

Orthogonal Functions

* Inner Product

If u and v are two vectors in R^3 or 3-space then the inner product (u, v) (in calculus it is called $u \cdot v$) possesses the following properties

- (i) $(u, v) = (v, u)$
- (ii) $(ku, v) = k(u, v)$ k is a scalar
- (iii) $(u, u) = 0$ if $u = 0$ and $(u, u) > 0$ if $u \neq 0$
- (iv) $(u+v, w) = (u, w) + (v, w)$

* Inner Product of two functions

The inner product of two functions f_1, f_2 on the interval $[a, b]$ is the number

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_a^b f_1(x) \cdot f_2(x) dx$$

* Orthogonal functions

Two functions f_1 and f_2 are orthogonal on an interval $[a, b]$ if

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_a^b f_1(x) \cdot f_2(x) dx = 0$$

Ex. 1. (a)

Show that the functions

$f_1(x) = x^2$ & $f_2(x) = x^3$ are orthogonal

on the interval $[-1, 1]$

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_{-1}^1 f_1(x) \cdot f_2(x) dx$$

$$= \int_{-1}^1 x^2 \cdot x^3 dx = \int_{-1}^1 x^5 dx$$

$$= \left| \frac{x^6}{6} \right|_{-1}^1 = \frac{1}{6} (1 - 1) = 0$$

(b)

$f_1(x) = x^2$ & $f_2(x) = x^4$ over $[-1, 1]$

$$(f_1, f_2) = \int_{-1}^1 x^2 \cdot x^4 dx = \int_{-1}^1 x^6 dx = \left| \frac{x^7}{7} \right|_{-1}^1 = \frac{2}{7} \neq 0$$

* Orthogonal sets

A real valued functions

$\{\phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \dots\}$ is said to be orthogonal on an interval $[a, b]$ if

$$(\phi_m, \phi_n) = \int_a^b \phi_m(x) \phi_n(x) dx = 0 \quad m \neq n$$

- Ex. Show that $\{1, \cos x, \cos 2x, \dots\}$ is orthogonal on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$
- (ii) Find norm of each function in the orthogonal set.
- (iii) Find orthonormal set on the interval $[-\pi, \pi]$.

Sol:- Let $\phi_0(x) = 1$ and $\phi_n(x) = \cos nx$ we have to show $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_0(x) \cdot \phi_n(x) dx = 0$ & $\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_n(x) \cdot \phi_m(x) dx = 0$; $m \neq n$

$$(\phi_0, \phi_n) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_0(x) \phi_n(x) dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 1 \cdot \cos nx dx = \left[\frac{\sin nx}{n} \right]_{-\pi}^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{n} (\sin n(\pi) + \sin(n\pi)) = \frac{1}{n} (0 + 0) = 0$$

$$(\phi_n, \phi_m) = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \phi_n(x) \cdot \phi_m(x) dx = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos nx \cdot \cos mx dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 2 \cos nx \cos mx dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left[\int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (\cos(m+n)x + \cos(m-n)x) dx \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\sin(m+n)x}{m+n} + \frac{\sin(n-m)x}{n-m} \right) \Big|_{-\pi}^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (0) = 0 ; m \neq n$$

Sol (i) Let $\phi_0(x) = 1$

$$\|\phi_0(x)\|^2 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} 1^2 dx = \left| x \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} = \pi - (-\pi) = 2\pi$$

$$\therefore \|\phi_0(x)\| = \sqrt{2\pi}$$

For $\phi_n(x) = \cos nx$

$$\|\phi_n(x)\|^2 = \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} \cos^2 nx dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} (1 + \cos 2nx) dx$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} \left| x \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi} + \frac{1}{2} \left| \frac{\sin 2nx}{2n} \right|_{-\pi}^{\pi}$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} [\pi - (-\pi)] + \frac{1}{2} [0]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (2\pi) = \pi$$

$$\therefore \|\phi_n(x)\| = \sqrt{\pi}$$

Sol (iii):— For the orthonormal set we divide each function to its norm

$$\left\{ \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}}, \frac{\cos x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \frac{\cos 2x}{\sqrt{\pi}}, \dots \right\}$$

which is orthonormal on $[-\pi, \pi]$

(*) A set of real valued function $\{\phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \dots\}$ is said to be orthogonal with respect to a weight function $w(x)$ on $[a, b]$ if

$$\int_a^b w(x) \phi_m(x) \cdot \phi_n(x) dx = 0 ; m \neq n$$