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# Runge–Kutta methods with minimal dispersion and dissipation for problems arising from computational acoustics

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## Abstract

In this paper a new Runge–Kutta method with minimal dispersion and dissipation error is developed. The Chebyshev pseudospectral method is utilized using spatial discretization and a new fourth-order six-stage Runge–Kutta scheme is used for time advancing. The proposed scheme is more efficient than the existing ones for acoustic computations.

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## 1. Introduction

There are many phenomena in nature that can be expressed by partial differential equations (PDEs). However, there is no general analytical solution for a well-defined PDE. As regards the wave propagation there are many recent works on numerical methods [2,7,4,8]. High-order methods are often used to reach accuracy requirements as well as low dissipation and dispersion errors [9].

Mead and Renaut [7] have constructed a six-stage fourth-order RK method with extended stability along the imaginary axes, which was of dissipative order five and of dispersive order four.

Hu et al. [4] propose a six-stage fourth-order RK method with minimal dissipation and dispersion.

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Bogey and Bailly [2] following the idea of Hu et al. [4], have obtained a six-stage second-order RK method with minimal dissipation and dispersion.

**2. Basic theory**

*2.1. Modified Chebyshev pseudospectral method (MPS) [7]*

Consider the one-dimensional wave equation  $u_t = u_x$ . If MPS is used in space, then

$$u_t = MSu \tag{1}$$

with

$$S_{i,j} = \frac{d}{dx} T_j(x)|_{x=x_i}, \tag{2}$$

where  $T_j(x)$  and  $x_i = \cos(i\pi/N)$  are the Chebyshev polynomials and the points respectively [7]. The entries of matrix  $M$  are dependent on the transformation proposed by Kosloff and Tal-Ezer [5], and are given by

$$M_{i,j} = \frac{\sin^{-1}(\alpha)\sqrt{1 - (\alpha x_i)^2}}{\alpha}. \tag{3}$$

For our investigation the parameter  $\alpha$  has been chosen to be equal to 0.99 (for details see [7]).

*2.2. Dispersion and dissipation in Runge–Kutta methods*

For the initial value problem

$$u_t = f(t, u) \tag{4}$$

the general  $s$ -stage Runge–Kutta method, is defined by

$$u_{n+1} = u_n + h \sum_{i=1}^s b_i k_i, \tag{5}$$

$$k_i = f \left( t_n + hc_i, u_n + h \sum_{j=1}^s a_{i,j} k_j \right), \tag{6}$$

where  $c_i = \sum_{j=1}^s a_{i,j}$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, s$ . The coefficients  $b_i, c_i, a_{i,j}$  are dependent on the method used and can be presented by Butcher [3] table below

$c$	$A$
	$b$

We use the linear test equation,

$$u_t = \lambda u, \quad \lambda = x + yi \tag{7}$$

which has the analytical solution

$$u(t + h) = e^{h(x+yi)} u(t). \tag{8}$$

Following the procedure introduced by Albrecht [1], the RK solution can be written as

$$u_{n+1} = (1 + z\beta_1 + \dots + z^s\beta_s)u_n = (P_s + iF_s)u_n, \tag{9}$$

where  $z = h\lambda$ ,  $\beta_j = b^T A^{j-1} e$ ,  $e = (1, \dots, 1) \in R^s$  (for more details see [7])

$$\begin{aligned} P_s &= 1 + hx\beta_1 + h^2(x^2 - y^2)\beta_2 + h^3(x^3 - 3xy^2)\beta_3, \\ &+ h^4(x^4 - 6x^2y^2 + y^4)\beta_4 + h^5(x^5 - 10x^3y^2 + 5xy^4)\beta_5 + \dots, \\ F_s &= hy\beta_1 + 2h^2xy\beta_2 + h^3(3x^2y - y^3)\beta_3 + h^4(4x^3y - 4xy^3)\beta_4 \\ &+ h^5(5x^4y - 10x^2y^3 + y^5)\beta_5 + \dots. \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

The explicit form of the coefficients  $\beta_j$  for methods having up to six stages are given by (see [8])

$$\begin{aligned} \beta_1 &= \sum b_i, & \beta_4 &= \sum b_i a_{ij} a_{jk} c_k, \\ \beta_2 &= \sum b_i c_i, & \beta_5 &= \sum b_i a_{ij} a_{jk} a_{kl} c_l, \\ \beta_3 &= \sum b_i a_{ij} c_j, & \beta_6 &= \sum b_i a_{ij} a_{jk} a_{kl} a_{lm} c_m. \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

**Definition 1.** (Van Der Howen and Sommeijer [10]). The RK method defined by (9) is dissipative of order  $p$  if

$$e^{xh} - |P_s + iF_s| = O(h^{p+1}) \tag{12}$$

and dispersive of order  $q$  if

$$hy - \tan^{-1}(F_s/P_s) = O(h^{q+1}). \tag{13}$$

The proposed coefficients by Mead and Renault [7] method are  $\beta_5 = 0.00556$  and  $\beta_6 = 0.00093$ .

Hu et al. [4], minimizing the  $|r - r_e|^2$ , where  $r = (u_{n+1})/u_n = 1 + z\beta_1 + \dots + z^s\beta_s$  (9) and  $r_e = u(t + h)/u(t) = e^{h(x+yi)}$  (9), propose the coefficients:  $\beta_5 = 0.00781005$  and  $\beta_6 = 0.00132141$ .

The proposed coefficients by Bogey and Bailly [2] method are  $\beta_3 = 0.165919771368$ ,  $\beta_4 = 0.040919732041$ ,  $\beta_5 = 0.007555704391$  and  $\beta_6 = 0.000891421261$ .

### 3. New method

For a four order-six stage method and for the case of the test equation (8) with  $x = 0$  [10],  $P_6$  and  $F_6$  can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} P_6 &= 1 - \beta_2(hy)^2 + \beta_4(hy)^4 - \beta_6(hy)^6, \\ F_6 &= hy - \beta_3(hy)^3 + \beta_5(hy)^5, \end{aligned} \tag{14}$$

where  $\beta_2 = \frac{1}{2}$ ,  $\beta_3 = \frac{1}{6}$  and  $\beta_4 = \frac{1}{24}$ , while the RK method is of order four.

Table 1

Order of dissipation	Order of dispersion	$\beta_5$	$\beta_6$
9	4	1/128	1/1152
5	8	1/120	1/840

Based on the definitions given above, the dissipation error can be written as

$$\text{EDS}(hy) = 1 - |P_6 + i F_6| \quad (15)$$

and the dispersion error is given by

$$\text{EDP}(hy) = hy - \tan^{-1}(F_6/P_6). \quad (16)$$

Expanding (15) and (16) via Taylor Series, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EDS}(hy) = & h^6 y^6 \left( \frac{1}{144} - \beta_5 + \beta_6 \right) \\ & + h^8 y^8 \left( -\frac{1}{1152} + \frac{\beta_5}{6} - \frac{\beta_6}{2} \right) \\ & + h^{10} y^{10} \left( -\frac{\beta_5^2}{2} + \frac{\beta_6}{24} \right) \\ & + h^{12} y^{12} \left( \frac{1}{41472} + \frac{\beta_5^2}{2} + \beta_5 \left( -\frac{1}{144} - \frac{\beta_6}{6} \right) + \frac{\beta_6}{144} \right) + \dots, \end{aligned} \quad (17)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{EDP}(hy) = & h^5 y^5 \left( \frac{1}{120} - \beta_5 \right) \\ & + h^7 y^7 \left( -\frac{1}{336} + \frac{\beta_5}{2} - \beta_6 \right) \\ & + h^9 y^9 \left( -\frac{1}{5184} - \frac{\beta_5}{24} + \frac{\beta_6}{6} \right) \\ & + h^{11} y^{11} \left( \frac{1}{19008} + \beta_5^2 + \beta_5 \left( -\frac{1}{72} - \beta_6 \right) \right) + \dots. \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

For a four order-six stage method, the maximum order of dissipation and dispersion and the resulting coefficients are provided in Table 1.

**Definition 2.** We define the estimation of the error for the dissipation error (SDS) and the estimation of the error for the dispersion error (SDP), using the coefficients of the powers of  $hy$  in expressions (17)

Table 2

Method	Error of dissipation	Error of dispersion	Total error
Mead and Renault [7]	$2.35 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.99 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.345 \times 10^{-3}$
F.Q. Hu et al. [4]	$5.09 \times 10^{-4}$	$6.60 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.169 \times 10^{-3}$
Bogey and Bailly [2]	$4.33 \times 10^{-5}$	$8.495 \times 10^{-4}$	$8.298 \times 10^{-4}$
New	$1.48 \times 10^{-4}$	$9.91 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.470 \times 10^{-4}$

and (18), by the formulae:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{SDS}(\beta_5, \beta_6) = & \left(\frac{1}{144} - \beta_5 + \beta_6\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{1152} + \frac{\beta_5}{6} - \frac{\beta_6}{2}\right)^2 \\
 & + \left(-\frac{\beta_5^2}{2} + \frac{\beta_6}{24}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{41472} + \frac{\beta_5^2}{2} + \beta_5\left(-\frac{1}{144} - \frac{\beta_6}{6}\right) + \frac{\beta_6}{144}\right)^2 + \dots, \quad (19)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{SDP}(\beta_5, \beta_6) = & \left(\frac{1}{120} - \beta_5\right)^2 + \left(-\frac{1}{336} + \frac{\beta_5}{2} - \beta_6\right)^2 \\
 & + \left(-\frac{1}{5184} - \frac{\beta_5}{24} + \frac{\beta_6}{6}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{1}{19008} + \beta_5^2 + \beta_5\left(-\frac{1}{72} - \beta_6\right)\right)^2 + \dots \quad (20)
 \end{aligned}$$

and the estimation of the total error (SDSDP) by the formula

$$\text{SDSDP}(\beta_5, \beta_6) = \text{SDS}(\beta_5, \beta_6) + \text{SDP}(\beta_5, \beta_6). \quad (21)$$

Minimizing the  $\text{SDSDP}(\beta_5, \beta_6)$  using the Levenberg Marquardt method [6], the resulting coefficients are

$$\beta_5 = 0.008267383750863793 \quad \text{and} \quad \beta_6 = 0.00121166825454822479.$$

In Table 2 we present the estimation of the errors SDS, SDP and SDSDP of the new method, the Bogey and Bailly method [2], the Hu et al. method [4] and Mead and Renault method [7]. In Fig. 1 we present the formulae EDS and EDP for the same methods.

For a six-stage fourth-order RK method we have a nonlinear system of 10 equations and 10 unknowns and can be reduced to 10 equations and 10 unknowns if we assume the method is of the form

$$\begin{array}{l|l}
 0 & 0 \\
 c_2 & c_2 \\
 c_3 & 0 \quad c_3 \\
 c_4 & 0 \quad 0 \quad c_4 \\
 c_5 & 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad c_5 \\
 c_6 & 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad 0 \quad c_6 \\
 \hline
 & b_1 \quad b_2 \quad b_3 \quad b_4 \quad 0 \quad b_6
 \end{array}$$

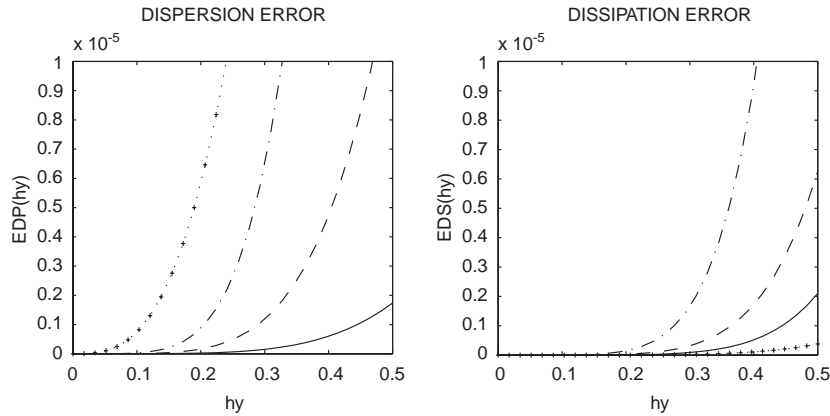


Fig. 1. (left)-Dispersion error, (right)-Dissipation error. Methods used: (i)  $\cdot + \cdot$ , Bogey and Bailly [2] RK method of six stage-second order; (ii)  $- \cdot -$ , Mead and Renault [7] RK method of six stage-fourth order; (iii)  $- - -$  Hu et al. [4] RK method of six stage-fourth order; (iv)  $—$  New RK method of six stage-fourth order.

The values of the RK coefficients are given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 b_1 &= -3.94810815871644627868730966001274, \\
 b_2 &= 6.15933360719925137209615595259797, \\
 b_3 &= -8.74466100703228369513719502355456, \\
 b_4 &= 4.07387757397683429863757134989527, \\
 b_6 &= 3.45955798457264430309077738107406, \\
 c_2 &= 0.14656005951358278141218736059705, \\
 c_3 &= 0.27191031708348360233615451628133, \\
 c_4 &= 0.06936819398523233741339353210366, \\
 c_5 &= 0.25897940086636139111948386831759, \\
 c_6 &= 0.48921096998463659243576995327396.
 \end{aligned}$$

In a similar way the values of the RK coefficients for the Hu et al. method [4] and Bogey and Bailly method [2] was obtained.

#### 4. Numerical examples

The new method is compared with the Hu et al. method [4], Mead and Renault method [7] and Bogey and Bailly method [2]. The modified Chebyshev pseudospectral method for the spatial discretization for  $N = 270$  is used [7].

Table 3  
Convective wave problem

Temporal approx.	Step size	Error	Time <sup>a</sup>
Bogey and Bailly [2]	0.2	$4.84 \times 10^{-4}$	2 min 9 s
Mead and Renault [7]	0.25	$1.31 \times 10^{-4}$	1 min 46 s
F.Q. Hu et al. [4]	0.4	$1.57 \times 10^{-4}$	1 min 7 s
New	0.5	$6.68 \times 10^{-5}$	50 s

<sup>a</sup>Execution times, are for Fortran code running on a IBM 400 MHz system.

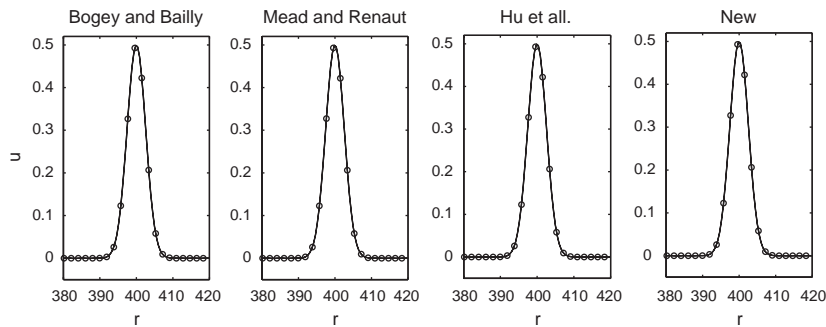


Fig. 2. Solution of convective wave problem (see [4,8]) with modified Chebyshev pseudospectral at  $t = 400$  and  $N = 270$  (see [7]). The true solution(-) and the computed solution (o). Methods used: (i) Bogey and Bailly [2] RK method of six stage-second order with  $h = 0.2$ ; (ii) Mead and Renault [7] RK method of six stage-fourth order with  $h = 0.25$ ; (iii) Hu et al. [4] RK method of six stage-fourth order with  $h = 0.4$  and; (iv) New RK method of six stage-fourth order with  $h = 0.5$ .

#### 4.1. Convective wave equation

Consider the problem

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0. \tag{22}$$

The initial value when  $t = 0$  is a Gaussian profile  $u_0 = 0.5e^{-\ln 2(x/3)^2}$  and the domain extends from  $x = -50$  to  $x = 450$ . The maximum norm of the error  $L_\infty = \max |u_{\text{calculated}} - u_{\text{exact}}|$  at the time  $t = 400$ , for several different values of step size  $h$ , is given in Table 3. Fig. 2 illustrates the solutions of the four compared methods.

#### 4.2. Spherical wave problem

Consider the problem

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial r} + \frac{u}{r} = 0, \quad 5 \leq r \leq 315, \quad t > 0,$$

Table 4  
Spherical wave problem

Temporal approx.	Step size	Error	Time <sup>a</sup>
Bogey and Bailly [2]	0.2	$2.06 \times 10^{-3}$	1 min 25 s
Mead and Renault [7]	0.2	$2.02 \times 10^{-3}$	1 min 25 s
F.Q. Hu et al. [4]	0.2	$1.99 \times 10^{-3}$	1 min 25 s
New	0.3	$1.97 \times 10^{-3}$	54 s

<sup>a</sup>Execution times, are for Fortran code running on a IBM 400 MHz system.

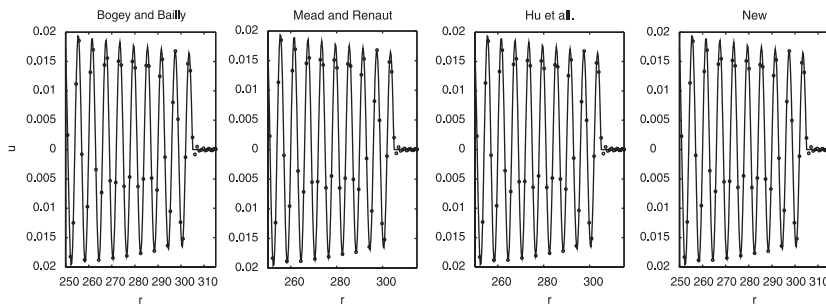


Fig. 3. Solution of spherical wave problem with modified Chebyshev pseudospectral at  $t = 300$  and  $N = 270$  (see [7]). The true solution(-) and the computed solution (o). Methods used: (i) Bogey and Bailly [2] RK method of six stage-second order with  $h = 0.2$ ; (ii) Mead and Renault [7] RK method of six stage-fourth order with  $h = 0.2$ ; (iii) Hu et al. [4] RK method of six stage-fourth order with  $h = 0.2$  and; (iv) New RK method of six stage-fourth order with  $h = 0.3$ .

$$u(r, 0) = 0, \quad 5 \leq r \leq 315,$$

$$u(5, t) = \sin(\pi t/3), \quad 0 < t < 300.$$

The analytic solution is given by

$$u(r, t) = \begin{cases} 0, & r > t + 5, \\ 5[\sin(\pi(t - r + 5)/3)]/r, & r \leq t + 5. \end{cases}$$

The maximum norm of the error  $L_\infty = \max |u_{\text{calculated}} - u_{\text{exact}}|$  at time  $t = 300$ , for several different values of step size  $h$ , is given in Table 4. Fig. 3 illustrates the solutions of the four compared methods.

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