

## CONSTRUCTION OF THE TRIANGULAR GREEN'S FUNCTION

Consider the BVP  $y''(x) = -f(x,y)$  subject to  $y(0)=y(1)=0$ . Integrate both sides of the equation once to get  $y'(x) = y'(0) + \int_0^x f(t) dt$ . Integrating again and using  $y(0)=0$  yields-

$$y(x) = x y'(0) - \int_0^x dt \int_0^t f(\zeta) d\zeta$$

Now setting  $x=1$  and reducing the double integral to a single integral, we find  $y'(0) = \int_0^1 f(\zeta) (1-\zeta) d\zeta$  which allows one to write-

$$y(x) = x \int_0^1 (1-\zeta) f(\zeta) d\zeta - \int_0^x (x-\zeta) f(\zeta) d\zeta$$

Noting that the integration range  $[0..1]$  may be broken up into  $[0..x] + [x..1]$ , one obtains the desired result-

$$y(x) = \int_0^1 G(x,\zeta) f(\zeta) d\zeta$$

Here  $G(x,t)$  is the well known triangular kernel-

$$G^-(x,t) = x(1-t) \text{ for } x < t, \quad G^+(x,t) = t(1-x) \text{ for } x > t$$

This two part expression for a Green's function will generally be the case when dealing with BVPs. It will turn out that each differential operator and specified boundary conditions will have its own unique Green's function.