

Table 12.2 (Contd.)

n	i	w_i	z_i
6	1	0.17132	
	2	0.38076	-0.90247
	3	0.48791	-0.66121
	4	0.48791	-0.22982
	5	0.38076	0.22982
	6	0.17132	0.66121
			0.90247

Example 12.10

Use Gauss-Legendre three-point formula to evaluate

$$\int_2^4 (x^4 + 1) dx$$

Given $n = 3$, $a = 2$, and $b = 4$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} I_g &= \frac{b-a}{2} \sum_{i=1}^3 w_i g(z_i) \\ &= w_1 g(z_1) + w_2 g(z_2) + w_3 g(z_3) \\ x &= \frac{(b-a)}{2} z + \frac{b+a}{2} = z + 3 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$g(z) = (z + 3)^4 + 1$$

For $n = 3$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} w_1 &= 0.55556 & z_1 &= -0.77460 \\ w_2 &= 0.88889 & z_2 &= 0.0 \\ w_3 &= 0.55556 & z_3 &= 0.77460 \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} I_g &= 0.55556 [(-0.77460 + 3)^4 + 1] \\ &\quad + 0.88889 [(0 + 3)^4 + 1] \\ &\quad + 0.55556 [(0.77460 + 3)^4 + 1] \\ &= 14.18140 + 72.88898 + 113.33105 \\ &= 200.40143 \end{aligned}$$

We can verify the answer with analytical solution which is 200.40143. That three-point Gauss formula should give exact answer for a second order polynomial. The difference in the answer is due to roundoff error. Roundoff error can be minimised by increasing the precision of the parameters.