Numerical Quadrature

1. Question : Define Numerical Quadrature.

Answer :

The process which is applied to find out the value of a definite integral from a set of numerical values of the integrand i.e., the function of a single variable, is known as Numerical Quadrature.

2. Question : Derive General Quadrature Formula.

Answer :

Let us consider a definite integral such that

$$I = \int_{a}^{b} y dx$$
, where $y = f(x)$

Suppose, f(x) is taken for (n + 1) equidistant values of x and those are $x_0, x_0 + h, x_0 + 2h, \dots, x_0 + nh$. Suppose, the range (a, b) is divided into n equal parts and width of each part is h (say), then b - a = nh.

Now, we assume,

 $\begin{array}{l} x_0 = a \\ x_1 = x_0 + h = a + h \\ x_2 = x_1 + h = a + h + h = a + 2h \\ x_3 = x_2 + h = a + 2h + h = a + 3h \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ x_n = a + nh = b \end{array}$

Then, we assume that (n + 1) ordinates $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$ which are the corresponding values of $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ respectively, are equally spaced (equidistant).

$$\therefore$$
 I = $\int_{a}^{b} y dx$

The formula (A) is known as General Quadrature Formula.

3. Question : Derive Trapezoidal Rule.

Answer:

Let us consider a definite integral such that

$$I = \int_{a}^{b} y dx$$
, where $y = f(x)$

Suppose, f(x) is taken for (n + 1) equidistant values of x and those are $x_0, x_0 + h, x_0 + 2h, \dots, x_0 + nh$. Suppose, the range (a, b) is divided into n equal parts and width of each part is h (say), then b - a = nh.

Now, we assume,

 $\begin{array}{l} x_0 = a \\ x_1 = x_0 + h = a + h \\ x_2 = x_1 + h = a + h + h = a + 2h \\ x_3 = x_2 + h = a + 2h + h = a + 3h \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ \dots \\ x_n = a + nh = b \end{array}$

Then, we assume that (n + 1) ordinates $y_0, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n$ which are the corresponding values of $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ respectively, are equally spaced (equidistant).

$$\therefore \qquad I = \int_{a}^{b} y dx$$
$$= \int_{x_{0}}^{x_{0}+nh} y_{x} dx, \qquad \text{where } x_{0} = a, x_{n} = a + nh = x_{0} + nh$$

Now, we put,
$$u = \frac{x - x_0}{h}$$

 $\Rightarrow \quad x - x_0 = hu$
 $\Rightarrow \quad dx = h \, du$
As, $x \to x_0$ then $u \to 0$, and $x \to x_0 + nh$ then $u \to n$
 $\therefore \quad I = \int_0^n y_{x_0 + hu} h \, du$
 $= h \int_0^n \left[y_0 + u \Delta y_0 + \frac{u(u-1)}{2!} \Delta^2 y_0 + \frac{u(u-1)(u-2)}{3!} \Delta^3 y_0 + ... \right] du$
 $= h \left[ny_0 + \frac{n^2}{2} \Delta y_0 + \left(\frac{n^3}{3} - \frac{n^2}{2} \right) \frac{\Delta^2 y_0}{2!} + \left(\frac{n^4}{4} - n^3 + n^2 \right) \frac{\Delta^3 y_0}{3!}$
 $+up to $(n + 1)$ terms $\left[\qquad(A) \right]$$

Now, putting n = 1 in (A) and neglecting the second and higher differences, we get

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_0+h} y dx = h \left[y_0 + \frac{1}{2} \Delta y_0 \right], \quad \text{where } I = \int_{x_0}^{x_0+h} y dx$$
$$= h \left[y_0 + \frac{1}{2} (y_1 - y_0) \right]$$
$$= h \left(\frac{y_0 + y_1}{2} \right)$$

Secondly,

$$\int_{x_0+h}^{x_0+2h} y dx = h \left[y_1 + \frac{1}{2} \Delta y_1 \right]$$

= $h \left[y_1 + \frac{1}{2} (y_2 - y_1) \right]$
= $h \left(\frac{y_1 + y_2}{2} \right)$

Similarly,

$$\int_{x_0+3h}^{x_0+3h} y dx = h\left(\frac{y_2+y_3}{2}\right)$$
$$\int_{x_0+3h}^{x_0+4h} y dx = h\left(\frac{y_3+y_4}{2}\right)$$

$$\int_{x_0+(n-1)h}^{x_0+nh} y dx = h\left(\frac{y_{n-1}+y_n}{2}\right)$$

Adding these n integrals, we get

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_0+nh} y dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_0+h} y dx + \int_{x_0+h}^{x_0+2h} y dx + \int_{x_0+2h}^{x_0+3h} y dx + \dots + \int_{x_0+(n-1)h}^{x_0+nh} y dx$$
 [By property of Definite Integral]
= $h\left(\frac{y_0+y_1}{2}\right) + h\left(\frac{y_1+y_2}{2}\right) + h\left(\frac{y_2+y_3}{2}\right) + \dots + h\left(\frac{y_{n-1}+y_n}{2}\right)$
 \therefore I = $h\left[\frac{1}{2}(y_0+y_n) + (y_1+y_2+\dots+y_{n-1})\right]$

This formula is known as Trapezoidal Rule.