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# A Case Study on Runge Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> Order Differential Equations and Its Application

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**Abstract:** In this paper it is discussed about Runge Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order with differential equations and its applications. The differential equation problems has sloved by Runge Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order method and application problems are discussed with Runge Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order and coded in C programming.

## 1.Introduction

### First Order Runge-Kutta Method

Consider the following case: we wish to use a computer to approximate the solution of the differential equation

$$dy(t)dt+2y(t)=0 \quad dy(t)dt+2y(t)=0$$

$$\text{or } dy(t)dt=-2y(t)$$

### Second Order Runge-Kutta Method

The first order Runge-Kutta method used the derivative at time  $t_0$  ( $t_0=0$  in the graph below) to estimate the value of the function at one time step in the future. If you are not familiar with it, you should read the section entitled: A First Order Linear Differential Equation with No Input. We repeat the central concept of generating a step forward in time in the following text.

$$dy(t)dt+2y(t)=0 \quad \text{or } dy(t)dt=-2y(t)$$

### Third Order Runge-Kutta Method

This method is a third order Runge-Kutta method for approximating the solution of the initial value problem  $y'(x) = f(x,y)$ ;  $y(x_0) = y_0$  which evaluates the integrand,  $f(x,y)$ , three times per step. For step  $i+1$ ,

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + 1/6 (k_1 + 4k_2 + k_3),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= h f(x_i, y_i), \\ k_2 &= h f(x_i + h/2, y_i + k_1/2), \\ k_3 &= h f(x_i + h, y_i - k_1 + 2k_2), \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{and } x_i = x_0 + i h.$$

### Fourth Order Runge-Kutta Method

Runge-Kutta 4th order method is a numerical technique used to solve ordinary differential equation of the form

$$dy/dx = f(x,y), y(0)=y_0$$

So only first order ordinary differential equations can be solved by using the Runge-Kutta 4th order method. Euler and Runge-Kutta methods are used to solve higher order ordinary differential equations or coupled (simultaneous) differential equations

## 2. Derivation

The Runge-Kutta 4<sup>th</sup> order method is based on the following

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + a_1 k_1 + a_2 k_2 + a_3 k_3 + a_4 k_4)h \quad (1)$$

Where knowing the value of  $y=y_i$  at  $x_i$ , we can find the value of  $y=y_{i+1}$  at  $x_{i+1}$ , and

$$h = x_{i+1} - x_i$$

Equation is equated to the first five terms of Taylor series

$$\begin{aligned} y_{i+1} &= y_i + \frac{dy}{dx} \Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i) + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} \Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i)^2 + \frac{1}{3!} \frac{d^3 y}{dx^3} \Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i)^3 \\ &\quad + \frac{1}{4!} \frac{d^4 y}{dx^4} \Big|_{x_i, y_i} (x_{i+1} - x_i)^4 \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

Knowing that  $dy/dx=f(x,y)$  and  $x_{i+1}-x_i=h$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + f(x_i, y_i)h + 1/2! f'(x_i, y_i)h^2 + 1/3! f''(x_i, y_i)h^3 + 1/4! f'''(x_i, y_i)h^4 \quad (3)$$

Based on equating equation (2) and equation (3), one of the popular solutions used is

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + 1/6 (k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h$$

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

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

$$k_3 = f(x_i + h/2, y_i + k_2/2)$$

$$k_4 = f(x_i + h, y_i + k_3)$$

### 3. Problems

**1. Using fourth order runge-kutta method. Evaluate the value of y when x=1.1 given that  $dy/dx + y/x = 1/x^2$   $y(1) = 1$**

Solution :

The formula for the fourth order Runge-kutta method of the differential equation  $dy/dx = f(x, y)$  is given by

$$k_1 = h * f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$k_2 = h * f(x_0 + h/2, y_0 + k_1/2)$$

$$k_3 = h * f(x_0 + h/2, y_0 + k_2/2)$$

$$k_4 = h * f(x_0 + h, y_0 + k_3)$$

$$\Delta y = 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

Where h is the interval of differencing and  $(x_0, y_0)$  is the initial value

$$\text{Hence } f(x, y) = 1/x^2 - y/x; \quad x_0 = 1 \quad y_0 = 1 \quad h = 0.1$$

$$K_1 = (0.1) * (1/1^2 - 1/1)$$

$$= 0$$

$$K_2 = (0.1) [(1/(x_0 + h/2)^2 - (y_0 + k_1/2)/(x_0 + h/2))]$$

$$= (0.1) [(1/(1 + 0.1/2)^2 - (1/1 + 0.1/2))]$$

$$= -0.00454$$

$$K_3 = (0.1) [(0.9070) - (1 + (-0.00454/2)/1.05)]$$

$$= 0.1(0.9070 - 0.9502)$$

$$= -0.00432$$

$$K_4 = (0.1) [(1/(1.1)^2 - (1 - 0.00432/1.1))]$$

$$= (0.1)(0.8264 - 0.9052)$$

$$= -0.00788$$

$$\Delta y = 1/6(0 - 0.00908 - 0.00864 - 0.00788)$$

$$= -0.0042667$$

$$Y_1 = y(1.1)$$

$$= y_0 + \Delta y$$

$$= 1 + (-0.0042667)$$

$$= 0.9957$$

**2. Compute y(0.1) and y(0.2) by runge kutta method of fourth order differential equation  $dy/dx = xy + y^2$ ,  $y(0) = 1$**

Solution:

The formula for the fourth order runge kutta method are

$$k_1 = h * f(x_0, y_0)$$

$$k_2 = h * f(x_0 + h/2, y_0 + k_1/2)$$

$$k_3 = h * f(x_0 + h/2, y_0 + k_2/2)$$

$$k_4 = h * f(x_0 + h, y_0 + k_3)$$

$$\Delta y = 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

Where h is the interval of differencing and  $(x_0, y_0)$  is the initial value

$$\text{Hence } f(x, y) = xy + y^2; \quad x_0 = 1 \quad y_0 = 1 \quad h = 0.1$$

$$K_1 = (0.1)(0 + 1) = 0.1$$

$$K_2 = (0.1)[(0.05(1.05) + (1.05)^2)]$$

$$= 0.1155$$

$$K_3 = (0.1)[0.05(1.05775) + (1.05775)^2]$$

$$= 0.1172$$

$$K_4 = (0.1)[(0.1)(1.1172) + (1.1172)^2]$$

$$= 0.1360$$

$$\Delta y = 1/6[0.1 + 0.2310 + 0.2344 + 0.1366]$$

$$= 0.1169$$

$$Y_1 = y_0 + \Delta y$$

$$= 1 + 0.1169$$

$$= 1.1169$$

$$y(0.1) = 1.1169$$

For the second approximation we have  $x_1 = 0.1$

$$K_1 = 0.1[0.1 * (1.1169) + (1.1169)^2]$$

$$= 0.1359$$

$$K_2 = 0.1[0.15(1.1849) + (1.1849)^2]$$

$$= 0.1582$$

$$K_3 = 0.1[0.15(1.196) + (1.196)^2]$$

$$= 0.1610$$

$$K_4 = 0.1[0.2(1.2779) + (1.2779)^2]$$

$$= 0.1889$$

$$\Delta y = 1/6[0.1359 + 0.3164 + 0.3220 + 0.1889]$$

$$= 0.1605$$

$$Y_2 = y_1 + \Delta y$$

$$= 1.1169 + 0.605$$

$$= 1.2774$$

$$Y(0.2) = 1.2774$$

**3. Use the classical RK method to estimate**

**$y(0.4)$  when  $y'(x) = x^2 + y^2$  with  $y(0) = 0$**

**assume  $h = 0.2$**

**SOLUTION :**

$$f(x, y) = x^2 + y^2$$

$$m_1 = f(x_0, y_0) = 0$$

$$m_2 = f(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, y_0 + \frac{m_1 h}{2})$$

$$= f(0.1, 0) = 0.01$$

$$m_3 = f(x_0 + \frac{h}{2}, y_0 + \frac{m_2 h}{2})$$

$$= f(\frac{0.2}{2}, \frac{0.01 \times 0.2}{2})$$

$$= 0.01$$

$$m_4 = f(x_0 + h, y_0 + m_3 h)$$

$$= f(0.2, 0.01 \times 0.2)$$

$$= 0.04$$

$$y(0.2) = 0 + \frac{0 + 2 \times 0.01 + 2 \times 0.01 + 0.04}{6} \times 0.2$$

$$= 0.002667$$

ITERATION 2

$$X_1 = 0.2$$

$$Y_1 = 0.002667$$

### 4. Application Problem

**1. In this program for Runge Kutta method in C, a function  $f(x, y)$  is defined to calculate slope whenever it is called.  $f(x, y) = (x - y)/(x + y)$**

**SOLUTION:**

**#include <studio.h>**

```
#include<math.h>
float f(float x,float y);
void main()
{
    float x0,y0,m1,m2,m3,m4,m,y,x,h,xn;
    printf("Enter x0,y0,xn,h:");
    scanf("%f %f %f %f",&x0,&y0,&xn,&h);
    x=x0;
    y=y0;
    printf("\nX\t\tY\n");
    while(x<xn)
    {
        m1=f(x0,y0);
        m2=f((x0+h/2.0),(y0+m1*h/2.0));
        m3=f((x0+h/2.0),(y0+m2*h/2.0));
        m4=f((x0+h),(y0+m3*h));
        m=((m1+2*m2+2*m3+m4)/6);
        y=y+m*h;
        x=x+h;
        printf("%f\t%f\n",x,y);
    }
    getch();
}
float f(float x,float y)
{
    float m;
    m=(x-y)/(x+y);
    return m;
}
```

**OUTPUT:**

Enter x0,y0,xn,h :  
X=  
Y=

**2. Using fourth order runge-kutta method. Evaluate the value of y when x=1.1 given that  $dy/dx+y/x=1/x^2$   $y(1)=1$**

**Solution:**

```
Function[]=runge (f,x0,y0,xn,n)
x=x0, y1=y0;
h=xn-x0/n;
disp('x rk4')
for i=1:n
    k1=h*f(x,y1);
    k2=h*f(x+0.5*h,y1+0.5*k1);
    k3=h*f(x+0.5*h,y1+0.5*k2);
    k4=h*f(x+h,y1+k3);
    Y1=y1+1/6(k1+2*k2+2*k3+k4);
    X=x+h;
    disp ([x y1])
end
disp ('RK 4th order method:')
disp ([y1])
```

**OUTPUT:**

f=@(x,y)1+y\*y;  
Runge(f,1,1, , 5)

**3. A polluted lake has an initial concentration of a bacteria of  $10^7$  parts/m<sup>3</sup>. The concentration of**

**the bacteria will reduce as fresh water enters the lake .Find the concentration of the pollutant after 7 weeks.**

$$\frac{dC}{dt} + 0.06c = 0$$

The differential equation that governs the concentration  $c$  of the pollution as a function of time (in week) is given by

$$\frac{dc}{dt} + 0.06c = 0, c(0) = 10^6$$

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = -0.06c$$

$$f(t, c) = -0.06c$$

$$c_{i+1} = c_i + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h$$

$$\text{For } i=0, t_0=0, c_0=10^7$$

$$k_1 = f(t_0, c_0)$$

$$= f(0, 10^7)$$

$$= -0.06(10^7)$$

$$= -6000000$$

$$k_2 = f(t_0 + 1/2 \times h, c_0 + 1/2 k_1 h)$$

$$= f(0 + 1/2 \times h, c_0 + 1/2 k_1 h)$$

$$= f(0 + 1/2 \times 3.5, 10^7 + 1/2(-6000000)3.5)$$

$$= f(1.75, 8950000)$$

$$= -0.06(8950000)$$

$$= -5370000$$

$$k_3 = f(t_0 + 1/2 \times h, c_0 + 1/2 k_2 h)$$

$$= f(0 + 1/2 \times 3.5, 10^7 + 1/2(-5370000)3.5)$$

$$= f(1.75, 9060300)$$

$$= -0.06(9060300)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= -543620 \\
 k_4 &= f(t_0 + h, c_0 + k_3 h) \\
 &= f(0 + 3.5, 10^7 + (-543620)3.5) \\
 &= f(3.5, 8097300) \\
 &= -0.06(8097300) \\
 &= -485840 \\
 c_1 &= c_0 + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h \\
 &= 10^7 + 1/6(-600000 + 2(-537000) + 2(-543620) + (-485840))3.5 \\
 &= 10^7 + 1/6(-3247100)3.5 \\
 &= 8.1059 \times 10^6 \text{ parts / m}^3 \\
 C_1 &\text{ is the approximate concentration of bacteria at } \\
 t=t_1=t_0+h=0+3.5=3.5 \text{ parts/m}^3 \\
 C(3.5)=C_1 &= 8.1059 \times 10^6 \text{ parts / m}^3 \\
 \text{For } i=1, t_1=3.5, C_1 &= 8.1059 \times 10^6 \\
 k_1 &= f(t_1, c_1) \\
 &= f(3.5, 8.1059 \times 10^6) \\
 &= -0.06(8.1059 \times 10^6) \\
 &= -486350 \\
 k_2 &= f(t_1 + 1/2 \times h, c_1 + 1/2 k_1 h) \\
 &= f(3.5 + 1/2 \times 3.5, 8105900 + 1/2(-486350)3.5) \\
 &= f(5.25, 7254800) \\
 &= -0.06(7254800) \\
 &= -435290 \\
 k_3 &= f(t_1 + 1/2 \times h, c_1 + 1/2 k_2 h) \\
 &= f(3.5 + 1/2 \times 3.5, 8105900 + 1/2(-440648)3.5) \\
 &= f(5.25, 7344100) \\
 &= -0.06(7444100) \\
 &= -440648 \\
 k_4 &= f(t_1 + h, c_1 + k_3 h) \\
 &= f(3.5 + 3.5, 8105900 + (-440648)3.5) \\
 &= f(7, 6563600) \\
 &= 0.06(6563600) \\
 &= -393820 \\
 c_2 &= c_1 + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h \\
 &= 8105900 + 1/6(-486350 + 2 \times (-435290) + 2 \times (-440648) + (-393820)) \times 3.5 \\
 &= 8105900 + 1/6(-2632000) \times 3.5 \\
 &= 6.5705 \times 10^6 \text{ parts / m}^3 \\
 C_2 &\text{ is the approximate concentration of bacteria at } \\
 t_2 = t_1 + h &= 3.5 + 3.5 = 7 \text{ weeks } C \\
 C(7)=C_2 &= 6.5705 \times 10^6 \text{ parts / m}^3
 \end{aligned}$$

#### PROGRAM:

```

#include<conio.h>
#include<iostream.h>
Void main()
{
float c[10], f ,t[10],h , n;
cout<<"Enter the initial values of concentration of
bacteria:";
int i;
cin>>c[0];
cout<<"Enter the initial value of time:";cin>>t[0];
cout<<"Enter the value of time in weeks at which
we want to see the concentration:";cin>>f;
cout<<"Enter the difference: ";cin>>h;
n=(f-c[0])/h;
for(i=1;i<=n;i++)

```

```
{
a=0
k1=-(.06*c[a]);
k2=-h*(.06*(c[a]+k1/2));
k3=-h*(.06*(c[a]+k2/2));
k4=-h*(.06*(c[a]+k3));
k=(k1+2*k2+2*k3+k4)/6;
y[i]=y[a]+1;
a++;
}
Cout<<"\n table ";
For (i=0;i<n;i++)
{
Cout<<"\t x=%f\ty=%f",val[i][0],val[i][1];
Cout<<"\n";
Getch();
}
```

#### Output:

Enter the initial values of concentration of bacteria:

Enter the initial value of time:

Enter the value of time in weeks at which we want to see the concentration:

Enter the difference:

**4. A ball at 1200 K is allowed to cool down in air at an ambient temperature of 300 K. Assuming heat is lost only due to radiation, the differential equation for the temperature of the ball is given by**

$$\frac{d\theta}{dt} = -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (\theta^4 - 81 \times 10^8), \theta(0) = 1200k$$

$$f(t, \theta) = -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (\theta^4 - 81 \times 10^8)$$

$$\theta_{i+1} = \theta_i + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h$$

$$\text{For } i=0, t_0=0, \theta_0=1200k$$

$$k_1 = f(t_0, \theta_0)$$

$$=f(0, 1200)$$

$$= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (1200^4 - 81 \times 10^8)$$

$$= -4.5579$$

$$k_2 = f(t_0 + 1/2h, \theta_0 + 1/2k_1h)$$

=

$$f(0 + 1/2(240), 1200 + 1/2(-4.5579) \times 240)$$

$$=f(120, 653.05)$$

$$= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (653.05^4 - 81 \times 10^8)$$

$$= -0.38347$$

$$k_3 = f(t_0 + 1/2h, \theta_0 + 1/2k_2h)$$

=

$$f(0 + 1/2(240), 1200 + 1/2(-0.38347) \times 240)$$

$$= f(120, 1154.0)$$

$$= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (1154.0^4 - 81 \times 10^8)$$

$$= -3.8954$$

$$k_4 = f(t_0 + h, \theta_0 + k_3h)$$

$$= f(0 + 240, 1200 + (-3.894) \times 240)$$

$$= f(240, 265.10)$$

$$= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (265.10^4 - 81 \times 10^8)$$

$$= -0.0069750$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta_0 + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h$$

$$= 1200 + 1/6(-4.5579 + 2(-0.38954) + 0.069750) \times 240$$

$$= 1200 + (-2.1848) \times 240$$

$$= 675.65K$$

$\theta_1$  is the approximate temperature at

$$t = t_1$$

$$= t_0 + h$$

$$= 0 + 240$$

$$= 240$$

$$\theta_1 = \theta(240)$$

$$\sim 675.65K$$

$$\text{For } i=1, t_1=240, \theta_1=675.65K$$

$$k_1 = f(t_1, \theta_1)$$

$$= f(240, 675.65)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (675.65^4 - 81 \times 10^8) &= 240 + 240 \\
 &= -0.44199 &= 480 \\
 k_2 &= f(t_1 + 1/2h, \theta_1 + 1/2k_1h) &\theta_2 = \theta(480) \\
 &= &= 594.91K \\
 &f(240 + 1/2(240), 675.65 + 1/2(-0.44199)240)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= f(360, 622.61) \\
 &= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (622.61^4 - 81 \times 10^8) \\
 &= -0.31372 \\
 k_3 &= f(t_1 + 1/2h, \theta_1 + 1/2k_2h) \\
 &= \\
 &f(240 + 1/2(240), 675.65 + 1/2(-0.31372) \times 240) \\
 &= f(360, 638.00) \\
 &= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (638.00^4 - 81 \times 10^8) \\
 &= -0.34775 \\
 k_4 &= f(t_1 + h, \theta_1 + k_3h) \\
 &= f(240 + 240, 675.65 + (-0.34775) \times 240) \\
 &= f(480, 592.19)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= -2.2067 \times 10^{-12} (592.19^4 - 81 \times 10^8) \\
 &= -0.25351 \\
 \theta_2 &= \theta_1 + 1/6(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)h \\
 &= \\
 &675.65 + 1/6(-0.31372) + 2(-0.34775) + (-0.25351) \times 240 \\
 &= 675.65 + 1/6(-2.0184) \times 240 \\
 &= 594.91K
 \end{aligned}$$

$\theta_2$  is the approximate temperature at

$$\begin{aligned}
 t &= t_2 \\
 &= t_1 + h
 \end{aligned}$$

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