Introduction

The Lagrangian method of interpolation (for detailed explanation, you can read the textbook notes and examples, and see a Power Point Presentation) is based on the following. Given 'n' data points of 'y' versus 'x', it is required to find the value of y at a particular value of x using first, second, and third order Lagrangian interpolation.

Since the number of data points may be more than you need for a particular order of interpolation, one has to first pick the needed data points, and then one can use the chosen points to interpolate the data.

Lagrangian interpolating polynomial is given by

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

where 'n' in \( f_n \) stands for the \( n^{th} \) order polynomial that approximates the function \( y = f(x) \) given at (n+1) data points as \((x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \ldots, (x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), (x_n, y_n)\), and \( L_i(x) = \prod_{j=0, j \neq i}^{n} \frac{x-x_j}{x_i-x_j} \). \( L_i(x) \) is a weighting function that includes a product of (n-1) terms with terms of \( j = i \) omitted.

> restart;
  with(LinearAlgebra):
  with(linalg):

Warning, the previous binding of the name GramSchmidt has been removed and it now has an assigned value

Warning, the protected names norm and trace have been redefined and unprotected

Section I: Input Data.

The following is the array of x-y data which is used to interpolate. It is obtained from the physical problem of velocity of rocket (y-values) vs. time (x-values) data. We are asked to find the velocity at an intermediate point of x=16.

> xy:=[[10,227.04],[0,0],[20,517.35],[15,362.78],[30,901.67],[22.5,602.97]]:

Value of X at which Y is desired
> xdesired:=16:
Section II: Big scary functions.

```plaintext
> n:=rowdim(xy):
> for i from 1 to n do
   x[i]:=xy[i,1];
   y[i]:=xy[i,2];
   end do:

The following function considers the x data and selects those data points which are close to the
desired x value based on the least absolute difference between the x values and the desired x
value. This function selects the two closest data points that bracket the desired value of x. It first
picks the closest data point to the desired x value. It then checks if this value is less than or
greater than the desired value. If it is less, then, it selects the data point which is greater than the
desired value and also the closest, and vice versa.

Finds the absolute difference between the X values and the desired X value.
> for i from 1 to n do
   co[i]:=abs(x[i]-xdesired);
   end do:

Identifies the X value with the least absolute difference.
> c:=co[1]:
> for i from 2 to n do
   if c > co[i] then
      c:=co[i];
      ci:=i;
   end if:
   end do:

If the value with the least absolute difference is less than the desired value, then it selects the
closest data point greater than the desired value to bracket the desired value.
> if x[ci] < xdesired then
   q:=1:
   for i from 1 to n do
      if x[i] > xdesired then
         nex[q]:=x[i];
         q:=q+1;
      end if;
   end do;
   b:=nex[1]:
```
for i from 2 to q-1 do
    if b > nex[i] then
        b := nex[i];
    end if:
end do:

for i from 1 to n do
    if x[i] = b then bi := i end if;
end do;
end if:

If the value with the least absolute difference is greater than the desired value, then it selects the closest data point less than the desired value to bracket the desired value.

if x[ci] > xdesired then
    q := 1;
    for i from 1 to n do
        if x[i] < xdesired then
            nex[q] := x[i];
            q := q + 1;
        end if;
    end do;

    b := nex[1];
    for i from 2 to q-1 do
        if b < nex[i] then
            b := nex[i];
        end if:
    end do:

    for i from 1 to n do
        if x[i] = b then bi := i end if;
    end do;
end if:

firsttwo := [ci, bi]:

If more than two values are desired, the same procedure as above is followed to choose the 2 datapoints which bracket the desired value. In addition, the following function selects the subsequent values that are closest to the desired value and puts all the values into a matrix, maintaining the original data order.
A[i,1]:=co[i];
end do:

for passnum from 1 to n-1 do
    for i from 1 to n-passnum do
        if A[i,1]>A[i+1,1] then
            temp1:=A[i,1];
            temp2:=A[i,2];
            A[i,1]:=A[i+1,1];
            A[i,2]:=A[i+1,2];
            A[i+1,1]:=temp1;
            A[i+1,2]:=temp2;
        end if:
    end do:
end do:

for i from 1 to n do
    A[i,3]:=i;
end do:

for passnum from 1 to n-1 do
    for i from 1 to n-passnum do
        if A[i,2]>A[i+1,2] then
            temp1:=A[i,1];
            temp2:=A[i,2];
            temp3:=A[i,3];
            A[i,1]:=A[i+1,1];
            A[i,2]:=A[i+1,2];
            A[i,3]:=A[i+1,3];
            A[i+1,1]:=temp1;
            A[i+1,2]:=temp2;
            A[i+1,3]:=temp3;
        end if:
    end do:
end do:

for i from 1 to n do
    d[i]:=A[i,3];
end do:

if d[firsttwo[2]]<>2 then
    temp:=d[firsttwo[2]];
    d[firsttwo[2]]:=1;
for i from 1 to n do
    if i <> firsttwo[1] and i <> firsttwo[2] and d[i] <= temp then
        d[i]:=d[i]+1;
    end if;
end do;
d[firsttwo[1]]:=1;
end if:

> ranger:=proc(ar,n)
    local i,xmin,xmax,xrange;
    xmin:=ar[1]:
    xmax:=ar[1]:
    for i from 1 to n do
        if ar[i] > xmax then xmax:=ar[i] end if;
        if ar[i] < xmin then xmin:=ar[i] end if;
    end do;
    xrange:=xmin..xmax;
end proc:

Plotting the given values of X and Y.

> plot(xy,ranger(x,n),style=POINT,color=BLUE,symbol=CIRCLE,symbol size=30);
Section III: Linear Interpolation.

The two closest data points to the desired value are chosen in this method.

> datapoints:=2:
> p:=1:
> for i from 1 to n do
>   if d[i] <= datapoints then
>     xdata[p]:=x[i];
>     ydata[p]:=y[i];
>     p:=p+1;
>   end if
> end do:
The weighting functions are now calculated using the formula mentioned above. These functions give weightages to the Y values corresponding to the chosen X values. The sum of the weightages is always equal to one.

\[
L_0(z) := \frac{(z-x_{data}[2])}{(x_{data}[1]-x_{data}[2])};
L_1(z) := \frac{(z-x_{data}[1])}{(x_{data}[2]-x_{data}[1])};
\]

Setting up the Langrangian polynomial

\[
f_{linear}(z) := \text{eval}(L_0(t),t=z) \times y_{data}[1] + \text{eval}(L_1(t),t=z) \times y_{data}[2];
\]

Substituting the value of the desired X value for z in the above equation, the corresponding Y value is found.

\[
eval(f_{linear}(z),z=x_{desired});
\]

Plotting the Linear interpolant and the value of Y for the desired X

\[
\text{plot}([[t,eval(f_{linear}(z),z=t),t=ranger(x_{data},datapoints)],xy,[[x_{desired},eval(f_{linear}(z),z=x_{desired})]]],z=ranger(x,n),style=[LINE,POINT,POINT],color=[RED,BLUE,BLUE],symbol=[CROSS,CIRCLE],symbolsize=[40,30],thickness=3,title="Linear interpolation");
\]
Section IV: Quadratic Interpolation (Second order polynomial)

The three closest data points to the desired value are chosen in this method.

> datapoints:=3:
> p:=1:
> for i from 1 to n do
> if d[i] <= datapoints then
> xdata[p]:=x[i];
> ydata[p]:=y[i];
> p:=p+1;
> end if
> end do:
The weighting functions are now calculated using the formula mentioned above. These functions give weightages to the Y values corresponding to the chosen X values. The sum of the weightages is always equal to one.

\[
\begin{align*}
L_0(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[2])(z-x_{data}[3])}{(x_{data}[1]-x_{data}[2])/(x_{data}[1]-x_{data}[3])} \\
L_1(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[1])(z-x_{data}[3])}{(x_{data}[2]-x_{data}[1])/(x_{data}[2]-x_{data}[3])} \\
L_2(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[1])(z-x_{data}[2])}{(x_{data}[3]-x_{data}[1])/(x_{data}[3]-x_{data}[2])} \\
\end{align*}
\]

Setting up the Langrangian polynomial

\[
f_{quad}(z) := \text{eval}(L_0(t), t=z) \times y_{data}[1] + \text{eval}(L_1(t), t=z) \times y_{data}[2] + \text{eval}(L_2(t), t=z) \times y_{data}[3];
\]

Substituting the value of the desired X value for z in the above equation, the corresponding Y value is found.

\[
eval(f_{quad}(z), z=x_{desired});
\]

The absolute percentage relative approximate error between the first order and the second order interpolation is

\[
\varepsilon := \frac{|f_{new} - f_{prev}|}{f_{new}} \times 100;
\]

The number of significant digits at least correct in the solution is

\[
sigdig := \text{floor}(2 \log_{10}(\varepsilon/0.5));
\]

Plotting the quadratic interpolant and the value of Y for the desired X

\[
\text{plot}([[t, \text{eval}(f_{quad}(z), z=t), t=ranger(x_{data}, datapoints)]], \text{xy}, [[x_{desired}, \text{eval}(f_{quad}(z), z=x_{desired})]], z=ranger(x, n), \text{style}=[\text{LINE}, \text{POINT}, \text{POINT}], \text{color}=[\text{RED}, \text{BLUE}, \text{BLUE}], \text{symbol}=[\text{CROSS}, \text{CIRCLE}], \text{symbolsize}=[40, 30], \text{thickness}=3, \text{title}="Quadratic interpolation");
\]
Section V: Cubic Interpolation (Third order polynomial)

The four closest data points to the desired value are chosen in this method.

```plaintext
> datapoints:=4;
> p:=1:
  for i from 1 to n do
    if d[i] <= datapoints then
      xdata[p]:=x[i];
      ydata[p]:=y[i];
      p:=p+1;
    end if
  end do:
```
The weighting functions are now calculated using the formula mentioned above. These functions give weightages to the Y values corresponding to the chosen X values. The sum of the weightages is always equal to one.

\[
\begin{align*}
L_0(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[2]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[3]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[4])}{(x_{data}[1]-x_{data}[2]) \cdot (x_{data}[1]-x_{data}[3]) \cdot (x_{data}[1]-x_{data}[4])} \\
L_1(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[1]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[3]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[4])}{(x_{data}[2]-x_{data}[1]) \cdot (x_{data}[2]-x_{data}[3]) \cdot (x_{data}[2]-x_{data}[4])} \\
L_2(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[1]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[2]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[4])}{(x_{data}[3]-x_{data}[1]) \cdot (x_{data}[3]-x_{data}[2]) \cdot (x_{data}[3]-x_{data}[4])} \\
L_3(z) &= \frac{(z-x_{data}[1]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[2]) \cdot (z-x_{data}[3])}{(x_{data}[4]-x_{data}[1]) \cdot (x_{data}[4]-x_{data}[2]) \cdot (x_{data}[4]-x_{data}[3])} \\
\end{align*}
\]

Setting up the Langrangian polynomial

\[
f_{cubic}(z) := \text{eval}(L_0(t), t=z) \cdot y_{data}[1] + \text{eval}(L_1(t), t=z) \cdot y_{data}[2] + \text{eval}(L_2(t), t=z) \cdot y_{data}[3] + \text{eval}(L_3(t), t=z) \cdot y_{data}[4];
\]

\[
f_{cubic}(z) := -0.3632640000 \cdot (z - 20) \cdot (z - 15) \cdot (z - 22.5) \\
- 4.138800000 \cdot (z - 10) \cdot (z - 15) \cdot (z - 22.5) + 1.934826667 \cdot (z - 10) \cdot (z - 20) \cdot (z - 22.5) \\
+ 2.572672000 \cdot (z - 10) \cdot (z - 20) \cdot (z - 15)
\]

Substituting the value of the desired X value for z in the above equation, the corresponding Y value is found.

\[
\text{eval}(f_{cubic}(z), z=x_{desired});
\]

\[
392.0571681
\]

The absolute percentage relative approximate error between the second order and the third order interpolation is

\[
\epsilon := \text{abs}((f_{new} - f_{prev}) / f_{new}) \cdot 100;
\]

\[
\epsilon := 0.03326859209
\]

The number of significant digits at least correct in the solution is

\[
\text{sigdig} := \text{floor}(2 - \log_{10}(\epsilon/0.5));
\]

\[
\text{sigdig} := 3
\]

Plotting the cubic interpolant and the value of 'y' for the desired 'x'

\[
\text{plot}([[t, \text{eval}(f_{cubic}(z), z=t), t=\text{ranger}(x_{data}, \text{datapoints})]], xy, [[x_{desired}, \text{eval}(f_{cubic}(z), z=x_{desired})]], z=\text{ranger}(x, n), \text{style}=[\text{LINE}, \text{POINT}, \text{POINT}], \text{color}=[\text{RED}, \text{BLUE}, \text{BLUE}], \text{symbol}=[\text{CROSS}, \text{CIRCLE}, \text{symbol}]
\]
Section VI: Conclusion.

Maple helped us to apply our knowledge of numerical methods of interpolation to find the value of 
y at a particular value of x using first, second, and third order Lagrangian method of interpolation. 
Using Maple functions and plotting routines made it easy to illustrate this method.

References

[1] Nathan Collier, Autar Kaw, Jai Paul, Michael Keteltas, Holistic Numerical Methods Institute, See
http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/mws/gen/05inp/mws_gen_inp_sim_lagrange.mws
http://numericalmethods.eng.usf.edu/mws/gen/05inp/mws_gen_inp_txt_lagrange.pdf

Disclaimer: While every effort has been made to validate the solutions in this worksheet, University of South Florida and the contributors are not responsible for any errors contained and are not liable for any damages resulting from the use of this material.