

ICTP
SAIFR

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Numerical **Spectral** Methods
for Solving
Differential or Integral Equations

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Files: 1 . Homework assignments
2. Lectures, written out
3. Solutions

-For your students get the files,
just **login as visitor and password: visitor**.

Open a browser and put on bar navigator: <http://172.16.108.186/georger>

Obs.: It will open only for IFT. They cannot open the page outside of the IFT.

Lecture #1 : errors

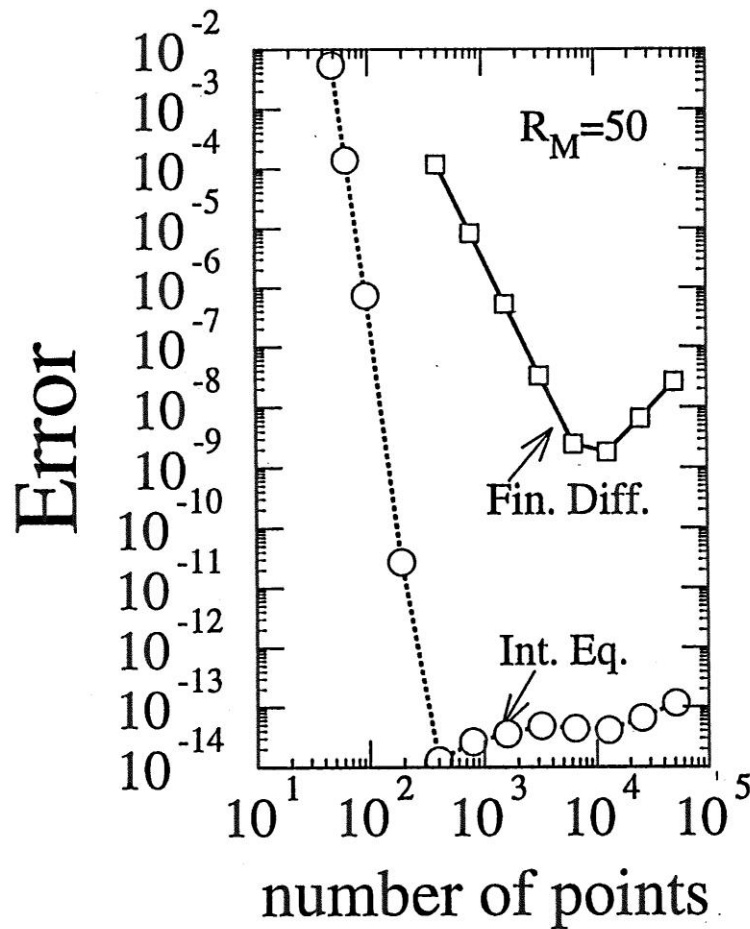
- Computer numbers are discrete, and have round-off errors
- The functions are calculated at discrete mesh points
- The algorithms have their own approximations called truncation errors

Challenge: For each problem, find the best algorithm that leads to good accuracy, is fast, and has low complexity

Lecture 1

Bessel Function

$L=6$ $k=1$



Gonzales
Eisert
Koltracht
Neumann
Rawitscher

J. Comp. Phys.
134 134 (1997)

IWOTA

The slide on the error of solving the Bessel equation demonstrates the advantage of a spectral method over a finite difference method (Numerov)

The horizontal axis shows the number of mesh-points “ n ” in the radial interval $[0,50]$. The vertical axis shows the error.

For the Numerov method three points are taken at one time, and the larger “ n ”, the smaller the distance “ h ” between points

For the spectral method **all** n points are taken at one time. The value of “ n ” is also the number of expansion polynomials

Please note that for the spectral method the error decreases very rapidly (exponentially) once a certain smallest number of polynomials used is exceeded. **The error behavior of the two methods is very different.**

Lecture #1 : errors, Homework

Homework #1a : Taylor series truncation

$$\sin(\theta) = \theta - \frac{\theta^3}{3!} + \frac{\theta^5}{5!} + \mathcal{O}(\theta^7)$$

Homework 1 b: Taylor series truncation

$$\mathbf{f}'_n = \frac{\mathbf{f}_{n+1} - \mathbf{f}_n}{(\Delta\theta)} + \mathbf{O}(\Delta\theta) \quad f(\theta) = \sin(\theta)$$

3: Homework 1 c: iteration

$$x_n = \frac{10}{3}x_{n-1} - x_{n-2};$$

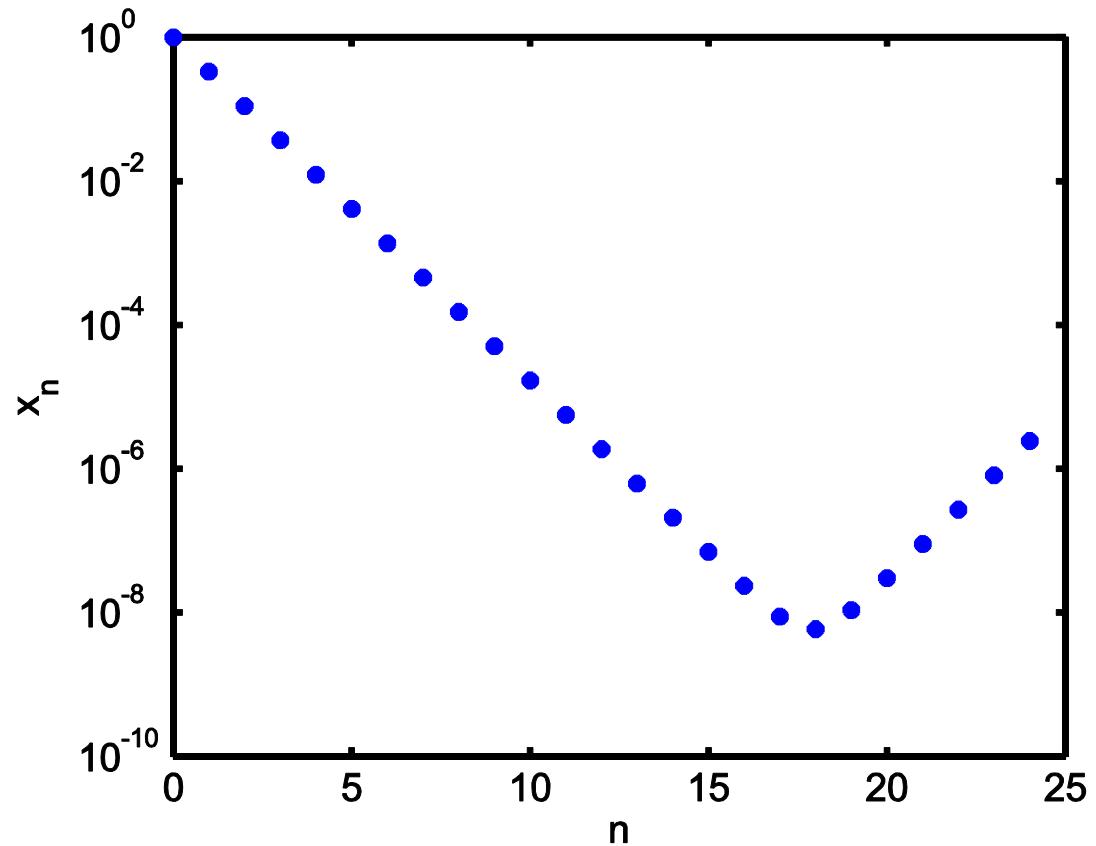
Lecture 1, Iteration example

$$x_n = \frac{10}{3}x_{n-1} - x_{n-2}; \quad \text{with } x_0=1, \text{ and } x_1=1/3.$$

expect

$$x_n = (1/3)^n$$

find



Lecture 1, Iteration example

$$x_n = \frac{10}{3}x_{n-1} - x_{n-2}; \quad \text{with } x_0=1, \text{ and } x_1=1/3.$$

expect $x_n = (1/3)^n$

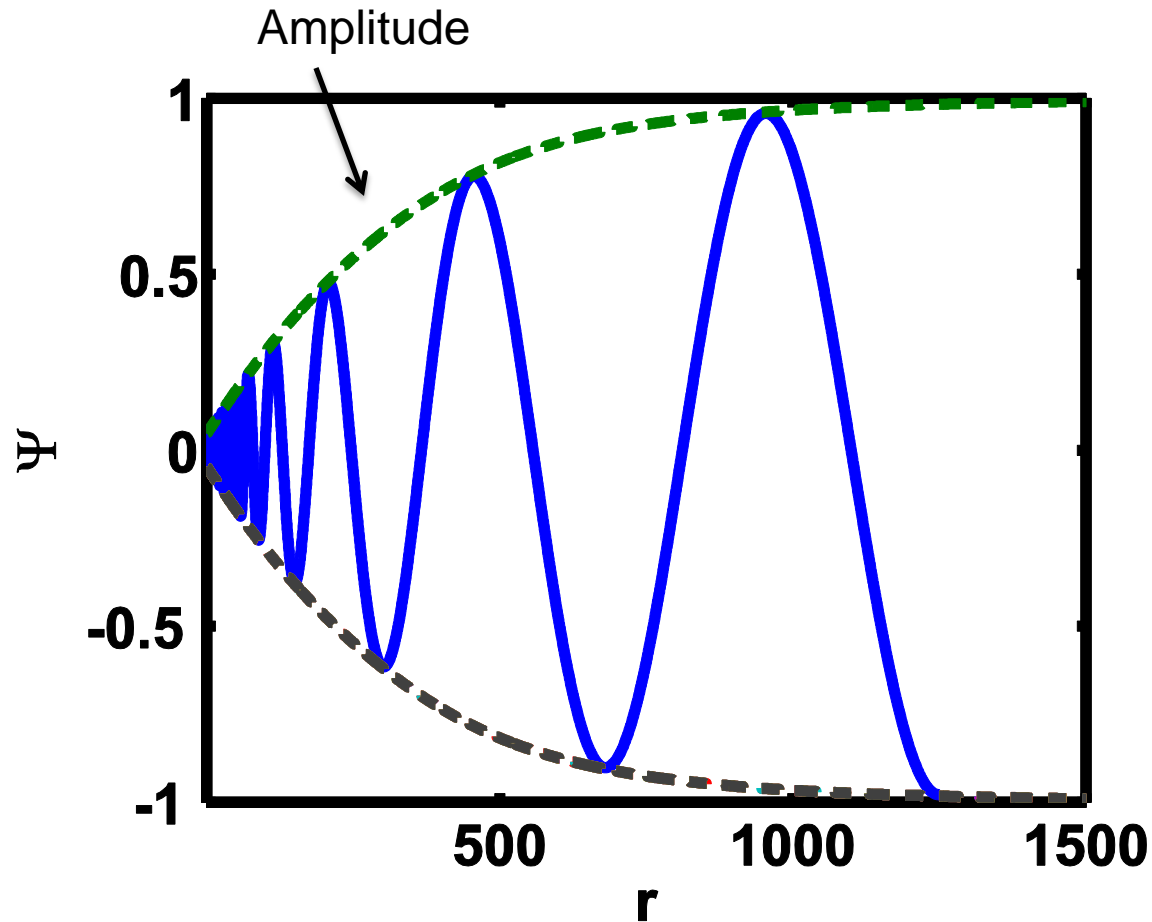
The plot on the previous slide shows that beyond $n = 17$ the value of $x(n)$ increases again, i.e., $(1/3)^n$ is no longer valid

This demonstrates that an error has crept in.

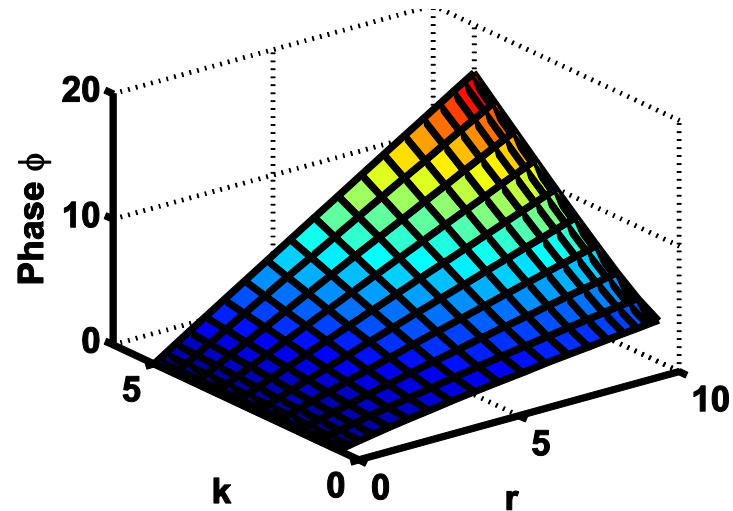
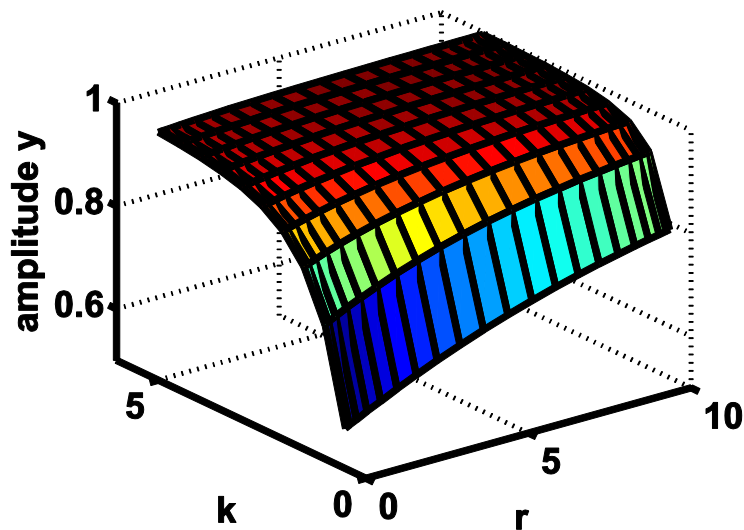
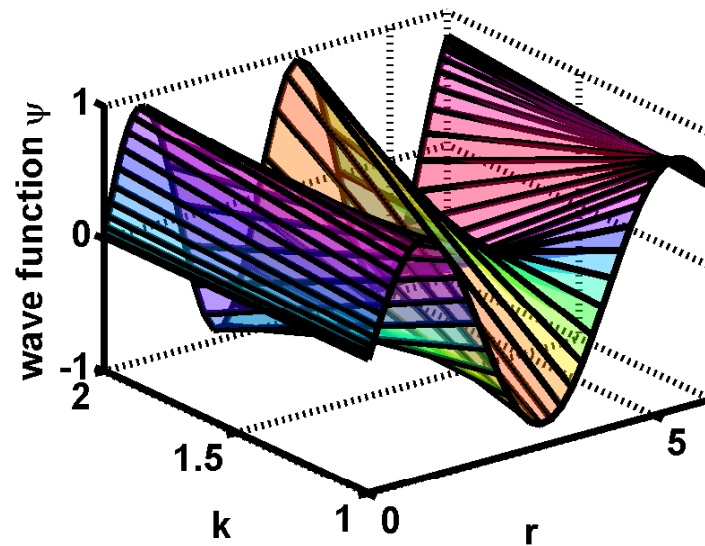
The nature of this error is a combination of round-off errors and the fact that the iteration equation has two solutions $(1/3)^n$ and $(3)^n$ as will be discussed during the homework session

Lecture 10

The Phase-Amplitude Method for extending a wave function to large distances



Lecture 10, Phase-Amplitude representation of a wave fctn



The amplitude function and phase function are continuous functions of distance.

The amplitude function obeys a non-linear differential eq..
In a future lecture we will show how this equation can be solved efficiently with a spectral method.