

Chapter 3.1 Lagrange Interpolation

Suppose that we are given three points (x_0, y_0) , (x_1, y_1) , and (x_2, y_2)

Then, the polynomial:

$$p_2(x) = \underbrace{\frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)}{(x_0-x_1)(x_0-x_2)}}_{(x_0, y_0)} y_0 + \underbrace{\frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_2)}{(x_1-x_0)(x_1-x_2)}}_{(x_1, y_1)} y_1 + \underbrace{\frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_1)}{(x_2-x_0)(x_2-x_1)}}_{(x_2, y_2)} y_2$$

* Lagrange Interpolation for 3-points

Given $(x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$, define the "Cardinal" functions L_0, L_1, \dots, L_n such that $L_i(x) = \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_1)\dots(x-x_{i-1})(x-x_{i+1})\dots(x-x_n)}{(x_i-x_0)(x_i-x_1)\dots(x_i-x_{i-1})(x_i-x_{i+1})\dots(x_i-x_n)}$

$$L_i(x_i) = 1$$

$$L_i(x_k) = 0 \quad \text{for } i \neq k$$

Lagrange Interpolation Polynomial

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n L_i(x) y_i$$

Example: Find the Lagrange Polynomial for:

x_i	0	$\frac{2}{3}$	1
y_i	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0

$$x_0 = 0$$

$$x_1 = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$x_2 = 1$$

$$p_2(x) = \frac{(x-\frac{2}{3})(x-1)}{(0-\frac{2}{3})(0-1)} \underset{y_0}{\uparrow} [1] + \frac{(x-0)(x-1)}{(\frac{2}{3}-0)(\frac{2}{3}-1)} \underset{y_1}{\uparrow} [\frac{1}{2}] + \frac{(x-0)(x-\frac{2}{3})}{(1-0)(1-\frac{2}{3})} \underset{y_2}{\uparrow} [0]$$

$$p_2(x) = \left(-\frac{3}{4}\right)x^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{4}\right)x + (1)$$

Example: Find the Lagrange Polynomial for

x_i	0	1	3
y_i	$\frac{1}{2}$	0	1

$$x_0 = 0$$

$$x_1 = 1$$

$$x_2 = 3$$

$$p_2(x) = \frac{(x-1)(x-3)}{(0-1)(0-3)} \underset{y_0}{\uparrow} [\frac{1}{2}] + \frac{(x-0)(x-3)}{(1-0)(1-3)} \underset{y_1}{\uparrow} [0] + \frac{(x-0)(x-1)}{(3-0)(3-1)} \underset{y_2}{\uparrow} [1]$$

$$= \frac{(x-1)(x-3)}{3} [\frac{1}{2}] + 0 + \frac{(x-0)(x-1)}{6}$$

=

Main Theorem

Let $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ be $(n+1)$ points in the xy -plane with distinct x_i .

Then, there exists "one and only one" polynomial $p_n(x)$ of

Let $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ be $(n+1)$ points in the xy -plane with distinct x_i .

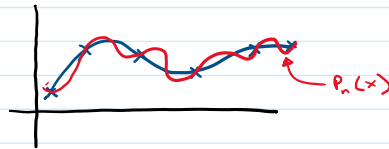
Then, there exists "one and only one" polynomial $p_n(x)$ of "degree n or less" that satisfies $p_n(x_i) = y_i$ for $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Maximum Error

Suppose x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n are distinct numbers in the interval $[a, b]$ and $f \in \mathcal{C}^{(n+1)}[a, b]$. Then, for each x in $[a, b]$ a number $\xi(x)$ (unknown) in (a, b) exists with

$$f(x) = p_n(x) + \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))}{(n+1)!} (x-x_0)(x-x_1)\dots(x-x_n),$$

where $p_n(x)$ is the Lagrange interpolating polynomial



$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| = \left| \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))}{(n+1)!} (x-x_0)(x-x_1)\dots(x-x_n) \right|$$