

Numerical Integration Methods

Andrew Struthers

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1 Introduction

In this project, we were expected to use numerical integration methods to estimate the integral of

$$g(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-3x}}$$

on the interval $[-1, 3]$. We will use Composite Trapezoidal and Composite Simpson's methods of numerical integration.

2 Analysis

First, we will calculate the integral of $g(x)$ exactly. Observe:

$$\begin{aligned} g(x) &= \int_{-1}^3 \frac{1}{1 + e^{-3x}} dx \\ &= \int_{-1}^3 \frac{e^{3x}}{1 + e^{3x}} dx \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Now we do u-substitution, so let $u = e^{3x} + 1$. Then $\frac{du}{dx} = 3e^{3x}$ and $dx = \frac{e^{-3x}}{3} du$. Substituting back into the equation above we have:

$$\begin{aligned} &= \int_{-1}^3 \frac{e^{3x}}{1 + e^{3x}} * \frac{e^{-3x}}{3} du \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \int_{-1}^3 \frac{1}{1 + e^{3x}} du \\ &= \frac{1}{3} \int_{-1}^3 \frac{1}{u} du \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{3} \ln(u) \Big|_{-1}^3 \\
&= \frac{\ln(u)}{3} \Big|_{-1}^3 \\
&= \frac{\ln(e^{3x} + 1)}{3} \Big|_{-1}^3 \\
&= \frac{\ln(e^{3(3)})}{3} - \frac{\ln(e^{3(-1)})}{3} \\
&\approx 2.98384329566880
\end{aligned} \tag{3}$$

Looking at the error term for the Composite Trapezoid Method, we have the formula:

$$\frac{g''(\xi)h^2(b-a)}{12}$$

where $a \leq \xi \leq b$ and h is the step size between our bounds. We will be looking at 3 cases, $n = 11, n = 41$, and then calculating a value of n such that our error is less than 10^{-4} . The second derivative of $g(x)$ has a maximum value of ≈ 0.866 . The corresponding h -value for 11 points is $h = 0.4$. Therefore the error is bounded by $\frac{0.866*0.4^2*(3-(-1))}{12} \approx 0.0462$. Likewise, the h -value for $n = 41$ is $h = 0.1$, so the error is bounded by $\frac{0.866*0.1^2*4}{12} \approx 0.00289$. Using the above error formula, we can calculate the appropriate h -value such that our error is less than 10^{-4} . We get $h = \sqrt{\frac{10^{-4}*12}{(3-(-1))0.866}} \approx 0.0186$. We can get our number of points by taking $n = \frac{3-(-1)}{0.0186} + 1$ and rounding it up to the nearest whole number to get $n = 216$. This is the number of points needed to get an error less than 10^{-4} using the Composite Trapezoidal method.

Similarly, looking at the error term for the Composite Simpson's Method, we have the formula:

$$\frac{g'''(\xi)h^4(b-a)}{180}$$

where $a \leq \xi \leq b$ and h is the step size between our bounds. We will again be looking at 3 cases, $n = 11, n = 41$, and then calculating a value of n such that our error is less than 10^{-4} . The fourth derivative of $g(x)$ has a maximum value of ≈ 10.342 . The corresponding h -value for 11 points is $h = 0.4$. Therefore the error is bounded by $\frac{10.342*0.4^4*(3-(-1))}{180} \approx 0.00588$. Likewise, the h -value for $n = 41$ is $h = 0.1$, so the error is bounded by $\frac{10.342*0.1^4*4}{180} \approx 0.000023$. Using the above error formula, we can calculate the appropriate h -value such that our error is less than 10^{-4} . We can

see from $n = 41$ that our error bound is already less than 10^{-4} , so we should expect an n -value less than 41. We get $h = \sqrt[4]{\frac{10^{-4} * 180}{(3 - (-1))^{10.342}}} \approx 0.1444$. We can get our number of points by taking $n = \frac{3 - (-1)}{0.1444} + 1$ and rounding it up to the nearest whole number to get $n = 29$. This is the number of points needed to get an error less than 10^{-4} using the Composite Simpson's method.

We know that the Composite Simpson's method will be more accurate than the Composite Trapezoid method due to the error term. We can see in the error term for the Simpson's method that it behaves like $O(h^4)$ whereas the Trapezoid error behaves like $O(h^2)$. As $h \rightarrow 0$, the error for Simpson's will go to zero faster than for Trapezoid. This means that we can get a smaller error faster using Simpson's method, so we know that the Simpson's method is more accurate. Because of this and the analysis of our step sizes and their resulting error bounds found above, I am going to predict that the Simpson's will be much better of an approximation than the Trapezoid, and it will use less points to get an answer within the tolerance.

3 Computer Program

In Figure 1, we can see the output of the code when computing the integral with the Composite Trapezoidal Method with $n = 11, n = 41, n = 216$ points. Notice the only value that was within tolerance was $n = 216$.

```
=====
Composite Trapezoidal:
=====
Required h = 0.0186121401926444
=====
```

n	h	Real Value	Calculated Value	Absolute Error	Relative Error	Within Tolerance
11	0.4	2.98385	2.98207	0.00177056	0.0593382	False
41	0.1	2.98385	2.98373	0.00011251	0.00377064	False
216	0.0186047	2.98385	2.98384	3.89846e-06	0.000130652	True

```
=====
```

Figure 1: Composite Trapezoidal Method at $n = 11, n = 41, n = 216$

In Figure 2, we can see the output of the code when computing the integral with the Composite Simpson's Method with $n = 11, n = 41, n = 29$ points.

```

=====
Composite Simpson's:
=====
Required h = 0.144427164687629
=====

```

n	h	Real Value	Calculated Value	Absolute Error	Relative Error	Within Tolerance
11	0.4	2.98385	2.9841	0.000251352	0.00842375	False
41	0.1	2.98385	2.98384	4.92819e-07	1.65162e-05	True
29	0.142857	2.98385	2.98384	2.05454e-06	6.88553e-05	True

```

=====

```

Figure 2: Composite Simpson's Method at $n = 11, n = 41, n = 29$

4 Results

Hello

References

R.L. Burden and J.D. Faires. *Numerical Analysis*. Cengage Learning, 2010. ISBN 9781133169338.

URL <https://books.google.com/books?id=Dbw8AAAAQBAJ>.

J.F. Epperson. *An Introduction to Numerical Methods and Analysis*. Wiley, 2013. ISBN

9781118626238. URL <https://books.google.com/books?id=01U5W5hzvCoC>.

```
import sys
import math
import sympy as sp
import numpy as np
from tabulate import tabulate
```

#calculate the nth derivative of fx

#returns a list of [fx, fx', fx'', ... , fx^(n)]

```
def n_deriv(fx, n):
    x = sp.symbols('x')
    f = fx
    deriv_list = [f]
    for i in range(1, n + 1):
        df_i = deriv_list[-1].diff(x).replace(sp.Derivative, lambda *args: f(x))
        deriv_list.append(df_i)
    return deriv_list
```

#takes a function, bounds, and step size and finds the x value where the function is maximized

```
def find_max_error(f_n, bounds, step):
    max_y = None
    max_x = None
    x = sp.symbols('x')
    for i in np.arange(bounds[0], bounds[1] + step, step):
        y = abs(f_n.subs(x, i))
        if (max_y is None and max_x is None) or y > max_y:
            max_y = y
            max_x = i
    return max_x
```

#takes parameters h, n, f, a, b, and a boolean that checks if we want Simpson's method or not

#returns the calculated numerical integral of f

```
def numerical_integral(h, n, f, a, b, simpsons):
    x = sp.symbols('x')
    integral = 0
```

#iterate through all points

```
for i in range(n):
    #calculate xi by taking the start point + step size * current index
    xi = a + i*h
    xi = round(xi, 10)
```

#checks to see if we want to use Simpson's method or not

```
if simpsons:
    #i==0 or i==n-1 corresponds to the two end points
    if i == 0 or i == n - 1:
        integral += f.subs(x, xi)
    #multiply the even terms by 2
    elif i%2 == 0:
        integral += 2 * f.subs(x, xi)
    #multiply the odd terms by 4
    else:
        integral += 4 * f.subs(x, xi)
    #if not using Simpson's, we are using Trapezoidal method
else:
    #check for end points
    if i == 0 or i == n - 1:
        integral += f.subs(x, xi)
    #multiply non-end points by 2
    else:
        integral += 2 * f.subs(x, xi)
```

```
if simpsons:
    integral *= h/3
```

```
else:
    integral *= h/2
```

return integral

"""

defining our initial variables

"""

x = sp.symbols('x')

#define our function 1/(1+e^(-3x))

f = sp.sympify(1/(1+sp.exp(-3*x)))

tolerance = float(input("Enter max tolerance: "))

a = float(input("a = "))

b = float(input("b = "))

real = sp.integrate(f, (x, a, b))

"""

finds where the second and fourth derivatives are maximized

used for calculating our h-values

"""

second_deriv = n_deriv(f, 2)[-1]

fourth_deriv = n_deriv(f, 4)[-1]

second_deriv_max = find_max_error(second_deriv, [a, b], 0.01)

second_deriv_max = abs(second_deriv.subs(x, second_deriv_max))

fourth_deriv_max = find_max_error(fourth_deriv, [a, b], 0.01)

fourth_deriv_max = abs(fourth_deriv.subs(x, fourth_deriv_max))

"""

calculate h-values, intervals, and points using the Composite error terms

"""

h_t = ((tolerance*12)/((b-a)*second_deriv_max))**(1/2)

h_s = ((tolerance*180)/((b-a)*fourth_deriv_max))**(1/4)

interval_t = math.ceil((b-a)/h_t)

#simpsons needs an even interval (resulting in odd # of points)

interval_s = math.ceil((b-a)/h_s)

if interval_s%2 != 0:

interval_s += 1

points_t = interval_t+1

points_s = interval_s+1

#check to make sure the math we did above is actually correct and in tolerance

assert second_deriv_max*((b-a)/points_t)**2*((b-a)/12) <= tolerance

assert fourth_deriv_max*((b-a)/points_s)**4*((b-a)/180) <= tolerance

"""

setting up our method of calculating each integral

"""

points = [points_t, points_s]

simps = [**False**, **True**]

h_vals = [h_t, h_s]

#for loop that uses either the trapezoid method or simpsons method because I didn't want to copy/paste

for calc_type **in** range(len(points)):

print("\n===== \nComposite {0}: \n===== ".format("Trapezoidal" **if** calc_type == 0 **else** "Simpson's"))

print("Required h = {0}".format(h_vals[calc_type]))

print("===== ")

#sets up our n values

n_vals = [11, 41, points[calc_type]]

err_vals = [0 **for** _ **in** range(len(n_vals))]

```

data = [[] for _ in range(len(n_vals))]

#iterates through n values and calculates integral with each n
for i in range(len(n_vals)):
    n = n_vals[i]

    #calculate our h-value for this specific n
    h = ((b-a)/(n-1))

    integral = numerical_integral(h, n, f, a, b, simp[simps_type])

    #calculates absolute and relative error
    abs_err = abs(real - integral)
    rel_err = abs(abs_err/real)*100

    data_row = [n, h, real, integral, abs_err, rel_err, abs_err <= tolerance]
    data[i] = data_row

#prints out table of information
print(tabulate(data, headers=["n",
                             "h",
                             "Real Value",
                             "Calculated Value",
                             "Absolute Error",
                             "Relative Error",
                             "Within Tolerance"]))

print("\n=====")

```