ENGR30003: Numerical Programming for Engineers
Semester 2, 2017 / Assignment 2

Marks : This assignment is worth **35%** of the overall assessment for this course.

Due Date : **Monday, 16th October 2017, 5:00pm**, via `dimefox` and LMS submission. You will lose penalty marks at the rate of 10% per day or part day late, and the assignment will not be marked if it is more than 5 days late.

1 Learning Outcomes

In this assignment you will demonstrate your understanding of solving engineering problems using numerical computations and assessing particular algorithms. The objectives of this assignment are to program algorithms for root-finding, solving systems of linear algebraic equations, performing least-squares approximations and interpolations, regressing solutions and solving a transport equation using finite-difference discretization schemes.

2 Rootfinding [9/35 marks]

Imagine a wedge-shaped object flying through air at supersonic speeds (see Fig. 1). In compressible flow theory (covered in MCEN90008 Fluid Dynamics), it is known that an oblique shock wave forms at the front tip of this object under certain conditions. The equation relating
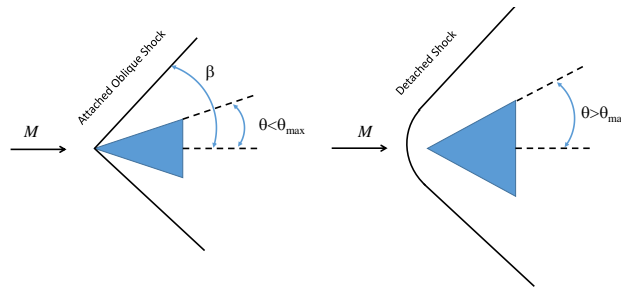

Figure 1: Difference in shock wave type for different wedge angles.

the wedge half-angle θ to the shock oblique angle, β, and the Mach number, M is given by

$$\tan(\theta) = 2\cot(\beta)\frac{M^2\sin^2(\beta) - 1}{M^2(\gamma + \cos(2\beta)) + 2}\,, \tag{1}$$

where $\gamma = 1.4$ is the ratio of specific heats. For a given M, as you keep increasing θ, there is a critical angle, θ_{max} where the shock becomes detached. We can also recast Eq. (1) into the following form

$$f(\beta) = 2\cot(\beta)\frac{M^2\sin^2(\beta) - 1}{M^2(\gamma + \cos(2\beta)) + 2} - \tan(\theta)\,. \tag{2}$$

Your tasks are the following:

2.1 Analytical solution for $\theta = 0°$ [1 mark]

For $\theta = 0$, i.e. the object would be a flat plate, show that two possible solutions for β are

$$\beta_L = \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{M}\right), \quad \beta_U = 90° . \tag{3}$$

β_U and β_L are usually called the strong shock and weak shock solutions, respectively. Even though we can mathematically obtain two possible solutions, in reality, or physically, only the weak shock solution occurs. Note also that in order for the solution to be physically realisable, $\theta < \beta < 90°$.

2.2 Graphical solution [2 mark]

Plot $f(\beta)$ vs β for

   a. $M = 1.5$ and $\theta = 5°$, $10°$ and $15°$

   b. $M = 5.0$ and $\theta = 20°$, $30°$ and $45°$

Indicate how β_U and β_L change with θ and M. Can you identify from your plots the approximate value of θ_{max}?

   PLEASE REMEMBER to change the angle from degrees to radians when you use sinusoidal functions in your computer program.

2.3 C program to solve shock-wave equation [6 marks]

Your task is to write a C code that solves Eq. (2) using the Newton–Raphson method to find the root of $f(\beta)$, regarding θ and M as parameters and solving for β.

  (a) Write your C program such that it uses the Newton–Raphson method to solve $f(\beta) = 0$. What values of β_L and β_U do you think might be appropriate to use as an initial guess? For $M = 5.0$ and $\theta = 20°$, you should find that

$$\beta_L = 29.80092...° , \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_U = 84.55625...°$$

  (b) Extend your C program to find β_U and β_L values for $M = 5.0$ and $0 \leq \theta \leq \theta_{max}$. Remember that for $\theta = 0$, $\beta_L = \arcsin\left(\frac{1}{M}\right)$ and $\beta_U = 90°$. Plot values of θ on the horizontal axis and corresponding values of β on the vertical axis. Your solution to this part of the assignment should look like Fig. 2. Note that you can plot your results obtained from your C code with your program of choice, e.g. Matlab, Excel, etc.

  (c) Use your computer program to solve $f(\beta) = 0$ for $M = 1.5, 3.0, 4.0, 5.0, 7.0, 8.0$. Plot β vs θ for all the M's. This plot is called the $\theta - \beta - M$ diagram and you will find it very useful if you decide to do MCEN90008 Fluid Dynamics in the future.

The implementation for this task is to be done in `shockwave()` where input parameters are to be read in from `in_shock.csv`. The input file consists of two parts, as shown below:

```
M,theta,beta_l,beta_u,gamma
5.0,20.0,0.0,0.0,1.4
M
1.5
3.0
4.0
5.0
7.0
8.0
```
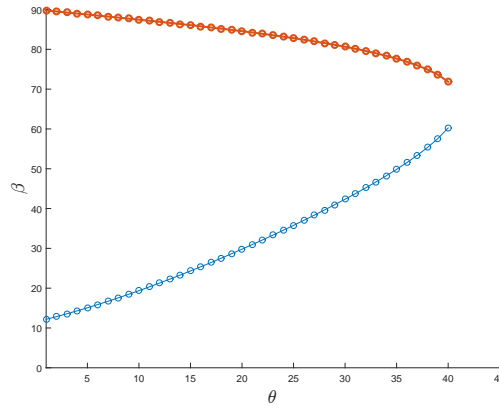
Figure 2: $\theta - \beta - M$ diagram for $M = 5.0$.

The first two lines corresponds to the part (a) where for M = 5.0 and $\theta = 20^0$, you need to compute the values of β_L and β_U. You will notice the initial values set here are 0^0 apiece so that you can modify them to find the right initial guess to compute the angles. The next set of lines corresponds to part (c) where you will evaluate for different M, the values of β_L and β_U for different values of θ (increments of 1^0 from 0^0 upto θ_{max}). No information has been provided for part (b) in the infile as it is already included in part (c). Doing part (b) is important however, as it serves as an intermediary step to complete part (c). Outputting the results of this task are to be done only for part (c) into `out_shock.csv` in the format as shown below. This example only shows the results for $\theta = 0^0, 1^0$ for all the chosen Mach numbers. The output of M, β_U, β_L is to be done up to 6 decimal places while θ as an integer.

```
M,theta,beta_lower,beta_upper
1.500000,0,41.810315,90.000000
1.500000,1,42.912968,88.838443
.
.
3.000000,0,19.471221,90.000000
3.000000,1,20.157561,89.649912
.
.
4.000000,0,14.477513,90.000000
4.000000,1,15.131265,89.719941
.
.
5.000000,0,11.536959,90.000000
5.000000,1,12.178534,89.749951
.
.
7.000000,0,8.213297,90.000000
7.000000,1,8.848277,89.774959
.
.
8.000000,0,7.181602,90.000000
8.000000,1,7.816095,89.780913
.
.
```

You must dynamically allocate space for the Mach numbers so that your implementation may work for a different set of M. For each Mach number, upon increasing θ by 1^0, you would reach the maximum θ beyond which the solutions of β are not physically relevant. You would write to

file only up to this maximum θ per Mach number.

3 Linear Algebraic Systems [5/35 marks]

Consider the following tri-diagonal system:

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
a_1 & b_1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
c_2 & a_2 & b_2 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & c_3 & a_3 & b_3 & \ldots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & \ldots & 0 & c_{N-1} & a_{N-1} & b_{N-1} \\
0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & c_N & a_N
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{Bmatrix}
x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ x_N
\end{Bmatrix}
=
\begin{Bmatrix}
Q_1 \\ Q_2 \\ Q_3 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ Q_N
\end{Bmatrix}
\tag{4}
$$

Using Gauss elimination, show that the above matrix can be rewritten as

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
a_1^* & b_1 & 0 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & a_2^* & b_2 & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
0 & 0 & a_3^* & b_3 & \ldots & \vdots \\
\vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\
0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & a_{N-1}^* & b_{N-1} \\
0 & \ldots & 0 & 0 & 0 & a_N^*
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{Bmatrix}
x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ x_N
\end{Bmatrix}
=
\begin{Bmatrix}
Q_1^* \\ Q_2^* \\ Q_3^* \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ Q_N^*
\end{Bmatrix}
\tag{5}
$$

where

$$
a_i^* = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{for} & i = 1 \\ a_i - c_i b_{i-1}/a_{i-1}^* & \text{for} & i = 2, 3, ..., N \end{cases}
$$

and

$$
Q_i^* = \begin{cases} Q_i & \text{for} & i = 1 \\ Q_i - c_i Q_{i-1}^*/a_{i-1}^* & \text{for} & i = 2, 3, ..., N \end{cases}
$$

Thus the solution to original tri-diagonal matrix can be written as

$$
x_i = \begin{cases} Q_i^*/a_i^* & \text{for} & i = N \\ (Q_i^* - b_i x_{i+1})/a_i^* & \text{for} & i = N-1, N-2, ..., 1 \end{cases}
$$

The algorithm outlined above is called the *Thomas algorithm*. It is a very efficient method for solving linear tri-diagonal systems.

Write a C code using the Thomas algorithm to solve the tri-diagonal system shown in Eq. 4. Since the tri-diagonal system is a banded matrix, you need not store all the zeros!

Use your code to solve the following tri-diagonal system

$$
\begin{bmatrix}
1 & -2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
2 & 4 & 5 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 8 & -9 & 2 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 6 & 3 & 4 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & 6 & 3
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{Bmatrix}
x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5
\end{Bmatrix}
=
\begin{Bmatrix}
1 \\ 2 \\ -3 \\ 4 \\ 5
\end{Bmatrix}
\tag{6}
$$

Ensure that you obtain the expected solution shown below.

$$
\begin{Bmatrix}
x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \\ x_4 \\ x_5
\end{Bmatrix}
=
\begin{Bmatrix}
0.561782 \\ -0.219109 \\ 0.350575 \\ 0.954023 \\ -0.241379
\end{Bmatrix}.
\tag{7}
$$

You will implement the code for this task in the function `linalgbsys()`, where you will read in as an input the vectors a_i, b_i, c_i and Q_i from the file `in_linalsys.csv`. The output from your implementation should be the solution vector x_i, written out to `out_linalsys.csv` (up to 6 decimal places) as shown below:

```
x
0.561782
-0.219109
0.350575
0.954023
-0.241379
```

2 marks correct derivation
3 marks code (1 implementation, 1 correct execution, 1 correct result)

Your implementation should allocate dynamically the space for the values of a_i, b_i, c_i and Q_i such that your implementation would work for different problem sizes as well.

4 Regression [4/35 marks]

Here, an alternative way of solving a Least Squares Problem is considered. Recall from the lecture that

$$
\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i^2 & \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i & N \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} a \\ b \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i y_i \\ \sum_{i=1}^{N} y_i \end{Bmatrix}
\tag{8}
$$

is the system of equations for linear regression $\hat{y} = ax + b$.

Show that:

$$
b = \overline{y} - a\overline{x}, \quad a = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i - \overline{x})(y_i - \overline{y})}{\sum_{i=1}^{N}(x_i - \overline{x})^2}
\tag{9}
$$

3 marks correct derivation
1 mark explanation when regression fails

- Hint: $\overline{x} = \sum_{i=1}^{N} x_i / N$ is the mean of x_i.

- Hint: You know the inverse of a 2×2 matrix!

- Hint: Start with a. Then when all seems lost, add and subtract terms like $N\overline{x}\,\overline{y}$.

By considering Eq. 9, when will linear regression *fail* to find a solution?

5 Interpolation [4/35 marks]

Given the following data

1.5 marks each method
1 mark for justifying choice of points

$$
\begin{aligned}
x_0 &= 0 & f(x_0) &= 0 \\
x_1 &= 1 & f(x_1) &= 11 \\
x_2 &= 3 & f(x_2) &= 17 \\
x_3 &= 8 & f(x_3) &= 17
\end{aligned}
$$

Write C code that uses both second-order Lagrange interpolating polynomials and cubic splines in order to estimate $f(x)$. Estimate the value of $f(x = 5)$ using both methods. You will implement both methods in `interp()`, reading in from the file `in_interp.csv` the values of x and $f(x)$ and outputting the values of the interpolated value to `out_interp.csv` in the following format (up to 6 decimal places). The values shown are just an example and do not represent the correct values.

```
lagrange
11.145601
cubic
23.098532
```

You must dynamically allocate space for $x, f(x)$ and write your code such that it can work for a different set of input and different x_o. As an example, for the cubic splines, your code should be capable of identifying the interval where x_o lies and compute $f(x_o)$, where x_o is 5 for this task but will be different during submission. Plot the interpolated function from both methods using either MATLAB or Excel. What conclusions can you draw from this plot?

6 Differentiation, differential equations <mark>[13/35 marks]</mark>

Write a C program that solves the heat equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \mu \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \tag{10}$$

on the interval $x = [0; 1]$, and for times $0 \leq t \leq 2.0$, using the diffusion coefficient $\mu = 0.005$.

Most transport equations can also be written as

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \text{RHS}(f) \tag{11}$$

where RHS denotes the 'right-hand-side' of the equation to be solved, containing all spatial derivatives, in this case $\mu \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$.

The heat equation is to be solved on the spatial interval $0 \leq x \leq 1$, that is discretized using N_x points x_i, with $i = 0, 1, 2, ..., N_x$. The equidistant grid spacing therefore is $\Delta x = 1/N_x$.

In order to discretize the time derivative $\frac{\partial f}{\partial t}$, two different time integration schemes are to be used, an explicit Euler and an implicit Euler scheme, as follows

$$
\begin{aligned}
f_i^{n+1} &= f_i^n + \Delta t \cdot \text{RHS}(f_i^n) &&\text{(explicit)} \\
f_i^{n+1} &= f_i^n + \Delta t \cdot \text{RHS}(f_i^{n+1}) &&\text{(implicit)},
\end{aligned} \tag{12}
$$

where n is the time index so that f_i^n is the function value at time level n at point x_i and f_i^{n+1} is the function value at time level $n+1$ at point x_i, and Δt is the numerical timestep for the time integration.

A finite-difference approximation for the spatial derivative is to be coded up, in particular a second-order accurate central scheme:

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{f_{i+1} - 2f_i + f_{i-1}}{\Delta x^2} \quad \text{for} \quad i = 1, ..., N_x - 1$$

For the boundary points ($i = 0, N_x$), there are two conditions you will test out: fixed ends and variables ends. You will test both conditions for the explicit routine and just fixed ends for the implicit routine.

6.0.1 Fixed Ends

For $i = 0$ and $i = N_x$, the value of the RHS(f_i) is 0.0

9 marks for working codes:
1 mark correct IC
1 each boundary condition
2 explicit scheme
4 implicit scheme
.
4 marks discussion/graphs

6.0.2 Variables Ends

For $i = 0$, use the boundary stencil

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{f_i - 2f_{i+1} + f_{i+2}}{\Delta x^2}$$

and for $i = N_x$ use the boundary stencil

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} \approx \frac{f_i - 2f_{i-1} + f_{i-2}}{\Delta x^2}$$

The initial condition for f is

$$
\begin{aligned}
0 \le x < 0.125 \quad &\rightarrow \quad f(x, t = 0) = 0 \\
0.125 \le x \le 0.375 \quad &\rightarrow \quad f(x, t = 0) = 0.5[1 - \cos\{8\pi(x - 0.125)\}] \\
0.375 < x \le 1 \quad &\rightarrow \quad f(x, t = 0) = 0.
\end{aligned}
$$

6.1 Suggested Code Structure

In the following possible steps for coding up the methods are suggested.

a. Set up main program that does the following

- Allocate arrays for the functions f_i^n, f_i^{n+1}, etc, where $i = 0, 1, 2, ..., N_x$ (keep N_x a parameter so that you can change it).

- Write the initial condition into the array f_i^n, and write to a file for later visualization.

- Set up loop over the number of timesteps you want to run (each with Δt) - within this loop you want to call your time integration routine (either explicit or implicit).

- Write intermediate solutions to file for later visualization at several time instances.

b. Code up your explicit time integration routine:

- call a 'RHS' routine to get $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}$, with the 'RHS' routine returning 'RHS(f_i^n)', i.e. the spatial derivatives are computed based on the function values at time level n

- compute f_i^{n+1} as $f_i^1 = f_i^n + \Delta t \, \mathrm{RHS}(f_i^n)$

c. Code up your 'RHS' routine. In this routine, implement the scheme for taking the spatial derivatives.

d. Code up your implicit time integration routine:

- write down the system $f_i^{n+1} = f_i^n + \Delta t \, \mathrm{RHS}(f_i^{n+1})$ using the finite difference approximation of the 'RHS'

- solve the implicit system using a matrix solver of your choice (direct or iterative)

You will implement your explicit and implicit routines in the function `heateqn()`, reading in the values of μ, N_x and N_t from `in_heateqn.csv`. This would allow you to compile your code just once and run it for different values of N_t and N_x by just changing the infile. For code assessment, you will write out the solutions from your explicit (fixed ends (fe) and variable ends (ve)) and implicit (fe) versions to `out_heateqn_explicit_fe.csv`, `out_heateqn_explicit_ve.csv` and

`out_heateqn_implicit_fe.csv` respectively for the 100th timestep, i.e. output at the 100th time the time loop executes (irrespective of what N_x, N_t are) in the following format (up to 6 decimal places).

```
x,f(x)
0.000000,0.000000
0.010000,0.000394
0.020000,0.000907
.
.
.
```

6.2 Tasks

Run your code until a time of $t = 2.0$ for different resolutions Δx, i.e. different number of grid points N_x. Your time steps need to satisfy the so-called Diffusion number, specifying that $\frac{\mu \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \leq 1$. You should investigate the effect of

- spatial resolution, i.e. Δx, determined by the number of points N_x used

- temporal resolution Δt (or, for a given Δx, variations of the Diffusion number $\frac{\mu \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2}$

- effect of time integration type (explicit vs implicit) on the maximum time step permitted

on the accuracy of the solution. In particular, assess the error made in amplitude of the numerical solution compared with the solution obtained with $N_x = 1,000$ and Diffusion number 0.1, called grid-independent reference solution.

7 Submission

This assignment, unlike assignment 1, consists of two parts

a. A project report, detailing any derivations and solutions and displaying the required graphs

b. C programs developed to solve some of the problems

You need to submit your programs *and report* for assessment; **Submission of the report will be done via the LMS and submission of the code via** `dimefox`. You may discuss your assignment work during your workshop, and with others in the class, but what gets typed into your programs and the report must be **individual** work, not copied from anyone else. So, do **not** give a hard or soft copy of your work to anyone; do **not** "lend" your "Uni backup" memory stick to others for any reason at all; and do **not** ask others to give you their programs "just so that I can take a look and get some ideas, I won't copy, honest". The best way to help your friends in this regard is to say a very firm "**no**" when they ask for a copy of, or to see, your programs or report, pointing out that your "**no**", and their acceptance of that decision, is the only thing that will preserve your friendship. *A sophisticated program that undertakes deep structural analysis of C code identifying regions of similarity will be run over all submissions in "compare every pair" mode. Students whose programs or reports are so identified will be referred to the Student Center.* See `https://academichonesty.unimelb.edu.au` for more information.

7.1 Project Report

Your project report need not be a full technical report but should state all approximations made and use figures of results to back up any conclusions. Be sure to include enough detail (using appendices as necessary) so that your results could be reproduced by another researcher (or

yourself at a future date!) wishing to check or extend your findings. Your report will be primarily assessed on the completeness of the results, and the visual/logical effectiveness of the manner in which they are presented.

7.2 C programs

The C codes are to be submitted on `dimefox` where they would be tested on different inputs from the ones you were provided to test your implementations.

7.2.1 Provided Code

- `main.c`, where the parsing of data from command line is to be done and timing for each task implemented.

- `tasks.c`, where you would implement four functions `shockwave()` (Question 2), `linalgbsys()` (Question 3), `interp()` (Question 5) and `heateqn()` (Question 6), for each task.

- `tasks.h`, which acts as a header file to link the C file to the main file. You may edit this to add any `struct`'s or the input arguments to the functions.

- Input files `in_shock.csv` (Question 2), `in_linalsys.csv` (Question 3), `in_interp.csv` (Question 5) and `in_heateqn.csv` (Question 6) which you must use as input during execution of your program. During your submission, your code will be tested on different infiles from the ones you were provided. Please make sure any data structures used to read in these infiles are dynamically allocated to avoid any errors during runtime.

Remember to fill in your details in each file you write, such as the student name and student number. Key points about your code for this assignment you need to understand are as follows:

- For the purposes of the report, you can output as many files or terminal outputs as you need. These outputs can be used to generate graphs/plots and values for the different tasks.

- Once you have all information you need for the report, your code must be made submission worthy i.e. only output the outfiles described above (6 outfiles are expected). This means your code must not expect user input once you execute it, all inputs would come from the infiles or the terminal before execution.

- You have to parse the command line arguments (all infiles and any command line values) i.e. no hardcoding the names of the infiles or the value for interpolation task. This is because we will be using our own infiles, with different filenames and different locations.

- Plan before you write your code. Cover all possibilities regarding different inputs. Dynamically allocating structures for the infile contents is a must so that for infiles with more or less entries don't end up giving you errors during submission.

7.2.2 Submitting on Dimefox

All submissions must be made through the `submit` program. Assignments submitted through any other method will not be marked. Transfer your files to your home drive on dimefox. Check the transfer was successful by logging into dimefox and doing the `ls` command on the terminal. Perform the following set of commands on the terminal from your home location on dimefox (making the right folders and transfering the files in the right location):

```
mkdir ENGR30003
```

```
cd ENGR30003
mkdir A2
cd A2
cp ../../*.c .
cp ../../*.h .
cp ../../*.csv .
```

Remember to check this folder contains only the .c or .h files (if you use multiple c files and h files) you need for the assignment and the CSV data file. Then try compiling your code using gcc on the terminal from the A2 folder, to see if it works. The following compilation procedure must return no errors or warnings:

```
gcc -Wall -std=c99 *.c -o exec -lm
```

You can test your compiled code then using:

```
./exec in_shock.csv in_linalsys.csv in_interp.csv 5 in_heateqn.csv
```

There are 5 command line arguments here, one for each of the 4 coding functions. The argument number 4 (5) is part of the interpolation task: the value of x_o at which the interpolated value is to be outputted. Once your code works for the provided infiles, it would help you if you changed the infiles and the 4th argument to different values and see if the code still works and outputs acceptable results. If this works, your code is now submission worthy. Finally, you will submit your files using the command submit as follows:

```
submit ENGR30003 A2 *.c *.h
```

Do **NOT** submit your infiles as this would likely corrupt your submission and would take time to fix. Wait for a few minutes and then carry out the verify and check steps:

```
verify ENGR30003 A2 > feedback.txt
nano feedback.txt
```

Look through this text file to check (a) your program compiled (b) it executed without error. Please read man submit on dimefox for confirmation about how to use submit, especially how to verify your submission. No special consideration will be given to any student who has not used submit properly.
You must also check that you have no memory leaks in your code as loss of memory from your implementation will result in deductions. You can use valgrind for this as follows:

```
valgrind ./exec in_shock.csv in_linalsys.csv in_interp.csv 5 in_heateqn.csv
```

This should output a leak summary such as the best case shown below. It must be pointed out that the runtime with this takes longer as compared with direct execution. Plan your submission accordingly.

```
==3887== HEAP SUMMARY:
==3887==     in use at exit:   0 bytes in 0 blocks
==3887==   total heap usage:   53 allocs, 53 frees, 56,921,168 bytes allocated
```

```
==3887== All heap blocks were freed - no leaks are possible
```

All submissions should be in C99, and use no functions outside of the C standard library and maths library. Some key points to consider about your submission and verification are outlined here:

- Submissions that can not be compiled or run by `submit` system will receive **zero marks for the programming part**.

- Submissions are also limited to a maximum runtime of 200 seconds and maximum file size per task of 2 MB. It would help if you don't write any additional files through your code. If it is absolutely necessary, then make sure the files do not exceed 2 MB individually. This would give errors during your submission.

- `feedback.txt` will contain feedback for individual tasks as with the first assignment. For question 6, you would receive feedback on all three files individually. Since the contents of the infiles used for your code testing by the markers will not be disclosed to you, the feedback will only say whether your output was correct or not.

- Because of the above point, you can work on each task individually and submit your code with just one or two tasks implemented. The feedback will skip over tasks not implemented and only look at the outfile of the tasks implemented. So please use `submit` as frequently as possible. Submitting your code for the first time a day before the deadline is not ideal for you or us.

- You must parse all command line arguments, even if you do submit just one or two tasks to see if your implementation works. The arguments will be in the exact sequence as given in the execution statement above. As an example, if you want to test only the interpolation task, your code will have to parse the 3rd and 4th arguments as all 5 arguments will be present during execution. The takeaway is that you should ensure you are associating the right infile to the right task.

- Only your last submission is stored in the system i.e. everytime you use `submit`, the new submission overwrites the previous version. Keep a backup of your previous versions somewhere safe in case your latest submission works worse than the previous.

8   Getting Help

There are several ways for you to seek help with this assignment. First, check the **Assignment 2 Frequently Asked Questions** wiki in the LMS (subsection Assignments). It is likely that your question has been answered here already. You may also discuss the assignment on the "Assignment 2" discussion board. However, please do **not** post any source code on the discussion board. You may also ask questions during the workshops or send me (Richard, `richard.sandberg@unimelb.edu.au`) an email directly.

Note: Students seeking extensions for medical or other "outside my control" reasons should email Richard, `richard.sandberg@unimelb.edu.au` as soon as possible after those circumstances arise.