

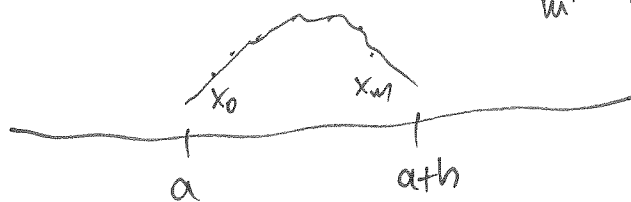
# Splines

Recall

- polynomial interpolation works well for low degree polynomials
- high degrees not recommended.

What if we want more accuracy?

$m^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomial

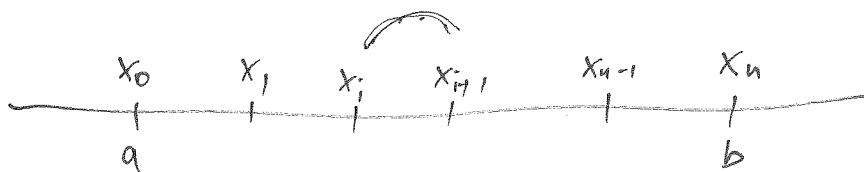


$$\text{error} = \frac{\omega(x)}{(m+1)!} f^{(m+1)}(\xi)$$

$$|\omega(x)| = |(x-x_0) \cdots (x-x_m)| < h^{m+1}$$

$$\text{error} \leq C \cdot h^{m+1}$$

we hope



$$\text{total error} \leq C \cdot h^{m+1}$$

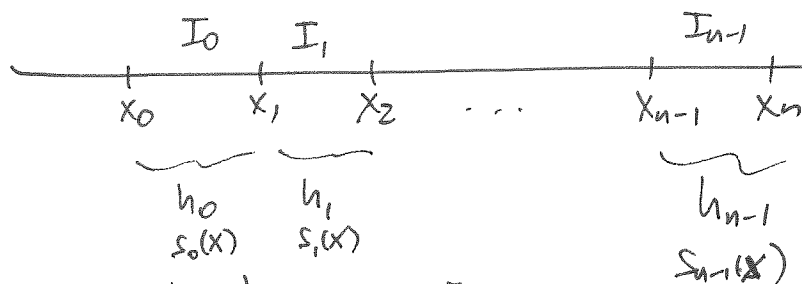
Setup

$x_0 \dots x_n$  knots

$$x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n$$

Def:

$S_m^k = \{ \text{piecewise polynomials of degree } m \text{ with } k \text{ continuous derivatives} \}$



$I_i = \text{interval } [x_i, x_{i+1}]$

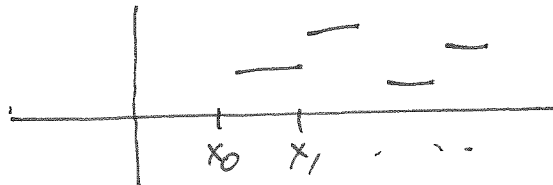
$$h_i = x_{i+1} - x_i$$

$$s_i(x) = a_i + b_i(x - x_i) + c_i(x - x_i)^2 + \dots \text{ on } I_i$$

$s(x) = \text{total function}$

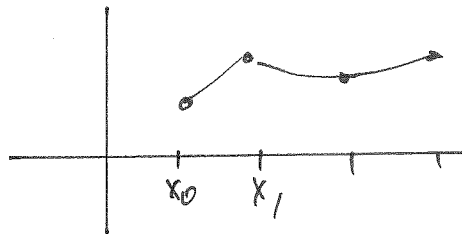
Examples

$$\boxed{S_0^{-1}}$$



piecewise constant  
discontinuous

$$\boxed{S_1^0}$$



piecewise linear  
continuous

$$\boxed{S_3^1}$$

cubic Hermite splines

$$\boxed{S_3^2}$$

cubic splines

## How to describe a spline

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n \quad \text{knots} \\ k \\ m \\ a_0, b_0, c_0, \dots \\ a_1, b_1, c_1, \dots \\ \vdots \\ a_{n-1}, b_{n-1}, \dots \end{array} \right.$$

$$s_i(x) = a_i + b_i(x-x_i) + c_i(x-x_i)^3 + \dots$$

To evaluate  $s(x)$

- determine interval  $I_i$  into which  $x$  falls
- evaluate appropriate  $s_i(x)$

## Dimension of $S_m^k$

$n+1$  points  $x_0, \dots, x_n$

$n$  subintervals  $I_0, \dots, I_{n-1}$

$n-1$  interior points  $x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}$

number of coefficients:  $n(m+1)$

constraints:  $(n-1)(k+1)$

---

free parameters:  $n(m-k) + k + 1$

examples:

$$S_0^{-1} \quad \dim = n$$

$$S_1^0 \quad n+1$$

$$S_3^1 \quad 2n+2$$

$$S_3^2 \quad n+3$$

Note: in  $S_m^k$  we need  $k < m$ , otherwise this is a single polynomial

spline interpolation Given  $\xi_j$  interpolation points  
find spline which goes through these points.

we only consider  $\xi_j = x_j$

Notation:  
 $f_i = f(x_i)$   
 $f_i' = f'(x_i)$   
 $f_i'' = f''(x_i)$

$S_i^0$

$\dim = n+1$

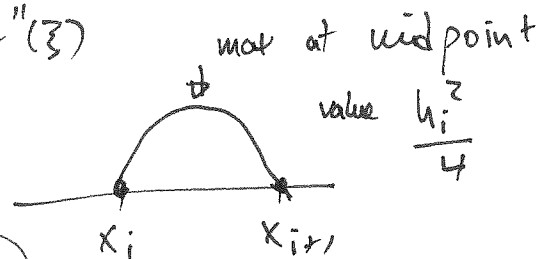
$f_0 \dots f_n = (n+1)$  conditions

$\Rightarrow$  unique solution  
"connect the dots"

$$S_i(x) = f_i + \frac{f_{i+1} - f_i}{h_i} (x - x_i)$$

Error on  $I_i$ ,  $\text{error} = \frac{\omega(x)}{2!} f''(\xi)$

$$\omega(x) = (x - x_i)(x - x_{i+1})$$



$$\text{global error} = \frac{h^2}{8} \max |f''|$$

$S_3^1$

$$\dim = 2n+2$$

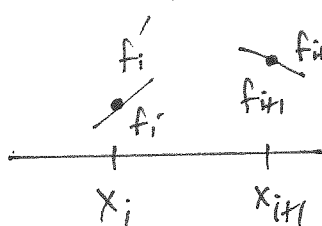
$$\left. \begin{matrix} f_0 \dots f_n \\ f'_0 \dots f'_n \end{matrix} \right\}$$

$2n+2$  conditions

$\Rightarrow$  unique solution

algorithm

Hermite interpolation at  $x_i, x_{i+1}$



$x_i$	$f_i$	$>$	$f'_i$	$>$	$\frac{f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - f'_i}{h_i}$	$>$	$\frac{f'_{i+1} + f'_i - 2f[x_i, x_{i+1}]}{h_i^2}$
$x_i$	$f_i$	$>$	$f[x_i, x_{i+1}]$	$>$		$>$	
$x_{i+1}$	$f_{i+1}$	$>$	$f'_{i+1}$	$>$	$\frac{f'_{i+1} - f[x_i, x_{i+1}]}{h_i}$	$>$	
$x_{i+1}$	$f_{i+1}$	$>$	$f'_{i+1}$	$>$		$>$	

Result

$$S_i(x) = a_i + b_i(x-x_i) + c_i(x-x_i)^2 + d_i(x-x_i)^2(x-x_{i+1})$$

$$= (x-x_i) - (x_{i+1}-x_i)$$

$$= a_i + b_i(x-x_i) + [c_i - h_i d_i](x-x_i)^2 + d_i(x-x_i)^3$$

where

$$a_i = f_i$$

$$b_i = f'_i$$

$$c_i = \frac{f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - f'_i}{h_i}$$

$$d_i = \frac{f'_{i+1} + f'_i - 2f[x_i, x_{i+1}]}{h_i^2}$$

error on  $I_i$  :  $\frac{\omega(x)}{4!} f^{(4)}(\xi)$

$$|\omega(x)| = |(x-x_i)^2(x-x_{i+1})^2| \leq \left(\frac{h^2}{4}\right)^2$$

$$\text{global error} \leq \frac{h^4}{384} f^{(4)}$$

$S_3^2$

dim =  $n+3$

given  $f_0, \dots, f_n$

$n+1$  conditions

} need 2 extra conditions

possibilities

- prescribe  $f_0', f_n'$  clamped spline
- prescribe  $f_0'', f_n''$   
(if  $f_0'' = f_n'' = 0$  this is free or natural spline)
- estimate  $f_0'$  or  $f_0''$  from nearby points
- not-a-knot spline  
3 continuous derivatives at  $x_1, x_{n-1}$

How To Compute  $S_3^2$

Method 1 set up coefficients  $a_0, \dots, a_n, d_0, \dots, d_{n-1}$   
set up conditions

leads to  $4n \times 4n$  system of equations

This works, but is not efficient.

Method 2 Use basis functions

B-splines; we will look at these later

Method 3 Pretend we know  $f_0' \dots f_n'$

$$s_i(x) = a_i + b_i(x-x_i) + c_i(x-x_i)^2 + d_i(x-x_i)^3$$

$$s_i(x_i) = a_i$$

$$s_i(x_{i+1}) = a_i + b_i h_i + c_i h_i^2 + d_i h_i^3$$

$$s_i'(x) = b_i + 2c_i(x-x_i) + 3d_i(x-x_i)^2$$

$$s_i'(x_i) = b_i$$

$$s_i'(x_{i+1}) = b_i + 2c_i h_i + 3d_i h_i^2$$

$$s_i''(x) = 2c_i + 6d_i(x-x_i)$$

$$s_i''(x_i) = 2c_i$$

$$s_i''(x_{i+1}) = 2c_i + 6d_i h_i$$

where

$$a_i = f_i$$

$$b_i = f_i'$$

$$c_i = \frac{f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - f_i'}{h_i} - h_i d_i$$

$$d_i = \frac{f_{i+1}' + f_i' - 2f[x_i, x_{i+1}]}{h_i^2}$$

Continuity of  $s, s'$  is automatic.  
Continuity of  $s''$  must be enforced.

$$s_{i-1}''(x_i) = s_i''(x_i)$$

$$2c_{i-1} + 6d_{i-1}h_{i-1} = 2c_i$$

$$2 \frac{f[x_{i-1}, x_i] - f'_i}{h_{i-1}} - 2h_{i-1}d_{i-1} + 6h_{i-1}d_{i-1} = 2 \frac{f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - f'_i}{h_i} - 2h_i d_i$$

$$= 4h_{i-1} \frac{f'_i + f'_{i-1} - 2f[x_{i-1}, x_i]}{h_{i-1}^2}$$

times  $\frac{h_{i-1} \cdot h_i}{2}$ :

$$h_i (f[x_{i-1}, x_i] - f'_{i-1}) + 2h_i (f'_i + f'_{i-1} - 2f[x_{i-1}, x_i])$$

$$= h_{i-1} (f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - f'_i) - h_{i-1} (f'_{i+1} + f'_i - 2f[x_i, x_{i+1}])$$

$$f'_{i-1} (-h_i + 2h_i) + f'_i (2h_i + h_{i-1} + h_{i-1}) + f'_{i+1} (h_{i-1})$$

$$= -h_i f[x_{i-1}, x_i] + 4h_i f[x_{i-1}, x_i]$$

$$+ h_{i-1} f[x_i, x_{i+1}] + 2h_{i-1} f[x_i, x_{i+1}]$$

$$h_i f'_{i-1} + 2(h_i + h_{i-1})f'_i + h_{i-1} f'_{i+1}$$

$$= 3(h_i f[x_{i-1}, x_i] + h_{i-1} f[x_i, x_{i+1}])$$



$$\begin{pmatrix} h_1 & 2(h_0+h_1) & h_0 \\ h_2 & 2(h_1+h_2) & h_1 \\ & & \ddots \\ h_{n-1} & 2(h_{n-2}+h_{n-1}) & h_{n-2} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f'_0 \\ \vdots \\ f'_n \end{pmatrix} = 3 \begin{pmatrix} h_0 f[x_1, x_2] + h_1 f[x_0, x_1] \\ \vdots \\ h_{n-2} f[x_{n-1}, x_n] + h_{n-1} f[x_{n-2}, x_{n-1}] \end{pmatrix}$$

$(n-1)$  eq. in  $(n+1)$  unknowns

clamped spline  $f_0', f_n'$  given  
reduce to  $(n-1) \times (n-1)$

free spline

$$f_0'' = S_0''(t_0) = 2C_0 = 2 \frac{f[x_0, x_1] - f_0'}{h_0} - 2h_0 \frac{f_1' + f_0' - 2f[x_0, x_1]}{h_0^2}$$

$$2f_0' + f_1' = 3f[x_0, x_1] - \frac{h_0}{2} f_0''$$

add this as first equation

as first equation

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ h_1 & 2(h_0+h_1) & h_0 \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & h_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_0' \\ f_1' \\ \vdots \\ f_{n-1}' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 3f[x_0, x_1] - \frac{h_0}{2} f_0'' \\ h_0 f[x_1, x_2] + h_1 f[x_0, x_1] \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

not-a-knot

## Homework

Method 4

Pretend we know  $f_0'' \dots f_n''$

First we need to find the interpolating polynomial for this data

$$s_i(x) = a_i + b_i(x-x_i) + c_i(x-x_i)^2 + d_i(x-x_i)^3$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} s_i(x_i) = f_i \\ s_i''(x_i) = f_i'' \\ s_i(x_{i+1}) = f_{i+1} \\ s_i''(x_{i+1}) = f_{i+1}'' \end{array} \right\} \Leftrightarrow \begin{array}{l} a_i = f_i \\ 2c_i = f_i'' \\ a_i + b_i h_i + c_i h_i^2 + d_i h_i^3 = f_{i+1} \\ 2c_i + 6h_i d_i = f_{i+1}'' \end{array}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$a_i = f_i$$

$$b_i = f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - \frac{h_i}{6} (2f_i'' + f_{i+1}'')$$

$$c_i = \frac{1}{2} f_i''$$

$$d_i = \frac{f_{i+1}'' - f_i''}{6h_i}$$

\*\*)

this  
replaces \*\*)   
on page 7.

Continuity for  $s, s''$  is automatic.  
Continuity for  $s'$  means

$$s_{i-1}'(x_i) = s_i'(x_i)$$

$$b_{i-1} + 2c_{i-1}h_{i-1} + 3d_{i-1}h_{i-1}^2 = b_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} f[x_{i-1}, x_i] - \frac{h_{i-1}}{6} (2f_{i-1}'' + f_i'') + 2h_{i-1} \cdot \frac{1}{2} f_{i-1}'' + 3h_{i-1}^2 \frac{f_i'' - f_{i-1}''}{6h_{i-1}} \\ = f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - \frac{h_i}{6} (2f_i'' + f_{i+1}'') \end{aligned}$$

times 6

$$6f[x_{i-1}, x_i] - h_{i-1}(2f''_i + f''_i) + 6h_{i-1}f''_i + 3h_{i-1}(f''_i - f''_{i-1})$$

$$= 6f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - h_i(2f''_i + f''_{i+1})$$

$$f''_{i-1}(-2h_{i-1} + 6h_{i-1} - 3h_{i-1}) + f''_i(-h_{i-1} + 3h_{i-1} + 2h_i)$$

$$+ f''_{i+1}(h_i) = -6f[x_{i-1}, x_i] + 6f[x_i, x_{i+1}]$$

$$h_{i-1}f''_{i-1} + 2(h_{i-1} + h_i)f''_i + h_i f''_{i+1} = 6(f[x_i, x_{i+1}] - f[x_{i-1}, x_i])$$

$$= 6(h_{i-1} + h_i)f[x_{i-1}, x_i, x_{i+1}]$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} h_0 & 2(h_0 + h_1) & h_1 \\ & h_{n-2} & 2(h_{n-2} + h_{n-1}) & h_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f''_0 \\ \vdots \\ f''_n \end{pmatrix} = 6 \begin{pmatrix} f[x_1, x_2] - f[x_0, x_2] \\ \vdots \\ f[x_{n-1}, x_n] - f[x_{n-2}, x_{n+1}] \end{pmatrix}$$

free spline if  $f_0'', f_n''$  are known, eliminate them  
 $\Rightarrow (n-1) \times (n-1)$  system

clamped spline  $f_0' = s_0'(x_0) = b_0 = f[x_0, x_1] - \frac{h_0}{6} (2f_0'' + f_1'')$

times 6:  $2h_0 f_0'' + h_0 f_1'' = 6f[x_0, x_1] - 6f_0'$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2h_0 & h_0 \\ h_0 & 2(h_0 + h_1) & h_1 \\ & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & h_{n-2} & 2h_{n-2} & h_{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_0'' \\ \vdots \\ f_{n-2}'' \end{pmatrix} = 6 \begin{pmatrix} f[x_0, x_1] - f_0' \\ f[x_1, x_2] - f[x_0, x_1] \\ \vdots \\ f[x_{n-2}, x_{n-1}] - f[x_{n-3}, x_{n-2}] \end{pmatrix}$$

not-a-knot exercise

Facts ① Solving an  $n \times n$  system of equations takes  $O(n^3)$  ops  
 Solving a triangular system:  $O(n^2)$   
 Solving a banded system:  $O(n)$

These equations are easy to solve, even for large  $n$

② Solution is guaranteed by diagonal dominance

## Error Estimates For Cubic Splines

clamped spline      error  $\leq \frac{5}{384} h^4 \max |f^{(4)}|$       (sharp)

natural spline      error  $= O(h^2)$  near ends

not-a-knot      ?      probably  $O(h^4)$

Bessel splines      estimate  $f'$  by quadratic interpolation,  
then do Hermite splines  
error  $= O(h^3)$       because of error in  
derivatives

### Problem with Splines

monotone data does not necessarily  
produce monotone splines

### Curves

do splines in  $x, y$  separately

Thm Given partition  $\Delta$ , function values  $f_j$

(a) Assume  $g$  interpolates  $f_j$  at  $\Delta$ ,  $s$  = free spline interpolant.

Then 
$$\int_a^b |s''(x)|^2 dx \leq \int_a^b |g''(x)|^2 dx$$

with equality only if  $g=s$ .

(b) Assume  $g$  interpolates  $f_j, f_0', f_n'$ ,  $s$  = clamped spline

Then 
$$\int_a^b |s''(x)|^2 dx \leq \int_a^b |g''(x)|^2 dx$$

with equality only if  $g=s$ .

also true for periodic

proof:

First we show that

$$\int_a^b s''(x) [g''(x) - s''(x)] dx = 0$$

integrate by parts:

$$\int_a^b s''(x) [g''(x) - s''(x)] dx = \cancel{s''(x) [g'(x) - s'(x)]} \Big|_a^b - \int_a^b s'''(x) [g'(x) - s'(x)] dx$$

$= 0$  for (a) and (b)

$s'''$  = piecewise constant

$$= - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} [g'(x) - s'(x)] dx$$

$$= - \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \left\{ g(x_i) - s(x_i) - g(x_{i-1}) + s(x_{i-1}) \right\} = 0$$

So,  $s''$ ,  $g'' - s''$  are orthogonal

$$\Rightarrow \int |g''|^2 = \int |s''|^2 + \int |g'' - s''|^2 \geq \int |s''|^2$$

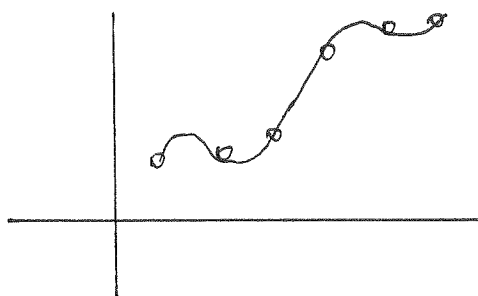
equality only if  $g'' - s'' = 0 \Rightarrow g=s$

## Math 561

### Extra Topics in Splines

#### Tension Splines

Regular Splines are often not monotone for monotone data.



Think of a spline as a flexible rod, and imagine pulling at the ends. That will straighten out the wiggles.

#### Numerical Implementation      $\tau$ = tension parameter

A tension spline is a  $C^2$  function which interpolates at  $(x_i, f_i)$ , and on each subinterval satisfies

$$s^{(4)} - \tau^2 s'' = 0$$

$\tau = 0$       equation is  $s^{(4)} = 0 \Rightarrow s = \text{cubic polynomial}$   
This leads to standard splines.

$\tau \rightarrow \infty$        $s'' \approx 0 \Rightarrow s \approx \text{linear}$   
This produces something close to "connect the dots"

Algorithm is similar to standard cubic splines:

Assume  $f_i, m_i$  are known, then we can write down the solution in each subinterval (involves  $\sinh, \cosh$ )

Leads to a tridiagonal system for  $m_i$

## Basis Functions For Spline Spaces

Recall: for polynomials, we had

- regular basis  $1, x, x^2, \dots$
- Lagrange polynomial basis  
has property  $P(X) = \sum f_i l_{n,i}(X)$
- Newton basis

For Splines, we have

- regular basis (de Boer calls this pp-form)  
on  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ ,  $S(x) = C_{i0} + C_{i1}(x-x_i) + C_{i2}(x-x_i)^2 + C_{i3}(x-x_i)^3$
- we could construct a counterpart to Lagrange basis,  
with property  $S(x) = \sum f_i b_{n,i}(x)$   
but basis functions  $b_{n,i}$  would be global



we want basis functions with short support.

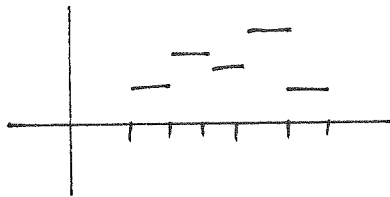
Def: support of  $f = \overline{\text{supp } f} = \overline{\{x: f(x) \neq 0\}}$   
(closure of the set where  $f$  is nonzero)

we will consider some examples first before defining these B-splines in general.



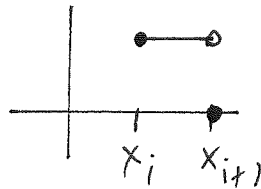
Initially we consider knots  $\dots x_{-2} < x_{-1} < x_0 < x_1 < x_2 \dots$   
 (infinite in both directions, so we don't have to deal with boundary)

$S_0^{-1}$



piecewise constant

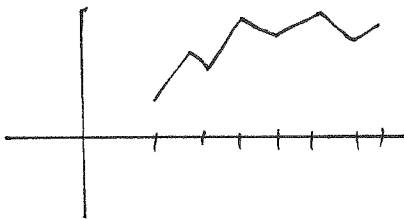
obvious basis is



$$B_i^0 = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

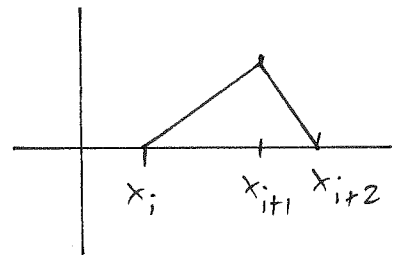
- properties:
- piecewise polynomial of degree 0
  - right continuous, but not continuous
  - support  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$
  - $B_i^0(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x, \quad B_i^0(x) > 0$  on  $(x_i, x_{i+1})$
  - $\sum_i B_i^0(x) \equiv 1.$

$S_1^0$



piecewise linear

$$B_i^1 = \begin{cases} \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+1} - x_i} & \text{on } [x_i, x_{i+1}) \\ \frac{x_{i+1} - x}{x_{i+1} - x_i} & \text{on } [x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



properties:

- piecewise linear
- continuous
- support  $[x_i, x_{i+2}]$
- $B_i^1(x) \geq 0 \forall x$ ,  $B_i^1(x) > 0$  on  $(x_i, x_{i+2})$
- $\sum_i B_i^1(x) \equiv 1$

### General Approach

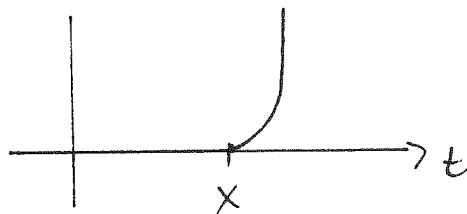
Definition 1 (recursive)  $B_i^0(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

$$B_i^k(x) = \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+k} - x_i} B_i^{k-1}(x) + \frac{x_{i+k+1} - x}{x_{i+k+1} - x_{i+1}} B_{i+1}^{k-1}(x)$$

### Definition 2

$$B_i^k(x) = (x_{i+k+1} - x_i) (\cdot - x)_+^k [x_i \dots x_{i+k+1}]$$

Explanation:



$$(t-x)_+^k = \begin{cases} (t-x)^k & \text{if } t \geq x \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

To find the value of  $B_i^k(x)$  for some fixed  $x$ , we consider  $(t-x)_+^k$  and take the  $(k+1)^{\text{st}}$  finite difference at  $[x_i \dots x_{i+k+1}]$ .

The variable  $t$  disappears in the process, just as  $\int f(x) dx$  or  $\int f(t) dt$  are the same thing, so we write this as

$$(\cdot - x)_+^k$$

The  $\cdot$  represents a variable whose name is unimportant.

The second definition is really not very intuitive, but it is useful for some proofs. We will show that both definitions are the same.

Recall: Leibniz formula (generalized product rule)

$$(f \cdot g)^{(n)} = \sum_{i=0}^n \binom{n}{i} f^{(i)} \cdot g^{(n-i)}$$

There is a corresponding formula for divided differences:

Lemma If  $h = f \cdot g$ , then

$$h[x_i \dots x_{i+k}] = \sum_{j=0}^k f[x_i \dots x_{i+j}] \cdot g[x_{i+j} \dots x_{i+k}]$$

Theorem Definitions 1, 2 of  $B_i^k(x)$  are the same

Proof: This is easy to verify directly for  $k=0$

If we can show that  $B_i^k$  from def. 2 (divided difference) satisfies the recursion relation from def. 1, we are done.

Observe that for  $k \geq 1$ ,

$$(t-x)_+^k = (t-x)(t-x)_+^{k-1}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{x_{i+k+1} - x_i} B_i^k(x) &= (\cdot - x)_+^k [x_i \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\ &= \boxed{(\cdot - x)[x_i]} (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_i \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\ &\quad + \boxed{(\cdot - x)[x_i, x_{i+1}]} (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+1} \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\ &\quad + \boxed{(\cdot - x)[x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}]} (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+2} \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\ &\quad + \dots \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{1}{x_{i+k+1} - x_i} B_i^k(x) &= (x_i - x) (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_i \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\
&\quad + (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+1} \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\
&= (x_i - x) \frac{(\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+1} \dots x_{i+k+1}] - (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_i \dots x_{i+k}]}{x_{i+k+1} - x_i} \\
&\quad + (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+1} \dots x_{i+k+1}]
\end{aligned}$$

multiply through by  $(x_{i+k+1} - x_i)$

$$\begin{aligned}
B_i^k(x) &= [(x_i - x) + (x_{i+k+1} - x_i)] (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+1} \dots x_{i+k+1}] \\
&\quad + (x - x_i) (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_i \dots x_{i+k}]
\end{aligned}$$

$$= \frac{x_{i+k+1} - x}{x_{i+k+1} - x_{i+1}} \underbrace{(x_{i+k+1} - x_{i+1}) (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_{i+1} \dots x_{i+k+1}]}_{B_{i+1}^{k-1}(x)}$$

$$+ \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+k} - x_i} \underbrace{(x_{i+k} - x_i) (\cdot - x)_+^{k-1} [x_i \dots x_{i+k}]}_{B_i^{k-1}(x)}$$

## Properties of $B_i^k$

(a) piecewise polynomial of degree  $k$

pf: induction based on recursion formula

(b)  $B_i^k$  form a basis

pf: requires some more lemmas; we will skip the proof

(c)  $(k-1)$  times continuously differentiable

pf:  $B_i^k$  is  $C^\infty$  except at knots.

Use induction based on recursion formula for the knots

(d) support  $[x_i, x_{i+k+1}]$

pf: directly from divided difference formula,  
or by induction based on recursion formula

(e)  $\sum_i B_i^k(x) \equiv 1$

proof: by induction based on recursion formula

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_i B_i^k(x) &= \sum_i \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+k} - x_i} B_i^{k-1}(x) + \boxed{\sum_i \frac{x_{i+k+1} - x}{x_{i+k+1} - x_{i+1}} B_{i+1}^{k-1}(x)} \quad j=i+1 \\ &= \sum_j \frac{x_{j+k} - x}{x_{j+k} - x_j} B_j^{k-1}(x) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sum_i \underbrace{\left[ \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+k} - x_i} + \frac{x_{i+k} - x}{x_{i+k} - x_i} \right]}_{=1} B_i^{k-1}(x) = \sum_i B_i^{k-1}(x) \\ &= 1 \end{aligned}$$

(f)  $B_i^k(x) \geq 0 \quad \forall x, \quad B_i^k(x) > 0$  on  $(x_i, x_{i+k+1})$

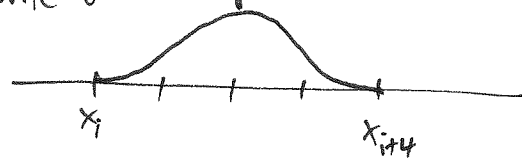
pf: obvious from recursion formula

## Doing Spline Interpolation with $B_i^3$

set up  $s(x) = \sum_i c_i^3 B_i^3(x)$

write out a system of equations

$$\sum_i c_i^3 B_i^3(x_j) = f(x_j)$$



$B_i^3(x_j) \neq 0$  only for  $j = i+1, i+2, i+3$

leads to tridiagonal system

## Advantage over other algorithms

- ① we can use interpolation points  $\xi_j$  different from knots  $x_j$   
Then if we choose  $\xi_j$  so that  $\xi_j \in \text{supp } B_j^k$ ,  $\xi_j$  distinct,  
there is a unique solution.
- ② we can do least squares problems this way
- ③ we can accommodate more general splines (see below)

## Evaluating B-splines

Suppose we have found  $s(x) = \sum_i c_i^k B_i^k(x)$   
How do we evaluate that for given  $x$ ?

Trick: Consider  $s(x) = \sum_i c_i^k(x) B_i^k(x)$

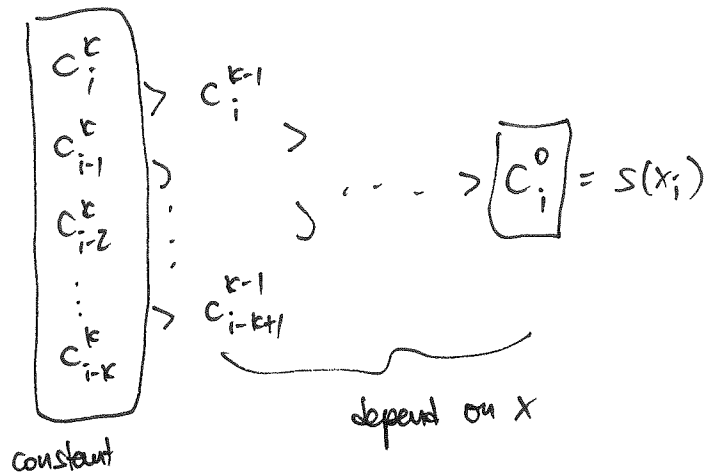
verify  $\sum_i c_i^k(x) B_i^k(x) = \sum_i c_{i-1}^{k-1}(x) B_{i-1}^{k-1}(x)$

if we define

$$c_{i-1}^{k-1}(x) = \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+k} - x_i} c_i^k(x) + \frac{x_{i+k} - x}{x_{i+k} - x_{i+1}} c_{i-1}^k(x)$$

proof: substitute recursion formula.

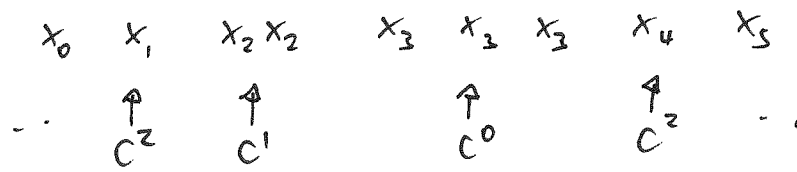
we can build a triangular table



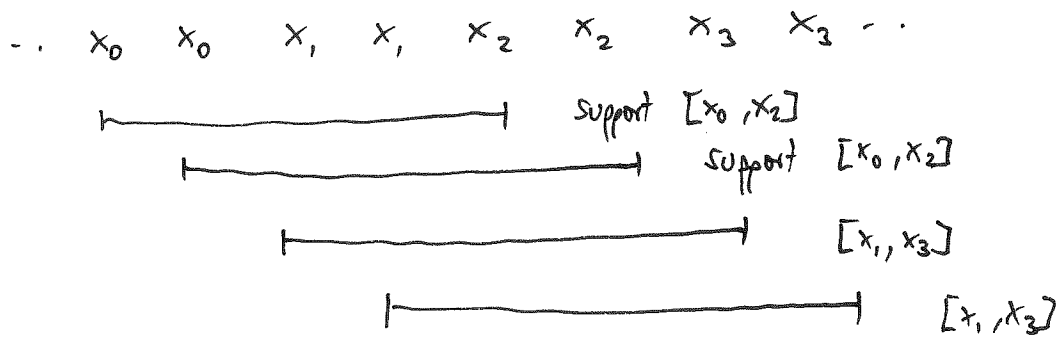
### Generalization

Knots can be repeated. Every repetition lowers smoothness by one.

Example:



### Hermite splines



Start with

$x_i, x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots$

renumber

$\xi_i, \xi_{i+1}, \xi_{i+2}, \xi_{i+3}, \xi_{i+4}, \dots$  ← used to number  $B_i^k$

$$B_i^0 = 0 \quad \text{interval } [x_i, x_i]$$

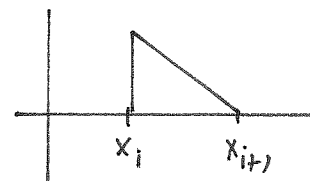
$$B_{i+1}^0 = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}] \\ 0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$

$$B_{i+2}^0 = 0 \quad [x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}]$$

$$B_i^1(x) = \frac{x - \xi_i}{\xi_{i+1} - \xi_i} B_i^0(x) + \frac{\xi_{i+2} - x}{\xi_{i+2} - \xi_{i+1}} B_{i+1}^0(x) = \frac{x_{i+1} - x}{x_{i+1} - x_i} B_{i+1}^0(x)$$

on  $[x_i, x_i, x_{i+1}]$

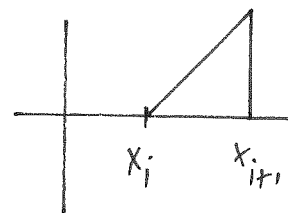
note:  $x_i$  repeated  $\Rightarrow$  less smoothness at  $x_i$



likewise

$$B_{i+1}^1(x) = \frac{x - x_i}{x_{i+1} - x_i} B_{i+1}^0$$

on  $[x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}]$

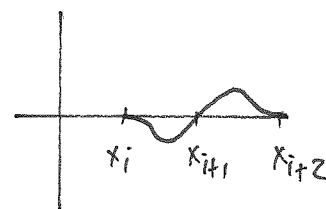
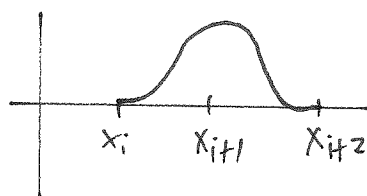


I gave up at this point.

$B_i^3$  would be on  $[x_i, x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}]$   $\begin{cases} C^2 \text{ at } x_{i+2} \\ C^1 \text{ at } x_i, x_{i+2} \end{cases}$

$B_{i+1}^3$   $[x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, x_{i+2}]$   $\begin{cases} C^2 \text{ at } x_i \\ C^1 \text{ at } x_{i+1}, x_{i+2} \end{cases}$

Different from the usual basis (probably)





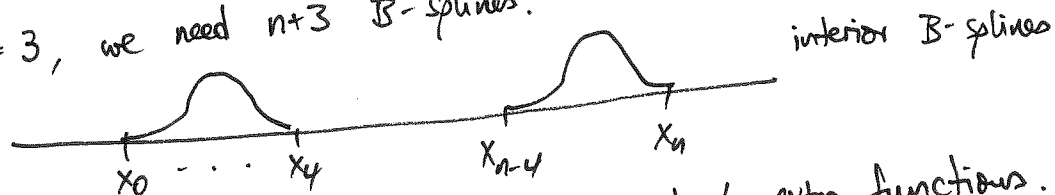
## Endpoints

The usual way to handle boundaries is by putting extra knots at the ends.

Example:  $k=3$  cubic splines

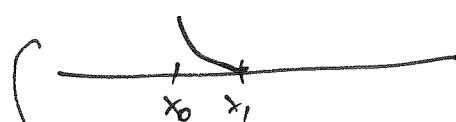
Then with knots  $x_0 \dots x_n$ , the dimension of the spline space on  $[x_0, x_n]$  is  $n+k$ .

For  $k=3$ , we need  $n+3$  B-splines.

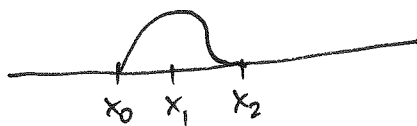


There are  $n-3$  interior B-splines. we need 6 extra functions.  
Put 3 extra knots at left

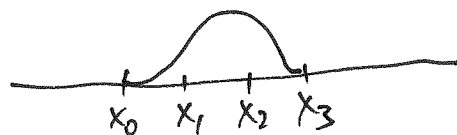
3 extra functions



$[x_0, x_0, x_0, x_0, x_1]$   
discontinuous at  $x_0$



$[x_0, x_0, x_0, x_1, x_2]$   
continuous but not differentiable at  $x_0$



$[x_0, x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]$   
 $C^1$  but not  $C^2$  at  $x_0$

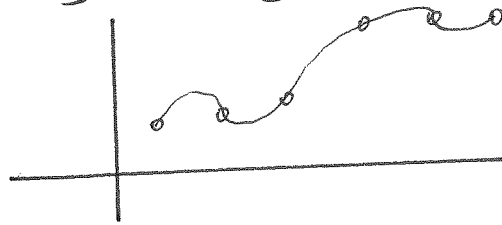


$[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4]$   
 $C^2$ ; this is first interior spline

Same at right end.

## Application in CAD/CAM

It is tempting to design a computer graphics system where user can move around the interpolation points  $(x_i, f_i)$ . Unfortunately that may result in extra wiggles in the curve:



Instead, design it so that the control points are  $(x_i, c_i^k)$ .

Theorem Cubic B-splines are variation diminishing.

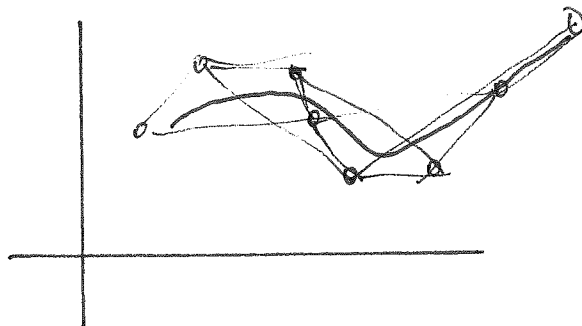
That is, the curve  $\sum c_i^k B_i^k(x)$  has no more monotonicity changes than the sequence  $\{c_i^k\}$ .

$\{c_i^k\}$  increasing/decreasing  $\Rightarrow$  curve increasing/decreasing

$\{c_i^k\}$  convex/concave  $\Rightarrow$  curve convex/concave

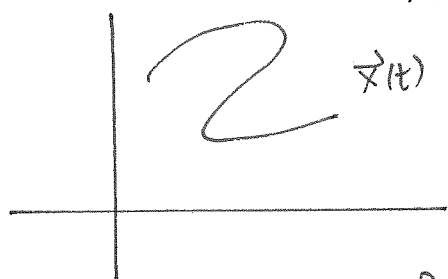
Theorem (Bézier)

Put a quadrilateral around every group of four successive control points. The curve will run inside the resulting quadrilaterals.



### More general curves

Parametric curves  $\vec{x}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{pmatrix}$



$\vec{x}(t)$  are more general than  $y = f(x)$ .

To implement them, divide  $t$ -axis to  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n$

and use B-splines for both  $x(t), y(t)$ .

Overall effect:

$$\vec{s}(t) = \sum \vec{c}_i^t B_i^t(t)$$

### Bernstein Polynomials

yet another basis for  $n^{\text{th}}$  degree polynomials on  $[a, b]$

is

$$B_i^n(x) = \binom{n}{i} \frac{(b-x)^i (x-a)^{n-i}}{(b-a)^n}$$

On  $[0, 1]$ :

$$B_i^n(x) = \binom{n}{i} (1-x)^i x^{n-i}$$

Obvious properties:

$$\sum_i B_i^n(x) = 1$$

$$0 \leq B_i^n(x) \leq \binom{n}{i}$$

$$0 < B_i^n(x) \text{ on } (0, 1)$$

we can represent a polynomial as

$$P(x) = \sum c_i^n B_i^n(x)$$

Fact: This representation is also variation diminishing.

This is a basis of polynomials that has very similar properties to B-splines.