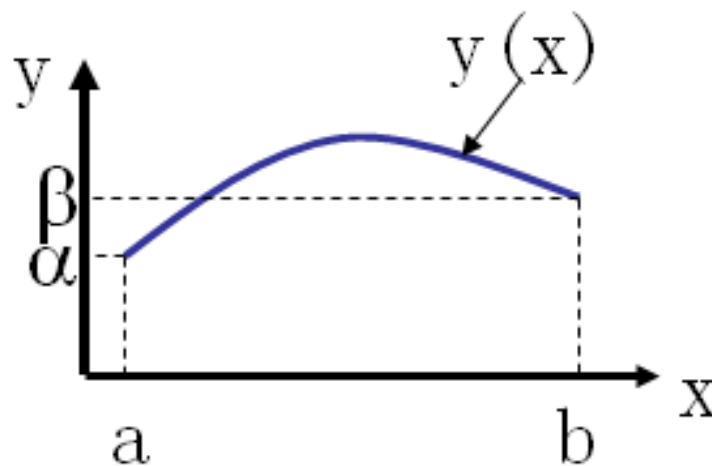


## Chapter 12. Ordinary Differential Equation Boundary Value (BV) Problems

In this chapter we will learn how to solve ODE boundary value problem. BV ODE is usually given with  $x$  being the independent space variable.

$$y'' + p(x) y' + q(x) y = f(x) \quad a \leq x \leq b \quad (1a)$$

and the boundary conditions (BC) are given at both end of the domain e.g.  $y(a) = \alpha$  and  $y(b) = \beta$ . They are generally fixed boundary conditions or *Dirichlet* Boundary Condition but can also be subject to other types of BC e.g. *Neumann* BC or *Robin* BC.



### 14.1 LINEAR FINITE DIFFERENCE (FD) METHOD

Finite difference method converts an ODE problem from calculus problem into algebraic problem. In FD,  $y'$  and  $y''$  are expressed as the difference between adjacent  $y$  values, for example,

$$y'(x) = \frac{y(x+h) - y(x-h)}{2h} \quad (1)$$

which are derived from the Taylor series expansion,

$$y(x+h) = y(x) + h y'(x) + (h^2/2) y''(x) + \dots \quad (2)$$

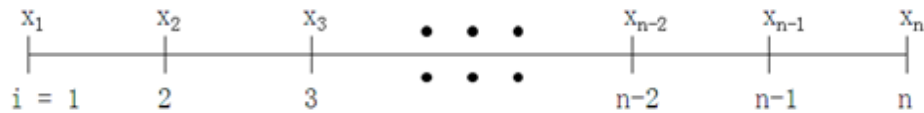
$$y(x-h) = y(x) - h y'(x) + (h^2/2) y''(x) + \dots \quad (3)$$

If (2) is added to (3) and neglecting the higher order term ( $O(h^3)$ ), we will get

$$y''(x) = \frac{y(x+h) - 2y(x) + y(x-h)}{h^2} \quad (4)$$

The difference Eqs. (1) and (4) can be implemented in  $[x_1 = a, x_n = b]$  (see Figure) if few finite points  $n$  are defined and dividing domain  $[a,b]$  into  $n-1$  intervals of  $h$  which is defined

$$h = \frac{x_n - x_1}{n - 1} = x_{i+1} - x_i \quad (5)$$



$[x_1, x_n]$  domain divided into  $n-1$  intervals.

FD method gives derivative of  $y$  values at point  $i$ ,  $y_i$  as follow

$$y'(x_i) \approx \frac{y(x_{i+1}) - y(x_{i-1}))}{2h} \quad (6)$$

$$y''(x_i) \approx \frac{y(x_{i+1}) - 2y(x_i) + y(x_{i-1}))}{h^2} \quad (7)$$

Substituting (6) & (7) into (1a), we get

$$\left[1 - \frac{1}{2}h p(x_i)\right] y(x_{i-1}) - \left[2 - h^2 q(x_i)\right] y(x_i) + \left[1 + \frac{1}{2}h p(x_i)\right] y(x_{i+1}) = h^2 f(x_i) \quad (8)$$

or can be simplified to,

$$\left[1 - \frac{1}{2}h p(x_i)\right] y_{i-1} - \left[2 - h^2 q(x_i)\right] y_i + \left[1 + \frac{1}{2}h p(x_i)\right] y_{i+1} = h^2 f(x_i) \quad (9)$$

Eq. (9) is then applied to each of the internal nodes,  $i = 2, \dots, n-1$ . This will produce a system of linear equations of tri-diagonal form. The system of linear equations can then be solved using the Thomas algorithm (but we will solve using sparse matrix technique).

----- **Example 1** -----

Solve the following 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE,

$$y'' + 7y' + 3y = 1$$

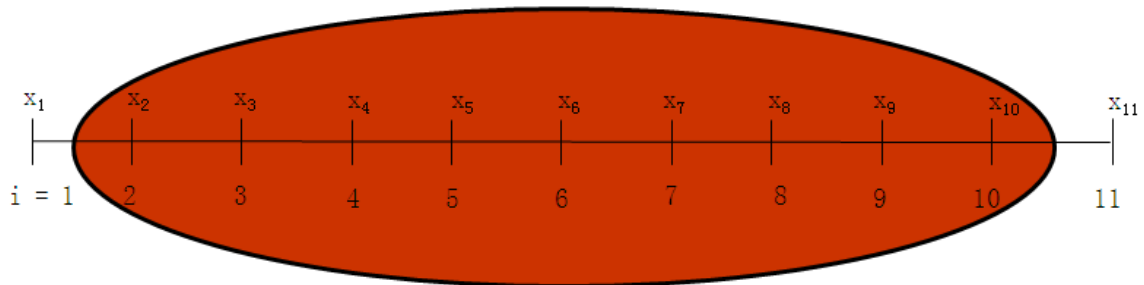
for [0,1] with **Dirichlet boundary condition**,  $y(0) = 0$  and  $y(1) = 1$ , using FD with  $h = 0.1$  (Note in this example  $p(x) = 7$ ,  $q(x) = 3$  and  $f(x) = 1$ ). The **difference equation** (9) for this problem is,

$$(1 - 3.5h)y_{i-1} - (2 - 3h^2)y_i + (1 + 3.5h)y_{i+1} = h^2$$

for  $h = 0.1$ ,

$$0.65 y_{i-1} - 1.97 y_i + 1.35 y_{i+1} = 0.01 \quad \dots(C-1)$$

The difference equation is applied to the internal nodes ( $i = 2 - 10$ ),



Applying (C-1) at  $i = 2 - 10$ , we obtain the following system of linear equations

$$\begin{array}{l}
 i=2 \rightarrow -1.97y_2 + 1.35y_3 = 0.01 - 0.65y_1 \\
 i=3 \rightarrow 0.65y_2 - 1.97y_3 + 1.35y_4 = 0.01 \\
 i=4 \rightarrow 0.65y_3 - 1.97y_4 + 1.35y_5 = 0.01 \\
 i=5 \rightarrow 0.65y_4 - 1.97y_5 + 1.35y_6 = 0.01 \\
 i=6 \rightarrow 0.65y_5 - 1.97y_6 + 1.35y_7 = 0.01 \\
 i=7 \rightarrow 0.65y_6 - 1.97y_7 + 1.35y_8 = 0.01 \\
 i=8 \rightarrow 0.65y_7 - 1.97y_8 + 1.35y_9 = 0.01 \\
 i=9 \rightarrow 0.65y_8 - 1.97y_9 + 1.35y_{10} = 0.01 \\
 i=10 \rightarrow 0.65y_9 - 1.97y_{10} = 0.01 - 1.35y_{11}
 \end{array}$$

Note that nodes  $i = 1$  &  $11$  are **end nodes**, which have specified values and they do not appear in the system. The above system of linear equations can be written in tri-

diagonal matrix form, which can be solved using *Thomas algorithm* but we will solve using sparse technique.

$$\begin{bmatrix} -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 & \dots & & & & & & 0 \\ 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 & \dots & & & & & 0 \\ 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 & \dots & & & & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 & \dots & & & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 & \dots & & 0 \\ 0 & & \dots & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 & & 0 \\ 0 & & & \dots & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & & 0 \\ 0 & & & & \dots & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 & 0 \\ 0 & & & & & \dots & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 & 1.35 \\ 0 & & & & & & \dots & 0 & 0.65 & -1.97 \end{bmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \\ y_5 \\ y_6 \\ y_7 \\ y_8 \\ y_9 \\ y_{10} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ 0.01 \\ -1.34 \end{pmatrix}$$

The solution of the above system is

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{y}^T &= [y_2 \ y_3 \ y_4 \ y_5 \ y_6 \ y_7 \ y_8 \ y_9 \ y_{10}] \\ &= [0.6420, 0.9443, 1.0762, 1.1233, 1.1284, 1.1131, 1.0885, 1.0598, 1.0299] \end{aligned}$$

Note that the difference equations at nodes  $i = 2$  and  $i = n-1 = 10$  are slightly modified by the end nodes,

$$i = 2 \quad -\left[2 - h^2 q(x_2)\right]y_2 + \left[1 + \frac{1}{2}h p(x_2)\right]y_3 = h^2 f(x_2) - \left[1 - \frac{1}{2}h p(x_2)\right]y_1 \quad (10)$$

$$i = 10 \quad \left[1 - \frac{1}{2}h p(x_9)\right]y_9 - \left[2 - h^2 q(x_{10})\right]y_{10} = h^2 f(x_{10}) - \left[1 + \frac{1}{2}h p(x_{10})\right]y_{11} \quad (11)$$

The sample MATLAB code (*Example1.m*) I developed to solve this problem is shown below.

```
%*****
% Program to solve linear ODE boundary value problems with FD
% Both ends are subjected to Dirichlet boundary conditions
% inputs :
% a,b are starting and ending points
% alfa,beta are the y values at the starting and ending points
% n is the number of interval
```

```

% outputs :
%   y are the values of y at node points
%*****
clear;clf;

%***** INPUT *****
a = input('Enter the starting x >');
b = input('Enter the ending x >');
alfa = input('Enter the y value at starting x >');
beta = input('Enter the y value at ending x >');
n = input('Enter the number of divisions >');
pfunc = input('Enter the function p(x) please: ','s');
qfunc = input('Enter the function q(x) please: ','s');
ffunc = input('Enter the function f(x) please: ','s');
p = inline(pfunc);
q = inline(qfunc);
f = inline(ffunc);

%***** Constants *****
h = (b - a)/n;           % the interval size
x = linspace(a,b,n+1);

%***** Elements of the matrix A
A(1:n-1,1:n-1) = 0.0;   % initialize matrix A

for i = 1:n-1           % this loop calculate element for nodes 2 to n
                        % in the diagram but in the
                        % matrix it is from i = 1 to n-1
    if i == 1
        A(i,i) = -(2. - q(x(i+1))) * h*h);
        A(i,i+1) = 1 + 0.5 * p(x(i+1)) * h;
        ff(i) = f(x(i+1)) * h*h - (1. - p(x(i+1))) * 0.5 * h) * alfa;
    elseif i == n-1
        A(i,i-1) = 1. - p(x(i+1)) * 0.5 * h;
        A(i,i) = -(2. - q(x(i+1))) * h*h);
        ff(i) = f(x(i+1)) * h*h - (1 + 0.5 * p(x(i+1)) * h) * beta;
    else
        A(i,i-1) = 1. - p(x(i+1)) * 0.5 * h;
        A(i,i) = -(2. - q(x(i+1))) * h*h);
        A(i,i+1) = 1 + 0.5 * p(x(i+1)) * h;
    end
end

```

```

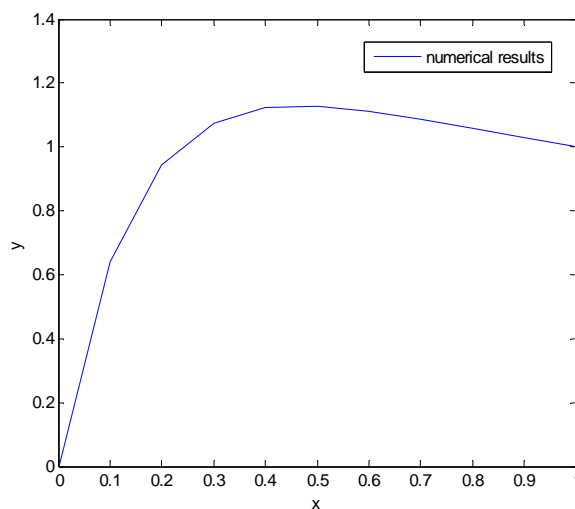
    ff(i) = f(x(i+1)) * h*h;
end
end

%***** Solve the system of linear equations using sparse matrix
ASparse = sparse(A);
y = ASparse\ff';

%***** PLOT OF RESULT *****
plot(x,[alfa;y;beta],'b-')
xlabel('x'),ylabel('y');
legend('numerical results')

```

Enter the starting  $x > 0$   
 Enter the ending  $x > 1$   
 Enter the  $y$  value at starting  $x > 0$   
 Enter the  $y$  value at ending  $x > 1$   
 Enter the number of divisions  $> 10$   
 Enter the function file of  $p(x)$  please: 7.  
 Enter the function file of  $q(x)$  please: 3.  
 Enter the function file of  $f(x)$  please: 1.




---

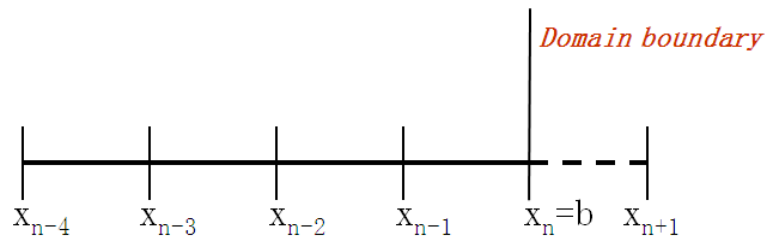
Now suppose the ODE Eq. (1)

$$y'' + p(x)y' + q(x)y = f(x) \quad a \leq x \leq b \quad (1)$$

is now subject to boundary conditions  $y(a) = \alpha$  and  $y'(b) = \beta$ . The boundary at  $b$  is a derivative boundary condition or *Neumann Boundary Condition*. For the problem the value of  $y(b)$  must be calculated (*part of the solution*) so difference equations must be written for  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ . For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  according to the FD equation (9) is but for  $i = n$  it is different as  $y''(b)$  needs  $y(x_n+h)$  as shown below.

$$y''(x_n) = \frac{y(x_n + h) - 2y(x_n) + y(x_n - h)}{h^2} = \frac{y_{n+1} - 2y_n + y_{n-1}}{h^2} \quad (12)$$

It is clear from (12) that  $y(b+h)$  is needed, and this is outside the domain as shown in the figure below.



To calculate  $y_{n+1}$  we will make use of the given  $y'(x_n) = \beta$  and following (6),

$$y'_n \approx \frac{y_{n+1} - y_{n-1}}{2h} \quad (13)$$

So,

$$y_{n+1} = y_{n-1} + 2hy'_n \quad (14)$$

If (14) is substituted into (12)

$$y''_n = \frac{2hy'_n - 2y_n + 2y_{n-1}}{h^2} \quad (15)$$

and substituting (15) and  $y'_n = \beta$  into (1), we get

$$2y_{n-1} - \left(2 - h^2q(x_n)\right)y_n = h^2f(x_n) - 2h\beta - h^2p(x_n)\beta \quad (16)$$

Eq. (16) is the FD equation applied at node  $i = n$ .

----- **Example 2** -----

Solve the following 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE,

$$y'' + 5y' + 4y = 1$$

For  $[0,1]$  and boundary conditions  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(1) = 0$ . Use  $h = 0.1$ , in this problem  $p(x) = 5$ ,  $q(x) = 4$  and  $f(x) = 1.0$ . The FD equations are given by (9),

$$(1 - 2.5h)y_{i-1} - (2 - 4h^2)y_i + (1 + 2.5h)y_{i+1} = h^2$$

For  $h = 0.1$ ,

$$0.75 y_{i-1} - 1.96 y_i + 1.25 y_{i+1} = 0.01 \quad \dots(\text{C-1})$$

(C-1) is applicable for  $i = 2 - 10$ , but for  $i = 11$ , (16) is used

$$2y_9 - 1.96y_{10} = 0.01 \quad \dots(\text{C-2})$$

The system of linear equations to be solved is

$$\begin{array}{r}
 i = 2 \rightarrow -1.96y_2 \quad 1.25y_3 \\
 i = 3 \rightarrow 0.75y_2 \quad -1.96y_3 \quad 1.25y_4 \\
 i = 4 \rightarrow \quad 0.75y_3 \quad -1.96y_4 \quad 1.25y_5 \\
 i = 5 \rightarrow \quad \quad 0.75y_4 \quad -1.96y_5 \quad 1.25y_6 \\
 i = 6 \rightarrow \quad \quad \quad 0.75y_5 \quad -1.96y_6 \quad 1.25y_7 \\
 i = 7 \rightarrow \quad \quad \quad \quad 0.75y_6 \quad -1.96y_7 \quad 1.25y_8 \\
 i = 8 \rightarrow \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 0.75y_7 \quad -1.96y_8 \quad 1.25y_9 \\
 i = 9 \rightarrow \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 0.75y_8 \quad -1.96y_9 \quad 1.25y_{10} \\
 i = 10 \rightarrow \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 0.75y_9 \quad -1.96y_{10} \quad 1.25y_{11} \\
 i = 11 \rightarrow \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad \quad 2y_{10} \quad -1.96y_{11}
 \end{array}
 \quad \begin{array}{l}
 = 0.01 - 0.75y_1 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01 \\
 = 0.01
 \end{array}$$

In matrix form,



$$\begin{bmatrix}
-1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & \dots & & & & & & & & & 0 \\
0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & \dots & & & & & & & & 0 \\
0 & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & \dots & & & & & & & 0 \\
0 & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & \dots & & & & & & 0 \\
0 & & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & \dots & & & & & 0 \\
0 & & & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & \dots & & & & 0 \\
0 & & & & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & & & & 0 \\
0 & & & & & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & 0 & & & 0 \\
0 & & & & & & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & & & 0 \\
0 & & & & & & & \dots & 0.75 & -1.96 & 1.25 & & 0 \\
0 & & & & & & & & \dots & 2 & -1.96 & & 0
\end{bmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
y_2 \\
y_3 \\
y_4 \\
y_5 \\
y_6 \\
y_7 \\
y_8 \\
y_9 \\
y_{10} \\
y_{11}
\end{pmatrix}
=
\begin{pmatrix}
-0.74 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01 \\
0.01
\end{pmatrix}$$

The solution vector is

$$y^T = [0.7051, 0.5136, 0.3903, 0.3118, 0.2628, 0.2329, 0.2155, 0.2062, 0.2020, 0.2011]$$

*As a practice, modify the code used in Example 1 to solve this one.*

---

Another possible boundary condition is *Robin Boundary Condition*. In this case the BC is expressed as an expression,

$$A_2 y_n + B_2 y'_n = \beta \tag{17}$$

Using backward difference to express  $y'_n$ ,

$$A_2 y_n + B_2 \left( \frac{y_n - y_{n-1}}{h} \right) = \beta \tag{18}$$

Or,

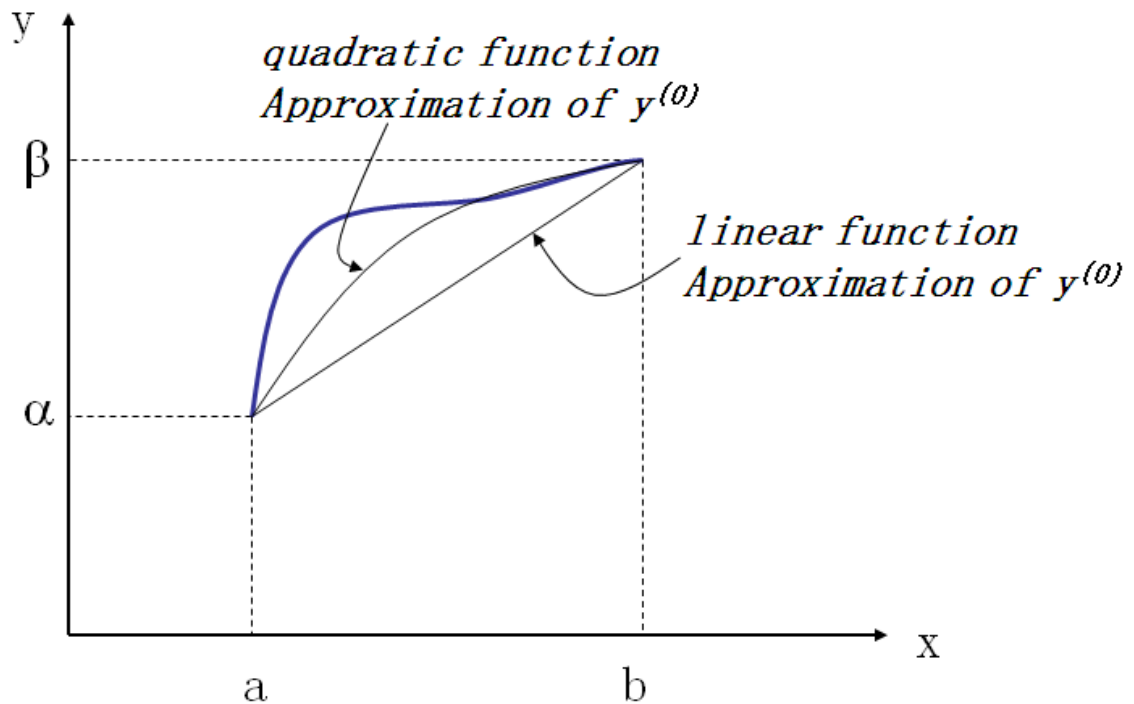
$$y_n = \frac{\beta h + B_2 y_{n-1}}{(A_2 h + B_2)} \tag{19}$$

----- **Example 3** -----

Solve the following 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE,

$$y'' + 5y' + 4y = 1$$





Then iterations are done until the left side differ within a certain tolerance from the right side. The above method involves solving linear FD equations again and again. A more explicit technique can also be obtained, we start by writing the ODE again,

$$y'' = f(x) - p(x, y)y' - q(x, y)y \quad (21)$$

After expressing  $y'$  and  $y''$  using (6) and (7) and substituting them into (21),

$$\frac{y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}}{h^2} = f(x_i) - p(x_i, y_i) \frac{y_{i+1} - y_{i-1}}{2h} - q(x_i, y_i) y_i \quad (22)$$

Rearranging (22),  $y_i$  can be explicitly expressed as

$$y_i = \frac{y_{i+1} + y_{i-1} - h^2 f(x_i) + h p(x_i, y_i) \frac{y_{i+1} - y_{i-1}}{2} + h^2 q(x_i, y_i) y_i}{2} \quad (23)$$

Note that  $y_i$  can be calculated iteratively if all  $y$ s on the right hand side are the known from the previous calculation or initially assumed at the beginning of the iteration.

$$y_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{4} \left[ 2y_{i+1}^{(k)} + 2y_{i-1}^{(k)} - 2h^2 f(x_i) + h p(x_i, y_i^{(k)}) (y_{i+1}^{(k)} - y_{i-1}^{(k)}) + 2h^2 q(x_i, y_i^{(k)}) y_i^{(k)} \right] \quad (24)$$

Fausett suggested that convergence can be accelerated if we add  $\omega y_i$  to both side of (23),

$$y_i = \frac{1}{4(1+\omega)} \left[ 2y_{i+1} + 4\omega y_i + 2y_{i-1} - 2h^2 f(x_i) + h p(x_i, y_i) (y_{i+1} - y_{i-1}) + 2h^2 q(x_i, y_i) y_i \right] \quad (25)$$

And  $y_i$  is calculated iteratively,

$$y_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{4(1+\omega)} \left[ 2y_{i+1}^{(k)} + 4\omega y_i^{(k)} + 2y_{i-1}^{(k)} - 2h^2 f(x_i) + h p(x_i, y_i^{(k)}) (y_{i+1}^{(k)} - y_{i-1}^{(k)}) + 2h^2 q(x_i, y_i^{(k)}) y_i^{(k)} \right] \quad (26)$$

The iteration process is stopped when a specified convergence criteria has been reached. An acceptable convergence criteria is

$$\left\| y_i^{k+1} - y_i^k \right\|_{\infty} < \varepsilon \quad (27)$$

----- **Example 4** -----

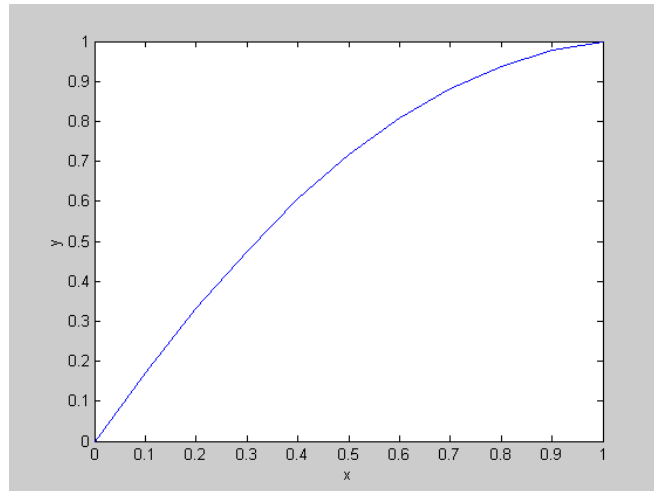
Solve the following non-linear ODE,

$$y'' + (1+y)y' + (1+y)y = 1$$

For  $[0,1]$  and boundary conditions  $y(0) = 0$  and  $y(1) = 1$ .  $p(x,y) = q(x,y) = 1 + y$  and  $f(x) = 1$ . Use the explicit method with  $h = 0.1$  and initial estimate  $y_i^{(0)}$  for  $i = 2-10$  which assumed linear  $y^{(0)} = [0.1, 0.2, 0.3, 0.4, 0.5, 0.6, 0.7, 0.8, 0.9]$ . The explicit form of  $y$  (Eq. 26) for this example is,

$$\begin{aligned} y_i^{(k+1)} &= \frac{1}{4(1+\omega)} \left[ 2y_{i+1}^{(k)} + 4\omega y_i^{(k)} + 2y_{i-1}^{(k)} - 2h^2 + h(1+y_i^{(k)}) (y_{i+1}^{(k)} - y_{i-1}^{(k)}) + 2h^2 (1+y_i^{(k)}) y_i^{(k)} \right] \\ &= \frac{1}{4(1+\omega)} \left[ 2y_{i+1}^{(k)} + 4\omega y_i^{(k)} + 2y_{i-1}^{(k)} - 0.02 + 0.1(1+y_i^{(k)}) (y_{i+1}^{(k)} - y_{i-1}^{(k)}) + 0.02(1+y_i^{(k)}) y_i^{(k)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

The result is shown in Figure below.

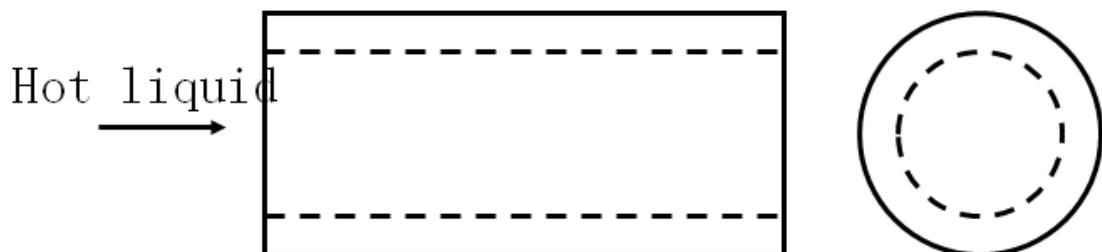


### 14.3 Tutorial Questions

1. Find the temperature profile inside the tube wall. Hot fluid flows inside the tube such that the inside temperature is  $100^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The differential equation for the temperature distribution is given by

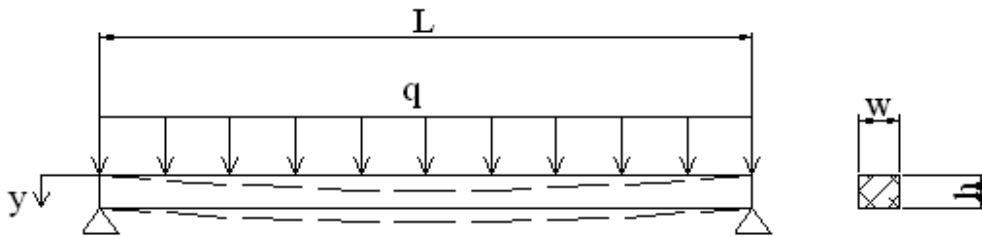
$$\frac{d^2T}{dr^2} + \frac{1}{r} \frac{dT}{dr} = 0$$

The boundary conditions are  $T(100) = 100^{\circ}\text{C}$  and  $T(150) = 0^{\circ}\text{C}$ . This is a linear 2<sup>nd</sup> order linear ODE with Dirichlet boundary conditions, so use linear FD technique with  $h = 10$ .



Hot fluid flowing inside a tube.

2. Deflection of prismatic simply supported beam shown below



is given by the following equation.

$$EI \frac{d^2y}{dx^2} = -\frac{qLx}{2} + \frac{qx^2}{2}$$

Where  $V$  is uniformly distributed load,  $L$  is the length of the beam,  $I$  is the moment of inertia of the beam cross section ( $I = wh^3/12$ ,  $w$  is width and  $h$  is height of the beam) and  $E$  is the modulus of elasticity of the beam. For the case in hand  $E = 10\text{GPa}$ ,  $L = 2.0\text{m}$ ,  $w = 5.0\text{cm}$ ,  $h = 10.0\text{cm}$ ,  $V = 1500\text{N/m}$  and  $I = 4.166 \times 10^{-6} \text{ m}^4$ , Find  $y(x)$ .

It is clear from the problem that the boundary conditions are *Dirichlet* i.e.,  $y(0) = y(2) = 0$ ., Rewrite the governing equation

$$y'' = \frac{Vx}{2EI}(x - L) = 0.018x(x - 2)$$

From the above,  $p(x) = 0$ ,  $q(x) = 0$  and  $f(x) = 0.018x(x - 2)$ . Divide the beam into 10 interval giving  $h = 0.2$  and generate plot of the beam deflection.

3. Use linear shooting method and linear Finite Difference Method to find the solution of

ODE	Range	Boundary conditions	Analytical solution	h
$y'' = 4(y - x)$	[0,1]	$y(0) = 0$ $y(1) = 2$	$y(x) = \frac{e^2}{e^4 - 1}(e^{2x} - e^{-2x}) + x$	0.25

4. Use FD method (*Neumann Boundary conditions*) to find the solution of

ODE	Range	Boundary conditions	h
$y'' = -5y' - 4y + 1$	[0,1]	$y(0) = 1$ $y'(1) = 0$	0.25

5. Use FD method (*Robin Boundary conditions*) to find the solution of

ODE	Range	Boundary conditions	h
$y'' = -4y' - 6.25y + e^x$	[0,1]	$y(0) = 1$ $y(1) - 0.5y'(1) = 0.5$	0.25

6. Use non-linear FD method to find the solution of

ODE	Range	Boundary conditions	Analytical solution	h
$y'' = y^3 - y y'$	[1,2]	$y(1) = \frac{1}{2}$ $y(2) = \frac{1}{3}$	$y(x) = \frac{1}{x+1}$	0.25

Comment on the use of different  $\omega$  say from 0.5 – 1.5. Adopt the following convergence criteria

$$\left\| \mathbf{y}_i^{k+1} - \mathbf{y}_i^k \right\|_{\infty} < 10^{-5}$$