

Numerical Integration

 $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, many times differentiableaim: compute $\int_a^b f(x) dx$

Exploit

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \int_a^b p_n(x) dx$$

$p_n(x)$ — Lagrange interpolation polynomial
for $f(x)$ at interpolation points
 x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n

Hence,

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \int_a^b \sum_{k=0}^n L_k(x) f(x_k) dx$$

$$(*) = \sum_{k=0}^n \underbrace{\left\{ \int_a^b L_k(x) dx \right\}}_{w_k} f(x_k) dx$$

TERMINOLOGY

(*) — a quadrature formula

w_0, w_1, \dots, w_n — quadrature weights

x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n — quadrature points

Note: w_0, \dots, w_n only depends on x_0, \dots, x_n (in particular they are independent of f)

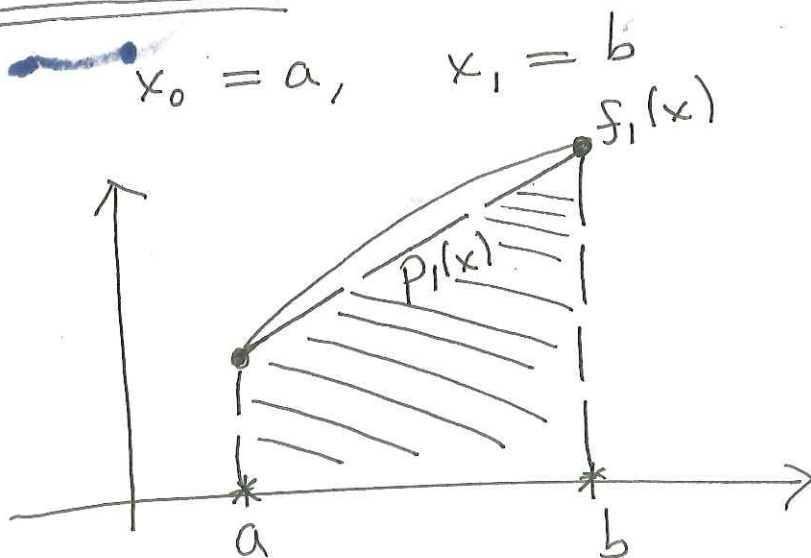
Newton-Cotes Quadrature Formulas

Employs equally spaced points on $[a, b]$ as x_0, \dots, x_n , that is

$$x_j = a + jh \quad j=0, 1, \dots, n$$

where $h := (b-a)/n$

$n=1$ (Trapezoidal Rule)



$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \left\{ \int_a^b \frac{x-a}{b-a} dx \right\} f(b)$$

+

$$\left\{ \int_a^b \frac{x-b}{a-b} dx \right\} f(a)$$

$$= \frac{1}{b-a} \frac{(x-a)^2}{2} \Big|_a^b f(b) + \frac{1}{a-b} \frac{(x-b)^2}{2} \Big|_a^b f(a)$$

$$\underline{\underline{= \frac{b-a}{2} f(a) + \frac{b-a}{2} f(b)}}$$

n=2 (Simpson's Rule)

$$x_0 = a \quad x_1 = \frac{a+b}{2} \quad x_2 = b$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \int_a^b p_2(x) dx$$

$$= \left\{ \int_a^b \frac{(x - \frac{a+b}{2})(x-b)}{(a - \frac{a+b}{2})(a-b)} dx \right\} f(a) \rightarrow w_0$$

$$+ \left\{ \int_a^b \frac{(x-a)(x-b)}{(\frac{a+b}{2} - a)(\frac{a+b}{2} - b)} dx \right\} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) \rightarrow w_1$$

$$+ \left\{ \int_a^b \frac{(x-a)(x - \frac{a+b}{2})}{(b-a)(b - \frac{a+b}{2})} dx \right\} f(b) \rightarrow w_2$$

To compute w_0, w_1, w_2 change the integration variable; use t s.t.

$$x = \frac{b+a}{2} + \frac{(b-a)}{2} t \quad \left(\begin{array}{l} \text{that is} \\ x(-1) = a \\ x(1) = b, \\ x(t) \text{ is the} \\ \text{line through} \\ (-1, a) \text{ and } (1, b) \end{array} \right.$$

We have

$$w_0 = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\left\{ \frac{(b-a)}{2} t \right\} \left\{ \frac{(b-a)}{2} (t-1) \right\}}{-\left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)(a-b)} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right) dt$$

$$= + \frac{(b-a)}{4} \left(\frac{t^3}{3} - \frac{t^2}{2} \right) \Big|_{-1}^1 = \frac{b-a}{6}$$

$$w_1 = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\left\{ \frac{(b-a)}{2} (t+1) \right\} \left\{ \frac{(b-a)}{2} (t-1) \right\}}{-\frac{(b-a)}{2} \frac{(b-a)}{2}} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right) dt$$

$$= - \frac{(b-a)}{2} \left(\frac{t^3}{3} - t \right) \Big|_{-1}^1 = \frac{4(b-a)}{6}$$

$$w_2 = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{\left\{ \frac{(b-a)}{2} (t+1) \right\} \left\{ \frac{(b-a)}{2} t \right\}}{(b-a) \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right) dt$$

$$= \left(\frac{b-a}{4}\right) \left(\frac{t^3}{3} + \frac{t^2}{2} \right) \Big|_{-1}^1 = \frac{b-a}{6}$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{6} f(a) + 4 \frac{(b-a)}{6} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{b-a}{6} f(b)$$

$n=3$ (Simpson's $3/8$ rule)

$$x_0 = a \quad x_1 = a + \frac{(b-a)}{3} = \frac{b+2a}{3}$$

$$x_2 = a + 2\frac{(b-a)}{3} = \frac{2b+a}{3} \quad x_3 = b$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \int_a^b p_3(x) dx$$

$$= \frac{b-a}{8} f(a) + 3\frac{(b-a)}{8} f\left(\frac{b+2a}{3}\right)$$

↓
details
exercise

$$+ 3\frac{(b-a)}{8} f\left(\frac{2b+a}{3}\right) + \frac{(b-a)}{8} f(b)$$

Ex

$$\int_0^1 \underbrace{e^{-x^2}}_{f(x)} dx$$

$$= 0.7468$$

↓ exact up to 4 decimal digits

$$\approx \frac{1}{2} [f(0) + f(1)] = 0.6840 \quad (\text{Trapezoidal rule})$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{6} [f(0) + 4f(1/2) + f(1)] = 0.7472 \quad (\text{Simpson's rule})$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{8} [f(0) + 3f(1/3) + 3f(2/3) + f(1)] = 0.7470 \quad (\text{Simpson's } 3/8 \text{ rule})$$

Error of Quadrature Formulas

Suppose f is $(n+1)$ times differentiable on $[a, b]$, indeed suppose $f^{(n+1)}(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$.

Let $M_{n+1} := \max_{x \in [a, b]} |f^{(n+1)}(x)|$.

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - \sum_{k=0}^n w_k f(x_k) \right|$$

$$= \left| \int_a^b f(x) - p_n(x) dx \right|$$

$$= \left| \int_a^b \underbrace{\frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))}{(n+1)!}}_{\Rightarrow |f^{(n+1)}(\xi(x))| \leq M_{n+1}} \pi_{n+1}(x) dx \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{M_{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \int_a^b |\pi_{n+1}(x)| dx$$

\downarrow
 $= (x-x_0)(x-x_1)\dots(x-x_n)$

Trapezoidal Rule

$$E_T := \left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - \frac{(b-a)}{2} [f(a) + f(b)] \right|$$

$$\leq \frac{M_2}{2} \int_a^b |(x-a)(x-b)| dx$$

where $M_2 := \max_{x \in [a, b]} |f''(x)|$.

Again, using the substitution

$$x = \frac{b+a}{2} + \frac{(b-a)}{2} t$$

we have

$$\begin{aligned} \int_a^b (x-a)(x-b) dx &= \int_{-1}^1 -\left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^2 (t^2-1) \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right) dt \\ &= -\left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^3 \left(\frac{t^3}{3} - t\right) \Big|_{-1}^1 = +\frac{(b-a)^3}{6} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$E_T \leq \frac{M_2}{12} (b-a)^3.$$

Simpson's rule

$$\begin{aligned} E_S &:= \left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - \left(\frac{b-a}{6}\right) [f(a) + 4f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + f(b)] \right| \\ &\leq \frac{M_3}{3!} \int_a^b \left| (x-a) \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) (x-b) \right| dx = M_3 \frac{(b-a)^4}{196} \end{aligned}$$

details, exercise

with $M_3 := \max_{x \in [a, b]} |f'''(x)|$.

A tighter bound (assumes the continuity of $E(x)$ below)

$$E_S = \left| \int_a^b \frac{f'''(E(x))}{3!} (x-a) \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) (x-b) dx \right|$$

Lemma

Suppose $h, g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are continuous on $[a, b]$,
and $g(x) \geq 0 \forall x \in [a, b]$ or $g(x) \leq 0 \forall x \in [a, b]$.
There exists $\mu \in [a, b]$ such that

$$\int_a^b h(x)g(x)dx = h(\mu) \int_a^b g(x)dx \quad \exists \mu \in [a, b].$$

Proof

Assume $g(x) \geq 0 \forall x \in [a, b]$. The proof if $g(x) \leq 0 \forall x \in [a, b]$
is similar. Let $\underline{x}, \tilde{x} \in [a, b]$ be such that

$$h(\underline{x}) = \min_{x \in [a, b]} h(x), \quad h(\tilde{x}) = \max_{x \in [a, b]} h(x).$$

and define

$$H(x) := h(x) \int_a^b g(t) dt.$$

Now observe

$$\underbrace{\int_a^b h(\underline{x})g(x)dx}_{H(\underline{x})} \leq \underbrace{\int_a^b h(x)g(x)dx}_{\sigma :=} \leq \underbrace{\int_a^b h(\tilde{x})g(x)dx}_{H(\tilde{x})}.$$

Since $H(x)$ is continuous,

$$H(\mu) = h(\mu) \int_a^b g(t) dt = \sigma$$

hence the result. \square

Employing the lemma

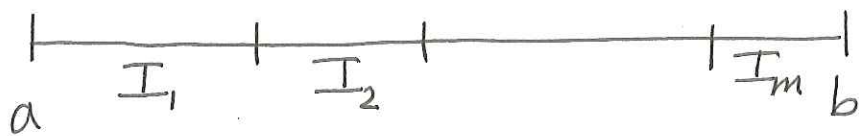
$$\begin{aligned}
 E_s &= \left| \int_a^{(a+b)/2} \frac{f'''(\xi(x))}{6} (x-a) \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) (x-b) dx \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \int_{(a+b)/2}^b \frac{f'''(\xi(x))}{6} (x-a) \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) (x-b) dx \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{f'''(\xi_1)}{6} \int_a^{(a+b)/2} (x-a) \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) (x-b) dx \right. \\
 &\quad \left. + \frac{f'''(\xi_2)}{6} \int_{(a+b)/2}^b (x-a) \left(x - \frac{a+b}{2}\right) (x-b) dx \right| \\
 &= \left| \frac{f'''(\xi_1)}{24} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^4 - \frac{f'''(\xi_2)}{24} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^4 \right|
 \end{aligned}$$

for some $\xi_1, \xi_2 \in [a, b]$. Finally, by the mean value thm

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_s &= \frac{1}{24} \left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right)^4 |f^{(4)}(\xi)| \underbrace{(\xi_1 - \xi_2)}_{|\xi_1 - \xi_2| \leq b-a} \\
 &\leq \frac{(b-a)^5}{384} |f^{(4)}(\xi)|
 \end{aligned}$$

for some $\xi \in (a, b)$.

Composite Quadrature Formulas



Divide $[a, b]$ into m subintervals of equal length, I_1, I_2, \dots, I_m

Apply the same quadrature formula in each of I_1, I_2, \dots, I_m .

Composite trapezoidal rule

$$h := \frac{b-a}{m}$$

$$x_j := a + jh \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, m.$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \sum_{j=0}^{m-1} \int_{x_{j-1}}^{x_j} f(x) dx$$

$$\approx \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{h}{2} [f(x_{j-1}) + f(x_j)]$$

$$= \frac{h}{2} \left[f(x_0) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} f(x_j) + f(x_m) \right]$$

Error

$$E_{CT} = \left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - \left\{ \frac{h}{2} \left[f(x_0) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} f(x_j) + f(x_m) \right] \right\} \right|$$
$$\leq \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{M_2}{12} h^3 = \frac{M_2}{12} \frac{(b-a)^3}{m^2}$$

Remark $E_{CT} \rightarrow 0$ as $m \rightarrow \infty$.

Composite Simpson's rule

$$h := \frac{b-a}{2m}$$

$$x_j := a + jh \quad j = 0, 1, \dots, 2m$$

$$(I_j = [x_{2j-2}, x_{2j}])$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \sum_{j=1}^m \int_{x_{2j-2}}^{x_{2j}} f(x) dx$$

$$\approx \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{2h}{6} [f(x_{2j-2}) + 4f(x_{2j-1}) + f(x_{2j})]$$

$$= \frac{2h}{6} \left[f(x_0) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} f(x_{2j}) + 4 \sum_{j=1}^m f(x_{2j-1}) + f(x_{2m}) \right]$$

Error

$$E_{cs} = \left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - \frac{2h}{6} \left\{ f(x_0) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} f(x_{2j}) + 4 \sum_{j=1}^m f(x_{2j-1}) + f(x_{2m}) \right\} \right|$$

$$\leq \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{(2h)^5}{384} |f^{(4)}(\xi_j)|$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{384} \frac{(b-a)^5}{m^4} M_4$$

for some $\xi_j \in (x_{2j-2}, x_{2j})$ $j=1, \dots, m$, and

where $M_4 := \max_{x \in [a, b]} |f^{(4)}(x)|$.

Best polynomial approximation

Problem

Given n and $f \in C[a, b]$, find $p_n \in P_n$ such that

$\|f - p_n\| \rightarrow$ a norm on $C[a, b]$
is as small as possible.

$C[a, b]$ - vector space of continuous functions $f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ on $[a, b]$.

A norm $\|\cdot\|$ on $C[a, b]$ satisfies

(i) $\|f\| > 0 \quad \forall f \in C[a, b], f(x) \equiv 0$ ^{except}

(ii) $\|\alpha f\| = |\alpha| \|f\| \quad \forall f \in C[a, b], \forall \alpha \in \mathbb{R}$

(iii) $\|f + g\| \leq \|f\| + \|g\| \quad \forall f, g \in C[a, b]$

We will consider the following norms:

(1) (∞ -norm) $\|f\|_{\infty} := \max_{x \in [a, b]} |f(x)|$

(2) (2-norm) given $w: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ positive, continuous integrable on (a, b)

$$\|f\|_2 := \sqrt{\int_a^b w(x) f(x)^2 dx}$$

Infinite dimensional versions of ∞ -norm

$$\|v\|_{\infty} := \max_{j=1, \dots, n} |v_j|$$

and 2-norm

$$\|v\|_2 := \sqrt{v_1^2 + \dots + v_n^2}$$

on \mathbb{R}^n .

Ex

$$f(x) = \cos x \quad \text{on } [0, \pi]$$

$$\|f\|_{\infty} = 1$$

$$\text{With } w(x) = 1$$

$$\|f\|_2 = \sqrt{\int_0^{\pi} \cos^2 x \, dx} = \sqrt{\int_0^{\pi} \frac{\cos 2x + 1}{2} \, dx}$$

$$= \sqrt{\left(\frac{\sin 2x}{4} + \frac{x}{2}\right) \Big|_0^{\pi}} = \sqrt{\pi/2}$$

Observe

$$\|f\|_2 \leq \sqrt{\int_a^b w(x) \|f\|_{\infty}^2 \, dx}$$

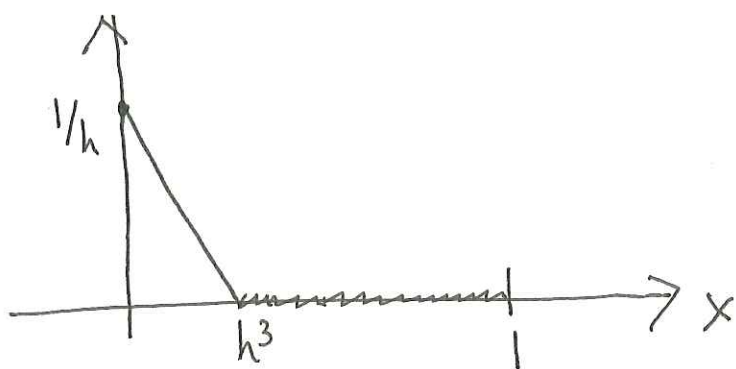
$$= \|f\|_{\infty} \sqrt{\int_a^b w(x) \, dx}$$

Converse is not true; it may not be possible to bound $\|\cdot\|_\infty$ in terms of $\|\cdot\|_2$.

e.g.

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{h} - \frac{1}{h^4}x & x \leq h^3 \\ 0 & x \in (h^3, 1] \end{cases}$$

on $[0, 1]$. (with $w(x) \equiv 1$)



(h is small,
as small as
we wish)

$$\|f\|_\infty = 1/h$$

$$\|f\|_2 = \sqrt{\int_0^{h^3} \left(\frac{1}{h} - \frac{1}{h^4}x\right)^2 dx}$$

$$= \sqrt{\left(\frac{1}{h^4}x - \frac{1}{h}\right)^3 / 3 \cdot h^4 \Big|_0^{h^3}} = \sqrt{h/3}$$

THM

For every $\epsilon > 0$ (no matter how small),
and for every $M > 0$ (no matter how large),
there exists $f \in C[a, b]$ s.t.

$$\|f\|_2 \leq \epsilon \quad \text{and} \quad \|f\|_\infty \geq M.$$

A function $f \in C[a, b]$ can be approximated by a polynomial $p_n \in \mathcal{P}_n$ as accurately as we wish provided n is chosen large enough.

THM (Weierstrass Best Approximation Thm)

Let $f \in C[a, b]$. For every $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a polynomial $p: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$\|f - p\|_{\infty} \leq \epsilon.$$

Analogous result holds for the 2-norm.

For a proof, see exercise 8.12 in the textbook. In particular, show that for each $\epsilon > 0$ there exists $n = n(\epsilon)$ such that

$$p_n(x) = \sum_{k=0}^n p_{nk}(x) f(k/n) \quad x \in [0, 1]$$

$$p_{nk}(x) = \binom{n}{k} x^k (1-x)^{n-k}$$

satisfies

$$\|f - p_n\| \leq \epsilon \quad \text{on } [0, 1].$$

Best approximation in the ∞ -norm

Find $p_n \in P_n$ such that $\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{Given } f \in C[a,b] \\ \text{and } n \end{array} \right.$

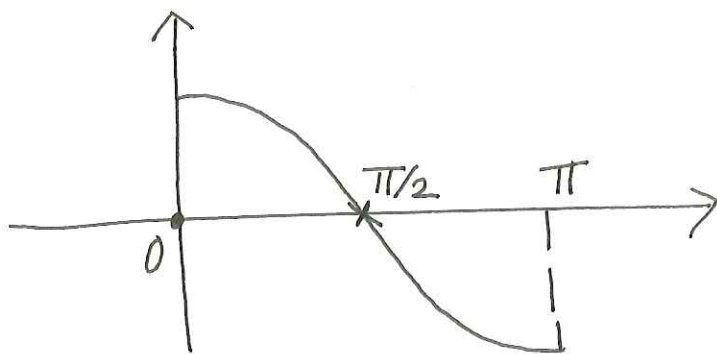
$$\|f - p_n\|_{\infty}$$

is as small as possible.

e.g.

$$f(x) = \cos x \text{ on } [0, \pi]$$

$$n = 0$$



$$p_0(x) \equiv c$$

if $c < 0$

$$|f(0) - p_0(0)| > 1$$

if $c > 0$

$$|f(\pi) - p_0(\pi)| > 1$$

and for $c = 0$

$$\|f - p_0\| = |f(0) - p_0(0)| = |f(\pi) - p_0(\pi)| = 1$$

Hence, $p_0(x) \equiv 0$ is the solution.

THM (Existence)

Let $f \in C[a, b]$, and n be a nonnegative integer. There exists $p_n \in \mathcal{P}_n$ such that

$$\|f - p_n\|_\infty \leq \|f - \tilde{p}_n\|_\infty \quad \forall \tilde{p}_n \in \mathcal{P}_n.$$

Proof

Define $E: \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ by

$$E(c_0, \dots, c_n) = \|f - \tilde{p}_n\|_\infty$$

where

$$\tilde{p}_n(x) = c_0 + c_1 x + \dots + c_n x^n.$$

First we prove E is continuous. Given an $\epsilon > 0$, define $\delta := \epsilon / \{1 + K + \dots + K^n\}$ where $K_n := \max\{|a|, |b|\}$ and consider any $\delta_j \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t. $|\delta_j| \leq \delta$ as well as

$$r(x) := \delta_0 + \delta_1 x + \dots + \delta_n x^n.$$

By triangle inequality,

$$E(c_0 + \delta_0, \dots, c_n + \delta_n) = \|f - (\tilde{p}_n + r)\|_\infty$$

$$\leq \|f - \tilde{p}_n\|_\infty + \|r\|_\infty$$

$$\leq E(c_0, \dots, c_n) + \underbrace{(\delta_0 + |\delta_1| |x| + \dots + |\delta_n| |x|^n)}_{\leq \delta(1 + |x| + \dots + |x|^n)} \leq \epsilon$$

$$\implies |E(c_0 + \delta_0, \dots, c_n + \delta_n) - E(c_0, \dots, c_n)| \leq \epsilon$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} E(c_0, \dots, c_n) &= \|\{f - (\tilde{p} + n)\} + n\|_\infty \\ &\leq \|f - (\tilde{p} + n)\|_\infty + \|n\|_\infty \\ &\leq E(c_0 + \delta_0, \dots, c_n + \delta_n) + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\implies E(c_0, \dots, c_n) - E(c_0 + \delta_0, \dots, c_n + \delta_n) \leq \epsilon.$$

Consequently, for every $\epsilon > 0$ there exists a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} |E(c_0 + \delta_0, \dots, c_n + \delta_n) - E(c_0, \dots, c_n)| &\leq \epsilon \\ \forall \tilde{\delta} := (\delta_0, \dots, \delta_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \text{ s.t. } \|\tilde{\delta}\|_\infty &\leq \delta \end{aligned}$$

proving continuity.

Now consider the set

$$S := \{(c_0, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \mid E(c_0, \dots, c_n) \leq \|f\|_\infty + 1\}.$$

This set is closed, bounded and nonempty (as $E(0, \dots, 0) = \|f\|_\infty$ meaning $0 \in S$). Hence, there exists

$c_* \in S$ such that

$$E(c_*) \leq E(c) \quad \forall c \in S.$$

Moreover,

$$E(c_*) \leq \|f\|_\infty < \|f\|_\infty + 1 \leq E(c) \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \setminus S$$

implying

$$E(c_*) \leq E(c) \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}.$$

Consequently, letting $p_n(x) := c_{*,0} + c_{*,1}x + \dots + c_{*,n}x^n$ for $c_* = (c_{*,1}, \dots, c_{*,n})$, we deduce

$$\|f - p_n\|_\infty = E(c_*) \leq E(c) = \|f - (c_0 + \dots + c_n x^n)\|_\infty \quad \forall (c_0, \dots, c_n) \in \mathbb{R}^{n+1}$$

$$\implies \|f - p_n\|_\infty \leq \|f - \tilde{p}_n\|_\infty \quad \forall \tilde{p}_n \in \mathcal{P}_n. \quad \square \quad (7)$$