# MATH661 HW08 - Linear operator approximation

**Posted**: 10/25/23 **Due**: 11/06/23, 11:59PM

The basic idea in linear operator approximation is to apply the exact operator to an approximation of the input. These exercises explore and reinforce this concept.

## 1 Track 1

1. Use Taylor series expansions to verify the approximations

$$f'(t) \cong \frac{1}{12h} [-f(t+2h) + 8f(t+h) - 8f(t-h) + f(t-2h)], \tag{1}$$

$$f'(t) \cong \frac{1}{2h} [-3f(t) + 4f(t+h) - f(t+2h)].$$
<sup>(2)</sup>

Determine the error term. Construct the polynomial approximant  $p_n(t) \cong f(t)$  whose derivative leads to the above formula. Conduct a convergence study as  $h \to 0$  for  $f(t) \in \{\sin(\pi t/4), e^{10t}, e^{-10t}\}$  at  $t_0 = 1$ , and compare the observed order of convergence with the theoretical estimate.

**Solution.** For hand computation, organize Taylor series expansions into a table with c the coefficients from the finite difference formula. Observe that Taylor series terms of even powers in h cancel out, and those of odd powers from -kh simply double those from kh parts of the expansions. The power of h multiplying  $f^{(k)}$  is  $h^{k-1}$ . Observing and exploiting such symmetries reduces the number of calculations considerably.



Deduce leading-order error

$$\varepsilon_1 = -\frac{h^4 f^{(5)}(\xi)}{30}$$

This can be verified in Mathematica.

Series[(-f[t+2h]+8f[t+h]-8f[t-h]+f[t-2h])/(12h), {h, 0, 5}]  
f'[t] - 
$$\frac{1}{30}$$
 f<sup>(5)</sup>[t] h<sup>4</sup> +0[h]<sup>6</sup>

Set origin at t = 0. Formula (1) contains data  $\mathcal{D} = \{(kh, f_k), k = -2, -1, 1, 2\} \cup \{0, f'_0\}$  with  $f_k = f(kh)$ .

for a total of 5 conditions that can be satisfied by polynomial p(t) of degree  $n \ge 4$ .

$$p(-2h) = f_{-2}, p(-h) = f_{-1}, p(h) = f_1, p(2h) = f_2$$
$$p'(0) = f_0' = \frac{1}{12h} [-f_2 + 8f_1 - 8f_{-1} + f_{-2}].$$

This exercise highlights use of the Lagrange form of a Hermite interpolating polynomial with differing types of information at each node. The Lagrange basis functions

$$a_{i}(t) = a_{i}(\alpha h) = [1 - 2(\alpha - i)h\ell_{i}'(ih)]\ell_{i}^{2}(\alpha h), \ b_{0}(t) = b_{0}(\alpha h) = \alpha h \ell_{0}^{2}(\alpha h),$$
$$\ell_{i}(t) = \ell_{i}(\alpha h) = \prod_{k=-2, k\neq 0, i}^{2} \frac{\alpha h - kh}{ih - kh} = \prod_{k=-2, k\neq 0, i}^{2} \frac{\alpha - k}{i - k}, i = -2, -1, 1, 2,$$
$$\ell_{0}(t) = \ell_{0}(\alpha h) = \prod_{k=-2, k\neq 0}^{2} \frac{\alpha h - kh}{(-kh)} = \frac{1}{4}(\alpha^{2} - 1)(\alpha^{2} - 2)$$

satisfy the desired conditions leading to the polynomial

$$p(t) = p(\alpha h) = f_0' b_0(\alpha h) + \sum_{i=-2, i \neq 0}^2 f_i a_i(\alpha h)$$

A similar analysis can be applied to the second formula giving the error term

$$\varepsilon_2 = -\frac{h^2 f^{(3)}(\xi)}{3}.$$

Steps for the convergence study:

- Define the finite difference derivative approximations
- Define the specified study functions
- Define a function to construct the convergence plot by: evaluating the error

$$u_k = \lg(e_k) = \lg |D_{h/2} f - D_h f| \cong p - q \lg h_k$$

for  $h_k = h_0 2^{-k}$ , k = 1, ..., N, extracting the order of convergence p by least squares (linear regression)

$$\boldsymbol{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \lg h \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 2 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ 1 & N \end{bmatrix}; \min_{(p,q)} \left\| \boldsymbol{A} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} - \boldsymbol{u} \right\| \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} p \\ q \end{bmatrix} = \boldsymbol{A} \setminus \boldsymbol{u},$$

and plotting the observed behavior.

```
.: function conv(h0,t,f,D,N,fname,figname)
    df=zeros(N+1,1); u=zeros(N,1); h=h0; lgh=zeros(N+1,1)
    for k=1:N+1
        h=h/2; lgh[k]=log10(h); df[k]=D(t,f,h);
    end
    A=ones(N,2); x=-lgh[1:N]; A[:,2]=x;
    u[1:N]=log10.(abs.(df[2:N+1]-df[1:N]));
    q = floor((A\u)[2]*1000)/1000;
    plot(x,u,"o"); grid("on"); title(figname*"⊔q="*string(q))
    xlabel(L"$-\lg(h)$"); ylabel(L"\lg(e_k)")
    savefig(fname)
    return q
end;
```



**Figure 1.** Convergence study results. Top row for  $f_1(t) = \sin(\pi t/4)$ : (1a) Results exhibit loss of precision as h decreases, and  $q \cong -1$  is affected by error increase for small h; (1b) The first few step sizes after  $h_0 = 1/8$  are not yet in the asymptotic regime, hence the observed order of convergence is q = 3.81, less than the theoretical  $\mathcal{O}(h^4)$  order. (1c) The asymptotic regime is reached at  $h_0 = 1/32$ , and the floating point precision is sufficient up to  $h = h_0/2^4$  to obtain q = 3.94, close to the theoretical order. Second row: (2a) Again for  $h_0 = 1/32$  to  $h = h_0/2^8$  the observed order for  $f_2(t) = \exp(10t)$  is q = 3.9, close to the theoretical prediction. The amplification of  $||f_2||_{\infty} \approx e^{10} \approx 2.2 \times 10^4$  allows more accurate significant digits in floating point, but the overall precision is small (2b) The same h range for  $f_3$  with  $||f_3|| \approx 4 \times 10^{-5}$  not only achieves predicted order of accuracy, q = 3.97, but also much better accuracy with machine precision  $\epsilon \approx 10^{-16}$  achieved when  $h = 1/32/2^8 \cong 10^{-4}$ . (2c) Second finite difference formula results for  $f_1(\bullet)$ ,  $f_2(\bullet)$ ,  $f_3(\bullet)$ . The observed order of concegnece is close to the theoretical  $\mathcal{O}(h^2)$  in all cases, albeit with different overall errors.

figdir=homedir()*"/courses/MATH661/homework/H08/";
clf(); h0=1; t0=1; conv(h0,t0,f1,D1,20,figdir*"H08Fig1a.png","Fig1a");
.: clf(); h0=1/8; conv(h0,t0,f1,D1,7,figdir*"H08Fig1b.png","Fig1b");
clf(); h0=1/32; conv(h0,t0,f1,D1,4,figdir*"H08Fig1c.png","Fig1c");
clf(); h0=1/32; conv(h0,t0,f2,D1,8,figdir*"H08Fig1d.png","Fig1d");
clf(); h0=1/32; conv(h0,t0,f3,D1,8,figdir*"H08Fig1e.png","Fig1e");
clf(); h0=1/32; conv(h0,t0,f1,D2,8,figdir*"H08Fig1f.png","Fig1f");
h0=1/32; conv(h0,t0,f2,D2,8,figdir*"H08Fig1f.png","Fig1f");
∴ h0=1/32; conv(h0,t0,f3,D2,8,figdir*"H08Fig1f.png","Fig1f");

### 2. As above for

$$\begin{split} f^{\prime\prime}(t) &\cong \frac{1}{12h^2} [-f(t+2h) + 16f(t+h) - 30f(t) + 16f(t-h) - f(t-2h)] \\ \\ f^{\prime\prime\prime}(t) &\cong \frac{1}{h^3} [f(t+3h) - 3f(t+2h) + 3f(t+h) - f(t)]. \end{split}$$

**Solution.** Symbolic computation in Mathematica readily gives  $\mathcal{O}(h^4)$ ,  $\mathcal{O}(h)$  behavior respectively.

Series 
$$\left[ \left( -f[t+2h] + 16f[t+h] - 30f[t] + 16f[t-h] - f[t-2h] \right) / (12h^2), \{h, 0, 5\} \right]$$
  
f"[t]  $-\frac{1}{90} f^{(6)}[t] h^4 + 0[h]^6$ 

Series 
$$\left[ \left( f[t+3h] - 3f[t+2h] + 3f[t+h] - f[t] \right) / \left(h^3\right), \{h, 0, 3\} \right]$$
  
 $f^{(3)}[t] + \frac{3}{2} f^{(4)}[t]h + \frac{5}{4} f^{(5)}[t]h^2 + \frac{3}{4} f^{(6)}[t]h^3 + 0[h]^4$ 

• Define the finite difference derivative approximations



**Figure 2.** Convergence study results. Left: f'' formula results for  $f_1(\bullet)$ ,  $f_2(\bullet)$ ,  $f_3(\bullet)$ , fourth order achieved for certain h ranges. Right: f''' formula results for  $f_1(\bullet)$ ,  $f_2(\bullet)$ ,  $f_3(\bullet)$ , with  $q \leq 1$ 

3. Construct a recursive function RecInt(a,b,err,f,Q) that has arguments scalars a, b, err and functions f, Q and approximates

$$I(f) = \int_{a}^{b} f(t) \, \mathrm{d}t$$

through repeated application of quadrature rule Q(f, a, b) according to the algorithm

## Algorithm Recursive quadrature

$$\begin{split} &\operatorname{RecInt}(\mathbf{a},\mathbf{b},\operatorname{err},\mathbf{f},\mathbf{Q})\\ &c=a+(b-a)/2\\ &Q_{\mathrm{ab}}=Q(f,a,b); Q_{\mathrm{ac}}=Q(f,a,c); Q_{\mathrm{cb}}=Q(f,c,b)\\ &e=|Q_{\mathrm{ac}}+Q_{\mathrm{cb}}-Q_{\mathrm{ab}}|/|Q_{\mathrm{ac}}+Q_{\mathrm{cb}}|\\ &\text{if }e<\operatorname{err}\\ &\operatorname{return}\ Q_{\mathrm{ac}}+Q_{\mathrm{cb}}\\ &\text{else}\\ &\operatorname{return}\ \operatorname{RecInt}(\mathbf{a},\mathbf{c},\operatorname{err},\mathbf{f},\mathbf{Q})+\operatorname{RecInt}(\mathbf{c},\mathbf{b},\operatorname{err},\mathbf{f},\mathbf{Q}) \end{split}$$

Test the recursive integration procedure with trapezoid, Simpson, and Gauss-Legendre rules of orders 2,3 on the integral

$$\int_{-1}^{1} \cos\left(\frac{1}{t}\right)$$

For each case, present plots of the integrand and the evaluation points used in the recursive quadrature algorithm. Construct convergence plots by executing the algorithm for various error thresholds  $\varepsilon_k$  and recording the number of evaluation points  $n_k$ . Plot  $(\log n_k, \log \varepsilon_k)$  and comment on whether the observed order of convergence is that predicted by theoretical quadrature error estimates.

#### Solution. Define:

• Recursive quadrature procedure

```
.: function RecInt(a,b,eps,f,Q,level)
global nf,nmax,lmax
c=a+(b-a)/2; Qab=Q(a,b,f); Qac=Q(a,c,f); Qcb=Q(c,b,f)
new=Qac+Qcb; old=Qab;
if nf > nmax/2 return new end
if level > lmax return new end
err=abs((new-old)/new)
if err<eps
return new
else
return RecInt(a,c,eps,f,Q,level+1)+RecInt(c,b,eps,f,Q,level+1)
end
end;</pre>
```

Quadrature rules:

• Trapezoid

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(t) \, \mathrm{d}t = \frac{b-a}{2} [f(a) + f(b)].$$

```
∴ function trapezoid(a,b,f)
    return 0.5*(b-a)*(f(a)+f(b))
    end;
```

• Simpson

$$\int_a^b f(t) \, \mathrm{d}t = \frac{b-a}{6} \bigg[ f(a) + 4f \bigg( \frac{a+b}{2} \bigg) + f(b) \bigg]$$

```
... function simpson(a,b,f)
    return (b-a)/6 * (f(a)+4*f(0.5*(a+b))+f(b))
    end;
```

• Gauss-Legendre 2

$$\int_{-1}^{1} f(t) \, \mathrm{d}t = f(-\sqrt{3}) + f(\sqrt{3}).$$

```
.: function gl2(a,b,f)
s=(b-a)/2; z(t)=s*(t+1)+a; s3=sqrt(1/3);
return s*(f(z(-s3))+f(z(s3)))
end;
...
```

• Gauss-Legendre 3

$$\int_{-1}^{1} f(t) \, \mathrm{d}t = \frac{5}{9} f\left(-\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}}\right) + \frac{8}{9} f(0) + \frac{5}{9} f\left(\sqrt{\frac{3}{5}}\right)$$

```
∴ function gl3(a,b,f)
s=(b-a)/2; z(t)=s*(t+1)+a; s35=sqrt(3/5); w1=5/9; w0=8/9
return s*(w1*f(z(-s35)) + w0*f(z(0)) + w1*f(z(s35)))
end;
```

• Define the integrand. Each time the integrand is called record the evaluation point and increment a counter of function evaluations. The integrand is singular at t = 0, but over an interval of measure zero in the limit. Hence setting the integrand value to zero at t = 0 does not affect the integral value. Also define a simpler integrand g for overall testing.

```
: function f(t)
    global nf,tvals,fvals
     if abs(t)<1.0e-6
      fval=0.
     else
      fval=cos(1/t)
    end
    nf = nf+1; tvals[nf]=t; fvals[nf]=fval
    return fval
  end;
\therefore function g(t)
    global nf,tvals,fvals
    fval = cos(t)
    nf = nf+1; tvals[nf]=t; fvals[nf]=fval
    return fval
  end;
```

 $\circ$   $\,$  Initialize function evaluation counter, values, call the routine for simple integrand



Figure 3. For integrand  $g(t) = \cos(t)$  function evaluation points are close to an equidistant interval partition. Three accurate digits ( $\varepsilon < 10^{-3}$ ) are attained with  $n_f = 186,27,18,9$  function evaluations, highlighting the effectiveness of high-order quadrature.

• Initialize function evaluation counter, values, call the routine for singular integrand

$$\int_{1}^{-1} \cos(1/t) \, \mathrm{d}t = 2 - \pi + \int_{0}^{1} \frac{\sin t}{t} \, \mathrm{d}t \approx -0.1688$$

$$\int_0^{\pi/2} \cos(t) \,\mathrm{d}t = 1$$



**Figure 4.** For integrand  $f(t) = \cos(1/t)$  function evaluation points are clustered in regions of rapid variation of the function. Within a limit on the number of function evaluation  $n_f \cong 5 \times 10^5$ , only the GL3 quadrature gives a value of -0.16 with two accurate digits. This example highlights both recursive quadrature and the need for specialized numerical quadrature procedures for highly oscillatory or singular integrands.



# 2 Track 2

1. Use the finite difference expressions of the derivative

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{h} \left( \Delta - \frac{1}{2} \Delta^2 + \dots \right) = \frac{1}{h} \left( \nabla + \frac{1}{2} \nabla^2 + \dots \right) = \frac{1}{h} \left( \delta - \frac{\delta^3}{24} + \dots \right)$$

to obtain the approximations.

$$\begin{split} f'(t) &\cong \frac{1}{12h} [-f(t+2h) + 8f(t+h) - 8f(t-h) + f(t-2h)] \\ f'(t) &\cong \frac{1}{2h} [-3f(t) + 4f(t+h) - f(t+2h)]. \end{split}$$

Conduct a convergence study as  $h \to 0$  for  $f(t) \in \{\sin(\pi t / 4), e^{10t}, e^{-10t}\}$  at  $t_0 = 1$ , and compare the observed order of convergence with theoretical estimates. How do the three functions differ, and what effect does this have on derivative approximation?

**Solution.** See Track 1 above for the standard convergence study. The Track 2 aspect of this exercise is to highlight how research problems arise.

The results

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{h}\ln(I+\Delta) = -\frac{1}{h}\ln(I-\nabla) = \frac{2}{h}\operatorname{arcsinh}\left(\frac{\delta}{2}\right),$$
$$\Delta = E - I \ \nabla = I - E^{-1} \ \delta = E^{1/2} - E^{-1/2}$$

indicate multiple ways to express the differentiation operator D = d / dt in terms of the translation operator E. One consideration in constructing finite difference approximations of a derivative is the number of function sample points, known as the stencil size. For example, a fourth order accurate formula is obtained with a stencil size of 5 from  $hD = \ln(I + \Delta)$ , using sample points t + kh, k = 0, 1, ..., 4. The formula

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}f(t) \cong \frac{1}{12h}(-E^2 + 8E - 8E^{-1} + E^2)f(t),$$

is of fourth order accuracy, but has a stencil size of 4. This suggests exploring what additional expressions of D in terms of functions of  $E, \Delta, \nabla, \delta$  might be found. This is also the typical research scenario: when a result does not conform to known theory, seek extensions of the theory.

Carry out calculations to obtain the requested approximation of the derivative in terms of finite differences

$$D = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{(E - E^{-1})}{12h} [8I - (E + E^{-1})] = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{h} \left( \Delta - \frac{1}{6} \Delta^2 \right) + \frac{1}{h} \left( \nabla + \frac{1}{6} \nabla^2 \right) \right].$$

This suggests an average of one-sided finite differences, truncated to first two terms,

$$D = \frac{1}{2}(F+B), F = \frac{1}{h} \left( \Delta - \frac{1}{6} \Delta^2 + \cdots \right), B = \frac{1}{h} \left( \nabla + \frac{1}{6} \nabla^2 + \cdots \right)$$

Take an additional research step and ask how the above may be extended. Can a function be found from the first few terms of its power series? Consider the following Mathematica result relevant for  $hD = \ln(I - \nabla)$ .

FindGeneratingFunction[{1, 1 / 2, 1 / 3, 1 / 4}, t]
- Log[1 - t]
t

The generating function has been found using only 4 terms. Extra credit (4 pts). Can you find generating functions for F, B?

## 2. As above for

$$\begin{split} f^{\prime\prime}(t) &\cong \frac{1}{12h^2} [-f(t+2h) + 16f(t+h) - 30f(t) + 16f(t-h) - f(t-2h)], \\ f^{\prime\prime\prime}(t) &\cong \frac{1}{h^3} [f(t+3h) - 3f(t+2h) + 3f(t+h) - f(t)]. \end{split}$$

Use the series products

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}^2}{\mathrm{d}t^2} = \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} \frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t} = \frac{1}{h^2} \left( \Delta - \frac{1}{2} \Delta^2 + \dots \right) \left( \Delta - \frac{1}{2} \Delta^2 + \dots \right).$$

Solution. As above.

3. Romberg integration is a combination of trapezoid quadrature over decreasing subintervals and Aitken extrapolation. Implement Romberg integration and test on

$$\int_0^1 e^t \cos(\pi t) \,\mathrm{d}t.$$

Present a convergence sutdy. What is the observed order of convergence?

Solution.