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Note Title

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12.2 Orthogonal Systems and Chebyshev Polynomials

Consider a set of $m+1$ data points

x	x_0	x_1	x_2	\dots	x_m
y	y_0	y_1	y_2	\dots	y_m

Suppose that the data conforms to a relationship

$$y = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j g_j(x)$$

In which the functions $g_0, g_1, g_2, \dots, g_n$ (called basis functions) are known and held fixed.

The coefficients c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n are to be determined according to the least-squares principle.

We can think of the least-squares problem as the set of all functions g that can be expressed as a linear combination of g_0, g_1, \dots, g_m is a vector space G .

i.e.

$$G = \left\{ g: \text{there exist } c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n \text{ such that} \right. \\ \left. g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j g_j(x) \right\}$$

The function being sought in the least squares problem is thus an element of the vector space G .

Question: What basis for G should be chosen for numerical work?

Recall that in the least-squares method, we define an

Expression

$$Q(c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n) = \sum_{k=0}^m \left[\sum_{j=0}^n c_j g_j(x_k) - y_k \right]^2$$

and select coefficients to make it as small as possible.

Necessary conditions for minimum

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial c_i} = 0 \quad (0 \leq i \leq n)$$

i.e.

$$\frac{\partial Q}{\partial c_i} = \sum_{k=0}^m \lambda \left[\sum_{j=0}^n c_j g_j(x_k) - y_k \right] g_i(x_k) = 0 \quad (0 \leq i \leq n)$$

Hence rearrange to get

$$\sum_{k=0}^m \left[\sum_{j=0}^n c_j g_j(x_k) \right] g_i(x_k) = \sum_{k=0}^m y_k g_i(x_k)$$

i.e.

$$\sum_{j=0}^n \left[\sum_{k=0}^m g_j(x_k) g_i(x_k) \right] c_j = \sum_{k=0}^m y_k g_i(x_k).$$

which are the normal equations.

The problem reduces to solving the system of normal equations, which depend on the basis $\{g_0, g_1, \dots, g_n\}$.

Required good (nice) properties:

- most equations to be easily solved
- n be capable of being accurately solved.

Suppose that the basis $\{g_0, g_1, \dots, g_n\}$ is orthonormal.

$$\sum_{k=0}^n g_i(x_k) g_j(x_k) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i=j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}$$

The system of normal equations reduces to

$$C_j = \sum_{k=0}^m y_k g_j(x_k) \quad (0 \leq j \leq n)$$

which is an explicit formula for the coefficients c_j .

Example

Consider the space G of all polynomials of degree $\leq n$.

A basis of G would be

$$g_0(x) = 1 \quad g_1(x) = x \quad g_2(x) = x^2 \quad \dots \quad g_n(x) = x^n$$

A typical element of the space G would be of the

form

$$g(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j g_j(x)$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^n c_j x^j$$

$$= c_0 + c_1 x + c_2 x^2 + \dots + c_n x^n$$

Even though this basis seems natural, it is more often than not a poor choice for numerical work!

(Look at graphs of basis functions - very similar).