

# Math 3331 Differential Equations

## 6.2 Runge-Kutta Methods (RKM)

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## 6.2 Runge-Kutta Methods (RKM)

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# 2nd Order RKM: Improved Euler Method

## Failure of Euler Method:

Only slope on left end of interval  $[t, t+h]$  is used.

**Improvement:** Given  $t, y(t)$ ,

- compute slope at  $t$

$$s_l = f(t, y(t))$$

$$y' = f(t, y)$$

- find slope at  $t+h$  via EM

$$y_E = y(t) + h s_l$$

$$s_r = f(t+h, y_E)$$

- approximate  $y(t+h)$  via average slope

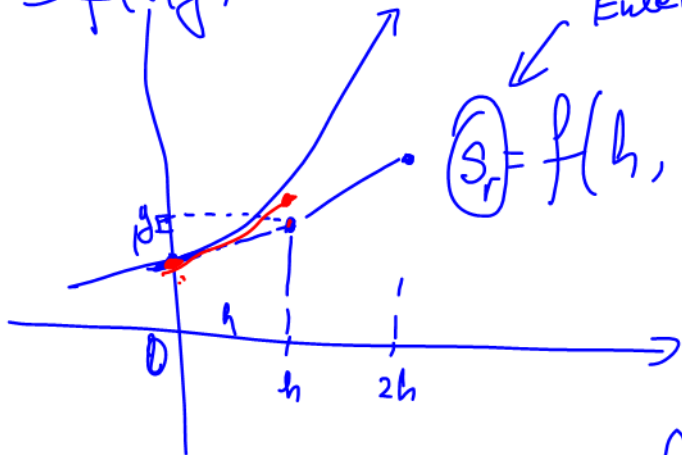
$$y(t+h) \approx y(t) + h (s_l + s_r)/2$$



$$y' = f(t, y)$$

Euler Method

$$S_r = f(h, y_E)$$



$$S_0 = f(t_0, y_0) \quad , \quad S = f(t_0 + h, y_E)$$

$$y' = y, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad h = 0.5$$

Euler Method:

$$t_0 = 0$$

$$\text{slope} = 1$$

$$y_0 = 1$$

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$$t_1 = 0.5$$

$$\text{slope} = 1$$

$$y_1^{\text{AP}} = 1.5$$



$$t_0 = 0$$

$$y' = f(t, y)$$

$$y_0 = 1$$

$$S_{\text{left}} = 1$$

$$S_R = f(h, y_i^{\text{ap}}) = y_i^{\text{ap}} = \underline{\underline{1.5}}$$

$$S_{\text{RKM}} = \frac{1 + 1.5}{2} = \underline{\underline{1.25}}$$

$$t_0 = 0$$

$$y_0 = 1$$

$$S = \underline{1.25}$$

$$\text{Error} = \left| \sqrt{e} - 1.625 \right| \\ = 10.0277$$

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$$t_1 = h = 0.5$$

$$y_1 = y_0 + \text{slope} \cdot h$$

$$= 1 + 1.25 \cdot (0.5) = \underline{\underline{1.625}}$$

# 2nd Order RKM: Iteration Scheme

## 2nd Order RKM

### Iteration Scheme

**Start:**  $y_0, t_0$

For  $k = 0$  to  $k = N$ : *Euler Method*

$$t_{k+1} = t_k + h$$

$$s_l = f(t_k, y_k)$$

$$s_r = f(t_{k+1}, y_k + h s_l)$$

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h(s_l + s_r)/2$$





# Example

Ex. Approximate the solution to

$$y' = t - y, y(0) = 0.5$$

in  $0 \leq t \leq 1$  using  $h = 0.25$ .

Start:  $y_0 = 0.5, t_0 = 0.$

$$t_1 = 0.25$$

$$s_l = t_0 - y_0 = -0.5$$

$$s_r = t_1 - (y_0 + h s_l) = -0.125$$

$$y_1 = y_0 + h(s_l + s_r)/2 = 0.4219$$

$$t_2 = 0.5$$

$$s_l = t_1 - y_1 = -0.1719$$

$$s_r = t_2 - (y_1 + h s_l) = 0.1211$$

$$y_2 = y_1 + h(s_l + s_r)/2 = 0.4155$$

$$\text{slope} = t_0 - y_0$$

$$t_3 = 0.75$$

$$s_l = t_2 - y_2 = 0.0845$$

$$s_r = t_3 - (y_2 + h s_l) = 0.3134$$

$$y_3 = y_2 + h(s_l + s_r)/2 = 0.4653$$

$$t_4 = 1$$

$$s_l = t_3 - y_3 = 0.0845$$

$$s_r = t_4 - (y_3 + h s_l) = 0.3134$$

$$y_4 = y_3 + h(s_l + s_r)/2 = 0.4653$$

$$\text{Euler } y_1 = y_0 + \text{slope} \cdot h$$

# Errors in 2nd Order RKM: Second Order

**Ex.:**  $y' = t - y$ ,  $y(0) = 0.5$   
Approximate  $y(1)$  for stepizes

$$h = 1/m, \quad m = 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32$$

**Exact Value:**  $y(1) = 0.551819$

**Error:**  $E(h) = |y(1) - y_m|$

$h$	$y_m$	$E(h)$
1	0.75	0.198181
1/2	0.585938	0.034118
1/4	0.558794	0.006974
1/8	0.553400	0.001581
1/16	0.552196	0.000377
1/32	0.551911	0.000092

$$E(h/2) \approx E(h)/4 \Rightarrow E(h) \approx Ch^2$$

**Theorem:** There  $\exists C > 0$  s.t.

$$E(h) \leq Ch^2$$

(2nd order RKM is second order method)



# 4th Order RKM: Basic Idea

## 4th Order RKM

**Idea:** Given  $t$  and  $y = y(t)$ , compute slopes  $s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4$  at four carefully chosen points s.t. error is minimized.

*Approximation:*

$$y(t+h) \approx y + \frac{h}{6}(s_1 + 2s_2 + 2s_3 + s_4)$$



# 4th Order RKM: Iteration Scheme

## 4th Order RKM

Iteration  $k \rightarrow k + 1$ :

$$\rightarrow s_1 = f(t_k, y_k)$$

$$\rightarrow s_2 = f(t_k + h/2, y_k + hs_1/2)$$

$$\rightarrow s_3 = f(t_k + h/2, y_k + hs_2/2)$$

$$\rightarrow s_4 = f(t_k + h, y_k + hs_3)$$

$$\rightarrow y_{k+1} = y_k + \frac{h}{6}(s_1 + 2s_2 + 2s_3 + s_4)$$

$$t_{k+1} = t_k + h$$

$$y' = t - y$$

$$f(1, 4) = 1 - 4 = -3$$



# Errors in 4th Order RKM: Fourth Order

**Ex.:**  $y' = t - y$ ,  $y(0) = 0.5$ ,  $y(1) \approx y_m$

$$m = 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, h = 1/m$$

**Exact Value:**  $y(1) = 0.551819162$

**Error:**  $E(h) = |y(1) - y_m|$

$h$	$y_m$	$E(h)$
1	0.5625	0.010680838
1/2	0.552256266	0.000437105
1/4	0.551841299	0.000022137
1/8	0.551820408	0.000001246
1/16	0.551819236	0.000000074
1/32	0.551819166	0.000000005

$$E(h/2) \approx E(h)/16 \Rightarrow E(h) \approx Ch^4$$

For each step:

$$E(h_i) \leq C_i \cdot h^5$$

$$\Rightarrow E(h) = \sum_{i=1}^n E(h_i) \leq C \cdot n \cdot h^5$$

$$E(h) \leq C \cdot h^4$$

**Theorem:** There  $\exists C > 0$  s.t.

$$E(h) \leq Ch^4$$

(4th order RKM is fourth order method)

$$n = \frac{b-a}{h}$$

