

MA 322: Scientific Computing

Lecture - 12



Approximation of weighted definite integrals

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$$\int_a^b f(x)\mu(x)dx \approx \sum_{j=0}^n w_j f(x_j),$$

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$$\begin{aligned} 2w_0 + 2w_1 &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 1 \cdot \cos x dx = 0 \\ 2w_0(3\pi/4)^2 + 2w_1(\pi/4)^2 &= \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} x^2 \cos x dx = -4\pi. \end{aligned}$$

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This shows that $w_1 = -w_0 = 4/\pi$.

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Gaussian quadrature rules are based on polynomial interpolation, but nodes as well as weights are chosen to maximize the degree of exactness.

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Thus the degree of exactness of 1-point Gaussian quadrature rule is 1.

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We now show that an $(n + 1)$ -point Gaussian quadrature rule $G_n(f)$ is exact for polynomials of degree $\leq 2n + 1$.

Orthogonal polynomials

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Weighted inner product: If $\mu(x)$ is a positive function in $C[a, b]$ then $\langle f, g \rangle_\mu := \int_a^b f(x)g(x)\mu(x)dx$ is called a weighted inner product.

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Suppose that $G_n(f) = w_0 f(x_0) + \cdots + w_n f(x_n)$ is interpolatory. Then

$$G_n(f) = \int_a^b p_n(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad w_j = \int_a^b \ell_j(x) dx, \quad j = 0 : n,$$

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$$\int_a^b f(x) dx - \int_a^b p_n(x) dx = \int_a^b \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\theta_x)}{(n+1)!} w(x) dx = 0$$

when $f \in \mathcal{P}_{2n+1} \iff w(x) \perp \mathcal{P}_n$.

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Proof: Let $f \in \mathcal{P}_{2n+1}$. Then $f = qp + r$ for some $q, r \in \mathcal{P}_n$.

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Note: Having determined the nodes x_j , the weights w_j can be determined by method of undetermined coefficients.

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$G_n(f) = w_0 f(x_0) + \cdots + w_n f(x_n) \approx \int_a^b f(x) dx$. Then the following hold:

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By Weierstrass theorem, $E_n(f) \rightarrow 0$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. Hence the desired result follows. ■

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Example: Legendre polynomial

Consider the inner product $\langle p, q \rangle := \int_{-1}^1 p(x)q(x)dx$. Then

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Example: Chebyshev polynomial

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Zeros of orthogonal polynomials

Theorem: Let $\phi_0(x), \dots, \phi_{n+1}(x)$ be orthogonal polynomials such that

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$$x\psi_n(x) = \sqrt{\beta_{n+1}}\psi_{n+1}(x) + \alpha_n\psi_n(x) + \sqrt{\beta_n}\psi_{n-1}.$$

Set $\Psi(x) := [\psi_0(x), \dots, \psi_n(x)]^\top$. Then

$$x\Psi(x) = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 & \sqrt{\beta_1} & & & \\ \sqrt{\beta_1} & \alpha_1 & \sqrt{\beta_2} & & \\ & \sqrt{\beta_2} & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \sqrt{\beta_{n-1}} \\ & & & \sqrt{\beta_{n-1}} & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \psi_0(x) \\ \psi_1(x) \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \psi_n(x) \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \sqrt{\beta_{n+1}}\psi_{n+1}(x) \end{bmatrix}.$$

This shows that

$$\phi_{n+1}(x_j) = 0 \iff \psi_{n+1}(x_j) = 0 \iff \det(A - x_j I) = 0.$$