

Math 5600

6/19/14

- Numerical Integration (or Quadrature)
- Obvious idea: integrate the interpolating polynomial

$$\int_a^b \sum_{i=0}^n f(x_i) L_i(x) dx = \sum_{i=0}^n w_i f(x_i) \quad (*)$$

$$w_i = \int_a^b L_i(x) dx$$

- Examples:

$$\int_a^{a+h} f(x) dx \approx \frac{h (f(a) + f(a+h))}{2}$$



Trapezoidal (Trapezium) Rule

- Doing the same for a quadratic interpolant gives Simpson's Rule:

$$\int_a^{a+2h} f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{3} (f(a) + 4f(a+h) + f(a+2h))$$

- we could derive formulas like this using (\*)

- However, there are alternatives.

- very useful concept: Method of Undetermined Coefficients.

$$\int_a^{a+2h} f(x) dx = h(Af(a) + Bf(a+h) + Cf(a+2h))$$

$$A, B, C = ?$$

- we have a formula of a given structure, we want it to be exact for quadratic functions.
- Just look at a specific case.

$$\text{e.g.} \quad h=1 \quad a=-1$$

$$f(x) = 1, x, x^2$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 1 dx = 2 = A + B + C \Rightarrow B = \frac{4}{3}$$

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^1 x dx &= 0 = -A + C \\ \int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx &= \frac{2}{3} = A + C \end{aligned} \right\} A = C = \frac{1}{3}$$

- get Simpson's Rule, again.

$$\int_a^{a+2h} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} (f(a) + 4f(a+h) + f(b))$$

- What error do we expect?

$$- \int_a^{a+2h} f(x) dx - \frac{h}{3} (f(a) + 4f(a+h) + f(a+2h)) = E = ?$$

- Again, we expand into a Taylor series.

- All evaluations at  $a+h$   $\Leftarrow !!$

-  $F$  antiderivative of  $f$ ,  $F' = f$

$$E = F(a+2h) - F(a) - \frac{h}{3} (f(a) + 4f(a+h) + f(a+2h))$$

$$= F + hF' + \frac{h^2}{2} F'' + \frac{h^3}{6} F''' + \frac{h^4}{24} F^{IV} + \frac{h^5}{120} F^{V}$$

$$- (F - hF' + \frac{h^2}{2} F'' - \frac{h^3}{6} F''' + \frac{h^4}{24} F^{IV} - \frac{h^5}{120} F^{V})$$

$$- \frac{h}{3} \left[ f + hf' + \frac{h^2}{2} f'' + \frac{h^3}{6} f''' + \frac{h^4}{24} f^{IV} \right.$$

$$+ 4f$$

$$\left. + f - hf' + \frac{h^2}{2} f'' - \frac{h^3}{6} f''' + \frac{h^4}{24} f^{IV} \right] + HOT$$

$$= h^5 f^{IV} \left( \frac{1}{60} - \frac{1}{36} \right) = - \frac{h^5 f^{IV}}{90} + HOT$$

- It's exact for cubics!

- How remarkable.

- Exact for



$$S = 0$$

$$a \quad a+h \quad a+2h$$

- Formulas of this type are called  
Newton-Cotes Formulas
- Interpolate at equally spaced points,  
integrate interpolating polynomials.
- Come in 2 flavors.

- closed: include endpoints  
e.g. Trapezoidal, Simpson's

- open: do not include endpoints,

e.g.

$$\int_a^{a+h} f(x) dx \approx h f(a + \frac{h}{2})$$

midpoint rule.

- One could in principle use polynomials of arbitrarily high degree but just like for approximation of functions, this is not a good idea.

- Instead, it is better to apply the rules on subintervals. This gives rise to

Composite Newton-Cotes Formulas

$$[a, b] \quad h = \frac{b-a}{N} \quad x_n = a + nh \quad n=0, \dots, N$$

- Trapezoidal Rule

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \frac{h}{2} \left( f(a) + 2 \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} f(x_n) + f(b) \right) - \frac{(b-a)h^2}{12} f''(\xi)$$

- Simpson's Rule ( $N$  is even)

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} \left( f(a) + 4f(x_1) + 2f(x_2) + 4f(x_3) + \dots + 4f(x_{N-1}) + f(b) \right) - \frac{(b-a)h^4}{90} f^{(4)}(\eta)$$

- Note that we loose one power of  $h$  as we go to the composite rule.

- Notice that we multiply the function values with positive numbers.
- There is no cancellation of significant digits.
- However, as the polynomial degree goes up some of the coefficients (weights) become negative which can lead to an amplification of round-off errors.

- In all cases we obtained formulas of the type

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum w_i f(x_i)$$

- the  $x_i$  are "knots", "nodes", or "abscissas"
- the  $w_i$  are weights.
- why should the abscissas be evenly spaced.
- we can compute the function anywhere.

- Try the method of undetermined coefficients.

- Example

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = w_1 f(x_1) + w_2 f(x_2)$$

- Have four parameters:  $w_1, x_1, w_2, x_2$

- Pick them so as to have a formula that is exact for all polynomials of degree up to 3

$$f(x) = 1 \quad \int_{-1}^1 1 dx = 2 = w_1 + w_2$$

$$f(x) = x \quad \int_{-1}^1 x dx = 0 = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2$$

$$f(x) = x^2 \quad \int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx = \frac{2}{3} = w_1 x_1^2 + w_2 x_2^2$$

$$f(x) = x^3 \quad \int_{-1}^1 x^3 dx = 0 = w_1 x_1^3 + w_2 x_2^3$$

- This is a  $4 \times 4$  nonlinear system

- A nonlinear system has to be quite special to be solvable.

- The above is!

$$w_1 = w_2 = 1$$

$$x_1 = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \quad x_2 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

- easy to check the equations!

$$-\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \approx f\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right) + f\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right)$$

is exact for polynomials of degree up to 4.

- Pretty Remarkable!

1777-1855

- Carl Friedrich Gauss managed to solve problems like that in great generality.

- How he did that is our next topic