

# NUR A - Assignment 1

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## 1 Poisson Distribution

We start with the general expression for Poisson distribution for some positive mean  $\lambda$  and integer  $k$ :

$$P_{\lambda}(k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} \quad (1)$$

To prevent overflow/underflow in general, we circumvent factorial calculations via mapping to log space. We therefore rewrite Poisson distribution as:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln(P_{\lambda}(k)) &= \ln\left(\frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!}\right) \\ &= k \ln \lambda - \lambda - \ln k! \\ &= k \ln \lambda - \lambda - \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} \ln i \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Therefore, the actual distribution is recovered via:

$$P_{\lambda}(k) = \exp(\ln(P_{\lambda}(k))) \quad (3)$$

To ensure input parameter  $\lambda$  and  $k$  follows the correct **dtype**, we add error handling to function via simple if-else statements. This step is enforced alongside some value checker for  $\lambda$  and  $k$ , where  $\lambda \leq 0$  or  $k \leq 0$  would both result in function raising errors, as the Poisson distribution given would become ill-defined or invalid for these  $\lambda$  and  $k$  values. We enforce correct **dtype** via local **dtype** conversion in function. Additionally, for normalized Poisson distribution, we set special case where  $k = 0$ . That is, Poisson distribution simplifies to:

$$P_{\lambda}(k) = \frac{\lambda^k e^{-\lambda}}{k!} = \frac{\lambda^0 e^{-\lambda}}{0!} = e^{-\lambda}, \quad k = 0 \quad (4)$$

These steps further simplify the calculations. That is, we can recover the actual value of Poisson distribution from the log space results via a simple exponential. This is on top of converting a factorial into a summation of terms.

The full code used for this question:

```

1  """
2  Scripts for assignment 1 question 1
3  """
4
5  import numpy as np
6
7
8  def Poisson(k: np.int32, lambda: np.float32) -> np.float32:
9      """Calculate the Poisson probability for k occurrences with mean lambda.
10     Parameters:
11         k (np.int32): The number of occurrences.
12         lambda (np.float32): The mean number of occurrences.
13     Returns:
14         np.float32: The probability of observing k occurrences given the mean
15                     lambda.
16     """
17     # we start with the gen form of posson distro P
18     # top = lambda**k * np.exp(-lambda)
19     # bot = np.prod(np.arange(1, k, 1))
20     # P = top / bottom
21
22     # we then rewrite P with log space to prevent over/underflow
23     # ln(P) = k ln(lambda) - lambda - ln(k!)
24     # with ln(k!) = sum(ln(i) for i in range(1, k+1))
25     # P <-> ln(P) through np.exp()
26
27     # break if k and lambda doesn't match wanted dtype
28     if k.dtype != np.int32 or lambda.dtype != np.float32:
29         raise TypeError(
30             f"No matching dtype with k.dtype {k.dtype}, lambda.dtype {lambda.dtype}"
31         )
32
33     # local dtype enforcement
34     k = np.int32(k)
35     lambda = np.float32(lambda)
36
37     # special case if k = 0 -> k! = 1
38     if k == np.int32(0):
39         result = np.exp(-lambda)
40     # break if k is neg -> undefined factorial in source fn
41     elif k < np.int32(0):
42         raise ValueError(f"Invalid k when k < 0, k={k}.")
43
44     # break if lambda is non negative
45     if lambda <= np.int32(0):
46         raise ValueError(f"Invalid lambda when lambda <= 0, k={k}.")
47
48     # log space rewrite P -> ln(P)
49     # enforce generated k as int32
50     # enforce ln(k) in float32
51     # np.sum uses the dtype of passed in array as default, outputting float32
52     log_factorial = np.sum(
53         np.log(np.arange(1, k + 1, 1, dtype=np.int32), dtype=np.float32)
54     )
55     log_distro = k * np.log(lambda, dtype=np.float32) - lambda - log_factorial
56     result = np.exp(log_distro, dtype=np.float32)
57
58     return result
59
60 def main() -> None:
61     # (lambda, k) pairs:

```

```

62     values = [
63         (np.float32(1.0), np.int32(0)),
64         (np.float32(5.0), np.int32(10)),
65         (np.float32(3.0), np.int32(21)),
66         (np.float32(2.6), np.int32(40)),
67         (np.float32(100.0), np.int32(5)),
68         (np.float32(101.0), np.int32(200)),
69     ]
70     with open("./output/a1q1_poisson_output.txt", "w") as file:
71         for i, (lmbda, k) in enumerate(values):
72             P = Poisson(k, lmbda)
73             if i < len(values) - 1:
74                 file.write(f"{lmbda:.1f} & {k} & {P:.6e} \\\n \\hline \n")
75             else:
76                 file.write(f"{lmbda:.1f} & {k} & {P:.6e} \n")
77
78
79 if __name__ == "__main__":
80     main()

```

The results of  $P_{\lambda}(k)$  for selected values of  $k$  and  $\lambda$  are shown in Table 1.

$\lambda$	$k$	$P_{\lambda}(k)$
1.0	0	3.678794e-01
5.0	10	1.813280e-02
3.0	21	1.019340e-11
2.6	40	3.615103e-33
100.0	5	3.100058e-36
101.0	200	1.269418e-18

Table 1: Poisson probability distribution for selected  $k$  and  $\lambda$ .

## 2 Vandermonde Matrix and Interpolation

The  $N \times N$  Vandermonde matrix  $\mathbf{V}_{i,j}$  has general form for some row  $i$  and column  $j$ :

$$\mathbf{V}_{i,j} = x_i^j \quad (5)$$

For some data array  $x$ , we can obtain the associated elements of  $\mathbf{V}_{i,j}$ . Therefore, we can find some coefficient array  $c$  by solving  $\mathbf{V}c = y$ , where  $c$  forms some unique polynomials that passes through all  $y$  points. We can compute  $y$  from:

$$y_i = \sum_{j=0}^{N-1} c_j x_i^j, \quad i \in \{0, 1, \dots, N-1\} \quad (6)$$

### 2.1 (2a) LU decomposition

Let us first consider some matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ . For LU decomposition, we require  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$  to be square and non-singular. By passing the matrix through shape checks, we can proceed to performing LU decomposition in situ. That is, instead of aving two separate matrices for storing  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  and  $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}$ , we compute for the combined  $\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}$  to replace source  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ .

Following Court's algorithm, we create nested loops where we loop over the column  $j$ , with row  $i$  looped inside the column loops. Observe the following equation for  $\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}$ , where we define  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  to be unity along its diagonal:

$$\mathbf{L}_{i,j} = \frac{\mathbf{A}_{i,j}}{\mathbf{A}_{j,j}}, \quad i > j \quad (7)$$

We then perform Gaussian elimination on rows with the computed  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  terms. On each row of  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ , where  $i \in \{1, \dots, i\}$ , we subtract the values of said row with  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  times of the first row. For example:

$$\mathbf{A}_{i,j} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 2 & 4 & 8 \\ 3 & 9 & 27 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 3 & 3 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 2 & 6 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{L}_{i,j} \mathbf{U}_{i,j} \quad (8)$$

Effectively, we decompose a source matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$  into  $\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}$ , where  $\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}$  is the combined matrix of  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  and  $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}$ . Notice that the row reduction happens at each column iterations across all relevant rows. These matrices follow:

$$\mathbf{A}_{i,j} = \mathbf{L}_{i,j} \mathbf{U}_{i,j} \quad (9)$$

For efficient computation, we want to do operations on the source matrix and return a combined LU matrix instead of two distinct matrices. For some source matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ , we obtain:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{A}_{i,j} &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{A}_{0,0} & \dots & \mathbf{A}_{0,N-1} \\ \dots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{A}_{N-1,0} & \dots & \mathbf{A}_{N-1,N-1} \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{L}_{0,0} & & \\ \dots & \ddots & \\ \mathbf{L}_{N-1,0} & \dots & \mathbf{L}_{N-1,N-1} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}_{0,0} & \dots & \mathbf{U}_{0,N-1} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \mathbf{U}_{N-1,N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{L}_{i,j} \mathbf{U}_{i,j} \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

Recall that  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  is defined with its diagonal set to unity, we now overwrite  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  with  $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}$ . This creates a combined matrix for LU decomposition results, with diagonal axis of  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  overwritten with the diagonal entry of  $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}$ :

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & \ddots & \\ \mathbf{L}_{N-1,0} & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}_{0,0} & \dots & \mathbf{U}_{0,N-1} \\ & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \mathbf{U}_{N-1,N-1} \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U}_{0,0} & \dots & \mathbf{U}_{0,N-1} \\ \dots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{L}_{N-1,0} & \dots & \mathbf{U}_{N-1,N-1} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{LU}_{i,j} \quad (11)$$

Consider source matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ , we have general expression for the linear system with variable vector  $\vec{x}$  and value vector  $b$ :

$$\mathbf{A}_{i,j}\vec{x} = \vec{b} \Rightarrow \mathbf{LU}_{i,j}\vec{x} = \vec{b} \quad (12)$$

We can solve for coefficient  $c$  using the following substitution methods. First, we set  $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}\vec{x} = \vec{y}$  and solve for  $\vec{y}$ . Then, we set  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}\vec{y} = \vec{b}$  and solve for  $\vec{x}$ . Effectively, we use:

$$\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}\vec{x} = \vec{b} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \mathbf{L}_{i,j}\vec{x} = \vec{y} \\ \mathbf{U}_{i,j}\vec{y} = \vec{x} \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

Recall how  $\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}$  is the combined matrix of  $\mathbf{L}_{i,j}$  and  $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}$ . We can therefore extract component matrix values via careful indexing rules:

$$\mathbf{L}_{i,j} , i > j ; \quad \mathbf{U}_{i,j} , i \leq j \quad (14)$$

We extract the terms for forward and backward substitution via:

$$\begin{aligned} \vec{y}_i &= \frac{1}{\mathbf{L}_{i,i}} \left( \vec{b}_i - \sum_{j=0}^{i-1} \vec{y}_j \mathbf{L}_{i,j} \right) \\ \vec{x}_i &= \frac{1}{\mathbf{U}_{i,i}} \left( \vec{y}_i - \sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1} \mathbf{U}_{i,j} \vec{x}_j \right) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Therefore, we obtain  $\vec{x}$  as  $c$ . For more information, see listed comments in code listing sections. In the provided plotting functions, we plot the polynomial fit from LU decomposition against source data points, with residual terms represented as absolute error on log scale.

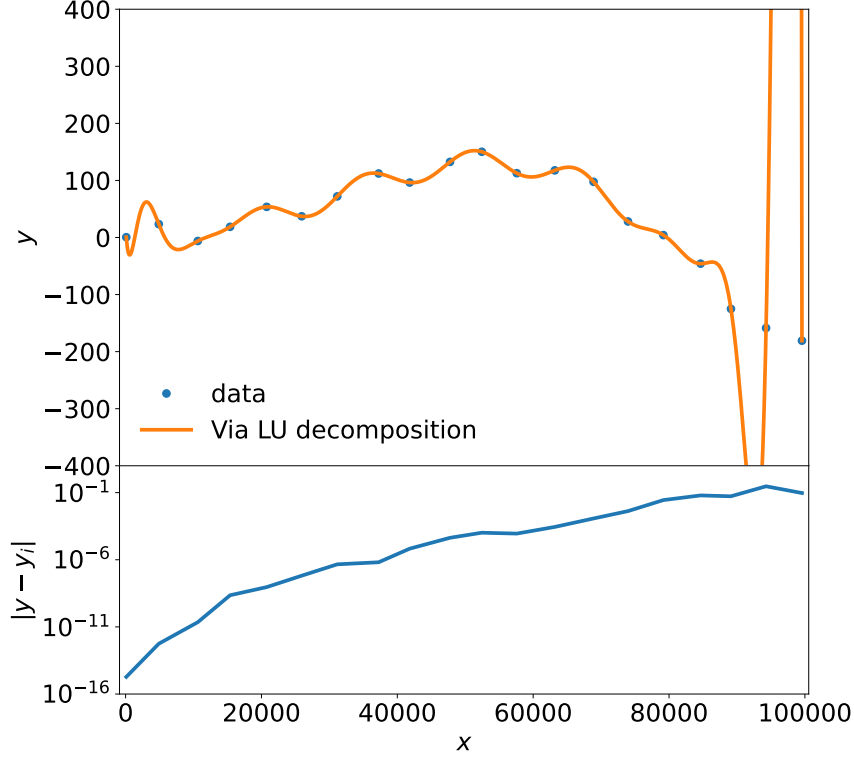


Figure 1: Polynomial fit evaluated using LU decomposition. Top: data points and interpolated curve. Bottom: absolute error at the data points on a log scale.

## 2.2 (2b) Neville's algorithm

Moving onward, we implement Neville's algorithm for interpreting  $\vec{y}$  from  $\vec{x}$ . The aim of Neville's algorithm is to interpolate the values of the entire function from some given  $(x, y)$  data points. To achieve this, we generate a table  $\mathbf{p}_{i,j}$  to store the polynomials. Let us again consider a  $3 \times 3$  matrix for intuition:

$$\mathbf{p}_{i,j} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{0,0} & \mathbf{p}_{0,1} & \mathbf{p}_{0,2} \\ & \mathbf{p}_{1,1} & \mathbf{p}_{1,2} \\ & & \mathbf{p}_{2,2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (16)$$

Intuitively, we see that  $\mathbf{p}_{i,i}$  terms match with source  $(x, y)$  pairs. That is,  $\mathbf{p}_{i,i} = y_i$ . Therefore, we can interpolate for some  $x = k$  as:

$$\mathbf{p}_{i,j} = \frac{(k - x_i) p_{i+1,j} - (k - x_j) p_{i,j-1}}{x_j - x_i}, \quad k \in (\min(x), \max(x)) \quad (17)$$

However, we quickly notice that enforcing loops over rows is not ideal, as we would be computing for  $\mathbf{p}_{0,2}$  prior to its dependencies  $\mathbf{p}_{0,1}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_{1,2}$  are resolved. That is, we simply shift the matrix

to the following form such that:

$$\mathbf{p}_{i,j} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{p}_{0,0} & \mathbf{p}_{0,1} & \mathbf{p}_{0,2} \\ \mathbf{p}_{1,0} & \mathbf{p}_{1,1} & \\ \mathbf{p}_{2,0} & & \end{bmatrix} \quad (18)$$

We can now interpolate  $\mathbf{p}_{0,1}$  from  $\mathbf{p}_{0,0}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_{1,0}$ . Similarly, we obtain  $\mathbf{p}_{1,1}$  from  $\mathbf{p}_{1,0}$  and  $\mathbf{p}_{2,0}$ . The indexing is now shifted to:

$$\mathbf{p}_{i,j} = \frac{(k - x_i)\mathbf{p}_{i+1,j-1} - (k - x_{i+j})\mathbf{p}_{i,j-1}}{x_{i+j} - x_i} \quad (19)$$

Naturally, we index out  $\mathbf{p}_{0,-1}$  term of the resulting polynomial table to obtain the evaluated  $y$  value at some  $x = k$ . And by performing this operation repeatedly, we can construct some evaluate  $\vec{y}$  from  $\vec{k}$ , which would be used for residual calculations.

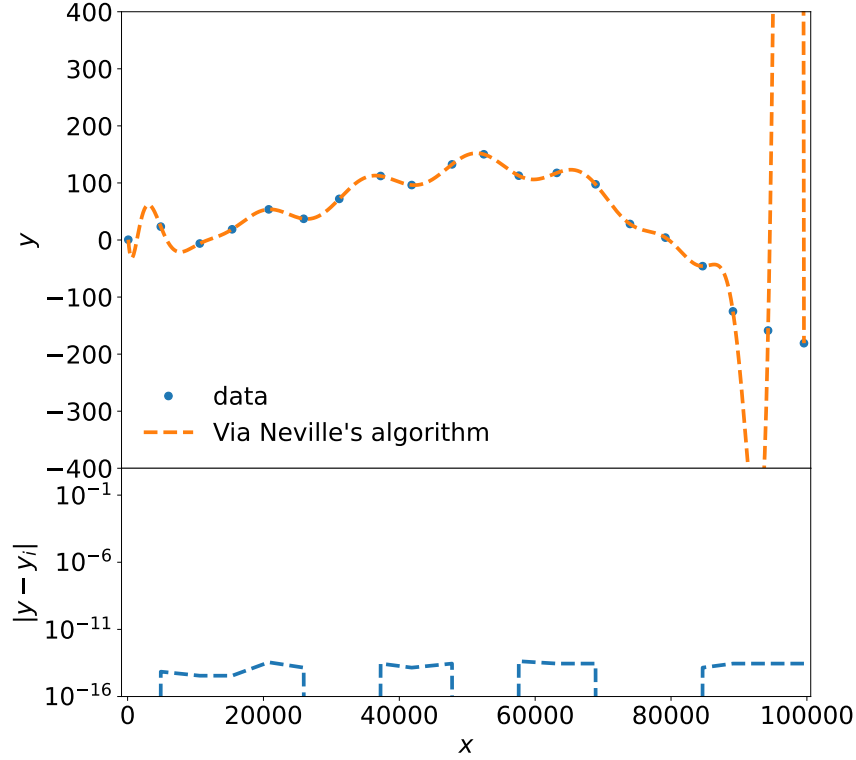


Figure 2: Interpolation using Neville's algorithm. Top: data points and interpolated curve. Bottom: absolute error at the data points on a log scale.

### 2.3 (2c) Improving the LU decomposition

We now come to the part where we realize that LU decomposition methods for solving  $c$  can be problematic when we followed Court's algorithm. Namely, for source matrix  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ , when we perform pivoting operations, we might run into cases where the values on each row are in extreme ratio. Since we enforce `dtype=numpy.float64` on matrix entries, the error from numerical operations increases as the number of operations increases. Therefore, by introducing partial pivoting with pivot value storage in a dedicated vector  $\vec{p}$ .

This step is important for organizing the source matrix before pivoting is performed. Consider the following matrix with arbitrarily massive value differences:

$$\mathbf{A}_{i,j} = \begin{bmatrix} 10^2 & 10^9 & 10^{21} \\ 10^{-20} & 10^{21} & 10^{-1} \\ 10^3 & 10^1 & 10^{-2} \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

With the previous implementation of Court's algorithm, we get pivot term  $10^{-22}$  on row  $i = 1$ . This lead to iterative Gaussian elimination steps on the rows, neglecting potential numerical stability issue with repeated division. Alternatively, by adding implicit pivoting, we observe that a max value of  $(i, j) = (1, 1)$  is found in  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ . We can therefore first compute the pivot for this  $(i, j) = (1, 1)$  pair for Gaussian elimination. The core idea is to prevent division by extremely small numbers.

In our code, we loop over indices to find the max value of some  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$ . After which, we rearrange  $\mathbf{A}_{i,j}$  through row swapping if applicable for Gaussian elimination preparation. Thus, we obtain  $\mathbf{LU}_{i,j}$  with implicit pivoting included. And as usual, we now have the necessary ingredients to solve for  $c$  through forward and backward substitution. Recall the expression for  $\mathbf{V}_{i,j}c = \vec{y}$ , we can compute the residual  $r$ , which leads to the correction term  $\delta_y$  and  $\delta_c$  for  $\vec{y}$  and  $c$ , since we aim to minimize  $r$ .

$$\begin{aligned} r &= \vec{y}_{\text{computed}} - \vec{y}_{\text{data}} \\ \delta_y &\Rightarrow \mathbf{LU}_{i,j} \vec{r} \\ \delta_c &\Rightarrow \mathbf{LU}_{i,j} \vec{\delta_y} \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Thus, we obtain the new coefficient  $c$  as  $c + \delta_c$ . We then iterate over to minimize the residual  $r$ . In the figures,  $r$  live within a smaller range at higher iterations. Howeverm it is observed that these errors do converge when a large number of data points  $x$  are given.



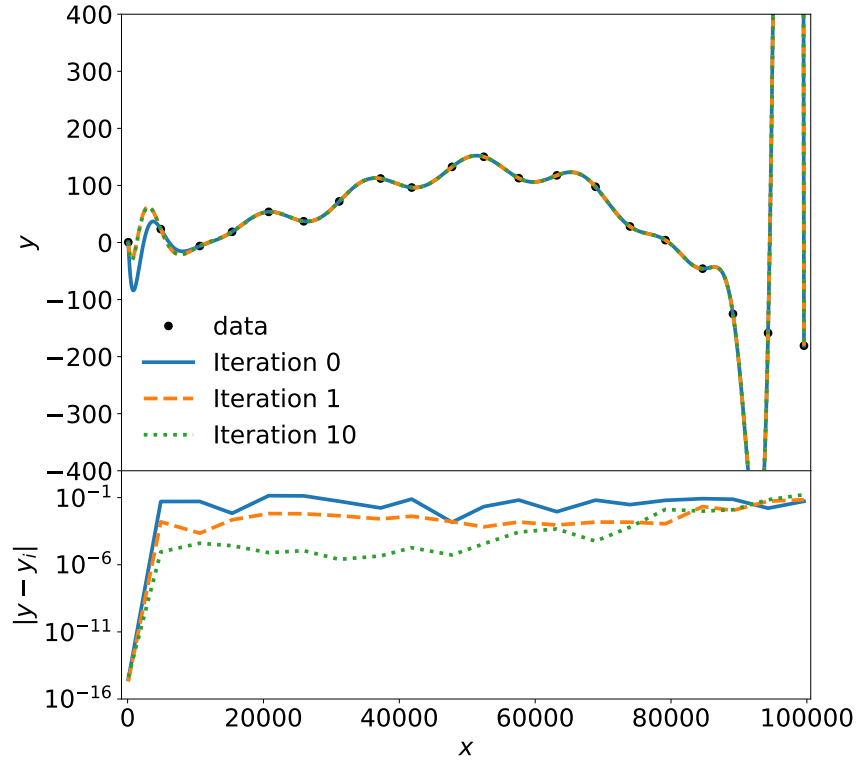


Figure 3: LU-based solution with iterative refinement (showing iterations 0, 1 and 10). Top: interpolated curves. Bottom: absolute error at the data points on a log scale.

## 2.4 (2d) Timing

The function shipped with the template indicated the time calculation from average time taken for ten function calls. We see that basic LU decomposition without implicit pivoting uses the least amount of time when generating results while Neville's algorithm implementation takes significantly longer to complete the same coefficient calculations. LU decomposition with implicit pivoting seems to sit in between the two abovementioned methods in terms of time taken.

Timing results (average per run):

- Execution time for part (a): 0.00027 seconds
- Execution time for part (b): 0.08381 seconds
- Execution time for part (c): 0.00170 seconds

## 2.5 Code for Question 2

The following code was used for parts (2a)–(2d):

```
1  """
2  Scripts for assignment 1 question 2
3  """
4
5  import os
6  import sys
7  import timeit
8
9  import numpy as np
10 import matplotlib as mpl
11 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
12
13 mpl.rcParams["font.size"] = 20
14 mpl.rcParams["axes.labelsize"] = 20
15 mpl.rcParams["xtick.labelsize"] = 20
16 mpl.rcParams["ytick.labelsize"] = 20
17
18
19 def load_data():
20     """
21     Function to load the data from Vandermonde.txt.
22
23     Returns
24     -----
25     x (np.ndarray): Array of x data points.
26
27     y (np.ndarray): Array of y data points.
28     """
29     data = np.genfromtxt(
30         "./data/vandermonde.txt",
31         comments="#",
32         dtype=np.float64,
33     )
34     x = data[:, 0]
35     y = data[:, 1]
36     return x, y
37
38
39 def construct_vandermonde_matrix(x: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
40     """
41     Construct the Vandermonde matrix V with  $V[i,j] = x[i]^j$ .
42
43     Parameters
44     -----
45     x : np.ndarray, x-values.
46
47     Returns
48     -----
49     V : np.ndarray, Vandermonde matrix.
50     """
51     # init vandermonde mat at shape (len(x), len(x))
52     # use consistent float64 dtype as load_data()
53     n = len(x)
54     v_mat = np.zeros((n, n), dtype=np.float64)
55
56     # assign val at elements with  $V(i,j)$  as  $x_i^j$ , first col == 1 by def
57     # 1st col -> 0 idx == [1, 1, ...] Transpose ->  $V(0,0)=1.0$ 
58     # 2nd col -> 1 idx == [x_0, x_1, ...] Transpose ->  $V(1,0)=1.0*x_0$ 
```

```

59 # 3rd col -> 2 idx == [x_0**2, x_1**2, ...] Transpose -> V(2,0)=(1.0*x_0)*x_0
60 # efficient through col assignment by doing col_(j) = x**(j-1)
61 # alternative -> col_(j) = x * col_(j-1)
62 # with j=0 col assignment -> reducing n(operations) on each row with
63 v_mat[:, 0] = np.float64(1.0)
64 # now loop over the rest of the col
65 for j in range(1, n):
66     v_mat[:, j] = x * v_mat[:, j - 1]
67
68     return v_mat
69
70
71 def LU_decomposition(A: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
72     """
73     Perform LU decomposition.
74
75     The lower-triangular matrix (L) is stored in the lower part of A (the diagonal
76     elements are assumed =1),
77     while the upper-triangular matrix (U) is stored on and above the diagonal of A
78     .
79
80     Parameters
81     -----
82     A : np.ndarray
83         Matrix to decompose.
84
85     Returns
86     -----
87     A : np.ndarray
88         Decomposed array.
89     """
90     n_row, n_col = A.shape
91     # error if not square
92     if n_row != n_col:
93         raise ValueError(
94             f"Abort with non-square matrix. Current shape ({A.shape[0]}, {A.shape[1]})."
95         )
96     # error if singular
97     if n_row == n_col == 1:
98         raise ValueError(
99             f"Abort with a singular matrix. Current shape ({A.shape[0]}, {A.shape[1]})."
100         )
101
102     # do gaussian elimination with mat element A(i,j)
103     # 1st row, 1st col item is A(1, 1) in mat, code at 0 idx equivalent to A[0, 0]
104     # L -> terms with i > j
105     # U -> terms with i <= j
106     # LU -> combined L and U into one mat
107     # LU through crout's -> pivot -> loop over col k -> then row i
108     # last diag term does not need pivot
109     for k in range(n_col - 1): # k in [0, n_col-1)
110         pivot = A[k, k]
111         # break if zero pivot
112         if pivot == np.float64(0.0):
113             raise ValueError(f"Found zero pivot, pivot({k}, {k}) = {pivot}.")
114         # do operation on whole row
115         for i in range(k + 1, n_col): # i in [1, n_col)
116             # L(i,k) = A(i,k)/A(k,k), i>k
117             A[i, k] /= pivot
118             # update row -> reduce

```

```

117         A[i, k + 1 :] -= A[i, k] * A[k, k + 1 :]
118
119     return A
120
121     # general form of A for LU follows
122     # A = mat(A_ij)
123     # if A x = b, with A = LU
124     # LU x = b
125     # we can sub with y = U x -> L y = b
126     # we now have 2 sets of eqs 1) y = U x, 2) L y = b
127     # we can now solve for y and x
128
129
130 def forward_substitution_unit_lower(LU: np.ndarray, b: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
131     """
132     Solve L*y = b using forward substitution,
133     where L is the lower-triangular matrix.
134
135     Parameters
136     -----
137     LU : np.ndarray
138         LU matrix from LU_decomposition.
139     b : np.ndarray
140         Right-hand side.
141
142     Returns
143     -----
144     y : np.ndarray
145         Solution vector.
146     """
147     # forward sub
148     # lecture 3 p11
149     # L * y = b
150     # y has shape agreement with b
151     y = np.zeros(len(b), dtype=np.float64)
152
153     # y_i = (1 / L_ii) * (b_i - sum_{j=0}^{i-1}(y_j * L_ij))
154     # because of LU mat instead of L and U mat, we can safely set L_ii = 1
155     #
156     # y[0] = b[0]
157     # y[1] = b[1] - (LU[1,0] * y[0])
158     # y[2] = b[2] - (LU[2,0] * y[0] + LU[2,1] * y[1])
159     for i in range(len(y)):
160         the_sum = np.float64(0.0)
161         for j in range(i):
162             the_sum += LU[i, j] * y[j]
163         y[i] = b[i] - the_sum
164
165     return y
166
167
168 def backward_substitution_upper(LU: np.ndarray, y: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
169     """
170     Solve U*c = y using backward substitution,
171     where U is the upper-triangular matrix.
172
173     Parameters
174     -----
175     LU : np.ndarray
176         LU matrix from LU_decomposition.
177     y : np.ndarray
178         Right-hand side.

```

```

179
180 Returns
181 -----
182 c : np.ndarray
183     Solution vector.
184 """
185 # backward sub
186 # lecture 3 p11 -> U*x = y -> use c notations here
187 # make results ary like in forward sub
188 c = np.zeros(len(y), dtype=np.float64)
189
190 # c_i = (1/U_ii)*(y_i-sum_{j=i+1}^{n-1}(U_ij*c_j))
191 # for j in [i+1, n-1) -> n terms -> idx n-1 = idx -1 -> idx j as [i+1, -1, -1]
192 #
193 # just like in forward sub, we use a LU mat instead of a separate U
194 # U_ij = LU_ij since j >= i
195 #
196 # set n=3
197 # c[0] = (1/LU[0,0])*(y[0]-(LU[0,2]*c[2] + LU[0,1]*c[1]))
198 # c[1] = (1/LU[1,1])*(y[1]-(LU[1,2]*c[2]))
199 # c[2] = (1/LU[2,2])*(y[2])
200 #
201 # loop from last i, i = n-1 = 2 -> loop 2, 1, 0 -> range(n-1, -1, -1)
202 # for j val
203 # when at i = 2 -> empty j loop
204 # when at i = 1 -> loop j at 2
205 # when at i = 0 -> loop j at 1, 2
206 for i in range(len(c) - 1, -1, -1):
207     the_sum = np.float64(0.0)
208     for j in range(i + 1, len(c)):
209         the_sum += LU[i, j] * c[j]
210     c[i] = (1 / LU[i, i]) * (y[i] - the_sum)
211 return c
212
213
214 def vandermonde_solve_coefficients(x: np.ndarray, y: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
215     """
216     Solve for polynomial coefficients c from data (x,y) using the Vandermonde
217     matrix.
218
219     Parameters
220     -----
221     x : np.ndarray
222         x-values.
223     y : np.ndarray
224         y-values.
225
226     Returns
227     -----
228     c : np.ndarray
229         Polynomial coefficients.
230     """
231     # get vandermonde mat
232     v_mat = construct_vandermonde_matrix(x)
233     # get LU from v mat
234     LU = LU_decomposition(v_mat)
235     # we want c
236     # first solve forward sub -> Ly=b -> returns y
237     # y ary in arg is actually b
238     y_ary = forward_substitution_unit_lower(LU, y)
239     # then solve backward sub -> Uc=y_ary -> returns c
240     c = backward_substitution_upper(LU, y_ary)

```

```

240
241     return c
242
243
244 def evaluate_polynomial(c: np.ndarray, x_eval: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
245     """
246     Evaluate  $y(x) = \sum_j c[j] * x^j$ .
247
248     Parameters
249     -----
250     c : np.ndarray
251         Polynomial coefficients.
252     x_eval : np.ndarray
253         Evaluation points.
254
255     Returns
256     -----
257     y_eval : np.ndarray
258         Polynomial values.
259     """
260     # we want y_eval = sum_j (c[j] * x_eval**j)
261     # y_eval[i] = sum_j (c[j] * x_eval[i]**j)
262     # x_eval.shape = y_eval.shape
263     y_eval = np.zeros(x_eval.shape, dtype=np.float64)
264
265     # we need to loop j for c.shape times at each i -> len(c)
266     # at i = 0, say we set len(c) = 3
267     # y[0] = c[0] * 1 + c[1] * x[0] + c[2] * x[0]**2
268     # y[1] = c[0] * 1 + c[1] * x[1] + c[2] * x[1]**2
269     #
270     # y[i] = c[0] * 1 + c[1] * 1 * x[j] + c[2] * 1 * x[j] * x[j]
271     # the prod behind each c can be computed by
272     # prod *= prod, with init at 1.0
273     for i in range(len(x_eval)):
274         y_val = np.float64(0.0)
275         x_val = np.float64(1.0)
276         for j in range(len(c)):
277             y_val += c[j] * x_val
278             x_val *= x_eval[i]
279         y_eval[i] = y_val
280
281     return y_eval
282
283
284 def neville(x: np.ndarray, y: np.ndarray, k: float) -> float:
285     """
286     Function that applies Nevilles algorithm to calculate the function value at k.
287
288     Parameters
289     -----
290     x (np.ndarray): Array of x data points.
291     y (np.ndarray): Array of y data points.
292     k (float): The x value at which to interpolate.
293
294     Returns
295     -----
296     float: The interpolated y value at k.
297     """
298     # lecture 4 p12 -> consider romberg
299     # x_data.shape should match y_data.shape -> same len()
300     # need polynomial table p -> upper trig form
301     n = len(x)

```

```

302 p = np.zeros((n, n), dtype=np.float64)
303
304 # consult gen form when 0<=i<=j<=n
305 # p[i,i] = y[i]
306 # p[i,j] eval at x = ((x-x[i])p[i+1,j]-(x-x[j])p[i,j-1])/(x[j]-x[i])
307 # for code implementation, loop over diag is complicated
308 #
309 # p00 p01 p02      p00 p01 p02
310 #     p11 p12 => p10 p11
311 #         p22      p20
312 #
313 # loop over col at each iter
314 # at each col, loop over rows
315 # p00 = y0, p10 = y1, p20 = y2
316 # p01 = y01, p11 = y12
317 # p02 = y012
318 #
319 # at niter0, col0 is y
320 p[:, 0] = y
321 # loop over col to get the p[:j] needed for next col
322 for j in range(1, n):
323     for i in range(n - j):
324         top = (k - x[i]) * p[i + 1, j - 1] - (k - x[i + j]) * p[i, j - 1]
325         bot = x[i + j] - x[i]
326         p[i, j] = top / bot
327
328 result = np.float64(p[0, -1])
329
330 return result
331
332
333 # you can merge the function below with LU_decomposition to make it more efficient
334 def run_LU_iterations(
335     x: np.ndarray,
336     y: np.ndarray,
337     iterations: int = 11,
338     coeffs_output_path: str = "./output/a1q2_coefficients_output.txt",
339 ):
340     """
341     Iteratively improves computation of coefficients c.
342
343     Parameters
344     -----
345     x : np.ndarray
346         x-values.
347     y : np.ndarray
348         y-values.
349     iterations : int
350         Number of iterations.
351     coeffs_output_path : str
352         File to write coefficient values per iteration.
353
354     Returns
355     -----
356     coeffs_history :
357         List of coefficient vectors.
358     """
359     # get initial conditions
360     n = len(x)
361     # get base v_mat
362     v_mat = construct_vandermonde_matrix(x)
363     # create LU decomposition pivot vec p

```

```

364 LU = v_mat.copy()
365 p = np.arange(n)
366 # init history
367 coeffs_history = []
368
369 # find max pivot and record row idx
370 for k in range(n - 1):
371
372     # get initial max val
373     pivot_max = abs(LU[k, k])
374     pivot_max_row = k
375
376     # check over other pivots
377     for i in range(k + 1, n):
378         pivot_val = abs(LU[i, k])
379         if pivot_val > pivot_max:
380             pivot_max = pivot_val
381             pivot_max_row = i
382
383     # row swap if max pivot not on 0,0
384     if pivot_max_row != k:
385         LU[[k, pivot_max_row]] = LU[[pivot_max_row, k]]
386         p[[k, pivot_max_row]] = p[[pivot_max_row, k]]
387
388     # do LU decomp
389     pivot = LU[k, k]
390     for i in range(k + 1, n):
391         LU[i, k] /= pivot
392         LU[i, k + 1 :] -= LU[i, k] * LU[k, k + 1 :]
393
394 # y swap according to pivot vec p
395 y_new = y[p]
396
397 # find initial c
398 y0 = forward_substitution_unit_lower(LU, y_new)
399 c = backward_substitution_upper(LU, y0)
400 coeffs_history.append(c.copy())
401
402 # write to file
403 # from niter1 onwards
404 # get residual res = y - y_estimated = y - v_mat * c
405 # delta_c = vandermonde solve(x, dy), dy ~ res
406 # c += delta_c -> add to history
407 # next niter
408 with open(coeffs_output_path, "w", encoding="utf-8") as f:
409     f.write(f"niter=0\n")
410     for i, coef in enumerate(c):
411         f.write(f"c_{i}={coef:.3e}\n")
412
413     for it in range(1, iterations):
414         y_est = np.zeros(n, dtype=np.float64)
415         for i in range(n):
416             for j in range(n):
417                 y_est[i] += v_mat[i, j] * c[j]
418
419         res = y - y_est
420         res_new = res[p]
421         delta_y = forward_substitution_unit_lower(LU, res_new)
422         delta_c = backward_substitution_upper(LU, delta_y)
423
424         c += delta_c
425         coeffs_history.append(c.copy())

```



```

426         f.write(f"niter={it}\n")
427     for i, coef in enumerate(c):
428         f.write(f"c_{i}={coef:.3e}\n")
429
430
431     return coeffs_history
432
433
434 def plot_part_a(
435     x_data: np.ndarray,
436     y_data: np.ndarray,
437     coeffs_c: np.ndarray,
438     plots_dir: str = "./plots",
439 ) -> None:
440     """
441     Plotting routine for part (a) results.
442
443     Parameters
444     -----
445     x_data : np.ndarray
446         x-values.
447     y_data : np.ndarray
448         y-values.
449     coeffs_c : np.ndarray
450         Polynomial coefficients c.
451     plots_dir : str
452         Directory to save plots.
453
454     Returns
455     -----
456     None
457     """
458     xx = np.linspace(x_data[0], x_data[-1], 1001)
459     yy = evaluate_polynomial(coeffs_c, xx)
460     y_at_data = evaluate_polynomial(coeffs_c, x_data)
461
462     fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10, 10))
463     gs = fig.add_gridspec(2, hspace=0, height_ratios=[2.0, 1.0])
464     axs = gs.subplots(sharex=True, sharey=False)
465
466     axs[0].plot(x_data, y_data, marker="o", linewidth=0)
467     axs[0].plot(xx, yy, linewidth=3)
468     axs[0].set_xlim(
469         np.floor(xx[0]) - 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
470         np.ceil(xx[-1]) + 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
471     )
472     axs[0].set_ylim(-400, 400)
473     axs[0].set_ylabel("$y$")
474     axs[0].legend(["data", "Via LU decomposition"], frameon=False, loc="lower left")
475
476     axs[1].set_ylim(1e-16, 1e1)
477     axs[1].set_yscale("log")
478     axs[1].set_ylabel(r"$|y - y_i|$")
479     axs[1].set_xlabel("$x$")
480     axs[1].plot(x_data, np.abs(y_data - y_at_data), linewidth=3)
481
482     plt.savefig(os.path.join(plots_dir, "a1q2_vandermonde_sol_2a.pdf"))
483     plt.close()
484
485
486 def plot_part_b(

```

```

487     x_data: np.ndarray,
488     y_data: np.ndarray,
489     plots_dir: str = "./plots",
490 ) -> None:
491     """
492     Plotting routine for part (b) results.
493
494     Parameters
495     -----
496     x_data : np.ndarray
497         x-values.
498     y_data : np.ndarray
499         y-values.
500     plots_dir : str
501         Directory to save plots.
502
503     Returns
504     -----
505     None
506     """
507     xx = np.linspace(x_data[0], x_data[-1], 1001)
508     yy = np.array([neville(x_data, y_data, x) for x in xx], dtype=np.float64)
509     y_at_data = np.array([neville(x_data, y_data, x) for x in x_data], dtype=np.
510                           float64)
511
512     fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10, 10))
513     gs = fig.add_gridspec(2, hspace=0, height_ratios=[2.0, 1.0])
514     axs = gs.subplots(sharex=True, sharey=False)
515
516     axs[0].plot(x_data, y_data, marker="o", linewidth=0)
517     axs[0].plot(xx, yy, linestyle="dashed", linewidth=3)
518     axs[0].set_xlim(
519         np.floor(xx[0]) - 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
520         np.ceil(xx[-1]) + 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
521     )
522     axs[0].set_ylim(-400, 400)
523     axs[0].set_ylabel("$y$")
524     axs[0].legend(["data", "Via Neville's algorithm"], frameon=False, loc="lower
525                  left")
526
527     axs[1].set_ylim(1e-16, 1e1)
528     axs[1].set_yscale("log")
529     axs[1].set_ylabel(r"$|y - y_i|$")
530     axs[1].set_xlabel("$x$")
531     axs[1].plot(x_data, np.abs(y_data - y_at_data), linestyle="dashed", linewidth
532                =3)
533
534     plt.savefig(os.path.join(plots_dir, "a1q2_vandermonde_sol_2b.pdf"))
535     plt.close()
536
537 def plot_part_c(
538     x_data: np.ndarray,
539     y_data: np.ndarray,
540     coeffs_history: list[np.ndarray],
541     iterations_num: list[int] = [0, 1, 10],
542     plots_dir: str = "./plots",
543 ) -> None:
544     """
545     Plotting routine for part (c) results.
546
547     Parameters

```

```

546 -----
547 x_data : np.ndarray
548     x-values.
549 y_data : np.ndarray
550     y-values.
551 coeffs_history : list[np.ndarray]
552     Coefficients per iteration.
553 iterations_num : list[int]
554     Iteration numbers to plot.
555 plots_dir : str
556     Directory to save plots.
557
558 Returns
559 -----
560 None
561 """
562
563 linstyl = ["solid", "dashed", "dotted"]
564 colors = ["tab:blue", "tab:orange", "tab:green"]
565
566 xx = np.linspace(x_data[0], x_data[-1], 1001)
567
568 fig = plt.figure(figsize=(10, 10))
569 gs = fig.add_gridspec(2, hspace=0, height_ratios=[2.0, 1.0])
570 axs = gs.subplots(sharex=True, sharey=False)
571
572 axs[0].plot(x_data, y_data, marker="o", linewidth=0, color="black", label="
573 data")
574
575 for i, k in enumerate(iterations_num):
576     if k >= len(coeffs_history):
577         continue
578     c = coeffs_history[k]
579     yy = evaluate_polynomial(c, xx)
580     y_at_data = evaluate_polynomial(c, x_data)
581     diff = np.abs(y_at_data - y_data)
582
583     axs[0].plot(
584         xx,
585         yy,
586         linestyle=linstyl[i],
587         color=colors[i],
588         linewidth=3,
589         label=f"Iteration {k}",
590     )
591     axs[1].plot(x_data, diff, linestyle=linstyl[i], color=colors[i], linewidth
592 =3)
593
594 axs[0].set_xlim(
595     np.floor(xx[0]) - 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
596     np.ceil(xx[-1]) + 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
597 )
598 axs[0].set_ylim(-400, 400)
599 axs[0].set_ylabel("$y$")
600 axs[0].legend(frameon=False, loc="lower left")
601
602 axs[1].set_ylim(1e-16, 1e1)
603 axs[1].set_yscale("log")
604 axs[1].set_ylabel(r"$|y - y_i|$")
605 axs[1].set_xlabel("$x$")
606
607 plt.savefig(os.path.join(plots_dir, "a1q2_vandermonde_sol_2c.pdf"))

```

```

606     plt.close()
607
608
609 def main():
610     os.makedirs("./plots", exist_ok=True)
611     x_data, y_data = load_data()
612
613     # compute times
614     number = 10
615
616     t_a = (
617         timeit.timeit(
618             stmt=lambda: vandermonde_solve_coefficients(x_data, y_data),
619             number=number,
620         )
621         / number
622     )
623
624     xx = np.linspace(x_data[0], x_data[-1], 1001)
625     t_b = (
626         timeit.timeit(
627             stmt=lambda: np.array(
628                 [neville(x_data, y_data, x) for x in xx], dtype=np.float64
629             ),
630             number=number,
631         )
632         / number
633     )
634
635     t_c = (
636         timeit.timeit(
637             stmt=lambda: run_LU_iterations(x_data, y_data, iterations=11),
638             number=number,
639         )
640         / number
641     )
642
643     # write all timing
644     with open("./output/a1q2_execution_times.txt", "w", encoding="utf-8") as f:
645         f.write(f"\\item Execution time for part (a): {t_a:.5f} seconds\n")
646         f.write(f"\\item Execution time for part (b): {t_b:.5f} seconds\n")
647         f.write(f"\\item Execution time for part (c): {t_c:.5f} seconds\n")
648
649     c_a = vandermonde_solve_coefficients(x_data, y_data)
650     plot_part_a(x_data, y_data, c_a)
651
652     formatted_c = [f"{coef:.3e}" for coef in c_a]
653     with open("./output/a1q2_coefficients_output.txt", "w", encoding="utf-8") as f:
654         :
655         for i, coef in enumerate(formatted_c):
656             f.write(f"c$_{i+1}$ = {coef}, ")
657
658     plot_part_b(x_data, y_data)
659
660     coeffs_history = run_LU_iterations(
661         x_data,
662         y_data,
663         iterations=11,
664         coeffs_output_path="./output/a1q2_coefficients_per_iteration.txt",
665     )
666     plot_part_c(x_data, y_data, coeffs_history, iterations_num=[0, 1, 10])

```

```

667 |
668 | if __name__ == "__main__":
669 |     main()

```

## 2.6 Conclusions

That is, we observe basic LU decomposition through Court's algorithm to be the fastest but least accurate. This is because we are gambling on the source matrix to be somewhat compatible for this direct approach without introducing too much numerical instabilities. And Neville's algorithm is the slowest by almost 300 orders of magnitude in terms of time consumed while producing the smallest error. This is because Neville's algorithm interpolates the Vandermonde matrix for results in an almost brute-force way. Even with a permutation table present, the number of operations needed to fill the permutation table is huge. Comparing the order of operations, basic LU decomposition is the heaviest when LU matrix operations are called, as Gaussian elimination requires operations  $O(n^3)$ . While Neville's algorithm, though relying on a permutation table, which echoes to order of  $O(n^2)$ , is linearly dependent on the number of points supplied.

Iterative LU decomposition with implicit pivoting gives reasonably small error terms while being significantly faster than Neville's algorithm. Fundamentally, the iterative approach is very similar to the basic LU decomposition solving through Court's algorithm, with key difference in using implicit pivoting for maintaining numerical stability. By direct comparison, the iterative process takes on more operations, but after the first iteration where initial  $c$  is known, the iterative process only needs to solve for  $\delta_y$  and  $\delta_c$ , instead of constructing a fresh source data matrix at each iteration.

Overall, we must consider how computers handle numbers. For this assignment, most arrays and numbers are computed with `numpy.float64` precision. And with each operation, rounding errors compound. Assume high iterations for solving a system, higher number of operations reflects a higher error in numerical roundoff. But in terms of balancing speed and precision, an iterative approach is ideal.

## Acknowledgement

This article is rendered off of source files at [git@github.com:Yang-Taotao/strw-nur-scripts](https://github.com/Yang-Taotao/strw-nur-scripts).