

**THE STUDY OF AN ADAPTIVE ALGORITHM  
FOR SOME CUBATURE FORMULAS ON TRIANGLE**

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*Dedicated to Professor Gheorghe Coman at his 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary*

**Abstract.** We study two nonproduct quadrature formulas of algebraic degree 2 and 3, respectively. The second is then turned into an adaptive quadrature algorithm. A MATLAB implementation and some examples are given.

### 1. The formulas

The purpose of this paper is to give some practical cubature formulas when the integration domain is a triangle and also to study an adaptive algorithm for these cubature formulas in approximation of the integral

$$I = \int_{T_h} f(x, y) dx dy, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $T_h$  is a triangular domain,  $T_h = \{(x, y) / x \geq 0, y \geq 0, x + y \leq h\}$ , and  $f : T_h \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is an integrable function on  $T_h$ . We shall consider two cubature formulas from [8]. One of them is a cubature formula which satisfy the minimal condition of Stroud regarding the minimal number of knots of a cubature formula [9]. The degree of exactness of this formula is equal to 2. The other one is a cubature formula which has more knots, but a greater degree of exactness. We consider the following practical cubature formula:

$$\int_{T_h} \int f(x, y) dx dy = \frac{h^2}{6} \left[ f\left(0, \frac{h}{2}\right) + f\left(\frac{h}{2}, 0\right) + f\left(\frac{h}{2}, \frac{h}{2}\right) \right] + R_2(f). \quad (1.2)$$

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The degree of exactness of this formula is 2, therefore we can use the Peano theorem for the representation of the error, and we can give the following delimitation of the approximation error:

**Theorem 1.** *If  $f^{(3,0)}(\cdot, 0) \in C[0, h]$ ,  $f^{(2,1)}(\cdot, 0) \in C[0, h]$ ,  $f^{(0,3)}(0, \cdot) \in C[0, h]$  and  $f^{(1,2)}(s, t) \in C(T_h)$  then we have*

$$|R_2(f)| \leq M_{30}f \frac{h^5}{720} + M_{21}f \frac{h^5}{364} + M_{03}f \frac{h^5}{720} + M_{12}f \frac{h^5}{24} \quad (1.3)$$

where

$$M_{30}f = \max_{s \in [0, h]} |f^{(3,0)}(s, 0)|, M_{21}f = \max_{s \in [0, h]} |f^{(2,1)}(s, 0)|,$$

$$M_{03}f = \max_{t \in [0, h]} |f^{(0,3)}(0, t)|, M_{12}f = \max_{T_h} |f^{(1,2)}(s, t)|.$$

**Remark 1.** *The cubature formula (2) has an optimal character, because it satisfies the condition established by Stroud in [9] regarding the minimal number of knots for a cubature formula. If the degree of exactness of a cubature formula is equal to 2, then the minimal number of knots is  $N = n + 1$ , where  $n$  is the dimension number. The cubature formula (1.2) with the degree of exactness 2 and three knots, has a minimal number of knots.*

Let us now consider a cubature formula with a higher degree of exactness:

$$I = \int_{T_h} \int f(x, y) dx dy = \frac{h^2}{120} \left[ 3f(0, 0) + 3f(h, 0) + 3f(0, h) + 8f\left(\frac{h}{2}, 0\right) + 8f\left(\frac{h}{2}, \frac{h}{2}\right) + 8f\left(0, \frac{h}{2}\right) + 27f\left(\frac{h}{3}, \frac{h}{3}\right) \right] + R_3(f). \quad (1.4)$$

Because the degree of exactness of this formula is equal to 3, we can give the following theorem for the delimitation of the absolute error:

**Theorem 2.** *If  $f^{(4,0)}(s, 0) \in C[0, h]$ ,  $f^{(3,1)}(s, 0) \in C[0, h]$ ,  $f^{(0,4)}(0, t) \in C[0, h]$ ,  $f^{(1,3)}(0, t) \in C[0, h]$ , and  $f^{(2,2)}(s, t) \in C(T_h)$  then*

$$|R_3(f)| \leq M_{40}f \frac{h^6}{8640} + M_{31}f \frac{7h^6}{1440} + M_{13}f \frac{7h^6}{1440} + M_{04}f \frac{h^6}{8640} + M_{22}f \frac{h^6}{768},$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} M_{40}f &= \max_{s \in [0, h]} \left| f^{(4,0)}(s, 0) \right|, M_{31}f = \max_{s \in [0, h]} \left| f^{(3,1)}(s, 0) \right|, \\ M_{13}f &= \max_{t \in [0, h]} \left| f^{(1,3)}(0, t) \right|, M_{04}f = \max_{t \in [0, h]} \left| f^{(0,4)}(0, t) \right|, \\ M_{22}f &= \max_{(s, t) \in T_h} \left| f^{(2,2)}(s, t) \right|. \end{aligned}$$

We shall use an affine transformation to transform these cubature formulas from the standard triangle  $T_h$  to an arbitrary triangle  $\Delta$  with the vertices  $V_i(x_i, y_i), i = 1, 2, 3$ .

Let  $\varphi : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  denote the affine transformation from  $T_h$  to  $\Delta$ ,

$$\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = A(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) + b \tag{1.5}$$

where

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{x_2 - x_1}{h} & \frac{x_3 - x_1}{h} \\ \frac{y_2 - y_1}{h} & \frac{y_3 - y_1}{h} \end{pmatrix} \tag{1.6}$$

and

$$b = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ y_1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{1.7}$$

Let  $J$  be the Jacobian matrix of the transformation, in this case  $J$  is independent of  $(\bar{x}, \bar{y})$ ,  $\det J(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \det A$ , and the transformation rule is

$$\int_{T_h} f(x, y) dx dy = |\det A| \int_{\Delta} f(\varphi(\bar{x}, \bar{y})) d\bar{x} d\bar{y}.$$

## 2. Implementation

For a detailed description of an adaptive numerical integration algorithm see [10, 7].

In this section we focus our attention to an adaptive algorithm, based on formula (1.4). For implementation details on an adaptive algorithm based on formula (1.2), see [3].

Now, using the transform given by (1.5), (1.6), and (1.7), we rewrite (1.4) in the form

$$I \approx \frac{\text{area}(\Delta)}{60} \left( 3 \sum_{i=1}^3 f(V_i) + 8 \sum_{i=1}^3 f(P_i) + 27f(G) \right), \quad (2.1)$$

where

$$P_i = \frac{1}{2}(V_i + V_j), \quad \{i, j, k\} = \{1, 2, 3\},$$

are the midpoints of the edges of  $\Delta$ , and  $G = \frac{1}{3}(V_1 + V_2 + V_3)$  is the barycenter of  $\Delta$  (see Figure 1).

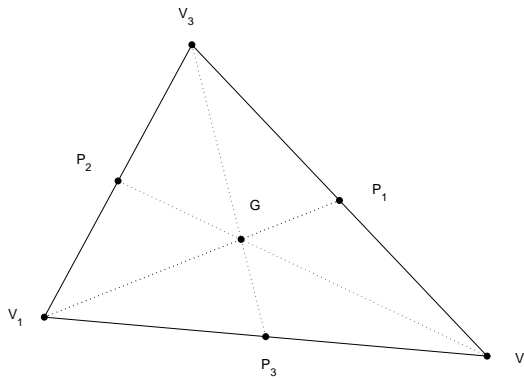


FIGURE 1. The elementary third degree formula

The initial triangle,  $\Delta$ , is decomposed into four triangles,  $\Delta_1$ ,  $\Delta_2$ ,  $\Delta_3$ , and  $\Delta_4$ , determined by vertices and the middle points (see Figure 2).

In the first step we apply the formula given by (2.1) to  $\Delta$ . Then we apply the same formula to each of the triangles  $\Delta_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, 4$ . Let  $I_1$  be the value provided by (2.1), and  $I_2$  the value obtained by summing the four values obtained applying (2.1) to each of the four triangles of the subdivision. A possible stopping criterion is

$$|I_1 - I_2| < \varepsilon,$$

where  $\varepsilon$  is the desired tolerance. If the criterion is not fulfilled, then we apply the same procedure recursively to each triangle of the subdivision. A detailed description is given in Algorithm 1.

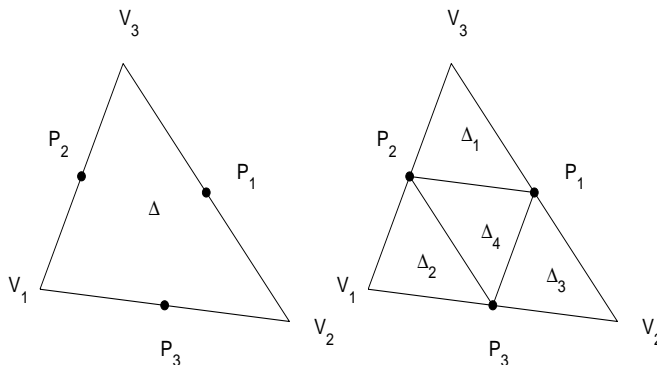


FIGURE 2. The initial triangle and the subdivision

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**Algorithm 1** An adaptive cubature algorithm on triangle; call  $result := \text{adapt}(f, \Delta, \varepsilon)$ , where  $f$  is the integrand,  $\Delta$  is the triangle, and  $\varepsilon$  is the desired tolerance; `elem_formula` implements the elementary cubature given by (2.1).

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Let  $\Delta_1, \Delta_2, \Delta_3, \Delta_4$  be the triangles determined by vertices and midpoints;

$I_1 := \text{elem\_formula}(f, \Delta)$ ;

$I_2 := \text{elem\_formula}(f, \Delta_1) + \text{elem\_formula}(f, \Delta_2) +$   
 $\text{elem\_formula}(f, \Delta_3) + \text{elem\_formula}(f, \Delta_4)$ ;

**if**  $|I_1 - I_2| < \varepsilon$  **then**

$result := I_2$ ;

**else**

$result := \text{adapt}(f, \Delta_1, \varepsilon) + \text{adapt}(f, \Delta_2, \varepsilon) +$   
 $\text{adapt}(f, \Delta_3, \varepsilon) + \text{adapt}(f, \Delta_4, \varepsilon)$ ;

**end if**

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The papers [6, 5] give useful guidelines for implementation of adaptive cubatures on triangle. We have implemented this algorithm in MATLAB<sup>1</sup>. The implementation follows the description given by Algorithm 1. The optional input parameter `trace`, when it is nonzero, allows us to represent graphically the process of computing. The optional output parameter `stat` gives us the number of function evaluation and

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<sup>1</sup>MATLAB® is a trademark of the MathWorks Inc., Natick, MA 01760-2098

the number of triangles. Some optimizations which save several function evaluations are possible. Since the value  $I_1$  is the value of the integral on  $\Delta$ , we compute it once and provide it further as an input parameter. We do the same thing with the values of function at midpoints and barycenter.

In the sequel we give the MATLAB code.

```
function [vi,stat]=mpcubatd3mb(f,V,err,trace)
%MPCUBATD3MB - cubature with midpoints and barycenter,
% exact for P_3^2
%call [vi,stat]=mpcubatd3mb(f,V,err,trace,...)
%f function
%V - coordinates of vertices
%err - error
%trace - tracing indicator

global FEN TRIN sfl
if nargin <4, trace=0;
else
    if trace
        clf
    end
end
if nargin < 3, err=1e-3; end
sfl=[nargout==2];
if sfl
    FEN=0; TRIN=0;
end
P=midpoints(V); G=sum(V,2)/3;
fv=feval(f,V); fp=feval(f,P); fg=feval(f,G);
area = 1/2*abs(det([V',ones(3,1)]));
200
```

```

I1=elform(area,fv,fp,fg);
if trace, tracefun([V,P,G]); hold on; end
vi=quadr3(f,V,P,G,fv,fp,fg,err,area,I1,trace);
if sfl
    FEN = FEN+7;
    stat=struct('nev',FEN,'ntri',TRIN);
end

function vi=quadr3(f,V,P,G,fv,fp,fg,err,area,I1,trace)
%QUADR3 - cubature with midpoints and barycenter, internal use
%call vi=quadr3(f,V,P,G,fv,fp,fg,err,area,I1,trace)
%f - function
%V - coordinates of vertices
%P - midpoints coordinates
%G - barycenter coordinates
%fv - values of f at verices
%fp - values of f at midpoints
%fg - values at barycenter
%err - error
%area - area of triangle
%I1 - the first estimation (elementary formula)
%trace - tracing indicator

global FEN TRIN sfl
area=area/4;
V1=[V(:,1),P(:,[2,3])]; fv1=[fv(1),fp([2,3])];
P1=midpoints(V1); fp1=feval(f,P1);
G1=sum(V1,2)/3; fg1=feval(f,G1);
I11=elform(area,fv1,fp1,fg1);
V2=[V(:,2),P(:,[1,3])]; fv2=[fv(2),fp([1,3])];

```

```

P2=midpoints(V2); fp2=feval(f,P2);
G2=sum(V2,2)/3; fg2=feval(f,G2);
I12=elform(area,fv2,fp2,fg2);
V3=[V(:,3),P(:,[1,2])]; fv3=[fv(3),fp([1,2])];
P3=midpoints(V3); fp3=feval(f,P3);
G3=sum(V3,2)/3; fg3=feval(f,G3);
I13=elform(area,fv3,fp3,fg3);
V4=P; fv4=fp; P4=[P1(:,1),P2(:,1),P3(:,1)];
fp4=[fp1(1),fp2(1),fp3(1)]; G4=G; fg4=fg;
I14=elform(area,fv4,fp4,fg4);
I2=I11+I12+I13+I14;
if sfl
    FEN=FEN+12;
    TRIN=TRIN+4;
end
if trace, tracefun([P1,P2,P3,G1,G2,G3]); end
if abs(I2-I1)<err
    vi=I2;
else
    vi=quadrg3(f,V1,P1,G1,fv1,fp1,fg1,err,area,I11,trace)+...
        quadrg3(f,V2,P2,G2,fv2,fp2,fg2,err,area,I12,trace)+...
        quadrg3(f,V3,P3,G3,fv3,fp3,fg3,err,area,I13,trace)+...
        quadrg3(f,V4,P4,G4,fv4,fp4,fg4,err,area,I14,trace);
end %if

```

```

function v=elform(area,fv,fp,fg)
v=area/60*(3*sum(fv)+8*sum(fp)+27*fg);

```

```

function P=midpoints(V);
P(:,1)=(V(:,2)+V(:,3))/2; P(:,2)=(V(:,1)+V(:,3))/2;

```



```
P(:,3)=(V(:,1)+V(:,2))/2;
```

```
function tracefun(L)
%TRACEFUN - represents points where function is evaluated
plot(L(1,:),L(2:,:),'.k','Markersize',4);
```

### 3. Numerical examples

Consider the triangle  $T_1 = \{(x, y) / x \geq 0, y \geq 0, x + y \leq 1\}$ , and the function  $f : T_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f(x, y) = \text{humps}(x)\text{humps}(y)$ , where

$$\text{humps}(x) = \frac{1}{(x - 0.3)^2 + 0.01} + \frac{1}{(x - 0.9)^2 + 0.04} - 6.$$

The graph of  $f$  is given in Figure 3 as surface and as contour. First, we approximate

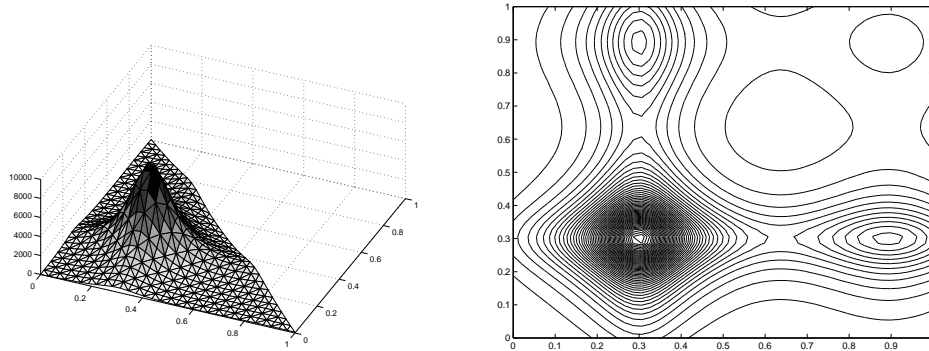


FIGURE 3. The graph of  $f$ , as surface (left) and as contour

the integral for a tolerance  $\varepsilon = 10^{-5}$  using the adaptive quadrature based on (1.2) and (2.1), respectively. The `trace` flag is set.

```
>> [vib,statb]=mpcubabd2mb(@humps2dv,V,1e-5,1)
vib =
    5.997039610414015e+002
statb =
    nev: 57684
    ntri: 25636
```

```
>> [vib3,statb3]=mpcubatd3mb(@humps2dv,V,1e-5,1)
vib3 =
    5.997039668483903e+002
statb3 =
    nev: 30499
    ntri: 10164
```

The figure 4 shows the points where the MATLAB functions evaluate the integrands. Now, for a higher accuracy ( $10^{-9}$ ) and a timer included we got the following results

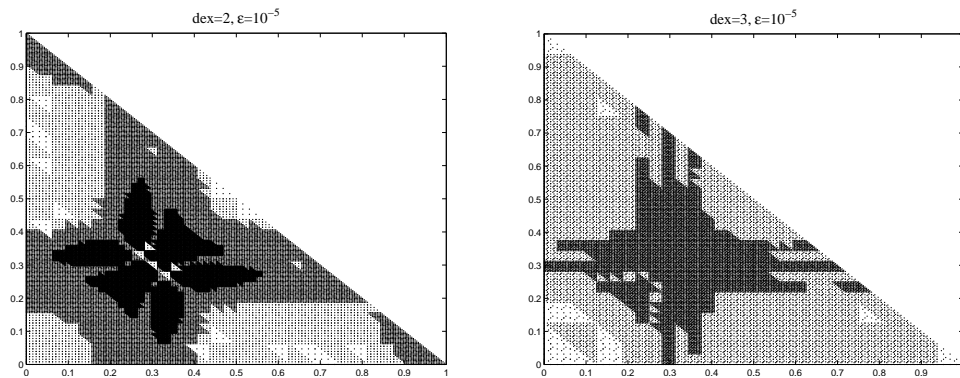


FIGURE 4. Evaluation points for the second order formula (left) and for the third order formula, for function  $f$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-5}$

```
>> tic,[vib,statb]=mpcubatd2mb(@humps2dv,V,1e-9); toc
Elapsed time is 43.444590 seconds.
>> tic,[vib3,statb3]=mpcubatd3mb(@humps2dv,V,1e-9); toc
Elapsed time is 19.121086 seconds.
>> vib,statb
vib =
    5.997039625857019e+002
statb =
    nev: 2219736
    ntri: 986548
```

```
>> vib3,statb3
vib3 =
    5.997039625817022e+002
statb3 =
    nev: 640915
    ntri: 213636
```

Thus, for this function the third degree formula is faster.

For functions that do not exhibit high oscillations and for modest accuracy requirements, the second degree formula requires fewer function evaluation. Consider the function  $f(x,y) = y \sin x$  (implemented by MATLAB function `fintegrv`) to be integrated on  $T_1$ . For  $\varepsilon = 10^{-4}$ , one obtains:

```
>> tic,[vib,statb]=mpcubad2mb(@fintegrv,V,1e-4); toc
Elapsed time is 0.001425 seconds.
>> tic,[vib3,statb3]=mpcubad3mb(@fintegrv,V,1e-4); toc
Elapsed time is 0.012022 seconds.
>> vib,statb
vib =
    0.04030110314738
statb =
    nev: 48
    ntri: 20
>> vib3,statb3
vib3 =
    0.04030317282902
statb3 =
    nev: 67
    ntri: 20
```

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