

1 ▶ Order criteria

Consider an explicit two-stage Runge-Kutta method given by the Butcher table

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$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
c & a & 0 \\
\hline
& b_1 & b_2 \\
\end{array}$$

Write down equations for the parameters such that the method is consistent of order two. Show that the order of consistency cannot be higher.

2 ► Simpler order conditions for simple ODEs

Let $(A, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c})$ be an explicit s-stage Runge Kutta method, $s \geq p$, which is invariant under autonomization, i.e., $\mathbf{c} = A\mathbf{e}$.

(a) Consider the simplest autonomous initial value problem

$$\mathbf{y}'(t) = B\mathbf{y}(t), \quad \mathbf{y}(t_0) = \mathbf{y}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad B \in \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}.$$

Show that the Runge-Kutta method has consistency order p if and only if

$$\mathbf{b}^{\mathsf{T}} A^{(\beta)} = \frac{1}{(\#\beta)!}$$
 for all linear trees $\beta = [[\cdots [\odot] \cdots]]$ with $\#\beta \leq p$.

(b) Consider the quadrature problem

$$\mathbf{y}'(t) = f(t), \quad \mathbf{y}(t_0) = \mathbf{y}_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$$

of a function $f \in C^{\infty}([0,T])$. Show that the Runge-Kutta method has consistency order p if and only if

$$\mathbf{b}^{\mathsf{T}} A^{(\beta)} = \frac{1}{\#\beta}$$
 for all one-level trees $\beta = [\odot, \ldots, \odot]$ with $\#\beta \le p$.

Hint. What is $A^{(\beta)}$ for such trees?

3 ► Local vs. global error

In this exercise, we will investigate the difference between the local and the global error. We consider the ODE

$$y'(t) = 1 - t + 3y$$
, $y(t_0) = y_0$

with exact solution

$$y(t) = Ce^{3t} - \frac{2}{9} + \frac{t}{3}, \quad C(t_0, y_0) = \frac{y_0 - \frac{t_0}{3} + \frac{2}{9}}{e^{3t_0}}.$$

- 1. Create a plot similiar to Figure 2.1 (Lady Windemere's fan) using an explicit Euler method on the interval T = [0,1] with stepsize h = 0.2 and initial condition y(0) = 1. To do this, you have to calculate the exact solutions y(t) with initial conditions $y(t_i) = y_i$ obtained from the *i*th step of the explicit Euler scheme.
- 2. Plot the global error $|y(1) y_N|$, where y_N is the last step of the Euler scheme and compare it to the maximum local error, both as functions of the stepsize h. What is the convergence order that you obtain for the local and the global error?

4 ► Order isn't everything¹

Solve the initial value problem

$$y'(t) = |1.1 - y| + 1, \quad t \in [0, 0.1], \quad y(0) = 1,$$

both analytically, and numerically using the explicit Euler method, Runge's method, and the classical RK4 method. Plot errors of all three methods against time.

Then write a script which does the same for various step sizes $N=2^k$, $k=1,2,\ldots,10$, and measures the runtime of each method (use the commands tic and toc). For all three methods, plot the runtime versus the achieved final accuracy at T=0.1 (use a double logarithmic scale). You may compare to a plot of the required number of function evaluations versus the final achieved accuracy.

Hint. The exact solution is

$$y(t) = \begin{cases} -1.1e^{-t} + 2.1, & 0 \le t \le \ln 1.1, \\ \frac{10}{11}e^t + 0.1, & \ln 1.1 \le t \le 0.1. \end{cases}$$

 $^{^1}$ Title and exercise taken from Deuflhard, Bornemann: Scientific Computing with Ordinary Differential Equations, Springer, 2002.