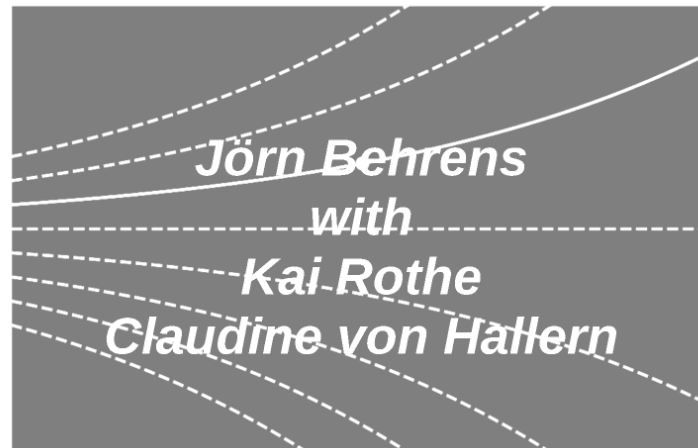


# Differential Equations I



Numerical Methods

Chapter 6.10



# Introduction

## Motivation:

- By now we know a number of analytical solution techniques. What if the ODE is too complicated?
- With the mathematical tool set, we may be able to state the solvability, but we may not be able to actually solve.
- **Idea:** Find an (approximate) solution by means of numerical methods!

## Idea:

- Consider ODE of 1<sup>st</sup> order:

$$y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$$

- Let initial conditions be

$$y(x_0) = y_0$$

- Observation: In  $(x_0, y_0)$  the slope  $y'(x_0) = F(x_0, y_0)$  of the solution function  $y$  is known!
- **Idea:** Approximate solution by means of the tangent line (linearization).

## Method: (Euler's Integration Method)

- Consider the initial value problem of 1<sup>st</sup> order:

$$y'(x) = f(x, y(x)), \quad y(x_0) = y_0$$

- Define equidistant nodes with increment  $h$ :

$$x_k = x_0 + kh \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots)$$

- Then one obtains an approximation  $y_k$  to the exact solution values  $y(x_k)$  by

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h f(x_k, y_k), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

- This method is called **Euler's integration method**.  
Other names: polygon method, Euler's method



## Remarks:

- Euler's method can only be used with very small increments  $h$ .
- The method is the simplest explicit one-step method.

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- By now we know a number of analytical solution techniques. What if the ODE is too complicated?
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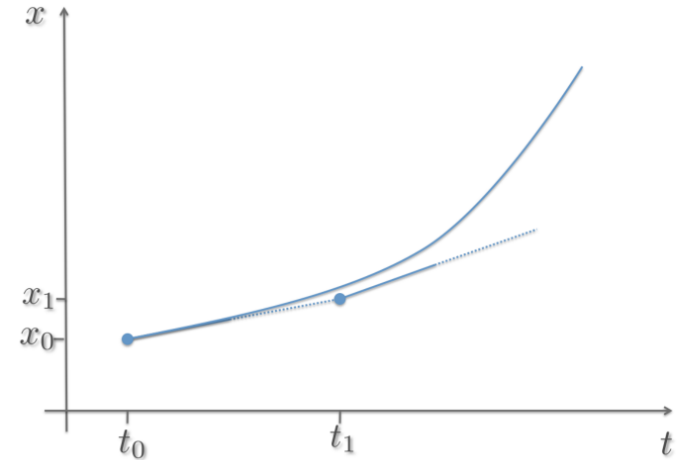
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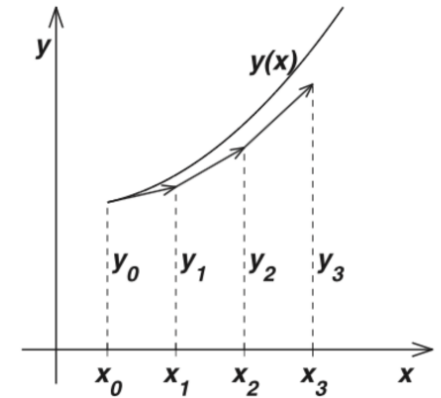
## Method: (Euler's Integration Method)

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$$y_{k+1} = y_k + hf(x_k, y_k), \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

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Other names: *polygon method*, *Euler's method*.

## Remarks:

- Euler's method can only be used with very small increments  $h$ .
- The method is the simplest *explicit one-step method*.

# Discretization Error

## Notation:

- Use a general (implicit) form of the calculation rule  

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h\Phi(x_n, y_n, y_{n+1}, h).$$
- If  $\Phi$  depends only on  $x_n, y_n$  and  $h$ , then an explicit rule is given.
- If  $\Phi$  also depends on  $y_{n+1}$ , then in general in each (time) step a non-linear equation needs to be solved (implicitly).
- Example: Euler's method uses  $\Phi(x_n, y_n, y_{n+1}, h) = f(x_n, y_n)$ .

## Definition: (Local Discretization Error)

The local discretization error at  $x_{n+1}$  is defined by

$$\delta_{n+1} := y(x_{n+1}) - y_n + h\Phi(x_n, y(x_n), y(x_{n+1}), h).$$

Remark: This is the error compared to the exact solution, generated within one step  $y_n \rightarrow y_{n+1}$ .

## Proposition: (Estimation of the Global Discretization Error)

For the global error  $y_n$  at a fixed position  $x_n = x_0 + nh$  we have

• For an explicit one-step method:

$$|y_n| \leq \frac{D}{Lk} (e^{Lkx} - 1) \leq \frac{D}{Lk} e^{Lkx}.$$

• For an implicit method:

$$|y_n| \leq \frac{D}{Lk(1-Lk)} (e^{Lkx} - 1) \leq \frac{D}{Lk(1-Lk)} e^{Lkx}.$$

Here  $D$  is an upper bound for the local discretization error,  $L$  a (Lipschitz) constant depending on the rule  $\Phi$ , and  $k$  a constant.

## Remarks:

- For solution functions with suitable properties (e.g. two times cont. differentiable) one shows  $D \leq |y''|/2$ , where  $|y''|$  is an upper bound for  $y''$ .
- For Euler's method this yields

$$|y_n| \leq \frac{1}{2L} |y''| e^{L|x-x_0|} = |y''| \frac{e^{L|x-x_0|} - 1}{2L}, \quad x \in [a, b].$$

- Interpretation: the fixed position  $x_n$  and decreasing increment  $h = (x-x_0)/n$  (double increasing  $n$ ) the global discretization error decreases proportional to the increment.

## Definition: (Order of Error)

A one-step method  $y_{n+1} = y_n + h\Phi(x_n, y_n, y_{n+1}, h)$  has an order of error  $p$ , if for the local discretization error  $\delta_n$  it holds:

$$\max_{1 \leq n \leq N} |\delta_n| \leq D = \text{const.} \cdot h^{p+1} = \mathcal{O}(h^{p+1}).$$

## Notation:

- Use a general (implicit) form of the calculation rule

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h\Phi(x_k, y_k, y_{k+1}, h).$$

- If  $\Phi$  depends only on  $x_k, y_k$  and  $h$ , then an *explicit* rule is given.
- If  $\Phi$  also depends on  $y_{k+1}$ , then in general in each (time) step a non-linear equation needs to be solved (*implicitly*).
- Example: Euler's method uses  $\Phi(x_k, y_k, y_{k+1}, h) = f(x_k, y_k)$ .



**Definition:** (Lokal Discretization Error)

The **lokal discretization error** at  $x_{k+1}$  is defined by

$$d_{k+1} := y(x_{k+1}) - y(x_k) - h\Phi(x_k, y(x_k), y(x_{k+1}), h).$$

Remark: This is the error compared to the exact solution, generated within one single step  $x_k \rightarrow x_{k+1}$ .

**Definition:** (Global Discretization Error)

The **global discretization error** at  $x_k$  is defined by

$$g_k := y(x_k) - y_k.$$

Remark: This is the error between the exact solution  $y(x_k)$  and the numerically computed solution  $y_k$ .

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**Proposition:** (Estimation of the Global Discretization Error)

For the global error  $g_n$  at a fixed position  $x_n = x_0 + nh$  we have

- For an explicit one-step method:

$$|g_n| \leq \frac{D}{hL} (e^{nhL} - 1) \leq \frac{D}{hL} e^{nhL}.$$

- For an implicit method:

$$|g_n| \leq \frac{D}{hK(1 - hL)} (e^{nhL} - 1) \leq \frac{D}{hK(1 - hL)} e^{nhL}.$$

Here  $D$  is an upper bound for the local discretization error,  $L$  a (Lipschitz-) constant depending on the rule  $\Phi$ , and  $K$  a constant.

## Remarks:

- For solution functions with suitable properties (e.g. two times cont. differentiable) one shows  $D \leq \frac{1}{2}h^2M$ , where  $M$  is an upper bound for  $y''$ .
- For Euler's method this yields:

$$|g_n| \leq h \frac{M}{2L} e^{L(x_n - x_0)} =: hC, \quad C \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- Interpretation: For fixed position  $x_n$  and decreasing increment  $h = \frac{x_n - x_0}{n}$  (therefore increasing  $n$ ) the global discretization error decreases proportional to the increment.

**Definition:** (Order of Error)

A one-step method  $y_{k+1} = y_k + h\Phi(x_k, y_k, y_{k+1}, h)$  has an **order of error**  $p$ , if for the lokal discretization error  $d_k$  it holds:

$$\max_{1 \leq k \leq n} |d_k| \leq D = \text{const.} \cdot h^{p+1} = \mathcal{O}(h^{p+1}).$$

**Corollary:**

The global discretization error  $g_n$  of an explicit method with order  $p$  is bounded by

$$|g_k| \leq \frac{\text{const.}}{L} e^{nhL} \cdot h^p = \mathcal{O}(h^p).$$

# Trapezoidal Method

## Idea: (Method from Richardson Extrapolation)

- Goal: Method of order  $p > 1$ .
- Compute  $y_n$  with increment  $h_1 = h$  and the same position  $y_n$ , with  $h_2 = \frac{h}{2}$ .  
Obtain:
 
$$y_n \approx y(x) + c_1 h^p + O(h^p)$$

$$y_{2n} \approx y(x) + c_1 \frac{h^p}{2^p} + O(h^p)$$
- Richardson Extrapolation yields:
 
$$\tilde{y} = 2y_{2n} - y_n \approx y(x) + O(h^{p+1})$$

## Development: (Improved Polygonal Method)

- Series of applying Richardson Extrapolation to result of two polygonal methods (PM), only extrapolation in each step

- Normal Step: PM with  $h$ :
 
$$y_n^{(1)} = y_n + M(h, y_n)$$

- Double Step: PM executed twice with  $\frac{h}{2}$ :
 
$$y_{2n}^{(1)} = y_{2n} + \frac{1}{2} M(h, y_{2n})$$

$$y_{2n}^{(2)} = y_{2n}^{(1)} + \frac{1}{2} M(h, \frac{1}{2} y_{2n}^{(1)})$$

## Richardson Extrapolation:

$$y_{2n} = y_{2n}^{(2)} - \frac{1}{2} y_n^{(1)}$$

$$= y_{2n}^{(2)} + M(h, \frac{1}{2} y_{2n}^{(1)}) - \frac{1}{2} (y_n^{(1)} + M(h, y_n))$$

$$= y_{2n} + \frac{1}{2} M(h, y_{2n}) + M(h, \frac{1}{2} y_{2n}^{(1)}) - \frac{1}{2} (y_n + M(h, y_n))$$

$$= y_{2n} + M(h, y_{2n}) + \frac{1}{2} M(h, \frac{1}{2} y_{2n}^{(1)}) - \frac{1}{2} y_n - \frac{1}{2} M(h, y_n)$$

## Idea: (Heun's Method)

- Iterate only one step of the fixed point iteration:
 
$$y_{n+1}^{(k+1)} = y_n + h f(x_n, y_n)$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} [f(x_n, y_n) + f(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}^{(k)})]$$
- This more Euler's method determines **implicit value**  $y_{n+1}^{(k)}$ , trapezoidal method determines **correct value**  $y_{n+1}$ .
- The following Heun's method is a **predictor-corrector method**:
 
$$k_1 = f(x_n, y_n)$$

$$k_2 = f(x_n + h, y_n + hk_1)$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} (k_1 + k_2)$$

## Algorithm: (Improved Polygonal Method)

$$k_1 = f(x_n, y_n)$$

$$k_2 = f(x_n + \frac{h}{2}, y_n + \frac{h}{2} k_1)$$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hk_2$$

Remark: The improved polygonal method uses

$$\Phi(x_n, y_n, y_{n+1}, h) = f(x_n + \frac{h}{2}, y_n + \frac{h}{2} f(x_n, y_n))$$

## Idea: (Trapezoidal Method)

- New Idea: Integrate the ODE  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$  for one time step and obtain:
 
$$y(x_{n+1}) - y(x_n) = \int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx$$
- Solve the integral by a (numerical) quadrature rule (here trapezoidal rule):
 
$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} [f(x_n, y_n) + f(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1})]$$
- Obtain an implicit method, called **trapezoidal method**.

## Remarks: (Trapezoidal Method)

- Since the implicit solution often involves a non-linear problem, solve by fixed point iteration:
 
$$y_{n+1}^{(k+1)} = y_n + f(x_n, y_n)$$

$$y_{n+1}^{(k+1)} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} [f(x_n, y_n) + f(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1}^{(k)})] \quad k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$
- Obtain convergence, if  $|f(x, y) - f(x, y^*)| \leq L|y - y^*|$  (Lipschitz continuous) and  $|\frac{hL}{2}| < 1$  (Banach's Fixed Point Theorem).

**Idea:** (Method from Richardson-Extrapolation)

- **Goal: Method of order  $p > 1$ .**
- Compute  $y_n$  with increment  $h_1 = h$  and the same position  $y_{2n}$  with  $h_2 = \frac{h}{2}$ , obtain

$$\begin{aligned}y_n &\approx y(x) + c_1 h + \mathcal{O}(h^2) \\y_{2n} &\approx y(x) + c_1 \frac{h}{2} + \mathcal{O}(h^2)\end{aligned}$$

- **Richardson-Extrapolation** yields

$$\tilde{y} = 2y_{2n} - y_n \approx y(x) + \mathcal{O}(h^2).$$

**Development:** (Improved Polygonal Method)

- Instead of applying Richardson-Extrapolation to result of two polygonal methods (PM), apply extrapolation in each step!

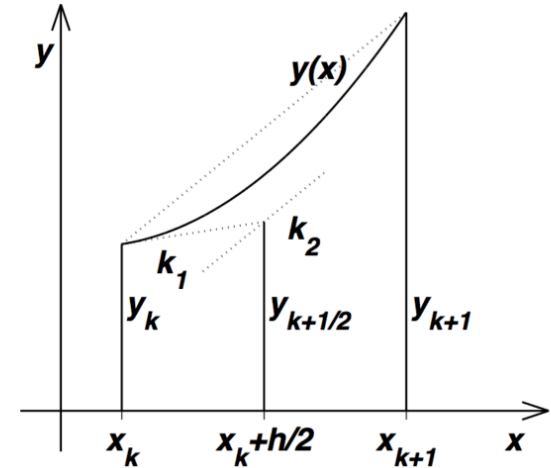
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$$y_{k+1}^{(2)} = y_{k+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)} + \frac{h}{2}f(x_k + \frac{h}{2}, y_{k+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)})$$



- **Richardson-Extrapolation:**

$$\begin{aligned} y_{k+1} &= 2y_{k+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)} - y_{k+1}^{(1)} \\ &= 2y_{k+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)} + hf(x_k + \frac{h}{2}, y_{k+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)}) - y_k - hf(x_k, y_k) \\ &= 2y_k + hf(x_k, y_k) + hf(x_k + \frac{h}{2}, y_{k+\frac{1}{2}}^{(2)}) - y_k - hf(x_k, y_k) \\ &= y_k + hf(x_k + \frac{h}{2}, y_k + \frac{h}{2}f(x_k, y_k)). \end{aligned}$$

## Algorithm: (Improved Polygonal Method)

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= f(x_k, y_k) \\k_2 &= f\left(x_k + \frac{h}{2}, y_k + \frac{h}{2}k_1\right) \\y_{k+1} &= y_k + hk_2\end{aligned}$$

Remark: The **improved polygonal method** uses

$$\Phi(x_k, y_k, y_{k+1}, h) = f\left(x_k + \frac{h}{2}, y_k + \frac{h}{2}f(x_k, y_k)\right).$$



**Idea:** (Trapezoidal Method)

- New Idea: Integrate the ODE  $y'(x) = f(x, y(x))$  for one time step and obtain

$$y(x_{k+1}) - y(x_k) = \int_{x_k}^{x_{k+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx$$

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$$y_{k+1} = y_k + \frac{h}{2} [f(x_k, y_k) + f(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1})]$$

- Obtain an implicit method, called **trapezoidal method**.

## Remarks: (Trapezoidal Method)

- Since the implicit solution often involves a non-linear problem, solve by fixed point iteration:

$$\begin{aligned}y_{k+1}^{(0)} &= y_k + f(x_k, y_k) \\y_{k+1}^{(s+1)} &= y_k + \frac{h}{2} \left[ f(x_k, y_k) + f(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}^{(s)}) \right] \quad s = 0, 1, 2, \dots\end{aligned}$$

- Obtain convergence, if  $|f(x, y) - f(x, y^*)| \leq L|y - y^*|$  (Lipschitz continuous) and  $\frac{hL}{2} < 1$  (Banach's Fixed Point Theorem).

**Idea: (Heun's Method)**

- Iterate only one step of the fixed point iteration:

$$\begin{aligned}y_{k+1}^{(p)} &= y_k + f(x_k, y_k) \\y_{k+1} &= y_k + \frac{h}{2} \left[ f(x_k, y_k) + f(x_{k+1}, y_{k+1}^{(p)}) \right].\end{aligned}$$

- This means Euler's method determines **predictor value**  $y_{k+1}^{(p)}$ , trapezoidal method determines *corrected* value  $y_{k+1}$ .
- The following **Heun's method** is a **predictor-corrector method**:

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= f(x_k, y_k) \\k_2 &= f(x_k + h, y_k + hk_1) \\y_{k+1} &= y_k + \frac{h}{2}[k_1 + k_2]\end{aligned}$$

# Runge-Kutta Methods

## Preliminary Remarks:

- Heun's method and the improved polygonal method are both examples of explicit two-stage Runge-Kutta methods of order 2.
- For the description of Runge-Kutta methods of higher order we start from the integral equation

$$y(x_{k+1}) - y(x_k) = \int_{x_k}^{x_{k+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx.$$

- For solving the integral use a general quadrature rule with 3 nodes in the interval  $[x_k, x_{k+1}]$ . This yields the ansatz:  

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h[y_1 f(\xi_1, y(\xi_1)) + \alpha_2 f(\xi_2, y(\xi_2)) + \alpha_3 f(\xi_3, y(\xi_3))].$$
- Here let  $\alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \alpha_3 = 1$ ,  $\xi_i$  be the nodes.

## Determination of Nodes and Values:

- Use the nodes:  

$$\xi_1 = x_k, \quad \xi_2 = x_k + \alpha_2 h, \quad \xi_3 = x_k + \alpha_3 h, \quad 0 < \alpha_2, \alpha_3 \leq 1.$$
- Since  $\xi_1 = x_k$  we have  $y(\xi_1) = y_k$ .
- For  $y(\xi_2)$  and  $y(\xi_3)$  utilize predictor approach:  

$$y(\xi_2) : y_2^p = y_k + h\alpha_2 f(x_k, y_k)$$

$$y(\xi_3) : y_3^p = y_k + h\alpha_3 f(x_k, y_k) + h\alpha_2 f(x_k + \alpha_2 h, y_2^p)$$
- One obtains parameters  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \alpha_3, b_1, b_2, b_3, c_1, c_2, c_3$  to be chosen such that an optimal order of error is achieved.

## Algorithm: (3-Stage Runge-Kutta Method)

$$\begin{aligned} k_1 &= f(x_k, y_k) \\ k_2 &= f(x_k + \alpha_2 h, y_k + h\alpha_2 k_1) \\ k_3 &= f(x_k + \alpha_3 h, y_k + h(b_{31}k_1 + b_{32}k_2)) \\ y_{k+1} &= y_k + h[c_1 k_1 + c_2 k_2 + c_3 k_3]. \end{aligned}$$

Example: Heun's Method of 3<sup>rd</sup> order is given by the following parameters:

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{1}{3}, \alpha_2 = \frac{2}{3}, \alpha_3 = \frac{1}{4}, \alpha_4 = 0, \alpha_5 = \frac{2}{4}, b_{32} = \frac{2}{3}, b_{31} = \alpha_2 - b_{32} = 0,$$

### Preliminary Remarks:

- Heun's method and the improved polygonal method are both examples of explicit two-stage **Runge-Kutta methods** of order 2.
- For the description of Runge-Kutta methods of higher order we start from the integral equation

$$y(x_{k+1}) - y(x_k) = \int_{x_k}^{x_{k+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx.$$

- For solving the integral use a general quadrature rule with 3 nodes in the interval  $[x_k, x_{k+1}]$ . This yields the ansatz:

$$y_{k+1} = y_k + h[c_1 f(\xi_1, y(\xi_1)) + c_2 f(\xi_2, y(\xi_2)) + c_3 f(\xi_3, y(\xi_3))].$$

- Here let  $c_1 + c_2 + c_3 = 1$ ,  $\xi_i$  be the nodes.

## Determination of Nodes and Values:

- Use the nodes

$$\xi_1 = x_k, \quad \xi_2 = x_k + a_2h, \quad \xi_3 = x_k + a_3h, \quad 0 < a_2, a_3 \leq 1.$$

- Since  $\xi_1 = x_k$  we have  $y(\xi_1) = y_k$ .
- For  $y(\xi_2)$  and  $y(\xi_3)$  utilize predictor approach:

$$y(\xi_2) : \quad y_2^* = y_k + hb_{21}f(x_k, y_k)$$

$$y(\xi_3) : \quad y_3^* = y_k + hb_{31}f(x_k, y_k) + hb_{32}f(x_k + a_2h, y_2^*).$$

- One obtains parameters  $a_1, a_2, b_{21}, b_{31}, b_{32}, c_1, c_2, c_3$ , to be chosen such that an optimal order of error is achieved.

**Algorithm:** (3-Stage Runge-Kutta Method)

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= f(x_k, y_k) \\k_2 &= f(x_k + a_2h, y_k + hb_{21}k_1) \\k_3 &= f(x_k + a_3h, y_k + h(b_{31}k_1 + b_{32}k_2)) \\y_{k+1} &= y_k + h[c_1k_1 + c_2k_2 + c_3k_3].\end{aligned}$$

Example: Heun's Method of 3<sup>rd</sup> order is given by the following parameters:

$$a_1 = \frac{1}{3}, a_2 = \frac{2}{3}, c_1 = \frac{1}{4}, c_2 = 0, c_3 = \frac{3}{4}, b_{32} = \frac{2}{3}, b_{31} = a_3 - b_{32} = 0.$$

