

Exercises from: *Finite Difference Methods for Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations*  
by R. J. LeVeque, SIAM, 2007. <http://www.amath.washington.edu/~rjl/fdmbook>

**Exercise 5.1** (*Uniqueness for an ODE*)

Prove that the ODE

$$u'(t) = \frac{1}{t^2 + u(t)^2}, \quad \text{for } t \geq 1$$

has a unique solution for all time from any initial value  $u(1) = \eta$ .

**Exercise 5.3** (*Lipschitz constant for a system of ODEs*)

Consider the system of ODEs

$$\begin{aligned}u_1' &= 3u_1 + 4u_2, \\u_2' &= 5u_1 - 6u_2.\end{aligned}$$

Determine the Lipschitz constant for this system in the max-norm  $\|\cdot\|_\infty$  and the 1-norm  $\|\cdot\|_1$ .  
(See Section 12.3.)

**Exercise 5.4** (*Duhamel's principle*)

Check that the solution  $u(t)$  given by (5.8) satisfies the ODE (5.6) and initial condition.  
Hint: To differentiate the matrix exponential you can differentiate the Taylor series (15.31) term by term.

**Exercise 5.5** (*matrix exponential form of solution*)

The initial value problem

$$v''(t) = -4v(t), \quad v(0) = v_0, \quad v'(0) = v_0'$$

has the solution  $v(t) = v_0 \cos(2t) + \frac{1}{2}v_0' \sin(2t)$ . Determine this solution by rewriting the ODE as a first order system  $u' = Au$  so that  $u(t) = e^{At}u(0)$  and then computing the matrix exponential using (15.30).

**Exercise 5.8** (*Use of ode113 and ode45*)

This problem can be solved by a modifying the m-files `odesample.m` and `odesampletest.m` available from the webpage.

Consider the third order initial value problem

$$\begin{aligned}v'''(t) + v''(t) + 4v'(t) + 4v(t) &= 4t^2 + 8t - 10, \\v(0) = -3, \quad v'(0) = -2, \quad v''(0) &= 2.\end{aligned}$$

- (a) Verify that the function

$$v(t) = -\sin(2t) + t^2 - 3$$

is a solution to this problem. How do you know it is the unique solution?

- (b) Rewrite this problem as a first order system of the form  $u'(t) = f(u(t), t)$  where  $u(t) \in \mathbb{R}^3$ . Make sure you also specify the initial condition  $u(0) = \eta$  as a 3-vector.
- (c) Use the MATLAB function `ode113` to solve this problem over the time interval  $0 \leq t \leq 2$ . Plot the true and computed solutions to make sure you've done this correctly.
- (d) Test the MATLAB solver by specifying different tolerances spanning several orders of magnitude. Create a table showing the maximum error in the computed solution for each tolerance and the number of function evaluations required to achieve this accuracy.
- (e) Repeat part (d) using the MATLAB function `ode45`, which uses an embedded pair of Runge-Kutta methods instead of Adams-Bashforth-Moulton methods.

**Exercise 5.9** (*truncation errors*)

Compute the leading term in the local truncation error of the following methods:

- (a) the trapezoidal method (5.22),
- (b) the 2-step BDF method (5.25),
- (c) the Runge-Kutta method (5.30).

**Exercise 5.10** (*Derivation of Adams-Moulton*)

Determine the coefficients  $\beta_0$ ,  $\beta_1$ ,  $\beta_2$  for the third order, 2-step Adams-Moulton method. Do this in two different ways:

- (a) Using the expression for the local truncation error in Section 5.9.1,
- (b) Using the relation

$$u(t_{n+2}) = u(t_{n+1}) + \int_{t_{n+1}}^{t_{n+2}} f(u(s)) ds.$$

Interpolate a quadratic polynomial  $p(t)$  through the three values  $f(U^n)$ ,  $f(U^{n+1})$  and  $f(U^{n+2})$  and then integrate this polynomial exactly to obtain the formula. The coefficients of the polynomial will depend on the three values  $f(U^{n+j})$ . It's easiest to use the "Newton form" of the interpolating polynomial and consider the three times  $t_n = -k$ ,  $t_{n+1} = 0$ , and  $t_{n+2} = k$  so that  $p(t)$  has the form

$$p(t) = A + B(t + k) + C(t + k)t$$

where  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are the appropriate divided differences based on the data. Then integrate from 0 to  $k$ . (The method has the same coefficients at any time, so this is valid.)

**Exercise 5.17** ( $R(z)$  for the trapezoidal method)

(a) Apply the trapezoidal method to the equation  $u' = \lambda u$  and show that

$$U^{n+1} = \left( \frac{1 + z/2}{1 - z/2} \right) U^n,$$

where  $z = \lambda k$ .

(b) Let

$$R(z) = \frac{1 + z/2}{1 - z/2}.$$

Show that  $R(z) = e^z + \mathcal{O}(z^3)$  and conclude that the one-step error of the trapezoidal method on this problem is  $\mathcal{O}(k^3)$  (as expected since the method is second order accurate).

Hint: One way to do this is to use the “Neumann series” expansion

$$\frac{1}{1 - z/2} = 1 + \frac{z}{2} + \left(\frac{z}{2}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{z}{2}\right)^3 + \dots$$

and then multiply this series by  $(1 + z/2)$ . A more general approach to checking the accuracy of rational approximations to  $e^z$  is explored in the next exercises.

**Exercise 5.18** ( $R(z)$  for Runge-Kutta methods)

Any  $r$ -stage Runge-Kutta method applied to  $u' = \lambda u$  will give an expression of the form

$$U^{n+1} = R(z)U^n$$

where  $z = \lambda k$  and  $R(z)$  is a rational function, a ratio of polynomials in  $z$  each having degree at most  $r$ . For an explicit method  $R(z)$  will simply be a polynomial of degree  $r$  and for an implicit method it will be a more general rational function.

Since  $u(t_{n+1}) = e^z u(t_n)$  for this problem, we expect that a  $p$ th order accurate method will give a function  $R(z)$  satisfying

$$R(z) = e^z + \mathcal{O}(z^{p+1}) \quad \text{as } z \rightarrow 0, \tag{E5.18a}$$

as discussed in the Remark on page 129. The rational function  $R(z)$  also plays a role in stability analysis as discussed in Section 7.6.2.

One can determine the value of  $p$  in (E5.18a) by expanding  $e^z$  in a Taylor series about  $z = 0$ , writing the  $\mathcal{O}(z^{p+1})$  term as

$$Cz^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(z^{p+2}),$$

multiplying through by the denominator of  $R(z)$ , and then collecting terms. For example, for the trapezoidal method of Exercise 5.17,

$$\frac{1 + z/2}{1 - z/2} = \left( 1 + z + \frac{1}{2}z^2 + \frac{1}{6}z^3 + \dots \right) + Cz^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(z^{p+2})$$

gives

$$\begin{aligned}1 + \frac{1}{2}z &= \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}z\right) \left(1 + z + \frac{1}{2}z^2 + \frac{1}{6}z^3 + \dots\right) + Cz^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(z^{p+2}) \\ &= 1 + \frac{1}{2}z - \frac{1}{12}z^3 + \dots + Cz^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(z^{p+2})\end{aligned}$$

and so

$$Cz^{p+1} = \frac{1}{12}z^3 + \dots,$$

from which we conclude that  $p = 2$ .

(a) Let

$$R(z) = \frac{1 + \frac{1}{3}z}{1 - \frac{2}{3}z + \frac{1}{6}z^2}.$$

Determine  $p$  for this rational function as an approximation to  $e^z$ .

(b) Determine  $R(z)$  and  $p$  for the backward Euler method.

(c) Determine  $R(z)$  and  $p$  for the TR-BDF2 method (5.36).