

# Assignment 3

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## 1. Deriving a second derivative approximation formula

We are looking for an equation that approximates the second derivative and is of the form

$$f''(x) = \lambda_1 f(x) + \lambda_2 f(x+h) + \lambda_3 f(x-h) + \lambda_4 f(x+2h) + \lambda_5 f(x-2h) \quad (1)$$

We can start by finding the Taylor expansions of each function

$$f(x) = f(x)$$

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + hf'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!}f''(x) + \frac{h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + \frac{h^4}{4!}f^{(4)}(x) + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

$$f(x-h) = f(x) - hf'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!}f''(x) - \frac{h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + \frac{h^4}{4!}f^{(4)}(x) - \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

$$f(x+2h) = f(x) + 2hf'(x) + 2hf''(x) + \frac{8h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + \frac{16h^4}{4!}f^{(4)}(x) + \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

$$f(x-2h) = f(x) - 2hf'(x) + 2hf''(x) - \frac{8h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + \frac{16h^4}{4!}f^{(4)}(x) - \mathcal{O}(h^5)$$

and then, after collecting coefficients of derivatives of  $f$ , Equation 1 looks like this, ignoring the error term

$$\begin{aligned} f''(x) = & (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + \lambda_4 + \lambda_5)f(x) + (\lambda_2 - \lambda_3 + 2\lambda_4 - 2\lambda_5)hf'(x) \\ & + (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + 4\lambda_4 + 4\lambda_5)h^2f''(x) + (\lambda_2 - \lambda_3 + 8\lambda_4 - 8\lambda_5)h^3f'''(x) \\ & + (\lambda_2 + \lambda_3 + 16\lambda_4 + 16\lambda_5)h^4f^{(4)}(x) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Now we can equate coefficients of derivatives on either side of the equation, which we can turn into a matrix equation:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 4 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & -1 & 8 & -8 \\ 0 & 1 & 1 & 16 & 16 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \\ \lambda_3 \\ \lambda_4 \\ \lambda_5 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \frac{2}{h^2} \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solving this equation (finding the inverse of the  $5 \times 5$  matrix) gives us values for our  $\lambda$ 's, which are:

$$\lambda_1 = \frac{-30}{12h^2}; \quad \lambda_2 = \frac{16}{12h^2}; \quad \lambda_3 = \frac{16}{12h^2}; \quad \lambda_4 = \frac{-1}{12h^2}; \quad \lambda_5 = \frac{-1}{12h^2}$$

Finally, we have Equation 1 becoming

$$\begin{aligned} f''(x) &= \frac{-30f(x) + 16f(x+h) + 16f(x-h) - f(x+2h) - f(x-2h)}{12h^2} \\ &= \frac{-f(x-2h) + 16f(x-h) - 30f(x) + 16f(x+h) - f(x+2h)}{12h^2} \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

## 2. Evaluating an integral with the Composite Trapezoid Method

We aim to evaluate the following integral using the composite trapezoid method, using  $n$  equal subintervals

$$I = \int_a^b e^x dx \quad (4)$$

Firstly, we can look at the general form of the trapezoid method for approximating an integral:

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = \underbrace{\frac{h}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} [f(x_i) + f(x_{i+1})]}_{\text{approximation}} - \underbrace{\frac{h^2}{12}(b-a)f''(c)}_{\text{error}} \quad (5)$$

where  $n$  is the number of equal subintervals between  $a$  and  $b$ ,  $h = (b-a)/n$ , and  $c \in [a, b]$ .  $c$  is arbitrary but we choose it to be the point which maximises  $f''(x)$  on the given interval in order to look at the "worst case scenario", if you will. Applying Equation 5 to Equation 4, and ignoring the error term for now, we get

$$\begin{aligned} I &\approx \frac{h}{2} \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} [e^{x_i} + e^{x_{i+1}}] \\ &= \frac{h}{2} \left[ \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} e^{x_i} + \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} e^{x_{i+1}} \right] \end{aligned}$$

These sums can be converted into 2 geometric series as each has a common ratio of  $e^h$ , therefore we get

$$I \approx \frac{h(1 - e^{hn})}{2(1 - e^h)} [e^a + e^{a+h}] \quad (6)$$

Of course, this is only an approximation as we haven't included the error term yet. In this error term though, there is  $f''(c)$ , where  $c$  is the the point which

maximises  $f''$ . In this case,  $c = b$  as  $f''(x) = e^x$  is strictly increasing everywhere. So finally we have

$$I = \frac{h(1 - e^{hn})}{2(1 - e^h)}[e^a + e^{a+h}] - \frac{h^2}{12}(b - a)f''(b) \quad (7)$$

### 3. Implementing the Composite Midpoint Method

The composite midpoint method has the general form of

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = h \underbrace{\sum_{i=0}^{n-1} f(w_i)}_{\text{approximation}} + \underbrace{\frac{h^2(b-a)}{24} f''(c)}_{\text{error}} \quad (8)$$

where  $h = (b - a)/n$ ,  $w_i = a + (i + \frac{1}{2})h$ , and  $c \in [a, b]$ . Again, we choose  $c$  to be the value which maximises  $f''$ , to get a worst case scenario for the error. We were to use this method to estimate

$$\int_0^1 \frac{4}{1+x^2} dx = \pi \quad (9)$$

with  $n = 1000$ . Below is our implementation of Equation 8 applied to Equation 9 in Python.

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```

1  import numpy as np
2  # Setting constants to allow for modification if need be
3  a = 0
4  b = 1
5  n = 1000
6  h = (b-a)/n
7  I = 0
8  # Looping through the summation, setting a new w at each iteration
9  for i in range(1000):
10     w = a+((i+(1/2))*h)
11     I += 4/(1+(w**2))
12 # Multiplying by h as per the formula
13 I *= h
14 print(I)

```

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#### Composite Midpoint Method

When we compute the value of the error term, using  $c = 1$  as that maximises the  $f''$ , we get a value of  $\pi = 3.1415928202531225$ . The difference between this and the known value of  $\pi$  is  $\approx 1.667 \times 10^{-7}$ . This is quite good.