

Uniformly accurate numerical schemes for a class of dissipative problems

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1 Introduction

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Setting of the problem

We want to solve

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = a(x, z), & x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_x} \\ \dot{z} = -\frac{\Lambda}{\varepsilon} z + b(x, z), & z(0) = z_0 \in \mathbb{R}^{d_z} \end{cases} \quad (E_{xz})$$

on $[0, T]$ for $\varepsilon \in]0, \varepsilon^*]$ (not necessarily small), where a, b are analytic. The operator Λ is a **relaxation term** (from population dynamics, kinetic collisions, diffusion, etc).

Setting $u = \begin{pmatrix} x \\ z \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^d$, this is written in the more compact form

$$\dot{u} = -\frac{A}{\varepsilon} u + f(u), \quad u(0) = u_0. \quad (E_u)$$

Assumptions

- 1 The vector field $u \mapsto f(u)$ is analytic;
- 2 The operator A is diagonal positive semi-definite;
- 3 The operator A has *integer* eigenvalues.

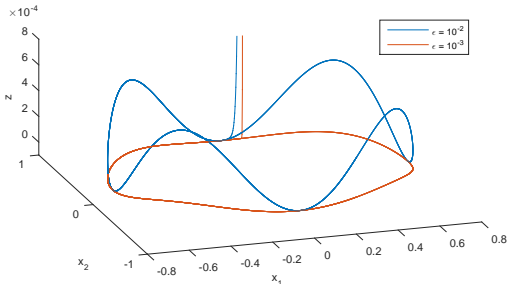
Behaviour

Center manifold theorem:

There exists a map $x \mapsto z = \varepsilon h^\varepsilon(x)$ such that the solution (x, z) of (E_{xz}) satisfies

$$|z(t) - \varepsilon h^\varepsilon(x(t))| \lesssim e^{-t/\varepsilon}.$$

Therefore, for $t \gtrsim \varepsilon \log(1/\varepsilon)$, the dynamics are *non-stiff* and z is of size $\mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$.



Consequence: Given a numerical error $e_j = u(t_j) - u_j$, the norm considered is

$$|e_j|_\varepsilon := \left| \left(\text{id} + \frac{A}{\varepsilon} \right) e_j \right|$$

which rescales the z -component by $1/\varepsilon$ but makes no difference on the x -component.

Exponential RK schemes

Considering the original problem

$$\dot{u} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Au + f(u), \quad (E_u)$$

the stiff linear part is obviously a problem for [explicit schemes](#).

However, IMEX schemes seem more appropriate. We focus on [exponential RK schemes](#)¹ which stem from the integral form

$$u(t_{i+1}) \approx e^{-\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon}A}u_i + \int_0^{\Delta t} e^{-\frac{1}{\varepsilon}(\Delta t-s)A}f(u(s))ds$$

For example the 1st-order scheme is

$$u_{i+1} = e^{-\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon}A}u_i + \left(\int_0^{\Delta t} e^{-\frac{1}{\varepsilon}(\Delta t-s)A}ds \right) f(u_i)$$

This method, and higher order ones can be found in

- M. Hochbruck, A. Ostermann, *Explicit exponential Runge–Kutta methods for semilinear parabolic problems*. SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis (2005)

¹One could also consider IMEX-BDF schemes, for instance the first-order $\frac{1}{\Delta t}(u_{i+1} - u_i) = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Au_{i+1} + f(u_i)$. Lawson schemes, such as $u_{i+1} = \exp(-\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon}A)u_i + \Delta t \exp(-\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon}A) f(u_i)$ could also be studied. However for the former, the *uniform* convergence is of lower order, and the later has little to no literature on precise error bounds.

Order reduction – illustration

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = (1-z) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x, \\ \dot{z} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon} z + x_1^2 x_2^2, \end{cases} \quad \text{i.e.} \quad \partial_t \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \end{pmatrix} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon} \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ u_3 \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -(1-u_3)u_2 \\ (1-u_3)u_1 \\ (u_1 u_2)^2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

Solving this problem using exponential Runge-Kutta schemes, the convergence is

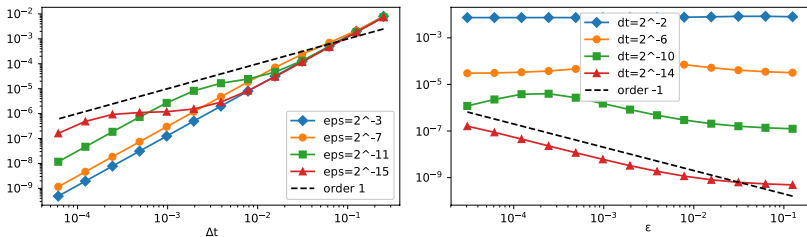


Figure: Errors on u^ε depending on Δt (left) and on ε (right) using an exponential RK2 scheme.

It appears that the scheme is **asymptotic preserving**² but not uniformly accurate.

²At fixed Δt , the scheme admits a limit $\varepsilon \searrow 0$ and this new scheme has the same order of convergence as before.

Order reduction – definition

Considering the original problem

$$\dot{u} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Au + f(u), \quad (E_u)$$

and a discretisation (t_i) from which the approximation $u_i \approx u(t_i)$ is computed, one observes the phenomenon of order reduction.

Definition: Order reduction

Solving this equation numerically with a scheme of order p at fixed ε , the error is bounded

$$\sup_i |u(t_i) - u_i|_\varepsilon \leq C_\varepsilon \Delta t^p$$

where $C_\varepsilon > 0$ is such that the *uniform error* is degraded, i.e.

$$\sup_\varepsilon \left\{ \sup_i |u(t_i) - u_i|_\varepsilon \right\} \leq C \Delta t^q \quad \text{with } 0 \leq q \leq p.$$

For instance, exponential RK schemes reduce to order 1.

A method is said to be of *uniform accuracy* if one can take $q = p$.

Main result

We shall demonstrate how to find a micro-macro decomposition

$$u(t) = \Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v(t)) + w(t)$$

where $\Omega_{\tau}^{[n]}(u) = e^{-\tau A}u + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$, $\dot{v} = F^{[n]}(v)$ is non-stiff and $w = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n+1})$.

The (v, w) problem can be solved using an exponential RK scheme of order $n + 1$, and the convergence is **uniform of order $n + 1$** , i.e.

$$|u(t_i) - u_i|_{\varepsilon} = \left| \left(\text{id} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} A \right) (u(t_i) - u_i) \right| \leq C \Delta t^{n+1}$$

with C independent of ε and $u_i = \Omega_{t_i/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v_i) + w_i$.

This result applies straightforwardly to ODEs, however with some care it is extended *partially* to some PDEs with ad-hoc adjustments.

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The homological equation

Assume that one can write

$$u(t) = \Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^\varepsilon(v^\varepsilon(t)) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^\infty) \quad \text{with} \quad \dot{v} = F^\varepsilon(v), \quad (H_\infty)$$

injecting this in (E_u) , $\dot{u} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Au + f(u)$ yields the **homological equation**

$$\partial_\tau \Omega_\tau^\varepsilon(u) + A\Omega_\tau^\varepsilon(u) = \varepsilon \left(f \circ \Omega_\tau^\varepsilon(u) - \partial_u \Omega_\tau^\varepsilon(u) F^\varepsilon(u) \right)$$

which can be solved recursively by setting

$$(\partial_\tau + A)\Omega_\tau^{[n+1]} = \varepsilon \left(f \circ \Omega_\tau^{[n]} - \partial_u \Omega_\tau^{[n]} \cdot F^{[n]} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega_\tau^{[0]} = e^{-\tau A}. \quad (H_n)$$

Assuming that we have a **projector** $\langle \cdot \rangle$ parallel to the image of $\partial_\tau + A$, then

$$F^{[n]} = \langle \partial_u \Omega^{[n]} \rangle^{-1} \langle f \circ \Omega^{[n]} \rangle.$$

Is it therefore possible to compute $\Omega^{[n]}$
and $F^{[n]}$ up to any rank?

Solving iterations

We now want to solve

$$(\partial_\tau + A)\Omega_\tau^{[n+1]} = \varepsilon \left(f \circ \Omega_\tau^{[n]} - \partial_u \Omega_\tau^{[n]} \cdot F^{[n]} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \Omega_\tau^{[0]} = e^{-\tau A}. \quad (H_n)$$

For the first iteration, solving (H_1) yields

$$\Omega_\tau^{[1]} = e^{-\tau A} \Omega_0^{[1]} + \varepsilon \int_0^\tau e^{-(\tau-\sigma)A} \left(f \circ e^{-\sigma A} - e^{-\sigma A} F^{[0]} \right) d\sigma.$$

⇒ In order to have only exponentials, $F^{[0]}$ is the $e^{-\sigma A}$ -component of $f \circ e^{-\sigma A}$.

The projector $\langle \cdot \rangle$ basically extracts the $e^{-\tau A}$ -component of any exponential map.

Reminder – Assumptions

- 1 The vector field $u \mapsto f(u)$ is analytic;
- 2 The operator A is diagonal positive semi-definite;
- 3 The operator A has *integer* eigenvalues.

The closure conditions – discussion

Because $\Omega^{[n]}$ is defined up to an $e^{-\tau A}$ -component, at every iteration it can be written

$$\Omega_\tau^{[n]} = e^{-\tau A} \langle \Omega^{[n]} \rangle + \sum_{k \neq A} e^{-k\tau} \widehat{\Omega}_k^{[n]}$$

with $\widehat{\Omega}_k^{[n]} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon)$ given by (H_n) and $\langle \Omega^{[n]} \rangle$ a degree of freedom. A choice is needed, since the "slow" vector field $F^{[n]}$ is given by

$$F^{[n]} = \langle \partial_u \Omega^{[n]} \rangle^{-1} \langle f \circ \Omega^{[n]} \rangle.$$

Two main choices³ arise:

- **Standard:** The simplest choice $\langle \Omega^{[n]} \rangle = \text{id}$, which yields $F^{[n]} = \langle f \circ \Omega^{[n]} \rangle$, meaning there is *no costly inversion needed*. This is in the vein of the Chapman-Enskog expansion (for kinetic equations).
- **Stroboscopic:** A more involved choice $\Omega_0^{[n]} = \text{id}$. This presents better *geometric properties* (preservation of invariants and Hamiltonian structure), but requires a costly inversion and some additional work besides solving (H_n) .

³P. Chartier, M. Lemou, F. Méhats, G. Vilmart. *A new class of uniformly accurate numerical schemes for highly-oscillatory evolution equations*, FoCM (2019)

Properties of the asymptotic approximation

Set $\eta_\tau^{[n]}$ the defect, i.e. the error of approximation of $\Omega^{[n]}$, $F^{[n]}$ in the "exact" homological equation (H_∞),

$$\eta_\tau^{[n]} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (\partial_\tau + \mathbf{A}) \Omega_\tau^{[n]} - \left(f \circ \Omega_\tau^{[n]} - \partial_u \Omega_\tau^{[n]} \cdot F^{[n]} \right).$$

Properties of the dissipative approximation⁴

When computing $\Omega^{[n]}$ and $F^{[n]}$ with the standard or stroboscopic choice,

- 1 The change of variable has derivatives $\partial_\tau^\alpha \left(\Omega_\tau^{[n]} - e^{-\tau A} \right)$ analytic and of size ε
- 2 The vector field $F^{[n]}$ is analytic and bounded independently of ε (i.e. it is non-stiff)
- 3 The defect $\partial_\theta^\alpha \eta^{[n]}$ is analytic of size ε^n with no component $e^{-\tau A}$

Furthermore, for the standard choice the following identities are met

- 1 $\Omega_\tau^{[n]}(u) = \Omega_0^{[n]}(e^{-\tau A} u);$
- 2 $e^{-\tau A} F^{[n]}(u) = F^{[n]}(e^{-\tau A} u);$
- 3 $\eta_\tau^{[n]}(u) = \eta_0^{[n]}(e^{-\tau A} u).$

⁴P. Chartier, M. Lemou, L. T, *Uniformly accurate numerical schemes for a class of dissipative systems*, submitted (2020)

Micro-macro decomposition

After decomposing the solution u of the original problem (E_u) into

$$u(t) = \Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v(t)) + w(t) \quad \text{where} \quad \dot{u} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Au + f(u),$$

we now study the **micro-macro** problem in (v, w) which is

$$\begin{cases} \dot{v} = F^{[n]}(v) \\ \dot{w} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}A\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) + w\right) + f\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) + w\right) - \frac{d}{dt}\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) \end{cases}$$

with initial conditions $v(0) = (\Omega_0^{[k]})^{-1}(u_0)$, $w(0) = 0$. The red part can be written

$$\frac{1}{\varepsilon}A\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) + \frac{d}{dt}\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v(t)) = \eta_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) + f \circ \Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v)$$

therefore the problem becomes

$$\begin{cases} \dot{v} = F^{[n]}(v) \\ \dot{w} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Aw + f\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) + w\right) - f\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v)\right) - \eta_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) \end{cases}$$

Well-posedness of the micro-macro problem

The micro-macro problem can therefore be written

$$\begin{aligned}\dot{v} &= F^{[n]}(v) \\ \dot{w} &= -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Aw + L\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v), w\right)w - \eta_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v)\end{aligned}$$

with the essentially linear part $L^{[n]}$ given by

$$L(v, w)w = f(v + w) - f(v)$$

Properties of the new system

Up to a final time independent of ε ,

- (i) $v^{[n]}$ is regular and bounded
- (ii) $\|w^{[n]}\|_{\infty} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n+1})$
- (iii) $\|\partial_t^{\alpha} E^{[n]}\|_{\infty} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n-\alpha})$
- (iv) $\|\partial_t^{\alpha+1} E^{[n]}\|_{L^1} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n-\alpha})$

where $E^{[n]} = \partial_t w^{[n]} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}Aw^{[n]}$.

Well-posedness of the micro-macro problem

The micro-macro problem can therefore be written

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with the essentially linear part $L^{[n]}$ given by

$$L(v, w)w = \left(\int_0^1 \partial_{uf}(v + \mu w) d\mu \right) w$$

Properties of the new system

Up to a final time independent of ε ,

- (i) $v^{[n]}$ is regular and bounded
- (ii) $\|w^{[n]}\|_{\infty} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n+1})$
- (iii) $\|\partial_t^{\alpha} E^{[n]}\|_{\infty} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n-\alpha})$
- (iv) $\|\partial_t^{\alpha+1} E^{[n]}\|_{L^1} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon^{n-\alpha})$

where $E^{[n]} = \partial_t w^{[n]} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}Aw^{[n]}$.

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Uniform accuracy of exponential schemes

Numerically, we solve the problem at times (t_i) with maximum time step Δt ,

$$\begin{aligned} \dot{v} &= F^{[n]}(v), \\ \dot{w} &= -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Aw + \underbrace{L\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v), w\right)w - \eta_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v)}_{E^{[n]}(t)} \end{aligned}$$

Uniform accuracy of exponential RK schemes (P. Chartier, M. Lemou, L. T.)

Computing (v_i, w_i) with an exponential RK scheme of order $n + 1$ and recovering an approximation $u_i = \Omega_{t_i/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v_i) + w_i$ generates a uniform "modified" error on u of order $n + 1$, i.e.

$$|u(t_i) - u_i|_\varepsilon \leq C\Delta t^{n+1}.$$

with C independent of ε and $0 \leq i \leq N$, and $|e|_\varepsilon = \left| \left(1 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}A\right) e \right|$.

This stems from a result on exponential Runge-Kutta schemes in

- A. Hochbruck, M. Ostermann, *Exponential Runge–Kutta methods for parabolic problems*, App. Num. Math. (2004)

Oscillating example – expansion

We now look at the following "oscillating" system

$$\begin{cases} \dot{x} = (1 - z) \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} x \\ \dot{z} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon} z + x_1^2 x_2^2 \end{cases}$$

We compute the change of variable $\Omega^{[2]}$ and the vector field $F^{[2]}$ using symbolic computing, and obtain

$$\Omega_0^{[2]}(x, z) = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - \varepsilon x_2 z - \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^2 z^2 x_1 \\ x_2 + \varepsilon x_1 z - \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^2 z^2 x_2 \\ z + \varepsilon (x_1 x_2)^2 - 2\varepsilon^2 x_1 x_2 (x_1^2 - x_2^2) \end{pmatrix},$$

$$F^{[2]}(x, z) = \begin{pmatrix} -x_2(1 - \varepsilon(x_1 x_2)^2 + 2\varepsilon^2 x_1 x_2(x_1^2 - x_2^2)) \\ x_1(1 - \varepsilon(x_1 x_2)^2 + 2\varepsilon^2 x_1 x_2(x_1^2 - x_2^2)) \\ 2\varepsilon z x_1 x_2 (x_1^2 - x_2^2) \end{pmatrix}.$$

and recover $\Omega_\tau^{[2]}(x, z) = \Omega_0^{[2]}(x, e^{-\tau} z)$, and $\eta_\tau^{[2]}$ satisfies

$$\eta_\tau^{[2]} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (\partial_\tau + A) \Omega_\tau^{[2]} + \partial_u \Omega_\tau^{[2]} \cdot F^{[2]} - f \circ \Omega_\tau^{[2]}.$$

Oscillating example – results

Finally, solving the micro-macro problem for $n = 1, 2$

$$\begin{cases} \dot{v} = F^{[n]}(v), \\ \dot{w} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon}Aw + L\left(\Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v), w\right)w - \eta_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v) \end{cases}$$

with an ERK scheme and recovering $u_i = \Omega_{t/\varepsilon}^{[n]}(v_i) + w_i$, the error is summed up

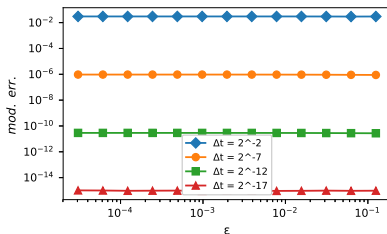
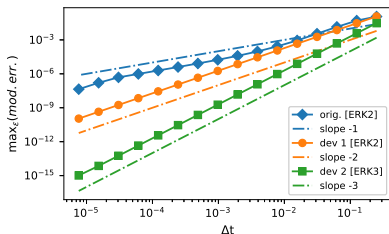


Figure: Maximum error for $\varepsilon = 2^{-k}$ ($k = 3, \dots, 15$) as a function of Δt (left), and error as a function of ε for various values of Δt in the case $n = 2$ with an ERK3 scheme (right).

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Prospects

- **Extension to PDEs:** Kinetic models with collisions (esp. BGK) can be written in this form, however the vector field then involves a differential operator, and the asymptotic developments lead to the apparition of a backwards heat equation. A workaround is possible using ad-hoc relaxations, but we hope to find a more robust approach.
- **Near-equilibrium convergence:** When choosing an initial condition $z_0 = 0$, the order of convergence improves. This is not surprising for the original problem, but this increase is also observed for the micro-macro model.
- **Relax the assumption on A :** Assuming that the eigenvalues of A are integers is a huge assumption, albeit a seemingly necessary one in the context of analytic function. If the vector field f were polynomial, this could probably be relaxed.
- **Library:** The micro-macro expansion can easily be computed up to any order using symbolic computing. A Python tool using SymPy would be an easy and useful addition to this result which would simplify implementations.

Merci pour votre attention !