

In this homework assignment you will use `python` to solve the ordinary differential equation associated with the SIR compartment model for the spread of a disease. You will study how the disease spreads across a network of populations

Clone the file [homework3-exercises.ipynb](#) into your Jupyter Notebook and solve the exercises directly there.

You must submit two PDF files to gradescope:

- A L^AT_EX'ed document in PDF format with your answers and conclusions to the problem, referencing the python code and citing all sources used.
- A PDF document from exporting your Jupyter Notebook

1 A Network SIR Model

When modelling the global spread of disease, the assumption of a well-mixed population is often called into question. People are not totally free to mix between countries. We will address this concern by simulating a network of populations. You should view each population as a well-mixed country and the network connections represent the travel permitted between countries.

In the network of populations, each population has its own S , I , and R . We will index them with i . For generality, we will allow the parameters β and γ to vary from population to population. The dynamics are

$$\frac{dS_i}{dt} = -\beta_i S_i I_i + \sum_j T_{i,j}^S S_j - \sum_j T_{j,i}^S S_i, \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{dI_i}{dt} = \beta_i S_i I_i - \gamma_i I_i + \sum_j T_{i,j}^I I_j - \sum_j T_{j,i}^I I_i, \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{dR_i}{dt} = \gamma_i I_i + \sum_j T_{i,j}^R R_j - \sum_j T_{j,i}^R R_i \quad (3)$$

The coefficients $T_{i,j}^S$, $T_{i,j}^I$, and $T_{i,j}^R$ are the travel rates from population j and to population i for the susceptibles, infectives, and recovered respectively. Note that the susceptibles from one population become the susceptibles in another and likewise for infectives and recovered. The travel rates of the susceptibles, infectives, and recovered can be different. The positive travel terms correspond to people entering population i from each other population (sum over j). The negative travel terms correspond to people leaving population i to each other population (sum over j). Note that the subscripts i and j have changed positions. These travel rates determine if travel is possible (a non-zero value) and how frequently travel occurs. Note that the total global population $N = \sum_i (S_i + I_i + R_i)$ is conserved.

2 Assignment

1. On the notebook [homework3-exercises.ipynb](#), read the code and comments of the first part to determine how it works. The core of the program is the call to `ode45` to solve the ordinary differential equation. Note that I have been vague about the units. By setting $\gamma = 1$, I am essentially saying that my unit of time is $1/\gamma$, the typical time for an infected individual to recover. The population sizes should be compared against the total population of N and interpreted as fractions of the population.

2. Run the program that simulates one population. Reduce the value of β and note the reduction in the size of the outbreak in both the maximum number of infected and the terminal number of recovered. Modify the initial condition so that there are initially more infective individuals (reduce the size of the initial susceptibles so that the total population size is the same). How does this affect the size of the outbreak?
3. Observe the second part of the notebook and how the differential equations are entered in the right-hand side function in `multipopulation_sir_rhs`. Run the program and make sure you understand the output plots. The top panel shows the distribution of the populations over time. The first population is on the bottom of the stacked area curves. The pie chart shows the sizes of the compartments. Moving counter-clockwise, the S , I , and R values for each population (if they are large enough) are shown as fractions of the global population at a sequence of times. After the animation finishes, a table of the final global distribution is shown.
4. Set all of the travel rates to zero (T_{none}) and observe that the populations behave independently and compare it to the result of Exercise 1. Set the travel rates using one of the provided structures (circle, a chain, all-to-all, etc) and validate that the output makes sense.
5. Describe two different assumptions in the model of travel implicit in Eqs. (1)–(3).
6. When only susceptibles can travel, how are the long-run numbers of recovered in the network of populations different than that for one population? Set all of the γ equal to 1 and the β equal to $2.0/6000$. For each provided network structure for the susceptibles travel rates (set the others to none) and each of the numbers of populations from 1 to 6, report using a table the percentage of recovered in steady-state. Keep the total global population at 6000 and use equal initial population sizes. Explain anything that you find interesting. Refer to R_0 in your explanation.
7. How does travel of infectives spread the disease? Consider four populations with the original γ and β and no travel for susceptibles or recovered. Reduce the base travel rate to $\nu = 0.01$. You may need to increase the final time of the simulation to find the steady state. For each provided network structure, report the final distribution of recovered and discuss the time courses of the disease spread. Can population 3, with its lower R_0 , prevent the spread of the disease in the one direction circular network? How does the time delay between outbreaks reveal the travel network structure?

3 Numerical Approximation of the Heat Equation

In this part of the homework assignment, you will approximate the steady-state temperature of a 2-dimensional object.

For that, first consider the steady-state heat equation:

$$\Delta u = u_{xx} + u_{yy} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0, \quad (\text{Heat Equation})$$

where Δu is called the Laplacian of u and $u(x, y)$ is the temperature of the 2-dimensional slab at the position (x, y) in Celsius.

We also assume that we know the temperature of the 2-dimensional object on the edges.

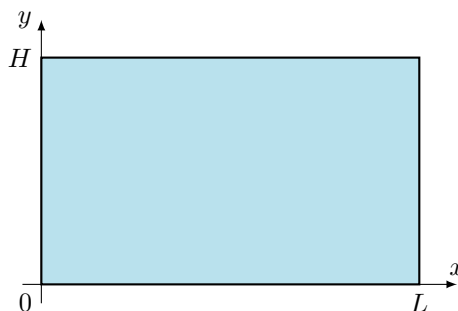
We will use the main idea of Euler's method to approximate the solution to this problem.

8. The main idea of Euler's method is to discretize the derivative of a function:

$$y'(t_n) \approx \frac{y(t_{n+1}) - y(t_n)}{\delta t}$$

Use this idea to obtain a discretized version of $y''(t_n)$.

9. Now consider the domain $0 \leq x \leq L$ and $0 \leq y \leq H$.



Consider the points $x_i = i\Delta x$ and $y_j = j\Delta y$ and the approximation $u_{ij} \approx u(x_i, y_j)$.

Write a discretized formula for $u_{xx}(x_i, y_j)$ in terms of u_{ij} . Do the same for $u_{yy}(x_i, y_j)$.

10. Using these, obtain a numerical scheme for the **Heat Equation**.

Hint: The numerical method should look like a linear system: $A\vec{u} = \vec{b}$.

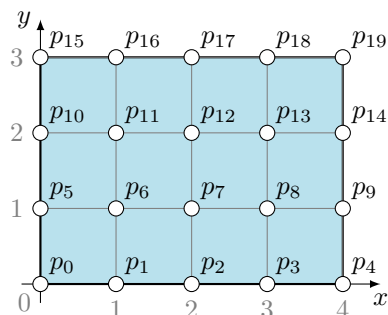
11. This scheme is *implicit*, so we need to find a way to solve it.

For that, consider $L = 4, H = 4$ and the following boundary conditions:

- $u(x, 0) = u(0, y) = 0$
- $u(4, y) = 50$
- $u(x, 3) = 100$

What do they mean in practice?

12. Consider $\Delta x = \Delta y = 1$ and the following definition of points:



Consider the approximate solution vector:

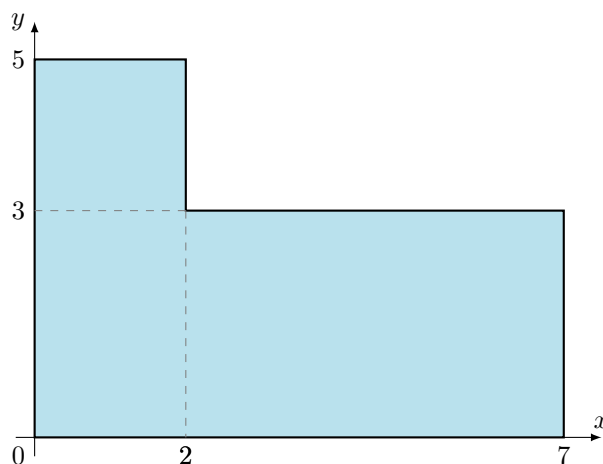
$$\vec{u} = \begin{bmatrix} u(p_0) \\ u(p_1) \\ \vdots \\ u(p_{19}) \end{bmatrix}$$

Write the numerical scheme found above as a system for \vec{u}

$$A\vec{u} = \vec{b}.$$

Explain how you can reduce it to a 6×6 system.

13. On the notebook [homework3-exercises.ipynb](#), read the code and comments and set up the matrix A and vector \vec{b} to solve the 6×6 system and sketch the solution.
14. Consider the same problem with N_x and N_y points on the horizontal and vertical directions, and consider $\Delta x = \frac{4}{N_x}$ and $\Delta y = \frac{3}{N_y}$.
Solve the system and sketch its solution for $\Delta x = \Delta y = 0.1$.
15. **(Bonus)** Solve the system and sketch a solution for the same problem with the domain



and boundary conditions:

- $u(0, y) = u(x, 0) = 0$
- $u(x, 5) = 10x$

- $u(2, y) = 70 - 10y$ for $3 \leq y \leq 5$
- $u(x, 3) = 20 + 10x$ for $2 \leq x \leq 6$
- $u(5, y) = 30x$

Use small values of Δx and Δy so the graph looks good.