

Lecture 5

- Function files (how these are different from script files)
- Conditional statements, for loop, while loop
- Numerical solution of Free-Fall gravity problem
- Errors in numerical solution

Function file

Create new function that takes in the

input (scalar/vector/matrix, one or many inputs)

and performs computation and produces output

(scalar/vector/matrix, one or many outputs)

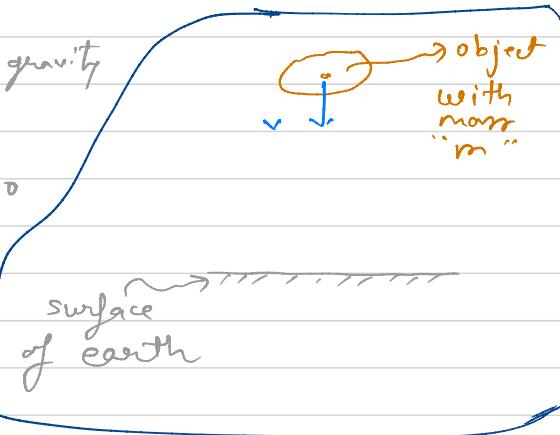
Recall

Velocity of object falling due to gravity
satisfies

$$\frac{dv(t)}{dt} = g - \frac{C_d}{m} v^2 \quad \text{for any } t, t > 0$$

$$v(0) = 0$$

↓
Exact solution



$$v(t) = \sqrt{\frac{g m}{C_d}} \tanh\left(t / \sqrt{\frac{g m}{C_d}}\right)$$

We create a MATLAB function that computes velocity of an
object at specified time and for specified drag coefficient

gravity Example.m

function $v = \text{freefall}(t, c_d)$

% freefall: compute velocity of freefalling object assuming mass
 $m = 1 \text{ kg}$

% $v = \text{freefall}(t, c_d)$

% input:

% $t = \text{time (s)}$ vector of time (scalar or vector)

% $c_d = \text{drag coefficient (kg/m)}$ (scalar)

% Output:

% $v = \text{downward velocity (m/s)}$ (scalar or vector)

$g = 9.81;$

% gravity acceleration

$m = 1;$

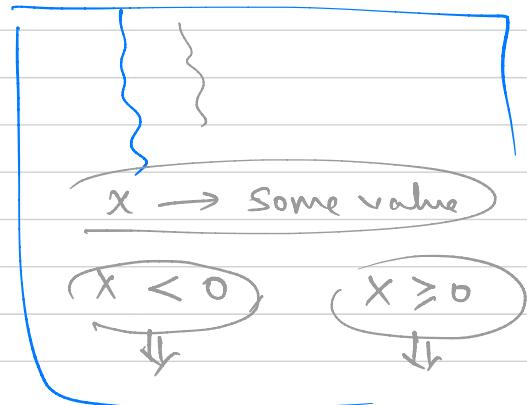
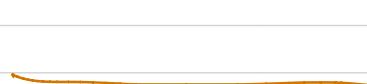
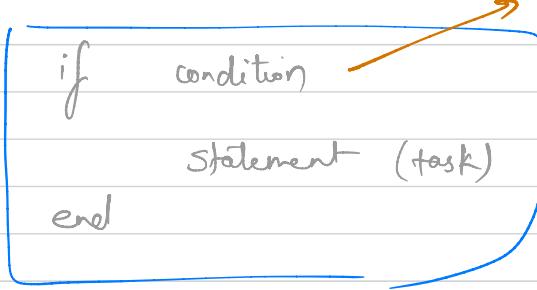
$a = \sqrt{m * g / c_d};$

$b = \sqrt{g * c_d / m};$

$v = a * \tanh(b * t);$

• Conditional statements in MATLAB

(1) IF ELSE



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if condition
  statement 1
else
  statement 2
end

```

$n \neq 1$ 1, 2, 3, ..., 5

```

if condition 1
  statement 1
elseif condition 2
  statement 2
:
else
  statement N
end

```

$n = 1$

$n = 2$

:

$n = 5$

$n \neq 1, 2, 3, 4, 5$

2. SWITCH

switch test expression

case value 1

statement 1

case value 2

Statement 2

:

otherwise

Statement N

end

switch n

case n = 1

do task 1

case n = 2

:

otherwise

do task 6

end

• Loops

1. FOR LOOP

for index = start : step : finish

task that may or may not depend

on index

end

for n = 1:1:5

disp(n)

end

2. WHILE LOOP

while condition

statement

end

{

stops when condition
is no longer true.

n = 1;

while "n ≤ 5"

disp(n)

n = n + 1

end

Numerical solution Suppose exact solution for the problem

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = g - \frac{c_d}{m} v^2 \quad \text{with } v(0) = 0 \quad \text{is not known.}$$

How do I still solve the problem?

$v(0)$ non zero value

↓
Numerical method"

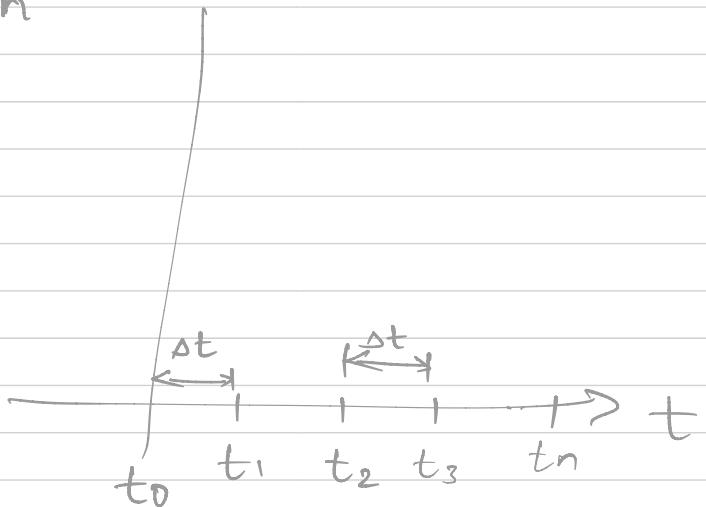
$$t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_n$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_1) = g - \frac{c_d}{m} v(t_1)^2$$

$$(*) \quad \frac{dv}{dt}(t_2) = g - \frac{c_d}{m} v(t_2)^2$$

:

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_n) = g - \frac{c_d}{m} v(t_n)^2$$

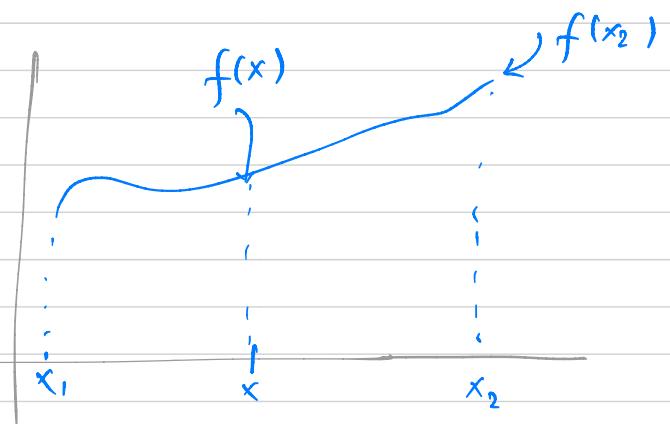


$$f = f(x) \quad , \quad x \text{ is a variable} \quad x_1 \leq x \leq x_2$$

Derivative of function

$$\frac{df}{dx}(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{(x+h) - x}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{df}{dx}(x) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}}$$



$$\frac{df}{dx}(x) \approx \frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}$$

provided h is small

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_1) \approx \frac{v(t_1 + \Delta t) - v(t_1)}{\Delta t} = \frac{v(t_2) - v(t_1)}{\Delta t}$$

in general

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_i) \approx \frac{v(t_{i+1}) - v(t_i)}{\Delta t}$$

define

$$v_i := v(t_i)$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt}(t_i) \approx \frac{v_{i+1} - v_i}{\Delta t}$$

Substitute to discrete set of equations (*)

