

# Modular ODE Solvers



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# **Modular Solver for a Single, 1st Order ODE**

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# Euler Integration Scheme

This code was presented in the previous chapter. It performs an Euler integration of the exponential growth equation  $dy/dt = ay$ .

**pros:** This example is simple, linear and easy to understand.

**cons:** This approach works less well for more complex ODEs with higher-order integration schemes.

```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

##### Parameters #####

a      = -0.2          # decay constant
tmax   = 100          # maximum time
dt     = 1             # time step
y0     = 1            # initial value of y

##### Create Arrays #####

N = int(tmax/dt)+1    # number of steps
y = np.zeros(N)      # array to store y values
t = np.zeros(N)      # array to store times

y[0] = y0             # assign initial value

##### Euler Integration #####

for n in range(N-1):
    f = a*y[n]        # derivative
    y[n+1] = y[n] + f*dt  # Euler rule
    t[n+1] = t[n] + dt
```

exponential  
growth  
derivative



# Break Code into Functions

Functions make your code modular and easy to modify.

**Euler Function:** Perform the numerical integration for a given ODE and return the solution  $y(t)$

**Derivative Function:** Calculate the derivative  $dy/dt$  given the model parameters.

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##### Euler Integration #####

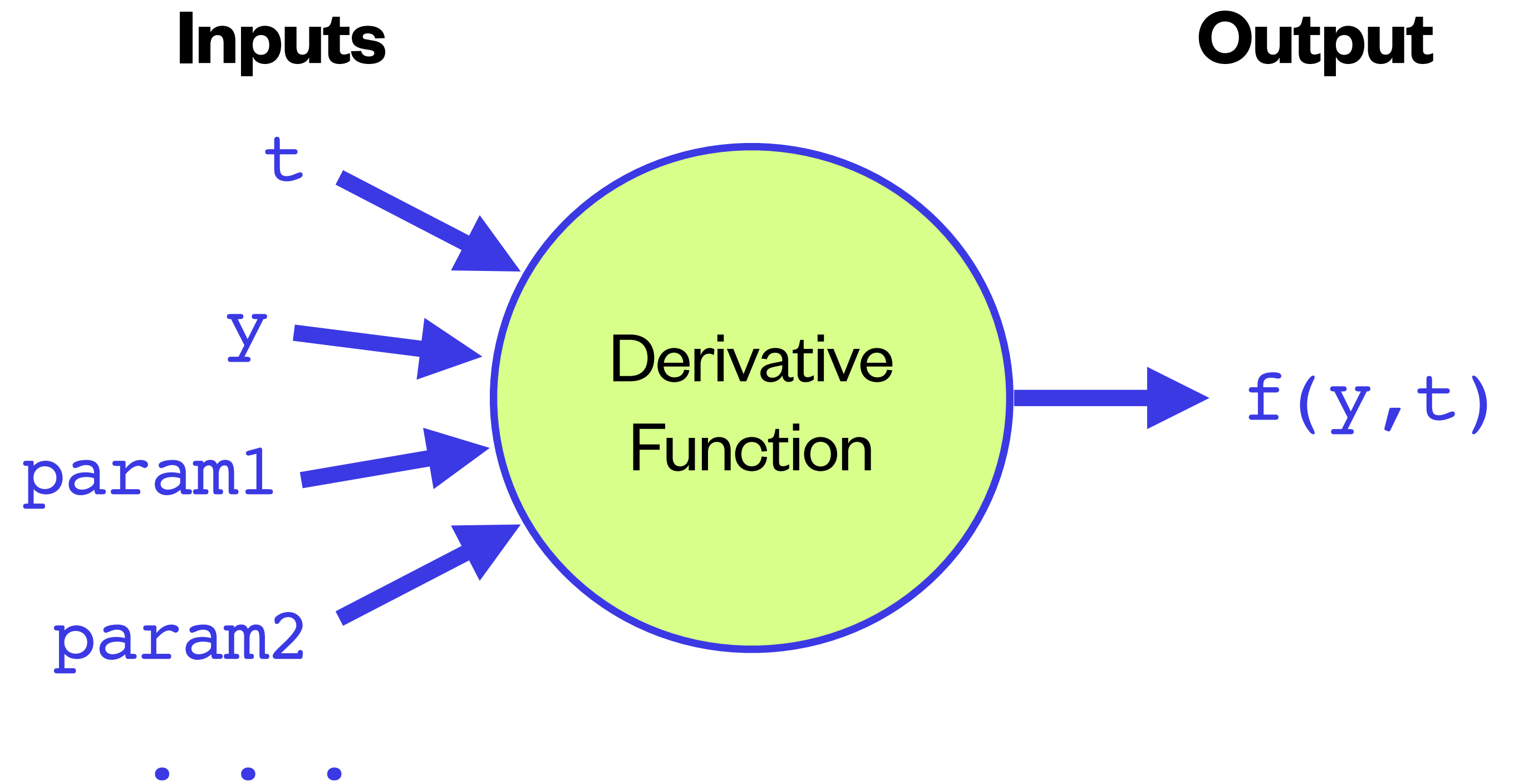
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```

## Derivative function

Calculates and returns the derivative  $f(y, t)$  for first-order ODE:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = f(y, t)$$

- Passed parameters:
  - $t$  = time
  - $y$  = dependent variable
  - param1 = parameter
  - param2 = another parameter
- Returned value:
  - derivative  $dy/dt$



# Example: Exponential Growth Function

## Derivative function

Calculates and returns the derivative  $f(y, t)$  for the first-order ODE:

$$\frac{dy}{dt} = ay = f(y, t)$$

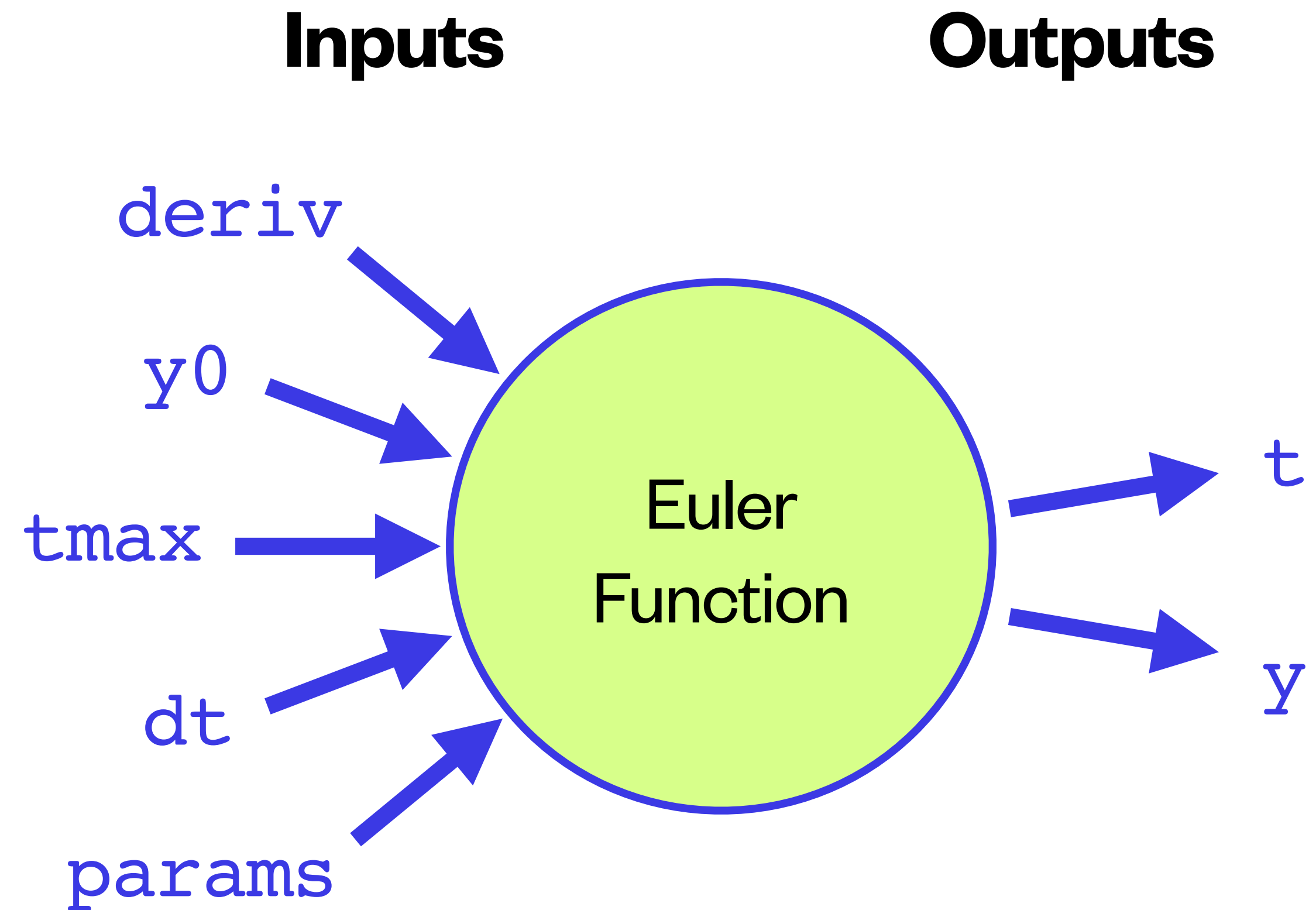
```
##### Derivative Function #####  
  
def deriv_exp(t, y, a):  
  
    dydt = a*y  
    return dydt
```

- Passed parameters:
  - $t$  = time
  - $y$  = dependent variable
  - $a$  = growth rate parameter
- Returned value:
  - derivative  $dy/dt$

## Euler function

Performs the numerical integration using Euler's method and a derivative function.

- Passed parameters:
  - `deriv` = derivative function
  - `y0` = initial condition
  - `tmax` = maximum time
  - `dt` = time step
  - `params` = array of parameters
- Returned value:
  - `t` = array of times
  - `y` = array containing solution



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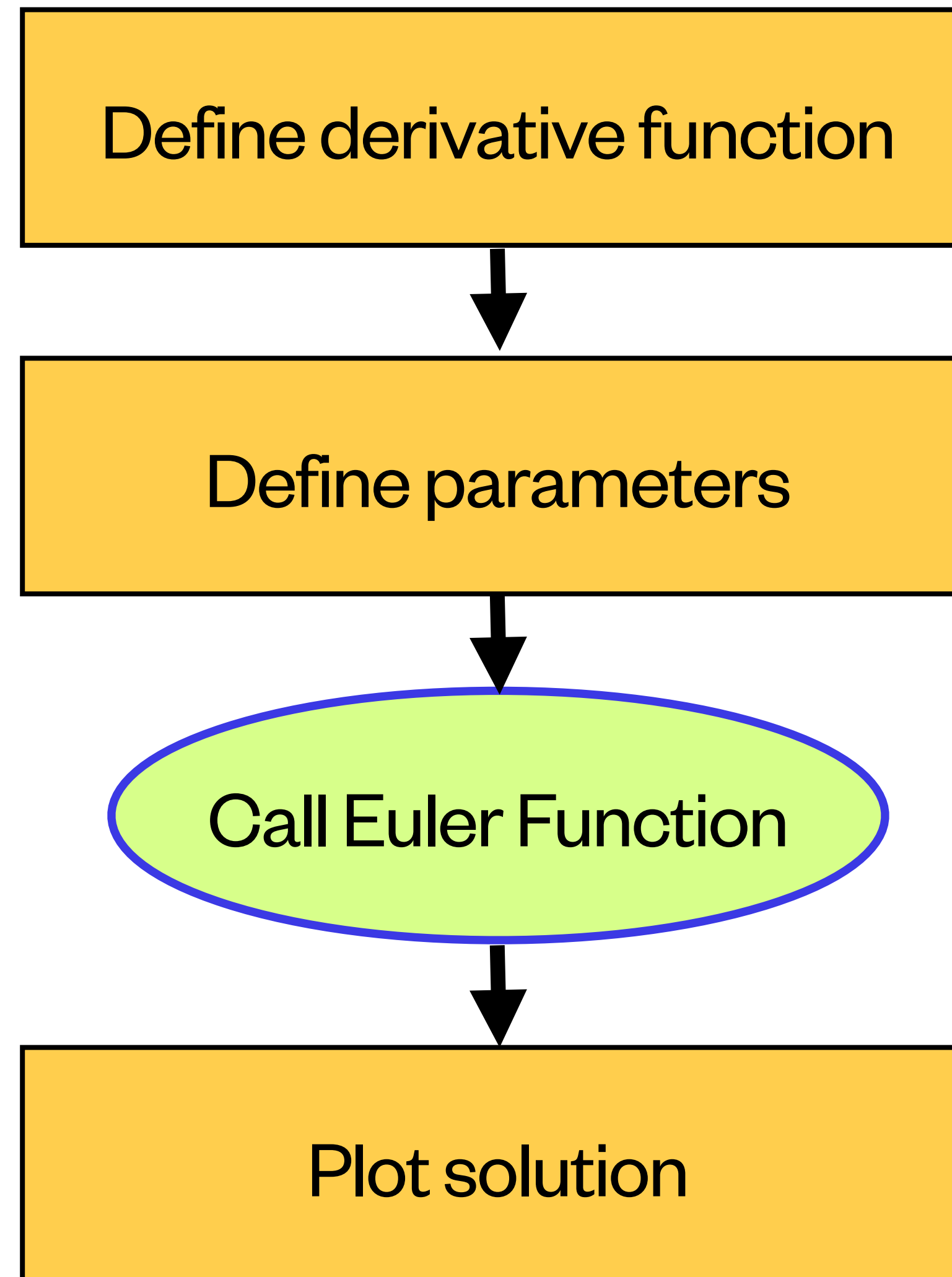
```
##### Euler Integration #####  
  
def Euler(deriv, y0, tmax, dt, params):  
  
    ##### Create Arrays #####  
  
    N = int(tmax/dt)+1    # number of steps in simulation  
    y = np.zeros(N)      # array to store y values  
    t = np.zeros(N)      # array to store times  
  
    y[0] = y0            # assign initial value  
  
    ##### Loop to implement the Euler update rule #####  
  
    for n in range(N-1):  
        f = deriv(t[n], y[n], *params) # use "*" to unpack  
        y[n+1] = y[n] + f*dt  
        t[n+1] = t[n] + dt  
  
    return t, y
```

don't forget the \*



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**Put it all together:  
Derivative and Euler  
Functions in action**



## Put it all together: Derivative and Euler Functions in action

call to **Euler()** function

get solution (**t** and **y**)

pass **deriv\_exp()** function  
defining the ODE to integrate

```
##### Parameters #####  
  
a      = 0.2      # decay constant  
tmax   = 100     # maximum time  
dt     = 0.5     # time step  
y0     = 1       # initial value of y  
  
params = [a]     # bundle parameters in array  
  
##### Perform Euler Integration #####  
t, y = Euler(deriv_exp, y0, tmax, dt, params)  
  
##### Plot Solution #####  
  
plt.plot(t, y, label='Euler')
```

---

## Summary

The modular approach to numerical integration code has the following advantages:

- The **Euler ( )** function can be used to solve **any** first-order ODE using the Euler method. This function does not need to be changed when a new ODE is solved.
- The **derivs\_exp ( )** function contains all the information about the ODE being solved. It can be used with a different numerical integration solver (e.g. midpoint, Runge-Kutta, etc.)



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# **Modular Solver for a System of 1st Order ODEs**

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# All 2nd Order ODEs Can be Written as a System of Two, 1st-Order ODEs

For example, we can write  $F = ma$  as a system of two 1st order ODEs:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = a(x, v, t) = \frac{F(x, v, t)}{m}$$

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# Writing a System of ODEs as a Generalized Vector Equation

We introduce this approach through an example. Let's solve the simple harmonic oscillator problem:

$$F = -kx \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = -\frac{k}{m}x$$

We write this 2nd-order ODE as a system of coupled 1st-order ODEs:

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v \qquad \frac{dv}{dt} = -(k/m)x$$

We want to solve for the variables  $x(t)$  and  $v(t)$ .

# Writing a System of ODEs as a Generalized Vector Equation

Introduce a generalized vector  $\vec{y}$  whose components are  $x$  and  $v$ , where  $y^{(0)}(t) = x(t)$  and  $y^{(1)}(t) = v(t)$ , i.e.

$$\vec{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y^{(0)}(t) \\ y^{(1)}(t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x(t) \\ v(t) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Our system of coupled 1st-order ODEs

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = v$$

$$\frac{dv}{dt} = -(k/m)x$$

may be written in terms of  $y_0$  and  $y_1$  as

$$\frac{dy^{(0)}}{dt} = y^{(1)}$$

$$\frac{dy^{(1)}}{dt} = -(k/m)y^{(0)}.$$

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# Writing a System of ODEs as a Generalized Vector Equation

The introduction of the generalized vector  $\vec{y} = (y^{(0)}, y^{(1)})$  allows us to write our system of ODEs as a single differential equation:

$$\frac{d\vec{y}}{dt} = \vec{a}(\vec{y}, t)$$

where

$$\vec{y} = \begin{pmatrix} y^{(0)} \\ y^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \vec{a}(\vec{y}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} y^{(1)} \\ -(k/m)y^{(0)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

We can solve this ODE using Euler or any other method.



# Writing a System of ODEs as a Generalized Vector Equation

Applying the Euler method to solve this system gives

$$\vec{y}_{n+1} = \vec{y}_n + \vec{a}_n \Delta t$$

In component form, this is equivalent to:

$$\begin{pmatrix} y_{n+1}^{(0)} \\ y_{n+1}^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} y_n^{(0)} \\ y_n^{(1)} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} y_n^{(1)} \\ -(k/m)y_n^{(0)} \end{pmatrix} \Delta t$$

or, in terms of  $x$  and  $v$

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{n+1} \\ v_{n+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} x_n \\ v_n \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} v_n \\ -(k/m)x_n \end{pmatrix} \Delta t$$

This is amazing!  
We can solve a system of potentially hundreds of ODEs using a single Euler update equation!

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## Arrays used in the Multi-Variable Code

Initial conditions (1x2 array):

$y_0 =$

$x_0$	$v_0$
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Solution (Nx2 array):

$y =$

$x[0]$	$v[0]$
$x[1]$	$v[1]$
$x[2]$	$v[2]$
$x[3]$	$v[3]$
$x[4]$	$v[4]$

$x = y[:, 0]$

$v = y[:, 1]$

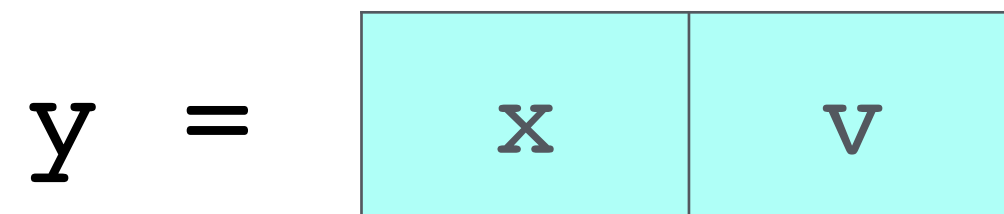
`derivs_sh0()` returns 1x2 array:

$dxdt$	$dvdt$
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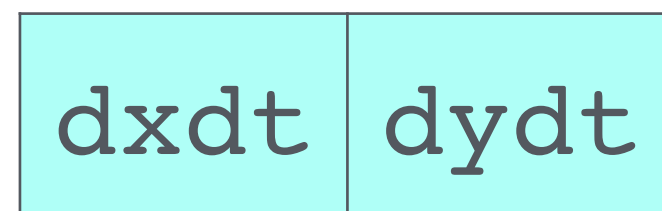
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# Multi-Variable Derivative Function

$y$  is a 1x2 array containing  $x$  and  $v$



`derivs_sho` returns a 1x2 array containing derivatives  $dx/dt$  and  $dv/dt$ :



```
##### Derivative Function #####
#
# This function returns the derivatives for the
# Simple Harmonic Oscillator ODE

def deriv_sho(t, y, m, k):

    # extract variables from y array
    x = y[0]          # position
    v = y[1]          # velocity

    # calculate derivatives
    dxdt = v
    dvdt = -k/m*x

    # return derivatives in a numpy array
    return np.array([dxdt, dvdt])
```

# Multi-Variable Euler Function

This line determines the number of variables in the system by checking to see if the initial conditions variable  $y_0$  is a float or an array.

If  $y_0$  is a float, there's only a single variable.

If  $y_0$  is a NumPy array, the number of variables = the number of elements in  $y_0$ .



```
##### Multi-Variable Euler Integration #####
def Euler_Vec(deriv, y0, tmax, dt, params):

    ##### Create Arrays #####

    # determine the number of variables in the system from initial
    nvar = 1 if not isinstance(y0, np.ndarray) else y0.size

    N = int(tmax/dt)+1           # number of steps in simulation
    y = np.zeros((N,nvar))      # array to store y values
    t = np.zeros(N)            # array to store times

    if nvar == 1:
        y[0] = y0                # assign initial value if single var
    else:
        y[0,:] = y0              # assign vector initial values if mu

    ##### Loop to implement the Euler update rule #####

    for n in range(N-1):
        f = deriv(t[n], y[n], *params)
        y[n+1] = y[n] + f*dt
        t[n+1] = t[n] + dt

    return t, y
```

# Multi-Variable Euler Function

$y$  is a  $(N) \times (nvar)$  array, with the columns storing the solution for each variable.

If  $y$  is a 2D array, we must use slicing to copy the initial condition array  $y_0$  to the top row of the solution array  $y$ . If  $y$  is a 1D array, we just set  $y[0]$  to the initial value  $y_0$ .

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    return t, y
```




The loop implementing the Euler method for our system of ODEs looks exactly like the loop when we had only a single ODE.

# Put it all together: Derivative and Euler Functions in action

Initial conditions are now  
stored in a 1x2 array



We have to extract the solution for  
each variable from the returned  $y$   
array.



```
import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

##### Parameters #####

m = 1          # mass
k = 1          # spring constant
tmax = 10     # maximum time
dt = 0.001    # time step
x0 = 1        # initial position
v0 = 0        # initial velocity

params = np.array([m,k]) # bundle parameters together
y0 = np.array([x0,v0])  # bundle initial conditions

##### Perform Euler Integration #####

t, y = Euler_Vec(deriv_sho, y0, tmax, dt, params)

x = y[:,0]     # extract positions
v = y[:,1]     # extract velocities

##### Plot Solution #####

plt.plot(t, x, label='x') # plot position
```