

Ordinary differential equations

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Introduction	Explicit methods	Implicit methods	Systems of ODEs	Conclusion
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Today's outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Explicit methods
 - Forward Euler
 - Convergence rate
 - Runge-Kutta methods
 - Step size control
- 3 Implicit methods
 - Backward Euler
 - Implicit midpoint method
- 4 Systems of ODEs
 - Solution methods for systems of ODEs
 - Stiff systems of ODEs
 - Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab
- 5 Conclusion

Introduction	Explicit methods	Implicit methods	Systems of ODEs	Conclusion
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What is an ODE?

- Algebraic equation:

$$f(y(x), x) = 0 \quad \text{e.g. } -\ln(K_{eq}) = (1 - \zeta)$$

- First order ODE:

$$f\left(\frac{dy}{dx}(x), y(x), x\right) = 0 \quad \text{e.g. } \frac{dc}{dt} = -kc^n$$

- Second order ODE:

$$f\left(\frac{d^2y}{dx^2}(x), \frac{dy}{dx}(x), y(x), x\right) = 0 \quad \text{e.g. } \mathcal{D} \frac{d^2c}{dx^2} = -\frac{kc}{1 + Kc}$$

Overview

Ordinary differential equations

An equation containing a function of one independent variable and its derivatives, in contrast to a *partial differential equation*, which contains derivatives with respect to more independent variables.

Main question

How to solve

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(y(x), x) \quad \text{with} \quad y(x=0) = y_0$$

accurately and efficiently?

About second order ODEs

Very often a second order ODE can be rewritten into a system of first order ODEs (whether it is handy depends on the boundary conditions!)

More general

Consider the second order ODE:

$$\frac{d^2 y}{dx^2} + q(x) \frac{dy}{dx} = r(x)$$

Now define and solve using z as a new variable:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = z(x)$$

$$\frac{dz}{dx} = r(x) - q(x)z(x)$$

Overview

Initial value problems:

- Explicit methods
 - First order: forward Euler
 - Second order: improved Euler (RK2)
 - Fourth order: Runge-Kutta 4 (RK4)
 - Step size control
- Implicit methods
 - First order: backward Euler
 - Second order: midpoint rule

Boundary value problems

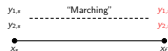
- Shooting method

Importance of boundary conditions

The nature of boundary conditions determines the appropriate numerical method. Classification into 2 main categories:

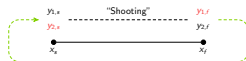
• Initial value problems (IVP)

We know the values of all y_i at some starting position x_s , and it is desired to find the values of y_i at some final point x_f .



• Boundary value problems (BVP)

Boundary conditions are specified at more than one x . Typically, some of the BC are specified at x_s and the remainder at x_f .



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Solution methods for systems of ODEs
Stiff systems of ODEs
Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab

5 Conclusion

Euler's method

Consider the following single initial value problem:

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = f(c(t), t) \quad \text{with} \quad c(t=0) = c_0 \quad (\text{initial value problem})$$

Easiest solution algorithm: Euler's method, derived here via Taylor series expansion:

$$c(t_0 + \Delta t) \approx c(t_0) + \left. \frac{dc}{dt} \right|_{t_0} \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{d^2c}{dt^2} \right|_{t_0} (\Delta t)^2 + O(\Delta t^3)$$

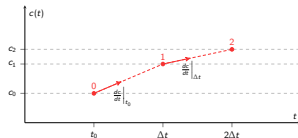
Neglect terms with higher order than two: $\left. \frac{dc}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \frac{c(t_0 + \Delta t) - c(t_0)}{\Delta t}$

Substitution:

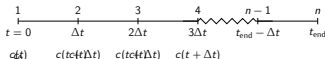
$$\frac{c(t_0 + \Delta t) - c(t_0)}{\Delta t} = f(c_0, t_0) \Rightarrow c(t_0 + \Delta t) = c(t_0) + \Delta t f(c_0, t_0)$$

Euler's method: graphical example

$$\frac{c(t_0 + \Delta t) - c(t_0)}{\Delta t} = f(c_0, t_0) \Rightarrow c(t_0 + \Delta t) = c(t_0) + \Delta t f(c_0, t_0)$$



Euler's method - solution method



Start with $t = t_0$, $c = c_0$, then calculate at discrete points in time:
 $c(t_1 = t_0 + \Delta t) = c(t_0) + \Delta t f(c_0, t_0)$.

Pseudo-code Euler's method: $\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y)$ and $y(x_0) = y_0$.

1 Initialize variables, functions; set $h = \frac{x_1 - x_0}{N}$

2 Set $x = x_0$, $y = y_0$

3 While $x < x_{\text{end}}$ do

$x_{i+1} = x_i + h$; $y_{i+1} = y_i + hf(x_i, y_i)$

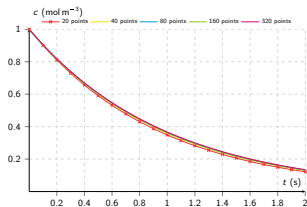
Euler's method - example

First order reaction in a batch reactor:

$$\frac{dc}{dt} = -kc \quad \text{with} \quad c(t=0) = 1 \text{ mol m}^{-3}, \quad k = 1 \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad t_{\text{end}} = 2 \text{ s}$$

Time [s]	Concentration [mol m ⁻³]
$t_0 = 0$	$c_0 = 1.00$
$t_1 = t_0 + \Delta t$	$c_1 = c_0 + \Delta t \cdot (-kc_0)$
	$= 1 + 0.1 \cdot (-1 \cdot 1) = 0.9$
$t_2 = t_1 + \Delta t$	$c_2 = c_1 + \Delta t \cdot (-kc_1)$
	$= 0.9 + 0.1 \cdot (-1 \cdot 0.9) = 0.81$
$t_3 = t_2 + \Delta t$	$c_3 = c_2 + \Delta t \cdot (-kc_2)$
	$= 0.81 + 0.1 \cdot (-1 \cdot 0.81) = 0.729$
...	...
$t_{i+1} = t_i + \Delta t$	$c_{i+1} = c_i + \Delta t \cdot (-kc_i)$
...	...
$t_{20} = 2.0$	$c_{20} = c_{19} + \Delta t \cdot (-kc_{19}) = 0.1211577$

Euler's method - example

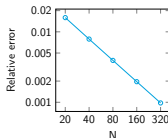


Accuracy

Comparison with analytical solution for $k = 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$:

$$c(t) = c_0 \exp(-kt) \Rightarrow \zeta = 1 - \exp(-kt) \Rightarrow \zeta_{\text{analytical}} = 0.864665$$

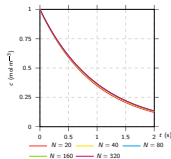
N	ζ	$\frac{\zeta_{\text{numerical}} - \zeta_{\text{analytical}}}{\zeta_{\text{analytical}}}$
20	0.878423	0.015912
40	0.871488	0.007891
80	0.868062	0.003929
160	0.866360	0.001961
320	0.865511	0.000979



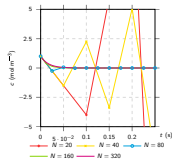
Problems with Euler's method

The question is: What step size, or how many steps to use?

- 1 **Accuracy** \Rightarrow need information on numerical error!
- 2 **Stability** \Rightarrow need information on stability limits!



Reaction rate: $k = 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$



Reaction rate: $k = 50 \text{ s}^{-1}$

Accuracy

For Euler's method: Error halves when the number of grid points is doubled, i.e. error is proportional to Δt : first order method.

Error estimate:

$$\left. \frac{dx}{dt} \right|_{t_0} = \frac{x(t_0 + \Delta t) - x(t_0)}{\Delta t} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \bigg|_{t_0} (\Delta t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t)^2$$

$$\frac{x(t_0 + \Delta t) - x(t_0)}{\Delta t} = f(x_0, t_0) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} \bigg|_{t_0} (\Delta t) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t)^2$$

Runge-Kutta methods — derivation

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h(b_1 + b_2)f_i + h^2 b_2 \left(c_2 \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \bigg|_i + a_{2,1} f_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \bigg|_i \right) + \mathcal{O}(h^3)$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + hf_i + \frac{h^2}{2} \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \bigg|_i + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \bigg|_i f_i \right) + \mathcal{O}(h^3)$$

⇒ 3 eqns and 4 unknowns ⇒ multiple possibilities!

1 Classical RK2:

$$b_1 = b_2 = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and } c_2 = a_{2,1} = 1$$

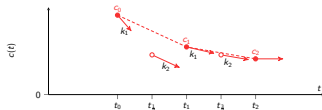
2 Midpoint rule (modified Euler):

$$b_1 = 0, b_2 = 1, c_2 = a_{2,1} = \frac{1}{2}$$

Second order Runge-Kutta method — Example

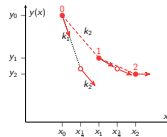
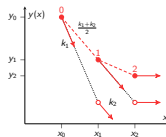
First order reaction in a batch reactor: $\frac{dc}{dt} = -kc$ with $c(t=0) = 1 \text{ mol m}^{-3}$, $k = 1 \text{ s}^{-1}$, $t_{\text{end}} = 2 \text{ s}$.

Time [s]	$C [\text{mol m}^{-3}]$	$k_1 = hf(x_i, y_i)$	$k_2 = hf(x_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}hk_1)$
0	1.00	$0.1 \cdot (-1, 1) = -0.1$	$0.1 \cdot (-1 \cdot (1 - 0.5 \cdot 0.1)) = -0.095$
0.1	$1 - 0.095 = 0.905$	$0.1 \cdot (-1 \cdot (0.905)) = -0.0905$	$0.1 \cdot (-1 \cdot (0.905 - 0.5 \cdot 0.0905)) = -0.085975$
...
2	0.1358225	-0.0135822	-0.0129031



Second order Runge-Kutta methods

Classical RK2 method (= Heun's method, improved Euler method)	Explicit midpoint rule (modified Euler method)
$k_1 = f_i$	$k_1 = f_i$
$k_2 = f(x_i + h, y_i + hk_1)$	$k_2 = f(x_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}hk_1)$
$y_{i+1} = y_i + \frac{1}{2}h(k_1 + k_2)$	$y_{i+1} = y_i + hk_2$



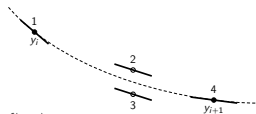
RK2 method — order of convergence

N	ζ	$\frac{\zeta_{\text{numerical}} - \zeta_{\text{analytical}}}{\zeta_{\text{analytical}}}$	$r = \frac{\log\left(\frac{\zeta_i}{\zeta_{i-1}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{h_i}{h_{i-1}}\right)}$
20	0.864178	5.634×10^{-4}	—
40	0.864548	1.355×10^{-4}	2.056
80	0.864636	3.323×10^{-5}	2.028
160	0.864658	8.229×10^{-6}	2.014
320	0.864663	2.048×10^{-6}	2.007

⇒ RK2 is a second order method. Doubling the number of cells reduces the error by a factor 4!

Can we do even better?

RK4 method (classical fourth order Runge-Kutta method)



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

$$k_2 = f(x_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}hk_1)$$

$$k_3 = f(x_i + \frac{1}{2}h, y_i + \frac{1}{2}hk_2)$$

$$k_4 = f(x_i + h, y_i + hk_3)$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h \left(\frac{1}{6}k_1 + \frac{1}{3}(k_2 + k_3) + \frac{1}{6}k_4 \right)$$

Adaptive step size control

The step size (be it either position, time or both (PDEs)) cannot be decreased indefinitely to favour a higher accuracy, since each additional grid point causes additional computation time. It may be wise to adapt the step size according to the computation requirements.

Globally two different approaches can be used:

- 1 Step doubling: compare solutions when taking one full step or two consecutive halve steps
- 2 Embedded methods: Compare solutions when using two approximations of different order

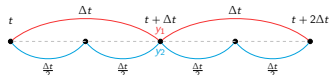
RK4 method — order of convergence

N	ζ	$\frac{\zeta_{\text{numerical}} - \zeta_{\text{analytical}}}{\zeta_{\text{analytical}}}$	$r = \frac{\log\left(\frac{\zeta_i}{\zeta_{i-1}}\right)}{\log\left(\frac{N_i}{N_{i-1}}\right)}$
20	0.864664472	2.836×10^{-7}	—
40	0.864664702	1.700×10^{-8}	4.060
80	0.864664716	1.040×10^{-9}	4.030
160	0.864664717	6.435×10^{-11}	4.015
320	0.864664717	4.001×10^{-12}	4.007

⇒ RK4 is a fourth order method: Doubling the number of cells reduces the error by a factor 16!

Can we do even better?

Adaptive step size control: step doubling



- RK4 with one large step of h : $y_{i+1} = y_i + ch^5 + \mathcal{O}(h^6)$
- RK4 with two steps of $\frac{1}{2}h$: $y_{i+1} = y_i + 2c(\frac{1}{2}h)^5 + \mathcal{O}(h^6)$

N	ζ	$\frac{\zeta_{\text{numerical}} - \zeta_{\text{analytical}}}{\zeta_{\text{analytical}}}$	$r = \frac{\log \frac{\zeta_i}{\zeta_{i-1}}}{\log \frac{N_i}{N_{i-1}}}$
20	0.5526916174	1.71×10^{-4}	—
40	0.5527633731	4.17×10^{-5}	2.041
80	0.5527807304	1.03×10^{-5}	2.021
160	0.5527849965	2.55×10^{-6}	2.011
320	0.5527860538	6.34×10^{-7}	2.005

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Systems of ODEs: Explicit methods

Forward Euler method

$$\mathbf{y}_{i+1} = \mathbf{y}_i + h\mathbf{f}(x_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$$

Improved Euler method (classical RK2)

$$\mathbf{y}_{i+1} = \mathbf{y}_i + \frac{h}{2}(\mathbf{k}_1 + \mathbf{k}_2) \quad \text{using} \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbf{k}_1 &= \mathbf{f}(x_i, \mathbf{y}_i) \\ \mathbf{k}_2 &= \mathbf{f}(x_i + h, \mathbf{y}_i + h\mathbf{k}_1) \end{aligned}$$

Modified Euler method (midpoint rule)

$$\mathbf{y}_{i+1} = \mathbf{y}_i + h\mathbf{k}_2 \quad \text{using} \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbf{k}_1 &= \mathbf{f}(x_i, \mathbf{y}_i) \\ \mathbf{k}_2 &= \mathbf{f}(x_i + \frac{h}{2}, \mathbf{y}_i + \frac{h}{2}\mathbf{k}_1) \end{aligned}$$

Systems of ODEs

A system of ODEs is specified using vector notation:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dx} = \mathbf{f}(x, \mathbf{y}(x))$$

for

$$\frac{dy_1}{dx} = f_1(x, y_1(x), y_2(x)) \quad \text{or} \quad f_1(x, y_1, y_2)$$

$$\frac{dy_2}{dx} = f_2(x, y_1(x), y_2(x)) \quad \text{or} \quad f_2(x, y_1, y_2)$$

The solution techniques discussed before can also be used to solve systems of equations.

Systems of ODEs: Explicit methods

Classical fourth order Runge-Kutta method (RK4)

$$\mathbf{y}_{i+1} = \mathbf{y}_i + h \left(\frac{\mathbf{k}_1}{6} + \frac{1}{3}(\mathbf{k}_2 + \mathbf{k}_3) + \frac{\mathbf{k}_4}{6} \right)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{f}(x_i, \mathbf{y}_i)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{f}(x_i + \frac{h}{2}, \mathbf{y}_i + \frac{h}{2}\mathbf{k}_1)$$

$$\text{using} \quad \mathbf{k}_3 = \mathbf{f}(x_i + \frac{h}{2}, \mathbf{y}_i + \frac{h}{2}\mathbf{k}_2)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_4 = \mathbf{f}(x_i + h, \mathbf{y}_i + h\mathbf{k}_3)$$

Systems of ODEs: Implicit methods

Backward Euler method

$$\mathbf{y}_{i+1} = \mathbf{y}_i + h \left(1 - h \frac{d\mathbf{f}}{d\mathbf{y}} \bigg|_i \right)^{-1} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_i)$$

Implicit midpoint method

$$\mathbf{y}_{i+1} = \mathbf{y}_i + h \left(1 - \frac{h}{2} \frac{d\mathbf{f}}{d\mathbf{y}} \bigg|_i \right)^{-1} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_i)$$

Demonstration with example

Forward Euler (explicit)

$$\frac{dc_{1,i+1} - c_{1,i}}{dt} = 998c_{1,i} + 1998c_{2,i}$$

$$\frac{dc_{2,i+1} - c_{2,i}}{dt} = -999c_{1,i} - 1999c_{2,i}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow c_{1,i+1} &= (1 + 998\Delta t) c_{1,i} + 1998\Delta t c_{2,i} \\ c_{2,i+1} &= -999\Delta t c_{1,i} + (1 - 1999\Delta t) c_{2,i} \end{aligned}$$

Stiff systems of ODEs

A system of ODEs can be stiff and require a different solution method. For example:

$$\frac{dc_1}{dt} = 998c_1 + 1998c_2 \quad \frac{dc_2}{dt} = -999c_1 - 1999c_2$$

with boundary conditions $c_1(t=0) = 1$ and $c_2(t=0) = 0$.

The analytical solution is:

$$c_1 = 2e^{-t} - e^{-1000t} \quad c_2 = -e^{-t} + e^{-1000t}$$

For the explicit method we require $\Delta t < 10^{-3}$ despite the fact that the term is completely negligible, but essential to keep stability.

The "disease" of stiff equations: we need to follow the solution on the shortest length scale to maintain stability of the integration, although accuracy requirements would allow a much larger time step.

Demonstration with example

Backward Euler (implicit)

$$\frac{dc_{1,i+1} - c_{1,i}}{dt} = 998c_{1,i+1} + 1998c_{2,i+1}$$

$$\frac{dc_{2,i+1} - c_{2,i}}{dt} = -999c_{1,i+1} - 1999c_{2,i+1}$$

$$\begin{aligned} (1 - 998\Delta t) c_{1,i+1} - 1998\Delta t c_{2,i+1} &= c_{1,i} \\ 999\Delta t c_{1,i+1} + (1 + 999\Delta t) c_{2,i+1} &= c_{2,i} \end{aligned}$$

$$A\mathbf{c}_{i+1} = \mathbf{c}_i \text{ with } A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 998\Delta t & -1998\Delta t \\ 999\Delta t & 1 + 999\Delta t \end{pmatrix} \text{ and } \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{1,i} \\ c_{2,i} \end{pmatrix}$$

Demonstration with example

Backward Euler (implicit) $A c_{i+1} = c_i$ with

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 - 998\Delta t & -1998\Delta t \\ 999\Delta t & 1 + 1999\Delta t \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{b} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{1,i} \\ c_{2,i} \end{pmatrix}$$

Cramers rule:

$$c_{1,i+1} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} c_{1,i} & -1998\Delta t \\ c_{2,i} & 1 + 1999\Delta t \end{vmatrix}}{\det(A)} = \frac{(1 + 1999\Delta t)c_{1,i} + 1998\Delta t c_{2,i}}{(1 - 998\Delta t)(1 + 1999\Delta t) + 1998 \cdot 999\Delta t^2}$$

$$c_{2,i+1} = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 - 998\Delta t & c_{1,i} \\ 999\Delta t & c_{2,i} \end{vmatrix}}{\det(A)} = \frac{-999\Delta t c_{1,i} + (1 - 998\Delta t)c_{2,i}}{(1 - 998\Delta t)(1 + 1999\Delta t) + 1998 \cdot 999\Delta t^2}$$

Forward Euler: $\Delta t \leq 0.001$ for stability

Backward Euler: always stable, even for $\Delta t > 100$ (but then not very accurate!)

Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab

Matlab provides convenient procedures to solve (systems of) ODEs automatically.

The procedure is as follows:

- 1 Create a function that specifies the ODEs. Specifically, this function returns the $\frac{dy}{dx}$ vector.
- 2 Initialise solver variables and settings (e.g. step size, initial conditions, tolerance), in a separate script
- 3 Call the ODE solver function, using a *function handle* to the ODE function described in point 1.
 - The ODE solver will return the vector for the independent variable, and a solution vector (matrix for systems of ODEs).

Demonstration with example

Cure for stiff problems: use implicit methods! To find out whether your system is stiff: check whether one of the eigenvalues have an imaginary part

Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab: example

We solve the system: $\frac{dx_1}{dt} = -x_1 - x_2$, $\frac{dx_2}{dt} = x_1 - 2x_2$

Create an ODE function

```
function [dxdt] = myODEFunction(t,x)
dxdt(1) = -x(1) - x(2);
dxdt(2) = x(1) - 2*x(2);
dxdt=dxdt'; % Transpose to column vector
return
```

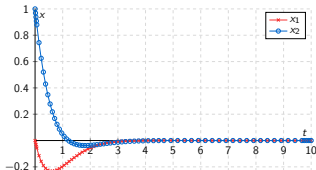
Create a solution script

```
x_init = [0 1]; % Initial conditions
tspan = [0 10]; % Time span
options = odeset('RelTol',1e-4,'AbsTol',[1e-4 1e-4]);
[t,x] = ode45(@myODEFunction,tspan,x_init,options);
```

Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab: example

Plot the solution:

```
plot(t,x(:,1),'r-x',t,x(:,2),'b-o')
```



Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab: example

You may have noticed that the step size in t varied. This is because we have given the begin and end times of our time span:

```
tspan = [0 10]:
```

You can also solve at specific steps, by supplying all steps explicitly, e.g.:

```
tspan = linspace(0,10,101);
```

This example provides 101 explicit time steps between 0 and 10 seconds.

Note that you may affect the efficiency and accuracy of the solver algorithm by doing this!

Solving systems of ODEs in Matlab: example

A few notes on working with `ode45` and other solvers. If we want to give additional arguments (e.g. `a`, `b` and `c`) to our ODE function, we can list them in the function line:

```
function [dxdt] = myODE(t,x,a,b,c)
```

The additional arguments can now be set in the solver script by *adding them after the options*:

```
[t,x] = ode45(@myODE,tspan,x_0,options,a,b,c):
```

- Of course, in the solver script, the variables do not need to be called `a`, `b` and `c`:

```
[t,x] = ode45(@myODE,tspan,x_0,options,ki,phi,V);
```
- These variables may be of any type (vectors, matrix, struct). Especially a struct is useful to carry many values in 1 variable.

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Today's outline

Other methods

Other explicit methods:

- Burlisch-Stoer method (Richardson extrapolation + modified midpoint method)

Other implicit methods:

- Rosenbrock methods (higher order implicit Runge-Kutta methods)
- Predictor-corrector methods

Summary

- Several solution methods and their derivation were discussed:
 - Explicit solution methods: Euler, Improved Euler, Midpoint method, RK45
 - Implicit methods: Implicit Euler and Implicit midpoint method
 - A few examples of their spreadsheet implementation were shown
- We have paid attention to accuracy and instability, rate of convergence and step size
- Systems of ODEs can be solved by the same algorithms. Stiff problems should be treated with care.
- An example of solving ODEs with Matlab was demonstrated.