הטכניון – מכון טכנולוגי לישראל NUMERICAL METHODS IN AEROSPACE **ENGINEERING**

HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT x סמסטר אביב תשפ"ה **SPRING SEMESTER 2025**

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	2	CONTENTS, STYLE &C.
	4	PHYSICAL PROBLEM
	4	MATHEMATICAL MODEL
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	20	COMPUTER PROGRAM
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Abstract

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Nomenclature

 α mass ratio between the liquid fuel and environment oxigen

 β ratio between the latent heat of the liquid fuel and between the chemical reaction heat

of liquid vapor with oxigen

 Λ empirical constant of droplet vaporation

 ε convergence limit

h size of each cell in the domain

i cell index

 m_d mass fraction of liquid fuel in droplets

N number of elements

s temporery variable

T temperature

 T_u environment temperature of the liquid fuel upstream

 T_v vaporization temperature of the liquid fuel

x spatial coordinate

1 The Physical Problem

Liquid rockets are an important part of the future of rocket engine propulsion. To maximize the efficiency of the engine, it is crucial to know the location of the evaporation front. The physical problem at hand is the location of the evaporation front of a fuel spray after the atomization injector.

2 The Mathematical Model

The evaporation front of fuel spray can be described by solving the following equations:

$$\frac{d^2T}{d\zeta^2} = \Lambda e^T \left(T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta - \frac{dT}{d\zeta} \right)$$

$$m_d = \left(\alpha \beta \Lambda e^T \right)^{-1} \frac{d^2T}{d\zeta^2}$$
(1)

The boundary condition of the problem:

$$\zeta \to -\infty: \qquad m_d \to 1 \qquad \qquad T \to \zeta \cdot (T_v - T_u)
\zeta \to +\infty: \qquad T \to \zeta \cdot (T_v - T_u + \alpha\beta) \qquad m_d \to 0$$
(2)

• According to the defenition of T: $T|_{\zeta=0}=0$

3 The Numerical Methods

Eq.1 can be rewrite as:

$$\frac{d^2T}{d\ell^2} + \Lambda e^T \frac{dT}{d\ell} - \Lambda e^T \left(T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta \right) = 0$$

In our case:

- ∞ is at around 30
- $\Lambda = 0.1$
- $T_v = 0.203$
- $T_u = 0.152$
- $\alpha\beta = 0.0234$

To make sure that $T|_{\zeta=0}=0$, we will solve the ODE in two steps, one from $\zeta\to-\infty$ to $\zeta=0$ and the second from $\zeta=0$ to $\zeta\to\infty$.

3.1 Finite Difference Method

Using central difference we can write the difference equations:

$$\frac{T_{i+1} - 2T_i + T_{i-1}}{h^2} + \Lambda e^{T_i} \frac{T_{i+1} - T_{i-1}}{2h} - \Lambda e^{T_i} \left(T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta \right) = 0 \qquad O(h^2)$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, N \qquad h = \frac{\zeta|_{i=N+1} - \zeta|_{i=0}}{N+1-0}$$
(3)

We will use the 'explicit point Jacobi' method:

- 1. Set the filed with initial condition (linear interpolation).
- 2. Calculate the temperature at index i and time step n+1 from the previous time step:

$$T_i^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(T_{i+1}^n + T_{i-1}^n \right) + \frac{h}{4} \Lambda e^{T_i^n} \left(T_{i+1}^n - T_{i-1}^n \right) - \frac{h^2}{2} \Lambda e^{T_i^n} \left(T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta \right)$$
(4)

3. The solution is considered converged when:

$$\left|T_i^{n+1} - T_i^n\right| < \varepsilon \qquad \forall i \in [1, N] \tag{5}$$

3.2 Shooting Method

Let's rewrite Eq.3 as a system of 2 ODE:

$$\begin{cases}
\frac{dT}{d\zeta} = s & T|_{\zeta \to -\infty} \to \zeta \cdot (T_v - T_u) \\
\frac{ds}{d\zeta} = -\Lambda e^T s - \Lambda e^T (T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta) & T|_{\zeta \to +\infty} \to \zeta \cdot (T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta)
\end{cases} (6)$$

To solve the system of equations using the shooting method, we will guess $s_{(i=0)}^{(n)}$ and solve the system of equations using forward and backward differences (semi-implicit Euler). Namely:

$$\begin{cases}
s_{i+1}^{(n)} = \left(-\Lambda e^{T_i^{(n)}} s_i^{(n)} + \Lambda e^{T_i^{(n)}} (T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta)\right) \cdot h + s_i^{(n)} & O(h) \\
T_{i+1}^{(n)} = s_i^{(n+1)} \cdot h + T_i^{(n)}
\end{cases} \qquad S_{i=0}^n = s_0^n$$

$$T_{i=0}^n = \zeta \cdot (T_v - T_u + \alpha \beta)$$

$$O(h) \qquad i = 0, 1, \dots, N$$
(7)

To correct the guess of $s_{(i=0)}^{(n)}$, let's define:

$$F_{(s_{(i=0)})} = T_{(i=N+1)}^{(n)} - T|_{\zeta \to +\infty}$$
(8)

• When F = 0, the guess of $s_{(i=0)}^{(n)}$ is correct

The next guess of s $s_{(i=0)}^{(n+1)}$ will be calculated numerically by using a method to find the root of an equation. Namely:

$$s_{(i=0)}^{(n+1)} = s_{(i=0)}^{(n)} - F_{\left(s_{(i=0)}^{(n)}\right)} \cdot \frac{s_{(i=0)}^{(n)} - s_{(i=0)}^{(n-1)}}{F_{\left(s_{(i=0)}^{(n)}\right)} - F_{\left(s_{(i=0)}^{(n-1)}\right)}} \qquad O(h)$$

$$(9)$$

4 Influence of The Numerical Methods

4.1 Finite Difference Method

4.1.1 Influence of number of elements N

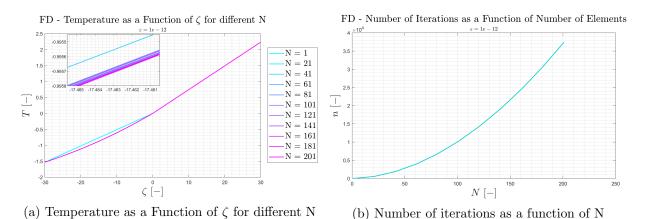


Figure 1: FD - Influence of the number of elements N

In Fig.1a we can see that for N bigger than 100, the solution does not really change. From Fig.1b we can see that as the number of elements increases, the number of iterations increases as well. We can conclude that N = 101 is a sufficient number of elements.

4.1.2 Influence of convergence criteria ε

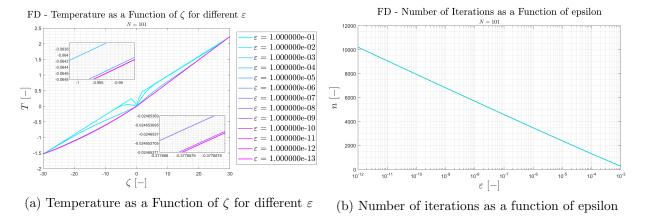
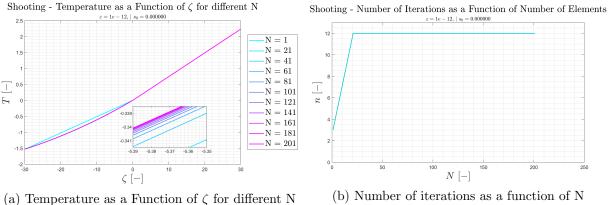


Figure 2: FD - Influence of the convergence criteria ε

From Fig.2a we can conclude that for a convergence criteria smaller than $1e^{-8}$, the solution stays the same. From Fig.2b we can determine that the number of iterations grows exponentially with the decrease of ε . With this two insights at hand, we can determine that $\varepsilon = 1e^{-12}$ is a good choice (although it is not economical with the number of iterations).

Shooting Method 4.2

4.2.1 Influence of number of elements N



- (b) Number of iterations as a function of N

Figure 3: Shooting - Influence of the number of elements N

In Fig.3a we can see that for N bigger than 100, the solution does not really change. From Fig.3b we can see that for more than 25 elements, the number of iterations stays constant for a certain convergence criteria and initial condition. We can conclude that N=101 is a sufficient number of elements.

4.2.2Influence of convergence criteria ε

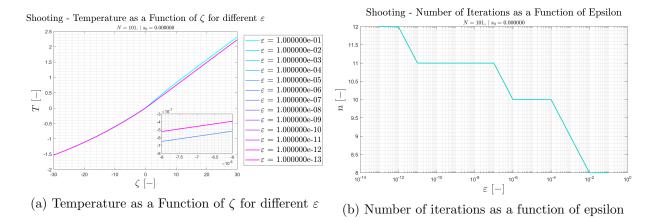


Figure 4: Shooting - Influence of the convergence criteria ε

Figure 4a shows that for a convergence criteria smaller than $1e^{-6}$, the differences between the solutions are because of rounding errors. From Fig.4b we can learn that the number of iterations does not change much for Different convergence criteria. We can determine that $\varepsilon = 1e^{-12}$ is a good choice.

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4.2.3 Influence of initial guess s_0

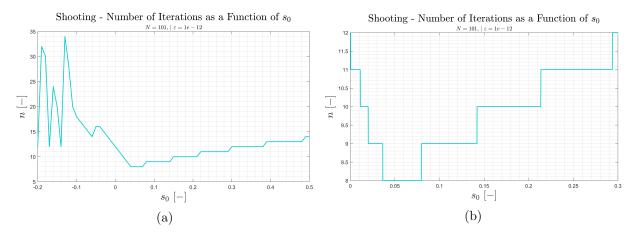


Figure 5: Number of iterations as a function of initial guess

Figure 5 shows that for different negative initial conditions, the number of iterations is not stable. Moreover, we can learn that the real initial slope is around 0.05, as this is the condition for which it took the least amount of steps to converge.



5 Results and Discussion

In the following section, the numerical solution for the ODE will be presented using the parameters chosen in the previous section (Sec.4).

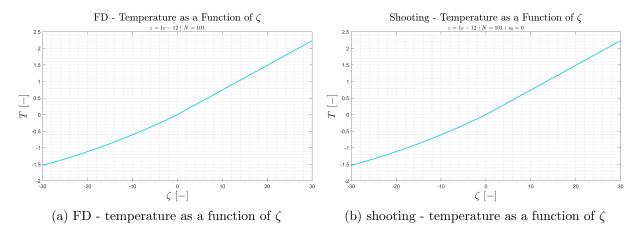


Figure 6: Temperature as a function of ζ

We can see in Fig.6 that there are no differences in the final result between the two methods. With the finite differences method, it took about 10,000 iterations to converge, while with the shooting method, it took only around 10 steps. On the left side of $\zeta = 0$, the solution increases monotonically and faster than linearly. On the right side of $\zeta = 0$, the solution increases linearly with ζ .

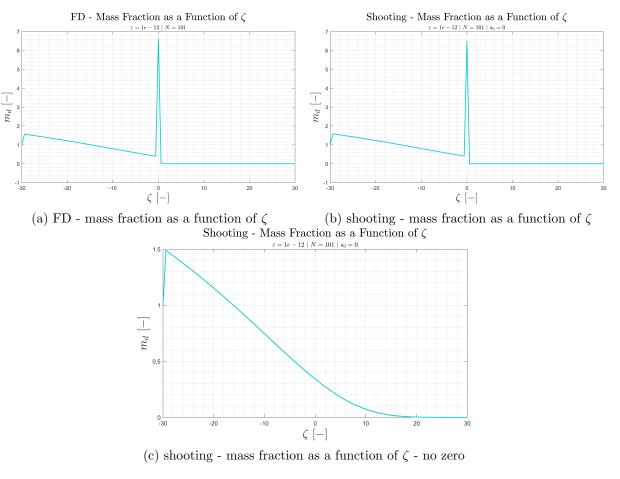


Figure 7: Mass fraction as a function of ζ



In Fig.7 we can see that indeed for $\zeta>0$, the temperature is linear as the mass fraction is constant and depends on the second derivative of the temperature. Moreover, the forced $T|_{\zeta=0}=0$ creates an artificial peak in the mass fraction, which causes it to have a single discontinuity. Additionally, the left boundary condition is not met as the analytically calculated boundary conditions for the temperature are only correct when $\zeta\to\pm\infty$.

6 Summary and Conclusion

- A Listing of The Computer Program
- A.1 Parameters
- A.2 Main Code