
Calculus II Labs

College of Wooster

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Introduction to Sage and Ximera

SageMath is a computer algebra system which uses python, throughout these labs sage cells will be used for certain problems. This lab introduces you to the basics of using SageMath via Sage Cells.

Introduction

If you ever want to use a sage cell when one is not provided, or would like to experiment with Sage Cells, you can follow this link.

Functions

To define a function you use the notation in the following sage cell:

```
1 f(x)=x^5+3*x+4
```

SAGE

Question 1 What output did you get from evaluating the sage cell?

Multiple Choice:

- (a) None ✓
- (b) $f(x) = x^5 + 3x + 4$
- (c) $x^5 + 3x + 4$

Feedback (attempt): All we did was define a function, to see the function definition type $f(x)$.

Evaluate the function at $x = 3$ by typing $f(3)$ in the sage cell, what did you get?

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Question 2 Define $f(x) = \sin(x)^2$ in the following cell evaluate at $x = 4\pi$

Learning outcomes:
See link at <https://sagecell.sagemath.org/>

Hint: In sage, you type π for π and remember to use the carrot for powers and $*$ for multiplication!

SAGE

```
1 #To stop something from being evaluated put it in a comment using the hashtag
```

What did you get?

If you don't use function notation, or want to define a function of multiple variables you must define your variables before using them, as in the following Sage Cell. The following sage cell defines the equation $4x + y = 1$, and then solves it for y .

SAGE

```
1 var('x y')
2 eqn=4*x+y==1
3 solve(eqn,y)
```

Question 3 From the sage cell above, what can you say about “=” vs “==”?

Multiple Choice:

- (a) “=” is used for assignment and “==” is used to signify equality ✓
- (b) “=” is used to signify equality and “==” is used for assignment

Feedback (attempt): Note that you need to include the $*$ operator, go back and take out the $*$ to see how Sage Does error messages and debugging.

The solve command is also shown above, it's fairly intuitive to use, the thing you want to solve is the first parameter and what you're solving for is the second parameter.

Question 4 Using the solve command, find the roots for $f(x) = x^2 + 3x + 2$

Hint: You should be solving $f(x)$ for x

SAGE

```
1
```

Copy paste what you got in your sage cell here:

Getting Help

If you ever get stuck trying to use a command, there is built in documentation (as well as Google). Type the command followed directly by “?” to get extensive documentation on how to use it with examples. Try this for the solve command in the following cell.

1

 SAGE

Euler's Method

Julia: I know Wooster has oil, but this is kind of ridiculous don't you think?

Dylan: What are you talking about Julia?

Julia: My professor keeps talking about Oiler's Method. Like, what is that?
This is calculus, not geology.

Dylan: Actually, it's *Euler's* Method. He was a Swiss mathematician who came up with a way of approximating solutions to differential equations when we start with a given value!

James: That's right Dylan! Euler did a lot more than just that though; he's considered to be one the greatest mathematicians of all time!

Introduction

Euler's Method is a simple method of approximating the solution to a differential equation given an initial value, y_0 , at a point t_0 , or $y(t_0) = y_0$. Additionally, $F(t, y)$ is given, which is equivalent to $\frac{dy}{dt}y$. From here, the user chooses a step size, h , and uses

$$y_k = y_{k-1} + h \cdot F(t_{k-1}, y_{k-1})$$

to approximate the value at a point t_1 , which is h units away from t_0 , or $t_1 = t_0 + h$. At this point, we repeat the process, evaluating $F(t, y)$ at our new point, and moving another h units along the t -axis. By continuing this process, it is possible to approximate the solution at a point other than that which we are given.

Question 1 *What alteration to h might produce a more accurate estimation?*

Multiple Choice:

- (a) *Increase the size of h to ignore minor jumps that would make the prediction less accurate.*
- (b) *Decrease the size of h to take into account very minor alterations in the function's derivative. ✓*

Learning outcomes:

- (c) Use an h equivalent to the functional value at the point.
- (d) Use an h equivalent to the value of the derivative at that point.

Hint: Consider a function with a rapidly changing derivative. How might a larger step-size approximate the rapid changes? A smaller one?

When will this approximation be the best? When will it be the worst?

```
\flexFold{0}{\begin{multipleChoice}
\choice{The approximation will be the best at rapid changes and worst where minimal change occurs.}
\choice{The approximation will be equally good at all points.}
\choice{The approximation will be best where the graph stays positive or negative, and worst where it changes sign.}
\choice[correct]{The approximation will be best where little change occurs, and worst where change is rapid.}
\end{multipleChoice}
\begin{hint}
Think about the derivative of the graph here, and how it affects the shape.
\end{hint}}
```

Guided Example

Given

$$F(t, y) = t + 2y$$

and the initial condition

$$y(0) = 0,$$

we will approximate the value of the solution at $t = 1$ using various step sizes.

Using a step size of $h = 0.5$, we find $t_1 = h + t_0 = 0.5 + 0 = 0.5$. Next, we see that $y_1 = y_0 + h \cdot F(t_0, y_0)$, or $y_1 = 0 + 0.5(t_0 + 2y_0) = 0 + (0 + 2 \cdot 0) = 0$. Thus, $y(t_1) = y(0.5) = 0$.

On step two, we see $t_2 = 0.5 + 0.5 = 1$, and $y_2 = 0 + 0.5(0.5 + 2 \cdot 0) = 0.25$. Thus $y(t_2) = y(1) = 0.25$.

Let's check our estimation - the actual solution to our differential equation was

$$y = 0.25 \cdot e^{2t} - 0.5t - 0.25.$$

Don't worry about how we found this; just note that at $t = 1$, $y = 1.097$.

Clearly, our estimation is not very good. But look at our step size! We moved an entire unit in only two steps - but that's an easy fix. Let's look at the result when we use $h = 0.02$ - we'll spare you the calculations and just let you know that $y_{50} = 1.0266$. Clearly a much better approximation! By simply decreasing h , we can increase the accuracy of Euler's Method greatly, at the cost of much harder work if done by hand.

On Your Own

- (a) For the following, use step sizes of 0.5, 0.25, and 0.1 in combination to approximate the given point. *Euler's Method does not require each step to be the same size.*
- (i) $F(t, y) = t^2 - y$, $y(2) = 3$ at $y(3.5)$.
 - (ii) $F(t, y) = y + t$, $y(0) = 1$ at $y(3.85)$.
 - (iii) $F(t, y) = t \sin(y)$, $y(1) = 2$ at $y(2.4)$.

Dylan: Euler's Method is cool and all, but the approximation is so bad if I want it done in a reasonable amount of time without a computer.

James: Well, we typically will use a computer with Euler's Method, but there is a modification of Euler's Method that is much more accurate! It's known as *Euler's Midpoint Method*, which uses the derivative at the midpoint of the step, so the change is better approximated.

Julia: How much better is it?

James: Let's take a look!

The equation for Euler's Midpoint Method is

$$y_k = y_{k-1} + h \cdot m_{k-1},$$

$$\text{where } m_{k-1} = F\left(t_{k-1} + \frac{h}{2}, y_{k-1} + \frac{h}{2}F(t_{k-1}, y_{k-1})\right).$$

- (a) Using both Euler's Method and Euler's Midpoint Method, approximate the solution $y(t)$ at the given point.
- (i) $F(t, y) = y + t$, $y(0) = 1$, $h = 0.1$ at $y(0.5)$.
 - (ii) $F(t, y) = t^2 - y$, $y(1) = 3$, $h = 0.2$ at $y(2)$.

Julia: Wow! Euler's Method is pretty cool!

Dylan: Yeah, it means I don't have to always mess around with integrating if I'm given the derivative of a function and have to find a point!

James: Let's make sure we remember what we learned today, okay?

In Summary

Definition 1. ***Euler's Method** is a system which approximates solutions of first order differential equations by using the rate of change over a small distance to approximate the actual change. The basic method uses the equation*

$$y_k = y_{k-1} + h \cdot F(t_{k-1}, y_{k-1}),$$

$$\text{where } \frac{dy}{dt} = F(t, y),$$

h is step size, and $F(t_{k-1}, y_{k-1})$ is the derivative at the previous point.

Definition 2. ***Euler's Midpoint Method** is a modified version of Euler's Method, which uses the derivative at the midpoint between the end and start of the step to better approximate the rate of change over the step. This method uses a slightly modified equation,*

$$y_k = y_{k-1} + h \cdot m_{k-1},$$

$$\text{where } m_{k-1} = F\left(t_{k-1} + \frac{h}{2}, y_{k-1} + \frac{h}{2} F(t_{k-1}, y_{k-1})\right).$$