

Derivation and Implementation of a Numerical Scheme for Approximating First Order Ordinary Differential Equations Using a Non-Polynomial Interpolating Function

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Abstract: A non-polynomial interpolating function considered by Ayinde and Ibijola (2015) was modified and utilized to develop an improved numerical scheme for solving first order initial value problems in ordinary differential equations. The scheme was implemented in MATLAB and tested on four problems; all our numerical results show better approximations of the analytical solutions.

Key words: Non-polynomial, Single-step and Multistep.

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I. Introduction

Single-step methods are veritable tools for solving many physical problems. This is because multistep methods depend on single step methods for starting values, thus the accuracy of a multistep method is determined by the single step method used as a starting method. Numerical analysts are also concerned about developing accurate numerical methods for solving first order ordinary differential equations because n th order ordinary differential equations can be reduced to systems of first order ordinary differential equations which is easier to solve by writing a computer programme. In light of the above, accuracy and stability are the main features considered for developing single-step methods. Besides Taylor series, there are other polynomials and non-polynomial interpolating functions that are in recent times used for the derivation of single-step methods for solving initial value problems of the form

$$y'(t) = f(t, y(t)) \quad (1)$$

with the initial condition

$$y(t_0) = \alpha.$$

For example, [1-6] have developed some polynomial and non-polynomial interpolating methods for integrating equation (1). The motivation of this work comes from [5], they used five terms of a non-polynomial interpolating function to develop a method for approximating equation (1). We extend this work to include more terms in order to get better results. The rest of the paper is sectioned as follows, the improved numerical scheme is developed in Section 2, while the results are provided in Section 3. Finally, discussion and conclusion are carried out in Section 4.

II. Methods

Derived Numerical Scheme by [5]

First, we briefly explain the numerical scheme developed by [5] for approximating equation (1). Consider a non-polynomial interpolating function defined by

$$y(x) = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2)e^{-2x} + \alpha_3x^2 + \alpha_4x + \alpha_5 \quad (2)$$

where $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3$ and α_4 are undetermined coefficients and α_5 is a constant, which is assumed to be the solution of equation (1).

Finding the first, second and third derivatives of equation (2), solving for the undetermined coefficients, substituting in equation (2) and interpolating at $y(x_{n+1})$ and $y(x_n)$ gives

$$y_{n+1} = y_n - \frac{1}{8}F_n^2(e^{-2h} - 1) + \frac{1}{2}\left(F_n^1 + \frac{1}{2}F_n^2\right)h^2 + \left(F_n - \frac{1}{4}F_n^2\right)h \quad (3)$$

where h is the step size and F_n, F_n^1, F_n^2 are the first, second and third derivatives respectively obtained from $f(x_n, y_n)$ in equation (1).

Derivation of the Improved Numerical Scheme

consider the non-polynomial interpolating function by [5] redefined to include more terms and assumed to be the solution of equation (1)

$$y(x) = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x} + \alpha_4x^3 + \alpha_5x^2 + \alpha_6x + \alpha_7 \quad (4)$$

where $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, \alpha_4, \alpha_5$ and α_6 are undetermined coefficients and α_7 is a constant. Taking the first, second third and fourth derivatives of (4), yields

$$y'(x_n) = -3(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x_n} + 3\alpha_4x_n^2 + 2\alpha_5x_n + \alpha_6 = F_n \tag{5}$$

$$y''(x_n) = 9(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x_n} + 6\alpha_4x_n + 2\alpha_5 = F_n^1 \tag{6}$$

$$y'''(x_n) = -27(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x_n} + 6\alpha_4 = F_n^2 \tag{7}$$

$$y^{iv}(x_n) = 81(\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x_n} = F_n^3. \tag{8}$$

Solving for $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3$ in equation (8), gives

$$\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 = \frac{1}{81}F_n^3e^{3x_n}, \tag{9}$$

substituting equation (9) into (7) and evaluating leads to

$$\alpha_4 = \frac{1}{6}F_n^2 + \frac{1}{18}F_n^3, \tag{10}$$

substituting (9) and (10) into (6) and solving for α_5 yields,

$$\alpha_5 = \frac{1}{2} \left(\left(F_n^1 - \frac{1}{9}F_n^3 \right) - \left(F_n^2 + \frac{1}{3}F_n^3 \right) x_n \right), \tag{11}$$

substituting (11), (10), and (9) into (5) and simplifying gives,

$$\alpha_6 = F_n + \frac{1}{27}F_n^3 + \left(\frac{1}{2}F_n^2 + \frac{1}{3}F_n^3 \right) x_n^2 - \left(F_n^1 - \frac{1}{9}F_n^3 \right). \tag{12}$$

Let

$$y(x_n) = y_n \text{ and } y(x_{n+1}) = y_{n+1},$$

since

$$F(x_{n+1}) = y(x_{n+1}) \text{ and } y(x_n) = y(x_n),$$

to derive the required numerical method, we substitute $y(x_{n+1})$ and $y(x_n)$ into equation (4) and find the difference which simplifies to

$$y_{n+1} - y_n = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x_{n+1}} + \alpha_4x_{n+1}^3 + \alpha_5x_{n+1}^2 + \alpha_6x_{n+1} + \alpha_7 - \left((\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)e^{-3x_n} + \alpha_4x_n^3 + \alpha_5x_n^2 + \alpha_6x_n + \alpha_7 \right). \tag{13}$$

simplifying equation (13) gives

$$y_{n+1} - y_n = (\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3)(e^{-3x_{n+1}} - e^{-3x_n}) + \alpha_4(x_{n+1}^3 - x_n^3) + \alpha_5(x_{n+1}^2 - x_n^2) + \alpha_6(x_{n+1} - x_n) + \alpha_7 - \alpha_7 \tag{14}$$

Recall that

$$x_n = a + nh, \quad x_{n+1} = a + (n + 1)h, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots \tag{15}$$

Substituting (9), (10), (11) and (12) into (14) and solving, we have

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{81}F_n^3(e^{-3h} - 1) + \left(\frac{1}{6}F_n^2 + \frac{1}{18}F_n^3 \right) h^3 - \left(\frac{1}{18}F_n^3 - \frac{1}{2}F_n^1 \right) h^2 + \left(F_n + \frac{1}{27}F_n^3 \right) h \tag{16}$$

where F_n, F_n^1, F_n^2 , and F_n^3 are the first, second third and fourth derivatives of $f(x_n, y_n)$ obtained from equation (1) and h is the step size.

Hence, equation (16) is the numerical method derived for solving first order differential equation.

III. Results

In this Section, we implement the derived numerical scheme (16). All the four examples considered in this work are obtained from the work of [5] for the purpose of comparison. All the programmes are implemented in Windows 10 operating system using Matlab 2018a. Our numerical results, the exact solutions and the results of [5] are displayed in Tables for comparison. We shall abbreviate the scheme by [5] as NS1 our numerical scheme as NS2 in the Tables and presentation.

The four examples are:

Example 1

$$y' = y, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Exact solution : $y(x) = e^x$,

Example 2

$$y' = x^2 + y, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Exact solution: $y(x) = -2 - 2x - x^2 + 3e^x$,

Example 3

$$y' = 2xy, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Exact solution: $y(x) = e^{x^2}$,

Example 4

$$y' = 2xy + 4x, \quad y(0) = 1, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

Exact solution: $y(x) = 3e^{x^2} - 2$,

Consider Example 1

Given that

$$y' = y_n = f(x_n, y_n) = F_n$$

Taking first, second, third and fourth derivatives, we have

$$y'' = y_n = F_n^1$$

$$y''' = y_n = F_n^2$$

$$y^{iv} = y_n = F_n^3$$

F_n, F_n^1, F_n^2 and F_n^3 are substituted into equation (16) and implemented in Matlab, the numerical results, alongside the result of [5] and the exact solution are displayed in Table 1.

Table1: Results of the Scheme by [5] (NS1) and the Improved Numerical Scheme (NS2) for Example 1

n	x_n	NS1	$y(x_n)$	$ y(x_n) - NS1 $	NS2	$ y(x_n) - NS2 $
0	0	1.0000000000000000 0	1.0000000000000000 0	0	1.0000000000000000 00	0
1	0.1	1.10515865586525 2	1.10517091807564 8	$1.22622103 \times 10^{-5}$	1.1051705953170 58	$3.227585896325991 \times 10^{-7}$
2	0.2	1.22137565463389 1	1.22140275816017 0	7.1035262×10^{-5}	1.2214020447534 61	$7.134067090408536 \times 10^{-7}$
3	0.3	1.34981387678173 3	1.34985880757600 3	$4.49307942 \times 10^{-5}$	1.3498576249216 54	$1.182654348896861 \times 10^{-6}$
4	0.4	1.49175848973236 6	1.49182469764127 0	$6.62079089 \times 10^{-5}$	1.4918229549279 35	$1.742713335195489 \times 10^{-6}$
5	0.5	1.64862980738820 0	1.64872127070012 8	$9.14633119 \times 10^{-5}$	1.6487188632053 59	$2.407494769318674 \times 10^{-6}$
6	0.6	1.82199750195253 3	1.82211880039050 9	$1.21298437 \times 10^{-4}$	1.8221156075591 30	$3.192831379061900 \times 10^{-6}$
7	0.7	2.01359631024770 9	2.01375270747047 7	$1.56397222 \times 10^{-4}$	2.0137485907426 27	$4.116727850167479 \times 10^{-6}$
8	0.8	2.22534339168858 9	2.22554092849246 7	$1.97536803 \times 10^{-4}$	2.2255357288499 16	$5.199642551634298 \times 10^{-6}$
9	0.9	2.45935751159718 3	2.45960311115694 9	$2.45599559 \times 10^{-4}$	2.4595966463524 44	$6.464804505057486 \times 10^{-6}$
10	1.0	2.71798024180885 4	2.71828182845904 5	$3.01586650 \times 10^{-4}$	2.7182738898891 71	$7.938569874355039 \times 10^{-6}$

Consider Example 2

Given that

$$y' = x_n^2 + y_n = f(x_n, y_n) = F_n$$

Taking first, second, third and fourth derivatives, we have

$$y'' = 2x_n + x_n^2 + y_n = F_n^1$$

$$y''' = 2 + 2x_n + x_n^2 + y_n = F_n^2$$

$$y^{iv} = 2 + 2x_n + x_n^2 + y_n = F_n^3$$

F_n, F_n^1, F_n^2 and F_n^3 are substituted into equation (16) and implemented in Matlab, the numerical results, alongside the result of [5] and the exact solution are displayed in Table 2.

Table 2: Results of the Scheme by [5] (NS1) and the Improved Scheme (NS2) for Example 2

n	x_n	NS1	$y(x_n)$	$ y(x_n) - NS1 $	NS2	$ y(x_n) - NS2 $
0	0	1.0000000000000000	1.0000000000000000	0	1.0000000000000000	0
1	0.1	1.105475967595757	1.105512754226943	$3.678663118 \times 10^{-5}$	1.105511785951175	$9.682757684537080 \times 10^{-7}$
2	0.2	1.224126963901673	1.224208274480510	$8.131057883 \times 10^{-5}$	1.224206134260383	$2.140220127122561 \times 10^{-6}$
3	0.3	1.359441630345201	1.359576422728009	$1.347923828 \times 10^{-4}$	1.359572874764964	$3.547963045358316 \times 10^{-6}$
4	0.4	1.515275469197098	1.515474092923811	$1.986237267 \times 10^{-4}$	1.515468864783806	$5.228140004920334 \times 10^{-6}$
5	0.5	1.695889422164601	1.696163812100385	$2.743899357 \times 10^{-4}$	1.696156589616078	$7.222484306845800 \times 10^{-6}$
6	0.6	1.905992505857600	1.906356401171526	$3.638953139 \times 10^{-4}$	1.906346822677391	$9.578494134965254 \times 10^{-6}$
7	0.7	2.150788930743127	2.151258122411430	$4.691916683 \times 10^{-4}$	2.151245772227882	$1.235018354739381 \times 10^{-5}$
8	0.8	2.436030175065768	2.436622785477403	$5.926104116 \times 10^{-4}$	2.436607186549750	$1.559892765312654 \times 10^{-5}$
9	0.9	2.768072534791549	2.768809333470848	$7.367986792 \times 10^{-4}$	2.768789939057337	$1.939441351161975 \times 10^{-5}$
10	1.0	3.153940725426563	3.154845485377136	$9.047599505 \times 10^{-4}$	3.154821669667516	$2.381570961951240 \times 10^{-5}$

Consider Example 3

Given that

$$y' = 2x_n y_n = f(x_n, y_n) = F_n$$

Taking first, second, third and fourth derivatives, we have

$$y'' = 4x_n^2 y_n + 2y_n = F_n^1$$

$$y''' = 8x_n^3 y_n + 12x_n y_n = F_n^2$$

$$y^{iv} = 16x_n^4 y_n + 48x_n^2 y_n + 12y_n = F_n^3$$

F_n, F_n^1, F_n^2 and F_n^3 are substituted into equation (16) and implemented in Matlab, the numerical results, alongside the result of [5] and the exact solution are displayed in Table 3.

Table 3: Results of the Scheme by [5] (NS1) and the Improved Scheme (NS2) for Example 3
Consider Example 4

n	x_n	NS1	$y(x_n)$	$ y(x_n) - NS1 $	NS2	$ y(x_n) - NS2 $
0	0	1.0000000000000000	1.0000000000000000	0	1.0000000000000000	0
1	0.1	1.0100000000000000	1.010050167084168	$5.016708416 \times 10^{-5}$	1.010047143804699	$3.023279468994389 \times 10^{-6}$
2	0.2	1.040695572848077	1.040810774192388	$1.152013443 \times 10^{-4}$	1.040803452155623	$7.322036765122775 \times 10^{-6}$
3	0.3	1.093969745041759	1.094174283705210	$2.045386634 \times 10^{-4}$	1.094160709607158	$1.357409805291532 \times 10^{-5}$
4	0.4	1.173179095693766	1.173510870991810	$3.317752980 \times 10^{-4}$	1.173487996663724	$2.287432808589784 \times 10^{-5}$
5	0.5	1.283508119239332	1.284025416687741	$5.172974484 \times 10^{-4}$	1.283988344377544	$3.707231019745016 \times 10^{-5}$
6	0.6	1.432537005590369	1.433329414560340	$7.924089699 \times 10^{-4}$	1.433269983224613	$5.943133572738901 \times 10^{-5}$
7	0.7	1.631110242151853	1.632316219955379	$1.20597780 \times 10^{-3}$	1.632220347419935	$9.587253544407481 \times 10^{-5}$
8	0.8	1.894645561192191	1.896480879304951	$1.835318112 \times 10^{-3}$	1.896323597768354	$1.572815365971092 \times 10^{-4}$
9	0.9	2.245103741234345	2.247907986676471	$2.80424544 \times 10^{-3}$	2.247644236586702	$2.637500897688660 \times 10^{-4}$
10	1.0	2.713968432393255	2.718281828459045	$4.313396065 \times 10^{-3}$	2.717829470398960	$4.523580600848121 \times 10^{-4}$

Given that

$$y' = 2x_n y_n + 4x_n = f(x_n, y_n) = F_n$$

Taking first, second, third and fourth derivatives, we have

$$y'' = 4x_n^2 y_n + 2y_n + 4 = F_n^1$$

$$y''' = 8x_n^3 y_n + 12x_n y_n = F_n^2$$

$$y^{iv} = 16x_n^4 y_n + 48x_n^2 y_n + 12y_n = F_n^3$$

F_n, F_n^1, F_n^2 and F_n^3 are substituted into equation (16) and implemented in Matlab, the numerical results, alongside the result of [5] and the exact solution are displayed in Table 4.

Table 4: Results of the Scheme by [5] (NS1) and the Improved Scheme (NS2) for Example 4

n	x_n	NS1	$y(x_n)$	$ y(x_n) - NS1 $	NS2	$ y(x_n) - NS2 $
0	0	1.0000000000000000	1.0000000000000000	0	1.0000000000000000	0
1	0.1	1.0300000000000000	1.030150501252504	$1.505012525 \times 10^{-4}$	1.030094287609398	$5.621364310592902 \times 10^{-5}$
2	0.2	1.121988745374320	1.122432322577165	$4.435772028 \times 10^{-4}$	1.122318070997852	$1.142515793124410 \times 10^{-4}$
3	0.3	1.281595111845066	1.282522851115632	$9.277392705 \times 10^{-4}$	1.282342796332057	$1.800547835746347 \times 10^{-4}$
4	0.4	1.518853721264559	1.520532612975431	$1.678891710 \times 10^{-3}$	1.520272381473036	$2.602315023949586 \times 10^{-4}$
5	0.5	1.849282462194907	1.852076250063224	$2.793787868 \times 10^{-3}$	1.851713216603692	$3.630334595325913 \times 10^{-4}$
6	0.6	2.295614212785162	2.299988243681021	$4.374030895 \times 10^{-3}$	2.299488554395282	$4.996892857387358 \times 10^{-4}$
7	0.7	2.890456371237462	2.896948659866137	$6.492288628 \times 10^{-3}$	2.896262259904568	$6.863999615687177 \times 10^{-4}$
8	0.8	3.680317882130108	3.689442637914854	$9.124755784 \times 10^{-3}$	3.688495145927897	$9.474919869569831 \times 10^{-4}$
9	0.9	4.731703935455796	4.743723960029413	$1.202002457 \times 10^{-2}$	4.742403390685642	$1.320569343770117 \times 10^{-3}$
10	1.0	6.140396568913641	6.154845485377134	$1.444891646 \times 10^{-2}$	6.152980357913922	$1.865127463211991 \times 10^{-3}$

IV. Discussion

This work is an improvement over the numerical scheme of [5]. Five terms of a non-polynomial interpolating function defined by equation (2) were used to derive a numerical scheme by [5] for the solution of first order initial value problems (IVPs) in ordinary differential equations (ODEs). Although the absolute errors between the analytical and numerical solution show good approximations, we thought if more terms of the function were considered, a better result would have been obtained. To this end, seven terms of the non-polynomial interpolating function defined by equation (3) were differentiated the number of required times and manipulated to derive the numerical scheme (16). For the purpose of comparison, all the four test problems were obtained from [5]. MATLAB programmes were written using equations (3) and (16) and were applied to approximate all the four test problems. The numerical results of [5] denoted by *NS1*, our numerical results denoted by *NS2*, the analytical results denoted by $y(x)$ and the various absolute errors are provided in Tables 1-4. We observed that for all the four test problems, our numerical scheme *NS2* gave better approximations. Also, the results of [5] which we implemented in MATLAB are better than the result in their published work. The accuracy of these numerical schemes may be as a result of checking the round-off errors.

V. Conclusion

A numerical scheme which is an improvement of the scheme by [5] was derived using a non-polynomial interpolating function. This scheme was applied to solve some problems on first order initial value problems and compared with the scheme by [5]. We observed that our scheme provided better approximations, however the computations were also more. The implementation of these schemes is similar to that of the Taylor series method which the accuracy increases by considering more terms of the polynomial, but the task of differentiating the function repeatedly is not trivial. A numerical scheme can be constructed by Taylor expanding our scheme and manipulating it in order to get a scheme akin to the Runge-Kutta methods.

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