

Math 1B Project 2 Solutions.

Modifying Simpson's rule. Simpson's rule is a method to approximate the area under a given curve $f(x)$ in a subinterval $[x_0, x_2]$ (composed of two "panels" $[x_0, x_1]$ and $[x_1, x_2]$, each of width h), by constructing a quadratic polynomial $p(x)$ which fits three constraints: $p(x_0) = f(x_0)$, $p(x_1) = f(x_1)$, $p(x_2) = f(x_2)$

The three constraints determine a unique parabola $p(x)$, and $\int_{x_0}^{x_2} p(x) dx$ approximates $\int_{x_0}^{x_2} f(x) dx$. To improve accuracy, several parabolas may be placed end-to-end in contiguous subintervals, giving Simpson's rule with error term:

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_{2m}} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{3} [f(x_0) + 4f(x_1) + 2f(x_2) + \cdots + 2f(x_{2m-2}) + 4f(x_{2m-1}) + f(x_{2m})] - \frac{(x_{2m} - x_0)h^4 f^{(4)}(\mu)}{180}$$

for some $\mu \in (x_0, x_{2m})$. As the number of subintervals increases (and more parabolas are used to approximate $f(x)$), the size of h decreases; this decrease in h reduces the error dramatically since the error is proportional to h^4 .

Here is a modification of Simpson's rule. The coefficients are altered, two derivative terms are added, and—most importantly—the error term is improved. The method is analagous to the trapezoidal rule with endpoint correction¹.

Suppose we build a polynomial $q(x)$ by imposing the three constraints of Simpson's rule plus two additional constraints:

$$q(x_0) = f(x_0), q(x_1) = f(x_1), q(x_2) = f(x_2), q'(x_0) = f'(x_0), \text{ and } q'(x_2) = f'(x_2)$$

Think of the two additional constraints as "clamping" the approximating polynomial $q(x)$ to $f(x)$ at the endpoints x_0 and x_2 . As we'll see, these five constraints can be used to define a quartic polynomial which, expanded about the midpoint of the subinterval, has the form

$$q(x) = a_4(x - x_1)^4 + a_3(x - x_1)^3 + a_2(x - x_1)^2 + a_1(x - x_1) + a_0$$

1. (10 points) Simplify

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_2} q(x) dx$$

in terms of h, a_0, a_2 , and a_4 .

Solution: The odd-powered terms will integrate to zero since they have odd symmetry about the midpoint, x_1 , of the interval of integration. That leaves

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_2} q(x) dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_2} a_4(x - x_1)^4 + a_2(x - x_1)^2 + a_0 dx = \frac{a_4(x - x_1)^5}{5} + \frac{a_2(x - x_1)^3}{3} + a_0 x \Big|_{x_0}^{x_2} = \frac{2h^5}{5}a_4 + \frac{2h^3}{3}a_2 + 2ha_0$$

2. (10 points) Use the five constraints to set up a system of five equations in the five unknowns, a_0, a_1, a_2, a_3, a_4 , then solve these to find formulas for a_0, a_2 , and a_4 in terms of the parameters $y_0 = f(x_0), y_1 = f(x_1), y_2 = f(x_2)$ and $y'_0 = f'(x_0), y'_2 = f'(x_2)$

Solution: Here is the system:

$$\begin{aligned} q(x_0) &= a_4h^4 - a_3h^3 + a_2h^2 - a_1h + a_0 = y_0 \\ q(x_1) &= a_0 = y_1 \\ q(x_2) &= a_4h^4 + a_3h^3 + a_2h^2 + a_1h + a_0 = y_2 \\ q'(x_0) &= -4a_4h^3 + 3a_3h^2 - 2a_2h + a_1 = y'_0 \\ q'(x_2) &= 4a_4h^3 + 3a_3h^2 + 2a_2h + a_1 = y'_2 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting $a_0 = y_1$ and adding the first and third and the fourth and fifth we get a 2×2 system in a_2 and a_4 :

$$\begin{aligned} 2a_4h^4 + 2a_2h^2 &= y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0 \\ 8a_4h^3 + 4a_2h &= y'_2 - y'_0 \end{aligned}$$

¹Samuel D. Conte and Carl de Boor, *Elementary Numerical Analysis*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1980.

Multiplying the second equation by $-\frac{h}{4}$ and adding it to the first equation eliminates a_4 so we can solve for a_2 :

$$a_2 = \frac{1}{h^2} \left(y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0 - \frac{h}{4}(y'_2 - y'_0) \right) = \frac{y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0}{h^2} - \frac{y'_2 - y'_0}{4h} \text{ and } a_4 = -\frac{y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0}{2h^4} + \frac{y'_2 - y'_0}{4h^3}$$

3. (10 points) Substitute these values for the coefficients of $q(x)$ to show that

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_2} q(x) dx = \frac{h}{15} (7f(x_0) + 16f(x_1) + 7f(x_2) + h[f'(x_0) - f'(x_2)])$$

Solution:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x_0}^{x_2} q(x) dx &= \frac{2h^5}{5} \left(-\frac{y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0}{2h^4} + \frac{y'_2 - y'_0}{4h^3} \right) + \frac{2h^3}{3} \left(\frac{y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0}{h^2} - \frac{y'_2 - y'_0}{4h} \right) + 2hy_1 \\ &\quad - \frac{3h(y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0)}{15} + \frac{10h(y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0)}{15} + \frac{3h^2(y'_2 - y'_0)}{30} - \frac{5h^2(y'_2 - y'_0)}{30} + \frac{30hy_1}{15} \\ &= \frac{h}{15} (7y_2 + 16y_1 + 7y_0 - h[y'_2 - y'_0]) \\ &= \frac{h}{15} (7f(x_0) + 16f(x_1) + 7f(x_2) + h[f'(x_0) - f'(x_2)]) \end{aligned}$$

4. (10 points) Simplify

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_{2m}} q(x) dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_2} q(x) dx + \int_{x_2}^{x_4} q(x) dx + \cdots + \int_{x_{2m-2}}^{x_{2m}} q(x) dx$$

in terms of the y -values, $y_i = f(x_i)$, $i \in \{0, 1, \dots, 2m\}$ and the slopes $f'(x_0), f'(x_2), \dots, f'(x_{2m})$. How does this compare with Simpson's rule?

Solution: Except for the very first and last points in the partition, the endpoint values double up for the y -values at even indices while the y' values telescope:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x_0}^{x_{2m}} q(x) dx &= \frac{h}{15} \sum_{i=0}^{2n-2} (7y_i + 16y_{i+1} + 7y_{i+2}) + \frac{h^2}{15} \sum_{i=0}^{2n-2} (y'_{i+2} - y'_i) \\ &= \frac{h}{15} (7y_0 + 16y_1 + 7y_2 + 7y_2 + 16y_3 + 7y_4 + \cdots + 7y_{2n-2} + 16y_{2n-1} + 7y_{2n}) \\ &\quad + \frac{h^2}{15} (y'_2 - y'_0 + y'_4 - y'_2 + \cdots + y'_{2n-2} - y'_{2n-4} + y'_{2n} - y'_{2n-2}) \\ &= \frac{h}{15} (7y_0 + 16y_1 + 14y_2 + 16y_3 + 14y_4 + \cdots + 14y_{2m-2} + 16y_{2m-1} + 7y_{2m} + h[f'(x_0) - f'(x_{2m})]) \end{aligned}$$

This is similar to Simpson's rule except (1) the common multiplier is $\frac{h}{15}$ instead of $\frac{h}{6}$, the coefficients are $\{7, 16, 14, 16, 14, 15, \dots, 14, 16, 7\}$ instead of $\{1, 2, 4, 2, 4, \dots, 4, 2, 4, 1\}$ and there is extra term involving the derivatives: $\frac{h^2}{15}[f'(x_0) - f'(x_{2m})]$

5. (30 points) For each of the following integrals, complete a table of errors like this:

n	Clamped Rule error	Simpson's Rule error
2		
4		
8		
16		

(a) $\int_2^4 \frac{dx}{x}$

n	Clamped Rule error	Simpson's Rule error
2	2.34×10^{-6}	-1.07×10^{-4}
4	4.41×10^{-8}	-7.35×10^{-6}
8	7.30×10^{-10}	-4.72×10^{-7}
16	1.16×10^{-11}	-2.97×10^{-8}

(b) $\int_1^5 \ln(x) dx$

n	Clamped Rule error	Simpson's Rule error
2	-6.57×10^{-4}	5.71×10^{-3}
4	-2.24×10^{-5}	5.34×10^{-4}
8	-5.10×10^{-7}	3.98×10^{-5}
16	-9.16×10^{-9}	2.63×10^{-6}

(c) $\int_0^1 e^{-x^2} dx$

n	Clamped Rule error	Simpson's Rule error
2	1.17×10^{-7}	-3.12×10^{-5}
4	1.33×10^{-9}	-1.99×10^{-6}
8	1.91×10^{-11}	-1.25×10^{-7}
16	2.92×10^{-13}	-7.79×10^{-9}

There are a variety of ways to arrive at these error estimates. C++ code works well, if you can write it (Take CS7A in the fall!): Alternatively, write a little program for the TI85, like so:

```

PROGRAM: SIMPSON          PROGRAM: SIMPSON          PROGRAM: SIMPSON          PROGRAM: SIMPSON
:Prompt A                 :? * y1 + C          :S+2 * y1 + S          :B * x                :nDer(y1,x) * D1
:Prompt B                 :x + H * x           :C+14 * y1 + C          :C+H * x              :C-H * (D2-D1) * C
:Prompt N                 :S+4 * y1 + S        :x+H * x               :C+7 * y1 + C         :C * H / 15 * C
: (B-A) / N * H           :C+16 * y1 + C       :S+4 * y1 + S          :S * H / 3 * S        :Disp "S=", S
:A * x                    :For(I,2,N-2,2)      :C+16 * y1 + C         :nDer(y1,x) * D2      :Disp "C=", C
:A * S                    :x+H * x             :End                   :A * x                :Disp ln 2 - S
:PAGE: | PAGE: | I/O | CTL | INSC | PAGE: | PAGE: | I/O | CTL | INSC | PAGE: | PAGE: | I/O | CTL | INSC |

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Then we can run the program with $y1=1/x$ on Graph page to verify the errors we listed above:

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A=?2   S=          A=?2   S=          A=?2   S=          A=?2   S=
B=?4   C=          B=?4   C=          B=?4   C=          B=?4   C=
N=?4   C=          N=?8   C=          N=?16  C=          N=?16  C=
          .693253968254          .693154530655          .693147652819          .69314721029
          .69314484127          .693147136428          .69314717983          .69314718054E
          -1.0678769406E-4          -7.35009459E-6          -4.7225949E-7          -2.972993E-8
          2.33929007E-6          4.413154E-8          7.3001E-10          1.147E-11
          Done          Done          Done          Done

```

For the error in the estimation

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_{2m}} f(x) dx \approx \int_{x_0}^{x_{2m}} q(x) dx$$

we can prove the following theorem:

Theorem. If $f^{(6)}(x)$ is continuous on $[x_0, x_{2m}]$, then for some $v \in (x_0, x_{2m})$:

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_{2m}} f(x) dx = \frac{h}{15} (7y_0 + 16y_1 + 14y_2 + 16y_3 + 14y_4 + \cdots + 14y_{2m-2} + 16y_{2m-1} + 7y_{2m} + h[f'(x_0) - f'(x_{2m})])$$

$$+ \frac{(x_{2m} - x_0)h^6 f^{(6)}(v)}{9450}$$

To determine the error, start by constructing the fifth degree polynomial

$$t(x) = q(x) + k(x - x_0)^2(x - x_1)(x - x_2)^2$$

which has the same integral as $q(x)$ on $[x_0, x_2]$ but allows for sharper estimates.

6. Explain why $\int_{x_0}^{x_2} k(x - x_0)^2(x - x_1)(x - x_2) dx = 0$

Solution: The integrand has odd symmetry around the point $(x_1, 0)$ and the interval of integration is centered on $x = x_1$ so that the signed area in $x_0 \leq x \leq x_1$ is the opposite of that in $x_1 \leq x \leq x_2$. To be sure, the substitution $u = x - x_1$ yields $\int_{-h}^h k(u + h)^2 u(u - h)^2 du = k \int_{-h}^h u(u^2 - h^2)^2 du = 0$

7. (10 points) Show that $t(x)$ satisfies all the constraints of the clamped $q(x)$ and that if we take $k = (f'(x_1) - q'(x_1))/h^4$ then $t'(x_1) = f'(x_1)$.

Solution:

$$t(x_0) = q(x_0), t(x_1) = q(x_1), t(x_2) = q(x_2)$$

$$t'(x) = q'(x) + 2k(x - x_0)(x - x_1)(x - x_2)^2 + k(x - x_0)^2(x - x_2)^2 + 2k(x - x_0)^2(x - x_1)(x - x_2)$$

so that

$$t'(x_0) = q'(x_0) = f'(x_0), \text{ and } t'(x_2) = q'(x_2) = f'(x_2)$$

Now

$$t'(x_1) = q'(x_1) + k(x_1 - x_0)^2(x_1 - x_2)^2 = q'(x_1) + kh^4 = f'(x_1) \Leftrightarrow k = \frac{f'(x_1) - q'(x_1)}{h^4}$$

does the trick, as desired. We leave the completion of the proof for the above theorem for another time.

8. (10 points) It is known that

$$2 \int_0^{\infty} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx = \frac{\pi}{e} \approx 1.1557273497909217.$$

Investigate how the Clamped rule and Simpson's rule compare for approximating this integral as

$$2 \int_0^{10,000} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx = 2 \int_0^{10} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx + 2 \int_{10}^{100} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx + 2 \int_{100}^{1000} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx + 2 \int_{1000}^{10,000} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx$$

for $n = 2, 4, 8, 16$.

Solution:

Using Mathematica, I find that $2 \int_0^{10} \frac{\cos x}{1 + x^2} dx \approx 0.57423915985756283000385890837367349472114644869057$

interval	n	integral	Clamped Rule error	Simpson's Rule error
$0 \leq x \leq 10$	32	0.5742391598575628	6.1275×10^{-10}	3.3488×10^{-8}
$10 \leq x \leq 100$	512	0.003572191617775706	-2.7726×10^{-11}	-4.8639×10^{-8}
$100 \leq x \leq 1000$	4096	0.00005314916913240810	-5.0963×10^{-13}	-6.0145×10^{-10}
$1000 \leq x \leq 10000$	8192	$-8.288032494498435 \times 10^{-7}$	1.8243×10^{-10}	7.8569×10^{-9}
$10000 \leq x \leq 100000$	65536	$3.057816242998889 \times 10^{-9}$	-2.82×10^{-12}	-7.75×10^{-11}