

# Computational methods and applications (AMS 147)

## Homework 3, due Friday Feb 15

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Please submit to CANVAS a .zip file that includes the following Matlab functions:

```
Lagrange_interpolation.m  
test_Lagrange_interpolation.m  
compute_Lebesgue_function.m  
Lebesgue_constants_and_errors.m
```

**Exercise 1** Write a function `Lagrange_interpolation.m` that computes the Lagrangian interpolant of a given set of data points  $(x_i, y_i)$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots$ . The function should be of the form

```
function [y] = Lagrange_interpolation(xi,yi,x)
```

*Input:*

`xi`: vector of interpolation nodes

`yi`: vector of data points at the interpolation nodes

`x`: vector of points at which we want to evaluate the Lagrange polynomial interpolant

*Output:*

`y`: vector representing the Lagrange polynomial interpolant evaluated at `x`

Hint: Compare the output of your function with the output of the Matlab/Octave built-in function,

```
y=polyval(polyfit(xi,yi,length(xi)-1),x)
```

(see the Matlab/Octave documentation).

**Exercise 2** Consider the nonlinear function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + \sin(2\pi x)^2}, \quad x \in [-1, 1]. \quad (1)$$

By using the Matlab function you coded in Exercise 1, determine the Lagrangian interpolant of  $f$ , i.e. the polynomial  $\Pi_N f(x)$  that interpolates the set of data  $\{x_i, f(x_i)\}_{i=0,\dots,N}$  in the following cases:

- Evenly-spaced grid with  $N + 1$  points

$$x_j = -1 + 2 \frac{j}{N}, \quad j = 0, \dots, N \quad (2)$$

- Unevenly-spaced grid with  $N + 1$  points (Chebyshev-Gauss-Lobatto points)

$$x_j = \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{N}j\right), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, N, \quad (3)$$

In particular, write a Matlab function `test_Lagrange_interpolation.m`

```
function [x,f,P1,P2,P3,P4]=test_Lagrange_interpolation()
```

that returns the following items:

`x`: vector of 1000 evenly-spaced nodes<sup>1</sup> in  $[-1, 1]$ .

`f`: vector representing (1) evaluated at `x`.

`P1`: Lagrangian interpolant of (1) built on the grid (2) with  $N = 14$ , and evaluated at `x`.

`P2`: Lagrangian interpolant of (1) built on the grid (2) with  $N = 40$ , and evaluated at `x`.

`P3`: Lagrangian interpolant of (1) built on the grid (3) with  $N = 14$ , and evaluated at `x`.

`P4`: Lagrangian interpolant of (1) built on the grid (3) with  $N = 40$ , and evaluated at `x`.

The function should also plot (1) (in blue) and the Lagrangian interpolants (in red) obtained by using both the evenly-spaced and the unevenly-spaced grids for the cases  $N = 14$  and  $N = 40$  (4 different figures). Each figure should include the graph of  $f(x)$ , the data points  $\{x_i, f(x_i)\}$ , and the interpolant  $\Pi_N f(x)$  through those points.

Hint: See the code uploaded in CANVAS for examples of similar plots.

**Exercise 3** Let  $\{l_i(x)\}_{i=0,\dots,N}$  be the set of Lagrange characteristic polynomials associated with the nodes  $\{x_j\}_{j=0,\dots,N}$ . We have seen in class that the polynomial interpolation error is related to the Lebesgue function

$$\lambda_N(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N |l_j(x)| \quad (\text{Lebesgue function}), \quad (4)$$

and the Lebesgue constant

$$\Lambda_N = \max_{x \in [-1,1]} \lambda_N(x) \quad (\text{Lebesgue constant}). \quad (5)$$

- Given the vector of interpolation nodes `xi=[xi(1) ... xi(N+1)]`, write a Matlab/Octave

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<sup>1</sup>Use the Matlab command `x=linspace(-1,1,1000)` to generate a vector of 1000 evenly spaced nodes in  $[-1, 1]$ .

function `computeLebesgue_function.m` that returns the Lebesgue function (4) and the Lebesgue constant (5). Such function should be of the form

```
function [lambda,L]=computeLebesgue_function(xi,x)
```

*Input:*

`xi`: vector of interpolation nodes `xi=[xi(1) ... xi(N+1)]`

`x`: vector of points at which we want to evaluate the Lebesgue function

*Output:*

`lambda`: Lebesgue function  $\lambda_N(x)$  evaluated at `x`.

`L`: Lebesgue constant  $\Lambda_N$ , computed by taking the maximum of the vector `lambda`.

2. Apply the function `computeLebesgue_function(xi,x)` to the four cases of evenly- and unevenly-spaced grids you studied in Exercise 2. To this end, set `x` to be a vector of 1000 evenly-spaced nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  (including endpoints), and write a function

```
function [L1,L2,L3,L4,e1,e2,e3,e4]=Lebesgue_constants_and_errors()
```

that plots the Lebesgue function (4) for the aforementioned four cases (4 different Figures). The function should also return the value of the Lebesgue constants `L1, L2, L3, L4` and the maximum point-wise errors `e1, e2, e3, e4` defined as

$$\max_{i=1,\dots,1000} |f(x(i)) - \Pi_N f(x(i))| \quad (6)$$

for each case you studied in Exercise 2.

Remark: Recall, that the smaller the Lebesgue constant the smaller the approximation error of the Lagrangian polynomial interpolation. If fact, we have seen in class that

$$\|f(x) - \Pi_N f(x)\|_\infty \leq (1 + \Lambda_N) \inf_{\psi \in \mathbb{P}_N} \|f(x) - \psi(x)\|_\infty. \quad (7)$$