

ECE 595, Section 10  
Numerical Simulations  
Lecture 2: Problems in Numerical  
Computing

Prof. Peter Bermel

January 9, 2013



# Outline

- Overall Goals
- Finding Special Values
- Fourier Transforms
- Eigenproblems
- Ordinary Differential Equations
- Partial Differential Equations

# Recap: Goals for This Class

- Learn/review key mathematics
- **Learn widely-used numerical techniques**
- Become a capable user of this software
- Appreciate strengths and weaknesses of competing algorithms
- Convey your research results to an audience of colleagues



RW Hamming (left),  
developing error-  
correcting codes (AT&T)

# Finding Special Values

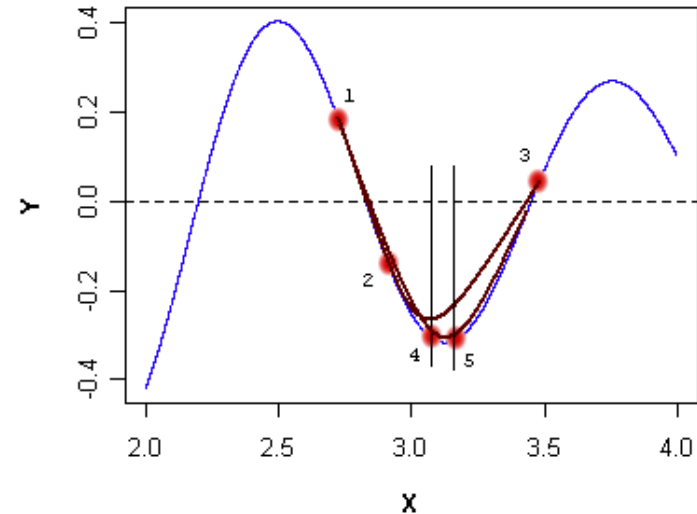
- Finding zeros
  - 1D versus multidimensional
  - Speed versus certainty
- Finding minima and maxima (optimization)
  - Convex vs. non-convex problems
  - Global vs. local search
  - Derivative vs. non-derivative search

# Finding Zeros

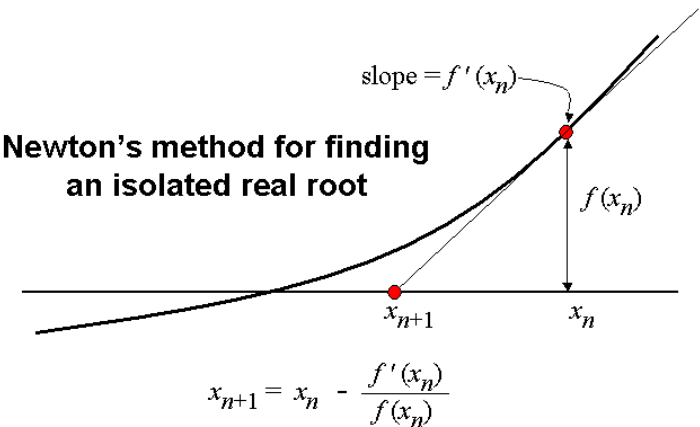
- Key concept: bracketing
- Bisection – continuously halve intervals
- Brent's method – adds inverse quadratic interpolation
- Newton-Raphson method – uses tangent
- Laguerre's method – assume spacing of roots at a and b:

$$a = \frac{n}{G \pm \sqrt{(n-1)(nH - G^2)}}$$

Brent's Method

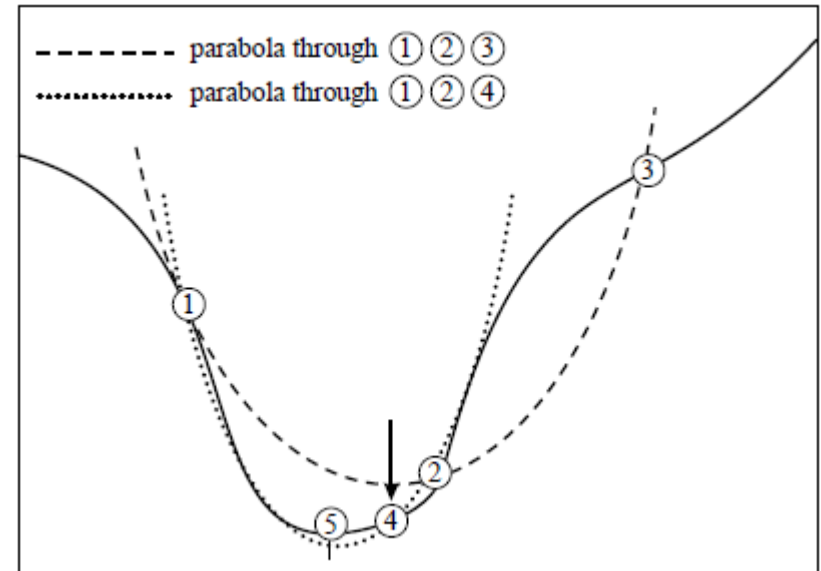


Newton's method for finding an isolated real root



# Finding Minima (or Maxima)

- Golden Section Search
- Brent's Method
- Downhill Simplex
- Conjugate gradient methods
- Multiple level, single linkage (MLSL)



These and further images from "Numerical Recipes," by WH Press *et al.*

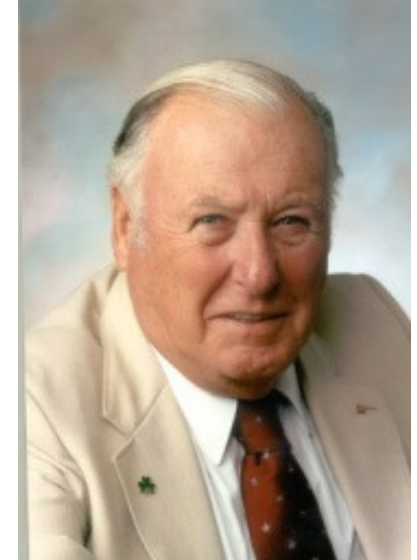


# Recap: Fourier Transforms

- DFT defined by:

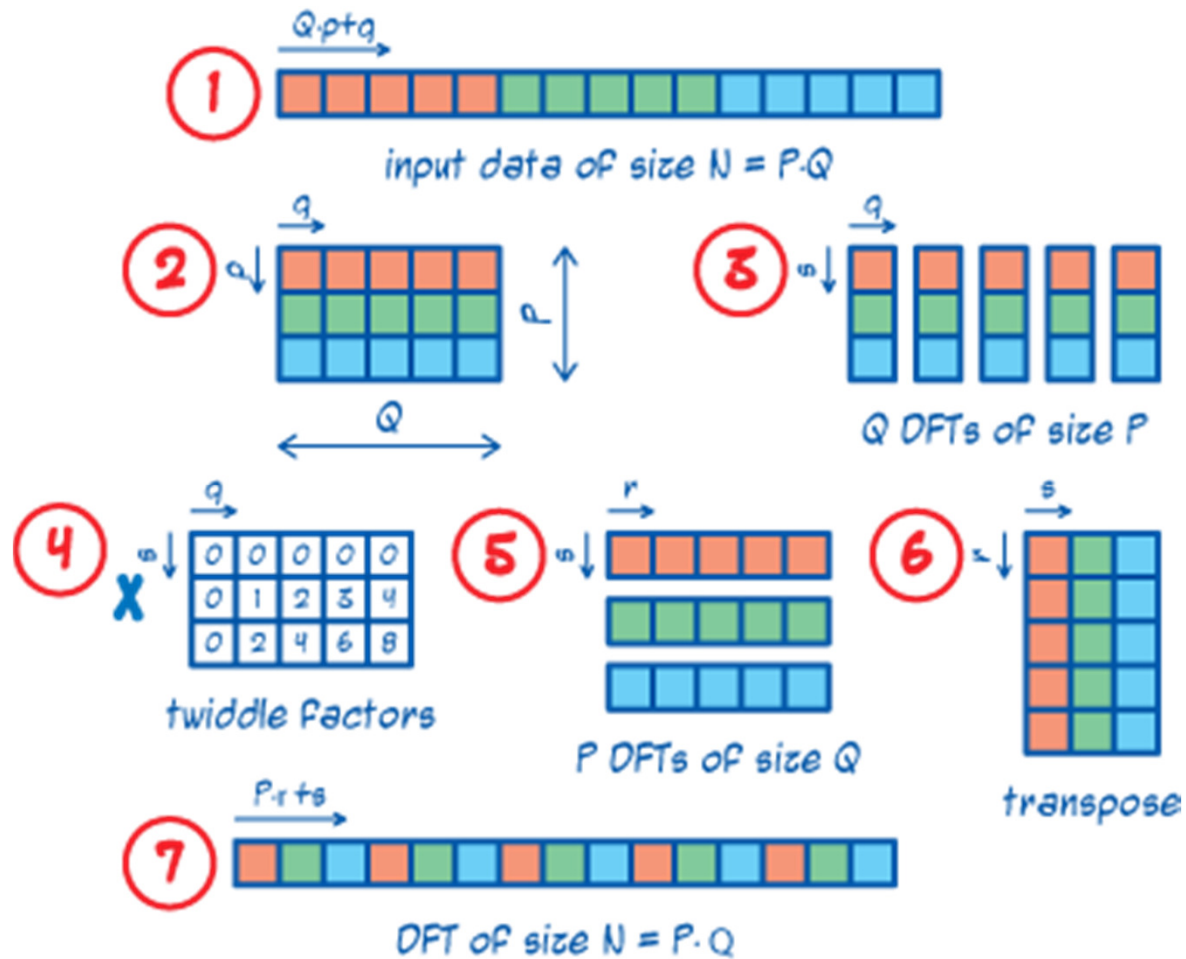
$$F(n) = \sum_{i=1}^N f(x_i) e^{-2\pi j(x_i n/x_N)}$$

- Naïve approach treats each frequency individually
- Can combine operations together for significant speed-up (e.g., Cooley-Tukey algorithm)
- Specialized algorithms depending on data type



J.W. Cooley (IEEE  
Global History  
Network)

# Cooley-Tukey Algorithm





# Recap: Eigenproblems

- Generalized eigenproblem:  $Ax = \lambda Bx$
- Solution method will depend on properties of  $A$  and  $B$
- Techniques have greatly varying computational complexity
- Sometimes, full solution is unnecessary

# Eigenproblems

- Direct method: solve  $\det(A - \lambda \mathbf{1}) = 0$
- Similarity transformations:  $A \rightarrow Z^{-1}AZ$ 
  - Atomic transformations: construct each  $Z$  explicitly
  - Factorization methods: QR and QL methods

# Atomic Transformations in Eigenproblems

- Jacobi

$$\mathbf{P}_{pq} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & & \\ & \dots & & & \\ & & c & \dots & s \\ & & \vdots & 1 & \vdots \\ & & -s & \dots & c \\ & & & & \dots & \\ & & & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{P}_{pq}^T \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{P}_{pq} \quad S' = S - 2|a_{pq}|^2$$

- Householder

$$\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{I} - 2\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{w}^T \quad \mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{P} \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{P} = \left[ \begin{array}{c|cccc} a_{11} & k & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \hline k & & & & \\ 0 & & & & \\ \vdots & & & & \\ 0 & & & & \end{array} \right]$$

irrelevant

- Keep iterating until off-diagonal elements are small, or use factorization approach

# Factorization in Eigenproblems

- Most common approach known as QR method

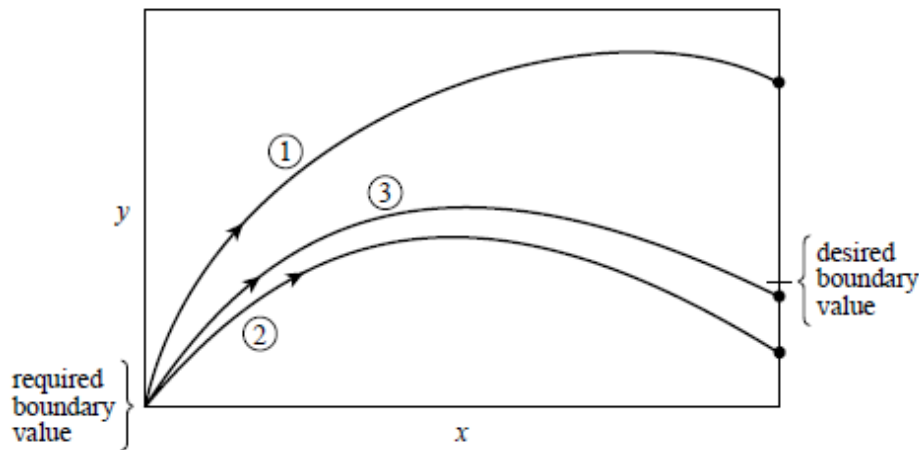
$$\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{R} \quad \mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{R} \cdot \mathbf{Q} \quad \mathbf{A}' = \mathbf{Q}^T \cdot \mathbf{A} \cdot \mathbf{Q}$$

- Can also do the same with  $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Q} \cdot \mathbf{L}$
- Slow in general, but fast in certain cases:
  - Tridiagonal matrices
  - Hessenberg matrix

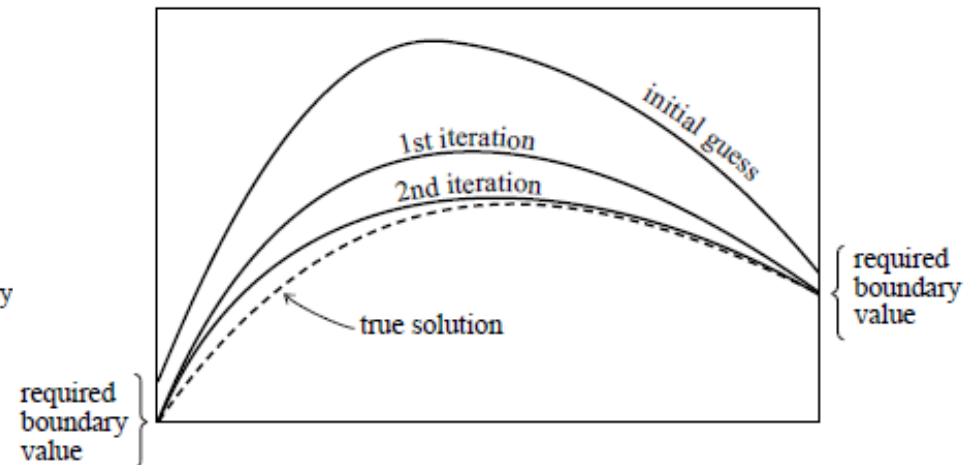
# Ordinary Differential Equations

- Euler method – naïve rearrangement of ODE
- Runge-Kutta methods – match multiple Euler steps to a higher-order Taylor expansion
- Richardson extrapolation – extrapolate computed value to 0 step size
- Predictor-corrector methods – store solution to extrapolate next point, and then correct it

# ODE Boundary Value Problems



Shooting Method



Boundary Value Method

# Partial Differential Equations

- Classes: parabolic, hyperbolic, and elliptic

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( D \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right) \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = v^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = \rho(x, y)$$

- Initial value vs. boundary value problems
- Finite difference
- Finite element methods
- Monte-Carlo
- Spectral
- Variational methods

# Next Class

- Introduction to computational complexity
- Please read [Chapter 1 of “Computational Complexity: A Modern Approach” by Arora & Barak](#)