

## Homework #3

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1. **Inner Products.** Let  $(f, g)$  denote an inner product on a suitable function space  $S$ , and let  $f$  be a given function in  $S$ . Suppose we want to approximate  $f$  by a function

$$s = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \phi_i$$

also in  $S$ . Recall that we have to solve a linear system with a coefficient matrix  $A$  whose  $i, j$  entry is

$$a_{i,j} = (\phi_i, \phi_j).$$

Show that  $A$  is positive definite.

To show that  $A$  is positive definite, we must prove that for some  $x \neq 0$  we have  $x^T A x > 0$ . If  $x_i = \alpha_i$ , then

$$\begin{aligned} x^T A x &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i (\phi_i, \phi_j) \alpha_j \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_i \alpha_j (\phi_i, \phi_j) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j (\phi_j, \phi_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \sum_{j=1}^n (\alpha_j \phi_j, \phi_i) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \phi_j, \phi_i \right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (s, \phi_i) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i (\phi_i, s) \\
&= \left( \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i \phi_i, s \right) \\
&= (s, s) > 0
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore we have that  $x^\top Ax > 0$  and our matrix  $A$  is positive definite.

2. **Example for Gram Schmidt Process.** Use the Gram-Schmidt Process to find a basis of

$$\text{span}\{1, x, e^x\}$$

that is orthonormal with respect to the inner product

$$(f, g) = \int_0^1 f(x)g(x)dx.$$

$$\begin{aligned}
z_k &= b_k - \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} (b_k, q_i) q_i \\
q_k &= \frac{z_k}{\|z_k\|}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
z_0 &= 1 \\
q_0 &= \frac{b_0}{\|b_0\|} = \frac{1}{\|1\|} = \boxed{1} \\
z_1 &= x - \int_0^1 t dt = x - \frac{1}{2} \\
q_1 &= \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\int_0^1 \left(t - \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\
&= \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\int_0^1 t^2 - t + \frac{1}{4} dt\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\
&= \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\left(\frac{1}{12}\right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\
&= \frac{x - \frac{1}{2}}{\frac{1}{2\sqrt{3}}}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \boxed{= \sqrt{3}(2x-1)} \\
z_2 &= e^x - \int_0^1 e^t dt - \int_0^1 e^t \sqrt{3}(2t-1) dt (\sqrt{3}(2x-1)) \\
&= e^x - (e-1) - \sqrt{3} \int_0^1 e^t 2t - e^t dt (\sqrt{3}(2x-1)) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - (6x-3) \left( 2 \int_0^1 e^t dt - (e-1) \right) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - (6x-3) \left( 2 \left( e^t t \right) \Big|_0^1 - \int_0^1 e^t dt \right) - (e-1) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - (6x-3) (2e - 2(e-1) - (e-1)) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - (6x-3) (2e - 2e + 2 - e + 1) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - (6x-3) (3-e) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - (18x - 6ex - 9 + 3e) \\
&= e^x - e + 1 - 18x + 6ex + 9 - 3e \\
&= e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10 \\
q_2 &= \frac{e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10}{\|e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10\|} \\
&= \frac{e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10}{\left( \int_0^1 (e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10)^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \\
&= \frac{e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10}{\left( \int_0^1 e^{2x} - 4e^x e - 18e^x x + 6e^x ex + 10e^x - 4e^x e + 16e^2 + 72ex - 24e^2 x - 40e - 18e^x x + 72ex + 324x^2 + \right. \\
&\quad \left. e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10 \right)} \\
&= \frac{e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10}{\left( \int_0^1 e^{2x} - 360x - 80e + 16e^2 + 20e^x + 264xe - 48xe^2 - 216x^2e + 36x^2e^2 - 8ee^x - 36xe^x + 324x^2 + \right. \\
&\quad \left. e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10 \right)} \\
&= \boxed{\frac{e^x - 4e - 18x + 6ex + 10}{\sqrt{20e - \frac{7e^2}{2} - \frac{57}{2}}}}
\end{aligned}$$

3. **The Three Term Recurrence Relation** Let the inner product  $(f, g)$  be defined by

$$(f, g) = \int_a^b w(x) f(x) g(x) dx$$

(where  $w$  is a positive weight function). Prove that the sequence of polynomials

defined by

$$\begin{aligned}
Q_n &= (x - a_n)Q_{n-1} - b_nQ_{n-2} \\
Q_0 &= 1 \\
Q_1 &= x - a_n \\
a_n &= \frac{(xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-1})}{(Q_{n-1}, Q_{n-1})} \\
b_n &= \frac{(xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-2})}{(Q_{n-2}, Q_{n-2})}
\end{aligned}$$

is orthogonal with respect to (3). Note that the proof of this fact uses the property

$$(xf, g) = (f, xg)$$

of (3).

Proof by induction

$$\begin{aligned}
(Q_0, Q_1) &= (1, x - \frac{(x, 1)}{(1, 1)}) \\
&= (1, x) - (1, \frac{(x, 1)}{(1, 1)}) \\
&= (1, x) - (1, 1) \frac{(x, 1)}{(1, 1)} \\
&= (1, x) - (1, x) = 0.
\end{aligned}$$

Assume that  $Q_0, Q_1, \dots, Q_{n-1}$  are all orthogonal to each other, and that  $k < n$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned}
(Q_n, Q_k) &= \left( \left( x - \frac{(xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-1})}{(Q_{n-1}, Q_{n-1})} \right) Q_{n-1} - \frac{(xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-2})}{(Q_{n-2}, Q_{n-2})} Q_{n-2}, Q_k \right) \\
&= (xQ_{n-1}, Q_k) - \frac{(xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-1})}{(Q_{n-1}, Q_{n-1})} (Q_{n-1}, Q_k) - \frac{(xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-2})}{(Q_{n-2}, Q_{n-2})} (Q_{n-2}, Q_k)
\end{aligned}$$

Here we have three cases:  $k = n - 1$ ,  $k = n - 2$ ,  $k < n - 2$ . Checking each of these,

$$\begin{aligned}
k = n - 1 &:= (xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-1}) - (xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-1}) = 0 \\
k = n - 2 &:= (xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-2}) - (xQ_{n-1}, Q_{n-2}) = 0 \\
k < n - 2 &:= (xQ_{n-1}, Q_k) \\
&= (Q_{n-1}, xQ_k) \\
&= \left( Q_{n-1}, \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \alpha_i Q_i \right) = \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \alpha_i (Q_{n-1}, Q_i) = 0
\end{aligned}$$

4. **Recurrence Relation.** Consider the inner product

$$(f, g) = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x)dx.$$

Use the recurrence relation (4) to compute  $Q_i$  for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$ .

For the interval  $[-1, 1]$  the dot production of any odd and even polynomial will result in the integral of an odd function which will be zero, thus  $a_i = 0$ , for  $i = 0, 1, 2, 3, 5$ . We'll still include these for verification.

$$Q_0 \boxed{= 1}$$

$$a_1 = \frac{(xQ_0, Q_0)}{(Q_0, Q_0)} = \frac{(x, 1)}{(1, 1)}$$

$$Q_1 = x - \frac{(x, 1)}{(1, 1)}$$

$$\boxed{= x}$$

$$a_2 = \frac{(xQ_1, Q_1)}{(Q_1, Q_1)} = \frac{(x, 1)}{(1, 1)} = \frac{(x^2, x)}{(x, x)} = 0$$

$$b_2 = \frac{(xQ_1, Q_0)}{(Q_0, Q_0)} = \frac{(x^2, 1)}{(1, 1)} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$Q_2 = (x - a_2)Q_1 - b_2Q_0 \\ = (x - a_2)x - b_2(1)$$

$$\boxed{= x^2 - \frac{1}{3}}$$

$$a_3 = \frac{(xQ_2, Q_2)}{(Q_2, Q_2)} = \frac{(x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x, x^2 - \frac{1}{3})}{(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}, x^2 - \frac{1}{3})} = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 (x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x)(x^2 - \frac{1}{3})dx}{\int_{-1}^1 (x^2 - \frac{1}{3})^2 dx} = \frac{0}{8/45} = 0$$

$$b_3 = \frac{(xQ_2, Q_1)}{(Q_1, Q_1)} = \frac{(x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x, x)}{(x, x)} = \frac{8/105}{2/3} = \frac{4}{15}$$

$$Q_3 = x(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}) - \frac{4}{15}x \\ = x^3 - \frac{1}{3}x - \frac{4}{15}x$$

$$\boxed{= x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x}$$

$$a_4 = \frac{(xQ_3, Q_3)}{(Q_3, Q_3)} = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 x(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x)^2 dx}{\int_{-1}^1 (x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x)^2 dx} = \frac{0}{8/175} = 0$$

$$b_4 = \frac{(xQ_3, Q_2)}{(Q_2, Q_2)} = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 x(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x)(x^2 - \frac{1}{3})dx}{\int_{-1}^1 (x^2 - \frac{1}{3})^2 dx} = \frac{8/175}{8/45} = \frac{9}{35}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_4 &= (x - a_4)Q_3 - b_4Q_2 \\ &= x(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x) - \frac{9}{35}(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}) \\ &= x^4 - \frac{3}{5}x^2 - \frac{9}{35}x^2 - \frac{1}{3}(\frac{9}{35}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{= x^4 - \frac{6}{7}x^2 - \frac{3}{35}}$$

$$a_5 = \frac{(xQ_4, Q_4)}{(Q_4, Q_4)} = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 x(x^4 - \frac{6}{7}x^2 - \frac{3}{35})^2 dx}{\int_{-1}^1 (x^4 - \frac{6}{7}x^2 - \frac{3}{35})^2 dx} = \frac{0}{128/11025}$$

$$b_5 = \frac{(xQ_4, Q_3)}{(Q_3, Q_3)} = \frac{\int_{-1}^1 x(x^4 - \frac{6}{7}x^2 - \frac{3}{35})(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x)dx}{\int_{-1}^1 (x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x)^2 dx} = \frac{128/11025}{8/175} = \frac{16}{63}$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q_5 &= (x - a_5)Q_4 - b_5Q_3 \\ &= x(x^4 - \frac{6}{7}x^2 - \frac{3}{35}) - \frac{16}{63}(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x) \\ &= x^5 - \frac{5}{7}x^3 - \frac{8}{105}x - \frac{16}{63}x^3 - \frac{3}{5}(\frac{16}{63})x \end{aligned}$$

$$\boxed{= x^5 - \frac{10}{9}x^3 - \frac{5}{21}x}$$

5. **More on the Recurrence Relation.** Remember that a key property of the inner products for which we established the three term relation was that  $(xf, g) = (f, xg)$ . Find an inner product that violates that rule, and for which the recurrence relation does indeed fail to yield orthogonal polynomials. (Thus use the recurrence relation to construct the first few polynomials, until you find two that are not orthogonal.)

Let the inner product  $(f, g)$  be defined as

$$(f, g) = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x) + f'(x)g'(x)dx$$

Then the following properties hold

$$\begin{aligned} (f, g) &= \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x) + f'(x)g'(x)dx \\ &= \int_{-1}^1 g(x)f(x) + g'(x)f'(x)dx \\ &= (g, f) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
(f+g, h) &= \int_{-1}^1 (f(x) + g(x))h(x) + (f(x) + g(x))'h'(x)dx \\
&= \int_{-1}^1 f(x)h(x) + g(x)h(x) + (f'(x) + g'(x))h'(x)dx \\
&= \int_{-1}^1 f(x)h(x) + g(x)h(x) + f'(x)h'(x) + g'(x)h'(x)dx \\
&= \int_{-1}^1 f(x)h(x) + f'(x)h'(x) + g(x)h(x) + g'(x)h'(x)dx \\
&= \int_{-1}^1 f(x)h(x) + f'(x)h'(x)dx + \int_{-1}^1 g(x)h(x) + g'(x)h'(x)dx \\
&= (f, h) + (g, h) \\
(f, f) &= \int_{-1}^1 f(x)f(x) + f'(x)f'(x)dx \\
&\geq 0
\end{aligned}$$

However the property which our recurrence relation relies on  $(xf, g) = (f, xg)$  does not,

$$\begin{aligned}
(xf, g) &= \int_{-1}^1 xf(x)g(x) + (xf(x))'g'(x)dx \\
(f, xg) &= \int_{-1}^1 xf(x)g(x) + f'(x)(xg(x))'dx \\
(xf(x))' &\neq (xg(x))' \\
\Rightarrow (xf, g) &\neq (f, xg)
\end{aligned}$$

If we test out our recurrence relation we find the following polynomials,

$$\begin{aligned}
Q_0 &= 1 \\
Q_1 &= x \\
a_2 &= \frac{(xQ_1, Q_1)}{(Q_1, Q_1)} = 0 \\
b_2 &= \frac{(xQ_1, Q_0)}{(Q_0, Q_0)} = \frac{1}{3} \\
Q_2 &= x^2 - \frac{1}{3} \\
a_3 &= \frac{(xQ_2, Q_2)}{(Q_2, Q_2)} = 0
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
b_3 &= \frac{(xQ_2, Q_1)}{(Q_1, Q_1)} = \frac{17}{30} \\
Q_3 &= x^3 - \frac{9}{10} \\
a_4 &= \frac{(xQ_3, Q_3)}{(Q_3, Q_3)} = 0 \\
b_4 &= \frac{(xQ_3, Q_2)}{(Q_2, Q_2)} = \frac{39}{140} \\
Q_4 &= x^4 - \frac{33}{28}x^2 + \frac{13}{140}
\end{aligned}$$

Checking the orthogonality of these polynomials we find that our fourth polynomial is no longer orthogonal to our first, and we can see that our recurrence relation has failed to find orthogonal polynomials.

$$\begin{aligned}
(Q_0, Q_1) &= 0 \\
(Q_2, Q_0) &= 0 \\
(Q_2, Q_1) &= 0 \\
(Q_3, Q_0) &= 0 \\
(Q_3, Q_1) &= 0 \\
(Q_3, Q_2) &= 0 \\
(Q_4, Q_0) &= -\frac{1}{5} \neq 0
\end{aligned}$$

6. **Fourier Series.** Compute the Fourier series of the function

$$f(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } t \in (-\pi, 0) \\ -1 & \text{if } t \in [0, \pi] \end{cases}$$

where you assume that  $f$  is  $2\pi$  periodic, i.e.  $f(t + 2\pi) = f(t)$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$ . Draw the truncated Fourier series for some values of  $n$  and comment on your plots.

$$\begin{aligned}
a_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \cos(nt) dt \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 \cos(nt) dt - \int_0^{\pi} \cos(nt) dt \right)
\end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{\sin(nt)}{n} \Big|_{-\pi}^0 - \frac{\sin(nt)}{n} \Big|_0^{\pi} \right) \\
&= 0 \\
b_n &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} f(t) \sin(nt) dt \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \int_{-\pi}^0 \sin(nt) dt - \int_0^{\pi} \sin(nt) dt \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{-\cos(nt)}{n} \Big|_{-\pi}^0 + \frac{\cos(nt)}{n} \Big|_0^{\pi} \right) \\
&= \frac{1}{\pi} \left( \frac{-1 + \cos(\pi n)}{n} + \frac{\cos(\pi n) - 1}{n} \right) \\
&= \frac{2}{\pi n} (\cos(\pi n) - 1) \\
&= \frac{2}{\pi n} ((-1)^n - 1) \\
\Rightarrow F(t) &= \frac{a_0}{2} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} a_n \cos(nt) + b_n \sin(nt) \\
&= \sum_{n-\text{odd}} \frac{-4}{\pi n} \sin(nt)
\end{aligned}$$

**7. More on Fourier Series.** Calculate the Fourier series of

$$f(x) = \cos(x + 1).$$

Hint: Before you embark on the computation of a bunch of integrals think about what you would expect the Fourier series to be. Perhaps you can find it without doing any integrals!

$$\begin{aligned}
f(t) &= \cos(t + 1) \\
&= \cos(t) \cos(1) - \sin(t) \sin(1)
\end{aligned}$$

Here the trigonometric identity of  $\cos(x + y) = \cos(x) \cos(y) - \sin(x) \sin(y)$  gives us a form equivalent to the Fourier series.

Solving for  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  we would find that

$$a_n = \begin{cases} \cos(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } n \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

and

$$b_n = \begin{cases} -\sin(1) & \text{if } n = 1 \\ 0 & \text{if } n \neq 1 \end{cases}$$

Thus the Fourier series for  $f(t)$  is

$$F(t) = \cos(1) \cos(t) - \sin(1) \sin(t)$$

8. **Spline versus Cubic Hermite Interpolation.** Let the function  $s(x)$  be defined by

$$s(x) = \begin{cases} (\gamma - 1)(x^3 - x^2) + x + 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1] \\ \gamma x^3 - 5\gamma x^2 + 8\gamma x - 4\gamma + 2 & \text{if } x \in [1, 2] \end{cases}$$

(a) Show that  $s$  is piecewise cubic Hermite interpolant to the data:

$$s(0) = 1, \quad s(1) = s(2) = 2, \quad s'(0) = 1, \quad s'(1) = \gamma, \quad s'(2) = 0$$

(b) For what value of  $\gamma$  does  $s$  become a cubic spline?

$$s'(x) = \begin{cases} (\gamma - 1)(3x^2 - 2x) + 1 & \text{if } x \in [0, 1] \\ 3\gamma x^2 - 10\gamma x + 8\gamma & \text{if } x \in [1, 2] \end{cases}$$

(a)

$$s(0) = (\gamma - 1)(3(0) - 2(0)) + 0 + 1 = 1$$

$$s(1) = (\gamma - 1)(3(1) - 2(1)) + 0 + 1 = 2$$

$$s(1) = (\gamma - 1)(3(1) - 2(1)) + 0 + 1 = 2$$

$$= \gamma(1)^3 - 5\gamma(1)^2 + 8\gamma(1) - 4\gamma + 2$$

$$= 4\gamma + 8\gamma - 4\gamma + 2$$

$$= 2$$

$$s(2) = \gamma(2)^3 - 5\gamma(2)^2 + 8\gamma(2) - 4\gamma + 2$$

$$= 8\gamma - 20\gamma + 16\gamma - 4\gamma + 2$$

$$= 2$$

$$s'(0) = (\gamma - 1)(3(0)^3 - 2(0)) + 1$$

$$= 1$$

$$s'(1) = (\gamma - 1)(3(1)^2 - 2(1)) + 1$$

$$= \gamma - 1 + 1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= 1 \\
&= 3\gamma(1)^2 - 10\gamma(1) + 8\gamma \\
&= \gamma \\
s'(2) &= 3\gamma(2)^2 - 10\gamma(2) + 8\gamma \\
&= 12\gamma - 20\gamma + 8\gamma \\
&= 0
\end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $s$  interpolates to the data.

- (b) For  $s(x)$  to be a cubic spline it must have equivalent values at the interpolated points for the second derivative. We check the values for  $s''(x)$  at 1. Here we find that the only possible value for  $\gamma$  is  $1/2$ .

$$s''(x) = \begin{cases} (\gamma - 1)(6x - 2) & \text{if } x \in [0, 1] \\ 6\gamma x - 10\gamma & \text{if } x \in [1, 2] \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
s''(x) &= (\gamma - 1)(6x - 2) \\
&= 6\gamma x - 6x - 2\gamma + 2 \\
&= 6(1/2)x - 6x - 2(1/2) + 2 \\
&= -3x + 1 = -2 \text{ when } x = 1 \\
s''(x) &= 6\gamma x - 10\gamma \\
&= -4\gamma = -4(1/2) = -2 \\
\Rightarrow \gamma &= \frac{1}{2}
\end{aligned}$$

9. **The Bernstein Bézier Form.** With the notation given in our handout, show that every univariate polynomial of degree  $d$  can be written uniquely in Bernstein-Bézier form.

For any univariate polynomial the interpolated polynomial for the Bernstein Bézier form will be the unique polynomial of degree  $d$ , and it will interpolate to the univariate polynomial.

For single variable let  $b_1 = t$  and  $b_2 = 1 - t$  (this is equivalent to the B-Form on the interval  $[0, 1]$ , and can be converted to any other interval which will add more constants to equations, but they will not have an effect on the final result, so we are keeping them out of the way) then,

$$\begin{aligned}
\sum_{i=0}^d \binom{d}{i} c_{i,d-i} t^i (1-t)^{d-i} &= \sum_{i=0}^d \binom{d}{i} c_{i,d-i} t^i \sum_{k=0}^{d-i} (-1)^k \binom{d-i}{k} t^k \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^d c_{i,d-i} \sum_{k=0}^{d-i} (-1)^k \binom{d}{i} \binom{d-i}{k} t^{k+i} \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^d c_{i,d-i} \sum_{k=i}^d (-1)^{k-i} \binom{d}{i} \binom{d-i}{k-i} t^k \\
&= \sum_{i=0}^d \sum_{k=i}^d c_{i,d-i} (-1)^{k-i} \binom{d}{i} \binom{d-i}{k-i} t^k
\end{aligned}$$

which is a power form.

10. **The interpolant to symmetric data is symmetric.** Suppose you are given symmetric data

$$(x_i, y_i), \quad i = -n, -n+1, \dots, n-1, n$$

such that

$$x_{-i} = -x_i, \quad \text{and} \quad y_{-i} = -y_i \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

What is the required degree of the interpolating polynomial  $p$ ? Show that the interpolating polynomial is odd, i.e.

$$p(x) = -p(-x)$$

for all real numbers  $x$ .

Since we have a symmetric dataset the number of points is even and equals  $2n+2$  ( $n=0$  gives us  $(x_0, y_0), (x_{-0}, y_{-0})$  which still has 2 points). Thus the interpolated polynomial will be of degree  $2n+1$  which is odd.

Interpolating symmetric data will give us the unique polynomial  $p_n(x_i) = y_i$  which passes through all points in our data set  $x_i$ , and  $y_i$ .

This means that we have

$$\begin{aligned}
p_n(x_i) &= y_i \\
&= -(-y_i) \\
&= -y_{-i} \\
&= -p_n(x_{-i}) \\
&= -p_n(-x_i) \\
\Rightarrow p(x_i) &= -p(-x_i) \quad \text{for all } i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n
\end{aligned}$$