



Technische
Universität
Braunschweig



Introduction to PDEs and Numerical Methods

Lecture 5:

Analytical solution of ODEs and PDEs, The Finite Difference Method

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Overview of the course

- Introduction (definition of PDEs, classification, basic math, introductory examples of PDEs)
- **Analytical solution of elementary PDEs (Fourier series/transform, separation of variables, Green's function)**
- Numerical solutions of PDEs:
 - **Finite difference method**
 - Finite element method

Overview of this lecture

- Solving PDEs, analytical solution of ODEs
 - About existence and uniqueness of linear PDEs
 - Solution methods
 - Spectral method (Fourier analysis)
 - Essential ODEs
 - Solving homogenous second order ODEs
 - From homogenous to inhomogenous equation
 - Converting higher order ODEs to system of first order ODEs
 - Solving system of ODEs
- Introduction to the Finite Difference Method (FDM)
 - Euler forward, Euler backward schemes and the theta-method
 - Approximation of higher derivatives
- Solving the heat equation with FDM
 - Semidiscretization- Method of Lines (spatial discretization)
 - Time discretization

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

Existence:

$\mathbf{b} \in R(\mathbf{C})$ (\mathbf{b} is in the range of \mathbf{A})

Uniqueness:

let's suppose \mathbf{y} and \mathbf{z} are both solutions:

$$\mathbf{Ay} = \mathbf{b} \quad \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{b}$$

$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{0} \Rightarrow$ if $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{z}$ nontrivial solution

In other words, the nullspace of \mathbf{A} is nontrivial.

The system has only unique solution if the nullspace of \mathbf{A} is trivial, that is the only solution of $\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{0}$ is $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{0}$

$$Lu = f$$

example: $L_D u = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$

Existence:

$u \in R(L)$ (f is in the range of L)

Uniqueness:

let's suppose \mathbf{y} and \mathbf{z} are both solutions:

$$Ly = f \quad Lz = f$$

$L(\mathbf{y} - \mathbf{z}) = 0 \Rightarrow$ if $\mathbf{y} \neq \mathbf{z}$ nontrivial solution

The system has only unique solution if the nullspace of L is trivial, that is the only solution of

$Lu = 0$ is the zero function

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

Solution:

If $N(\mathbf{A})$ is nontrivial, it has only solution if it satisfies a certain compatibility condition:

Adjoint operator: \mathbf{A}^T

$$\mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{w} = \mathbf{0} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{w} \in N(\mathbf{A}^T)$$

$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{b} = 0$$

If $N(\mathbf{A})$ is nontrivial, and if it has a solution, it has infinitely many:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{Aw} = \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{Az} = \mathbf{b} \end{array} \right\} \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{z} + \alpha \mathbf{w}) = \mathbf{Az} + \alpha \mathbf{Aw} = \mathbf{b}$$

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{z} + \alpha \mathbf{w}$ is also a solution

$$Lu = f$$

Solution:

If $N(L)$ is nontrivial, it has only solution if it satisfies a certain compatibility condition.

Adjoint operator L^* : $\langle Lu, v \rangle = \langle u, L^*v \rangle$

If $N(L)$ is nontrivial, and if it has a solution, it has infinitely many:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} Lw = 0 \\ Lz = f \end{array} \right\} L(\mathbf{z} + \alpha \mathbf{w}) = Lz + \alpha Lw = f$$

$\Rightarrow \mathbf{z} + \alpha \mathbf{w}$ is also a solution

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

Uniqueness (example 1):

$$L_D u = -\alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$



$$-\alpha \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x^2} = f(x) \quad x \in [0, l]$$

$$u(0) = 0$$

$$u(l) = 0$$



$$L_D: C_D^2[0, l] \rightarrow C[0, l]$$

The homogenous system:

$$-\alpha \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow u(x) = ax + b$$

$$u(0) = 0 \Rightarrow b = 0$$

$$u(l) = 0 \Rightarrow a = 0$$



$$\Rightarrow u(x) = 0$$

the trivial solution
unique solution of
 $L_D u = f$

$$-\alpha \frac{d^2 u(x)}{dx^2} = f(x) \Rightarrow \alpha \frac{du(x)}{dx} = - \int_0^x \overbrace{f(s)}^{F(x)} ds + c_1 \Rightarrow \alpha u = - \int_0^x F(s) ds + c_1 x + c_2$$

$$u(0) = 0 \Rightarrow c_2 = 0$$

$$u(l) = 0 \Rightarrow c_1 = \frac{1}{l} \int_0^l \int_0^z f(s) ds dz$$

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

Uniqueness (example2) :

$$L_N u = f \quad \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{aligned} -\alpha u_{xx} &= f(x) & x \in [0, l] \\ u_x(0) &= 0 \\ u_x(l) &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

} $L_D: C_N^2[0, l] \rightarrow C[0, l]$

The homogenous system:

$$-\alpha \frac{\partial^2 u(x)}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow u(x) &= ax + b \\ u_x(0) &= 0 \Rightarrow a = 0 \\ u_x(l) &= 0 \end{aligned} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow u(x) = b$$

non trivial solution
if there is a solution, it
is not unique

$$-\alpha \frac{d^2 u(x)}{dx^2} = f(x) \quad \Rightarrow \quad -\alpha \left[\frac{du(x)}{dx} \right]_0^l = \int_0^l f(x) dx \quad \Rightarrow \quad \int_0^l f(x) dx = 0$$

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b}$$

Solution:

1) **General solution**

$$\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b} \quad \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

2) **Direct solvers (Gauß elimination), iterative methods**

3) **Spectral method**

If $\mathbf{A}^T = \mathbf{A}$ (real eigenvalues) $\mathbf{Av}_i = \lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i$

$$\mathbf{b} = \sum_i (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{v}_i \quad \mathbf{x} = \sum_i (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{x}) \mathbf{v}_i = \sum_i \alpha_i \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\mathbf{Ax} = \mathbf{b} \quad \rightarrow \quad \mathbf{A} \sum_i \alpha_i \mathbf{v}_i = \sum_i (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\sum_i \alpha_i \underbrace{\mathbf{Av}_i}_{\lambda_i \mathbf{v}_i} = \sum_i (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{b}) \mathbf{v}_i \quad \rightarrow \quad \alpha_i \lambda_i = (\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{b})$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \sum_i \frac{(\mathbf{v}_i \cdot \mathbf{b})}{\lambda_i} \mathbf{v}_i$$

$$Lu = f$$

Solution:

1) **Direct integration**

Method of Green's functions

2) **Galerkin method/FD method**

3) **Fourier series** $Lv_i = \lambda v_i$

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = \langle u, Lv \rangle \text{ (real eigenvalues)}$$

$$f = \sum_i f_i v_i(x)$$

$$u = \sum_i u_i v_i(x)$$

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

Solving ODEs with **Fourier series - example** $-\alpha \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} = f(x)$ $u(0) = 0$ $u(l) = 0$ $L_D u = f(x)$

1) Solve the eigenvalues-eigenfunctions $(\lambda_i, v_i(x))$

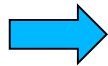
a) Can eigenfunctions form an orthogonal basis (is the operator symmetric)? $\langle Lu, v \rangle = \langle u, Lv \rangle?$

$$\langle Lu, v \rangle = -\alpha \int_0^l \frac{d^2 u(x)}{dx^2} v(x) dx = \left[-\alpha \frac{du(x)}{dx} v(x) \right]_0^l + \alpha \int_0^l \frac{du(x)}{dx} \frac{dv(x)}{dx} dx$$

$$= \alpha \int_0^l \frac{du(x)}{dx} \frac{dv(x)}{dx} dx = \left[\alpha u(x) \frac{dv(x)}{dx} \right]_0^l - \alpha \int_0^l u(x) \frac{dv(x)}{dx^2} dx =$$
$$= \alpha \int_0^l u(x) \frac{dv(x)}{dx^2} dx = \langle u, Lv \rangle$$

b) Find eigenfunctions and eigenvalues $L_D v_i = \lambda v_i(x)$

$$v_i = \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right)$$



We try to find the solution in the form

$$u = \sum_i u_i \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right)$$

Essential ODEs

solving linear systems ↔ analytical solution of linear ODEs

Solving ODEs with **Fourier series - example**
$$-\alpha \frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} = f(x) \quad \begin{matrix} u(0) = 0 \\ u(l) = 0 \end{matrix} \quad \boxed{L_D u = f(x)}$$

2) Project $f(x)$ to the space spanned by the eigenfunctions:

$$f(x) = \sum_i f_i \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right) \quad f_i = \frac{\left\langle f, \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right) \right\rangle}{\left\langle \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right), \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right) \right\rangle}$$

3) Solve the ODE for u_i :

$$-\alpha \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sum_i u_i \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right) = -\alpha \sum_i u_i \frac{d^2}{dx^2} \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right) = \sum_i \alpha \frac{i^2 \pi^2}{l^2} u_i \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right) = \sum_i f_i \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right)$$

$$\alpha \frac{i^2 \pi^2}{l^2} u_i = f_i \quad \rightarrow \quad \boxed{u_i = \frac{l^2 f_i}{i^2 \pi^2 \alpha}} \quad u(x) = \sum_i u_i \sin\left(\frac{i\pi x}{l}\right)$$

Essential ODEs

Analytical solution of homogeneous second order ODEs

$$m\ddot{u} + c\dot{u} + ku = 0$$

Assuming the solution in the form:

$$u(t) = e^{\sigma t}$$

$$m\sigma^2 e^{\delta x} + c\sigma e^{\delta x} + k = 0$$

$$m\sigma^2 + c\sigma + k = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\sigma_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2m} \left(-c \pm \sqrt{c^2 - 4mk} \right)$$

$$u = C_1 e^{\sigma_1 t} + C_2 e^{\sigma_2 t}$$

$$\frac{e^{(\alpha-i\beta)t} + e^{(\alpha+i\beta)t}}{2} u(t) = e^{\alpha t} \cos(\beta t)$$

$$\frac{e^{(\alpha-i\beta)t} - e^{(\alpha+i\beta)t}}{2} u(t) = e^{\alpha t} \sin(\beta t)$$

a) $c^2 - 4mk < 0$

$$\sigma_{1,2} = \alpha + i\beta$$

$$u(t) = e^{(\alpha \pm i\beta)t}$$

$$u(t) = e^{\alpha t} (\cos(\beta t) \pm i \sin(\beta t))$$

$$u(t) = e^{\alpha t} (C_1 \cos(\beta t) \pm C_2 \sin(\beta t))$$

b) $c^2 - 4mk > 0$

$$\sigma_{1,2} = \pm \gamma \quad \gamma \in \mathbb{R}^-$$

$$u(t) = C_1 e^{\gamma t} + C_2 e^{-\gamma t}$$

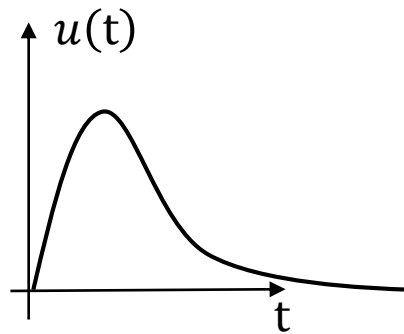
c) $c^2 - 4mk = 0 \quad \sigma_1 = \sigma_2 = \delta = \frac{-c}{2m}$

$$u(t) = C_1 e^{\delta t} + C_2 t e^{\delta t} \quad \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$$

Essential ODEs

Analytical solution of homogeneous second order ODEs

$$m\ddot{u} + c\dot{u} + ku = 0$$

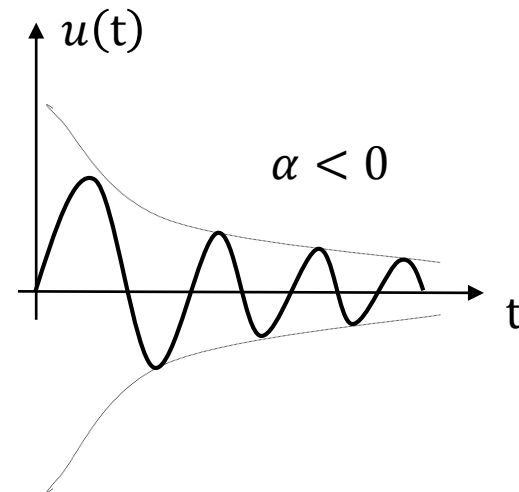


b) $c^2 - 4mk > 0$ $\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^-$

$$u(t) = C_1 e^{\gamma t} + C_2 e^{-\gamma t}$$

a) $c^2 - 4mk < 0$

$$u(t) = e^{\alpha t} (C_1 \cos(\beta t) \pm C_2 \sin(\beta t))$$



c) $c^2 - 4mk = 0$

$$u(t) = C_1 e^{\delta t} + C_2 t e^{\delta t} \quad \gamma \in \mathbb{R}$$

Essential ODEs

Solving inhomogenous linear ODEs

$$m\ddot{u}_h + c\dot{u}_h + ku_h = 0$$



$u_h = c_1u_{1h} + c_2u_{2h}$ general solution of the homogenous equation

$$m\ddot{u} + c\dot{u} + ku = f$$



u_1
 u_2 two particular solutions of the inhomogenous equation

Theorem:

$u_1 - u_2$ is a solution to the homogenous equation $\Rightarrow u_1 - u_2 = c_1u_{1h} + c_2u_{2h}$

Proof:

$$u_1 = c_1u_{1h} + c_2u_{2h} + u_2 = u_h + u_2$$

$$m \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} (u_1 - u_2) + c \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (u_1 - u_2) + k(u_1 - u_2) = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\left(m \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u_1 + c \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_1 + ku_1 \right)}_f - \underbrace{\left(m \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} u_2 + c \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_2 + ku_2 \right)}_f = 0$$



The general solution of the inhomogenous equation can be written as the sum of the general solution of the homogenous eq. and one particular solution of the inhomogenous eq.

Essential ODEs

Converting higher order ODEs to first order system

$$m\ddot{u} + c\dot{u} + ku = f$$

$$u_1 := u$$

$$u_2 := \dot{u} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \dot{u}_1 = u_2$$

$$m\dot{u}_2 + cu_2 + ku_1 = f \quad \longrightarrow \quad \dot{u}_2 = -\frac{c}{m}u_2 - \frac{k}{m}u_1 + \frac{f}{m}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{c}{m} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{f}{m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{u}(t) = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{f}(t)$$

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -\frac{k}{m} & -\frac{c}{m} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{u}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} u_1(t) \\ u_2(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{f}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{f(t)}{m} \end{bmatrix}$$

Essential ODEs

Converting higher order ODEs to first order system

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{u}(t) = A\mathbf{u}(t) + \mathbf{f}(t)$$

Let's solve first the homogenous equation

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{u}(t) = A\mathbf{u}(t)$$

Let's suppose that the solution has a form:

$$\mathbf{u}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} u_1(t) \\ u_2(t) \end{bmatrix} := \alpha(t) \begin{bmatrix} v_1 \\ v_2 \end{bmatrix} = \alpha(t)\mathbf{v}$$



$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \alpha(t)\mathbf{v} = \alpha(t)A\mathbf{v}$$

$$A\mathbf{v} = \lambda\mathbf{v}$$

\mathbf{v} is an
eigenvector
of A

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \alpha(t)\cancel{\mathbf{v}} = \alpha(t)\lambda\cancel{\mathbf{v}}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \alpha(t) = \lambda\alpha(t)$$

$$u_0 = u(0) = C_i\mathbf{v}_i$$

$$\alpha_i(0) = C_i$$

$$\alpha_i(t) = C_i e^{\lambda_i(t-t_0)}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_i(t) = C_i e^{\lambda_i(t-t_0)} \mathbf{v}_i$$
$$\mathbf{u}(t) = \sum_i C_i e^{\lambda_i(t-t_0)} \mathbf{v}_i$$

Overview of second part

- Essential ODEs
- The heat equation
 - Analytical solution
 - Semidiscretization- Method of Lines (spatial discretization)
 - Time discretization

Numerical solution of the heat equation

Finite Difference Method – derivation of difference operators

Derivation of $u'(x)$

$$u(x+h) = u(x) + u'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}u''(x)h^2 + O(h^3) \quad (1)$$

$$u(x-h) = u(x) - u'(x)h + \frac{1}{2}u''(x)h^2 + O(h^3) \quad (2)$$

Subtracting from eq. (1) eq. (2) results in:

$$u(x+h) - u(x-h) = 2u'(x)h + O(h^3)$$

$$u'(x) = \frac{u(x+h) - u(x-h)}{2h} + O(h^2)$$

$$u'_k = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_{k-1}}{2h} + O(h^2)$$

From only (1) (EULER FORWARD)

$$u'(x) = \frac{u(x+h) - u(x)}{h} + O(h)$$

$$u'_k = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{h} + O(h)$$

From only (2) EULER BACKWARD

$$u'(x) = \frac{u(x) - u(x-h)}{h} + O(h)$$

$$u'_{k+1} = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{h} + O(h)$$



Numerical solution of the heat equation

Finite Difference Method – derivation of difference operators

Example for using the **two point stencil**

Forward differences – explicit method

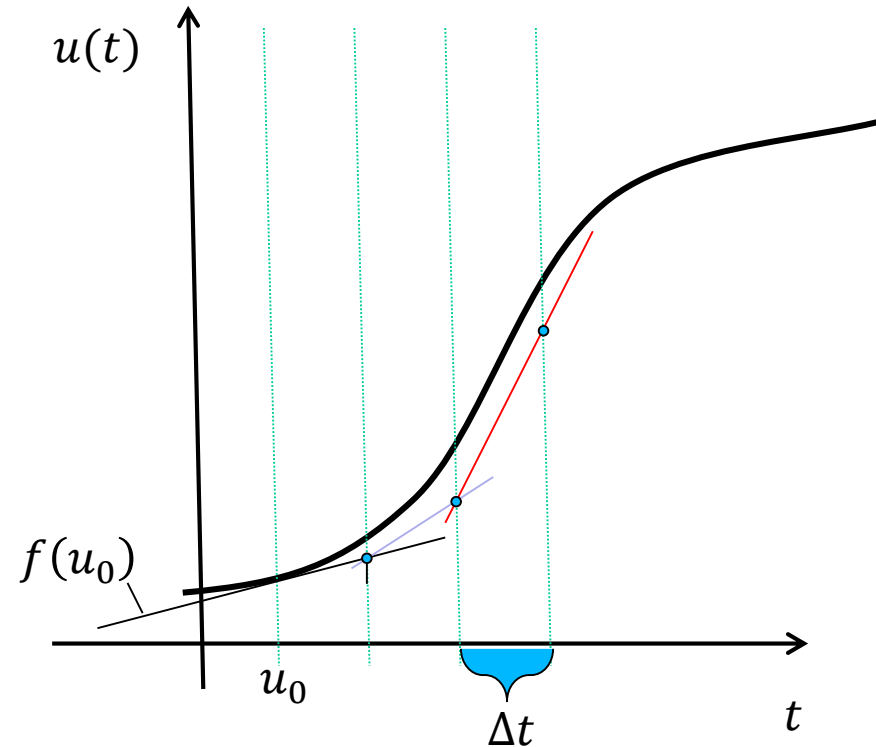
$$u'_k = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} + O(\Delta t)$$



$$u'(t) = f(u(t)) \quad B.C.: u(0) = \bar{u} = u_0$$

$$u'_k = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} = f(u_k)$$

$$u_{k+1} = u_k + \Delta t f(u_k)$$



Numerical solution of the heat equation

Finite Difference Method – derivation of difference operators

Example for using the **two point stencil**

Backward differences – implicit method

$$u'_{k+1} = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} + O(h)$$



$$u'(t) = f(u(t)) \quad B.C.: u(0) = \bar{u} = u_0$$

$$u'_{k+1} = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} = f(u_{k+1})$$

$$u_{k+1} = \Delta t f(u_{k+1}) + u_k$$

Theta method

$$u'_k = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} + O(h)$$

$$u'_{k+1} = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} + O(h)$$

$$u'_{k+\theta} = \frac{u_{k+1} - u_k}{\Delta t} = \theta f(u_{k+1}) + (1 - \theta) f(u_k)$$

