

# QUIZ 1

1. What are the advantages and disadvantages of numerical analysis?

- possible to solve problems that may not be solvable by hand
- possible to solve problems (that you may have solved before) in a different way
- only need four operations (add, subtract, multiply, division) and Comparison
- analytical answer is not the true (exact) answer that it is always an approximation
- accuracy and precision concepts are important

2. Describe truncation and round-off errors. Give example.

- **Truncation Error:** i.e., approximate  $e^x$  by the cubic power

$$P_3(x) = 1 + \frac{x}{1!} + \frac{x^2}{2!} + \frac{x^3}{3!}; \quad e^x = P_3(x) + \sum_{n=4}^{\infty} \frac{x^n}{n!}$$

approximating  $e^x$  with the cubic gives an inexact answer. The error is due to truncating the series.

- **Round-off Error:** All computing devices represents numbers, except for integers and some fractions, with some imprecision Floating-point numbers of fixed word length; the true values are usually not expressed exactly by such representations

3. Describe a hypothetical numbering system with six bit representation?

- Say we have six bit representation (not single, double)
  - 1 bit  $\rightarrow$  sign
  - 3(+1) bits  $\rightarrow$  mantissa
  - 2 bits  $\rightarrow$  exponent

For positive range  $\frac{9}{32} \longleftrightarrow \frac{15}{4}$

For negative range  $\frac{-15}{4} \longleftrightarrow \frac{-9}{32}$ ; even discontinuity at point zero since it is not in the ranges.

Very simple computer arithmetic system  $\Rightarrow$  the gaps between stored values are very apparent. Many values can not be stored exactly.

