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## Homework 3

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### Exercise 1

Construct orthogonal polynomials of degrees 0, 1 and 2 on the interval  $(0, 1)$  with the weight function  $w(x) = -\ln x$ .

### Exercise 2

Let the polynomials

$$\phi_j, \quad j = 0, 1, \dots,$$

form an orthogonal system on the interval  $(-1, 1)$  with respect to the weight function  $w(x) = 1$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Show that the polynomials

$$\phi_j((2x - a - b)/(b - a)), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots,$$

represent an orthogonal system for the interval  $(a, b)$  and the same weight function.

### Exercise 3

Suppose that the polynomials  $\phi_j$ ,  $j = 0, 1, \dots$ , form an orthogonal system on the interval  $(0, 1)$  with respect to the weight function  $w(x) = x^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Find, in terms of  $\phi_j$ , a system of orthogonal polynomials for the interval  $(0, b)$  and the same weight function.

### Exercise 4

1. Show that, for  $0 \leq k \leq n$ ,

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^k (1 - x^2)^n = (1 - x^2)^{n-k} q_k(x),$$

where  $q_k$  is a polynomial of degree  $k$ .

2. Deduce that all the derivatives of the function  $(1 - x^2)^n$  of order less than  $n$  vanish at  $x = \pm 1$ .
3. Define  $\varphi_j(x) = (d/dx)^j (1 - x^2)^j$ , and show by repeated integration by parts that

$$\int_{-1}^1 \varphi_k(x) \varphi_j(x) dx = 0, \quad 0 \leq k < j.$$

### Exercise 5

1. Show, that, for  $0 \leq k \leq j$ ,

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^k x^j e^{-x} = x^{j-k} q_k(x) e^{-x}$$

where  $q_k(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $k$ .

2. The function  $\varphi_j$  is defined for  $j \geq 0$  by

$$\varphi_j(x) = e^x \frac{d^j}{dx^j} (x^j e^{-x}).$$

$\Rightarrow$  Show that, for each  $j \geq 0$ ,  $\varphi_j$  is a polynomial of degree  $j$ , and that these polynomials form an orthogonal system on the interval  $(0, \infty)$  with respect to the weight function  $w(x) = e^{-x}$ .

3. Write down the polynomials with  $j = 0, 1, 2$  and 3.  
4. Suppose that  $\varphi_j, j = 0, 1, \dots$ , form a system of orthogonal polynomials with weight function  $w(x)$  on the interval  $(a, b)$ .  
5. Show that, for some value of the constant  $C_j$ ,  $\varphi_{j+1}(x) - C_j x \varphi_j(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $j$ , and hence that

$$\varphi_{j+1}(x) - C_j x \varphi_j(x) = \sum_{k=0}^j \alpha_{jk} \varphi_k(x), \quad \alpha_{jk} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Use the orthogonality properties to show that  $\alpha_{jk} = 0$  for  $k < j - 1$ , and deduce that the polynomials satisfy a recurrence relation of the form

$$\varphi_{j+1}(x) - (C_j x + D_j) \varphi_j(x) + E_j \varphi_{j-1}(x) = 0, \quad j \geq 1.$$

### Exercise 6

In the notation of the previous Exercise suppose that the normalisation of the polynomials is so chosen that for each  $j$  the coefficient of  $x^j$  in  $\varphi_j(x)$  is positive. Show that  $C_j > 0$  for all  $j$ . By considering

$$\int_a^b w(x) \varphi_j(x) [\varphi_j(x) - C_{j-1} x \varphi_{j-1}(x)] dx$$

$\Rightarrow$  Show that

$$\int_a^b w(x) x \varphi_{j-1}(x) \varphi_j(x) dx > 0,$$

and deduce that  $E_j > 0$  for all  $j$ . Hence show that for all positive values of  $j$  the zeros of  $\varphi_j$  and  $\varphi_{j-1}$  interlace.

### Exercise 7

1. Using the weight function  $w$  on the interval  $(a, b)$  to find the best polynomial approximation  $p_n$  of degree  $n$  in the 2 -norm to the function  $x^{n+1}$ .
2. Show that

$$\|x^{n+1} - p_n\|_2^2 = \int_a^b w(x) \varphi_{n+1}^2 dx / [c_{n+1}^{n+1}]^2,$$

where  $c_{n+1}^{n+1}$  is the coefficient of  $x^{n+1}$  in  $\varphi_{n+1}(x)$ .

3. Write down the best polynomial approximation of degree 2 to the function  $x^3$  in the 2 -norm with  $w(x) \equiv 1$  on the interval  $(-1, 1)$ , and evaluate the 2 -norm of the error.

### Exercise 8

Suppose that the weight  $w$  is an even function on the interval  $(-a, a)$ , and that a system of orthogonal polynomials  $\varphi_j, j = 0, \dots, n$ , on the interval  $(-a, a)$  is constructed by the Gram-Schmidt process.

1. Show that, if  $j$  is even, then  $\varphi_j$  is an even function, and that, if  $j$  is odd, then  $\varphi_j$  is an odd function. Now suppose that the best polynomial approximation of degree  $n$  in the 2 -norm to the function  $f$  on the interval  $(-a, a)$  is expressed in the form

$$p_n(x) = \gamma_0 \varphi_0(x) + \dots + \gamma_n \varphi_n(x).$$

2. Show that if  $f$  is an even function, then all the odd coefficients  $\gamma_{2j-1}$  are zero, and that if  $f$  is an odd function, then all the even coefficients  $\gamma_{2j}$  are zero.

### Exercise 9

The function  $H(x)$  is defined by  $H(x) = 1$  if  $x > 0$ , and  $H(-x) = -H(x)$ . Construct the best polynomial approximations of degrees 0, 1 and 2 in the 2-norm to this function over the interval  $(-1, 1)$  with weight function  $w(x) \equiv 1$ . (It may not appear very useful to consider a polynomial approximation to a discontinuous function, but representations of such functions by Fourier series will be useful. Note that the function  $H$  belongs to  $L_w^2(-1, 1)$ .)

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## Solutions.

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1. On note  $w(x) = -\ln(x)$

$$\|p\|_w^2 = (p, p)_w = \int_0^1 p^2(x)w(x) dx$$

Observer que :

$$-\int_0^1 x^k \ln(x) dx = \frac{1}{(k+1)^2}$$

On cherche  $p_0, p_1$  et  $p_2$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 = 1 &\implies \|p_0\|_w^2 = 1 \\ p_1 = x - \frac{(x, p_0)_w}{\|p_0\|_w^2} p_0 &= x - \frac{1}{4} \implies \|p_1\|_w^2 = \frac{7}{144} \\ p_2 = x^2 - \frac{(x^2, p_1)_w}{\|p_1\|_w^2} p_1 - \frac{(x^2, p_0)_w}{\|p_0\|_w^2} p_0 &= x^2 - \frac{5}{7}x + \frac{17}{258} \end{aligned}$$

2. Il suffit de vérifier que :

$$I_{ij} = \int_a^b \phi_i \left( \frac{2x-a-b}{b-a} \right) \phi_j \left( \frac{2x-a-b}{b-a} \right) dx = 0, \quad \text{si } i \neq j$$

On effectue le changement de variable :

$$t = \frac{2x-a-b}{b-a} \implies dt = \frac{2}{b-a} dx$$

alors,

$$I_{ij} = \frac{b-a}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \phi_i(t) \phi_j(t) dt = 0$$

3. Nous avons

$$\int_0^1 \varphi_i(x) \varphi_j(x) x^\alpha dx = 0, \quad \text{si } i \neq j$$

On effectue le changement de variable

$$x = \frac{t}{b} \implies x^\alpha dx = \frac{t^\alpha}{b^{\alpha+1}} dt$$

alors,

$$\frac{1}{b^{\alpha+1}} \int_0^b \varphi_i(t) \varphi_j(t) t^\alpha dt = 0, \quad \text{si } i \neq j$$

donc si  $\{\varphi_j, j = 1, \dots\}$  est un système orthogonal sur  $(0, 1)$  alors,  $\{\phi_j(x)\}$  avec

$$\phi_j(x) = \varphi_j\left(\frac{x}{b}\right), \quad j = 1, \dots$$

est un système orthogonal sur  $(0, b)$ .

4. 1) Par récurrence, supposons

$$\left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^k (1-x^2)^n = (1-x^2)^{n-k} q_k(x),$$

alors,

$$\begin{aligned} \left(\frac{d}{dx}\right)^{k+1} (1-x^2)^n &= \frac{d}{dx} \left[ (1-x^2)^{n-k} q_k(x) \right] \\ &= -2(n-k)x(1-x^2)^{n-k-1} q_k(x) + (1-x^2)^{n-k} q'_k(x) \\ &= (1-x^2)^{n-k-1} (-2(n-k)x q_k(x) + (1-x^2) q'_k(x)) \\ &= (1-x^2)^{n-k-1} q_{k+1}(x) \\ &= (1-x^2)^{n-(k+1)} q_{k+1}(x) \end{aligned}$$

2) Donc si  $k < n$  la dérivée de  $(1-x^2)^n$  s'annule en  $\pm 1$ .

3) Par définition :

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^1 \varphi_k(x) \varphi_j(x) dx &= \int_{-1}^1 D^k(1-x^2)^k D^j(1-x^2)^j dx \\ &= (-1)^k \int_{-1}^1 \underbrace{D^{2k}(1-x^2)^k}_{=Cte} D^{j-k-1}(1-x^2)^j dx \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$