Math 5601 Homework 6

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Problem 1.

We already know the nodes $x_0 = \frac{2a+b}{3}$ and $x_1 = \frac{a+2b}{3}$. To compute the weights α_0 and α_1 in the two-point open Newton-Cotes formula, we just compute the following integrals:

$$\alpha_0 = \int_a^b L_0(x) \, dx, \qquad \alpha_1 = \int_a^b L_1(x) \, dx,$$
 (1)

where

$$L_k(x) = \prod_{i=0, i \neq k}^{1} \frac{x - x_i}{x_k - x_i}, \qquad k \in \{0, 1\}$$
 (2)

from the definition of Lagrange polynomials. Then $L_0(x) = \frac{x-x_1}{x_0-x_1}$, and $L_1(x) = \frac{x-x_0}{x_1-x_0}$. Hence

$$\alpha_0 = \int_a^b \frac{x - x_1}{x_0 - x_1} \, \mathrm{d}x = \frac{1}{2(x_0 - x_1)} (x - x_1)^2 \Big|_a^b$$
 (3)

$$= -\frac{3}{2(b-a)} \left[\frac{(b-a)^2}{9} - \frac{4(b-a)^2}{9} \right] \tag{4}$$

$$=\frac{b-a}{2},\tag{5}$$

and

$$\alpha_1 = \int_a^b \frac{x - x_0}{x_1 - x_0} \, \mathrm{d}x = \frac{1}{2(x_1 - x_0)} (x - x_0)^2 \Big|_a^b \tag{6}$$

$$= \frac{3}{2(b-a)} \left[\frac{4(b-a)^2}{9} - \frac{(b-a)^2}{9} \right] \tag{7}$$

$$=\frac{b-a}{2}. (8)$$

This results in the Newton-Cotes formula with two-point open rule

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx \approx \alpha_0 f(x_0) + \alpha_1 f(x_1) = \frac{b-a}{2} f\left(\frac{2a+b}{3}\right) + \frac{b-a}{2} f\left(\frac{b-a}{2}\right).$$
 (9)

Problem 2.

Suppose that we have a numerical quadrature for $\hat{f}(\hat{x})$ on [0, 1] defined by

$$\hat{J}(\hat{f}) = \int_a^b \hat{f}(\hat{x}) \, d\hat{x} \approx \hat{Q}(\hat{f}) = \sum_{j=0}^m \hat{\alpha}_j \hat{f}(\hat{x}_j). \tag{10}$$

If we want to compute the integral of f(x) on [a, b], then we can make the change of variables $x = a + (b - a)\hat{x}$, which is a one-to-one correspondence between $x \in [a, b]$ and $\hat{x} \in [0, 1]$ with $dx = (b - a) d\hat{x}$, to obtain

$$J(f) = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \, dx = \int_{0}^{1} f(a + (b - a)\hat{x})(b - a) \, d\hat{x}.$$
 (11)

Define $\hat{f}(\hat{x}) = f(a + (b - a)\hat{x})$. Then we obtain a numerical quadrature Q(f) for J(f) by using our numerical quadrature $\hat{Q}(\hat{f})$ to approximate the integral of \hat{f} on [0,1]:

$$J(f) = (b - a) \int_0^1 \hat{f} \, d\hat{x} = (b - a)\hat{Q}(\hat{f}) = \sum_{j=0}^m (b - a)\hat{\alpha}_j \hat{f}(\hat{x}_j)$$
 (12)

$$= \sum_{j=0}^{m} (b-a)\hat{\alpha}_j f(a+(b-a)\hat{x}_j) = \sum_{j=0}^{m} \alpha_j f(x_j)$$
 (13)

$$=: Q(f), \tag{14}$$

if we define $\alpha_j = (b-a)\hat{\alpha}_j$ and $x_j = a + (b-a)\hat{x}_j$.

Problem 3.

We use the given Newton-Cotes formulas to approximate

$$J = \int_1^2 \frac{\cos\left(\frac{\pi}{4}x\right)}{\sin^2\left(\frac{\pi}{4}x\right)} \, \mathrm{d}x. \tag{15}$$

The following table summarizes the output of the MATLAB code I used to perform these calculations – see output.txt and quad.m. Note that we use the affine transformation process derived in Problem 2 to transform the quadrature nodes given in part (d) for [0,1] to those for [1,2].

Method Approximation Actual Error