COOLearn website  http://coolearn.center

This term we will be using the COOLearn website for class discussion and mini-projects. The system is highly catered to getting you help fast and efficiently from classmates, the TA, and myself. Rather than emailing questions to the teaching staff, I encourage you to post your questions on COOLearn.center. A weekly, one-hour long collaborative mini-project will take place on this website. The time is tentatively scheduled on Thursdays at 9pm. If you have any problems or feedback for the developers, email qiqi@mit.edu.

Teaching Assistants  Han Chen
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Students are strongly encouraged to ask questions on COOLearn for questions or problems related to the projects. You are of course also welcome to contact any of the professors.

Plan well ahead!  
Projects require a significant amount of work and code debugging.

Hand-in Procedure  
Projects are to be handed in at 9:30am before the lecture on the due day.

After 9:30am points will be deduced to be fair to the people that made an effort to be on time

You must hand in a hard copy of your solutions with graphs to the professor in class. Your solutions should not include a full printout of your code, but you are required to submit your files online and on time; put all your code files into a single zipped folder before uploading.

Office Hours  
Office hours will be scheduled around projects: there will be office hours on Mondays, Wednesdays, and/or Fridays before each due date.

If you have questions before that or are unable to come on the scheduled hours, please ask your questions on COOLearn. You also are welcome to contact the professors by email either directly with questions or to schedule a meeting.
The following recommendations will help you organize your thoughts, write a better project report, and make the grading process a little smoother.

**for the contents**

- If you have doubts about the material or what you are being asked to do, come and ask questions, we are very nice people.
- The project report you submit should be close to a journal/conference paper. Organize the sections following the project questions, pay a minimum of attention to the writing and grammar, and cite your sources. Try placing your figures close to the question to which they correspond.
- You are not required to type your report, but if you do decide to handwrite, please try to write neatly so that we can read you.
- You should explain your procedures and the reader must understand what you are doing without having to look at your code. Every step should be documented, and any “educated” reader must be able to reproduce what you have done without guessing. Pseudo-code is acceptable and can be useful.
- When your answer/derivation to a question is particularly long, a summary at the end might be a good idea (especially if you are to use the derived forms or schemes later on).
- If you use a MATLAB function, say so and explain what it does.
- Stick to the nomenclature in the handout as much as possible.
- As a general rule, the correct final answer will not give you full credit; your derivation is at least as important.
- Many questions ask for comments/explanations of the results; these are important. If a question asks you to make a comparison but does not explicitly request an explanation (e.g. compare the convergence rates of the different methods), you are still expected to provide one. *We want you to try and think critically about your findings.*

**for the form**

- Try printing your report double-sided, to make the reports thinner and save some trees.
- Don’t hand-in a printout of your code.
- Submit your code online in a single file (zip, gz, rar, tar...) named with your last name, e.g. *Israeli.zip*, and upload it to the stellar website in the corresponding project section.