

Boundary value problem

• Our case in Pr. 1 : $-\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} = f(x)$

$$x \in [0, 1]$$

$$u(0) = 0$$

$$u(1) = 0$$

"Dirichlet" boundary conditions

• $u(x)$ unknown

• $f(x)$ known

• $x \in [0, 1]$

• Boundary values : $u(0) = 0$, $u(1) = 0$ (Dirichlet)

• Special case of :

$$\alpha \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} + \beta \frac{du}{dx} + \gamma u(x) = f(x)$$

• Ordinary diff. eq. (only one indep. variable x)

• Linear diff. eq. (each term has max. one power of u, u', u'', \dots)

• Second order (highest-order derivative is u'')

• Inhomogeneous ($f(x) \neq 0$)

• Most diff. eqs. in physics are linear. \Rightarrow sum of two solutions is a new valid solution!

• Many approaches :

- Shooting methods (quickly disc.)
- Finite diff. methods (Pr. 1)
- Finite elem. methods (not covered)

Most famous example

Schr. eq. in QM is linear

\rightarrow Superposition of quantum states!

Shooting method intuition

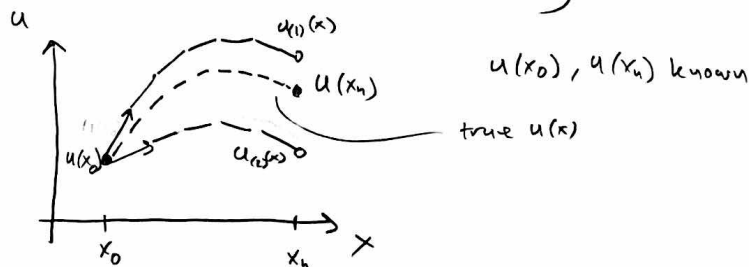
- Turn B.V.P. into initial value problem (know $u(x_0)$ and $u'(x_0)$)

- Know $u(x_0)$
- Guess $u'(x_0)$ and solve forward ("shoot")
- \rightarrow one attempt $u_{(1)}(x)$
- Guess another $u'(x_0)$ and solve forward
- \rightarrow second attempt $u_{(2)}(x)$

- Sum of solutions is a new solution (linearity)

$$u_c(x) = c u_{(1)}(x) + (1-c) u_{(2)}(x)$$

- Require that $u_c(x_1) = u(x_1)$ (second bound. cond.) \Rightarrow Determines $c \Rightarrow$ Solution $u(x) = u_c(x)$!



Finite diff. method

- We have : $-\frac{d^2u}{dx^2} = f(x)$
- Goal : Find $u(x)$
- Know : $x \in [0,1]$, $u(0)$, $u(1)$, $f(x)$
- Strategy :
 - ① Express as matrix eq.
 - ② Solve matrix eq.

① Express as matrix eq.

- Discretize

$$-\left[\frac{u_{i+1} - 2u_i + u_{i-1}}{h^2} + O(h^2) \right] = f_i \quad f_i \equiv f(x_i)$$

- Approximate

- Change notation : $v_i \approx u_i$

$$-\left[\frac{v_{i+1} - 2v_i + v_{i-1}}{h^2} \right] = f_i$$

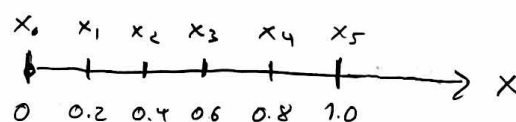
- Arrange terms

$$(*) \quad \boxed{-v_{i-1} + 2v_i - v_{i+1} = h^2 f_i}$$

Goal : Determine v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{n-1}
 Know : v_0, v_n , all f_i

- Here : $n_{\text{steps}} = 5$
 $v_0, v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4, v_5$: 6 pts
 v_0, v_5 are boundary pts.
4 unknown : v_1, \dots, v_4

Pr 1 : You will generalize this !



$h = 0.2$ (very large...)

• (*) represents a set of eqs. Let's write them out in a suggestive way!

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$$\begin{aligned}
 (i=1) \quad & -\cancel{V_0} + 2V_1 - V_2 - V_3 = h^2 f_1 \\
 (i=2) \quad & -V_1 + 2V_2 - V_3 = h^2 f_2 \\
 (i=3) \quad & -V_2 + 2V_3 - V_4 = h^2 f_3 \\
 (i=4) \quad & -V_3 + 2V_4 - \cancel{V_5} = h^2 f_4
 \end{aligned}$$

• V_0, V_5 are known

define
notation
↓

$$\begin{aligned}
 2V_1 - V_2 &= h^2 f_1 + V_0 & \equiv g_1 \\
 -V_1 + 2V_2 - V_3 &= h^2 f_2 & \equiv g_2 \\
 -V_2 + 2V_3 - V_4 &= h^2 f_3 & \equiv g_3 \\
 -V_3 + 2V_4 &= h^2 f_4 + V_5 & \equiv g_4
 \end{aligned}$$

• Can be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_1 \\ V_2 \\ V_3 \\ V_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \\ g_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\boxed{A \bar{V} = \bar{g}}$$

• A, \bar{g} known
• want to solve for \bar{V}

② Solve matrix eq.

• Overview of things we'll discuss

1) Solving a general matrix eq. $A\bar{v} = \bar{g}$

(Gauss elim., LU decomp., iterative methods, ...)

Now \rightarrow 2) Solving $A\bar{v} = \bar{g}$ when A is a general tridiagonal matrix

Gauss elim. \Rightarrow Thomas algorithm

(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)

3) Solving $A\bar{v} = \bar{g}$ when A is the special tridiag. matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

\uparrow subdiag. \uparrow maindiag. \uparrow superdiag.

(You'll think about this in Pr. 7)

• First some words about matrix eq. ...

About solving matrix eqs.

$$\boxed{A \bar{x} = \bar{b}}$$

A, \bar{b} known

\bar{x} unknown

- Comes from set of linear equations

$$m \text{ eqs. } \left\{ \begin{array}{l} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{m1}x_1 + a_{m2}x_2 + \dots + a_{mn}x_n = b_m \end{array} \right.$$

n terms, one per unknown variable (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)

- In general:

$$\begin{matrix} A & \bar{x} & = & \bar{b} \\ (m \times n) & (n \times 1) & & (m \times 1) \end{matrix}$$

e.g.
$$\begin{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \\ a_{41} & a_{42} & a_{43} \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} & = & \begin{bmatrix} b_1 \\ b_2 \\ b_3 \\ b_4 \end{bmatrix} \\ (4 \times 3) & (3 \times 1) & & (4 \times 1) \end{matrix}$$

- We'll focus on the case $m=n \Leftrightarrow A$ is square
 $\Leftrightarrow n$ eqs. and n unknowns

- If all eqs. are lin. indep. (each eq. represent info not contained in the other eqs.)
 we should be able to solve for all unknowns (x_1, \dots, x_n), i.e. for \bar{x} .

If you have more eqs. than unknowns
 \rightarrow no exact solution, but can fit unknowns.
 Typical case in science!

- All eqs. are lin. indep. $\Leftrightarrow A$ is not singular $\Leftrightarrow \det(A) \neq 0$
 (all eigenvalues of A are $\neq 0$)

• Gaussian elimination

$$A \bar{v} = \bar{g}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

- step 1: Forward subst./elim.
 (Turn into upper triang. form)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

upper
triangular

trivial to solve
for last v_i

- step 2: Back subst.

(Use solution for
 v_i to find v_{i-1})

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & 0 \\ & 1 & & 0 \\ & & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \\ \cdot \end{bmatrix}$$

solved for all v_i

• Our case: General tridiagonal A

(Gauss. elim. \rightarrow Thomas algo.)

$$\begin{bmatrix} b_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ a_2 & b_2 & c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & a_3 & b_3 & c_3 \\ 0 & 0 & a_4 & b_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} g_1 \\ g_2 \\ g_3 \\ g_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

subdiag: $\bar{a} = [a_2, a_3, a_4]$

main diag: $\bar{b} = [b_1, b_2, b_3, b_4]$

superdiag: $\bar{c} = [c_1, c_2, c_3]$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} (R_1) & b_1 & c_1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad | \quad g_1 \\ (R_2) & a_2 & b_2 \quad c_2 \quad 0 \quad | \quad g_2 \\ (R_3) & 0 & a_3 \quad b_3 \quad c_3 \quad | \quad g_3 \\ (R_4) & 0 & 0 \quad a_4 \quad b_4 \quad | \quad g_4 \end{array}$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow R_2 - \frac{a_2}{b_1} R_1$$

$$\begin{array}{lcl} (a_2 - \frac{a_2}{b_1} b_1) & b_1 & c_1 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad | \quad g_1 \\ \rightarrow 0 & (b_2 - \frac{a_2}{b_1} c_1) & c_2 \quad 0 \quad | \quad (g_2 - \frac{a_2}{b_1} g_1) \\ & 0 & a_3 \quad b_3 \quad c_3 \quad | \quad g_3 \\ & 0 & 0 \quad a_4 \quad b_4 \quad | \quad g_4 \end{array}$$

• New notation :

$$\tilde{b}_2 = b_2 - \frac{a_2}{\tilde{b}_1} c_1 \quad \text{Also: } \tilde{b}_1 = b_1$$

$$\tilde{g}_2 = g_2 - \frac{a_2}{\tilde{b}_1} \tilde{g}_1 \quad \tilde{g}_1 = g_1$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} \tilde{b}_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{g}_1 \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_2 & c_2 & 0 & \tilde{g}_2 \\ 0 & \textcircled{a_3} & b_3 & c_3 & g_3 \\ 0 & 0 & a_4 & b_4 & g_4 \end{array}$$

• Cont. like this :

Row op: $R_3 \rightarrow R_3 - \frac{a_3}{\tilde{b}_2} R_2$

Define :

$$\tilde{b}_3 = b_3 - \frac{a_3}{\tilde{b}_2} c_2$$

$$\tilde{g}_3 = g_3 - \frac{a_3}{\tilde{b}_2} \tilde{g}_2$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} \tilde{b}_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{g}_1 \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_2 & c_2 & 0 & \tilde{g}_2 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{b}_3 & c_3 & \tilde{g}_3 \\ 0 & 0 & a_4 & b_4 & g_4 \end{array}$$

• Last step

$R_4 \rightarrow R_4 - \frac{a_4}{\tilde{b}_3} R_3$

Define :

$$\tilde{b}_4 = b_4 - \frac{a_4}{\tilde{b}_3} c_3$$

$$\tilde{g}_4 = g_4 - \frac{a_4}{\tilde{b}_3} \tilde{g}_3$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{array}{cccc|c} \tilde{b}_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{g}_1 \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_2 & c_2 & 0 & \tilde{g}_2 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{b}_3 & c_3 & \tilde{g}_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{b}_4 & \tilde{g}_4 \end{array}$$

Forward subst. done!

For coding: do need for matrix,
but arrays for
 $\bar{a}, \bar{b}, \bar{c}, \bar{g}, \bar{\tilde{b}}, \bar{\tilde{g}}, \bar{v}$

Forward subst. :

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} \tilde{b}_1 = b_1 \\ \tilde{b}_i = b_i - \frac{a_i}{\tilde{b}_{i-1}} c_{i-1} \quad \text{for } i=2,3,4 \\ \tilde{g}_1 = g_1 \\ \tilde{g}_i = g_i - \frac{a_i}{\tilde{b}_{i-1}} \tilde{g}_{i-1} \quad \text{for } i=2,3,4 \end{array} \right]$$

→ • Back subst.

Starting point:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{b}_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_2 & c_2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{b}_3 & c_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{b}_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \\ v_3 \\ v_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{g}_1 \\ \tilde{g}_2 \\ \tilde{g}_3 \\ \tilde{g}_4 \end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \tilde{b}_4 v_4 = \tilde{g}_4$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{v_4 = \frac{\tilde{g}_4}{\tilde{b}_4}}$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow \frac{R_4}{\tilde{b}_4}$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} \tilde{b}_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{g}_1 \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_2 & c_2 & 0 & \tilde{g}_2 \\ 0 & 0 & \tilde{b}_3 & c_3 & \tilde{g}_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & v_4 \quad (= \frac{\tilde{g}_4}{\tilde{b}_4}) \end{array}$$

$$R_3 \rightarrow (R_3 - c_3 R_4) / \tilde{b}_3$$

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} \tilde{b}_1 & c_1 & 0 & 0 & \tilde{g}_1 \\ 0 & \tilde{b}_2 & c_2 & 0 & \tilde{g}_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & (\tilde{g}_3 - c_3 v_4) / \tilde{b}_3 = v_3 \quad ! \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & v_4 \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow V_3 = \frac{\tilde{g}_3 - c_3 V_4}{\tilde{b}_3}$$

• Can continue upwards like this. In the end

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} V_4 = \frac{\tilde{g}_4}{\tilde{b}_4} \\ V_i = \frac{\tilde{g}_i - c_i V_{i+1}}{\tilde{b}_i} \quad i = 3, 2, 1 \end{array} \right]$$

Back subst. done!

$$\begin{array}{cccc|c} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & v_1 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & v_2 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & v_3 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & v_4 \end{array}$$

• Using Gaussian elim. on a general tridiag matrix (4×4)
We have solved

$$A\bar{v} = \bar{g}$$

$$\text{for } \bar{v} = [v_1, v_2, v_3, v_4]$$

Two parts to procedure:

- Forward subst. / elim.
- Back subst.

• Possible question: Why do all this stuff? Why not rather find A^{-1} and say

$$\bar{v} = A^{-1}\bar{g}?$$

Answer: Finding A^{-1} takes $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ operations.

Useful if solving many eqs. with A ;
but for only a single eq. $A\bar{v} = \bar{g}$,
other methods are quicker.

$$\begin{array}{l} A\bar{v}_1 = \bar{g}_1 \\ A\bar{v}_2 = \bar{g}_2 \\ A\bar{v}_3 = \bar{g}_3 \\ \vdots \end{array}$$