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ECE 204 *Numerical methods*

# The Dormand-Prince method

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The Dormand-Prince method

## Introduction

- In this topic, we will
  - Derive and describe the adaptive Dormand-Prince method
  - Look at the implementation
  - See two examples

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## Recap of 4<sup>th</sup>-order Runge-Kutta

- Given  $(t_k, y_k)$ , the 4<sup>th</sup>-order Runge-Kutta method sampled the slope four times:
 
$$s_0 \leftarrow f(t_k, y_k)$$


$$s_1 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{1}{2}h, y_k + \frac{1}{2}hs_0\right)$$

$$s_2 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{1}{2}h, y_k + \frac{1}{2}hs_1\right)$$

$$s_3 \leftarrow f(t_k + h, y_k + hs_2)$$
  - Note that two samples were inside the interval  $[t_k, t_k + h]$
- We then took a weighted average of these slopes:
 
$$y_{k+1} \leftarrow y_k + h \frac{s_0 + 2s_1 + 2s_2 + s_3}{6}$$

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## Dormand-Prince method

- Given  $(t_k, y_k)$ , the method sampled the slope seven times:
 
$$s_0 \leftarrow f(t_k, y_k)$$

$$s_1 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{1}{5}h, y_k + \frac{1}{5}hs_0\right)$$

$$s_2 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{3}{10}h, y_k + \frac{3}{10}h \frac{s_0 + 3s_1}{4}\right)$$


$$s_3 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{4}{5}h, y_k + \frac{4}{5}h \frac{11s_0 - 42s_1 + 40s_2}{9}\right)$$

$$s_4 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{8}{9}h, y_k + \frac{8}{9}h \frac{4843s_0 - 19020s_1 + 16112s_2 - 477s_3}{1458}\right)$$


$$s_5 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + h, y_k + h \frac{477901s_0 - 1806240s_1 + 1495424s_2 + 46746s_3 - 45927s_4}{167904}\right)$$


$$s_6 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + h, y_k + h \frac{12985s_0 + 64000s_2 + 92750s_3 - 45927s_4 + 18656s_5}{142464}\right)$$

$$y \leftarrow y_k + h \frac{1921409s_0 + 9690880s_2 + 13122270s_3 - 5802111s_4 + 1902912s_5 + 534240s_6}{21369600}$$

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## Dormand-Prince method

- Important:
  - For a single step, the error of the approximation  $z$  is  $O(h^6)$ 
    - The literature refers to this one as *fifth-order*
    - This is similar to referring to 4<sup>th</sup>-order Runge-Kutta which is actually  $O(h^5)$  for a single step
  - Similarly, a single step of the approximation  $y$  is  $O(h^5)$

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## Dormand-Prince method

- From analysis,  $y$  has an  $O(h^5)$  error
 
$$2|z - y| \approx Ch^5$$
  - Solving this for  $C$  yields:
 
$$C \approx \frac{2|z - y|}{h^5}$$
- We want to choose the ideal  $ah$  so that the error is  $\varepsilon_{\text{abs}}(ah)$ 

$$C(ah)^5 = \varepsilon_{\text{abs}}(ah)$$
  - Solving this for  $a$  yields
 
$$a^4 = \frac{\varepsilon_{\text{abs}}}{Ch^4}$$
  - Substituting in the approximation of  $C$  from above:
 
$$a = \sqrt[4]{\frac{\varepsilon_{\text{abs}} h}{2|z - y|}}$$

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## Implementation

- The implementation requires a few constants

$$s_i \leftarrow f\left(t_k + hc_i, y_k + hc_i\left(d_{i,0}s_0 + \dots + d_{i,i-1}s_{i-1}\right)\right)$$

```


std::size_t const DIM{7};

double step[DIM - 1]{
    1.0/5.0,    3.0/10.0,    4.0/5.0,    8.0/9.0,    1.0,    1.0
};

double tableau[DIM - 1][DIM - 1]{
    { 1.0 },
    { 1.0/4.0,    3.0/4 },
    { 11.0/9.0,    -14.0/3.0,    40.0/9.0 },
    { 4843.0/1458.0,    -3170.0/243.0,    8056.0/729.0,    -53.0/162.0 },
    { 9017.0/3168.0,    -355.0/33.0,    46732.0/5247.0,    49.0/176.0,    -5103.0/18656.0 },
    { 35.0/384.0,    0.0,    500.0/1113.0,    125.0/192.0,    -2187.0/6784.0,    11.0/84.0 }
};

double y_coeff[DIM]{
    5179.0/57600.0, 0.0, 7571.0/16695.0, 393.0/640.0, -92097.0/339200.0, 187.0/2100.0, 1.0/40.0
};

```

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## Implementation

- The implementation is only slightly more complex:

```


do {
    double s[DIM]{ qdy.back() };
    double z{};

    for ( std::size_t i{0}; i < DIM - 1; ++i ) {
        double slope{0.0};

        for ( std::size_t j{0}; j <= i; ++j ) {
            slope += tableau[i][j]*s[j];
        }

        z = qy.back() + h*step[i]*slope;
        s[i + 1] = f( qt.back() + h*step[i], z );
    }
}

```

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## Implementation

```
double slope_y{0.0};

for ( std::size_t i{0}; i < DIM; ++i ) {
    slope_y += y_coeff[i]*s[i];
}

double y{ qy.back() + h*slope_y };

double a{ std::pow(
    eps_abs*h/(2.0*std::abs( z - y )), 0.25
) };

if ( ( a > 1.0 ) || ( h == h_rng.first ) ) {
    qt.push( qt.back() + h );
    qy.push( z );
    qdy.push( f( qt.back(), z ) );
    found = true;
}

a *= 0.9;
```

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## Implementation

- On slide 4, we represent the calculations as:
 
$$s_4 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{8}{9}h, y_k + \frac{8}{9}h \frac{4843s_0 - 19020s_1 + 16112s_2 - 477s_3}{1458}\right)$$
  - In the implementation, you will note it appears as
 
$$s_4 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \left(\frac{8}{9}h\right), y_k + \left(\frac{8}{9}h\right)\left(\frac{4843}{1458}s_0 - \frac{19020}{1458}s_1 + \frac{16112}{1458}s_2 - \frac{477}{1458}s_3\right)\right)$$
  - You may be tempted to do the following:
 
$$s_4 \leftarrow f\left(t_k + \frac{8}{9}h, y_k + \frac{8}{9}h \frac{4843}{1458}s_0 - \frac{8}{9}h \frac{19020}{1458}s_1 + \frac{8}{9}h \frac{16112 - 477s_3}{1458}s_2 - \frac{8}{9}h \frac{477}{1458}s_3\right)$$
  - Issue: if  $h$  is small, this may result in a sum of denormalized numbers, which will magnify the error

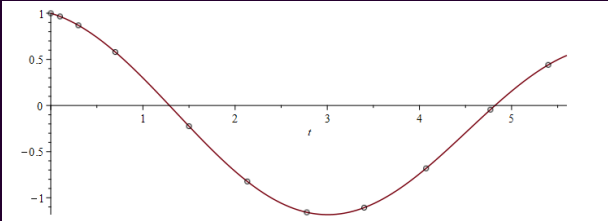
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The Dormand-Prince method 

## Example


- Suppose we have  $y^{(1)}(t) = -0.2y(t) - \sin(t) - 0.1$   
 $y(0) = 1$ 
  - With  $h_{\min} = 0.01$ ,  $h_{\max} = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_{\text{abs}} = 0.00001$ , we have



- Now, the maximum  $h_{\max}$  is more relevant, as we are using cubic splines to approximate values between these approximations

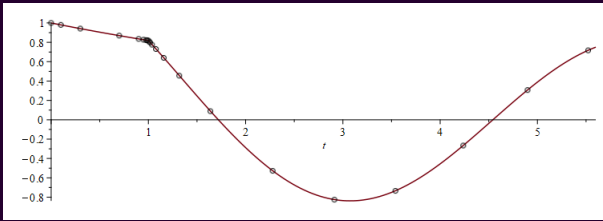
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## Example


- Suppose we have  $y^{(1)}(t) = -0.2y(t) - \begin{cases} 0 & t < 1 \\ \sin(t) - 0.1 & t \geq 1 \end{cases}$   
 $y(0) = 1$ 
  - With  $h_{\min} = 0.01$ ,  $h_{\max} = 1$  and  $\varepsilon_{\text{abs}} = 0.00001$ , we have



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## Summary

- Following this topic, you now
  - Understand the adaptive Dormand-Prince method
  - Are aware of the calculations required
  - Know the derivation of the appropriate scaling factor  $a$
  - Have seen the implementation
  - Have seen two examples

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## References

- [1] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dormand-Prince\\_method](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dormand-Prince_method)
- [3] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptive\\_algorithm](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptive_algorithm)
- [4] [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptive\\_step\\_size](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Adaptive_step_size)

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## Acknowledgments

Tazik Shahjahan for pointing out typos.  
 Aristedes Jose B. Aquino Jr. from YouTube who pointed out that one of the coefficients on Slide 4 had

$$\dots - 64000s_2 + \dots \text{ and not } \dots + 64000s_2 + \dots$$

- The subsequent MATLAB code has the correct sign

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## Colophon

These slides were prepared using the Cambria typeface. Mathematical equations use Times New Roman, and source code is presented using Consolas. Mathematical equations are prepared in MathType by Design Science, Inc. Examples may be formulated and checked using Maple by Maplesoft, Inc.

The photographs of flowers and a monarch butter appearing on the title slide and accenting the top of each other slide were taken at the Royal Botanical Gardens in October of 2017 by Douglas Wilhelm Harder. Please see


<https://www.rbg.ca/>  
 for more information.




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