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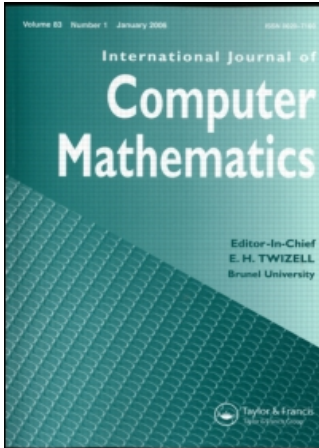
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## Non-linear singular systems using RK–Butcher algorithms

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The Runge–Kutta (RK)–Butcher algorithm is used to study time-invariant and time-varying non-linear singular systems. The results (discrete solutions) obtained using the RK method based on the arithmetic mean (RKAM), single-term Walsh series (STWS) and RK–Butcher algorithms are compared with the exact solutions of the non-linear singular systems for the time-invariant and time-varying cases. It is found that the solution obtained using the RK–Butcher algorithm is closer to the exact solutions of the non-linear singular systems. Stability regions for the RKAM, STWS and RK–Butcher algorithms are presented. Error graphs for discrete and exact solutions are presented in a graphical form to highlight the efficiency of this method. The RK–Butcher algorithm can easily be implemented using a digital computer and the solution can be obtained for any length of time for both time-invariant and time-varying cases for these non-linear singular systems, which is an added advantage of this algorithm.

*Keywords:* Time-invariant non-linear singular systems; Time-varying non-linear singular systems; STWS algorithm; RKAM algorithm; RK–Butcher algorithm

*C.R. Category:* G1.7

### 1. Introduction

Most realistic non-linear systems, in particular singular non-linear systems, do not admit any analytical solution and hence must be solved using a numerical technique. Conventional methods, such as the Euler, Taylor series and Adams–Moulton methods, are restricted to a very small step size in order to obtain a stable solution, which naturally requires much computer time. Many new methods have been developed to overcome this step-size constraint imposed by numerical stability, and these are reviewed by Butcher [1], Murugesan and colleagues [2–7] and Park *et al.* [8].

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Runge–Kutta (RK) methods have been used by many researchers [2–6, 9–16] to determine numerical solutions for problems, which are modelled as initial value problems (IVPs) involving differential equations, that arise in the fields of Science and Engineering. Although the RK method was introduced at the beginning of the twentieth century, research in this area is still very active and its applications are enormous because of its extending accuracy in the determination of approximate solutions and its flexibility.

RK methods have become very popular, both as computational techniques and in research applications [1, 14, 17]. The method was developed by Runge in the mid-1890s and extended by Kutta a few years later. They developed algorithms which solve differential equations efficiently and yet are the equivalent of approximating the exact solutions by matching  $n$  terms of the Taylor series expansion.

RK algorithms have always been considered to be excellent tools for the numerical integration of ordinary differential equations (ODEs). The fact that RK methods are self-starting, easy to program and extremely accurate and versatile in ODE problems has led to their continuous analysis and use in mathematical research. The beauty of the RK pair is that it requires no extra function evaluations, which is the most time-consuming aspect of all ODE solvers. This breakthrough has initiated a search for RK algorithms of increasingly high-order for better error estimates.

Butcher [17] derived the best RK pair, together with an error estimate, and this is known as the RK–Butcher algorithm. It is nominally considered to be sixth order since it requires six function evaluations (it looks like a sixth-order method but in fact is a fifth-order method). In practice, the ‘working order’ is closer to 5 (fifth order), but the accuracy of the results obtained exceeds that of all other algorithms examined, including the RK–Fehlberg, RK–centroidal mean (RKCeM) and RK–arithmetic mean (RKAM) methods.

Bader [18, 19] introduced the RK–Butcher algorithm for finding the truncation error estimates and intrinsic accuracies and the early detection of stiffness in coupled differential equations that arises in theoretical chemistry problems. Recently, Murugesan *et al.* [7] and Park *et al.* [8] applied the RK–Butcher algorithms for finding the numerical solutions of an industrial robot arm control problem and optimal control of linear singular systems. In this article, we present a new approach for solving the time-invariant and time-varying non-linear singular systems using RK–Butcher algorithms with more accuracy.

## 2. RK–Butcher algorithms

The normal order of an RK algorithm is the approximate number of leading terms of an infinite Taylor series, which calculates the trajectory of a moving point, which was discussed by Shampine and Gordon [20]. The remainder of the infinite sum excluded is referred to as the local truncation error (LTE). RK algorithms are forward-looking predictors, that is, they use no information from preceding steps to predict the future position of a point. For this reason, they require a minimum of input data and consequently are very easy to program and simple to use.

The general  $p$ -stage Runge–Kutta method for solving an IVP is

$$\dot{y} = f(x, y) \quad (1)$$

with the initial condition  $y(x_0) = y_0$  is defined by

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h \sum_{i=1}^p b_i k_i$$

where

$$k_i = f \left( x_n + c_i h, y_n + h \sum_{j=1}^p a_{ij} k_j \right), \quad i = 1, 2, 3, \dots, p$$

and

$$c_i = \sum_{j=1}^p a_{ij}; \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, p$$

with  $c$  and  $b$  are  $p$  dimensional vectors and  $A(a_{ij})$  be the  $p \times p$  matrix. Then the Butcher array is of the form

$c_1$	$a_{11}$				
$c_2$	$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$			
$c_3$	$a_{31}$	$a_{32}$	$a_{33}$		
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮		
$c_p$	$a_{p1}$	$a_{p2}$	⋯	$a_{p,p-1}$	$a_{p,p}$
	$b_1$	$b_2$	$b_{p-1}$	$b_p$	

then the RK–Butcher algorithm of the above equation (1) is of the form

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_1 &= hf(x_n, y_n) \\
 k_2 &= hf \left( x_n + \frac{h}{4}, y_n + \frac{k_1}{4} \right) \\
 k_3 &= hf \left( x_n + \frac{h}{4}, y_n + \frac{k_1}{8} + \frac{k_2}{8} \right) \\
 k_4 &= hf \left( x_n + \frac{h}{2}, y_n - \frac{k_2}{2} + k_3 \right) \\
 k_5 &= hf \left( x_n + \frac{3h}{4}, y_n + \frac{3k_1}{16} + \frac{9k_4}{16} \right) \\
 k_6 &= hf \left( x_n + h, y_n - \frac{3k_1}{7} + \frac{2k_2}{7} + \frac{12k_3}{7} - \frac{12k_4}{7} + \frac{8k_5}{7} \right)
 \end{aligned} \tag{2}$$

5th order predictor

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{1}{90}(7k_1 + 32k_3 + 12k_4 + 32k_5 + 7k_6)$$

4th order predictor

$$y_{n+1}^* = y_n + \frac{1}{6}(k_1 + 4k_4 + k_6)$$

## Local Truncation Error Estimate (EE)

$$EE = y_{n+1} - y_{n+1}^*$$

Then the formation of the Butcher array of the above equation (2) takes the following form

0						
$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$					
$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{8}$	$\frac{1}{8}$				
$\frac{1}{2}$	0	$-\frac{1}{2}$	1			
$\frac{3}{4}$	$\frac{3}{16}$	0	0	$\frac{9}{16}$		
1	$-\frac{3}{7}$	$\frac{2}{7}$	$\frac{12}{7}$	$-\frac{12}{7}$	$\frac{8}{7}$	
	$\frac{7}{90}$	0	$\frac{32}{90}$	$\frac{12}{90}$	$\frac{32}{90}$	$\frac{7}{90}$
	$\frac{1}{6}$	0	0	$\frac{4}{6}$	0	$\frac{1}{6}$

This Butcher array plays a vital role in the stability regions and is presented in the next section.

### 3. Stability regions

Consider the test equation  $\dot{y} = \lambda y$  where  $\lambda$  is a complex constant and it is used to determine the stability regions of these methods.

$$k_1 = f(y_n) = \lambda y_n$$

$$k_2 = f\left(y_n + \frac{hk_1}{4}\right) = \lambda y_n \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)$$

$$k_3 = f\left(y_n + \frac{hk_1}{8} + \frac{hk_2}{8}\right) = \lambda y_n \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{8} + \frac{h\lambda}{8} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)\right)$$

$$k_4 = f\left(y_n - \frac{hk_2}{2} + hk_3\right) = \lambda y_n \left(1 - \frac{h\lambda}{2} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right) + h\lambda \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{8} + \frac{h\lambda}{8} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)\right)\right)$$

$$k_5 = f\left(y_n - \frac{3hk_1}{16} + \frac{9hk_4}{16}\right) = \lambda y_n \left(1 + \frac{3h\lambda}{16} + \frac{9h\lambda}{16} \left(1 - \frac{h\lambda}{2} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right) + h\lambda \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{8} + \frac{h\lambda}{8} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)\right)\right)\right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_6 &= f\left(y_n - \frac{3hk_1}{7} + \frac{2hk_2}{7} + \frac{12hk_3}{7} - \frac{12hk_4}{7} + \frac{8hk_5}{7}\right) \\
 &= \lambda y_n \left( \begin{aligned} &1 - \frac{3h\lambda}{7} + \frac{2h\lambda}{7} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right) + \frac{12h\lambda}{7} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{8} + \frac{h\lambda}{8} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)\right) \\ &- \frac{12h\lambda}{7} \left(1 - \frac{h\lambda}{2} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right) + h\lambda \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{8} + \frac{h\lambda}{8} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)\right)\right) \\ &+ \frac{8h\lambda}{7} \left(1 + \frac{3h\lambda}{16} + \frac{9h\lambda}{16} \left(1 - \frac{h\lambda}{2} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right) + h\lambda \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{8} + \frac{h\lambda}{8} \left(1 + \frac{h\lambda}{4}\right)\right)\right)\right) \end{aligned} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting  $z = h\lambda$  we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 k_1 &= f(y_n) = \lambda y_n \\
 k_2 &= \lambda y_n \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right) \\
 k_3 &= \lambda y_n \left(1 + \frac{z}{8} + \frac{z}{8} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right)\right) \\
 k_4 &= \lambda y_n \left(1 - \frac{z}{2} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right) + z \left(1 + \frac{z}{8} + \frac{z}{8} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right)\right)\right) \\
 k_5 &= \lambda y_n \left(1 + \frac{3z}{16} + \frac{9z}{16} \left(1 - \frac{z}{2} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right) + z \left(1 + \frac{z}{8} + \frac{z}{8} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right)\right)\right)\right) \\
 k_6 &= \lambda y_n \left( \begin{aligned} &1 - \frac{3z}{7} + \frac{2z}{7} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right) + \frac{12z}{7} \left(1 + \frac{z}{8} + \frac{z}{8} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right)\right) \\ &- \frac{12z}{7} \left(1 - \frac{z}{2} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right) + z \left(1 + \frac{z}{8} + \frac{z}{8} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right)\right)\right) \\ &+ \frac{8z}{7} \left(1 + \frac{3z}{16} + \frac{9z}{16} \left(1 - \frac{z}{2} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right) + z \left(1 + \frac{z}{8} + \frac{z}{8} \left(1 + \frac{z}{4}\right)\right)\right)\right) \end{aligned} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

Then the 5th order predictor formula is

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{90}(7k_1 + 32k_3 + 12k_4 + 32k_5 + 7k_6),$$

Substituting the values of  $k_1, k_2, k_3, k_4, k_5$  and  $k_6$  then we obtain

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h\lambda y_n}{90} \left(90 + \frac{90}{2}z + \frac{30}{2}z^2 + \frac{30}{8}z^3 + \frac{30}{40}z^4 + \frac{30}{240}z^5\right)$$

divide both sides by  $y_n$  then the stability polynomial  $Q(z) = y_{n+1}/y_n$  is given as

$$Q(z) = 1 + z + \frac{z^2}{2!} + \frac{z^3}{3!} + \frac{z^4}{4!} + \frac{z^5}{5!} + \frac{z^6}{6!}.$$

Figure 1 show that a comparative study of the stability regions of the RKAM method, STWS and the RK–Butcher algorithm. In this stability region, the range for the real part of  $\lambda$  in RKAM is  $-3.463 < \text{Re}(\lambda) < 0.0$ , STWS is  $-3.284 < \text{Re}(\lambda) < 0.0$  and where as in the RK–Butcher algorithm it is  $-2.780 < \text{Re}(\lambda) < 0.0$ . It reveals that the RK–Butcher algorithm converges faster than the other two discussed methods RKAM and STWS.

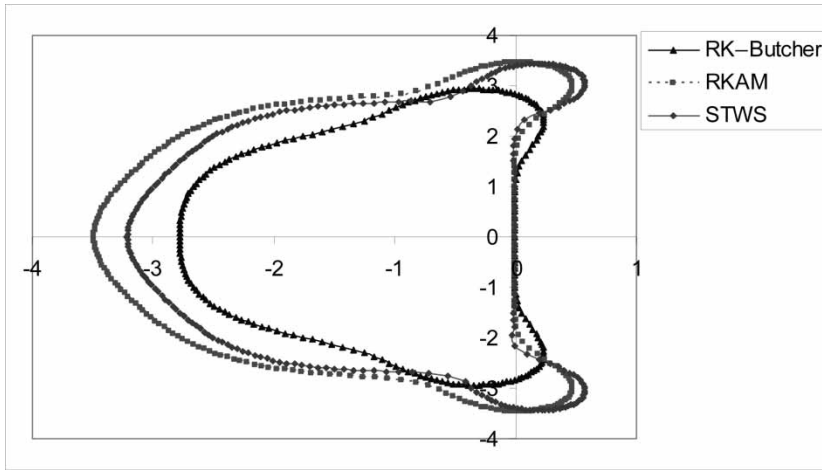


Figure 1. Stability regions for RKAM, STWS and RK-Butcher algorithms.

#### 4. Non-linear singular systems

Consider the time invariant non-linear singular system of the form

$$K\dot{x}(t) = Ax(t) + f(x(t)) \quad (3)$$

with  $x(0) = x_0$ , where  $K$  is an  $n \times n$  singular matrix,  $A$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix,  $x(t)$  is an  $n$ -state vector and  $f$  is an ' $n$ ' vector function. In order to make the above system (3) time varying case some of the components (not necessarily all the elements) in the system (3) are converted to time varying and then the system will be of the following form

$$K(t)\dot{x}(t) = A(t)x(t) + f(x(t)) \quad (4)$$

with  $x(0) = x_0$ , where this  $K(t)$  is an  $n \times n$  singular matrix,  $A(t)$  is an  $n \times n$  matrix,  $x(t)$  is an  $n$ -state vector and  $f$  is an ' $n$ ' vector function. The time varying singular non-linear systems are much more difficult to solve than the time invariant systems. Therefore, many authors have tried various transform methods to overcome these difficulties. In this article, we introduce RK-Butcher algorithms with more accuracy to solve these time-invariant and time-varying singular non-linear systems.

#### 5. Numerical examples

In this section, two examples are presented, one is for time invariant and the other is for time varying case. Numerical solutions are obtained using three methods like RKAM method, STWS and RK-Butcher algorithms.

##### 5.1 Example

Consider the following time invariant nonlinear singular system (Campbell [21], Lin and Yang [22])

$$K = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad f(x(t)) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -x^2 \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

with initial condition  $x(0) = [0 \ 0]^T$ .

Table 1. Solutions for time-invariant system (5) for various values of 'x<sub>1</sub>'.

S. No.	Time	Discrete solution x <sub>1</sub> -values						
		Exact solutions	RKAM solutions	RKAM error	STWS solutions	STWS error	RK-Butcher solutions	RK-Butcher error
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0.25	-0.25	-0.25640	0.00640	-0.254	0.004	-0.25002	0.00002
3	0.5	-0.50	-0.50295	0.00295	-0.504	0.004	-0.50007	0.00007
4	0.75	-0.75	-0.75673	0.00673	-0.754	0.004	-0.75009	0.00009
5	1	-1.00	-1.00729	0.00729	-1.004	0.004	-1.00014	0.00014
6	1.25	-1.25	-1.25651	0.00651	-1.254	0.004	-1.25017	0.00017
7	1.5	-1.50	-1.50652	0.00652	-1.504	0.004	-1.50019	0.00019
8	1.75	-1.75	-1.75239	0.00239	-1.754	0.004	-1.75022	0.00022
9	2	-2.00	-2.00200	0.00200	-2.004	0.004	-2.00026	0.00026

The exact solutions are

$$\begin{aligned}
 x_1(t) &= -t \\
 x_2(t) &= \frac{t^2}{2}
 \end{aligned}
 \tag{6}$$

The results (discrete solutions) obtained using RKAM, STWS and RK-Butcher algorithms (with step size time  $t = 0.25$ ) along with the exact solutions and its absolute errors between them are calculated and are presented in tables 1 and 2. To highlight the efficiency of the RK-Butcher algorithms and to distinguish the effect of the errors in accordance with the exact solutions, a graphical representation is presented in figures 2 and 3 for selected values of 'x<sub>1</sub>' and 'x<sub>2</sub>', using three-dimensional effect.

### 5.2 Example

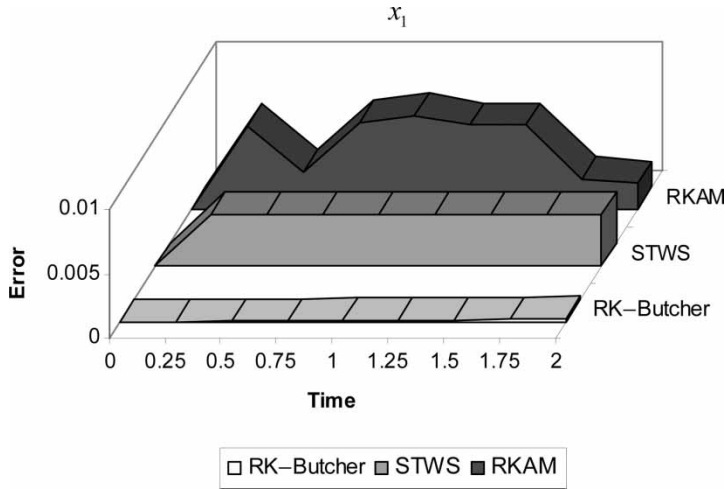
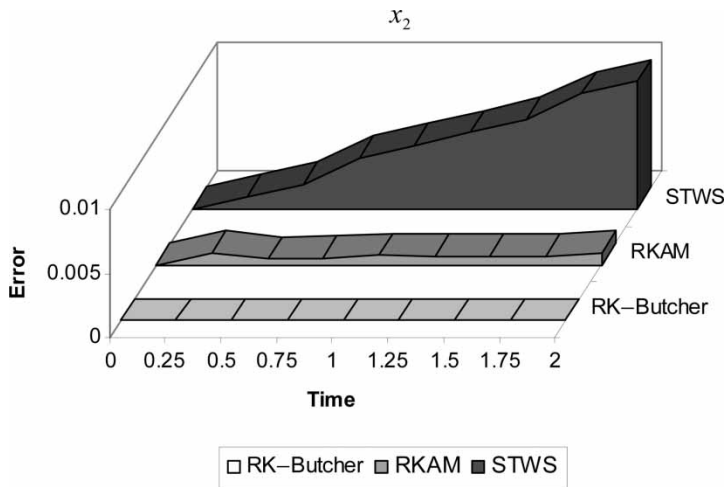
Consider the time varying non-linear singular system of the following form (Hsiao and Wang [23] and Sepehrian and Razzaghi [24])

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & t^2 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \dot{x}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} tx_1(t) + x_2(t) \\ \exp(t)x_1(t)x_2(t) \\ x_2(t)(x_1(t) + x_3(t)) \end{bmatrix} x(t) + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2t^2 \exp(-t) \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \tag{7}$$

Table 2. Solutions for time-invariant system (5) for various values of 'x<sub>2</sub>'.

S. No.	Time	Discrete solution x <sub>1</sub> -values						
		Exact solutions	RKAM solutions	RKAM error	STWS solutions	STWS error	RK-Butcher solutions	RK-Butcher error
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0.25	0.031	0.031974	0.000974	0.032	0.001	0.031002	0.000002
3	0.5	0.125	0.125492	0.000492	0.127	0.002	0.125007	0.000007
4	0.75	0.281	0.281510	0.000510	0.285	0.004	0.281009	0.000009
5	1	0.500	0.500759	0.000759	0.505	0.005	0.500014	0.000014
6	1.25	0.781	0.781651	0.000651	0.787	0.006	0.781017	0.000017
7	1.5	1.125	1.125658	0.000658	1.132	0.007	1.125019	0.000019
8	1.75	1.531	1.531662	0.000662	1.540	0.009	1.531022	0.000022
9	2	2.000	2.000982	0.000982	2.010	0.010	2.000026	0.000026



Figure 2. Error graph for ' $x_1$ ' at various time intervals.Figure 3. Error graph for ' $x_2$ ' at various time intervals.

with initial condition

$$x(0) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \\ 0 \\ -2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

The exact solutions are

$$x(t) = \begin{bmatrix} 2 \exp(-t)(1-t) \\ t^2 \exp(-t) \\ -2 \exp(-t)(1-t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (8)$$

The results (discrete solutions) were obtained using the RKAM method; STWS and RK-Butcher algorithms (with step size time  $t = 0.25$ ) along with the exact solutions and the absolute errors between them were calculated and are presented in tables 3–5. To highlight the efficiency of the RK-Butcher algorithms and to distinguish the effect of the errors in

Table 3. Solutions for time varying system (7) at various values of 'x<sub>1</sub>'.

S. No.	Time	Discrete solution x <sub>1</sub> -values						
		Exact solutions	RKAM solutions	RKAM error	STWS solutions	STWS error	RK-Butcher solutions	RK-Butcher error
1	0	2	2	0	2	0	2	0
2	0.25	0.778801	0.779801	0.001	0.783458	0.00466	0.778805	4E-06
3	0.5	0	-0.00935	0.00935	-0.09452	0.09452	0.000006	6E-06
4	0.75	-0.47236	-0.47423	0.00187	-0.49452	0.02216	-0.47239	3E-05
5	1	-0.73575	-0.73857	0.00282	-0.76504	0.02929	-0.73579	4E-05
6	1.25	-0.85951	-0.86015	0.00064	-0.89451	0.035	-0.85956	5E-05
7	1.5	-0.89252	-0.89658	0.00406	-0.94892	0.0564	-0.89258	6E-05
8	1.75	-0.86886	-0.86836	0.0005	-0.92765	0.05879	-0.86893	7E-05
9	2	-0.81201	-0.81394	0.00193	-0.88310	0.07109	-0.81209	8E-05

Table 4. Solutions for time-varying system (7) at various values of 'x<sub>2</sub>'.

S. No.	Time	Discrete solution x <sub>2</sub> -values						
		Exact solutions	RKAM solutions	RKAM error	STWS solutions	STWS error	RK-Butcher solutions	RK-Butcher error
1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
2	0.25	0.048675	0.048875	0.0002	0.054867	0.00619	0.048676	1E-06
3	0.5	0.151632	0.152032	0.0004	0.175132	0.0235	0.151634	2E-06
4	0.75	0.265706	0.266306	0.0006	0.296506	0.0308	0.265709	3E-06
5	1	0.367879	0.368679	0.0008	0.403879	0.036	0.367883	4E-06
6	1.25	0.447663	0.448663	0.001	0.494763	0.0471	0.447667	4E-06
7	1.5	0.502042	0.508642	0.0066	0.552042	0.05	0.502048	6E-06
8	1.75	0.532182	0.539882	0.0077	0.605382	0.0732	0.532189	7E-06
9	2	0.541341	0.550041	0.0087	0.635141	0.0938	0.541349	8E-06

accordance with the exact solutions, a graphical representation is presented in figures 4–6 for selected values of 'x<sub>1</sub>', 'x<sub>2</sub>' and 'x<sub>3</sub>', using three-dimensional effect.

### 6. Conclusions

The obtained results (discrete solutions) of the non-linear singular systems for time-invariant and time-varying cases show that the RK-Butcher algorithm works well for finding the state

Table 5. Solutions for time-varying system (7) at various values of 'x<sub>3</sub>'.

S. No.	Time	Discrete solution x <sub>3</sub> -values						
		Exact solutions	RKAM solutions	RKAM error	STWS solutions	STWS error	RK-Butcher solutions	RK-Butcher error
1	0	-2	-2	0	-2	0	-2	0
2	0.25	-0.77880	-0.77890	1E-04	-0.78880	0.01	-0.77881	1E-05
3	0.5	0	0.000089	0.00009	0.000009	9E-06	0	0
4	0.75	0.472366	0.472466	1E-04	0.472367	1E-06	0.472367	1E-06
5	1	0.735758	0.735958	0.0002	0.735760	2E-06	0.735760	2E-06
6	1.25	0.859514	0.859914	0.0004	0.859517	3E-06	0.859517	3E-06
7	1.5	0.892521	0.892921	0.0004	0.892525	4E-06	0.892525	4E-06
8	1.75	0.868869	0.869569	0.0007	0.868875	6E-06	0.868876	7E-06
9	2	0.812011	0.813011	0.001	0.812019	8E-06	0.812019	8E-06

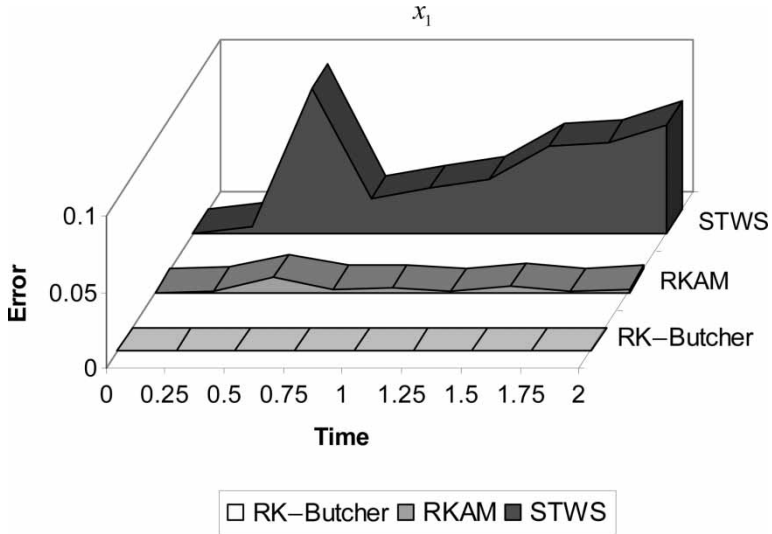


Figure 4. Error graph for ' $x_1$ ' at various time intervals for time-varying case.

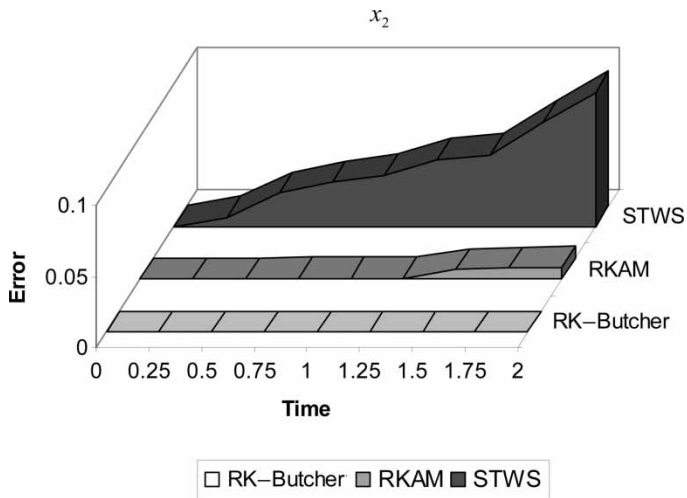


Figure 5. Error graph for ' $x_2$ ' at various time intervals for time-varying case.

vector. From tables 1–5, we can observe that for most of the time intervals, the absolute error is less (almost no error) in the RK-Butcher algorithms when compared to the Runge-Kutta Arithmetic Mean (RKAM) method, Single Term Walsh Series (STWS) Technique, which yields a small error, along with the exact solutions. From figure 1 can be noted that the stability region of the RK-Butcher algorithm is smaller than the stability region of RKAM and STWS methods. It reveals that the RK-Butcher algorithm converges faster than the other two methods discussed here. From figures 2–6, one can predict that the error is much less in the RK-Butcher algorithm when compared to the RKAM and STWS methods discussed by Balachandran and Murugesan [25] and Sepehrian and Razzaghi [24]. Hence the RK-Butcher algorithm is more suitable for studying the time-invariant and time-varying non-linear singular systems.

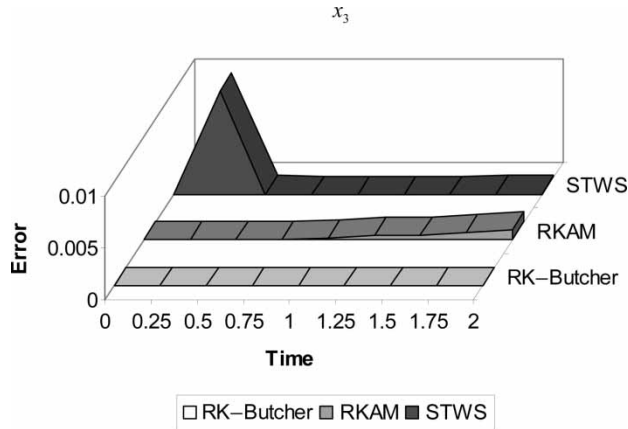


Figure 6. Error graph for ' $x_3$ ' at various time intervals for time-varying case.

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