

# Boundary value problems

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# Today's outline

## ① Solution techniques in Excel

Solver and goal-seek

## ② Boundary value problems

## ③ Shooting method

Example

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Example

# Solver and goal-seek

Excel comes with a goal-seek and solver function. For Excel 2010:

- Install via Excel  $\Rightarrow$  File  $\Rightarrow$  Options  $\Rightarrow$  Add-Ins  $\Rightarrow$  Go (at the bottom)  $\Rightarrow$  Select solver add-in. You can now call the solver screen on the 'data' menu ('Oplosser' in Dutch)
- Select the goal-cell, and whether you want to minimize, maximize or set a certain value
- Enter the variable cells; Excel is going to change the values in these cells to get to the desired solution
- Specify the boundary conditions (e.g. to keep certain cells above zero)
- Click 'solve' (possibly after setting the advanced options).

## Goal-seek: a simple example

Goal-Seek can be used to make the goal-cell to a specified value by changing another cell:

- Open Excel and type the following:

	A	B
1	x	3
2	f(x)	$=-3*B1^2-5*B1+2$
3		

- Go to Data  $\Rightarrow$  What-If Analysis  $\Rightarrow$  Goal Seek...
  - Set cell: B2
  - To value: 0
  - By changing cell: B1
- OK. You find a solution of 0.333...

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# Solver: a simple example

The solver is used to change the value in a goal-cell, by changing the values in 1 or more other cells while keeping boundary conditions:

- Use the following sheet:

	A	B	C
1		x	$f(x)$
2	x1	3	$=2*B2*B3-B3+2$
3	x2	4	$=2*B3-4*B2-4$

- Go to Data  $\Rightarrow$  Solver
  - Goalfunction: C1 (value of: 0)
  - Add boundary condition:  $C2 = 0$
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- Solve. You will find  $B1=0$  and  $B2=2$ .

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## Exercise

Use Excel functions to obtain the Antoine coefficients  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  for carbon monoxide following the equation:

$$\ln P = A - \frac{B}{T + C}$$

$P$  in Pa,  $T$  in K. Experimental data is given:

$P$ [mmHg]	$T$ [°C]
1	-222.0
5	-217.2
10	-215.0
20	-212.8
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# What is an ODE?

- Algebraic equation:

$$f(y(x), x) = 0 \quad \text{e.g.} \quad -\ln(K_{eq}) = (1 - \zeta)$$

- First order ODE:

$$f\left(\frac{dy}{dx}(x), y(x), x\right) = 0 \quad \text{e.g.} \quad \frac{dc}{dt} = -kc^n$$

- Second order ODE:

$$f\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}(x), \frac{dy}{dx}(x), y(x), x\right) = 0 \quad \text{e.g.} \quad \mathcal{D} \frac{d^2c}{dx^2} = -\frac{kc}{1 + Kc}$$

## About second order ODEs

Very often a second order ODE can be rewritten into a system of first order ODEs (whether it is handy depends on the boundary conditions!)

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## In general

Consider the second order ODE:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + q(x) \frac{dy}{dx} = r(x)$$

Now define and solve using  $z$  as a new variable:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = z(x)$$

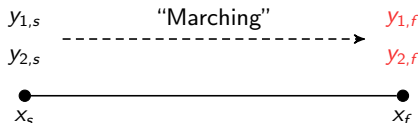
$$\frac{dz}{dx} = r(x) - q(x)z(x)$$

# Importance of boundary conditions

The nature of boundary conditions determines the appropriate numerical method. Classification into 2 main categories:

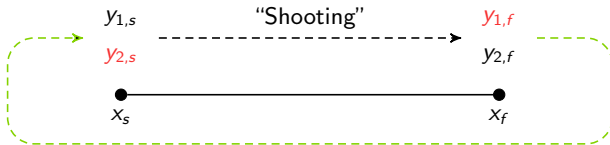
- *Initial value problems (IVP)*

We know the values of all  $y_i$  at some starting position  $x_s$ , and it is desired to find the values of  $y_i$  at some final point  $x_f$ .



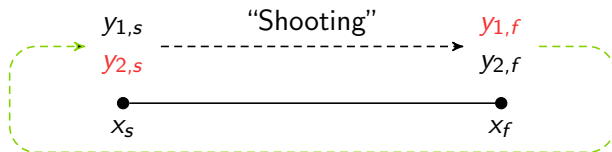
- *Boundary value problems (BVP)*

Boundary conditions are specified at more than one  $x$ . Typically, some of the BC are specified at  $x_s$  and the remainder at  $x_f$ .



# Shooting method

How to solve a BVP using the shooting method:



- Define the system of ODEs
- Provide an initial guess for the unknown boundary condition
- Solve the system and compare the resulting boundary condition to the expected value
- Adjust the guessed boundary value, and solve again. Repeat until convergence.
  - Of course, you can subtract the expected value from the computed value at the boundary, and use a non-linear root finding method

## BVP: example in Excel

Consider a chemical reaction in a liquid film layer of thickness  $\delta$ :

$$\mathcal{D} \frac{d^2 c}{dx^2} = k_R c \quad \text{with} \quad \begin{array}{ll} c(x=0) = C_{A,i,L} = 1 & \text{(interface concentration)} \\ c(x=\delta) = 0 & \text{(bulk concentration)} \end{array}$$

Question: compute the concentration profile in the film layer.



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### Step 1: Define the system of ODEs

This second-order ODE can be rewritten as a system of first-order ODEs, if we define the flux  $q$  as:

$$q = -\mathcal{D} \frac{dc}{dx}$$

Now, we find:

$$\frac{dc}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\mathcal{D}} q$$

$$\frac{dq}{dx} = -k_R c$$

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## Step 2: Set the boundary conditions

The boundary conditions for the concentrations at  $x=0$  and  $x=\delta$  are known.

The flux at the interface, however, is not known, and should be solved for.

$$\frac{dc}{dx} = -\frac{1}{\mathcal{D}} q$$

$$\frac{dq}{dx} = -k_R c$$

# BVP: example in Excel

Solving the two first-order ODEs in Excel. First, the cells with constants:

	A	B	C
1	CAiL	1	ml/m3
2	D	1e-8	m2/s
3	kR	10	1/s
4	delta	1e-4	m
5	N	100	
6	dx	=B4/B5	

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Now, we program the forward Euler (explicit) schemes for  $c$  and  $q$  below:

	A	B	C
10	x	c	q
11	0	=B1	10
12	=A11+\$B\$6	=B11+\$B\$6*(-1/\$B\$2*C11)	=C11+\$B\$6*(-\$B\$3*B11)
13	=A12+\$B\$6	=B12+\$B\$6*(-1/\$B\$2*C12)	=C12+\$B\$6*(-\$B\$3*B12)
...	...	...	...
111	=A110+\$B\$6	=B110+\$B\$6*(-1/\$B\$2*C110)	=C110+\$B\$6*(-\$B\$3*B110)

## BVP: example in Excel

- We now have profiles for  $c$  and  $q$  as a function of position  $x$ .
- The concentration  $c(x = \delta)$  depends (eventually) on the boundary condition at the interface  $q(x = 0)$
- We can use the solver to change  $q(x = 0)$  such that the concentration at the bulk meets our requirement:  
 $c(x = \delta) = 0$

## BVP: example in Matlab

We first program the system of ODEs in a separate function:

$$\frac{dc}{dx} = -\frac{1}{D}q$$
$$\frac{dq}{dx} = -k_R c$$

```
function [dxdt] = BVPODE(t,x,ps)
dxdt(1)=-1/ps.D*x(2);
dxdt(2)=-ps.kR*x(1);
dxdt=dxdt';
return
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Note that we pass a variable (type: struct) that contains required parameters: `ps`.

## BVP: example in Matlab

The ODE function is solved via ode45, after setting a number of initial and boundary conditions:

```
function f = RunBVP(bcq,ps)
[x,cq] = ode45(@BVPODE,[0 ps.delta],[1 bcq], [], ps);
f = cq(end,1) - 0;
plotyy(x,cq(:,1),x,cq(:,2));
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Note the following:

- We use the interval  $0 \leq x \leq \delta$
- Boundary conditions are given as:  $c(x=0) = 1$  and  $q(x=0) = bcq$ , which is given as an argument to the function (i.e. changable from 'outside'!)
- The function returns  $f$ , the difference between the computed and desired concentration at  $x = \delta$ .

## BVP: example in Matlab

Finally, we should solve the system so that we obtain the right boundary condition  $q = bcq$  such that  $c(x = \delta) = 0$ . We can use the built-in function `fzero` to do this

```
% Parameter definition
```

```
ps.D=1e-8;
```

```
ps.kR=10;
```

```
ps.delta=1e-4;
```

```
% Solve for flux boundary condition (initial guess: 0)
```

```
opt = optimset('Display','iter');
```

```
flux = fzero(@RunBVP,0,opt,ps);
```

# BVP example: analytical solution

Compare with the analytical solution:

$$q = k_L E_A C_{A,i,L} \quad \text{with}$$

$$E_A = \frac{Ha}{\tanh Ha} \quad (\text{Enhancement factor})$$

$$Ha = \frac{\sqrt{k_R \mathcal{D}}}{k_L} \quad (\text{Hatta number})$$

$$k_L = \frac{\mathcal{D}}{\delta} \quad (\text{mass transfer coefficient})$$