

Lecture 10: Differential Equations

Abhinav Jha

Indian Institute of Technology, Gandhinagar

9th April 2026



- 1 Ordinary Differential Equations
 - 1.1 Euler Method
 - 1.2 Higher Order Taylor Method
 - 1.3 Runge Kutta Methods



Differential Equations

Ordinary Differential Equations

Navier-Stokes equation

Let $\underline{u}(\underline{x}, t)$ be the velocity field and $p(\underline{x}, t)$ be the pressure. Then

$$\frac{\partial \underline{u}}{\partial t} \rightarrow \Delta \underline{u} + \underbrace{\underline{u} \cdot \nabla \underline{u}}_{\text{Non-linear}} = -\nabla p + f(t, \underline{x})$$

\hookrightarrow Sources.

$$\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \underline{x} = (x, y, z), \quad \underline{u} = (u_1, u_2, u_3)$$

$= (x_1, x_2, x_3)$

$\nabla \cdot \underline{u} = 0$ \rightarrow Divergence free.

Incompressible fluid.

Constant density and volume under pressure.

In \mathbb{R}^3 , there is no existence and uniqueness of the solution.



Differential Equations

Ordinary Differential Equations

Ordinary Differential Equations

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = y - x^2; \quad y(0) = 2.$$

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = x - y^2, \quad y(0) = 2$$



Differential Equations

Ordinary Differential Equations

$$y(x) = - \frac{ix^{3/2} \left\{ -c_1 J_{-4/3} \left(\frac{2}{3} ix^{3/2} \right) + c_1 J_{2/3} \left(\frac{2}{3} ix^{3/2} \right) - 2J_{-2/3} \left(\frac{2}{3} ix^{3/2} \right) \right\} - c_1 J_{-1/3} \left(\frac{2}{3} ix^{3/2} \right)}{2x \left(J_{-1/3} \left(\frac{2}{3} ix^{3/2} \right) + J_{1/3} \left(\frac{2}{3} ix^{3/2} \right) \right)}$$



Differential Equations

Ordinary Differential Equations

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

Initial value problem (IVP) , Boundary value prob (BVP) (Let's).

Theorem

Suppose

$$D = \{(t, y) : a \leq t \leq b, -\infty < y < \infty\},$$

and let $f(t, y)$ be continuous on D . If f satisfies a Lipschitz condition in y on D , then the initial value problem has a unique solution $y(t)$ for $a \leq t \leq b$.

Lipschitz: There exists a $L > 0$ st

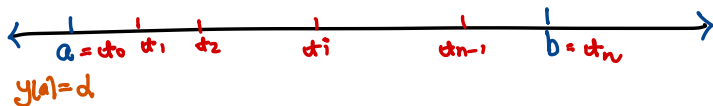
$$|f(t, y_1) - f(t, y_2)| \leq L|y_1 - y_2|, \quad \forall (t, y_1), (t, y_2) \in D$$



One Step Method

Ordinary Differential Equations

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



$[a, b] \rightarrow \{t_i\}_{i=0}^n$ w.t. $t_0 = a$, $t_n = b$; $\{t_i\} \rightarrow$ mesh/grid points

We assume that the mesh points are divided uniformly or equally,

$$t_i = a + ih \quad ; \quad i = 0, \dots, n$$

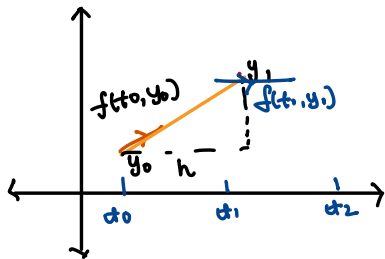
$$h = \frac{b-a}{n} = t_{i+1} - t_i$$

Step size.



Euler Method

Ordinary Differential Equations



$$\begin{aligned}y_0 &= \alpha \\y_1 &= ? \\y_2 &= ? \\&\vdots \\y_n &= ?\end{aligned}$$

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

Euler method

$$y_1 - y_0 = f(t_0, y_0) (t_1 - t_0) \Rightarrow y_1 = y_0 + h f(t_0, y_0)$$

Mathematically

$$y_1 = y(t_0 + h) = y(t_0) + h \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{(t_0, y_0)} + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

Same

$$y_1 = y_0 + h f(t_0, y_0) + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$



Euler Method

Ordinary Differential Equations

$$y_{i+1}^h = y_i^h + h f(t_i, y_i^h) \quad \text{for } i=0, \dots, n-1$$
$$y_0^w = \alpha$$

Example: $y' = te^{3t} - 2y$, $0 \leq t \leq 1$, $y(0) = 0$

$$h = 0.5; \quad y_0, y_1, y_2; \quad t_1 = 0.5, \quad t_2 = 1$$

$$y_0 = 0$$

$$y_1 = y_0 + hf(t_0, y_0) = 0 + 0.5 f(0, 0)$$
$$= 0.5 [0e^0 - 2 \times 0] = 0$$

$$y_2 = y_1 + hf(t_1, y_1) = 0 + 0.5 [f(0.5, 0)]$$
$$= 0.5 [0.5e^{1.5} - 0] = 1.12042.$$



Theorem

Suppose that f is continuous and satisfies a Lipschitz condition in y with Lipschitz constant L on the set

$$D = \{(t, y) : a \leq t \leq b, -\infty < y < \infty\}.$$

Assume further that the exact solution $y(t)$ of the initial value problem

$$y'(t) = f(t, y), \quad a \leq t \leq b, \quad y(a) = \alpha,$$

is twice continuously differentiable on $[a, b]$, and that there exists a constant $M > 0$ such that

$$|y''(t)| \leq M \quad \text{for all } t \in [a, b].$$

Let $\{y_i^h\}_{i=0}^n$ be the numerical approximations generated by Euler's method with step size $h = \frac{b-a}{n}$ and mesh points $t_i = a + ih$. Then, for each $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n$, the global error satisfies

$$|y(t_i) - y_i^h| \leq \frac{hM}{2L} (e^{L(t_i-a)} - 1).$$

$\rightarrow O(h)$.

$|y(t_i) - y_i| \sim O(h)$;

h	$h^{d=2}$
0.1	0.01
0.01	$1e^{-4}$
\vdots	
$1e^{-6}$	$1e^{-12}$

$d=2$ Quadratically
 $d=1$ Linear

Higher Order Taylor Method

Ordinary Differential Equations

$$y_1 = y(t_0 + h) = y(t_0) + h \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{(t_0, y_0)} + \mathcal{O}(h^2)$$

Defn: Local truncation error (LTE)

$$y_0 = \alpha$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h \Phi(t_i, y_i, h) \quad \text{for } i = 0, 1, \dots, n-1$$

Then LTE is

$$\tau_{i+1}(h) = \frac{y_{i+1} - (y_i + h \Phi(t_i, y_i, h))}{h}$$

$$\text{Euler} = f(t^i, y^i)$$

$$= \frac{y_{i+1} - y_i}{h} - \underbrace{\Phi(t^i, y^i, h)}_{\substack{\text{control} \\ \text{for } i = 0, \dots, n-1}}$$

Remains same for high
-Order Taylor

$$\text{Euler, } \tau_{i+1}(h) = \frac{h^2}{2} y''(\xi), \quad \xi \in (t^i, t^{i+1})$$



Higher Order Taylor Method

Ordinary Differential Equations

$$y_{i+1} = y(t_i + h)$$

$$= y(t_i) + h \left. \frac{dy}{dt} \right|_{t_i} + \frac{h^2}{2} \left. \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} \right|_{t_i} + \dots + \frac{h^n}{n!} y_i^{(n)} + \frac{h^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} y^{(n+1)}(\xi_i)$$

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

$$f(t_i, y_i)$$

?

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y); \quad \frac{d^2y}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt} (f(t, y)); \quad \frac{d^n y}{dt^n} = \frac{d^{n-1}}{dt^{n-1}} (f(t, y))$$

Higher-order

$$y_0 = \alpha$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h T^{(n)}(t_i, y_i) \quad \text{for } i=0, \dots, n-1$$

$$T^{(n)}(t_i, y_i) = f(t_i, y_i) + \frac{h}{2} \left. \frac{d}{dt} (f(t, y)) \right|_i + \dots + \frac{h^{n-1}}{n!} f^{(n-1)}(t, y(t)) \Big|_i$$



Higher Order Taylor Method

Ordinary Differential Equations

Example: $y' = y - t^2 + 1$; $0 \leq t \leq 2$; $y(0) = 0.5$

$$f(t, y) = y - t^2 + 1$$

$$T^{(2)}, T^{(3)}; \quad \underbrace{\frac{d}{dt} f(t, y)}_{T^{(2)}} = \frac{d}{dt} (y - t^2 + 1) = \frac{dy}{dt} - 2t = f(t, y) - 2t = y - t^2 + 1 - 2t$$

$$\begin{aligned} T^{(3)} &\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{d}{dt} f(t, y) \right) = \frac{d}{dt} (y - t^2 + 1 - 2t) = \frac{dy}{dt} - 2t - 2 \\ &= f(t, y) - 2t - 2 = y - t^2 + 1 - 2t - 2 \\ &= y - 2t - t^2 - 1. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T^{(2)}(t_i, y_i^h) &= f(t_i, y_i^h) + \frac{h}{2} f'(t_i, y_i^h) \\ &= y_i^h - t_i^2 + 1 + \frac{h}{2} (y_i^h - t_i^2 + 1 - 2t_i) = \end{aligned}$$



Higher Order Taylor Method

Ordinary Differential Equations

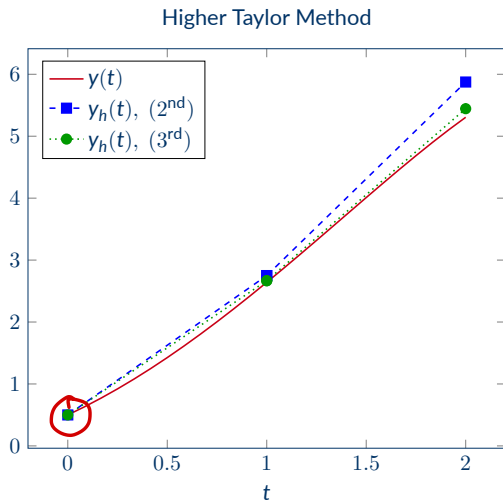


Figure 1: Taylor methods of order 2 and 3.



Theorem

If the Taylor method of order n is used to approximate the solution of

$$y'(t) = f(t, y(t)), \quad a \leq t \leq b, \quad y(a) = \alpha,$$

with step size h , and if $y \in C^{n+1}[a, b]$, then the local truncation error is of order $\mathcal{O}(h^n)$.



Theorem

Suppose that $f(t, y)$ and all its partial derivatives of the order less than or equal to $n + 1$ are continuous on $D = \{(t, y) : a \leq t \leq b, c \leq y \leq d\}$ and let $(t_0, y_0) \in D$. For every $(t, y) \in D$ there exist a ξ between t and t_0 and μ between y and y_0 with

$$f(t, y) = P_n(t, y) + R_n(t, y),$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} P_n(t, y) = & f(t_0, y_0) + \left[(t - t_0) \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, y_0) + (y - y_0) \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(t_0, y_0) \right] \\ & + \left[\frac{(t - t_0)^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}(t_0, y_0) + (t - t_0)(y - y_0) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t \partial y}(t_0, y_0) + \frac{(y - y_0)^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}(t_0, y_0) \right] \\ & + \cdots + \left[\frac{1}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^n n C_j (t - t_0)^{n-j} (y - y_0)^j \frac{\partial^n f}{\partial t^{n-j} \partial y^j}(t_0, y_0) \right], \end{aligned}$$

and

$$R_n(t, y) = \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \sum_{j=0}^{n+1} n+1 C_j (t - t_0)^{n+1-j} (y - y_0)^j \frac{\partial^{n+1} f}{\partial t^{n+1-j} \partial y^j}(\xi, \mu).$$



Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations

Taylor-method of order 2

$$T^{(2)}(x, y) = f(x, y) + \frac{h}{2} f'(x, y)$$

We express $f'(x, y)$ in terms of $a, f(x+\alpha, y+\beta)$ for some α, α', β & the error is of order 2.

$$f'(x, y) = \frac{d}{dt} f(x, y) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \frac{dy}{dt} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = f(x, y) \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$

\downarrow
 $f(x, y(t))$

$$\Rightarrow T^{(2)}(x, y) = \left\{ f(x, y) + \frac{h}{2} \left[f(x, y) \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \right] \right\}. \quad (1)$$

Taylor expansion of $a, f(x+\alpha, y+\beta)$

$$a, f(x+\alpha, y+\beta) = a, \left[f(x, y) + \alpha, \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \beta, \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + R_1 \right]$$

Neglect
 ~~R_1~~
Remainder term, 2nd



Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations

comparing ① and ②

$$a_1 = 1; \quad a_2 = \frac{h}{2}; \quad \beta_1 = \frac{h}{2} f(t, y).$$

$$\Rightarrow T^{(2)}(t, y) = f\left(t + \frac{h}{2}, y + \frac{h}{2} f(t, y)\right) - R(L).$$

$$y_0 = \alpha$$

$$y_{i+1} = y_i + h f\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, y_i + \frac{h}{2} f(t_i, y_i)\right) \text{ for } i = 0, \dots, n-1.$$

Mid-point method.



Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations



Abhinav Jha
MA 203, 9th April 2026

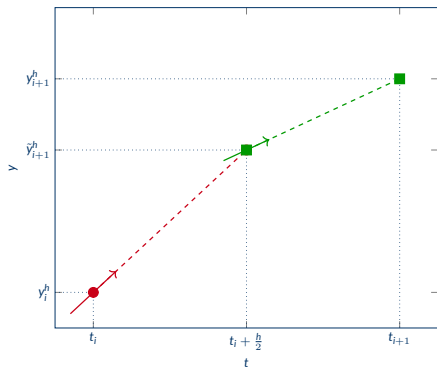


IIT Gandhinagar
MATHEMATICS

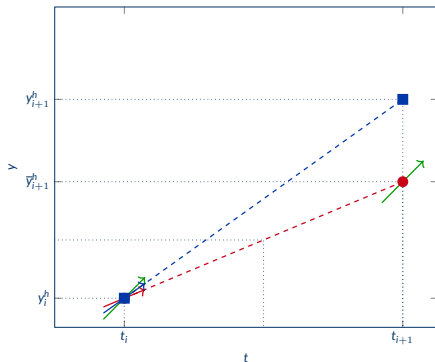
Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations

Midpoint Method



Modified Euler Method



Geometrical view of the Midpoint and Modified Euler methods.



Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations



Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations



Abhinav Jha
MA 203, 9th April 2026



IIT Gandhinagar
MATHEMATICS

Runge Kutta Methods

Ordinary Differential Equations



Abhinav Jha
MA 203, 9th April 2026



IIT Gandhinagar
MATHEMATICS