

Set 25: Multidimensional Polynomial Interpolation

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Multidimensional Interpolation

Let $f(v) : \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a given function and domain.

We are given $k + 1$ points $v_i \in \mathbb{R}^n$, and values $f(v_i) \in \mathbb{R}$ for $0 \leq i \leq k$.

We seek a function $p(v)$ in some class of functions such that $p(v_i) = f(v_i)$ for $0 \leq i \leq k$ and possibly satisfying additional constraints, e.g., smoothness or piecewise polynomials etc.

We consider here the problem of $p(v) \in \mathbb{P}_d^n$, polynomials in n variables of degree at most d .

The Space

\mathbb{P}_d^n , the space of polynomials in n variables of degree d , is easily described in terms of the associated monomials of n variables.

Definition 25.1. Let $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ have $e_i^T v = \nu_i$. A multivariate monomial in \mathbb{P}_d^n has the form

$$v^D = \nu_1^{d_1} \nu_2^{d_2} \cdots \nu_{n-1}^{d_{n-1}} \nu_n^{d_n}$$

where $D = (d_1, \dots, d_n)$.

The degree of the monomial v^D is $\deg(v^D) = \sum_{i=1}^n d_i$.

Any $p(v) \in \mathbb{P}_d^n$ can be expressed uniquely with $\alpha_j \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}$ as

$$p(v) = \sum_{j=1}^J \alpha_j v^{D_j}$$

and $\deg(p) = \max_j (\deg(D_j)) \leq d$.

Dimension of the Space

Lemma. \mathbb{P}_d^n is a linear space with dimension

$$\dim(d, n) = \dim(\mathbb{P}_d^n) = \binom{n+d}{n}$$

$\dim(d, n)$ has the following values:

| n | $d = 1$ | $d = 5$ | $d = 10$ | $d = 15$ |
|-----|---------|---------|-----------|-------------|
| 1 | 2 | 6 | 11 | 16 |
| 5 | 6 | 252 | 3003 | 15,504 |
| 10 | 11 | 3003 | 184,756 | 3,268,760 |
| 15 | 16 | 15,504 | 3,268,760 | 155,117,520 |

Dimension Examples

$$(d, n) = (d, 1) \rightarrow \dim(d, 1) = \binom{d+1}{d} = d+1$$

$$p(\nu) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1\nu + \cdots + \alpha_d\nu^d$$

$$(d, n) = (2, 1) \rightarrow \dim(2, 2) = \binom{4}{2} = 6$$

$$p(\nu_1, \nu_2) = \alpha_0\nu_1^2 + \alpha_1\nu_2^2 + \alpha_2\nu_1\nu_2 + \alpha_3\nu_1 + \alpha_4\nu_2 + \alpha_5$$

Interpolation

Theorem 25.1. *Given v_1, \dots, v_k , there exists an interpolating $p^* \in \mathbb{P}_d^n$ through the points $(v_1, f(v_1)), \dots, (v_k, f(v_k))$ for any values of $f(v_1), \dots, f(v_k)$ if and only if the k linear functionals $\mu_i : \mathbb{P}_d^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$*

$$\mu_i(p) = p(v_i)$$

are linearly independent. The interpolating p^ is unique if and only if $k = \dim(d, n)$.*

Note. Since $k \ll \dim(d, n)$ in practice, one might choose a subspace of dimension k and a basis for an approximation. Alternatively, domain $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ could be restricted.

Example

(from Ueberhuber)

Suppose $n = 2$ and $d = 1$. We seek $p^*(v) \in \mathbb{P}_1^2$ so we have

$$p(v) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1\nu_1 + \alpha_2\nu_2, \quad v = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

Given the points

$$v_1 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad v_3 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

there is not an interpolating $p^*(v)$ for any set $f(v_1), f(v_2), f(v_3)$.

Example

To see this note:

$$\mu_1(p) = \alpha_0$$

$$\mu_2(p) = \alpha_0 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_1 + \frac{1}{2}\alpha_2$$

$$\mu_3(p) = \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f(v_1) \\ f(v_2) \\ f(v_3) \end{pmatrix}$$

Since the matrix is singular, i.e., the μ_i are dependent, p^* does not exist for all $f(v_i)$ data.

Altered Domain

Suppose $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is taken to be a rectangle

$$\Omega = \mathcal{R} = \{(x, y) \mid a \leq x \leq b \text{ and } c \leq y \leq d\}$$

Further, constrain the interpolation points to be a 2-dimensional mesh within \mathcal{R} .

- discretize $a \leq x \leq b \rightarrow x_i, \quad 0 \leq i \leq n$
- discretize $c \leq y \leq d \rightarrow y_i, \quad 0 \leq i \leq m$
- $h_x = \max_i(x_{i+1} - x_i), h_y = \max_i(y_{i+1} - y_i), h = \max(h_x, h_y)$

Lagrange in Two Dimensions

We want

$$p(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m f_{ij} \phi_{ij}(x, y)$$

$$\phi_{ij}(x_j, y_k) = \delta_{ij,jk}$$

Easily solved in the subclass of multivariate polynomials $\mathbb{P}_{n,m}$ that are a polynomial of degree n in x and of degree m in y , i.e.,

$$p(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m \alpha_{ij} x^i y^j$$

Note. This is not the same class as \mathbb{P}_d^n . Here the maximum degree in each is specified, not the sum of degrees.

Lagrange in Two Dimensions

We easily see that

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_{ij}(x, y) &= \ell_i(x)\ell_j(y) \\ \phi_{ij}(x_j, y_k) &= \delta_{ij,jk} \quad 0 \leq i \leq n, \quad 0 \leq j \leq m\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\ell_i(x) &= \frac{\prod_{k \neq i}(x - x_k)}{\prod_{k \neq i}(x_i - x_k)} \\ \ell_j(y) &= \frac{\prod_{k \neq j}(y - y_k)}{\prod_{k \neq j}(y_j - y_k)}\end{aligned}$$

Note. The $\phi_{ij}(x, y)$ are known as 2-d shape functions.

Lagrange in Two Dimensions

Theorem 25.2. *Given a mesh $x_i, 0 \leq i \leq n, y_i, 0 \leq i \leq m$ and function values $f(x_i, y_j) = f_{ij}$ at each point in that mesh, the unique interpolating polynomial of degree n in x and degree m in y is*

$$p(x, y) = \sum_{i=0}^n \sum_{j=0}^m f_{ij} \ell_i(x) \ell_j(y)$$

where $\ell_i(x)$ and $\ell_j(y)$ are the Lagrange characteristic polynomials associated with the x_i and y_j respectively.

Basic Results

Lemma. $\mathbb{P}_{n,m}$ on a rectangular mesh is a linear space of dimension $d = (m + 1)(n + 1)$ and the shape functions $\phi_{ij}(x, y)$ are a basis.

Theorem 25.3. Let $f(x, y) \in \mathcal{C}^{n+1,m+1}$ on the rectangle \mathcal{R} on which the mesh is defined. The interpolating polynomial of degree n in x and degree m in y satisfies

$$\|f - p\|_{\infty} \leq \beta_{mn} \max(h_x^{n+1}, h_y^{m+1})$$

β_{mn} is a constant with respect to (x, y) that is a function of $\|D_y^{m+1} f\|_{\infty}$ and $\|D_x^{n+1} f\|_{\infty}$, and $D_y^{m+1} f$ and $D_x^{n+1} f$ are the $m + 1$ -st and $n + 1$ -t partial derivatives of f in y and x respectively.

Piecewise Lagrange in Two Dimensions

- global 2-d Lagrange interpolating polynomials have similar properties to those of one dimension.
- Runge's phenomenon gets even worse.
- Solution is to define piecewise polynomials on each small rectangle defined by the mesh.
- Each local polynomial is in $\mathbb{P}_{n,m}$.
- Often $m = n$ resulting in
 - $m = n = 1 \rightarrow$ bilinear polynomials
 - $m = n = 2 \rightarrow$ biquadratic polynomials
 - $m = n = 3 \rightarrow$ bicubic polynomials or bicubic splines

Piecewise Bilinear Lagrange Interpolation

Let $x_i \leq x \leq x_{i+1}$ and $y_{j-1} \leq y \leq y_j$ define the local rectangle R_{ij} .

The local bilinear interpolating polynomial defined on R_{ij} is

$$p_{i,j}(x, y) = f_{i,j} \ell_{i,j}^{(ij)}(x, y) + f_{i+1,j} \ell_{i+1,j}^{(ij)}(x, y)$$

$$+ f_{i,j-1} \ell_{i,j-1}^{(ij)}(x, y) + f_{i+1,j-1} \ell_{i+1,j-1}^{(ij)}(x, y)$$

$$\ell_{i,j}^{(ij)}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_{i+1})}{(x_i - x_{i+1})} \frac{(y - y_{j-1})}{(y_j - y_{j-1})}$$

$$\ell_{i,j-1}^{(ij)}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_{i+1})}{(x_i - x_{i+1})} \frac{(y - y_j)}{(y_{j-1} - y_j)}$$

$$\ell_{i+1,j}^{(ij)}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_i)}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)} \frac{(y - y_{j-1})}{(y_j - y_{j-1})}$$

$$\ell_{i+1,j-1}^{(ij)}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_i)}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)} \frac{(y - y_j)}{(y_{j-1} - y_j)}$$

Piecewise Bilinear Lagrange Interpolation

- This can be expressed in terms of basis functions $\phi_{ij}(x, y)$ that have local support.
- an interior point (x_i, y_j) is the meeting point of 4 rectangles
 - upper left – $R_{i-1,j+1}$
 - lower left – $R_{i-1,j}$
 - upper right – $R_{i,j+1}$
 - lower right – $R_{i,j}$
- 9 points are involved
 - upper row – $(x_{i-1}, y_{j+1}), (x_i, y_{j+1}), (x_{i+1}, y_{j+1})$
 - middle row – $(x_{i-1}, y_j), (x_i, y_j), (x_{i+1}, y_j)$
 - lower row – $(x_{i-1}, y_{j-1}), (x_i, y_{j-1}), (x_{i+1}, y_{j-1})$

Piecewise Bilinear Lagrange Interpolation

As before take the coefficient of f_{ij} from the local polynomial of each to define basis function

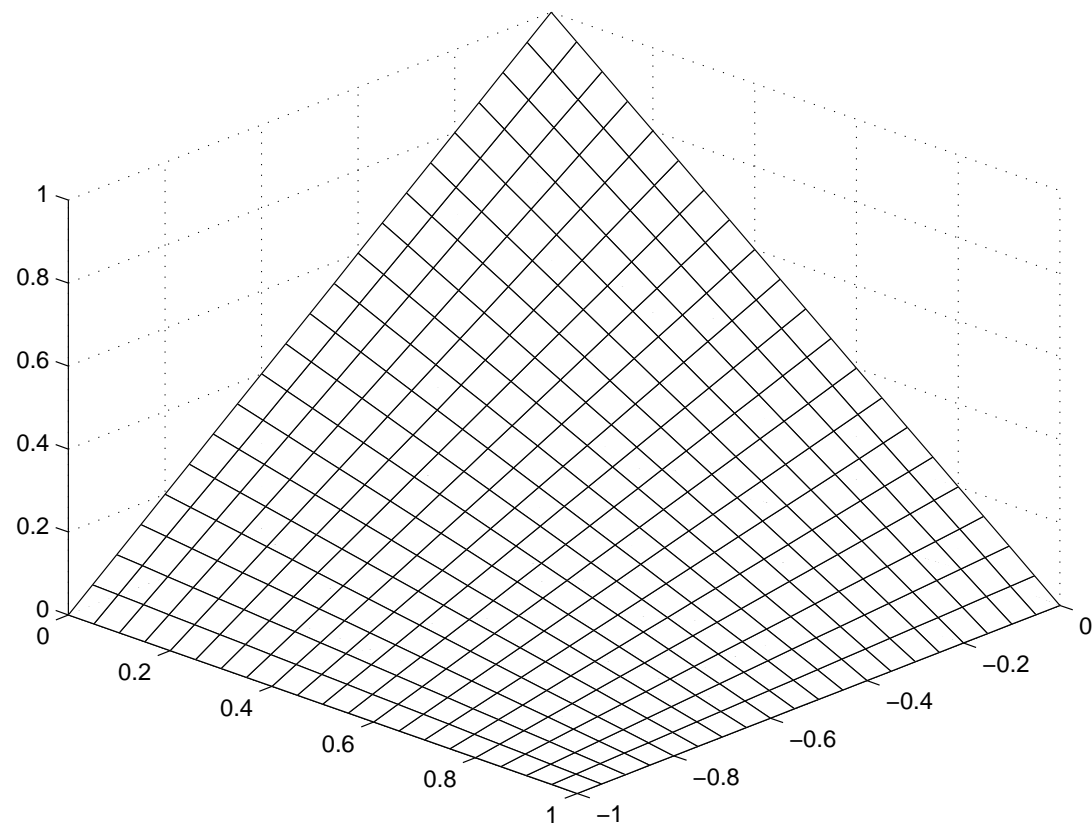
$$\phi_{ij}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_{i+1})}{(x_i - x_{i+1})} \frac{(y - y_{j-1})}{(y_j - y_{j-1})} \text{ on } R_{i,j}$$

$$\phi_{ij}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_{i+1})}{(x_i - x_{i+1})} \frac{(y - y_{j+1})}{(y_j - y_{j+1})} \text{ on } R_{i,j+1}$$

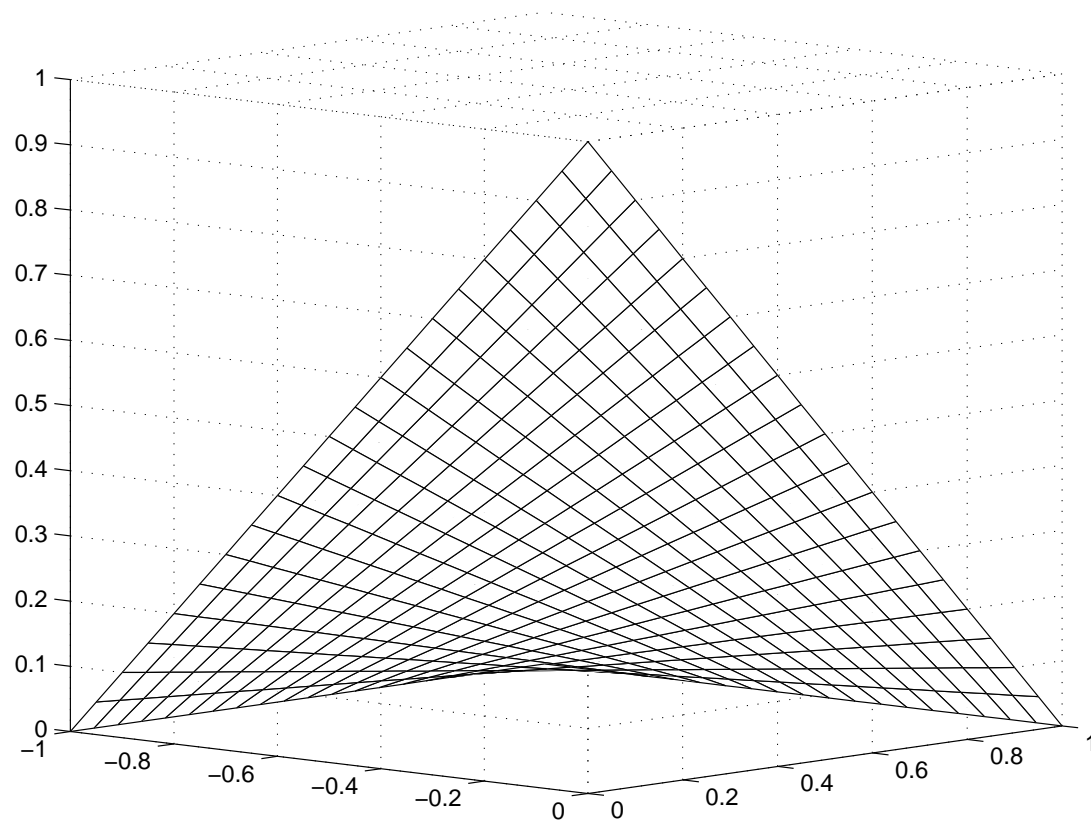
$$\phi_{ij}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_{i-1})}{(x_i - x_{i-1})} \frac{(y - y_{j+1})}{(y_j - y_{j+1})} \text{ on } R_{i-1,j+1}$$

$$\phi_{ij}(x, y) = \frac{(x - x_{i-1})}{(x_i - x_{i-1})} \frac{(y - y_{j-1})}{(y_j - y_{j-1})} \text{ on } R_{i-1,j}$$

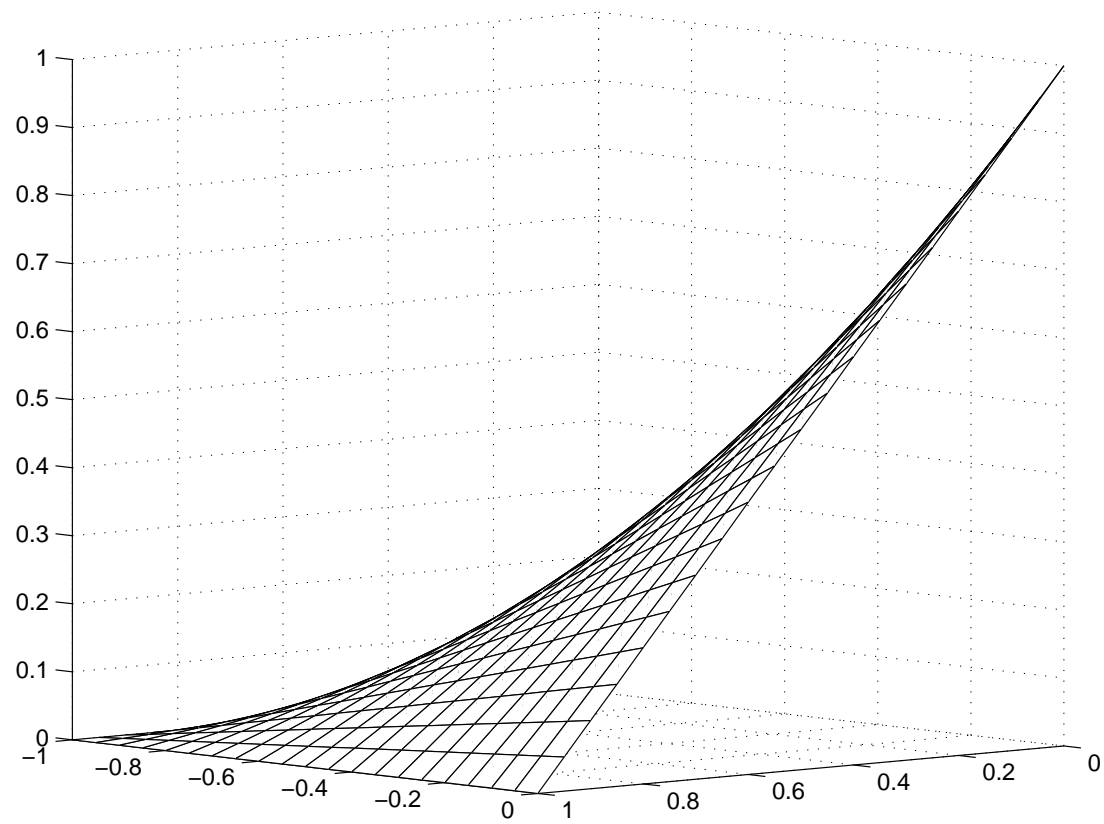
Bilinear Basis



Bilinear Basis



Bilinear Basis



Piecewise Bilinear Lagrange Interpolation

- The error follows trivially from the earlier Lagrange 2-d error

$$\|f - p\|_{\infty} \leq \beta_{11} h^2$$

- Bicubic splines on each R_{ij} possible
- Biquadratic on each set of 4 local rectangles possible.

Triangulation

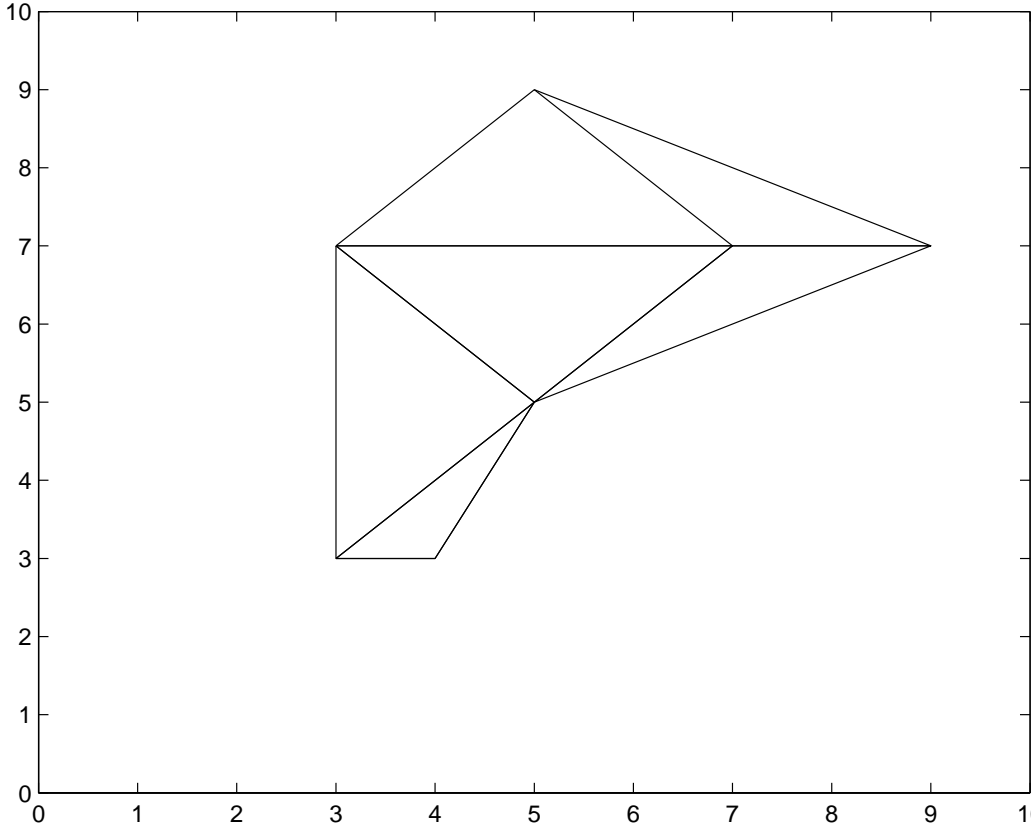
- more complicated domains Ω are discretized differently
- mesh points define the vertices of disjoint triangles
- the union of the triangles approximates Ω
- triangles vary in area
- easy to adapt and add triangles
- main concern is keeping angles large enough
- a very large literature exists on such mesh generation

Proper Triangulation

A set of triangles must satisfy:

- The set of all vertices is the partition π , i.e., no extra or missing points
- Each pair of triangles (T_i, T_j) either
 - intersect at exactly one vertex
 - intersect at exactly one complete side
 - do not intersect
- the union of the T_i and their interiors is Ω

Triangulations



Method of Plates

- Each triangle, T_i , has three vertices: $p_0^{(i)}, p_1^{(i)}, p_2^{(i)}$
- Three points and associate function values define a plane surface above $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$
- The equation has the form

$$g_i(x, y) = \rho_i x + \mu_i y + \gamma_i$$

where the coefficients depend on $f(p_0^{(i)}), f(p_1^{(i)}), f(p_2^{(i)})$

- It can also be written as a combination of $f(p_0^{(i)}), f(p_1^{(i)}), f(p_2^{(i)})$ as before.

Method of Plates

A basis function can be determined for $f(p_j)$ by considering the plane on T with $g(p_0) = 1, g(p_1) = g(p_2) = 0$.

$$\tilde{g}(x, y) = 1 - \frac{(y - y_2)}{(y_1 - y_2)} - \frac{(x - x_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)} \text{ and } g(x, y) = \frac{\tilde{g}(x, y)}{\tilde{g}(x_0, y_0)}$$

$$\tilde{g}(x_1, y_1) = 1 - \frac{(y_1 - y_2)}{(y_1 - y_2)} - \frac{(x_1 - x_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)} = 0$$

$$\tilde{g}(x_2, y_2) = 1 - \frac{(y_2 - y_2)}{(y_1 - y_2)} - \frac{(x_2 - x_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)} = 0$$

$$\tilde{g}(x_0, y_0) = 1 - \frac{(y_0 - y_2)}{(y_1 - y_2)} - \frac{(x_0 - x_1)}{(x_2 - x_1)} \neq 0$$

It follows that $\phi_j(x, y)$ is defined by $g_i(x, y)$ on each T_i for which $p_j = p_0^{(i)}$.

Method of Plates

- The interpolating piecewise function $s_1(x, y)$ is

$$s_1(x, y) = \sum_i^n f(p_i) \phi_i(x, y)$$

- $s_1(x, y)$ is continuous on Ω
- $\frac{\partial s_1}{\partial x}(x, y)$ and $\frac{\partial s_1}{\partial y}(x, y)$ in general are not continuous.
- If h is the length of the longest edge of all T_i and $f \in \mathcal{C}^1[\Omega]$ then

$$\|f - s_1\|_{\infty} \leq \beta_1 h$$

Other Methods

- piecewise quadratic over each triangle
- often there is a reference triangle and coordinate system
- triangles in Ω are worked with by transforming between coordinate systems
- identifying basis is often important to analyze methods
- local coordinate system might be “spectral” or in terms of a more complicated approximation similar to our discussions later in this class
- finite elements, finite volume, spectral methods, etc.