

Remember to adequately label all plots and include any requested code listings with your solutions. *Only include those scripts and functions which are requested.* Show your work for problems that you do by hand. A clear and complete presentation of your solutions is required for full credit.

1. *Initial Value Problems.* This homework is intended to demonstrate that there is a difference between good and not so good numerical methods for solving initial value problems. Consider the second order IVP for the function  $z(t)$  given by

$$z'' + 0.05 z' + z^3 = 7.5 \cos(t), \quad z(0) = 0, \quad z'(0) = 1.$$

Your assignment is to compute  $z(70)$  as accurately as your computer allows.

- (a) By introducing the new variables  $u_1 = z$  and  $u_2 = z'$ , rewrite the IVP as a system  $\mathbf{u}' = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{u}(t))$ , where  $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2)$ .
- (b) Try the following two methods, with a variety of step sizes  $h$ :
  - Euler's Method:

$$\mathbf{u}_{n+1} = \mathbf{u}_n + h \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{u}_n).$$

- Fourth Order Runge-Kutta:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{k}_1 &= \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{u}_n), \\ \mathbf{k}_2 &= \mathbf{f}(t_n + \frac{h}{2}, \mathbf{u}_n + \frac{h}{2} \mathbf{k}_1), \\ \mathbf{k}_3 &= \mathbf{f}(t_n + \frac{h}{2}, \mathbf{u}_n + \frac{h}{2} \mathbf{k}_2), \\ \mathbf{k}_4 &= \mathbf{f}(t_n + h, \mathbf{u}_n + h \mathbf{k}_3), \\ \mathbf{u}_{n+1} &= \mathbf{u}_n + \frac{h}{6}(\mathbf{k}_1 + 2\mathbf{k}_2 + 2\mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4). \end{aligned}$$

Use the values

$$u_1^{\text{ex}}(70) = 1.582857756103056, \quad u_2^{\text{ex}}(70) = -2.835763853877514$$

as “exact” and plot the mean-square error  $\varepsilon = \sqrt{(u_1 - u_1^{\text{ex}})^2 + (u_2 - u_2^{\text{ex}})^2}$  at  $t = 70$  as a function of  $h$ .

- (c) If  $h$  is small enough, the error is expected to follow a power law  $\varepsilon \approx ch^p$ . Determine  $c$  and  $p$  from your plot and estimate the number of time steps required to reach  $\varepsilon < 10^{-5}$  with Euler's method. Is your computer fast enough? Discuss your results.

*Note:* Unless you take  $h$  small enough, neither of these two methods will be stable. To be on the safe side (inside the stability region), take  $h < 8.75 \times 10^{-3}$  for Euler and  $h < 0.35$  for Runge-Kutta.