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Hybrid Predictors and Correctors for Solving  
a Special Class of Second Order Differential  
Equations

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Abstract

Hybrid predictors and correctors of order  $k + k' + 1$  are constructed for the numerical solution of second order differential equations not containing the first derivative explicitly. These methods are based on both explicit ( $k'=k-1$ ) and implicit ( $k'=k$ ) linear  $k$ -step methods.

51. Introduction

The numerical solution of the special class of second order differential equations

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} y''(x) &= f(x, y(x)), \\ y(x_0) &= y_0, \\ y'(x_0) &= y'_0, \end{aligned}$$

via Runge-Kutta type method was discussed by e.g., Collatz [2, p. 61], de Vogelaere [11] and Scraton [10]. Linear  $k$ -step methods of the form

$$(2) \quad \sum_{j=0}^k a_j y_{n+j} = h^2 \sum_{j=0}^{k'} \beta_j f_{n+j}$$

for the solution of (1) were discussed by e.g., Henrici [6, p. 289] and Lambert [7, p. 252]. The direct application of methods of class (2) to problem (1), rather than the application of a conventional linear multistep method to an equivalent first-order system is usually recommended (see Ash [1]).

A rigid theory of the stability and convergence of general multistep methods was developed by Dahlquist [3, 4] and Henrici [6, p. 307].

Definition 1: The method (2) is said to be zero-stable if no root of the first characteristic polynomial

$$(3) \quad \rho(\xi) = \sum_{j=0}^k a_j \xi^j$$

has modulus greater than one, and if every root of modulus one has multiplicity not greater than two.

Definition 2: The method (2) has order  $p$  if the linear difference operator

$$(4) \quad L[y(x);h] = \sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j y(x+jh) - h^2 \sum_{j=0}^{k'} \beta_j y''(x+jh),$$

where  $y(x)$  is an arbitrary function, can be expanded in Taylor's series as follows

$$(5) \quad L[y(x);h] = C_{p+2} h^{p+2} y^{(p+2)}(x) + O(h^{p+3})$$

and  $C_{p+2} \neq 0$ . The number  $C_{p+2}$  is called the error constant.

Definition 3: A method (2) is said to be consistent if it has order at least one.

One can easily show that for a consistent method

$$(6) \quad \rho(1) = \rho'(1) = 0,$$

$$(7) \quad \rho''(1) = 2\sigma(1),$$

where

$$(8) \quad \sigma(\xi) = \sum_{j=0}^{k'} \beta_j \xi^j$$

is called the second characteristic polynomial.

Theorem (Henrici [6, p. 307]):

The order  $p$  of a zero-stable method (2) cannot exceed  $k + 2$ . A necessary and sufficient condition for  $p = k + 2$  is that  $k$  be even, that all roots of  $\rho(\xi)$  have modulus one, and that  $\sigma(\xi)$  be determined by

$$(9) \quad \sigma(\xi) = \sum_{j=0}^{k'} C_j (\xi-1)^j$$

and  $C_j$  are the coefficients in the expansion of

$$(10) \quad \frac{\rho(\xi)}{(\log \xi)^2} = \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} C_j (\xi-1)^j.$$

Since stability is a necessary condition for convergence, the last theorem restricts the order of multistep methods for larger  $k$ . Although  $p = k + k' - 1$  could actually be attained, one has to confine oneself to the use of methods of order  $k + 1$  (or  $k + 2$ ) to have convergence.

The approach to a relaxation of the previous theorem is discussed by Neta and Lee [8]. One includes in (2), the second derivative at a single offstep point  $x_{n+r}$ , with a real  $r \notin I_k = \{0, 1, \dots, k\}$ , usually noninteger.

For a given  $\rho$ , the generalized  $k$ -step method with a  $\sigma$  of degree  $k'$  is of order  $p \geq k' + 3$ . Such correctors with the necessary predictors for  $k \leq 10$  were constructed by Neta [9] for Störmer-Cowell type methods. In [8], it was shown that methods of maximal order ( $p = k + k' + 1$ ) exist. The purpose of this note is to construct explicit and implicit maximal order correctors of step  $k \leq 10$  if exist. We also construct predictors of the same or higher order. The general form of the corrector is

$$(11) \quad y_{n+k} + \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \alpha_i y_{n+i} = h^2 \sum_{i=0}^{k'} \beta_i f_{n+i} + h^2 \beta_r f_{n+r}$$

and the predictor

$$(12) \quad y_{n+r} + \sum_{i=m_1}^{k-1} \alpha_i^p y_{n+i} + \alpha_{r-1}^p y_{n+r-1} = h^2 \sum_{i=m_1}^{k-1} \beta_i^p f_{n+i} + h^2 \beta_{r-1}^p f_{n+r-1}$$

where  $m_1$  may take the value of  $-1$ . Note that this predictor is using the values  $y_{n+r-1}, f_{n+r-1}$ . These values are available after the first application of this hybrid method ( $n > 0$ ). This idea is new and may replace the necessity of taking  $m_1$  equal to  $-2$ . For implicit method one requires also a predictor for  $y_{n+k}$ .

$$(13) \quad y_{n+k} + \sum_{i=m_3}^{k-1} \alpha_i^e y_{n+i} + \alpha_r^e y_{n+r} = h^2 \sum_{i=m_3}^{k-1} \beta_i^e f_{n+i} + h^2 \beta_r^e f_{n+r},$$

where  $m_3$  may take the value of  $-1$ . Note that this predictor is using the values  $y_{n+r}, f_{n+r}$ . This form of predictor is different from the one suggested in [8, 9].

In the next section we construct the maximal order correctors.

In Section 3 we give the predictors.

## §2. Corrector methods

In this section we construct explicit and implicit correctors of order  $k + k' + 1$ . We follow the method described in [8] for constructing such correctors. We choose  $r$  such that the  $k$  homogeneous linear equations for  $a_2, \dots, a_k, \beta_r$ ,

$$(14) \quad \sum_{i=0}^{k-2} a_{i+2} \delta_{j..i} - \binom{r}{j} \beta_r = 0 \quad j = k' + 1, k' + 2, \dots, k' + k$$

have a nontrivial solution. The number  $\delta_{j..i}$  are given in Table 1 [8] and the  $a_i$ 's relate to  $\alpha_i$ 's via

$$(15) \quad \rho(\xi) = \sum_{i=2}^k a_i (\xi-1)^i.$$

The determinant of (14) is a polynomial of degree  $k' + k$  in  $r$  which has the  $k' + 1$  zeros  $r = 0, 1, \dots, k'$ , leading to  $\beta_r \neq 0$  and all  $a_i = 0$ . The remaining real zeros, if any, could be tested as to whether they produce a stable  $\rho$  or not. The necessary condition for stability is given in [8]

$$(16) \quad \frac{k}{2} < r < \begin{cases} \infty & \text{if } k' = k \\ k & \text{if } k' = k - 1. \end{cases}$$

Using this method we found there exists no explicit method of step  $7 \leq k \leq 10$  and no implicit method of step  $5 \leq k \leq 10$ . In all these cases we found that all remaining zeros  $r$  were complex. For explicit methods with step  $k = 4, 5$  the only real zero was  $r = k$ , i.e.,  $r \in I_k$ , which is not admissible.

The only four methods are given in Table 1. The results obtained using quadruple precision.

## §3. Predictors

In this section we first discuss the predictors for  $y_{n+r}$  and then the predictors for  $y_{n+k}$  required for implicit methods only. The predictors suggested in the literature (Gragg and Stetler [5], Neta and

Lee [8] and Neta [9]), require the knowledge of  $y_{n-1}$  and even  $y_{n-2}$ . Clearly, the problem is for  $n < 2$ . Here we suggest to use  $y_{n+r-1}$  instead of  $y_{n-2}$ , thus remedying those cases for which one requires  $y_{n-2}$ . The value of  $y_{n+r-1}$  is available to the user for  $n > 1$ . We

k	3	3	4	6
k'	2	3	4	5
p	6	7	9	12
error constant	.19506961-2	-.40974629-3	.10237162-3	-.26351551-3
$\alpha_0$	.33974596	.21955646	.12005172	.44073883
$\alpha_1$	.32050807	.56088708	.85814015	-.23561119-1
$\alpha_2$	-.1660254+1	-.17804435+1	-.10764355+1	-.24600533+2
$\alpha_3$	1.	1.	-.90175640	.16340591+2
$\alpha_4$	-	-	1.	.40010967+2
$\alpha_5$	-	-	-	-.33168203+2
$\alpha_6$	-	-	-	1.
r	.27320508+1	.30998512+1	.39578900+1	.52609010+1
$\beta_r$	.14433757	-.17060250	.47587450	.22793114+1
$\beta_0$	-.24519053-1	.19037446	-.47607846	-.24788779+1
$\beta_1$	-.58384716-1	.42966196	-.24184615	-.32420131
$\beta_2$	.10283122+1	.10399476+1	.46318699	-.73093719+1
$\beta_3$	-	.88414818-1	.51181710	-.19288598+2
$\beta_4$	-	-	.7775689-1	-.33695301+2
$\beta_5$	-	-	-	-.10898672+1

Table 1

write the predictors as follows:

$$y_{n+r} + \sum_{i=m_1}^{k-1} \alpha_i^p y_{n+i} + \alpha_{r-1}^p y_{n+r-1} = h^2 \sum_{i=m_1}^{k-1} \beta_i^p f_{n+i} + h^2 \beta_{r-1}^p f_{n+r-1}$$

where  $m_1$  may take the value of -1.

The coefficients  $\alpha_i^p$ ,  $\beta_i^p$ ,  $i = m_1, \dots, k-1$ ,  $\alpha_{r-1}^p$ ,  $\beta_{r-1}^p$ , the order  $p$  and the error constant are given in Table 2 for all methods.

Note that for  $j$ -step method we need values at  $x_{n-1}$  and  $x_{n+r-1}$  to be able to construct a method of order higher than 6. The 6th-order method, using only values at  $x_{n-1}$ , has an error constant larger

than the corrector and order equal to that of the corrector. For the 4-step method we constructed two methods of order 10, one uses the values at  $x_{n-1}$  and  $x_{n+r-1}$  and the other using the values at  $x_{n-1}$  and  $x_{n-2}$ . As mentioned before, the first one can be used for  $n > 1$  whereas the second can be used only after  $n > 2$ . The 6-step, 12th-order method requires only values at  $x_{n+r-1}$ .

Now, we turn to the predictor for  $y_{n+k}$ . Since  $y_{n+r}$  is computed we can utilize it to obtain  $y_{n+k}$ . The predictors are of the form

$$y_{n+k} + \sum_{i=m_3}^{k-1} \alpha_i^e y_{n+i} + \alpha_r^e y_{n+r} = h^2 \sum_{i=m_3}^{k-1} \beta_i^e f_{n+i} + h^2 \beta_r^e f_{n+r}$$

Since  $y_{n+r}$ ,  $f_{n+r}$  increase the number of free parameters by 2, it was possible to take  $m_3 = -1$ . We also were able to obtain predictors of order higher than correctors. This alleviated the problem created by the relatively large error constants of predictors compared to correctors. If we take  $m_3 = 0$  the number of parameters is not enough to obtain a method of order  $k + k' + 1$ .

k	3	3	4	4	6
k'	2	3	4	4	5
p	6	8	10	10	12
$c_{p+2}$	.15345044-2	.37799083-3	.33457995-3	.45316620-4	.24939624-7
$\alpha_{r-1}^p$	-	-.16367041+3	-	.43155998+3	-.27870041+1
$\alpha_{-2}^p$	-	-	.89183517	-	-
$\alpha_{-1}^p$	.16495722	-.34707085+1	.48225668+2	-.20987953+1	-
$\alpha_0^p$	.41805548+1	-.17210929+2	.97142753+2	-.21742056+2	-.65123495-2
$\alpha_1^p$	-.81239305+1	.29591150+2	-.29265853+3	.53587174+1	-.11831175
$\alpha_2^p$	.27784184+1	.15376090+3	.97484840+2	.45688822+2	-.22584136
$\alpha_3^p$	-	-	.47913432+2	-.45976667+3	.32949617
$\alpha_4^p$	-	-	-	-	.28451133+2
$\alpha_5^p$	-	-	-	-	-.10369400+1
$\beta_{r-1}^p$	-	.15573287+2	-	-.55893549+2	.37920207
$\beta_{-2}^p$	-	-	.38973204-2	-	-
$\beta_{-1}^p$	-.54985740-2	-.16795316	.40910386+1	-.87317361-1	-
$\beta_0^p$	.58522790	-.53312061+1	.62017857+2	-.39967164+1	-.23807188-3
$\beta_1^p$	.37430479+1	-.21107539+2	.16583176+3	-.26064624+2	-.15269409-1
$\beta_2^p$	.98662380	-.24422142+2	.61918294+2	-.38785414+2	-.15557853
$\beta_3^p$	-	-	.41169635+1	.44601261+2	-.44728515
$\beta_4^p$	-	-	-	-	-.54763223
$\beta_5^p$	-	-	-	-	.96975979-1

Table 2

k	3	4
k'	3	4
p	8	10
error constant	-.49880214-3	-.47842068-6
$\alpha_r^e$	.13941424+1	-.11071926+1
$\alpha_{-1}^e$	.35465085+1	.15454834-1
$\alpha_0^e$	.14205646+2	.13557671
$\alpha_1^e$	-.36517468+2	-.13269980
$\alpha_2^e$	.16371171+2	-.26371860
$\alpha_3^e$	-	.35257943
$\beta_r^e$	.11444377	.57198711-2
$\beta_{-1}^e$	.17609964	.66125882-3
$\beta_0^e$	.52155324+1	.27989375-1
$\beta_1^e$	.17504634+2	.15770493
$\beta_2^e$	.44443744+1	.15303799
$\beta_3^e$	-	-.16592532-1

Table 3

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