



# Conception optimale pour l'ingénieur (Aerospace)

C3 by Prof. J. Morlier  
2025

# AU PROGRAMME

## Python based

	<b>lundi 31 mars 2025</b>		
		09h15 - 12h45	MORLIER Joseph
		14h00 - 16h15	MORLIER Joseph
	<b>mardi 01 avril 2025</b>		
		09h15 - 12h45	MORLIER Joseph
		14h00 - 16h15	MORLIER Joseph
	<b>mercredi 02 avril 2025</b>		
		09h15 - 12h45	MORLIER Joseph MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel
		14h00 - 16h15	MAS COLOMER JOAN MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel
	<b>jeudi 03 avril 2025</b>		
		09h15 - 12h45	MAS COLOMER JOAN MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel

**Intro: Sustainable Aviation (Materials) With Both Eyes Open**

**Design optimization 1: constrained optimization, MOO, Sensibility with examples**

**Project DO 1 2 3**

**Topology Optimization with examples**

**Material ecoselection, Ashby Diagram and more**

**Projet DO 1 2 3**

**Wrap up and demo from students**

**Intro to MDAO**

**Static Aeroelastic problem is a MDAO problem**

**Airbus PROJECT by TEAM of 3 (marked\*)**

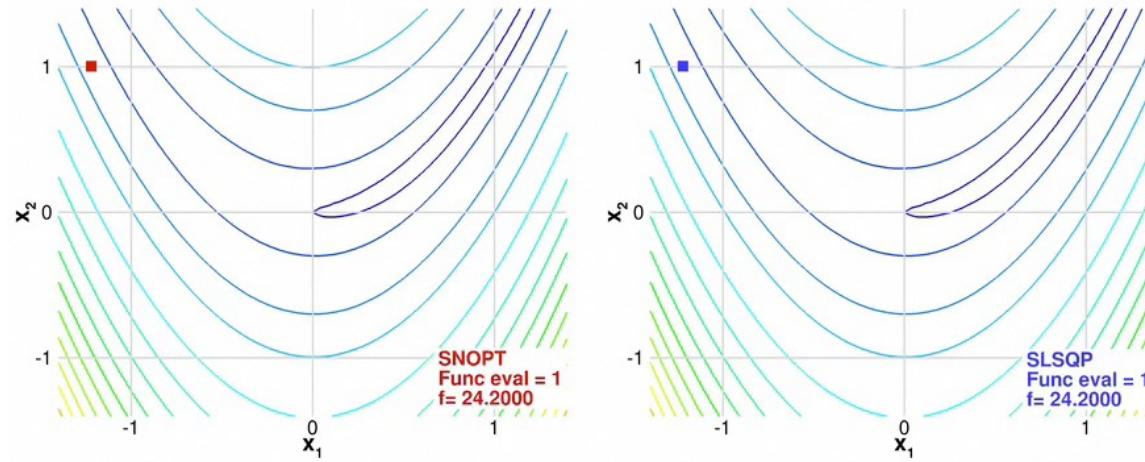
<b>vendredi 04 avril 2025</b>	<b>ORAL MARKED*</b>	
	09h15 - 11h30	MORLIER Joseph MURADÁS ODRIOZOLA Daniel

# Part1 : On sensibility

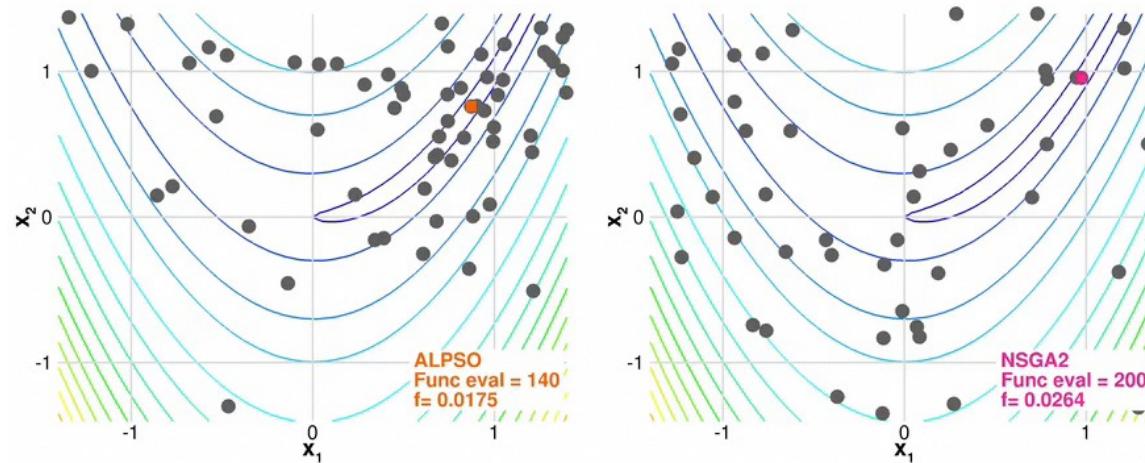
Gradient, Hessian and many more?

Gradient-based methods take a more direct path to ...  
the optimum

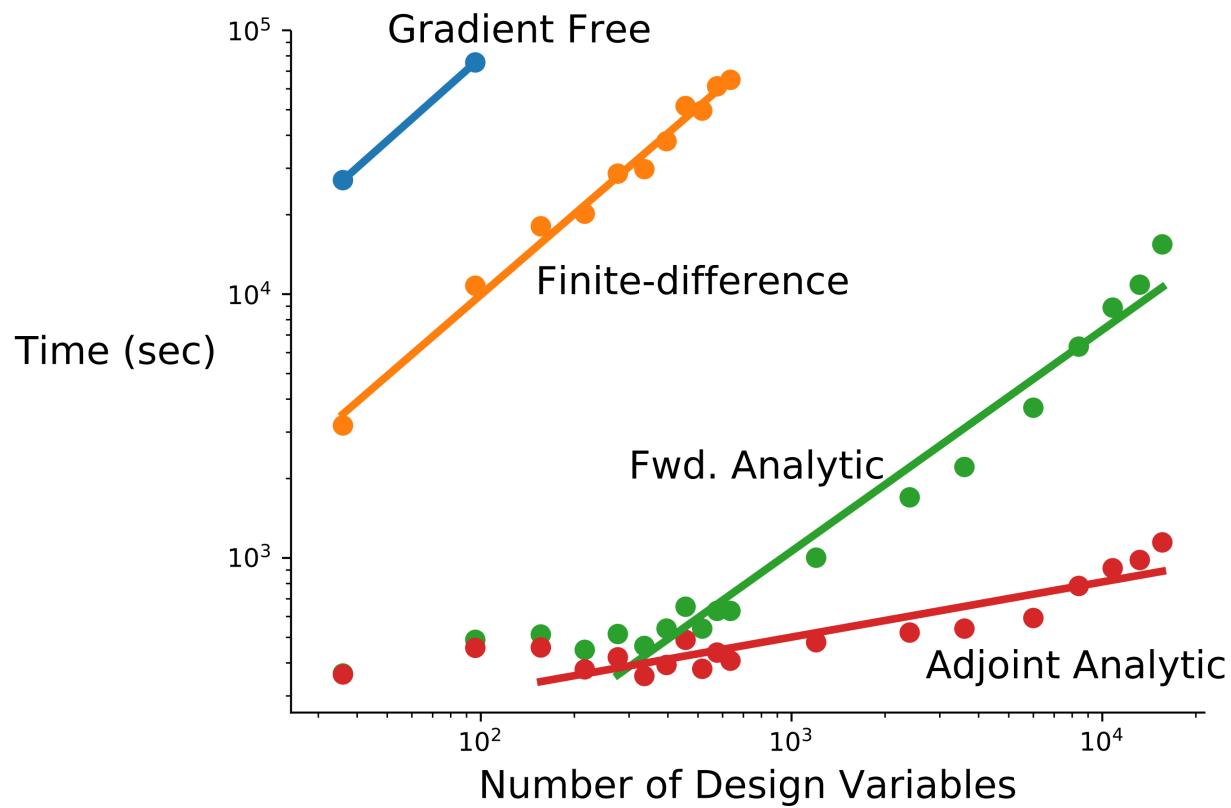
Gradient-based



Gradient-free



# Gradient-based optimization with analytic derivatives is our only hope for large-scale problems



100x-10,000x speedup for aerodynamic shape optimization vs. gradient-free<sup>1</sup>

At least 5x-10x speedup vs. finite-difference<sup>2</sup>

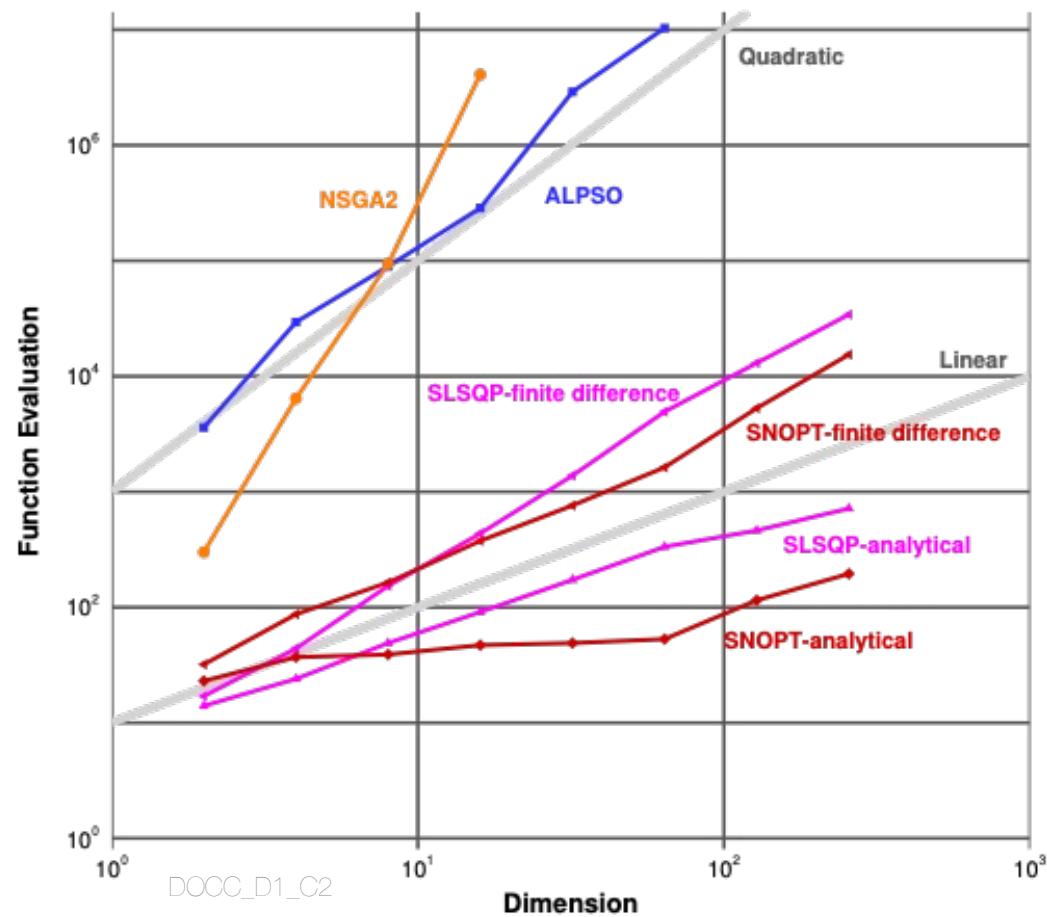
[1] Lyu et al. ICCFD8-2014-0203

[2] Gray et al. Aviation 2014-2042

Gradient-based optimization is the only hope  
for large numbers of design variables

Need accurate  
derivative

[Lyu et al. ICCFD8-2014-0203]



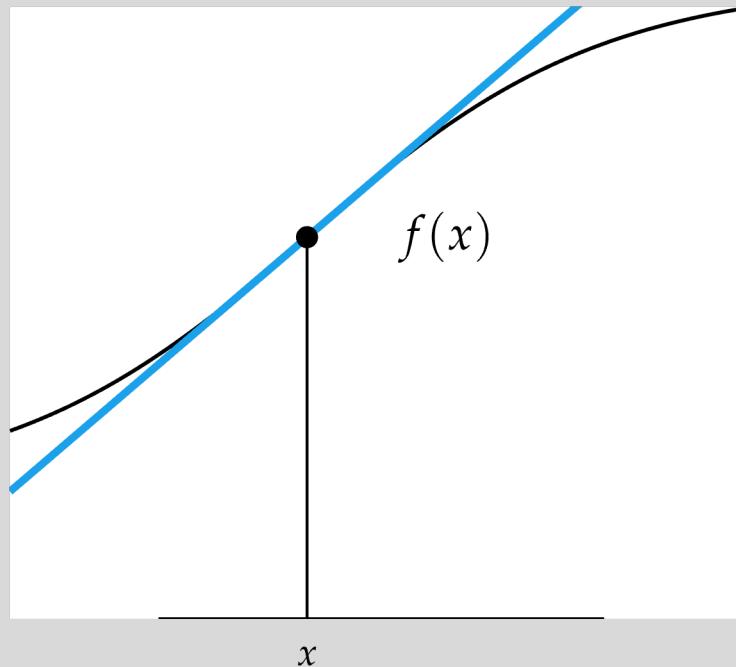
# Derivatives

- Derivatives tell us which direction to search for a solution

# Derivatives

- Slope of Tangent Line

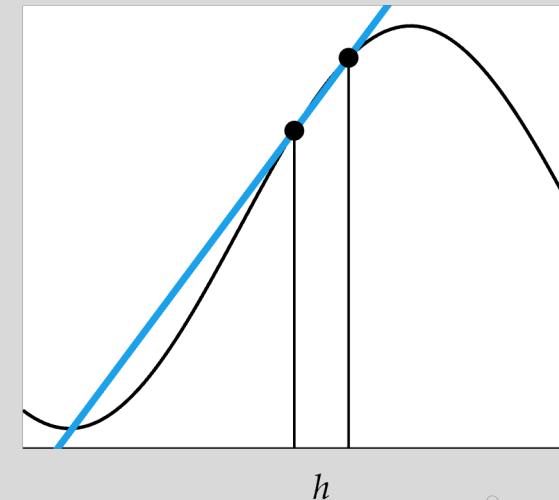
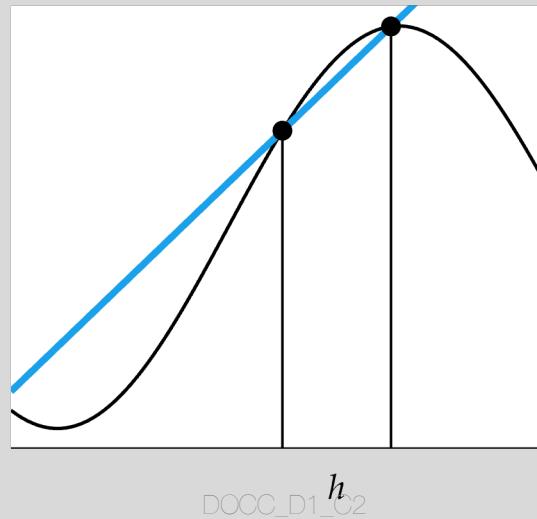
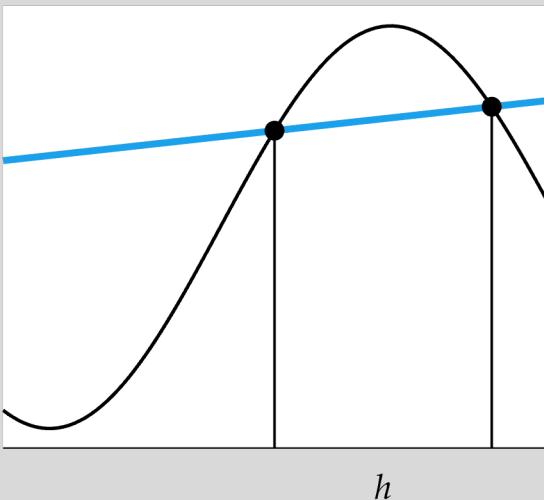
$$f'(x) \equiv \frac{df(x)}{dx}$$



# Derivatives

$$f(x + \Delta x) \approx f(x) + f'(x)\Delta x$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\Delta f(x)}{\Delta x}$$



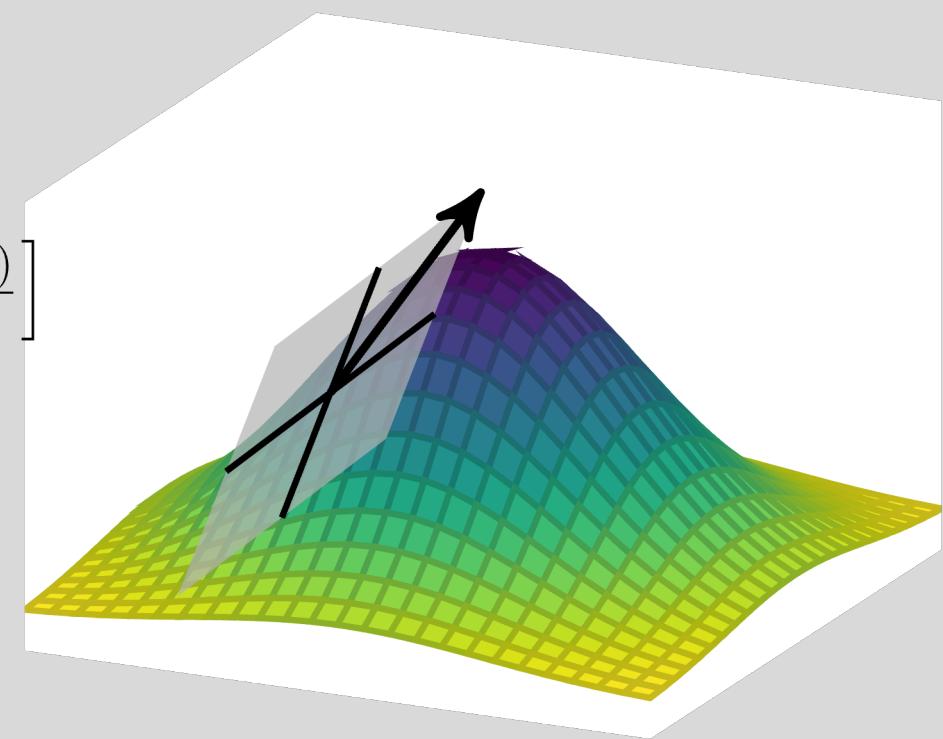
# Derivatives in Multiple Dimensions

- Gradient Vector

$$\nabla f(\mathbf{x}) = \left[ \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1}, \quad \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_2}, \quad \dots, \quad \frac{\partial f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_n} \right]$$

- Hessian Matrix

$$\nabla^2 f(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1 \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1 \partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_1 \partial x_n} \\ & \vdots & & \\ \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_n \partial x_1} & \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_n \partial x_2} & \dots & \frac{\partial^2 f(\mathbf{x})}{\partial x_n \partial x_n} \end{bmatrix}$$



# Derivatives in Multiple Dimensions

- Directional Derivative

$$\begin{aligned}\nabla_{\mathbf{s}} f(\mathbf{x}) &\equiv \underbrace{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + h\mathbf{s}) - f(\mathbf{x})}{h}}_{\text{forward difference}} \\ &= \underbrace{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x} + h\mathbf{s}/2) - f(\mathbf{x} - h\mathbf{s}/2)}{h}}_{\text{central difference}} \\ &= \underbrace{\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(\mathbf{x}) - f(\mathbf{x} - h\mathbf{s})}{h}}_{\text{backward difference}}\end{aligned}$$

# Analytical sensitivities

If the objective function is known in closed form, we can often compute the gradient vector(s) in closed form (analytically):

Example:  $J(x_1, x_2) = x_1 + x_2 + \frac{1}{x_1 \cdot x_2}$

Analytical Gradient:  $\nabla J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_1} \\ \frac{\partial J}{\partial x_2} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 - \frac{1}{x_1^2 x_2} \\ 1 - \frac{1}{x_1 x_2^2} \end{bmatrix}$

Example

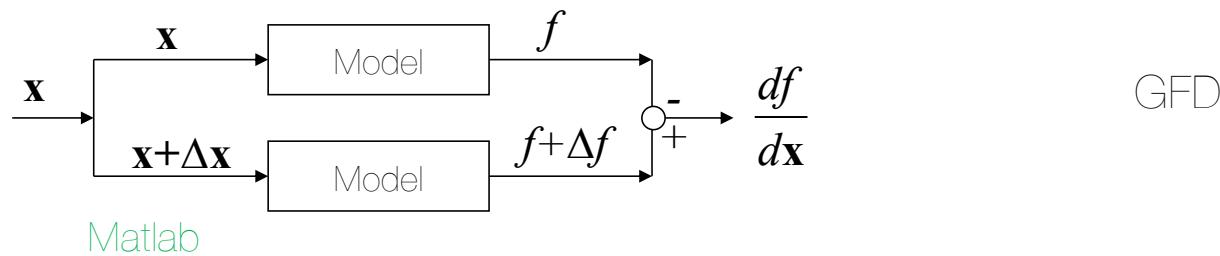
$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= x_2 = 1 \\ J(1,1) &= 3 \\ \nabla J(1,1) &= \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

↑  
Minimum

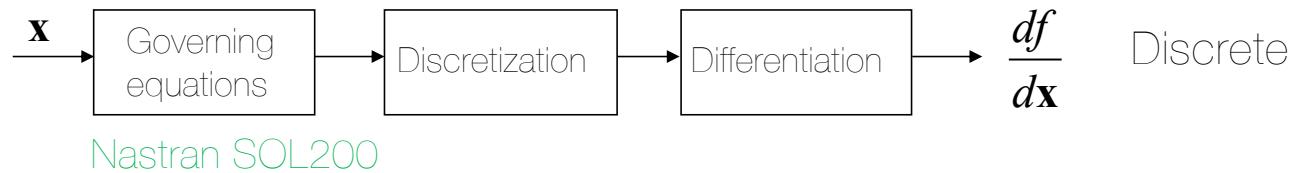
For complex systems analytical gradients are rarely available

# Sensitivity analysis approaches

Simpler approach (*default with fmincon*):



How to proceed with PDE such as  $Kq=f$ ?



# Symbolic differentiation

- Use symbolic mathematics programs
- e.g. MATLAB®, Maple®, Mathematica®

construct a ~~symbolic~~ object

```
» syms x1 x2  
» J=x1+x2+1/(x1*x2);  
» dJdx1=diff(J,x1)  
dJdx1 =1-1/x1^2/x2  
» dJdx2=diff(J,x2)  
dJdx2 = 1-1/x1/x2^2
```

The screenshot shows the WolframAlpha input interpretation interface. The input field contains "differentiate log(x) + x sin(y)". Below it, under "Partial derivatives", are two equations:  
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} (x \sin(y) + \log(x)) = \frac{1}{x} + \sin(y)$   
 $\frac{\partial}{\partial y} (x \sin(y) + \log(x)) = x \cos(y)$

Symbolic differentiation using [WolframAlpha](#).

difference operator

# Automatic Differentiation (see next course)

- Mathematical formulae are built from a finite set of basic functions, e.g. additions,  $\sin x$ ,  $\exp x$ , etc.
- Using chain rule, differentiate analysis code: add statements that generate derivatives of the basic functions
- Tracks numerical values of derivatives, does not track symbolically as discussed before
- Outputs modified program = original + derivative capability
- e.g., ADIFOR (FORTRAN), TAPENADE (C, FORTRAN), TOMLAB (MATLAB), many more...
- Resources at <http://www.autodiff.org/>
- USE JULIA

<https://sinews.siam.org/Details-Page/scientific-machine-learning-how-julia-employs-differentiable-programming-to-do-it-best>

How Nastran is differentiating a  
FE code ?

(52) Comment fait Nastran ?

→ approche semi-analytique

$$K(x) u(x) = f(x)$$

- General case  
f is not  
depending  
on  $x_i$

$$\frac{\partial K(u)}{\partial x_i} u(x) + K(x) \frac{\partial u(x)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_i}$$

$$K(x) \frac{\partial u(x)}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial K(u)}{\partial x_i} u(x)$$

$$\tilde{K} \tilde{u} = \tilde{f}$$

$$\tilde{u} = \tilde{K}^{-1} \tilde{f} = K^{-1} \tilde{f}$$

$$\frac{\partial u(x)}{\partial x_i} = K^{-1} \left\{ \frac{\partial f(x)}{\partial x_i} - \frac{\partial K(u)}{\partial x_i} u(x) \right\}$$

$$= K^{-1} \left\{ \frac{f(x+\Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} - \frac{K(x+\Delta x) - K(x)}{\Delta x} u(x) \right\}$$

# Numerical Differentiation

- Finite Difference Methods
- Complex Step Method

# Numerical Differentiation: Finite Difference

- Derivation from Taylor series expansion

$$f(x + h) = f(x) + \frac{f'(x)}{1!}h + \frac{f''(x)}{2!}h^2 + \frac{f'''(x)}{3!}h^3 + \dots$$

# Numerical Differentiation: Finite Difference

- Neighboring points are used to approximate the derivative

$$f'(x) \approx \underbrace{\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}}_{\text{forward difference}} \approx \underbrace{\frac{f(x+h/2) - f(x-h/2)}{h}}_{\text{central difference}} \approx \underbrace{\frac{f(x) - f(x-h)}{h}}_{\text{backward difference}}$$

- $h$  too small causes numerical cancellation errors

# Numerical Differentiation: Finite Difference

- Error Analysis
  - Forward Difference:  $O(h)$
  - Central Difference:  $O(h^2)$

# Numerical Differentiation: Complex Step

- Taylor series expansion using imaginary step

$$f(x + ih) = f(x) + ihf'(x) - h^2 \frac{f''(x)}{2!} - ih^3 \frac{f'''(x)}{3!} + \dots$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{\text{Im}(f(x + ih))}{h} + O(h^2) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0$$

$$f(x) = \text{Re}(f(x + ih)) + O(h^2)$$

## Complex Step Derivative (see LIVESCRIPT ON LMS)

- Similar to finite differences, but uses an imaginary step

$$f'(x_0) \approx \frac{\text{Im}[f(x_0 + i\Delta x)]}{\Delta x}$$

Second order accurate

Can use very small step sizes e.g.  $\Delta x \approx 10^{-20}$

Doesn't have rounding error, since it doesn't perform subtraction

Limited application areas

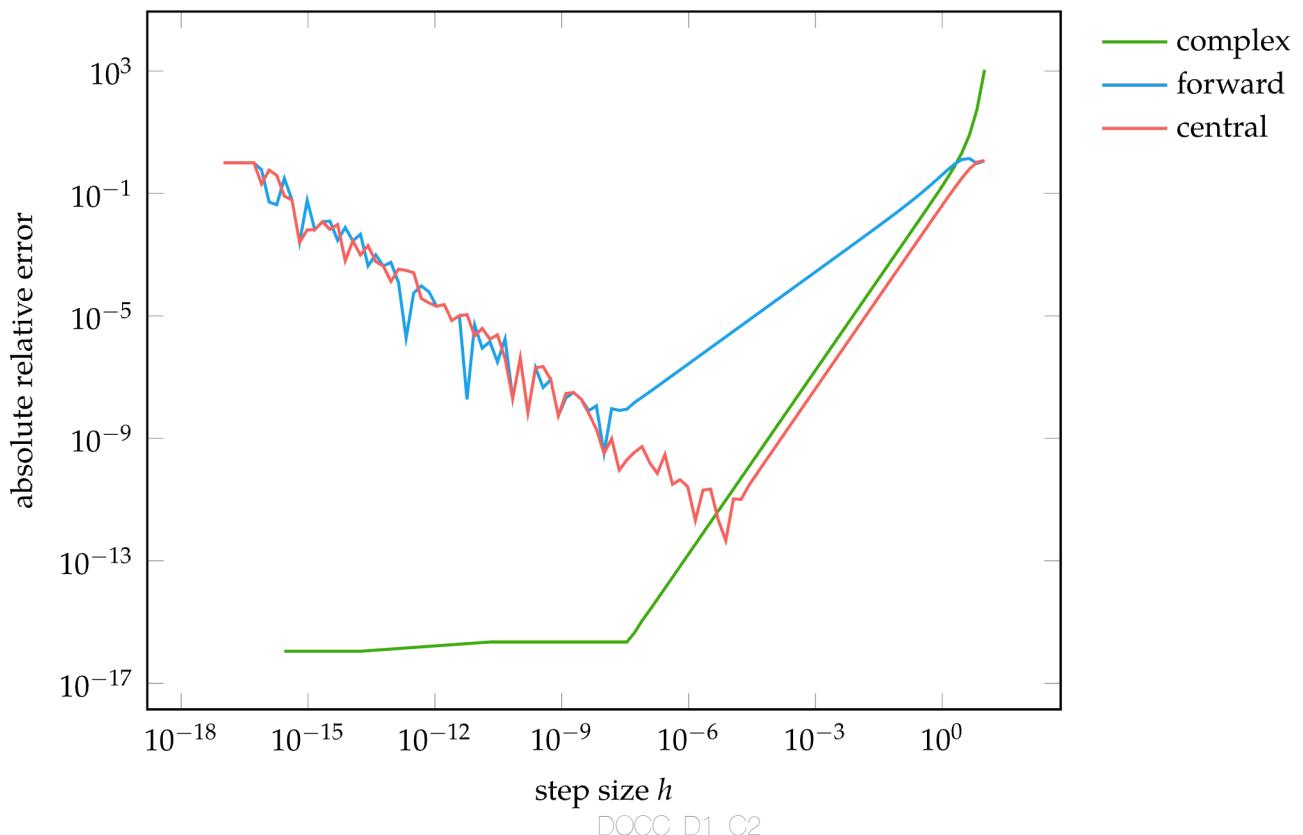
Code must be able to handle complex step values

J.R.R.A. MARTINS, I.M. KROO AND J.J. ALONSO, AN AUTOMATED METHOD FOR  
SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS USING COMPLEX VARIABLES, AIAA PAPER 2000-0689, JAN 2000

## First Exercise

Read and finish the notebook called  
`Complexstep_student.ipynb`

# Numerical Differentiation Error Comparison



DOCC\_D1\_C2

# Automatic Differentiation

- Evaluate a function and compute partial derivatives simultaneously using the chain rule of differentiation

$$\frac{d}{dx} f(g(x)) = \frac{d}{dx} (f \circ g)(x) = \frac{df}{dg} \frac{dg}{dx}$$

# AD... is Computer Sciences

A program is composed of elementary operations like addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division.

Consider the function  $f(a, b) = \ln(ab + \max(a, 2))$ . If we want to compute the partial derivative with respect to  $a$  at a point, we need to apply the chain rule several times:<sup>9</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial f}{\partial a} &= \frac{\partial}{\partial a} \ln(ab + \max(a, 2)) \\&= \frac{1}{ab + \max(a, 2)} \frac{\partial}{\partial a} (ab + \max(a, 2)) \\&= \frac{1}{ab + \max(a, 2)} \left[ \frac{\partial(ab)}{\partial a} + \frac{\partial \max(a, 2)}{\partial a} \right] \\&= \frac{1}{ab + \max(a, 2)} \left[ \left( b \frac{\partial a}{\partial a} + a \frac{\partial b}{\partial a} \right) + \left( (2 > a) \frac{\partial 2}{\partial a} + (2 < a) \frac{\partial a}{\partial a} \right) \right] \\&= \frac{1}{ab + \max(a, 2)} [b + (2 < a)]\end{aligned}$$

# One example

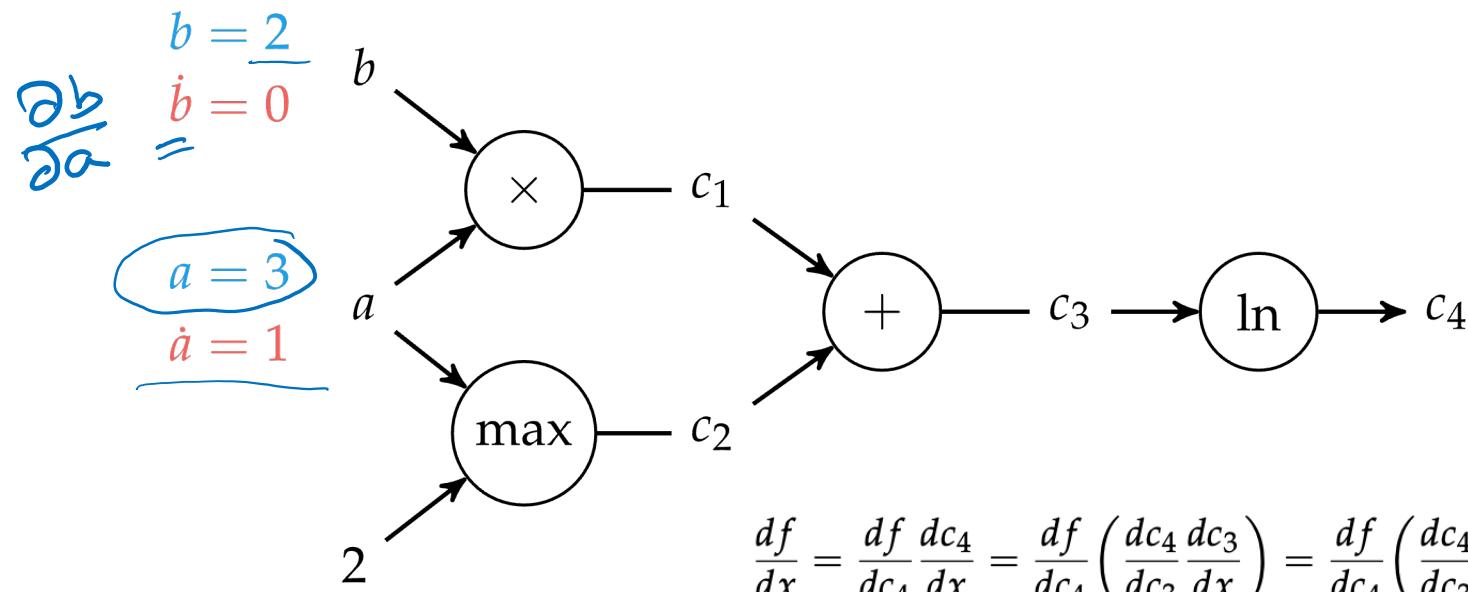
- Forward Accumulation is equivalent to expanding a function using the chain rule and computing the derivatives inside-out
- Requires n-passes to compute n-dimensional gradient

$$f(a,b) = \ln(\underbrace{ab}_{\leftarrow} + \underbrace{\max(a, 2)}_{\leftarrow})$$

$\frac{\partial f}{\partial a}(3,2)$

# AD computational graphs

- Forward Accumulation



$$\frac{\partial f(3, 2)}{\partial a}$$

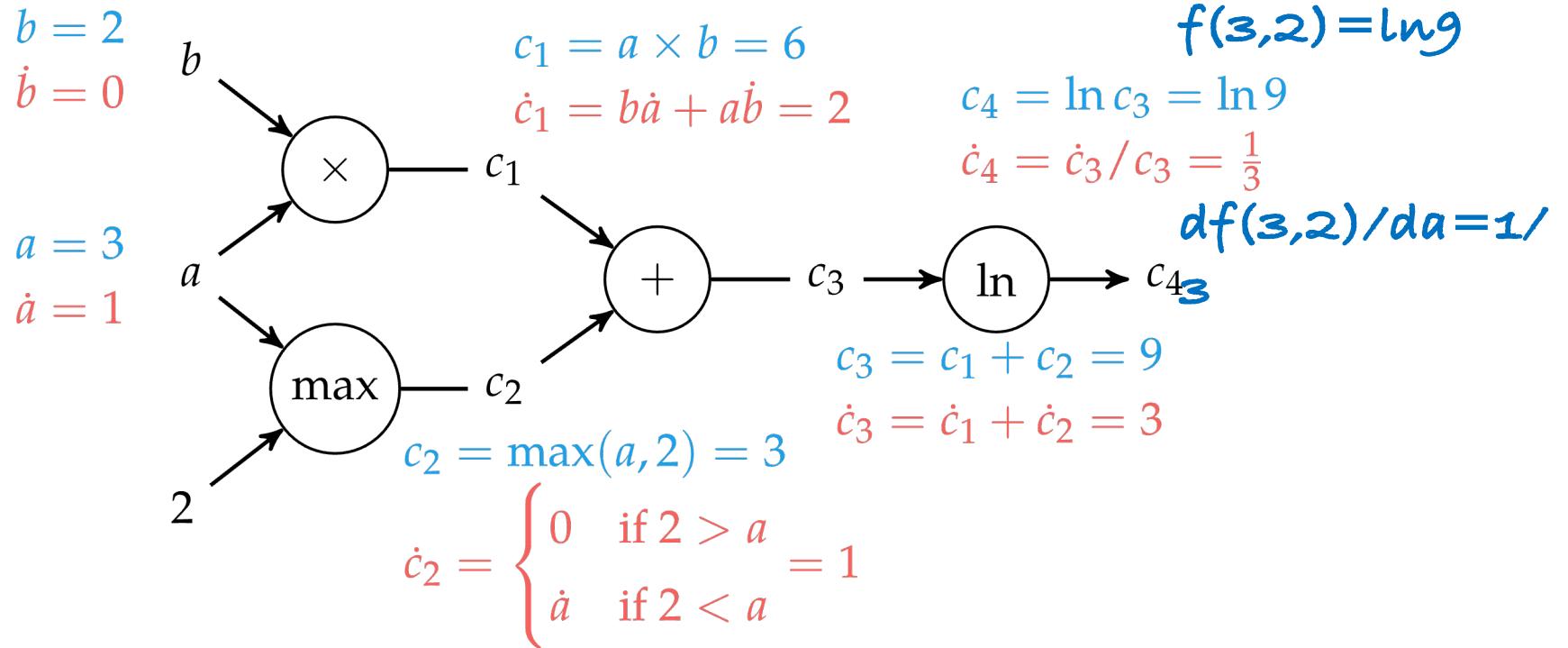
$$f(a, b) = \ln(ab + \max(a, 2))$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{dc_4} \frac{dc_4}{dx} = \frac{df}{dc_4} \left( \frac{dc_4}{dc_3} \frac{dc_3}{dx} \right) = \frac{df}{dc_4} \left( \frac{dc_4}{dc_3} \left( \frac{dc_3}{dc_2} \frac{dc_2}{dx} + \frac{dc_3}{dc_1} \frac{dc_1}{dx} \right) \right)$$

# Automatic Differentiation

- Forward Accumulation

$$f(a,b) = \ln( ab + \max(a, 2) )$$



# In Julia

The `ForwardDiff.jl` package supports an extensive set of mathematical operations and additionally provides gradients and Hessians.

```
julia> using ForwardDiff
julia> a = ForwardDiff.Dual(3,1);
julia> b = ForwardDiff.Dual(2,0);
julia> log(a*b + max(a,2))
Dual{Nothing}(2.1972245773362196, 0.3333333333333333)
```

# AD Reverse

Forward accumulation requires  $n$  passes in order to compute an  $n$ -dimensional gradient. Reverse accumulation<sup>11</sup> requires only a single run in order to compute a complete gradient but requires two passes through the graph: a *forward pass* during which necessary intermediate values are computed and a *backward pass* which computes the gradient. Reverse accumulation is often preferred over forward accumulation when gradients are needed, though care must be taken on memory-constrained systems when the computational graph is very large.<sup>12</sup>

Like forward accumulation, reverse accumulation will compute the partial derivative with respect to the chosen target variable but iteratively substitutes the outer function instead:

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{dc_4} \frac{dc_4}{dx} = \left( \frac{df}{dc_3} \frac{dc_3}{dc_4} \right) \frac{dc_4}{dx} = \left( \left( \frac{df}{dc_2} \frac{dc_2}{dc_3} + \frac{df}{dc_1} \frac{dc_1}{dc_3} \right) \frac{dc_3}{dc_4} \right) \frac{dc_4}{dx} \quad \text{Reverse}$$

$$\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{df}{dc_4} \frac{dc_4}{dx} = \frac{df}{dc_4} \left( \frac{dc_4}{dc_3} \frac{dc_3}{dx} \right) = \frac{df}{dc_4} \left( \frac{dc_4}{dc_3} \left( \frac{dc_3}{dc_2} \frac{dc_2}{dx} + \frac{dc_3}{dc_1} \frac{dc_1}{dx} \right) \right) \quad \text{Forward}$$

<sup>11</sup> S. Linnainmaa, "The Representation of the Cumulative Rounding Error of an Algorithm as a Taylor Expansion of the Local Rounding Errors," Master's thesis, University of Helsinki, 1970.

<sup>12</sup> Reverse accumulation is central to the backpropagation algorithm used to train neural networks. D. E. Rumelhart, G. E. Hinton, and R. J. Williams, "Learning Representations by Back-Propagating Errors," *Nature*, vol. 323, pp. 533–536, 1986.

# In Julia

The `Zygote.jl` package provides automatic differentiation in the form of reverse-accumulation. Here the `gradient` function is used to automatically generate the backwards pass through the source code of `f` to obtain the gradient.

```
julia> import Zygote: gradient
julia> f(a, b) = log(a*b + max(a,2));
julia> gradient(f, 3.0, 2.0)
(0.3333333333333333, 0.3333333333333333)
```

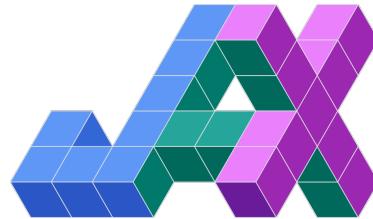
# Summary

Monolithic <b>Black boxes</b> <b>input and outputs</b>	When using the forward mode, for each intermediate variable in the algorithm, a variation due to one input variable is carried through. This is very similar to the way the complex-step method works. To illustrate this, suppose we want to differentiate the multiplication operation, $f = x_1x_2$ , with respect to $x_1$ . Table 4.4 compares how the differentiation would be performed using either automatic differentiation or the complex-step method.												
Algorithmic differentiation <b>Lines of code</b> <b>code variables</b>	<table border="1"><thead><tr><th>Automatic</th><th>Complex-Step</th></tr></thead><tbody><tr><td><math>\Delta x_1 = 1</math></td><td><math>h_1 = 10^{-20}</math></td></tr><tr><td><math>\Delta x_2 = 0</math></td><td><math>h_2 = 0</math></td></tr><tr><td><math>f = x_1x_2</math></td><td><math>f = (x_1 + ih_1)(x_2 + ih_2)</math></td></tr><tr><td><math>\Delta f = x_1\Delta x_2 + x_2\Delta x_1</math></td><td><math>f = x_1x_2 - h_1h_2 + i(x_1h_2 + x_2h_1)</math></td></tr><tr><td><math>df/dx_1 = \Delta f</math></td><td><math>df/dx_1 = \text{Im } f/h</math></td></tr></tbody></table>	Automatic	Complex-Step	$\Delta x_1 = 1$	$h_1 = 10^{-20}$	$\Delta x_2 = 0$	$h_2 = 0$	$f = x_1x_2$	$f = (x_1 + ih_1)(x_2 + ih_2)$	$\Delta f = x_1\Delta x_2 + x_2\Delta x_1$	$f = x_1x_2 - h_1h_2 + i(x_1h_2 + x_2h_1)$	$df/dx_1 = \Delta f$	$df/dx_1 = \text{Im } f/h$
Automatic	Complex-Step												
$\Delta x_1 = 1$	$h_1 = 10^{-20}$												
$\Delta x_2 = 0$	$h_2 = 0$												
$f = x_1x_2$	$f = (x_1 + ih_1)(x_2 + ih_2)$												
$\Delta f = x_1\Delta x_2 + x_2\Delta x_1$	$f = x_1x_2 - h_1h_2 + i(x_1h_2 + x_2h_1)$												
$df/dx_1 = \Delta f$	$df/dx_1 = \text{Im } f/h$												

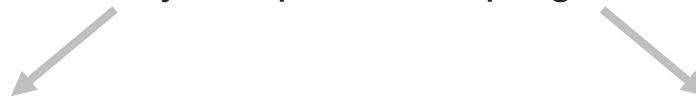
- Complex step method can eliminate the effect of subtractive cancellation error when taking small steps
- AD: Reverse accumulation is performed in single run using two passes over an n-dimensional function (forward and back)
- Note: this is central to the backpropagation algorithm used to train neural networks

JAX?

# What is JAX?



JAX = accelerated array computation + program transformation



```
import jax.numpy as jnp
```

- JAX is NumPy on the CPU and GPU!
- JAX uses XLA (Accelerated Linear Algebra) to compile and run NumPy code, *lightning fast*

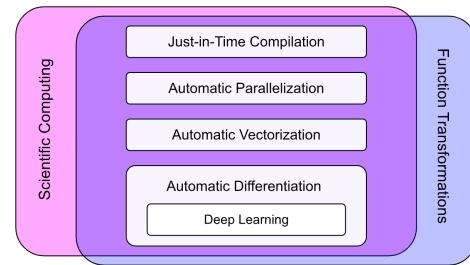


Image credit: AssemblyAI

- JAX can automatically *differentiate* and *parallelise* native Python and NumPy code



# JAX is NumPy on the GPU

```
import numpy as np

A = np.array([[1., 2., 3.],
              [1., 2., 3.],
              [1., 2., 3.],])

x = np.array([4., 5., 6.])

b = A @ x
print(b)

---
[32. 32. 32.]
```

(10,000 x 10,000) (10,000 x 10,000)  
NumPy on CPU (Apple M1 Max):  
7.22 s ± 109 ms

```
import jax.numpy as jnp

A = jnp.array([[1., 2., 3.],
               [1., 2., 3.],
               [1., 2., 3.],])

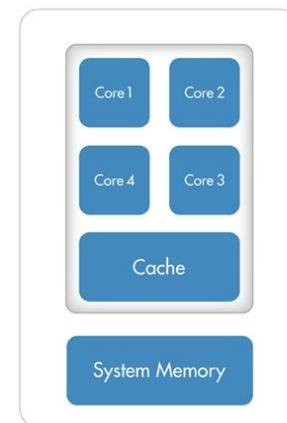
x = jnp.array([4., 5., 6.])

b = A @ x
print(b)

---
[32. 32. 32.]
```

(10,000 x 10,000) (10,000 x 10,000)  
JAX on GPU (NVIDIA RTX 3090):  
56.9 ms ± 222 µs (**126x faster**)

**CPU (Multiple Cores)**



**GPU (Hundreds of Cores)**

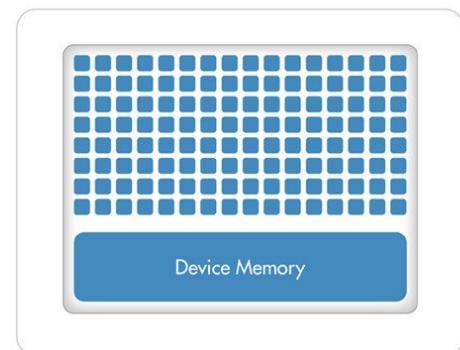


Image credit: MathWorks

Low latency  
Ideal for serial processing

High throughput  
Ideal for parallel processing



# What is a program transformation?

```
import jax
import jax.numpy as jnp

def f(x):
    return x**2

dfdx = jax.grad(f)# this returns a python function!

x = jnp.array(10.)
print(x)
print(dfdx(x))

---
```

10.0  
20.0

Step 1: convert Python function into a simple intermediate language (jaxpr)

```
print(jax.make_jaxpr(f)(x))
---
{ lambda ; a:f32[]. let b:f32[] = integer_pow[y=2] a in (b,) }
```

Step 2: apply transformation (e.g. return the corresponding gradient function)

```
print(jax.make_jaxpr(dfdx)(x))
---
{ lambda ; a:f32[]. let
    _:f32[] = integer_pow[y=2] a
    b:f32[] = integer_pow[y=1] a
    c:f32[] = mul 2.0 b
    d:f32[] = mul 1.0 c
    in (d,) }
```



# Program transformations are composable

```
import jax
import jax.numpy as jnp

def f(x):
    return x**2

dfdx = jax.grad(f)# this returns a python function!
d2fdx2 = jax.grad(dfdfx)# transformations are composable!

x = jnp.array(10.)

print(x)
print(d2fdx2(x))

---
10.0
2.0
```



- We can **arbitrarily compose** program transformations in JAX!
- This allows highly **sophisticated** workflows to be developed

# JAX is not easy

- <https://medium.com/swlh/solving-optimization-problems-with-jax-98376508bd4f>

# So start with Autograd

- Read and finish the notebook called `03-introduction-to-autograd.ipynb` and `04-autograd-applications.ipynb`

# Scipy and Sympy

- [https://members.cbio.mines-paristech.fr/~nvaroquaux/teaching/2016-image-xd/advanced/mathematical\\_optimization/index.html](https://members.cbio.mines-paristech.fr/~nvaroquaux/teaching/2016-image-xd/advanced/mathematical_optimization/index.html)
- <https://members.cbio.mines-paristech.fr/~nvaroquaux/teaching/2016-image-xd/packages/sympy.html>

Without knowledge of the gradient:

- In general, prefer BFGS ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_bfgs\(\)](#)) or L-BFGS ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_l\\_bfgs\\_b\(\)](#)), even if you have to approximate numerically gradients
- On well-conditioned problems, Powell ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_powell\(\)](#)) and Nelder-Mead ([scipy.optimize.fmin\(\)](#)), both gradient-free methods, work well in high dimension, but they collapse for ill-conditioned problems.

With knowledge of the gradient:

- BFGS ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_bfgs\(\)](#)) or L-BFGS ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_l\\_bfgs\\_b\(\)](#)).
- Computational overhead of BFGS is larger than that L-BFGS, itself larger than that of conjugate gradient. On the other side, BFGS usually needs less function evaluations than CG. Thus conjugate gradient method is better than BFGS at optimizing computationally cheap functions.

With the Hessian:

- If you can compute the Hessian, prefer the Newton method ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_ncg\(\)](#)).

If you have noisy measurements:

- Use Nelder-Mead ([scipy.optimize.fmin\(\)](#)) or Powell ([scipy.optimize.fmin\\_powell\(\)](#)).