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EXTENDED 3-POINT SUPER CLASS OF BLOCK BACKWARD DIFFERENTIATION FORMULA FOR SOLVING STIFF INITIAL VALUE PROBLEMS

by

[1]H. Musa, [2]M. A. Unwala

[1,2]Department of Mathematics and Computer Science, Umaru Musa Yar'adua University, Katsina, Katsina State. Nigeria. [1]hamisu.musa@umyu.edu.ng

Abstract

This paper modified an existing 3–point block method for solving stiff initial value problems. The modification leads to the derivation of another 3 – point block method which is suitable for solving stiff initial value problems. The method approximates three solutions values per step and its order is 3. Different sets of formula can be generated from it by varying a parameter ρ ϵ (-1, 1) in the formula. It has been shown that the method is both zero stable and A–stable. Some linear and non linear stiff problems are solved and the result shows that the method outperformed an existing method and competes with others in terms of accuracy.

Keyword: *Stiff, block method, zero stability, A – Stability, super class of block backward differentiation formula, extended super class of block backward differentiation formula.*

1. Introduction

Most physical problems in science and engineering are formulated as ordinary differential equations (ODEs). For example, problems in electrical circuits, mechanics, vibrations, chemical reactions, kinetics and population growth can all be modeled by differential equations. Such differential equations can be categorized into stiff and non stiff. Majority of both categories cannot be solved analytically and hence the use of suitable numerical schemes is advocated. Stiff differential equations describe equations where different physical phenomena acting on different time scales occur simultaneously. According to (Curtiss and Hirschfelder 1952), implicit numerical schemes proved to be more efficient in solving stiff problems than explicit ones. Most common implicit algorithms are based on Backward Differentiation Formula (BDF). The BDF first appeared in the work of (Curtiss and Hirschfelder 1952). Researchers continued to improve on the BDF methods. Such improvements include the Extended Backward Differential Formula by (Cash 1980),. modified extended backward differential formula by (Cash 2000), block backward differentiation formula (BBDF) by (Ibrahim *et al* 2007), 2 point diagonally implicit super class of backward differentiation formula by (Musa *et al* 2016), diagonally implicit block backward differentiation formula for solving ODEs by (Zawawi *et al* 2012), a new variable step size block backward differentiation formula for solving stiff initial value problems (Suleiman et al 2013), a new fifth order implicit block method for solving first order stiff ordinary differential equations by (Musa *et al* 2014), a new super class of block backward differentiation formula for stiff ordinary differential equations by Suleiman *et al (2014)*.. This paper extends the work in (Musa et al 2014) by introducing a non zero coefficient, namely β_{k-2}. The proposed block method is intended to solve solving stiff initial value problems (IVPs) by computing three solution values at a time.

2. Derivation of the Method

Consider the following fifth order implicit block method for solving first order stiff ordinary differential equations developed by (Musa *et al*. 2014):

$$\sum_{j=0}^{5} \alpha_{j,i}\, y_{n+j-2} = h\beta_{k,i}(f_{n+k} - \rho f_{n+k-1}), \quad k = i = 1,2,3 \qquad (1)$$

where ρ is a free parameter in the interval (-1, 1) and $\beta_{k-1,i} = \rho\beta_{k,i}$ (see Kanaka (1985)). In formula (1), $\beta_{0,i} = \beta_{1,i} = \cdots = \beta_{k-2,i} = 0$ but $\beta_{k-1,i} \neq 0$. $k = i = 1, k = i = 2$ and $k = i = 3$ represent the first, second and third points formulae respectively.

In contrast to (1), this paper considers $\beta_{0,i} = \beta_{1,i} = \cdots = \beta_{k-3,i} = \beta_{k-1,i} = 0$; but $\beta_{k-2,i} \neq 0$ where $\beta_{k-2,i} = \rho\beta_{k,i}$. This leads to the new formula:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{5} \alpha_{j,i} y_{n+j-2} = \square\beta_{k,i}(f_{n+k} - Pf_{n+k-2}), \qquad k = i = 1,2,3 \tag{2}$$

where ρ is considered with the same interval as in (Musa *et al*, 2014).

The implicit method (2) is constructed using a linear operator. To derive the three point formula, define a linear operator L_i associated with (2) by:

$$L_i[y(x_n), \square)]: \alpha_{0,i}\, y_{n-2} + \alpha_{1,i}\, y_{n-1+}\alpha_{2,i}\, y_n + \alpha_{3,i}\, y_{n+1} + \alpha_{4,i}\, y_{n+2}\alpha_{5,i}\, y_{n+3} - \square\beta_{k,1}(f_{n+k} - pf_{n+k-2}) = 0, \qquad k = i = 1,2,3. \tag{3}$$

To derive the first point y_{n+1}, substitute $k = i = 1$ in (3) to obtain

$$L_1[y(x_n), \square)]: \alpha_{0,1}\, y(x_n - 2\square) + \alpha_{1,1}\, y(x_n - \square) + \alpha_{2,1}\, y(x_n) + \alpha_{3,1}\, y(x_n + \square) + \alpha_{4,1}\, y(x_n + 2\square) + \alpha_{5,1}\, y(x_n + 3\square) - \square\beta_{1,1}(f_{n+1} - pf_{n-1}) = 0 \tag{4}$$

Expand (4) using Taylor series about x_n and collect like terms to get

$$C_{0,1}y_n + \square C_{1,1}y_n' + \square^2 C_{2,1}y_n'' + \square^3 C_{3,1}y_n''' + \ldots = 0 \tag{5}$$

where

$$\left.\begin{aligned}
C_{0,1} &= \alpha_{0,1} + \alpha_{1,1} + \alpha_{2,1} + \alpha_{3,1} + \alpha_{4,1} + \alpha_{5,1} = 0\\
C_{1,1} &= -2\alpha_{0,1} - \alpha_{1,1} + \alpha_{3,1} + 2\alpha_{4,1} + 3\alpha_{5,1} + \beta_{1,1}(p-1) = 0\\
C_{2,1} &= 2\alpha_{0,1} + \tfrac{1}{2}\alpha_{1,1} + \tfrac{1}{2}\alpha_{3,1} + 2\alpha_{4,1} + \tfrac{9}{2}\alpha_{5,1} - \beta_{1,1}(p+1) = 0\\
C_{3,1} &= -\tfrac{4}{3}\alpha_{0,1} - \tfrac{1}{6}\alpha_{1,1} + \tfrac{1}{6}\alpha_{3,1} + \tfrac{4}{3}\alpha_{4,1} + \tfrac{9}{2}\alpha_{5,1} + \tfrac{1}{2}\beta_{1,1}(p-1) = 0\\
C_{4,1} &= \tfrac{2}{3}\alpha_{0,1} + \tfrac{1}{24}\alpha_{1,1} + \tfrac{1}{24}\alpha_{3,1} + \tfrac{2}{3}\alpha_{4,1} + \tfrac{27}{8}\alpha_{5,1} - \tfrac{1}{6}\beta_{1,1}(p+1) = 0\\
C_{5,1} &= -\tfrac{4}{15}\alpha_{0,1} - \tfrac{1}{120}\alpha_{1,1} + \tfrac{1}{120}\alpha_{3,1} + \tfrac{4}{15}\alpha_{4,1} + \tfrac{81}{40}\alpha_{5,1} + \tfrac{1}{24}\beta_{1,1}(p-1) = 0
\end{aligned}\right\} \tag{6}$$

$\alpha_{3,1}$(the coefficient of the first point y_{n+1}) is normalised to 1. Equation (6) is solved simultaneously and the values of the coefficients are substituted into (4) to obtain the first point as:

$$y_{n+1} = -\frac{1}{10}\frac{6\rho-1}{3\rho+1}y_{n-2} - \frac{1}{4}\frac{13\rho+3}{3\rho+1}y_{n-1} + \frac{3(2\rho-1)}{3\rho+1}y_n + \frac{1}{2}\frac{2\rho-3}{3\rho+1}y_{n+2} - \frac{3}{20}\frac{\rho-1}{3\rho+1}y_{n+3} + \frac{3}{3\rho+1}\square f_{n+1} - \frac{3}{3\rho+1}\square\rho f_{n-1} \tag{7}$$

To derive the second and the third points, substitute k=i=2 and k=i=3 respectively in (3) and follow similar procedure as described in the derivation of the first point. The three point block method is therefore obtained as:

$$\left.\begin{aligned}
y_{n+1} &= -\frac{1}{10}\frac{6p-1}{3p+1}y_{n-2} - \frac{1}{4}\frac{13p+3}{3p+1}y_{n-1} + \frac{3(2p-1)}{3p+1}y_n + \frac{1}{2}\frac{2p-3}{3p+1}y_{n+2} - \frac{3}{20}\frac{p-1}{3p+1}y_{n+3} + \frac{3}{3p+1}\square f_{n+1} - \frac{3}{3p+1}\square pf_{n-1}\\
y_{n+2} &= \frac{3}{5}\frac{p-1}{13+3p}y_{n-2} - \frac{2(3p-2)}{13+3p}y_{n-1} - \frac{4(p+3)}{13+3p}y_n + \frac{12(2+p)}{13+3p}y_{n+1} + \frac{3}{5}\frac{p-6}{13+3p}y_{n+3} + \frac{12}{13+p}\square f_{n+2} - \frac{12}{13+p}p\square f_n\\
y_{n+3} &= -\frac{2(-6+p)}{3p+137}y_{n-2} + \frac{15(p-5)}{3p+137}y_{n-1} - \frac{20(3p-10)}{3p+137}y_n + \frac{20(p-15)}{3p+137}y_{n+1} + \frac{30(p+10)}{3p+137}y_{n+2} - \frac{60}{3p+137}p\square f_{n+1} + \frac{60}{3p+137}\square f_{n+3}
\end{aligned}\right\} \tag{8}$$

In this paper, formula (8) is called Extended 3–point Super Class of Block Backward Differentiation Formula (3ESBBDF). For stability reasons, the value of the free parameter ρ is restricted within the interval (-1, 1) as in (Musa *et al*, 2014) and (kanaka 1985). The proof of the stability of BBDF method of the form $\sum_{j=0}^{k} \alpha_{j,i} y_{n+j} = \square\beta_{k,i}(f_{n+k} - Pf_{n+k-1})$ can be found in (Kanaka 1985). Substituting $\rho = -\frac{4}{5}$ in (8), the 3ESBBDF is obtained as:

$$\left.\begin{aligned} y_{n+1} &= -\tfrac{29}{70}y_{n-2} - \tfrac{37}{28}y_{n-1} + \tfrac{9}{7}y_n + \tfrac{23}{14}y_{n+2} - \tfrac{27}{140}y_{n+3} - \tfrac{15}{7}h f_{n+1} - \tfrac{12}{7}h f_{n-1} \\ y_{n+2} &= -\tfrac{27}{265}y_{n-2} + \tfrac{44}{53}y_{n-1} - \tfrac{44}{53}y_n + \tfrac{72}{53}y_{n+1} - \tfrac{68}{265}y_{n+3} + \tfrac{60}{53}h f_{n+2} + \tfrac{48}{53}h f_n \\ y_{n+3} &= \tfrac{68}{673}y_{n-2} - \tfrac{435}{673}y_{n-1} + \tfrac{1240}{673}y_n - \tfrac{1580}{673}y_{n+1} + \tfrac{1380}{673}y_{n+2} + \tfrac{300}{673}h f_{n+3} + \tfrac{240}{673}h f_{n+1} \end{aligned}\right\} \quad (9)$$

3. Stability Analysis

The method (9) can be written in matrix form as

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{23}{14} & \frac{27}{140} \\ -\frac{72}{53} & 1 & \frac{68}{265} \\ \frac{1580}{673} & -\frac{1380}{673} & 1 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} y_{n+1} \\ y_{n+2} \\ y_{n+3} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{29}{70} & -\frac{37}{28} & \frac{9}{7} \\ -\frac{27}{265} & \frac{44}{53} & \frac{44}{53} \\ \frac{68}{673} & -\frac{435}{673} & \frac{1240}{673} \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} y_{n-1} \\ y_{n-2} \\ y_{n-3} \end{pmatrix} +$$

$$h\begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{12}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{48}{53} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} f_{n-2} \\ f_{n-1} \\ f_n \end{pmatrix} + h\begin{pmatrix} -\frac{15}{7} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{60}{53} & 0 \\ \frac{240}{673} & 0 & \frac{300}{673} \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} f_{n+1} \\ f_{n+2} \\ f_{n+3} \end{pmatrix} \quad (10)$$

Equation (10) can be rewritten in the following form:

$$A_0 Y_m = A_1 Y_{m-1} + h(B_0 F_{m-1} + B_1 F_m) \quad (11)$$

where

$$A_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & -\frac{23}{14} & \frac{27}{140} \\ -\frac{72}{53} & 1 & \frac{68}{265} \\ \frac{1580}{673} & -\frac{1380}{673} & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \qquad A_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{29}{70} & -\frac{37}{28} & \frac{9}{7} \\ -\frac{27}{265} & \frac{44}{53} & \frac{44}{53} \\ \frac{68}{673} & -\frac{435}{673} & \frac{1240}{673} \end{pmatrix},$$

$$B_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{12}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{48}{53} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad B_1 = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{15}{7} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{60}{53} & 0 \\ \frac{240}{673} & 0 & \frac{300}{673} \end{pmatrix}.$$

Substituting the scalar test equation

$$y' = \lambda y \quad (12)$$

($\lambda<0$, λ complex) into (11) and using $\lambda h=\bar{h}$ gives

$$A_0 Y_m = A_1 Y_{m-1} + \bar{h}(B_0 Y_{m-1} + B_1 Y_m) \quad (13)$$

The stability polynomial of (9) is obtained by evaluating

$$\mathrm{Det}[(A_0 - \bar{h}B_1)t - (A_1 + \bar{h}B_0)] = 0 \quad (14)$$

to obtain:

$$R(\bar{h}, t) = \frac{63882}{35669}t + \frac{46296}{249683}\bar{h} - \frac{6950103}{4244611}t\bar{h} + \frac{706617}{249683}t^2 - \frac{120738}{53669}t^2\bar{h} + \frac{3667896}{4244611}t^2\bar{h}^2 - \frac{726387}{606373}t^3\bar{h} + \frac{7720920}{4244611}t^3\bar{h}^2 - \frac{270000}{606373}t^3\bar{h}^3 + \frac{2416320}{606373}t\bar{h}^2 - \frac{39168}{249683}\bar{h}^2 - \frac{138240}{2499683}t\bar{h}^3 - \frac{402210}{249683}t^3 + \frac{142767}{2499683} = 0 \quad (15)$$

By substituting $\bar{h} = 0$ in (15), the first characteristic polynomial is obtained as:

$$R(t, 0) = -\frac{402210}{249683}t^3 + \frac{706617}{249683}t^2 + \frac{63882}{35669}t + \frac{142767}{249683} = 0 \quad (16)$$

Solving (16) for t gives the roots as: t = 1, t = 0.8385877317, and t = –0.0817517514. Therefore by definitions (9), the method is zero Stable.

The stability region of the method is shown in the following figure:

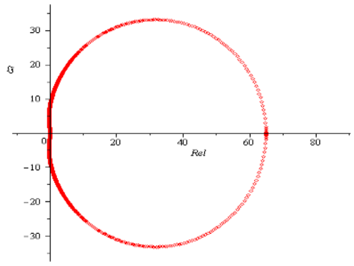

Figure: 1: Stability Region of the Method when $\rho = -\frac{4}{5}$

The stability region is the region outside the circular shape, and thus covered the entire negative half plane. Thus, by the definition of A – stability, the method is A – stable and suitable for solving stiff initial value problems.

4. Implementation of the Method

Applying Newton's iteration, let y_i and $y(x_i)$ be the approximate and exact solutions respectively of the stiff IVP:

$$y' = f(x, y), \qquad y(x_0) = y_0, \qquad x \in (a, b) \tag{17}$$

Define the error as:

$$(error_i)_t = |(y_i)_t - (y(x_i))_t|. \tag{18}$$

and the maximum error as:

$$MAXE = \underbrace{max}_{1 \le i \le T} \left(\underbrace{max(error_i)_t}_{1 \le i \le N} \right). \tag{19}$$

where T is the total number of steps and N is the number of equations (see Ibrahim et al (2007)).

Define

$$\left.\begin{aligned} F_1 &= y_{n+1} - \tfrac{23}{14} y_{n+2} + \tfrac{27}{140} y_{n+3} + \tfrac{15}{7} \square f_{n+1} + \tfrac{12}{7} \square f_{n-1} - \square_1 \\ F_2 &= y_{n+2} - \tfrac{72}{53} y_{n+1} + \tfrac{68}{265} y_{n+3} - \tfrac{60}{53} \square f_{n+2} - \tfrac{48}{53} \square f_n - \square_1 \\ F_3 &= y_{n+3} + \tfrac{1580}{673} y_{n+1} - \tfrac{1380}{673} y_{n+2} - \tfrac{300}{673} \square f_{n+3} - \tfrac{240}{673} \square f_{n+1} - \square_3 \end{aligned}\right\} \tag{20}$$

where the $\square_{i's}$ are the back values given by

$$\left.\begin{aligned} \square_1 &= -\tfrac{29}{70} y_{n-2} - \tfrac{37}{28} y_{n-1} + \tfrac{9}{7} y_n \\ \square_2 &= -\tfrac{27}{265} y_{n-2} + \tfrac{44}{53} y_{n-1} - \tfrac{44}{53} y_n \\ \square_3 &= \tfrac{68}{673} y_{n-2} - \tfrac{435}{673} y_{n-1} + \tfrac{1240}{673} y_n \end{aligned}\right\} \tag{21}$$

The Newton's iteration takes the form

$$y_{n+1}^{(i+j)} = y_{n+j}^{(i)} - \left[F_i\left(y_{n+j}^{(i)}\right)\right]\left[F_j'\left(y_{n+j}^{(i)}\right)\right]^{-1} \tag{22}$$

Hence, (22) can be written as

$$\left[F_j'\left(y_{n+j}^{(i)}\right)\right] e_{n+1}^{(i+j)} = -\left[F_i\left(y_{n+j}^{(i)}\right)\right] \tag{23}$$

Equation (23) is equivalent to:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 + \frac{15}{7} \square \frac{\delta f_{n+1}}{\delta y_{n+1}} & -\frac{23}{14} & \frac{27}{140} \\ -\frac{72}{53} & 1 - \frac{60}{53} \square \frac{\delta f_{n+2}}{\delta y_{n+2}} & \frac{68}{265} \\ \frac{1580}{673} - \frac{240}{673} \square \frac{\delta f_{n+1}}{\delta y_{n+1}} & -\frac{1380}{673} & 1 - \frac{300}{673} \square \frac{\delta f_{n+3}}{\delta y_{n+3}} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} e_{n+1}^{(i+1)} \\ e_{n+2}^{(i+1)} \\ e_{n+3}^{(i+1)} \end{pmatrix} =$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} -1 & \frac{23}{14} & -\frac{27}{140} \\ \frac{72}{53} & -1 & -\frac{68}{265} \\ -\frac{1580}{673} & \frac{1380}{673} & -1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} y_{n+1}^{(i)} \\ y_{n+2}^{(i)} \\ y_{n+3}^{(i)} \end{pmatrix} + \square \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{12}{7} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \frac{48}{53} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{n-2}^{(i)} \\ f_{n-1}^{(i)} \\ f_n^{(i)} \end{pmatrix} + \square \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{15}{7} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \frac{60}{53} & 0 \\ \frac{240}{673} & 0 & \frac{300}{673} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_{n+1}^{(i)} \\ f_{n+2}^{(i)} \\ f_{n+3}^{(i)} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \square_1 \\ \square_2 \\ \square_3 \end{pmatrix} \tag{24}$$

A computer programming is designed to implement (24)

5. Test Problems

To validate the method developed, the following stiff IVPs are solved. Problem 1 is a non-linear while problems 2 and 3 are linear.

Problem 1: $y' = 5e^{5x}(y-x)^2 + 1 \qquad y(0) = 0 \qquad 0 \leq x \leq 1$

Exact solution:

$y(x) = x - e^{-5x}$

Source: (Lee *et al*, 2002)

Problem 2 : $y_1' = -20y_1 - 19y_2 \qquad y_1(0) = 2$

$0 \leq x \leq 20$

$y_2' = -19y_1 - 20y_2 \qquad y_2(0) = 0$

Exact Solution:

$y_1(x) = e^{-39x} + e^{-x}$

$y_2(x) = e^{-39x} - e^{-x}$

Source: (Cheney and Kincaid 2012)

$Problem$ 3: $y_1' = 198y_1 + 199y_2 \qquad y_1(0) = 1 \qquad 0 \leq x \leq 10$

$y_2' = -398y_1 - 399y_2 \qquad y_1(0) = -1$

Exact solution

$y_1(x) = e^{-x}$

$y_2(x) = -e^{-x}$

Eigen values -1 and -200

Source: (Ibrahim *et al*, 2007);

6. Numerical Result

The problems presented in section 5 are solved using the developed method and some other methods available in the literature. The results are compared in tables; and graphs depicting the performance of each method are plotted. The following notations are used in the tables:

h = step-size;

NS = Number of steps

MAXE = Maximum Error

T= Time in s.

3BBDF = 3-point block backward differentiation formula for solving stiff IVPs.

3NBBDF = A New fifth order implicit block Method for solving first order stiff ODEs.

3ESBBDF = 3-point extended super class of Block Backward Differentiation Formula for solving stiff IVPs..

Table 1. Numerical results for problem 1

□	Method	NS	MAXE	T
10^{-2}	3BBDF	333	2.80735e-002	6.23434e-001
	3NBBDF	333	3.51456e-003	5.52416e-004
	3ESBBDF	333	4.83217e-003	6.23441e-005
10^{-3}	3BBDF	3,333	3.71852e-003	1.81850e-003
	3NBBDF	3,333	4.90191e-005	4.50367e-003
	3ESBBDF	3,333	5.95338e-005	6.65467e-004
10^{-4}	3BBDF	33,333	3.74700e-004	1.71443e-002
	3NBBDF	33,333	5.20417e-007	4.36918e-002
	3ESBBDF	33,333	5.95692e-007	6.48433e-003

10^{-5}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	333,333 333,333 333,333	3.74970e-005 5.25030e-009 5.959740e-009	1.70042e-001 4.34808e-001 6.58687e-002
10^{-6}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	3,333,333 3,333,333 3,333,333	3.74997e-006 5.25648e-011 6.186362e-011	1.70308e+000 4.35791e+000 6.23434e-001

Table 2. Numerical results for problem 2

□	Method	NS	MAXE	T
10^{-2}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	666 666 666	6.23032e-002 6.98707e-002 8.83217e-004	2.77590e-002 2.63337e-002 7.68676e-002
10^{-3}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	6,666 6,666 6,666	3.76165e-002 5.40956e-003 6.05338e-005	7.66636e-002 2.60816e-001 7.64515e-001
10^{-4}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	66,666 66,666 66,666	4.26516e-003 3.08942e-005 6.26692e-006	7.64385e-001 2.60725e+000 7.68143e-001
10^{-5}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	666,666 666,666 666,666	4.30707e004 3.18534e-007 6.32740e-008	7.63788e+000 2.60597e+001 7.59821e+000
10^{-6}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	6,666,666 6,666,666 6,666,666	4.31123e-005 3.19872e-009 6.33362e-010	7.65356e+001 2.60700e+002 7.53567e+001

Table 3. Numerical results for problem 3

□	Method	NS	MAXE	T
10^{-2}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	333 333 333	1.07308e-002 1.94447e-004 1.83217e-004	1.37500e-002 1.20394e-003 7.36289e-002
10^{-3}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	3,333 3,333 3,333	1.10060e-003 2.07993e-006 8.05338e-006	2.72200e-002 1.25972e-002 5.81512e-002
10^{-4}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	33,333 33,333 33,333	1.10333e-004 2.09995e-008 1.26692e-008	2.02700e-001 1.25148e-001 5.81491e-001
10^{-5}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	333,333 333,333 333,333	1.10361e-005 2.10257e-010 1.32740e-010	1.92600e+000 1.25471e+000 5.81122e+000
10^{-6}	3BBDF 3NBBDF 3ESBBDF	3,333,333 3,333,333 3,333,333	1.10363e-006 1.41029e-011 1.33362e-012	1.91700e+001 1.24892e+001 5.79987e+001

From the Tables 1–3, it can be seen that the 3ESBBDF outperformed the 3BBDF in terms of accuracy. Also, the 3ESBBDF competes with the 3NBBDF in terms of accuracy. However, the computation time of the new method does not seem to be better in comparison with the other two methods for most of the problems solved.

To further compare the performance of the methods, the graphs of Log10(MAXE) against *h* for the problems tested are plotted and presented as follows:

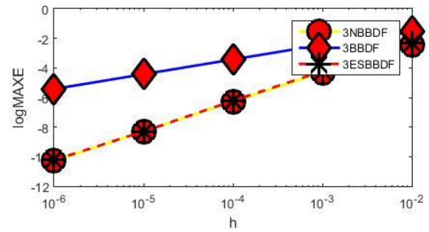

Figure 2: Graph of $\text{Log}_{10}(MAXE)$ against h for problem 1

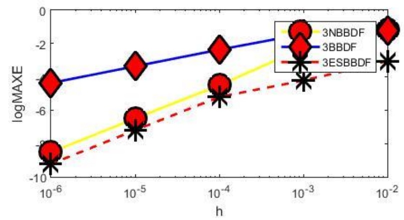

Figure 3: Graph of $\text{Log}_{10}(MAXE)$ against h for problem 2

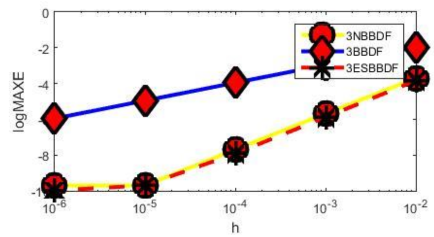

Figure 4: Graph of $\text{Log}_{10}(MAXE)$ against h for problem 3

The graphs in Figure 2 – 4 also show that the scaled error for the 3ESBBDF is smaller when compared with that in 3BBDF method. However, the 3ESBBDF is competing with 3SBBDF.

7. Conclusion

A 3–point fully implicit block method has been developed for the solution of stiff initial value problems. It is achieved by modifying an existing block method to include a non zero coefficient β_{k-2}. The developed method is both zero stable and A – stable. There is an improvement in accuracy of the method when compared with the BBDF method. Another advantage of the method over the BBDF is that one can vary a parameter within (-1, 1) and still achieve A – stability and better accuracy.

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