

Question

Let

$$J = \int_0^1 \frac{\sin x}{1+x^3} dx,$$

where the integral limits are in radians.

Carefully explaining your method, calculate J to 4 decimal places using

- (i) the trapezium rule with 5 ordinates,
- (ii) Simpson's rule with 5 ordinates.

Compare your answers with the exact result $J = 0.346997\dots$

Note: Marks will only be awarded if sufficient working is shown.

Answer

$$J = \int_0^1 \frac{\sin x}{1+x^3} dx$$

- (i) Trapezium rule with 5 ordinates:

$$J \approx \frac{d}{2}(y_1 + 2y_2 + 2y_3 + 2y_4 + y_5)$$

$$\text{where } d = \frac{1-0}{5-1} = \frac{1}{4}$$

$$x_1 = 0 \quad x_4 = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$x_2 = \frac{1}{4} \quad x_5 = 1$$

$$x_3 = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$y_i = f(x_i); \quad f(x) = \frac{\sin x}{(1+x^3)}$$

x	0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{3}{4}$	1
y	0	0.243598	0.426156	0.479394	0.420735

$$\begin{aligned} J &\approx \frac{1}{8}(0.420735 + 2 \times (0.479394 + 0.426156 + 0.243598) + 0) \\ &= \underline{0.339879} \end{aligned}$$

NB working

$$\begin{aligned} &= \frac{1}{8} \times (0.420735 + 2.2983) \\ &= \frac{1}{8} \times 2.71903 \\ &= 0.339879 \end{aligned}$$

(ii) Simpson with 5 ordinates

$$J \approx \frac{h}{3}(y_1 + 4y_2 + 2y_3 + 4y_4 + y_5)$$

4 equal segments $\Rightarrow h = \frac{1}{4}$ as above

and we have the same y_i s as above.

Hence

$$\begin{aligned} J &\approx \frac{1}{12} \times (0 + 4 \times (0.243598 + 0.479394) \\ &\quad + 2 \times (0.426156) + 0.420735) \\ &= 0.347085 \\ &= \underline{0.4407} \end{aligned}$$

NB working

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{1}{12} \times (2.89197 + 0.852312 + 0.420735) \\ &= \frac{1}{12} \times 4.16502 \\ &= 0.347085 \end{aligned}$$

Actual=0.346997 to get 6dp

\Rightarrow Trapezium is accurate to 2% or 1dp and Simpson is accurate to 0.02% or 3dp.