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## VARIABLE ORDER NESTED HYBRID MULTISTEP METHODS FOR STIFF ODES

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**Abstract.** A family of variable order nested hybrid multistep method for the numerical integration of stiff initial value problems of an ordinary differential equation is presented in this paper. These methods possess high order with  $A$ -stability properties making it suitable for solving stiff problems. The method has been implemented on some non-linear problems.

**Keywords:** multistep method; nested hybrid; stiff problem; order; error; stability; variable step size.

**2010 AMS Subject Classification:** 65L05, 65L06.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

Multistep methods with off-step points, variously known as hybrid methods for the system of initial value problems (IVPs) for stiff ordinary differential equations (ODEs) of the form

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} y'(x) = f(x, y), & x \in [x_0, X] \\ y(x_0) = y_0 \end{cases}$$

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where  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ , were introduced by independent authors, some of which are [1, 2, 3]. These hybrid methods were proposed in a bid to search for good numerical schemes for the numerical solution of initial value problems (IVPs) in ODEs. Most ODEs arising from scientific modelling exhibit a characteristics of high stability, which when solved by standard numerical methods, instability sets in [4]. This kind of ODEs are called stiff ODEs. In solving stiff systems of ODEs, the numerical method must have good accuracy and some reasonable wide region of absolute stability [5], in which  $A$ -stable methods are very good choice. Hence, the need to develop numerical methods with a wide region of absolute stability. However, this requirement of  $A$ -stability puts a severe limitation on the choice of suitable multistep methods, which is fondly known as the Dahlquist order barrier [6]. Hybrid methods are modified from the linear multistep methods by incorporating off-step points, this is done in an attempt to bypass the Dahlquist order barrier that exist in the linear multistep methods.

In the quest of solving stiff ODEs, several authors have developed numerical methods that circumvent the so called Dahlquist order barrier, som of which includes; the second derivative multistep methods of [7], hybrid linear multistep method of [8, 9], high order numerical method of [10], extended backward differentiation formulas of [11].

The paper presented is organized thus; in section 2 we discuss the derivation of the proposed method, as well as give some examples of the method, section 3 considers the local truncation error and order of the method proposed, we analyze the  $A$ -stability property of the proposed method in section 4, in section 5, we implemented the schemes on some test problems and compare with existing methods. The paper is concluded in section 6 with giving a brief summary.

Kulikov and Shindin [12, 13] considered nested implicit Runge-kutta formulas based on Gauss quadrature formula. Here, we consider nested hybrid multistep methods.

## 2. DERIVATION OF THE METHODS

The variable order nested hybrid multistep method (VONHM) considered in this paper for the numerical integration of (1) is the second derivative hybrid multistep method defined as

$$(2) \quad y_{n+k} = \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} y_{n+j} + h \left( \gamma_k^{(m)} f_{n+k} + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} f_{n+v_m} \right) + h^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} f'_{n+k}$$

where  $x_{n+j} = x_n + jh$  ( $h$  being the step size),  $k$  the step number ( $k \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ ),  $m = k - 1$  and the hybrid value  $v_m$  is chosen as

$$v_m = k - \frac{1}{2}$$

In addition to (2), the hybrid point  $y_{n+v_m}$  is computed from the nested hybrid

$$(3) \quad y_{n+v_{l+1}} = y_{n+k} + h \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(l)} f_{n+j} + \beta_{v_l}^{(l)} f_{n+v_l} \right) \quad l = 0(1)m - 1$$

The hybrid method (3) is nested in that we have  $k$  number of hybrid point, that is, from (3) we have the set of hybrid points

$$y_{n+v_{l+1}}, y_{n+v_l}, y_{n+v_{l-1}}, y_{n+v_{l-2}}, \dots, y_{n+v_2}, y_{n+v_1}, y_{n+v_0}$$

where  $y_{n+v_0}$  is the nested hybrid predictor. The hybrid value  $v_l$ ;  $l = 0(1)m - 1$  is computed using

$$(4) \quad v_l = \frac{v_{l+1} + k}{2}, \quad l = 0(1)m - 1$$

Two cases of hybrid predictors are considered, given as

$$(5) \quad y_{n+v_0} = \begin{cases} y_{n+k} + h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} f_{n+j} & V_1 \\ y_{n+k} + h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} f_{n+j} + h^2 \lambda_k^{-1} f'_{n+k} & V_2 \end{cases}$$

$y_{n+k}$  in (2) is the numerical approximation (output solution) to the exact solution  $y(x_{n+k})$ . Two cases of VONHM are considered above in which the first being the combination of (2), (3) and  $V_1$ , while the second is the combination of (2), (3) and  $V_2$ . The implicitness of the VONHM is on the output method (2)

We derive the schemes based on the assumption of the polynomial interpolant

$$(6) \quad y(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N a_j x^j$$

where  $\{a_j\}_{j=0}^N$  are real parameter constants to be determined, differentiating (6), we have

$$(7) \quad f(x, y) = y'(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N j a_j x^{j-1} \quad \text{and} \quad f'(x, y) = y''(x) = \sum_{j=0}^N j(j-1) a_j x^{j-2}$$

we then collocate at  $x = x_{n+j}$ ,  $j = 0(1)k$  and  $x_{n+v_m}$ , and interpolate at  $x_{n+k}$ , as discussed in [14, 15, 16]. The hybrid values  $v_m$  and  $v_l$ ;  $l = 0(1)m - 1$  are computed for the step number  $k = 1(1)9$  in table 1.

TABLE 1. Computed values of  $v$  for each  $k$

$k$	$m$	$l$	$v = (v_0, v_1, v_2, \dots, v_{m-1})$	$v_m$
1	0	-	-	$\frac{1}{2}$
2	1	0	$\frac{7}{4}$	$\frac{3}{2}$
3	2	0,1	$(\frac{23}{8}, \frac{11}{4})$	$\frac{5}{2}$
4	3	0(1)2	$(\frac{63}{16}, \frac{31}{8}, \frac{15}{4})$	$\frac{7}{2}$
5	4	0(1)3	$(\frac{159}{32}, \frac{79}{16}, \frac{39}{8}, \frac{19}{4})$	$\frac{9}{2}$
6	5	0(1)4	$(\frac{383}{64}, \frac{191}{32}, \frac{95}{16}, \frac{47}{8}, \frac{23}{4})$	$\frac{11}{2}$
7	6	0(1)5	$(\frac{895}{128}, \frac{447}{64}, \frac{223}{32}, \frac{111}{16}, \frac{55}{8}, \frac{27}{4})$	$\frac{13}{2}$
8	7	0(1)6	$(\frac{2047}{256}, \frac{1023}{128}, \frac{511}{64}, \frac{255}{32}, \frac{127}{16}, \frac{63}{8}, \frac{31}{4})$	$\frac{15}{2}$
9	8	0(1)7	$(\frac{4607}{512}, \frac{2303}{256}, \frac{1151}{128}, \frac{575}{64}, \frac{287}{32}, \frac{143}{16}, \frac{71}{8}, \frac{35}{4})$	$\frac{17}{2}$

**2.1. Example Methods.** For the step number  $k = 1$ ,  $m = 0$ . The method has a single hybrid predictor with hybrid value  $v_0 = \frac{1}{2}$  given as

$$(8) \quad y_{n+1} = y_n + h \left( \frac{4}{3} f_{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{3} f_{n+1} \right) + \frac{1}{6} h^2 f'_{n+1}$$

with the hybrid predictor  $y_{n+\frac{1}{2}}$  given as

$$(9) \quad y_{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{cases} y_{n+1} - \frac{1}{8}hf_n - \frac{3}{8}hf_{n+1} & V_1 \\ y_{n+1} + h\left(-\frac{1}{24}f_n - \frac{11}{24}f_{n+1}\right) + \frac{1}{12}h^2f'_{n+1} & V_2 \end{cases}$$

For the step number  $k = 2$ ,  $m = 1$ ,  $l = 0$ . The method has hybrid predictors with hybrid values  $v_1 = \frac{3}{2}$ ,  $v_0 = \frac{7}{4}$ , the method is thus;

$$(10) \quad y_{n+2} = -\frac{1}{31}y_n + \frac{32}{31}y_{n+1} + h\left(\frac{32}{31}f_{n+\frac{3}{2}} - \frac{2}{31}f_{n+2}\right) + \frac{2}{31}h^2f'_{n+2}$$

with the hybrid

$$(11) \quad y_{n+\frac{3}{2}} = y_{n+2} + h\left(\frac{1}{672}f_n - \frac{1}{48}f_{n+1} - \frac{3}{7}f_{n+\frac{7}{4}} - \frac{5}{96}f_{n+2}\right)$$

and the hybrid predictor  $y_{n+\frac{7}{4}}$  given as

$$(12) \quad y_{n+\frac{7}{4}} = y_{n+2} + h\left(\frac{5}{384}f_n - \frac{11}{192}f_{n+1} - \frac{79}{384}f_{n+2}\right) \quad V_1$$

$$(13) \quad y_{n+\frac{7}{4}} = y_{n+2} + h\left(\frac{13}{12288}f_n - \frac{29}{3072}f_{n+1} - \frac{2969}{12288}f_{n+2}\right) + \frac{49}{2048}h^2f'_{n+2} \quad V_2$$

For the step number  $k = 3$ ,  $m = 2$ ,  $l = 0, 1$ . The method has hybrid values are  $v_2 = \frac{5}{2}$ ,  $v_1 = \frac{11}{4}$ ,  $v_0 = \frac{23}{8}$ . The method is thus given as

$$(14) \quad y_{n+3} = \frac{20}{3773}y_n - \frac{243}{3773}y_{n+1} + \frac{3996}{3773}y_{n+2} + h\left(\frac{3456}{3773}f_{n+\frac{5}{2}} + \frac{114}{3773}f_{n+3}\right) + \frac{18}{539}h^2f'_{n+3}$$

with the nested hybrid

$$(15) \quad y_{n+\frac{5}{2}} = y_{n+3} + h\left(-\frac{29}{63360}f_n + \frac{7}{1920}f_{n+1} - \frac{149}{5760}f_{n+2} - \frac{208}{495}f_{n+\frac{11}{4}} - \frac{329}{5760}f_{n+3}\right)$$

$$(16) \quad y_{n+\frac{11}{4}} = y_{n+3} + h\left(-\frac{209}{2119680}f_n + \frac{329}{460800}f_{n+1} - \frac{769}{215040}f_{n+2} - \frac{8348}{36225}f_{n+\frac{23}{8}} - \frac{1529}{92160}f_{n+3}\right)$$

and the hybrid predictor  $y_{n+\frac{23}{8}}$  given as

$$(17) \quad y_{n+\frac{23}{8}} = y_{n+3} + h\left(-\frac{75}{32768}f_n + \frac{1027}{98304}f_{n+1} - \frac{2147}{98304}f_{n+2} - \frac{10943}{98304}f_{n+3}\right) \quad V_1$$

$$(18) \quad y_{n+\frac{23}{8}} = y_{n+3} + h \left( -\frac{553}{8847360} f_n + \frac{281}{655360} f_{n+1} - \frac{591}{327680} f_{n+2} - \frac{2186407}{17694720} f_{n+3} \right) + \frac{19697}{2949120} h^2 f'_{n+3} \quad V_2$$

Methods for step number  $k \geq 4$  can be constructed as discussed above.

### 3. ERROR AND ORDER

The general form of the local truncation error of the scheme (2) is

$$(19) \quad LTE_a = y(x_{n+k}) - \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} y(x_{n+j}) + h \left( \gamma_k^{(m)} y'(x_{n+k}) + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} y'(x_{n+v_m}) \right) + h^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} y''(x_{n+k}) \right)$$

The local truncation error of the nested hybrid scheme (3) is

$$(20) \quad LTE_b = y(x_{n+v_{l+1}}) - \left( y(x_{n+k}) + h \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(l)} y'(x_{n+j}) + \beta_{v_l}^{(l)} y''(x_{n+v_l}) \right) \right) \quad l = 0(1)m-1$$

The local truncation error of the first case of hybrid predictor  $V_1$  is

$$(21) \quad LTE_c = y(x_{n+v_0}) - \left( y(x_{n+k}) + h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} y'(x_{n+j}) \right)$$

The local truncation error of the first case of hybrid predictor  $V_2$  is

$$(22) \quad LTE_d = y(x_{n+v_0}) - \left( y(x_{n+k}) + h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} y'(x_{n+j}) + h^2 \lambda_k^{(-1)} y''(x_{n+k}) \right)$$

**Proposition 1.** The method (2) has order  $p = k + 2$  with the local truncation error given as

$$\begin{aligned} L[y(x_n), h] &\leq C_{k+3}^{(a)} h^{k+3} y^{(k+3)} + O(h^{k+4}) \\ &= C_{p+1}^{(a)} h^{p+1} y^{(p+1)} + O(h^{p+2}) \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Replacing  $y(x_{n+k}) = y(x_n + kh)$ ,  $y(x_{n+j}) = y(x_n + jh)$ ,  $y'(x_{n+k}) = y'(x_n + kh)$ ,  $y''(x_{n+k}) = y''(x_n + kh)$  and  $y(x_{n+v_m}) = y(x_n + v_m h)$  in (19) and obtain the Taylor's series expansion about  $x_n$  gives

$$(23) \quad \begin{aligned} L[y(x_n), h] &= C_0^{(a)} y(x_n) + C_1^{(a)} h y'(x_n) + C_2^{(a)} h^2 y''(x_n) + \dots + C_{k+2}^{(a)} h^{k+2} y^{(k+2)}(x_n) \\ &\quad + C_{k+3}^{(a)} h^{k+3} y^{(k+3)}(x_n) + O(h^{k+4}) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$C_0^{(a)} = 1 - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} = 0$$

$$C_1^{(a)} = k - \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} - \gamma_k^{(m)} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} j \alpha_j^{(m)} = 0$$

$$C_2^{(a)} = \frac{1}{2!} \left( k^2 - 2v_m \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} - 2k \gamma_k^{(m)} - 2\Omega_k^{(m)} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} j^2 \alpha_j^{(m)} \right) = 0$$

$$C_3^{(a)} = \frac{1}{3!} \left( k^3 - 3v_m^2 \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} - 3k^2 \gamma_k^{(m)} - 6k \Omega_k^{(m)} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} j^3 \alpha_j^{(m)} \right) = 0$$

⋮

$$(24) \quad C_{k+2}^{(a)} = \frac{1}{(k+2)!} \left( k^{k+2} - (k+2)v_m^{k+1} \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} - (k+2)k^{k+1} \gamma_k^{(m)} \right. \\ \left. - (k+1)(k+2)k^k \Omega_k^{(m)} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} j^{k+2} \alpha_j^{(m)} \right) = 0$$

$$(25) \quad C_{k+3}^{(a)} = \frac{1}{(k+3)!} \left( k^{k+3} - (k+3)v_m^{k+2} \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} - (k+3)k^{k+2} \gamma_k^{(m)} \right. \\ \left. - (k+2)(k+3)k^{k+1} \Omega_k^{(m)} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} j^{k+3} \alpha_j^{(m)} \right) \neq 0$$

therefore (23) becomes

$$(26) \quad L[y(x_n), h] \leq C_{k+3}^{(a)} h^{k+3} y^{(k+3)} + O(h^{k+4}) \\ = C_{p+1}^{(a)} h^{p+1} y^{(p+1)} + O(h^{p+2})$$

□

Hence, from (26), the method (2) has order  $p = k + 2$ , where  $C_{p+1}^{(a)}$  is the error constant of method (2).

**Corollary 1.** The method (3) has order  $q = k + 2$  with the local truncation error given as

$$\begin{aligned} L[y(x_n), h] &\leq C_{k+3}^{(a)} h^{k+3} y^{(k+3)} + O(h^{k+4}) \\ &= C_{q+1}^{(a)} h^{q+1} y^{(q+1)} + O(h^{q+2}) \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 2.** The method (5), case  $V_1$  has order  $r = k + 1$  with the local truncation error given as

$$\begin{aligned} L[y(x_n), h] &\leq C_{k+2}^{(a)} h^{k+2} y^{(k+2)} + O(h^{k+3}) \\ &= C_{r+1}^{(a)} h^{r+1} y^{(r+1)} + O(h^{r+2}) \end{aligned}$$

**Corollary 3.** The method (5), case  $V_2$  has order  $s = k + 2$  with the local truncation error given as

$$\begin{aligned} L[y(x_n), h] &\leq C_{k+3}^{(a)} h^{k+3} y^{(k+3)} + O(h^{k+4}) \\ &= C_{s+1}^{(a)} h^{s+1} y^{(s+1)} + O(h^{s+2}) \end{aligned}$$

The computed error constant and order of the example methods of VONHM given in section 2.1 is given in table 2 for step number  $k = 1(1)3$ .

TABLE 2. Error constant and order of the VONHM in section 2.1

$k$	$C_{p+1}^{(a)}$	$C_{q+1}^{(b)}$	$C_{r+1}^{(c)}$	$C_{s+1}^{(d)}$	$p$	$q$	$r$	$s$
1	$-\frac{1}{72}$	-	$\frac{1}{24}$	$-\frac{5}{1152}$	3	-	2	3
2	$-\frac{1}{372}$	$-\frac{29}{92160}$	$\frac{49}{6144}$	$-\frac{59}{184320}$	4	4	3	4
3	$-\frac{3}{3430}$	$-\frac{7}{46080}, -\frac{143}{3686400}$	$\frac{19697}{11796480}$	$-\frac{25723}{943718400}$	5	5, 5	4	5

#### 4. STABILITY ANALYSIS

The first characteristics polynomial of VONHM (2) is expressed as

$$(27) \quad \rho(w) = w^k - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} w^j$$

where  $w$  represents the shift operator. The VONHM is zero stable if the roots  $w_j, j = 1(1)k$  of (27), has modulus  $w_j < 1$ , where the  $|w_j| = 1$  is simple. The stability of the method VONHM



for the cases  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  is investigated through the application to the scalar test problem defined as

$$(28) \quad y'(x) = \lambda y(x) \quad x \geq 0, \quad Re(\lambda) < 0$$

which yields

$$(29) \quad \pi(w, z)_i y_n = 0, \quad i = 1, 2$$

**Theorem 1.** The resultant stability polynomial of the VONHM for the case  $V_1$  is

$$(30) \quad \pi(w, z)_1 = w^k - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} w^j - z \left[ \gamma_k^{(m)} w^k + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} (R(w, z)_1) \right] - z^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} w^k$$

where

$$(31) \quad R(w, z)_1 = w^k + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(m-1)} w^j + \beta_{v_{m-1}}^{(m-1)} \left( \dots \left( w^k + z \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(1)} + \beta_{v_0}^{(0)} \left( w^k + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} w^j \right) \right) \right) \right)$$

*Proof.* Taking the right hand side (R.H.S) of (2) to the left hand side (L.H.S) and equating to zero yields

$$(32) \quad y_{n+k} - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} y_{n+j} - h \left( \gamma_k^{(m)} f_{n+k} + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} f_{n+v_m} \right) - h^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} f'_{n+k} = 0$$

applying the scalar test problem (28) on (32) and taking  $z = \lambda h$ , yields

$$(33) \quad w^k - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} w^j - z \left( \gamma_k^{(m)} w^k + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} y_{n+v_m} \right) - z^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} w^k = 0$$

where  $w$  is used as the shift operator, the stability polynomial is given as defined in (30). However, we need to prove that  $y_{n+v_m} = R(w, z)_1$  as given in (31), this is obtained by applying the scalar test problem on (3) and (5). The scheme (3) is expanded as follows;

when  $l = 0$

$$(34) \quad y_{n+v_1} = y_{n+k} + h \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(0)} f_{n+j} + \beta_{v_0}^{(0)} f_{n+v_0} \right)$$

when  $l = 1$

$$(35) \quad y_{n+v_2} = y_{n+k} + h \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(1)} f_{n+j} + \beta_{v_1}^{(1)} f_{n+v_1} \right)$$

the process continues till  $l = m - 1$

$$(36) \quad y_{n+v_m} = y_{n+k} + h \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(m-1)} f_{n+j} + \beta_{v_{m-1}}^{(m-1)} f_{n+v_{m-1}} \right)$$

Recall from (5) case  $V_1$  that

$$(37) \quad y_{n+v_0} = y_{n+k} + h \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} f_{n+j}$$

applying the scalar test problem (28) on the R.H.S of (34) to (37), using the shift operator and taking  $z = \lambda h$ , we have

$$(38) \quad y_{n+v_1} = w^k y_n + z \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(0)} w^j y_n + \beta_{v_0}^{(0)} y_{n+v_0} \right)$$

when  $l = 1$

$$(39) \quad y_{n+v_2} = w^k y_n + z \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(1)} w^j y_n + \beta_{v_1}^{(1)} y_{n+v_1} \right)$$

this process continues till

$$(40) \quad y_{n+v_m} = w^k y_n + z \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(m-1)} w^j y_n + \beta_{v_{m-1}}^{(m-1)} y_{n+v_{m-1}} \right)$$

and

$$(41) \quad y_{n+v_0} = w^k y_n + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} w^j y_n$$

from above, the R.H.S of (41) is replaced with  $y_{n+v_0}$  in (38) and the result of this R.H.S of (38) is replaced with  $y_{n+v_1}$  in (39), this process continues recursively. Hence, we obtain

(42)

$$y_{n+v_m} = R(w, z)_1 = w^k + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(m-1)} w^j + \beta_{v_{m-1}}^{(m-1)} \left( \dots \left( w^k + z \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(1)} w^j + \beta_{v_0}^{(0)} \left( w^k + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} w^j \right) \right) \right) \right)$$

the  $\dots$  denotes some recursive terms obtained between  $2 \leq l \leq m - 2$  after the application of the scalar test problem. Hence, the result of the stability polynomial given in (30) and (31).  $\square$

**Theorem 2.** The resultant stability polynomial of the case  $V_2$  is

$$(43) \quad \pi(w, z)_2 = w^k - \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} w^j - z \left[ \gamma_k^{(m)} w^k + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} (R(w, z)_2) \right] - z^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} w^k$$

where

$$(44) \quad R(w, z)_2 = w^k + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(m-1)} w^j + \beta_{v_{m-1}}^{(m-1)} \left( \dots \left( w^k + z \left( \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(1)} w^j \right. \right. \right. \\ \left. \left. \left. + \beta_{v_0}^{(0)} \left( w^k + z \sum_{j=0}^k \beta_j^{(-1)} w^j + z^2 \lambda_k^{(-1)} w^k \right) \right) \right) \right)$$

**Definition 1.** The region of absolute stability of the VONHM is the set

$$\Psi = \{z \in C : |w_j| \leq 1, j = 1(1)k\}$$

i.e. if the root of  $w_j, j = 0(1)k$  of (30) and (43) are less or equal to one in absolute value, such that those of magnitude one are not repeated.

**Definition 2.** The VONHM is Astable if the region of absolute stability lies in the entire left half of the zplane (i.e.  $z \in C^-$ ).

**Definition 3.** The VONHM is  $A(\alpha)$ -stable for some  $\alpha \in [0, \frac{\pi}{2})$  if the wedge

$$S_\alpha = \{z : |Arg(-z)| < \alpha, z \neq 0\}$$

is contained in its region of absolute stability.

The VONHM is Astable for the step number  $k = 1(1)5$  and  $k = 2(1)5$  for the cases  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  respectively. However as at the time this research was carried out, the point at which instability sets in, was not investigated. The boundary locus plot of the VONHM, cases  $V_1$  and  $V_2$  for the step number  $k = 1(1)9$  are shown figures 1 and 2. Table 3 shows the angle of absolute stability of the VONHM, where those of  $90^\circ$  indicate A stable methods.

## 5. NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS

We implement the third order VONHM (2) on some non-linear stiff problems using fixed step size and variable step size. Implementing the method leads to solving a system of non-linear equations in  $y_{n+k}$ . Hence, the need to resolve its implicitness by the Newton-Raphson scheme

$$(45) \quad y_{n+k}^{[s+1]} = y_{n+k}^{[s]} - J(y_{n+k}^{[s]})^{-1} F(y_{n+k}^{[s]})$$

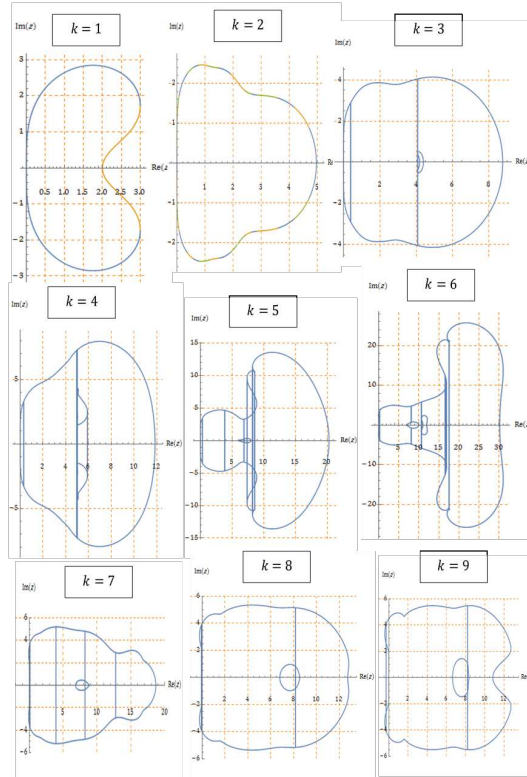


FIGURE 1. Boundary locus plot of the VONHM case  $V_1$

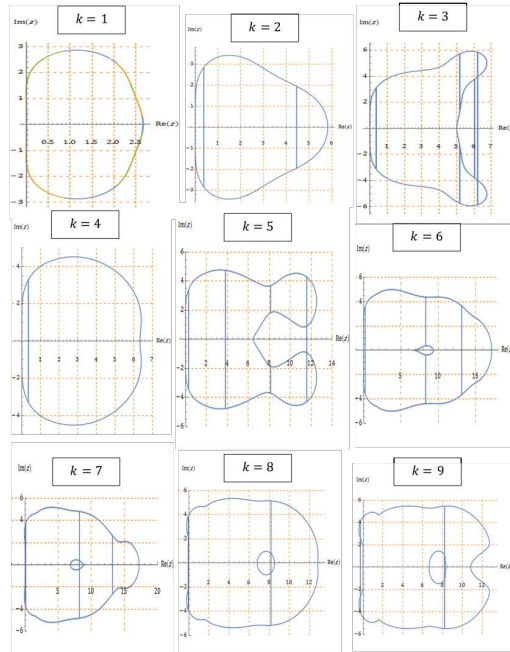


FIGURE 2. Boundary locus plot of the VONHM case  $V_2$

TABLE 3. Angle ( $\alpha$ ) of absolute stability of the VONHM

$k$	$V_1$	$V_2$
1	$90^0$	$89.2^0$
2	$90^0$	$90^0$
3	$90^0$	$90^0$
4	$90^0$	$90^0$
5	$90^0$	$90^0$
6	$89^0$	$89^0$
7	$87^0$	$87^0$
8	$85.5^0$	$85^0$
9	$82^0$	$82.5^0$

where

$$(46) \quad F(y_{n+k}^{[s]}) = y_{n+k}^{[s]} - \left( \sum_{j=0}^{k-1} \alpha_j^{(m)} y_{n+j} + h \left( \gamma_k^{(m)} f_{n+k}^{[s]} + \beta_{v_m}^{(m)} f_{n+v_m}^{[s]} \right) + h^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} f'_{n+k} \right)$$

and  $J(y_{n+k}^{[s]})$  is the Jacobian matrix defined by

$$(47) \quad J(y_{n+k}^{[s]}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} F(y_{n+k}^{[s]})$$

therefore, the Jacobian matrix is given as

$$(48) \quad J(y_{n+k}^{[s]}) = \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \left( I - h\gamma_k^{(m)} f(y_{n+k}^{[s]}) + h\beta_{v_m}^{(m)} f(y_{n+v_m}^{[s]}) + h^2 \Omega_k^{(m)} f'(y_{n+k}^{[s]}) \right)$$

where  $I$  is the unit matrix.

We use the second derivative explicit Euler method as the starting values for (45) defined as

$$(49) \quad y_{n+1} = y_n + hf_n + \frac{h^2}{2} f'_n$$

The non-linear problems in consideration is given below.

**Problem 1** Non-linear problem [17].

$$(50) \quad \begin{cases} y_1'(x) = -0.1y_1(x) - 199.9y_2(x); & y_1(0) = 2; & y_1(x) = e^{-0.1} + e^{-200x} \\ y_2'(x) = -200y_2(x); & y_2(0) = 0; & y_2(x) = e^{-200x} \\ x \in [0, 10]; & h = 10^{-3} \end{cases}$$

**Problem 2** The Brusselator [5].

$$(51) \quad \begin{cases} y_1'(x) = 1 + y_1^2(x)y_2(x) - 4y_1(x); & y_1(0) = 1.5 \\ y_2'(x) = 3y_1(x) - y_1^2(x)y_2(x); & y_2(0) = 3 \\ x \in [0, 20]; & h = 10^{-3} \end{cases}$$

Implementing the third order VONHM on problem 1. We verify that the method does not suffer order reduction using fixed step size. The global error is computed as

$$(52) \quad \bar{\omega}_h = \|\{y_1(x) - y_{1,n}(x)\}, \{y_2(x) - y_{2,n}(x)\}\|$$

where  $y_1(x)$  and  $y_2(x)$  are the numerical result of the exact solution,  $y_{1,n}(x)$  and  $y_{2,n}(x)$  are the numerical approximation obtained by the VONHM and  $\|\cdot\|$  is taken as the maximum norm.

The relative error is computed as

$$(53) \quad \bar{R}e = \frac{\bar{\omega}_h}{\bar{\omega}_{\frac{h}{2}}}$$

then the order  $p$  is given by

$$(54) \quad p + O(h) = \log_2 |\bar{R}e|$$

The last column of Table 4 shows that the third order method does not suffer order reduction. The VONHM is implemented using variable step size, alongside the second derivative linear multistep method (SDLMM) [5]

$$(55) \quad y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{3}(f_n + 2f_{n+1}) - \frac{h^2}{6}f'_{n+1}; \quad C_4 = \frac{1}{72}$$

and the backward differentiation formula (BDF) [4]

$$(56) \quad y_{n+3} = \frac{2}{11}y_n - \frac{9}{11}y_{n+1} + \frac{18}{11}y_{n+2} + \frac{6}{11}hf_{n+3} \quad C_4 = -\frac{3}{22}$$

TABLE 4. Numerical results of Problem 1 (using fixed step size) for  $x \in [0, 2]$ 

$h$	$\bar{\omega}$	$\bar{R}e$	$p$ (approx.)
0.001	1.110481203949743e-004	-	-
0.0005	1.455972370728587e-005	7.627076078332752	2.93113 $\approx$ (3)
0.00025	1.866506438574778e-006	7.800521555341296	2.96357 $\approx$ (3)
0.000125	2.363607967126313e-007	7.896852881419614	2.98128 $\approx$ (3)
0.0000625	2.974006951816932e-008	7.947553605018632	2.99051 $\approx$ (3)
0.00003125	3.729839104238408e-009	7.973552930037692	2.99522 $\approx$ (3)

for the numerical integration of the non linear problems (50) and (51). We adopt the idea in [4] to compute a new step size

$$(57) \quad h_{new} = 0.9 \left( \frac{TOL}{\bar{\omega}} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}} h_{old}$$

where,  $h_{old}$  is the last successful or failed step size,  $h_{new}$  is the new step size to be used if the last step size is a failed attempt,  $TOL$  is the specified users tolerance (i.e. allowable error estimate),  $p$  is the order of the method and  $\bar{\omega}$  is the maximum error,  $nfe$  represents the number of function evaluation,  $ns$  represents the number of steps, and  $nrs$  represents the number of rejected steps. We choose  $TOL = 10^{-6}$ . In Tables 5 and 6, our method has a good maximum error than the

TABLE 5. Numerical result of Problem 1

	VONHM	SDLMM [5]	BDF [4]
$nfe$	220000	114080	159970
$ns$	1000	1000	1000
$nrs$	0	2	5
$\bar{\omega}$	1.287858708565182e-014	9.9990050970576e-002	3.67879441171442e-001

SDLMM and BDF with no rejected steps. Hence, this shows that our method outperforms the SDLMM and BDF for problems 1 and 2.

TABLE 6. Numerical result of Problem 2

	VONHM	SDLMM [5]	BDF [4]
<i>nfe</i>	440000	239978	288320
<i>ns</i>	20000	20000	2000
<i>nrs</i>	0	11	198
$\varpi$	3.159554022663061e-010	1.005387230111084e-006	8.20707935075017e-001

## 6. CONCLUSION

Second derivative variable order nested hybrid multistep method for the numerical integration of stiff initial value problems of ordinary differential equation is presented. The method presented possess high order with A-stability properties for the step number  $k = 1(1)5$ . The method is also implemented using fixed and variable step size. The fixed step size implementation on the non-linear problem 1 suggest that the method did not suffer from order reduction, while the variable step size implementation of our method shows that the scheme presented outperforms the SDLMM and BDF.

## CONFLICT OF INTERESTS

The author(s) declare that there is no conflict of interests.

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