



Eigenvalue Problems

Lecture 2

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Outline

- Definition
- Basic Procedure
- Example Systems
- Finite Difference Representation

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Definitions

$$Ax = \lambda x$$

A: $n \times n$ Matrix

x: $n \times 1$ vector

λ_i : scalar factor called “Eigenvalue”

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_i \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

Problem:

Find possible values of λ : $i \leq n$ *independent* values



Procedure for Finding Eigenvalues

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_i \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$a_{11} x_1 + a_{12} x_2 = \lambda_i x_1$$

$$a_{21} x_1 + a_{22} x_2 = \lambda_i x_2$$

$$(a_{11} - \lambda_i) x_1 + a_{12} x_2 = 0$$

$$a_{21} x_1 + (a_{22} - \lambda_i) x_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} - \lambda_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$[A - \lambda I]x = 0$$

Condition for Solution Existence:

$$\text{Det}(A - \lambda I) = |A - \lambda I| = 0$$

In this example:

$$(a_{11} - \lambda_i)(a_{22} - \lambda_i) - a_{12}a_{21} = 0$$

$$\lambda_i^2 - (a_{11} + a_{22})\lambda_i - a_{12}a_{21} + a_{11}a_{22} = 0$$

Find roots of equation:

$$\lambda_{1,2} = [-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}] / 2a$$



Example for Finding Eigenvalues

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \lambda_i \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 = \lambda_i x_1$$

$$2x_1 + 3x_2 = \lambda_i x_2$$

$$(2 - \lambda_i)x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$2x_1 + (3 - \lambda_i)x_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 \\ 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} - \lambda_i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Condition for Solution Existence:

$$\text{Det}(\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}) = |\mathbf{A} - \lambda \mathbf{I}| = 0$$

In this example:

$$(2 - \lambda_i)(3 - \lambda_i) - (2)(1) = 0$$

$$\lambda_i^2 - 5\lambda_i + 4 = 0$$

Eigenvalues: Find roots of equation:

$$\lambda_1 = 2.5 + 1.5 = 4$$

$$\lambda_2 = 2.5 - 1.5 = 1$$

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To Find Eigenvectors: Solve for \mathbf{x} Vector

For Eigenvalue $\lambda_1=4$

$$\begin{aligned}(2 - 4)x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + (3 - 4)x_2 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$-2x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$2x_1 - x_2 = 0$$

$$x_2 = 2x_1$$

$$\text{Assume } x_1 = 1 \rightarrow x_2 = 2$$

$$\mathbf{x}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

For Eigenvalue $\lambda_2=1$

$$\begin{aligned}(2 - 1)x_1 + x_2 &= 0 \\ 2x_1 + (3 - 1)x_2 &= 0\end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 + x_2 = 0$$

$$2x_1 + 2x_2 = 0$$

$$x_2 = -x_1$$

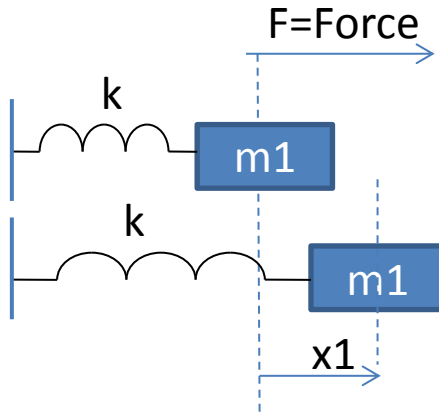
$$\text{Assume } x_1 = 1 \rightarrow x_2 = -1$$

$$\mathbf{x}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Example Applications for Eigenvalue Problem: Dual Mass Spring System



Single Mass, Single Spring, Fixed Boundaries



$$F = m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = -k x_1$$

$$\ddot{x}_1 + \frac{k}{m_1} x_1 = 0$$

Solution:

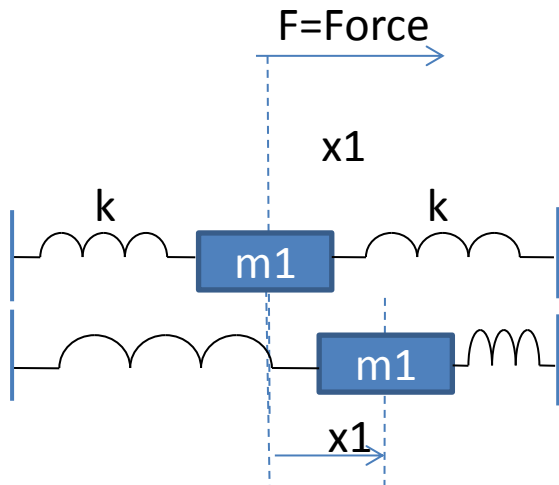
$$x_1 = C_1 \sin \omega t$$
$$\ddot{x}_1 = -C_1 \omega^2 \sin \omega t$$

After: S. Capra and R. Canale, *Numerical Methods for Engineers*, 5th Ed. McGraw Hill

Example Applications for Eigenvalue Problem: Dual Mass Spring System

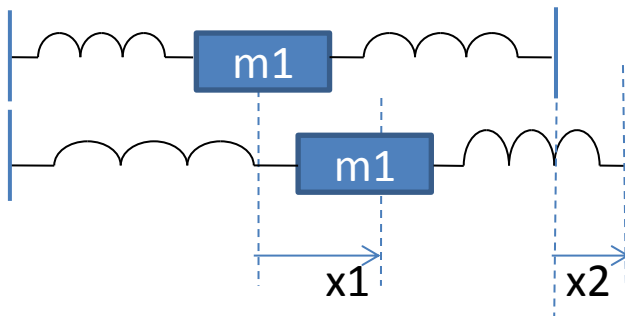


Single Mass, Dual Spring, Fixed Boundaries



$$F = m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = -2k x_1$$

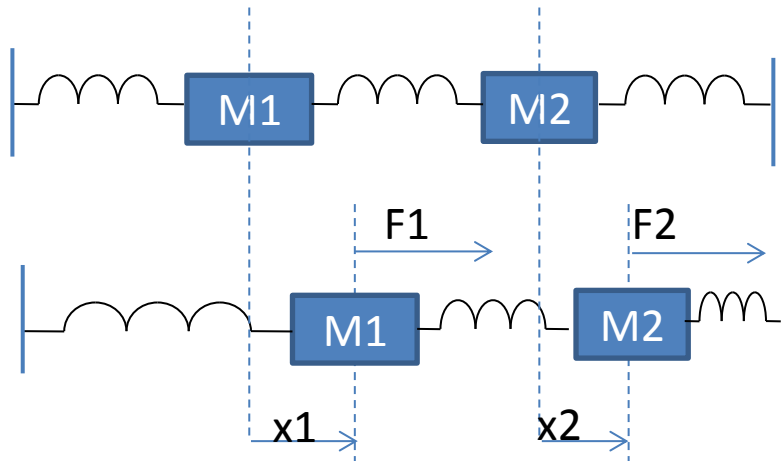
Single Mass, Dual Spring, Moving Boundaries



$$F = m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = -k x_1 - k(x_1 - x_2)$$



Example Applications for Eigenvalue Problem: Dual Mass Spring System



Dual Mass, Dual Spring, Fixed Boundaries

$$F_1 = m_1 \ddot{x}_1 = -k(x_1) - k(x_1 - x_2)$$
$$F_2 = m_2 \ddot{x}_2 = -k(x_2) - k(x_2 - x_1)$$

$$\ddot{x}_1 = -\frac{2k}{m_1}(x_1) + \frac{k}{m_1}(x_2)$$
$$\ddot{x}_2 = \frac{k}{m_2}(x_1) - \frac{2k}{m_2}(x_2)$$

Using $x_i = C_i \sin \omega t$, we get the Eigenvalue problem:

$$\left(\frac{2k}{m_1} - \omega^2\right) C_1 - \frac{k}{m_2} C_2 = 0$$

$$-\frac{k}{m_2} C_1 + \left(\frac{2k}{m_2} - \omega^2\right) C_2 = 0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} a_{11} - \lambda & a_{21} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} C_1 \\ C_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Required Eigenvalue: $\lambda = \omega^2$



Example Applications for Eigenvalue Problem: Dual Mass Spring System

Dual Mass, Dual Spring, Fixed Boundaries

Example:

- $m_1 = m_2 = 40 \text{ Kg}$, $k = 200\text{N/m}$
- Eigenvalues: $\lambda_1 = \omega_1^2 = 15 \text{ sec}^{-2}$, $\lambda_2 = \omega_2^2 = 5 \text{ sec}^{-2}$
- Eigenvectors:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

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After: S. Capra and R. Canale, *Numerical Methods for Engineers*, 5th Ed. McGraw Hill



Eigenvalue using Finite Difference Implementation

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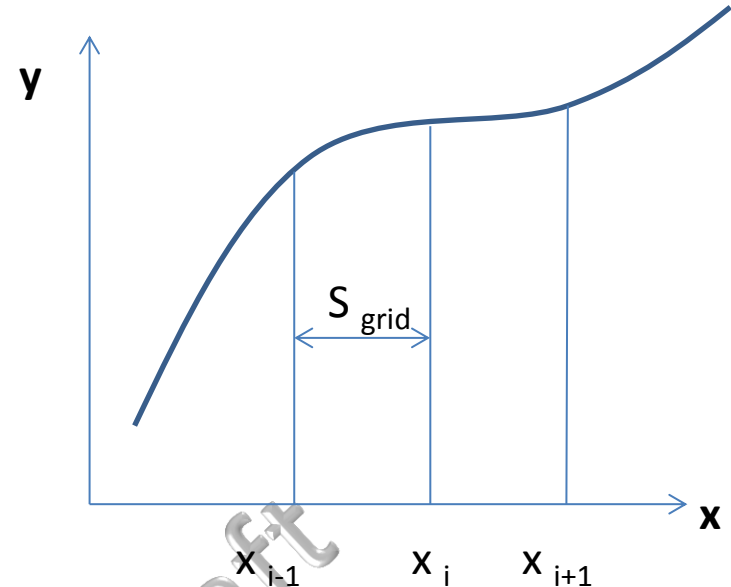
Finite Difference Representation of Derivatives



- Using most basic *Centered* difference equation:

$$\frac{dy_i}{dx} = \frac{y_{i+1} - y_{i-1}}{2 S_{grid}}$$

$$\frac{d^2y_i}{dx^2} = \frac{y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}}{S_{grid}^2}$$





Example: 2-Node D.E. with Boundary Conditions

$$y''_1 = a_{11}(y_1) + a_{12}(y_2)$$
$$y''_2 = a_{21}(y_1) + a_{22}(y_2)$$

Using Finite Difference (FD):

$$\frac{y_2 - 2y_1 + y_0}{S_{grid}^2} = a_{11}(y_1) + a_{12}(y_2)$$

$$\frac{y_3 - 2y_2 + y_1}{S_{grid}^2} = a_{21}(y_1) + a_{22}(y_2)$$

y_0 and y_3 are given as **Boundary Conditions**, no need to solve for.



Examples Applications for Eigenvalue + Finite Difference: Schrodinger's Equation

$$\frac{d^2 \psi (x)}{dx^2} = -k^2 \psi (x)$$

$$k^2 = 2m(E - U)/\hbar^2$$

$$\frac{d^2 \varphi}{dx^2} = \frac{\Psi_{i+1} - 2\Psi_i + \Psi_{i-1}}{s_{\text{grid}}^2}$$

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Second Order Differential Equation using Finite Difference (FD)

2-Node D.E.

$$y'' = -k^2 y$$

$$y'' + k^2 y = 0$$

$$\frac{y_{i+1} - 2y_i + y_{i-1}}{S_{grid}^2} + k^2 y_i = 0$$

$$y_{i+1} - (2 - S_{grid}^2 k^2) y_i + y_{i-1} = 0$$

$$-y_{i+1} + (2 - \lambda) y_i - y_{i-1} = 0$$

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Analytical Solution for Schrodinger's Eqn. Infinite Well

Solution: $U=0$ for $0 < x < L$

$$k_n = \frac{n\pi}{L}; E_n = \frac{\hbar^2 k^2}{2m} = \frac{n^2 \pi^2 \hbar^2}{2mL^2}$$

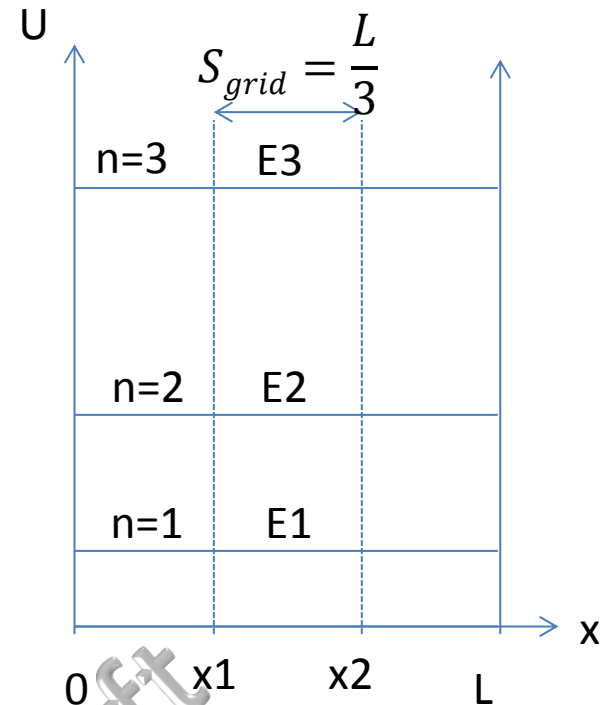
$$\varphi_i^{(n)} = An \sin\left(\frac{n\pi}{L} x\right)$$

Boundary Conditions : $\varphi^{(n)}(0)=0, \varphi^{(n)}(L)=0$

Thus: $\varphi_0^{(n)}=0, \varphi_3^{(n)}=0$ (nodes 0 and 3 are present, but removed from equations since they are known. We now have 2 instead of 4 eqns.)

$$E_n = 0.6024 \times 10^{-19} n^2 \text{ Joules} = 0.3765 n^2 \text{ eV}$$

$$E_1 = 0.3765 \text{ eV}, E_2 = 1.506 \text{ eV}, E_3 = 3.388 \text{ eV}$$



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Eigenvalue FD 2-Node Schrodinger Eq.

Polynomial Method

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\text{Det} () = (2 - \lambda)^2 - 1 = 0$$

$$2 - \lambda = \pm \sqrt{1}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 3$$

$$\lambda_n = S_{grid}^2 k_n^2, \quad k_n = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_n}}{S_{grid}} = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_n}}{L/3}$$

$$k_1 (\text{FD}) = 3.0 \times 10^9, \quad k_1 (\text{Analytical}) = 3.14 \times 10^9$$

$$k_2 (\text{FD}) = 5.196 \times 10^9, \quad k_2 (\text{Analytical}) = 6.28 \times 10^9$$



Eigenvalue FD 2-Node Schrodinger Eq.

Find ψ_i

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ -1 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1, \lambda_2 = 3$$

$$\lambda_1: \varphi_1 = 1, \varphi_2 = 1$$

$$\lambda_2: \varphi_1 = 1, \varphi_2 = -1$$

Analytical: (A_1 & A_2 are normalization coefficients)

$$\lambda_1: \varphi_1^{(1)} = A_1 \sin\left(\frac{1\pi L}{L \cdot 3}\right) = 0.866025 A_1,$$

$$\varphi_2^{(1)} = A_1 \sin\left(\frac{1\pi \cdot 2L}{L \cdot 3}\right) = 0.866025 A_1$$

$$\lambda_2: \varphi_1^{(2)} = A_2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi L}{L \cdot 3}\right) = 0.866025 A_2,$$

$$\varphi_2^{(2)} = A_2 \sin\left(\frac{2\pi \cdot 2L}{L \cdot 3}\right) = -0.866025 A_2$$

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FD 2-Node Schrodinger Eqn:

Refinement: Use Three Internal Nodes

$$\begin{bmatrix} 2 - \lambda & -1 & 0 \\ -1 & 2 - \lambda & -1 \\ 0 & -1 & 2 - \lambda \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \varphi_1 \\ \varphi_2 \\ \varphi_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{Det} () = (2 - \lambda) [(2 - \lambda)^2 - 1] - (-1) [(-1)(2 - \lambda) - 0] + 0 = 0$$

$$(2 - \lambda) [(2 - \lambda)^2 - 1 - 1] = 0$$

$$(2 - \lambda) = 0, \quad \text{and} \quad (2 - \lambda) = \pm\sqrt{2}$$

$$\lambda_1 = 0.5857, \quad \lambda_2 = 2, \quad \lambda_3 = 3.4142, \quad S_{grid} = \frac{L}{4}$$

$$\lambda_n = S_{grid}^2 k_n^2, \quad k_n = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_n}}{S_{grid}} = \frac{\sqrt{\lambda_n}}{L/4}$$

$$k_1 \text{ (FD)} = 3.061 \times 10^9, \quad k_1 \text{ (Analytical)} = 3.14 \times 10^9 \text{ (improvement over 2 nodes)}$$

$$k_2 \text{ (FD)} = 5.656 \times 10^9, \quad k_2 \text{ (Analytical)} = 6.28 \times 10^9 \text{ (improvement over 2 nodes)}$$

$$k_3 \text{ (FD)} = 7.391 \times 10^9, \quad k_3 \text{ (Analytical)} = 9.42 \times 10^9 \text{ (First time to appear)}$$

Exercise:

Find $\varphi_1, \dots, \varphi_3$ and compare with exact solution