

MA402: Computational Mathematics
 Summer session. 1.5-2 credits.
 Motivations: 1. Get credits towards graduation.
 2. Solve practical problems: A flow chart

$\int_0^1 e^x \sin x^2 \log(x+1) dx$ Almost impossible to find analytic soln.
 It is easy by computers

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Computational Math can also give theoretical proof or clues.
 Hayk Milkayelan.
 Conjecture.
 Numerical solutions \rightarrow Interpret soln. Graphs, tables etc. \rightarrow feedback
 Improve original models
 Problem solving process

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A computer number system.
 Does $a+b=c$ always equal $c+b=a$?
 It may not be always true in a computer number system.
 Preparation. Floating point arithmetic
 $x \in \mathbb{R}$, $\frac{represented}{fraction}$ $f(x)$
 $f(x) = \pm d_1 d_2 \dots d_n \cdot \beta^s$ exponential
 sign mantissa base
 $\beta=2$ binary natural for computers
 $\beta=8$ octal \checkmark for storage
 $\beta=10$ decimal we are used to
 $\beta=16$ hexadecimal \checkmark

 $2^8 = 256, 2^{24} \approx 10^8$
 $x > 10^{28}$, over-flow $10^{34} \pm 612$
 For the double precision

 Sign exponential fraction 16 digits.

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Device \leftarrow More efficient/difficult
 Laptop \rightarrow CPU \rightarrow Assembly language
 iPhone
 Game
 Central processing unit
 High level language \rightarrow Applications 'special languages'
 C, C++
 Fortran
 Pascal
 Python
 Matlab
 SAS
 Splus, R
 Maple
 Mathematica
 Comsol
 Games
 Computational Math
 Each application has its own computer number system.
 classify as single precision 8
 double 16
 \rightarrow More convenient/less efficient

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Examples of floating numbers.
 $-1.011 \cdot 2^5$, binary
 $11 \cdot 31416 \times 10^1 \approx \pi$
 0.31416×10^2 decimal
 Is $f(x)$ unique? No
 If we set $d_1 \neq 0$, then it is called the normalized floating number.
 It is unique unless $x=0$
 then $0 = .00\dots 0^0$

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Properties of a computer number system

- Finite: The total numbers are $2(\beta-1)\beta^{h-1}(s_{max}-s_{min}+1)+1$
 $d_i d_i$ exponential 10^{35}
- has maximum/minimum. Not evenly distributed
 overflow \rightarrow underflow, often set to zero \rightarrow trouble

 NaN Not available $\frac{s}{h}$ a is underflow
 Inf infinity

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Some limits

single precision. significant 8 digits
 0.12046011
 $\pm 10^{38}$. Best accuracy we can expect

3.1416271872
 garbage

double precision 16 significant digits
 e.g. Matlab
 $\pm 10^{138}$
 Machine precision Error $\sim 10^{-16}$

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Error Analysis

$\pi \quad f(\pi) = 0.31416 \cdot 10^1$
 $\pi - f(\pi) \rightarrow$ rounding.

$X = \pm d_1 d_2 \dots d_n d_{n+1} \dots \times \beta^S$
 $f(x) = \pm \begin{cases} d_1 d_2 \dots d_n \cdot \beta^S & \text{if } d_{n+1} < \beta/2 \\ d_1 d_2 \dots (d_n+1) \beta^S & \text{if } d_{n+1} \geq \beta/2 \end{cases}$

Error $|x - f(x)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \beta^{S-n}$

Absolute error
 Relative error, if $x \neq 0$
 $\frac{|x - f(x)|}{|x|} \leq \frac{1}{2} \beta^{-n} = \epsilon$

machine epsilon $\epsilon \approx 10^{-8}$ for single precision
 $\epsilon = 10^{-16}$ for double precision

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Computer errors are called "round-off errors"

Absolute Error $x\delta$
 $f(x) = x(1+\delta)$
 $= x + x\delta$
 Relative error δ
 $|\delta| \leq \epsilon \approx 10^{-8}$
 $\approx 10^{-16}$

$\sqrt{f(x \cdot y)} = xy(1+\delta) \quad |\delta| \leq \epsilon$
 $f(x/y) = \frac{x}{y}(1+\delta) \quad |\delta| \leq \epsilon$
 $f(x-y) = (x-y)(1+\delta) \quad |\delta| \leq \frac{|x|+|y|}{|x-y|} \epsilon$

One rule of thumb
 Try to avoid subtraction of two closed numbers.

Ex: $1 - \cos x$ if $|x|$ is very small.
 $= 1 - (1 - \frac{x^2}{2}) + o(x^4)$
 $= \frac{x^2}{2} + o(x^4)$

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Write a Matlab program to solve $ax^2+bx+c=0$

A. $x_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}$ $x_2 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}$
 B. $x_1 = \frac{-b + \sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}$ $x_2 = \frac{c}{x_1}$
 C. $x_1 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2-4ac}}{2a}$ $x_2 = \frac{c}{x_1}$

If $b > 0$, use C otherwise use B.

Ex: $a=1, x^2+2x+e=0, e=0 \Rightarrow \begin{cases} x_1=0 \\ x_2=2 \end{cases}$

$x_1 = \frac{-2 + \sqrt{4-e}}{2} \approx -1 + \sqrt{1 - \frac{e}{4}}$
 $= -1 + (1 - \frac{e}{4})^{1/2} = -1 + 1 - \frac{e}{8} + o(e^{3/2})$
 $x_1 = \frac{e}{4}$ $x_2 = \frac{-2 - \sqrt{4-e}}{2}$
 $= -1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{e}{4}}$
 $= -1 - (1 - \frac{e}{4})^{1/2} = -2 + \frac{e}{8}$

Catastrophic Cancellation
 catastrophic

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Better code $x^2+bx+c=0$
 $a=0$

function $[y_1, y_2] = \text{quad}(b, c)$

If $b > 0$
 $y_1 = (-b - \text{sqrt}(b^2 - 4*c))/2;$
 $y_2 = c/y_1; \quad x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2-4c}}{2}$

else
 $y_1 = (-b + \text{sqrt}(b^2 - 4*c))/2;$
 $y_2 = c/y_1$

end

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