

Some Linear Algebra Definitions

Strictly diagonally dominant matrices

A square matrix is said to be diagonally dominant if, for every row of the matrix, the magnitude of the diagonal entry in a row is greater than or equal to the sum of the magnitudes of all the other (off-diagonal) entries in that row. Consider a square matrix $A = \{a_{ij}\}$. A is called strictly diagonal dominant if

$$|a_{ii}| > \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n |a_{ij}|, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$$

Properties:

- A is regular, invertible, A^{-1} exists, and $Ax = b$ has a unique solution.
- $Ax = b$ can be solved by Gaussian Elimination without pivoting.

Norms

A norm: measures the "size" of the vector and matrix.

General norm properties: Denote $\|x\|$ the norm of x . Then

- (1) $\|x\| \geq 0$, equal if and only if $x = 0$;
- (2) $\|ax\| = |a| \cdot \|x\|$, a : is a constant;
- (3) $\|x + y\| \leq \|x\| + \|y\|$, triangle inequality.

Examples of vector norms: $x \in \mathbf{R}^n$

- (1) $\|x\|_1 = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|$, l_1 -norm
- (2) $\|x\|_2 = \left(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i^2\right)^{1/2}$, l_2 -norm
- (3) $\|x\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} |x_i|$, l_∞ -norm

Matrix norm is defined in term of the corresponding vector norm:

$$\|A\| = \max_{x \neq 0} \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|}$$

Properties:

$$\begin{aligned} \|A\| &\geq \frac{\|Ax\|}{\|x\|} \Rightarrow \|Ax\| \leq \|A\| \cdot \|x\| \\ \|I\| &= 1, \quad \|AB\| \leq \|A\| \cdot \|B\|. \end{aligned}$$

Examples of matrix norms:

$$l_1 - \text{norm} : \|A\|_1 = \max_{1 \leq j \leq n} \sum_{i=1}^n |a_{ij}|$$

$$l_2 - \text{norm} : \|A\|_2 = \max_i |\sigma_i|, \quad \sigma_i : \text{singular values of } A$$

$$l_\infty - \text{norm} : \|A\|_\infty = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}|$$

Eigenvalues and singular values

Assume A is a square matrix

$Av = \lambda v$, λ : eigenvalue, v : eigenvector $(A - \lambda I)v = 0$, $\Rightarrow \det(A - \lambda I) = 0$: polynomial of degree n Property:

$$\lambda_i(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\lambda_i(A)}$$

A singular value of a real matrix A is the positive square root of an eigenvalue of the symmetric matrix AA^T or $A^T A$. We denote the singular values of A by $\sigma_i(A)$.

Property:

$$\sigma_i(A^{-1}) = \frac{1}{\sigma_i(A)}$$

where $\sigma_i(A)$ denotes the i -th singular value of A .

This implies:

$$\|A^{-1}\|_2 = \max_i |\sigma_i(A^{-1})| = \max_i \frac{1}{|\sigma_i(A)|} = \frac{1}{\min_i |\sigma_i(A)|}.$$

Condition number

Want to solve: $Ax = b$

Put some perturbation: $A\bar{x} = b + p$

Relative errors: $e_b = \frac{\|p\|}{\|b\|}$, $e_x = \frac{\|\bar{x} - x\|}{\|x\|}$

We want to find relation between them.

We have

$$A(\bar{x} - x) = p, \quad \Rightarrow \quad \bar{x} - x = A^{-1}p$$

so

$$e_x = \frac{\|\bar{x} - x\|}{\|x\|} = \frac{\|A^{-1}p\|}{\|x\|} \leq \frac{\|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|p\|}{\|x\|}.$$

$$Ax = b \Rightarrow \|Ax\| = \|b\| \Rightarrow \|A\|\|x\| \geq \|b\| \Rightarrow \frac{1}{\|x\|} \leq \frac{\|A\|}{\|b\|}$$

we get

$$e_x \leq \frac{\|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|p\|}{\|x\|} \leq \|A^{-1}\| \cdot \|p\| \cdot \frac{\|A\|}{\|b\|} = \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\| e_b = \kappa(A) \cdot e_b,$$

$$\kappa(A) = \|A\| \cdot \|A^{-1}\| : \quad \text{the condition number of } A$$

Using l_2 -norm: $\kappa(A) = \|A\|_2 \cdot \|A^{-1}\|_2 = \frac{\max_i |\sigma_i(A)|}{\min_i |\sigma_i(A)|}$

Error in b propagates with a factor of $\kappa(A)$ into the solution.

Fixed point iterative solvers for linear systems/Jacobi

Problem: Find approximate solution to $Ax = b$, where $A \in \mathbf{R}^{n \times n}$ has properties:

Idea: Avoiding directly computing A^{-1} .

Want to solve:
$$\begin{cases} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \dots + a_{1n}x_n = b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \dots + a_{2n}x_n = b_2 \\ \vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \dots + a_{nn}x_n = b_n \end{cases}$$

Rewrite it:
$$\begin{cases} x_1 = \frac{1}{a_{11}}(b_1 - a_{12}x_2 - \dots - a_{1n}x_n) \\ x_2 = \frac{1}{a_{22}}(b_2 - a_{21}x_1 - \dots - a_{2n}x_n) \\ \vdots \\ x_n = \frac{1}{a_{nn}}(b_n - a_{n1}x_1 - a_{n2}x_2 - \dots - 0) \end{cases}$$

In a compact form: $x_i = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n a_{ij}x_j \right), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

This gives the Jacobi iterations:

- Choose a start point, $x^0 = (x_1^0, x_2^0, \dots, x_n^0)^t$.
- for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$ until stop criteria, update based on the following formulas:

Element-based formula

The element-based formula for each row i is thus:

$$x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} \right), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

The computation of $x_i^{(k+1)}$ requires each element in $\mathbf{x}^{(k)}$ except itself.

Matrix-based formula

Then A can be decomposed into a diagonal component D , a lower triangular part L and an upper triangular part U :

$$A = D + L + U \quad \text{where} \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & a_{22} & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \cdots & a_{nn} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and } L + U = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1n} \\ a_{21} & 0 & \cdots & a_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ a_{n1} & a_{n2} & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The solution is then obtained iteratively via

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = D^{-1} \left(\mathbf{b} - (L + U)\mathbf{x}^{(k)} \right).$$

Jacobi Example

Problem Statement

Consider the system of linear equations:

$$\begin{cases} 4x_1 - x_2 + x_3 = 7 \\ -x_1 + 3x_2 + 2x_3 = 8 \\ x_1 + 2x_2 + 5x_3 = 12 \end{cases}$$

We want to find the values of x_1 , x_2 , and x_3 .

Step-by-Step Jacobi Iteration

1. **Rewrite the system** in terms of x_1 , x_2 , and x_3 :

$$\begin{cases} x_1 = \frac{7+x_2-x_3}{4} \\ x_2 = \frac{8+x_1-2x_3}{3} \\ x_3 = \frac{12-x_1-2x_2}{5} \end{cases}$$

1. **Initial guess**: Start with an initial guess for the variables, say $x_1^{(0)} = 0$, $x_2^{(0)} = 0$, and $x_3^{(0)} = 0$.
2. **Iterate** using the Jacobi formula until convergence. For iteration k , the new values $x_1^{(k+1)}$, $x_2^{(k+1)}$, and $x_3^{(k+1)}$ are computed as:

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(k+1)} = \frac{7+x_2^{(k)}-x_3^{(k)}}{4} \\ x_2^{(k+1)} = \frac{8+x_1^{(k)}-2x_3^{(k)}}{3} \\ x_3^{(k+1)} = \frac{12-x_1^{(k)}-2x_2^{(k)}}{5} \end{cases}$$

1. **Perform the iterations:**

- **Iteration 1:**

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(1)} = \frac{7+0-0}{4} = \frac{7}{4} = 1.75 \\ x_2^{(1)} = \frac{8+0-2\cdot 0}{3} = \frac{8}{3} \approx 2.67 \\ x_3^{(1)} = \frac{12-0-2\cdot 0}{5} = \frac{12}{5} = 2.40 \end{cases}$$

- **Iteration 2:**

$$\begin{cases} x_1^{(2)} = \frac{7+2.67-2.40}{4} = \frac{7+0.27}{4} = \frac{7.27}{4} \approx 1.82 \\ x_2^{(2)} = \frac{8+1.75-2\cdot 2.40}{3} = \frac{8+1.75-4.80}{3} = \frac{4.95}{3} \approx 1.65 \\ x_3^{(2)} = \frac{12-1.75-2\cdot 1.65}{5} = \frac{12-1.75-3.30}{5} = \frac{6.95}{5} \approx 1.39 \end{cases}$$

- **Iteration 3:**

Continue the process until the values converge to a stable solution.

Gauss-Seidal iterations

Recall Jacobi iteration

$$x_i^{k+1} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n a_{ij} x_j^k \right) = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij} x_j^k - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij} x_j^k \right)$$

If the computation is done in a sequential way, for $i = 1, 2, \dots$, then in the first summation term, all x_j^k are already computed for step $k + 1$. We will replace all these x_j^k with x_j^{k+1} .

Use the latest computed values of x_i .

for $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$, until stop criteria

for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$

$$x_i^{k+1} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij} x_j^{k+1} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij} x_j^k \right)$$

end

end

SOR (Successive Over Relaxation)

SOR is a more general iterative method. A version based on Gauss-Seidal.

$$x_i^{k+1} = (1 - w)x_i^k + w \cdot \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{k+1} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j^k \right)$$

Note the second term is the Gauss-Seidal iteration multiplied with w .

w : relaxation parameter. Usual value: $0 < w < 2$ (for convergence reason)

- $w = 1$: Gauss-Seidal
- $0 < w < 1$: under relaxation
- $1 < w < 2$: over relaxation

Update Rules

Jacobi: $x_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij}x_j^{(k)} \right)$

GS: $x_i^{k+1} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{k+1} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j^k \right)$

SOR: $x_i^{k+1} = (1 - w)x_i^k + w \cdot \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left(b_i - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij}x_j^{k+1} - \sum_{j=i+1}^n a_{ij}x_j^k \right)$

Iterative Solvers

Want to solve $Ax = b$. We change it into a fixed-point problem $x = Mx + y$ for some matrix M and vector y , with fixed point iteration $x^{k+1} = Mx^k + y$.

Splitting of the matrix A :

$$A = L + D + U$$

Now we have

$$Ax = (L + D + U)x = Lx + Dx + Ux = b$$

Jacobi iterations:

$$Dx^{k+1} = b - Lx^k - Ux^k$$

so

$$x^{k+1} = D^{-1}b - D^{-1}(L + U)x^k = y_J + M_Jx^k$$

where

$$y_J = D^{-1}b, \quad M_J = -D^{-1}(L + U).$$

Gauss-Seidal:

$$Dx^{k+1} + Lx^{k+1} = b - Ux^k$$

so

$$x^{k+1} = (D + L)^{-1}b - (D + L)^{-1}Ux^k = y_{GS} + M_{GS}x^k$$

where

$$y_{GS} = (D + L)^{-1}b, \quad M_{GS} = -(D + L)^{-1}U.$$

SOR:

$$\begin{aligned} x^{k+1} &= (1 - w)x^k + wD^{-1}(b - Lx^{k+1} - Ux^k) \\ \Rightarrow Dx^{k+1} &= (1 - w)Dx^k + wb - wLx^{k+1} - wUx^k \\ \Rightarrow (D + wL)x^{k+1} &= wb + [(1 - w)D - wU]x^k \end{aligned}$$

SO

$$x^{k+1} = (D + wL)^{-1}b + (D + wL)^{-1}[(1 - w)D - wU]x^k = y_{SOR} + M_{SOR}x^k$$

where

$$y_{SOR} = (D + wL)^{-1}b, \quad M_{SOR} = (D + wL)^{-1}[(1 - w)D - wU].$$

Iterative Solvers. Convergence Analysis

Iteration $x^{k+1} = y + Mx^k$ for solving $Ax = b$

Assume s is the solution: $As = b, \quad s = y + Ms.$

Define the error vector: $e^k = x^k - s$

$$e^{k+1} = x^{k+1} - s = y + Mx^k - (y + Ms) = M(x^k - s) = Me^k.$$

$$e^{k+1} = x^{k+1} - s = y + Mx^k - (y + Ms) = M(x^k - s) = Me^k.$$

This gives the propagation of error:

$$e^{k+1} = Me^k.$$

Take the norm on both sides:

$$\|e^{k+1}\| = \|Me^k\| \leq \|M\| \cdot \|e^k\|$$

This implies:

$$\|e^k\| \leq \|M\|^k \|e^0\|, \quad e^0 = x^0 - s$$

Theorem If $\|M\| < 1$ for some norm $\|\cdot\|$, then the iterations converge in that norm.

Convergence Theorem. If A is diagonal dominant, i.e.,

$$|a_{ii}| > \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^n |a_{ij}|, \quad \text{for every } i = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

Then, all three iteration methods converge for all initial choice of x^0 .

Numerical solutions for ODEs. Introduction.

Definition of ODE: an equation which contains one or more ordinary derivatives of an unknown function.

Example 1. Let $x = x(t)$ be the unknown function of t , ODE examples can be

$$x' = x^2, \quad x'' + x \cdot x' + 4 = 0, \quad \text{etc.}$$

We consider the initial-value problem for first-order ODE

$$\begin{cases} x' = f(t, x), & \text{differential equation} \\ x(t_0) = x_0 & \text{given initial condition (IC)} \end{cases}$$

Some examples: Some examples:

$$\begin{aligned} x'(t) &= 2, \quad x(0) = 0. & \text{solution: } x(t) &= 2t. \\ x'(t) &= 2t, \quad x(0) = 0. & \text{solution: } x(t) &= t^2. \\ x'(t) &= x + 1, \quad x(0) = 0. & \text{solution: } x(t) &= e^t - 1. \end{aligned}$$

In many situations, exact solutions can be very difficult/impossible to obtain.

We seek approximate values of the solution at discrete sampling points. Uniform grid for time variable. Let h be the time step length

$$t_{k+1} - t_k = h, \quad t_k = t_0 + kh, \quad t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N.$$

Given an ODE, and a final computing time t_N . We seek values $x_n \approx x(t_n)$, $n = 1, 2, \dots, N$, and $t_0 < t_1 < \dots < t_N$.

Taylor series methods for ODEs

Given

$$x'(t) = f(t, x(t)), \quad x(t_0) = x_0.$$

Let $t_1 = t_0 + h$. Let's find the value $x_1 \approx x(t_1) = x(t_0 + h)$. Taylor expansion of $x(t_0 + h)$ expand at t_0 gives

$$x(t_0 + h) = x(t_0) + hx'(t_0) + \frac{1}{2}h^2x''(t_0) + \dots = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{m!} h^m x^{(m)}(t_0)$$

We take the first $(m+1)$ terms in Taylor expansion.

$$x(t_0 + h) \approx x(t_0) + hx'(t_0) + \frac{1}{2}h^2x''(t_0) + \dots + \frac{1}{m!}h^m x^{(m)}(t_0).$$

Error in each step:

$$x(t_0 + h) - x_1 = \sum_{k=m+1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{k!} h^k x^{(k)}(t_0) = \frac{1}{(m+1)!} h^{m+1} x^{(m+1)}(\xi)$$

for some $\xi \in (t_0, t_1)$.

For $m = 1$:

$$x_1 = x_0 + hx'(t_0) = x_0 + h \cdot f(t_0, x_0)$$

This is called forward Euler step.

General formula for step number k :

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h \cdot f(t_k, x_k), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

For $m = 2$:

$$x_1 = x_0 + hx'(t_0) + \frac{1}{2}h^2x''(t_0)$$

Computing x'' :

$$x'' = \frac{d}{dt}x'(t) = \frac{d}{dt}f(t, x(t)) = f_t + f_x \cdot x'$$

we get

$$x_1 = x_0 + hf(t_0, x_0) + \frac{1}{2}h^2[f_t(t_0, x_0) + f_x(t_0, x_0) \cdot f(t_0, x_0)]$$

For general step k , $k = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$, we have

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + hf(t_k, x_k) + \frac{1}{2}h^2[f_t(t_k, x_k) + f_x(t_k, x_k) \cdot f(t_k, x_k)]$$

Examples

Example 1. Set up Taylor series methods with $m = 1$ and $m = 2$ for

$$x' = -x + e^{-t}, \quad x(0) = 0.$$

The exact solution is $x(t) = te^{-t}$. Answer. The initial data gives $t_0 = 0, x_0 = 0$. For $m = 1$, we have

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h(-x_k + e^{-t_k}) = (1-h)x_k + he^{-t_k}$$

For $m = 2$, we have

$$x'' = (-x + e^{-t})' = -x' - e^{-t} = x - e^{-t} - e^{-t} = x - 2e^{-t}$$

so

$$\begin{aligned} x_{k+1} &= x_k + hx'_k + 0.5h^2x''_k \\ &= x_k + h(-x_k + e^{-t_k}) + 0.5h^2(x_k - 2e^{-t_k}) \\ &= (1-h+0.5h^2)x_k + (h-h^2)e^{-t_k} \end{aligned}$$

We take the first $(m+1)$ terms in Taylor expansion.

$$x(t_0 + h) \approx x(t_0) + hx'(t_0) + \frac{1}{2}h^2x''(t_0) + \dots + \frac{1}{m!}h^mx^{(m)}(t_0).$$

```

In [ ]: import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# Define the exact solution
def exact_solution(t):
    return t * np.exp(-t)

# Define the differential equation and its derivatives
def f(t, x):
    return -x + np.exp(-t)

def f_prime(t, x):
    return x - 2 * np.exp(-t)

# Implement the Taylor series method with m=1
def taylor_m1(t0, x0, h, n):
    t_values = [t0]
    x_values = [x0]

    for i in range(n):
        t_next = t_values[-1] + h
        x_next = x_values[-1] + h * f(t_values[-1], x_values[-1])
        t_values.append(t_next)
        x_values.append(x_next)

    return t_values, x_values

# Implement the Taylor series method with m=2
def taylor_m2(t0, x0, h, n):
    t_values = [t0]
    x_values = [x0]

    for i in range(n):
        t_next = t_values[-1] + h
        x_next = x_values[-1] + h * f(t_values[-1], x_values[-1]) + 0.5 * h**2 * f_prime
        t_values.append(t_next)
        x_values.append(x_next)

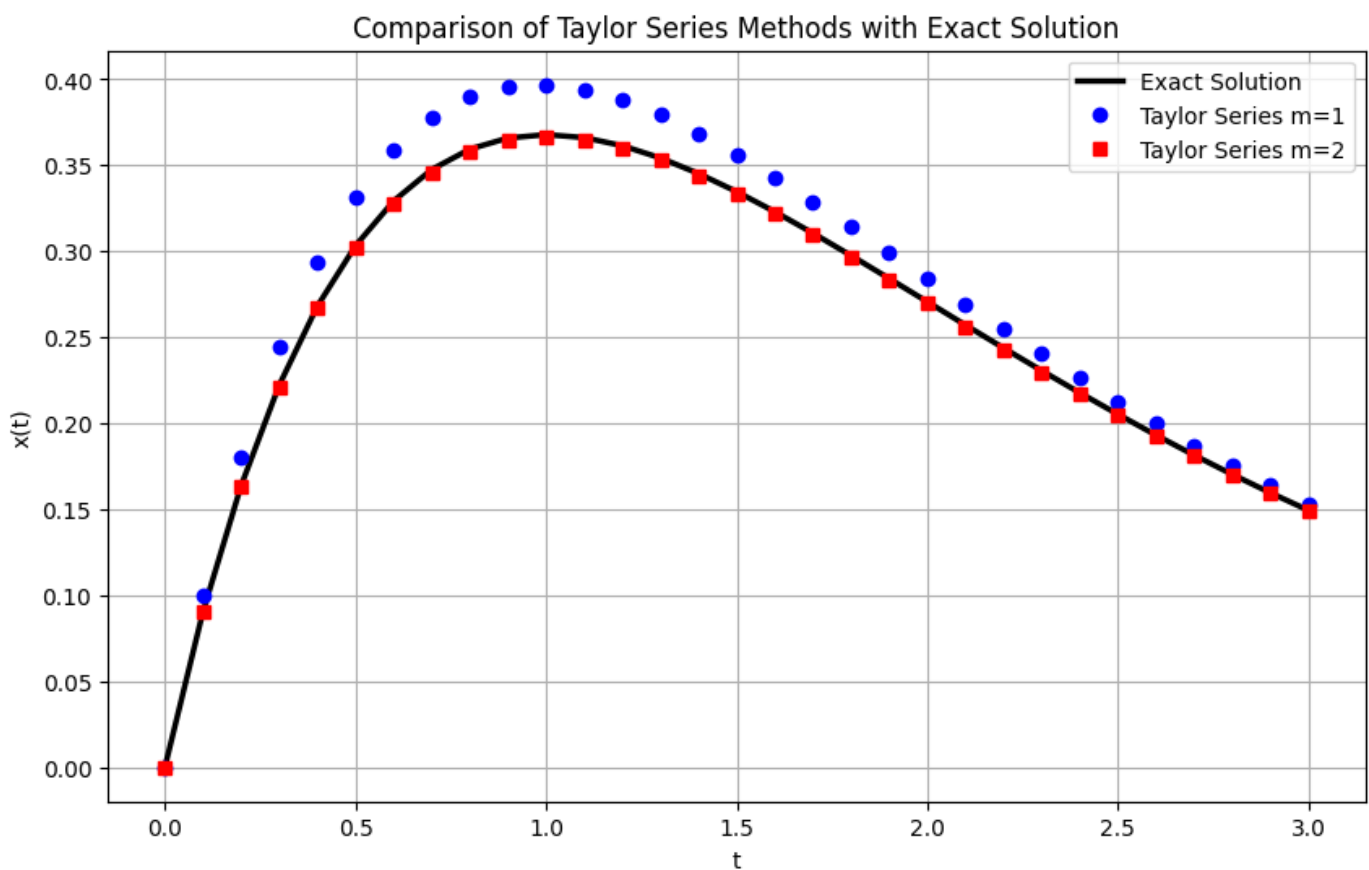
    return t_values, x_values

# Initial conditions and parameters
t0 = 0
x0 = 0
h = 0.1
n = 30

# Compute the numerical solutions
t_values_m1, x_values_m1 = taylor_m1(t0, x0, h, n)
t_values_m2, x_values_m2 = taylor_m2(t0, x0, h, n)
t_exact = np.linspace(t0, t0 + n*h, n+1)
x_exact = exact_solution(t_exact)

# Plot the results
plt.figure(figsize=(10, 6))
plt.plot(t_exact, x_exact, linewidth=2.5, label='Exact Solution', color='black')
plt.plot(t_values_m1, x_values_m1, 'o', linewidth=0.5, label='Taylor Series m=1', color='red')
plt.plot(t_values_m2, x_values_m2, 's', linewidth=0.5, label='Taylor Series m=2', color='blue')
plt.xlabel('t')
plt.ylabel('x(t)')
plt.title('Comparison of Taylor Series Methods with Exact Solution')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()

```



Example 2. Set up Taylor series methods with $m = 1, 2, 3, 4$ for

$$x' = x, \quad x(0) = 1.$$

The exact solution is $x(t) = e^t$. Answer. We set $t_0 = 0, x_0 = 1$. Note that

$$x'' = x' = x, \quad x''' = x'' = x, \quad \dots \quad x^{(m)} = x$$

Taylor series method of order m :

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + hx_k + \frac{h^2 x_k}{2} + \dots + \frac{h^m x_k}{(m)!}$$

So

$$m = 1: \quad x_{k+1} = x_k + hx_k = (1 + h)x_k$$

$$m = 2: \quad x_{k+1} = x_k + hx_k + \frac{h^2 x_k}{2} = \left(1 + h + \frac{h^2}{2}\right) x_k$$

$$m = 3: \quad x_{k+1} = x_k + hx_k + \frac{h^2 x_k}{2} + \frac{h^3 x_k}{6} = \left(1 + h + \frac{h^2}{2} + \frac{h^3}{6}\right) x_k$$

$$m = 4: \quad x_{k+1} = \dots = \left(1 + h + \frac{h^2}{2} + \frac{h^3}{6} + \frac{h^4}{24}\right) x_k$$

Error analysis for Taylor Series Methods

Given ODE

$$x' = f(t, x), \quad x(t_0) = x_0.$$

Local error (error in each time step) for Taylor series method of order m .

Let t_k, x_k be given,

let x_{k+1} be the numerical solution after one iteration,

and let $x(t_k + h)$ be the exact solution for the IVP

$$x' = f(t, x), \quad x(t_k) = x_k.$$

Then, the local truncation error is define as

$$e_k \doteq |x_{k+1} - x(t_k + h)|.$$

Theorem: For Taylor series method of order m at step k , the local error is of order $m + 1$, i.e., $e_k \leq Mh^{m+1}$ for some bounded constant M .

Proof. We have

$$e_k = |x_{k+1} - x(t_k + h)| = \frac{h^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} |x^{(m+1)}(\xi)| = \frac{h^{m+1}}{(m+1)!} \left| \frac{d^m f}{dt^m}(\xi, x(\xi)) \right|,$$

for some $\xi \in (t_k, t_{k+1})$.

We assume

$$\left| \frac{d^m f}{dt^m} \right| \leq M$$

Now we have

$$e_k \leq \frac{M}{(m+1)!} h^{m+1} = \mathcal{O}(h^{m+1})$$

Definition. The ODE $x' = f(t, x)$ is called well-posed if it is stable w.r.t. perturbations in initial data. This means, let $x(t)$ and $\tilde{x}(t)$ be the solutions with two different initial conditions $x(t_0) = x_0$ and $\tilde{x}(t_0) = \tilde{x}_0$. Fix a final time T . Then, there exists a constant C , independent of t , such that

$$|x(t) - \tilde{x}(t)| \leq C |x_0 - \tilde{x}_0|.$$

Total error is the error at the final computing time T .

Let

$$N = \frac{T}{h}, \quad \text{i.e.,} \quad T = Nh.$$

The total error is defined as

$$E \doteq |x(T) - x_N|$$

Theorem: Assume that the ODE is well-posed. If the local error of a numerical iteration satisfies

$$e_k \leq Mh^{m+1}$$

then the total error satisfies

$$E \leq Ch^m$$

for some bounded constant C , where C is uniform in t .

Proof. We observe two facts about the errors. First, at every step k , the local error is being carried on through the rest of the simulation. Second, the local errors accumulate through time iteration steps. By the well-posedness assumption, at each time step k , the local error e_k is amplified at most by a factor of C in the answer at the final time T .

We can add up all the accumulated errors at T caused by all the local errors

$$\begin{aligned} E &= C \sum_{k=1}^N |e_L^{(k)}| \leq C \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{M}{(m+1)!} h^{m+1} \\ &= CN \frac{M}{(m+1)!} h^{m+1} = C(Nh) \frac{M}{(m+1)!} h^m = \frac{CMT}{(m+1)!} h^m = \mathcal{O}(h^m) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the method is of order m .

Lecture note based on Intro Numeric Comput (2nd Ed): Wen Shen: 9789811204418