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1 Integration Techniques

1.1 Review of Partial Fraction Decomposition

Proposition 1.1 (Partial Fraction Decomposition). Let f(x) = p(x)/q(x) be a proper rational function in reduced form. Assume the denominator q has been factored completely over the real numbers and m is a positive integer.

- (a) Simple linear factor. A factor x r in the denominator requires the partial fraction $\frac{A}{x r}$.
- (b) Repeated linear factor. A factor $(x r)^m$ with m > 1 in the denominator requires the partial fractions

$$\frac{A_1}{(x-r)} + \frac{A_2}{(x-r)^2} + \frac{A_3}{(x-r)^3} + \dots + \frac{A_m}{(x-r)^m}$$

(c) Simple irreducible quadratic factor. An irreducible factor $ax^2 + bx + c$ in the denominator requires the partial fraction

$$\frac{Ax+B}{ax^2+bx+c}$$

(d) Repeated irreducible quadratic factor. An irreducible factor $(ax^2 + bx + c)^m$ with m > 1 in the denominator requires the partial fractions

$$\frac{A_1x + B_1}{ax^2 + bx + c} + \frac{A_2x + B_2}{(ax^2 + bx + c)^2} + \dots + \frac{A_mx + B_m}{(ax^2 + bx + c)^m}.$$

1.2 Numerical Integration (Bonus Problem Topic)

Definition 1.1 (Absolute and Relative Error). Suppose c is a computed numerical solution to a problem having an exact solution x. There are two common measures of the error in c as an approximation to x:

absolute error =
$$|c - x|$$

and

relative error
$$=\frac{c-x}{x}$$
, (if $x \neq 0$).

Example 1.1. The ancient Greeks used $\frac{22}{7}$ to approximate the value of π . Determine the aboslute and relative error in this approximation to π .

Definition 1.2. Suppose f is defined an integrable on [a, b]. The *Midpoint Rule approximation* to $\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx$ using n equally spaced subintervals on [a, b] is

$$M(n) = f(m_1)\Delta x + f(m_2)\Delta x + \dots + f(m_n)\Delta x = \sum_{k=1}^n f\left(\frac{x_{k-1} + x_k}{2}\right)\Delta x,$$

where $\Delta x = (b-a)/n$, $x_0 = a$, $x_k = a + k\Delta x$, and $m_k = (x_{k-1} + x_k)/2 = a + (k-1/2)\Delta x$ is the midpoint of $[x_{k-1}, x_k]$, for k = 1, ..., n.

Definition 1.3 (Trapezoid Rule). Suppose f is defined and integrable on [a, b]. The Trapezoid Rule approximation to $\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx$ using n equally spaced subintervals on [a, b] is

$$T(n) = \left[\frac{1}{2}f(x_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1}f(x_k) + \frac{1}{2}f(x_n)\right]\Delta x.$$

where $\Delta x = (b-a)/n$ and $x_k = a + k\Delta x$, for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$.

Definition 1.4 (Simpson's Rule). Suppose f is defined and integrable on [a, b] and $n \ge 2$ is an even integer. The Simpson's Rule approximation to $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ using n equally spaced subintervals on [a, b] is

$$S(n) = [f(x_0) + 4f(x_1) + 2f(x_2) + 4f(x_3) + \dots + 4f(x_{n-1}) + f(x_n)]\frac{\Delta x}{3}$$
$$= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} [f(x_{2k}) + 4f(x_{2k+1}) + f(x_{2k+2})]\frac{\Delta x}{3}.$$

where n is an even integer, $\Delta x = (b-a)/n$, and $x_k = a + k\Delta x$, for k = 0, 1, ..., n.

Theorem 1.1 (Errors in Numerical Integration). Assume that f'' is continuous on the interval [a, b] and that k is a real number such that $|f''(x)| \le k$, for all x in [a, b]. The absolute errors in approximating the integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ by the Midpoint Rule and Trapezoid Rule with n subintervals satisfy the inequalities

$$E_M \le \frac{k(b-a)}{24} (\Delta x)^2$$
 and $E_T \le \frac{k(b-a)}{12} (\Delta x)^2$,

respectively, where $\Delta x = (b - a)/n$.

Assume that $f^{(4)}$ is continuous on the interval [a, b] and that K is a real number such that $|f^{(4)}(x)| \leq K$ on [a, b]. The absolute error in approximating the integral $\int_a^b f(x) dx$ by Simpson's Rule with n subintervals satisfies the inequality

$$E_S \le \frac{K(b-a)}{180} (\Delta x)^4.$$

Example 1.2. Approximate $\int_{2}^{4} x^{2} dx$ using the Midpoint Rule/Trapezoid Rule/Simpson's Rule with n = 4 subintervals.

SOLUTION. First, we split the interval [a, b] = [2, 4] into n = 4 subintervals, of which the length is $\Delta x = \frac{b-a}{n} = \frac{4-2}{4} = \frac{1}{2}$. Then $x_k = a + k\Delta x = 2 + \frac{k}{2}$.

• Midpoint Rule: the midpoint of kth subinterval is $m_k = (x_{k-1} + x_k)/2 = a + (k - 1/2)\Delta x =$

 $2 + \frac{k-1/2}{2}$. Then the Midpoint Rule approximation is

$$\begin{split} \sum_{k=1}^{n} f(m_k) \Delta x &= \sum_{k=1}^{n} f\left(2 + \frac{k - 1/2}{2}\right) \frac{1}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left(2 + \frac{k - 1/2}{2}\right)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left[4 + (2k - 1) + \frac{k^2 - k + 1/4}{4}\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \sum_{k=1}^{n} \left(k^2 + 7k + \frac{49}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{n} k^2 + 7\sum_{k=1}^{n} k + \sum_{k=1}^{n} \frac{49}{4}\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left(\frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + 7 \times \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + \frac{49}{4} \times n\right) \Big|_{n=4} \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \left(\frac{4(4+1)(2 \times 4 + 1)}{6} + 7 \times \frac{4(4+1)}{2} + \frac{49}{4} \times 4\right) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} (30 + 70 + 49) \\ &= \frac{149}{8}. \end{split}$$

• Trazepoid Rule:

$$T(n) = \left[\frac{1}{2}f(x_0) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} f(x_k) + \frac{1}{2}f(x_n)\right] \Delta x$$

$$= \left[\frac{1}{2}f(a) + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} f\left(2 + \frac{k}{2}\right) + \frac{1}{2}f(b)\right] \Delta x$$

$$= \left[2 + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left(2^2 + 2k + \frac{k^2}{4}\right) + 8\right] \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \left[2 + \frac{1}{4}\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left(16 + 8k + k^2\right) + 8\right] \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \left[2 + \frac{1}{4}\left(\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} 16 + 8\sum_{k=1}^{n-1} k + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} k^2\right) + 8\right] \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \left[2 + \frac{1}{4}\left(16 \times n + 8 \times \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + \frac{n(n+1) \times (2n+1)}{6}\right)\Big|_{n=3} + 8\right] \frac{1}{2}$$

$$= \frac{150}{8}.$$

• Simpson's Rule:

$$\begin{split} S_n &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \left[f(x_{2k}) + 4f(x_{2k+1}) + f(x_{2k+2}) \right] \frac{\Delta x}{3} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \left[f(2+k) + 4f(2+k+1/2) + f(2+k+1) \right] \frac{1/2}{3} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \left[(2+k)^2 + 4(5/2+k)^2 + (3+k)^2 \right] \frac{1/2}{3} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} \left[(2^2+2k+k^2) + (25+20k+4k^2) + (3^3+6k+k^2) \right] \frac{1}{6} \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} (6k^2+28k+38) \frac{1}{6} \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left(6 \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} k^2 + 28 \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} k + 38 \sum_{k=0}^{n/2-1} 1 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left(6 \sum_{k=1}^{n/2-1} k^2 + 28 \sum_{k=1}^{n/2-1} k + 38 \sum_{k=1}^{n/2-1} 1 + 38 \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{6} \left[6 \times \frac{n(n+1)(2n+1)}{6} + 28 \times \frac{n(n+1)}{2} + 38n + 38 \right] \Big|_{n=4/2-1=1} \\ &= \frac{110}{6}. \end{split}$$

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