

**PHYS 555B: Computational Physics      Homework 1**  
**Due: Thursday, February 15, 9:30 AM**

**Important:** *This assignment requires that you write three `f77` programs which involve the solution of ODEs and nonlinear systems. Please follow the instructions carefully, particularly with regards to command-line arguments, standard input and standard output. Failure to implement programs which abide by the specifications given below will probably adversely affect your grade for the assignment.*

*Should you have any questions concerning the utility routines (such as `i4arg` or `r8arg`), libraries (such as `linpack.a` or `lib410f.a`) or visualization programs (such as `xfpp3d`), and you are unable to find answers via the online documentation, feel free to contact the instructor for assistance! Also, it is recommended that you use `gnuplot`, which has extensive online help facilities, to generate the required postscript plots.*

**Problem 1:** In the directory `~/hw1/a1`, write a Fortran program `nlbvp1d4` (source code in `nlbvp1d4.f`), which solves the following non-linear boundary value problem:

$$u_{xx} + (uu_x)^2 + \sin(u) = f(x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1 \quad \text{with } u(0) = u(1) = 0.$$

where  $u \equiv u(x)$ , and  $f(x)$  is a specified function. Your program should use a mixture of  $O(h^4)$  and  $O(h^2)$  finite-difference techniques, following the approach described in the notes on the solution of banded systems using LAPACK. That is, *centred*,  $O(h^4)$  accurate approximations for  $u_x$  and  $u_{xx}$  should be used at grid points  $x_i, i = 3 \dots N-2$ , whereas *centred*,  $O(h^2)$  accurate approximations should be used at  $x_2$  and  $x_{N-1}$ . Note that as part of this assignment you will have to derive a *centred*,  $O(h^4)$  accurate finite difference approximation for the first derivative,  $u_x$ . Your implementation of `nlbvp1d4` should also use Newton's method for non-linear systems and the LAPACK banded solver `dgbsv.f`. `nlbvp1d4` must have the following usage:

```
usage: nlbvp1d4 <level> <guess_factor> [<option> <tol>]
```

```
Specify option .ne. 0 for output  
of error instead of solution
```

The command line arguments for `nlbvp1d4` have precisely the same interpretation as they do for the program `nlbvp1d`, which is (minimally) documented online in the ODE notes. Specifically the, required `integer` argument, `level`, controls the discretization level, so that the finite difference grid used for any specific calculation has  $2^{\text{level}} + 1$  grid points. The required `real*8` argument, `guess_factor`, is used to initialize the Newton iteration as described below. The optional `integer` argument, `option`, controls what output is produced by the program. If `option` is not specified, or is 0, then the output is  $x_i, \hat{u}_i, i = 1 \dots N$  (two numbers per line), where  $\hat{u}_i$  is the computed solution. If `option` is `non-zero`, then the output is  $x_i, e_i, i = 1 \dots N$  (two numbers per line), where  $e_i$  is the error in the computed solution calculated via  $e_i \equiv u_i - \hat{u}_i$ , and  $u_i$  is the exact solution. Note that  $e_i$  is only expected to make sense in the case that the exact solution *is* known, and that the finite-difference solution is converging to it. Finally, the optional argument `tol`, which should default to `1.0d-8`, specifies a convergence criteria for the Newton iteration. Iteration should continue until

$$\frac{\|\delta \mathbf{u}^{(n)}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{u}^{(n)}\|_2} \leq \text{tol}$$

where  $\|\dots\|_2$  denotes the  $\ell_2$  norm of a vector as defined in class.

Test your program by taking

$$u(x) \equiv u_{\text{exact}} = \sin(4\pi x),$$

computing what  $f(x)$  must be so that the differential equation is satisfied, and supplying the appropriate values of  $f(x)$  to your program. Initialize the Newton iteration by setting

```
u(i) = guess_factor * uexact(i)
```

**Note:** In implementing `n1bvp1d4` you are free to (re)-use any of the code available online through the course web pages that you feel is useful. (Of course, should you do so, you should provide proper attribution for the source of the code.)

**Important:** There are at least *three* distinct solutions of the differential equation given the right hand side  $f(x)$  implicitly defined by the above choice of  $u_{\text{exact}}$ . In order for the Newton method to converge to  $u_{\text{exact}}$ , you will have to specify a value of `guess_factor` close to 1.0: in fact, I recommend that you use `guess_factor = 1.0` until you are sure that you have convergence, both of the Newton's method, and of the difference solution to  $u_{\text{exact}}$ . Once you are confident that your difference solution is converging to  $u_{\text{exact}}$ , make postscript plots showing (A) the level 5 numerical solution and the exact solution as function of  $x$  (`soln5.ps`) and (B) the error for level 4, 5, and 6 solutions, also as a function of  $x$  (`err456.ps`). Using different values of `guess_factor`, try to find at least two other solutions of the boundary value problem (keeping  $f(x)$  fixed). Make a single postscript plot (`allsolns.ps`) showing all the solutions which you are able to find (computed at level 6). Note: All postscript plots should reside in the directory `~/hw1/a1`.

**Problem 2:** *Gravitational n-body simulation.* In the directory `~/hw1/a2` write a reasonably commented `f77` program `nbody` (source code `nbody.f`) which uses `LSODA` to integrate the equations of motion for  $n$  particles interacting via the Newtonian gravitational force. Specifically, consider  $n$  particles with masses

$$m_i \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

and position vectors

$$\mathbf{r}_i(t) \equiv [x_i(t), y_i(t), z_i(t)] \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Then denoting differentiation with respect to time,  $t$ , by an overdot, the equations of motion are:

$$m_i \ddot{\mathbf{r}}_i = -G \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n \frac{m_i m_j}{r_{ij}^3} \mathbf{r}_{ij} \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

where

$$\mathbf{r}_{ij} \equiv \mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j \quad r_{ij} = |\mathbf{r}_{ij}| = (\mathbf{r}_{ij} \cdot \mathbf{r}_{ij})^{1/2}$$

and  $G$  is Newton's gravitational constant which is to be set equal to unity in this calculation.

`nbody` must have the following usage:

```
usage: nbody <t final> <dt out> [<tol> <trace>]
```

where `<t final>` is the final integration time (the integration is assumed to start at  $t = 0$ ), `<dt out>` is the output interval, `<tol>` is the `LSODA` tolerance which should default to  $1.0 \times 10^{-6}$ , and `<trace>`, which if present on the command line, enables tracing output to standard error as described below.

`nbody` must accept the following input from standard in:

```
m_1  x0_1  y0_1  z0_1  vx0_1  vy0_1  vz0_1
m_2  x0_2  y0_2  z0_2  vx0_2  vy0_2  vz0_2
.
.
.
m_n  x0_n  y0_n  z0_n  vx0_n  vy0_n  vz0_n
```

(seven numbers per line), where, for example, `m_1`, `x0_1` and `vx0_1` denote the mass, initial  $x$ -coordinate and initial  $x$ -component of the velocity, respectively, of the first particle. `nbody` must produce the following output on standard out:

```
n
m_1
m_2
```

```

.
.
.
m_n
tout_0
x_1(tout_0)  y_1(tout_0)  z_1(tout_0)
x_2(tout_0)  y_2(tout_0)  z_2(tout_0)
.
.
.
x_n(tout_0)  y_n(tout_0)  z_n(tout_0)
tout_1
x_1(tout_1)  y_1(tout_1)  z_1(tout_1)
x_2(tout_1)  y_2(tout_1)  z_2(tout_1)
.
.
.
x_n(tout_1)  y_n(tout_1)  z_n(tout_1)
.
.
.
tout_nt
x_1(tout_nt)  y_1(tout_nt)  z_1(tout_nt)
x_2(tout_nt)  y_2(tout_nt)  z_2(tout_nt)
.
.
.
x_n(tout_nt)  y_n(tout_nt)  z_n(tout_nt)

```

where the  $tout_i$ ,  $i = 1 \dots nt$  are the output times  $0, dt\_out, 2 dt\_out, \dots nt dt\_out$ , and the number of output times,  $nt$ , can be computed from the final integration time and the output interval. The line structure implied by the above schematic is important; make sure your program adheres to it. Your program can restrict the number of particles which can be integrated, but should *gracefully* handle input which specifies more than that number.

If output tracing is enabled (i.e. if the `<trace>` argument appears on the command-line), your program should produce, *on standard error*, the following output at each output time (including the initial time):

```
t  x_com  y_com  z_com  E_tot  KE_tot  PE_tot  P_tot  J_tot
```

Where  $t$  is the output time,  $x\_com$ ,  $y\_com$  and  $z\_com$  are the coordinates of the center of mass of the particle system:

$$\mathbf{r}_{com} = [x_{com}, y_{com}, z_{com}] = \frac{\sum_i m_i \mathbf{r}_i}{\sum_i m_i}$$

$E\_tot$  is the total mechanical energy of the system:

$$E_{tot} = KE_{tot} + PE_{tot},$$

$KE\_tot$  is the total kinetic energy:

$$KE_{tot} = \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{2} m_i v_i^2$$

$PE\_tot$  is the total potential energy:

$$PE_{tot} = -G \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1, j < i}^n \frac{m_i m_j}{r_{ij}}$$

$P_{\text{tot}}$  is the magnitude of the total linear momentum:

$$P_{\text{tot}} = |\mathbf{P}_{\text{tot}}| \quad \mathbf{P}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_i \mathbf{p}_i = \sum_i m_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

and  $J_{\text{tot}}$  is the magnitude of the total angular momentum computed about the center of mass

$$J_{\text{tot}} = |\mathbf{J}_{\text{tot}}| \quad \mathbf{J}_{\text{tot}} = \sum_i (\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_{\text{com}}) \times \mathbf{p}_i$$

Make sure that all 9 numbers appear on a single line of the standard error: use a `format` statement such as

```
2000      format(1P,10E25.16)
```

Note that in the `tcsh`, you can redirect standard input and standard error to separate output files using the construct

```
% (command > stdoutfile) >& stderrfile
```

Although your implementation of `nbody` should treat particle motion in all three dimensions, you may find it convenient and instructive to consider the case of motion in the  $xy$  plane by using initial data with  $\mathbf{z}_i = 0$ ,  $\mathbf{v}_{x,i} = 0$ . For these cases you may find the instructor-supplied program `xfpp3d` useful for visualizing your calculations. For information on `xfpp3d` see the Course-Related Software web page or type `xfpp3d -h` at a command prompt on one of the `lnx` machines. Provided your `nbody` program produces output as described above, you should be able to pipe the output from `nbody` directly into `xfpp3d` as follows: use a construct like

```
% nbody 2.0 0.001 < input | xfpp3d
```

Let me know if you have problems with `xfpp3d`, or if you have suggestions for improvements.

Once you have your program de-bugged and tested, there are an abundance of calculations you can perform with it. At a minimum, find initial conditions which describe:

- A stable orbit of two bodies with masses  $m_1 = 9.0$  and  $m_2 = 1.0$ , respectively, with  $P_{\text{tot}} = 0$ , and a separation of roughly 2.0. Leave your initial conditions in the file `~/hw1/a2/orbit`
- Initial data as described above, but with a third particle with mass  $m_3 = 0.001$ , which is in as large a (roughly) circular orbit as possible about  $m_2$ . As your criterion for stability, demand that  $m_1$  and  $m_2$  make at least 10 mutual orbits before the orbit of  $m_3$  is disrupted. Again, motion should be restricted to the  $xy$  plane. Leave your initial conditions in the file `~/hw1/a2/satellite`, and document how you found the conditions in `~/hw1/a2/README`.

Feel free to investigate and document evolutions of your own choice, particularly with several particles. Report any particularly interesting findings in `~/hw1/a2/README`. I will further test and evaluate your program with my own input.

**Problem 3:** Consider the differential equation ( $' \equiv d/dx$ )

$$(1 - x^2) C(x)'' - 1.628 x C(x)' + \lambda C(x) = 0 \quad (3.1)$$

on the interval

$$-1 \leq x \leq 1$$

with boundary conditions

$$C(-1) = 1 \quad C(1) = \pm 1 \quad (3.2)$$

(i.e.  $C(1)$  is *either* +1 or -1, depending on the particular solution). Here,  $\lambda$  (which is a real constant) is to be viewed as an eigenvalue: solutions  $C_n(x)$  of (3.1) satisfying the boundary conditions (3.2) will exist only for discrete values  $\lambda_n$ , where  $n$  is an integer which labels the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions, but which is also equal to the number of times  $C(x)$  changes sign on the solution domain. In `~/hw1/a3`, write a `f77` program called `ortho` (source code `ortho.f`) which uses `LSODA`, and which can be used to solve this eigenvalue problem. `ortho` must have usage:

usage: ortho <lambda> [<tol>]

where <lambda> is a trial eigenvalue and <tol> is an optional tolerance for LSODA, which should default to  $1.0 \times 10^{-8}$ . `ortho` should read requested output  $x$ -values from standard input (one per line), and should output  $x_i, C(x_i)$  (two numbers per line) to standard output. Use your program to compute

$$\lambda_n \text{ and } C_n(x) \text{ for } n = 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$$

The  $\lambda_n$  should be computed to about 7 significant digits. Record your computed  $\lambda_n$  in `~/hw1/a3/README` and save your computed  $C_n(x)$  (i.e. the standard output from `ortho`) in files `c1`, `c2`, `c3`, `c4` and `c5` in `~/hw1/a3`. Make a single postscript plot called `~/hw1/a3/allc.ps` which shows all 5 eigenfunctions on the solution domain. *Minor hint:* You may find it convenient to ignore a return code (LSODA parameter `istate`) of -1 when integrating on the last interval (i.e. the interval containing  $x = -1.0$ ).