

# Lecture 17

## Integration: Gauss Quadrature

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# Today:

## Objectives

- identify the most widely used quadrature method
- is it cheap?
- is it effective?
- how does it compare to Newton-Cotes (Trapezoid, Simpson, etc)?

## Material

- Section 5.4



# Quadrature

- up until now, our quadrature methods were of the form

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{j=0}^n w_j f(x_j)$$

where  $x_j$  are equally spaced nodes

- Trapezoid:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{2} f(a) + \frac{b-a}{2} f(b)$$

- Simpson:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{6} f(a) + \frac{2(b-a)}{3} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{b-a}{6} f(b)$$

- Similar for higher order polynomial Newton-Cotes rules



# Quadrature with Freedom

!

These quadrature rules have one thing in common: they're restrictive

- e.g. Simpson:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{6}f(a) + \frac{2(b-a)}{3}f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + \frac{b-a}{6}f(b)$$

- Trapezoid, Simpson, etc (Newton-Cotes) are based on equally spaced nodes
- We know one thing already from interpolation: equally spaced nodes result in *wiggle*.
- What other choice do we have? (...recall how we fixed wiggle in interpolation: by moving the location of the nodes)

# Gaussian Quadrature

- free ourselves from equally spaced nodes
- combine selection of the nodes and selection of the weights into one quadrature rule

## Gaussian Quadrature

Choose the nodes and coefficients optimally to maximize the degree of precision of the quadrature rule:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{j=0}^n w_j f(x_j)$$

## Goal

Seek  $w_j$  and  $x_j$  so that the quadrature rule is exact for really high polynomials

# Gaussian Quadrature

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{j=0}^n w_j f(x_j)$$

- we have  $n + 1$  points  $x_j \in [a, b]$ ,  $a \leq x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{n-1} < x_n \leq b$ .
- we have  $n + 1$  real coefficients  $w_j$
  
- so there are  $2n + 2$  total unknowns to take care of
  
- there were only 2 unknowns in the case of trapezoid (2 weights)
- there were only 3 unknowns in the case of Simpson (3 weights)
- there were only  $n + 1$  unknowns in the case of general Newton-Cotes ( $n + 1$  weights)



# Gaussian Quadrature

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{j=0}^n w_j f(x_j)$$

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- we have  $n + 1$  real coefficients  $w_j$
  
- so there are  $2n + 2$  total unknowns to take care of
  - there were only 2 unknowns in the case of trapezoid (2 weights)
  - there were only 3 unknowns in the case of Simpson (3 weights)
  - there were only  $n + 1$  unknowns in the case of general Newton-Cotes ( $n + 1$  weights)

$2n + 2$  unknowns (using  $n + 1$  nodes) can be used to exactly interpolate and integrate polynomials of degree up to  $2n + 1$

# Better Nodes Example

The first thing we do is SIMPLIFY

- consider the case of  $n = 1$  (2-point)
- consider  $[a, b] = [-1, 1]$  for simplicity
- we *know* how the trapezoid rule works
- Question: can we possibly do better using only 2 function evaluations?
- Goal: Find  $w_0, w_1, x_0, x_1$  so that

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \approx w_0 f(x_0) + w_1 f(x_1)$$

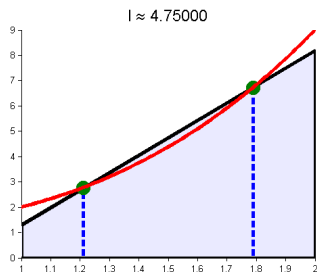
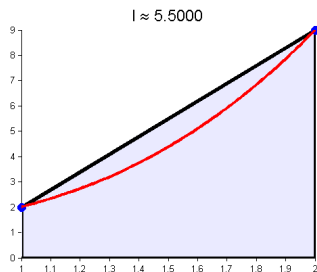
is as accurate as possible...



# Graphical View

Consider

$$\int_1^2 x^3 + 1 \, dx = 4.75$$



# Derive...

Again, we are considering  $[a, b] = [-1, 1]$  for simplicity:

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \approx w_0 f(x_0) + w_1 f(x_1)$$

Goal: find  $w_0, w_1, x_0, x_1$  so that the approximation is exact up to cubics. So try any cubic:

$$f(x) = c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3$$

This implies that:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx &= \int_{-1}^1 (c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3) dx \\ &= w_0 (c_0 + c_1x_0 + c_2x_0^2 + c_3x_0^3) + \\ &\quad w_1 (c_0 + c_1x_1 + c_2x_1^2 + c_3x_1^3) \end{aligned}$$



# Derive...

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx &= \int_{-1}^1 (c_0 + c_1x + c_2x^2 + c_3x^3) dx \\ &= w_0 (c_0 + c_1x_0 + c_2x_0^2 + c_3x_0^3) + \\ &\quad w_1 (c_0 + c_1x_1 + c_2x_1^2 + c_3x_1^3)\end{aligned}$$

Rearrange into constant, linear, quadratic, and cubic terms:

$$\begin{aligned}c_0 \left( w_0 + w_1 - \int_{-1}^1 dx \right) &+ c_1 \left( w_0x_0 + w_1x_1 - \int_{-1}^1 x dx \right) + \\ c_2 \left( w_0x_0^2 + w_1x_1^2 - \int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx \right) &+ c_3 \left( w_0x_0^3 + w_1x_1^3 - \int_{-1}^1 x^3 dx \right) = 0\end{aligned}$$

Since  $c_0$ ,  $c_1$ ,  $c_2$  and  $c_3$  are arbitrary, then their coefficients must all be zero.

# Derive...

This implies:

$$w_0 + w_1 = \int_{-1}^1 dx = 2$$

$$w_0 x_0^2 + w_1 x_1^2 = \int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$w_0 x_0 + w_1 x_1 = \int_{-1}^1 x dx = 0$$

$$w_0 x_0^3 + w_1 x_1^3 = \int_{-1}^1 x^3 dx = 0$$

Some algebra leads to:

$$w_0 = 1 \quad w_1 = 1 \quad x_0 = -\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \quad x_1 = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}$$

Therefore:

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \approx f\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right) + f\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right)$$



# Over another interval?

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \approx f\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right) + f\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right)$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx ?$$

- integrating over  $[a, b]$  instead of  $[-1, 1]$  needs a transformation: a change of variables
- want  $t = c_1x + c_0$  with  $t = -1$  at  $x = a$  and  $t = 1$  at  $x = b$
- let  $t = \frac{2}{b-a}x - \frac{b+a}{b-a}$
- (verify)
- let  $x = \frac{b-a}{2}t + \frac{b+a}{2}$
- then  $dx = \frac{b-a}{2}dt$



# Over another interval?

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx ?$$

- let  $x = \frac{b-a}{2}t + \frac{b+a}{2}$
- then  $dx = \frac{b-a}{2}dt$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 f\left(\frac{(b-a)t + b+a}{2}\right) \frac{b-a}{2} dt$$

- now use the quadrature formula over  $[-1, 1]$
- note: using two points,  $n = 1$ , gave us exact integration for polynomials of degree less  $2*1+1 = 3$  and less.



# Over another interval?

Previous example...

$$\int_1^2 x^3 + 1 dx = 4.75$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^2 f(x) dx &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 f\left(\frac{t+3}{2}\right) dt \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} \left[ f\left(\frac{3 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{3 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}}{2}\right) \right]\end{aligned}$$

where  $x = \frac{3+t}{2}$



# Over another interval?

Evaluating...

$$\int_1^2 x^3 + 1 dx$$

$$\begin{aligned}\int_1^2 x^3 + 1 dx &\approx \frac{1}{2} \left[ f\left(\frac{3 + \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{3 - \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}}{2}\right) \right] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} \left[ f\left(\frac{9 + \sqrt{3}}{6}\right) + f\left(\frac{9 - \sqrt{3}}{6}\right) \right] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} [f(1.788651) + f(1.211325)] \\ &\approx \frac{1}{2} [6.722382 + 2.777387] \\ &= 4.749885\end{aligned}$$

where  $f(x) = x^3 + 1$



# Extending Gauss Quadrature

- we need more to make this work for more than two points
- A sensible quadrature rule for the interval  $[-1, 1]$  based on 1 node would use the node  $x = 0$ . This is a root of  $\phi(x) = x$
- Notice:  $\pm \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$  are the roots of  $\phi(x) = 3x^2 - 1$
- general  $\phi(x)$ ?



# Gauss Quadrature Theorem

Karl Friedrich Gauss proved the following result:

Let  $q(x)$  be a nontrivial polynomial of degree  $n + 1$  such that

$$\int_a^b x^k q(x) dx = 0 \quad (0 \leq k \leq n)$$

and let  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  be the zeros of  $q(x)$ . Then

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=0}^n A_i f(x_i), \quad A_i = \int_a^b \ell_i(x) dx$$

will be exact for all polynomials of degree at most  $2n + 1$ .



# Sketch of Proof

Let  $f(x)$  be a polynomial of degree  $2n + 1$ . Then we can write  $f(x) = p(x)q(x) + r(x)$ , where  $p(x)$  and  $r(x)$  are of degree at most  $n$  (This is basically dividing  $f$  by  $q$  with remainder  $r$ ).

Then by the hypothesis,  $\int_a^b p(x)q(x)dx = 0$ . Further,  $f(x_i) = p(x_i)q(x_i) + r(x_i) = r(x_i)$ . Thus,

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx = \int_a^b r(x)dx \approx \sum_{i=0}^n f(x_i) \int_a^b \ell_i(x)dx$$

But this is exact because  $r(x)$  is (at most) a degree  $n$  polynomial. Thus, we need to find the polynomials  $q(x)$ .



# Orthogonal Polynomials

## Orthogonality of Functions

Two functions  $g(x)$  and  $h(x)$  are *orthogonal* on  $[a, b]$  if

$$\int_a^b g(x)h(x) dx = 0$$

- so the nodes we're using are roots of orthogonal polynomials
- these are the *Legendre* Polynomials



# Legendre Polynomials

given on the exam

$$\phi_0 = 1$$

$$\phi_1 = x$$

$$\phi_2 = \frac{3x^2 - 1}{2}$$

$$\phi_3 = \frac{5x^3 - 3x}{2}$$

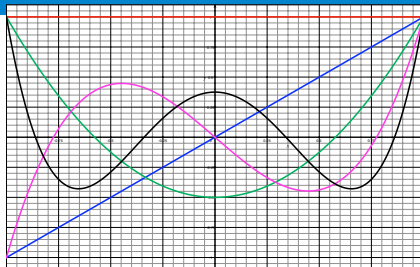
$\vdots$

In general:

$$\phi_n(x) = \frac{2n-1}{n}x\phi_{n-1}(x) - \frac{n-1}{n}\phi_{n-2}(x)$$



# Notes on Legendre Roots



- The Legendre Polynomials are orthogonal (nice!)
- The Legendre Polynomials increase in polynomial order (like monomials)
- The Legendre Polynomials don't suffer from poor conditioning (unlike monomials)
- The Legendre Polynomials don't have a closed form expression (recursion relation is needed)
- The roots of the Legendre Polynomials are the nodes for Gaussian Quadrature (GL nodes)

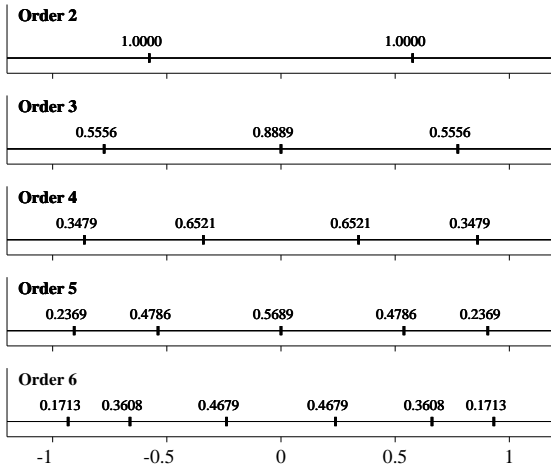


# Quadrature Nodes (see)

- Often listed in tables
- Weights determined by extension of above
- Roots are symmetric in  $[-1, 1]$
- Example:

```
1  if(n==0)
2      x = 0;    w = 2;
3  if(n==1)
4      x(1) = -1/sqrt(3);    x(2) = -x(1);
5      w(1) = 1;            w(2) = w(1);
6  if(n==2)
7      x(1) = -sqrt(3/5);    x(2) = 0;    x(3) = -x(1);
8      w(1) = 5/9;          w(2) = 8/9;    w(3) = w(1);
9  if(n==3)
10     x(1) = -0.861136311594053;    x(4) = -x(1);
11     x(2) = -0.339981043584856;    x(3) = -x(2);
12     w(1) = 0.347854845137454;    w(4) = w(1);
13     w(2) = 0.652145154862546;    w(3) = w(2);
14  if(n==4)
15     x(1) = -0.906179845938664;    x(5) = -x(1);
16     x(2) = -0.538469310105683;    x(4) = -x(2);
17     x(3) = 0;
18     w(1) = 0.236926885056189;    w(5) = w(1);
19     w(2) = 0.478628670499366;    w(4) = w(2);
20     w(3) = 0.568888888888889;
21  if(n==5)
22     x(1) = -0.932469514203152;    x(6) = -x(1);
23     x(2) = -0.661209386466265;    x(5) = -x(2);
24     x(3) = -0.238619186083197;    x(4) = -x(3);
25     w(1) = 0.171324492379170;    w(6) = w(1);
26     w(2) = 0.360761573048139;    w(5) = w(2);
27     w(3) = 0.467913934572691;    w(4) = w(3);
```

# View of Nodes



# Theory

The connection between the roots of the Legendre polynomials and exact integration of polynomials is established by the following theorem.

## Theorem

Suppose that  $x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n$  are roots of the  $n$ th Legendre polynomial  $P_n(x)$  and that for each  $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$  the numbers  $w_i$  are defined by

$$w_i = \int_{-1}^1 \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^n \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j} dx = \int_{-1}^1 \ell_i(x) dx$$

Then

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = \sum_{i=0}^n w_i f(x_i),$$

where  $f(x)$  is any polynomial of degree less or equal to  $2n + 1$ .

# Do not!

!!!

When evaluating a quadrature rule

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x)dx = \sum_{i=0}^n w_i f(x_i).$$

*do not* generate the nodes and weights each time. Use a lookup table...



## Example

Approximate  $\int_1^{1.5} x^2 \ln x \, dx$  using Gaussian quadrature with  $n = 1$ .

SOLUTION As derived earlier we want to use  $\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \, dx \approx f\left(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right) + f\left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3}\right)$

From earlier we know that we are interested in

$$\int_1^{1.5} f(x) \, dx = \int_{-1}^1 f\left(\frac{(1.5-1)t + (1.5+1)}{2}\right) \frac{1.5-1}{2} \, dt$$

Therefore, we are looking for the integral of

$$\frac{1}{4} \int_{-1}^1 f\left(\frac{x+5}{4}\right) \, dx = \frac{1}{4} \int_{-1}^1 \left(\frac{x+5}{4}\right)^2 \ln\left(\frac{x+5}{4}\right) \, dx$$

Using Gaussian quadrature, our numerical integration becomes:

$$\frac{1}{4} \left[ \left(\frac{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 5}{4}\right)^2 \ln\left(\frac{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 5}{4}\right) + \left(\frac{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 5}{4}\right)^2 \ln\left(\frac{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 5}{4}\right) \right] = 0.1922687$$

## Example

Approximate  $\int_0^1 x^2 e^{-x} dx$  using Gaussian quadrature with  $n = 1$ .

SOLUTION We again want to convert our limits of integration to -1 to 1. Using the same process as the earlier example, we get:

$$\int_0^1 x^2 e^{-x} dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \left( \frac{t+1}{2} \right)^2 e^{(t+1)/2} dt.$$

Using the Gaussian roots we get:

$$\int_0^1 x^2 e^{-x} dx \approx \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 1}{2} \right)^2 e^{(-\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 1)/2} + \left( \frac{\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 1}{2} \right)^2 e^{(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} + 1)/2} \right] = 0.1594104$$



## Numerical Question

How does  $n$  point Gauss quadrature compare with  $n$  point Newton-Cotes...

# Examples

with Python...

## Example

int\_gauss.py: base routine for Gauss quadrature

## Example

int\_gauss\_test.py: integrate  $\int_0^5 xe^{-x} dx$  with

- 1 subinterval, increasing number of nodes
- 3 nodes, increases number of intervals (panels)

Result: fewer total evaluations in GL quadrature with 1 subinterval and many nodes versus 3 nodes and many subpanels. Also more accurate.

