CS 775: Advanced Computer Graphics

Lecture 8 : Stiff Systems and Implicit Solvers

Explicit Euler - Stability

• Let the derivative function be linear

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

Consider the x parallel to the largest eigenvector of A

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \lambda x$$

Euler update

$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n + h \lambda \mathbf{x}_n$$

Solution

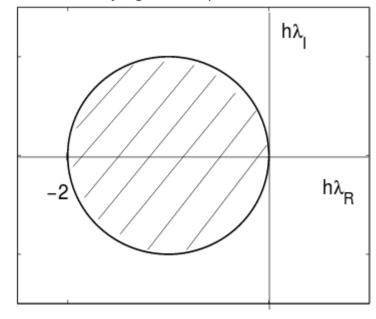
$$\dot{\mathbf{x}}_n = (1 + h\lambda)^n \mathbf{x}_0$$

Stable when

$$|1+h\lambda| \le 1 \Rightarrow -1 < 1+h\lambda < 1 \Rightarrow h < \frac{2}{|\lambda|}$$

- Real, negative eigenvalues
- Imaginary eigenvalues

Stability region for simple Euler method



Midpoint Method - Stability

Midpoint update

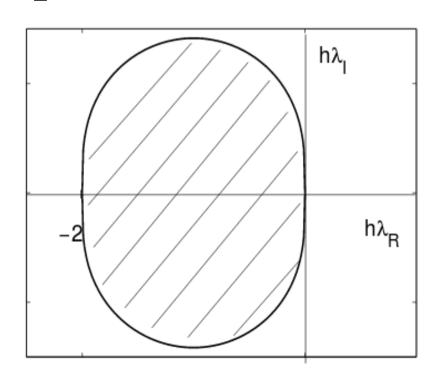
$$x_{n+1} = x_n + h\lambda x_{n+\frac{1}{2}}$$

$$x_{n+1} = x_n + h\lambda (x_n + \frac{1}{2}h\lambda x_n)$$

$$x_{n+1} = (1 + h\lambda + \frac{1}{2}(h\lambda)^2)x_n$$

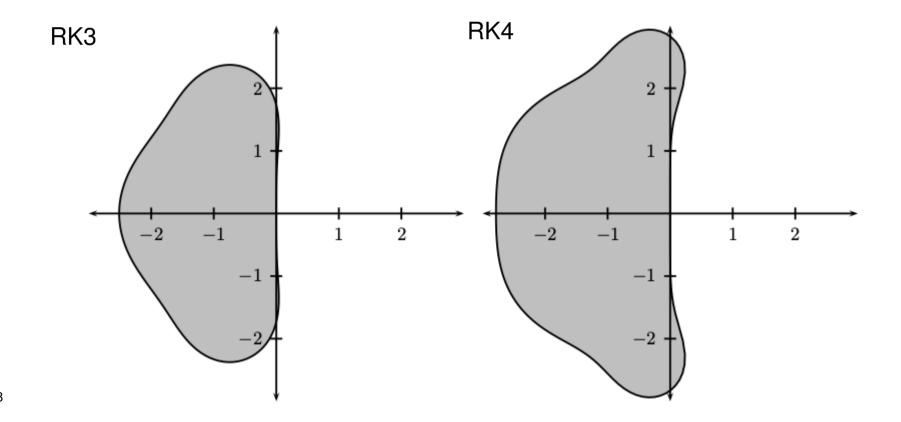
- Let $h\lambda = a + ib$
- Then stable if

$$(1+a+\frac{1}{2}(a^2-b^2))^2+(b+ab)^2 \le 1$$



Runge-Kutta Stability

- q-stage, pth-order Runge-Kutta evaluates the derivative function q times in each iteration and its approximation of the next state is correct within O(h^{p+1}).
- RK4 is 4-stage, 4th-order



Stiff Systems

 If we want to move a particle such that is always stays on the x-axis (particle on a wire), then we can model it as

$$\mathbf{X}(t) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix}$$
 $\dot{\mathbf{X}}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -x(t) \\ -ky(t) \end{bmatrix}$

Use Euler's method to update

$$\begin{aligned} X_{new} &= X_0 + h \dot{X}(t_0) = \begin{bmatrix} x(t) \\ y(t) \end{bmatrix} + h \begin{bmatrix} -x(t) \\ -ky(t) \end{bmatrix} \\ X_{new} &= \begin{bmatrix} (1-h)x_0 \\ (1-hk)y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

- If |1-hk| > 1 then Euler's method will not converge.
- For very large stiffness constant k, step size h is very small

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Implicit Euler

Explicit Euler

$$\boldsymbol{X}_{new} = \boldsymbol{X}_0 + hf(\boldsymbol{X}_0)$$

Implicit Euler

$$\boldsymbol{X}_{new} = \boldsymbol{X}_0 + hf(\boldsymbol{X}_{new})$$

Solving for X_{new} such that f, at time t_0+h points back at X_0

$$f(\boldsymbol{X}_{new}) = f(\boldsymbol{X}_0) + \Delta \boldsymbol{X} f'(\boldsymbol{X}_0) \quad \text{where} \quad \Delta \boldsymbol{X} = \boldsymbol{X}_{new} - \boldsymbol{X}_0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boldsymbol{X}_{new} = \boldsymbol{X}_0 + h f(\boldsymbol{X}_0) + h \Delta \boldsymbol{X} f'(\boldsymbol{X}_0)$$
and
$$\Delta \boldsymbol{X} = \left(\frac{1}{h} \boldsymbol{I} - f'(\boldsymbol{X}_0)\right)^{-1} f(\boldsymbol{X}_0)$$

$$f(\boldsymbol{X}, t) = \dot{\boldsymbol{X}}(t)$$

$$f(\boldsymbol{X}, t) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \boldsymbol{X}}$$

Implicit Euler

Solving our stiff system with implicit Euler

$$\Delta \mathbf{X} = \left(\frac{1}{h}\mathbf{I} - f'(\mathbf{X}_0)\right)^{-1} f(\mathbf{X}_0)$$

$$f(\mathbf{X}(t)) = \begin{bmatrix} -x(t) \\ -ky(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$f(\mathbf{X}(t))' = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -k \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\Delta X = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1+h}{h} & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{1+kh}{h} \end{bmatrix}^{-1} \begin{bmatrix} -x_0 \\ -ky_0 \end{bmatrix} = - \begin{bmatrix} \frac{h}{h+1} x_0 \\ \frac{h}{1+kh} ky_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Implicit Euler – Step Size

Largest step size the implicit solver can take for our problem

$$\lim_{h \to \infty} \Delta X = \lim_{h \to \infty} - \left[\frac{\frac{h}{h+1} x_0}{\frac{h}{1+kh} k y_0} \right]$$

$$= -\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ \frac{1}{k} k y_0 \end{bmatrix} = -\begin{bmatrix} x_0 \\ y_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

i.e.,
$$X_{new} = X_0 + (-X_0) = 0$$

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Implicit Euler - Stability

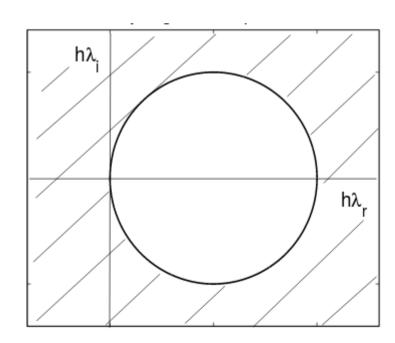
• Implicit update $x_{n+1} = x_n + h \lambda x_{n+1}$

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n + h \,\lambda \,\mathbf{x}_{n+1}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mathbf{x}_n = \mathbf{x}_0 \left(\frac{1}{1 - h \,\lambda} \right)^n$$

Then the solver is stable if

$$\frac{1}{|1-h\lambda|} \le 1$$
 or $|1-h\lambda| > 1$



Implicit Euler

 $\dot{x}(h) = -k x(h)$ x(0) = 1

Correct Soln

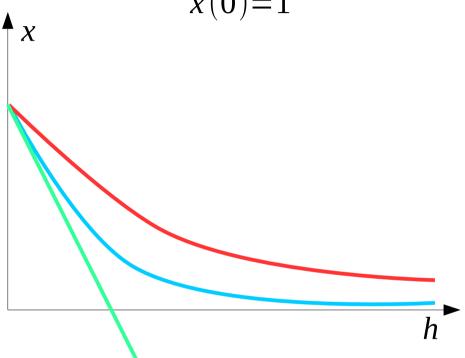
$$x(h)=e^{-hk}$$

Explicit Euler

$$x(h)=1-hk$$

Implicit Euler

$$x(h) = \frac{1}{1 + hk}$$



- Implicit solver causes numerical damping. This is not always desirable.
- Stability over large step size does not imply accuracy.

Trapezoidal Rule

Half explicit Euler, half implicit Euler

$$\mathbf{x}_{n+1} = \mathbf{x}_n + h(\frac{1}{2}f(\mathbf{x}_n) + \frac{1}{2}f(\mathbf{x}_{n+1}))$$

Where is this stable?