

## Section 3.1: Lagrange Polynomials

Tuesday, February 9, 2021 8:50 AM

We use polynomials b/c they are "nice" (easy to differentiate or integrate)

Thm Weierstrass Approx. Thm

Suppose  $f$  is defined & cont on  $[a, b]$ . For each

$\epsilon > 0 \exists$  a polynomial  $P(x)$  such that

"there exists"  $\underbrace{|f(x) - P(x)|}_{\text{abs error}} < \epsilon \quad \forall x \in [a, b]$  "for all"

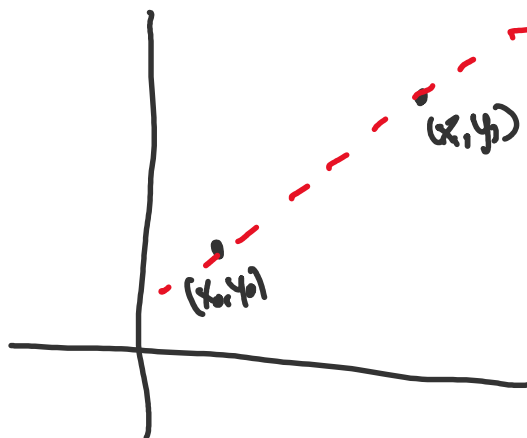
ex Find equation of line passing thru  $(x_0, y_0)$ ,  $(x_1, y_1)$

find slope:

$$m = \frac{(y_1 - y_0)}{(x_1 - x_0)}$$

find intercept

$$b = y_0 - \frac{(y_1 - y_0)}{(x_1 - x_0)} x_0$$



To put all together

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

We can do this in a slightly different way.   
 *at x=0*

Define

$$L_0(x) = \frac{x - x_1}{x_0 - x_1}$$

← 0 at  $x = x_1$   
← 1 at  $x = x_0$

$$L_1(x) = \frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0}$$

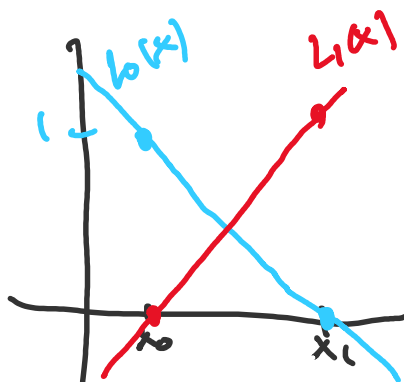
← 1 at  $x = x_1$   
← 0 at  $x = x_0$

$L_0(x)$ ,  $L_1(x)$  are linear,

$$L_0(x) = 0 \text{ if } x = x_1$$

$$L_1(x) = 0 \text{ if } x = x_0$$

Then the linear  
Lagrange interpolating  
polynomial



$$P(x) = L_0(x) \cdot \underbrace{f(x_0)}_{y_0} + L_1(x) \cdot \underbrace{f(x_1)}_{y_1}$$

Sanity check!

$$\text{Does } P(x_0) = y_0?$$

$$\text{Does } P(x_1) = y_1?$$

Ex Find Lagrange Interpolating polynomial thru  
 $(2, 4)$ ,  $(5, 1)$

$$L_0(x) = \frac{x - x_1}{x_0 - x_1} = \frac{x - 5}{2 - 5}$$

$$L_1(x) = \frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0} = \frac{x - 2}{5 - 2}$$

} "Lagrange  
Polynomials"

$$P(x) = L_0(x) \cdot y_0 + L_1(x) \cdot y_1$$

$$= \left(\frac{x-5}{-3}\right) 4 + \left(\frac{x-2}{3}\right) \cdot 1$$

$$= 6 - x.$$

What if we have more than 2 points?

Generalize!

To construct  $P(x)$  such that it passes thru

$$\{(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)\}$$

we will create a basis of polynomials of degree  $n$  such that  $L_k(x) = 1$  when  $x = x_k$  and  $L_k(x) = 0$  when  $x = x_j, j \neq k$ .

Then the interpolating polynomial is

$$P(x) = y_0 L_0(x) + y_1 L_1(x) + \dots + y_n L_n(x).$$

ex/ Let's start with 3 points

Want to find  $L_0(x)$ , such

that

$$\underline{L_0(x_0) = 1}, \quad \underline{L_0(x_1) = 0}, \quad \underline{L_0(x_2) = 0}.$$

gives 0 at  $x_1, x_2$

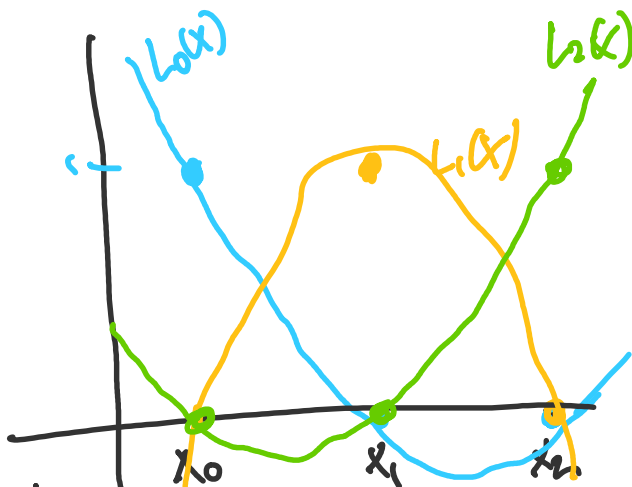
$$(x - x_1)(x - x_2)$$

if i plug in  $x_0$  above

$$(x_0 - x_1)(x_0 - x_2)$$

ensures  $L_0(x_0) = 1$

$$L_0(x) = \frac{(x - x_1)(x - x_2)}{(x_0 - x_1)(x_0 - x_2)}$$



Now find  $L_1(x)$  such that

$$L_1(x_0)=0 \quad L_1(x_1)=1, \quad L_1(x_2)=0.$$

$$L_1(x) = \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_2)}{(x_1-x_0)(x_1-x_2)} \quad \text{*check*}$$

$$\text{Now find } L_2(x) : L_2(x) = \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_1)}{(x_2-x_0)(x_2-x_1)}$$

To find  $P(x)$

$$P(x) = y_0 L_0(x) + y_1 L_1(x) + y_2 L_2(x)$$

Thm

If  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  are  $n+1$  distinct numbers and  $f$  is a function whose values are given at those numbers  $(y_0, y_1, \dots, y_n)$  then a unique polynomial  $P(x)$  of degree at most  $n$  exists w/

$$f(x_k) = y_k = P(x_k) \quad \text{for } k=0, 1, \dots, n$$

& the polynomial is given by

$$P(x) = f(x_0) L_0(x) + f(x_1) L_1(x) + \dots$$

$$P(x) = f(x_0) L_0(x) + \dots + f(x_n) L_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n f(x_k) L_k(x)$$

where

$$L_k(x) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^n \frac{(x-x_i)}{(x_k-x_i)}$$

ensures that  $L_k(x_i) = 0$

"Lagrange Polynomials"

ensures  $L_k(x_k) = 1$

$$L_0(x) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq 0}}^2 \frac{(x-x_i)}{(x_0-x_i)}$$

$$x = [0, 0.1, 2]$$

ex

Given  $(0, 1.3), (1, -1.2), (2, \sqrt{3})$  find the Lagrange

Interpolating polynomial going thru all points.

$$L_0(x) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq 0}}^2 \frac{(x-x_i)}{(x_0-x_i)} = \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)}{(x_0-x_1)(x_0-x_2)}$$

$$= \frac{(x-1)(x-2)}{(0-1)(0-2)} = \frac{(x-1)(x-2)}{2}$$

step 1  
Find  $L_0$

$$L_1(x) = \frac{x^2 - 2x}{-1}$$

$$L_2(x) = \frac{x^2 - x}{2}$$

left as exercise  
for students :)

$$P(x) = \underbrace{1.3}_{y_0} \underbrace{\frac{(x-1)(x-2)}{2}}_{L_0(x)} - \underbrace{1.2}_{y_1} \underbrace{\frac{x(x-2)}{-1}}_{L_1(x)} + \underbrace{\sqrt{3}}_{y_2} \underbrace{\frac{x(x-1)}{2}}_{L_2(x)}$$

step 2  
Find  $P$

$$L_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq 1}}^2 \frac{(x-x_i)}{(x_1-x_i)}$$

$$= \frac{(x-x_0)}{(x_1-x_0)} \cdot \frac{(x-x_2)}{(x_1-x_2)}$$

Pseudocode

inputs:  $x_{\text{dat}}$ ,  $y_{\text{dat}}$ ,  $x$

outputs:  $L$ ,  $y$

$\uparrow$  matrix

initialize  $L$ ,  $y$ .

$(\text{length}(x), \text{length}(\text{dat}x))$

for  $k$  range from 1 to  $N$

$\leftarrow \text{length}(\text{dat}x)$   
col. each  $L_k$

column vector of the  $x$  locations we want to interpolate over.

column vector of  $P$  values

Step 1:  
Creating  
 $L_k(x)$

for  $i$  going from 1 to N

for  $j$  going from 1 to length( $k$ )

if  $i = k$

$L = L$  (skip)

else

run column  $\rightarrow$

$L_{ij,k} = L_{ij,k}$

$L_k = L_k$

end % if

end % for

end % for

$L =$

Step 2:  
Creating  
interpolant

for  $k$  going from 1 to N

$y = y + \text{dat}y(k) \cdot L_k$

end % for

$k$ th col of  $L$

|        |          |             |             |             |             |
|--------|----------|-------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|
|        |          | $(0.5)$     | $(0.7)$     | $(1.3)$     | $(1.5)$     |
|        |          | $L_0$       | $L_1$       | $L_2$       | $L_n$       |
| $0.25$ | $x(1)$   | $L_0(x(1))$ | $L_1(x(1))$ | $L_2(x(1))$ | $L_n(x(1))$ |
| $1.2$  | $x(2)$   | $L_0(x(2))$ | $L_1(x(2))$ | $L_2(x(2))$ | $L_n(x(2))$ |
| $0.5$  | $\vdots$ | $\vdots$    | $\vdots$    | $\vdots$    | $\vdots$    |
|        | $x(m)$   | $L_0(x(m))$ | $L_1(x(m))$ | $L_2(x(m))$ | $L_n(x(m))$ |

$$y = \begin{pmatrix} p(x(1)) \\ p(x(2)) \\ \vdots \\ p(x(m)) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$L_0 \text{ dat}y(1) \cdot L_1$$

$$p(x(n)) = \text{dat}y(1) \cdot L_0(x(n))$$

$$+ \text{dat}y(2) \cdot L_1(x(n))$$

$$\vdots$$

+ data points

ex / 4 data points

(0.5, 0.7), (0.7, 1), (1.3, 2), (1.5, 2.2)

let's create L.P

(1) Make Lagrange polynomial,  $L_k(x)$ .

want

$$L_k(x_k) = 1$$

$$L_k(x_i) = 0, \quad i \neq k$$

$$L_0(x) = \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)(x-x_3)}{(x_0-x_1)(x_0-x_2)(x_0-x_3)}$$

$$L_0(x_0) = \frac{x_0-x_1}{x_0-x_1} \cdot \frac{x_0-x_2}{x_0-x_2} \cdot \frac{x_0-x_3}{x_0-x_3} = 1$$

$$L_0(x) = \frac{(x-0.7)(x-1.3)(x-1.5)}{(0.5-0.7)(0.5-1.3)(0.5-1.5)}$$

$$(2) \quad L_1(x) = \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_2)(x-x_3)}{(x_1-x_0)(x_1-x_2)(x_1-x_3)}$$

$$\begin{cases} L_0(x_0) = 1 & L_1(x_0) = 0 \\ L_0(x_1) = 0 & L_1(x_1) = 1 \\ L_0(x_2) = 0 & L_1(x_2) = 0 \\ L_0(x_3) = 0 & L_1(x_3) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$P(x) = y_0 L_0(x) + y_1 L_1(x) + y_2 L_2(x) + y_3 L_3(x)$$

$$P(x_0) = y_0 \underbrace{L_0(x_0)}_1 + y_1 \underbrace{L_1(x_0)}_0 + y_2 \underbrace{L_2(x_0)}_0 + y_3 \underbrace{L_3(x_0)}_0$$

$$\downarrow$$

$$P(x_0) = y_0$$