

CPSC 303

- Differences

- Divided Differences

← Main technical tool in Ch. 10

Where do:

$$f[x_0, x_1] = \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$$

$$f[x_0, x_1, x_2] = \frac{f[x_1, x_2] - f[x_0, x_1]}{x_2 - x_0}$$

come from ?

=

Differences:

| | | | | | | | |
|---------------------------|----|----|----|----|---|-------|---|
| x | -3 | -2 | -1 | 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| $f(x) = x^2$ | 9 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 9 |
| (1 st Diff)(f) | | -5 | -3 | -1 | 1 | 4-1=3 | 5 |

"Difference C_p "

$$(Df)(x) = f(x+1) - f(x)$$

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|---|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| | 9 | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 | 9 |
| (1 st Diff)(f)(x) | | -5 | -3 | -1 | 1 | 3 | 5 |

← (Df)(x)

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|
| (2 nd Diff)(f)(x) | | | 2 | 2 | 2 | 2 | - |
|------------------------------|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|

| | | | | | | | |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|
| (3 rd Diff)(f)(x) | | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
|------------------------------|--|--|--|---|---|---|---|

(D³f)(x)

$$y_{-2} \quad y_{-1} \quad y_0 \quad y_1 \quad y_2 \quad y_3$$

$$4 \quad 1 \quad 0 \quad 1 \quad 4 \quad 9 \quad \dots$$

$$-3 \quad -1 \quad 1 \quad 3 \quad 5$$

$$\uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow \quad \uparrow$$

1st Diff $y_{-1}-y_0 \quad y_1-y_0 \quad y_2-y_1 \quad y_3-y_2$

2nd Diff $(y_1-y_0) - (y_0-y_{-1})$

$(y_1 - 2y_0 + y_{-1})$ next $(y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0)$

3rd Diff $(y_2 - 3y_1 + 3y_0 - y_{-1})$

(3rd Diff) $(x \mapsto x^2) = 0$

" $(n \mapsto n^2) = 0 \Rightarrow y_{n+3} - 3y_{n+2} + 3y_{n+1} - y_n = 0$

$$y_{n+1} - y_n$$

$$(n+1)^2 - n^2 = (n^2 + 2n + 1) - n^2 = 2n + 1$$

(Diff) $(n \mapsto n^2) = 2n + \text{lower order}$

" $(n \mapsto n^3) = (n+1)^3 - n^3 = 3n^2 + 3n + 1$

$= 3n^2 + \text{lower}$

... 9 4 1 0 1 4 9 ...

1st Diff ... -5 -3 -1 1 3 5 7 ... } $2n + \text{lower}$

2nd Diff ... 2 2 2 2 2 2 ... } 2

$$(\text{Diff})(n^2) = 2n + \text{lower}$$

$$(\text{Diff})^2(n^2) = (\text{Diff})(\underbrace{2n + \text{lower}}_{\text{const}}) = 2$$

... -2 -1 0 1 2 3 4 5 ...

$3n+5$... -1 2 5 8 11 14 17 ...

Diff ... 3 3 3 3 3 3 3 ...

Diff² ... 0 0 0 0 0 0 ...

$$\text{Diff}(y_n) = y_{n+1} - y_n$$

$$\text{Diff}^2(y_n) = \text{Diff}(y_{n+1}) - \text{Diff}(y_n)$$

$$= (y_{n+2} - y_{n+1}) - (y_{n+1} - y_n)$$

$$= y_{n+2} - 2y_{n+1} + y_n$$

if $\text{Diff}^2 = 0$, then
for all n

$$y_{n+2} - 2y_{n+1} + y_n = 0$$

for all n

(3 term recurrence)



"Differences"

We need "Divided Differences" ...

Question: x : -5 -2 0 1 3 4 9 10

$f(x) = x^2$: 25 4 0 1 9 16 81 100

Diff: ☹️ -19 -4 1 8 7 65 19

Can we correct "differences" for points that are not equally spaced ...

Answer: $f(x_1) - f(x_0) \rightsquigarrow \frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$

==

x : -5 -2 0 1 3 4 9 10

$f(x) = 3x + 2$: -13 -4 2 5 11 14 29 32

Diff: 9 6 3 6 3 15 3

Diff in
 x values

3 2 1 2 1 5 1

x : -5 -2 0 1 3 4 9 10

x : -5 -2 0 1 3 4 9 10

$f(x) = 3x + 2$: -13 -4 2 5 11 14 29 32

(Divided)
Diff:

... 3 3 3 3 3 ...

| | | |
|----------|----------|-------------------------------------|
| x_0 | x_1 | Div Diff, |
| $f(x_0)$ | $f(x_1)$ | $\frac{f(x_1) - f(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$ |

Remark: If we assume "divided" difference form

| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| $x = -1$ | $x = 0$ | $x = 1$ | $x = 2$ |
| $x^2 = 1$ | $x^2 = 0$ | $x^2 = 1$ | $x^2 = 4$ |
| 1 | 0 | 1 | 4 |

Diff -1 1 3

Diff² 2 2 2 2

2nd Div Diff $x_{n+2} - x_n = 2$ 1 1 1 1

Go back x -3 -2 0 1 3 4

x^2 9 4 0 1 9 16

1st Div Diff $\frac{4-9}{-2-(-3)}$ $\frac{0-4}{0-(-2)}$ $\frac{1}{1}$ $\frac{9-1}{3-1}$ $\frac{16-9}{4-3}$

-5 -2 1 4 7

$x_1 = 1$ $x_2 = 3$ $x_1 = 4$
 $x_0 = 0$ $x_1 = 1$ $x_0 = 3$

$\frac{4-1}{3-1}$
 need 3 $\leftarrow x_2 - x_0 = 3$