

3) Conditioning and error analysis

Def: (Norm)

i) triangle inequ.

ii) homogeneity $\|\lambda x\| = |\lambda| \cdot \|x\|$

iii) definiteness $\|x\| = 0 \Leftrightarrow x = 0$

Examples: $\|x\|_2 := \sqrt{\sum |x_i|^2}$, $\|x\|_\infty := \max_i |x_i|$, $\|x\|_1 := \sum |x_i|$

Def (cond. number) cond. nr. of problem (described as func. eval.) is the factor by which ^{input} perturbations are amplified. 2 cases:

1. absolute cond. nr.: K_{abs} is the smallest number st.

$$\underbrace{\|f(x) - f(x + \Delta x)\|}_{\text{output}} \leq K_{abs} \cdot \underbrace{\|\Delta x\|}_{\text{input}}$$

2. rel. cond. nr.: $\underbrace{\|f(x) - f(x + \Delta x)\|}_{\text{output}} \leq K_{rel} \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\|\Delta x\|}{\|x\|}}_{\text{input}}$

In practise: $K_{abs}(x) \approx |f'(x)|$, $K_{rel}(x) \approx |f'(x)| \cdot \frac{|x|}{|f(x)|}$

K large: "ill conditioned"
small: "well cond."

Example (Addition), i.e. ~~func~~ $f(x, y) = x + y$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{|x + \Delta x + y + \Delta y - x - y|}{|x + y|} \leq \dots \leq \delta, \quad \delta = \frac{|\Delta x|}{x}$$

and $K_{rel} = 1$

Example (Subtraction - Cancellation)

$$x_1 = 0,123467 *$$

$$x_2 = 0,123456 *$$

↑ perturbation in 7th digit

$$\Rightarrow x_1 - x_2 = 0,000011 * = 0,11 * \cdot 10^{-4}$$

← perturbation in 3rd digit in float representation

$$\Rightarrow K_{rel} \approx 10^4 \text{ "large"}$$

Example (avoid Cancellation)

$$\text{zeros of } x^2 - 2px - q = 0$$

$$x_0 = p - \sqrt{\dots}$$

$$x_1 = p + \sqrt{\dots}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow x_0 = -\frac{q}{x_1} \text{ ... avoids subtraction!}$$