

§5.10 Stability (this comes from K&C. B&F is more general) (28)

Recall the general form of a multistep method:

$$(*) \quad a_k y_n + a_{k-1} y_{n-1} + \dots + a_0 y_{n-k} = h [b_k f_n + b_{k-1} f_{n-1} + \dots + b_0 f_{n-k}]$$

where $f_n = f(t_n, y_n)$.

$b_k \neq 0 \Rightarrow$ implicit method (new y_n appears on both sides)

$b_k = 0 \Rightarrow$ explicit method

We associate two polynomials with (*):

$$p(z) = a_k z^k + a_{k-1} z^{k-1} + \dots + a_0$$

$$q(z) = b_k z^k + b_{k-1} z^{k-1} + \dots + b_0$$

Def (Convergent method): Let $y(h, t)$ be the approx sol obtained by using a numerical method with step size h . The method is said to be convergent if:

$$\forall t \in [t_0, t_m]:$$

$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} y(h, t) = y(t)$$

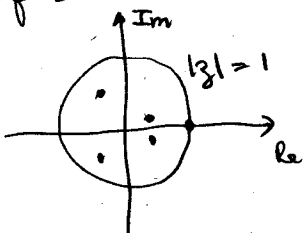
provided the starting values obey same eq, i.e.:

for all n s.t. $0 \leq n \leq k-1$:

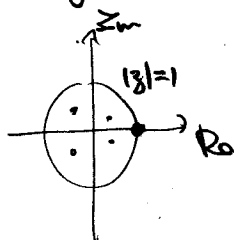
$$\lim_{h \rightarrow 0} y(h, t_0 + nh) = y(t_0 + nh).$$

and f satisfies conditions for the problem $\begin{cases} y' = f \\ y(t_0) = \alpha \end{cases}$ to be well posed

Def (Stability) A multistep method is said to be stable if all the roots of $p(z)$ lie in the disk $|z| \leq 1$ and if each root $|z|=1$ is simple ($\equiv$ multiplicity 1)

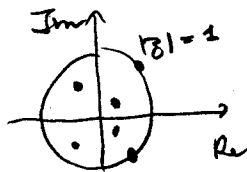


(strongly) stable
only root with $|z|=1$
is $z=1$.

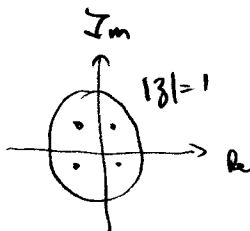


unstable

$$p(z) = (z-1)^2 r(z)$$

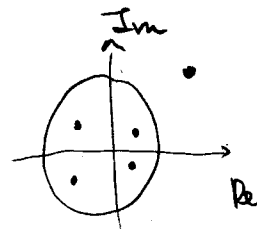


(weakly) stable
more than one root
with $|z|=1$.



stable

All roots λ , $|\lambda| < 1$



unstable

etc...

Def (consistency) A multistep method is said to be consistent if:

$$p(1) = 0$$

and $p'(1) = q(1)$

(we will see in a moment where this comes from)

Theorem For multistep methods of general form (*):

$$\boxed{\text{Convergent} \Leftrightarrow (\text{stable and consistent})}$$

proof: stable and consistent $\Rightarrow$ Convergent is very involved.

• Convergent $\Rightarrow$ stable (stability is a necessary cdt^o for convergence)

Assume method is not stable, we will give a simple problem where method is not convergent.

method not stable $\Rightarrow$ ① $\exists$ root λ of $p(z)$ with $|\lambda| > 1$

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or ② $\exists$ _____ with $|\lambda| = 1$ and $p'(\lambda) = 0$

(note: $p(\lambda) = 0 \Rightarrow p(z) = (z - \lambda)r(z)$

$$p'(z) = r(z) + (z - \lambda)r'(z)$$

$$p'(\lambda) = r(\lambda).$$

thus $p'(\lambda) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \lambda$ is a multiple root of p)

Consider the simple IVP:

$$\textcircled{1} \begin{cases} y' = 0 \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (\text{exact sol is } y(t) = 0)$$

Applying (*):

$$a_k y_n + a_{k-1} y_{n-1} + \dots + a_0 y_{n-k} = 0 \quad (1)$$

This is a difference eq and it is relatively easy to come up with sequences satisfying it (see below for a refresher on difference eq.). In particular any sequence of the form:

$$y_n = h \lambda^n, \quad \lambda \text{ root of } p.$$

satisfies the difference eq.

① $\exists$ if $|\lambda| > 1$:

$$|y(h, nh)| = h |\lambda|^n < h |\lambda|^k \quad \text{for } 0 \leq n \leq k-1$$

thus $|y(h, nh)| \rightarrow 0$ (method is convergent on first few steps)

however, if we let $t = nh$ (or $h = t/n$):

$$|y(h, t)| = |y(h, nh)| = h |\lambda|^n = \frac{t}{n} |\lambda|^n \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty$$

(method blows up for such a simple problem!)

③ If $|\lambda| = 1$ and $p(\lambda) = 0$ a sol to difference eq is:

$$y_n = h n \lambda^n$$

method is convergent for first few steps since.

$$|y(h, nh)| = h n \underbrace{|\lambda|^n}_{=1} = h n < h k \quad (\text{for } 0 \leq n \leq k-1)$$

$\downarrow$
0 as $h \rightarrow 0$.

method does not converge after a few steps ($t = nh$, $h = t/n$):

$$|y(h, \underbrace{t}_{nh})| = \underbrace{h n}_{=t} |\lambda|^n = t \neq 0 \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

• Convergent $\Rightarrow$ consistent

Assume method (*) is convergent.

$$(P2) \begin{cases} y' = 0 \\ y(0) = 1 \end{cases}$$

$\leadsto$ same difference eq $a_k y_n + a_{k-1} y_{n-1} + \dots + a_0 y_{n-k} = 0$ (1)

a sol to (1) is to set $y_0 = y_1 = \dots = y_{k-1} = 1$

and use (1) to find y_n , $n \geq k$.

Since method is convergent:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = 1, \text{ plugging into (1):}$$

$$\Rightarrow a_k + a_{k-1} + \dots + a_0 = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{p(1) = 0}$$

Now consider the problem

$$(P3) \begin{cases} y' = 1 \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases} \quad (\text{sol is } y(t) = t)$$

we get a new eq:

$$a_k y_n + a_{k-1} y_{n-1} + \dots + a_0 y_{n-k} = h [b_k + b_{k-1} + \dots + b_0] \quad (2)$$

$$\text{Convergent} \Rightarrow \text{stable} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} p(1) = 0 \\ p'(1) \neq 0 \end{cases} \quad (1 \text{ is a simple root})$$

A solution to (2) is given by:

$$y_n = (n+k)h\gamma, \text{ where } \gamma = \frac{q(1)}{p'(1)}.$$

checking by substitution in LHS of (2):

$$\begin{aligned} & h\gamma (a_k(n+k) + a_{k-1}(n+k-1) + \dots + a_0 n) \\ &= n h\gamma (\underbrace{a_k + a_{k-1} + \dots + a_0}_{= p(1) = 0}) + h\gamma [\underbrace{k a_k + (k-1)a_{k-1} + \dots + a_1}_{= p'(1)}] \\ &= h\gamma (k a_k + (k-1)a_{k-1} + \dots + a_1) \end{aligned}$$

$$= h\gamma q(1) = h [b_k + b_{k-1} + \dots + b_0].$$

Now the first few steps are consistent with initial value: $y(0) = 0$:

$$|y(h, nh)| = (n+k)h\gamma \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0. \\ (\text{since } 0 \leq n \leq k-1)$$

Since The method is convergent we must have:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} y_n = t \text{ when } nh = t$$

$$\Rightarrow \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} (n+k)h\gamma = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underbrace{nh}_{=t} \gamma = t \Rightarrow \gamma = 1 \\ \Rightarrow \boxed{p'(1) = q(1)}$$

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow 0} k h\gamma = 0$$

Example: Milne's method $y_n - y_{n-2} = h \left[\frac{1}{3} f_n + \frac{4}{3} f_{n-1} + \frac{1}{3} f_{n-2} \right]$

$$p(z) = z^2 - 1 \quad \text{roots: } +1, -1 \quad (\text{simple}) \Rightarrow \text{stable}$$

$$q(z) = \frac{1}{3} z^2 + \frac{4}{3} z + \frac{1}{3}$$

$$p'(z) = 2z$$

$$q(1) = 2 = p'(1)$$

$$p(1) = 0$$

consistent

method is convergent

Difference equation fundamentals (optional)

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$x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$ are sequences

$y = (y_1, y_2, y_3, \dots)$

A difference eq can be written using the shift operator

$$Ex = (x_2, x_3, x_4, \dots), \text{ where } x = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots)$$

It is not hard to see that:

$$(Ex)_n = x_{n+1}$$

$$(E^k x)_n = x_{n+k}$$

$$E^0 x = x$$

A linear difference operator is:

$$L = \sum_{i=0}^m a_i E^i$$

A difference eq is of the form:

$$Lx = 0.$$

example: $x_{n+2} - 3x_{n+1} + 2x_n = 0$

$$\Leftrightarrow (E^2 - 3E^1 + 2E^0)x = 0$$

$$\Leftrightarrow p(E)x = 0 \quad \text{where } p(\lambda) = \lambda^2 - 3\lambda + 2$$

Theorem (Simple roots) If p is a poly and λ a root then a sol to $p(E)x = 0$ is $(\lambda, \lambda^2, \lambda^3, \dots)$. If all roots of p are simple $\neq 0$ then all solutions to $p(E)x = 0$ are in the span of all such solutions.

Theorem (Multiple roots) Let p be a poly with $p(0) \neq 0$. Then a basis for nullspace of $p(E)$ is:

with each root λ of p with multiplicity k , associate k solutions:

$$x(\lambda), x'(\lambda), x''(\lambda), \dots, x^{(k-1)}(\lambda), \text{ where } x(\lambda) = (\lambda, \lambda^2, \lambda^3, \dots)$$

$$x'(\lambda) = (1, 2\lambda, 3\lambda^2, \dots)$$

$$x''(\lambda) = (0, 2, 6\lambda, \dots)$$

$\vdots$