

The goal of this worksheet is for you to be able to write a Matlab code that performs 4<sup>th</sup> order numerical integration using polynomial interpolation.

1. By hand compute  $\int_a^b x^n dx$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .
2. Given five sample points  $x_1, \dots, x_5 \in [a, b]$  we will approximate integration on  $[a, b]$  by a rule

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = Q(f) = \sum_{j=1}^5 A_j f(x_j). \quad (1)$$

We demand that

$$Q(p) = \int_a^b p(x) dx \quad (2)$$

whenever  $p$  is a polynomial of degree at most 4. By hand, write down what this condition implies in the case  $p(x) = 1$ . That is, substitute  $f(x) = 1$  in equation (2) and obtain an equation relating the  $A_j$ 's.

3. By substituting  $p(x) = x^k$  for  $1 \leq k \leq 4$ , we obtain 4 more equations relating the  $A_j$ 's. Write down these equations, along with your equation from problem 2, in matrix form. That is, you should have an equation of the form

$$B \begin{pmatrix} A_1 \\ A_2 \\ A_3 \\ A_4 \\ A_5 \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{b},$$

and your job is to determine the  $5 \times 5$  matrix  $B$  and the right-hand side vector  $\mathbf{b}$ .

4. Write a Matlab function `quad4th` that takes as input

- A function  $f$ .
- The interval end points  $a$  and  $b$ .
- An array of five points  $x$ , the five sample points

and returns  $Q(f)$ . So the function should have the form

```
function Q = quad4th(f,a,b,x)
    ...
end
```

Your function should set up the matrix  $B$  and the right-hand side  $\mathbf{b}$  from problem 3 and then use MATLAB's backslash operator to compute the weights  $A_j$ . It should then evaluate  $Q$  using equation (1).

Pro tip: You may find the function `arrayfun` to be helpful. Given a function  $f$  and an array  $x$ ,

```
arrayfun(f,x)
```

returns an array that is the same size as  $x$  and contains  $f$  evaluated at each entry of  $x$ .

5. Test that your function seems to work by applying it to approximate  $\int_0^\pi \sin(x) dx$  with 5 equally spaced sample points that include the interval endpoints. The true answer is 2, of course. Your answer should be correct to about  $10^{-3}$ .
6. The matlab command `rand(1,5)` will generate 5 random numbers between 0 and 1. Use your function `quad4th` with 5 randomly selected sample points in  $[0,1]$  to approximate  $\int_0^1 x^5 dx$ . How big is the error? Try this a number of times with randomly selected sample points and observe the smallest error you see.
7. Use your function `quad4th` with 5 equally-spaced sample points including 0 and 1 to approximate  $\int_0^1 x^5 dx$ . How big is the error?
8. What is the biggest integer  $n$  such that  $\int_0^1 x^n dx = Q(x^n)$  when using equally-spaced sample points?

9. For an interval  $[-1, 1]$  there are special sample points, Gauss-Lobatto points given by

$$\mathbf{x} = \left[-1, -\sqrt{3/7}, 0, \sqrt{3/7}, 1\right].$$

For any other interval  $[a, b]$  the Gauss-Lobatto points are obtained by translation and scaling, i.e.

$$a + (\mathbf{x} + 1)(b - a)/2$$

Using the Gauss-Lobatto sample points on the interval  $[0, 1]$  determine the largest value of  $n$  such that  $\int_0^1 x^n dx = Q(x^n)$ .

10. Use the Gauss-Lobatto sample points on  $[0, \pi]$  to approximate  $\int_0^\pi \sin(x) dx$ . Compare the error with the error using equally-spaced sample points.

11. When using equally spaced sample points,

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = Q(f) + Kf^{(6)}(\eta)$$

for some  $\eta \in [a, b]$ . Determine  $K$  for the interval  $[0, 1]$  by substituting  $f(x) = x^6$  in the above formula. Then use this value to estimate the error in approximating  $\int_0^1 \sin(\pi x) dx$  using equally spaced sample points. Is true error less than the estimate you just computed?

12. Use a technique similar to the previous problem to estimate the error in approximating  $\int_0^1 \sin(\pi x) dx$  using Gauss-Lobatto sample points.