

# Numerical Analysis Summary

Mathematical Notes

October 19, 2025

## Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Error Analysis</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1	Sources of Error . . . . .	3
1.2	Error Types . . . . .	3
1.3	Conditioning . . . . .	3
<b>2</b>	<b>Root Finding</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1	Bisection Method . . . . .	3
2.2	Newton's Method . . . . .	3
2.3	Secant Method . . . . .	4
<b>3</b>	<b>Interpolation</b>	<b>4</b>
3.1	Lagrange Interpolation . . . . .	4
3.2	Newton's Divided Differences . . . . .	4
3.3	Error in Interpolation . . . . .	5
<b>4</b>	<b>Numerical Integration</b>	<b>5</b>
4.1	Newton-Cotes Formulas . . . . .	5
4.1.1	Trapezoidal Rule . . . . .	5
4.1.2	Simpson's Rule . . . . .	5
4.2	Gaussian Quadrature . . . . .	5
4.3	Error Analysis . . . . .	5
<b>5</b>	<b>Numerical Differentiation</b>	<b>6</b>
5.1	Finite Differences . . . . .	6
5.2	Error Analysis . . . . .	6
<b>6</b>	<b>Linear Systems</b>	<b>6</b>
6.1	Gaussian Elimination . . . . .	6
6.2	LU Factorization . . . . .	6
6.3	Iterative Methods . . . . .	6
6.3.1	Jacobi Method . . . . .	6
6.3.2	Gauss-Seidel Method . . . . .	6
6.4	Convergence . . . . .	7

<b>7</b>	<b>Ordinary Differential Equations</b>	<b>7</b>
7.1	Euler's Method . . . . .	7
7.2	Runge-Kutta Methods . . . . .	7
7.3	Error Analysis . . . . .	7
<b>8</b>	<b>Approximation Theory</b>	<b>7</b>
8.1	Best Approximation . . . . .	7
8.2	Chebyshev Approximation . . . . .	7
8.3	Least Squares Approximation . . . . .	8
<b>9</b>	<b>Fast Fourier Transform</b>	<b>8</b>
9.1	Discrete Fourier Transform . . . . .	8
9.2	FFT Algorithm . . . . .	8
<b>10</b>	<b>Eigenvalue Problems</b>	<b>8</b>
10.1	Power Method . . . . .	8
10.2	QR Algorithm . . . . .	8
<b>11</b>	<b>Applications</b>	<b>8</b>
11.1	Scientific Computing . . . . .	8
11.2	Engineering . . . . .	9
<b>12</b>	<b>Important Theorems</b>	<b>9</b>
12.1	Weierstrass Approximation Theorem . . . . .	9
12.2	Intermediate Value Theorem . . . . .	9
12.3	Fixed Point Theorem . . . . .	9

# 1 Error Analysis

## 1.1 Sources of Error

**Definition 1.1.** • **Modeling Error:** Error in mathematical model

- **Data Error:** Error in input data
- **Truncation Error:** Error from finite approximations
- **Round-off Error:** Error from finite precision arithmetic

## 1.2 Error Types

**Definition 1.2.** For approximation  $\tilde{x}$  of exact value  $x$ :

- **Absolute Error:**  $|x - \tilde{x}|$
- **Relative Error:**  $\frac{|x - \tilde{x}|}{|x|}$  (if  $x \neq 0$ )
- **Forward Error:**  $|f(x) - f(\tilde{x})|$
- **Backward Error:**  $|\tilde{x} - x|$  where  $f(\tilde{x}) = f(x)$

## 1.3 Conditioning

**Definition 1.3.** A problem is **well-conditioned** if small changes in input produce small changes in output. The **condition number** measures sensitivity:

$$\kappa = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \sup_{|\Delta x| \leq \delta} \frac{|\Delta f|}{|\Delta x|} \cdot \frac{|x|}{|f(x)|}$$

# 2 Root Finding

## 2.1 Bisection Method

**Theorem 2.1.** If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $f(a)f(b) < 0$ , then the bisection method converges to a root with error bound:

$$|x_n - x^*| \leq \frac{b - a}{2^{n+1}}$$

## 2.2 Newton's Method

**Definition 2.1.** Newton's method for finding roots of  $f(x) = 0$ :

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - \frac{f(x_n)}{f'(x_n)}$$

**Theorem 2.2.** If  $f'(x^*) \neq 0$  and  $f''$  is continuous near  $x^*$ , then Newton's method converges quadratically:

$$|x_{n+1} - x^*| \leq C|x_n - x^*|^2$$

## 2.3 Secant Method

**Definition 2.2.** The secant method uses two previous points:

$$x_{n+1} = x_n - f(x_n) \frac{x_n - x_{n-1}}{f(x_n) - f(x_{n-1})}$$

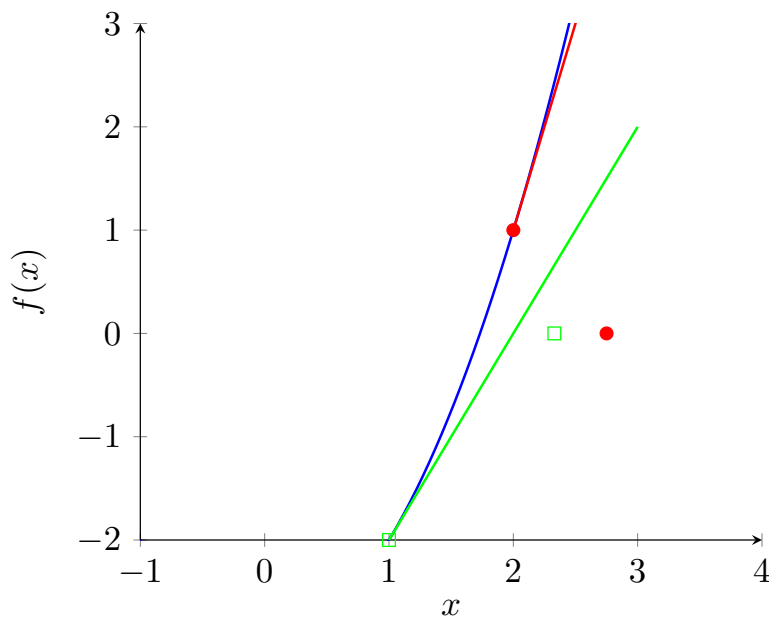


Figure 1: Root finding methods

## 3 Interpolation

### 3.1 Lagrange Interpolation

**Definition 3.1.** Given points  $(x_i, y_i)$ , the Lagrange interpolating polynomial is:

$$P_n(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n y_i L_i(x)$$

where  $L_i(x) = \prod_{j \neq i} \frac{x - x_j}{x_i - x_j}$

### 3.2 Newton's Divided Differences

**Definition 3.2.** The Newton form of the interpolating polynomial:

$$P_n(x) = f[x_0] + f[x_0, x_1](x - x_0) + \cdots + f[x_0, \dots, x_n](x - x_0) \cdots (x - x_{n-1})$$

where  $f[x_i, \dots, x_j] = \frac{f[x_{i+1}, \dots, x_j] - f[x_i, \dots, x_{j-1}]}{x_j - x_i}$

### 3.3 Error in Interpolation

**Theorem 3.1.** If  $f \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$ , then for  $x \in [a, b]$ :

$$f(x) - P_n(x) = \frac{f^{(n+1)}(\xi)}{(n+1)!} \prod_{i=0}^n (x - x_i)$$

for some  $\xi \in [a, b]$ .

## 4 Numerical Integration

### 4.1 Newton-Cotes Formulas

**Definition 4.1.** The  $n$ -point Newton-Cotes formula:

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=0}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

where  $x_i = a + ih$  and  $h = \frac{b-a}{n}$ .

#### 4.1.1 Trapezoidal Rule

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{2} [f(a) + 2f(a+h) + \cdots + 2f(b-h) + f(b)]$$

#### 4.1.2 Simpson's Rule

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{3} [f(a) + 4f(a+h) + 2f(a+2h) + \cdots + 4f(b-h) + f(b)]$$

### 4.2 Gaussian Quadrature

**Definition 4.2.** Gaussian quadrature uses optimal nodes and weights:

$$\int_{-1}^1 f(x) dx \approx \sum_{i=1}^n w_i f(x_i)$$

where  $x_i$  are roots of Legendre polynomials.

### 4.3 Error Analysis

**Theorem 4.1.** For the trapezoidal rule with  $f \in C^2[a, b]$ :

$$\left| \int_a^b f(x) dx - T_n \right| \leq \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2} \max_{x \in [a,b]} |f''(x)|$$

## 5 Numerical Differentiation

### 5.1 Finite Differences

**Definition 5.1.** • **Forward Difference:**  $f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x+h)-f(x)}{h}$

• **Backward Difference:**  $f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x)-f(x-h)}{h}$

• **Central Difference:**  $f'(x) \approx \frac{f(x+h)-f(x-h)}{2h}$

### 5.2 Error Analysis

**Theorem 5.1.** For central difference with  $f \in C^3$ :

$$f'(x) - \frac{f(x+h) - f(x-h)}{2h} = -\frac{h^2}{6} f'''(\xi)$$

for some  $\xi \in [x-h, x+h]$ .

## 6 Linear Systems

### 6.1 Gaussian Elimination

**Definition 6.1.** Gaussian elimination with partial pivoting solves  $Ax = b$  by:

1. Forward elimination with row swaps
2. Back substitution

### 6.2 LU Factorization

**Definition 6.2.** If  $A$  can be factored as  $A = LU$  where  $L$  is lower triangular and  $U$  is upper triangular, then  $Ax = b$  becomes:

1. Solve  $Ly = b$  for  $y$
2. Solve  $Ux = y$  for  $x$

### 6.3 Iterative Methods

#### 6.3.1 Jacobi Method

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij} x_j^{(k)} \right)$$

#### 6.3.2 Gauss-Seidel Method

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j < i} a_{ij} x_j^{(k+1)} - \sum_{j > i} a_{ij} x_j^{(k)} \right)$$

## 6.4 Convergence

**Theorem 6.1.** The Jacobi and Gauss-Seidel methods converge if  $A$  is strictly diagonally dominant:

$$|a_{ii}| > \sum_{j \neq i} |a_{ij}| \quad \forall i$$

## 7 Ordinary Differential Equations

### 7.1 Euler's Method

**Definition 7.1.** For  $y' = f(t, y)$ ,  $y(t_0) = y_0$ :

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(t_n, y_n)$$

where  $h$  is the step size.

### 7.2 Runge-Kutta Methods

**Definition 7.2.** The fourth-order Runge-Kutta method:

$$k_1 = hf(t_n, y_n) \tag{1}$$

$$k_2 = hf(t_n + h/2, y_n + k_1/2) \tag{2}$$

$$k_3 = hf(t_n + h/2, y_n + k_2/2) \tag{3}$$

$$k_4 = hf(t_n + h, y_n + k_3) \tag{4}$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4) \tag{5}$$

### 7.3 Error Analysis

**Theorem 7.1.** For Euler's method with  $f \in C^1$ :

$$|y(t_n) - y_n| \leq \frac{Mh}{2L}(e^{L(t_n - t_0)} - 1)$$

where  $M = \max |f'|$  and  $L$  is the Lipschitz constant.

## 8 Approximation Theory

### 8.1 Best Approximation

**Definition 8.1.** The best approximation to  $f$  in norm  $\|\cdot\|$  from subspace  $S$  is  $p^* \in S$  such that:

$$\|f - p^*\| = \min_{p \in S} \|f - p\|$$

### 8.2 Chebyshev Approximation

**Theorem 8.1.** For  $f \in C[a, b]$ , there exists a unique best uniform approximation  $p^* \in P_n$  such that:

$$\|f - p^*\|_\infty = \min_{p \in P_n} \|f - p\|_\infty$$

## 8.3 Least Squares Approximation

**Definition 8.2.** The least squares approximation minimizes:

$$\sum_{i=1}^m (f(x_i) - p(x_i))^2$$

for given data points  $(x_i, f(x_i))$ .

## 9 Fast Fourier Transform

### 9.1 Discrete Fourier Transform

**Definition 9.1.** The DFT of sequence  $\{x_n\}$  is:

$$X_k = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} x_n e^{-2\pi i kn/N}$$

### 9.2 FFT Algorithm

**Theorem 9.1.** The FFT computes the DFT in  $O(N \log N)$  operations using the divide-and-conquer approach.

## 10 Eigenvalue Problems

### 10.1 Power Method

**Definition 10.1.** For dominant eigenvalue  $\lambda_1$  of matrix  $A$ :

$$x^{(k+1)} = \frac{Ax^{(k)}}{\|Ax^{(k)}\|}$$

### 10.2 QR Algorithm

**Definition 10.2.** The QR algorithm for eigenvalues:

1. Factor  $A_k = Q_k R_k$
2. Set  $A_{k+1} = R_k Q_k$
3. Repeat until convergence

## 11 Applications

### 11.1 Scientific Computing

Numerical analysis is essential for:

- Solving differential equations
- Optimization problems
- Signal processing
- Computational fluid dynamics



## 11.2 Engineering

Applications include:

- Structural analysis
- Control systems
- Image processing
- Financial modeling

## 12 Important Theorems

### 12.1 Weierstrass Approximation Theorem

**Theorem 12.1.** For any  $f \in C[a, b]$  and  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a polynomial  $p$  such that:

$$\|f - p\|_{\infty} < \epsilon$$

### 12.2 Intermediate Value Theorem

**Theorem 12.2.** If  $f$  is continuous on  $[a, b]$  and  $f(a)f(b) < 0$ , then there exists  $c \in (a, b)$  such that  $f(c) = 0$ .

### 12.3 Fixed Point Theorem

**Theorem 12.3.** If  $g : [a, b] \rightarrow [a, b]$  is continuous and  $|g'(x)| < 1$  for all  $x \in [a, b]$ , then  $g$  has a unique fixed point.