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Gaussian Quadrature: N-point Gauss Rule; $G_N(f) = \sum_{i=1}^N A_i f(\xi_i)$
of precision $2N-1$

approximates integrals of the form $I(f) = \int_a^b w(x) \cdot f(x) dx$

for finite or infinite (a, b)

and various cont's weight functions $w(x) \geq 0$

e.g. $\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx$, $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} f(x) dx$, $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} f(x) dx, \dots$

Given an interval (a, b) and a continuous weight function $w(x) \geq 0$,

we choose nodes ξ_i and coefficients (weights) A_i so that the

N-point Gauss Rule $G_N(f) = \sum_{i=1}^N A_i \cdot f(\xi_i)$ is exact for polynomials of deg $\leq 2N-1$
(of precision $2N-1$)

That this can be done, and how, is not obvious at all!

but it is possible thanks to orthogonal polynomials (and Gauss's ingenuity)

Facts: Given (a, b) and $w(x) \geq 0$, there exists a sequence of polynomials $\{P_n(x)\}_{n=0,1,\dots}$
 $P_n(x)$ has degree n and has n distinct zeros in (a, b) , and they are

orthogonal in $L_w^2(a, b)$: $\int_a^b w(x) P_k(x) P_l(x) dx = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } k \neq l \\ \neq 0 & \text{if } k = l \end{cases}$

Therefore $\{P_0, P_1, \dots, P_N\}$ forms a basis for the vector space of polynomials of deg $\leq N$
in $L_w^2(a, b)$.

Turns out that for an N-point Gauss Rule, the nodes ξ_i must be the zeros of $P_N(x)$
and the weights A_i can be found in terms of these ξ_i 's:

$$A_i = \int_a^b w(x) \left[\prod_{j=1}^N \frac{x - \xi_j}{\xi_i - \xi_j} \right]^2 dx$$

Thus, for each (a, b) , $w(x)$ the ξ_i and A_i need to be found once and be tabulated!

Standard families: Legendre for $\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx$, Chebyshev for $\int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} f(x) dx$,

Laguerre for $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} f(x) dx$, Hermite for $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} f(x) dx$.

With composite Gauss rules we can choose low N on many subintervals.

Advantages: 1. Few function evaluations needed (but at weird points ξ_i) for high accuracy. Most efficient of all quadrature rules!

2. Can approximate improper integrals that other methods cannot touch

Standard intervals: only need \int_{-1}^1 , \int_0^∞ , $\int_{-\infty}^0$, any \int_a^b can be transformed to one of these

Any \int_a^b with finite a, b can be transformed to \int_{-1}^1 : $x = \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{2} \cdot t$, $-1 \leq t \leq 1$

Any $\int_a^\infty \rightarrow \int_0^\infty$, $x-a=t$
 any $\int_{-\infty}^b \rightarrow \int_0^\infty$, $b-x=t$

e.g. $\int_{-2}^3 (x^2+1) \cdot \cos 4x \, dx$ (set $x = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{5}{2}t$, $dx = \frac{5}{2}dt$) $= \frac{5}{2} \int_{-1}^1 \left[\left(\frac{1+5t}{2} \right)^2 + 1 \right] \cdot \cos \left(4 \left(\frac{1+5t}{2} \right) \right) dt$

e.g. 1-point Gauss-Legendre: $\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \, dx \approx G_1(f) = A \cdot f(\xi)$, of precision $2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 1$

so exact for $f(x) = 1$ and $f(x) = x$:

For $f(x) = 1$: want $A \cdot 1 = \int_{-1}^1 1 \cdot dx = 2$. For $f(x) = x$ want $A \cdot \xi = \int_{-1}^1 x \, dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{-1}^1 = 0$

$\Rightarrow A = 2, \xi = 0$, so the 1-pt rule is $G_1(f) = 2 f(0)$, of precision 1, like Trapezoids

$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \, dx \approx G_1(f) = 2 \cdot f(0)$ open rule

e.g. 2-point Gauss-Legendre: $\int_{-1}^1 f(x) \, dx \approx G_2(f) = A_1 f(\xi_1) + A_2 f(\xi_2)$, of precision $2 \cdot 2 - 1 = 3$

should be exact for $1, x, x^2, x^3$: $\begin{cases} A_1 + A_2 = 2 & = \int_{-1}^1 dx \\ A_1 \xi_1 + A_2 \xi_2 = 0 & = \int_{-1}^1 x \, dx = \frac{x^2}{2} \Big|_{-1}^1 = 0 \\ A_1 \xi_1^2 + A_2 \xi_2^2 = \frac{2}{3} & = \int_{-1}^1 x^2 \, dx = \frac{x^3}{3} \Big|_{-1}^1 \\ A_1 \xi_1^3 + A_2 \xi_2^3 = 0 & = \int_{-1}^1 x^3 \, dx = \frac{x^4}{4} \Big|_{-1}^1 \end{cases}$

nonlinear system for A_1, A_2, ξ_1, ξ_2
 unclear if solvable, how many sols

Instead of $\{x^n\}$, use the Legendre polys: $L_0(x) = 1, L_1(x) = x, L_2 = \frac{3}{2}(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}), L_3 = \frac{5}{2}(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x)$

which are orthogonal in $L^2(-1, 1)$:

for $f(x) = L_0(x)$: $A_1 + A_2 = 2$

$L_1(x)$: $A_1 \xi_1 + A_2 \xi_2 = 0$

$L_2(x)$: $A_1 \cdot \frac{3}{2}(\xi_1^2 - \frac{1}{3}) + A_2 \cdot \frac{3}{2}(\xi_2^2 - \frac{1}{3}) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{3}{2}(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}) \, dx = \dots = \frac{3}{2}(\frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3}) = 0$

$L_3(x)$: $A_1 \cdot \frac{5}{2}(\xi_1^3 - \frac{3}{5}\xi_1) + A_2 \cdot \frac{5}{2}(\xi_2^3 - \frac{3}{5}\xi_2) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{5}{2}(x^3 - \frac{3}{5}x) \, dx = \dots = 0$

$\Rightarrow \xi_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \xi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}$, then $A_1 + A_2 = 2$
 $A_1 - A_2 = 0 \Rightarrow A_1 = 1, A_2 = 1$

last equ: $1 \cdot \frac{5}{2}(-3^{-3/2} + \frac{3}{5} \cdot 3^{-1/2}) + 1 \cdot \frac{5}{2}(+3^{-3/2} - \frac{3}{5} \cdot 3^{-1/2}) \equiv 0!$

$\therefore \boxed{GL_2(f) = f(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) + f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}})}$ the 2-pt Gauss-Legendre rule has precision 3, exact up to cubics! like Simpson using only 2 evaluations!

Standard Gauss Quadrature Rules: N -point rule for $I(f) = \int_a^b w(x)f(x)dx$

$$G_N(f) = \sum_{i=1}^N A_i \cdot f(\xi_i), \text{ of precision } 2N-1. \text{ Nodes } \xi_i \text{ and weights } A_i \text{ are tabulated for several } N$$

1. Gauss-Legendre for $I(f) = \int_{-1}^1 f(x)dx$. Here $(a, b) = (-1, 1)$, $w(x) \equiv 1$

nodes $\{\xi_i\}_1^N$ are the zeros of the Legendre poly. $L_N(x)$.

$$L_0(x) = 1, L_1(x) = x, L_2(x) = \frac{3}{2}(x^2 - \frac{1}{3}), L_3(x) = \frac{1}{2}(5x^3 - 3x), \dots$$

$$\text{For } N=2: \xi_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, \xi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}, A_1 = A_2 = 1.$$

2. Gauss-Chebyshev for $I(f) = \int_{-1}^1 \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}} f(x)dx$. Here $(a, b) = (-1, 1)$, $w(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{1-x^2}}$

nodes $\{\xi_i\}$ are the zeros of Chebyshev polynomials $T_N(x) = \cos(N \arccos x)$:

$$T_0(x) = 1, T_1(x) = x, T_2(x) = 2x^2 - 1, T_3(x) = 4x^3 - 3x, \dots$$

$$\text{For } N=2: \xi_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \xi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, A_1 = A_2 = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

3. Gauss-Laguerre for $I(f) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} \cdot f(x)dx$. Here $(a, b) = (0, \infty)$, $w(x) = e^{-x}$.

nodes $\{\xi_i\}$ are the zeros of Laguerre polynomials $Q_N(x)$:

$$Q_0(x) = 1, Q_1(x) = 1-x, Q_2(x) = x^2 - 4x + 2, Q_3(x) = -x^3 + 9x^2 - 18x + 6, \dots$$

$$\text{For } N=2: \xi_1 = 2 - \sqrt{2}, \xi_2 = 2 + \sqrt{2}, A_1 = 0.85355\dots, A_2 = 0.14644\dots$$

4. Gauss-Hermite for $I(f) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} f(x)dx$. Here $(a, b) = (-\infty, \infty)$, $w(x) = e^{-x^2}$

nodes $\{\xi_i\}$ are the zeros of Hermite polynomials $H_N(x)$:

$$H_0(x) = 1, H_1(x) = 4x, H_2(x) = 4x^2 - 2, H_3(x) = 8x^3 - 12x, \dots$$

$$\text{For } N=2: \xi_1 = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \xi_2 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, A_1 = A_2 = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \approx 0.88622\dots$$

5. Gauss-Kronrod adaptive, very high precision $3N+1$!!!

uses G_N and $K_{2N+1} (= G_N + \sum_{i=1}^{N+1} b_i f(\xi_i))$, reuses nodes of G_N

estimates the error by $(200 \cdot |G_N - K_{2N+1}|)^{3/2}$

Efficient, high accuracy, provides error estimate

netlib/quadpack/qk61.f for $\int_a^b f(x)dx$, uses G_{30} and K_{61}

Matlab, octave: `quadgk(@FCN, a, b, tol)`

Examples of Gaussian Quadrature

Ex. 1: $I = \int_{-1}^1 (3x^2 - 2x + 5) dx = 12$

1-pt $GL_1 = 2f(0) = 2 \cdot 5 = 10$ it's off, has precision 1

2-pt $GL_2 = f(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) + f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) = (3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} + 5) + (3 \cdot \frac{1}{3} - \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}} + 5) = 2 + 10 = 12$ exact!
 GL_2 has precision 3

Ex. 2: $I = \int_{-1}^3 x^x dx$. Transform to \int_{-1}^1 : set $x = \frac{1+3}{2} + \frac{3-1}{2} \cdot t = 2+t$, $dx = dt$

$= \int_{-1}^1 (2+t)^{2+t} dt$. $GL_2 = f(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) + f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}) \approx \dots = 13.125831$
 $GL_6 = \dots \approx 13.725105$

To get same accuracy, Trap. needs 8193 evaluations, Simpson needs 129.

Ex. 3: $I = \int_0^\infty e^{-x} \sin x dx = \frac{1}{2}$, Use Gauss-Laguerre

$GLag_6(f) = \sum_{i=1}^6 A_i f(\xi_i)$ with tabulated A_i, ξ_i produces 0.500049475 remarkably good accuracy with only 6 evaluations!

Ex. 4: $I = \int_{-\infty}^\infty x^2 e^{-x^2} dx = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$. Use Gauss-Hermite with 2 pts

$GH_2(f) = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \cdot [f(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) + f(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})] = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2} \cdot [(-\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^2 + (\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^2] = \frac{\sqrt{\pi}}{2}$, exact!

exact value because 2-pt rule has precision 3, exact up to cubic $f(x)$!

Improper integrals

- I. ∞ limits: transform to $\int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} f(x) dx$ and use Gauss-Laguerre
or to $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-x^2} f(x) dx$ and use Gauss-Hermite

Weight function can be inserted (if not present already):

e.g.
$$\int_0^{\infty} g(x) dx = \int_0^{\infty} e^{-x} \cdot \underbrace{[e^x g(x)]}_{f(x)} dx$$

- II. singularity in (a, b) : split off the singularity: $\int_{x_0-\varepsilon}^{x_0+\varepsilon}$, approximate via Taylor
the rest $\left(\int_a^{x_0-\varepsilon}, \int_{x_0+\varepsilon}^b \right)$ by some standard rule.
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Multiple integrals (high dimensional) not easy!

1. Double or triple integrals or low dimensions:
apply Fubini Thm to transform to iterated integrals, then Trapez. or Simpson
2. (Very) high dimensional; Monte Carlo Integration

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\Omega} f(x) dV &\approx \text{vol}(\Omega) \cdot (\text{average of } f \text{ over } N \text{ random points in } \Omega) \\ &= \text{vol}(\Omega) \cdot \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N f(x_i) \end{aligned}$$