



# Runge-Kutta Methods

# Runge-Kutta Methods



- Consider the typical IVP that you want to solve:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{y}} = \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{y}) \\ \mathbf{y}(0) = \mathbf{c} \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, b]$$

- The Runge-Kutta integration process is the sum of two tasks:
  - Task 1: compute the  $s$  stage values (the time consuming part):

$$\mathbf{Y}_i = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} \mathbf{f}(t_{n-1} + c_j h, \mathbf{Y}_j), \quad 1 \leq i \leq s$$

- Task 2: compute the solution at  $t_n$  (this is trivial...):

$$\mathbf{y}_n = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i \mathbf{f}(t_{n-1} + c_i h, \mathbf{Y}_i)$$

- Note that these two tasks are carried out at each integration time step  $t_1, t_2$ , etc.

# Runge-Kutta (RK) Methods



- Three sets of parameters together define a RK method:  $a_{ij}$ ,  $b_i$ , and  $c_i$ .
- The coefficients defining a RK method are given to you and typically grouped together in what's called **Butcher's Tableau**

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} c_1 & a_{11} & a_{12} & \dots & a_{1s} \\ c_2 & a_{21} & a_{22} & \dots & a_{2s} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_s & a_{s1} & a_{s2} & \dots & a_{ss} \\ \hline & b_1 & b_2 & \dots & b_s \end{array} = \frac{\mathbf{c}}{\mathbf{b}^T} \bigg| \begin{array}{c} A \end{array}$$



Professor John Butcher,  
New Zealand, awesome guy

- **A**, **b**, and **c** are defined to represent the corresponding blocks of Butcher's Tableau (see above)
- All properties of a RK scheme (stability, accuracy order, convergence order, etc.) are completely defined by the entries in **A**, **b**, and **c**
  - Nomenclature: number of stages  $s$  is defined by the number of rows in **A**



Example:

# Classical Fourth Order RK Method

$$\mathbf{Y}_i = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} \mathbf{f}(t_{n-1} + c_j h, \mathbf{Y}_j), \quad 1 \leq i \leq s$$
$$\mathbf{y}_n = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i \mathbf{f}(t_{n-1} + c_i h, \mathbf{Y}_i)$$

$$Y_1 = y_{n-1}$$

$$Y_2 = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2} f(t_{n-1}, Y_1)$$

$$Y_3 = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2} f(t_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2}, Y_2)$$

$$Y_4 = y_{n-1} + h f(t_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2}, Y_3)$$

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{6} \left( f(t_{n-1}, Y_1) + 2f(t_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2}, Y_2) + 2f(t_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2}, Y_3) + f(t_n, Y_4) \right)$$

- The Butcher Tableau representation looks like this:

0	0	0	0	0
1/2	1/2	0	0	0
1/2	0	1/2	0	0
1	0	0	1	0
	1/6	1/3	1/3	1/6

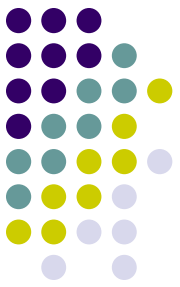
# Choosing $A$ , $b$ , and $c$ for an Explicit RK



- Purpose of this and next slide: point out how challenging it is to generate a good RK method
- Recall that it boils down to choosing the coefficients in  $A$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$
- It has been proved that given a number of stages “ $s$ ” that you accept to have in an explicit RK method, a limit on the order of the method “ $p$ ” ensues:

<b>s</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b>
<b>p</b>	1	2	3	4	4	5	6	6	7	7

# Choosing A, b, and c for RK



- Example:
  - \*Necessary\* conditions for an explicit method to have order 5
  - Notation used:  $\mathbf{C} = \text{diag}(c_1, \dots, c_s)$  and  $\mathbf{1} = (1, 1, \dots, 1)^T$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{C}^4 \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{5}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^3 \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{20}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{C} \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{30}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^4 \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{120}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{C}^2 \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{10}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C} \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{40}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{A}^2 \mathbf{C}^2 \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{60}$$

$$\mathbf{b}^T \mathbf{C} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{C}^2 \mathbf{1} = \frac{1}{15}$$

$$\sum_{i,j,k} b_i a_{ij} c_j a_{ik} c_k = \frac{1}{20}$$

- The number of \*necessary\* and \*sufficient\* conditions to **guarantee** a certain order for an RK method is as follows:

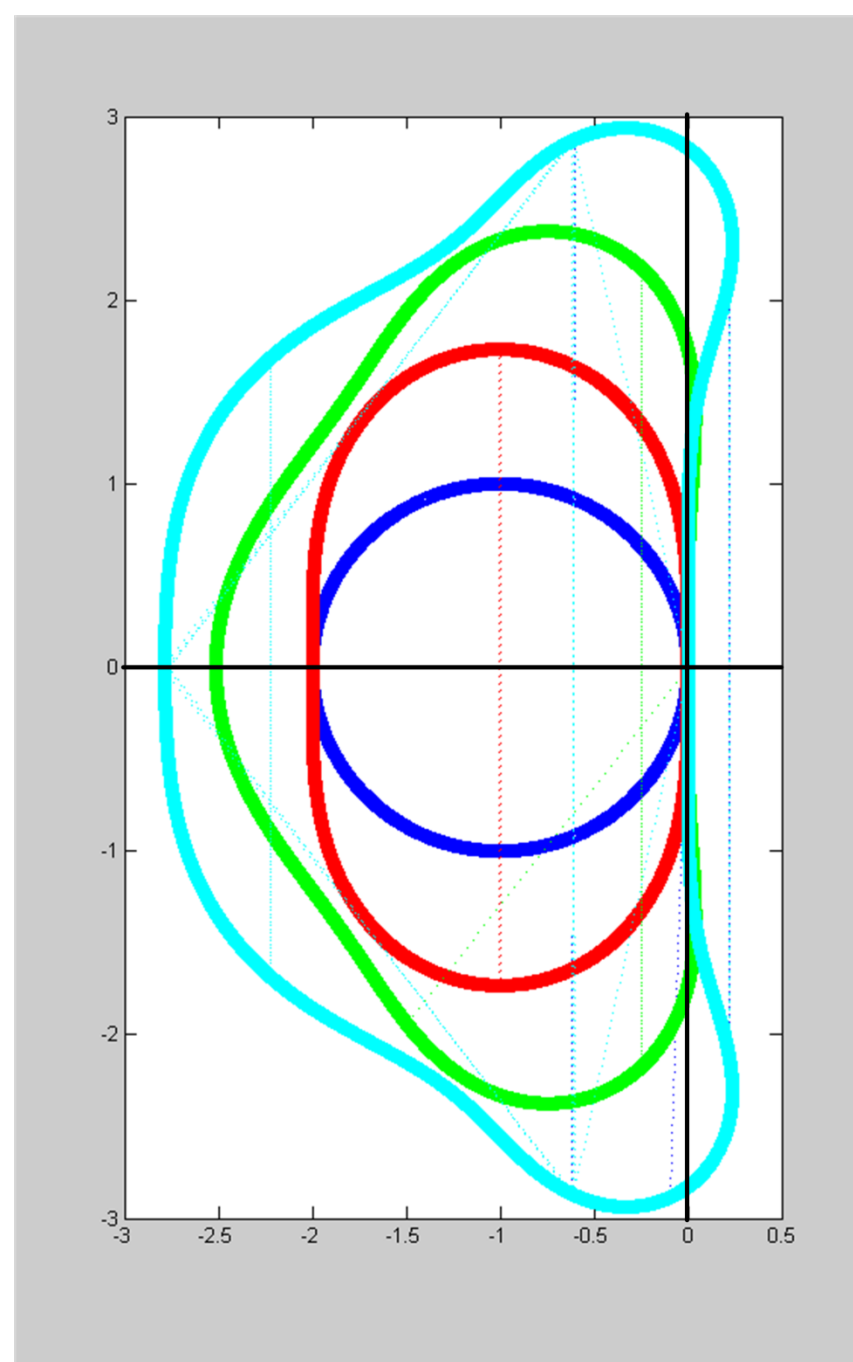
Order p	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
no. of conditions	1	2	4	8	17	37	85	200	486	1205

- Conclusion: Building a high-order RK is tricky...

# Absolute Stability Regions

- Plots report absolute stability regions for explicit RK methods with  $s$  stages and of order  $p=s$ , for  $s=1,2,3,4$ 
  - Blue:  $s=1$
  - Red:  $s=2$
  - Green:  $s=3$
  - Cyan:  $s=4$
- Methods are stable inside the curves
- Absolute stability region given by

$$\left| 1 + h\lambda + \frac{(h\lambda)^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{(h\lambda)^p}{p!} \right| \leq 1$$
$$p = 1, \dots, 4$$



# Absolute Stability Regions [Cntd.]



- MATLAB script to generate the fourth order abs-stability region (cyan):

```
th=0:0.001:2*pi;
a=zeros(4,length(th));
for k=1:length(th)
    c=[1./24. 1./6. 0.5 1 1-exp(i*th(k))];
    a(:,k)=roots(c);
end

hold on
plot(a(1,:), 'co:')
plot(a(2,:), 'co:')
plot(a(3,:), 'co:')
plot(a(4,:), 'co:')
hold off
```



# Exercise



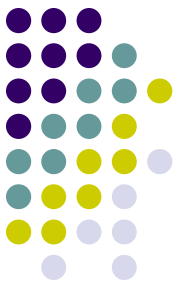
- Generate the Convergence Plot of the fourth order RK provided a couple of slides ago for the following IVP:

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \dot{x} = x - y \\ \dot{y} = 4x - 3y \\ x(0) = y(0) = 1 \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, 4]$$

- Note that the exact solution of this IVP is:

$$x(t) = (t + 1)e^{-t}$$
$$y(t) = (2t + 1)e^{-t}$$

# RK Method, A Different Possibility to Advance the Numerical Solution



- Recall that in stage “i” of the s stage approach, we generated a value  $Y_i$ . We call this approach “y-flavored”:

- First, for each of the s stages,

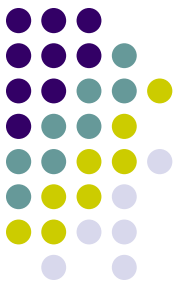
$$\mathbf{Y}_i = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} \mathbf{f}(t_{n-1} + c_j h, \mathbf{Y}_j), \quad 1 \leq i \leq s$$

- Next, a combination of these stage values leads to the solution at  $t_n$ :

$$\mathbf{y}_n = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i \mathbf{f}(t_{n-1} + c_i h, \mathbf{Y}_i)$$

- A different approach can be followed, this is “f-flavored”
  - It approximates derivatives at each stage rather than values y
  - See next slide...

# RK Method, A Different Possibility to Advance the Numerical Solution



- At each of the  $s$  stages of the RK method, you need to figure out  $\mathbf{F}_i$ :

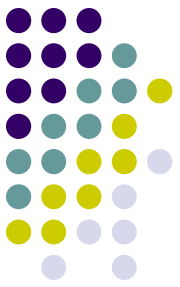
$$\mathbf{F}_i = f \left( t_{n-1} + c_i h, \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{ij} \mathbf{F}_j \right), \quad 1 \leq i \leq s$$

- Once the stage values are available, the solution is computed as

$$\mathbf{y}_n = \mathbf{y}_{n-1} + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i \mathbf{F}_i$$

- Personally, I find the f-flavor better than the y-flavor implementation

# RK Method, A Different Possibility to Advance the Numerical Solution

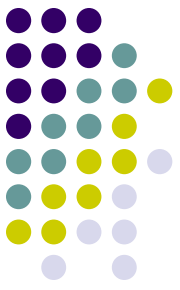


- Exercise: show that the f-flavor is easily obtained from the y-flavor by using an appropriate notation.

# Exercises



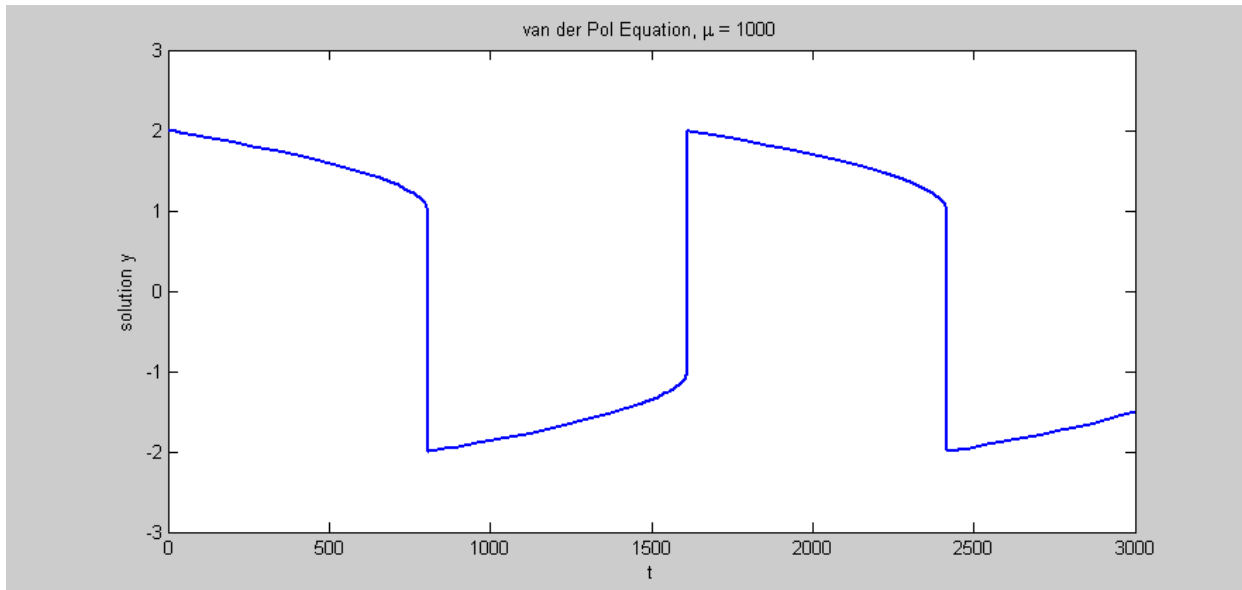
- Note that Forward Euler, Backward Euler, and Trapezoidal Formula can all be considered as belonging to the RK family
  - Provide the Butcher Tableau representation for Forward Euler
  - Provide the Butcher Tableau representation for Backward Euler
  - Provide the Butcher Tableau representation for the Trapezoidal Formula



# Integration Error Control

- The problem: imagine a dynamic system that varies rapidly every once in a while, but the remaining time is very tame
  - Example: solution of the van der Pole IVP

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} + \mu(y^2 - 1) \frac{dy}{dt} + y = 0 \\ y(0) = 2 \quad \& \quad \dot{y}(0) = 0 \end{cases}$$



```
tspan = [0, 3000];  
y0 = [2; 0];  
Mu = 1000;  
ode = @(t,y) vanderpoldemo(t,y,Mu);  
[t,y] = ode15s(ode, tspan, y0);
```

```
plot(t,y(:,1))  
title('van der Pol Equation, \mu = 1000')  
axis([0 3000 -3 3])  
xlabel('t')  
ylabel('solution y')
```

# Integration Error Control



- If you don't adjust the integration step-size  $h$  you are forced to work during the entire simulation with a very conservative value of  $h$ 
  - Basically, you have to work with that value of  $h$  that can negotiate the high transients
  - This would be for almost the entire simulation a waste of resources
- Basic Idea:
  - When you have high transients, reduce  $h$  to make sure you are ok
  - When the dynamics is tame, increase the value of  $h$  and sail quickly through these intervals
- On what should you base the selection of the step size  $h$ ?
  - On the value of local error
  - It would be good to be able to use the actual error, but that's impossible to do

# Integration Error Control: The Details



- In the end, we need a mechanism that tries to guarantee that the local error at each time step stays below a user-prescribed threshold value
- Computing the threshold value
  - Draws on two values specified by the user: absolute tolerance ATOL and relative tolerance RTOL (think of these as allowances)
  - If dealing with an  $m$ -dimensional problem, threshold value  $\xi_i$  for component “ $i$ ” of solution  $\mathbf{y}$  is computed as

$$\xi_i = ATOL_i + \max(\mathbf{y}[i]_{n-1}, \mathbf{y}[i]_n) \cdot RTOL_i$$

- The key observation: the entire error control effort concentrates on keeping an \*approximation\* of the local error at  $t_n$  smaller than  $\xi$

$$|\mathbf{l}[i]_n| \leq \xi_i$$



# Integration Error Control: The Details



- What's left at this point is to somehow provide an approximation of the local error  $\mathbf{l}[i]_n$  at time step  $t_n$
- To get  $\mathbf{l}[i]_n$ , you produce a \*second\* approximation of the solution at  $t_n$ , and you pretend that that second solution is the actual solution (kind of funny). Then you can get an approximation of the local error:

$$| \mathbf{y}[i]_n - \hat{\mathbf{y}}[i]_n | \leq \xi_i$$

- Here we had:
  - $\mathbf{y}[i]_n$  – the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component of the solution approximation  $\mathbf{y}_n$  at  $t_n$ .
  - $\hat{\mathbf{y}}[i]_n$  – the  $i^{\text{th}}$  component of the solution approximation  $\hat{\mathbf{y}}_n$  at  $t_n$ . This is the second approximation, of higher order, considered to be the ‘reference’ solution used in computing the local error.

# Integration Error Control: The Details



- A measure of the acceptability “a” of the solution given the user prescribed tolerance is obtained as

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{1}{m} \sum_{i=1}^m \left( \frac{\mathbf{y}[i]_n - \hat{\mathbf{y}}[i]_n}{\xi_i} \right)^2}$$

- Note that asymptotically, since the method we use is assumed to be order p, we have for v that (K is an unknown constant):

$$a \approx K \cdot h^{p+1}$$

- Note that any reading  $a \leq 1$  indicates an acceptable situation
- Otherwise, if  $a > 1$ , it's an indication that the quality of the solution does not meet the user prescribed tolerance
  - If this is the case, the step size should be decreased,  $y_n$  is rejected and it's to be computed again...

# Integration Error Control: The Details



- Summary of possible scenarios
  - Step-size is too small, you are being way more accurate than the user needs  
 $a \ll 1$
  - Step-size is exactly where you want it to be, acceptability is on the margin  
 $a \approx 1$  but  $a \leq 1$
  - Step-size is too large, you are too aggressive and this leads to local errors that are exceeding the user specified tolerance

$$a > 1$$

# Integration Error Control: The Details



- Finally, how do you choose the optimal step-size  $h_{opt}$ ?

- You want to be in the sweet spot, acceptability is 1.0

- The step-size is chosen to meet this requirement:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} a \approx K \cdot h^{p+1} \\ 1 \approx K \cdot h_{opt}^{p+1} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow h_{opt} = h \cdot \left( \frac{1}{a} \right)^{\frac{1}{p+1}}$$

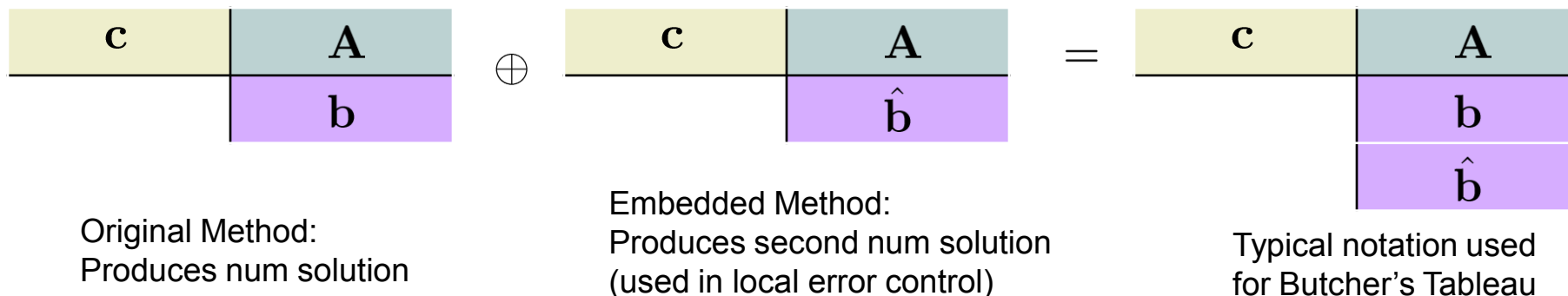
- Because there was some hand waving involved and these arguments are in general true only asymptotically, one usually uses a safety factor  $s=0.9$  to play it conservatively. Then the new step size is chosen as

$$h_{opt} = s \cdot h \cdot \left( \frac{1}{a} \right)^{\frac{1}{p+1}}$$

# Integration Error Control: The “Embedded Method”



- How do you usually get the second approximate solution?
- The idea is to use the same stage values you produce to generate the first solution
- In other words, use the same  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{c}$ , but change only  $\mathbf{b}$
- When using Butcher’s Tableau, this is captured by adding a new row for the new values of  $\hat{\mathbf{b}}$ :



# Example 1: RK Embedded Methods



- The Fehlberg 4(5) pair
  - Empty cells have a zero in them

0						
1/4	1/4					
3/8	3/32	9/32				
12/13	1932/2197	-7200/2197	7296/2197			
1	439/216	-8	3680/513	-845/4104		
1/2	-8/27	2	-3544/2565	1859/4104	-11/40	
	25/216	0	1408/2565	2197/4104	-1/5	0
	16/135	0	6656/12825	28561/56430	-9/50	2/55

# Example 2: RK Embedded Methods



- The Dormand-Prince 4(5) pair
  - Empty cells have a zero in them
  - This is what's used in MATLAB as the default for the ODE45 solver

0							
1/5	1/5						
3/10	3/40	9/40					
4/5	44/45	-56/15	32/9				
8/9	19372/6561	-25360/2187	64448/6561	-212/729			
1	9017/3168	-355/33	46732/5247	49/176	-5103/18656		
1	35/384	0	500/1113	125/192	-2187/6784	11/84	
	5179/57600	0	7571/16695	393/640	-92097/339200	187/2100	1/40
	35/384	0	500/1113	125/192	-2187/6784	11/84	0

# Explicit vs. Implicit RK



- One can immediately figure out whether a RK method is explicit or implicit by simply inspecting Butcher's Tableau
- If the  $\mathbf{A}$  matrix has nonzero entries on the diagonal or in the upper triangular side, the method is implicit
- Implicit RK methods belong to several subfamilies
  - Gauss methods
    - They are maximum order methods: for  $s$  stages, you get order  $2s$  (as good as it gets)
  - Radau methods
    - Attain order  $2s-1$  for  $s$  stages
  - Lobatto methods
    - Attain order  $2s-2$  for stages



# Examples, Implicit RK Methods



- Members of the Gauss subfamily

1/2	1/2
	1

Implicit Midpoint  
s=1, p=2

$\frac{3-\sqrt{3}}{6}$	1/4	$\frac{3-2\sqrt{3}}{12}$
$\frac{3+\sqrt{3}}{6}$	$\frac{3+2\sqrt{3}}{12}$	1/4
	1/2	1/2

No name, s=2, p=4

- Members of the Radau subfamily

1	1
	1

Backward Euler  
s=1, p=1

1/3	5/12	-1/12
1	3/4	1/4
	3/4	1/4

No name, s=2, p=3

- Members of the Lobatto subfamily

0	0	0
1	1/2	1/2
	1/2	1/2

Trapezoidal Method  
s=2, p=2

0	0	0	0
1/2	5/24	1/3	0
1	1/6	2/3	1/6
	1/6	2/3	1/6

No name, s=3, p=4

# Implicit RK Methods: Implementation Issues



- Implicit RK methods are notoriously hard to implement
- Suppose you have an IVP where the dimension of the unknown function is  $m$ :

$$\mathbf{y}(t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$$

- Then, the dimension of the nonlinear system that you have to solve at each time step is of an  $s$ -stage implicit RK method is  $s*m$
- This is a serious drawback
  - A lot of research goes into parallelizing this process: rather than solving one nonlinear system of dimension  $s*m$ , the idea is to solve  $s$  systems of dimension  $m$
  - This is still not that impressive, to be compared to the effort in multistep methods (to be covered shortly...)

# Exercise



- Consider the van der Pol IVP, which is to be solved using the order 3 Radau formula
- Write down the nonlinear system of equations that one has to solve when advancing the simulation by one time step  $h$ 
  - Use the F-flavor representation of the RK method

# Diagonal Implicit RK Methods (DIRK Methods)



- One immediate way to decouple the large nonlinear system and have  $s$  systems of dimension  $m$  is to use diagonal implicit RK methods
  - Called DIRK methods
  - If *all* the diagonal entries in the  $A$  matrix are the same, then the method is called SDIRK (singly diagonal implicit RK) method
  - Note that for SDIRK, each of the  $s$  decoupled nonlinear systems have the same iteration matrix (Jacobian is the same)
- Example, SDIRK methods
  - Backward Euler
  - Also the following two look good...

$$\gamma = \frac{3 + \sqrt{3}}{6}$$

$\gamma$	$\gamma$	0
$1 - \gamma$	$1 - 2\gamma$	$\gamma$
	$1/2$	$1/2$

$s=2, p=3$

$$\gamma = \frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$\gamma$	$\gamma$	0
1	$1 - \gamma$	$\gamma$
	$1 - \gamma$	$\gamma$

$s=2, p=2$

# RK and Stiff Decay



- Stiff Decay is also called in the literature L-stability
- There is a theorem that provides sufficient conditions for stiff decay of a RK method
- Specifically, the following are sufficient conditions for stiff decay
  - A matrix is nonsingular, and
  - The last row of the  $\mathbf{A}$  matrix is identical to  $\mathbf{b}^T$
- Example, SDIRK with stiff decay:

$$\gamma = \frac{2 - \sqrt{2}}{2}$$

$\gamma$	$\gamma$	0
1	$1 - \gamma$	$\gamma$
	$1 - \gamma$	$\gamma$

$$s=2, p=2$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Last row of } \mathbf{A} : [1 - \gamma \quad \gamma] \\ \text{Vector } \mathbf{b}^T : [1 - \gamma \quad \gamma] \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \text{L-stability}$$



# RK Methods – Final Thoughts

- Explicit RK relatively straight forward to implement
- Implicit RK are challenging to implement due to the large nonlinear system that ensues discretization
- This family of methods is well understood
  - Reliable
  - On the expensive side in terms of computational effort (for each time step, you have to do multiple function evaluations)
- Things of interest that we didn't cover
  - Estimation of global error
  - Stiffness detection
  - Sensitivity to data perturbations (sensitivity analysis)
  - Symplectic methods for Hamiltonian systems

# Exercises



- Problem 4.8 – tricky at times
- Problem 4.12 – deals with step-size control for a sun-earth problem
- Example 4.6: use MATLAB to generate an approximate solution of the IVP therein. The solution is  $y(t)=\sin(t)$ . If the approximate MATLAB solution doesn't look good, try to tinker with MATLAB or implement your own numerical scheme to solve the problem



# **New Topic: Linear Multistep Methods**



# Multistep vs. RK Methods



- Fewer function evaluations per time step
- Simpler, more streamlined method design
  - Recall the table with number of conditions that the RK method coefficients had to satisfy to be guaranteed a certain order for the RK method
- Error estimation and order control are much simpler
  - In fact, order control (the ability to change the order of the method on the fly) is something that is not typically done for RK
  - Order control is very common for Multistep Methods
- On the negative side
  - There is high overhead when changing the integration step-size
  - Loses some of the flexibility of one RK methods (there you had many parameters to adjust, not that much the case for Multistep methods)
  - More simpleton in nature than their sophisticated RK cousins

# Review of Framework



- Interested in finding a function  $\mathbf{y}(t)$  over an interval  $[0, b]$
- This  $m$ -dimensional function  $\mathbf{y}(t)$  must satisfy the following IVP:

$$\begin{cases} \dot{\mathbf{y}} &= \mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{y}) \\ \mathbf{y}(0) &= \mathbf{c} \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, b]$$

- We assume that  $\mathbf{f}$  is bounded and smooth, so that  $\mathbf{y}$  exists, is unique, and smooth
- Given to you:
  - The constants  $\mathbf{c}$  and  $\mathbf{b}$
  - The function  $\mathbf{f}(t, \mathbf{y})$ .

# Multistep Methods - Nomenclature



- Notation used:
  - $y_i$  represents an approximation at time  $t_i$  of the actual solution  $\mathbf{y}(t_i)$
  - $f_i$  represents the value of the function  $f$  evaluated at  $t_i$  and  $y_i$
- We work with \*multistep\* methods. We'll use  $k$  to represent the number of steps in a particular Multistep method
- The general form of a Multistep method (M-method) is as follows

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \mathbf{y}_{n-j} = h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \mathbf{f}_{n-j}$$

- $\alpha_j$  and  $\beta_j$  are coefficients specific to each M method

# Examples - Multistep Methods



- General Form:

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \mathbf{y}_{n-j} = h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \mathbf{f}_{n-j}$$

- BDF method

$$y_n - \frac{4}{3}y_{n-1} + \frac{1}{3}y_{n-2} = \frac{2}{3}hf(t_n, y_n)$$

- Adams-Bashforth method

$$y_n - y_{n-1} = \frac{h}{12}(23f_{n-1} - 16f_{n-2} + 5f_{n-3})$$

- Adams-Moulton method

$$y_n - y_{n-1} = \frac{h}{12}(5f_n + 8f_{n-1} - f_{n-2})$$

# M Methods: Further Remarks



- To eliminate arbitrary scaling, it is assumed that

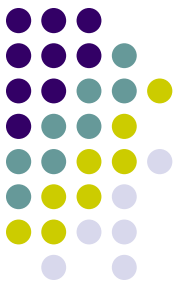
$$\alpha_0 = 1$$

- To truly talk about a k-step method, it is also assumed that

$$|\alpha_k| + |\beta_k| \neq 0$$

- Note that if  $\beta_j=0$  the method is explicit. Otherwise, it is implicit
- Finally, note that the step size over the last k integration step is assumed constant
  - This is going to give some headaches later on when you actually want to change the step size on the fly to control error

# Quick One Slide Review: Local Truncation Error, Forward Euler



- Consider how the solution is obtained:

$$\frac{y_n - y_{n-1}}{h} - f(t_{n-1}, y_{n-1}) = 0$$

- Note that in general, if you stick the actual solution in the equation above it is not going to be satisfied:

$$\frac{y(t_n) - y(t_{n-1})}{h} - f(t_{n-1}, y(t_{n-1})) \neq 0$$

- By definition, the quantity above is called the truncation error and is denoted by

$$\mathcal{N}(y, t, h) = \frac{y(t_n) - y(t - h)}{h} - f(t - h, y(t - h))$$

- Note that this depends on the function ( $y$ ), the point where you care to evaluate the truncation error ( $t_n$ ), and the step size used ( $h$ )

# The Local Truncation Error: Multistep Methods



- Consider the linear operator (assume  $y$  is scalar function, for simplicity of notation)

$$\mathcal{L}(y, t, h) = \sum_{j=0}^k [\alpha_j y(t - jh) - \beta_j \dot{y}(t - jh)]$$

- Equivalently, since  $y$  is the exact solution of the IVP,



- Then it follows that

$$\mathcal{N}(\mathbf{y}, t, h) = \frac{\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{y}, t, h)}{h}$$

- Or, in other words, the local truncation error is

$$d_n = h^{-1} \mathcal{L}(y, t_n, h)$$

# M Methods: Order Conditions



- Recall that by definition a method is accurate of order  $p$  if

$$d_n = \mathcal{O}(h^p)$$

- To assess the order of  $d_n$ , carry out a Taylor expansion of  $y(t - jh)$  and  $\dot{y}(t - jh)$ 
  - This to be done for  $j=0, \dots, k$ , then collect terms to obtain the following representation of the linear operator

$$\mathcal{L}(y, t, h) = C_0 y(t) + C_1 h \dot{y}(t) + \dots + C_q h^q y^{(q)}(t) + \dots$$

- Then, we get the following
  - The M method is accurate of order  $p$  if and only if

$$C_0 = C_1 \dots = C_p = 0, \quad C_{p+1} \neq 0$$

- The local truncation error  $d_n$  is expressed as

$$d_n = C_{p+1} h^p y^{(p+1)}(t_n) + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+1})$$



# M Methods: Order Conditions



- From the Taylor series expansions, one can obtain in a straightforward fashion that

$$C_0 = \sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j$$

$$C_i = (-1)^j \left[ \frac{1}{i!} \sum_{j=1}^k j^i \alpha_j + \frac{1}{(i-1)!} \sum_{j=0}^k j^{i-1} \beta_j \right], \quad i = 1, 2, \dots$$

- Nomenclature:
  - When the order is  $p$ , then  $C_{p+1}$  is called the error constant of the method
  - Obviously, one would like a method that has  $C_{p+1}$  as small as possible

# Exercises



- Proof that the expression of  $C_i$  on the previous slide is correct
- Pose the Forward Euler method as a M method and verify its order conditions (should be order 1)
- Pose the Backward Euler method as a M method and verify its order conditions (should be order 1)
- Pose the Trapezoidal method as a M method and verify its order conditions (should be order 2)

# Quick Review: Order “p” Convergence



- Theorem:

Consistency + 0-stability  $\Rightarrow$  Convergence

- Some more specifics:
  - If the method is accurate of order  $p$  and 0-stable, then it is convergent of order  $p$ :

$$e_n = \mathcal{O}(h^p), \quad n = 1, 2, \dots, N$$

# M Methods: Convergence Results



- We saw what it takes for a M method to have a certain accuracy order
- What's left is to prove 0-stability
- The concept of characteristic polynomial comes in handy:

$$\rho(\xi) = \sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \xi^{k-j}$$

- Note that for the k stage M method, the characteristic polynomial only depends on  $\alpha_j$

# M Methods: The Root Condition



- We provide without proof the following condition for a M-method to be 0-stable (the “root condition”)
  - Let  $\xi_i$  be the  $k$  roots of the characteristic polynomial. That is,

$$\rho(\xi_i) = \sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \xi_i^{k-j} = 0$$

- Then, the M-method is 0-stable if and only if
  - $|\xi_i| \leq 1$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, k$
  - In case  $|\xi_i| = 1$ , then  $\xi_i$  is a simple root (has multiplicity one)

# M Methods: Convergence Criterion



- An M-method is convergent to order  $p$  if the following conditions hold:
  - The root condition holds
  - The method is accurate to order  $p$
  - The initial values required by the  $k$ -step method are accurate to order  $p$
- Exercise:
  - Identify the convergence order of the Forward Euler, Backward Euler, and Trapezoidal Methods

# M Methods: Exercise, Root Condition



- Consider the following M-method:

$$y_n = -4y_{n-1} + 5y_{n-2} + h(4f_{n-1} + 2f_{n-2})$$

- What is the accuracy order of the method?
- Does the method satisfy the root condition?
- Use the M-method above to find the solution of the simple IVP

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \dot{y} = 0 \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, 10]$$

- For the M-method, take  $y_0 = 0$  &  $y_1 = \epsilon$ .

# The Root Condition: Further Comments



- Exercise: Generate the convergence plot for Milne's method...

$$y_n = y_{n-2} + \frac{1}{3}h(f_n + 4f_{n-1} + f_{n-2})$$

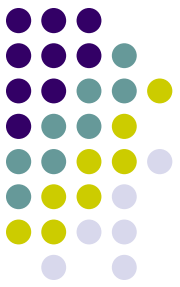
- ... in conjunction with the following IVP:

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \dot{y} = -10y \\ y(0) = 1 \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, 10]$$

- Compute the starting points using the exact solution of the above IVP



# Short Side Trip: Difference Equations



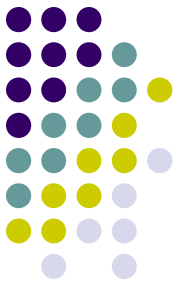
- Difference equations, the framework
  - Someone gives you  $k$  initial values  $x_0, \dots, x_{k-1}$
  - You find the next value  $x_k$  by solving a “difference equation”:

$$a_0 x_n + a_1 x_{n-1} + \dots + a_k x_{n-k} = 0$$

- It's obvious that the value of  $x_n$  is uniquely defined once you have the first  $k$  values
- How can we compute this unique value  $x_n$  yet not explicitly reference the first  $k$  values?
- Trick used: assume the following expression for  $x_n$ :  $x_n = \xi^n$
- This choice of the expression of  $x_n$  leads to the following equation that must be satisfied by  $\xi$  (typically called Characteristic Equation)

Characteristic Equations:  $a_0 \xi^k + a_1 \xi^{k-1} + \dots + a_k = 0$

# Short Side Trip: Difference Equations [Cntd.]



- Characteristic Equation (CE):

- Has degree  $k$
- Has  $k$  roots (might be distinct or multiple roots amongst them):  $\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_k$
- Exercise: show that the value of  $x_n$  can be expressed as (assume no multiple roots)

$$x_n = c_1 \xi_1^n + c_2 \xi_2^n + \dots + c_k \xi_k^n = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \xi_i^n$$

- Expression of  $x_n$  gets slightly more complicated for multiple roots:

- Double root (say  $\xi_1 = \xi_2$ ):

$$x_n = (c_{11} + c_{21}n) \xi_1^n + \sum_{i=3}^k c_i \xi_i^n$$

- Triple root (say  $\xi_1 = \xi_2 = \xi_3$ ):

$$x_n = [c_{11} + c_{21}n + c_{31}n(n-1)(n-2)] \xi_1^n + \sum_{i=4}^k c_i \xi_i^n$$

**NOTE:** This Difference Equations theory relevant when looking into absolute stability

# Absolute Stability [quick review]



- The process used to find out the region of absolute stability
  - We started with the test problem

$$\begin{cases} \dot{y} &= \lambda y \\ y(0) &= 1 \end{cases}$$

- We required that for the test problem, the numerical approximation should behave like the exact solution. That is, we required that

$$|y_n| \leq |y_{n-1}|$$

- Used the discretization scheme to express how  $y_n$  is related to  $y_{n-1}$  and impose the condition above
- This leads to a condition that the step size should satisfy in relation to the parameter  $\lambda$
- Example: for Forward Euler, we obtained that for absolute stability that

$$|1 + h\lambda| < 1$$

# Region of Absolute Stability



- Apply the methodology on previous slide for the test problem when used in conjunction with a multistep scheme

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \mathbf{y}_{n-j} = h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \mathbf{f}_{n-j}$$

- This leads to

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j y_{n-j} = h\lambda \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j y_{n-j}$$

- Recall that we had the expression for  $x_n$  Re

$$y_n = c_1 \xi_1^n + c_2 \xi_2^n + \dots + c_k \xi_k^n = \sum_{i=1}^k c_i \xi_i^n$$

- For us to hope that  $y_n \rightarrow 0$ , we need  $|\xi_i| \leq 1$  for  $\forall i \geq k$

# Region of Absolute Stability [Cntd.]



- Drop the subscript  $i$  for convenience. The conclusion is that any root of the Characteristic Equation; i.e. any  $\xi$  that satisfies...

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \xi^{n-j} = h\lambda \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \xi^{n-j}$$

- ... must also satisfy  $|\xi| \leq 1$
- Note that if the above condition holds, then we will get to the desired condition that  $y_n$  is monotonically decreasing in absolute value:

$$|\xi| = \frac{|\xi^n|}{|\xi^{n-1}|} = \frac{|y_n|}{|y_{n-1}|} \leq 1 \quad \Rightarrow \quad |y_n| \leq |y_{n-1}|$$

# Region of Absolute Stability [Cntd.]



- So in the end, it boils down to this simple sufficient condition: if  $h\lambda$  is such that the roots of the CE all have the norm less than or equal to 1, then  $h\lambda$  belongs to the stability region
  - Recall that the CE assumes the form

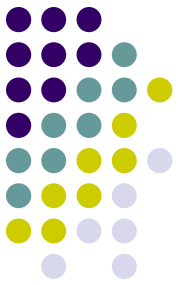
$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \xi^{n-j} = h\lambda \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \xi^{n-j}$$

- How would you find the boundaries of the stability region?
  - This is precisely that situation where  $|\xi|=1$ , or in other words, where  $\xi=e^{i\theta}$
  - So the boundary is given by those values of  $h\lambda$  for which  $\xi=e^{i\theta}$
  - Yet note that from the CE, one has that for  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$ ,

$$h\lambda = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j \xi^{n-j}}{\sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j \xi^{n-j}} = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j e^{i\theta(n-j)}}{\sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j e^{i\theta(n-j)}}$$

# Exercise

- Plot the region of absolute stability for Milne's method



# Absolute Stability: Closing Comments



- It is relatively straight forward to show that no explicit M method can be A-stable
- Lindquist's Barrier (1962, not simple to prove)
  - You cannot construct an A-stable M method that has order higher than 2
  - Note that there is no such barrier for RK methods
- The second order A-stable implicit M method with smallest error constant ( $C_3=1/12$ ) is the trapezoidal integration method
  - The problem with the trapezoidal formula is that it does not have stiff decay (it is A-stable but not L-stable)





# How Did People Get M-Methods?

- One early approach (about 1880): integrate the ordinary differential equation, and approximate the function  $f$  using a polynomial

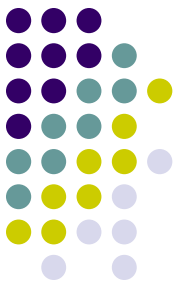
$$y'(t) = f(t, y(t)) \Rightarrow y(t_n) = y(t_{n-1}) + \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} f(t, y(t)) dt$$

- Based on previous values  $f(t_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), \dots, f(t_{n-k}, y_{n-k})$ , one can fit a  $k-1$  degree polynomial in the variable  $t$  to approximate the unknown function  $f(t, y)$
- Once the polynomial is available, simply plug it back in the integral above and evaluate it to get  $y_n$  (an approximation of  $y(t_n)$ )
- NOTE: this approach leads to a family of explicit integration formulas called Adams-Bashforth Multistep methods (AB-M methods)

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j f_{n-j}$$



# AB-M Method, Closing



- Table below provides convergence order  $p$ , the number of steps  $k$  of the M method, the coefficients  $\beta_{n-j}$ , and the value of the leading coefficient of the error term  $C_{p+1}$

$p$	$k$	$j \rightarrow$	1	2	3	4	5	6	$C_{p+1}$
1	1	$\beta_{n-j}$	1						1/2
2	2	$2\beta_{n-j}$	3	-1					5/12
3	3	$12\beta_{n-j}$	23	-16	5				3/8
4	4	$24\beta_{n-j}$	55	-59	37	-9			251/720
5	5	$720\beta_{n-j}$	1901	-2774	2616	-1274	251		95/288
6	6	$1440\beta_{n-j}$	4277	-7923	9982	-7298	2877	-475	19087/60480

- Example: based on the above table, the third order AB-M formula is

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{12}(23f_{n-1} - 16f_{n-2} + 5f_{n-3})$$

# Starting a M Method



- Implementation question: How do you actually start a M method?
  - In general, you need information for the first  $k$  steps to start a M method
- If you work with a scheme of order  $p$ , you don't want to have in your first  $k$  values  $y_0, \dots, y_{k-1}$  error that is larger than  $O(h^p)$
- Most common approach is to use for the first  $k-1$  steps a RK method of order  $p$ .
- A second approach starts using a method of order 1 with smaller step, than increases to order 2 when you have enough history, then increase to order 3, etc.
- NOTE: for the previous exercise, you have the exact solution so you can use it to generate the first  $k$  steps

# Exercise



- Generate the Convergence Plot of the AB-M method for  $k=3$  and  $k=4$  for the following IVP:

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \dot{x} = x - y \\ \dot{y} = 4x - 3y \\ x(0) = y(0) = 1 \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, 4]$$

- Indicate whether your results come in line with the expected convergence behavior
- Note that the exact solution of this IVP is:

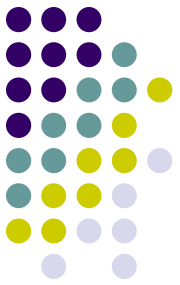
$$x(t) = (t + 1)e^{-t}$$
$$y(t) = (2t + 1)e^{-t}$$

# Exercise



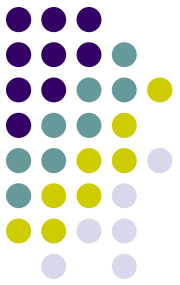
- Prove that the AB-M method with  $k=3$  is convergent with order 3

# Exercise



- Plot the absolute stability regions for the AB-M formulas up to order 6
- Comment on the size of the absolute convergence regions

# The AM-M Method



- The AB-M method is known for small absolute stability methods
- Idea that partially addressed the issue:
  - Rather than only using the previous values  $f(t_{n-1}, y_{n-1}), \dots, f(t_{n-k}, y_{n-k})$ , one should include the extra point  $f(t_n, y_n)$  to fit a  $k$  degree polynomial in the variable  $t$  to approximate the unknown function  $f(t, y)$
- The side-effect of this approach:
  - The resulting scheme is implicit: you use  $f(t_n, y_n)$  in the process of finding  $y_n$
  - The resulting scheme will assume the following form:

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j f_{n-j}$$

- This family of formulas is called Adams-Moulton Multistep (AM-M) methods





# AM-M Method, Closing



- Table below provides convergence order  $p$ , the number of steps  $k$  of the M method, the coefficients  $\beta_{n-j}$ , and the value of the leading coefficient of the error term  $C_{p+1}$

$p$	$k$	$j \rightarrow$	0	1	2	3	4	5	$C_{p+1}$
1	1	$\beta_{n-j}$	1						-1/2
2	1	$2\beta_{n-j}$	1	1					-1/12
3	2	$12\beta_{n-j}$	5	8	-1				-1/24
4	3	$24\beta_{n-j}$	9	19	-5	1			-19/720
5	4	$720\beta_{n-j}$	251	646	-264	106	-19		-3/160
6	5	$1440\beta_{n-j}$	475	1427	-798	482	-173	27	-863/60480

- Example: based on the above table, the third order AM-M formula ( $k=2$ ) is

$$y_n = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{12} (5f_n + 8f_{n-1} - f_{n-2})$$

# Exercise



- Prove that the AM-M method with  $k=3$  is convergent with order 4

# Exercise



- Generate the Convergence Plot of the AB-M method for  $k=2$  and  $k=3$  for the following IVP:

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \dot{x} = x - y \\ \dot{y} = 4x - 3y \\ x(0) = y(0) = 1 \end{cases} \quad t \in [0, 4]$$

- Indicate whether your results come in line with the expected convergence behavior
- Note that the exact solution of this IVP is:

$$x(t) = (t + 1)e^{-t}$$
$$y(t) = (2t + 1)e^{-t}$$

- NOTE: use the analytical solution to generate the first  $k$  steps of the integration formula

# Exercise



- Plot the absolute stability regions for the AM-M formulas up to order 6
- Comment on the size of the absolute convergence regions

# Implicit AM-M: Solving the Nonlinear System



- Since the AM-M method is implicit it will require at each time step the solution of a system of equations
  - If  $\mathbf{f}$  is nonlinear in  $\mathbf{y}$  this system of equations will be nonlinear
    - This is almost always the case
- Approaches used to solve this nonlinear system:
  - Functional iteration
  - Predictor Corrector schemes
  - Modified Newton iteration
- Focus on first two, defer discussion of last for a couple of slides

# M Methods: Functional Iteration



- Idea similar to the one introduced for the RK method
- Iterative process carried out as follows:

$$y_n^{(\nu+1)} = h\beta_0 f(t_n, y_n^{(\nu)}) + K, \quad \nu = 0, 1, \dots$$

- Notation:  $K$  represents a constant pre-computed based on past information
  - It does not change during the iterative process

$$K = - \sum_{j=1}^k \alpha_j y_{n-j} + h \sum_{j=1}^k \beta_j f_{n-j}$$

- As a starting point, for  $\nu=0$ , typically one takes this value to be  $y_{n-1}$ 
  - This will be revisited shortly, when discussing predictor-corrector schemes
- Stopping criteria identical to and discussed in relation to modified Newton iteration

# M Methods: Functional Iteration



- This represents a fixed point iteration
- Fixed point iteration converges to the fixed point provided it is a contraction, which is the case if the following condition holds

$$\left\| h\beta_0 \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right\| \leq r < 1$$

- NOTE: this condition basically limits the Functional Iteration approach to nonstiff problems



# M Methods: The Predictor-Corrector Approach



- The predictor corrector formula is very similar to the Functional Iteration approach
- There are two differences:
  - The starting point is chosen in a more intelligent way
  - The number of iterations is predefined
    - This is unlike the Functional Iteration approach, where convergence is monitored and it is not clear how many iterations  $\nu$  will be necessary for convergence

# The Predictor-Corrector Approach: Choosing the Starting Point



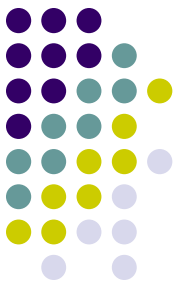
- The key question is how should one choose  $y_n^{(0)}$
- An explicit method is used to this end
- This step is called prediction (“**P**”), and the explicit M method used to obtain  $y_n^{(0)}$  is called “predictor”
- Most of the time, the predictor is an AB-M method:

$$P : \quad y_n^{(0)} + \hat{\alpha}_1 y_{n-1} + \dots + \hat{\alpha}_k y_{n-k} = h(\hat{\beta}_1 f_{n-1} + \dots + \hat{\beta}_k f_{n-k})$$

- The predicted value for y is immediately used to evaluate (“**E**”) the value of the function f:

$$E : \quad f_n^0 = f(t_n y_n^{(0)})$$

# The Predictor-Corrector Approach: Carrying out Corrections



- The second distinctive attribute of a Predictor-Corrector integration formula is that a predefined number  $\nu$  of corrections are carried out
  - In other words,  $\nu_{end}$  is predetermined, and the final value for  $y_n$  is

$$y_n = y_n^{(\nu_{end})}$$

- The corrector (“**C**”) formula is usually chosen to be the AM-M method
- Starting with  $\nu=0$ , the correction step assumes then the expression

$$C : \quad y_n^{(\nu+1)} + \alpha_1 y_{n-1} + \dots + \alpha_k y_{n-k} = h(\beta_0 f_n^{(\nu)} + \beta_1 f_{n-1} + \dots + \beta_k f_{n-k})$$

- Typically, the C step is followed by an E step to obtain a new expression for  $f$  that goes hand in hand with the newly corrected; i.e., improved, value of  $y$ :

$$E : \quad f_n^{(\nu+1)} = f(t_n y_n^{(\nu)})$$

# The Predictor-Corrector Approach: Carrying out Corrections



- The predictor-corrector integration method process just described is called PECE
  - It predicts (P), evaluates (E), corrects (C), and finally evaluates again (E)
  - Note that strictly speaking, the last (E) could be regarded as superfluous since it's not used for computation of  $y_n$  anymore
  - Last E is essential though since it's used in the computation of  $y_{n+1}$  and it improves the stability properties of the integration method
- Note that approach described (PECE), corresponds to choosing  $\nu_{\text{end}}=1$
- For larger values of  $\nu_{\text{end}}$  the “EC” part in PECE is executed  $\nu_{\text{end}}$  times
  - The nomenclature used for these methods is  $P(\text{EC})^\nu E$
  - Example:  $P(\text{EC})^3E$  refers to the following predictor-corrector integration formula:

$$P \rightarrow \underbrace{P \quad C}_{1^{\text{st}}} \quad \underbrace{P \quad C}_{2^{\text{nd}}} \quad \underbrace{P \quad C}_{3^{\text{rd}}} \quad E$$



# Example: PECE Method

- The following example combines a two step AB-M method, with the second-order one step AM-M method (the trapezoidal formula)

- Given  $y_{n-1}$ ,  $f_{n-1}$ ,  $f_{n-2}$ :

$$\text{P: } y_n^{(0)} = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2}(3f_{n-1} - f_{n-2})$$

$$\text{E: } f_n^{(0)} = f(t_n, y_n^{(0)})$$

$$\text{C: } y_n = y_{n-1} + \frac{h}{2}(f_n^{(0)} + f_{n-1})$$

$$\text{E: } f_n = f(t_n, y_n)$$

- It can be shown that the local truncation error for this method is

$$d_n = -\frac{h^2}{12} \dots \mathcal{O}(h^3)$$