

# ENGSCI 233 – Computational Techniques and Computer Systems

Week 3: Sampled Data (Interpolation)  
Integration

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based on material from David Dempsey and Colin Simpson

Lecture 6



THE UNIVERSITY OF  
**AUCKLAND**  
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**ENGINEERING**

Department of Engineering Science

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## Sections

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4. Polynomial Fitting - Worked Example

5. Interpolation - Piecewise Linear

6. Interpolation - Cubic Splines

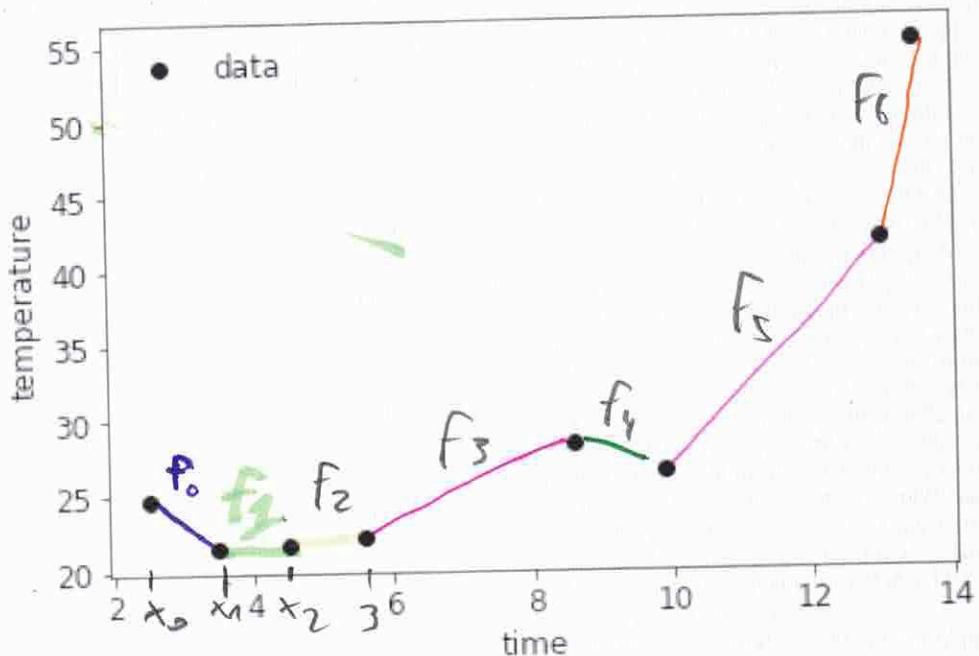
7. Integration Overview

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## Sampled Data

Consider again the sampled data example from before:

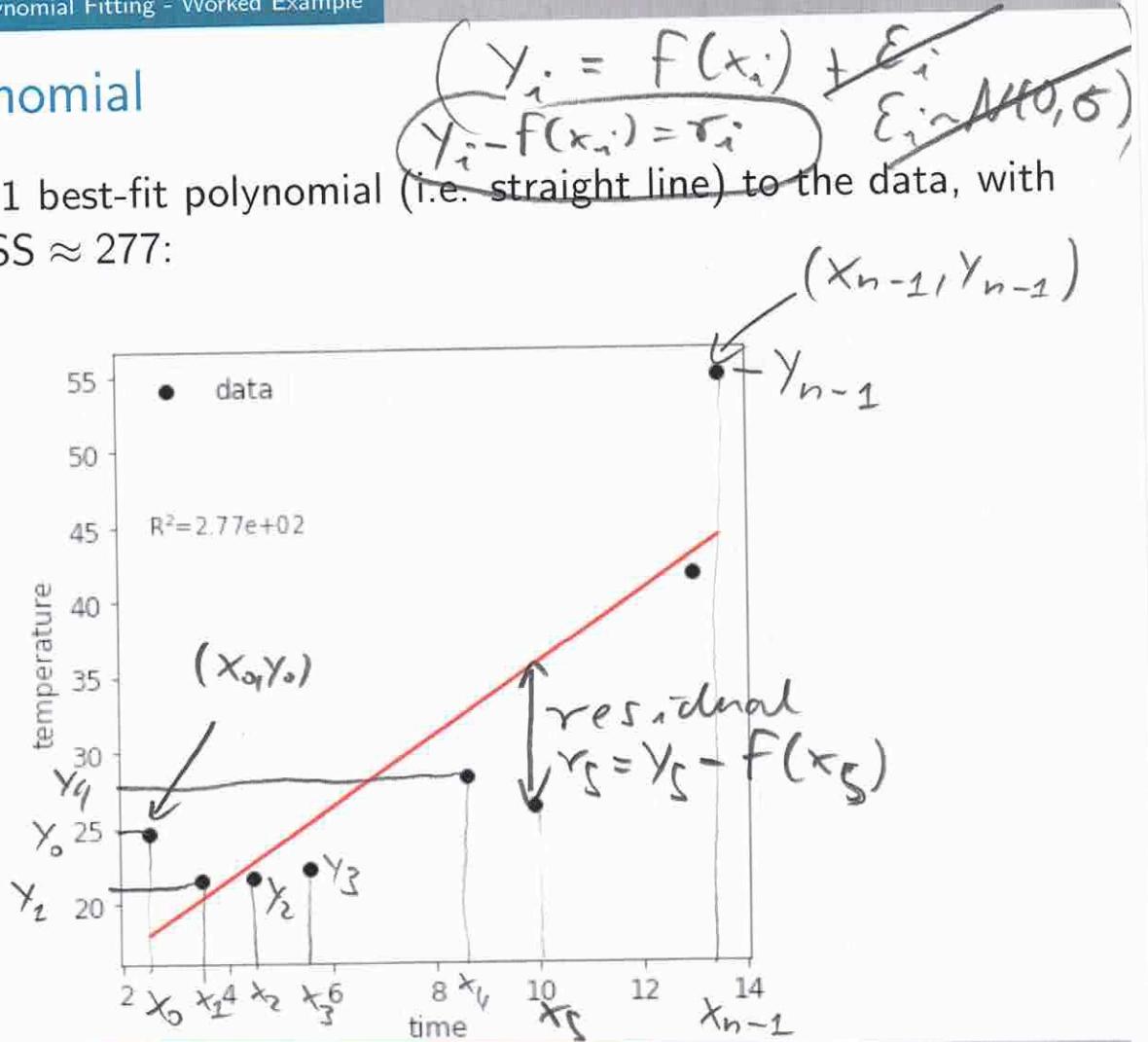


$$RSS = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \underbrace{(y_i - f(x_i))^2}_{\text{residual}}$$

### Polynomial Fitting - Worked Example

## Order 1 Polynomial

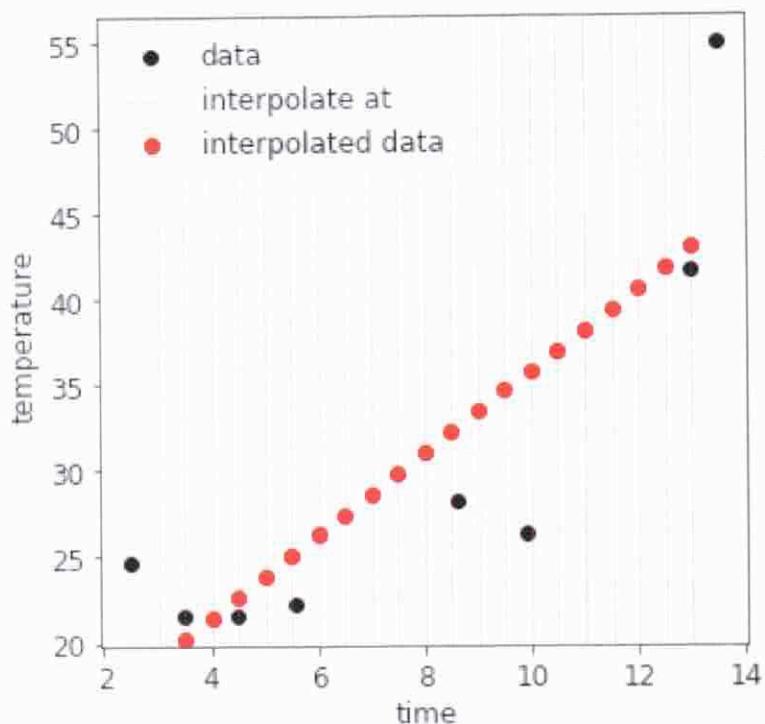
Fitting an order 1 best-fit polynomial (i.e. straight line) to the data, with an associated  $RSS \approx 277$ :



$n$ : number of samples

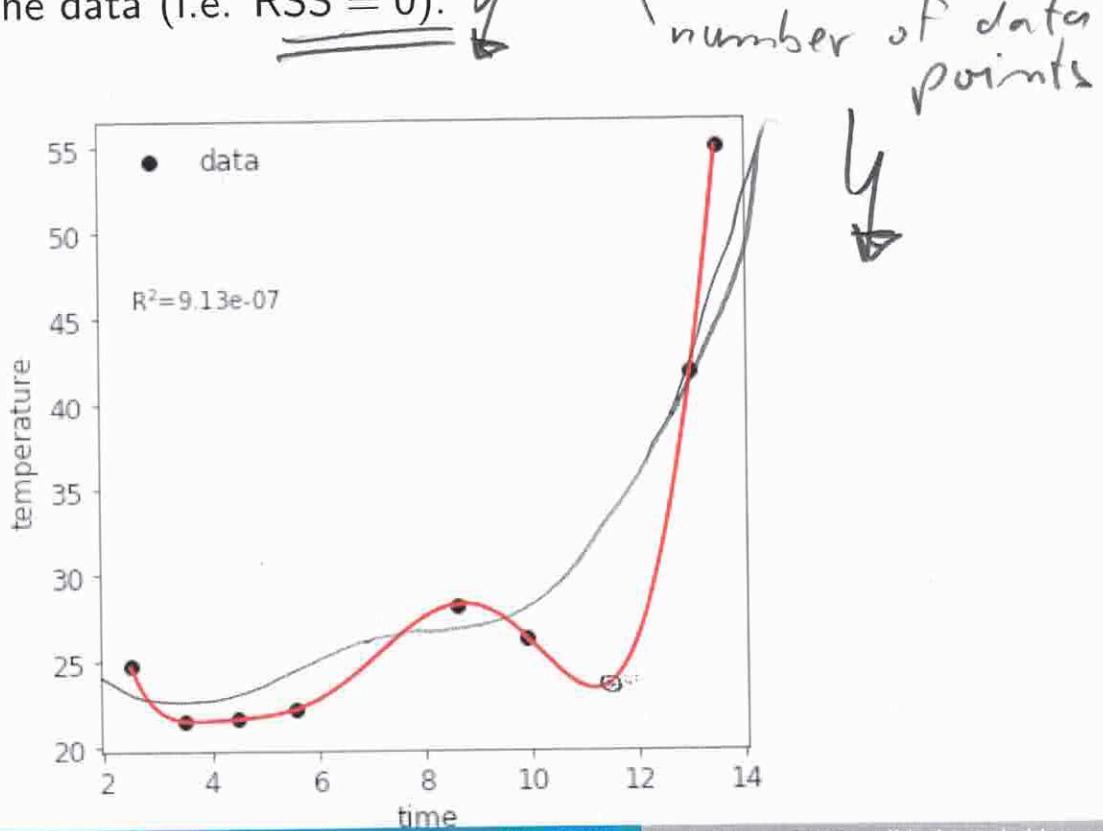
## Interpolated Points

Evaluating the fitted polynomial at the interpolation points:



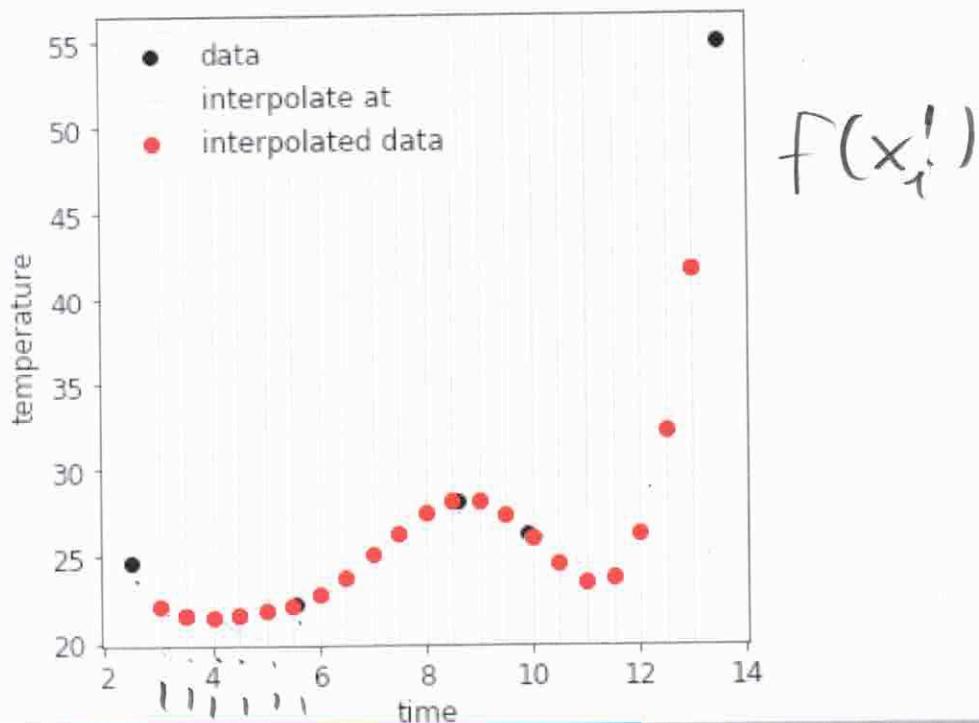
## Order 7 Polynomial

For  $n = 8$  data points, there exists an order  $m = n - 1$  polynomial that exactly matches the data (i.e.  $\underline{\text{RSS}} = 0$ ):



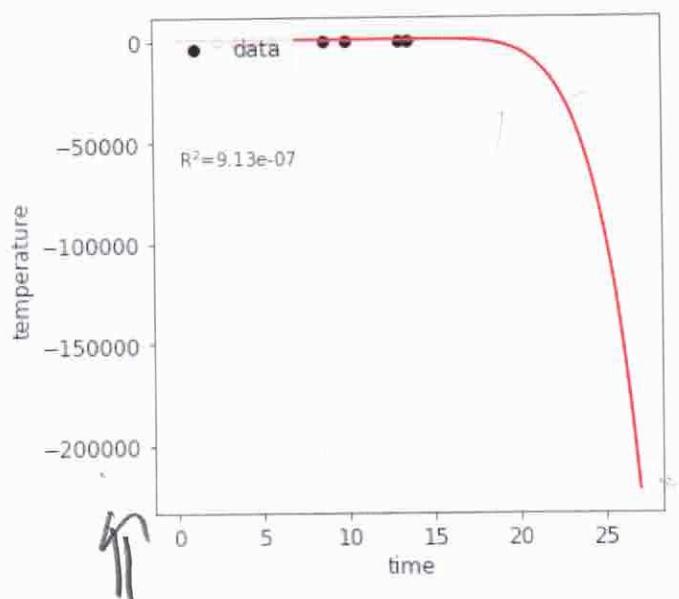
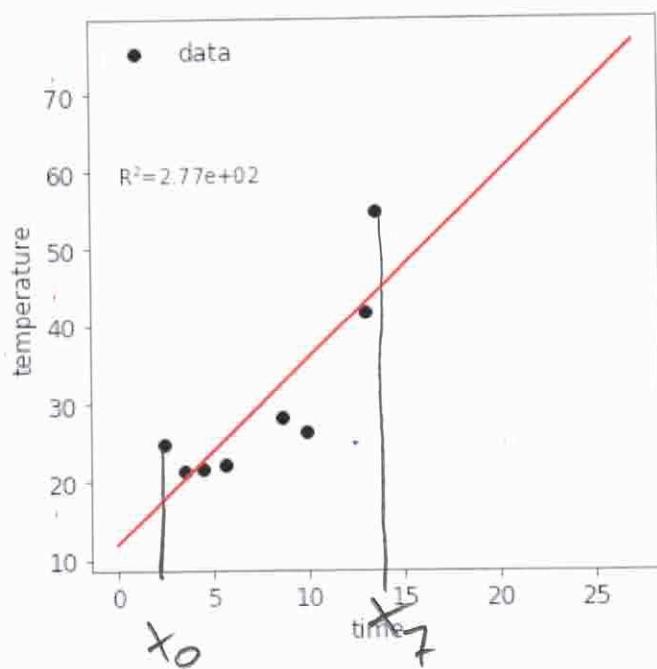
## Interpolated Points

Evaluating this fitted polynomial gives a very different interpolation to the order 1 polynomial:



## Extrapolation

Consider extrapolating with order 1 and 7 polynomials:



## Introduction

Rather than fit one interpolating function to  $n$  measurements, we can fit  $n - 1$  functions,  $f_i$ , to each pair of measurements:

- $f_0$  is an interpolating function in domain  $(x_0, x_1)$
- $f_1$  is an interpolating function in domain  $(x_1, x_2)$
- ...
- $f_{n-2}$  is an interpolating function in domain  $(x_{n-2}, x_{n-1})$

## Straight Line Equation

Piecewise linear uses straight lines as interpolating functions for each measurement pair.

Consider fitting a straight line between  $y(x_0)$  and  $y(x_1)$ :

$$f_0(x) = m_0x + c_0$$

$$f_0(x) = \underbrace{\frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0}x}_{m_0x} + \underbrace{y_0 - \frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0}x_0}_{c_0}$$

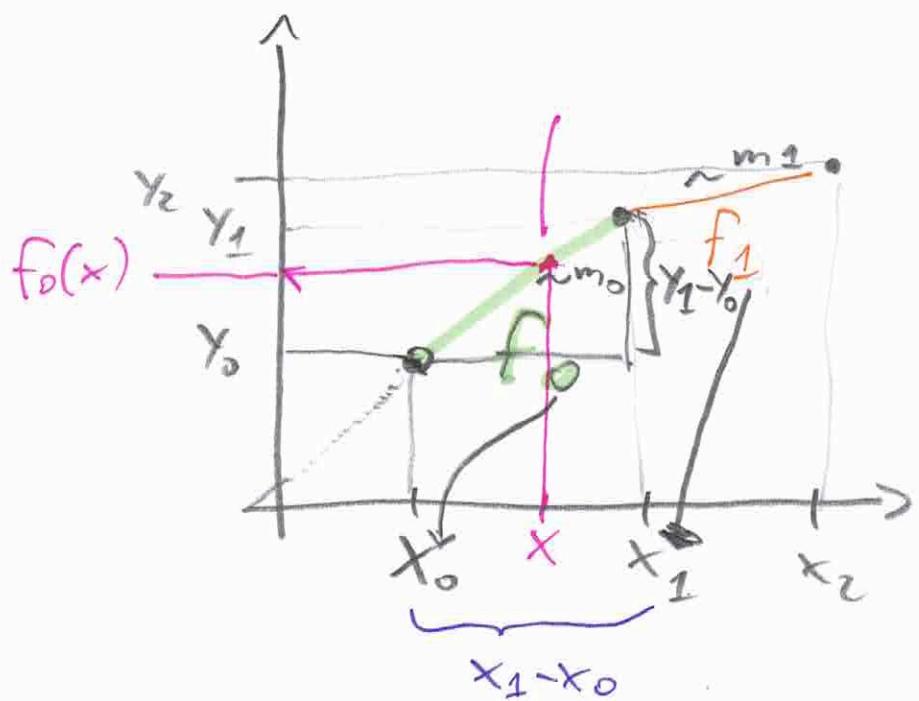
$$f_0(x) = y_0 + \frac{y_1 - y_0}{x_1 - x_0}(x - x_0)$$

$$f_1(x) = m_1x + c_1$$

$$f_2(x) = m_2x + c_2$$

$$f_6(x) = m_6x + c_6$$

## Straight Line Diagram



## Subintervals

If there are  $n$  measurements in the sampled data, we can divide up the sampled data into  $n - 1$  subintervals.

The  $i^{th}$  subinterval is bounded by the points  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ . We can fit a straight line equation,  $f_i(x)$ , for each subinterval:

$$f_i(x) = y_i + \frac{y_{i+1} - y_i}{x_{i+1} - x_i} (x - x_i)$$

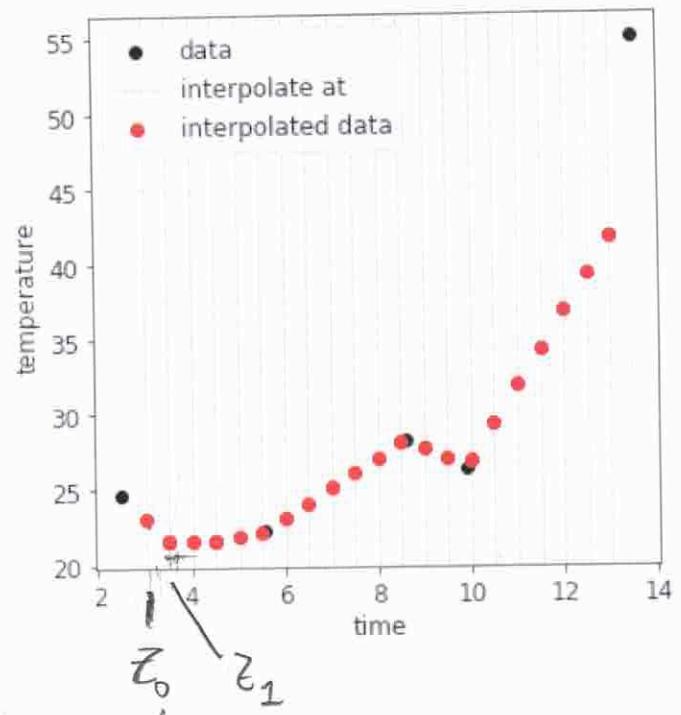
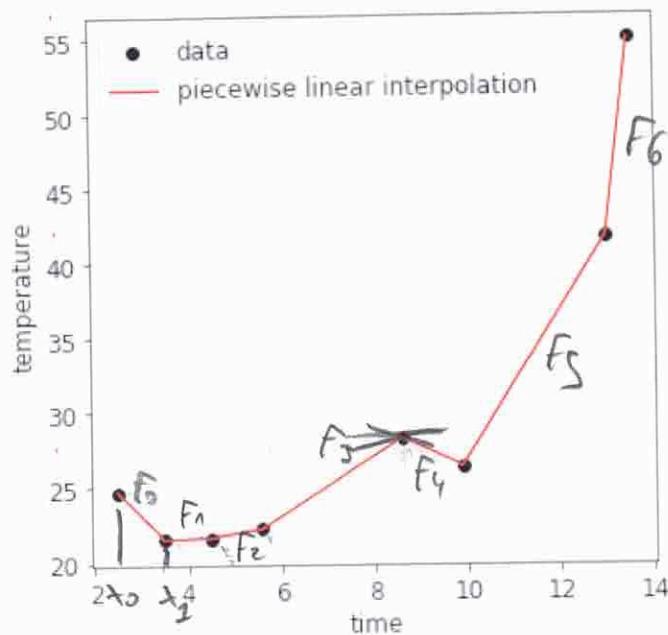
## Algorithm

The algorithm steps for implementing piecewise linear interpolation:

- Compute the gradient,  $m_i$ , and intercept,  $c_i$ , for each subinterval.
- Find which subinterval each interpolation point,  $x_j$ , is in.
- Evaluate the relevant interpolating function,  $f_i$ , at the interpolation point,  $f_i(x_j)$ .

## Example - Interpolating Functions

The interpolating functions and interpolated points:



Note: this method suffers from derivative discontinuity.

$\text{plt.plot}(x, y) \Leftarrow$   
 $\text{plt.plot}(x, y, 'o') \Leftarrow$

$z_0 \in [x_0, x_1]$   
 $f_0(z_0)$

## Introduction

Cubic splines fit an order 3 polynomial to each adjacent data pair. For  $n$  measurements, there are  $n - 1$  subintervals and therefore also  $n - 1$  cubic polynomials to fit.

Cubic splines have first and second order derivative continuity at the subinterval boundaries. This provides a smoother fit through data points than linear piecewise interpolation.

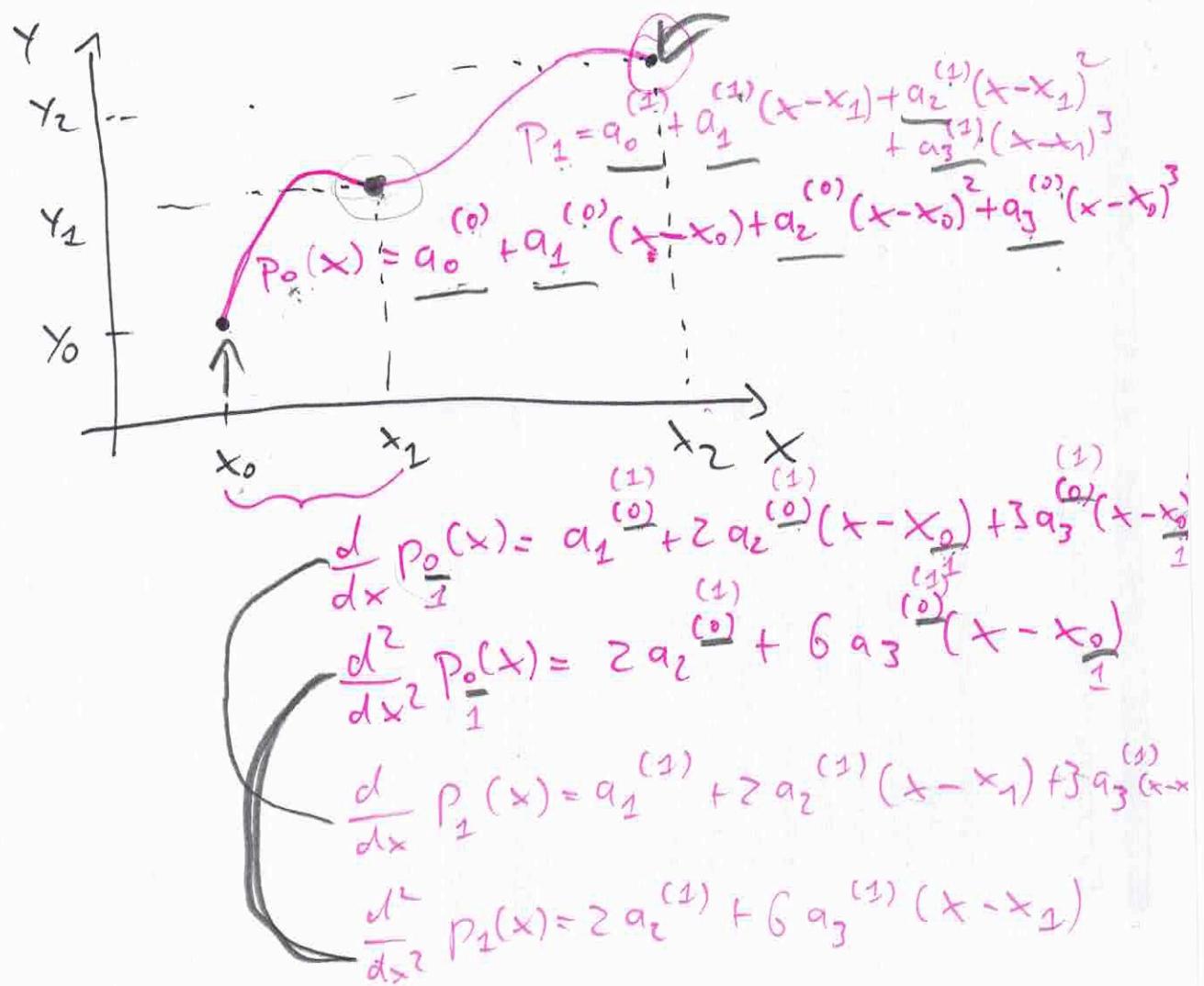
## Cubic Spline Equation

For subinterval  $i$ , which covers the interval  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ :

$$p_i(x) = a_0^{(i)} + a_1^{(i)}(x - x_i) + a_2^{(i)}(x - x_i)^2 + a_3^{(i)}(x - x_i)^3$$
$$x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]$$

The notation used in the Jupyter Notebook:

- $p_i(x)$  is the cubic spline for subinterval  $i$
- $a_0^{(i)}$  to  $a_3^{(i)}$  are the polynomial coefficients for subinterval  $i$



(1) =

$$(1) P_0(x_0) = \boxed{Y_0 = a_0^{(0)} + a_1^{(0)} \underbrace{(x_0 - x_0)}_{=0} + a_2^{(0)} \underbrace{(x_0 - x_0)^2}_{=0} + a_3^{(0)} \underbrace{(x_0 - x_0)^3}_{=0}}$$

$$(2) P_0(x_1) = \boxed{Y_1 = a_0^{(0)} + a_1^{(0)} (x_1 - x_0) + a_2^{(0)} (x_1 - x_0)^2 + a_3^{(0)} (x_1 - x_0)^3}$$

$$(3) P_1(x_1) = Y_1$$

$$(4) P_1(x_2) = Y_2$$

$$(5) \left. \frac{d}{dx} P_0(x) \right|_{x=x_1} = \left. \frac{d}{dx} P_1(x) \right|_{x=x_1}$$

$$\boxed{a_1^{(0)} + 2a_2^{(0)}(x_1 - x_0) + 3a_3^{(0)}(x_1 - x_0)^2}$$

$$= a_1^{(1)} + 2a_2^{(1)} \underbrace{(x_1 - x_1)}_{=0} + 3a_3^{(1)} \underbrace{(x_1 - x_1)^2}_{=0}$$

$$(6) \left. \frac{d^2}{dx^2} P_0(x) \right|_{x=x_1} = \left. \frac{d^2}{dx^2} P_1(x) \right|_{x=x_1}$$

$$\boxed{2a_2^{(0)} + 6a_3^{(0)}(x_1 - x_0) = 2a_2^{(1)} + 6a_3^{(1)} \underbrace{(x_1 - x_1)}_{=0}}$$

boundary conditions

$$(7) \left. \frac{d^2}{dx^2} P_0(x) \right|_{x=x_0} = 0$$

$$\cancel{2a_2^{(0)} + 6a_3^{(0)}(x_0 - x_0)} = 0$$

$$(8) \left. \frac{d^2}{dx^2} P_1(x) \right|_{x=x_2} = 0$$

$$\cancel{2a_2^{(1)} + 6a_3^{(1)}(x_2 - x_1)} = 0$$

## Derivative Equations

Adjacent cubic splines,  $p_i(x)$  and  $p_{i+1}(x)$ , must have first and second order derivative continuity at  $x = x_{i+1}$ .

The general equations for the first and second order derivatives:

$$\frac{dp_i}{dx} = a_1^{(i)} + 2a_2^{(i)}(x - x_i) + 3a_3^{(i)}(x - x_i)^2$$

$$\frac{d^2p_i}{dx^2} = 2a_2^{(i)} + 6a_3^{(i)}(x - x_i)$$

## Polynomial Coefficients

For  $n$  data points, there are  $n - 1$  cubic splines and  $4(n - 1)$  unknown polynomial coefficients.

We therefore require  $4(n - 1)$  equations:

- Boundary conditions on function value
- Boundary conditions on function first order derivative
- Boundary conditions on function second order derivative
- Second derivative zero at first/last data points

## Conditions: Function Value

Each cubic spline must exactly match the sampled data at either end of its subinterval i.e.  $p_i(x_i) = y(x_i)$  and  $p_i(x_{i+1}) = y(x_{i+1})$ :

$$a_0^{(i)} = y_i$$

$$a_0^{(i)} + a_1^{(i)}(\Delta x_i) + a_2^{(i)}(\Delta x_i)^2 + a_3^{(i)}(\Delta x_i)^3 = y_{i+1}$$

where  $\Delta x_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$ .

These boundary conditions apply to all  $n - 1$  cubic polynomials. This gives  $2(n - 1) = 2n - 2$  equations.

## Conditions: First Order Derivative Continuity

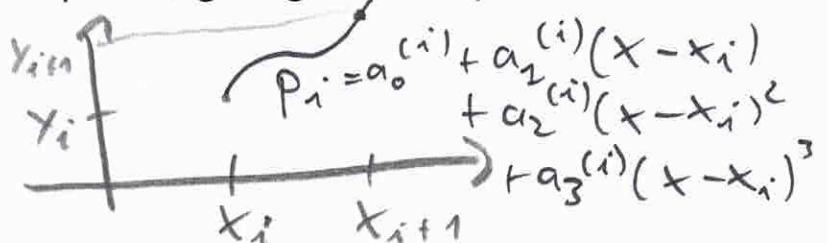
Equating the first order derivative of adjacent cubic splines:

$$\frac{dp_i}{dx} \Big|_{x=x_{i+1}} - \frac{dp_{i+1}}{dx} \Big|_{x=x_{i+1}} = 0$$

$$a_1^{(i)} + 2a_2^{(i)} (\Delta x_i) + 3a_3^{(i)} (\Delta x_i)^2 - a_1^{(i+1)} = 0$$

where  $\Delta x_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$ .

There are  $n - 2$  adjacent cubic splines, giving  $n - 2$  equations.



## Conditions: Second Order Derivative Continuity

Equating the second order derivative of adjacent cubic splines:

$$\frac{d^2 p_i}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=x_{i+1}} - \frac{d^2 p_{i+1}}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=x_{i+1}} = 0$$
$$2a_2^{(i)} + 6a_3^{(i)} (\Delta x_i) - 2a_2^{(i+1)} = 0$$

where  $\Delta x_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$ .

There are  $n - 2$  adjacent cubic splines, giving  $n - 2$  equations.

## Conditions: End Points

The second derivative is zero at the first data point:

$$\frac{d^2 p_0}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=x_0} = 0$$

$$2a_2^{(0)} = 0$$

The second derivative is zero at the last data point:

$$\frac{d^2 p_{n-2}}{dx^2} \Big|_{x=x_{n-1}} = 0$$

$$2a_2^{(n-2)} + 6a_3^{(n-2)} (\Delta x_{n-2}) = 0$$

This gives the last two equations.

## System of Equations

This system of  $4(n - 1)$  equations can be solved as a linear algebra problem i.e.  $A\vec{x} = \vec{b}$ .

In this course we construct the rows of  $A$  and  $\vec{b}$  using:

- First  $2(n - 1)$  rows from function value condition.
- Next  $n - 2$  rows from first derivative continuity.
- Next  $n - 2$  rows from second derivative continuity.
- Two rows from zero second derivative at first/last data point.

## Learning Outcomes – Integration

- Develop algorithms to apply concepts of numerical integration (e.g. Newton-Cotes and Gaussian quadrature methods) to discrete data.
- Know the mathematics associated with the trapezium rule. Gaussian quadrature.

## Numerical vs Analytical Integration

Not all integrals can be solved analytically, but can be either approximated or precisely calculated using numerical methods.

Consider a generalised integral:

$$I = \int_a^b g(x) \, dx$$

The value of the integral,  $I$ , corresponds to the area under the graph of the *integrand*,  $g(x)$ , between  $x = a$  and  $x = b$ .

## Numerical Integration

Numerical integration divides the integration range into a number of subintervals and sums the area of these individual subintervals.

- Known integrand: the subintervals can be chosen.
- Unknown integrand: the subintervals coincide with the sampled data.  
The integrand is approximated by an interpolating function,  
 $f(x) \approx g(x)$ .

## Newton-Cotes Methods

Newton-Cotes methods fit a polynomial to each subinterval,  $p_i(x)$ , and evaluates the geometric area under each polynomial.

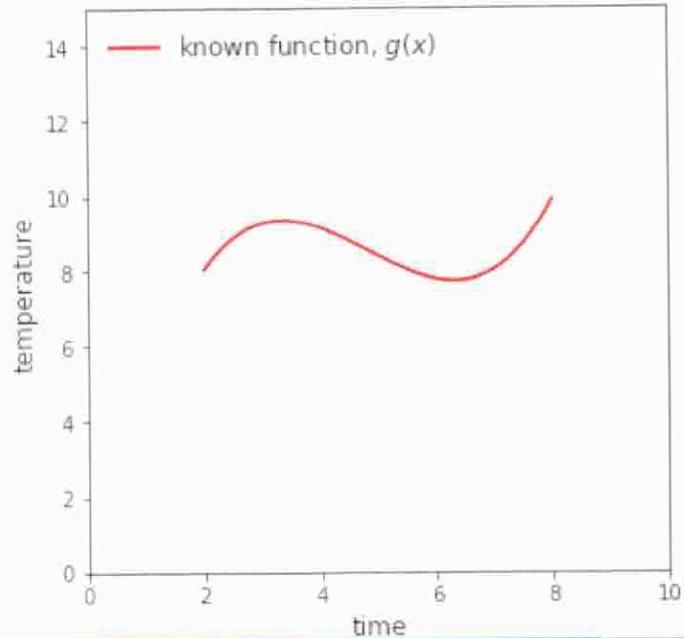
There are two commonly used variants:

- Trapezium method: order 1 polynomial
- Simpson's method: order 2 polynomial

## Numerical Integration - Example

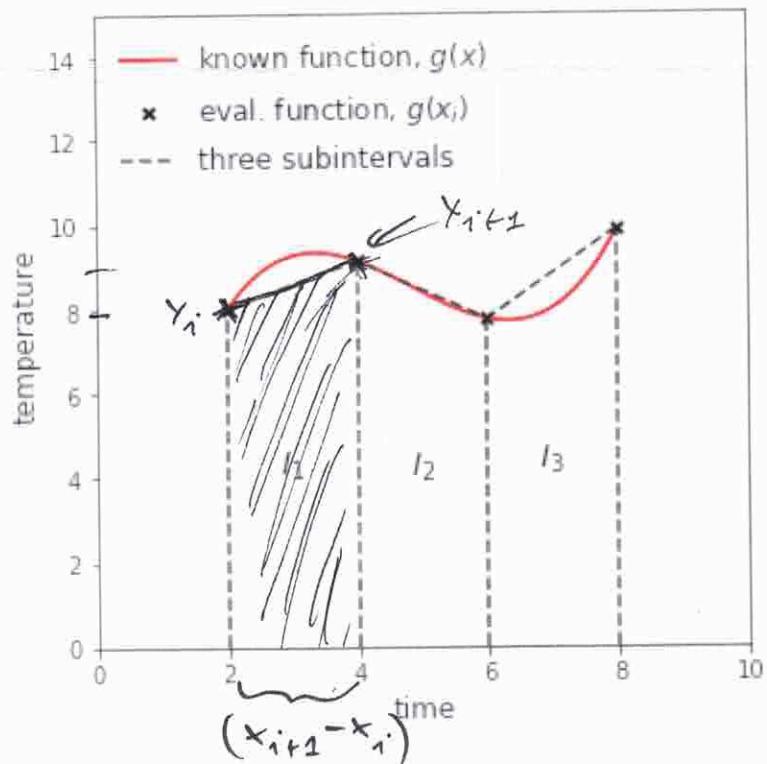
Consider numerical integration of a known integrand:

$$I = \int_2^8 g(x) \, dx$$



## Numerical Integration - Example

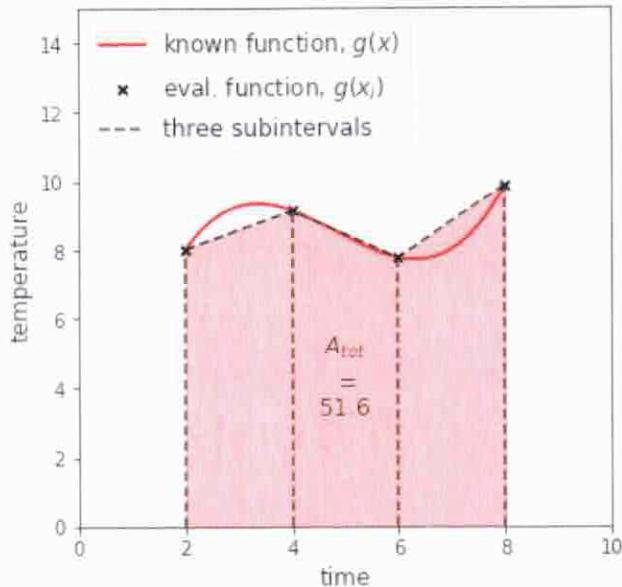
Numerical approximation of the integral using subintervals:



## Numerical Integration - Example

The subinterval area sum,  $A_{tot}$ , approximates the integral,  $I$ :

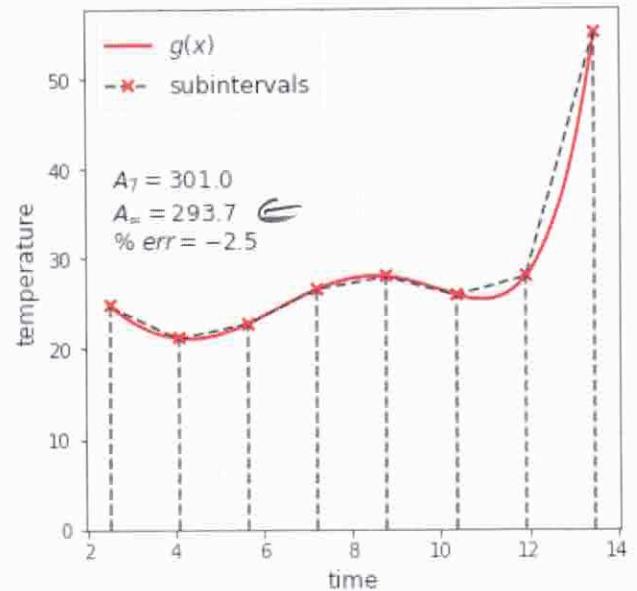
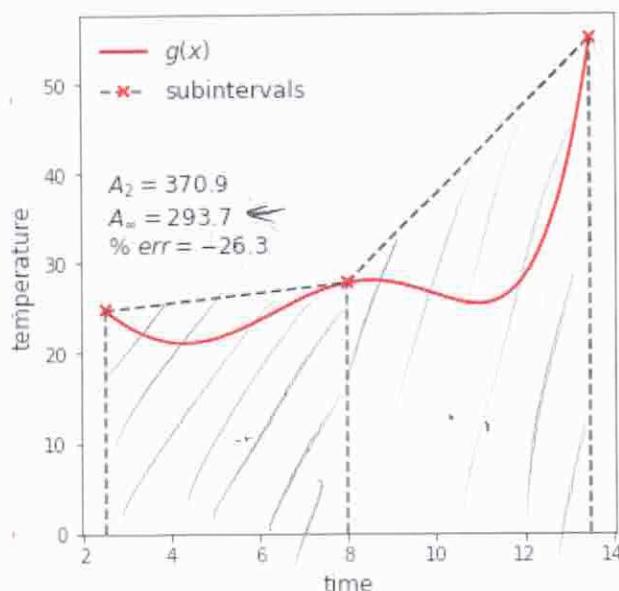
$$I \approx A_{tot} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} I_i$$



## Numerical Accuracy of Newton-Cotes

There is typically a trade-off between numerical accuracy and computational expense for Newton-Cotes methods.

For example:



## Trapezium Method

Fit an order 1 polynomial to each subinterval i.e. the same as in piecewise linear interpolation. The area for subinterval  $i$  is:

$$I_i = \frac{y(x_i) + y(x_{i+1})}{2} \circ ((x_{i+1} - x_i))$$

## Simpson's Method

Fit an order 2 polynomial to each subinterval. This polynomial will exactly match the data at either end of the subinterval, as well as an mid-point.

We generally won't go into much detail on this method.

## Simpson's Method

Fit an order 2 polynomial,  $p_i(x)$ , to subinterval  $i$  that exactly matches the data points at either end of the subinterval, as well as an imaginary mid-point:

$$f_i(x_i) = ax_i^2 + bx_i + c$$

$$f_i\left(\frac{x_i + x_{i+1}}{2}\right) = \cancel{ax_i^2} + bx_i + c = a\left(\frac{x_i + x_{i+1}}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{x_i + x_{i+1}}{2} + c$$

$$f_i(x_{i+1}) = ax_{i+1}^2 + bx_{i+1} + c$$

i.e. the same as in piecewise linear interpolation. The area for subinterval  $i$  is:

$$I_i = \frac{y(x_i) + y(x_{i+1})}{2} (x_{i+1} - x_i)$$