

# Differentiation-Discrete Functions

Mechanical Engineering Majors

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# Differentiation – Continuous Discrete Functions

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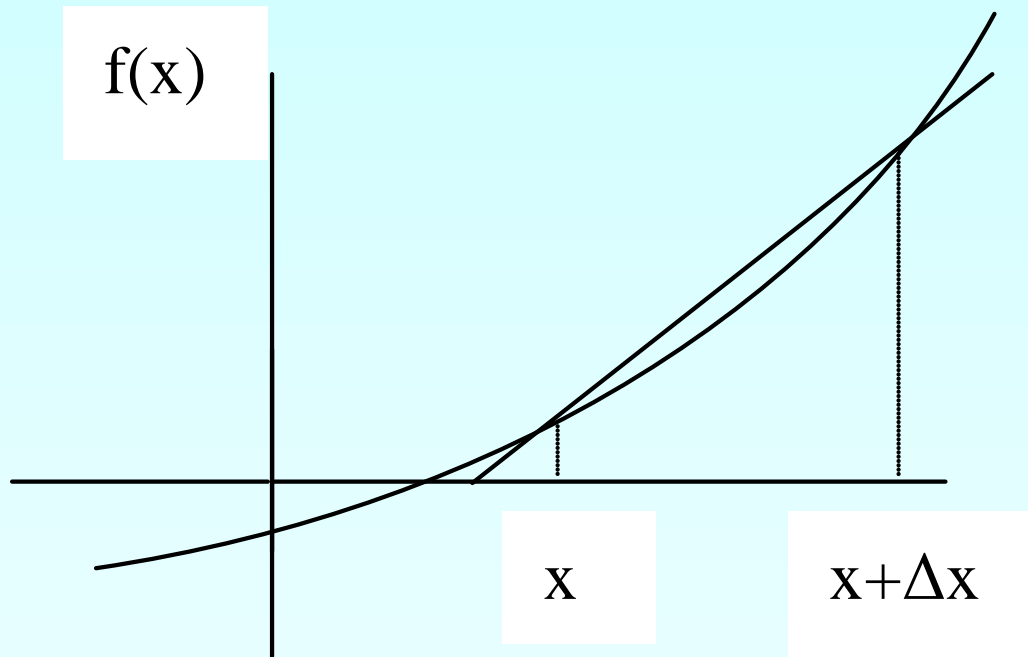
# Forward Difference Approximation

$$f'(x) = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

For a finite ' $\Delta x$ '

$$f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x}$$

# Graphical Representation Of Forward Difference Approximation



**Figure 1** Graphical Representation of forward difference approximation of first derivative.



# Example 1

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To find contraction of a steel cylinder immersed in a bath of liquid nitrogen, one needs to know the thermal expansion coefficient data as a function of temperature. This data is given for steel in Table 1.

- a) Is the rate of change of coefficient of thermal expansion with respect to temperature more at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  than at  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ ?
- b) The data given in Table 1 can be regressed to  $\alpha = a_0 + a_1T + a_2T^2$  to get  $\alpha = 6.0216 \times 10^{-6} + 6.2790 \times 10^{-9}T - 1.2215 \times 10^{-11}T^2$ . Compare the results with part (a) if you used the regression curve to find the rate of change of the coefficient of thermal expansion with respect to temperature at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  and at  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .



# Example 1 Cont.

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**Table 1** Coefficient of thermal expansion as a function of temperature.

Temperature, T (°F)	Coefficient of thermal expansion, $\alpha$ (in/in/°F)
80	$6.47 \times 10^{-6}$
40	$6.24 \times 10^{-6}$
-40	$5.72 \times 10^{-6}$
-120	$5.09 \times 10^{-6}$
-200	$4.30 \times 10^{-6}$
-280	$3.33 \times 10^{-6}$
-340	$2.45 \times 10^{-6}$

# Example 1 Cont.

## Solution

a) Using the forward divided difference approximation method at  $T = 80^{\circ}F$ ,

$$\frac{d\alpha(T_i)}{dT} \approx \frac{\alpha(T_{i+1}) - \alpha(T_i)}{\Delta T}$$

$$T_i = 80$$

$$\Delta T = -40$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{i+1} &= T_i + \Delta T \\ &= 80 + (-40) \\ &= 40 \end{aligned}$$

# Example 1 Cont.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\alpha(80)}{dT} &\approx \frac{\alpha(40) - \alpha(80)}{-40} \\ &\approx \frac{6.24 \times 10^{-6} - 6.47 \times 10^{-6}}{40} \\ &\approx 5.75 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2\end{aligned}$$

Using backwards divided difference approximation method at  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ ,

$$\frac{d\alpha(T_i)}{dT} \approx \frac{\alpha(T_i) - \alpha(T_{i-1})}{\Delta T}$$

$$T_i = -340$$

$$\Delta T = -60$$

$$\begin{aligned}T_{i-1} &= T_i - \Delta T \\ &= -340 - (-60) \\ &= -280\end{aligned}$$



# Example 1 Cont.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\alpha(-340)}{dT} &\approx \frac{\alpha(-340) - \alpha(-280)}{-60} \\ &\approx \frac{2.45 \times 10^{-6} - 3.33 \times 10^{-6}}{-60} \\ &\approx 0.14667 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2\end{aligned}$$

From the above two results it is clear that the rate of change of coefficient of thermal expansion is more at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  than at  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .

b) Given  $\alpha = 6.0216 \times 10^{-6} + 6.2790 \times 10^{-9}T - 1.2215 \times 10^{-11}T^2$

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dT} = 6.279 \times 10^{-9} - 2.443 \times 10^{-11}T$$

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\alpha(80)}{dT} &= 6.279 \times 10^{-9} - 2.443 \times 10^{-11}(80) \\ &= 4.3246 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2\end{aligned}$$

# Example 1 Cont.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\alpha(-340)}{dT} &= 6.279 \times 10^{-9} - 2.443 \times 10^{-11}(-340) \\ &= 0.14585 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2\end{aligned}$$

**Table 2** Summary of change in coefficient of thermal expansion using different approximations.

Temperature, $T_i$	Change in Coefficient of Thermal Expansion, $\frac{d\alpha}{dT}(T_i)$	
	Divided Difference Approximation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Polynomial Regression
$80^\circ\text{F}$	$5.75 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$	$4.3246 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$
$-340^\circ\text{F}$	$0.14667 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$	$0.14585 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$

# Direct Fit Polynomials

In this method, given ' $n + 1$ ' data points  $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$

one can fit a  $n^{\text{th}}$  order polynomial given by

$$P_n(x) = a_0 + a_1x + \dots + a_{n-1}x^{n-1} + a_nx^n$$

To find the first derivative,

$$P'_n(x) = \frac{dP_n(x)}{dx} = a_1 + 2a_2x + \dots + (n-1)a_{n-1}x^{n-2} + na_nx^{n-1}$$

Similarly other derivatives can be found.

# Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials

To find contraction of a steel cylinder immersed in a bath of liquid nitrogen, one needs to know the thermal expansion coefficient data as a function of temperature. This data is given for steel in Table 3.

- a) Using the third order polynomial interpolant, find the change in coefficient of thermal expansion at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  and  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .
- b) The data given in Table 3 can be regressed to  $\alpha = a_0 + a_1T + a_2T^2$  to get  $\alpha = 6.0216 \times 10^{-6} + 6.2790 \times 10^{-9}T - 1.2215 \times 10^{-11}T^2$ . Compare the results with part (a) if you used the regression curve to find the rate of change of the coefficient of thermal expansion with respect to temperature at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  and  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .



## Example 2 Cont.

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**Table 3** Coefficient of thermal expansion as a function of temperature.

Temperature, T (°F)	Coefficient of thermal expansion, $\alpha$ (in/in/°F)
80	$6.47 \times 10^{-6}$
40	$6.24 \times 10^{-6}$
-40	$5.72 \times 10^{-6}$
-120	$5.09 \times 10^{-6}$
-200	$4.30 \times 10^{-6}$
-280	$3.33 \times 10^{-6}$
-340	$2.45 \times 10^{-6}$



## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

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### Solution

For the third order polynomial interpolation (also called cubic interpolation), we choose the coefficient of thermal expansion given by

$$\alpha(t) = a_0 + a_1T + a_2T^2 + a_3T^3$$

a) Change in Thermal Expansion Coefficient at  $80^{\circ}F$  :

Since we want to find the rate of change in the thermal expansion coefficient at  $T = 80^{\circ}F$ , and we are using a third order polynomial, we need to choose the four points closest to  $T = 80^{\circ}F$  that also bracket  $T = 80^{\circ}F$  to evaluate it.

The four points are  $T_0 = 80^{\circ}F$ ,  $T_1 = 40^{\circ}F$ ,  $T_2 = -40^{\circ}F$ , and  $T_3 = -120^{\circ}F$ .

$$T_0 = 80, \quad \alpha(T_0) = 6.47 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_1 = 40, \quad \alpha(T_1) = 6.24 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_2 = -40, \quad \alpha(T_2) = 5.72 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_3 = -120, \quad \alpha(T_3) = 5.09 \times 10^{-6}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

such that

$$\alpha(80) = 6.47 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(80) + a_2(80)^2 + a_3(80)^3$$

$$\alpha(40) = 6.24 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(40) + a_2(40)^2 + a_3(40)^3$$

$$\alpha(-40) = 5.72 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(-40) + a_2(-40)^2 + a_3(-40)^3$$

$$\alpha(-120) = 5.09 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(-120) + a_2(-120)^2 + a_3(-120)^3$$

Writing the four equations in matrix form, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 80 & 6400 & 512000 \\ 1 & 40 & 1600 & 64000 \\ 1 & -40 & 1600 & -64000 \\ 1 & -120 & 14400 & -1728000 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 6.47 \times 10^{-6} \\ 6.24 \times 10^{-6} \\ 5.72 \times 10^{-6} \\ 5.09 \times 10^{-6} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

Solving the above four equations gives

$$a_0 = 0.59915 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$a_1 = 0.64813 \times 10^{-8}$$

$$a_2 = -0.71875 \times 10^{-11}$$

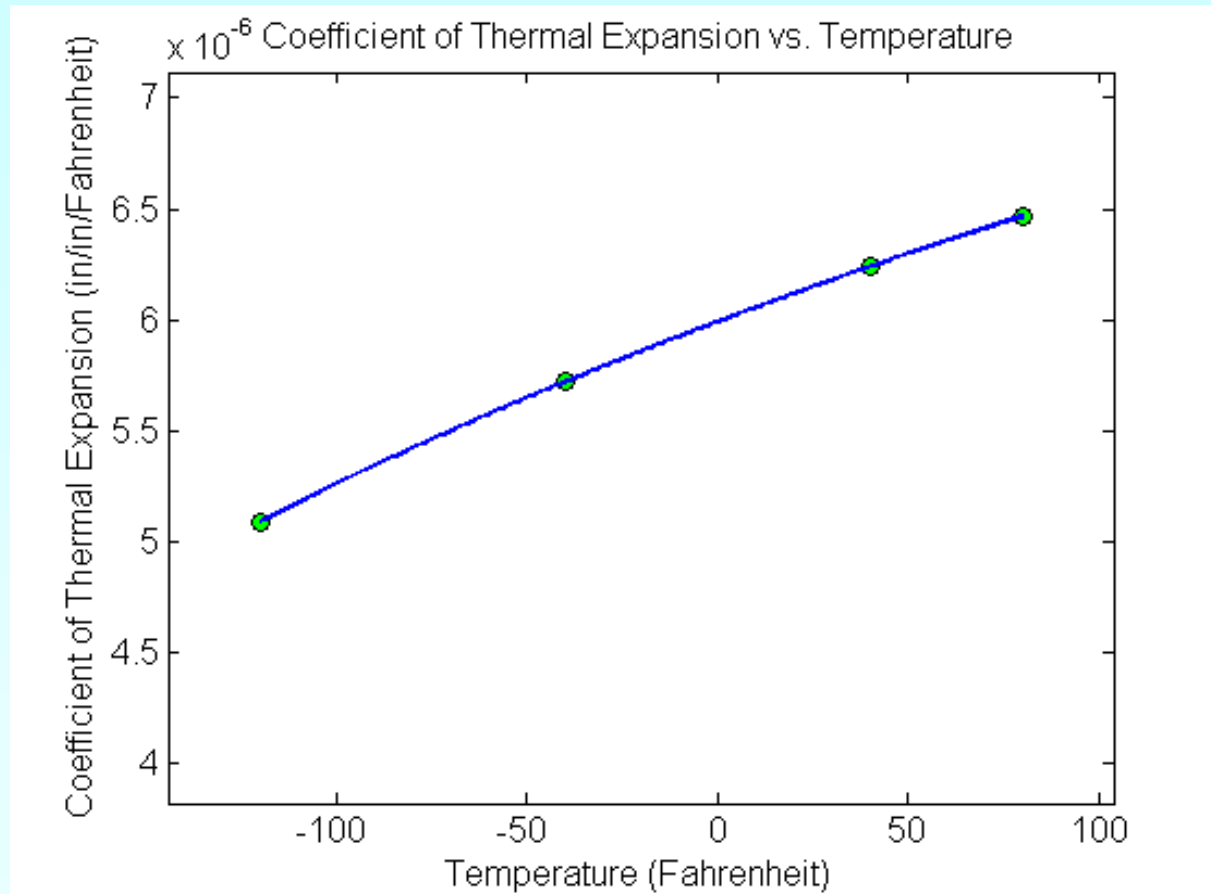
$$a_3 = 0.11719 \times 10^{-13}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(T) &= a_0 + a_1T + a_2T^2 + a_3T^3 \\ &= 0.59915 \times 10^{-5} + 0.64813 \times 10^{-8}T - 0.71875 \times 10^{-11}T^2 + 0.11719 \times 10^{-13}T^3, \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad -120 \leq T \leq 80\end{aligned}$$



# Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.



**Figure 2** Graph of coefficient of thermal expansion vs. temperature.

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

The change in coefficient of thermal expansion at  $T = 80^{\circ}F$  is given by

$$\frac{d\alpha(80)}{dT} = \frac{d}{dt} \alpha(T) \Big|_{T=80}$$

Given that

$$\alpha(T) = 0.59915 \times 10^{-5} + 0.64813 \times 10^{-8} T - 0.71875 \times 10^{-11} T^2 + 0.11719 \times 10^{-13} T^3, \quad -120 \leq T \leq 80$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\alpha(T)}{dT} &= \frac{d}{dT} \alpha(T) \\ &= \frac{d}{dt} \left( 0.59915 \times 10^{-5} + 0.64812 \times 10^{-8} T - 0.71875 \times 10^{-11} T^2 + 0.11719 \times 10^{-13} T^3 \right) \\ &= 0.64813 \times 10^{-8} - 1.4375 \times 10^{-11} T + 0.35157 \times 10^{-13} T^2, \quad -120 \leq T \leq 80 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\alpha(80)}{dT} &= 0.64813 \times 10^{-8} - 1.4375 \times 10^{-11} (80) + 0.35157 \times 10^{-13} T (80)^2 \\ &= 5.5563 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in/in/}^{\circ}F^2 \end{aligned}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

b) Change in Thermal Expansion Coefficient at  $-340^{\circ}F$ :

Since we want to find the rate of change in the thermal expansion coefficient at  $T = -340^{\circ}F$ , and we are using a third order polynomial, we need to choose the four points closest to  $T = -340^{\circ}F$  that also bracket to  $T = -340^{\circ}F$  evaluate it.

The four points are  $T_0 = -120^{\circ}F$ ,  $T_1 = -200^{\circ}F$ ,  $T_2 = -280^{\circ}F$ , and  $T_3 = -340^{\circ}F$ .

$$T_0 = -120, \alpha(T_0) = 5.09 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_1 = -200, \alpha(T_1) = 4.30 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_2 = -280, \alpha(T_2) = 3.33 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_3 = -340, \alpha(T_3) = 2.45 \times 10^{-6}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

Such that

$$\alpha(-120) = 5.09 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(-120) + a_2(-120)^2 + a_3(-120)^3$$

$$\alpha(-200) = 4.30 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(-200) + a_2(-200)^2 + a_3(-200)^3$$

$$\alpha(-280) = 3.33 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(-280) + a_2(-280)^2 + a_3(-280)^3$$

$$\alpha(-340) = 2.45 \times 10^{-6} = a_0 + a_1(-340) + a_2(-340)^2 + a_3(-340)^3$$

Writing the four equations in matrix form, we have

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -120 & 14400 & -1728000 \\ 1 & -200 & 40000 & -8000000 \\ 1 & -280 & 78400 & -21952000 \\ 1 & -340 & 115600 & -39304000 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5.09 \times 10^{-6} \\ 4.30 \times 10^{-6} \\ 3.33 \times 10^{-6} \\ 2.45 \times 10^{-6} \end{bmatrix}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

Solving the above four equations gives

$$a_0 = 0.60625 \times 10^{-5}$$

$$a_1 = 0.74881 \times 10^{-8}$$

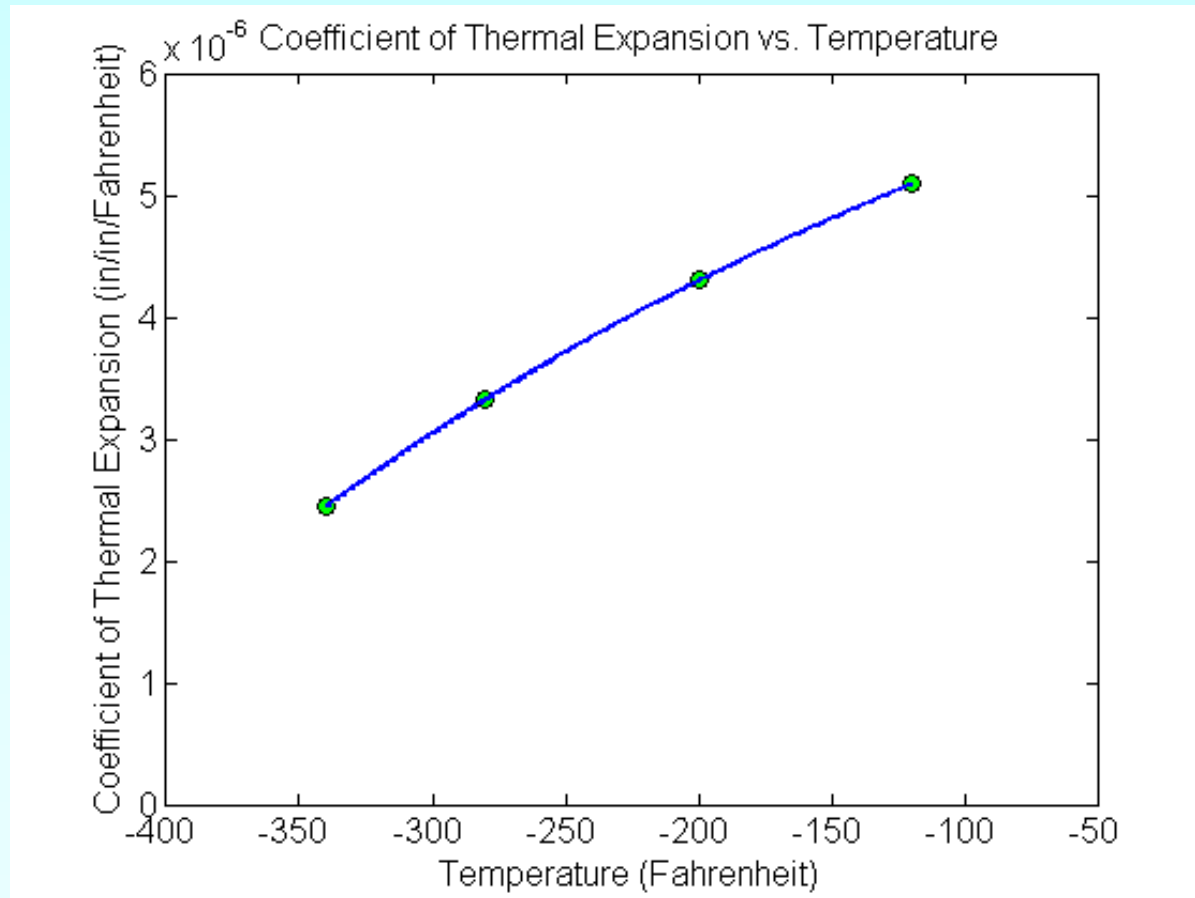
$$a_2 = -0.29018 \times 10^{-11}$$

$$a_3 = 0.18601 \times 10^{-13}$$

Hence

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(T) &= a_0 + a_1T + a_2T^2 + a_3T^3 \\ &= 0.60625 \times 10^{-5} + 0.74881 \times 10^{-8}T - 0.29018 \times 10^{-11}T^2 + 0.18601 \times 10^{-13}T^3, \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad -340 \leq T \leq -120\end{aligned}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.



**Figure 3** Graph of coefficient of thermal expansion vs. temperature.

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

The change in coefficient of thermal expansion at  $T = -340^{\circ}F$  is given by

$$\frac{d\alpha(-340)}{dT} = \frac{d}{dt}\alpha(T)\Big|_{T=-340}$$

Given that

$$\alpha(T) = 0.60625 \times 10^{-5} + 0.74881 \times 10^{-8}T - 0.29018 \times 10^{-11}T^2 + 0.18601 \times 10^{-13}T^3, \\ -340 \leq T \leq -120$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\alpha(T)}{dt} &= \frac{d}{dT}\alpha(T) \\ &= \frac{d}{dT} \left( 0.60625 \times 10^{-5} + 0.74881 \times 10^{-8}T - 0.29018 \times 10^{-11}T^2 + 0.18601 \times 10^{-13}T^3 \right) \\ &= 0.74881 \times 10^{-8} - 0.58036 \times 10^{-11}T + 0.55804 \times 10^{-13}T^2, \quad -340 \leq t \leq -120 \end{aligned}$$

## Example 2-Direct Fit Polynomials cont.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d\alpha(-340)}{dt} &= 0.74881 \times 10^{-8} - 0.58036 \times 10^{-11}(-340) + 0.55804 \times 10^{-13}(-340)^2 \\ &= 0.15905 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2\end{aligned}$$

**Table 4** Summary of change in coefficient of thermal expansion using different approximations.

Temperature, $T_i$	Change in Coefficient of Thermal Expansion, $\frac{d\alpha}{dT}(T_i)$	
	3 <sup>rd</sup> Order Interpolation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Polynomial Regression
$80^\circ\text{F}$	$5.5563 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$	$4.3246 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$
$-340^\circ\text{F}$	$0.15905 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$	$0.14585 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in / in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$



# Lagrange Polynomial

In this method, given  $(x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_n, y_n)$ , one can fit a  $(n-1)^{th}$  order Lagrangian polynomial given by

$$f_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n L_i(x) f(x_i)$$

where 'n' in  $f_n(x)$  stands for the  $n^{th}$  order polynomial that approximates the function  $y = f(x)$  given at  $(n+1)$  data points as  $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), (x_n, y_n)$ , and

$$L_i(x) = \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j}$$

$L_i(x)$  a weighting function that includes a product of  $(n-1)$  terms with terms of  $j = i$  omitted.

# Lagrange Polynomial Cont.

Then to find the first derivative, one can differentiate  $f_n(x)$  once, and so on for other derivatives.

For example, the second order Lagrange polynomial passing through

$(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)$  is

$$f_2(x) = \frac{(x-x_1)(x-x_2)}{(x_0-x_1)(x_0-x_2)} f(x_0) + \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_2)}{(x_1-x_0)(x_1-x_2)} f(x_1) + \frac{(x-x_0)(x-x_1)}{(x_2-x_0)(x_2-x_1)} f(x_2)$$

Differentiating equation (2) gives

# Lagrange Polynomial Cont.

$$f_2'(x) = \frac{2x - (x_1 + x_2)}{(x_0 - x_1)(x_0 - x_2)} f(x_0) + \frac{2x - (x_0 + x_2)}{(x_1 - x_0)(x_1 - x_2)} f(x_1) + \frac{2x - (x_0 + x_1)}{(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1)} f(x_2)$$

Differentiating again would give the second derivative as

$$f_2''(x) = \frac{2}{(x_0 - x_1)(x_0 - x_2)} f(x_0) + \frac{2}{(x_1 - x_0)(x_1 - x_2)} f(x_1) + \frac{2}{(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1)} f(x_2)$$

# Example 3

To find contraction of a steel cylinder immersed in a bath of liquid nitrogen, one needs to know the thermal expansion coefficient data as a function of temperature. This data is given for steel in Table 5.

- a) Using the second order Lagrange polynomial interpolant, find the change in coefficient of thermal expansion at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  and  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .
- b) The data given in Table 5 can be regressed to  $\alpha = a_0 + a_1T + a_2T^2$  to get  $\alpha = 6.0216 \times 10^{-6} + 6.2790 \times 10^{-9}T - 1.2215 \times 10^{-11}T^2$ . Compare the results with part (a) if you used the regression curve to find the rate of change of the coefficient of thermal expansion with respect to temperature at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  and  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .



## Example 3 Cont.

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**Table 5** Coefficient of thermal expansion as a function of temperature.

Temperature, T (°F)	Coefficient of thermal expansion, $\alpha$ (in/in/°F)
80	$6.47 \times 10^{-6}$
40	$6.24 \times 10^{-6}$
-40	$5.72 \times 10^{-6}$
-120	$5.09 \times 10^{-6}$
-200	$4.30 \times 10^{-6}$
-280	$3.33 \times 10^{-6}$
-340	$2.45 \times 10^{-6}$

# Example 3 Cont.

## Solution

For second order Lagrangian interpolation, we choose the coefficient of thermal expansion given by

$$\alpha(T) = \left( \frac{T - T_1}{T_0 - T_1} \right) \left( \frac{T - T_2}{T_0 - T_2} \right) \alpha(T_0) + \left( \frac{T - T_0}{T_1 - T_0} \right) \left( \frac{T - T_2}{T_1 - T_2} \right) \alpha(T_1) + \left( \frac{T - T_0}{T_2 - T_0} \right) \left( \frac{T - T_1}{T_2 - T_1} \right) \alpha(T_2)$$

- a) Change in the thermal expansion coefficient at  $80^\circ\text{F}$  :  
Since we want to find the rate of change in the thermal expansion coefficient at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  and we are using second order Lagrangian interpolation, we need to choose the three points closest to  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  that also bracket to  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  evaluate it.

The three points are  $T_0 = 80^\circ\text{F}$ ,  $T_1 = 40^\circ\text{F}$ , and  $T_2 = -40^\circ\text{F}$ .

$$T_0 = 80^\circ\text{F}, \alpha(T_0) = 6.47 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_1 = 40^\circ\text{F}, \alpha(T_1) = 6.24 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_2 = -40^\circ\text{F}, \alpha(T_2) = 5.72 \times 10^{-6}$$

# Example 3 Cont.

The change in the coefficient of thermal expansion at  $T = 80^\circ\text{F}$  is given by

$$\frac{d\alpha(80)}{dT} = \frac{d}{dT} \alpha(T) \Big|_{T=80}$$

Hence

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dT}(T) = \frac{2T - (T_1 + T_2)}{(T_0 - T_1)(T_0 - T_2)} \alpha(T_0) + \frac{2T - (T_0 + T_2)}{(T_1 - T_0)(T_1 - T_2)} \alpha(T_1) + \frac{2T - (T_0 + T_1)}{(T_2 - T_0)(T_2 - T_1)} \alpha(T_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\alpha}{dT}(80) &= \frac{2(80) - (40 + (-40))}{(80 - 40)(80 - (-40))} (6.47 \times 10^{-6}) + \frac{2(80) - (80 + (-40))}{(40 - 80)(40 - (-40))} (6.24 \times 10^{-6}) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(80) - (80 + 40)}{(-40 - 80)(-40 - 40)} (5.72 \times 10^{-6}) \\ &= 2.1567 \times 10^{-7} - 2.34 \times 10^{-7} + 2.3833 \times 10^{-8} \\ &= 5.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Example 3 Cont.

- b) Change in the thermal expansion coefficient at  $-340^\circ\text{F}$ :  
Since we want to find the rate of change in the thermal expansion coefficient at  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$  and we are using second order Lagrangian interpolation, we need to choose the three points closest to  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$  that also bracket to  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$  evaluate it.

The three points are  $T_0 = -200^\circ\text{F}$ ,  $T_1 = -280^\circ\text{F}$ , and  $T_2 = -340^\circ\text{F}$ .

$$T_0 = -200^\circ\text{F}, \alpha(T_0) = 4.30 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_1 = -280^\circ\text{F}, \alpha(T_1) = 3.33 \times 10^{-6}$$

$$T_2 = -340^\circ\text{F} \alpha(T_2) = 2.45 \times 10^{-6}$$

The change in the coefficient of thermal expansion at  $T = -340^\circ\text{F}$  is given by

$$\frac{d\alpha(-340)}{dT} = \frac{d}{dT} \alpha(T) \Big|_{T=-340}$$



# Example 3 Cont.

Hence

$$\frac{d\alpha}{dT}(T) = \frac{2T - (T_1 + T_2)}{(T_0 - T_1)(T_0 - T_2)} \alpha(T_0) + \frac{2T - (T_0 + T_2)}{(T_1 - T_0)(T_1 - T_2)} \alpha(T_1) + \frac{2T - (T_0 + T_1)}{(T_2 - T_0)(T_2 - T_1)} \alpha(T_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\alpha}{dT}(-340) &= \frac{2(-340) - (-280 + (-340))}{(200 - (-280))(-200 - (-340))} (4.30 \times 10^{-6}) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(-340) - (-200 + (-280))}{(-280 - (-200))(-280 - (-340))} (3.33 \times 10^{-6}) \\ &\quad + \frac{2(-340) - (-200 + (-280))}{(-340 - (-200))(-340 - (-280))} (2.45 \times 10^{-6}) \\ &= -2.3036 \times 10^{-8} + 9.7125 \times 10^{-8} - 5.8333 \times 10^{-8} \\ &= 0.15756 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Example 3 Cont.

**Table 6** Summary of change in coefficient of thermal expansion using different approximations.

Temperature, $T_i$	Change in Coefficient of Thermal Expansion, $\frac{d\alpha}{dT}(T_i)$	
	2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Lagrange Interpolation	2 <sup>nd</sup> Order Polynomial Regression
80	$5.5 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$	$4.3246 \times 10^{-9} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$
-340	$0.15756 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$	$0.14585 \times 10^{-7} \text{ in/in/}^\circ\text{F}^2$

# Additional Resources

For all resources on this topic such as digital audiovisual lectures, primers, textbook chapters, multiple-choice tests, worksheets in MATLAB, MATHEMATICA, MathCad and MAPLE, blogs, related physical problems, please visit

[http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/discrete\\_02\\_dif.html](http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/topics/discrete_02_dif.html)

**THE END**

<http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu>