

# Lecture 4: Numerical solution of ordinary differential equations

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# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **General explicit one-step method:**
  - **Consistency;**
  - **Stability;**
  - **Convergence.**
- **High-order methods:**
  - **Taylor methods;**
  - **Integral equation method;**
  - **Runge-Kutta methods.**
- **Multi-step methods.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Stiff equations and systems.
- Perturbation theories for differential equations:
  - Regular perturbation theory;
  - Singular perturbation theory.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Consistency, stability and convergence
- Consider

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x), & t \in [0, T], \\ x(0) = x_0, & x_0 \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

- $f \in C^0([0, t] \times \mathbb{R})$ : Lipschitz condition.
- Start at the initial time  $t = 0$ ;
- Introduce successive discretization points

$$t_0 = 0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots,$$

continuing on until we reach the final time  $T$ .

- Uniform step size:

$$\Delta t := t_{k+1} - t_k > 0,$$

does not depend on  $k$  and assumed to be relatively small, with  $t_k = k\Delta t$ .

- Suppose that  $K = T/(\Delta t)$ : an integer.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **General explicit one-step method:**

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + \Delta t \Phi(t_k, x^k, \Delta t),$$

for some continuous function  $\Phi(t, x, h)$ .

- Taking in succession  $k = 0, 1, \dots, K - 1$ , **one-step** at a time  $\Rightarrow$  the approximate values  $x^k$  of  $x$  at  $t_k$ : obtained.
- **Explicit** scheme:  $x^{k+1}$  obtained from  $x^k$ ;  $x^{k+1}$  appears only on the left-hand side.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Truncation error** of the numerical scheme:

$$T_k(\Delta t) = \frac{x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k)}{\Delta t} - \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t).$$

- As  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0, k \rightarrow +\infty, k\Delta t = t,$

$$T_k(\Delta t) \rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} - \Phi(t, x, 0).$$

- **DEFINITION: Consistency**

- Numerical scheme **consistent** with the ODE if

$$\Phi(t, x, 0) = f(t, x) \quad \text{for all } t \in [0, T] \text{ and } x \in \mathbb{R}.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **DEFINITION: Stability**

- Numerical scheme **stable** if  $\Phi$ : **Lipschitz continuous** in  $x$ , i.e., there exist positive constants  $C_\Phi$  and  $h_0$  s.t.

$$|\Phi(t, x, h) - \Phi(t, y, h)| \leq C_\Phi |x - y|, \quad t \in [0, T], h \in [0, h_0], x, y \in \mathbb{R}.$$

- **Global error** of the numerical scheme:

$$e_k = x^k - x(t_k).$$

- **DEFINITION: Convergence**

- Numerical scheme: **convergent** if

$$|e_k| \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } \Delta t \rightarrow 0, k \rightarrow +\infty, k\Delta t = t \in [0, T].$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **THEOREM:** Dahlquist-Lax equivalence theorem
  - Numerical scheme: **convergent** iff **consistent** and **stable**.



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **PROOF:**

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$$x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) = \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds;$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x(t_k)) + \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} [f(s, x(s)) - f(t_k, x(t_k))] ds.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} & \left| x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) - (\Delta t)f(t_k, x(t_k)) \right| \\ &= \left| \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} [f(s, x(s)) - f(t_k, x(t_k))] ds \right| \leq (\Delta t) \omega_1(\Delta t). \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $\omega_1(\Delta t)$  :

$$\omega_1(\Delta t) := \sup \{ |f(t, x(t)) - f(s, x(s))|, 0 \leq s, t \leq T, |t - s| \leq \Delta t \}.$$

- $\omega_1(\Delta t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ .
- If  $f$ : Lipschitz in  $t$ , then  $\omega_1(\Delta t) = O(\Delta t)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- From

$$e_{k+1} - e_k = x^{k+1} - x^k - (x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k)),$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$e_{k+1} - e_k = \Delta t \Phi(t_k, x^k, \Delta t) - (x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k)).$$

- Or equivalently,

$$e_{k+1} - e_k = \Delta t [\Phi(t_k, x^k, \Delta t) - f(t_k, x(t_k))] - [x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) - \Delta t f(t_k, x(t_k))].$$

- Write

$$\begin{aligned} e_{k+1} - e_k &= \Delta t [\Phi(t_k, x^k, \Delta t) - \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t) + \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t) \\ &\quad - f(t_k, x(t_k))] - [x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) - \Delta t f(t_k, x(t_k))]. \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Let

$$\omega_2(\Delta t) := \sup \{ |\Phi(t, x, h) - f(t, x)|, t \in [0, T], x \in \mathbb{R}, 0 < h \leq (\Delta t) \}.$$

- **Consistency**  $\Rightarrow$

$$\left| \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t) - f(t_k, x(t_k)) \right| \leq \omega_2(\Delta t) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \Delta t \rightarrow 0.$$

- **Stability condition**  $\Rightarrow$

$$\left| \Phi(t_k, x^k, \Delta t) - \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t) \right| \leq C_\Phi |e_k|.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $\Rightarrow$

$$|e_{k+1}| \leq (1 + C_{\Phi} \Delta t) |e_k| + \Delta t \omega_3(\Delta t), \quad 0 \leq k \leq K - 1;$$

- $K = T/(\Delta t)$  and  $\omega_3(\Delta t) := \omega_1(\Delta t) + \omega_2(\Delta t) \rightarrow 0$  as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- By induction,

$$|e_{k+1}| \leq (1 + C_\Phi \Delta t)^k |e_0| + (\Delta t) \omega_3(\Delta t) \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} (1 + C_\Phi \Delta t)^l, \quad 0 \leq k \leq K.$$

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$$\sum_{l=0}^{k-1} (1 + C_\Phi \Delta t)^l = \frac{(1 + C_\Phi \Delta t)^k - 1}{C_\Phi \Delta t},$$

and

$$(1 + C_\Phi \Delta t)^K \leq (1 + C_\Phi \frac{T}{K})^K \leq e^{C_\Phi T}.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$|e_k| \leq e^{C_\Phi T} |e_0| + \frac{e^{C_\Phi T} - 1}{C_\Phi} \omega_3(\Delta t).$$

- If  $e_0 = 0$ , then as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0, k \rightarrow +\infty$  s.t.  $k\Delta t = t \in [0, T]$

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow +\infty} |e_k| = 0.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **DEFINITION:**
  - An explicit one-step method: **order**  $p$  if there exist positive constants  $h_0$  and  $C$  s.t.

$$|T_k(\Delta t)| \leq C(\Delta t)^p, \quad 0 < \Delta t \leq h_0, k = 0, \dots, K - 1;$$

$T_k(\Delta t)$ : truncation error.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- If the **explicit one-step** method: **stable**  $\Rightarrow$  **global error: bounded by the truncation error.**

- **PROPOSITION:**

- Consider the explicit one-step scheme with  $\Phi$  satisfying the stability condition.
- Suppose that  $e_0 = 0$ .
- Then

$$|e_{k+1}| \leq \frac{(e^{C_\Phi T} - 1)}{C_\Phi} \max_{0 \leq l \leq k} |T_l(\Delta t)| \quad \text{for } k = 0, \dots, K - 1;$$

- $T_l$ : truncation error and  $e_k$ : global error.



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- PROOF:

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$$e_{k+1} - e_k = -(\Delta t)T_k(\Delta t) + (\Delta t) \left[ \Phi(t_k, x^k, \Delta t) - \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t) \right].$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} |e_{k+1}| &\leq (1 + C_\Phi(\Delta t))|e_k| + (\Delta t)|T_k(\Delta t)| \\ &\leq (1 + C_\Phi(\Delta t))|e_k| + (\Delta t) \max_{0 \leq l \leq k} |T_l(\Delta t)|. \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Explicit Euler's method**
  - $\Phi(t, x, h) = f(t, x)$ .
  - **Explicit Euler scheme:**

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t)f(t, x^k).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **THEOREM:**
  - Suppose that  $f$  satisfies the **Lipschitz condition**;
  - Suppose that  $f$ : **Lipschitz with respect to  $t$** .
  - Then the explicit Euler scheme: **convergent** and the **global error  $e_k$ : of order  $\Delta t$** .
  - If  $f \in C^1$ , then the scheme: **of order one**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **PROOF:**

- $f$  satisfies the Lipschitz condition  $\Rightarrow$  numerical scheme with  $\Phi(t, x, h) = f(t, x)$ : stable.
- $\Phi(t, x, 0) = f(t, x)$  for all  $t \in [0, T]$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R} \Rightarrow$  numerical scheme: consistent.
- $\Rightarrow$  convergence.
- $f$ : Lipschitz in  $t \Rightarrow \omega_1(\Delta t) = O(\Delta t)$ .
- $\omega_2(\Delta t) = 0 \Rightarrow \omega_3(\Delta t) = O(\Delta t)$ .
- $\Rightarrow |e_k| = O(\Delta t)$  for  $1 \leq k \leq K$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $f \in \mathcal{C}^1 \Rightarrow x \in \mathcal{C}^2$ .
- **Mean-value theorem**  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned}T_k(\Delta t) &= \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left( x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) \right) - f(t_k, x(t_k)) \\&= \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left( x(t_k) + (\Delta t) \frac{dx}{dt}(t_k) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}(\tau) - x(t_k) \right) - f(t_k, x(t_k)) \\&= \frac{\Delta t}{2} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}(\tau),\end{aligned}$$

for some  $\tau \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]$ .

- $\Rightarrow$  **Scheme: first order.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- High-order methods:
  - In general, the **order of a numerical solution method** governs both the **accuracy of its approximations** and the **speed of convergence** to the true solution as the step size  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ .
  - Explicit Euler method: only a **first order** scheme;
  - Devise simple numerical methods that enjoy a **higher order of accuracy**.
  - The **higher the order**, the **more accurate the numerical scheme**, and hence the larger the step size that can be used to produce the solution to a desired accuracy.
  - However, this should be balanced with the fact that higher order methods inevitably require **more computational effort** at each step.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **High-order methods:**
  - **Taylor methods;**
  - **Integral equation method;**
  - **Runge-Kutta methods.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Taylor methods**
- Explicit Euler scheme: based on a **first order Taylor approximation** to the solution.
- **Taylor expansion** of the solution  $x(t)$  at the discretization points  $t_{k+1}$ :

$$x(t_{k+1}) = x(t_k) + (\Delta t) \frac{dx}{dt}(t_k) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \frac{d^2x}{dt^2}(t_k) + \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{6} \frac{d^3x}{dt^3}(t_k) + \dots$$

- Evaluate the first derivative term by using the differential equation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x).$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Second derivative can be found by differentiating the equation with respect to  $t$ :

$$\frac{d^2x}{dt^2} = \frac{d}{dt}f(t, x) = \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t, x) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, x)\frac{dx}{dt}.$$

- **Second order Taylor method**

$$(*) \quad x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \left( \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_k, x^k) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t_k, x^k)f(t_k, x^k) \right).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Proposition:**
  - Suppose that  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2$ .
  - Then (\*): **of second order**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Proof:**

- $f \in \mathcal{C}^2 \Rightarrow x \in \mathcal{C}^3$ .
- $\Rightarrow$  truncation error  $T_k$  given by

$$T_k(\Delta t) = \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{6} \frac{d^3 x}{dt^3}(\tau),$$

for some  $\tau \in [t_k, t_{k+1}]$  and so, (\*): of second order.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Drawbacks** of higher order Taylor methods:
  - (i) Owing to their dependence upon the partial derivatives of  $f$ ,  $f$  **needs to be smooth**;
  - (ii) Efficient **evaluation of the terms in the Taylor approximation** and avoidance of round off errors.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Integral equation method**
- Avoid the complications inherent in a direct Taylor expansion.
- $x(t)$  coincides with the solution to the **integral equation**

$$x(t) = x_0 + \int_0^t f(s, x(s)) ds, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

Starting at the discretization point  $t_k$  instead of 0, and integrating until time  $t = t_{k+1}$  gives

$$(**) \quad x(t_{k+1}) = x(t_k) + \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds.$$

- **Implicitly computes** the value of the solution at the subsequent discretization point.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Compare formula (\*\*) with the explicit Euler method

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k).$$

- $\Rightarrow$  Approximation of the integral by

$$\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds \approx (\Delta t)f(t_k, x(t_k)).$$

- **Left endpoint rule** for numerical integration.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Left endpoint rule** for numerical integration:
- **Left endpoint rule**: not an especially accurate method of numerical integration.
- Better methods include the **Trapezoid rule**:

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Numerical integration formulas** for continuous functions.

(i) **Trapezoidal rule:**

$$\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} g(s) ds \approx \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left( g(t_{k+1}) + g(t_k) \right);$$

(ii) **Simpson's rule:**

$$\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} g(s) ds \approx \frac{\Delta t}{6} \left( g(t_{k+1}) + 4g\left(\frac{t_k + t_{k+1}}{2}\right) + g(t_k) \right);$$

- (iii) Trapezoidal rule: **exact for polynomials of order one**;  
Simpson's rule: **exact for polynomials of second order**.



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Use the more accurate Trapezoidal approximation

$$\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds \approx \frac{(\Delta t)}{2} \left[ f(t_k, x(t_k)) + f(t_{k+1}, x(t_{k+1})) \right].$$

- Trapezoidal scheme:

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2} \left[ f(t_k, x^k) + f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) \right].$$

- Trapezoidal scheme: **implicit numerical method**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Proposition:**

- Suppose that  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2$  and

$$(***) \quad \frac{(\Delta t)C_f}{2} < 1;$$

$C_f$ : Lipschitz constant for  $f$  in  $x$ .

- Trapezoidal scheme: **convergent and of second order.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Proof:
  - Consistency:

$$\Phi(t, x, \Delta t) := \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(t, x) + f(t + \Delta t, x + (\Delta t)\Phi(t, x, \Delta t)) \right].$$

- $\Delta t = 0$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Stability:**

- 

$$|\Phi(t, x, \Delta t) - \Phi(t, y, \Delta t)| \leq C_f |x - y| + \frac{\Delta t}{2} C_f |\Phi(t, x, \Delta t) - \Phi(t, y, \Delta t)|.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\left(1 - \frac{(\Delta t) C_f}{2}\right) |\Phi(t, x, \Delta t) - \Phi(t, y, \Delta t)| \leq C_f |x - y|.$$

- $\Rightarrow$  Stability holds with

$$C_\Phi = \frac{C_f}{1 - \frac{(\Delta t) C_f}{2}},$$

provided that  $\Delta t$  satisfies (\*\*).

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Second order scheme:**
  - By the mean-value theorem,

$$\begin{aligned} T_k(\Delta t) &= \frac{x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k)}{\Delta t} \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2} \left[ f(t_k, x(t_k)) + f(t_{k+1}, x(t_{k+1})) \right] \\ &= -\frac{1}{12} (\Delta t)^2 \frac{d^3 x}{dt^3}(\tau), \end{aligned}$$

for some  $\tau \in [t_k, t_{k+1}] \Rightarrow$  **second order scheme**, provided that  $f \in \mathcal{C}^2$  (and consequently  $x \in \mathcal{C}^3$ ).

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- An alternative scheme: replace  $x^{k+1}$  by  $x^k + (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k)$ .
- $\Rightarrow$  **Improved Euler scheme:**

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2} \left[ f(t_k, x^k) + f(t_{k+1}, x^k + (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k)) \right].$$

- **Proposition:** Improved Euler scheme: **convergent** and **of second order**.
- Improved Euler scheme: performs comparably to the Trapezoidal scheme, and significantly better than the Euler scheme.
- **Alternative numerical approximations** to the integral equation  $\Rightarrow$  a **range of numerical solution schemes**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Midpoint rule:**

$$\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds \approx (\Delta t) f\left(t_k + \frac{\Delta t}{2}, x\left(t_k + \frac{\Delta t}{2}\right)\right).$$

- Midpoint rule: same order of accuracy as the trapezoid rule.
- **Midpoint scheme:** approximate  $x(t_k + \frac{\Delta t}{2})$  by  $x^k + \frac{\Delta t}{2} f(t_k, x^k)$ ,

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t) f\left(t_k + \frac{\Delta t}{2}, x^k + \frac{\Delta t}{2} f(t_k, x^k)\right).$$

- Midpoint scheme: **of second order.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Example of linear systems
- Consider the linear system of ODEs

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = Ax(t), & t \in [0, +\infty[, \\ x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d. \end{cases}$$

- $A \in \mathbb{M}_d(\mathbb{C})$ : independent of  $t$ .
- DEFINITION:
  - A one-step numerical scheme for solving the linear system of ODEs: **stable** if there exists a positive constant  $C_0$  s.t.

$$|x^{k+1}| \leq C_0 |x^0| \quad \text{for all } k \in \mathbb{N}.$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Consider the following schemes:

(i) **Explicit Euler's scheme:**

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t)Ax^k;$$

(ii) **Implicit Euler's scheme:**

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t)Ax^{k+1};$$

(iii) **Trapezoidal scheme:**

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2} \left[ Ax^k + Ax^{k+1} \right],$$

with  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and  $x^0 = x_0$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Proposition:**

Suppose that  $\Re\lambda_j < 0$  for all  $j$ . The following results hold:

- (i) Explicit Euler scheme: **stable for  $\Delta t$  small enough;**
- (ii) Implicit Euler scheme: **unconditionally stable;**
- (iii) Trapezoidal scheme: **unconditionally stable.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Proof:**
  - Consider the explicit Euler scheme. By a change of basis,

$$\tilde{x}^k = (I + \Delta t(D + N))^k \tilde{x}^0,$$

where  $\tilde{x}^k = C^{-1}x^k$ .

- If  $\tilde{x}^0 \in E_j$ , then

$$\tilde{x}^k = \sum_{l=0}^{\min\{k,d\}} C_k^l (1 + \Delta t\lambda_j)^{k-l} (\Delta t)^l N^l \tilde{x}^0,$$

$C_k^l$ : binomial coefficient.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- If  $|1 + (\Delta t)\lambda_j| < 1$ , then  $\tilde{x}^k$ : bounded.
- If  $|1 + (\Delta t)\lambda_j| > 1$ , then one can find  $\tilde{x}^0$  s.t.  $|\tilde{x}^k| \rightarrow +\infty$  (exponentially) as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ .
- If  $|1 + (\Delta t)\lambda_j| = 1$  and  $N \neq 0$ , then for all  $\tilde{x}^0$  s.t.  $N\tilde{x}^0 \neq 0$ ,  $N^2\tilde{x}^0 = 0$ ,

$$\tilde{x}^k = (1 + (\Delta t)\lambda_j)^k \tilde{x}^0 + (1 + (\Delta t)\lambda_j)^{k-1} k \Delta t N \tilde{x}^0$$

goes to infinity as  $k \rightarrow +\infty$ .

- Stability condition  $|1 + (\Delta t)\lambda_j| < 1 \Leftrightarrow$

$$\Delta t < -2 \frac{\Re \lambda_j}{|\lambda_j|^2},$$

holds for  $\Delta t$  small enough.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Implicit Euler scheme:**

$$\tilde{x}^k = (I - \Delta t(D + N))^{-k} \tilde{x}^0.$$

- All the eigenvalues of the matrix  $(I - \Delta t(D + N))^{-1}$ : of modulus strictly smaller than 1.
- $\Rightarrow$  Implicit Euler scheme: **unconditionally stable**.
- **Trapezoidal scheme:**

$$\tilde{x}^k = \left(I - \frac{(\Delta t)}{2}(D + N)\right)^{-k} \left(I + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2}(D + N)\right)^k \tilde{x}^0.$$

- **Stability condition:**

$$\left|1 + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2}\lambda_j\right| < \left|1 - \frac{(\Delta t)}{2}\lambda_j\right|,$$

holds for all  $\Delta t > 0$  since  $\Re\lambda_j < 0$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **REMARK:** Explicit and implicit Euler schemes: of order one; Trapezoidal scheme: of order two.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Runge-Kutta methods:**
  - By far the most popular and powerful general-purpose numerical methods for integrating ODEs.
  - Idea behind: **evaluate  $f$  at carefully chosen values of its arguments,  $t$  and  $x$** , in order to create an **accurate approximation** (as accurate as a higher-order Taylor expansion) of  $x(t + \Delta t)$  **without evaluating derivatives of  $f$** .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Runge-Kutta schemes: derived by matching **multivariable Taylor series expansions** of  $f(t, x)$  with the Taylor series expansion of  $x(t + \Delta t)$ .
- To find the right values of  $t$  and  $x$  at which to evaluate  $f$ :
  - Take a Taylor expansion of  $f$  evaluated at these (unknown) values;
  - Match the resulting numerical scheme to a Taylor series expansion of  $x(t + \Delta t)$  around  $t$ .



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Generalization of Taylor's theorem to functions of two variables:

## THEOREM:

- $f(t, x) \in C^{n+1}([0, T] \times \mathbb{R})$ . Let  $(t_0, x_0) \in [0, T] \times \mathbb{R}$ .
- There exist  $t_0 \leq \tau \leq t$ ,  $x_0 \leq \xi \leq x$ , s.t.

$$f(t, x) = P_n(t, x) + R_n(t, x),$$

- $P_n(t, x)$ :  $n$ th Taylor polynomial of  $f$  around  $(t_0, x_0)$ ;
- $R_n(t, x)$ : remainder term associated with  $P_n(t, x)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs



$$\begin{aligned} P_n(t, x) = & f(t_0, x_0) + \left[ (t - t_0) \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_0, x_0) + (x - x_0) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t_0, x_0) \right] \\ & + \left[ \frac{(t - t_0)^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}(t_0, x_0) + (t - t_0)(x - x_0) \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t \partial x}(t_0, x_0) \right. \\ & \left. + \frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t_0, x_0) \right] \\ & \dots + \left[ \frac{1}{n!} \sum_{j=0}^n C_j^n (t - t_0)^{n-j} (x - x_0)^j \frac{\partial^n f}{\partial t^{n-j} \partial x^j}(t_0, x_0) \right]; \end{aligned}$$



$$R_n(t, x) = \frac{1}{(n+1)!} \sum_{j=0}^{n+1} C_j^{n+1} (t - t_0)^{n+1-j} (x - x_0)^j \frac{\partial^{n+1} f}{\partial t^{n+1-j} \partial x^j}(\tau, \xi).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Illustration:** obtain a **second-order accurate method** (truncation error  $O((\Delta t)^2)$ ).
- Match

$$x + \Delta t f(t, x) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t, x) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, x) f(t, x) \right] + \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{6} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} [f(t, x)]$$

to

$$x + (\Delta t) f(t + \alpha_1, x + \beta_1),$$

$\tau \in [t, t + \Delta t]$  and  $\alpha_1$  and  $\beta_1$ : to be found.

- Match

$$f(t, x) + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2} \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t, x) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, x) f(t, x) \right] + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{6} \frac{d^2}{dt^2} [f(t, x)]$$

with  $f(t + \alpha_1, x + \beta_1)$  at least up to terms of the order of  $O(\Delta t)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Multivariable version of Taylor's theorem to  $f$ ,**

$$f(t + \alpha_1, x + \beta_1) = f(t, x) + \alpha_1 \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t, x) + \beta_1 \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, x) + \frac{\alpha_1^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t^2}(t, x) + \alpha_1 \beta_1 \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial t \partial x}(t, x) + \frac{\beta_1^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}(t, x),$$

$$t \leq \tau \leq t + \alpha_1 \text{ and } x \leq \xi \leq x + \beta_1.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{\Delta t}{2} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_1 = \frac{\Delta t}{2} f(t, x).$$

- $\Rightarrow$  Resulting numerical scheme: **explicit midpoint method**: the simplest example of a Runge-Kutta method of second order.
- **Improved Euler method**: also another often-used Runge-Kutta method.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- General Runge-Kutta method:

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^m c_i f(t_{i,k}, x_{i,k}),$$

$m$ : number of terms in the method.

- Each  $t_{i,k}$  denotes a point in  $[t_k, t_{k+1}]$ .
- Second argument  $x_{i,k} \approx x(t_{i,k})$  can be viewed as an approximation to the solution at the point  $t_{i,k}$ .
- To construct an  $n$ th order Runge-Kutta method, we need to take at least  $m \geq n$  terms.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Best-known Runge-Kutta method: **fourth-order Runge-Kutta method**, which uses four evaluations of  $f$  during each step.

$$\begin{cases} \kappa_1 := f(t_k, x^k), \\ \kappa_2 := f(t_k + \frac{\Delta t}{2}, x^k + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \kappa_1), \\ \kappa_3 := f(t_k + \frac{\Delta t}{2}, x^k + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \kappa_2), \\ \kappa_4 := f(t_{k+1}, x^k + \Delta t \kappa_3), \\ x^{k+1} = x^k + \frac{(\Delta t)}{6} (\kappa_1 + 2\kappa_2 + 2\kappa_3 + \kappa_4). \end{cases}$$

- Values of  $f$  at the midpoint in time: given four times as much weight as values at the endpoints  $t_k$  and  $t_{k+1}$  (similar to Simpson's rule from numerical integration).

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Construction of Runge-Kutta methods:
  - Construct Runge-Kutta methods by generalizing **collocation methods**.
  - Discuss their **consistency**, **stability**, and **order**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Collocation methods:
- $\mathcal{P}_m$ : space of real polynomials of degree  $\leq m$ .
- Interpolating polynomial:
  - Given a set of  $m$  **distinct** quadrature points  $c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_m$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , and corresponding data  $g_1, \dots, g_m$ ;
  - There exists a unique polynomial,  $P(t) \in \mathcal{P}_{m-1}$  s.t.

$$P(c_i) = g_i, i = 1, \dots, m.$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **DEFINITION:**

- Define the  $i$ th **Lagrange interpolating polynomial**  $l_i(t)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , for the set of quadrature points  $\{c_j\}$  by

$$l_i(t) := \prod_{j \neq i, j=1}^m \frac{t - c_j}{c_i - c_j}.$$

- Set of Lagrange interpolating polynomials: form a **basis of  $\mathcal{P}_{m-1}$** ;
- **Interpolating polynomial  $P$**  corresponding to the **data  $\{g_j\}$**  given by

$$P(t) := \sum_{i=1}^m g_i l_i(t).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Consider a smooth function  $g$  on  $[0, 1]$ .
- Approximate the integral of  $g$  on  $[0, 1]$  by exactly integrating the Lagrange interpolating polynomial of order  $m - 1$  based on  $m$  quadrature points  $0 \leq c_1 < c_2 < \dots < c_m \leq 1$ .
- Data: values of  $g$  at the quadrature points  $g_i = g(c_i)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Define the weights

$$b_i = \int_0^1 l_i(s) ds.$$

- Quadrature formula:

$$\int_0^1 g(s) ds \approx \int_0^1 \sum_{i=1}^m g_i l_i(s) ds = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i g(c_i).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $f$ : smooth function on  $[0, T]$ ;  $t_k = k\Delta t$  for  $k = 0, \dots, K = T/(\Delta t)$ : discretization points in  $[0, T]$ .
- $\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s) ds$  can be approximated by

$$\int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s) ds = (\Delta t) \int_0^1 f(t_k + \Delta t\tau) d\tau \approx (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m b_i f(t_k + (\Delta t)c_i).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $x$ : polynomial of degree  $m$  satisfying

$$\begin{cases} x(0) = x_0, \\ \frac{dx}{dt}(c_i \Delta t) = F_i, \end{cases}$$

$$F_i \in \mathbb{R}, i = 1, \dots, m.$$

- **Lagrange interpolation formula**  $\Rightarrow$  for  $t$  in the first time-step interval  $[0, \Delta t]$ ,

$$\frac{dx}{dt}(t) = \sum_{i=1}^m F_i l_i\left(\frac{t}{\Delta t}\right).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Integrating over the intervals  $[0, c_i \Delta t] \Rightarrow$

$$x(c_i \Delta t) = x_0 + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m F_j \int_0^{c_i} l_j(s) ds = x_0 + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} F_j,$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , with

$$a_{ij} := \int_0^{c_i} l_j(s) ds.$$

- Integrating over  $[0, \Delta t] \Rightarrow$

$$x(\Delta t) = x_0 + (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m F_i \int_0^1 l_i(s) ds = x_0 + (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m b_i F_i.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Writing  $dx/dt = f(x(t))$ , on the first time step interval  $[0, \Delta t]$ ,

$$\begin{cases} F_i = f(x_0 + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} F_j), & i = 1, \dots, m, \\ x(\Delta t) = x_0 + (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m b_i F_i. \end{cases}$$

- Similarly, we have on  $[t_k, t_{k+1}]$

$$\begin{cases} F_{i,k} = f(x(t_k) + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} F_{j,k}), & i = 1, \dots, m, \\ x(t_{k+1}) = x(t_k) + (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m b_i F_{i,k}. \end{cases}$$

- In the **collocation method**: one first solves the **coupled nonlinear system** to obtain  $F_{i,k}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ , and then computes  $x(t_{k+1})$  from  $x(t_k)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- REMARK:

- 

$$t^{l-1} = \sum_{i=1}^m c_i^{l-1} l_i(t), \quad t \in [0, 1], l = 1, \dots, m,$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m b_i c_i^{l-1} = \frac{1}{l}, \quad l = 1, \dots, m,$$

and

$$\sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} c_j^{l-1} = \frac{c_i^l}{l}, \quad i, l = 1, \dots, m.$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Runge-Kutta methods as generalized collocation methods
  - In the **collocation method**, the coefficients  $b_i$  and  $a_{ij}$ : defined by **certain integrals of the Lagrange interpolating polynomials** associated with a chosen set of quadrature nodes  $c_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, m$ .
  - Natural **generalization of collocation methods**: obtained by allowing the coefficients  $c_i, b_i$ , and  $a_{ij}$  to **take arbitrary values**, not necessary related to quadrature formulas.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- No longer assume the  $c_i$  to be distinct.
- However, assume that

$$c_i = \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij}, \quad i = 1, \dots, m.$$

- $\Rightarrow$  Class of **Runge-Kutta methods** for solving the ODE,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} F_{i,k} = f(t_{i,k}, x^k + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} F_{j,k}), \\ x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m b_i F_{i,k}, \end{array} \right.$$

$t_{i,k} = t_k + c_i \Delta t$ , or equivalently,

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_{i,k} = x^k + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} f(t_{j,k}, x_{j,k}), \\ x^{k+1} = x^k + (\Delta t) \sum_{i=1}^m b_i f(t_{i,k}, x_{i,k}). \end{array} \right.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Let

$$\kappa_j := f(t + c_j \Delta t, x_j);$$

- Define  $\Phi$  by

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x_i = x + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \kappa_j, \\ \Phi(t, x, \Delta t) = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i f(t + c_i \Delta t, x_i). \end{array} \right.$$

- $\Rightarrow$  One step method.
- If  $a_{ij} = 0$  for  $j \geq i \Rightarrow$  scheme: explicit.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **EXAMPLES:**
  - Explicit Euler's method and Trapezoidal scheme: Runge-Kutta methods.
  - Explicit Euler's method:  $m = 1, b_1 = 1, a_{11} = 0$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Trapezoidal scheme:

$$m = 2, b_1 = b_2 = 1/2, a_{11} = a_{12} = 0, a_{21} = a_{22} = 1/2.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Fourth-order Runge-Kutta method:**  $m = 4$ ,  $c_1 = 0$ ,  $c_2 = c_3 = 1/2$ ,  $c_4 = 1$ ,  $b_1 = 1/6$ ,  $b_2 = b_3 = 1/3$ ,  $b_4 = 1/6$ ,  $a_{21} = a_{32} = 1/2$ ,  $a_{43} = 1$ , and all the other  $a_{ij}$  entries are zero.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Consistency, stability, convergence, and order of Runge-Kutta methods
- Runge-Kutta scheme: consistent iff

$$\sum_{j=1}^m b_j = 1.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Stability:**

- $|A| = (|a_{ij}|)_{i,j=1}^m$ .

- **Spectral radius**  $\rho(|A|)$  of the matrix  $|A|$ :

$$\rho(|A|) := \max\{|\lambda_j|, \lambda_j : \text{eigenvalue of } |A|\}.$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **THEOREM:**

- $C_f$ : Lipschitz constant for  $f$ .
- Suppose

$$(\Delta t)C_f\rho(|A|) < 1.$$

- Then the **Runge-Kutta method**: **stable**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- PROOF:

- 

$$\Phi(t, x, \Delta t) - \Phi(t, y, \Delta t) = \sum_{i=1}^m b_i \left[ f(t + c_i \Delta t, x_i) - f(t + c_i \Delta t, y_i) \right],$$

with

$$x_i = x + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} f(t + c_j \Delta t, x_j),$$

and

$$y_i = y + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} f(t + c_j \Delta t, y_j).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $\Rightarrow$

$$x_i - y_i = x - y + (\Delta t) \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \left[ f(t + c_j \Delta t, x_j) - f(t + c_j \Delta t, y_j) \right].$$

- $\Rightarrow$  For  $i = 1, \dots, m$ ,

$$|x_i - y_i| \leq |x - y| + (\Delta t) C_f \sum_{j=1}^m |a_{ij}| |x_j - y_j|.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $X$  and  $Y$ :

$$X = \begin{bmatrix} |x_1 - y_1| \\ \vdots \\ |x_m - y_m| \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad Y = \begin{bmatrix} |x - y| \\ \vdots \\ |x - y| \end{bmatrix}.$$

- $X \leq Y + (\Delta t)C_f|A|X, \Rightarrow$

$$X \leq (I - (\Delta t)C_f|A|)^{-1}Y,$$

provided that  $(\Delta t)C_f\rho(|A|) < 1$ .

- $\Rightarrow$  **stability** of the Runge-Kutta scheme.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Dahlquist-Lax** equivalence theorem  $\Rightarrow$  **Runge-Kutta scheme: convergent** provided that  $\sum_{j=1}^m b_j = 1$  and  $(\Delta t)C_f\rho(|A|) < 1$  hold.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Order of the Runge-Kutta scheme:** compute the order as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  of the truncation error

$$T_k(\Delta t) = \frac{x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k)}{\Delta t} - \Phi(t_k, x(t_k), \Delta t).$$

- Write

$$T_k(\Delta t) = \frac{x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k)}{\Delta t} - \sum_{i=1}^m b_i f(t_k + c_i \Delta t, x(t_k) + \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \kappa_j).$$

- Suppose that  $f$ : smooth enough  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} & f(t_k + c_i \Delta t, x(t_k) + \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \kappa_j) \\ &= f(t_k, x(t_k)) + \Delta t \left[ c_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_k, x(t_k)) + \left( \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \kappa_j \right) \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t_k, x(t_k)) \right] \\ &+ O((\Delta t)^2). \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- 

$$\sum_{j=1} a_{ij} k_j = \left( \sum_{j=1} a_{ij} \right) f(t_k, x(t_k)) + O(\Delta t) = c_i f(t_k, x(t_k)) + O(\Delta t).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

•  $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{aligned} & f(t_k + c_i \Delta t, x(t_k) + \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \kappa_j) \\ &= f(t_k, x(t_k)) + \Delta t c_i \left[ \frac{\partial f}{\partial t}(t_k, x(t_k)) + \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t_k, x(t_k)) f(t_k, x(t_k)) \right] \\ & \quad + O((\Delta t)^2). \end{aligned}$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **THEOREM:**

- Assume that  $f$ : smooth enough.
- Then the Runge-Kutta scheme: **of order 2** provided that the conditions

$$\sum_{j=1}^m b_j = 1$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^m b_i c_i = \frac{1}{2}$$

hold.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Higher-order Taylor expansions  $\Rightarrow$
- THEOREM:
  - Assume that  $f$ : smooth enough.
  - Then the Runge-Kutta scheme: of order 3 provided that the conditions

$$\sum_{j=1}^m b_j = 1,$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m b_i c_i = \frac{1}{2},$$

and

$$\sum_{i=1}^m b_i c_i^2 = \frac{1}{3}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m b_i a_{ij} c_j = \frac{1}{6}$$

hold.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Of Order 4 provided that **in addition**

$$\sum_{i=1}^m b_i c_i^3 = \frac{1}{4}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m b_i c_i a_{ij} c_j = \frac{1}{8}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m b_i c_i a_{ij} c_j^2 = \frac{1}{12},$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^m \sum_{j=1}^m \sum_{l=1}^m b_i a_{ij} a_{jl} c_l = \frac{1}{24}$$

hold.

- The (fourth-order) Runge-Kutta scheme: of order 4.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Multi-step methods**
- Runge-Kutta methods: improvement over Euler's methods in terms of accuracy, but achieved by investing additional computational effort.
- The fourth-order Runge-Kutta method involves four function evaluations per step.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- For comparison, by considering three consecutive points  $t_{k-1}, t_k, t_{k+1}$ , integrating the differential equation between  $t_{k-1}$  and  $t_{k+1}$ , and applying **Simpson's rule** to approximate the resulting integral yields

$$x(t_{k+1}) = x(t_{k-1}) + \int_{t_{k-1}}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds$$
$$\approx x(t_{k-1}) + \frac{(\Delta t)}{3} \left[ f(t_{k-1}, x(t_{k-1})) + 4f(t_k, x(t_k)) + f(t_{k+1}, x(t_{k+1})) \right],$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$x^{k+1} = x^{k-1} + \frac{(\Delta t)}{3} \left[ f(t_{k-1}, x^{k-1}) + 4f(t_k, x^k) + f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) \right].$$

- Need two preceding values,  $x^k$  and  $x^{k-1}$  in order to calculate  $x^{k+1}$ :  
**two-step method.**
- In contrast with the one-step methods: only a single value of  $x^k$  required to compute the next approximation  $x^{k+1}$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- General  $n$ -step method:

$$\sum_{j=0}^n \alpha_j x^{k+j} = (\Delta t) \sum_{j=0}^n \beta_j f(t_{k+j}, x^{k+j}),$$

$\alpha_j$  and  $\beta_j$ : real constants and  $\alpha_n \neq 0$ .

- If  $\beta_n = 0$ , then  $x^{k+n}$ : obtained explicitly from previous values of  $x^j$  and  $f(t_j, x^j) \Rightarrow n$ -step method: **explicit**. Otherwise, the  $n$ -step method: **implicit**.
- A starting procedure which provides approximations to the exact solution at the points  $t_1, \dots, t_{n-1}$ : One possibility for obtaining these **missing starting values** is the use of any one-step method, e.g., a Runge-Kutta method.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **EXAMPLE:**

(i) Two-step **Adams-Bashforth** method: **explicit** two-step method

$$x^{k+2} = x^{k+1} + \frac{(\Delta t)}{2} \left[ 3f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) - f(t_k, x^k) \right];$$

(ii) Three-step **Adams-Bashforth** method: **explicit** three-step method

$$x^{k+3} = x^{k+2} + \frac{(\Delta t)}{12} \left[ 23f(t_{k+2}, x^{k+2}) - 16f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) + 5f(t_k, x^k) \right];$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

(iii) Four-step **Adams-Bashforth** method: **explicit** four-step method

$$x^{k+4} = x^{k+3} + \frac{(\Delta t)}{24} \left[ 55f(t_{k+3}, x^{k+3}) - 59f(t_{k+2}, x^{k+2}) \right. \\ \left. + 37f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) - 9f(t_k, x^k) \right];$$

(iv) Two-step **Adams-Moulton** method: **implicit** two-step method

$$x^{k+2} = x^{k+1} + \frac{(\Delta t)}{12} \left[ 5f(t_{k+2}, x^{k+2}) + 8f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) - f(t_k, x^k) \right];$$

(v) Three-step **Adams-Moulton** method: **implicit** three-step method

$$x^{k+3} = x^{k+2} + \frac{(\Delta t)}{24} \left[ 9f(t_{k+3}, x^{k+3}) + 19f(t_{k+2}, x^{k+2}) + 5f(t_{k+1}, x^{k+1}) - 9f(t_k, x^k) \right].$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Construction of linear multi-step methods
- Suppose that  $x^k, k \in \mathbb{N}$ : sequence of real numbers.
- Shift operator  $E$ , forward difference operator  $\Delta_+$  and backward difference operator  $\Delta_-$ :

$$E : x^k \mapsto x^{k+1}, \quad \Delta_+ : x^k \mapsto x^{k+1} - x^k, \quad \Delta_- : x^k \mapsto x^k - x^{k-1}.$$

- $\Delta_+ = E - I$  and  $\Delta_- = I - E^{-1} \Rightarrow$  for any  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$(E - I)^n = \sum_{j=0}^n (-1)^j C_j^n E^{n-j}$$

and

$$(I - E^{-1})^n = \sum_{j=0}^n (-1)^j C_j^n E^{-j}.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

•  $\Rightarrow$

$$\Delta_+^n x^k = \sum_{j=0}^n (-1)^j C_j^n x^{k+n-j}$$

and

$$\Delta_-^n x^k = \sum_{j=0}^n (-1)^j C_j^n x^{k-j}.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $y(t) \in C^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ ;  $t_k = k\Delta t$ ,  $\Delta t > 0$ .
- Taylor series  $\Rightarrow$  for any  $s \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$E^s y(t_k) = y(t_k + s\Delta t) = \left( \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{l!} (s\Delta t \frac{\partial}{\partial t})^l y \right)(t_k) = (e^{s(\Delta t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t}} y)(t_k),$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$E^s = e^{s(\Delta t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t}}.$$

- Formally,

$$(\Delta t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} = \ln E = -\ln(1 - \Delta_-) = \Delta_- + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_-^2 + \frac{1}{3}\Delta_-^3 + \dots$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $x(t)$ : solution of ODE:

$$(\Delta t)f(t_k, x(t_k)) = \left( \Delta_- + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_-^2 + \frac{1}{3}\Delta_-^3 + \dots \right) x(t_k).$$

- Successive truncation of the infinite series  $\Rightarrow$

$$x^k - x^{k-1} = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k),$$

$$\frac{3}{2}x^k - 2x^{k-1} + \frac{1}{2}x^{k-2} = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k),$$

$$\frac{11}{6}x^k - 3x^{k-1} + \frac{3}{2}x^{k-2} - \frac{1}{3}x^{k-3} = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k),$$

and so on.

- Class of **implicit** multi-step methods: **backward differentiation formulas**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Similarly,

$$E^{-1}((\Delta t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t}) = (\Delta t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E^{-1} = -(I - \Delta_-) \ln(I - \Delta_-).$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$((\Delta t) \frac{\partial}{\partial t}) = -E(I - \Delta_-) \ln(I - \Delta_-) = -(I - \Delta_-) \ln(I - \Delta_-) E.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$(\Delta t) f(t_k, x(t_k)) = \left( \Delta_- - \frac{1}{2} \Delta_-^2 - \frac{1}{6} \Delta_-^3 + \dots \right) x(t_{k+1}).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Successive truncation of the infinite series  $\Rightarrow$  **explicit** numerical schemes:

$$x^{k+1} - x^k = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k),$$

$$\frac{1}{2}x^{k+1} - \frac{1}{2}x^{k-1} = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k),$$

$$\frac{1}{3}x^{k+1} + \frac{1}{2}x^k - x^{k-1} + \frac{1}{6}x^{k-2} = (\Delta t)f(t_k, x^k),$$

$\vdots$

- The first of these numerical schemes: **explicit Euler method**, while the second: **explicit mid-point method**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Construct further classes of multi-step methods:
- For  $y \in C^\infty$ ,

$$D^{-1}y(t_k) = y(t_0) + \int_{t_0}^{t_k} y(s) ds,$$

and

$$(E - I)D^{-1}y(t_k) = \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} y(s) ds.$$

- 

$$(E - I)D^{-1} = \Delta_+ D^{-1} = E \Delta_- D^{-1} = (\Delta t) E \Delta_- ((\Delta t) D)^{-1},$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

•  $\Rightarrow$

$$(E - I)D^{-1} = -(\Delta t)E\Delta_-(\ln(I - \Delta_-))^{-1}.$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- 

$$(E-I)D^{-1} = E\Delta_- D^{-1} = \Delta_- E D^{-1} = \Delta_- (DE^{-1})^{-1} = (\Delta t)\Delta_- ((\Delta t)DE^{-1})^{-1}.$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$(E-I)D^{-1} = -(\Delta t)\Delta_- \left( (I - \Delta_-) \ln(I - \Delta_-) \right)^{-1}.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- 

$$x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) = \int_{t_k}^{t_{k+1}} f(s, x(s)) ds = (E - I)D^{-1}f(t_k, x(t_k)),$$

- $\Rightarrow$

$$x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) = \begin{cases} -(\Delta t)\Delta_- ((I - \Delta_-) \ln(I - \Delta_-))^{-1} f(t_k, x(t_k)) \\ -(\Delta t)E\Delta_- (\ln(I - \Delta_-))^{-1} f(t_k, x(t_k)). \end{cases}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Expand  $\ln(1 - \Delta_-)$  into a Taylor series on the right-hand side  $\Rightarrow$

$$x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) = (\Delta t) \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2}\Delta_- + \frac{5}{12}\Delta_-^2 + \frac{3}{8}\Delta_-^3 + \dots \right] f(t_k, x(t_k))$$

and

$$x(t_{k+1}) - x(t_k) = (\Delta t) \left[ 1 - \frac{1}{2}\Delta_- - \frac{1}{12}\Delta_-^2 - \frac{1}{24}\Delta_-^3 + \dots \right] f(t_{k+1}, x(t_{k+1})).$$

- **Successive truncations**  $\Rightarrow$  families of (explicit) **Adams-Bashforth** methods and of (implicit) **Adams-Moulton** methods.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Consistency, stability, and convergence
- Introduce the concepts of consistency, stability, and convergence for analyzing linear multi-step methods.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **DEFINITION: Consistency**
  - The  $n$ -step method: **consistent** with the ODE if the **truncation error** defined by

$$T_k(\Delta t) = \frac{\sum_{j=0}^n [\alpha_j x(t_{k+j}) - (\Delta t) \beta_j \frac{dx}{dt}(t_{k+j})]}{(\Delta t)}$$

is s.t. for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $h_0$  for which

$$|T_k(\Delta t)| \leq \epsilon \quad \text{for } 0 < \Delta t \leq h_0$$

and any  $(n+1)$  points  $((t_j, x(t_j)), \dots, (t_{j+n}, x(t_{j+n})))$  on any solution  $x(t)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Theorem:** The  $n$ -step method is **consistent** if and only if the following two conditions hold:

$$\sum_{j=0}^n \alpha_j = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{j=0}^n j \alpha_j = \sum_{j=0}^n \beta_j.$$

- The  $n$ -step method is of **order  $p$**  if and only if

$$\frac{1}{l} \sum_{j=0}^n j^l \alpha_j = \sum_{j=0}^n j^{l-1} \beta_j, \quad \text{for all } l = 1, \dots, p,$$

and

$$\frac{1}{p+1} \sum_{j=0}^n j^{p+1} \alpha_j \neq \sum_{j=0}^n j^p \beta_j.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Assume that  $f \in \mathcal{C}^\infty$ .
- **Taylor expansions** for both  $x$  and  $dx/dt$ :

$$x(t_{k+j}) = \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{l!} (j\Delta t)^l x^{(l)}(t_k), \quad \frac{dx}{dt}(t_{k+j}) = \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{l!} (j\Delta t)^l x^{(l+1)}(t_k),$$

$$\Rightarrow \sum_{j=0}^n [\alpha_j x(t_{k+j}) - (\Delta t) \beta_j \frac{dx}{dt}(t_{k+j})]$$

$$= \sum_{j=0}^n \left[ \alpha_j \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{l!} (j\Delta t)^l x^{(l)}(t_k) - (\Delta t) \beta_j \sum_{l=0}^{+\infty} \frac{1}{l!} (j\Delta t)^l x^{(l+1)}(t_k) \right]$$

•

$$\begin{aligned} &= \left( \sum_{j=0}^n \alpha_j \right) x(t_k) + \left( \sum_{j=0}^n [j\alpha_j - \beta_j] \right) \Delta t \frac{dx}{dt}(t_k) \\ &+ \sum_{l=2}^{+\infty} \left( \sum_{j=0}^n \left[ \frac{j^l}{l!} \alpha_j - \frac{j^{l-1}}{(l-1)!} \beta_j \right] \right) (\Delta t)^l x^{(l)}(t_k). \end{aligned}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Simpson's scheme: of order 4; 2-step AB: of order 2; 3-step AB: of order 3, 4-step AB: of order 4; 2-step AM: of order 3, and 3-step AM: of order 4.



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **DEFINITION: Stability**
  - The  $n$ -step method: **stable** if there exists a constant  $C$  s.t., for any two sequences  $(x^k)$  and  $(\tilde{x}^k)$  which have been generated by the same formulas but different initial data  $x^0, x^1, \dots, x^{n-1}$  and  $\tilde{x}^0, \tilde{x}^1, \dots, \tilde{x}^{n-1}$ , respectively,

$$|x^k - \tilde{x}^k| \leq C \max\{|x^0 - \tilde{x}^0|, |x^1 - \tilde{x}^1|, \dots, |x^{n-1} - \tilde{x}^{n-1}|\}$$

as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ ,  $k \geq n$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **THEOREM: Convergence**
  - Suppose that the  $n$ -step method: **consistent** with the ODE.
  - **Stability** condition: **necessary and sufficient for the convergence**.
  - If  $x \in \mathcal{C}^{p+1}$  and the **truncation error**  $O((\Delta t)^p)$ , then the global error  $e_k = x(t_k) - x^k$ :  $O((\Delta t)^p)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Rewrite the  $n$ -multi-step method as a **one-step method in a higher dimensional space**.
- Let  $\phi(t_k, x^k, \dots, x^{k+n-1}, \Delta t)$  be defined **implicitly** by

$$\phi = \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \beta'_j f(t_{k+j}, x^{k+j}) + \beta'_n f(t_{k+n}, (\Delta t)\phi) - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \alpha'_j x^{k+j},$$

$$\alpha'_j = \alpha_j / \alpha_n \text{ and } \beta'_j = \beta_j / \alpha_n.$$

- The  $n$ -multi-step method can be written as

$$x^{k+n} = - \sum_{j=0}^{n-1} \alpha'_j x^{k+j} + (\Delta t)\phi.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Introduce the  $n$ -dimensional vectors:  $X^k = (x^{k+n-1}, \dots, x^k)^\top$ ,  
 $\Phi(t_k, X^k, \Delta t) = \phi(t_k, x^k, \dots, x^{k+n-1}, \Delta t)(1, 0, \dots, 0)^\top$ .

- Introduce the  $n \times n$  matrix:

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} -\alpha'_{n-1} & -\alpha'_{n-2} & \dots & \cdot & -\alpha'_0 \\ 1 & 0 & \dots & \cdot & 0 \\ & 1 & \dots & \vdots & 0 \\ & & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ & & & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- The  $n$ -step method can be rewritten as

$$X^{k+1} = AX^k + \Delta t \Phi(t_k, X^k, \Delta t).$$

- The concepts of consistency and stability can be expressed in this new notation.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Let  $x(t)$  be the exact solution and denote by

$$X(t_k) = (x(t_{k+n-1}, \dots, x(t_k)))^T.$$

- The **consistency condition**  $\Rightarrow$

$$|X(t_{k+1}) - AX(t_k) - \Delta t \Phi(t_k, X(t_k), \Delta t)| \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \Delta t \rightarrow 0.$$

- The **truncation error of order  $p$**   $\Rightarrow$

$$|X(t_{k+1}) - AX(t_k) - \Delta t \Phi(t_k, X(t_k), \Delta t)| = O((\Delta t)^p)$$

as  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ .

- The **stability condition**  $\Rightarrow$  that exists a vector norm on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that the matrix  $A$  satisfies  $\|A\| \leq 1$  in the subordinate matrix norm. .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Stiff equations and systems:**
- Let  $\epsilon > 0$ : small parameter. Consider the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx(t)}{dt} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon}x(t), & t \in [0, T], \\ x(0) = 1, \end{cases}$$

- Exponential solution  $x(t) = e^{-t/\epsilon}$ .
- Explicit Euler method with step size  $\Delta t$ :

$$x^{k+1} = \left(1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\epsilon}\right)x^k, \quad x^0 = 1,$$

with solution

$$x^k = \left(1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\epsilon}\right)^k.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $\epsilon > 0 \Rightarrow$  exact solution: **exponentially decaying and positive**.
- If  $1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\epsilon} < -1$ , then the iterates **grow exponentially fast** in magnitude, with **alternating signs**.
- Numerical solution: **nowhere close to the true solution**.
- If  $-1 < 1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\epsilon} < 0$ , then the numerical solution decays in magnitude, but continue to **alternate between positive and negative values**.
- To correctly model the qualitative features of the solution and obtain a numerically accurate solution: choose the step size  $\Delta t$  so as to ensure that  $1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\epsilon} > 0$ , and hence  **$\Delta t < \epsilon$** .
- **stiff differential equation**.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- In general, an equation or system: **stiff** if it has **one or more very rapidly decaying solutions**.
- In the case of the autonomous constant coefficient linear system: stiffness occurs whenever the coefficient matrix  $A$  has an eigenvalues  $\lambda_{j_0}$  with large negative real part:  $\Re \lambda_{j_0} \ll 0$ , resulting in a very rapidly decaying eigensolution.
- It only takes one such eigensolution to render the equation stiff, and ruin the numerical computation of even well behaved solutions.
- Even though the component of the actual solution corresponding to  $\lambda_{j_0}$ : almost irrelevant, its presence continues to render the numerical solution to the system very difficult.
- Most of the numerical methods: **suffer from instability due to stiffness** for sufficiently small positive  $\epsilon$ .
- Stiff equations require **more sophisticated numerical schemes** to integrate.



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Perturbation theories for differential equations
  - Regular perturbation theory;
  - Singular perturbation theory.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- **Regular perturbation theory:**
- $\epsilon > 0$ : small parameter and consider

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = f(t, x, \epsilon), & t \in [0, T], \\ x(0) = x_0, & x_0 \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

- $f \in \mathcal{C}^1 \Rightarrow$  **regular perturbation problem.**
- Taylor expansion of  $x(t, \epsilon) \in \mathcal{C}^1$ :

$$x(t, \epsilon) = x^{(0)}(t) + \epsilon x^{(1)}(t) + o(\epsilon)$$

with respect to  $\epsilon$  in a neighborhood of 0.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- $x^{(0)}$ :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx^{(0)}}{dt} = f_0(t, x^{(0)}), & t \in [0, T], \\ x^{(0)}(0) = x_0, & x_0 \in \mathbb{R}, \end{cases}$$

$$f_0(t, x) := f(t, x, 0).$$

- $x^{(1)}(t) = \frac{\partial x}{\partial \epsilon}(t, 0)$ :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx^{(1)}}{dt} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}(t, x^{(0)}, 0)x^{(1)} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial \epsilon}(t, x^{(0)}, 0), & t \in [0, T], \\ x^{(1)}(0) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Compute numerically  $x^{(0)}$  and  $x^{(1)}$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Singular perturbation theory:

- Consider

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} = f\left(t, x, \frac{dx}{dt}\right), & t \in [0, T], \\ x(0) = x_0, \quad x(T) = x_1. \end{cases}$$

- Singular perturbation problem: order reduction when  $\epsilon = 0$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Consider the linear, scalar and of second-order ODE:

$$\begin{cases} \epsilon \frac{d^2 x}{dt^2} + 2 \frac{dx}{dt} + x = 0, & t \in [0, 1], \\ x(0) = 0, & x(1) = 1. \end{cases}$$

- 

$$\alpha(\epsilon) := \frac{1 - \sqrt{1 - \epsilon}}{\epsilon} \quad \text{and} \quad \beta(\epsilon) := 1 + \sqrt{1 - \epsilon}.$$

- 

$$x(t, \epsilon) = \frac{e^{-\alpha t} - e^{-\beta t/\epsilon}}{e^{-\alpha} - e^{-\beta/\epsilon}}, \quad t \in [0, 1].$$

- $x(t, \epsilon)$ : involves two **terms which vary on widely different length-scales.**

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Behavior of  $x(t, \epsilon)$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ .
- Asymptotic behavior: **nonuniform**;
- There are two cases  $\rightarrow$  matching **outer** and **inner** solutions.

# Numerical solution of ODEs

(i) **Outer limit:**  $t > 0$  fixed and  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . Then  $x(t, \epsilon) \rightarrow x^{(0)}(t)$ ,

$$x^{(0)}(t) := e^{(1-t)/2}.$$

- Leading-order **outer solution** satisfies the boundary condition at  $t = 1$  but not the boundary condition at  $t = 0$ . Indeed,  $x^{(0)}(0) = e^{1/2}$ .

(ii) **Inner limit:**  $t/\epsilon = \tau$  fixed and  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . Then  $x(\epsilon\tau, \epsilon) \rightarrow X^{(0)}(\tau) := e^{1/2}(1 - e^{-2\tau})$ .

- Leading-order **inner solution** satisfies the boundary condition at  $t = 0$  but not the one at  $t = 1$ , which corresponds to  $\tau = 1/\epsilon$ . Indeed,  $\lim_{\tau \rightarrow +\infty} X^{(0)}(\tau) = e^{1/2}$ .

(iii) **Matching:** Both the inner and outer expansions: **valid in the region**  $\epsilon \ll t \ll 1$ , corresponding to  $t \rightarrow 0$  and  $\tau \rightarrow +\infty$  as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ . They satisfy the **matching condition**

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} x^{(0)}(t) = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow +\infty} X^{(0)}(\tau).$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Construct an asymptotic solution without relying on the fact that we can solve it exactly.
- Outer solution:

$$x(t, \epsilon) = x^{(0)}(t) + \epsilon x^{(1)}(t) + O(\epsilon^2).$$

- Use this expansion and equate the coefficients of the leading-order terms to zero.
- $\Rightarrow$

$$\begin{cases} 2 \frac{dx^{(0)}}{dt} + x^{(0)} = 0, & t \in [0, 1], \\ x^{(0)}(1) = 1. \end{cases}$$



# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Inner solution.
- Suppose that there is a **boundary layer** at  $t = 0$  of width  $\delta(\epsilon)$ , and introduce a **stretched variable**  $\tau = t/\delta$ .
- Look for an inner solution  $X(\tau, \epsilon) = x(t, \epsilon)$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- 

$$\frac{d}{dt} = \frac{1}{\delta} \frac{d}{d\tau},$$

⇒  $X$  satisfies

$$\frac{\epsilon}{\delta^2} \frac{d^2 X}{d\tau^2} + \frac{2}{\delta} \frac{dX}{d\tau} + X = 0.$$

- Two possible dominant balances:
  - (i)  $\delta = 1$ , leading to the **outer solution**;
  - (ii)  $\delta = \epsilon$ , leading to the **inner solution**.
- ⇒ **Boundary layer thickness**: of the order of  $\epsilon$ , and the appropriate **inner variable**:  $\tau = t/\epsilon$ .

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Equation for  $X$ :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2 X}{d\tau^2} + 2 \frac{dX}{d\tau} + \epsilon X = 0, \\ X(0, \epsilon) = 0. \end{cases}$$

- Impose **only the boundary condition at  $\tau = 0$** , since we do not expect the inner expansion to be valid outside the boundary layer where  $t = O(\epsilon)$ .
- Seek an inner expansion

$$X(\tau, \epsilon) = X^{(0)}(\tau) + \epsilon X^{(1)}(\tau) + O(\epsilon^2)$$

and find that

$$\begin{cases} \frac{d^2 X^{(0)}}{d\tau^2} + 2 \frac{dX^{(0)}}{d\tau} = 0, \\ X^{(0)}(0) = 0. \end{cases}$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- General solution:

$$X^{(0)}(\tau) = c(1 - e^{-2\tau}),$$

$c$ : arbitrary constant of integration.

- Determine the unknown constant  $c$  by requiring that the **inner solution matches with the outer solution**.
- **Matching condition:**

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow 0^+} x^{(0)}(t) = \lim_{\tau \rightarrow +\infty} X^{(0)}(\tau),$$

$$\Rightarrow c = e^{1/2}.$$

# Numerical solution of ODEs

- Asymptotic solution as  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ :

$$x(t, \epsilon) = \begin{cases} e^{1/2}(1 - e^{-2\tau}) & \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ with } t/\epsilon \text{ fixed,} \\ e^{(1-t)/2} & \text{as } \epsilon \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ with } t \text{ fixed.} \end{cases}$$