Numerical Methods Solving ODE

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September 8, 2020

1 Introduction

At present, Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) has been widely used in many aspects such as physics, biology and economics. In practical problems, it is particularly important to find the solution of ordinary differential equations. Despite the analytical solution can find the accurate answer, in some practical problems either it is hard to find the analytic solutions or the solving process is too complicated. In this case, it is extremely important to find the numerical solution of ODE by some methods (such as Euler method, Runge-Kutta method and Adams method). In this report, three methods – Euler method, Runge-Kutta method and Adams method—have been compared in the process of solving the two practical problems.

1.1 Euler's Method

Euler's method mainly consists of three methods—the Forward Euler's Method, the Backward Euler's Method and the Improved Euler's Method. The Forward Euler's Method approximate the value of $\Phi(t)$ in the region $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ of the curve by the line through (t_n, y_n) with the slope $f(t_n, y_n)$. The formula is in the form:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(t_n, y_n), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (1)

The Backward Euler's Method approximate the value of $\Phi(t)$ in the region $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ of the curve by the line through (t_n, y_n) with the slope $f(t_{n+1}, y_{n+1})$. The formula is in the form:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(t_{n+1}, y_{n+1}), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (2)

The Improved Euler's Method approximate the value of $\Phi(t)$ in the region $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ of the curve by the line through (t_n, y_n) with the slope $\frac{1}{2}(f(t_n) + f(t_{n+1}))$. The formula is in the form:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2}(f(t_n) + f(t_n + h)), \quad , n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (3)

1.2 The Runge-Kutta Method

The Runge-Kutta Method is similar to the Euler's Method, however, in this method, we try to find the slope with a few more points on the region $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$, then taking a weighted average of the slope values at these points, and using the resulting value as the approximate slope k. In this report we discuss the fourth-order four-stage Runge-Kutta method. The formula is in the form:

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h\left(\frac{k_{n1} + 2k_{n2} + 2k_{n3} + k_{n4}}{6}\right), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (4)

Where

$$\begin{aligned} k_{n1} &= f(t_n, y_n), \\ k_{n2} &= f(t_n + \frac{1}{2}h, y_n + \frac{1}{2}hk_{n1}), \\ k_{n3} &= f(t_n + \frac{1}{2}h, y_n + \frac{1}{2}hk_{n2}), \\ k_{n4} &= f(t_n + h, y_n + hk_{n3}), \end{aligned}$$

1.3 Adam's Method

Adam's Method makes use of a polynomial $P_k(t)$ of degree k to approximate phi'(t) and evaluates the integral of phi'(t). Second-order Adams-Bashforth formula is

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{3}{2}hf_n - \frac{1}{2}f_{n-1}, \ n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (5)

Fourth-order Adams-Bashforth formula is

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{24} (55f_n - 59f_{n-1} + 37f_{n-2} - 9f_{n-3}), \ n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
 (6)

2 Analytical Solution

2.1 Problem 1

Before using numerical method to calculate, we try to use analytical method to calculate the accurate answer. Substitute $y(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$ into the ODE and equate coefficients. Then we can get

$$(n+1)a_{n+1} - a_{n-1} = \begin{cases} \sum_{k=0}^{n-k}, & n \neq 2\\ 2a_0a_n + a_1^2 + 1, & n = 2 \end{cases}$$
 (7)

Which is hard to calculate

2.2 Problem 2

Similar to Problem 1, we calculate analytical solution at first. We also substitute $y(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} a_n t^n$ into the ODE.

3 Numerical Solution

3.1 Problem 1

Since $y'=y^2+ty+t^2=(y+\frac{1}{2}t)^2+\frac{3}{4}t^2\geq 0$, so y=f(t) will increase in its domain.

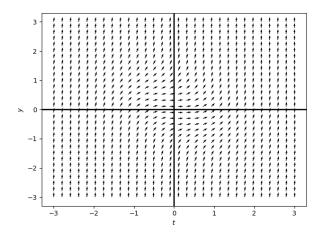


Figure 1: The slope field of f(t, y) of Problem 1

We can construct a slope field as Figure 1.

We can estimate that there might be two vertical asymptotes, a_1 , b_1 . Since the slope of the vector tends to be infinity near t = -2 and t = 1, so we can have a try: let a_1 very close to -2 and b_1 very close to 1 to find accurate vertical asymptotes.

	Euler Implicit		Euler Explicit		Euler Improved		Euler Trapezium	
h	a_1	b_1	a_1	b_1	a_1	b_1	a_1	b_1
0.01	-2.07	0.82	-2.26	1	-2.17	0.91	-2.11	0.85
0.005	-2.09	0.83	-2.195	0.935	-2.15	0.885	-2.115	0.855
0.001	-2.115	0.853	-2.137	0.875	-2.126	0.864	-2.1201	0.859
0.0005	-2.118	0.856	-2.129	0.8675	-2.1235	0.8615	-2.1206	0.8591
0.0002	-2.1196	0.8578	-2.1242	0.8624	-2.1218	0.86	-2.1208	0.8592
0.0001	-2.1202	0.8584	-2.1225	0.8607	-2.1212	0.85964	-2.1209	0.8592

Table 1: Using Euler Method to Determine t When y is infinity

3.1.1 The Euler Method

When h = 0.01, vertical asymptotes are not stable. As h is decreasing, a_1 , b_1 gradually reach to a stable value. When h = 0.0001, the value of a_1 , b_1 calculated by these four methods is absolutely close. Digitally, we can solve that $a_1 = -2.1212$, $b_1 = 0.8594$.

To be more vivid, we can basically draw y = f(t) as Figure 2.

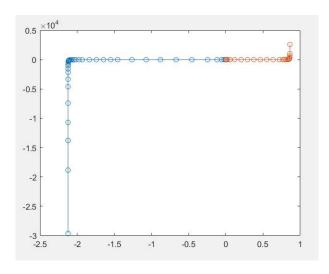


Figure 2: The Solution of Problem 1

3.1.2 The Runge-Kutta Method

The stable value of a_1 , b_1 can be got when h = 0.0001. RK 4th has more accuracy, but in this particular problem, compared with RK 3rd, it doesn't fully manifest. When h = 0.01 or 0.005, the value of a_1 , b_1 is not so accurate, but not far from stable value. Therefore, we can solve $a_1 = -2.1209$, $b_1 = 0.8591$.

	RK	3rd	RK 4th		
h	a1	b1	a2	b2	
0.01	-2.15	0.89	-2.14	0.88	
0.005	-2.135	0.875	-2.13	0.87	
0.001	-2.124	0.862	-2.123	0.861	
0.0005	-2.122	0.8605	-2.122	0.86	
0.0002	-2.1212	0.8596	-2.121	0.8594	
0.0001	-2.121	0.8592	-2.1209	0.8591	

Table 2: Using Runge-Kutta Method to Determine t When y is infinity

3.1.3 The Adams Method

For Adams Bashforth method, when h is not small enough, the value of a_1 , b_1 can't be stable. Just when h is smaller than the level of 10^{-3} , a_1 , b_1 will tend to be stable. However, for Adams Molton method, no matter what value h is, in other words, for h = 0.01, 0.005, 0.001, 0.0005, 0.0002, 0.0001, in each condition, the value of a_1 , b_1 have little difference. So it can be concluded that Adams Monlton has more accuracy than Adams Bashforth. As a result, we can solve $a_1 = -2.1207$, $b_1 = 0.8588$.

	Adams-	Bashforth	Adams-Monlton		
h	a1	b1	a2	b2	
0.01	-2.21	0.95	-2.12	0.85	
0.005	-2.17	0.905	-2.1201	0.855	
0.001	-2.13	0.868	-2.1202	0.858	
0.0005	-2.1255	0.8635	-2.1205	0.8585	
0.0002	-2.1226	0.8608	-2.1206	0.8587	
0.0001	-2.1216	0.8598	-2.1207	0.8588	

Table 3: Using Adams Method to Determine t When y is infinity

- 3.2 Problem 2
- 4 Results
- 5 Conclusion
- 6 byebye

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References