

Recall the graph of

$$f(x) = \frac{e^x - 1}{x} - 1 \quad \text{when } x \text{ was small}$$

The problem is loss of precision due to subtraction of nearly equal numbers.

What's the solution:

Consider two different cases

①  $f(x)$  when  $x$  is close to zero

②  $f(x)$  when  $x$  is NOT close to zero...

In the ② case just use the formula

$$f(x) = \frac{e^x - 1}{x} - 1$$

and plug in  $x$  on the computer

What to do in case ①:

Usual Taylor series for  $e^x$  works really well when  $x$  is close to zero...

$$e^x = 1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 + \frac{1}{4!}x^4 + \dots$$

$$\approx 1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3$$

to at least 15 digits of precision when  $x$  is close to zero...

$$(10^{-5})^3 = 10^{-15} \text{ so } 15 \text{ digits}$$

Idea: rewrite  $f(x)$  in terms of Taylor series when  $x$  is small...

size of  $x$  for this approx. to be good...

$$\frac{e^x - 1}{x} - 1 \approx \frac{1 + x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3 - 1}{x}$$

$$\approx \frac{x + \frac{1}{2!}x^2 + \frac{1}{3!}x^3}{x} - 1$$

$$\approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{3!}x^2 - 1$$

$$\approx \frac{1}{2}x + \frac{1}{3!}x^2$$

## HW 2.5

Remember the Taylor series for  $\log_e e$  <sup>natural</sup>

Start with the geometric series:

$$1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots =$$

In general

recall

$$.33333\dots = \frac{3}{10} + \frac{3}{10^2} + \frac{3}{10^3} + \dots$$

$$= 3 \left( \frac{1}{10} + \frac{1}{10^2} + \frac{1}{10^3} + \dots \right)$$

$$= \frac{3}{10} \left( \overbrace{1 + x + x^2 + \dots}^{10/9} \right)$$

where  $x = \frac{1}{10}$ .

$$S = .33333\dots$$

$$\frac{1}{10}S = .03333\dots$$

$$(1 - \frac{1}{10})S = .3$$

$$\frac{9}{10}S = .3, \quad S = \frac{1}{3} = \frac{1}{3}$$

$$S = 1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots$$

$$xS = x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + x^5 + \dots$$

$$(1-x)S = 1$$

$$S = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

$$\text{recall } \log t = \int_1^t \frac{1}{x} dx$$

$$1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots = \frac{1}{1-x}$$

integrate this

shift by 1 already  
so integrate  
from 0 to t.

$$\int_0^t (1 + x + x^2 + x^3 + x^4 + \dots) dx = \int_0^t \frac{1}{1-x} dx$$

$$t + \frac{1}{2}t^2 + \frac{1}{3}t^3 + \frac{1}{4}t^4 + \frac{1}{5}t^5 + \dots = -\log(1-t)$$

$$\int_0^t \frac{1}{1-x} dx = -\int_1^{1-t} \frac{1}{u} du = -\log(1-t)$$

$$u = 1-x$$

$$du = -dx$$

$$\text{set } x = -t$$

$$t = -x$$

$$-x + \frac{1}{2}x^2 - \frac{1}{3}x^3 + \frac{1}{4}x^4 - \frac{1}{5}x^5 + \dots = -\log(1+x)$$

Finally

$$\log(1+x) = x - \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{3}x^3 - \frac{1}{4}x^4 + \frac{1}{5}x^5 - \dots$$

$$\text{loglp}(x) = \log(1+x)$$

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julia> pi
π = 3.1415926535897...

julia> pi/1e9
3.141592653589793e-9

julia> 1+pi/1e9
1.0000000031415928

julia> log(1+pi/1e9)
3.141592758776485e-9

julia> loglp(pi/1e9)
3.141592648654991e-9
```

π to 15 significant digits

still 15 significant digits

loss of precision by adding a large number to a small only 8 digits of π are left...

since  $\log(1) = 0$  then a number close to 1 gets mapped to a number close to zero. This is like subtracting 1 but we do it with logarithms...

all these zeros took space to store

numbers only agree to 7 digits...

This is the accurate answer

2.5 Suppose we are given a list of floating-point values  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ . The following quantity, known as their “log-sum-exp,” appears in many machine learning algorithms:

$$\ell(x_1, \dots, x_n) \equiv \ln \left[ \sum_{k=1}^n e^{x_k} \right].$$

(a) The value  $p_k \equiv e^{x_k}$  often represents a probability  $p_k \in (0, 1]$ . In this case, what is the range of possible  $x_k$ 's?

This sum contains two types of terms...  $e^{x_k}$  close to zero and  $e^{x_k}$  not close to zero

Idea write

$$\sum_{k=1}^n e^{\lambda_k} = \sum \text{large terms} + \sum \text{small terms}$$

And then rescale by as

$$\frac{\sum \text{large terms} + \sum \text{small terms}}{\sum \text{large terms}} = 1 + \frac{\sum \text{small terms}}{\sum \text{large terms}}$$

and then use  $\log$  to compute the log of this.

- (a) Thanks to inaccuracies in how we evaluate or express  $f(x)$ , we might accidentally compute roots of a perturbation  $f(x) + \varepsilon p(x)$ . Take  $x^*$  to be a root of  $f$ , so  $f(x^*) = 0$ . If  $f'(x^*) \neq 0$ , for small  $\varepsilon$  we can write a function  $x(\varepsilon)$  such that  $f(x(\varepsilon)) + \varepsilon p(x(\varepsilon)) = 0$ , with  $x(0) = x^*$ . Assuming such a function exists and is differentiable, show:

$$\left. \frac{dx}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon=0} = -\frac{p(x^*)}{f'(x^*)}$$

use implicit differentiation

$$f(x(\varepsilon)) + \varepsilon p(x(\varepsilon)) = 0$$

As I change the problem how does the solution change? the solution changes as  $\frac{dx(\varepsilon)}{d\varepsilon}$  ..

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NEXT TOPIC:

QR factorization ....