

Forward finite-divided-difference formulas

First Derivative

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_i)}{h}$$

Error

$$O(h)$$

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{-f(x_{i+2}) + 4f(x_{i+1}) - 3f(x_i)}{2h}$$

$$O(h^2)$$

Second Derivative

$$f''(x_i) = \frac{f(x_{i+2}) - 2f(x_{i+1}) + f(x_i)}{h^2}$$

Error

$$O(h)$$

$$f''(x_i) = \frac{-f(x_{i+3}) + 4f(x_{i+2}) - 5f(x_{i+1}) + 2f(x_i)}{h^2}$$

$$O(h^2)$$

Backward finite-divided-difference formulas

First Derivative

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{f(x_i) - f(x_{i-1})}{h}$$

Error

$$O(h)$$

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{3f(x_i) - 4f(x_{i-1}) + f(x_{i-2})}{2h}$$

$$O(h^2)$$

Second Derivative

$$f''(x_i) = \frac{f(x_i) - 2f(x_{i-1}) + f(x_{i-2})}{h^2}$$

Error

$$O(h)$$

$$f''(x_i) = \frac{2f(x_i) - 5f(x_{i-1}) + 4f(x_{i-2}) - f(x_{i-3})}{h^2}$$

$$O(h^2)$$

Centered finite-divided-difference formulas

First Derivative

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{f(x_{i+1}) - f(x_{i-1})}{2h}$$

Error

$$O(h^2)$$

$$f'(x_i) = \frac{-f(x_{i+2}) + 8f(x_{i+1}) - 8f(x_{i-1}) + f(x_{i-2})}{12h}$$

$$O(h^4)$$

Second Derivative

$$f''(x_i) = \frac{f(x_{i+1}) - 2f(x_i) + f(x_{i-1})}{h^2}$$

Error

$$O(h^2)$$

$$f''(x_i) = \frac{-f(x_{i+2}) + 16f(x_{i+1}) - 30f(x_i) + 16f(x_{i-1}) - f(x_{i-2})}{12h^2}$$

$$O(h^4)$$