

## 35. Interval arithmetic II

## Last time

- Calculating with **sets** instead of numbers
- Fundamental idea of interval arithmetic:  
**enclosure** of **range** of function
- Non-existence of roots

# Goals for today

- Directed rounding
- Dependency problem
- Finding all roots: Branch-and-bound algorithms
- Interval Newton method
- Global optimization

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- Use additional internal bits of precision to calculate

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- “**Enclosure**”

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    - In Julia: `prevfloat` and `nextfloat`
    - Result is 2ulps wide instead of 1ulp (unit in last place)

## Simple implementation

- Can implement this easily:

```
struct SimpleInterval
    inf::Float64
    sup::Float64
end

import Base: +
+(x::SimpleInterval, y::SimpleInterval) =
    SimpleInterval( prevfloat(x.inf + y.inf),
                    nextfloat(x.sup + y.sup) )

x = SimpleInterval(0.1, 0.3)
y = SimpleInterval(0.2, 0.4)

x + y
```

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x + y
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- Compare

```
x = SimpleInterval(0.1, 0.3)  
x + x
```

```
y = interval(0.1, 0.3)
```

## IntervalArithmetic.jl

- Recall the example of excluding roots
- Let's see how to do this with `IntervalArithmetic.jl`

$X = 3..4$

$f(x) = x^2 - 2$

`0 in f(X) # returns false`

- $f(X)$  is obtained by substituting  $X$  instead of  $x$  everywhere in definition of  $f$
- Called **natural interval extension**



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- We “cannot tell” that it is the same  $X$  both times
- **Dependency problem** of interval arithmetic
- Serious impediment to using interval arithmetic more widely
- Partial solution: Affine arithmetic

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- However, if  $0 \in f(X)$  we *cannot conclude anything*
- Overestimation from dependency problem may lead to  
 $0 \notin \text{range}(f; X)$   
 but  $0 \in f(X)$

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- **Idea:** Split interval into **pieces**
- Simplest: Equal-sized pieces – **mincing**
- Theorem: Over-estimation of range decreases as  $\mathcal{O}(w)$
- $w$  is width of each piece

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- Prune: Check each piece and throw away if no root
- Effectively builds a **binary tree** in an efficient way
- Exhaustive search of the space up to some tolerance

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- i.e. if  $x$  is a root of  $f$  then  $x$  is in some  $X^i$
- But still don't know if there *are* roots or how many



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- How can we check this?
- **Idea:** Use algorithmic differentiation and interval arithmetic!

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- Define  $\tilde{m}(X) := \text{midpoint of interval } X$
- Need thin interval version:  $m(X) := [\tilde{m}(x)..\tilde{m}(x)]$
- Newton operator is
- $$\mathcal{N}_f(X) := m(X) - \frac{f(m(X))}{f'(X)}$$



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# Interval Newton III

## ■ Theorem:

- Any root in  $X$  lies in  $\mathcal{N}_f(X)$
- So if  $\mathcal{N}_f(X) \cap X = \emptyset$  then there is no root
- If  $\mathcal{N}_f(X) \subseteq X$  then there is a unique root in  $X$

## Higher dimensions

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- Branch and prune and interval Newton extend directly

# Global optimization: Ground state of atomic cluster

- $N$  atoms at positions  $\mathbf{x}_i \in \mathbb{R}^{3*}$
- **Interaction potential**  $V(r_{ij})$  between pairs
- Ground state: Minimize **potential energy**

$$V(\mathbf{x}_1, \dots, \mathbf{x}_N) := \sum_{i=1}^N \sum_{j>i} V(r_{ij})$$

- $r_{ij} := \|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j\|$  is distance between atoms  $i$  and  $j$



# Lennard-Jones potential

- Standard model of interaction between argon atoms:

$$V(r) := 4 \left( \frac{1}{r^{12}} - \frac{1}{r^6} \right)$$

- Problem: There are *lots* of local minima
- Estimated to grow like  $\mathcal{O}(e^N)$
- To find the ground state we need **global optimization**

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# Global optimization

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- Suppose have upper bound  $m$  for global minimum value
- If  $\underline{f(X)} > m$  then  $X$  cannot contain global minimum
- Use this in similar branching algorithm

## Constraint propagation

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- **Idea:** Forwards–backwards algorithm:
  - 1 Propagate forwards
  - 2 Apply constraint
  - 3 Propagate backwards

# Review

- Applications of intervals
- Branch and prune for excluding roots
- Interval Newton for proving existence and uniqueness
- Global optimization