ME140A: Numerical Analysis in Engineering Lecture Notes

Alexander Meiburg

9/22/22 - 11/6/22

Course Organization

- Goal: Numerical solution of integrals and differential equations
- ► Homework will rely significantly on you programming these methods you learn. MATLAB recommended, alternatives welcome
- ► Collaborate on the homework! You learn more that way. Just make sure that you are, in fact, learning. ②
- ► HW: 10% of grade. Exams: 30%/30%/30%.
- Submit homework via email
- Office hours by appointment or Zoom, but my schedule is very open!
- ► Full syllabus available here
- ► These notes will be continually updated here

Recall: **Differentiation** systematically lets you take a function F(x) and find its derivative f(x) = F'(x).

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(e^{\sin(x+\log x)}\right) = e^{\sin(x+\log x)}\cos(x+\log x)\left(1+1/x\right)$$

Recall: **Differentiation** systematically lets you take a function F(x) and find its derivative f(x) = F'(x).

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(e^{\sin(x+\log x)}\right) = e^{\sin(x+\log x)}\cos(x+\log x)\left(1+1/x\right)$$

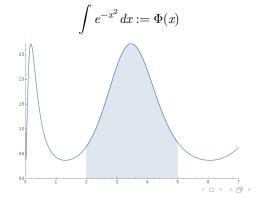
Integration asks for the opposite. You have a handful of rules(!), but they can't cover every case. Often impossible, and we resort to defining new functions or using the computer

$$\int e^{-x^2} dx := \Phi(x)$$

Recall: **Differentiation** systematically lets you take a function F(x) and find its derivative f(x) = F'(x).

$$\frac{d}{dx}\left(e^{\sin(x+\log x)}\right) = e^{\sin(x+\log x)}\cos(x+\log x)\left(1+1/x\right)$$

Integration asks for the opposite. You have a handful of rules(!), but they can't cover every case. Often impossible, and we resort to defining new functions or using the computer



Example: Computing the position of an object after some movement.

$$y(t) = Position$$
 as a function of time

$$v(t) = Velocity$$

$$v = \frac{dy(t)}{dt}, \quad y(t) = \int_0^t v(t) dt$$

Example: Computing the position of an object after some movement.

$$y(t) = Position$$
 as a function of time

$$v(t) = Velocity$$

$$v = \frac{dy(t)}{dt}, \quad y(t) = \int_0^t v(t) dt$$

What form are we given v(t)? Could be:

Explicit function of t (from theory, specifications...)

Example: Computing the position of an object after some movement.

$$y(t) = Position$$
 as a function of time

$$v(t) = Velocity$$

$$v = \frac{dy(t)}{dt}, \quad y(t) = \int_0^t v(t) dt$$

What form are we given v(t)? Could be:

- Explicit function of t (from theory, specifications...)
- ► Data (samples at certain points)

Example: Computing the position of an object after some movement.

y(t) = Position as a function of time

$$v(t) = Velocity$$

$$v = \frac{dy(t)}{dt}, \quad y(t) = \int_0^t v(t) dt$$

What form are we given v(t)? Could be:

- Explicit function of t (from theory, specifications...)
- Data (samples at certain points)
- ightharpoonup A function of t and of y, or something else

This last one forms a differential equation, and will need different methods. But many ideas will transfer!

Example: Computing the position of an object after some movement.

$$y(t) = \mathsf{Position}$$
 as a function of time

$$v(t) = \mathsf{Velocity}$$

$$v = \frac{dy(t)}{dt}, \quad y(t) = \int_0^t v(t) dt$$

What form are we given v(t)? Could be:

- Explicit function of t (from theory, specifications...)
- Data (samples at certain points)
- ightharpoonup A function of t and of y, or something else

This last one forms a differential equation, and will need different methods. But many ideas will transfer!

May also have y as an integral over *several* variables, not just one. *e.g.* Dust accumulating on a surface varies with x, y, and t. Can do three integrals in a row (analytically), or one 3D integral (numerically).

Aside: Numerical Differentiation

Differentiation is easy if we have an exact formula, but what about for data points?

Aside: Numerical Differentiation

Differentiation is easy if we have an exact formula, but what about for data points?

$$v(t) \approx \frac{y(t+1s) - y(t)}{1s}$$

Aside: Numerical Differentiation

Differentiation is easy if we have an exact formula, but what about for data points?

$$v(t) \approx \frac{y(t+1s) - y(t)}{1s}$$

But consider:

t	y(t)
0	5
1	6.1
2	7.3
3	8.4
4	9.8
7	15.3
8	17.4
9	59.8
10	138.7
11	138.8

Issues such as irregular data, or gaps in time too large to understand what happened. Big question in its own right, Week 2!



Problem: given f(t), find $F(t) = \int_0^t f(t) \, dt$. If f(t) is too complicated, let's find something simpler we can integrate. What's simple? Polynomials!

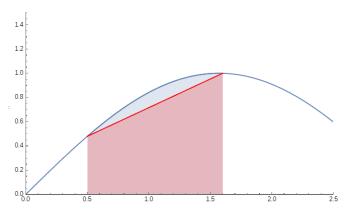
Problem: given f(t), find $F(t) = \int_0^t f(t) dt$. If f(t) is too complicated, let's find something simpler we can integrate. What's simple? Polynomials!

Idea: **Sample** the function at several points, **estimate** the function in between with a simpler formula, **analytically integrate** the estimate.

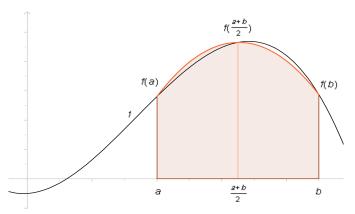
Problem: given f(t), find $F(t) = \int_0^t f(t) dt$. If f(t) is too complicated, let's find something simpler we can integrate. What's simple? Polynomials!

Idea: **Sample** the function at several points, **estimate** the function in between with a simpler formula, **analytically integrate** the estimate.

Simplest: Linear fit through two points. ("Trapezoidal rule")



Fit quadratic ("Simpson's rule"):



Credit: Wikimedia

In general, find

$$f_n(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots a_n x^n$$

and integrate

$$\int_{a}^{b} f_n(x) \ dx$$

Turns out: a_i depend linearly on the $f(x_i)$, so the result is some weighted sum of the $f(x_i)$.

In general, find

$$f_n(x) = a_0 + a_1 x + a_2 x^2 + \dots a_n x^n$$

and integrate

$$\int_{a}^{b} f_n(x) \, dx$$

Turns out: a_i depend linearly on the $f(x_i)$, so the result is some weighted sum of the $f(x_i)$.

Trapezoidal:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx \approx \frac{b-a}{2} (f(b) + f(a))$$

Simpson's:

$$\int_a^b f(x) \ dx \approx \frac{b-a}{6} \left(f(b) + 4f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + f(a) \right)$$

If our function is too complicated over $\left[a,b\right]\!,$ then subdivide and do each separately.

$$\int_{x=a}^{b} f(x) = \int_{x=a}^{(a+b)/2} f(x) + \int_{x=(a+b)/2}^{b} f(x)$$

If our function is too complicated over $\left[a,b\right]$, then subdivide and do each separately.

$$\int_{x=a}^{b} f(x) = \int_{x=a}^{(a+b)/2} f(x) + \int_{x=(a+b)/2}^{b} f(x)$$

$$250$$

$$200$$

$$150$$

$$-$$

$$100$$

$$-$$

$$50$$

$$0$$

$$2$$

$$4$$

$$6$$

$$8$$

$$10$$

Error Analysis

Write

$$f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2}(x - a)^2 + \dots$$

First and second terms accurate, third isn't. Fitting gives

$$E_{trap} \approx \frac{1}{12} |f''(\xi)| (b-a)^2$$

Error Analysis

Write

$$f(x) = f(a) + f'(a)(x - a) + \frac{f''(a)}{2}(x - a)^2 + \dots$$

First and second terms accurate, third isn't. Fitting gives

$$E_{trap} \approx \frac{1}{12} |f''(\xi)| (b-a)^2$$

Refine this with subintervals

Left endpoint rule:

$$F = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} f(a)$$
$$\text{Err} \le |f'| \frac{(b-a)^{2}}{2}$$

Left endpoint rule:

$$F = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} f(a)$$
$$\text{Err} \le |f'| \frac{(b-a)^{2}}{2}$$

► Midpoint rule:

$$F = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)$$
$$Err \le |f''| \frac{(b-a)^{3}}{24}$$

Left endpoint rule:

$$F = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} f(a)$$
$$\text{Err} \le |f'| \frac{(b-a)^{2}}{2}$$

► Midpoint rule:

$$F = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right)$$
$$\text{Err} \le |f''| \frac{(b-a)^{3}}{24}$$

► Trapezoid rule:

$$F = \int_a^b f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} \frac{f(a) + f(b)}{2}$$
$$\text{Err} \le |f''| \frac{(b-a)^3}{12}$$

► Simpson's "1/3" rule:

$$F = \int_a^b f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} \frac{f(a) + 4f((a+b)/2) + f(b)}{3}$$

$$\text{Err} \le |f^4| \frac{(b-a)^5}{180}$$

► Simpson's "1/3" rule:

$$F = \int_a^b f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} \frac{f(a) + 4f((a+b)/2) + f(b)}{3}$$

$$\text{Err} \le |f^4| \frac{(b-a)^5}{180}$$

► Simpson's "3/8" rule:

$$F = \int_{a}^{b} f(x) \approx \frac{(a-b)}{2} \frac{f(a) + 3f((2a+b)/3) + 3f((a+2b)/3) + f(b)}{8}$$
$$\operatorname{Err} \le |f^{4}| \frac{(b-a)^{5}}{6480}$$

Subdivide into intervals of size h = (b - a)/n.

Subdivide into intervals of size h = (b - a)/n. Trapezoidal Rule:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{2} \sum_{i=2}^{n} \left[f(x_{j-1}) + f(x_{j}) \right]$$
 (1)

$$= \frac{h}{2} \left[f(x_0) + 2 \sum_{j=2}^{n-1} f(x_j) + f(x_n) \right]$$
 (2)

Subdivide into intervals of size h = (b - a)/n. Trapezoidal Rule:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{2} \sum_{j=2}^{n} \left[f(x_{j-1}) + f(x_{j}) \right]$$
 (1)

$$= \frac{h}{2} \left[f(x_0) + 2 \sum_{j=2}^{n-1} f(x_j) + f(x_n) \right]$$
 (2)

Error changes from

$$\operatorname{Err} \le |f''| \frac{(b-a)^3}{12}$$

into

$$\operatorname{Err} \le n \cdot |f'| \frac{((b-a)/n)^3}{12} = |f'| \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2}$$

Scaling like $1/n^2$, so this has a *second order* approximation error. (It is a *first order* rule, because it fits a first order polynomial – a line segment.)

Simpson's 1/3 Rule:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{3} \sum_{j=1}^{n/2} \left[f(x_{2j-2}) + 4f(x_{2j-1}) + f(x_{2j}) \right]$$
 (3)

$$= \frac{h}{3} \left[f(x_0) + 4 \sum_{j=1}^{n/2} f(x_{2j-1}) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n/2-1} f(x_{2j}) + f(x_n) \right]$$
 (4)

Simpson's 1/3 Rule:

$$\int_{a}^{b} f(x) dx \approx \frac{h}{3} \sum_{j=1}^{n/2} \left[f(x_{2j-2}) + 4f(x_{2j-1}) + f(x_{2j}) \right]$$
 (3)

$$= \frac{h}{3} \left[f(x_0) + 4 \sum_{j=1}^{n/2} f(x_{2j-1}) + 2 \sum_{j=1}^{n/2-1} f(x_{2j}) + f(x_n) \right]$$
 (4)

Error changes from

$$\operatorname{Err} \le |f^4| \frac{(b-a)^5}{180}$$

into

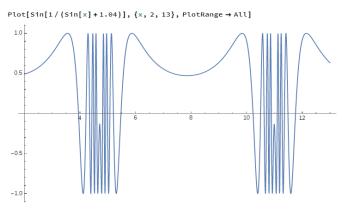
$$\operatorname{Err} \le n \cdot |f^4| \frac{((b-a)/n)^5}{180} = |f^4| \frac{(b-a)^5}{180n^4}$$

Scaling like $1/n^4$, so this has a *fourth order* approximation error. (It is a *second order* rule, because it fits a second order polynomial.)

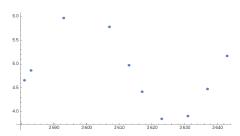
...and beyond?

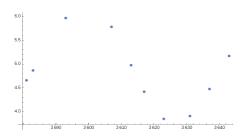
...and beyond? These have been extended to use 4th, 5th, 6th... order polynomials, and get higher-order methods. In practice, the $1/n^k$ is not the limiting factor if k>4, and the integral will only improve with smaller intervals.

...and beyond? These have been extended to use 4th, 5th, 6th... order polynomials, and get higher-order methods. In practice, the $1/n^k$ is not the limiting factor if k>4, and the integral will only improve with smaller intervals.

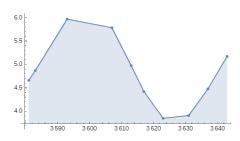


You just can't get this accurate, without having small intervals! And once you get small enough, the function will be roughly quadratic anyway.

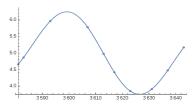




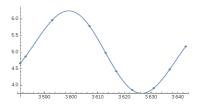
Trapezoidal integration on each part:



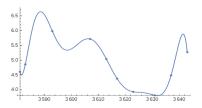
In principle, we can fit higher-order polynomials as well



In principle, we can fit higher-order polynomials as well



But this can again be very sensitive and unstable:



In practice, also expensive to compute. Need to recompute the "weights" each time, which requires solving a linear system.

Multidimensional Integration

Computing

$$F = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} e^{x \sin(y)} + \frac{\ln(y-x)}{\ln(y)} \, dy \, dx$$

Multidimensional Integration

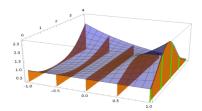
Computing

$$F = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} e^{x \sin(y)} + \frac{\ln(y-x)}{\ln(y)} \, dy \, dx$$

One option: do each integral with its own 1D algorithm.

$$F = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} G(x) \ dx$$

$$G(x) = \int_{y_1}^{y_2} e^{x \sin(y)} + \frac{\ln(y-x)}{\ln(y)} dy$$

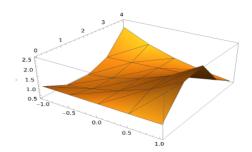


Multidimensional Integration

Computing

$$F = \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \int_{y_1}^{y_2} e^{x \sin(y)} + \frac{\ln(y-x)}{\ln(y)} dy dx$$

Or, custom multi-dimensional versions of integration rules. Simple functions integrated over squares, triangles, etc.



Trapezoidal rule:

$$I = I_n + |f'| \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2} + \text{higher order}$$

As a function of n, can we study the behavior?

Trapezoidal rule:

$$I = I_n + |f'| \frac{(b-a)^3}{12n^2} + higher order$$

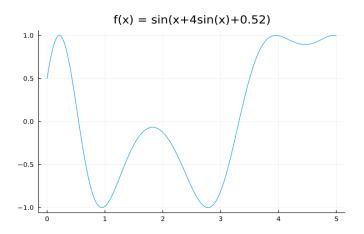
As a function of n, can we study the behavior?

$$I_n \approx c_1 + \frac{c_2}{n^2}$$

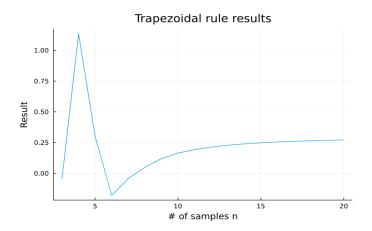
Fit some data points, extract the true integral c_1 ? With the higher terms,

$$I_n \approx c_1 + \frac{c_2}{n^2} + \frac{c_3}{n^3} + \dots$$
?

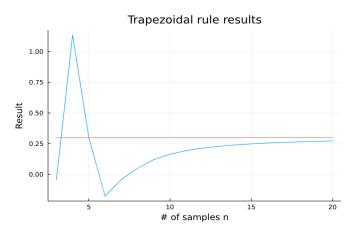
(NB: Actually the next term is only $1/n^4$)

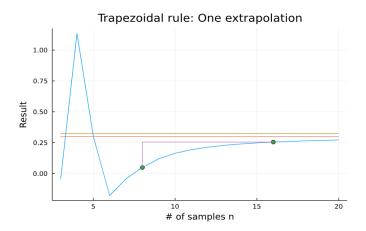


Inspect our function. What kind of accuracy do you think we need?



Accuracy has initial "bad" period, then for $n \ge 6$ we see smooth $1/n^2$ decay in error. Estimate the asymptote





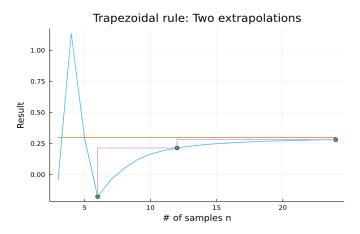
Two point estimate of asymptote: $\frac{4}{3}I_{16}-\frac{1}{3}I_{8}$

This result is a *new* integration rule: take any previous rule with error $1/n^k$, and cancel out the errors. This gives you a new rule with error $1/n^{k+2}$.

If we one integral uses a subset of the other integral's points, we don't need any new samples.

This result is a *new* integration rule: take any previous rule with error $1/n^k$, and cancel out the errors. This gives you a new rule with error $1/n^{k+2}$.

If we one integral uses a subset of the other integral's points, we don't need any new samples. ...and we can apply this process to itself, to keep raising the order!



Four point estimate of asymptote: $\frac{64}{45} \emph{I}_{24} - \frac{20}{45} \emph{I}_{12} + \frac{1}{45} \emph{I}_{6}$

n=24 trapezoidal error: 0.0183 n=24 one extrapolation: 0.00402

n=24 two extrapolations: 0.00127

We got 10x the accuracy with no extra samples!

Romberg Algorithm

$$I_{j,k} = \frac{4^{k-1}I_{j+1,k-1} - I_{j,k-1}}{4^{k-1} - 1}$$

Here, j is doubling the number of samples: e.g. j=4 has 1000 samples means j=5 has 2000 samples. k is the order of the method: original trapezoid rule starts at k=1.

Romberg Algorithm

$$I_{j,k} = \frac{4^{k-1}I_{j+1,k-1} - I_{j,k-1}}{4^{k-1} - 1}$$

Here, j is doubling the number of samples: e.g. j=4 has 1000 samples means j=5 has 2000 samples. k is the order of the method: original trapezoid rule starts at k=1. Lets us estimate error:

$$|\epsilon| pprox \left| rac{I_{1,k} - I_{2,k-1}}{I_{1,k}} \right|$$

Gaussian Quadrature

Choosing our integration points wisely: reducing error.

$$x_0 = \frac{a+b}{2} - \frac{b-a}{\sqrt{3}}, \quad x_1 = \frac{a+b}{2} + \frac{b-a}{\sqrt{3}}$$

yields a $\it fourth$ order method (depends on $|\it f^4|)$ with only two samples. [Picture]

Consider a one-variable ODE,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, t)$$

What can we say about long-term behavior of x(t)?

Consider a one-variable ODE,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, t)$$

What can we say about long-term behavior of x(t)?

Not much, since f can depend on t arbitrarily. But if f only depends on x, then we can only have *monotonic* behavior.

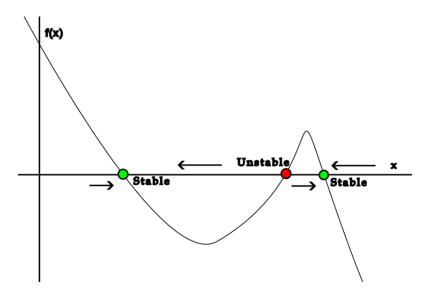
Consider a one-variable ODE,

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, t)$$

What can we say about long-term behavior of x(t)?

Not much, since f can depend on t arbitrarily. But if f only depends on x, then we can only have *monotonic* behavior.

Can't have $x(t)=\sin(t)$, because at the same value of x=0 we have both $\frac{dx}{dt}=1$ (when t=0) and $\frac{dx}{dt}=-1$ (when $t=\pi$).



The fixed points will occur where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \implies f(x) = 0$$

The fixed points will occur where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \implies f(x) = 0$$

Suppose x_0 is a fixed point, and we're at $x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon$. What happens?

The fixed points will occur where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \implies f(x) = 0$$

Suppose x_0 is a fixed point, and we're at $x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon$. What happens?

If f(x) is positive, then we'll keep increasing, and move away from the fixed point, and ϵ grows. If f(x) is negative, we'll decrease, and head back towards x_0 .

The fixed points will occur where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \implies f(x) = 0$$

Suppose x_0 is a fixed point, and we're at $x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon$. What happens?

If f(x) is positive, then we'll keep increasing, and move away from the fixed point, and ϵ grows. If f(x) is negative, we'll decrease, and head back towards x_0 .

If we're at $x(0)=x_0-\epsilon$, opposite occurs. Can tell which will happen using the *derivative of f*.

The fixed points will occur where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0 \implies f(x) = 0$$

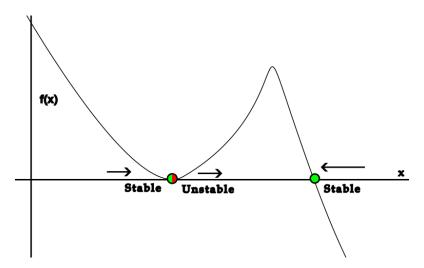
Suppose x_0 is a fixed point, and we're at $x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon$. What happens?

If f(x) is positive, then we'll keep increasing, and move away from the fixed point, and ϵ grows. If f(x) is negative, we'll decrease, and head back towards x_0 .

If we're at $x(0)=x_0-\epsilon$, opposite occurs. Can tell which will happen using the *derivative of f*.

$$f(x_0) > 0 \implies \epsilon \text{ grows} \implies \text{Unstable}$$

 $f(x_0) < 0 \implies \epsilon \text{ shrinks} \implies \text{Stable}$



When $f(x_0)=0$ and $f'(x_0)=0$, we can have half stability: stable from one side, not from the other. Which side is which depends on $f'(x_0)$. Not all such points are half-stable. For example, consider $f(x)=x^3$. Also keep in mind f(x)=|x| or $f(x)=-\sqrt[3]{x}$. Now f isn't differentiable at zero, but we can still see that |x| is half-stable and $-\sqrt[3]{x}$ is stable.

What happens with the two-variable system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y)$$

What happens with the two-variable system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y)$$

Remember that we can always right 2nd-order ODEs as 1st-order ODEs in new variables.

$$\frac{d_2x}{dx^2} = -x \implies x(t) = \sin(t)$$

becomes

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -x.$$

What happens with the two-variable system

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y)$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y)$$

Remember that we can always right 2nd-order ODEs as 1st-order ODEs in new variables.

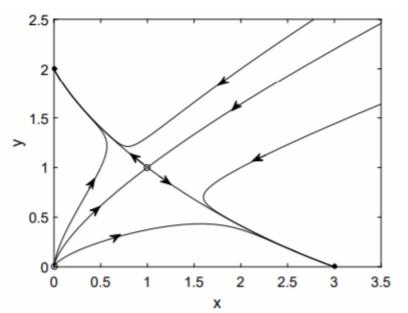
$$\frac{d_2x}{dx^2} = -x \implies x(t) = \sin(t)$$

becomes

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -x.$$

More than just unstable and stable! Can have indefinite oscillations.



Can still discuss fixed points, at least. Points where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y) = 0, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y) = 0$$

Can still discuss fixed points, at least. Points where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y) = 0, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y) = 0$$

Fixed points can be:

► Stable: small perturbation shrinks in size

Can still discuss fixed points, at least. Points where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y) = 0, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y) = 0$$

Fixed points can be:

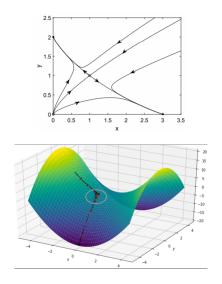
- ► Stable: small perturbation shrinks in size
- ▶ Unstable: small perturbations grow without bound

Can still discuss fixed points, at least. Points where

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(x, y) = 0, \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = g(x, y) = 0$$

Fixed points can be:

- Stable: small perturbation shrinks in size
- ▶ Unstable: small perturbations grow without bound
- ► Saddle nodes / saddle points: approach from two directions, but ultimately unstable



credit



credit

Often the fixed points don't paint a complete story, and what we care about is oscillations, or cycles.

Often the fixed points don't paint a complete story, and what we care about is oscillations, or cycles.

Cycles could:

► Gradually peter out – actually a stable fixed point! Damped harmonic oscillator.

Often the fixed points don't paint a complete story, and what we care about is oscillations, or cycles.

Cycles could:

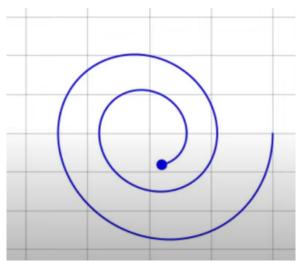
- Gradually peter out actually a stable fixed point! Damped harmonic oscillator.
- Conserve some quantity. Infinitely many cycles, coexisting.
 Undamped oscillator

Often the fixed points don't paint a complete story, and what we care about is oscillations, or cycles.

Cycles could:

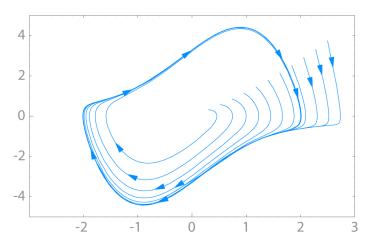
- ► Gradually peter out actually a stable fixed point! Damped harmonic oscillator.
- ► Conserve some quantity. Infinitely many cycles, coexisting. Undamped oscillator
- ► Have a natural radius stable cycles! Driven, damped oscillator (e.g. vibrating, resonating machinery)

Damped harmonic oscillator:



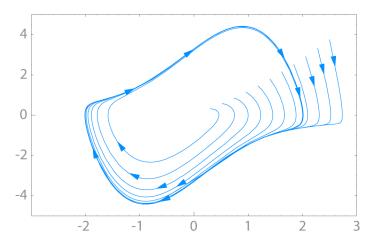
Fixed point at (0,0). The derivatives there can tell us whether it falls "straight" in or spirals around.

Stable, driven cycle – or *limit cycle*. e.g. Van der Pol equation:



credit

Stable, driven cycle - or limit cycle. e.g. Van der Pol equation:



credit Run it backwards, and we have an unstable limit cycle.

How do we determine the stability of a fixed point in more variables?

How do we determine the stability of a fixed point in more variables?

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

Intuitively, J tells us how

$$x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon_x, \quad y(0) = y_0 + \epsilon_y$$

evolves. Approximately,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{d\epsilon_x}{dt} \\ \frac{d\epsilon_y}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = J \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_x \\ \epsilon_y \end{bmatrix}$$

How do we determine the stability of a fixed point in more variables?

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial g}{\partial x} & \frac{\partial g}{\partial y} \end{bmatrix}$$

Intuitively, J tells us how

$$x(0) = x_0 + \epsilon_x, \quad y(0) = y_0 + \epsilon_y$$

evolves. Approximately,

$$\begin{bmatrix} \frac{d\epsilon_x}{dt} \\ \frac{d\epsilon_y}{dt} \end{bmatrix} = J \begin{bmatrix} \epsilon_x \\ \epsilon_y \end{bmatrix}$$

This *linear* ODE has a simple solution in terms of the eigenvalues of J.

In terms of the eigenvalues of J:

- ▶ All eigenvalues of *J* have positive real part: unstable
- ► All negative: stable fixed point
- ► Mixture of positive and negative: saddle node
- ▶ Zero real part: like 1D, needs further analysis.
- Nonzero imaginary parts means they spiral

In terms of the eigenvalues of J:

- ▶ All eigenvalues of *J* have positive real part: unstable
- ► All negative: stable fixed point
- ► Mixture of positive and negative: saddle node
- ▶ Zero real part: like 1D, needs further analysis.
- Nonzero imaginary parts means they spiral

This all holds in any number of variables. In 2D, easy tests:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$det(J) = ad - bc$$
, $Tr(J) = a + d$

The det(J) is the product of the two eigenvalues, Tr(J) is the sum.

In terms of the eigenvalues of J:

- ▶ All eigenvalues of *J* have positive real part: unstable
- ► All negative: stable fixed point
- ► Mixture of positive and negative: saddle node
- Zero real part: like 1D, needs further analysis.
- Nonzero imaginary parts means they spiral

This all holds in any number of variables. In 2D, easy tests:

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{bmatrix}$$

$$det(J) = ad - bc$$
, $Tr(J) = a + d$

The $\det(J)$ is the product of the two eigenvalues, $\mathrm{Tr}(J)$ is the sum. Stable if and only if $\det(J)>0$ and $\mathrm{Tr}(J)<0$. Saddle node if $\det(J)<0$. Spirals if

$$\det(J) > \frac{(\operatorname{Tr}(J))^2}{4}$$

Example: a damped harmonic oscillator.

$$x''(t) = -kx - \gamma x'(t)$$

A stiffness k>0 and damping friction $\gamma\geq 0.$

Example: a damped harmonic oscillator.

$$x''(t) = -kx - \gamma x'(t)$$

A stiffness k>0 and damping friction $\gamma\geq 0$. Rewrite as two first-order equations:

$$x'(t) = v, \quad v'(t) = -kx - \gamma v$$

Example: a damped harmonic oscillator.

$$x''(t) = -kx - \gamma x'(t)$$

A stiffness k>0 and damping friction $\gamma\geq 0$. Rewrite as two first-order equations:

$$x'(t) = v, \quad v'(t) = -kx - \gamma v$$

Jacobian is

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k & -\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

Example: a damped harmonic oscillator.

$$x''(t) = -kx - \gamma x'(t)$$

A stiffness k>0 and damping friction $\gamma\geq 0$. Rewrite as two first-order equations:

$$x'(t) = v, \quad v'(t) = -kx - \gamma v$$

Jacobian is

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k & -\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

Determinant and trace:

$$det(J) = k$$
, $Tr(J) = -\gamma$

Example: a damped harmonic oscillator.

$$x''(t) = -kx - \gamma x'(t)$$

A stiffness k>0 and damping friction $\gamma\geq 0$. Rewrite as two first-order equations:

$$x'(t) = v, \quad v'(t) = -kx - \gamma v$$

Jacobian is

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k & -\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

Determinant and trace:

$$\det(J) = k$$
, $\operatorname{Tr}(J) = -\gamma$

See that the determinant is always positive, trace is negative when $\gamma>0$. So it's stable! Has spirals as long as $k>\frac{\gamma^2}{4}$, the "underdamped" regime.

Example: a damped harmonic oscillator.

$$x''(t) = -kx - \gamma x'(t)$$

A stiffness k>0 and damping friction $\gamma\geq 0$. Rewrite as two first-order equations:

$$x'(t) = v, \quad v'(t) = -kx - \gamma v$$

Jacobian is

$$J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -k & -\gamma \end{bmatrix}$$

Determinant and trace:

$$\det(J) = k$$
, $\operatorname{Tr}(J) = -\gamma$

See that the determinant is always positive, trace is negative when $\gamma>0$. So it's stable! Has spirals as long as $k>\frac{\gamma^2}{4}$, the "underdamped" regime.

If $\gamma = 0$, the eigenvalues are $\pm i\sqrt{k}$ – purely imaginary, and it's neither stable nor unstable (just oscillates forever).

