

Natural splines of Birkhoff type approximating the solution of differential equations ¹

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Abstract

Let us consider the following initial value problem

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} y^{(r)} = f(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(r-1)}) \\ y^{(j)}(x_1) = y_1^{(j)}, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1} \end{cases}$$

and suppose that $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $D \subset [a, b] \times \mathbb{R}^r$ satisfies all the conditions assuring the existence and uniqueness of the solution $y : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the problem (1).

If y is the exact solution of the problem (1), denote by

$$\tilde{U}_y = \left\{ u \in H^{m,2}[a, b] \mid \begin{aligned} &u^{(j)}(x_1) = y^{(j)}(x_1), \quad j = \overline{0, r-1}, \\ &u^{(r)}(x_i) = y^{(r)}(x_i), \quad i = \overline{2, n} \end{aligned} \right\},$$

where x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n are distinct knots in the interval $[a, b]$, $a \leq x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n \leq b$.

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We will give an algorithm to approximate the solution y of (1) by a Birkhoff-type natural spline interpolation function, s_y , corresponding to the interpolatory set \tilde{U}_y .

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1 Introduction

Let us consider the following initial value problem

$$(2) \quad \begin{cases} y' = f(x, y) \\ y(x_0) = y_0 \end{cases}$$

and suppose that $f : D \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies all the conditions assuring the existence and uniqueness of the solution $y : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the problem (2).

In paper [2] G. Micula and P. Blaga develop an algorithm to approximate the solution y of (2) by a spline function of even degree.

Using natural splines of Birkhoff type we will give an algorithm to approximate the solution of the differential equation problem

$$\begin{cases} y^{(r)} = f(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(r-1)}) \\ y^{(j)}(x_1) = y_1^{(j)}, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1} \end{cases}$$

and suppose that $f : D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $D \subset [a, b] \times \mathbb{R}^r$ satisfies all the conditions assuring the existence and uniqueness of the solution $y : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the problem.

Let us consider an arbitrary finite interval $[a, b]$, $a < b$, on the real line and the Lebesgue space $L^2[a, b]$ with the corresponding norm

$$\|f\|_2^2 := \int_a^b f^2(x)dx.$$

Denote by

$$H^{m,2}[a, b] = \{f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid f \in C^{m-1}[a, b], f^{(m-1)} \text{ abs. cont.}, f^{(m)} \in L^2[a, b]\}.$$

Let us take x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n as distinct knots in the interval $[a, b]$, $a \leq x_1 < x_2 < \dots < x_n \leq b$, the numbers $\alpha_i \in \mathbb{N}$, where $1 \leq \alpha_i \leq m$, $i = \overline{1, n}$ and the set $I_i \subseteq \{0, 1, \dots, \alpha_i - 1\}$, $i = \overline{1, n}$.

Denote the number of interpolation condition by $N := \sum_{i=1}^n \text{card}(I_i)$.

Definition 1 *The set*

$$\Lambda := \{\lambda_{i,\nu_i} : H^{m,2}[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \lambda_{i,\nu_i}(f) = f^{(\nu_i)}(x_i), i = \overline{1, n}, \nu_i \in I_i\}$$

is named a set of Birkhoff-type functionals on $H^{m,2}[a, b]$.

Definition 2 *For each $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ we define the Birkhoff-type interpolatory set*

$$U_y := \{u \in H^{m,2}[a, b] \mid u^{(\nu_i)}(x_i) = y_{i,\nu_i}, i = \overline{1, n}, \nu_i \in I_i\},$$

where $y := (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) = ((y_{1,\nu_1})_{\nu_1 \in I_1}, (y_{2,\nu_2})_{\nu_2 \in I_2}, \dots, (y_{n,\nu_n})_{\nu_n \in I_n})$.

Definition 3 *The problem of finding function $s \in U_y$ which satisfy*

$$(3) \quad \|s^{(m)}\|_2 = \min_{u \in U_y} \|u^{(m)}\|_2$$

is called Birkhoff-type natural spline interpolation problem, corresponding to the interpolatory set U_y .

Lemma 1 For each $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$, if the set U_y is nonempty, then problem (3) has unique solution s_y given by

$$s_y(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} a_k \frac{(b-x)^k}{k!} + \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\nu_i \in I_i} b_{i,\nu_i} \frac{(x-x_i)_+^{2m-1-\nu_i}}{(2m-1-\nu_i)!},$$

where the coefficients a_k , $k = \overline{0, m-1}$, b_{i,ν_i} , $i = \overline{1, n}$, $\nu_i \in I_i$, are given by the following linear system

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \sum_{k=\mu_1}^{m-1} a_k (-1)^{\mu_1} \frac{(b-x_1)^{k-\mu_1}}{(k-\mu_1)!} = y_{1,\mu_1}, \quad \mu_1 \in I_1 \\ \sum_{k=\mu_j}^{m-1} a_k (-1)^{\mu_j} \frac{(b-x_j)^{k-\mu_j}}{(k-\mu_j)!} + \sum_{i=1}^{j-1} \sum_{\nu_i \in I_i} b_{i,\nu_i} \frac{(x_j-x_i)^{2m-1-\nu_i-\mu_j}}{(2m-1-\nu_i-\mu_j)!} = y_{j,\mu_j}, \\ j = \overline{2, n}, \quad \mu_j \in I_j, \\ \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\nu_i \in I_i, \nu_i \leq l} b_{i,\nu_i} \frac{(b-x_i)^{l-\nu_i}}{(l-\nu_i)!} = 0, \quad l = \overline{0, m-1}. \end{array} \right.$$

Definition 4 For each $j = \overline{1, n}$ and $\mu_j \in I_j$, let $y_{j,\mu_j} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ be defined by

$$y_{j,\mu_j} := (\delta_{ij} \delta_{\nu_i, \mu_j})_{i=\overline{1, n}, \nu_i \in I_i} = ((\delta_{1,j} \delta_{\nu_1, \mu_j})_{\nu_1 \in I_1}, \dots, (\delta_{n,j} \delta_{\nu_n, \mu_j})_{\nu_n \in I_n})$$

and the corresponding interpolatory set

$$U_{j,\mu_j} := \{u \in H^{m,2}[a, b] \mid u^{(\nu_i)}(x_i) = \delta_{ij} \delta_{\nu_i, \mu_j}, i = \overline{1, n}, \nu_i \in I_i\}.$$

We assume that the sets U_{j,μ_j} , $j = \overline{1, n}$, $\mu_j \in I_j$ are nonempty. For each $j = \overline{1, n}$ and $\mu_j \in I_j$, denote by s_{j,μ_j} the unique solution of problem (3) corresponding to the interpolatory set U_{j,μ_j} . The functions s_{j,μ_j} are called the fundamental Birkhoff-type natural spline interpolation functions.

Lemma 2 For each $y \in \mathbb{R}^N$ the set U_y is nonempty and the problem (3), corresponding to U_y , has unique solution given by

$$s_y = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{\nu_i \in I_i} y_{i,\nu_i} s_{i,\nu_i},$$

where $y := (y_1, \dots, y_n) = ((y_{1,\nu_1})_{\nu_1 \in I_1}, \dots, (y_{n,\nu_n})_{\nu_n \in I_n})$.

Remark 1 For each $f \in H^{m,2}[a, b]$ can be considered

$$y := (f^{(\nu_i)}(x_i))_{i=\overline{1,n}, \nu_i \in I_i} = ((f^{(\nu_1)}(x_1))_{\nu_1 \in I_1}, \dots, (f^{(\nu_n)}(x_n))_{\nu_n \in I_n}),$$

and the corresponding interpolatory set

$$U_f := \{u \in H^{m,2}[a, b] \mid u^{(\nu_i)}(x_i) = f^{(\nu_i)}(x_i), i = \overline{1, n}, \nu_i \in I_i\}.$$

Since $f \in U_f$, the interpolatory set U_f is nonempty and the problem (3) corresponding to U_f has unique solution for each $f \in H^{m,2}[a, b]$.

2 Main Results

Let us consider the following initial value problem

$$(4) \quad \begin{cases} y^{(r)} = f(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(r-1)}) \\ y^{(j)}(x_1) = y_1^{(j)}, j = \overline{0, r-1} \end{cases}$$

and suppose that $f : D \subset \mathbb{R}^{r+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ satisfies all the conditions assuring the existence and uniqueness of the solution $y : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ of the problem (4).

If y is the exact solution of the problem (4), denote by

$$\tilde{U}_y = \{u \in H^{m,2}[a, b] \mid u^{(j)}(x_1) = y^{(j)}(x_1), j = \overline{0, r-1}, u^{(r)}(x_i) = y^{(r)}(x_i), i = \overline{2, n}\}.$$

From Lemma 2 follow that there exist, and it is unique Birkhoff-type natural spline interpolation function, s_y , corresponding to the interpolatory set \tilde{U}_y , namely

$$\begin{aligned} s_y^{(j)}(x_1) &= y^{(j)}(x_1), \quad j = \overline{0, r-1} \\ s_y^{(r)}(x_i) &= y^{(r)}(x_i), \quad i = \overline{2, n}. \end{aligned}$$

The spline function s_y has the representation

$$(5) \quad s_y(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} y_1^{(j)} s_{1,j}(x) + \sum_{i=2}^n f(x_i, y_i^{(0)}, y_i^{(1)}, \dots, y_i^{(r-1)}) s_{i,r}(x)$$

where the unknown values $y_i^{(0)}, y_i^{(1)}, \dots, y_i^{(r-1)}$ will be determined.

The functions s_{j,μ_j} , $j = \overline{1, n}$, $\mu_j \in I_j$, where $I_1 = \{0, 1, \dots, r-1\}$, $I_i = \{r\}$, $i = \overline{2, n}$ are the fundamental Birkhoff-type natural spline interpolation functions and are given by

$$s_{j,\mu_j}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{m-1} a_k^{(j)} \frac{(b-x)^k}{k!} + \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} b_{1,i}^{(j)} \frac{(x-x_1)_+^{2m-1-i}}{(2m-1-i)!} + \sum_{i=2}^n b_{i,r}^{(j)} \frac{(x-x_i)_+^{2m-1-r}}{(2m-1-r)!}$$

where the coefficients $a_k^{(j)}$, $k = \overline{0, m-1}$, $b_{1,i}^{(j)}$, $i = \overline{0, r-1}$, $b_{i,r}^{(j)}$, $i = \overline{2, n}$ are given by the following linear system

$$(6) \quad \left\{ \begin{aligned} &\sum_{k=i}^{m-1} a_k^{(j)} (-1)^i \frac{(b-x_1)^{k-i}}{(k-i)!} = \delta_{1,j} \delta_{i,\mu_j}, \quad i = \overline{0, r-1} \\ &\sum_{k=r}^{m-1} a_k^{(j)} (-1)^r \frac{(b-x_\nu)^{k-r}}{(k-r)!} + \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} b_{1,i}^{(j)} \frac{(x_\nu-x_1)^{2m-1-r-i}}{(2m-1-r-i)!} \\ &\quad + \sum_{i=2}^n b_{i,r}^{(j)} \frac{(x_\nu-x_i)_+^{2m-1-2r}}{(2m-1-2r)!} = \delta_{\nu,j} \delta_{r,\mu_j}, \quad \nu = \overline{2, n} \\ &\sum_{i=0, i \leq l}^{r-1} b_{1,i}^{(j)} \frac{(b-x_1)^{l-i}}{(l-i)!} + \sum_{i=2, r \leq l}^n b_{i,r}^{(j)} \frac{(b-x_i)^{l-r}}{(l-r)!} = 0, \quad l = \overline{0, m-1}, \end{aligned} \right.$$

Theorem 1 If y is the exact solution of the problem (4), $y \in H^{m+1,2}[a, b]$ and s_y is the spline approximating solution (5), then the following estimations

$$\|y^{(k)} - s_y^{(k)}\|_{\infty} \leq \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)(m-r-1) \dots (k+1-r) \|\Delta_n\|^{m-k+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2$$

hold, for $k = \overline{r, m}$, and $\|\Delta_n\| := \max_{i=\overline{0, n}} \{x_{i+1} - x_i\}$.

Proof. Because $y^{(r)}(x_i) - s_y^{(r)}(x_i) = 0$, $i = \overline{2, n}$, there exist the points $(x_i^{(1)})$, $x_i < x_i^{(1)} < x_{i+1}$, $i = \overline{2, n-1}$, such that

$$y^{(r+1)}(x_i^{(1)}) - s_y^{(r+1)}(x_i^{(1)}) = 0, \quad i = \overline{2, n-1}$$

hold.

Now, because $y^{(r+1)}(x_i^{(1)}) - s_y^{(r+1)}(x_i^{(1)}) = 0$, $i = \overline{2, n-1}$, there exist a set of points $(x_i^{(2)})$, $x_i^{(1)} < x_i^{(2)} < x_{i+1}^{(1)}$, $i = \overline{2, n-2}$ such that

$$y^{(r+2)}(x_i^{(2)}) - s_y^{(r+2)}(x_i^{(2)}) = 0, \quad i = \overline{2, n-2}.$$

Continuing in the same manner, from the relations $y^{(k)}(x_i^{(k-r)}) - s_y^{(k)}(x_i^{(k-r)}) = 0$, for $i = \overline{2, n-k+r}$, there exist a set of points $(x_i^{(k-r+1)})$, $x_i^{(k-r)} < x_i^{(k-r+1)} < x_{i+1}^{(k-r)}$, $i = \overline{2, n-k+r-1}$, such that

$$y^{(k+1)}(x_i^{(k+1-r)}) - s_y^{(k+1)}(x_i^{(k+1-r)}) = 0, \quad i = \overline{2, n-k-1+r}$$

hold. Finally, for $k = m-1$, there exist a set of points $(x_i^{(m-r)})$, $x_i^{(m-1-r)} < x_i^{(m-r)} < x_{i+1}^{(m-1-r)}$, $i = \overline{2, n-m+r}$ such that the relation

$$y^{(m)}(x_i^{(m-r)}) - s_y^{(m)}(x_i^{(m-r)}) = 0, \quad i = \overline{2, n-m+r}$$

hold.

Because $|x_{i+1}^{(k)} - x_i^{(k)}| \leq (k+1) \|\Delta_n\|$ for $k = \overline{0, m-r}$, $x_i^{(0)} = x_i$ it is clear that for any $x \in [a, b]$ there exist an index i_0 such that

$$|x - x_{i_0}^{(m-r)}| \leq (m-r+1) \|\Delta_n\|.$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} |y^{(m)}(x) - s_y^{(m)}(x)| &= \left| \int_{x_{i_0}^{(m-r)}}^x [y^{(m+1)}(t) - s_y^{(m+1)}(t)] dt \right| \\ &\leq \left| \int_{x_{i_0}^{(m-r)}}^x dt \right|^{1/2} \left| \int_{x_{i_0}^{(m-r)}}^x [y^{(m+1)}(t) - s_y^{(m+1)}(t)]^2 dt \right|^{1/2} \\ &\leq \{(m-r+1) \|\Delta_n\|\}^{1/2} \left(\int_a^b [y^{(m+1)}(t) - s_y^{(m+1)}(t)]^2 dt \right)^{1/2} \\ &= \{(m-r+1) \|\Delta_n\|\}^{1/2} \|y^{(m+1)} - s_y^{(m+1)}\|_2 \\ &\leq ((m-r+1) \|\Delta_n\|)^{1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } \|y^{(m)} - s_y^{(m)}\|_\infty \leq \sqrt{m-r+1} \sqrt{\|\Delta_n\|} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2.$$

In the same manner, for any $x \in [a, b]$ there exists an index i_0 such that

$$|x - x_{i_0}^{(m-r-1)}| \leq (m-r) \|\Delta_n\|$$

holds, and

$$\begin{aligned} |y^{(m-1)}(x) - s_y^{(m-1)}(x)| &= \left| \int_{x_{i_0}^{(m-r-1)}}^x [y^{(m)}(t) - s_y^{(m)}(t)] dt \right| \\ &\leq \|y^{(m)} - s_y^{(m)}\|_\infty |x - x_{i_0}^{(m-r-1)}| \\ &\leq \sqrt{m-r+1} \sqrt{\|\Delta_n\|} \cdot \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2 (m-r) \cdot \|\Delta_n\|. \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{That means } \|y^{(m-1)} - s_y^{(m-1)}\|_\infty \leq \sqrt{m-r+1} (m-r) \|\Delta_n\|^{1+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2.$$

For any $x \in [a, b]$ there exist an index i_0 such that

$$|x - x_{i_0}^{(m-r-2)}| \leq (m-r-1) \|\Delta_n\|$$

holds, and

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| y^{(m-2)}(x) - s_y^{(m-2)}(x) \right| = \left| \int_{x_{i_0}^{(m-r-2)}}^x [y^{(m-1)}(t) - s_y^{(m-1)}(t)] dt \right| \\ & \leq \left\| y^{(m-1)} - s_y^{(m-1)} \right\|_{\infty} \left| x - x_{i_0}^{(m-r-2)} \right| \leq \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r) \|\Delta_n\|^{1+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2 \\ & \cdot (m-r-1) \|\Delta_n\| = \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)(m-r-1) \|\Delta_n\|^{2+1/2} \cdot \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2, \\ & \text{namely} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left\| y^{(m-2)} - s_y^{(m-2)} \right\|_{\infty} \leq \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)(m-r-1) \|\Delta_n\|^{2+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2.$$

In generally

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| y^{(k)} - s_y^{(k)} \right\|_{\infty} & \leq \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)(m-r-1) \dots (k+1-r) \\ & \cdot \|\Delta_n\|^{m-k+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2, \quad k = \overline{r, m}. \end{aligned}$$

Corollary 1 *If the exact solution of the problem (4) $y \in H^{m+1,2}[a, b]$ and s_y is the spline approximating solution, then*

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| y^{(k)} - s_y^{(k)} \right\|_{\infty} & \leq (b-a)^{r-k} \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)! \|\Delta_n\|^{m-r+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2, \\ & k = \overline{0, r-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Proof. We have

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| y^{(r-1)}(x) - s_y^{(r-1)}(x) \right| = \left| \int_{x_1}^x [y^{(r)}(t) - s_y^{(r)}(t)] dt \right| \leq |x - x_1| \cdot \left\| y^{(r)} - s_y^{(r)} \right\|_{\infty} \\ & \leq (b-a) \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)! \|\Delta_n\|^{m-r+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2. \end{aligned}$$

From the above relation we obtain

$$\left\| y^{(r-1)} - s_y^{(r-1)} \right\|_{\infty} \leq (b-a) \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)! \|\Delta_n\|^{m-r+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2.$$

In generally, for $k = \overline{0, r-1}$

$$\left\| y^{(k)} - s_y^{(k)} \right\|_{\infty} \leq (b-a)^{r-k} \sqrt{m-r+1}(m-r)! \|\Delta_n\|^{m-r+1/2} \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2.$$

Corollary 2 *If the exact solution of the problem (4) $y \in H^{m+1,2}[a, b]$ and s_y is the spline approximating solution then*

$$\lim_{\|\Delta_n\| \rightarrow 0} \|y^{(k)} - s_y^{(k)}\|_\infty = 0 \quad \text{for } k = \overline{0, m}$$

hold and the order of convergence is

$$\begin{cases} m - k + 1/2 & \text{for } k = \overline{r, m}, \\ m - r + 1/2 & \text{for } k = \overline{0, r-1}. \end{cases}$$

Now the problem is to construct effectively the approximating spline function (5), i.e. to find an algorithm for determination the value $s_y^{(j)}(x_i)$, $i = \overline{2, n}$, $j = \overline{0, r-1}$, considering that $s_y(x) \approx y(x)$, for any $x \in [a, b]$.

Let denote the error of the method, as usual by

$$e(x) = y(x) - s_y(x), \quad x \in [a, b].$$

Directly from the Corollary 1, if $y \in H^{m+1,2}[a, b]$, we have

$$|e^{(j)}(x)| \leq (b-a)^{r-j} \sqrt{m-r+1} (m-r)! \|\Delta_n\|^{m-r+1/2} \cdot \|y^{(m+1)}\|_2,$$

namely $e^{(j)}(x) = O\left(\|\Delta_n\|^{m-r+1/2}\right) \quad (\forall) \quad x \in [a, b]$.

Writing again

$$s_y(x) = \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} y_1^{(j)} s_{1,j}(x) + \sum_{k=2}^n f\left(x_k, y_k^{(0)}, y_k^{(1)}, \dots, y_k^{(r-1)}\right) s_{k,r}(x)$$

and denoting $s_y^{(j)}(x_i) =: w_i^j$, $e^{(j)}(x_i) =: e_i^j$, $i = \overline{2, n}$, $j = \overline{0, r-1}$, it follows

$$(7) \quad w_i^j = \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} y_1^{(k)} s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i) + \sum_{k=2}^n s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i) f\left(x_k, e_k^0 + w_k^0, e_k^1 + w_k^1, \dots, e_k^{r-1} + w_k^{r-1}\right),$$

$$i = \overline{2, n}, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1}.$$

We suppose that in (4) the function $f : D \subset \mathbb{R}^{r+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $D \subset [a, b] \times \mathbb{R}^r$ is a continuous function, and also that derivatives $\frac{\partial f(x, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{r-1})}{\partial u_i}$, $i = \overline{0, r-1}$ are continuous function on the domain D . Thus

$$\begin{aligned} f(x_k, y_k^{(0)}, y_k^{(1)}, \dots, y_k^{(r-1)}) &= f(x_k, e_k^0 + w_k^0 \cdot e_k^1 + w_k^1, \dots, e_k^{r-1} + w_k^{r-1}) \\ &= f(x_k, w_k^0, w_k^1, \dots, w_k^{r-1}) + \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} e_k^i \frac{\partial f(x_k, \xi_k^0, \xi_k^1, \dots, \xi_k^{r-1})}{\partial u_i}, \end{aligned}$$

where $\min(w_k^i, w_k^i + e_k^i) < \xi_k^i < \max(w_k^i, w_k^i + e_k^i)$.

We can write the system (7) in the form

$$\begin{aligned} w_i^j &= \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} y_1^{(k)} s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i) + \sum_{k=2}^n s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i) f(x_k, w_k^0, w_k^1, \dots, w_k^{r-1}) + E_i^j, \text{ where} \\ E_i^j &= \sum_{k=2}^n s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i) \sum_{i=0}^{r-1} e_k^i \frac{\partial f(x_k, \xi_k^0, \xi_k^1, \dots, \xi_k^{r-1})}{\partial u_i}, \quad i = \overline{2, n}, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1} \end{aligned}$$

supposing that $\left| \frac{\partial f(t, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{r-1})}{\partial u_i} \right| \leq M$, $i = \overline{0, r-1}$ on D . Obviously $E_i^j \rightarrow 0$ for $\|\Delta_n\| \rightarrow 0$.

We have to solve the following nonlinear system:

$$(8) \quad w_i^j = \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} y_1^{(k)} s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i) + \sum_{k=2}^n s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i) f(x_k, w_k^0, w_k^1, \dots, w_k^{r-1}), \quad i = \overline{2, n}, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1},$$

Denote by

$$\begin{aligned} w^0 &= (w_2^0 \ w_3^0 \ \dots \ w_n^0) \\ w^1 &= (w_2^1 \ w_3^1 \ \dots \ w_n^1) \\ &\vdots \\ w^{r-1} &= (w_2^{r-1} \ w_3^{r-1} \ \dots \ w_n^{r-1}) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
W &= (w^0 \ w^1 \ \dots \ w^{r-1}) \\
H_i^j(W) &= \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} y_1^{(k)} s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i) + \sum_{k=2}^n s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i) f(x_k, w_k^0, w_k^1, \dots, w_k^{r-1}), \\
H(W) &= (H_2^0(W) \ \dots \ H_n^0(W), H_2^1(W) \ \dots \ H_n^1(W), H_2^{r-1}(W) \ \dots \ H_n^{r-1}(W)) \\
&= (H_i^j(W))_{j=0, r-1, i=\overline{2, n}}
\end{aligned}$$

and

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial H_2^0(W)}{\partial w_2^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_2^0(W)}{\partial w_n^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_2^0(W)}{\partial w_2^{r-1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_2^0(W)}{\partial w_n^{r-1}} \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ \frac{\partial H_n^0(W)}{\partial w_2^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_n^0(W)}{\partial w_n^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_n^0(W)}{\partial w_2^{r-1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_n^0(W)}{\partial w_n^{r-1}} \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ \frac{\partial H_2^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_2^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_2^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_n^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_2^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_2^{r-1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_2^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_n^{r-1}} \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ \frac{\partial H_n^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_2^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_n^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_n^0} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_n^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_2^{r-1}} & \dots & \frac{\partial H_n^{r-1}(W)}{\partial w_n^{r-1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

We remark that $A = SF$, where

$$S = \begin{pmatrix} s_{2,r}(x_2) & \dots & s_{n,r}(x_2) & \dots & s_{2,r}(x_2) & \dots & s_{n,r}(x_2) \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ s_{2,r}(x_n) & \dots & s_{n,r}(x_n) & \dots & s_{2,r}(x_n) & \dots & s_{n,r}(x_n) \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ s_{2,r}^{(r-1)}(x_2) & \dots & s_{n,r}^{(r-1)}(x_2) & \dots & s_{2,r}^{(r-1)}(x_2) & \dots & s_{n,r}^{(r-1)}(x_2) \\ \vdots & & & & & & \\ s_{2,r}^{(r-1)}(x_n) & \dots & s_{n,r}^{(r-1)}(x_n) & \dots & s_{2,r}^{(r-1)}(x_n) & \dots & s_{n,r}^{(r-1)}(x_n) \end{pmatrix}$$

and

$$F = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial f(x_2, w_2^0, w_2^1, \dots, w_2^{r-1})}{\partial w_2^0} & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & \frac{\partial f(x_n, w_n^0, w_n^1, \dots, w_n^{r-1})}{\partial w_n^0} & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & \dots & \frac{\partial f(x_n, w_n^0, w_n^1, \dots, w_n^{r-1})}{\partial w_n^{r-1}} \end{pmatrix}$$

To obtain our results we will use the following theorem

Theorem 2 *Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ be a bounded domain and let $H : \Omega \rightarrow \Omega$ be a vector function defined by $(w_1, \dots, w_n) \rightarrow (H_1(w_1, \dots, w_n), \dots, H_n(w_1, \dots, w_n))$. Denote by $A(w)$ the following matrix*

$$A(w) = A(w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n) := \left(\frac{\partial H_i(w)}{\partial w_j} \right)_{i,j=\overline{1,n}}.$$

If the functions H and $\frac{\partial H_i}{\partial w_j}, i, j = \overline{1, n}$ are continuous in Ω , then there exist in Ω a fix-point w^ of the application H , i.e $w^* = H(w^*)$, which can be found by iteration $w^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} w^{(n)}$, $w^{(k)} := H(w^{(k-1)})$, $k = 1, 2, \dots$, $w^{(0)} \in \Omega$ (arbitrary).*

If in addition $\|A\| \leq q < 1$, for any iteration $w^{(k)}$, the following estimation holds

$$\|w^{(k)} - w^*\| \leq \frac{q^k}{1 - q} \|w^{(1)} - w^{(0)}\|.$$

Theorem 3 *Suppose that*

$$\left\| \frac{\partial f(x, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{r-1})}{\partial u_i} \right\| \leq M, \quad i = \overline{0, r-1},$$

$$|f(x, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{r-1})| \leq N \quad (\forall) (x, u_0, u_1, \dots, u_{r-1}) \in D.$$

If $M < \|S\|^{-1}$, then the system (8) has a solution which can be determined by iteration.

Proof. From (8) we can write

$$\begin{aligned} |w_i^j| &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} |y_1^{(k)}| \cdot |s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i)| + \sum_{k=2}^n |s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i)| \cdot |f(x_k, w_k^0, \dots, w_k^{r-1})| \\ &\leq \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} |y_1^{(k)}| \cdot |s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i)| + N \sum_{k=2}^n |s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i)|, \quad i = \overline{2, n}, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1}. \end{aligned}$$

Now we can apply the Theorem 2, where the domain Ω is defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \Omega = \{ &(w_2^0, \dots, w_n^0, w_2^1, \dots, w_n^1, \dots, w_2^{r-1}, \dots, w_n^{r-1}) \in \mathbb{R}^{r(n-1)} \mid \\ &|w_i^j| \leq \sum_{k=0}^{r-1} |y_1^{(k)}| \cdot |s_{1,k}^{(j)}(x_i)| + N \sum_{k=2}^n |s_{k,r}^{(j)}(x_i)|, \quad j = \overline{0, r-1}, \quad i = \overline{2, n} \}. \end{aligned}$$

It is clear that

$$\|A\| = \|SF\| \leq \|S\| \cdot \|F\| \leq \|S\| \cdot M \leq 1,$$

and therefore all the conditions of Theorem 2 are satisfied. There exist a solution w^* of (8), which can be found by iteration.

Remark 2 In the above considerations, for the matrix $A = (a_{i,j})_{i,j=\overline{1,n}}$ we can use one of the following norms

$$\|A\|_r := \max_{i=\overline{1,n}} \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n |a_{ij}| \right\}, \quad \|A\|_c := \max_{j=\overline{1,n}} \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^n |a_{ij}| \right\}.$$

The algorithm for obtaining of numerical solution of the differential equation problem (4) has the following steps:

1. The determination of fundamental spline functions $s_{1,j}, s_{i,r}, j = \overline{0, r-1}$,

$i = \overline{2, n}$ which are obtained from system (6).

2. The starting iteration point $W^{(0)}$ can be chosen using a numerical method for differential equation.

3. From Theorem 2.3 follow that the solution of differential equation (4) can be found by iteration $W^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} W^{(n)}$, where $W^{(k)} = H(W^{(k-1)})$.

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