

1. Compute $\int_0^1 e^{x^2} dx$ using the trapezoidal rule and trapezoidal rule with end corrections using the first and third derivatives. Perform this by subdividing $[0, 1]$ into $N \in \{2, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 200, 500, 1000\}$ panels and plot the decay of the absolute error using the **three methods**. The value of the integral accurate upto 16 digits is 1.4626517459071816.

2. Use the Euler-Macluarin to obtain

$$\log(n!) = \log \left(C \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^n \sqrt{n} \right) + \mathcal{O}(1/n)$$

where C is some constant.

3. We will now determine C in the above question as follows.

- Use integration by parts to obtain an expression for $I_k = \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^k(x) dx$ (It might be easier to look at the even and odd cases separately)
- Prove that I_k is a monotone decreasing sequence.
- Show that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{I_{2m-1}}{I_{2m+1}} = 1$$

- Conclude that

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{I_{2m}}{I_{2m+1}} = 1$$

- Hence, infer that the central binomial coefficient is asymptotically given by

$$\binom{2m}{m} \sim \frac{4^m}{\sqrt{m\pi}}$$

where $f(m) \sim g(m) \implies \lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \frac{f(m)}{g(m)} = 1$

- Conclude that C in the above question is $\sqrt{2\pi}$
- Hence, obtain the Stirling formula:

$$n! \sim \left(\frac{n}{e} \right)^n \sqrt{2\pi n}$$

- Obtain the relative error in $n!$ using the Stirling formula for $n \in \{20, 50\}$
- Obtain a better estimate for $n!$, which is accurate upto $\mathcal{O}(1/n^3)$