

# NUMERICAL METHODS IN PHYSICS AND ASTROPHYSICS (2024-25)

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# Contents

# **1 | Non-Linear Equations & Systems**

## 1.1 | Root Finding: Bisection, Linear Interpolation, $x = g(x)$ and Newton

**Deadline: 29.10.2024**

Root finding is ubiquitous in physics codes. Here we pursue and experiment with methods for root finding from the most basic to the most commonly used. Pay attention to convergence and corner cases throughout.

### PROBLEM I

We will consider specifically the following function:

$$f(x) = e^{\sqrt{5}x} - 13.5 \cos(0.1x) + 25x^4 \quad (1.1)$$

1. Find this root again, using **linear interpolation**.
2. Implement **Newton's method**.
3. Examine the convergence of the three methods.
4. Explore the robustness of the methods with varying initial guesses and tolerances. What happens when you specify a tolerance below machine precision?

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- Start by defining a function that calculates  $f(x)$
- Code design is up to you, but I suggest *one* of the following:
  - Write a function which calls the desired solving method with the initial guess or range and the required accuracy.
  - Use a shared header file to coordinate information among several independent programs
- Avoid getting stuck in infinite loops: cap iteration numbers and check if one stops moving towards a solution.
- Use print statements to debug your code!

### PROBLEM II

Find the eigenvalues  $\lambda$  of the differential equation  $y'' + \lambda^2 y = 0$  with the following boundary conditions  $y(0) = 0$  and  $y(1) = y'(1)$ .

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

As first step you should try to solve the problem analytically by considering the general solution of this wave equation.

Then use the boundary conditions to simplify the solution and the problem will be reduced in finding the roots of a non-linear equation.

## 1.2 | Nonlinear Systems of Equations

We first consider the following nonlinear system of equations

$$f_1(x, y) = xy - 0.1 \quad (1.2)$$

$$f_2(x, y) = x^2 + 3y^2 - 2 \quad (1.3)$$

- A1. Solve the nonlinear system of equations using the generalized Newton method. Make sure you find all solutions (there are 4!). Under what conditions would the solver create problems? What checks can you put on/in your solver to avoid diverging from the solution or continuing through with NaNs?
- A2. Reformulate the equations and add a function for the "improved"  $x = g(x)$  method to the above program. What are the requirements for convergence? How does this affect solving the above system of equations? How is the relative performance for the various roots? How does the program behave if you guess  $(x, y) = (2, 1)$ ?

## 1.3 | Fractals through Newton-Raphson

**Deadline: 5.11.2024**

Fractals and chaos theory are intricately entwined. In a nutshell, chaos theory amounts to the sensitive, diverging nature of a solution with small changes in the initial conditions. We will go through another chaos problem later in these exercises, but here we delve deeper into the fractal nature of root-finding via the Newton-Raphson method. For these solutions, as 1-dimensional fractals are not as pretty, we will look at solutions to simple functions in the complex plane. The iteration scheme in Newton-Raphson here is the same as for functions in real space:

$$z_{n+1} = z_n - \frac{f(z)}{f'(z)}$$

For each function  $f(z)$  we consider in this lab, we create a map of convergence in the  $(x_0, y_0)$ -plane where  $z_0 = x_0 + iy_0$  is the initial guess to our solver. For which  $z_0$  does the method converge? How fast does it converge? To which root does it converge?

1. Consider first the solution of the function

$$f(z) = z^3 - 1 = 0 \quad (1.4)$$

- Learn how to handle complex numbers in your language of choice.
- Write a function `solve_cnewton` which takes an initial guess and returns the root (if any), the number of iterations need to converge, and the quality of the solution  $f(z)$ . This should be as simple as grabbing your old newton solver from Lab 1 and upgrading to use complex numbers and interface with the function `get_fdf`.
- Write a program that takes a square  $N \times N$  grid in the complex plane and, for each point, uses the above functions to find a root to which the method converges. For a convergence criteria, look for when the change in  $z$  is less than  $\epsilon$  with a certain number of maximum steps  $M$ . That is when within  $M$  steps  $|z_{n+1} - z_n| < \epsilon$ . Start with  $M = 200$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-9}$ , and  $N = 400$ . Define the range of the grid by two gridpoint coordinates (e.g. upper left and lower right). If you know how, take these points as arguments to the main function to ease exploring a given function; otherwise hardcode them initially at  $|x_0| < 2$  and  $|y_0| < 2$ .
- Have the main program print out or save, for every point  $z_0$  of your  $N \times N$  grid, a line of format

$x_0$	$y_0$	$k(z)$	$f(z)$	$\log_{10}(n_{\text{itns}})$
-------	-------	--------	--------	------------------------------

with one blank line after each row of the matrix (if you are working in C in linux). Here  $k(z)$  is either the complex root to which the method converges, or zero.  $n_{\text{itns}}$  is the number of iterations taken to converge, if it does.

- ▼ Plot  $\Im(k(z))$  on the  $(x, y)$  plane with a colorscaling in map mode (see hint). Find an interesting region and look at it closer. Repeat. Choose an interesting region and save the plot (with full labels of axes of course!).
  - ▼ Plot  $\log(n_{\text{itns}})$  in the  $(x, y)$  plane, focusing around a region where the solver does not converge. Comment on what you see.
2. Look at the website <http://www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/newton/> and use your basic code with different functions to explore and understand the convergence and sensitivities of Newton-Raphson. Consider particularly solutions to the function

$$f(z) = 35z^9 - 180z^7 + 378z^5 - 420z^3 + 315z \quad (1.5)$$

*Extra: Choose another function of your choice to present to and discuss with the class.*

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- If you are on a linux machine and you choose to print out the results to stdout, the program `gnuplot` can be used to study the results as follows:

```
> gnuplot
gnuplot> set pm3d map
gnuplot> splot "<./ComplexRoots" u 1:2:3
```

where `ComplexRoots` is the program name. (If your on another architecture ... perhaps write to a file and read into your favorite visualizer?).

- There was no standard for complex numbers in C until the C99 standard. The compiler `gcc` (and others) know a data type `double complex`, which requires including the extra header `"complex.h"`. A complex number  $z = 3 + 5i$  is then set by

```
double complex z = 3.0 + 5*I.
```

The absolute value, real part, imaginary part, and complex phase of a complex number can be calculated by the similarly provided functions `cabs(z)`, `creal(z)`, `cimag(z)`, and `carg(z)` respectively. C++ has `<complex>` containers, akin to `<vector>`. Matlab assumes any number could be complex.

- The roots of  $f(z) = z^3 - 1$  are  $\{1, e^{\pm \frac{2}{3}\pi i}\}$ . Or 1 and  $(-0.5, \pm 0.8660254040 i)$ .

## 2 | Linear Systems & Matrices

**To be returned by 12.11.2024****PROBLEM I**

Should the system of equations be linear but large is size, matrix methods are more useful. Consider the system of equations

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 2x_2 + 3x_3 &= 10 \\5x_2 + 6x_3 &= 11 \\9x_3 &= 12\end{aligned}\tag{2.1}$$

- B1. Write a function which multiplies an  $N$ -element vector with a  $N \times N$  matrix and prints the resulting vector to screen (even Matlab users). This should be  $\lesssim 10$  lines of code. Use this function to calculate the following test case:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \\ 7 & 8 & 9 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 11 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}\tag{2.2}$$

- B2. Write a function that solves the system of equations

$$\mathbf{M} \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{b}$$

assuming that  $\mathbf{M}$  is an upper-diagonal matrix (back-substitution). Choose a suitable test case. Build in a test to make sure the solution is valid (and/or) test the quality of the solution, then solve the above system of equations. This program will be built upon in the next lab.

**Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:**

- Represent both matrices and vectors as arrays. For matrices, one may define a two-dimensional array  $m_{ij} = m[i][j]$ . Whether defined as 1- or 2-dimensional, one can access an  $N^2$  array's elements in a 1-dimensional sense as  $m_{ij} = m[i * N + j]$ . A helper function `get_index(i, j, N)` can be useful.
- Remember that indices in C start at zero.
- The name of an array alone is a pointer to the first element of the array,  $m = \&m[0]$ .
- Good coding practice does not use single-letter variables except for canonical loop variables  $i, j, k$ .



**PROBLEM II**

1. Write a function with a prototype (in C) [you may use your favourite computer language as well.]  
`int gauss_solve( double * Mij, double * bi, double * x, int n )`  
that solves the linear system of equations  $\mathbf{M} \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{b}$  using Gaussian elimination. Initially, assume no pivoting is necessary.
2. Use the above program to solve the system of equations

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2.0 & 0.1 & -0.2 \\ 0.05 & 4.2 & 0.032 \\ 0.12 & -0.07 & 5.0 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 10 \\ 11 \\ 12 \end{pmatrix}$$

and verify the solution.

3. (This question is optional) First use your program as to solve the following system of equations as well.

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 2 & 2 & -2 \\ 0 & 3 & 15 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \vec{x} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 33 \end{pmatrix}$$

Record your result, then add pivoting to the implementation. How does the answer compare between pivoting and no pivoting?

**Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:**

- For all this exercise, expand on your program for part B of Exercise Set 2.
- *Without Pivoting*, the Gauss method can be described by the following pseudo-code:

---

```
for i = 0 to size-1 do
  Divide row i by the diagonal element  $m_{ii}$ 
  Divide  $b[i]$  by the diagonal element  $m_{ii}$ 
  for j = i + 1 to size-1 do
    Subtract (row i) *  $m_{ji}$  from row j
    Subtract  $b[i] * m(j, i)$  from  $b[j]$ 
  end for
end for
```

---

This method creates an upper-diagonal matrix.

- After the matrix and vector has been modified into a system of equations with an upper-diagonal operator and a modified  $b[i]$ , use (or copy) the back-substitution code from the previous exercise to solve the equation.
- When implementing, attempt to be efficient by setting up the loops so as to avoid multiplying elements that are already guaranteed to vanish. Start with the above pseudo-code and implement this optimization after the above has already been tested ( Best Practices in Scientific Coding #6 )
- Remember, when passing C-arrays as function arguments, you need the argument to be a pointer to the array. Inside the function, there is no way to test how large the array is, so you will also need to pass integers describing the sizes of the array.

### PROBLEM III

1. Find the largest eigenvalue and the corresponding eigenvector of the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6 & 5 & -5 \\ 2 & 6 & -2 \\ 2 & 5 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad (2.3)$$

2. Use Aitken's acceleration to improve the final solution
3. **Optional:** calculate the other 2 eigenvalues.

#### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

The eigenvalues are (1, 4, 6). The power method gives  $r_8 = 6.00000198458$ .

### PROBLEM IV (optional)

Can you generate using random numbers a real  $n \times n$  matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and a random real  $n$ -dimension vector  $\vec{b}$  and then solve the system  $\mathbf{A} \cdot \vec{x} = \vec{b}$  using Gauss-Seidel method or overrelaxation? **[This exercise can replace any of the first two or come in addition].**

## 3 | Interpolation & Extrapolation

### 3.1 | Interpolation Example – Equation of State (\*)

**To be returned by 19.11.2024**

**NOTE:** You should try problems I and II. Problem III will be solved later once Praveen discusses the associated physics.

#### PROBLEM I

Solve one of the following 2.

You may use **MATHEMATICA** or **MAPLE** if you have no time for the detailed calculations

**Problem I-A** Prove that the Padé approximations  $P[3, 4]$  and  $P[2, 5]$  of the function  $f(x) = e^x$  are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} P[7, 0] &\approx 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 + \frac{1}{120}x^5 + \frac{1}{720}x^6 + \frac{1}{5040}x^7 \quad (\text{Taylor}) \\ P[3, 4] &\approx \frac{1 + \frac{3}{7}x + \frac{1}{14}x^2 + \frac{1}{210}x^3}{1 - \frac{4}{7}x + \frac{1}{7}x^2 - \frac{2}{105}x^3 + \frac{1}{840}x^4} \\ P[2, 5] &\approx \frac{1 + \frac{2}{7}x + \frac{1}{42}x^2}{1 - \frac{5}{7}x + \frac{5}{21}x^2 - \frac{1}{21}x^3 + \frac{1}{168}x^4 - \frac{1}{2520}x^5} \end{aligned} \quad (3.1)$$

Then test which one of the three is more accurate, compare at  $x = 0.5, 1, 2, 5$ . What do you observe for the accuracy of the 3 cases. Also, try to plot the 3 approximations as well as the original function.

#### Problem I-B

Prove that the Padé approximations  $P[2, 3]$  and  $P[4, 1]$  of the function  $f(x) = e^x$  are the following:

$$\begin{aligned} P[5, 0] &\approx 1 + x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{24}x^4 + \frac{1}{120}x^5 \quad (\text{Taylor}) \\ P[2, 3] &\approx \frac{1 + \frac{2}{5}x + \frac{1}{20}x^2}{1 - \frac{3}{5}x + \frac{3}{20}x^2 - \frac{1}{60}x^3} \\ P[1, 4] &\approx \frac{1 + \frac{1}{5}x}{1 - \frac{4}{5}x + \frac{3}{10}x^2 - \frac{1}{15}x^3 + \frac{1}{120}x^4} \end{aligned} \quad (3.2)$$

Then test which one of the three is more accurate, compare at  $x = 0.5, 1, 2, 5$ . What do you observe for the accuracy of the 3 cases Also, try to plot the 3 approximations as well as the original function.

#### PROBLEM II

Find the polynomial of 3rd degree that takes the 4 values listed in the  $f(x_k)$  column below at the corresponding arguments  $x_k$ .

$k$	$x_k$	$f(x_k)$	$\Delta f(x_k)$	$\Delta^2 f(x_k)$	$\Delta^3 f(x_k)$
0	4	1			
1	6	3	2		
2	8	8	5	3	
3	10	20	12	7	4

Table 3.1: Difference matrix

*Hint:* After you construct the Newton polynomial if you simply it you will get

$$P(x_k) = \frac{1}{24} (2x_k^3 - 27x_k^2 + 142x_k - 240)$$

### PROBLEM III

**NOTE:** This will be solved at a later time. José will help you understand what is needed.

Equations of states (EoSs) in hydrodynamics are the relation of the pressure locally to the local variables of state of a system (e.g. matter density  $\rho$ , specific internal energy  $\epsilon$  or temperature  $T$ ). Simulations of hydrodynamic systems generally use an EOS to parameterize the microphysics which cannot be captured in first principle by continuum hydrodynamic equations. Only the simplest regimes have analytic equation EOSs, like an ideal gas law  $P = \rho\epsilon(\Gamma - 1)$ . In the regime of neutron star interiors, the applicable EoSs are very much a topic of research. Realistic EoSs for neutron star interiors are often generated by physicists using varying degrees of relativity, quantum field theory, and particle physics models.

1. Write a function with a prototype similar to  

```
double interp( double * xs, double * ys, int n, double x )
```

that uses Lagrange-Polynomial interpolation in its generalized form for an unspecified number of known positions ( $n$ ). Here  $xs$  are the points where the solution is known,  $ys$  the evaluated function at these points,  $n$  the number of known points, and  $x$  the location at which the value of the function is desired.
2. While the simplest EoS, the barotropic EoS, is of the form  $P(\rho) = \kappa\rho^\Gamma$ , a simple step to add more physics (e.g. by imitating a change in chemistry above a certain density  $\rho_0$ ) is to create a hybrid-barotropic EoS which we will approximate here as:

$$P(\rho) = H(\rho_T - \rho)\kappa_1\rho^{\Gamma_1} + H(\rho - \rho_T)\kappa_2\rho^{\Gamma_2} \quad (3.3)$$

where  $\Gamma_1 = 4/3$ ,  $\Gamma_2 = 5/3$ ,  $\kappa_1=20$ ,  $\kappa_2=1$ . For the transition function,  $H(\rho)$ , use one of the following analytical approximations of the Heaviside function:

$$H(x) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{-2\alpha x}} \quad (3.4)$$

$$H(x) = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \tanh(\alpha x)) \quad (3.5)$$

with the transition density  $\rho_T = 5$ , and transition speed parameter  $\alpha = 5$ . Analytically fill the known data arrays,  $xs[i] = \rho_i$  and  $ys[i] = P(\rho_i)$  over a uniform distribution of  $n$  points  $x_i = \rho_i$  on the interval  $I = [\rho_0, \rho_1]$ .

3. *Testing and Analysis:* Create a second set of arrays  $x_k$  and  $y_k$  for a different set of points  $x_k$  uniformly distributed across  $I$  with  $m = 200$  elements. Fill the  $y_k$  array by calling the `interp` function you have just written over the data  $xs$  and  $ys$ .
  - A. Look at the interval  $I = [4.5, 5.5]$ . Plot the interpolated values for  $n = 5, 10, 20$  together with the analytical function. Discuss the errors.
  - B. Repeat the above for the interval  $I = [0, 10]$ . What happens now?
  - C. Calculate the chi-square error for the entire function given a number of interpolated points  $m$  as

$$E = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} (f(x_k) - y_k)^2}. \quad (3.6)$$

Plot  $\log(E)$  vs  $n$  for a range  $n = 3$  to  $n = 40$  for the intervals  $I = [4.5, 5.5]$ ,  $I = [0, 10]$ , and  $I = [0 : 30]$ .

- D. Finally, given a set interval around the transition density  $\rho_0$  of your choosing, explore on your own how different parameters of the above hybrid EoS affect the ability for the interpolator to get the pressure right. Be prepared to discuss this with the class.

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- In order not to need to recompile for each choice of  $n$ , make this number a command line argument. To catch commandline arguments,

```
1 int main( int argc, const char **argv) {
2     if ( argc != 2 ) return -1; \\ argc = number of parameters + 1
3     int n = atoi(argv[1]); \\ argv[N] = Nth parameter
4     \\ [...]
5     return 0;
6 }
```

then the program can be executed with the value of  $n = 5$ , for example, by executing `./myinterp 5`.

- For those on linux, to plot data graphically, one way to plot this is using the program `gnuplot`:  
`>gnuplot`  
`gnuplot> plot [0:10] 1/(1+exp(-2*a*x)) ... with l`  
`gnuplot> replot "<./myinterp 5" with p`  
`gnuplot> replot "<./myinterp 10" with p`  
`gnuplot> replot "<./myinterp 20" with p`

where `[0:10]` is the desired interval. For others, I would suggest writing a file I/O routine and plot with your favorite visualizer.

- If you're feeling adventurous, make the function `interp` take an array of points to interpolate and an array in which to provide the results. Overhead from function calls can be expensive. This will get you ahead for the next week's exercises.

#### NOTE:

The suggestion to use specific routines or programs e.g. here "gnuplot" is optional. You may use any other program that serves the purpose.

## 4 | Numerical Differentiation

## 4.1 | Numerical Differentiation of Functions

To be returned by 26.11.2024

### PROBLEM I

Prove the central difference relation

$$y(x_0)'' = y_0'' = \frac{y_1 - 2y_0 + y_{-1}}{h^2} - \frac{h^2}{12} y^{(4)}(\xi) \quad (4.1)$$

Try to calculate the explicit form of the error term  $O(h^2)$ .

### PROBLEM II

Prove the central difference relation

$$y_0'' = \frac{-y_2 + 16y_1 - 30y_0 + 16y_{-1} - y_{-2}}{12h^2} + O(h^4) \quad (4.2)$$

Try to calculate the explicit form of the error term  $O(h^4)$ .

### PROBLEM III

This problem will be addressed at a later time

Consider the function  $f(x) = \tan^{-1}(x)$  and calculate the derivative at  $x = 0$ :

- using 2 iterations of Richardson extrapolation and compare with the results of the central difference relations.
- using splines.



## 5 | Numerical Integration

**Problems I, II, III by 3.12.2024 & IV and V by 10.12.2024****PROBLEM I**

Find analytically which one of the formulae in Table I we practically implement if we combine Simpson (1/3) with Romberg.

**PROBLEM II**

Calculate the integral

$$f(x) = \frac{2^x \sin(x)}{x}$$

by using:

1. Simpson (1/3)
2. Romberg with Simpson (1/3)
3. Gauss-Legendre with 4 points (use either data from table 2, or from page 28).

**PROBLEM III**

Prove **numerically** the following:

$$\int_0^1 \left( \int_0^2 xy^2 dx \right) dy = \frac{2}{3}$$

$$\int_0^1 \left( \int_{2y}^2 xy^2 dx \right) dy = \frac{4}{15}$$

$$\int_0^2 \left( \int_0^{x/2} xy^2 dy \right) dx = ?$$

## PROBLEM IV

## Quantum Mechanics Application (\*)

Besides root-finding, integration is the most ubiquitous fundamental numerical method used in computational physics and astrophysics.

- Write a function to fill arrays with the analytical function, to be provided to an integration routine as data. The function should take as arguments the array to be filled, the interval, the number of data points, the *function* to be evaluated, and the stepsize of the data points  $h$ .
- Write a function for numerical integration using the Newton-Cotes with 2nd order polynomial. Assume half an odd number of data points. The function should return not only the integrated value, but also a measure of its error,  $E$  (see tips below).
- ▼ *Application and Testing:*

- (a) Use both above functions to integrate the polynomial  $f(x) = x + x^3$  in the interval  $[0, 1]$  with  $n = 5$  data points. The numerical result should be, up to rounding errors, exact. Why?
- (b) Suppose a particle in a potential well has a wavefunction of the form

$$\Psi(x, t) = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{L}} [\sin(\frac{\pi x}{L})e^{-i\omega_1 t} + \sin(\frac{2\pi x}{L})e^{-i\omega_2 t}] & \text{if } 0 < x < L \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad (5.1)$$

The probability distribution of the particle  $P(x, t) \equiv |\Psi(x, t)|^2$ . Find the probability that the particle is in the far right quarter of the potential well

$$P(t | x \in [3L/4, L]) = \int_{3L/4}^L P(x, t) dx \quad (5.2)$$

for times  $t \in \{0, \pi/\Delta\omega\}$  where  $\Delta\omega = \omega_2 - \omega_1$ . Assume  $L = 2$ ,  $\omega_1 = 3$ , and  $\omega_2 = 4.5$ . Compare the results for all odd data numbers  $n \in [5, 501]$ . For each  $n$ , print  $n$ ,  $\log(E)$ , and  $\log(h)$  to stdout (or a file). Plot  $\log(E)$  vs.  $\log(h)$  for both times. Are the plots compatible with the expected convergence rate?

- ▼ *Extra Application:* Consider instead the wavefunction of an electron in the  $2s$  state of a hydrogen atom:

$$\Psi_{2s}(r) = \frac{1}{4\sqrt{2\pi a_0^3}} \left[ 2 - \frac{r}{a_0} \right] e^{-r/(2a_0)} \quad (5.3)$$

where  $a_0 = \frac{\hbar^2}{me^2} = 0.0529$  nm is the first Bohr radius.

- Calculate the mean radius  $\langle r \rangle$  as well as its standard deviation  $\sigma^2 = \sqrt{\langle (r - \langle r \rangle)^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle - \langle r \rangle^2}$  for the  $2s$  state knowing

$$\langle r^n \rangle = 4\pi \int_0^\infty \Psi^*(r, t) r^n \Psi(r, t) dr. \quad (5.4)$$

Find a way to handle the integration endpoints.

**Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:**

- In practice, it is often necessary to pass a function as a parameter. If you haven't done this yet, in C, an example of this is:

```
1 double wah(double x) { return x*x; }
2
3 double at_zero(double (*fun) (double)) {
4     return fun(0.0);
5 }
6
7 int main() {
8     double a = at_zero(wah);
9 }
```

- To release the assumption of an odd number of data points, one could use the 4-point form for the last section. The reason to choose the 4-point form is that this form has the same convergence order as that used for the rest of the method.
- Remember, the error estimate of the method is proportional the the 4th derivative at the center of the range. Look closely at the central differencing scheme:

$$f_0^{(4)} = \frac{f_2 - 4f_1 + 6f_0 - 4f_{-1} + f_{-2}}{h^4} + O(h^2) \quad (5.5)$$

and the error for the 2nd order Newton-Cotes integration scheme:

$$E = \frac{1}{90} h^4 f^{(4)}(\chi_1) \quad (5.6)$$

- If you begin with the solution for last time, you'll end up looping over all the n. One way around this is to have a wrapping function which calls what used to be the main function, looping over the number of data points,  $n$ . A quick workaround is also to use loops and output redirection in bash (that environment you're typing into when you compile if you aren't using an IDE). At the command line ...
  - > for i in (5..501); do
  - > rem=\$(( \$i % 2 ));
  - > if [ \$rem -ne 0 ]; then
  - > ./exe/myIntegration \$i >> IntegrationData.txt
  - > fi
  - > done

The operation % is the modulo operator. The >> operator takes stdout from your program and appends it to the file following the operator.

**PROBLEM V****Mode Decomposition Application (\*)**

Integration is so integral to computational physics that we will take another week on its basic application. The application this week will be focused on mode decomposition. In many nonlinear physical processes the behavior of a system is considered and understood through an interaction / energy transferral between different modes. Examples of this are neutron star oscillations, gravitational wave content/black hole ringdown, and turbulence.

For an *orthonormal* basis  $b_i(\vec{r})$ , data which is of the form  $\Psi(\vec{r}) = \sum_i^\infty A_i b_i(\vec{r})$  can be decomposed through a set of integrals

$$A_i = \int b_i^*(\vec{r}) \Psi(\vec{r}) dV$$

- Establish functions with a prototype akin to `intg_mymethod(struct integrand)` for numerically integrating a data-based integrand via 2 of the following methods:

- (a) Trapezoidal Rule
- (b) 2nd order Newton-Cotes (from last lab)
- (c) Simpson's 3/8 Rule
- (d) Euler-Maclaurin method (a generalization of integration using splines)
- (e) Gauss-Legendre methods of order 2, 4, and 8
- (f) Splines\*

Make sure to note, and handle accordingly, when the integration method requires a specific integral form and/or boundaries!

- *Testing and Comparison* of your method functions

- ▼ *Basic Comparison:* For each function below, compare the behavior of the *applicable* integration methods over their corresponding intervals,  $I$ , rewriting the function to fit a specific form/bounds if straightforwardly possible.

$$f_1(x) = e^x \cos(x), \text{ in } I=[0, \pi/2] \quad (5.7)$$

$$f_2(x) = e^x, \text{ in } I=[-1, 3] \quad (5.8)$$

$$f_3(x) = \begin{cases} e^{2x} & x < 0 \\ x - 2 \cos(x) + 4 & x \geq 0 \end{cases}, \text{ in } I=[-1, 1] \quad (5.9)$$

For each function and method, calculate the actual error  $E$  using the analytical answer for all  $n \in [5, 501]$ , then plot  $\log(E)$  vs  $\log(h)$  for all methods (properly labeled – a gnuplot script is useful here to streamline changing functions.). That is, for each function you should have one graph comparing the performance of the methods. Study the convergence rate for the methods and discuss:

- (a) Convergence rates: What was expected? What was observed? Can you give a reason if it these do not match?
  - (b) What other integration method could be applied to which integrands to possibly achieve better performance?
- *Application:* <sup>1</sup>Provided on the exercise's website is a sample data set, two resolutions & ascii text format, of  $\Psi(\theta)$  from an imaginary  $\pi$ -symmetric experiment/simulation. Find the coefficients  $A_k$

---

<sup>1</sup>This part of the exercise leave it aside till we discuss the Partial Differential Equations

for the decomposition of this data of the form

$$\Psi(\theta) = \sum_{k=0}^{k_{\max}} A_k P_k^0(\cos(\theta))$$

where  $P_l^m(\cos(\theta))$  are the Legendre polynomials ( $m = 0$  imposing axisymmetry) whose normalization condition is

$$\int_{-1}^1 P_n(x) P_k(x) dx = \left( \frac{2}{2n+1} \right) \delta_{nk}$$

You can create a function to provide analytic hard-coded Legendre polynomials up to a reasonable order for applying to an integrand. Make sure you address the normalization properly! The coefficients used in the generation of the data is in the file header.

- (a) Which integration method did you choose, and why?
- (b) Which modes were you able to recover?
- (c) What are the various sources of error in the mode decomposition?
- (d) Given the provided data set, which  $k_{\max}$  makes sense? Which coefficients are trustworthy?

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- Consider creating your integration method routines to take only a structure, e.g. `struct integral` which contains:
  - `N`, the number of data points to assume
  - `I[2]`: a 2-element array containing the interval of integration
  - `*xdata`, `*ydata`: pointers to data arrays (declared & allocated elsewhere)
  - `(*get_f)` and/or `(*get_fdf)`: Function handles for the integrand

This way a simple call to a helper function `fill_integrand(struct integral *)` can fill in the integrand with the current function handle and size  $n$ .

- Find a work-around for Simpson's 3/8 Rule where  $n$  is not a factor of 3.
- For the Gauss-Legendre method, the roots are given for the specified orders in the lecture notes.
- For spline integration, exploit your matrix libraries from Lab 3. I would suggest developing the lab without this integration method, and then spending time on this.

## 6 | Ordinary Differential Equations

## 6.1 | Theoretical Exercises

To be returned by 6.1.2024

### PROBLEM I

Choose 2 of them.

1. Derive the 3rd order Runge – Kutta formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{9} (2k_1 + 3k_2 + 4k_3)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= hf(x, y) \\ k_2 &= hf\left(x + \frac{1}{2}h, y + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right) \\ k_3 &= hf\left(x + \frac{3}{4}h, y + \frac{3}{4}k_2\right) \end{aligned}$$

2. Prove that when the 4th order RK method is applied to an ODE of the form  $y' = Ay$  ( $A$  is constant) the algorithm will be

$$y_{n+1} = \left(1 + hA + \frac{1}{2}h^2A^2 + \frac{1}{6}h^3A^3 + \frac{1}{24}h^4A^4\right) y_n$$

3. Prove that the 4th order Runge-Kutta formula in the special case that  $y' = f(x)$  i.e. the right hand side is independent of  $y$  is equivalent to Simpson's rule.
4. Derive the **4th-order Adams-Bashforth** formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} (3f_n - f_{n-1})$$

5. Derive the **4th-order Adams-Bashforth** formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{24} (55f_n - 59f_{n-1} + 37f_{n-2} - 9f_{n-3})$$

6. Derive the fourth-order **4th Adams-Moulton** formula

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{24} (9f_{n+1} + 19f_n + 5f_{n-1} - f_{n-2})$$



**PROBLEM II****1st-order ODEs**

1. Consider the Initial Value Problems (IVPs) for the 1st order differential equations. Solve them for the interval  $x \in [0, 30]$  using the Heun's, 4th order Runge - Kutta and Adams methods.

**You should choose 2 of them to plot the solutions.**

(a) 
$$y' = y \cos(x + y), \quad y(0) = 1. \quad (6.1)$$

(b) 
$$y' = \sin(xy) \cos(x + y), \quad y(0) = 1. \quad (6.2)$$

(c) 
$$y' = xy - x^2, \quad y(0) = 1. \quad (6.3)$$

(d) (logistic equation) 
$$y' = y(3 - y), \quad y(0) = 1. \quad (6.4)$$

(e) (Riccati equation) 
$$y' = y^2 - x^2, \quad y(0) = 1/2. \quad (6.5)$$

(f) 
$$y' = \frac{1}{3x - 2y + 1}, \quad y(0) = 0. \quad (6.6)$$

**PROBLEM III**

**Try to go as far as you can**

In this lab we'll explore first-order non-linear ordinary differential equations. As the coding aspect is straightforward and not challenging, we will apply the subsequent code to several applications.

The form of the equation we'll consider are types of the class of Bernoulli differential equations: an ODE of the form

$$y'(x) = b(x)y^\alpha(x) + a(x)y(x)$$

where  $\alpha > 0$  is some constant. An example you can keep in mind is motion with non-trivial, non-ideal friction forces.

- For the heart of your code, write 3 functions to numerical integrate a single first-order ordinary differential equation:
  - 4th order Runge-Kutta
  - Adams-Multon, without corrective step
  - Adams-Multon *with* corrective step

For the latter two, use the Runge-Kutta method to get the first four function values.

- ▼ *Testing and Comparisons:* Apply this to the following test differential equation.

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= y + x^2 - 2x + \sin(x) \\ y[0] &= 0.1 \end{aligned} \quad (6.7)$$

on the interval  $[0, 2]$ .

- i. Plot the absolute analytical error,  $E$ , at  $x = 2$  as a function of the number of steps taken ( $N = [10, 5000]$ ) in a log-log plot and discuss the convergence order.
  - ii. Plot the error vs the number of function evaluations ( $4N$  for RK4,  $N$  for Adams without corrections,  $2N$  as a minimum for Adams with corrections). Which method is the most efficient?
- ▼ *Application – Non-ideal Air Resistance:* The evolution of the velocity of a body flowing through a non-ideal fluid can be described by a Bernoulli type differential equation:

$$v'(t) + \mu(t)v(t) - \omega(t)^2 v^3(t) = 0$$

where  $\omega(t)$  and  $\mu(t)$  are two positive functions. Assume the initial condition  $v(0) = 2$

- i. Plot the absolute analytical error at  $t = 1.5$  with the constant parameters  $\omega(t) = \omega_0 = 0.707$ ,  $\mu(t) = \mu_0 = 2$
- ii. Keep  $\mu_0 = 2$  constant and vary  $\omega_0$  in the vicinity of  $1/\sqrt{2}$ . How does the solution behave? (see note below)
- iii. Consider  $\omega(t) = \omega_0 \tan(t)$  with  $\omega_0 = 1/\sqrt{2}$  and  $\mu_0 = 2$  initially. Then slowly decrease  $\mu_0$  towards 1.5. Comment on what you see.

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- The exact solution for the primary ODE (6.7) is  $y(x) = 0.6e^x - x^2 - \frac{1}{2}(\cos(x) + \sin(x))$
- There are two relevant branches of solution to the 2nd ODE for constant  $\mu$  and  $\omega$ , depending on the sign of  $\mu - 4\omega^2$ :

$$v(t) = \sqrt{\mu} \left[ \omega^2 + e^{2\mu t + 2 \ln(-\sqrt{\mu/4 - \omega^2})} \right]^{-1/2}$$

$$v(t) = \sqrt{\mu} \left[ \omega^2 + e^{2\mu t + \ln(\mu/4 - \omega^2)} \right]^{-1/2}$$

## 6.2 | System of ODEs

Do 1 of the 2 i.e., either Problem IV-1 or IV-2.

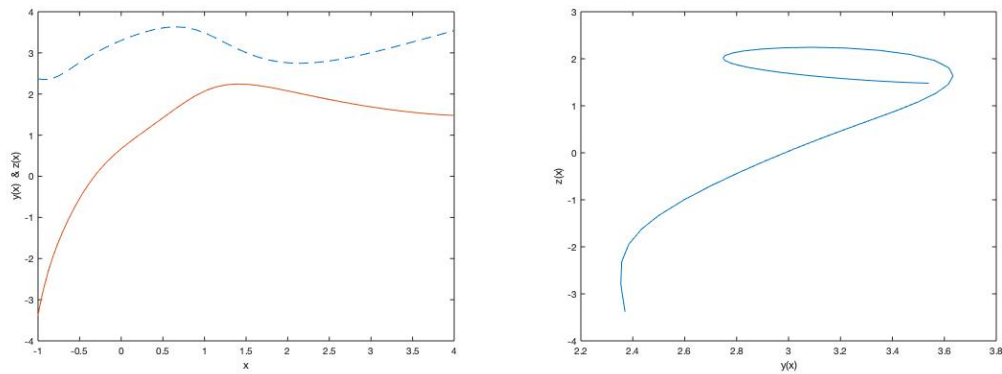
**PROBLEM IV :** Consider the system of ODEs

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= \sin(y) + \cos(zx) \\ z' &= e^{-yx} + \frac{\sin(zx)}{x} \end{aligned} \quad (6.8)$$

with IC  $y(-1) = 2.37$  and  $z(-1) = -3.48$ .

- find the solution in the interval  $[-1, 4]$  and print it in intervals of  $\delta x = 0.25$ .
- Plot the numerical solutions of  $y(t)$  and  $z(t)$  as functions of  $t$ .
- Plot of the curve  $y(t)$  vs  $z(t)$  (parametric plot).

Figure 6.1: The graphs for question 1 and 2.



### 6.3 | Applied Problems

#### PROBLEM V : Lorenz Attractor

The Lorenz equation arise from the simplified system describing two-dimensional fluid flow. The system of equations describing the trajectory of a fluid element is

$$\frac{d\vec{r}}{dt} = \begin{pmatrix} x' \\ y' \\ z' \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma(y - x) \\ -xz + \mathcal{R}x - y \\ xy - \beta z \end{pmatrix} \quad (6.9)$$

with three parameters  $\sigma$ ,  $\mathcal{R}$ , and  $\beta$ . The 1st parameter  $\sigma$  is the Prandtl number,  $\sigma \equiv \nu/\kappa$ , relating the kinematic viscosity  $\nu$  to the thermal diffusivity  $\kappa$ . The 2nd parameter  $\mathcal{R} \equiv \text{Re}/\text{Re}_{crit}$  is the ratio of the Reynolds number to the critical Reynolds number, where fluid flow changes from laminar to turbulent. The 3rd parameter  $\beta$  is a geometric factor.

In this problem we consider the specific parameters  $\sigma = 10$ ,  $\mathcal{R} = 28$ , and  $\beta = 8/3$ . Once the exercise is complete, you might find it both educational and entertaining to explore the effects of different parameters.

- Start by writing a function to numerically integrate a system of  $N$  coupled ordinary differential equations in *vector* form using 4th order Runge-Kutta. *It's important to keep the system being solved, including size, separate in this case because we will have an in-class exercise to use these functions in class to solve another example system: the Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff equations for hydrostatic equilibrium in general relativity.*

#### ► Single Trajectory Test

Use the vectorized 4th order RK4 function function to solve the Lorenz equations as given above in the interval  $t = [0 : 50]$  with the initial conditions  $\vec{r}(0) = (5, 5, 5)$ . After each step, print out  $\vec{y}$  and plot the 3-dimensional trajectory (see hint). Use a stepsize  $h = 10^{-3}$ . You should recognized the Lorenz Attractor.

#### ► Double Trajectories and Chaos

Integrate the system of ODEs simultaneously for the initial positions  $\vec{r}(0) = (5, 5, 5)$  and  $\vec{r}(0) = (5, 5, 5 + 10^{-5})$  in the interval  $[0, 20]$ . For each iteration, print the distance  $d$  between the two trajectories. Plot this  $\log(d)$  as a function of  $x$ .

- (a) Plot  $\log(d)$  as a function of  $x$ .
- (b) Verify that the observed increase in distance is not a numerical artifact caused by too large a stepsize. Compare  $\vec{r}(20)$  calculated using  $h = 10^{-6}$  and  $h = 5 \times 10^{-4}$ .
- (c) Estimate, roughly, what order of magnitude a difference of  $5 \times 10^{-15}$  in the initial conditions reaches after an integration time of  $t = 50$  (for the exact solution). Then test your estimate using the low resolution.

#### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- 3-dimensional plots are created in `gnuplot` using the following line:  
`gnuplot> splot "<./lorenz" u 1:2:3 w l`

**PROBLEM VI : TOV Equations**  
**To be submitted up to XX.XX.202X**

The Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff (TOV) equations are the relativistic equations of hydrostatic equilibrium with added assumption of spherical symmetry.

The non-relativistic version of these equations can be derived either by addressing a parcel of gas/fluid in a star and balancing the pressure and gravitational forces, or taking the appropriate limit of the Navier-Stokes equation together with the mass continuity equation, both simplified for spherical symmetry:

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + (\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u} \right) = -\vec{\nabla} P + \mu \nabla^2 \vec{u} + \vec{F}$$

For a hydrostatic situation,  $\vec{u} = 0$ :

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= -\vec{\nabla} P + \vec{F} \\ \vec{\nabla} P &= -\vec{F} \\ \frac{dP}{dr} &= -\vec{F}_{\text{gravity}} = -\frac{Gm\rho}{r^2} \end{aligned}$$

For the relativistic version of the equations, we assume the ideal fluid form of the stress energy tensor

$$T^{\mu\nu} = (\rho + P/c^2)u^\mu u^\nu + Pg^{\mu\nu}$$

where  $\rho = \rho_0(1 + \epsilon/c^2)$  is the energy density,  $u^\mu$  is the 4-velocity of the fluid element,  $\rho_0$  is the rest mass density, and  $\epsilon$  is the specific internal energy of the fluid. We also assume an interior Schwarzschild (static, spherically symmetric) form of the metric:

$$ds^2 = -e^{2\nu(r)}c^2 dt^2 + \left(1 - \frac{2Gm(r)}{rc^2}\right)^{-1} dr^2 + r^2 d\Omega^2$$

where  $m(r)$  is the gravitational mass within a coordinate radius  $r$ . Using the above stress energy tensor and metric, we reformulate the Einstein Equations

$$G^{\mu\nu} = \frac{8\pi G}{c^4} T^{\mu\nu}.$$

Under the assumption of a barotropic equation of state (pressure is a function of density alone,  $P = P(\rho)$ ), we arrive at the coupled system of ordinary differential equations called the TOV equations:

1. Pressure gradient balances gravity	$\frac{dP}{dr} = -G(\rho + P/c^2) \frac{m + 4\pi r^3 P/c^2}{r(r - 2Gm/c^2)}$
2. Mass conservation	$\frac{dm}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \rho$
3. Relativistic gravitational potential	$\frac{d\nu}{dr} = \frac{m + 4\pi r^3 P/c^2}{r(r - 2Gm/c^2)}$

For boundary conditions, we can specify the central density of the star,  $P(r=0) = P_c(\rho_c)$ ,  $m(r=0) = 0$ . The metric potential is matched to a true vacuum Schwarzschild spacetime at the surface of the star:  $e^{2\nu(r=R)} = 1 - 2GM/rc^2$ .

Typical stellar structures are solved using a polytropic equation of state:  $P = \kappa \rho_0^\Gamma$  with  $\kappa$  being the polytropic constant and  $\Gamma = \frac{d \ln P}{d \ln \rho_0}|_s$  being the adiabatic exponent derived at constant entropy. From the first law of thermodynamics,  $d\epsilon = -Pd(1/\rho_0)$ , we can integrate to find the specific internal energy  $\epsilon = P/(\rho_0(\Gamma - 1))$ .

For  $\Gamma = 2$ , it is possible to solve this analytically. However, for ideal gases,  $\Gamma = 4/3$  (relativistic) or  $\Gamma = 5/3$  (unrelativistic) is typical. Realistic equations of state add another layer of complication altogether. Either way, almost all stars require a numerical solution to this set of equations to obtain their stellar structure.

### Properties of a solution star

- The *surface* of the star is defined as where the pressure vanishes:  $P(R) = 0$ .
- The mass function,  $m(r)$  is the *gravitational mass* interior to a coordinate radius  $r$ . That is, it includes all contributions to the relativistic notion of mass: baryonic mass, internal energy, and the negative gravitational binding energy.
- For the more traditional notion of mass, *baryonic mass*, one must integrate again over the energy density, taking into account the gravitational field. For those with GR experience:

$$m_{\text{baryon}}(r) = \int_0^r 4\pi r^2 \rho \sqrt{|g|} dr = \int_0^r \frac{4\pi r^2 \rho}{\sqrt{1 - 2GM/rc^2}}$$

### Geometric Units

In general relativity, derivations and solutions are much simplified when in fitting units. For numerical relativity calculations, we then choose geometric (or geometrized) units, defined as  $c = G = 1$  (see table). To convert to  $M_\odot = 1$  in the last column, we use the geometrized solar mass  $M_\odot^* = 1.476 \times 10^5$  cm.

Dimension	cgs	Geometrized	$c = G = M_\odot = 1$ Units
Length	$d = d(\text{cm})$	$d^*(\text{cm}) = d$	$d_*(-) = d/M_\odot^*$
Time	$t = t(\text{s})$	$t^*(\text{cm}) = ct$	$t_*(-) = ct/M_\odot^*$
Mass	$M = M(\text{g})$	$M^*(\text{cm}) = (G/c^2)M$	$M_*(-) = (G/M_\odot^* c^2)M$
Mass Density	$\rho_0 = \rho_0(\text{g cm}^{-3})$	$\rho_0^*(\text{cm}^{-2}) = (G/c^2)\rho_0$	$\rho_{0,*}(-) = (GM_\odot^{*2}/c^2)\rho_0$
Energy	$E = E(\text{erg})$	$E^*(\text{cm}) = (G/c^4)E$	$E_*(-) = (G/M_\odot^* c^4)E$
Energy Density	$e = e(\text{erg cm}^{-3})$	$e^*(\text{cm}^{-2}) = (G/c^4)e$	$e_*(-) = (GM_\odot^{*2}/c^4)e$
Pressure	$P = P(\text{dyne cm}^{-2})$	$P^*(\text{cm}^{-2}) = (G/c^4)P$	$P_*(-) = (GM_\odot^{*2}/c^4)P$
Specific Internal Energy	$\epsilon = \epsilon(\text{erg g}^{-1})$	$\epsilon^*(-) = (1/c^2)\epsilon$	$\epsilon_*(-) = (1/c^2)\epsilon$

The trickier quantity for the TOV equations is the polytropic equation. Given conversion factors  $\alpha_p$  and  $\alpha_{\rho_0}$  for the pressure and energy density respectively between units A and B, the conversions are (regardless of which )

$$\begin{aligned} P(B) &= \alpha_p P(A) \\ \rho_0(B) &= \alpha_{\rho_0} \rho(A) \\ \kappa(B)(\rho_0(B))^\Gamma &= \alpha_p \kappa(A)(\rho_0(A))^\Gamma \end{aligned}$$

Solving for  $\kappa(B)$ , we see that the conversion depends on the adiabatic exponent:

$$\kappa(B) = \alpha_p \alpha_{\rho_0}^{-\Gamma} \kappa(A)$$

### A Stellar Structure Solver

You should already have a working RK4 solver for an  $n$ -dimensional coupled set of ODEs.

- Implement the hydro TOV equations (only  $P, m$  required), assuming a polytropic equation of state. You can choose to code in either cgs or  $G = c = M_\odot = 1$  units as long as you are consistent. While  $P$  and  $m$  have boundary conditions at  $r = 0$ ,  $\nu$  has an outer boundary condition which must be applied at the end of the solve. Notice also that the equations for  $dP/dr$  and  $d\nu/dr$  misbehave at  $r = 0$  and thus require a hack for small  $r$ .
- Write a wrapper function, e.g. `make_star`, which takes the central density of the star  $\rho_0$ , as well as the EoS parameters  $\Gamma$  and  $\kappa$  to solve the equations. Print out the location of the surface of the star,  $R$ , and the gravitational mass of the star,  $M = m(R)$ . You might want to dig out an interpolator for this, or go for the nearest gridpoint if your grid is at a high enough resolution.
- ▼ Consider a basic star with  $\rho_{0,c} = 5 \times 10^{14} \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $\kappa = 3000$  (in  $G = c = M_\odot = 1$  units), and  $\Gamma = 2.5$ . Verify its gravitational mass and radius, which should be  $M = 0.8657$  and  $R = 8.27$  in  $G = c = M_\odot = 1$  units. Then vary the central density and make a plot of  $M(\rho_c)$ . What is the maximum mass for this equation of state? If time permits, vary  $\kappa$  and  $\Gamma$  as well and plot  $M(\kappa)$  and  $M(\Gamma)$ .

**PROBLEM VII : A Pendulum**

The equation of motion for a pendulum is:

$$\theta'' = -\frac{g}{\ell} \sin \theta \quad (6.10)$$

where the function  $\theta(t)$  expresses the instantaneous position of the mass  $m$  which is hanged by the ceiling and the string has length  $\ell$  while  $g = 9.8m/s^2$  is the acceleration of gravity.

Assume that the pendulum starts from rest with  $\theta(0) = \pi/4$  and  $\ell = 1m$ .

- find the analytic solution
- plot the function  $\theta(t)$  for  $t = 0$  to  $15s$ .
- animate the motion of the pendulum (optional)

**PROBLEM VIII The Damped Harmonic Oscillator**

For a spring obeying Hooke law subject to a damping force, 2nd Newton's law establishes the equation of motion for a damped harmonic oscillator

$$m\ddot{x} = -kx - b\dot{x} \quad (6.11)$$

where  $m$  is the mass of the oscillator,  $k$  is the spring's constant, the term  $b\dot{x}$  corresponds to a damping term modeled with a linear function of velocity.

This equation has unique solution provided initial conditions for  $x(0) = x_0$  and  $\dot{x}(0) = v_0$ .

For this problem you may assume  $x(0) = 1$  and  $\dot{x}(0) = 0$  that is, the spring is pulled to the right from the equilibrium position and will be released at initial time  $t = 0$ .

**Homework:**

1. IPlot the function  $x(t)$  as function of  $t$ .
2. Produce the **phase diagram**  $x$  vs  $y$ . Compare with the one of the previous problem.



**PROBLEM IX The Double Pendulum**

A double pendulum consists of one pendulum attached at the end of another pendulum as shown in the figure below. The double pendulum swings in the  $(x, y)$  plane about the pivot  $(0, 0)$ . Let  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$  be the length of the top and bottom pendulums respectively, and let  $\theta_1(t)$  and  $\theta_2(t)$  be their angular displacements with respect to the vertical at time  $t$ . Let  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  be the respective bob masses. The equations of motion for  $\theta_1(t)$  and  $\theta_2(t)$  are:

$$\theta_1'' = \frac{1}{\ell_1 F} [g (\sin \theta_2 \cos \Theta - \mu \sin \theta_1) - ((\theta_2')^2 \ell_2 + (\theta_1')^2 \ell_1 \cos \Theta) \sin \Theta] , \quad (6.12)$$

$$\theta_2'' = \frac{1}{\ell_2 F} [g \mu (\sin \theta_1 \cos \Theta - \sin \theta_2) - (\mu (\theta_1')^2 \ell_1 + (\theta_2')^2 \ell_2 \cos \Theta) \sin \Theta] . \quad (6.13)$$

where

$$\Theta = \theta_1 - \theta_2, \mu = 1 + \frac{m_1}{m_2}, F = \mu - \cos^2 \Theta \quad (6.14)$$

where  $g = 9.8 \text{ m/s}^2$  is the acceleration of gravity.

Assume that the pendulum starts from rest with  $\theta_1(0) = \theta_2(0) = \pi/2$ .

For simplicity you may assume that  $m_1 = m_2$ ,  $\ell_1 = \ell_2 = 1 \text{ m}$ .

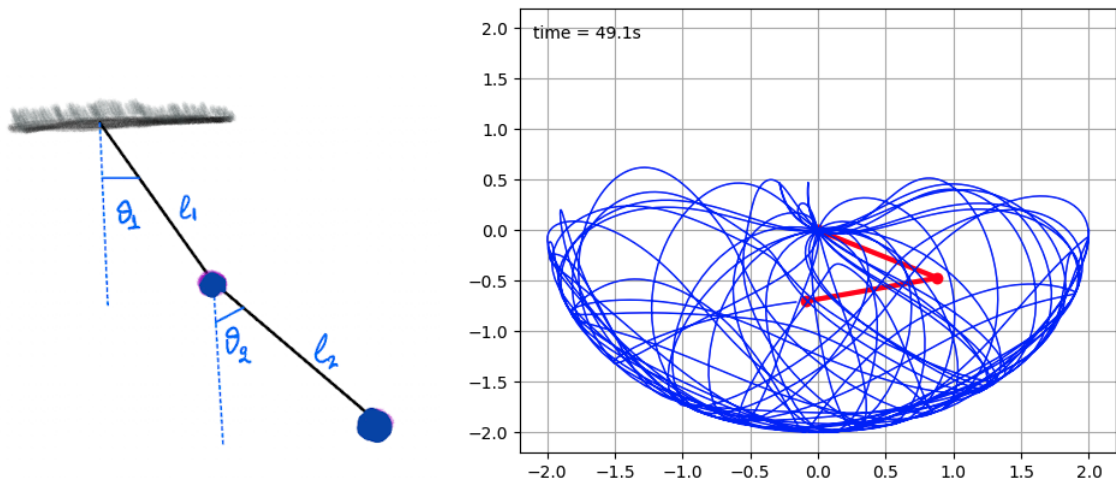


Figure 6.2: (Left) The double pendulum. (Right) A snapshot of the double pendulum with initial conditions  $(\theta_1, \theta_1', \theta_2, \theta_2') = (\pi/2, 0, \pi/2, 0)$

**Chaotic behaviour**

For the single pendulum, two very slightly different initial conditions lead to subsequent motion that are also very slightly different. However, this is not the case with the double pendulum. *A tiny difference in the initial conditions can lead to huge differences in the subsequent evolution.*

Simulate the motion of double pendulum (more specifically the motion of the 2nd mass  $m_2$ ). You should observe that about after 30s of evolution, starting with very slightly different initial conditions,

$$(\theta_1, \theta_1', \theta_2, \theta_2') = (2 + \epsilon, 0, 1, 0.1)$$

where  $\epsilon$  gets the values  $0, 10^{-3}, 10^{-5}$  the pendulum configurations are all quite different and this is also true for the trace left by  $m_2$ .

**Note:** This sensitivity to initial conditions (the so-called “butterfly effect”) is a hallmark of chaos, which will be explored further in the next exercises.

**Lyapunov exponent.**

The double pendulum exhibits a chaotic behaviour. One way to quantify the chaotic behaviour (sensitivity to the initial conditions) is to provide a “measure” for it.

For example, two systems with almost the same initial conditions e.g.  $\mathbf{x}(0)$  and  $\mathbf{x}(0) + \delta(0)$  (where  $\delta(0)$  is small). If the difference grows exponentially, e.g.,  $|\delta(t)| = e^{\lambda t} \delta(0)$ , with  $\lambda > 0$ , then the systems is said to be chaotic.<sup>1</sup>

In other words we need to calculate the limit

$$\lambda = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} \lim_{|\delta(0)| \rightarrow 0} \frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{|\delta(t)|}{|\delta(0)|} \quad (6.15)$$

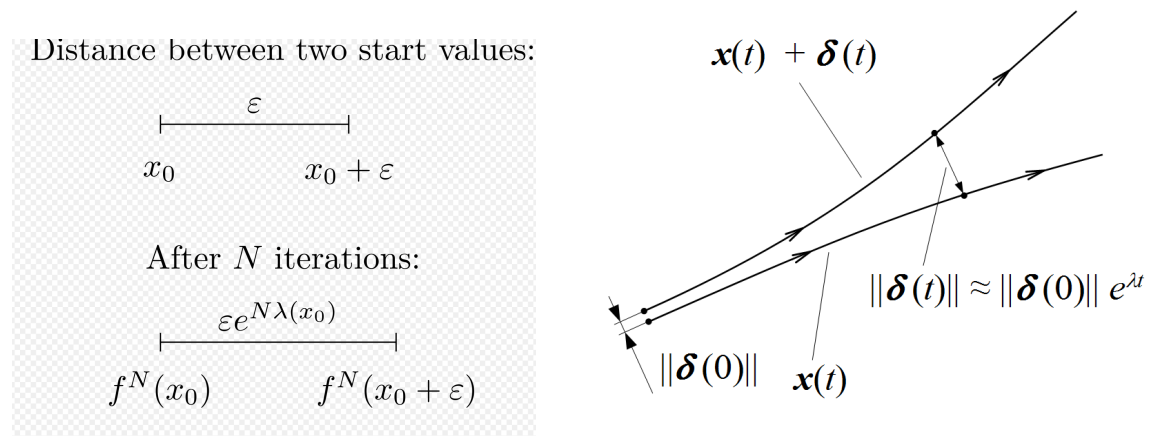


Figure 6.3: Explanations of the Lyapunov exponent (Wikipedia)

1. **Positive Lyapunov Exponent ( $\lambda > 0$ )** : Indicates sensitive dependence on initial conditions, a hallmark of chaos. Small differences in initial conditions grow exponentially over time.
2. **Negative Lyapunov Exponent ( $\lambda < 0$ )** : Nearby trajectories converge, signifying stability or periodicity.
3. **Zero Lyapunov Exponent ( $\lambda = 0$ )** : Represents trajectories that neither converge nor diverge exponentially, often associated with quasi-periodic motion.

**Relation to Chaos:** The Lyapunov exponent is a key diagnostic for chaos in deterministic systems. It quantifies how quickly small differences grow, which can lead to unpredictability despite the system being governed by deterministic rules.

**Homework**

**Question 1:** plot the functions  $\theta_1(t)$  and  $\theta_2(t)$  for  $t = 0$  to  $40s$ .

**Question 2:** Animate the motion of the pendulum (optional).

<sup>1</sup>The exponent  $\lambda$  is called the **Lyapunov exponent**, named after Aleksandr Mikhailovich Lyapunov(1857–1918), a Russian mathematician who is best remembered today for his contributions to the study of dynamical systems and probability.

**Question 3:** Can you verify the previous claims with the code that you have created up to now?

**Question 4:** Calculate the Lyapunov exponent for the double pendulum.

**Question 5:** How the double pendulum can become more chaotic? For example, how does the increase in the mass ratio  $m_1/m_2$  will affect the behaviour of the double pendulum? We suggest that you make an intelligent guess and then try to verify it.

**Question 6:** Investigate the sensitivity of the evolution of the double pendulum to the choice of the stepsize  $h$ . You may like to plot the trajectory in the  $(\theta_1, \theta_2)$  plane for various choices of  $h$ .

**PROBLEM X: The Lorenz equations**

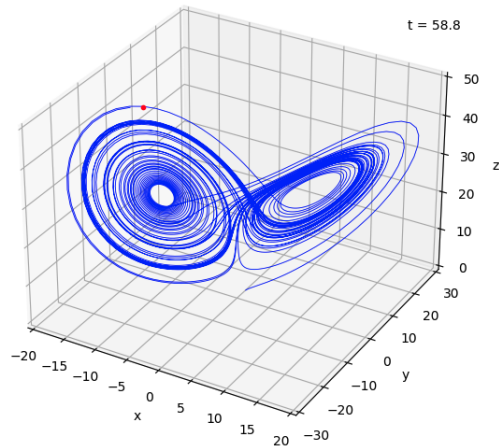
The Lorenz equations<sup>2</sup> are 3 coupled ODEs given by:

$$x' = \sigma(x - y) \quad (6.16)$$

$$y' = x(r - z) - y, \quad (6.17)$$

$$z' = xy - bz. \quad (6.18)$$

where  $x, y, z$  are functions of  $t$ , while  $\sigma, r, b$  are positive constants.

**Fixed points**

The above system of equations cannot easily be addressed analytically but we can check for its *fixed points*.

If  $\mathbf{x}(t) = [x(t), y(t), z(t)]$  represents the instantaneous position of the system, the vanishing of the derivative  $\mathbf{x}'(t) = 0$  represents the **fixed points** of the system.

Fixed points tell us about the long-term behaviour of the system. A fixed point may be an **attractor** towards which the system converges, a **repellor** from which the system tends to migrate away, or a **saddle point** which behaves like an attractor or a repellor depending on the state of the system.

We can try to find the fixed points of the Lorenz system under discussion.

We set  $x' = y' = z' = 0$  and then solve the system of 3 simultaneous equations for  $(x, y, z)$ , we will find the following fixed points:

1. The origin  $(0, 0, 0)$
2. For  $r > 1$  we get the following fixed points:

$$\mathbf{x}^{\pm} = \left( \pm\sqrt{b(r-1)}, \pm\sqrt{b(r-1)}, r-1 \right).$$

Which for the given values of  $\sigma = 10$ ,  $b = 8/3$ ,  $r = 28$  give the following values for the fixed points

$$\mathbf{x}^{\pm} = (\pm 8.5, \pm 8.5, 27).$$

<sup>2</sup>Edward Lorenz(1917–2008) was an American mathematician and meteorologist who serendipitously discovered that the above set of equations (which modelled fluid convection) have extreme sensitivity to initial conditions. In this model,  $x, y, z$  are time-dependent properties of the fluid (for details of these physical properties, see [6]). We are interested in the trajectory of the system in the  $(x, y, z)$  space, which is an example of a phase space of a dynamical system.

Lorenz showed that in this case  $\mathbf{x}^\pm$  are points between which trajectories bounce around endlessly.

A 3D animation will show that the trajectory encircles the fixed points  $\mathbf{x}^\pm$  moving randomly between them. In a long simulation a shape resembling to a "butterfly" will be created.

### Homework

1. Study the trajectory in the  $(x, y, z)$ -space for  $\sigma = 10, r = 28, b = 8/3$  assuming initial conditions  $(x, y, z)(0) = (1, 1, 1)$ .

Things you should focus:

- 3-D animation
- Chaotic behaviour

2. The Lorenz equations also exhibit chaotic behaviour, i.e. sensitivity to initial conditions.

Plot the  $x(t)$  coordinates of two trajectories whose initial conditions differ by one-billionth, namely

Trajectory A:  $(x, y, z) = (1, 1, 1)$  ,

Trajectory B:  $(x, y, z) = (1 + 10^{-9}, 1, 1)$  .

You should see that the trajectories evolve almost identically until  $t \approx 37$ . Then they should clearly separate into non-periodic orbits. The Lyapunov exponent in this case is known to be  $\lambda \approx 0.9$  <sup>3</sup>

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<sup>3</sup>A positive  $\lambda$  indicates chaos.

**PROBLEM XI: Predator - Prey problem**

The Predator-Prey model using the Lotka-Volterra equations <sup>4</sup> described by the following ODEs:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha x - \beta xy, \quad (6.19)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \delta xy - \gamma y, \quad (6.20)$$

where:

$x$  is the prey population,

$y$  is the predator population,

$\alpha$  is the Prey growth rate,

$\beta$  is the Predation rate coefficient, (actually the term  $-\beta xy$  indicates that the interaction between the two species will decrease the prey population),

$\delta$  is the Predator reproduction rate coefficient ( the term  $\delta xy > 0$  indicates that the interaction between the two species will represent energy and therefore reproduction for predators  $y$ ), and

$\gamma$  is the Predator death rate (the term  $-\gamma y$  indicates that the population of predators, living alone, would decrease due to the lack of food; should this term be the only one would imply an exponential decrease of population  $y$  toward extinction).

**Comment:** It is an oversimplification of what really happens in nature. For example, it assumes unlimited resources for prey, no environmental complexity, and no competition within the species. If one includes external factors like seasonal forcing, stochastic effects then the dynamic is affected.

**HOMEWORK:**

You should derive a graph of the Prey and Predator populations as a function of time and also the Phase diagram of Predator vs. Prey.

Assume:  $\alpha = 0.1$ ,  $\beta = 0.02$ ,  $\delta = 0.01$  and  $\gamma = 0.1$  .

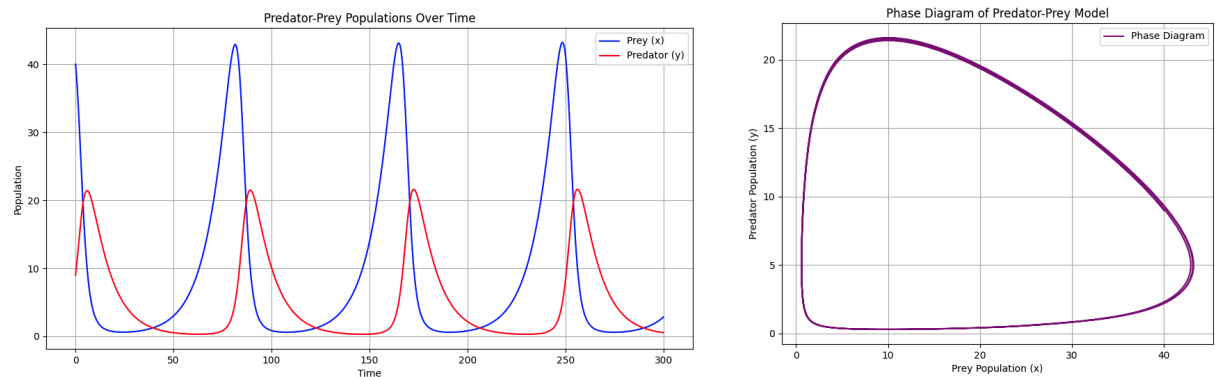


Figure 6.4: (Left) Solution for the predator  $y$  and prey  $x$  populations as functions of time. (Right) Phase space portrait of the solution.

<sup>4</sup>The Lotka-Volterra equations are a set of first-order, non-linear differential equations often used to describe the dynamics of biological systems in which two species interact: a predator species and its prey. They are foundational in mathematical ecology and are commonly referred to as the Predator-Prey model.

**PROBLEM XII : The Logistic Map**

The logistic map is given by the relation

$$x_{n+1} = f(x_n) \quad \text{where} \quad f(x_n) = rx_n(1 - x_n) \quad (6.21)$$

where  $0 \leq x_n \leq 1$  and  $r > 0$

We should investigate the long-term behaviour of  $x_n$  for different choices of  $x_0$  and  $r$ .<sup>5</sup>

This **recurrence relation** or **difference equation** can represent a physical system which can be modelled by the logistic map:

Assume,  $N$  to be the number of fish in a certain lake averaged over each month. Let  $N(n)$  be the number of fish in month  $n$  (it should take integer values starting with  $n = 0$ ). The fish naturally reproduce, but since the lake has finite resources, there is an absolute maximum number of fish,  $N_{\max}$ , that the lake can sustain, i.e. if  $N = N_{\max}$  at any point, food runs out completely and the population declines due to starvation.

Let  $x_n = N(n)/N_{\max}$  (i.e. the fractional population measured with respect to the maximum capacity). It follows that  $x_n$  lies between 0 and 1.

In addition,  $x_{n+1}$  (the fractional population next month) depends on  $x_n$  in a natural way:  $x_{n+1}$  increases with  $x_n$  due to reproduction up to a point, then decreases if  $x_n$  is too close to the maximum limit.

The logistic map models this behaviour via a one-parameter quadratic relation:

$$x_{n+1} = rx_n(1 - x_n)$$

where  $r$  can be regarded as the growth rate of the population. Note that the limit  $x_n \in [0, 1]$  restricts  $r$  to be between 0 and 4. where  $r$  can be regarded as the growth rate of the population. Note that the limit  $x_n \in [0, 1]$  restricts  $r$  to be between 0 and 4.

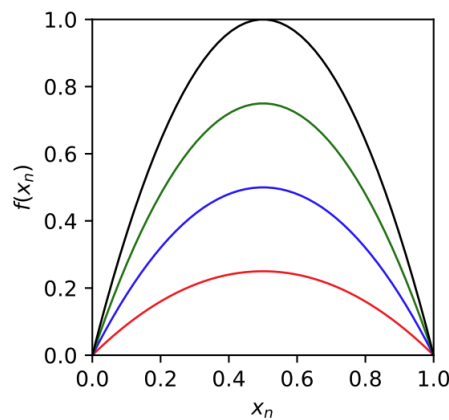


Figure 6.5: The plot shows  $f(x_n + 1)$  as a function of  $x_n$  for  $r = 1, 2, 3, 4$  (bottom to top)

**Fixed Points & Period**

We look for fixed points in the same way we did in the previous section. These fixed points hold clues to the long-term behaviour of the system. Setting  $f(x) = x$  (we drop the subscript  $n$  for clarity), we find different fixed points depending on the value of  $r$ .

- \*  $0$  is a fixed point for all  $r$ .
- \*  $x^* = (r - 1)/r$  is a fixed point if  $r > 1$ .

<sup>5</sup>The dynamical systems we have studied so far are ODEs that evolve continuously with time $t$ . Now we will study a dynamical system with discrete time steps labelled by  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$ . Equations like (6.21) are known as **recurrence relations** or **difference equations**.

These values of  $r$  give rise to  $x$  which remains constant from month to month. In addition, there may be values of  $x$  that return to the original value every 2 months, or 3 months, and so on.

We say that  $x$  is a fixed point with **period**  $k$  if  $k$  is the smallest positive integer such that

$$f^k(x) = x.$$

For example, to find fixed points with period 2, we set

$$f^2(x) = x \Rightarrow x \left( x - \frac{r-1}{r} \right) [r^3 x^2 - (r^2 + r^3)x + r^2 + r] = 0. \quad (6.22)$$

There are 4 solutions to this quartic equation: 2 of them are the fixed points (with period 1) found above. The other 2 are period-2 fixed points which exist if  $r > 3$ , namely:

$$x^\pm = \frac{r+1 \pm \sqrt{(r-3)(r+1)}}{2r}$$

For instance, for  $r = 3.3$ , we find the period-2 fixed points at  $x^\pm \approx 0.479$  and  $0.823$ .

### The Bifurcation Diagram

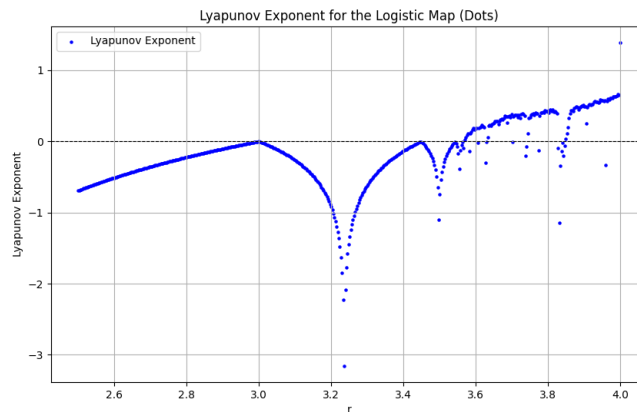


Figure 6.6: The Lyapunov exponents for the logistic map as a function of the parameter  $r$ . Notice:

- a) For  $r < 3$ , the Lyapunov exponent is **negative**, indicating **stable**, periodic behavior.
- b) Near  $r \approx 3$ , the Lyapunov exponent approaches zero, signifying a **transition to chaos**.
- c) For  $r > 3.57$ , the Lyapunov exponent becomes **positive**, showing **chaotic behavior**.

### Feigenbaum constant

Let  $b_i$  be the value of  $r$  where the period-doubling bifurcation occurs for the  $i$ -th time. Looking thoroughly in the data one can find that  $b_1 = 3$ ,  $b_2 \approx 3.449$ ,  $b_3 \approx 3.544$ ,  $b_4 \approx 3.564$  etc. We can quantify the rate at which  $b_i$  appears using the variable  $\delta$  defined as

$$\delta = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b_{n-1} - b_{n-2}}{b_n - b_{n-1}} \quad (6.23)$$

It can be shown that  $\delta \approx 4.669$ . This constant is called the **Feigenbaum constant**, named after the American mathematical physicist Mitchell Feigenbaum (1944–2019). Remarkably, this behaviour holds



for all one-dimensional maps with a single quadratic maximum, meaning that they all bifurcate at the same universal rate.

### Fractals

Zooming into the bifurcation diagram reveals a self-similar structure as shown in Figure 6.6. From left to right, each panel zooms into the bifurcation diagram. These self-similar structures, known as a **fractal**, will be explored further in the next problem.

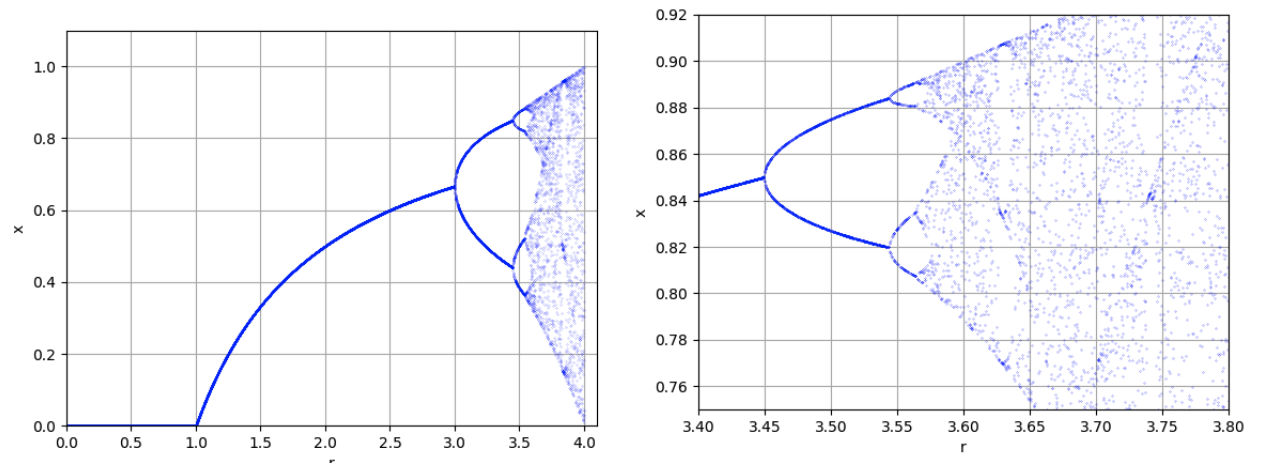


Figure 6.7: Bifurcation diagram for the logistic map on the domain  $r \in [0, 4]$  (left) and  $r \in [3.4, 3.8]$  (right). You can notice the fractal structure in the two graphs

**PROBLEM XIII : The Mandelbrot set**

Consider the sequence of complex numbers <sup>6</sup>

$$z_{n+1} = f_c(z_n), \quad \text{where} \quad f_c(z_n) = z_n^2 + c, \quad (6.24)$$

where  $c \in \mathbb{C}$ . Locate values of  $c$  in the complex plane such that the set  $\{z_n : n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$  is bounded.

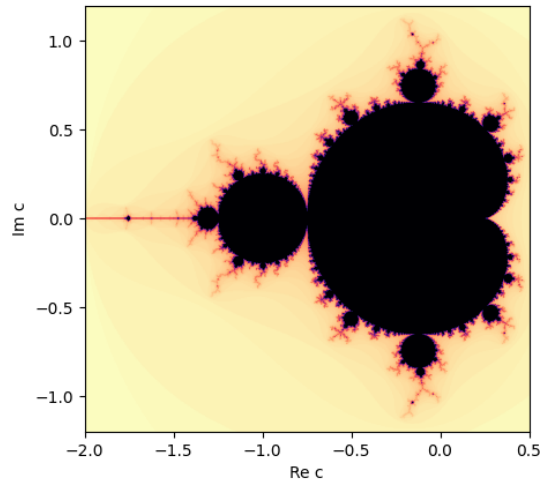


Figure 6.8: The Mandelbrot set

To be completed soon

<sup>6</sup>The Mandelbrot set is named after the Polish-born mathematician Benoit Mandelbrot (1924–2010), who coined the term fractal and pioneered the use of computer to visualise complex geometry.

## 7 | Boundary & Characteristic Value Problems

To be returned by 28.1.2025

## 7.1 | Theoretical Problems

### PROBLEM I

A general 1-D BVP is given by, e.g.,

$$\begin{aligned} u''(x) &= g(u, x) \\ u(x_1) &= u_1, u(x_2) = u_2 \end{aligned} \quad (7.1)$$

To solve via the shooting method, reformulate the problem as a (2d) root finding problem of the function  $f(v) : v \rightarrow u_v(x_2) - u_2$  where  $u_v$  is a solution to 7.1 with the initial conditions  $u_v(x_1) = u_1$ ,  $u'_v(x_1) = v$ .

- Develop a function akin to `solve_by_shooting` which takes a function handle and boundary conditions. The function must be formulated as a root-finding problem system of equations. Then use your Runge-Kutta 4 routine from earlier labs to find  $u_v(x_2)$ . Use linear interpolation to approach the correct value of  $v$ .
- ▼ Solve the boundary value problem

$$u'' = \left(1 - \frac{x}{5}\right)u + x \quad (7.2)$$

$$u(1) = 2 \quad (7.3)$$

$$u(3) = -1 \quad (7.4)$$

using the Shooting Method. To solve the initial value problem, use the 4th order Runge-Kutta method with a stepsize of  $10^{-4}$ .

- How quickly does the Linear Interpolation method converge? Why?
- Plot the solutions for each iteration of the root finder on top of each other.

- ▼ Now solve the nonlinear boundary value problem

$$u'' = \left(1 - \frac{x}{5}\right)uu' + x \quad (7.5)$$

$$u(1) = 2 \quad (7.6)$$

$$u(3) = -1 \quad (7.7)$$

- How many iterations are now necessary to achieve the accuracy of  $10^{-4}$ ?
- Plot the solutions for each iteration of the root finder on top of each other.

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- To use RK4, first rewrite Eqn(1) into a system of first order differential equations:

$$u' = v \quad (7.8)$$

$$v' = x + \left(1 - \frac{x}{5}\right)u \quad (7.9)$$

- The solutions for the linear boundary value problem is given through  $u'(1) = -3.4950$ , while the solution of the nonlinear BVP through  $u'(1) = -2.0161$ .

**PROBLEM II**

Solve the linear BVP (use shooting method)

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2y = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad y(0) = 1.2, \quad y(1) = 0.9$$

**PROBLEM II**

Solve the linear BVP (use **matrix method**, and comment on the accuracy if you compare with the previous problem.)

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} - 2y = 0 \quad \text{with} \quad y(0) = 1.2, \quad y(1) = 0.9$$

**PROBLEM IV** (use shooting method) Solve the non-linear BVP (use shooting method)

$$\frac{d^2y}{dx^2} + \frac{(2 + y^2)y}{1 + y^2} = 1 \quad \text{with} \quad y(0) = 0, \quad y(2) = 3$$

## 7.2 | Applied Problems

### PROBLEM IV :

The natural oscillations of a fluid sphere.

When considering small perturbations around equilibrium, the sphere can oscillate. The oscillations are described by the linearized fluid equations, leading to the master equation for the radial oscillations.

For small, adiabatic, radial oscillations of a polytropic fluid sphere, the master equation can be written as:

$$\frac{d^2 \xi_r}{dr^2} + \left[ \frac{2}{r} + \frac{1}{\Gamma_1 P} \frac{dP}{dr} \right] \frac{d\xi_r}{dr} + \left[ \frac{\omega^2 \rho}{\Gamma_1 P} - \frac{4}{r^2} \right] \xi_r = 0. \quad (7.10)$$

Where  $\xi_r(r)$  is the radial displacement of the fluid element,  $\omega$  is the angular frequency of oscillation,  $P(r)$  is the equilibrium pressure distribution,  $\rho(r)$  is the equilibrium density distribution,  $\Gamma_1$  is the adiabatic index :

$$\Gamma_1 = \left. \frac{\partial \ln P}{\partial \ln \rho} \right|_{\text{adiabatic}}$$

,  $r$  is the radial coordinate.

Here we assumed a **polytropic equation of state**:

$$P = K \rho^{1+\frac{1}{n}},$$

where  $K$  is a constant,  $n$  is the polytropic index and  $\rho$  is the fluid density.

The equilibrium structure of the polytropic sphere is governed by the **Lane-Emden equation**.

### Boundary Conditions

At  $r = 0$  :  $\xi_r$  must remain finite (regular at the center), you may assume  $\xi_r(r = 0) = 0$ .

At  $r = R$  (the surface of the sphere): The Lagrangian perturbation of pressure vanishes, i.e.,

$$\Delta P = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad \frac{d\xi_r}{dr} + \frac{\rho'}{\rho} \xi_r = 0 \quad \text{at } r = R,$$

where  $\rho'$  is the derivative of density with respect to  $r$ .

### Tips, Hints, and Suggestions:

- You need first to construct the stellar model in equilibrium, This means that you have to solve the IVP for the following equilibrium equations or else the Lane-Emden equation.

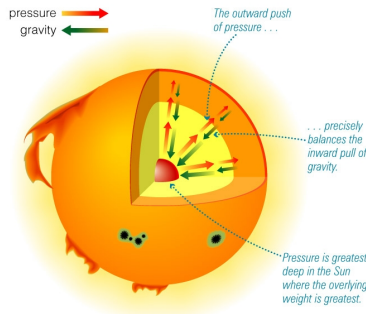
The following equations describe a spherical star in hydrostatic equilibrium in the Newtonian theory

$$\frac{dm}{dr} = 4\pi r^2 \rho(r) \quad (7.11)$$

$$\frac{dP}{dr} = -\rho(r) \frac{Gm(r)}{r^2} = -\rho(r) g(r) \quad (7.12)$$

$$\frac{d\Phi}{dr} = -\frac{1}{\rho(r)} \frac{dP}{dr} = \frac{Gm(r)}{r^2} \quad (7.13)$$

$$P = P(\rho, \dots) \quad \text{equation of state} \quad (7.14)$$



The hydrostatic equilibrium equations (7.11) and (7.12) can be combined to give

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( \frac{r^2}{\rho} \frac{dP}{dr} \right) = -4\pi G \rho \quad (7.15)$$

If we substitute  $P = K\rho^\Gamma$ , and we write  $\Gamma = 1 + 1/n$  ( $n$  is called **polytropic index**) we can get a dimensionless form of this equation the so called **Lane-Emden equation**

$$\frac{1}{\xi^2} \frac{d}{d\xi} \left( \xi^2 \frac{d\theta}{d\xi} \right) = -\theta^n \quad (7.16)$$

where we have made the following substitutions

$$\rho = \rho_c \theta^n, \quad r = a\xi, \quad a = \left[ \frac{(n+1)K\rho_c^{1/n-1}}{4\pi G} \right]^{1/2} \quad (7.17)$$

where  $\rho_c = \rho(r=0)$  is the central density.

While the **boundary conditions** are

$$\theta(0) = 1, \quad \text{and} \quad \theta'(0) = 0. \quad (7.18)$$

Lane-Emden equation can be easily integrated numerically starting at  $\xi = 0$  with the BC (7.18).<sup>1</sup>

- Once you have created the stellar model then use the discretization to solve the characteristic value problem.

<sup>1</sup>For more details check Wikipedia