

# MATH 521 - Numerical Analysis of Differential Equations

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## Assignment 1 : One Dimension

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### Q1: Implementation of Model Problem [20]

Recall our first boundary value problem that we studied in class,

$$\begin{aligned} -u'' &= f, & x \in (0, 1), \\ u(0) &= u(1) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We reformulated this in the weak form: find  $u \in H_0^1(0, 1)$  such that

$$\int_0^1 u'v' dx = \int_0^1 f v dx \quad \forall v \in H_0^1(0, 1).$$

We then defined the finite element method as follows:

- Specify the nodes for a mesh:  $0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_N = 1$
- Specify the space  $V_h = \{u_h : \text{cts, p.w. affine w.r.t. } (x_j)_j\}$
- Find  $u_h \in V_h$  such that

$$\int_0^1 u_h' v_h' dx = \int_0^1 f v_h dx \quad \forall v_h \in H_0^1(0, 1).$$

**Your task:** Implement this numerical scheme, using mid-point quadrature (as in class) solve it with  $f(x) = 1$ , plot both the exact solution and the finite element solution (for  $N = 15$ ).

```
In [ ]: # import Pkg; Pkg.add("Plots")
# import Pkg; Pkg.add("LaTeXStrings")
# using Plots, LaTeXStrings
# import Pkg; Pkg.add("GR")
```

```
In [ ]: # outline of the implementation
using Plots, LaTeXStrings
function assemble_system(X, f)
    # input
    # X : list of grid points, e.g. as Vector{Float64}
    # f : function to evaluate f(x)

    N = length(X) - 1 # number of elements
    A = zeros(N+1, N+1) # should be sparse, but let's not worry
    F = zeros(N+1)

    for j = 1:N
        # compute the contributions to F and A from the element (x_{j-1}, x_j)
        # and write them into A, F
        ξ_j = 0.5 * (X[j]+X[j+1]) # midpoint for quadrature
        h_j = X[j+1] - X[j] # mesh size in current element
        A[j,j] += 1/h_j
        A[j+1,j+1] += 1/h_j
        A[j,j+1] += -1/h_j
        A[j+1,j] += -1/h_j
        F[j] += h_j * f(ξ_j)*0.5 # 0.5 is the value of \phi_i(\xi_i)
        F[j+1] += h_j * f(ξ_j)*0.5
    end

    return A, F
end

# My suggestion is that `assemble_system` returns
# A and F ignoring the boundary condition i.e. for the full
# N+1 DOFs. We can then reduce those to the required size
# for solving only for the free DOFs. (Think about why this works!)
```



```

N = 15
X = range(0, 1, length = N+1)
f = x -> 1.0
A, F = assemble_system(X, f)
U = zeros(N+1)
U[2:N] = A[2:N, 2:N] \ F[2:N];

```

```

In [ ]: # the postprocessing and visualization should be done in a separate cell
        # from the computation.

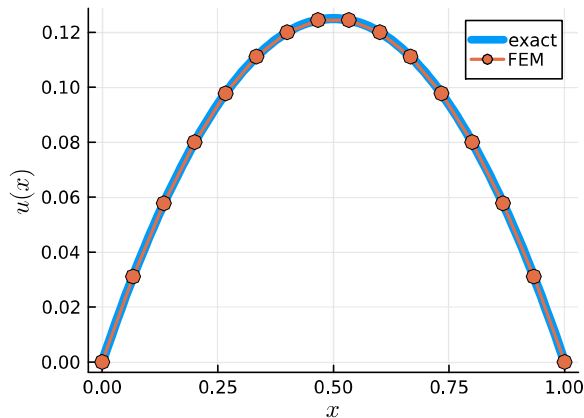
```

```

xp = range(0, 1, 100)
u = xp -> 0.5 * xp .* (1-xp)

plot(; xlabel = L"x", ylabel = L"u(x)", size = (400, 300))
plot!(xp, u, lw=6, label = "exact")
plot!(X, U, lw=2, m=:o, ms=5, label = "FEM")

```



## Q2-pre [5]

To solve the following question you will need a little extra piece of information that I hinted at in class but didn't really work out completely: in one dimension, point evaluation is a continuous / bounded operation in the typical Sobolev spaces we encounter. Concretely, the following is true: let  $\hat{x} \in (0, 1)$  and let  $v \in C^1([0, 1])$  then

$$|v(\hat{x}) - v(0)| \leq C \|v'\|_{L^2(0,1)}$$

for some suitable constant  $C > 0$ . Prove this statement.

**Solution for Q2-pre:**

$$v(\hat{x}) - v(0) = \int_0^{\hat{x}} v'(x) dx$$

By applying Cauchy-Schwarz Inequality:

$$\left| \int_0^{\hat{x}} v'(x) dx \right| \leq \sqrt{\left| \int_0^{\hat{x}} 1^2 dx \right|} \cdot \sqrt{\left| \int_0^{\hat{x}} (v'(x))^2 dx \right|}$$

Consider the first term as a positive constant  $C$ , and then write the second term in the  $L^2$  norm format:

$$\sqrt{\left| \int_0^{\hat{x}} 1^2 dx \right|} \cdot \sqrt{\left| \int_0^{\hat{x}} (v'(x))^2 dx \right|} = C \|v'\|_{L^2(0,1)}$$

Therefore, one can conclude

$$|v(\hat{x}) - v(0)| \leq C \|v'\|_{L^2(0,1)}$$

## Q2: Neumann Boundary Condition [15]

Consider the boundary value problem

$$\begin{aligned} -u'' &= f, \quad x \in (0, 1), \\ u(0) &= 0, \\ u'(1) &= g. \end{aligned}$$

where  $a, f$  are continuous in  $[0, 1]$ ,  $a(x) > 0$ ,  $g \in \mathbb{R}$ .

(1) Derive the weak form. Prove that it has a unique solution.

*HINT: the correct function space this time is not  $H_0^1(0, 1)$ . Remember from class how we chose the test function!*

(2) Formulate the corresponding finite element method. Prove that it has a unique solution.

(3) Prove that the FEM solution is the best approximation in a natural norm that you should specify.

**Solution (Q2.1)** Assume a test function  $v(x)$  and by integration by parts:

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 u'v' dx - u'v|_0^1 &= \int_0^1 f v dx \\ \int_0^1 u'v' dx - g \cdot v(1) &= \int_0^1 f v dx \\ \int_0^1 u'v' dx &= \int_0^1 f v dx + \int_{\Gamma_D} g v dx \quad \forall v \in H_{\Gamma_D}^1 \end{aligned}$$

One can conclude the first term to be

$$a(u, v)$$

And the second term to be

$$l(v)$$

Thus, the weak form is:

$$a(u, v) = l(v) \quad \forall v \in H_{\Gamma_D}^1$$

To prove the existence and uniqueness of the solution, it is necessary to prove the following statements:

Boundedness of  $l(v)$ :

$$l(v) = \int_0^1 f v dx + \int_{\Gamma_D} g v dx$$

Considering the first term

$$\left| \int_0^1 f v dx \right| \leq \|f\|_{L^2(0,1)} \|v\|_{L^2(0,1)} \leq \|f\|_{L^2(0,1)} \|v\|_1$$

Then considering the second term

$$\left| \int_{\Gamma_D} g v dx \right| \leq \|g\|_{L^2(\Gamma_D)} \|v\|_{L^2(\partial\Omega)}$$

By Trace theorem

$$\leq C_{tr} \|g\|_{L^2(\Gamma_D)} \|v\|_1$$

$$\iff \|l(v)\| \leq (\|f\|_{L^2(0,1)} + C_{tr} \|g\|_{L^2(\Gamma_D)}) \|v\|_1$$

Thus, the boundedness of  $l(v)$  is proved and indicates  $l \in (H_{\Gamma_D}^1)^*$ .

Boundedness of  $a$ :

$$a(u, u) = \int_{\Omega} \sum_{ik} a_{ik} \partial_i u \partial_k u + a_0 u^2 dx$$

Considering the first term

$$\int_{\Omega} \sum_{ik} a_{ik} \partial_i u \partial_k u dx \leq c_1 (|\partial u|)^2$$

Considering the second term

$$\int_{\Omega} a_0 u^2 dx \leq c_1 u^2$$

$$\text{Thus, } a(u, u) \leq c_1 \int_{\Omega} u^2 + (|\partial u|)^2 dx$$

So, the boundedness of  $a$  is proved.

Coercivity of  $a$ :

$$\begin{aligned} a(u, u) &= \int_{\Omega} \sum_{ik} a_{ik} \partial_i u \partial_k u + a_0 u^2 dx \text{ assume } a_0 > 0 \\ &\geq c_0 \|\partial u\|_{L^2}^2 = c_0 \|u\|_1^2 \end{aligned}$$

By Poincaré's inequality, exists a constant  $C_p > 0$  s.t.

$$\|u\|_{L^2} \leq C_p \|\partial u\|_{L^2} \quad \forall u \in H_{\Gamma_D}^1$$

Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} a(u, u) &\geq \min(c_0/2, c_0/(2C_p)) (\|\partial u\|_{L^2}^2 + \|u\|_{L^2}^2) \\ &=: c_0^{\sim} \|u\|_1^2 \end{aligned}$$

And by Lax-Milgram Theorem:  $a$  is proved to be bilinear, bounded and coercive.  $l$  is proved to be linear and bounded There exist unique  $u \in H_{\Gamma_D}^1$  such that  $a(u, v) = l(v) \forall v \in H_{\Gamma_D}^1$

**Solution (Q2.2)** The corresponding discretized form is as follows: Suppose  $N$  elements in total

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^1 u_h' v_h' dx &= \int_0^1 f v_h dx + \int_{\Gamma_D} g v_h dx \quad \forall v \in V_h \\ \iff V^T A U &= V^T F \\ \iff A U &= F \\ \text{where } A_{ij} &= \int \phi_i' \phi_j' dx = \sum_{n=1}^N \int_{x_{n-1}}^{x_n} \phi_i' \phi_j' dx \\ F_j &= \int f \phi_j dx \approx h_j f(\xi_j) \phi(\xi_j) + h_{j+1} f(\xi_{j+1}) \phi(\xi_{j+1}) \\ \text{When } j = N, F_{j+1} &= g \end{aligned}$$

I do not know how to express this in the  $F_j$  formula above precisely, but it will be clearly stated in the code-wise statement below. In terms of for loop:

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{for } j = 1, \dots, N \\ &\quad \xi_j = 0.5 \cdot (X_j + X_{j+1}) \\ &\quad h_j = X_{j+1} - X_j \\ &\quad F_j = h_j f(\xi_j) \phi(\xi_j) + h_{j+1} f(\xi_{j+1}) \phi(\xi_{j+1}) \\ \text{When } j = N, F_{j+1} &= g \\ A_{j-1, j-1} &= 1/h_n \\ A_{j, j-1} &= 1/h_n \\ A_{j, j} &= -1/h_n \\ A_{j-1, j} &= -1/h_n \\ \text{endforloop} \\ U &= A/F \end{aligned}$$

Following the same steps mentioned in part Q2.1,

$$\begin{aligned} C \|u - u_h\|_{H_{\Gamma_D}^1}^2 &\leq a(u - u_h, u - u_h) \\ &= a(u - u_h, u - u_h) + a(u - u_h, v_h - u_h) \end{aligned}$$

By Galerkin orthogonality:

$$a(u - u_h, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

Note  $V_h \subseteq H_{\Gamma_D}^1$ .

$$\begin{aligned} C_0 \|u - u_h\|_{H_{\Gamma_D}^1}^2 &\leq a(u - u_h, u - v_h) \\ &\leq C_1 \|u - u_h\|_H \|u - v_h\|_H \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the coercivity and boundness of  $a$  are proved. By Lax-Milgram Theorem: There exist unique  $u_h \in V_h$  such that  $a(u_h, v_h) = l(v_h) \forall v_h \in V_h$

**Solution (Q2.3)** Suppose  $u$  and  $u_h$  are the solutions of the variational problem in  $H_{\Gamma_D}^1$  and  $V_h$ . Note  $V_h \subseteq H_{\Gamma_D}^1$ . By definition of  $u$  and  $u_h$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} a(u, v) &= l(v) \quad \forall v \in H_{\Gamma_D}^1 \\ a(u_h, v) &= l(v) \quad \forall v \in V_h \end{aligned}$$

By Galerkin orthogonality:

$$a(u - u_h, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in V_h$$

Let  $v_h \in V_h$  with  $v = v_h - u_h \in V_h$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha \|u - u_h\|_m^2 &\leq a(u - u_h, u - u_h) \\ &= a(u - u_h, u - u_h) + a(u - u_h, v_h - u_h) \\ &\leq C \|u - u_h\|_m^2 \|u - v_h\|_m^2 \\ \iff \alpha \|u - u_h\|_m &\leq C \|u - v_h\|_m \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, in a natural norm sense,  $u_h$  is the best approximation of the original problem.

### Q3: Implementation of Q2 [10]

Implement the method you defined in Q2. Copy-paste your code from Q1 and adapt it.

*HINT: only a single line needs to be added to the assemble, then the solution script that enforces the boundary condition needs to be adapted suitably.*

Use it to solve the BVP from Q2 with  $f = 1$  and  $g = -1/2$  and  $N = 10$ . Plot the exact solution and the FEM solution.

```
In [ ]: # Solution to Q3

# outline of the implementation
using Plots, LaTeXStrings
function assemble_system(X, f)
    # input
    # X : List of grid points, e.g. as Vector{Float64}
    # f : function to evaluate f(x)

    N = length(X) - 1 # number of elements
    A = zeros(N+1, N+1) # should be sparse, but let's not worry
    F = zeros(N+1)

    for j = 1:N
        # compute the contributions to F and A from the element (x_{j-1}, x_j)
        # and write them into A, F
        ξ_j = 0.5 * (X[j]+X[j+1]) # midpoint for quadrature
        h_j = X[j+1] - X[j] # mesh size in current element
        A[j,j] += 1/h_j
        A[j+1,j+1] += 1/h_j
        A[j,j+1] += -1/h_j
        A[j+1,j] += -1/h_j
        F[j] += h_j * f(ξ_j) * 0.5 # 0.5 is the value of \phi_i(\xi_i)
        F[j+1] += h_j * f(ξ_j) * 0.5
    end
    F[N+1] += g
    return A, F
end

# My suggestion is that `assemble_system` returns
# A and F ignoring the boundary condition i.e. for the full
# N+1 DOFs. We can then reduce those to the required size
# for solving only for the free DOFs. (Think about why this works!)

N = 10
X = range(0, 1, length = N+1)
f = x -> 1.0
g = -1/2
A, F = assemble_system(X, f)
U = zeros(N+1)
U[2:N+1] = A[2:N+1, 2:N+1] \ F[2:N+1]; # The #N+1 node is included here so that the Neumann BC is taken into account

In [ ]: # postprocessing and visualization

xp = range(0, 1, 100)
u = xp -> 0.5 * xp .* (1-xp)
plot(; xlabel = L"x", ylabel = L"u(x)", size = (400, 300))
plot!(xp, u, lw=6, label = "exact")
plot!(X, U, lw=2, m=:o, ms=5, label = "FEM")
# print(U[N]) # Used to check the last value of FEM solution
```

