

The Mathematical Theory of Finite Element Methods

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Chapter 0 Basic Concepts

§0.1 Weak Formulation of BVPs

- (BVP) $\begin{cases} -u''(x) = f(x) \text{ in } I = (0,1) \\ u(0) = 0 \text{ and } u'(1) = 0 \end{cases}$

For test function $v \in V = ?$

$$\int_0^1 f v dx = \int_0^1 (-u'' v) dx = \int_0^1 u' v' dx - \boxed{[u'(1)v(1) - u'(0)v(0)]}$$
$$= \int_0^1 u' v' dx \quad \text{if } v(0) = 0$$

- (WF) or variational formulation (VF) Find $u \in V = \left\{ v \in L^2(0,1) \mid \int_0^1 (v')^2 dx < +\infty, v(0) = 0 \right\}$ s.t.

$u(0) = 0$ essential BC

$u'(1) = 0$ natural BC

$$a(u, v) = \int_0^1 u' v' dx = \int_0^1 f v dx \quad \forall v \in V$$

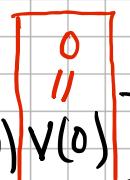
$\boxed{f(v)}$

Theorem Assume that $f \in C^0[0,1]$ and that the solution of (WF) $u \in C^2[0,1]$.

$\Rightarrow u$ satisfies (BVP).

Proof $\forall v \in V$

$$\int_0^1 f v dx = \int_0^1 u' v' dx = \int_0^1 (-u'') v dx - \boxed{[u'(1)v(1) - u'(0)v(0)]}$$



$$\Rightarrow \int_0^1 (f+u'')v dx = -u'(1)v(1) \quad \forall v \in V$$

$$= 0, \quad \forall v \in V \cap \{v(1)=0\}$$

$$\Rightarrow f(x) + u''(x) = 0 \quad \forall x \in (0,1)$$

if not, $\exists (x_0, x_1) \subset (0,1)$ s.t. $f+u'' > 0$ in (x_0, x_1)

since $f+u'' \in C^0[0,1]$

choose $v(x) = (x-x_0)^2(x-x_1)^2 \in V \cap \{v(1)=0\}$

$$\Rightarrow 0 = \int_0^1 (f+u'')v dx = \int_{x_0}^{x_1} (f+u'')v dx > 0$$

$$\forall v \in V, u'(1)v(1) = 0 \Rightarrow u'(1) = 0. \quad \#$$

Questions (1) meaning of $u'(x)$ and (2) well-posedness of (WF)

- (MF) Find $u \in V$ s.t. $J(u) = \min_{v \in V} J(v) \Leftrightarrow J(u) \leq J(v) \quad \forall v \in V$
where $J(v) = \frac{1}{2} a(v,v) - f(v)$ in the energy functional

Theorem $(WF) \Leftrightarrow (MF)$ assumptions (1) $a(\cdot, \cdot)$ bilinear, $f(\cdot)$ linear

Proof " \Leftarrow " $\forall v \in V$, let

$$g(t) = J(u+tv) = J(u) + t[a(u,v) - f(v)] + \frac{1}{2}t^2 a(v,v) \quad (3) \quad a(v,v) \geq 0 \quad \forall v \in V$$

$$J(u) \leq J(v) \quad \forall v \in V \Rightarrow 0 = g'(0) = a(u,v) - f(v)$$

$$\begin{aligned} " \Rightarrow " \quad \forall v \in V, \quad J(v) &= J(u+(v-u)) \\ &= J(u) + t[a(u,v-u) - f(v-u)] + \frac{t^2}{2} a(v-u, v-u) \\ &= J(u) + \frac{t^2}{2} a(v-u, v-u) \geq J(u) \end{aligned}$$

HW #2,3,8 #

§0.2 Galerkin and Ritz Approximations

Let S be a finite dimensional subspace of V . (GA)

Galerkin approximation Find $u_s \in S \subset V$ s.t. $\boxed{a(u_s, v) = f(v) \quad \forall v \in S.}$

System of Linear Equations

$$S = \text{span} \left\{ \varphi_i(x) \right\}_{i=1}^n \implies u_s = \sum_{j=1}^n u_j \varphi_j(x)$$

$$\underline{v = \varphi_i} \quad f(\varphi_i) = a(u_s, \varphi_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n a(\varphi_j, \varphi_i) u_j = \begin{pmatrix} a(\varphi_1, \varphi_1), \dots, a(\varphi_n, \varphi_1) \\ \vdots \\ a(\varphi_1, \varphi_n) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ \vdots \\ u_n \end{pmatrix}$$

$$K_{n \times n} U_{n \times 1} = F_{n \times 1} \text{ where } K = (K_{ij}) \text{ with } K_{ij} = a(\varphi_j, \varphi_i)$$

$$U = (u_1, \dots, u_n)^T, \quad F = (f(\varphi_1), \dots, f(\varphi_n))^T$$

property of matrix K

(1) K is symmetric

(2) K is positive definite $\Leftrightarrow W^T K W > 0 \quad \forall \vec{w} \neq 0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\text{Let } w(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n w_i \varphi_i(x) \text{ with } W = (w_1, \dots, w_n)^T$$

$$W^T K W = \sum_{i,j=1}^n w_i w_j K_{ij} = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a(w_i \varphi_i, w_j \varphi_j) = a(w, w) \geq 0$$

$$a(w, w) = \int_0^1 (w')^2 dx = 0 \Rightarrow w' = 0 \Rightarrow w \equiv \text{const.} \xrightarrow{w(0)=0} w \equiv 0.$$

Theorem Given $f \in L^2(0,1)$, (GA) has a unique solution.

Ritz Approximation

Find $u_s \in S$ s.t.

$$J(u_s) = \min_{v \in S} J(v)$$

(RA)

$$\forall v \in S, \quad v(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n v_i \varphi_i(x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} J(v) &= \frac{1}{2} a(v, v) - f(v) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^n v_i v_j a(\varphi_i, \varphi_j) - \sum_{i=1}^n v_i f(\varphi_i) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} V^T K V - V^T F \end{aligned}$$

$$\nabla_V J(v) = KV - F \Rightarrow KU = F$$

- Gradient Descent starting at an initial u^0

$$u^k = u^{k-1} - \tau \nabla J(u^{k-1}) \quad \text{for } k=1, 2, \dots$$

HW #1

§0.3 Error Estimates

let $u \in V$ be the solution of (WF) : $a(u, v) = f(v) \quad \forall v \in V$

let $u_s \in S \subset V$ be the solution of (FA) : $a(u_s, v) = f(v) \quad \forall v \in S \subset V$

$$\|u - u_s\|_? \leq ?$$

- where to start?

error equation

$$a(u - u_s, v) = 0 \quad \forall v \in S \quad (\text{the orthogonal property})$$

- the energy norm

$$\|v\|_E = \sqrt{a(v, v)} = \int_0^1 (v')^2 dx$$

• a tool (the Schwarz inequality)

$$|a(u, v)| \leq \|u\|_E \|v\|_E \quad \forall u, v \in V.$$

Theorem $\|u - u_S\|_E = \min_{v \in S} \|u - v\|_E$

Proof Galerkin Approximation $a(u_S, v) = f(v) \quad \forall v \in S$

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u_S\|_E^2 &= a(u - u_S, u - u_S) = a(u - u_S, u - v) \\ &\leq \|u - u_S\|_E \|u - v\|_E \end{aligned} \quad \forall v \in S$$

Ritz Approximation $J(u_S) \leq J(v) \quad \forall v \in S$

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u_S\|_E^2 &= 2(J(u_S) - J(u)) \\ &\leq 2(J(v) - J(u)) = \|u - v\|_E^2 \quad \forall v \in S. \quad \# \end{aligned}$$

Theorem Assume that $\inf_{v \in S} \|w - v\|_E \leq \varepsilon \|w''\| \quad \forall w \text{ s.t. } \|w''\| < +\infty$

$$\Rightarrow \|u - u_S\| \leq \varepsilon^2 \|u''\| = \varepsilon^2 \|f\|.$$

$$\|w\| = \sqrt{\int_0^1 w^2 dx}$$

Proof How to connect $\|u - u_S\|$ with (WF)?

a tool (the duality argument)

the adjoint problem

$$\begin{cases} -w'' = u - u_S & \text{in } (0, 1) \\ w(0) = 0 \text{ and } w'(1) = 0 \end{cases}$$

Find $w \in V$ s.t.

$$a(w, v) = (u - u_S, v) \quad \forall v \in V$$

$$\begin{aligned} \|u - u_S\|^2 &= a(w, u - u_S) = a(w - v, u - u_S) \\ &\leq \|w - v\|_E \|u - u_S\|_E \end{aligned} \quad \forall v \in S$$

$$\leq \|w - v\|_E \|u - u_S\|_E$$

$$\leq \varepsilon \|w''\| \leq \varepsilon \|u''\| = \varepsilon^2 \|u - u_s\| \|f\|. \quad \#$$

Possible choice of S

linear spaces

polynomials, piecewise polynomials (spline, finite element, etc)

trigonometric functions, rational functions, wavelet, ...

set

free knot spline, neural network, ...

HW

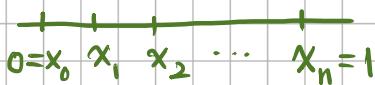
Let $J(v) = \frac{1}{2} a(v, v) - f(v)$ for $v \in P$, where P is a subset of V .

Assume that $a(\cdot, \cdot)$ is symmetric bilinear and that $f(\cdot)$ is linear.

Assume that $J(u) = \min_{v \in V} J(v)$

Prove that $a(u-v, u-v) = 2(J(v) - J(u))$.

§0.4 Piecewise Polynomials – Finite Element Method

- a partition of the domain $\Delta: 0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = 1$ 
- set subinterval $I_i = (x_{i-1}, x_i)$ and the length $h_i = x_i - x_{i-1}$

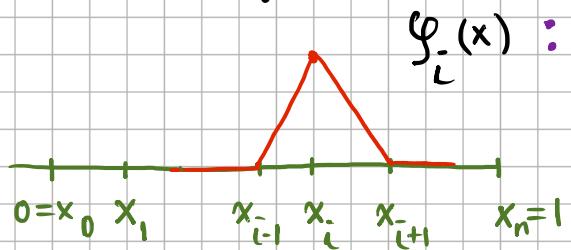
- linear finite element space (continuous)

$$S = S_1^\circ(\Delta) = \left\{ v \in C^0[0,1] \mid v|_{I_i} \text{ is a linear poly. and } v(0) = 0 \right\}$$

$$\dim S = n \cdot 2 - (n-1) - 1 = n$$

of intervals $\frac{1}{2}$ # of interior nodes

Nodal Basis Functions



$\varphi_i(x) :$ (1) $\varphi_i(x) \in S$ and (2) $\varphi_i(x_j) = \delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1, & j=i \\ 0, & j \neq i \end{cases}$

$$\Rightarrow \varphi_i(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{x - x_{i-1}}{x_i - x_{i-1}}, & x_{i-1} \leq x \leq x_i \\ \frac{x_{i+1} - x}{x_{i+1} - x_i}, & x_i \leq x \leq x_{i+1} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Properties

(1) $\{\varphi_i(x)\}_{i=1}^n$ is linearly indep.

$$\sum_{i=1}^n c_i \varphi_i(x) = 0 \text{ in } [0, 1] \Rightarrow 0 = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \varphi_i(x_j) = c_j$$

$$\Rightarrow S = \text{span} \left\{ \varphi_i(x) \right\}_{i=1}^n$$

$$(2) \quad \begin{cases} -\varphi_i''(x) = 0 & \text{in } (x_{i-1}, x_i) \cup (x_i, x_{i+1}) \\ \varphi_i(x_{i-1}) = 0, \quad \varphi_i(x_i) = 1, \quad \varphi_i(x_{i+1}) = 0 \end{cases}$$

• Interpolant Given $v \in C^0[0, 1]$ and $v(0) = 0$, the interpolant v_I of v is defined by

(1) $v_I \in S$ and (2) $v_I(x_i) = v(x_i)$ for $i = 0, 1, \dots, n$

Theorem For $u \in C^2[0, 1] \cap V$, we have

$$(E1) \quad \|u - u_I\|_E \leq C h \|u''\|$$

where $h = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} h_i$ and C is a positive constant indep. of h .

$$(E2) \quad \|u - u_I\|_{\infty} \leq ch^2 \|u''\|_{\max} \quad \text{where } \|v\|_{\max} = \max_{x \in [0,1]} |v(x)|$$

Proof I of (E2) Let $e(x) = u(x) - u_I(x)$.

$$\forall x \in [x_{i-1}, x_i] = I_i$$

$$\exists A(x) = ?$$

$$e(x_{i-1}) = e(x_i) = 0 \implies e(x) = A(x) (x - x_{i-1})(x - x_i)$$

$$A(x) = ? \quad \text{auxiliary function} \quad g(t) = e(t) - A(x) (t - x_{i-1})(t - x_i)$$

$$0 = g(x_{i-1}) = g(x_i) = g(x) \implies \exists \xi \in (0, 1) \text{ s.t.}$$

$$0 = g''(\xi) = u''(\xi) - A(x) \cdot 2 \implies A(x) = \frac{1}{2} u''(\xi)$$

$$e(x) = \frac{1}{2} u''(\xi) (x - x_{i-1})(x - x_i)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \max_{x \in I_i} |e(x)| &= \frac{1}{2} \max_{x \in I_i} |u''(\xi)(x - x_{i-1})(x - x_i)| \leq \frac{1}{2} \|u''\|_{\infty, I_i} \max_{x \in I_i} |(x - x_{i-1})(x - x_i)| \\ &= \frac{1}{8} h_i^2 \|u''\|_{\infty, I_i} \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow (E2)$

Proof of (E1) the scaling argument + Poincaré's inequality

$$\forall x \in I_i = [x_{i-1}, x_i]$$

$$\int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} e'(x)^2 dx \stackrel{?}{\leq} ch_i^2 \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} e''(x)^2 dx$$

change of variable

$$x = x_{i-1} + h_i \hat{x} : [0, 1] \rightarrow I_i$$

$$dx = h_i d\hat{x}$$

$$\int_0^1 \left(h_i^{-1} \hat{e}' \right)^2 h_i d\hat{x} \stackrel{?}{=} ch_i^2 \int_0^1 \left(h_i^{-2} \hat{e}'' \right)^2 h_i d\hat{x}$$

$$e(x) = e(x_{i-1} + h_i \hat{x}) = \hat{e}(\hat{x})$$

$$e'(x) = \frac{d\hat{e}}{d\hat{x}} \cdot \frac{d\hat{x}}{dx} = h_i^{-1} \hat{e}'$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_0^1 \hat{e}'(\hat{x})^2 d\hat{x} \stackrel{?}{\leq} c \int_0^1 \hat{e}''(\hat{x})^2 d\hat{x} \quad (\text{P-I})$$

Poincaré's inequality $\hat{e}(0) = \hat{e}(1) = 0 \Rightarrow \exists \xi \in (0,1) \text{ s.t. } \hat{e}'(\xi) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{e}'(\hat{x}) = \int_{\xi}^{\hat{x}} \hat{e}''(t) dt$$

Cauchy-Schwarz inequality

$$|\hat{e}'(\hat{x})| = \left| \int_{\xi}^{\hat{x}} \hat{e}''(t) dt \right| \leq \left| \int_{\xi}^{\hat{x}} 1^2 dt \right|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left| \int_{\xi}^{\hat{x}} \hat{e}''(t)^2 dt \right|^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\leq |\hat{x} - \xi|^{\frac{1}{2}} \left(\int_0^1 \hat{e}''(t)^2 dt \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$\int_0^1 \hat{e}'(\hat{x})^2 d\hat{x} \leq \int_0^1 |\hat{x} - \xi|^{\frac{1}{2}} d\hat{x} \int_0^1 \hat{e}''(t)^2 dt \leq \frac{1}{2} \int_0^1 \hat{e}''(\hat{x})^2 d\hat{x}$$

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HW #6, 9, 10

Corollary $\|u - u_S\|_E \leq C h \|u''\|$

$$\|u - u_S\| \leq C h^2 \|u''\|$$

Remark Interpolant operator $\mathcal{I}: C^0[0,1] \rightarrow S$ is defined by

$$\mathcal{I}v = v_I.$$

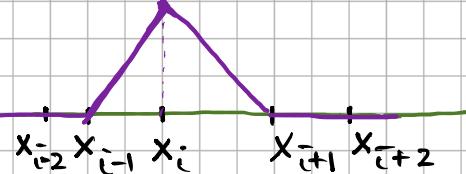
\mathcal{I} is a projection $\Leftrightarrow \mathcal{I}^2 = \mathcal{I}$

- Discretization for $S = \text{span}\{\varphi_i(x)\}_{i=1}^n$

For each i

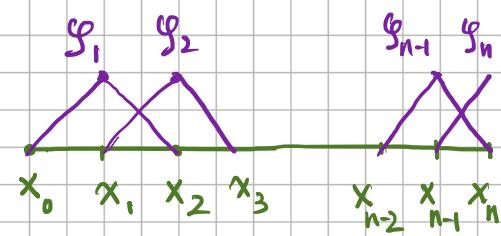
$$a(\varphi_i, \varphi_j) = \int_0^1 \varphi_i(x) \varphi_j(x) dx =$$

$$\begin{cases} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \varphi_i'(x) \varphi_j'(x) dx = \frac{1}{h_i} \cdot (-\frac{1}{h_i}) h_i = -h_i^{-1}, & j = i-1 \\ \int_{x_i}^{x_{i+1}} \varphi_i'(x) \varphi_j'(x) dx = \left(-\frac{1}{h_{i+1}}\right) \frac{1}{h_{i+1}} \cdot h_{i+1} = -h_{i+1}^{-1}, & j = i+1 \\ \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_{i+1}} \varphi_i'(x) \varphi_j'(x) dx = \frac{1}{h_i} + \frac{1}{h_{i+1}}, & j = i \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



$$f(g_i) = \int_0^1 f(g_i) dx = \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_{i+1}} f(x) g_i(x) dx = F_i$$

$$K_U = \begin{bmatrix} h_1^{-1} + h_2^{-1} & -h_2^{-1} & & & 0 \\ -h_2^{-1} & h_2^{-1} + h_3^{-1} & -h_3^{-1} & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ 0 & & & -h_{n-1}^{-1} & h_{n-1}^{-1} + h_n^{-1} & h_n^{-1} \\ & & & -h_n^{-1} & h_n^{-1} & \end{bmatrix} = F$$



HW Let $S_0(\Delta) = \left\{ v \in L^2(I) \mid v|_{I_i} \in P_0(I_i) \right\}$

Prove that for any $u(x) \in C^1[0,1]$,

$$\min_{v \in S_0(\Delta)} \|u - v\| \leq Ch \|u'\| \quad \text{for both } L^2(I) \text{ and } L^\infty(I) \text{ norm}$$

§0.5 Fixed, Adaptive, and Free Meshes

For any $u(x)$ defined on $I = [0, 1]$ and a given tolerance $\epsilon > 0$,

find a partition $\Delta: 0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = 1$

with the least mesh points (the smallest n) s.t.

$$\min_{v \in S_0(\Delta)} \|u - v\| \leq \epsilon \|u\|.$$

Example $f(x) = x^r$ on $[0, 1]$ for $r \in (0, 1)$

(1) uniform partition $\Rightarrow \inf_{v \in S_0(\Delta_n)} \|f - v\|_\infty \leq c\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)^r$; (2) find Δ_n s.t. $\inf_{v \in S_0(\Delta_n)} \|f - v\|_\infty \leq c\left(\frac{1}{n}\right)$.

- fixed mesh vs adaptive mesh (a simple case)

Assume that $0 < \int_0^1 |u'| dx = \|u'\|_{L^1(I)} < +\infty$

Let $\bar{S}_0^1(\Delta_n) = \left\{ v \in L^2(I) \mid v|_{I_i} \in P_0(I_i) \right\}$, where Δ_n is a partition

of the interval $I = [0, 1] : 0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = 1$.

Theorem

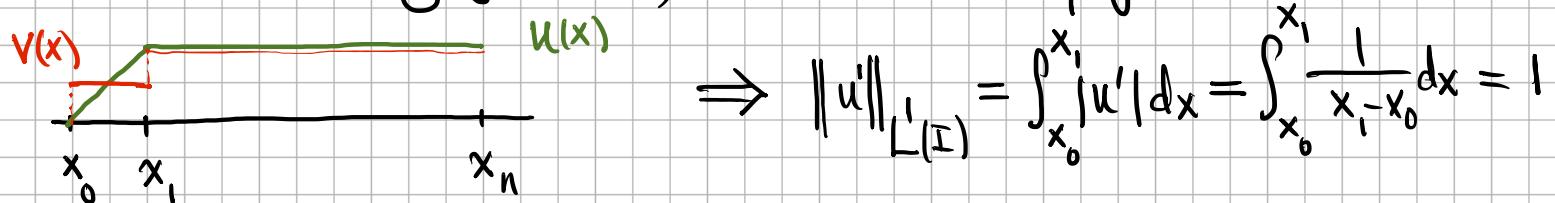
(1) For any fixed Δ_n , there exists a $u(x)$ such that

$$Q(u, \Delta_n) = \inf_{v \in \bar{S}_0^1(\Delta_n)} \frac{\|u - v\|_\infty}{\|u'\|_{L^1(I)}} \geq \frac{1}{2}$$

(2) For any function $u(x)$, there exists a partition Δ_n s.t.

$$Q(u, \Delta_n) \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

Proof (1) For any fixed Δ_n , let $u(x)$ be a ramp function



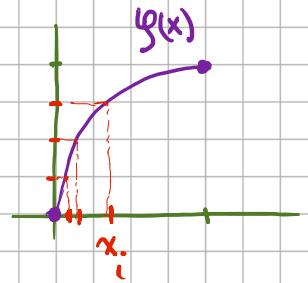
The best $L^0(I)$ approximation is the step function $v(x)$

$$\Rightarrow \inf_{v \in S(\Delta_n)} \|u - v\|_\infty = \max_{x \in [x_0, x_1]} |u(x) - v(x)| = \frac{1}{2}$$

(2) Assume that $\|u'\|_{L^1(I)} = 1$. Let $\varphi(x) = \int_0^x |u'(x)| dx$.

$$\Rightarrow \varphi(0) = 0, \varphi(1) = 1$$

$\varphi(x)$ is continuous and non-decreasing function



- partition the range of $\varphi(x)$, $[0, 1] = [\varphi(0), \varphi(1)]$, by a

uniform partition $\varphi(0) = 0 < \frac{1}{n} < \frac{2}{n} < \dots < \frac{n}{n} = 1 = \varphi(1)$

$$\xrightarrow{\varphi(x)} \exists 0 = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n = 1 \text{ such that}$$

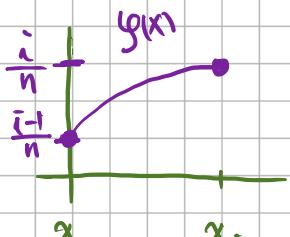
$x_i = ?$

$$\varphi(x_i) = \frac{i}{n}$$

- approximation $\hat{u}(x) \in S_0^{-1}(\Delta_n)$ and $\hat{u}|_{I_i} = u(x_{i-1})$

$$\text{On } I_i = [x_{i-1}, x_i] \quad |u(x) - \hat{u}(x)| = |u(x) - u(x_{i-1})| = \left| \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} u'(x) dx \right| \leq \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} |u'(x)| dx$$

$$= \varphi(x_i) - \varphi(x_{i-1}) = \frac{1}{n}$$



$$\Rightarrow \|u - \hat{u}\|_{\infty, I} = \max_{1 \leq i \leq n} \|u - \hat{u}\|_{\infty, I_i} \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \inf_{v \in S(\Delta)} \|u - v\|_{\infty, I} \leq \|u - \hat{u}\|_{\infty, I} \leq \frac{1}{n}$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\inf_{v \in S(\Delta)} \|u - v\|_{\infty, I}}{\|u'\|_{L^1(I)}} \leq \frac{1}{n}.$$

#

How to construct mesh Δ_n s.t. $\inf_{v \in S(\Delta)} \|u - v\|_{L^2(I)} \leq \frac{1}{n} \|u'\|_{L^1(I)}$?

(I) adaptive mesh refinement

Solve \rightarrow Estimate \rightarrow Mark \rightarrow Refine

starting with Δ_{n_0}

(i) compute $u_k \in S(\Delta_{n_k})$ s.t. $\|u - u_k\|_{L^2(I)} = \min_{v \in S(\Delta_k)} \|u - v\|_{L^2(I)}$

(ii) compute indicators

$$\eta_K = \|u - u_k\|_{L^2(K)}$$

for each subinterval $K \in \mathcal{T}_k$,

\mathcal{T}_k is the collection of subintervals of Δ_{n_k}

(iii) if $\eta = \sqrt{\sum_{K \in \mathcal{T}_k} \eta_K^2} \leq \varepsilon$, then stop; otherwise, go to (iv)

(iv) determine the set of subintervals for refinement

$$\hat{\mathcal{T}}_k = \left\{ K \in \mathcal{T}_k : \eta_K \text{ is } \underline{\text{large}} \right\}$$

(v) refine $K \in \hat{\mathcal{T}}_k$ to generate a new mesh \mathcal{T}_{k+1} or $\Delta_{n_{k+1}}$,

then go to step (i).

Remark When u is unknown like solution of PDE,

how to estimate η_K ?

(2) free-knot spline functions

$$S_n = \left\{ v(x) \in C^0[0,1] \mid v(x) \text{ is linear on each subinterval } I_i = [x_{i-1}, x_i] \text{ and } x_i \in [0,1] \text{ is parameter to be determined} \right\}$$

$\forall v(x) \in S_n$

$$v(x) = \sum_{i=0}^n v_i \varphi_i(x) \quad \text{with } \varphi_i(x) = \begin{cases} h_i^{-1}(x - x_{i-1}), & \text{in } I_i \\ h_{i+1}^{-1}(x_{i+1} - x), & \text{in } I_{i+1} \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

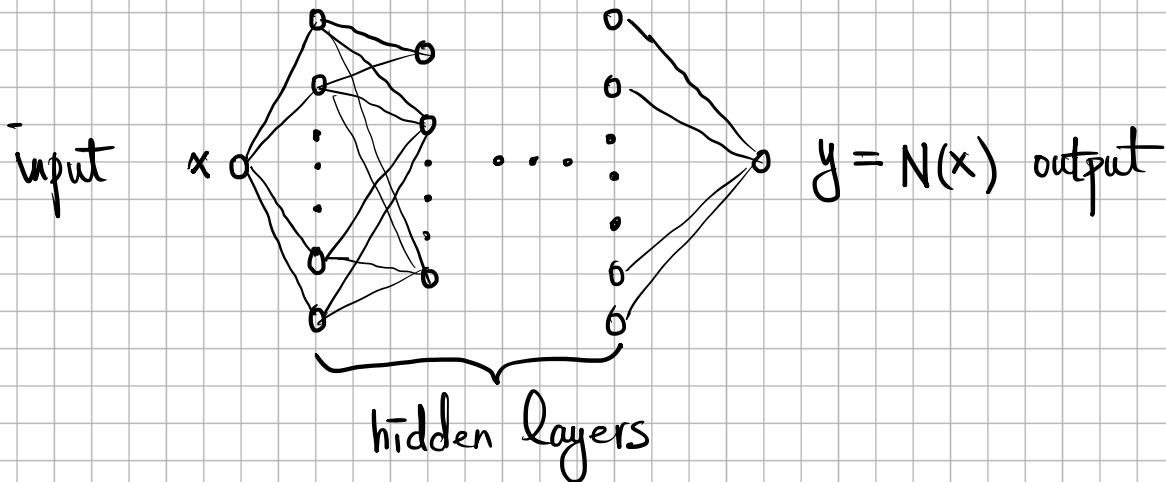
where $\{v_i\}_{i=0}^n$ and $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^n$ are parameters to be determined.

- the best least-squares approximation given $u(x)$ on $[0,1]$, find u_n s.t.

$$\|u - u_n\|_{L^2(I)} = \inf_{v \in S_n} \|u - v\|_{L^2(I)} = \inf_{\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \|u - u_n(\vec{\theta})\|_{L^2(I)}$$

where $\vec{\theta} = \{\vec{v}, \vec{x}\} \in \mathbb{R}^{2(n+1)}$.

§0.6 Neural Network



Homework (Computer Project : fixed, adaptive, and free meshes)

Let $u(x) = x^r$ be a function defined on $[0, 1]$ with $r \in (0, 2)$.

Use the continuous piecewise linear polynomials defined on the uniform, adaptive, and free meshes to solve

(1) the best least-squares approximation : find $u_n \in S_1^0(\Delta_n)$ s.t.

$$\|u - u_n\| = \min_{v \in S_1^0(\Delta_n)} \|u - v\|, \text{ where } \|v\| = \sqrt{\int_0^1 v^2 dx}$$

(2) the Poisson equation : find $u_n \in S_1^0(\Delta_n)$ s.t.

$$\begin{cases} -u''(x) = f(x) \text{ in } I = (0, 1) \\ u(0) = 0 \text{ and } u'(1) = r \end{cases}$$

$$\text{where } f(x) = r(1-r)x^{r-2}.$$

- For $r = 0.1, 0.4, 0.8, 1.2, 1.6$, examine approximation accuracies using these three approaches for a fixed number of DoF.

- Given a prescribed tolerance $\epsilon > 0$, examine the number of DoF $n(\epsilon)$ s.t.

$$(1) \|u - u_n\| \leq \epsilon \|u\|$$

$$(2) \|u - u_n\|_E \leq \epsilon \|u\|_E$$

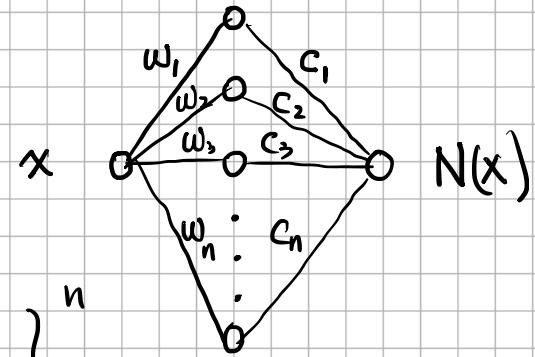
$$\|v\|_E = \sqrt{\int_0^1 (v')^2 dx}$$

two-layer neural network

$$N(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \sigma(w_i x - b_i) + c_0$$

- input weights $\{w_i\}_{i=1}^n$ and bias $\{b_i\}_{i=1}^n$

output weights $\{c_i\}_{i=1}^n$ and bias c_0



$\sigma(t)$ — activation function

examples • ReLU (Rectified Linear Unit)

$$\sigma(t) = \max \{0, t\} = \begin{cases} 0, & t < 0 \\ t, & t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

• spline $\sigma_k(t) = \max \{0, t^k\}$

• sigmoid (logistic, Gaussian, or arctan)

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow -\infty} \sigma(t) = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \lim_{t \rightarrow +\infty} \sigma(t) = 1$$

logistic $\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{1+e^{-t}}$

Gaussian $\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^{y^2/2}} \int_{-\infty}^t e^{-\frac{y^2}{2}} dy$

arctan $\sigma(t) = \frac{1}{\pi} \arctan(t) + \frac{1}{2}$

- ReLU two-layer NN

one dimension

$$\sigma(w_i \cdot x - b_i) = |w_i| \sigma\left(\frac{w_i}{|w_i|} x - \frac{b_i}{|w_i|}\right)$$

$$M_n(\sigma) = \left\{ c_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n c_i \sigma(x - b_i) : c_i, b_i \in \mathbb{R} \right\} = \text{free knot spline}$$

d-dimension

$$M_n(\sigma) = \left\{ \vec{c}_0 + \sum_{i=1}^n \vec{c}_i \sigma(\vec{w}_i \cdot \vec{x} - b_i) : \vec{c}_i \in \mathbb{R}^d, b_i \in \mathbb{R}, \vec{w}_i \in S^d \right\}$$

$$\text{where } S^d = \left\{ \vec{x} \in \mathbb{R}^d : |\vec{x}| = 1 \right\}.$$

Universal Approximation Theory (Cybenko (89) and Hornik - Stinchcombe - White (89))

$$M(\sigma) = \left\{ v(\vec{x}) \in M_n(\sigma) : n \in \mathbb{Z}_+ \right\} \text{ is dense in } C(K) \text{ where } K \text{ is}$$

a compact set in \mathbb{R}^d provided that σ is not a polynomial.

- the best least-squares approximation

Given $f(x) \in H^1(\Omega)$, find $f_n \in M_n(\sigma)$ such that

$$\|f(\cdot) - f_n(\cdot; \vec{\theta}^*)\| = \min_{v \in M_n(\sigma)} \|f - v\| = \min_{\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^N} \underbrace{\|f(\cdot) - v(\cdot; \vec{\theta})\|}_{J(\vec{\theta})}$$

$$\text{where } \vec{\theta} = (\vec{c}, \vec{b}).$$

$$= \min_{\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^N} J(\vec{\theta})$$

- Order of approximation

Petrushen (1998) For any $f \in H^s(\Omega)$ with $s = 2 + \frac{d-1}{2}$,

$$\inf_{g \in M_n(\sigma)} \|f - g\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \leq C \left(\frac{1}{n} \right)^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{3}{2d}} \|f\|_{H^s(\Omega)}$$

Siegel-Xu (2021) For any $v \in \mathcal{B}^s(\Omega) = \{g: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \|g\|_{\mathcal{B}^s(\Omega)} < +\infty\}$, where

$$\|g\|_{\mathcal{B}^s(\Omega)} = \inf_{\substack{y \in L^2(\Omega) \\ y|_{\Omega} = g}} \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \left(1 + |\vec{\xi}|^s \right) |\hat{y}_e(\vec{\xi})| d\vec{\xi}$$

$$\Rightarrow \inf_{g \in M_n(\sigma)} \|f - g\|_{H^m(\Omega)} \leq C (\log n) \left(\frac{1}{n} \right)^{2-m} \|f\|_{\mathcal{B}^s(\Omega)}, \quad m=0,1$$

- Effect of Numerical Integration

$$\int_{\Omega} f(\vec{x}) d\vec{x} \approx Q_g(f). \quad \text{set } \|f\|_g = \sqrt{Q_g(f^2)}$$

$$\text{Find } f_g \in M_n(\sigma) \text{ s.t. } \|f - f_g\|_g = \min_{g \in M_n(\sigma)} \|f - g\|_g$$

$$\|f - f_g\|_g \leq C \left\{ \inf_{g \in M_n(\sigma)} \left[\|f - g\| + \sup_{w \in M_n(\sigma)} \frac{|(I - Q_g)(gw)|}{\|w\|} \right] + \sup_{w \in M_n(\sigma)} \frac{|(I - Q_g)(fw)|}{\|w\|} \right\}$$

- Training

$$\min_{\vec{\theta} \in \mathbb{R}^N} g(\vec{\theta})$$

Gradient Descent Given initial $\vec{\theta}_0$,

$$\vec{\theta}_{k+1} = \vec{\theta}_k - \tau \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_k)$$

$$\text{Adam} \quad \vec{\theta}_{k+1} = \vec{\theta}_k - \tau \frac{\nabla \hat{f}(\vec{\theta}_k)}{\left| \nabla \tilde{f}(\vec{\theta}_k) \right|},$$

where $\nabla \hat{f}(\vec{\theta}_k) = \frac{1-\beta_1}{1-\beta_1^k} \left[\beta_1^{k-1} \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_1) + \beta_1^{k-2} \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_2) + \dots + \beta_1 \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_{k-1}) + \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_k) \right]$

$$\nabla \tilde{f}(\vec{\theta}_k) = \frac{1-\beta_2}{1-\beta_2^k} \left[\beta_2^{k-1} \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_1) + \dots + \nabla f(\vec{\theta}_k) \right]$$

Conclusions