

Numeric integration in 1-variable:

Discussed this briefly last semester when discussing interpolation of polynomials. Idea: Given function f , model it by quadratic passing through three equally spaced points

$T: P_{\leq 2} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$ found matrix for T , inverted

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_0 \\ a_1 \\ a_2 \end{bmatrix} = p \longleftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} p(-1) \\ p(0) \\ p(1) \end{bmatrix}$$

leads to general formula:

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \frac{1}{2}(y_2 - y_0) \\ \frac{1}{2}(y_0 - 2y_1 + y_2) \end{bmatrix} \longleftarrow \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) \approx \frac{b-a}{6n} (f(x_0) + 4f(x_1) + f(x_2) + \underbrace{f(x_2) + f(x_2)}_{2f(x_2)} + \dots)$$

integrate from -1 to 1 ($p(x)$ is our approx. of $f(x)$)

to get $\frac{1}{6}(y_0 + 4y_1 + y_2)$
 $\uparrow \frac{2}{6}$, special case of $\frac{b-a}{6}$

Surprise: models cubic functions perfectly (reason it is better than quadratic: $\int_{-1}^1 x^3 dx = 0$.)

So error

$$\int_a^b f(x) - \text{Simpson's rule for } f = \frac{(b-a)^5}{2880n^4} f^{(4)}(c) \text{ for some } c \in (a,b).$$

Also discussed Bernstein polynomials $x^{n-k} (1-x)^k$ $k=0, \dots, n$ instead of monomials.

Book also discusses Gaussian integration:

Again p of degree $\leq d$. Pick points x_1, \dots, x_m
and weights w_1, \dots, w_m
(idea: want m small)

so that, for all p of $\text{deg} \leq d$

$$\int_{-1}^1 p(x) dx = \sum_{i=1}^m w_i p(x_i) \quad \left(\text{Simpson: } \begin{array}{l} x_i = -1, 0, 1 \\ w_i = 1, 4, 1 \end{array} \right)$$

$2m$ unknowns. Solve $d+1$ equations, one for $1, x, \dots, x^d$.

Try to solve with $2m > d+1$. If $d=3$, can try with $m=2$
(beat Simpson, using $m=3$)

$$\text{Get } \int_{-1}^1 1 dx = w_1 + w_2 = 2$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 x dx = w_1 x_1 + w_2 x_2 = 0$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 x^2 dx = w_1 x_1^2 + w_2 x_2^2 = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 x^3 dx = w_1 x_1^3 + w_2 x_2^3 = 0$$

Bad because non-linear equations. Make some assumptions: $x_1 = x$
 $x_2 = -x$

then eqns 2+4 are true. Left with


$$w_1 = w_2 = w.$$

$$2w = 2, \quad 2w x^2 = \frac{2}{3} \quad \text{so } w = 1 \quad x = \sqrt{\frac{1}{3}}.$$

Example: $\int_{-1}^1 \cos x \, dx = \sin x \Big|_{-1}^1 = \sin(1) - \sin(-1) = 2 \sin 1 \approx 1.6829..$

Simpson: $\approx \frac{1}{3} (\cos(-1) + 4 \cos(0) + \cos(1)) = \frac{4}{3} + \frac{2}{3} \cos(1) \approx 1.6935$

Gaussian: $\approx \cos(1/\sqrt{3}) + \cos(-1/\sqrt{3}) = 2 \cos(1/\sqrt{3}) \approx 1.6758$

(also recall  $\cos(x - \pi/2) = \sin x$
 $\cos(\pi/2 - x) = \sin x$ $\pi/2 - 1/\sqrt{3} = .9934...$)

Try to similarly handle higher degree d by setting $x_i = -x_{2m-i+1}$, eliminates all odd powered equations.

In practice, also use Gaussian rules for integrations like

$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) \frac{e^{-x^2}}{\sqrt{\pi}} dx$, where we find answers for f of small degree as before.

Useful in probability. Only compute w_i, x_i once and then can use on all choices of f .

In any case, all rules associate weights w_i and approximate values

$\sum_{i=1}^k w_i f(p_i)$ p_i : distinguished points in $[a, b]$.

to $\int_a^b f(x) dx$

Not Fubini. More Basic: §4.1

$\sum_i w_i f_1(p_i) \sum_i w_i f_2(p_i)$

In \mathbb{R}^2 : $\int_{[a,b]^2} f(x) |d^2x| = \int_{[a,b]} f_1(x_1) dx_1 \int_{[a,b]} f_2(x_2) dx_2$
 if $f(x) = f_1(x_1) f_2(x_2)$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq i_1, i_2 \leq k} w_{i_1} w_{i_2} \underbrace{f_1(p_{i_1}) f_2(p_{i_2})}_{f \begin{pmatrix} p_{i_1} \\ p_{i_2} \end{pmatrix}}$$

So we can handle functions of several variables. Problem is that when dimension increases, sampling grows exponentially. Simpson,

with 10 points a side for cube in dimension 3 gives 10^3

computations of special values of function. (ok for fast computer.

Any bigger we need another way!)

Fix: Sample points randomly in high dimensional cube and take average.

$$\text{Know } \int_A f(\underline{x}) |d^n \underline{x}| = \left(\begin{array}{c} \text{average val. of} \\ f \text{ on} \\ A \end{array} \right) \cdot (\text{vol}(A))$$

So sampling and averaging evaluates: $\int_A f(\underline{x}) |d^n \underline{x}| / \text{vol}(A)$.

(if don't know volume of A in advance put A in a box B and do Monte Carlo method for

$$\int_B 1_A |d^n \underline{x}| / \text{vol}(B)$$

Problem: How do we know if we're close to the right answer?

Ans: Approximate the standard deviation and use central limit theorem.