

# Project 1: The Basics of FEM

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## 1. Introduction to the problem:

Solve the following boundary value problem, with domain  $(0, L)$ , analytically, the conditions are given like this.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d}{dx} \left( E \frac{du}{dx} \right) &= k^2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi kx}{L}\right) \\ E &= \text{given constant} = 0.1 \\ k &= \text{given constant} \\ L &= 1 \\ u(0) &= \Delta_1 = \text{given constant} = 0 \\ u(L) &= \Delta_2 = \text{given constant} = 1\end{aligned}$$

**What am I going to do** is to get a solution of “u” without direct integral.

**How am I going to do** is to combine some linear simple functions and add them up such that getting as closed as possible to the true solution.

For example: function like “ $(x+1)/2, (x-1)/2$ ”.

Although these functions seem simple, they are really powerful if you get fairly large number of them.

## 2. Objective

**Goals:** As we are going to find an approximate solution, we are supposed to make error less equal to 0.05.

And bellow, it is how to calculate the error.

$$e^N \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{\|u - u^N\|_{E(\Omega)}}{\|u\|_{E(\Omega)}} \leq TOL = 0.05,$$
$$\|u\|_{E(\Omega)} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\int_{\Omega} \frac{du}{dx} E \frac{du}{dx} dx}$$

Besides, we are going to find what the smallest number of “functions” is for each given “k”. Actually, we divide a given domain into N elements. And every element has a unique function. So now the problem becomes that what is the best N for each k?

$$\begin{array}{l} k = 1 \Rightarrow N = ? \\ k = 2 \Rightarrow N = ? \\ k = 4 \Rightarrow N = ? \\ k = 8 \Rightarrow N = ? \\ k = 16 \Rightarrow N = ? \\ k = 32 \Rightarrow N = ? \end{array}$$

When changing k or N, what is the error going to be? We will try to figure it out soon.

### 3. My procedure

First we decide to use the Weak Formulation to solve it.

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \text{Find } u \in H^1(\Omega) \text{ } u|_{\Gamma_u} = d \text{ such that } \forall v \in H^1(\Omega), v|_{\Gamma_u} = 0 \\ \int_{\Omega} \frac{dv}{dx} E \frac{du}{dx} dx = \int_{\Omega} f v dx + t v|_{\Gamma_t}. \end{array}}$$

We approximate “u” by:

$$u^h(x) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j \phi_j(x).$$

If we choose “v” with the same approximation functions, but a different linear combination, we get “v” like this:

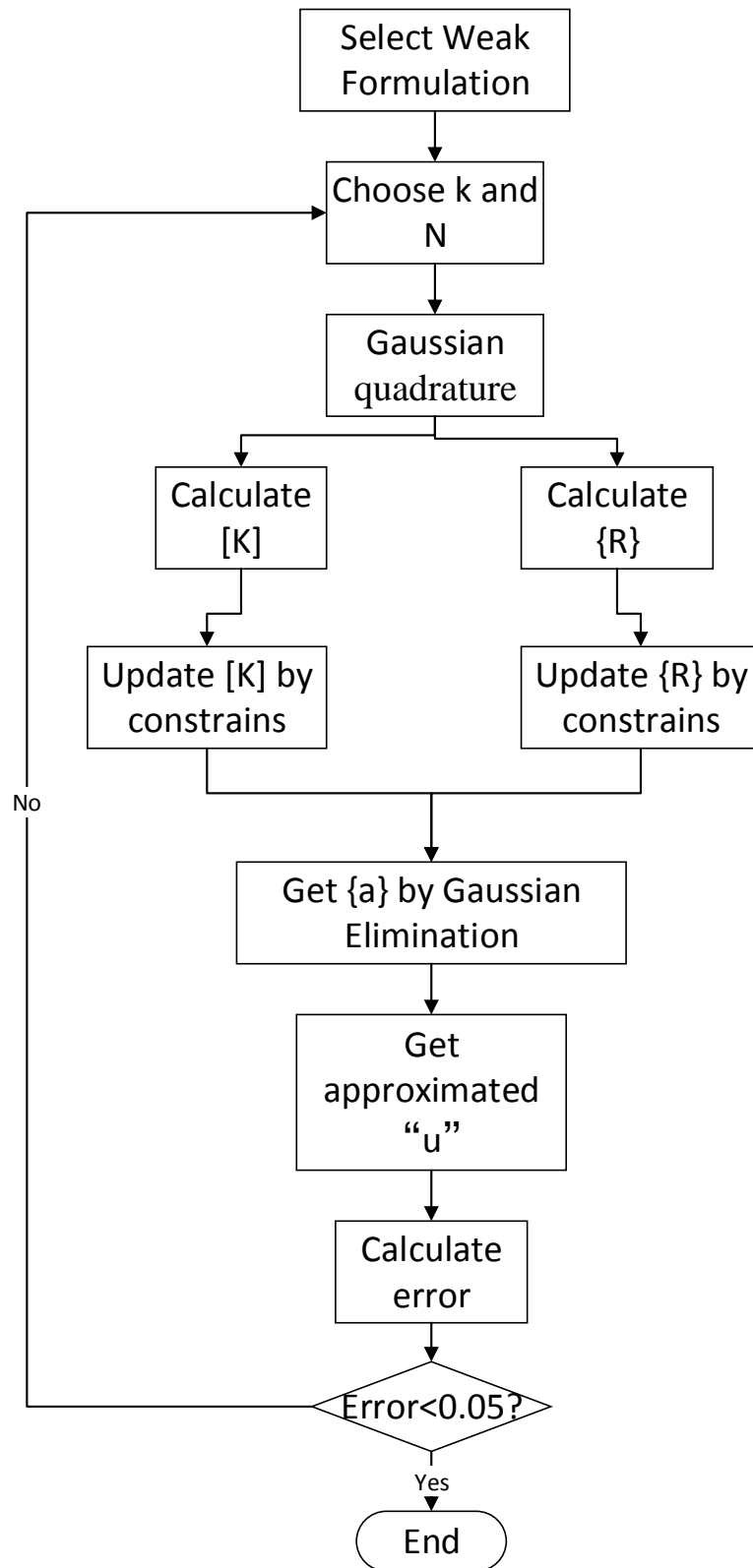
$$v^h(x) = \sum_{i=1}^N b_i \phi_i(x),$$

Since the “v” are arbitrary (formulation definition), the “bi” are arbitrary, therefore

$$\boxed{\begin{array}{l} \sum_{i=1}^N b_i \left( \sum_{j=1}^N K_{ij} a_j - R_i \right) = 0 \Rightarrow [K] \{a\} = \{R\}, \\ K_{ij} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_{\Omega} \frac{d\phi_i}{dx} E \frac{d\phi_j}{dx} dx \text{ and} \\ R_i \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \int_{\Omega} \phi_i f dx + \phi_i t|_{\Gamma_t}, \end{array}}$$

According to that, we will use some mathematical trick to simplify the integral calculation such as Gaussian quadrature ( $\phi_i$  represents the simple “function” that we build by ourselves). Then will get [K] and {R} and add constraints to them. And, we will solve this linear algebra problem by Gaussian Elimination. Once we get {a}, we get approximated “u”. Based

on that, we can do further test on errors and try to find the best N for each k.



## 4. Findings

1) Best N for each k:

$K=1$ ,  $N=28$ ;

$K=2$ ,  $N=67$ ;

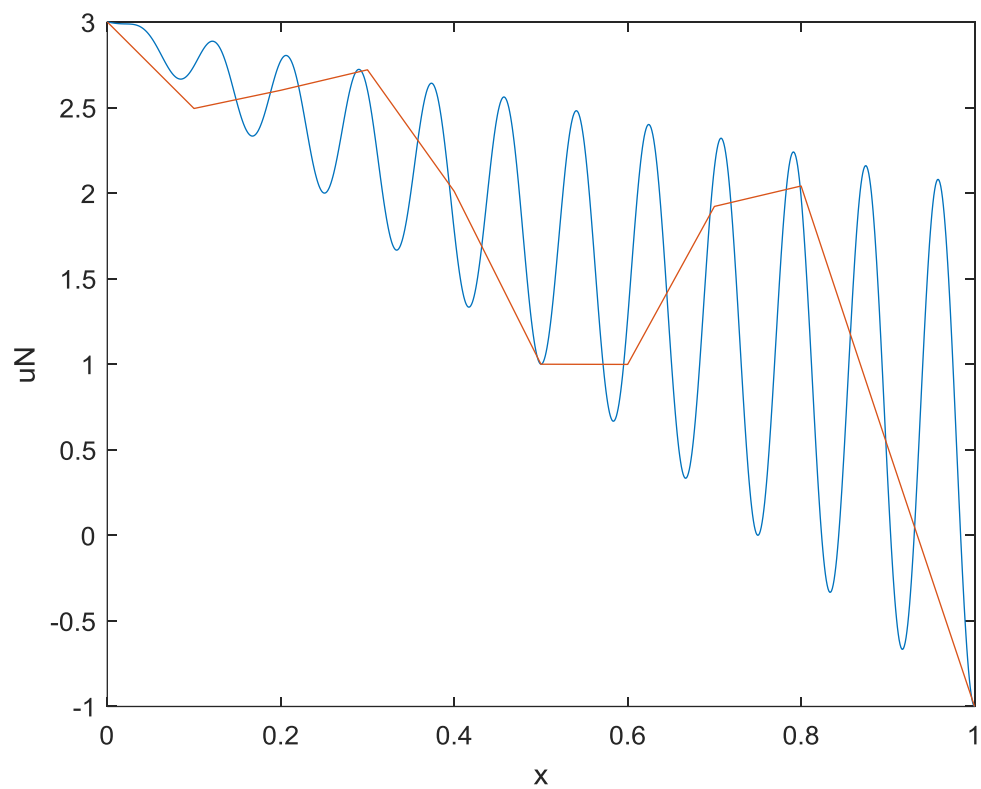
$K=4$ ,  $N=142$

$K=8$ ,  $N=289$

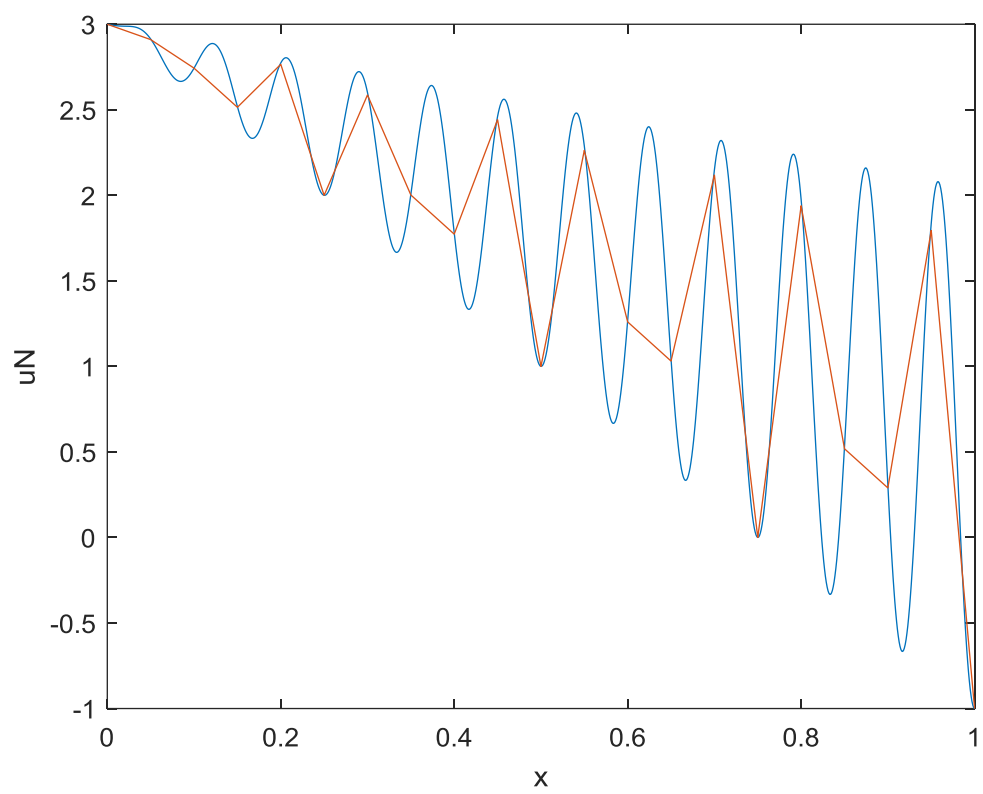
$K=16$ ,  $N=580$

$K=32$ ,  $N=1161$

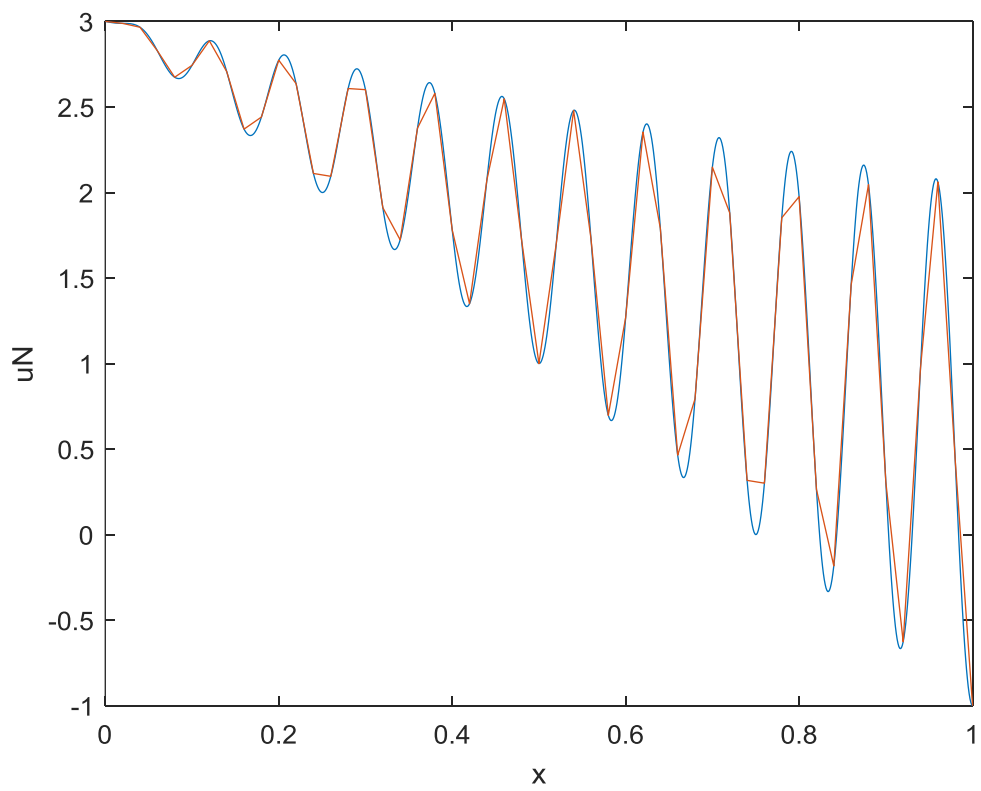
2)



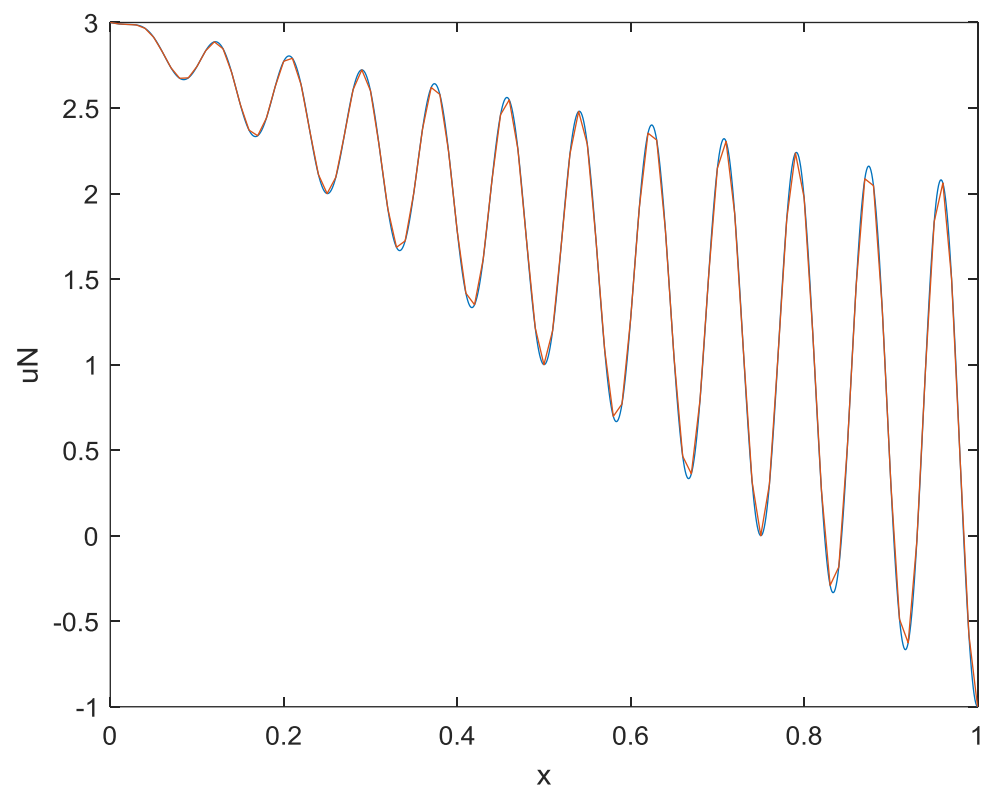
$N=1$



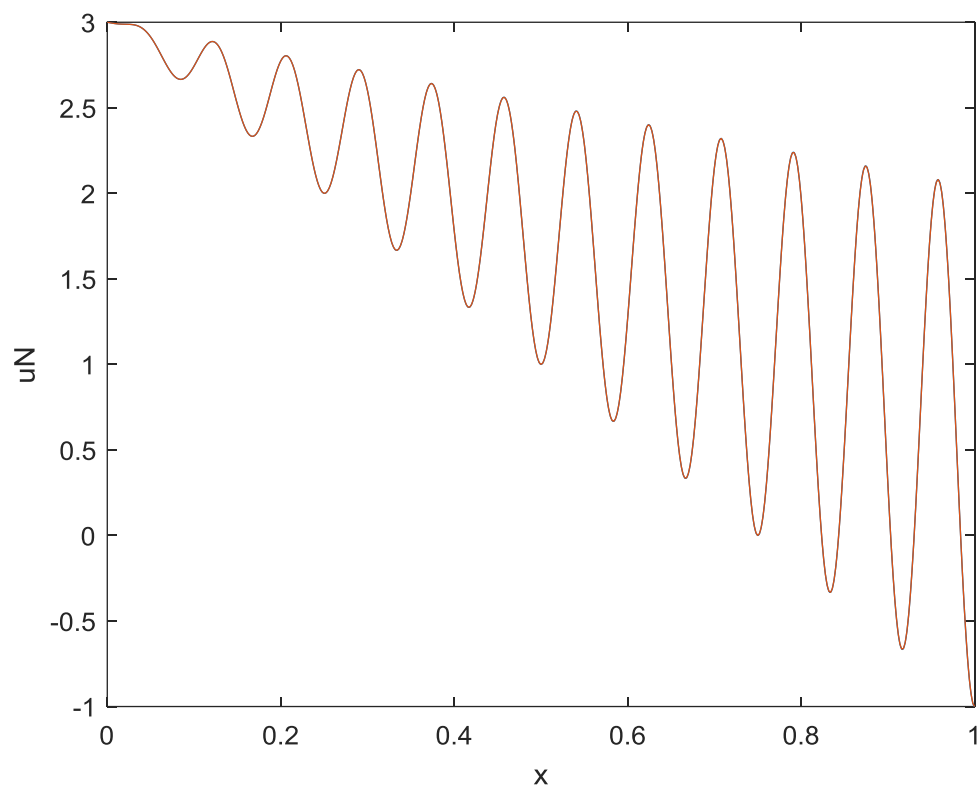
$n=20$



n=50



n=100

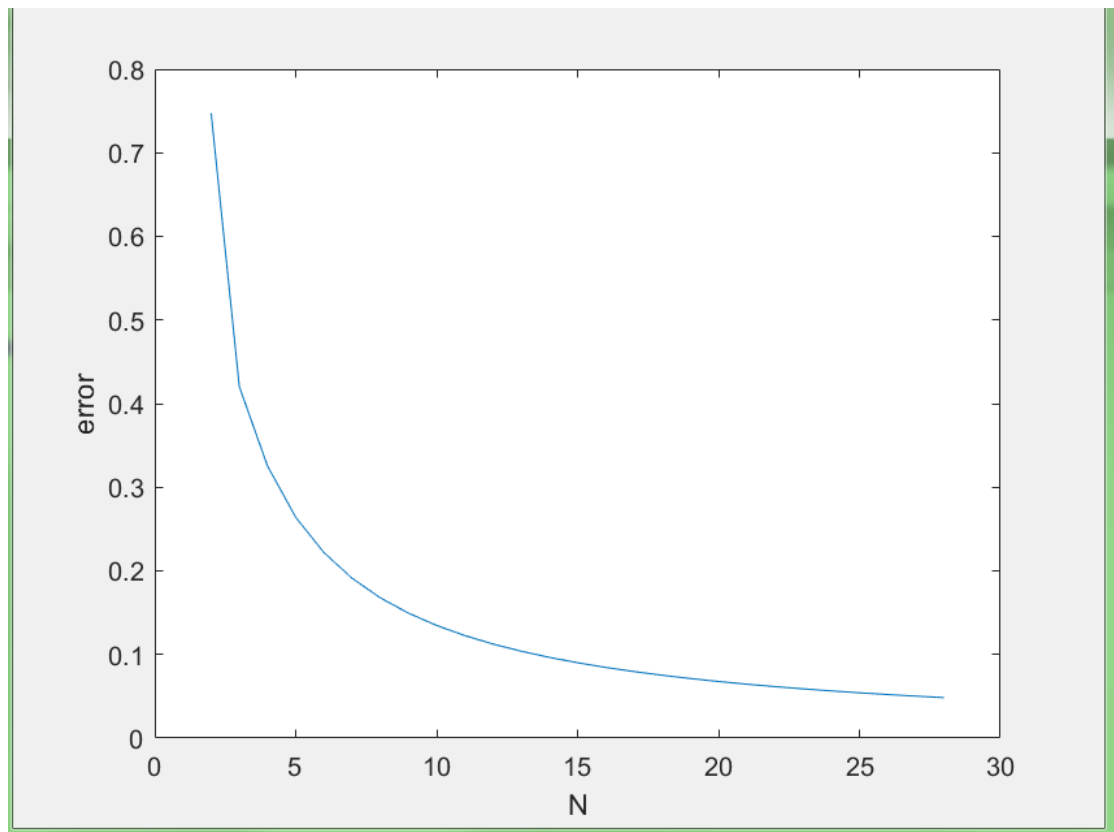


$n=500$

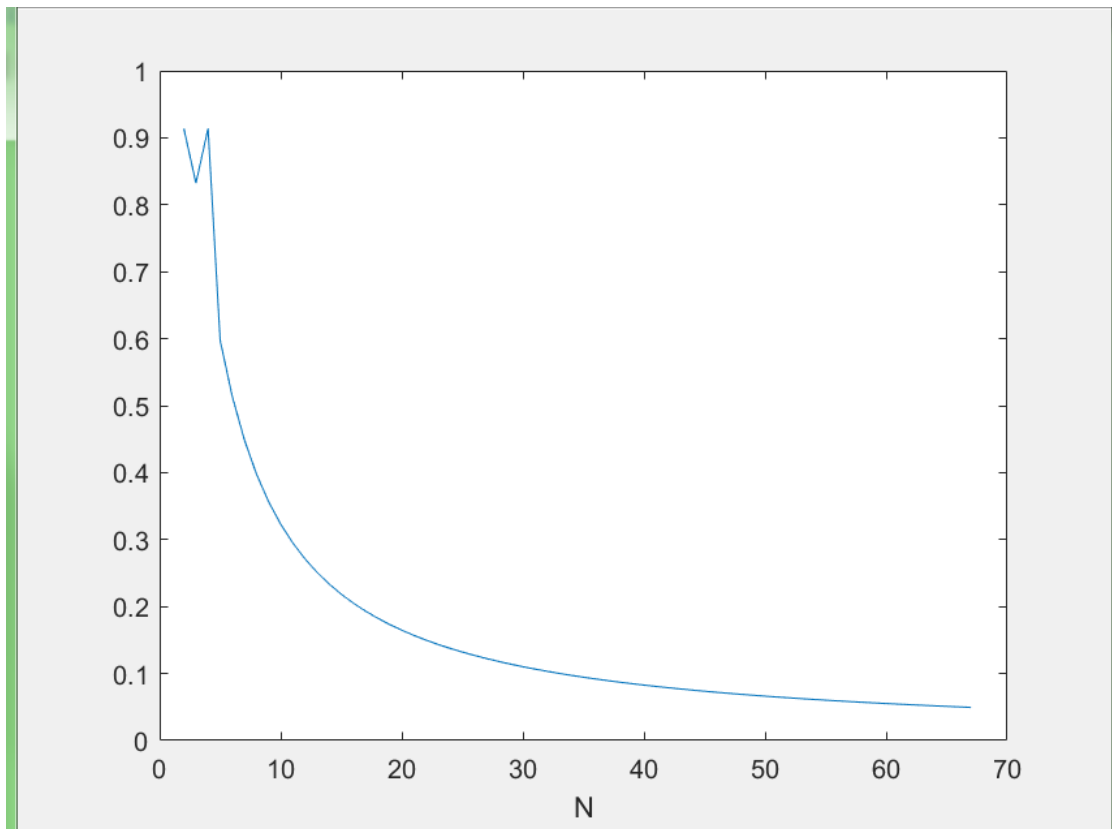
3)  $k=1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32\dots$

**$k=1$**

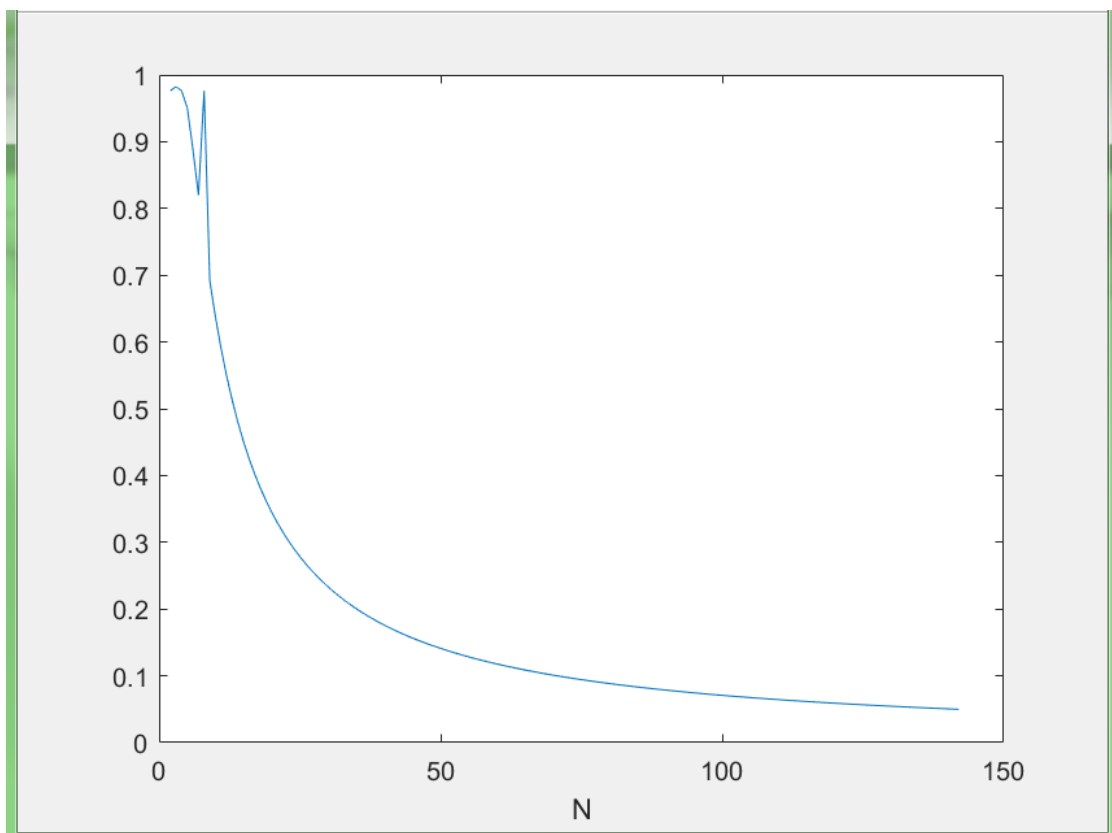




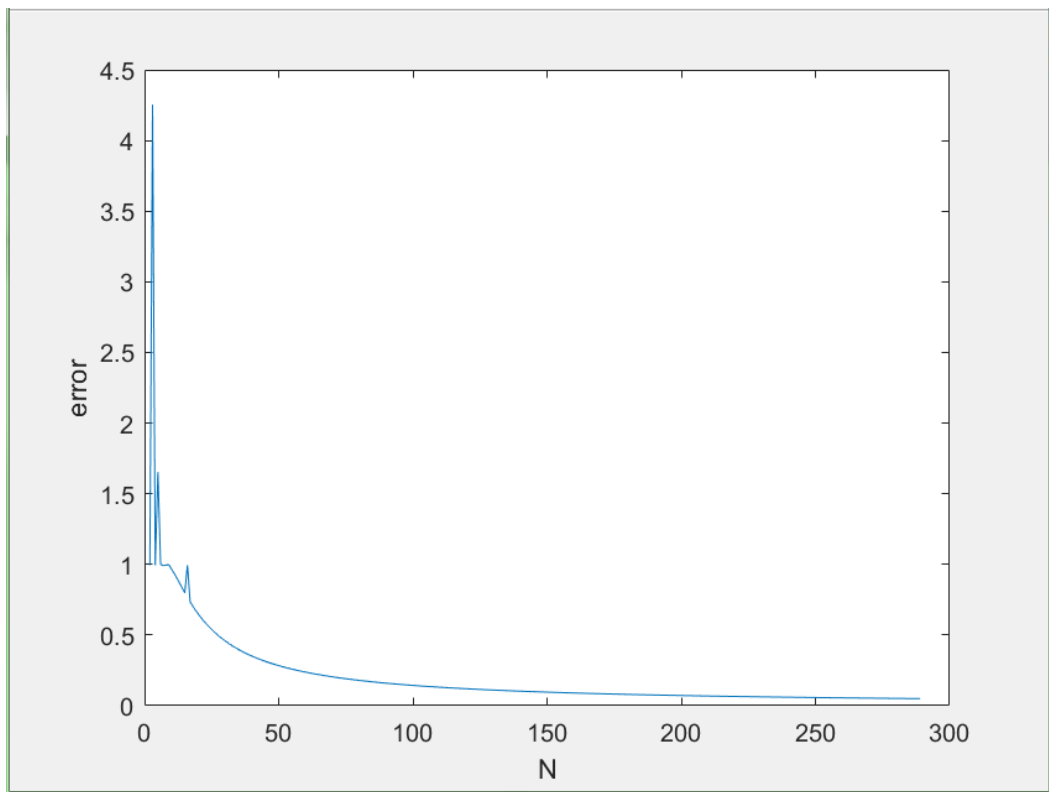
**k=2**



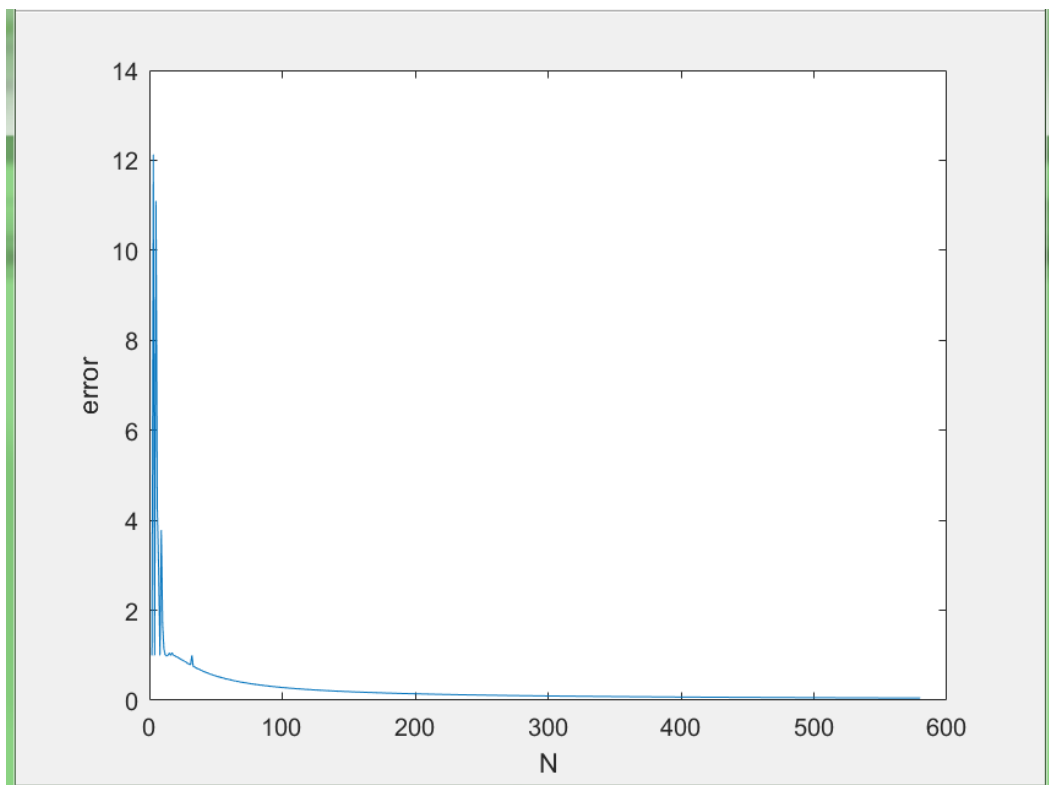
**k=4**



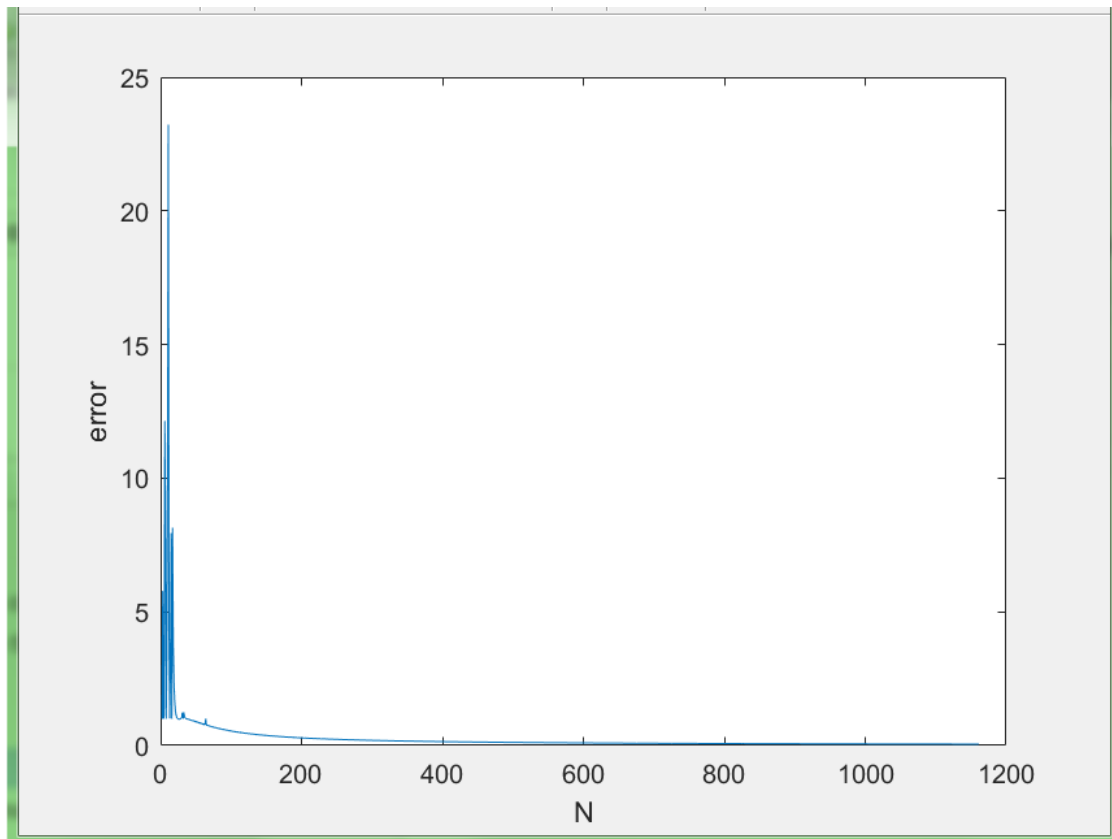
**k=8**



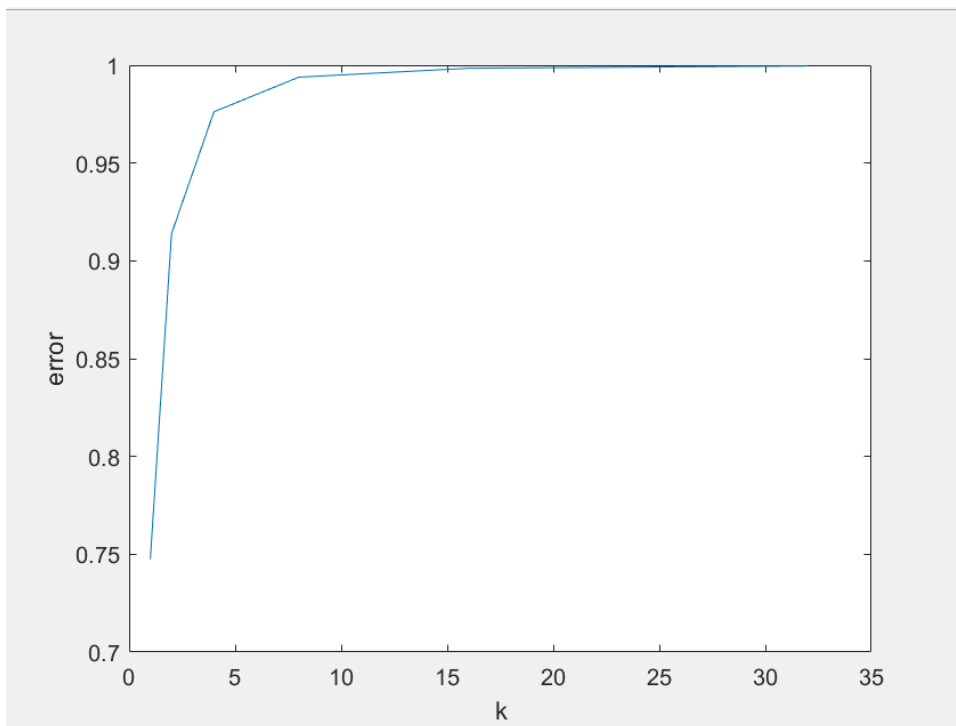
**k=16**



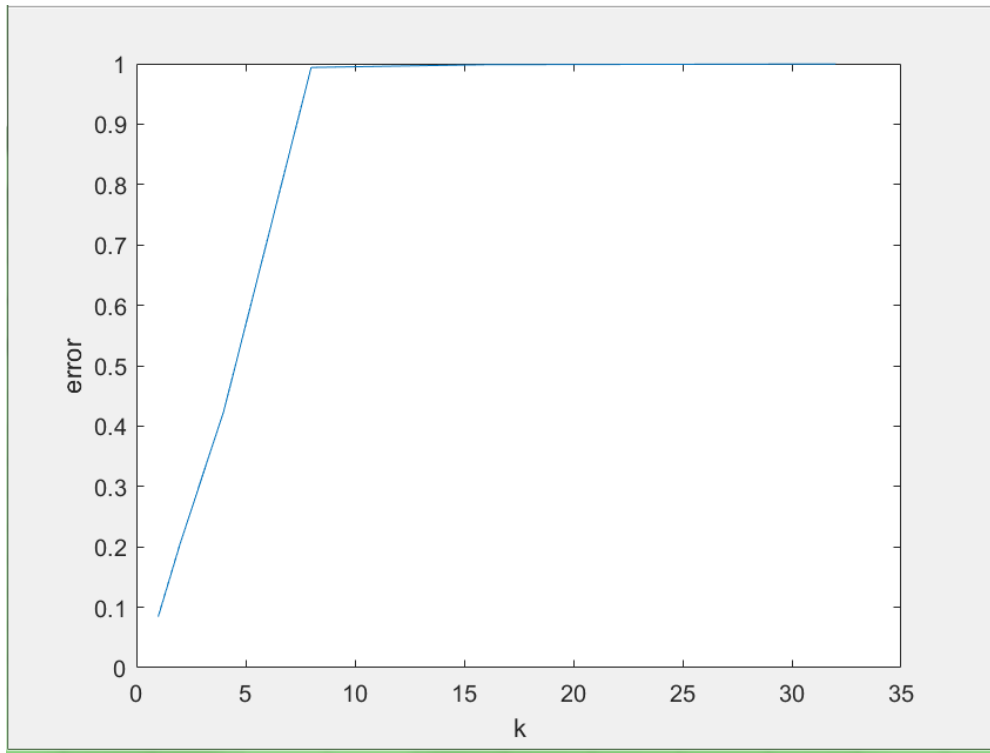
**k=32**



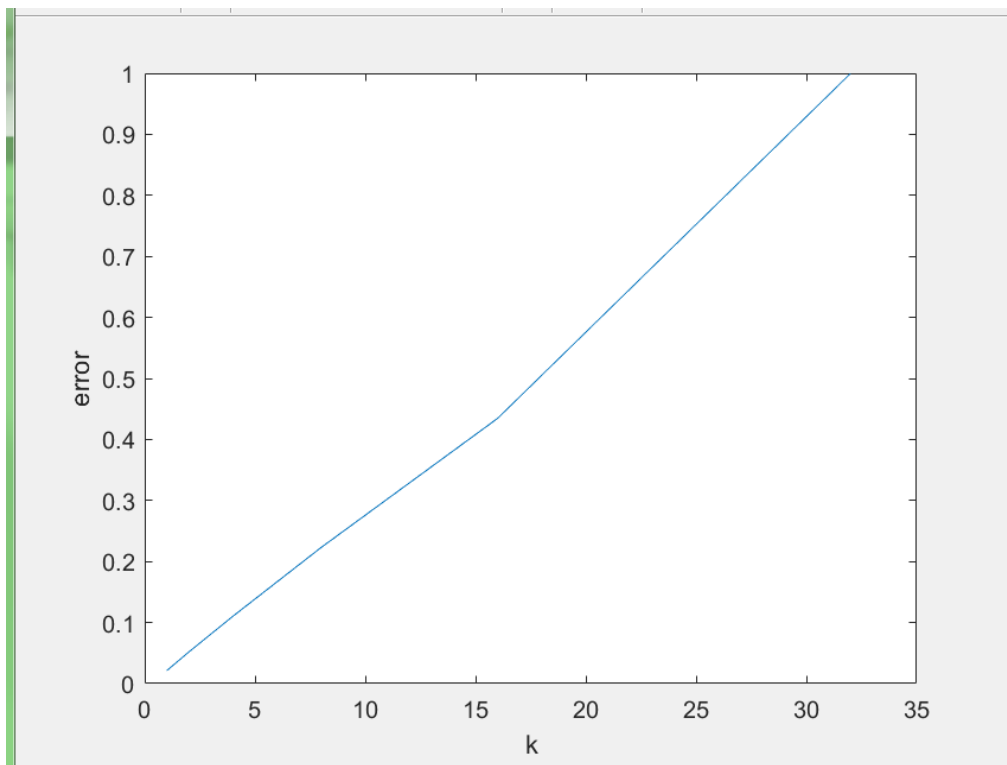
**4)  $N=2$ ,**



**$N=16$ ,**



**$N=64$ ,**



## 5. Observations and discussion

According to the plots and tables,

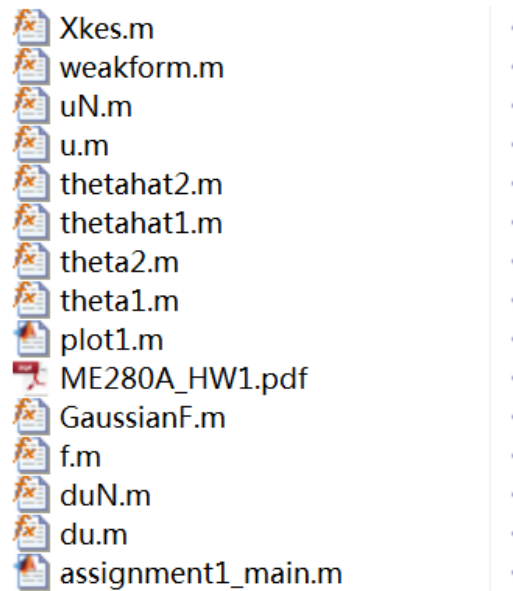
I find when  $k$  increases, the Best  $N$  increases significantly.

And errors drop down rapidly at the beginning. When  $k$  become larger, it is really hard to converge. When require higher accuracy, the cost will become much larger.

Only when  $k=1$ , the figure looks smooth. When  $k$  become larger, there are some fluctuations.

## 6. Appendix

### Structure:



### Weak formulation:

```
function output=weakform(N,k)

Gaussian=[

0.00,0.888;

0.774,0.555;

-0.774,0.555];

E=0.1;

%N=20;

L=1;

%k=1;
```

```

he=L/N;

J=he/2;

%f=@(x)-1*k^2*sin(2*pi*k*x/L);

%u=@(x)(-1*L/(4*E*pi^2))*sin(2*pi*k*x/L)+L*x;

%du=@(x)(-1*L*k/(2*E*pi))*cos(2*pi*k*x/L)+L;

%Xkes=@(x,i)J*x+(2*i-1)*L/N;

%GaussianF=@(x)x;

Ke=zeros(2,2,N);

K=zeros(N+1,N+1);

Re=zeros(2,N);

a=zeros(N+1,1);

R=zeros(N+1,1);

uN=zeros(N,1);

for i=1:N

    Ke(:, :, i)=[E/(J^2), -1*E/(J^2);

        -1*E/(J^2), E/(J^2)];

    Re(1,i)=J*Gaussian(1,2)*thetahat1(Gaussian(1,1)

    ))*f(Xkes(Gaussian(1,1),i,J,L,N),k,L);

    Re(1,i)=Re(1,i)+J*Gaussian(2,2)*thetahat1(Gaus

    sian(2,1))*f(Xkes(Gaussian(2,1),i,J,L,N),k,L);

```



```
Re(1,i)=Re(1,i)+J*Gaussian(3,2)*thetahat1(Gaussian(3,1))*f(Xkes(Gaussian(3,1),i,J,L,N),k,L);
```

```
Re(2,i)=J*Gaussian(1,2)*thetahat2(Gaussian(1,1))*f(Xkes(Gaussian(1,1),i,J,L,N),k,L);
```

```
Re(2,i)=Re(2,i)+J*Gaussian(2,2)*thetahat2(Gaussian(2,1))*f(Xkes(Gaussian(2,1),i,J,L,N),k,L);
```

```
Re(2,i)=Re(2,i)+J*Gaussian(3,2)*thetahat2(Gaussian(3,1))*f(Xkes(Gaussian(3,1),i,J,L,N),k,L);
```

```
end
```

```
for i=1:N+1
```

```
    if i==1
```

```
        K(i,1)=Ke(1,1,i);
```

```
        K(i,2)=Ke(1,2,i);
```

```
        R(i)=Re(1,i);
```

```
        continue
```

```
    end
```

```
    if(i==N+1)
```

```
        K(i,N)=Ke(2,1,i-1);
```

```

        K(i,N+1)=Ke(2,2,i-1);

        R(i)=Re(2,i-1);

        continue

    else

        K(i,i-1)=Ke(2,1,i-1);

        K(i,i)=Ke(2,2,i-1)+Ke(1,1,i);

        K(i,i+1)=Ke(1,2,i);

        R(i)=Re(1,i)+Re(2,i-1);

    end

end

for i=1:N+1

end

Kc=K(2:N,2:N);

Rc=R(2:N);

Rc(N-1)=Rc(N-1)-K(N,N+1);

Kc=sparse(Kc);

a=Kc\Rc;

a=[0;a;1];

x=0:0.01:1;

%figure;

%hold on;

%y1=du(x,L,k,E);

```

```

%y2=duN(x,he,a);

%plot(x,y1);

%plot(x,y2);

%plot(0:0.05:1,a);

%hold off;

uE=@(x) E*((-
1*L*k/(2*E*pi))*cos(2*pi*k*x/L)+L)-
((a(floor(x*N)+2)-a(floor(x*N)+1))/he)^2;

duE=@(x) E*((-
1*L*k/(2*E*pi))*cos(2*pi*k*x/L)+L)^2);

e=(integral(uE,0,L,'ArrayValued',true))^0.5;

uu=(integral(duE,0,L,'ArrayValued',true))^0.5;

eN=e/(integral(duE,0,L,'ArrayValued',true))^0.
5;

output=eN;

%end

```

### Thetahat1:

```

function output=thetahat1(x)

output=(1-x)/2;

end

```

### **Thetahat2:**

```
function output=thetahat2(x)
output=(1+x)/2;
end
```

### **Theta1:**

```
function output=theta1(x,he,N)
output=-x/he+floor(x*N)+1;
end
```

### **Theta2:**

```
function output=theta2(x,he,N)
output=x/he-floor(x*N);
end
```

### **Xkes:**

```
function output=Xkes(x,i,J,L,N)
output=J*x+(2*i-1)*J;
end
```

### **uN:**

```
function output=uN(x,he,N)
```

```

i=floor(x*N)+1;
output=a(i)*theta1(x,he,N)+a(i+1)*theta2(x,he,
N);
end

```

**duN:**

```

function output=duN(x,he,a)
i=floor(x)+1;
output=(a(i+1)-a(i))/he;
end

```

**f:**

```

function output=f(x,k,L)
output=-1*(k^2)*sin(2*pi*k*x/L);
end

```