



ODE to Joy

Introduction to Ordinary Differential Equations

Jens Hahn

Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin
Group of Theoretical Biophysics

November 21st 2018



This lecture



- 1 Why do we need ODEs?
- 2 Theoretical background
- 3 Systems Biology
- 4 Numerical solution
- 5 Solving ODEs in Python
- 6 Assignments



Why do we need ODEs?

The pros and cons for modelling



ODEs describe the change of something (dependent variable) in dependence of something else (independent variable)

Why to use

- Many tools/methods
 - Setting up
 - Simulation
 - Analysis
 - Fitting
- Fast and cheap

Why to avoid

- Many parameters
- Non-promiscuous
- Many kinetic rates
- Nothing is deterministic and continuous



Ordinary Differential Equations

Classification



General form (explicit):

$$\vec{y}^{(n)} = \vec{f}(t, \vec{y}, \vec{y}', \dots, \vec{y}^{(n-1)})$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \vec{y}_1^{(n)} \\ \vec{y}_2^{(n)} \\ \vdots \\ \vec{y}_m^{(n)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_1(t, \vec{y}, \vec{y}', \dots, \vec{y}^{(n-1)}) \\ f_2(t, \vec{y}, \vec{y}', \dots, \vec{y}^{(n-1)}) \\ \vdots \\ f_m(t, \vec{y}, \vec{y}', \dots, \vec{y}^{(n-1)}) \end{pmatrix}$$

Every ODES can be turned into a system of 1st order equations!



Ordinary Differential Equations

Classification



linear $y^{(n)} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i(t)y^{(i)} + r(x)$

homogeneous $y^{(n)} = \sum_{i=0}^{n-1} a_i(t)y^{(i)}$

autonomous $\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt} = \vec{f}(\vec{y})$



ODEs in Systems Biology

Classification



$$\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt} = \vec{f}(\vec{y})$$

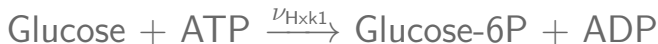
- 1st order, homogeneous, autonomous, non-linear
- Initial value problems (IVP)
- NO negative values

$$\frac{dY}{dt} = \sum \text{Rates}_{\text{Production}} - \sum \text{Rates}_{\text{Consumption}}$$



Chemical reaction

ODE description



$$\frac{d[\text{Glc}]}{dt} = -\nu_{\text{Hxk1}}([\text{Glc}], [\text{ATP}]; p)$$

$$\frac{d[\text{G6P}]}{dt} = +\nu_{\text{Hxk1}}([\text{Glc}], [\text{ATP}]; p)$$

$$\frac{d[\text{ATP}]}{dt} = -\nu_{\text{Hxk1}}([\text{Glc}], [\text{ATP}]; p)$$

$$\frac{d[\text{ADP}]}{dt} = +\nu_{\text{Hxk1}}([\text{Glc}], [\text{ATP}]; p)$$



Chemical reaction

Example





Chemical reaction

Example



$$\frac{d[\text{FBP}]}{dt} = -\nu_{\text{Fba1}}([\text{FBP}]; p)$$

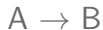
$$\frac{d[\text{DHAP}]}{dt} = +\nu_{\text{Fba1}}([\text{FBP}]; p)$$

$$\frac{d[\text{GAP}]}{dt} = +\nu_{\text{Fba1}}([\text{FBP}]; p)$$



Kinetic rate laws

Choose wisely



$$\text{Mass action: } \nu_{A \rightarrow B} = k \cdot [A]$$

$$\text{Michaelis Menten: } \nu_{A \rightarrow B} = \frac{v_{\text{Max}} \cdot [A]}{K_M + [A]}$$

$$\text{Convenience: } \nu_{A \rightarrow B} = E \cdot \frac{k_f \cdot \frac{B}{K_{M,B}} - k_r \cdot \frac{A}{K_{M,A}}}{\left(1 + \frac{B}{K_{M,B}}\right) + \left(1 + \frac{A}{K_{M,A}}\right) - 1}$$



Background

Get the algorithm



Not all ODEs can be solved analytically, but we can exploit the first order description to define algorithms!!

- 1 Read the $\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt}$ as $\frac{\Delta\vec{y}}{\Delta t} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t)$
- 2 Split it: $\Delta\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 3 Discretise it: $\vec{y}_{i+1} - \vec{y}_i = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 4 Separate: $\vec{y}_{i+1} = \vec{y}_i + \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$



Background

Get the algorithm



Not all ODEs can be solved analytically, but we can exploit the first order description to define algorithms!!

- 1 Read the $\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt}$ as $\frac{\Delta\vec{y}}{\Delta t} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t)$
- 2 Split it: $\Delta\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 3 Discretise it: $\vec{y}_{i+1} - \vec{y}_i = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 4 Separate: $\vec{y}_{i+1} = \vec{y}_i + \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$



Background

Get the algorithm



Not all ODEs can be solved analytically, but we can exploit the first order description to define algorithms!!

- 1 Read the $\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt}$ as $\frac{\Delta\vec{y}}{\Delta t} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t)$
- 2 Split it: $\Delta\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 3 Discretise it: $\vec{y}_{i+1} - \vec{y}_i = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 4 Separate: $\vec{y}_{i+1} = \vec{y}_i + \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$



Background

Get the algorithm



Not all ODEs can be solved analytically, but we can exploit the first order description to define algorithms!!

- 1 Read the $\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt}$ as $\frac{\Delta\vec{y}}{\Delta t} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t)$
- 2 Split it: $\Delta\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 3 Discretise it: $\vec{y}_{i+1} - \vec{y}_i = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 4 Separate: $\vec{y}_{i+1} = \vec{y}_i + \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$



Background

Get the algorithm



Not all ODEs can be solved analytically, but we can exploit the first order description to define algorithms!!

- 1 Read the $\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt}$ as $\frac{\Delta\vec{y}}{\Delta t} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t)$
- 2 Split it: $\Delta\vec{y} = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 3 Discretise it: $\vec{y}_{i+1} - \vec{y}_i = \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$
- 4 Separate: $\vec{y}_{i+1} = \vec{y}_i + \vec{f}(\vec{y}, t) \cdot \Delta t$

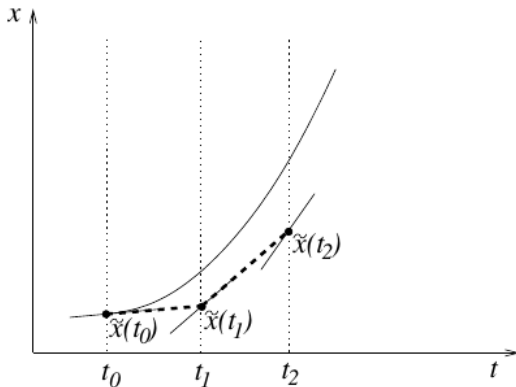


Explicit Euler Method

The simplest way



$$\tilde{x}(t_{n+1}) = \tilde{x}(t_n) + h \cdot f(\tilde{x}(t_n), t_n)$$



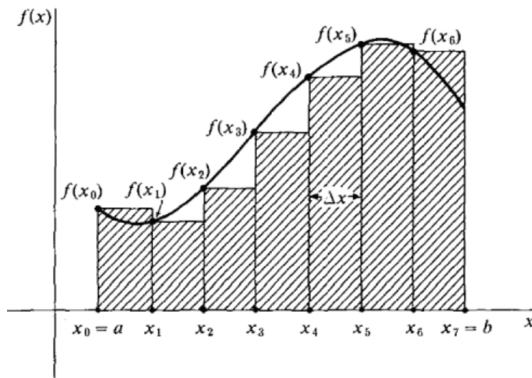


Explicit Euler Method

The simplest way



$$\tilde{x}(t_{n+1}) = \tilde{x}(t_n) + h \cdot f(\tilde{x}(t_n), t_n)$$





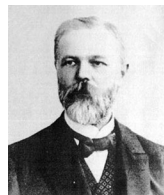
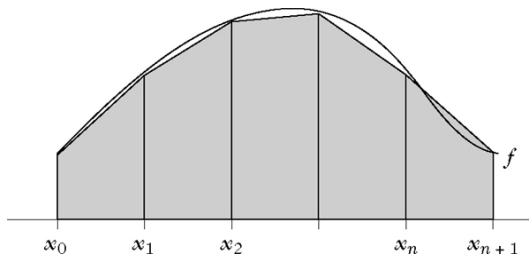
Heun's Method

The trapezoidal rule



Use trapezoidal rule to approximate the integral:

$$\tilde{x}(t_{n+1}) = \tilde{x}(t_n) + \frac{h}{2} \left(f(t_n, \tilde{x}(t_n)) + \underbrace{f(t_n + h, \tilde{x}(t_n) + h \cdot f(t_n, \tilde{x}(t_n)))}_{\text{Euler's method}} \right)$$





Adaptive Step Size

Step Size Control



Save time and computational cost

- The error decreases with the step size
- The computational cost increases with the step size
- Adapt the step size automatically

Stiff ODE Systems

- Some ODE systems contain very fast AND very slow components
- This can disturb the step size control
- Use implicit methods!



State of the Art

Overview



Single-step methods

- Euler's method (implicit and explicit)
- Heun's method
- Dormand-Price (DOPRI) (explicit)
- Runge-Kutta method (implicit and explicit)

Multi-step methods

- Adams-Bashforth method (explicit)
- Adams-Moulton (implicit)
- Backward Differentiation Formula (BDF) (implicit)



What do we need?

Numerical implementation of IVP



- 1 Initial values & parameters
- 2 Timegrid : time of simulation (start & end)
- 3 Function to calculate the derivatives (Equations)



Load the solver from the scipy package:

```
from scipy.integrate import odeint
```

odeint

- Uses packages lsoda written in FORTRAN
- Automated stiff system detection (Multi-step methods)
- Standard ODE solver in Python



Implement solver

Load parameters



```
from scipy.integrate import odeint
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

# load parameters
S0 = 100 # mM
P0 = 0 # mM
k = 1 # 1/min
# simulation time
start = 0 # min
end = 100 # min
plotpoints = 1000
timegrid = np.linspace(start, end, plotpoints)
```



Implement solver

Write derivative function



```
# function for derivatives
def f(y, t):
    S = y[0]
    P = y[1]
    dS = 0.5 - k * S
    dP = k * S
    return [dS, dP]
```




Implement solver

Start simulation



```
y0 = [S0,P0] # get initial vector
result = odeint(f, y0, timegrid)

# plot results
S_data = result[:, 0] # plot points substrate
P_data = result[:, 1] # plot points product
plt.plot(timegrid, S_data, label='substrate')
plt.plot(timegrid, P_data, label='product')
```



Assignments

Lotka-Volterra model



$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \alpha x - \beta xy$$

$$\alpha = 1.5$$

$$\beta = 1$$

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = \delta xy - \gamma y$$

$$\delta = 3.$$

$$\gamma = 1$$



Assignments

Biochemical reaction model

