

pycse - Python Computations in Science and Engineeringcomputations

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1 Plane poiseuille flow solved by finite difference

[Matlab post](#)

Adapted from <http://www.physics.arizona.edu/~restrepo/475B/Notes/sourcehtml/node24.html>

We want to solve a linear boundary value problem of the form: $y'' = p(x)y' + q(x)y + r(x)$ with boundary conditions $y(x_1) = \alpha$ and $y(x_2) = \beta$.

For this example, we resolve the plane poiseuille flow problem we previously solved in Post 878 with the builtin solver `bvp5c`, and in Post 1036 by the shooting method. An advantage of the approach we use here is we do not have to rewrite the second order ODE as a set of coupled first order ODEs, nor do we have to provide guesses for the solution.

we want to solve $u'' = 1/\mu * DPDX$ with $u(0)=0$ and $u(0.1)=0$. for this problem we let the plate separation be $d=0.1$, the viscosity $\mu = 1$, and $\frac{\Delta P}{\Delta x} = -100$.

The idea behind the finite difference method is to approximate the derivatives by finite differences on a grid. See here for details. By discretizing the ODE, we arrive at a set of linear algebra equations of the form $Ay = b$, where A and b are defined as follows.

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 + h^2 q_1 & -1 + \frac{h}{2} p_1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 - \frac{h}{2} p_2 & 2 + h^2 q_2 & -1 + \frac{h}{2} p_2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 - \frac{h}{2} p_{N-1} & 1 + h^2 q_{N-1} & -1 + \frac{h}{2} p_{N-1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 - \frac{h}{2} p_N & 2 + h^2 q_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} y_i \\ \vdots \\ y_N \end{bmatrix}$$

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} -h^2 r_1 + (1 + \frac{h}{2} p_1) \alpha \\ -h^2 r_2 \\ \vdots \\ -h^2 r_{N-1} \\ -h^2 r_{N+(1-\frac{h}{2} p_N) \beta} \end{bmatrix}$$

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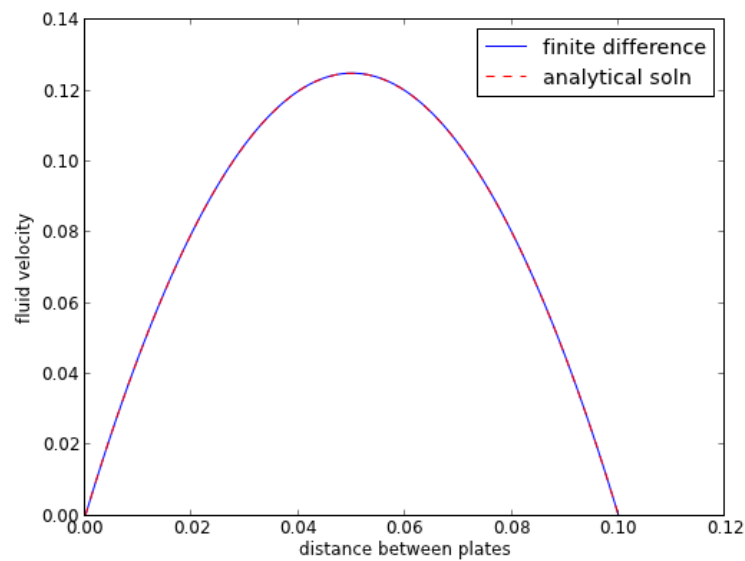
1  import numpy as np
2
3  # we use the notation for y'' = p(x)y' + q(x)y + r(x)
4  def p(x): return 0
5  def q(x): return 0
6  def r(x): return -100
7
8  #we use the notation y(x1) = alpha and y(x2) = beta
9
10 x1 = 0; alpha = 0.0
11 x2 = 0.1; beta = 0.0
12
13 npoints = 100
14
15 # compute interval width
16 h = (x2-x1)/npoints;
17
18 # preallocate and shape the b vector and A-matrix
19 b = np.zeros((npoints - 1, 1));
20 A = np.zeros((npoints - 1, npoints - 1));
21 X = np.zeros((npoints - 1, 1));
22
23 #now we populate the A-matrix and b vector elements
24 for i in range(npoints - 1):
25     X[i,0] = x1 + (i + 1) * h
26
27     # get the value of the BVP Odes at this x
28     pi = p(X[i])
29     qi = q(X[i])
30     ri = r(X[i])
31
32     if i == 0:
33         # first boundary condition
34         b[i] = -h**2 * ri + (1 + h / 2 * pi)*alpha;
35     elif i == npoints - 1:
36         # second boundary condition
37         b[i] = -h**2 * ri + (1 - h / 2 * pi)*beta;
38     else:
39         b[i] = -h**2 * ri # intermediate points
40
41     for j in range(npoints - 1):
42         if j == i: # the diagonal
43             A[i,j] = 2 + h**2 * qi
44         elif j == i - 1: # left of the diagonal
45             A[i,j] = -1 - h / 2 * pi
46         elif j == i + 1: # right of the diagonal
47             A[i,j] = -1 + h / 2 * pi
48         else:
49             A[i,j] = 0 # off the tri-diagonal
50
51 # solve the equations A*y = b for Y

```

```

52 Y = np.linalg.solve(A,b)
53
54 x = np.hstack([x1, X[:,0], x2])
55 y = np.hstack([alpha, Y[:,0], beta])
56
57 import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
58
59 plt.plot(x, y)
60
61 mu = 1
62 d = 0.1
63 x = np.linspace(0,0.1);
64 Pdrop = -100 # this is DeltaP/Delta x
65 u = -(Pdrop) * d**2 / 2.0 / mu * (x / d - (x / d)**2)
66 plt.plot(x,u,'r--')
67
68 plt.xlabel('distance between plates')
69 plt.ylabel('fluid velocity')
70 plt.legend(('finite difference', 'analytical soln'))
71 plt.savefig('images/pp-bvp-fd.png')
72 plt.show()

```



You can see excellent agreement here between the numerical and analytical solution.