

Finite Difference Method FDM 1D

GOAL: solve a 1D Poisson problem using finite differences

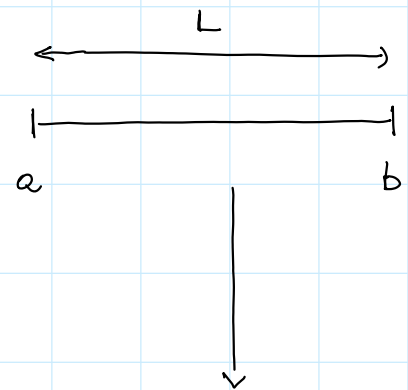
$$\nabla^2 \varphi = t \quad \longrightarrow \quad \boxed{\frac{d^2 \varphi}{dx^2} = t}, \quad x \in [a, b]$$

$$H_p: \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial z} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi = \varphi(x)$$

ASSUME CARTESIAN
COORDINATES

$$(1) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{d^2 \varphi}{dx^2} = t \quad \forall x \in]a, b[\\ \varphi(a) = \varphi_a \quad x = a \quad \text{DIRICHLET BC} \\ \left. \frac{d\varphi}{dx} \right|_b = \varphi'_b \quad x = b \quad \text{NEUMANN BC} \end{array} \right.$$



GOAL: write a DISCRETE formulation

(1) GRID of nodes to represent domain

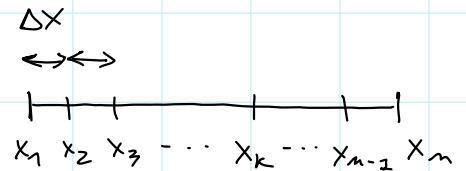
m - nodes with UNIFORM SPACING

$$x_1 \equiv a$$

$$x_m \equiv b$$

$$\Delta x = \frac{L}{m-1}$$

↑
number of intervals



LINEAR
MAPPING between
coordinates and
indices

$$x_k = a + \Delta x(k-1)$$

EXAMPLE:

$$x_2 = a + \Delta x(2-1) = a + \Delta x$$

(2) Use finite difference formulas to express derivatives

INTERNAL NODES

$$\left. \frac{d^2 \varphi}{dx^2} \right|_k = \frac{\varphi_{k-1} - 2\varphi_k + \varphi_{k+1}}{\Delta x^2} + \mathcal{O}(\Delta x^2)$$

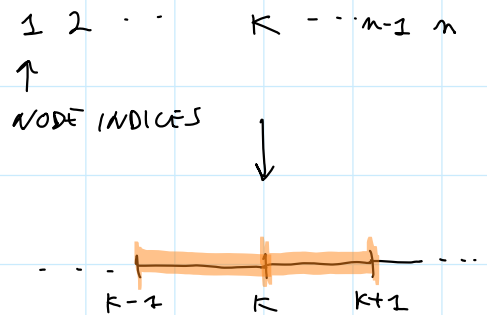


$$\frac{d^2 \varphi}{dx^2} \Big|_k = \frac{\varphi_{k+1} - 2\varphi_k + \varphi_{k-1}}{\Delta x^2} + \mathcal{O}(\Delta x^2)$$

$$\frac{d^2 \varphi}{dx^2} \Big|_k = t(k) \quad \leftarrow \text{known term}$$

$$\frac{\tilde{\varphi}_{k-1} - 2\tilde{\varphi}_k + \tilde{\varphi}_{k+1}}{\Delta x^2} = t_k$$

⇒ yields an approximation (with second-order accuracy) of the unknown function φ



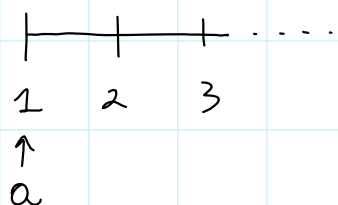
NOTATION we will use φ instead of $\tilde{\varphi}$ for conciseness

$$\text{for node } k \quad \begin{cases} \varphi_1 - 2\varphi_2 + \varphi_3 = t_2 \Delta x^2 \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{k-1} - 2\varphi_k + \varphi_{k+1} = t_k \Delta x^2 \\ \vdots \\ \varphi_{m-2} - 2\varphi_{m-1} + \varphi_m = t_{m-1} \Delta x^2 \end{cases}$$

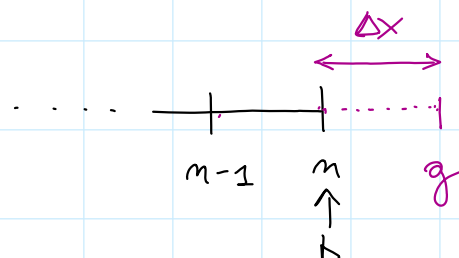
algebraic expression for nodes 2, 3, ..., K, ..., m-1

BOUNDARIES

$$a \quad \varphi(a) = \varphi_1 = \varphi_a$$



$$b \quad \frac{d\varphi}{dx} \Big|_b = \varphi'_b$$



IDEA: express derivative using FD

$$\frac{d\varphi}{dx} \Big|_b = \frac{\varphi_n - \varphi_{n-1}}{\Delta x} + \mathcal{O}(\Delta x) \quad \text{First-order accurate}$$

To get second-order accuracy. write a centered FD formula for $\frac{dy}{dx}|_b$

GHOST NODE TECHNIQUE:

CENTERED FINITE difference formula for $\frac{dy}{dx}$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dy}{dx}|_b = \frac{\varphi_g - \varphi_{n-1}}{2\Delta x} + O(\Delta x^2) \Rightarrow \frac{\varphi_g - \varphi_{n-1}}{2\Delta x} = \varphi'_b \\ \frac{\varphi_{n-1} - 2\varphi_n + \varphi_g}{\Delta x^2} = t_n \Delta x^2 \end{cases}$$

$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2}|_m$

Derive φ_g : $\varphi_g - \varphi_{n-1} = 2\Delta x \varphi'_b$

$$\boxed{\varphi_g = 2\Delta x \varphi'_b + \varphi_{n-1}}$$

$$\varphi_{n-1} - 2\varphi_n + 2\Delta x \varphi'_b + \varphi_{n-1} = t_n \Delta x^2$$

$$2\varphi_{n-1} - 2\varphi_n = \frac{t_n \Delta x^2}{2} - 2\Delta x \varphi'_b$$

$$\boxed{\varphi_{n-1} - \varphi_n = \Delta x \left(\frac{\Delta x}{2} t_n - \varphi'_b \right)}$$

Algebraic equation for node n (second-order)

Assemble a linear system with the algebraic expressions:

DISCRETIZED VERSION (1) $\Rightarrow [K] \{ \varphi \} = \{ Rhs \}$

1:

$$\varphi_1 = \varphi_a$$

1 2 ... k ... n-1 n

2, 3, ..., n-1: $\varphi_{k-1} - 2\varphi_k + \varphi_{k+1} = t_k \Delta x^2$

n: $\varphi_{n-1} - \varphi_n = \Delta x \left(\frac{\Delta x}{2} t_n - \varphi'_b \right)$

$$\begin{matrix} & [K] & \{ \varphi \} & \{ Rhs \} \\ \begin{matrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ \vdots \end{matrix} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & & \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} & \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix} & = \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_a \\ t_2 \Delta x^2 \\ \vdots \\ t_{n-1} \Delta x^2 \end{bmatrix} \end{matrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ k \\ \vdots \\ n \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ \psi_k \\ \vdots \\ \psi_{n-1} \\ \psi_n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ t_k \Delta x^2 \\ \vdots \\ t_{n-2} \Delta x^2 \\ \Delta x \left(\frac{\Delta x}{2} t_n - \psi'_b \right) \end{bmatrix}$$

$[K]$ is a TRI-DIAGONAL matrix and a SPARSE MATRIX

Property of FDM

↓
produces SPARSE
MATRICES

↓
 $[K]$: $n \times n$ matrix

if $n = 1000$, $[K]$ has 10^6
elements but only three
elements are non-zeros
for each row corresponding to
an internal node

Diagonally-dominant matrices

$[A]$ square matrix with n -rows

• $[A]$ is STRICTLY DIAGONALLY-DOMINANT if

$$|a_{i,i}| > \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n |a_{i,j}| \quad \forall i=1, \dots, n$$

↑
generic element
of matrix $[A]$ on the
main diagonal

Example

$$[A] =$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{matrix} i=1 \\ i=2 \\ \vdots \\ i=n \end{matrix}$$

↓
 $[A]$ is NOT a
STRICTLY diagonally-
dominant matrix

$$\begin{aligned} i_1: & 1 > 0 \\ i_2: & 2 = 1 + 1 = 2 \\ i_3: & \dots \\ i_4: & 1 > 0 \end{aligned}$$

however, $[A]$ is WEAKLY diagonally-dominant

$$|a_{i,i}| \geq \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n |a_{i,j}| \quad \forall i=1, \dots, n$$

→ Solution is unique → ① if $[A]$ is STRICTLY DIAGONALLY
DOMINANT

in general

→ Solution is unique

→ solution is NOT unique

if $[A]$ is
weakly diagonally
dominant

- ① if $[A]$ is STRICTLY DIAGONALLY
DOMINANT
- ② if $[A]$ is WEAKLY DIAGONALLY
DOMINANT

+
 $[A]$ has at least a row with
STRONG DIAGONAL DOMINANCE