Basics for polynomial interpolation on simplices

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Polynomial interpolation

of scalar values over an interval $I \subset \mathbb{R}$

The discrete representation of I depends on the type of scalar values

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Definition of the polynomial interpolation problem

$$I \subset \mathbb{R}$$
 interval and $\mathbb{P}_r(I)$ polynomial space
 $N_r = \dim(\mathbb{P}_r(I)) = \binom{n+r}{r}$

We have $\{y_i\}$ values at points $\{x_i\}$ in I, $i = 1, ..., N_r$

** We wish to represent $\{y_i\}$ by a polynomial function $\prod_r f$ and here, we construct $\prod_r f$ that interpolates the $\{y_i\}$ at the $\{x_i\}$ **

 $\Pi_r f$ is function such that

(1)
$$\Pi_r f \in \mathbb{P}_r(I),$$

(2) $\Pi_r f(x_i) = y_i, \quad \forall i = 1, ..., N_r \quad (x_i \neq x_j \text{ for } i \neq j)$

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Prop. $\exists ! \Pi_r f \in \mathbb{P}_r(I)$ that interpolates $\{y_i\}_i$ at the $\{x_i\}_i$

 \rightarrow ! (Uniqueness) as if there were *two*, their difference would be a polynomial of degree $\leq r$ (here $N_r = r + 1$) with r + 1 zeros in *I*, so it would be identically zero on *I*.

 $\rightarrow \exists$ (Existence) by construction

$$\Pi_r f(x) = \sum_{k=1}^{N_r} y_k \varphi_k(x), \qquad \varphi_k(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=1\\j\neq k}}^{N_r} \frac{(x-x_j)}{(x_k-x_j)}$$

 φ_k is the Lagrangian¹ polynomial in $\mathbb{P}_r(I)$ associated with x_k

 $\{\varphi_k\}$ is the basis of $\mathbb{P}_r(I)$ in duality with the values at the $\{x_k\}$

$$\varphi_k(x_j) = \delta_{j,k} = \begin{cases} 1 & j = k \\ 0 & j \neq k. \end{cases}$$

¹Giuseppe Ludovico De la Grange Tournier (1736-1813)

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To compute the function φ_k

To compute φ_k with a general technique we can

• choose a basis $\{\psi_\ell\}$ in $\mathbb{P}_r(I)$ and set $(V)_{j,\ell} = \psi_\ell(x_j)$

• write
$$\varphi_k(x) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_r} c_\ell^k \psi_\ell(x)$$

▶ find the vector \mathbf{c}^k of coefficient c_{ℓ}^k by solving $V \mathbf{c}^k = \mathbf{e}_k$.

V is the generalised Vandermonde matrix^2 as if $\psi_\ell(x) = x^{\ell-1}$ then

$$\det(V) = \det \begin{pmatrix} 1 & x_1 & \dots & x_1^r \\ 1 & x_2 & \dots & x_2^r \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & x_{N_r} & \dots & x_{N_r}^r \end{pmatrix} = \prod_{1 \le j \le \ell \le N_r} (x_\ell - x_j)$$

 $\operatorname{cond}(V)$ matters (for high r) and it depends on the basis $\{\psi_\ell\}$

²Alexandre-Théophile Vandermonde (1735-1796)

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Runge phenomenon⁴

The approximation of f by $\prod_r f$ may give bad results³



³Maria Gaetana Agnesi (1718 - 1799), look for "Witch of Agnesi" ⁴Carl David Tolmé Runge (1856-1927) discovered it in 1901

 $\begin{array}{l} n=1 \text{ and } k=0\\ n>1 \text{ and } k=0\\ n=1 \text{ and } k=1\\ \text{Polynomial differential forms}\\ \text{Degrees of freedom} \end{array}$

Runge phenomenon

Taking other distributions of points, things improve.



The distribution of $\{x_i\}$ has to be optimized ! Yes, but how ?

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The Lebesgue 5 constant Λ

Prop. There exists a constant Λ such that

$$||f - \prod_r f|| \le (1 + \Lambda) ||f - f^*||$$

where $||g|| = \sup_{x \in I} |g(x)|$ and $||f - f^*|| = \inf_{g \in \mathbb{P}_r(I)} ||f - g||$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} ||f - \Pi_r f|| &= ||f - f^* + f^* - \Pi_r f|| \\ &= ||f - f^* + \Pi_r f^* - \Pi_r f|| \\ &\leq ||f - f^*|| + ||\Pi_r (f - f^*)|| \\ &\leq (1 + ||\Pi_r||) ||f - f^*|| \leq (1 + \Lambda) ||f - f^*||. \end{aligned}$$

since $||\Pi_r|| = \sup_{g, \, ||g||=1} ||\Pi_r g||$ and

$$||\Pi_r|| = \sup_{g, ||g||=1} \max_{x \in I} |\sum_i g(x_i) \varphi_i(x)| \le \max_{x \in I} \sum_i |\varphi_i(x)| = \Lambda$$

⁵Henri-Léon Lebesgue (1875-1941)

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 Λ is the condition number for the interpolation problem

Prop. If $\{\tilde{y}_i\}$ are perturbations of $\{y_i\}$ with $\max_i |y_i - \tilde{y}_i| \le \epsilon$, then

$$||\Pi_r f - \Pi_r \tilde{f}|| \le \epsilon \Lambda$$

where $\prod_{r} \tilde{f}$ interpolates $\{\tilde{y}_i\}$

Proof.

$$\begin{aligned} ||\Pi_r f - \Pi_r \tilde{f}|| &= \max_{x \in I} |\sum_i (y_i - \tilde{y}_i) \varphi_i(x)| \\ &\leq (\max_i |y_i - \tilde{y}_i|) (\max_{x \in I} \sum_i |\varphi_i(x)|) \leq \epsilon \Lambda. \end{aligned}$$

* Small changes on y_i yield small changes on $\prod_r f$ only if Λ is small

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Remarks

We have
$$\lim_{r\to+\infty} (1+\Lambda) ||f-f^*|| = \infty.0$$

- * If Λ grows faster in r than the best-fit error dies away, convergence in r may be impossible to attain (cf. Runge)
- * If Λ grows slowly with r, then $\Pi_r f$ is as good as the f^* ($\Pi_r f$ is easier than f^* to compute !)
- * A does not depend on the basis $\{\psi_\ell\}$ used to have small $\operatorname{cond}(V)$





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How to compute $\Lambda = \max_{x \in I} \sum_{i=1}^{N_r} |\varphi_i(x)|$?

We replace the interval I by a discrete repres. of same type as $\{x_i\}$

• $S = \{z_q\}$ is a finite set of points $z_q \in I$

► card(S) ≫ N_r and compute⁶ $\Lambda \approx \Lambda_h = \max_{z_q \in S} \sum_{i=1}^{N_r} |\varphi_i(z_q)|$



⁶If
$$S \equiv \{x_i\}$$
, then $\Lambda_h = 1$.

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Polynomial interpolation of a scalar field over a *n*-simplex $T \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, with n > 1

T is a triangle (2-simplex) or a tetra (3-simplex)

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Runge phenomenon in a triangle with equally spaced points



Figure: From the PhD of Michael James Roth, Univ. of Victoria, 2005

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Which distribution of points in a *n*-simplex ?

Straightforward extension to higher dimension on tensorial domains (products of 1D intervals)

What can we do on *n*-simplices ?

Lebesgue points minimizing Λ are not known in 2D and 3D

Fekete points⁷ are among the best for r > 10 and $\Lambda \le N_r$

Warp&blend points pprox Fekete points and have explicit formula

$$\Lambda = \max_{(x,y)\in T} \sum_{i} |\varphi_i(x,y)|, \qquad (n=2)$$

⁷Michael Fekete (1886-1957) Hungarian mathematician

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Fekete points (old slide⁸ with N = r and $n = N_r$)

Let $\mathcal{P}_N(T)$ the space of polynomials over T of degree $\leq N$ and dim $\mathcal{P}_N = n$

Given the basis $\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^n$ of $\mathcal{P}_N(T)$, Fekete's points $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}$ maximize over T the determinant of the Vandermonde matrix V, with $V_{ij} = \psi_j(\mathbf{x}_i)$, $i, j = 1, \cdots, n$.



The cardinal function associated to the node (ξ_i, η_i) is

$$\phi_i(x,y) = \frac{\det V(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_{i-1}, y_{i-1}, x, y, x_{i+1}, y_{i+1}, \dots, x_n, y_n)}{\det V(x_1, y_1, \dots, x_n, y_n)}, \qquad i = 1, n$$

We remark that $|\phi_i(x, y)| \leq 1$.

Fekete points $\{\mathbf{x}_i\}_{i=1}^n$ do not depend on the choice of the basis $\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^n$.

⁸Collaboration with Richard Pasquetti, DR CNRS at the Univ. Côte d'Azur

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The Lebesgue constant k = 0, n = 2



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Runge phenomenon in a triangle with Fekete points



Figure: From the PhD of Michael James Roth, Univ. of Victoria, 2005

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If instead of values at points, we used averages ...

$$I = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_r - 1} [x_i, x_{i+1}] = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_r - 1} \sigma_i, \qquad a_i = \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f \, dx = \int_{\sigma_i} f \, dx$$

We have $\{a_i\}$ averages on sub-intervals $\{\sigma_i\}$ in I, $i = 1, ..., N_r - 1$

** We wish to represent $\{a_i\}$ by a polynomial function $\prod_{r=1} f$ and here, we construct $\prod_{r=1} f$ that interpolates the $\{a_i\}$ on the $\{\sigma_i\}$ **

We assume $\sigma_i \cap \sigma_j = \emptyset$, for $i \neq j$, thus $\prod_{r=1} f$ is function such that

(1)
$$\Pi_{r-1}f \in \mathbb{P}_{r-1}(I),$$

(2)
$$\int_{\sigma_i} \Pi_{r-1}f \, dx = \int_{\sigma_i} f \, dx, \quad \forall i = 1, ..., N_r - 1$$

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 and $k = 0$
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$$\Pi_{r-1}f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_r-1} (\int_{\sigma_i} f \, dx) \, \varphi_i(x), \qquad \int_{\sigma_j} \varphi_i \, dx = \delta_{i,j}$$

To compute φ_i use general technique (as before)

- choose a basis $\{\psi_\ell\}$ in $\mathbb{P}_{r-1}(I)$ and set $(V)_{j,\ell} = \int_{\sigma_i} \psi_\ell \, dx$
- write $\varphi_i(x) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_r-1} c_\ell^i \psi_\ell(x)$
- ▶ find the vector \mathbf{c}^i of coefficient c_{ℓ}^k by solving $V \mathbf{c}^i = \mathbf{e}_i$.

Runge phenomenon if $\{\sigma_i\}$ is a uniform distribution in I

Similar estimates on the interpolation error ... the norm changes

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Generalized Lebesgue constant Λ^1 (Alonso & R., JCP'21) The mass⁹ of a segment *s* (1-simplex) is $|s|_0 = \text{diam}(s)$ If $s = \sum_{j \in J} c_j s_j$ then $|s|_0 = \sum_{j \in J} |c_j| |s_j|_0$

$$\Lambda^{1} = \max_{s \subset I} \frac{1}{|s|_{0}} \sum_{i} |\sigma_{i}|_{0} |\int_{\sigma_{i}} \varphi_{i} dx| \qquad (\varphi_{i} dx \text{ is a } 1 - \text{form})$$

* the mass of any point x (0-simplex) is $|x|_0 = 1$ * $\int_x \varphi_i dx = \varphi_i(x)$ * If $\sigma_i \rightsquigarrow x_i$ and $s \rightsquigarrow x$, then $\Lambda^1 \rightsquigarrow \Lambda^0 = \Lambda$ ($||g||_0 \rightsquigarrow ||g||$) We can still prove that

$$||f - \Pi_{r-1}f||_0 \le (1 + \Lambda^1) \, ||f - \tilde{f}^*||_0, \qquad ||g||_0 = \sup_{s \ne 0, \, s \subset I} \frac{|\int_s g \, dx|}{|s|_0}$$

⁹The mass $|\sigma|_0$ of a k-simplex σ is its k-dimensional Hausdorff measure.

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Estimated Λ_h^0 and Λ_h^1 for n = 1

Estimated generalised Lebesgue constants in an *interval* associated with the uniform and the GLLobatto distribution of nodes.

<i>k</i> = 0	Λ_{Un}	Λ_{Lb}]	k = 1	Λ _{Un}	Λ_{Lb}
3	1.63	1.66		3	3.32	2.66
4	2.21	1.80		4	5.31	3.15
5	3.11	1.99		5	8.47	3.54
6	4.55	2.08		6	13.71	3.85
7	6.93	2.20		7	22.68	4.12
8	10.95	2.27		8	38.30	4.34
9	17.85	2.36		9	65.97	4.52
10	29.90	2.42		10	115.57	4.67
11	51.21	2.49		11	205.40	4.79
12	89.32	2.54		12	369.40	4.89
13	158.09	2.60		13	670.91	4.97
14	283 18	2 64		14	1228 48	5.03

In the first column the number of subintervals. On the left it is the degree of the polynomial differential form, on the right it is the degree plus one.

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Λ_h^0 and Λ_h^1 for n = 1



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Polynomial interpolation of any field over

a *n*-simplex $T \subset \mathbb{R}^n$

Can we still talk about Lebesgue constant, etc. ?

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Fields of any type

Let $\mathcal{T} \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be a tetrahedron.

differential *k*-forms

$$\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$$
 $k = 0, 1, 2, 3$ respectively.

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Figure: D.N.Arnold, Periodic table of FEs

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Notation

Given a 3-simplex $\mathcal{T} = [\mathbf{v}_0, \mathbf{v}_1, \mathbf{v}_2, \mathbf{v}_3]$ and $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$

- $\Delta_j(T)$ denotes the set of *j*-subsimplices of *T*;
- ► $\lambda_j(\mathbf{x})$ denote the barycentric coordinates of the point \mathbf{x} with respect to the vertices of t.

The principal lattice of order r of t is the set of points

$$\Sigma_r(t) = \left\{ \mathbf{x} \in t \, : \, \lambda_j(\mathbf{x}) \in \left\{ 0, rac{1}{r}, \dots rac{r-1}{r}, 1
ight\} \quad orall j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}
ight\}$$



Figure: The principal lattice of a triangle for r = 4.

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$L_r(T)$: degrees of freedom

Classical degrees of freedom for $f_h \in L_r(T)$ are the values (weights) of f_h at the points of the principal lattices of T

 $f_h(\mathbf{x}_i)$ for each $\mathbf{x}_i \in \Sigma_r(T)$

How is it possible to define weights for other types of fields ?

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Small k-simplices in a simplex T (R. & Bossavit, 2009)



- The small volumes are ¹/_r homothetic to T and their vertices are points of the principal lattice Σ_r(T)
- Small edges and small faces are edges and faces of the small volumes. Small nodes are the points of Σ_r(T).

• A small k-simplex is
$$\{\alpha, s\}$$
, $\alpha \in \mathcal{I}(r-1, n)$, $s \in \Delta_k(T)$.

For r = 3 (left): small edge {(1, 1, 0, 0), [v_0 , v_1]}, small face {(0, 1, 0, 1), [v_1 , v_2 , v_3]}, small tetra {(0, 0, 0, 2), t}.
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Weights for fields in $W_r^k(T)$

The weights were introduced by R. and Bossavit (2009).

The degrees of freedom for a k-form $\omega \in \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$ are integrals ¹⁰ on k-chains $\sigma \in C_k(\mathcal{T})$:

 $\int \omega$

Consider in particular the integrals on the so-called small k-simplices associated to the principal lattice of order r of T

$$\sigma = \sum_{\alpha, s} c_{\{\alpha, s\}}\{\alpha, s\}, \qquad \int_{\sigma} \omega = \sum_{\alpha, s} c_{\{\alpha, s\}} \int_{\{\alpha, s\}} \omega$$

¹⁰If k = 0, σ is a point and $\int_{\sigma} \omega = \omega(\sigma)$. If k = 1, 2 then $\int_{\sigma} \omega$ is the circulation or the flux on σ respectively.

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Unisolvence

The integrals of a k-form $\omega \in \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$ on the small k simplices of T are unisolvent, namely, if $X_r^k(T)$ denotes the set of small k simplices of order r in T then

$$\text{if } \omega \in \mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k, \quad \int_{\sigma} \omega = 0 \quad \forall \, \sigma \in X_r^k \Rightarrow \omega = 0.$$

For the proof see Christiansen and R. (2016).

However, for k = 1 and k = 2 in \mathbb{R}^3 , the number of elements of X_r^k is greater than the dimension of $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k$.

Minimality for k = 1, 2: find $S_r^k \subset X_r^k$ s.t. $\#S_r^k = \dim P_r^- \Lambda^k$. (See Alonso, Bruni Bruno and R. (2019).)
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Example

Minimal and unisolvent sets of small edges (k = 1).



Lebesgue constant From interpolation at nodes to interpolation at edges

Interpolation of differential *k*-forms

A set S^k_r of k-simplices σ = {α, s} α ∈ I(r − 1, n), s ∈ Δ_k(T), is minimal and unisolvent in P⁻_rΛ^k then the weight matrix V is invertible

$$V_{i,j} = \int_{\sigma_i} \psi^{\sigma_j}, \qquad i, j = 1, ..., \# S_r^k, \qquad \psi^{\sigma} = B_{\alpha}^n \omega^s$$

Bⁿ_α = (ⁿ_α)λ^α Bernstein polyn., ω^s Whitney k-form of deg. 1.
 Given a set S^k_r of k-simplices that are minimal and unisolvent in P⁻_rΛ^k the associated canonical basis {φ_σ}_{σ∈S^k} is such that

$$\int_{\sigma'} \varphi_{\sigma} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 1 & \text{if } \sigma = \sigma' \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right. \qquad \psi^{\sigma_j} = \sum_{\ell} V_{\ell,j} \, \varphi_{\sigma_\ell}.$$

Lebesgue constant From interpolation at nodes to interpolation at edges

Interpolation of differential k-forms

If ω is a differential k-form we denote Π^k_rω the unique element of P⁻_rΛ^k such that

$$\int_{\sigma} \omega = \int_{\sigma} \Pi_r^k \omega \quad \forall \, \sigma \in S_r^k.$$

▶ If $\{\varphi_{\sigma}\}_{\sigma \in S_{r}^{k}}$ is the canonical basis associated to S_{r}^{k} then

$$\Pi^k_r \omega = \sum_{\sigma \in S^k_r} \left(\int_{\sigma} \omega \right) \, \varphi_{\sigma}$$

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Interpolation of differential k-forms: Lebesgue constant Let ω and $\tilde{\omega}$ be two differential k-forms such that for any k-simplex σ of measure $|\sigma|$

$$\frac{1}{\sigma} \left| \int_{\sigma} (\omega - \widetilde{\omega}) \right| \le \epsilon. \quad ^{11}$$

Then

$$\frac{1}{c|} \left| \int_{c} \left(\prod_{r+1}^{k} \omega - \prod_{r+1}^{k} \widetilde{\omega} \right) \right| \leq \epsilon \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r+1}^{k}} \frac{1}{|c|} |\sigma| \left| \int_{c} \varphi_{\sigma} \right|.$$
(1)

The generalised Lebesgue constant for differential k-forms is defined as

$$\Lambda(S_r^k) := \sup_c \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r+1}^k} rac{1}{|c|} |\sigma| \left| \int_c arphi_\sigma \right|.$$

being $\{\varphi_{\sigma}\}_{\sigma \in S_{r+1}^{k}}$ the canonical basis associated to S_{r}^{k} . (See Alonso and Rapetti (2021)). ¹¹ $|\omega|_{0} := \sup_{c} \frac{1}{|c|} |\int_{c} \omega|$ is a norm for regular *k*-forms.

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Lebesgue constant From interpolation at nodes to interpolation at edges

Proof of (1)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{|c|} \left| \int_{c} \left(\Pi_{r}^{1} \omega - \Pi_{r}^{1} \widetilde{\omega} \right) \right| &= \frac{1}{|c|} \left| \int_{c} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r}^{k}} \left(\int_{\sigma} (\omega - \widetilde{\omega}) \right) \varphi_{\sigma} \right| \\ &= \frac{1}{|c|} \left| \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r}^{k}} \int_{\sigma} (\omega - \widetilde{\omega}) \int_{c} \varphi_{\sigma} \right| \leq \frac{1}{|c|} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r}^{k}} \left| \int_{\sigma} (\omega - \widetilde{\omega}) \right| \left| \int_{c} \varphi_{\sigma} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{1}{|c|} \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r}^{k}} \epsilon |\sigma| \left| \int_{c} \varphi_{\sigma} \right| = \epsilon \sum_{\sigma \in S_{r}^{k}} \frac{1}{|c|} |\sigma| \left| \int_{c} \varphi_{\sigma} \right| \end{aligned}$$

Interpolation nodes and edges on the simplex

We investigate if spatial distributions of nodes that are suitable for high-order Lagrange interpolation on the triangle and tetrahedron¹² induce (by a simplicial map) small k-simplices suitable for the interpolation in $\mathcal{P}_r^- \Lambda^k(T)$.



Interpolation nodes: Uniform, Lobatto, and symmetrised Lobatto.

¹²See Blyth, Luo, and Pozrikidis (2006), Warburton (2006).

Estimated Lebesgue constant

We estimate the generalised Lebesgue constant for different configurations of nodes.

• We consider a "reference" mesh T_R of t and compute

$$\max_{c \in \Delta_k(\mathcal{T}_R)} \sum_{\sigma \in S_r^k} \frac{1}{|c|} |\sigma| \left| \int_c \varphi_\sigma \right| \approx \Lambda(S_r^k).$$

We compare the classical results for k = 0 with those obtained for k = 1 in dimension 1, 2 and 3 when increasing the polynomial degree¹³.

¹³See PhD of Ludovico Bruni Bruno, Univ. of Trento, 2022

Estimated Lebesgue constant: d = 2, k = 0

k = 0	uniform in 2D	nonuniform in 2D		
r	Λ_{Un}	Λ _{Lb sym}	Λ_{WB}	
3	2.27	2.11	2.11	
4	3.47	2.66	2.66	
5	5.45	3.14	3.12	
6	8.75	3.87	3.70	
7	14.35	4.66	4.27	
8	24.01	5.93	4.96	
9	40.92	7.39	5.74	
10	70.89	9.83	6.67	
11	124.53	12.92	7.90	
12	221.41	17.78	9.36	

Lebesgue constants in a *triangle* T associated with a uniform and nonuniform (symmetrised Lobatto and "warp and blend") distribution of nodes for different polynomial degrees $r \ge 3$, as computed in Warburton (2006).

Estimated Lebesgue constant: n = 2, k = 1

k = 1	uniform in 2D	nonuniform in 2D		
r	Λ_{Un}	Λ_{Lb}	$\Lambda_{Lb sym}$	Λ_{WB}
3	7.92	6.67	6.71	6.71
4	12.17	9.17	8.16	8.16
5	18.92	14.51	9.61	9.60
6	29.95	23.49	11.80	11.62
7	48.31	41.55	14.71	14.51
8	79.45	77.15	18.13	17.65
9	133.03	154.18	20.99	20.32
10	226.20	327.36	28.74	24.44
11	389.59	827.80	38.15	29.19
12	678.10	2142.45	52.97	35.85

Lebesgue constants in a *triangle* T, associated with uniform and nonuniform distributions of small edges for different polynomial degrees. The ending points of the small edges are either in the uniform or in the nonuniform (Lobatto, symmetrised Lobatto and "warp and blend") sets.

Estimated Lebesgue constant: n = 3, k = 0

k = 0	uniform in 3D	nonuniform in 3[
r	Λ_{Un}	Λ_{Lbsym}	Λ_{WB}
3	2.94	2.93	3.11
4	4.88	4.07	4.07
5	8.09	5.38	5.32
6	13.66	7.53	7.01
7	23.38	10.17	9.21
8	40.55	14.63	12.54
9	71.15	20.46	17.02

Lebesgue constants in a *tetrahedron* T associated with a uniform and nonuniform (symmetrised Lobatto and "warp and blend") distributions of nodes for different polynomial degrees $r \ge 3$, as computed in Warburton (2006).

Estimated Lebesgue constant: n = 3, k = 1

k = 1	uniform in 3D	nonuniform in 3D		
r	Λ_{Un}	Λ_{Lb}	Λ_{Lbsym}	Λ_{WB}
3	11.23	11.40	10.80	10.80
4	18.04	22.38	15.25	15.25
5	29.37	69.45	20.09	20.79
6	46.76	274.58	26.73	28.32
7	74.19	1168.36	36.57	36.03
8	127.53	5443.19	48.66	45.82
9	218.19	26323.67	61.90	57.24

Lebesgue constants in a *tetrahedron* T, associated with uniform and nonuniform distributions of small edges for different polynomial degrees $r \ge 3$. The ending points of the small edges are either in the uniform or in the nonuniform (Lobatto, symmetrised Lobatto or "warp and blend") sets.

Legend

k = 0 → * k = 1 → □
Uniform nodes → red Nonuniform nodes → blue (or cyan)
d = 1 → ··· d = 3 → ···

The * lines and the \Box lines are almost parallel.

Estimated Lebesgue constant: k = 0 and k = 1



Estimated Lebesgue constant for n=1, 2, and 3



Conclusions

The * lines and the \Box lines are essentially parallel.

So, the well-known results for k = 0 hold also true for k = 1:

- the interpolation on uniform distribution of the support of the degrees of freedom is not stable on the polynomial degree;
- the problem increases with the dimension of the space;
- the Lebesgue constant "measures" the stability on the polynomial degree of the polynomial interpolation problem;
- the distribution of the supports that minimises the Lebesgue constant is not uniform.

For k = 1 (and k = 2), the generalized Lebesgue constant depends on the shape of the element.

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