

>>> Efficient numerical solutions for oscillatory
differential equations

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>>> Overview
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1. Introduction

2. Runge-Kutta

3. Wentzel-Kramers-Brillouin

4. RKWKB

5. Challenges

>>> The problem and why it matters

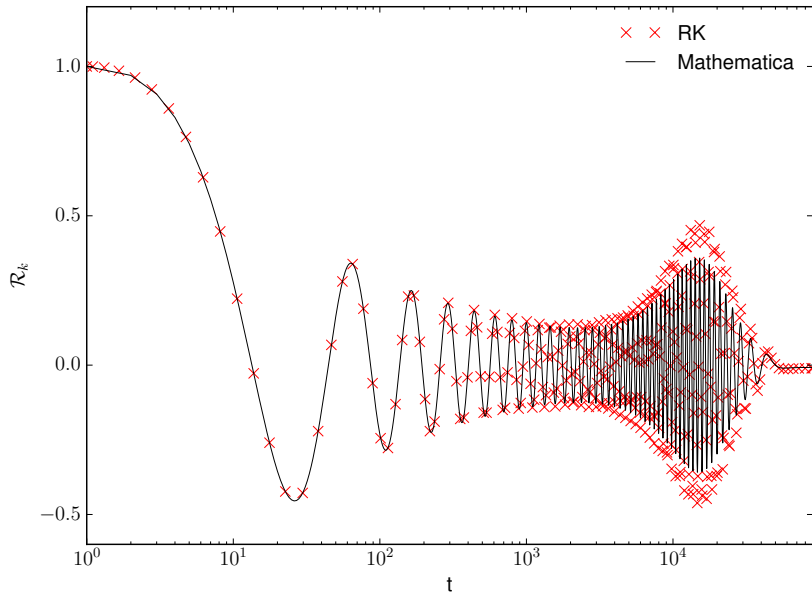
ODE-s with oscillatory solutions abound in physics:

- * Quantum mechanics
- * Plasma physics, MHD
- * Cosmology: Boltzmann equations, Mukhanov-Sasaki equation

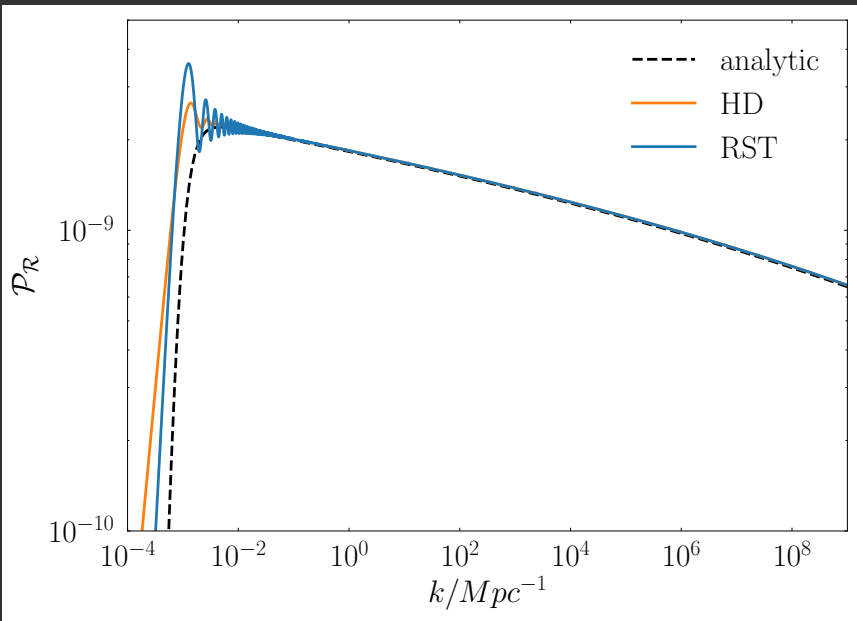
$$\ddot{x} + 2\gamma(t)\dot{x} + \omega^2(t)x = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \ddot{x} + 2\gamma(\vec{y})\dot{x} + \omega^2(\vec{y})x &= 0 \\ \dot{\vec{y}} &= \vec{F}(\vec{y}) \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

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>>> An example
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>>> An example



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>>> The problem and why it matters
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- * Conventional methods are not efficient at solving these
- * Fast computation would allow one to
 - * evaluate likelihoods faster,
 - * explore a larger parameter space,
 - * not use approximations

>>> Why Runge-Kutta is so successful

At the heart of Runge-Kutta methods is a simple idea:

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + hF_i + \frac{h^2}{2} \left(\frac{dF}{dt} \right)_{t_i} + \mathcal{O}(h^3)$$

simulated by

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + b_1 h F_i + b_2 h F(t_i + c_1 h, y_i + a_1 h F_i).$$

- * Taylor expand around t_i, y_i ,
- * match coefficients of h .
- * Pair with *adaptively updating* h ¹

¹more about this later.

>>> The Wentzel-Kramers-Brillouin approximation

- * So why not use Runge-Kutta?

- * polynomials might not be the most suitable trial solutions

- * Try instead:

$$f(t) \sim A(t)e^{i\phi(t)}$$

for a *slowly changing* frequency:

$$f_{\pm}(t) \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{\omega(t)}} e^{\pm i \int^t \omega(\tau) d\tau + \dots}$$

>>> Merging RK and WKB: the RKWKB method

- * Embed the WKB approx. in a Runge-Kutta stepping procedure
- * At each step, forecast solution:

$$x(t+h) = A_+ f_+(t) + A_- f_-(t)$$

$$\dot{x}(t+h) = B_+ \dot{f}_+(t) + B_- \dot{f}_-(t)$$

$$A_{\pm}, B_{\pm} \left(\{f_{\pm}, \dot{f}_{\pm}, \ddot{f}_{\pm}, x, \dot{x}\}_t \right)$$

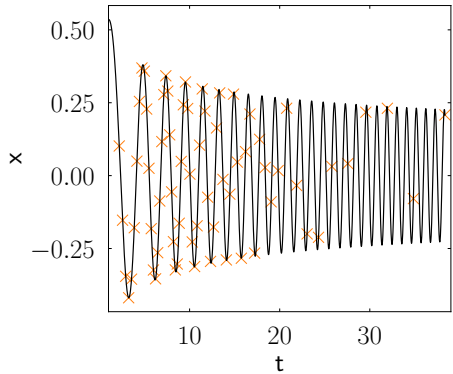
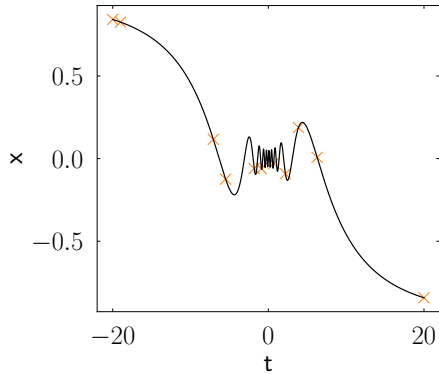
- * Approximate the error per step as Δ , then

$$h = h \cdot \left(\frac{\Delta}{\Delta^*} \right)^{-1/N},$$

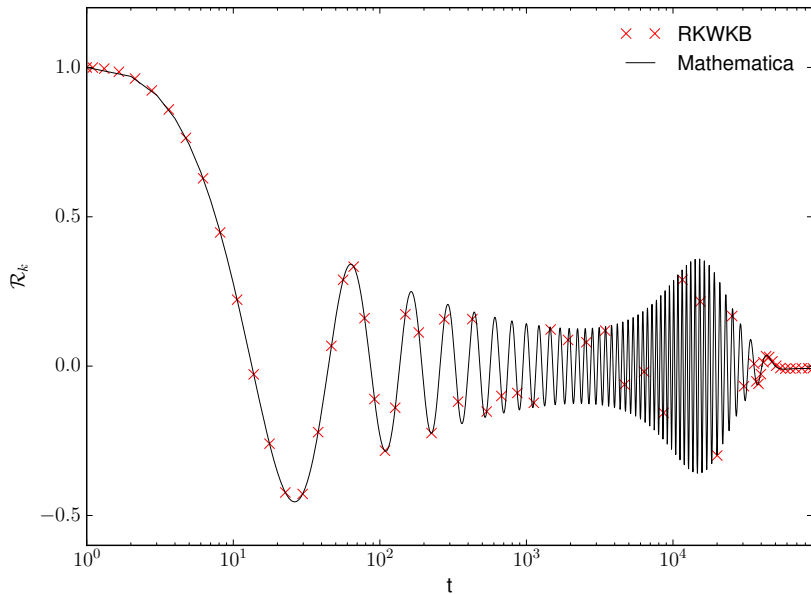
if one expects $\Delta \sim h^N$ and Δ^* is a threshold.

- * Switch between RK/WKB.

>>> Examples



>>> Examples



>>> Challenges

- * Higher order WKB approximations require $\dot{\omega}, \ddot{\omega}, \dots$
- * These are not always available as a fn of t :

$$\dot{\omega} = \nabla_{\vec{y}} \omega \cdot \vec{\dot{y}} = \nabla_{\vec{y}} \omega \cdot F(\vec{y})$$

- * Can supply gradients, Hessians by hand -> cumbersome
- * automatic differentiation -> slow?
- * numerical differentiation

>>> Thank you!