Numerical Methods and Scientific Computing Case Study 6

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Overview

Nonlinear boundary-value problems arise in many areas of science and engineering. In this case study you will apply your tri-diagonal solver and Newton's method solver in order to compute the solution to a nonlinear BVP using continuation.

Nonlinear BVP

Consider the nonlinear BVP

$$U_{xx} - 3U - 10U^3 = x^2, U(0) = 0, U(1) = 0$$

In the absence of the nonlinear term $(10U^3)$, the BVP has an exact solution which can be used for validation of your basic technique. If we replace the nonlinear term with αU^3 then we can compute a solution to the full nonlinear BVP using finite-difference approximations and continuation from $\alpha = 0$ to $\alpha = 10$. You will need to use your tri-diagonal solver in order to compute the updates to Newton's methods on the nonlinear BVP.

Report

Prepare a report in which you review the tri-diagonal solver developed in case study 4, and Newton's method for systems of nonlinear equations in case study 5. Include the key figures developed in these case studies. Include a review of your method to solve this nonlinear BVP, and present the key results.