

2. Symmetric integration

Motivation: Conservative systems are "symmetric" wrt the transformation $t \leftrightarrow -t$.

Notation: Consider $\begin{cases} y' = f(y) \\ y(0) = y_0 \end{cases}$.

Then we call the map $\varphi_t: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ the flow of the ODE if

$$\varphi_t(y_0) = y(t).$$

In general, $\varphi_t(y(s)) = y(t+s)$.

Observe that φ_t forms a group wrt its argument t and the operation of composition:

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_t \circ \varphi_s &= \varphi_{t+s} \\ \varphi_0 &= \text{Id} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi_{-t} \circ \varphi_t &= \varphi_0 = \text{Id} \\ \Rightarrow \varphi_{-t} &= (\varphi_t)^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

Defn: (S-reversible)

Let $S: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ be a linear and invertible map.

Then $y' = f(y)$ is S-reversible if

$$S(f(y)) = -f(S(y)) \quad (S \circ f = -f \circ S) \quad \forall y \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

Example: Consider a second order ODE $q'' = F(q)$ and rewrite it as:

$$\begin{cases} p' = F(q) \\ q' = p \end{cases}$$

Then the ODE is S-reversible with

$$S(p, q) = (-p, q) \quad (\text{exercise})$$

Rem.: $y' = f(y)$ is S -reversible \Leftrightarrow

$$\frac{d}{dt} S(y(t)) = -f(S(y(t))).$$

Indeed, $\frac{d}{dt} S(y(t)) \stackrel{\downarrow S \text{ linear transformation}}{=} S(y'(t)) = S(f(y(t)))$
 $\stackrel{\uparrow S\text{-reversible}}{=} -f(S(y(t))).$

Lemma. For S -reversible problems, the flow φ_t satisfies:

$$S \circ \varphi_t = \varphi_{-t} \circ S = \varphi_t^{-1} \circ S.$$

Proof. we have

$$\frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t(y_0) = \frac{d}{dt} y(t) = f(y(t)) = f(\varphi_t(y_0))$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t = f \circ \varphi_t.$$

Moreover,

$$\frac{d}{dt} \varphi_{-t}(y_0) = \frac{d}{dt} y(-t) = -f(y(-t)) = -f(\varphi_{-t}(y_0))$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_{-t} = -f \circ \varphi_{-t}$$

Now let $v(t) = S \circ \varphi_t(y_0)$, $u(t) = \varphi_{-t} \circ S(y_0)$

Observe that

$$v(0) = u(0) = S(y_0).$$

Moreover,

$$v'(t) = S \circ \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_t(y_0) = S \circ f \circ \varphi_t(y_0)$$

$$= -f \circ \underbrace{S \circ \varphi_t(y_0)}_{v(t)} = -f \circ v(t)$$

$$u'(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \varphi_{-t} \circ S(y_0) = -f \circ \underbrace{\varphi_{-t} \circ S(y_0)}_{=u(t)} = -f \circ u(t)$$

$\Rightarrow v(t)$ and $u(t)$ satisfy the same ODE

$$u'(t) = -f(u(t)) \quad (\text{resp. } v)$$

with the same initial condition $v(0) = u(0) = g(y_0)$.

Hence, $u(t) = v(t) \quad \forall t \geq 0$.

$$\Rightarrow g \circ \varphi_t = \varphi_{-t} \circ g.$$

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In general:

Defn: (g -reversible map)

A map $\phi: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ is g -reversible if

$$g \circ \phi = \phi^{-1} \circ g.$$

Hence, φ_t is a g -reversible map, if $y' = f(y)$ is g -reversible.

How about numerical methods?

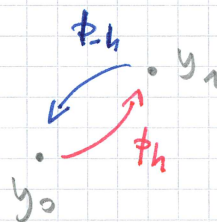
Defn: (numerical flow)

The map $\phi_h: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^d$ s.t. $y_1 = \phi_h(y_0)$ is called numerical flow of a one-step method.

Defn: (symmetric numerical method)

A one-step method is symmetric if

$$\phi_h \circ \phi_{-h} = \text{Id}.$$



Connection symmetric \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{S} -reversible:

Theorem:

Suppose for a \mathcal{S} -reversible ODE that it holds

$$\mathcal{S} \circ \Phi_h = \Phi_{-h} \circ \mathcal{S} \quad (*)$$

for a one-step method Φ_h .

Then Φ_h is \mathcal{S} -reversible (\Rightarrow) Φ_h is symmetric.

Proof: From $(*)$ we just need to verify that

$$\Phi_{-h} \circ \mathcal{S} = \Phi_h^{-1} \circ \mathcal{S}.$$

Since \mathcal{S} is invertible (by defn.), apply \mathcal{S}^{-1} to the right:

$$\Phi_{-h} = \Phi_h^{-1}.$$

This is satisfied by symmetric methods. The result follows. #

Lemma:

Condition $(*)$ (see above) is satisfied by all RK methods.

For PRK methods, $(*)$ is satisfied if

$$\mathcal{S}(y, z) = (\mathcal{S}_1(y), \mathcal{S}_2(z)).$$

Proof: Exercises.

How do we know whether a RK method is symmetric or not?

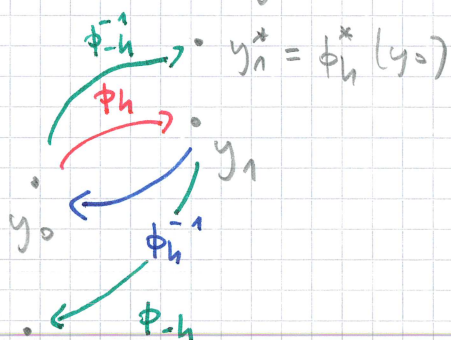
\Rightarrow we need the adjoint!

Defn.: (adjoint method)

The adjoint of a one-step method ϕ_h is the one-step method corresponding to

$$\phi_h^* = \phi_{-h}^{-1}$$

Rem: A method is symmetric $(\Leftrightarrow \phi_h^* = \phi_h)$



Properties of the adjoint:

(i) $(\phi_h^*)^* = \phi_h$

(ii) $(\phi_h \circ \psi_h)^* = \psi_h^* \circ \phi_h^*$

(follows from the defn of the adjoint)

Examples:

(y_0, y_1)	\Leftrightarrow	(y_1^*, y_0)
h	\Leftrightarrow	$-h$

Rule to compute the adjoint

① Explicit Euler: $y_1 = y_0 + h f(y_0) = \phi_h(y_0)$

We look for $\phi_h^* = \phi_{-h}^{-1}$

$$y_1^* = \phi_h^*(y_0) = \phi_{-h}^{-1}(y_0) \xRightarrow{\text{apply } \phi_{-h}} y_0 = \phi_{-h}(y_1^*) = y_1^* - h f(y_1^*)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_1^* = y_0 + h f(y_1^*)$$

\Rightarrow Implicit Euler is the adjoint of explicit Euler.

\Rightarrow Neither Explicit Euler nor Implicit Euler are symmetric!

likewise, the adjoint of Implicit Euler is Explicit Euler.

(2) Implicit midpoint Rule:

$$y_1 = y_0 + h f\left(\frac{y_0 + y_1}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_0 = y_1^* - h f\left(\frac{y_1^* + y_0}{2}\right)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_1^* = y_0 + h f\left(\frac{y_0 + y_1^*}{2}\right) \Rightarrow \phi_h = \phi_h^*$$

\Rightarrow IMR is symmetric!

In general:

Theorem: The adjoint of a consistent RK method (b_i, a_{ij}) is a RK method with coefficients (b_i^*, a_{ij}^*) given by

(characterisation)
$$a_{ij}^* = b_{s+1-j} - a_{s+1-i, s+1-j} \quad \text{for } i, j = 1, 2, \dots, s$$

$$b_i^* = b_{s+1-i}$$

Moreover, if $a_{ij} = b_j - a_{s+1-i, s+1-j} \quad (\Delta)$ for $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, s$ then the method is symmetric.

Proof: Exercises.

Corollary: Explicit RK methods cannot be symmetric.

Proof: Exercises.

Theorem: Let $(b_i, a_{ij}), (\hat{b}_i, \hat{a}_{ij})$ define a PRK method for

$$\begin{cases} y' = f(y, z) \\ z' = g(y, z) \end{cases}$$

If both methods satisfy (A), then the PRK method is symmetric.

Rem: If $y' = f(z), z' = g(y)$, then one can build PRK that are symmetric and explicit.

Example: Störmer-Verlet for separable Hamiltonian systems, $H(p, q) = T(p) + V(q)$.

Theorem: The adjoint of a collocation method based on c_1, c_2, \dots, c_s is a collocation method based on $c_1^*, c_2^*, \dots, c_s^*$ given by

$$c_i^* = 1 - c_{s+1-i} \quad \text{for } i=1, 2, \dots, s.$$

Moreover, if $c_i = 1 - c_{s+1-i}$, then the collocation method is symmetric.

Proof: $(t_0, y_0) \xrightarrow{h} (t_1, y_1^*)$ (substitutions)
 $h \xrightarrow{\quad} -h$ adjoint rule

$$\begin{cases} y_0 = u(t_0) \\ u'(t_0 + h c_i) = f(u(t_0 + h c_i)) \\ y_1 = u(t_0 + h) \end{cases}$$

\updownarrow

$$\begin{cases} y_1^* = u(t_1) \\ u'(t_1 - h c_i) = f(u(t_1 - h c_i)) \\ y_0 = u(t_1 - h) \end{cases}$$

$t_1 - h c_i = t_0 + h - h c_i = t_0 + (1 - c_i)h$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{cases} y_0 = u(t_0) \\ u'(t_0 + (1 - c_i)h) = f(u(t_0 + (1 - c_i)h)) \\ y_1^* = u(t_0 + h) \end{cases}$$

Reordering $1 - c_i$ to be in ascending order

$$\Rightarrow \tilde{c}_i = 1 - c_{s+1-i}.$$

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Corollary: Gauss methods are symmetric.

Proof: Recall c_i zeros of $\phi_G^s(x) = \frac{d^s}{dx^s} (x^s(1-x)^s)$

Denote $q(x) = x^s(1-x)^s \Rightarrow q(1-x) = q(x).$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{d^s}{dx^s} q(x) = (-1)^s \frac{d^s}{dx^s} q(1-x)$$

Since $\frac{d^s}{dx^s} q(c_i) = \phi_G^s(c_i) = 0 \Rightarrow \frac{d^s}{dx^s} q(1-c_i) = 0$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - c_i \text{ is a zero}$$

which yields the desired result up to a reordering. #

What properties does the adjoint have as a stand-alone RK method?

Theorem: let Ψ_+ be the exact flow of $y' = f(y)$ and Φ_h the numerical flow of a RK method.

If the RK method is of order p , then

$$(*) \quad \Phi_h(y_0) = \Psi_h(y_0) + C(y_0) h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2})$$

The adjoint Φ_h^* satisfies:

$$\Phi_h^*(y_0) = \Psi_h(y_0) + (-1)^p C(y_0) h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2}).$$

Proof: (formal)

observe that $\Psi_{-h}(y_0) = y_0 + \mathcal{O}(h)$ (problem with smooth Lipschitz RHS)

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial y_0} \Psi_{-h}(y_0) = I + \mathcal{O}(h)$$

Further, from $(*)$ it follows

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y_0} \Phi_{-h}(y_0) = I + \mathcal{O}(h)$$

The implicit fct then yields:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial y_0} \Phi_h^*(y_0) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y_0} (\Phi_{-h}^{-\top}(y_0)) = I + \mathcal{O}(h) \quad (**)$$

If one takes (x) and $h \mapsto -h$, $y_0 \mapsto \Psi_h(y_0)$:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{-h}(\Psi_h(y_0)) &= \Psi_{-h}(\Psi_h(y_0)) + C(\Psi_h(y_0)) (-h)^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2}) \\ &= y_0 - (-1)^p C(\Psi_h(y_0)) h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2}) \end{aligned}$$

Applying $\Phi_{-h}^{-\top} = \Phi_h^*$ on both sides:

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_h(y_0) &= \Phi_h^*(y_0 - (-1)^p C(\Psi_h(y_0)) h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2})) \\ &= \Phi_h^*(y_0) + \frac{\partial \Phi_h^*}{\partial y_0}(y_0) (-(-1)^p C(\Psi_h(y_0)) h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2})) + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2}) \\ &\quad \uparrow \\ &\quad \text{expanding 1st order} \end{aligned}$$

Notice formally that since $\varphi_h(y_0) = y_0 + \mathcal{O}(h)$

$$\Rightarrow C(\varphi_h(y_0)) = C(y_0) + \mathcal{O}(h)$$

(**) \Rightarrow

$$\varphi_h(y_0) = \phi_h^*(y_0) - (-1)^p C(y_0) h^{p+1} + \mathcal{O}(h^{p+2})$$

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Rem: A necessary condition for ϕ_h to be symmetric is therefore,

$$(-1)^p C(y_0) = C(y_0) \quad (\phi_h^* = \phi_h)$$

\Rightarrow symmetric methods have even order.

How can one construct symmetric methods?

Lemma: let ϕ_h be a RK method. Then

$$\phi_h^S = \phi_{h/2} \circ \phi_{h/2}^* \quad \text{is symmetric.}$$

Proof: $(\phi_h^S)^* = (\phi_{h/2}^*)^* \circ \phi_{h/2}^* = \phi_{h/2} \circ \phi_{h/2}^* = \phi_h^S$ #

\uparrow
properties adjoint

Take-home message:

Symmetric methods are

- 1) the go-to for reversible systems, because they
 - a) mimic the "physics" of the problem
 - b) allow long-time good approximation of reversible systems (see Hairer, Lubich, Wanner Chapt. XI)
- 2) often implicit, unless PRK + some structure in the coupled ODE (e.g. separable Hamiltonian).
- 3) theory is based extensively on the adjoint.