

Simpson's Rule for numerical integration can be derived from Lagrange's Interpolating Polynomials by constructing the Lagrange Polynomial for 3 points:

$$\begin{aligned}
f(x) = & + \frac{f_0(x_1 - x)(x_2 - x)}{(x_1 - x_0)(x_2 - x_0)} \\
& + \frac{f_1(x_0 - x)(x_2 - x)}{(x_0 - x_1)(x_2 - x_1)} \\
& + \frac{f_2(x_0 - x)(x_1 - x)}{(x_0 - x_2)(x_1 - x_2)}
\end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

Integrating  $f(x)$  on the domain of  $[x_0, x_2]$  is algebraically intense, but otherwise straightforward. Wolfram Mathematica was utilized to make those algebraic simplifications. The console can be seen below:

```
In[38]:= ClearAll
Out[38]:= ClearAll

In[59]:= f[x_] := (x1 - x) (x2 - x) f0 / ((x1 - x0) (x1 - x0)) + (x0 - x) (x2 - x) f1 / ((x0 - x1) (x2 - x1)) +
(x0 - x) (x1 - x) f2 / ((x0 - x2) (x1 - x2))

In[60]:= result = FullSimplify[Integrate[f[x], {x, x0, x2}]]

Out[46]:= 
$$-\frac{(x0 - x2) (f1 (x0 - x2)^2 + f0 (x1 - x2) (2 x0 - 3 x1 + x2) - f2 (x0 - x1) (x0 - 3 x1 + 2 x2))}{6 (x0 - x1) (x1 - x2)}$$


In[59]:= Expand[result] /. {x0 - x1 -> h, x1 - x2 -> -h, x0 - x2 -> -2 h}

Out[59]:= 
$$\frac{f1 x0^3}{6 h^2} - \frac{f2 x0^3}{6 h^2} + \frac{f0 x0^2 x1}{3 h^2} + \frac{2 f2 x0^2 x1}{3 h^2} - \frac{f0 x0 x1^2}{2 h^2} - \frac{f2 x0 x1^2}{2 h^2} - \frac{f0 x0^2 x2}{3 h^2} - \frac{f1 x0^3 x2}{6 h^2} - \frac{f2 x0^3 x2}{6 h^2} + \frac{f0 x0 x1 x2}{3 h^2} - \frac{f2 x0 x1 x2}{3 h^2} + \frac{f0 x1^2 x2}{2 h^2} + \frac{f2 x1^2 x2}{2 h^2} + \frac{f0 x0 x2^2}{6 h^2} + \frac{f1 x0 x2^2}{2 h^2} + \frac{f2 x0 x2^2}{3 h^2} - \frac{2 f0 x1 x2^2}{3 h^2} - \frac{f2 x1 x2^2}{3 h^2} + \frac{f0 x2^3}{6 h^2} + \frac{f1 x2^3}{6 h^2}$$


In[60]:= FullSimplify[Expand[result] /. {x1 -> x0 + h, x2 -> x0 + 2 h}]

Out[60]:= 
$$\frac{1}{3} (f0 + 4 f1 + f2) h$$

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Simpson's Integration was implemented with C, and the numerical error for the integral  $\int_0^\pi \sin(x) \, dx = 2$  for a  $\Delta x = \pi/16$  was 0.00001659104793549915.

The error was calculated for a  $\Delta x = \pi/2^n$  where  $n \in \{2, 3, \dots, 30\}$  and the convergence was found to be 4th order (up to  $N \approx 10^4$ , where floating point errors start building up). This can also be seen by plotting this on a loglog plot.

