

# NUMERICAL METHODS-LECTURE VIII: INTERPOLATION

(See Judd Chapter 6)

Trevor Gallen

# WARNING

- ▶ Over last few years I've noticed students don't use interpolation I teach here
- ▶ Easier to use built-in Matlab
- ▶ I'll run you through it because it is good to know the vulnerabilities and how we can avoid them
- ▶ But I won't dwell on equations

# MOTIVATION

- ▶ Most solutions are functions
- ▶ Many functions are (potentially) high-dimensional
- ▶ Want a way to simplify
- ▶ A cloud of points and connecting the dots is one way
- ▶ How should we connect the dots (and choose where they are?)

## THE MOST BASIC

- ▶ The basics:
  - ▶ Evenly-spaced grid, Connect the dots
  - ▶ Linearly or quadratically summarize the line

## POLYNOMIAL BASIS

- ▶ We can summarize functions with different bases
- ▶ The most common is the polynomial basis:

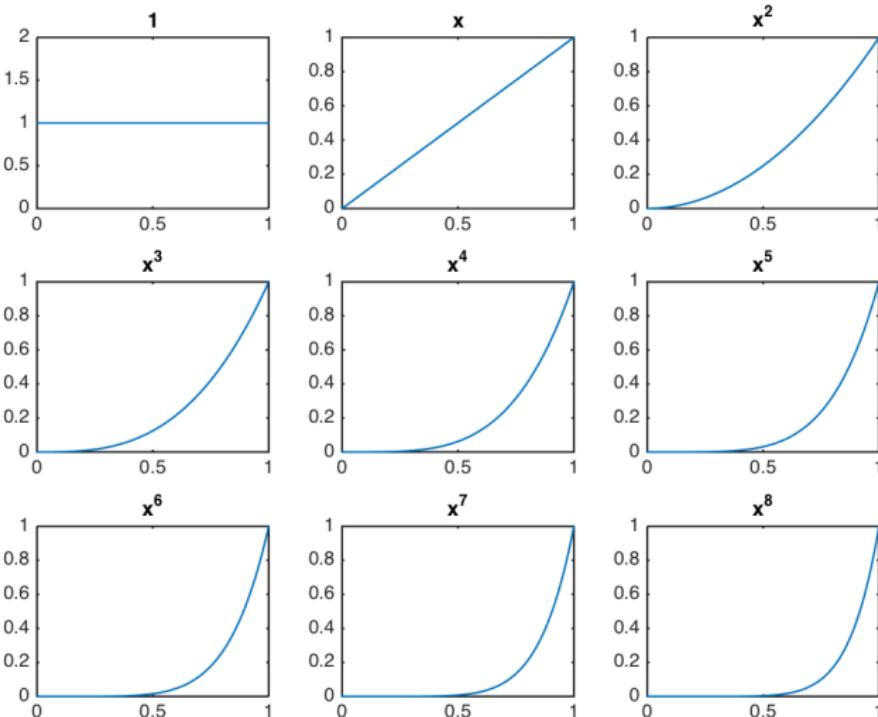
$$f(x) = [ \ a_0 \ \ a_1 \ \ a_2 \ \ \cdots \ \ a_n \ ] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ x^2 \\ \vdots \\ x^n \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ This is really just the taylor polynomial:

$$f(x) = a_0 + a_1x + a_2x^2 + \dots + a_nx^n$$

- ▶ But the polynomials are really colinear
- ▶ This is pretty inefficient coding

# MONOMIAL BASIS



## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”

- ▶ Have a cloud of  $n$  points (data is  $Y$ ), location in grid summarized by  $X$
- ▶ Regress cloud on polynomial basis of dimension  $i$ ,  $i < n$ :

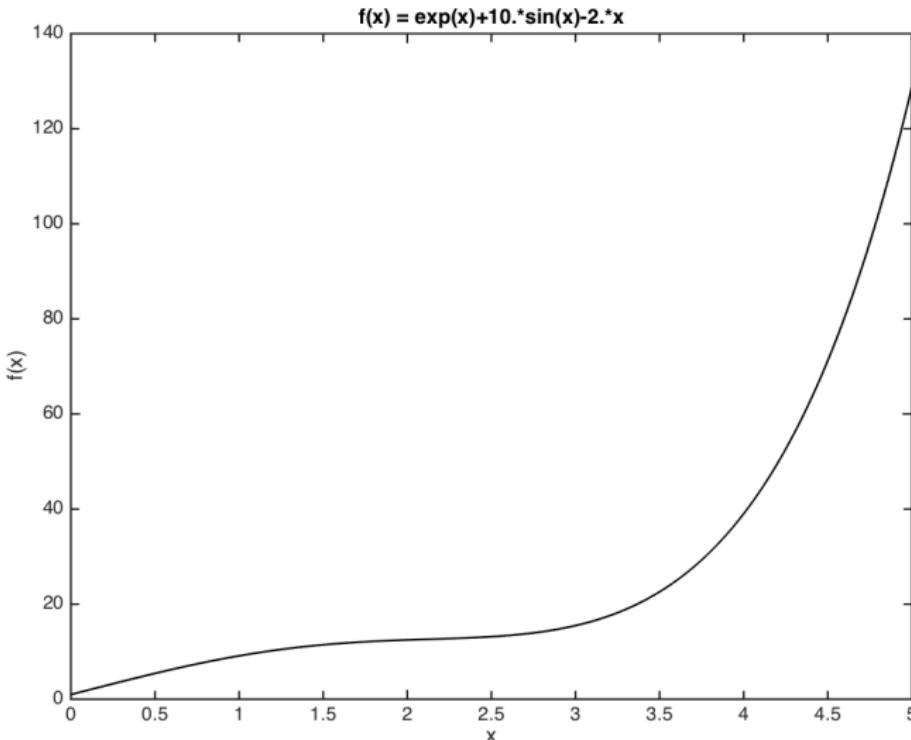
$$\hat{\beta} = (X' * X)^{-1} X' * Y$$

- ▶ Then your interpolation is always just:

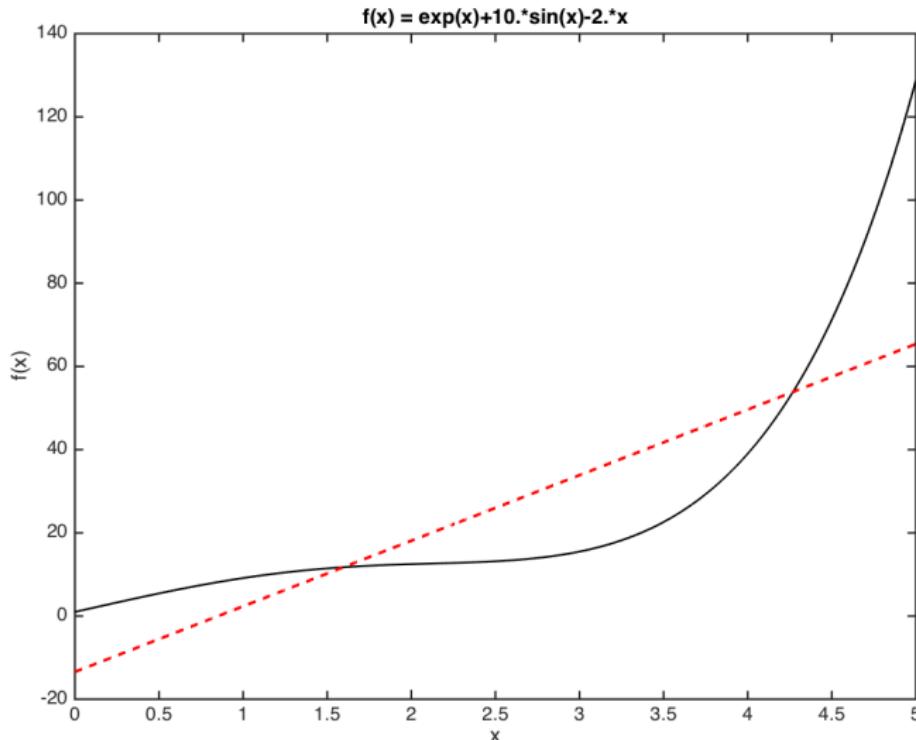
$$\hat{Y} = \hat{\beta} X$$

- ▶ This is okay for a lot of problems

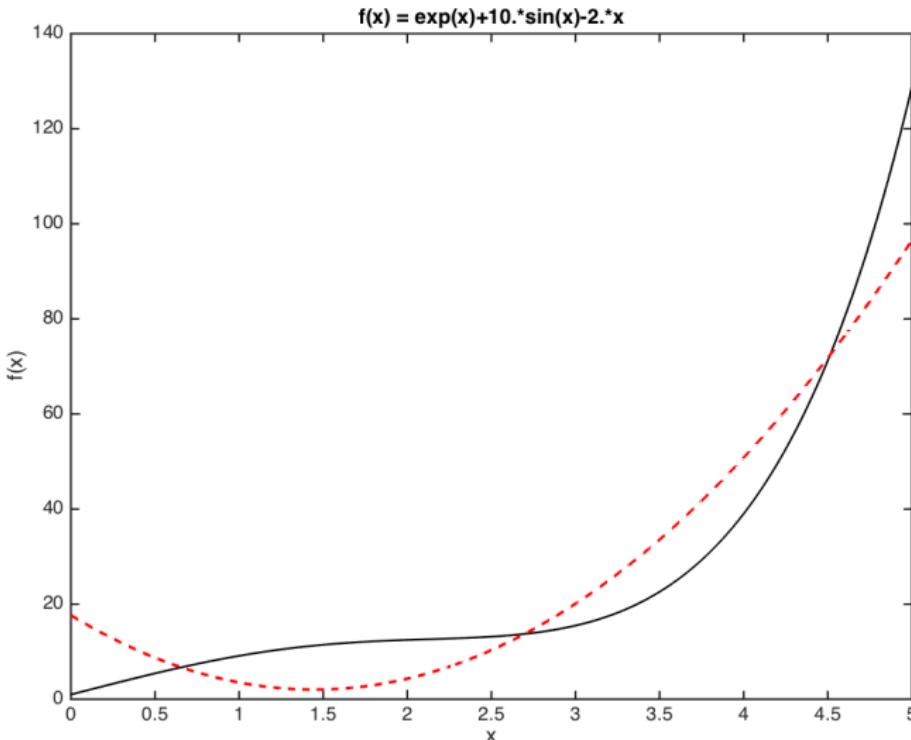
## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”



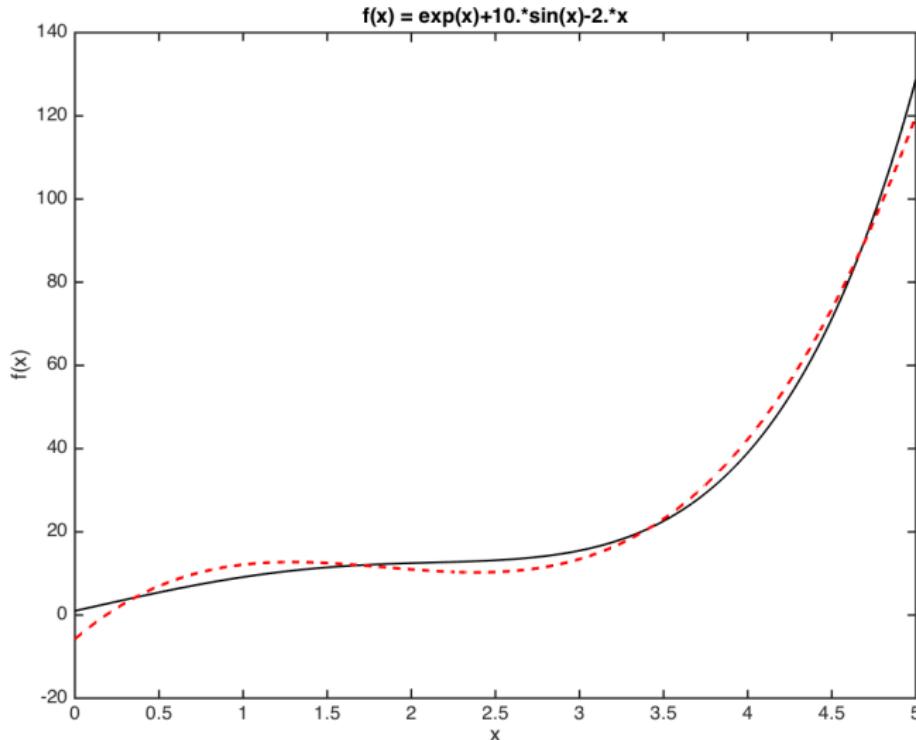
## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”



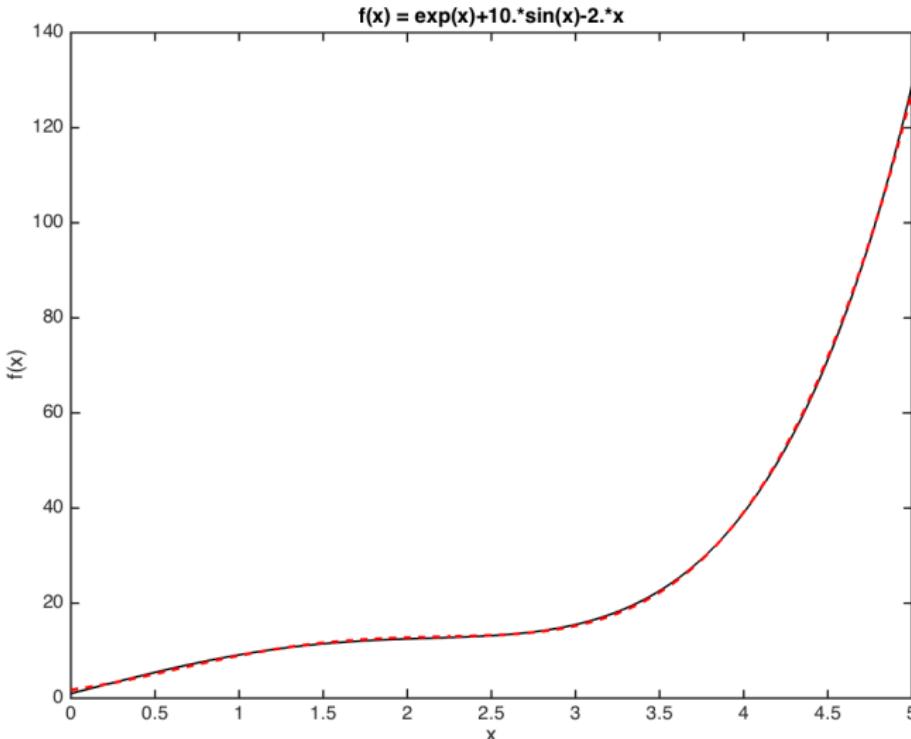
## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”



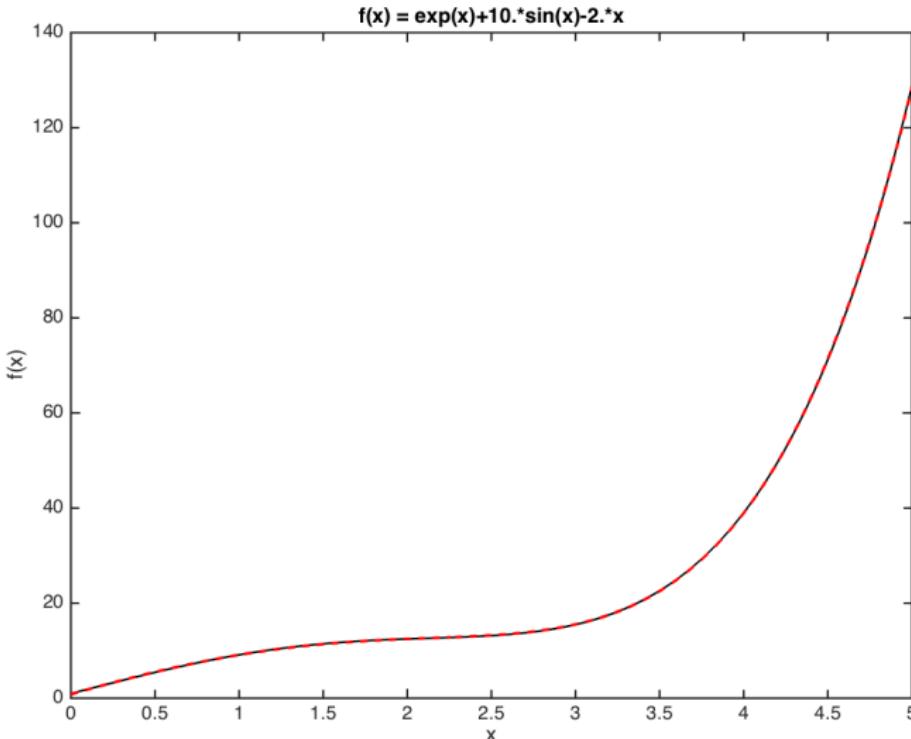
## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”



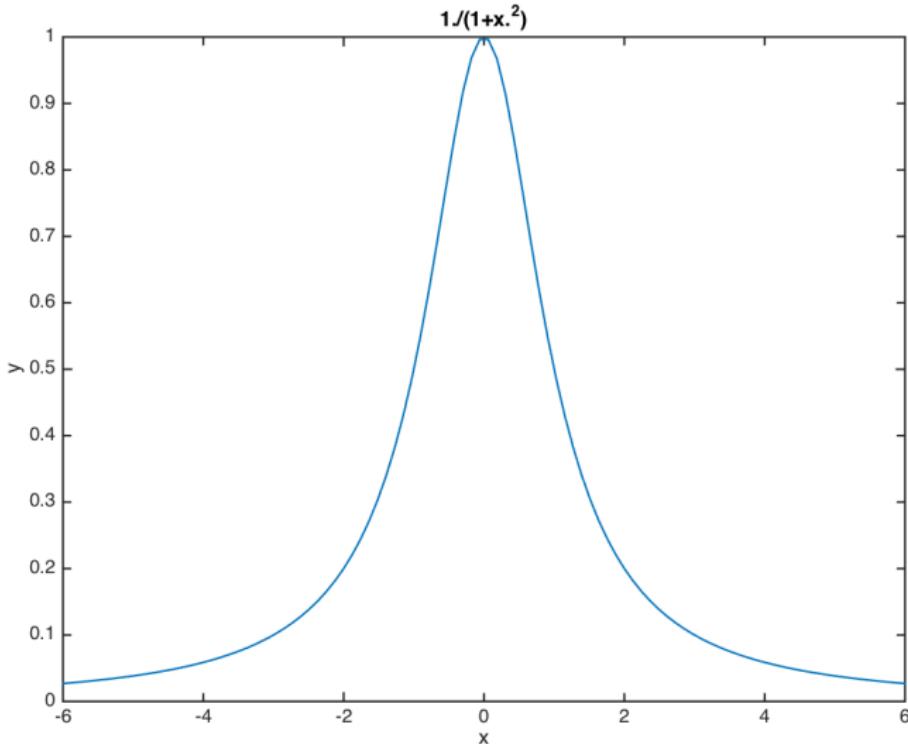
## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”



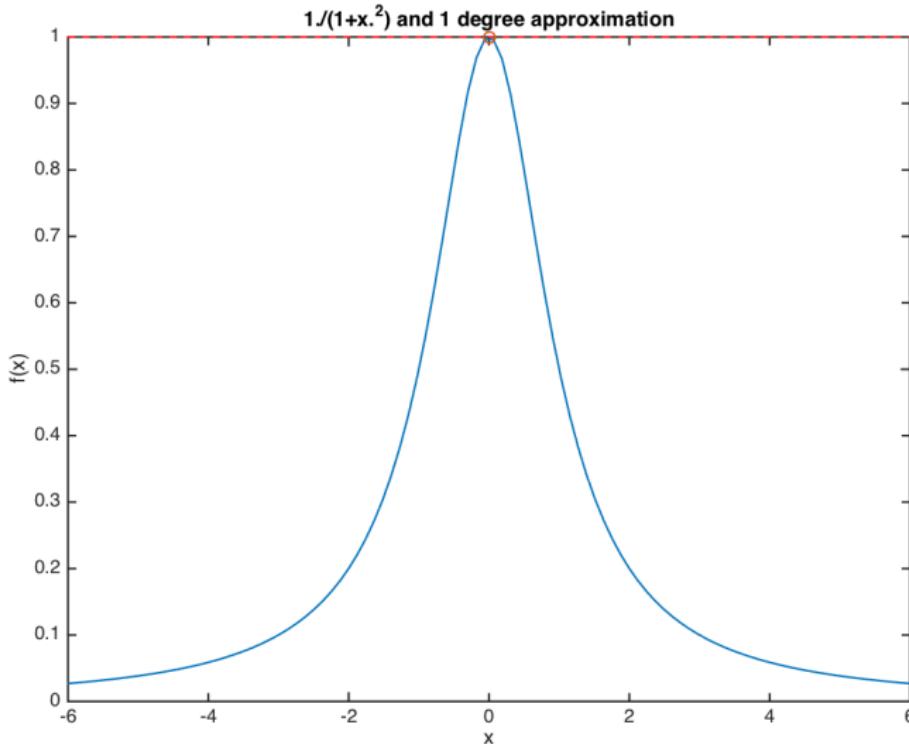
## EXAMPLE: “REGRESSION”



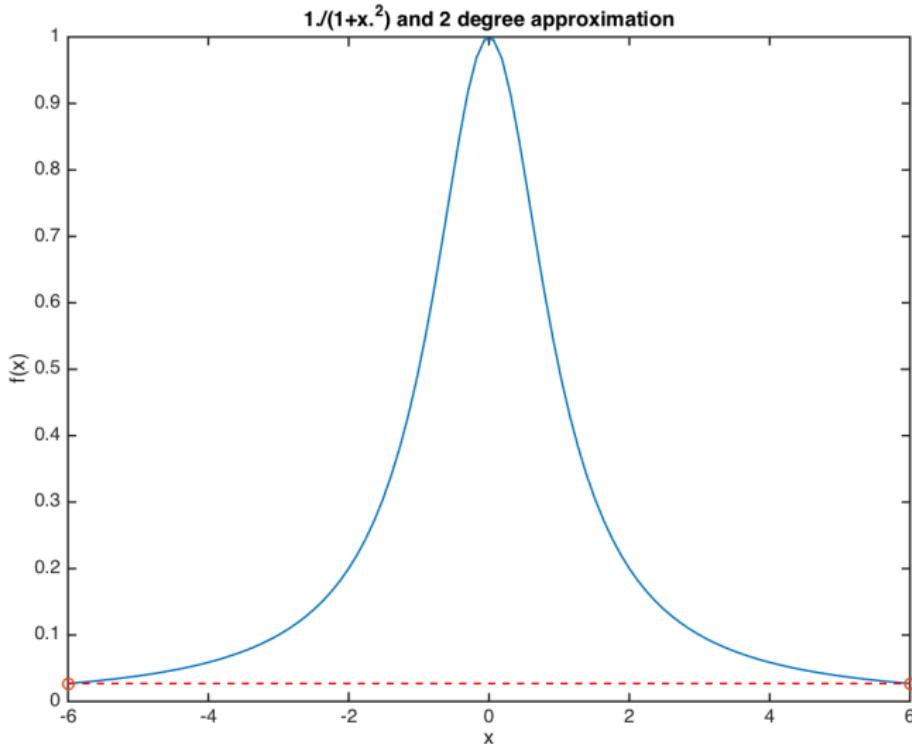
RUNGE'S PHENOMENON:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$



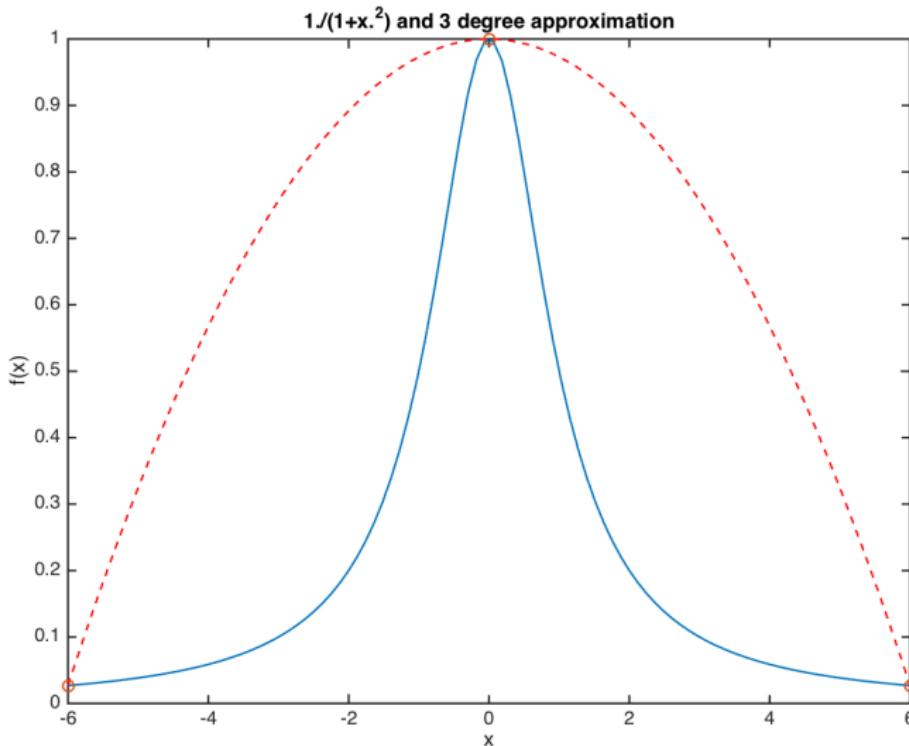
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX



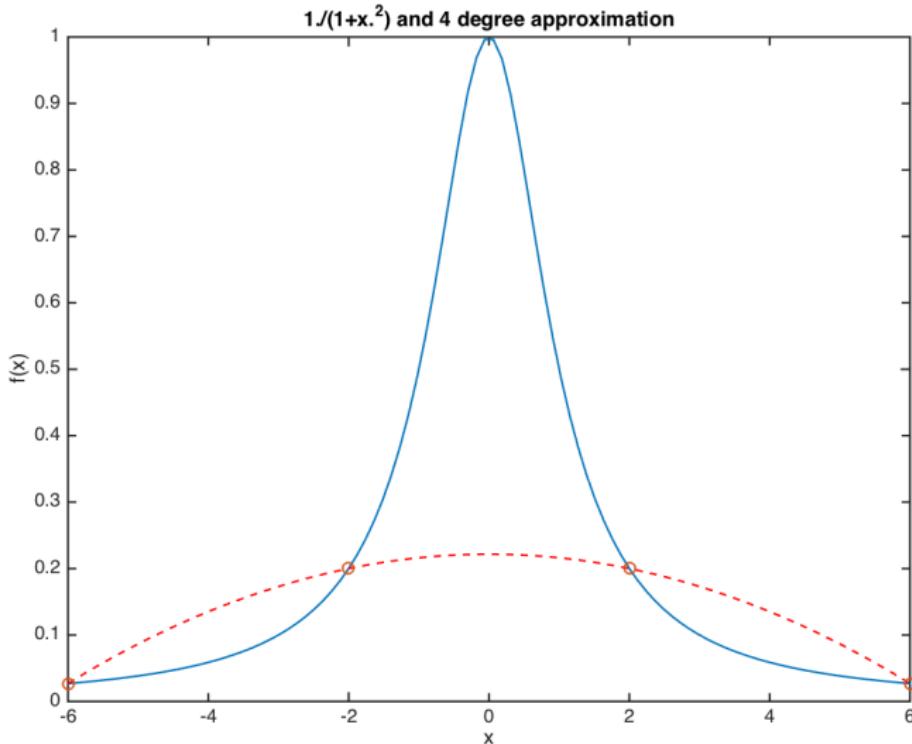
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



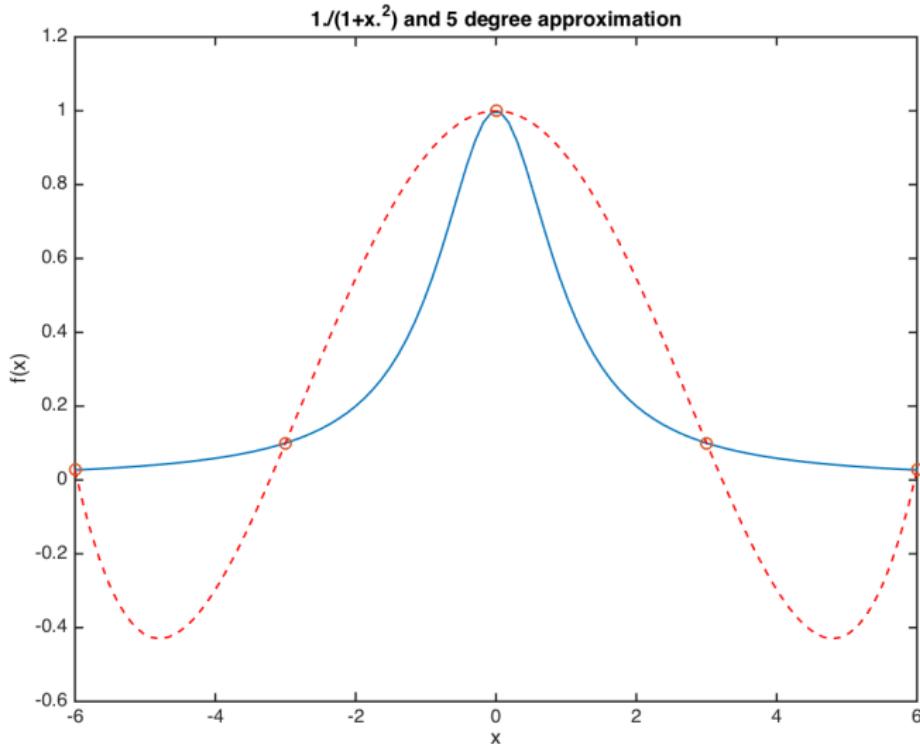
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



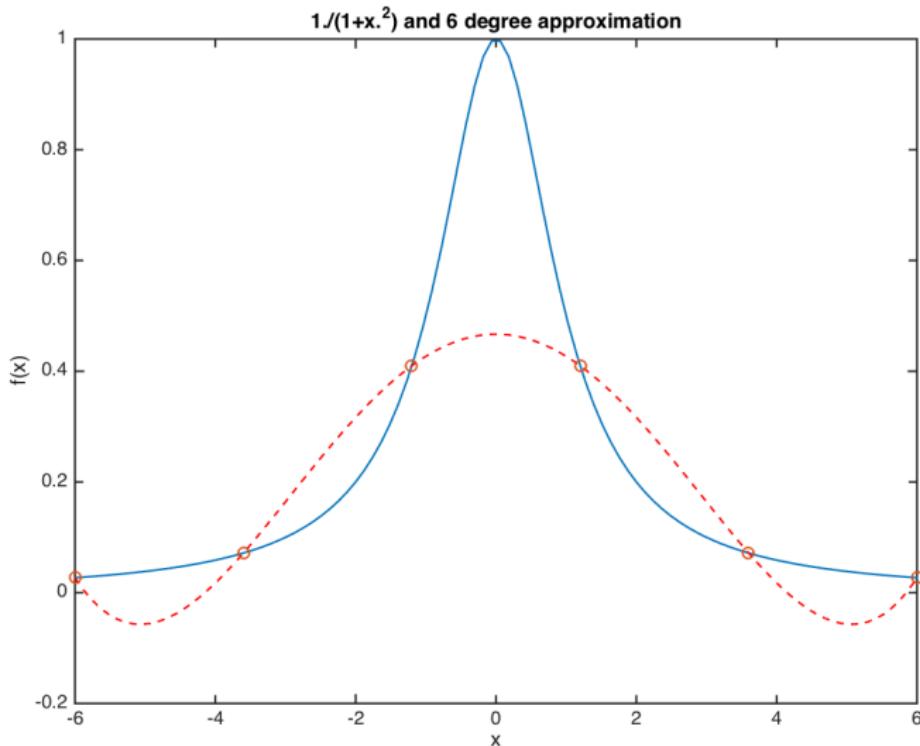
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



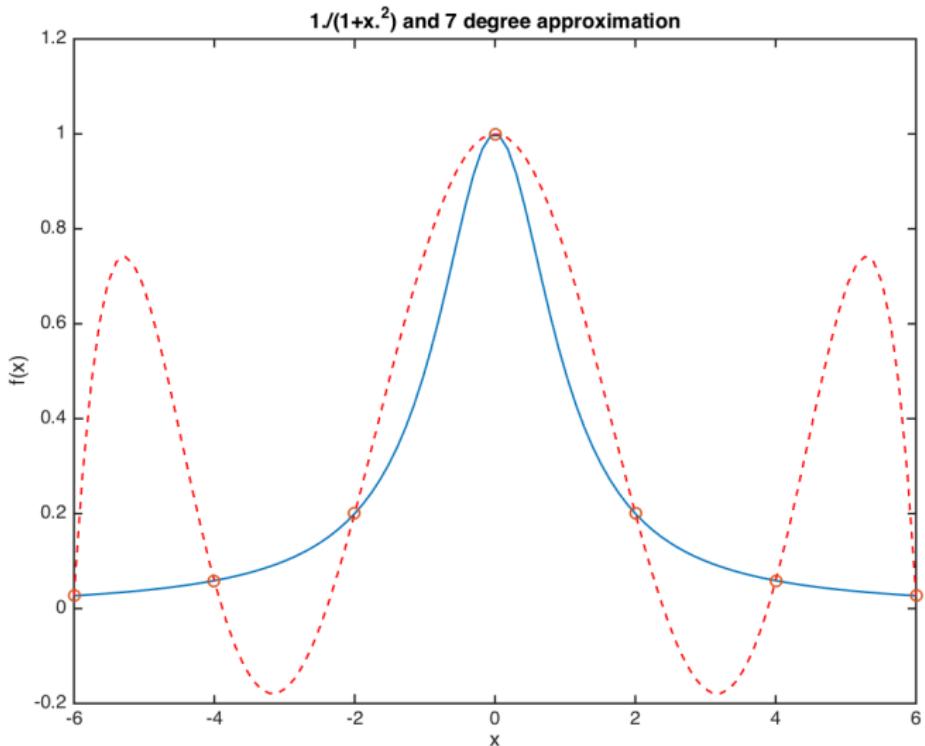
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



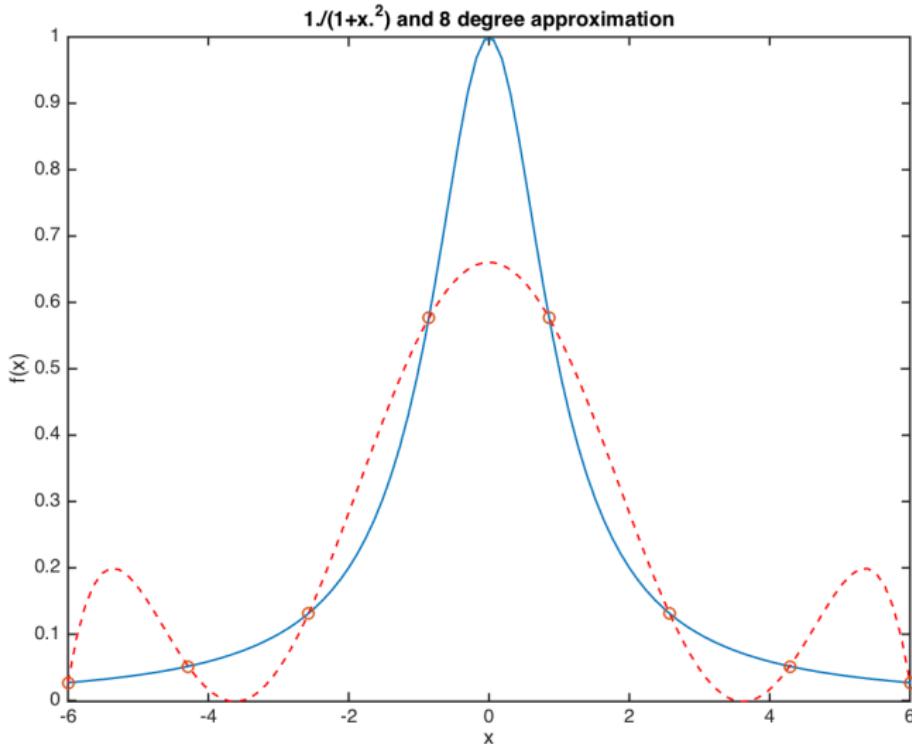
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX



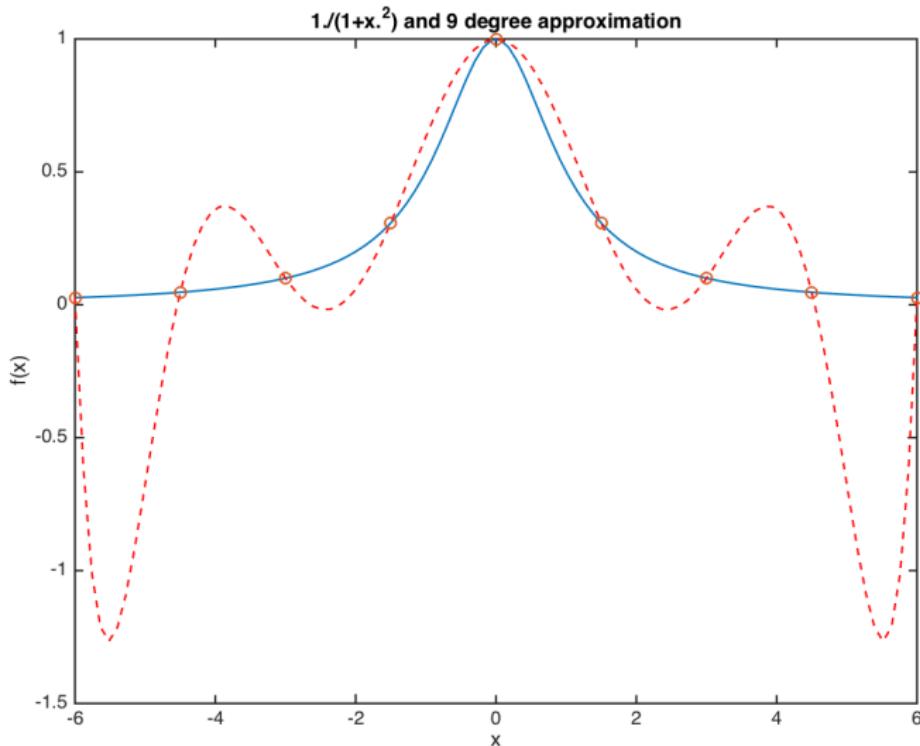
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX



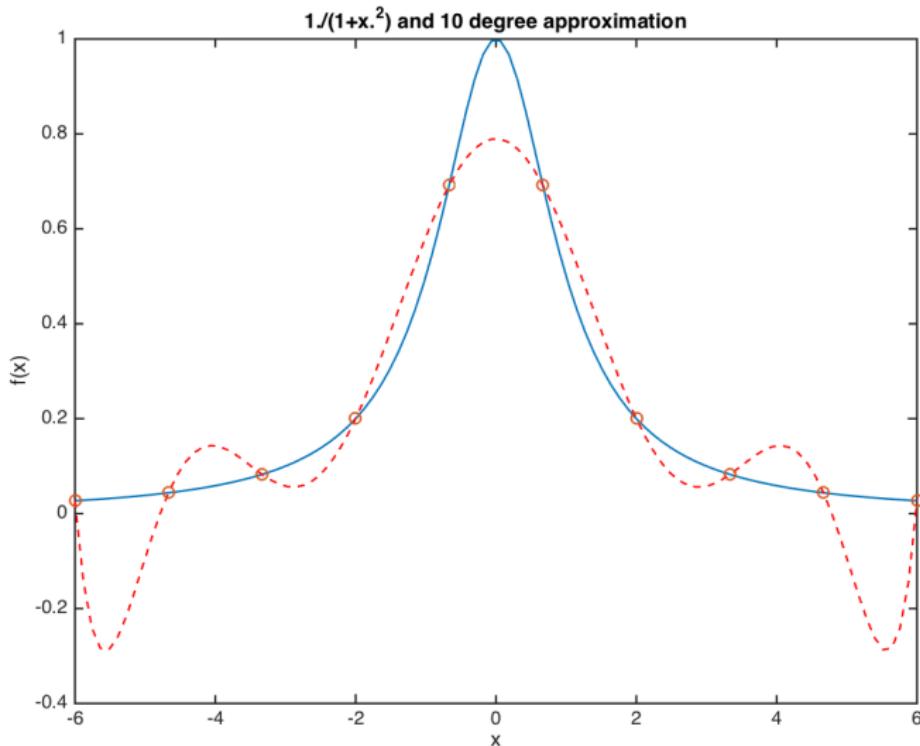
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX



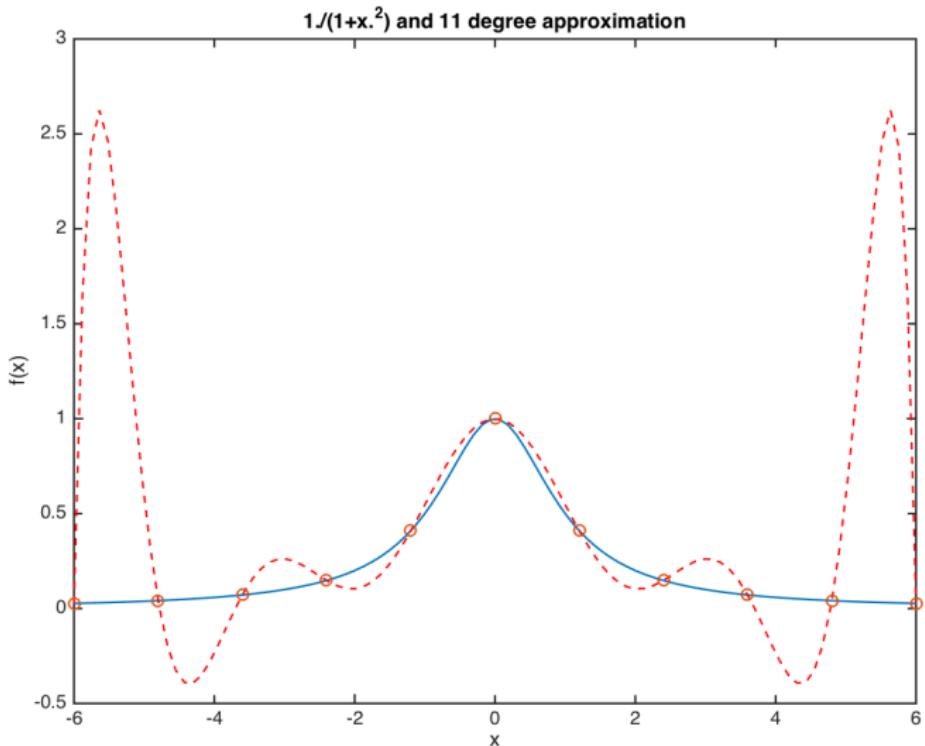
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX



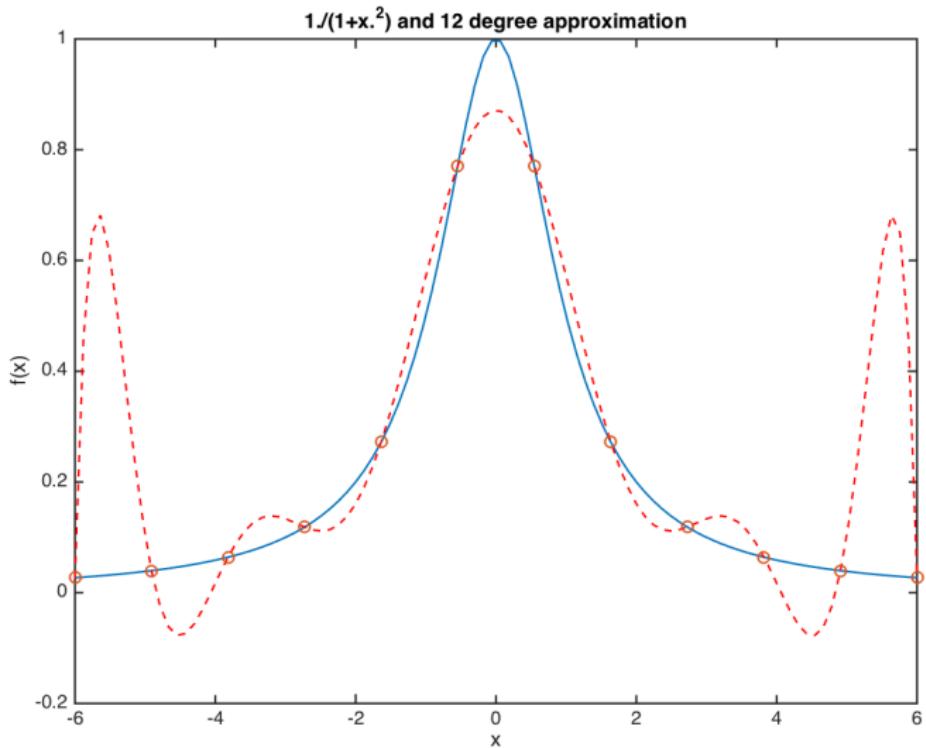
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX



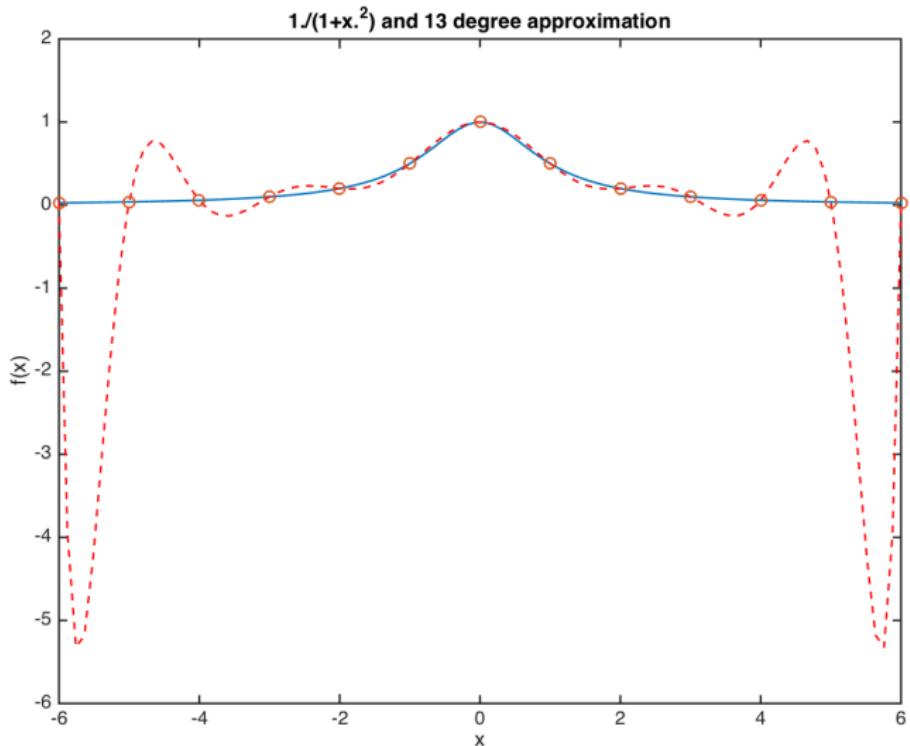
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 11-DEG. APPROX



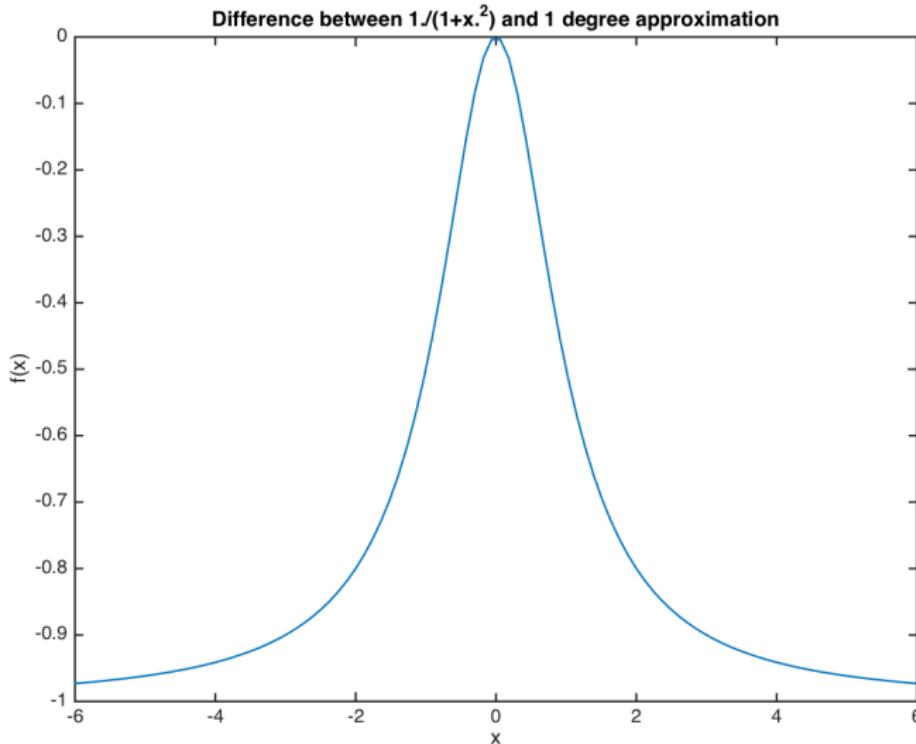
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 12-DEG. APPROX



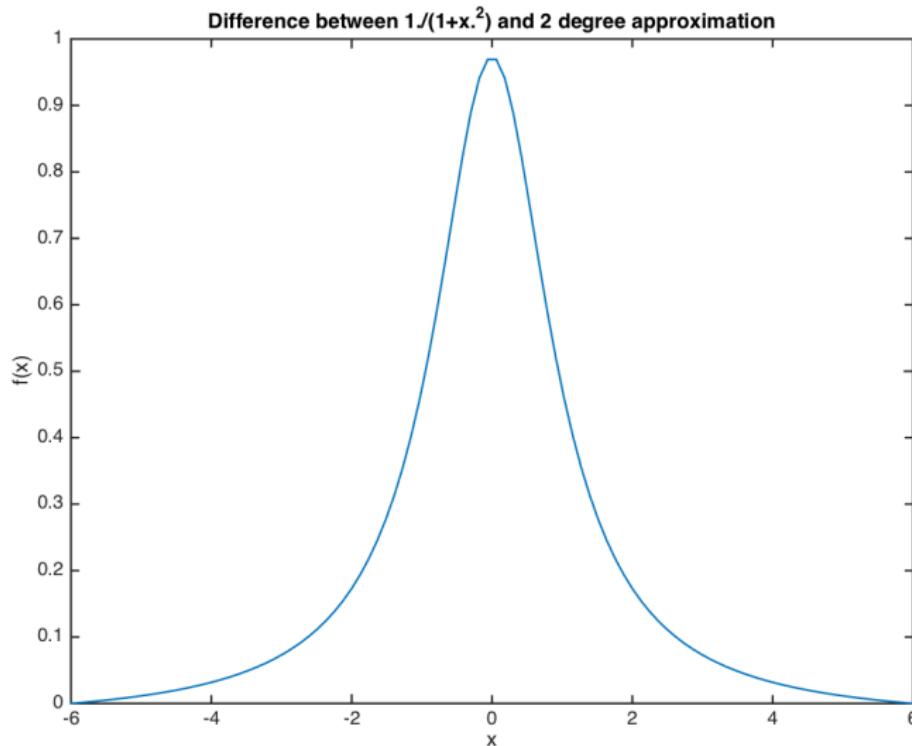
APPROX:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 13-DEG. APPROX



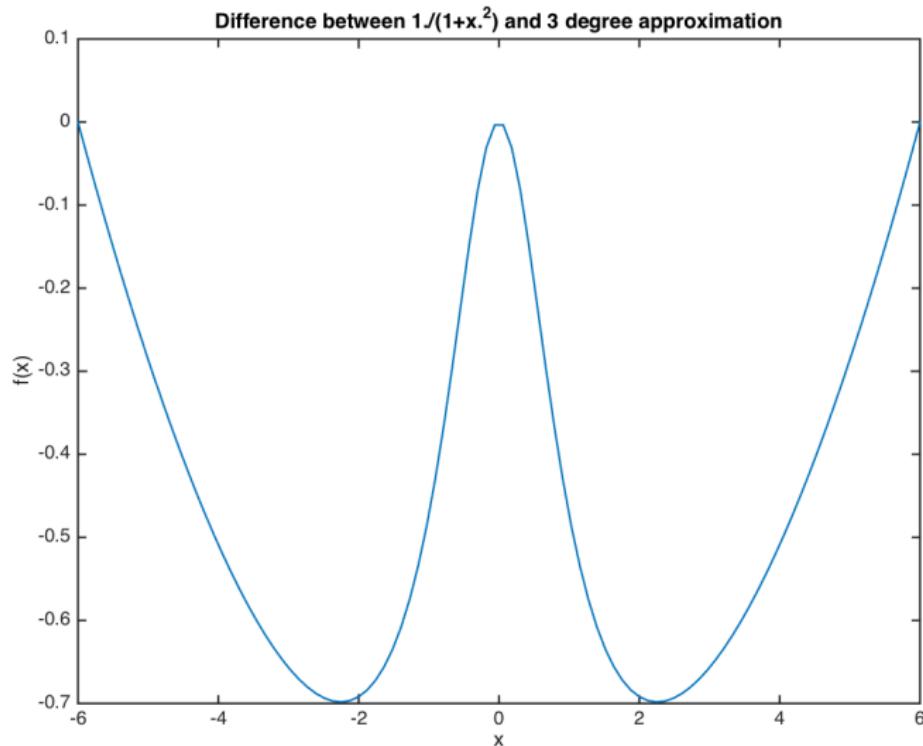
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX



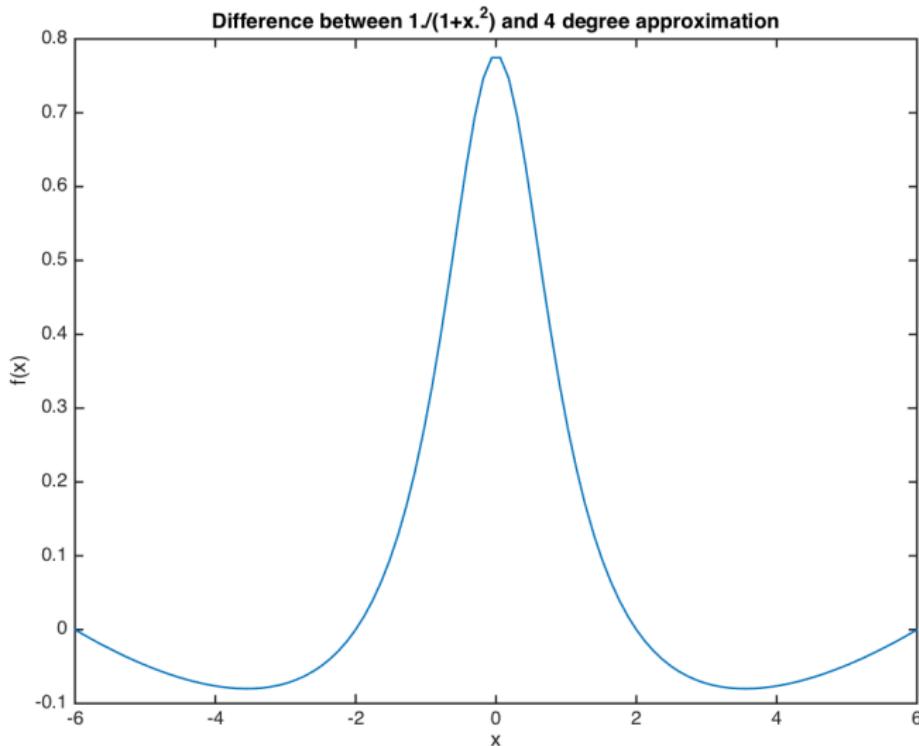
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



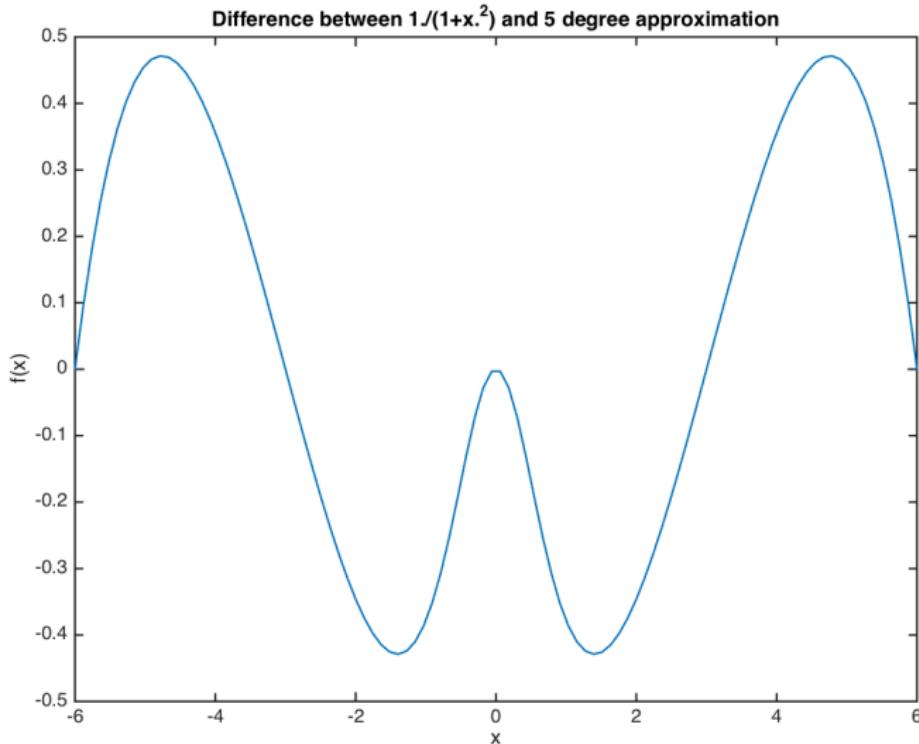
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



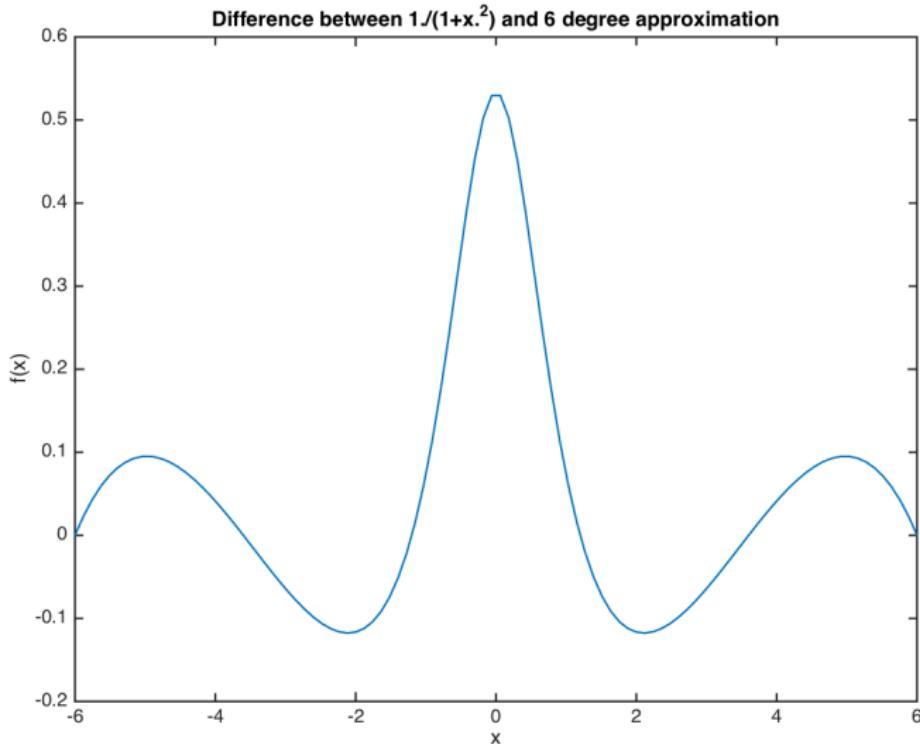
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



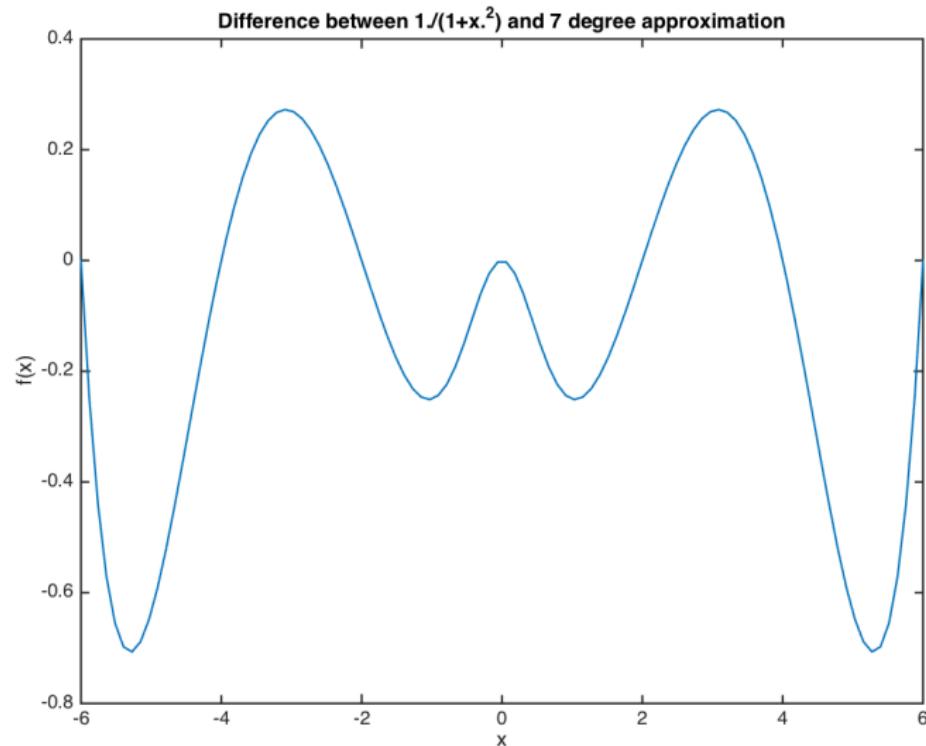
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



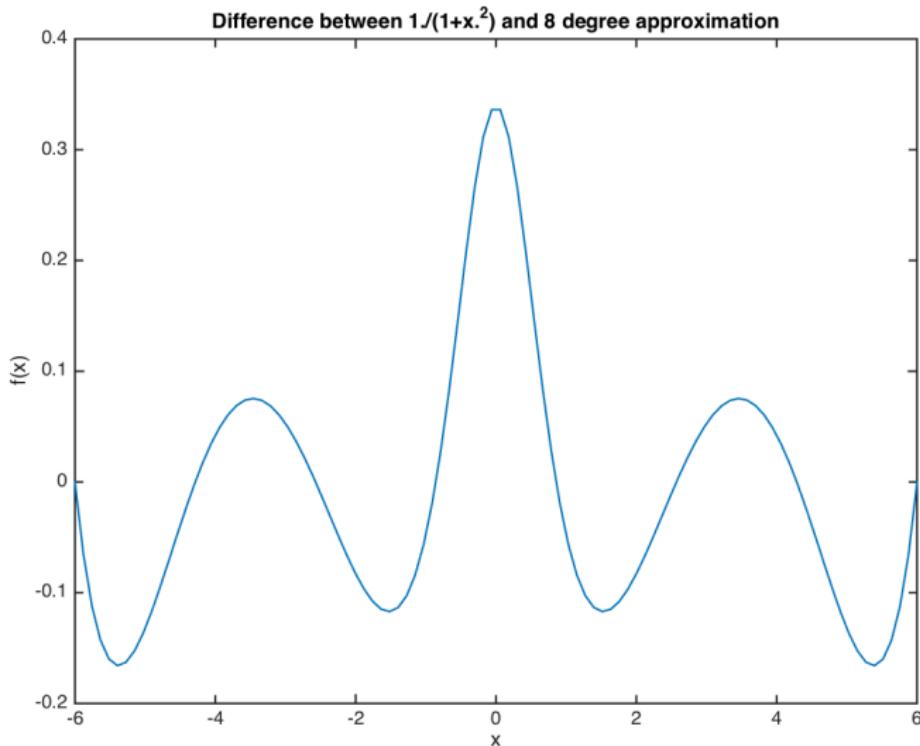
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX



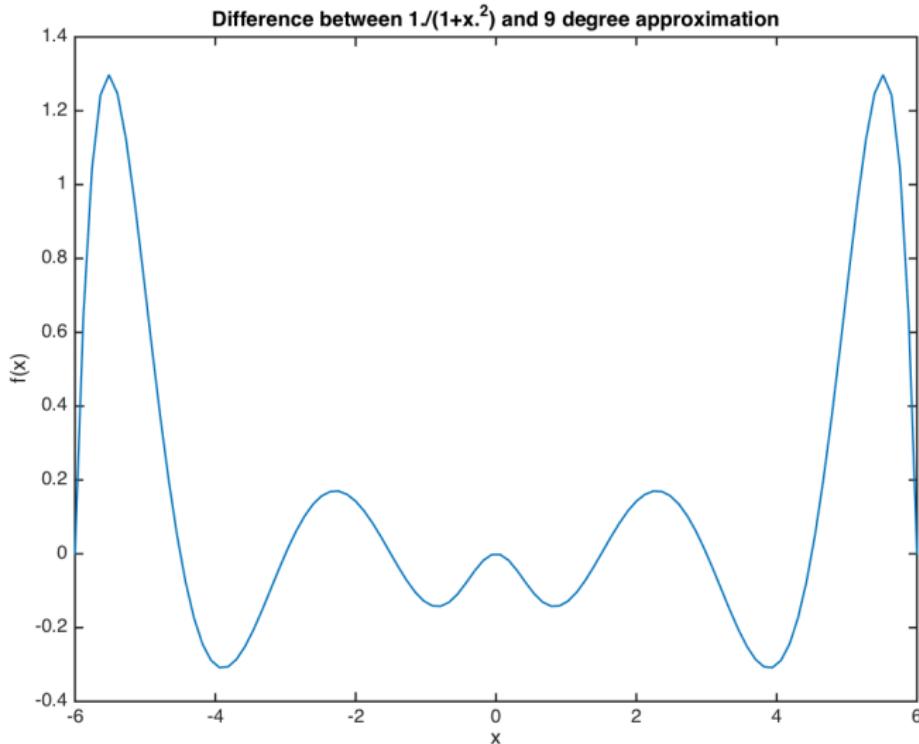
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX



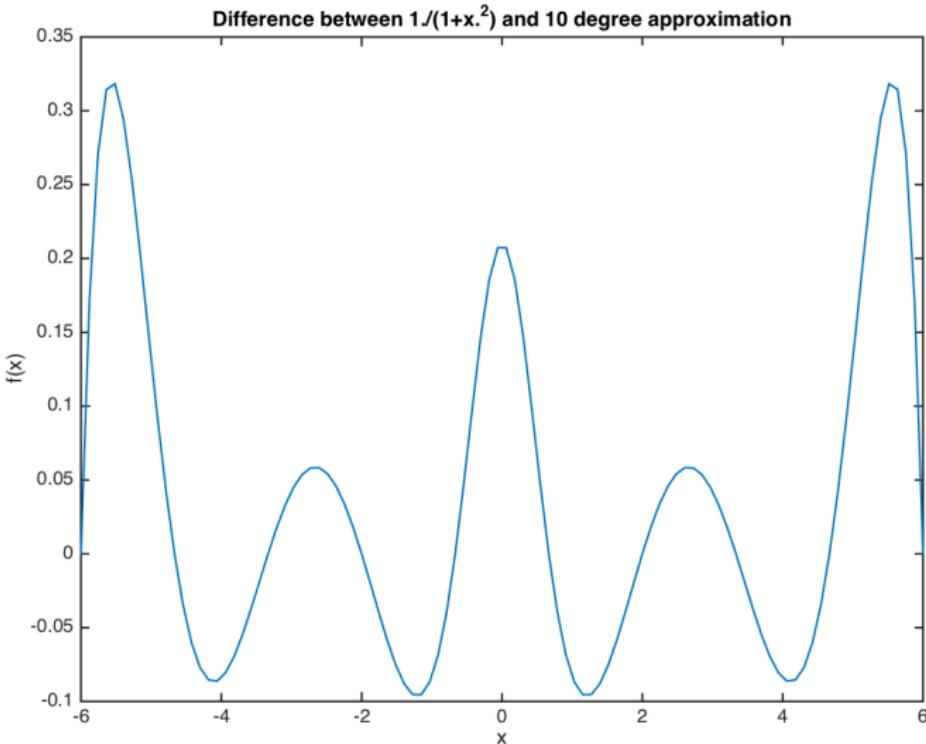
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX



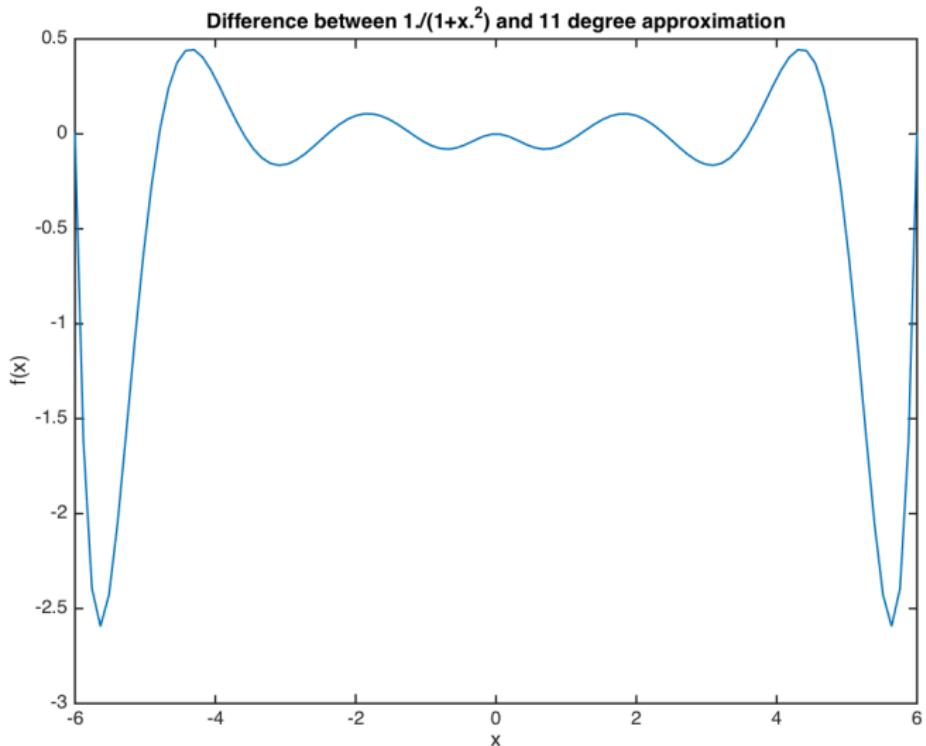
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX



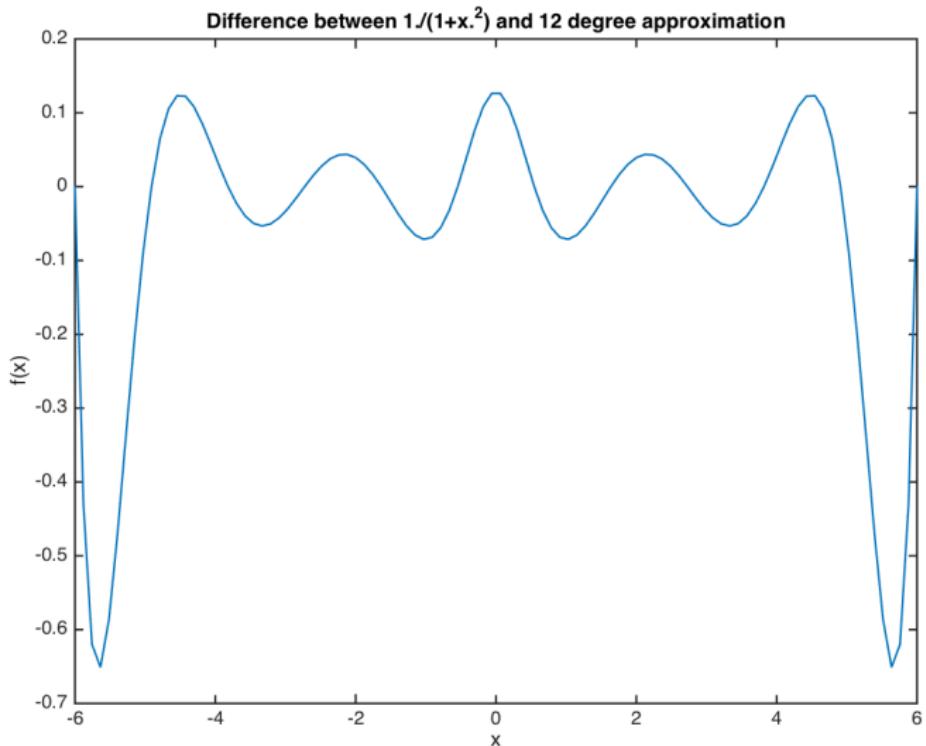
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX



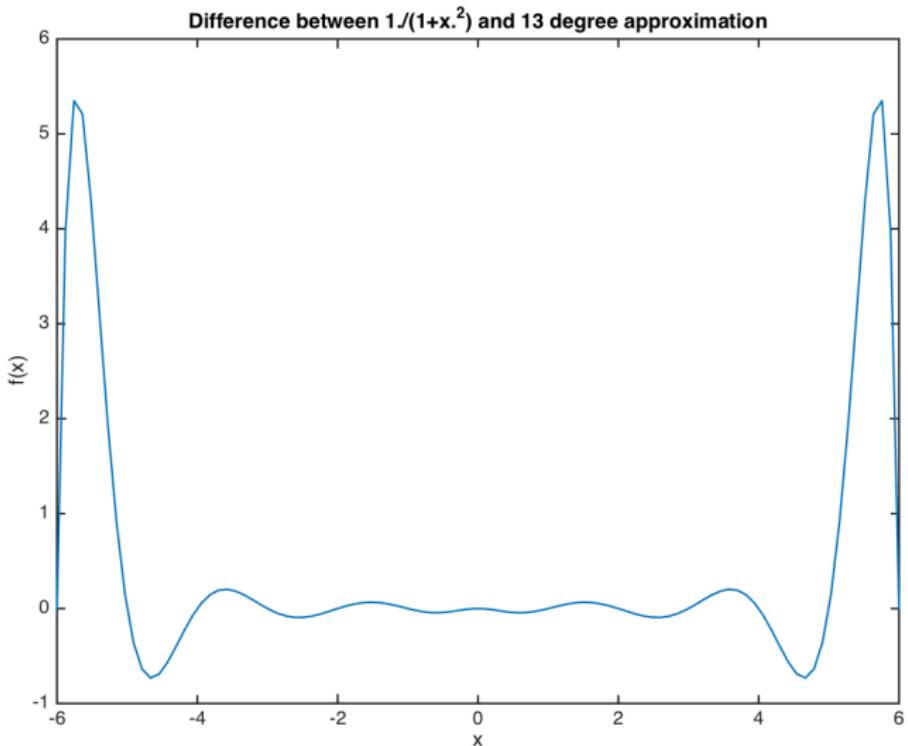
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 11-DEG. APPROX



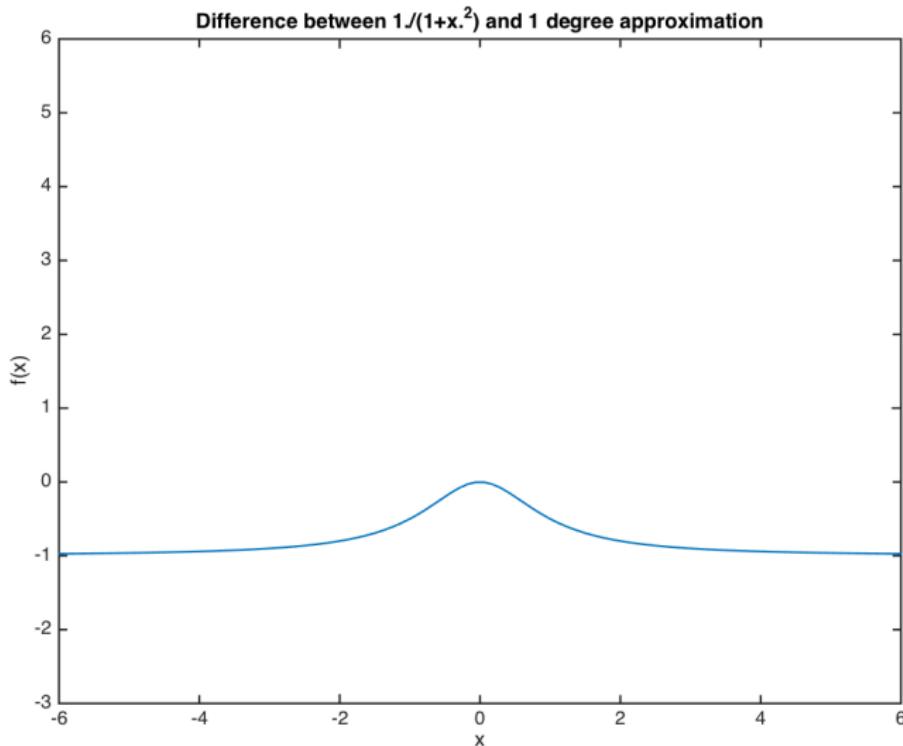
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 12-DEG. APPROX



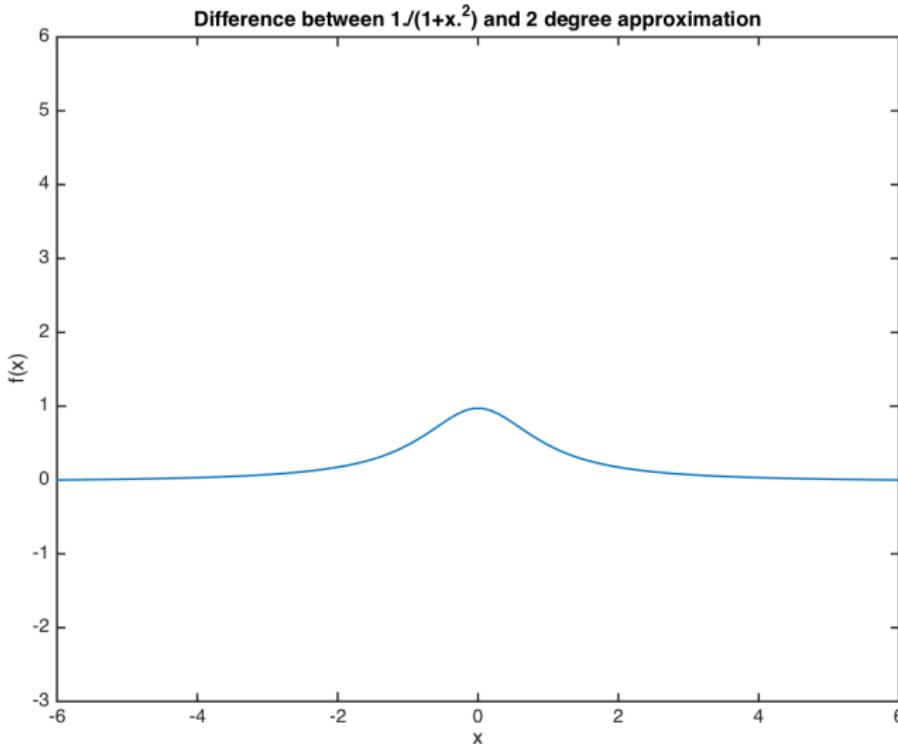
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 13-DEG. APPROX



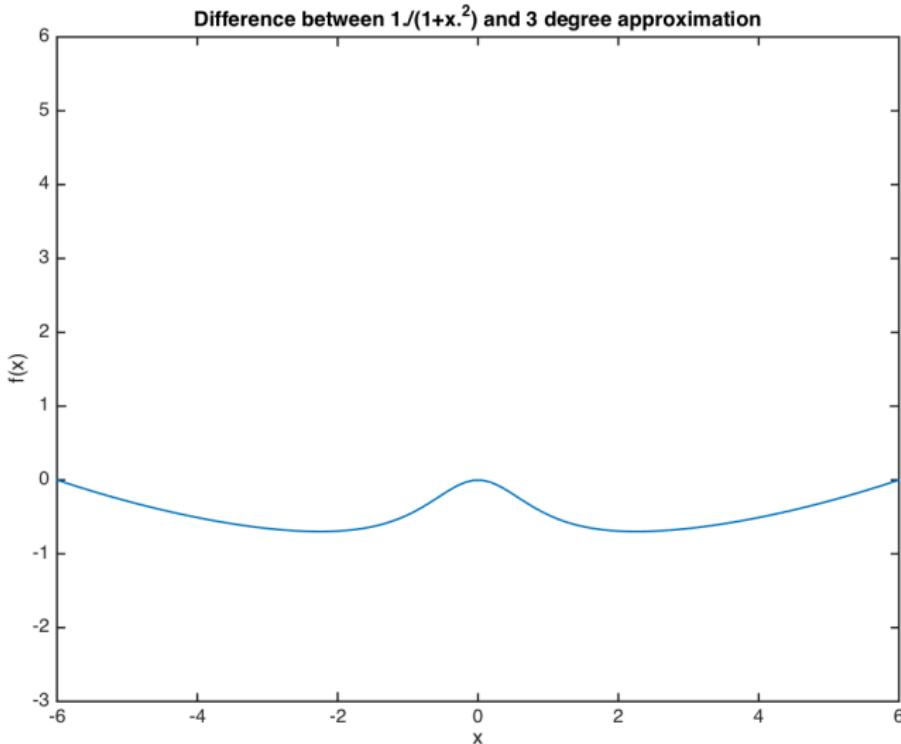
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX



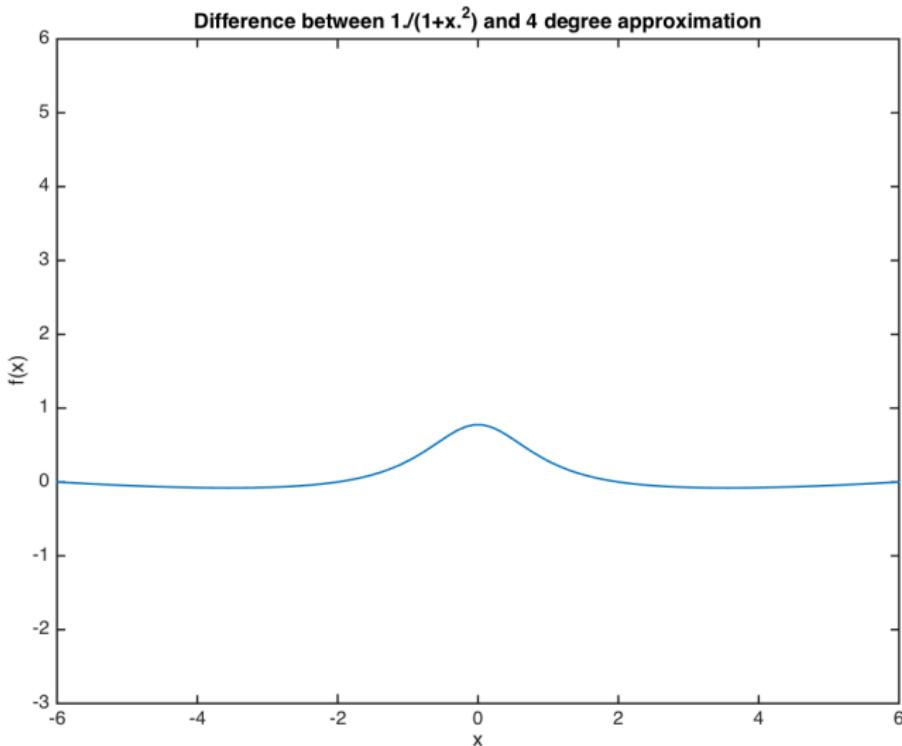
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



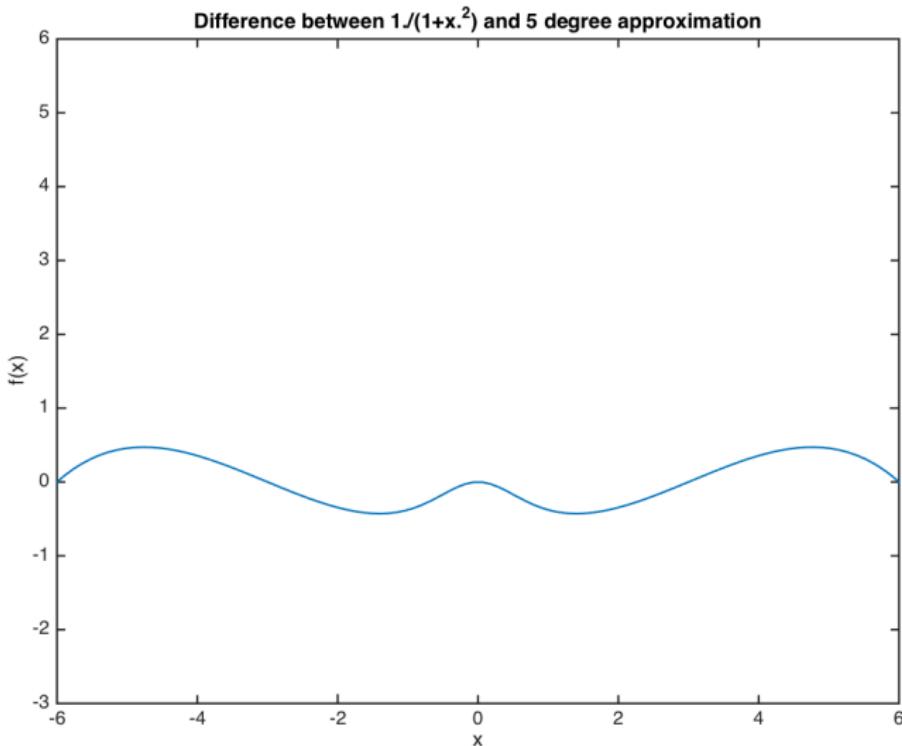
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



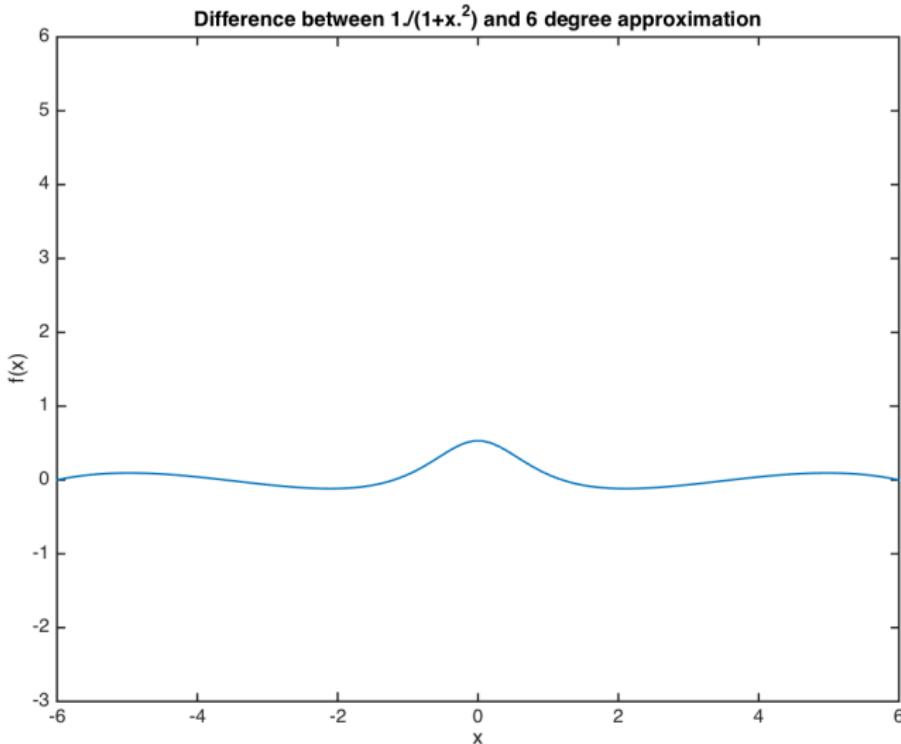
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



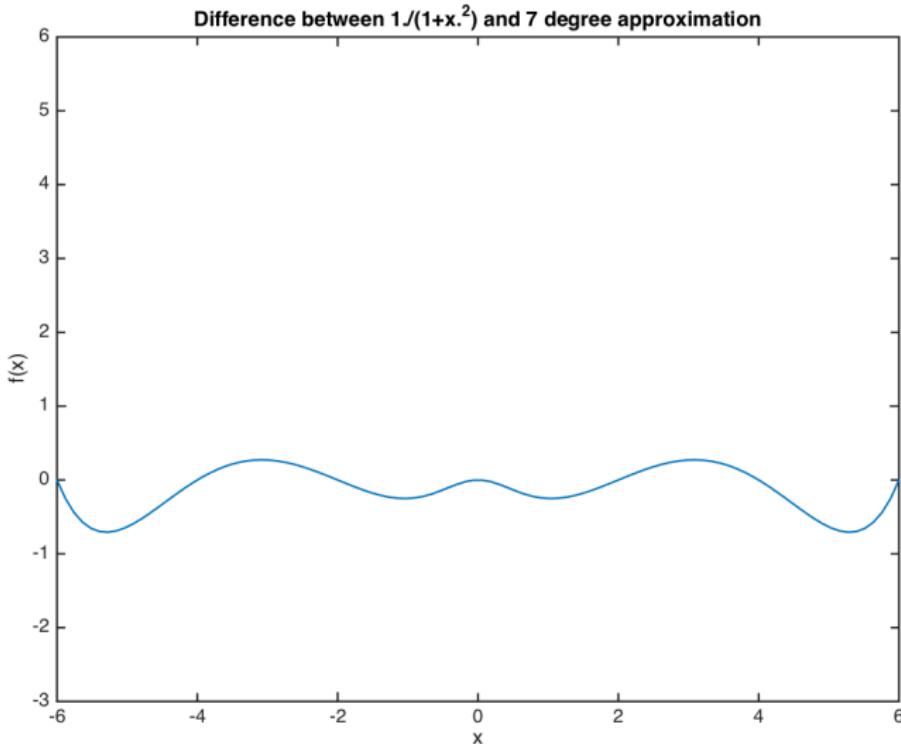
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



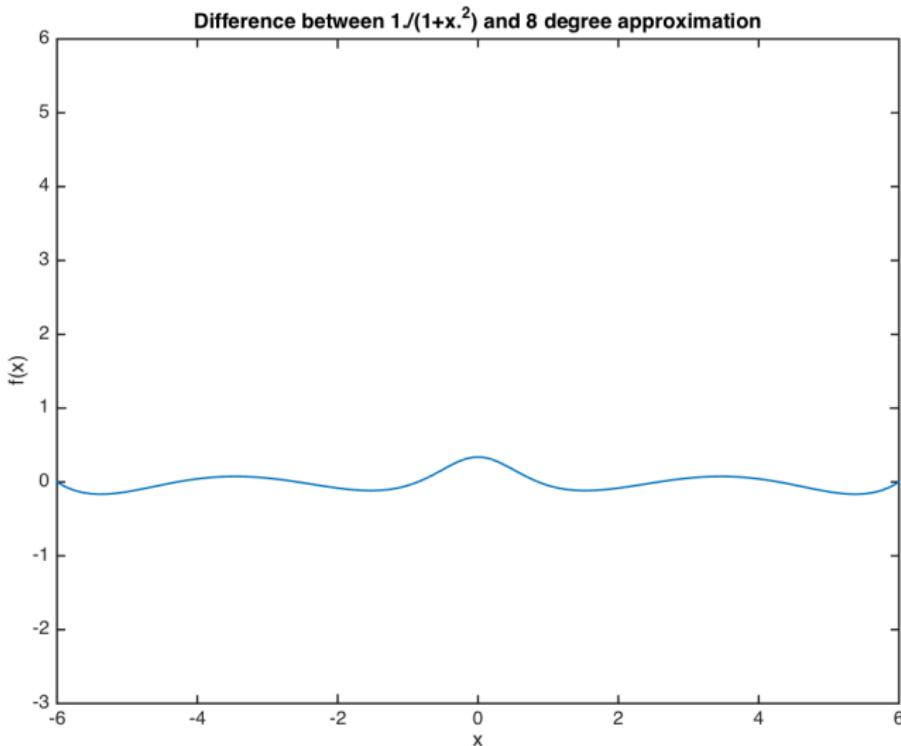
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX



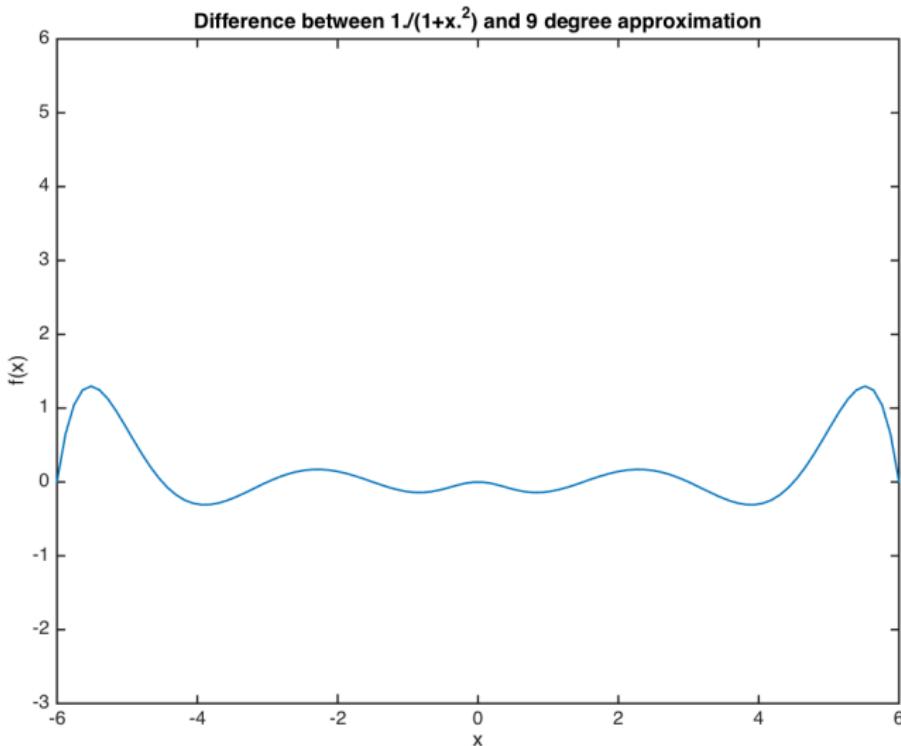
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX



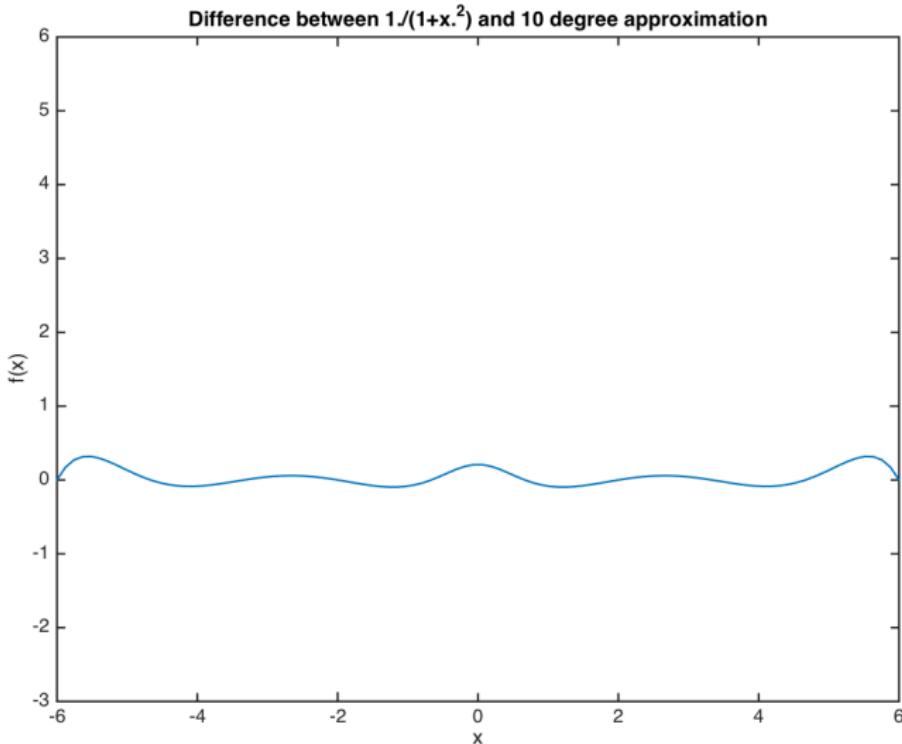
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX



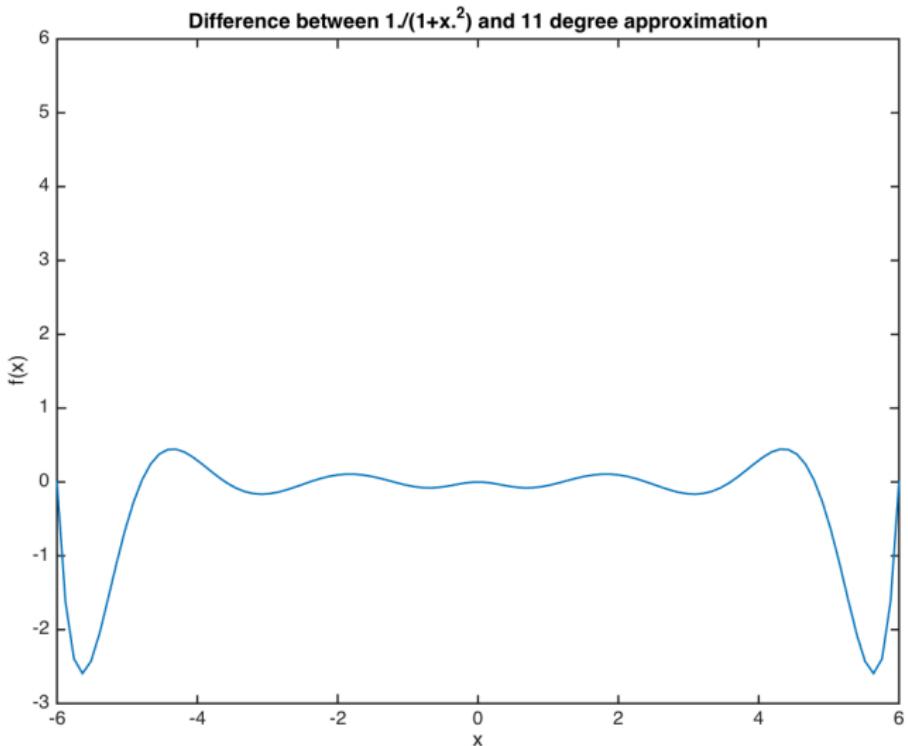
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX



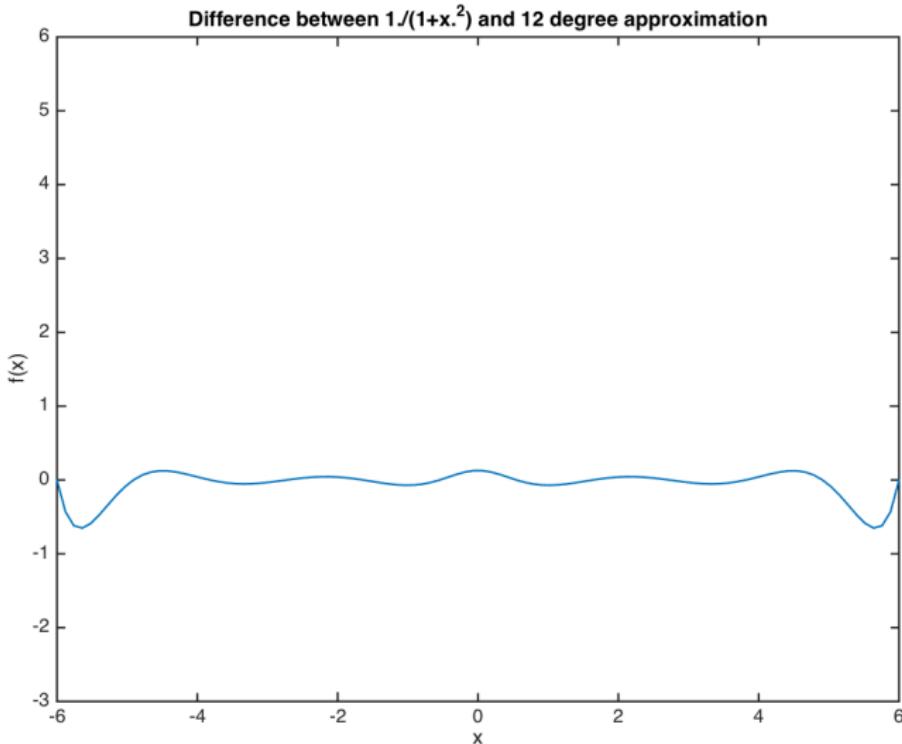
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX



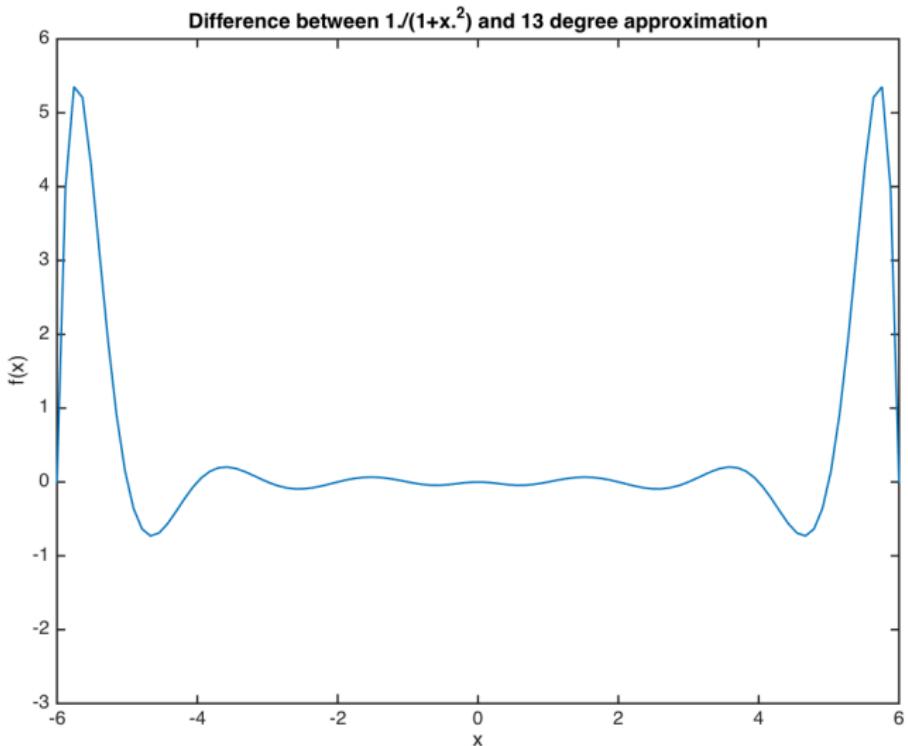
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 11-DEG. APPROX



ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 12-DEG. APPROX



ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 13-DEG. APPROX



## CHEBYCHEV POLYNOMIALS

- ▶ Less violent and colinear polynomials are desirable
- ▶ We also want something that avoids Runge's phenomenon if possible
- ▶ We also want something that's pretty "easy" to integrate
- ▶ It just so happens Chebychev polynomials are all of these things
- ▶ Defined recursively:

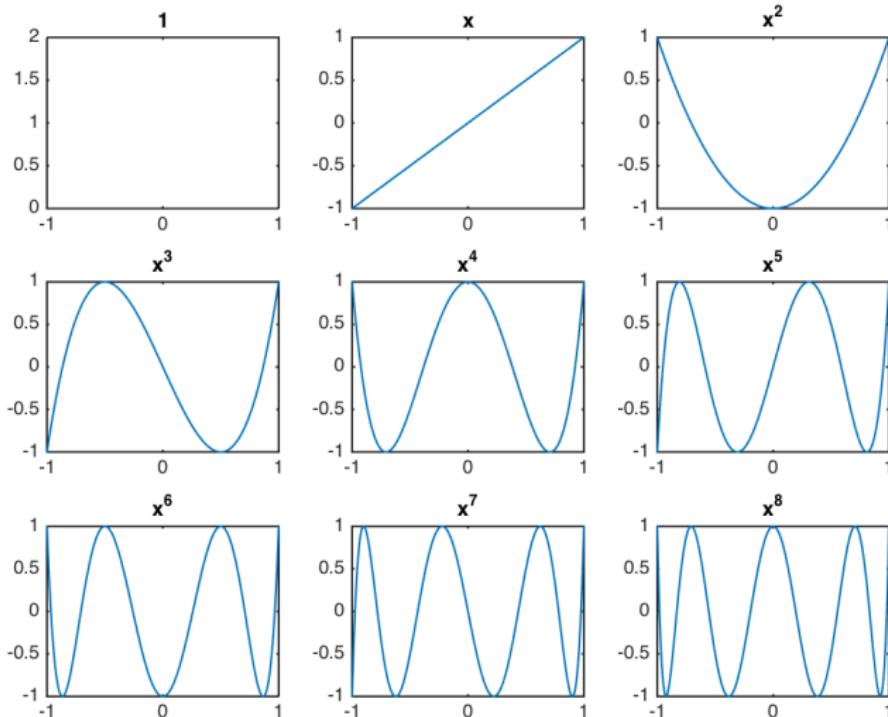
$$T_0(x) = 1$$

$$T_1(x) = x$$

$$T_n(x) = 2xT_{n-1}(x) - T_{n-2}(x)$$

- ▶ Defined over  $[-1,1]$ ! Needs transformation.

# CHEBYCHEV BASIS



## PROPERTIES

- ▶ Also can show that:

$$T_n(x) = \cosh(n \cdot \operatorname{arccosh}(x))$$

- ▶ And that the roots  $x_j^*$   $T_n$  are:

$$x_j = \cos\left(\frac{2j-1}{2n}\pi\right) \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

- ▶ It just so happens that sampling at Chebychev nodes help minimize the maximum error and make sure it's monotonically decreasing as  $n$  increases

## INTERPOLATION: 1-D

- ▶ You have some function  $f(x)$  that you want to interpolate over  $[a, b]$ .
- ▶ Define a bridge between your range and the interpolating polynomial's range:
- ▶ Define:  $z = 2(x - a)/(b - a) - 1$ , or  $x = a + \frac{(b-a)(z+1)}{2}$
- ▶ Then
  - ▶  $x = a \Rightarrow z = -1$
  - ▶  $x = b \Rightarrow z = 1$
  - ▶  $x = (a + b)/2 \Rightarrow z = 0$ .
- ▶ Our goal will be, for interpolating polynomial  $g(z)$  over  $[-1, 1]$  and  $f(x)$  over  $[a, b]$ , that:

$$g(2(x - a)/(b - a) - 1) = f(x) \quad \forall x$$

## INTERPOLATION: 1-D

1. Pick fcn.  $f(x)$ , degree  $n$ , bounds  $a, b$  for interpolation.
2. Find Chebychev nodes for  $f(x)$  in “z” space.

$$z_j = -\cos \left( \frac{2j-1}{2n} \pi \right) \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

3. Convert nodes into “x” space:

$$x_j = a + \frac{(b-a)(z_j + 1)}{2}$$

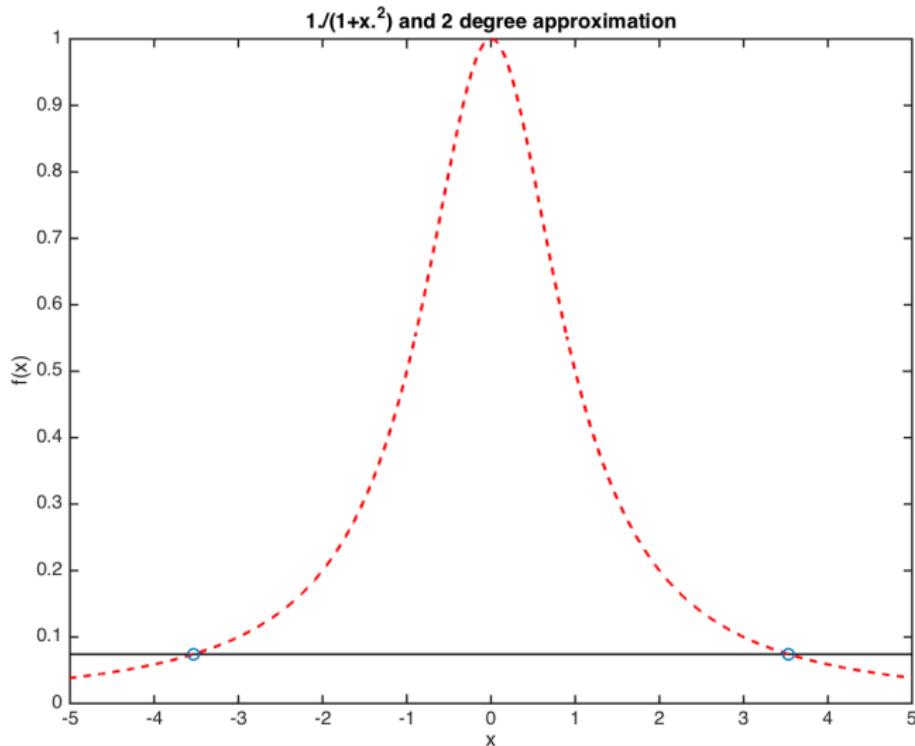
4. Calculate  $y_j = f(x_j)$  at each  $x_j$ . This is the value of  $g(z_j)$  at each of the corresponding nodes.
5. Given  $y_j$ , calculate the Chebychev coefficients  $c_j$  as:

$$c_j = \frac{2}{n+1} \sum_{k=0}^n y_j T_j(z_j)$$

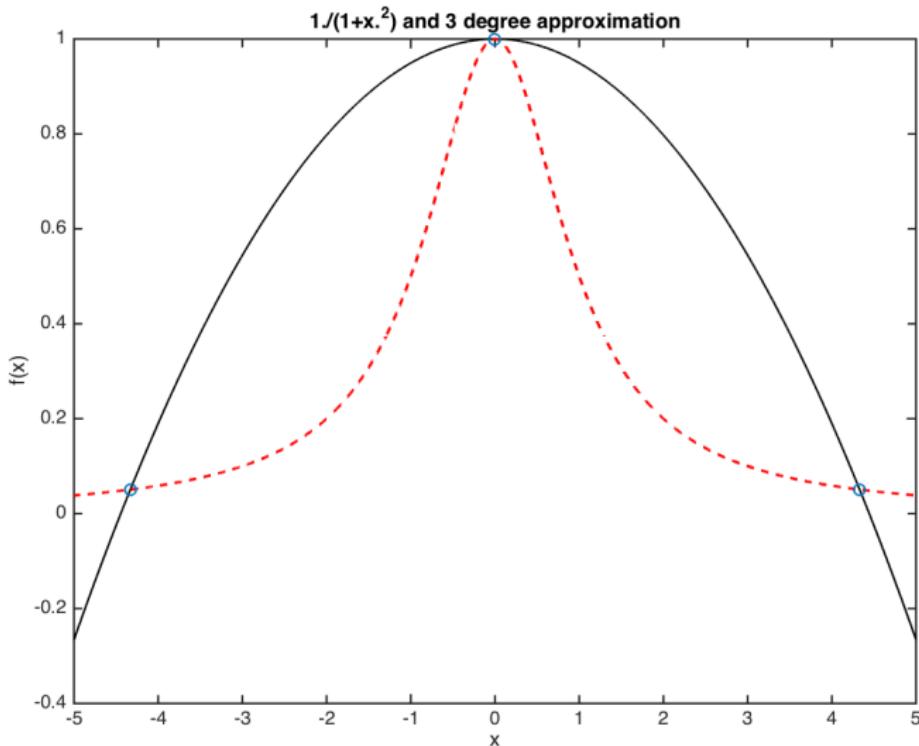
6. Your approximation is given by:

$$\hat{f}(x) = \sum_j c_j T_j(x) \approx f(x)$$

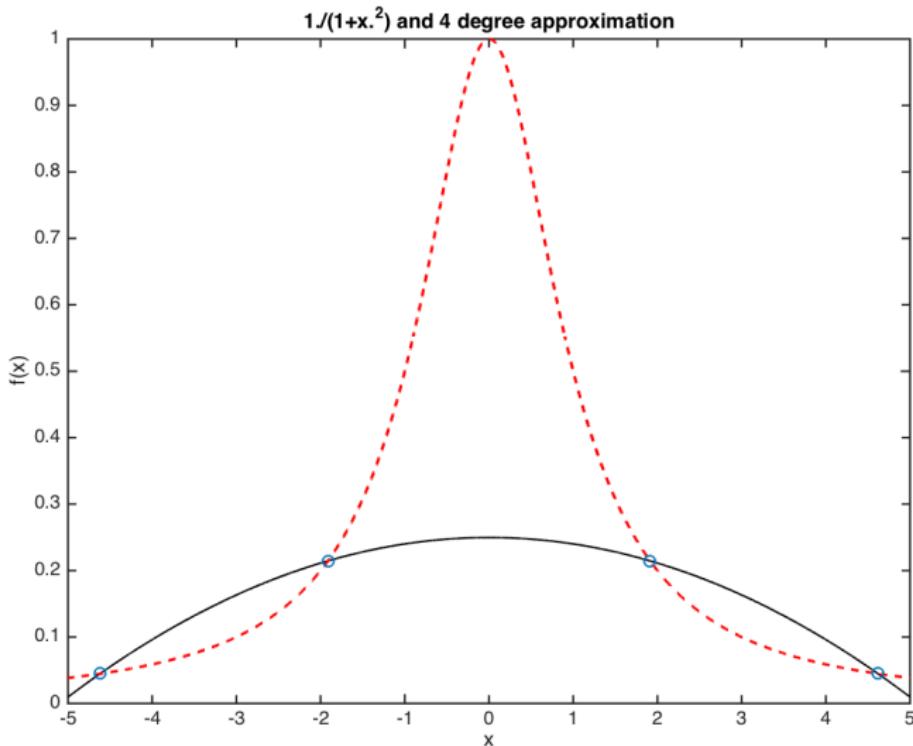
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



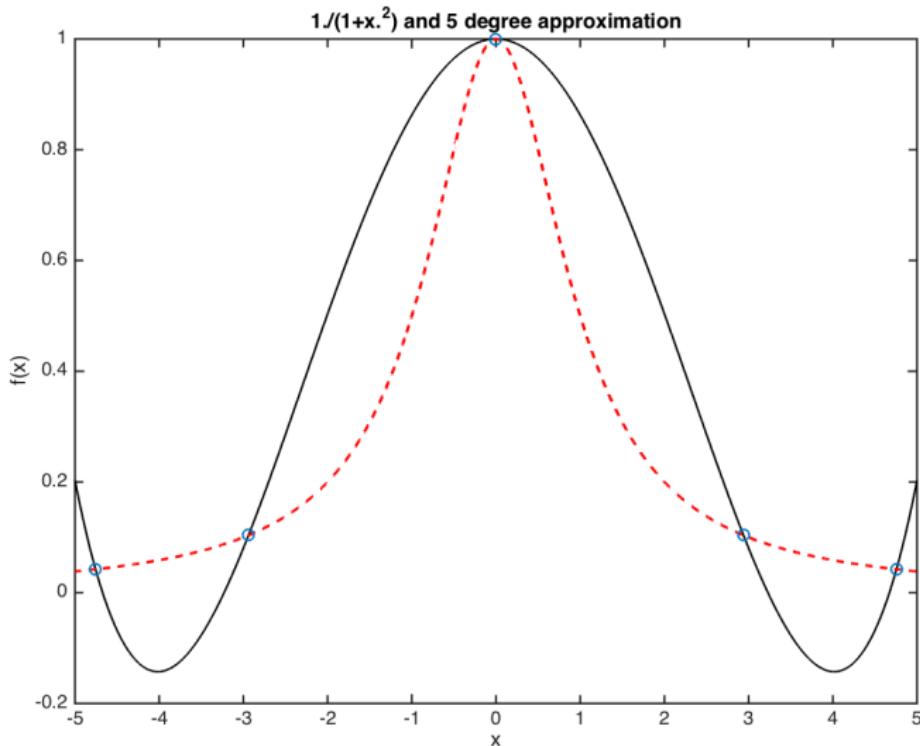
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



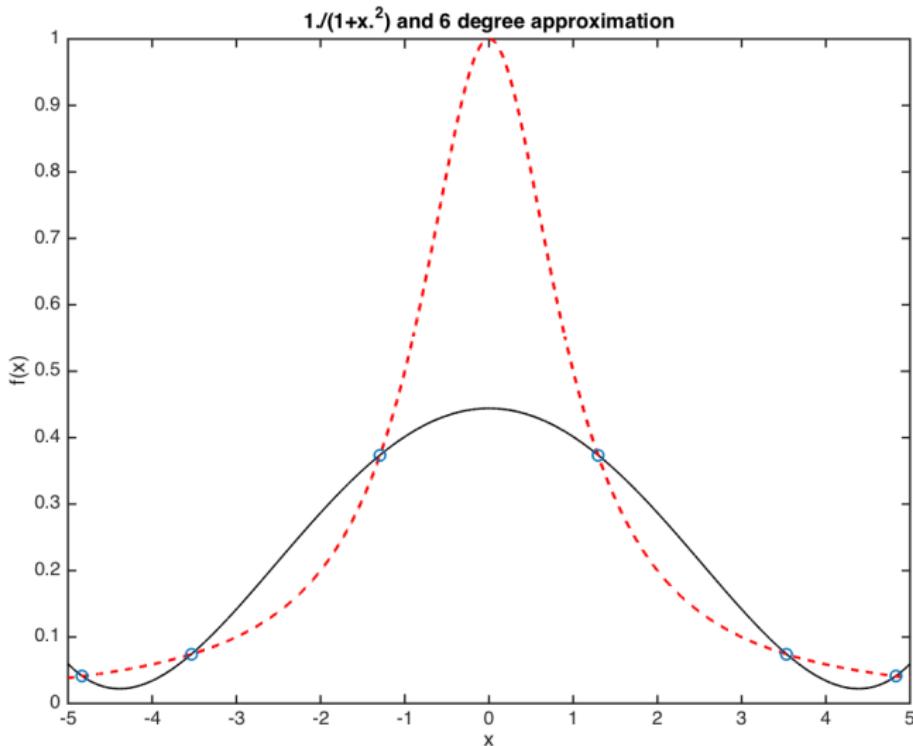
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



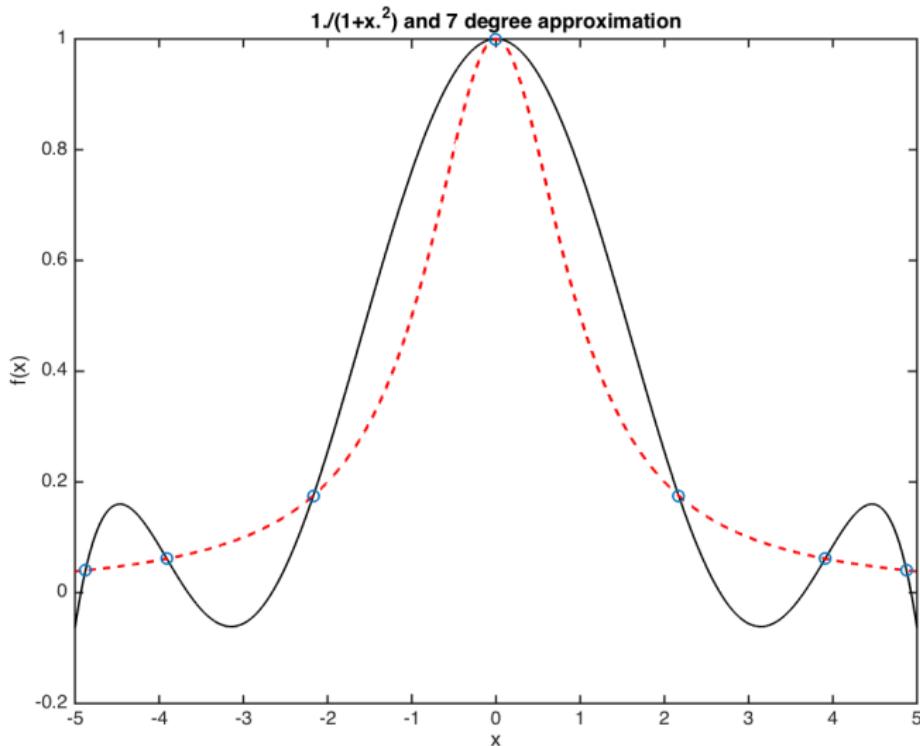
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



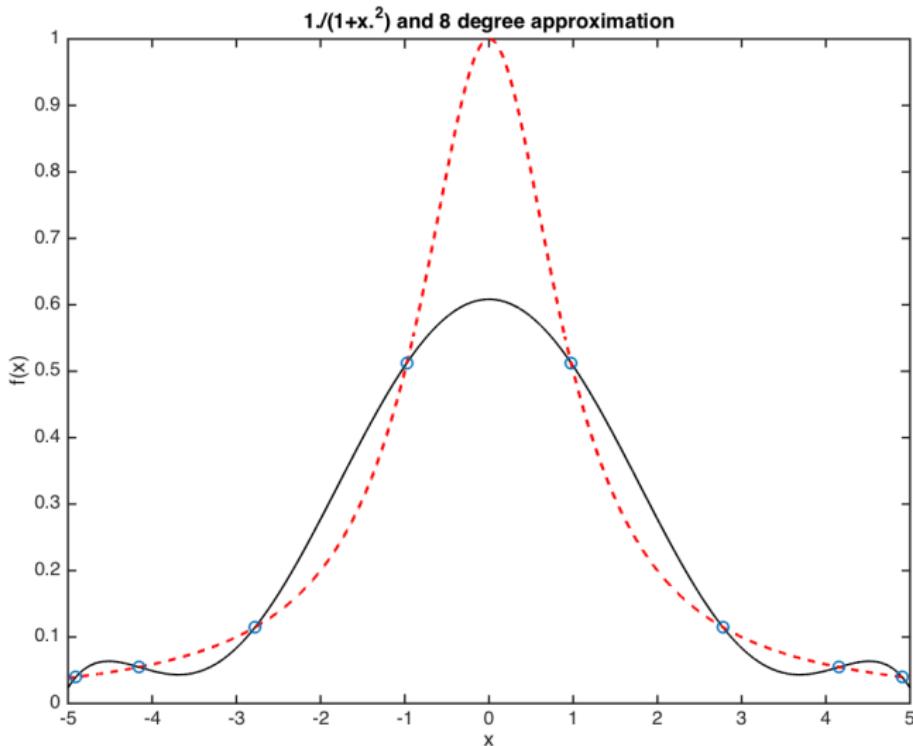
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX



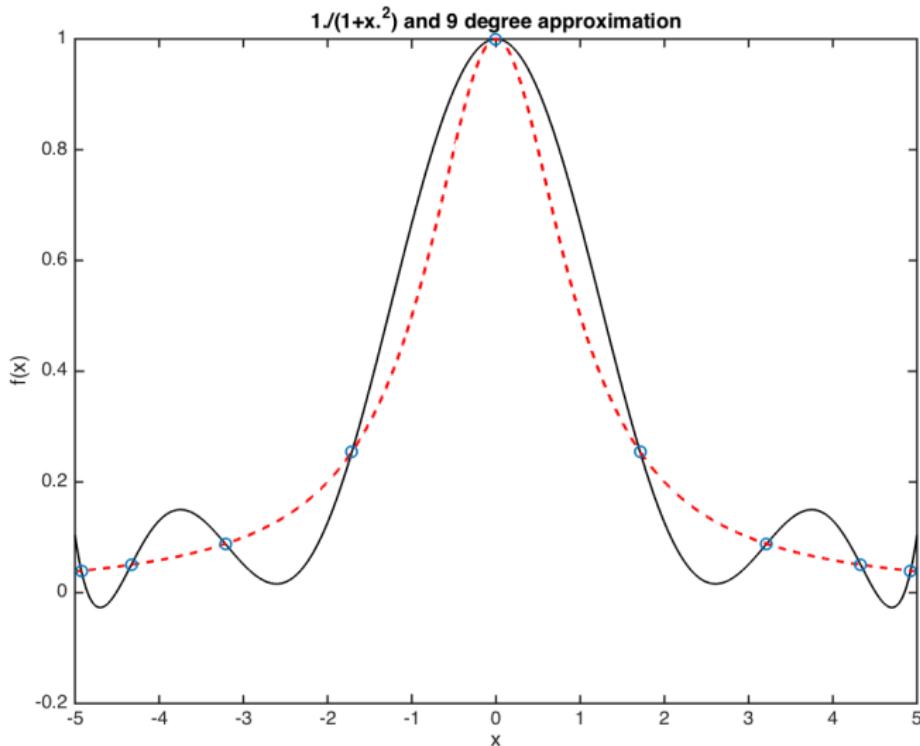
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX



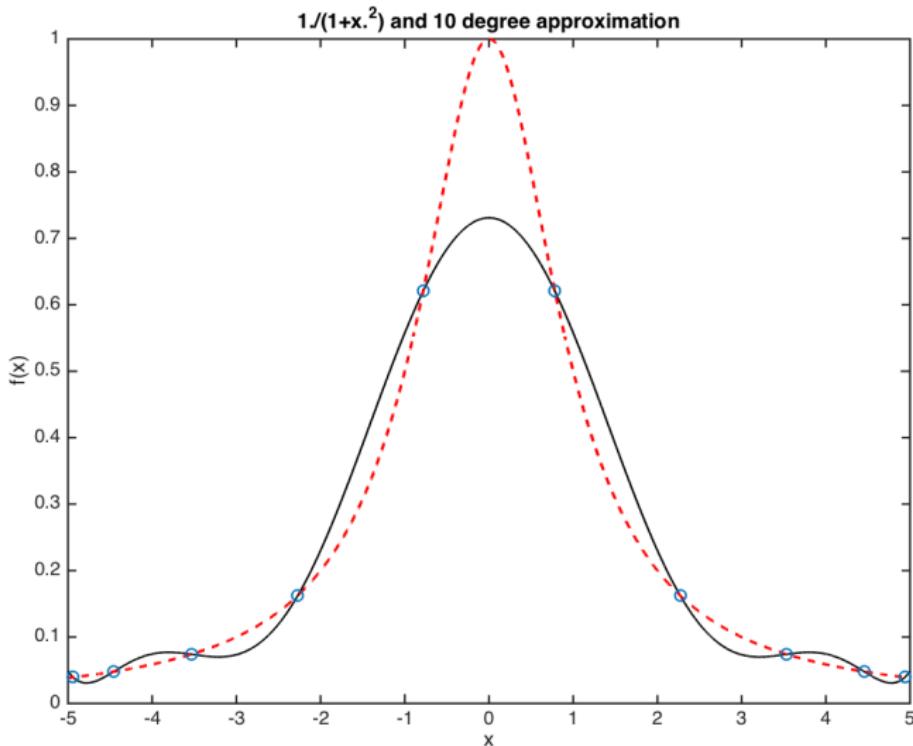
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX



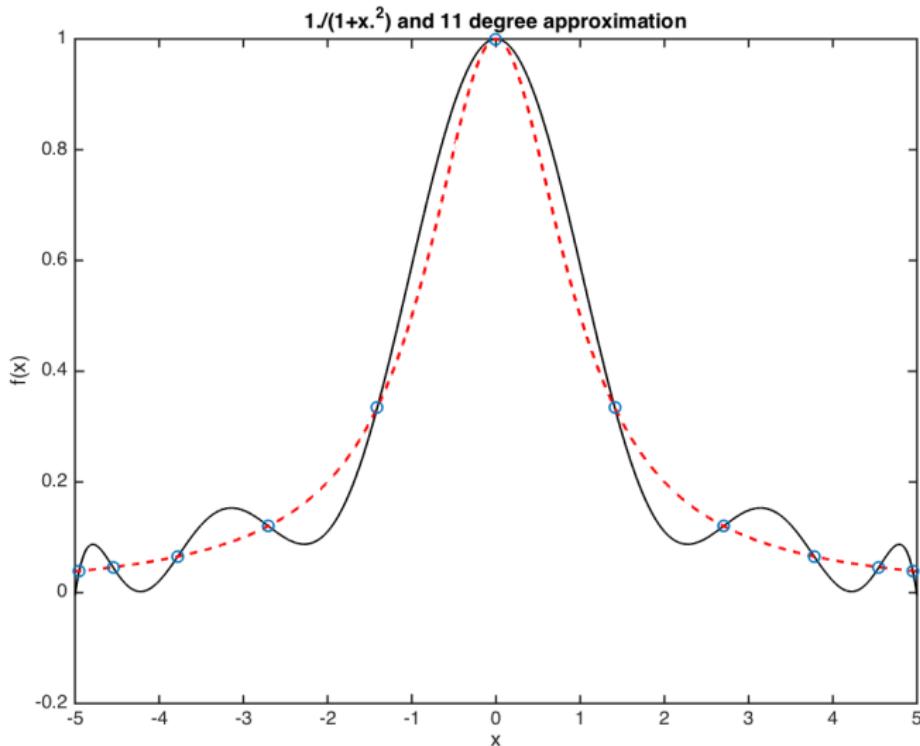
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX



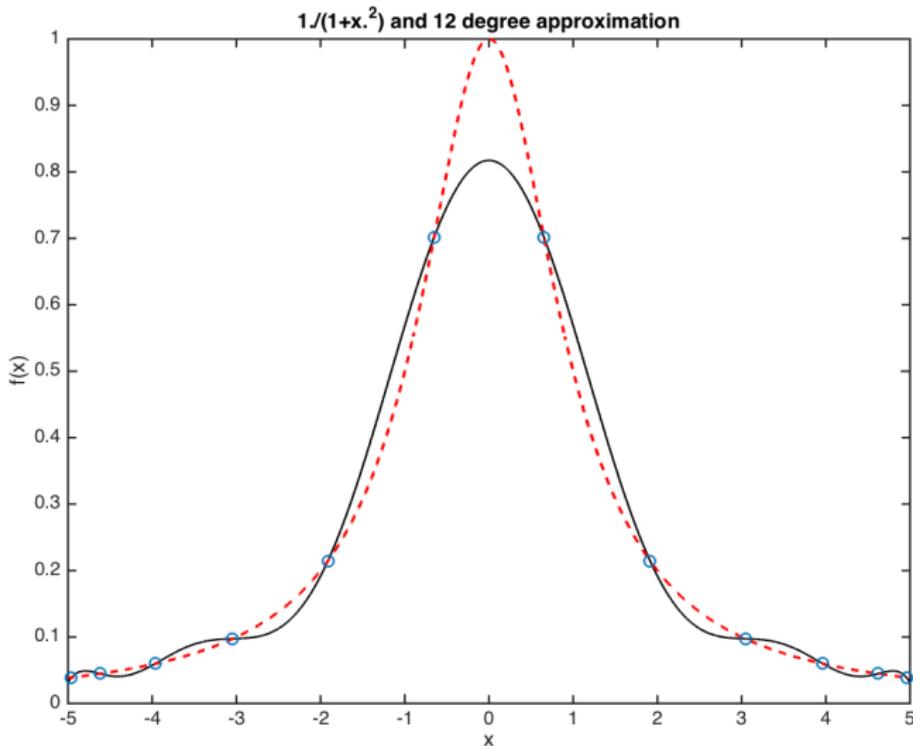
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX



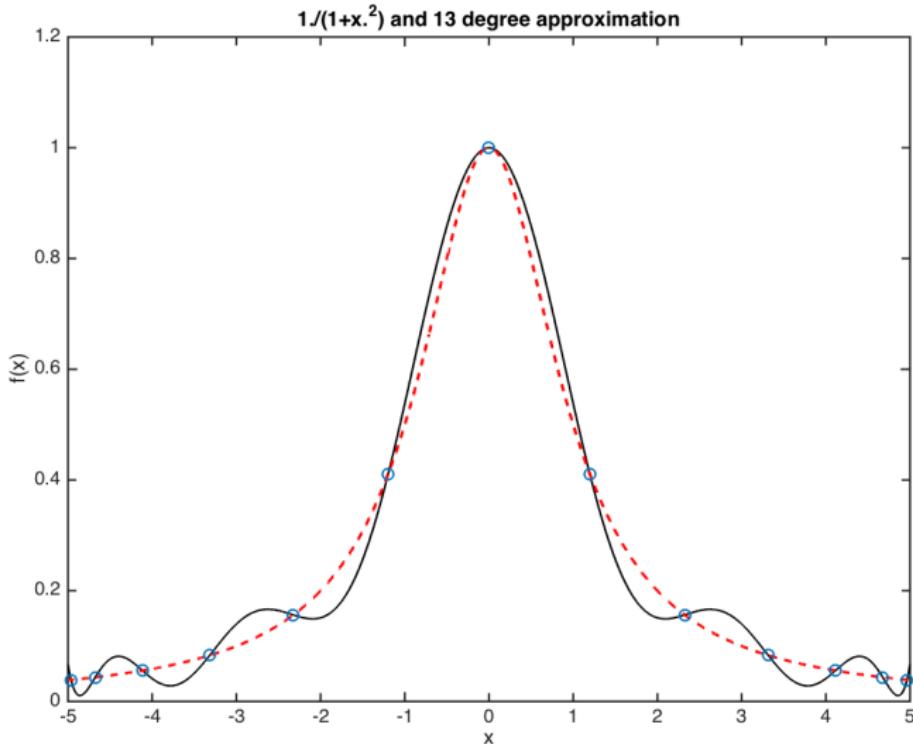
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 11-DEG. APPROX



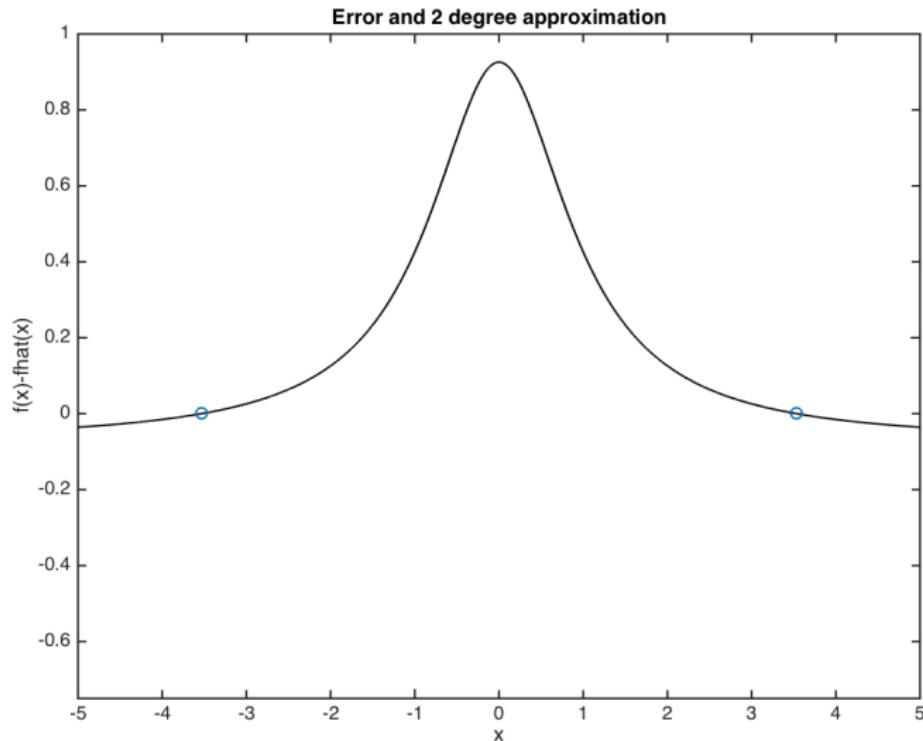
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 12-DEG. APPROX



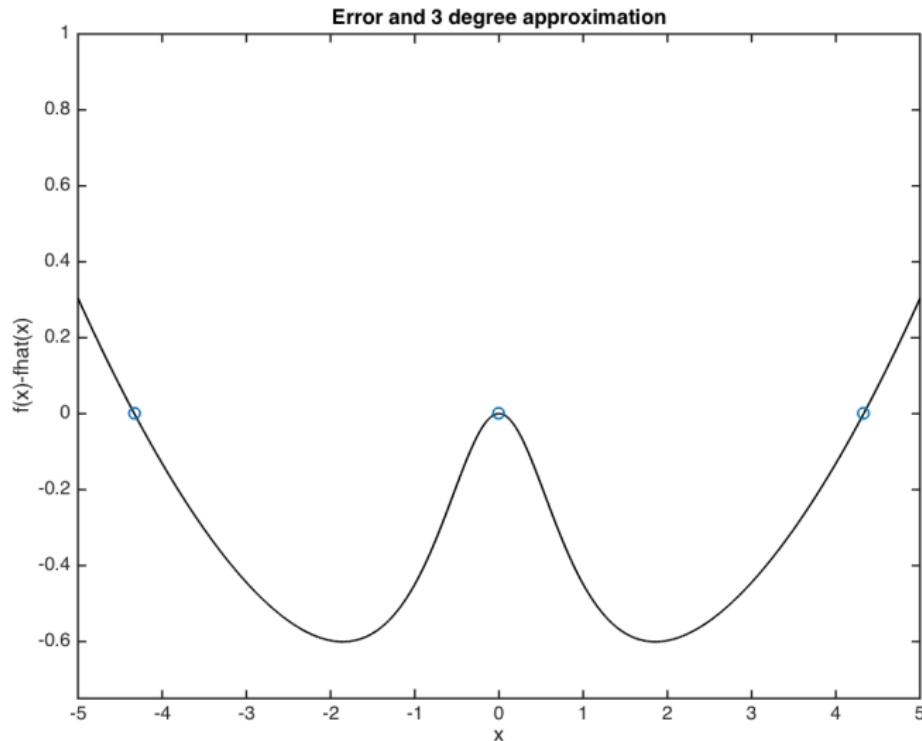
FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 13-DEG. APPROX



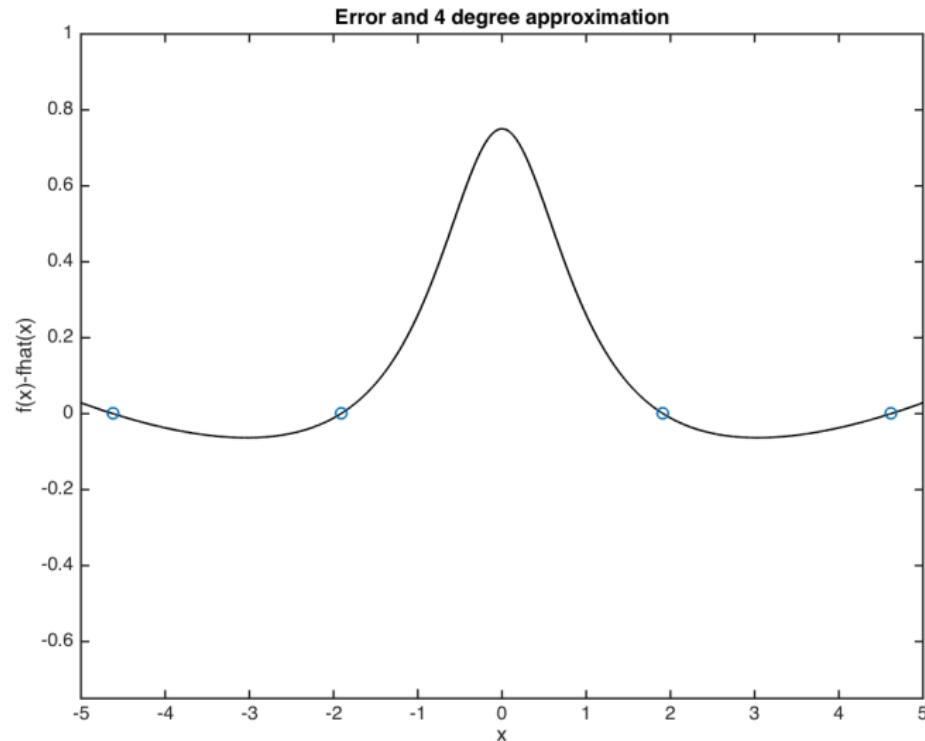
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



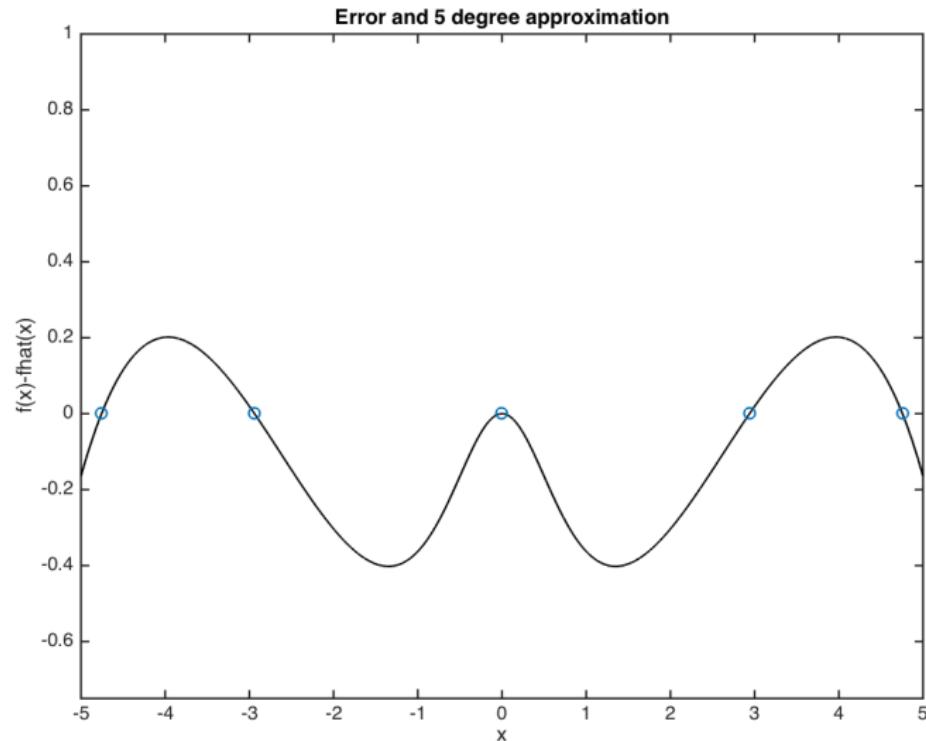
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



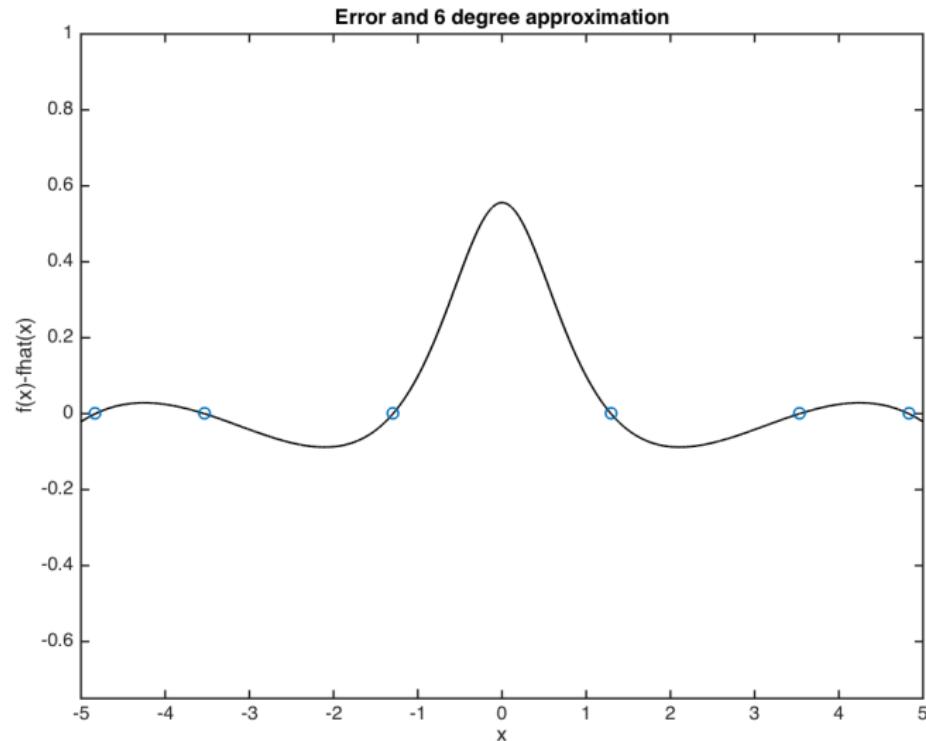
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



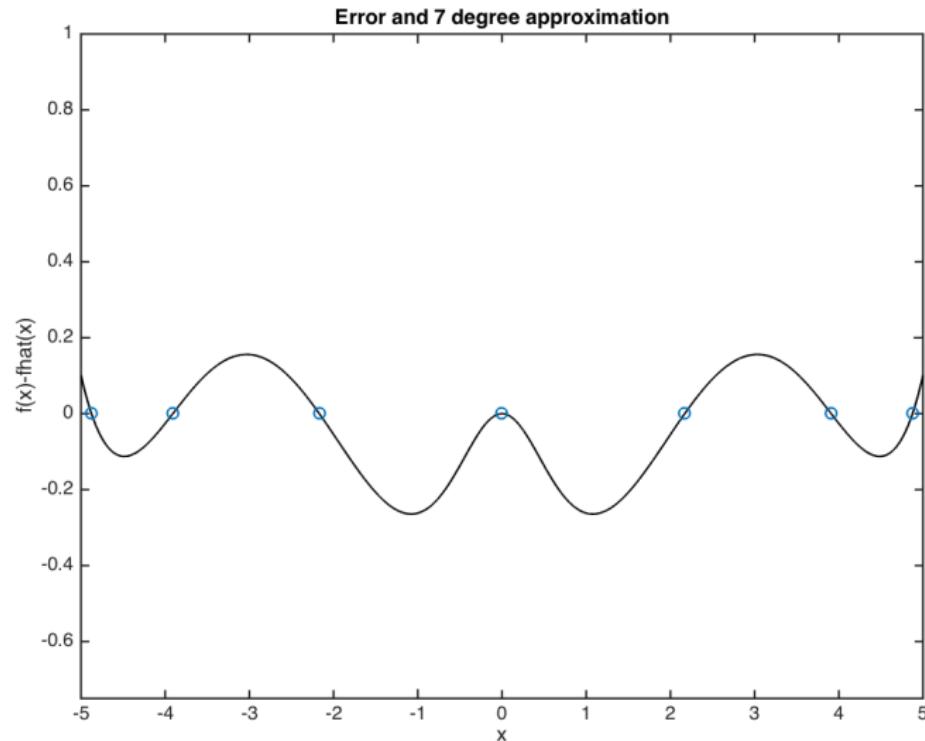
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



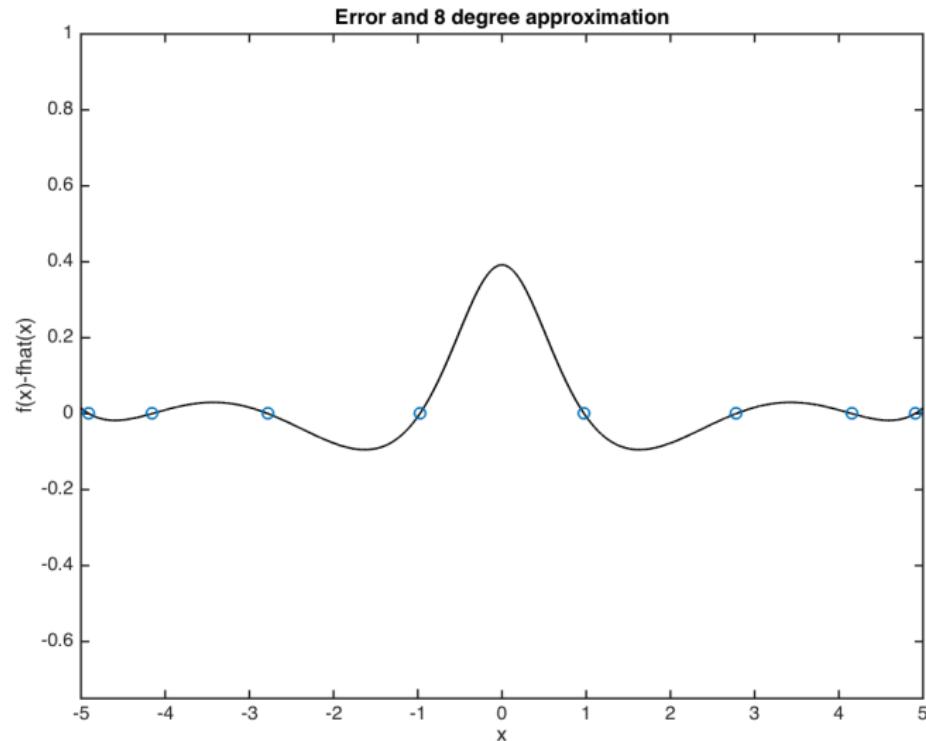
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX



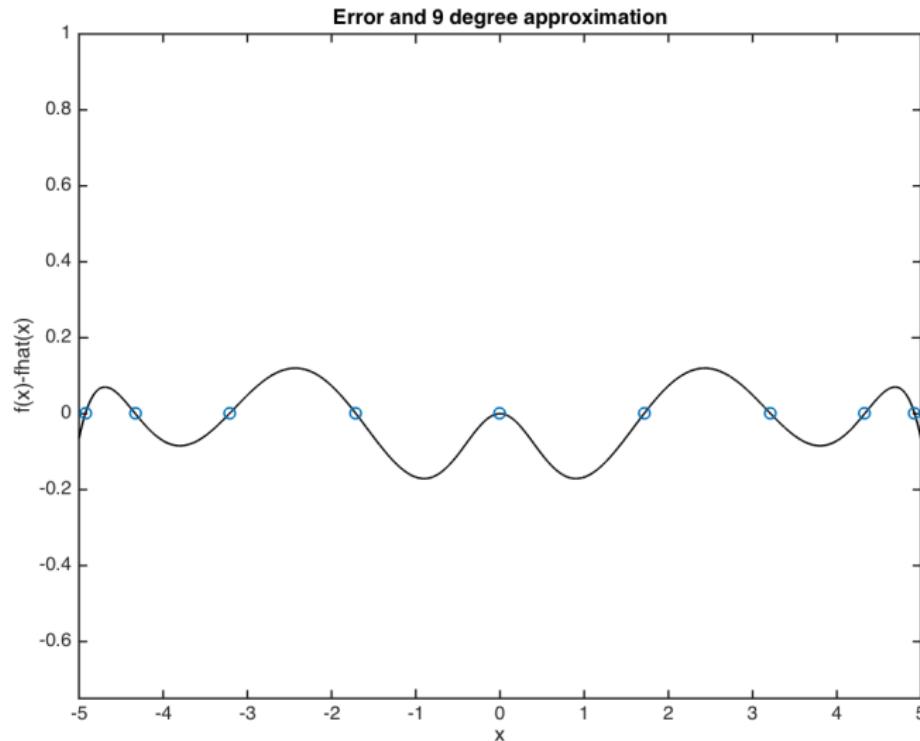
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX



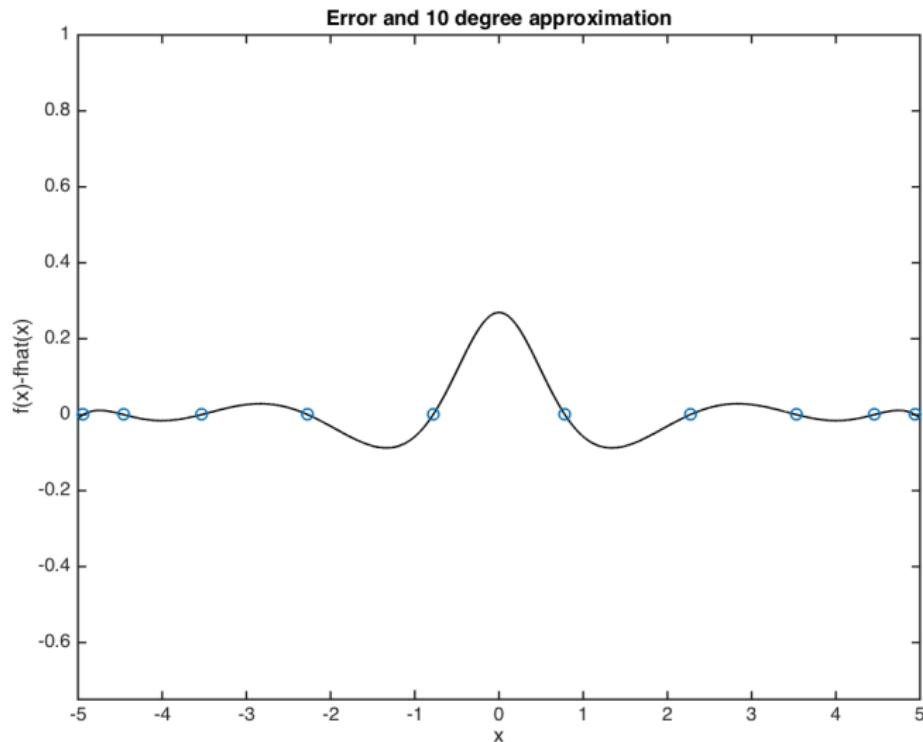
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX



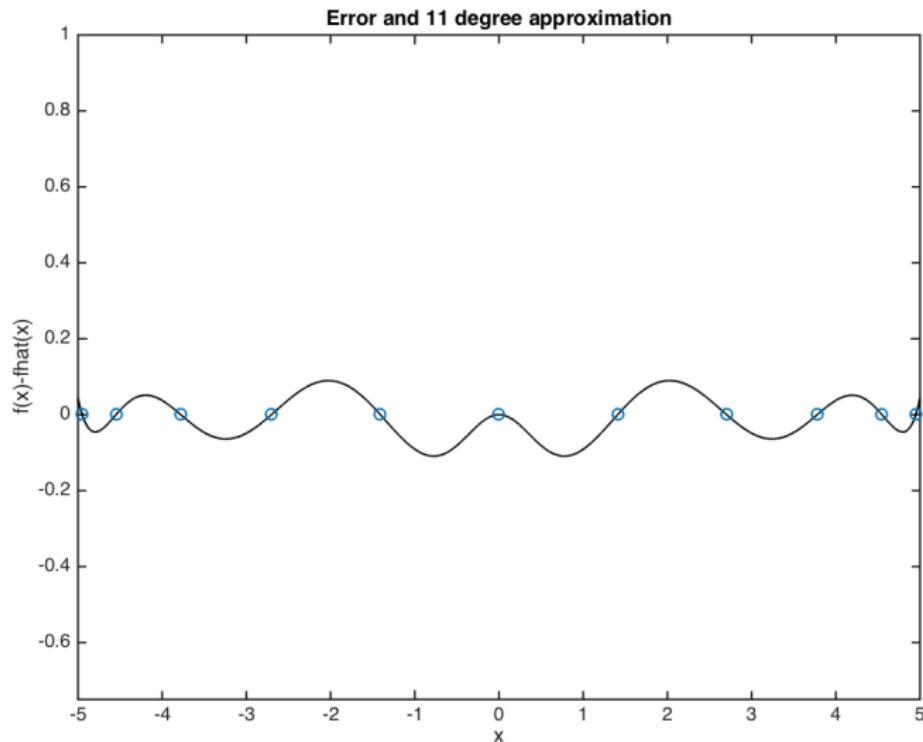
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX



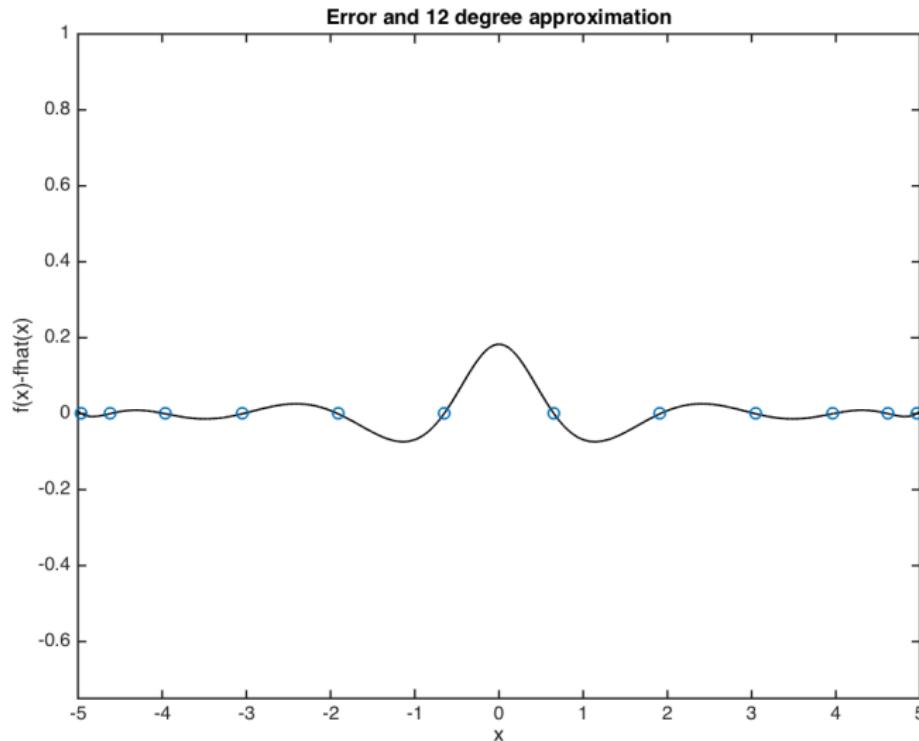
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX



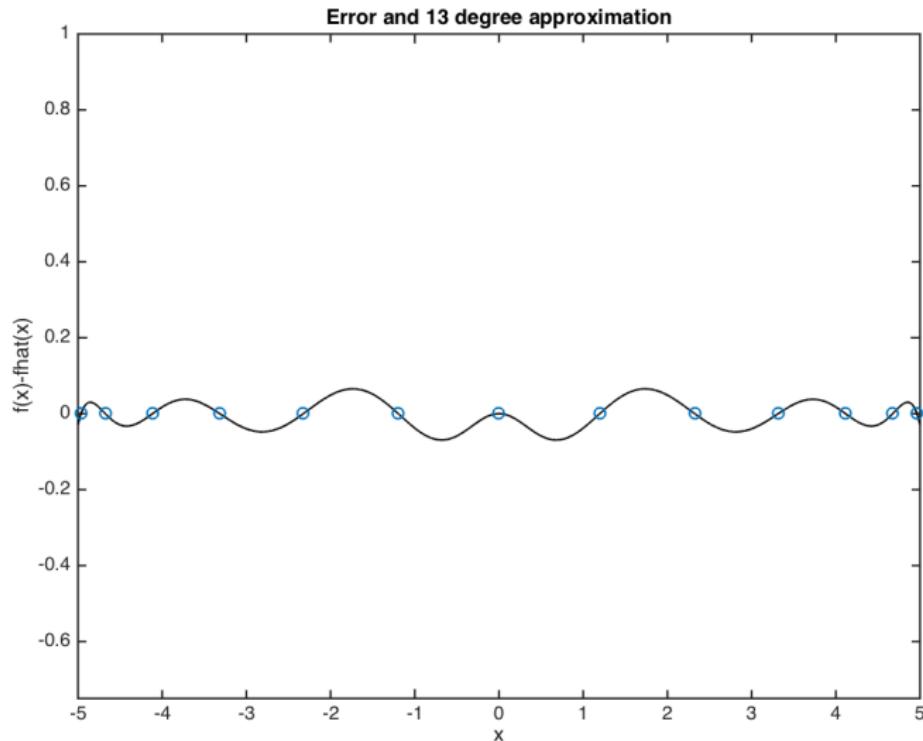
ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 11-DEG. APPROX



ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 12-DEG. APPROX



ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 13-DEG. APPROX



## INTERPOLATION: 2-D

1. Pick fcn  $f(x, y)$  deg.  $n$ , bounds  $a, b$  and  $c, d$  for interpolation.
2. Find Chebychev nodes for  $f(x, y)$  in “ $z^{[1]}$ ” and “ $z^{[2]}$ ” space.

$$z_j^{[1]} = \cos\left(\frac{2j-1}{2n}\pi\right), \quad z_j^{[2]} = \cos\left(\frac{2j-1}{2n}\pi\right), \quad j = 1, \dots, n$$

3. Convert nodes into “x” space:

$$x_j = a + \frac{(b-a)(z_j^{[1]} + 1)}{2}, \quad y_j = c + \frac{(d-c)(z_j^{[2]} + 1)}{2}$$

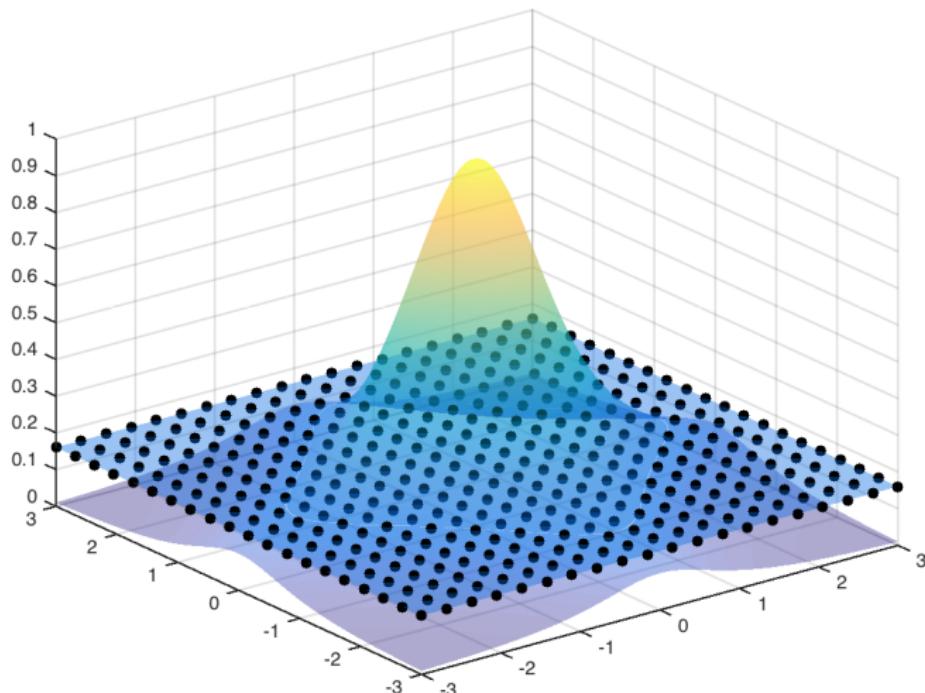
4. Calculate  $\xi_{i,j} = f(x_i, y_j)$  for all points.
5. Given  $y_j$ , calculate the Chebychev coefficients  $c_j$  as:

$$c_{i,j} = \frac{\sum_{k=1}^n \sum_{l=1}^n \xi_{i,j} T_i(z_k^{[1]}) T_j(z_l^{[2]})}{\sum_{k=1}^n T_i(z_k^{[1]}) T_j(z_k^{[2]})}$$

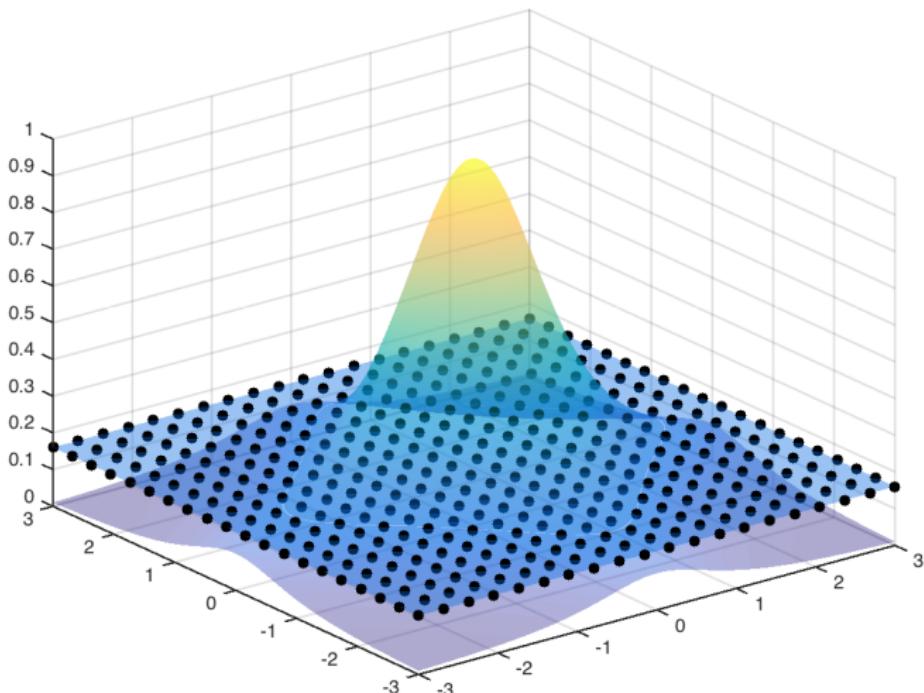
6. Approximation:

$$\hat{f}(x, y) \approx \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^n c_{ij} T_i\left(2\frac{x-a}{b-a} - 1\right) T_j\left(2\frac{y-c}{d-b} - 1\right)$$

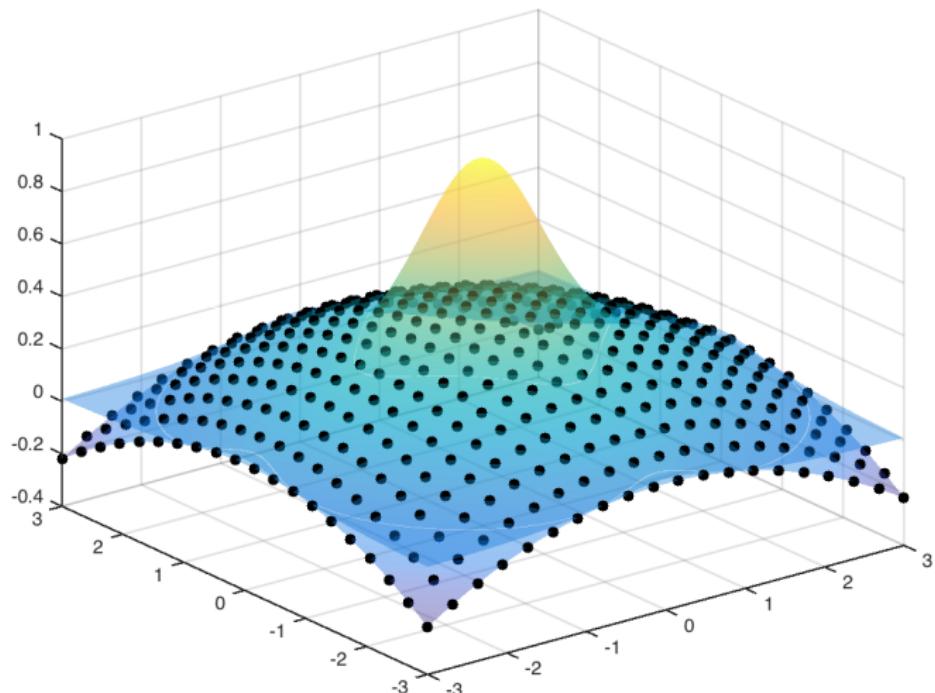
MONOM FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX



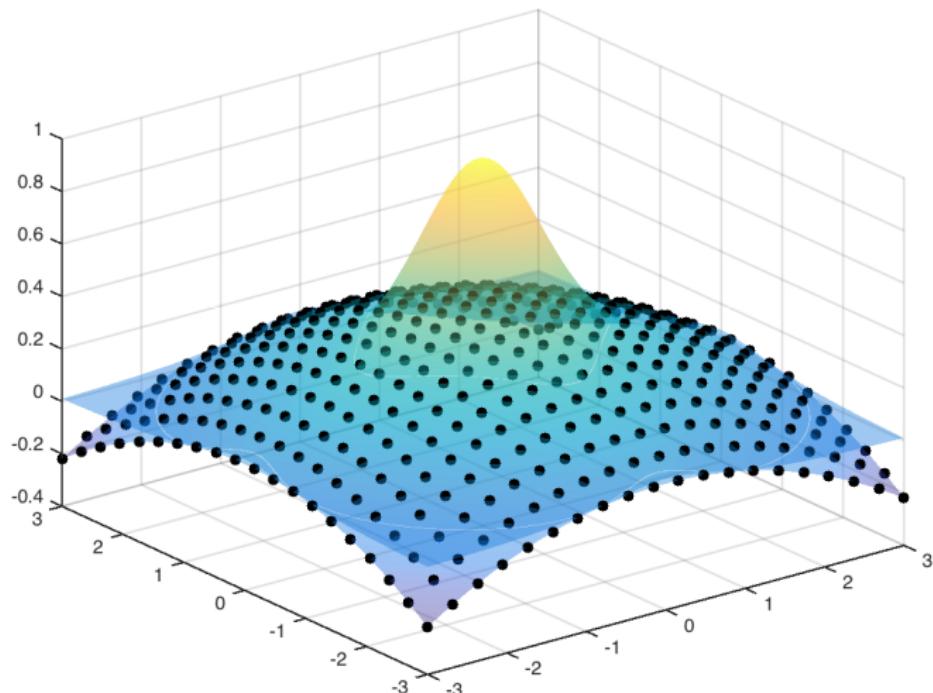
MONOM FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



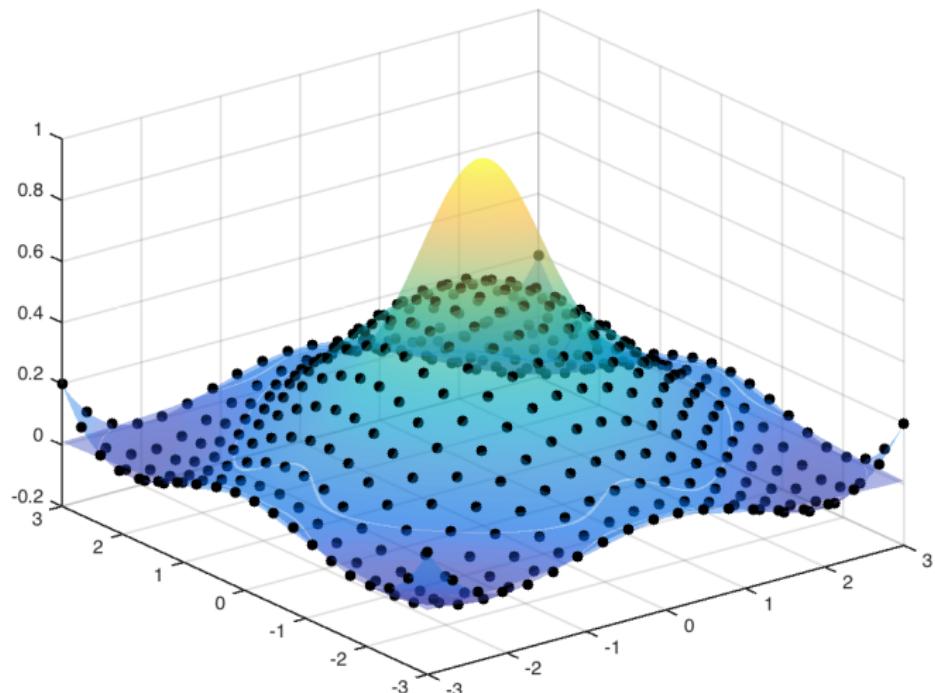
MONOM FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



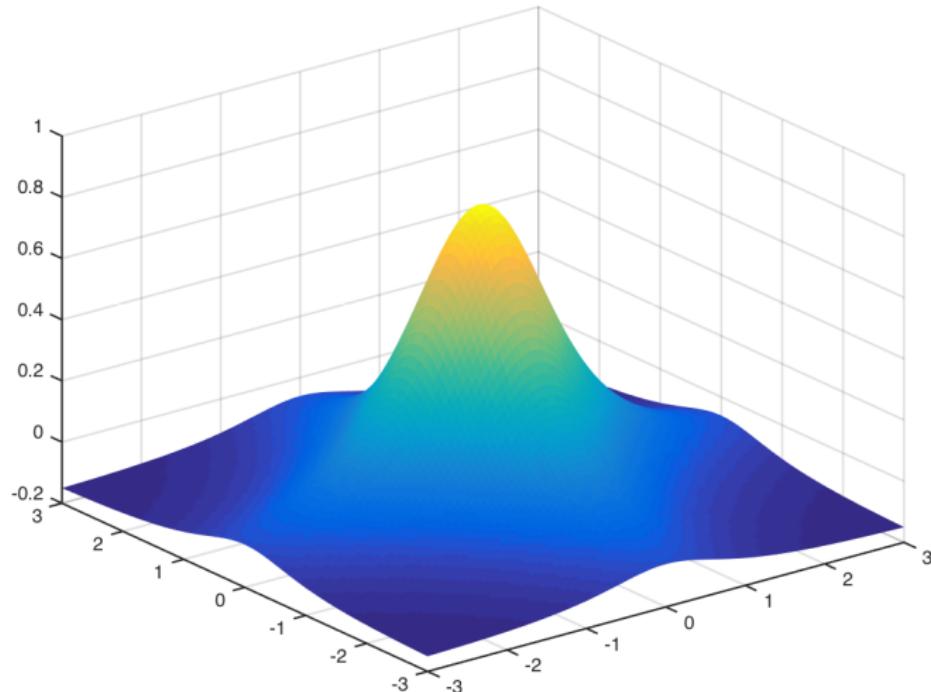
MONOM FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



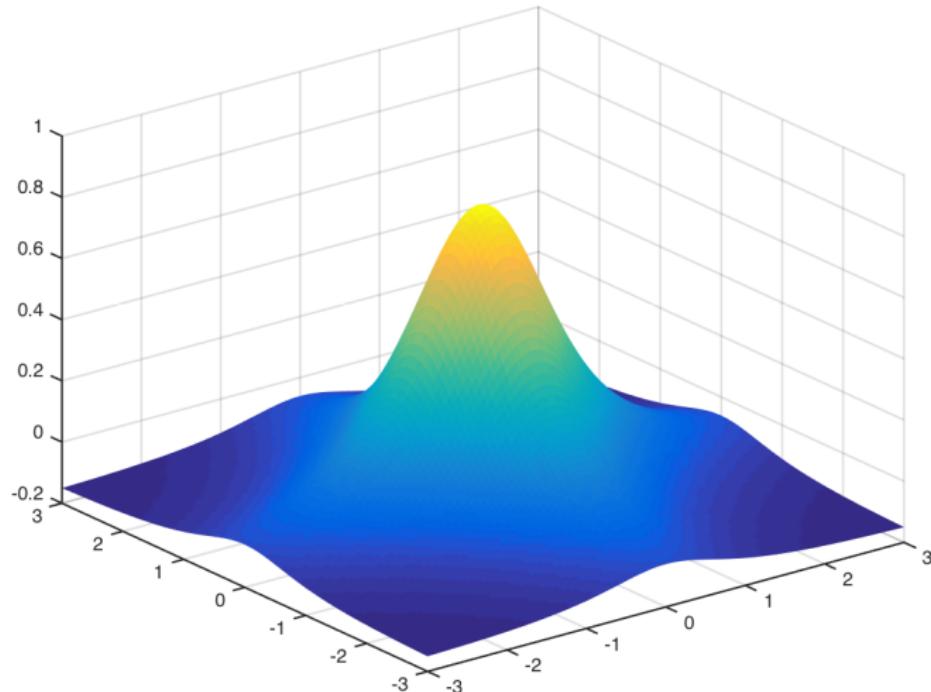
MONOM FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



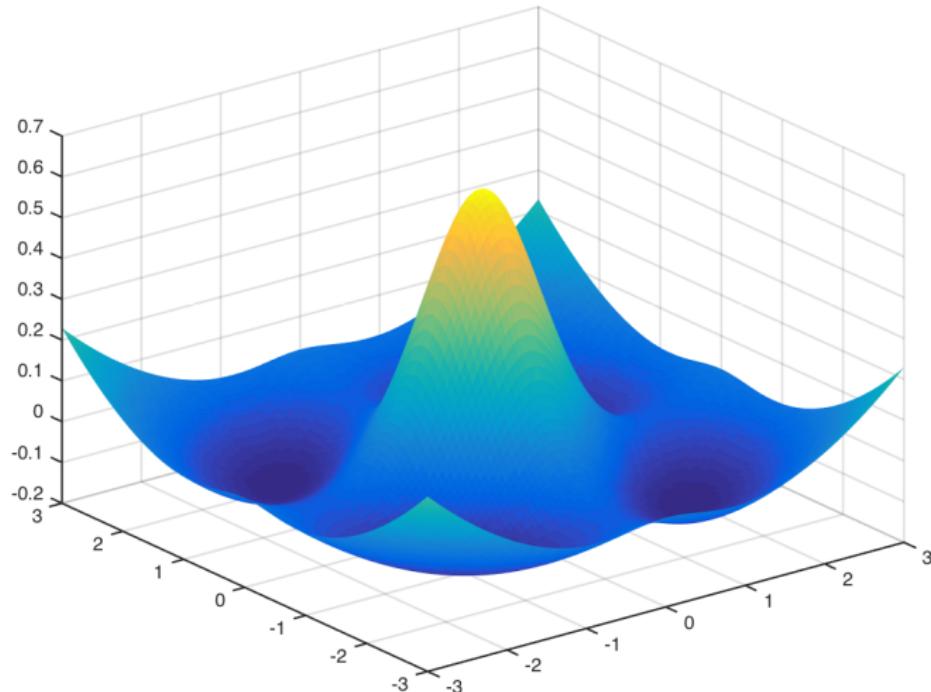
MONOM ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX



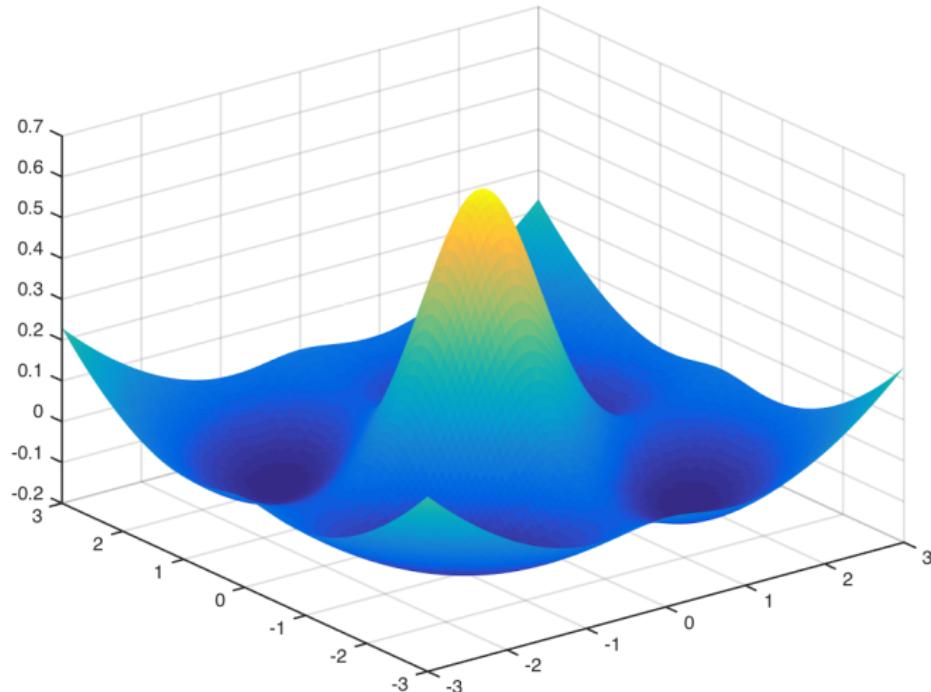
MONOM ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



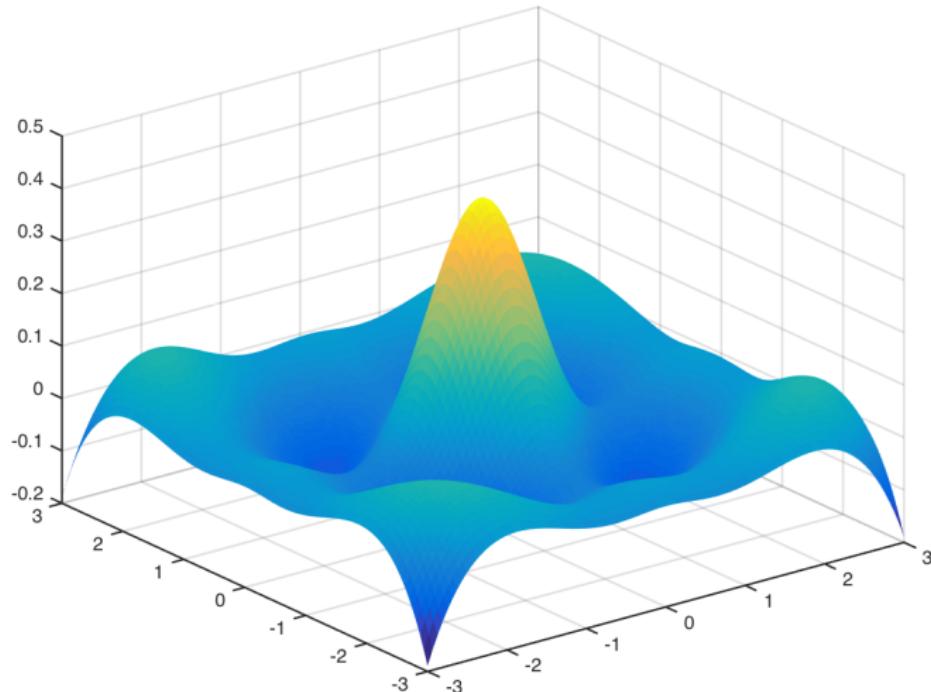
MONOM ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



MONOM ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX

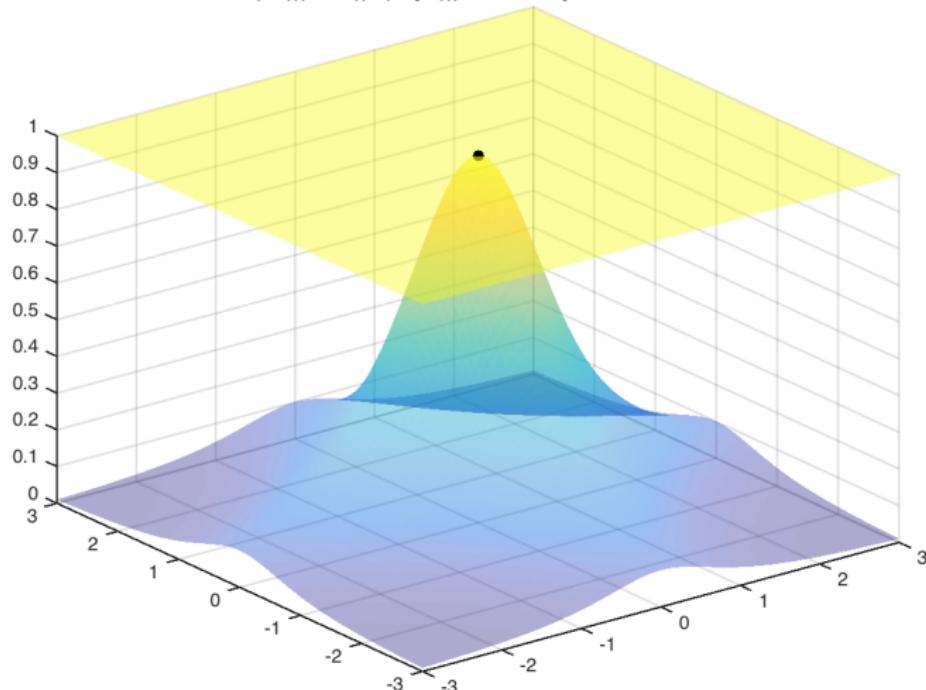


MONOM ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



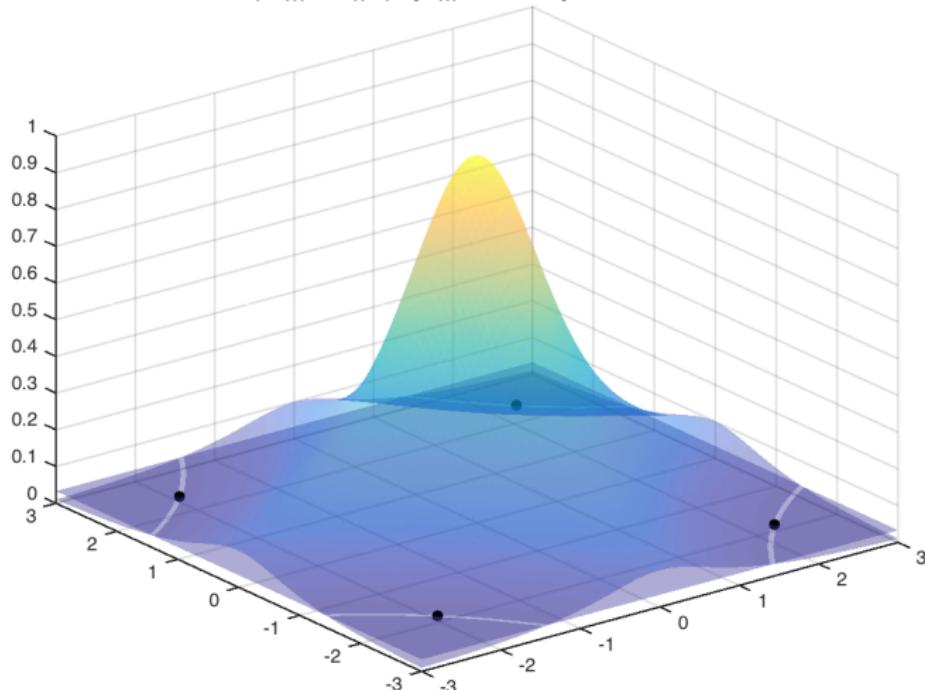
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=1



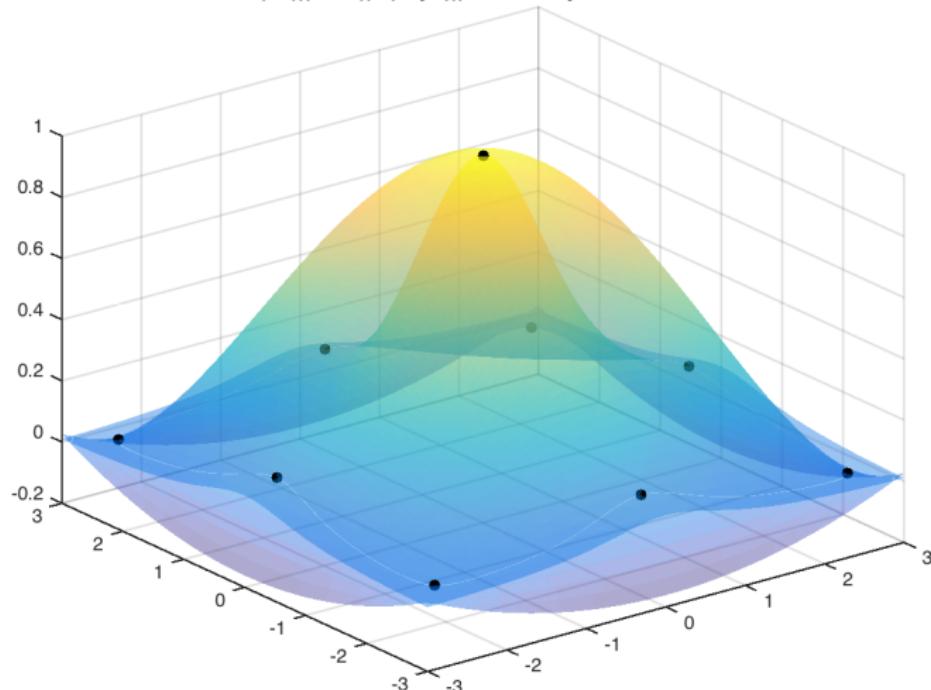
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=2



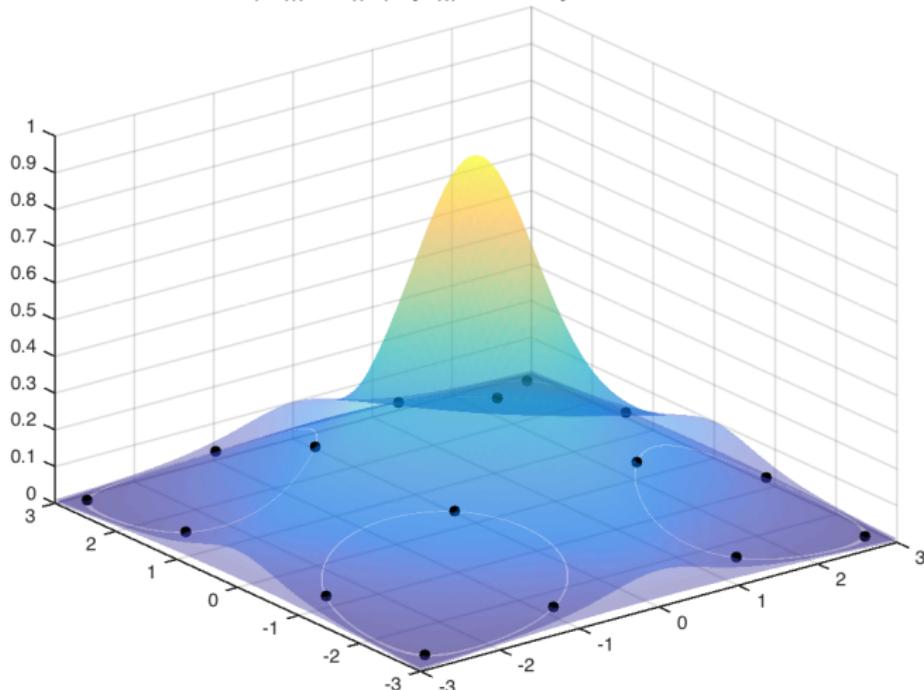
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=3



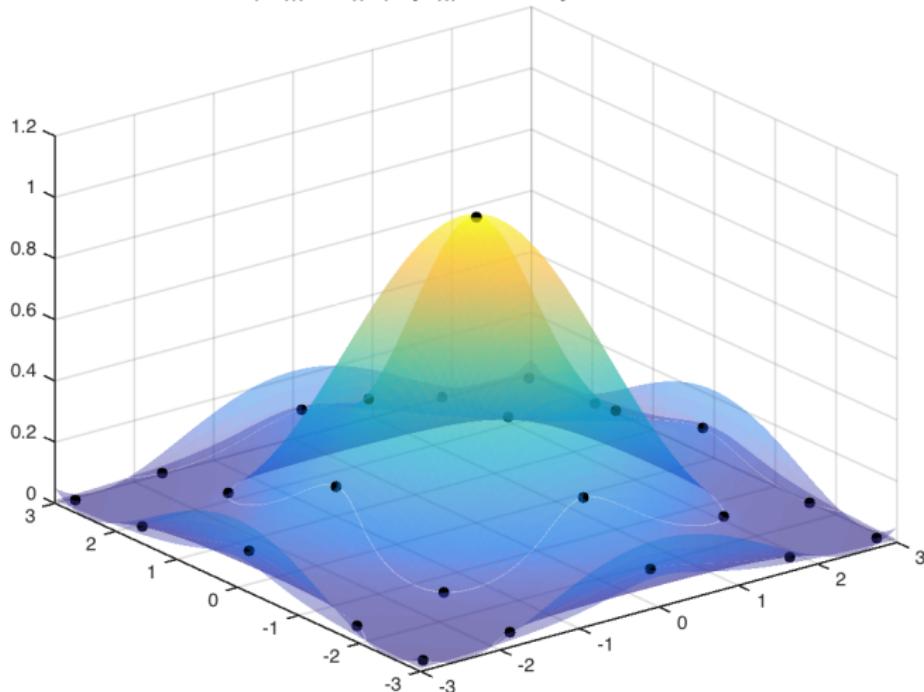
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=4



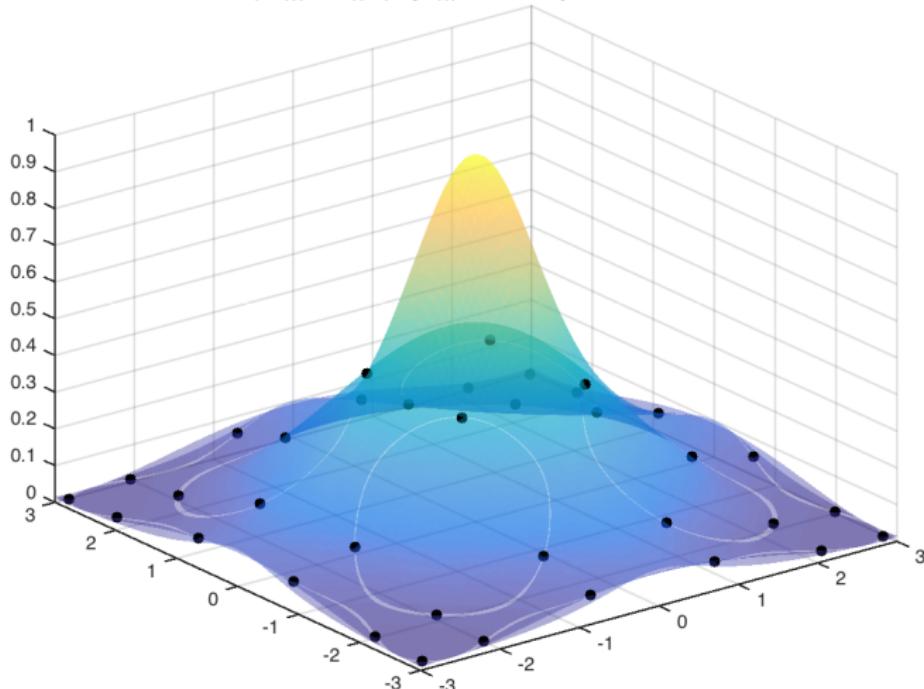
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=5



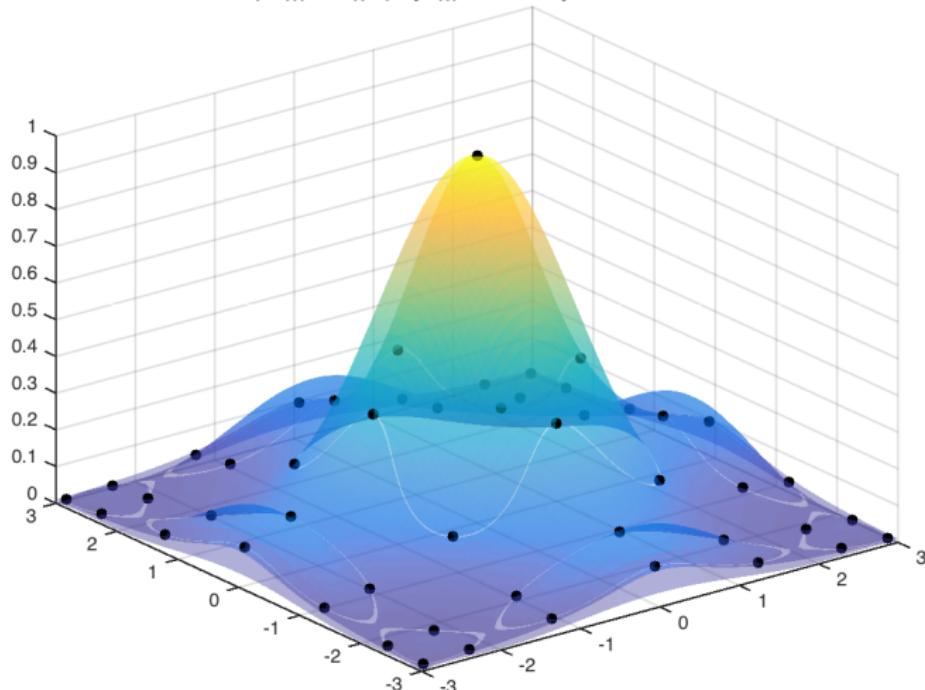
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=6



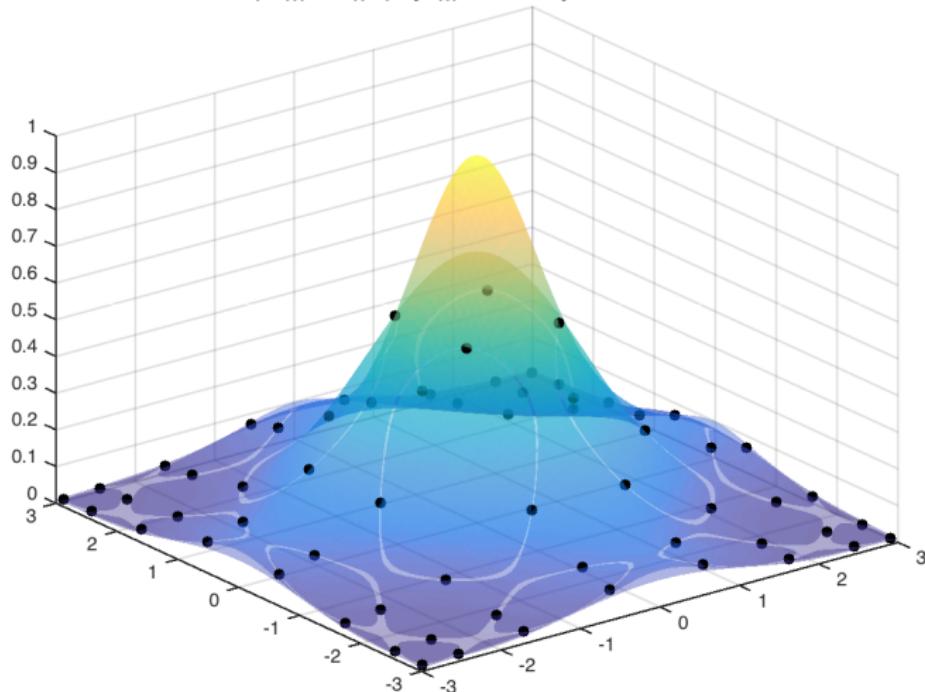
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=7



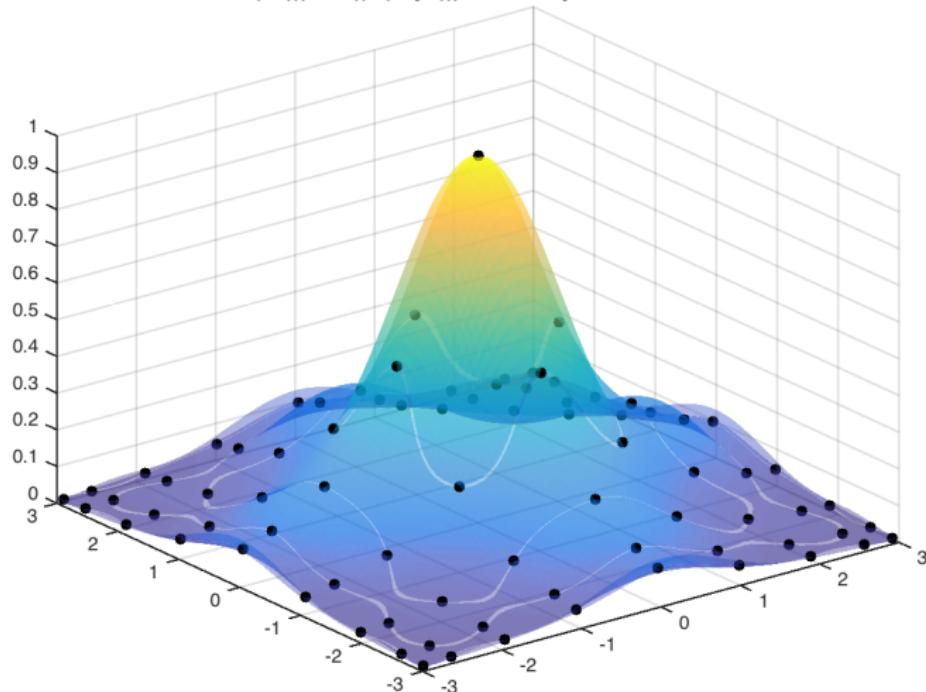
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=8



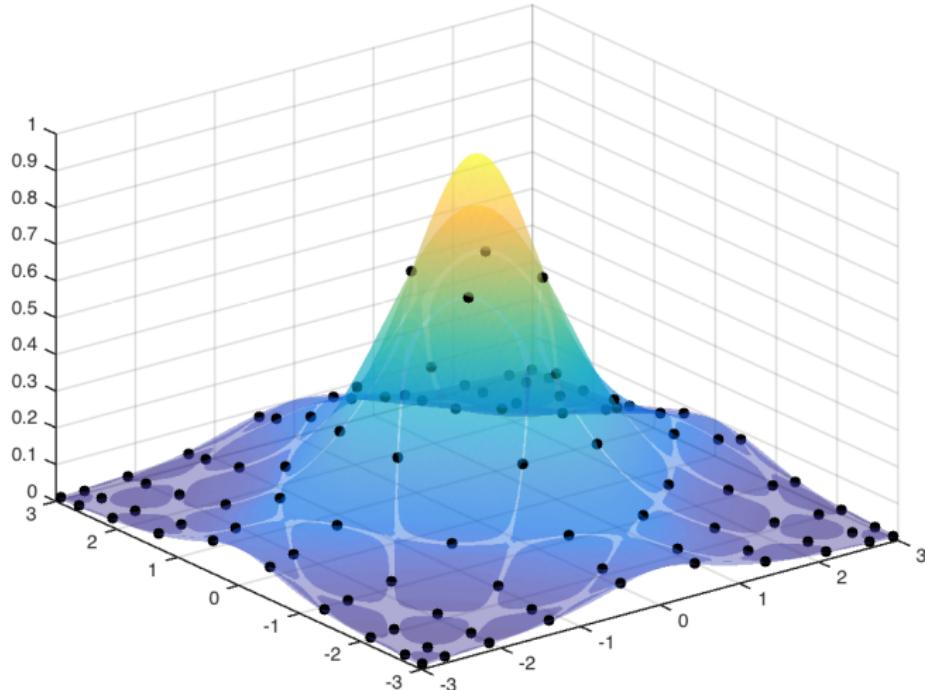
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=9



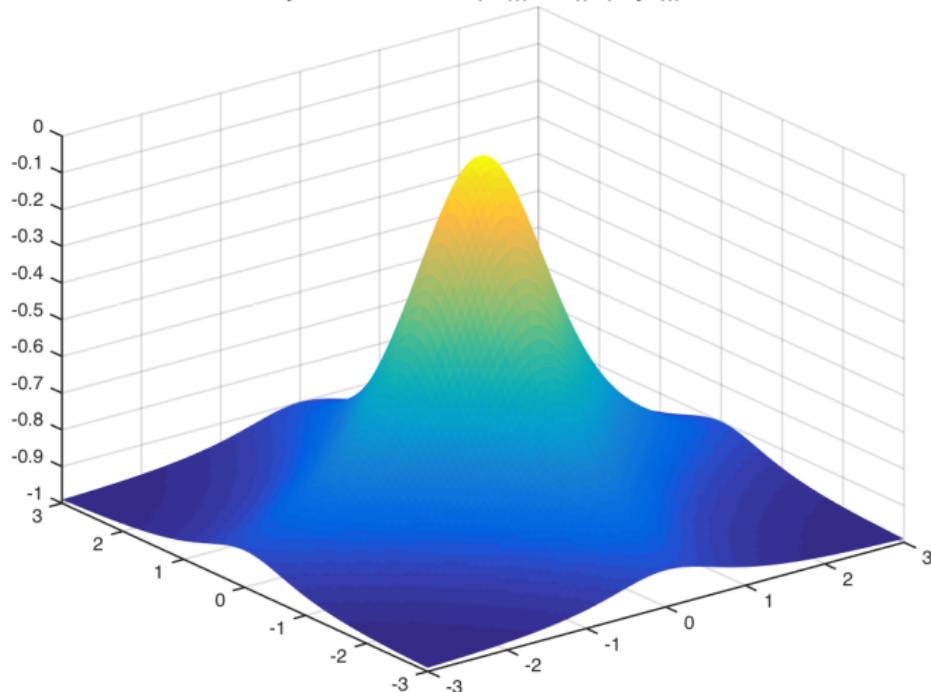
CHEBY FIT:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX

$(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$  and Chebychev fit: n=10

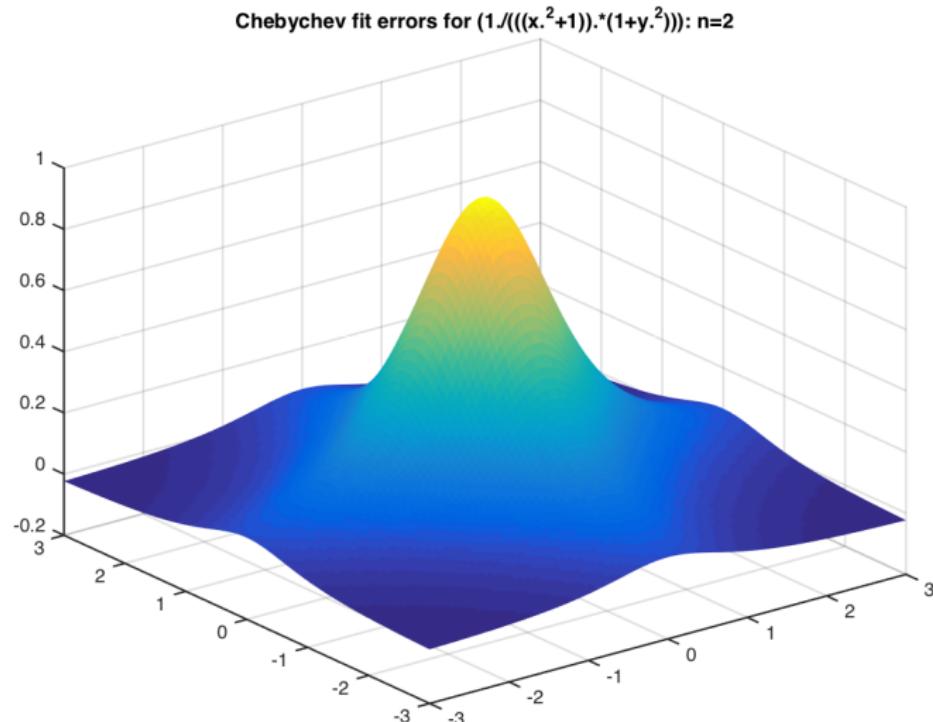


CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 1-DEG. APPROX

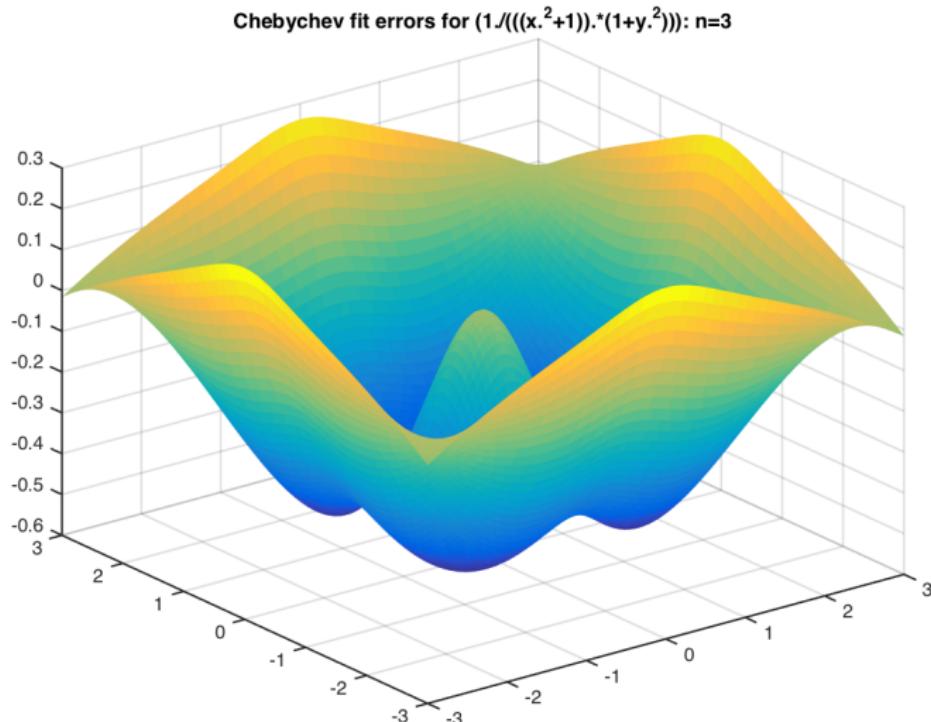
Chebychev fit errors for  $(1./(((x.^2+1)).*(1+y.^2)))$ : n=1



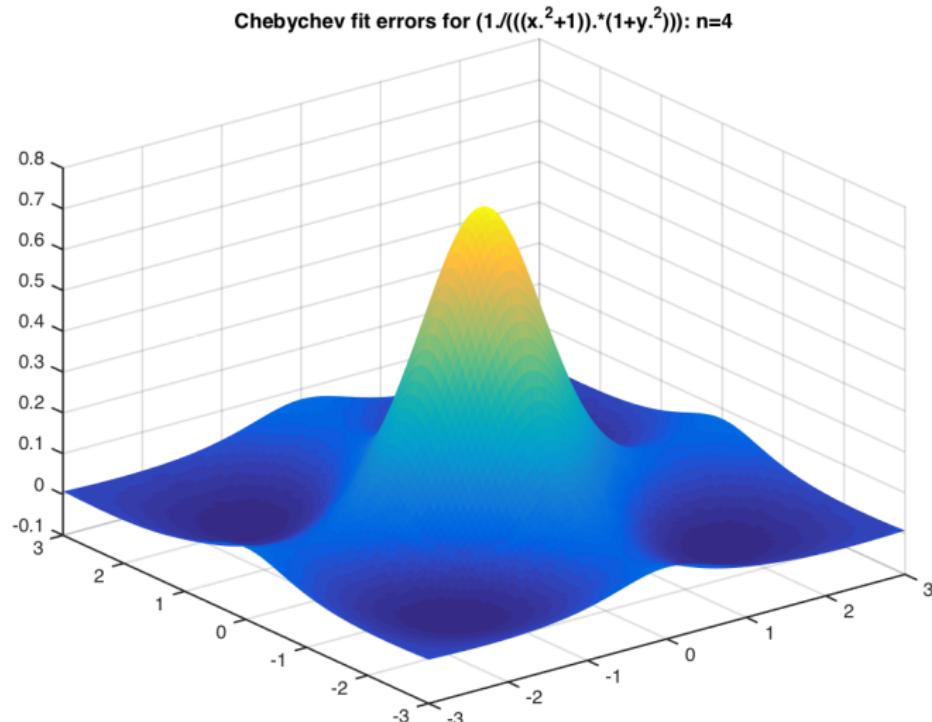
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 2-DEG. APPROX



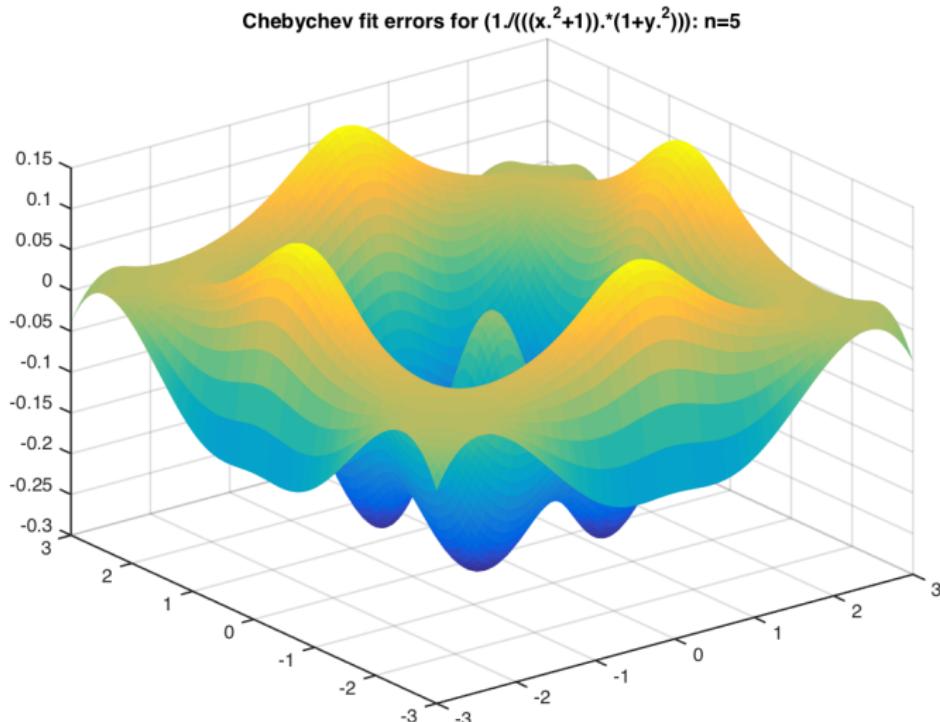
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 3-DEG. APPROX



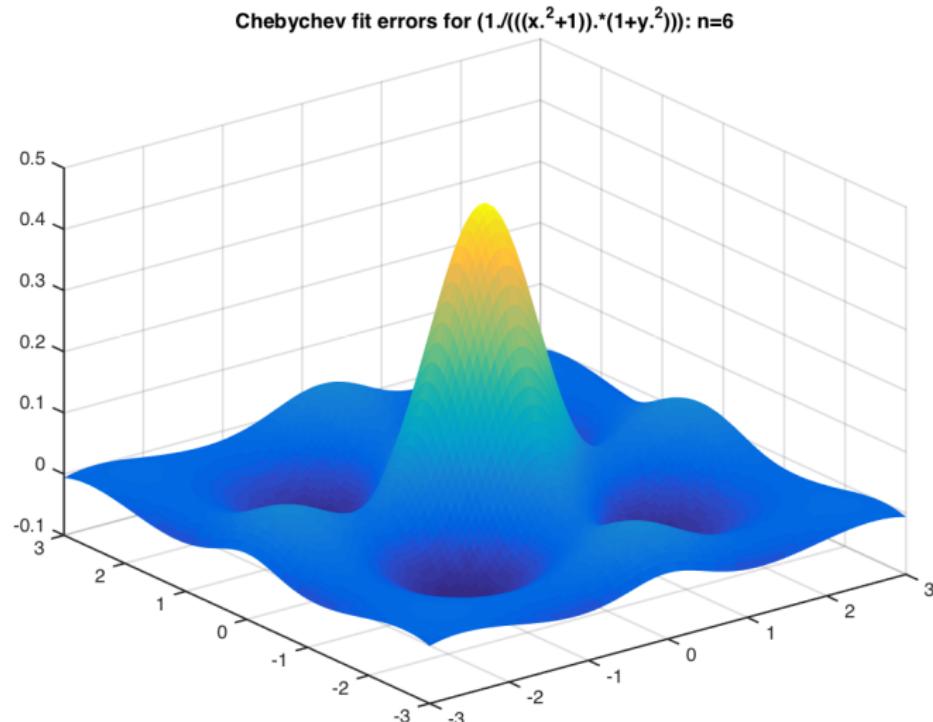
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 4-DEG. APPROX



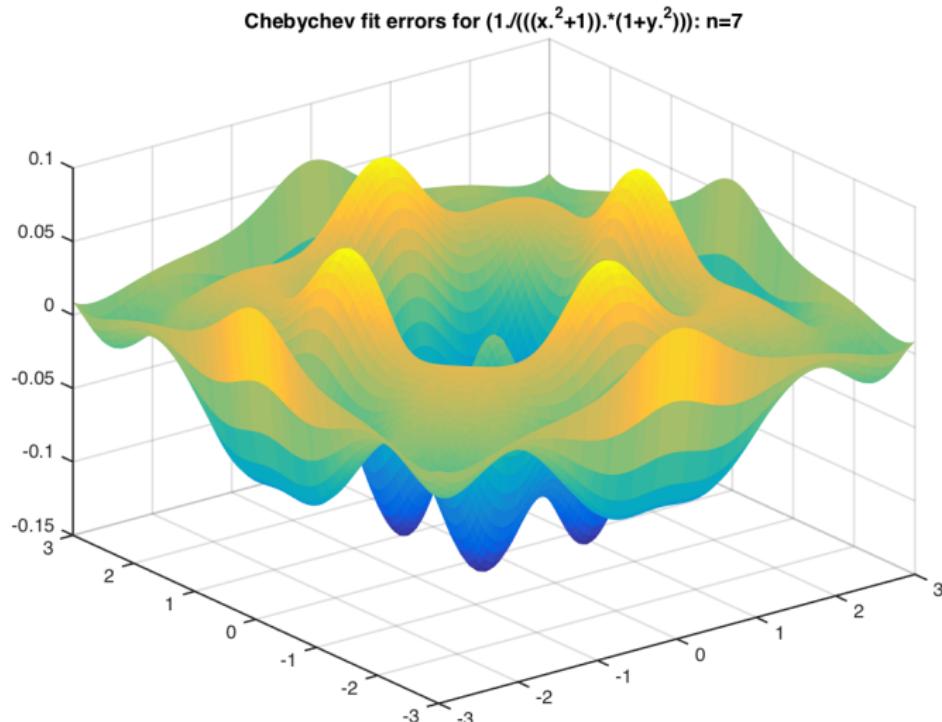
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 5-DEG. APPROX



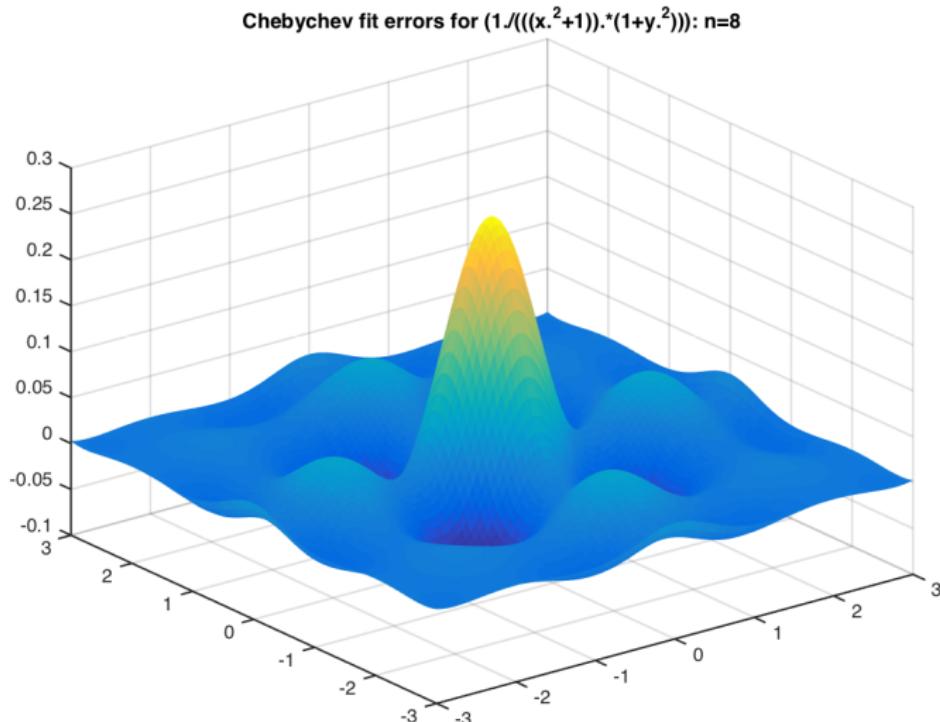
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 6-DEG. APPROX



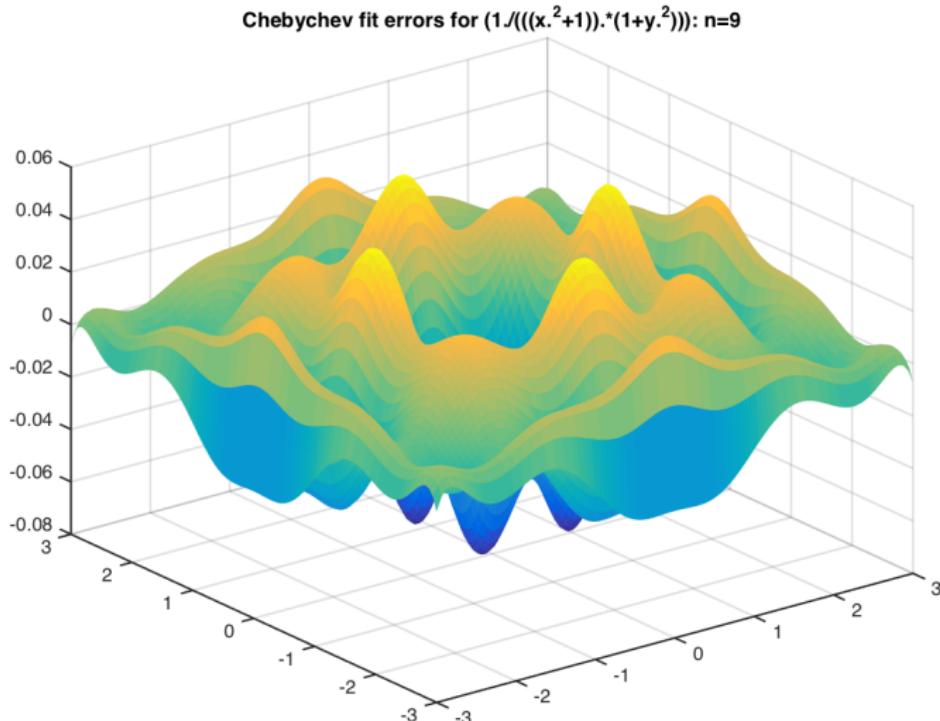
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 7-DEG. APPROX



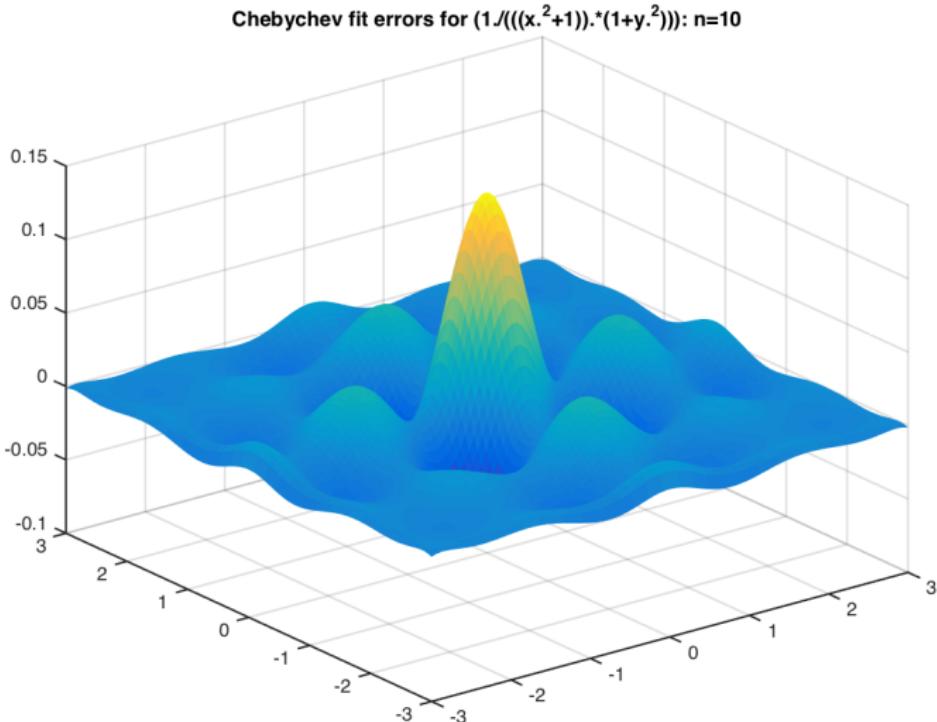
CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 8-DEG. APPROX



CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 9-DEG. APPROX



CHEBY ERRORS:  $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+x^2}$ : 10-DEG. APPROX



## TASTE OF SOME TECHNICAL POINTS

- ▶ If we have some function  $f(x)$  and some class of approximating functions,  $\Omega$
- ▶ We want to find the function  $\omega(x) \in \Omega$  such that:

$$\omega = \arg \min_{\omega \in \Omega} \|f - g\|^2$$

- ▶ Interpolating at Chebychev nodes allows us to obtain a lower bound for the error:

$$|f(x) - \hat{f}_{n-1}(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2^{n-1} n!} \max_{\xi \in [-1,1]} |f^{(n)}(\xi)|$$

- ▶ For more see Judd Chapter 6: many ways to approximate functions.

## PRACTICAL NOTE-I

- ▶ As mentioned, I've found that this discussion of interpolation is not frequently used by students in research
- ▶ Easier to use canned commands
- ▶ In matlab, interpolation is relatively easy
- ▶ Give it the basis for the function and the function, create an interpolating (and potentially extrapolating function)

## PRACTICAL NOTE-II

- ▶ General Matlab interpolation methods
  - ▶ Linear - connect the dots with a line or plane
  - ▶ Nearest, next, previous - rarely used
  - ▶ Spline: Fit points with local polynomials of (typically) degree three
  - ▶ PChip: Spline but doesn't overshoot (good for non-smooth functions)
  - ▶ Makima: spline with orthogonal basis vectors

## PRACTICAL NOTE-III

- ▶ How does it work?
- ▶ Let's say I want to define a value function in three dimensions:

```
wvec = linspace(0,10,5)
mvec = [0,1]
cvec = [0,1,2,3,4]
[mgrid,wgrid,cgrid] = ndgrid(wvec,mvec,cvec)
V=rand(size(wgrid))
Vfxn = griddedInterpolant(wgrid,mgrid,cgrid,V)
Vfxn(2,1,2)
```

- ▶ Could also use:  
`scatteredInterpolant(xvec1,xvec2,xvec3,yvec)`  
for scattered/non-gridded data.