### Spectral methods for core collapse

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# Introduction: Representation of functions



# FUNCTIONS ON A COMPUTER

SIMPLIFIED PICTURE

### How to deal with functions on a computer?

⇒a computer can manage only integers In order to represent a function  $\phi(x)$  (e.g. interpolate), one can use:

- a finite set of its values  $\{\phi_i\}_{i=0...N}$  on a grid  $\{x_i\}_{i=0...N}$ ,
- a finite set of its coefficients in a functional basis  $\phi(x) \simeq \sum_{i=0}^{N} c_i \Psi_i(x).$

In order to manipulate a function (e.g. derive), each approach leads to:

**•** finite differences schemes

$$
\phi'(x_i) \simeq \frac{\phi(x_{i+1}) - \phi(x_i)}{x_{i+1} - x_i}
$$

• spectral methods  $\phi'(x) \simeq \sum$ N  $i=0$  $c_i \Psi'_i(x)$ 

























### GIBBS PHENOMENON

no convergence for discontinuous (or non-periodic) FUNCTIONS!  $\int x^2 dx = \int 0, x \in [0, \pi]$ 

$$
\phi(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{for } x \in [0, \pi] \\ x - 2\pi & \text{for } x \in (\pi, 2\pi) \end{cases}
$$





## Polynomial interpolation

From the Weierstrass theorem, it is known that any continuous function can be approximated to arbitrary accuracy by a polynomial function.

In practice, with the function known on a grid  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}$  N, one uses the Lagrange cardinal polynomials:



 $N=13$ 

 $l_i(x) = \prod$ N j=0,j $\neq i$  $x - x_j$  $x_i - x_j$ 

But a uniform grid is not a good choice ⇒Runge phenomenon



### ORTHOGONAL POLYNOMIALS

The solutions  $(\lambda_i, u_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  of a singular Sturm-Liouville problem on the interval  $x \in [-1, 1]$ :

$$
-(pu')' + qu = \lambda wu,
$$

with  $p > 0, C^1, p(\pm 1) = 0$ 

• are orthogonal with respect to the measure  $w$ :

$$
(u_i, u_j) = \int_{-1}^{1} u_i(x) u_j(x) w(x) dx = 0 \text{ for } m \neq n,
$$

form a spectral basis such that, if  $f(x)$  is smooth  $(\mathcal{C}^{\infty})$ 

$$
f(x) \simeq \sum_{i=0}^{N} c_i u_i(x)
$$

converges faster than any power of N.

Chebyshev, Legendre and, more generally any type of Jacobi polynomial enters this category.



### GAUSS QUADRATURE

To get a convergent representation  ${c_i}_{i=0}$ , n of a function  $f(x)$ , it is sufficient to be able to compute

$$
\forall i, \quad c_i = \frac{\int_{-1}^{1} f(x) u_i(x) w(x) \mathrm{d}x}{\int_{-1}^{1} (u_i(x))^2 w(x) \mathrm{d}x}.
$$

In practice, one can use the Gauss quadrature (here Gauss-Lobatto): for a given  $w(x)$  and N, one can find  ${w_i}_{k=0}$  N and  ${x_i}_{k=0}$  N  $\in$  [-1, 1] such that

$$
\forall g \in \mathbb{P}_{2N-1}, \quad \int_{-1}^{1} g(x)w(x)dx = \sum_{k=0}^{N} g(x_k)w_k.
$$









# Linear Ordinary Differential

Equations



### Differential equations POSITION OF THE PROBLEM

We consider the general form of an Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) on an interval, for the unknown function  $u(x)$ :

$$
Lu(x) = s(x), \quad \forall x \in [a, b]
$$
  

$$
Bu(x) = 0, \quad \text{for } x = a, b,
$$

with L, B being two linear differential operators and  $s(x)$  a given source.The approximate solution is sought in the form

$$
\bar{u}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{N} c_i \Psi_i(x).
$$

The  ${\lbrace \Psi_i \rbrace}_{i=0}$  N are called trial functions: they belong to a finite-dimension sub-space of some Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}_{[a,b]}$ .



### Method of weighted residuals

A function  $\bar{u}$  is said to be a numerical solution of the ODE if:

- $\bullet$   $B\bar{u} = 0$  for  $x = a, b$ ,
- $R\bar{u} = L\bar{u} s$  is "small".

Defining a set of test functions  $\{\xi_i\}_{i=0}$  N and a scalar product on  $\mathcal{H}_{[a,b]},\,R$  is small iff:

$$
\forall i=0...N, \quad (\xi_i,R)=0.
$$

It is expected that

$$
\lim_{N \to \infty} \bar{u} = u,
$$

the "true" solution of the ODE.



# Various numerical methods

#### TYPE OF TRIAL FUNCTIONS  $\Psi$

- finite-differences methods for local, overlapping polynomials of low order,
- finite-elements methods for local, smooth functions, which are non-zero only on a sub-domain of  $[a, b]$ ,
- $\bullet$  spectral methods for global smooth functions on [a, b].

### TYPE OF TEST FUNCTIONS  $\xi$  for spectral methods

- tau method:  $\xi_i(x) = \Psi_i(x)$ , but some of the test conditions are replaced by the boundary conditions.
- collocation method (pseudospectral):  $\xi_i(x) = \delta(x x_i)$ , at collocation points. Some of the test conditions are replaced by the boundary conditions.
- Galerkin method: the test and trial functions are chosen to fulfill the boundary conditions.

### SPECTRAL SOLUTION OF AN ODE Fourier Galerkin method

Let  $u(x)$  be the solution on  $[0, 2\pi)$  of  $\mathrm{d}^2 u$  $\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 u}{\mathrm{d}x^2} + 3\frac{\mathrm{d}u}{\mathrm{d}x}$  $\frac{d}{dx} + 2u = s(x),$ 

with periodic boundary conditions. If one decomposes  $\bar{u}(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{N}$  $n=0$  $a_n \cos(nx) + b_n \sin(nx)$  and  $\bar{s}(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{N}$  $n=0$  $\alpha_n \cos(nx) + \beta_n \sin(nx),$ 

then, the condition on the residuals translates into

$$
\begin{cases}\n -n^2 a_n + 3nb_n + 2a_n &= \alpha_n \\
-n^2 b_n - 3n a_n + 2b_n &= \beta_n\n\end{cases}
$$

$$
\iff \begin{cases} a_n = \frac{(2-n^2)\alpha_n + 3n\beta_n}{(n^2+1)(n^2+4)} \\ b_n = \frac{3n\alpha_n + (2-n^2)\beta_n}{(n^2+1)(n^2+4)} \end{cases}
$$



# Convergence properties



PROPERTIES OF CHEBYSHEV POLYNOMIALS  $T_n(x)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ 

They are solutions of the singular Sturm-Liouville problem  $(p =$ √  $1-x^2, q=0, w=1/$ µµ<br>∕  $(1-x^2 \text{ and } \lambda_n = -n)$ . They are orthogonal on  $[-1, 1]$  with respect to the weight  $w = 1/\sqrt{1-x^2}$ and, starting from  $T_0 = 1$ ,  $T_1 = x$ , the recurrence relation is:

$$
T_{n+1}(x) = 2xT_n(x) - T_{n-1}(x).
$$

They have the simple expression which allows for the use of FFT to compute the Chebyshev transform:

 $\forall x \in [-1, 1], \quad T_n(x) = \cos(n \arccos x),$ 

also, the Chebyshev-Gauss-Lobatto nodes and weights are known

$$
x_n = -\cos\frac{n\pi}{N}, \quad w_0 = w_N = \frac{\pi}{2N}, w_n = \frac{\pi}{N}.
$$



### Linear "differential" operators

Thanks to the recurrence relations of Chebyshev polynomials, it is possible to express the coefficients  ${b_i}_{i=0...N}$  of

$$
Lu(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{N} b_i T_i(x)
$$
, with  $u(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{N} a_i T_i(x)$ .

If  $L = d/dx$ ,

$$
b_n = 2 \sum_{i=n+1, n+i \text{ odd}}^N i a_i.
$$

If  $L = x \times$ ,

$$
b_n = \frac{1}{2} \left( (1 + \delta_{0n-1}) a_{n-1} + a_{n+1} \right) \quad (n \ge 1).
$$



### Inversion of operators

A practical example

The numerical solution  $\bar{u}(x)$  of

$$
x^{2}u''(x) - 6xu'(x) + 10u(x) = s(x),
$$

can be seen as a solution of the system  $L\bar{u} = \bar{s}$ , where

$$
\bar{u} = \sum_{i=0}^{N} a_i T_i(x)
$$
 and  $\bar{s} = \sum_{i=0}^{N} \alpha_i T_i(x)$ 

are represented as vectors and, if  $N = 5$ 

$$
L = \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 10 & 0 & -10 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & -18 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 \end{array}\right)
$$



### Inversion of operators

THE NEED FOR BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

$$
L = \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 10 & 0 & -10 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & -18 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -8 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -2 \end{array}\right)
$$

is not an invertible matrix. In order to get the solution of the ODE, one must specify exactly two boundary conditions. e.g.

$$
u(x = -1) = 0
$$
, and

$$
u(x=1)=0.
$$

Since

$$
\forall i, \quad T_i(-1) = (-1)^i, \text{ and } T_i(1) = 1,
$$

in the tau method, the last two lines of the matrix representing L are replaced by the two boundary conditions.ser<mark>vatoire LUTH</mark>

### Inversion of operators

THE NEED FOR BOUNDARY CONDITIONS

$$
L = \left(\begin{array}{rrrrr} 10 & 0 & -10 & 0 & 4 \\ 0 & 4 & 0 & -18 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & -8 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}\right)
$$

is not an invertible matrix. In order to get the solution of the ODE, one must specify exactly two boundary conditions. e.g.

$$
u(x = -1) = 0, \text{ and}
$$

**2** 
$$
u(x = 1) = 0.
$$

Since 
$$
\forall i, T_i(-1) = (-1)^i, \text{ and } T_i(1) = 1,
$$

in the tau method, the last two lines of the matrix representing L are replaced by the two boundary conditions.



# Singular operators

- The operator  $u(x) \mapsto \frac{u(x)}{x}$  $\frac{y(x)}{x}$  is a linear operator, inverse of  $u(x) \mapsto xu(x)$ .
- Its action on the coefficients  ${a_i}_{i=0...N}$  representing the N-order approximation to a function  $u(x)$  can be computed as the product by a regular matrix.

 $\Rightarrow$ The computation in the coefficient space of  $u(x)/x$ , on the interval  $[-1, 1]$  always gives a finite result.

$$
\Rightarrow
$$
 The actual operator which is thus computed is

$$
u(x) \mapsto \frac{u(x) - u(0)}{x}.
$$

 $\Rightarrow$  The same holds for  $u(x) \mapsto \frac{u(x)}{x}$  $\frac{u(x)}{x-1}$  and  $u(x) \mapsto \frac{u(x)}{x+1}$  $\frac{d(x)}{x+1}.$  $\Rightarrow$  possibility of computing a singular ratio  $\frac{f}{g}$ .



# SPECTRAL SOLUTION OF AN ODE

CHEBYSHEV-TAU METHOD

The Poisson equation in spherical symmetry and spherical coordinates writes

$$
\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 u}{\mathrm{d}r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\mathrm{d}u}{\mathrm{d}r} = s(r).
$$

To be regular,  $u(r)$  and  $s(r)$  must be even functions of r.

- it is sufficient to use only even Chebyshev polynomials for  $x \in [0, 1],$
- it is necessary to specify one boundary condition at  $x = 1$ .
- the matrix of the spectral Chebyshev-tau method of approximating the solution is (with  $u(x = 1) = const$ )

$$
L = \left(\begin{array}{cccc} 0 & 12 & 32 & 132 & 256 \\ 0 & 0 & 80 & 192 & 544 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 168 & 384 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 288 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{array}\right)
$$



### Convergence of the solution  $d^2u = 2 du$  Chebyshev-tau method  $\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 u}{\mathrm{d}x^2} + \frac{2}{x}$  $du$  $\frac{du}{dx} = (4x^2 - 6)e^{-x^2}$  and  $u(x = 1) = 1/e$ .  $\boldsymbol{x}$ Convergence of the numerical solution to the analytical one:  $u(x) = e^{-x^2}$ 0.0001 1e-06 Relative accuracy (max-norm) Relative accuracy (max-norm)1e-08 1e-10 1e-12 1e-14 1e-16 5 10 15 20 Number of coefficients N

Multi-domain and multi-dimensional settings

with spherical coordinates



# MULTI-DOMAINS TECHNIQUES

#### MOTIVATIONS AND SETTINGS

Multi-domain technique consists in having several touching, or overlapping, domains (intervals), each one mapped on [−1, 1].

- the boundary between two domains can be the place of a discontinuity of the function, or its derivatives ⇒recover spectral convergence,
- one can set a domain with more coefficients (collocation points) in a region where much resolution is needed ⇒fixed mesh refinement,
- 2D or 3D, allows to build a complex domain from several simpler ones,
- it is possible to treat a function in each domain on a different  $CPU \Rightarrow$  parallelization.



### DOMAIN MATCHING **TAU METHOD**

Consider the ODE:

 $\forall y \in [a, b], \quad Lu(y) = s(y),$  with boundary conditions on  $u(y = a, b)$ .

The numerical solution is sought in the form

$$
\begin{cases} \forall y \leq y_0, & \bar{u}(y) = \sum_{i=0}^{N_1} c_i^1 T_i (x_1(y)), \\ \forall y \geq y_0, & \bar{u}(y) = \sum_{i=0}^{N_2} c_i^2 T_i (x_2(y)), \end{cases}
$$

To determine the  $N_1 + N_2 + 2$  coefficients, one takes:

- $N_1 1$  residual equations for domain 1,
- $N_2 1$  residual equations for domain 2,
- 2 boundary conditions at  $x_1 = -1$  and  $x_2 = 1$ ,
- 2 matching conditions at  $y = y_0$ :

 $\bar{u}(x_1 = 1) = \bar{u}(x_2 = -1)$  and  $\bar{u}'(x_1 = 1) = \bar{u}'(x_2 = -1)$ .

 $\Rightarrow$ considering a big vector of size  $N_1 + N_2 + 2$ , one has in principle an invertible system and thus a uniquely defined  $\gamma_{\text{Dosey} \text{ radioire} \text{--} \text{UTH}}$ numerical solution.

### DOMAIN MATCHING

collocation method / homogeneous solutions

The collocation multi-domain method is like the tau one:

- write the residual equations on the interior collocation points  ${x_{i1}, x_{j2}}_{i=1... (N_1-1), j=1... (N_2-1)}$
- write the two boundary conditions at  $x_{11}$  and  $x_{2N_2}$ , and the matching condition at  $y = y_0$   $(x_{1N_1} \text{ and } x_{20})$ .

If one knows explicitely the homogeneous solutions  $u_{\lambda}(y)$  and  $u_{\mu}(y)$  of  $\forall y \in [a, b], \quad Lu(y) = 0,$ 

then after getting a particular solution in each domain, solving  $d = 1, 2$   $Lu_p^d(x_d) = \bar{s}(x_d)$ , with e.g.  $u(x_p^d = \pm 1) = 0$ ,

one is left with the determination of the linear combination in each domain  $d(x_d) = u_p^d(x_d) + \lambda_d u_\lambda(x_d) + \mu_d u_\mu(x_d)$ 

such that it verifies the boundary and the matching conditions (system in  $\{\lambda_d, \mu_d\}_{d=1,2}$ ).

### **COMPARISON**

Accuracy on the solution of  $\frac{d^2u}{dx^2}$  $\frac{d^2y}{dy^2} + 4u = S$ , with  $S(y \le 0) = 1$ and  $S(y \ge 0) = 0$ .  $N_1 = N_2 = N$ .





### SPATIAL COMPACTIFICATION

- A mapping not specific to spectral methods.
- Consider the simple case of  $\zeta = \frac{1}{\zeta}$  $\frac{1}{r} = \alpha(x-1), \ x \in [-1,1],$
- the spherically symmetric Laplace operator writes  $\Delta u = \frac{d^2 u}{1^2}$  $\frac{\mathrm{d}^2 u}{\mathrm{d}r^2} + \frac{2}{r}$ r  $du$  $rac{\mathrm{d}u}{\mathrm{d}r} = \zeta^4 \frac{\mathrm{d}^2u}{\mathrm{d}\zeta^2}$  $rac{a}{d\zeta^2}$
- and it is possible to impose boundary conditions at  $r \to \infty \iff \zeta = 0.$
- $\bullet$  Other types of compactification are possible  $(\tan, \dots)$ , even combining  $(t, r)$  coordinates in conformal compactification.
- Keep in mind that properties of some PDEs may change with the mapping: the  $\zeta = \frac{1}{\zeta}$  $\frac{1}{r}$  is not compatible with the

characteristics of the wave equation  $\square u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t^2} - \Delta u = s.$ 

### Spherical coordinates



- are well-adapted to describe isolated astrophysical systems: single star or black hole, where the surface is spheroidal,
- compactification needs only to be done for  $r$ ,
- the boundary surface

 $r = \text{const}$  is a smooth one.

- allow the use of spherical harmonics,
- the coordinate singularities can be nicely handled with spectral methods,
- spherical and axial symmetries nicely handled.



### REGULARITY CONDITIONS

Considering (e.g.) the Laplace operator, which is regular:  $\Delta = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}$  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r}$ r  $\frac{\partial}{\partial r}+\frac{1}{r^2}$  $r^2$  $\int \partial^2$  $rac{\partial^2}{\partial \theta^2} + \frac{1}{\tan \theta}$  $\tan\theta$  $rac{\partial}{\partial \theta} + \frac{1}{\sin^2}$  $\sin^2\theta$  $\partial^2$  $\partial \varphi^2$ ¶ , division by r or  $\sin \theta$  look singular.  $\Rightarrow$  a regular field  $u(r, \theta, \varphi)$ must have a particular behavior.

- if u is expandable in series of powers of  $x, y$  and z, near  $r = 0$ :  $u(x, y, z) = \sum_{i,j,k} a_{ijk} x^i y^j z^k$ .
- changing to spherical coordinates  $u(r,\theta,\varphi)=\sum_{n,p,q}a_{npq}r^{n+p+q}\cos^q\theta\sin^{n+p}\theta\cos^n\varphi\sin^p\varphi;$
- and rearranging the terms  $u(r,\theta,\varphi)=\sum_{m,p,q}b_{mpq}r^{|m|+2p+q}\sin^{|m|+2p}\theta\cos^q\theta e^{im\varphi}$
- introducing  $\ell = |m| + 2p + q$  and the spherical harmonics  $Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta,\varphi)$ , one gets the following consequences for u:
- near  $\theta = 0$ ,  $u(\theta) \sim \sin^{|m|} \theta$ ,
- near  $r = 0$ ,  $u(r) \sim r^{\ell}$  and has the same parity as  $\ell$ .



# Spherical harmonics

\$@\$## EGDOOM SCSBOOT ≦G€G00000 SGBAAAA

• are pure angular functions  $Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta,\varphi)$ , forming an orthonormal basis for the space of regular functions on a sphere:  $\ell > 0, |m| < \ell,$  $Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta,\varphi) \propto P_{\ell}^{m}(\cos\theta)e^{im\varphi}.$ 

• are eigenfunctions of the angular part of the Laplace operator:

$$
\Delta_{\theta\varphi}Y_{\ell}^m(\theta,\varphi):=\frac{\partial^2Y_{\ell}^m}{\partial\theta^2}+\frac{1}{\tan\theta}\frac{\partial Y_{\ell}^m}{\partial\theta}+\frac{1}{\sin^2\theta}\frac{\partial^2Y_{\ell}^m}{\partial\varphi^2}=-\ell(\ell+1)Y_{\ell}^m(\theta,\varphi).
$$

⇒they can form a spectral decomposition basis for functions defined on a spheroid (e.g. apparent horizon) ⇒they can simplify the solution of a Poisson equation



# Example:

3D Poisson equation, with non-compact support To solve  $\Delta \phi(r, \theta, \varphi) = s(r, \theta, \varphi)$ , with s extending to infinity.



 $\bullet$ 

- setup two domains in the radial direction: one to deal with the singularity at  $r = 0$ , the other with a compactified mapping.
- In each domain decompose the angular part of both fields onto spherical harmonics:

$$
\phi(\xi,\theta,\varphi) \simeq \sum_{\ell=0}^{\ell_{\max}} \sum_{m=-\ell}^{m=\ell} \phi_{\ell m}(\xi) Y_{\ell}^{m}(\theta,\varphi),
$$

 $\forall (\ell,m)$  solve the ODE:  $\frac{d^2 \phi_{\ell m}}{d \epsilon^2}$  $\frac{\partial \phi_{\ell m}}{\mathrm{d}\xi^2} + \frac{2}{\xi}$ ξ  $\mathrm{d}\phi_{\ell m}$  $\frac{\phi_{\ell m}}{\mathrm{d}\xi} - \frac{\ell(\ell+1)\phi_{\ell m}}{\xi^2}$  $\frac{1}{\xi^2} = s_{\ell m}(\xi),$ • match between domains, with regularity conditions at  $\mathcal{L}_{\text{ref}}$  $r = 0$ , and boundary conditions at  $r \to \infty$ .

### Non-linear problems

Solution of a boundary value problem

 $Lu = Nu$ 

#### Newton-Raphson method

- for  $F(\bar{u}) = (L N)(c_0, \ldots, c_N) = 0$ :
- compute  $J_{ij} = \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial q_i}$  $\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial c_j},$

• start from an initial guess  $\bar{u}_0$ , and solve  $J(\bar{u}_1 - \bar{u}_0) = -F\bar{u}_0$ ...

 $\Rightarrow$  J may be complicated to compute!

#### iterative method

- if the inversion of  $L$  is easy,
- start from initial guess  $\bar{u}_0$ , compute  $N\bar{u}_0$  and
- solve the linear operator to get  $\bar{u}_1 = L^{-1} N \bar{u}_0 \dots$

⇒no reason to converge!



"Mariage des Maillages"(MdM):

Interpolation and filtering



# COMBINATION OF TWO NUMERICAL **TECHNIQUES**

- hydrodynamics ⇒High-Resolution Shock-Capturing schemes (HRSC), presented by Pablo tomorrow;
- gravity ⇒multi-domain spectral solver using spherical harmonics and Chebyshev polynomials, with a compactification of type  $u = 1/r$ .

Use of two numerical grids with interpolation:

- matter sources: Godunov (HRSC) grid  $\rightarrow$  spectral grid;
- gravitational fields: spectral grid  $\rightarrow$  Godunov grid.

First achieved in the case of spherical symmetry, in tensor-scalar theory of gravity (Novak  $\&$  Ibáñez 2000). Spares a lot of CPU time in the gravitational sector, that can be used for other physical ingredients.



### Mariage des Maillages INTERPOLATION

Godunov grid stops at a finite distance ⇒no matter outside;



- interpolation to spectral grid using piecewise parabolic formula (many tested);
- fewest possible manipulations of these fields on spectral grid;
- partial summation technique (Orszag 1980) to gain CPU in the spectral summation.



### Mariage des Maillages FILTERING

One the main limitations for the use of spectral methods is the Gibbs phenomenon. $\Rightarrow$  possibility to use filters: e.g.

$$
c_n \mapsto c_n \times e^{-\alpha \left(\frac{n}{N}\right)^{2p}}
$$

⇒spectral series converging with order p ⇒quite useful for discontinuous sources in core-collapse simulations.



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