

**HOMEWORK #3: METHODS FOR ODEs:  
EULER's AND HEUN's METHODS AND  
APPLICATIONS TO HIGHER-ORDER IVPs**

Due: one minute after 11:59pm on October 26

**Instructions:**

- The assignment consists of *four* questions worth, respectively, 2, 2, 2, and 4 points.
- Submit your assignment *electronically* to the Email address specific to your last name as indicated on the course website; the file containing your assignment must be named Name\_0XXXXXX\_hwN.m, where “Name” is your last name, “XXXXXX” is your student ID number, and “N” is the consecutive number of the assignment; hardcopy submissions will not be accepted.
- It is obligatory to use the *current* MATLAB template file available at <http://www.math.mcmaster.ca/bprotas/MATH2Z03a/template.m>; submissions non compliant with this template will not be accepted.
- Make sure to enter your name and student I.D. number in the appropriate section of the template.
- Late submissions and submissions which do not comply with these guidelines will not be accepted.
- All graphs should contain suitable titles and legends.
- Reference:
  1. “**Numerical Mathematics**” by M. Grasselli and D. Pelinovsky (Jones and Bartlett, 2008), section 9.2.
  2. “**Advanced Engineering Mathematics**” by D.G. Zill and M.R. Cullen (Jones and Bartlett, 3rd edition), sections 3.7, 6.1, 6.4.

1. Consider the following initial-value problem (IVP):

$$y' = -\lambda y + t, \quad y(0) = 0, \quad (1)$$

with  $\lambda = 1$  and  $\lambda = 10$ . Apply *Euler's method*

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(t_n, y_n) \quad (2)$$

to approximate the solution of (1) for  $t \in [0, 3]$  with the time step  $h = 0.1$ . Plot the numerical solutions for both values of  $\lambda$  on the same graph using different line colours. The graph should appear as Figure 1.

2. Approximate the solution of the following IVP

$$y' = (3t^2 - 2t + 1)y, \quad y(0) = 1 \quad (3)$$

using *Heun's method*

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{2} h [f(t_n, y_n) + f(t_{n+1}, y_{n+1})] \quad (4)$$

for  $t \in [0, 2]$  with the time steps  $h = 0.1$  and  $h = 0.05$ . Plot the distance between the exact and numerical solutions versus  $t$  using the MATLAB function `semilogy` and different line colours. The graph should appear as Figure 2.

3. Approximate the solution of IVP (3) with *modified Euler's method*

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(t_{n+\frac{1}{2}}, y_{n+\frac{1}{2}}) \quad (5)$$

for  $t \in [0, 2]$  with the time steps  $h = 0.1$  and  $h = 0.05$ . Plot the distance between the exact and numerical solutions versus  $t$  using the MATLAB function `semilogy` and different line colours. The graph should appear as Figure 3.

4. Consider the following IVP

$$x^2 y'' - 2xy' + 2y = 0, \quad y(1) = 4, \quad y'(1) = 9. \quad (6)$$

Transform this equation to a system of first-order differential equations which should then be solved using *Euler's method* (2), *Heun's method* (4) and *modified Euler's method* (5) for  $x \in [1, 2]$  and with  $h = 0.1$ . Find the analytical solution for problem (6) and save the difference  $\Delta = |y_{num}(2) - y_{ex}(2)|$  in `Answer1` in the format `[\Delta_{Eul} \Delta_{Heun} \Delta_{EulMod}]`. Plot also the exact and all three numerical solutions on the same graph using different line colours. The graph should appear as Figure 4.

**(Hint:** Given the system system of ODEs

$$\begin{cases} u' = f(t, u, v), \\ v' = g(t, u, v), \end{cases}$$

with initial values  $u(t_0) = u_0$ ,  $v(t_0) = v_0$ , its numerical solution using Euler's method can be obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{n+1} &= u_n + h f(t_n, u_n, v_n), \\ v_{n+1} &= v_n + h g(t_n, u_n, v_n). \end{aligned}$$

Heun's method and modified Euler's method are implemented in an analogous way.)