
ASE387P Optimal Spacecraft Trajectories

Homework 1

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Problem 1: Computing

Problem Statement Using the following equation complete parts 1-5:

$$P = \cos(z^2 - x_1 x_2 x_3)$$

Part 1.1

Problem Statement Using a symbolic manipulator, automate the computation of the first derivative of P with respect to \mathbf{x} , $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \mathbf{x}}$ or $P_{\mathbf{x}}$. Assuming $z = 4$. Show the resulting $P_{\mathbf{x}}$ for $\mathbf{x} = [1, 2, 3]^T$.

Take the partial derivative of P with respect to each index of \vec{x} results in the following vector $P_{\mathbf{x}}$:

$$P_{\mathbf{x}} = \begin{bmatrix} x_2 x_3 \sin(z^2 - x_1 x_2 x_3) \\ x_1 x_3 \sin(z^2 - x_1 x_2 x_3) \\ x_1 x_2 \sin(z^2 - x_1 x_2 x_3) \end{bmatrix}$$

Plugging in the values for $\mathbf{x} = [1, 2, 3]^T$, results in the following vector: $P_{\mathbf{x}} = [-3.26413, -1.63206, -1.08804]^T$

Part 1.2

Problem Statement Use complex step differentiation to achieve the same gradient as in [Part 1](#). Show the result and absolute error with respect to previous results.

$$f' = \frac{\text{imag}(f(x_0 + hi))}{h}$$

Using the above equation to calculate the partial derivative, $P_{\mathbf{x}}$, a step of h in the imaginary direction is taken for each x_i and then evaluated above. Using an $h = 10^{-20}$, resulted in the follow vector $P_{\mathbf{x}} = [-3.26413, -1.63206, -1.08804]^T$ and an absolute error of 0 (I believe this is due to how Julia shortens values). Not until an $h = 10^{-11}$ does the error term become on the order of 10^{-16} .

Part 1.3

Problem Statement Use a 3, 5, and 7 point central difference stencil to approximate the same gradient using finite differentiating, at a step size of $h = 10^{-4}$. Show formulas used, the approximated gradients, and their absolute errors with respect to **Part 1**.

$$f'_{3\text{pt}} = \frac{-f(x_0 - h) + f(x_0 + h)}{2h}$$

$$f'_{5\text{pt}} = \frac{f(x_0 - 2h) - 8f(x_0 - h) + f(x_0 + h) - f(x_0 + 2h)}{12h}$$

$$f'_{7\text{pt}} = \frac{-f(x_0 - 3h) + 9f(x_0 - 2h) - 45f(x_0 - h) + 45f(x_0 + h) - 9f(x_0 + 2h) + f(x_0 + 3h)}{60h}$$

Using the above equations for each of the stencils, the following gradients and errors were calculated.

$$f'_{3\text{pt}} = [-3.2641264694904, -1.6320633081884, -1.0880422145226]^T; \quad \varepsilon_{3\text{pt}} = 1.9750 \times 10^{-7}$$

$$f'_{5\text{pt}} = [-3.2641266653377, -1.6320633326697, -1.0880422217761]^T; \quad \varepsilon_{5\text{pt}} = 3.3971 \times 10^{-12}$$

$$f'_{7\text{pt}} = [-3.264126665337, -1.6320633326698, -1.0880422217775]^T; \quad \varepsilon_{7\text{pt}} = 2.6353 \times 10^{-12}$$

Part 1.4

Problem Statement Use a symbolic manipulator to automate the computation of the second derivative of P with respect to \mathbf{x} , assuming $z = 4$. Show the resulting $P_{x_1x_1}$ or $\frac{\partial^2 P}{\partial \mathbf{x}^2}$ evaluated at $\mathbf{x} = [1, 2, 3]^T$

Symbolically taking the partial derivative of P_{x_1} results in the following equation for $P_{x_1x_1}$:

$$P_{x_1x_1} = -x_2^2 x_3^2 \cos(z^2 - x_1 x_2 x_3)$$

Evaluating the equation for $\mathbf{x} = [1, 2, 3]^T$ yields this analytical derivative value $P_{x_1x_1} = 30.206575046752288$.

Part 1.5

Problem Statement Use the complex step method to differentiate the results of **Part 1** in order to approximate the Hessian results in **Part 4**. Show the result and the absolute error with respect to **Part 4**.

By substituting P_{x_1} into the complex derivative formula for f gives us a numerical solution: $P_{x_1 x_1} = 30.206575046752285$ with an error of $3.552713678800501e - 15$ for an $h = 10^{-20}$.

Problem 2

Problem Statement Consider the following initial conditions for a two-body orbit. μ is the standard gravitational parameter. Units are generic length and time units (LU and TU).

$$\mu = 1 \frac{LU^3}{TU^2}; \quad \mathbf{r}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \\ 0.1 \end{bmatrix} LU; \quad \mathbf{v}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.1 \\ 0.7 \\ 0.3 \end{bmatrix} \frac{LU}{TU}; \quad \mathbf{x}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_0 \\ \mathbf{v}_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Part 2.1

Problem Statement What is the period of the orbit in TU.

Part 2.2

Problem Statement Use a variable step ODE solver with tight tolerances to compute and plot 1 period of the orbit in the xy -plane. Verify periodicity by reporting the norm of the vector difference between the beginning and end states. Change ODE tolerances to reduce this error to under 10^{-13} . Report the order/type of the integrator used and the tolerances needed.

Part 2.3

Problem Statement Using the final tolerance from above, compute the first order state transition matrix for the computed 1 period orbit using:

- 1) Complex Step Method
- 2) Variational Method
- 3) Finite Difference with 3 Point Stencil
- 4) Finite Difference with 5 Point Stencil

Part 2.4

Problem Statement Report the full 6x6 matrix for [Part 2.3.1](#).

Part 2.5

Problem Statement Report the Frobenius norm of the matrix in [Part 2.4](#).

Part 2.6

Problem Statement Compute the Frobenius norm of the matrix difference of the [Parts 2.3.2-2.3.4](#) with respect to [Part 2.3.1](#).

Part 2.7

Problem Statement Experiment with fixed vs variable step integrators, at different tolerances. Report on the accuracy of the STMs by repeating [Part 2.6](#), treating the complex STM as truth. Discuss the results.

Part 2.8

Problem Statement Compute the full Hessian, $\frac{\partial^2 KE}{\partial \mathbf{x}_0^2}$, of the kinetic energy KE at $t = t_0 + 5 TU$ with respect to the initial state using:

- 1) Variational Method plus Chain Rule
- 2) Finite Difference of Your Choice (Show Formula)

Part 2.9

Problem Statement Report the full 6×6 matrix for [Part 2.8.1](#).

Part 2.10

Problem Statement Report the Frobenius norm of the matrix from [Part 2.9](#).