

**MATLAB session** (see end of the notes for more)

Homework 01 problem 2 use  $-0.5 \leq x \leq 0.5$ .

Loss-of-Significance Error.

$$\frac{1 - \cos(x)}{x^2}, \quad x = 10^{-6}, 10^{-7}, 10^{-8}$$

from Calculus  $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos(x)}{x^2} = \frac{f(x)}{g(x)}$

$$\rightarrow \frac{1 - \cos 0}{0^2}$$

$\rightarrow 0/0$  indeterminate form

In Calculus, we dealt with this by  
L'Hopital Rule

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x)}{g(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f'(x)}{g'(x)} = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f''(x)}{g''(x)}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{1 - \cos x}{x^2} = \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{-(-\sin x)}{2x} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ - \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$= \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{\cos x}{2} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}$$

$$x \rightarrow 0 \quad \frac{\quad}{2} \quad \ll$$

Use Taylor polynomial to avoid the loss-of-significance errors in evaluating  $\frac{1-\cos x}{x^2}$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$ .

$f(x) = \cos x$  degree 2 poly.  $p_2(x) = \cos 0 - \sin 0 x - \cos 0 \frac{x^2}{2}$   
 $= 1 - x^2/2$

$\frac{1-\cos x}{x^2}$  approximated by  $\frac{1 - (1 - x^2/2)}{x^2} = \frac{1 - 1 + x^2/2}{x^2} = \frac{1}{2}$

Can we use degree 4 poly for  $\cos x$ ? Yes!

$$p_4(x) = \cos 0 - \cos 0 \frac{x^2}{2} + \sin 0 \frac{x^3}{3!} + \cos 0 \frac{x^4}{4!}$$
$$= 1 - x^2/2 + x^4/24$$

$\cos x \approx p_4(x)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  approximated by

$$\frac{1-\cos x}{x^2} \approx \frac{1 - (1 - x^2/2 + x^4/24)}{x^2}$$

$$= \frac{1 - 1 + x^2/2 - x^4/24}{x^2}$$

$$= \frac{1}{x^2} (x^2/2 - x^4/24)$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} - x^2/24 \quad x = 10^{-6}, 10^{-7}, 10^{-8}$$

$\approx \frac{1}{2}$  as  $x \rightarrow 0$

$$\approx \frac{1}{2} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{1}{2} \text{ as } x \rightarrow 0$$

Problem arises when we subtract 2 numbers v. close to each other

$$\frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2x} \longrightarrow \text{cause a loss-of-sig error.}$$

$$e^x \xrightarrow{\text{deg 2 Taylor poly}} 1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$e^{-x} \xrightarrow{\text{deg 2 Taylor}} 1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2}$$

$$\frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2x} \xrightarrow{\text{Taylor poly}} \frac{(1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2}) - (1 - x + \frac{x^2}{2})}{2x}$$

$$= \frac{1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} - 1 + x - \frac{x^2}{2}}{2x}$$

$$= \frac{2x}{2x} = 1$$

check using L'Hopital Rule:

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2x} \quad \left( \frac{1-1}{0} \right) \quad \frac{0}{0}$$

Apply L'Hopital Rule

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - e^{-x}}{2x} \longrightarrow \lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{(e^x - (e^{-x} * -1))}{2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x - 1}{2x}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2}$$

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} \frac{e^x + e^{-x}}{2} \rightarrow \frac{e^0 + e^0}{2} = 1$$

(More fun : exercise 6, Page 54).

Some details from MATLAB SESSION. For more, look at the Matlab Introduction Commands on the Course website

```
>> x=rand(1)
```

```
x =
```

```
0.9575
```

```
>> n = x * 100
```

```
n =
```

```
95.7507
```

```
>> x=linspace(-0.5,0.5,1e+3);
```

```
>> plot(x, exp(cos(x)), 'm*');
```

```
>>
```