

# Lecture 15

## Two point boundary value problems

- Shooting method
- Relaxation methods.
- Adaptive meshes.
- Singularities in the domain.

## The shooting method:

Let us assume that at point  $x_1$  one has to specify  $N$  boundary values for the ODE, corresponding to the initial values of the  $y_i$ 's. However, let us assume that these values are constrained by  $n_1$  conditions. There are therefore,  $n_2 = N - n_1$  freely specifiable values. Let us think of these values as a vector  $V$  with  $n_2$  components.

Choosing a  $V$ , we can now integrate the ODE with the routines we know. At  $x_2$  we can evaluate a “discrepancy vector”  $F$ , of dimension  $n_2$ , which can be simply given by evaluating the  $n_2$  boundary conditions at  $x_2$ , let us call them  $B_{2i}$ ,  $F_k = B_{2k}(x_2, \mathbf{y}) \quad k = 1, \dots, n_2$

We are now left with the task of finding a vector of values  $V$  that zeroes out the vector function  $F$ . We do this through multidimensional Newton-Raphson,

$$\mathbf{J} \cdot \delta \mathbf{V} = -\mathbf{F} \quad \mathbf{V}^{\text{new}} = \mathbf{V}^{\text{old}} + \delta \mathbf{V} \quad J_{ij} = \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial V_j}$$

And in general, one computes the Jacobian numerically,

$$\frac{\partial F_i}{\partial V_j} \approx \frac{F_i(V_1, \dots, V_j + \Delta V_j, \dots) - F_i(V_1, \dots, V_j, \dots)}{\Delta V_j}$$

Each shooting therefore requires  $n_2+1$  operations, one to evaluate the discrepancy and  $n_2$  to evaluate the derivatives.

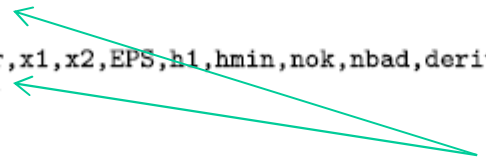
If the equations are linear, then one shooting suffices, since then one Newton-Raphson step produces the solution.

The ideas behind shooting to a midpoint, are essentially the same. One may prefer to do this in cases where the solution is very sensitive to  $V$  and produce wildly varying “shots”. In such case the ODE routine may crash before reaching  $x_2$ .

```

C  SUBROUTINE shoot(n2,v,f) is named "funcv" for use with "newt"
SUBROUTINE funcv(n2,v,f)
  INTEGER n2,nvar,kmax,kount,KMAXX,NMAX
  REAL f(n2),v(n2),x1,x2,dxsav,yp,yp,EPS
  PARAMETER (NMAX=50,KMAXX=200,EPS=1.e-6)  At most NMAX coupled ODEs.
  COMMON /caller/ x1,x2,nvar
  COMMON /path/ kmax,kount,dxsav,yp(KMAXX),yp(NMAX,KMAXX)
C  USES derivs,load,odeint,rkqs,score
  Routine for use with newt to solve a two point boundary value problem for nvar coupled
  ODEs by shooting from x1 to x2. Initial values for the nvar ODEs at x1 are generated
  from the n2 input coefficients v(1:n2), using the user-supplied routine load. The routine
  integrates the ODEs to x2 using the Runge-Kutta method with tolerance EPS, initial stepsize
  h1, and minimum stepsize hmin. At x2 it calls the user-supplied subroutine score to
  evaluate the n2 functions f(1:n2) that ought to be zero to satisfy the boundary conditions
  at x2. The functions f are returned on output. newt uses a globally convergent Newton's
  method to adjust the values of v until the functions f are zero. The user-supplied subroutine
  derivs(x,y,dydx) supplies derivative information to the ODE integrator (see Chapter
  16). The common block caller receives its values from the main program so that funcv
  can have the syntax required by newt. The common block path is included for compatibility
  with odeint.
  INTEGER nbad,nok
  REAL h1,hmin,y(NMAX)
  EXTERNAL derivs,rkqs
  kmax=0
  h1=(x2-x1)/100.
  hmin=0.
  call load(x1,v,y)
  call odeint(y,nvar,x1,x2,EPS,h1,hmin,nok,nbad,derivs,rkqs)
  call score(x2,y,f)
  return
END

```



User supplied.

## Relaxation methods:

In relaxation methods we replace the ordinary differential equation by a finite difference equation (FDE) on a grid of points spanning the interval of interest, say from  $x_1$  to  $x_2$ .

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = g(x, y)$$

$$y_k - y_{k-1} - (x_k - x_{k-1}) g \left[ \frac{1}{2}(x_k + x_{k-1}), \frac{1}{2}(y_k + y_{k-1}) \right] = 0$$

This particular discretization connects points at  $k, k-1$ , we could construct others that connect points further away from each other.

If we have  $N$  equations and  $M$  points in the grid, we wish a system of equations relating the  $N \times M$  variables. We represent the  $N$  variables at a point  $x_k$  by a vector  $\mathbf{y}_k$ .

$$\mathbf{E}_k \equiv \mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{y}_{k-1} - (x_k - x_{k-1}) \mathbf{g}_k(x_k, x_{k-1}, \mathbf{y}_k, \mathbf{y}_{k-1}), \quad k = 2, 3, \dots, M$$

The  $\mathbf{E}_k$  provide  $N$  equations for  $2N$  variables,  $\mathbf{y}_k$  and  $\mathbf{y}_{k-1}$ . Altogether we have  $M \times N$  variables and  $(M-1) \times N$  equations.

The remaining  $N$  equations come from the boundaries. We denote:

$$0 = \mathbf{E}_1 \equiv \mathbf{B}(x_1, \mathbf{y}_1)$$

$$0 = \mathbf{E}_{M+1} \equiv \mathbf{C}(x_M, \mathbf{y}_M)$$

Where the vector  $\mathbf{B}$  has only  $n_1$  non-trivial components, whereas  $\mathbf{C}$  has  $N-n_1=n_2$  non trivial components. Arbitrarily, we take such components to be the first ones.

The solution to the problem is given by the  $N$  values of  $y$  at the  $M$  points. We will develop a method that starts with a guess and computes “corrections” to the values guessed  $\Delta y_k$ . The equations for these corrections are obtained expanding the equations in Taylor series,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{E}_k(\mathbf{y}_k + \Delta \mathbf{y}_k, \mathbf{y}_{k-1} + \Delta \mathbf{y}_{k-1}) &\approx \mathbf{E}_k(\mathbf{y}_k, \mathbf{y}_{k-1}) \\ &+ \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}_k}{\partial y_{n,k-1}} \Delta y_{n,k-1} + \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}_k}{\partial y_{n,k}} \Delta y_{n,k} \end{aligned}$$

For a solution we would like to demand that  $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{y}+\Delta \mathbf{y})$  be zero.

The result is therefore a system of equations that can be cast in matrix form,

$$\sum_{n=1}^N S_{j,n} \Delta y_{n,k-1} + \sum_{n=N+1}^{2N} S_{j,n} \Delta y_{n-N,k} = -E_{j,k}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

With 
$$S_{j,n} = \frac{\partial E_{j,k}}{\partial y_{n,k-1}}, \quad S_{j,n+N} = \frac{\partial E_{j,k}}{\partial y_{n,k}}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

The matrix  $S_{j,n}$  is an  $N \times 2N$  matrix coupling the  $2N$  variables  $y_k$  at points  $k$  and  $k-1$ .

Similarly, the boundary conditions can be written as,

$$\sum_{n=1}^N S_{j,n} \Delta y_{n,1} = -E_{j,1}, \quad j = n_2 + 1, n_2 + 2, \dots, N$$

At the first boundary, since  $E_1$  only depends on  $y_1$

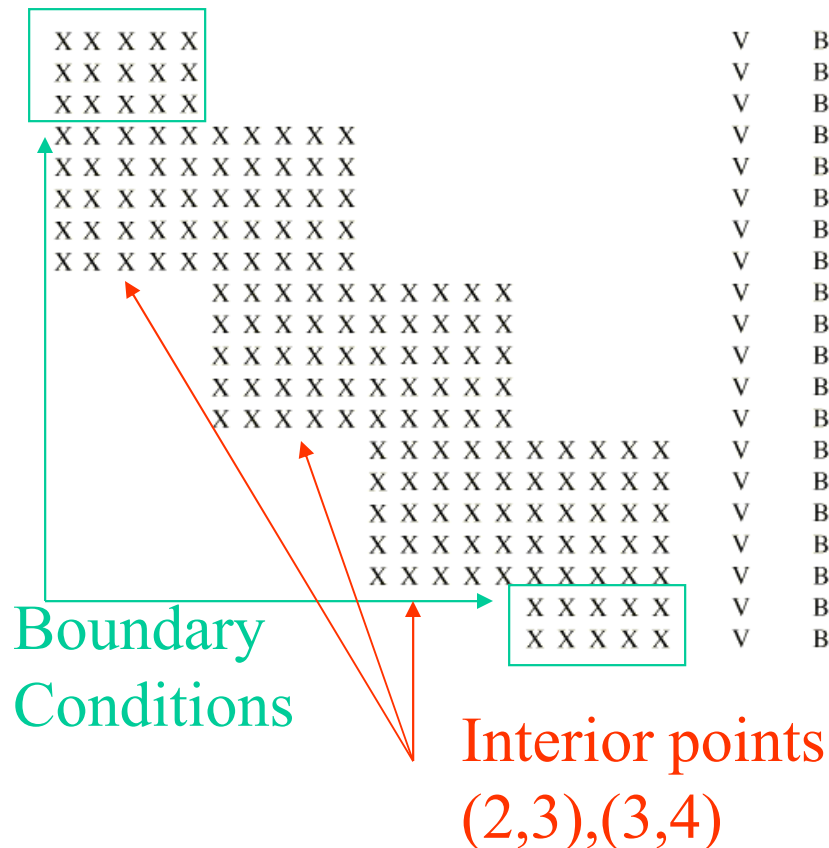
$$S_{j,n} = \frac{\partial E_{j,1}}{\partial y_{n,1}}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

And at the second boundary,

$$\sum_{n=1}^N S_{j,n} \Delta y_{n,M} = -E_{j,M+1}, \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, n_2$$

We therefore have a system of linear equations that can determine all the  $\Delta y$ 's. We can then proceed to iterate to improve the solution.

$$S_{j,n} = \frac{\partial E_{j,M+1}}{\partial y_{n,M}}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N$$



Example case of 5 variables and 4 mesh points. The vector  $V$  are the 20 unknowns. The matrix has a special form given the fact that  $S$  only connects neighboring points.

We could now solve, say, using Gaussian elimination. But perhaps we want to exploit the special structure of the matrix. Numerical recipes contains a detailed discussion of the method.

```

SUBROUTINE solvde(itmax,conv,slowc,scalv,indexv,ne,nb,m,
*   y,nyj,nyk,c,nci,ncj,nck,s,nsi,nsj)
INTEGER itmax,m,nb,nci,ncj,nck,ne,nsi,nsj,
*   nyj,nyk,indexv(nyj),NMAX
REAL conv,slowc,c(nci,ncj,nck),s(nsi,nsj),
*   scalv(nyj),y(nyj,nyk)
PARAMETER (NMAX=10)      Largest expected value of ne.
C  USES bksub,difeq,pinvs,red
    Driver routine for solution of two point boundary value problems by relaxation. itmax is the
    maximum number of iterations. conv is the convergence criterion (see text). slowc con-
    trols the fraction of corrections actually used after each iteration. scalv(1:nyj) contains
    typical sizes for each dependent variable, used to weight errors. indexv(1:nyj) lists the
    column ordering of variables used to construct the matrix s of derivatives. (The nb boundary
    conditions at the first mesh point must contain some dependence on the first nb variables
    listed in indexv.) The problem involves ne equations for ne adjustable dependent variables
    at each point. At the first mesh point there are nb boundary conditions. There are a total
    of m mesh points. y(1:nyj,1:nyk) is the two-dimensional array that contains the initial
    guess for all the dependent variables at each mesh point. On each iteration, it is updated by
    the calculated correction. The arrays c(1:nci,1:ncj,1:nck), s(1:nsi,1:nsj) sup-
    ply dummy storage used by the relaxation code; the minimum dimensions must satisfy:
    nci=ne, ncj=ne-nb+1, nck=m+1, nsi=ne, nsj=2*ne+1.
INTEGER ic1,ic2,ic3,ic4,it,j,j1,j2,j3,j4,j5,j6,j7,j8,
*   j9,jc1,jcf,jv,k,k1,k2,km,kp,nvars,kmax(NMAX)
REAL err,errj,fac,vmax,vz,ermax(NMAX)
k1=1      Set up row and column markers.
k2=m
nvars=ne*m
j1=1
j2=nb
j3=nb+1
j4=ne
j5=j4+j1

```

```

j5=j4+j1
j6=j4+j2
j7=j4+j3
j8=j4+j4
j9=j8+j1
ic1=1
ic2=ne-nb
ic3=ic2+1
ic4=ne
jc1=1
jcf=ic3
do 16 it=1,itmax           Primary iteration loop.
  k=k1                     Boundary conditions at first point.
  call difeq(k,k1,k2,j9,ic3,ic4,indexv,ne,s,nsi,nsj,y,nyj,nyk)
  call pinvs(ic3,ic4,j5,j9,jc1,k1,c,nci,ncj,nck,s,nsi,nsj)
  do 11 k=k1+1,k2          Finite difference equations at all point pairs.
    kp=k-1
    call difeq(k,k1,k2,j9,ic1,ic4,indexv,ne,s,nsi,nsj,y,nyj,nyk)
    call red(ic1,ic4,j1,j2,j3,j4,j9,ic3,jc1,jcf,kp,
      c,nci,ncj,nck,s,nsi,nsj)
    *
    call pinvs(ic1,ic4,j3,j9,jc1,k,c,nci,ncj,nck,s,nsi,nsj)
  enddo 11
  k=k2+1                   Final boundary conditions.
  call difeq(k,k1,k2,j9,ic1,ic2,indexv,ne,s,nsi,nsj,y,nyj,nyk)
  call red(ic1,ic2,j5,j6,j7,j8,j9,ic3,jc1,jcf,k2,
    c,nci,ncj,nck,s,nsi,nsj)
  *
  call pinvs(ic1,ic2,j7,j9,jcf,k2+1,c,nci,ncj,nck,s,nsi,nsj)

```

User supplied  
Computes s

Diagonalizes  
square portion  
of matrix

Reduces  
columns  
of the matrix

```

call bksub(ne,nb,jcf,k1,k2,c,nci,ncj,nck)      Backsubstitution.
err=0.
do 13 j=1,ne      Convergence check, accumulate average error.
  jv=indexv(j)
  errj=0.
  km=0
  vmax=0.
  do 12 k=k1,k2      Find point with largest error, for each dependent variable.
    vz=abs(c(jv,1,k))
    if(vz.gt.vmax) then
      vmax=vz
      km=k
    endif
    errj=errj+vz
  enddo 12
  err=err+errj/scalv(j)      Note weighting for each dependent variable.
  ermax(j)=c(jv,1,km)/scalv(j)
  kmax(j)=km
enddo 13
err=err/nvars
fac=slowc/max(slowc,err)      Reduce correction applied when error is large.
do 15 j=1,ne      Apply corrections.
  jv=indexv(j)
  do 14 k=k1,k2
    y(j,k)=y(j,k)-fac*c(jv,1,k)
  enddo 14
enddo 15
write(*,100) it,err,fac      Summary of corrections for this step. Point with largest
if(err.lt.conv) return      error for each variable can be monitored by writ-
                             ing out kmax and ermax.
enddo 16
pause 'itmax exceeded in solvde'      Convergence failed.
100 format(1x,i4,2f12.6)
return
END

```

## Automated allocation of grid points:

As usual, it is much better if the grid is not uniformly spaced, but that it captures where the “action” is in our solution. If we have an idea ahead of solving the problem, this can be achieved by a rescaling. We can even do better if we adapt the mesh finesse as we go along with the relaxations. To see how this works, let us consider a simple rescaling. Let us consider the variable  $q$ , which takes values 1 at  $k=1$ , 2 at  $k=2$ , etc and  $\Delta q=1$  so  $\frac{dy}{dx} = \mathbf{g}$  becomes  $\frac{dy}{dq} = \mathbf{g} \frac{dx}{dq}$

The FDE can therefore be written as,  $\mathbf{y}_k - \mathbf{y}_{k-1} - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \mathbf{g} \frac{dx}{dq} \right)_k + \left( \mathbf{g} \frac{dx}{dq} \right)_{k-1} \right] = 0$  And we would like  $dq/dx$  to be large where the function changes rapidly.

The problem is that we do not know the exact proportionality factor. Without it, we cannot give a formula such that  $q$  will span from 1 to  $M$  when  $x$  spans the domain of integration.

The way to fix this is to add an equation for such relation  $Q(q)$  to the system of equations and solve the combined system. If we want the spacing to be proportional, we probably seek a linear relation,

$$\frac{d^2 Q}{dq^2} = 0 \quad \text{Which we can write as,} \quad \frac{dQ(x)}{dq} = \psi \quad \frac{d\psi}{dq} = 0$$

To complete the prescription we introduce the function

$$\phi(x) = \frac{dQ}{dx} = \frac{dQ}{dq} \frac{dq}{dx} \quad \text{Where } \phi(x) \text{ we choose.}$$

In terms of this variable the equation reads,

$$\frac{dx}{dq} = \frac{\psi}{\phi(x)}$$

And now we regards  $x$  as a function of  $q$ . The function  $\phi(x)$  should be positive definite.

## Singularities in the domain of integration:

It could happen that at some point in the domain of integration, the derivative is determined by a function,

$$S(x_s) = \frac{N(x_s, \mathbf{y})}{D(x_s, \mathbf{y})}$$

Where  $D(x_s, \mathbf{y})=0$ . In most physical problems with finite answers this is compensated by the fact that the solution makes  $N(x_s, \mathbf{y})=0$  as well and in such a way that the differential equation is well defined.

If one knows the boundary conditions at  $x_s$ , this is no problem, one simply starts the method from there and one can use a suitable analytic approximation for  $S$  at that boundary point. The method then proceeds without encountering any singularity.

If the singularity occurs in a point interior to the domain, then the situation is harder.

The way to handle singularities in the interior is akin to the free boundary problems we discussed before. Suppose as an example that we wish to integrate the equation,

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \frac{N(x, y)}{D(x, y)}$$

Where both N and D are supposed to be zero at some point  $x_s$  that we do not know. We supplement the system with the equations,

$$z \equiv x_s - x_1 \quad \frac{dz}{dx} = 0$$

And change the independent variable to t, defined by,

$$x - x_1 = tz, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

The boundary conditions at  $t=1$  therefore become,

$$N(x, y) = 0, \quad D(x, y) = 0$$

# Summary

- Shooting easily implemented.
- Relaxation much more complex. Use canned routines.
- Automated allocation of points can improve things quite a bit.
- Singularities are similar to free boundary problems.