

ChE/MSE 505  
Advanced Mathematic for Engineers  
Final Exam  
Fall Semester, 2001  
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Consider the integro-differential equation

$$c_0(x) \frac{d\phi(x)}{dx} + c_1(x)\phi(x) + c_2(x) \left[ \int_{x_0}^{x_f} N(x,y)\phi(y)dy \right] + c_3(x) = 0$$

where

$$c_0(x) = 1$$

$$c_1(x) = -1$$

$$c_2(x) = -1$$

$$c_3(x) = -e^x + 1$$

$$N(x,y) = e^{x-y}$$

$$x_0 = 0$$

$$x_f = 2$$

with the initial condition

$$\phi(x = x_0) = 1$$

- (a) Characterize the equation as linear or nonlinear.
- (b) Use a numerical method to find an approximate solution to  $\phi(x)$  from  $x_0$  to  $x_f$ . Use a discretization step of  $\Delta x = 1$ . You are free to solve this as you choose, as long as you state your assumptions. However, I suggest you use a centered-finite difference formula to approximate the derivative at internal nodes and a backward-finite difference formula to approximate the derivative at the last node. Also, I suggest you use the trapezoidal rule to approximate the integral, although that too is not mandatory. I would like to see numerical values for the solution.

**Solution:**

Since the range of interest is 2 and the step size is 1, we will have  $n=2$  intervals and  $n+1=3$  points where the function is to be evaluated. Of these three points, the first is given by the initial condition. The solution will be of the form

$$\underline{\phi}^{\text{all}} = \begin{bmatrix} \phi(x = x_0 = 0) = \phi_0 \\ \phi(x = x_1 = 1) \\ \phi(x = x_2 = 2) \end{bmatrix}$$

But only the last two of these are unknown. So it is more useful to write our vector of unknowns as only

$$\underline{\phi} = \begin{bmatrix} \phi(x = x_1 = 1) \\ \phi(x = x_2 = 2) \end{bmatrix}$$

We use a centered finite difference form to evaluate the derivative at all nodes except the first node, where we are forced to use a forward finite difference formula, and the last node, where we are forced to use a backward finite difference formula.

$$\left. \frac{d\phi}{dx} \right|_{x_i} = \begin{cases} \frac{\phi(x_{i+1}) - \phi(x_{i-1}))}{2\Delta x} & \text{for } 1 \leq i \leq n \\ \frac{\phi(x_i) - \phi(x_{i-1}))}{\Delta x} & \text{for } i = n + 1 \end{cases}$$

where  $n$  is the number of intervals. We use the Trapezoidal rule to evaluate the integral

$$\int_{x_0}^{x_f} f(y)dy = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left[ f(x_0) + f(x_f) + 2 \sum_{j=2}^n f(x_j) \right]$$

Substituting the finite difference rule and the Trapezoidal rule into the original equation for  $i=1$  and  $i=2$ , yields

$$c_0(x_1) \frac{\phi(x_2) - \phi(x_0)}{2\Delta x} + c_1(x_1)\phi(x_1) + c_2(x_1) \frac{\Delta x}{2} [N(x_1, x_0)\phi(x_0) + N(x_1, x_2)\phi(x_2) + 2N(x_1, x_1)\phi(x_1)] + c_3(x_1) = 0$$

$$c_0(x_2) \frac{\phi(x_2) - \phi(x_1)}{\Delta x} + c_1(x_2)\phi(x_2) + c_2(x_2) \frac{\Delta x}{2} [N(x_2, x_0)\phi(x_0) + N(x_2, x_2)\phi(x_2) + 2N(x_2, x_1)\phi(x_1)] + c_3(x_2) = 0$$

This is a system of 2 linear algebraic equations, which can be expressed as

$$\underline{A}\underline{\phi} = \underline{b}$$

where

$$\underline{\underline{A}} = \begin{bmatrix} c_1(x_1) + c_2(x_1)N(x_1, x_1)\Delta x & \frac{c_0(x_1)}{2\Delta x} + \frac{c_2(x_1)N(x_1, x_2)\Delta x}{2} \\ -\frac{c_0(x_2)}{\Delta x} + c_2(x_2)N(x_2, x_1)\Delta x & \frac{c_0(x_2)}{\Delta x} + c_1(x_2) + \frac{c_2(x_2)N(x_2, x_2)\Delta x}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\underline{\underline{b}} = \begin{bmatrix} -c_3(x_1) + c_0(x_1)\frac{\phi(x_0)}{2\Delta x} - c_2(x_1)\frac{\Delta x}{2}N(x_1, x_0)\phi(x_0) \\ -c_3(x_2) - c_2(x_2)\frac{\Delta x}{2}N(x_2, x_0)\phi(x_0) \end{bmatrix}$$

The solution is given by

$$\underline{\underline{\phi}} = \underline{\underline{A}}^{-1}\underline{\underline{b}}$$

Let's numerically evaluate the matrix A and vector b

i	x	c0	c1	c2	c3	N(x,0)	N(x,1)	N(x,2)
0	0	0	1	-1	-1	0	1	0.367879
1	1	1	1	-1	-1	-1.71828	2.718282	1
2	2	2	1	-1	-1	-6.38906	7.389056	2.718282

A matrix	b vector	A inverse	phi
-2	0.31606	3.577423	-0.22986
-3.71828	-0.5	10.08358	-0.1453
			-2.28748
			-3.15617

$$\det(A) = 2.175201$$

The solution is plotted below for several different numbers of intervals. You can see that it takes 100 or so intervals to really get a good approximation of the solution.

