

## Computational Homework9 Report

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### 1 Derivation of the Five-Point Second-order Derivative Difference Formula

The five-point formula is derived using the Lagrange interpolation polynomial on five nodes  $x_0, x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4$ . The interpolating polynomial is:

$$P_4(x) = \sum_{k=0}^4 f(x_k) L_k(x)$$

where the Lagrange basis is

$$L_k(x) = \prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^4 \frac{x - x_i}{x_k - x_i}$$

The first derivative of the interpolation polynomial is given by

$$P'_4(x) = \sum_{k=0}^4 f(x_k) L'_k(x)$$
$$P'_4(x) = \sum_{k=0}^4 f(x_k) \frac{\sum_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^4 \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i}}^4 (x - x_j)}{\prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^4 (x_k - x_i)}$$

Similarly, the second derivative of the interpolation polynomial is:

$$P''_4(x) = \sum_{k=0}^4 f(x_k) L''_k(x)$$

$$P_4''(x) = \sum_{k=0}^4 f(x_k) \frac{\sum_{m=0}^4 \sum_{i=0}^4 \prod_{\substack{j=0 \\ j \neq i, j \neq m}}^4 (x - x_j)}{\prod_{\substack{i=0 \\ i \neq k}}^4 (x_k - x_i)}$$

For the five-point second derivative formula at  $x_2$  (uniform grid,  $x_k = x_2 + (k - 2)h$ ):

**For  $k = 0$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(x_0) [(x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_3) + (x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_4) + (x_2 - x_3)(x_2 - x_4)] \times 2}{(x_0 - x_1)(x_0 - x_2)(x_0 - x_3)(x_0 - x_4)} \\ &= \frac{f(x_0) [h(-h) + h(-2h) + (-h)(-2h)] \times 2}{(-h)(-2h)(-3h)(-4h)} \\ &= \frac{f(x_0)(-h^2 - 2h^2 + 2h^2) \times 2}{24h^4} = \frac{f(x_0)(-h^2) \times 2}{24h^4} \\ &= -\frac{f(x_0)}{12h^2} \end{aligned}$$

**For  $k = 1$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{f(x_1) [(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_3) + (x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_4) + (x_2 - x_3)(x_2 - x_4)] \times 2}{(x_1 - x_0)(x_1 - x_2)(x_1 - x_3)(x_1 - x_4)} \\ &= \frac{f(x_1) [2h(-h) + 2h(-2h) + (-h)(-2h)] \times 2}{(h)(-h)(-2h)(-3h)} \\ &= \frac{f(x_1)[-2h^2 - 4h^2 + 2h^2] \times 2}{-6h^4} = \frac{f(x_1)(-4h^2) \times 2}{-6h^4} \\ &= \frac{8f(x_1)}{6h^2} = \frac{16f(x_1)}{12h^2} \end{aligned}$$

**For  $k = 2$ :**

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{f(x_2) \left[ \begin{aligned} & (x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1) + (x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_3) + (x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_4) \\ & + (x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_3) + (x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_4) + (x_2 - x_3)(x_2 - x_4) \end{aligned} \right] \times 2}{(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_3)(x_2 - x_4)} \\
&= \frac{f(x_2) [2h(h) + 2h(-h) + 2h(-2h) + h(-h) + h(-2h) + (-h)(-2h)] \times 2}{(2h)(h)(-h)(-2h)} \\
&= \frac{f(x_2) [2h^2 - 2h^2 - 4h^2 - h^2 - 2h^2 + 2h^2] \times 2}{-4h^4} \\
&= \frac{f(x_2)(-5h^2) \times 2}{-4h^4} \\
&= -\frac{30f(x_2)}{12h^2}
\end{aligned}$$

**For  $k = 3$ :**

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{f(x_3) [(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1) + (x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_4) + (x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_4)] \times 2}{(x_3 - x_0)(x_3 - x_1)(x_3 - x_2)(x_3 - x_4)} \\
&= \frac{f(x_3) [(2h)(h) + (2h)(-2h) + (h)(-2h)] \times 2}{(3h)(2h)(h)(-h)} \\
&= \frac{f(x_3) [2h^2 - 4h^2 - 2h^2] \times 2}{-6h^4} \\
&= \frac{f(x_3)(-4h^2) \times 2}{-6h^4} \\
&= \frac{8f(x_3)}{6h^2} = \frac{16f(x_3)}{12h^2}
\end{aligned}$$

**For  $k = 4$ :**

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{f(x_4) [(x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_1) + (x_2 - x_0)(x_2 - x_3) + (x_2 - x_1)(x_2 - x_3)] \times 2}{(x_4 - x_0)(x_4 - x_1)(x_4 - x_2)(x_4 - x_3)} \\
&= \frac{f(x_4) [(2h)(h) + (2h)(-h) + (h)(-h)] \times 2}{(4h)(3h)(2h)(h)} \\
&= \frac{f(x_4) [2h^2 - 2h^2 - h^2] \times 2}{24h^4} \\
&= \frac{-2f(x_4)h^2}{24h^4} \\
&= -\frac{f(x_4)}{12h^2}
\end{aligned}$$

Then, we can get the five-point formula for the second derivative:

$$f''(x_2) = P_4''(x_2) \approx \frac{1}{12h^2} [-f(x_0) + 16f(x_1) - 30f(x_2) + 16f(x_3) - f(x_4)]$$

## 2 Truncation Error Derivation for the Five-Point Second Derivative Formula

Given the five-point stencil:

$$f''(x_2) \approx \frac{1}{12h^2} [-f(x_0) + 16f(x_1) - 30f(x_2) + 16f(x_3) - f(x_4)]$$

where  $x_k = x_2 + (k - 2)h$ , for  $k = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4$ .

To derive the truncation error, expand each  $f(x_k)$  in a Taylor series about  $x_2$ :

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_2 + mh) &= f(x_2) + mh f'(x_2) + \frac{(mh)^2}{2} f''(x_2) + \frac{(mh)^3}{6} f'''(x_2) \\ &\quad + \frac{(mh)^4}{24} f^{(4)}(x_2) + \frac{(mh)^5}{120} f^{(5)}(x_2) + \frac{(mh)^6}{720} f^{(6)}(\xi_m) \end{aligned}$$

where  $m = -2, -1, 0, 1, 2$  and  $\xi_m$  lies between  $x_2$  and  $x_2 + mh$ .

Now, substitute this into the five-point formula:

$$S = -f(x_0) + 16f(x_1) - 30f(x_2) + 16f(x_3) - f(x_4)$$

Identify  $x_0 = x_2 - 2h$ ,  $x_1 = x_2 - h$ ,  $x_2 = x_2$ ,  $x_3 = x_2 + h$ ,  $x_4 = x_2 + 2h$  and set  $m$  accordingly.

Write the Taylor expansions for each:

$$f(x_2 - 2h) = f(x_2) - 2hf' + 2h^2 f'' - \frac{4h^3}{3} f''' + \frac{2h^4}{3} f^{(4)} - \frac{4h^5}{15} f^{(5)} + \frac{4h^6}{45} f^{(6)} - \frac{8h^7}{315} f^{(7)}(\xi_0)$$

$$f(x_2 - h) = f(x_2) - hf' + \frac{h^2}{2} f'' - \frac{h^3}{6} f''' + \frac{h^4}{24} f^{(4)} - \frac{h^5}{120} f^{(5)} + \frac{h^6}{720} f^{(6)} - \frac{h^7}{5040} f^{(7)}(\xi_1)$$

$$f(x_2) = f(x_2)$$

$$f(x_2 + h) = f(x_2) + hf' + \frac{h^2}{2} f'' + \frac{h^3}{6} f''' + \frac{h^4}{24} f^{(4)} + \frac{h^5}{120} f^{(5)} + \frac{h^6}{720} f^{(6)} - \frac{h^7}{5040} f^{(7)}(\xi_3)$$

$$f(x_2 + 2h) = f(x_2) + 2hf' + 2h^2 f'' + \frac{4h^3}{3} f''' + \frac{2h^4}{3} f^{(4)} + \frac{4h^5}{15} f^{(5)} + \frac{4h^6}{45} f^{(6)} - \frac{8h^7}{315} f^{(7)}(\xi_4)$$

Apply the coefficients:

$$S = -f(x_2 - 2h) + 16f(x_2 - h) - 30f(x_2) + 16f(x_2 + h) - f(x_2 + 2h)$$

**For  $f(x_2)$ :**

$$-1 + 16 - 30 + 16 - 1 = 0$$

**For  $f'(x_2)$ :**

$$[2 - 16 + 16 - 2]h = 0$$

**For  $f''(x_2)$ :**

$$[-1 \cdot 2 + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{2} - 30 \cdot 0 + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{2} - 1 \cdot 2]h^2 = (-2 + 8 + 0 + 8 - 2)h^2 = 12h^2$$

**For  $f'''(x_2)$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} & [-1 \cdot (-\frac{4}{3}) + 16 \cdot (-\frac{1}{6}) + 16 \cdot (\frac{1}{6}) - 1 \cdot \frac{4}{3}]h^3 \\ &= \left( \frac{4}{3} - \frac{16}{6} + \frac{16}{6} - \frac{4}{3} \right) h^3 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

**For  $f^{(4)}(x_2)$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} & [-1 \cdot \frac{2}{3} + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{24} + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{24} - 1 \cdot \frac{2}{3}]h^4 \\ &= \left( -\frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} + \frac{2}{3} - \frac{2}{3} \right) h^4 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

**For  $f^{(5)}(x_2)$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} & [-1 \cdot \left( -\frac{4}{15} \right) + 16 \cdot \left( -\frac{1}{120} \right) + 0 + 16 \cdot \left( \frac{1}{120} \right) - 1 \cdot \left( \frac{4}{15} \right)]h^5 \\ &= \left( \frac{4}{15} - \frac{16}{120} + \frac{16}{120} - \frac{4}{15} \right) h^5 = 0 \end{aligned}$$

**For  $f^{(6)}(x_2)$ :**

$$\begin{aligned} & [-1 \cdot \frac{4}{45} + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{720} + 16 \cdot \frac{1}{720} - 1 \cdot \frac{4}{45}]h^6 \\ &= \left( -\frac{4}{45} + \frac{16}{720} + \frac{16}{720} - \frac{4}{45} \right) h^6 = -\frac{2}{15}h^6 \end{aligned}$$

The truncation error comes from the  $f^{(6)}$  term in the Taylor expansion:

**Truncation error derivation:**

$$\text{Coefficient of } f^{(6)}(x_2) : -\frac{2}{15}h^6$$

In the finite difference formula, we divide by  $12h^2$ :

$$\text{Truncation error} = \frac{-\frac{2}{15}h^6}{12h^2} f^{(6)}(\xi) = -\frac{2h^4}{180} f^{(6)}(\xi) = -\frac{h^4}{90} f^{(6)}(\xi)$$

where  $\xi \in [x_2 - 2h, x_2 + 2h]$ .

### 3 Comparison of Different Finite Precision Difference Formulas

To test the effect of numerical precision, we set  $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$ , so that every  $f(x_i)$  used in calculating differences is rounded to three decimal places.

Since we are calculating the derivative of  $e^x$ ,  $f(x)$  denotes both the original function and its analytic derivative.

```
PS C:\Users\20369> & E:/anaconda3/envs/py310/python.exe "c:/Users/20369/Docu
The true function values at sample points xn:
[ 2.01375271  3.32011692  5.47394739  9.0250135  14.87973172]

The function values with finite precision (rounded to nearest 0.001):
[ 2.014  3.32  5.474  9.025 14.88 ]

The finite-difference results at x0=1.7 and difference interval h=0.5:
Forward difference:  7.10200 with relative error 0.2974183878225215
Backward difference  4.30800 with relative error 0.21299937838081917
Centered difference:  5.70500 with relative error 0.042209504720851165
Five-point difference  5.46233 with relative error 0.0021216971159459235
```

**Figure 1 Demonstration of the effect of three-digit precision ( $\epsilon = 0.001$ ) in function values at grid points for computing the derivative of  $f(x) = e^x$  at  $x_2 = 1.7$  with  $h = 0.5$ . The plot shows true and rounded values for  $f(x_i)$ , as well as the results of each finite difference formula under these conditions.**

```
def f(x):
    return np.exp(x)

class Diff:
    def __init__(self,f,x0,h,e=1e-3):
        self.f=f
        self.x0=x0
        self.h=h
        xn=np.array([self.x0-n*self.h for n in range(2,-3,-1)])
```

```

yn=self.f(xn)
print(f"The true function values at sample points xn:\n{yn}")
self.yn=np.round(yn/e)*e
print(f"The function values with finite precision (rounded to nearest {e}):\n{self.yn}")

```

### 3.1 Finite Difference Methods

We consider four finite difference formulas for approximating  $f'(x_2)$ :

- **Forward Difference:**

$$f'(x_2) = \frac{f(x_3) - f(x_2)}{h}$$

```

def cal_diff(self,mode="forward"):
    diff=(self.yn[3]-self.yn[2])/(self.h)

```

- **Backward Difference:**

$$f'(x_2) = \frac{f(x_2) - f(x_1)}{h}$$

```

if mode=="backward":
    diff=(self.yn[2]-self.yn[1])/(self.h)

```

- **Centered Difference:**

$$f'(x_2) = \frac{f(x_3) - f(x_1)}{2h}$$

```

elif mode=="centered":
    diff=(self.yn[3]-self.yn[1])/(2*self.h)

```

- **Five-Point Difference:**

$$f'(x_2) = \frac{f(x_0) - 8f(x_1) + 8f(x_3) - f(x_4)}{12h}$$

```

elif mode=="five-point":
    diff=(self.yn[0]-8*self.yn[1]+8*self.yn[3]-self.yn[4])/(12*self.h)
    return diff

```

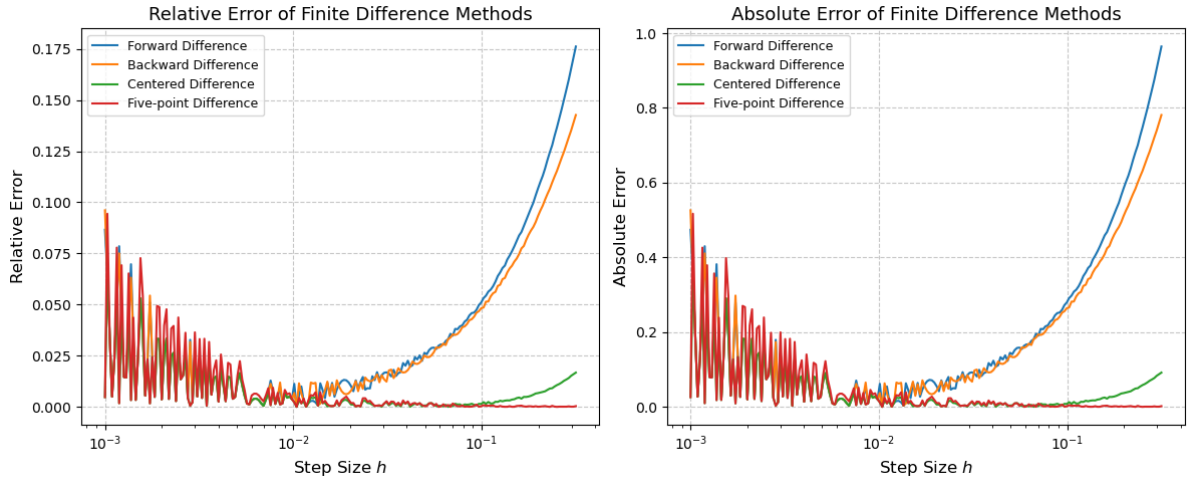
### 3.2 Numerical Results for Different $h$

**Note:**  $x_2 = 1.7$ ,  $f$  and  $f'$  are evaluated at  $x_2$ .

$h$	Forward Value (Rel. Err.)	Backward Value (Rel. Err.)	Centered Value (Rel. Err.)	Five-point Value (Rel. Err.)
0.5	7.10200(0.29742)	4.30800(0.21300)	5.70500(0.04221)	5.46233(0.00212)
0.2	6.06000(0.10706)	4.96000(0.09389)	5.51000(0.00659)	5.47292(0.00019)
0.1	5.76000(0.05226)	5.21000(0.04822)	5.48500(0.00202)	5.47667(0.00050)
0.05	5.40000(0.01351)	5.40000(0.01351)	5.40000(0.01351)	5.36667(0.01960)
0.01	5.00000(0.08658)	6.00000(0.09610)	5.50000(0.00476)	5.50000(0.00476)

**Table 1** Comparison of finite difference formulas for  $f'(1.7)$  with various  $h$ . Each entry shows value (relative error).

### 3.3 Error Curves for All $h$



**Figure 2** Relative and absolute errors for four finite difference derivative formulas (forward, backward, centered, and five-point) at  $x = 1.7$ , using the true value  $f'(x)$  for reference, shown as a function of step size  $h$  (logarithmic scale).

As shown in Fig. 2, the forward and backward formulas have noticeably larger errors than the centered and five-point formulas.

The five-point difference formula consistently offers the smallest error for a wide range of  $h$ .

For all methods, the error generally decreases as  $h$  becomes smaller, reaches a minimum, and then increases again for very small  $h$ . This U-shaped behavior is due to the trade-off between discretization (truncation) error, which decreases with  $h$ , and rounding error, which increases as  $h$  is made too small.