

## Matrices, Geometry & Mathematica

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### MGM.11 Function spaces and Root-Mean Square Approximation BASICS

#### B.1) The root-mean-square distance between two functions $f[t]$ and $g[t]$ on

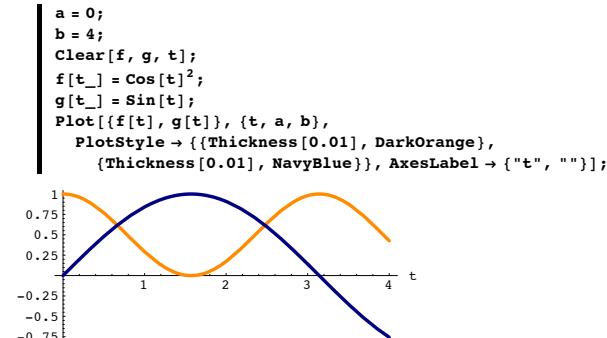
$$[a,b] \text{ is } \sqrt{\int_a^b (f[t] - g[t])^2 dt}$$

The Dot product  $f \cdot g$  of two functions on  $[a,b]$  is  $\int_a^b f[t] g[t] dt$ .

Component of one function in the direction of another

##### □ B.1.a) Distance between two functions on an interval.

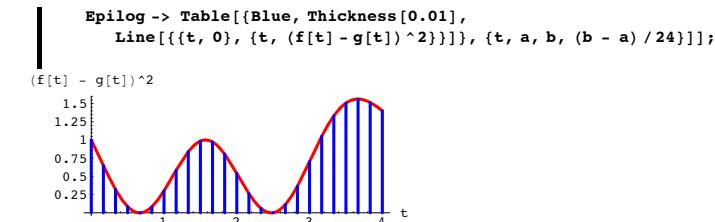
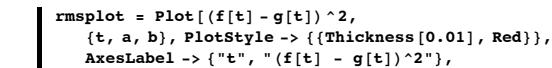
Here are two functions  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = 2.5$ :



How do folks measure the root-mean-square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$ ?

##### □ Answer:

Folks plot  $(f[t] - g[t])^2$  on  $[a,b]$  and shade between the curve and the t - axis:



They calculate the area measurement of the shaded region and then they say that the root-mean-square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$  is the square root of the area measurement.

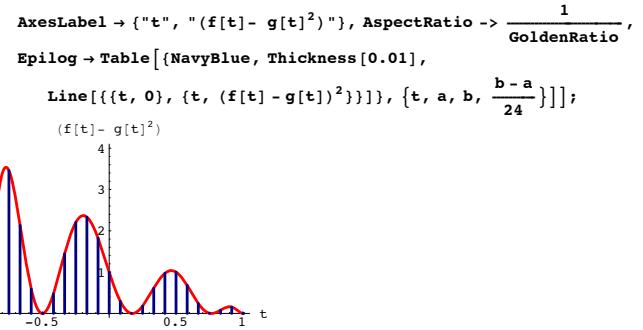
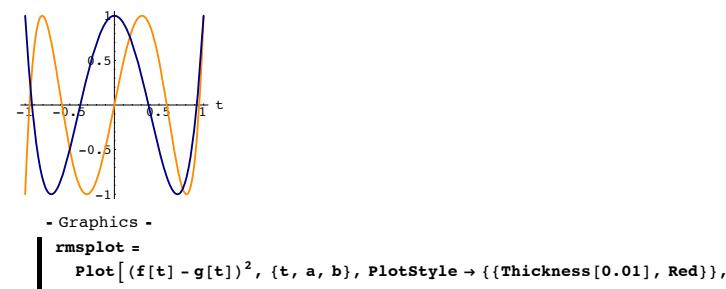
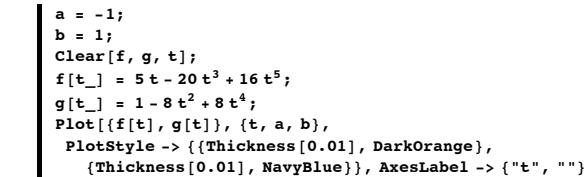
In short, the root mean square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$  is

$$\sqrt{\int_a^b (f[t] - g[t])^2 dt}$$

$$\sqrt{\text{NIntegrate}[(f[t] - g[t])^2, \{t, a, b\}]}$$

$$1.62424$$

Try it for two new functions  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on a new interval  $[a,b]$ :



The root mean square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$  is

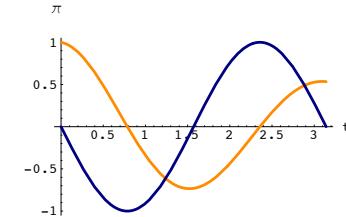
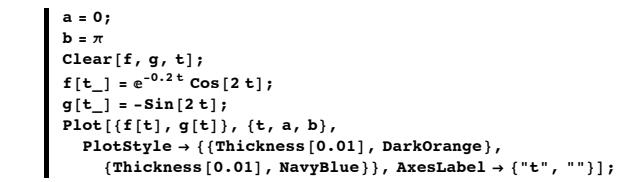
$$\sqrt{\int_a^b (f[t] - g[t])^2 dt}:$$

$$\sqrt{\text{NIntegrate}[(f[t] - g[t])^2, \{t, a, b\}]}$$

$$1.405$$

##### □ B.1.b) The dot product $f \cdot g$ of two functions $f[t]$ and $g[t]$ on an interval $[a,b]$

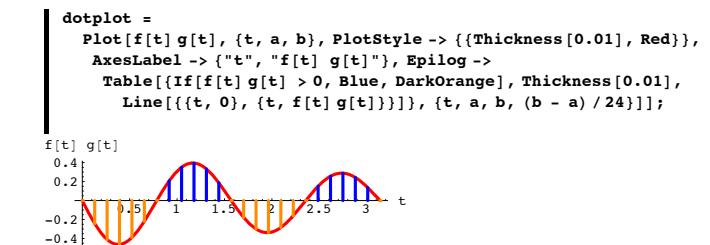
Here are two functions  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ :



How do folks measure calculate dot product  $f \cdot g$  of  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$ ?

##### □ Answer:

Folks plot  $f[t] g[t]$  on  $[a,b]$  and shade between the curve and the t - axis:



They put  $f \cdot g$  equal the signed area measurement of the shaded region (subtracting the orange from the blue).

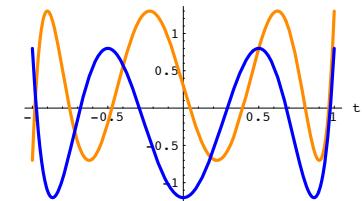
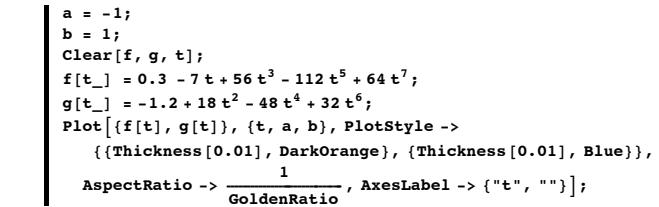
This is the same as

$$f \cdot g = \int_a^b f[t] g[t] dt:$$

$$\text{NIntegrate}[f[t] g[t], \{t, a, b\}]$$

$$-0.0581686$$

Try it for two new functions  $f[t]$  and  $g[t]$  on a new interval  $[a,b]$ :



$$\text{dotplot} = \text{Plot}[f[t] g[t], \{t, a, b\}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], Red}}];$$



$\int_a^b s_p[t]^2 dt > 0$  for all the p's.

Give some examples of orthogonal sets all the pros know:

□ Answer:

Here you go:

#### ▪ Sine system on $[0, \pi]$ :

The set of functions

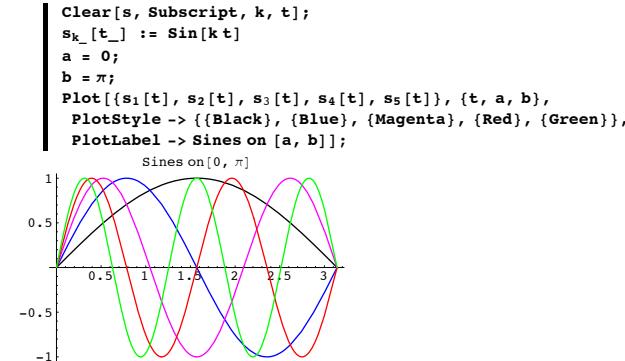
$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

for

$$s_k[t] = \sin[kt]$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ .

Here are plots of the first five.



To illustrate the fact that this set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ , here is a calculation of

$$s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p[t] s_q[t] dt$$

for random positive integers p and q with  $p \neq q$

```

q = Random[Integer, {1, 6}];
p = Random[Integer, {q + 1, 3 q}];
Integrate[s_q[t] s_p[t], {t, a, b}]

```

Rerun a couple of times.

#### ▪ Cosine system on $[0, \pi]$ :

The set of functions

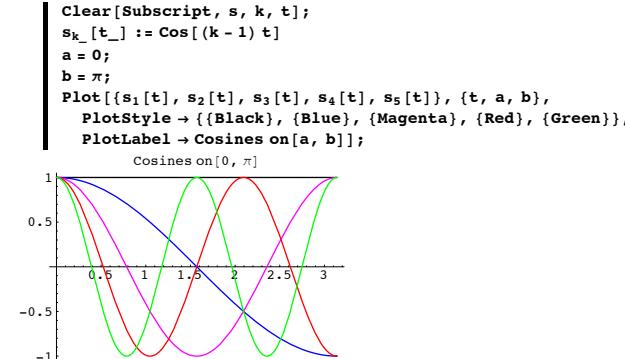
$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

for

$$s_k[t] = \cos[(k-1)t]$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ .

Here are plots of the first five.



To illustrate the fact that this set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ , here is a calculation of

$$s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p[t] s_q[t] dt$$

for random positive integers p and q with  $p \neq q$

```

q = Random[Integer, {1, 6}];
p = Random[Integer, {q + 1, 3 q}];
Integrate[s_q[t] s_p[t], {t, a, b}]

```

Rerun a couple of times.

#### ▪ Sine-Cosine system on $[-\pi, \pi]$ :

This set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

$$= \{1, \sin[t], \cos[t], \sin[2t], \cos[2t], \sin[3t], \cos[3t], \dots\}$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = -\pi$  and  $b = \pi$ .

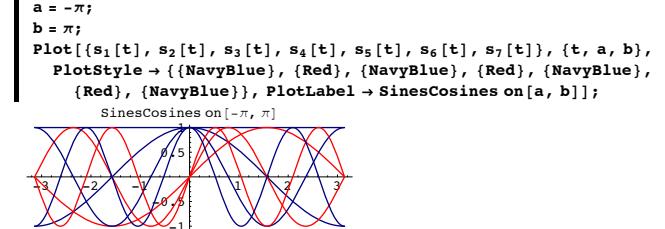
Here are formulas for the first 13.

```

Clear[s, Subscript, k, t];
s_k_[t_] := If[EvenQ[k], Sin[\frac{k t}{2}], Cos[\frac{1}{2} (k - 1) t]];
Table[s_k[t], {k, 1, 13}]
{1, Sin[t], Cos[t], Sin[2t], Cos[2t], Sin[3t], Cos[3t], Sin[4t], Cos[4t], Sin[5t], Cos[5t], Sin[6t], Cos[6t]}

```

And plots of the first seven:



To illustrate the fact that this set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = -\pi$  and  $b = \pi$ , here is a calculation of

$$s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p[t] s_q[t] dt$$

for random positive integers p and q with  $p \neq q$

```

q = Random[Integer, {1, 6}];
p = Random[Integer, {q + 1, 3 q}];
Integrate[s_q[t] s_p[t], {t, a, b}]

```

Rerun a couple of times.

#### ▪ Sine-Cosine system on $[0, 2\pi]$ :

This set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots\}$$

$$= \{1, \sin[t], \cos[t], \sin[2t], \cos[2t], \sin[3t], \cos[3t], \dots\}$$

is also orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = 2\pi$ .

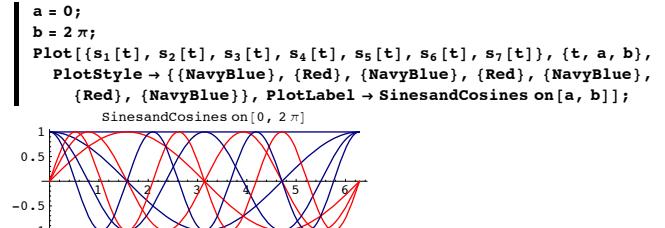
Here are formulas for the first 15.

```

Clear[s, Subscript, k, t];
s_k_[t_] := If[EvenQ[k], Sin[\frac{k t}{2}], Cos[\frac{1}{2} (k - 1) t]];
Table[s_k[t], {k, 1, 15}]
{1, Sin[t], Cos[t], Sin[2t], Cos[2t], Sin[3t], Cos[3t], Sin[4t], Cos[4t], Sin[5t], Cos[5t], Sin[6t], Cos[6t], Sin[7t], Cos[7t]}

```

And plots of the first seven:



To illustrate the fact that this set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = 2\pi$ , here is a calculation of

$$s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p[t] s_q[t] dt$$

for random positive integers p and q with  $p \neq q$

```

q = Random[Integer, {1, 6}];
p = Random[Integer, {q + 1, 3 q}];
Integrate[s_q[t] s_p[t], {t, a, b}]

```

Rerun a couple of times.

#### ▪ Legendre polynomial system on $[-1, 1]$ :

The set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

for

$$s_k[t] = \text{LegendreP}[k - 1, t]$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = -1$  and  $b = 1$ .

Here are the formulas for the first six:

```

Clear[k];
ColumnForm[Table[LegendreP[k - 1, t], {k, 1, 6}]]
1
t
- \frac{1}{2} + \frac{3 t^2}{2}
- \frac{3 t}{2} + \frac{5 t^3}{2}
\frac{3}{8} - \frac{15 t^2}{4} + \frac{35 t^4}{8}
\frac{15 t}{8} - \frac{35 t^3}{4} + \frac{63 t^5}{8}

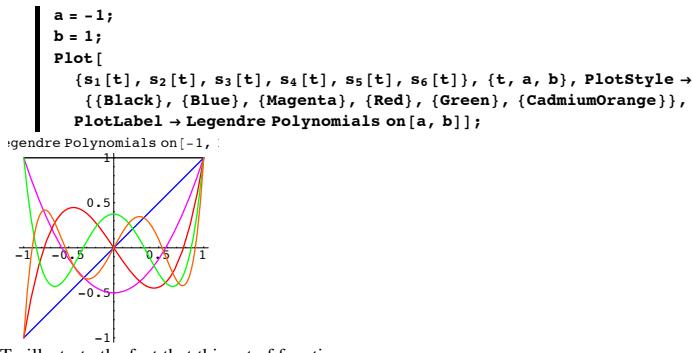
```

Here are plots of the first six:

```

Clear[s, Subscript, k, t];
s_k_[t_] := LegendreP[k - 1, t];

```



To illustrate the fact that this set of functions

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = -1$  and  $b = 1$ , here is a calculation of

$$s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p(t) s_q(t) dt$$

for random positive integers p and q with  $p \neq q$

```

q = Random[Integer, {1, 6}];
p = Random[Integer, {q + 1, 3 q}];
Integrate[s_q[t] s_p[t], {t, a, b}]

```

0

Rerun a couple of times.

### B.2.a.ii) Using orthogonal families to make function spaces

How do you use orthogonal sets of functions to make function spaces?

□ Answer:

Very easily.

You with a finite set of functions

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$

orthogonal on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  (so that  $s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p(t) s_q(t) dt = 0$  when  $p \neq q$ ) and then you make the function space  $S[a,b]$  spanned by

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}.$

This function space consists of all functions that are linear combinations of the spanning set

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}.$

In other words,  $S[a,b]$  consists of all functions  $f(t)$  of the form.

$$f(t) = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j s_j(t) \text{ with } a \leq t \leq b.$$

The  $c_j$ 's are numbers.

Here is a random member  $f(t)$  of the function space  $S[0, \pi]$  spanned by

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t], s_5[t]\}$

for

$s_k[t] = \sin[k t]$

```

dim = 5;
Clear[f, s, g, k, t];
s_k_[t_] := Sin[k t];
a = 0;
b = \pi;
c_k_ := Random[Real, {-2, 2}]
f[t_] = \sum_{k=1}^{\dim} c_k s_k[t]
-0.997406 Sin[t] - 0.174916 Sin[2 t] +
0.114702 Sin[3 t] - 1.67053 Sin[4 t] + 1.79011 Sin[5 t]

```

And its plot:

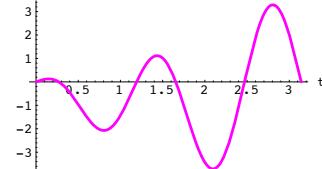
```

Plot[f[t], {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], Magenta}},
AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}, AspectRatio -> \frac{1}{GoldenRatio},
PlotLabel -> "Member of the function
space on [0,\Pi] \n spanned by sines"];

```

Member of the function space on [0,Pi]

f[t]spanned by sines



See some more functions in this function space::

```

dim = 5;
Clear[f, s, g, k, t];

```

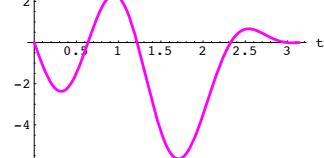
```

s_k_[t_] := Sin[k t];
a = 0;
b = \pi;
c_k_ := Random[Real, {-2, 2}];
f[t_] = \sum_{k=1}^{\dim} c_k s_k[t]
Plot[f[t], {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], Magenta}},
AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}, AspectRatio -> \frac{1}{GoldenRatio},
PlotLabel -> "Member of the function
space on [0,\pi] \n spanned by sines"];
-1.90159 Sin[t] + 0.698589 Sin[2 t] +
1.46671 Sin[3 t] - 1.77681 Sin[4 t] - 1.68784 Sin[5 t]

```

Member of the function space on [0,\pi]

f[t]spanned by sines



Rerun a couple of times.

Here is a random member of the function space  $S[0, \pi]$  spanned by

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t], s_5[t]\}$

for

$s_k[t] = \cos[(k - 1)t]$ .

```

dim = 6;
Clear[f, s, g, k, t];
s_k_[t_] := Cos[(k - 1) t];
a = 0;
b = \pi;
c_k_ := Random[Real, {-2, 2}]
f[t_] = \sum_{k=1}^{\dim} c_k s_k[t]
1.59484 + 0.846593 Cos[t] + 1.63982 Cos[2 t] -
0.290566 Cos[3 t] - 1.42125 Cos[4 t] + 0.465557 Cos[5 t]

```

And a plot:

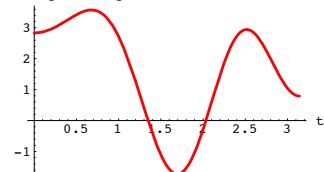
```

Plot[f[t], {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], Red}},
AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}, AspectRatio -> \frac{1}{GoldenRatio},
PlotLabel -> "Member of the function
space on [0,\pi] \n spanned by cosines"];

```

Member of the function space on [0,\pi]

f[t]spanned by cosines



See some more functions in this function space::

```

dim = 6;
Clear[f, s, g, k, t];
s_k_[t_] := Cos[(k - 1) t];
a = 0;
b = \pi;
c_k_ := Random[Real, {-2, 2}]
f[t_] = \sum_{k=1}^{\dim} c_k s_k[t]

```

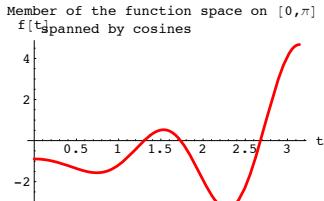
```

Plot[f[t], {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], Red}},
AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}, AspectRatio -> \frac{1}{GoldenRatio},
PlotLabel -> "Member of the function
space on [0,\pi] \n spanned by cosines"];
-0.587073 - 0.812286 Cos[t] + 0.690917 Cos[2 t] -
1.45465 Cos[3 t] + 1.78658 Cos[4 t] - 0.516604 Cos[5 t]

```

Member of the function space on [0,\pi]

f[t]spanned by cosines



Rerun a couple of times..

Here is a random member of the function space  $S[-1, 1]$  spanned by

$s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t]$

for

$s_k[t] = \text{LegendreP}[k - 1, t]$ .

```
dim = 4;
Clear[f, s, g, k, t];
sk[t_] := LegendreP[k - 1, t]
a = -1;
b = 1;
ck_ := Random[Real, {-1, 2}]
f[t_] =  $\sum_{k=1}^{\text{dim}} c_k s_k[t]$ 
-0.550849 + 1.23307 t + 1.08799  $\left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3 t^2}{2}\right)$  + 1.74373  $\left(-\frac{3 t}{2} + \frac{5 t^3}{2}\right)$ 
```

And its plot:

```
Plot[f[t], {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], DarkOrange}}, 
AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}, AspectRatio -> 1/GoldenRatio, 
PlotLabel -> "Member of the function space on [-1,1] \n spanned by Legendre Polynomials"];
Member of the function space on [-1,1] spanned by Legendre Polynomials
```

See more:

```
dim = 4;
Clear[f, s, g, k, t];
sk[t_] := LegendreP[k - 1, t]
a = -1;
b = 1;
ck_ := Random[Real, {-1, 2}]
```

```
f[t_] =  $\sum_{k=1}^{\text{dim}} c_k s_k[t]$ 
Plot[f[t], {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.01], DarkOrange}}, 
AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}, AspectRatio -> 1/GoldenRatio, 
PlotLabel -> "Member of the function space on [-1,1] \n spanned by Legendre Polynomials"];
0.863125 + 0.985973 t + 1.2454  $\left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3 t^2}{2}\right)$  + 1.66993  $\left(-\frac{3 t}{2} + \frac{5 t^3}{2}\right)$ 
Member of the function space on [-1,1] spanned by Legendre Polynomials
```

Rerun a couple of times..

### B.2.a.iii) Reading the dimension of a function space

To make a function space  $S[a,b]$ , you go with a finite set of functions

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$

orthogonal on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  and then you make the function space  $S[a,b]$  spanned by

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$ .

This function space consists of all functions  $f[t]$  of the form.

$$f[t] = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j s_j[t] \text{ with } a \leq t \leq b.$$

How do you read off the dimension of  $S[a,b]$ ?

Answer:

The functions  $f[t] = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j s_j[t]$  in  $S[a,b]$  allow freedom for  $k$  constants  $\{c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots, c_k\}$ .

So the dimension of  $S[a,b]$  is  $k$ .

### B.3) Fourier Approximations: Best root-mean-square approximation of a function by a member of a function space

#### B.3.a.i) Coming up with the member of a function space that is closest to a given function

Here's a function  $f[t]$  plotted on  $[0, \pi]$ :

```
Clear[f, t];
f[t_] =  $\frac{6.2}{1.3 + e^{-t}}$ 
fplot =
  Plot[f[t], {t, 0, \pi}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.015], NavyBlue}}, 
  AxesLabel -> {"t", "f[t]"}];
 $\frac{6.2}{1.3 + e^{-t}}$ 
f[t]
```

The set of functions

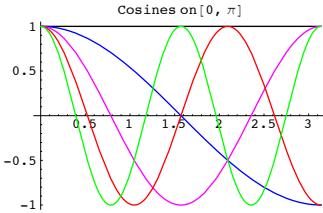
$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$

for

$s_k[t] = \cos[(k - 1)t]$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ . Here are plots of the first five.

```
clear[s, Subscript, k, t];
sk[t_] := Cos[(k - 1) t]
a = 0;
b = \pi;
Plot[{s1[t], s2[t], s3[t], s4[t], s5[t]}, {t, a, b},
PlotStyle -> {{Black}, {Blue}, {Magenta}, {Red}, {Green}},
PlotLabel -> Cosines on[a, b]];
```



Go with the function space  $S[a,b]$  spanned by:

```
khig = 3;
Table[sk[t], {k, 1, khig}]
{1, Cos[t], Cos[2 t]}
```

Come up with the function  $\text{Sclosest}[t]$  in  $S[0, \pi]$  so that the root-mean-square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $\text{Sclosest}[t]$  is as small as possible

Answer:

It's not bad at all.

For each  $k$ , you take the component of  $f[t]$  in the direction of  $s_k[t]$ :

$$\frac{f \cdot s_k}{s_k \cdot s_k} s_k[t]$$

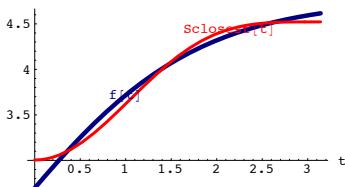
and then you add them up to get

$$\text{Sclosest}[t] = \sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{f \cdot s_k}{s_k \cdot s_k} s_k[t]:$$

```
Clear[fouriercoeff, Sclosest, k];
fouriercoeff[k_] :=
  fouriercoeff[k] =  $\frac{\text{NIntegrate}[f[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}{\text{NIntegrate}[s_k[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}$ ;
Sclosest[t_] =  $\sum_{k=1}^{khig} \text{fouriercoeff}[k] s_k[t]$ 
3.95273 - 0.758521 Cos[t] - 0.189524 Cos[2 t]
```

See the quality of the approximation of  $f[t]$  by  $\text{Sclosest}[t]$ :

```
fitplot = Plot[{f[t], Sclosest[t]}, 
{t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.015], NavyBlue}, 
{Thickness[0.01], Red}}, AxesLabel -> {"t", ""}, 
Epilog -> {{NavyBlue, Text["f[t]", {a + 1, f[a + 1]}]}, 
{Red, Text["Sclosest[t]", {b - 1, Sclosest[b - 1]}]}}];
```



Not bad.

The root-mean-square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$  is:

$$\sqrt{\text{NIntegrate}[(f[t] - Sclosest[t])^2, \{t, a, b\}]}$$

0.146193

### □B.3.a.ii) Increasing the quality of the approximation

Stay with the same set up as above.

What can you do to increase the quality of the approximation of  $f[t]$  by a combination of Cosines?

#### □Answer:

Do the same thing but use more cosines, by raising khigh from 3 (as it was above ) to 5 (or any other integer bigger than 3).

The function in the function space  $S[a,b]$  spanned by

$$\begin{aligned} khigh &= 8; \\ \text{Table}[s_k[t], \{k, 1, khigh\}] \\ &\{1, \cos[t], \cos[2t], \cos[3t], \cos[4t], \cos[5t], \cos[6t], \cos[7t]\} \end{aligned}$$

that is closest to  $f[t]$  is

$$Sclosest[t] = \sum_{k=1}^{khight} \frac{f s_k}{s_k * s_k} s_k[t]$$

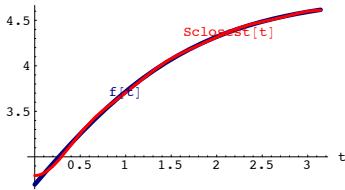
See the formula:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Clear}[fouriercoeff, Sclosest, k]; \\ \text{fouriercoeff}[k\_]:= \\ \text{fouriercoeff}[k] = \frac{\text{NIntegrate}[f[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}{\text{NIntegrate}[s_k[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}; \\ \text{Sclosest}[t\_] = \sum_{k=1}^{khight} \text{fouriercoeff}[k] s_k[t] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 3.95273 - 0.758521 \cos[t] - 0.189524 \cos[2t] - \\ 0.097787 \cos[3t] - 0.0425985 \cos[4t] - \\ 0.0341212 \cos[5t] - 0.0184477 \cos[6t] - 0.0172782 \cos[7t] \end{aligned}$$

See the quality of the approximation of  $f[t]$  by  $Sclosest[t]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fitplot} = \text{Plot}[\{f[t], Sclosest[t]\}, \\ \{t, a, b\}, \text{PlotStyle} \rightarrow \{\{\text{Thickness}[0.015], \text{NavyBlue}\}, \\ \{\text{Thickness}[0.01], \text{Red}\}\}, \text{AxesLabel} \rightarrow \{"t", "\"}, \\ \text{Epilog} \rightarrow \{\{\text{NavyBlue}, \text{Text}["f[t]", \{a + 1, f[a + 1]\}]\}, \\ \{\text{Red}, \text{Text}["Sclosest[t]", \{b - 1, Sclosest[b - 1]\}]\}\}], \end{aligned}$$



Sharing lots of ink.

That's very good.

You can do even better if you use more cosines by raising khigh:

The function in the function space  $S[a,b]$  spanned by

$$\begin{aligned} khight &= 15; \\ \text{Table}[s_k[t], \{k, 1, khight\}] \\ &\{1, \cos[t], \cos[2t], \cos[3t], \cos[4t], \\ &\cos[5t], \cos[6t], \cos[7t], \cos[8t], \cos[9t], \\ &\cos[10t], \cos[11t], \cos[12t], \cos[13t], \cos[14t]\} \end{aligned}$$

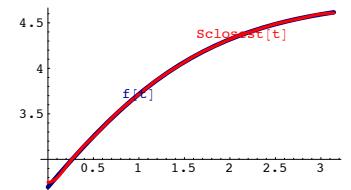
that is closest to  $f[t]$  is

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Sclosest}[t] &= \sum_{k=1}^{khight} \frac{f s_k}{s_k * s_k} s_k[t]; \\ \text{Clear}[fouriercoeff, Sclosest, k]; \\ \text{fouriercoeff}[k\_]:= \\ \text{fouriercoeff}[k] &= \frac{\text{NIntegrate}[f[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}{\text{NIntegrate}[s_k[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}; \\ \text{Sclosest}[t\_] &= \sum_{k=1}^{khight} \text{fouriercoeff}[k] s_k[t] \\ 3.95273 - 0.758521 \cos[t] - 0.189524 \cos[2t] - \\ 0.097787 \cos[3t] - 0.0425985 \cos[4t] - 0.0341212 \cos[5t] - \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 0.0184477 \cos[6t] - 0.0172782 \cos[7t] - 0.010289 \cos[8t] - \\ 0.0104222 \cos[9t] - 0.0065597 \cos[10t] - 0.00696701 \cos[11t] - \\ 0.00454596 \cos[12t] - 0.00498423 \cos[13t] - 0.00333577 \cos[14t] \end{aligned}$$

See the quality of the approximation of  $f[t]$  by  $Sclosest[t]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{fitplot} = \text{Plot}[\{f[t], Sclosest[t]\}, \\ \{t, a, b\}, \text{PlotStyle} \rightarrow \{\{\text{Thickness}[0.015], \text{NavyBlue}\}, \\ \{\text{Thickness}[0.01], \text{Red}\}\}, \text{AxesLabel} \rightarrow \{"t", "\"}, \\ \text{Epilog} \rightarrow \{\{\text{NavyBlue}, \text{Text}["f[t]", \{a + 1, f[a + 1]\}]\}, \\ \{\text{Red}, \text{Text}["Sclosest[t]", \{b - 1, Sclosest[b - 1]\}]\}\}], \end{aligned}$$



Very,very good.

Cool fit.

Sharing ink almost all the way.

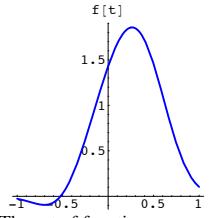
The root-mean-square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$  is:

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\text{NIntegrate}[(f[t] - Sclosest[t])^2, \{t, a, b\}]} \\ 0.00998227 \end{aligned}$$

### □B.3.a.iii) Legendre

Here is a function  $f[t]$  plotted on  $[-1,1]$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Clear}[f, t]; \\ f[t\_] = \frac{3.29 (\sin[2t] + \cos[t])}{1.3 + e^{3.8t}}; \\ \text{fplot} = \text{Plot}[f[t], \{t, -1, 1\}, \\ \text{PlotStyle} \rightarrow \{\{\text{Thickness}[0.01], \text{Blue}\}\}, \text{AxesLabel} \rightarrow \{"t", "f[t]" \}]; \end{aligned}$$



The set of functions

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

for

$$s_k[t] = \text{LegendreP}[k - 1, t]$$

is an orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = -1$  and  $b = 1$ .

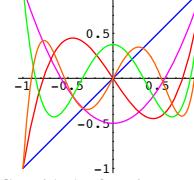
Here are the formulas for the first six:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Clear}[k]; \\ \text{ColumnForm}[\text{Table}[\text{LegendreP}[k - 1, t], \{k, 1, 6\}]] \\ 1 \\ t \\ -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3 t^2}{2} \\ -\frac{3 t}{2} + \frac{5 t^3}{2} \\ \frac{3}{8} - \frac{15 t^2}{4} + \frac{35 t^4}{8} \\ \frac{15 t}{8} - \frac{35 t^3}{4} + \frac{63 t^5}{8} \end{aligned}$$

Here are plots of the first six:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Clear}[s, g, k, t]; \\ s_{k\_}[t\_] := \text{LegendreP}[k - 1, t]; \\ a = -1; b = 1; \\ \text{Plot}[\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t], s_5[t], s_6[t]\}, \{t, a, b\}, \text{PlotStyle} \rightarrow \{\{\text{Black}\}, \{\text{Blue}\}, \{\text{Magenta}\}, \{\text{Red}\}, \{\text{Green}\}, \{\text{CadmiumOrange}\}\}, \\ \text{PlotLabel} \rightarrow \text{Legendre Polynomials on } [a, b]]; \end{aligned}$$

Legendre Polynomials on  $[-1, 1]$



Go with the function space  $S[a,b]$  spanned by:

$$\begin{aligned} khight &= 9; \\ \text{Table}[s_k[t], \{k, 1, khight\}] \end{aligned}$$

$$\left\{ 1, t, -\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3t^2}{2}, -\frac{3t}{2} + \frac{5t^3}{2}, \frac{3}{8} - \frac{15t^2}{4} + \frac{35t^4}{8}, \frac{15t}{8} - \frac{35t^3}{4} + \frac{63t^5}{8}, \right. \\ \left. -\frac{5}{16} + \frac{105t^2}{16} - \frac{315t^4}{16} + \frac{231t^6}{16}, -\frac{35t}{16} + \frac{315t^3}{16} - \frac{693t^5}{16} + \frac{429t^7}{16}, \right. \\ \left. \frac{35}{128} - \frac{315t^2}{32} + \frac{3465t^4}{64} - \frac{3003t^6}{32} + \frac{6435t^8}{128} \right\}$$

Come up with the function Sclosest[t] in S[a,b] so that the root-mean-square distance between f[t] and Sclosest[t] is as small as possible

□ Answer:

You do it the same way you did it with Cosines in part i).

For each k you take the component of f[t] in the direction of s\_k[t]:

$$\frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t]$$

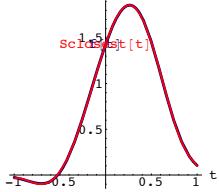
and then you add them up to get

$$\text{Sclosest}[t] = \sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t];$$

```
Clear[fouriercoeff, Sclosest, k];
fouriercoeff[k_] :=
  fouriercoeff[k] =  $\frac{\text{NIntegrate}[\mathbf{f}[t] \mathbf{s}_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}{\text{NIntegrate}[\mathbf{s}_k[t] \mathbf{s}_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}$ ;
Sclosest[t_] =  $\sum_{k=1}^{khig} \text{fouriercoeff}[k] s_k[t]$ 
0.74298 + 0.602838 t - 1.05741  $\left(-\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3t^2}{2}\right)$  - 0.88445  $\left(-\frac{3t}{2} + \frac{5t^3}{2}\right)$  +
0.40944  $\left(\frac{3}{8} - \frac{15t^2}{4} + \frac{35t^4}{8}\right)$  + 0.430588  $\left(\frac{15t}{8} - \frac{35t^3}{4} + \frac{63t^5}{8}\right)$  -
0.0423636  $\left(-\frac{5}{16} + \frac{105t^2}{16} - \frac{315t^4}{16} + \frac{231t^6}{16}\right)$  -
0.0804116  $\left(-\frac{35t}{16} + \frac{315t^3}{16} - \frac{693t^5}{16} + \frac{429t^7}{16}\right)$  -
0.0219155  $\left(\frac{35}{128} - \frac{315t^2}{32} + \frac{3465t^4}{64} - \frac{3003t^6}{32} + \frac{6435t^8}{128}\right)$ 
```

See the quality of the approximation of f[t] by Sclosest[t]:

```
fitplot = Plot[{f[t], Sclosest[t]}, {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.015], NavyBlue}, {Thickness[0.01], Red}}, AxesLabel -> {"t", ""}, Epilog -> {{NavyBlue, Text["f[t]", {a + 1, f[a + 1]}]}, {Red, Text["Sclosest[t]", {b - 1, Sclosest[b - 1]}]}},
```



Lookin' good and feeling good.

The root-mean-square distance between f[t] and closest[t] is:

$$\sqrt{\text{NIntegrate}[(f[t] - \text{Sclosest}[t])^2, \{t, a, b\}]}$$

$$0.0051227$$

□ B.3.a.iv) Other orthogonal families

Does the same technique work for all function spaces S[a,b] spanned by an orthogonal set on [a,b]?

□ Answer:

Sure does.

□ B.3.a.v) Why it works

Why does this technique work for all function spaces S[a,b] spanned by an orthogonal set on [a,b]?

□ Answer:

□ Perpendicularity explanation

$$\text{Put } \text{Sclosest}[t] = \sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t]$$

and take p with  $1 \leq p \leq n$  and look at

$$(f - \text{Sclosest}) \cdot s_p = \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p - \mathbf{s}_p \cdot \mathbf{s}_p$$

$$= \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p - \sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_p$$

$$= \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p - \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p}{\mathbf{s}_p \cdot \mathbf{s}_p} \mathbf{s}_p \cdot \mathbf{s}_p \quad (\text{because } \mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_p = 0 \text{ for } k \neq p)$$

$$= \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p - \mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p = 0.$$

This little manipulation reveals that

$$(f[t] - \text{Sclosest}[t])$$

is perpendicular to each of the functions

$$g[t] = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k[t]$$

in the function space S spanned by  $\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_n[t]\}$ .

And because perpendicular distance is the shortest distance,

$$\text{Sclosest}[t] = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t]$$

is the function in S closest to f[t].

□ Calculus explanation

Agree that

$$g[t] = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k[t]$$

is the generic member of the function space S spanned by  $\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_n[t]\}$ .

Look at the square of the root-mean-square distance from f to g:

$$\|f - g\|^2 = (f - g) \cdot (f - g) = f \cdot f - 2f \cdot g + g \cdot g$$

This is the same as

$$\|f - g\|^2 = f \cdot f - 2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k + \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k.$$

This is the same as

$$\|f - g\|^2 = f \cdot f - 2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k + \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k \cdot \sum_{k=1}^n c_p s_p.$$

This is the same as

$$\|f - g\|^2 = f \cdot f - 2 \sum_{k=1}^n c_k f \cdot s_k + \sum_{k=1}^n c_k^2 s_k \cdot s_k \quad \text{because } s_k \cdot s_p = 0 \text{ for } k \neq p.$$

Now remember that  $g[t] = \sum_{k=1}^n c_k s_k[t]$ .

To see what  $c_k$ 's make  $\|f - g\|^2$  as small as possible,

differentiate  $\|f - g\|^2$  with respect to one of the  $c_k$ 's - say  $c_p$  - with  $1 \leq p \leq n$  and set the result equal to 0.

This gives

$$\partial_{c_p} \|f - g\|^2 = 0 - 2f \cdot s_p + 2c_p s_p \cdot s_p = 0.$$

Clean this up to get

$$c_p = \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_p}{\mathbf{s}_p \cdot \mathbf{s}_p}$$

This tells you that the minimizing  $c_k$ 's are given by

$$c_k = \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}.$$

And this says that in no uncertain terms that the function g[t] in the function space S

spanned by  $\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_n[t]\}$  closest to f[t] is

$$\text{Sclosest}[t] = \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t]$$

## B.4) Complete orthogonal sets of functions

□ B.4.a.i) Complete orthogonal families

What do folks mean when they say that a given orthogonal family is complete?

□ Answer:

Folks say that a given orthogonal family

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  is complete if you are guaranteed that you can get great root-mean-square approximations on  $[a, b]$  of any function f[t] on  $[a, b]$  with  $\int_a^b f[t]^2 dt < \infty$  via the approximations

$$\sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t]$$

for large khig.

This is the same as saying that the root mean-square distance on  $[a, b]$  between

$$\sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{\mathbf{f} \cdot \mathbf{s}_k}{\mathbf{s}_k \cdot \mathbf{s}_k} s_k[t] \text{ and } f[t] \text{ goes to 0 as khig gets large.}$$

In other words,

$$\sqrt{\int_a^b \left( \sum_{k=1}^{khig} \frac{f[t] s_k[t]}{s_k \cdot s_k} - f[t] \right)^2 dt} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } khig \text{ gets large.}$$

In this case, folks like to say that the Fourier series

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{f[s_k]}{s_k \cdot s_k} s_k[t]$$

converges to  $f[t]$  in the sense of root-mean-square distance on the interval  $[a,b]$ .

#### □B.4.a.ii) Examples of complete orthogonal families

Give some examples of orthogonal systems that are known to be complete.

#### □Answer:

Some examples:

The Sine system on  $[0,\pi]$

The Cosine system on  $[0,\pi]$

The Sine-Cosine system on  $[-\pi,\pi]$

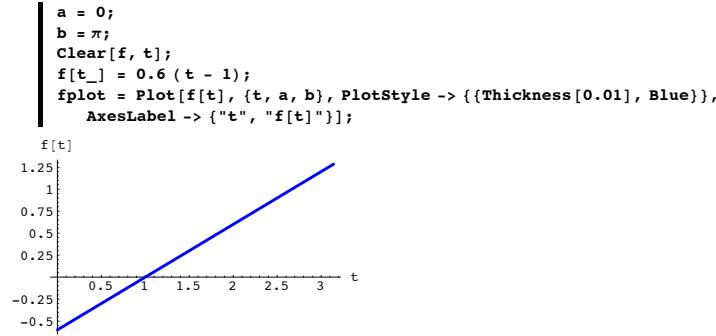
The Sine-Cosine system on  $[0,2\pi]$

The Legendre Polynomial system on  $[-1,1]$

Proofs of the completeness of these systems are given in graduate level math courses.

#### □B.4.a.iii) Sometimes the approximation breaks down in isolated spots

Here is a function  $f[t]$  plotted on  $[0, \pi]$ :



The set of functions

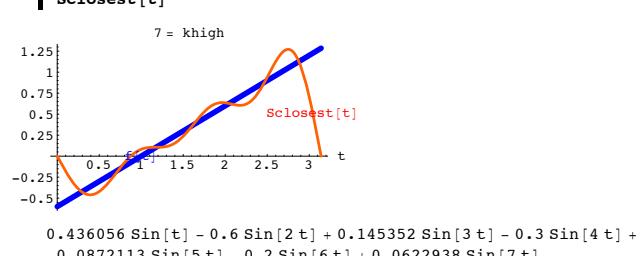
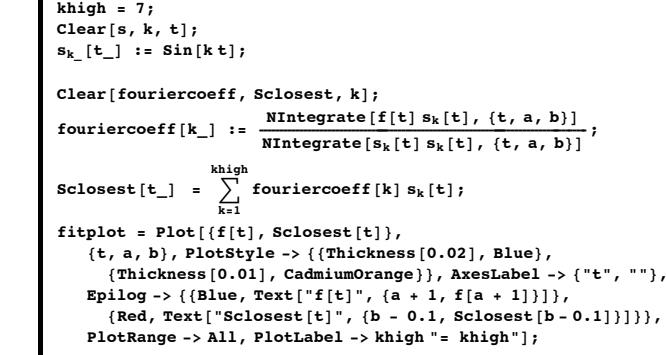
$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t], \dots\}$$

for

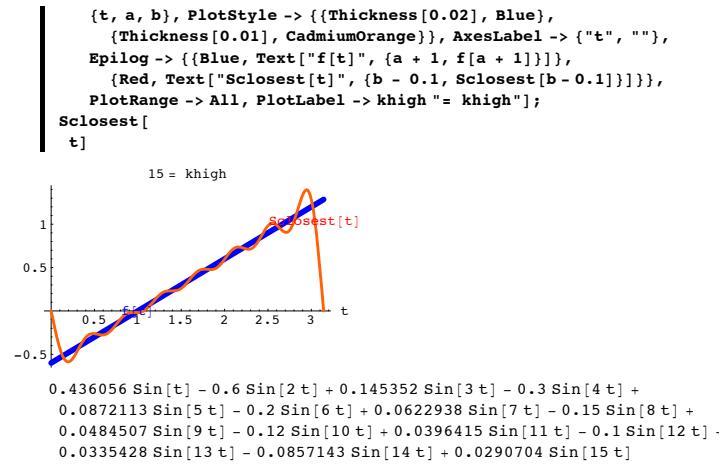
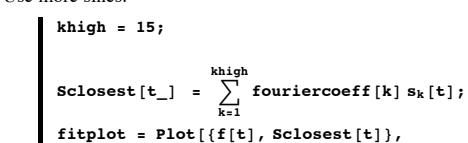
$$s_k[t] = \sin[kt]$$

is a complete orthogonal set on the interval  $a \leq t \leq b$  with  $a = 0$  and  $b = \pi$ .

Look at these attempts to approximate  $f[t]$  in terms of these sines:



Use more sines:



The approximation is great except at the endpoints.

Does this fly in the face of the fact that

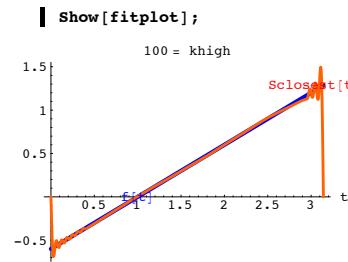
$\{\text{Sin}[t], \text{Sin}[2t], \text{Sin}[3t], \text{Sin}[4t], \dots\}$

is a complete orthogonal family on  $[0, \pi]$ ?

□ Answer:

Not at all.

Look again:



The root-mean-square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$  is very small:

```
|> NIntegrate[(f[t] - Sclosest[t])^2, {t, a, b}]  
0.112653
```

The point here is that the root mean square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$

$$\sqrt{\int_a^b (f[t] - Sclosest[t])^2 dt}$$

can be very small without having the plots of  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$  sharing ink the whole way across the interval.

But when the root mean square distance between  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$

$$\sqrt{\int_a^b (f[t] - Sclosest[t])^2 dt}$$

is very small ,

the plots of  $f[t]$  and  $Sclosest[t]$  do have to share lots of ink except at some at some isolated parts of  $[a,b]$ .

## B.5) Linear independence and linear dependence for sets of functions

Orthogonal families are guaranteed to be linearly independent.

The determinant test for linear independence or linear dependence

□ B.5.a.i) Definitions of linear independence and linear dependence for sets of functions

What do folks mean when they say that a given set of functions is linearly independent?

What do the same folks mean when they say that a given set of functions is linearly dependent?

□ Answer:

Here's the inside scoop:

▪ A set of functions  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], \dots, f_n[t]\}$  is linearly independent on an interval  $[a,b]$  if none of the functions in this set are in the function space spanned by the others.

▪ A set of functions  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], \dots, f_n[t]\}$  is linearly dependent on an interval  $[a,b]$  at least one of functions in this set are in the function space spanned by the others.

□ B.5.a.ii) Orthogonal families are linearly independent

A given set of non-zero functions

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$

defined on an interval  $[a,b]$  are orthogonal (mutually perpendicular) on  $[a,b]$

if

$$s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p[t] s_q[t] dt = 0 \quad \text{when } p \neq q.$$

and

$$\int_a^b s_p[t]^2 dt > 0 \text{ for all the p's.}$$

Explain this:

If  $\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$  are orthogonal on  $[a,b]$ , then  $\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$  is linearly independent on  $[a,b]$ .

□ Answer:

This will be an explanation by contradiction.

Assume  $\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], \dots, s_k[t]\}$  are orthogonal on  $[a,b]$  but not linearly independent on  $[a,b]$ .

This tells you that one of the functions is in the function space spanned by the others,

Relabel the set so that this one function is  $s_1[t]$ . And because  $s_1[t]$  is in the function space spanned by the others, you know that

$$s_1[t] = \sum_{j=2}^k c_j s_j[t]. \text{ for certain numbers } \{c_2, c_3, \dots, c_k\}.$$

Multiply through by  $s_1[t]$ . to get

$$s_1[t]^2 = \sum_{j=2}^k c_j s_1[t] s_j[t].$$

Integrate from a to b to get:

$$\int_a^b s_1[t]^2 dt = \sum_{j=2}^k c_j \int_a^b s_1[t] s_j[t] dt$$

This gives

$$\int_a^b s_1[t]^2 dt = \sum_{j=2}^k c_j 0 = 0.$$

because  $s_p \cdot s_q = \int_a^b s_p[t] s_q[t] dt = 0 \quad \text{when } p \neq q.$

This leads to the conclusion that  $\int_a^b s_1[t]^2 dt = 0$ , which is a contradiction because  $\int_a^b s_p[t]^2 dt > 0$  for all the p's.

□ B.5.b.i) The determinant test for linear independence or dependence

What is the determinant test for linear independence and linear dependence?

And how do you use it?

□ Answer:

▪ Saying a set of three functions  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t]\}$  is linearly **dependent** on an interval  $[a,b]$  is the same as saying

$$\text{Det}\begin{pmatrix} f_1[t_1] & f_2[t_1] & f_3[t_1] \\ f_1[t_2] & f_2[t_2] & f_3[t_2] \\ f_1[t_3] & f_2[t_3] & f_3[t_3] \end{pmatrix} = 0 \text{ no matter what } t_1, t_2 \text{ and } t_3 \text{ in } [a,b] \text{ are.}$$

▪ Saying a set of three functions  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t]\}$  is linearly **independent** on an interval  $[a,b]$  is the same as saying

$$\text{Det}\begin{pmatrix} f_1[t_1] & f_2[t_1] & f_3[t_1] \\ f_1[t_2] & f_2[t_2] & f_3[t_2] \\ f_1[t_3] & f_2[t_3] & f_3[t_3] \end{pmatrix} \neq 0 \text{ for at least one choice of } t_1, t_2 \text{ and } t_3 \text{ in } [a,b].$$

Here's how you use it on the sample case

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t]\} = \{e^t, e^{-t}, \text{Sinh}[t]\}$  on  $[a,b] = [-2,2]$

Make the test matrix:

```
|> Clear[s, f, Subscript, k, t];  
{f1[t_], f2[t_], f3[t_]} = {e^t, e^-t, Sinh[t]};  
testmatrix = Table[f_j[t_i], {i, 1, 3}, {j, 1, 3}];  
MatrixForm[testmatrix]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^{t_1} & e^{-t_1} & \text{Sinh}[t_1] \\ e^{t_2} & e^{-t_2} & \text{Sinh}[t_2] \\ e^{t_3} & e^{-t_3} & \text{Sinh}[t_3] \end{pmatrix}$$

Evaluate the determinant of the test matrix at some random selections of  $t_1, t_2$  and  $t_3$  in  $[-2,2]$ :

```
|> {a, b} = {-2, 2};  
Det[testmatrix] /. {t1 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],  
t2 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t3 -> Random[Real, {a, b}]}  
0
```

Rerun many times.

Zero every time.

All indications are that  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t]\}$  is a linearly dependent set.

Give it the acid test by calculating  $\text{Det}[\text{testmatrix}]$  and letting *Mathematica* try to simplify:

```
|> Simplify[Det[testmatrix]]  
0
```

Zero.

The call:

```
|> {f1[t], f2[t], f3[t]} = {e^t, e^-t, Sinh[t]};  
This isn't terribly surprising because  $\text{Sinh}[t] = \frac{1}{2} e^t - \frac{1}{2} e^{-t}$ .
```

Here's how you use it on the sample case

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t]\} = \{e^t, t, e^{-t}\}$  and  $[a,b] = [-1,1]$

Make the test matrix:

```
|> Clear[s, f, Subscript, k, t];  
{f1[t_], f2[t_], f3[t_]} = {e^t, t^2, e^-t};  
testmatrix = Table[f_j[t_i], {i, 1, 3}, {j, 1, 3}];  
MatrixForm[testmatrix]
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} e^{t_1} & t_1^2 & e^{-t_1} \\ e^{t_2} & t_2^2 & e^{-t_2} \\ e^{t_3} & t_3^2 & e^{-t_3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Evaluate the determinant of the test matrix at some random selections of  $t_1, t_2$  and  $t_3$  in  $[-1, 1]$ :

```
{a, b} = {-1, 1};
Det[testmatrix] /. {t1 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],
t2 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t3 -> Random[Real, {a, b}]}

0.330211
Rerun a couple of times.
```

Not zero.

The call:

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t]\} = \{e^t, t^2, e^{-t}\}$ : is linearly **independent** on any interval  $[a, b]$  that contains  $[-1, 1]$ .

### □B.5.b.ii) The determinant test works for families of two or more functions

Does the determinant test for linear dependence or independence work for sets of functions with any number of members?

□Answer:

You betcha!

▪ Here's how you use it on the sample case

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t]\} = \{\sin[t], t, t^3, t^5\}$  on  $[a, b] = [0, 2\pi]$ :

Make the test matrix:

```
Clear[s, f, Subscript, k, t];
{f1[t_], f2[t_], f3[t_], f4[t_]} = {Sin[t], t, t^3, t^5};
testmatrix = Table[fj[t], {i, 1, 4}, {j, 1, 4}];
MatrixForm[testmatrix]

\begin{pmatrix} \sin[t_1] & t_1 & t_1^3 & t_1^5 \\ \sin[t_2] & t_2 & t_2^3 & t_2^5 \\ \sin[t_3] & t_3 & t_3^3 & t_3^5 \\ \sin[t_4] & t_4 & t_4^3 & t_4^5 \end{pmatrix}
```

Evaluate the determinant of the test matrix at some random selections of  $t_1, t_2, t_3$  and  $t_4$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$ :

```
{a, b} = {0, 2\pi};
Det[testmatrix] /.
{t1 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t2 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],
t3 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t4 -> Random[Real, {a, b}]}

-54111.6
Rerun a couple of times.
```

Not zero.

The call:

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t]\} = \{\sin[t], t, t^3, t^5\}$ : is linearly **independent** on any interval  $[a, b]$  containing  $[0, 2\pi]$ .

▪ Here's how you use it on the sample case

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t], f_6[t]\} = \{1, \cos[t], \cos[2t], \cos[3t], \cos[4t], \cos[5t]\}$  on  $[a, b] = [0, 2\pi]$ :

Make the test matrix:

```
Clear[s, f, Subscript, k, t];
{f1[t_], f2[t_], f3[t_], f4[t_], f5[t_], f6[t_]} =
{1, Cos[t], Cos[2t], Cos[3t], Cos[4t], Cos[5t]};
testmatrix = Table[fj[t], {i, 1, 6}, {j, 1, 6}];
MatrixForm[testmatrix]
```

```
\begin{pmatrix} 1 \cos[t_1] & \cos[2t_1] & \cos[3t_1] & \cos[4t_1] & \cos[5t_1]^4 \\ 1 \cos[t_2] & \cos[2t_2] & \cos[3t_2] & \cos[4t_2] & \cos[5t_2]^4 \\ 1 \cos[t_3] & \cos[2t_3] & \cos[3t_3] & \cos[4t_3] & \cos[5t_3]^4 \\ 1 \cos[t_4] & \cos[2t_4] & \cos[3t_4] & \cos[4t_4] & \cos[5t_4]^4 \\ 1 \cos[t_5] & \cos[2t_5] & \cos[3t_5] & \cos[4t_5] & \cos[5t_5]^4 \\ 1 \cos[t_6] & \cos[2t_6] & \cos[3t_6] & \cos[4t_6] & \cos[5t_6]^4 \end{pmatrix}
```

Evaluate the determinant of the test matrix at some random selections of  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5$  and  $t_6$  in  $[0, 2\pi]$ :

```
{a, b} = {0, 2\pi};
Det[testmatrix] /.
{t1 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t2 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],
t3 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t4 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],
t5 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t6 -> Random[Real, {a, b}]}

0
Rerun a couple of times.
```

Zero every time.

All indications are that  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t], f_6[t]\}$  is a linearly dependent set.

Give it the acid test by calculating  $\text{Det}[\text{testmatrix}]$  and letting *Mathematica* try to simplify:

```
| Simplify[Det[testmatrix]]
0
```

Zero.

The call:

```
| f1[t], f2[t], f3[t], f4[t], f5[t], f6[t] } = {1, \cos[t], \cos[2t], \cos[3t], \cos[4t], \cos[5t]^4}
is linearly dependent on any interval [a,b].
```

### □B.5.b.iii) Finding the explicit dependence

Thanks go to Professor Bruce Reznick of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for some helpful comments

Go with

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t], f_6[t]\} = \{\sin[t], \sin[2t], \sin[3t], \sin[4t], \sin[5t], \sin[t]^5\}$  and make the test matrix:

```
| Clear[s, f, Subscript, k, t];
{f1[t_], f2[t_], f3[t_], f4[t_], f5[t_], f6[t_]} =
{\sin[t], \sin[2t], \sin[3t], \sin[4t], \sin[5t], \sin[t]^5};
testmatrix = Table[fj[t], {i, 1, 6}, {j, 1, 6}];
MatrixForm[testmatrix]
```

```
\begin{pmatrix} \sin[t_1] & \sin[2t_1] & \sin[3t_1] & \sin[4t_1] & \sin[5t_1] & \sin[t_1]^5 \\ \sin[t_2] & \sin[2t_2] & \sin[3t_2] & \sin[4t_2] & \sin[5t_2] & \sin[t_2]^5 \\ \sin[t_3] & \sin[2t_3] & \sin[3t_3] & \sin[4t_3] & \sin[5t_3] & \sin[t_3]^5 \\ \sin[t_4] & \sin[2t_4] & \sin[3t_4] & \sin[4t_4] & \sin[5t_4] & \sin[t_4]^5 \\ \sin[t_5] & \sin[2t_5] & \sin[3t_5] & \sin[4t_5] & \sin[5t_5] & \sin[t_5]^5 \\ \sin[t_6] & \sin[2t_6] & \sin[3t_6] & \sin[4t_6] & \sin[5t_6] & \sin[t_6]^5 \end{pmatrix}
```

The determinant of the test matrix is

```
| Simplify[Det[testmatrix]]
0
```

Zero.

This tells you that

```
| f1[t], f2[t], f3[t], f4[t], f5[t], f6[t] } = {\sin[t], \sin[2t], \sin[3t], \sin[4t], \sin[5t], \sin[t]^5}
is linearly dependent on any interval [a,b].
```

How do you determine the functions in  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t], f_6[t]\}$  that are in the function spaces determined by the others?

□Answer:

Fairly easily.

At this stage you know that the determinant of the test matrix is 0 for any and all choices of  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5$  and  $t_6$ .

When you replace  $t_1, t_2, t_3, t_4, t_5$  with random numbers and replace  $t_6$  with  $t$ , you are guaranteed the resulting determinant is 0 for all  $t$ .

```
| {a, b} = {0, 2\pi};
Clear[t]
result = (Det[testmatrix] /.
{t1 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],
t2 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t3 -> Random[Real, {a, b}],
t4 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t5 -> Random[Real, {a, b}], t6 -> t})
-0.878122 \sin[t] + 1.405 \sin[t]^5 + 0.439061 \sin[3t] - 0.0878122 \sin[5t]
```

Knowing that this is 0 for all  $t$ , you can see at a glance that

- $\sin[t]^5$  is in the function space determined by the others.
- $\sin[t]$  is in the function space determined by the others.
- $\sin[3t]$  is in the function space determined by the others.
- $\sin[5t]$  is in the function space determined by the others.

If this makes no sense to you, click on the right.

To see why  $\sin[t]^5$  is in the function space determined by the others, take the coefficient of  $\sin[t]^5$ :

```
| Coefficient[result, \sin[t]^5]
1.405
```

Divide everything by this coefficient:

```
| Expand[\frac{1}{Coefficient[result, \sin[t]^5]} result]
-0.625 \sin[t] + 1. \sin[t]^5 + 0.3125 \sin[3t] - 0.0625 \sin[5t]
```

Knowing that this is 0 for all  $t$ , you see that

$$\sin[t]^5 = 0.625 \sin[t] - 0.3125 \sin[3t] + 0.0625 \sin[5t]$$

for all  $t$ , confirming that  $\sin[t]^5$  is in the function space spanned by the others.

### □B.5.b.iv) Why the determinant test works

Thanks go to Professor Joseph Rosenblatt of University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign for some helpful suggestions.

Two functions:

Here's why it works for two functions  $\{f[t], g[t]\}$  on an interval  $[a, b]$ :

If  $\text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] \end{pmatrix}] \neq 0$  for some  $x$  and  $y$  in  $[a,b]$ , then  $\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] \end{pmatrix}$  is of full rank; so neither function is a multiple of the other. This is enough to proclaim that  $\{f[t], g[t]\}$  is linearly independent on any interval including  $[a,b]$ .

On the other hand, if  $\text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] \end{pmatrix}] = 0$  for some  $x$  and  $y$  in  $[a,b]$ , then you can solve:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Clear}[f, g, x, y]; \\ \text{Solve}[\text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] \end{pmatrix}] == 0, f[y]] \\ \{ \{f[y] \rightarrow \frac{f[x] g[y]}{g[x]}\} \} \end{array} \right.$$

The upshot :

If there is an  $x$  with  $g[x] \neq 0$ , plug in this  $x$  to see

$$f[y] = \frac{f[x]}{g[x]} g[y]$$

as a definite multiple ( $\frac{f[x]}{g[x]}$ ) of  $g[y]$  for all  $y$ 's in  $[a,b]$ . This tells you that the set consisting of these two functions is a linearly independent set.

This tells you that for all  $y$ 's in  $[a,b]$  with the result that  $\{f[t], g[t]\}$  is linearly dependent.

On the other hand, if  $g[x] = 0$  for all  $x$ 's in  $[a,b]$ , then  $\{f[t], g[t]\}$  is automatically linearly dependent...

### Three functions:

Here's why it works for three functions  $\{f[t], g[t], h[t]\}$  on an interval  $[a,b]$ :

If  $\text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] & h[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] & h[y] \\ f[z] & g[z] & h[z] \end{pmatrix}] \neq 0$  for some  $x, y$  and  $z$  in  $[a,b]$ , then  $\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] & h[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] & h[y] \\ f[z] & g[z] & h[z] \end{pmatrix}$  is full rank; so neither This rules out the possibilities that one of the functions is in the function space spanned by the others. This signals that  $\{f[t], g[t], h[t]\}$  is linearly independent on  $[a,b]$  (and on any interval containing  $[a,b]$ ).

On the other hand, if  $\text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] & h[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] & h[y] \\ f[z] & g[z] & h[z] \end{pmatrix}] = 0$  for all  $x, y$  and  $z$  in  $[a,b]$ , then you can solve:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Clear}[f, g, h, x, y, z]; \\ \text{Simplify}[\text{Solve}[\text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} f[x] & g[x] & h[x] \\ f[y] & g[y] & h[y] \\ f[z] & g[z] & h[z] \end{pmatrix}] == 0, f[z]]] \\ \{ \{f[z] \rightarrow \frac{f[y] g[z] h[x] - f[x] g[z] h[y] - f[y] g[x] h[z] + f[x] g[y] h[z]}{g[y] h[x] - g[x] h[y]}\} \} \end{array} \right.$$

This says

$$f[z] = \frac{f[y] g[z] h[x] - f[x] g[z] h[y] - f[y] g[x] h[z] + f[x] g[y] h[z]}{g[y] h[x] - g[x] h[y]}$$

for all  $x, y$  and  $z$  in  $[a,b]$ .

This is the same as

$$f[z] = \left( \frac{f[y] h[x] - f[x] h[y]}{g[y] h[x] - g[x] h[y]} \right) g[z] + \left( \frac{-f[y] g[x] + f[x] g[y]}{g[y] h[x] - g[x] h[y]} \right) h[z].$$

for all  $x, y$  and  $z$  in  $[a,b]$ .

The upshot :

If there are  $x$  and  $y$  with

$$g[y] h[x] - g[x] h[y] \neq 0,$$

you can plug in this choice of  $x$  and  $y$  to write  $f[z]$  as an explicit linear combination of  $g[z]$  and  $h[z]$  with the result that  $f[t]$  is in the function space spanned by  $g[t]$  and  $h[t]$ . This signals that  $\{f[t], g[t], h[t]\}$  is linearly dependent on  $[a,b]$

On the other hand if

$$g[y] h[x] - g[x] h[y] = \text{Det}[\begin{pmatrix} g[y] & h[y] \\ g[x] & h[x] \end{pmatrix}] = 0$$

for all  $y$  and  $z$  in  $[a,b]$  then the two function case tells you  $\{g[t], h[t]\}$  is linearly dependent on  $[a,b]$  and so  $\{f[t], g[t], h[t]\}$  is linearly dependent as well.

### More than three functions

It is possible to extend the explanation given above to more than 3 functions via Mathematical Induction.

Math mavens should think about this.

## B.6) The Gram-Schmidt Process: Just the ticket for dealing with function spaces spanned by non-orthogonal sets of functions

### B.6.a.i) Function spaces spanned by non-orthogonal families

Given a set of functions

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], \dots, f_k[t]\}$  on an interval  $[a, b]$ , you make the function space  $S[a, b]$  spanned by  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], \dots, f_k[t]\}$ .

This function space  $S[a, b]$  consists of all functions  $s[t]$  of the form.

$$s[t] = \sum_{j=1}^k c_j f_j[t] \text{ with } a \leq t \leq b.$$

One good example is the function

space  $S[-1, 1]$  of all fourth degree polynomials on  $[-1, 1]$ .

You get this by going with

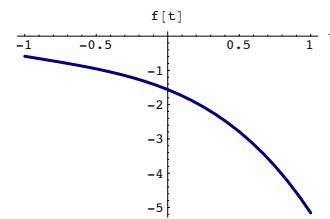
$$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\} = \{1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4\}.$$

See a random member of this function space :

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Clear}[f, \text{Subscript}, k, t]; \\ f_1[t_] = 1; \\ f_2[t_] = t; \\ f_3[t_] = t^2; \\ f_4[t_] = t^3; \\ f_5[t_] = t^4; \\ a = -1; \\ b = 1; \\ c_k := \text{Random}[\text{Real}, \{-2, 2\}]; \\ s[t_] = \sum_{k=1}^5 c_k f_k[t] \\ -1.55943 - 1.68131 t - 1.22393 t^2 - 0.604767 t^3 - 0.0898116 t^4 \end{array} \right.$$

And its plot:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Plot}[s[t], \{t, a, b\}, \text{PlotStyle} \rightarrow \{\{\text{Thickness}[0.01], \text{NavyBlue}\}\}, \\ \text{AxesLabel} \rightarrow \{"t", "f[t]"}, \text{AspectRatio} \rightarrow 1/\text{GoldenRatio}\}; \end{array} \right.$$



Now look at this:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \int_a^b f_2[t] f_4[t] dt \\ \frac{2}{5} \end{array} \right.$$

Interpret the result.

### Answer:

Look again:

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \int_a^b f_2[t] f_4[t] dt \\ \frac{2}{5} \end{array} \right.$$

This tells you that

$$f_2 \bullet f_4 = \int_a^b f_2[t] f_4[t] dt \neq 0.$$

The interpretation : The given family

$$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\} = \{1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4\}$$

is not orthogonal on  $[a, b] = [-1, 1]$

### B.6.a.ii) Using Gram-Schmidt to get an orthogonal spanning set

Come up with an orthogonal family

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t], s_5[t]\} \text{ on } [a, b]$$

so that function space spanned by

$$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t], s_5[t]\}$$

is the same as the function space spanned by

$$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\} = \{1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4\}$$

### Answer:

Apply something called the Gram – Schmidt process to  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\}$  :

```

orthospanners = GramSchmidt[
{f1[t], f2[t], f3[t], f4[t], f5[t]}, InnerProduct -> \left(\int_a^b #1 #2 dt\right)]
{1/sqrt[2], Sqrt[3/2] t, 3/2 Sqrt[5/2] (-1/3 + t^2),
5/2 Sqrt[7/2] (-3/5 t + t^3), 105 (-1/5 + t^4 - 6/7 (-1/3 + t^2))/8 Sqrt[2]}

```

Put:

```

s1_[t_] := orthospanners[[j]];
ColumnForm[Table[sj[t], {j, 1, Length[orthospanners]}]]
1/sqrt[2]
Sqrt[3/2] t
3/2 Sqrt[5/2] (-1/3 + t^2)
5/2 Sqrt[7/2] (-3/5 t + t^3)
105 (-1/5 + t^4 - 6/7 (-1/3 + t^2))/8 Sqrt[2]

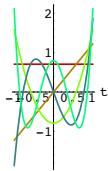
```

See this orthogonal family:

```

Plot[{s1[t], s2[t], s3[t], s4[t], s5[t]}, {t, a, b},
PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.02], RGBColor[0.8, 0, 0]},
{Thickness[0.02], RGBColor[0.7, 0.5, 0]},
{Thickness[0.02], RGBColor[0.5, 1, 0]},
{Thickness[0.02], RGBColor[0.2, 0.5, 0.5]},
{Thickness[0.02], RGBColor[0, 1, 0.5]}}, AxesLabel -> {"t", ""}]

```



The function space spanned by

{s1[t], s2[t], s3[t], s4[t], s5[t]}

is guaranteed to be the same as the function space spanned by

{f1[t], f2[t], f3[t], f4[t], f5[t]} = {1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4}

If you want to see how the Gram-Schmidt process works step-by-step, click and the right.

#### □Gram-Schmidt Step 1:

Put  $g_1[t] = f_1[t]$ .

:

```

Clear[g, s, t];
g1[t_] = f1[t]
1

```

#### □Gram-Schmidt Step 2:

Put

$g_2[t] = f_2[t] - (\text{component of } f_2[t] \text{ in the direction of } g_1[t])$ .

```

g2[t_] = f2[t] - Integrate[f2[t] g1[t] dt]/Integrate[g1[t] g1[t] dt] g1[t]
t

```

#### □Gram-Schmidt Step 3:

Put

$g_3[t] = f_3[t] - \text{component of } f_3[t] \text{ in the direction of } g_1[t] - \text{component of } f_3[t] \text{ in the direction of } g_2[t]$

```

g3[t_] = f3[t] - Integrate[f3[t] g1[t] dt]/Integrate[g1[t] g1[t] dt] g1[t] - Integrate[f3[t] g2[t] dt]/Integrate[g2[t] g2[t] dt] g2[t]
- 1/3 + t^2

```

#### □Gram-Schmidt Step 4:

Put

$g_4[t] = f_4[t] - \sum_{j=1}^3 \text{component of } f_4[t] \text{ in the direction of } g_j[t]$ .

```

g4[t_] = f4[t] - Sum[Integrate[f4[t] gj[t] dt]/Integrate[gj[t] gj[t] dt] gj[t],
{j, 1, 3}]
- 3/5 + t^3

```

#### □Gram-Schmidt Step 5:

Put

$g_5[t] = f_5[t] - \sum_{j=1}^4 \text{component of } f_5[t] \text{ in the direction of } g_j[t]$ .

```

g5[t_] = f5[t] - Sum[Integrate[f5[t] gj[t] dt]/Integrate[gj[t] gj[t] dt] gj[t],
{j, 1, 4}]
- 1/5 + t^4 - 6/7 (-1/3 + t^2)

```

Now you stop because you have used the whole family

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\} = \{1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4\}$ .

By its construction:

→ The new family  $\{g_1[t], g_2[t], g_3[t], g_4[t], g_5[t]\}$  determines the same function space

$S[a,b]$  as the original family  $\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\}$ .

→ The new family  $\{g_1[t], g_2[t], g_3[t], g_4[t], g_5[t]\}$  is orthogonal on  $[a,b]$ .

Spot check:

```

q = Random[Integer, {1, 3}];
p = Random[Integer, {q + 1, 5}];
Integrate[gq[t] gp[t], {t, a, b}]
0

```

Now finish it off by setting

$$s_j[t] = \frac{g_j[t]}{\sqrt{\int_a^b g_j[t] g_j[t] dt}}$$

```

s1_[t_] := g1[t]/Sqrt[Integrate[g1[t] g1[t] dt]]
Table[sj[t], {j, 1, 5}]
{1/sqrt[2], Sqrt[3/2] t, 3/2 Sqrt[5/2] (-1/3 + t^2),
5/2 Sqrt[7/2] (-3/5 t + t^3), 105 (-1/5 + t^4 - 6/7 (-1/3 + t^2))/8 Sqrt[2]}

```

Compare:

```

GramSchmidt[{f1[t], f2[t], f3[t], f4[t], f5[t]}, InnerProduct ->
(Integrate[#1 #2, {t, a, b}] &)]
{1/sqrt[2], Sqrt[3/2] t, 3/2 Sqrt[5/2] (-1/3 + t^2),
5/2 Sqrt[7/2] (-3/5 t + t^3), 105 (-1/5 + t^4 - 6/7 (-1/3 + t^2))/8 Sqrt[2]}

```

That's it.

#### □B.6.a.iii) Using Gram-Schmidt to come up with root-mean-square approximations

Come up with the best root-mean-square approximation on  $[-1, 1]$  of  $f[t] = e^t$  by a fourth degree polynomial.

□Answer:

This is the same as going with the function space  $S[-1,1]$  spanned by

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\} = \{1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4\}$

and asking for the function

$$\text{Sclosest}[t] = \sum_{k=1}^5 c_k f_k[t]$$

that is closest to

$$f[t] = e^t$$

with respect to root-mean-square distance on  $[-1,1]$ .

Thanks to the work in the last part, you know that the family

$\{s_1[t], s_2[t], s_3[t], s_4[t], s_5[t]\}$

resulting from running Gram-Schmidt on

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\}$

is orthogonal on  $[-1,1]$  and spans the same function space as the original family

$\{f_1[t], f_2[t], f_3[t], f_4[t], f_5[t]\} = \{1, t, t^2, t^3, t^4\}$ .

```

khigh = 5;
Clear[s, f, Subscript, k, t];
fk[t_] = tk-1;
a = -1;
b = 1;
orthospanners = GramSchmidt[{f1[t], f2[t], f3[t], f4[t], f5[t]}];
InnerProduct →  $\left( \int_a^b \#1 \#2 dt \right)$ ;
sj[t_] := orthospanners[[j]];
Table[sj[t], {j, 1, Length[orthospanners]}]
{ $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \sqrt{\frac{3}{2}} t, \frac{3}{2} \sqrt{\frac{5}{2}} \left(-\frac{1}{3} + t^2\right),$ 
 $\frac{5}{2} \sqrt{\frac{7}{2}} \left(-\frac{3}{5} t + t^3\right), \frac{105}{8} \left(-\frac{1}{5} + t^4 - \frac{6}{7} \left(-\frac{1}{3} + t^2\right)\right)}$ 

```

So the question reduces to finding the function of the form

and asking for the function

$$Sclosest[t] = \sum_{k=1}^5 c_k s_k[t]$$

that is closest to

$$f[t] = e^t$$

with respect to root-mean-square distance on [-1,1].

And this is easy.

The function you are after is:

```

khigh = 5;
Clear[f, t];
f[t_] = e^t;
Clear[fouriercoeff, Sclosest];
fouriercoeff[k_] :=
  fouriercoeff[k] =  $\frac{\text{NIntegrate}[f[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}{\text{NIntegrate}[s_k[t] s_k[t], \{t, a, b\}]}$ ;
Sclosest[t_] =  $\sum_{k=1}^{khigh} \text{fouriercoeff}[k] s_k[t]$ 
1.1752 + 1.10364 t + 0.536722  $\left(-\frac{1}{3} + t^2\right) +$ 
0.176139  $\left(-\frac{3}{5} t + t^3\right) + 0.0435974 \left(-\frac{1}{5} + t^4 - \frac{6}{7} \left(-\frac{1}{3} + t^2\right)\right)$ 

```

Multiply it out:

```
| Expand[Sclosest[t]]
```

$$1.00003 + 0.997955 t + 0.499352 t^2 + 0.176139 t^3 + 0.0435974 t^4$$

See the quality of the approximation:

```

fitplot = Plot[{f[t], Sclosest[t]}, {t, a, b}, PlotStyle -> {{Thickness[0.03], NavyBlue},
  {Thickness[0.01], Gold}}, AxesLabel -> {"t", ""},
Epilog -> {NavyBlue, Text["f[t]", {a + 0.5, f[a + 0.5]}]},
{Gold, Text["Sclosest[t]", {b - 0.5, Sclosest[b - 0.5]}]}];


```

Copacetic.