

# Romberg Integration

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Idea: apply Richardson Extrapolation to the Composite trapezoidal rule

Driscoll + Braun (2017) call this the  
"Swiss Army knife of integration formulas"

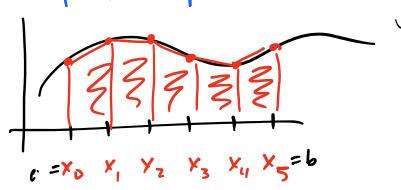
Recall trapezoidal rule

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = h \cdot \left( \frac{1}{2} f(x_0) + \frac{1}{2} f(x_1) \right) - \frac{h^3}{12} f''(\eta)$$

Formula    error

and

composite trapezoidal rule



$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = h \left( \frac{1}{2} f(x_0) + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} f(x_j) + \frac{1}{2} f(x_n) \right) - \frac{b-a}{12} h^3 f''(\eta)$$

equispaced, so  $x_j = x_0 + j \cdot h$   
Formula    error

Before we go on, let's get an alternative form for our error. We're used

to writing the error term like  $f^{(k)}(\eta)$  for some  $\eta \in (a, b)$ ,

but there's a variant using  $f^{(k)}(b) - f^{(k)}(a)$ : the Euler-Maclaurin Formula

every book calls this the "most remarkable formula in mathematics"

Euler-Maclaurin Formula

Not in Burden & Faires  
Ref: "Concrete Mathematics" (Graham, Knuth, Patashnik)

Integers  $A, B, m$ :

$$\sum_{k=A}^{B-1} f(k) = \int_A^B f(x) dx + \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{B_k}{k!} (f^{(k-1)}(B) - f^{(k-1)}(A))$$

⚠ may not always converge

$$+ R_m, R_m = (-1)^{m+1} \int_A^B B_m \frac{(x-Lx)}{m!} f^{(m)}(x) dx$$

Remainder, can bound usually

$B_k$  are the Bernoulli numbers

$$B_0 = 1, B_2 = \frac{1}{6}, B_4 = -\frac{1}{30}, B_6 = \frac{1}{42}, B_8 = -\frac{1}{30}$$

$$B_1 = -\frac{1}{2}$$

$$B_3 = B_5 = B_7 = B_9 = \dots = 0 \quad (\text{so sometimes people don't include odd terms in the sum})$$

You can use the formula for all kinds of things,

ex: let  $f(x) = x^{m-1}$  so  $f^{(m)}(x) = 0$  so  $R_m = 0$  and (with some work)  
you can show

$$\sum_{k=0}^{n-1} k^2 = \frac{n^3}{3} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{6}$$

(of course you can show this other ways too, e.g. telescoping series)

(you might know the version

$$\sum_{k=1}^n k^2 = \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6}$$

much like  $\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$

Can bound remainder  $|R_m| = O(\frac{1}{(2\pi)^m}) \cdot \int_A^B |f^{(m)}(x)| dx$

How are we going to use the formula?  
 Instead of  $\sum_{k=A}^{B-1}$  and  $\int_A^B$ , we want  $\int_a^b$   
 integers, like  $A=1, B=500$   
 like  $a=0, b=1$

So we'll do a change-of-variables, something like  $g(x) = f(hx)$   
 so  $g'(x) = h f'(hx)$   
 ... then relabel  $f$  ...  
 $g''(x) = h^2 f''(hx)$   
 etc.

(see a textbook! these are handwritten notes)

... and account for  $\frac{1}{2}$  values at endpoints ... rename "m" to "n" ...

$$h \left( \frac{1}{2} f(x_0) + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} f(x_j) + \frac{1}{2} f(x_n) \right) = \int_a^b f(x) dx + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} h^{2k} \frac{B_{2k}}{(2k)!} \left( f^{(2k-1)}(b) - f^{(2k-1)}(a) \right)$$

only writing down even terms

this is composite trapezoidal rule!

Two implications:

① error for composite trapezoidal rule looks like

$$E = K_1 h^2 + K_2 h^4 + K_3 h^6 + \dots$$

$\nwarrow$  constant

so ① we know the form of the error, hence can cancel it out using repeated Richardson extrapolation

② only involves even powers, so repeated Richardson extrapolation has a nice form

③ if  $f'(a) = f'(b)$ , it's actually a  $O(h^4)$  rule!

if also  $f''(a) = f''(b)$ , it's actually a  $O(h^6)$  rule!

if  $f$  is periodic ( $f(x + (b-a)) = f(x)$ )

and  $C^\infty$  in the periodic sense

i.e.,  $f \in C^\infty[a,b]$  and  $f^{(k)}(b) = f^{(k)}(a) \forall k$

then all errors seem to cancel, up to remainder term.

We call this spectral accuracy

(it's like applying a very high order formula to  $\{x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n\}$ , then applying that same high order

formula to  $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, x_0\}$ , etc., then averaging, and due to periodicity ① these all approximate the same integral, and ② the weights all average to the same #, which is the same as composite trapezoidal rule )

Today, focus on implication (1):

error for composite trapezoidal rule looks like

$$E = K_1 h^2 + K_2 h^4 + K_3 h^6 + \dots$$

$K$  constant

and let's apply Richardson Extrapolation . Fix  $a, b$

Let  $R_{K,1} =$  composite trap. rule applied to equispaced nodes w/  $n = 2^{K-1}$   
 $\{x_0 = a, x_1, \dots, x_{2^{K-1}} = b\}$

so error for  $R_{K,1}$  is  $E_K = c_1 h^2 + c_2 h^4 + O(h^6)$ ,  $h = \frac{b-a}{2^{K-1}}$

error for  $R_{\tilde{K},1}$   $E_{\tilde{K}} = c_1 \tilde{h}^2 + c_2 \tilde{h}^4 + O(\tilde{h}^6)$ ,  $\tilde{h} = \frac{b-a}{2^{\tilde{K}-1}}$

so let  $\tilde{K} = K-1$  thus  $\tilde{h} = \frac{b-a}{2^{K-2}} = 2h$

$$E_{\tilde{K}} = c_1 (2h)^2 + c_2 (2h)^4 + O(h^6)$$

$$\text{Now } E_K + \frac{1}{3}(E_K - E_{\tilde{K}}) = \frac{1}{3}(4E_K - E_{\tilde{K}})$$

General rule: to cancel

$h^K$  this should

be  $2^{K-1}$

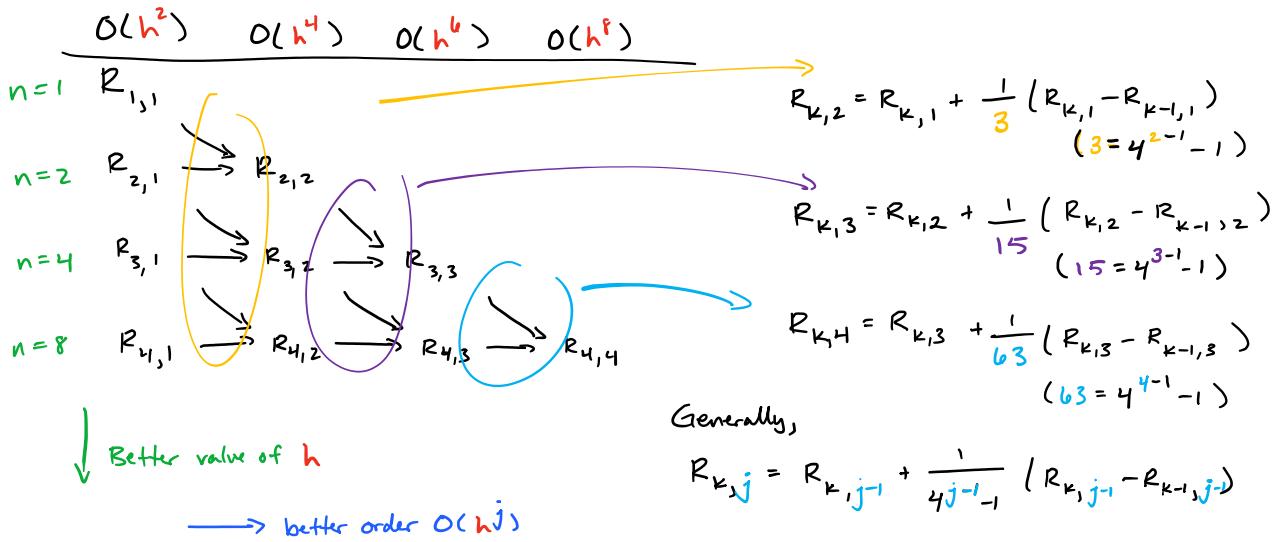
(here,  $K=2$ )

$$= \frac{1}{3}(4c_1 h^2 + 4c_2 h^4 + O(h^6) - c_1 (2h)^2 - c_2 (2h)^4 + O(h^6))$$

$$= O(h^4)$$

$$\text{so } \int_a^b f(x)dx = \underbrace{R_{K,1} + \frac{1}{3}(R_{K,1} - R_{K-1,1})}_{\text{call this}} + \underbrace{E_K + \frac{1}{3}(E_K - E_{K-1})}_{\text{error is } O(h^4)}$$

$$R_{K,2}$$



Computation: compute it row-by-row  
(and add a new row when you need more accuracy)

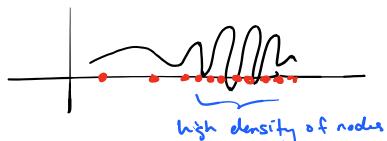
- Because  $R_{k,1}$  shares half its nodes w/  $R_{k-1,1}$ , we can compute a new entry in the 1st column saving  $\frac{1}{2}$  the function evaluations by  $R_{k,1} = \frac{1}{2} (R_{k-1,1} + h_{k-1} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{2^{k-2}} f(a + (2i-1)h_k))$
- so  $R_{k,1}$  requires  $1 + 2^{k-1}$  function evaluations  
and  $R_{k,j}$  for  $j \geq 2$  is done via the formulas (no function evaluations)

This sounds great! We should always use it!

Didn't we say Composite Simpson's Rule was the default in a lot of software, though?

Yes, Romberg integration is neat, but it relies on...

- (1) equispaced nodes... we'll later discuss adaptive quadrature that adds nodes where they are needed



- (2) Assumes error is  $c_1 h^2 + c_2 h^4 + c_3 h^6 + c_4 h^8 + \dots$

but this relies on  $f''$  existing and being bounded,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} & & f^{(4)} & & & & \\ & & \parallel & & & & \\ & & f^{(6)} & & \parallel & & \dots \end{array}$$

so this can break.

Ex  $f(x) = x^{\frac{3}{2}}$  on  $[0, 1]$

$$f'(x) = \frac{3}{2}x^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$f''(x) = \frac{3}{4} \frac{1}{\sqrt{x}} \dots \text{on } (0, 1] \text{ this isn't bounded!}$$

Ex  $f(x) = |x|$  on  $[-1, 1]$

$f'$  does not exist at  $x=0$

Ex  $f(x) = \frac{1}{x^2+1}$  Runge's function

$f \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$  but  $\max_x |f^{(k)}(x)|$  grows with  $k$