

Lecture 19:

Euler's Method

CS 111: Intro to Computational Science
Spring 2023

Ziad Matni, Ph.D.
Dept. of Computer Science, UCSB

Administrative

- Final Exam Review (optional):

Friday, June 9th

PHELP 2510

10:00 AM – 11:45 AM

Euler Method

**A numerical method
to approximate an ODE solution**

Comes from the identity: $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y)$

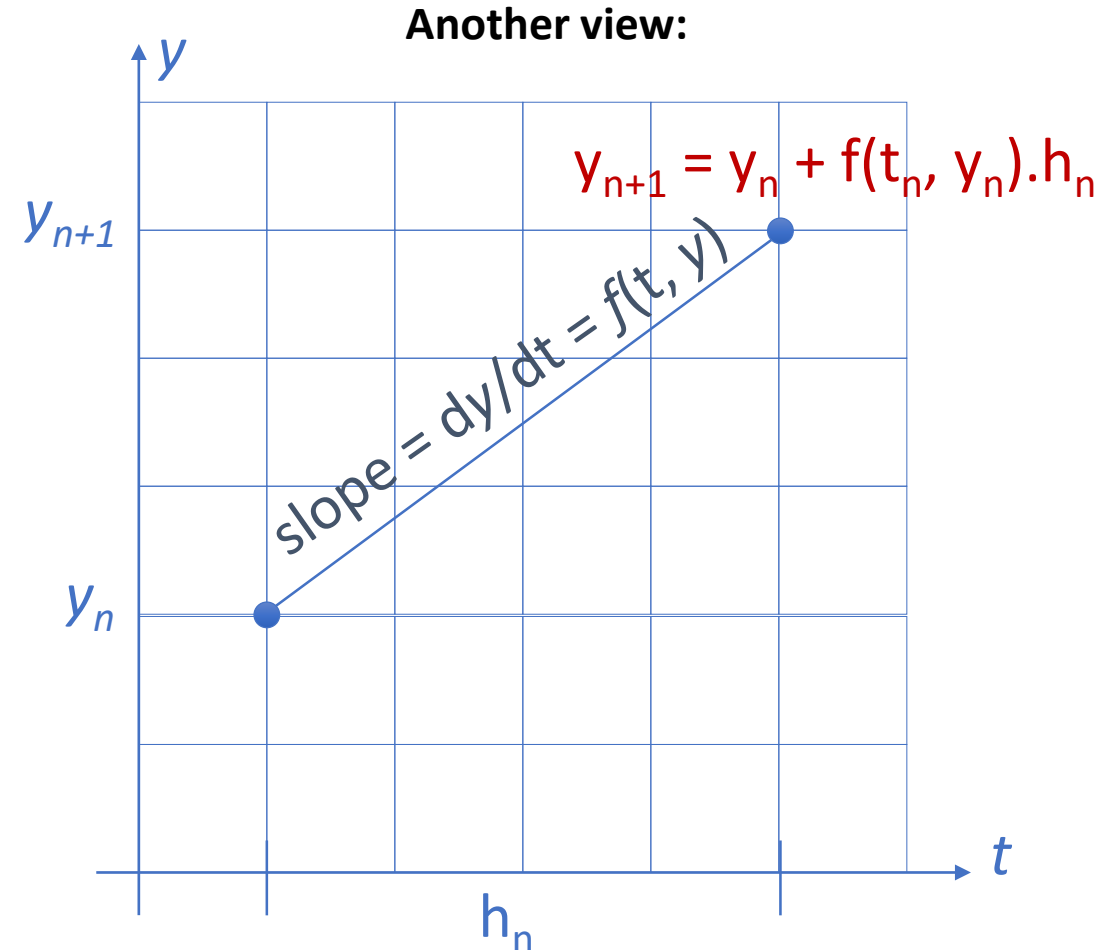
Which can be expressed as: $\frac{y_{n+1} - y_n}{h_n} = f(t_n, y_n)$

h is some small number

So: $y_{n+1} = y_n + f(t_n, y_n) \cdot h_n$

↑ ↑ ↑
next value *current value* *change*

A basis for an iterative method!



Euler Method

- Let's see how we can use *discretization approximation* methods to solve an ODE
- We'll do the case of $dy/dt = y$ with $y(0) = 1$
 - We know that this solution should be: $y(t) = e^t$
- *To the blackboard!!...*

Consider $\frac{dy}{dt} = y(t)$ & $y(0) = 1$

ie. $y(t) = e^t$

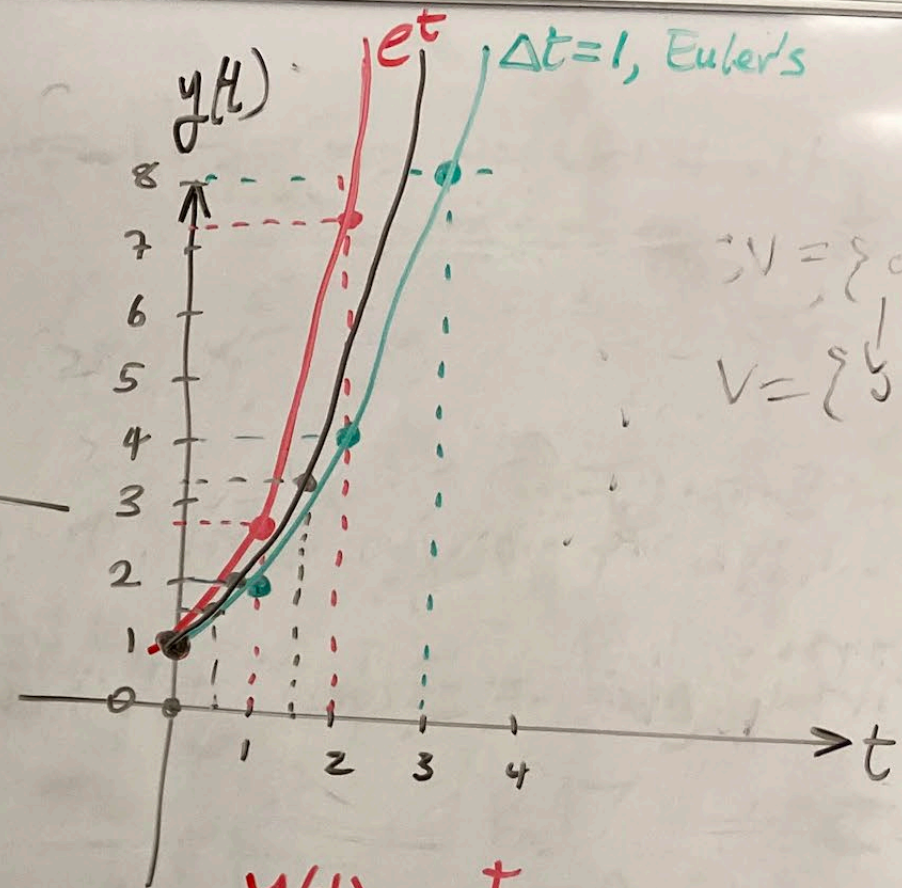
EULER'S: Assume a step size $\Delta t = 1$

$\Delta t = 1$

t	$y(t)$	$\frac{dy}{dt}$
0	1	1
1	2	2
2	4	4
3	8	8

$\Delta t = 0.5$

t	$y(t)$	dy/dt
0	1	1
0.5	1.5	1.5
1.0	2.25	2.25
1.5	3.375	3.375
...



$y(t) = e^t$
 $y(0) = e^0 = 1$
 $y(1) = e^1 \approx 2.71$
 $y(2) = e^2 \approx 7.39$

Euler's Method

- It's prone to giving larger errors *if the step size isn't small enough*
 - i.e. the **error** is *proportional* to the **step size**
- It's called an “*explicit method*” because
 - it only uses information at time t_n
 - to advance the solution to time t_{n+1}
- This has implications for **stability** of this method

Developing Algorithms for Euler's Method

- We'll develop function `ode1(fun, t_span, y0, h)` as our “**Forward Euler Method**” and use it to solve ODEs
 - We'll analyze its effectiveness
- We'll then develop `ode2(fun, t_span, y0, h)` that will utilize 2 slopes instead of 1 to give a better approximation
 - This is akin to a higher-order polynomial approach which is what the Runge-Kutta Methods use!

We Will Demo...

- $y' = 0.5 y$; $y(0) = 1$
 - Note: this has a solution of $y = e^{0.5t}$
- $y'' = 1 - y$
 - This has a general solution of $y = A.\sin(\omega_0.t) + B.\cos(\omega_0.t) + C$
 - When you graph this, it just looks like a generic sinusoidal wave
 - Also known as an undamped harmonic oscillator

Quick! To the Python-mobile!



Your To-Dos

- Study for the Final Exam! 😊

Good luck with all your Exams!
Have a Great Summer Break!

</LECTURE>