

Mech 221 Week 6 Mathematics Tutorial

A) Consider $x(t)$ satisfying

$$\left. \begin{aligned} x'' + x &= 0 \\ x(0) &= 1 \\ x'(0) &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \text{undamped spring.}$$

Show that $x(t) = \cos t$ solves this problem

B) With units, the same problem is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} my'' + ky = 0 & & y(0) = y_0 \quad \text{initial extension} \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \\ \text{mass} & \text{spring constant} & \\ & & y'(0) = 0. \end{array}$$

a) what are the units of k ?

b) scale y & t to arrive at the problem in A).

C) Show that

$$\frac{1}{2} \left\{ (x')^2 + x^2 \right\} \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{scaled} \\ \text{Energy} \end{array}$$

is constant in time for all solutions of $x'' + x = 0$.

D) Rewrite $x'' + x = 0$ as a first order system for x and x' . Write the system as

$$\begin{pmatrix} x \\ x' \end{pmatrix}' = A \begin{pmatrix} x \\ x' \end{pmatrix}$$

\uparrow
2x2 matrix, determine A .

$$y = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ x' \end{bmatrix}$$

E) Apply Forward Euler to the problem in D).²
Show that the method can be written

$$\underline{Y}_{j+1} = B_{FE} \underline{Y}_j$$

↑

2x2 matrix depends on h ,
determine B_{FE} .

F) Take N steps with $h = 2\pi/N$.

$$\underline{Y}_N \approx B_{FE}^N \underline{Y}_0 \leftarrow \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

↑

with $h = 2\pi/N$.

Compare \underline{Y}_N with the exact $\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
(after one period, same as initial conditions).

B_{FE}^N can be computed in MATLAB.

Note that FE reduces energy and introduces a phase error. Discuss the implications of this if FE is used to compute the problem for many periods, even if h is small.

G) Repeat E & F for Backward Euler time stepping.