

# Revision notes - MA2213

Ma Hongqiang

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# 1 Computer Arithmetic and Computational Errors

## 1.1 Number Systems

**Definition 1.1** (Decimal System).

The number system we are used to is the **decimal system** and the number "10" which plays an important role is called the **base** of the decimal system.

In general, we can take other positive integer  $N > 1$  as a base. In particular,  $N = 2, 8, 16$  are used in most digital computers and the systems with  $N = 2, 8, 16$  are known as **binary**, **octal**, **hexadecimal** number systems respectively.

### 1.1.1 Decimal to Binary

The conversion of decimal number to binary is performed in two steps.

Take  $(53.7)_{10}$  as an example.

1. **Integer Part.** Convert decimal integers to binary by deviding by 2 successively and recording the remainders.

The remainders, 0 or 1, are recorded by starting at the decimal point and moving away to the left. For  $(53)_{10}$ , we have

$$53/2 = 26 \mathbf{R} 1$$

$$26/2 = 13 \mathbf{R} 0$$

$$13/2 = 6 \mathbf{R} 1$$

$$6/2 = 3 \mathbf{R} 0$$

$$3/2 = 1 \mathbf{R} 1$$

$$1/2 = 0 \mathbf{R} 1$$

Therefore, the base 10 number 53 can be written as binary

$$(110101)_2 = 2^5 + 2^4 + 2^2 + 2^0 = 53$$

2. **Fractional Part.** Convert  $(0.7)_{10}$  to binary as follows:

Multiply by 2 successfully and record the integer parts, moving away from the decimal point to the right:

$$.7 \times 2 = .4 + 1$$

$$.4 \times 2 = .8 + 0$$

$$.8 \times 2 = .6 + 1$$

$$.6 \times 2 = .2 + 1$$

$$.2 \times 2 = .4 + 0$$

$$.4 \times 2 = .8 + 0$$

.....

Notice that the process repeats after four steps and will repeat infinitely exactly the same way. Therefore,

$$(0.7)_{10} = (.1\overline{0110})_2$$

3. Hence,

$$(53.7)_{10} = (110101.\overline{10110})_2$$

### 1.1.2 Binary to Decimal

The conversion of binary number to decimal needs to tackle nonterminating binary numbers.

Take  $x = (.10\overline{101})_2$  as an example.

Multiplying by  $2^2$  shifts  $x$  to

$$y := 2^2x = (10.\overline{101})_2 = (10)_2 + (.1\overline{01})_2 = (2)_{10} + (.1\overline{01})_2$$

The fractional part of  $y$ , i.e.,

$$z := (.1\overline{01})_2$$

is calculated as follows:

$$2^3z = (101.\overline{101})_2$$

So,

$$(2^3 - 1)z = (101)_2 = (5)_{10}$$

i.e.

$$z = \left(\frac{5}{7}\right)_{10}$$

Thus,

$$y = (2)_{10} + \left(\frac{5}{7}\right)_{10} = \left(\frac{19}{7}\right)_{10}$$

and hence,

$$x = \frac{y}{2^2} = \left(\frac{19}{28}\right)_{10}$$

**Theorem 1.1** (Representation of Numbers).

In general, any **natural numbers**  $N \geq 2$  can be used as base.

Every positive real number  $a$  has a unique representation of the form

$$a = a_m N^m + a_{m-1} N^{m-1} + \dots + a_1 N^1 + a_0 N^0 + a_{-1} N^{-1} + a_{-2} N^{-2} + \dots$$

where

$$0 \leq a_i \leq N - 1, \quad a_m \neq 0$$

Equivalently,

$$a = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} a_{m-i} N^{m-i}$$

where

$$0 < a_m < N; 0 \leq a_{m-i} \leq N - 1 \quad \forall i \geq 1$$

The above non-terminating representation of number  $a$  is not feasible in practical computation. We only deal with, in practice, numbers which have *terminating* representation, i.e. of the following form

$$\alpha = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} \alpha_{m-i} N^{m-i}$$

where  $0 < \alpha_m < N$  and  $0 \leq \alpha_{m-i} < N$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ .

**Definition 1.2** (Significant decimal digits).

If  $N = 10$ , then the numbers  $\alpha_{m-i}$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$  are called **significant decimal digits** and the number  $\alpha$  is said to have  $n$  significant decimal digits.

## 1.2 Chopping and Rounding

If the number  $a$  has more significant digits than what we wish to have, then we need to replace  $a$  by an approximate number  $a^*$  which contains a smaller number of digits, say  $n$ . There are two ways of terminating the number  $a$  to a given significant number of digits, namely **chopping** or **rounding**.

**Definition 1.3** (Chopping).

In **chopping**, we retain only the first  $n$  significant digits in the number  $a$ .

**Definition 1.4** (Rounding).

In **rounding**, the following rules are usually practiced:

- Retain the first  $n$  significant digits, and
- if the  $(n+1)$ th significant digit is less than 5, leave the  $n$ th significant digit unchanged;
- otherwise, if the  $(n+1)$ th significant digit is greater or equal to 5, add unity to the  $n$ th significant digit.

## 1.3 Floating Point Representation

**Definition 1.5** (Floating Point Numbers).

Number of the form

$$\pm(0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots a_m) \times N^e, \text{ with } a_1 \neq 0$$

are called **floating point numbers**. The factor  $0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots a_n$  is called the **mantissa**,  $e$  is called the **exponent** and  $N$  is the **base**.

The floating-point mode is for storing real numbers.

## 1.4 Basic Concepts in Error Estimation

**Definition 1.6** (Sources of Error).

Numerical results are affected by many types of error.

- **Error in Given Input Data**

The input data can be *result of measurements* which are inexact, or produced by some *arithmetic process using round-off process*.

- **Round-off Errors During Computation**

This is due to working with *finite machine precision*.

- **Truncation Error**

Consider the Taylor series xpansion for  $\sin(x)$  about  $x = 0$

$$\sin(x) = x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \frac{x^7}{7!} + \dots$$

which is an infinite series.

Truncation error occurs when the *infinite series is broken off after a finite number of terms*.

In general, truncation errors are error committed when *a limiting process is truncated before one has come to the limiting value*.

- Simplifications in the Mathematical Model
- Human Error

## 1.5 Absolute and Relative Error

**Definition 1.7** (Absolute Error).

Let  $x^*$  be an approximation to  $x$ , then the **absolute error** in approximating  $x$  is given by  $|x - x^*|$ .

From the above definition, the floating point representation of  $x$ ,  $\text{fl}(x)$  has absolute error

$$|x - \text{fl}(x)|$$

**Definition 1.8** (Absolute Error Bound).

Any non-negative number  $\delta(x^*)$  satisfying the inequality

$$|x - x^*| < \delta(x^*)$$

is called an **absolute error bound**.

**Definition 1.9** (Decimal Places).

The two numbers  $x$  is said to agree to  $k$  **decimal places** if  $k$  is the largest non-negative integer such that

$$|x - x^*| \leq 0.5 \times 10^{-k}$$

**Definition 1.10** (Relative Error).

If  $x^*$  is an approximation to  $x$ , then the **relative error** is defined by

$$\frac{|x - x^*|}{|x|} \quad \text{provided that } x \neq 0$$

For a  $t$ -digit machine,

$$\frac{|x - \text{fl}(x)|}{|x|} \leq \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{1-t}$$

in rounding mode and

$$\frac{|x - \text{fl}(x)|}{|x|} \leq 10^{1-t}$$

in chopping mode.

## 1.6 Computation in Floating Point Arithmetic

Take the example of addition/subtraction of two floating point number  $0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots a_m \times 10^{N_1} \pm 0.b_1b_2b_3 \dots b_m \times 10^{N_2}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & 0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots a_m \times 10^{N_1} \pm 0.b_1b_2b_3 \dots b_m \times 10^{N_2} \\ &= \begin{cases} (0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots a_m \pm 0.b_1b_2b_3 \dots b_m) \times 10^{N_1} & \text{if } N_1 = N_2 \\ (0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots a_m 0 \dots 0 \pm 0.0 \dots 0b_1b_2b_3 \dots b_m) \times 10^{N_1} & \text{if } N_1 > N_2 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

## 1.7 Propagation of Errors in Function Evaluation

### 1.7.1 Function of one variable

In finding the value of  $f(x)$  by approximating  $f(x^*)$ , where  $x^*$  is the known approximating value of  $x$ ,

let  $\delta(x^*)$  be an absolute error bound for  $|x - x^*|$ , i.e.,

$$|x - x^*| \leq \delta(x^*)$$

If the function  $f(x)$  is differentiable, then by the mean-value theorem, we have

$$f(x) - f(x^*) = f'(p)(x - x^*)$$

where  $p$  is some number between  $x$  and  $x^*$ .

Therefore,

$$\delta(f(x^*)) \leq \max_{t \in \mathbf{I}} |f'(t)| \delta(x^*)$$

where  $\mathbf{I}$  is the interval  $(x, x^*)$  if  $x < x^*$  or  $(x^*, x)$ .

Sometimes, upper bound of  $f'$  is unavailable. Yet, with the following assumption:

- $\delta(x^*)$  is small
- $f'(x^*) \neq 0$ , and
- $f'(t)$  is nearly constant near  $x^*$  (i.e.,  $f'(t)$  does not vary greatly for  $t$  between  $x$  and  $x^*$ )

We have  $D \approx |f'(x^*)|$ , and consequently

$$\delta(f(x^*)) \approx |f'(x^*)| \delta(x^*)$$

### 1.7.2 Function of Several Variables

**Theorem 1.2** (Error bounds of function of several variables).

Generalisation suggests, if  $x_i^*$  is an estimate of  $x_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then with  $x^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*)$ , we have

$$\delta(f(x^* = (x_1^*, x_2^*, \dots, x_n^*))) \approx \left| \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_1} \right| \delta(x_1^*) + \left| \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_2} \right| \delta(x_2^*) + \dots + \left| \frac{\partial f(x^*)}{\partial x_n} \right| \delta(x_n^*)$$

## 1.8 Catastrophic Cancellation

Calculations involving the **subtraction** of two *nearly equal* numbers can result in considerable loss of accuracy due to cancellation.

Let  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  be two nearly equal numbers and denote the error in  $x_1$  and  $x_2$  by  $\delta(x_1)$  and  $\delta(x_2)$ , respectively, we have

$$\begin{aligned} y &= x_1 - x_2 \\ \Rightarrow |\delta(y)| &\leq |\delta(x_1)| + |\delta(x_2)| \\ \Rightarrow \left| \frac{\delta(y)}{y} \right| &\leq \frac{|\delta(x_1)| + |\delta(x_2)|}{|x_1 - x_2|} \end{aligned}$$

Specifically, suppose two nearly equal numbers  $x_1$  and  $x_2$ , having the same exponent  $n$  and being in the  $k$  digi representations, are represented in floating point form:

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= 0.a_1a_2 \dots a_p\alpha_{p+1} \dots \alpha_k \times 10^n \\ x_2 &= 0.a_1a_2 \dots a_p\beta_{p+1} \dots \beta_k \times 10^n \end{aligned}$$

Then their difference  $x_1 - x_2$  in floating point representation will have some digits in the mantissa to be 0, i.e.,

$$x_1 - x_2 = \text{fl}(\text{fl}(x_1) - \text{fl}(x_2)) = 0.\gamma_{p+1} \dots \gamma_k \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{p \text{ 0's}} \times 10^{n-p}$$

So, in floating point calculation,  $x_1 - x_2$  has at most  $k - p$  significant digits;  $p$  significant digits have been lost or canceled due to the subtraction.

### 1.8.1 Ways to Avoid Subtraction

**Theorem 1.3** ( $\sqrt{x + \varepsilon} - \sqrt{x}$ ).

If  $|\varepsilon| \ll x$ , then

$$\sqrt{x + \varepsilon} - \sqrt{x} = \frac{\varepsilon}{\sqrt{x + \varepsilon} + \sqrt{x}}$$

presents a better way of calculation that reduces loss of accuracy.

**Theorem 1.4** (Roots of  $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ ).

Consider the quadratic equation

$$ax^2 + bx + c = 0 \quad a \neq 0$$

The roots of equations are

$$x_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a} \quad \text{and} \quad x_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$$

To reduce loss of accuracy, some alternative pathway include:

- $x_1 = \frac{-2c}{b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}$  and  $x_2 = \frac{2c}{-b + \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}$
- $x_1 + x_2 = -b$
- $x_1 x_2 = c$

**Theorem 1.5** (Evaluation of polynomial  $f(x)$ ).

First note that  $ax^n = \text{fl}(\text{fl}(a) \times \text{fl}(x^n))$  where  $\text{fl}(x^n) = \text{fl}(\text{fl}(x^{n-1}) \times \text{fl}(x))$  recursively. Instead of calculating  $f(x) = \text{fl}(\sum_{i=0}^n a_i x^i)$ , nesting may provide better result:

$$f(x) = \text{fl}((\cdots (a_n x + a_{n-1})x + \cdots)x + a_0)$$

## 1.9 Numerical Instability

**Definition 1.11** (Numerical Stability).

An algorithm is said to be **stable** if the effect of its errors on the final result is **negligible**.



## 2 Numerical Solution of Linear Systems of Equations

Definitions and method of computation of matrix can be found in MA2101.pdf, and are therefore omitted here.

### 2.1 System of Linear Equations

In this chapter, only linear systems with *unique* solution is concerned. Consider the linear system

$$Ax = b$$

where  $A \in \mathbb{M}_n(\mathbb{R})$  and  $b \in \mathbb{R}_c^n$ . If  $A$  is invertible, a *unique* solution  $x$  exists and given by

$$x = A^{-1}b$$

There are two classes of method of solving  $Ax = b$  numerically:

- **Direct** methods
- **Iterative** methods

In this chapter, only direct methods are studied. Two basic direct method include

- Cramer's rule
- Gaussian Elimination

#### 2.1.1 Direct Method: Cramer's Rule

**Definition 2.1** (Cramer's Rule).

By **Cramer's rule**, the  $n \times n$  linear system

$$Ax = b$$

has solution

$$x_i = \frac{d_i}{d} \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

where  $d := \det(A) \neq 0$ ,  $d_i = \det(A_i)$ ,  $A_i$  the matrix obtained by replacing the  $i$ -th column of  $A$  by  $b$ .

The determinant  $d$  is given by **Laplace Theorem**:

$$d = (-1)^{i+1}a_{i1}D_{i1} + (-1)^{i+2}a_{i2}D_{i2} + \dots + (-1)^{i+n}a_{in}D_{in}$$

where  $D_{ij}$  is the determinant of the submatrix obtained from  $A$  by deleting its  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column.

**Theorem 2.1** (Computational Complexity of Cramer's Rule).

Suppose it needs  $m_n$  operations of multiplication to compute the determinant of a  $n \times n$  matrix. Then, we have

$$m_n = n + nm_{n-1} \quad m_1 = 1$$

Here, the first term  $n$  is results from multiplication of  $a_{ij}$  and  $D_{ij}$ .

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} m_n &= n + nm_{n-1} = n + n[(n-1) + (n-1)m_{n-2}] \\ &= n + n(n-1) + n(n-1)(n-2) + \cdots + n(n-1) \cdots 3 \cdot 2 \\ &> n! \end{aligned}$$

Hence, in order to solve an  $n \times n$  linear system by Cramer's rule and Laplace Theorem, we have do at least

$$(n+1)n! = (n+1)!$$

multiplication.

Clearly, Cramer's rule is too *computationally expensive*.

Also, solving nonlinear linear system by **matrix inversion** is *computationally expensive* and often leads to more *inaccuracies*.

## 2.2 Gaussian elimination

**Definition 2.2** (Elementary Row Operations).

Let  $E_i$  be the  $i$ th equation in a linear system  $Ax = b$ . The three **elementary row operations** permitted to solve this linear system are:

- $E_i \leftarrow \lambda E_i$ , where  $\lambda$  is a nonzero constant.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & \lambda & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ \lambda a_{i1} & \cdots & \lambda a_{in} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

- $E_i \leftarrow E_i - lE_j$ , where  $l$  is a nonzero constant.

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & -l & 1 \\ & & & \ddots \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{i1} - la_{j1} & \cdots & a_{in} - la_{jn} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

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<sup>1</sup> $-l$  is at  $i$ th row and  $j$ th column of the leftmost matrix.

- $E_i \leftrightarrow E_j$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & & \\ & & 1 & \\ & & & \ddots \\ & 1 & & \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ a_{j1} & \cdots & a_{jn} \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{j1} & \cdots & a_{jn} \\ \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ a_{i1} & \cdots & a_{in} \\ a_{n1} & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix}$$

By a sequence of the above operations, a linear system can be transformed to a more easily solved linear system with the **same** set of solutions.

The Gaussian elimination for solving  $Ax = b$  involves 2 stages/

- A forward course where a sequence of elementary row operations are applied to  $\mathbf{A}$  to reduce it to an upper triangular form  $\mathbf{U}$ .
- Backward substitution process

**Theorem 2.2** (General method of Gaussian Elimination on  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{B}$ ).

Let the original system be denoted by

$$\mathbf{A}^{(0)}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}^{(0)}$$

$$\text{where } \mathbf{A}^{(0)} = \mathbf{A} = (a_{ij}^{(0)}), \mathbf{b}^{(0)} = \mathbf{b} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(0)} \\ \vdots \\ b_i^{(0)} \\ \vdots \\ b_n^{(0)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 1: If  $a_{11}^{(0)} \neq 0$ , let

$$\begin{aligned} l_{i,1} &= \frac{a_{i,1}^{(0)}}{a_{1,1}^{(0)}} \quad i = 2, 3, \dots, n \\ a_{i,j}^{(1)} &= a_{i,j}^{(0)} - l_{i,1} \times a_{1,j}^{(0)} \quad i, j = 2, 3, \dots, n \\ b_i^{(1)} &= b_i^{(0)} - l_{i,1} \times b_1^{(0)} \quad i = 2, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

Then we obtain the equivalent system

$$\mathbf{A}^{(1)}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}^{(1)}$$

where

$$\mathbf{A}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^{(0)} & a_{12}^{(0)} & \cdots & a_{1n}^{(0)} \\ 0 & a_{22}^{(1)} & \cdots & a_{2n}^{(1)} \\ 0 & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & a_{n2}^{(1)} & \cdots & a_{nn}^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{b}^{(1)} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(0)} \\ b_2^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ b_n^{(1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

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<sup>3</sup>In general,  $l_{p,q}$  is used in the operations on  $q$ th column, and denotes the ratio between the entry on the  $p$ th row ( $p > q$ ),  $a_{p,q}^{(q-1)}$ , to the  $q$ th diagonal entry,  $a_{q,q}^{(q-1)}$ .

<sup>3</sup>In general,  $a_{i,j}^{(k)}$ , ( $i < j$ ) is obtained by operations on the  $k$ th column, and is the result of zeroing the  $a_{i,k}^{(k)}$  entry ( $i > k$ ), so it equals the previous entry  $a_{i,j}^{(k-1)}$  minus  $l_{i,k}$  times the entry on the  $k$ th row  $a_{k,j}^{(k-1)}$ .

Step 2: If  $a_{22}^{(1)} \neq 0$ , repeat Step 1 to eliminate  $\mathbf{x}_2$  from row 3 to  $n$ .  
After  $k$  steps, we obtain the equivalent system

$$\mathbf{A}^{(k)}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}^{(k)}$$

where  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$  takes the form

$$\mathbf{A}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^{(0)} & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & a_{1n}^{(0)} \\ & a_{22}^{(1)} & \cdots & \cdots & \cdots & a_{2n}^{(1)} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots & \cdots & \vdots \\ & & & a_{k+1,k+1}^{(k)} & \cdots & a_{k+1,n}^{(k)} \\ & & & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & a_{n,k+1}^{(k)} & \cdots & a_{nn}^{(k)} \end{bmatrix}$$

If  $a_{k+1,k+1}^{(k)} \neq 0$ , then let

$$\begin{aligned} l_{i,k+1} &= \frac{a_{i,k+1}^{(k)}}{a_{k+1,k+1}^{(k)}} \\ a_{i,j}^{(k+1)} &= a_{i,j}^{(k)} - l_{i,k+1} \times a_{k+1,j}^{(k)} \\ b_i^{(k+1)} &= b_i^{(k)} - l_{i,k+1} b_{k+1}^{(k)} \end{aligned}$$

Finally, after at most  $n - 1$  steps, the system becomes

$$\mathbf{A}^{(n-1)}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}^{(n-1)}$$

which is an upper triangular system, where

$$\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}^{(n-1)} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11}^{(0)} & a_{12}^{(0)} & \cdots & a_{1n}^{(0)} \\ & a_{22}^{(1)} & \cdots & a_{2n}^{(1)} \\ & & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & & a_{nn}^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$\mathbf{b}^{(n-1)} = \begin{bmatrix} b_1^{(0)} \\ b_2^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ b_n^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix}$$

Step 3: The solution vector  $\mathbf{x}$  is solved by back substitution:

$$x_n = \frac{b_n^{(n-1)}}{a_{nn}^{(n-1)}}$$

and for  $k = n - 1, n - 2, \dots, 1$ ,

$$x_k = \frac{1}{a_{kk}^{(k-1)}} \left( b_k^{(k-1)} - \sum_{j=k+1}^n a_{kj}^{(k-1)} x_j \right)$$

The above algorithm is known as **Gaussian elimination**.

## 2.3 Triangular Factorisation: $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$

We note, in the  $(k + 1)$ th step of above Gaussian elimination, all rows below the  $(k + 1)$ th row are minused by a multiple of the  $(k + 1)$ th row. This operation can be viewed by a collection of elementary row operation 2 and represented by

$$\mathbf{A}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{L}^{(k)} \mathbf{A}^{(k)}$$

where

$$\mathbf{L}^{(k)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & -l_{k+2,k+1} & \ddots & & \\ & & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ & & -l_{n,k+1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This relation gives

$$\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}^{(n-1)} = \mathbf{L}^{(n-2)} \mathbf{L}^{(n-3)} \dots \mathbf{L}^{(0)} \mathbf{A}^{(0)}$$

Also, note the inverse of  $\mathbf{L}^{(k)}$  is

$$(\mathbf{L}^{(k)})^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & & \\ & & 1 & & & \\ & & l_{k+2,k+1} & \ddots & & \\ & & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ & & l_{n,k+1} & & & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

a flip of signs of all  $l_{i,k+1}$  from  $\mathbf{L}^{(k)}$ .

Therefore,

$$(\mathbf{L}^{(0)})^{-1} (\mathbf{L}^{(1)})^{-1} \dots (\mathbf{L}^{(n-2)})^{-1} \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}$$

Note that  $(\mathbf{L}^{(0)})^{-1} (\mathbf{L}^{(1)})^{-1} \dots (\mathbf{L}^{(n-2)})^{-1}$  is upper triangular and is defined as  $\mathbf{L}$ :

$$(\mathbf{L}^{(0)})^{-1} (\mathbf{L}^{(1)})^{-1} \dots (\mathbf{L}^{(n-2)})^{-1} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & & \\ l_{21} & \ddots & & & & \\ \vdots & & 1 & & & \\ l_{k+2,1} & \cdots & l_{k+2,k+1} & \ddots & & \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \ddots & \\ l_{n,1} & \cdots & l_{n,k+1} & \cdots & l_{n,n-1} & 1 \end{bmatrix} := \mathbf{L}$$

Hence,  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ , where  $\mathbf{U} = \mathbf{A}^{(n-1)}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  is a lower triangular matrix.

**Theorem 2.3.** If  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{L}$  are the upper and lower triangular matrices defined above, then  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ .

## 2.4 Compact Forms of Gaussian Elimination

If  $\mathbf{A}$  admits an  $\mathbf{LU}$  decomposition, we can solve the system of equations  $\mathbf{LU}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  in two stages.

- Set  $\mathbf{z} := \mathbf{U}\mathbf{x}$ . Solve  $\mathbf{L}\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{b}$  for  $\mathbf{z}$ .
- Solve  $\mathbf{U}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{z}$  for  $\mathbf{x}$

**Theorem 2.4** (Existence and Uniqueness of  $\mathbf{LU}$  decomposition).

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be an  $n \times n$  matrix and  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$  be the  $k \times k$  matrix formed from the first  $k$  rows and columns of  $\mathbf{A}$ . If  $\det(\mathbf{A}^{(k)}) \neq 0 \forall k = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$ , then there exists a unique lower triangular matrix  $\mathbf{L} = (l_{ij})$  with  $l_{ii} = 1 \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and a unique upper triangular matrix  $\mathbf{U} = (u_{ij})$  such that  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ .

## 2.5 Compact Forms of Gaussian Elimination

The  $\mathbf{LU}$  decomposition can be calculated directly by Gaussian Elimination.

Given that  $\mathbf{A}$  admits a  $\mathbf{LU}$  decomposition  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$ , we have, entry-wise

$$a_{ij} = \sum_{k=1}^n l_{ik} u_{kj} \quad i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Note that the above system has  $n^2$  equations and  $n^2 + n$  unknowns  $l_{ik}, i \geq k$  and  $u_{kj}, k \leq j$ . Thus  $n$  unknowns may be set arbitrarily.

**Theorem 2.5** (Doolittle Method).

For Doolittle Method, set diagonal entries of  $\mathbf{L}$ ,  $l_{kk} := 1, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and assume that  $u_{kk} \neq 0, \forall k \in [1, n] \cap \mathbb{Z}$ .

The sequence of calculation is as follows:

1. First row of  $\mathbf{U}$ :  $u_{1k}, 1 \leq k \leq n$
  2. First column of  $\mathbf{L}$ :  $l_{k1}, 2 \leq k \leq n$ <sup>4</sup>
  3. Second row of  $\mathbf{U}$ :  $u_{2k}, 2 \leq k \leq n$ .
- ⋮

Obviously, when calculating  $k$ th row of  $\mathbf{U}$ , row 1 to  $k-1$  of  $\mathbf{U}$  and column 1 to  $k-1$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  will be known.

Also, when calculating  $k$ th row of  $\mathbf{L}$ , row 1 to  $k$  of  $\mathbf{U}$  and column 1 to  $k-1$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  will be known.

Suppose  $u_{kj}, (j \geq k)$  is of concern, we have

$$a_{kj} = \sum_{r=1}^k l_{kr} u_{rj}$$

---

<sup>4</sup>if  $k = 1, l_{k1} = l_{11} = 1$  by definition

Substitute in  $l_{kk} = 1$  and rearranging,

$$u_{kj} = a_{kj} - \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} l_{kr} u_{rj}$$

Afterwards, suppose  $l_{ik}, (i > k)$  is of concern, we have

$$a_{ik} = \sum_{r=1}^k l_{ir} u_{rk}$$

Rearranging,

$$a_{ik} = \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} l_{ir} u_{rk} + l_{ik} u_{kk}$$

Therefore,

$$l_{ik} = \frac{a_{ik} - \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} l_{ir} u_{rk}}{u_{kk}}$$

The above two equation can be interleaved to obtain  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$ .

**Theorem 2.6** (Crout Method).

For Crout Method, set diagonal entries of  $\mathbf{U}$ ,  $u_{ii} = 1, k = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and assume that  $l_{kk} \neq 0 \forall k \in [1, n] \cap \mathbb{Z}$ .

The sequence of calculation is as follows:

1. First column of  $\mathbf{L}$ :  $l_{k1}, 1 \leq k \leq n$
2. First row of  $\mathbf{U}$ :  $u_{1k}, 2 \leq k \leq n$
3. Second column of  $\mathbf{L}$ :  $l_{k2}, 2 \leq k \leq n$
- $\vdots$

Obviously, when calculating  $k$ th column of  $L$ , column 1 to  $k - 1$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  and row 1 to  $k - 1$  of  $\mathbf{U}$  will be known.

Also, when calculating  $k$ th row of  $\mathbf{U}$ , column 1 to  $k$  of  $\mathbf{L}$  and row 1 to  $k - 1$  of  $\mathbf{U}$  will be known.

Suppose  $l_{ik}, (i \geq k)$  is of concern, we have

$$a_{ik} = \sum_{r=1}^k l_{ir} u_{rk}$$

Substitute in  $u_{kk} = 1$  and rearranging,

$$l_{ik} = a_{ik} - \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} l_{ir} u_{rk}$$

Afterwards, suppose  $u_{kj}$ , ( $j \geq k + 1$ ) is of concern, we have

$$a_{kj} = \sum_{r=1}^k l_{kr} u_{rj}$$

Rearranging,

$$u_{kj} = \frac{a_{kj} - \sum_{r=1}^{k-1} l_{kr} u_{rj}}{l_{kk}}$$

The above two equation can be interleaved to obtain  $\mathbf{L}$  and  $\mathbf{U}$ .

## 2.6 LU Decomposition for Tridiagonal Matrices

**Theorem 2.7.**

Let  $\mathbf{A}$  be a tridiagonal matrices

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1 & c_1 & & & \\ b_2 & a_2 & c_2 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & b_{n-1} & a_{n-1} & c_{n-1} \\ & & & & b_n & a_n \end{bmatrix}$$

If an  $\mathbf{LU}$  decomposition exists for  $\mathbf{A}$ , then

$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{LU}$$

where

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ \beta_2 & 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & \beta_{n-1} & 1 \\ & & & \beta_n & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{U} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1 & c_1 & & & \\ & \alpha_2 & c_2 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & \alpha_{n-1} & c_{n-1} \\ & & & & \alpha_n \end{bmatrix}$$

By applying Doolittle's method, it can be shown that

$$\alpha_1 = a_1$$

and for  $k = 2, 3, \dots, n$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_k &= \frac{b_k}{\alpha_{k-1}} \\ \alpha_k &= a_k - \beta_k c_{k-1} \end{aligned}$$



**Theorem 2.8** (Thomas's Algorithm).

If  $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{g}$  and define  $\mathbf{Ux} = \mathbf{h}$  where  $\mathbf{x} := (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)^T$ ,  $\mathbf{g} = (g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n)^T$  and  $\mathbf{h} = (h_1, h_2, \dots, h_n)^T$ .

$$\begin{aligned} h_1 &= g_1 \\ h_i &= g_i - \beta_i h_{i-1}, \quad i = 2, 3, \dots, n \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} x_n &= \frac{h_n}{\alpha_n} \\ x_i &= \frac{h_i - c_i x_{i+1}}{\alpha_i} \end{aligned}$$

This method is known as **Thomas algorithm**.

## 2.7 Pivoting Strategies

### 2.7.1 Partial Pivoting

**Definition 2.3** (Partial Pivoting).

At the  $(k+1)$ th step of the Gaussian Elimination process,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-2$ , choose the element having maximum absolute value in the  $(k+1)$ th column of  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$  that lies on or below the diagonal so that

$$|a_{s,k+1}^{(k)}| = \max_i |a_{i,k+1}^{(k)}| \quad k+1 \leq i \leq n$$

and interchange row  $k+1$  with row  $s$ .

### 2.7.2 Scaled Partial Pivoting

**Definition 2.4** (Scaled Partial Pivoting).

In the beginning, calculate  $s_i$  for all row  $i$ , where

$$s_i = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \{|a_{ij}|\}, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

At the  $(k+1)$ th step of the Gaussian Elimination process,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, n-2$ , choose  $r$ th row of  $\mathbf{A}^{(k)}$  that lies on or below the diagonal where  $r$  is determined by

$$\frac{|a_{r,k+1}^{(k)}|}{s_r} = \max_i \frac{|a_{i,k+1}^{(k)}|}{s_i} \quad k+1 \leq i \leq n$$

and exchange row  $k+1$  with row  $r$  and  $s_{k+1}$  with  $s_r$ .

### 3 Error of Approximation

**Definition 3.1** (Error).

Given  $n + 1$  data values  $(x_0, f_0), (x_1, f_1), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$ , we may define the error of approximation,  $E$ , by

$$E = \sum_{i=0}^n |p(x_i) - f_i|$$

If we take  $p(x)$  to be a polynomial of degree  $n$  then by choosing

$$p(x_i) = f_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

we can make  $E = 0$ . The function  $p(x)$  is the **Lagrange interpolating polynomial**.

Alternatively, when  $n$  is large, we may fit a polynomial of degree  $k$  where  $k \ll n$ . We use

$$E = \sum_{i=0}^n [p(x_i) - f_i]^2$$

By minimising  $E$  we achieve a **least square fit**.

If the function  $f(x)$  is continuous specified on the interval  $[a, b]$ , we may define the error  $E$  in approximating  $f(x)$  by  $p(x)$  as

$$E = \max_{a \leq x \leq b} |p(x) - f(x)|$$

It is common in practice to take  $p(x)$  as a polynomial and minimise  $E$  with respect to variations in the coefficients. This generate the **minimax** polynomial approximation.

The following theorem justifies the choice of polynomial for approximation

**Theorem 3.1** (Weierstrass Approximation Theorem).

Suppose  $f$  is defined and continuous on  $[a, b]$ . For each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a polynomial  $P(x)$ , defined on  $[a, b]$ , with property that

$$|f(x) - P(x)| < \varepsilon \quad \forall x \in [a, b]$$

#### 3.1 Least Square Approximation

##### 3.1.1 Discrete Data

Given a set of  $m + 1$  discrete data points  $(x_0, f(x_0)), (x_1, f(x_0)), \dots (x_m, f(x_m))$ , each carrying weight  $w_0, w_1, \dots, w_m$  respectively.

The task is to find an approximating polynomial function<sup>5</sup>

$$p_n(x; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n) := a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_nx^n$$

---

<sup>5</sup>The subscript  $n$  denotes the power of the polynomial; thus the polynomial  $p_n$  has  $n + 1$  unknowns

( $m > n$ ) such that

$$E(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n) = \sum_{i=0}^m w_i [f(x_i) - p_n(x_i; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)]^2$$

is minimised with respect to the parameters  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$ .<sup>6</sup>

We require

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_j} = 0 \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Therefore, by differentiating with  $a_j$ ,

$$\sum_{i=0}^m w_i [f(x_i) - p_n(x_i; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)] \frac{\partial}{\partial a_j} (-p_n(x_i; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)) \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Rearranging, we have

$$\sum_{i=0}^m w_i \underbrace{(a_0 + a_1 x_i + \dots + a_n x_i^n)}_{p_n(x_i; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)} x_i^j = \sum_{i=0}^m w_i f(x_i) x_i^j \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

There is  $n + 1$  unknowns, and  $n + 1$  equations, so the linear system is<sup>7</sup>

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^0 & \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^1 & \dots & \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^n \\ \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^1 & \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^2 & \dots & \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^{n+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^n & \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^{n+1} & \dots & \sum_{i=0}^m w_i x_i^{2n} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=0}^m w_i f(x_i) x_i^0 \\ \sum_{i=0}^m w_i f(x_i) x_i^1 \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{i=0}^m w_i f(x_i) x_i^n \end{bmatrix}$$

### 3.1.2 Continuous Function

Given a continuous function  $f(x)$  defined on an interval  $[a, b]$  with each value  $x \in [a, b]$  associated with a weight  $w(x)$ .

The task is to find an approximating polynomial function  $p_n(x; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)$  such that

$$E(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n) = \int_a^b w(x) [f(x) - p_n(x; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)]^2 dx$$

is minimised with respect to the parameters  $a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n$ .

The necessary condition for  $E(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)$  to be minimum are

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial a_j} = 0 \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Differentiating with respect to  $a_j$ ,

$$\frac{dE}{da_j} = -2 \int_a^b w(x) [f(x) - p(x; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)] \frac{\partial}{\partial a_j} (p_n(x; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)) dx = 0$$

<sup>6</sup> $E$  can be understood as a weighted sum of squares of residue for each data.

<sup>7</sup>the  $j$ th column corresponding to the equation of specific  $j$

Rearranging,<sup>8</sup>

$$\int_a^b w(x)(a_0 + a_1x + \cdots + a_nx^n)x^j \, dx = \int_a^b w(x)f(x)x^j \, dx \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \int_a^b w(x)x^{k+j} \, dx = \int_a^b w(x)f(x)x^j \, dx \quad \forall j = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Similarly, a matrix equation can be formed from this linear system of  $n + 1$  variables and  $n + 1$  equations. However, this matrix is **ill-conditioned**.

### 3.2 Lagrange Interpolation

#### Definition 3.2.

Given a set of  $n + 1$  data points  $(x_0, f_0), (x_1, f_1), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$ , we seek to find a polynomial  $p_n(x)$  of degree  $n$  which passes through each of the given points, i.e.

$$p_n(x_i) = f_i \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$$

If we write  $p_n(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \cdots + a_nx^n$ , we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & x_0 & \cdots & x_0^n \\ 1 & x_1 & \cdots & x_1^n \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 1 & x_n & \cdots & x_n^n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ \vdots \\ a_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_0 \\ f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_n \end{bmatrix}$$

The determinant of the  $(n + 1) \times (n + 1)$  Vandermonde matrix is  $\prod_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_j - x_i)$ , so the system has a unique solution as long as  $x_i, i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$  are all distinct. The solved polynomial is the unique Lagrange interpolating polynomial.

**Theorem 3.2** (Computation of Lagrange Interpolating Polynomial).

Write

$$\begin{aligned} p_n(x) &= \alpha_0(x - x_1)(x - x_2) \cdots (x - x_n) \\ &\quad + \alpha_1(x - x_0)(x - x_2) \cdots (x - x_n) \\ &\quad + \cdots \\ &\quad + \alpha_n(x - x_0)(x - x_1) \cdots (x - x_{n-1}) \end{aligned}$$

Then, we have

$$\alpha_i = \frac{f_i}{\prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n (x_i - x_j)}$$

---

<sup>8</sup>  $\frac{\partial}{\partial a_j}(p_n(x; a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)) = x^j$  is obvious.

So,

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n l_i(x) f_i$$

where

$$l_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j}$$

Note that  $l_i(x)$  admits the property that

$$\begin{aligned} l_i(x_i) &= 1 \\ l_i(x_j) &\neq 1 \text{ for } j \neq i \end{aligned}$$

**Theorem 3.3** ( $\psi(x)$  and alternative expression of Lagrange Interpolating Polynomial).  
Let  $\psi(x)$  denote the polynomial

$$\psi(x) = (x - x_0)(x - x_1) \cdots (x - x_n) = \prod_{i=0}^n (x - x_i)$$

then, by differentiating on each product term once at a time, we have

$$\psi'(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n (x - x_j)$$

and hence

$$\psi'(x_i) = (x_i - x_0) \cdots (x_i - x_{i-1})(x_i - x_{i+1}) \cdots (x_i - x_n)$$

as all other terms containing  $(x - x_i)$  will vanish.

Thus,<sup>9</sup>

$$l_i(x) = \frac{\psi(x)}{(x - x_i)\psi'(x_i)}$$

So  $p_n(x)$  may be written as

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{\psi(x)}{(x - x_i)\psi'(x_i)} f_i$$

### 3.3 Truncation Error of Interpolating Polynomial

**Theorem 3.4** (Extended Mean Value Theorem).

Suppose that

$$\begin{aligned} a &\leq x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_k \leq b \\ f(x_0) &= f(x_1) = \cdots = f(x_k) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

and  $f(x), f'(x), \dots, f^{(k)}(x)$  are all continuous on  $[a, b]$ . There is a  $\xi \in (x_0, x_n) \subset (a, b)$  such that

$$f^{(k)}(\xi) = 0$$

---

<sup>9</sup>Do NOT forget multiply  $(x - x_i)$  while using this formula!

**Theorem 3.5** (Lagrange Interpolating Polynomial Error Formula).

Let  $f(x) \in C^{(n+1)}[a, b]$ . Further, let  $p_n(x)$  interpolates  $f(x)$  at  $(n+1)$  distinct points  $x + 0, x_1, \dots, x_n \in [a, b]$ . Then, for  $x \in [a, b], x \neq x_i, i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ ,

$$f(x) - p_n(x) = \psi(x) \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!}$$

for some  $\xi \in \text{Spr}\{x, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ .

Here,  $\text{Spr}\{x, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$  denotes the smallest interval containing  $x, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ .

It follows that an upper bound for the error is

$$\delta(f(x)) := |f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{M}{(n+1)!} |\psi(x)|$$

where

$$M = \max_{a \leq \xi \leq b} |f^{(n+1)}(\xi)|$$

### 3.4 Divided Differences

**Definition 3.3** (Divided Differences).

Let  $(x_0, f(x_0)), \dots, (x_n, f(x_n))$  be  $n+1$  given data points. The **first divided difference** of  $f(x)$  between  $x_0$  and  $x_1$ , denoted by  $f[x_0, x_1]$  is defined by

$$f[x_0, x_1] := \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$$

Analogously, the **second divided difference** for the triplet  $(x_0, x_1, x_2)$  is defined by

$$f[x_0, x_1, x_2] := \frac{f[x_1, x_2] - f[x_0, x_1]}{x_2 - x_0}$$

And, the  $n$ th divided difference of  $f(x)$  at  $(n+1)$ -tuple  $(x_0, \dots, x_n)$  is defined recursively in terms of the  $(n-1)$ th divided difference as follows:

$$f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n] := \frac{f[x_1, \dots, x_n] - f[x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}]}{x_n - x_0}$$

**Theorem 3.6** (Divided difference of self).

We define  $f[x_i, x_i]$  by

$$f[x_i, x_i] = \lim_{x_{i+1} \rightarrow x_i} f[x_i, x_{i+1}] = f'(x_i)$$

provided  $f'(x_i)$  exists.

Similarly, we define  $r$ th divided difference of self is

$$f[\underbrace{x_i, \dots, x_i}_{rx'_i s}] = \frac{1}{r!} f^{(r)}(x_i)$$

### 3.5 Newton Interpolation Formula

It is easy to see, by definition of first order divided difference, that

$$f(x) = f(x_0) + (x - x_0)f[x, x_0]$$

Therefore, we can obtain

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) &= f(x_0) + (x - x_0)f[x_0, x_1] + \cdots + (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_{n-1})f[x_0, \dots, x_n] + R_n(x) \\ &= f(x_0) + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f[x_0, \dots, x_{i+1}] \prod_{j=0}^i (x - x_j) + R_n(x) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$R_n(x) = \psi(x)f[x, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

The Newton interpolating formula of these  $n + 1$  data points is

$$p_n(x) = f(x_0) + (x - x_0)f[x_0, x_1] + \cdots + (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_{n-1})f[x_0, \dots, x_n]$$

To see this, we note that at  $x_0, \dots, x_n$ ,  $R_n = 0$ , so  $f(x) = p_n(x)$ ; also  $p_n(x)$  is at most of degree  $n$ .

When expanding the formula  $p_n$  to  $p_{n+1}$ , we note that  $f = p_{n+1} = p_n + (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)f[x_0, \dots, x_{n+1}]$ , so the divided difference can be easily acquired.

**Remark:**  $f[x_0, \dots, x_n] = f[x_{i_0}, \dots, x_{i_n}]$ , where  $\{i_k\}_{k=1}^n$  is a permutation of  $\{k\}_{k=1}^n$ .

### 3.6 Cubic Spline Interpolation

Cubic Spline interpolation is a piecewise approximation used to replace high order polynomial interpolation, latter of which has the problem of wild oscillation.

**Definition 3.4** (Cubic Spline Approximation).

Given a function  $f$  defined on  $[a, b]$  and a set of data points  $x_i$  with  $a = x_0 < x_1 < \cdots < x_{n-1} < x_n = b$ , a **cubic spline interpolant** to  $f$  is a *piecewise* function  $S$  satisfying the following conditions:

1.  $S$  is a cubic polynomial, denoted  $S_j$  on the subinterval  $[x_j, x_{j+1}]$  for  $j = 0, 1, \dots, n - 1$ .
2. Interpolation condition:  $S(x_j) = f(x_j)$ .
3.  $S \in C^1(a, b): S'_j(x_{j+1}) = S'_{j+1}(x_{j+1}) \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$ .
4.  $S \in C^2(a, b): S''_j(x_{j+1}) = S''_{j+1}(x_{j+1}) \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n - 2$ .
5. One of the following sets of boundary condition is satisfied
  - $S''_0(x_0) = S''_{n-1}(x_n) = 0$  (Natural boundary condition)
  - Or,  $S'_0(x_0) = f'(x_0)$  and  $S'_{n-1}(x_n) = f'(x_n)$  (Clamped boundary condition)

**Theorem 3.7** (Solving cubic spline interpolation efficiently).

The following method will produce the cubic spline interpolation of  $n + 1$  data points by solving a linear system of maximum size  $(n + 1) \times (n + 1)$ .

Let  $s_i(x)$  be a cubic polynomial on  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ . Then  $s_i''(x)$  is the linear polynomial on  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ .

Let  $M_i = s_i''(x_i)$ .  $M_i$  will be calculated later using (3) and (5).

Using lagrange interpolation polynomial, we have

$$s_i''(x) = \frac{x_{i+1} - x}{h_i} M_i + \frac{x - x_i}{h_i} M_{i+1}$$

where  $h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$  the step size.

Integrating twice, we have

$$s_i(x) = \frac{(x_{i+1} - x)^3}{6h_i} M_i + \frac{(x - x_i)^3}{6h_i} M_{i+1} + Ax + B$$

for some constant  $A$  and  $B$ .

Using (2), i.e.,

$$s_i(x_i) = f_i \quad s_i(x_{i+1}) = f_{i+1}$$

we have, nicely<sup>10</sup>

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{h_i^2}{6} M_i + Ax_i + B &= f_i \\ \frac{h_i^2}{6} M_{i+1} + Ax_{i+1} + B &= f_{i+1} \end{aligned}$$

Solving which we have

$$\begin{cases} A &= \frac{f_{i+1} - f_i}{h_i} + \frac{h_i}{6} (M_i - M_{i+1}) \\ B &= \frac{x_{i+1} f_i - x_i f_{i+1}}{h_i} + \frac{h_i}{6} (x_i M_{i+1} - x_{i+1} M_i) \end{cases}$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} s_i(x) &= \frac{6}{h_i} [(x_{i+1} - x)^3 M_i + (x - x_i)^3 M_{i+1}] \\ &\quad - \frac{h_i}{6} [(x_{i+1} - x) M_i + (x - x_i) M_{i+1}] \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{h_i} [(x_{i+1} - x) f_i + (x - x_i) f_{i+1}] \end{aligned}$$

From here, differentiate  $s_i(x)$ , we have expression for  $s_i'(x)$ :

$$s_i'(x) = \frac{1}{2h_i} [-(x_{i+1} - x)^2 M_i + (x - x_i)^2 M_{i+1}] - \frac{h_i}{6} (-M_i + M_{i+1}) + \frac{1}{h_i} (-f_i + f_{i+1})$$

---

<sup>10</sup>At each substitution, one cubic power vanishes and the other degenerates to  $h_i$ , which simplifies the calculation.



Replacing the subscript  $i$  by  $i - 1$ , we have

$$s'_{i-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2h_{i-1}}[-(x_i - x)^2 M_{i-1} + (x - x_{i-1})^2 M_i] - \frac{h_{i-1}}{6}(-M_{i-1} + M_i) + \frac{1}{h_{i-1}}(-f_{i-1} + f_i)$$

Imposing (3), i.e.  $s'_{i-1}(x_i) = s'_i(x_i)$ , we will have

$$h_{i-1}M_{i-1} + 2(h_{i-1} + h_i)M_i + h_iM_{i+1} = 6\frac{f_{i+1} - f_i}{h_i} - 6\frac{f_i - f_{i-1}}{h_{i-1}}$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, n - 1$ . This equation represents a system of  $n - 1$  linear equations with  $n + 1$  unknowns; the other 2 equation is obtained from the boundary condition.

**Natural boundary condition:**

Under natural boundary condition,  $M_0 = M_n = 0$  by definition. Then we have

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{b}$$

where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2(h_0 + h_1) & h_1 & & & & \\ h_1 & 2(h_1 + h_2) & h_2 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & h_{n-3} & 2(h_{n-3} + h_{n-2}) & h_{n-2} & \\ & & & h_{n-2} & 2(h_{n-2} + h_{n-1}) & \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{m} = (M_1 \quad M_2 \quad \dots \quad M_{n-1})^t$$

and

$$\mathbf{b} = 6 \times \begin{pmatrix} \frac{f_0}{h_0} - \frac{f_1}{h_0} - \frac{f_1}{h_1} + \frac{f_2}{h_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{f_{i-1}}{h_{i-1}} - \frac{f_i}{h_{i-1}} - \frac{f_i}{h_i} + \frac{f_{i+1}}{h_i} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{f_{n-2}}{h_{n-2}} - \frac{f_{n-1}}{h_{n-2}} - \frac{f_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}} + \frac{f_n}{h_{n-1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

**Clamped boundary condition:**

Under clamped boundary condition,  $s'_0(x_0) = f'(x_0)$  and  $s'_{n-1}(x_n) = f'(x_n)$ , which we will have, from  $s'_i(x)$  equation,

$$2h_0M_0 + h_0M_1 = 6(-\frac{f_0}{h_0} + \frac{f_1}{h_0} - f'_0)$$

$$h_{n-1}M_{n-1} + 2h_{n-1}M_n = 6(\frac{f_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}} - \frac{f_n}{h_{n-1}} + f'_n)$$

Therefore, we can form  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{m} = \mathbf{b}$  accordingly, where

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{pmatrix} 2h_0 & h_0 & & & & \\ h_0 & 2(h_0 + h_1) & h_1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & h_{n-2} & 2(h_{n-2} + h_{n-1}) & h_{n-1} & \\ & & & h_{n-1} & 2h_{n-1} & \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{m} = (M_0 \quad M_1 \quad \cdots \quad M_n)^t$$

and

$$\mathbf{b} = 6 \times \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{f_0}{h_0} + \frac{f_1}{h_0} - f'_0 \\ \frac{f_0}{h_0} - \frac{f_1}{h_0} - \frac{f_1}{h_1} + \frac{f_2}{h_1} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{f_{i-1}}{h_{i-1}} - \frac{f_i}{h_{i-1}} - \frac{f_i}{h_i} + \frac{f_{i+1}}{h_i} \\ \vdots \\ \frac{f_{n-2}}{h_{n-2}} - \frac{f_{n-1}}{h_{n-2}} - \frac{f_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}} + \frac{f_n}{h_{n-1}} \\ \frac{f_{n-1}}{h_{n-1}} - \frac{f_n}{h_{n-1}} + f'_n \end{pmatrix}$$

## 4 Numerical Integration

### 4.0.1 Prerequisite – Useful Theorems

**Theorem 4.1** (Intermediate Value Theorem).

If  $f(x)$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , let  $m = \min_{a \leq x \leq b} f(x)$  and  $M = \max_{a \leq x \leq b} f(x)$ , then for any  $K$  satisfying  $m \leq K \leq M$ , there exists  $\xi \in (a, b)$  such that  $f(\xi) = K$ .

From this theorem we have the following theorem.

**Theorem 4.2** (Mean Value Theorem for Integrals).

Let  $g(x)$  be a **non-negative** or **non-positive** integrable function on  $[a, b]$ . If  $f(x)$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$ , then there is at least one point  $\xi$  in  $[a, b]$  such that

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

### 4.1 Quadrature based on Interpolation Polynomials

We first select a set of  $(n + 1)$  distinct nodes  $\{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$  from the interval  $[a, b]$ . The Lagrange interpolating polynomial is

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n l_i(x)f(x_i)$$

with truncation error term

$$E_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \psi(x)$$

which admits  $f(x) = p_n(x) + E_n(x)$ .

We approximate  $\int_a^b f(x) \, dx$  by considering the integral of  $p_n(x)$ , denoted by  $I_n(f)$

$$I_n(f) := \int_a^b p_n(x) \, dx = \int_a^b \sum_{i=0}^n l_i(x)f(x_i) \, dx = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i f(x_i)$$

where  $a_i = \int_a^b l_i(x) \, dx$ . Therefore, the truncation error will generate the error term of  $I_n(f)$ , denoted by  $E_n(f)$

$$E_n(f) := \int_a^b \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))\psi(x)}{(n+1)!} \, dx = \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \int_a^b f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))\psi(x) \, dx$$

where  $\xi(x)$  is in  $[a, b]$  for each  $x$ .

Therefore we can write the integral of  $f(x)$  as

$$I(f) := \int_a^b f(x) \, dx = I_n(f) + E_n(f)$$

where  $I(f) \approx I_n(f)$ .

## 4.2 Trapezoidal Rule

Trapezoidal rule is produced by let  $n = 1$ ,  $x_0 = a$  and  $x_1 = b$ .  
Under these condition, interpolating polynomial is

$$p_1(x) = \frac{x-b}{a-b}f(a) + \frac{x-a}{b-a}f(b)$$

a line passes through  $(a, f(a))$  and  $(b, f(b))$ .

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} I(f) &= \int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_a^b p_1(x) dx + E_1(f) \\ &\approx \frac{b-a}{2}[f(a) + f(b)] \quad (\text{Trapezoidal Rule}) \end{aligned}$$

by ignoring error term  $E_1(f)$ .

The error term is

$$\begin{aligned} E_1(f) &= \int_a^b \frac{1}{2}f''(\xi(x))(x-a)(x-b) dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2}f''(\xi) \int_a^b (x-a)(x-b) dx \quad (\text{by MVT for integrals}) \\ &= \frac{1}{2}f''(\xi) \left( -\frac{(b-a)^3}{6} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{12}f''(\xi) \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 4.1** (Degree of Precision).

A quadrature formula  $I_n(f)$  that approximates  $I(f)$  has degree of precision  $m$  if it is exact for all polynomial  $f$  of degree  $\leq m$ , and  $I_n(f) \neq I(f)$  for some polynomial  $f$  of degree  $m+1$ .

**Theorem 4.3** (Equivalent Definition of degree of precision).

The following are equivalent.

1.  $I_n(f)$  has degree of precision  $m$ .
2.  $\int_a^b f(x) dx - I_n(f) = 0 \quad \forall f(x) = p_m(x)$  and  $\int_a^b f(x) dx - I_n(f) \neq 0$  for some  $f(x) = p_{m+1}(x)$
3.  $\int_a^b x^i dx - I_n(x^i) = 0 \quad \forall i = 0, 1, \dots, m$  and  $\int_a^b x^{m+1} dx - I_n(x^{m+1}) \neq 0$

## 4.3 Simpson's Rule

Using the similar technique, by setting  $n = 2$ , a three equidistant point  $x_0 = a$ ,  $x_1 = \frac{1}{2}(a+b)$  and  $x_2 = b$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p_2(x) &= \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)}{(x_0-x_1)(x_0-x_2)}f(x_0) + \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_2)}{(x_1-x_0)(x_1-x_2)}f(x_1) + \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_1)}{(x_2-x_0)(x_2-x_1)}f(x_2) \\ &= \frac{1}{2h^2}[(x-x_1)(x-x_2)f(x_0) - 2(x-x_0)(x-x_2)f(x_1) + (x-x_0)(x-x_1)f(x_2)] \end{aligned}$$

where  $h = \frac{1}{2}(b - a) = x_{i+1} - x_i$ ,  $i = 0, 1$  is the step size, and

$$E_2(f) = \frac{f'''(\xi)}{3!}\psi(x) = (x - x_0)(x - x_1)(x - x_2)f[x, x_0, x_1, x_2]$$

It can be shown that  $I_2(f)$  is

$$I_2(f) = \frac{h}{3}[f(x_0) + 4f(x_1) + f(x_2)]$$

and

$$E_2(f) = -\frac{h^5}{90}f^{(4)}(\xi)$$

for some  $\xi \in [x_0, x_2]$ .

It is then clear the degree of precision of Simpson's rule is  $m = 3$ .

#### 4.3.1 Proof of Simpson's error formula

let  $F$  be an anti-derivative of  $f$ , i.e.  $F' = f$ . WLOG,  $a + b = 0$ , set  $x = \frac{b-a}{2}$  then we are interested in the error expression

$$E_4(f) = F(x) - F(-x) - \frac{x}{3}(f(x) + 4f(0) + f(-x))$$

This has derivatives

$$g'(x) = \frac{2}{3}(f(x) - 2f(0) + f(-x)) - \frac{x}{3}(f'(x) - f'(-x)) \quad (1)$$

$$g''(x) = \frac{1}{3}(f'(x) - f'(-x)) - \frac{x}{3}(f''(x) + f''(-x)) \quad (2)$$

$$g'''(x) = -\frac{x}{3}(f'''(x) - f'''(-x)) \quad (\#). \quad (3)$$

Consequently, as  $g(0) = g'(0) = g''(0) = g'''(0) = 0$ , we have, by extended mean value theorem<sup>11</sup>

$$\frac{g(x)}{x^5} = \frac{g'(x_1)}{5x_1^4} = \dots = \frac{g'''(x_3)}{(5 \cdot 4 \cdot 3x_3^2)}$$

By substituting  $(\#)$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{g(x)}{x^5} &= \frac{-\frac{x_3}{3}(f'''(x_3) - f'''(-x_3))}{60x_3^2} = -\frac{1}{90} \cdot \frac{f'''(x_3) - f'''(-x_3)}{2x_3} \\ &= \frac{1}{90} \cdot f^{(4)}(x_4) \quad \text{By MVT} \end{aligned}$$

Other error bounds are

- $|E_2(f)| \leq \frac{h^5}{12}|f^{(4)}(\xi)|$ . This is derived by  $E_2(f) = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} E_2(x) dx + \int_{x_1}^{x_2} E_2(x) dx$  and apply integral MVT on each integral.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>11</sup>Extended mean value theorem:

<sup>12</sup>Integral of  $\int_{x_0}^{x_n} (x - x_0) \cdot (x - x_n) dx$  can be more easily evaluated by substitution:  $x = x_0 + th$ , where  $h = x_{i+1} - x_i$  is the step size. Another useful substitution is to make the above integrand symmetric.

- $|E_2(f)| = -\frac{h^5}{12}[\frac{1}{3}f^{(4)}(\eta_1) - \frac{1}{5}f^{(4)}(\eta_2)]$ . This is proved by (1) Taylor expansion of  $f(x)$  around  $x_1$  with remainder containing 4th power derivative. Odd power derivative are eliminated due to symmetry. (2) Next, consider Taylor expansion with remainder containing 4th power derivative around  $x_0$  and  $x_2$ , both evaluated at  $x_1$ , to obtain an expression for  $f''$ , as odd power derivatives are again eliminated. The fourth power derivative is bounded by IVT. Together the result is proved.

## 4.4 General Newton Cotes formula

**Theorem 4.4** (Newton Cotes formula).

Suppose that

$$\sum_{i=0}^n a_i f(x_i)$$

denotes the  $(n+1)$ -point Newton-Cotes formula with

$$x_0 = a, \quad x_n = b, \quad h = \frac{b-a}{n}$$

There exists  $\xi \in (a, b)$  such that

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i f(x_i) + \frac{h^{n+3} f^{(n+2)}(\xi)}{(n+2)!} \int_0^n t^2(t-1) \cdot (t-n) dt$$

if  $n$  is **even** and  $f \in C^{n+2}[a, b]$ ; and

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \sum_{i=0}^n a_i f(x_i) + \frac{h^{n+2} f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \int_0^n t(t-1) \cdot (t-n) dt$$

if  $n$  is **odd** and  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$ .

Therefore, when  $n$  is an **even** integer, the degree of precision is  $n+1$ ; when  $n$  is odd, the degree of precision is only  $n$ .

## 4.5 Composite Numerical Integration

Composite numerical integration is performed in a piecewise approach.

### 4.5.1 Composite Trapezoidal Rule

Let

$$h = \frac{b-a}{n}, \quad n \geq 1$$

and

$$x_i = a + ih, \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, n$$

Then composite trapezoidal rule is stated as following

$$\begin{aligned}
I(f) &= \int_a^b f(x) \, dx = \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} f(x) \, dx \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^n \left\{ \frac{h}{2} [f(x_{i-1}) + f(x_i)] - \frac{h^3}{12} f''(\xi_i) \right\} \\
&:= T_n(f) + E_{T_n}(f)
\end{aligned}$$

for some  $\xi_i \in [a, b]$ . Denoting  $f_i := f(x_i)$ , we have

$$T_n(f) = \frac{h}{2} [(f_0 + f_1) + (f_1 + f_2) + \cdots + (f_{n-1} + f_n)] = \frac{h}{2} [f_0 + 2 \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} f_i + f_n]$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
E_{T_n}(f) &= I(f) - T_n(f) = \sum_{i=1}^n -\frac{h^3}{12} f''(\xi_i) \\
&= -\frac{nh^3}{12} \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f''(\xi_i) \right] \\
&= -\frac{b-a}{12} h^2 \left[ \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f''(\xi_i) \right] \\
&= -\frac{b-a}{12} h^2 f''(\eta) \quad \text{by Intermediate Value Theorem}
\end{aligned}$$

From the error formula  $E_{T_n}$ , the composite trapezoidal rule has degree of precision 1.

#### 4.5.2 Composite Simpson's Rule

For  $n \geq 2$  and  $n$  even, define  $h = \frac{b-a}{n}$  and  $x_i = a + ih$ ,  $f_i = f(x_i)$  where  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ . The composite Simpson's rule is stated as following

$$\begin{aligned}
I(f) &= \int_a^b f(x) \, dx = \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{n}{2}} \int_{x_{2i-2}}^{x_{2i}} f(x) \, dx \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{n}{2}} \left[ \frac{h}{3} (f_{2i-2} + 4f_{2i-1} + f_{2i}) - \frac{h^5}{90} f^{(4)}(\xi_i) \right]
\end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi_i \in [x_{2i-2}, x_{2i}]$ .

It can be shown that the expression for composite Simpson's rule,  $I_{S_n}(f)$ , is

$$I_{S_n}(f) = \frac{h}{3} (f_0 + 4f_1 + 2f_2 + 4f_3 + 2f_4 + \cdots + 2f_{n-2} + 4f_{n-1} + f_n)$$

and the error  $E_{S_n}(f)$  is

$$\begin{aligned}
E_{S_n}(f) &= I(f) - I_{S_n}(f) \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{n}{2}} \left[ -\frac{h^5}{90} f^{(4)}(\xi_i) \right] \\
&= -\frac{h^5}{90} \sum_{i=1}^{\frac{n}{2}} f^{(4)}(\xi_i) \\
&= -\frac{h^5}{90} \frac{n}{2} f^{(4)}(\eta) \quad \text{by Intermediate Value Theorem} \\
&= -\frac{h^4(b-a)}{180} f^{(4)}(\eta)
\end{aligned}$$

for some  $\eta \in (a, b)$ .

## 4.6 Romberg Integration

The Romberg Integration is carried out in a recursive manner. The base case  $R_{k,1}$  is calculated first.

Let

$$h_k = \frac{b-a}{2^{k-1}} \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

which corresponds to  $n_k = 2^{k-1}$  subintervals.

We denote the Composite Trapezoidal rule with  $h_k$  above by  $R_{k,1}$ , i.e.,

$$R_{k,1} = \frac{h_k}{2} \sum_{i=1}^{2^{k-1}} [f(a + (i-1)h_k) + f(a + ih_k)]$$

It turns out that we can reduce calculation by using  $R_{k-1,1}$  in  $R_k$ :

$$R_{k,1} = \frac{1}{2} [R_{k-1,1} + h_{k-1} \sum_{i=1}^{2^{k-2}} f(a + (2i-1)h_k)]$$

It can be shown that

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx - R_{k,1} = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} K_i h_k^{2i} = K_1 h_k^2 + \sum_{i=2}^{\infty} K_i h_k^{2i}$$

where  $K_i (i = 1, 2, \dots)$  are **constants** independent of  $h_k$  and they depend only on  $f^{(2i-1)}(a)$  and  $f^{(2i-1)}(b)$ .

With this result, we can accelerate the convergence of the Composite Trapezoidal rule  $R_{k,1}$ , by eliminating the terms involving  $h_k^2$ , using expression  $R_{k,1}$  and  $R_{k+1,1}$ . It can be shown that

$$R_{k+1,2} = \frac{4R_{k+1,1} - R_{k,1}}{3}$$



and

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = R_{k+1,2} + O(h_k^4)$$

whose degree of precision improves.

In general, we have

$$R_{k,j} = \frac{4^{j-1}R_{k,j-1} - R_{k-1,j-1}}{4^{j-1} - 1}$$

and

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = R_{k,j} + O(h_k^{2j})$$

In general, if we want to calculate  $R_{n,n}$ , we follow the following table

$$\begin{bmatrix} R_{1,1} \\ R_{2,1} & R_{2,2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ R_{n,1} & R_{n,2} & \cdots & R_{n,n} \end{bmatrix}$$

and compute column by column.

## 4.7 Adaptive Quadrature Methods

Adaptive Quadrature is based on Simpson's rule. The objective is to bound the error of approximation to  $\int_a^b f(x) dx$  by a specified error  $\varepsilon > 0$ .

The first step is to apply Simpson's rule with step size  $h = \frac{b-a}{2}$ , producing

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = S(a, b) - \frac{h^5}{90} f^{(4)}(\mu) \quad \text{for some } \mu \in (a, b)$$

where  $S(a, b) = \frac{h}{3}[f(a) + 4f(a+h) + f(b)]$ . The next step is to apply composite Simpson's rule with  $n = 4$ , and step size  $\frac{h}{2} = \frac{b-a}{4}$ , giving

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = S(a, \frac{a+b}{2}) + S(\frac{a+b}{2}, b) - \frac{1}{16} \frac{h^5}{90} f^{(4)}(\mu')$$

By assumption  $\mu = \mu'$ , we have

$$\frac{h^5}{90} f^{(4)}(\mu) = \frac{16}{15} [S(a, b) - S(a, \frac{a+b}{2}) - S(\frac{a+b}{2}, b)]$$

and this estimation of error gives

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - S(a, \frac{a+b}{2}) - S(\frac{a+b}{2}, b) \right| \approx \frac{1}{15} |S(a, b) - S(a, \frac{a+b}{2}) - S(\frac{a+b}{2}, b)|$$

Therefore, we check whether  $\text{RHS} < \varepsilon$ . If yes, stop.

If not, distribute the error into two subintervals, and try bound the error, in this case  $\frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$  using the same technique. Repeat this step until the error is contained.

## 4.8 Gaussian Quadrature

Gaussian quadrature is of the form of  $\sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$ , where  $x_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  are chosen from interval  $[a, b]$  and  $w_i, i = 1, \dots, n$  are chosen to minimise the expected error by maximising the degree of precision.

To obtain Gaussian quadrature of degree  $n$  on interval  $[-1, 1]$ , we solve the equation

$$E_n(x^i) = I(x^i) - I_n(x^i), \quad i = 0, 1, \dots, 2n - 1$$

**Case 1:**  $n = 1$ .

Then  $I_1(f) = 2f(0)$ .

**Case 2:**  $n = 2$ .

Then  $I_2(f) = f(\frac{-1}{\sqrt{3}}) + f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})$

**Case 3:**  $n = 3$ .

Then  $I_3(f) = \frac{5}{9}f(-\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}}) + \frac{8}{9}f(0) + \frac{5}{9}f(\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}})$ .

**Case  $n$ :**

Solve

$$\int_{-1}^1 x^j dx = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i^j \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, 2n - 1$$

for  $w_i, x_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

For general interval  $[a, b]$ , introduce linear change of variable

$$x = \frac{(b+a) + t(b-a)}{2} \quad -1 \leq t \leq 1$$

Thus,

$$I(f) = \frac{b-a}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f\left(\frac{(b+a) + t(b-a)}{2}\right) dt = \frac{b-a}{2} \int_{-1}^1 g(t) dt$$

where  $g(t) = f\left(\frac{(b+a) + t(b-a)}{2}\right)$ .

## 5 Solutions of Nonlinear Equations

There are three numerical methods for finding the root of  $f(x) = 0$ , namely

- Bisection Method
- Fixed Point Method
- Newton-Rhapson Method

### 5.1 Bisection Method

Intermediate value theorem is an important theorem used in bisection method, to demonstrate the existence of root.

**Theorem 5.1** (Intermediate value theorem).

If the function  $f(x)$  is defined and continuous on the real interval  $[a, b]$  and if

$$f(a)f(b) < 0$$

then there exists at least one real number  $x^*$  such that

$$f(x^*) = 0 \text{ and } a < x^* < b$$

The uniqueness of the root can be guaranteed if we have

$$f'(x) > 0 \text{ or } f'(x) < 0 \text{ on } [a, b]$$

provided that  $f'(x)$  exists on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem 5.2** (Algorithm: Bisection Method).

Let  $f(x)$  be continuous on the interval  $[a, b]$ .

Suppose  $f(a_0)f(b_0) < 0$ , then for  $k = 1, 2, \dots$ , compute

$$x_k = \frac{1}{2}(a_{k-1} + b_{k-1})$$

and the new interval  $I_k$  is

$$I_k = (a_k, b_k) = \begin{cases} (x_k, b_{k-1}) & \text{if } f(x_k)f(b_{k-1}) < 0 \\ (a_{k-1}, x_k) & \text{if } f(x_k)f(a_{k-1}) < 0 \end{cases}$$

Note that the solution lies in  $I_k = (a_k, b_k)$ .

If  $f(x_k) = 0$ , then we have computed a solution. If  $f(x_k) \neq 0$  we can continue till  $b_k - a_k \leq$  a specified tolerance and  $x_k$  will be an approximate solution.

**Theorem 5.3** (Error of Bisection Method).

From the estimate of solution after the  $k$ th bisection,

$$x_k = \frac{1}{2}(a_{k-1} + b_{k-1})$$

Since the exact solution is bounded in the interval  $[a_{k-1}, b_{k-1}]$ , the error estimates for  $x_k$  the approximated solution to  $f(x) = 0$ , is

$$|x^* - x_k| \leq \frac{b_{k-1} - a_{k-1}}{2} = \frac{b_0 - a_0}{2^k}$$

where  $x^*$  is the exact solution to  $f(x) = 0$ .

**Remark:**

- Error of bisection method will always converges to 0.
- The rate of convergence is independent of the function  $f(x)$ .
- Error of estimate  $x_k$  is said to be within  $t$  correct places, if  $|x^* - x_k| < \frac{1}{2} \times 10^{-t}$  is satisfied.

## 5.2 Fixed Point Method

**Definition 5.1** (Fixed Point).

Consider the equation  $g(x) = x$  where  $g$  is the given function and  $x$  is in some finite interval. A solution  $\eta$  satisfies

$$g(\eta) = \eta$$

is called a **fixed point** of  $g$ .

**Theorem 5.4** (Existence and Uniqueness of Fixed Point).

If  $g$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $a \leq g(x) \leq b$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , then  $g$  has a fixed point  $\eta \in [a, b]$ .

If, in addition,  $g'(x)$  exists on  $(a, b)$  and

$$|g'(x)| \leq \alpha < 1, \quad \forall x \in (a, b) \quad (\#)$$

then  $g$  has a **unique** fixed point  $\eta \in [a, b]$ .

**Theorem 5.5** (Error Bound).

Suppose  $(\#)$  holds, an error bound is

$$|x_n - \eta| \leq \alpha^n |x_0 - \eta|$$

A computable error bound is

$$|x_0 - \eta| \leq \frac{\alpha^n}{1 - \alpha} |x_0 - x_1|$$

**Remark:** The important step is to find a qualifying  $g$  before applying fixed point method.

### 5.3 Order of Convergence

**Definition 5.2** (Order of Convergence).

In general, a sequence  $\{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is said to **converge with order  $k$**  to the limit  $\eta$  if there is a constant  $\lambda \neq 0$  such that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|x_{n+1} - \eta|}{|x_n - \eta|^k} = \lambda$$

An iterative method

$$x_{n+1} = g(x_n) \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

is said to be of **order  $k$**  if  $\{x_n\}$  converges with order  $k$  to the fixed point of  $g$ .

**Theorem 5.6** (Degree of Convergence).

Suppose that the iterative method

$$x_{n+1} = g(x_n) \quad n = 0, 1, \dots$$

converges to a fixed point  $\eta$  of  $g$ .

If  $g'(\eta) = g''(\eta) = \dots = g^{(k-1)}(\eta) = 0$  and  $g^{(k)}(\eta) \neq 0$ , and  $g^{(k)}$  is continuous on an interval containing  $\eta$ , then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|x_{n+1} - \eta|}{|x_n - \eta|^k} \neq 0$$

that is, the convergence  $x_n \rightarrow \eta$  is of order  $k$ .