

LINEAR MULTISTEP METHODS (LMMs)

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We already gave one example of a (linear) multistep method for solving the (system of) ODE(s):

$$u'(t) = f(u(t), t)$$

namely the Adams-Basforth (AB2) second-order method:

$$u^{n+2} = u^n + \frac{1}{2} \left(3f^{n+1} - f^n \right)$$

time step size

This is an explicit two step scheme.

More commonly written as

$$u^{n+1} = u^n + \frac{1}{2} \left(5f^n - f^{n-1} \right)$$

\uparrow future \uparrow present \uparrow past

It requires storing f^{n-1} (but not u^{n-1}).

A general r -step Linear Multistep Method (LMM) takes the form:

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u^{(n+j)} = \bar{z} \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f^{(n+j)}$$

For LMMs we will assume \bar{z} is fixed and not adaptive, as adaptivity is hard with multistep methods.

Three classes of LMMs:

A) Adams methods

$$\alpha_r = 1, \alpha_{r-1} = -1, \alpha_{j \leq r-2} = 0$$

① Adams - Bashforth

$$\beta_r = 0 \rightarrow \text{explicit}$$

② Adams - Bashforth - Moulton

$$\beta_r \neq 0 \rightarrow \text{implicit}$$

B) Backwards Differentiation Formulas

$$\beta_j = 0, j = 0 \dots r-1 \rightarrow \text{implicit}$$

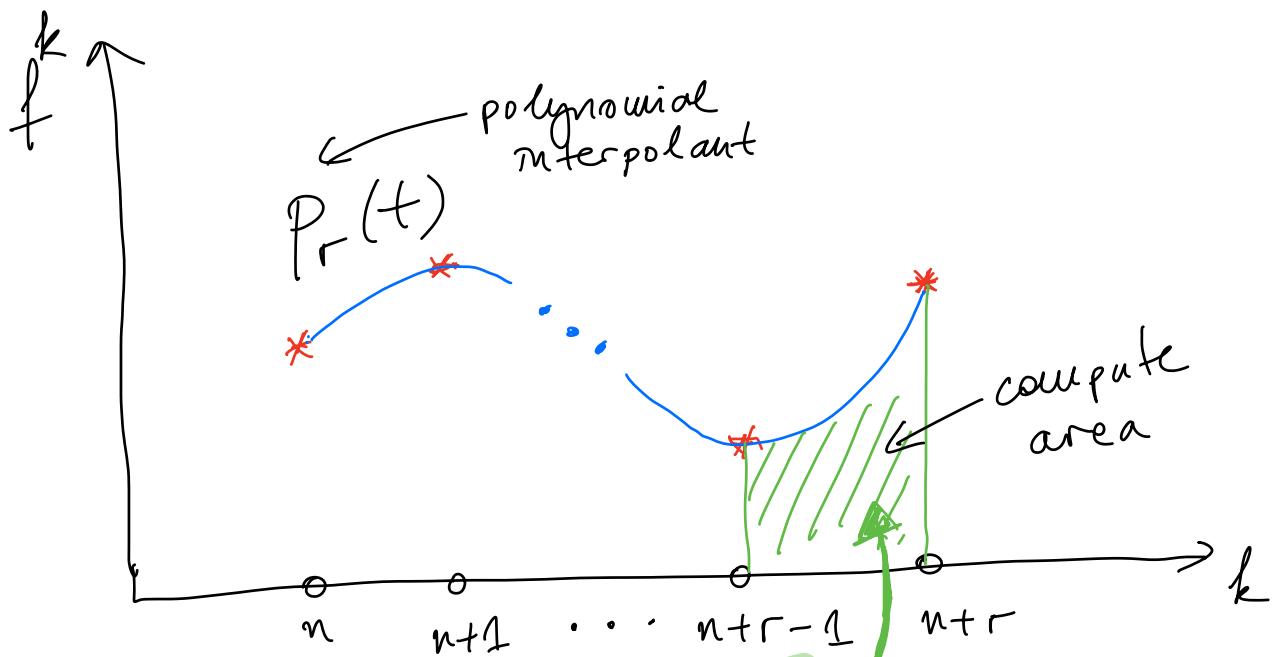
Stores past values of u not f

②

Adams Methods

$$u^{n+r} = u^{n+r-1} + \epsilon \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f^{n+j}$$

Basic idea: Fit a polynomial of degree $r-1$ through past values of f^k : interpolate (+extrapolate) the r.h.s of ODE



$$u^{n+r} = u^{n+r-1} + \int_{t=n+r-1}^{t=n+r} f(u(t), t) dt$$

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$$u^{n+r} \approx u^{n+r-1} + \int_{t=t^{n+r-1}}^{t=t^{n+r}} p_r(t) dt$$

Simple algebra to compute interpolant. If method is explicit the last time step is extrapolated

AB3 scheme (third order)

$$u^{n+3} = u^{n+2} + \frac{\bar{\tau}}{12} \left[5f^n - 16f^{n+1} + 23f^{n+2} \right]$$

Computing the LTE to confirm the order of accuracy is just as for RK schemes:

Plug exact solution into the scheme and do Taylor series

$$u^{n+1} = u^n + \frac{\bar{\tau}}{2} (3f^n - f^{n-1}) \text{ AB2}$$

$$u((n+1)\bar{\tau}) = u(n\bar{\tau}) + \frac{\bar{\tau}}{2} \left[3f(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau}) - f(u((n-1)\bar{\tau}, (n-1)\bar{\tau})) \right]$$

↑
expand around (u^n, t^n)

+ LTE * $\bar{\tau}$

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$$\begin{cases} u'(t) = f(u(t), t) \\ u''(t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(u(t), t) u'(t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(u(t), t) \end{cases} \dots (*)$$

$u(n\bar{\tau}) + u'(n\bar{\tau})\bar{\tau} + \frac{1}{2}u''(n\bar{\tau})\bar{\tau}^2 + O(\bar{\tau}^3)$

$$= u(n\bar{\tau}) + \frac{\bar{\tau}}{2} \left\{ 3f(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau}) - \right. \\ \left[f(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau}) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau}) \underbrace{(u((n+1)\bar{\tau}) - u(n\bar{\tau}))}_{u'(n\bar{\tau})\bar{\tau}} \right. \\ \left. + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \bar{\tau}}(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau})\bar{\tau} + O(\bar{\tau}^2) \right] + \text{LTE}$$

Use (*)

$$f(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau})\bar{\tau} + \frac{\bar{\tau}^2}{2} \left[\frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(u(t), t) u'(t) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(u(t), t) \right]$$

$$= f(u(n\bar{\tau}), n\bar{\tau})\bar{\tau} + \frac{\bar{\tau}^2}{2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial u}(\dots) + \frac{\bar{\tau}^2}{2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(\dots) +$$

$$+ O(\bar{\tau}^3) + \text{LTE}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LTE} = O(\bar{\tau}^3) \Rightarrow \text{third order}$$

These sort of calculations are best done using symbolic algebra (Maple, Mathematica)
Or, better, use error estimates for polynomial interpolation!

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AM2 (Adams-Moulton two step):

$$u^{n+2} = u^{n+1} + \frac{1}{12} \left[-f^n + 8f^{n+1} + 5f^{n+2} \right]$$

implicit

One can get another explicit 2nd order scheme by combining AB2 with AM2 in a predictor-corrector fashion:

AB2-AM2 two-stage two-step scheme:
linear multi-stage multi-step

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u^{n+2,*} = u^{n+1} + \frac{1}{2} (3f^{n+1} - f^n) \\ \text{AB2 predictor} \\ u^{n+2} = u^{n+1} + \frac{1}{12} \left(-f^n + 8f^{n+1} + 5f(u^{n+2,*}, t^{n+2}) \right) \\ \text{AM2 corrector} \end{array} \right.$$

One could iterate this multiple times but there is rarely a benefit of that - use AM2 with Newton's method solver instead.

LMMs are not self-starting

To do r initial steps, use a one-step method of order $p-1$, if order of LMM is p .

Order $p-1$ is OK since we do a finite (small) number of initial steps so error does not accumulate.

- For AB₂/AM₂ use one step of Euler
- For AB₃/AM₂ use RK₂ (midpoint or trapezoidal)

To avoid any large errors in the initial steps, usually an RK of order \underline{P} is used in practice.

Backwards Differentiation Formulas (BDF)

$$\frac{1}{\tau} \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u^{n+j} = f^{n+r} \approx u'((n+r)\tau)$$

finite-difference approximation of derivative $u'((n+r)\tau)$ using past values of u .

Interpolate $r+1$ values of u with a polynomial of degree r to get a scheme of order r :

$$f^{n+r} = p_r'((n+r)\tau)$$

BDF schemes are good for stiff systems of equations.

BDF 1 \equiv Backwards Euler

$$\frac{u^{n+1} - u^n}{\tau} = f(u^{n+1}, (n+1)\tau) \quad (8)$$

BDF2 scheme (2^{nd} order implicit)

$$\frac{3u^{n+2} - 4u^{n+1} + u^n}{2\bar{\tau}} = f^{n+2}$$

$$\Rightarrow u^{n+2} = \frac{1}{3}(4u^{n+1} - u^n + 2\bar{\tau}f^{n+2})$$

Trapezoidal BDF2: **TR-BDF2**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u^{n+1/2,*} = u^n + \frac{\bar{\tau}}{4} (f^n + f^{n+1/2,*}) \\ \text{Trapezoidal to midpoint} \\ \text{(predictor)} \end{array} \right.$$

$$u^{n+1} = \frac{1}{3} (4u^{n+1/2,*} - u^n + \bar{\tau}f^{n+1})$$

\uparrow
BDF2 from $u^n, u^{n+1/2,*}$ with
time-step size $\bar{\tau}/2$ (corrector)

(One of the simplest) **L-stable** schemes
of 2^{nd} order.

It is used when solving PDEs

Zero Stability of LMMs

When do LMMs converge?

Let's apply the scheme to a linear equation

$$\{u'(t) = 0$$

$$\{u(0) = 0$$

A one-step method would give

$$u^k = 0 + k, \text{ so stable.}$$

BUT, in an LMM, not necessarily previous r values will have some roundoff errors / perturbations.

We don't want those to grow.

Also, previous values have some error since method is not exact
We should only require initial values to be $= u^0 \approx u(0)$ as

$$\tau \rightarrow 0.$$

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Take an ODE $u' = f(u, t)$ where f is Lipschitz continuous in u and ODE has a unique solution up to time T .

An r -step LMM converges if

$$f u^r \text{ s.t. } \lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} u^r = u(0), \quad r=0, \dots, R-1$$

$$\lim_{\tau \rightarrow 0} u^{T/\tau} = u(T)$$

Here is a non-convergent LMM:

$$u^{n+2} - 3u^{n+1} + 2u^n = -\bar{\tau} f^n$$

Apply to $f=0$:

$$u^{n+2} - 3u^{n+1} + 2u^n = 0 \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{recurrence} \\ \text{relation} \end{array}$$

$$\Rightarrow u^n = 2u^0 - u^1 + \underbrace{2^n}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{non-zero}}} (u^1 - u^0)$$

which will blow up for $n \gg 1$!
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We need to understand when linear recurrence relations blow up. Consider

$$(\star\star) \dots \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j n^{n+j} = 0 \quad (\text{since } f \equiv 0)$$

For every simple root ξ_i of

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} g(\xi) = \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j \xi^j - \text{characteristic polynomial of LMR} \\ g(\xi_i) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

a linearly independent solution of

$$(\star\star) \text{ is } u^n = \xi_i^n$$

For a double (repeated) root,

$$g(\xi_j) = 0 \quad \& \quad g'(\xi_j) = 0$$

two linearly independent solutions of $(\star\star)$ are

$$u^n = \xi_j^n \quad \& \quad u^n = n \xi_j^n$$

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etc. for roots of multiplicity > 2 .
 General solution of (*):

$$u^n = \sum_{j=1}^{n_1} c_j^{(1)} \xi_j^n + \sum_{k=1}^{n_2} c_k^{(2)} n \xi_k^n + \sum_{l=1}^{n_3} c_l^{(3)} n^2 \xi_l^n + \dots$$

We want the coefficients not to grow with time. This requires that

$$|\xi_j| \leq 1 \text{ for simple roots}$$

$$|\xi_j| < 1 \text{ for repeated roots}$$

To see why take a double root. If $|\xi_k| = 1$, then we get a term

$$u^n = \dots + n O(\bar{\epsilon}) \Rightarrow$$

$$u^{T/\bar{\epsilon}} = \dots + O(N\bar{\epsilon}) = \dots + O(T)$$

not convergent

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Adams methods:

$$S(\xi) = \xi^r - \xi^{r-1} = (\xi - 1) \xi^{r-1}$$

$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} \xi_1 = 1 & \text{is a simple root} \\ \xi_2 = 0 & \text{is a root of multiplicity } r-1 \end{cases}$

\Rightarrow All Adams methods are zero-stable

Note that $\xi_1 = 1$ is always a root for any consistent LMM.

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u^{(n+j)} = \bar{\epsilon} \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f^{(n+j)}$$

$$\sum_j \alpha_j (f^n + f'(j\bar{\epsilon}) + O(\bar{\epsilon}^2)) =$$

$$\bar{\epsilon} \sum_j \beta_j (f^n + O(\bar{\epsilon})) \Rightarrow$$

$$O(\bar{\epsilon}^0) : \sum_j \alpha_j = 0$$

$$O(\bar{\epsilon}^1) : \sum_j j \alpha_j = \sum_j \beta_j$$

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$$\delta(\xi) = \sum_j \beta_j \xi^j$$

$$\begin{cases} O(\tau^0) : g(1) = 0 \Rightarrow 1 \text{ is a root} \\ O(\tau^+) : g'(1) = \delta(1) \end{cases}$$

Dahlquist equivalence theorem

consistency + zero stability \Leftrightarrow convergence

Note: A one step method has only one root $\xi_1 = 1$ so it is convergent, as we proved earlier.

Absolute stability of LMMs

Few stability is about the limit $\tau \rightarrow 0$, and we want a finite τ . So we need to look at absolute stability:

$$u' = \lambda u$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u^{n+j} = \bar{\tau} \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j \lambda u^{n+j}$$

recurrence relation $\Rightarrow \sum_{j=0}^r (\alpha_j - \bar{\tau} \beta_j) u^{n+j} = 0$

where recall $\bar{\tau} = \lambda \bar{\tau}$

Define polynomial

$$\pi(\xi; \bar{\tau}) = s(\xi) - \bar{\tau} b(\xi)$$

LMM is absolutely stable if roots of π satisfy root

conditions ($| \text{simple roots} | \leq 1$,
 $| \text{multiple roots} | < 1$)

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Stability region S for an LMM

$$S = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C} \mid \begin{array}{l} |\text{simple roots}| \leq 1 \\ \text{or } |\pi(\xi; z)| < 1 \\ |\text{multiple roots}| < 1 \end{array} \right\}$$

We can plot the boundary of S by rendering the parametric curve:

$$\pi(e^{i\theta}; z) = 0, \quad 0 < \theta \leq 2\pi$$

$$\Rightarrow \gamma(\theta) = \frac{\xi(e^{i\theta})}{\sigma(e^{i\theta})}, \quad 0 < \theta \leq 2\pi$$

is the boundary of S .

Take BDF methods, for example:

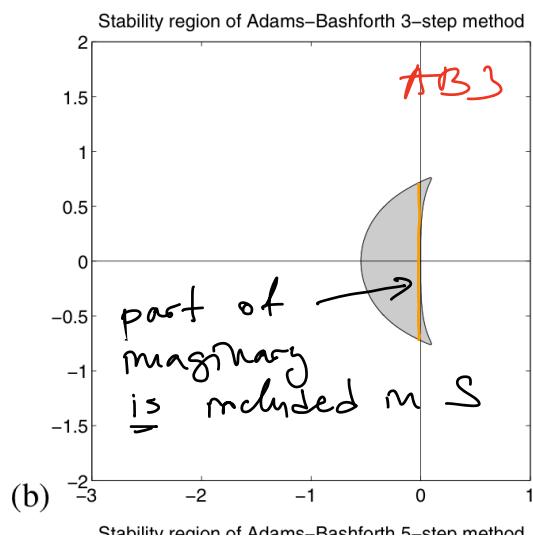
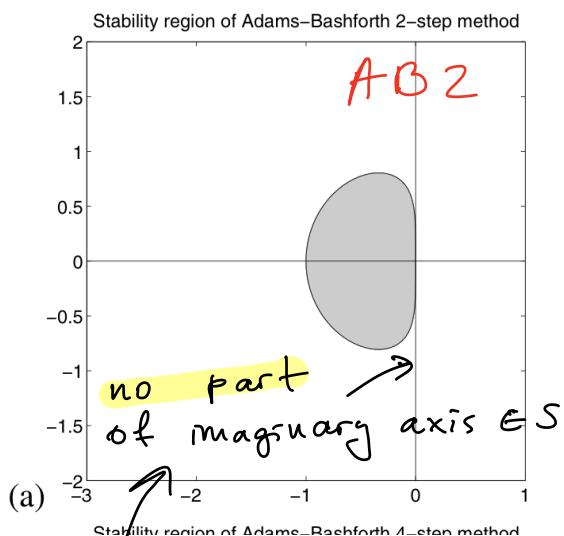
$$\sigma(\xi) = \Pr \xi^r$$

$$\text{As } |z| \rightarrow \infty \Rightarrow \pi(\xi; z) \rightarrow -z \sigma(\xi)$$

so roots of π match roots of σ as $|z| \rightarrow \infty$. But the only root of $\sigma(\xi)$ is $\xi_r = 0 \Rightarrow$

All BDF methods are stable as $|z| \rightarrow \infty$

Corollary: An A-stable LMM is L-stable
 This is why BDF is great for
very stiff equations.



Not good for hyperbolic PDEs

good for hyperbolic PDEs

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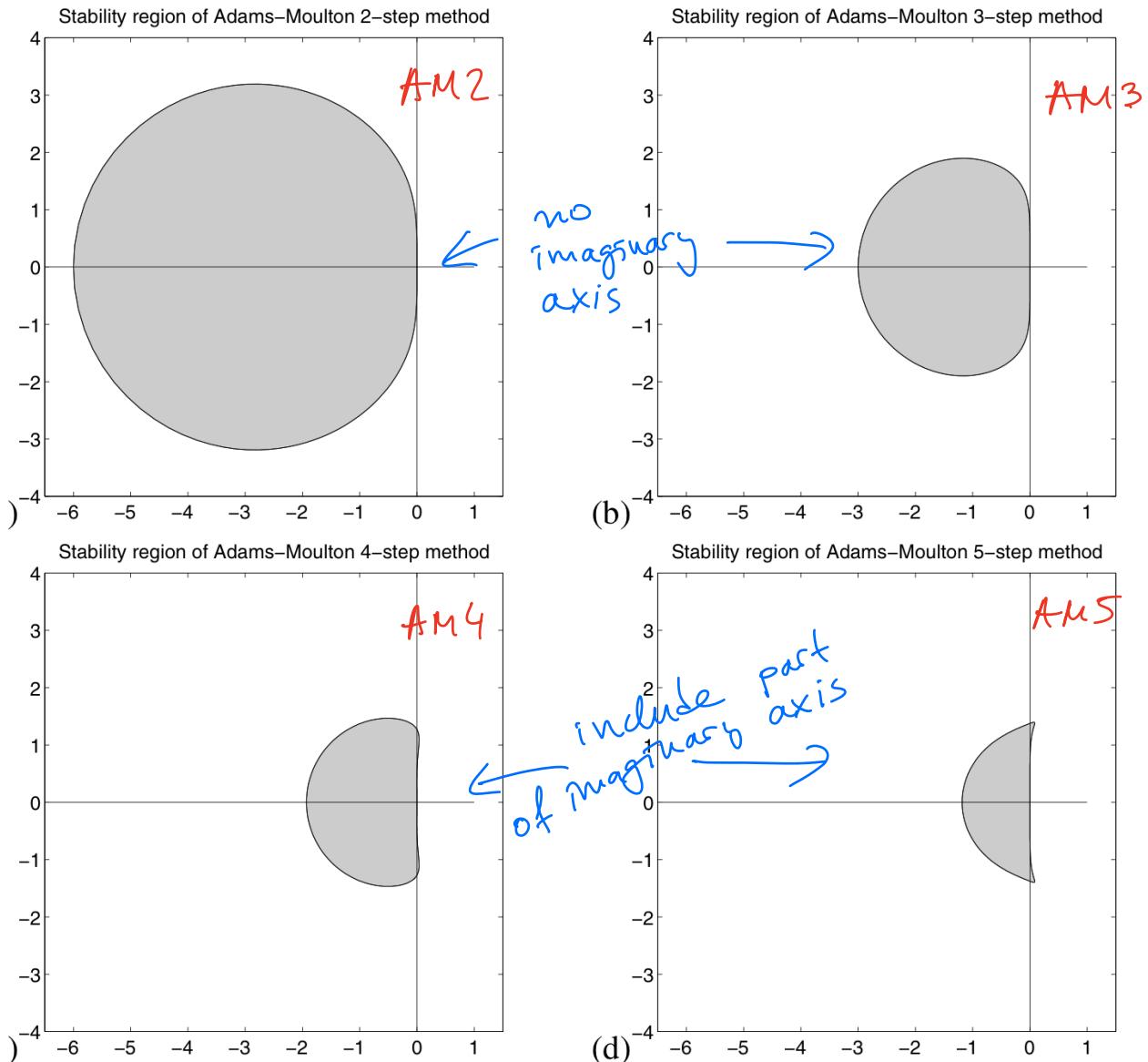
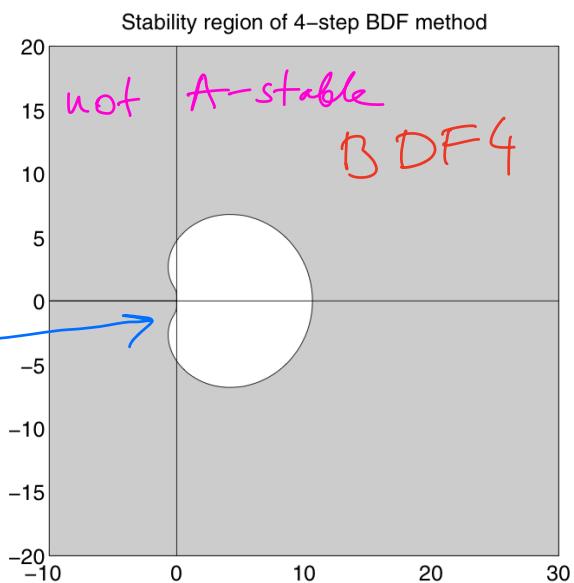
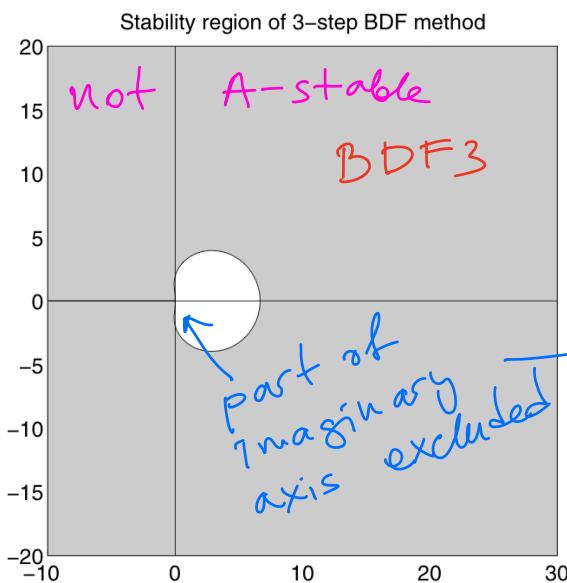
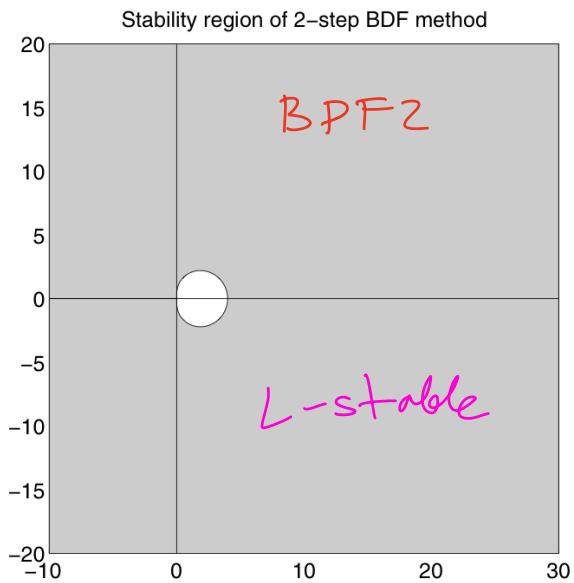
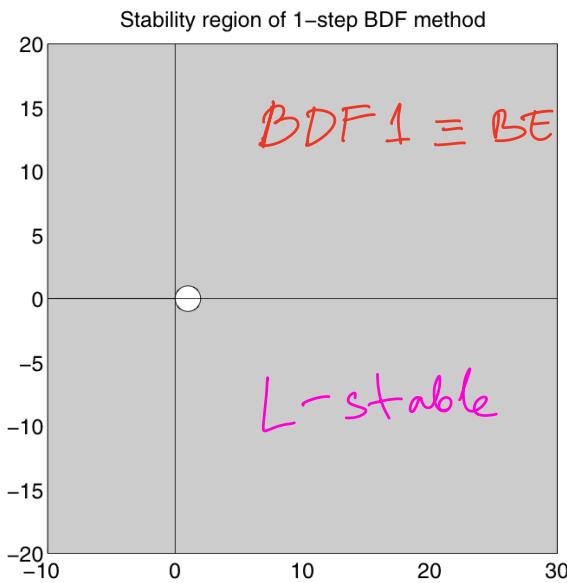


Figure 7.3. Stability regions for some Adams–Moulton methods.

General rule: For non-A-stable classes of methods (e.g., explicit), the stability region shrinks as the order of accuracy increases.

Explicit methods are never A-stable



Lesson : Going higher order brings issues with absolute stability.
To be good for ODES with purely imaginary eigenvalues, explicit schemes must be at least 3rd order

These can be turned into theorems called the Dahlquist order barriers

① A zero-stable r -step LMM can at most have order of accuracy:

If implicit

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{ll} r+1 & \text{if } r \text{ is odd} \\ r+2 & \text{if } r \text{ is even} \end{array} \right.$$

If explicit : r

② An explicit LMM cannot be A-stable (same as for RK)

③ An implicit A-stable LMM cannot be more than 2nd order accurate (so best is BDF2!)