

# Linear Multistep Methods

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

$$U(t_0) = \eta$$

A LMM takes the form

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j U^{n+j} = k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(U^{n+j})$$

This is a formula to compute  $U^{n+r}$   
from  $U^n, U^{n+1}, \dots, U^{n+r-1}$ . (An  $r$ -step method)

This method is  
implicit if  $\beta_r \neq 0$   
explicit if  $\beta_r = 0$ .

The coefficients  $\alpha_j, \beta_j$   
determine the accuracy and  
Stability of the method.

## Examples

2-step Adams-Bashforth:

$$U^{n+2} = U^{n+1} + \frac{k}{2}(-f(U^n) + 3f(U^{n+1}))$$

Leapfrog:  $U^{n+2} = U^n + k f(U^{n+1})$

Backward differentiation

formula:  $U^{n+2} = \frac{4}{3}U^{n+1} - \frac{1}{3}U^n + 2kf(U^{n+2})$

A 2-step 1st-order:

$$U^{n+2} = 3U^{n+1} - 2U^n + kf(U^n)$$

A 3-step method:  $U^{n+3} = 3U^{n+2} - 2U^{n+1} + kf(U^n)$

Let's solve

$$U'(t) = 0$$

$$U(t_0) = 0$$

Consistency of initial  
Values:

$$U^0 \rightarrow U(t_0)$$

$$U' \rightarrow U(t_0 + k)$$

as  $k \rightarrow 0$

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$$\begin{aligned} P(\xi) &= \xi^3 - 3\xi^2 + 2\xi & \xi_1 &= 0 \\ \xi^2 - 3\xi + 2 &= (\xi - 1)(\xi - 2) & \xi_2 &= 1 \\ & & \xi_3 &= 2 \end{aligned}$$



Local Truncation Error  $t_{n+j} = t_n + jk$  Substitution gives

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j U^{n+j} = k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(U^{n+j})$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u(t_{n+j}) = k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(u(t_{n+j})) + \tau^{n+r}$$

$$u(t_{n+j}) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(jk)^i}{i!} u^{(i)}(t_n)$$

$$f(u(t_{n+j})) = u'(t_{n+j}) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(jk)^i}{i!} u^{(i+1)}(t_n)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(jk)^{i-1}}{(i-1)!} u^{(i)}(t_n)$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \frac{(jk)^i}{i!} u^{(i)}(t_n) = k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{(jk)^{i-1}}{(i-1)!} u^{(i)}(t_n) + K \tau^{n+r}$$

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} k^{i-1} u^{(i)}(t_n) \left[ \alpha_j \frac{j^i}{i!} - \frac{j^{i-1}}{(i-1)!} \beta_j \right]$$

$$+ \frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u(t_n) = \tau^{n+r}$$

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We want  $\tau^{n+r} = O(k^p)$

We need:

$$\frac{1}{k} u(t_n) \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j = 0$$

$$i=1 (k^0): \sum_{j=0}^r (j\alpha_j - \beta_j) = 0$$

This ensures that  $\tau^{n+r} = O(k')$ ,  
So the method is consistent.

For 2nd order we need:

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \left( \frac{j^2}{2} \alpha_j - j\beta_j \right) = 0$$

etc.

## Zero-stability

If we apply a LMM to

$$u'(t) = 0$$

$$\text{we get } \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u^{n+j} = 0 \quad (*)$$

Linear difference  
equations

Ansatz:  $u^n = \zeta^n$  for some  $\zeta \in \mathbb{C}$

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j \zeta^{n+j} = 0 \quad \text{or} \quad \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j \zeta^j = 0$$

$$\text{Let } \rho(\zeta) = \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j \zeta^j$$



We call  $p(\xi)$  the "first characteristic polynomial" of the LMM.

It has roots  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_r$ .

If these are distinct, the general solution of (\*) is

$$U^n = C_1 \xi_1^n + C_2 \xi_2^n + \dots + C_r \xi_r^n.$$

The values  $C_i$  are determined by the initial values  $U^0, U^1, \dots, U^{r-1}$ .

Note that  $p(1) = \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j = 0$

So 1 is always a root.

What if we have a multiple root of  $\xi$ ?

For example:

$$U^{n+2} - 2U^{n+1} + U^n = 0$$

$$\xi^2 - 2\xi + 1 = 0$$

$$(\xi - 1)^2 = 0$$

$$\xi_1 = \xi_2 = 1.$$

The general solution is

$$U^n = C_1 \xi_1^n + C_2 n \xi_1^n$$

Check that  $n1^n$  is a solution:

$$n+2 - 2(n+1) + n = 0$$

In general if  $\xi_j$  is a root of multiplicity  $m$ , then we have fundamental solutions  $\xi_j^n, n\xi_j^n, n^2\xi_j^n, \dots, n^{m-1}\xi_j^n$

The solution of (\*) is bounded as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  iff the roots of  $p(\xi)$  satisfy:

$$|\xi_j| \leq 1 \quad \forall j$$

$$|\xi_j| < 1 \quad \text{if } \xi_j \text{ is repeated}$$

"The root condition"

Thm.

For any IVP  
 $U'(t) = f(u)$   
 $u(t_0) = \eta$

with  $f$  Lipschitz continuous, a consistent LMM gives a convergent solution

$$\lim_{\substack{K \rightarrow 0 \\ NK=T}} \|U^N - u(t_N)\| = 0$$

if  $p(\xi)$  satisfies the root condition.

We could prove this by writing the LMM as a 1-step method.

$$V^n = \begin{bmatrix} U^n \\ U^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ U^{n+r-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad V^{n+1} = \begin{bmatrix} U^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ U^{n+r} \end{bmatrix}$$

We can write the LMM

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j U^{n+j} = k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(U^{n+j})$$

in vector form

$$V^{n+1} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & & \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & \ddots & 1 \\ -\alpha_0 & -\alpha_1 & -\alpha_2 & \dots & -\alpha_{r-1} \end{bmatrix}}_C V^n + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(U^{n+j}) \end{bmatrix}$$

(companion matrix)

$$E^{n+1} = (E^n + k \tau^n)$$

We need to bound  $\|C^n\|$ .

This is bounded iff the eigenvalues of  $C$  satisfy the root condition.

These are just the roots of  $p(\zeta)$ .

Why didn't we discuss zero-stability for one-step methods?

We have

$$U^{n+1} = U^n + \Psi(kf)$$

$$\underbrace{U^{n+1} - U^n}_{\sum \alpha_j U^{n+j}} = \Psi$$

$$\rho(\zeta) = \zeta - 1 \Rightarrow \zeta = 1.$$

All one-step methods are zero-stable.