

# CS 450: Numerical Analysis<sup>1</sup>

## Boundary Value Problems for Ordinary Differential Equations

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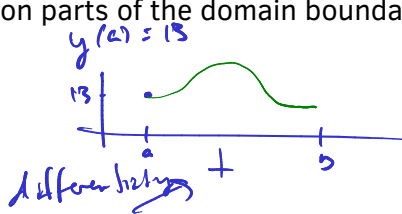
<sup>1</sup> *These slides have been drafted by Edgar Solomonik as lecture templates and supplementary material for the book “Scientific Computing: An Introductory Survey” by Michael T. Heath ([slides](#)).*

# Boundary Conditions

- Often we seek to solve a differential equation that satisfies conditions on its values and derivatives on parts of the domain boundary.

BC: Dirichlet

Neumann



$y'(t) = f(t, y)$

- Consider a first order ODE  $y'(t) = f(t, y)$  with linear boundary conditions on domain  $t \in [a, b]$ :

$$\underbrace{B_a y(a)}_{\substack{\text{initial point} \\ \downarrow}} + \underbrace{B_b y(b)}_{\substack{\text{final point} \\ \downarrow}} = c$$

$$\boxed{1} + \boxed{1} = 1$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y(a) \\ y(b) \end{bmatrix} = c$$

these are separated, if we can decouple  $y(a)$  and  $y(b)$

# Existence of Solutions for Linear ODE BVPs

- The solutions of linear ODE BVP  $y'(t) = A(t)y(t) + b(t)$  are linear combinations of solutions to linear homogeneous ODE IVPs  $y'(t) = A(t)y(t)$ : no  $b(t)$

Let  $y_i(t)$ , at  $t=0$ ,  $y_i(0) = e_i$ , as columns of

$$Y(t) = I + \int_a^t \underbrace{A(s)Y(s)}_{Y'(s)} ds, \quad y(t) = Y(t) \underbrace{u(t)}_{\text{unknown that depends on } b(t) \text{ and BCs}}$$

~~$$Y'(t)u(t) + Y(t)u'(t) = A(t)Y(t)u(t) + b(t)$$~~

$u'(t) = Y(t)^{-1}b(t)$

- Solution  $u(t)$  and  $y(t)$  exist if  $Q = B_a Y(a) + B_b Y(b)$  is invertible: BCs

$u(b) = u(a) + \int_a^b u'(s) ds$ , so BCs entail

$$B_a \underbrace{Y(a)u(a)}_{y(a)} + B_b Y(b) \left( u(a) + \int_a^b u'(s) ds \right) = c$$

$$u(a) = \underbrace{(B_a Y(a) + B_b Y(b))^{-1}}_Q \left( c - B_b Y(b) \int_a^b u'(s) ds \right)$$

# Green's Function Form of Solution for Linear ODE BVPs

- For any given  $b(t)$  and  $c$ , the solution to the BVP can be written in the form:

$$y(t) = \underbrace{\Phi(t)c}_{\text{Green's function}} + \int_a^b \underbrace{G(t,s)}_{\text{Green's function}} \underbrace{b(s)}_{\text{Green's function}} ds \quad Q = B_a Y(a) + B_b Y(b)$$

$\Phi(t) = Y(t)Q^{-1}$  is the *fundamental matrix* and the *Green's function* is

$$G(t,s) = Y(t)Q^{-1}I(s)Y^{-1}(s) \quad I(s) = \begin{cases} B_a Y(a) & : s < t \\ -B_b Y(b) & : s \geq t \end{cases} \quad [a, b]$$

$$\begin{aligned} y(t) &= Y(t) \underbrace{u(t)}_{(u(a) + \int_a^t u'(s) ds)} + \int_a^b u'(s) ds \\ &= Y(t) \left( Q^{-1}c - Q^{-1}B_b Y(b) \int_a^b u'(s) ds + \int_a^t u'(s) ds \right) \\ &= \Phi(t)c + Y(t)Q^{-1} \left( -B_b Y(b) \int_a^b u'(s) ds + Q \int_a^t u'(s) ds \right) \\ &= \Phi(t)c + Y(t)Q^{-1} \left( B_a Y(a) \int_a^t Y^{-1}(s)b(s) ds - B_b Y(b) \int_t^b Y^{-1}(s)b(s) ds \right) \end{aligned}$$

## Conditioning of Linear ODE BVPs

- For any given  $b(t)$  and  $c$ , the solution to the BVP can be written in the form:

$$y(t) = \Phi(t)c + \int_a^b G(t,s)b(s)ds$$

$\Phi(t)$  is also independent of  $b(t)$

$G$  is independent of  $b(s)$ , but dependent on  $Bcs$ , it can be expressed in terms of  $\Phi$  and  $Y$

- The absolute condition number of the BVP is  $\kappa$  =  $\max\{\|\Phi\|_\infty, \|G\|_\infty\}$ :

# Shooting Method for ODE BVPs

- For linear ODEs, we construct solutions from IVP solutions in  $Y(t)$ , which suggests the **shooting method** for solving BVPs by reduction to IVPs:

1. guess an I.C., so  $y^{(k)}(a)$
2. solve IVP with I.C.  $y^{(k)}(a)$  to obtain  $y^{(k)}(b)$
3. check distance from satisfying BCs,  

$$\|B_a y(a) + B_b y(b) - c\|$$
4. so pick  $y^{(k+1)}(a)$  by treating  $y^{(1)}(a) \dots y^{(k)}(a)$  as guesses  
s.e.  $x_1 \dots x_k$  to root finder for

- Multiple shooting** employs the shooting method over subdomains:

IVP from single-shooting  
 is often worse-conditioned  
 than BVP, so may be unstable.

$$h(x) = B_a x + B_b y_x - c$$

where  $y_x = y^{(k)}(b)$



this gives system of nonlinear eqs.

# Finite Difference Methods

- ▶ Rather than solve a sequence of IVPs that satisfy the ODEs until they (approximately) satisfy boundary conditions, we can refine an approximation that satisfies the boundary conditions, until it satisfies the ODE:

instead can build in BCs into approximation  $\rightarrow t_i, t_{i+h}$   
introduce points  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,  $t_1 = a$ ,  $t_n = b$  BCs provide  
approximate solutions  $y_1, \dots, y_n$ ,  $y(t_i) \approx y_i$  2 eqs for  $t_1$  and  $t_n$

$$\forall i \in [2, n-1], \frac{y_{i+1} - y_{i-1}}{2 \cdot h} = f(t_i, y_i)$$

- ▶ Convergence to solution is obtained with decreasing step size  $h$  so long as the method is consistent and stable:

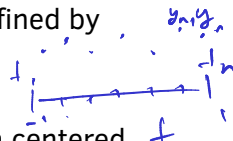
## Finite Difference Methods

- Lets derive the finite difference method for the ODE BVP defined by

$$u'' = -1000(1+t^2)u$$

$$u'' + 1000(1+t^2)u = 0$$

with boundary conditions  $u(-1) = 3$  and  $u(1) = -3$ , using a centered difference approximation for  $u''$  on  $t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,  $t_{i+1} - t_i = h$ .



$$\frac{u_{i+1} - 2u_i + u_{i-1}}{h^2} = -1000(1+t_i^2)u_i$$

$$u_1 = 3$$

$$u_n = -3$$

$$\frac{1}{h^2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 \\ & \ddots & \\ & & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 \end{bmatrix} u + 1000 \begin{bmatrix} 1 & & \\ & 1+(h-1)^2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & 1+(-h)^2 \\ & & & & 1 \end{bmatrix} u = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ -3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Linear system

$$(A + B)u = [3 \ 0 \ \dots \ 0 \ -3]^T$$



## Collocation Methods

- Collocation methods approximate  $y$  by representing it in a basis

$$\underline{y(t)} \approx v(t, x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \underline{\phi_i(t)}.$$

basis function

$$v'(t_i, x) = f(t_i, v(t_i, x)) \quad \forall t_i$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n x_j \phi_j'(t_i) = f(t_i, \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \phi_j(t_i))$$

collocation points

coefficients  $x_j$   $\uparrow$   $\underline{ODE}$

- Choices of basis functions give different families of methods:

• polynomials or trigonometric fun's

Spectral  $\rightarrow$  • good because they are eigenfunctions of diff' ops  
• bad because they are nonzero everywhere

FEM  $\rightarrow$  • B-splines, or localized functions  $\rightarrow$  sparse linear systems

# Solving BVPs by Optimization

- Can solve collocation equations by minimizing residual (for simplified scenario  $f(t, y) = f(t)$ ),

$$\underbrace{r(t, x)}_{\text{approx}} = \underbrace{v'(t, x)}_{\text{ODE condition}} - \underbrace{f(t)}_{\text{ODE condition}} = \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \phi_j'(t) - f(t).$$

Minimize objective function

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \int_a^b \|r(s, x)\|_2^2 ds$$

- The first-order optimality conditions of the optimization problem are a system of linear equations  $Ax = b$ :

$$0 = \frac{\partial F}{\partial x_i} = \int_a^b \underbrace{\phi_i'(s)}_{\text{basis}} \cdot \underbrace{r(s, x)}_{\sum_{j=1}^n x_j \phi_j'(s) - f(s)} ds \Rightarrow \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \int_a^b \underbrace{\phi_i'(s) \phi_j'(s)}_{A_{ij}} ds = \int_a^b \underbrace{f(s) \phi_i'(s)}_{b_i} ds$$

# Weighted Residual

- **Weighted residual methods** work by ensuring the residual is orthogonal with respect to a given set of weight functions:

$\{w_i(t)\}_{i=1}^r$  - weight functions, the residual is orthogonal to these basis

$$\int_a^b w_i(t) r(t, x) dt = 0 \quad \forall i - \text{weight-functions}$$

↑  
coefficients

- The Galerkin method is a weighted residual method where  $w_i = \phi_i$ .

$$\int_a^b \phi_i(t) r(t, x) dt = 0$$

$$\int_a^b \phi_i(t) \left( \sum_{j=1}^n x_j \phi_j'(t) - f(t) \right) dt = 0$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^n x_j \int_a^b \phi_i(t) \phi_j'(t) dt = \int_a^b \phi_i(t) f(t) dt$$

$\Rightarrow$

$A_{ij}$

$b_i$

## Second-Order BVPs: Poisson Equation

In practice, BVPs are at least second order and its advantageous to work in the natural set of variables.

- Consider the *Poisson equation*  $u'' = f(t)$  with boundary conditions  $u(a) = u(b) = 0$  and define a localized basis of hat functions:

$$\phi_i(t) = \begin{cases} (t - t_{i-1})/h & : t \in [t_{i-1}, t_i] \\ (t_{i+1} - t)/h & : t \in [t_i, t_{i+1}] \\ 0 & : \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

where  $t_0 = t_1 = a$  and  $t_{n+1} = t_n = b$ .

## Weak Form and the Finite Element Method

- ▶ The finite-element method permits a lesser degree of differentiability of basis functions by casting the ODE in *weak form*:

## Eigenvalue Problems with ODEs

- ▶ A typical second-order scalar *ODE BVP eigenvalue problem* is

$$u'' = \lambda f(t, u, u'), \quad \text{with boundary conditions } u(a) = 0, u(b) = 0.$$

These can be solved, e.g. for  $f(t, u, u') = g(t)u$  by finite differences:

## Using Generalized Matrix Eigenvalue Problems

- ▶ Generalized matrix eigenvalue problems arise from more sophisticated ODEs,

$$u'' = \lambda(g(t)u + h(t)u'), \quad \text{with boundary conditions } u(a) = 0, u(b) = 0.$$