

Scientific Programming with Mathematica 2022

Problems 1

1. I have taken the following problem from the preface to Experimental Number Theory by F. Rodriguez Villegas.

On May 30th 1799, Gauss wrote in his Scientific Diary (in Latin) :

We have established that the Arithmetic Geometric mean between 1 and $\sqrt{2}$ is $\frac{\pi}{\varpi}$ to the 11th decimal place; the demonstration of this fact will surely open an entirely new field of analysis.

The arithmetic-geometric mean $M(a, b)$ of two positive real numbers (a, b) is the common limit of the sequences a_n and b_n defined by

$$a_{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(a_n + b_n) \quad , \quad b_{n+1} = \sqrt{a_n b_n}$$

Write a program to compute $M(a, b)$ to a desired accuracy. Evaluate also the integral

$$\varpi = 2 \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{\sqrt{1-x^4}}$$

exactly, and check Gauss' observation to 100 figures.

2. Let F denote the function

$$F(x) = 5^{5ix} \frac{\Gamma(1-5ix)}{\Gamma^5(1-ix)}$$

and consider the integral

$$I(\delta) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx \frac{x}{1-e^{-2\pi x}} \operatorname{re}(F(x)) \cos(\delta x) \quad ,$$

with δ , real.

We want to show that, as $\delta \rightarrow 0$,

$$I(\delta) = \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4\pi^2} \log \delta + C + \mathcal{O}(\delta) \quad ,$$

with C a constant that we wish to compute.

Use the function `Series` to show that, as $x \rightarrow \infty$,

$$xF(x) = -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{4\pi^2 x} + \mathcal{O}(x^{-2}) \quad .$$

[In order to simplify the result you should first use `Normal` and then `Simplify`. You can, of course, check this using Stirling's formula.]

Plot the integrand in the range $(-3,3)$ and $\frac{x}{1-e^{-2\pi x}} \operatorname{re}(F(x)) + \frac{\sqrt{5}}{4\pi^2 x}$ for x in the range $(1,3)$.

By breaking up the range of integration into $(-\infty, 1)$ and $(1, \infty)$ and making use of the integral

$$J(\delta) = -\frac{\sqrt{5}}{4\pi^2} \int_1^\infty \frac{dx}{x} \cos(\delta x) ,$$

which you should evaluate, compute C numerically.

Once you have computed C , compute it again, to higher precision, using the option `WorkingPrecision` $\rightarrow 40$ for `NIntegrate`. Increase `WorkingPrecision` until you have C correct to 100 figures.

[Warning: There seems to be an unresolved bug that particularly affects the Mac front end. If you use `WorkingPrecision` $\rightarrow n$ for large n , you should also set `AccuracyGoal` to about $n/2$, or Mathematica may crash, without warning.]

3. Let f and g denote the functions

$$f(x) = \sin(x^2) + \sin^2(x) ; \quad g(x) = \exp\left(\frac{(5-x)^2}{10}\right) .$$

Make a simultaneous plot of f and g for x in the range $(2,8)$, say. How many real solutions are there to the equation $f(x) = g(x)$? Find the roots.

[If you use the function `FindRoot` you may care to set `WorkingPrecision` $\rightarrow 80$.]

4. Write a program to compute the solutions to

$$n = x^3 + y^3 ; \quad x, y \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$$

and verify Ramanujan's famous taxicab remark, that 1729 is the smallest integer that can be written as a sum of two cubes in two different ways. What is the next smallest such integer?