IV. Ordinary Differential equations

We are concerned here with the problem of solving differential equations, numerically. At first we concentrate on the *initial value problem* : Find a function y(

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(t, y(t)), \quad y(t_0) = y_0,$$
Euler's method
$$y' = f(t, y), \quad y(t_0) = y_0 \quad y(t_n + h) \approx y(t_n) + hf(t_n, y(t_n)).$$
Geometric derivation of Euler's method
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} \{ f(x_n, y_n) + f[x_n + h, y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)] \}$$
Modified Euler's method
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf[x_n + \frac{h}{2}, y_n + \frac{h}{2}f(x_n, y_n)]$$
Geometric interpretation of Euler's method

Runge-Kutta method

