

Computational Physics : PH-452: Week 6 (Differential equations -1)

Solve the differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = (y^2 + 1)$ from the interval 0 to 1.56 using Euler method, Modified and Improved Euler methods with $dx = 0.001$. Carry out the same calculation using RK4 method with $dx = 0.01$. At $x=0$, $y = 0$ (the initial condition). Save the data in 4 different files.

The solution to the differential is $y = \tan(x)$. The actual value of y ($x=1.56$) = $y_A = 92.620$. The solutions obtained using Euler, Modified Euler, Improved Euler and RK4 methods will be referred to as y_E , y_{ME} , y_{IE} and y_{RK4} respectively. Now answer the following questions.

Q0. Plot the solutions solved by the 4 methods. Zoom in to point out the differences in solution.

Q1. The value of the difference $y_A - y_E$ at $x=1.56$ is: (Marks 1)

- (a) 22.248 (b) 3.248 (c) 35.248 (d) 25.811

Q2. The value of the difference $y_A - y_{ME}$ at $x=1.56$ is: (Marks 1)

- (a) 0.538 (b) 1.077 (c) 0.877 (d) 0.13

Q3. The value of the difference $y_A - y_{IE}$ at $x=1.56$ is : (Marks 1)

- (a) 0.177 (b) 0.367 (c) 0.73 (d) 0.402

Q4. The value of the difference $y_A - y_{RK4}$ at $x=1.56$ is : (Marks 1)

- (a) 0.517 (b) 0.129 (c) 0.0015 (d) 0.63

Q5. If you use $dx=0.001$ for Euler, Modified Euler, and Improved Euler cases, but continue to use $dx=0.01$ for RK4; then replot the solutions and also provide zoomed-in plot to show differences between the 4 cases for relevant values of x , as you deem appropriate.

Q6. Solve the differential equation $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\sin(x)$ with initial values $x_0 = 0.1$ and $v_0 = 2.1$ at time $t=0$ with RK4. The integration interval $dt = 0.01$. Run the calculation for 5000 iterations, i.e. for elapsed time = 50. The value of x at the end of 5000 iterations is : (Marks: 2)

- (a) 2.403 (b) 63.913 (c) 41.235 (d) -81.235

Q7. For the previous problem if the initial conditions were changed to $x_0 = 0.1$ and $v_0 = 1.0$, then the value of x at the end of 5000 iterations is :

- (a) -8.333 (b) 5.333 (c) 0.493 (d) 1.333

Q8. Compare the solution(s) of $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\sin(x)$ with the solution(s) of $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -x$. Initial condition: $x_0 = 0$ at $t=0$, but choose different values of $v_0 = 0.03, -0.1, 0.3$ and show differences appearing as you increase the value of v_0 .

If you choose $x_0 = 0$ at $t=0$ for solving $\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\sin(x)$, but keep increasing V_0 , why does the nature of solution change ?