
Numerical Solution Of Ordinary Differential Equations

Computer Oriented Numerical and Statistical Methods

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Outline

- Introduction
- Euler method
- Runge – Kutta (RK) method

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Introduction

- The subject of ordinary differential equations is not only a fascinating part of mathematics but also an essential tool for modeling many physical processes.
 - Most scientific laws are expressed in terms of differential equations.
 - Thermodynamics $dT/dt = -0.27(u-60)^{5/4}$
 - Probability $dPr/dt = (r+1)(n-r)P_{r+1} - r(n-r+1)Pr$
 - Mechanics $mdv/dt = mf - kv^2$
 - Economics $dx/dt = Sf(x) - g(x)$.
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Solving A Differential Equations

- Formulation of differential equation is simple but difficult to solve it.
 - Use numerical solution i.e. instead of finding an algebraic (analytical) solution we compute (approximately) the numerical values taken by solution.
 - Therefore, as a solution of differential equations, instead of finishing up with an expression.
 - This is known as the numerical solution of a differential equations.
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Basic Terminology Of Differential Equations

- **Differential Equation** : A differential equation is an equation containing an unknown function and its derivatives.

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + ay = 0$$

y is dependent variable and x is independent variable, and this is an ordinary differential equations [i.e. involves only one independent]

- **Ordinary Derivative** : If y is a function of x i.e. $y = f(x)$, then dy/dx is called the ordinary derivative. Physically it means the rate of change of the dependent variable with respect to the independent variable.
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Basic Terminology Of Differential Equations

- **Partial Derivative** : If u is a function of x and y i.e. $u = f(x,y)$ then $\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right|_y$ is called the partial derivative with

respect to x keeping y constant, and $\left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right|_x$ is called

the partial derivative with respect to y keeping x constant. Physically it means the rates of change of dependent variable with respect to one of the independent variable keeping others fixed.

Basic Terminology Of Differential Equations

- **Ordinary Differential Equations** : An ordinary differential equation is an equation involving only ordinary derivative of one or more function with respect to a single independent variables.

Examples:.

1. $\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x + 3$
2. $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + ay = 0$
3. $\frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^4 + 6y = 3$

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Basic Terminology Of Differential Equations

- **Partial Differential Equations** : A partial differential equation is an equation involving a single independent variables .
- **Examples:**

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} = 0 \qquad \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} + \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial t^4} = 0 \qquad \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$$

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Order of Differential Equation

The order of the differential equation is order of the highest derivative in the differential equation.

Differential Equation	ORDER
$\frac{dy}{dx} = 2x + 3$	1
$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = 0$	2
$\frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^4 + 6y = 3$	3

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Degree of Differential Equation

The **degree** of a differential equation is power of the highest order derivative term in the differential equation.

Differential Equation	Degree
$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 3\frac{dy}{dx} + ay = 0$	1
$\frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^4 + 6y = 3$	1
$\left(\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2}\right)^3 + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^5 + 3 = 0$	3

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Basic Terminology Of Differential Equations

- **Solution of A Differential Equations** : Consider the first order ordinary differential equation of type $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$

which can also be written as $y' = f(x, y)$ where the function $f(x, y)$ may be a general non-linear function of x and y or in the form of a table of values.

- The solution of such an ordinary differential equation is a 2-D curve of (x, y) in the xy plane whose slope at every point (x, y) is the specified region is given by the equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$
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Basic Terminology Of Differential Equations

- **Initial value problem** : if the parameters of ordinary differential equation is determined based on some given initial values, i.e. initial condition then this system is known as an initial value problem.

Linear Differential Equation

A differential equation is **linear**, if

1. dependent variable and its derivatives are of degree one,
2. coefficients of a term does not depend upon dependent variable.

Example: 1. $\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + 3 \frac{dy}{dx} + 9y = 0.$
is linear.

Example: 2. $\frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} + \left(\frac{dy}{dx}\right)^4 + 6y = 3$
is non - linear because in **2nd term** is not of degree one.

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Linear Differential Equation

Example: 3. $x^2 \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + y \frac{dy}{dx} = x^3$
is non - linear because in **2nd term** coefficient depends on y.

Example: 4. $\frac{dy}{dx} = \sin y$
is non - linear because $\sin y = y - \frac{y^3}{3!} + \dots$ is non - linear

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Numerical Solution Of Differential Equations

- To describe various numerical methods for the solution of ordinary differential equation we consider the general first order differential equations $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ with the initial condition $y(x_0) = y_0$
 - Numerical solution of differential are classified into two types.
 - A series of y in terms of power of x, from which the value of y can be obtained by direct substitution. These methods are : Taylor series, Picard's Method.
 - A set of tabulated values of x and y. the method are : Euler's method, Runge – Kutta method, Adam- Bashforth method.
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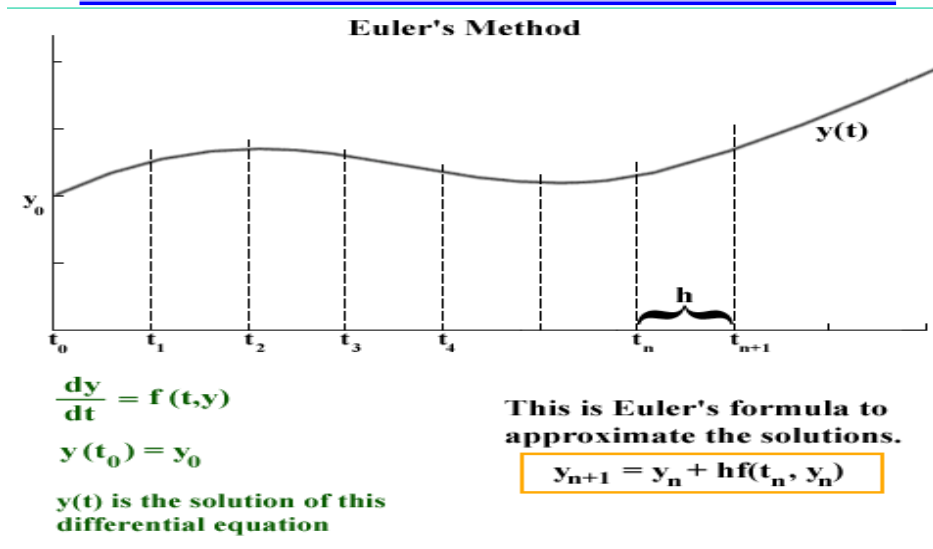
Euler's Method

- The Euler's method is one of the oldest and the simplest method.
 - It can be described as a techniques of developing a piecewise linear approximation to the solution
 - In the initial value problem, the starting point of the solution curve and the slope of the curve at the starting point are given.
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Euler's Method



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Euler's Method

- Consider again the following first order ordinary differential equation $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ with initial conditions $y = y_0$ for $x = x_0$ and h is a positive increment of x . $x_1 = x_0 + h$
- Divide $I - x_0$ into n equal parts. Length of each part is equal to h . So $x_1 = x_0 + h$, $x_2 = x_1 + h$,
- The mean value theorem

$$y'(c) = \frac{y(x_1) - y(x_0)}{x_1 - x_0}$$
- If we substitute $c = x_0$ and $h = x_1 - x_0$ in the above equation can be written as

$$y(x_1) - y(x_0) = hy'(x_0)$$

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Euler's Method

- Now $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$
 - $\therefore y'(x_0) = f(x_0, y_0)$
 $y(x_1) - y(x_0) = h f(x_0, y_0)$
 $y(x_1) = y(x_0) + h f(x_0, y_0)$
 $y_1 = y_0 + h f(x_0, y_0)$ [because $y(x_0) = y_0$]
 - Using this equation, we can find the second point on the solution curve as (x_1, y_1)
 - Similarly, taking (x_1, y_1) as the starting point, we get
 $y_2 = y_1 + h f(x_1, y_1)$
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Euler's Method

- In general, the $(i+1)^{\text{th}}$ point of the solution curve is obtained from the i^{th} point using the following formula.
 $y_{i+1} = y_i + h f(x_i, y_i)$ which is Euler's method
 - *[The process to find the solution using this method is too slow, and to obtain the reasonable accuracy we must take a very small value of the h .]*
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Runge - Kutta (RK) Method

- The basic objectives of R-K methods are as follows:
 1. The method propagate a solution over an interval by combining the information from several Euler-style steps. Here each step is evaluating the function f with different parameters.
 2. Using this information obtained to match a Taylor series expansion up to some higher orders.
 - Euler's method is less efficient in practical problems since it requires h to be small for obtaining reasonably accuracy.
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Runge - Kutta (RK) Method

- The R-K methods are designed to give greater accuracy and they possess the advantage of requiring only the function values at some selected points on the subintervals.
 - There are different Runge – Kutta formulae of various orders and methods:
 - R- K second order method
 - R-K fourth order method
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Runge – Kutta Second Method (R-K 2nd order method)

- The R-K second order methods are actually a family of methods, each of that matches the Taylor series method up to the second terms in h , where h is the step size.
- In these methods the interval $[x_1, x_i]$ is divided into subintervals and a weighted average of derivatives (slopes) at these intervals is used to determine the value of the dependent variable.
- One advantage of these methods is that they, like to evaluate y_{i+1} we need information only at the preceding point (x_i, y_i)

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Runge – Kutta Second Method (R-K 2nd order method)

- The second order method can be expressed as follows
- $y_1 = y_0 + h/2(f(x_0, y_0) + f(x_1, y_1))$
- Substitute $y_1 = y_0 + hf(x_0, y_0)$ in the above equation
- $y_1 = y_0 + h/2[f(x_0, y_0) + f(x_1, y_0 + hf(x_0, y_0))]$
- $y_1 = y_0 + h/2[f_0 + f(x_0 + h, y_0 + hf_0)]$ where $f_0 = f(x_0, y_0)$
- We can write $k_1 = hf_0$ and
$$k_2 = hf(x_0 + h, y_0 + k_1)$$
$$y_1 = y_0 + \frac{1}{2}(k_1 + k_2)$$

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Runge – Kutta Second Method (R-K 2nd order method)

- In similar we can find $y_2, y_3, \dots y_{n+1}$
- $y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{2}(k_1 + k_2)$
where $k_1 = hf(x_n, y_n)$ and
 $k_2 = hf(x_n + h, y_n + k_1)$
- Which is R-K 2nd order formula

Runge – Kutta Fourth Method (R-K 4th Order Method)

- The fourth order method can be expressed as follows
- $y_1 = y_0 + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$
- Where $k_1 = hf(x_0, y_0)$
 $k_2 = hf(x_0 + h/2, y_0 + k_1/2)$
 $k_3 = hf(x_0 + h/2, y_0 + k_2/2)$
 $k_4 = hf(x_0 + h, y_0 + k_3)$
- In similar we can find $y_2, y_3, \dots y_{n+1}$

Runge – Kutta Fourth Method (R-K 4th Order Method)

- $y_{n+1} = y_n + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$
- Where $k_1 = hf(x_n, y_n)$
 $k_2 = hf(x_n + h/2, y_n + k_1/2)$
 $k_3 = hf(x_n + h/2, y_n + k_2/2)$
 $k_4 = hf(x_n + h, y_n + k_3)$
- Which is R-K 4th order formula

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