

Lecture #16

02/15/2023

Example: (linear spline)

$$S(x) = \begin{cases} S_1(x) = x & \text{for } -1 \leq x \leq 0.5 \\ S_2(x) = 0.5 + 2(x - 0.5) & \text{for } 0.5 \leq x \leq 2 \\ S_3(x) = x + 1.5 & \text{for } 2 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$$

Question: Is $S(x)$ a linear spline?

Check: $S_1(0.5) = 0.5 = S_2(0.5) \quad \checkmark$

$$S_2(2) = 3.5 = S_3(2) \quad \checkmark$$

So, we have verified continuity at the two breakpoints: $x = 0.5$ and $x = 2$.

Example: (Cubic spline)

x_i	y_i
1	2
2	1
4	4
5	3

$i = 0, 1, 2, 3$

4 datapoints \Rightarrow

$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{three intervals} \\ \text{and} \\ \text{1 cubic polynomial} \\ \text{per interval} \end{array} \right.$

Claim: $S(x) = \begin{cases} S_1(x) = 2 - \frac{13}{8}(x-1) + \frac{5}{8}(x-1)^3 & \text{for } 1 \leq x \leq 2 \\ S_2(x) = 1 + \frac{x-2}{4} + \frac{15}{8}(x-2)^2 - \frac{5}{8}(x-2)^3 & \text{for } 2 \leq x \leq 4 \\ S_3(x) = 4 + \frac{x-4}{4} - \frac{15}{8}(x-4)^2 + \frac{5}{8}(x-4)^3 & \text{for } 4 \leq x \leq 5 \end{cases}$

is
a cubic
spline

How to check/verify?

$$S_1(2) = S_2(2)$$

$$S_1'(2) = S_2'(2)$$

$$S_1''(2) = S_2''(2)$$

AND

$$S_2(4) = S_3(4)$$

$$S_2'(4) = S_3'(4)$$

$$S_2''(4) = S_3''(4)$$

Linear spline in general:

$x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n$ \leftarrow ordered x -coordinates

$(n+1)$ datapoints

with $(n+1) - 2 = (n-1)$ breakpoints

There are n line segments to be determined

\Rightarrow $(2n)$ parameters/coefficients (a_i, b_i) to be
computed

Each piece has equation: $a_i x + b_i = 0$

for all $i = 1, \dots, n$

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How many equations we have got to determine these $2n$ unknowns?

Each breakpoint: 2 equations : total $2(n-1)$
equations

" boundary point: 1 equation : $1 \times 2 = 2$ equations

\therefore Total # of equations : $2(n-1) + 2 = \boxed{2n}$

Each equation is linear in unknowns (a_i, b_i)

\therefore We have got a square linear system of
size $\boxed{2n}$

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$$\underbrace{A}_{2n \times 2n \text{ known}} \underbrace{c}_{2n \times 1 \text{ unknown}} = \underbrace{y}_{2n \times 1 \text{ known}}$$

$$\underline{c} := \left(\begin{array}{c} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ \hline a_2 \\ b_2 \\ \hline a_3 \\ b_3 \\ \hline \vdots \\ \hline a_n \\ b_n \end{array} \right)$$

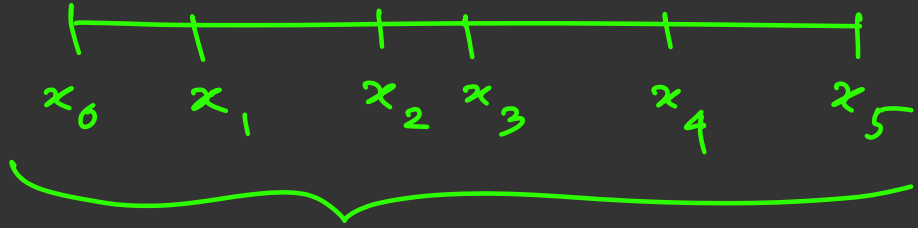
Example: (linear spline again) Suppose $n = 5$

We have

$$\text{total } 2n = 2 \times 5$$

$$= 10$$

unknowns



$$n + 1 = 5 + 1 = 6 \text{ datapoints}$$

$$y_0 = a_1 x_0 + b_1$$

$$y_1 = a_1 x_1 + b_1$$

$$y_1 = a_2 x_1 + b_2$$

$$y_2 = a_2 x_2 + b_2$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\vdots$$

$$\vdots$$

$$y_5 = a_5 x_5 + b_5$$

Boundary point evaluations

Interior/breakpoint evaluations

In matrix-vector form:

$$\underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} x_0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ x_1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & x_2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & 0 & x_5 & 1 \end{pmatrix}}_{\substack{A \\ 10 \times 10}} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_5 \\ b_5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\substack{c \\ 10 \times 1}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \\ y_4 \\ y_5 \end{pmatrix}}_{\substack{y \\ 10 \times 1}}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow A c = y \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{solve by} \\ \text{MATLAB } A \backslash y \end{array}$$

Exercise: (Quadratic spline)

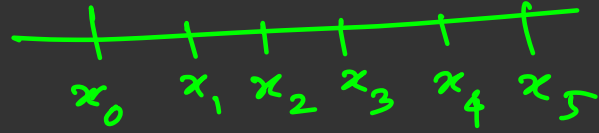
Unknown
coefficient vector
to be computed

$$3 \times 5 = 15$$

unknowns

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \\ c_1 \\ a_2 \\ b_2 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_5 \\ b_5 \\ c_5 \end{pmatrix}$$

15×1



leads to solving
a square linear
system
with
"natural boundary
conditions"

See details in CANVAS File Section: folder "Supplementary
Notes" → degree d Splines.

Idea # 2 : Function approximation / regression :

Interpolation problems : ^{Solve} Square linear system

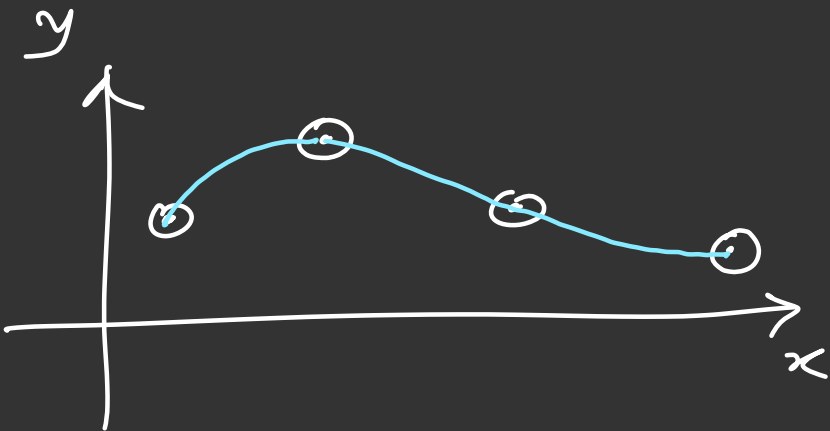
$$\underbrace{A}_{n \times n \text{ (known)}} \underbrace{x}_{n \times 1 \text{ (unknown)}} = \underbrace{b}_{n \times 1 \text{ (known)}}$$

Regression / Function approximation problems :

$$\underbrace{A}_{m \times n \text{ (known)}} \underbrace{x}_{n \times 1 \text{ (unknown)}} = \underbrace{b}_{m \times 1 \text{ (known)}}, \quad m > n$$

More equations , less unknowns \Leftrightarrow A is a "tall" matrix.
(m) (n) $m \times n$

Interpolation



Function approximation/ regression

