PHYS 4247 — Computational Project

Due: December 5, 2017

The Problem: Consider a spatially flat Universe that contains matter, radiation and a cosmological constant. Assume $\Omega_{m,0} = 0.3$, $\Omega_{\Lambda,0} = 0.7$, $\Omega_{r,0} = 8.4 \times 10^{-5}$, and $H_0 = 70$ km s^{-1} Mpc^{-1}.

1. Compute $d_{\rm lumin}$, $d_{\rm ang}$, and d_{prop} (in Mpc or Gpc) vs. z for $z = 10^{-3}$–3000.
2. Compute the age of the Universe (in Myr or Gyr) at z for $z = 10^{-3}$–3000.

How to Do it: For #1, need to compute $r_0 = ca_0 \int_{t_i}^{t_0} dt/a$, where t_i corresponds to redshift z. Use the techniques we developed in class with the Friedmann Equation to write this integral in terms of the cosmological parameters ($\Omega_{m,0}, \Omega_{\Lambda,0}, \Omega_{r,0}$ and H_0) and z. Use the techniques described in the attached document and write a computer program to perform the integral numerically for each z of interest.

For #2, re-write the Friedmann Equation so that the right-hand side is in terms of the cosmological parameters ($\Omega_{m,0}, \Omega_{\Lambda,0}, \Omega_{r,0}$ and H_0) and z. Change the variables of the left-hand side so that it is in terms of dz/dt, rather than da/dt. This will allow you to write down the integral to find the age of the Universe at redshift z. Again, perform this integral numerically.

For both parts, use the on-line Cosmology Calculator (`http://www.astro.ucla.edu/~wright/CosmoCalc.html`) to check your work.

What to Hand In: Please hand in the following on the due date.

1. A written derivation of the two integrals that are computed.
2. Plots of $d_{\rm lumin}$, $d_{\rm ang}$, and d_{prop} (in Mpc or Gpc) vs. z. Put them all on one graph.
3. A plot of the age of the Universe (in Myr or Gyr) at z vs. z. On this plot, overlay lines indicating the recombination and decoupling redshifts. Also, overlay a line showing the redshift at which the matter and cosmological constant densities were equal.
4. A print out of the computer code that you wrote to perform the computations. Make sure this is well documented (e.g., lots of comments, descriptive variable names, good use of white-space).
5. Bonus question: At what z did the Solar System form? Provide any reference information that you used.

Chapter 4. Integration of Functions

4.0 Introduction

Numerical integration, which is also called *quadrature*, has a history extending back to the invention of calculus and before. The fact that integrals of elementary functions could not, in general, be computed analytically, while derivatives *could* be, served to give the field a certain panache, and to set it a cut above the arithmetic drudgery of numerical analysis during the whole of the 18th and 19th centuries.

With the invention of automatic computing, quadrature became just one numerical task among many, and not a very interesting one at that. Automatic computing, even the most primitive sort involving desk calculators and rooms full of "computers" (that were, until the 1950s, people rather than machines), opened to feasibility the much richer field of numerical integration of differential equations. Quadrature is merely the simplest special case: The evaluation of the integral

$$I = \int_a^b f(x)dx \tag{4.0.1}$$

is precisely equivalent to solving for the value $I \equiv y(b)$ the differential equation

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x) \tag{4.0.2}$$

with the boundary condition

$$y(a) = 0 \tag{4.0.3}$$

Chapter 16 of this book deals with the numerical integration of differential equations. In that chapter, much emphasis is given to the concept of "variable" or "adaptive" choices of stepsize. We will not, therefore, develop that material here. If the function that you propose to integrate is sharply concentrated in one or more peaks, or if its shape is not readily characterized by a single length-scale, then it is likely that you should cast the problem in the form of (4.0.2)–(4.0.3) and use the methods of Chapter 16.

The quadrature methods in this chapter are based, in one way or another, on the obvious device of adding up the value of the integrand at a sequence of abscissas within the range of integration. The game is to obtain the integral as accurately as possible with the smallest number of function evaluations of the integrand. Just as in the case of interpolation (Chapter 3), one has the freedom to choose methods of various *orders*, with higher order sometimes, but not always, giving higher accuracy. "Romberg integration," which is discussed in §4.3, is a general formalism for making use of integration methods of a variety of different orders, and we recommend it highly.

Apart from the methods of this chapter and of Chapter 16, there are yet other methods for obtaining integrals. One important class is based on function approximation. We discuss explicitly the integration of functions by Chebyshev approximation ("Clenshaw-Curtis" quadrature) in §5.9. Although not explicitly discussed here, you ought to be able to figure out how to do *cubic spline quadrature* using the output of the routine `spline` in §3.3. (Hint: Integrate equation 3.3.3 over x analytically. See [1].)

Some integrals related to Fourier transforms can be calculated using the fast Fourier transform (FFT) algorithm. This is discussed in §13.9.

Multidimensional integrals are another whole multidimensional bag of worms. Section 4.6 is an introductory discussion in this chapter; the important technique of *Monte-Carlo integration* is treated in Chapter 7.

CITED REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING:

Carnahan, B., Luther, H.A., and Wilkes, J.O. 1969, *Applied Numerical Methods* (New York: Wiley), Chapter 2.

Isaacson, E., and Keller, H.B. 1966, *Analysis of Numerical Methods* (New York: Wiley), Chapter 7.

Acton, F.S. 1970, *Numerical Methods That Work*; 1990, corrected edition (Washington: Mathematical Association of America), Chapter 4.

Stoer, J., and Bulirsch, R. 1980, *Introduction to Numerical Analysis* (New York: Springer-Verlag), Chapter 3.

Ralston, A., and Rabinowitz, P. 1978, *A First Course in Numerical Analysis*, 2nd ed. (New York: McGraw-Hill), Chapter 4.

Dahlquist, G., and Bjorck, A. 1974, *Numerical Methods* (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall), §7.4.

Kahaner, D., Moler, C., and Nash, S. 1989, *Numerical Methods and Software* (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice Hall), Chapter 5.

Forsythe, G.E., Malcolm, M.A., and Moler, C.B. 1977, *Computer Methods for Mathematical Computations* (Englewood Cliffs, NJ: Prentice-Hall), §5.2, p. 89. [1]

Davis, P., and Rabinowitz, P. 1984, *Methods of Numerical Integration*, 2nd ed. (Orlando, FL: Academic Press).

4.1 Classical Formulas for Equally Spaced Abscissas

Where would any book on numerical analysis be without Mr. Simpson and his "rule"? The classical formulas for integrating a function whose value is known at equally spaced steps have a certain elegance about them, and they are redolent with historical association. Through them, the modern numerical analyst communes with the spirits of his or her predecessors back across the centuries, as far as the time of Newton, if not farther. Alas, times *do* change; with the exception of two of the most modest formulas ("extended trapezoidal rule," equation 4.1.11, and "extended

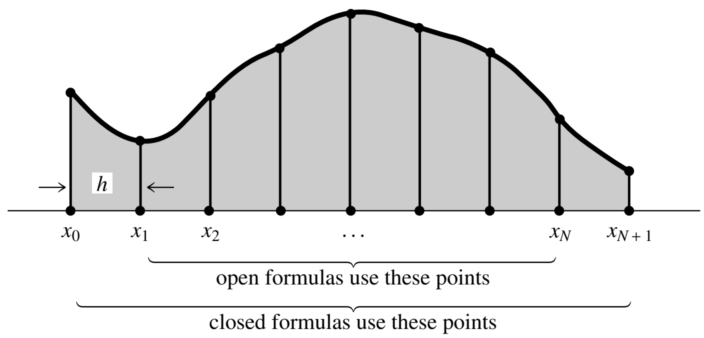

Figure 4.1.1. Quadrature formulas with equally spaced abscissas compute the integral of a function between x_0 and x_{N+1}. Closed formulas evaluate the function on the boundary points, while open formulas refrain from doing so (useful if the evaluation algorithm breaks down on the boundary points).

midpoint rule," equation 4.1.19, see §4.2), the classical formulas are almost entirely useless. They are museum pieces, but beautiful ones.

Some notation: We have a sequence of abscissas, denoted $x_0, x_1, \ldots, x_N$, x_{N+1} which are spaced apart by a constant step h,

$$x_i = x_0 + ih \qquad i = 0, 1, \ldots, N+1 \tag{4.1.1}$$

A function $f(x)$ has known values at the x_i's,

$$f(x_i) \equiv f_i \tag{4.1.2}$$

We want to integrate the function $f(x)$ between a lower limit a and an upper limit b, where a and b are each equal to one or the other of the x_i's. An integration formula that uses the value of the function at the endpoints, $f(a)$ or $f(b)$, is called a *closed* formula. Occasionally, we want to integrate a function whose value at one or both endpoints is difficult to compute (e.g., the computation of f goes to a limit of zero over zero there, or worse yet has an integrable singularity there). In this case we want an *open* formula, which estimates the integral using only x_i's strictly *between* a and b (see Figure 4.1.1).

The basic building blocks of the classical formulas are rules for integrating a function over a small number of intervals. As that number increases, we can find rules that are exact for polynomials of increasingly high order. (Keep in mind that higher order does not always imply higher accuracy in real cases.) A sequence of such closed formulas is now given.

Closed Newton-Cotes Formulas

Trapezoidal rule:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{1}{2}f_1 + \frac{1}{2}f_2\right] \quad + O(h^3 f'') \tag{4.1.3}$$

Here the error term $O(\ )$ signifies that the true answer differs from the estimate by an amount that is the product of some numerical coefficient times h^3 times the value of the function's second derivative somewhere in the interval of integration. The coefficient is knowable, and it can be found in all the standard references on this subject. The point at which the second derivative is to be evaluated is, however, unknowable. If we knew it, we could evaluate the function there and have a higher-order method! Since the product of a knowable and an unknowable is unknowable, we will streamline our formulas and write only $O(\ )$, instead of the coefficient.

Equation (4.1.3) is a two-point formula (x_1 and x_2). It is exact for polynomials up to and including degree 1, i.e., $f(x) = x$. One anticipates that there is a three-point formula exact up to polynomials of degree 2. This is true; moreover, by a cancellation of coefficients due to left-right symmetry of the formula, the three-point formula is exact for polynomials up to and including degree 3, i.e., $f(x) = x^3$:

Simpson's rule:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_3} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{1}{3}f_1 + \frac{4}{3}f_2 + \frac{1}{3}f_3\right] \quad + O(h^5 f^{(4)}) \tag{4.1.4}$$

Here $f^{(4)}$ means the fourth derivative of the function f evaluated at an unknown place in the interval. Note also that the formula gives the integral over an interval of size $2h$, so the coefficients add up to 2.

There is no lucky cancellation in the four-point formula, so it is also exact for polynomials up to and including degree 3.

Simpson's $\frac{3}{8}$ rule:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_4} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{3}{8}f_1 + \frac{9}{8}f_2 + \frac{9}{8}f_3 + \frac{3}{8}f_4\right] \quad + O(h^5 f^{(4)}) \tag{4.1.5}$$

The five-point formula again benefits from a cancellation:

Bode's rule:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_5} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{14}{45}f_1 + \frac{64}{45}f_2 + \frac{24}{45}f_3 + \frac{64}{45}f_4 + \frac{14}{45}f_5\right] \quad + O(h^7 f^{(6)}) \tag{4.1.6}$$

This is exact for polynomials up to and including degree 5.

At this point the formulas stop being named after famous personages, so we will not go any further. Consult [1] for additional formulas in the sequence.

Extrapolative Formulas for a Single Interval

We are going to depart from historical practice for a moment. Many texts would give, at this point, a sequence of "Newton-Cotes Formulas of Open Type." Here is an example:

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_5} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{55}{24}f_1 + \frac{5}{24}f_2 + \frac{5}{24}f_3 + \frac{55}{24}f_4\right] \quad + O(h^5 f^{(4)})$$

Notice that the integral from $a = x_0$ to $b = x_5$ is estimated, using only the interior points x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4. In our opinion, formulas of this type are not useful for the reasons that (i) they cannot usefully be strung together to get "extended" rules, as we are about to do with the closed formulas, and (ii) for all other possible uses they are dominated by the Gaussian integration formulas which we will introduce in §4.5.

Instead of the Newton-Cotes open formulas, let us set out the formulas for estimating the integral in the single interval from x_0 to x_1, using values of the function f at $x_1, x_2, \ldots$. These will be useful building blocks for the "extended" open formulas.

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} f(x)dx = h[f_1] \quad + O(h^2 f') \tag{4.1.7}$$

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{3}{2}f_1 - \frac{1}{2}f_2\right] \quad + O(h^3 f'') \tag{4.1.8}$$

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{23}{12}f_1 - \frac{16}{12}f_2 + \frac{5}{12}f_3\right] \quad + O(h^4 f^{(3)}) \tag{4.1.9}$$

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{55}{24}f_1 - \frac{59}{24}f_2 + \frac{37}{24}f_3 - \frac{9}{24}f_4\right] \quad + O(h^5 f^{(4)}) \tag{4.1.10}$$

Perhaps a word here would be in order about how formulas like the above can be derived. There are elegant ways, but the most straightforward is to write down the basic form of the formula, replacing the numerical coefficients with unknowns, say p, q, r, s. Without loss of generality take $x_0 = 0$ and $x_1 = 1$, so $h = 1$. Substitute in turn for $f(x)$ (and for f_1, f_2, f_3, f_4) the functions $f(x) = 1$, $f(x) = x$, $f(x) = x^2$, and $f(x) = x^3$. Doing the integral in each case reduces the left-hand side to a number, and the right-hand side to a linear equation for the unknowns p, q, r, s. Solving the four equations produced in this way gives the coefficients.

Extended Formulas (Closed)

If we use equation (4.1.3) $N - 1$ times, to do the integration in the intervals $(x_1, x_2), (x_2, x_3), \ldots, (x_{N-1}, x_N)$, and then add the results, we obtain an "extended" or "composite" formula for the integral from x_1 to x_N.

Extended trapezoidal rule:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{1}{2}f_1 + f_2 + f_3 + \cdots + f_{N-1} + \frac{1}{2}f_N\right] \quad + O\left(\frac{(b-a)^3 f''}{N^2}\right) \tag{4.1.11}$$

Here we have written the error estimate in terms of the interval $b - a$ and the number of points N instead of in terms of h. This is clearer, since one is usually holding a and b fixed and wanting to know (e.g.) how much the error will be decreased by taking twice as many steps (in this case, it is by a factor of 4). In subsequent equations we will show *only* the scaling of the error term with the number of steps.

For reasons that will not become clear until §4.2, equation (4.1.11) is in fact the most important equation in this section, the basis for most practical quadrature schemes.

The *extended formula of order* $1/N^3$ is:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\Bigg[\frac{5}{12}f_1 + \frac{13}{12}f_2 + f_3 + f_4 + \cdots + f_{N-2} + \frac{13}{12}f_{N-1} + \frac{5}{12}f_N\Bigg] + O\left(\frac{1}{N^3}\right) \tag{4.1.12}$$

(We will see in a moment where this comes from.)

If we apply equation (4.1.4) to successive, nonoverlapping *pairs* of intervals, we get the *extended Simpson's rule:*

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\Bigg[\frac{1}{3}f_1 + \frac{4}{3}f_2 + \frac{2}{3}f_3 + \frac{4}{3}f_4 + \cdots + \frac{2}{3}f_{N-2} + \frac{4}{3}f_{N-1} + \frac{1}{3}f_N\Bigg] + O\left(\frac{1}{N^4}\right) \tag{4.1.13}$$

Notice that the 2/3, 4/3 alternation continues throughout the interior of the evaluation. Many people believe that the wobbling alternation somehow contains deep information about the integral of their function that is not apparent to mortal eyes. In fact, the alternation is an artifact of using the building block (4.1.4). Another extended formula with the same order as Simpson's rule is

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\Bigg[\frac{3}{8}f_1 + \frac{7}{6}f_2 + \frac{23}{24}f_3 + f_4 + f_5 + \cdots + f_{N-4} + f_{N-3} + \frac{23}{24}f_{N-2} + \frac{7}{6}f_{N-1} + \frac{3}{8}f_N\Bigg] + O\left(\frac{1}{N^4}\right) \tag{4.1.14}$$

This equation is constructed by fitting cubic polynomials through successive groups of four points; we defer details to §18.3, where a similar technique is used in the solution of integral equations. We can, however, tell you where equation (4.1.12) came from. It is Simpson's extended rule, averaged with a modified version of itself in which the first and last step are done with the trapezoidal rule (4.1.3). The trapezoidal step is *two* orders lower than Simpson's rule; however, its contribution to the integral goes down as an additional power of N (since it is used only twice, not N times). This makes the resulting formula of degree *one* less than Simpson.

Extended Formulas (Open and Semi-open)

We can construct open and semi-open extended formulas by adding the closed formulas (4.1.11)–(4.1.14), evaluated for the second and subsequent steps, to the extrapolative open formulas for the first step, (4.1.7)–(4.1.10). As discussed immediately above, it is consistent to use an end step that is of one order lower than the (repeated) interior step. The resulting formulas for an interval open at both ends are as follows:

Equations (4.1.7) and (4.1.11) give

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{3}{2}f_2 + f_3 + f_4 + \cdots + f_{N-2} + \frac{3}{2}f_{N-1}\right] \quad + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right) \tag{4.1.15}$$

Equations (4.1.8) and (4.1.12) give

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\Bigg[&\frac{23}{12}f_2 + \frac{7}{12}f_3 + f_4 + f_5 + \\ &\cdots + f_{N-3} + \frac{7}{12}f_{N-2} + \frac{23}{12}f_{N-1}\Bigg] \\ &+ O\left(\frac{1}{N^3}\right)\end{aligned} \tag{4.1.16}$$

Equations (4.1.9) and (4.1.13) give

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\Bigg[&\frac{27}{12}f_2 + 0 + \frac{13}{12}f_4 + \frac{4}{3}f_5 + \\ &\cdots + \frac{4}{3}f_{N-4} + \frac{13}{12}f_{N-3} + 0 + \frac{27}{12}f_{N-1}\Bigg] \\ &+ O\left(\frac{1}{N^4}\right)\end{aligned} \tag{4.1.17}$$

The interior points alternate 4/3 and 2/3. If we want to avoid this alternation, we can combine equations (4.1.9) and (4.1.14), giving

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\Bigg[&\frac{55}{24}f_2 - \frac{1}{6}f_3 + \frac{11}{8}f_4 + f_5 + f_6 + f_7 + \\ &\cdots + f_{N-5} + f_{N-4} + \frac{11}{8}f_{N-3} - \frac{1}{6}f_{N-2} + \frac{55}{24}f_{N-1}\Bigg] \\ &+ O\left(\frac{1}{N^4}\right)\end{aligned} \tag{4.1.18}$$

We should mention in passing another extended open formula, for use where the limits of integration are located halfway between tabulated abscissas. This one is known as the *extended midpoint rule*, and is accurate to the same order as (4.1.15):

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h[&f_{3/2} + f_{5/2} + f_{7/2} + \\ &\cdots + f_{N-3/2} + f_{N-1/2}] \quad + O\left(\frac{1}{N^2}\right)\end{aligned} \tag{4.1.19}$$

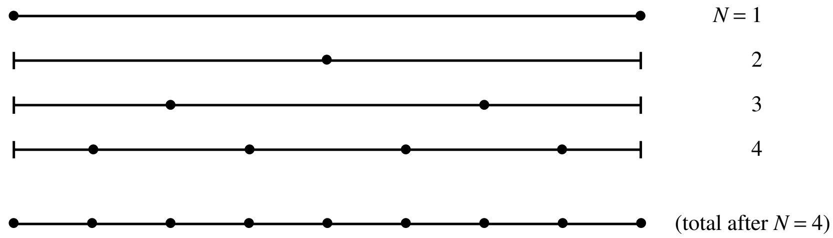

Figure 4.2.1. Sequential calls to the routine trapzd incorporate the information from previous calls and evaluate the integrand only at those new points necessary to refine the grid. The bottom line shows the totality of function evaluations after the fourth call. The routine qsimp, by weighting the intermediate results, transforms the trapezoid rule into Simpson's rule with essentially no additional overhead.

There are also formulas of higher order for this situation, but we will refrain from giving them.

The *semi-open formulas* are just the obvious combinations of equations (4.1.11)–(4.1.14) with (4.1.15)–(4.1.18), respectively. At the closed end of the integration, use the weights from the former equations; at the open end use the weights from the latter equations. One example should give the idea, the formula with error term decreasing as $1/N^3$ which is closed on the right and open on the left:

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_N} f(x)dx = h\left[\frac{23}{12}f_2 + \frac{7}{12}f_3 + f_4 + f_5 + \cdots + f_{N-2} + \frac{13}{12}f_{N-1} + \frac{5}{12}f_N\right] + O\left(\frac{1}{N^3}\right) \qquad (4.1.20)$$

CITED REFERENCES AND FURTHER READING:

Abramowitz, M., and Stegun, I.A. 1964, *Handbook of Mathematical Functions*, Applied Mathematics Series, Volume 55 (Washington: National Bureau of Standards; reprinted 1968 by Dover Publications, New York), §25.4. [1]

Isaacson, E., and Keller, H.B. 1966, *Analysis of Numerical Methods* (New York: Wiley), §7.1.

4.2 Elementary Algorithms

Our starting point is equation (4.1.11), the extended trapezoidal rule. There are two facts about the trapezoidal rule which make it the starting point for a variety of algorithms. One fact is rather obvious, while the second is rather "deep."

The obvious fact is that, for a fixed function $f(x)$ to be integrated between fixed limits a and b, one can double the number of intervals in the extended trapezoidal rule without losing the benefit of previous work. The coarsest implementation of the trapezoidal rule is to average the function at its endpoints a and b. The first stage of refinement is to add to this average the value of the function at the halfway point. The second stage of refinement is to add the values at the 1/4 and 3/4 points. And so on (see Figure 4.2.1).

Without further ado we can write a routine with this kind of logic to it: