# Numerical Analysis Homework 2

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### Problem I.

#### Solution:

First, recall that the linear interpolation  $p_1(f;x)$  at points  $x_0$  and  $x_1$  is given by Newton's formula:

$$p_1(f;x) = f_0 + \frac{f_1 - f_0}{x_1 - x_0}(x - x_0),$$

where  $f_0 = f(x_0) = 1$  and  $f_1 = f(x_1) = \frac{1}{2}$ . Substituting the values into the formula, we get:

$$p_1(f;x) = 1 + \frac{\frac{1}{2} - 1}{2 - 1}(x - 1) = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(x - 1) = -\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{2}.$$

Next, the second derivative of f(x) is:

$$f'(x) = -\frac{1}{x^2}, \quad f''(x) = \frac{2}{x^3}.$$

Substituting these into the interpolation formula:

$$\frac{1}{x} - \left(-\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{f''(\xi(x))}{2}(x-1)(x-2),$$

we simplify the left-hand side:

$$\frac{1}{x} - \left(-\frac{1}{2}x + \frac{3}{2}\right) = \frac{2-x}{2x}.$$

Thus, the interpolation formula becomes:

$$\frac{2-x}{2x} = \frac{1}{\xi(x)^3}(x-1)(x-2).$$

Finally, we obtain:

$$\xi(x) = \sqrt[3]{2x}.$$

Since  $\xi(x)$  is a monotonically increasing function on the interval  $x \in [1, 2]$ , we can find the minimum and maximum values of  $\xi(x)$  on this interval:

$$\min \xi(x) = \xi(1) = \sqrt[3]{2}, \quad \left[\max \xi(x) = \xi(2) = \sqrt[3]{4}.\right]$$

Finally, the maximum value of  $f''(\xi(x))$  occurs when  $\xi(x)$  is minimized. Since  $f''(x) = \frac{2}{x^3}$ , we find:

$$\max f''(\xi(x)) = f''(\min \xi(x)) = f''(\sqrt[3]{2}) = \frac{2}{(\sqrt[3]{2})^3} = 1.$$

Thus, 
$$\max f''(\xi(x)) = 1$$
.

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### Problem II.

#### **Solution:**

Let

$$\ell_k(x) = \prod_{i=0, i \neq k}^{n} \frac{(x-x_i)^2}{(x_k - x_i)^2}.$$

Clearly,  $\ell_k(x) \in \mathcal{P}_{2n}^+$ . And for every  $i \neq k$ , we have  $\ell_k(x_i) = 0$  and  $\ell_k(x_k) = 1$ .

$$P(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} f_k \ell_k(x),$$

where  $P(x) \in \mathcal{P}_{2n}^+$ , and we can check that  $p(x_i) = f_i$ , for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

 $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$ 

# Problem III.

#### Solution:

For n = 0, clearly we have:

$$f[t] = e^t.$$

Assume the statement holds for n-1. By the induction hypothesis, we have:

$$f[t,t+1,\ldots,t+n] = \frac{f[t+1,t+2,\ldots,t+n] - f[t,t+1,\ldots,t+n-1]}{n}.$$

Substituting the inductive assumption:

$$f[t+1,t+2,\ldots,t+n] = \frac{(e-1)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}e^{t+1}, \quad f[t,t+1,\ldots,t+n-1] = \frac{(e-1)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}e^{t},$$

we get:

$$f[t,t+1,\ldots,t+n] = \frac{\frac{(e-1)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}e^{t+1} - \frac{(e-1)^{n-1}}{(n-1)!}e^t}{n} = \frac{(e-1)^n}{n!}e^t.$$

Thus, the formula holds for all n by induction.

 $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$ 

Now, substitute t = 0, we have:

$$f[0, 1, \dots, n] = \frac{(e-1)^n}{n!}.$$

From Corollary 2.22, we know that:

$$f[0, 1, \dots, n] = \frac{f^{(n)}(\xi)}{n!},$$

which implies:

$$\xi = n \ln(e - 1) \approx 0.541n.$$

Since  $0.541n > \frac{n}{2}$ ,  $\xi$  is located to the *right* of the midpoint  $\frac{n}{2}$ .

### Problem IV.

Solution: The table of divided differences is as follows:

By Newton's formula, we have:

$$p_3(f;x) = 5 - 2x + (x)(x-1) + \frac{1}{4}(x)(x-1)(x-3) = \boxed{0.25x^3 - 2.25x + 5}$$

To find the approximate location of the minimum  $x_{\min}$ , we differentiate  $p_3(f;x)$ :

$$p_3'(f;x) = 0.75x^2 - 2.25$$

Setting  $p_3'(f;x) = 0$  gives:

$$\frac{3}{4}(x^2 - 3) = 0$$

Thus, solving for x, we find:

 $x = \sqrt{3}$  (since x is limited within (1,3)).

So the approximate minimum value is:

$$x_{\min} \approx \sqrt{3}$$

### Problem V.

#### Solution:

Make the following table:

Thus, we have f[0, 1, 1, 1, 2, 2] = 30.

Next, we know that this divided difference can be expressed in terms of the 5th derivative of f evaluated at some  $\xi \in (0,2)$ .

Since  $f(x) = x^7$ , we compute the 5th derivative:

$$f^{(5)}(x) = 7 \times 6 \times 5 \times 4 \times 3 \times x^2 = 2520x^2.$$

Now we set up the equation:

$$2520\xi^2 = 30.$$

Solving for  $\xi^2$ :

$$\xi^2 = \frac{30}{2520} = \frac{1}{84}.$$

Taking the square root:

$$\xi = \sqrt{\frac{1}{84}} \approx 0.1091.$$

Thus, we find that  $\xi \approx 0.1091$ , which is located in the interval (0, 2).

### Problem VI.

#### Solution:

The divided differences table is constructed as follows:

This leads us to the Hermite polynomial expressed as:

$$p(x) = 1 + x - 2x(x - 1) + \frac{2}{3}x(x - 1)^2 - \frac{5}{36}x(x - 1)^2(x - 3).$$

Thus, we can approximate f(2) using p(2), yielding:

$$f(2) \approx p(2) = \frac{11}{18}$$

According to Theorem 2.37, when substituting x = 2, we obtain:

$$|f(x) - p(x)| = \left| \frac{f^{(5)}(\xi)}{5!} x(x-1)^2 (x-3)^2 \right| = \left| \frac{f^{(5)}(\xi)}{60} \right| \le \frac{M}{60}$$

# Problem VII.

### **Proof:**

When n = 1, it is clear that

$$\Delta^{1} f(x) = \Delta f(x) = f(x+h) - f(x) = 1!h^{1} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} = 1!h^{1} f[x, x+h].$$

Assuming that the statement holds for n = k where  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , i.e.,

$$\Delta^k f(x) = k! h^k f[x, x+h, \dots, x+kh],$$

we can derive the case for n = k + 1:

$$\begin{split} \Delta^{k+1}f(x) &= \Delta^k f(x+h) - \Delta^k f(x) \\ &= k!h^k f[x+h,x+2h,\dots,x+(k+1)h] - k!h^k f[x,x+h,\dots,x+kh] \\ &= k!h^k \left( f[x+h,x+2h,\dots,x+(k+1)h] - f[x,x+h,\dots,x+kh] \right) \\ &= k!h^k (k+1)h f[x,x+h,\dots,x+(k+1)h] \\ &= (k+1)!h^{k+1} f[x,x+h,\dots,x+(k+1)h]. \end{split}$$

Thus, when n = k + 1, the result holds. By mathematical induction, we conclude that

$$\Delta^n f(x) = n!h^n f[x, x+h, \dots, x+nh].$$

Similarly, when n = 1, it is clear that

$$\nabla^1 f(x) = \nabla f(x) = f(x) - f(x-h) = 1!h^1 \frac{f(x) - f(x-h)}{h} = 1!h^1 f[x, x-h].$$

Assuming that the statement holds for n = k where  $k \in \mathbb{N}^*$ , i.e.,

$$\nabla^k f(x) = k! h^k f[x, x - h, \dots, x - kh],$$

we can similarly derive the case for n = k + 1:

$$\begin{split} \nabla^{k+1} f(x) &= \nabla^k f(x) - \nabla^k f(x-h) \\ &= k! h^k f[x, x-h, \dots, x-kh] - k! h^k f[x-h, x-2h, \dots, x-(k+1)h] \\ &= k! h^k \left( f[x, x-h, \dots, x-kh] - f[x-h, x-2h, \dots, x-(k+1)h] \right) \\ &= k! h^k (k+1) h f[x, x-h, \dots, x-(k+1)h] \\ &= (k+1)! h^{k+1} f[x, x-h, \dots, x-(k+1)h]. \end{split}$$

Thus, when n = k + 1, the result holds. By mathematical induction, we conclude that

$$\nabla^n f(x) = n! h^n f[x, x - h, \dots, x - nh].$$

Q.E.D.

### Problem VIII.

#### **Proof:**

We start by using the definition of divided differences and their continuity:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_0} f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n] = \lim_{h \to 0} \frac{f[x_0 + h, x_1, \dots, x_n] - f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n]}{h}$$

$$= \lim_{h \to 0} f[x_0, x_0 + h, x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

$$= f[x_0, x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n].$$

This shows that taking the partial derivative of the divided difference with respect to  $x_0$  introduces an additional  $x_0$  into the sequence.

For the partial derivative with respect to any other variable, say  $x_i$  for  $i \neq 0$ , the result follows a similar logic due to the symmetry of divided differences:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} f[x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n] = f[x_0, \dots, x_i, x_i, \dots, x_n].$$

This means that differentiating with respect to any variable  $x_i$  duplicates that variable within the divided difference expression.

### $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$

### Problem IX.

#### **Proof:**

We are tasked with solving the following min-max problem. For  $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$  and a fixed  $a_0 \neq 0$ , we need to find:

$$\min_{\{a_i \in \mathbb{R}\}} \max_{x \in [a,b]} |a_0 x^n + a_1 x^{n-1} + \dots + a_n|.$$

We start by making the substitution:

$$x = \frac{b-a}{2}x' + \frac{a+b}{2},$$

so that  $x' \in [-1, 1]$ . This transforms the original expression into:

$$\min \max_{x' \in [-1,1]} |a'_0 x'^n + \dots + a'_n|.$$

From this, using Corollary 2.47, we deduce the solution to be:

$$\min \max_{x \in [a,b]} |a_0 x^n + \dots + a_n| = \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} |a_0|.$$

 $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$ 

### Problem X.

### **Proof:**

We are asked to prove that for the rescaled Chebyshev polynomial  $\hat{p}_n(x)$ , the following inequality holds:

$$\forall p \in P_n^a, \quad \|\hat{p}_n\|_{\infty} \le \|p\|_{\infty}.$$

We begin by considering the infinity norm of the Chebyshev polynomial:

$$||P_n(z)||_{\infty} = \frac{|f_n(z)|_{\infty}}{|T_n(x)|_{\infty}} = \frac{1}{|T_n(x)|}.$$

Suppose, for contradiction, that there exists a polynomial P such that  $||P||_{\infty} < ||P_n||_{\infty}$ . This would imply:

$$||P||_{\infty} < \frac{1}{|T_n(x)|}.$$

Define the difference between P and  $P_n$  as:

$$r(n) = P(n) - P_n(n),$$

which gives:

$$r(x) = P(x) - P_n(x).$$

Since r(x) = 0 at n + 1 points, this leads to a contradiction. Hence, for all  $P \in P_n^a$ , we conclude:

$$\|\hat{p}_n\|_{\infty} \le \|p\|_{\infty}.$$

 $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$ 

# Problem XI.

### **Proof:**

The Bernstein base polynomial  $b_{n-1,k}(t)$  can be expressed as a linear combination of Bernstein polynomials of higher degrees. We begin by recalling the recursive definition of Bernstein polynomials:

$$b_{n,k}(t) = \binom{n}{k} t^k (1-t)^{n-k}, \quad t \in [0,1].$$

Next, we expand  $b_{n-1,k}(t)$  as follows:

$$b_{n-1,k}(t) = \binom{n-1}{k} t^k (1-t)^{n-1-k}.$$

By using the identity for binomial coefficients:

$$\binom{n-1}{k} = \frac{n-k}{n} \binom{n}{k},$$

we rewrite  $b_{n-1,k}(t)$  as:

$$b_{n-1,k}(t) = \frac{n-k}{n} b_{n,k}(t).$$

Similarly, for  $b_{n,k+1}(t)$ , we use:

$$\binom{n-1}{k+1} = \frac{k+1}{n} \binom{n}{k+1},$$

which gives:

$$b_{n-1,k}(t) = \frac{n-k}{n}b_{n,k}(t) + \frac{k+1}{n}b_{n,k+1}(t).$$

Thus, we have expressed  $b_{n-1,k}(t)$  as a linear combination of  $b_{n,k}(t)$  and  $b_{n,k+1}(t)$ , completing the proof:

$$b_{n-1,k}(t) = \frac{n-k}{n}b_{n,k}(t) + \frac{k+1}{n}b_{n,k+1}(t).$$

 $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$ 

### Problem XII.

#### **Proof:**

We are tasked with proving that the integral of a Bernstein base polynomial  $b_{n,k}(t)$  over the interval [0, 1] depends only on its degree n, i.e.,

$$\forall k = 0, 1, \dots, n, \quad \int_0^1 b_{n,k}(t) dt = \frac{1}{n+1}.$$

Recall that the Bernstein base polynomial is defined as:

$$b_{n,k}(t) = \binom{n}{k} t^k (1-t)^{n-k}, \quad t \in [0,1], \ k = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

We aim to compute the integral:

$$I_{n,k} = \int_0^1 b_{n,k}(t) dt = \int_0^1 \binom{n}{k} t^k (1-t)^{n-k} dt.$$

Since the binomial coefficient  $\binom{n}{k}$  is constant with respect to t, we factor it out of the integral:

$$I_{n,k} = \binom{n}{k} \int_0^1 t^k (1-t)^{n-k} dt.$$

This integral is a standard Beta function, B(k+1, n-k+1), which is defined as:

$$B(k+1, n-k+1) = \int_0^1 t^k (1-t)^{n-k} dt.$$

The Beta function has the following property in terms of Gamma functions:

$$B(k+1, n-k+1) = \frac{\Gamma(k+1)\Gamma(n-k+1)}{\Gamma(n+2)}.$$

Since  $\Gamma(k+1)=k!$  and  $\Gamma(n-k+1)=(n-k)!$ , we get:

$$B(k+1, n-k+1) = \frac{k!(n-k)!}{(n+1)!}.$$

Thus, the integral becomes:

$$I_{n,k} = \binom{n}{k} \cdot \frac{k!(n-k)!}{(n+1)!}.$$

Simplifying using  $\binom{n}{k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!}$ , we obtain:

$$I_{n,k} = \frac{n!}{k!(n-k)!} \cdot \frac{k!(n-k)!}{(n+1)!} = \frac{1}{n+1}.$$

Hence, the integral of a Bernstein base polynomial is independent of k and is given by:

$$\int_0^1 b_{n,k}(t) dt = \frac{1}{n+1}, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots, n.$$

 $\mathbb{Q}.\mathbb{E}.\mathbb{D}.$ 

# References

- handoutsNumPDEs
- ChatGPT, AI Language Model, OpenAI Platform, 2024.