Modeling of bending-torsion couplings in active-bending structures. Application to the design of elastic gridshell.



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B Parabolic interpolation

B.1 Introduction

In this appendix, we give the required formulas to conduct a parabolic interpolation of a scalar or vector-valued function over an interval.

We look for a polynomial interpolation of order 2 of a continuous scalar or vector-valued function $\mathbf{V}: t \mapsto \mathbf{V}(t)$ over the interval $[t_0, t_2]$; supposing that the value of the function is known for three distinct parameters $t_0 < t_1 < t_2$:

$$V(t_0) = V_0 \tag{B.1a}$$

$$\boldsymbol{V}(t_1) = \boldsymbol{V}_1 \tag{B.1b}$$

$$\mathbf{V}(t_2) = \mathbf{V}_2 \tag{B.1c}$$

This interpolation method is employed several times in this thesis, for instance to evaluate the position of a kinetic energy peak during the dynamic relaxation process. It is also employed for evaluating the bending moment and the curvature of a discrete rod at mid-edge, knowing its values at vertices.

Note that this interpolation method is valid if the basis in which V is decomposed does not depend on the parameter t. Otherwise, the classical transportation term should be considered $(\omega \times V)$.

B.2 Lagrange interpolating polynomial

The Lagrange interpolation of order two is given by the following polynomial:

$$\mathbf{V}(t) = \mathbf{V}_0 \frac{(t-t_1)(t-t_2)}{(t_0-t_1)(t_0-t_2)} + \mathbf{V}_1 \frac{(t-t_0)(t-t_2)}{(t_1-t_0)(t_1-t_2)} + \mathbf{V}_2 \frac{(t-t_0)(t-t_1)}{(t_2-t_0)(t_2-t_1)}$$
(B.2)

B.3 Reparametrization

Lets introduce the distances l_0 and l_1 in the parametric space :

$$l_0 = t_1 - t_0$$
 (B.3a)

$$l_1 = t_2 - t_1$$
 (B.3b)

Lets introduce the change of variable $u = t - t_1$. The polynomial in eq. (B.2) can be rewritten in the form:

$$\mathbf{V}(u) = \mathbf{V}_0 \frac{u(u - l_1)}{l_0(l_0 + l_1)} - \mathbf{V}_1 \frac{(u + l_0)(u - l_1)}{l_0 l_1} + \mathbf{V}_2 \frac{u(u + l_0)}{l_1(l_0 + l_1)}$$
(B.4)

where:

$$u_0 = -l_0 \tag{B.5a}$$

$$u_1 = 0 ag{B.5b}$$

$$u_2 = l_1 \tag{B.5c}$$

The derivative of this polynomial is also required to determine the extremum value of V. Differentiating eq. (B.4) gives :

$$\mathbf{V}'(u) = \mathbf{V}_0 \frac{2u - l_1}{l_0(l_0 + l_1)} - \mathbf{V}_1 \frac{2u + (l_0 - l_1)}{l_0 l_1} + \mathbf{V}_2 \frac{2u + l_0}{l_1(l_0 + l_1)}$$
(B.6)

This expression can be factorized to give the more compact form:

$$\mathbf{V}'(u) = \left(\frac{\mathbf{V}_1 - \mathbf{V}_0}{l_0}\right) \frac{l_1 - 2u}{l_0 + l_1} + \left(\frac{\mathbf{V}_2 - \mathbf{V}_1}{l_1}\right) \frac{l_0 + 2u}{l_0 + l_1}$$
(B.7)

B.4 Characteristic values

Using eq. (B.4) the interpolated values of V at mid distance between t_0 and t_1 ($u = -l_0/2$), and at mid distance between t_1 and t_2 ($u = +l_1/2$) are given by :

$$\mathbf{V}_{01} = \mathbf{V}_0 \frac{l_0 + 2l_1}{4(l_0 + l_1)} + \mathbf{V}_1 \frac{l_0 + 2l_1}{4l_1} - \mathbf{V}_2 \frac{{l_0}^2}{4l_1(l_0 + l_1)}$$
(B.8a)

$$\mathbf{V}_{12} = -\mathbf{V}_0 \frac{{l_1}^2}{4l_0(l_0 + l_1)} + \mathbf{V}_1 \frac{2l_0 + l_1}{4l_0} + \mathbf{V}_2 \frac{2l_0 + l_1}{4(l_0 + l_1)}$$
(B.8b)

Using eq. (B.7) the interpolated values of V' at mid distance between t_0 and t_1 ($u = -l_0/2$), and at mid distance between t_1 and t_2 ($u = +l_1/2$) are given by:

$$V_{01}' = \frac{V_1 - V_0}{l_0} \tag{B.9a}$$

$$V_{12}' = \frac{V_2 - V_1}{l_1} \tag{B.9b}$$

Remark that this is an interesting result as at these parameters the evaluation of V' boils down to a finite difference scheme.

Using eq. (B.7) and introducing $\alpha = \frac{l_0}{l_0 + l_1}$ the interpolated values of V' at t_0 , t_1 and t_2 are given by:

$$V_0' = (1 + \alpha)V_{01}' - \alpha V_{12}'$$
(B.10a)

$$V_1' = (1 - \alpha)V_{01}' + \alpha V_{12}' \tag{B.10b}$$

$$\mathbf{V}_{2}' = (\alpha - 1)\mathbf{V}_{01}' + (2 - \alpha)\mathbf{V}_{12}'$$
(B.10c)

Lets rewrite eq. (B.8a) and (B.8b) with the help of α :

$$\mathbf{V}_{01} = \frac{1}{4} \left((2 - \alpha) \mathbf{V}_0 + \frac{2 - \alpha}{1 - \alpha} \mathbf{V}_1 - \frac{\alpha^2}{1 - \alpha} \mathbf{V}_2 \right)$$
(B.11a)

$$\mathbf{V}_{01} = \frac{1}{4} \left(-\frac{(1-\alpha)^2}{\alpha} \mathbf{V}_0 + \frac{1+\alpha}{\alpha} \mathbf{V}_1 + (1+\alpha) \mathbf{V}_2 \right)$$
(B.11b)

B.5 Extremum value

The extremum value of the parabola is obtained for $V'(u^*) = 0$. It's a minimum if $V'_{12} > V'_{01}$ and it's a maximum if $V'_{12} > V'_{01}$:

$$u^* = \frac{l_1 \mathbf{V}_{01}' + l_0 \mathbf{V}_{12}'}{2(\mathbf{V}_{01}' - \mathbf{V}_{12}')}$$
(B.12)

Remark that if $V'_{12} = V'_{01}$ it does not make sens to compute u^* as in this case the parabola degenerates into a line. The value of the function at this parameter is given by:

$$V(u^*) = V_1 + \frac{(l_1 V'_{01} + l_0 V'_{12})^2}{4(l_0 + l_1)(V'_{01} - V'_{12})}$$
(B.13)

The parabola in eq. (B.4) now writes:

$$\mathbf{V}(u) = -\frac{\mathbf{V}_{01}' - \mathbf{V}_{12}'}{l_0 + l_1} (u - u^*)^2 + \mathbf{V}(u^*)$$
(B.14)

The extremum is located in $[t_0, t_2]$ if the sign of V' changes on this interval. This condition is satisfied whenever $V'_{01} \cdot V'_{12} < 0$.

Finally, in the special case of a uniform discretization where $l_0 = l_1 = l$, eq. (B.12) and (B.13) become:

$$u^* = \frac{l}{2} \left(\frac{\mathbf{V}_0 - \mathbf{V}_2}{\mathbf{V}_0 - 2\mathbf{V}_1 + \mathbf{V}_2} \right) \tag{B.15a}$$

$$V(u^*) = V_1 - \frac{u^*}{4l}(V_2 - V_0)$$
 (B.15b)