

Worksheet 28

Objectives: (1) Understand drawbacks of numerical differentiation (2) Be able to apply finite differences (if absolutely needed) (3) Be able to apply Richardson extrapolation (4) Know the following terms as applied to ODEs: IVP, order, autonomous, homogeneous

Problem 1: Numerical differentiation, Richardson

(a) Name three reasons why numerical differentiation can backfire.

(b) Suppose you have two (first-order) finite difference approximations:

$$f'(x) = \underbrace{\frac{f(x+2h) - f(x)}{2h}}_A + a \cdot 2h + O(h^2), \quad f'(x) = \underbrace{\frac{f(x+h) - f(x)}{h}}_B + ah + O(h^2).$$

Find factors α and β with $\alpha + \beta = 1$ such that the term with a cancels in $\alpha A + \beta B$.

(c) Suppose your α, β do not obey $\alpha + \beta = 1$. For example, use $\alpha = 1 = \beta$. Is still $f'(x) \approx \alpha A + \beta B$?

Problem 2: ODEs

(a) Rewrite the following ODE as an autonomous first-order system:

$$y''(t) = 5t^{2y(t)}.$$

(b) Which of the following systems of ODEs is stable?

$$y'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} y(t) \quad y'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} y(t) \quad y'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} y(t) \quad y'(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} y(t)$$