

Practical 10 : Newton Interpolation

1

Divided Differences

Figure 1:

Definition. Let f be a function defined at the distinct points $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$.

The ZEROth DIVIDED DIFFERENCE of f with respect to the point x_i is $f[x_i] \equiv f(x_i)$.

For $0 < k \leq n$, the k TH DIVIDED DIFFERENCE of f with respect to the points $x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots, x_{i+k}$ is

$$f[x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots, x_{i+k}] = \frac{(f[x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, x_{i+3}, \dots, x_{i+k}] - f[x_i, x_{i+1}, x_{i+2}, \dots, x_{i+k-1}])}{(x_{i+k} - x_i)}.$$

Organization of a Divided Difference Table

Figure 2:

| | Zeroth | First | Second | Third |
|-------|----------|---------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| x_0 | $f[x_0]$ | | | |
| x_1 | $f[x_1]$ | $f[x_0, x_1]$ | | |
| x_2 | $f[x_2]$ | | $f[x_0, x_1, x_2]$ | |
| x_3 | $f[x_3]$ | | | $f[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]$ |

$f[x_1, x_2]$

$f[x_2, x_3]$

$f[x_1, x_2, x_3]$

$$f[x_1, x_2, x_3] = \frac{f[x_2, x_3] - f[x_1, x_2]}{x_3 - x_1}$$

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Divided Difference Table

```
(%i1) kill(all);
(%o0) done

(%i1) dd_table(a, f):=block
(
  n:length(a),
  for i:1 thru n do A[i, 1]:a[i],
  for i:1 thru n do A[i, 2]:f[i],
  s:0,
  for j:3 thru n+1 do
  (
    for i:1 thru n+2-j do A[i, j]:(A[i+1, j-1]-A[i, j-1])/(A[i+1+s, 1]-A[i, 1]),
    s:s+1
  ),
  table:genmatrix(A, n, n+1),
  table
);
```

```
(%o1) dd_table(a,f):=block(n:length(a),for i thru n do Ai,1:
ai,for i thru n do Ai,2:fi,s:0,for j from 3 thru n+1 do
 $\left( \text{for } i \text{ thru } n+2-j \text{ do } A_{i,j} := \frac{A_{i+1,j-1} - A_{i,j-1}}{A_{i+1+s,1} - A_{i,1}}, s:s+1 \right), \text{table:}$ 
genmatrix(A,n,n+1),table)
```

```
(%i2) ans:dd_table([1, 3/2, 0, 2], [3, 13/4, 3, 5/3]);
```

```
(%o2) 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & -2 \\ \frac{3}{2} & \frac{13}{4} & \frac{1}{6} & -\frac{5}{3} & A_{2,5} \\ 0 & 3 & -\frac{2}{3} & A_{3,4} & A_{3,5} \\ 2 & \frac{5}{3} & A_{4,3} & A_{4,4} & A_{4,5} \end{pmatrix}$$

```

```
(%i3) ans;
```

```
(%o3) 
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{3} & -2 \\ \frac{3}{2} & \frac{13}{4} & \frac{1}{6} & -\frac{5}{3} & A_{2,5} \\ 0 & 3 & -\frac{2}{3} & A_{3,4} & A_{3,5} \\ 2 & \frac{5}{3} & A_{4,3} & A_{4,4} & A_{4,5} \end{pmatrix}$$

```

```
(%i4) dd_table([-1, 0, 1, 2, -2, 3], [5, 1, 1, 11, 5, 35]);
```

```
(%o4) 
$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 & -4 & 2 & 1 & -\frac{1}{12} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 & \frac{13}{12} & -\frac{1}{12} & A_{2,7} \\ 1 & 1 & 10 & \frac{17}{6} & \frac{5}{6} & A_{3,6} & A_{3,7} \\ 2 & 11 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{9}{2} & A_{4,5} & A_{4,6} & A_{4,7} \\ -2 & 5 & 6 & A_{5,4} & A_{5,5} & A_{5,6} & A_{5,7} \\ 3 & 35 & A_{6,3} & A_{6,4} & A_{6,5} & A_{6,6} & A_{6,7} \end{pmatrix}$$

```

```
(%i5) dd_table([-1, 0, 1, 2], [5, 1, 1, 11]);
```

```
(%o5) 
$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & 5 & -4 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 5 & \frac{13}{12} \\ 1 & 1 & 10 & \frac{17}{6} & \frac{5}{6} \\ 2 & 11 & \frac{3}{2} & \frac{9}{2} & A_{4,5} \end{pmatrix}$$

```

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Newton form of the interpolating polynomial

Figure 3:

and, hence, the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial is

$$P_{0,1,2,\dots,n}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n f[x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k] \left(\prod_{i=0}^{k-1} (x - x_i) \right).$$

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Newton form of the interpolating polynomial

```
(%i6) kill(all);
```

```
(%o0) done
```

```
(%i1) P(a, f, x):=block(
    n:length(a),
    for i:1 thru n do A[i, 1]:a[i],
    for i:1 thru n do A[i, 2]:f[i],
    s:0,
    for j:3 thru n+1 do
    (
        for i:1 thru n+2-j do A[i, j]:(A[i+1, j-1]-A[i, j-1])/(A[i+1+s, 1]-A[i,
            s:s+1
        ),
    table:genmatrix(A, n, n+1),

    sum:table[1, 2],
    for i:3 thru n+1 do
    (
        sum:sum+( table[1, i]·product((x-table[k, 1]), k, 1, i-2) )
    ),
    return(sum)
);
```

```
(%o1) P(a,f,x):=block(n:length(a),for i thru n do Ai,1:ai,for
    i thru n do Ai,2:fi,s:0,for j from 3 thru n+1 do
    ⎛for i thru n+2-j do Ai,j: $\frac{A_{i+1,j-1}-A_{i,j-1}}{A_{i+1+s,1}-A_{i,1}}$ ,s:s+1⎞,table:
    genmatrix(A,n,n+1),sum:table1,2,for i from 3 thru n+1 do
```

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \overbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}^{i-2} \\
 \left. \begin{array}{c} \text{sum:sum + table}_{1,i} \\ \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} x - \text{table}_{k,1}, \text{return (sum)} \\
 \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_{k=1}
 \end{array}$$

4.1

```
(%i2) P([-1, 0, 1, 2], [5, 1, 1, 11], x);
(%o2) (x-1)x(x+1)+2x(x+1)-4(x+1)+5

(%i3) P([-1, 0, 1, 2], [5, 1, 1, 11], 1.5);
(%o3) 4.375
```

4.2

(%i4) P([-1, 0, 1, 2, -2, 3], [5, 1, 1, 11, 5, 35], x);

(%o4) $-\frac{(x-2)(x-1)x(x+1)}{12} + (x-1)x(x+1) + 2x(x+1) - 4(x+1) + 5$

(%i5) P([-1, 0, 1, 2, -2, 3], [5, 1, 1, 11, 5, 35], 1.5);

(%o5) 4.453125

4.3

4

(%i6) P([0, 1, 2], [2, -1, 4], x);

(%o6) $4(x-1)x - 3x + 2$

4.4

5

(%i7) P([-1, 0, 1, 2], [3, 1, -3, 1], x);

(%o7) $\frac{5(x-1)x(x+1)}{3} - x(x+1) - 2(x+1) + 3$

4.5

6

(%i8) P([-7, -5, -4, -1], [10, 5, 2, 10], x);

(%o8) $\frac{19(x+4)(x+5)(x+7)}{72} - \frac{(x+5)(x+7)}{6} - \frac{5(x+7)}{2} + 10$

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Exercise

Figure 4:

4. Construct the divided difference table for the following data set, and then write out the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial.

| | | | |
|-----|---|----|---|
| x | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| y | 2 | -1 | 4 |

5. Construct the divided difference table for the following data set, and then write out the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial.

| | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|---|
| x | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 |
| y | 3 | -1 | -3 | 1 |

6. Construct the divided difference table for the following data set, and then write out the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial.

| | | | | |
|-----|----|----|----|----|
| x | -7 | -5 | -4 | -1 |
| y | 10 | 5 | 2 | 10 |

7. Write out the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial for $f(x) = \ln x$ that passes through the points $(1, \ln 1)$, $(2, \ln 2)$, and $(3, \ln 3)$.
8. Write out the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial for $f(x) = \sin x$ that passes through the points $(0, \sin 0)$, $(\pi/4, \sin \pi/4)$, and $(\pi/2, \sin \pi/2)$.
9. Write out the Newton form of the interpolating polynomial for $f(x) = e^x$ that passes through the points $(-1, e^{-1})$, $(0, e^0)$, and $(1, e^1)$.