

SOLVING DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

FORWARD EULER'S METHOD

The Forward Euler method is an explicit method for solving the initial-value problem. It approximates the solution by discretizing the solution over small time steps and using the tangent slopes at the current step.

Considering the initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned}f(x, y) &= \frac{dy}{dx} \\ y(x_0) &= y_0\end{aligned}$$

If y_0 is the value at x_0 , hence similarly y_1 is the value at x_1 where $x_1 = x_0 + h$

Here h is an extremely small value

The key idea behind the Forward Euler method is to use the slope of the solution at the current point (x_0, y_0) to update our approximation for the next point (x_1, y_1)

The approximation is done via the following equation

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= x_0 + h \\ y_1 &= y_0 + hf(x_0, y_0)\end{aligned}$$

This process is done iteratively and for any n_{th} iterative step, the updating difference equation would be as follows

$$\begin{aligned}x_{n+1} &= x_n + h \\ y_{n+1} &= y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)\end{aligned}$$

The initial idea of the the equation came by using the forward slope, the following figure explains it out

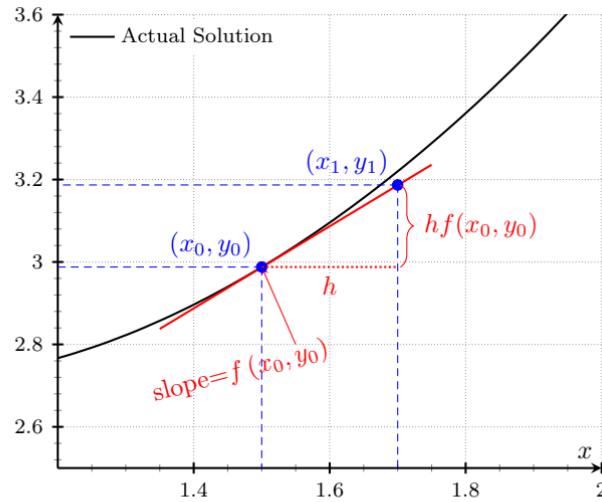


Fig. 1: Illustration of the Forward Euler method.

We know , $x_1 = x_0 + h$

Then clearly $y_1 = y_0(\text{previous value}) + hf(x_0, y_0)(\text{increment in } x * \text{slope})$ is the new updated value

This is done iteratively to get further values and hence we can graph them.

BACKWARD EULER METHOD

Backward euler method is very similar to forward . In simpler terms we can say that Forward Method is explicit while backward is implicit

In forward method we update equation by using an increasing slope equation evident from above while in backward we use the decreasing slope by putting the new coordinates into slope i.e. using an unknown slope to find the new coordinates.

The following figure could help with the query.

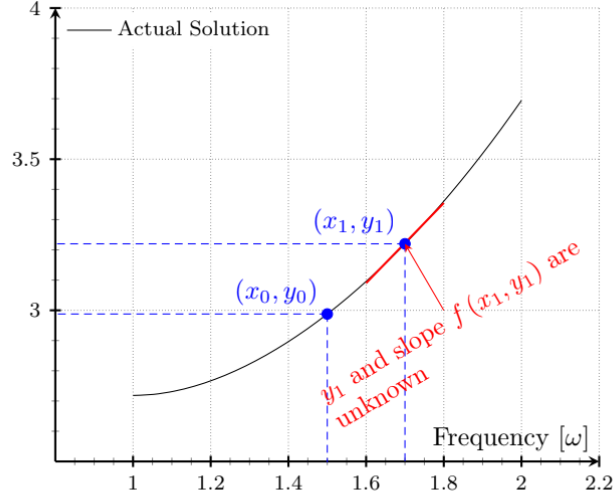


Fig. 1: Illustration of the Backward Euler method

From the figure, We can say that the equation is being updated as to by a take back equation

Here, We can say $y_0 = y_1 - hf(x_1, y_1)$ (**decrease in x * slope at that point**) as $x_0 = x_1 - h$

Now we can write the equations for updated points as

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= x_0 + h \\ y_1 &= y_0 + hf(x_1, y_1) \end{aligned}$$

This process is done iteratively and for any n_{th} iterative step, the updating difference equation would be as follows

$$\begin{aligned} x_{n+1} &= x_n + h \\ y_{n+1} &= y_n + hf(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}) \end{aligned}$$

And similar to forward we can find the points and plot them to get the graph of the original equation.

Solving the problem

Now consider the following problem

Find the response of LR circuit where $v(t)$ varies as follows

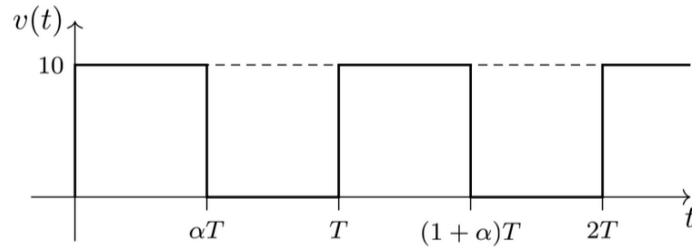


Fig. 1: Square wave with a duty ratio α

Solution

$v(t)$ can be written as

$$v(t) = \begin{cases} 10 & \text{if } nT < t < (n+1)\alpha T \\ 0 & \text{if } (n+1)\alpha T < t < (n+1)T \end{cases}$$

Considering $R = 1$, $L = 1$ and $T = 2$

CODE

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

V = 10.0
dt = 0.001

def squarewave(t, T, alpha):
    return V if (t % T) < (alpha * T) else 0

def euler(R, L, alpha, T):
    steps = int(duration / dt)
    i = 0.0
    tau = L / R
    time, currents = [], []

    for n in range(steps):
        t = n * dt
        v = squarewave(t, T, alpha)
        di = (v - R * i) / L
        i += dt * di
        time.append(t)
```

```

        currents.append(i)

    return time, currents

def backeuler(R, L, alpha, T):
    steps = int(duration / dt)
    i = 0.0
    tau = L / R
    time, currents = [], []

    for n in range(steps):
        t = n * dt
        v = squarewave(t, T, alpha)
        if v == V:
            i = (i + (dt * v / L)) / (1 + (dt * R / L))
        else:
            i *= np.exp(-dt / tau)
        time.append(t)
        currents.append(i)

    return time, currents

R = 1.0
L = 1.0
#alpha = 0.2
#alpha = 0.5
#alpha = 0.8
T = 2.0
duration = 4.0

timeeuler, currentseuler = euler(R, L, alpha, T)
timebackeuler, currentsbackeuler = backeuler(R, L, alpha, T)

plt.plot(timeeuler, currentseuler, label='Euler Method')
plt.plot(timebackeuler, currentsbackeuler, '--', label='Backward Euler Method')
plt.xlabel('Time (s)')
plt.ylabel('Current (A)')
plt.title('RL Circuit Response to Square Wave')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.savefig("fig.png")
plt.show()

```

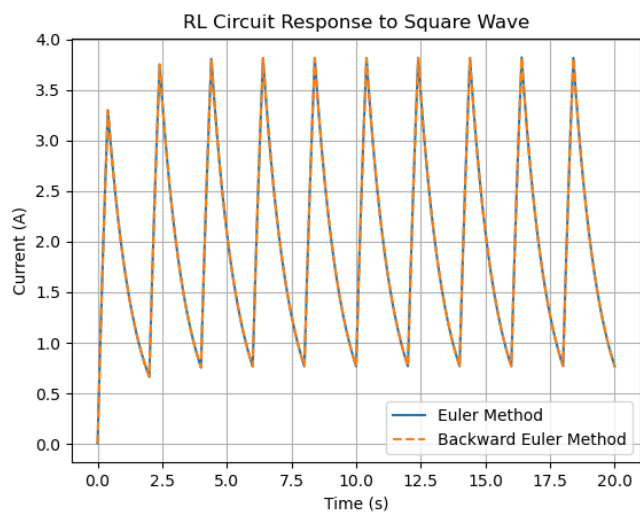


Figure 1: $\alpha = 0.2$

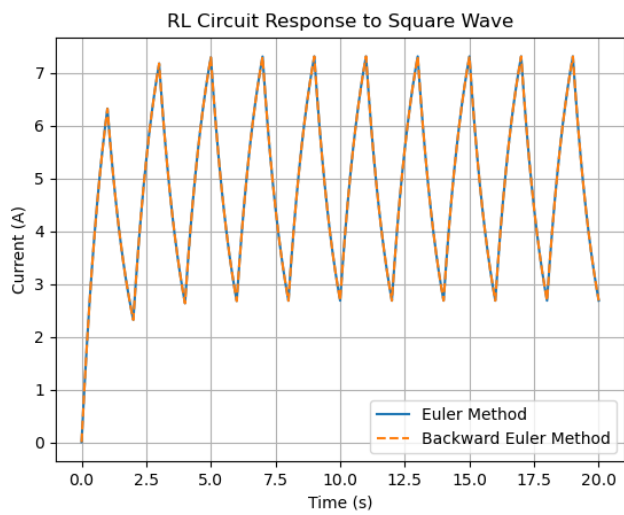


Figure 2: $\alpha = 0.5$

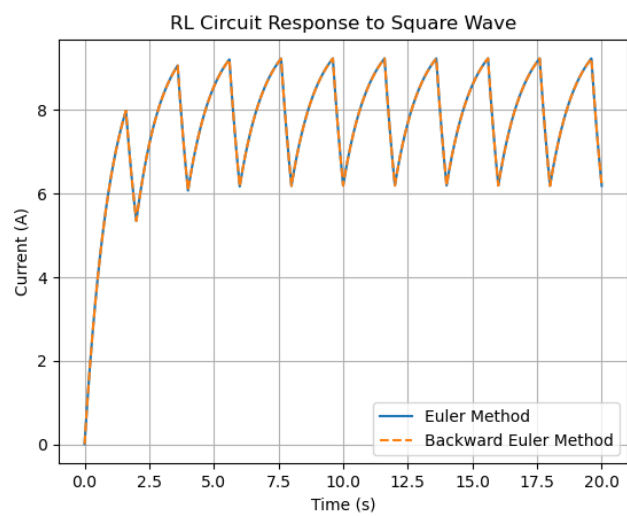


Figure 3: $\alpha = 0.8$