

Interpolating a fixed-step ODE solution

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Problem

Given a differential equation

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

initial condition $\mathbf{y}(t_0) = \mathbf{y}_0$, and n increasing time points $t_i > t_0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$, solve values $\mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{y}(t_i)$, where $i = 1, \dots, n$, using a fixed-step ODE solver with step size h .

Algorithm

1. For $i = 1, \dots, n$, define R_i as the largest integer r which satisfies $t_0 + r \cdot h < t_i$.
2. For $i = 1, \dots, n$, define $A_i = \frac{h-D_i}{h}$, where $D_i = t_i - (t_0 + R_i \cdot h)$.
3. Solve $\mathbf{y}_j = \mathbf{y}(t_0 + j \cdot h)$, for $j = 1, \dots, R_n + 1$, using the fixed-step solver.
4. Use linear interpolation

$$\mathbf{x}_i = A_i \cdot \mathbf{y}_{R_i} + (1 - A_i) \cdot \mathbf{y}_{R_i+1}.$$

for each $i = 1, \dots, n$.

