



Numerical Solution of Double Pendulum

ENCS 6021 – Engineering Analysis

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Runge-Kutta Method

The RK4 method is a popular method for numerically solving differential equations due to its balance of computational cost and accuracy. It approximates the solution over each step size h by computing a weighted average of four intermediate estimates (K_1, K_2, K_3, K_4) of the slope of the function:

$$k_1 = h \cdot f(t_i, y_i),$$

$$k_2 = h \cdot f\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, y_i + \frac{k_1}{2}\right),$$

$$k_3 = h \cdot f\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, y_i + \frac{k_2}{2}\right),$$

$$k_4 = h \cdot f(t_i + h, y_i + k_3).$$

The next value of y is computed as:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4}{6}$$

Error Analysis and Error Estimation

- The Error Analysis and Estimation section aims to assess the accuracy of the RK4 solution across different step sizes. The process is as follows:
A "true" solution is obtained using a very fine step size $h_{\text{true}}=0.0001$
- For each tested step size h , the RK4 method is applied, and the approximate values of y are compared to the values from the "true" solution.
- The absolute error for each variable is calculated as:
Error = $|y(\text{tf}) - y_{\text{true}}(\text{tf})|$
- Errors are plotted on a log-log scale to examine how they decrease with smaller step sizes.

The equations of motions derived earlier when simplified looks as follows:

$$\theta_1'' = \frac{-g(2m_1 + m_2)\sin\theta_1 - m_2 g \sin(\theta_1 - 2\theta_2) - 2\sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2)m_2(\theta_2'^2 L_2 + \theta_1'^2 L_1 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2))}{L_1(2m_1 + m_2 - m_2 \cos(2\theta_1 - 2\theta_2))}$$

$$\theta_2'' = \frac{2\sin(\theta_1 - \theta_2)(\theta_1'^2 L_1(m_1 + m_2) + g(m_1 + m_2)\cos\theta_1 + \theta_2'^2 L_2 m_2 \cos(\theta_1 - \theta_2))}{L_2(2m_1 + m_2 - m_2 \cos(2\theta_1 - 2\theta_2))}$$

Numerical solution

We try to make the equations in such a way that it can be solved using the Runge-Kutta method. For that we can modify the equation by introducing the following variables.

Y1= θ1	Y2= θ1′	Y3= θ2	Y4= θ2′
Y1′=Y2		Y3′=Y4	
$Y2′ = \frac{-g(2m_1 + m_2)\sin Y1 - m_2 g \sin(Y1 - 2Y3) - 2\sin(Y1 - Y3)m_2(Y4^2 L_2 + Y2^2 L_1 \cos(Y1 - Y3))}{L_1(2m_1 + m_2 - m_2 \cos(2Y1 - 2Y3))}$			
$Y4′ = \frac{2\sin(Y1 - Y3)(Y2^2 L_1(m_1 + m_2) + g(m_1 + m_2)\cos Y1 + Y4^2 L_2 m_2 \cos(Y1 - Y3))}{L_2(2m_1 + m_2 - m_2 \cos(2Y1 - 2Y3))}$			

Initial conditions

$\theta_1 = 0.5, 0.05$; $\theta_2 = 0.5, 0.05$; $\theta_1' = 0$; $\theta_2' = 0$; And varying l_2 from 0.1 to 0.7 and comparing the motion. $m_1 = 0.1$; $m_2 = 0.1$; $L_1 = 0.1$; $L_2 = 0.1$; $g = 9.81$

Explanation of the Code and Figures

- Define the ODEs:** The function `myderiv(t, y, l2)` defines the system's equations of motion based on the provided expressions.
- RK4 Step and Solution:** `rk4_step` computes one RK4 step by calculating intermediate slopes K_1, K_2, K_3, K_4 combining them to estimate the next state. `rk4_solution` applies `rk4_step` iteratively over the interval to compute a full solution from t_0 to t_f .
- Error Analysis:** The code calculates solutions for progressively smaller step sizes, comparing each to a high-accuracy solution at $h_{\text{true}}=0.0001$. Absolute errors are computed for each component and plotted on a log-log scale to confirm fourth-order accuracy, with errors decreasing proportionally to h^4 .
- Parameter Sensitivity:** Solutions for different values of l_2 (0.1, 0.3, 0.5, 0.7) are calculated to observe how this parameter affects system dynamics. Separate plots show the time evolution of each component for various l_2 values, illustrating changes in oscillation behaviors.
- Generate Plots:**

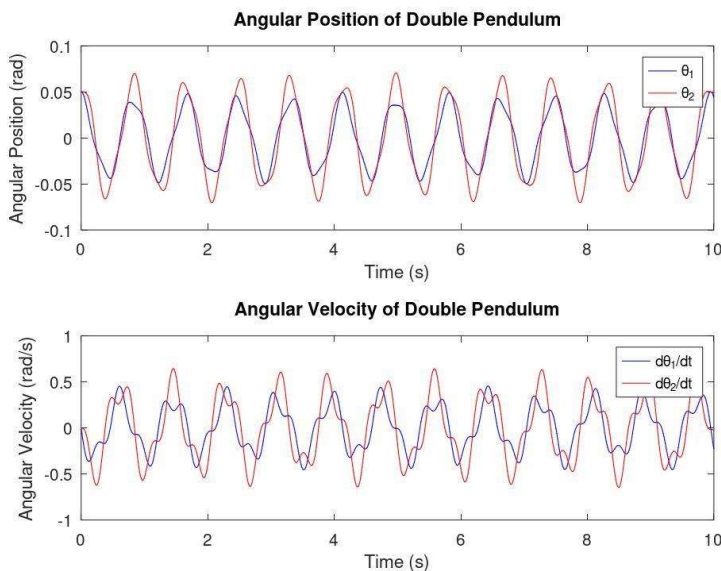


Figure 1 Angular position and angular velocity

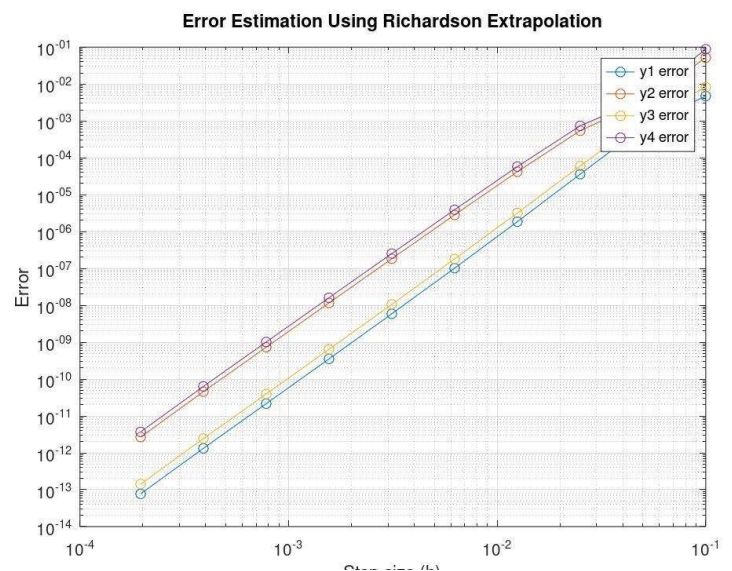


Figure 2 Error Estimates

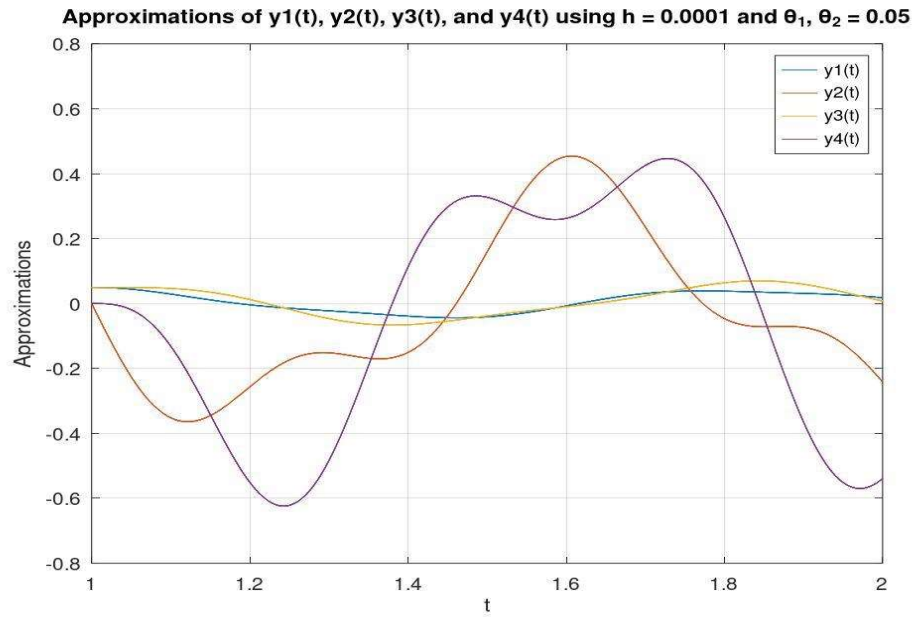


Figure 3 Approximations graph for y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4 for step size 0.0001

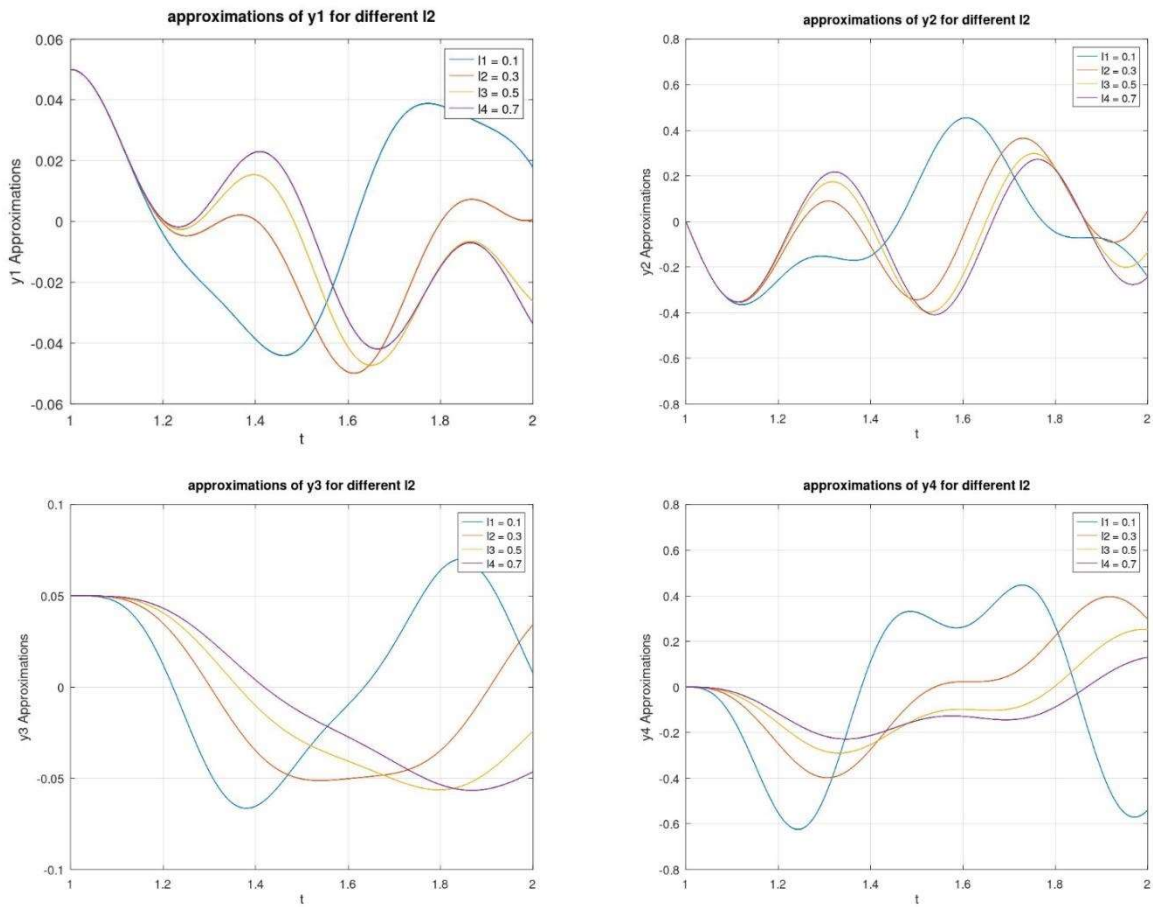


Figure 4 variation in y_1, y_2, y_3, y_4 for changing l_2

```

1  %initial conditions setup
2  t0 = 1;
3  tf = 2;
4  y0 = [0.05; 0; 0.05; 0];
5  l2 = 0.1
6
7  %single step size solution
8  h = 0.1;
9  [t, y] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2);
10 fprintf('Approximation at h=0.1 and t=2: y1(2) = %.6f, y2(2) = %.6f\n, y3(2) = %.6f,
    y4(2) = %.6f\n', y(1, end), y(2, end), y(3, end), y(4, end));
11
12 %error analysis
13 steps = [0.1, 0.05, 0.025, 0.0125, 0.00625, 0.003125, 0.0015625, 0.00078125, 0.000390625,
    0.0001953125];
14 errors_y1 = zeros(1, length(steps));
15 errors_y2 = zeros(1, length(steps));
16 errors_y3 = zeros(1, length(steps));
17 errors_y4 = zeros(1, length(steps));
18
19 %Approximate true solution(h = 0.0001)
20 h_true = 0.0001;
21 [t_true, y_true] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h_true, l2);
22 y1_true = y_true(1, end);
23 y2_true = y_true(2, end);
24 y3_true = y_true(3, end);
25 y4_true = y_true(4, end);
26
27 for j = 1:length(steps)
28     h = steps(j);
29     [~, y] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2);
30     errors_y1(j) = abs(y(1, end) - y1_true);
31     errors_y2(j) = abs(y(2, end) - y2_true);
32     errors_y3(j) = abs(y(3, end) - y3_true);
33     errors_y4(j) = abs(y(4, end) - y4_true);
34 end
35
36 % Plot errors on a log-log scale
37 figure;
38 loglog(steps, errors_y1, '-o', 'DisplayName', 'y1 error');
39 hold on;
40 loglog(steps, errors_y2, '-o', 'DisplayName', 'y2 error');
41 loglog(steps, errors_y3, '-o', 'DisplayName', 'y3 error');
42 loglog(steps, errors_y4, '-o', 'DisplayName', 'y4 error');
43 xlabel('Step size (h)');
44 ylabel('Error');
45 title('Error Estimation');
46 legend;
47 grid on;
48
49 %Solution for h = 0.0001
50 h = 0.0001;
51 [t, y] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2);
52 fprintf('True solution at h = 0.0001 and t=2: y1(2) = %.6f, y2(2) = %.6f\n, y3(2) =
    %.6f, y4(2) = %.6f\n', y(1, end), y(2, end), y(3, end), y(4, end));
53
54
55 % Plot y1(t) and y2(t)
56 figure;
57 plot(t, y(1, :), 'DisplayName', 'y1(t)');
58 hold on;
59 plot(t, y(2, :), 'DisplayName', 'y2(t)');
60 plot(t, y(3, :), 'DisplayName', 'y3(t)');
61 plot(t, y(4, :), 'DisplayName', 'y4(t)');
62 xlabel('t');
63 ylabel('Approximations');
64 title('Approximations of y1(t), y2(t), y3(t), and y4(t) using h = 0.0001 and \theta_1,
    \theta_2 = 0.05');
65 legend;

```

```
66  grid on;  
67
```

Appendix

```

1  %initial conditions setup
2  t0 = 1;
3  tf = 2;
4  y0 = [0.05; 0; 0.05; 0];
5
6  % Single step size for solution
7  h = 0.0001;
8  n = ceil((tf - t0) / h);
9  l2_values = [0.1; 0.3; 0.5; 0.7];
10
11 % Initialize arrays to store final values of y1, y2, y3, and y4 at t = 2 for each l2
12 y1_final = zeros(length(l2_values), n + 1);
13 y2_final = zeros(length(l2_values), n + 1);
14 y3_final = zeros(length(l2_values), n + 1);
15 y4_final = zeros(length(l2_values), n + 1);
16
17 % Loop over each l2 value
18
19 [t, y_l1] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2_values(1)); % Solve the system for this l2
20 [t, y_l2] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2_values(2));
21 [t, y_l3] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2_values(3));
22 [t, y_l4] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2_values(4));
23
24 %plot y1(t) for different l2
25 figure;
26 plot(t, y_l1(1,:), 'DisplayName', 'l1 = 0.1');
27 hold on;
28 plot(t, y_l2(1,:), 'DisplayName', 'l2 = 0.3');
29 plot(t, y_l3(1,:), 'DisplayName', 'l3 = 0.5');
30 plot(t, y_l4(1,:), 'DisplayName', 'l4 = 0.7');
31 xlabel('t');
32 ylabel('y1 Approximations');
33 title('approximations of y1 for different l2');
34 legend;
35 grid on;
36
37 %plot y2(t) for different l2
38 figure;
39 plot(t, y_l1(2,:), 'DisplayName', 'l1 = 0.1');
40 hold on;
41 plot(t, y_l2(2,:), 'DisplayName', 'l2 = 0.3');
42 plot(t, y_l3(2,:), 'DisplayName', 'l3 = 0.5');
43 plot(t, y_l4(2,:), 'DisplayName', 'l4 = 0.7');
44 xlabel('t');
45 ylabel('y2 Approximations');
46 title('approximations of y2 for different l2');
47 legend;
48 grid on;
49
50 %plot y3(t) for different l2
51 figure;
52 plot(t, y_l1(3,:), 'DisplayName', 'l1 = 0.1');
53 hold on;
54 plot(t, y_l2(3,:), 'DisplayName', 'l2 = 0.3');
55 plot(t, y_l3(3,:), 'DisplayName', 'l3 = 0.5');
56 plot(t, y_l4(3,:), 'DisplayName', 'l4 = 0.7');
57 xlabel('t');
58 ylabel('y3 Approximations');
59 title('approximations of y3 for different l2');
60 legend;
61 grid on;
62
63 %plot y4(t) for different l2
64 figure;
65 plot(t, y_l1(4,:), 'DisplayName', 'l1 = 0.1');
66 hold on;
67 plot(t, y_l2(4,:), 'DisplayName', 'l2 = 0.3');
68 plot(t, y_l3(4,:), 'DisplayName', 'l3 = 0.5');
69 plot(t, y_l4(4,:), 'DisplayName', 'l4 = 0.7');

```

```
70 xlabel('t');
71 ylabel('y4 Approximations');
72 title('approximations of y4 for different l2');
73 legend;
74 grid on;
75
```



```
1 % Function to compute RK4 solution for a given step size
2 function [t, y] = rk4_solution(t0, tf, y0, h, l2)
3     n = ceil((tf - t0) / h);
4     t = linspace(t0, tf, n + 1);
5     y = zeros(4, n + 1);
6     y(:, 1) = y0;
7     for i = 1:n
8         y(:, i + 1) = rk4_step(t(i), y(:, i), h, l2);
9     end
10 end
11
12
13
```

```
1 % Function to compute RK4 step
2 function y_next = rk4_step(t_i, y_i, h, l2)
3     f = @(t,x) myderiv(t,x,l2);
4     k1 = h * f(t_i, y_i);
5     k2 = h * f(t_i + h/2, y_i + k1/2);
6     k3 = h * f(t_i + h/2, y_i + k2/2);
7     k4 = h * f(t_i + h, y_i + k3);
8     y_next = y_i + (k1 + 2*k2 + 2*k3 + k4) / 6;
9 end
10
```

```

1  function z = myderiv(t,y,l2)
2      %constants
3      m1 = 0.1;
4      m2 = 0.1;
5      L1 = 0.1;
6      g = 9.81;
7
8      L2 = l2;
9      z(1) = y(2);
10     z(2) = (-g * (2 * m1 + m2) * sin(y(1)) - m2 * g * sin(y(1) - 2 * y(3)) ...
11             - 2 * sin(y(1) - y(3)) * m2 * (y(4)^2 * L2 + y(2)^2 * L1 * cos(y(1) - y(3)
12             )))) ...
13             / (L1 * (2 * m1 + m2 - m2 * cos(2 * y(1) - 2 * y(3))));
14     z(3) = y(4);
15     z(4) = (2 * sin(y(1) - y(3)) * (y(2)^2 * L1 * (m1 + m2) + g * (m1 + m2) * cos(y(1))
16             ...
17             + y(4)^2 * L2 * m2 * cos(y(1) - y(3)))) / (L2 * (2 * m1 + m2 - m2 * cos(2 *
18             y(1) - 2 * y(3))));
19     z = [z(1); z(2); z(3); z(4)];
20 end

```