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ON A RUNGE-KUTTA TYPE METHOD

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0. Introduction. There is much literature concerning the explicit Runge-Kutta methods (see, e.g., [3]). These methods are, by their nature, one-step methods. An interesting idea is contained in [2], where a suitable change is performed by which at each step we take into account some results of the previous step, this new method of integration being a two-step method. The advantage lies in the fact that at each step we have to do $n - 1$ evaluations of the function for the n^{th} order method, $n \in \{3, 4\}$. This cost reduction is important for non-trivial equations.

It is the purpose of the present paper to extend the results from [2] for the vector case.

We shall use the notation introduced in [3], pp. 119—120, and 132 for A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, P, Q, R.

We consider a system of differential equations of the first order :

$$(1) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{dy_1}{dx} &= f_1(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s) \\ \frac{dy_2}{dx} &= f_2(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s) \\ &\vdots \\ \frac{dy_s}{dx} &= f_s(y_1, y_2, \dots, y_s). \end{aligned}$$

Without loss of generality, throughout this paper, only autonomous systems of differential equations will be considered. As is shown in [1], system (1) may be written in a vector form :

$$(2) \quad \frac{dy}{dx} = f(y).$$

We suppose that the values $y = y_0$ are given at $x = a$. The interval $[a, b]$, where the independent variable x runs, is partitioned : $h_i > 0$ and :

$$a + \sum_{i=1}^m h_i = b.$$

As usually, we suppose the function \mathbf{f} to be sufficiently smooth when the variable x belongs to an interval which contains the given interval $[a, b]$ such that all that follows is correct. This implies, among others, that the Cauchy problem (2) + $(\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{y}_0)$ has a unique solution which, we assume, is defined on the interval $[a, b]$.

1. The 3rd-order method. The basic relations are :

$$(1.1) \quad \mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + h_n(\alpha_0 \mathbf{K}_{0,n} + \alpha_1 \mathbf{K}_{1,n}),$$

where :

$$\mathbf{K}_{i,n} = \mathbf{f}(\text{Arg}_{i,n}), \quad i \in \{0, 1\},$$

$$\text{Arg}_{0,n} = \mathbf{y}_n + h_n(\lambda_{00} \mathbf{K}_{0,n-1} + \lambda_{01} \mathbf{K}_{1,n-1}),$$

$$\text{Arg}_{1,n} = \mathbf{y}_n + h_n(\lambda_{10} \mathbf{K}_{0,n-1} + \lambda_{11} \mathbf{K}_{1,n-1} + \rho \mathbf{K}_{0,n}),$$

$$n = 0, 1, \dots, m.$$

At the first step, we take : $\mathbf{K}_{0,-1} = \mathbf{K}_{1,-1} = \mathbf{y}_0$. Let us denote :

$$(1.2) \quad \mu_0 = \lambda_{00} + \lambda_{01}, \quad \mu_1 = \lambda_{10} + \lambda_{11} + \rho.$$

To get the third-order accuracy, we write (1.1) in the following form :

$$(1.3) \quad \mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + \sum_{i=1}^4 \frac{1}{i!} \left(\sum_{j=1}^i \binom{i}{j} h_{n-1}^{i-j} h_n^j \mathbf{e}_{i-j,j} \right)$$

and try to identify (1.3) with the expansion of the function \mathbf{y} , similar to (1.3). The following relations result :

$$(1.4) \quad \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 = 1,$$

$$(1.5) \quad 2(\alpha_0 \mu_0 + \alpha_1 \mu_1) = 1,$$

$$(1.6) \quad 3(\alpha_0 \mu_0^2 + \alpha_1 \mu_1^2) = 1,$$

$$(1.7) \quad 6\alpha_1 \rho \mu_0 = 1,$$

$$(1.8) \quad 2(\alpha_0(\lambda_{00} \mu_0 + \lambda_{01} \mu_1) + \alpha_1(\lambda_{10} \mu_0 + \lambda_{11} \mu_1 + \rho)) = 1.$$

This last relation may be written in an equivalent form if we use (1.5)

$$(1.9) \quad (\mu_0 - 1)(\alpha_0 \lambda_{00} + \alpha_1 \lambda_{10} + (\mu_1 - 1)(\alpha_0 \lambda_{01} + \alpha_1 \lambda_{11})) = 0.$$

From (1.4), (1.5) and (1.6), it results that $\mu_0 \neq \mu_1$ and

$$(1.10) \quad \alpha_0 = \frac{2\mu_1 - 1}{2(\mu_1 - \mu_0)},$$

$$(1.11) \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{2\mu_0 - 1}{2(\mu_0 - \mu_1)},$$

and the compatibility condition

$$(1.12) \quad 6\mu_0 \mu_1 - 3(\mu_0 + \mu_1) + 2 = 0.$$

We have :

$$(1.13) \quad \rho = \frac{(\mu_1 - \mu_0)(2\mu_1 - 1)}{\mu_0}.$$

From (1.2) and (1.8) it results, like in [2], that

$$(1.14) \quad \lambda_{0i} = (-1)^i \left(\frac{1 - \mu_{1-i}}{\mu_0 - \mu_1} \mu_0 + 2\alpha_1 \gamma \right),$$

$$(1.15) \quad \lambda_{1i} = (-1)^i \left(\frac{(\mu_1 - \rho)(1 - \mu_{1-i})}{\mu_0 - \mu_1} - 2\alpha_0 \gamma \right),$$

where $i \in \{0, 1\}$ and γ is a real parameter.

The truncation error is

$$R_n = \delta_1 h_n^4 + \delta_2 h_n^2 h_{n-1}^2 + \gamma R_n^* + O(h^5),$$

where

$$\delta_1 = \frac{1 - 6\mu_0 \mu_1}{216} \mathbf{E} + \frac{3 - 4\mu_1}{24} \mathbf{F} + \frac{1 - 2\mu_0}{24} \mathbf{G} + \frac{1}{24} \mathbf{H},$$

$$\delta_2 = \frac{-1 + \mu_1}{12\mu_0} ((3\mu_0 - 1)(\mu_0 - 1) \mathbf{G} + (1 - 4\mu_0) \mathbf{H}),$$

$$R_n^* = -\frac{h_{n-1} h_n^3}{6} \left(\mathbf{F} + \frac{1}{\mu_0} \mathbf{H} \right).$$

Several special cases are considered in [2] when $s = 2$ and

$$\frac{dy_1}{dx} = 1.$$

Remark. We note that if $\gamma = 0$, then the following relations hold :

$$(1.16) \quad \lambda_{00} \mu_0 + \lambda_{01} \mu_1 = \mu_0,$$

$$(1.17) \quad \lambda_{10} \mu_0 + \lambda_{11} \mu_1 + \rho = \mu_1.$$

These relations have close analogues with the case of the 4th-order method ((2.13), (2.14)).

2. The 4th-order method. The similars of (1.1) are

$$(2.1) \quad \mathbf{y}_{n+1} = \mathbf{y}_n + h_n(\alpha_0 \mathbf{K}_{0,n} + \alpha_1 \mathbf{K}_{1,n} + \alpha_2 \mathbf{K}_{2,n}),$$

$$\mathbf{K}_{i,n} = \mathbf{f}(\text{Arg}_{i,n}), \quad i = 0, 1, 2,$$

$$\text{Arg}_{0,n} = y_n + h_n \left(\sum_{i=0}^2 \lambda_{0i} \mathbf{K}_{i,n-1} \right),$$

$$\text{Arg}_{1,n} = y_n + h_n \left(\sum_{i=0}^2 \lambda_{1i} \mathbf{K}_{i,n-1} + \rho_{10} \mathbf{K}_{0,n} \right),$$

$$\text{Arg}_{2,n} = y_n + h_n \left(\sum_{i=0}^2 \lambda_{2i} \mathbf{K}_{i,n-1} + \rho_{20} \mathbf{K}_{0,n} + \rho_{21} \mathbf{K}_{1,n} \right),$$

$n = 0, 1, \dots, m$.

For the first step, we take

$$\mathbf{K}_{i,-1} = y_0, \quad i = 0, 1, 2.$$

We write (2.1) as

$$(2.2) \quad y_{n+1} = y_n + \sum_{i=1}^5 \frac{1}{i!} \left(\sum_{j=1}^i \binom{i}{j} h_n^{i-j} h_n^j c_{i-j,j} \right)$$

and use an analogous of (11) from [1] to get accurate up to the terms in h^4 . Then the following relations concerning the parameters of the method have to hold:

$$(2.3) \quad \lambda_{00} + \lambda_{01} + \lambda_{02} = \mu_0,$$

$$(2.4) \quad \lambda_{10} + \lambda_{11} + \lambda_{12} + \rho_{10} = \mu_1,$$

$$(2.5) \quad \lambda_{20} + \lambda_{21} + \lambda_{22} + \rho_{20} + \rho_{21} = \mu_2,$$

$$(2.6) \quad \alpha_0 + \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 = 1,$$

$$(2.7) \quad 2(\alpha_0 \mu_0 + \alpha_1 \mu_1 + \alpha_2 \mu_2) = 1,$$

$$(2.8) \quad 3(\alpha_0 \mu_0^2 + \alpha_1 \mu_1^2 + \alpha_2 \mu_2^2) = 1,$$

$$(2.9) \quad 4(\alpha_0 \mu_0^3 + \alpha_1 \mu_1^3 + \alpha_2 \mu_2^3) = 1,$$

$$(2.10) \quad 6(\alpha_1 \rho_{10} \mu_0 + \alpha_2 \rho_{20} \mu_0 + \alpha_2 \rho_{21} \mu_1) = 1,$$

$$(2.11) \quad 8(\alpha_1 \rho_{10} \mu_0 \mu_1 + \alpha_2 \mu_2 (\rho_{20} \mu_0 + \rho_{21} \mu_1)) = 1,$$

$$(2.12) \quad 12(\alpha_1 \rho_{10} \mu_0^2 + \alpha_2 (\rho_{20} \mu_0^2 + \rho_{21} \mu_1^2)) = 1,$$

$$(2.13) \quad 24 \alpha_2 \rho_{10} \rho_{21} \mu_0 = 1,$$

$$(2.14) \quad \lambda_{00} \mu_0 + \lambda_{01} \rho_1 + \lambda_{02} \rho_2 = \mu_0,$$

$$(2.15) \quad \lambda_{10} \mu_0 + \lambda_{11} \mu_1 + \lambda_{12} \mu_2 + \rho_{10} = \mu_1,$$

$$(2.16) \quad \lambda_{20} \mu_0 + \lambda_{21} \mu_1 + \lambda_{22} \mu_2 + \rho_{20} + \rho_{21} = \mu_2,$$

$$(2.17) \quad 2 \left(\sum_{i=0}^2 \alpha_i \sum_{k=0}^2 \lambda_{ik} \mu_k + S \right) = 1,$$

$$(2.18) \quad 2 \left(\sum_{i=1}^2 \alpha_i \sum_{k=0}^2 \lambda_{ik} \mu_k^2 + S \right) = 1,$$

$$(2.19) \quad 2 \left(\sum_{i=0}^2 \alpha_i (\lambda_{i1} \rho_{10} \mu_0 + \lambda_{i2} (\rho_{20} \mu_0 + \rho_{21} \mu_1)) + S \right) = 1,$$

where $S = \alpha_1 \rho_{10} + \alpha_2 (\rho_{20} + \rho_{21})$.

We shall express these parameters in terms of μ_1, μ_2, μ_0 .

From (2.6)–(2.9) the following compatibility relation results

$$(2.20) \quad 12\mu_0\mu_1\mu_2 - 6(\mu_0\mu_1 + \mu_0\mu_2 + \mu_1\mu_2) + 4(\mu_0 + \mu_1 + \mu_2) - 3 = 0.$$

From (2.10)–(2.13) another compatibility relation results

$$(2.21) \quad 12\mu_0\mu_1\mu_2 - 6\mu_0\mu_1 - 6\mu_1\mu_2 - 8\mu_0\mu_2 + 6\mu_0 + 4\mu_1 + 4\mu_2 - 3 = 0.$$

The last two equalities provide:

$$(2.22) \quad \mu_0(\mu_2 - 1) = 0.$$

But, if $\mu_0 = 0$, then (2.13) fails, so with necessity:

$$(2.23) \quad \mu_2 = 1.$$

Now, (2.6)–(2.8) provide:

$$(2.24) \quad \alpha_0 = \frac{3\mu_1 - 1}{6(1 - \mu_0)(\mu_1 - \mu_0)},$$

$$(2.25) \quad \alpha_1 = \frac{3\mu_0 - 1}{6(\mu_1 - 1)(\mu_1 - \mu_0)},$$

$$(2.26) \quad \alpha_2 = \frac{1 - 6\mu_0\mu_1}{12(1 - \mu_1)(1 - \mu_0)},$$

and equations (2.10)–(2.12) give

$$(2.27) \quad \rho_{10} = \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_0}{4\mu_0(1 - 3\mu_0)},$$

$$(2.28) \quad \rho_{20} = \frac{(1 - \mu_0)(4\mu_1 - 1)(3\mu_0 - \mu_1)}{2\mu_0(\mu_1 - \mu_0)(1 - 6\mu_0\mu_1)},$$

$$(2.29) \quad \rho_{21} = \frac{(1 - 3\mu_0)(1 - 4\mu_0\mu_1)}{(\mu_1 - \mu_0)(1 - 6\mu_0\mu_1)}.$$

In the sequel, we show that $S = 1/2$. It results from (2.10) and from the identity:

$$\alpha_2 \rho_{21} (\mu_0 - \mu_1) = \frac{2\mu_0 - 1}{12\mu_1}.$$

Substituting $S = 1/2$ in (2.7), (2.17) and (2.18), we get a Vandermonde system

$$\sum_{k=0}^2 \sum_{i=0}^2 \alpha_i \lambda_{ik} = 0,$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^2 \mu_k \sum_{i=0}^2 \alpha_i \lambda_{ik} = 0,$$

$$\sum_{k=0}^2 \mu_k^2 \sum_{i=0}^2 \alpha_i \lambda_{ik} = 0,$$

from where it results that

$$(2.30) \quad \sum_{i=0}^2 \alpha_i \lambda_{ik} = 0, \quad k = 0, 1, 2.$$

Remark. We note that (2.19) follows from (2.30) and $S = 1/2$. From (2.3)–(2.5) and (2.14)–(2.16) it follows that

$$(2.31) \quad \lambda_{i0}(\mu_0 - 1) + \lambda_{i1}(\mu_1 - 1) = 0, \quad i = 0, 1, 2.$$

Now, taking into account (2.30), (2.31) and (2.3)–(2.5), we get a linear system with 9 unknowns λ_{ik} , $i, k \in \{0, 1, 2\}$. The rank of this system is equal to 7. We take $\lambda_{11} = \beta$, $\lambda_{21} = \gamma$; then

$$\lambda_{10} = -\frac{\mu_1 - 1}{\mu_0 - 1} \beta, \quad \lambda_{20} = -\frac{\mu_1 - 1}{\mu_0 - 1} \gamma, \quad \lambda_{01} = -\frac{1}{\alpha_0} (\alpha_1 \beta + \alpha_2 \gamma),$$

$$\lambda_{00} = -\frac{\mu_1 - 1}{\mu_0 - 1} \cdot \frac{\alpha_1 \beta + \alpha_2 \gamma}{\alpha_0}, \quad \lambda_{02} = \mu_0 - \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_0}{\alpha_0(\mu_0 - 1)} (\alpha_1 \beta + \alpha_2 \gamma),$$

$$\lambda_{12} = \mu_1 - \rho_{10} + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_0}{\mu_0 - 1} \cdot \beta,$$

$$\lambda_{22} = \mu_2 - (\rho_{20} + \rho_{21}) + \frac{\mu_1 - \mu_0}{\mu_0 - 1} \gamma.$$

We have found the following truncation error:

$$R_n = \delta_1 h_n^5 + \delta_2 h_n^3 h_{n-1}^2 + O(h^6),$$

where

$$\delta_1 = \frac{10\mu_0\mu_1 - 1}{2880} (\mathbf{I} - 4\mathbf{M}) + \frac{5\mu_1 - 3}{240} (\mathbf{J} - 2\mathbf{N}) +$$

$$+ \frac{5\mu_0 - 2}{240} (\mathbf{K} - \mathbf{P}) + \frac{1}{120} (\mathbf{Q} + 4\mathbf{L}) +$$

$$\frac{(6\mu_0\mu_1 - 1)(12 - 5\mu_1 - 43\mu_0) + 10(1 - \mu_0)(1 - 5\mu_0)(3 - 4\mu_1)}{480(1 - 4\mu_0)(6\mu_0\mu_1 - 1)} \mathbf{R},$$

and δ_2 is a sum of the form:

$$\delta_2 = c_1 \mathbf{K} + c_2 \mathbf{L} + c_3 \mathbf{P} + c_4 \mathbf{Q},$$

c_i , $i = \overline{1, 4}$ being the coefficients depending on the parameters μ_0 and μ_1 .

Some considerations on the stability of the method and several comparative examples will be published in a forthcoming paper.

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