

# Numerical Methods II

## One-Step Methods for ODEs

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# Outline

- 1 Initial Value Problems
- 2 One-step methods for ODEs
- 3 Convergence (after LeVeque)
- 4 MATLAB ode suite

# Initial Value Problems

# Initial Value Problems

- We want to numerically approximate the solution to the **ordinary differential equation**

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = x'(t) = \dot{x}(t) = f(x(t), t),$$

with **initial condition**  $x(t = 0) = x(0) = x_0$ .

- This means that we want to generate an approximation to the **trajectory**  $x(t)$ , for example, a sequence  $x(t_k = k\Delta t)$  for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, N = T/\Delta t$ , where  $\Delta t$  is the **time step** used to discretize time.
- If  $f$  is independent of  $t$  we call the system **autonomous**.
- Note that second-order equations can be written as a **system** of first-order equations:

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \ddot{x}(t) = f[x(t), t] \quad \equiv \quad \begin{cases} \dot{x}(t) = v(t) \\ \dot{v}(t) = f[x(t), t] \end{cases}$$

# Relation to Numerical Integration

- If  $f$  is independent of  $x$  then the problem is equivalent to numerical integration

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_0^t f(s) ds.$$

- More generally, we cannot compute the integral because it depends on the unknown answer  $x(t)$ :

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_0^t f(x(s), s) ds.$$

- Numerical methods are based on approximations of  $f(x(s), s)$  into the “future” based on knowledge of  $x(t)$  in the “past” and “present”.

# Convergence

- Consider a trajectory numerically discretized as a sequence that **approximates** the exact solution at a **discrete** set of points:

$$x^{(k)} \approx x(t_k = k\Delta t), \quad k = 1, \dots, T/\Delta t.$$

- A method is said to **converge with order**  $p > 0$ , or to have **order of accuracy**  $p$ , if for any finite  $T$  for which the ODE has a solution,

$$\left| x^{(k)} - x(k\Delta t) \right| = O(\Delta t^p) \text{ for all } 0 \leq k \leq T/\Delta t.$$

- All methods are recursions that compute a new  $x^{(k+1)}$  from previous  $x^{(k)}$  by evaluating  $f(x)$  several times. For example, **one-step methods** have the form

$$x^{(k+1)} = G(x^{(k)}, \Delta t; f).$$

# Consistency

- The **local truncation error** (LTE) of a method is the amount by which the *exact* solution does not satisfy the numerical scheme at the end of the time step if started from the correct solution  $x^{(k)} = x(k\Delta t)$ :

$$e_k = x[(k+1)\Delta t] - G[x(k\Delta t), \Delta t; f],$$

- A method is **consistent with order**  $q > 1$  if  $|e_k| = O(\Delta t^q)$ .
- The **global truncation error** is the actual error

$$E_{t=k\Delta t} = \left| x^{(k)} - x(t = k\Delta t) \right|.$$

- Numerical analysis question: Can the global error be bounded by  $O(\Delta t^p)$  if the local one is  $O(\Delta t^q)$ ?

# Propagation of errors

- *Crude estimate*: If one makes an error  $O(\Delta t^q)$  at each time step, the global error after  $T/\Delta t$  time steps can become on the order of

$$\left| x^{(k)} - x(k\Delta t) \right| = O \left( \Delta t^q \cdot \frac{T}{\Delta t} \right) = O(\Delta t^{q-1}) = O(\Delta t^p),$$

and we must have  $p = q - 1 > 0$  for convergence.

- This result is often the right one, but it has a hidden assumption that *errors made at previous steps do not grow* but rather stay of the same order so they can be added.
- In practice, errors made in previous time steps will either grow or shrink with time. If they grow “too fast” we are in trouble.
- So we arrive for the first time at a recurring theme: **Convergence requires stability in addition to consistency**. What does stability mean?



# One-step methods for ODEs

# Euler's Method

- Assume that we have our approximation  $x^{(k)}$  and want to move by one time step:

$$x^{(k+1)} \approx x^{(k)} + \int_{k\Delta t}^{(k+1)\Delta t} f(x(s), s) ds.$$

- The simplest possible thing is to use a piecewise constant approximation:

$$f(x(s), s) \approx f(x^{(k)}) = f^{(k)},$$

which gives the **forward Euler method**

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + f^{(k)} \Delta t.$$

- This method requires only one function evaluation per time step.

# Euler's Method

$$\text{Scheme: } x^{(k+1)} - x^{(k)} - f^{(k)} \Delta t = 0$$

- The local truncation error is easy to find using a Taylor series expansion:

$$\begin{aligned} e_k &= x[(k+1)\Delta t] - x(k\Delta t) - f[x(k\Delta t)] \Delta t = \\ &= x[(k+1)\Delta t] - x(k\Delta t) - [x'(k\Delta t)] \Delta t = \frac{x''(\xi)}{2} \Delta t^2, \end{aligned}$$

for some  $k\Delta t \leq \xi \leq (k+1)\Delta t$ .

- Therefore the LTE is  $O(\Delta t^2)$ ,  $q = 2$ .
- The global truncation error, however, is of order  $O(\Delta t)$ ,  $p = q + 1$ , so this is a **first-order accurate** method.

# Backward Euler

$$x^{(k+1)} \approx x^{(k)} + \int_{k\Delta t}^{(k+1)\Delta t} f[x(s), s] ds.$$

- How about we use a piecewise constant-approximation, but based on the end-point:

$$f[x(s), s] \approx f(x^{(k+1)}) = f^{(k+1)},$$

which gives the first-order **backward Euler method**

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + f(x^{(k+1)})\Delta t.$$

- This **implicit method** requires **solving a non-linear equation** at every time step, which is expensive and hard.  
We will understand why implicit methods are needed next class.

# Runge-Kutta Methods

- **Runge-Kutta methods** are a powerful class of **one-step methods** similar to Euler's method, but more accurate.
- As an example, consider using a trapezoidal rule to approximate the integral

$$x^{(k)} + \int_{k\Delta t}^{(k+1)\Delta t} f[x(s), s] ds \approx x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} [f(k\Delta t) + f((k+1)\Delta t)],$$

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[ f\left(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}\right) + f\left(x^{(k+1)}, t^{(k+1)}\right) \right]$$

which requires solving a nonlinear equation for  $x^{(k+1)}$ .

- This is the simplest **implicit Runge-Kutta method**, usually called the **implicit trapezoidal method**.
- The local truncation error is  $O(\Delta t^3)$ , so the global error is **second-order accurate**  $O(\Delta t^2)$ .

LTE:  $\theta$ -method (1.4 in Iserles)

$$\mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + h [\theta \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{y}_n) + (1 - \theta) \mathbf{f}(t_{n+1}, \mathbf{y}_{n+1})]$$

$\theta = 1$  is Forward Euler,  $\theta = 0$  is Backward Euler,  $\theta = 1/2$  is Implicit Trapezoidal

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathbf{y}(t_{n+1}) - \mathbf{y}(t_n) - h[\theta \mathbf{f}(t_n, \mathbf{y}(t_n)) + (1 - \theta) \mathbf{f}(t_{n+1}, \mathbf{y}(t_{n+1}))] \\ &= \mathbf{y}(t_{n+1}) - \mathbf{y}(t_n) - h[\theta \mathbf{y}'(t_n) + (1 - \theta) \mathbf{y}'(t_{n+1})] \\ &= [\mathbf{y}(t_n) + h\mathbf{y}'(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}h^2\mathbf{y}''(t_n) + \frac{1}{6}h^3\mathbf{y}'''(t_n)] - \mathbf{y}(t_n) \\ &\quad - h \left\{ \theta \mathbf{y}'(t_n) + (1 - \theta) [\mathbf{y}'(t_n) + h\mathbf{y}''(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}h^2\mathbf{y}'''(t_n)] \right\} + \mathcal{O}(h^4) \\ &= \left(\theta - \frac{1}{2}\right) h^2 \mathbf{y}''(t_n) + \left(\frac{1}{2}\theta - \frac{1}{3}\right) h^3 \mathbf{y}'''(t_n) + \mathcal{O}(h^4). \end{aligned}$$

# Midpoint/Trapezoidal Methods

- Schemes that **treat beginning and end of time step in a symmetric fashion** will lead to a **cancellation of first-order error terms** in Taylor series and will thus be **second order** (Lesson: **second order is easy**).
- In addition to trapezoidal one can do **implicit midpoint** scheme:

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} f \left( \frac{x^{(k)} + x^{(k+1)}}{2}, t^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \right)$$

Observe this is the same as trapezoidal for linear problems (why?).

- In an explicit method, we would approximate  $x^* \approx x^{(k+1)}$  first using Euler's method, to get the simplest **explicit Runge-Kutta method**, usually called **Heun's or explicit trapezoidal method**

$$x^{(k+1,*)} = x^{(k)} + f(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}) \Delta t$$

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[ f(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}) + f(x^{(k+1,*)}, t^{(k+1)}) \right].$$

# Explicit Midpoint

- **Explicit midpoint** rule

$$x^{(k+\frac{1}{2},*)} = x^{(k)} + f\left(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}\right) \frac{\Delta t}{2}$$

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} f\left(x^{(k+\frac{1}{2},*)}, t^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2}\right).$$

- Explicit midpoint/trapezoidal are a representative of a powerful class of second-order methods called **predictor-corrector methods**: Euler (forward or backward) method is the predictor, and then (implicit or explicit) trapezoidal/midpoint method is the corrector.
- One can also consider these as examples of **multi-stage one-step** methods: the predictor is the first stage, the corrector the second.



## LTE: explicit midpoint (LeVeque)

$$\tau^n = \frac{1}{k}(u(t_{n+1}) - u(t_n)) - f\left(u(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}kf(u(t_n))\right). \quad (5.31)$$

Note that

$$\begin{aligned} f\left(u(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}kf(u(t_n))\right) &= f\left(u(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}ku'(t_n)\right) \\ &= f(u(t_n)) + \frac{1}{2}ku'(t_n)f'(u(t_n)) + \frac{1}{8}k^2(u'(t_n))^2 f''(u(t_n)) + \cdots. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $f(u(t_n)) = u'(t_n)$  and differentiating gives  $f'(u)u' = u''$ , we obtain

$$f\left(u(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}kf(u(t_n))\right) = u'(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}ku''(t_n) + O(k^2).$$

Using this in (5.31) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \tau^n &= \frac{1}{k}\left(ku'(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}k^2u''(t_n) + O(k^3)\right) \\ &\quad - \left(u'(t_n) + \frac{1}{2}ku''(t_n) + O(k^2)\right) \end{aligned}$$

# Higher-Order Runge-Kutta Methods

- The idea in RK methods is to evaluate the function  $f(x, t)$  several times and then take a time-step based on an average of the values.
- In practice, this is done by performing the calculation in **stages**: Calculate an intermediate approximation  $x^*$ , evaluate  $f(x^*)$ , and go to the next stage.
- The most celebrated Runge-Kutta method is a **four-stage** fourth-order accurate RK4 method based on **Simpson's rule** for the integral:

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^{(k)} + \int_{k\Delta t}^{(k+1)\Delta t} f[x(s), s] ds \\
 \approx x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{6} \left[ f(x^{(k)}) + 4f(x^{(k+1/2)}) + f(x^{(k+1)}) \right] \\
 = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{6} \left[ f^{(k)} + 4f^{(k+1/2)} + f^{(k+1)} \right],
 \end{aligned}$$

and we approximate  $4f^{(k+1/2)} = 2f^{(k+1/2;1)} + 2f^{(k+1/2;2)}$ .

## RK4 Method

$$f^{(k)} = f\left(x^{(k)}\right), \quad x^{(k+1/2;1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} f^{(k)}$$

$$f^{(k+1/2;1)} = f\left(x^{(k+1/2;1)}, t^{(k)} + \Delta t/2\right)$$

$$x^{(k+1/2;2)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} f^{(k+1/2;1)}$$

$$f^{(k+1/2;2)} = f\left(x^{(k+1/2;2)}, t^{(k)} + \Delta t/2\right)$$

$$x^{(k+1;1)} = x^{(k)} + \Delta t f^{(k+1/2;2)}$$

$$f^{(k+1)} = f\left(x^{(k+1;1)}, t^{(k)} + \Delta t\right)$$

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{6} \left[ f^{(k)} + 2f^{(k+1/2;1)} + 2f^{(k+1/2;2)} + f^{(k+1)} \right]$$

## Intro to multistep Methods

$$x^{(k+1)} \approx x^{(k)} + \int_{k\Delta t}^{(k+1)\Delta t} f[x(s), s] ds.$$

- Euler's method was based on a piecewise constant approximation (extrapolation) of  $f(s) \equiv f[x(s), s]$ .
- If we instead integrate the linear extrapolation

$$f(s) \approx f\left(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}\right) + \frac{f\left(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}\right) - f\left(x^{(k-1)}, t^{(k-1)}\right)}{\Delta t}(s - t_k),$$

we get the second-order **two-step Adams-Bashforth** method

$$x^{(k+1)} = x^{(k)} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left[ 3f\left(x^{(k)}, t^{(k)}\right) - f\left(x^{(k-1)}, t^{(k-1)}\right) \right].$$

- This is an example of a **multi-step method**, which requires keeping previous values of  $f$ .

## Convergence (after LeVeque)

# Zero Stability

- We must also examine how perturbations grow with time: **error propagation**.
- A method is called **zero stable** if for all sufficiently small but finite  $\Delta t$ , introducing perturbations at each step (e.g., roundoff errors, errors in evaluating  $f$ ) with magnitude less than some small  $\epsilon$  perturbs the solution by at most  $O(\epsilon)$ .
- This simply means that errors do not increase but rather decrease from step to step, as we saw with roundoff errors in the first homework.
- A central theorem in numerical methods for differential equations is variants of the **Lax equivalence theorem**:  
*Any consistent method is convergent if and only if it is zero stable, or*

**consistency + (zero) stability = convergence.**
- We will show now that **one-step methods are zero-stable** if  $f$  is well-behaved (Lipschitz continuous w.r.t. second argument).

# Lipschitz Constants

- Let us consider a system of ODEs

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t), \quad \mathbf{x}(t=0) = \mathbf{x}_0.$$

- Standard theory for ODEs shows that the solution exists and is unique over some finite time interval if the r.h.s. is **Lipschitz continuous** in  $\mathbf{x}$  a neighborhood of the initial condition:

$$\|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*, t)\| \leq L \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\|,$$

for all  $\{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}^*\}$  within some neighborhood of  $\mathbf{x}_0$  over some finite interval  $t \geq 0$ .

- For differentiable functions we can take

$$L = \max \left\| \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}}{\partial \mathbf{x}} \right\|.$$

# Convergence

- Denote our numerical approximation with time step size  $\tau$ :

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k)} \approx \mathbf{x}(k\Delta t).$$

- A method is **convergent** if applying it to any system of ODEs where  $\mathbf{f}$  is Lipschitz over a **finite time interval**  $T > 0$  during which the ODE has a solution, the numerical approximation converges to that solution,

$$\lim_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0} \mathbf{x}^{(N=T/\Delta t)} = \mathbf{x}(T).$$

- Convergence is a statement about a limit, and does not imply a method will give reasonable answers for finite  $\Delta t > 0$ .**

For that we will later introduce **absolute stability**.

- Note that we haven't given a precise definition to **zero stability** because in some sense it is defined as: the extra conditions that are needed to make a consistent method convergent.

For multistep methods, covered later, we will figure out an explicit condition.



# Convergence of One Step Methods

- Let us prove that **all consistent one-step methods are convergent** (i.e., they are zero stable).

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \Delta t \Psi \left( \mathbf{x}^{(k)}, t = k\Delta t, \Delta t; \mathbf{f} \right)$$

- The method is **consistent** and we assume that  $\Psi$  is continuous in  $t$  and  $\Delta t$ , and Lipschitz in  $\mathbf{x}$  with constant  $\tilde{L}$ ,

$$\Psi(\mathbf{x}, t, 0; \mathbf{f}) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t),$$

- For example, for explicit midpoint rule,

$$\Psi \left( \mathbf{x}^{(k)}, t = k\Delta t, \Delta t; \mathbf{f} \right) = \mathbf{f} \left( \mathbf{x} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t), t + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \right)$$

# Convergence of One Step Methods

- Now use the Lipschitz continuity to bound the error growth:

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \|\Psi(\mathbf{x}, t, \Delta t) - \Psi(\mathbf{x}^*, t, \Delta t)\| \\
 & \leq L \left\| \left( \mathbf{x} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) \right) - \left( \mathbf{x}^* + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*, t) \right) \right\| \\
 & \leq L \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\| + \frac{L\Delta t}{2} \|\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}, t) - \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{x}^*, t)\| \\
 & \leq \left( 1 + \frac{L\Delta t}{2} \right) L \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\| \\
 & = \tilde{L} \|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}^*\|.
 \end{aligned}$$

# Error growth factor

- Let us now define a **local truncation error** in the way done in LeVeque's book, which is better for analysis:

$$\mathbf{e}^{(k)} = \frac{\mathbf{x}((k+1)\Delta t) - \mathbf{x}(k\Delta t)}{\Delta t} - \Psi(\mathbf{x}(k\Delta t), k\Delta t, \Delta t),$$

$$\mathbf{x}((k+1)\Delta t) = \mathbf{x}(k\Delta t) + \Delta t \Psi(\mathbf{x}(k\Delta t), k\Delta t, \Delta t) + \Delta t \mathbf{e}^{(k)}$$

$$\mathbf{x}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{x}^{(k)} + \Delta t \Psi(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}, t = k\Delta t, \Delta t)$$

- Subtracting the two we get the error recursion relation for the **global error**  $\mathbf{E}^{(k)} = \mathbf{x}(k\Delta t) - \mathbf{x}^{(k)}$ ,

$$\mathbf{E}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{E}^{(k)} + \Delta t \left( \Psi(\mathbf{x}(k\Delta t), \dots) - \Psi(\mathbf{x}^{(k)}, \dots) \right) + \Delta t \mathbf{e}^{(k)}$$

$$\|\mathbf{E}^{(k+1)}\| \leq \|\mathbf{E}^{(k)}\| + \Delta t \tilde{L} \|\mathbf{E}^{(k)}\| + \Delta t \|\mathbf{e}^{(k)}\|$$

# Convergence

- This is the typical relationship we will see many times

$$\left\| \mathbf{E}^{(k+1)} \right\| \leq \left( 1 + \Delta t \tilde{L} \right) \left\| \mathbf{E}^{(k)} \right\| + \Delta t \left\| \mathbf{e}^{(k)} \right\|$$

- Quite generally, we get recursions of the form:  
 $\text{global\_error}(k+1) \leq \text{ampl\_factor} * \text{global\_error}(k) + \text{local\_error}(k)$
- The recurrence relationship for the error has the explicit solution

$$\left\| \mathbf{E}^{(k)} \right\| \leq \left( 1 + \Delta t \tilde{L} \right)^k \left\| \mathbf{E}^{(0)} \right\| + \Delta t \sum_{m=1}^k \left( 1 + \Delta t \tilde{L} \right)^{k-m} \left\| \mathbf{e}^{(m-1)} \right\|.$$

- We can take  $\left\| \mathbf{E}^{(0)} \right\| = 0$  if we know the initial condition “exactly”, leaving us to bound

$$\left( 1 + \Delta t \tilde{L} \right)^k$$

# Error bound

- Very generally we will bound error growth factors by exponentials (here simple scalars but more generally matrix powers and matrix exponentials):

$$\left(1 + \Delta t \tilde{L}\right) \leq e^{\Delta t \tilde{L}} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \left(1 + \Delta t \tilde{L}\right)^k \leq e^{k \Delta t \tilde{L}} \leq e^{T \tilde{L}}.$$

$$\left\| \mathbf{E}^{(k)} \right\| \leq \Delta t \sum_{m=1}^k \left(1 + \Delta t \tilde{L}\right)^{k-m} \left\| \mathbf{e}^{(m-1)} \right\| \leq \Delta t e^{T \tilde{L}} \left( \sum_{m=1}^k \left\| \mathbf{e}^{(m-1)} \right\| \right)$$

$$\left\| \mathbf{E}^{(k)} \right\| \leq T e^{T \tilde{L}} \max_{1 \leq m \leq k} \left\| \mathbf{e}^{(m-1)} \right\|.$$

- This now proves that if the local error (defined in LeVeque's way!) is of  $O(\Delta t^p)$  then so is the global error.
- The factor  $T e^{T \tilde{L}}$  is a constant for the purpose of zero stability as we are taking the limit  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ , but in practice it is extremely important as it controls how small  $\Delta t$  has to be for the method to be useful...

# MATLAB ode suite

# In MATLAB

- In MATLAB, there are several functions whose names begin with

$$[\mathbf{t}, \mathbf{x}] = \text{ode}(f, [t_0, t_e], x_0, \text{odeset}(\dots)).$$

- *ode23* is a second-order **adaptive explicit** Runge-Kutta method, while *ode45* is a fourth-order version (try it first).
- *ode23tb* is a second-order **implicit** RK method.
- *ode113* is a **variable-order explicit** multi-step method that can provide very high accuracy.
- *ode15s* is a **variable-order implicit** multi-step method.
- For implicit methods the Jacobian can be provided using the *odeset* routine – very important!

# Rigid body motion

```
function dy = rigid(t,y)
dy = zeros(3,1);      % a column vector
dy(1) = y(2) * y(3);
dy(2) = -y(1) * y(3);
dy(3) = -0.51 * y(1) * y(2);
%—————

opts = odeset('RelTol',1e-3, 'AbsTol',[1e-4 1e-4 1e-5]);
[T,Y] = ode45(@rigid, [0 12], [0 1 1], opts);

plot(T,Y(:,1),'o—r', T,Y(:,2),'s—b', T,Y(:,3),'d—g');
xlabel('t'); ylabel('y'); title('RelTol=1e-3');
```



## van der Pol equation

```

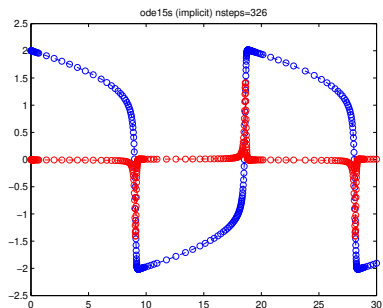
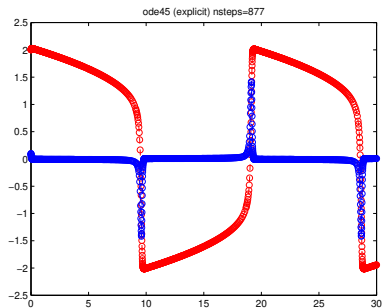
r=10; % Try r=100
f = @(t,y) [y(2); r*(1 - y(1)^2)*y(2) - y(1)];

figure(2); clf
[T,Y] = ode45(f,[0 3*r],[2 1]);
plot(T,Y(:,1),'o—r', T,Y(:,2)/r,'o—b')
title(['ode45 (explicit) nsteps=', int2str(size(T,1))])

figure(3); clf
[T,Y] = ode15s(f,[0 3*r],[2 0]);
plot(T,Y(:,1),'o—b', T,Y(:,2)/r,'o—r')
title(['ode15s (implicit) nsteps=', int2str(size(T,1))])

```

# Stiff van der Pol system ( $r = 10$ )



# Conclusions/Summary

- Time stepping methods for ODEs are **convergent if and only if they are consistent and zero-stable**.
- All one-step methods are zero-stable, therefore, **there are generic methods that work for any (finite-dimensional) system of ODEs (not true of PDEs)**.
- We distinguish methods based on their **order of accuracy** and on whether they are **explicit** (forward Euler, Heun, RK4, Adams-Bashforth), or **implicit** (backward Euler, Crank-Nicolson), and whether they are **adaptive**.
- **Runge-Kutta methods** require more evaluations of  $f$  but are more robust, especially if adaptive (e.g., they can deal with sharp changes in  $f$ ). Generally the recommended first-try (*ode45* or *ode23* in MATLAB).