

# Physics 584 Computational Methods

Introduction to Matlab and Numerical Solutions to Ordinary  
Differential Equations

Ryan Ogliore

February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2018

# Lecture Outline

Introduction to Matlab

Numerical Solutions to Ordinary Differential Equations

Euler's Method

Taylor Methods

Runge-Kutta Methods

Homework Assignment

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- ▶ A high-level interpreted language (not compiled) but can run compiled C or Fortran code.
- ▶ Used broadly in science and engineering, including industry.
- ▶ **Matlab's power comes from its ease of use, easy debugging, pre-built set of toolboxes, interactive development environment, and visualization.**

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## Example of a Useful Toolbox: Matlab Coder

**Matlab Coder** generates readable and portable C and C++ code from Matlab code.

- ▶ It supports most of the Matlab language and a wide range of toolboxes.
- ▶ You can integrate the generated code into your projects as source code, static libraries, or dynamic libraries.
- ▶ You can also use the generated code within the Matlab environment to accelerate computationally intensive portions of your Matlab code.
- ▶ Matlab Coder lets you incorporate legacy C code into your Matlab algorithm and into the generated code.

# Getting Started with Matlab

## Installing MATLAB

Please install MATLAB on your laptop if you have one, or have easy access to it if you don't. It works on Linux/Mac/Windows.

Please contact Sai Iyer ([sai@physics.wustl.edu](mailto:sai@physics.wustl.edu)) about obtaining and installing Matlab.

# Getting Started

Matlab Academy: Matlab Onramp

Matlab offers a nice introduction to the language in the Matlab Academy: <https://matlabacademy.mathworks.com/>

You'll have to create a login for MathWorks (apologies). But you *do not* need Matlab installed on your computer to use the Matlab Academy.

Please familiarize yourself with Matlab, *before class on Thursday February 22*, by completing the Matlab Onramp in the Matlab Academy. This should take less than two hours to complete.

# Which Language Should I Use?

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- ▶ Learn how to develop algorithms, comment your code, and make it readable to others
- ▶ *Don't reinvent the wheel*, but also understand how canned algorithms work
- ▶ If a situation arises where you *need* to use another language (e.g. LabView for controlling hardware) then actually *learn* that language (don't just copy code from Stack Overflow)

# Lecture Outline

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**Numerical Solutions to Ordinary Differential Equations**

Euler's Method

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Most problems are constrained to satisfy an initial condition (e.g. you know the starting temperature of the body).

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2. Use numerical methods to approximate the solution to the more complicated problem.

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**Note:** Numerical solutions do not provide a continuous solution to the equation. Rather, the approximate solution is calculated on a grid of values.

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A higher order ordinary differential equation (ODE) can be converted into a system of first order ODEs by introducing new variables.

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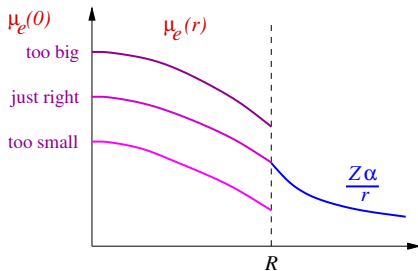
$$z = y'$$

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$$(\text{solution : } y(x) = c_1 \sin x + c_2 \cos x)$$

# Boundary Value Problem vs. Initial Value Problem

## Thomas-Fermi: solving Poisson eqn



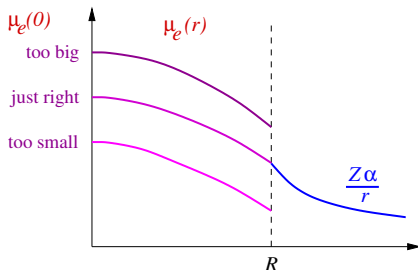
“Shooting” method: vary  $\mu_e(0)$  until we get a solution of

$$\frac{1}{r^2} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r^2 \frac{d\mu_e}{dr} \right) = -4\pi\alpha Q_\beta(\mu_e(r)) \quad \left. \frac{d\mu_e}{dr} \right|_{r=0} = 0$$

that matches to  $\mu_e(R) = \frac{Z\alpha}{R}$ .

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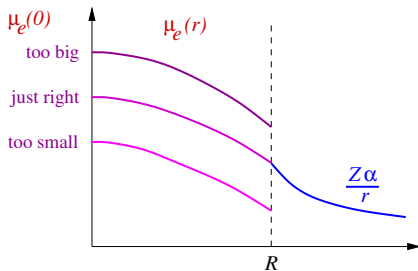
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The “shooting method” turned this *boundary-value* problem (constrained at  $\mu_e(R)$ ) into an *initial-value* problem (constrained by  $\mu_e(0)$  and  $\mu_e'(0)$ )

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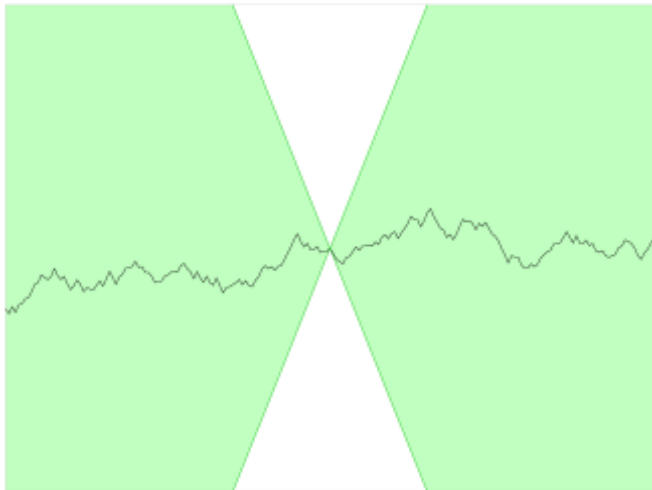
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We will be concerned with solutions to ODEs as *initial-value* problems.

# Well-Posed Problems and Unique Solutions

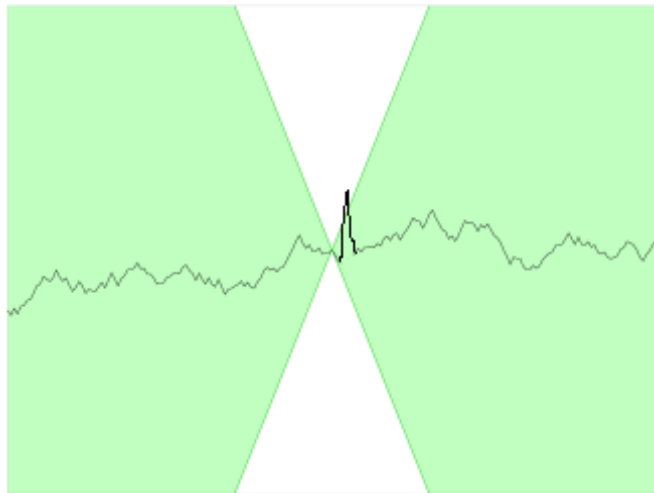
There are ways to determine if an initial value problem (e.g. ODE) has a unique solution within a given domain (**Lipschitz condition**) and if the problem is well-behaved regarding perturbations and round-off error (**well-posed**) but we will not discuss these in detail here.

# Lipschitz condition



If we translate the vertex of the double cone (white, defined by the *Lipschitz constant*) along the function, the function always remains in the green area: **satisfies the Lipschitz condition.**

# Lipschitz condition



...function crosses into the white area: **violates the Lipschitz condition for that Lipschitz constant.**



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# Numerical Solutions for ODEs

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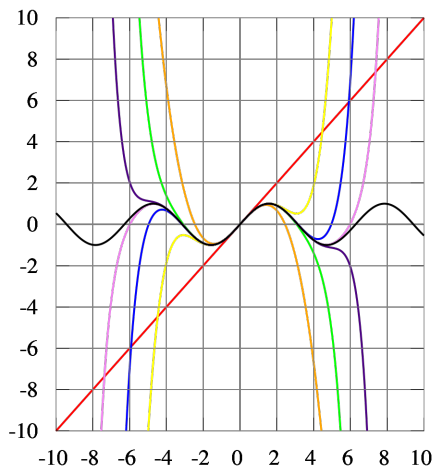
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- ▶ However, understanding Euler's method makes it easier to understand the more advanced techniques that we will use to solve ODEs.
- ▶ First, we will need Taylor's Theorem...

## Reminder: Taylor Series Expansion



$\sin(x)$  (black curve) and its Taylor approximations, polynomials of degree 0 (horizontal line at  $y = 0$ ), 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, and 13

# Taylor's Theorem

Suppose  $f$  is a function that is  $n + 1$  times differentiable on the interval  $[a, b]$  around  $x_0$ . For every  $x$  in the interval  $[a, b]$  there is a number  $\xi$  between  $x_0$  and  $x$  with:

$$f(x) = P_n(x) + R_n(x)$$

where:

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(x) &= f(x_0) + f'(x_0)(x - x_0) + \frac{f''(x_0)}{2!}(x - x_0)^2 + \dots \\ &\quad + \frac{f^{(n)}(x_0)}{n!}(x - x_0)^n \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^n \frac{f^{(k)}(x_0)}{k!}(x - x_0)^k \end{aligned}$$

and

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$P_n(x)$  is the “ $n$ th Taylor polynomial” for  $f$  about  $x_0$

$R_n(x)$  is the “remainder term” or “truncation error” of  $P_n(x)$ .

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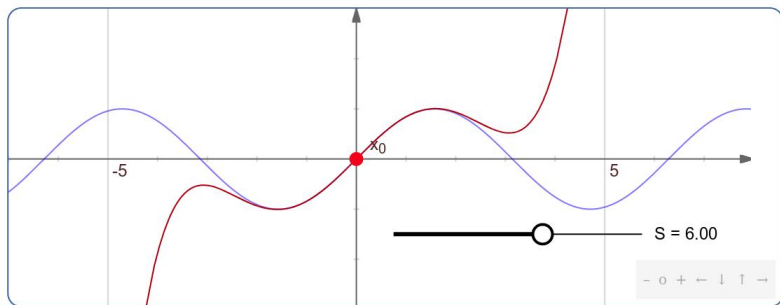
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For  $n = 6$ , this quantity is 0.0047.

# Taylor's Theorem: Example



$$0.00 + 1.00 \frac{(x - 0.00)^1}{1!} + 0.00 \frac{(x - 0.00)^2}{2!} + -1.00 \frac{(x - 0.00)^3}{3!} + 0.00 \frac{(x - 0.00)^4}{4!} + 1.00 \frac{(x - 0.00)^5}{5!} + 0.00 \frac{(x - 0.00)^6}{6!}$$

# Euler's Method

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First choose the “mesh points” over which the solution will be calculated. Assume we want an equally spaced mesh over the time interval  $[a, b]$ , such that we construct  $t_0, t_1, t_2, \dots, t_N$ :

$$t_i = a + ih \quad \text{for each } i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$$

The common distance between the points,  $h = (b - a)/N$  is called the *step size*.



# Euler's Method

Suppose that  $y(t)$ , the unique solution to Eq. 1, has two continuous derivatives ( $y'$  and  $y''$ ) on  $[a, b]$  so that for each  $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$  (Taylor's Theorem):

$$y(t_{i+1}) = y(t_i) + (t_{i+1} - t_i) y'(t_i) + \frac{(t_{i+1} - t_i)^2}{2} y''(\xi_i) \quad (2)$$

for some number  $\xi_i$  within  $(t_i, t_{i+1})$ .

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Since  $y(t)$  satisfies Eq. 1 ( $y' = f(t, y)$ )

$$y(t_{i+1}) = y(t_i) + h f(t_i, y(t_i)) + \frac{h^2}{2} y''(\xi_i) \quad (4)$$

# Euler's Method

$$y(t_{i+1}) = y(t_i) + hf(t_i, y(t_i)) + \frac{h^2}{2}y''(\xi_i)$$

Euler's method constructs  $w_i \approx y(t_i)$  for each  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$  by dropping the remainder term (i.e. only keeping the first-order term in Taylor's Theorem).

We construct the “difference equation” for Euler's method:

$$w_0 = \alpha \tag{5}$$

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + hf(t_i, w_i) \quad \text{for each } i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1 \tag{6}$$

# Euler's Method

Another way to think of Euler's method is from the definition of the derivative. The approximate derivative over step size  $h$  is:

$$y'(t_0) \approx \frac{\Delta y}{\Delta t} = \frac{y(t_0 + h) - y(t_0)}{h}$$

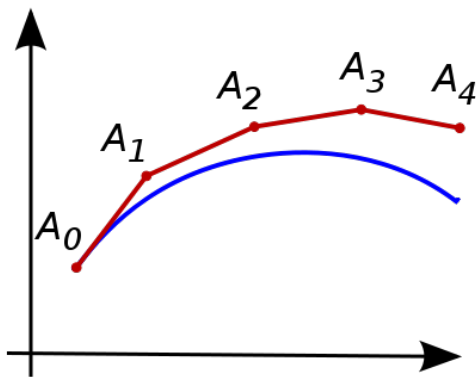
We can rewrite this as:

$$y(t_0 + h) \approx y(t_0) + hy'(t_0)$$

and  $y'$  is equal to  $f(t, y)$ .

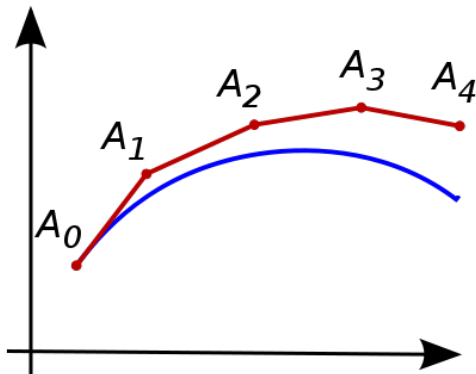
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A differential equation can be thought of as a formula by which the slope of the tangent line to the curve can be computed at any point on the curve, once the position of that point has been calculated.



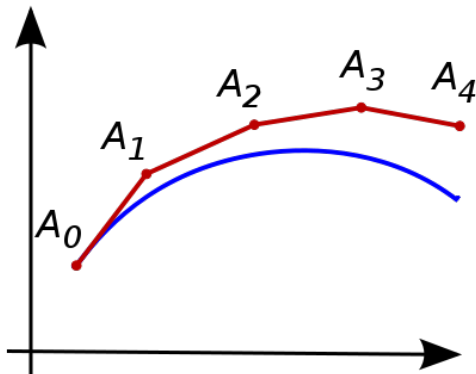
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The idea is that while the curve is initially unknown, its starting point, which we denote by  $A_0$ , is known. Then, from the differential equation, the slope to the curve at  $A_0$  can be computed, and so, the tangent line.



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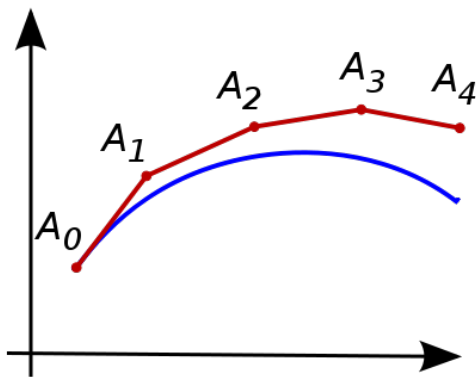
Take a small step  $h$  along that tangent line up to a point  $A_1$ . Along this small step, the slope does not change too much, so  $A_1$  will be close to the curve. If we pretend that  $A_1$  is still on the curve, the same reasoning as for the point  $A_0$  can be used. After several steps, a curve is sampled discretely.



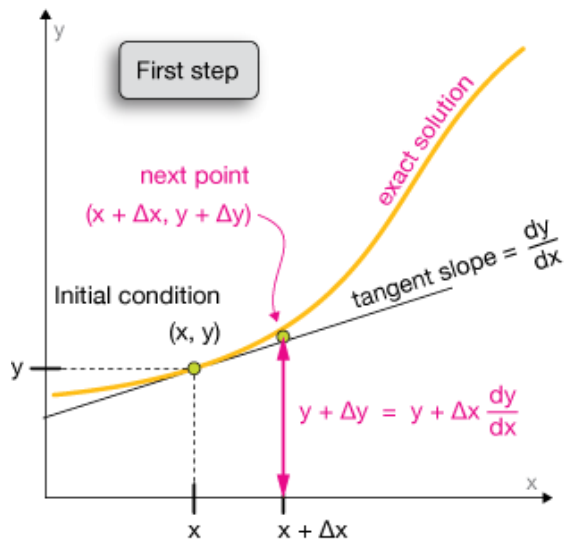


# Euler's Method

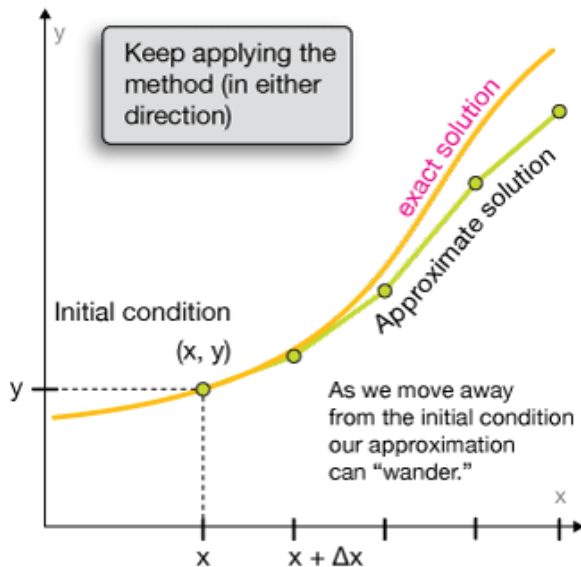
This curve doesn't usually diverge far from the original unknown curve, and the error between the two curves can be made small if the step size is small enough and the interval of computation is finite.



# Euler's Method



# Euler's Method



# Euler's Method

## Algorithm

To approximate the solution to the initial-value problem:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y) \quad a \leq t \leq b \quad y(a) = \alpha \quad (7)$$

at  $N + 1$  equally spaced values in the interval  $[a, b]$

# Euler's Method

## Algorithm

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INPUT: Endpoints  $a, b$ ; integer  $N$ ; initial value  $\alpha$

# Euler's Method

## Algorithm

To approximate the solution to the initial-value problem:

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at  $N + 1$  equally spaced values in the interval  $[a, b]$

INPUT: Endpoints  $a, b$ ; integer  $N$ ; initial value  $\alpha$

OUTPUT: Approximation  $w$  of  $y$  at the  $N + 1$  values of  $t$

**Step 1** Set  $h = (b - a)/N$

Set  $t_0 = a, w_0 = \alpha$

OUTPUT  $t_0$  and  $w_0$

**Step 2** For  $i = 1, 2, \dots, N$  do Steps 3, 4

**Step 3** Set  $w_i = w_{i-1} + hf(t_{i-1}, w_{i-1})$   
 $t_i = a + ih$

**Step 4** OUTPUT  $t_i$  and  $w_i$

**Step 5** STOP

# Euler's Method

Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (10 Steps)

Use Euler's Method to obtain an approximation to the solution of:

$$y' = y - t^2 + 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2, \quad y(0) = 0.5$$

# Euler's Method

Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (10 Steps)

Use Euler's Method to obtain an approximation to the solution of:

$$y' = y - t^2 + 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2, \quad y(0) = 0.5$$

Analytical solution:

$$y(t) = c_1 e^t + t^2 + 2t + 1$$

$$y(0) = c_1 + 0 + 0 + 1 = 0.5$$

$$c_1 = -0.5$$



# Euler's Method

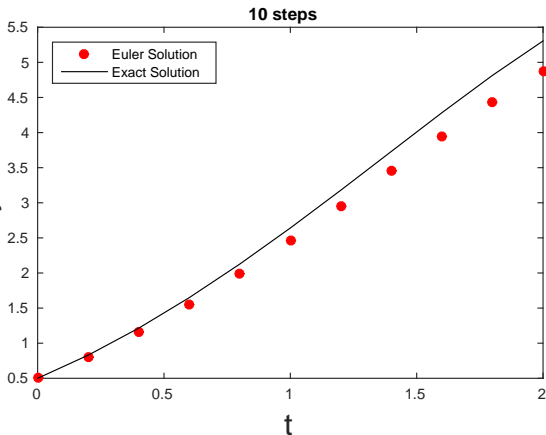
## Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (10 Steps)

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1 clear % clear variables
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3
4 f_euler = @(t,y) y - t.^2 + 1; % defined f(t,y
   ) as anonymous function
5
6 N=10; % number of time steps
7
8 a=0; % lower bound of time domain
9
10 b=2; % upper bound of time domain
11
12 alpha=0.5; % initial value of y
13
14 h=(b-a)/N; % step size (time)
15
16 t=a:h:b; % calculate time array outside loop,
   for simplicity
17
18 w=zeros(size(t)); % preallocate w for speed,
   same size as time variable
19
20 w(1)=alpha; % The initial value of y is alpha
21
22 for ii=2:N+1 % Matlab begins indexing at 1,
   not 0!
23
24     w(ii)=w(ii-1)+h.*f_euler(t(ii-1),w(ii-1));
   % Euler Difference Eqn
25
26 end
27
28 pp=plot(t,w,'rO',t,-0.5.*exp(t)+t.^2+2.*t
   +1,'k-');
29 set(pp(1),'MarkerFaceColor','r');
30 xlabel('t','FontSize',20);
31 ylabel('y','FontSize',20);
32 title([num2str(N) ' steps']);
33 legend('Euler Solution', 'Exact Solution',
   'Location','NorthWest')
34 pdfname='euler_method_example_N10.pdf';
35 print('-dpdf',pdfname);
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# Euler's Method

## Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (10 Steps)

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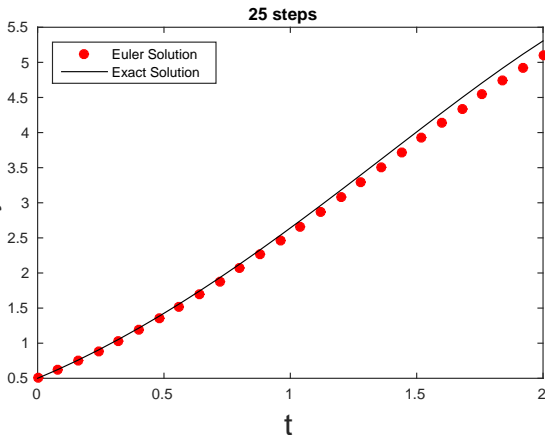
## Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (25 Steps)

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1 clear % clear variables
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4 f_euler = @(t,y) y - t.^2 + 1; % defined f(t,y
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```



# Euler's Method

Algorithm: Error Bound

You can see that our Euler estimate (red line) deviates more from the true solution (black line) as time increases.

# Euler's Method

## Algorithm: Error Bound

You can see that our Euler estimate (red line) deviates more from the true solution (black line) as time increases.

We can derive a bound on the error for Euler's method mathematically, if we know an upper bound for the first and second derivatives of the solution ( $f$  has Lipschitz constant  $L$  and  $|y''(t)| \leq M$ ). For each step  $i$ :

$$|y(t_i) - w_i| \leq \frac{hM}{2L} \left( e^{L(t_i-a)} - 1 \right) \quad (8)$$

# Lecture Outline

Introduction to Matlab

Numerical Solutions to Ordinary Differential Equations

Euler's Method

**Taylor Methods**

Runge-Kutta Methods

Homework Assignment

## Higher Order Euler's Method: Taylor's Method

Since Euler's method was derived using Taylor's Theorem with  $n = 1$  to approximate the solution of the differential equation, we can improve the accuracy of our solution by keeping higher order terms.

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y) \quad a \leq t \leq b \quad y(a) = \alpha \quad (9)$$



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Say the solution has  $(n + 1)$  continuous derivatives. We expand the solution  $y(t)$  in terms of its  $n$ th Taylor polynomial about  $t_i$ :

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$$y(t_{i+1}) = y(t_i) + hy'(t_i) + \frac{h^2}{2}y''(t_i) + \cdots + \frac{h^n}{n!}y^{(n)}(t_i) + \frac{h^{n+1}}{(n+1)!}y^{(n+1)}(\xi_i) \quad (10)$$

for some  $\xi_i$  in  $(t_i, t_{i+1})$

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for some  $\xi_i$  in  $(t_i, t_{i+1})$

**This is Taylor's method.**

# Higher Order Euler's Method: Taylor's Method

Euler's Method:

$$w_0 = \alpha \quad (11)$$

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + hf(t_i, w_i) \quad \text{for each } i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1 \quad (12)$$

Taylor's Method of order  $n$ :

$$w_0 = \alpha \quad (13)$$

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + hT^{(n)}(t_i, w_i) \quad \text{for each } i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1 \quad (14)$$

where:

$$T^{(n)}(t_i, w_i) = f(t_i, w_i) + \frac{h}{2}f'(t_i, w_i) + \dots + \frac{h^{n-1}}{n!}f^{(n-1)}(t_i, w_i) \quad (15)$$

Euler's method = Taylor's method of order one.

# Taylor's Method

Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (fourth order)

Use Taylor's Method of fourth order to obtain an approximation to the solution of:

$$y' = y - t^2 + 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2, \quad y(0) = 0.5$$

Analytical solution:

$$y(t) = -0.5e^t + t^2 + 2t + 1$$

# Taylor's Method

Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (fourth order)

Use Taylor's Method of fourth order to obtain an approximation to the solution of:

$$y' = y - t^2 + 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 2, \quad y(0) = 0.5$$

We have to calculate analytical derivatives of  $f$ :

$$f' = \frac{df}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} \frac{dt}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt}$$

$$f' = \frac{df}{dt} = (-2t)(1) + (1)(y')$$

$$f' = \frac{df}{dt} = y - t^2 + 1 - 2t$$

$$f'' = y - t^2 - 2t - 1$$

$$f''' = y - t^2 - 2t - 1$$

# Taylor's Method

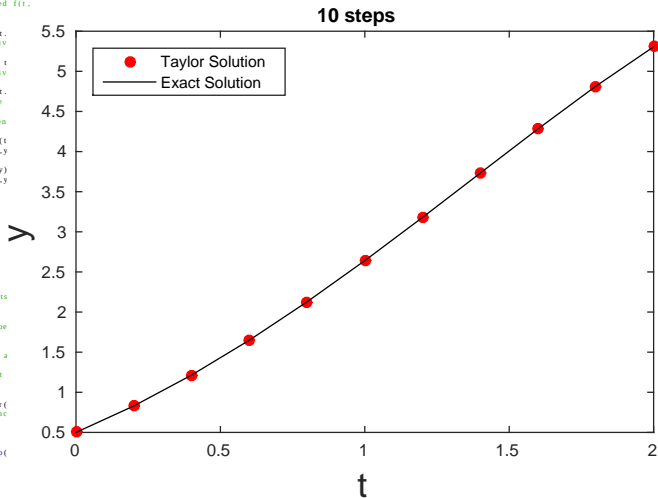
## Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (fourth order)

```
% clear % clear variables from workspace
% close all % close all plots
%
% f_taylor = @(t,y) y - t.^2 + 1; % defined f(t,
%   y) as anonymous function
%
% f_taylor_first_derivative = @(t,y) y - t.^2 +
%   1 - 2.*t; % Analytical first derivative
%
% f_taylor_second_derivative = @(t,y) y - t.^2 -
%   2.*t-1; % Analytical second derivative
%
% f_taylor_third_derivative = @(t,y) y - t.^2 -
%   2.*t-1; % Analytical third derivative
%
% % Taylor's method factor for the difference
% equation:
% taylor_fourth_order = @(t,y,h) f_taylor(t,y) +
%   (h.^2/2).*f_taylor_first_derivative(t,y) +
%   ...
%   (h.^2/6).*f_taylor_second_derivative(t,y) + (h
%   .^3/24).*f_taylor_third_derivative(t,y);
%
% N=10; % number of time steps
%
% a=0; % lower bound of time domain
%
% b=2; % upper bound of time domain
%
% alpha=0.5; % initial value of y
%
% h=(b-a)/N; % step size (time)
%
% t=a:h:b; % Calculate the time vector outside
%   of the loop, for simplicity
%
% w=zeros(size(t)); % preallocate w for speed,
%   same size as time variable
%
% w(1)=alpha; % The initial value of y is alpha
%
% for ii=2:N+1 % Matlab begins indexing at 1,
%   not 0!
%
%   w(ii)=w(ii-1)+h.*taylor_fourth_order(t(ii
%   -1),w(ii-1),h); % Taylor Difference Eqn
%
% end
%
% pp=plot(t,w,'r0',t,(t+1).^2-0.5.*exp(t),'k
%   -');
%
% set(pp(1),'MarkerFaceColor','r');
% xlabel('t','FontSize',20);
% ylabel('y','FontSize',20);
%
% title(['num2str(N) ' 'steps ']);
% legend('Taylor Solution', 'Exact Solution'
%   , 'Location','NorthWest')
%
% pdfname='taylor_method_example_N10.pdf';
% print('-dpdf',pdfname);
% [-,-]=system(['pdfcrop ' pdfname ' '
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```

# Taylor's Method

## Algorithm: Matlab Implementation (fourth order)

```
clear % clear variables from workspace
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f_taylor = @(t,y) y - t.^2 + 1; % defined f(t,
    y) as anonymous function
f_taylor_first_derivative = @(t,y) y - t -
    2.*t; % Analytical first derivative
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    .^3/24).*f_taylor_third_derivative(t,y
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h=(b-a)/N; % step size (time)
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w(1)=alpha; % The initial value of y is a
for ii=2:N+1 % Matlab begins indexing at
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end
pp=plot(t,w,'t0',t,(t+1).^2-0.5.*exp(
    -t));
set(pp(1),'MarkerFaceColor','r');
xlabel('t','FontSize',20);
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title(['num2str(N) ' 'steps ']);
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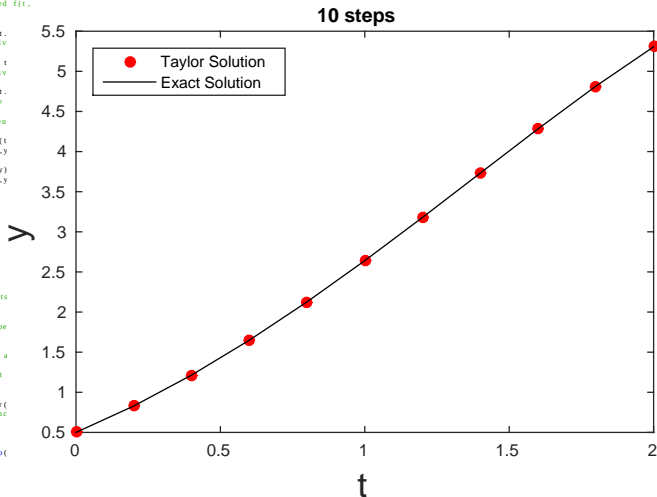




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title(['num2str(N) ' ' steps ']);
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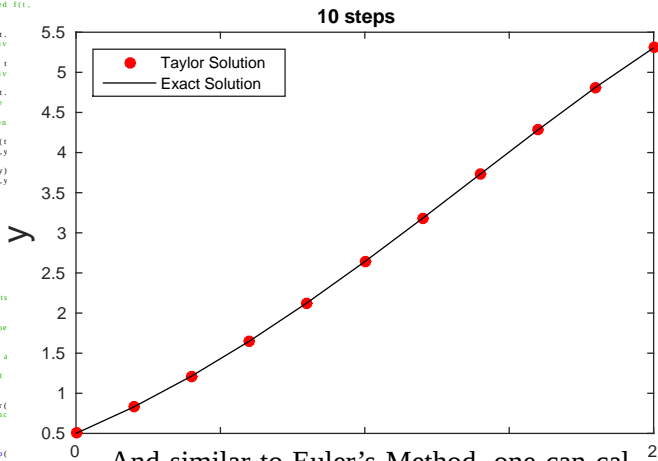


Much more accurate than Euler's Method!

# Taylor's Method

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```



And similar to Euler's Method, one can calculate bounds on the error *if* upper bounds on the derivatives are known.

# Lecture Outline

Introduction to Matlab

Numerical Solutions to Ordinary Differential Equations

Euler's Method

Taylor Methods

**Runge-Kutta Methods**

Homework Assignment

## Runge-Kutta vs. Taylor

- ▶ The Taylor methods are good because they have high-order truncation errors: you can make them more accurate by adding more terms.

# Runge-Kutta Methods

## Runge-Kutta vs. Taylor

- ▶ The Taylor methods are good because they have high-order truncation errors: you can make them more accurate by adding more terms.
- ▶ But to add more terms, you need to compute the derivatives of  $f(t, y)$ , which can be complicated and time consuming (or impossible!)

# Runge-Kutta Methods

## Runge-Kutta vs. Taylor

- ▶ The Taylor methods are good because they have high-order truncation errors: you can make them more accurate by adding more terms.
- ▶ But to add more terms, you need to compute the derivatives of  $f(t, y)$ , which can be complicated and time consuming (or impossible!)
- ▶ **Runge-Kutta** methods also have high-order truncation errors while eliminating the need to compute analytical derivatives of  $f(t, y)$

# Runge-Kutta Methods

Runge-Kutta Methods substitute analytical derivatives of  $f(t, y)$  with an approximation of the derivatives from the Taylor polynomial expansions, retaining orders such that the error (the remainder  $R_n$ ) is sufficiently small (compared to the order of the method).

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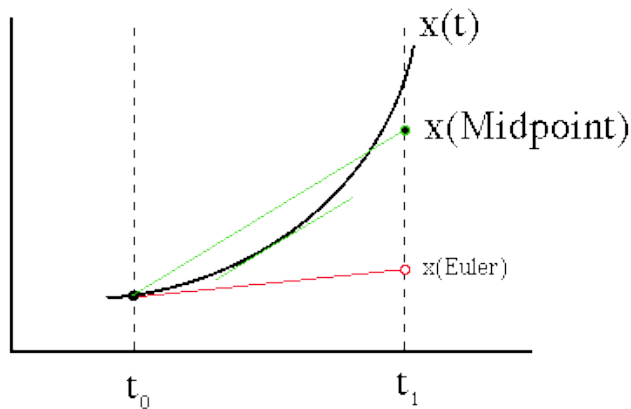
The **Midpoint method** (a specific Runge-Kutta method) replaces  $T^{(2)}$  by  $f(t + (h/2), y + (h/2)f(t, y))$ . It has local truncation error  $O(h^3)$ .



# Runge-Kutta Methods

## Midpoint Method

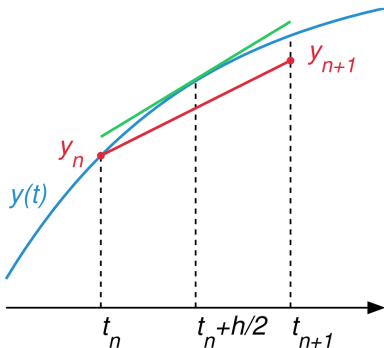
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The midpoint method computes  $y_{n+1}$  so that the red chord is approximately parallel to the tangent line at the midpoint (the green line).

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One cannot use this equation to find  $y(t+h)$  as one does not know  $y$  at  $t+h/2$ . So we approximate  $y(t+h/2)$  using a Taylor expansion (this is the *Runge-Kutta* step):

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which gives us the Midpoint method:

$$y(t+h) \approx y(t) + hf\left(t + \frac{h}{2}, y(t) + \frac{h}{2}f(t, y(t))\right)$$

# Runge-Kutta Methods

## Midpoint Method

**Midpoint method** (a Runge-Kutta method of order two): The *difference equation* for the midpoint method is given by:

$$w_0 = \alpha$$

$$k_1 = hf(t_i, w_i)$$

$$k_2 = hf\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, w_i + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right)$$

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + k_2$$

for each  $i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$ .

The total accumulated error is  $O(h^2)$ .

## Runge-Kutta Methods: RK4

Order  $n$  Runge-Kutta methods take the Taylor method of order  $n$  and approximate the analytical derivatives with numerical derivatives.

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Reminder: **Taylor's Method** of order  $n$ :

$$w_0 = \alpha \tag{16}$$

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + hT^{(n)}(t_i, w_i) \quad \text{for each } i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1 \tag{17}$$

where:

$$T^{(n)}(t_i, w_i) = f(t_i, w_i) + \frac{h}{2}f'(t_i, w_i) + \dots + \frac{h^{n-1}}{n!}f^{(n-1)}(t_i, w_i) \tag{18}$$



## Runge-Kutta Methods: RK4

The Runge-Kutta Order Four method is also known as “RK4”, “classical Runge–Kutta method” or simply “*the* Runge–Kutta method”. Its difference equation is given by:

$$w_0 = \alpha$$

$$k_1 = hf(t_i, w_i)$$

$$k_2 = hf\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, w_i + \frac{1}{2}k_1\right)$$

$$k_3 = hf\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, w_i + \frac{1}{2}k_2\right)$$

$$k_4 = hf(t_{i+1}, w_i + k_3)$$

$$w_{i+1} = w_i + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 2k_2 + 2k_3 + k_4)$$

for each  $i = 0, 1, \dots, N - 1$ . The total accumulated error is  $O(h^4)$ .

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- ▶ The RK4 algorithm is implemented in the Matlab function `ode45`.
- ▶ You can see the source code for this function by `dbtype ode45.m` (for file location: `which ode45.m`).

## Matlab ode45

help ode45:

`[TOUT,YOUT] = ode45(ODEFUN,TSPAN,Y0)` with `TSPAN = [T0 TFINAL]` integrates the system of differential equations  $y' = f(t,y)$  from time `T0` to `TFINAL` with initial conditions `Y0`. `ODEFUN` is a function handle. For a scalar `T` and a vector `Y`, `ODEFUN(T,Y)` must return a column vector corresponding to  $f(t,y)$ . Each row in the solution array `YOUT` corresponds to a time returned in the column vector `TOUT`. To obtain solutions at specific times `T0,T1,...,TFINAL` (all increasing or all decreasing), use `TSPAN = [T0 T1 ... TFINAL]`.

# Lecture Outline

Introduction to Matlab

Numerical Solutions to Ordinary Differential Equations

Euler's Method

Taylor Methods

Runge-Kutta Methods

**Homework Assignment**



# Homework

- ▶ Please complete Matlab Onramp before the next class: February 22
- ▶ The following **homework assignment** is due at 4pm March 1<sup>st</sup> (**two weeks from today**)
  - ▶ Please email me ([rogliore@physics.wustl.edu](mailto:rogliore@physics.wustl.edu)) your completed homework assignment as a Matlab script file (.m) (or multiple Matlab script files)
- ▶ The next class period, February 22, will be a time where you can work on the code and I will be available to answer any code-level questions you have about the assignment
- ▶ The third class period, March 1, we will discuss the HW assignment and further applications of these ideas

# Homework Assignment

Edward Lorenz, a meteorologist, created a simplified mathematical model for nonlinear atmospheric thermal convection in 1962. Lorenz's model frequently arises in other types of systems, e.g. dynamos and electrical circuits. Now known as the Lorenz equations, this model is a system of three ordinary differential equations:

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{dx}{dt} &= \sigma(y - x), \\ \frac{dy}{dt} &= x(\rho - z) - y, \\ \frac{dz}{dt} &= xy - \beta z.\end{aligned}$$

Note the last two equations involve quadratic nonlinearities. The intensity of the fluid motion is parameterized by the variable  $x$ ;  $y$  and  $z$  are related to temperature variations in the horizontal and vertical directions.

## Homework Assignment (continued)

Use Matlab's RK4 solver `ode45` to solve this system of ODEs with the following starting points and parameters.

1. With  $\sigma = 1$ ,  $\beta = 1$ , and  $\rho = 1$ , solve the system of Lorenz Equations for  $x(t = 0) = 1$ ,  $y(t = 0) = 1$ , and  $z(t = 0) = 1$ . Plot the orbit of the solution as a three-dimensional plot for times 0–100.
2. For the Earth's atmosphere reasonable values are  $\sigma = 10$  and  $\beta = 8/3$ . Also set  $\rho = 28$ ; and using starting values:  $x(t = 0) = 5$ ,  $y(t = 0) = 5$ , and  $z(t = 0) = 5$ ; solve the system of Lorenz Equations for  $t = [0, 20]$ . Plot the orbit of the solution as a three-dimensional plot for  $t=0-20$ . Also plot  $z$  vs.  $x$ . Do any of the orbits that appear to overlap in this plot actually overlap when viewed in the three-dimensional plot?
3. Plot  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  vs. time on one graph using Matlab's `subplot` function.

## Homework Assignment (continued)

4. Use the same parameters as in #2 but add a very small number (e.g.  $10^{-6}$ ) to one of the starting values. Plot  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  vs. time for *both* of these curves (one red, one blue). Solve the equation for longer times to see when the two solutions diverge from each other.
5. Find a value of  $\rho$  (while keeping  $\sigma = 10$  and  $\beta = 8/3$ ) such that the solution does not depend sensitively on the initial values. Plot both curves for  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  vs. time as you did in #4.
6. For  $\rho=70$ ,  $\sigma = 10$ ,  $\beta = 8/3$ , initial starting value (5,5,5), over a time range 0–50, calculate and plot one solution using the default maximum step size for ode45:  $0.1 \times (t_{\text{final}} - t_{\text{initial}})$ , and another solution for  $1/1000^{\text{th}}$  of the default. Is this behavior related to the sensitivity on initial starting values you explored in #4?

## Additional Slide: Lipschitz Condition

A function  $f(t, y)$  is said to satisfy a **Lipschitz Condition** in the variable  $y$  on a set  $D$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  if a constant  $L > 0$  exists with the property that

$$|f(t, y_1) - f(t, y_2)| \leq L|y_1 - y_2|$$

whenever  $(t, y_1), (t, y_2)$  exist in  $D$ . The constant  $L$  is called a Lipschitz constant for  $f$ .

**Example:** If  $D = \{(t, y) | 1 \leq t \leq 2, -3 \leq y \leq 4\}$  and  $f(t, y) = t|y|$ , then for each pair of points  $(t, y_1)$  and  $(t, y_2)$  in  $D$  we have

$$|f(t, y_1) - f(t, y_2)| = |t|y_1| - t|y_2|| = |t|||y_1| - |y_2|| \leq 2|y_1 - y_2|$$

Thus,  $f$  satisfies a Lipschitz condition on  $D$  in the variable  $y$  with Lipschitz constant  $L = 2$ .