

# MTH-308B Mini Project 2

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## Problem Statement

Given a discrete computational grid  $X_{grid} = \{x_j\}_{j=1}^n$  along with its evaluation data  $F_{grid} = \{f(x_j)\}_{j=1}^n$ , where  $x_j \in [a, b]$ ,  $a < b$ . The function  $f \in C^\infty[a, b]$  and satisfies the property:

$$f^{(k)}(a) = f^{(k)}(b) = 0 \quad \forall k \in [1, 10] \quad (1)$$

$$f^{(11)}(a) \neq f^{(11)}(b) \quad (2)$$

Design and implement an efficient polynomial interpolation method to approximate  $f_n[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  on evaluation points based on the given data  $(X_{grid}, F_{grid})$ .

## Proposed Algorithm

The design implements the method described in the paper, *Finding the Zeros of a Univariate Equation: Proxy Rootfinders, Chebyshev Interpolation, and the Companion Matrix* by John P. Boyd.

## Implementation Abstract

When a function  $f(x)$  is holomorphic on an interval  $x \in [a, b]$ , its roots on the interval can be computed by the following three-step procedure.

1. Approximate  $f(x)$  on  $[a, b]$  by a polynomial  $f_N(x)$  using adaptive Chebyshev interpolation.
2. Form the Chebyshev Frobenius companion matrix whose elements are trivial functions of the Chebyshev coefficients of the interpolant  $f_N(x)$ .
3. Compute all the eigenvalues of the companion matrix.

The eigenvalues  $\lambda$  which lie on the real interval  $\lambda \in [a, b]$  are very accurate approximations to the zeros of  $f(x)$  on the target interval.

## Implementation Details

Here, we construct Chebyshev interpolation of  $f(x)$  to compute a Chebyshev series, including terms up to and including  $T_N$ , on the interval  $x \in [a, b]$ .

1. Create the set of interpolation points:  $X_{Grid}$

$$x_k \equiv \left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\pi \frac{k}{N}\right), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (3)$$

2. Compute the grid point values of  $f(x)$ , the function to be approximated:

$$f_k \equiv f(x_k), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (4)$$

**Note:** Such type of points avoid the periodicity factor that may have caused the error since the points are unequally placed and heavily dependent on  $X_{grid}$ .

3. As mentioned in one of the Lectures (and Lab11), interpolating a polynomial based on the points generated by Chebyshev series results in a polynomial which exponentially converges to the actual function, as  $n$  is increased.

The technique used to generate the interpolation matrix ( $n_{Grid} \times n_{Grid}$ ) is:

$$\Gamma_{jk} = \frac{2}{p_k p_j N} \cos\left(j\pi \frac{k}{N}\right) \quad (5)$$

4. Compute the coefficients through a vector matrix-multiplication

$$a_j = \sum_{k=0}^N \Gamma_{jk} f_k, \quad j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N \quad (6)$$

5. The function  $f(k)$  can then be approximated by inverse interpolation method.

$$f \approx \sum_{j=0}^N a_j \cos\left\{j \cos^{-1}\left(\frac{2x - (b+a)}{b-a}\right)\right\} \quad (7)$$

The vector matrix-multiplication procedure could have been accelerated by *Fast-Fourier Transform*, but since this vector-matrix multiplication costs  $O(2N^2)$  while the eigensolving cost is  $O(10N^3)$ , the FFT is not worth the effort and computation time.

## References

1. Polynomial Interpolation Wiki: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polynomial\\_interpolation](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Polynomial_interpolation)
2. John P. Boyd, *Finding the Zeros of a Univariate Equation: Proxy Rootfinders, Chebyshev Interpolation, and the Companion Matrix*