

1. Consider the boundary value problem (12.1)-(12.2) with $f(x) = 1/x$. Using (12.3) prove that $u(x) = -x \log(x)$. This shows that $u \in C^2(0, 1)$ but $u(0)$ is not defined and u' , u'' do not exist at $x = 0$ (\Rightarrow : if $f \in C^0(0, 1)$, but not $f \in C^0([0, 1])$, then u does not belong to $C^0([0, 1])$).

Using $u(x) = \int_0^1 G(x, s) f(s) ds$ and $f(x) = \frac{1}{x}$

$$\Rightarrow u(x) = (1-x) \int_0^x 1 ds + x \int_x^1 \left(\frac{1}{s} - 1\right) ds$$

$$(1-x) \int_0^x 1 ds = (1-x)x \quad \text{and} \quad x \int_x^1 \left(\frac{1}{s} - 1\right) ds = x([\ln s - s]_{s=x}^1) = x(-1 - \ln x + x)$$

Then $u(x) = (1-x)x + x(-1 - \ln x + x) = -x \ln x$

Discussion:

On the interval $(0, 1)$, the function $u(x) = -x \ln x$ is twice continuously differentiable $\Rightarrow u \in C^2(0, 1)$

We know that as $x \rightarrow 0^+$,

$$u(x) \rightarrow 0, \quad u'(x) = -(\ln x + 1) \rightarrow \infty, \quad u''(x) = -\frac{1}{x} \rightarrow -\infty$$

Therefore, $u(0)$ is not well-defined.

4. Verify the summation by parts formula

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (w_{j+1} - w_j) v_j = w_n v_n - w_0 v_0 - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j) w_{j+1},$$

and show that, for $v_h \in V_h^0$,

$$(L_h v_h, v_h)_h = h^{-1} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j)^2.$$

Claim: $\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (w_{j+1} - w_j) v_j = w_n v_n - w_0 v_0 - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j) w_{j+1}$

<pf>: $\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (w_{j+1} - w_j) v_j = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} w_{j+1} v_j - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} w_j v_j$

We can shift the index,

$$\sum_{j=0}^{n-1} w_{j+1} v_j = \sum_{j=1}^n w_j v_{j-1} = w_n v_{n-1} + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} w_j v_{j-1}$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (w_{j+1} - w_j) v_j &= w_n v_{n-1} - w_0 v_0 + \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} w_j v_{j-1} - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} w_j v_j \\ &= w_n v_{n-1} - w_0 v_0 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (v_j - v_{j-1}) w_j \\ &= w_n v_n - w_n v_n + w_n v_{n-1} - w_0 v_0 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (v_j - v_{j-1}) w_j \\ &= w_n v_n - w_0 v_0 - (v_n - v_{n-1}) w_n - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (v_j - v_{j-1}) w_j \\ &= w_n v_n - w_0 v_0 - \sum_{j=1}^n (v_j - v_{j-1}) w_j \\ &= w_n v_n - w_0 v_0 - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j) w_{j+1} \end{aligned}$$

Let the grid be $x_j = j \cdot h$ with $h = \frac{1}{n}$

Define the discrete inner product

$$(u_h, v_h)_h := h \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} u_j v_j,$$

and the discrete Laplacian

$$(L_h u)_j := -\frac{u_{j+1} - 2u_j + u_{j-1}}{h^2}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n-1$$

with $u_0 = u_n = 0$ for $u_h \in V_h^0$

Set the forward difference $g_j := \frac{u_{j+1} - u_j}{h}$ for $j = 0, \dots, n-1$

Then

$$(L_h u)_j = \frac{g_j - g_{j-1}}{h}$$

Therefore,

$$(L_h u, v)_h = h \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \frac{g_j - g_{j-1}}{h} \cdot v_j = \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (g_j - g_{j-1}) v_j$$

Apply the above with $w_j := g_{j-1}$ ($w_{j+1} - w_j = g_j - g_{j-1}$) and using $v_0 = v_n = 0$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (g_j - g_{j-1}) v_j = -g_0 v_1 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j) g_j = -g_0 v_1 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} h g_j^2$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned} (L_h u, u)_h &= -g_0 v_1 - \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} h g_j^2 = -\frac{v_1}{h} v_1 + h \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} \left(\frac{v_{j+1} - v_j}{h} \right)^2 = -\frac{1}{h} v_1^2 + \frac{1}{h} \sum_{j=1}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j)^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} (v_{j+1} - v_j)^2 \end{aligned}$$

6. Prove that $G^k(x_j) = hG(x_j, x_k)$, where G is Green's function introduced in (12.4) and G^k is its corresponding discrete counterpart solution of (12.4).

[Solution: we prove the result by verifying that $L_h G = h e^k$. Indeed, for a fixed x_k the function $G(x_k, s)$ is a straight line on the intervals $[0, x_k]$ and $[x_k, 1]$ so that $L_h G = 0$ at every node x_l with $l = 0, \dots, k-1$ and $l = k+1, \dots, n+1$. Finally, a direct computation shows that $(L_h G)(x_k) = 1/h$ which concludes the proof.]

We want to show that $G^k = hG(\cdot, x_k)$ satisfies the discrete system

$$L_h G^k = e^k,$$

where e^k is the unit vector with 1 at position k and 0 elsewhere.

We know that

$$G(x, s) = \begin{cases} x(1-s), & 0 \leq x \leq s, \\ s(1-x), & s \leq x \leq 1. \end{cases}$$

For a fixed $s = x_k$, then $G(x, x_k)$ is a piecewise linear function of x .

Let the discrete Laplacian be

$$(L_h v)_j = \frac{v_{j+1} - 2v_j + v_{j-1}}{h^2}, \quad j = 1, \dots, n-1$$

with $v_0 = v_n = 0$

We evaluate $L_h G(\cdot, x_k)$ at discrete points $x_j = j \cdot h$

Since $G(x, x_k)$ is linear on every subinterval $[x_{l-1}, x_l]$ $\forall l \neq k$,

then the second difference at any such node is zero:

$$(L_h G)(x_l) = 0, \quad \text{for } l = 1, 2, \dots, k-1, k+1, \dots, n-1$$

This means $L_h G$ is nonzero only at the node x_k

At x_k and $x_k = k \cdot h$

$$\begin{aligned} G(x_{k+1}, x_k) &= x_k(1-x_{k+1}), & G(x_k, x_k) &= x_k(1-x_k), & G(x_{k-1}, x_k) &= x_{k-1}(1-x_k) \\ &= hk - h^2 k(k+1) & &= hk(1-hk) & &= hk - h - h^2 k(k-1) \end{aligned}$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} (L_h G)(x_k) &= - \frac{G(x_{k+1}, x_k) - 2G(x_k, x_k) + G(x_{k-1}, x_k)}{h^2} \\ &= - \frac{-h^3}{h^2} = h \end{aligned}$$

Thus we have

$$(L_h G)(x_j) = \begin{cases} 0 & , j \neq k \\ h & , j = k \end{cases}$$

That is,

$$L_h G = h e^k$$

Therefore, the discrete Green's function G^k defined by $L_h G^k = e^k$ satisfies $G^k = h G(\cdot, x_k)$

$$\Rightarrow G^k(x_j) = h G(x_j, x_k)$$