

Extrapolation

- Estimates of error terms.
- Differentiation and Integration.

Adaptive methods

- An adaptive integration code

Solution Introduce a grid $0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = 1$, with *step size* $h = x_i - x_{i-1}$.

Approximate the differential equation by

$$\frac{1}{h^2} (u(x_{i-1}) - 2u(x_i) + u(x_{i+1})) - \lambda u(x_i) = 0, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n-1.$$

and the boundary condition by

$$\frac{1}{2h} (3u(x_n) - 4u(x_{n-1}) + u(x_{n-2})) + u(x_n) = 0.$$

This gives us an eigen value problem $Au = \lambda u$, where A is $n \times n$.

Example Find eigen values λ such that

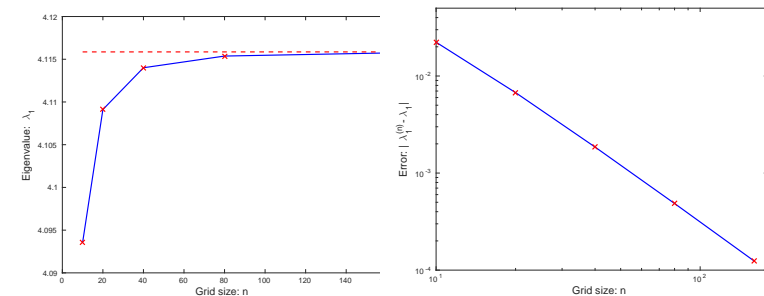
$$\begin{cases} u_{xx} - \lambda u = 0, & 0 < x < 1, \\ u(0) = 0 \text{ och } u'(1) + u(1) = 0, \end{cases}$$

has a solution $u \neq 0$.

Method Approximate the problem by a matrix $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ and compute the eigen values using `eig` in Matlab.

The dimension n of the matrix controls the accuracy. Larger n should give a better eigen value.

Plot the first eigen value $\lambda_1(h)$ and the error $|\lambda_1(h) - \lambda_1|$.



Observation The error is a straight line if plotted in a log-log scale. What does this mean? How to exploit?

Example Collect the computed eigenvalues in a table

h	0.1	0.05	0.025	0.0125
$\lambda_1(h)$	4.0936	4.1091	4.1140	4.1154

A theoretical analysis shows that the truncation error can be estimated

$$R_T \approx Ch^2$$

where C is a constant. Use the table to estimate C and the error in the approximation $\lambda_1(h)$, for $h = 0.0125$.

Example We want to compute the integral

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx$$

using the *Trapezoidal method*. We introduce a grid $\{x_i\}$, $h = x_{i+1} - x_i$, and use the formula

$$T(h) = h \left(\frac{f(x_1)}{2} + f(x_2) + \dots + f(x_{n-1}) + \frac{f(x_n)}{2} \right).$$

Lemma If $f(x)$ is continuous on $[a, b]$ then the Trapezoidal method is convergent.

Definition A numerical method computes a value $F(h)$ where h is a *discretization parameter* that controls the accuracy in the result.

Definition The numerical method is *convergent* if $F(h) \rightarrow F_0$, as $h \rightarrow 0$, where F_0 is the exact value.

This means that the method has a *truncation error* $R_T \rightarrow 0$ as $h \rightarrow 0$.

Taylor expansions and extrapolation

Theorem Suppose $F(h)$ has $(k + 1)$ continuous derivatives. Then

$$F(h) = F_0 + c_1 h + c_2 h^2 + \dots + c_k h^k + \mathcal{O}(h^{k+1}).$$

Observation This means that the method has a *truncation error* that can be written as

$$R_T = c_1 h + c_2 h^2 + c_3 h^3 + \dots$$

provided that a sufficient number of continuous derivatives exists.

Theorem If the function $f(x)$ has $(k + 1)$ continuous derivatives then the *Trapezoidal method* computes an approximation satisfying

$$T(h) = I + c_1h^2 + c_2h^4 + \dots + c_kh^k + \mathcal{O}(h^{k+1}).$$

We only have even terms in the error expansion. The specific error expansion is known for many numerical methods.

In Matlab

```
>> Rt=( T(1:3)-T(2:4) )/3
Rt =
    0.003940    0.001092    0.000281

>> T2 = T(2:4)-Rt
T2 =
    1.573580    1.573151    1.573119

>> Rt2 = ( T2(1:2)-T2(2:3) )/15
Rt2 = 1.0e-4 *
    0.2864    0.02111
```

Observation We see that the error in the approximation $T_2(h)$ decreases by a factor $13.5 \approx 16$ when h decrease by a factor of 2.

Example We use the trapezoidal method and compute approximations of an integral using various step sizes.

h	0.2	0.1	0.05	0.025
$T(h)$	1.589339	1.577520	1.574243	1.573402

Use the table and estimate the error in the approximations for $h = 0.1, 0.05$ and 0.025 .

Also eliminate the first error term and estimate the error in the new approximations.

Example Compute the integral

$$I = \int_0^{0.1} \sqrt{x}e^{-x}dx,$$

using the trapezoidal method. We obtain

h	0.05	0.025	0.0125	0.00625
$T(h)$	0.017788	0.019101	0.019586	0.019762

Estimating the truncation error using the formula

$R_T(h) = (T(h) - T(h/2))/3$ gives

h	0.025	0.0125	0.00625
$R_T(h)$	-0.000438	-0.000162	-0.0000587

Here the error **can not** be written as ch^2 . Extrapolation does not work.

Richardsson Extrapolation

Theorem Suppose

$$F(h) = F_0 + c_1 h^p + c_2 h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2}).$$

Then

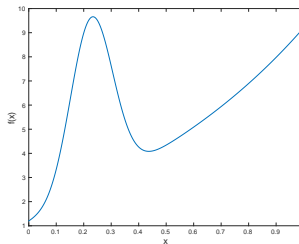
$$\begin{aligned} F_1(h) &= F(h) - \frac{1}{q^p - 1} (F(qh) - F(h)) \\ &= F_0 + \tilde{c}_2 h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2}). \end{aligned}$$

Remark We have eliminated one term from the error expansion. This can drastically reduce the error for a numerical method. Important to know the error expansions.

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Adaptive methods

Example We want to compute the integral of a function $f(x)$ with a given maximum error ϵ . First plot the function



Observation The second derivative is of different order of magnitude on different subintervals. Adapt the step size h according to this fact.

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Example Compute a derivative $f'(1)$ using a centered differens formula

$$D_0(h) = \frac{1}{2h}(f(x+h) - f(x-h)).$$

We use two different step sizes and obtain

$$D_0(0.3) = 1.25657, \quad D_0(0.1) = 1.28420$$

Estimate the error in the value $D_0(0.1)$. Improve the accuracy using extrapolation.

Observation Lower order methods and extrapolation is often simpler to use than deriving higher order methods.

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Method Let $h = b - a$, and $c = (a + b)/2$. Compute

$$I_h = \frac{h}{2}(f(a) + f(b)), \text{ and } I_{h/2} = \frac{h}{2} \left(\frac{f(a)}{2} + f(c) + \frac{f(b)}{2} \right).$$

Then

$$I = \int_a^b f(x) dx = I_{h/2} + R_T, \quad R_T \approx (I_h - I_{h/2})/3.$$

If $|R_T| < \epsilon$ we are done. Otherwise apply the method recursively and compute

$$I_1 = \int_a^c f(x) dx \quad \text{and} \quad I_2 = \int_c^b f(x) dx,$$

with an error at most $\epsilon/2$. Gives $I = I_1 + I_2$ with error at most ϵ .

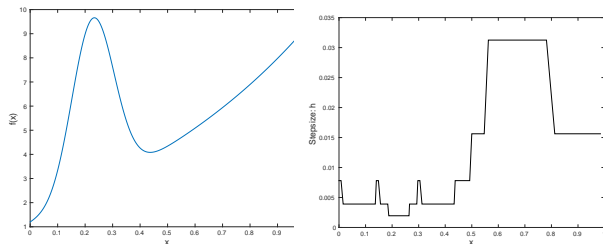
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```

function [I,Rt]=AdaptInt( fun,a,b,tol,fa,fb )
    if nargin<5,
        fa=feval( fun,a );fb=feval( fun,b );
    end
    h=b-a;c=(a+b)/2;fc=feval( fun , c );
    I1=h*( fa+fb )/2;I2=h*( fa/2+fc+fb/2 )/2;
    Rt=abs( I1-I2 )/3;
    if Rt<tol
        I=I2;
    else
        [I1,Rt1]=AdaptInt( fun,a,c,tol/2,fa,fc );
        [I2,Rt2]=AdaptInt( fun,c,b,tol/2,fc,fb );
        I=I1+I2;Rt=Rt1+Rt2;
    end
end

```

Observation One function evaluation in each recursion step.



The function $f(x)$ and the step size h for the case $\text{tol}=10^{-3}$.

In Matlab `integral` computes integrals with adaptive step size choice.

In Matlab we write

```

>> f=@(x) <expression for f(x)>;
>> [I,Rt]=AdaptInt( f , 0 , 1 , 10^-3 )
    I =
        5.960159817775207
    Rt =
        5.342169304992216e-04

```

Number of function evaluations is 159.

If we instead require $\text{tol}=10^{-5}$ we need 1569 function evaluations.

Summary

- Extrapolation is a very powerful technique for estimating errors and improving approximations.
- We need to know the error expansion for different numerical methods.
- Offers a way to check if a computer program is implemented correctly.
- Adaptive methods adjust to the problem at hand. The step size is chosen so a specific tolerance is achieved.