Report on Project 1

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Introduction

The Benchmark

In the following we use the model of a pendulum attached to a rod which is elastic in the radial direction as described in Task 1. The situation is depicted in figure 1.

In particular our ODE is given by

$$\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{bmatrix}' = \begin{bmatrix} y_3 \\ y_4 \\ -y_1\lambda(y_1,y_2) \\ -y_2\lambda(y_1,y_2) - 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

with

$$\lambda(y_1,y_2) = k\frac{\|(y_1,y_2)\| - 1}{\|(y_1,y_2)\|} \,.$$

The plot of a numerical solution to this problem for $k = 1$ can be seen in figures 2 and 3.

We can calculate the potential, kinetic and approximate the elastic energy with the formulas

Figure 1: The pendulum

$$E_{\text{pot}} = 1 + y_2 \qquad E_{\text{kin}} = \frac{\|(y_3,y_4)\|^2}{2} \qquad E_{\text{elast}} = k\frac{(\|(y_1,y_2)\| - 1)^2}{2} \,.$$

Adding these up we get the approximate total energy

$$E_{\text{tot}} = E_{\text{pot}} + E_{\text{tot}} + E_{\text{tot}} \,.$$

We expect the approximate total energy to be constant which indeed can be seen in Figure 4. Because of this property we can use the relative variation of the approximate total energy as an index measuring the (in)stability of the solver. Specifically we implement
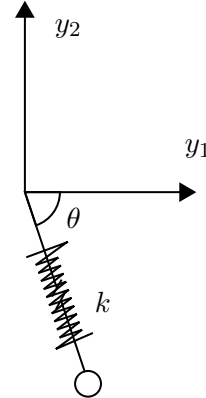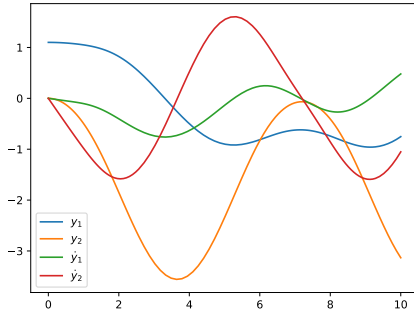
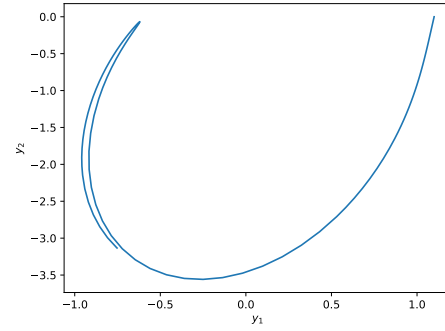Figure 2: State in dependence of time.

Figure 3: Path traced out by pendulum.

```
instability_index = (np.max(total_energy)-np.min(total_energy)) \
                    /np.mean(total_energy)
```
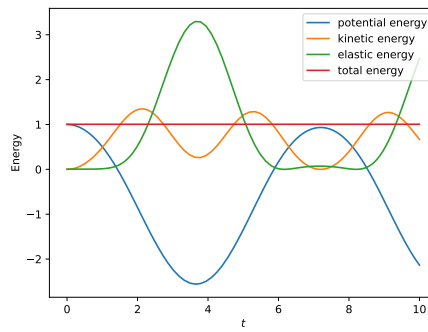
In the ideal world this index almost vanishes.

Figure 4: Energy plot

Testing CVODE

A first test series

In the first specific test of CVODE we solve our toy problem for increasing k. Hereby we switch between the BDF and Adam-Moultons discretisation method. We also vary the `maxorder` parameter for both methods. A higher k reflects a problem which is more stiff. As a stiff problem requires finer steps the number of steps `nsteps` increases as k increases which is what can be seen in figure 5. As the number of function evaluations per stepsize `nfcns`/`nsteps` hovers slightly above 1 for all methods (c.f. figure 7) the number of function evaluations increase correspondingly as can be seen in figure 6. There

is however a difference in how many steps each method needs. The BDF-method requires in general more steps than the Adams-Moulton method. And the general trend is that the number of steps increases as `maxord` is reduced.
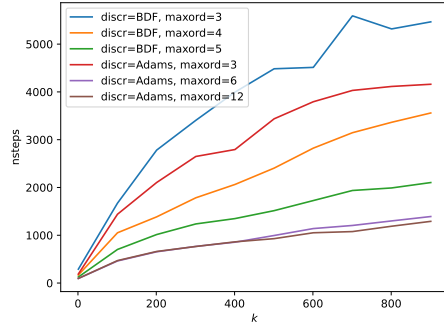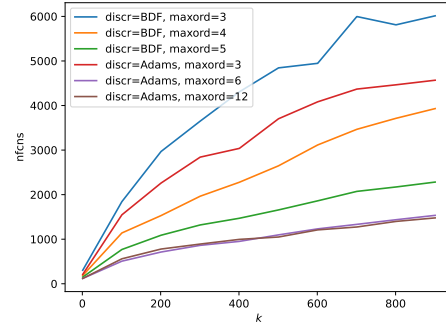

Figure 5: `nsteps` in relation to the parameter k.

Figure 6: `nfuncs` in relation to the parameter k.

From figure 8 it can be seen that the number of jacobian evaluations stays roughly constant and happens roughly every 5th step. The number `nerrfails/steps` stays roughly constant in dependence of k though the general tendency is that it is smaller the lower `maxord` is set. This makes sense because a lower `maxord` means there are fewer possibilities to change the method order to and hence fewer changes of order. In figure 10 we see a difference in how much the methods obey the principles of energy conservation. One can see that for growing k the result tends to be further away from physical reality. Once again the methods with higher `maxord` do better with the exception of the BDF method where for some reason a `maxord` of 4 performs best.
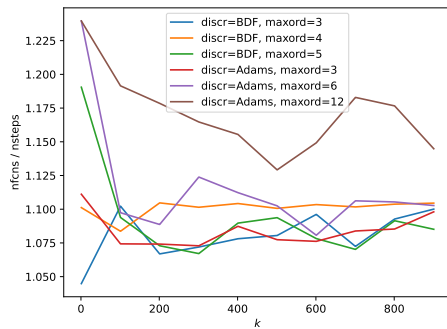

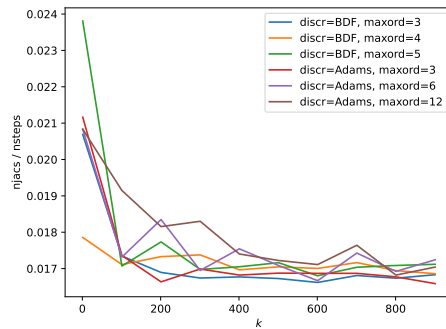Figure 7: `nfcns/nsteps` in relation to the parameter k.
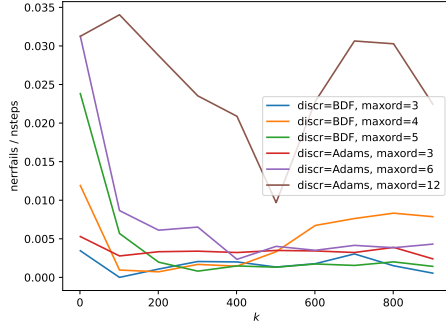

Figure 8: `njacs/nsteps` in relation to the parameter k.

Figure 9: `nerrfails`/`nsteps` in relation to the parameter k.
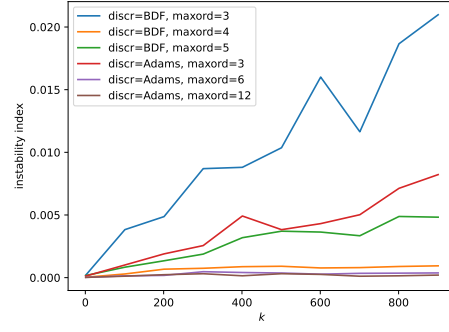

Figure 10: instability index in relation to the parameter k.

Testing the parameter rtol

We now test the influence of the parameter `rtol` on the methods BDF and Adams-Moulton. For this we set $k = 10^2$ and keep all other parameters on their default values. The results can be seen in figures 11 to 15. We note that as `rtol` increases the number of steps decreases (c.f. figure 11). If one compares figures the instability index for $k \approx 100$ in figure 10 with the instability index in figure 15 one sees that setting the `rtol` parameter makes the result significantly worse.
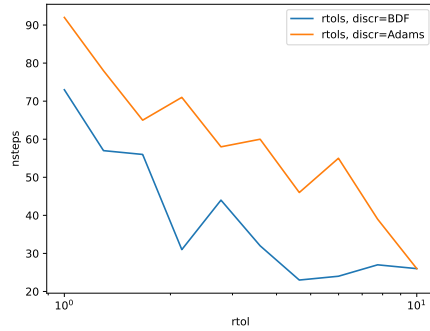

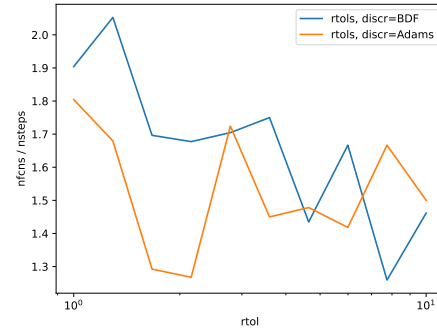Figure 11: `nsteps` in relation to the parameter `rtol`.

Figure 12: `nfcns`/`nsteps` in relation to the parameter `rtol`.
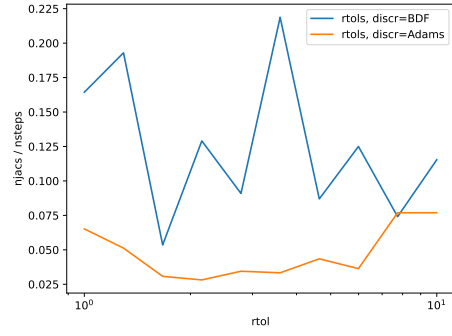
Testing the parameter atol

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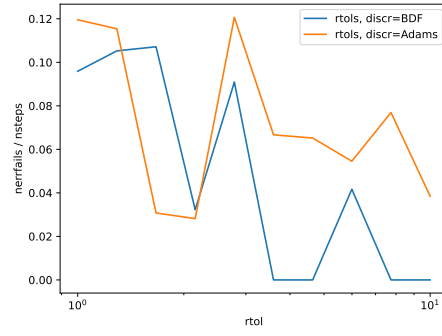Figure 13: njacs/nsteps in relation to the parameter rtol.

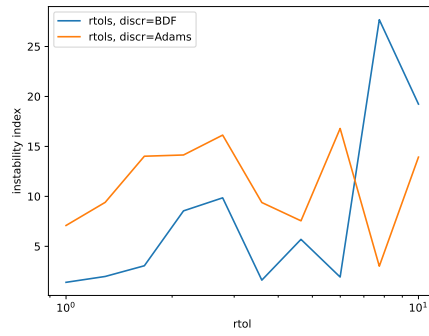Figure 14: nerrfails/nsteps in relation to the parameter rtol.

Figure 15: instability index in relation to the parameter rtol.