

# MATLAB

## Assignment 3

1. Calculate absolute and relative errors in the following approximations for  $x$  by  $x_n$ :

- (a)  $x = \pi$ ,  $x_n = 22/7$
- (b)  $x = e$ ,  $x_n = 2.718$
- (c)  $x = e/100$ ,  $x_n = 0.02718$
- (d)  $x = 10^\pi$ ,  $x_n = 1400$

2. Consider that a real number is represented with only 4 digits after the decimal point ( *a.k.a. 4 digits precision*), then

$$1 = \frac{1}{3} \cdot 3 \approx 0.3333 \cdot 3 = 0.9999 \neq 1$$

- (a) Suggest a solution to the problem described above.
- (b) Using Matlab, find the *smallest*  $n$  such that

$$\underbrace{\frac{1}{3} \times \frac{1}{3} \times \dots \times \frac{1}{3}}_n \times \underbrace{3 \times 3 \times \dots \times 3}_n \neq 1 .$$

3. One approximates  $y = \sin x$  using Taylor expansion around 0. The well known Taylor formula gives

$$y = \sum_{k=1}^n (-1)^{k-1} \frac{x^{2k-1}}{(2k-1)!} + \underbrace{O\left(\frac{|x|^{2(n+1)-1}}{(2(n+1)-1)!}\right)}_{=R_n},$$

where  $= R_n$  is a remainder i.e.the error is bounded by  $= R_n$ . In this question we want  $|R_n| \leq 10^{-3}$ .

- (a) Write a matlab program that approximates  $y = \sin(x)$  using the algorithm above.
- (b) Find the minimal  $n$  required for any  $|x| < \frac{\pi}{2}$ . To do so one do either (i) solve the inequality  $\frac{x^{2n-1}}{(2n-1)!} < 10^{-3}$  or (ii) use trial and error approach (may not be the best idea) with the program from (a).
- (c) Find  $x > \frac{\pi}{2}$  such that your program return result with error greater then  $10^{-3}$  Is this algorithm stable for large  $x$ 's? Explain!
- (d) Write a new matlab program for a more stable algorithm that uses the following identity

$$\sin x = \sin(m\pi + z) = (-1)^m \sin z,$$

where  $x = m\pi + z$ ,  $m$  is a integer and  $|z| < \frac{\pi}{2}$ . Do you need  $n$  larger than one you found in (b)?

4. A floating point number can be represented by  $Fl(x) = \pm(1.d_1d_2\dots d_t)_2 2^e$ , where the sequence  $(.d_1d_2\dots d_t)_2$  is called *mantissa*,  $t$  is the number of digits in the mantissa, 2 is the *base* (or *radix*) and  $e$  is the *exponent*.

- (a) For a DEC-VAX using **single precision** we have  $t = 24$  and  $-128 \leq e \leq 127$ . What are the smallest and largest numbers,  $m$  and  $M$ , that can be stored in this computer?
- (b) Repeat (a) for the case of **double precision**, where  $t = 52$  and  $-1024 \leq e \leq 1023$ .
- (c) What is the smallest value of  $x$  in (a) and (b) for which  $x^{100}$  will overflow (i.e.,  $x^{100} > M$ )?

(d) The following calculations are done using single precision:

$$(i) 10^2 - \sqrt{10^4 - 1}, \quad (ii) 10^4 - \sqrt{10^8 - 1}, \quad (iii) 10^8 - \sqrt{10^{16} - 1}.$$

Determine whether each of the results of (i)–(iii) will be zero, nonzero or overflow.

5. Let  $S_x(N) = \sum_{n=0}^N \frac{x^n}{n!}$ . Then  $\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} S_x(N) = e^x$  for any  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

- (a) Using Matlab, calculate  $S_{x=10}(N)$  for  $N=[10:10:100]$ . You obtain a vector of numbers,  $\vec{S}$ . The elements  $S(i)$  of  $\vec{S}$  are partial sums that approximate the function  $e^x$  with different accuracies.
- (b) Using Matlab's built-in function **exp(x)** you can calculate  $e^x$  “exactly” (i.e., with double precision accuracy). Using **exp(x)** plot the graph of relative errors

$$R_x(N) = \left| \frac{e^x - S_x(N)}{e^x} \right|$$

for  $x = 10$  as a function of  $N$ .

- (c) Repeat (a) and (b) with  $x = -10$ .
- (d) Do the graphs show convergence for both values of  $x$ ?
- (e) Do the elements of the  $\vec{S}$  converge to the correct value in both cases?
- (f) Explain your answers to (d) and (e).

**Hand in:** answers to questions, a program used to answer the question, i.e. all m-files, and all the output it creates including plots (whenever relevant).

## THE MATLAB DIGEST

Here are some additional functions in MATLAB and some useful tips:

- **if ... elseif ... else ... end.** These are the MATLAB commands that perform conditional statements. Note that **elseif** is used as an **else + (new) if**, unlike C.

- ```
while expression
    operations
end
```

This is how MATLAB performs a loop with a conditional breaking point, i.e., the loop ends when the condition in **expression** is false, e.g., if **expression** is **1 < 0**.

- To perform finite number of steps loop use

```
for index = values
    statements
end
```

the **values** above can be a range, e.g. **values=a:b**, but can also be any vector, e.g. **values = [2.5,5,17]**

- To avoid unnecessary loops which are often slow - ‘vectorize’ your function, so it can be called with a vector and return a value per each element in the input vector like for instant matlab’s **sin(0:0.1:2\*pi)**. To do so all relevant operations should become element-wise operators, e.g. use **.\*** instead of **\***.