

Instead of solving a LSEs, the IP can also be found directly by the Lagrange Interpolation formula (LI)

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{j=0}^n y_j \cdot L_j^n(x)$$

where

$$L_j^n(x) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq j}}^n \frac{x - x_i}{x_j - x_i} \quad \text{for } j=0,1,\dots,n$$

are the so-called Lagrange polynomials (LPs).

The LPs have the following properties:

(LP1) $L_j^n(x)$ is a polynomial of degree n

$$(LP2) \quad L_j^n(x_k) = \delta_{jk} = \begin{cases} 1, & j=k \\ 0, & j \neq k \end{cases}$$

(LP2) is the reason why the LI fulfills the ICs:

$$\begin{aligned}
p_n(x_i) &= \sum_{j=0}^n y_j \cdot L_j^n(x_i) \\
&= 0 + \dots + 0 + y_i \cdot \underbrace{L_i^n(x_i)}_1 + 0 + \dots + 0 \\
&= y_i \quad \checkmark
\end{aligned}$$