

NUR A - Assignment 1

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Dated: February 28, 2026

1 Poisson Distribution

We start with the general expression for Poisson distribution for some positive mean λ 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 λ 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 λ 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 λ 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, lmbda: np.float32) -> np.float32:
9     """Calculate the Poisson probability for k occurrences with mean lmbda.
10    Parameters:
11        k (np.int32): The number of occurrences.
12        lmbda (np.float32): The mean number of occurrences.
13    Returns:
14        np.float32: The probability of observing k occurrences given the mean
15        lmbda.
16    """
17    # we start with the gen form of posson distro P
18    # top = lmbda**k * np.exp(-lmbda)
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(lmbda) - lmbda - 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 lmbda doesn't match wanted dtype
28    if k.dtype != np.int32 or lmbda.dtype != np.float32:
29        raise TypeError(
30            f"No matching dtype with k.dtype {k.dtype}, lmbda.dtype {lmbda.dtype}"
31        )
32
33    # local dtype enforcement
34    k = np.int32(k)
35    lmbda = np.float32(lmbda)
36
37    # special case if k = 0 -> k! = 1
38    if k == np.int32(0):
39        result = np.exp(-lmbda)
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 lmbda is non negative
45    if lmbda <= np.int32(0):
46        raise ValueError(f"Invalid lmbda when lmbda <= 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(lmbda, dtype=np.float32) - lmbda - 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} \\\hline \n")
75             else:
76                 file.write(f"{lmbda:.1f} & {k} & {P:.6e} \n")
77
78     if __name__ == "__main__":
79         main()
80

```

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

λ	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 λ .

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 matrixies 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 relavant rows. These matrixies 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 matrixies. 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 $\mathbf{U}_{i,j}$:

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

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 subsitution 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:

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

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 lisitng 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.

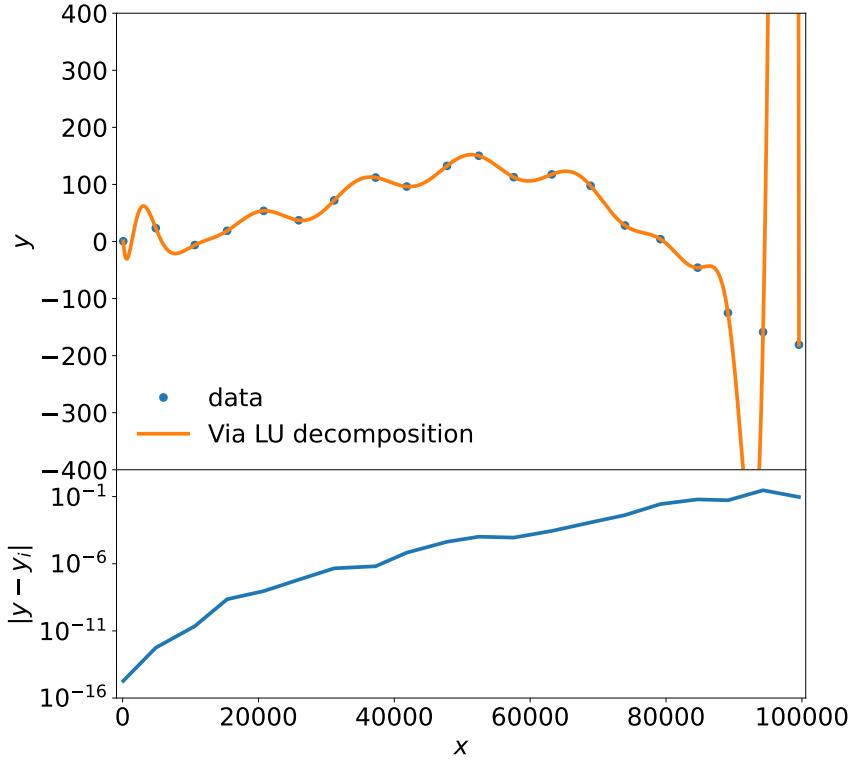


Figure 1: Polynomial fit evaluated using LU decomposition. Top: data points and interpolated curve. Bottom: absolute error at the data points on a log scale.

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 3×3 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.

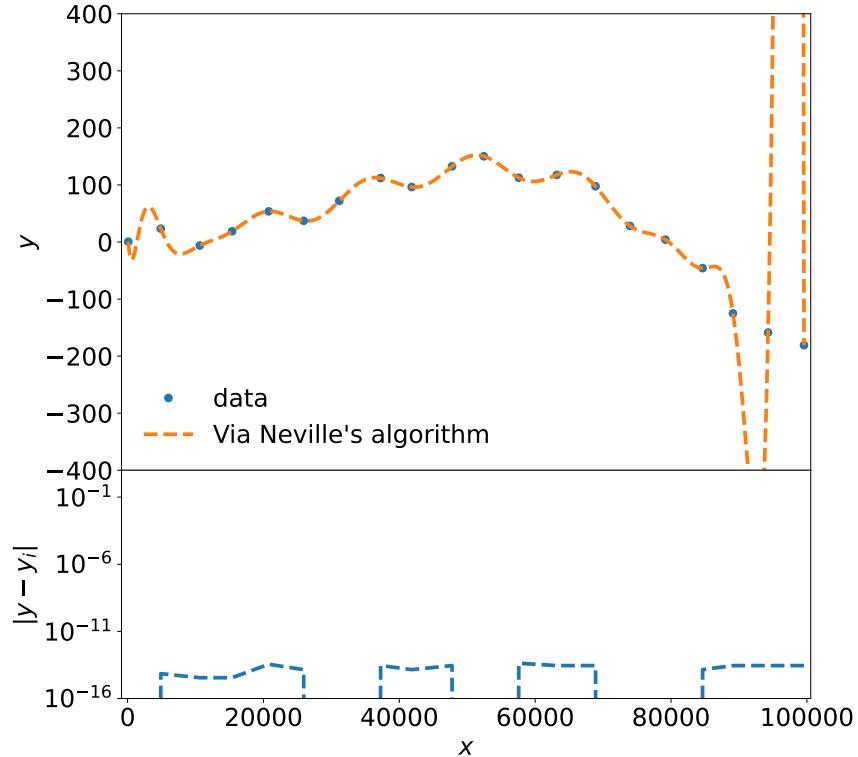


Figure 2: Interpolation using Neville's algorithm. Top: data points and interpolated curve. Bottom: absolute error at the data points on a log scale.

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 leads 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 δ_y and δ_c for \vec{y} and c , since we aim to minimize r .

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

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. However, it is observed that these errors do converge when a large number of data points x are given.

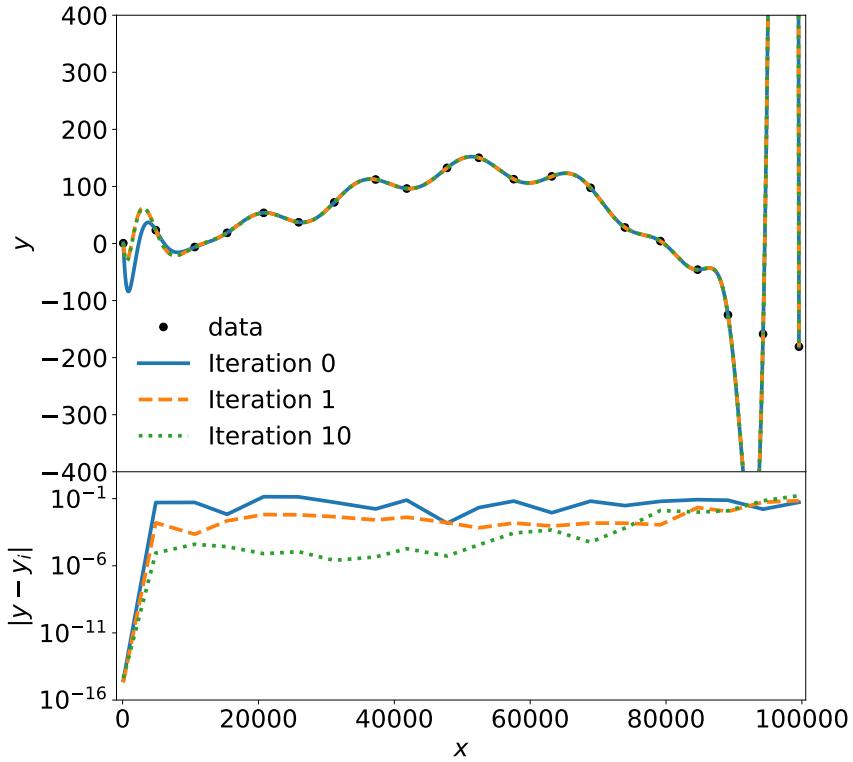


Figure 3: LU-based solution with iterative refinement (showing iterations 0, 1 and 10). Top: interpolated curves. Bottom: absolute error at the data points on a log scale.

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
30     data = np.genfromtxt(
31         "./data/vandermonde.txt",
32         comments="#",
33         dtype=np.float64,
34     )
35     x = data[:, 0]
36     y = data[:, 1]
37     return x, y
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     Parameters
80     -----
81     A : np.ndarray
82         Matrix to decompose.
83
84     Returns
85     -----
86     A : np.ndarray
87         Decomposed array.
88
89     n_row, n_col = A.shape
90     # error if not square
91     if n_row != n_col:
92         raise ValueError(
93             f"Abort with non-square matrix. Current shape ({A.shape[0]}, {A.shape[1]}).")
94     # error if singular
95     if n_row == n_col == 1:
96         raise ValueError(
97             f"Abort with a singular matrix. Current shape ({A.shape[0]}, {A.shape[1]}).")
98
99
100    # do gaussian elimination with mat element A(i,j)
101    # 1st row, 1st col item is A(1, 1) in mat, code at 0 idx equivalent to A[0, 0]
102    # L -> terms with i > j
103    # U -> terms with i <= j
104    # LU -> combined L and U into one mat
105    # LU through crout's -> pivot -> loop over col k -> then row i
106    # last diag term does not need pivot
107    for k in range(n_col - 1): # k in [0, n_col-1)
108        pivot = A[k, k]
109        # break if zero pivot
110        if pivot == np.float64(0.0):
111            raise ValueError(f"Found zero pivot, pivot({k}, {k}) = {pivot}.")
112        # do operation on whole row
113        for i in range(k + 1, n_col): # i in [1, n_col)
114            # L(i,k) = A(i,k)/A(k,k), i>k
115            A[i, k] /= pivot
116            # 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
148     # forward sub
149     # lecture 3 p11
150     # L * y = b
151     # y has shape agreement with b
152     y = np.zeros(len(b), dtype=np.float64)
153
154     # y_i = (1 / L_ii) * (b_i - sum_{j=0}^{i-1}(y_j * L_ij))
155     # because of LU mat instead of L and U mat, we can safely set L_ii = 1
156     #
157     # y[0] = b[0]
158     # y[1] = b[1] - (LU[1,0] * y[0])
159     # y[2] = b[2] - (LU[2,0] * y[0] + LU[2,1] * y[1])
160     for i in range(len(y)):
161         the_sum = np.float64(0.0)
162         for j in range(i):
163             the_sum += LU[i, j] * y[j]
164         y[i] = b[i] - the_sum
165
166
167 def backward_substitution_upper(LU: np.ndarray, y: np.ndarray) -> np.ndarray:
168     """
169     Solve U*c = y using backward substitution,
170     where U is the upper-triangular matrix.
171
172     Parameters
173     -----
174     LU : np.ndarray
175         LU matrix from LU_decomposition.
176     y : np.ndarray
177         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     return coeffs_history
431
432
433 def plot_part_a(
434     x_data: np.ndarray,
435     y_data: np.ndarray,
436     coeffs_c: np.ndarray,
437     plots_dir: str = "./plots",
438 ) -> None:
439     """
440     Plotting routine for part (a) results.
441
442     Parameters
443     -----
444     x_data : np.ndarray
445         x-values.
446     y_data : np.ndarray
447         y-values.
448     coeffs_c : np.ndarray
449         Polynomial coefficients c.
450     plots_dir : str
451         Directory to save plots.
452
453     Returns
454     -----
455     None
456     """
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_yscale("log")
477     axs[1].set_ylabel(r"$|y - y_i|$")
478     axs[1].set_xlabel("$x$")
479     axs[1].plot(x_data, np.abs(y_data - y_at_data), linewidth=3)
480
481     plt.savefig(os.path.join(plots_dir, "a1q2_vandermonde_sol_2a.pdf"))
482     plt.close()
483
484
485 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_yscale("log")
528     axs[1].set_ylabel(r"$|y - y_i|$")
529     axs[1].set_xlabel("$x$")
530     axs[1].plot(x_data, np.abs(y_data - y_at_data), linestyle="dashed", linewidth
531                  =3)
532
533     plt.savefig(os.path.join(plots_dir, "a1q2_vandermonde_sol_2b.pdf"))
534     plt.close()
535
536     def plot_part_c(
537         x_data: np.ndarray ,
538         y_data: np.ndarray ,
539         coeffs_history: list[np.ndarray],
540         iterations_num: list[int] = [0, 1, 10],
541         plots_dir: str = "./plots",
542     ) -> None:
543         """
544         Plotting routine for part (c) results.
545
546         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="data")
573
574     for i, k in enumerate(iterations_num):
575         if k >= len(coeffs_history):
576             continue
577         c = coeffs_history[k]
578         yy = evaluate_polynomial(c, xx)
579         y_at_data = evaluate_polynomial(c, x_data)
580         diff = np.abs(y_at_data - y_data)
581
582         axs[0].plot(
583             xx,
584             yy,
585             linestyle=linstyl[i],
586             color=colors[i],
587             linewidth=3,
588             label=f"Iteration {k}",
589         )
590         axs[1].plot(x_data, diff, linestyle=linstyl[i], color=colors[i], linewidth=3)
591
592     axs[0].set_xlim(
593         np.floor(xx[0]) - 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
594         np.ceil(xx[-1]) + 0.01 * (xx[-1] - xx[0]),
595     )
596     axs[0].set_yscale("log")
597     axs[0].set_ylabel("$|y - y_i|$")
598     axs[0].legend(frameon=False, loc="lower left")
599
600     axs[1].set_yscale("log")
601     axs[1].set_xlabel("$x$")
602     axs[1].set_ylabel("$|y - y_i|$")
603
604     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"\nitem Execution time for part (a): {t_a:.5f} seconds\n")
646         f.write(f"\nitem Execution time for part (b): {t_b:.5f} seconds\n")
647         f.write(f"\nitem 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 interpolate the Vandermonde matrix for results in an almost bruteforce 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 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 need to solve for δ_y and δ_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 operations, 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).