

Mathematics Notes

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SPHBSLR

A Subroutine to Generate Spherical  
Bessel Functions for Real Arguments

J. N. Brittingham and P. L. Petronelli

Lawrence Radiation Laboratory

ABSTRACT

This note presents a subroutine to generate spherical Bessel function of first and second kind for real arguments. The algorithm and checking procedure are described. A subroutine to check the error in the Wronskian of the spherical Bessel function is also presented.

## SPHBSLR

### A Subroutine to Generate Spherical Bessel Functions for Real Arguments\*

#### INTRODUCTION:

The present note describes a computer subroutine SPHBSLR that generates spherical Bessel functions of the first and second kind, for real arguments, namely  $j_n(X)$  and  $y_n(X)$ . (i.e.,  $j_n(X) = (\frac{\pi}{2X})^{\frac{1}{2}} J_{n+\frac{1}{2}}(X)$  and  $y_n(X) = (\frac{\pi}{2X})^{\frac{1}{2}} Y_{n+\frac{1}{2}}(X)$  where  $n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$ ) The subroutine is written in Fortran IV for the CDC 6600 computer. The range of arguments for which the subroutine is accurate depends upon the value of  $n$ . For  $n$  such that  $0 \leq n \leq 50$ , the argument must be  $10^{-4} \leq X \leq 5.0 \cdot 10^6$ . For  $n$  such that  $50 < n \leq 60$  the, argument must be  $8.0 \cdot 10^{-4} \leq X \leq 5.0 \cdot 10^6$ . This subroutine accepts values outside the above range of  $n$  and  $X$ , but no assurance of accuracy is given to the numbers returned by the subroutine.

A subroutine, CHECK, is also presented in this note. CHECK is a subroutine to calculate the numerical accuracy of the Wronskian of the spherical Bessel functions for any given  $X$  and  $n$ . Checking the accuracy of the Wronskian is a prime method in evaluating SPHBSLR.

#### USE OF SPHBSLR:

The subroutine SPHBSLR is used in conjunction with a main program. The main program initiates SPHBSLR by using a Fortran IV CALL statement. The format for this statement is

```
CALL SPHBSLR (X, N, JJ, YY)
```

Where

X - a floating point variable, is the argument of the spherical Bessel functions. The numerical value of this variable is assigned by the main program prior to the use of the CALL statement.

N - an integer variable, is the order of the spherical Bessel functions. The numerical value of this integer is assigned by the main program prior to the use of the CALL statement.

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JJ - a floating point variable, is the variable name under which the spherical Bessel function of the first kind returns to the main program.

YY - a floating point variable, is the variable name under which the spherical Bessel function of the second kind returns to the main program.

The names given the parameters in the above CALL statement are used for demonstration purposes only. The actual parameter names used by the main program must agree in type and need not agree in name.

RANGE:

SPHBSLR generates spherical Bessel functions with an error less than  $10^{-8}$  in the following range:

when  $0 \leq n \leq 50$  then  $10^{-4} \leq X \leq 2.0 \cdot 10^6$ ,  
and  $50 < n \leq 60$  then  $8.0 \cdot 10^{-4} \leq X \leq 2.0 \cdot 10^6$ .

It should be noted that a machine of world length comparable to the CDC 6600 is needed to obtain similar accuracy.

The accuracy and range of SPHBSLR was established from three tests. First, the Wronskian error was examined for accuracies less than  $10^{-8}$  (see CHECK). Second, data from this subroutine was compared with data tabulated in reference [2]. Third, the functions generated were tested to assure that their numerical values were not outside the range of the machine.

EXTERNAL CALLS:

SPHBSLR makes use of two standard subroutines. These routines are contained in the CDC 6600 function library.

SINF - This routine computes the value of the sine function of the given argument.

COSF - This routine computes the value of the cosine function of the given argument.

METHOD:

The spherical Bessel function of first and second kind can be written as a finite series and as an infinite series.

The finite series are

$$j_n(X) = \frac{1}{X} [P(n+\frac{1}{2}, X) \sin (X-\frac{n\pi}{2}) + Q(n+\frac{1}{2}, X) \cos (X-\frac{n\pi}{2})]$$

$$y_n(X) = (-1)^{n+1} X^{-1} [P(n+\frac{1}{2}, X) \cos (X + \frac{n\pi}{2}) - Q(n+\frac{1}{2}, X) \sin (X + \frac{n\pi}{2})]$$

$$(n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

Where  $P(n+\frac{1}{2}, X) = \sum_{K=0}^{\{\frac{1}{2}n\}} (-1)^K \frac{(n+2K)!}{(2K)! \Gamma(n-2k+1)} (2X)^{-2K}$

and  $Q(n+\frac{1}{2}, X) = \sum_{K=0}^{\{\frac{1}{2}(n-1)\}} (-1)^K \frac{[n+(2K+1)]!}{(2K+1)! \Gamma(n-2k)} (2X)^{-2K-1}$

$$(n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

The {  $\alpha$  } represents the largest integer contained in  $\alpha$ .  $\Gamma$  represents the gamma function and ! represents the factorial of the preceding number.

The infinite series for the spherical Bessel functions are

$$j_n(X) = \frac{X^n}{1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n+1)} [ 1 - \frac{\frac{1}{2}X^2}{1! (2n+3)} + \frac{(\frac{1}{2}X^2)^2}{2! (2n+3)(2n+5)} - \dots ]$$

$$y_n(X) = \frac{-1 \cdot 3 \cdot 5 \dots (2n-1)}{X^{n+1}} [ 1 - \frac{\frac{1}{2}X^2}{1! (1-2n)} + \frac{(\frac{1}{2}X^2)^2}{2! (1-2n)(3-2n)} - \dots ]$$

$$(n = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots)$$

SPHBSLR mates the finite and infinite series solutions to obtain the range of  $n$  and  $X$ . The finite series are used when

$$1 \leq X \quad \text{for} \quad n = 0,1$$

and  $52n \leq 60X$  for  $n = 2,3,4,\dots$  .

One hundred terms of the infinite series are used when

$$1 > X \quad \text{for} \quad n = 0,1$$

and  $52n > 60X$  for  $n = 2,3,4,\dots$  .

USE OF CHECK:

CHECK is a subroutine written to calculate the accuracy of the Wronskian of the spherical Bessel functions for a given argument and order. CHECK is used in conjunction with a main program. The main program must use a Fortran IV CALL statement to initiate CHECK. The format for this CALL statement is

CALL CHECK (X, N, ERROR)

Where

X - a floating point variable, is the argument of the spherical Bessel functions used in the Wronskian check. The main program must assign a numerical value to this variable prior to using the CALL statement.

N - an integer variable, is the order of the spherical Bessel functions used in the Wronskian check. The main program must assign a numerical value to this variable prior to using the CALL statement.

ERROR - a floating point variable, is the variable name under which the numerical value from the Wronskian check is returned to the main program.

The names given the parameters in the above CALL statement are used for demonstration purposes only. The actual parameter names used by the main program must agree in type and need not agree in name.

METHOD:

The Wronskian of the spherical Bessel functions for a fixed argument and order is equal to  $X^{-2}$ . Symbolically

$$j_n(X) \cdot \frac{dy_n(X)}{dX} - y_n(X) \cdot \frac{dj_n(X)}{dX} = \frac{1}{X^2}.$$

The derivative of the spherical Bessel functions are representable by

$$\frac{dT_n(X)}{dX} = \frac{n}{2n+1} T_{n-1}(X) - \frac{n+1}{2n+1} T_{n+1}(X),$$

when  $T_n(X)$  is either  $j_n(X)$  or  $y_n(X)$ .

A recurrence relation for the spherical Bessel functions is

$$\frac{2n+1}{X} T_n(X) = T_{n-1}(X) + T_{n+1}(X),$$

when  $T_n(X)$  is as above. The recurrence relation and the derivative expression reduce the Wronskian relation to

$$y_n(X) \cdot j_{n+1}(X) - y_{n+1}(X) \cdot j_n(X) = \frac{1}{X^2}.$$

The error in the Wronskian,  $\epsilon_n(X)$ , is found by obtaining  $j_n(X)$ ,  $y_n(X)$ ,  $j_{n+1}(X)$ , and  $y_{n+1}(X)$  from SPHBSLR for a fixed  $X$  and  $n$  and substituting into the relation

$$\epsilon_n(X) = \frac{[y_n(X) \cdot j_{n+1}(X) - y_{n+1}(X) \cdot j_n(X) - \frac{1}{X^2}] }{\frac{1}{X^2}}.$$

The above expression for  $\epsilon_n(X)$  is used to calculate the accuracy of the Wronskian in CHECK. The numerical value of  $\epsilon_n(X)$  is returned to the main program under the name ERROR.

SUMMARY:

The subroutine SPHBSLR calculates the spherical Bessel functions of the first and second kind when given a real argument and integer order.

The elapse time for execution is between 2 and 50 milliseconds. The computer memory size is 1134 octal words. A subroutine CHECK is given as a means to indicate the accuracy of SPHBSLR.

REFERENCES:

- [1] Methods of Theoretical Physics, Vol. I and II, P. Morse and H. Feshback, Mc Graw-Hill Book Company, New York, New York, 1953.
- [2] Handbook of Mathematical Functions, M. Abramowitz and I. Stegun, A.M.S. #55, National Bureau of Standards, 1964.

APPENDIX: PROGRAM LISTING

SUBROUTINE SPHBSLR(XX,N,SJ,SY)	SPB00001
PARAMETER(PIE=3.14159265358979,P2=PIE/2.)	SPB00002
COMMON/DOUBLES/SFYN,SFJN	SPB00003

C  
C  
C

COMMON BLOCK /DOUBLES/ PROVIDES ACCESS TO DOUBLE PRECISION VALUES

DOUBLE X, FN, F, FG, SQRZ, QRRZ, SQRZI, ZXI, SINS, COSS, SINP, COSP	SPB00004
DOUBLE SFYN, SFJN, QS, PS, AJXI, SUM, SLAT, FABE, FX, FXF, ABDF, ABGG	SPB00005
DOUBLE ARCH, AIR, BIR, GATTR, DID, ABGG, ABDG, DI	SPB00006
DOUBLE CON, ZCON, TWO, T2	SPB00007
DOUBLE SXT	SPB00008
DATA(NL=100)	SPB00009
DATA(TWO=2.0)	SPB00010
DATA(T2=.5)	SPB00011

C  
C  
C

CONVERT ARGUMENTS TO DOUBLE PRECISION

X=XX	SPB00012
SFN=N	SPB00013
FN=SFN	SPB00014
XN=N	SPB00015

C  
C  
C

DETERMINE TYPE OF SERIES

IF(60.*XX-52.*XN)1,,	SPB00016
IF(XX-1.0),100,100	SPB00017

C  
C  
C

INFINITE SERIES

CONTINUE	SPB00018
QRRZ=X*X*T2	SPB00019
ZXI=1.0/X	SPB00020
CON=1.0	SPB00021
ZCON=-1.0	SPB00022
FABE=ZXI	SPB00023
SLAT=1.0	SPB00024
DO 5 I=1,N+1	SPB00025
FABE=FABE*X/CON	SPB00026
SLAT=SLAT*ZXI*ZCON	SPB00027
CON=CON+TWO	SPB00028
5 ZCON=ZCON+TWO	SPB00029
SUM=1.0	SPB00030
SUPU=1.0	SPB00031
CON=2.0*FN+1.0	SPB00032
ZCON=-1.0-2.0*FN	SPB00033
ABGG=1.0	SPB00034
ABDF=1.0	SPB00035
DO 7 I=1,NL	SPB00036
CON=CON+TWO	SPB00037
ZCON=ZCON+TWO	SPB00038
XOS=I	SPB00039
FG=XOS	SPB00040
ABGG=-ABGG*QRRZ/(FG*CON)	SPB00041



ABDF=-ABDF*QRRZ/(FG*ZCON)	SPB00042
SUM=SUM+ABGG	SPB00043
7 SUPU=SUPU+ABDF	SPB00044
SFJN=FABE*SUM	SPB00045
SFYN=SLAT*SUPU	SPB00046
GO TO 1010	SPB00047
C	
FINITE SERIES	
C	
C	
100 NP=N/2	SPB00048
FG=FN*0.5	SPB00049
F=(FN-1.0)*0.5	SPB00050
NQ=(N-1)/2	SPB00051
SQRZ=X+X	SPB00052
QRRZ=1.0/SQRZ	SPB00053
SQRZI=QRRZ*QRRZ	SPB00054
ZXI=1.0/X	SPB00055
ZARG=X-(FN*P2)	SPB00056
SINS=SINF(ZARG)	SPB00057
COSS=COSE(ZARG)	SPB00058
ZARG=X+(FN*P2)	SPB00059
SINP=SINF(ZARG)	SPB00060
COSP=COSE(ZARG)	SPB00061
IF(N-1) ,162,182	SPB00062
SFJN=ZXI*SINS	SPB00063
SFYN=-ZXI*COSS	SPB00064
GO TO 1010	SPB00065
162 CONTINUE	SPB00066
SFJN=ZXI*(SINS+ZXI*COSS)	SPB00067
SFYN=ZXI*(COSP-(ZXI*SINP))	SPB00068
GO TO 1010	SPB00069
182 PS=1.0	SPB00070
L=N/2	SPB00071
AJXI=1.0	SPB00072
IF(N-(2*L))ODD,,ODD	SPB00073
AJXI=-1.0	SPB00074
ODD CONTINUE	SPB00075
SUM=1.0	SPB00076
SLAT=1.0	SPB00077
FABE=1.0	SPB00078
DO 700 NSN=1,NP	SPB00079
SFN=NSN	SPB00080
FX=SFN	SPB00081
FXF=FX+FX	SPB00082
ABDF=FXF-1.0	SPB00083
ABGG=FXF-2.0	SPB00084
FABE=- (FN+FXF)*(FN+ABDF)*(FN-ABDF)*(FN-ABGG)/(FXF*ABDF)	SPB00085
SXT=SQRZI*FABE	SPB00086
SLAT=SLAT*SXT	SPB00087
700 SUM=SUM+SLAT	SPB00088
PS=SUM	SPB00089
IF(NQ-1) ,720,720	SPB00090
QS=6.0*QRRZ	SPB00091
GO TO 800	SPB00092

```
SUBROUTINE CHECK(Z,N,ERR)
ZONE=1.0/(Z*Z)
CALL SPHBSLR(Z,N+1,SJ,SY)
CALL SPHBSLR(Z,N,SSJ,SSY)
SW=SJ*SSY-SY*SSJ
ERR=(SW-ZONE)/ZONE
RETURN
END
```

720	SLAT=(FN+1.0)*FN*QRRZ	SPB00093
	SUM=SLAT	SPB00094
	DO 730 NSN=1,NQ	SPB00095
	SFN=NSN	SPB00096
	FX=SFN	SPB00097
	FXF=FX+FX	SPB00098
	ABDF=FXF	SPB00099
	ABGG=FXF+1.0	SPB00100
	AIR=FN+ABDF	SPB00101
	BIR=FN+ABGG	SPB00102
	GATTR=ABDF-1.0	SPB00103
	ARCH=- (AIR*BIR)*(FN-ABDF)*(FN-GATTR)/(ABDF*ABGG)	SPB00104
	SXT=ARCH*SQRZI	SPB00105
	SLAT=SLAT*SXT	SPB00106
730	SUM=SUM+SLAT	SPB00107
	QS=SUM	SPB00108
800	SFJN=ZXI*((PS*SINS)+(QS*COSS))	SPB00109
	SFYN=AJXI*ZXI*((PS*COSP)-(QS*SINP))	SPB00110
1010	CONTINUE	SPB00111
C		
C	CONVERT VALUES TO SINGLE PRECISION	
C		
	SY=SFYN	SPB00112
	SJ=SFJN	SPB00113
	RETURN	SPB00114
	END	SPB00115