

1. Consider the function  $f(x) = \sin(x) + \cos(x)$  at the nodes  $\{-\pi, -\pi/2, 0\}$ . Answer the following:

(a) (6 marks) Write down the Vandermonde matrix  $V$ , and find the interpolation polynomial using  $V$ .

**Solution:** Since there are three nodes, the interpolation polynomial must be a quadratic polynomial, *i.e.*  $n = 2$ . Therefore, the interpolation will be,  $p_2(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2$  in the Natural or Taylor basis. Here, we are given that:  $x_0 = -\pi$ ,  $x_1 = -\pi/2$  and  $x_2 = 0$ . Also, we have:  $f(x_0) = \sin(x_0) + \cos(x_0) = \sin(-\pi) + \cos(-\pi) = -1$ ,  $f(x_1) = \sin(x_1) + \cos(x_1) = \sin(-\pi/2) + \cos(-\pi/2) = -1$  and  $f(x_2) = \sin(x_2) + \cos(x_2) = \sin(0) + \cos(0) = 1$ . Therefore, the Vandermonde matrix  $V$  and the constant matrix  $b$  are

$$V = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_0 & x_0^2 \\ 1 & x_1 & x_1^2 \\ 1 & x_2 & x_2^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\pi & \pi^2 \\ 1 & -\pi/2 & \pi^2/4 \\ 1 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad b = \begin{pmatrix} f(x_0) \\ f(x_1) \\ f(x_2) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} . \checkmark$$

Here, since  $\det V = \pi^3/4 \neq 0$ , there exists inverse matrix. Using calculator (or any other software, like Mathematica, Maple, etc.), we find,

$$V^{-1} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1/\pi & -4/\pi & 3/\pi \\ 2/\pi^2 & -4/\pi^2 & 2/\pi^2 \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0.3183 & -1.273 & 0.9549 \\ 0.2026 & -0.4053 & 0.2026 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Therefore, the Taylor coefficients are

$$x = \begin{pmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \end{pmatrix} = V^{-1}b = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 1/\pi & -4/\pi & 3/\pi \\ 2/\pi^2 & -4/\pi^2 & 2/\pi^2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} -1 \\ -1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 6/\pi \\ 4/\pi^2 \end{pmatrix} \approx \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1.9099 \\ 0.4053 \end{pmatrix} .$$

Comparing both sides, we get:  $a_0 = 1$ ,  $a_1 = 6/\pi \approx 1.9099$  and  $a_2 = 4/\pi^2 \approx 0.4053$ . Therefore, the interpolation polynomial is

$$p_2(x) = \frac{4}{\pi^2}x^2 + \frac{6}{\pi}x + 1 \approx 0.4053x^2 + 1.9099x + 1 . \quad \checkmark$$

(b) (6 marks) Evaluate the Lagrange bases for the given nodes, and find the Lagrange interpolation polynomial.

**Solution:** Since  $n = 2$ , there are three Lagrange basis elements  $l_0(x)$ ,  $l_1(x)$  and  $l_2(x)$  and each of these are quadratic in  $x$ . Therefore, using the given nodes, we calculate,

$$\begin{aligned} l_0(x) &= \left( \frac{x - x_1}{x_0 - x_1} \right) \left( \frac{x - x_2}{x_0 - x_2} \right) = \left( \frac{x + \pi/2}{-\pi + \pi/2} \right) \left( \frac{x - 0}{-\pi - 0} \right) = \frac{2}{\pi^2}x \left( x + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) , \quad \checkmark \\ l_1(x) &= \left( \frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0} \right) \left( \frac{x - x_2}{x_1 - x_2} \right) = \left( \frac{x + \pi}{\pi - \pi/2} \right) \left( \frac{x - 0}{-\pi/2 - 0} \right) = -\frac{4}{\pi^2}x(x + \pi) , \quad \checkmark \\ \text{and } l_2(x) &= \left( \frac{x - x_0}{x_2 - x_0} \right) \left( \frac{x - x_1}{x_2 - x_1} \right) = \left( \frac{x + \pi}{0 + \pi} \right) \left( \frac{x + \pi/2}{0 + \pi/2} \right) = \frac{2}{\pi^2}(x + \pi) \left( x + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) . \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

The interpolation polynomial using Lagrange basis is

$$\begin{aligned} p_2(x) &= \sum_{k=0}^{k=2} l_k(x)f(x_k) = l_0(x)\overset{-1}{f(x_0)} + l_1(x)\overset{-1}{f(x_1)} + l_2(x)\overset{1}{f(x_2)} , \\ &= -\frac{2}{\pi^2}x \left( x + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \times 1 + \frac{4}{\pi^2}x(x + \pi)(-1) + \frac{2}{\pi^2}(x + \pi) \left( x + \frac{\pi}{2} \right) \times 1 . \quad \checkmark \\ &\quad \text{(This expression is the answer in Lagrange basis)} \end{aligned}$$

(c) (8 marks) Compute the Newton basis elements needed to find the interpolation polynomial, and compute the Newton interpolation polynomial.

**Solution:** The Newton basis elements are:  $n_0(x)$  and  $n_k(x) = (x - x_0)(x - x_1) \cdots (x - x_{k-1})$  for  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . In this case  $n = 2$  because there are only three nodes which are:  $x_0 = -\pi$ ,  $x_1 = -\pi/2$  and  $x_2 = 0$ .  $f[x_0] = f(x_0) = \sin(x_0) + \cos(x_0) = \sin(-\pi) + \cos(-\pi) = -1$ ,  $f[x_1] = f(x_1) = \sin(x_1) + \cos(x_1) = \sin(-\pi/2) + \cos(-\pi/2) = -1$  and  $f[x_2] = f(x_2) = \sin(x_2) + \cos(x_2) = \sin(0) + \cos(0) = 1$ . Therefore, the Newton bases are:

$$\begin{aligned} n_0(x) &= 1 , \\ n_1(x) &= (x - x_0) = (x - (-\pi)) = (x + \pi) , \\ n_2(x) &= (x - x_0)(x - x_1) = (x - (-\pi))(x - (-\pi/2)) = (x + \pi)(x + \pi/2) . \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

The Newton coefficients,  $a_k$ , can be computed using the Divided-Difference method, which is

$$a_k \equiv f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_k] = \frac{f[x_1, \dots, x_k] - f[x_0, \dots, x_{k-1}]}{x_k - x_0}, \quad \text{where } k = 0, 1, \dots, n \text{ and } a_0 = f[x_0] = f(x_0).$$

Now using the fact that for single argument,  $f[x_k] = f(x_k)$ , we compute the Newton coefficients as,

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= f[x_0] = f(x_0) = -1, \\ a_1 &= f[x_0, x_1] = \frac{f[x_1] - f[x_0]}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{-1 + 1}{-\pi/2 + \pi} = 0, \\ f[x_1, x_2] &= \frac{f[x_2] - f[x_1]}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}{x_2 - x_1} = \frac{1 - (-1)}{0 + \pi/2} = \frac{4}{\pi}, \\ a_2 &= f[x_0, x_1, x_2] = \frac{f[x_1, x_2] - f[x_0, x_1]}{x_2 - x_0} = \frac{4/\pi - (-4/\pi)}{0 - (-\pi)} = \frac{4}{\pi^2}. \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Using above, write down the interpolation polynomial, as

$$\begin{aligned} p_2(x) &= a_0 n_0(x) + a_1 n_1(x) + a_2 n_2(x) = -1 + \frac{4}{\pi^2} (x + \pi)(x + \pi/2). \quad \checkmark \\ &\text{(This is the answer in Newton basis)} \end{aligned}$$

- (d) (5 marks) Using Cauchy's theorem, compute the upper bound of the interpolation error.

**Solution:** Here, by definition,  $I = [a, b] = [x_0, x_2] = [-\pi, 0]$ . Therefore the upper bound of the interpolation is,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Upper Bound} &= \left| \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \cdot w_n(x) \right|_{n=2, \max_{\xi \in (x_0, x_n), x \in [x_0, x_n]}}, \\ &\leq \frac{1}{3!} \left| f^{(3)}(\xi) \right|_{\xi \in (x_0, x_2)} \cdot |w_2(x)|_{x \in [x_0, x_2]}^{\max}, \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left| \frac{d^3 f(\xi)}{d\xi^3} \right|_{\xi \in (x_0, x_2)} \cdot \left| \left( (x + \pi)(x + \pi/2)x \right) \right|_{x \in [x_0, x_2]}^{\max}, \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left| \frac{d^3}{d\xi^3} (\sin \xi + \cos \xi) \right|_{\xi \in (x_0, x_2)} \cdot \left| \left( x^3 + \frac{3\pi}{2}x^2 + \frac{\pi^2}{2}x \right) \right|_{x \in [x_0, x_2]}^{\max}, \\ \text{Now, } \left| \frac{d^3}{d\xi^3} (\sin \xi + \cos \xi) \right|_{\xi \in (x_0, x_2)}^{\max} &\leq \left| \cos \xi \right|_{\xi \in [-\pi, 0]}^{\max} + \left| \sin \xi \right|_{\xi \in [-\pi, 0]}^{\max} = |\cos(0)| + \left| \sin\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right) \right| = 2, \\ \text{And } \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \left( x^3 + \frac{3\pi}{2}x^2 + \frac{\pi^2}{2}x \right) &= 3x^2 + 3\pi x + \frac{\pi^2}{2} = 0, \\ \text{Critical points, } x_c &= \left( -1 \pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \right) \frac{\pi}{2} = -0.663897, -2.477696. \\ \therefore |w_2(x_c)| &= |\mp 1.49179| = 1.49179. \\ \text{Hence, Upper Bound} &\leq \frac{1}{6} \times 2 \times 1.49479 \approx 0.49726. \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

- (e) (5 marks) Now add a new node  $\pi/2$  to the above nodes, and find the interpolating polynomial using the appropriate method.

**Solution:** Adding a new node  $x_3 = \pi/2$ , we have,  $f[x_3] = f(x_3) = \sin(\pi/2) + \cos(\pi/2) = 1$ . Therefore, we just compute the additional Divided-Difference terms to calculate the new Newton coefficient  $a_3$ . Hence, we find,

$$\begin{aligned} f[x_2, x_3] &= \frac{f[x_3] - f[x_2]}{x_3 - x_2} = \frac{f(x_3) - f(x_2)}{x_3 - x_2} = \frac{1 - 1}{\pi/2 - 0} = 0, \\ f[x_1, x_2, x_3] &= \frac{f[x_2, x_3] - f[x_1, x_2]}{x_3 - x_1} = \frac{0 - 4/\pi}{\pi/2 - (-\pi/2)} = -\frac{4}{\pi^2}, \\ a_3 &= f[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3] = \frac{f[x_1, x_2, x_3] - f[x_0, x_1, x_2]}{x_3 - x_0} = \frac{-4/\pi^2 - 4/\pi^2}{\pi/2 - (-\pi)} = -\frac{16}{3\pi^3}. \quad \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, after adding a new node, we have now  $n = 3$ , and the Newton interpolation polynomial is,

$$p_3(x) = p_2(x) + a_3 n_3(x) = p_2(x) - \frac{16}{3\pi^3} x(x + \pi/2)(x + \pi). \quad \checkmark$$