





An algorithm for verified computation of semigroups Matthew J. Colbrook University of Cambridge

IMA Leslie Fox Prize Meeting, 26 June 2023

Based on: C. "Computing semigroups with error control." SINUM 60.1 (2022): 396-422.

"The **INFINITE**! No other question has ever moved so profoundly the spirit of humankind; no other idea has so fruitfully stimulated the intellect; yet no other concept stands in greater need of clarification." — David Hilbert (1925)







E.g., time-dependent PDEs, such as Schrödinger equation



$$\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = i(\Delta - V)\psi, \qquad \psi \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d),$$

inf discrete systems, higher-order time derivatives, etc.

Orbital of excited hydrogen



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Julian Schwinger (Nobel Prize in Physics 1965)

inf discrete systems, higher-order time derivatives, etc.

- Schwinger, "Unitary operator bases," Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 1960.
- Weyl, "The theory of groups and quantum mechanics," **Dover**, 1931.
- Digernes, Varadarajan, Varadhan, "Finite approximations to quantum systems," Rev. Math. Phys., 1994.

Common paradigm: discretise-then-solve $A \rightarrow A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$

- Domain truncation and absorbing boundary conditions.
 - Engquist, Majda, "Absorbing boundary conditions for numerical simulation of waves," PNAS, 1977.

• Exponential integrators and splitting methods.

- Hochbruck, Ostermann, "Exponential integrators," Acta Numerica, 2010.
- Jahnke, Lubich, "Error bounds for exponential operator splittings," BIT Numer. Math., 2000.
- McLachlan, Quispel, "Splitting methods," Acta Numerica, 2002.

• Finite differences and generalised Sobolev-type norms.

• Jovanović, Süli, "Analysis of finite difference schemes for linear partial differential equations with generalized solutions," Springer Science & Business Media, 2013.

• Rational approximations with time-stepping.

 Crouzeix, Larsson, Piskarev, Thomée, "The stability of rational approximations of analytic semigroups," BIT Numer. Math., 1993.

Variational/projection methods.

- Lasser, Lubich, "Computing quantum dynamics in the semiclassical regime," Acta Numerica, 2020.
- Dirac, "Note on exchange phenomena in the Thomas atom," Proc. Cambridge Phil. Soc. 1930.

Common paradigm: discretise-then-solve $A \rightarrow \mathbb{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$

Challenges:

- Unbounded A (e.g., for splitting methods).
- Bound error from $A \rightarrow A$.
- PDEs on **unbounded domains**:
 - Truncate physical domain.
 - Discretise operator restricted to truncated domain.

Can we rigorously deal with domain truncation?

- Often need to show decay and/or regularity of u(t).
- Can be more difficult to study A than A (e.g., bounding evals of A)!

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Theme of talk:

Example where standard paradigm fails: aperiodic media



Dan Shechtman (Nobel Prize in Chemistry 2011 for "a paradigm shift within chemistry")



Al₆₃Cu₂₄Fe₁₃, icosahedrite. Bindi, Steinhardt, Yao, Lu, *"Natural quasicrystals,"* **Science**, 2009.



Schrödinger:
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = i\Delta u$$
, Wave: $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = \Delta u$, u_0 localised at red dots

Aperiodicity \Rightarrow interesting physics **BUT** computations difficult.

Solutions computed using method of this talk



Comparison with naïve truncation



 $u_{\rm FS}$: naïve truncation to 10001 sites u: computed solution, error < 10^{-10}

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How do we compute *u* with error guarantee?

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How do we compute *u* with error guarantee?

solve-then-discretise ⇒Adaptive truncation!

Why this is NOT just a matrix exponential



Hille-Yosida Theorem: (‡) well-posed if and only if A closed densely defined, and there exists $\omega \in \mathbb{R}$, M > 0 such that

(1) $\operatorname{Sp}(A) \coloneqq \{z \in \mathbb{C} : A - zI \text{ not invertible}\} \subseteq \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re}(z) \le \omega\},\$

(2) if
$$\operatorname{Re}(z) > \omega$$
 then $\|(A - zI)^{-n}\| \le \frac{M}{(\operatorname{Re}(z) - \omega)^n} \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$



Einar Hille

 $(\Rightarrow ||u(t)|| \le M \exp(\omega t) ||u_0||)$

Assume (‡) well-posed and we know suitable ω and M.

(later: ways to compute these in practice)



• Hille, Phillips, "Functional analysis and semi-groups," Vol. 31. American Mathematical Soc., 1996.

Pazy, "Semigroups of linear operators and applications to partial differential equations," Vol. 44. Springer Science & Business Media, 2012.

Why this is NOT just a matrix exponential



 $Sp(A) \coloneqq \{z \in \mathbb{C} : A - z \text{ not invertible}\}\$ $\subseteq \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re}(z) \le \omega\}$

Why this is NOT just a matrix exponential



Problems:

- Integrand need not decay at ∞ .
- How to compute $(A zI)^{-1}$?
- How to bound approximation error (e.g., quadrature)?

Open problem for general ${\mathcal H}$

Does there exist a **universal** algorithm with

- **INPUT:** Generator A,
 - Time t > 0,
 - Arbitrary initial condition $u_0 \in \mathcal{H}$,
 - Error tolerance $\varepsilon > 0$.

OUTPUT: Approximation of u(t) with error $\leq \varepsilon$ in \mathcal{H} ?

E.g., for PDEs on $\mathcal{H} = L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$.

Minimal assumptions on A and u_0 .

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• General strongly continuous semigroups.

E.g., Schrödinger equations, wave equations.

• Analytic semigroups and inverse Laplace transforms.

E.g., diffusion equations.



$$\mathcal{H} = l^2(\mathbb{N})$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & \cdots \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix}, \qquad A\left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} x_k e_k\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} a_{jk} x_k\right) e_j$$

canonical basis of $l^2(\mathbb{N})$

Input:
$$(A, u_0, t, \varepsilon), A, u_0 \in l^2(\mathbb{N}), t > 0, \varepsilon > 0.$$

Can access (or approximate with error control):

• Matrix evaluations
$$\langle Ae_k, e_j \rangle, \langle Ae_k, Ae_j \rangle \quad \forall j, k \in \mathbb{N}.$$

• Coefficients $\langle u_0, u_0 \rangle, \langle u_0, e_j \rangle \quad \forall j \in \mathbb{N}.$

Theorem: \exists universal algorithm $\Gamma_{l^2(\mathbb{N})}$ using above input such that $\|\Gamma_{l^2(\mathbb{N})}(A, u_0, t, \varepsilon) - u(t)\|_{l^2(\mathbb{N})} \leq \varepsilon.$



solve

How? Integrable
• Regularisation:

$$u(t) = (A - (\omega + 2)I)^{2} \left[\frac{-1}{2\pi i} \int_{\omega+1-i\infty}^{\omega+1+i\infty} \frac{e^{zt}(A - zI)^{-1}}{(z - (\omega + 2))^{2}} dz \right] u_{0}.$$
• Hille-Yosida controls error

$$u_{0} \approx \sum_{j=1}^{M} \langle u_{0}, e_{j} \rangle e_{j}, \qquad \exp(At) u_{0} \approx \sum_{j=1}^{M} \langle u_{0}, e_{j} \rangle \exp(At) e_{j}.$$

• **Commutativity**: $ABe_j = BAe_j$... reduction to computing Be_j .

• Quadrature (Hille-Yosida controls error), reduction to computing

$$\longrightarrow z \mapsto (A - zI)^{-1} e_j, \quad j \in \mathbb{N}.$$

Quadrature points



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Quadrature points

Adaptive computation of $z \mapsto (A - zI)^{-1}$

$$v = \sum_{j=1}^{M} \langle v, e_j \rangle e_j$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \mathcal{P}_n \colon l^2(\mathbb{N}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}^n \\ \mathcal{P}_n^* \colon \mathbb{C}^n \longrightarrow l^2(\mathbb{N}) \end{array}$$

 $\mathcal{P}_n = \text{orthog-projection onto span}\{e_1, \dots, e_n\}, n \ge M$

$$T_{n}(z) = \mathcal{P}_{n}(A - zI)\mathcal{P}_{n}^{*} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

$$L_{n}(z) = \mathcal{P}_{n}(A - zI)^{*}(A - zI)\mathcal{P}_{n}^{*} \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$$

$$\min_{y \in \mathbb{C}^{n}} ||(A - zI)\mathcal{P}_{n}^{*}y - v||$$

$$r_{n} = L_{n}(z)^{-1}T_{n}(z)^{*}\mathcal{P}_{n}v \in \mathbb{C}^{n}$$
Infinite-dimensional least-squares!

Theorem:
$$\|\mathcal{P}_{n}^{*}r_{n} - (A - zI)^{-1}v\|$$

 $\leq \|(A - zI)^{-1}\| \sqrt{r_{n}^{*}L_{n}(z)r_{n} - 2\operatorname{Re}((\mathcal{P}_{n}v)^{*}T_{n}(z)r_{n}) + \|v\|^{2}}$

Bounded by Hille-Yosida

Converges to zero and explicit! Adaptively increase *n* to make small.

Example: differential operators on $L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{d})$ $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = Au, \quad [Av](x) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^{d}_{\geq 0}, |k| \leq N} c_{k}(x) [\partial^{k}v](x)$

Assume: $\{c_k\}$ poly bounded, locally bounded total variation. **Input:** $(\{c_k\}, u_0, t, \varepsilon)$, coeffs. $\{c_k\}, u_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d), t > 0, \varepsilon > 0$.



Wild oscillations only at infinity.

Example: differential operators on $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = Au, \qquad [Av](x) = \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^d, |k| \leq N} c_k(x) \left[\partial^k v\right](x)$$

Assume: $\{c_k\}$ poly bounded, locally bounded total variation. Input: $(\{c_k\}, u_0, t, \varepsilon)$, coeffs. $\{c_k\}, u_0 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^d), t > 0, \varepsilon > 0$.

Can access (or approximate with error control):

- Pointwise evals $c_k(q)$, $u_0(q) \forall q \in \mathbb{Q}^d$.
- Poly growth bound on $c_k(x)$ as $||x|| \to \infty$.

Much more general than Schwinger's problem!

• Bounds on $\|c_k\|_{[-n,n]^d}\|_{\mathrm{TV}}, \|u_0\|_{[-n,n]^d}\|_{\mathrm{TV}}, \|u_0\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R}^d \setminus [-n,n]^d)}$

Theorem: \exists universal algorithm $\Gamma_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{d})}$ using above input such that $\left\| \Gamma_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{d})}(\{c_{k}\}, u_{0}, t, \varepsilon) - u(t) \right\|_{L^{2}(\mathbb{R}^{d})} \leq \varepsilon.$

• Apply algorithm $\Gamma_{l^2(\mathbb{N})}$.

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- Tensorised Hermite basis (orthonormal)

$$\psi_m(x) = N_m e^{-\frac{x^2}{2}} H_m(x), \qquad H_m(x) = (-1)^m e^{x^2} \frac{\mathrm{d}^m}{\mathrm{d}x^m} e^{-x^2}$$



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• Compute inner products

+ quasi-Monte Carlo numerical integration.

Other bases, quad rules possible! (provided we have error control)

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• Compute inner products

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Two parts

• General strongly continuous semigroups.

E.g., Schrödinger equations, wave equations.

• Analytic semigroups and inverse Laplace transforms.

E.g., diffusion equations.







- Green, "The Calculation of the Time-Responses of Linear Systems," PhD thesis, Imperial College London, 1955.
- Talbot, "The accurate numerical inversion of Laplace transforms," IMA J. Appl. Math., 1979.
- Butcher, "On the numerical inversion of Laplace and Mellin transforms," Proc. Conf. Data Processing and Aut. Comp. Mach., 1957.



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Maria Lopez-Fernandez

César Palencia

$$\gamma(s) = \mu(1 + \sin(is - \alpha)) \quad (s \in \mathbb{R})$$
$$\mu > 0, \qquad 0 < \alpha < \frac{\pi}{2} - \delta$$



• Lopez-Fernandez, Palencia, "On the numerical inversion of the Laplace transform of certain holomorphic mappings," Appl. Numer. Math., 2004.

α

10

δ







• Lopez-Fernandez, Palencia, "On the numerical inversion of the Laplace transform of certain holomorphic mappings," Appl. Numer. Math., 2004.

• Weideman, Trefethen, "Parabolic and hyperbolic contours for computing the Bromwich integral," Math. Comp., 2007.

Trefethen, Weideman, "The exponentially convergent trapezoidal rule," SIAM Rev., 2014.

Exponential convergence... but instability

$$1 = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} \frac{e^{zt}}{z} dz \approx \frac{h}{2\pi i} \sum_{j=-N}^{N} \frac{e^{\gamma(jh)t}}{\gamma(jh)} \gamma'(jh)$$
$$M_{N} = \text{max error over } t \in [t_{0}, t_{1}], \Lambda_{t} = t_{1}/t_{0}$$



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 $\lim_{N\to\infty} \max \operatorname{Re}(\gamma(jh)) = \infty \implies \text{instability!}$

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$$M_N = \text{max error over } t \in [t_0, t_1], \Lambda_t = t_1/t_0$$



$$u_N(t) = \frac{-h}{2\pi i} \sum_{j=-N}^N e^{\gamma(jh)t} \gamma'(jh) (A - \gamma(jh)I)^{-1} u_0$$
$$t \in [t_0, t_1], \qquad \Lambda_t = t_1/t_0$$

- Enforce $\max \operatorname{Re}(\gamma(jh))t_1 \leq \beta \ (=3)$
- Avoid γ approaching Sp(A) as $N \to \infty$ (truncation size needed for $(A - zI)^{-1}$ blows up as $z \to \text{Sp}(A)$)



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$$E_{1} = \mathcal{O}(e^{-2\pi(\pi/2 - \alpha - \delta)/h}), E_{2} = \mathcal{O}(e^{\mu t_{1} - 2\pi\alpha/h}), E_{3} = \mathcal{O}(e^{\mu t_{0}(1 - \sin(\alpha)\cosh(hN))})$$

h error Truncation of sum error (N)

$$\overset{\mathcal{V}(s)}{\underset{\delta}{\overset{(i)}}}}{\overset{(i)}{\overset{$$

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• Avoid γ approaching Sp(A) as $N \to \infty$ (truncation size needed for $(A - zI)^{-1}$ blows up as $z \to Sp(A)$)





$$\begin{aligned} [\mathcal{D}_t^{\tau}g](t) &= \frac{1}{\Gamma([\tau] - \tau)} \int_0^t (t - s)^{[\tau] - \tau - 1} g^{([\tau])}(s) ds \\ u(\pm 1, t) &= u_x(\pm 1, t) = 0 \\ (u, u_t) \in \mathcal{H} = H_0^2([-1, 1]) \times L^2([-1, 1]) \end{aligned}$$







Anomalous transport



Cell biology and chemistry

Finance

120

Polymer structures

• Karniadakis, Hesthaven, Podlubny, "Special Issue on Fractional PDEs: Theory, Numerics, and Applications," J. Comput. Phys., 2015.

$$\rho(x)\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \left[a(x)\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + b(x)\mathcal{D}_t^{\tau}\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right] u(x,t) = f(x,t), \qquad 0 < \tau < 2.$$

400

Finance





Anomalous transport

Cell biology and chemistry

CHALLENGES

- Non-local time derivative.
- Large memory consumption.
- Singularities as $t \downarrow 0$.

Very expensive for discretise-then-solve e.g., time-stepping & finite elements.

Polymer structures



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Solution:



$$\rho(x)\frac{\partial^{2}u}{\partial t^{2}} + \frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \left[a(x)\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} + b(x)\mathcal{D}_{t}^{T}\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \right] u(x,t) = f(x,t), \quad 0 < \tau < 2.$$

$$T(z) = z^{2} + \frac{1}{\rho(x)}\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \left[a(x)\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} + z^{\tau}b(x)\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}} \right] \quad \text{Replaces } A - zI.$$

$$g(x,z) = \frac{\hat{f}(x,z)}{\rho(x)} + zu(x,0) + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,0) + \frac{1}{\rho(x)}\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}b(x)\frac{\partial^{2}}{\partial x^{2}}\sum_{k=1}^{[T]} z^{\tau-k}\frac{\partial^{k-1}u}{\partial t^{k-1}}(x,0) \right] \quad \text{Laplace domain}$$

$$u(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\gamma} e^{zt} T(z)^{-1}g(x,z)dz$$

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$$\|T(z)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{\text{dist}(z,\mathcal{N}(T(z)))}, \|v\| = 1$$

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No time-stepping, low memory.
Avoid singularities as $t \downarrow 0$.
Parallelizable, reuse comp. over t .
Exponential convergence.
$$\|T(z)^{-1}\| \leq \frac{1}{(dist(z,\mathcal{N}(T(z))))}, \|v\| = 1$$

NB: Solve $T(z)^{-1}g(x,z)$ using ultraspherical spectral method (Olver, Townsend, SIREV 2013)



Conclusion

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}u}{\mathrm{d}t} = Au, \qquad u(0) = u_0 \in \mathcal{H}$$

solve-then-discretise \Rightarrow convergence, error control.

- Regularised contour method for general strongly continuous semigroups. E.g., PDEs on unbounded domain $L^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$. Adaptive truncation.
- Optimised stable quadrature for analytic semigroups. Extends to inverse Laplace transform, e.g., time-fractional PDEs.
- Rigorous, practical & flexible:
 - Choice of contour and quadrature.
 - Only need to solve linear systems with error control.

Rapid convergence, high accuracy, low memory.

Example: diffusion equation on \mathbb{R}

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[\left(1.1 - \frac{1}{1 + x^2} \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] u,$$

$$u_0(x) = e^{\frac{(x-1)^2}{5}}\cos(2x) + \frac{2}{1+(x+1)^4}$$

$$\phi_n(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{5\pi}} \frac{(1+ix/5)^n}{(1-ix/5)^{n+1}}$$

Basis: Malmquist-Takenaka functions Iserles, Webb, *"Fast Computation of Orthogonal Systems* with a Skew-Symmetric Differentiation Matrix," **CPAM** 2021.





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[2] Colbrook, Matthew J., and Lorna J. Ayton. "A contour method for timefractional PDEs and an application to fractional viscoelastic beam equations." *Journal of Computational Physics* 454 (2022): 110995.