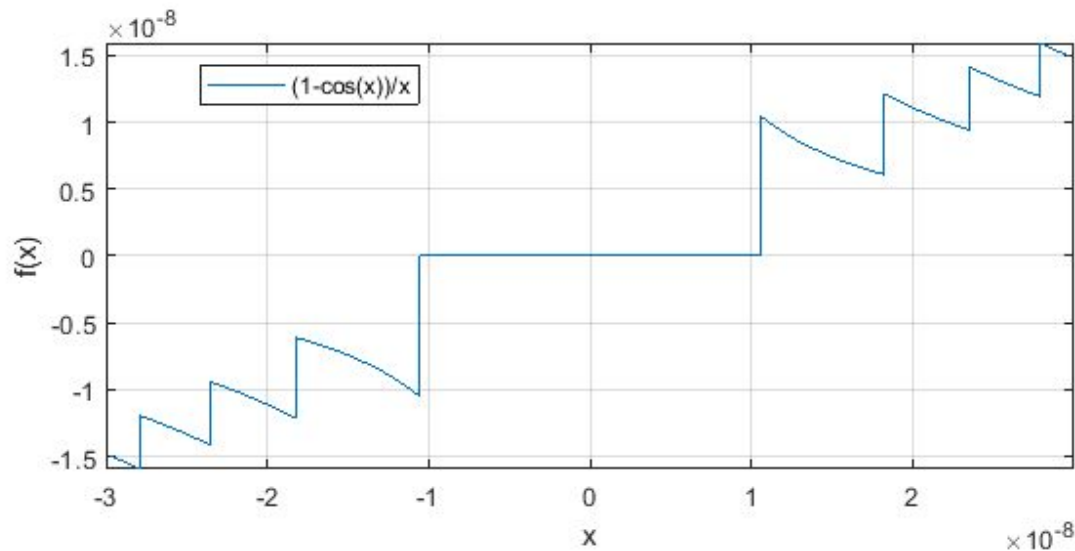


$$f(x) = \frac{1-\cos(x)}{x} \text{ over } (-2^{-25}, 2^{-25})$$



Computed Values for f(x) in Matlab

$x$	$-2^{-10}$	$-2^{-20}$	$-2^{-26}$	$-2^{-26.5}$	$2^{-26.5}$	$2^{-26}$	$2^{-20}$	$2^{-10}$
$\frac{1-\cos x}{x}$	$-4.8828e-04$	$-2^{-21}$	$-2^{-27}$	0	0	$2^{-27}$	$2^{-21}$	$-4.8828e-04$

Finding the order of convergence by Taylor Series expanding around  $x_0 = 0$ ,

$$f(x) = \frac{1-(1-\frac{x^2}{2}+\dots)}{x} = \frac{x}{2} + \dots \text{ and } \frac{1-\cos x}{x} = O(x).$$

Comparing this to my numerical data f(x) is indeed converging to zero faster than x.

The smallest absolute value of x for which matlab can compute  $\frac{1-\cos x}{x}$  is  $2^{-26}$ . Matlab represents 1 using an exponent of 0 and a mantissa of 52 zero bits. The closest representable number uses an exponent of -1 and 52 1 bits. The difference being  $2^{-53}$  (any smaller difference will be rounded to zero). The smallest value of x is found using:

$$\arccos(1 - 2^{-53}) = +2^{-26} \text{ or } -2^{-26}$$

Note: for x,  $2^{-26} < x < 2^{-26.5}$ ,  $\cos(x)$  is computed by rounding to  $2^{-26}$ . So the calculation for f(x) is completed, but inaccurate.

The three sources of round-off error are: Cancellation-error of  $1-\cos(x)$ , the computation of  $\cos(x)$ , and the division by x. Mantissas have limited amount of bits to represent a number, and digits can be lost(rounded or chopped) when two values represented with different exponents are operated on.