

**Fall 2015 \* Math 430 \* Math 635 \* Prof. Victor Matveev**  
**Homework 4 \* Due date: September 30**

1. Modify the posted Euler Method program very slightly so that it accepts the time step  $h$  as its argument, instead of number of partitions  $N$ . The header of the modified myEuler.m function will be

```
function [T, Y] = myEuler(f, Y0, tTotal, h)
```

Make sure the program still produces the same output as the original program for appropriate  $h$  values

Extra credit will be given if you also successfully remove the  $T(n)$  calculation from the for-loop (which is inefficient and suffers from double precision round-off error accumulation with each iterations).

2. Use the forward Euler method program to numerically solve the following equation on the interval  $0 < t < 5$ , using several different values of time step  $h$ :  $h=0.1$ ,  $h=0.5$  and  $h=1$ . Show all three numerical solutions on the same Matlab plot, as well as the exact solution curve you found in homework 3 (make sure to label your plots nicely). **Finally, compute the first three iterations ( $Y_1, Y_2, Y_3$ ) manually for  $h=0.5$ , to check your program.**

$$\begin{cases} Y' = Y(1 - Y) \\ Y(0) = 0.2 \end{cases}$$

3. Consider the “current-clamped” passive cell with  $R=50 \text{ M}\Omega$ ,  $C=300 \text{ pF}$ ,  $I=0.3 \text{ nA}$ , and equilibrium (“rest”) potential of  $V_R=-60 \text{ mV}$ . As we know, the relevant equation is (see problem 1 of hw #2):

$$\begin{cases} V' = -\frac{V - V_{RI}}{\tau_m} \quad \text{where } V_{RI} \equiv V_R + RI \\ V(0) = V_R \quad (\text{cell is at rest initially, when the current pulse arrives}) \end{cases}$$

- a) Find the constants  $V_{RI}$  and  $\tau_m$ , expressing their values in units of mV and ms, respectively.
- b) Use the Euler’s method to solve this equation numerically on the interval  $0 < t < 100 \text{ ms}$  with step  $h=1 \text{ ms}$ . Plot this solution along with the exact analytic solution. Assume all values are in units of mV and ms throughout the program.
- c) Review problem 1 of homework #2 to calculate the amount of time it takes for the potential to reach  $-50\text{mV}$ , and use the plot in part “b” to verify your answer (add a horizontal line at  $V=-50$  to your Matlab  $V(t)$  plot)
4. Modify the Euler program slightly so that is can solve a non-autonomous problem,  $Y'=f(t, Y)$ , and solve the following differential equation with time steps  $h=0.1$ ,  $h=0.2$  and  $h=0.5$  on the interval  $0 < t < 5$ . **Compute the first three iterations for  $h=0.5$  manually to check your program**

$$\begin{cases} Y' = Y - t \\ Y(0) = 0.5 \end{cases}$$

Hint:  $f = @(t, Y) Y - t$ ; there is only one more tiny change in the whole program.

5. Use the program you made for problem 4 to numerically solve problem 1 of hw #3 on the interval  $0 < t < 50 \text{ ms}$ , with time step  $h = 1 \text{ ms}$ . Plot this numerical solution along with the exact analytic solution (see hw #3) using Matlab.

$$\begin{cases} \tau_m V' = -(V - V_R) + RI_o e^{-\beta t} \\ V(0) = V_R \end{cases}$$

Use units of mV for potential, and ms for time, and assume the following parameter values:

$$\tau_m = 5\text{ms}, \beta = 0.1\text{ms}^{-1}, R = 10\text{M}\Omega, I_o = 5\text{nA}, V_R = -60\text{mV}$$