

**A FIRST COURSE**  
**IN**  
**NUMERICAL ANALYSIS**



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**MAT4001 Notebook**

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# Notations and Conventions

$\mathbb{R}^n$	$n$ -dimensional real space
$\mathbb{C}^n$	$n$ -dimensional complex space
$\mathbb{R}^{m \times n}$	set of all $m \times n$ real-valued matrices
$\mathbb{C}^{m \times n}$	set of all $m \times n$ complex-valued matrices
$x_i$	$i$ th entry of column vector $\mathbf{x}$
$a_{ij}$	$(i, j)$ th entry of matrix $\mathbf{A}$
$\mathbf{a}_i$	$i$ th column of matrix $\mathbf{A}$
$\mathbf{a}_i^T$	$i$ th row of matrix $\mathbf{A}$
$\mathbb{S}^n$	set of all $n \times n$ real symmetric matrices, i.e., $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and $a_{ij} = a_{ji}$ for all $i, j$
$\mathbb{H}^n$	set of all $n \times n$ complex Hermitian matrices, i.e., $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ and $\bar{a}_{ij} = a_{ji}$ for all $i, j$
$\mathbf{A}^T$	transpose of $\mathbf{A}$ , i.e, $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^T$ means $b_{ji} = a_{ij}$ for all $i, j$
$\mathbf{A}^H$	Hermitian transpose of $\mathbf{A}$ , i.e, $\mathbf{B} = \mathbf{A}^H$ means $b_{ji} = \bar{a}_{ij}$ for all $i, j$
$\text{trace}(\mathbf{A})$	sum of diagonal entries of square matrix $\mathbf{A}$
$\mathbf{1}$	A vector with all 1 entries
$\mathbf{0}$	either a vector of all zeros, or a matrix of all zeros
$\mathbf{e}_i$	a unit vector with the nonzero element at the $i$ th entry
$\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{A})$	the column space of $\mathbf{A}$
$\mathcal{R}(\mathbf{A})$	the row space of $\mathbf{A}$
$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{A})$	the null space of $\mathbf{A}$
$\text{Proj}_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{A})$	the projection of $\mathbf{A}$ onto the set $\mathcal{M}$



# Chapter 1

## Week1

### 1.1. Monday

#### 1.1.1. Introduction to Numerical Analysis

**Solving Nonlinear Equations.** For example, we want to solve a nonlinear equation  $w(1)$  with  $w$  to be the LambertW function:

$$we^w = 1.$$

This topic will be taught in chapter 2.

**Interpolation.** Given a list of data points, our aim is to recover/approximate the origin function over a function class, i.e., piecewise linear functions or polynomials. This topic will be taught in chapter 3.

**Numerical Integration.** The cdf of the standard normal distribution is given by:

$$N(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^x \exp\left(-\frac{t^2}{2}\right) dt$$

To approximate the values for  $N(x)$ , we need to apply a numerical method (quadrature rules) to evaluate. This topic will be taught in chapter 4.

**Solving Linear Systems.** To find the solutions of a linear system of equations

$$Ax = b,$$

e.g., when we use *finite difference* method to solve a differential equation, it is necessary to apply some numerical method to solve it in computer. This topic will be taught in chapter 5.

**Least Squares.** If we have more time, we will teach how to fit a set of data points by a function from a function class.

## 1.1.2. Basic Concepts

**Definition 1.1** [Truncation Error] The error made by numerical algorithms that arises from taking finite number of steps in computation ■

For example, consider the Taylor's theorem

$$f(x) = P_n(x) + R_n(x)$$

where

$$P_n(x) = f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \cdots + \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}(x - x_0)^n$$

$$R_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!}(x - x_0)^{n+1}$$

If we use  $P_n(x)$  to approximate  $f(x)$ , the error  $R_n(x)$  is called the **truncation error**.

**Definition 1.2** [Round-off Error] The error produced when a computer is used to perform real number calculations, i.e., the computer only gives approximate value for some real numbers. ■

For example, for numbers  $\frac{1}{3}, \pi, \sqrt{2}$ , they cannot be represented exactly in the computation by a computer.

Such errors are invertible, but we can try to minimize the negative impact of these errors by rewriting the formula that are wish to compute.

**Definition 1.3** [Binary Floating Point Number] A 64-bit (binary digit) representation is used for a real number:

$$(-1)^s 2^{c-1023} (1 + f)$$

**Definition 1.4** Suppose  $p^*$  is an approximation to  $p$ . The actual error is  $p - p^*$ , the absolute error is  $|p - p^*|$ , and the relative error is  $\frac{|p - p^*|}{|p|}$  provided that  $p \neq 0$ .

**Definition 1.5** Suppose  $p^*$  is an approximation to  $p$ , then  $p^*$  is said to approximate  $p$  to  $t$  **significant digits** if  $t$  is the largest nonnegative integer for which

$$\frac{|p - p^*|}{|p|} \leq 5 \times 10^{-t}.$$

### 1.1.3. Convergence and Stability

**Definition 1.6** [Convergence] Suppose a sequence  $\{\beta_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is known to converge to zero, and  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  converges to a number  $\alpha$ . If there exists  $K > 0$  such that

$$|\alpha_n - \alpha| \leq K|\beta_n| \quad \text{for large } n,$$

then  $\{\alpha_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  is said to converge to  $\alpha$  with rate of convergence  $\mathcal{O}(\beta_n)$ , which is denoted as

$$\alpha_n = \alpha + \mathcal{O}(\beta_n).$$

