

Let us consider $f(x) = (1 + 9x^2)^{-1}$.

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx = \frac{2}{3} \tan^{-1}(3) = 0.832697,$$

$$\int_{-1}^1 p_2(x) dx = \int_{-1}^1 \left(-\frac{9}{10}x^2 + 1\right) dx = \frac{7}{5} = 1.4.$$

Thus $p_2(x)$ is a poor approximation to $f(x)$. We try increasing n . We obtain

$$\int_{-1}^1 p_4(x) dx = 0.735385, \quad \int_{-1}^1 p_8(x) dx = 0.738204, \quad \int_{-1}^1 p_{16}(x) dx = 0.667583.$$

The approximations are still not good. For these Chebyshev points, we obtain $\int_{-1}^1 p_2(x) dx = 1.4$ and

$$\int_{-1}^1 p_4(x) dx = 1.00727, \quad \int_{-1}^1 p_8(x) dx = 0.844188, \quad \int_{-1}^1 p_{16}(x) dx = 0.832759.$$

Let us look at numerical results.

