

2324-MA378: Sample Exercises for Class Test in Week 8:

1. Let p_n be the polynomial of degree n that interpolates the function f at the distinct points $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_N\}$. State Cauchy's Theorem for $f(x) - p_n(x)$. (You do not have to prove it).
2. Suppose that S is a natural cubic spline on $[0, 2]$ with

$$S(x) = \begin{cases} -x + 2(1-x) + a(1-x)^3 + \frac{2}{3}x^3, & \text{for } 0 \leq x < 1, \\ b(2-x) + c(2-x)^3 + d(x-1)^3, & \text{for } 1 \leq x \leq 2. \end{cases}$$

Find a , b , c , and d .

3. Suppose that S is the cubic spline interpolant to $f(x) = xe^{-x}$ on the $N+1$ equally spaced points $\{x_0 = 0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N = 2\}$. We know that

$$\|f - S\| := \max_{0 \leq x \leq 2} |f - S| \leq \frac{5h^4}{384} \max_{0 \leq x \leq 2} |f^{(4)}(x)|,$$

where $h = 2/N$.

What value of N should one take to ensure that $\|f - S\|$ is no more than 10^{-8} .

4. Suppose that S is the natural cubic spline interpolant to a function g on $[-1, 1]$. If

$$\max_{-1 \leq x \leq 1} |g(x) - S(x)| = 0,$$

what can we say about g ?