

# MA579H Scientific Computing

## Interpolation with Chebyshev Nodes & Error Bounds

Rafikul Alam  
Department of Mathematics  
IIT Guwahati

# Lecture outline

- Runge phenomenon
- Interpolation with Chebyshev nodes
- Interpolation error
- Hermite interpolation

# Runge phenomenon

Consider the Runge function  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$f(x) := \frac{1}{(1 + 25x^2)}.$$

Then for equally spaced nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  and values  $f_j := f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , the interpolant  $p_n(x)$  does not converge to  $f(x)$ . In fact  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Runge phenomenon

Consider the Runge function  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$f(x) := \frac{1}{(1 + 25x^2)}.$$

Then for equally spaced nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  and values  $f_j := f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , the interpolant  $p_n(x)$  does not converge to  $f(x)$ . In fact  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

What about other nodes? For the **Chebyshev nodes**  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{2n+2}\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , we have  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

# Runge phenomenon

Consider the Runge function  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$f(x) := \frac{1}{(1 + 25x^2)}.$$

Then for equally spaced nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  and values  $f_j := f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , the interpolant  $p_n(x)$  does not converge to  $f(x)$ . In fact  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

What about other nodes? For the **Chebyshev nodes**  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{2n+2}\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , we have  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

The Chebyshev nodes  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{2n+2}\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$  are the zeros of the Chebyshev polynomial of degree  $n + 1$ .

# Runge phenomenon

Consider the Runge function  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by

$$f(x) := \frac{1}{(1 + 25x^2)}.$$

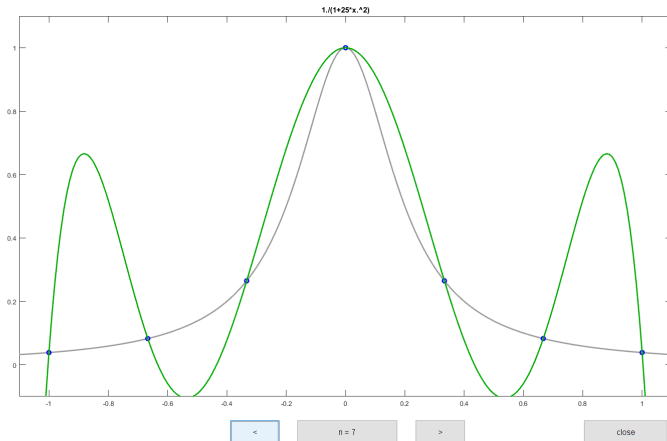
Then for equally spaced nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  and values  $f_j := f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , the interpolant  $p_n(x)$  does not converge to  $f(x)$ . In fact  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow \infty$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

What about other nodes? For the **Chebyshev nodes**  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{2n+2}\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , we have  $\max_{|x| \leq 1} |f(x) - p_n(x)| \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

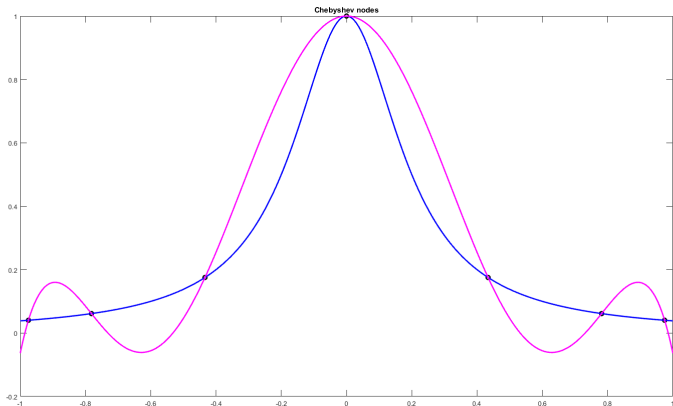
The Chebyshev nodes  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{(2j+1)\pi}{2n+2}\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$  are the zeros of the Chebyshev polynomial of degree  $n + 1$ .

The Runge phenomenon is eliminated by choosing Chebyshev nodes as interpolation points in  $[-1, 1]$ .

# Runge phenomenon at equispaced nodes ( $n=7$ )

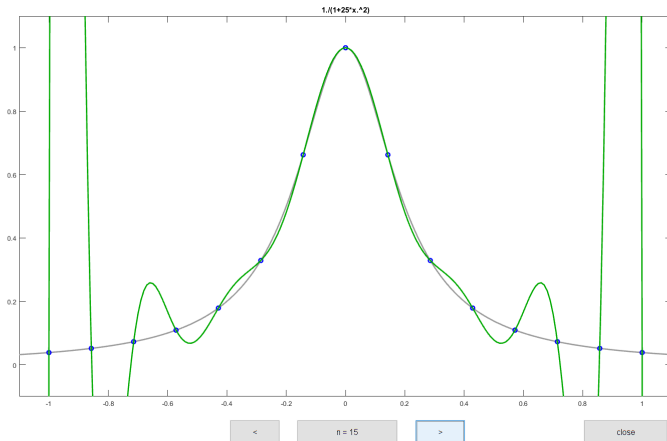


# Runge phenomenon at Chebyshev nodes ( $n=7$ )

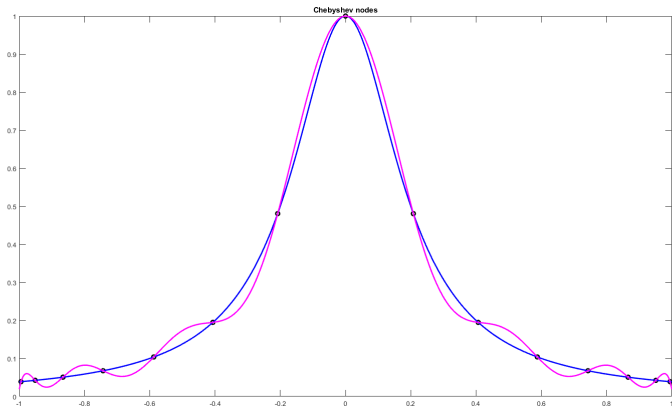




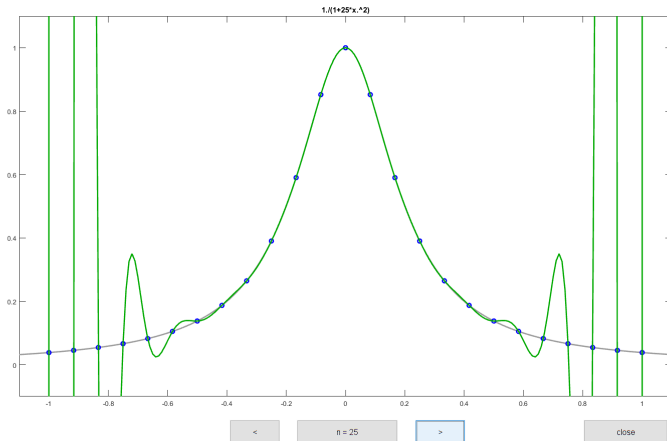
# Runge phenomenon at equispaced nodes ( $n=15$ )



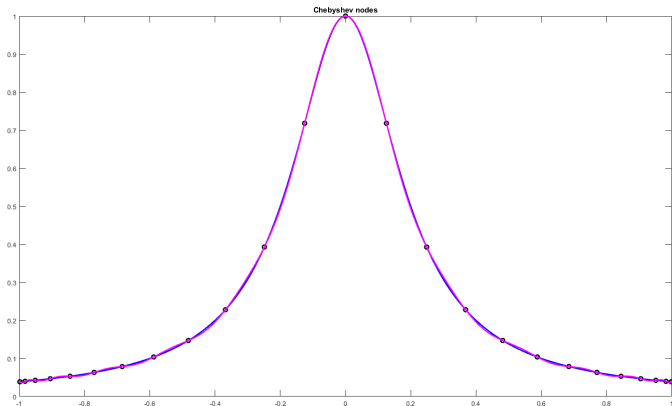
# Runge phenomenon at Chebyshev nodes ( $n=15$ )



# Runge phenomenon at equispaced nodes ( $n=25$ )



# Runge phenomenon at Chebyshev nodes ( $n=25$ )



# Chebyshev polynomials

Let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  and  $x \in [-1, 1]$ . Define  $T_n(x) := \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . Note that  $T_0(x) = 1$  and  $T_1(x) = x$ . In fact,  $T_n(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  and is called the **Chebyshev polynomial**.

# Chebyshev polynomials

Let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  and  $x \in [-1, 1]$ . Define  $T_n(x) := \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . Note that  $T_0(x) = 1$  and  $T_1(x) = x$ . In fact,  $T_n(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  and is called the **Chebyshev polynomial**.

Also  $T_n(x)$  satisfies a three term recurrence relation. Set  $x = \cos \theta$ . Then

$$\cos(n+1)\theta + \cos(n-1)\theta = 2 \cos \theta \cos n\theta$$

which gives

$$T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

# Chebyshev polynomials

Let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  and  $x \in [-1, 1]$ . Define  $T_n(x) := \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . Note that  $T_0(x) = 1$  and  $T_1(x) = x$ . In fact,  $T_n(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  and is called the **Chebyshev polynomial**.

Also  $T_n(x)$  satisfies a three term recurrence relation. Set  $x = \cos \theta$ . Then

$$\cos(n+1)\theta + \cos(n-1)\theta = 2 \cos \theta \cos n\theta$$

which gives

$$T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

For example,

$$T_2(x) = 2x^2 - 1, \quad T_3(x) = 4x^3 - 3x, \quad T_4(x) = 8x^4 - 8x^2 + 1.$$

# Chebyshev polynomials

Let  $\theta \in [0, \pi]$  and  $x \in [-1, 1]$ . Define  $T_n(x) := \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$  for  $n = 0, 1, \dots$ . Note that  $T_0(x) = 1$  and  $T_1(x) = x$ . In fact,  $T_n(x)$  is a polynomial of degree  $n$  and is called the **Chebyshev polynomial**.

Also  $T_n(x)$  satisfies a three term recurrence relation. Set  $x = \cos \theta$ . Then

$$\cos(n+1)\theta + \cos(n-1)\theta = 2 \cos \theta \cos n\theta$$

which gives

$$T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

For example,

$$T_2(x) = 2x^2 - 1, \quad T_3(x) = 4x^3 - 3x, \quad T_4(x) = 8x^4 - 8x^2 + 1.$$

Note that

$$T_n(x) = 2^{n-1}x^n + \text{lower degree terms.}$$



# Chebyshev polynomials

The recursion  $T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  can be written

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1(x) \\ T_2(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}$$

# Chebyshev polynomials

The recursion  $T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  can be written

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1(x) \\ T_2(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} T_n(x) \\ T_{n+1}(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_{n-1}(x) \\ T_n(x) \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } n = 2, 3, \dots$$

which shows that

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_n(x) \\ T_{n+1}(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix}^n \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

# Chebyshev polynomials

The recursion  $T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x)$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$  can be written

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1(x) \\ T_2(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\begin{bmatrix} T_n(x) \\ T_{n+1}(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_{n-1}(x) \\ T_n(x) \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } n = 2, 3, \dots$$

which shows that

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_n(x) \\ T_{n+1}(x) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 2x \end{bmatrix}^n \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \end{bmatrix} \text{ for } n = 1, 2, \dots$$

The polynomial  $T_n(x)$  can also be written as

$$T_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{\lfloor n/2 \rfloor} \binom{n}{2j} x^{n-2j} (x^2 - 1)^j.$$

# Chebyshev nodes

Since  $T_n(x) = \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$ , we have  $|T_n(x)| \leq 1$  for  $x \in [-1, 1]$ .  
Further,

$$T_n(x_j) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad x_j := \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n}\pi\right), \quad j = 0, 1, n-1;$$

$$T_n(y_j) = (-1)^j \quad \text{for} \quad y_j := \cos\left(\frac{j\pi}{n}\right), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

# Chebyshev nodes

Since  $T_n(x) = \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$ , we have  $|T_n(x)| \leq 1$  for  $x \in [-1, 1]$ .  
Further,

$$T_n(x_j) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad x_j := \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n}\pi\right), \quad j = 0, 1, n-1;$$

$$T_n(y_j) = (-1)^j \quad \text{for} \quad y_j := \cos\left(\frac{j\pi}{n}\right), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

**Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  :** The zeros  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , of  $T_{n+1}(x)$  are called Chebyshev nodes.

**Gauss-Lobatto nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  :** The extremal points  $y_j := \cos\left(\frac{j\pi}{n}\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , of  $T_n(x)$  are called Gauss-Lobatto nodes.

# Chebyshev nodes

Since  $T_n(x) = \cos(n \cos^{-1} x)$ , we have  $|T_n(x)| \leq 1$  for  $x \in [-1, 1]$ .  
Further,

$$T_n(x_j) = 0 \quad \text{for } x_j := \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n}\pi\right), \quad j = 0, 1, n-1;$$

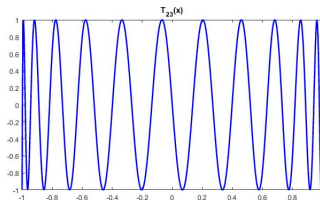
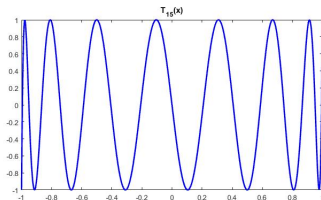
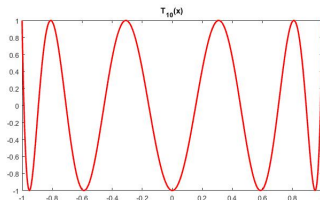
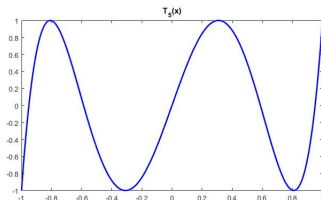
$$T_n(y_j) = (-1)^j \quad \text{for } y_j := \cos\left(\frac{j\pi}{n}\right), \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

**Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$**  : The zeros  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , of  $T_{n+1}(x)$  are called Chebyshev nodes.

**Gauss-Lobatto nodes in  $[-1, 1]$**  : The extremal points  $y_j := \cos\left(\frac{j\pi}{n}\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , of  $T_n(x)$  are called Gauss-Lobatto nodes.

The **Chebyshev nodes** in  $[-1, 1]$  for constructing an interpolating polynomial of degree at most  $n$  passing through  $n+1$  data points  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$  are the zeros  $x_j := \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , of  $T_{n+1}(x)$ .

# Chebyshev polynomials



# Barycentric Lagrange interpolation with Chebyshev nodes

The Lagrange interpolating polynomial for the nodes  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$

$$p(x) = f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x)$$

can be rewritten in barycentric form

$$p(x) = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{w_j f_j}{x - x_j}}{\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{w_j}{x - x_j}}$$

where  $w_j = 1 / \prod_{i \neq j} (x_j - x_i)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ .



# Barycentric Lagrange interpolation with Chebyshev nodes

The Lagrange interpolating polynomial for the nodes  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$

$$p(x) = f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x)$$

can be rewritten in barycentric form

$$p(x) = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{w_j f_j}{x - x_j}}{\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{w_j}{x - x_j}}$$

where  $w_j = 1 / \prod_{i \neq j} (x_j - x_i)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ .

**Remark:** For the Chebyshev nodes  $x_j = \cos(j\pi/n)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , in  $[-1, 1]$ , the barycentric interpolation is given by

$$p(x) = \frac{\sum'_{j=0}^n \frac{(-1)^j f_j}{x - x_j}}{\sum'_{j=0}^n \frac{(-1)^j}{x - x_j}}, \quad (1)$$

where the primes on the summation signs signify that the terms  $j = 0$  and  $j = n$  are multiplied by  $1/2$ .

# Barycentric Lagrange interpolation with Chebyshev nodes

The Lagrange interpolating polynomial for the nodes  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$

$$p(x) = f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x)$$

can be rewritten in barycentric form

$$p(x) = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{w_j f_j}{x - x_j}}{\sum_{j=0}^n \frac{w_j}{x - x_j}}$$

where  $w_j = 1 / \prod_{i \neq j} (x_j - x_i)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ .

**Remark:** For the Chebyshev nodes  $x_j = \cos(j\pi/n)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , in  $[-1, 1]$ , the barycentric interpolation is given by

$$p(x) = \frac{\sum'_{j=0}^n \frac{(-1)^j f_j}{x - x_j}}{\sum'_{j=0}^n \frac{(-1)^j}{x - x_j}}, \quad (1)$$

where the primes on the summation signs signify that the terms  $j = 0$  and  $j = n$  are multiplied by  $1/2$ . The barycentric interpolation formula (1) remains valid for Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$ .

# Approximation

Let  $C[a, b] := \{f : [a, b] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$ . For  $f \in C[a, b]$ , define

$$\|f\|_{\infty} := \max\{|f(x)| : x \in [a, b]\}.$$

Then  $\|f\|_{\infty} = 0 \iff f = 0$ ,  $\|\alpha f\|_{\infty} = |\alpha| \|f\|_{\infty}$  for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\|f + g\|_{\infty} \leq \|f\|_{\infty} + \|g\|_{\infty}$ . Thus  $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$  is a norm.

# Approximation

Let  $C[a, b] := \{f : [a, b] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$ . For  $f \in C[a, b]$ , define

$$\|f\|_{\infty} := \max\{|f(x)| : x \in [a, b]\}.$$

Then  $\|f\|_{\infty} = 0 \iff f = 0$ ,  $\|\alpha f\|_{\infty} = |\alpha| \|f\|_{\infty}$  for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\|f + g\|_{\infty} \leq \|f\|_{\infty} + \|g\|_{\infty}$ . Thus  $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$  is a norm.

**Weierstrass approximation theorem:** Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there is a polynomial  $p(x)$  such that  $\|f - p\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon$ . In other words,

$$\max\{|f(x) - p(x)| : x \in [a, b]\} \leq \epsilon.$$

# Approximation

Let  $C[a, b] := \{f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \text{ is continuous}\}$ . For  $f \in C[a, b]$ , define

$$\|f\|_{\infty} := \max\{|f(x)| : x \in [a, b]\}.$$

Then  $\|f\|_{\infty} = 0 \iff f = 0$ ,  $\|\alpha f\|_{\infty} = |\alpha| \|f\|_{\infty}$  for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $\|f + g\|_{\infty} \leq \|f\|_{\infty} + \|g\|_{\infty}$ . Thus  $\|\cdot\|_{\infty}$  is a norm.

**Weierstrass approximation theorem:** Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there is a polynomial  $p(x)$  such that  $\|f - p\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon$ . In other words,

$$\max\{|f(x) - p(x)| : x \in [a, b]\} \leq \epsilon.$$

Let  $p_n(x)$  be the interpolating polynomial for  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n)$ . Suppose that  $f_j = f(x_j)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ , for some continuous function  $f$ .

**Question:** Does  $p_n(x)$  approximate  $f(x)$  for large enough  $n$ ? In other words, does  $\|p_n - f\|_{\infty} \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ?

# Interpolation error

Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  be distinct nodes in  $[a, b]$ . Set  $f_j = f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Lagrange interpolating polynomial

$$p_n(x) := f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x).$$

# Interpolation error

Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  be distinct nodes in  $[a, b]$ . Set  $f_j = f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Lagrange interpolating polynomial

$$p_n(x) := f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x).$$

Define  $\lambda_n(x) := |\ell_0(x)| + \dots + |\ell_n(x)|$  and  $\Lambda_n := \|\lambda_n\|_\infty$ . Then  $\lambda_n(x)$  is called the **Lebesgue function** and  $\Lambda_n$  is called the **Lebesgue constant**.

# Interpolation error

Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  be distinct nodes in  $[a, b]$ . Set  $f_j = f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Lagrange interpolating polynomial

$$p_n(x) := f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x).$$

Define  $\lambda_n(x) := |\ell_0(x)| + \dots + |\ell_n(x)|$  and  $\Lambda_n := \|\lambda_n\|_\infty$ . Then  $\lambda_n(x)$  is called the **Lebesgue function** and  $\Lambda_n$  is called the **Lebesgue constant**.

Set  $E_n(f) := \min\{\|f - p\|_\infty : p \in \mathcal{P}_n\}$ . Then  $|p_n(x)| \leq \Lambda_n \|f\|_\infty$  and

$$\|f - p_n\|_\infty \leq (1 + \Lambda_n) E_n(f).$$



# Interpolation error

Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  be distinct nodes in  $[a, b]$ . Set  $f_j = f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Lagrange interpolating polynomial

$$p_n(x) := f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x).$$

Define  $\lambda_n(x) := |\ell_0(x)| + \dots + |\ell_n(x)|$  and  $\Lambda_n := \|\lambda_n\|_\infty$ . Then  $\lambda_n(x)$  is called the **Lebesgue function** and  $\Lambda_n$  is called the **Lebesgue constant**.

Set  $E_n(f) := \min\{\|f - p\|_\infty : p \in \mathcal{P}_n\}$ . Then  $|p_n(x)| \leq \Lambda_n \|f\|_\infty$  and

$$\|f - p_n\|_\infty \leq (1 + \Lambda_n) E_n(f).$$

**Fact:** For equispaced nodes  $\Lambda_n \sim \frac{2^n}{en \log n}$  and for Chebyshev nodes

$$\Lambda_n \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \log(n+1) + 1.$$

# Interpolation error

Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  be distinct nodes in  $[a, b]$ . Set  $f_j = f(x_j)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Lagrange interpolating polynomial

$$p_n(x) := f_0 \ell_0(x) + \dots + f_n \ell_n(x).$$

Define  $\lambda_n(x) := |\ell_0(x)| + \dots + |\ell_n(x)|$  and  $\Lambda_n := \|\lambda_n\|_\infty$ . Then  $\lambda_n(x)$  is called the **Lebesgue function** and  $\Lambda_n$  is called the **Lebesgue constant**.

Set  $E_n(f) := \min\{\|f - p\|_\infty : p \in \mathcal{P}_n\}$ . Then  $|p_n(x)| \leq \Lambda_n \|f\|_\infty$  and

$$\|f - p_n\|_\infty \leq (1 + \Lambda_n) E_n(f).$$

**Fact:** For equispaced nodes  $\Lambda_n \sim \frac{2^n}{en \log n}$  and for Chebyshev nodes

$$\Lambda_n \leq \frac{2}{\pi} \log(n+1) + 1.$$

For equispaced nodes, the Runge function  $f(x) := 1/(1 + 25x^2)$ ,  $x \in [-1, 1]$ , shows the worst growth of  $\Lambda_n$ .

# Error term for smooth function

Let  $C^n[a, b]$  denote the set of  $n$  times continuously differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  and  $p_n(x)$  be the unique polynomial of degree at most  $n$  passing through  $(x_0, f(x_0)), \dots, (x_n, f(x_n))$ . Then

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

for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ , where  $x_{\min}$  and  $x_{\max}$  are the largest and the smallest nodes in  $[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]$  and  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

# Error term for smooth function

Let  $C^n[a, b]$  denote the set of  $n$  times continuously differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  and  $p_n(x)$  be the unique polynomial of degree at most  $n$  passing through  $(x_0, f(x_0)), \dots, (x_n, f(x_n))$ . Then

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

for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ , where  $x_{\min}$  and  $x_{\max}$  are the largest and the smallest nodes in  $[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]$  and  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

**Proof:** Define  $F(t) := f(t) - p_n(t) - (f(x) - p_n(x))w(t)/w(x)$ . Then

# Error term for smooth function

Let  $C^n[a, b]$  denote the set of  $n$  times continuously differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  and  $p_n(x)$  be the unique polynomial of degree at most  $n$  passing through  $(x_0, f(x_0)), \dots, (x_n, f(x_n))$ . Then

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

for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ , where  $x_{\min}$  and  $x_{\max}$  are the largest and the smallest nodes in  $[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]$  and  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

**Proof:** Define  $F(t) := f(t) - p_n(t) - (f(x) - p_n(x))w(t)/w(x)$ . Then  $F(x) = 0$  and  $F(x_j) = 0$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . By Rolle's theorem  $F^{(n+1)}(t)$  has at least one zero in  $[x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ .

## Error term for smooth function

Let  $C^n[a, b]$  denote the set of  $n$  times continuously differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  and  $p_n(x)$  be the unique polynomial of degree at most  $n$  passing through  $(x_0, f(x_0)), \dots, (x_n, f(x_n))$ . Then

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

for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ , where  $x_{\min}$  and  $x_{\max}$  are the largest and the smallest nodes in  $[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]$  and  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

**Proof:** Define  $F(t) := f(t) - p_n(t) - (f(x) - p_n(x))w(t)/w(x)$ . Then  $F(x) = 0$  and  $F(x_j) = 0$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . By Rolle's theorem  $F^{(n+1)}(t)$  has at least one zero in  $[x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ .

Thus  $F^{(n+1)}(\theta_x) = 0$  for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$  which yields the desired result. ■

## Error term for smooth function

Let  $C^n[a, b]$  denote the set of  $n$  times continuously differentiable functions on  $[a, b]$ .

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  and  $p_n(x)$  be the unique polynomial of degree at most  $n$  passing through  $(x_0, f(x_0)), \dots, (x_n, f(x_n))$ . Then

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

for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ , where  $x_{\min}$  and  $x_{\max}$  are the largest and the smallest nodes in  $[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]$  and  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

**Proof:** Define  $F(t) := f(t) - p_n(t) - (f(x) - p_n(x))w(t)/w(x)$ . Then  $F(x) = 0$  and  $F(x_j) = 0$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . By Rolle's theorem  $F^{(n+1)}(t)$  has at least one zero in  $[x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$ .

Thus  $F^{(n+1)}(\theta_x) = 0$  for some  $\theta_x \in [x_{\min}, x_{\max}]$  which yields the desired result. ■

**Rolle's theorem:** Let  $f \in C[a, b]$  be differentiable on  $(a, b)$ . If  $f(a) = f(b)$  then there exists  $a < c < b$  such that  $f'(c) = 0$ .

# Error term for smooth function

Thus, if  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  then the interpolation error

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} |w(x)| = \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|.$$



# Error term for smooth function

Thus, if  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  then the interpolation error

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} |w(x)| = \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|.$$

**Example:** Let  $p_4(x)$  be the interpolating polynomial of  $f(x) = e^x$  at the nodes  $-1, -1/2, 0, 1/2, 1$ . Then

$$|e^x - p_4(x)| \leq \frac{|(x+1)(x+1/2)x(x-1/2)(x-1)|}{5!} e.$$

## Error term for smooth function

Thus, if  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  then the interpolation error

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} |w(x)| = \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|.$$

**Example:** Let  $p_4(x)$  be the interpolating polynomial of  $f(x) = e^x$  at the nodes  $-1, -1/2, 0, 1/2, 1$ . Then

$$|e^x - p_4(x)| \leq \frac{|(x+1)(x+1/2)x(x-1/2)(x-1)|}{5!} e.$$

$x$	$ e^x - p_4(x) $	Upper bound
-0.8	0.0008	0.0025
-0.25	0.0004	0.001
0.25	0.0004	0.001
0.8	0.0011	0.0025

# Chebyshev's theorem

**Goal:** Choose nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  in  $[a, b]$  that minimize  $\max_{x \in [a, b]} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|$ . Equivalently, solve the min-max problem

$$\min_{x_0, \dots, x_n} \max_{x \in [a, b]} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|.$$

# Chebyshev's theorem

**Goal:** Choose nodes  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  in  $[a, b]$  that minimize  $\max_{x \in [a, b]} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|$ . Equivalently, solve the min-max problem

$$\min_{x_0, \dots, x_n} \max_{x \in [a, b]} \prod_{j=0}^n |x - x_j|.$$

**Theorem (Chebyshev):** We have

$$\min_{x_0, \dots, x_n} \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} \prod_{j=0}^n |(x - x_j)| = 2^{-n}$$

and the minimum is attained when

$$w(x) := \prod_{j=0}^n (x - x_j) = 2^{-n} T_{n+1}(x).$$

Thus, the minimum is attained when  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  are Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$ .

# Interpolation with Chebyshev nodes

Hence if  $f \in C^{n+1}[-1, 1]$  then for Chebyshev nodes

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \|w\|_\infty = \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{2^n (n+1)!}$$

where  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$  and  $\|w\|_\infty = \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |w(x)|$ .

# Interpolation with Chebyshev nodes

Hence if  $f \in C^{n+1}[-1, 1]$  then for Chebyshev nodes

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \|w\|_\infty = \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{2^n (n+1)!}$$

where  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$  and  $\|w\|_\infty = \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |w(x)|$ .

**Example:** Let  $p_4(x)$  be the unique Chebyshev interpolating polynomial of degree at most 4 that approximates  $f(x) := e^x$  with Chebyshev nodes  $x_0 := \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{10}\right)$ ,  $x_1 = \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{10}\right)$ ,  $x_2 := \cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{10}\right)$ ,  $x_3 := \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{10}\right)$  and  $x_4 := \cos\left(\frac{9\pi}{10}\right)$  in  $[-1, 1]$ .

# Interpolation with Chebyshev nodes

Hence if  $f \in C^{n+1}[-1, 1]$  then for Chebyshev nodes

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \|w\|_\infty = \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{2^n (n+1)!}$$

where  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$  and  $\|w\|_\infty = \max_{x \in [-1, 1]} |w(x)|$ .

**Example:** Let  $p_4(x)$  be the unique Chebyshev interpolating polynomial of degree at most 4 that approximates  $f(x) := e^x$  with Chebyshev nodes  $x_0 := \cos\left(\frac{\pi}{10}\right)$ ,  $x_1 = \cos\left(\frac{3\pi}{10}\right)$ ,  $x_2 := \cos\left(\frac{5\pi}{10}\right)$ ,  $x_3 := \cos\left(\frac{7\pi}{10}\right)$  and  $x_4 := \cos\left(\frac{9\pi}{10}\right)$  in  $[-1, 1]$ . We have

$$|e^x - p_4(x)| \leq \frac{|(x - x_0)(x - x_1)(x - x_2)(x - x_3)(x - x_4)|}{5!} e \leq \frac{e}{2^4 5!} \approx 0.00142.$$

# Chebyshev nodes in $[a, b]$

Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$  :  $x_j := \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ .



# Chebyshev nodes in $[a, b]$

Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$  :  $x_j := \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ .

**Change of interval:** The function  $\phi : x \mapsto \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{(b-a)}{2}x$  carries Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  to Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$ .

# Chebyshev nodes in $[a, b]$

Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$  :  $x_j := \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ .

**Change of interval:** The function  $\phi : x \mapsto \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{(b-a)}{2}x$  carries Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  to Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$ .

The function  $\phi$  does two things:

- (i) Scales the points in  $[-1, 1]$  by the factor  $(b-a)/2$ .

# Chebyshev nodes in $[a, b]$

Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$  :  $x_j := \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ .

**Change of interval:** The function  $\phi : x \mapsto \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{(b-a)}{2}x$  carries Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  to Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$ .

The function  $\phi$  does two things:

- (i) **Scales** the points in  $[-1, 1]$  by the factor  $(b-a)/2$ .
- (ii) **Translates** the points in  $[-1, 1]$  by  $(a+b)/2$  to move the midpoint 0 of  $[-1, 1]$  to the midpoint of  $[a, b]$ .

# Chebyshev nodes in $[a, b]$

Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$  :  $x_j := \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$ ,  $j = 0 : n$ .

**Change of interval:** The function  $\phi : x \mapsto \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{(b-a)}{2}x$  carries Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  to Chebyshev nodes in  $[a, b]$ .

The function  $\phi$  does two things:

- (i) **Scales** the points in  $[-1, 1]$  by the factor  $(b-a)/2$ .
- (ii) **Translates** the points in  $[-1, 1]$  by  $(a+b)/2$  to move the midpoint 0 of  $[-1, 1]$  to the midpoint of  $[a, b]$ .

Thus for Chebyshev nodes in  $[-1, 1]$  we have

$$\prod_{j=0}^n |(\phi(x) - \phi(x_j))| = \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^{n+1} \prod_{j=0}^n |(x - x_j)| \leq \frac{1}{2^n} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^{n+1}.$$

# Chebyshev interpolation error

**Theorem:** Let  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$ . Then for the Chebyshev nodes  $x_j := \frac{b+a}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , we have

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \|w\|_\infty = \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^{n+1} \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{2^n (n+1)!},$$

where  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

# Chebyshev interpolation error

**Theorem:** Let  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$ . Then for the Chebyshev nodes  $x_j := \frac{b+a}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cos\left(\frac{2j+1}{2n+2}\pi\right)$  for  $j = 0 : n$ , we have

$$|f(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{(n+1)!} \|w\|_\infty = \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^{n+1} \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{2^n(n+1)!},$$

where  $w(x) := (x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_n)$ .

**Example:** Consider  $f(x) := \sin(x)$  for  $x \in [0, \pi/2]$ . For Chebyshev nodes

$$|\sin(x) - p_n(x)| \leq \left(\frac{\pi/2 - 0}{2}\right)^{n+1} \frac{\|f^{(n+1)}\|_\infty}{2^n(n+1)!} \leq \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{n+1} \frac{1}{2^n(n+1)!}$$

For  $n = 8$  the error bound is  $\approx 0.1224 \times 10^{-8}$ . For  $n = 9$  the error is  $\approx 0.4807 \times 10^{-10}$ . Thus for Chebyshev nodes  $p_9(x)$  approximates  $\sin(x)$  correct to 10 decimal places.

## Error term via divided difference

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(x_j) = f_j$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Newton interpolating polynomial  $p_n(x) := \sum_{j=0}^n f[x_0, \dots, x_j] N_j(x)$ .

## Error term via divided difference

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(x_j) = f_j$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Newton interpolating polynomial  $p_n(x) := \sum_{j=0}^n f[x_0, \dots, x_j] N_j(x)$ .

For fixed  $x \in [a, b]$ , let  $q(t) \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$  be the Newton interpolating polynomial that interpolates  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n), (x, f(x))$ . Then



# Error term via divided difference

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(x_j) = f_j$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Newton interpolating polynomial  $p_n(x) := \sum_{j=0}^n f[x_0, \dots, x_j]N_j(x)$ .

For fixed  $x \in [a, b]$ , let  $q(t) \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$  be the Newton interpolating polynomial that interpolates  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n), (x, f(x))$ . Then

$$q(t) = p_n(t) + f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]N_{n+1}(t).$$

## Error term via divided difference

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(x_j) = f_j$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Newton interpolating polynomial  $p_n(x) := \sum_{j=0}^n f[x_0, \dots, x_j]N_j(x)$ .

For fixed  $x \in [a, b]$ , let  $q(t) \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$  be the Newton interpolating polynomial that interpolates  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n), (x, f(x))$ . Then

$$q(t) = p_n(t) + f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]N_{n+1}(t).$$

Setting  $t = x$  and using the fact that  $q(x) = f(x)$ , we have

# Error term via divided difference

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(x_j) = f_j$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Newton interpolating polynomial  $p_n(x) := \sum_{j=0}^n f[x_0, \dots, x_j]N_j(x)$ .

For fixed  $x \in [a, b]$ , let  $q(t) \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$  be the Newton interpolating polynomial that interpolates  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n), (x, f(x))$ . Then

$$q(t) = p_n(t) + f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]N_{n+1}(t).$$

Setting  $t = x$  and using the fact that  $q(x) = f(x)$ , we have

$$E_n(x) := f(x) - p_n(x) = f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]N_{n+1}(x).$$

## Error term via divided difference

Suppose that  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $f(x_j) = f_j$  for  $j = 0 : n$ . Consider the Newton interpolating polynomial  $p_n(x) := \sum_{j=0}^n f[x_0, \dots, x_j]N_j(x)$ .

For fixed  $x \in [a, b]$ , let  $q(t) \in \mathcal{P}_{n+1}$  be the Newton interpolating polynomial that interpolates  $(x_0, f_0), \dots, (x_n, f_n), (x, f(x))$ . Then

$$q(t) = p_n(t) + f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]N_{n+1}(t).$$

Setting  $t = x$  and using the fact that  $q(x) = f(x)$ , we have

$$E_n(x) := f(x) - p_n(x) = f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]N_{n+1}(x).$$

If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$  then comparing with error term of Lagrange interpolating polynomial we have

$$f[x_0, \dots, x_n, x] = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\theta_x)}{(n+1)!}$$

for some  $\theta_x$  between the smallest and the largest nodes  $[x_0, \dots, x_n, x]$ .

# Divided differences at repeated nodes

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^n[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  are distinct nodes then

$$f[x_0, \dots, x_n] = \frac{f^{(n)}(\theta)}{n!}$$

for some  $\theta$  between the smallest and the largest nodes  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ .

# Divided differences at repeated nodes

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^n[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  are distinct nodes then

$$f[x_0, \dots, x_n] = \frac{f^{(n)}(\theta)}{n!}$$

for some  $\theta$  between the smallest and the largest nodes  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ .

If  $x_j$  tends to  $x_0$  for  $j = 1 : n$ , then  $\theta$ , being trapped between the nodes, must tend to  $x_0$ . Hence taking limit as  $x_j \rightarrow x_0$  for  $j = 1 : n$ , we have

$$f[x_0, \dots, x_0] = \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}.$$

# Divided differences at repeated nodes

**Theorem:** If  $f \in C^n[a, b]$  and  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$  are distinct nodes then

$$f[x_0, \dots, x_n] = \frac{f^{(n)}(\theta)}{n!}$$

for some  $\theta$  between the smallest and the largest nodes  $[x_0, \dots, x_n]$ .

If  $x_j$  tends to  $x_0$  for  $j = 1 : n$ , then  $\theta$ , being trapped between the nodes, must tend to  $x_0$ . Hence taking limit as  $x_j \rightarrow x_0$  for  $j = 1 : n$ , we have

$$f[x_0, \dots, x_0] = \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}.$$

This defines the  $n$ -th order divided difference of  $f$  at  $n + 1$  times repeated node  $x_0$ .

# Hermite interpolation

**Problem:** Given distinct nodes  $\mathbf{x} := [x_0, \dots, x_n]$ , positive integers  $[m_0, \dots, m_n]$  and  $f \in C^{m-1}[a, b]$  with  $m := \max(m_0, \dots, m_n)$ , find a polynomial  $p(x)$  of least degree such that for  $j = 0 : n$ ,

$$p^{(i)}(x_j) = f^{(i)}(x_j) \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, m_j - 1.$$



# Hermite interpolation

**Problem:** Given distinct nodes  $\mathbf{x} := [x_0, \dots, x_n]$ , positive integers  $[m_0, \dots, m_n]$  and  $f \in C^{m-1}[a, b]$  with  $m := \max(m_0, \dots, m_n)$ , find a polynomial  $p(x)$  of least degree such that for  $j = 0 : n$ ,

$$p^{(i)}(x_j) = f^{(i)}(x_j) \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, m_j - 1.$$

The problem can be thought of as a limiting case of polynomial interpolation if we consider  $x_j$  to be a **repeated node of multiplicity  $m_j$**  for  $j = 0 : n$ , that is,  $\underbrace{x_0, \dots, x_0}_{m_0}, \underbrace{x_1, \dots, x_1}_{m_1}, \dots, \underbrace{x_n, \dots, x_n}_{m_n}$ .

# Hermite interpolation

**Problem:** Given distinct nodes  $\mathbf{x} := [x_0, \dots, x_n]$ , positive integers  $[m_0, \dots, m_n]$  and  $f \in C^{m-1}[a, b]$  with  $m := \max(m_0, \dots, m_n)$ , find a polynomial  $p(x)$  of least degree such that for  $j = 0 : n$ ,

$$p^{(i)}(x_j) = f^{(i)}(x_j) \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, m_j - 1.$$

The problem can be thought of as a limiting case of polynomial interpolation if we consider  $x_j$  to be a **repeated node of multiplicity  $m_j$**  for  $j = 0 : n$ , that is,  $\underbrace{x_0, \dots, x_0}_{m_0}, \underbrace{x_1, \dots, x_1}_{m_1}, \dots, \underbrace{x_n, \dots, x_n}_{m_n}$ .

Set  $N := m_0 + \dots + m_n$ . Then the Hermite interpolating polynomial  $p(x)$  of degree  $N - 1$  can be constructed from the **divided differences table for repeated nodes**.

# Hermite interpolation

**Problem:** Given distinct nodes  $\mathbf{x} := [x_0, \dots, x_n]$ , positive integers  $[m_0, \dots, m_n]$  and  $f \in C^{m-1}[a, b]$  with  $m := \max(m_0, \dots, m_n)$ , find a polynomial  $p(x)$  of least degree such that for  $j = 0 : n$ ,

$$p^{(i)}(x_j) = f^{(i)}(x_j) \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, m_j - 1.$$

The problem can be thought of as a limiting case of polynomial interpolation if we consider  $x_j$  to be a **repeated node of multiplicity  $m_j$**  for  $j = 0 : n$ , that is,  $\underbrace{x_0, \dots, x_0}_{m_0}, \underbrace{x_1, \dots, x_1}_{m_1}, \dots, \underbrace{x_n, \dots, x_n}_{m_n}$ .

Set  $N := m_0 + \dots + m_n$ . Then the Hermite interpolating polynomial  $p(x)$  of degree  $N - 1$  can be constructed from the **divided differences table for repeated nodes**.

For  $j = 0 : n$ , set  $f_j^{(i)} := f^{(i)}(x_j)$ ,  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m_j - 1$ .

# Hermite interpolation

For example, if  $m_j = 4$ , then the divided differences are given by

<b>x</b>	<b>f</b>			
.	.	.	.	.
$x_j$	$f_j$			
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$		
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$	$f_j''/2$	
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$	$f_j''/2$	$f_j'''/6$
.	.	...	...	...

# Hermite interpolation

For example, if  $m_j = 4$ , then the divided differences are given by

<b>x</b>	<b>f</b>			
.	.	.	.	.
$x_j$	$f_j$			
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$		
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$	$f_j''/2$	
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$	$f_j''/2$	$f_j'''/6$
.	.	...	...	...

**Example:** Find  $p \in \mathcal{P}_3$  such that  
 $p(x_0) = f_0, p(x_1) = f_1, p'(x_1) = f_1', p(x_2) = f_2$ , where  $x_0 < x_1 < x_2$ .

# Hermite interpolation

For example, if  $m_j = 4$ , then the divided differences are given by

<b>x</b>	<b>f</b>			
.	.	.	.	.
$x_j$	$f_j$			
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$		
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$	$f_j''/2$	
$x_j$	$f_j$	$f_j'$	$f_j''/2$	$f_j'''/6$
.	.	...	...	...

**Example:** Find  $p \in \mathcal{P}_3$  such that  
 $p(x_0) = f_0, p(x_1) = f_1, p'(x_1) = f_1', p(x_2) = f_2$ , where  $x_0 < x_1 < x_2$ .

<b>x</b>	<b>f</b>			
$x_0$	$f_0$			
$x_1$	$f_1$	$f[x_0, x_1]$		
$x_1$	$f_1$	$f_1'$	$f[x_0, x_1, x_1]$	
$x_2$	$f_2$	$f[x_1, x_2]$	$f[x_1, x_1, x_2]$	$f[x_0, x_1, x_1, x_2]$

# Hermite interpolation

**Example:** Determine a polynomial  $p(x)$  such that  $p(1) = 2, p'(1) = 3, p(2) = 6, p'(2) = 7, p''(2) = 8$ .

# Hermite interpolation

**Example:** Determine a polynomial  $p(x)$  such that  $p(1) = 2, p'(1) = 3, p(2) = 6, p'(2) = 7, p''(2) = 8$ .

<b>x</b>	<b>f</b>				
1	2				
1	2	3			
2	6	4	1		
2	6	7	3	2	
2	6	7	4	1	-1



# Hermite interpolation

**Example:** Determine a polynomial  $p(x)$  such that  $p(1) = 2, p'(1) = 3, p(2) = 6, p'(2) = 7, p''(2) = 8$ .

x	f				
1	2				
1	2	3			
2	6	4	1		
2	6	7	3	2	
2	6	7	4	1	-1

Thus

$$p(x) = 2 + 3 \cdot (x-1) + 1 \cdot (x-1)^2 + 2 \cdot (x-1)^2(x-2) - 1 \cdot (x-1)^2(x-2)^2.$$

\*\*\*