



# Numerical Methods

## Exercise Sheet 10

HS 16  
M. Chrzaszcz  
D. van Dyk

I. Bezshyiko, A. Patteri

<http://www.physik.uzh.ch/en/teaching/PHY233/>

HS2016.html

Issued: 23.11.2016

Due: 28.11.2016

**Save the date! The class scheduled for Wednesday 30 November is moved to: Monday 28 November**

### Exercise 1: ODE solution with finite difference method (120 Pts.)

In this exercise you will be asked to numerically solve an ordinary, autonomous, second order differential equation with Dirichlet boundary conditions (BCs):

$$\begin{cases} y''(x) + y'(x) + 25y(x) = 0 \\ y(0) = 1.3 \\ y(2) = -0.4 \end{cases}, \quad (1)$$

using the so called “finite difference method”.

In a finite difference method, one converts the ODE into a linear system of equations. To achieve this, the integration domain  $x \in [0, 2]$  is discretized into  $N + 1$  equally distanced points  $x_k$  ( $k = 0, \dots, N$ ). Once evaluated the ODE (1) at the points  $x_k$  and translated  $y'(x_k), y''(x_k)$  into finite differences, we are left with  $N - 1$  linear equations in the variables  $y_k = y(x_k)$  ( $k = 1, \dots, N - 1$ ). Such linear system of  $N - 1$  equations can then be solved to find  $\{y_k\}$ .

In this exercise, use  $N = 1000$ .

- a) Implement a finite difference method using forward differences. This means that, to “build” the linear equations, the following substitutions should be performed:

$$\begin{aligned} y'(x_k) &= \frac{1}{h}(y_{k+1} - y_k) \\ y''(x_k) &= \frac{1}{h^2}(y_{k+2} - 2y_{k+1} + y_k) \end{aligned}$$

- Find the correct  $N - 1$  linear equations. (10 points)
- Implement correctly the linear system to be solved. Make sure to use the BCs for  $y_0, y_N$  properly. (20 points)
- Solve the linear system and find the approximate solution  $\{y_k\}$ . (20 points)

- b) Implement a finite difference method using central differences. This means that, to “build” the linear equations, the following substitutions should be performed:

$$\begin{aligned} y'(x_k) &= \frac{1}{2h}(y_{k+1} - y_{k-1}) \\ y''(x_k) &= \frac{1}{4h^2}(y_{k+2} - 2y_k + y_{k-2}) \end{aligned}$$

- Find the correct  $N - 1$  linear equations.

Hint: for  $k = 1$  and  $k = N - 1$ , implementing central differences would introduce  $y_{-1}$  and  $y_{N+1}$ , which is bad. To overcome this difficulty, for  $k = 1$  one should use forward differences and for  $k = N - 1$  backward differences. (10 points)

- Implement correctly the linear system to be solved. Make sure to use the BCs for  $y_0, y_N$  properly. (20 points)
- Solve the linear system and find the approximate solution  $\{y_k\}$ . (20 points)

c) Optional: The exact solution to ODE (1) is:

$$y(x) = e^{-\xi \omega_0 x} \left( c_1 \cos(\sqrt{1 - \xi^2 \omega_0} x) + c_2 \sin(\sqrt{1 - \xi^2 \omega_0} x) \right), \quad (2)$$

with  $\xi = 0.1$ ,  $\omega_0 = 5$ ,  $c_1 = 1.3$ ,  $c_2 \approx -0.0748969$ .

Use the exact formula (2) to extract and compare the absolute errors of the solutions of tasks (a) and (b). (20 point)

**Save the date! The class scheduled for Wednesday 30 November is moved to:  
Monday 28 November**

**Maximum number of points for mandatory tasks on 28.11 : 100**

**Maximum possible number of points for tasks on 28.11 : 120**