

1. Use Simpson's Rule with  $n = 100$  to estimate  $\int_0^1 \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} dt$ . *You may use a spreadsheet or a procedural computer language (generally, a language whose name doesn't include the word visual) to do the calculations. The spreadsheet or source for the program should be annotated enough so that the calculations are clear.*

**Solution:** The following is a quick-and-dirty C program that will do the calculation.

```
#include <stdio.h>
float f (float x)
{ return 2.0*x/(x*x+1) ; }
main()
{
    int a=0,b=1,n=100,i,factor=4;
    float sum,x,h;
    h=(float)(b-a)/n;
    x=a+h;
    sum=f(a)+f(b);
    for(i=1;i<n; i++)
    {
        sum += factor*f(x);
        x+=h;
        factor=6-factor;
    }
    sum*=h/3;
    printf("\nThe integral is approximately %1.16f\n",sum);
}
```

The output from this program is

The integral is approximately 0.6931470036506653

2. Use the formula given in class for the maximum error using Simpson's Rule to obtain a bound on the error in your calculations.

**Solution:** Letting  $f(t) = \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1}$ , we get:

$$f(t) = \frac{2(1 - t^2)}{(t^2 + 1)^2}$$

$$f'(t) = \frac{4t(t^2 - 3)}{(t^2 + 1)^3}$$

$$f''(t) = -\frac{12(t^4 - 6t^2 + 1)}{(t^2 + 1)^4}$$

$$f^{(4)}(t) = \frac{48t(t^4 - 10t^2 + 5)}{(t^2 + 1)^5}.$$

On the interval from 0 to 1,  $t^2 + 1 \geq 1$ , and  $|t^4 - 10t^2 + 5| \leq \max(t^4 + 5, 10t) = 10$ , so clearly  $|f^{(4)}(t)| \leq \frac{48 \cdot 1 \cdot 10}{1^5} = 480$ .

Using the bound  $|E_S| \leq \frac{K(b-a)^5}{180n^4}$ , where  $K$  is a bound on the fourth derivative of the integrand, we get  $|E_S| \leq \frac{480(1-0)^5}{180 \cdot 100^4} = \frac{8 \cdot 10^{-8}}{3} \approx 2.67 \cdot 10^{-8}$

3. Evaluate  $\int_0^1 \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} dt$  exactly.

**Solution:**  $\int_0^1 \frac{2t}{t^2 + 1} dt = \ln(1 + t^2) \Big|_0^1 = \ln 2 - \ln 1 = \ln 2$ .

4. Use a calculator to get a decimal approximation for the difference between the approximation you obtained using Simpson's Rule and the exact value you obtained.

**Solution:** A calculator give  $\ln 2 \approx 0.69314718056$ .

The difference between that and the approximation obtained using Simpson's Rule is  $|0.6931470036506653 - 0.69314718056| \approx 1.76909334737 \times 10^{-7} = 0.000000176909334737$ .

5. Compare that difference, effectively your error using Simpson's Rule, to the theoretical maximum error you determined.

**Solution:** This is considerably larger than the theoretical maximum, demonstrating the effect of roundoff error.

Rerunning the program using double precision led to an approximation of 0.6931471813934376, with an error of  $8.33437541203 \cdot 10^{-10}$ , which is only about three-tenths of a percent of the theoretical maximum.