

$$\begin{array}{l}
 y[x_0] = y_0 \quad \swarrow \quad y[x_0, x_1] \\
 y[x_1] = y_1 \quad \swarrow \quad y[x_0, x_1, x_2] \\
 y[x_2] = y_2 \quad \swarrow \quad y[x_1, x_2, x_3] \\
 y[x_3] = y_3 \quad \swarrow \quad y[x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3]
 \end{array}$$

Algorithm (to compute $y[x_0, \dots, x_i]$)

Input: x_i, y_i

Output: $y[x_0, \dots, x_i]$ in y_i

for $j = 1:n$

for $i = n : j$

$$y_i = \frac{y_i - y_{i-1}}{x_i - x_{i-1}}$$

end

end

Complexity: $(n-1) + (n-2) + \dots + 1 = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} = O(n^2)$

Obs: $P(x) = y[x_0] + y[x_0, x_1](x - x_0) + \dots + y[x_0, \dots, x_n](x - x_0) \dots (x - x_{n-1})$

$$P(x) = \left(\left(y[x_0, \dots, x_n](x - x_{n-1}) + y[x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}] \right) (x - x_{n-2}) + y[x_0, \dots, x_{n-2}] \right) (x - x_{n-3})$$

Algorithm (to evaluate $P(x)$)

Input: $y[x_0, \dots, x_i]$ in y_i and x_i and x

Output: $P(x)$ in p

$$p = y_n$$

for $i = n-1 : 1$

$$p = p(x - x_i) + y_i$$

end

Complexity = $n-1 = O(n)$

Example $f(x) = \frac{1}{1+25x^2} \quad -5 \leq x \leq 5$

$$x_i = -5 + i \quad 0 \leq i \leq 10 \quad y_i = f(x_i)$$

What went wrong?

- 1) Maybe choosing equidistant points is not that good
- 2) Maybe it is better to approximate the function by many different low degree polynomials. One in each little interval.
First divide the whole interval in many small intervals.

Notation $y_i = f(x_i)$ $y[x_0, \dots, x_n] = f[x_0, \dots, x_n]$

P = polynomial of degree n that satisfies $P(x_i) = y_i$ $0 \leq i \leq n$

Goal: How big is $f(x) - P(x)$ for x in $\text{int}(x_0, \dots, x_n)$

$\text{int}(x_0, \dots, x_n) = (a, b)$ where $a = \min \{x_i\}$ $b = \max \{x_i\}$

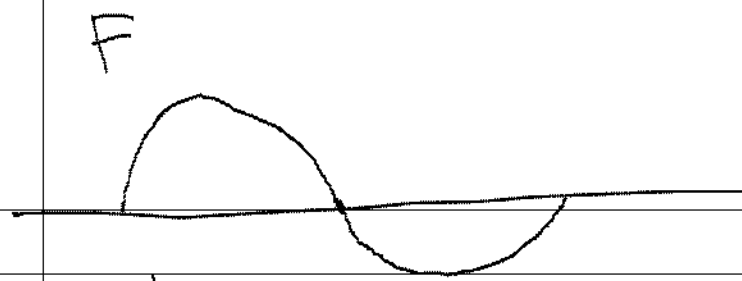
Obs: There exists $\xi \in \text{int}(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ such that

$$f(x) - P(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} (x - x_0)(x - x_1) \dots (x - x_n)$$

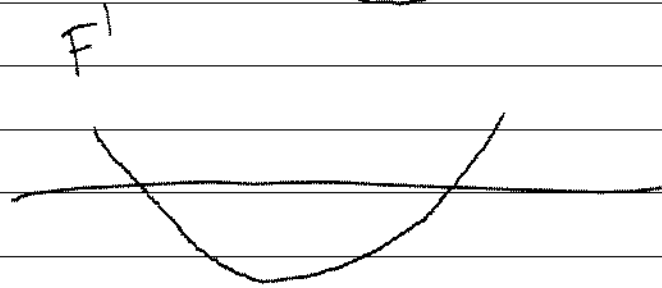
proof: $\Phi(z) = (z - x_0)(z - x_1) \dots (z - x_n)$

$$G(z) = f(z) - P(z) - \frac{f(x) - P(x)}{\Phi(x)} \times \Phi(z)$$

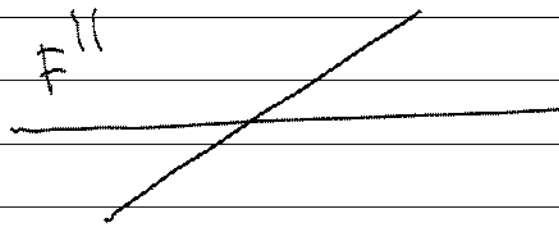
$G(z) = 0$ for $z = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$ and also $z = x$



If F has $n+2$ zeros in (a,b)
 then $F^{(n+1)}$ has a zero in (a,b)



then, there exist $\xi \in \text{int}(x_0, \dots, x_n)$ such
 that $G^{(n+1)}(\xi) = 0$



$$G^{(n+1)}(\xi) = f^{(n+1)}(\xi) - \underbrace{P^{(n+1)}(\xi)}_{=0} - \underbrace{\frac{f(x) - P(x)}{\Phi(x)}}_{\underbrace{\frac{1}{(n+1)!}}_{=0}} = 0$$

$$f(x) - P(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \Phi(x)$$

Obs: $\Phi(x) = (x-x_0)(x-x_1)\dots(x-x_n)$

Goal: Given (a,b) , select $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n \in [a,b]$ so that

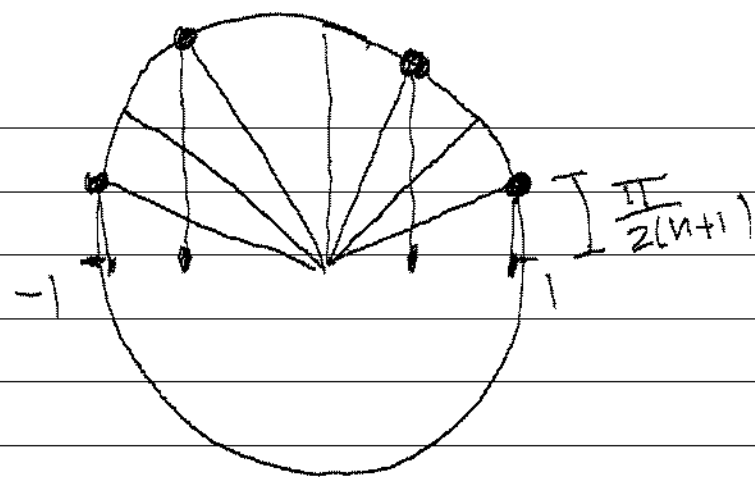
$\max_{x \in [a,b]} |\Phi(x)|$ is as small as possible

Notation $\|\Phi\|_\infty = \max_{x \in [a,b]} |\Phi(x)|$

Obs: The points $x_0, \dots, x_n$ that make $\|\Phi\|_\infty$ as small as possible are the Tchebycheff points

$$x_k = \frac{(b-a)}{2} \cos \left[\left(\frac{2(n-k)+1}{n+1} \right) \frac{\pi}{2} \right] + \frac{(a+b)}{2}$$

$$k = 0, \dots, n$$



Splines

Obs: Approximating a function f over an interval $[a, b]$ by a polynomial p , does not work very well always. It is better to split the interval $[a, b]$ into n little intervals and approximate f by a different low degree polynomial in each little interval.

Def: Let $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = b$. A spline function of degree d with nodes at the points x_i , $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$ is a function $s(x)$ with the properties

- a) On each interval $[x_{i-1}, x_i]$, $s(x)$ is a polynomial of degree d
- b) $s(x)$ and its first $(d-1)$ derivatives are continuous in $[a, b]$