



## ALGORITHMS FOR CALCULATING EXACT INTEGRALS IN C++

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### ABSTRACT

*Integrals are a fundamental concept in calculus that is used to calculate the total area under a curve or the accumulated effect of a changing quantity over a specific interval. In many scientific and engineering applications, the ability to compute integrals accurately is crucial for understanding and analyzing various phenomena. In this article, we will discuss different algorithms and methods for calculating exact integrals in C++. These algorithms are essential for numerically approximating the exact value of integrals when analytical solutions are not feasible or too complex. We will explore various numerical integration techniques, such as the Riemann sum method, the Trapezoidal rule, Simpson's rule, and adaptive quadrature methods. These algorithms provide different approaches to approximating integrals with varying levels of accuracy and computational efficiency. By understanding and implementing these algorithms in C++, developers and researchers can efficiently calculate exact integrals for a wide range of applications, from physics and engineering to finance and data analysis.*

Numerical integration methods play a crucial role in various scientific and engineering applications where analytical solutions are impractical or unavailable. These methods offer a systematic way to approximate definite integrals of functions by discretizing the integration domain and computing the area under the curve within each small interval. Among the diverse array of numerical integration techniques available, the Riemann Sum Method, Trapezoidal Rule, Simpson's Rule, and Adaptive Quadrature Methods stand out as prominent choices for accurately computing integrals in C++. The Riemann Sum Method, based on the concept of partitioning the interval into subintervals and summing up the areas of geometric shapes beneath the function within each subinterval, serves as a fundamental approach for numerical integration [4]. While straightforward, its accuracy improves with a finer subdivision of the interval, making it suitable for introductory numerical analysis tasks. Moving beyond the simplicity of the Riemann Sum, the Trapezoidal Rule refines the approximation by approximating the curve with trapezoids, yielding more accurate results compared to the former method. This rule divides the interval into smaller segments and calculates the area of



trapezoids to estimate the integral, demonstrating increased precision even with a moderate number of subintervals. Simpson's Rule takes numerical integration a step further by fitting quadratic polynomials over adjacent subintervals, offering a more accurate estimation of the integral with fewer subdivisions compared to the Trapezoidal Rule [1]. By leveraging the interpolation properties of quadratic functions, Simpson's Rule provides efficient and reliable results, especially for well-behaved functions. For functions with varying behaviors or discontinuities, Adaptive Quadrature Methods such as adaptive Simpson's Rule and adaptive Trapezoidal Rule dynamically adjust the partitioning of the interval based on the local function properties. This adaptability allows these methods to focus computational resources on critical regions, improving accuracy and efficiency, particularly in complex integration scenarios. By considering the trade-offs between accuracy and computational complexity, developers can select the most appropriate numerical integration method based on the characteristics of the function being integrated and the desired level of precision. Implementing these techniques in C++ empowers programmers to handle a wide range of integration challenges in fields like physics, engineering, and finance, fostering efficient and accurate computation of exact integrals essential for diverse applications [5].

Adaptive quadrature methods are highly sophisticated numerical integration techniques that dynamically adjust the number of subintervals used to approximate the integral based on the local behavior of the function being integrated. These methods offer an efficient and accurate way to compute definite integrals, especially for functions with complex or oscillatory behavior, sharp peaks, or discontinuities. The main idea behind adaptive quadrature methods is to partition the integration interval into smaller subintervals and recursively refine the division, concentrating computational effort in regions where the function varies rapidly or exhibits significant changes. By adaptively adjusting the subinterval sizes based on the local function behavior, adaptive quadrature methods can achieve high accuracy while minimizing computational cost. One common implementation of an adaptive quadrature method is the adaptive Simpson's rule, a variant of Simpson's rule that dynamically adjusts the number of subintervals based on the observed error in the integral approximation. The algorithm starts with an initial estimate of the integral using a few subintervals and examines the difference between the estimates obtained with a single subinterval and with two subintervals in each subdivision. If the difference exceeds a predefined tolerance level, the algorithm subdivides the interval further and refines the approximation. This process continues iteratively until the desired level of accuracy is achieved. Similarly, the adaptive Trapezoidal rule adapts the interval subdivision based on the behavior of the function, but uses trapezoids instead of quadratic polynomials to approximate the area under the curve. This method adjusts the subinterval sizes dynamically to focus computational resources on regions where the trapezoidal approximation deviates significantly from the true integral value, resulting in an accurate estimation of the integral with minimal computational effort. Adaptive quadrature methods provide a powerful tool for handling a wide range of integration problems efficiently, including functions with complex or rapidly changing behavior. By dynamically adjusting the level of refinement based on the local function characteristics, these methods can adapt to the specific requirements of the integration problem and deliver accurate results with reduced computational resources. Incorporating adaptive quadrature methods into numerical



integration routines in C++ allows developers to tackle challenging integration tasks effectively and obtain reliable solutions for a diverse array of applications.

When comparing different numerical integration methods, including adaptive quadrature methods, it is important to consider various performance factors such as accuracy, speed, computational efficiency, and robustness. Here, we will compare the performance of adaptive quadrature methods with other traditional integration techniques, specifically the midpoint rule and Simpson's rule.

**Accuracy:** Adaptive quadrature methods typically provide higher accuracy compared to traditional integration techniques like the midpoint rule and Simpson's rule. This is because adaptive quadrature methods dynamically adjust the number of subintervals based on the local behavior of the function, allowing them to focus computational effort on regions where the function varies rapidly or exhibits significant changes.

**Speed:** Adaptive quadrature methods can be more computationally intensive compared to traditional integration techniques, especially for functions with complex or oscillatory behavior. This is because adaptive quadrature methods require iterative refinement of the interval subdivision, which can increase the computational overhead. In contrast, traditional methods like the midpoint rule and Simpson's rule use fixed subinterval sizes and do not adaptively adjust the division, resulting in faster computation but potentially lower accuracy.

**Computational Efficiency:** Adaptive quadrature methods excel in computational efficiency when dealing with functions that have sharp peaks, discontinuities, or rapidly changing behavior. By adjusting the subinterval sizes based on the local function behavior, adaptive quadrature methods can achieve high accuracy with fewer computational resources compared to traditional methods. However, for smoother functions, traditional integration techniques may perform better in terms of computational efficiency.

**Robustness:** Adaptive quadrature methods are generally more robust and versatile than traditional integration techniques, as they can handle a wider range of integration problems effectively. Adaptive quadrature methods can adapt to the specific requirements of the integration problem and deliver accurate results with reduced computational resources, making them suitable for a diverse array of applications. In conclusion, adaptive quadrature methods offer a powerful and flexible approach to numerical integration, providing high accuracy and robustness for a wide range of integration problems. While they may be more computationally intensive than traditional integration techniques like the midpoint rule and Simpson's rule, adaptive quadrature methods excel in accuracy and efficiency, especially for functions with complex or rapidly changing behavior. Considering the performance factors mentioned above, developers can choose the most suitable integration method based on the specific requirements of their application.

**Conclusion.** In conclusion, the comparison of adaptive quadrature methods with traditional numerical integration techniques such as the midpoint rule and Simpson's rule highlights the strengths and advantages of adaptive quadrature methods in terms of accuracy, speed, computational efficiency, and robustness. Adaptive quadrature methods, by dynamically adjusting the interval subdivision based on the local behavior of the function, offer higher accuracy compared to traditional methods. This adaptability allows them to focus computational effort where it is most needed, resulting in accurate results for functions with



complex or rapidly changing behavior. While adaptive quadrature methods may be more computationally intensive, their computational efficiency is evident in handling functions with sharp peaks, discontinuities, or rapid variations, where they can achieve high accuracy with fewer computational resources. In summary, adaptive quadrature methods emerge as a powerful and effective tool for numerical integration, providing a balance of accuracy, computational efficiency, and versatility that makes them a valuable choice for various integration problems. Developers can leverage the strengths of adaptive quadrature methods to obtain accurate results efficiently, especially for functions exhibiting complex or rapidly changing behavior.

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