

Example 3: a system of ODEs with an unknown parameter

Consider a system of ODEs¹⁰

$$U'' + (GrPr)\theta - Nr\phi + \sigma = 0, \quad (17)$$

$$\theta'' + Nb\theta'\phi' + Nt(\theta')^2 + Nb + Nt - U = 0, \quad (18)$$

$$\phi'' + \frac{Nt}{Nb}\theta'' - LeU = 0, \quad (19)$$

subject to

$$U(-1) = U(1) = 0, \theta(-1) = \theta(1) = 0, \phi(-1) = \phi(1) = 0, \quad (20)$$

with an additional condition

$$\int_0^1 U dY = RePr, \quad (21)$$

where Gr is the Grashof number, Pr the Prandtl number, Nr the buoyancy ratio, σ the pressure parameter, Nb the Brownian motion parameter, Nt the thermophoresis parameter, Le the Lewis number, and Re the Reynolds number. All of the above parameters will be given for a special case except σ , which is to be determined from the system. Xu¹⁰ solved this problem by the HAM.

Here we solve this problem by BVP4c 2.0. Since there are three ODEs in system (17)–(19) with an unknown σ to be determined, we have NumEQ = 3 and TypeEQ=2. The system is input as

```
TypeEQ = 2;
NumEQ = 3;
f[1,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}},sigma_] :=
    D[f,{z,2}]+Gr*Pr*g-Nr*s+sigma;
f[2,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}},sigma_] :=
    D[g,{z,2}]+Nb*D[g,z]*D[s,z]+Nt*(D[g,z])^2-f;
f[3,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}},sigma_] :=
    D[s,{z,2}]+Nt/Nb*D[f,{z,2}]-Le*f;
```

The seven boundary conditions, including the additional condition (21), are defined as

```
NumBC = 7;
BC[1,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=f/.z->-1;
BC[2,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=f/.z->1;
BC[3,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=g/.z->-1;
BC[4,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=g/.z->1;
BC[5,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=s/.z->-1;
BC[6,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=s/.z->1;
BC[7,z_{},{f_{},g_{},s_{}}] :=Integrate[f,{z,0,1}]-Ra*Pr;
```

Now let us input the solution intervals

```

zL[1] = -1;    zR[1] = 1;
zL[2] = -1;    zR[2] = 1;
zL[3] = -1;    zR[3] = 1;

```

Since all the solution intervals are in finite intervals, we do not have to specify the integral interval to compute the squared residual error.

The initial guesses are chosen as $U_0 = \epsilon_1 - 3(-25 + \epsilon_1)z^2/2 + 5(-15 + 2\epsilon_1)z^4/2$, $\theta_0 = \epsilon_2(1 - z^2)$ and $\phi_0 = \epsilon_3(1 - z^2)$, where ϵ_1 , ϵ_2 and ϵ_3 are constants to be optimized. They are input as

```

U[1,0]=eps1-3/2*(-25+4eps1)z^2+5/2*(-15+2eps1)*z^4;
U[2,0]=eps2*(1-z^2);
U[3,0]=eps3*(1-z^2);

```

The auxiliary linear operators are chosen as $\mathcal{L}_1 = \mathcal{L}_2 = \mathcal{L}_3 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial y^2}$. They are defined as

```

L[1, u_] := D[u, {z, 2}];
L[2, u_] := D[u, {z, 2}];
L[3, u_] := D[u, {z, 2}];

```

Note that we use the delayed assignment `SetDelayed(:=)` to define these linear operators.

Without loss of generality, let us consider the case when $Nr = 3/20$, $Nt = Nb = 1/20$, $Le = 10$, $Gr = 5$, $Pr = 1$ and $Re = 5$. These physical parameters are input as

```

Nr = 3/20;    Nt = 1/20;
Nb = 1/20;    Le = 10;
Gr = 5;      Pr = 1;
Ra = 5;

```

At this time, we have input all the data for this problem, except the convergence-control parameters `c0[k]`, `eps1`, `eps2` and `eps3`. We minimize the squared residual error of the 3th-order approximations to get the optimal values by the module `GetOptiVar` as follows

```

c0[1] = c0[2] = c0[3] = h;
GetOptiVar[3, {}, {eps1, eps2, eps3, h}];

```

Note that we put constraints `c0[1]=c0[2]=c0[3]` on `c0[1]`, `c0[2]` and `c0[3]` to simplify the computation. There is no constraint on `eps1`, `eps2` and `eps3`.

After some computation, we get optimal values for all the convergence-control parameters $c0[1] = c0[2] = c0[3] \approx -0.769452$, $\text{eps1} \approx 7.56408$, $\text{eps2} \approx -2.58887$ and $\text{eps3} \approx -30.0044$. Now we can use

BVPh[1,10]

to get the 10th-order approximation.

If we are not satisfied with the accuracy of the 10th-order approximation, we can use BVPh[11,20] to get 20th-order approximation or higher order approximation. The 20th-order approximations of U , θ and ϕ are stored in $U[1,20]$, $U[2,20]$ and $U[3,20]$, the 20th-order approximation of σ is stored in $\text{Lambda}[19]$, while the corresponding squared residual error is $\text{ErrTotal}[20]$. $\text{Lambda}[19]$ is about 18.272555944, which is the same with Xu's result.¹⁰ The 20th-order approximations are plotted in Fig. 8. The total error of the system for every two order of approximations are plotted in Fig. 9.

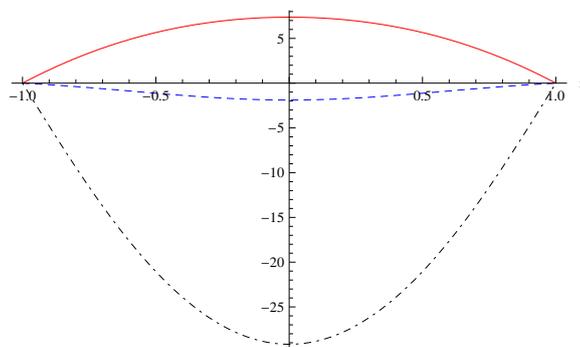


Fig. 8: The curve of U (solid), θ (dashed) and $\phi(z)$ (dot dashed) for Example 3.

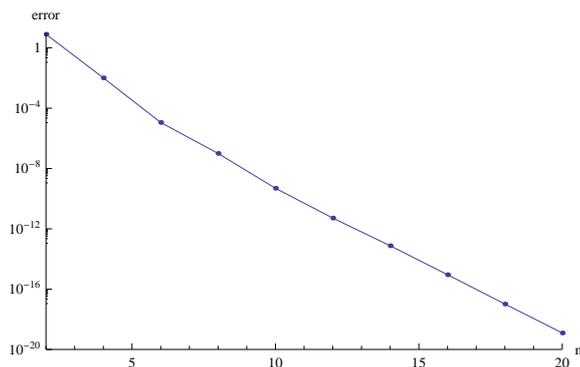


Fig. 9: Total error vs. order of approximation for Example 3.

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