

Nº 48 ***** 1988

ESTIMATION OF PERTURBATIONS
WITHOUT MODELING ASSUMPTIONS
IN SECOND-ORDER ODEs.

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**notas
de
matemática**

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BIBLIOTECA

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ESTIMATION OF PERTURBATIONS WITHOUT MODELING ASSUMPTIONS
IN SECOND-ORDER ORDINARY DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

By Rodolfo Rodríguez

Abstract. This paper is concerned with the estimation of a small perturbing function affecting a system of second-order ODEs, in order to get a solution of it fitting a given set of measurements. The classical approach consist of perturbation modeling and least-squares parameter specification. Alternative procedures are needed when no a-priori adequate perturbation model is at disposal. A general scheme for methods needing no modeling assumption is introduced and a complete error analysis of them is obtained. This error characterisation allows to determine methods minimising the effect of each error source; therefore, optimal schemes under different restrictions are deduced.

1. Introduction. The aim of this work is to study the problem of how to determine numerical values of a small perturbing function $p(t)$, which affects a system of second-order ordinary differential equations of the form

$$\ddot{y}(t) = f(t, y(t)) + p(t) ,$$

where $f(t, y)$ is a known function and the data consist of measured values of the system solution $y(t)$ and of its first derivative $\dot{y}(t)$.

On having a perturbation model, the standard approach consist of least-squares adjusting its free parameters in order to get a system solution fitting the given measurements. Sometimes, either no a-priori modeling is possible, or parameter specification for an actual physical model is an ill-posed problem. In both cases, it is useful to have perturbation estimators not depending on previous modeling assumptions.

The "obvious" deterministical method of approximating the second-order derivatives $\ddot{y}(t)$ in the equations by using any of the usual difference schemes, would not be a good one. For instance if we consider the standard discretisation

$$\ddot{y}(t) = \frac{y(t-h) - 2y(t) + y(t+h)}{h^2} - \frac{h^2}{12} \ddot{y}'''(t, h)$$

(where $\bar{y}_1^{iv}(t,h) \equiv y_1^{iv}(t+\theta_1 h)$, $|\theta_1| < 1$) and replace y -values by their measurements \tilde{y} , we get as an approximation of $p(t)$:

$$\tilde{p}(t,h) \equiv \frac{\tilde{y}(t-h) - 2\tilde{y}(t) + \tilde{y}(t+h)}{h^2} - f(t, \tilde{y}(t)) .$$

For the error in this estimation we have:

$$p(t) - \tilde{p}(t,h) = -h^2 \bar{y}^{iv}(t,h) + \frac{\delta y(t-h) - 2\delta y(t) + \delta y(t+h)}{h^2} + [f(t,y(t)) - f(t,\tilde{y}(t))] ,$$

where $\delta y(s)$ are the measurement errors of the used $\tilde{y}(s)$ -values.

This characterisation shows that, truncation errors appearing in the determination of small p -values in this way, would be proportional to h^2 and to not-small y^{iv} -values. On the other hand, the measurement error component is $O(1/h^2)$; so, it is not possible to use an excessively small stepsize h in order to leave the error under a prescribed tolerance.

In some recent papers [5], [6], P. E. Zadunaisky developed a class of methods to estimate those perturbations, with truncation errors proportional to higher order derivatives of the small perturbing function,

without modeling assumptions. These methods have been successfully used in several applications: the estimation of non gravitational forces affecting a comet's trajectory near the perihelion [5], the modeling of dissipative forces affecting an inertial sensor [7], the localisation of an unknown celestial body detected from the deviations produced in the trajectories of other observable bodies [8]. On the other hand, a variant of these methods has been developed [4] in order to estimate the perturbations in those problems where the measurable data consist of y -values only (and not of \dot{y} -values).

The object of the present work is to introduce a new approach to this kind of methods in order to get a general scheme of them and a complete error analysis separating its components according to the different error sources. This analysis will allow us to get optimal schemes under several different restrictions. Finally, the obtained optimal schemes will be used in a classical problem of Celestial Mechanics in order to show their efficiency.

2. General Scheme. Although the methods we are going to describe are applicable to a set of second-order ODEs, for the sake of simplicity we shall consider a single equation of the form

$$(2.1) \quad \ddot{y}(t) = f(t, y(t)) + p(t) ,$$

where p is an unknown perturbation depending on t .

To study this problem we shall assume that p and f are sufficiently regular functions and we particularly suppose that the unknown perturbation and its derivatives are small in relation to the corresponding values of the solution y .

Let t_0 be a point where we are going to compute the perturbation value and let us assume that it is possible to measure y - and \dot{y} -values on a mesh centered on t_0 with stepsize h . Let y_k^d and \dot{y}_k^d be the measurements of $y_k \equiv y(t_k)$ and $\dot{y}_k \equiv \dot{y}(t_k)$ respectively, affected by small random errors δy_k and $\delta \dot{y}_k$; i.e., for $k = -m, \dots, m$ ($m \geq 1$):

$$y_k = y_k^d + \delta y_k ,$$

(2.2)

$$\dot{y}_k = \dot{y}_k^d + \delta \dot{y}_k .$$

The basic idea of our methods is to compare these measured values with those of the solutions of certain initial value problems "neighbouring" to the original one. These, which will be called reference problems, are obtained from equation (2.1) by dropping the unknown perturbation and by using as initial values the measured data at any of the nodes. That is, for $k = -m, \dots, m$, let $y^{(k)}(t)$ be the solution of the reference problem:

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{cases} \ddot{y}^{(k)}(t) = f(t, y^{(k)}(t)), \\ y^{(k)}(t_k) = y_k^d, \quad \dot{y}^{(k)}(t_k) = \dot{y}_k^d. \end{cases}$$

Subtracting Taylor's formulae for y and $y^{(k)}$ we can write:

$$(2.4) \quad r_k^\pm \equiv (y_{k\pm 1}^d - y_{k\pm 1}^{(k)}) = (\delta y_k - \delta y_{k\pm 1}) \pm h \delta \dot{y}_k + I_k^\pm \{ \Delta^{(k)} f(t) \} + I_k^\pm \{ p(t) \}$$

where

$$(2.5) \quad I_k^\pm \{ g(t) \} \equiv \int_{t_k}^{t_{k\pm 1}} g(t) (t_{k\pm 1} - t) dt$$

and

$$(2.6) \quad \Delta^{(k)} f(t) \equiv f(t, y(t)) - f(t, y^{(k)}(t)) .$$

Expression (2.4) shows that Taylor integrals $I_k^\pm \{ p(t) \}$ can be written in terms of residuals r_k^\pm (which are differences of known measured values $y_{k\pm 1}^d$ and computable values $y_{k\pm 1}^{(k)}$), measurement errors and Taylor integrals of $\Delta^{(k)} f(t)$ which will be shown to be easily computable. So, our next step is to show how to approximate $p(t_0)$ by means of linear combinations of $I_k^\pm \{ p(t) \}$ terms.

Let us consider a set of coefficients

$$A = \{a_k^+, k=-m, \dots, m-1; a_k^-, k=-m+1, \dots, m\}.$$

We shall look for conditions over these coefficients in order to get a linear combination

$$\frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} a_k^+ I_k^+ \{p(t)\} + \sum_{k=-m+1}^m a_k^- I_k^- \{p(t)\} \right]$$

approximating $p_0 \equiv p(t_0)$. To study this we can integrate Taylor series for p to get:

$$(2.7) \quad I_k^\pm \{p(t)\} = h^2 \sum_{r=0}^{\infty} \beta_r^{(k)} \frac{(\pm h)^r p_0^{(r)}}{(r+2)!}$$

where

$$(2.8) \quad \beta_r^{(k)} \equiv [(k+1)^{r+2} - k^{r+2} - (r+2)k^{r+1}].$$

(Because of notational simplicity we use Taylor series; notwithstanding our results remain valid provided the perturbation p admits $(R+1)$ continuous derivatives, being R the order of the approximation).

In particular $\beta_0^{(k)} = 1$ and so our approximation error is:

$$\begin{aligned}
 p_0 - \frac{1}{h} & \left[\sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} a_k^+ I_k^+ \{p(t)\} + \sum_{k=-m+1}^m a_k^- I_k^- \{p(t)\} \right] \\
 = & \left[2 - \sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} (a_k^+ + a_k^-) \right] \frac{p_0}{2!} - \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \left[\sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} [a_k^+ + (-1)^r a_k^-] \beta_r^{(k)} \right] \frac{h^r p_0^{(r)}}{(r+2)!} .
 \end{aligned}$$

So, to have a linear expression approximating p_0 when $h \rightarrow 0$, the coefficients a_k^\pm have to verify the compatibility condition:

$$(2.9) \quad \sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} (a_k^+ + a_k^-) = 2 .$$

Assuming such a condition, we can write for the truncation error $\sigma(A)$ of this approximation:

$$(2.10) \quad \sigma(A) \equiv p_0 - \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} a_k^+ I_k^+ \{p(t)\} + \sum_{k=-m+1}^m a_k^- I_k^- \{p(t)\} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} \gamma_r(A) \frac{h^r p_0^{(r)}}{(r+2)!},$$

where the factors $\gamma_r(A)$ depend on the particular set A of coefficients; that is:

$$(2.11) \quad \gamma_r(A) \equiv \sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} [a_k^+ + (-1)^r a_{-k}^-] \beta_r^{(k)}.$$

Now in order to get an effectively computable expression for p_0 we shall use (2.4), where the Taylor integrals $I_k \{\Delta^{(k)} f(t)\}$ will be calculated by discretising them with approximated $\Delta^{(k)}$ f -values:

$$(2.12) \quad \Delta^{(k)} f_j^d \equiv f(t_j, y_j^d) - f(t_j, y_j^{(k)}).$$

By the moment, let us merely call δr_k^\pm to the computed integrals and e_k^\pm to the corresponding errors; that is:

$$(2.13) \quad I_k^{\pm} \{\Delta^{(k)} f(t)\} = \delta r_k^{\pm} + e_k^{\pm} .$$

Later, we shall show that it is possible to get approximations δr_k^{\pm} such that the errors e_k^{\pm} be negligible if a stepsize h small enough is used.

By using expressions (2.4) and (2.10), and dropping all the error terms, we get an estimated p_0 -value:

$$(2.14) \quad \tilde{p}_0 \equiv \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} a_k^+ (r_k^+ - \delta r_k^+) + \sum_{k=-m+1}^m a_k^- (r_k^- - \delta r_k^-) \right] .$$

The error δp_0 of this estimation can be written

$$(2.15) \quad \delta p_0 \equiv p_0 - \tilde{p}_0 = N(A) + M(A) + \sigma(A) + E(A) ,$$

where each component in this expression takes account of a different error source; that is:

$$(2.16) \quad N(A) = \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} a_k^+ (\delta y_{k+1} - \delta y_k) + \sum_{k=-m+1}^m a_k^- (\delta y_{k-1} - \delta y_k) \right] ,$$

which comes from the measurement errors in the determination of y -values;

$$(2.17) \quad M(A) = \frac{1}{h} \left[\begin{array}{c} m \\ \sum_{k=-m+1} a_k^- \delta \dot{y}_k - \sum_{k=-m} a_k^+ \delta \dot{y}_k \end{array} \right],$$

which comes from the measurement errors in the determination of \dot{y} -values;

$\sigma(A)$ is the truncation error of expression (2.10), and,

$$(2.18) \quad E(A) = -\frac{1}{h} \left[\begin{array}{c} m-1 \\ \sum_{k=-m} a_k^+ e_k^+ + \sum_{k=-m+1} a_k^- e_k^- \end{array} \right],$$

which comes from the errors in the numerical computation of the integral terms $I_k^{\pm} \{\Delta^{(k)} f(t)\}$.

3. Optimal schemes. Our next step is to study the possibility of determining values of the coefficients in A in order to get optimal schemes in the sense of minimising the error δp_0 in the estimation of the perturbation. To do this, it is necessary to consider bounds of the components $N(A)$ and $M(A)$, not depending on the particular set of measurement errors δy_k and $\delta \dot{y}_k$ respectively.

Let δY be an upper bound of measurement errors δy_k ; e. g.:

$$(3.1) \quad \delta Y \equiv \max_{-m \leq k \leq m} |\delta y_k| .$$

Then, arranging the terms in (2.16) it is possible to write:

$$(3.2) \quad N(A) \leq v(A) \frac{\delta Y}{2h} ,$$

where

$$(3.3) \quad v(A) \equiv |-a_{-m}^+ + a_{-m+1}^-| + \sum_{k=-m+1}^{m-1} |a_{k-1}^+ - a_k^+ + a_{k+1}^- - a_k^-| + |a_{m-1}^+ - a_m^-| .$$

The estimation (3.2) is optimal and it is the unique that can be done in absence of any hypothesis about δy_k -errors distribution.

Analogously, if we define

$$(3.4) \quad \delta \dot{Y} \equiv \max_{-m \leq k \leq m} |\delta \dot{y}_k| ,$$

we can write the optimal bound

$$(3.5) \quad M(A) \leq \mu(A) \frac{\delta \dot{Y}}{h} ,$$

where

$$(3.6) \quad \mu(A) \equiv |a_{-m}^+| + \sum_{k=-m+1}^{m-1} |a_k^+ a_{-k}^-| + |a_m^-| .$$

The error component $E(A)$ could be bounded in a similar way but it will not be described because we shall show later that its effect is negligible if an adequate quadrature formula and a sufficiently small stepsize h are used. So, neglecting this component, we can write:

$$(3.7) \quad |\delta p_0| \lesssim v(A) \frac{\delta Y}{h} + \mu(A) \frac{Y}{h} + \sum_{r=1}^{\infty} |\gamma_r(A)| \frac{h^r |p_0^{(r)}|}{(r+2)!} \equiv \epsilon(A, h) .$$

By means of convexity arguments it is easy to show that to get a minimum of $\epsilon(A, h)$ it is sufficient to consider symmetric sets A of coefficients in the sense of verifying:

$$(3.8) \quad a_k^+ = a_{-k}^- , \quad k=-m, \dots, m-1 .$$

In such a case, each set of coefficients is determined by the $a_k \equiv a_k^+$ values, and, the characterisations (2.16), (2.17), (2.18), the bounds (3.3), (3.6) and the compatibility condition (2.9), can be rewritten in terms of the a_k 's. Moreover, from (2.11) we have for r odd

$$\gamma_r(A) = 0 ,$$

and, therefore, the truncation error can be rewritten

$$(3.9) \quad \sigma(A) = \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \gamma_{2s}(A) \frac{h^{2s} p_0}{(2s+2)!}$$

with

$$(3.10) \quad \gamma_{2s}(A) = -2 \sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} a_k \beta_{2s}^{(k)} .$$

At this point, the problem of finding optimal schemes can be formulated in the following terms: given realistic bounds for the measurement errors δY and $\delta \dot{Y}$, and estimations of the even order derivatives of the unknown perturbation, to determine the number $m \in \mathbb{N}$, the set of coefficients a_{-m}, \dots, a_{m-1} satisfying the compatibility condition (2.9) and, eventually, the stepsize $h > 0$, in such a way that the error bound $\epsilon(A, h)$ attains its minimum.

Because of the impossibility of a theoretical solution for this optimization problem, we made an exhaustive numerical experimentation with different values for the needed bounds. This experimentation shows that in most of cases, $\epsilon(A, h)$ takes its minimum when one of both components

coming from measurement errors -that is $N(A)$ or $M(A)$ - vanishes. (Let us remark that there is no set of coefficients verifying the compatibility condition and such that both components vanish simultaneously).

So, we decided to study each case separately in order to get optimal schemes under two different restrictions:

Case 1: $N(A) = 0$, for those problems whose main error source is the determination of solution values;

Case 2: $M(A) = 0$, for those problems whose main error source is the determination of derivative values.

It is necessary to remark that in each case, the effect of the corresponding measurement errors does not disappear, because of the neglected component $E(A)$. Later on studying this component, we shall show that δy_k and $\delta \dot{y}_k$ errors appear there but not affected by amplifying factors $O(1/h)$ or $O(1/h^2)$.

In the two following sections we shall describe the main results which can be obtained under each restriction. For the sake of brevity, we shall not give in this paper the proofs of some assertions. These proofs are straightforward (see reference [3]) and, in our opinion, they are not relevant for the comprehension of the main ideas introduced in this work.

4. Robust methods under solution measurement errors. In this section we shall describe methods whose main part of the error is not affected

by measurement errors δy_k in the ODEs solution; namely methods with a vanishing $M(A)$ component. The coefficients defining such a scheme must verify (see (3.2), (3.3) and (3.8)):

$$(4.1) \quad a_{-k} = a_{k-1}, \quad k=1, \dots, m$$

and in this case the set A of coefficients is determined by the values of a_0, \dots, a_{m-1} .

In order to simplify the error analysis of these methods it is convenient to make a change of coefficients. Let

$$(4.2) \quad b_k \equiv a_{k-1} - a_k, \quad \text{for } k=1, \dots, m-1,$$

$$b_m \equiv a_{m-1}.$$

The remaining error components can be written in terms of the new coefficients. The component which takes account of $\delta \dot{y}_k$ errors is

$$(4.3) \quad M(A) = \frac{1}{h} \sum_{k=1}^m b_k (\delta \dot{y}_k - \delta \dot{y}_{-k})$$

and then, the bound (3.5), $M(A) \leq \mu(A) \delta \dot{Y} / h$, is valid with

$$(4.4) \quad \mu(A) = 2 \sum_{k=1}^m |b_k| .$$

For the coefficients of the truncation error (3.9) we may write:

$$(4.5) \quad \gamma_{2s} (A) = -2 \sum_{k=1}^m k^{2s+1} b_k .$$

On the other hand, the compatibility condition on the b_k 's is now:

$$(4.6) \quad \sum_{k=1}^m k b_k = \frac{1}{2} .$$

At this point, the number $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and the coefficients b_1, \dots, b_m satisfying (4.6), can be chosen in a free way. So, it is yet possible to impose additional restrictions. We shall study how to get optimal schemes under two different criteria.

Each criterion is an attempt to minimise the effect of each remaining error source. The two additional requirements are:

a) to have derivative measurement error bound $\mu(A)$ attaining its minimum,

b) to have truncation error $\sigma(A)$ of maximal order in terms of the stepsize h ,

and we shall analyse each case separately.

Case 1.a. In this case it is easy to show that under the restriction imposed by the compatibility condition, $\mu(A)$ attains its minimum at the set of coefficients corresponding to:

$$(4.7) \quad b_k = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } k=1, \dots, m-1, \\ 1/2m & , \text{ if } k=m. \end{cases}$$

The error in the estimation of the perturbation obtained with these coefficients is

$$(4.8) \quad \delta p_0 = \frac{\delta \dot{y}_m - \delta \dot{y}_{-m}}{2mh} - \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{(mh)^{2s} p_0^{(2s)}}{(2s+1)!} - \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{k=-m}^{m-1} (e_k^+ + e_{-k}^-) .$$

which depends on (mh) but not on m or h separately, in an essential way.

If we neglect the $O(h^4)$ -terms in the truncation error, we get as an approximate bound:

$$(4.9) \quad |\delta p_0| \approx \frac{\delta \dot{Y}}{mh} + \frac{(mh)^2 |p_0''|}{6} + 2 \max_{-m \leq k \leq m-1} |e_{\pm k}^{\pm}| ,$$

(we also assume $p_0'' \neq 0$). So, the best procedure is to use $m=1$ (in order to reduce computational cost) and a stepsize h (eventually a multiple of the original one) which minimise the previous bound. An actual computation of such an h is usually not possible because of the necessity of having a good estimate for p_0'' . In spite of this, the previous analysis shows the existence of an optimal stepsize and it suggests the convenience of experimentation with different ones.

The optimal scheme corresponding to $m=1$, will be described at the end of this section.

Case 1.b. In this case, it is easy to show that for every value of $m \in \mathbb{N}$, the set of coefficients corresponding to

$$(4.10) \quad b_k = \frac{(-1)^{k-1} (m!)^2}{k (m+k)! (m-k)!} , \quad k=1, \dots, m ,$$

satisfies $\gamma_{2s}(A) = 0$, for $s=1, \dots, m-1$, and the compatibility condition (4.6). So, it defines a method with truncation error of maximal order, that is $\sigma(A) = O(h^{2m})$.

Once more, neglecting the $O(h^{2m+2})$ -terms in the truncation error and the component coming from the computation of $I_k^{\pm} \{ \Delta^{(k)} f(t) \}$ too, we get as an approximate bound (assuming $p_0^{(2m)} \neq 0$):

$$(4.11) \quad |\delta p_0| \lesssim 2(m!)^2 S_m \frac{\delta \dot{Y}}{h} + \frac{(m!)^2}{(2m+1)!} h^{2m} |p_0^{(2m)}| ,$$

where

$$(4.12) \quad S_m = \sum_{k=1}^m \frac{1}{k (m+k)! (m-k)!} .$$

From a theoretical point of view, it would be possible to determine an optimal stepsize

$$h_{opt} = \left[\frac{(2m+1)!}{m} S_m \frac{\delta \dot{Y}}{|p_0^{(2m)}|} \right]^{\frac{1}{2m+1}}$$

and by using this stepsize we would get as an optimal bound of (4.11)

$$(2m+1)(m!)^2 \left[\frac{S_m^{2m}}{m^{2m} (2m+1)!} \frac{|p_0^{(2m)}|}{\delta \dot{Y}} \right]^{\frac{1}{2m+1}} \delta \dot{Y} .$$

As the factor

$$(2m+1)(m!)^2 \left[\frac{S_m^{2m}}{m^{2m}(2m+1)!} \right]^{\frac{1}{2m+1}}$$

grows with m , whenever the involved perturbation derivatives are smaller than $\delta \dot{Y}$, the optimal value of that bound will be attained at $m=1$.

If that is not the case, it is not possible to do a theoretical comparison among methods of different orders. Notwithstanding, numerical experience did not show any advantage for higher order methods, when a near optimal stepsize was used. Therefore, lower order methods will be preferable because of computational effort.

Example 1. For $m=1$, the optimal $O(h^2)$ -method is exactly the same that was obtained under the previous restriction in case 1.a. For this method, the estimation of the perturbation is

$$(4.13) \quad \tilde{p}_0 = \frac{1}{2h} (r_{-1}^+ + r_0^+ + r_0^- + r_1^-),$$

where

$$(4.14) \quad r_k^\pm \equiv r_k^\pm - \delta r_k^\pm,$$

$r_k^\pm = (y_{k\pm 1}^d - y_{k\pm 1}^{(k)})$ are the previously defined residuals and δr_k^\pm are the following numerical approximations of $I_k^\pm\{\Delta^{(k)}f(t)\}$ ($\Delta^{(k)}f_j^d$ are the approximate evaluations of $\Delta^{(k)}f_j$ defined in (2.12)):

$$(4.15) \quad \begin{aligned} \delta r_{-1}^+ &\equiv \frac{h^2}{24}(6\Delta^{(-1)}f_0^d - \Delta^{(-1)}f_1^d), & \delta r_0^+ &\equiv \frac{h^2}{24}(-\Delta^{(0)}f_{-1}^d + 3\Delta^{(0)}f_1^d), \\ \delta r_0^- &\equiv \frac{h^2}{24}(3\Delta^{(0)}f_{-1}^d - \Delta^{(0)}f_1^d), & \delta r_1^- &\equiv \frac{h^2}{24}(-\Delta^{(1)}f_{-1}^d + 6\Delta^{(1)}f_0^d). \end{aligned}$$

The error in this estimation of p_0 is:

$$(4.16) \quad \delta p_0 = \frac{\delta \dot{y}_1 - \delta \dot{y}_{-1}}{2h} - \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{h^{2s} p_0^{(2s)}}{(2s+1)!} + E(A),$$

where the component $E(A)$, coming from the errors in the numerical computation of $I_k^\pm\{\Delta^{(k)}f(t)\}$, can be splitted in two terms:

$$(4.17) \quad E(A) = \frac{\delta f_{-1} + 4\delta f_0 + \delta f_1}{6} + \tau.$$

The first one involves the differences

$$(4.18) \quad \delta f_j \equiv f(t_j, y_j^d) - f(t_j, y_j)$$

which can be bounded by means of a Lipschitz constant L of f and measurement errors in y_j^d ; i.e.:

$$(4.19) \quad |\delta f_j| \leq L \delta y_j .$$

The second one can be written in terms of $\Delta^{(k)} f$ derivative values and powers of h ; in particular:

$$(4.20) \quad \tau = \frac{\Delta_0^{(-1)} f^{iii} - \Delta_0^{(1)} f^{iii}}{45} h^3 + \sum_{k=-1}^1 c_k \Delta_k^{(k)} f^{iv}(\xi_k) h^4 ,$$

where $\xi_k \in (t_{-1}, t_1)$ and c_k are numerical constants.

$\Delta^{(k)} f$ -derivatives will be shown (see the appendix) to be bounded by measurement errors and perturbation derivatives. Therefore, both truncation errors in this method are actually proportional to perturbation derivatives instead of y -derivatives.

Finally, we must remark that in $E(A)$ there appears the influence of δy_k errors but, as it was previously stated, not affected by $O(1/h^2)$ -factors.

5. Robust methods under derivative measurement errors. Now we shall look for optimal schemes, such that its main part of the error be not affected

by measurement errors $\delta\dot{y}_k$ in the ODE solution derivative. We shall proceed in an analogous way to that of the previous section. To get a vanishing $M(A)$ component for any particular errors $\delta\dot{y}_k$, it is necessary to consider coefficients satisfying (see (3.5), (3.6) and (3.8)):

$$a_{-k} = a_k, \quad k=1, \dots, m-1, \quad (5.1)$$

$$a_{-m} = 0.$$

The set A is again determined by the values a_0, \dots, a_{m-1} . The adequate change of coefficients is in this case:

$$c_k = a_{k-1} - 2a_k + a_{k+1}, \quad k = 1, \dots, m-1, \quad (5.2)$$

$$c_m = a_{m-1},$$

(where we are considering $a_m \equiv 0$) and we may write the remaining error components in terms of the c_k 's. Namely:

$$N(A) = \frac{1}{h^2} \left[\sum_{k=1}^m c_k (\delta y_k + \delta y_{-k}) - 2 \left(\sum_{k=1}^m c_k \right) \delta y_0 \right], \quad (5.3)$$

and so, the inequality (3.2), $N(A) \leq v(A) \delta Y / h^2$, is satisfied with

$$(5.4) \quad v(A) = 2 \sum_{k=1}^m |c_k| + 2 \left| \sum_{k=1}^m c_k \right| .$$

For the truncation error coefficients we may write

$$(5.5) \quad \gamma_{2s}^{(A)} = -2 \sum_{k=1}^m k^{2s+1} c_k$$

and the compatibility condition is now

$$(5.6) \quad \sum_{k=1}^m k^2 c_k = 1 .$$

As in the last section, it is possible to choose arbitrary values for the number $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and the coefficients c_1, \dots, c_m satisfying this compatibility condition. Once again, we shall study two cases in order to minimise the effect of each remaining error source:

- a) methods with a measurement error bound $v(A)$ attaining its minimum,
- b) methods with truncation error $\sigma(A)$ of maximal order in terms of the stepsize h .

Case 2.a. In this case, it is easy to show that $v(A)$ attains its minimum, under the restriction (5.6), for the set of coefficients corresponding to:

$$(5.7) \quad c_k = \begin{cases} 0 & , \text{ if } k=1, \dots, m-1, \\ 1/m^2 & , \text{ if } k=m. \end{cases}$$

The error in the estimation of the perturbation obtained with these coefficients is:

$$(5.8) \quad \delta p_0 = \frac{\delta y_{-m} - 2\delta y_0 + \delta y_m}{(mh)^2} - 2 \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{(mh)^{2s} p_0^{(2s)}}{(2s+2)!} - \frac{1}{m} \sum_{k=-m+1}^{m-1} (m-|k|)(e_k^+ + e_k^-)$$

which again depends on (mh) but not on m or h in an essential way.

Neglecting the $O(h^4)$ -terms in the truncation error we have the approximate bound:

$$(5.9) \quad |\delta p_0| \lesssim \frac{4\delta Y}{(mh)^2} + \frac{(mh)^2 |p_0''|}{12} + \max_{-m+1 \leq k \leq m-1} |e_k^+ + e_k^-|,$$

(we have assumed $p_0'' \neq 0$). Just as in the previous section, the best procedure is to use $m=1$ and a stepsize h (eventually a multiple of the original one) which minimise the previous bound. Usually it is not possible to have a theoretical a-priori estimation of the optimal stepsize (because of the necessity of p_0'' -estimates), but the previous analysis suggest the convenience of trying with different ones.

The optimal scheme corresponding to $m=1$, will be described at the end of this section.

Case 2.b. In this case it is easy to show that for every value of $m \in \mathbb{N}$, the set of coefficients corresponding to

$$(5.10) \quad c_k = \frac{2(-1)^{k-1} (m!)^2}{k^2 (m+k)! (m-k)!}, \quad k=1, \dots, m,$$

satisfies $\gamma_{2s}(A) = 0$, for $s=1, \dots, m-1$ and the compatibility condition (5.6). So, it defines a method with truncation error of optimal order, namely $\sigma(A) = O(h^{2m})$.

Neglecting again the $O(h^{2m+2})$ -terms in $\sigma(A)$ and the component arising from the computation of $I_k^{\pm} \{\Delta^{(k)} f(t)\}$, we get as an approximate error bound (assuming $p_0^{(2m)} \neq 0$):

$$(5.11) \quad |\delta_{p_0}| \lesssim 8(m!)^2 T_m \frac{\delta Y}{h^2} + \frac{2(m!)^2}{(2m+2)!} h^{2m} |p_0^{(2m)}|,$$

where

$$(5.12) \quad T_m = \sum_{\substack{k=1 \\ k \text{ even}}}^m \frac{1}{k^2 (m+k)! (m-k)!}.$$

From a theoretical point of view, it would be possible to determine an optimal stepsize

$$h_{\text{opt}} = \left[\frac{(2m+2)!}{m} \cdot 4T_m \frac{\delta Y}{|p_0^{(2m)}|} \right]^{\frac{1}{2m+2}}$$

and by using it, the optimal value of bound (5.12) would be:

$$8(m+1)(m!)^2 \left[\frac{T_m^m}{4m^m(2m+2)!} \frac{|p_0^{(2m)}|}{\delta Y} \right]^{\frac{1}{m+1}} \delta Y .$$

As the factor

$$8(m+1)(m!)^2 \left[\frac{T_m^m}{4m^m(2m+2)!} \right]^{\frac{1}{m+1}}$$

grows with m , whenever the involved perturbation derivatives are smaller than δY , the optimal value of that bound attains at $m=1$.

If that is not the case, it is not possible to do a theoretical comparison among methods of different orders. Once again, numerical experiments did not show any advantage for methods of higher order, if a near optimal stepsize were used. So, lower order methods will be preferable.

For $m=1$, the optimal $O(h^2)$ -method is exactly the same that was obtained under the previous restriction in case 2.a. It is interesting to remark that the method developed in reference [8] by quite a different way, coincides with the optimal $O(h^4)$ -scheme of case 2.b (see reference [3]).

Example 2. We shall describe now the optimal $O(h^2)$ -method. The perturbation estimation is in this case:

$$(5.13) \quad \tilde{p}_0 = \frac{1}{2} (r_0^+ + r_0^- - \delta r_0) ,$$

where $r_0^\pm = (y_{\pm 1}^d - y_{\pm 1}^{(0)})$ are the standard residuals and δr_0 is the following numerical approximation of $I_0^+\{\Delta^{(0)} f(t)\} + I_0^-\{\Delta^{(0)} f(t)\}$:

$$(5.14) \quad \delta r_0 = \frac{h^2}{12} (\Delta^{(0)} f_{-1}^d + \Delta^{(0)} f_1^d) .$$

The error in this estimation of p_0 is

$$(5.15) \quad \delta p_0 = \frac{\delta y_{-1} - 2\delta y_0 + \delta y_1}{h^2} - 2 \sum_{s=1}^{\infty} \frac{h^{2s} p_0^{(2s)}}{(2s+2)!} - e_0 ,$$

where the component e_0 , coming from the numerical computation (5.14), can be written

$$(5.16) \quad e_0 = \frac{\delta f_{-1} + 10\delta f_0 + \delta f_1}{12} - \frac{\Delta^{(0)} f_{iv} h^4}{240} + C \Delta^{(0)} f^{vi}(\xi) h^6,$$

with $\xi \in (t_{-1}, t_1)$ and C being a numerical constant.

Let us recall that δf_j -values defined in (4.18), can be bounded in terms of a Lipschitz constant of f and δy_j -values (form. (4.19)) and that $\Delta^{(0)}$ - f -derivatives will be shown in the appendix to be bounded by measurement errors and perturbation derivatives.

6. Numerical experiments. In order to show the efficiency of the optimal schemes developed in the previous sections, we applied them to a classical problem of Celestial Mechanics: the localisation of an unknown massive body whose presence is presumed because of the gravitational perturbative forces affecting other observable celestial bodies.

The particular problem we use to test our methods is the "discovery" of Neptune from the deviations that it causes in Saturn's and Uranus' orbits. Neptune was actually discovered at the end of the last century by Leverrier and Adams by means of perturbational methods of analytical nature.

We made a numerical simulation with a simplified "solar system" composed only by the Sun and the three involved planets. To get the "true" positions and velocities of both observable planets -Saturn and Uranus-, the classical

motion equations in heliocentric coordinates for this four bodies problem were integrated to a high precision with true initial conditions. This and all the numerical integrations needed for this experiment were made by using a subroutine based on the well-known Bulirsch-Stöer extrapolation method [1].

The "measured" positions and velocities were got by adding to the "true" values, "measurement errors" taken from a zero mean normal random sequence scaled to specific realistic variances obtained from reference [2]. See Table 6.1.

TABLE 6.1

Variances of "measured" positions and velocities

Planet	Position (U.A.)			Velocity (U.A./100 days)		
	y_1	y_2	y_3	\dot{y}_1	\dot{y}_2	\dot{y}_3
Saturn	$2.*10^{-6}$	$.9*10^{-6}$	$1.*10^{-6}$	$4.*10^{-8}$	$10.*10^{-8}$	$7.*10^{-8}$
Uranus	$7.*10^{-6}$	$2.*10^{-6}$	$2.*10^{-6}$	$14.*10^{-8}$	$7.*10^{-8}$	$5.*10^{-8}$

With this measured data we tried to estimate the perturbatory gravitational forces owing to Neptune and affecting the motion equations of the other two planets; i.e.:

$$(6.1) \quad \begin{cases} \ddot{y}_U = G[(m_\theta + m_U) \nabla_U (\|y_U\|^{-1}) - m_S \nabla_S (\|y_S - y_U\|^{-1} - \|y_S\|^{-1})] + p_U, \\ \ddot{y}_S = G[(m_\theta + m_S) \nabla_S (\|y_S\|^{-1}) - m_U \nabla_U (\|y_U - y_S\|^{-1} - \|y_U\|^{-1})] + p_S, \end{cases}$$

where the indexes means: θ Sun, U Uranus, S Saturn, (and, later on, N Neptune); m_A is the mass of body A ; ∇_A is the gradient respect the variables y_A ; $\|\cdot\|$ is the usual euclidean norm; G is the universal gravitational constant, and, p_U and p_S are the "unknown" gravitational forces affecting Uranus' and Saturn's orbits respectively.

To estimate this gravitational perturbations we used both optimal $O(h^2)$ -schemes described in sections 4 and 5; let us call each procedure PERT-1 and PERT-2 respectively. We experimented too with the higher order optimal schemes obtained in the same sections, but these results will not be described, because they are more or less of the same quality than those of PERT-1 and PERT-2 (and more expensive in computational cost).

In order to get an idea of the quality of this estimations we used them for the inverse problem of determining the position and mass of the "unknown" planet -Neptune- by solving in the least square sense the rectangular system of non linear algebraic equations

$$(6.2) \quad \begin{cases} p_U = -G m_N \nabla_N (\|y_N - y_U\|^{-1} - \|y_N\|^{-1}), \\ p_S = -G m_N \nabla_N (\|y_N - y_S\|^{-1} - \|y_N\|^{-1}), \end{cases}$$

defining the perturbative forces. To solve this system, with the "measured" positions of Uranus and Saturn and the obtained estimations of the perturbative forces, we used Newton's method with the "true" Neptune's position and mass as initial guess.

Finally we computed Neptune's spherical coordinates -right ascension and declination- from its cartesian ones. The error in the estimation of these magnitudes is what determines the possibility of visual localisation of the "unknown" planet.

Each procedure, PERT-1 and PERT-2, was accomplished with different stepsizes in order to find an optimal one. The obtained results showed for both schemes that the optimal stepsize is such that measurement and truncation errors are approximately of the same magnitude. For PERT-1 it is between 800 and 2000 days and for PERT-2 between 2000 and 3000 days. The amplitude of these intervals shows a big robustness of our methods under the choice of stepsize.

Table 6.2 summarise the results obtained with each scheme at different dates. The efficiency of each computed magnitude has been estimated by means of the expression

$$(6.3) \quad \text{eff}(\tilde{q}) = -\log_{10} \left(\frac{\|\tilde{q} - q\|}{\|q\|} \right),$$

where \tilde{q} is the approximation of q . When this efficiency is positive,

it roughly counts the number of significant decimal digits correctly calculated.

The estimation of the unknown Neptune's mass and coordinates strongly depends on the particular measurement errors of the data. In order to be able to appreciate the general behaviour of each method, Table 6.2 shows the averages of absolute value of errors and of the efficiencies for each computed magnitude, over three experiments carried out with different particular measurements.

TABLE 6.2

Errors and efficiencies for PERT-1 and PERT-2

Date: 2449200.5 J.D.

magnitude	true value	PERT-1		PERT-2	
		error	eff.	error	eff.
p_U	$0.498 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.79 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.63	$6.61 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.23
	$-1.430 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.32 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$5.02 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
	$-0.528 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$0.65 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$2.32 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
p_S	$-0.433 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.84 \cdot 10^{-7}$	0.90	$3.29 \cdot 10^{-7}$	0.67
	$-1.607 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$1.85 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$1.19 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
	$-0.620 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.84 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$0.37 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
m_N	$2.050 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$0.14 \cdot 10^{-3}$	1.17	$0.28 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.87
y_N	9.96	0.16	1.78	0.35	1.60
	-26.28	0.39		0.49	
	-11.02	0.16		0.28	
ang. coord.	290.76	0.44		0.79	
	-21.40	0.07		0.27	

Date: 2449300.5 J.D.

magnitude	true value	PERT-1		PERT-2	
		error	eff.	error	eff.
p_U	$0.485 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$2.31 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.79	$3.70 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.47
	$-1.437 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$0.97 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$3.47 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
	$-.532 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$0.52 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$1.38 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
p_S	$-.465 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.39 \cdot 10^{-7}$	0.98	$3.49 \cdot 10^{-7}$	0.61
	$-1.505 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$1.57 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$1.27 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
	$-.578 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.69 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$1.00 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
m_N	$2.050 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$0.40 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.71	$0.46 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.64
y_N	10.25	0.31	1.51	0.21	1.42
	-26.18	0.82		1.01	
	-10.98	0.30		0.42	
ang. coord.	291.39	0.23		0.54	
	-21.34	0.07		0.13	

Date: 2449400.5 J.D.

magnitude	true value	PERT-1		PERT-2	
		error	eff.	error	eff.
p_U	$0.472 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$1.75 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.92	$5.52 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.35
	$-1.443 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$0.46 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$4.08 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
	$-.535 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$0.48 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$1.27 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
p_S	$-.494 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.75 \cdot 10^{-7}$	1.18	$1.88 \cdot 10^{-7}$	0.73
	$-1.403 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$0.32 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$2.19 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
	$-.536 \cdot 10^{-6}$	$0.53 \cdot 10^{-7}$		$0.26 \cdot 10^{-7}$	
m_N	$2.050 \cdot 10^{-3}$	$0.08 \cdot 10^{-3}$	1.42	$0.61 \cdot 10^{-3}$	0.53
y_N	10.55	0.12	2.15	0.10	1.28
	-26.07	0.16		1.51	
	-10.95	0.06		0.49	
ang. coord.	292.02	0.19		0.95	
	-21.27	0.04		0.12	

Comparing the results of each method in Table 6.2, a better performance of PERT-1 can be observed. Such a behaviour could be predicted attending to the previously made error analysis and to the lower variances of velocity data. Table 6.1 shows that data errors in planet's position are greater than those in planet's velocities. So, a method with a vanishing $N(A)$ component -like PERT-1- should be preferable to a method with a vanishing $M(A)$ component -like PERT-2-, since $N(A)$ takes care of position errors and $M(A)$ of velocity ones. In fact, it explains too that optimal stepsizes for PERT-2 are bigger than those for PERT-1, since measurement and truncation errors must be approximately of the same magnitude when using such optimal stepsize.

Finally, we must remark that Neptune's angular coordinates predicted by using PERT-1 are sensibly more precise than those obtained with the $O(h^4)$ optimal method of case 2.b, which essentially is the same that was used in reference [8].

7. Concluding remarks. Every method introduced in references [4], [5], [6], [7] and [8] to estimate perturbations in ODEs without modeling assumptions and with truncation errors proportional to its small derivatives, are based on a same idea: to get a computable expression of perturbation values in terms of residuals (i.e. differences between ODE-solution measured values and non perturbed ODE-solution values). The way used in those works to get such expressions consist of discretising integrals

involving the perturbation by means of its unknown nodal values and, then, solving the resultant equations.

An alternative way to get such expression was introduced in this paper. It consist of a direct approximation of the unknown perturbation-values by means of arbitrary linear combinations of those integrals. By this way, a general scheme for this kind of methods was studied, obtaining a complete error analysis of them. This analysis can be applied to methods in previous works since they are particular cases of this general scheme.

The obtained error characterisation allowed us to determine the coefficients in the linear combinations in order to be used to minimise the influence of each error source; therefore, optimal schemes under different restrictions were deduced. In particular, one of this optimal schemes proved to be more adequate to solve a Celestial Mechanics problem than those previously used.

Acknowledgements. The author wishes to express deep gratitude to his thesis adviser Prof. P. E. Zadunaisky and also to A. Brunini who collaborated in the numerical experimentation.

Appendix. In sections 4 and 5 we have shown how to numerically integrate $I_k\{\Delta^{(k)}f(t)\}$ with negligible errors in relation to the remaining error components of the perturbation estimation (formulae (4.15) and (5.14)).

In both cases, truncation errors of these numerical integrations involve $\Delta^{(k)}$ f -derivatives (formulae (4.15) and (5.16)). The following lemma shows that these derivatives are actually bounded by perturbation derivatives and by measurement errors, if the stepsize is sufficiently small. Therefore, it is proved that all truncation errors in our methods are indeed proportional to small perturbation derivatives.

Lemma. Let y and $\tilde{y} : [a,b] \rightarrow [c,d]$ be the solutions of the following initial value problems:

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{y}(t) = f(t, y(t)) + p(t), \\ y(a) = y_0, \quad \dot{y}(a) = \dot{y}_0; \end{cases}$$

$$\begin{cases} \ddot{\tilde{y}}(t) = f(t, \tilde{y}(t)), \\ \tilde{y}(a) = y_0 + \delta y_0, \quad \dot{\tilde{y}}(a) = \dot{y}_0 + \delta \dot{y}_0. \end{cases}$$

Let $\Delta f(t) = f(t, y(t)) - f(t, \tilde{y}(t))$, for $t \in [a,b]$. For every $h \geq 0$ and every continuous function g , let $\|g\|_h = \max_{a \leq t \leq a+h} |g(t)|$. Given any integer $k \geq 0$, if f has $(k+1)$ continuous derivatives on the rectangle $R = [a,b] \times [c,d]$, if p is a continuous function with $(k-2)$ continuous derivatives on $[a,b]$ (if $k \geq 2$), and, if the interval $[a,b]$ is small enough to satisfy $(b-a)^2 L/2 < 1$, where $L = \max_R \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} \right|$ is a Lipschitz

constant for f , then, for any $h \geq 0$ such that $a+h \leq b$, the following inequalities hold:

$$(A.1) \quad \|y - \tilde{y}\|_h \leq C_0 (|\delta y_0| + h|\delta \dot{y}_0| + \frac{h^2}{2} \|P\|_h),$$

$$(A.2) \quad \|f\|_h \leq C'_0 (|\delta y_0| + h|\delta \dot{y}_0| + \frac{h^2}{2} \|P\|_h),$$

if $k \geq 1$, then:

$$(A.3) \quad \|\dot{y} - \dot{\tilde{y}}\|_h \leq C_1 (|\delta y_0| + |\delta \dot{y}_0| + h\|P\|_h),$$

$$(A.4) \quad \|f'\|_h \leq C'_1 (|\delta y_0| + |\delta \dot{y}_0| + h\|P\|_h),$$

and, if $k \geq j \geq 2$, then:

$$(A.5) \quad \|y^{(j)} - \tilde{y}^{(j)}\|_h \leq C_j (|\delta y_0| + |\delta \dot{y}_0| + \sum_{i=0}^{j-2} \|P^{(i)}\|_h),$$

$$(A.6) \quad \|f^{(j)}\|_h \leq C'_j (|\delta y_0| + |\delta \dot{y}_0| + \sum_{i=0}^{j-2} \|P^{(i)}\|_h),$$

where C_j and C'_j , $j=0, \dots, k$, are constants not depending on h .

Proof. Subtracting the Taylor formulae for y and \tilde{y} , we can write for every $t \in [a, b]$:

$$(A.7) \quad y(t) - \tilde{y}(t) = \delta y_0 + (t-a)\delta \dot{y}_0 + \int_a^t \Delta f(\tau) (t-\tau) d\tau + \int_a^t p(\tau) (t-\tau) d\tau .$$

On the other hand, as $(\tau, y(\tau))$ and $(\tau, \tilde{y}(\tau))$ belong to R for every $\tau \in [a, a+h]$, we have the following bound:

$$(A.8) \quad |\Delta f(\tau)| \leq L \|y - \tilde{y}\|_h .$$

By using this bound in (A.7) it follows for every $t \in [a, a+h]$:

$$|y(t) - \tilde{y}(t)| \leq |\delta y_0| + h |\delta \dot{y}_0| + \frac{L(b-a)^2}{2} \|y - \tilde{y}\|_h + \frac{h^2}{2} \|p\|_h$$

and, as $L(b-a)^2/2 < 1$, we get the bound (A.1) with $C_0 = [1 - L(b-a)^2/2]^{-1}$,

and, by replacing this bound in (A.8), we get (A.2) with $C'_0 = C_0 L$.

To prove the remaining bounds, it is necessary to have analogous estimates to (A.7) and (A.8) for $(y - \tilde{y})$ - and Δf -derivatives. For $(y - \tilde{y})$ we can write:

$$(A.9) \quad \dot{y}(t) - \dot{\tilde{y}}(t) = \delta \dot{y}_0 + \int_a^t \Delta f(\tau) d\tau + \int_a^t p(\tau) d\tau ,$$

and, for $j=2, \dots, k$,

$$(A.10) \quad y^{(j)}(t) - \tilde{y}^{(j)}(t) = \Delta f^{(j-2)}(t) + p^{(j-2)}(t) .$$

On the other hand, it is easy to show that for $j=1, \dots, k$ and for $t \in [a, b]$

$$(A.11) \quad |\Delta f^{(j)}(t)| \leq \sum_{i=0}^j A_{ij} |y^{(i)}(t) - \tilde{y}^{(i)}(t)| ,$$

where A_{ij} are constants not depending on t .

Now from (A.9), (A.8) and (A.1), it follows bound (A.3) with $C_1 = \max\{C'_0(b-a) , 1 + C'_0(b-a)^2\}$ which do not depend on h ; and, therefore, from (A.11), (A.1) and (A.3) we get bound (A.4) with other constant C'_1 not depending on h .

Finally, proceeding in a recursive way, we can prove the remaining bounds (A.5) and (A.6) for $j=2, \dots, k$.

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