

(2003/2004 - July/August, 2005)

Part II

MT 411 - NUMERICAL THEORY OF ORDINARY  
DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

---

Answer all questions

Time: Three hours

---

1. (a) Let  $(\alpha_n)$  be a sequence of real numbers satisfying

$$\alpha_{n+1} \leq (1 + A) \alpha_n + B, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots,$$

with  $A > 0$  and  $B \geq 0$ . Prove that

$$\alpha_n \leq (1 + A)^n \alpha_0 + \left[ (1 + A)^n - 1 \right] \frac{B}{A}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots.$$

- (b) Let  $y \in C^2[0, 1]$  be the solution of the m-dimensional system

$$y' = f(x, y), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad y(0) = v,$$

where, for the maximum norm

$$\| f(x, u) - f(x, v) \| \leq L \| u - v \|$$

with  $L > 0$  for all  $u, v \in \mathbb{R}^m$  and for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

Show that, for any  $x$  and  $h$ ,

$$\| y(x+h) - y(x) - h y'(x) \| \leq \frac{1}{2} h^2 \cdot \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} \| y''(x) \|.$$

- (c) For given  $y_0$ , let  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_N$  be given by the explicit Euler method

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(nh, y_n), \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$$

with  $Nh = 1$ .

Show that

$$\|y(1) - y_N\| \leq e^L \|y_0 - \nu\| + \frac{h}{2L} (e^L - 1) \max_{0 \leq x \leq 1} \|y''(x)\|$$

and comment briefly on the significance of this result.

2. (a) Define the following terms.

- i. Consistency,
- ii. Zero-stability,
- iii. Convergence,

applied to the linear multi-step method

$$\sum_{j=0}^k \alpha_j y_{j+1} = h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j f_{n+j}, \quad (\alpha_k = 1),$$

used for solving initial-value problems of the form

$$y' = f(x, y), \quad x \in [a, b], \quad y(a) = \eta,$$

where  $f : [a, b] \times \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ .

- (b) Prove that a convergent linear multi-step method is consistent.  
(Any result used here should be stated.)
- (c) Show that for all values of  $\alpha$ , the method

$$y_{n+2} + \alpha y_{n+1} - (1 + \alpha) y_n = \frac{h}{2} \left[ -\alpha f_{n+2} + (4 + 3\alpha) f_{n+1} \right]$$

is consistent. For which values of  $\alpha$  is the method convergent?

3. (a) Define the order of a linear multi-step method in terms of the associated linear operator.

Show that the linear multi-step method

$$y_{n+2} - 2y_{n+1} + y_n = \frac{h}{2} (f_{n+2} - f_n)$$

is of order three.

- (b) Show that a linear multi-step method with characteristic polynomials  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$  is of order  $p$  if and only if

$$\rho(z) - \ln(z)\sigma(z) = C_{p+1}(z-1)^{p+1} + C_{p+2}(z-1)^{p+2} + \dots,$$

$|z-1| < 1$  with  $C_{p+1} \neq 0$ .

- (c) A linear multi-step method with characteristic polynomial

$$\rho(z) = z^2 - z$$

is of maximum order. Determine the method and the error constant and explain why the method is convergent.

4. (a) Define the term "absolute stability" (at a point  $q \in \mathbb{C}$ ) as applied to a numerical method for solving initial-value problems for ordinary differential equations.

- (b) State a necessary and sufficient condition for a linear multi-step method, with characteristic polynomials  $\rho$  and  $\sigma$ , to be absolutely stable for given  $q \in \mathbb{C}$ , in terms of the roots of the polynomial  $\rho(r) - q\sigma(r)$ .

Show that a convergent linear multi-step method cannot be absolutely stable for small real positive  $q$ .

- (c) Consider the two-step method

$$y_{n+2} - \frac{4}{3}y_{n+1} + \frac{1}{3}y_n = \frac{2}{3}h f_{n+2}.$$



Write down  $\rho(r)$  and  $\sigma(r)$  associated with this method and show that if  $r$  is a root of the polynomial  $p(r) - q\sigma(r)$ , then

$$q = \frac{3}{2} - 2r^{-1} + \frac{1}{2}r^{-2}.$$

Hence show that if  $q \in \partial S$  (where  $\partial S$  denotes the boundary of the region of absolute stability), then

$$q(\theta) = (\cos \theta - 1)^2 + i \sin \theta (2 - \cos \theta)$$

for some  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi]$ . Find the interval of absolute stability of the method.

5. (a) An  $s$ -stage Runge-Kutta method with coefficients array

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc}
 c_1 & a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots & a_{1s} \\
 c_2 & a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots & a_{2s} \\
 \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & & \vdots \\
 c_s & a_{s1} & a_{s2} & \cdots & a_{ss} \\
 \hline
 & b_1 & b_2 & \cdots & b_s
 \end{array}, \quad c_i = \sum_{j=1}^n a_{ij}, \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, s,$$

is used to solve initial-value problems of the form

$$y' = f(y), \quad y(a) = \nu, \quad f: \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m.$$

Write down the formulae that define  $y_{n+1}$ , approximation to  $y(x_n + h)$ , given an approximation  $y_n$  to  $y(x_n)$ .

(b) Define the order of a Runge-Kutta method.

Prove that all explicit  $s$ -stage Runge-Kutta methods of order  $s$  have identical regions of absolute stability. Determine the interval of absolute stability when  $s = 2$ .

(c) Prove that the three-stage Runge-Kutta method coefficients

$$\begin{array}{c|ccc}
 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2} & 0 & 0 \\
 \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{3}{8} & 0 \\
 \hline
 & 0 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2}
 \end{array}$$

is of order 2 and that the interval of absolute stability is  $[-4, 0]$ .

[ The order conditions may be assumed but should be stated ].

6. (a) The coefficients of an  $s$ -stage Runge-Kutta method are given by the array

$$\frac{C}{b^T} \left| \begin{array}{c} A \\ b^T \end{array} \right., \quad C = Ae, \quad e = [1, 1, \dots, 1]^T, \quad b^T = [b_1, b_2, \dots, b_s].$$

Let  $B = \text{diag}(b_1, b_2, \dots, b_s)$ . Define the terms "B-stability" and "algebraic stability" as applied to the Runge-Kutta method.

(b) Prove that, if a Runge-Kutta method is algebraically stable, then it is B-stable.

(c) Is the two-stage Runge-Kutta method given by the array

$$\begin{array}{c|cc}
 \frac{1}{4} & \frac{1}{8} & \frac{1}{8} \\
 \frac{3}{4} & \frac{3}{8} & \frac{3}{8} \\
 \hline
 & \frac{1}{2} & \frac{1}{2}
 \end{array}$$

algebraically stable? Justify your answers.

