

1. Expand as Taylor polynomials:

$$f(x_0 + \delta) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)\delta + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)\delta^2 + \frac{1}{6}f'''(x_0)\delta^3 + \frac{1}{24}f^{(4)}(x_0)\delta^4 + \frac{1}{120}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^5 + \dots + g_1 \varepsilon f$$

$$f(x_0 - \delta) = f(x_0) - f'(x_0)\delta + \frac{1}{2}f''(x_0)\delta^2 - \frac{1}{6}f'''(x_0)\delta^3 + \frac{1}{24}f^{(4)}(x_0)\delta^4 - \frac{1}{120}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^5 + \dots + g_2 \varepsilon f$$

$$f(x_0 + \delta) - f(x_0 - \delta) = 2f'(x_0)\delta + \frac{1}{3}f'''(x_0)\delta^3 + \frac{1}{60}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^5$$

$$(*) \quad f'(x_0) = \frac{1}{2\delta} [f(x_0 + \delta) - f(x_0 - \delta)] - \frac{1}{6}f'''(x_0)\delta^2 - \frac{1}{120}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^4 + \bar{g} \varepsilon f / 2\delta \quad \bar{g} = g_1 - g_2$$

For  $x = x \pm 2\delta$  just replace  $\delta$  with  $2\delta$

$$(**) \quad f'(x_0) = \frac{1}{4\delta} [f(x_0 + 2\delta) - f(x_0 - 2\delta)] - \frac{4}{6}f'''(x_0)\delta^2 - \frac{16}{120}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^4 + \tilde{g} \frac{\varepsilon f}{4\delta}$$

Back to (\*)

$$4f'(x_0) = \frac{2}{\delta} [f(x_0 + \delta) - f(x_0 - \delta)] - \frac{4}{6}f'''(x_0)\delta^2 - \frac{4}{120}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^4 + \frac{2\bar{g}\varepsilon f}{\delta}$$

Subtract (\*\*)

$$3f'(x_0) = \frac{2}{\delta} [f(x_0 + \delta) - f(x_0 - \delta)] - \frac{1}{4\delta} [f(x_0 + 2\delta) - f(x_0 - 2\delta)] + \frac{1}{10}f^{(5)}(x_0)\delta^4 + \frac{\varepsilon f}{\delta} (2\bar{g} - \frac{1}{4}\tilde{g})$$

$$f'(x_0) = \frac{2}{3\delta} [f(x_0+\delta) - f(x_0-\delta)] - \frac{1}{12\delta} [f(x_0+2\delta) - f(x_0-2\delta)]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{30} f^{(5)}(x_0) \delta^4 + \frac{\epsilon f}{\delta} g' \quad g' = \frac{2\tilde{g} - \frac{1}{4}\tilde{g}}{3}$$

$$\text{Error} = \frac{1}{30} f^{(5)}(x_0) \delta^4 + g' \frac{\epsilon f}{\delta}$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{Error}}{\partial \delta} = \frac{2}{15} f^{(5)}(x_0) \delta^3 - \frac{g' \epsilon f}{\delta^2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \text{Error}}{\partial \delta} = 0 \Rightarrow \delta = \left( \frac{15}{2} \frac{g' \epsilon f}{f^{(5)}} \right)^{1/5} \quad \text{to minimize the error}$$

$$\text{For } f(x) = e^x, f^{(5)}(x) = e^x$$

$$\text{For } f(x) = e^{0.01x}, f^{(5)}(x) = (0.01)^5 e^{0.01x}$$

$$\text{Double precision} \Rightarrow \epsilon \sim 10^{-16}$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta \sim 10^{-16/5} \sim 10^{-3.2}$$