

Boundary Value Problems

So far: IVP
$$\frac{d\vec{u}}{dt} = \vec{f}(t, \vec{u})$$
$$\vec{u}(0) = \vec{u}_0 \quad (\text{initial condition})$$

\vec{f} "nice" \rightarrow solution always exist and is unique

Alternative: only some components of \vec{u} are prescribed,
but they are prescribed for different t_0, t_1, \dots

arises in many physical/engineering problems.

Example: Trajectory reconstruction

We observe the motion of a particle in a force field

$$\frac{d^2 \vec{x}}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{m} \vec{F}(\vec{x}), \quad \vec{F}(t) \text{ is known}$$

Observation data: $\vec{x}(t_0) = \vec{x}_0$, $\vec{x}(t_1) = \vec{x}_1$

What was the trajectory in between?

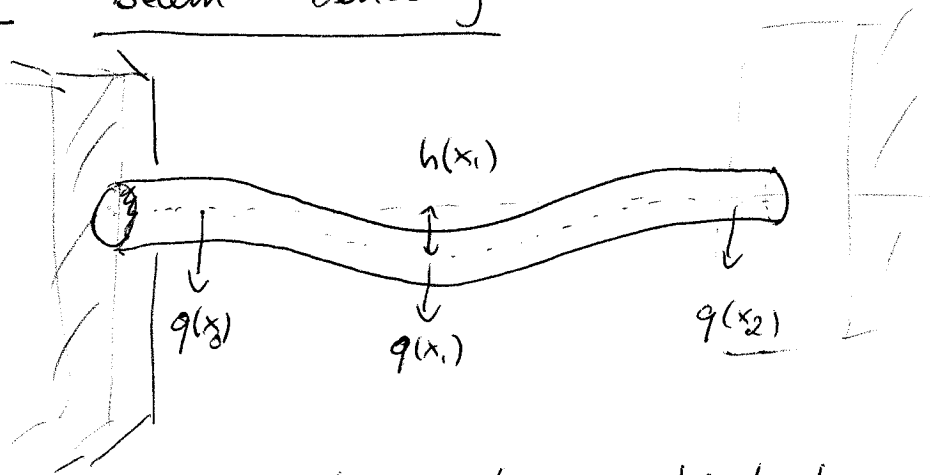
$$\left[\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_2 \\ \vec{F}(t)/m \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}(t_1) = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{x}_1 \\ ? \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}(t_2) = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{x}_2 \\ ? \end{pmatrix} \right]$$

(BVP)

Remarks (*) Generally, no existence and uniqueness theorem like for IVPs, except in special conditions

(*) ODE integration do not work, we don't know the initial data!

x: Beam Bending



constant-cross section beam subject to position-dependent load.

Euler-Bernoulli eqn:

$$\alpha \frac{d^4 h}{dx^4} = q(x)$$

α : rigidity

$h(x)$: deflection

$q(x)$: load

beam is fixed to walls at both ends:

$$h(x_1) = 0$$

$$h'(x_1) = 0$$

$$h(x_2) = 0$$

$$h'(x_2) = 0$$

BVP

$$\frac{d}{dx} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \\ q(u_1)/\alpha \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}(x_1) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ ? \\ ? \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{u}(x_2) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ ? \\ ? \end{pmatrix}$$

ODE Approach: Shooting method

- Idea:
- guess the unknown initial conditions at t_0
 - use ODE solver to obtain u at t_1
 - refine the guess until both b.c.s are satisfied

difficulty: need to solve

$$\vec{u}^{\text{guess}}(t_0) = \begin{pmatrix} u_1(t_0) \\ u_2^{\text{guess}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \vec{u}^{\text{guess}}(t_1) = \begin{pmatrix} u_1^{\text{guess}}(t_1) \\ u_2^{\text{guess}}(t_1) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow \boxed{u_1^{\text{guess}}(t_1; u_2^{\text{guess}}) - u_1^{\text{desired}}(t_1) = 0}$$

(nonlinear root finding ~~problem~~)

Root finding is much harder than ODE solving!

Linear - Algebra approach, Finite - difference Method

- extends to higher dimensions
- useful for PDEs
- no root-finding necessary:
non-linear

recall finite-difference stencils for a function $f(x)$ on $[a, b]$

$$\vec{f} = \begin{pmatrix} f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_N \end{pmatrix}, \quad \vec{f}'' = \begin{pmatrix} f_1'' \\ \vdots \\ f_N'' \end{pmatrix}$$

$$f_n = f(a + nh), \quad f_n'' = f''(a + nh), \quad h = \frac{b-a}{N+1}$$

$$\rightarrow \vec{f}'' = A \vec{f} \quad (\text{with } f(a) = f(b) = 0)$$

$$A = \frac{1}{h^2} \begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ 0 & \dots & \dots & \dots & -2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{f} = A^{-1} \vec{f}'' \quad \text{in BVPs, we usually know } f'' \text{ in terms of other functions}$$

\rightarrow only need to solve a linear system.

Ex: Beam equation on $[a, b]$

$$\frac{d^4 f}{dx^4} = \frac{1}{d} q(x) \quad , \quad f(a) = f'(a) = f(b) = f'(b) = 0$$

write-difference stencil for $\frac{d^4 f}{dx^4}$

$$f_{\oplus}^{(4)}(x, h) = \frac{f(x-2h) - 4f(x-h) + 6f(x) - 4f(x+h) + f(x+2h)}{h^4}$$

(second-order convergence)

apply this to our discretized interval: need
values for $f_{-1}, f_0, f_{N+1}, f_{N+2}$.

$$f_{0,h} = f_{N+1} = 0 \quad (\text{boundary conditions})$$

$$f'(a) = f'(b) = 0 \Rightarrow f_{-1} = f_{N+2} = 0 \quad (\text{second boundary condition})$$

→ finite - difference matrix

$$A = \frac{1}{6^4} \begin{pmatrix} 6 & -4 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \\ -4 & 6 & -4 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \\ 1 & -4 & 6 & -4 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 6 & -4 & 1 & \dots & \\ & & & & & & & & -4 & 6 & -4 \\ & & & & & & & & & -4 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \vec{f} = A^{-1} \cdot \vec{f}^{(4)}, \text{ Beam-eqm: } \vec{f}^{(4)} = \frac{1}{a} \vec{g}$$

$$q_i = q(a + nh)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\vec{p} = A^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\alpha} \vec{q} \right)}$$

Richardson extrapolation

General method for improving accuracy of numerical methods.

Say we want to compute some number

$F(\Delta)$, where the exact value is obtained as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$

x) Integration with composite trapezoidal rule

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \underbrace{\frac{b-a}{N}}_{=\Delta} \left(\frac{f(a)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} f\left(a + k \cdot \frac{b-a}{N}\right) + \frac{f(b)}{2} \right) = F(\Delta)$$

idea: If we know how $F(\Delta)$ behaves as $\Delta \rightarrow 0$,

$$F(\Delta) - F(0) = A \Delta^p + O(\Delta^{p+1})$$

we can construct a new rule with higher accuracy (i.e., with a higher p)

Consider:

$$F(\Delta) = F(0) + A \Delta^p + O(\Delta^{p+1})$$

$$F\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right) = F(0) + A \left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right)^p + O(\Delta^{p+1}) \quad \parallel \cdot 2^p$$

$$2^p F\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right) - F(\Delta) = 2^p F(0) - F(0) + \underbrace{\Delta^p - \Delta^p}_{\Delta^p \text{ error term cancels out!}} + O(\Delta^{p+1})$$

$$F(0) = \underbrace{\frac{2^p F\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right) - F(\Delta)}{2^p - 1}}_{= F^{\text{Richardson}}(\Delta)} + O(\Delta^{p+1})$$

new approximation

$$F^{\text{Richardson}}(\Delta) = \frac{2^p F\left(\frac{\Delta}{2}\right) - F(\Delta)}{2^p - 1}$$

has order $p+1$ if F has order p .

Cost: more evaluations \rightarrow higher accuracy

Ex: Trapezoid rule

$$F(\Delta) = \underbrace{\frac{b-a}{N}}_{=\Delta} \left(\frac{f(a)}{2} + \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} f\left(a + k \frac{b-a}{N}\right) + \frac{f(b)}{2} \right)$$

$$\Delta \rightarrow \frac{\Delta}{2} \leadsto \frac{b-a}{2N} \leadsto N \rightarrow 2N$$

so in total, $F_{Richardson}$ requires $3N$ evaluations of $f(x)$.

Advantages: requires no excessively small stepsize for given accuracy.

Richardson + Newton-Cotes = "Romberg integration"

Richardson + Midpoint Runge-Kutta = "Bulirsch-Stoer method"