

## Lecture 18:

# Ordinary Differential Equations

CS 111: Intro to Computational Science  
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# Administrative

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- Last homework (Assignment 9) due Wednesday
  - Remember: it's in 2 parts!
- Last Lab Thursday
- Questions about the Final Exam?

# Lecture Outline

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- Reviewing what we know about ODEs
- Characteristics of ODEs as Matrices
- Solving ODEs using Polynomial Approaches
  - The Runge-Kutta Methods using numpy's **solve\_ivp()**

# Ordinary Differential Equations

- Recall: you are given a diff. equation of the form

$$\frac{dy(t)}{dt} = f(t, y(t))$$

- Examples:  $\frac{dy}{dt} = ay + q(t)$       Linear first-order D.E.  
 $\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -ky$       Linear second-order D.E.

# Ordinary Differential Equations

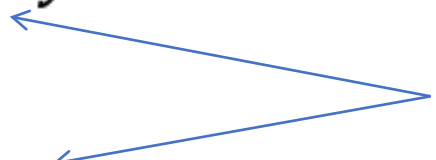
- Also, recall that there are certain “forms” for answers to typical ODEs
  - But not for all of them!
- For example, an ODE of the type
  - $\mathbf{y}' = k$  has a solution of  $\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{t}) = k\mathbf{t} + \mathbf{C}$
  - $\mathbf{y}' = k\mathbf{y}$  has a solution of  $\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{C}e^{A\mathbf{t}}$
  - $\mathbf{y}'' + a\mathbf{y} = k$  has a solution of  $\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{t}) = \mathbf{C}_1 \sin(\omega\mathbf{t}) + \mathbf{C}_2 \cos(\omega\mathbf{t}) + k$
  - Etc...
- But don't worry about re-memorizing this stuff
  - We have computer programs to solve these ODEs for us, after all!!!!

# System of $n$ ODEs with $n$ unknowns

- Examples:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = Ay$$
$$\frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = -Sy$$

*$A$  and  $S$  are Matrices!*



- Notation notes:

$\dot{y}$  is the same as  $y'$  is the same as  $dy/dt$

$\ddot{y}$  is the same as  $y''$  is the same as  $d^2y/dt^2$

# ODEs in Matrices

- So we can express the ODE system as:  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$

- For example, let  $\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$

- So:  $\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$

Remember:  $x(t)$  and  $y(t)$  are functions of  $t$

Therefore:  $\begin{cases} x' = 2y \\ y' = 8x \end{cases} \Rightarrow x'' = 2y' \Rightarrow y' = \frac{1}{2} x''$

Therefore:

$$x'' - 16x = 0 \quad (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ order ODE})$$

# Example Continued...

$$x'' - 16x = 0 \quad (2^{\text{nd}} \text{ order ODE})$$

- We can solve this in the following fashion (*reach back to your calculus courses!*):

$$s^2 - 16 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow s = 4, -4$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{The general solution to this ODE is: } \underline{x(t) = C_1 e^{4t} + C_2 e^{-4t}}$$

- Since  $y(t) = \frac{1}{2} x'(t)$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{y(t) = \frac{1}{2} (4.C_1 e^{4t} - 4.C_2 e^{-4t}) = 2.C_1 e^{4t} - 2.C_2 e^{-4t}}$$

- BTW, how might we figure out what  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  are??



# Example Continued...

- So: with  $\mathbf{x}' = \mathbf{Ax}$

$$\mathbf{x} = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} C_1 e^{4t} + C_2 e^{-4t} \\ 2C_1 e^{4t} - 2C_2 e^{-4t} \end{bmatrix} = C_1 e^{4t} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{v}_1} + C_2 e^{-4t} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{v}_2}$$

*the sqrt(5) factor isn't important...*

$$\mathbf{A} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- Note that:  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_1 = 4\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{v}_2 = -4\mathbf{v}_2$ 
  - So, what does that make 4 and -4, and  $\mathbf{v}_1$  and  $\mathbf{v}_2$  ????

$$\begin{bmatrix} x' \\ y' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2 \\ 8 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \end{bmatrix}$$

Eigenvalues are the values in the solution:  
 $\mathbf{y} = C_1 e^{\lambda_1} \mathbf{v}_1 + C_2 e^{\lambda_2} \mathbf{v}_2$

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 $\mathbf{y} = C_1 e^{\lambda_1} \mathbf{v}_1 + C_2 e^{\lambda_2} \mathbf{v}_2$

```
a = np.array([[0,2],[8,0]])
d,V = np.linalg.eig(a)
print('evalues =', d, '\n')
print('evectors =\n', V, '\n')
print('K.evectors (where K = sqrt(5)) =\n', np.sqrt(5)*V)
```

```
evalues = [ 4. -4.]
```

```
evectors =
[[ 0.4472136 -0.4472136 ]
 [ 0.89442719 0.89442719]]
```

```
K.evectors (where K = sqrt(5)) =
[[ 1. -1.]
 [ 2. 2.]
```

# But Computing Eigen-“stuff” is Expensive...

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... computationally, speaking

Is there a more efficient way to solve ODEs?

Even if it uses approximations?

(common theme in this course, isn't it?)

# Python Function: `solve_ivp()`

- Found in the `scipy` module (in `scipy.integrate`)
  - Solves an ODE with initial conditions using a method called “Runge-Kutta”

`solve_ivp(fun, t_span, y0, method)` *i.e. Given an ODE, find  $y(t)$*

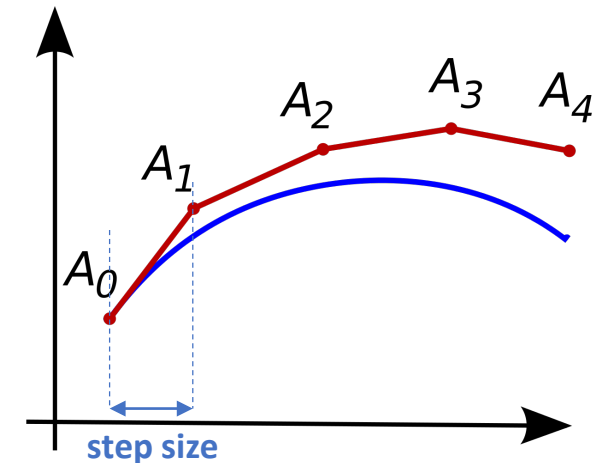
- `fun` function to solve (as a **callback**, aka function pointer)
- `t_span` range of  $t$
- `y0` initial value  $y_0 = y(t_0)$
- `method` algorithmic method type, e.g. ‘RK45’ (default) or ‘RK23’
- *There are other options that we can ignore to default*

# Runge-Kutta Methods

- Family of **iterative numerical methods** used in *temporal discretization* for the *approximate solutions of ordinary differential equations*.
- We will use them as the *primary engine* in our ODE solvers
- In **scipy**, **RK45** utilizes a 4<sup>th</sup> order polynomial approach, **RK23** a 3<sup>rd</sup> order one
  - There are several others that are built-in and can be used
  - Note that the Math literature will sometimes call these by other names
  - We will explore some of them with more details, in the next lesson
  - See <https://docs.scipy.org/doc/scipy/reference/integrate.html> for a full list

# Runge-Kutta Methods

- **Iterative** numerical methods used in *temporal discretization* for the *approximate solutions of ordinary differential equations*.
- Precision of the approximation is determined by a **step-size**



- Nice write-up on Wikipedia:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Runge%E2%80%93Kutta\\_methods](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Runge%E2%80%93Kutta_methods)

Example: Solve for  $y' = 0.5 y, \quad y(0) = 2$

*Preview answer:*

$$y(t) = 2e^{0.5t}$$

- First define the function **f(t,y)**
  - Define **ydot** (i.e.  $y'$ ), example: **ydot = y/2**
- Then: define **yinit** and **t\_span**
  - Example: **yinit = [2]** and **tspan = (0,10)**
- Then: call the function **solve\_ivp()** accordingly
  - With all its options set up correctly...
- Use the solution to **plot** a visual answer
  - You can Compare it against the actual answer, if you know it

# Quick! To the Python-mobile!





# Your TO DOs!

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- Finish assignment 9 by Wednesday!
- Lab Thursday!

**</LECTURE>**