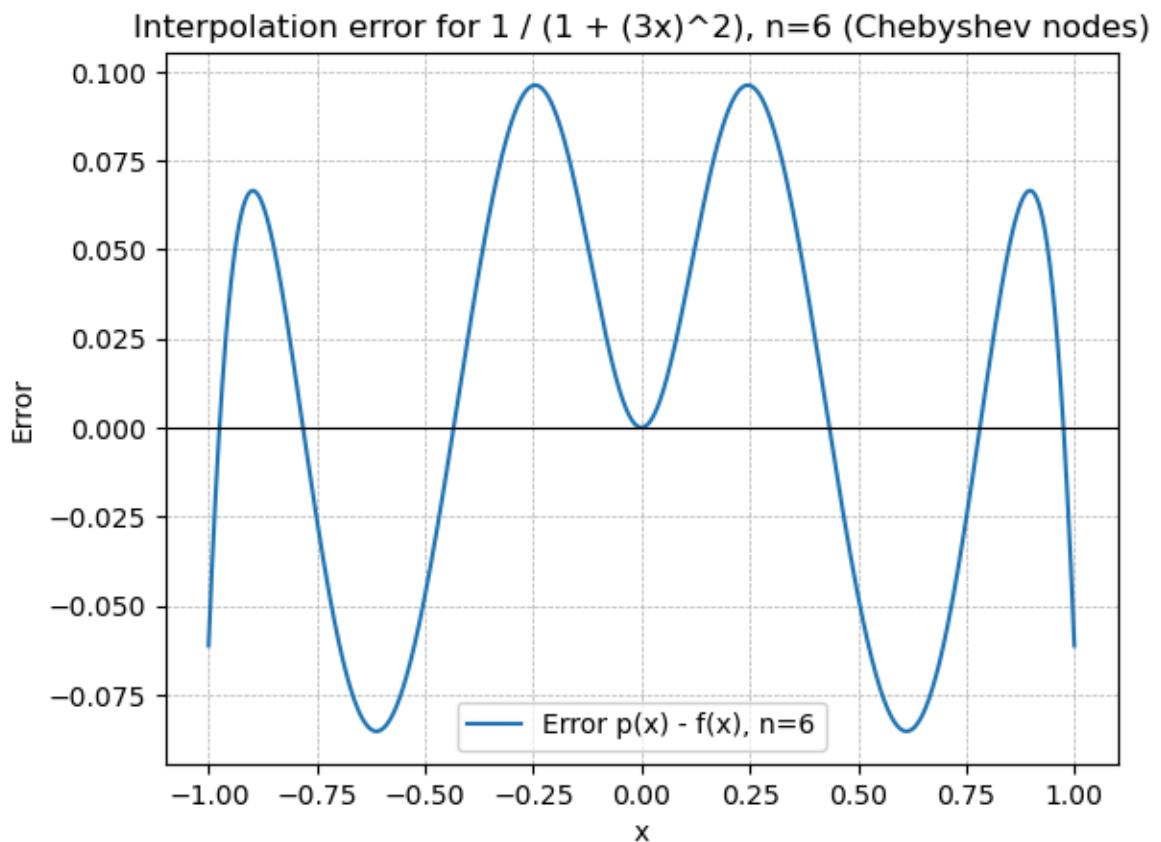
Lagrange basis $L_6(x)$ for $n=6$ (Chebyshev nodes)

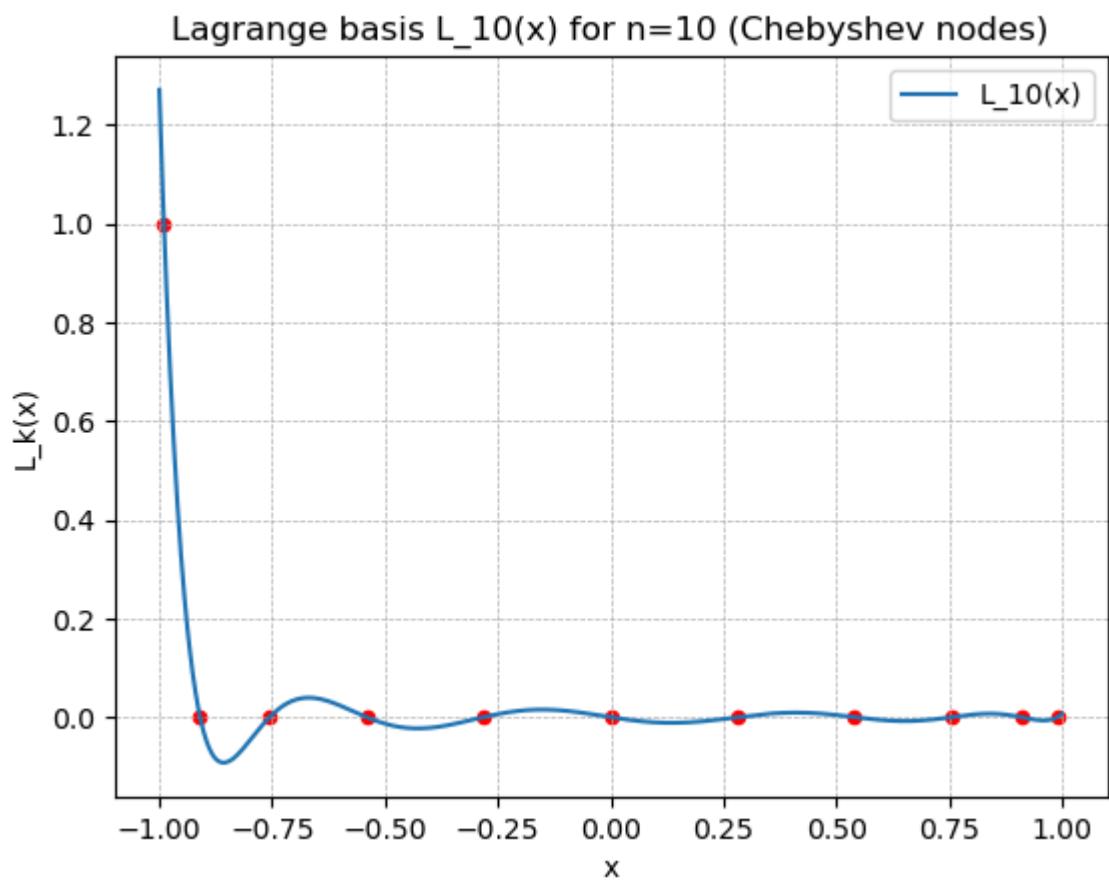
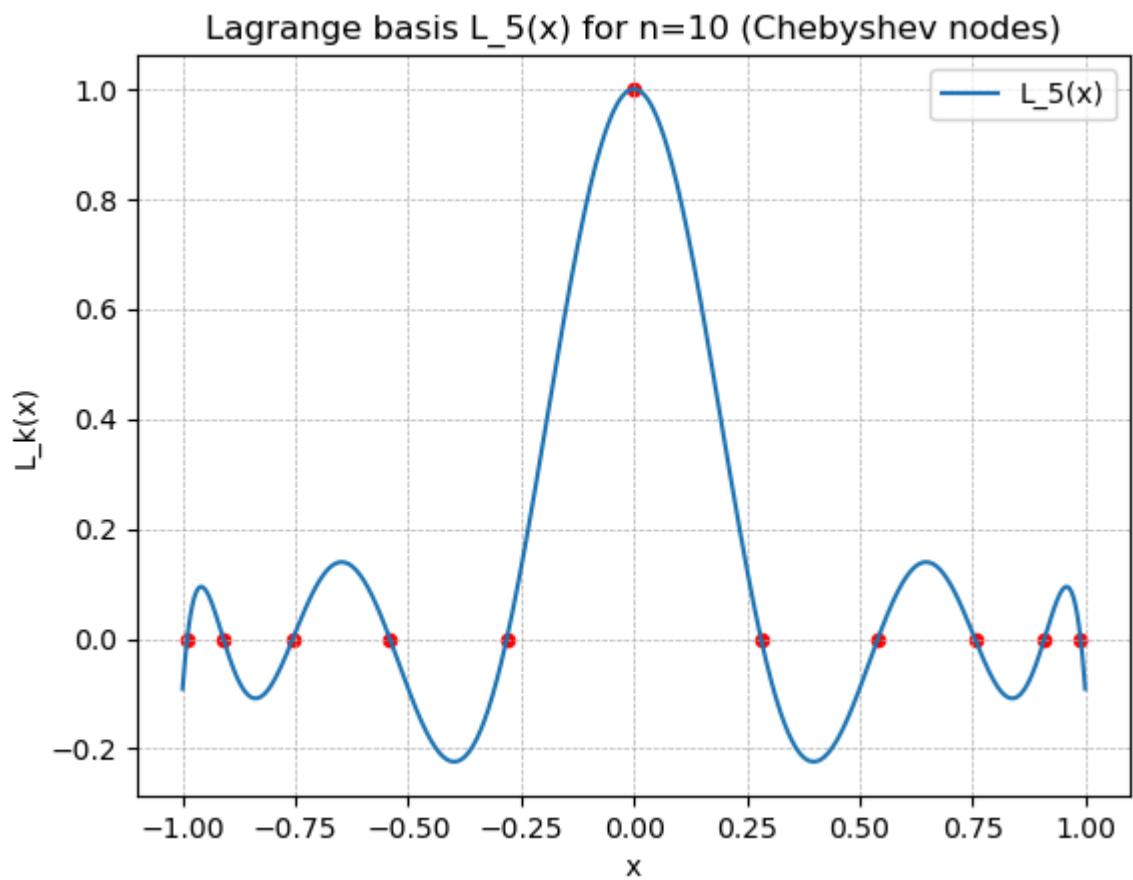


Interpolation of $\sin(\pi x)$ with degree $n=6$ (Chebyshev nodes)

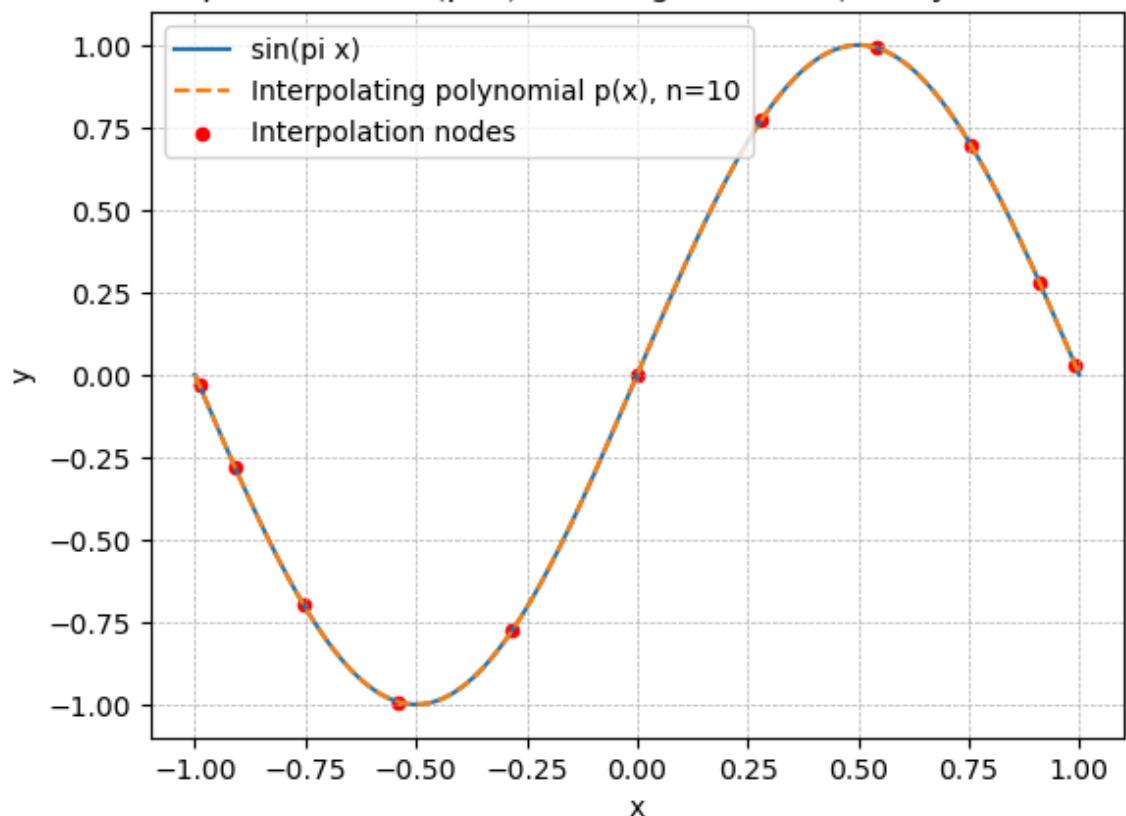




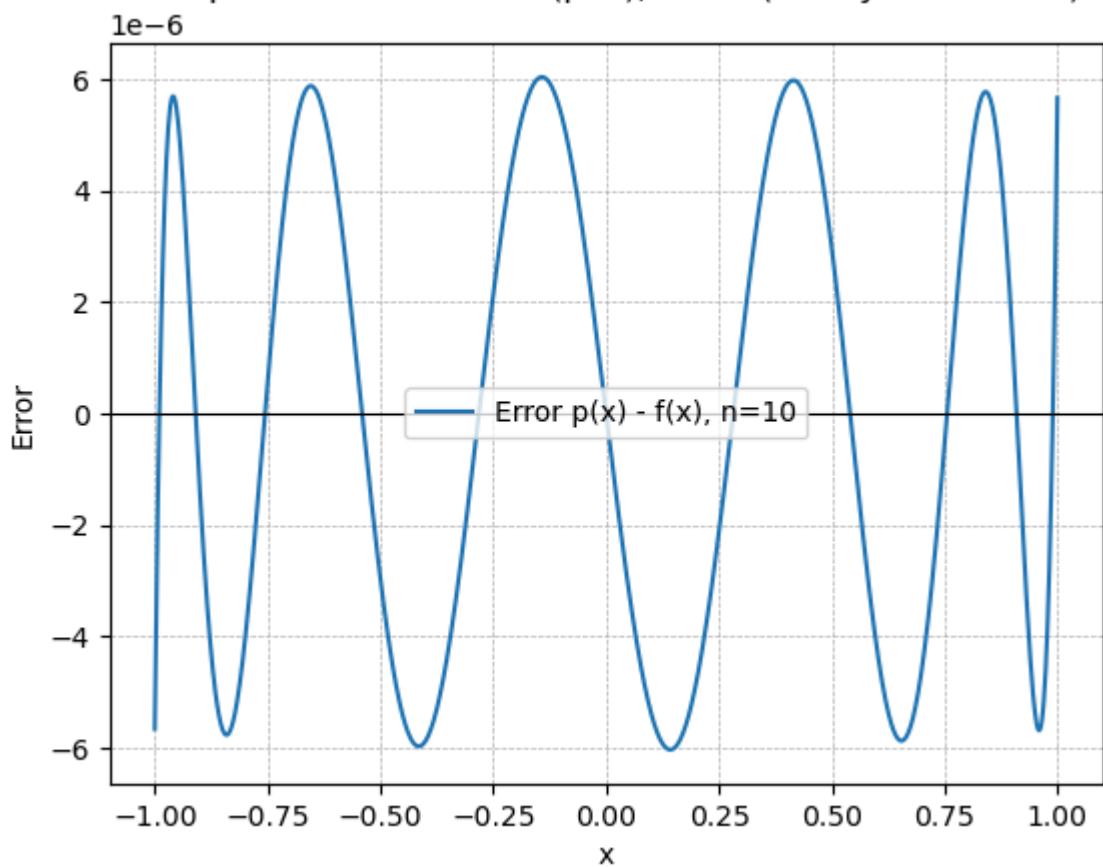




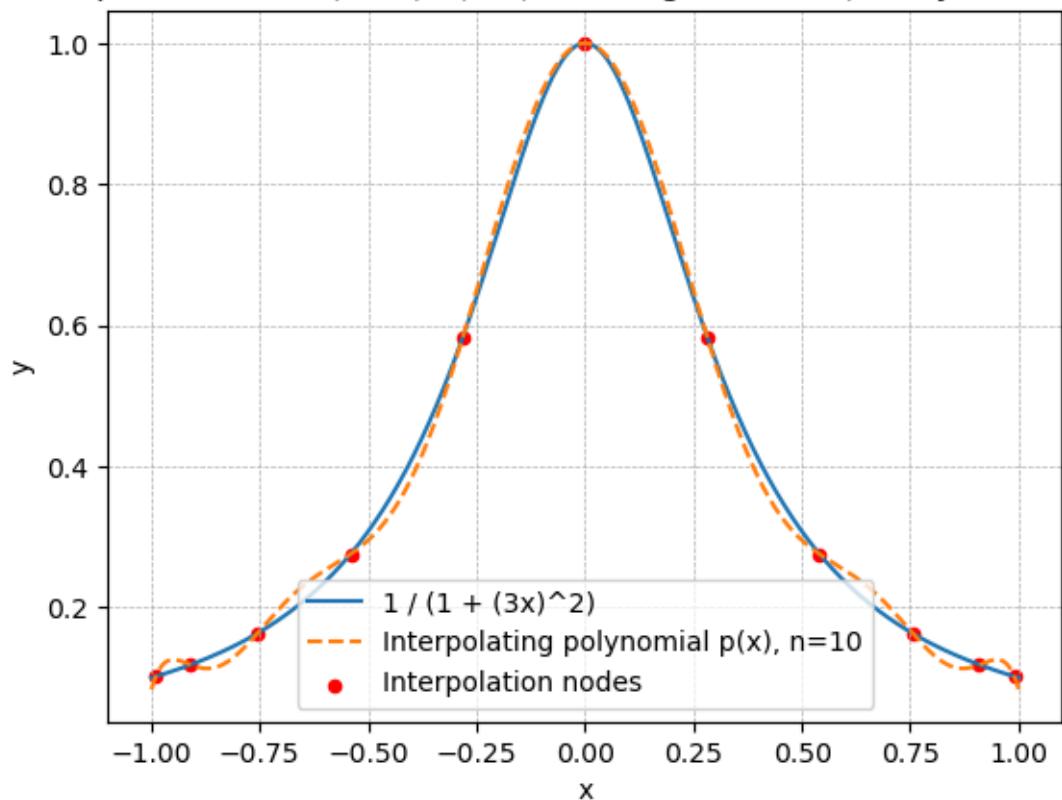
Interpolation of $\sin(\pi x)$ with degree $n=10$ (Chebyshev nodes)



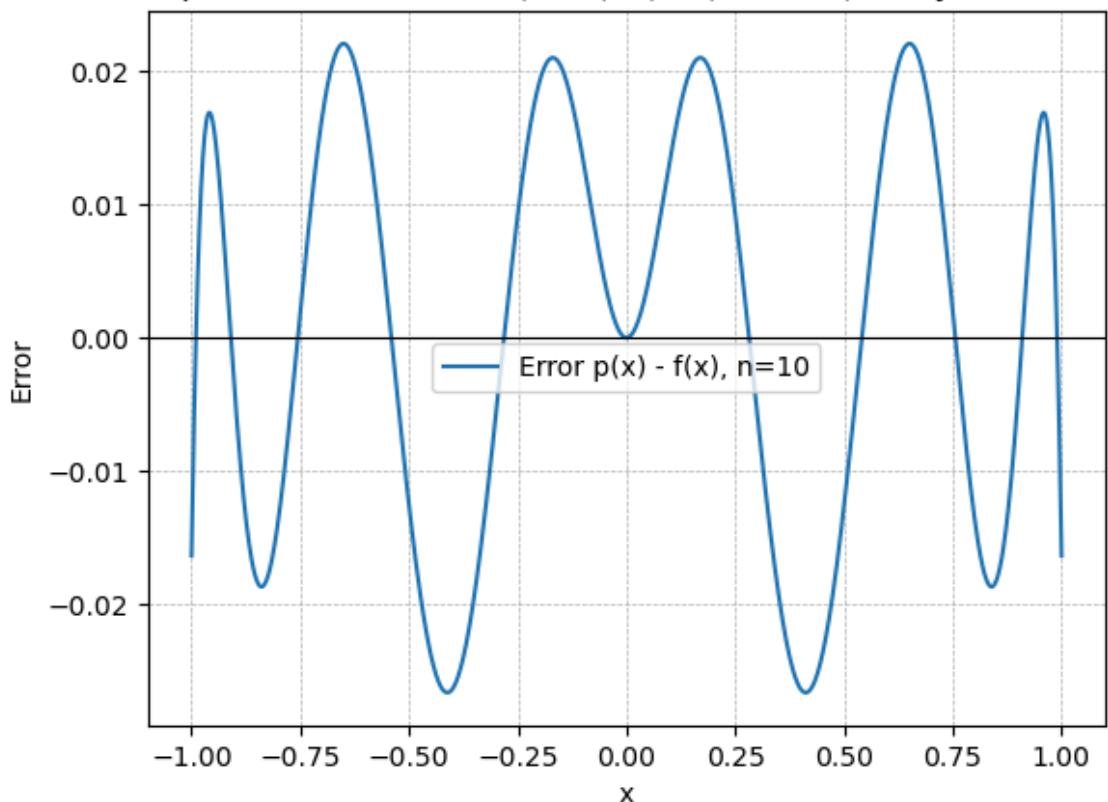
Interpolation error for $\sin(\pi x)$, $n=10$ (Chebyshev nodes)



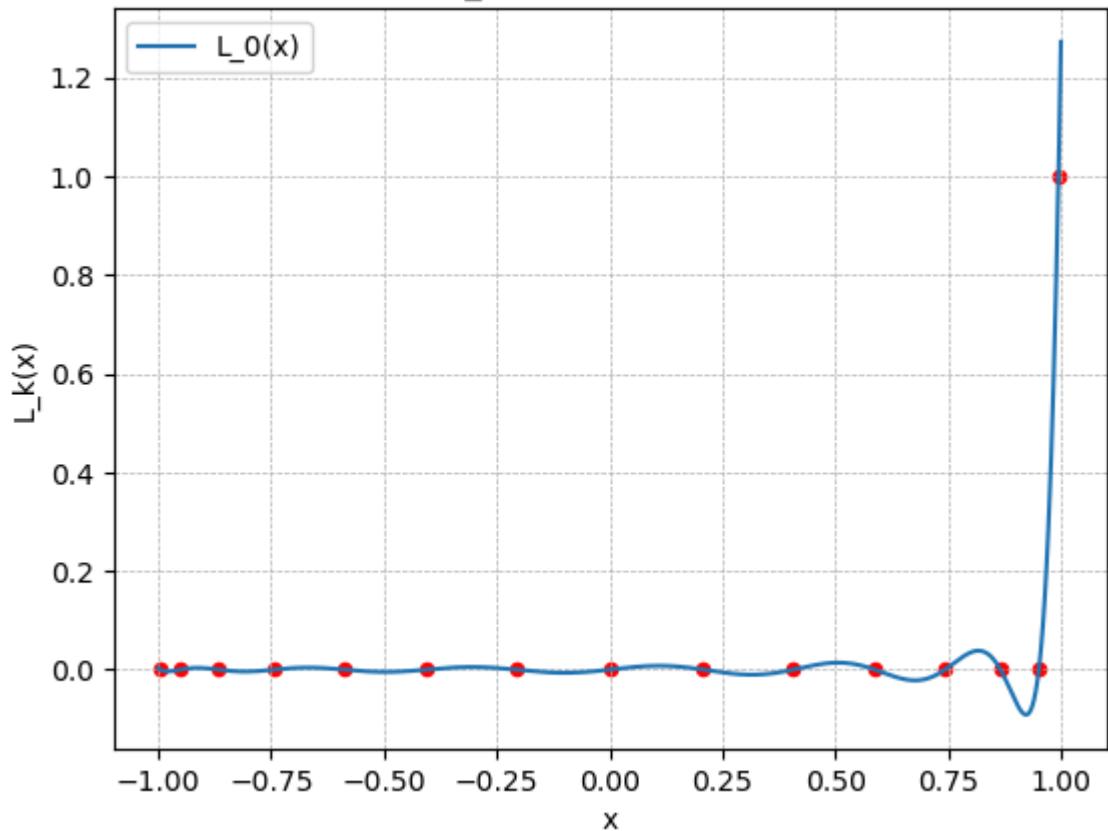
Interpolation of $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$ with degree n=10 (Chebyshev nodes)



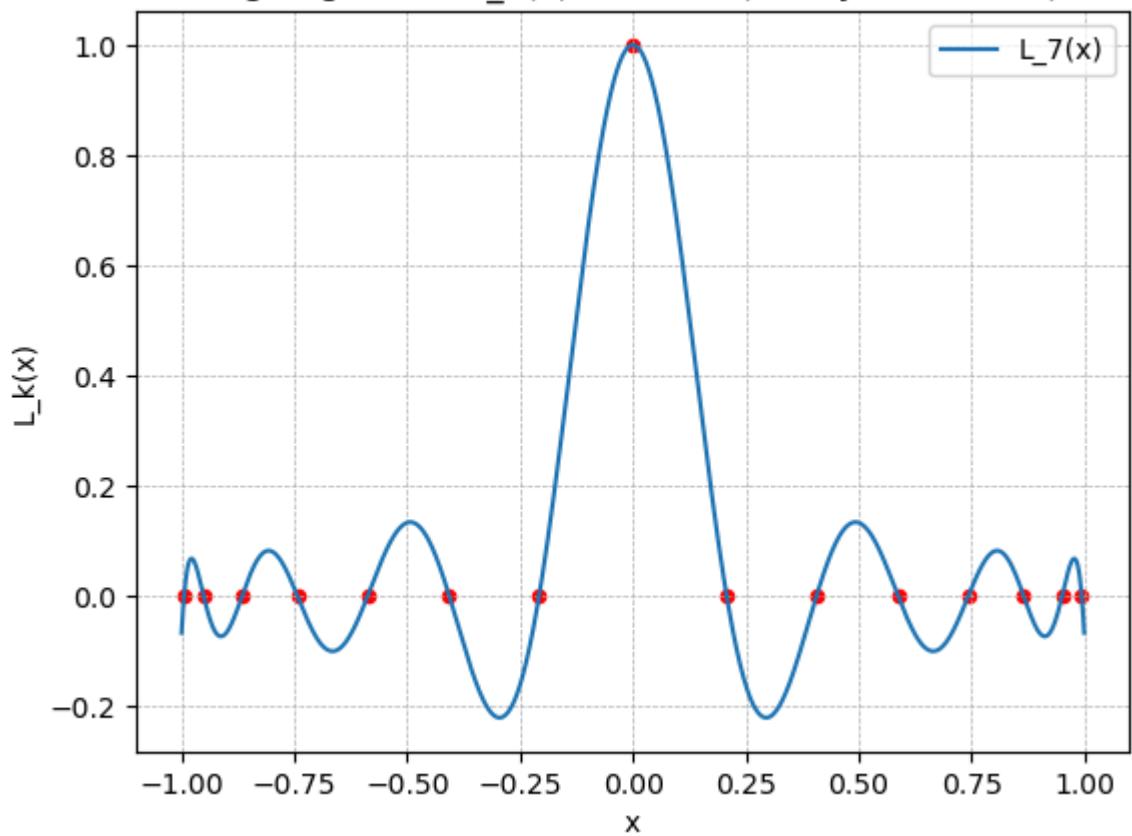
Interpolation error for $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$, n=10 (Chebyshev nodes)



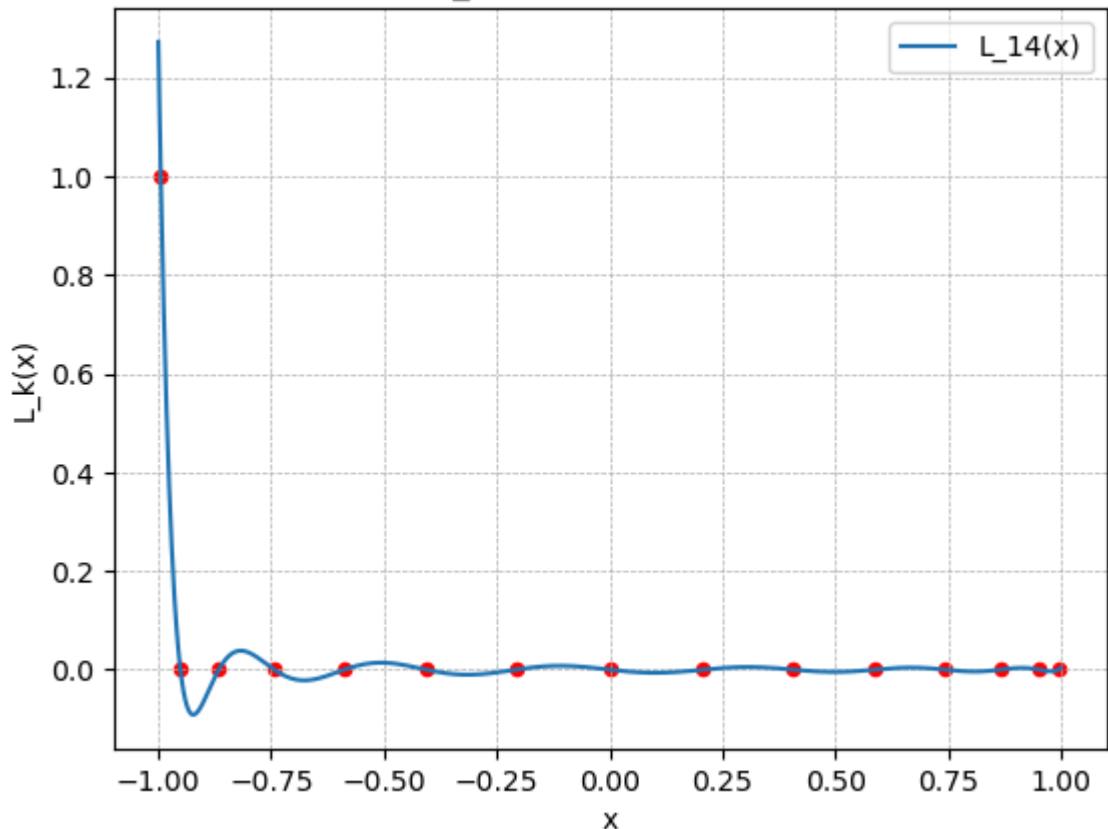
Lagrange basis $L_0(x)$ for n=14 (Chebyshev nodes)



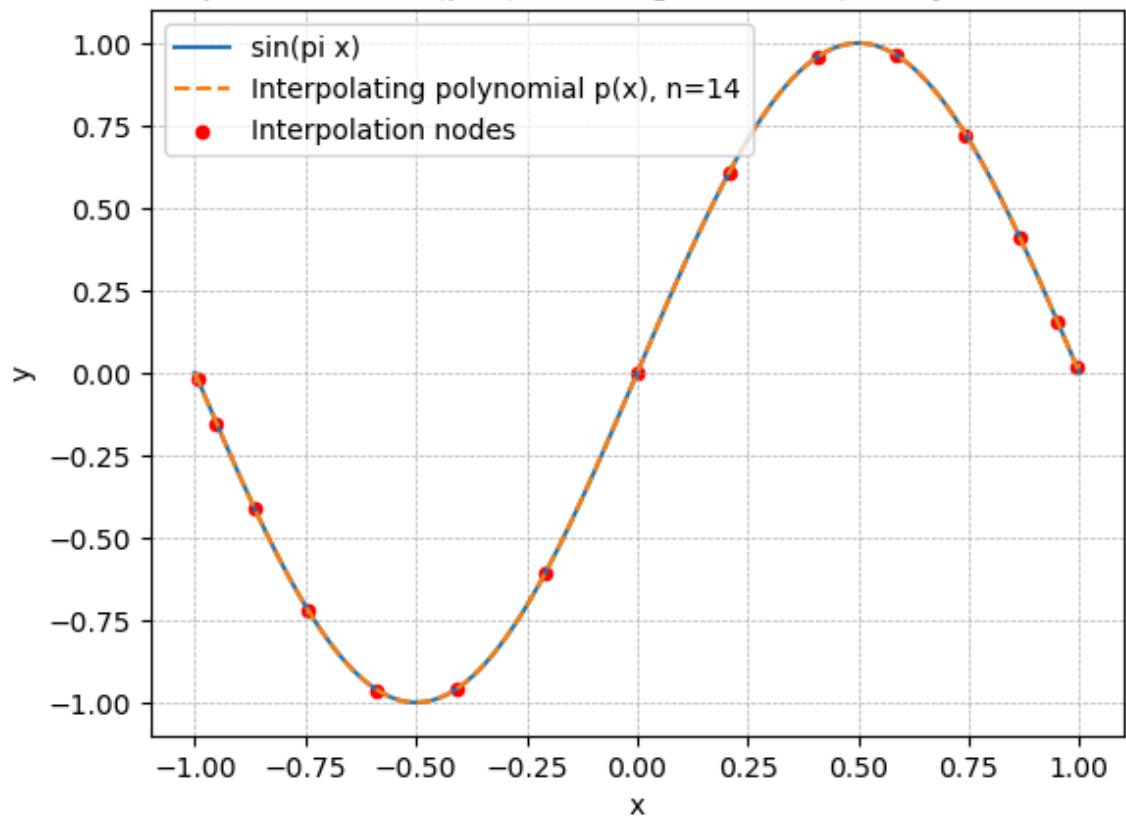
Lagrange basis $L_7(x)$ for n=14 (Chebyshev nodes)

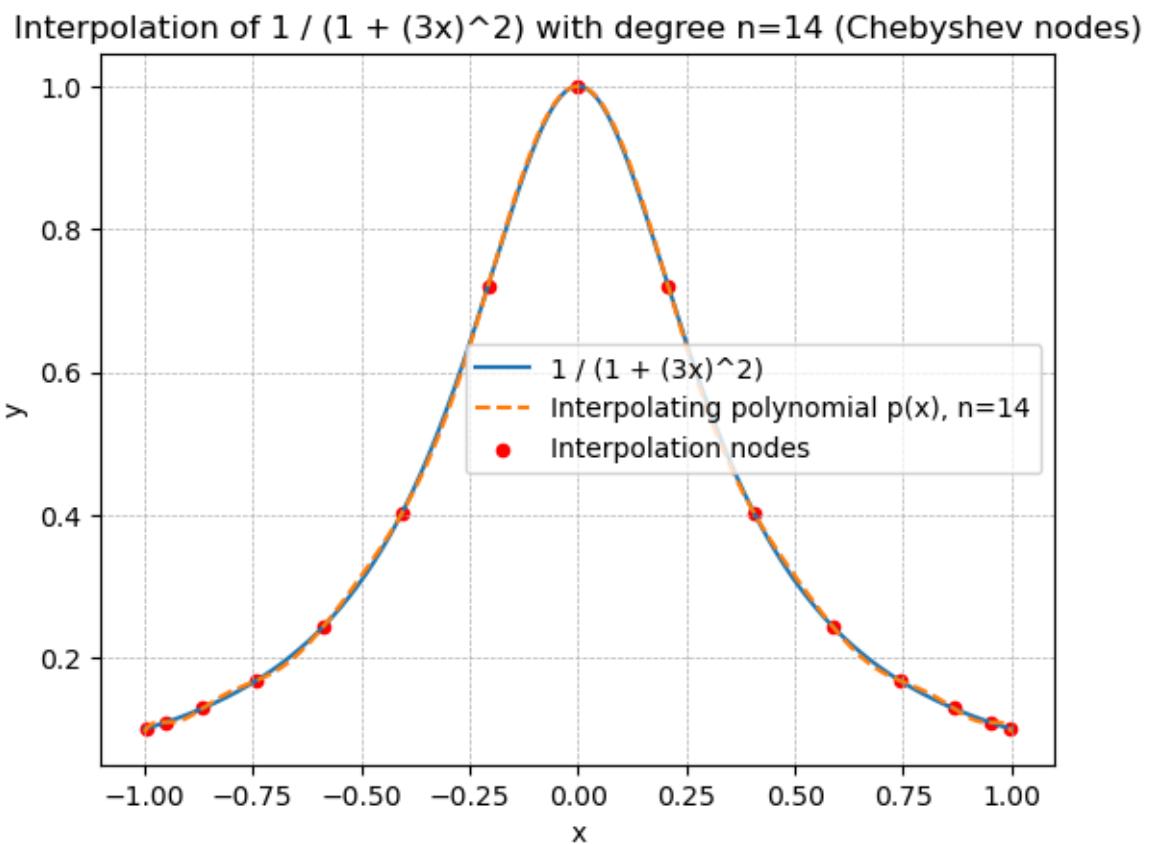
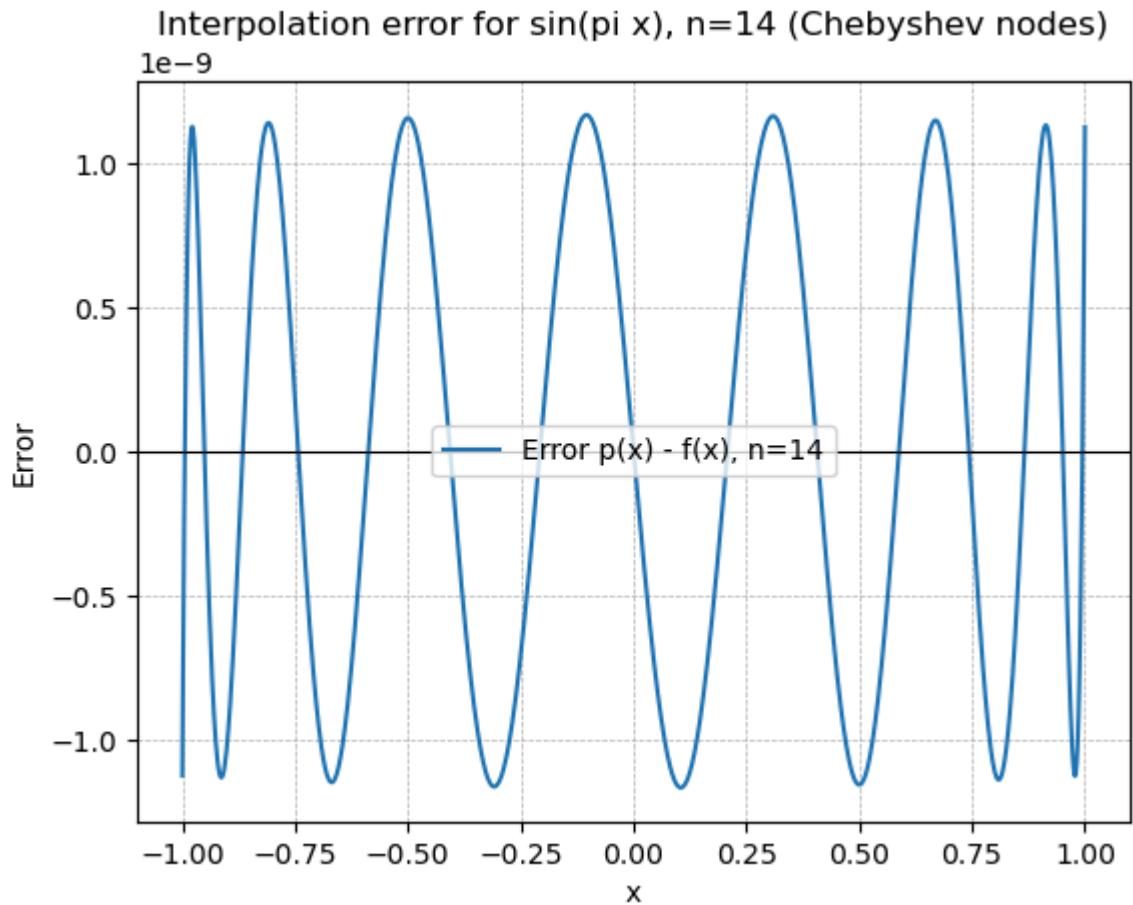


Lagrange basis $L_{14}(x)$ for $n=14$ (Chebyshev nodes)



Interpolation of $\sin(\pi x)$ with degree $n=14$ (Chebyshev nodes)





Interpolation error for $1 / (1 + (3x)^2)$, n=14 (Chebyshev nodes)

