

Putting $n = 2$ in the formula 4.1 and taking the curve through (x_0, y_0) , (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) as a polynomial of degree two so, that differences of order higher than two vanish, we get,

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x_0}^{x_0+2h} f(x) dx &= 2h \left[y_0 + \Delta y_0 + \frac{1}{6} \Delta^2 y_0 \right] \\ &= 2h \left[y_0 + (y_1 - y_0) + \frac{1}{6} (y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0) \right] \\ &= \frac{h}{3} [y_0 + 4y_1 + y_2]\end{aligned}$$

Similarly, $\int_{x_0+2h}^{x_0+4h} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} [y_2 + 4y_3 + y_4]$

... ..

$$\int_{x_0+(n-2)h}^{x_0+2h} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} [y_{n-2} + 4y_{n-1} + y_n]$$

Adding the above integrals, we get

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_0+nh} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} \left[(y_0 + y_n) + 4(y_1 + y_3 + \dots + y_{n-1}) + 2(y_2 + y_4 + \dots + y_{n-2}) \right]$$

which is known as Simpson's $\frac{1}{3}$ rd rule.

When we use this formula, the interval (x_0, x_n) must be divided into an even number of subintervals of width h .

4.6.1 Error in Simpson's $\frac{1}{3}$ rd Rule

Suppose the subinterval is 2; then from Simpson's $\frac{1}{3}$ rd rule is

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_2} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} [y_0 + 4y_1 + y_2] = \frac{h}{3} [y_0 + 4 \times (y_0 + h) + (y_0 + 2h)] \quad (1)$$

Assuming that $f(x) = F'(x)$

$$\therefore \int_{x_0}^{x_2} F'(x) dx = F(x_2) - F(x_0) = F(x_0 + 2h) - F(x_0)$$

From Taylor Series expansion's we have,

$$\begin{aligned}&= F(x_0) + 2hF'(x_0) + \frac{(2h)^2}{2!} F''(x_0) + \frac{(3h)^3}{3!} F'''(x_0) + \dots - F(x_0) \\ &= 2hF'(x_0) + \frac{(2h)^2}{2!} F''(x_0) + \frac{(3h)^3}{3!} F'''(x_0) + \dots\end{aligned}$$