

# Ch 5. Numerical Integration and Differentiation

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# Overview of Ch. 5

## 1. Numerical integration or numerical quadrature

- Approximate a definite integral with a weighted sum of function values

$$\int_I f(x)w(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=0}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

- The methods differ only in how the quadrature weights  $w_i$  and the quadrature nodes  $x_i$  are chosen.
- Newton-Cotes methods, Gaussian quadrature methods, and Monte Carlo and quasi-Monte Carlo integration methods

## 2. Computing finite difference approximations for the derivatives of a real-valued function

- Solving differential equations and its application to initial value problems

## 5.1 Newton-Cotes Methods

### 5.1.1 Trapezoid rule

- Piecewise linear approximations to the integrand  $f$ .

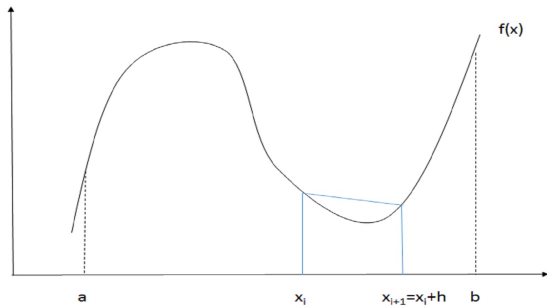
$x_i = a + (i - 1)h$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . where  $h = (b - a)/(n - 1)$

- The nodes  $x_i$  divide the interval  $[a, b]$  into  $n - 1$  subintervals of equal length  $h$ .

$$\int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} f(x)dx \approx \frac{h}{2}[f(x_i) + f(x_{i+1})]$$

# 5.1 Newton-Cotes Methods

## 5.1.1 Trapezoid rule



## 5.1 Newton-Cotes Methods

### 5.1.1 Trapezoid rule

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

where  $w_1 = w_n = h/2$  and  $w_i = h$  otherwise.

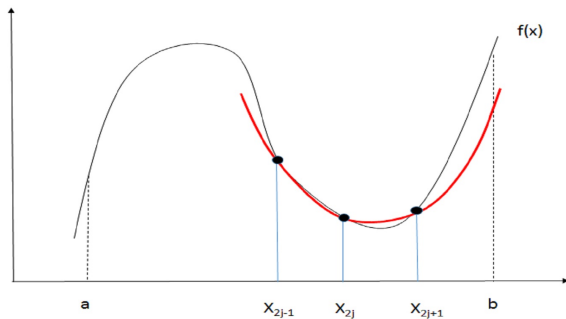
- If the integrand  $f$  is smooth, approximation error is  $O(h^2)$ , the error shrinks quadratically with the width of the subintervals ( $h$ ).

# 5.1 Newton-Cotes Methods

## 5.1.2. Simpson's rule

- Piecewise quadratic approximations to the integrand  $f$ .

$x_i = a + (i-1)h$  for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , where  $h = (b-a)/(n-1)$  and  $n$  is odd.



## 5.1 Newton-Cotes Methods

### 5.1.2. Simpson's rule

- The area under the quadratic function provides an estimate of the area under  $f$  over the sub interval: (Lagrange polynomial interpolation is used)

$$\int_{x_{2j-1}}^{x_{2j+1}} f(x)dx \approx \frac{h}{3}[f(x_{2j-1}) + 4f(x_{2j}) + f(x_{2j+1})]$$

## 5.1 Newton-Cotes Methods

### 5.1.2. Simpson's rule

- Summing up the are over  $[a,b]$  gives Simpson's rule:

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

where  $w_1 = w_n = h/3$  and  $w_i = 4h/3$  if  $i$  is even and  $w_i = 2h/3$  if  $i$  is odd.

- Simpson's rule is third order exact.
- If the intergrand is smooth, approximation error  $O(h^4)$ .  
Twice more accurate than Trapezoid rule.
- Simpson's rule is not recommended if the integrand shows discontinuities in its first derivative, such as corner solutions case.



## 5.2 Gaussian Quadrature

- For a specific weighted function  $w$  defined on an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$  of the real line, and for a given order of approximation  $n$ , the quadrature nodes  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and quadrature weights  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$  are chosen so as to satisfy the  $2n$  "moment-matching" conditions:

$$\int_I x^k w(x) dx = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i^k \text{ for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n - 1$$

## 5.2 Gaussian Quadrature

- The integral approximation is then computed by forming the prescribed weighted sum of function values at the prescribed nodes:

$$\int_I f(x)w(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

- An n-point Gaussian quadrature rule is order  $2n-1$  exact.
- Thus, if  $f$  can be closely approximated by a polynomial, Gaussian quadrature should provide an accurate approximation to the integral.

## 5.2 Gaussian Quadrature

- When the weight function  $w$  is the known probability density function of some continuous variable  $\tilde{X}$ , Gaussian quadrature essentially "discretizes" the continuous random variable  $\tilde{X}$ .
- Mass points  $x_i$  and probabilities  $w_i$  are chosen to satisfy the condition:

$$E[\tilde{X}^k] = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i^k \text{ for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 2n - 1$$

- Discrete approximation of the expectation of any function of continuous r.v.  $\tilde{X}$ :

$$E[f(\tilde{X})] = \int_I f(x)w(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

## 5.2 Gaussian Quadrature

- Example : three point approximation ( $n=3$ ,  $k=2n-1=5$ ) to the standard normal distribution ( $\tilde{Z}$ )

$$E[\tilde{Z}^k] = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i x_i^k \text{ for } k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, 5$$

$$E[\tilde{Z}^0] = 1 = w_1 + w_2 + w_3$$

$$E[\tilde{Z}^1] = 0 = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + w_3 x_3$$

$$E[\tilde{Z}^2] = 1 = w_1 x_1^2 + w_2 x_2^2 + w_3 x_3^2$$

$$E[\tilde{Z}^3] = 0 = w_1 x_1^3 + w_2 x_2^3 + w_3 x_3^3$$

$$E[\tilde{Z}^4] = 3 = w_1 x_1^4 + w_2 x_2^4 + w_3 x_3^4$$

$$E[\tilde{Z}^5] = 0 = w_1 x_1^5 + w_2 x_2^5 + w_3 x_3^5$$

## 5.2 Gaussian Quadrature



$1 = w_1 + w_2 + w_3, \quad 0 = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + w_3 x_3, \quad 1 = w_1 x_1^2 + w_2 x_2^2 + w_3 x_3^2, \quad 0 = w_1 x_1^3 + w_2 x_2^3 + w_3 x_3^3$  ☆



Examples ↗ Random

Input

$$\begin{cases} 1 = w_1 + w_2 + w_3, & 0 = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 + w_3 x_3, & 1 = w_1 x_1^2 + w_2 x_2^2 + w_3 x_3^2, \\ 0 = w_1 x_1^3 + w_2 x_2^3 + w_3 x_3^3, & 3 = w_1 x_1^4 + w_2 x_2^4 + w_3 x_3^4, & 0 = w_1 x_1^5 + w_2 x_2^5 + w_3 x_3^5 \end{cases}$$

Alternate form:

$$\begin{cases} w_1 + w_2 + w_3 = 1, & w_3 x_3 = -w_1 x_1 - w_2 x_2, & w_1 x_1^2 + w_2 x_2^2 + w_3 x_3^2 = 1, \\ w_3 x_3^3 = -w_1 x_1^3 - w_2 x_2^3, & w_1 x_1^4 + w_2 x_2^4 + w_3 x_3^4 = 3, & w_3 x_3^5 = -w_1 x_1^5 - w_2 x_2^5 \end{cases}$$

Solutions:

Approximate forms

More solutions

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad w_2 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad w_3 = \frac{2}{3}, \quad x_1 = -\sqrt{3}, \quad x_2 = \sqrt{3}, \quad x_3 = 0$$

$$w_1 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad w_2 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad w_3 = \frac{2}{3}, \quad x_1 = \sqrt{3}, \quad x_2 = -\sqrt{3}, \quad x_3 = 0$$

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$$w_1 = \frac{2}{3}, \quad w_2 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad w_3 = \frac{1}{6}, \quad x_1 = 0, \quad x_2 = -\sqrt{3}, \quad x_3 = \sqrt{3}$$

## 5.2 Gaussian Quadrature

- Computing  $n$ -degree Gaussian nodes and weights are not easy as we have to solve  $2n$  non-linear equations for  $w_i$  and  $x_i$ .
- But efficient and specialized numerical routines for well known functions (such as normal, gamma, exponential, chi-square, beta distribution) are available.
- Generalization of Gaussian quadrature rules to higher-dimensional integration
- Discretizing lognormal random variable

## 5.3 Monte Carlo Integration

- Motivated by Law of Large numbers
  - LLM :  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are independent realizations of a random variable  $\tilde{X}$  and  $f$  is a continuous function, then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) = E[f(\tilde{X})]$$

- Monte Carlo integration
  - A random sample  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  is drawn from the distribution  $\tilde{X}$ , then

$$E[f(\tilde{X})] \approx \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i)$$

## 5.3 Monte Carlo Integration

- Usefulness of pseudorandom variables from uniform distribution on  $(0,1)$ 
  - Most numerical software provides a routine for it.
  - Useful for generating random samples from other distributions.
  - Suppose  $\tilde{X}$  has a cumulative distribution function

$$F(x) = \Pr(\tilde{X} \leq x)$$

- If  $\tilde{U}$  is uniformly distributed on  $(0,1)$ , then  $F^{-1}(\tilde{U})$  has same distribution as  $\tilde{X}$ .
- Random sample  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  are generated by

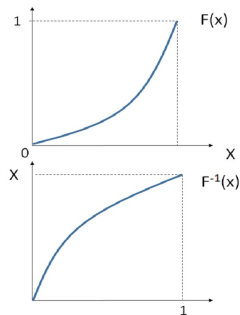
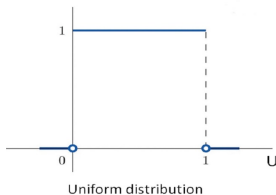
$$x_i = F^{-1}(u_i)$$

where random sample  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n$  are from uniform distribution



## 5.3 Monte Carlo Integration

- Usefulness of pseudorandom variables from uniform distribution on  $(0,1)$



## 5.3 Monte Carlo Integration

- Pseudorandom sequences of lognormal and multivariate normal variables
  - Most numerical software have intrinsic routine that generate pseudorandom standard normal variables.
  - $x_j$  of lognormal  $(\mu, \sigma^2)$  variates :  $x_j = \exp(\mu + \sigma^2 z_j)$  where  $z_j$  is a sequence of pseudorandom standard normal variates.
  - $(x_{1j}, x_{2j})$  of bivariate normal random vectors with mean  $\mu$  and variance matrix  $\Sigma$ :

$$x_{ij} = \mu_i + R_{11}z_{1j} + R_{12}z_{2j}$$

for  $i=1,2$  where  $R$  is the Cholesky square root of  $\Sigma$ .

## 5.3 Monte Carlo Integration

### ■ Fundamental problem

- It is almost impossible to generate a truly random sample sequences for any distribution.
- Computing random sample routines employ iteration rules that generate a purely deterministic sequence. (If the generator is repeated initiated at the same point, it will return same sequence.) ▷ Pseudorandom
- Approximation will vary from one integration to the next, unless initiated at the same point. (Problematic when applied to dynamic programming or MLE)

## 5.3 Monte Carlo Integration

- When do we use it?
  - Monte Carlo integration is preferred over Gaussian quadrature if the routine for computing Gaussian mass points and probabilities are not readily available or if the integration is over many dimensions.

## 5.4 Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration

- Quasi-Monte Carlo methods rely on sequences  $x_j$  with the property that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f(x_i) = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

without regard to whether the sequence  $x_j$  passes standard tests of randomness.

- It can be shown that if sequences are deterministic, but attempt to fill in space in a regular manner, they can often provide more accurate approximations than random sequences do.

## 5.4 Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration

- Equidistributed sequences: Faure sequences
  - Let  $r$  be any prime number ( $\geq 2$ ). Any integer  $n$  has a unique expansion in terms of base  $r$ .
  - We can generate a number in the interval  $[0,1)$  by reflecting the expansion in base  $r$  about the decimal point.
  - An example is  $r=3$  and  $n=7$ .

$$7 = 2 \times 3^1 + 1 \times 3^0 = 21_{(3)}$$

- When we reflect  $21_{(3)}$  about the decimal point we obtain

$$\phi_3(7) = \frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{1}{3^1} = \frac{5}{9} \in [0, 1)$$

$$\therefore \phi_3(\infty) = \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{2}{3^2} \dots = 1$$

$$8 = 22_3, \phi_3 8 = \frac{2}{3^2} + \frac{2}{3^1} = \frac{8}{9} \in [0, 1)$$

## 5.4 Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration

- Equidistributed sequences: Faure sequences

- The first 9 number (1,2,...,9) in the sequences are

$$\frac{9}{27}, \frac{18}{27}, \frac{3}{27}, \frac{12}{27}, \frac{21}{27}, \frac{6}{27}, \frac{15}{27}, \frac{24}{27}, \frac{1}{27}.$$

- The new numbers that are added tend to fill in the gaps in the existing sequence.
- The general expression for n in terms of the base r is

$$n = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j(n) r^j$$

- The corresponding quasi-random number according to this procedure is

$$\phi_r(n) = \sum_{j=0}^m a_j(n) r^{-j-1}$$

## 5.4 Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration

- Equidistributed sequences : Neiderreiter, Weyl, and Haber sequences
  - $x_{ij}$  denote the  $j$ th coordinate of the  $i$ th vector in a sequence of equidistributed vectors on the  $d$ -dimensional unit hypercube.

$$x_{ij} = \text{frac}(2^{q_{ij}})$$

where for the Neiderreiter

$$q_{ij} = ij/(d + 1)$$

for the Weyl

$$q_{ij} = ip_j$$

and for Haber

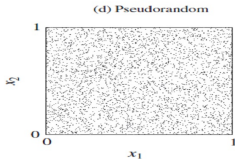
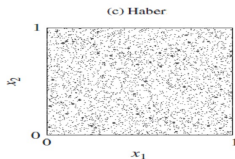
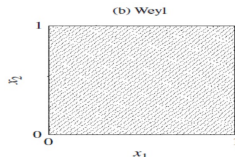
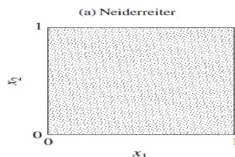
$$q_{ij} = i(i + 1)p_j/2$$

- Here,  $p_j$  is  $j$ th positive prime number, and  $\text{frac}(x)$  is  $x$  minus the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ .



## 5.4 Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration

- Equidistributed sequences : Niederreiter, Weyl, and Haber sequences
  - Two dimensional examples - each of the plots are 4,000 values



## 5.4 Quasi-Monte Carlo Integration

- Equidistributed sequences : Niederreiter, Weyl, and Haber sequences
- Example

$$\int_{-1}^1 \int_{-1}^1 \exp(-x_1) \cos(x_2^2) dx_1 dx_2 = 4.580997$$

Table 5.2  
Approximation Errors for Alternative Quasi-Monte Carlo Methods

$n$	Niederreiter	Weyl	Haber	Random
1,000	0.00291	0.00210	0.05000	0.10786
10,000	0.00190	0.00030	0.01569	0.01118
100,000	0.00031	0.00009	0.00380	0.01224
1,000,000	0.00002	0.00001	0.00169	0.00197

# Practical summary - Numerical integration

	Pros	Cons
Newton-Cotes	Simple and robust	How many partition points are needed?
Gaussian Quadrature	Direct application to probability density function	1. Not efficient for non-smooth integrands. 2. Computation is hard except that well-known probability function is applied.
Monte Carlo	Simple scheme (LLN)	Pseudo random number issue - accuracy problem
Quasi-Monte Carlo	More accurate than Monte Carlo	

## 5.6. Numerical Differentiation

$$f'(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0}$$

- Taylor expansion

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + f'(x)h + O(h^2)$$

where  $O(h^2)$  means that other terms are expressible in terms of second or higher powers of  $h$ .

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} + O(h)$$

- (Since  $O(h^2)/h = O(h)$ ), so the approximation for the derivative  $f'(x)$  has an  $O(h)$  error.

## 5.6. Numerical Differentiation

- A more accurate finite difference approximation to the  $f'(x)$ ?
  - Two second-order Taylor expansions

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + f'(x)h + f''(x)\frac{h^2}{2} + O(h^3)$$

$$f(x-h) = f(x) - f'(x)h + f''(x)\frac{h^2}{2} + O(h^3)$$

Subtract the second expression from the first, and rearrange,

$$f'(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x-h)}{2h} + O(h^2)$$

- The centered finite difference approximation to the  $f'(x)$
- One order more accurate than the previous one-sided finite difference approximation.

## 5.6. Numerical Differentiation

- Three-point approximation

$$f'(x) \approx af(x) + bf(x+h) + cf(x+\lambda h)$$

- Taylor expansion up to second order and a simple trick (see Miranda and Fackler in detail) gives

$$\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \\ c \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{h\lambda(1-\lambda)} \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^2 - 1 \\ -\lambda^2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

and results in

$$af(x) + bf(x+h) + cf(x+\lambda h) = f'(x) + O(h^2).$$

- When  $\lambda=-1$ , it returns to approximation in the centered finite difference approximation.

## 5.6. Numerical Differentiation

- Three-point approximation

- When  $\lambda=2$ , it is useful when a derivative is needed at a boundary of a domain.

$$f'(x) = \frac{1}{2h}[-3f(x) + 4f(x+h) - f(x+2h)] + O(h^2)$$

- Use  $h>0$  for a lower bound and  $h<0$  for an upper bound
- Derivation of second derivative approximation uses similar methods. (See book for detail)