

Numerical Analysis & Scientific Computing II

Lesson 3

Boundary Value Problems for ODEs

3.2 Shooting Method

3.3 Finite Difference Method

3.4 Variational Methods

- Least Squares Method



Akash Anand
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Boundary Value Problems: Variational Methods



Instead of making $r(t, y) = 0$ at a finitely many points, there are other ways to enforce that the residual $r(t, y)$ is small so that the numerical solution $v(t, y)$ satisfies the ODE approximately.



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Toward this, consider the functional $F: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$F(y) = \frac{1}{2} \|r\|^2 = \frac{1}{2} \langle r, r \rangle,$$

where

$$\langle u, v \rangle = \int_a^b u(t)v(t)dt, \quad r(t, y) = \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j''(t) - f\left(t, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j(t), \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j'(t)\right).$$

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$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= \frac{\partial F(y)}{\partial y_i} = \int_a^b r(t, y) \frac{\partial r(t, y)}{\partial y_i} dt \\ &= \int_a^b r(t, y) \left(\varphi_i''(t) - f_2 \left(t, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j(t), \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j'(t) \right) \varphi_i(t) - f_3 \left(t, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j(t), \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j'(t) \right) \varphi_i'(t) \right) dt. \end{aligned}$$

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This yields a system of algebraic equations

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \langle \varphi_j'', \varphi_i'' \rangle &= \langle f, \varphi_i'' \rangle + \\ \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \left\langle \varphi_j'', \varphi_i f_2 \left(\cdot, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j' \right) \right\rangle &- \left\langle f, \varphi_i f_2 \left(\cdot, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j' \right) \right\rangle + \\ \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \left\langle \varphi_j'', \varphi_i' f_3 \left(\cdot, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j' \right) \right\rangle &- \left\langle f, \varphi_i' f_3 \left(\cdot, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j, \sum_{j=1}^n y_j \varphi_j' \right) \right\rangle, \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \end{aligned}$$

Boundary Value Problems: Variational Methods

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In particular, for the linear problem with $f(t, u, v) = f(t)$, we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^n y_j \langle \varphi_j'', \varphi_i'' \rangle = \langle f, \varphi_i'' \rangle,$$

a symmetric system.

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Boundary Value Problems: Variational Methods



More generally, a **variational method** works by approximating the differential equation by the equation

$$\langle r, \psi_i \rangle = \int_a^b r(t, y) \psi_i(t) dt = 0$$

so that the residual is forced to be orthogonal to a given set of test functions $\{\psi_i: i = 1, \dots, n\}$.



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Also, the collocation method uses $\psi_i = \delta(t - t_i)$, where t_i is the i -th collocation point and δ is the Dirac delta function.

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$$-\sum_{j=1}^n y_j \langle \varphi_j', \varphi_i' \rangle = \langle f, \varphi_i \rangle, \quad i = 1, \dots, n.$$



Example

Consider the two-point BVP

$$\begin{aligned} u'' &= 6t, & 0 < t < 1, \\ u(0) &= 0, & u(1) &= 1. \end{aligned}$$

Boundary Value Problems: Variational Methods

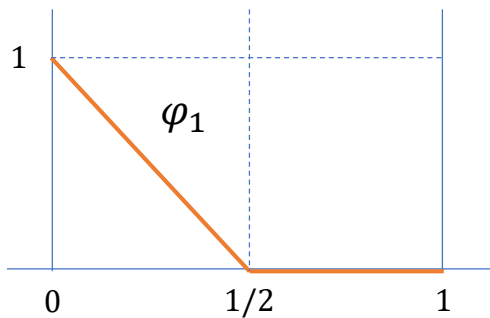
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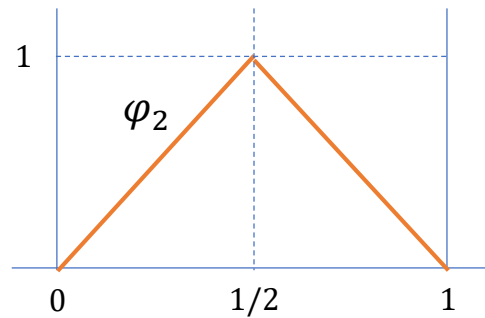
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We seek the approximate solution in the space of piecewise linear functions with respect to the partition $\{[0, 1/2], [1/2, 1]\}$ spanned by

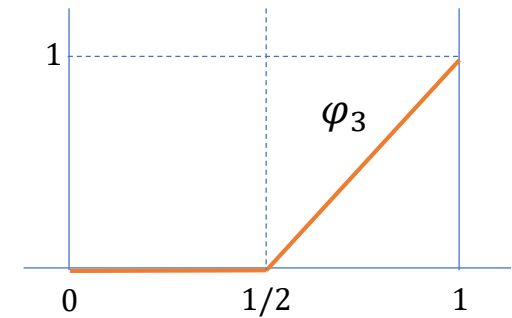
$$\varphi_1(t) = \begin{cases} 2\left(\frac{1}{2} - t\right), & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 0, & \frac{1}{2} < t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$



$$\varphi_2(t) = \begin{cases} 2t, & 0 \leq t \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ 2(1 - t), & \frac{1}{2} < t \leq 1, \end{cases}$$



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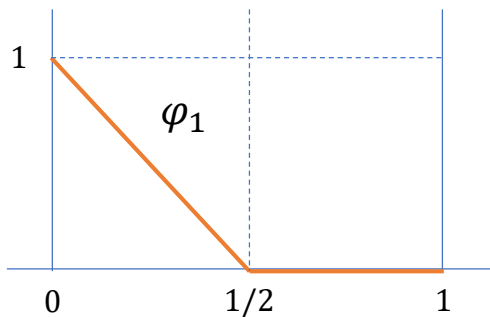
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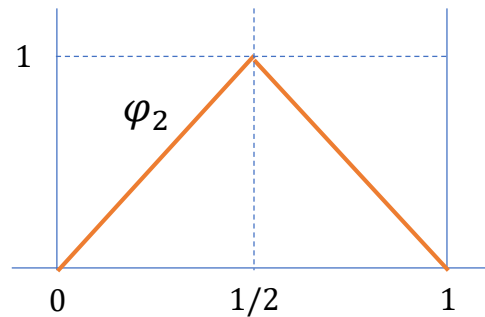
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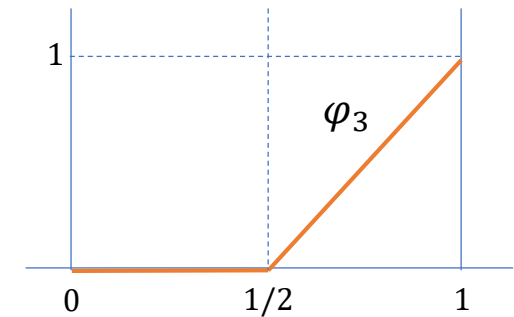
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We seek solution of the form $u(t) = t + w(t)$ where w satisfies the same ODE $w'' = 6t$, $0 < t < 1$, but with homogeneous boundary conditions $w(0) = 0$, $w(1) = 0$.

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$$w(t) \approx y_2 \varphi_2(t)$$

where y_2 can be found as solution to the equation

$$-y_2 \int_0^1 \varphi_2'(t) \varphi_2'(t) dt = \int_0^1 6t \varphi_2(t) dt$$

that is, $-4y_2 = 3/2$.

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that is, $-4y_2 = 3/2$. We get $u(t) = t - \frac{3}{8} \varphi_2(t) = \left(\frac{1}{2} \varphi_2(t) + \varphi_3(t)\right) - \frac{3}{8} \varphi_2(t)$

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