

# Numerical Methods for Ordinary Differential Equations.

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March 8, 2019

## Abstract

For  $I = [t_1, t_1 + T] \subset \mathbb{R}$ , let  $f(t, \mathbf{x}) \in C(I \times \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^m)$ . With an initial condition  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , we are looking for a function  $\mathbf{y} \in C^1(I, \mathbb{R}^m)$  solving the **Cauchy problem**

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{y}'(t) = f(t, \mathbf{y}(t)), \forall t \in I, \\ \mathbf{y}(t_1) = \boldsymbol{\eta}. \end{cases}$$

This is an initial value problem for a system of first order differential equations.

**Numerical schemes:** We compute approximations  $\mathbf{u}_i \approx \mathbf{y}(t_i)$  on a **partition**  $\mathbf{t} : t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_{n+1} = t_1 + T$  of the interval  $I = [t_1, t_1 + T]$ . Here  $\mathbf{u}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^m$  is given and

$$\mathbf{u}_{i+1} := \mathbf{u}_i + h_i \phi(t_i, \mathbf{u}_i, h_i), \quad h_i := t_{i+1} - t_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n. \quad (1)$$

We will define, **stability**, **order** and **convergence** of the numerical scheme.

**Program:** If  $f \in C([t_1, t_1 + T] \times \mathbb{R}^m, \mathbb{R}^m)$  and  $\boldsymbol{\eta} \in \mathbb{R}^m$ , the solution of the Cauchy problem can be approximated by a numerical method using a uniform step length:

$$\boxed{[\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{u}] = \text{method}(\text{namefunc}, I, \boldsymbol{\eta}, n)} \quad (2)$$

with inputs the file `namefunc.m` computing the function  $f$ , the interval  $I = [t_1, t_1 + T]$ , the initial condition  $\boldsymbol{\eta}$  and the number of intervals in the partition  $n$ . The outputs are the partition  $\mathbf{t}$  and the approximation  $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times (n+1)}$  of the solution at the grid points.