

① Trapezoidal Rule → This is the numerical integration method.

Numerical Integration → Given a set of datapoints $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1) \dots (x_n, y_n)$ of a function $y=f(x)$, where $f(x)$ is not known explicitly, it is required to compute the value of definite integral.

$$I = \int_a^b y \, dx \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

We derive in this section a general formula for numerical integration using Newton's forward difference formula.

Let the interval $[a, b]$ be divided into n equal subintervals such that $a = x_0 < x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n = b$. Clearly $x_n = x_0 + nh$. Hence the integral becomes.

$$I = \int_{x_0}^{x_n} y \, dx \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

Now approximately by Newton's forward difference formula we obtain,

$$I = \int_{x_0}^{x_n} \left[y_0 + p \Delta y_0 + \frac{p(p+1)}{2} \Delta^2 y_0 + \frac{p(p+1)(p+2)}{6} \Delta^3 y_0 + \dots \right] dx$$

Since $x = x_0 + ph$, $dx = h \, dp$ so the integral becomes.

$$I = h \int_0^n \left[y_0 + p \Delta y_0 + \frac{p(p+1)}{2} \Delta^2 y_0 + \frac{p(p+1)(p+2)}{6} \Delta^3 y_0 + \dots \right] dp$$

By simplifying this equation,

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_n} y \, dx = nh \left[y_0 + \frac{h}{2} \Delta y_0 + \frac{h(2h-3)}{12} \Delta^2 y_0 + \frac{h(h-2)}{24} \Delta^3 y_0 + \dots \right]$$

From this general formula, we can obtain different integration formulae by putting $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ etc.

Now we come to trapezoidal Rule.

Put $n=1$ in eq. (3)

$$\begin{aligned}\int_{x_0}^{x_1} y \, dx &= h \left(y_0 + \frac{1}{2} \Delta y_0 \right) \\ &= h \left[y_0 + \frac{1}{2} (y_1 - y_0) \right] \\ &= \frac{h}{2} (y_0 + y_1) \quad \text{--- (4)}\end{aligned}$$

for next interval $[x_1, x_2]$ we deduce similarly,

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} y \, dx = \frac{h}{2} (y_1 + y_2) \quad \text{--- (5)}$$

for the last interval $[x_{n-1}, x_n]$ we have.

$$\int_{x_{n-1}}^{x_n} y \, dx = \frac{h}{2} (y_{n-1} + y_n) \quad \text{--- (6)}$$

Now combining all expressions, we find the rule.

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_n} y \, dx = \frac{h}{2} \left[y_0 + 2(y_1 + y_2 + \dots + y_{n-1}) + y_n \right] \quad \text{--- (7)}$$

Equation (7) is known as trapezoidal Rule.

The geometrical significance of this rule is that the curve $y = f(x)$ is replaced by n straight lines joining the points (x_0, y_0) and (x_1, y_1) , (x_1, y_1) and (x_2, y_2) and (x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}) and (x_n, y_n) .

The area bounded by the curve $y=f(x)$, the ordinates $x=x_0$ and $x=x_n$ and the x -axis is then approximately equivalent to the sum of the areas of the n trapeziums obtained.

Error estimation of the trapezoidal formula-

Let $y=f(x)$ be continuous, well-behaved and possess continuous derivatives in $[x_0, x_n]$. Now expanding y in a Taylor's series around $x=x_0$.

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} y dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} \left[y_0 + (x-x_0)y'_0 + \frac{(x-x_0)^2}{2!} y''_0 + \dots \right] dx$$

$$= hy_0 + \frac{h^2}{2} y'_0 + \frac{h^3}{6} y''_0 + \dots \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

Similarly,

$$\frac{h}{2}(y_0 + y_1) = \frac{h}{2} \left(y_0 + y_0 + hy'_0 + \frac{h^2}{2} y''_0 + \frac{h^3}{6} y'''_0 + \dots \right)$$

$$= hy_0 + \frac{h^2}{2} y'_0 + \frac{h^3}{4} y''_0 \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

From eq. (1) and (2),

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_1} y dx - \frac{h}{2}(y_0 + y_1) = -\frac{1}{12} h^3 y''_0 + \dots \quad \text{--- (3)}$$

this is the error in the interval $[x_0, x_1]$

$$E = -\frac{1}{12} h^3 (y''_0 + y''_1 + \dots + y''_{n-1}) \quad \text{--- (4)}$$

where E is the total error.

Newton-Cotes Integration formulae → Let the

interpolation points x_i be equally spaced, i.e.,
let $x_i = x_0 + ih$, $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$, and let the end
points of the interval of integration be placed
such that $x_0 = a$, $x_n = b$, $h = \frac{b-a}{n}$
then the definite integral,

$$I = \int_a^b y dx \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

is evaluated by an integration formula of
the type.

$$I_n = \sum_{i=0}^n C_i y_i \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

eq. (2) is known as Newton-Cotes closed
integration formulae. They are closed since
the end points a and b are the extreme
abscissae in the formulae.

On the other hand, formulae which do
not employ the end points are called Newton-
Cotes open integration formulae. Here are given
below the five simplest Newton-Cotes open
integration formulae.

$$(a) \int_{x_0}^{x_2} y dx = 2hy_1 + \frac{h^3}{3} y''(\bar{x}); \quad (x_0 < \bar{x} < x_2)$$

$$(b) \int_{x_0}^{x_3} y dx = \frac{3h}{2} (y_1 + y_2) + \frac{3h^3}{4} y''(\bar{x}); \quad (x_0 < \bar{x} < x_3)$$

$$(c) \int_{x_0}^{x_4} y dx = \frac{4h}{3} (2y_1 + y_2 + 2y_3) + \frac{14}{45} h^5 y^{(4)}(\bar{x}) \\ (x_0 < \bar{x} < x_4)$$

$$(d) \int_{x_0}^{x_5} y dx = \frac{5h}{24} (11y_1 + y_2 + y_3 + 11y_4) \\ + \frac{95}{144} h^5 y^{(4)}(\bar{x}), \quad (x_0 < \bar{x} < x_5)$$