

$$54 + 51 + 5 = 110$$

110/117

## Homework 4 Write-Up

Petra Budavari\*  
Haverford College Department of Physics  
(Dated: March 5, 2024)

### 1. EXERCISE 5.3

For this exercise, I created a function that uses Simpson's methods to calculate Equ.(1). This entailed creating a function in which I first calculated the summation terms since they required a 'for loop' to loop through N.

$$I(a, b) \approx \frac{h}{3} (f(a) + f(b) + 4 \sum_{k=1}^{N/2} f(a + (2k-1)h) + 2 * \sum_{k=1}^{N/2-1} f(a + 2kh))$$

In Figure 2 it can be seen that  $E(x)$  plateaus when  $x$  is about 2.

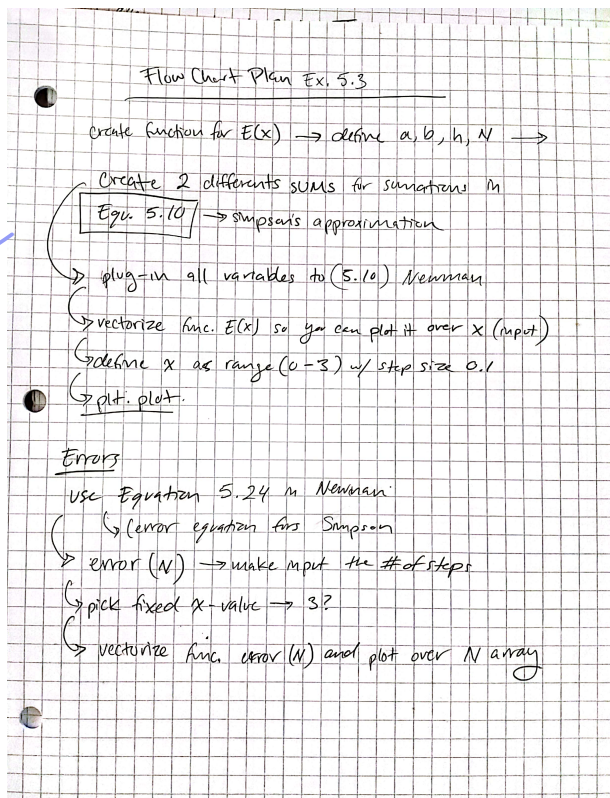


FIG. 1: Pseudo code for Exercise 5.3 Newman.

The integral must be approximated because there is no way to solve the equation analytically, only numerically.

$$E(x) = \int_0^x e^{-t^2} dt \quad (1)$$

For the Simpson method of approximating an integral, I used the given Equation (5.10) from the Newman textbook listed below:

\*Electronic address: [pbudavari@haverford](mailto:pbudavari@haverford)

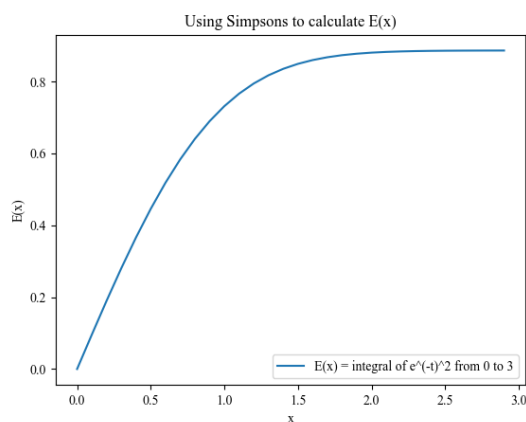


FIG. 2: Plot of Equ.(1) using Simpson's method over  $x$ .

I then created another function to calculate the error of the Simpson approximation. This was a function with  $N$  (the number of steps) as the input to see how the error decreases as step size decreases.

$$\epsilon = \frac{h^4}{90} [f'''(a) - f'''(b)] \quad (2)$$

In Figure 3, it can be seen that the total error drops to zero when  $N$  is around 3; from this we can conclude that an  $N=3$  step size is sufficient for accurate calculations of Equation (1).

### 2. EXERCISE 5.9

define?

In this exercise, we calculate the heat capacity of a solid, in this case aluminum, at a certain temperature. I first create a function to define the function inside the integral so that it is easy to call later. I then create a function for  $C_v$  (heat capacity) using Equation (3).

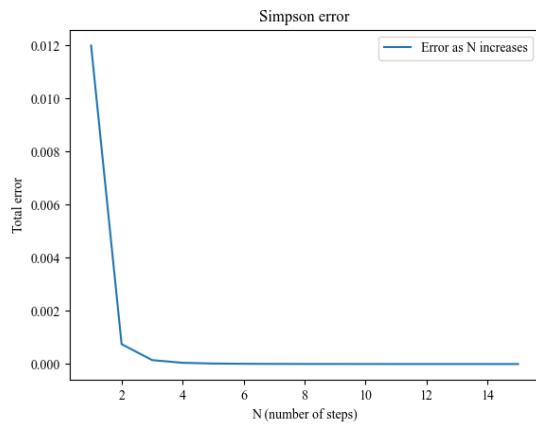


FIG. 3: Simpson error over N.

Code Plan Ex 5.9

- A) • create function for  $f(x)$  inside integral component of given equation
  - import "gaussxvals" from Newman
  - create new func for  $Cv(T)$  (heat capacity)
  - define  $a, b, b = \frac{\theta_D}{T}$ ,  $N$ ,  $n$ ,  $m$ ,  $V$ , Debye const.
  - follow example from Newman p.171 to calculate gaussian
  - plug into complete  $Cv$  equation
- B) Plot
  - vectorize  $Cv$  and plot over  $T$  (temperature)

FIG. 4: Pseudo code for Exercise 5.9 Newman.

This problem uses Gaussian quadrature (basically perfectly) the integral. Fortunately, Newman provides a function for Gaussian quadrature and I did not have to write it from scratch.

$$Cv(T) = 9V\rho\kappa_B \left(\frac{T}{\theta_D}\right)^3 \int_0^{\theta_D/T} \frac{x^4 e^x}{(e^x - 1)^2} dx \quad (3)$$

You can see that the heat capacity begins to plateau at around 500K (Kelvins) for this material (5)

### 3. SURVEY QUESTIONS

The homework this week took approximately 6 hours. I learned how to make a function for the Simpson's method which gave me a deeper understanding and I also thought it was interesting. These codes are good to have in my toolkit. I am unable to get Figure 5 to stay on this page.

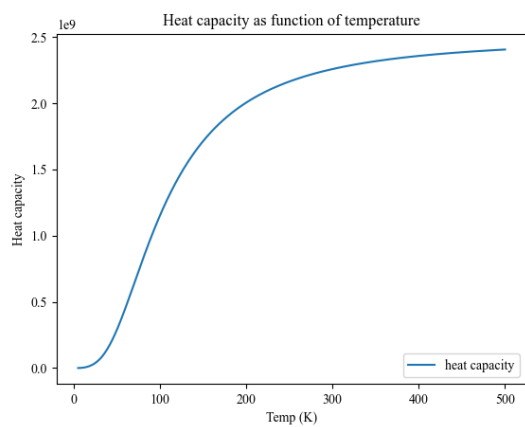


FIG. 5: Heat capacity over temperature.

✓

5.3

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## Computational Physics/Astrophysics, Winter 2024:

### Grading Rubrics <sup>1</sup>

Haverford College, Prof. Daniel Grin

For coding assignments, roughly 56 points will be available per problem. Partial credit available on all non-1 items.

- 3 1. Does the program complete without crashing in a reasonable time frame? (+4 points)  
*comment out plt.savefig() before submission, creates an error and prevents me from running*
- 1 2. Does the program use the exact program files given (if given), and produce an answer in the specified format? (+2 points)  
*your code must include plt.show() otherwise graphs aren't produced -1*
- 3 3. Does the code follow the problem specifications (i.e numerical method; output requested etc.) (+3 points)
- 5 4. Is the algorithm appropriate for the problem? If a specific algorithm was requested in the prompt, was it used? (+5 points)
- 4 5. If relevant, were proper parameters/choices made for a numerically converged answer? (+4 points)
- 4 6. Is the output answer correct? (+4 points).
- 3 7. Is the code readable? (+3 points)
  - . 5.1. Are variables named reasonably?
  - . 5.2. Are the user-functions and imports used?

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<sup>1</sup> Inspired by rubric of D. Narayanan, U. Florida, and C. Cooksey, U. Hawaii

- . 5.3. Are units explained (if necessary)?
- . 5.4. Are algorithms found on the internet/book/etc. properly attributed?

3 8. Is the code well documented? (+3 points )

- . 6.1. Is the code author named?
- . 6.2. Are the functions described and ambiguous variables defined?
- . 6.3. Is the code functionality (i.e. can I run it easily enough?) documented?

9. Write-up (up to 28 points)

- 5 . Is the problem-solving approach clearly indicated through a flow-chart, pseudo-code, or other appropriate schematic? (+5 points)
- ✓ . Is a clear, legible LaTeX type-set write up handed in?
- 3 . Are key figures and numbers from the problem given? (+ 3 points)
- 4 . Do figures and or tables have captions/legends/units clearly indicated. (+ 4 points)
- 3 . Do figures have a sufficient number of points to infer the claimed/desired trends? (+ 3 points)
- 2 . Is a brief explanation of physical context given? (+2 points)
- 1 . If relevant, are helpful analytic scalings or known solutions given? (+1 point)
- 3 . Is the algorithm used explicitly stated and justified? (+3 points)
- 2 . When relevant, are numerical errors/convergence justified/shown/explained? (+2 points)

- 2 . Are 3-4 key equations listed (preferably the ones solved in the programming assignment) and algorithms named? (+2 points)
- 1 . Are collaborators clearly acknowledged? (+1 point)
- 2 . Are any outside references appropriately cited? (+2 point)

5.9

51/56

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- 5 4. Is the algorithm appropriate for the problem? If a specific algorithm was requested in the prompt, was it used? (+5 points)  
*v must be in m<sup>3</sup> - 1*
- 3 5. If relevant, were proper parameters/choices made for a numerically converged answer? (+4 points)
- 3 6. Is the output answer correct? (+4 points). *graph slightly off due to error above -1*
- 2 7. Is the code readable? (+3 points)
  - . 5.1. Are variables named reasonably?
  - . 5.2. Are the user-functions and imports used?

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- . 5.3. Are units explained (if necessary)? please include the units for  $v, \rho, \theta_D, K_B$  -1
- . 5.4. Are algorithms found on the internet/book/etc. properly attributed?

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- 3 . Do figures have a sufficient number of points to infer the claimed/desired trends? (+ 3 points)
- 1 . Is a brief explanation of physical context given? (+2 points) define heat capacity -1
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