

# IN5270 Mandatory exercise 3

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## Exercise 2: Compute the deflection of a cable with sine functions

Studying a cable hanging with length  $L$  and with significant tension  $T$  has a deflection  $w(x)$  governed by:

$$Tw''(x) = l(x)$$

where  $l(x)$  the vertical load per unit length. The cable is fixed at  $x = 0$  and  $x = L$  so the boundary conditions become  $w(0) = w(L) = 0$ . The deflection  $w$  is positive upwards, and  $l$  is positive when it acts downwards.

we assume  $l = \text{constant}$ , the solution expected to be symmetric around  $x = L/2$ . it means that  $w(x_0 - h) = w(x_0 + h)$  if  $x_0$  is the symmetric point. then we have  $w'(x_0) = \lim_{h \rightarrow 0} (w(x_0 - h) - w(x_0 + h)) / (2h) = 0$ . We seek  $w(x)$  in  $[0, L/2]$  with boundary conditions  $w(0) = 0$  and  $w'(L/2) = 0$ .

The problem can be scaled with dimensionless :  $\bar{x} = \frac{x}{L/2}, \bar{u} = \frac{w}{w_c}$ , inserting in the problem for  $w$ :

$$\frac{4Tw_c}{L^2} \frac{d^2\bar{u}}{d\bar{x}^2} = l (= \text{constant})$$

choosing  $w_c$  such that  $|d^2\bar{u}/d\bar{x}^2| = 1$ . then  $w_c = \frac{1}{4}lL^2/T$ , then the problem for the scaled vertical deflection  $u$  becomes:

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

**a)**

The exact solution to deflection  $u$ :

$$\begin{aligned} u'' = 1 &\rightarrow u' = x + A \rightarrow u = \frac{x^2}{2} + Ax + B \\ 0 = u(0) &= B, \quad 0 = u'(1) = 1 + A \rightarrow A = -1 \\ u &= \frac{x^2}{2} - x = \frac{x(x-2)}{2} \end{aligned}$$

or run the function 'exact\_solver()' in the python program were i solve this with sympy

**b)**

The function space is spanned by  $\psi_i = \sin((2i+1)\pi x/2)$ ,  $i=0,\dots,N$ . both boundary conditions holds:  $\psi_i(0) = 0, \psi'_i(1) = 0$  such that  $u = \sum_j c_j \psi_j$ .

Now I use Galerkin and a least squares method to find the coefficients  $c_j$  in  $u = \sum_j c_j \psi_j$  and how fast the coefficients decrease in magnitude by looking at  $c_j/c_{j-1}$ . And the error in the maximum deflection at  $x = 1$  when only one basis function is used ( $N=0$ ).

Finding the residual  $R$ :

$$R = u''_{exact} - u'' = 1 - u'' = 1 - \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} = \sum_j c_j \frac{d^2 \psi_j(x)}{dx^2}$$

$$\frac{d^2 \psi_j(x)}{dx^2} = -\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2 \left(i + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{(2i+1)\pi x}{2}\right)$$

$$R = 1 + \sum_j c_j \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2 \left(i + \frac{1}{2}\right)^2 \sin\left(\frac{(2i+1)\pi x}{2}\right)$$

Galerkin method:

$$(R, v) = 0 \rightarrow (1 - u'', v) = (1, v) - (u'', v) = 0 \rightarrow (1, v) = (u'', v)$$

$$\int_0^1 u'' v = - (u', v') \rightarrow (u', v') = - (1, v)$$

were  $v = \psi_i$ , then we have that  $A_{ji} = (\psi_j, \psi_i)$  and  $b_i = -(1, \psi_i)$ , if  $j \neq i$  we have  $A_{ji} = 0$ , and when  $j = i$  I get  $c_i$ :

$$c_i = \frac{b_i}{A_{ii}} = -\frac{16}{\pi^3(2i+1)}$$

Least squares method:

$$(R, \frac{\partial R}{\partial c_i}) = 0$$

$$\sum_j^N c_j (\psi_j'', \psi_i'') = (-1, \psi_i'')$$

$$\sum_j^N c_j A_{ji} = b_i$$

same as in the Galerkin method we get:

$$c_i = \frac{b_i}{A_{ii}} = -\frac{16}{\pi^3(2i+1)}$$

written i python as function Galerkin and Least\_squares.

Looking at who fast the coefficients decrease: if the coefficients decreases we need that  $c_j < c_{j-1}$  and the  $c_j/c_{j-1}$  will be less then 1. added the function `coeff_dec(method)` to

calculate those.

Error in the maximum deflection at  $x = 1$ :

$$\begin{aligned} u_e(1) &= \frac{1(1-2)}{2} = -\frac{1}{2} \\ c_0 &= \frac{-16}{\pi^3} \quad , \quad \psi_0 = \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right), \quad u(x) = \frac{-16}{\pi^3} \sin\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) \\ u(1) &= -\frac{16}{\pi^3} \end{aligned}$$

The Error is than:

$$e = 1 - \frac{u_e}{u} = -\frac{-\frac{1}{2}}{-\frac{16}{\pi^3}} = 1 - 0.968 = 0.031 = 3.1\%$$

**c)**

Visualize the solutions in b) for  $N=0,1,20$ : function visualize1()

**d)**

With  $\psi_i = \sin\left((i+1)\frac{\pi x}{2}\right)$ , using Galerkin we get:

$$\begin{aligned} A_{ij} &= (\psi'_i, \psi'_j) = \int_0^1 (i+1)(j+1)\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^2 \cos\left((i+1)\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) \cos\left((j+1)\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) dx \\ b_i &= \int_0^1 (-1) \sin\left((i+1)\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) = - \int_0^1 \sin\left((i+1)\frac{\pi x}{2}\right) \end{aligned}$$

I think that the additional basis functions will improve the solution because we get more points.

**e)**

Now we drop the symmetry condition at  $x = 1$  and extend the domain to  $[0,2]$  such that it covers the entire (scaled) physical cable:

$$u'' = 1, \quad x \in (0, 2), \quad u(0) = u(2) = 0$$

Visualize for  $N=0,1,20$ : function visualize2()

## Exercise 5: Compute the deflection of a cable with 2 P1 elements

Solving the problem for  $u$  in Exercise 2: Compute the deflection of a cable with sine functions using two P1 linear elements. Incorporate the condition  $u(0)=0$  by two methods:

- 1) Excluding the unknown at  $x=0$
- 2) Keeping the unknown at  $x=0$ , but modifying the linear system.

finite element mesh with  $N_e$  cells, all with length  $h$ , and number the cells from left to right. Choosing P1 elements, there are two nodes per cell, and the coordinates of the nodes become:

$$x_i = ih, \quad h = \frac{L}{N}, \quad i = 0, \dots, N_n - 1 = N_e$$

Any node  $i$  is associated with a finite element basis function  $\psi_i(x)$ .

$$\psi_i(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & x < x_i \\ (x - x_{i-1})/h & x_{i-1} \leq x < x_i \\ 1 - (x - x_i)/h & x_i \leq x < x_{i+1} \\ 0 & x \geq x_{i+1} \end{cases}$$

### 1) Excluding the unknown at $x=0$

Want an approximation on the form  $u_1 = c_0\psi_1 + c_1\psi_2$ . The element Matrix  $A^{(e)}$  and element vector  $b^{(e)}$ :

$$A^{(e)} = \frac{1}{h} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b^{(e)} = -h \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{h} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 \\ -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \end{pmatrix} = -h \begin{pmatrix} 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

And we get  $u_1 = -3h^2\psi_1 - 4h^2\psi_2$

### 2) Keeping the unknown at $x=0$

Want an approximation on the form  $u_2 = c_0\psi_1 + c_1\psi_2 + c_2\psi_3$ . The element Matrix  $A^{(e)}$  and element vector  $b^{(e)}$ :

$$A^{(e)} = \frac{1}{h} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad b^{(e)} = -h \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\frac{1}{h} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_0 \\ c_1 \\ c_2 \end{pmatrix} = -h \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

And we get  $u_2 = -\frac{4h^2}{2}\psi_1 - \frac{h^2}{3}\psi_2 + 0 * \psi_3 \rightarrow u = -\frac{4h^2}{2}\psi_1 - \frac{h^2}{3}\psi_2$ .

Need to choose  $h$  to find that  $u_1$  and  $u_2$  are good approximation to the exact solution.