

# Thrust Normal to Velocity Vector

July 28, 2021

## 1 Simplifying expression for $w_p(\phi)$

The sine function is a phase shift of the cosine function, so

$$\sin(2k) = \sin(2\phi + \pi/2) = \cos(2\phi). \quad (1)$$

It is also given that

$$2 \sin^2(2k) = 1 - \cos(2k). \quad (2)$$

Because  $\cos(2k) = -\sin(2\phi)$  by a similar argument,

$$2 \sin^2(2k) = 1 + \sin(2\phi). \quad (3)$$

Finally

$$w_p(\phi) = \underbrace{\frac{1}{\sin(2\phi + \pi/2)}}_{\cos(2\phi)} \left[ 1 - \underbrace{\frac{a_T r_0^2}{\mu}}_{-\frac{4}{\beta^2(3\pi+8)}} (3\phi + 2) \right] + \frac{2}{\beta^2(3\pi + 8)} \underbrace{(2 \sin^2(\phi + \pi/4) + 3)}_{\sin(2\phi)+4} \quad (4)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\cos(2\phi)} \left[ 1 - \frac{4}{\beta^2(3\pi + 8)} (3\phi + 2) \right] + \frac{2}{\beta^2(3\pi + 8)} (\sin(2\phi) + 4) \quad (5)$$

## 2 Numerical evaluation of $y(\phi_0) = 0$

**Notation:** Let  $\phi_0$  satisfy  $y(\phi_0) = 0$ ,  $w_p(\phi_0) = 1$  and  $\phi_{\min}$  minimize  $w_p(\phi)$ .

To evaluate  $y_p(\phi) = 0$ , we first define `phi = (1:1:1000)*pi/4/1000`. Using this vector to formulate `y_p(Beta)`, where `Beta` is a variable constant, we have a vector of length 1000 representing  $y_p(\phi)$ . Note that

$$y_p(\phi) = \frac{\sqrt{\varphi(\phi)}}{\beta^2(3\pi + 8) \sin(2\phi + \pi/2)} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_0}} \cot(\phi + \pi/4) \quad (6)$$

$\varphi(\phi)$  was defined in Eq. 18-20 of the presentation, and the above expression comes from Eq. 21 of the presentation. This implies that  $\sin(2\phi + \pi/2) \neq 0$ , and further that  $y_p$  is only defined for  $\varphi(\phi) \geq 0$ . Thus, the vector `y_p(Beta)` must be shortened to reflect this and exclude complex numbers. From calculations, we find that the real representation of  $y_p$  is `y_p(Beta)(1:548)` using  $a_T = 0.2, r_0 = 1, \mu = 1$  with  $\beta \approx 1.07$ . To find the section of this vector that is  $\in \mathbb{R}$ , we have called a function `realBreakpoint(vector)` in Figure 1. Sorting this vector and determining the corresponding  $\phi_0$  solves the problem, where we expect `y_minValue = 0` and `phi_0` to be the corresponding value of  $\phi$ :

```

[y_values index_vector] = sort(y_p(Beta)(1:548));
y_minValue = y_values(1);
phi_0 = index_vector(1);

```

This approach can be extended for a changing parameter  $\beta$ . Since  $\delta = \frac{1}{\beta^2} \in (0.001, 1)$ ,  $\beta = \sqrt{\frac{1}{\delta}} \in (1, \sqrt{1000})$ . In Octave/MATLAB, we can implement it as

```

delta = (1:1:1000)/1000;
Beta_vec = sqrt(1./delta);

```

Mathematically, we say that

$$\vec{\beta} = \begin{bmatrix} \beta_1 \\ \vdots \\ \beta_n \end{bmatrix} \text{ and } \vec{\delta} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/\beta_1^2 \\ \vdots \\ 1/\beta_n^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (7)$$

where we choose  $n = 1000$ . Thus, by iterating through the values of **Beta\_vec**, we can generate a corresponding vector **phi\_m1** to represent how  $\phi_0$  changes with respect to  $\delta$ :

```

phi_m1 = zeros(1,n);
w_1 = zeros(1,n);
w_min = zeros(1,n);
y_0 = zeros(1,n);

for i = 1:n
    y_real = y_p(Beta_vec(i))(1:realBreakpoint(y_p(Beta_vec(i))));
    [yvals idx] = sort(y_real);
    if (length(idx) > 1)
        w_1(i) = w_p(Beta_vec(i))(idx(2));
        phi_m1(i) = phi(idx(2));
        y_0(i) = yvals(2);
    endif
end
end

```

Figure 1: Numerically finding  $\vec{\phi}_0$  over  $\vec{\delta}$

In Figure 1 above, the vector **y\_0** is updated with the value  $y_p(\phi_{0,i})$  in each iteration for each value of  $\beta$ , and is expected to be 0. The vector **w\_1** is updated with  $w_p(\phi_{m,i})$ , which is expected to be unity. As was done with **y\_p(Beta)**, we have defined a vector **w\_p(Beta)** to represent  $w_p(\phi)$  where **Beta** is a constant that can be varied. Thus, we should expect  $w_p(\vec{\phi}_{\min}) = \vec{1}$ ,  $y_p(\vec{\phi}_0) = \vec{0} \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and the

existence of  $\vec{\phi}_m = \begin{bmatrix} \phi_{m,1} \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{m,n} \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^n$  at the end of the loop. The second index of **y\_p(Beta\_vec(i))**

is accessed to find  $\phi_{0,i}$  within the loop because  $\phi = 0$  always satisfies  $y_p(\phi) = 0$ , and we want to find the second such value. The conditional check is to account for cases where the domain of  $y_p(\phi) \in \mathbb{R}$  is very small (i.e. **length(y\_p(Beta\_vec(i)))** is 1), so we are only able to find  $\phi_{0,i} = 0 \implies y(\phi_0) = 0$ .

The results of  $\phi_0$  vs.  $\delta$  are expressed in Figure 2 below.  $y_p(\phi_0) \approx 0$  and  $w_p(\phi_{\min}) \approx 1$  within numerical error, which verifies the validity of these results.

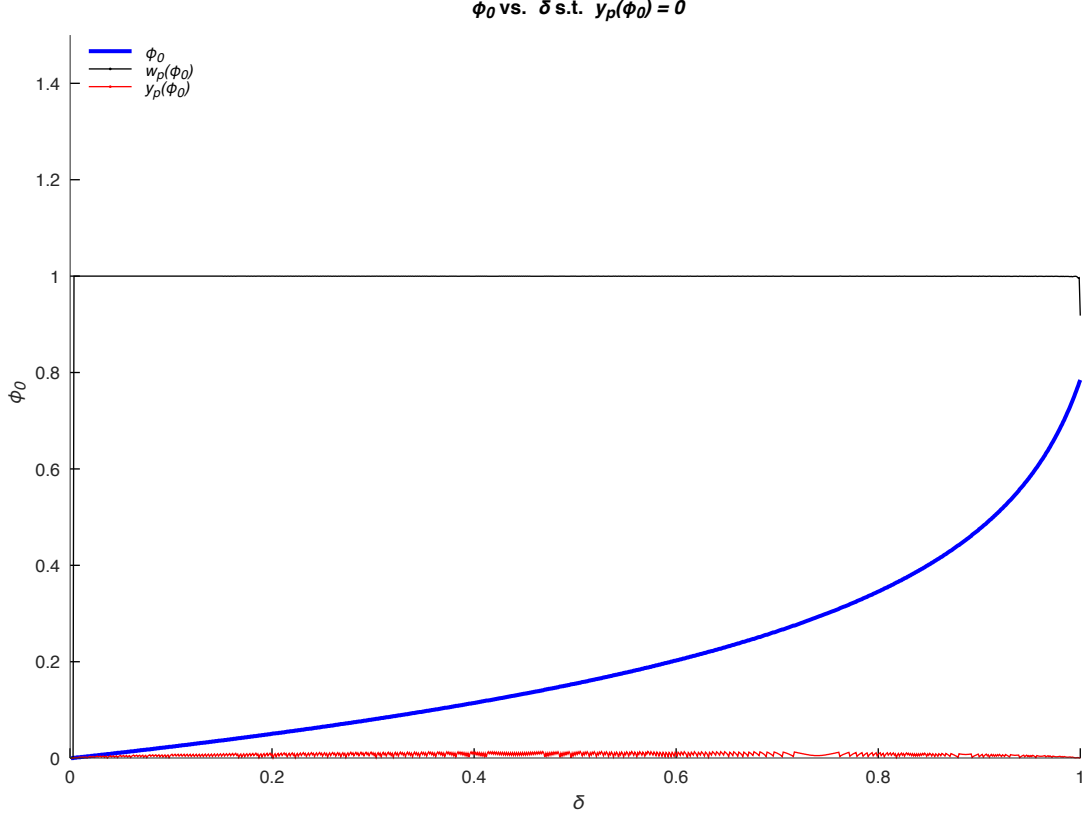


Figure 2: A plot of these results

### 3 Numerical minimization of $w_p(\phi)$

We use a similar approach as before to minimize  $w_p(\phi)$  numerically. In Figure 1,  $\mathbf{w\_1(i)}$  was updated to reflect the value of  $w_p(\phi_{\min,i})$  where  $\phi = \phi_{\min,i}$  minimized  $y_p(\phi)$  for corresponding values of  $\beta_i, \delta_i$  from Eq. 7. The following code defines a vector `phi_m2` of length  $n = 1000$  and populates it with the value of  $\phi_{\min,i}$  that minimizes  $w_p(\phi)$  for  $\beta_i$ . The corresponding minimum values are stored in another vector `w_min`. Note that the first index of the sorted vector `w_vals` is accessed, since we are looking for the absolute minimum.

```
phi_m2 = zeros(1,n);
w_min = zeros(1,n);
for i = 1:n
    [w_vals idx] = sort(w_p(Beta_vec(i)));
    phi_m2(i) = phi(idx(1));
    w_min(i) = w_vals(1);
end
```

Figure 3: Iteratively finding  $\vec{\phi}_{\min}$  for various  $\beta$

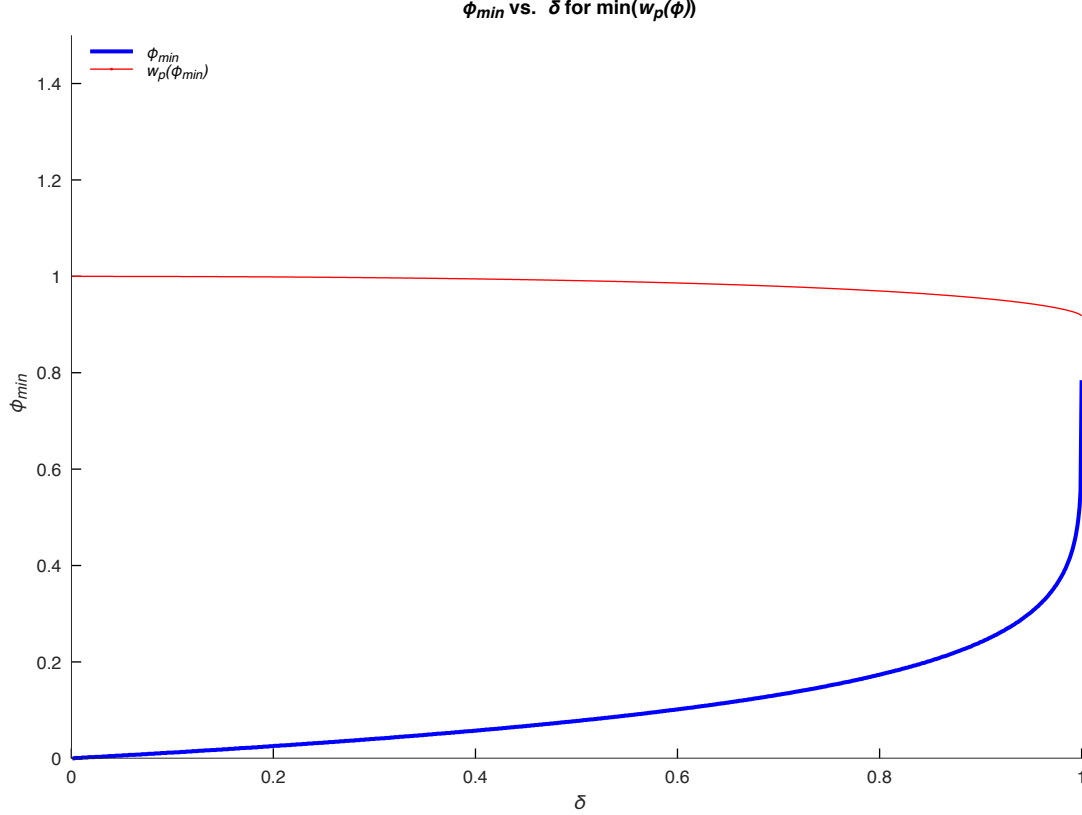


Figure 4: Values of  $\phi_{\min}$  that minimize  $w_p(\phi)$  for various  $\beta$

Figure 4, showing  $\phi_{\min}$  (representing phi\_m2) vs.  $\delta$ , summarizes these results.

## 4 Bisection and Newton-Raphson method for finding roots

### 4.1 Bisection method

We will use the bisection method to find when  $y_p(\phi) = 0$  for a given tolerance  $\epsilon$ . The requirement for the bisection method is that the function in question is continuous on the closed interval  $[a, b]$ <sup>1</sup>, so the roots of  $y_p(\phi)$  can be found. The roots of  $w'(\phi)$  will be found using the Newton's method later.

### 4.2 Newton-Raphson method

In Eq. 40 from the presentation,  $w_p'(\phi)$  was not expressed in terms of  $\beta$ , so the following expression will be used:

$$w_p'(\phi) = \frac{2(\sin^2(2\phi + \pi/2) - 3)\sin(2\phi + \pi/2)}{(3\pi + 8)\beta^2 \sin^3(2\phi + \pi/2)} - \frac{\cos(2\phi + \pi/2) \left(1 - \frac{4}{(3\pi + 8)\beta^2}(3\phi + 2)\right)}{r_0 \sin^3(2\phi + \pi/2)} \quad (8)$$

---

<sup>1</sup>[Bisection method - Wolfram MathWorld](#)

This method cannot be used to solve for the root of  $y_p(\phi)$  because although the function exists in the domain  $\phi \in [0, \pi/4)$ ,  $\lim_{\phi \rightarrow 0^+} y_p'(\phi)$  and  $\lim_{\phi \rightarrow \pi/4^-} y_p'(\phi)$  do not exist, so the function is not differentiable on the entire interval<sup>2</sup>.

From observing the graph of  $y_p(\phi)$  on Page 6, this is confirmed visually. Since the endpoints of  $y_p(\phi)$  on this interval are its two roots, they cannot be found through this method. The bisection method works, however, since the only requirement is continuity of  $y_p(\phi)$  on the interval.

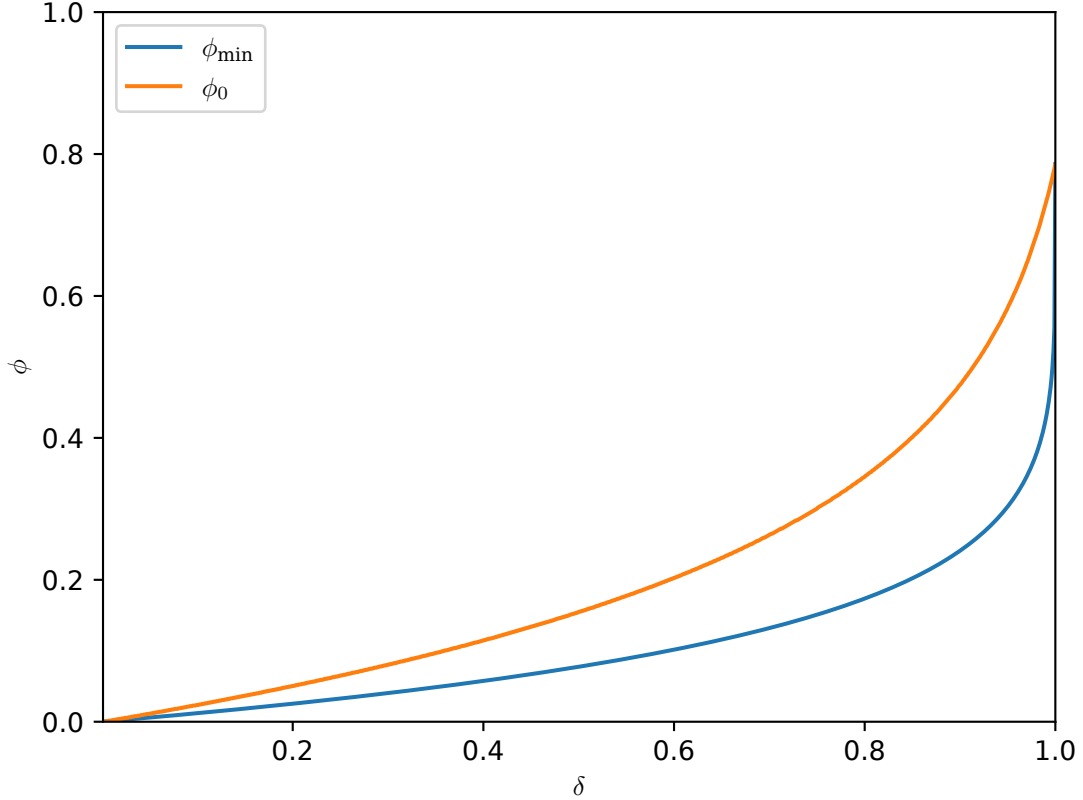


Figure 5: A plot of  $\phi_{\min}$  and  $\phi_0$  vs  $\delta$

The code used to implement both algorithms is located [here](#). Figure 5 demonstrates the bisection method for finding  $\phi_0$  and Newton's method for  $\phi_{\min}$ .

## 5 Curve fitting

### 5.1 Objective

The least-squared method of curve fitting<sup>3</sup> was used to generate the closed-form equations  $\phi_0(\delta)$  and  $\phi_{\min}(\delta)$ .

The approach is to define an error function  $E(\phi) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\phi_i - \phi(\delta_i))^2}$  that represents the RMS error between the fitted curve and original data.  $n$  is the number of data points in the set

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<sup>2</sup>Newton's method

<sup>3</sup>Curve fitting: least squares methods

$\{(\delta_1, \phi_1), \dots, (\delta_n, \phi_n)\}$  and  $\phi(\delta)$  represents the fitted curve. Because a polynomial curve is desired, the coefficients of the terms in  $\delta(\phi)$  belong to  $\vec{c} \in \mathbb{R}^{k+1}$ , so there are  $k+1$  coefficients in the fitted polynomial. Since  $\phi(\delta; \vec{c})$ ,  $E : \mathbb{R}^{k+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}; \vec{c}$ . The objective is then to find a  $\vec{c}$  which minimizes  $E(\vec{c})$ . Similarly, each  $\phi(\delta_i)$  becomes a function of  $\vec{c}$ .

Minimizing  $E(\vec{c}) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n (\phi_i - \phi(\delta_i))^2}$  is the same as minimizing  $E_1(\vec{c}) = \sum_{i=1}^n (\phi_i - \phi(\delta_i))^2$ , so the next step is to solve

$$\frac{\partial E_1}{\partial c_j} = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (\phi_i - \phi(\delta_i)) \frac{\partial \phi(\delta_i)}{\partial c_j} = 0 \quad (9)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial \phi(\delta_i)}{\partial c_j} \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{\partial \phi(\delta_i)}{\partial c_j} \phi(\delta_i) \quad (10)$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i^{j-1} \phi_i = \sum_{i=1}^n c_j \delta_i^{2j-1} + \dots + c_1 \delta_i^{j-1} = \sum_{\ell=1}^j \sum_{i=1}^n c_{j-\ell+1} \delta_i^{2j-\ell-1} \quad (11)$$

where  $j = 1, \dots, k+1$  and the polynomial is of degree  $k$ .

A vectorized implementation yields

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i^k \phi_i \\ \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i^1 \phi_i \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i^{2k} & \cdots & \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i^k \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_i^k & \cdots & \sum_{i=1}^n 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} c_{k+1} \\ \vdots \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum_{i=1}^n c_{k+1} \delta_i^{2k} & \cdots & \sum_{i=1}^n c_1 \delta_i^k \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \sum_{i=1}^n c_{k+1} \delta_i^k & \cdots & \sum_{i=1}^n c_1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (12)$$

$$\vec{b} = A\vec{c} \quad (13)$$

The matrix-vector equation  $A\vec{c} = \vec{b}$  can then be solved for  $\vec{c}$  using an optimized linear algebra library, and the resulting coefficients used to generate a function  $\phi(\delta)$ .

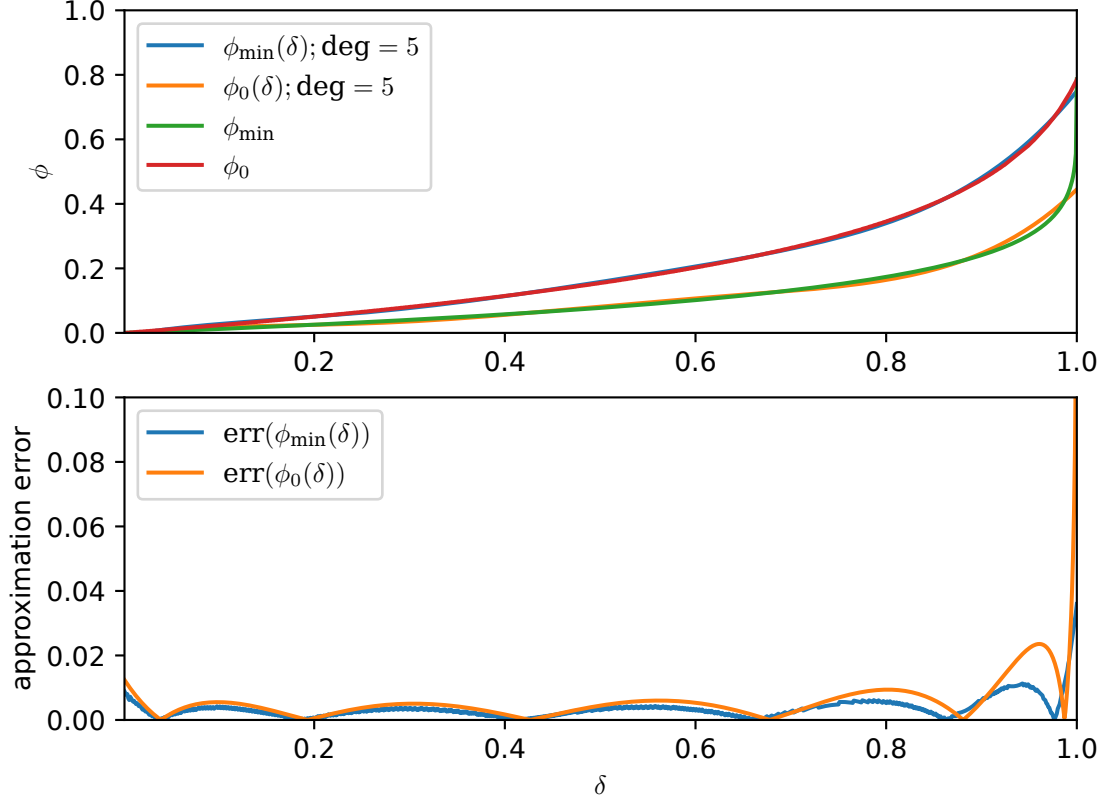


Figure 6: Using degree 5 polynomials to approximate  $\phi_0(\delta)$  and  $\phi_{\min}(\delta)$

A better approximation is desired since even with degree 5, a polynomial approximation cannot fit well to the smooth curves of  $\phi_0$  and  $\phi_{\min}$ . This is evidenced by the Runge effect visible in the error plot of Figure 6.

## 5.2 Attempted approximation using Chebyshev polynomial interpolation

The Chebyshev polynomial approximations resulted in a more pronounced Runge effect, as depicted below.

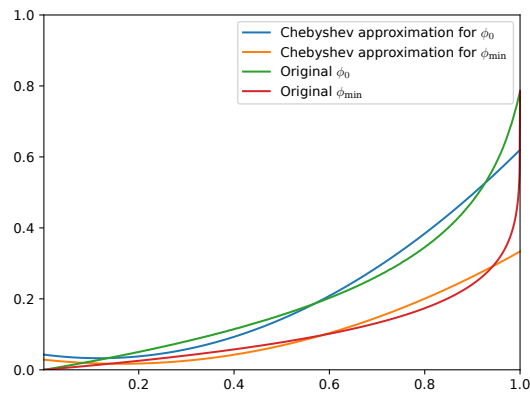


Figure 7: Chebyshev polynomial approximations

### 5.3 Attempted approximation using exponential function

By far the most accurate fit before the original polynomial approximation, an exponential function of the form  $\phi = a \exp(b(\delta - c)) + d$  was used. Significant Runge effect is still evident in the plot below.

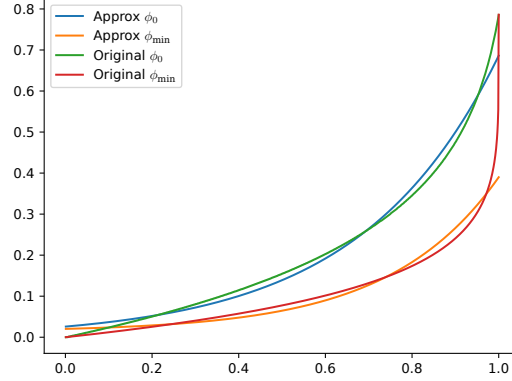


Figure 8: Exponential approximations

### 5.4 Attempted elliptical integral of first kind approximation

Through parameterizing the first-order elliptic integral  $K(k; n)$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $k \in [0, 1]$  for both translation and dilation control, curve fitting was attempted:

$$K(k; n) = -\frac{\pi}{2n} + \int_0^1 \frac{dx}{n\sqrt{(1-x^2)(1-k^2x^2)}} \quad (14)$$

The optimization routine returned a value of  $n = 1$  for both  $\phi_0$  and  $\phi_{\min}$ , indicating that the first-order approximation is not effective. The plot is shown below.

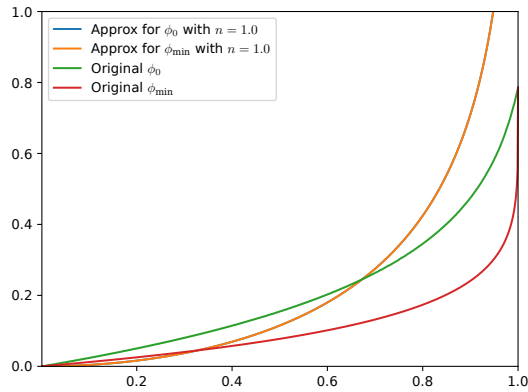


Figure 9: Elliptical approximations

Further parameterization attempts of  $K(k)$  did not yield better results, as the curvature of the elliptic integral function cannot be manipulated easily to fit the data.



## 5.5 Univariate spline approximation

This method yielded the best results. A univariate spline of degree  $k = 3$  with smoothness factor  $s = 0.001$  was used to approximate  $\phi_0$  and  $\phi_{\min}$ . Figure 10 shows that the method was successful, with minimized Runge effect and typical error magnitudes lower than that of the polynomial approximation.

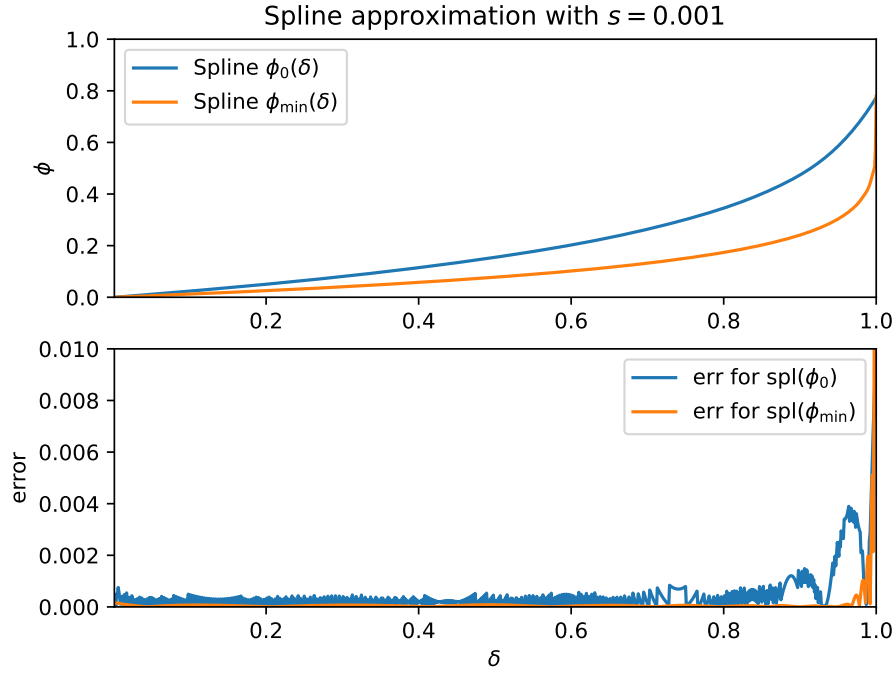


Figure 10: Spline approximation plot

The computer output below details the properties of each spline:

```

----- phi_0 spline approx -----
LSQ Error =      0.001000051241244917
Knots =      [0.001 0.501 0.751 0.876 1.   ]
Coeffs =      [-4.40529375e-04  3.92784349e-02  1.04654145e-01  2.56034241e-01
 4.15005836e-01  5.76096213e-01  7.73738936e-01]

----- phi_min spline approx -----
LSQ Error =      0.0009999540547108812
Knots =      [0.001 0.501 0.626 0.751 0.814 0.876 0.907 0.938 0.969 0.977 0.985 0.993
 0.997 1.   ]
Coeffs =      [-4.58365176e-05  1.99513345e-02  4.68542634e-02  1.06810792e-01
 1.41001801e-01  1.78919227e-01  2.10975405e-01  2.46198594e-01
 2.81539962e-01  3.21468750e-01  3.64172354e-01  3.99187610e-01
 4.27132615e-01  5.02562701e-01  4.92718655e-01  7.78749733e-01]

```

## 6 Simplifying the expression $1 - w_p(\phi)^2$ from $y_p(\phi)$

*Objective:* obtain the simplest expression for  $1 - w_p(\phi)^2$  in terms of  $\phi, \beta$ .

The original expression for  $1 - w_p(\phi)^2$  is below, with the denominator removed for simplicity.

$$(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \sin^2(2k)(1 - w_p(\phi)^2) = \underbrace{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \sin^2(2k) - [(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 - 8(3\phi + 2)(3\pi + 8)\beta^2 + 16(3\phi + 2)^2]}_{\gamma_1(\phi)} \quad (15)$$

$$- \underbrace{2 \sin(2k)(4 \sin^2(k) + 6)((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 4(3\phi + 2))}_{\gamma_2(\phi)} \quad (16)$$

$$- \underbrace{\sin^2(2k)(16 \sin^4(k) + 48 \sin^2(k) + 36)}_{\gamma_3(\phi)} \quad (17)$$

$$= \gamma_1(\phi) - \gamma_2(\phi) - \gamma_3(\phi) \quad (18)$$

Applying Equations 1-3 to the denoted sub-functions  $\gamma_1(\phi), \gamma_2(\phi), \gamma_3(\phi)$ , we get

$$\gamma_1(\phi) = (3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 (\cos^2(2\phi) - 1) + 8(3\phi + 2) ((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 2(3\phi + 2)) \quad (19)$$

$$\gamma_2(\phi) = -2(8 \cos(2\phi) + 2 \sin(2\phi) \cos(2\phi)) ((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 4(3\phi + 2)) \quad (20)$$

$$= -4 \cos(2\phi)(\sin(2\phi) + 2) ((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 4(3\phi + 2)) \quad (21)$$

$$\gamma_3(\phi) = -\cos^2(2\phi) \left( 16 \sin\left(\phi + \frac{\pi}{4}\right)^4 + 48 \sin^2\left(\phi + \frac{\pi}{4}\right) + 36 \right) \quad (22)$$

$$= -\cos^2(2\phi) (4 \sin^2(2\phi) + 6)^2 \quad (23)$$

Putting this together, a simplified expression is

$$1 - w_p(\phi)^2 = \frac{\gamma_1}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos^2(2\phi)} + \frac{\gamma_2}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos^2(2\phi)} + \frac{\gamma_3}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos^2(2\phi)} \quad (24)$$

$$= \underbrace{\frac{\cos^2(2\phi) - 1}{\cos^2(2\phi)}}_{\frac{-(1 - \cos^2(2\phi))}{\cos^2(2\phi)} = \frac{-\sin^2(2\phi)}{\cos^2(2\phi)} = -\tan^2(2\phi)} + \frac{8(3\phi + 2)((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 2(3\phi + 2))}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos^2(2\phi)} \quad (25)$$

$$- \frac{4(\sin(2\phi) + 2)((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 4(3\phi + 2))}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos(2\phi)} - \frac{(4 \sin^2(2\phi) + 6)^2}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4} \quad (26)$$

Because  $y_p(\phi) = \sqrt{1 - w_p(\phi)^2} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_0}} \cot(\phi + \pi/4)$ , by substitution

$$y_p(\phi) = \sqrt{-\tan^2(2\phi) + \frac{8(3\phi + 2)((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 2(3\phi + 2))}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos^2(2\phi)} - \frac{4(\sin(2\phi) + 2)((3\pi + 8)\beta^2 - 4(3\phi + 2))}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4 \cos(2\phi)} - \frac{(4 \sin^2(2\phi) + 6)^2}{(3\pi + 8)^2 \beta^4}} \sqrt{\frac{\mu}{r_0}} \cot(\phi + \pi/4) \quad (27)$$

## 7 Chebyshev and Lagrange interpolation

In the following functions, the domains are defined for all  $\delta > 0$  or  $r > 0$ , so in finding Chebyshev nodes for interpolation, only nodes in this domain are filtered from a list of possibilities. Thus, when selecting  $n$  nodes, we actually select more, of which the negative values are discarded. Using the Lagrange polynomial interpolation method, these nodes are used to find an approximating polynomial.

### 7.1 Interpolation of $\phi_0, \phi_{\min}$

In Figure 11 and 12, 9 Chebyshev nodes were used to generate an approximating polynomial.

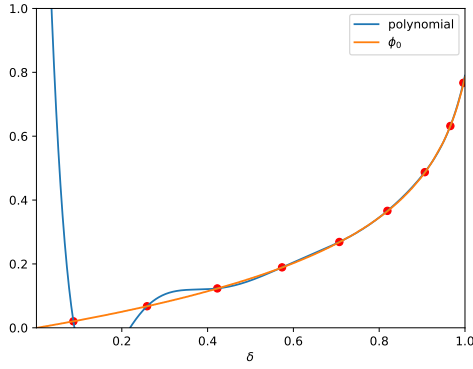


Figure 11: Lagrange polynomial approximation of  $\phi_0$  with equation  $g$

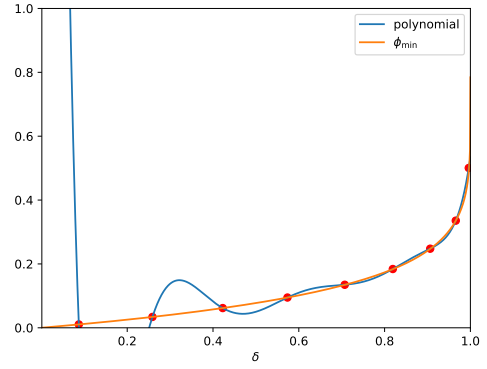


Figure 12: Lagrange polynomial approximation of  $\phi_{\min}$

Polynomial for  $\phi_0$ :

$$f_1(\delta) = 1044\delta^8 - 4892\delta^7 + 9693\delta^6 - 10531\delta^5 + 6800\delta^4 - 2638\delta^3 + 589\delta^2 - 67\delta^1 + 3 \quad (28)$$

Polynomial for  $\phi_{\min}$ :

$$f_2(\delta) = 3968\delta^8 - 18749\delta^7 + 37405\delta^6 - 40874\delta^5 + 26519\delta^4 - 10327\delta^3 + 2311\delta^2 - 263\delta^1 + 11 \quad (29)$$

The coefficients displayed here are rounded to the nearest whole number in order to make for readable output.

### 7.2 Interpolation of $y(r)$

As shown in Figure 13, the Chebyshev node method yielded far more accurate results for the function  $y(r)$ , save for the initial spike/irregularity in the function when it is increasing.

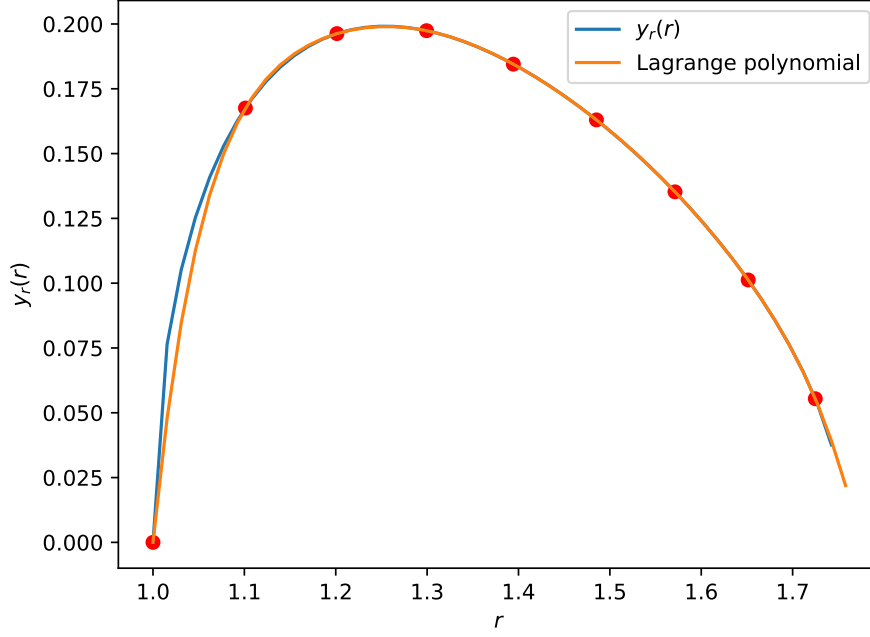


Figure 13: Lagrange polynomial approximation for  $y(r)$

The equation of the Lagrange polynomial is:

$$f_3(r) = -282r^8 + 3195r^7 - 15828r^6 + 44706r^5 - 78750r^4 + 88591r^3 - 62158r^2 + 24872r^1 - 4346 \quad (30)$$

### 7.2.1 Integral approximation for $\frac{dr}{dt} = y(r)$

The definition given is  $y(r) = \frac{dr}{dt}$ . This can be rearranged to

$$\frac{dr}{y(r)} = dt \quad (31)$$

Taking the indefinite integral on both sides (the limit on the side with  $r$  is from  $r_0 = 1$  to  $r_m$  where  $y(r_m) = 1 | r_m > 1$  and from 0 to some  $t_f$  for the side with  $t$ ) we get

$$\int_1^{r_m} \frac{dr}{y(r)} = \int_0^{t_f} dt \quad (32)$$

Using the approximation in Eq. 30, this becomes

$$\int_1^{r_m} \frac{dr}{f_3(r)} = \int_0^{t_f} dt \quad (33)$$

Using an optimized solver, the unknown is  $t_f = 4.52624262$ .

### 7.3 Limitations and future goals

- The NumPy Lagrange solver does not allow for specification of some tolerance  $\epsilon$ 
  - A potential solution could be to implement the Lagrange polynomial method from scratch, where a tolerance could be specified
- Another interpolation routine that could be used is the Newton polynomial method, which could also be implemented manually in order to specify a tolerance