

HW3 – Due Friday, February 17, start of class
No electronic submissions, only hard copy
Be sure to justify all your answers completely.

1. For $a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = b$ and a function $f \in C[a, b]$, show that the interpolation problem has a unique solution,

$$Q(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n c_j e^{jx}$$

with $Q(x_i) = f(y_i)$ for all i . Hint: reduce to a usual polynomial interpolation problem.

2. Consider the inner product on $C[1, 2]$,

$$\langle f, g \rangle = \int_1^2 f(x)g(x)e^{-x} dx.$$

- (a) Starting with the basis $\{1, x, x^2\}$ for $\mathcal{P}_2[1, 2]$ use Gram-Schmidt to determine the first three orthonormal polynomials on $[1, 2]$ with respect to the inner product.
- (b) Find the order 2 (i.e. quadratic) best least squares approximation for $f(x) = e^x$ on $[1, 2]$ with respect to the given inner product.
3. Let $f(x) = 1/(1 + x^2)$ on $[-5, 5]$.
- (a) Write a program which uses Newton divided differences to find the interpolating polynomial p to f with respect to $n = 10$ uniformly spaced nodes.
- (b) Evaluate $p(.4835)$ and compute the absolute error $|p(.4835) - f(.4835)|$.
4. If $f \in C^{2n+2}[a, b]$ and x_0, \dots, x_n are distinct points in $[a, b]$ and H_{2n+1} is the corresponding Hermite polynomial, show that for $t \in [a, b]$

$$f(t) = H_{2n+1}(t) + \frac{(t - x_0)^2 \dots (t - x_n)^2}{(2n + 2)!} f^{(2n+2)}(\eta)$$

for some $\eta \in [a, b]$. Hint: imitate the proof of the corresponding result for the Lagrange polynomial using $E(x) = f(x) - H_{2n+1}(x)$, $w(x) = (x - x_0) \dots (x - x_n)$, and

$$G(x) = E(x) - \frac{w(x)^2}{w(t)^2} E(t)$$

5. Fix n . For the basic Lagrange polynomials for $k = 0, \dots, n$

$$L_k(x) = \prod_{i \neq k} \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j},$$

show that for all x

$$\sum_{j=0}^n L_j(x) = 1.$$

Hint: don't do brute force algebra.