



PHSA-CC-1-1-P : Mathematical Physics I

Instructor : Amit Kumar Bhattacharjee (AKB)

Course Webpage : https://amitbny.github.io/akb.github.io/sem1H_numerlab.html

Course timeline : Jul–Nov, 2018

Evaluation : Assignments/Classtest followed by Semester examination

Ebook resources : National digital library: <https://ndl.iitkgp.ac.in>
<http://nlist.inflibnet.ac.in>



Course Marks : TBD; Credits – 2

- Introduction and overview ➡ Computer architecture and organization, memory and Input/output devices.
- Basics of scientific computing ➡ Binary and decimal arithmetic, Floating point numbers, algorithms, Sequence, Selection and Repetition, single and double precision arithmetic, underflow & overflow - importance of making equations in terms of dimensionless variables, Iterative methods.



History of Computer ➡ Invented by Dr. C. Babbage, a Mathematics Professor in 19th century.

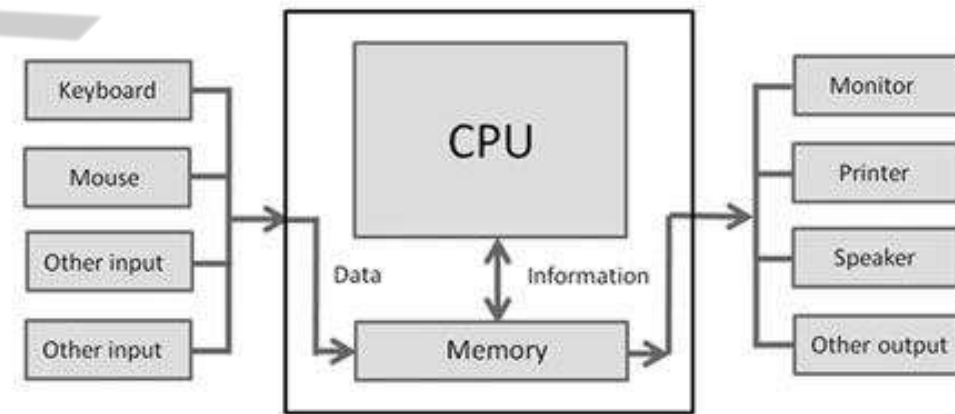
1st Generation (1937 – 1946) ➡ Dr. J.V. Atanasoff & C. Berry – “Atanasoff Berry Computer” (ABC) → Collosus-1943 (first computer for military) → Electronic Numerical Integrator & Computer (ENIAC)-1946 (28k Kg weight, 18k vaccum tubes, single task machine without OS).

2nd Generation (1947 – 1962) ➡ Universal Automatic Computer (UNIVAC1)-1951 for public using Registers → International Business Machine (IBM) 650/700 (memory & OS).

3rd Generation (1963 -) ➡ MicroSoft Disk Operating System (MS-DOS)-1981, IBM introduced Personal Computer (PC) using Inegrated Circuit (IC) → Apple Introduced Macintosh → Windows in 1990.

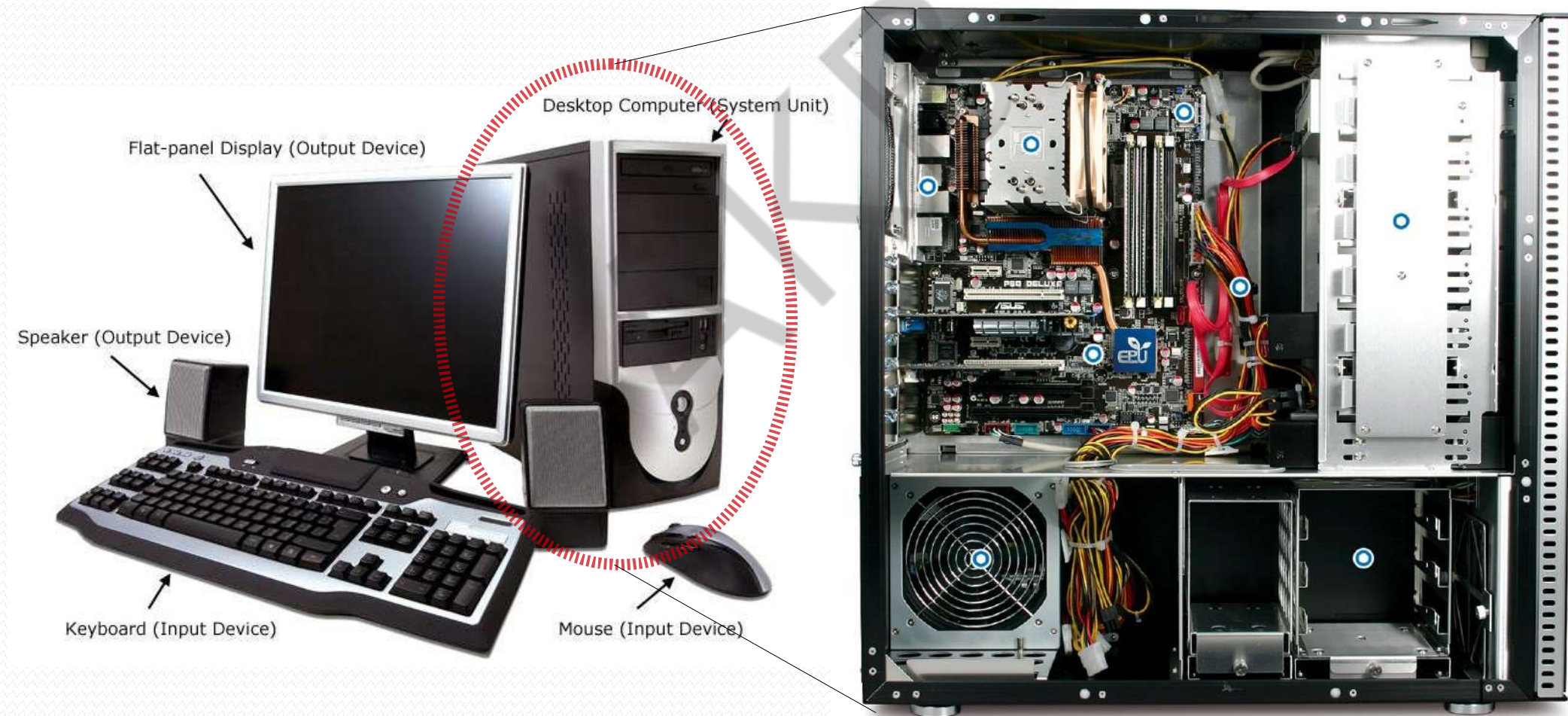
What is a Computer?

A computer is a device that can be instructed to carry out sequences of arithmetic or logical set of operations automatically via computer programming.



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What is a Computer?

CPU consists of Arithmetic Logic Unit (ALU), Memory, Input/Output (I/O)



HDD



RAM



Graphics Card

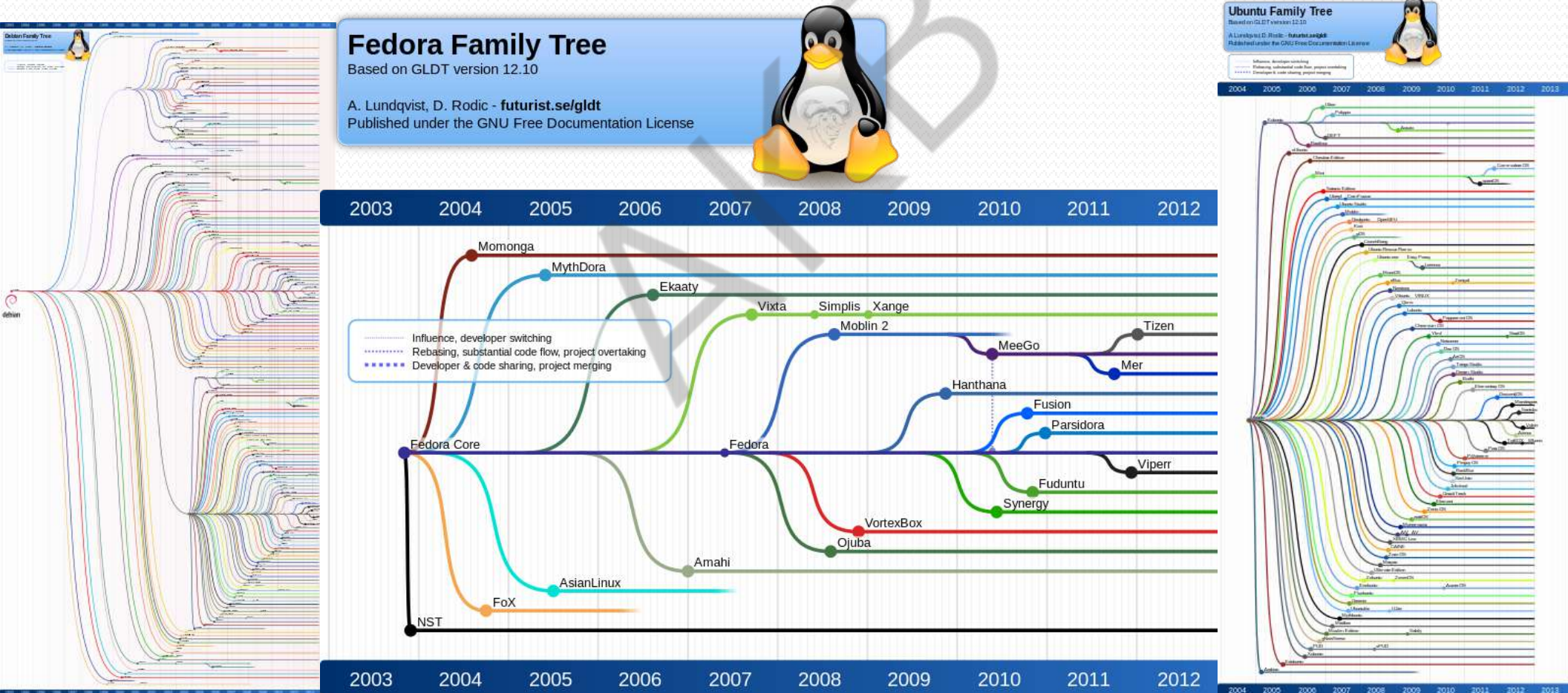
& other components, like motherboard, heat-sink, power supply, Fan etc.

HDD (data-storage) is the secondary memory while RAM (volatile memory) is the primary memory. Graphics card is necessary for data-heavy applications.

- ALU performs 2 class of operations (arithmetic & logic), e.g. +, -, *, /, sin(), sqrt() etc. Some machines can operate only on whole numbers (integers), while others use floating point (real) numbers, but with limited precision. Also Boolean logic operations (AND, OR, NOT, XOR) are performed in ALU.
- Memory cell can store binary numbers in groups of 8 bits (or 1 byte). Each byte represents 256 different numbers ($2^8 = 256$): $\mathbb{R} \in [0, 255], [-128, 127]$. CPU contains memory cells (Registers) which are read/written more rapidly than RAM.
- I/O is the way a CPU exchanges information with the outside world, through Peripherals e.g. keyboard, mouse etc (input devices) & display, printer etc (output devices). HDD, optical disk drives, computer networking serve as both input and output devices.

What is a Computer?

Computer Programs, libraries, Operating Systems (OS) etc. OS has many Variant : (i) Unix distro (Solaris Sun OS), IRIX etc,
(ii) GNU/Linux [CentOS, Fedora (Redhat), SUSE, Ubuntu/Mint]



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Library : (i) Multimedia [DirectX, OpenGL, OpenAL, Vulkan (API)]
(ii) Programming Library (GSL, NRCP etc)

Data : (i) Protocol (TCP/IP, FTP, HTTP, SMTP etc),
(ii) File format (HTML, XML, JPEG, MPEG, PNG etc)

User Interface : GUI

Application Software : Office-suite, Graphics, Audio, Games, Software Engineering (Compiler, Assembler, Interpreter, Debugger, Text editor etc).

What is a Computer?

Programming Languages : (i) Low-level (e.g. Assembly language),
(ii) High-level (e.g. Basic, C/C++, Fortran 90/95, Java, Pascal),
(iii) Scripting (Python, Ruby, Perl).

Mathematical Softwares :

(i) Coding : LAPACK, LINPACK.

(ii) Coding/Visualization/Post-processing : Mathematica, Matlab/Octave, Maple.

(iii) Visualization : OpendX, Ovito, Paraview, VisIt, PyMol.

(iv) Supercomputing : LAMMPS, BoxLib, PETSc, Sundials.

Scientific Computing

17 Equations That Changed the World by Ian Stewart

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| 1. Pythagoras's Theorem | $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$ | Pythagoras, 530 BC |
| 2. Logarithms | $\log xy = \log x + \log y$ | John Napier, 1610 |
| 3. Calculus | $\frac{df}{dt} = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(t+h) - f(t)}{h}$ | Newton, 1668 |
| 4. Law of Gravity | $F = G \frac{m_1 m_2}{r^2}$ | Newton, 1687 |
| 5. The Square Root of Minus One | $i^2 = -1$ | Euler, 1750 |
| 6. Euler's Formula for Polyhedra | $V - E + F = 2$ | Euler, 1751 |
| 7. Normal Distribution | $\Phi(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\rho} e^{-\frac{(x-\mu)^2}{2\rho^2}}$ | C.F. Gauss, 1810 |
| 8. Wave Equation | $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ | J. d'Alembert, 1746 |
| 9. Fourier Transform | $f(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x) e^{-2\pi i x \omega} dx$ | J. Fourier, 1822 |
| 10. Navier-Stokes Equation | $\rho \left(\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v} \right) = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{f}$ | C. Navier, G. Stokes, 1845 |
| 11. Maxwell's Equations | $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = 0 \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{H} = 0$
$\nabla \times \mathbf{E} = -\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{H}}{\partial t} \quad \nabla \times \mathbf{H} = \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial t}$ | J.C. Maxwell, 1865 |
| 12. Second Law of Thermodynamics | $dS \geq 0$ | L. Boltzmann, 1874 |
| 13. Relativity | $E = mc^2$ | Einstein, 1905 |
| 14. Schrodinger's Equation | $i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \Psi = H\Psi$ | E. Schrodinger, 1927 |
| 15. Information Theory | $H = -\sum p(x) \log p(x)$ | C. Shannon, 1949 |
| 16. Chaos Theory | $x_{t+1} = kx_t(1 - x_t)$ | Robert May, 1975 |
| 17. Black-Scholes Equation | $\frac{1}{2}\sigma^2 S^2 \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial S^2} + rS \frac{\partial V}{\partial S} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} - rV = 0$ | F. Black, M. Scholes, 1990 |



= ?

Scientific Computing

- Domain beyond analytical approach (due to non-linearity, integrability, non-inversion and many other reasons): Numerical Mathematics/Applied Mathematics/Computational Science. Applications include, Computational Finance, Computational Biology, Computational Engineering, Computational Physics, Computational Chemistry, Computational Materials Science & so on.
- A well-executed computation can reproduce lab-based experiments quantitatively, and therefore can predict new phenomena by “numerical experiments” often hard to realize on a lab due to financial / timeframe / workforce restrictions.
- There goes the catch! Given a computer, is every computation is a well-executed computation? Answer is NO.

Binary and Decimal

- Decimal (or denary) numeral system represents integer and non-integer numbers in base-10 positional number system. Decimal refers to digits 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 in the decimal system containing a “decimal separator”, e.g. 3.14. In general,

$$a_m a_{m-1} \dots a_0 . b_1 b_2 \dots b_n = a_m 10^m + a_{m-1} 10^{m-1} + \dots + a_0 10^0 + \frac{b_1}{10^1} + \frac{b_2}{10^2} + \dots + \frac{b_n}{10^n}.$$

- Binary numeral system represents only two numbers 0 and 1 in base-2 number system. A human-understood decimal is converted to computer-understood binary to perform computation and back converted to decimal to decipher.

- Conversion binary \rightarrow decimal: $a_m a_{m-1} \dots a_1 = a_m 2^{m-1} + a_{m-1} 2^{m-2} + \dots + a_1 2^0.$

Most Significant Bit (MSB)

Least Significant Bit (LSB)

$$101100101_2 = 1 * 2^8 + 0 * 2^7 + 1 * 2^6 + 1 * 2^5 + 0 * 2^4 + 0 * 2^3 + 1 * 2^2 + 0 * 2^1 + 1 * 2^0 = 357_{10}.$$

- Conversion decimal \rightarrow binary: Repeated division-by-2 method:

294_{10} : divide by 2 \rightarrow 147 { remainder 0 (*LSB*) }, divide by 2 \rightarrow 73 (remainder 1),
divide by 2 \rightarrow 36 (remainder 1), divide by 2 \rightarrow 18 (remainder 0),
divide by 2 \rightarrow 9 (remainder 0), divide by 2 \rightarrow 4 (remainder 1),
divide by 2 \rightarrow 2 (remainder 0), divide by 2 \rightarrow 1 (remainder 0),
divide by 2 \rightarrow 0 { remainder 1 (*MSB*) } \rightarrow 100100110_2 .

- Fractions in binary terminate, if the denominator has 2 as the only prime factor. $1/10$ doesn't have a finite binary representation which causes 10×0.1 not to be precisely equal to 1 in floating point arithmetic. To interpret the binary expression for $\frac{1}{3} = .010101 \dots$ means $= 0 * 2^{-1} + 1 * 2^{-2} + 0 * 2^{-3} + 1 * 2^{-4} + \dots = 0.3125 + \dots$. So 1 and 0's alternate forever, if we want to reach the exact expression as a sum of inverse powers of 2 \rightarrow source of Error !!



- turned out to be inaccurate
low????
- measured by system's i
in seconds, using a 24
terminating binary exp
g error when multiplied
- $$+\frac{1}{2^5}+\frac{1}{2^8}+\frac{1}{2^9}+\frac{1}{2^{12}}+\frac{1}{2^{13}}-$$

0.0001100110011001100110011001100



00000000011001100 lead to

g by the number of tenths of a second
 $100 \times 60 \times 60 \times 10 = 0.34$ seconds.

Floating Point Number System

Significant Digits → These are the first nonzero digit & all succeeding digits, e.g.

1.7320 has 5 significant digits, while 0.0491 has only 3.

A floating point (real) number system have elements of the form $y = \pm m \times \beta^{e-t}$,
is characterized with 4 integer parameters:

- Base (or radix) β , precision t , exponent e & significand (or mantissa) m .
Here $e_{\min} \leq e \leq e_{\max}$ & $0 \leq m < \beta^t$. This gives the range of nonzero floating point numbers $\beta^{e_{\min}-1} \leq y < \beta^{e_{\max}}(1 - \beta^{-t})$.
- Floating point numbers aren't equally spaced !! If $\beta=2, t=3, e_{\min}=-1, e_{\max}=3$ then non-negative numbers are 0, 0.25, 0.3125, 0.3750, 0.4375, 0.5, 0.625, 0.750, 0.875, 1.0, 1.25, 1.50, 1.75, 2.0, 2.5, 3.0, 3.5, 4.0, 5.0, 6.0, 7.0.

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```
amitb@amit-softmat:~$ python
Python 2.7.12 (default, Dec 4 2017, 14:50:18)
[GCC 5.4.0 20160609] on linux2
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>>
```

1.0, 1.25, 1.56, 1.95, 2.44, 3.05, 3.81, 4.76, 5.96, 7.46, 9.31, 11.63, 14.55, 18.18, 22.76, 28.51, 35.65, 44.42, 55.56, 69.61, 87.26, 109.15, 136.96, 171.40, 214.28, 267.43, 332.64, 411.51, 505.63, 627.04, 788.80, 996.27, 1255.10, 1571.36, 1955.45, 2421.81, 3000.00, 3697.27, 4531.25, 5520.00, 6781.25, 8351.56, 10375.00, 12800.00, 15713.60, 19162.50, 23200.00, 28000.00, 33750.00, 40625.00, 48800.00, 58437.50, 69700.00, 83750.00, 99875.00, 118500.00, 140000.00, 164000.00, 191000.00, 221000.00, 255000.00, 293000.00, 336000.00, 384000.00, 437500.00, 496000.00, 559000.00, 627000.00, 699000.00, 776000.00, 858000.00, 945000.00, 1037500.00, 1135000.00, 1237500.00, 1345000.00, 1457500.00, 1575000.00, 1697500.00, 1825000.00, 1957500.00, 2095000.00, 2237500.00, 2385000.00, 2537500.00, 2695000.00, 2857500.00, 3025000.00, 3197500.00, 3375000.00, 3557500.00, 3745000.00, 3937500.00, 4135000.00, 4337500.00, 4545000.00, 4757500.00, 4975000.00, 5197500.00, 5425000.00, 5657500.00, 5895000.00, 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593057500.00, 595495000.00, 597937500.00, 600385000.00, 602837500.00, 605295000.00, 607757500.00, 610225000.00, 612697500.00, 615175000.00, 617657500.00, 620145000.00, 622637500.00, 625135000.00, 627637500.00, 630145000.00, 632657500.00, 635175000.00, 637697500.00, 640225000.00, 642757500.00, 645295000.00, 647837500.00, 650385000.00, 652937500.00, 655495000.00, 658057500.00, 660625000.00, 663197500.00, 665775000.00, 668357500.00, 670945000.00, 673537500.00, 676135000.00, 678737500.00, 681345000.00, 683957500.00, 686575000.00, 689197500.00, 691825000.00, 694457500.00, 697095000.00, 699737500.00, 702385000.00, 705037500.00, 707695000.00, 710357500.00, 713025000.00, 715697500.00, 718375000.00, 721057500.00, 723745000.00, 726437500.00, 729135000.00, 731837500.00, 734545000.00, 737257500.00, 740075000.00, 742797500.00, 745525000.00, 748257500.00, 750995000.00, 753737500.00, 756485000.00, 759237500.00, 761995000.00, 764757500.00, 767525000.00, 770297500.00, 773075000.00, 775857500.00, 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989337500.00, 992485000.00, 995637500.00, 998795000.00, 1001957500.00, 1005125000.00, 1008297500.00, 1011475000.00, 1014657500.00, 1017845000.00, 1021037500.00, 1024235000.00, 1027437500.00, 1030645000.00, 1033857500.00, 1037075000.00, 1040297500.00, 1043525000.00, 1046757500.00, 1050000000.00, 1053245000.00, 1056495000.00, 1059750000.00, 1063010000.00, 1066275000.00, 1069545000.00, 1072820000.00, 1076095000.00, 1079375000.00, 1082660000.00, 1085950000.00, 1089245000.00, 1092545000.00, 1095850000.00, 1099160000.00, 1102475000.00, 1105795000.00, 1109120000.00, 1112450000.00, 1115785000.00, 1119125000.00, 1122470000.00, 1125815000.00, 1129165000.00, 1132520000.00, 1135880000.00, 1139245000.00, 1142615000.00, 1145990000.00, 1149370000.00, 1152755000.00, 1156145000.00, 1159540000.00, 1162940000.00, 1166345000.00, 1169755000.00, 1173170000.00, 1176590000.00, 1180015000.00, 1183445000.00, 1186880000.00, 1190320000.00, 1193765000.00, 1197215000.00, 1200670000.00, 1204130000.00, 1207595000.00, 1211065000.00, 1214540000.00, 1218020000.00, 1221505000.00, 1224995000.00, 1228490000.00, 1231990000.00, 1235495000.00, 1238995000.00, 1242500000.00, 1246010000.00, 1249525000.00, 1253045000.00, 1256570000.00, 1260095000.00, 1263625000.00, 1267160000.00, 1270700000.00, 1274245000.00, 1277795000.00, 1281350000.00, 1284910000.00, 1288475000.00, 1292045000.00, 1295620000.00, 1299200000.00, 1302785000.00, 1306375000.00, 1310000000.00, 1313630000.00, 1317265000.00, 1320905000.00, 1324550000.00, 1328200000.00, 1331855000.00, 1335515000.00, 1339180000.00, 1342850000.00, 1346525000.00, 1350205000.00, 1353890000.00, 1357580000.00, 1361275000.00, 1364975000.00, 1368680000.00, 1372390000.00, 1376105000.00, 1379825000.00, 1383550000.00, 1387280000.00, 1391015000.00, 1394755000.00, 1398500000.00, 1402250000.00, 1406005000.00, 1409765000.00, 1413530000.00, 1417300000.00, 1421075000.00, 1424855000.00, 1428640000.00, 1432430000.00, 1436225000.00, 1440025000.00, 1443830000.00, 1447640000.00, 1451455000.00, 1455275000.00, 1459095000.00, 1462920000.00, 1466750000.00, 1470585000.00, 1474425000.00, 1478270000.00, 1482120000.00, 1485975000.00, 1489835000.00, 1493700000.00, 1497570000.00, 1501445000.00, 1505325000.00, 1509210000.00, 1513100000.00, 1516995000.00, 1520895000.00, 1524800000.00, 1528710000.00, 1532625000.00, 1536545000.00, 1540470000.00, 1544395000.00, 1548325000.00, 1552260000.00, 1556200000.00, 1560145000.00, 1564095000.00, 1568050000.00, 1572010000.00, 1575975000.00, 1579945000.00, 1583920000.00, 1587900000.00, 1591885000.00, 1595875000.00, 1599870000.00, 1603870000.00, 1607875000.00, 1611885000.00, 1615895000.00, 1619910000.00, 1623930000.00, 1627955000.00, 1631985000.00, 1636020000.00, 1640060000.00, 1644105000.00, 1648155000.00, 1652210000.00, 1656270000.00, 1660335000.00, 1664405000.00, 1668480000.00, 1672560000.00, 1676645000.00, 1680735000.00, 1684830000.00, 1688930000.00, 1693035000.00, 1697145000.00, 1701260000.00, 1705380000.00, 1709505000.00, 171363

Floating Point Number System

In MATLAB/Octave, “eps” gives the same value. “realmax” & “realmin” represent the largest positive & smallest positive normalized floating point number. In Python, “import numpy as np”, and then, “np.finfo(np.double).max” yields 1.7976931348623157e+308, while “np.finfo(np.double).tiny” yields 2.2250738585072014e-308.

IEEE Arithmetic → IEEE standard defines a binary floating point system. The standard specifies floating point number formats, results of the basic floating point operations & comparisons, rounding modes, floating point exceptions & handling, conversion between different arithmetic formats.

Two main floating point formats are defined:

Type		Size	Significand	Exponent	Unit roundoff	Range
(precision)	Single	32 bits	23+1 bits	8 bits	2^{-24} $\approx 5.96 \times 10^{-8}$	$10^{\pm 38}$
	Double	64 bits	52+1 bits	11 bits	2^{-53} $\approx 1.11 \times 10^{-16}$	$10^{\pm 308}$

Floating Point Number System

In both formats one bit is reserved as a sign bit. The most significant bit is always 1 & not stored. This hidden bit accounts for the "+1" in the table.

- NaN (Not a number) is a special bit pattern with arbitrary significand. It's generated by operations such as $0/0, 0 \times \infty, \infty/\infty, (+\infty) + (-\infty)$. Infinity symbol is represented by zero significand & same exponent field as NaN, sign bit distinguishes between $\pm\infty$ with property, $\infty + \infty = \infty, (-1) \times \infty = -\infty, \text{finite}/\infty = 0$. Zero is represented by a zero exponent field & zero significand, with $+0 = -0$.
- In MATLAB/Fortran 90/95, $A(p:q, r:s)$ denotes submatrix of A formed of rows p to q & columns r to s. $A(:, j)$ is the jth column of A, and $A(i, :)$ the ith row of A.
- Evaluation of an expression in floating point arithmetic denoted by $fl(\cdot)$ is

$$fl(x \text{ op } y) = (x \text{ op } y)(1 + \delta), \quad |\delta| \leq u$$

u is called the **unit roundoff** (machine precision) $\approx 10^{-8}$ (single), 10^{-16} (double),
 $10^{-10} - 10^{-12}$ (pocket calculators).

- Computed quantities are denoted with **hat**. So, \hat{x} is the computed approximation of x .

Floating Point Number System

- $\lfloor x \rfloor$ (floor x) is the largest integer $\leq x$ & $\lceil x \rceil$ (ceil x) is the smallest integer $\geq x$.
Check with Python: “import math; math.floor(1.9) = 1.0”, “math.ceil(1.9)=2.0”.
- Remember, we compute single precision arithmetic ($u \approx 6 \times 10^{-8}$) by rounding, say, a double precision result with *unit roundoff* ($u \approx 1.1 \times 10^{-16}$) to single precision as well rounding result of every elementary operation to single precision.

Absolute & Relative Error ➡ If \hat{x} is an approximation to real number x , then

$$E_{\text{abs}}(\hat{x}) = |x - \hat{x}|, \quad E_{\text{rel}}(\hat{x}) = \frac{|x - \hat{x}|}{|x|}$$

Note that relative error is scale independent: $x \rightarrow \alpha x, \hat{x} \rightarrow \alpha \hat{x}$, doesn't change $E_{\text{rel}}(\hat{x})$.

- Relative error is connected with the notion of *Correct significant digits*, however relative error is a more precise, base independent measure.
- **Sources of Error** ➡ (i) rounding, (ii) data uncertainty & (iii) truncation. Uncertainty in data can arise in several ways ➡ from errors of measurement, storing data on

Sources of Error

computer. Data errors can be analysed using perturbation theory, while intermediate rounding errors require an analysis specific to the given method & thus harder to understand.

- Truncation/discretization errors is when in Taylor's series to derive numerical methods, such as Trapezium rule for Quadrature, Euler's method for differential equations etc, finite terms are kept and later are omitted. This depends on choice of "h":
$$f(x+h) = f(x) + hf'(x) + \frac{h^2}{2!}f''(x) + \frac{h^3}{3!}f'''(x) + O(h^4)$$

- "Rounding errors and instability are important & numerical analysts will always be the experts in these subjects & at pains to ensure that the unwary are not tripped up by them. But our central mission is to compute quantities that are typically uncomputable, from an analytic point of view, and to do it with lightning speed".



– Nick Trefethen, FRS, Univ. of Oxford.

Precision vs Accuracy ➡ Accuracy refers to the absolute/relative error of an approximate quantity. Precision is the accuracy with which the basic arithmetic operations (+, -, *, /) are performed & for floating point arithmetic is measured by the *unit roundoff* u . Accuracy & precision are the same for the scalar computation $c = a \times b$, but accuracy can be much worse than precision in the solution of a linear system of equations, e.g. *stiff* equations.

Forward and Backward Errors ➡ Suppose that an approximation \hat{y} of $y = f(x)$ is computed in an arithmetic of precision u with $E_{\text{rel}}(\hat{y}) \approx u$. This doesn't mean we know for any Δx , $\hat{y} = f(x + \Delta x)$. The absolute and relative errors of \hat{y} are called **forward errors** and $\min |\Delta x|$ and $\frac{\min |\Delta x|}{|x|}$ is called the **backward error**. Stability of numerical recipe lies on backward stable algorithm where rounding errors are most significant. **Recipe for cosine functions do not satisfy** $\hat{y} = f(x + \Delta x)$ but $\hat{y} + \Delta y = f(x + \Delta x)$, $\Delta y \leq \epsilon |y|$, $\Delta x \leq \eta |x|$, are called mixed forward-backward error result.

Conditioning ➡ Forward & Backward error is governed by sensitivity of solution to perturbations in the data or “conditioning” of the problem. Then,

$$\hat{y} - y = f(x + \Delta x) - f(x) = f'(x) \Delta x + \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2} f''(x) + O((\Delta x)^3),$$

or $\frac{\hat{y} - y}{y} = \left(\frac{x f'(x)}{f(x)} \right) \frac{\Delta x}{x} + O((\Delta x)^2)$. Here $c(x) = \left| \frac{x f'(x)}{f(x)} \right|$ measures the relative

change in output for relative change in input or condition number of f . For example, consider $f(x) = \log x$, $c(x) = |1/\log x| \rightarrow \infty$ for $x \approx 1$. So a small relative change in x can produce large relative change in $\log x$ for $x \sim 1$.

Rule of thumb: **forward error** \leq **condition number** \times **backward error**. So, computed solution to an ill-conditioned problem can have a **large** forward error, even if computed solution has **small** backward error. Backward stability implies forward stability. Cramer's rule for solving 2×2 linear system is forward stable but not backward stable.

Cancellation ➡ Consider the function $f(x) = \frac{(1 - \cos x)}{x^2}$ which for all $x \neq 0$ is $0 \leq f(x) < 1/2$. However, say, for $x = 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$, $\cos x = 0.9999999999$ rounded to 10 significant digits, so as $1 - \cos x = 0.0000\ 0000\ 01$ and then, $\frac{(1 - \cos x)}{x^2} = \frac{10^{-10}}{1.44 \times 10^{-10}} = 0.6944\dots$, which is wrong !!

```
>> x=eps:(pi/40):pi/2; f = (1- cos(x))./x.^2; [x(:) f(:)]
ans =

2.22044604925031e-16      0
0.078539816339745      0.499743031894047
0.15707963267949      0.498972761400788
0.235619449019235      0.497691087900341
0.31415926535898      0.495901170055451
0.392699081698724      0.493607415383329
0.471238898038469      0.490815465712315
0.549778714378214      0.487532178579061
0.628318530717959      0.483765604637539
0.706858347057704      0.479524961166377
0.785398163397449      0.474820601775892
0.863937979737193      0.469663982430643
0.942477796076938      0.46406762391727
1.02101761241668      0.458045070900783
1.09955742875643      0.45161084772531
1.17809724509617      0.444780411127427
1.25663706143592      0.43757010004169
1.33517687777566      0.429997082688671
1.41371669411541      0.422079301145707
1.49225651045515      0.413835413609684
1.5707963267949      0.405284734569351

>> x=1.2e-5; [cos(x) 1-cos(x) x^2]
ans =

0.999999999928      7.19999615483857e-11      1.44e-10
```

Cancellation ➡ Consider the function $f(x) = \frac{(1 - \cos x)}{x^2}$ which for all $x \neq 0$ is $0 \leq f(x) < 1/2$. However, say, for $x = 1.2 \times 10^{-5}$, $\cos x = 0.9999999999$ rounded to 10 significant digits, so as $1 - \cos x = 0.0000\ 0000\ 01$ and then, $\frac{(1 - \cos x)}{x^2} = \frac{10^{-10}}{1.44 \times 10^{-10}} = 0.6944\dots$, which is wrong !!

The problem lies in the fact that, even though $1 - c$ is exact, it has only 1 significant figure, so subtraction produces a result of the same size as the error in c . However, if the subtraction is avoided by rewriting $\cos x = 1 - 2 \sin^2(x/2)$, $f(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\sin(x/2)}{x/2} \right)^2$. The same procedure now yields $f(x) = 0.5$ correct to 10 significant digits.

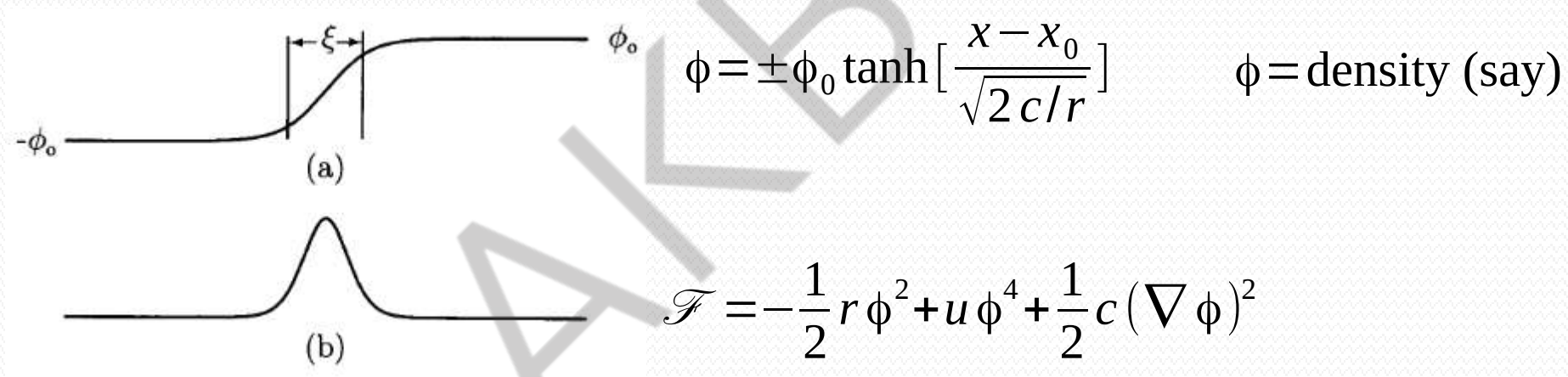
- Error in cancellation can be avoided by *estimating the damage*, it can't be unavoidable. Or computing ratio of differences of the same order of error so that numerator & denominator cancels out. Or, for example computing $x + (y - z)$ for $x \gg y \approx z > 0$.

Roots of a Quadratic Equation ➡ Depending on the sign of the remainder $b^2 - 4ac$, for $a \neq 0$, $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ have two roots (**real-unequal**, **real-equal**, **imaginary**) $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. If $b^2 \gg 4ac$, then $x = \frac{-b \pm b}{2a}$ and for “+” sign it suffers massive cancellation that brings prominence of earlier rounding errors. To avoid, the largest (in absolute value) root is chosen $x_1 = \frac{-b - \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ and the other from $x_1 x_2 = \frac{c}{a}$. But when $b^2 \approx 4ac$, accuracy is lost & only way to guarantee accuracy is to use extended precision.

Overflow & Underflow ➡ If we apply $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$ in single precision arithmetic to equation $10^{20}x^2 - 3 \times 10^{20}x + 2 \times 10^{20} = 0$, even when the roots are not harmful ($x=1$ & $x=2$), overflow occurs since the maximum floating point number is $\approx 10^{38}$. Analytically/numerically dividing by maximum ($|a|$, $|b|$, $|c|$) = 3×10^{20} is OK, but same strategy doesn't work for, say, $10^{-20}x^2 - 3x + 2 \times 10^{20} = 0$ whose roots are 10^{20} & 2×10^{20} . Scaling the variable $x = 10^{20}y$ yields, $10^{20}y^2 - 3 \times 10^{20}y + 2 \times 10^{20} = 0$ which is the initial equation we started from.

Need for non-dimensionalization

A well-known example in Condensed Matter Physics is the ϕ^4 kink, that gives a *tanh* solution of the domain wall formed between liquid-gas interface/magnetic domain walls having diverse consequences in many branches of physics.



- To have a control over the dynamics of density variation, clearly one needs to control these parameters, r , u , c or a multi-dimensional diagram which is nearly impossible to control often because of many parameters with less-known activity.

Need for non-dimensionalization:

- Notice that $\mathcal{F} = -\frac{1}{2}r\phi^2 + u\phi^4$ have two minima, that we see from $\frac{\partial \mathcal{F}}{\partial \phi} = 0 = -r\phi + 4u\phi^3$ or $\phi = \pm \phi_0 = \sqrt{\frac{r}{4u}}$. Then $\mathcal{F}_0 = -\frac{1}{2}r\phi^2 + u\phi^4 = -\frac{r^2}{16u} = -\frac{r\phi_0^2}{4}$
- But now notice that, $\mathcal{F} = -\frac{1}{2}r\phi^2 + u\phi^4 = -\frac{1}{2}r\frac{\phi^2}{\phi_0^2}\phi_0^2 + u\frac{\phi^4}{\phi_0^4}\phi_0^4 = -\frac{r^2}{8u}\hat{\phi}^2 + \frac{r^2}{16u}\hat{\phi}^4$

$$= -\frac{r^2}{8u}\hat{\phi}^2 + \frac{r^2}{16u}\hat{\phi}^4 = -\frac{r^2}{16u}(2\hat{\phi}^2 - \hat{\phi}^4) = \mathcal{F}_0(2\hat{\phi}^2 - \hat{\phi}^4)$$
- Therefore, $\frac{\mathcal{F}}{\mathcal{F}_0} = \hat{\mathcal{F}} = 2\hat{\phi}^2 - \hat{\phi}^4$ & so, $\partial_t \hat{\phi} = 4(\hat{\phi} - \hat{\phi}^3)$. The dynamics is completely free of parameter. According to the scale, we can choose what to compute !!

Beautiful Example : Kibble mechanism in Cosmology \rightarrow LCD screen defect applications. Both are governed by the same equation !!

Solving Linear Systems

Suppose we have a set of linear equations $A^*x = b$, where $x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)^T$ and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} & \dots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} & \dots & a_{2n} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} & \dots & a_{3n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & a_{n3} & \dots & a_{nn} \end{pmatrix}, \text{ A is a nonsingular matrix. Of interest are tridiagonal, symmetric positive (semi)-definite (SPD), triangular etc matrix. A square matrix is lower (upper) triangular if all elements above main diagonal are zero. So,}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 16 & 21 \\ 4 & 28 & 73 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 4 & 5 \\ 0 & 0 & 6 \end{pmatrix} x \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

\mathbf{L} \mathbf{U}

- Standard method to solve a linear (tridiagonal) system is to use “**Gaussian Elimination**”, meaning, first stage of eliminating all component of A below the main diagonal (or reducing tridiagonal A to row-triangular form) and second stage of backward solution (backsolve).

Gaussian Elimination

- So, in tridiagonal system $Ax=b$; $A=\text{tridiag}(l_i, d_i, u_i)$, where $l_i=a_{i,i-1}, d_i=a_{i,i}, u_i=a_{i,i+1}$

$$[A|b] = \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} d_1 & u_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1 \\ l_2 & d_2 & u_2 & \dots & 0 & b_2 \\ 0 & l_3 & d_3 & \dots & 0 & \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & l_n & d_n & b_n \end{array} \right). \text{ Now we transform from tridiag to U matrix, as,}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d_1 x_1 + u_1 x_2 &= b_1, & \text{or } x_1 &= (b_1 - u_1 x_2) / d_1 \\ l_2 x_1 + d_2 x_2 + u_2 x_3 &= b_2, & \text{or } (d_2 - u_1 l_2 / d_1) x_2 + u_2 x_3 &= b_2 - b_1 l_2 / d_1 \\ \dots, \dots, \dots, \dots, \dots & & & \\ \dots, \dots, \dots, \dots, \dots & & & \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$[A|b] \sim \left(\begin{array}{cccc|c} d_1 & u_1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & b_1 \\ 0 & d_2 - u_1(l_2/d_1) & u_2 & \dots & 0 & b_2 - b_1(l_2/d_1) \\ 0 & l_3 & d_3 & \dots & 0 & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & l_n & d_n & b_n \end{array} \right) \quad \begin{aligned} d_1 &\neq 0 \\ d_2 - u_2(l_2/d_1) &\neq 0 \end{aligned}$$

⇒ Row Equivalent

So general form is $\text{Diagonal}_k = d_k - u_{k-1}(l_k/d_{k-1})$; $\text{Vector}_k = b_k - b_{k-1}(l_k/d_{k-1})$ and by reducing the last equation, we get, $d_n - u_{n-1}(l_n/d_{n-1})x_n = b_n - b_{n-1}(l_n/d_{n-1})$, so

we can easily solve the last equation to find x_n and using this value to find x_{n-1} and so on (backward).

To illustrate the process, let's look at a concrete example that we will work through in detail. Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned} 4x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 &= 5 \\ x_1 + 4x_2 + x_3 &= 12 \\ 2x_1 - x_2 + 4x_3 &= 12 \end{aligned}$$

which can be written in matrix-vector form as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & -1 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ 12 \\ 12 \end{bmatrix}.$$

We write this as an augmented matrix:

$$A' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 4 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 12 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 & 12 \end{array} \right].$$

Then the elimination algorithm proceeds as follows:

$$A' = \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 4 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 1 & 4 & 1 & 12 \\ 2 & -1 & 4 & 12 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 4 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{2} & \frac{5}{4} & \frac{43}{4} \\ 2 & -1 & 4 & 12 \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 4 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{2} & \frac{5}{4} & \frac{43}{4} \\ 0 & -2 & \frac{9}{2} & \frac{19}{2} \end{array} \right].$$

The first step was accomplished by multiplying the first row by $\frac{1}{4}$ and subtracting the result from the second row; the second step was accomplished by multiplying the first row by $\frac{1}{2}$ and subtracting the result from the third row. To finish the job, we have (by multiplying the second row by $-\frac{4}{7}$ and subtracting from the third row)

$$A' \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 4 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{2} & \frac{5}{4} & \frac{43}{4} \\ 0 & -2 & \frac{9}{2} & \frac{19}{2} \end{array} \right] \sim \left[\begin{array}{ccc|c} 4 & 2 & -1 & 5 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{2} & \frac{5}{4} & \frac{43}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{73}{14} & \frac{219}{14} \end{array} \right] = A''.$$

This augmented matrix represents a triangular system—meaning that the coefficient matrix is triangular—as follows:

$$A'' = [U \mid c] \Rightarrow Ux = c,$$

that is,

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & \frac{7}{2} & \frac{5}{4} \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{73}{14} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 5 \\ \frac{43}{4} \\ \frac{219}{14} \end{bmatrix};$$

and we can now solve by interpreting each row as follows:

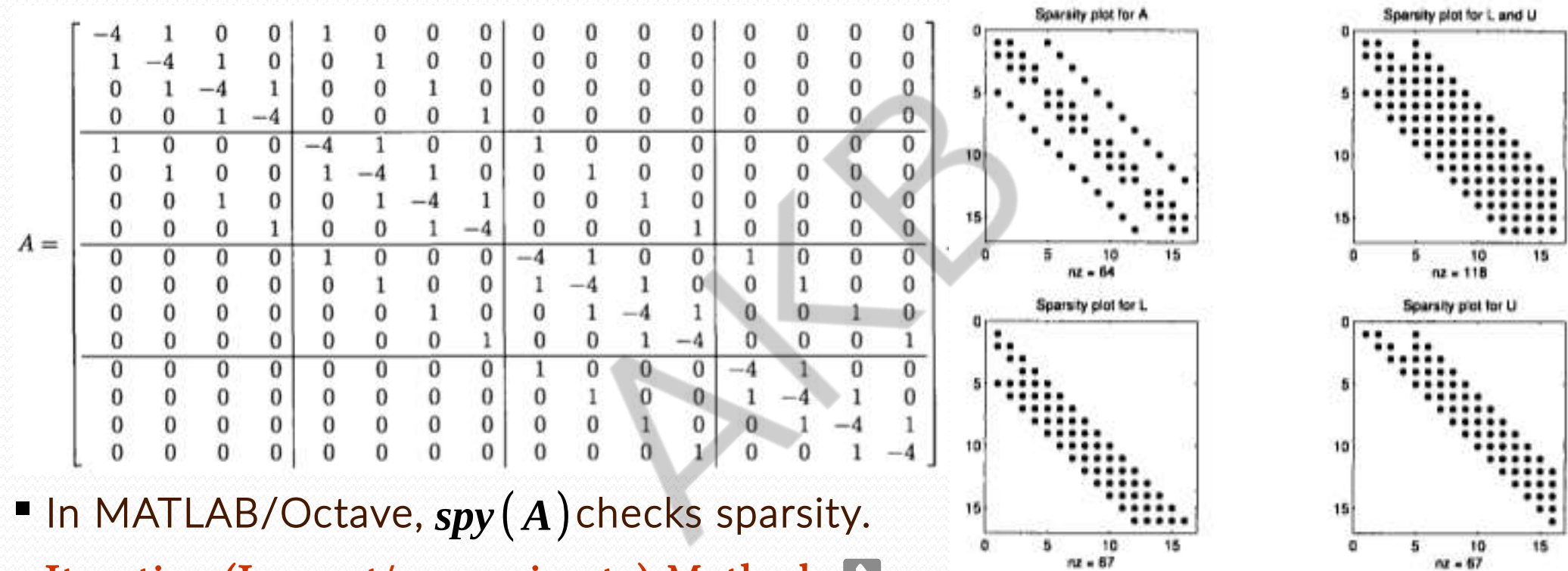
$$\text{Third Row: } \frac{73}{14}x_3 = \frac{219}{14} \Rightarrow x_3 = 3;$$

$$\text{Second Row: } \frac{7}{2}x_2 + \frac{5}{4}x_3 = \frac{43}{4} \Rightarrow x_2 = 2;$$

$$\text{First Row: } 4x_1 + 2x_2 - x_3 = 5 \Rightarrow x_1 = 1.$$

- For an ill-conditioned matrix, Gaussian elimination is adversely affected by rounding error. This leads to iterative refinement/improvement of the algorithm.

- For a large sparse matrix, Gaussian elimination is bad because L & U is dense!!



- In MATLAB/Octave, `spy(A)` checks sparsity.

Iterative (Inexact/approximate) Methods →

Splitting methods, method of conjugate gradients, Jacobi iteration, Gauss-Seidel iteration and so on

- For a linear system $Ax=b$, we split $A=M-N$, such that linear system of form $Mx'=b'$ is easy to solve, or $x'=M^{-1}b'$ is easy to compute.

- It follows, $Ax=b$, or $(M-N)x=b$, or $Mx=Nx+b$, or $x=\underbrace{M^{-1}Nx+M^{-1}b}_{\text{iteration matrix } T}$. So, given an initial guess x^0 , iteration is to compute the sequence of vectors $x^{k+1}=M^{-1}Nx^k+M^{-1}b$.
- Note, $T=M^{-1}N=M^{-1}(M-A)=I-M^{-1}A \leq I$ (always) so the method works best when $M^{-1} \approx A^{-1}$ or $M=A$. This is the backbone of Iterative methods.

Jacobi Iteration → Its called “diagonal inversion” as it involves inversion of $\text{diag}(A)$ with $A = D - (D - A)$, so that iteration becomes $x^{k+1} = (I - D^{-1}A)x^k + D^{-1}b$,
 $= x^k - D^{-1}Ax^k + D^{-1}b$.

Example: $\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 7 \\ 16 \\ 14 \end{pmatrix}$ has exact solution, $x=(0,1,2,3)^T$. If we start from 1st Jacobi iteration for $x=(0,0,0,0)^T$ with $D = \text{diag}(4,5,6,4)$, then in 19 iterations,

$$x^1 = x^0 - D^{-1}Ax^0 + D^{-1}b = (0.2500, 1.4000, 2.6667, 3.5000)^T \quad x^{k+1} - x^k < 10^{-6}.$$

$$x^2 = x^1 - D^{-1}Ax^1 + D^{-1}b = (-0.1000, 0.8167, 1.8500, 2.7708)^T$$

$$x^3 = x^2 - D^{-1}Ax^2 + D^{-1}b = (0.0458, 1.0500, 2.0688, 3.0625)^T$$

Gauss-Seidel Iteration ➡ An obvious extension of Jacobi iteration is to invert the entire lower triangular part of A by $A = L - (L - A)$ so that iteration becomes

$$x^{k+1} = (I - L^{-1}A)x^k + L^{-1}b = x^k - L^{-1}Ax^k + L^{-1}b.$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix} \quad L = \begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 6 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 4 \end{pmatrix}. \text{ Here we do not compute } L \text{ inverse but solve the linear system } Lz = Ax \text{ (easy).}$$

$$x^1 = (0.2500, 1.3500, 2.4417, 2.8271)^T, \quad x^2 = (-0.0875, 0.9292, 2.0406, 3.0117)^T,$$

$$x^3 = (0.0177, 0.9883, 2.0000, 2.9956)^T.$$

- Gauss-Seidel converges faster (11 iterations) than Jacobi, as more of the matrix is inverted at each step, especially for SPD matrices.