

**Final Examination, 1998 Fall**

**MEAM 501 Analytical Methods in Mechanics and Mechanical Engineering**

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1. What is the Legendre polynomial in an interval  $(-1,1)$ ? Give its definition and major properties.

The Legendre polynomials  $L_i(x)$  are orthogonal polynomials obtained from the polynomial basis functions  $1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^n, \dots$  with respect to the inner product

$$(f, g) = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)g(x)dx .$$

The polynomial  $L_i(x)$  is the  $i$  degree polynomial and it possesses the  $i$  number of distinct roots in the interval  $(-1,1)$ .

2. For a set of given  $n+1$  points  $x_1 < x_2 < x_3 < \dots < x_n < x_{n+1}$  in the interval  $(a,b)$ , define the Lagrange polynomials  $L_i(x)$ , and state their major properties. As a special cases, give the Lagrange polynomials (a) for  $n = 1$ , and  $x_1 = -1, x_2 = +1$ , and (b) for  $n = 2$ , and  $x_1 = -1, x_2 = 0, x_3 = +1$ , and compute  $\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} L_i(x)$ .

Lagrange polynomials are  $n$  degree polynomials defined by

$$L_i(x) = \frac{(x-x_1)\dots(x-x_{i-1})(x-x_{i+1})\dots(x-x_{n+1})}{(x_i-x_1)\dots(x_i-x_{i-1})(x_i-x_{i+1})\dots(x_i-x_{n+1})} = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^{n+1} \frac{x-x_j}{x_i-x_j}$$

such that

$$L_i(x_j) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } i = j \\ 0 & \text{if } i \neq j \end{cases}.$$

Therefore, they can be used for interpolation of a function. Furthermore, we have

$$(a) \quad \begin{aligned} L_1(x) &= \frac{x-x_2}{x_1-x_2} = \frac{1}{2}(1-x) \quad , \quad L_2(x) = \frac{x-x_1}{x_2-x_1} = \frac{1}{2}(1+x) \\ L_1(x) + L_2(x) &= \frac{x-x_2}{x_1-x_2} + \frac{x-x_1}{x_2-x_1} = 1 \end{aligned}$$

$$(b) \quad \begin{aligned} L_1(x) &= \frac{1}{2}x(x-1) \quad , \quad L_2(x) = 1-x^2 \quad , \quad L_3(x) = \frac{1}{2}x(x+1) \\ L_1(x) + L_2(x) + L_3(x) &= \frac{1}{2}x(x-1) + 1-x^2 + \frac{1}{2}x(x+1) = 1 \end{aligned}$$

3. Suppose that a curve is defined by four data,  $f(0)$ ,  $\frac{df}{dx}(0)$ ,  $f(1)$ , and  $\frac{df}{dx}(1)$ , which are the values of the function and its first derivative at the two end points of the interval  $(0,1)$ . Obtain a cubic polynomial  $f(s)$  that is determined by these four data. It is noted that such a cubic polynomial is called the Hermite cubic polynomial.

$$f(s) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & s & s^2 & s^3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{Bmatrix} \quad , \quad f'(s) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2s & 3s^2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{Bmatrix} f(0) \\ f'(0) \\ f(1) \\ f'(1) \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{Bmatrix} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \begin{Bmatrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ c_3 \\ c_4 \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{Bmatrix} f(0) \\ f'(0) \\ f(1) \\ f'(1) \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
f(s) &= \begin{Bmatrix} 1 & s & s^2 & s^3 \end{Bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{Bmatrix} f(0) \\ f'(0) \\ f(1) \\ f'(1) \end{Bmatrix} \\
&= \begin{Bmatrix} 1-3s^2+2s^3 & s-2s^2s^3 & 3s^2-2s^3 & -s^2+s^3 \end{Bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} f(0) \\ f'(0) \\ f(1) \\ f'(1) \end{Bmatrix}
\end{aligned}$$

4. Define the Bezier spline with  $n+1$  control points  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{n+1}$ .

$$x = \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} x_i B_i^n(x) \quad , \quad B_i^n(x) = \frac{1}{(i-1)!(n-i+1)!} x^{i-1} (1-x)^{n-i+1}$$

5. The position vector of an arbitrary point  $P$  of a curve  $C$  on a two dimensional plane is

given by a parametric form  $\mathbf{r}(x) = \begin{Bmatrix} x(x) \\ y(x) \end{Bmatrix}$ , where  $x$  is a parametric coordinate in  $(0,1)$ .

Suppose that a coordinate  $s$  is defined along the curve, and let  $s$  be zero at the point defined by  $x = 0$ , while its value is set as the total length  $L$  of the curve at the other end of the curve defined by  $x = 1$ . (a) Establish the relation between  $s$  and  $x$ . (b) How to compute the total length of the curve? (c) How to define the unit tangent vector  $\mathbf{t}$ ? (d) What is the unit normal vector  $\mathbf{n}$ ? (e) State a way to calculate the curvature?

(a) Noting that  $ds = \sqrt{d\mathbf{r} \bullet d\mathbf{r}} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dx}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx$ , we have the relation

$$s = \int_0^x ds = \int_0^x \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dx}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx$$

$$(b) \quad L = \int_0^1 ds = \int_0^1 \sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dx}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2} dx$$

(c) A unit tangent vector is given by

$$\mathbf{t} = \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{ds} = \frac{dx}{ds} \frac{d\mathbf{r}}{dx} = \frac{\frac{dx}{dx} \mathbf{e}_x + \frac{dy}{dx} \mathbf{e}_y}{\sqrt{\left(\frac{dx}{dx}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^2}}, \quad \mathbf{e}_x, \mathbf{e}_y \text{ are the unit vectors along the x and y axes.}$$

(d) Noting that the tangent vector  $\mathbf{t}$  is unit, we have

$$\mathbf{t} \bullet \mathbf{t} = 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \bullet \mathbf{t} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \perp \mathbf{t} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{n} = \frac{\frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds}}{\left\| \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \right\|} = \frac{\frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds}}{\sqrt{\frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \bullet \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds}}}$$

(e) Curvature is defined by

$$\frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \perp \mathbf{t} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} = k\mathbf{n} \quad \Rightarrow \quad k = \left\| \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \right\| = \sqrt{\frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds} \bullet \frac{d\mathbf{t}}{ds}}$$

6. State the Gauss-Legendre quadrature.

Integration of a function  $f$  defined on the interval  $(-1, +1)$  is approximated by the summation of a linear combination of the weights  $w_i$  and the values of the function at the quadrature points  $x_i$  which are the roots of the  $n$  degree Legendre polynomial  $L_n(x)$  defined on the interval  $(-1, +1)$ :

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

This quadrature can integrate  $2n - 1$  degree polynomials exactly.

7. *What is the necessary condition of the following minimization problem:*

$$\min_{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^n} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{b} \quad , \quad \mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n} , \mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{R}^n .$$

$$\begin{aligned} dF(\mathbf{x})(\mathbf{y}) &= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial}{\partial a} F(\mathbf{x} + a\mathbf{y}) = \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{x} + a\mathbf{y})^T \mathbf{A} (\mathbf{x} + a\mathbf{y}) - (\mathbf{x} + a\mathbf{y})^T \mathbf{b} \right\} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{y} - \mathbf{y}^T \mathbf{b} = \mathbf{y}^T \left\{ \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} \right\} = 0 \quad , \quad \forall \mathbf{y} \end{aligned}$$

therefore, the necessary condition becomes the matrix equation

$$\frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{A}^T) \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

8. *Define the Lagrangian  $L$  to the following constrained minimization problem*

$$\min_{\substack{\mathbf{x} \in \mathbf{R}^2 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 \leq 1}} \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{b} \quad , \quad \mathbf{x} = \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{Bmatrix} , \mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} , \mathbf{b} = \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

*,and find the necessary condition of the mini-max problem associated to the Lagrangian  $L$  defined.*

$$\begin{aligned}
L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) &= \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^T \mathbf{b} - \lambda ([1 \ 2] \mathbf{x} - 1) \\
&= \frac{1}{2} \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{Bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{Bmatrix} - \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 \end{Bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{Bmatrix} - \lambda \left( \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{Bmatrix} - 1 \right)
\end{aligned}$$

From  $L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda) \leq L(\mathbf{dx}, \lambda)$ ,  $\forall \mathbf{dx}$  we have

$$\mathbf{dx}^T \left\{ \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \mathbf{b} - \lambda \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{Bmatrix} \right\} = 0, \quad \forall \mathbf{dx} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \lambda \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{Bmatrix} = \mathbf{b}$$

From  $L(\mathbf{x}, d\lambda) \leq L(\mathbf{x}, \lambda)$ ,  $\forall d\lambda \leq 0$ , we have

$$(d\lambda - \lambda) ([1 \ 2] \mathbf{x} - 1) \geq 0, \quad \forall d\lambda \leq 0$$

Combining these two, we have the necessary condition of the mini-max problem for the Lagrangian:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbf{A} \mathbf{x} - \lambda \begin{Bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{Bmatrix} &= \mathbf{b} \\
(d\lambda - \lambda) ([1 \ 2] \mathbf{x} - 1) &\geq 0, \quad \forall d\lambda \leq 0
\end{aligned}$$

9. Find the first variation of the functional  $F$  defined by

$$F(v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \left\{ EA \left( \frac{dv}{dx} \right)^2 + kv^2 - 2fv \right\} dx + \frac{1}{2} k_0 \left\{ v \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) \right\}^2 - P_L v(L)$$

for given functions  $EA, k$ , and  $f$ , and constants  $k_0, P_L$ , and  $L$ .

$$\begin{aligned}
dF(u)(v) &= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial}{\partial a} F(u + av) \\
&= \lim_{a \rightarrow 0} \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \left[ \frac{1}{2} \int_0^L \left\{ EA \left( \frac{du}{dx} + a \frac{dv}{dx} \right)^2 + k(u + av)^2 - 2f(u + av) \right\} dx \right. \\
&\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} k_0 \left\{ u \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) + av \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) \right\}^2 - P_L \{u(L) + av(L)\} \right] \\
&= \int_0^L \left\{ EA \frac{du}{dx} \frac{dv}{dx} + kuv - 2fv \right\} dx + k_0 u \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) v \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) - P_L v(L)
\end{aligned}$$

10. *If a minimization problem*

$$\min_{v \in K} F(v) \quad , \quad K = \{v \in V \mid v(0) = 1\}$$

where  $V$  is a linear space of all piecewise continuously differentiable functions defined on the interval  $(0, L)$ , is considered for the functional  $F$  defined in Problem 9, find the necessary condition.

$$\begin{aligned}
dF(u)(v - u) &= \int_0^L \left\{ EA \frac{du}{dx} \frac{d(v - u)}{dx} + ku(v - u) - 2f(v - u) \right\} dx \\
&+ k_0 u \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) \left( v \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) - u \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) \right) - P_L (v(L) - u(L)) \geq 0 \quad , \quad \forall v \in K
\end{aligned}$$

Noting that

$$v = u \pm du \quad , \quad \forall du \text{ s.t. } du(0) = 0$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mathrm{d}F(u)(\mathrm{d}u) = \int_0^L \left\{ EA \frac{du}{dx} \frac{d\mathrm{d}u}{dx} + ku\mathrm{d}u - 2f\mathrm{d}u \right\} dx + k_0 u \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) \mathrm{d}u \left( \frac{L}{2} \right) - P_L \mathrm{d}u(L) = 0 \\ , \quad \forall \mathrm{d}u \text{ s.t. } \mathrm{d}u(0) = 0 \end{aligned}$$