

Ordinary Differential Equation Algorithms

- *Benefit from standard form*
- *Same algorithm, any ODE*
- *Similar to differentiation*

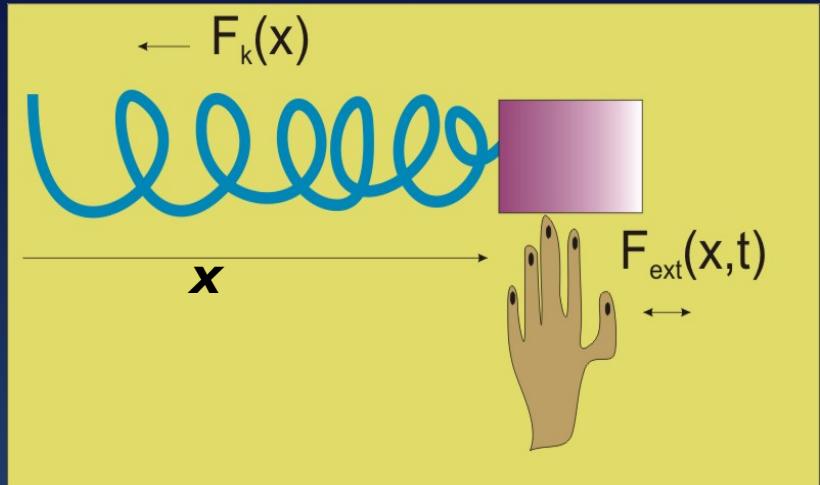
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Computational Physics for Undergraduates
BS Degree Program: Oregon State University

Support by NSF & OSU



Review: Forced Oscillator



$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{1}{m} F \left(t, \frac{dx}{dt}, x \right) \quad (1)$$

\Rightarrow
Standard form

$$y^{(0)}(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} x(t) \quad (3)$$

$$\mathbf{y}^{(1)}(t) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \frac{dx}{dt} \equiv \frac{dy^{(0)}}{dt} \quad (4)$$

$$5) \quad \frac{dy^{(0)}(t)}{dt} = y^{(1)}(t)$$

$$f^{(0)} = y^{(1)}(t) \quad (7)$$

$$6) \quad \frac{dy^{(1)}(t)}{dt} = \frac{1}{m} F(t, y^{(0)}, y^{(1)})$$

$$f^{(1)} = F(t, y^{(0)}, y^{(1)}) \quad (8)$$

Differential Equation Algorithms

"time" stepping =
(integration)



= leapfrog =

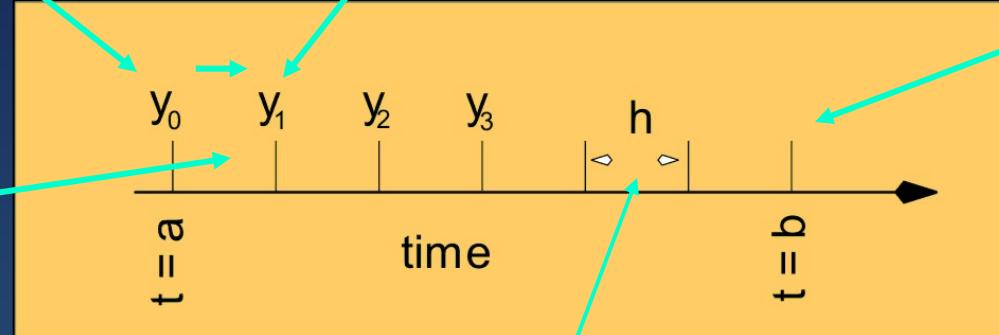


initial solution

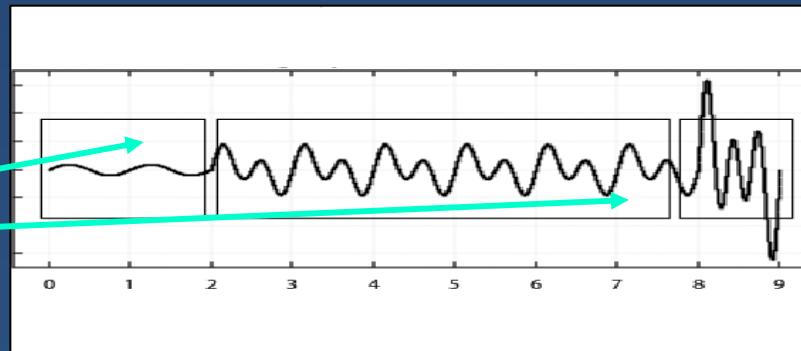
$y_0 \equiv y(t=0)$

derivative
 $f(t=0, y_0)$

$y_1 \equiv y(t=1 h)$



Industrial Strength
Adaptive step
Size

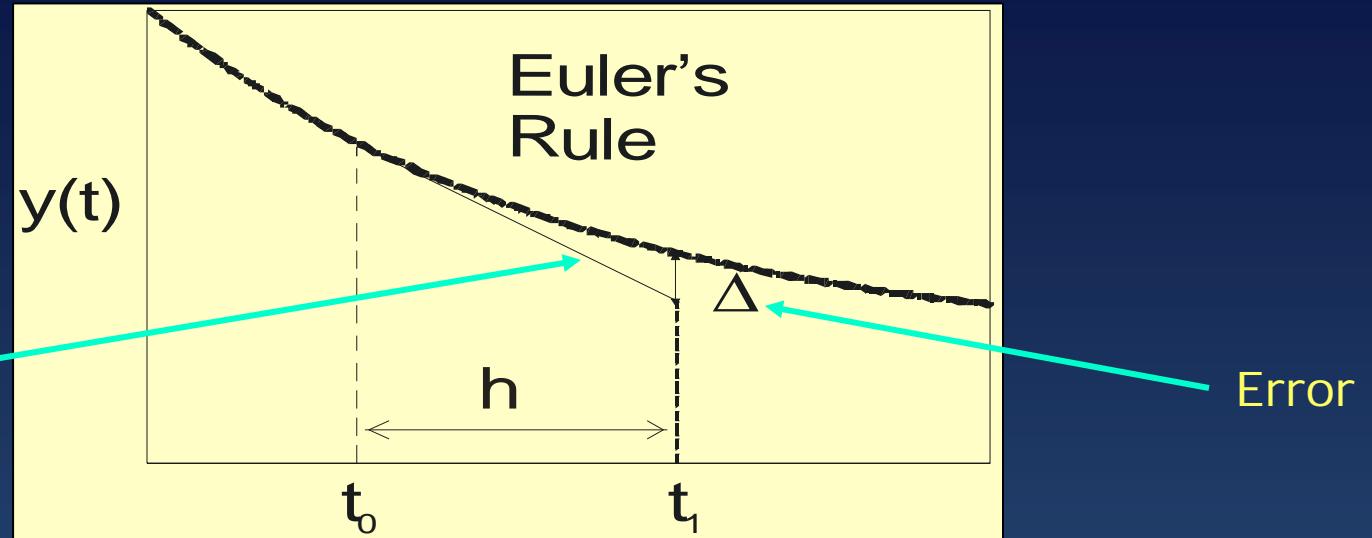


$h = ?$



Too Simple Algorithm: Euler's

Linear
tangent line
(extrapolate Ø)



$$1) \quad \frac{dy(t)}{dt} = f(t, y),$$

$$2) \quad \frac{y(t_{n+1}) - y(t_n)}{h} \simeq f(t_n, y)$$

$$3) \quad \Rightarrow \quad y_{n+1} \simeq y_n + h f(t_n, y_n)$$

Order 1: Error $\varepsilon = O(h^2)$

***Not as good as
1st Year Physics (t=h)***

$$x = x_0 + v_0 h + \frac{1}{2} ah^2 \quad (4)$$

$$v = v_0 + ah \quad (5)$$

Yet is self-starting!

Better Algorithm: Runge-Kutta

- Still one step, higher order, **rk2**: simple, use **rk4**
- Industrial standard: **rk4, rk45;** ≈ **interpolate**

$$1) \quad \frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y)$$

$$2) \quad y(t) = \int f(t, y) dt$$

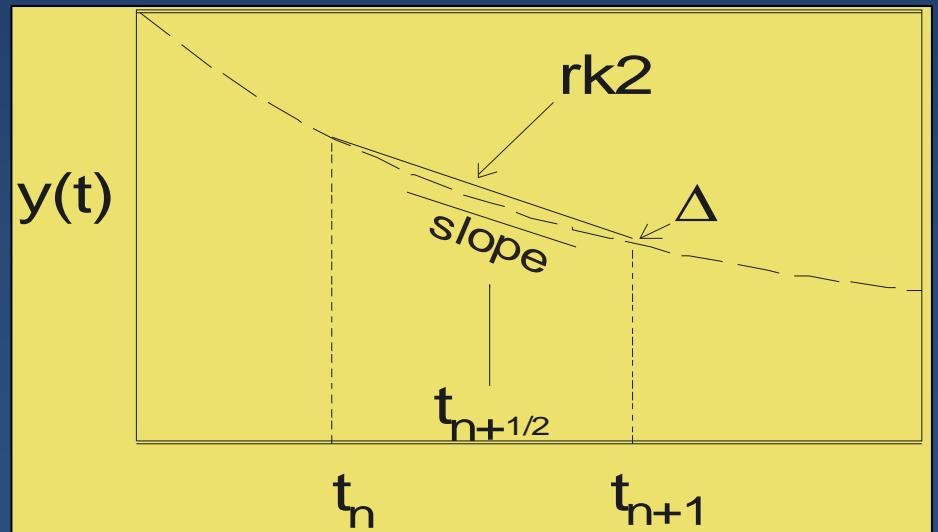
$$3) \quad y_{n+1} = y_n + \int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} f(t, y) dt$$

$$4) \quad n+ \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} n + 1/2$$

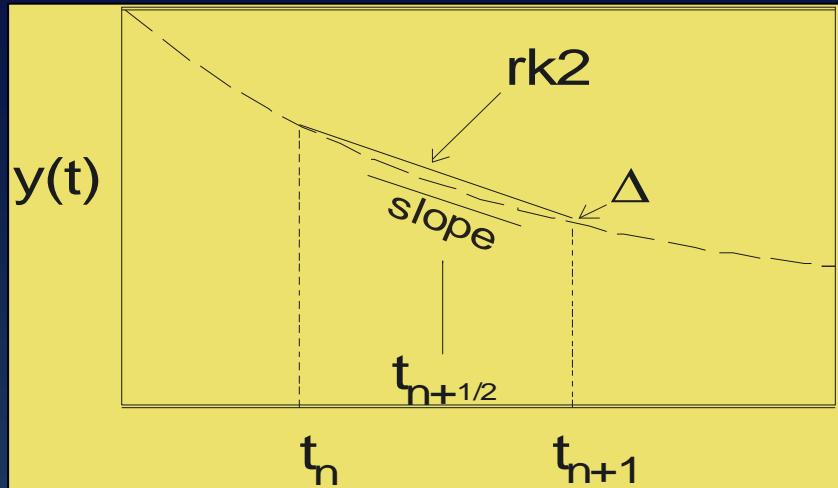
$$5) \quad f(t, y) \simeq f(t_{n+}, y_{n+}) + (t - t_{n+}) \frac{df}{dt}(t_{n+}) + O(h^2)$$

$$\int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} f(t, y) dt \simeq f(t_{n+}, y_{n+}) h, \quad (7)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{y_{n+1} \simeq y_n + h f(t_{n+}, y_{n+})} \quad (8) \\ + \mathcal{O}(h^3)$$



E.G.: Apply rk2



$$2) \quad y_{n+1/2} \simeq y_n + \frac{dy}{dt} \frac{h}{2}$$

$$3) \quad = y_n + \frac{1}{2} h f(t_n, y_n)$$

** Putting it all together **

$$4) \quad \vec{y}_{n+1} \simeq \vec{y}_n + \vec{k}_2$$

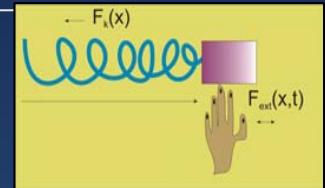
$$5) \quad \vec{k}_2 = h \vec{f}(t_n + \frac{h}{2}, \vec{y}_n + \frac{\vec{k}_1}{2}),$$

$$6) \quad \vec{k}_1 = h \vec{f}(t_n, \vec{y}_n)$$

$$y_{n+1} \simeq y_n + h f(t_{n+1/2}, y_{n+1/2}) \quad (1)$$

- Higher order, 1 method call
- Intermediate $y_{n+1/2} = ?$
- Use Euler's algorithm

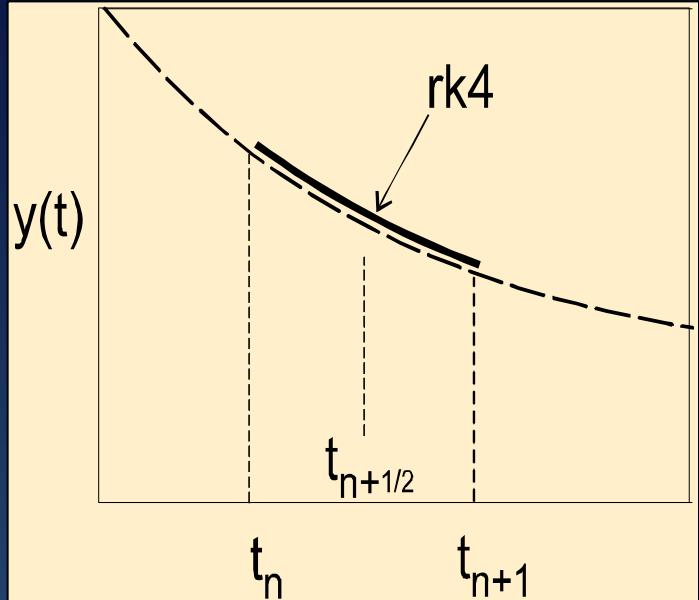
e.g. spring



$$\begin{aligned} y_1^{(0)} &= y_0^{(0)} + h f^{(0)}(\frac{h}{2}, y_0^{(0)} + k_1) \\ &\simeq x_0 + h[v_0 + \frac{h}{2} F_k(0)] \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} y_1^{(1)} &= y_0^{(1)} + h f^{(1)}[\frac{h}{2} y_0 + \frac{h}{2} f(0, y_0)] \\ &\simeq v_0 + h \frac{1}{m} F_k(y^{(1)}(0) + \frac{k_1}{2}) \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Rk4: Fourth-Order Runge-Kutta



- Power, precision, simple
- Expand $\mathbf{f}(t, y)$ $O(h^3)$ about midpoint
- Better $\mathbf{f}(t_{n+1/2}, y_{n+1/2})$
 - 4 method calls
- rk2: $O(h^3)$ error; rk4: $O(h^5)$ error

$$\vec{y}_{n+1} = \vec{y}_n + \frac{1}{6}(\vec{k}_1 + 2\vec{k}_2 + 2\vec{k}_3 + \vec{k}_4) \quad (1)$$

$$\vec{k}_1 = h\vec{f}(t_n, \vec{y}_n), \quad \vec{k}_2 = h\vec{f}\left(t_n + \frac{h}{2}, \vec{y}_n + \frac{\vec{k}_1}{2}\right) \quad (2)$$

$$\vec{k}_3 = h\vec{f}\left(t_n + \frac{h}{2}, \vec{y}_n + \frac{\vec{k}_2}{2}\right), \quad \vec{k}_4 = h\vec{f}(t_n + h, \vec{y}_n + \vec{k}_3) \quad (3)$$

$O(h)$ $O(h^3)$

You deserve a break now!