

Applied Analysis Report

Gronwall's Inequality

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1. Prove the discrete Gronwall Inequality

Theorem 1. *Discrete Gronwall Inequality*

Let $\{x^n\}_{n \geq 0}, \{y^n\}_{n \geq 1}, \{z^n\}_{n \geq 1}, a > 0, \Delta t : \text{small} (\Delta t \leq \frac{1}{2a})$ be non-negative sequences, $T > 0, N_T \leq \lceil \frac{T}{\Delta t} \rceil$

$$\frac{x^n - x^{n-1}}{\Delta t} + y^n \leq ax^n + z^n; \quad n \geq 1 \quad (1)$$

$\Rightarrow \exists c > 0$ independent of Δt s.t.

$$\max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n \leq c \left(x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n \right) \quad (2)$$

Answer:

Proof. We multiplied (1) by Δt we get:

$$x^n - x^{n-1} + \Delta t y^n \leq a \Delta t x^n + \Delta t z^n \quad (3)$$

take summation over N_T for (3) as follows:

$$\sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^n - \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^{n-1} + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n \leq a \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n \quad (4)$$

from (4) we know that x^n and x^{n-1} in the left hand side cancelled out one and each other except for the first and last part, so (4) becomes:

$$\begin{aligned} x^{N_T} - x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n &\leq a \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n \\ x^{N_T} + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n &\leq x^0 + a \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n \\ x^{N_T} - a \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n &\leq x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

then, for $a > 0, \Delta t : \text{small} \left(\Delta t \leq \frac{1}{2a} \right), T > 0, N_T \leq \left[\frac{T}{\Delta t} \right]$ and x^n, y^n, z^n are a non-negative sequences, we define,

$$A := \frac{x^{N_T} - a\Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n}{x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n}$$

$$B := \frac{\max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n}{x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n}$$

First, take a condition where $A \geq B$, then,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n}{x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n} &\leq \max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + N_T \Delta t \max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} y^n \\ &\leq \max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + T y^n = c \end{aligned}$$

Second, take a condition where $A < B$, it is clear that

$$\frac{\max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n}{x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n} \leq 1 = c$$

then, we can find $c = \max\{1, \max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} (x^n + T y^n)\}$ such that:

$$\max_{n=0, \dots, N_T} x^n + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} y^n \leq c \left(x^0 + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N_T} z^n \right) \quad (6)$$

□