# D – optimal Design in Polynomial Spline Regression<sup>†</sup>

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#### ABSTRACT

For the polynomial spline regression with fixed knots, some properties of the D-optimal design are discussed. Also the D-optimal design for some cases are found analytically by using a normalized B-spline basis for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : k : \Delta)$ . Based on the Kiefer-Wolfowitz equivalence theorem, the D-optimal design for some cases are found by numerical methods.

## 1. Introduction

The present paper is concerned with D-optimal designs in the polynomial spline regression with fixed knots.

We consider the interval [a, b] and choose h fixed knots,  $s_1, \dots, s_h$  such that  $a = s_0 < s_1 < \dots < s_h < s_{h+1} = b$ . Let  $\Delta = \{s_i\}_0^h$  be a partition of [a, b] into h+1 subintevals  $I_i = [s_i, s_{i+1})$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, h$ . Let m be a positive integer and  $k' = (k_1, \dots, k_h)$  be a vector of integers with  $1 \le k_i \le m-1$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, h$ . We define

$$\mathcal{P}_m = \{ p(x) = \sum_{i=1}^m \alpha_i x^{i-1}, \alpha_i, \cdots \alpha_m, x \text{ real} \}$$

and call it the space of polynomials of order m.

Definition 1. We call the space

$$S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k} : \Delta) = \{s : \text{ there exist polynomials } p_0, \dots, p_h \text{ in } \mathcal{P}_m \text{ such that } s(x) = p_i(x) \text{ for } x \in I_i, i = 0, \dots h \text{ and } D^i p_{i-1}(s_i) = D^i p_i(s_i) \text{ for } j = 0, 1, \dots, m-1-k_i, i = 1, \dots, h\}$$

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the space of polynomial splines of order m with knots  $s_1, \dots, s_h$  of multiplicities  $k_1, \dots, k_h$ . Here D is the j-th order derivative of polynomial  $p_i(x)$ .

The function  $x_{+}^{j}$  is defined by

$$x_+^j = \begin{cases} x^j & \text{if } x \ge 0 \\ 0 & \text{o. w.} \end{cases}$$

Then a basis for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k} : \Delta)$  is given by

1, 
$$x$$
,  $\cdots$ ,  $x^{m-1}$ ,  $(x-s_i)_+{}^{m-k_i}$ ,  $\cdots$ ,  $(x-s_i)_+{}^{m-1}$ ,  $1 \le k_i \le m-1$ ,  $1 \le i \le h$ , (1)

which are our vector of regression functions. Studden(1971) and Park(1978) have some numerical results on the saturated D-optimal design. In section 2, some properties of the D-optimal design are discussed. Also the D-optimal design for some cases are found analytically by using a normalized B-spline basis for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k} : \Delta)$ . Based on the Kiefer-Wolfowitz equivalence theoem, the D-optimal design for some cases are found by numerical methods in section 3.

# 2. D-optimal Design

A design  $\xi$  is a probability measure on the interval [a,b]. The information matrix is given by

$$M(\xi) = \int f(x)f(x)'\xi(dx).$$

A design  $\xi^*$  is D-optimal iff  $|M(\xi^*)| = Max_{\xi} |M(\xi)|$ . The D-optimality criterion is known by the celebrated Kiefer-Wolfowitz theorem to be equivalent to the G-optimality criterion. So the design  $\xi^*$  is D-optimal iff the variance function  $d(x,\xi^*) \leq m+K$  for any x, where  $d(x,\xi^*) = f(x)'M^{-1}(\xi^*)f(x)$  and  $K = \sum_{i=1}^h k_i$ , i.e., m+K is the number of parameters in the model.

W.L.O.G., assume that x is transformed linearly so that  $-1 \le x \le 1$  since the D-optimality criterion is invariant under nonsingular transformation of f(x). Suppose that  $\xi_u$  is the D-optimal design for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k} : \Delta)$ .

Lemma 1. -1 and 1 are in the support of the D-optimal design  $\xi_u$ .

Proof. We take f(x) as a basis given in (1). According to the Binet-Cauchy formula,  $|M(\xi)|$  can be expressed as a linear combination of

$$|||f_i(x_k)||^{m+K}$$
  $||^2$ ,

where  $\{x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_{m+K}}\} \subset Supp(\xi)$ , the support of a design  $\xi$ . So it suffies to show that  $\|\|f_i(x_j)\|_{i,j=1}^{m+K}\|$  is a decreasing function of  $x_l$  or increasing function of  $x_{m+K}$  while all the other  $x_i$ 's are fixed.

Define F(t) by

$$F(t) = M \begin{pmatrix} x_1 & \cdots & x_{m+K-1} & t \\ f_1(x) & \cdots & f_{m+K-1}(x) & f_{m+K}(x) \end{pmatrix}. \tag{2}$$

Then it can be easily checked that |F(t)| had m+K-1 zeros at  $x_i$ ,  $i=1, \dots, m+K-1$ . It follows from the Rolle's theorem that  $\frac{d}{dt}|F(t)|$  has m+K-2 zeros and each of those is in  $(x_i, x_{i+1})$ ,  $i=1, \dots, m+K-1$ . So  $\frac{d}{dt}|F(t)|$  is positive on  $(x_{m+K-1}, 1]$  (Theorem 4.64, Schumaker(1981)) and then, |F(t)| is increasing. Similarly |F(t)| is a decreasing function while  $x_2, \dots, x_{m+K}$  being fixed.

The following lemma shows that the D-optimal design has the symmetric property with respect to knots.

Lemma 2. Suppose  $\xi_{\mu}$  is the D-optimal design for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k} : \Delta)$ . Define  $\xi_{-\mu}(x) = \xi_{\mu}(-x)$ . Then  $\xi_{-\mu}$  is the D-optimal design for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k}' : \Delta')$ , where  $k_i' = k_{h-i+1}$  and  $s_i' = -s_{h-i+1}$ .

Proof. Define g(x) = -x and  $\xi_g$  by  $\xi_g(x) = \xi(-x)$ . Take f(x),  $f_g(x)$  as a basis of  $S(\mathcal{P}_{k} : \mathbf{k} \mid \Delta)$ ,  $S(\mathcal{P}_{m} \mid \mathbf{k}' : \Delta')$  given in (1), respectively. Note that

$$(-x-s_i)^{l_+} = (x+s_i)^{l_-}$$

$$= -(x+s_i)^k + (x+s_i)^{l_+}$$

$$= -\sum_{i=0}^{l} {l \choose i} (s_i)^{l-i}x^i + (x+s_i)^{l_+}.$$

Then, simple algebra shows that  $f(gx) = H_L f_g(x)$ , where  $H_L$  is the lower triangular matrix whose absolute values of diagonal elements are all equal to 1. Thus,

$$|\int f(x)f(x)'\xi_{g}(dx)| = |\int f(gx)f(gx)'\xi(dx)|$$

$$= |H_{L}|^{2} \cdot |f_{g}(x)f_{g}(x)'\xi(dx)|$$

$$= |\int f_{g}(x)f_{g}(x)'\xi(dx)|.$$

So the lemma follows.  $\square$ 

For both ease of evaluation and a well—conditioned design matrix, it is desired to construct a basis for  $S(\mathcal{P}_m:\mathbf{k}:\Delta)$  consisting of splines with relatively small supports. We shall use the normalized B—splines basis from now on. For the definitions and related properties of B—splines, refer to Schumaker(1981).

Next, we consider  $S(\mathcal{P}_m : \mathbf{k} : \Delta)$  with  $k_i = m-1$ ,  $i=1, \dots, h$ .

Theorem 1. Suppose  $k_i=m-1$ ,  $i=1, \dots, h$ . Then the D-optimal design  $\xi_n$  has uniform mass 1/(m+K) over

$$\{-1, x_{0l}^{\circ}, \cdots, x_{0(m-2)}^{\circ}, s_{l}, x_{1l}^{\circ}, \cdots, s_{h}, x_{hl}^{\circ}, \cdots, x_{h(m-2)}^{\circ}, 1\},$$

where

$$x_{ij}^{o} = \frac{s_{i+1} - s_{i}}{2} (1 + x_{j}^{*}) + s_{i}, \quad i = 0, \dots, h, \quad j = 1, \dots, m - 2$$
(3)

and  $x_i^*$ 's are zeros of the derivative of the (m-1)-th degree Legendre polynomial.

Proof. It follows from Studden & Van Arman's theorem (Studden & Van Arman (1969)) that the D-optimal design is saturated and  $Supp(\xi_m)$  has all the  $s_i$ 's and m-2 points in  $(s_i, s_{i+1})$ ,  $i=0, \dots, h$ . Since  $k_i=m-1$  for any i, we get  $B_{m+l(m-1)}(s_l)=1$ ,  $l=0, \dots, h$  from Theorem 4.9 in Schumaker (1981). Suppose  $\xi$  is a admissible and has uniform mass over  $\{x_1, \dots, x_{m+K}\}$ . Recalling that  $\Sigma_l^{m+K}$   $B_l(x)=1$  and  $B_l(x)\geq 0$ , we get

$$|M_{B}^{m,u}(\xi)| = \left(\frac{1}{m+K}\right)^{m+K} |\|B_{i}^{m}(x_{j})\|_{i,j=1}^{m+K}|^{2}$$

$$= \left(\frac{1}{m+K}\right)^{m+K} \prod_{l=0}^{h} |\|B_{i}^{m}(x_{j})\|_{i,j=2+l(m-1)+(m-3)}|^{2},$$

in which  $\|B_j^m(x_i)\|_{i,j} = \frac{2+l(m-1)+(m-3)}{2+l(m-1)}\|^2$  is proportional to the determinant of the information matrix of  $\xi_i$  for the (m-1)—th degree polynomial regression on  $[s_i, s_{i+1}]$ , where  $\xi_i$  has uniforms mass over  $\{s_i, x_{2+l(m-1)}, \dots, x_{2+l(m-1)+(m-3)}, s_{l+1}\}$ . Thus the theorem follows from the result in Hoel (1958).

Park(1978) gives the D-optimal design among the class of saturated desings for quadratic regression with one simple knot by maximizing determinants of the information matrix numerically. The following theorem shows analytically that design is in fact D-optimal.

Theorem 2. For quadratic splines with one simple knot, i.e., m=2, h=1 and  $k_1=1$ , the D-optimal design  $\xi_n$  has uniform mass over  $\{-1, x_2(x), x_3(s), 1\}$ ,

where 
$$x_2(s) = \frac{-3s^2 + 6s + 1}{8} - \frac{\sqrt{9s^5 - 9s^4 - 62s^3 - 10s^2 + 85s + 51}}{8\sqrt{s + 3}}$$
  
and  $x_3(s) = -x_2(-s)$ . (4)

Proof. By Studden & Van Arman's thoerem, the support of any admisible design has at most one point in (-1, s) or (s, 1). So it suffies to consider a class of designs which have the uniform mass over  $\{-1, x_2, x_3, 1\}$ , where  $-1 < x_2 < s < x_3 < 1$ . Thus, find  $x_2(s)$  and  $x_3(s)$  such that

$$D\begin{pmatrix} -1 & x_2 & x_3 & 1 \\ B_1{}^3(x) & B_2{}^3(x) & B_3{}^3(x) & B_4{}^3(x) \end{pmatrix} = B_2{}^3(x_2)B_3{}^3(x_3) - B_2{}^3(x_3)B_3{}^3(x_2)$$
 (5)

is maximized. From the recurrence relation of the B-splines,

$$B_{2}^{3}(x_{2}) = \frac{(x_{2}+1)(s-x_{2})}{(1+s)^{2}} + \frac{(1-x_{2})(x_{2}+1)}{2(1+s)}, \ B_{2}^{3}(x_{3}) = \frac{(1-x_{3})^{2}}{2(1-s)},$$

$$B_{3}^{3}(x_{2}) = \frac{(x_{2}+1)^{2}}{1(1+s)} \text{ and } B_{3}^{3}(x_{3}) = \frac{(1-x_{3})(1+x_{3})}{2(1-s)} + \frac{(1-x_{3})(x_{3}-s)}{(1-s)^{2}}.$$
(6)

Substituting (5) into (4), we get

$$D\begin{pmatrix} -1 & x_2 & x_3 & 1\\ B_1{}^3(x) & B_2{}^3(x) & B_3{}^3(x) & B_4{}^3(x) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \frac{(1+x_2)(1-x_3)(-2s^2+(s^2+2s-1)x_2-(s^2-2s-1)x_3-2x_2x_3)}{(1+s)^2(1-s)}.$$
 (7)

Simple algebra shows that (6) is maximized at

$$x_2(s) = \frac{-3s^2 + 6s + 1}{8} - \frac{\sqrt{9s^5 - 9s^4 - 62s^3 - 10s^2 + 85s + 51}}{8\sqrt{s + 3}}$$
and
$$x_3(s) = -x_2(-s).$$
(8)

Thus the D-optimal design  $\xi_n$  has uniform mass over  $\{-1, x_2(s), x_3(s), 1\}$ . 

### 3. Numerical Results

For the cubic, 4th, 5th degree polynomial spline regression with one and two simple knots, the determinant  $|B_i^m(x_j)|_{i,j=1}^{m+K}$  was maximized on the VAX 11/780 over  $-1=x_1< x_2< \cdots$  $< x_{m+K}=1$  to get the D-optimal design, say  $\xi_n^*$ , among saturated designs. Table 1 and 2 list support points  $x_i(s)$ ,  $2 \le i \le m + K - 1$ , in (0,1) of  $\xi_u$ . The variance function  $d(x, \xi_u^*)$  was computed numerically and found to be  $\leq m+K$  to five decimal places with maxima occurring at points in the support of  $\xi_*^*$ . Thus the equivalence theorem by Kiefer & Wolfowitz(1961) implies that  $\xi_{u}^{*}$  is the D-optimal design in a numerical sense. Like the case of quadratic splines with one simple knot, it is interesting to check that  $x_i(s)$ ,  $2 \le i \le m$ , is increasing as the knot value s is increased.

Table 1. Interior Support of the D-optimal Design with one Simple Knot

	s	.0	.2	.4	.6	.8
	x2	6287	5843	5470	5145	4806
m=4	х3	.0	. 1036	. 1928	.2732	.3599
	X4	.6287	.6785	.7330	.7964	. 8863
	<b>x</b> <sub>2</sub>	7521	7276	7061	6878	6722
m=5	<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>	2704	2061	1470	0954	0509
	X4	.2704	.3420	. 4224	.5004	.5711
	<b>X</b> 5	.7521	.7808	.8156	.8573	.9104
	<b>x</b> <sub>2</sub>	8232	8078	7949	7839	7747
	<b>x</b> <sub>3</sub>	4567	4129	3573	3423	3146
m=6	x4	.0	.0658	. 1269	. 1836	. 2326
	<b>x</b> 5	. 4567	.5071	. 5648	.6303	. 6936
	<i>x</i> <sub>6</sub>	.8232	.8418	.8646	.8935	.9317

Table 2. Interior Support of the D-optimal Design with Two Simple Knots

	$(s_1, s_2)$	(-33,33)	(2, .3)	(1, .4)	(.0, .5)	(.1, .6)
	<b>x</b> <sub>2</sub>	7365	7065	6783	6513	6256
m=4	<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>	2732	2112	1406	0731	0083
	X4	.2732	.2841	.3555	. 4249	. 4925
	<b>x</b> <sub>5</sub>	. 7365	.7359	.7659	.7965	. 8281
	<b>x</b> <sub>2</sub>	8179	8006	7838	7678	7524
	<b>x</b> <sub>3</sub>	4541	4121	3663	3219	2788
m=5	<i>x</i> <sub>4</sub>	.0	0309	.0927	. 1548	.2173
	$x_5$	.4541	. 4598	• 5095	.5616	.6161
	<i>x</i> <sub>6</sub>	.8179	.8181	.8367	. 8565	.8777
	$x_2$	8666	8551	8441	8336	8238
	<i>x</i> <sub>3</sub>	5840	5537	5215	4909	4619
m=6	<b>X</b> 4	2083	1729	1214	0713	2276
	<b>x</b> <sub>5</sub>	.2083	.2252	.2778	.3306	.3836
	<i>x</i> <sub>6</sub>	.5840	.5876	. 6233	.6610	.7010
	<i>x</i> <sub>7</sub>	. 8666	.8669	.8796	.8931	.9079

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# 다항 스플라인 회귀모형에서의 D-최적실험계획<sup>†</sup>

임용 빈\*

요 약

고정된 접목점을 갖는 다항 스플라인 회귀모형에 대한 D-최적실험 계획의 성질들이 연구되었다. 또한 정규화된 B-스플라인을 이용하여 몇가지 경우에 대한 D-최적실험 계획을 이론적으로 구하였다. Kiefer-Wolfowitz 동치정리에 의하여 몇가지 모형에 대한 D-최적실험 계획이 수리적인 방법에 의해 근사적으로 구하여 졌다.

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