

Lecture MATLAB Scip-continuation course, ODE

Differential equations

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Numerical methods of ODE's

Ordinary differential equation (ODE)

- A scalar (first order) **differential equation** is of the general form: $y' = f(t, y)$
- **Solution:** A differentiable function $t \rightarrow y(t)$, that satisfies: $y'(t) = f(t, y(t))$ on an interval $a < t < b$
- **Initial value problem (IVP)** Require: solution $y(t)$ satisfies the “initial condition” $y(t_0) = y_0$ for some $t_0 \in (a, b)$ and given initial value y_0 . (Often t represents time and $t_0 = 0$.)

Differential equations, 3 aspects

1. Existence theorems, analytic solutions

- *Picard–Lindelöf* (1870-1946)
- Various methods and tricks, most importantly for **linear equations**, Computer algebra (CA) helps and extends.

2. Qualitative methods: Make conclusions directly from the equations without solving them. *Direction fields, isoclines, critical points.* Global view.

3. Numerical methods Most ODE-systems of use in applications can't be solved analytically (or the solution – perhaps produced by CA – is too complicated for efficient computation). Numerical methods are increasingly important, especially with computers. **This is our main concern here.**

The interplay between all three aspects is most fruitful and necessary. Numerical methods alone are “blind”, the 2 first give the necessary insight and help understand errors and limitations.

Differential equations, more

- The fundamental theorem of calculus gives:

$$y(t) = y(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^t y'(s)ds = \int_{t_0}^t f(s, y(s))ds.$$

(Numerical) integration can't be used in general, since $y(s)$ is unknown, unless f depends only on t .

- Special cases:
 - f depends only on $t \Rightarrow$ Solution is the integral function of $f(t)$.
 - f depends only on $y \Rightarrow$ the equation is called **autonomous**.
This simplifies the situation in ways to be discussed. Many of our examples, especially with systems will be *autonomous*.

Systems of ODE's, higher order equations

- Many models involve more than one unknown function, and/or higher order derivatives. They can be handled by making y and f vector valued: \vec{y} and \vec{f} .
- Example:** Harmonic oscillator: $y'' = -y$.

Denote: $y_1 = y, y_2 = y' = y_1'$, then we get the system:

$$\begin{cases} y_1' = y_2 \\ y_2' = -y_1 \end{cases} \quad \text{Thus, if } \vec{y} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \end{bmatrix},$$

we have the equation: $\vec{y}' = \vec{f}(t, \vec{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ -y_1 \end{bmatrix}$.

- This transformation will become routine when we proceed.
- The user of ODE-solvers needs to be able to do it. The point here is that the methods for one equation translate almost verbatim to systems, just draw (or imagine) the vector-arrow.

Harmonic oscillator: code into MATLAB

The above equation will be coded into Matlab either as an **m-file**:

```
function yp=harmonicA(t,y)
% t is not used in this (autonomous) case.
% y is a column vector of 2 components.
yp=[y(2);-y(1)];
```

or as a **function handle** (or anonymous function):

```
harmonicB=@(t,y) [y(2);-y(1)]
```

- Note: The variable `t` has to be present even if it is not used in the function definition.
- The call of an ODE-solver has one of these two forms:
 - (A) `ode23(@harmonicA,...)`
 - (B) `ode23(harmonicB,...)`

Lecture task 1, solve harmonic oscillator equation

Let's go a little ahead of our agenda and solve the above system with MATLAB's basic solver `ode23` (or `ode45`.)

- To use standard options and variable time step

» `[T,Y]= ode23(@myODE,[0,10],y0)`

Here `[0 10]` is the time span and `y0` is the initial value-columnvector at starting time 0.

- Solve the harmonic oscillator first with eg. `y0=[1;0]`.
- » `ode23(F,[0 10],[...])` produces plots.

Then, capture the output:

$y'' = -y$, output, visualization suggestions

```
[T,Y]=ode23(F,[0 10],[...]);  
plot(T,Y,'-*')  
legend('y_1(t)','y_2(t)');  
grid on  
figure % Open new graphics window  
plot(Y(:,1),Y(:,2),'-o')  
title('Phase plane of y''''=-y')  
axis square  
grid on
```

- What are the sizes of T and Y and what are their contents?
- What does `steps=diff(T);` reveal, especially `[min(steps), max(steps)]` ?

A scalar equation, direction fields and solution curves

Direction field, one scalar equation

Let's go back to one scalar equation to begin with

- At each point of the area of the ty – *plane*, where f is defined, the differential equation determines the direction of the tangent of the solution curve $y(t)$. (That's what the differential equation is all about.)

At a grid of points (t_i, y_j) in the plane, draw a short line in the direction of the tangent $f(t_i, y_j)$ to get the **direction field**.
MATLAB offers easy-to-use, efficient tools for drawing it.

Matlab tool for grid points: `meshgrid`

Recall **meshgrid**:

```
>> x=0:2;  
>> y=3:6;  
>> [X,Y]=meshgrid(x,y);  
>> [X Y]      % X and Y side by side
```

					y'	y'	y'
x	0	1	2		3	3	3
x	0	1	2		4	4	4
x	0	1	2		5	5	5
x	0	1	2		6	6	6

Thus X consists of `length(y)` (=4) x-rows,
Y consists of `length(x)` (=3) y'-columns,

Grid points (continued)

If you list X and Y in column order side by side, i.e.

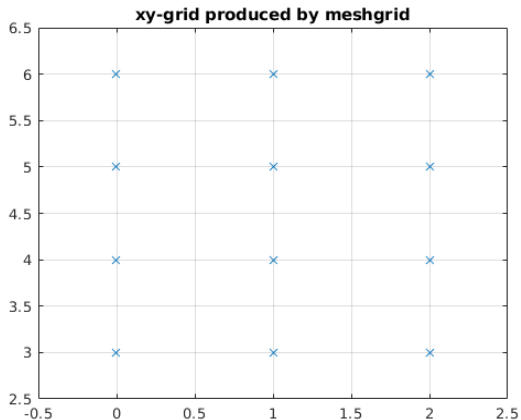
`>> gridpoints=[X(:)Y(:)]` you will get a 3×4 rectangular grid of points, let's transpose the display to save space:

```
>> gridpoints'
    0    0    0    0    1    1    1    1    2    2    2    2
    3    4    5    6    3    4    5    6    3    4    5    6
```

This data just waits to be plotted:

```
>> plot(X(:),Y(:),'x')
>> axis([-0.5 2.5 2.5 6.5])
>> grid on
>> title('xy-grid produced by meshgrid')
```

Grid points (continued)



More uses of meshgrid:

[meshscript.m](#), [meshscript.html](#) (Published html).

Tools for direction field: `meshgrid` and `quiver`

- The command `quiver(x,y,u,v,scale)` plots short arrows starting at the points $[x,y]$ in the direction of vectors with components $[u,v]$. `x`, `y`, `u`, `v` are matrices of the same size produced in most cases with the aid of `meshgrid`.
- This combination of *meshgrid* and *quiver* is good for all kinds of vector fields, like gradient field, etc.

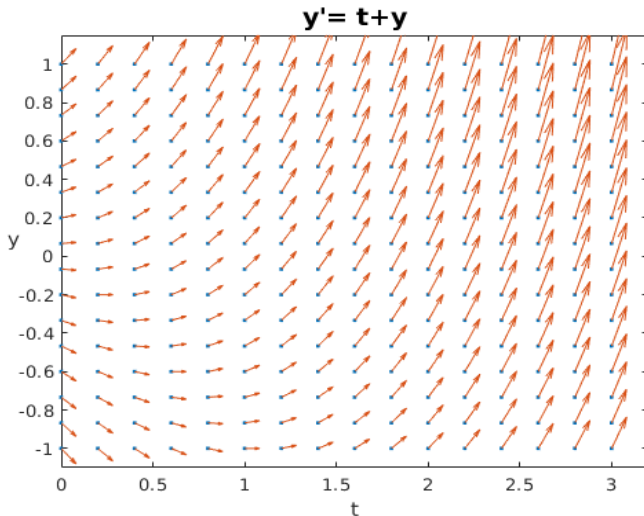
Example of direction field

Let's look at the differential equation $y' = t + y$ The derivative: $y' = f(t, y) = t + y$ gives the slope of the tangent at the point (t, y) . Thus the direction of the tangent vector (t, y) is given by $\vec{v} = (1, f(t, y))$.

```
close all
n=16;
tpoints=linspace(0,3,n); ypoints=linspace(-1,1,n);
[t,y]=meshgrid(tpoints,ypoints); % Recall 3d-graphics.
plot(t(:),y(:),'.') % Grid points:
f=@(t,y) t+y
vt=ones(size(y));
vy=f(t,y); % The derivative of solution curve
hold on; quiver(t,y,vt,vy,1.5);
```



```
xlabel('t');ylabel('y','Rotation',0)  
xlim([0 3.2]);ylim([-1.1 1.15]); % Tune axis limits
```



Lecture task 2: Direction field and solution curves

Let's continue using MATLAB's ODE-solvers before Euler-introduction:

- Load [ODEdirfield.m](#) into your MATLAB-editor.
- Run the code one block of code at a time (CTR-ENTER), choosing different initial conditions, and also possibly changing your equation.
- Here you have a piece of code, you can use in principle for any first order ODE **later** in this course and in your **life**.

Back to basics, Euler, who else!

Basics of numerical methods

One scalar equation

Recall: Initial value problem (IVP):

$$y' = f(t, y), \quad y(t_0) = y_0$$

Let's draw a "direction field arrow" at the initial point (t_0, y_0) .

The slope is $y'(t_0) = f(t_0, y_0)$

Let

$$t_1 = t_0 + h, y_1 = y_0 + hy'(t_0) = y_0 + hf(t_0, y_0).$$

Thus y_1 is the y -value of the line tangent to the solution curve at t_0 evaluated at t_1 .

For h small one can assume the error to be small as well.

Euler's method

Repeating the above step leads to the iteration:

Given initial point (t_0, y_0) , compute: ¹

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h_k f(t_k, y_k), k = 0, \dots, n$$

Example $y' = t + y, \quad y(0) = 0.$

In this case we know the exact solution. $y(t) = e^t - t - 1.$

Let's demonstrate the use of Matlab's symbolic toolbox.

¹ h_k indicates variable time steps.

Some uses of the symbolic toolbox

```
>> help dsolve      % Symbolic ODE-solver
>> syms y(t)
>> dsolve(diff(y(t),t)==t+y(t))    % General solution:
ans = C1*exp(t) - t - 1
>> dsolve(diff(y(t),t)==t+y(t),y(0)==0) % Initial ...
      value given.
ans = exp(t) - t - 1
```

Little practice: Check the result with these commands:

```
>> syms t
>> y=exp(t) - t -1
>> diff(y,t) == y+t      % Diff equ satisfied ?
>> subs(y,t,0)           % Initial condition ? (help subs)
```

Eulerexample 1

Load the file [Eulerexample1.m](#) into MATLAB. It uses the same diff. equation $y' = t + y$.

Study and experiment, one block at a time.

Writing Euler's method as a function

In the above script one could define $f=@(t,y)t+y$ and write a generic code using $f(t,y)$ in the script. Better still: Write a function **myEuler**: (Type >>which euler to see why you should avoid the name euler.)

```
function [T,Y]=myEuler(f,Tspan,y0,n)
% Euler's method for solving a single IVP
% - Function call:
% [T,Y]=myEuler(f,Tspan,y0,n)
% - Input arguments:
% f      -- function handle defining the diff. equ.
% Tspan  -- vector [a b].
% y0     -- Initial value at the point a.
% n      -- Nr. of subintervals.
```


Euler code continued

```
% - Output arguments:
% T      -- ``Time-vector''
% Y      -- Vector of Euler-solutions at T-points.
% Example: y'=t+y, y(0)=1
%         f=@(t,y)t+y;
%         [T,Y]=myEuler(f,[0 4],1,6);
%         plot(T,Y,'*--');grid on
% Code starts here:
a=Tspan(1);b=Tspan(2);
h=(b-a)/n;
% Complete the code
....
```

Lecture task

- Download the file: [myEulerTemplate.m](#)
or just copy/paste the above code into your Matlab editor.
- Rename into `myEuler.m` (Make sure, the function name is `myEuler` as well.) Complete the code. When done, type:
`>>help myEuler` and run the help-example. Then try some other examples.

In addition to getting to know Euler's method and its coding in Matlab, you will get an understanding of how the ODE-functions in MATLAB are built and used.

A few words about error analysis

- Standard tool in numerical analysis:

The Taylor expansion of the (unknown) solution function $y(t)$.

$$y(t+h) = y(t) + h y'(t) + O(h^2) = y(t) + h f(t, y(t)) + O(h^2).$$

- Taylor's theorem* gives the formula $\frac{y''(\xi)}{2} h^2$ for the **local truncation error** = error made at one step, which is of the form $O(h^2)$ (proportional to h^2 for small h).
- Taking n steps, the **global error** is of the order nh^2 , where n is proportional to $\frac{1}{h}$, thus the **global error** is of the order $O(h)$. (This reasoning is valid for s.k. *stable* equations, see later.)
- Typical error behavior: **The (global) error is approximately halved when the stepsize is halved.**
Euler's method, though inefficient, is the easy-to-understand starting point of all numerical methods of ODE's

Lecture exe 3 Eulerloop.m

Load the file [Eulerloop.m](#)
into Matlab and run one block at a time, let's discuss it ...

Better numerical methods, MATLAB's ODE-suite

Midpoint Euler

Euler's method is of the form:

$$t_{i+1} = t_i + h, y_{i+1} = y_i + m h,$$

where m =slope. For Euler, m is the slope $f(t_i, y_i)$, at the start of the step t_i , that is “follow your nose”. For fancier methods, you first “sniff ahead”. *Midpoint Euler* uses the slope m at the midpoint of the segment of an Euler step, that is:

$$m = f\left(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, y_i + \frac{h}{2}f(t_i, y_i)\right).$$

Runge-Kutta

- The 4th order *Runge-Kutta* is the most commonly used method of that order, and converges considerably more rapidly than *Euler*.
- It uses a slope that is a weighted average of 4 “intermediate” slopes:

$$m_1 = f(t_i, y_i)$$

$$m_2 = f(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, y_i + \frac{h}{2}m_1)$$

$$m_3 = f(t_i + \frac{h}{2}, y_i + \frac{h}{2}m_2)$$

$$m_4 = f(t_i + h, y_i + hm_3)$$

$$m_{RK} = \frac{1}{6}(m_1 + 2m_2 + 2m_3 + m_4)$$

- MATLAB-implementation is straightforward, let's look at it more closely in connection with systems. (Here's the link already: [rk4V.m](#))

Systems of ODE's, equations of order > 1

Systems of ODE's

```
function [T,Y]=eulerV(Fsys,Tspan,ya,n)
% ...
ya=ya(:)' % Make row vector
a=Tspan(1);b=Tspan(2);
h=(b-a)/n;
N=length(ya);
Y=zeros(n+1,N); % j^{th} col: Y(1,j), Y(2,j), ..., ...
                Y(N,j)
T=a:h:b;
Y(1,:)=ya;      % First row
for i=1:n
    Y(i+1,:)=Y(i,:)+h*(Fsys(T(i),Y(i,:))');
end;
```

EulerV example

Predator-pray (rabbits and foxes)

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dr}{dt} = 2r - \alpha r f, r(0) = r_0 \\ \frac{df}{dt} = -f + \alpha r f, f(0) = f_0 \end{cases}$$

Denote: $y_1 = r, y_2 = f$

```
function ydot = rabfox(t,y)
alpha=0.01
ydot = [2*y(1)-alpha*y(1)*y(2)
        -y(2)+alpha*y(1)*y(2)];
```

Parameter α taken as a local variable, function handle “direct” definition doesn’t work. Later we will see more elegant ways.

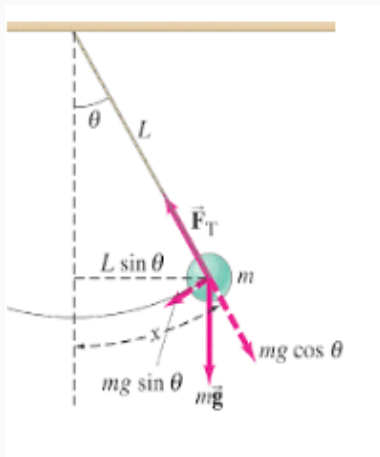
Lecture task, eulerV

- Load the file `eulerV.m`

Write the above “rabfox”-code into a file `rabfox.m`.

- Write a script `runrabfox.m`. Edit some parameters: Take $r_0=300$, $f_0=150$.
- Run and Plot $r(t)$ and $f(t)$ on the time-axis and phase-plane in separate figures. Use `legend` in the time-picture and title in both.
- Experiment with about $\tau_f=8$ and especially N , starting at $N=20$. Increase to something like $N = 200$ and more. How small step is needed to see (in figures) (almost) periodicity.
- Publish your script.

Pendulum-example



The equation of motion can be written as a differential equation for $\Theta(t)$.

Arc length $s(t) = L\Theta(t) \Rightarrow$ acceleration: $s''(t) = L\Theta''(t)$

The equation of motion: $mL\Theta''(t) = -mg \sin(\Theta(t))$, or

$$\Theta''(t) = -\frac{g}{L} \sin(\Theta(t))$$

Denoting $y_1 = \Theta$, $y_2 = \Theta' = y_1'$ leads to the system:

$$\begin{cases} y_1' = y_2 \\ y_2' = -\frac{g}{L} \sin(y_1) \end{cases}$$

Take $g/L = 1$ and write the equation in vector form:

$$\vec{y}' = \begin{bmatrix} y_1' \\ y_2' \end{bmatrix} = \vec{f}(t, \vec{y}) = \begin{bmatrix} y_2 \\ -\sin(y_1) \end{bmatrix}$$

Note: I wrote $\vec{f}(t, \vec{y})$ although in this case the function \vec{f} doesn't depend on t ("autonomous system").

To solve numerically with MATLAB:

1. Write code for the function \vec{f} , call it `myPendulum`. Either define a function handle:

`myPendulum=@(t,y) [y(2); -sin(y(1))]` or edit an m-file:

`function dy=myPendulum(t,y) ...`

2. Call the solver: `[T,Y] = ode45(myPendulum,Tspan,y0);`

Note: In the m-file case you must include the @-sign, i.e.

`[T,Y] = ode45(@myPendulum,Tspan,y0);` to tell the solver (`ode45`) that the argument is a function handle. (Rule of memory: There must be one @-sign here or there.)

3. Results: `T` is a column vector of time points used.

`Y` is a 2-column matrix: `colj` : y_j -values, $j = 1, 2$

In this case: `Col1`: Θ -values, `Col2`: Θ' -values.

Results, continued

- In other words: The i^{th} row of Y approximates the solution $(y_1(t), y_2(t))$ at $t = T(i)$.
- Visualization:
`plot(T, Y)` plots the solutions $y_1(t)$ and $y_2(t)$ on the given `Tspan` (Remember: Since Y is a matrix (with 2 columns), this command plots both columns against the `T`-column. (Same as `plot(T, Y(:, 1), T, Y(:, 2))`)
- In case of an autonomous system (like the pendulum) it is often more instructive to look at the phase plane, i.e. “velocity vs. position”, i.e. the curve $(y_1(t), y_2(t)), t \in [a, b]$. The `ode45` output matrix Y gives the required data right away: Just type: `plot(Y(:, 1), Y(:, 2))`; NICE!