

PHYS-332

**Computational physics III**

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Cursus	Sem.	Type
Computational science and Engineering	MA2, MA4	Opt.
Physics	BA6	Opt.

Language of teaching	English
Credits	3
Withdrawal Session	Unauthorized Summer
Semester	Spring
Exam	During the semester
Workload	90h
Weeks	14
Hours	<b>3 weekly</b>
Courses	1 weekly
TP	2 weekly
Number of positions	
<b>It is not allowed to withdraw from this subject after the registration deadline.</b>	

**Summary**

This course teaches the students practical skills needed for solving modern physics problems by means of computation. A number of examples illustrate the utility of numerical computations in various domains of physics.

**Content**

**Fourier series and transforms** Introduction to the Fourier series and transforms and their application. Mathematical properties: convergence, convolution, correlation, Gibbs phenomenon and the Wiener-Khinchin theorem. Fourier transform on discrete sampled data: aliasing and sampling theorem. Discrete Fourier transform (DFT) and fast Fourier transform (FFT). Applications: spectral analysis, filters. Fourier transforms in higher dimensionality.

**Linear systems** Introduction and examples. Gauss-Jordan elimination, LU factorization. Iterative refinement: tridiagonal and band diagonal systems. Iterative methods and preconditioning: Jacobi, Richards and gradient methods. Conjugate gradient method. Iterative vs direct methods.

**Matrix manipulation and eigenvalues problems** Introduction and examples. Properties and decomposition. Poweriteration. QR decomposition and iterative procedure. Singular value decomposition (SVD).

**Learning Prerequisites****Recommended courses**

1st and 2nd years numerical physics courses

**Learning Outcomes**

By the end of the course, the student must be able to:

- Choose the most suitable algorithm for solving given problem
- Integrate algorithms in computer codes and evaluate their performance
- Solve actual physics problems using numerical tools

**Teaching methods**

Ex cathedra presentations, exercises and work under supervision

**Assessment methods**

3 reports during the semester

## Resources

### Bibliography

J. F. James, A Student's guide to Fourier transforms, CUP 2011  
L. N. Trefethen and D. Bau III, Numerical linear algebra, SIAM 1997

### Ressources en bibliothèque

- [Numerical linear algebra / Trefethen](#)
- [A Student's guide to Fourier transforms / James](#)