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Example: We assume that f has a derivative at $x = a$.

$$f'(a) = \lim_{x \rightarrow a} \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a} \approx \frac{f(x) - f(a)}{x - a}, x \neq a$$

We can also say $x = a + h$ and we get $f'(a) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h} \approx \frac{f(a+h) - f(a)}{h}$

Note: in the textbook, they may refer to a as x

We can then construct the equation $D_+ f(x) = \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}, h \geq h_0 \geq 0$

Example: Malthus Population Model

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dA}{dt} = kA \\ A(0) = A_0 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} \approx \frac{A(t+h) - A(t)}{h}$$

$$A'(t) \approx D_+ A(t)$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{A(t+h) - A(t)}{h} \approx kA(t^*) \\ A(0) = A_0 \end{cases}$$

$$h = \Delta t$$

$$\frac{A(t + \Delta t) - A(t)}{h} \approx kA(t^*)$$

$$A(t + \Delta t) \approx A(t) + khA(t^*)$$

$$t = 0 \rightarrow A(\Delta t) \approx A(0) + k\Delta t A(t^*)$$

$$A(\Delta t) \approx A_0 + khA_0$$

Example: another model

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dA}{dt} = kA \\ A(0) = a_0 \end{cases}$$

We can then use a bunch of techniques for the approximation of the limit that we discussed last semester. recall the *forward, backwards, and central* difference quotients.

Errors in Our Approximations

$$|f'(x) - D_+ f(x)|$$

$$= \left| f'(x) - \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right|$$

$$f(x+h) = f(x) + f'(x)(x+h-x) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x)(x+h-x)^2 + \dots$$

$$f(x) + hf'(x) + \frac{1}{2}h^2f''(x) + \dots$$

$$= |f'(x) - \frac{1}{h}(hf'(x) + \frac{1}{2}f''(\zeta)h^2) - (-\frac{1}{2}hf''(\zeta))|$$

This allows us to establish the relationship

$$|f'(x) - D_+f(x)| \leq Ch$$

Homework: compute the error in

$$|f'(x) - D_-f(x)|$$

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Example: $D_+f(x) = \frac{f(x+h)-f(x)}{h} \approx f'(x)$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{err} &= |f'(x) - \frac{f(x+h)-f(x)}{h}| \\ &= |f'(x) - \frac{1}{h}(f(x) + f'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(\zeta)h^2) - f(x)| \\ &= |-\frac{1}{2}hf''(\zeta)| \leq ch' \end{aligned}$$

The idea above is called a **local truncation error analysis**.

Implication: To use this difference quotient and have

$$\text{err} \leq Ch$$

Theorem: f must be twice continuous differentiable on some interval containing x

Example:

$$\begin{aligned} D_0f(x) &= \frac{f(x+h)-f(x-h)}{2h} \\ \text{err} &= |f'(x) - \frac{1}{2h}(f(x) + hf'(x) + \frac{1}{2}h^2f''(x) + \frac{1}{6}h^3f'''(\zeta_1)) - (f(x) + hf'(x) + \frac{1}{2}h^2f''(x) - \frac{1}{6}h^3f'''(\zeta_2))| \\ &= |-\frac{1}{12}h^2(f'(\zeta_1) + f'(\zeta_2))| \\ &= \frac{1}{12}h^2|f'''(\theta)| \\ &\leq Ch^2 \end{aligned}$$

where

$$C = C(f'''(\zeta_1) + f'''(\zeta_2))$$

Lets recap. We want to find

$$f'(x) = D_+f(x) = \frac{1}{h}f(x+h) - \frac{1}{h}f(x)$$

Example: suppose $f'(x) \approx a_{-1}f(x-h) + a_0f(x) + a_1f(x+h)$

This means

$$\begin{aligned} f(xh) &= f(x) + f'(x)(x-h-x) + \frac{1}{2}f''(x)(x-h-x)^2 + \frac{1}{6}f'''(\zeta_1)(x-h-x)^3 \\ f(x) &= f(x) \\ f(x+h) &= f(x) + f'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x)h^2 + \frac{1}{6}f'''(\zeta_2)h^3 \\ f'(x) &= a_0(f(x) + f'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x)h^2 + \frac{1}{6}f'''(\zeta_2)h^3) + a_{-1}(f(x-h) + f'(x-h)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x-h)h^2 + \frac{1}{6}f'''(\zeta_1)h^3) + a_1(f(x+h) + f'(x+h)h + \frac{1}{2}f''(x+h)h^2 + \frac{1}{6}f'''(\zeta_2)h^3) \end{aligned}$$

$$= f(x)(a_{-1} + a_0 + a_1) + hf'(x)(-a_{-1} + a_1) + \frac{1}{2}h^2f''(x)(a_{-1} + a_0) + \frac{1}{6}(f'''(\zeta_1) + f'''(\zeta_2))h^3$$

now, let

$$a_{-1} + a_0 + a_1 = 0$$

$$h(-a_{-1} + a_1) = 1$$

$$h^2(a_{-1} + a_1) = 0 \rightarrow a_{-1} + a_1 = 0$$

We can now use this system of equations to find h

$$a_{-1} = -a_1$$

$$h(a_1 + a_1) = 2ha_1 = 1 \rightarrow a_1 = \frac{1}{2h}$$

$$a_{-1} = -\frac{1}{2h}$$

$$a_0 = 0$$

We can now put this all together

$$f'(x) = -\frac{1}{2h}f(x-h) + \frac{1}{2h}f(x+h)$$

And we get back the **central difference theorem** (amazin').

Example:
$$\begin{cases} \frac{dA}{dt} = A(t) \\ A(0) = A_0 \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{dA}{dt} \approx \frac{A(t+h) - A(t-h)}{2h}$$

Example: Define a function at a set of distributed points x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n with the idea of approximating $u'(x)$ using

$$u'(x) = c_1u(x_1) + c_2u(x_2) + \dots + c_nu(x_n)$$

$$|u'(x) - \sum_{k=1}^n c_k u(x_k)| \leq Ch^p$$

$$\begin{aligned} u(x_i) &= u(x) + u'(x)(x_i - x) + \frac{1}{2}u''(x)(x_i - x)^2 + \dots \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{u^{(k)}(x)}{k!} (x_i - x)^k \end{aligned}$$

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Topic: Errors

Example: $d\hat{u}/dt = f(\hat{u}(t)); \hat{u}(0) = n \in \mathbb{R}$

Find all $u(t)$ that approximates $\hat{u}(t)$, try F.D.

$$d\hat{u}/dt = \frac{\hat{u}(t+h) - \hat{u}(t)}{h}$$

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\hat{u}(t+h) - \hat{u}(t)}{h} \approx f(\hat{u}(t)) \\ \hat{u}(0) = n \end{cases}$$

$$\hat{u}(t+h) \approx \hat{u}(t) + hf(\hat{u}(t))$$

Define an approximation, $u(t)$, by

$$\frac{u(t+h) - u(t)}{h} f(u(t))$$

$$u(t+h) = u(t) + hf(u(t))$$

$$u(0) = \mu \Rightarrow u(u+h) = u(0) + hf(u(0))$$

The error is defined as

$$E = \hat{u}(t) - u(t)$$

where \hat{u} represents the approximation of u A measure of the error

$$|E| = |\hat{u}(t) - u(t)| = \text{abs.}(E)$$

Example: $\hat{z} = 2.2, z = 2.20345$

$$E = 2.2 - 2.20345 = 0.00345 = |E|$$

Now, suppose z and \hat{z} are in terms of meters, and we decide to change from meters to nanometres

$$\hat{z} = 2.2 * 10^9, z = 2.20345 * 10^9, |E| = 0.00345 * 10^9 = 3.45 * 10^6$$

Now, lets suppose we wanted to transform from meters into kilometers

$$\hat{z} = 2.2 * 10^{-3}, z = 2.20345 * 10^{-3}, |E| = 0.0345 * 10^{-3}$$

This example is *poorly scaled*.

Definition: relative error

$$E_{|e|} = \frac{|\hat{z} - z|}{|\hat{z}|}$$

This gives us a *dimensionless error*.

The problems we will work in will be assumed to be *properly scaled*. This allows us to use the *absolute error* ($E_{\text{abs}} = |E| = |\hat{z} - z|$)

Definition: Big-O notation

If $f(h)$ and $g(h)$ are functions of h , then

$$f(h) = O(g(h))$$

as $h \rightarrow 0$ if

$$\left| \frac{f(h)}{g(h)} \right| \leq c; h \rightarrow 0$$

or

$$|f(h)| \leq C|g(h)|$$

Example: $|D_+ f(x) - f'(x)|$

$$= \left| f'(x) - \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h} \right|$$

$$\leq |1/2hf''(\zeta)|$$

$$\leq Ch$$

$$\Rightarrow |f'(x) - D_+ f(x)| \leq Ch$$

$$\frac{|f'(x) - D_+ f(x)|}{h} \leq c$$

$$|f'(x) - D_+ f(x)| = O(h)$$

Definition: Little-o notation

For $o(h)$

$$f(h) = o(g(h)); \quad h \rightarrow 0$$

if

$$\left| \frac{f(h)}{g(h)} \right| \rightarrow 0$$

for h sufficiently small.

Example: $2h^3 = O(h^2)$

$$2h^3/h^2 = 2h < c; \quad h < 1/c$$

Example: $2h^3 = o(h^2)$

$$2h^3/h^2 = 2h \rightarrow 0; \quad h \rightarrow 0$$

Example: $\sin(h) = O(h); \quad h \rightarrow 0$

$$\sin(h) = h - h^3/3! + h^5/5! \dots; \quad h \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$\sin(h) < 1h = Ch$$

Example: $\sin(h) = h + O(h) \Rightarrow \sin(h) - h = O(h)$

$$(\sin(h) - h)/h = O(h)$$

Example: $\sqrt{h} = O(1) \Rightarrow \sqrt{h} \rightarrow 0 < Ch$

$$\sqrt{h} = O(1) \rightarrow \sqrt{h} \rightarrow 0 < Ch$$

$$\sqrt{h} = o(1) \rightarrow \sqrt{h} \rightarrow 0$$

$$\sqrt{h} \neq O(h) \rightarrow \sqrt{h}/h \rightarrow 1/\sqrt{h}$$
