

# How to Gram-Schmidt Properly (i.e. without normalization)

Given vectors  $u_0, u_1, u_2, u_3, \dots$   
define

$$v_0 = u_0$$

$$v_1 = u_1 - \frac{\langle u_1, v_0 \rangle}{\langle v_0, v_0 \rangle} v_0$$

$$v_2 = u_2 - \frac{\langle u_2, v_0 \rangle}{\langle v_0, v_0 \rangle} v_0 - \frac{\langle u_2, v_1 \rangle}{\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle} v_1$$

$$v_3 = u_3 - \frac{\langle u_3, v_0 \rangle}{\langle v_0, v_0 \rangle} v_0 - \frac{\langle u_3, v_1 \rangle}{\langle v_1, v_1 \rangle} v_1 - \frac{\langle u_3, v_2 \rangle}{\langle v_2, v_2 \rangle} v_2$$

⋮

If you want Gaussian Quadrature  
of degree of precision  $2n+1$ ,  
then what you do is

Gram Schmidt  $1, x, x^2, x^3, \dots, x^{n+1}$   
with respect to  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  defined by  
the weight function to get  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n+1}$ .

DO NOT normalize.

~~Then~~ Let  $c_0, c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n$  be  
the roots of  $p_{n+1}$ .

Then the quadrature formula is

$$\int_a^b f(x) w(x) dx \approx \sum_{k=0}^n A_k f(c_k)$$

where  $A_k \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_a^b L_k(x) w(x) dx$  where

$L_k$  is the polynomial of degree  $\leq n$  s.t.  
it is 1 on  $c_k$  and 0 on the other  $c$ 's.

Context:

Suppose that  $[a, b]$  is an interval.

Suppose that  $w$  is a nonnegative continuous function on  $[a, b]$  which is positive for all but finitely many points.

Claim: For any fixed  $n \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ ,

we can find ~~coordinates~~

$c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n \in [a, b]$  and

$A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n \in (0, \infty)$  such that

$\forall p \in P_{2n+1}$

$$\int_a^b p(x) w(x) dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k).$$

Proof: We can define an inner product on the space of continuous functions  $f: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as follows:

$$\langle f, g \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_a^b f(x) g(x) w(x) dx.$$

This is bilinear and symmetric (why?). Since  $w$  is nonnegative and positive for all but finitely many points and the functions are continuous, we see that

$$\langle f, f \rangle \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_a^b [f(x)]^2 w(x) dx = 0$$

implies  $f$  is the constantly zero function,

so  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  is positive-definite and

thus is an inner product.

Now that we know we have an inner product, we can apply Gram-Schmidt to the functions

$x \mapsto 1, x \mapsto x, x \mapsto x^2, \dots, x \mapsto x^{n+1}$  on  $[a, b]$

to get an orthogonal family of polynomial functions  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n+1}$  such that

$$\forall k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n+1\}$$

$$\text{span} \{p_0, p_1, \dots, p_k\} = P_k$$

$$\text{and } \forall i, j \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n+1\} \quad i \neq j \Rightarrow$$

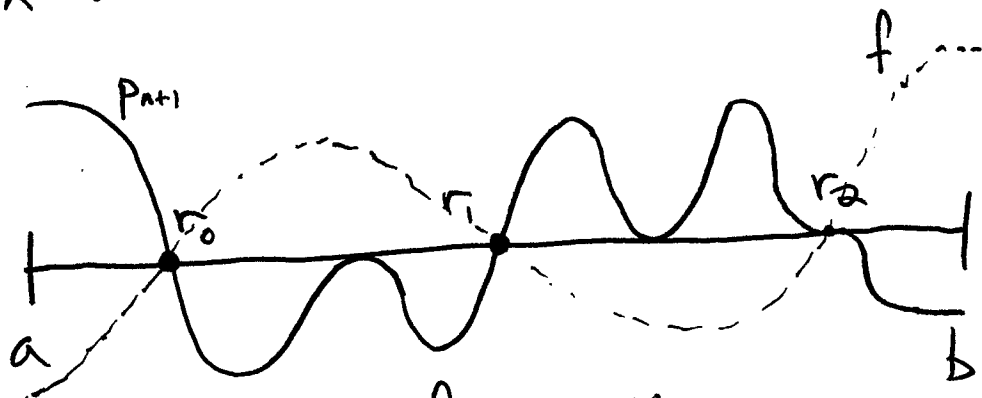
$$\langle p_i, p_j \rangle = 0.$$

~~It is not too hard to~~ It is not too hard to slow (how?) that each  $p_j$  is a polynomial of degree  $j$ , so we might as well assume each  $p_j$  is monic.

Why do we care about monic?

In particular,  $P_{n+1}$  has degree  $n+1$ , so it has ~~at least~~  $n+1$  complex roots counting multiplicities. But much more is true: in fact,  $P_{n+1}$  has  $n+1$  distinct real roots, all which belong to  $(a, b)$ . How can we prove this?

Proof: Let  $r_0, r_1, \dots, r_l$  be a list of those real roots of  $P_{n+1}$  that belong to  $(a, b)$  such that  $P_{n+1}$  changes sign across them.



~~Define~~ Define the polynomial  $f(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} (x-r_0)(x-r_1)\dots(x-r_l)$  so that  $P_{n+1} \cdot f$  has constant sign on  $(a, b)$ , or in the case that  $P_{n+1}$  has no such sign-changing roots in  $(a, b)$ , define  $f(x) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} 1$  so that  $P_{n+1} \cdot f$  has constant sign on  $(a, b)$ .

Now assume, as the beginning of a proof by contradiction, that  $l < n$ , i.e. that  $p_{n+1}$  does not have  $n+1$  distinct sign-changing roots in  $(a, b)$ .

Then  $\deg f \leq n$ , so

$f \in \text{span} \{p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n\}$  and thus

$f = d_0 p_0 + d_1 p_1 + \dots + d_n p_n$  for some

constants  $d_0, d_1, \dots, d_n \in \mathbb{R}$ , and thus

$$\langle f, p_{n+1} \rangle = d_0 \langle p_0, p_{n+1} \rangle + d_1 \langle p_1, p_{n+1} \rangle + \dots + d_n \langle p_n, p_{n+1} \rangle = 0.$$

But this is a contradiction because  $f p_{n+1}$  has constant sign (nonnegative, nonpositive) on  $(a, b)$  and is zero at finitely many points, so that by continuity

$$\langle f, p_{n+1} \rangle = \int_a^b \underbrace{f(x) p_{n+1}(x) w(x)}_{\text{constant sign}} dx \neq 0.$$

Thus  $p_{n+1}$  actually does have  $n+1$  distinct sign-changing roots in  $(a, b)$ .

You'll want this again later:

$p_{n+1} \perp p_n$

Now that we know that  $p_{n+1}$  has  $n+1$  distinct roots in  $(a, b)$ , let us call them

$c_0, c_1, \dots, c_n$ .

We wish to find constants  $A_0, \dots, A_n$  such that for all  $p \in P_{2n+1}$

$$\int_a^b p(x)w(x)dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k).$$

Consider the Lagrange polynomials

$L_0, L_1, \dots, L_n$  which are the unique polynomials of degree  $\leq n$  such that

$$L_j(c_k) = \delta_{jk} \text{ for all } j, k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n\}.$$

Certainly  $\forall j \in \{0, 1, \dots, n\}$   $L_j \in P_{2n+1}$ , and thus

$$\int_a^b L_j(x)w(x)dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k L_j(c_k) = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k \delta_{jk}$$

$$= A_j.$$

Thus we are forced to define

$$A_j \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_a^b L_j(x)w(x)dx \text{ if this method is to succeed.}$$

Having defined  $A_j = \int_a^b L_j(x) w(x) dx$ ,

we can prove that

$$\forall p \in P_n \quad \int_a^b p(x) w(x) dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k)$$

This is not all that we want ( $\forall p \in P_{\underline{n+1}}$ ), but it is going to get us further towards the goal.

Proof:  $L_0, L_1, \dots, L_n$  are  $n+1$  linearly independent polynomials in  $P_n$ , so they must form a basis for  $P_n$  since  $\dim P_n = n+1$ . (why are they linearly independent?)

Suppose  $p \in P_n$ . Then, since  $L_0, L_1, \dots, L_n$  span  $P_n$ , we can find constants  $d_0, d_1, \dots, d_n \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.

~~$p = d_0 L_0 + d_1 L_1 + \dots + d_n L_n$~~   $p = d_0 L_0 + d_1 L_1 + \dots + d_n L_n$   
(in fact,  $d_k = p(c_k)$ ). Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b p(x) w(x) dx &= \sum_{k=0}^n \left( d_k \int_a^b L_k(x) w(x) dx \right) = \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n p(c_k) A_k = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k). \quad \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

Now that we know that  $\forall p \in P_n$

$$\int_a^b p(x)w(x)dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k), \text{ we would}$$

like to prove the upgraded version:

$$\forall p \in P_{n+1} \int_a^b p(x)w(x)dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k).$$

Proof: Let  $p \in P_{n+1}$  be arbitrary.

By the division algorithm, we can find

$q, r \in P_n$  such that

$$p = p_{n+1}q + r.$$

$$\text{Thus } \int_a^b p(x)w(x)dx =$$

$$\int_a^b p_{n+1}(x)q(x)w(x)dx + \int_a^b r(x)w(x)dx =$$

$$= \underbrace{\langle p_{n+1}, q \rangle}_{=0} + \sum_{k=0}^n A_k r(c_k) = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k)$$

since  $q \in P_n$  (see earlier part labelled you'll want this later)

$$\text{since } p(c_k) = \underbrace{p_{n+1}(c_k)}_{=0} q(c_k) + r(c_k) = r(c_k).$$

Now that we know that  $\forall p \in P_{2n+1}$

$$\int_a^b p(x) w(x) dx = \sum_{k=0}^n A_k p(c_k), \text{ we}$$

want to show that each  $A_j > 0$ .

Proof:  $L_j$  is continuous and  $L_j(c_j) = 1$ ,  
so  $L_j^2$  is nonnegative, continuous, and somewhere positive,

$$\text{so } \int_a^b L_j^2(x) w(x) dx > 0 \text{ since } w \text{ is}$$

nonnegative and actually positive for all but

finitely many points.

$$\text{Thus } 0 < \int_a^b L_j^2(x) w(x) dx =$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n A_k L_j^2(c_k)$$

$$= \sum_{k=0}^n A_k (\delta_{jk})^2 = A_j. \quad \square$$