

Rational Function Approximation

MATH 375

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Introduction

So far we have used **polynomials** to approximate arbitrary continuous functions.

- ▶ **Pros:**

- ▶ easy to evaluate
- ▶ easy to integrate and differentiate

- ▶ **Cons:**

- ▶ tend to oscillate
- ▶ error estimates can be much larger than the actual error

Rational Functions

Definition

A **rational function of degree N** is a function of the form

$$r(x) = \frac{p(x)}{q(x)}$$

where $p(x)$ and $q(x)$ are polynomials such that $\deg p(x) + \deg q(x) = N$.

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Remark: Every polynomial $p(x)$ can be rewritten as $\frac{p(x)}{1}$ then approximation by **rational** functions can perform no worse than approximation by **polynomial** functions.

$$r(x) = \frac{p_0 + p_1x + \cdots + p_nx^n}{q_0 + q_1x + \cdots + q_mx^m}$$

$r(x)$ is a rational function of degree $n + m$.

Comments

- ▶ Rational functions whose numerator and denominator have the same or nearly the same degree often perform better at approximation than a polynomial.
- ▶ If machine division requires approximately the same amount of effort as machine multiplication, rational function approximation is as computationally efficient as polynomial approximation.
- ▶ Use of rational functions will allow us to approximate functions with infinite discontinuities.

Comments

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- ▶ If machine division requires approximately the same amount of effort as machine multiplication, rational function approximation is as computationally efficient as polynomial approximation.
- ▶ Use of rational functions will allow us to approximate functions with infinite discontinuities.
- ▶ First, we take up the procedure known as **Padé approximation**.

Assumptions

- ▶ Assume the interval over which we are approximating $f(x)$ contains $x = 0$.

$$r(0) = \frac{p(0)}{q(0)} = \frac{p_0}{q_0} \implies q_0 \neq 0$$

- ▶ Assume $q_0 = 1$ for, if not,

$$\begin{aligned} r(x) &= \frac{p_0 + p_1x + \cdots + p_nx^n}{q_0 + q_1x + \cdots + q_mx^m} \\ &= \frac{(p_0 + p_1x + \cdots + p_nx^n)/q_0}{(q_0 + q_1x + \cdots + q_mx^m)/q_0} \\ &= \frac{\hat{p}(x)}{\hat{q}(x)} \quad \text{where } \hat{q}_0 = 1 \end{aligned}$$

Padé Technique

- ▶ If $r(x)$ is of degree N , then $r(x)$ contains $N + 2$ coefficients.
- ▶ $q_0 = 1$ leaving $N + 1$ coefficients undetermined.
- ▶ The Padé technique is an extension of **Taylor polynomial approximation** to rational functions.

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Theorem (Padé Technique)

Given $f(x)$ and a rational function $r(x)$ with $q_0 = 1$, choose the remaining $N + 1$ coefficients of $r(x)$ such that $f^{(n)}(0) = r^{(n)}(0)$ for $n = 0, 1, \dots, N$.

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- ▶ This technique will require solving a system of $N + 1$ equations for $N + 1$ unknowns.
- ▶ If the degree of the denominator is 0, this is equivalent to Taylor polynomial approximation.

Relationship to Taylor's Theorem

Suppose $f(x)$ has a convergent Taylor's Series expansion.

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \quad \text{where } a_k = \frac{f^{(k)}(0)}{k!}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) - r(x) &= f(x) - \frac{p(x)}{q(x)} \\ &= \frac{f(x)q(x) - p(x)}{q(x)} \\ &= \frac{(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k) (\sum_{k=0}^m q_k x^k) - \sum_{k=0}^n p_k x^k}{\sum_{k=0}^m q_k x^k} \end{aligned}$$

Goal: We want

$$0 = f^{(n)}(0) - r^{(n)}(0) = \left. \frac{d^n}{dx^n} (f(x) - r(x)) \right|_{x=0} \quad \text{for } n = 0, 1, \dots, N.$$

Multiple Root

Recall our earlier discussion of multiple roots of functions.

Definition

A solution p of $f(x) = 0$ is a **root of multiplicity** m of f if for $x \neq p$ we can write $f(x) = (x - p)^m q(x)$, where $\lim_{x \rightarrow p} q(x) \neq 0$.

Theorem

A function $f \in C^m[a, b]$ has a root of multiplicity m at $p \in (a, b)$ iff

$$0 = f(p) = f'(p) = \dots = f^{(m-1)}(p) \quad \text{but} \quad f^{(m)}(p) \neq 0.$$

Multiple Roots and the Padé Technique

Remark: The design goal is to select the coefficients of $r(x)$ so that $f(x) - r(x)$ has a root of multiplicity $N + 1$ at $x = 0$. Equivalently

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k \right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^m q_k x^k \right) - \sum_{k=0}^n p_k x^k$$

has no terms of degree less than $N + 1$.

Coefficient List

Consider

$$\left(\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k x^k\right) \left(\sum_{k=0}^m q_k x^k\right) - \sum_{k=0}^n p_k x^k = \\ (a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 \cdots)(1 + q_1 x + \cdots + q_m x^m) \\ - (p_0 + p_1 x + \cdots + p_n x^n)$$

n	Coefficient of x^n
0	$a_0 - p_0$
1	$a_0 q_1 + a_1 - p_1$
2	$a_0 q_2 + a_1 q_1 + a_2 - p_2$
\vdots	\vdots
k	$-p_k + \sum_{i=0}^k a_i q_{k-i}$

for $k = 0, 1, \dots, N$.

Linear System

System of $N + 1$ equations:

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= p_0 \\ a_0 q_1 + a_1 &= p_1 \\ a_0 q_2 + a_1 q_1 + a_2 &= p_2 \\ &\vdots \\ \sum_{i=0}^k a_i q_{k-i} &= p_k \end{aligned}$$

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for $k = 0, 1, \dots, N$.

Note:

- ▶ For convenience if $k > m$ then $q_k = 0$ and if $k > n$ then $p_k = 0$.
- ▶ We must solve for $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m, p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$.

Example (1 of 5)

Consider $f(x) = x \ln(x + 1)$. Compare the Maclaurin polynomial approximation of degree 6 to the Padé rational approximation of degree 6.

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Maclaurin Polynomial:

$$P_6(x) = x^2 - \frac{1}{2}x^3 + \frac{1}{3}x^4 - \frac{1}{4}x^5 + \frac{1}{5}x^6$$

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Rational function: let $m = n = 3$,

$$(x^2 - \frac{1}{2}x^3 + \frac{1}{3}x^4 - \frac{1}{4}x^5 + \frac{1}{5}x^6)(1 + q_1x + q_2x^2 + q_3x^3) - (p_0 + p_1x + p_2x^2 + p_3x^3)$$

should have no terms of degree less than or equal to 6.

Example (2 of 5): Linear System

$$-p_0 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 0)$$

$$-p_1 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 1)$$

$$1 - p_2 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 2)$$

$$-\frac{1}{2} - p_3 + q_1 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 3)$$

$$\frac{1}{3} - \frac{1}{2}q_1 + q_2 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 4)$$

$$-\frac{1}{4} + \frac{1}{3}q_1 - \frac{1}{2}q_2 + q_3 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 5)$$

$$\frac{1}{5} - \frac{1}{4}q_1 + \frac{1}{3}q_2 - \frac{1}{2}q_3 = 0 \quad (\text{degree } 6)$$

Example (3 of 5)

Solution:

$$p_0 = 0, p_1 = 0, p_2 = 1, p_3 = \frac{19}{30}, q_1 = \frac{17}{15}, q_2 = \frac{7}{30}, q_3 = -\frac{1}{90}$$

$$P_6(x) = x^2 \left[x \left[x \left[x \left[\frac{1}{5}x - \frac{1}{4} \right] + \frac{1}{3} \right] - \frac{1}{2} \right] + 1 \right]$$

$$r(x) = \frac{x^2 + \frac{19}{30}x^3}{1 + \frac{17}{15}x + \frac{7}{30}x^2 - \frac{1}{90}x^3}$$

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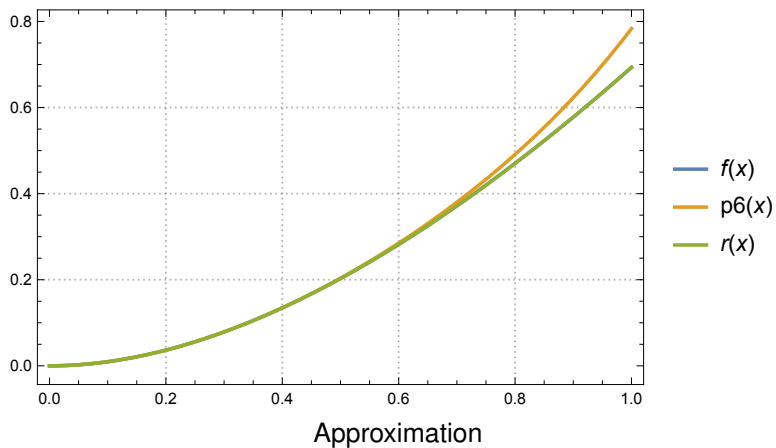
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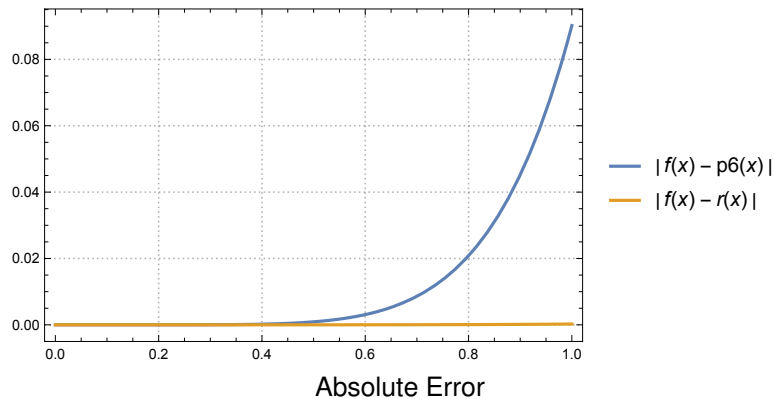
Remarks:

- ▶ $P_6(x)$ requires 6 MUL/DIV and 4 ADD/SUB.
- ▶ $r(x)$ requires 7 MUL/DIV and 4 ADD/SUB.

Example (4 of 5)



Example (4 of 5)



Example (5 of 5)

Approximation absolute error:

x	Maclaurin	Rational
0.0	0.0	0.0
0.1	1.535290×10^{-8}	1.553920×10^{-10}
0.2	1.821975×10^{-6}	1.545364×10^{-8}
0.3	0.00002902	2.084234×10^{-7}
0.4	0.00020364	1.249726×10^{-6}
0.5	0.00091328	4.828324×10^{-6}
0.6	0.0030890	0.000014171
0.7	0.0086059	0.000034484
0.8	0.0208128	0.000073278
0.9	0.0451972	0.000140581
1.0	0.0901862	0.000249046

Continued Fraction (1 of 4)

We can reduce the number of multiplications/divisions required for the evaluation of the rational function by using polynomial division.

$$r(x) = \frac{x^2 + \frac{19}{30}x^3}{1 + \frac{17}{15}x + \frac{7}{30}x^2 - \frac{1}{90}x^3}$$

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Continued Fraction (2 of 4)

Continue the polynomial division.

$$\begin{aligned}r(x) &= -57 + \frac{1}{\frac{90+102x+21x^2-x^3}{5130+5814x+1287x^2}} \\ &= -57 + \frac{1}{-\frac{1}{1287}x + \frac{3649}{184041} - \frac{239520+189946x}{184041(570+646x+143x^2)}}\end{aligned}$$

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$$\begin{aligned} r(x) &= -57 - \frac{1287}{x - \frac{3649}{143} + \frac{1}{\frac{81510+92378x+20449x^2}{239520+189946x}}} \\ &= -57 - \frac{1287}{x - \frac{3649}{143} + \frac{3162221777}{9019870729} + \frac{20449}{189946} x - \frac{1}{9019870729(119760+94973x)}} \end{aligned}$$

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 \end{aligned}$$

Remark: this form requires only 3 MUL/DIV and 6 ADD/SUB.

Chebyshev Rational Function Approximation

Given a function $f(x)$,

- ▶ the **Chebyshev** rational function approximation is similar to the previous rational function approximation.
- ▶ In place of the x^n used in the Padé approximation, we will use the n th Chebyshev function, $T_n(x)$.

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Assumptions:

- ▶ Write $f(x)$ as a Chebyshev series:

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k T_k(x).$$

- ▶ Write the N th degree rational function as

$$r(x) = \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n p_k T_k(x)}{\sum_{k=0}^m q_k T_k(x)}$$

where $N = n + m$ and $q_0 = 1$.

Difference

Consider

$$f(x) - r(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k T_k(x) - \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n p_k T_k(x)}{\sum_{k=0}^m q_k T_k(x)}$$

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We wish to choose coefficients $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_m, p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n$ so that the right-hand side has zero coefficients for $T_k(x)$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, N = n + m$.

Numerator

The right-hand side has zero coefficients for $T_k(x)$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, N = n + m$ implies

$$(a_0 T_0(x) + a_1 T_1(x) + \dots)(T_0(x) + q_1 T_1(x) + \dots + q_m T_m(x)) - (p_0 T_0(x) + p_1 T_1(x) + \dots + p_n T_n(x))$$

has no terms of degree less than or equal to N .

Challenges (1 of 2)

- ▶ The expression

$$(a_0 T_0(x) + a_1 T_1(x) + \cdots)(T_0(x) + q_1 T_1(x) + \cdots + q_m T_m(x))$$

requires that we form the product of Chebyshev functions.

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requires that we form the product of Chebyshev functions.

- ▶ Fortunately there is a Chebyshev product-to-sum formula which helps:

$$T_i(x)T_j(x) = \frac{1}{2} (T_{i+j}(x) + T_{|i-j|}(x)).$$

Challenges (2 of 2)

- ▶ Finding the Chebyshev coefficients for the representation of $f(x)$:

$$f(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a_k T_k(x)$$

requires that we evaluate the definite integrals

$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f(x) T_0(x)}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx$$
$$a_k = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{f(x) T_k(x)}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx \quad (k \geq 1).$$

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- ▶ At worst we may numerically approximate these integrals.

Example (1 of 7)

Find the Chebyshev rational approximation of degree 4 with $n = m = 2$ to $f(x) = \cos \pi x$.

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$$a_0 = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\cos \pi x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = -0.304242$$

$$a_1 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{T_1(x) \cos \pi x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = 0$$

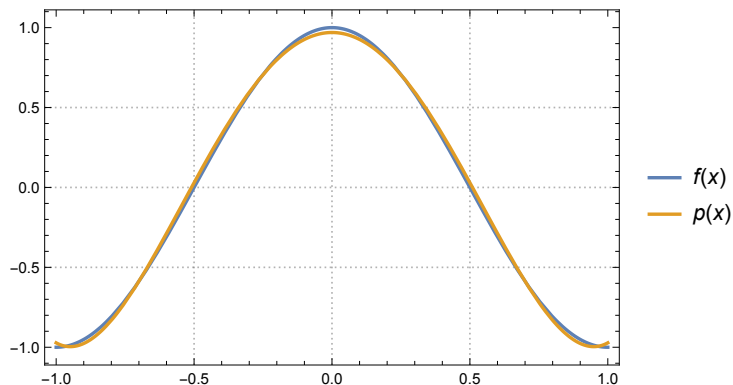
$$a_2 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{T_2(x) \cos \pi x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = -0.970868$$

$$a_3 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{T_3(x) \cos \pi x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = 0$$

$$a_4 = \frac{2}{\pi} \int_{-1}^1 \frac{T_4(x) \cos \pi x}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} dx = 0.302849$$

Example (2 of 7)

$$f(x) = \cos \pi x \approx p(x) = -0.304242 - 0.970868 T_2(x) + 0.302849 T_4(x)$$



Example (3 of 7)

Now we must choose p_0, p_1, p_2, q_1, q_2 so that the coefficients of $T_k(x)$ are zero in the expanded form of

$$(a_0 T_0(x) + a_2 T_2(x) + a_4 T_4(x))(T_0(x) + q_1 T_1(x) + q_2 T_2(x)) - (p_0 T_0(x) + p_1 T_1(x) + p_2 T_2(x)).$$

Example (3 of 7)

Now we must choose p_0, p_1, p_2, q_1, q_2 so that the coefficients of $T_k(x)$ are zero in the expanded form of

$$(a_0 T_0(x) + a_2 T_2(x) + a_4 T_4(x))(T_0(x) + q_1 T_1(x) + q_2 T_2(x)) - (p_0 T_0(x) + p_1 T_1(x) + p_2 T_2(x)).$$

Expanding the expression yields:

$$\begin{aligned} & a_0 T_0(x) - p_0 T_0(x) - p_1 T_1(x) + a_0 q_1 T_1(x) - p_2 T_2(x) \\ & + a_0 q_2 T_2(x) + a_2 T_0(x) T_2(x) + a_2 q_1 T_1(x) T_2(x) + a_2 q_2 T_2^2(x) \\ & + a_4 T_0(x) T_4(x) + a_4 q_1 T_1(x) T_4(x) + a_4 q_2 T_2(x) T_4(x) \end{aligned}$$

Now we may apply the product to sum formula.

Example (4 of 7)

$$\begin{aligned} & a_0 T_0(x) - p_0 T_0(x) - p_1 T_1(x) + a_0 q_1 T_1(x) - p_2 T_2(x) \\ & \quad + a_0 q_2 T_2(x) + a_2 T_0(x) T_2(x) + a_2 q_1 T_1(x) T_2(x) + a_2 q_2 T_2^2(x) \\ & \quad + a_4 T_0(x) T_4(x) + a_4 q_1 T_1(x) T_4(x) + a_4 q_2 T_2(x) T_4(x) \\ = & a_0 - p_0 - p_1 T_1(x) + a_0 q_1 T_1(x) - p_2 T_2(x) + a_0 q_2 T_2(x) \\ & \quad + a_2 T_2(x) + \frac{1}{2} a_2 q_1 T_3(x) + \frac{1}{2} a_2 q_1 T_1(x) + \frac{1}{2} a_2 q_2 T_4(x) \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} a_2 q_2 + a_4 T_4(x) + \frac{1}{2} a_4 q_1 T_5(x) + \frac{1}{2} a_4 q_1 T_3(x) \\ & \quad + \frac{1}{2} a_4 q_2 T_6(x) + \frac{1}{2} a_4 q_2 T_2(x) \end{aligned}$$

Now we may collect the coefficients of $T_k(x)$ for $k = 0, 1, \dots, 4$.

Example (5 of 7) Coefficients

$$\begin{aligned}T_0 : & \quad a_0 + \frac{a_2 q_2}{2} = p_0 \\T_1 : & \quad a_0 q_1 + \frac{a_2 q_1}{2} = p_1 \\T_2 : & \quad a_0 q_2 + a_2 + \frac{a_4 q_2}{2} = p_2 \\T_3 : & \quad a_2 q_1 + a_4 q_1 = 0 \\T_4 : & \quad a_4 + \frac{a_2 q_2}{2} = 0\end{aligned}$$

Example (6 of 7)

$$p_0 = a_0 - a_4 = -0.607091$$

$$p_1 = 0$$

$$p_2 = \frac{a_2^2 - 2a_0a_4 - a_4^2}{a_2} = -1.06621$$

$$q_1 = 0$$

$$q_2 = -\frac{2a_4}{a_2} = 0.623873$$

Example (6 of 7)

$$p_0 = a_0 - a_4 = -0.607091$$

$$p_1 = 0$$

$$p_2 = \frac{a_2^2 - 2a_0a_4 - a_4^2}{a_2} = -1.06621$$

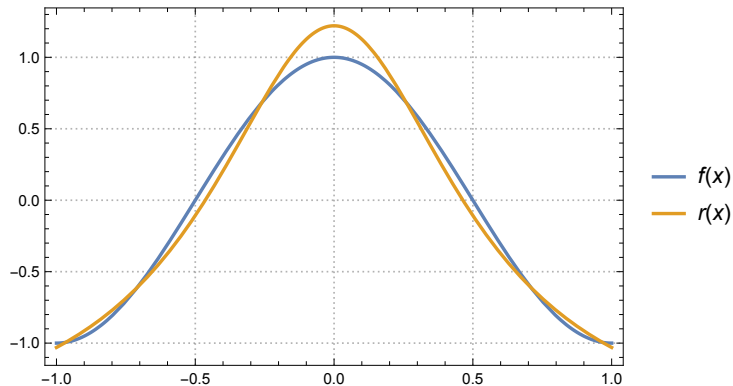
$$q_1 = 0$$

$$q_2 = -\frac{2a_4}{a_2} = 0.623873$$

$$r(x) = \frac{-0.607091 T_0(x) - 1.06621 T_2(x)}{T_0(x) + 0.623873 T_2(x)}$$

Example (7 of 7)

$$r(x) = \frac{-0.607091 T_0(x) - 1.06621 T_2(x)}{T_0(x) + 0.623873 T_2(x)}$$



Homework

- ▶ Read Section 8.4
- ▶ Exercises: 1, 3, 8ac, 11, 14