

Kincaid 8.3.3) Prove that the Runge-Kutta formula:

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + \frac{1}{6}(F_1 + 2F_2 + 2F_3 + F_4)$$

$$F_1 = hf(t, x)$$

$$F_2 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_1\right)$$

$$F_3 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_2\right)$$

$$F_4 = hf(t+h, x + F_3)$$

is of order 4 in the special case that $f(t, x)$ is independent of x . Show that in this case the Runge-Kutta formula is equivalent to Simpson's Rule:

$$\int_a^b f(x)dx \approx \frac{(b-a)}{6} \left[f(a) + 4f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + f(b) \right].$$

If f is independent of x , then I have:

$$F_1 = hf(t) \quad F_2 = F_3 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h\right) \quad F_4 = hf(t+h)$$

The result I expect to see comes from Taylor:

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + hf(t) + \frac{1}{2}h^2 f'(t) + \frac{1}{6}h^3 f''(t) + O(h^4)$$

In the special case of $f(t, x)$ independent of x :

$$f\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h\right) = f(t) + \frac{h}{2} f'(t) + \frac{h^2}{4} f''(t) + \dots$$

$$f(t+h) = f(t) + hf'(t) + \frac{h^2}{2} f''(t) + \dots$$

Making these substitutions in the Runge-Kutta formula, I have:

$$\begin{aligned} x(t+h) &= x(t) + \frac{1}{6} \left(hf(t) + 4f\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) + hf(t+h) \right) \\ &= x(t) + \frac{h}{6} f(t) + \frac{2h}{3} \left[f(t) + \frac{h}{2} f'(t) + \frac{h^2}{8} f''(t) \right] + \frac{h}{6} \left[f(t) + hf'(t) + \frac{h^2}{2} f''(t) \right] + O(h^4) \\ &= x(t) + f(t) + \frac{1}{2} hf'(t) + \frac{1}{6} h^2 f''(t) + O(h^4) \end{aligned}$$

The above agrees exactly with Taylor, as expected.

Then, I see that this is equivalent to Simpson's in the special case of $f(t, x)$ independent of x by simple substitution:

$$x(t+h) - x(t) = \frac{h}{6} \left(f(t) + 4f\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h\right) + f(t+h) \right)$$

$$t+h \rightarrow b \quad t \rightarrow a$$

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx \approx \frac{(b-a)}{6} \left[f(a) + 4f\left(\frac{a+b}{2}\right) + f(b) \right]$$

Kincaid 8.3.4) Derive the modified Euler's method:

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x(t) + \frac{1}{2}hf(t, x(t))\right)$$

by performing Richardson's extrapolation on Euler's method using step sizes h and $\frac{h}{2}$. Assume the error term is Ch^2 .

Euler's Method is given by $x(t+h) = x(t) + hf(t, x(t))$.

The strategy at hand in this modified formula is this: I'd like to use, instead of the derivative at this time and position, use the derivative at a time halfway to my target time and a position halfway to my target position for a better approximation.

Then:

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

Starting with two steps leading to the desired formula, I have:

$$(A): x(t+h) = x(t) + hx'(t) + O(h^2)$$

$$(B): x(t+h) = x\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) + \frac{h}{2}x'\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) + O(h^2)$$

However, formula A:

$$(C): x\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) = x(t) + \frac{h}{2}x'(t) + O(h^2)$$

Then, substituting formula C into formula B:

$$(D): x(t+h) = x(t) + \frac{h}{2}x'(t) + \frac{h}{2}x'\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) + O(h^2)$$

Now, in another Taylor expansion:

$$(E): x'(t) = x'\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) - \frac{h}{2} x''\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) + O(h^2)$$

Substituting this into formula D:

$$(F): x(t+h) = x(t) + hx'\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) + O(h^2)$$

Taking

$$(H): x'\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) = f\left(t + \frac{h}{2}, x\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right)\right)$$

and substituting formula C, then, I have:

$$(I): x'\left(t + \frac{h}{2}\right) = f\left(t + \frac{h}{2}, x(t) + \frac{h}{2} x'(t) + O(h^2)\right)$$

Substituting formula I into formula F, then, using $x'(t) = f(t, x(t))$ and dropping terms of order h^2 , I have:

$$x(t+h) \approx x(t) + hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x(t) + \frac{1}{2}hf(t, x(t))\right)$$

Just as expected. Thus, I have used an analog of Richardson's extrapolation to advance to this version of Euler's method.

Kincaid 8.3.5) Derive the third-order Runge-Kutta formula

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + \frac{1}{9}(2F_1 + 3F_2 + 4F_3)$$

where

$$F_1 = hf(t, x)$$

$$F_2 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_1\right)$$

$$F_3 = hf\left(t + \frac{3}{4}h, x + \frac{3}{4}F_2\right)$$

Show that it agrees with the Taylor-series method of order 3 for the differential equation $x' = x + t$.

Let $x' = f(t, x)$.

Then,

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

$$x'' = f_t + f_x x' = f_t + f_x f$$

$$x^{(3)} = f_{tt} + f_{xt} f + f_x f_t + (f_{tx} + f_{xx} f + f_x f_x) f = f_{tt} + 2f_{xt} f + f_x f_t + f_{xx} f^2 + f_x^2 f$$

Now, from Taylor I have:

$$x(t+h) = x + hf + \frac{1}{2}h^2(f_t + f_x f) + \frac{1}{6}h^3(f_{tt} + 2f_{xt} f + f_x f_t + f_{xx} f^2 + f_x^2 f) + O(h^4)$$

I will need to match these partial derivatives using the functions F . Expanding the chosen functions (these are arbitrary) out to order h^4 :

$$F_1 = hf(t, x)$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_2 &= hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_1\right) = hf(t, x) + \frac{h^2}{2}f_t + \frac{h}{2}F_1 f_x + \frac{h^3}{8}f_{tt} + \frac{h^2}{4}F_1 f_{xt} + \frac{h}{8}F_1^2 f_{xx} + O(h^4) \\ &= hf(t, x) + \frac{h^2}{2}f_t + \frac{h^2}{2}ff_x + \frac{h^3}{8}f_{tt} + \frac{h^3}{4}ff_{xt} + \frac{h^3}{8}f^2 f_{xx} + O(h^4) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} F_3 &= hf\left(t + \frac{3}{4}h, x + \frac{3}{4}F_2\right) \\ &= hf(t, x) + \frac{3h^2}{4}f_t + \frac{3h}{4}F_2 f_x + \frac{9h^3}{32}f_{tt} + \frac{9h^2}{16}F_2 f_{xt} + \frac{9h}{8}F_2^2 f_{xx} + O(h^4) \\ &= hf + \frac{3h^2}{4}f_t + \frac{3h}{4}\left[hf + \frac{h^2}{2}f_t + \frac{h^2}{2}ff_x\right]f_x + \frac{9h^3}{32}f_{tt} + \frac{9h^3}{16}ff_{xt} + \frac{9h^3}{32}f^2 f_{xx} + O(h^4) \end{aligned}$$

The final step is to add a combination of these to the effect of agreeing with the Taylor series for $x(t+h)$ up to order 3. As is easily seen by the complexity of the above formula, such a solution is best left for a computer algebra system. I verify this solution in Mathematica:

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In[52]:= Clear[xTaylor, F1, F2, F3]
xTaylor := x + h f +  $\frac{1}{2} h^2 (ft + fx f) + \frac{1}{6} h^3 (ftt + 2 fxt f + fx ft + fxx f^2 + fx^2 f) ;$ 
F1 := h f;
F2 := h f +  $\frac{h^2}{2} ft + \frac{h}{2} F1 fx + \frac{h^3}{8} ftt + \frac{h^2}{4} F1 fxt + \frac{h}{8} F1^2 fxx;$ 
F3 := h f +  $\frac{3 h^2}{4} ft + \frac{3 h}{4} F2 fx + \frac{9 h^3}{32} ftt + \frac{9 h^2}{16} F2 fxt + \frac{9 h}{32} F2^2 fxx;$ 
Apart[FullSimplify[xTaylor - (x +  $\frac{1}{9} (2 F1 + 3 F2 + 4 F3)$ )]]]

Out[57]= - $\frac{1}{24} (ftt fx + 3 ft fxt + 5 f fx fxt + 3 f ft fxx + 4 f^2 fx fxx) h^4 -$ 
 $\frac{1}{32} (ftt fxt + 2 f fxt^2 + ft^2 fxx + f ftt fxx + 2 f ft fx fxx + f^2 fx^2 fxx + 3 f^2 fxt fxx + f^3 fxx^2) h^5 -$ 
 $\frac{1}{64} (ft + f fx) fxx (ftt + 2 f fxt + f^2 fxx) h^6 - \frac{1}{512} fxx (ftt + 2 f fxt + f^2 fxx)^2 h^7$ 

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Clearly, the first remaining terms are of order h^4 .

Kincaid 8.3.6) Prove that when the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method is applied to the problem $x' = \lambda x$, the formula for advancing this solution will be

$$x(t+h) = \left[1 + h\lambda + \frac{1}{2}h^2\lambda^2 + \frac{1}{6}h^3\lambda^3 + \frac{1}{24}h^4\lambda^4 \right] x(t)$$

The classical fourth-order Runge-Kutta method is given by:

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + \frac{1}{6}(F_1 + 2F_2 + 2F_3 + F_4)$$

$$F_1 = hf(t, x)$$

$$F_2 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_1\right)$$

$$F_3 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_2\right)$$

$$F_4 = hf(t+h, x + F_3)$$

Under this substitution, then:

$$F_1 = h\lambda x$$

Further, simple substitution gives:

$$F_2 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}h\lambda x\right) = h\lambda\left(x + \frac{1}{2}h\lambda x\right)$$

$$F_3 = hf\left(t + \frac{1}{2}h, x + \frac{1}{2}F_2\right) = h\lambda\left(x + h\lambda\left(x + \frac{1}{2}h\lambda x\right)\right)$$

$$F_4 = hf\left(t + h, x + F_3\right) = h\lambda\left(x + h\lambda\left(x + h\lambda\left(x + \frac{1}{2}h\lambda x\right)\right)\right)$$

Substituting these into the formula:

$$x(t+h) = x(t) + \frac{1}{6}(F_1 + 2F_2 + 2F_3 + F_4)$$

gives:

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In[84]:= Clear[F1, F2, F3, F4, adv]
         F1 := h λ x;
         F2 := h λ (x + 1/2 F1);
         F3 := h λ (x + 1/2 F2)
         F4 := h λ (x + F3)
         Apart[FullSimplify[x + 1/6 (F1 + 2 F2 + 2 F3 + F4)]]
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Out[89]= x + h x λ + 1/2 h² x λ² + 1/6 h³ x λ³ + 1/24 h⁴ x λ⁴
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This clearly agrees with the expected formula.

Kincaid 8.6.6) Write an autonomous system of first-order equations equivalent to:

$$x''' - [\sin x' + e^t x']^2 + \cos x = 0$$

$$x(0) = 3 \quad x'(0) = 4 \quad x''(0) = 5$$

Take:

$$x_0 = e^t \quad x_1 = x \quad x_2 = x' \quad x_3 = x''$$

e.g.

$$x_0' = x_0 \quad x_1' = x_2 \quad x_2' = x_3$$

$$x_3' = [\sin x_3 + x_0 x_2]^2 + \cos x_1$$