



Bspline Construction Summary

Objective of Bspline interpolation:

Given the points (t_0,p_0) , (t_1,p_1) , (t_2,p_2) , (t_3,p_3) , (t_4,p_4) , (t_5,p_5) , (t_6,p_6) , ... (t_m,p_m) , find the coefficients, c_j , j = 0 to m+n-1 of the Bspline basis functions, $N_i^n(t)$, such that the sum,

$$f(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} c_j N_j^n(t)$$

produces an interpolating spline of degree *n* with values, $f(t) = p_j$ when $t = t_i$. i = 0 to *m*. *m* also represents the number of curve segments between t_0 between t_m , which in the example shown above is 6.

Determining the coefficients, c_i , of an interpolating Bspline:

<u>Step 1</u>. Assemble the knot vector of the form $\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_{m+2n} \end{bmatrix}$ containing the values of *t* where the polynomial curve segments of degree *n* are to be joined.

Note: Since n+1 Bspline basis functions $N_j^n(t)$ of degree n are required to be computed over each interval $t \in [t_j, t_{j+1}]$, n additional knot points must be defined to the left of t_0 and to the right of t_m in order to enable f(t) to be computed for the intervals $t \in [t_0, t_1]$ and $t \in [t_{m-1}, t_m]$.

Additional left side knots:	$t_{-k} = t_0 - k(t_1 - t_0)$	k = 1 to n
Additional right side knots:	$t_{m+k} = t_m + k(t_m - t_{m-1})$	k = 1 to n

When n = 3, this results in a knot vector of the form

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} t_{-3} & t_{-2} & t_{-1} \end{bmatrix} t_0 \quad t_1 \quad t_2 \quad \dots \quad t_m \quad \begin{bmatrix} t_{m+1} & t_{m+2} & t_{m+3} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_{m+2n} \end{bmatrix}$$

When n = 1, the knot vector would be of the form

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} t_{-1} & t_0 & t_1 & t_2 & \dots & t_m & t_{m+1} \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_{m+2n} \end{bmatrix}$$

For example, given the seven points (t_i, p_i) , *i*=0 to 6 shown on the figure of the first page,

For the cubic case (n=3) the knot vector, λ , would take the form,

$$\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -4 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 10 & 12 & 14 & 16 & 18 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

For the linear case (n=1) the knot vector, λ , would take the form,

$$\boldsymbol{\lambda} = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 10 & 12 & 14 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_8 \end{bmatrix}$$

<u>Step 2</u>. For each *i* (*i* = 0 to *m*), compute the set of $N_j^n(t_i)$ that are nonzero over the interval $t_i \le t < t_{i+1}$ using the recurrence equation,

$$N_{j}^{n}(t) = \frac{(t - \lambda_{j})}{(\lambda_{j+n} - \lambda_{j})} N_{j}^{n-1}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{j+n+1} - t)}{(\lambda_{j+n+1} - \lambda_{j+1})} N_{j+1}^{n-1}(t)$$

where $N_{j}^{0}(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \lambda_{j} \leq t < \lambda_{j+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
and $N_{j}^{n}(t_{i}) = 0$ when $t < \lambda_{j}$ or $t > \lambda_{j+n+1}$

For example, in the cubic case (i.e. n = 3) when $6 \le t < 8$ (i.e. $t_3 \le t < t_4$), it can be determined that j = 6, since j is found from the interval in the knot vector where $\lambda_j \le t < \lambda_{j+1}$, which for this case is $\lambda_6 \le t < \lambda_7$. From the definition of the recurrence equation above, and knowing that j=6 allows the recurrence equation to be initialized with $N_6^0(t) = 1$ and used to compute the B-splines of degree n=1 to 3 that are nonzero over the interval $\lambda_6 \le t < \lambda_7$.

As above, for the case where $t_3 \le t < t_4$ (i.e. $\lambda_6 \le t < \lambda_7$) it follows that:

$$n=0: \quad N_{6}^{0}(t) = 1$$

$$N_{j}^{0}(t) = 0 \text{ for all other } j \text{ (i.e. except } j = 6 \text{)}$$

$$n=1: \quad N_{6}^{1}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{6})}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{0}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{8}-t)}{(\lambda_{8}-\lambda_{7})} N_{7}^{0}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{6})}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{0}(t)$$

$$N_{5}^{1}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{5})}{(\lambda_{6}-\lambda_{5})} N_{5}^{0}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{7}-t)}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{0}(t_{3}) = \frac{(\lambda_{7}-t)}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{0}(t)$$

$$N_{j}^{1}(t) = 0 \text{ for all other } j \text{ (i.e. except } j = 6 \text{ and } 5)$$

$$n=2: \quad N_{6}^{2}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{6})}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{5})} N_{5}^{1}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{9}-t)}{(\lambda_{9}-\lambda_{7})} N_{7}^{1}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{6})}{(\lambda_{8}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{1}(t)$$

$$N_{5}^{2}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{3})}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{5})} N_{5}^{1}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{7}-t)}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{5})} N_{5}^{1}(t) = \frac{(\lambda_{7}-t)}{(\lambda_{7}-\lambda_{5})} N_{5}^{1}(t)$$

$$N_{j}^{2}(t) = 0 \text{ for all other } j \text{ (i.e. except } j = 6, 5 \text{ and } 4)$$

$$n=3: \quad N_{6}^{3}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{6})}{(\lambda_{9}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{2}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{10}-t)}{(\lambda_{10}-\lambda_{7})} N_{7}^{2}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{6})}{(\lambda_{9}-\lambda_{6})} N_{6}^{2}(t)$$

$$N_{5}^{3}(t) = \frac{(t-\lambda_{5})}{(\lambda_{9}-\lambda_{6})} N_{5}^{2}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{9}-t)}{(\lambda_{9}-\lambda_{7})} N_{6}^{2}(t)$$

$$N_{4}^{3}(t) = \frac{(t - \lambda_{4})}{(\lambda_{7} - \lambda_{4})} N_{4}^{2}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{8} - t)}{(\lambda_{8} - \lambda_{5})} N_{5}^{2}(t)$$
$$N_{3}^{3}(t) = \frac{(t - \lambda_{3})}{(\lambda_{6} - \lambda_{3})} N_{3}^{2}(t) + \frac{(\lambda_{7} - t)}{(\lambda_{7} - \lambda_{4})} N_{4}^{2}(t) = \frac{(\lambda_{7} - t)}{(\lambda_{7} - \lambda_{4})} N_{4}^{2}(t)$$

 $N_j^3(t) = 0$ for all other j (i.e. except j = 6, 5, 4 and 3)

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<u>Step 3</u>. Compute the 2nd derivatives of the Bspline basis functions, $N_j^n(t)$, at t_0 and t_m using the recurrence equation,

$${}^{(\ell)}N_{j}^{n}(t) = n \left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_{j+n} - \lambda_{j})} {}^{(\ell-1)}N_{j}^{n-1}(t) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_{j+n+1} - \lambda_{j+1})} {}^{(\ell-1)}N_{j+1}^{n-1}(t) \right)$$

where $N_{j}^{0}(t) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{for } \lambda_{j} \leq t < \lambda_{j+1} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
and $\ell = \ell^{th}$ derivative

First compute $N_j^n(t_0)$, n = 0 to 3 where j = 0 to 3 using the standard Bspline recurrence equation. It turns out that when $t = t_0$, $N_3^n(t_0) = 0$ for n = 1 to 3. With knowledge of the values of $N_j^n(t_0)$ in hand, the first derivative of $N_j^n(t_0)$ can be computed as follows:

First derivative of *n*=2 Bspline basis functions at t_0 (i.e. case $n = 2, \ell = 1$):

$${}^{(1)}N_{3}^{2}(t_{0}) = 2\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_{5} - \lambda_{3})}N_{3}^{1}(t_{0}) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_{6} - \lambda_{4})}N_{4}^{1}(t_{0})\right) = \frac{2}{(\lambda_{5} - \lambda_{3})}N_{3}^{1}(t_{0}) = 0$$

$${}^{(1)}N_{2}^{2}(t_{0}) = 2\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_{4} - \lambda_{2})}N_{2}^{1}(t_{0}) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_{5} - \lambda_{3})}N_{3}^{1}(t_{0})\right) = \frac{2}{(\lambda_{4} - \lambda_{2})}N_{2}^{1}(t_{0})$$

$${}^{(1)}N_{1}^{2}(t_{0}) = 2\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_{3} - \lambda_{1})}N_{1}^{1}(t_{0}) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_{4} - \lambda_{2})}N_{2}^{1}(t_{0})\right) = \frac{-2}{(\lambda_{4} - \lambda_{2})}N_{2}^{1}(t_{0})$$

Knowing ${}^{(1)}N_3^2(t_0)$, ${}^{(1)}N_2^2(t_0)$, ${}^{(1)}N_1^2(t_0)$ enables the second derivative of the n=3 (i.e. cubic) B-splines to be computed as follows:

$$n = 3, \ell = 2: \quad {}^{(2)}N_3^3(t_0) = 3\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_6 - \lambda_3)}{}^{(1)}N_3^2(t_0) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_7 - \lambda_4)}{}^{(1)}N_4^2(t_0)\right) = 0$$

$${}^{(2)}N_2^3(t_0) = 3\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_5 - \lambda_2)}{}^{(1)}N_2^2(t_0) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_6 - \lambda_3)}{}^{(1)}N_3^2(t_0)\right)$$

$${}^{(2)}N_1^3(t_0) = 3\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_1)}{}^{(1)}N_1^2(t_0) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_5 - \lambda_2)}{}^{(1)}N_2^2(t_0)\right)$$

$${}^{(2)}N_0^3(t_0) = 3\left(\frac{1}{(\lambda_3 - \lambda_0)}{}^{(1)}N_0^2(t_0) - \frac{1}{(\lambda_4 - \lambda_1)}{}^{(1)}N_1^2(t_0)\right)$$

The values of ${}^{(2)}N_{j}^{n}(t_{m})$ can be computed in a similar fashion.

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Step 4. Set up the vector matrix equation of the form,

$$Ac = d$$

and solve for the coefficient vector $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{d}$ where,

- A is a matrix of dimension $(m+n) \ge (m+n)$ containing the Bspline basis function values (and derivatives) evaluated at each t_i , i = 0 to m,
- **c** is a coefficient vector of dimension $(m+n) \times 1$, and
- **d** is a vector of dimension (m+n) x 1 containing the desired values of the spline at the points p_i , i = 0 to m (and possibly 1^{st} or 2^{nd} derivative values at points t_0 and t_m).

For the cubic case (n = 3) with natural spline endpoint conditions (i.e. second derivative = 0 at t_0 and t_m),

the matrix **A** takes the banded form (where all entries other than the ones shown are assumed to be zero):

 \Rightarrow when n = 3 the matrix **A** has (m+3) rows and (m+3) columns)

The vector **d** takes the form,

 $\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & p_0 & p_1 & \dots & p_m & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$

and the coefficient vector **c** is determined from the equation,

$$\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{d}$$
 where \mathbf{A}^{-1} is the inverse of the matrix \mathbf{A} .

For example, given the seven points (t_i, p_i) , *i*=0 to 6 shown on the figure of the first page with values,

$$p_0=(0, 1), p_2=(2, 2), p_3=(4, 2.5), p_4=(6, 1.5), p_5=(8, 0.5), p_6=(10, 0.25)$$

and the associated knot array,

$$\lambda = \begin{bmatrix} -6 & -4 & -2 & 0 & 2 & 4 & 6 & 8 & 10 & 12 & 14 & 16 & 18 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$= \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_0 & \lambda_1 & \lambda_2 & \dots & \lambda_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

it follows that,

 $\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 2 & 2.5 & 1.5 & 0.5 & .25 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}^T$

	0.25	-0.5	0.25	0	0	0	0	0	0]
	0.167	0.667	0.167	0	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0.167	0.667	0.167	0	0	0	0	0
	0	0	0.167	0.667	0.167	0	0	0	0
A =	0	0	0	0.167	0.667	0.167	0	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0.167	0.667	0.167	0	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0.167	0.667	0.167	0
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.167	0.667	0.167
	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.25	-0.5	0.25

c

and

 $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{d} = \begin{bmatrix} -0.03 & 1.0 & 2.0301 & 2.8795 & 1.4519 & 0.3128 & 0.2968 & 0 & -0.297 \end{bmatrix}^T$

Computing the Interpolating Bspline function f(t):

Since there are only n+1 nonzero basis splines for any value of t, the interpolating Bspline function $f(t) = \sum_{j=0}^{m+n-1} c_j N_j^n(t)$ can be simplified to,

$$f(t) = \sum_{k=0}^{n} c_{j-k} N_{j-k}^{n}(t)$$

where *j* is associated with the interval in which $\lambda_j \leq t < \lambda_{j+1}$

<u>Step 1</u>. Given the knot vector λ and a value for *t* find the value of *j* such that $\lambda_j \leq t < \lambda_{j+1}$

Step 2. Given the value of *j* determined in Step 1 and the value of *t*, compute the (*n*+1) Bspline basis functions $N_j^n(t)$ that are nonzero over the interval $\lambda_j \le t < \lambda_{j+1}$ using the Bspline recurrence equation described previously. For example, when t=7 the nonzero Bspline basis functions $N_j^n(t)$ up to degree *n*=3 that are nonzero over the interval $\lambda_6 \le t < \lambda_7$ (i.e. $6 \le t < 8$) would be found to be,

$$N_6^0 = 1$$

$$N_5^1 = \frac{1}{2} \qquad N_6^1 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$N_4^2 = \frac{1}{8} \qquad N_5^2 = \frac{3}{4} \qquad N_6^2 = \frac{1}{1}$$

$$N_3^3 = \frac{1}{48} \qquad N_4^3 = \frac{23}{48} \qquad N_5^3 = \frac{23}{48} \qquad N_6^3 = \frac{1}{48}$$

Step 3. Assuming the coefficient vector **c** has been previously determined, for the cubic case (n=3) the Bpline function f(t) can be evaluated at t=7 as,

$$f(t) = c_{j-3}N_{j-3}^{3}(t) + c_{j-2}N_{j-2}^{3}(t) + c_{j-1}N_{j-1}^{3}(t) + c_{j}N_{j}^{3}(t)$$

where *j* is the index value determined in Step 2.

As shown in the example of Step 2 when t=7, j=6 so it follows that,

$$f(t) = c_3 N_3^3(t) + c_4 N_4^3(t) + c_5 N_5^3(t) + c_6 N_6^3(t)$$

where values for the basis splines $N_3^3(t=7) = \frac{1}{48}$, $N_4^3(t=7) = \frac{23}{48}$, $N_5^3(t=7) = \frac{23}{48}$, $N_6^3(t=7) = \frac{1}{48}$ at *t*=7 are obtained as shown in Step 2.