

Picard-Kačanov-type iterations for nonlinear elliptic PDEs

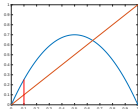
Sike András

Project Work Presentation

Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem

January 8, 2026





Reminder

Last semester, we have investigated the following problem for $u : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$:

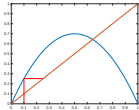
$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(A(x, u) \cdot \nabla u) + q(x, u)u = f; & \text{in } \Omega \\ u|_{\Gamma_D} = 0; \\ (A(x, u)\nabla u \cdot \nu + pu)|_{\Gamma_N} = g, \end{cases}$$

and introduced an iteration via

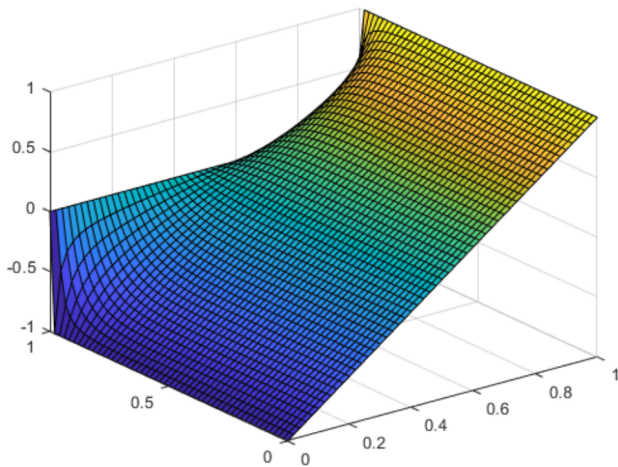
$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(A(x, u^{(n)}) \cdot \nabla u^{(n+1)}) + q(x, u^{(n)})u^{(n+1)} = f; & \text{in } \Omega \\ u^{(n+1)}|_{\Gamma_D} = 0; \\ (A(x, u^{(n)})\nabla u^{(n+1)} \cdot \nu + pu^{(n+1)})|_{\Gamma_N} = g. \end{cases}$$

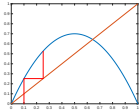
This leads to a series of linear PDEs, which can be solved numerically.



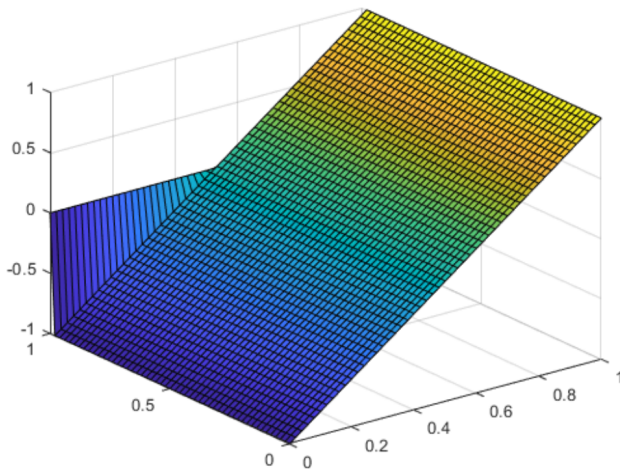


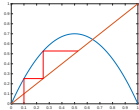
SDFEM1, $\varepsilon=1/10$



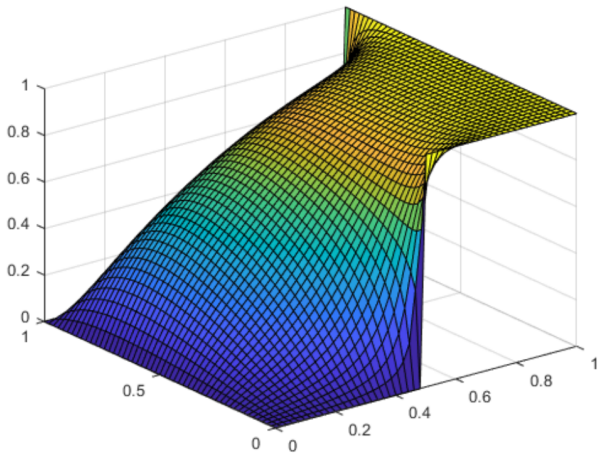


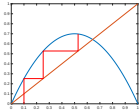
SDFEM1, $\varepsilon=1/100$



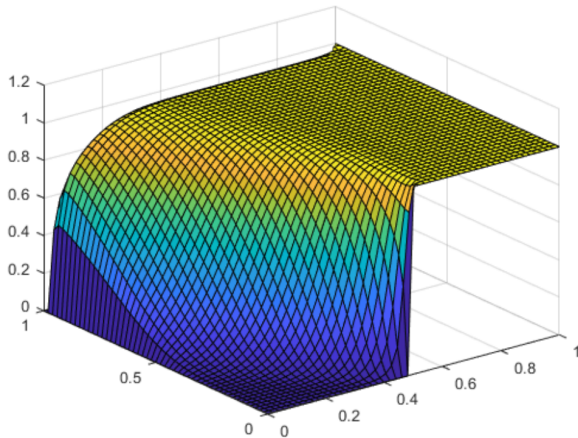


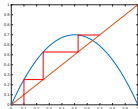
SDFEM2, $\varepsilon=1/10$





SDFEM2, $\varepsilon=1/100$





FEM for the Linearized PDE

$$\begin{cases} -\operatorname{div}(A(x, u^{(n)}) \cdot \nabla u^{(n+1)}) + q(x, u^{(n)})u^{(n+1)} = f; & \text{in } \Omega \\ u^{(n+1)}|_{\Gamma_D} = 0; \\ (A(x, u^{(n)})\nabla u^{(n+1)} \cdot \nu + pu^{(n+1)})|_{\Gamma_N} = g. \end{cases}$$

Take the weak formulation

$$\int_{\Omega} A(x, u^{(n)}) \cdot \nabla u^{(n+1)} \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\Omega} q(x, u^{(n)}) u^{(n+1)} v = \int_{\Omega} f v + \int_{\partial\Omega} p v \quad \forall v \in H_D^1(\Omega),$$

Then some subspace $V_h \subset H_D^1(\Omega)$, and define for the basis functions $\varphi_j, \varphi_i \in V_h$ the matrix

$$A_n := \int_{\Omega} A(x, u^{(n)}) \cdot \nabla \varphi_j \cdot \nabla \varphi_i + \int_{\Omega} q(x, u^{(n)}) \varphi_j \varphi_i$$

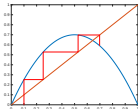
and the vector

$$b_n := \int_{\Omega} f \varphi_i + \int_{\partial\Omega} p \varphi_i.$$

Then we just have to solve the linear equation

$$A_n c = b_n.$$





Nonnegativity Principle for a Basic Domain

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \operatorname{div}(A(u)\nabla u) = f & \text{in } \Omega \\ u(x, 0) = 0 & \forall x \in \Omega, \\ u|_{\Gamma_D \times \mathbb{R}^+} = 0, \\ A(u)\partial_\nu u + \alpha(u - u_0)|_{\Gamma_N \times \mathbb{R}^+} = 0. \end{cases}$$

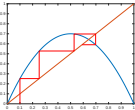
First, we describe time layers $t_j = j \cdot \tau$. We freeze the relevant coefficients, and apply a finite difference scheme for the time derivative:

$$\frac{1}{\tau}(u^{(j+1)} - u^{(j)}) - \operatorname{div}(A(u^{(j)})\nabla u^{(j+1)}) = f,$$

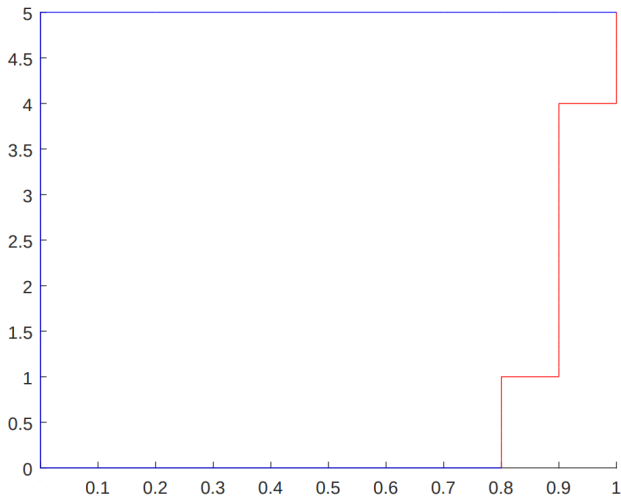
so the weak formulation is

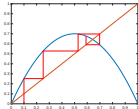
$$\int_{\Omega} A(u^{(j)}) \cdot \nabla u^{(j+1)} \cdot \nabla v + \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\tau} u^{(j+1)} v + \int_{\Gamma_N} \alpha u^{(j+1)} v = \int_{\Omega} f v + \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\tau} u^{(j)} v + \int_{\Gamma_N} u_0 v.$$



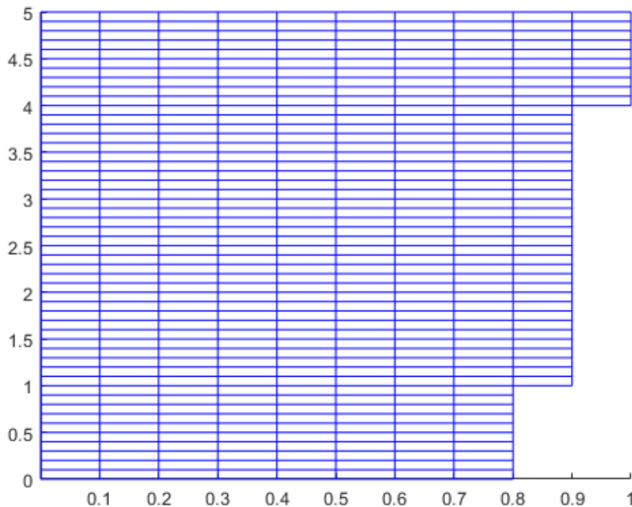


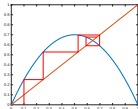
The Domain with Boundary Conditions





The Discretized Domain





Discrete Nonnegativity Principle

How can we guarantee that the nonnegativity principle holds for the numerical solution, and how practical are the conditions?

If we are given a time step τ , then we have to have a mesh with mesh size of at most

$$h_{\text{opt}} = \frac{\mu_0}{\frac{\alpha}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{\alpha}{2}\right)^2 + \frac{\mu_0}{3\tau}}},$$

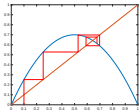
conversely, if h mesh size is given, then

$$\tau_{\text{opt}} := \frac{1}{\frac{3}{\mu_0} \left(\left(\frac{h}{\mu_0} - \frac{\alpha}{2} \right)^2 - \left(\frac{\alpha}{2} \right)^2 \right)}$$

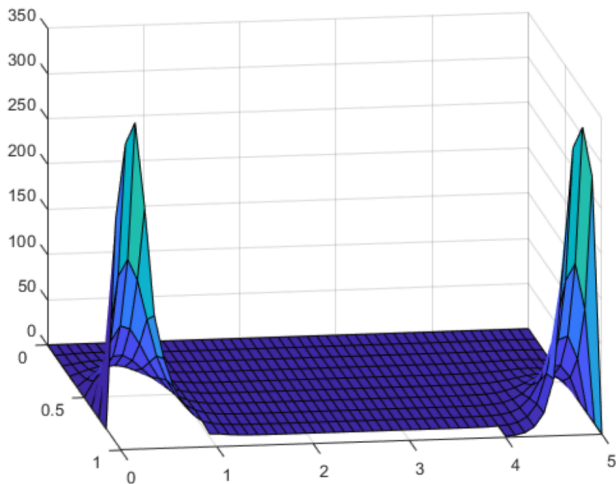
is the theoretical minimum temporal step.

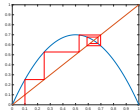
This is not a condition that is only theoretically interesting!



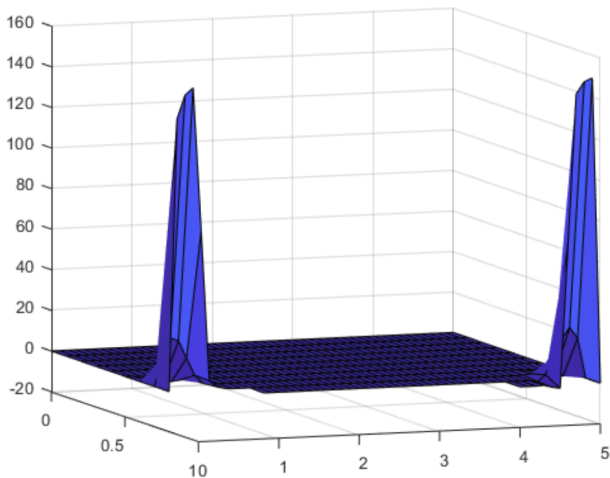


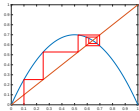
Solution, $h = 0.1$, $\tau = 0.01$



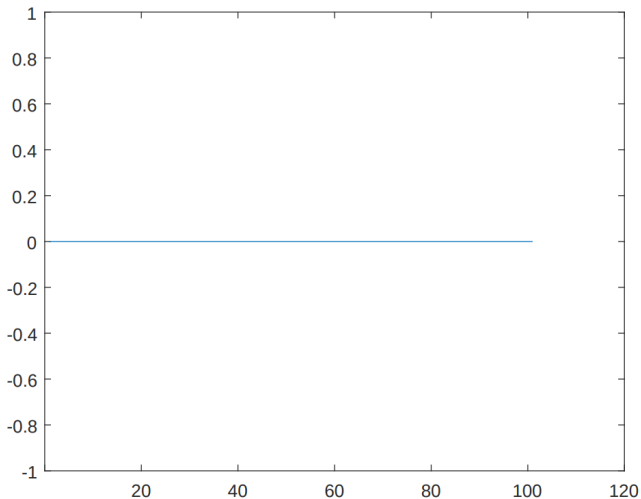


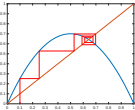
Solution, $h = 0.1$, $\tau = 0.001$



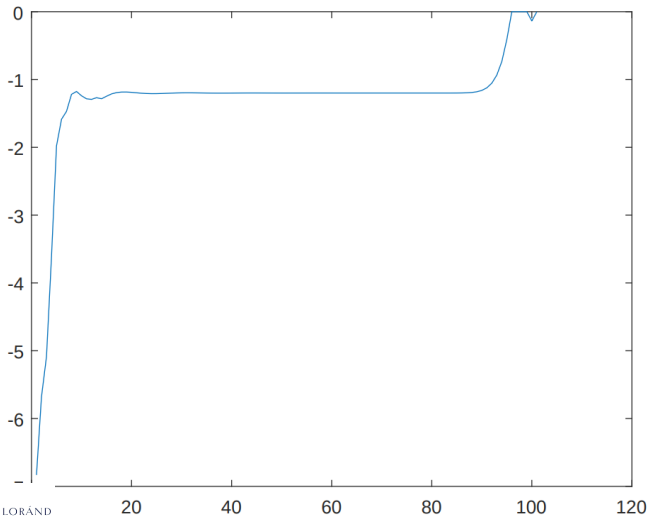


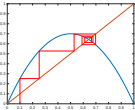
Evolution of the errors, $h = 0.1$, $\tau = 0.01$



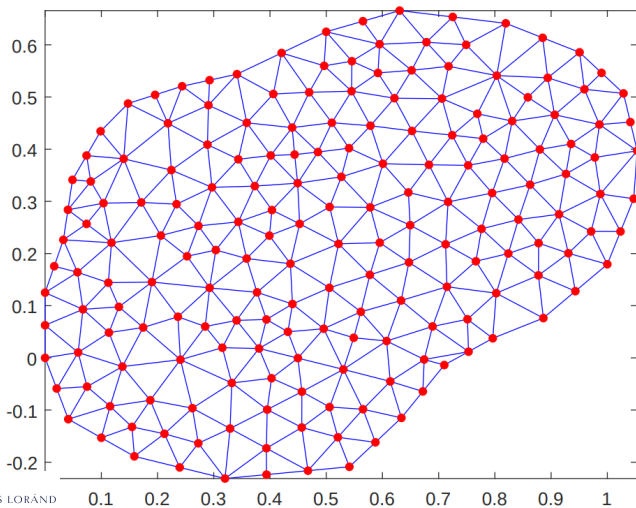


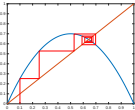
Evolution of the errors, $h = 0.1$, $\tau = 0.001$



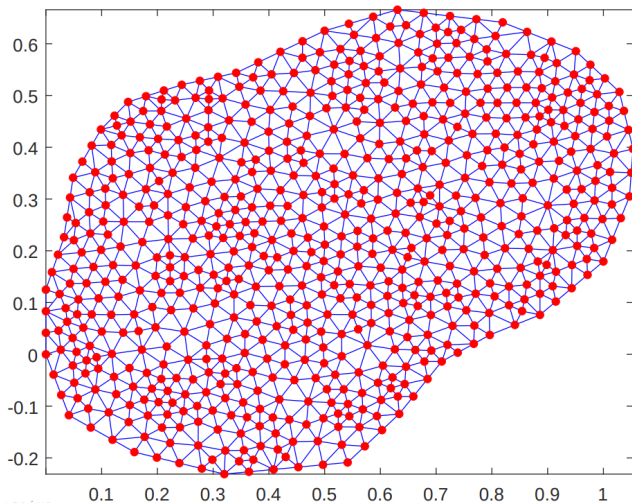


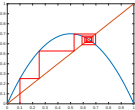
Coarse Discretization of an Arbitrary Domain



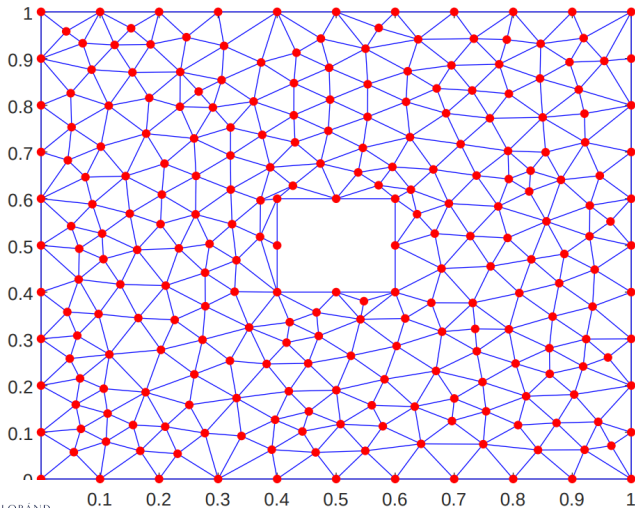


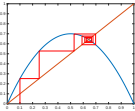
Fine Discretization of an Arbitrary Domain



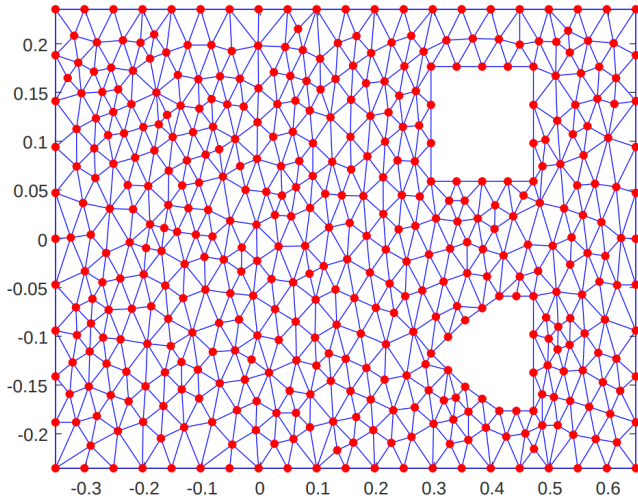


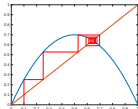
Domain with a Hole





Wind Tunnel with Objects





Michaelis-Menten Equation in a Cell

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u - \mu_0 \Delta u + \frac{u}{1 + \varepsilon u} = f & u : \Omega \times \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \\ u(x, 0) = 0 & \forall x \in \Omega, \\ u|_{\partial\Omega \times \mathbb{R}^+} = 0. \end{cases}$$

Here, we have the estimates

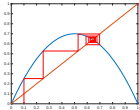
$$\tau_{\text{opt}} := \frac{1}{\frac{12 \cos(\alpha_0) \cdot \mu_0}{h_0} - 1},$$

and

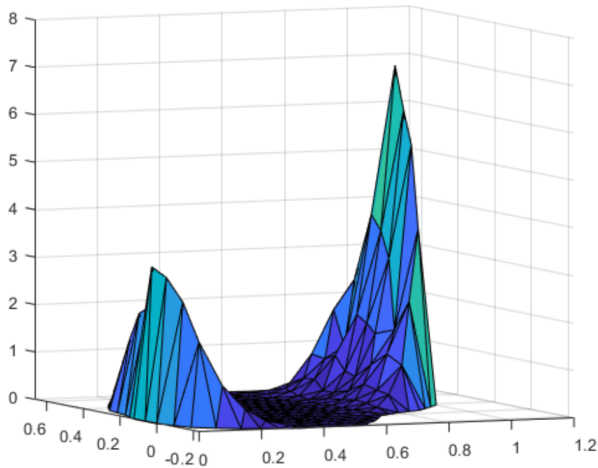
$$h_{\text{opt}} := \left(\frac{12 \cos(\alpha_0) \cdot \mu_0}{1 + \frac{1}{\tau}} \right)^{1/2},$$

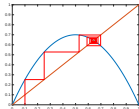
where h_0 and α_0 denote the largest side and angle in the triangulation respectively.



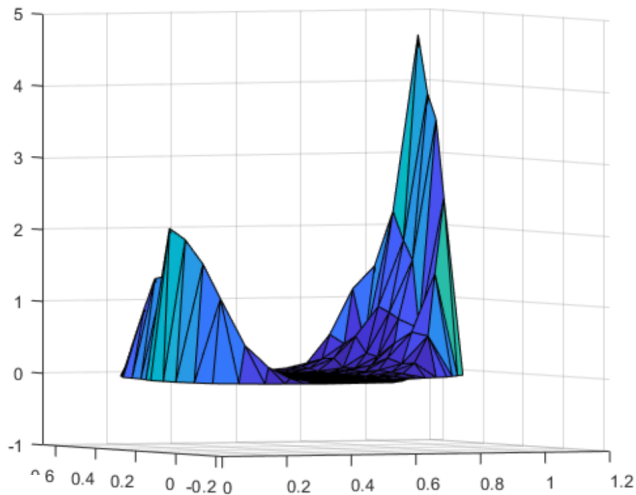


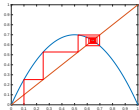
Solution with $h = 0.06$, $\tau = 0.2$



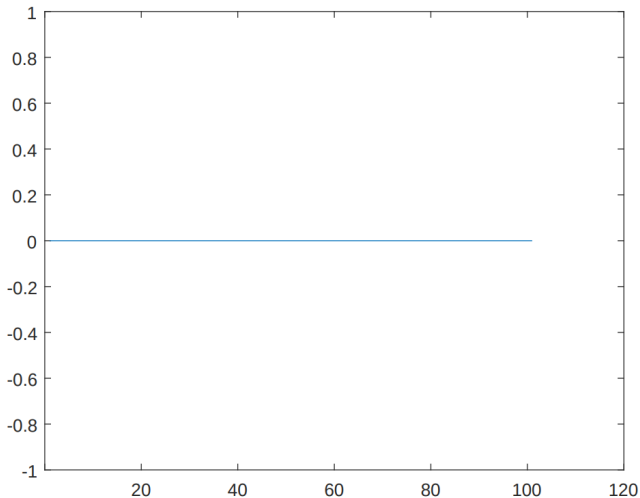


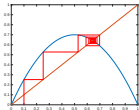
Solution with $h = 0.06$, $\tau = 0.1$



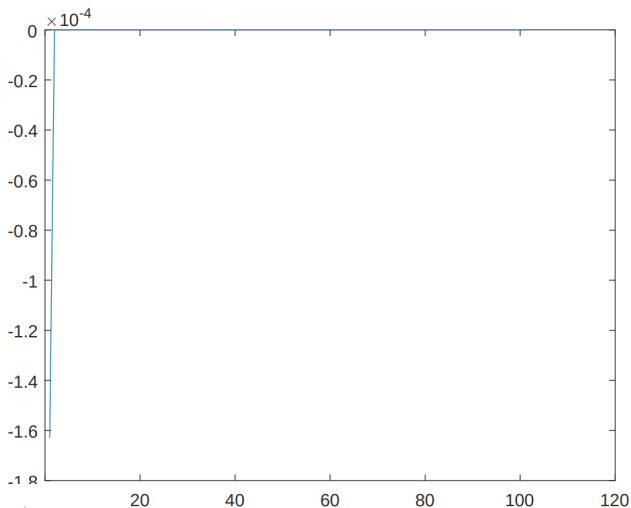


Evolution of the Errors, $h = 0.06$, $\tau = 0.2$





Evolution of the Errors, $h = 0.06$, $\tau = 0.1$

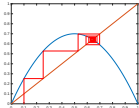


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AIML

Alulírott Sike András nyilatkozom, hogy a projektmunka elkészítése során AI/ML alapú eszközöket **nem** használtam.

