

List of topics in this lecture

- L-stable Runge-Kutta methods, Diagonally Implicit RK methods, 2S-DIRK
 - L-stable LMM, Backward Difference Formula methods (BDF)
 - Construction of BDF, satisfying the second requirement of L-stability
 - Accuracy of a general LMM, condition for the p-th order accuracy
 - Two-point boundary value problem (BVP), shooting method
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Review of A-stability, L-stability

We apply the numerical method to solving model ODE $u' = \gamma u$.

Runge-Kutta methods:

$$u_{n+1} = \phi(z)u_n, \quad z = h\gamma \quad \text{for ODE } u' = \gamma u$$

$\phi(z)$ is called the stability function

Region of absolute stability:

$$S = \{z \in \mathbb{C} \mid |\phi(z)| < 1\}$$

A-stability:

$$|\phi(z)| < 1 \quad \text{for all } \operatorname{Re}(z) < 0$$

L-stability (two requirements)

- i) is A-stable; and
- ii) $\phi(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$

Necessary condition for A-stability:

An A-stable RK method must be implicit.

LMM (linear multi-step methods):

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u_{n+j} = h\gamma \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j u_{n+j}, \quad \alpha_r = 1 \quad \text{for ODE } u' = \gamma u$$

Characteristic polynomials:

$$\rho(\xi) \equiv \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j \xi^j, \quad \sigma(\xi) \equiv \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j \xi^j$$

If $\{u_k = \xi^k, k=0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ is a solution, then ξ satisfies $\rho(\xi) - z\sigma(\xi) = 0$.

Stability polynomial:

$$\pi(\xi, z) \equiv \rho(\xi) - z\sigma(\xi) \quad \xi: \text{independent variable}; \quad z: \text{parameter}$$

Region of absolute stability:

$$S = \left\{ z \in \mathbb{C} \mid \text{All roots of } \pi(\xi, z) \text{ satisfy } |\xi_j(z)| < 1 \right\}$$

A-stability:

$$\text{All roots of } \pi(\xi, z) \text{ satisfy } |\xi_j(z)| < 1 \text{ for all } \operatorname{Re}(z) < 0$$

L-stability (two requirements)

- i) is A-stable; and
- ii) all roots of $\pi(\xi, z)$ satisfy $\xi_j(z) \rightarrow 0$ as $z \rightarrow \infty$

Necessary condition for A-stability:

An A-stable LMM must be implicit.

End of review

So far, the only L-stable Runge-Kutta method we know is the backward Euler method, which has only the first-order accuracy.

We now introduce two L-stable Runge-Kutt methods that have higher orders.

L-stable Runge-Kutta methods

Diagonally Implicit Runge-Kutta methods (abbreviated as DIRK methods):

- Recall that “explicit RK” means:

$$a_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } j \geq i$$

That is, k_i depends only on k_1, \dots, k_{i-1} , but not on k_i, \dots, k_p .

$\{k_i\}$ is calculated sequentially, from k_1 to k_p . Each k_i is calculated explicitly without solving any equation.

- “Diagonally implicit RK” means:

$$a_{ij} = 0 \text{ for } j > i$$

That is, k_i depends on k_1, \dots, k_{i-1} and k_i , but not on k_{i+1}, \dots, k_p .

$\{k_i\}$ is calculated sequentially, from k_1 to k_p . The calculation of each k_i does require solving an equation. But the equation involves only k_i as the unknown. In particular, we don't need to solve a joint system involving k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p .

- “Fully implicit RK” means

a_{ij} may be non-zero for any i and j

$\{k_1, k_2, \dots, k_p\}$ needs to be solved simultaneously from a joint system.

A two-stage diagonally implicit Runge-Kutta (2S-DIRK):

The method is specified by the Butcher Tableau.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} c^T & A \\ \hline & b \end{array} = \begin{array}{c|cc} \alpha & \alpha & 0 \\ 1 & 1-\alpha & \alpha \\ \hline & 1-\alpha & \alpha \end{array}$$

where $0 < \alpha < 1$. It is a two-stage method. When $\alpha = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, it is second-order, A-stable, and L-stable (proof is in your homework).

A three-stage diagonally implicit Runge-Kutta (3S-DIRK):

The method is specified by the Butcher Tableau.

$$\begin{array}{c|c} c^T & A \\ \hline & b \end{array} = \begin{array}{c|ccc} \alpha & \alpha & 0 & 0 \\ \frac{1}{2}(1+\alpha) & \frac{1}{2}(1-\alpha) & \alpha & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{4}(-6\alpha^2+16\alpha-1) & \frac{1}{4}(6\alpha^2-20\alpha+5) & \alpha \\ \hline & \frac{1}{4}(-6\alpha^2+16\alpha-1) & \frac{1}{4}(6\alpha^2-20\alpha+5) & \alpha \end{array}$$

where $0 < \alpha < 1$. It is a three-stage method. When α is the root of $\alpha^3 - 3\alpha^2 + \frac{3}{2}\alpha - \frac{1}{6} = 0$ near $\alpha = 0.435867$, it is third-order, A-stable, and L-stable (proof not presented).

In the above, we got 2nd-order accuracy for using 2 stages and 3rd-order for 3 stages. If we want a 4th-order L-stable DIRK method, we need to use at least 5 stages.

Detailed necessary condition for L-stability of LMM

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u_{n+j} = h \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(u_{n+j}, t_{n+j}), \quad \alpha_r = 1$$

First of all, an L-stable method must be implicit. $\implies \beta_r \neq 0$.

We formulate a more detailed necessary condition for L-stability.

The stability polynomial is

$$\pi(\xi, z) \equiv \rho(\xi) - z\sigma(\xi) = (1 - z\beta_r)\xi^r + \sum_{j=0}^{r-1} (\alpha_j - z\beta_j)\xi^j, \quad \beta_r \neq 0$$

We divide the stability polynomial by $(1 - z\beta_r)$ and write it as

$$\frac{\pi(\xi, z)}{1 - z\beta_r} = \xi^r + \frac{\alpha_{r-1} - z\beta_{r-1}}{1 - z\beta_r} \xi^{r-1} + \frac{\alpha_{r-2} - z\beta_{r-2}}{1 - z\beta_r} \xi^{r-2} + \dots + \frac{\alpha_0 - z\beta_0}{1 - z\beta_r} \quad (\text{E01})$$

On the other hand, the normalized polynomial is expressed in terms of its roots

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi(\xi, z)}{1 - z\beta_r} &= \prod_{k=1}^r (\xi - \xi_k(z)) \\ &= \xi^r - \left(\sum_k \xi_k(z) \right) \xi^{r-1} + \left(\sum_{k_1, k_2} \xi_{k_1}(z) \xi_{k_2}(z) \right) \xi^{r-2} + \dots + (-1)^r \prod_{k=1}^r \xi_k(z) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E02})$$

Comparing the corresponding coefficients in (E01) and (E02), we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\alpha_{r-1} - z\beta_{r-1}}{1 - z\beta_r} &= - \left(\sum_k \xi_k(z) \right) \\ \frac{\alpha_{r-2} - z\beta_{r-2}}{1 - z\beta_r} &= \left(\sum_{k_1, k_2} \xi_{k_1}(z) \xi_{k_2}(z) \right) \\ &\dots \end{aligned} \quad (\text{E03})$$

...

Since the LMM is L-stable, all roots must satisfy

$$\xi_k(z) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow \infty$$

It follows that the LHS of (E03) must converge to 0 as $z \rightarrow \infty$.

$$\frac{\alpha_{r-j} - z\beta_{r-j}}{1 - z\beta_r} \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow \infty \quad \text{for } j \geq 1$$

$$\implies \beta_{r-j} = 0 \quad \text{for } j \geq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_r \neq 0$$

Therefore, β_r is the only non-zero coefficient in $\{\beta_{r-j}\}$.

We summarize this necessary condition for L-stability in the theorem below.

Theorem: (a detailed necessary condition for L-stability)

An L-stable LMM must have the form:

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u_{n+j} = h \beta_r f(u_{n+r}, t_{n+r}), \quad \beta_r \neq 0$$

Backward Difference Formula methods (BDF)

When β_r is the only non-zero coefficient on the RHS of an LMM, we set $\beta_r = 1$ (and rescind the constraint $\alpha_r = 1$). The LMM becomes

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u_{n+j} = h f(u_{n+r}, t_{n+r}), \quad \beta_r = 1$$

where coefficients $\{\alpha_j\}$ have been scaled to make $\beta_r = 1$, and in general, $\alpha_r \neq 1$.

LMMs of this form are called **Backward Difference Formula methods** (BDF).

Basic idea of constructing BDFs

Notation:

Let $p(t | \{g(t): t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+s}\})$ denote the polynomial interpolation of function $g(t)$ based on points $\{t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+s}\}$. With this concise notation, we can write out the construction of Adams methods in a simple way.

Recall that Adams-Bashforth and Adams-Moulton methods are based on integrating polynomial interpolation of $f(u(t), t)$.

r-step Adams-Bashforth:

$$u_{n+r} = u_{n+r-1} + \int_{t_{n+r-1}}^{t_{n+r}} p\left(t \left| \left\{ f(u(t), t): t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+r-1} \right\} \right.\right) dt$$

The interpolation is based on r points: $\{t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+r-1}\}$.

r-step Adams-Moulton: interpolation using $(r+1)$ points

$$u_{n+r} = u_{n+r-1} + \int_{t_{n+r-1}}^{t_{n+r}} p\left(t \left| \left\{ f(u(t), t): t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+r} \right\} \right.\right) dt$$

The interpolation is based on $(r+1)$ points: $\{t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+r}\}$.

BDF methods are based on differentiating polynomial interpolation of $u(t)$.

Formulation of r-step BDF (simply denoted by BDF-r or BDFr)

$$h \cdot \frac{d}{dt} p\left(t \left| \left\{ u(t): t_n, t_{n+1}, \dots, t_{n+r} \right\} \right.\right) \Big|_{t=t_{n+r}} = h f(u_{n+r}, t_{n+r})$$

Remarks:

- While Adams-Bashforth and Adams-Moulton methods are based on integrating the polynomial interpolation of $f(u(t), t)$, BDF methods are based on differentiating the polynomial interpolation of $u(t)$.
- The multiplier h is to make the coefficients on the LHS independent of h .

Polynomial interpolation over $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_m\}$

$$p(x) = \sum_{j=1}^m y_j p_j(x), \quad p_j(x) \equiv \prod_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \neq j}}^m \left(\frac{x - x_k}{x_j - x_k} \right)$$

Numerator of $p_j(x)$ = product of $(x - x_k)$ over index k , excluding $k = j$.

Denominator = (Numerator | $x=x_j$).

Examples of polynomial interpolations

Two points: $\{x_1 = -1, x_2 = 0\}$

$$p_1(x) = -x, \quad p_2(x) = x + 1$$

Three points: $\{x_2 = -2, x_1 = -1, x_3 = 0\}$

$$p_1(x) = \frac{x(x+1)}{2}, \quad p_2(x) = -x(x+2), \quad p_3(x) = \frac{(x+1)(x+2)}{2}$$

1-step BDF:

We map $\{t_n, t_{n+1}\}$ to $\{-1, 0\}$: $x = (t - t_{n+1})/h$.

Let $p(x)$ be the polynomial interpolation of $y(x)$ on $\{-1, 0\}$. We have

$$p'(x)|_{x=0} = y_1 p'_1(x)|_{x=0} + y_2 p'_2(x)|_{x=0} = y_1(-1) + y_2$$

We use the chain rule to differentiate the interpolation of $u(t)$ on $\{t_n, t_{n+1}\}$

$$\left. \frac{d}{dt} p\left(t \mid \{u(t): t_n, t_{n+1}\}\right) \right|_{t=t_{n+1}} = p'(x)|_{x=0} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{h}(-u_n + u_{n+1})$$

BDF1 (1-step BDF) is

$$h \cdot \frac{1}{h}(-u_n + u_{n+1}) = h f(u_{n+1}, t_{n+1})$$

$$\text{BDF1: } u_{n+1} - u_n = h f(u_{n+1}, t_{n+1})$$

This is the backward Euler method.

It is first order, A-stable, and L-stable.

2-step BDF:

We map $\{t_n, t_{n+1}, t_{n+2}\}$ to $\{-2, -1, 0\}$: $x = (t - t_{n+2})/h$.

Let $p(x)$ be the polynomial interpolation of $y(x)$ on $\{-2, -1, 0\}$. We have

$$\begin{aligned} p'(x)\Big|_{x=0} &= y_1 p'_1(x)\Big|_{x=0} + y_2 p'_2(x)\Big|_{x=0} + y_3 p'_3(x)\Big|_{x=0} \\ &= y_1 \frac{1}{2} + y_2(-2) + y_3 \frac{3}{2} \end{aligned}$$

We use the chain rule to differentiate the interpolation of $u(t)$ on $\{t_n, t_{n+1}, t_{n+2}\}$

$$\frac{d}{dt} p\left(t \mid \left\{u(t): t_n, t_{n+1}, t_{n+2}\right\}\right)\Bigg|_{t=t_{n+2}} = p'(x)\Big|_{x=0} \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{1}{h} \left(\frac{1}{2} u_n - 2u_{n+1} + \frac{3}{2} u_{n+2} \right)$$

BDF2 (2-step BDF) is

$$h \cdot \frac{1}{h} \left(\frac{3}{2} u_{n+2} - 2u_{n+1} + \frac{1}{2} u_n \right) = h f(u_{n+2}, t_{n+2})$$

$$\text{BDF2: } \frac{3}{2} u_{n+2} - 2u_{n+1} + \frac{1}{2} u_n = h f(u_{n+2}, t_{n+2})$$

Claim:

BDF2 is 2nd order, A-stable and L-stable.

Proof:

- The accuracy of a general LMM is discussed below.
- The region of absolute stability of BDF2 will be studied computationally in your homework. The analytical proof is beyond the scope of this course.
- The second requirement of L-stability is addressed in the theorem below.

Theorem:

All BDF methods satisfy the second requirement of L-stability.

Proof is presented in Appendix A.

Accuracy of LMM

For a general LMM (not just BDF methods), we use Taylor expansion around t_n to find the condition on coefficients for achieving the p -th order accuracy.

Condition for the p -th order accuracy:

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

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j j^k = k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j j^{(k-1)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, p$$

Derivation is presented in Appendix B.

Checking this condition on BDF2, we find that BDF2 is second order.

Below we list BDF1 through BDF4

BDF1:

$$u_{n+1} - u_n = h f(u_n, t_n)$$

1st order, L-stable.

BDF2:

$$\frac{3}{2}u_{n+2} - 2u_{n+1} + \frac{1}{2}u_n = h f(u_{n+2}, t_{n+2})$$

2nd order, L-stable.

BDF3:

$$\frac{11}{6}u_{n+3} - 3u_{n+2} + \frac{3}{2}u_{n+1} - \frac{1}{3}u_n = h f(u_{n+3}, t_{n+3}),$$

3rd order, almost A-stable (not exactly A-stable, Dahlquist second barrier);
therefore, it is almost L-stable.

BDF4:

$$\frac{25}{12}u_{n+4} - 4u_{n+3} + 3u_{n+2} - \frac{4}{3}u_{n+1} + \frac{1}{4}u_n = h f(u_{n+4}, t_{n+4})$$

4th order, not A-stable (Dahlquist second barrier).

For $r > 6$, r-step BDF is not zero-stable (and thus, is useless in applications!).

Two-point BVP (boundary value problem) of ODEs

Consider a second order ODE

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

To uniquely determine a solution, we need two conditions.

The two conditions may be in the form of both conditions at one end.

IVP with two initial conditions:

$$\begin{cases} u'' = f(u, u', t) \\ u(t_0) = u_0, \quad u'(t_0) = v_0 \end{cases}$$

We know how to solve this IVP numerically.

The two conditions may be in the form of one condition at each end.

Two-point BVP:

$$\begin{cases} u'' = f(u, u', t) \\ u(0) = \alpha, \quad u(T) = \beta \end{cases}$$

Now we discuss several approaches for solving the two-point BVP.

Shooting method:

The strategy:

i) We solve the IVP below numerically using an RK solver.

$$\begin{cases} u'' = f(u, u', t) \\ u(0) = \alpha \leftarrow \text{known / given} \\ u'(0) = v \leftarrow \text{a guess / a trial value} \end{cases}$$

ii) We calculate how well the boundary condition at the right end is satisfied.

$$G(v) \equiv \underbrace{u_N \Big|_{u'(0)=v}}_{\substack{\text{Solution at} \\ T=Nh}} - \beta$$

iii) We adjust v to make $G(v) = 0$.

The task: solving $G(v) = 0$

We notice some features of function $G(v)$:

- Evaluation of function $G(v)$ is computationally expensive.
- $G'(v)$ is not directly available.

Numerical tools for solving $G(v) = 0$

Option 1: we use Newton's method to solve $G(v) = 0$.

v_0 = initial guess

$$v_{n+1} = v_n - \frac{G(v_n)}{G'(v_n)}$$

Question: How to calculate $G'(v_n)$?

Answer: the second order numerical differentiation

$$G'(v_n) \approx \frac{G(v_n + h_v) - G(v_n - h_v)}{2h_v}$$

- It requires two additional evaluations of $G(v)$.
- This approximation is second order.
- Here h_v is not the same as time step h used in solving the IVP.

h_v is the step size in numerical differentiation.

- To minimize the total error, we should use

$$h_v \sim V \times 10^{-5}$$

where V is a typical value of v (magnitude of v).

We will discuss later the finite precision number representation system, machine precision, round-off error, and the total error.

If we want no additional evaluation of $G(v)$, we can recycle the function value from the previous iteration step and use the approximation

$$G'(v_n) \approx \frac{G(v_n) - G(v_{n-1})}{v_n - v_{n-1}}$$

The resulting iterative method is the secant method

Option 2: The secant method for solving $G(v) = 0$:

v_0, v_1 = two initial guesses

$$v_{n+1} = v_n - \frac{G(v_n)}{G(v_n) - G(v_{n-1})} (v_n - v_{n-1})$$

Appendix A: All BDF methods satisfy the second requirement of L-stability

Proof:

The characteristic polynomials are

$$\rho(\xi) = \alpha_r \xi^r + \alpha_{r-1} \xi^{r-1} + \dots + \alpha_1 \xi + \alpha_0, \quad \sigma(\xi) = \xi^r$$

The stability polynomial is

$$\pi(\xi, z) = \rho(\xi) - z \sigma(\xi) = (\alpha_r - z) \xi^r + \alpha_{r-1} \xi^{r-1} + \dots + \alpha_1 \xi + \alpha_0$$

Dividing by ξ^r , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\pi(\xi, z)}{\xi^r} &= (\alpha_r - z) + \alpha_{r-1} \frac{1}{\xi} + \dots + \alpha_1 \frac{1}{\xi^{(r-1)}} + \alpha_0 \frac{1}{\xi^r} \\ \Rightarrow \left| \frac{\pi(\xi, z)}{\xi^r} \right| &\geq |z| - |\alpha_r| - \left(|\alpha_{r-1}| \frac{1}{|\xi|} + \dots + |\alpha_1| \frac{1}{|\xi|^{(r-1)}} + |\alpha_0| \frac{1}{|\xi|^r} \right) \end{aligned}$$

For any $\varepsilon > 0$, there exists $R > 0$ (depending on ε) such that $|z| > R$ implies

$$\left| \frac{\pi(\xi, z)}{\xi^r} \right| > 0 \quad \text{for } |\xi| > \varepsilon$$

In other words, when $|z| > R$, all roots of $\pi(\xi, z)$ are inside the circle $|\xi| \leq \varepsilon$.

Therefore, we conclude that all roots of $\pi(\xi, z)$ satisfy

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} \xi_j(z) = 0$$

which is the second requirement of L-stability.

Appendix B: Condition for the p -th order accuracy of LMM

The general r -step LMM has the form

$$\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u_{n+j} = h \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(u_{n+j}, t_{n+j})$$

The local truncation error is

$$e_n(h) = \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j u(t_n + jh) - h \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j f(u(t_n + jh), t_n + jh)$$

We expand every term around t_n .

$$\begin{aligned}
 u(t_n + jh) &= u(t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{u^{(k)}(t_n)}{k!} j^k h^k + O(h^{p+1}) \\
 hf(u(t_n + jh), t_n + jh) &= hu'(t_n + jh) = h \left(\sum_{k=0}^{p-1} \frac{u^{(k+1)}(t_n)}{k!} j^k h^k + O(h^p) \right) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^p k \frac{u^{(k)}(t_n)}{k!} j^{(k-1)} h^k + O(h^{p+1})
 \end{aligned}$$

Substituting these expansions into $e_n(h)$, leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_n(h) &= \sum_{j=0}^r \left[\alpha_j u(t_n + jh) - \beta_j hf(u(t_n + jh), t_n + jh) \right] \\
 &= \sum_{j=0}^r \left[\alpha_j \left(u(t_n) + \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{u^{(k)}(t_n)}{k!} j^k h^k + \right) - \beta_j \sum_{k=1}^p k \frac{u^{(k)}(t_n)}{k!} j^{(k-1)} h^k + O(h^{p+1}) \right] \\
 &= u(t_n) \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j + \sum_{k=1}^p \frac{u^{(k)}(t_n)}{k!} h^k \left(\sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j j^k - k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j j^{(k-1)} \right) + O(h^{p+1})
 \end{aligned}$$

To achieve the p -th order, we need $e_n(h) = O(h^{p+1})$. In the expansion of $e_n(h)$, setting coefficients of h^k to zero for $k = 0, 1, \dots, p$, we arrive at

$$\begin{aligned}
 \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j &= 0 \\
 \sum_{j=0}^r \alpha_j j^k &= k \sum_{j=0}^r \beta_j j^{(k-1)}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, p
 \end{aligned}$$

This is the condition on coefficients for achieving the p -th order accuracy.