

# 13 Ordinary Differential Equations (ODEs)

- ❑ Differential equations are used to model systems that change.
- ❑ They may change with respect to time (dynamical systems) or with respect to any other variable.
- ❑ We formulate **ordinary differential equations** by using regular (ordinary) derivatives, in other words we **only have 1 independent variable**.
- ❑ When we have **multiple dependent variables** we can produce a **system of ODEs**.
- ❑ When **more than 1 independent variable** is involved (for example time with spatial coordinates) we must formulate **partial differential equations (PDEs)**.

# 13.1 Euler's Method (Forward)

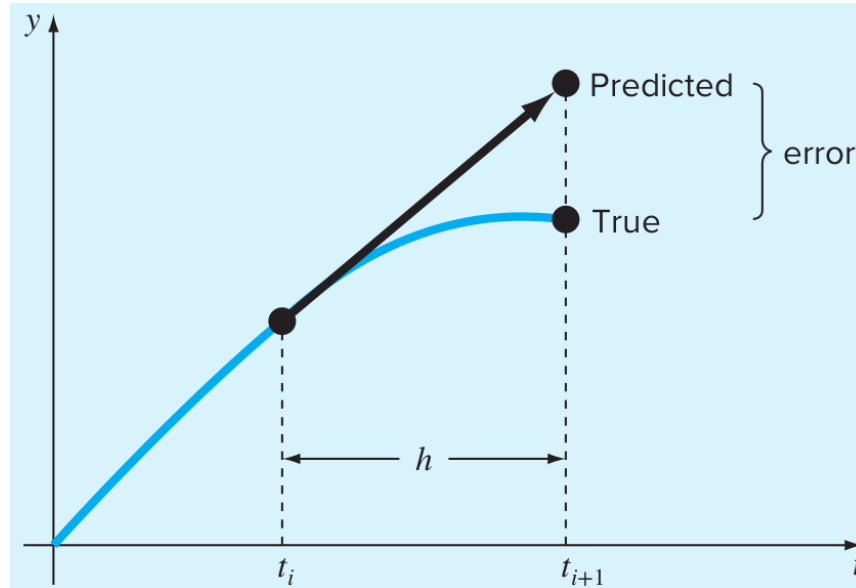
- We aim to solve ODEs of the form:  $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y)$
- The general idea is to **pick an initial value of the independent variable** at which we know the solution value ( $y(t)$ ), then **take a linear approximation at that point** in order to obtain a new solution value for a small increment in the dependent variable.

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \phi h$$

- The slope,  $\phi$ , is called the **increment function**.
- If our step size is small enough then the linear approximation will be a good enough approximation of the actual solution.
- This is a **one-step method** because the next value is estimated from the information at a single point.

- We take the first derivative as the increment function (slope):

$$\phi = f(t_i, y_i) \longrightarrow y_{i+1} = y_i + f(t_i, y_i)h$$



**EXAMPLE 1** Use Euler's method to solve the following 1<sup>st</sup> order ODE for  $0 \leq t \leq 4$  with step size  $h = 1$  and initial condition  $y(0) = 2$ .

$$y' = 4e^{0.8t} - 0.5y \longleftarrow f(t, y)$$

**First step in time**

$$\begin{aligned} y(1) &= y(0) + f(0, 2)(1) \longleftarrow f(0, 2) = 4e^0 - 0.5(2) = 3 \\ &= 2 + 3(1) = 5 \end{aligned}$$

**Second step in time**

$$\begin{aligned}y(2) &= y(1) + f(1, 5)(1) \\&= 5 + [4e^{0.8(1)} - 0.5(5)] (1) = 11.40216\end{aligned}$$

**Similarly for 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> time steps**

$t$	$y_{\text{true}}$	$y_{\text{Euler}}$	$ \epsilon_t $ (%)
0	2.00000	2.00000	
1	6.19463	5.00000	19.28
2	14.84392	11.40216	23.19
3	33.67717	25.51321	24.24
4	75.33896	56.84931	24.54

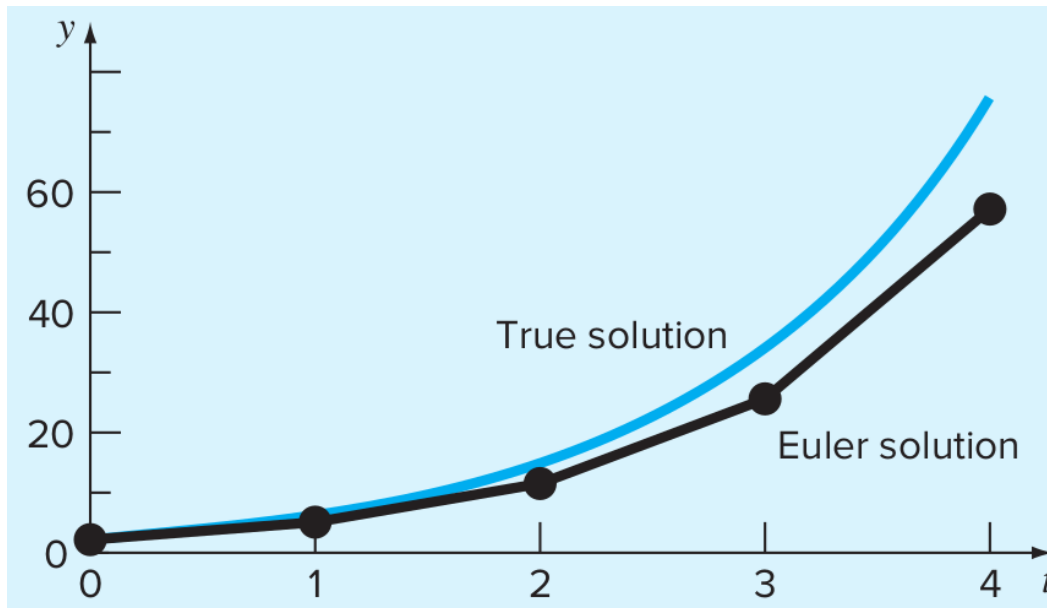
**Get true relative error using the exact solution**

$$y_{\text{true}} = \frac{4}{1.3}(e^{0.8t} - e^{-0.5t}) + 2e^{-0.5t}$$

**Error after first time step**

$$\epsilon_t = \left| \frac{6.19463 - 5}{6.19463} \right| \times 100\% = 19.28\%$$

- ❑ Notice how **the error gets compounded** meaning that the approximation diverges from the true solution.
- ❑ We call this **error propagation** since the initial error can be thought of as being transmitted through the following computations.
- ❑ One way of **reducing the error** is by taking a **smaller step size**.



# Euler's Method Error

- Since Euler's method is a linear approximation, it corresponds with the first order Taylor expansion of  $y$  and we call it a **first order method**.
- We already know that the error from the Taylor expansion truncated after the first derivative is given by:

$$E_t = \frac{f'(t_i, y_i)}{2!} h^2 + \dots + O(h^{n+1}) \quad \left( \text{since } \frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y) \right)$$

- For small step sizes we neglect the higher order terms and give the approximate error as,

$$E_a = \frac{f'(t_i, y_i)}{2!} h^2 = O(h^2)$$

for a single step.

- ❑ Since the **error at each step is  $O(h^2)$**  we assume that the **total (global) error is approximately  $n$  times the error at each step.**
- ❑ Since  $n = (t_n - t_0)/h$  we have,

$$E_{a,\text{global}} \approx n \frac{f'(t_i, y_i)}{2!} h^2 = \frac{t_n - t_0}{h} \frac{f'(t_i, y_i)}{2!} h^2 = O(h)$$

- ❑ The above result can be proved formally but requires the use of some other theorems that we have not covered.
- ❑ We have in general that an  **$n$ th order method** corresponds with a **local error of  $O(h^{n+1})$**  and a **global error of  $O(h^n)$ .**

# Stability

- We call a solution to an ODE using a numerical method **unstable** if the numerical solution grows exponentially when the true solution is bounded.
- The stability varies depending on the equation to be solved, the numerical method itself, and the step size.

**EXAMPLE 2** Examine the stability of the following ODE (with constant,  $a$ ) by comparing with the exact solution.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = -ay$$

$$y(0) = y_0$$

**Exact solution**

$$y = y_0 e^{-at}$$

## Euler's Forward Method

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{dy_i}{dt}h = y_i - ay_i h = y_i (1 - ah)$$



- ❑ From the exact solution we know that  $y$  should start with a value  $y_0$  then tend to 0 as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ .
- ❑ On the other hand our Euler method gave:  $y_{i+1} = y_i (1 - ah)$
- ❑ This only tends to 0 when  $|1 - ah| < 1$ . In other words when,

$$0 < h < \frac{2}{a}$$

- ❑ So if the step size is too big then the solution will diverge to infinity and is called unstable.
- ❑ For this ODE we have **conditional stability**.
- ❑ For other ODEs we sometimes find that the solution is unstable for any step size/method. We call these **ill-conditioned** ODEs.



Or go to [www.pollev.com/jsands601](http://www.pollev.com/jsands601)

**For  $y' = -ay$  and Euler's backward method:**

**$y_{i+1} = y_i + hf(t_{i+1}, y_{i+1})$ , for which step size,  $h$  is the solution stable?**

$$h > 0$$

$$h > a$$

$$h > \frac{2}{a}$$

$$h > \frac{a}{2}$$

Tc



5

## 13.2 Heun's Method

- This is an improvement on Euler's method that takes the first derivative at both the starting and end point of a subinterval. The **average value of the derivative** using these 2 points is calculated and used in the same way as before.

**Original Euler's Method  
(single step)**

$$y_{i+1}^0 = y_i + f(t_i, y_i)h$$

**Estimate of 1<sup>st</sup> derivative at  
end of subinterval**

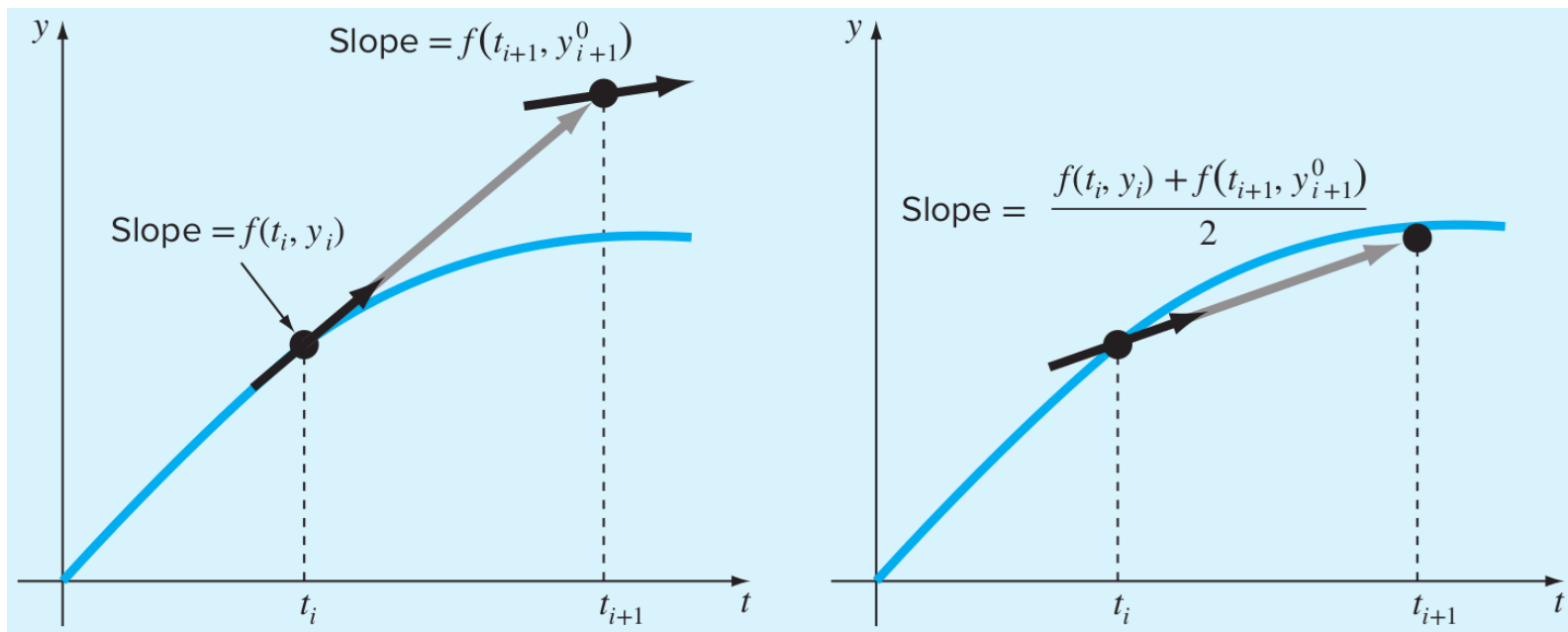
$$\bar{y}' = \frac{f(t_i, y_i) + f(t_{i+1}, y_{i+1}^0)}{2}$$

**Estimate from average slope**

**Heun's Method**

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{f(t_i, y_i) + f(t_{i+1}, y_{i+1}^0)}{2} h$$

- ❑ Heun's method works as a **predictor-corrector** pairing.
- ❑ The first equation gives a prediction based on an initial linear extrapolation but then uses it to correct the initial prediction in the final linear extrapolation.
- ❑ This process can be applied iteratively, in other words the corrected value can then be used as the next predictor etc.



**EXAMPLE 3** Use **Heun's method with iteration** to solve  $y' = 4e^{0.8t} - 0.5y$  from  $t = 0$  to 4 with a step size of 1. The initial condition is  $y(0) = 2$ . Employ a stopping criterion of 0.00001% to terminate the corrector iterations.

**Slope at initial point**  $y'_0 = 4e^0 - 0.5(2) = 3$

**First prediction at  $t = 1$**   $y_1^0 = 2 + 3(1) = 5$

**Correcting slope at  $t = 1$**

$$y'_1 = f(x_1, y_1^0) = 4e^{0.8(1)} - 0.5(5) = 6.402164$$

**Average slope between  $t = 0$  and  $t = 1$**

$$\bar{y}' = \frac{3 + 6.402164}{2} = 4.701082$$


**Corrected  $y$  value at  $t = 1$**

$$y_1^1 = 2 + 4.701082(1) = 6.701082$$

**Approximate error**

$$|\varepsilon_a| = \left| \frac{6.701082 - 5}{6.701082} \right| \times 100\% = 25.39\%$$

**Next iteration uses previous value as initial predictor**

Initial slope  New predicted slope at  $t = 1$

$$y_1^2 = 2 + \frac{3 + 4e^{0.8(1)} - 0.5(6.701082)}{2} 1 = 6.275811$$

**Approximate error**

$$|\varepsilon_a| = \left| \frac{6.275811 - 6.701082}{6.275811} \right| \times 100\% = 6.776\%$$

**Next iteration**

$$y_1^3 = 2 + \frac{3 + 4e^{0.8(1)} - 0.5(6.275811)}{2} 1 = 6.382129$$

**Approximate error**

$$|\varepsilon_a| = \left| \frac{6.382129 - 6.275811}{6.382129} \right| = 1.67\%$$

- Repeating 9 more times results in an approximate solution at  $t = 1$  of 6.36087 which has an approximate error less than 0.00001%.
- Note that the true error, however, is 2.68% so the method converged to an approximate solution but not to the true solution.  
**This method converges to a value with a finite truncation error for a given step size, not necessarily to the true value.**

$t$	$y_{\text{true}}$	$y_{\text{Euler}}$	$ \varepsilon_t $ (%)	Without Iteration		With Iteration	
				$y_{\text{Heun}}$	$ \varepsilon_t $ (%)	$y_{\text{Heun}}$	$ \varepsilon_t $ (%)
0	2.00000	2.00000		2.00000		2.00000	
1	6.19463	5.00000	19.28	6.70108	8.18	6.36087	2.68
2	14.84392	11.40216	23.19	16.31978	9.94	15.30224	3.09
3	33.67717	25.51321	24.24	37.19925	10.46	34.74328	3.17
4	75.33896	56.84931	24.54	83.33777	10.62	77.73510	3.18



# Heun's Method Error

- The error is the same as the trapezium rule since Heun's method is,

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{f(t_i) + f(t_{i+1})}{2} h$$

and the trapezium rule is,

$$\int_{t_i}^{t_{i+1}} f(t) dt = \frac{f(t_i) + f(t_{i+1})}{2} h$$

with global error  $|E_T| \leq \frac{nKh^3}{12} = \frac{K(b-a)^3}{12n^2} = O(h^2)$

- The local error is therefore  $O(h^3)$ .

## 13.3 Runge-Kutta Methods

- The previous 2 methods are part of a larger class of methods known as Runge-Kutta methods.
- They write the increment function:  $y_{i+1} = y_i + \phi h$

where, 
$$\phi = a_1 k_1 + a_2 k_2 + \cdots + a_n k_n$$

$$k_1 = f(t_i, y_i)$$

$$k_2 = f(t_i + p_1 h, y_i + q_{11} k_1 h)$$

$$k_3 = f(t_i + p_2 h, y_i + q_{21} k_1 h + q_{22} k_2 h)$$

$\vdots$

$$k_n = f(t_i + p_{n-1} h, y_i + q_{n-1,1} k_1 h + q_{n-1,2} k_2 h + \cdots + q_{n-1,n-1} k_{n-1} h)$$

**$p$ 's and  $q$ 's are constants**

**$k$ 's are recurrence relationships**

# 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Runge-Kutta

- ❑ The first order Runge-Kutta with  $a_1 = 1$  is simply **Euler's method**.
- ❑ **Heun's method** is a 2<sup>nd</sup> order Runge-Kutta with  $a_1 = 1/2$ ,  $a_2 = 1/2$ ,  $p_1 = 1$  and  $q_{11} = 1$ .
- ❑ Other 2<sup>nd</sup> order methods can be derived by setting the corresponding Runge-Kutta method equal to a 2<sup>nd</sup> order Taylor series:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + hf(t_i, y_i) + \frac{h^2}{2} f'(t_i, y_i) + O(h^3)$$

- ❑ But by the chain rule we have,

$$f'(t_i, y_i) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t_i} \frac{\partial t_i}{\partial t_i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} \frac{\partial y_i}{\partial t_i} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t_i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} f(t_i, y_i)$$

- Substituting into the Taylor expansion results in,

$$(*) \quad y_{i+1} = y_i + hf(t_i, y_i) + \frac{h^2}{2} \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t_i} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} f(t_i, y_i) \right] + O(h^3)$$

- From the definition, the 2<sup>nd</sup> order Runge-Kutta is given by,

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h (a_1 f(t_i, y_i) + a_2 f(t_i + p_1 h, y_i + q_{11} k_1 h))$$

- But the multivariable Taylor expansion gives,

$$f(t_i + p_1 h, y_i + q_{11} k_1 h) = f(t_i, y_i) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t_i} p_1 h + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} q_{11} h f(t_i, y_i) + O(h^2)$$

- Substituting this into the 2<sup>nd</sup> order Runge-Kutta yields,

$$(**) \quad y_{i+1} = y_i + ha_1 f(t_i, y_i) \quad \cdots \\ \cdots + ha_2 \left[ f(t_i, y_i) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t_i} p_1 h + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y_i} q_{11} h f(t_i, y_i) + O(h^2) \right]$$

- Comparing (\*) with (\*\*) we see that they are the same when,

$$a_1 + a_2 = 1 \qquad a_2 p_1 = 1/2 \qquad a_2 q_{11} = 1/2$$

- Treating  $a_2$  as a free variable (since we have 3 equations with 4 unknowns) we can write these constants as,

$$a_1 = 1 - a_2$$
$$p_1 = q_{11} = \frac{1}{2a_2}$$

- There are an infinite number of constants that we can choose which give the same results for ODEs whose solutions are constant, linear or quadratic equation.
- For other cases, choosing different constants will mean different results.

## Other Common 2<sup>nd</sup> Order Methods

- Assuming  $a_2 = 1$  gives **The Midpoint Method**:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + k_2 h$$

$$k_1 = f(t_i, y_i)$$

$$k_2 = f(t_i + h/2, y_i + k_1 h/2)$$

- Assuming  $a_2 = 3/4$  gives **Ralston's Method**:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \left( \frac{1}{4} k_1 + \frac{3}{4} k_2 \right) h$$

$$k_1 = f(t_i, y_i)$$

$$k_2 = f\left(t_i + \frac{2}{3} h, y_i + \frac{2}{3} k_1 h\right)$$

## 13.4 4<sup>th</sup> Order Runge-Kutta

- This is the most commonly used version and can also have infinite solutions for the constants.
- The version given below is the most standard one that has gained popularity:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{1}{6} (k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h, \quad k_1 = f(t_i, y_i)$$

**All  $k$  values are slopes**

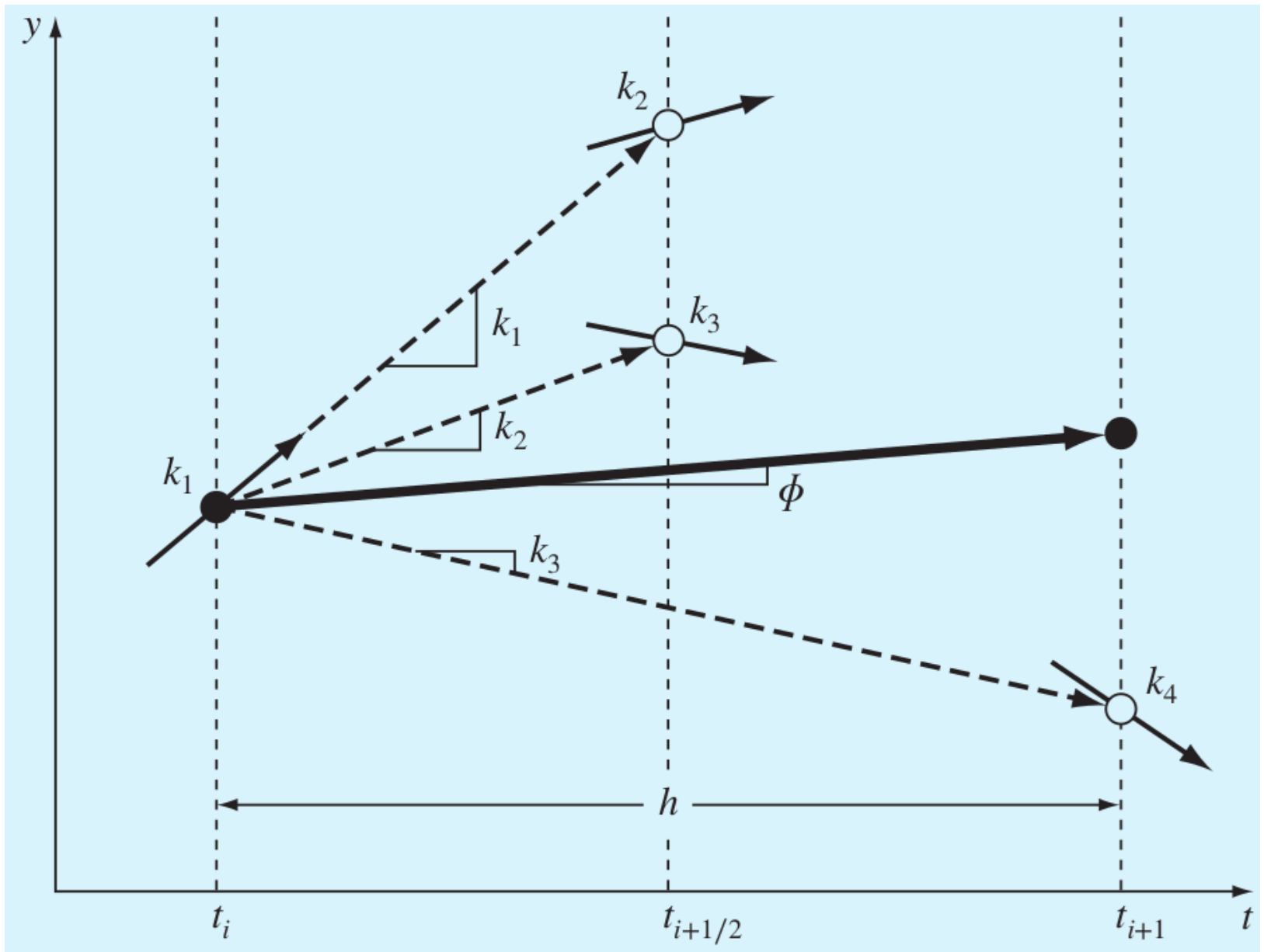
**$k_2$  and  $k_3$  slopes computed at the midpoint of the interval**

**$k_4$  is the slope computed at the end of the interval**

$$k_2 = f\left(t_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}k_1h\right)$$

$$k_3 = f\left(t_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}k_2h\right)$$

$$k_4 = f(t_i + h, y_i + k_3h)$$





**EXAMPLE 4** Use the 4<sup>th</sup> order Runge-Kutta method to solve  $y' = 4e^{0.8t} - 0.5y$  from  $t = 0$  to 1 with a step size of 1. The initial condition is  $y(0) = 2$ .

**Compute  $k_1$**   $k_1 = f(0, 2) = 4e^{0.8(0)} - 0.5(2) = 3$

**Get slope at the midpoint and use it in the  $k_2$  formula**

$$y(0.5) = 2 + 3(0.5) = 3.5$$

$$k_2 = f(0.5, 3.5) = 4e^{0.8(0.5)} - 0.5(3.5) = 4.217299$$

**Similar process to get  $k_3$**

$$y(0.5) = 2 + 4.217299(0.5) = 4.108649$$

$$k_3 = f(0.5, 4.108649) = 4e^{0.8(0.5)} - 0.5(4.108649) = 3.912974$$

**$k_4$  from end of the interval**

$$y(1.0) = 2 + 3.912974(1.0) = 5.912974$$

$$k_4 = f(1.0, 5.912974) = 4e^{0.8(1.0)} - 0.5(5.912974) = 5.945677$$

**Calculate increment function value**

$$\phi = \frac{1}{6} [3 + 2(4.217299) + 2(3.912974) + 5.945677] = 4.201037$$

**Use values in RK formula**

$$y(1.0) = 2 + 4.201037(1.0) = 6.201037$$

**Exact solution is 6.194631**  $\longrightarrow \epsilon_t = 0.103\%$

- Note that all 2<sup>nd</sup> order methods have local error  $O(h^3)$  and global error  $O(h^2)$ .
- All 4<sup>th</sup> order methods have local error  $O(h^5)$  and global error  $O(h^4)$ .
- In general an  $n$ th order method has local error  $O(h^{n+1})$  and global error  $O(h^n)$ .

# 13.5 Systems of ODEs

- Given a system of ODEs,

$$\frac{dy_1}{dt} = f_1(t, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$$

$$\frac{dy_2}{dt} = f_2(t, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$$

$\vdots$

$$\frac{dy_n}{dt} = f_n(t, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n)$$

we simply **take a single time step for each equation** using any of the single step methods previously discussed.

- For an  **$n$ -dimensional system** we require  **$n$  initial conditions**.

**EXAMPLE 5** Solve the following 2 dimensional system of 1<sup>st</sup> order ODEs with initial conditions  $x(0) = v(0) = 0$  for  $0 \leq t \leq 10$  using Euler's method with a step size of 2. The system represents a bungee jumper with mass 68.1 kg and drag coefficient 0.25 kg/m.

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v$$
$$\frac{dv}{dt} = g - \frac{c_d}{m}v^2$$

**Slopes at initial point  
(at  $t = 0$ )**

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 0$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = 9.81 - \frac{0.25}{68.1} (0)^2 = 9.81$$

**Euler method first step  
(at  $t = 2$ )**

$$x = 0 + 0(2) = 0$$

$$v = 0 + 9.81(2) = 19.62$$

**Slopes at second time step  
(at  $t = 2$ )**

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = 19.62$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = 9.81 - \frac{0.25}{68.1} \times 19.62^2 = 8.3968$$

**Euler method second step  
(at  $t = 4$ )**

$$x = 0 + 19.62(2) = 39.24$$

$$v = 19.62 + 8.3968(2) = 36.41368$$

$t$	$x_{\text{true}}$	$v_{\text{true}}$	$x_{\text{Euler}}$	$v_{\text{Euler}}$	$\epsilon_t(x)$	$\epsilon_t(v)$
0	0	0	0	0		
2	19.1663	18.7292	0	19.6200	100.00%	4.76%
4	71.9304	33.1118	39.2400	36.4137	45.45%	9.97%
6	147.9462	42.0762	112.0674	46.2983	24.25%	10.03%
8	237.5104	46.9575	204.6640	50.1802	13.83%	6.86%
10	334.1782	49.4214	305.0244	51.3123	8.72%	3.83%

**EXAMPLE 6** Repeat **Example 5** using the 4<sup>th</sup> order Runge-Kutta method (step size 2).

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f_1(t, x, v) = v$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = f_2(t, x, v) = g - \frac{c_d}{m}v^2$$

**$k_1$  values at  $t = 0$**

$$k_{1,1} = f_1(0, 0, 0) = 0$$

$$k_{1,2} = f_2(0, 0, 0) = 9.81 - \frac{0.25}{68.1}(0)^2 = 9.81$$

**Function value estimates at  $t = 1$  using  $k_1$**

$$x(1) = x(0) + k_{1,1}\frac{h}{2} = 0 + 0\frac{2}{2} = 0$$

$$v(1) = v(0) + k_{1,2}\frac{h}{2} = 0 + 9.81\frac{2}{2} = 9.81$$

**$k_2$  values at  $t = 1$**

$$k_{2,1} = f_1(1, 0, 9.81) = 9.8100$$

$$k_{2,2} = f_2(1, 0, 9.81) = 9.4567$$

**Function value estimates at  $t = 1$  using  $k_2$**

$$x(1) = x(0) + k_{2,1} \frac{h}{2} = 0 + 9.8100 \frac{2}{2} = 9.8100$$

$$v(1) = v(0) + k_{2,2} \frac{h}{2} = 0 + 9.4567 \frac{2}{2} = 9.4567$$

**$k_3$  values at  $t = 1$**

$$k_{3,1} = f_1(1, 9.8100, 9.4567) = 9.4567$$

$$k_{3,2} = f_2(1, 9.8100, 9.4567) = 9.4817$$

**Function value estimates at  $t = 2$  using  $k_3$**

$$x(2) = x(0) + k_{3,1} h = 0 + 9.4567(2) = 18.9134$$

$$v(2) = v(0) + k_{3,2} h = 0 + 9.4817(2) = 18.9634$$

**$k_4$  values at  $t = 2$**

$$k_{4,1} = f_1(2, 18.9134, 18.9634) = 18.9634$$

$$k_{4,2} = f_2(2, 18.9134, 18.9634) = 8.4898$$

**RK predicted values at  $t = 2$**

$$x(2) = 0 + \frac{1}{6} [0 + 2(9.8100 + 9.4567) + 18.9634] 2 = 19.1656$$

$$v(2) = 0 + \frac{1}{6} [9.8100 + 2(9.4567 + 9.4817) + 8.4898] 2 = 18.7256$$

$t$	$x_{\text{true}}$	$v_{\text{true}}$	$x_{\text{RK4}}$	$v_{\text{RK4}}$	$\epsilon_t(x)$	$\epsilon_t(v)$
0	0	0	0	0		
2	19.1663	18.7292	19.1656	18.7256	0.004%	0.019%
4	71.9304	33.1118	71.9311	33.0995	0.001%	0.037%
6	147.9462	42.0762	147.9521	42.0547	0.004%	0.051%
8	237.5104	46.9575	237.5104	46.9345	0.000%	0.049%
10	334.1782	49.4214	334.1626	49.4027	0.005%	0.038%

- ❑ Notice the results are much **more accurate for the same step size compared with Euler's method.**
- ❑ Once again, accuracy can further be increased by taking smaller step sizes.



# Converting Higher Order ODEs into a System

- We can convert higher order ODEs into a system of 1<sup>st</sup> order ODEs to solve using the methods presented.
- We make the substitution  $x_{i+1} = y^{(i)}$ .

**EXAMPLE 7** Convert the following 3<sup>rd</sup> order ODE into a system of 3 ODEs then solve using 4<sup>th</sup> order Runge-Kutta for  $0 < t < 4$  using a step size of 1.

$$y''' - 2y'' - 5y' + 6y = 0 \quad y(0) = 0, y'(0) = 1, y''(0) = 2$$

**Make substitution**

$$\begin{array}{lcl} \left. \begin{array}{l} x_1 = y \\ x_2 = y' \\ x_3 = y'' \end{array} \right\} & \begin{array}{l} x_1' = x_2 = f_1(t, x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ x_2' = x_3 = f_2(t, x_1, x_2, x_3) \\ x_3' = 2x_3 + 5x_2 - 6x_1 = f_3(t, x_1, x_2, x_3) \end{array} \\ \longrightarrow & & \\ \longrightarrow & & x_1(0) = 0, x_2(0) = 1, x_3(0) = 2 \end{array}$$

**$k_1$  values**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} k_{1,1} &= f_1(0, 0, 1, 2) = 1 \\ k_{1,2} &= f_2(0, 0, 1, 2) = 2 \\ k_{1,3} &= f_3(0, 0, 1, 2) = 9 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

 **$x(0.5)$  values**

$$\begin{aligned} x_1(0.5) &= x_1(0) + k_{1,1} \times 0.5 = 0.5 \\ x_2(0.5) &= x_2(0) + k_{1,2} \times 0.5 = 2 \\ x_3(0.5) &= x_3(0) + k_{1,3} \times 0.5 = 6.5 \end{aligned}$$

 **$k_2$  values**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} k_{2,1} &= f_1(0.5, 0.5, 2, 6.5) = 2 \\ k_{2,2} &= f_2(0.5, 0.5, 2, 6.5) = 6.5 \\ k_{2,3} &= f_3(0.5, 0.5, 2, 6.5) = 20 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

 **$x(0.5)$  values**

$$\begin{aligned} x_1(0.5) &= x_1(0) + k_{2,1} \times 0.5 = 1 \\ x_2(0.5) &= x_2(0) + k_{2,2} \times 0.5 = 4.25 \\ x_3(0.5) &= x_3(0) + k_{2,3} \times 0.5 = 12 \end{aligned}$$

 **$k_3$  values**

$$\left. \begin{aligned} k_{3,1} &= f_1(0.5, 1, 4.25, 12) = 4.25 \\ k_{3,2} &= f_2(0.5, 1, 4.25, 12) = 12 \\ k_{3,3} &= f_3(0.5, 1, 4.25, 12) = 39.25 \end{aligned} \right\}$$

 **$x(1)$  values**

$$\begin{aligned} x_1(1) &= x_1(0) + k_{3,1} \times 1 = 4.25 \\ x_2(1) &= x_2(0) + k_{3,2} \times 1 = 13 \\ x_3(1) &= x_3(0) + k_{3,3} \times 1 = 41.25 \end{aligned}$$

### **$k_4$ values**

$$k_{4,1} = f_1(1, 4.25, 13, 41.25) = 13$$

$$k_{4,2} = f_2(1, 4.25, 13, 41.25) = 41.25$$

$$k_{4,3} = f_3(1, 4.25, 13, 41.25) = 122$$

### **$x(1)$ values from RK4 formula**

$$x_1(1) = x_1(0) + \frac{1}{6} (k_{1,1} + 2k_{2,1} + 2k_{3,1} + k_{4,1}) \times 1 = 4.4167$$

$$x_2(1) = x_2(0) + \frac{1}{6} (k_{1,2} + 2k_{2,2} + 2k_{3,2} + k_{4,2}) \times 1 = 14.375$$

$$x_3(1) = x_3(0) + \frac{1}{6} (k_{1,3} + 2k_{2,3} + 2k_{3,3} + k_{4,3}) \times 1 = 43.5833$$

$t$	$y = x_1$	True $y$	$\varepsilon_t$
0	0	0	0%
1	4.4167	5.5907	20.1%
2	79.2049	119.7996	33.9%
3	1313.9249	2427.5779	45.9%
4	21560.8496	48817.3378	55.8%

- For this step size the solution is not accurate over the interval specified. A step size of 0.1 gives the following.

$t$	$y = x_1$	True $y$	$\varepsilon_t$
0	0	0	0%
1	5.5536	5.5907	0.66%
2	119.7564	119.7996	0.04%
3	2426.4264	2427.5779	0.05%
4	48786.5181	48817.3378	0.06%

When poll is active, respond at [PollEv.com/jsands601](https://pollEv.com/jsands601)

**Which system of ODEs represents the equation:**

$$3y^{(4)} + 2y''' + 4y'' - y' + 8y = \sin(t)?$$

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