

## Two Variable Cubic Spline Interpolation

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**Abstract:** Two variable natural cubic spline interpolation formula is derived and illustrated using an example

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### I. Introduction

If the explicit nature of the function  $y = f(x)$  is not known but the set of tabular values satisfying the function is known then the process of replacing  $f(x)$  by suitable function say  $g(x)$  satisfying the given set of tabular values is called interpolation. If  $g(x)$  is a polynomial then it is called polynomial interpolation [4]. In many cases it is seen that polynomial oscillates varyingly but the function varies smoothly [1]. To overcome this spline function is considered which is a function of polynomial bits joined together. The cubic spline procedure has sufficient flexibility due to the four constants involved in a general cubic polynomial which ensures the condition that the interpolant is continuously differentiable in the interval and has continuous second derivative [3]. Thus because of their smoothness conditions the most frequently used spline interpolation is the cubic spline interpolation. A two variable cubic spline interpolation of a function  $z = f(x, y)$  is the fitting of a unique series of cubic splines for a given set of data points  $(x_i, y_j, z_{ij})$ . The points  $(x, y)$  at which  $f(x, y)$  are known lie on a grid in the  $x$ - $y$  plane. In order to derive a two variable natural cubic spline the existence of continuity condition of the spline function and its partial derivatives at the edge of each grid are assumed.

### II. Two Variable Natural Cubic Spline

Consider the division rectangle  $I = [a, b] \times [c, d]$ . Let  $a = x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b$  and  $c = y_1 < y_2 < \dots < y_m = d$  be the set of data points satisfied by  $f(x_i, y_j) = z_{ij}$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, m$ . A two variable cubic spline  $S_{ij}(x, y)$  is a unique function coinciding with  $z_{ij}$  in each rectangular grid  $I_{ij} = [x_i, x_{i+1}] \times [y_j, y_{j+1}]$  for all  $i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-1)$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1)$ . Since  $S_{ij}(x, y)$  is a cubic spline in two variables its all second order partial derivatives should be linear and continuous. Here we are considering the second order partial derivative with respect to  $x$

$$\text{Let } \frac{\partial^2 S_{ij}}{\partial x^2} = \frac{M_i(x_{i+1} - x)}{h_i} + \frac{M_{i+1}(x - x_i)}{h_i} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1} - y)}{k_j} + \frac{N_{j+1}(y - y_j)}{k_j} \quad (1)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Let } x_{i+1} - x_i = h_i \\ y_{j+1} - y_j = k_j \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1 \\ j = 1, 2, \dots, m-1 \end{array}$$

Integrating (1) with respect to  $x$ ,

$$\frac{\partial S_{ij}}{\partial x} = -\frac{M_i(x_{i+1} - x)^2}{2h_i} + \frac{M_{i+1}(x - x_i)^2}{2h_i} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i)}{k_j} + \frac{N_{j+1}(y - y_j)(x_{i+1} - x)}{k_j} + A(y_{j+1} - y) + B \quad (2)$$

Integrating (2) with respect to  $x$ ,

$$S_{ij} = \frac{M_i(x_{i+1} - x)^3}{6h_i} + \frac{M_{i+1}(x - x_i)^3}{6h_i} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i)^2}{2k_j} - \frac{N_{j+1}(y - y_j)(x_{i+1} - x)^2}{2k_j} + A(y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i) + B(x_{i+1} - x) + C(y - y_j) + D \quad (3)$$

Since the spline interpolates at the knots:

$$(i) \quad S_{ij}(x_{i+1}, y_j) = z_{i+1,j}$$

$$(ii) \quad S_{ij}(x_i, y_{j+1}) = z_{i,j+1}$$

$$(iii) \quad S_{ij}(x_i, y_j) = z_{i,j}$$

$$(iv) \quad S_{ij}(x_{i+1}, y_{j+1}) = z_{i+1,j+1}$$

Applying the conditions (i), (ii), (iii), (iv) to (3)

$$z_{i+1,j} = \frac{M_{i+1}h_i^2}{6} + \frac{N_jh_i^2}{2} + Ah_i k_j + D \quad \dots \quad (4)$$

$$z_{i,j+1} = \frac{M_i h_i^2}{6} - \frac{N_{j+1}h_i^2}{2} + Bh_i + Ck_j + D \quad \dots \quad (5)$$

$$z_{i,j} = \frac{M_i h_i^2}{6} + Bh_i + D \quad \dots \quad (6)$$

$$z_{i+1,j+1} = \frac{M_{i+1}h_i^2}{6} + Ck_j + D \quad \dots \quad (7)$$

Solving (4), (5), (6), (7) we get the following constants

$$A = \frac{(z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij})}{h_i k_j} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i k_j} + \frac{(N_{j+1} - N_j)h_i}{2k_j}$$

$$B = \frac{(M_{i+1} - M_i)h_i}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i}{2} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i}$$

$$C = \frac{(z_{i,j+1} - z_{ij})}{k_j} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i^2}{2k_j}$$

$$D = (z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1}) + z_{ij} - \left( \frac{M_{i+1}}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}}{2} \right) h_i^2$$

So from (3) the two variable cubic spline is

$$\begin{aligned} S_{ij} = & \frac{M_i(x_{i+1} - x)^3}{6h_i} + \frac{M_{i+1}(x - x_i)^3}{6h_i} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i)^2}{2k_j} - \frac{N_{j+1}(y - y_j)(x_{i+1} - x)^2}{2k_j} \\ & + \left\{ \frac{(z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij})}{h_i k_j} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i k_j} + \frac{(N_{j+1} - N_j)h_i}{2k_j} \right\} (y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i) + \\ & \left\{ \frac{(M_{i+1} - M_i)h_i}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i}{2} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i} \right\} (x_{i+1} - x) + \\ & \left\{ \frac{(z_{i,j+1} - z_{ij})}{k_j} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i^2}{2k_j} \right\} (y - y_j) + \left\{ (z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1}) + z_{ij} - \left( \frac{M_{i+1}}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}}{2} \right) h_i^2 \right\}, \end{aligned} \quad \dots \quad (8)$$

$$\forall (x, y) \in [x_i, x_{i+1}] \times [y_j, y_{j+1}] \quad \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-1), \forall j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1)$$

In two variable spline function there exist a unique tangent plane at the two surfaces in every node. So

corresponding to the node  $(x_{i+1}, y_j)$  we have  $\frac{\partial S_{ij}}{\partial x}(x_{i+1}, y_j) = \frac{\partial S_{i+1,j}}{\partial x}(x_{i+1}, y_j)$

$$\frac{\partial S_{ij}}{\partial x}(x, y) = -\frac{M_i(x_{i+1} - x)^2}{2h_i} + \frac{M_{i+1}(x - x_i)^2}{2h_i} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i)}{k_j} + \frac{N_{j+1}(y - y_j)(x_{i+1} - x)}{k_j}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & + \left\{ \frac{(z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij})}{h_i k_j} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i k_j} + \frac{(N_{j+1} - N_j)h_i}{2k_j} \right\} (y_{j+1} - y) \\
 & \quad \overline{\left\{ \frac{(M_{i+1} - M_i)h_i}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i}{2} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i} \right\}}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial S_{ij}}{\partial x}(x_{i+1}, y_j) = \frac{M_{i+1}h_i}{3} + \frac{N_jh_i}{2} + \frac{z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij}}{h_i} + \frac{M_ih_i}{6} \quad \dots \quad (9)$$

$$\frac{\partial S_{i+1,j}}{\partial x}(x, y) = -\frac{M_{i+1}(x_{i+2} - x)^2}{2h_{i+1}} + \frac{M_{i+2}(x - x_{i+1})^2}{2h_{i+1}} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_{i+1})}{k_j} +$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \frac{N_{j+1}(y - y_j)(x_{i+1} - x)}{k_j} + \left\{ \frac{(z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij})}{h_i k_j} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i k_j} + \frac{(N_{j+1} - N_j)h_i}{2k_j} \right\} (y_{j+1} - y) \\
 & - \left\{ \frac{(M_{i+1} - M_i)h_i}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i}{2} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i} \right\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{\partial S_{i+1,j}}{\partial x}(x_{i+1}, y_j) = -\frac{M_{i+1}}{3} h_{i+1} + \frac{z_{i+2,j}}{h_{i+1}} - \frac{z_{i+1,j}}{h_{i+1}} - \frac{M_{i+2}}{6} h_{i+1} - \frac{N_j}{2} h_{i+1} \quad \dots \quad (10)$$

Equating (9) and (10)

$$\frac{(z_{i+2,j} - z_{i+1,j})}{h_{i+1}} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij})}{h_i} = \frac{M_{i+1}}{3}(h_i + h_{i+1}) + \frac{N_j}{2}(h_i + h_{i+1}) + \frac{M_i h_i}{6} + \frac{M_{i+2} h_{i+1}}{6} \quad \dots \quad (11)$$

$$\text{Assume } \frac{z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij}}{h_i} = \sigma_{i,j} \quad \text{where } i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-1) \text{ and } j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1)$$

$$\frac{z_{i+2,j} - z_{i+1,j}}{h_{i+1}} = \sigma_{i+1,j} \quad \dots \quad (12)$$

$$\text{Assume } \lambda_i = \frac{h_{i+1}}{h_i + h_{i+1}} \text{ where } i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-2) \text{ and } j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-2)$$

$$\mu_i = 1 - \lambda_i = \frac{h_i}{h_i + h_{i+1}} \quad \dots \quad (13)$$

$$d_{ij} = \frac{6(\sigma_{i+1,j} - \sigma_{i,j})}{h_i + h_{i+1}}$$

Therefore equation (11) will become

$$6[\sigma_{i+1,j} - \sigma_{i,j}] = 2M_{i+1}(h_i + h_{i+1}) + 3N_j(h_i + h_{i+1}) + M_i h_i + M_{i+2} h_{i+1} \quad \dots \quad (14)$$

Dividing equation (14) by  $h_i + h_{i+1}$  we get

$$2M_{i+1} + 3N_j + \mu_i M_i + \lambda_i M_{i+2} = d_{ij}, \text{ where } i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-2) \text{ and } j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-2) \quad \dots \quad (15)$$

So the two variable natural cubic spline is

$$\begin{aligned}
 S_{ij} = & \frac{M_i(x_{i+1}-x)^3}{6h_i} + \frac{M_{i+1}(x-x_i)^3}{6h_i} + \frac{N_j(y_{j+1}-y)(x-x_i)^2}{2k_j} - \frac{N_{j+1}(y-y_j)(x_{i+1}-x)^2}{2k_j} \\
 & + \left\{ \frac{(z_{i+1,j} - z_{ij})}{h_i k_j} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i k_j} + \frac{(N_{j+1} - N_j)h_i}{2k_j} \right\} (y_{j+1} - y)(x - x_i) + \\
 & \left\{ \frac{(M_{i+1} - M_i)h_i}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i}{2} - \frac{(z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1})}{h_i} \right\} (x_{i+1} - x) + \\
 & \left\{ \frac{(z_{i,j+1} - z_{ij})}{k_j} + \frac{N_{j+1}h_i^2}{2k_j} \right\} (y - y_j) + \left\{ (z_{i+1,j+1} - z_{i,j+1}) + z_{ij} - \left( \frac{M_{i+1}}{6} + \frac{N_{j+1}}{2} \right) h_i^2 \right\},
 \end{aligned}$$

$\forall (x, y) \in [x_i, x_{i+1}] \times [y_j, y_{j+1}], \forall i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-1), \forall j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-1)$

where  $2M_{i+1} + 3N_j + \mu_i M_i + \lambda_i M_{i+2} = d_{ij}$ ,  $i = 1, 2, \dots, (n-2)$  and  $j = 1, 2, \dots, (m-2)$

For natural spline  $M_1 = M_n = N_1 = N_m = 0$

### III. Illustration

Consider the two variable function  $f(x, y) = e^{xy}$ . The following table gives the function values for x taking values 0, 0.1, 0.2 and y taking values 0, 0.1, 0.2

X	0	0.1	0.2
Y	1	1	1
	1	1.01	1.02
	1	1.02	1.04

$$h_1 = h_2 = 0.1$$

$$k_1 = k_2 = 0.1$$

Using (12) and (13),

$$\sigma_{11} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{12} = 0.1 \quad \lambda_1 = 0.5 \quad \mu_1 = 0.5 \quad d_{11} = 0$$

$$\sigma_{21} = 0 \quad d_{12} = 0.5$$

$$\sigma_{22} = 0.1$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Using (15)} \quad & 2M_2 + 3N_1 + \mu_1 M_1 + \lambda_1 M_3 = d_{11} \\
 & 2M_2 + 3N_2 + \mu_1 M_1 + \lambda_1 M_3 = d_{12} \quad \cdots \cdots \cdots \quad (16)
 \end{aligned}$$

For a natural cubic spline  $M_1 = M_3 = N_1 = N_3 = 0$

Solving (16)  $M_2 = 0$  and  $N_2 = 0.1667$

Using (8) the two variable cubic splines are

$$S_{ij}(x, y) = \begin{cases} -0.8335(y)(0.1-x)^2 - 0.9167(0.1-y)(x) - 0.09167(0.1-x) + 0.00834(y) + 1.0092 & (x, y) \in I_{11} \\ 0.8335(0.2-y)(x)^2 - 1.0834(0.2-y)(x) - 0.2(0.1-x) + 1.04, & (x, y) \in I_{12} \\ -0.8335(y)(0.2-x)^2 - 0.9167(0.1-y)(x-0.1) - 0.09167(0.2-x) + 0.10834y + 1.0092 & (x, y) \in I_{21} \\ 0.8335(0.2-y)(x-0.1)^2 - 1.0834(0.2-y)(x-0.1) - 0.2(0.2-x) + 0.1(y-0.1) + 1.03 & (x, y) \in I_{22} \end{cases}$$

The following table shows the values of the function f at (x, y) and the corresponding interpolated values

$$S_{ij}(x, y)$$

	(x, y)	$S_{ij}(x, y)$	$f(x, y)$	Error
1	(0.05,0)	1	1	0
2	(0.05,0.05)	1.003	1.003	0
3	(0.15,0)	1	1	0
4	(0.15,0.15)	1.022	1.022	0
5	(0.05,0.15)	1.007	1.007	0

#### IV. Conclusion

Interpolated values are found to be same as the actual functional value.

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