

# Advanced methods for ODEs

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## A) Runge-Kutta methods

# Improved Euler method

Reminder: Euler method

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + hg(x_k)$$

We can build a "more accurate" method by taking the gradient elsewhere

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{x}_k &= x_k + hg(x_k) \\ x_{k+1} &= x_k + hg(\tilde{x}_k).\end{aligned}$$

This is exactly the extra-gradient algorithm if we replace  $g(x(t))$  by  $-\nabla f(x(t))$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{x}_k &= x_k - h\nabla f(x_k) \\ x_{k+1} &= x_k - h\nabla f(\tilde{x}_k).\end{aligned}$$

However, we can potentially improve the scheme if we give more flexibility:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{x}_k &= x_k - a_{21}h\nabla f(x_k) \\ x_{k+1} &= x_k - h(b_1\nabla f(x_k) + b_2\nabla f(\tilde{x}_k)).\end{aligned}$$

"Improved" extra-gradient method:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{x}_k &= x_k - a_{21}h\nabla f(x_k) \\ x_{k+1} &= x_k - h(b_1\nabla f(x_k) + b_2\nabla f(\tilde{x}_k)).\end{aligned}$$

We can rewrite the algorithm in another way

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= -\nabla f(x_k) \\ k_2 &= -\nabla(x_k + a_{21}hk_1) \\ x_{k+1} &= x_k + h(b_1k_1 + b_2k_2)\end{aligned}$$

**Remark:** There are **two** oracle calls!

## Two-stages Runge-Kutta method (RK2)

$$k_1 = g(x_k)$$

$$k_2 = g(x_k + a_2 h k_1)$$

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h(b_1 k_1 + b_2 k_2)$$

Unlike Euler's method, Runge-Kutta methods use derivatives in the interior of the interval.

Intuition:

- The idea is to *explore* the domain with intermediate points,
- The intermediate slopes are the stages  $k_i$ ,
- The step is a linear combination (in fact, a weighted mean) of the  $k_i$  times  $h$ .

Recall: Implicit Euler method

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + hg(x_{k+1})$$

We can use the same trick as before:

$$k_1 = g(x_k + h(a_{11}k_1 + a_{12}k_2))$$

$$k_2 = g(x_k + h(a_{21}k_1 + a_{22}k_2))$$

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h(b_1k_1 + b_2k_2)$$

This is the most general two-stages RK method.

**Remark:** We need to solve a nonlinear system of equation of  **$2n$  variables!**

→ Not possible (in general) to solve the  $k_i$  independently.

## General Runke-Kutta method with $s$ stages (RKs)

$$k_i = g \left( x_k + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} k_j \right)$$
$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i k_i$$

If the method is explicit:

$$k_i = g \left( x_k + h \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij} k_j \right)$$
$$x_{k+1} = x_k + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i k_i$$



General RKs method:

$$k_i = g \left( x_k + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} k_j \right), \quad x_{k+1} = x_k + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i k_i$$

Butcher tableau (general representation of RKs method)

$a_{11}$	$a_{12}$	$\cdots$	$a_{1,s}$
$a_{21}$	$a_{22}$	$\cdots$	$a_{2,s}$
$\vdots$		$\ddots$	
$a_{s1}$	$a_{s2}$	$\cdots$	$a_{s,s-1}$
<hr/>			
$b_1$	$b_2$	$\cdots$	$b_s$

Case for explicit methods:

0				
$a_{21}$				
$a_{31}$	$a_{32}$			
$\vdots$	$\vdots$	$\ddots$		
$a_{s1}$	$a_{s2}$	$\cdots$	$a_{s,s-1}$	
<hr/>				
$b_1$	$b_2$	$\cdots$	$b_{s-1}$	$b_s$

Example: Butcher tableau for ODE45 (common function in Matlab for ODE)

$\frac{1}{5}$	0	0	0	0	0	0
$\frac{3}{40}$	$\frac{9}{40}$	0	0	0	0	0
$\frac{44}{45}$	$-\frac{56}{15}$	$\frac{32}{9}$	0	0	0	0
$\frac{19372}{6561}$	$-\frac{25360}{2187}$	$\frac{64448}{6561}$	$-\frac{212}{729}$	0	0	0
$\frac{9017}{3168}$	$-\frac{355}{33}$	$\frac{46732}{5247}$	$\frac{49}{176}$	$-\frac{5103}{18656}$	0	0
$\frac{35}{384}$	0	$\frac{500}{1113}$	$\frac{125}{192}$	$-\frac{2187}{6784}$	$\frac{11}{84}$	0
$\frac{35}{384}$	0	$\frac{500}{1113}$	$\frac{125}{192}$	$-\frac{2187}{6784}$	$\frac{11}{84}$	0
$\frac{71}{57600}$	0	$-\frac{71}{16695}$	$\frac{71}{1920}$	$-\frac{916280711922443}{18014398509481984}$	$\frac{22}{525}$	$-\frac{1}{40}$

The last line is the error estimator, used for adaptive stepsize.

## Consistency and order

The coefficients  $a_{ij}$  and  $b_i$  are computed in function of the desired order.

(Recall) A method has order  $p$  if

$$T(h) = \frac{1}{h}(x_1 - x(t_1)) = O(h^p) \quad \text{where } x_0 = x(t_0)$$

We thus need to compare the Taylor expansion of  $x_1$  and  $x(t_1)$ .

## Example: explicit RK2

Expansion of  $x(t_1)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}x(t_1) &= x_0 + h \frac{d}{dt} x(t_0) + \frac{h^2}{2} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} x(t_0) + O(h^3) \\&= x_0 + hg(x_0) + \frac{h^2}{2} \frac{d}{dt} g(x(t_0)) + O(h^3) \\&= x_0 + hg(x_0) + \frac{h^2}{2} \frac{d}{dx} g(x(t_0)) \frac{d}{dt} x(t_0) + O(h^3) \\&= x_0 + hg(x_0) + \frac{h^2}{2} \frac{d}{dx} g(x_0) g(x_0) + O(h^3)\end{aligned}$$

Expansion of  $x_1$ :

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= g(x_0) \\k_2 &= g(x_0 + ha_{21}k_1) = g(x_0 + ha_{21}g(x_0)) \\x_1 &= x_0 + h(b_1k_1 + b_2k_2)\end{aligned}$$

We only need to develop  $k_2$ :

$$k_2 = g(x_0) + ha_{21}g(x_0) \frac{d}{dx} g(x_0) + O(h^2)$$

Expansion of  $x(t_1)$ :

$$x(t_1) = x_0 + \textcolor{red}{h}g(x_0) + \frac{h^2}{2}g(x_0)\frac{d}{dx}g(x_0) + O(h^3)$$

Expansion of  $x_1$ :

$$k_1 = g(x_0)$$

$$k_2 = g(x_0) + ha_{21}g(x_0)\frac{d}{dx}g(x_0) + O(h^2)$$

$$x_1 = x_0 + h(b_1k_1 + b_2k_2)$$

$$= x_0 + \textcolor{red}{h}b_1g(x_0) + \textcolor{red}{h}b_2g(x_0) + \textcolor{blue}{b_2a_{21}}h^2g(x_0)\frac{d}{dx}g(x_0) + O(h^3)$$

The error becomes

$$x_1 - x(t_1) = (\textcolor{red}{b_1} + \textcolor{red}{b_2} - 1)hg(x_0) + \left(\textcolor{blue}{b_2a_{21}} - \frac{1}{2}\right)h^2g(x_0)\frac{d}{dx}g(x_0) + O(h^3)$$

To have an order 2 RK2 method, we need

$$b_1 + b_2 = 1$$

$$b_2a_{21} = \frac{1}{2}$$

## Runge-Kutta methods: summary

- Unlike Euler method, RK methods use derivatives inside the interval  $[t_k, t_{k+1}]$
- The stages  $k_i$  are the intermediates slopes in the interval
- The next iterate is a weighted mean of the  $k_i$
- The coefficients are computed in function of the desired pupose (e.g. high order of accuracy, good error estimator, ...)

## B) Linear multistep methods

# Linear multistep method and Nesterov's method

Idea of linear multistep methods: combine linearly previous evaluations of  $x_k$  and  $g(x_k)$ . General formulation of explicit  $s$ -steps methods:

$$x_k = \alpha_0 x_{k-s} + \alpha_1 x_{k-(s-1)} + \dots + \alpha_{s-1} x_{k-1} \\ + h \left( \gamma_0 g(x_{k-s}) + \gamma_1 g(x_{k-(s-1)}) + \dots + \gamma_{s-1} g(x_{k-1}) \right)$$

If the method is implicit,

$$x_k = \alpha_0 x_{k-s} + \alpha_1 x_{k-(s-1)} + \dots + \alpha_{s-1} x_{k-1} \\ + h \left( \gamma_0 g(x_{k-s}) + \gamma_1 g(x_{k-(s-1)}) + \dots + \gamma_{s-1} g(x_{k-1}) + \gamma_s g(x_k) \right)$$

Linear multistep methods are usually written into the following form:

$$\sum_{i=0}^s \alpha_{s-i} x_{k-i} = h \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_{s-i} g(x_{k-i})$$

Convention:  $\alpha_s = 1$ . If the method is explicit,  $\gamma_s = 0$ .



Nesterov's method for  $L$ -smooth,  $\mu$ -strongly convex functions:

$$\begin{aligned}y_{k+1} &= x_k - \frac{1}{L}f'(x_k) \\x_{k+1} &= y_{k+1} + \beta(y_{k+1} - y_k)\end{aligned}$$

where  $\beta = \frac{\sqrt{L}-\sqrt{\mu}}{\sqrt{L}+\sqrt{\mu}}$ . If we expand the recursion:

$$\begin{aligned}x_{k+1} &= (1 + \beta) \left( x_k - \frac{1}{L}f'(x_k) \right) - \beta \left( x_{k-1} - \frac{1}{L}f'(x_{k-1}) \right) \\&= (1 + \beta)x_k - \beta x_{k-1} - \frac{1}{L} \left( (1 + \beta)f'(x_k) - \beta f'(x_{k-1}) \right)\end{aligned}$$

It is exactly a linear multistep method with parameters

$$\begin{array}{lll}\alpha_2 = 1 & \alpha_1 = -(1 + \beta) & \alpha_0 = \beta \\h\gamma_2 = 0 & h\gamma_1 = \frac{1+\beta}{L} & h\gamma_0 = -\frac{\beta}{L}\end{array}$$

## Zero-stability

Zero-stability is simply the stability of the method when  $g(x) = 0$  (for any starting values  $x_i$ ). In the case of linear multistep methods, zero-stability condition is

$$\forall x_0, \dots, x_{s-1}, \quad \text{if } x_k = - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_{s-i} x_{k-i} \quad \text{then} \quad \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|x_k\| = 0.$$

For zero-stable methods the errors made in initial conditions fade over time.

The explicit solution of

$$x_k = - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_{s-i} x_{k-i}$$

is linked to the roots  $r_i$  of the polynomial

$$\rho(z) = \sum_{i=0}^s \alpha_i z^i$$

Assume all roots  $r_i$  of  $\rho(z)$  are distinct. For some constants  $m_i$ ,

$$x_k = \sum_{i=1}^s m_i r_i^k$$

We have thus a simple condition for zero-stability.

### Theorem

*A linear multistep method is zero stable if and only if the roots  $r_i$  of  $\rho(z)$  satisfy*

$$|r_i| < 1$$

## Consistency and order

Assume  $t_i = ih$  and

$$x_0 = x(t_0), x_1 = x(t_1), \dots, x_{s-1} = x(t_{s-1}).$$

Let  $x_s$  be computed using a linear multistep method. In that case, the truncation error is

$$T(h) = \frac{1}{h} (x(t_s) - x_s)$$

The coefficients  $\alpha_i$  and  $\gamma_i$  are computed, for example, in function of the desired order of accuracy.

Example: Method of order one.

Expansion of  $x(t_i)$  (Recall: constant stepsize implies  $t_i = i \times h$ ):

$$\begin{aligned}x(t_i) &= x(ih) = x_0 + ih \frac{d}{dt}x(t_0) + O(h^2) \\&= x_0 + ihg(x(t_0)) + O(h^2)\end{aligned}$$

Expansion of  $g(x(t_i))$ :

$$g(x(t_i)) = g(x_0) + O(h)$$

We can thus explicitly form  $x_s$ :

$$\begin{aligned}x_s &= - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i x(t_i) + h \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_i g(x(t_i)) \\&= - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i x_0 - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} i \alpha_i h g(x_0) + h \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_i g(x_0) \\&= - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i x_0 + h \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} (\gamma_i - i \alpha_i) g(x_0) + h \gamma_s g(x_0) + O(h^2)\end{aligned}$$

We can thus explicitly form  $x_s$ :

$$x_s = -\sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i x_0 + h \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} (\gamma_i - i\alpha_i) g(x_0) + \gamma_s g(x_0) + O(h^2)$$

We can plug it in the expression of  $T(h)$ :

$$\begin{aligned} T(h) &= \frac{1}{h} (x_s - x(t_s)) \\ &= \frac{1}{h} (x_s - x_0 - shg(x_0)) \\ &= \frac{1}{h} (x_s - \alpha_s x_0 - sh\alpha_s g(x_0)) \quad \text{because } \alpha_s = 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{h} \left( -\sum_{i=0}^s \alpha_i x_0 + h \sum_{i=0}^s (\gamma_i - i\alpha_i) g(x_0) \right) + O(h) \end{aligned}$$

## Theorem

*A linear multistep method*

- *is consistent if  $\sum_{i=0}^s \alpha_i = 0 \Leftrightarrow \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i = -1$ ,*
- *has order one if  $\sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_i = \sum_{i=0}^s i\alpha_i$ ,*
- *has order  $p$  if for all  $q = 1, \dots, p$ , we have  $\sum_{i=0}^s \frac{i^{q-1}}{(q-1)!} \gamma_i = \sum_{i=0}^s \frac{i^q}{q!} \alpha_i$ .*

## Theorem

*A linear multistep method*

- *is consistent if  $\sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i = -1$ .*

This condition is extremely important. Assume we already start at the solution of our problem, i.e.

$$x_0 = x^* = \arg \min_x f(x)$$

Assume  $\sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i \neq -1$ . Then  $x_s$  will be

$$\begin{aligned} x_s &= - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i x^* - h \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_i \underbrace{\nabla f(x^*)}_{=0} \\ &= \left( - \sum_{i=0}^{s-1} \alpha_i \right) x^* \\ &\neq x^* \end{aligned}$$

So our method will diverge even if we start at the optimum. In fact, the condition  $\sum_{i=0}^s \alpha_i = 0$  force the method to avoid multiplicative gain or damping.

## Runge-Kutta versus Linear Multistep Methods

- The number of oracle calls for one step is higher for RK methods than linear multistep methods,
- Estimation of the error  $T(h)$  for RK method is simpler than for linear multistep methods,
- RK methods are more flexible in the stepsize: we can change  $h$  at each iteration, but this is not possible for multistep methods,
- In general, analysis of RK method is simpler,
- RK method are less sensitive to initial conditions,
- Implicit RKs method requires solving a system of  $s \times n$  nonlinear equations, unlike linear multistep method (only a system of  $n$  nonlinear equations).



# Runge-Kutta versus Linear Multistep Methods (part two)

Usually, RK methods

- are used for short interval, i.e.  $[t_{\min}, t_{\max}]$  is "small",
- give accurate solution,
- are often explicit.

Linear multistep methods

- are used for large interval,
- can handle badly-conditioned problems
- are often implicit, but not always.

## C) Absolute Stability

# Region of absolute stability and $A$ -Stability

(Recall) Region of absolute stability and  $A$ -stability

## Definition

Assume  $x_k$  is generated by a specific integration method (with parameter  $h$ ) on the test problem

$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = \lambda x(t).$$

Then, the region of absolute stability is the set of value  $\lambda h \in \mathbb{Z}$  which makes

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \|x_k\| \neq \infty.$$

## Definition

A method is called  $A$ -stable when all values  $\lambda h : R(\lambda h) < 0$  is contained in the region of absolute stability.

We thus need to analyze Runge-Kutta method and linear multistep method when

$$g(x(t)) = \lambda x(t) \quad (\text{Solution is } x(t) = x_0 e^{\lambda t}).$$

# Region of absolute stability for RK methods

Example: two-stages explicit RK method.

$$\begin{aligned}k_1 &= g(x_0) \\ &= \lambda x_0\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}k_2 &= g(x_0 + a_{21}hk_1) \\ &= \lambda(x_0 + a_{21}\lambda hx_0) \\ &= x_0 (\lambda + a_{21}\lambda^2 h)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= x_0 + hb_1k_1 + hb_2k_2 \\ &= x_0 + b_1\lambda hx_0 + x_0 (b_2\lambda h + b_2a_{21}\lambda^2 h^2) \\ &= x_0 \underbrace{\left[1 + \lambda h (b_1 + b_2) + (\lambda h)^2 (b_2a_{21})\right]}_{=p(\lambda h)}\end{aligned}$$

$$x_1 = x_0 \underbrace{\left[1 + \lambda h (b_1 + b_2) + (\lambda h)^2 (b_2 a_{21})\right]}_{=p(\lambda h)}$$

We thus have

$$\|x_k\| \leq \|x_0\| |p(\lambda h)|^k$$

The region of absolute stability is thus the set

$$\left\{ \lambda h : |p(\lambda h)| \leq 1 \right\}$$

If we impose the method to have order 2, then  $b_1 + b_2 = 1$  and  $b_2 a_{21} = \frac{1}{2}$ :

$$p(\lambda h) = 1 + \lambda h + \frac{1}{2} \lambda^2 h^2$$

We can extend this idea to explicit order  $s$  RK methods:

$$p_s(\lambda h) = 1 + \lambda h + \frac{1}{2}(\lambda h)^2 + \dots + \frac{1}{s!}(\lambda h)^s$$

It is exactly the Taylor expansion of  $e^{\lambda h}$  (exact solution of the ODE).

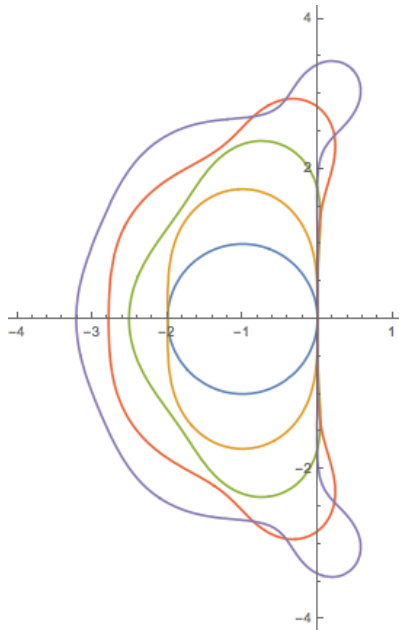


Figure: Region of absolute stability of some RK methods (order = 1, 2, ..., 5)

# Region of absolute stability for linear multistep methods

We have the recurrence

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^s \alpha_i x_{k-s+i} &= h \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_i g(x_{k-s+i}) \\ &= h \sum_{i=0}^s \gamma_i \lambda x_{k-s+i}\end{aligned}$$

In other words, we have a homogenous difference equation

$$\sum_{i=0}^s (\alpha_i - \lambda h \gamma_i) x_{k-s+i} = 0$$

We have a homogenous difference equation

$$\sum_{i=0}^s (\alpha_i - \lambda h \gamma_i) x_{k-s+i} = 0$$

We have that  $x_k$  is linked to the roots  $r_i$  of the polynomial

$$q_{\lambda h}(z) = \sum_{i=0}^s (\alpha_i - \lambda h \gamma_i) z^i$$

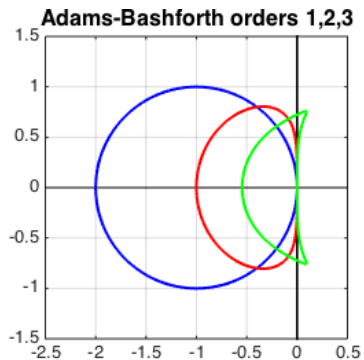
Assume all roots are distinct, we have for some constant  $m_j$

$$\|x_k\| \leq \|x_0\| \sum_{j=1}^s m_j |r_j(\lambda h)|^k$$

The region of absolute stability is thus defined by

$$\left\{ \lambda h : |r_j(\lambda h)| \leq 1 \right\}$$





**Figure:** Region of absolute stability of some linear multistep methods (order = 1, 2, 3)