

Formally Verified Approximations of Definite Integrals

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Numerical Integrals in Modern Math Proofs

- **Double bubbles minimize** (Hass, Hutchings, Schlafly 1995):
“The proof parameterizes the space of possible solutions by a two-dimensional rectangle [...]. This rectangle is subdivided into 15,016 smaller rectangles which are investigated by calculations involving a total of 51,256 **numerical integrals**.”
- **Ternary Goldbach Conjecture** (Helfgott 2013):

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{(0.5 \cdot \log(\tau^2 + 2.25) + 4.1396 + \log \pi)^2}{0.25 + \tau^2}$$

“We compute the last integral **numerically** (from -100,000 to 100,000)”.



Questions

Tags

Users

Badges

Unanswered

Rigorous numerical integration



I need to evaluate some (one-variable) integrals that neither SAGE nor Mathematica can do symbolically. As far as I can tell, I have two options:

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(a) Use GSL (via SAGE), Maxima or Mathematica to do numerical integration. This is really a non-option, since, if I understand correctly, the "error bound" they give is not really a guarantee.



2

(b) Cobble together my own programs using the trapezoidal rule, Simpson's rule, etc., and get rigorous error bounds using bounds I have for the second (or fourth, or what have you) derivative of the function I am integrating. This is what I have been doing.

Is there a third option? Is there standard software that does (b) for me?

[na.numerical-analysis](#)

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asked Mar 5 '13 at 23:03



H A Helfgott

3,141 ● 17 ● 61

Integrals

Most often, integral estimation \neq symbolic resolution
e.g., Rump Integral:

$$\int_0^8 \sin(x + \exp x) dx$$

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We need numerical methods to get estimates.

Problem Description

Compute

$$A \leq \int_u^v f(t) dt \leq B$$

knowing:

- $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ Riemann-integrable on $[u, v]$;
- $[u, v]$ compact interval of \mathbb{R} ;
- interval extension and/or polynomial approximation of f ...

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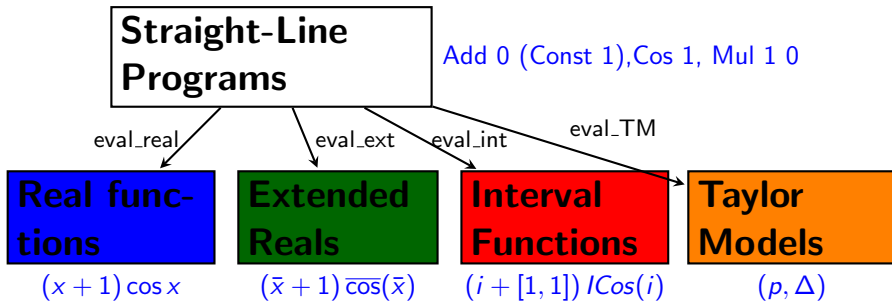
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Bonus: automatically deduce integrability as well

Example for

$$\int_a^b (x + 1) \cos x$$



Even Rigorous Methods Can Fail

In 2013, H. Helfgott asks for a rigorous integration tool on Mathoverflow.



One of the integrals he gives as an example is

$$\int_0^1 |(x^4 + 10x^3 + 19x^2 - 6x - 6) \exp x| dx \simeq 11.14731055005714 \text{ (Coq)}$$

The selected answer is INTLAB (Rump, INTerval LABoratory). INTLAB gives (until May 2016 :-)) 11.147 **68687134154** without warning when asked for absolute precision 10^{-15} . Other quadrature methods fail.

Mistake in the proof of the Ternary Goldbach Conjecture

$$\begin{aligned} \sqrt{\int_{-\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\sigma} \left| \frac{L(s, \chi)}{L(s, 1)} \cdot \frac{1}{s} \right| |ds|} &\leq \sqrt{\int_{-\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{\sigma} \left| \frac{\log q}{s} \right| |ds|} \\ &+ \sqrt{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{\left| \frac{1}{2} \log \left(\tau^2 + \frac{9}{4} \right) + 4.1396 + \log \pi \right|^2}{\frac{1}{4} + \tau^2} d\tau} \\ &\leq \sqrt{2\pi} \log q + \sqrt{226.844}, \end{aligned}$$

where we compute the last integral numerically⁴

Assia, we use the fact that, by [973], $\omega_G(s)$ is the Mellin transform of

⁴By a rigorous integration from $\tau = -100000$ to $\tau = 100000$ using VNODE-LP [Nvd03], which runs on the PROFIL/BIAS interval arithmetic package [Kni99].

Paper: 226.844

Coq: [226.849; 226.850]

The End

Thank you for your attention! Any questions?

Computation Time

Ahmed's integral (Mathematical Spectrum, 2015)

$$\int_0^1 \frac{\arctan \sqrt{x^2 + 2}}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2} (x^2 + 1)} dx = \frac{5\pi^2}{96}$$

Error	Time	Accuracy	Degree	Depth	Prec
10^{-3}	0.5	9	5	1	30
10^{-6}	1.2	19	7	3	30
10^{-9}	2.8	29	7	3	40
10^{-12}	5.5	39	10	3	50
10^{-15}	11.2	49	10	4	55

What it looks like in Coq

Prove

$$\left| \int_0^1 \frac{\arctan \sqrt{x^2 + 2}}{\sqrt{x^2 + 2} (x^2 + 1)} dx - \frac{5\pi^2}{96} \right| \leq 10^{-15}$$

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Lemma AhmedIntegral :

```
Rabs (RInt (fun x =>
  (atan(sqrt(x^2 + 2))) /
  ((sqrt(x^2 + 2)) * (x^2 + 1))) 0 1 - (5 * PI^2 / 96))
<= 1 / 10^15.
```

Proof.

```
Time interval with (i_integral_prec 49, i_integral_deg 10,
  i_integral_depth 4, i_prec 55).
```

```
(* Finished transaction in 6.357 secs (6.348u,0.004s) (
  successful)
```

```
*)
```

Qed.