Introduction

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- Course compiled from scratch $\rightarrow$ inherent incoherency
- Diverse group of students $\rightarrow$ possibly redundant topics
- Not enough time to rewrite slides $\rightarrow$ using slides from other sources (in English)
- Trying my best $\rightarrow$ expecting same from you
- Putting slide credits wherever possible (some sources might be lost)

"Computational and numerical tools" (known as *"Optimization and numerical methods"* in your curriculum)

What this course is about:

- Some of the most relevant computational and numerical tools commonly used in research and engineering
- Tools = algorithms and implementations

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What this course is **not** about:

- Minimal math component: some math for understanding, rare derivations, almost no analysis/proofs
- Not a programming course: you are expected to know basic programming
- Breadth, not depth

This course consists of **lectures and programming seminars**. Usualy two classes of lectures and two classes of seminars will be every day.

Lecture notes will be posted online:
https://home.cs.dartmouth.edu/~mbolonkin/cs170/

Homeworks: basic and advanced version will be posted online

Getting your grade:
- Grade "5"
    - $+$ Solve the advanced homework (automatic grade)
    - $+$ Solve the basic homework and attend the oral examination
- Grade "4"
    - $+$ Solve the basic homework and attend the oral examination
- Grade "3"
    - $+$ Attend the classes
- Non-passable grade
    - Attendance below threshold, no solved homeworks, failed oral exam
    - Severe violation of an honor principle

Any work you are submitting must be your own. Collaboration without sharing any code is acceptable.

In case I am **suspicious** of plagiarism in your assignments (in full or partialy, based on in-person grading), I reserve the right to not accept your solutions as well as give you a non-passable grade for the course. Plagiarized work will not be counted towards any positive grades.

Burden of proof is entirely on you: I do not have to prove that your work is plagiarized, you have to prove it is not.

Corollary: In case you decided to plagiarize your peer's solution, make sure you understand it thoroughly.

Expected programming tools for this course:

- Matlab/Octave
- Python + Jupyter Notebooks (Recommended)

I have Anaconda packages for Windows downloaded.

Why Python?

Python has well supported scientific libraries
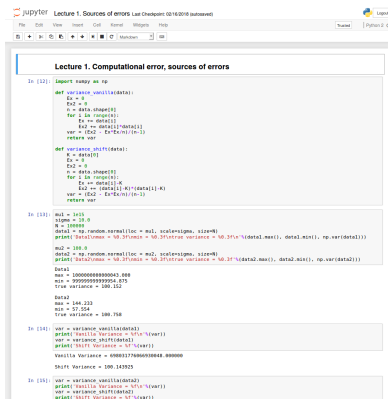
- NumPy - supports wide variety of matrix operations
- SciPy - a lot of computational methods implemented
- MatPlotLib - library for plotting and visualizing
- Scikit-Image, Scikit-Learn, etc.
- Very good documentation

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Jupyter Notebooks:

- Convenient tool for coding and debugging
- Good for reproducible research
- Getting more and more popular

Any questions?

- Computation allows exploring models without analytical solution
- This is usually the case for real-world problems
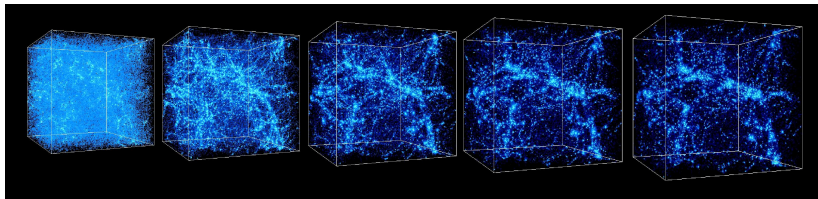- Advances in hardware and software make it easier to use computational models

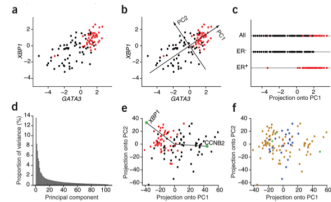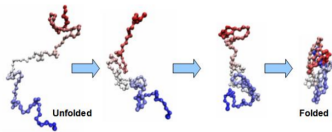
Figure: Galaxy formation (cosmicweb.uchicago.edu)

Figure: Protein unfolding simulation and analysis of gene expression
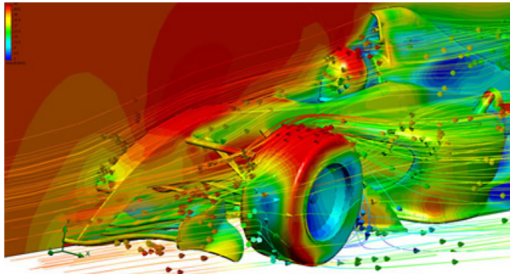
Figure: Fluid dynamics simulation

In 2000 January-February issue of *Computing in Science and Engineering* editors selected 10 algorithms that influenced science and engineering in 20th century.

1. **Metropolis algorithm for Monte Carlo**
   1946: John von Neumann, Stan Ulam, and Nick Metropolis

2. **Simplex method for linear programming**
   1947: George Dantzig, at the RAND Corporation

3. **Krylov subspace iteration methods**
   1950: Magnus Hestenes, Eduard Stiefel, and Cornelius Lanczos

4. **The decompositional approach to matrix computations**
   1951: Alston Householder of Oak Ridge National Laboratory

5 **The Fortran optimizing compiler**
1957: John Backus, IBM

6 **QR algorithm for computing eigenvalues**
1959–61: J.G.F. Francis

7 **Quicksort algorithm for sorting**
1962: Tony Hoare

8 **Fast Fourier transform**
1965: James Cooley of the IBM T.J. Watson Research Center and John Tukey of Princeton University and AT&T Bell Laboratories

9 **Integer relation detection**
1977: Helaman Ferguson and Rodney Forcade of Brigham Young University

10 **Fast multipole method**
1987: Leslie Greengard and Vladimir Rokhlin of Yale University

In 2016 editors of the CiSE updated the list of top 10 algorithms, adding the following:

1. **Newton and quasi-Newton methods**
2. **Jpeg**
3. **PageRank**
4. **Kalman filter**

What we are going to cover in this course:

- **Data fitting**
  Some topics: linear least squares, non-linear least squares, maximum likelihood, maximum a posteriori, expectation maximization

- **Optimization**
  Some topics: gradient-free optimization, gradient descent, non-linear optimization, heuristics

- **Dimensionaity reduction and component analysis**
  Some topics: PCA, ICA, t-SNE, LDA

- **Signal Processing**
  Some topics: signals, filters, DFT

- **Randomized methods**
  Some topics: random number sampling, Monte-Carlo methods, RANSAC

- **Differential equations**
  Some topics: numerical solutions for Ordinary Differential Equations (ODE), Partial Differential Equations (PDE)

- Replacing difficult problem by simplified problem with the same or close enough solution

    Infinite $\rightarrow$ Finite
    Differential $\rightarrow$ Algebraic
    Continuous $\rightarrow$ Discrete
    Non-linear $\rightarrow$ Linear
    ...

- Solution obtained only approximates the exact solution of the original problem
    - Approximation before computation (empirical measurements, previous computation)
    - Approximation during computation (covered in next part)
    - Final result accuracy reflects all those errors, possibly amplified by an agorithm/problem