Fourth Order Runge-Kutta Methods

Consider the simple particle-spring system shown in Figure 1. A particle of weight \( m \) is suspended on a weightless spring of spring constant \( k \) and neutral length \( l_0 \). The only forces acting on the particle are its weight \( mg \) and the force due to the extension or compression of the spring. The position of the particle \((x, y, z)\) is a function of time, and the goal of this assignment is to write a computer program that finds the three dimensional trajectory of the particle as a function of time using the fourth order Runge-Kutta method.

(1) The trajectory of the particle is governed by the following three equations of motion. Find \( f_x \), \( f_y \), and \( f_z \) in the following equations.

\[
\begin{align*}
x'' &= f_x(x, y, z, t) \\
y'' &= f_y(x, y, z, t) \\
z'' &= f_z(x, y, z, t)
\end{align*}
\]

(2) The above three equations are second order ODEs. These equations can be reduced to a system of first-order equations by defining three more variables \( v_x \), \( v_y \), and \( v_z \). Find the system of first-order equations of the following form:

\[
\begin{align*}
x' &= f_0(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z, t) \\
y' &= f_1(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z, t) \\
z' &= f_2(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z, t) \\
v_x' &= f_3(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z, t) \\
v_y' &= f_4(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z, t) \\
v_z' &= f_5(x, y, z, v_x, v_y, v_z, t)
\end{align*}
\]

(3) A sample code “ode.cpp” and "ode.java" to solve the above first-order ODEs is provided under the class AFS directory. Compile the code and study how the program works. The output of the program is a VRML file “output.wrl” that shows an animation of the trajectory. This program takes as input a set of initial values of the six variables \( x \), \( y \), \( z \), \( v_x \), \( v_y \), and \( v_z \), and then integrates the equation of motion using Euler’s method. In the sample codes all the constants are defined as follows:

```c
#define N (1000) // Number of iterations (no unit)
#define H (0.01) // Integration interval (sec.)
#define L0 (2.0) // Neutral spring length (m)
#define K (10.0) // Spring constant (N/m)
```
#define  G   (9.8) // Gravity constant (m/sec^2)
#define  M   (1.0) // Mass (kg)

Because the time interval is 0.01 seconds and the number of iterations is 1000 the code generates a trajectory of the particle for the first 10 seconds.

For the following combinations of N and H (note that they are all solutions to the first 10 seconds)
   N=1000 and H=0.01 (original values in the sample code)
   N=200 and H = 0.05
   N=100 and H=0.1
run the program with the following initial conditions.
   ode 2 -2.5 0 0 0 0
   ode 3 -1 0 0 0 1

Hand in all the pictures (6 pictures) and add a comment on each picture whether the solution is convergent or not. When printing an image choose a view angle similar to Figure 2.

(4) Replace Euler’s method implemented in the sample code with the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method and run the same 6 cases. Hand in all the pictures (6 pictures) and add a comment on each picture whether the solution is convergent or not. When printing an image choose a view angle similar to Figure 2.

To minimize your work to generate the VRML output the vrml_ode subroutine is provided in the sample codes.

In your hand-in directory on AFS, make a new directory called ps12 (in lower case) and hand in the following in the directory.  **Don’t copy object files (*.obj, *.o) or VRML files.**

- Source code files
- Executable file of the fourth-order Runge-Kutta method with N=1000 and H=0.01

Also hand in a printout of the following:
- Source code files and header files
- 12 images of the VRML files with comments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem Set</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PS12-(1)</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PS12-(2)</td>
<td>15 pts</td>
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<tr>
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<td>50 pts</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>100 pts</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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24-311  NUMERICAL METHODS  Fall03  
Carnegie Mellon University  

**PROBLEM SET 12**

- **Issued:** 11/14/03  
- **Due:** 11/22/03 Sat 4:00pm @ HH B127  
- **Weight:** 3 % of total grade