

Newton's Divided Differences:

$$P(x) = f[x_1] + f[x_1x_2](x - x_1) + f[x_1x_2x_3](x - x_1)(x - x_2) + \dots$$

$$\begin{aligned} f[x_k] &= f(x_k) \\ f[x_kx_{k+1}] &= \frac{f[x_{k+1}] - f[x_k]}{x_{k+1} - x_k} \\ f[x_kx_{k+1}x_{k+2}] &= \frac{f[x_{k+1}x_{k+2}] - f[x_kx_{k+1}]}{x_{k+2} - x_k} \dots \end{aligned}$$

Interpolation Error Formula: $f(x) - P(x) = \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)\dots(x-x_n)}{n!} f^{(n)}(c)$

Here c must be between the largest and smallest x_n .

Chebyshev Nodes: The choices for n points on the interval $[-1, 1]$ to interpolate a function with the minimized maximum error are given by $x_i = \cos\left(\frac{(2i-1)\pi}{2n}\right)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$. The minimum error is then $\frac{1}{2^{n-1}}$

Continuous Least Squares

$E = \|f(x) - P(x)\|^2 = \int_a^b (f(x) - P(x))^2 dx$ $\langle f, g \rangle = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x) dx$
Beginning with $\{1, x, x^2, \dots\}$ the Gram-Schmidt process yields $\{1, x, x^2 - \frac{1}{3}, x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x, x^4 - \frac{6}{7}x^2 + \frac{3}{35}, \dots\}$ for the Legendre Polynomials. (This is on $[-1, 1]$ only!); The solution to the least square error problem is $P(x) = a_0l_0(x) + a_1l_1(x) + \dots$ where $a_i = \frac{\langle f, l_i \rangle}{\langle l_i, l_i \rangle}$

Discrete Least Squares

Use general forms of polynomials $y = a + bx$ for linear regression, $y = a + bx + cx^2$ for quadratic regression, etc. Make a system of equations by plugging in x and y for each point. This system forms a matrix equation: $A\bar{x} = b$ This system can be solved using $A^T A \bar{x} = A^T b$. The solution can be found using the augmented matrix $[A^T A | A^T b]$.