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- Three main topics:
- Algorithms (approximation)
  - Analysis (error)
  - Implementation (python)

Numerical Approximation:

- Something "close in value", but not the same, as a desired quantity

The subjects of numerical approximation are well posed problems, i.e. problems for which a solution

- Exists
- It is unique
- It depends continuously on problem data

A numerical approximation should not make things worse

Strategy: Replace difficult problems by easier ones.

infinite	→	finite
differential	→	algebraic
non-linear	→	linear

Absolute Error: Approximate Value - True value

Relative Error:  $\frac{\text{Absolute Error}}{\text{True Value}}$  (sometimes Appr. Value)

Example: compute the value of a function

$$f: \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

for a given argument  $x$

- $x$ : true value of input
- $f(x)$ : desired output
- $\hat{x}$ : approximate input (maybe due to Rounding)
- $\hat{f}(\hat{x})$ : function actually computed (both Rounding and Truncation)

Types of error

- Data Error
  - Computational Error
  - Truncation Error
  - Rounding Error
- ( $\Leftarrow$  Data)  
( $\Leftarrow$  Algorithm)  
( $\Leftarrow$  Algorithm in exact Arithmetic)  
( $\Leftarrow$  Finite Arithmetic)

Total Error:  $\hat{f}(\hat{x}) - f(x) =$

$$\hat{f}(\hat{x}) - f(\hat{x})$$

Computational error

=

Truncation Error

+

Rounding Error

$$+ f(\hat{x}) - f(x)$$

Propagated data error

(independent on algorithm!)

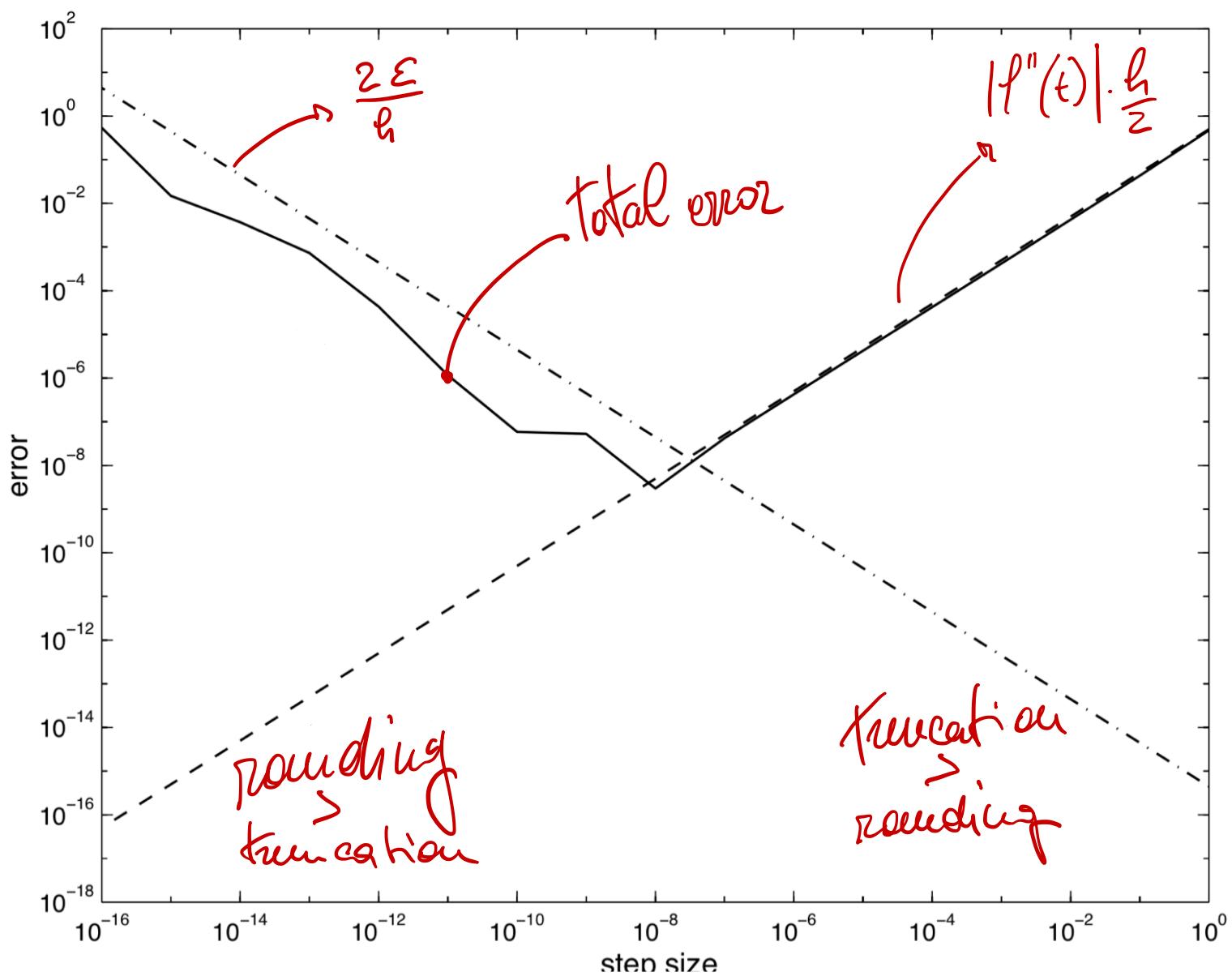
Example: error in finite difference approximation

$$f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

• Truncation error  $\sim C |f''(t)| \cdot \frac{h}{2}$

• Rounding error  $\sim C \frac{2\epsilon}{h}$  ( $\epsilon$ : machine precision)

Optimal choice for  $h: \approx 2 \sqrt{\frac{\epsilon}{|f''(t)|}}$



A problem is well posed (or insensitive, or stable)  
 if small changes in input  $\rightsquigarrow$  small changes in output

### Condition Number

$$K := \frac{\text{Relative change in solution}}{\text{Relative change in input data}}$$

$$K = \frac{(f(x) - f(\hat{x})) / f(x)}{(x - \hat{x}) / x} = \frac{\Delta y / y}{\Delta x / x}$$

$K \gg 1 \rightsquigarrow$  Problem is ill-posed (or sensitive or unstable)

Absolute Condition number (if either  $f(x) \propto x$  is zero).

$$K_{\text{abs}}(x) := \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{f(x) - f(\hat{x})}{(x - \hat{x})}$$

$$\hat{x} = x + \delta x \rightsquigarrow f(\hat{x}) \approx f(x) + f'(x) \delta x$$



$$K(x) \approx |f'(x)| \frac{|x|}{|f(x)|}$$

$$K_{\text{abs}}(x) \approx |f'(x)|$$

A numerical approximation can be seen as a sequence of problems, that are simpler to evaluate, and converge to the original problem, i.e.,  $f_n, \exists f_n$  s.t.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x)$$

Each "problem"  $f_n$  should be itself stable

$f$ stable	$f_n$ stable	$\checkmark$
$f$ stable	$f_n$ unstable	$\times$
$f$ un-stable	$f_n$ stable	$\times$
$f$ un-stable	$f_n$ un-stable	$\times$

The only reasonable option

$$K_n(x) \approx \left| f'_n(x) \right| \frac{|x|}{\left| f_n(x) \right|}$$

$$K_{n_{\text{obs}}}(x) \approx \left| f'_n(x) \right|$$

In general both input data or output result may belong to (infinite dimensional) vector spaces, i.e.

$$x \in \mathbb{X}, y \in \mathbb{Y}$$

$$f: \mathbb{X} \longrightarrow \mathbb{Y}$$

And we assume that  $f_n: \mathbb{X}_n \longrightarrow \mathbb{Y}_n$

where, in some sense

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{X}_n = \mathbb{X}, \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{Y}_n = \mathbb{Y}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n = f$$

We restrict ourselves to **Banach spaces**  
 (Normed and complete vector spaces)

That is  $\mathbb{X}, \mathbb{Y}$  are normed and complete vector spaces

**COMPLETENESS:** Every Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{X}$  converges to an element of  $\mathbb{X}$

That is:

$\forall \{x_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  s.t.  $\forall \varepsilon > 0, \exists \bar{n}$  s.t.  $\forall i, j > \bar{n} \quad \|x_i - x_j\| \leq \varepsilon$   
 $\exists! x \in \mathbb{X}$  s.t.  $\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \|x_i - x\| = 0$

In the most general case a problem is a functional  $f$  such that:

$$\begin{aligned} f: \mathbb{X} &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Y} \\ x &\longrightarrow f(x) \end{aligned}$$

while for every  $n$ , there exist two sets  $\mathbb{X}_n \subseteq \mathbb{X}$  and  $\mathbb{Y}_n \subseteq \mathbb{Y}$  and a functional  $f_n$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} f_n: \mathbb{X}_n &\longrightarrow \mathbb{Y}_n \\ x_n &\longrightarrow f_n(x_n) \end{aligned}$$

A numerical approximation  $f_n$  of a problem  $f$  is **convergent** if

- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|x_n - x\|_{\mathbb{X}} = 0$  → approximated data

- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n(x_n) - f(x)\|_{\mathbb{X}} = 0$

If  $x \in \mathbb{X}_n \nexists n$ , an approximation is called **consistent**  
→ exact data

- $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|f_n(x) - f(x)\|_{\mathbb{X}} = 0$

Examples : The sum of two numbers.

- $\mathbb{X} : \mathbb{R}^2$ ,  $\|x\|_{\mathbb{X}} := |x_1| + |x_2| = \|x\|_{C^1(\mathbb{R}^2)}$
- $\mathbb{Y} : \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\|y\|_{\mathbb{Y}} := |y| = \|y\|_{C^1(\mathbb{R})}$
- $f(x) := x_1 + x_2$

$$K_{rel} = \frac{|\Delta y|}{|\Delta x|} \frac{|x|}{|y|} \rightsquigarrow \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} = \frac{|\Delta x_1 + \Delta x_2|}{|\Delta x_1| + |\Delta x_2|} \xrightarrow{\leq 1} \frac{|x|}{|y|} = \frac{|x_1| + |x_2|}{|x_1 + x_2|}$$

$$K_{rel} \leq \frac{|x_1| + |x_2|}{|x_1 + x_2|}$$

UNSTABLE whenever  $x_1 \approx -x_2 \Rightarrow K_{rel} \approx \infty$

BIG problem in any floating point architecture

### FINITE DIFFERENCE

- $\mathbb{X} : C^1(I(a))$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  (given)

- $\mathbb{Y} : \mathbb{R}$

- $f(x) = x'(a)$

$x$  is a continuous function  
with continuous first derivative

$$\|x\|_{\mathbb{X}} := \|x'\|_{L^\infty(I(a))} + \|x\|_\infty(I(a))$$

$$\Delta y = f(x + \delta x) - f(x) = \delta x'(a) \rightsquigarrow k = \frac{|\delta x'(a)|}{\|\delta x\|_{\mathbb{X}}} \frac{\|x\|_{\mathbb{X}}}{|x'(a)|}$$

- $\mathbb{X}_n \equiv \mathbb{X}$ ,  $\mathbb{Y}_n \equiv \mathbb{Y}$

- $f_n(x) = \frac{x(a + \frac{1}{n}) - x(a)}{1/n}$

$\mathbb{X} = \mathbb{X} \rightarrow$  convergence and consistency are the same  
But the numerical problem is unstable! (sum of two  
numbers with close abs. values and opposite sign!)

# Integration

- $\mathcal{X} := L^1([0,1]) \cap C([0,1])$ ,  $\|x\|_{\mathcal{X}} := \|x\|_{L^1([0,1])} = \int_0^1 |x(t)| dt$
- $\mathcal{Y} := \mathbb{R}$
- $f(x) := \int_0^1 x(t) dt$

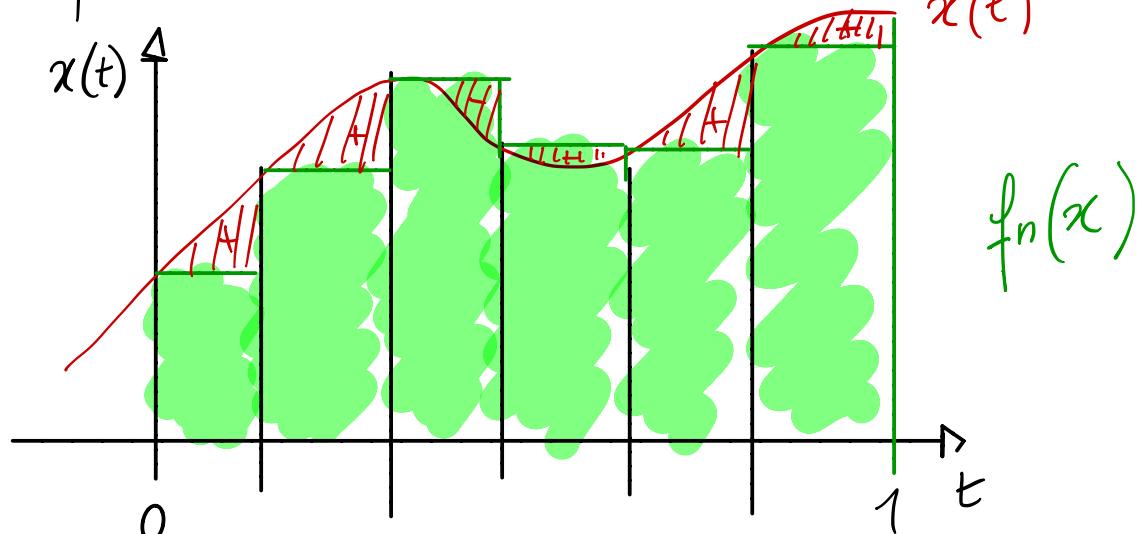
$$f(x + \delta x) = \int_0^1 x + \delta x = \int_0^1 x + \int_0^1 \delta x$$

$$\frac{\|\Delta y\|}{\|\Delta x\|} = \frac{\left| \int_0^1 \delta x \right|}{\int_0^1 |\delta x|} \frac{\int_0^1 |x|}{\left| \int_0^1 x \right|}$$

ill posed when average is close to zero.

Given a sequence  $\{t_i\}_{i=1}^n$ ,  $t_1 = 0 < t_2 < t_3 < \dots < t_n = 1$

$$\circ f_n(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x(t_i) (t_{i+1} - t_i)$$



$$\circ \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = f(x) \quad \text{Lebesgue integration}$$

$$K_n(x) = \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta x} \frac{x}{y} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{n-1} \delta x(t_i) (t_{i+1} - t_i)}{\int_0^1 |\delta x|} \frac{\int_0^1 |x|}{\left| \sum_{i=1}^{n-1} x(t_i) (t_{i+1} - t_i) \right|}$$

$$\leq \frac{H \sum \delta x_i}{h \sum x_i} \frac{\|x\|_{L^1}}{\|\delta x\|_{L^1}}$$