Numerical Methods for Ordinary Differential Equations

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Initial value problem

Simple methods

Pseudo-Spectral Methods

Explicit Runge Kutta

High-dimensional IVPs

Initial value problem

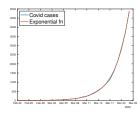
Def: Initial value problem (IVP):

$$\begin{cases} y'(t) &= f(t, y), \\ y(0) &= y_0. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Def: Picard integral equation: $y(t) = y_0 + \int_0^t f(\tau, y) \ d\tau$ ▶ E.g. Exponential grow/decay $y(t) = ce^{\lambda t}$

$$\begin{cases} y'(t) &= \lambda y(t), \\ y(0) &= c. \end{cases}$$

Real life example: Covid cases



Three-body problem

► A famous scientific fiction by Cixin Liu







- ▶ Motions of Moon, Earth, and the Sun
- ► Generalization: *N*-body simulation

Three-body problem mathematical description

- Approximate bodies by point particles
- ► *G*: gravitational constant
- ightharpoonup Mass: m_i
- ▶ Position vector of *i*th particle (x_i, y_i, z_i)
- Distance between each particle $d_{i,j} = \sqrt{(x_i x_j)^2 + (y_i y_j)^2 + (z_i z_j)^2}$
- Newtonian equations of motion,

$$\begin{split} m_1 \frac{d^2 x_1}{dt^2} &= -\frac{G m_1 m_2 (x_1 - x_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{G m_1 m_3 (x_1 - x_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ m_1 \frac{d^2 y_1}{dt^2} &= -\frac{G m_1 m_2 (y_1 - y_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{G m_1 m_3 (y_1 - y_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ m_1 \frac{d^2 z_1}{dt^2} &= -\frac{G m_1 m_2 (z_1 - z_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{G m_1 m_3 (z_1 - z_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \end{split}$$

Reformulation

- ▶ Velocity vector of *i*th particle (u_i, v_i, w_i)
- ► Hamiltonian formalism

$$\begin{split} \frac{dx_1}{dt} &= u_1, \\ \frac{dy_1}{dt} &= v_1, \\ \frac{dz_1}{dt} &= w_1, \\ \frac{du_1}{dt} &= -\frac{Gm_2(x_1 - x_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{Gm_3(x_1 - x_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ \frac{dv_1}{dt} &= -\frac{Gm_2(y_1 - y_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{Gm_3(y_1 - y_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ \frac{dw_1}{dt} &= -\frac{Gm_2(z_1 - z_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{Gm_3(z_1 - z_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ \vdots &\vdots \end{split}$$

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Euler's method

▶ IVP for $t \in [0, T]$:

$$\begin{cases} y'(t) &= f(t, y), \\ y(0) &= y_0. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Use n equispace grids, $\Delta t = \frac{T}{n}$
- $t_j = \frac{jT}{n}$
- ▶ Linear approximation: $y(t_{j+1}) \approx y(t_j) + y'(t_j)\Delta t$
- **Explicit Euler's method**: $y(t_{j+1}) = y(t_j) + f(t_j, y(t_j))\Delta t$
- Analysis:
 - Accuracy
 - Stability
- Question: What is the local truncation error of explicit Euler's method?



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- $y(\Delta t) y_0 y_0' \Delta t = \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2)$



Global error

- ▶ **Question**: How about global error?
- $|f(t,y_1) f(t,y_2)| \le K|y_1 y_2|$

Global error

- Question: How about global error?
- $|f(t, y_1) f(t, y_2)| \le K|y_1 y_2|$
- Comparison

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \Delta t f(t_n, y_n) + \frac{y''(\xi_n)}{2} \Delta t^2,$$

$$\widetilde{y}_{n+1} = \widetilde{y}_n + \Delta t f(t_n, \widetilde{y}_n).$$

- $e_{n+1} = e_n + \Delta t [f(t_n, y_n) f(t_n, \widetilde{y}_n)] + \frac{y''(\xi_n)}{2} \Delta t^2$
- $|e_{n+1}| \le |e_n| + \Delta t K |e_n| + \frac{L}{2} \Delta t^2$
- $|e_{n+1}| \le (1 + \Delta t K)|e_n| + \frac{L}{2}\Delta t^2$
- $|e_{n+1}| \le \left[1 + (1 + \Delta tK) + \dots + (1 + \Delta tK)^{n-1}\right] \frac{L}{2} \Delta t^2$
- $|e_{n+1}| \le \frac{(1+\Delta tK)^n 1}{2K} L\Delta t \le \frac{e^{TK} 1}{2K} L\Delta t$
- ▶ **Def**: $|e(\Delta t)| \approx c\Delta t^p$, then it is pth **order** method
- Euler's method is the first order method



Stability

For stability, we always consider $y(t)=e^{-\lambda t}$, $\lambda>0$ with

$$y'(t) = -\lambda y(t),$$

$$y(0) = 1.$$

- Despite accuracy, the solution should decay
- ► Explicit Euler's method: $y_{n+1} = y_n \Delta t \lambda y_n = (1 \Delta t \lambda) y_n$
- ▶ Need $|1 \Delta t\lambda| < 1 \Rightarrow \Delta t < \frac{2}{\lambda}$
- Question: How to improve the stability?

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- Question: How to improve the stability?
- ► $y(t) = y_0 + \int_0^t f(\tau, y) \ d\tau$
- ▶ Implicit Euler's method: $y_{n+1} = y_n + \Delta t f(t_{n+1}, y_{n+1})$
- ► For this example, $y_{n+1} = y_n \Delta t \lambda y_{n+1} \Rightarrow y_{n+1} = \frac{y_n}{1 + \Delta t \lambda}$
- ▶ Remark: Implicit method improves the stability
- Question: Drawback of implicit methods?



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- Question: Drawback of implicit methods?
- Computation expensive



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- $y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(t_n, y_n) + f(t_{n+1}, y_{n+1})]$
- ▶ **Question**: What is the local truncation error?

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- Question: What is the local truncation error?
- ► Equivalent to analyze $y(\Delta t) = y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(0, y(0)) + f(\Delta t, y(\Delta t))]$
- y(t) = 1: 1 = 1 + 0
- y(t) = t: $\Delta t = 0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2}[1+1]$
- $y(t) = t^2$: $\Delta t^2 = 0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [0 + 2\Delta t]$
- $y(t) = t^3$: $\Delta t^3 \neq 0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [0 + 3\Delta t^2]$
- $|e(\Delta t)| = \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^3)$
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- $y(t) = t^3$: $\Delta t^3 \neq 0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [0 + 3\Delta t^2]$
- $|e(\Delta t)| = \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^3)$
- Question: What is the global error?
- $\triangleright \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2)$
- second order method



Stability analysis

$$y'(t) = -\lambda y(t)$$

$$y_{\Delta t} = y_0 - \frac{\lambda \Delta t}{2} (y_0 + y_{\Delta t})$$

$$\qquad \qquad \left(1 + \frac{\lambda \Delta t}{2}\right) y_{\Delta t} = \left(1 - \frac{\lambda \Delta t}{2}\right) y_0$$

Stable

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Pseudo-spectral method

- $y(t) = y_0 + \int_0^t f(\tau, y) d\tau$
- ▶ Question: How to obtain arbitrage high-order?

Pseudo-spectral method

- $y(t) = y_0 + \int_0^t f(\tau, y) \ d\tau$
- ▶ **Question**: How to obtain arbitrage high-order?
- ▶ Suppose $0 \le t_1 < \dots < t_n \le \Delta t$

$$\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_n \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{y}_0 = \begin{bmatrix} y_0 \\ \vdots \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} f(t_1, y_1) \\ \vdots \\ f(t_n, y_n) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Solves $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(\mathbf{y})$
- ightharpoonup Calculate $y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{sf}(\mathbf{y})$
- Advantages: have good math properties



Question: A simplest way to solve $y = y_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(y)$?

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- $\mathbf{y}^{[i+1]} = \mathbf{y}_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]})$
- ightharpoonup Error: $\mathbf{e}^{[i]} = \mathbf{y} \mathbf{y}^{[i]}$

$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}) - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]}) = \begin{bmatrix} f(y_1) \\ \vdots \\ f(y_n) \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} f(y_1^{[i]}) \\ \vdots \\ f(y_n^{[i]}) \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} f'(y_1)(y_1 - y_1^{[i]}) \\ \vdots \\ f'(y_n)(y_n - y_n^{[i]}) \end{bmatrix}$$

▶
$$\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}) - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]}) \approx \begin{bmatrix} f'(y_1) & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & f'(y_2) & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & f'(y_n) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 - y_1^{[i]} \\ y_2 - y_2^{[i]} \\ \vdots \\ y_n - y_n^{[i]} \end{bmatrix}$$

- ▶ Question: Converge?



- ▶ **Question**: A simplest way to solve $y = y_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(y)$?
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- **▶ Question**: Converge?
- $ightharpoonup \max |\lambda(\Delta t \mathbf{SJ}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]}))| < 1$



Newton's method

▶ **Question**: Newton's method to solve $y = y_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(y)$?

Newton's method

- ▶ **Question**: Newton's method to solve $y = y_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(y)$?
- Solve root-finding for $g(y) = y y_0 \Delta t \mathbf{Sf}(y)$
- $\mathbf{y}^{[i+1]} = \mathbf{y}^{[i]} \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{g}}^{-1}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]})\mathbf{g}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]})$
- $\mathbf{y}^{[i+1]} = \mathbf{y}^{[i]} (\mathbf{I} \Delta t \mathbf{S} \mathbf{J}_{\mathbf{f}}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]}))^{-1} (\mathbf{y}^{[i]} \mathbf{y}_0 \Delta t \mathbf{S} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}^{[i]}))$

Comparison for a linear ODE

Scalar linear ODE:

$$\begin{cases} y'(t) &= \lambda y(t), \\ y(0) &= 0. \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Picard integral: $y(t) = y_0 + \lambda \int_0^t y(\tau) \ d\tau$
- ► Discretization: $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_0 + \Delta t \lambda \mathbf{S} \mathbf{y}$
- Solution: $(\mathbf{I} \Delta t \lambda \mathbf{S})\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_0$
- Newton: Directly solve $\mathbf{y} = (\mathbf{I} \Delta t \lambda \mathbf{S})^{-1} \mathbf{y}_0$
- Picard iteration: Solve it by Neumann series $\mathbf{y}^{[i+1]} = \mathbf{y}_0 + \Delta t \lambda \mathbf{S} \mathbf{y}^{[i]}$



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Motivation

- Picard integral equation: $y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \int_0^{\Delta t} f(\tau, y) \ d\tau$
- ► For high-order, $\int_0^{\Delta t} f(\tau, y) d\tau \approx \Delta t \sum_j w_j f(t_j, y_j)$
- Question: How to simplify the calculation?

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- ▶ Question: How to simplify the calculation?
- ightharpoonup Predict y_i using previous information
- ► E.g. Trapezoidal method: $y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(0, y_0) + f(\Delta t, y_{\Delta t})]$

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- ► E.g. Trapezoidal method: $y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(0, y_0) + f(\Delta t, y_{\Delta t})]$
- ▶ Let $\widetilde{y}_{\Delta t} \approx y_0 + \Delta t f(0, y_0)$
- ► Heun's method:

$$y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(0, y_0) + f(\Delta t, y_0 + \Delta t f(0, y_0))]$$

Question: Local truncation error?



Convergence analysis

▶ Taylor expansion of $y_{\Delta t}$

$$y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + y_0' \Delta t + \frac{y_0''}{2} \Delta t^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^3)$$

$$= y_0 + f(0, y_0) \Delta t + \frac{f'(0, y_0)}{2} \Delta t^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^3)$$

$$= y_0 + f(0, y_0) \Delta t + \frac{f_t(0, y_0) + f_y(0, y_0) f(0, y_0)}{2} \Delta t^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^3)$$

Taylor expansion of Heun's method

$$y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[f(0, y_0) + f(\Delta t, y_0 + \Delta t f(0, y_0)) \right]$$

$$= y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[2f(0, y_0) + \Delta t f_t(0, y_0) + \Delta t f(0, y_0) f_y(0, y_0) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^2) \right]$$

$$= y_0 + f(0, y_0) \Delta t + \frac{f_t(0, y_0) + f_y(0, y_0) f(0, y_0)}{2} \Delta t^2 + \mathcal{O}(\Delta t^3)$$

Second order method



Example

Constant ODE:

$$\begin{cases} y'(t) &= \lambda y(t), \\ y(0) &= y_0. \end{cases}$$

► Heun's method:

$$y_{\Delta t} = y_0 + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(0, y_0) + f(\Delta t, y_0 + \Delta t f(0, y_0))]$$

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RK4

- ▶ The most common RK: RK4
- $y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{\Delta t}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$
- $k_1 = f(t_n, y_n)$
- $k_2 = f\left(t_n + \frac{\Delta t}{2}, y_n + \Delta t \frac{k_1}{2}\right)$
- $k_3 = f\left(t_n + \frac{\Delta t}{2}, y_n + \Delta t \frac{k_2}{2}\right)$
- $k_4 = f(t_n + \Delta t, y_n + \Delta t k_3)$
- Works very good empirically
- Question: Do we need to worry about stability?
- Balance between stability and accuracy
- Advantages: Simple yet effective



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Background

- Prey and Predators
- ► E.g. Rabbit and wolves, fish and sharks . . .
- ightharpoonup R(t) number of prey
- ightharpoonup W(t) number of predators
- ▶ In the absence of predators,

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = kR, \quad k > 0.$$

▶ In the absence of prey,

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = -rW, \quad r > 0.$$

► Interaction: RW



Predator-prey equations

Predator-prey equations or Lotka-Volterra equations

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = kR - aRW,$$

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = -rW + bRW.$$

Sample solutions:

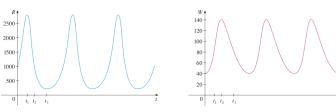
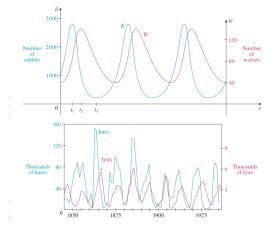


FIGURE 4 Graphs of the rabbit and wolf populations as functions of time

Real data

- Hudson's Bay Company: trading in animal furs
- Snowshoe hare and Canada lynx



Question: How to solve this equation?



Explicit methods

Predator-prey equations:

$$\frac{dR}{dt} = kR - aRW,$$

$$\frac{dW}{dt} = -rW + bRW.$$

Vector form: $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} R \\ W \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} kR - aRW \\ -rW + bRW \end{bmatrix}$ $\frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}).$

Explicit Euler's method:

Explicit methods

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

• Explicit Euler's method: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n)\Delta t$

$$R_{n+1} = R_n + (kR_n - aR_nW_n)\Delta t,$$

$$W_{n+1} = W_n + (-rW_n + bR_nW_n)\Delta t.$$



Heun's method

Predator-prey equations

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Heun's method

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- ▶ Heun's method: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n) + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n + \Delta t \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n))]$



Predator-prey equations

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▶ Vector form: $\mathbf{y} = \begin{bmatrix} R \\ W \end{bmatrix}$ and $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} kR - aRW \\ -rW + bRW \end{bmatrix}$

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

- ► RK4: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \frac{\Delta t}{6} (\mathbf{k}_1 + 2\mathbf{k}_2 + 2\mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4)$
- $\mathbf{k}_1 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n)$
- $\mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{f} \left(\mathbf{y}_n + \Delta t \frac{\mathbf{k}_1}{2} \right)$
- **k** $_3 =$ **f** $\left($ **y** $_n + \Delta t \frac{$ **k** $_2}{2} \right)$
- $\mathbf{k}_4 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n + \Delta t \mathbf{k}_3)$



► Implicit Euler's method:

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$$R_{n+1} = R_n + (kR_{n+1} - aR_{n+1}W_{n+1})\Delta t,$$

$$W_{n+1} = W_n + (-rW_{n+1} + bR_{n+1}W_{n+1})\Delta t.$$

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Remark: More complicated than the explicit Euler method!



► Trapezoidal's rule:

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- ▶ Root-finding: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1} \mathbf{y}_n \frac{\Delta t}{2}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n) + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_{n+1})) = \mathbf{0}$
- Newton's method: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1}^{[i+1]} = \mathbf{y}_{n+1}^{[i]} \left(\mathbf{I} \frac{\Delta t}{2}\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{y}_{n+1}^{[i]})\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{y}_{n+1}^{[i]} \mathbf{y}_n \frac{\Delta t}{2}(\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n) + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_{n+1}^{[i]})\right)$

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High-order using polynomials

For simplicity, focus on $[0, \Delta t]$ and use n nodes

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$$\mathbf{r} = \begin{bmatrix} R_1 \\ \vdots \\ R_n \end{bmatrix}, \ \mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} W_1 \\ \vdots \\ W_n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{f}_{1}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{w}) = \begin{bmatrix} kR_{1} - aR_{1}W_{1} \\ \vdots \\ kR_{n} - aR_{n}W_{n} \end{bmatrix}, \mathbf{f}_{2}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{w}) = \begin{bmatrix} -rW_{1} + bR_{1}W_{1} \\ \vdots \\ -rW_{n} + bR_{n}W_{n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Discretization:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r} \\ \mathbf{w} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{r}_0 \\ \mathbf{w}_0 \end{bmatrix} + \Delta t \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{S} & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{S} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{w}) \\ \mathbf{f}_2(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{w}) \end{bmatrix}.$$

- ▶ In general, write $\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_0 + \Delta t \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{y})$
- ► Solve by Newton's method



N-body simulation

- Position vector (x_i, y_i, z_i) and Velocity vector (u_i, v_i, w_i)
- Hamiltonian formalism

$$\begin{split} \frac{dx_1}{dt} &= u_1, \\ \frac{dy_1}{dt} &= v_1, \\ \frac{dz_1}{dt} &= w_1, \\ \frac{du_1}{dt} &= -\frac{Gm_2(x_1 - x_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{Gm_3(x_1 - x_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ \frac{dv_1}{dt} &= -\frac{Gm_2(y_1 - y_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{Gm_3(y_1 - y_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ \frac{dw_1}{dt} &= -\frac{Gm_2(z_1 - z_2)}{d_{1,2}^3} - \frac{Gm_3(z_1 - z_3)}{d_{1,3}^3}, \\ \vdots &\vdots \end{split}$$

Computation comparison

- $ightharpoonup \frac{d\mathbf{y}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y})$
- \triangleright Assume n particles, then we have 6n equations
- ightharpoonup Fix the same interval $[0, \Delta t]$
- Explicit Euler's method: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n)\Delta t$
- Major work: evaluate $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_n)$ of size 6n, roughly $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$
- Implicit Euler's method: $\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{y}_{n+1})\Delta t$
- ▶ Major work: solve root-finding of size 6n, roughly $\mathcal{O}((n)^3)$
- Pseudo-spectral method using m nodes:

$$\mathbf{Y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{Y}_n + \Delta t \mathbf{S} \otimes \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{Y}_n)$$

- ▶ Major work: solve root-finding of size 6mn, roughly $\mathcal{O}((mn)^3)$
- Question: Why pseudo-spectral?
- Better solution after solved, much better accuracy

