

# Adaptive integration methods for time-dependent Gross–Pitaevskii equations: Theoretical and practical aspects

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Workshop on  
Confined Quantum Systems: Modeling, Analysis and Computation  
Wolfgang Pauli Institute, Vienna, February 2013

# Theme

**Splitting methods.** Efficient time integration of **nonlinear evolution equations** by **exponential operator splitting methods**

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(t) = F(u(t)) = A(u(t)) + B(u(t)), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad u(0) \text{ given,}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = \prod_{j=1}^s e^{a_{s+1-j} t D_A} e^{b_{s+1-j} t D_B} \approx \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{t D_F},$$

$$u_n = \mathcal{S}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u_{n-1}) \approx u(t_n) = \mathcal{E}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u(t_{n-1})), \quad 1 \leq n \leq N.$$

## Applications.

- **Nonlinear Schrödinger equations (GPS, MCTDHF)**  
(with W. AUZINGER & H. HOFSTÄTTER & O. KOCH, PH. CHARTIER & F. MEHATS, S. DESCOMBES)
- **Parabolic equations** (Ground state computation by artificial time integration)
- **Wave equations** (with B. KALTENBACHER)

# Objectives

**Local error representations.** Specification and inspection of **local error representations** for high-order splitting methods

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, v) = \mathcal{S}_F(t, v) - \mathcal{E}_F(t, v) = \mathcal{O}(t^{p+1}, \|v\|_D),$$

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, v) = \prod_{j=1}^s e^{a_{s+1-j} t D_B} e^{b_{s+1-j} t D_A} v \approx \mathcal{E}_F(t, v) = e^{t D_F} v.$$

**Convergence analysis.** Derivation of **convergence result** relies on stability bounds and estimates for local error

$$\|u_N - u(t_N)\|_X \leq C \left( \|u_0 - u(0)\|_X + \sum_{n=1}^N \tau_{n-1}^{p+1} \right).$$

Extension to **full discretisations** based on time-splitting pseudo-spectral methods

$$\|u_{NM} - u(t_N)\|_X \leq C \left( \|u_0 - u(0)\|_X + \tau_{\max}^p + M^{-q} \right).$$

**References.** DESCOMBES, TH. (2010, 2012), TH. (2008, 2012)



# Objectives

**Adaptive stepsize control.** Standard strategy for **adaptive time stepsize control**

$$\tau_{\text{optimal}} = \tau \cdot \min \left( \alpha_{\max}, \max \left( \alpha_{\min}, \sqrt[p+1]{\alpha \cdot \frac{\text{tol}}{\text{err}_{\text{local}}}} \right) \right).$$

Construction and analysis of local error estimators for higher-order splitting methods.

- Embedded splitting methods
- Asymptotically correct a posteriori local error estimators

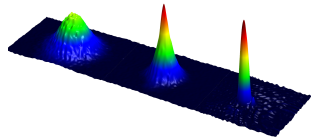
**References.** AUZINGER, KOCH, TH. (2012), KOCH, NEUHAUSER, TH. (2013)

# Nonlinear Schrödinger equations (Gross–Pitaevskii equations)

# Bose–Einstein condensation

*In our laboratories temperatures are measured in micro- or nanokelvin ... In this ultracold world ... atoms move at a snail's pace ... and behave like matter waves. Interesting and fascinating new states of quantum matter are formed and investigated in our experiments.*

(GRIMM ET AL., Innsbruck)

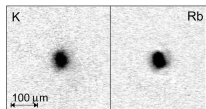


**Bose–Einstein condensation in dilute gases.** In 1925 Albert Einstein predicted that at (very) low temperatures particles in a (dilute) gas could all reside in the same quantum state. This peculiar gaseous state, a **Bose–Einstein condensate**, was produced in the laboratory for the first time in 1995 using the powerful laser-cooling methods developed in recent years. These condensates exhibit quantum phenomena on a large scale, and investigating them has become one of the most active areas of research in contemporary physics. See PETHICK, SMITH (2002).

**Physical experiments (University of Innsbruck).** Realisation of ground state and investigation of time evolution (H.-C. NÄGERL, M. MARK).

# Gross–Pitaevskii systems

**Physical experiments.** Observation of **multi-component Bose–Einstein condensates**. Realisation of double species  $^{87}\text{Rb}$   $^{41}\text{K}$  BEC at LENS, see G. THALHAMMER ET AL. (2008).



**Theoretical model.** Mathematical description (of certain aspects) by time-dependent **Gross–Pitaevskii systems** for  $\Psi : \mathbb{R}^d \times [0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^J$

$$i \hbar \partial_t \Psi_j(x, t) = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_j} \Delta + V_j(x) + \hbar^2 \sum_{k=1}^J g_{jk} |\Psi_k(x, t)|^2 \right) \Psi_j(x, t),$$

$$V_j(x) \approx \sum_{\ell=1}^d \left( \frac{m_j}{2} \omega_{j\ell}^2 (x_\ell - \zeta_{j\ell})^2 + \kappa_{j\ell} (\sin(q_{j\ell} x_\ell))^2 \right), \quad \|\Psi_j(\cdot, 0)\|_{L^2}^2 = N_j,$$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad 1 \leq j \leq J.$$

**Geometric properties ( $J = 1$ ).** Preservation of **particle number**  $\|\Psi(\cdot, t)\|_{L^2}^2$  and **energy functional**

$$E(\Psi(\cdot, t)) = \left( \left( -\frac{\hbar}{2m} \Delta + V + \frac{1}{2} \hbar g |\Psi(\cdot, t)|^2 \right) \Psi(\cdot, t) \middle| \Psi(\cdot, t) \right)_{L^2}.$$

# Nonlinear Schrödinger equations – Model problem

**Model problem.** Consider **nonlinear Schrödinger equation** for  $\psi : \mathbb{R}^d \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : (x, t) \mapsto \psi(x, t)$

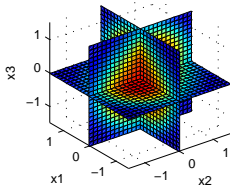
$$\begin{cases} i \varepsilon \partial_t \psi(x, t) = \left( -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^2 \Delta + U(x) + \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2 \right) \psi(x, t), \\ \psi(x, 0) \text{ given, } \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \end{cases}$$

subject to asymptotic boundary conditions.

**Illustration.** Solution profile  $|\psi|^2$  of GPE in 3D ( $\varepsilon = \omega = \vartheta = 1$ ,  $T = 3$ ,  $M = 128^3$ ,  $\text{tol} = 10^{-6}$ ).

**Ground state.** Solution of special form  $\psi(\cdot, t) = e^{-i\mu t} \varphi$  that minimises energy functional. Useful as **reliable reference solution** in time integration.

**Semi-classical regime.** Numerical solution for **smaller parameter values**  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$ . Problems of similar form arise in applications from **solid state physics**. See BAO, JIN, MARKOWICH (2002/03).





# Time-splitting pseudo-spectral methods for nonlinear Schrödinger equations

## Space and time discretisation

**Numerical simulations.** Favourable behaviour of **time-splitting and pseudo-spectral methods** for low-dimensional nonlinear Schrödinger equations confirmed by **numerical comparisons**, see contributions by W. BAO and collaborators.

- **Time evolution.** Discretisation of model problem

$$i \varepsilon \partial_t \psi(x, t) = \left( -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^2 \Delta + U(x) + \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2 \right) \psi(x, t)$$

by **pseudo-spectral method** (Fourier, Sine, Hermite, Laguerre) and **adaptive splitting method** (embedded splitting pairs, a posteriori local error estimators).

- **Ground state computation** ( $\varepsilon = 1$ ). Application of imaginary time method (projection at each artificial time step)

$$\partial_t \psi(x, t) = \left( \frac{1}{2} \Delta - U(x) - \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2 \right) \psi(x, t).$$

**Adaptive splitting method** (Lie-Strang pair), pseudo-spectral space discretisation.

# Illustrations (Ground state computation, Time evolution)

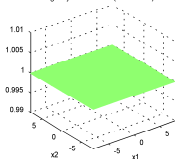
**Movie.** Groundstate computation and time evolution of model problem ( $d = 2$ ,  $\varepsilon = 1$ ,  $\vartheta = 0, 10$ ) under a harmonic potential ( $\omega = 1, 2$ ). Space discretisation by Fourier pseudo-spectral method ( $x \in [-8, 8] \times [-8, 8]$ ,  $M = 200 \times 200$ ). Artificial time integration by 2(1) pair based on Strang and Lie splitting. Time integration by embedded 4(3) pair based on 4th-order scheme by BLANES, MOAN (2002) ( $t \in [0, 4]$ ,  $\text{tol} = 10^{-6}$ ).

Movie

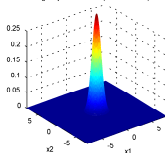
Ground state, Time Evolution, Energy, Time stepsizes (MATLAB)

# Illustrations (Ground state computation, Time evolution)

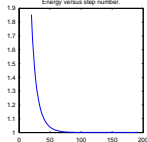
Imaginary time method (counter = 1).



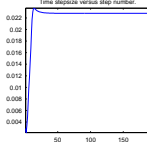
Imaginary time method (counter = 192).



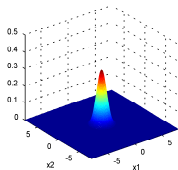
Energy versus step number.



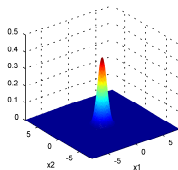
Time stepsize versus step number.



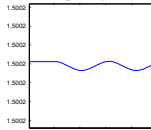
Time evolution. Current time = 0.



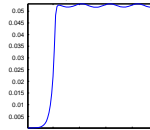
Time evolution. Current time = 4.



Energy versus step number.



Time stepsize versus step number.



# Exponential operator splitting methods

**Aim.** For **nonlinear evolution equation** on Banach space  $X$

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(t) = A(u(t)) + B(u(t)), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad u(0) \text{ given,}$$

determine **approximations** at time grid points  $0 = t_0 < \dots < t_N \leq T$  with associated stepsizes  $\tau_{n-1} = t_n - t_{n-1}$  for  $1 \leq n \leq N$  through recurrence

$$u_n = \mathcal{S}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u_{n-1}) \approx u(t_n) = \mathcal{E}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u(t_{n-1})) = e^{\tau_{n-1} D_F} u(t_{n-1}).$$

**Approach.** Splitting methods rely on **suitable decomposition** of right-hand side and presumption that subproblems

$$\frac{d}{dt} v(t) = A(v(t)), \quad v(t) = e^{t D_A} v(0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} w(t) = B(w(t)), \quad w(t) = e^{t D_B} w(0), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T,$$

are solvable in **accurate and efficient manner**.

**General form.** High-order splitting methods are cast into following form scheme with real (or complex) method coefficients  $(a_j, b_j)_{j=1}^S$

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = \prod_{j=1}^S e^{a_{s+1-j} t D_A} e^{b_{s+1-j} t D_B} \approx \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{t D_F} = e^{t(D_A + D_B)}.$$

## Example methods

**Low-order methods.** First-order **Lie–Trotter splitting method** and second-order **Strang splitting method**

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{tD_B} e^{tD_A}, \quad \mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{\frac{1}{2}tD_A} e^{tD_B} e^{\frac{1}{2}tD_A}.$$

**Higher-order methods.** Symmetric **fourth-order splitting method** proposed in BLANES, MOAN (2002) and **embedded third-order splitting method** (KOCH, TH.) for time stepsize control.

$j$	$a_j$	$j$	$b_j$
1	0	1,7	0.0829844064174052
2,7	0.245298957184271	2,6	0.3963098014983680
3,6	0.604872665711080	3,5	-0.0390563049223486
4,5	$1/2 - (a_2 + a_3)$	4	$1 - 2(b_1 + b_2 + b_3)$

$j$	$\hat{a}_j$	$j$	$\hat{b}_j$
1	$a_1$	1	$b_1$
2	$a_2$	2	$b_2$
3	$a_3$	3	$b_3$
4	$a_4$	4	$b_4$
5	0.3752162693236828	5	0.4463374354420499
6	1.4878666594737946	6	-0.0060995324486253
7	-1.3630829287974774	7	0

# Practical realisation (Schrödinger equations)

**Spectral decomposition.** Numerical solution of first subproblem

$$\frac{d}{dt} v(t) = A v(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad v(0) \text{ given,}$$

involving **linear differential operator**  $A$  (related to Laplacian, eigenrelation  $A \mathcal{B}_m = \mu_m \mathcal{B}_m$ ) relies on **spectral decomposition**

$$v(t) = e^{tA} v(0) = \sum_m v_m e^{t\mu_m} \mathcal{B}_m, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad v(0) = \sum_m v_m \mathcal{B}_m.$$

**Invariance.** Numerical solution of second subproblem

$$\frac{d}{dt} w(t) = B(w(t)) w(t) = B(w_0) w(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad w(0) = w_0,$$

involving (unbounded) **nonlinear multiplication operator**  $B$  (related to potential and nonlinearity) relies on **pointwise multiplication**

$$(w(t))(x) = (e^{tB(w_0)} w_0)(x) = e^{t(B(w_0))(x)} w_0(x), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

**Explanation.** For analytical solution of  $\partial_t \psi(x, t) = -i(V(x) + \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2) \psi(x, t)$  it follows

$$\partial_t |\psi(x, t)|^2 = \partial_t (\overline{\psi(x, t)} \psi(x, t)) = 2\Re(\overline{\psi(x, t)} \partial_t \psi(x, t)) = 2\Re(-i(V(x) + \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2) |\psi(x, t)|^2) = 0.$$

# Fourier pseudo-spectral method

**Spectral decomposition.** Let  $\Omega = (-a_1, a_1) \times \cdots \times (-a_d, a_d)$  with  $a_\ell > 0$  (large) for  $1 \leq \ell \leq d$ . **Fourier basis functions**  $(\mathcal{F}_m)_{m \in \mathbb{Z}^d}$  form orthonormal basis of  $L^2(\Omega)$  and satisfy eigenvalue relation

$$\psi(\cdot, t) = \sum_m \psi_m(t) \mathcal{F}_m, \quad \psi_m(t) = (\psi(\cdot, t) | \mathcal{F}_m)_{L^2},$$
$$-\Delta \mathcal{F}_m = \lambda_m \mathcal{F}_m, \quad \mathcal{F}_m(x) = \prod_{\ell=1}^d \frac{e^{i\pi m_\ell \left(\frac{x_\ell}{a_\ell} + 1\right)}}{\sqrt{2a_\ell}}, \quad \lambda_m = \sum_{\ell=1}^d \frac{\pi^2 m_\ell^2}{a_\ell^2}.$$

**Numerical approximation.** Truncation of infinite sum and application of trapezoid quadrature formula yields approximation

$$\mathcal{Q}_M \psi(\cdot, t) = \sum_m \psi_m(t) \mathcal{F}_m,$$
$$\psi_m(t) = \int_{\Omega} \psi(x, t) \overline{\mathcal{F}_m(x)} dx \approx \sum_k \omega_k \psi(\xi_k, t) \overline{\mathcal{F}_m(\xi_k)}.$$

**Implementation.** Realisation by **Fast Fourier Techniques**.

**Spectral space discretisations.** Analogous relations for Sine, Hermite, and generalised Laguerre–Fourier Hermite pseudo-spectral methods.



# Illustration (GPE with rotation, Time evolution)

**Movie.** Gross–Pitaevskii equation with additional rotation term (EXAMPLE IN BAO, LI, SHEN, 2009). Movie generated by Harald Hofstätter.

Movie (Rotating condensate)

# Convergence analysis

# Objective

*Mein Verzicht auf das Restglied war leichtsinnig.*

(W. ROMBERG, 1979)

**Situation.** Time integration of nonlinear evolution equations by high-order exponential operator splitting methods

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(t) = F(u(t)) = A(u(t)) + B(u(t)), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad u(0) \text{ given,}$$

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = \prod_{j=1}^s e^{a_{s+1-j} t D_A} e^{b_{s+1-j} t D_B} \approx \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{t D_F},$$

$$u_n = \mathcal{S}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u_{n-1}) \approx u(t_n) = \mathcal{E}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u(t_{n-1})), \quad 1 \leq n \leq N.$$

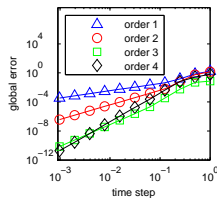
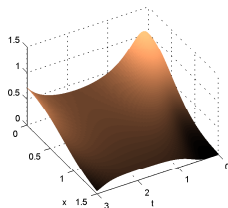
**Objective.** Deduce **local error representation** for high-order splitting methods that remains suitable for nonlinear evolutions equations involving **unbounded operators** and **critical parameters**

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, v) = \mathcal{S}_F(t, v) - \mathcal{E}_F(t, v) = \mathcal{O}(t^{p+1}, \|v\|_D).$$

**Hope.** Requirement  $\sup \{ \|u(t)\|_D : 0 \leq t \leq T \} \leq C$  (or  $\varepsilon^j \|\partial_x^j u(0)\|_X \leq C$ ) reasonable in connection with **nonlinear Schrödinger equations**.

# Illustration (Order of convergence)

**Illustration.** Space and time discretisation of Gross–Pitaevskii equation ( $\varepsilon = 1$ ,  $\omega = 1$ ,  $\vartheta = 1$ ,  $T = 1$ ) by Fourier pseudo-spectral method ( $M = 256$ ) and different splitting methods of (nonstiff) orders  $p \leq 4$ . Numerically observed orders of convergence.



**Numerical comparisons.** Numerical comparisons (accuracy, efficiency, long-term behaviour) of higher-order time-splitting Fourier/Hermite pseudo-spectral methods (2D), see CALIARI, NEUHAUSER, TH. (2009).

# Derivation of local error expansions

## Standard approaches.

- Expansion of exponential functions
- Baker–Campbell–Hausdorff formula

## Alternative approaches.

- **Quadrature formulas.** Optimal error bounds regarding regularity of analytical solution for evolutionary Schrödinger equations by techniques studied in JAHNKE, LUBICH (2000), KOCH, NEUHAUSER, TH. (2013), LUBICH (2008), and TH. (2008, 2012).
- **Differential equations.** Investigation of exact local error representation for evolution equations involving critical parameters exploited in DESCOMBES, DUMONT, LOUVET, MASSOT (2007), DESCOMBES, SCHATZMAN (2002), and DESCOMBES, TH. (2010, 2012).

# Baker–Campbell–Hausdorff formula

**Baker–Campbell–Hausdorff formula.** BCH formula implies

$$e^{tL} e^{tK} = e^{tS(t)}, \quad S(t) = K + L - \frac{1}{2} t [K, L] + \mathcal{O}(t^2).$$

**Local error expansion.** For exponential operator splitting methods involving **two compositions** (Lie, Strang)

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{tS(t)} = e^{a_1 t D_A} e^{b_1 t D_B} e^{a_2 t D_A} e^{b_2 t D_B} \approx \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{t(D_A + D_B)}$$

above relation yields expansion (order conditions)

$$D_A + D_B \approx S(t) = (a_1 + a_2) D_A + (b_1 + b_2) D_B \\ + \frac{1}{2} t (b_2(a_2 + a_1) + b_1(a_1 - a_2)) [D_A, D_B] + \mathcal{O}(t^2),$$

where  $[D_A, D_B]v = D_A D_B v - D_B D_A v = B'(v) A(v) - A'(v) B(v)$ .

**Difficulties.** Justify approach for **unbounded nonlinear operators**?  
Capture precise form of remainder to obtain **optimal regularity requirements** on analytical solution? Employ alternative approaches ...

## Order conditions (Lie, Strang)

**Order conditions.** For bounded nonlinear operators requirement  $\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) = \mathcal{O}(t^{p+1})$  for  $p = 1, 2$  implies (nonstiff) **order conditions**

$$a_1 + a_2 = 1, \quad b_1 + b_2 = 1, \quad (p = 1)$$

$$(1 - a_1) b_1 = \frac{1}{2}. \quad (p = 2)$$

**Examples.** Retain first-order Lie–Trotter splitting

$$\begin{aligned} s = 1, \quad a_1 = 1, \quad b_1 = 1, \\ s = 2, \quad a_1 = 0, \quad a_2 = 1, \quad b_1 = 1, \quad b_2 = 0, \end{aligned}$$

and second-order Strang splitting

$$\begin{aligned} s = 2, \quad a_1 = \frac{1}{2} = a_2, \quad b_1 = 1, \quad b_2 = 0, \\ s = 2, \quad a_1 = 0, \quad a_2 = 1, \quad b_1 = \frac{1}{2} = b_2. \end{aligned}$$

**Question.** Order reduction of splitting methods when applied to equations involving **unbounded operators** and **critical parameters**?

## Approach based on quadrature formulas



# Quadrature formulas

**Approach.** Alternative local error expansion

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, v) = \mathcal{S}_F(t, v) - \mathcal{E}_F(t, v) = \mathcal{O}(t^{p+1}, \|v\|_D)$$

provides **optimal error estimates** regarding regularity of analytical solution for (non)linear evolutionary Schrödinger equations with (un)bounded potentials.

- **Linear equations.** See also JAHNKE, LUBICH (2000), NEUHAUSER, TH. (2009), TH. (2008).
- **Nonlinear equations.** See also GAUCKLER (2010), KOCH, NEUHAUSER, TH. (2013), LUBICH (2008), TH (2012).

## Main tools.

- Variation-of-constants formula (Gröbner–Alekseev)
- Stepwise expansion of  $e^{tD_B}$
- Quadrature formulas for multiple integrals
- Bounds for iterated commutators
- Characterise domains of unbounded operators

# Local error expansion (Linear equations, Strang)

**Situation.** Time discretisation of **linear evolution equation** by splitting method involving **two compositions** with  $a_1 + a_2 = 1$

$$\frac{d}{dt} u(t) = A u(t) + B u(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad u(0) \text{ given},$$
$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{b_2 t B} e^{a_2 t A} e^{b_1 t B} e^{a_1 t A} \approx \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot) = e^{t(A+B)}.$$

**Derivation of local error expansion.** Expansion of exact solution value by **variation-of-constants formula** and **stepwise expansion** of  $e^{tB}$  yields

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) = Q_1 - I_1 + Q_2 - I_2 + \mathcal{O}(t^3, C_B^3, M_A, M_B, M_{A+B}),$$
$$Q_1 = t (b_1 e^{(1-a_1)tA} B e^{a_1 t A} + b_2 B e^{tA}) \approx I_1 = \int_0^t e^{(h-\tau_1)A} B e^{\tau_1 A} d\tau_1,$$
$$Q_2 = \frac{1}{2} t^2 (b_1^2 e^{(1-a_1)tA} B^2 e^{a_1 t A} + 2 b_1 b_2 B e^{(1-a_1)tA} B e^{a_1 t A} + b_2^2 B^2 e^{tA})$$
$$\approx I_2 = \int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_1} e^{(t-\tau_1)A} B e^{(\tau_1-\tau_2)A} B e^{\tau_2 A} d\tau_2 d\tau_1,$$

provided that  $\|B\|_{X \leftarrow X} \leq C_B$ ,  $\|e^{tC}\|_{X \leftarrow X} \leq e^{M_C t}$ ,  $C \in \{A, B, A+B\}$ . Further **Taylor series expansions** of integrands (commutators  $[A, B]$ ,  $[A, [A, B]]$ ).

## Local error expansion (Linear equations, Strang)

**Assumptions.** Assume  $a_1 + a_2 = 1$  and furthermore

$$\|B\|_{X \leftarrow X} \leq C_B, \quad \|e^{tC}\|_{X \leftarrow X} \leq e^{M_C t}, \quad C \in \{A, B, A+B\},$$

$$\|[A, B]v\|_X + \|[A, [A, B]]v\|_X \leq C_{\text{ad}} \|v\|_D.$$

**Local error expansion.** Exponential operator splitting method involving two compositions (Strang) fulfills **local error expansion**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_F(t, v) &= \left( e^{b_2 t B} e^{a_2 t A} e^{b_1 t B} e^{a_1 t A} - e^{t(A+B)} \right) v \\ &= t (b_1 + b_2 - 1) e^{tA} B v \\ &\quad - t^2 e^{tA} \left( (a_1 b_1 + b_2 - \frac{1}{2}) [A, B] + \frac{1}{2} ((b_1 + b_2)^2 - 1) B^2 \right) v \\ &\quad + \mathcal{O}(t^3, C_B^3, M_A, M_B, M_{A+B}, C_{\text{ad}}, \|v\|_D). \end{aligned}$$

**Extension and application to linear Schrödinger equations.** Suitable choice  $X = L^2(\Omega)$ ,  $D = H^p(\Omega)$ ,  $M_A = M_B = 0$ , see TH. (2008).

**Drawback.** Numerical illustrations show that approach **not optimal** with respect to **critical parameter** ( $B = U/\varepsilon$ ).

# Local error expansion (Nonlinear equations)

**Result.** Local error expansion of **high-order splitting methods** applied to **nonlinear evolution equations**.

Theorem (Koch & Neuhauser & Th. 2013, Th. 2008, Th. 2012)

*The defect operator of an exponential operator splitting method of (classical) order  $p$  admits the (formal) expansion*

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) = \sum_{k=1}^p \sum_{\substack{\mu \in \mathbb{N}^k \\ |\mu| \leq p-k}} \frac{1}{\mu!} t^{k+|\mu|} C_{k\mu} \prod_{\ell=1}^k \text{ad}_{D_A}^{\mu_\ell}(D_B) e^{tD_A} + R_{p+1}(t, \cdot),$$
$$C_{k\mu} = \sum_{\lambda \in \Lambda_k} \alpha_\lambda \prod_{\ell=1}^k b_{\lambda_\ell} c_{\lambda_\ell}^{\mu_\ell} - \prod_{\ell=1}^k \frac{1}{\mu_\ell + \dots + \mu_k + k - \ell + 1}.$$

**Remarks.** Application to **MCTDHF equations** in electron dynamics (with O. KOCH). Local error expansion suitable for **parabolic problems**.

# Global error estimate (Full discretisations)

**Discretisation.** Space and time discretisation of nonlinear Schrödinger equations by different pseudo-spectral methods (Fourier, Sine, Hermite) and higher-order variable stepsize time-splitting methods.

## Theorem (Th. 2012)

*Provided that exact solution remains bounded in fractional power space  $X_\beta$  defined by principal linear part for  $\beta \geq p$ , the global error estimate holds*

$$\|u_{NM} - u(t_N)\|_{X_0} \leq C \left( \|u_0 - u(0)\|_{X_0} + \tau_{\max}^p + M^{-q} \right).$$

**Extension.** Extension to Gross–Pitaevskii equations with additional rotation term (with O. KOCH & H. HOFSTÄTTER).

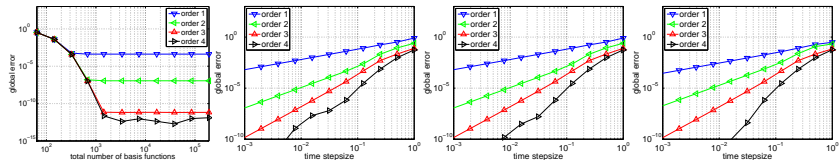
# Global error estimate (Full discretisations)

## Theorem (Th. 2012)

*Global error estimate for sufficiently smooth solutions*

$$\|u_{NM} - u(t_N)\|_{X_0} \leq C \left( \|u_0 - u(0)\|_{X_0} + \tau_{\max}^p + M^{-q} \right).$$

**Illustration.** Discretisation of Gross–Pitaevskii equation ( $d = 2$ ,  $\varepsilon = \omega = T = 1$ ) by different pseudo-spectral methods ( $M = 256 \times 256$ ) and time-splitting methods of (nonstiff) orders  $p = 1, 2, 3, 4$ . Dependence of global error on total number of basis functions ( $\vartheta = 0$ , dominant error term related to linear part, Fourier, Hermite basis function as exact reference solution, temporal error dominates global error). Numerically observed orders of convergence in time ( $\vartheta = 1$ , Fourier, Sine, Hermite, smooth initial value, numerical reference solution).



## Approach based on differential equations

# Differential equations

**Approach.** Derivation of **exact local error representation** for splitting methods applied to linear and nonlinear equations involving **critical parameters**, see DESCOMBES, SCHATZMAN (2002) and DESCOMBES, TH. (2010, 2012). Similar approach utilised for derivation of **a posteriori error estimators**.

**Basic idea.** Deduce **differential equation** for splitting operator

$$\mathcal{S}_F(t, \cdot) = \prod_{j=1}^s e^{a_{s+1-j} t D_A} e^{b_{s+1-j} t D_B}$$

closely related to differential equation for evolution operator

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot) = (D_A + D_B) \mathcal{E}_F(t, \cdot), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad \mathcal{E}_F(0, \cdot) = I.$$

**Main tools.** Variation-of-constants formula, iterated commutators.



# Exact local error representation (Linear equations, Lie)

**Situation.** Time integration of **linear evolution equation** by first-order **Lie–Trotter splitting**  $\mathcal{S}_F(t) = e^{tB} e^{tA}$ .

**Derivation of exact local error representation.** Consider initial value problem for **evolution operator**

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}_F(t) = (A + B) \mathcal{E}_F(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad \mathcal{E}_F(0) = I.$$

Rewrite time derivative of **splitting operator** as

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{S}_F(t) = B \mathcal{S}_F(t) + e^{tB} A e^{tA} = (A + B) \mathcal{S}_F(t) + [e^{tB}, A] e^{tA}$$

and obtain initial value problem for splitting operator

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{S}_F(t) = (A + B) \mathcal{S}_F(t) + \mathcal{R}(t), \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad \mathcal{S}_F(0) = I.$$

By **variation-of-constants formula** obtain representation

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) = \int_0^t \mathcal{E}_F(t - \tau) \mathcal{R}(\tau) d\tau, \quad \mathcal{R}(t) = [e^{tB}, A] e^{tA}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

# Exact local error representation (Linear equations, Lie)

**Expansion of remainder.** Consider remainder

$$\mathcal{R}(t) = \frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{S}_F(t) - (A + B) \mathcal{S}_F(t) = [e^{tB}, A] e^{tA}.$$

Rewrite time derivative of  $r(t) = [e^{tB}, A] = e^{tB} A - A e^{tB}$  as

$$\frac{d}{dt} r(t) = B e^{tB} A - A B e^{tB} = B r(t) + (BA - AB) e^{tB},$$

which yields initial value problem for commutator

$$\frac{d}{dt} r(t) = B r(t) + [B, A] e^{tB}, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \quad r(0) = 0.$$

By variation-of-constants formula obtain representation

$$r(t) = [e^{tB}, A] = \int_0^t e^{\tau B} [B, A] e^{(t-\tau)B} d\tau, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.$$

# Exact local error representation (Linear equations, Lie)

**Local error representation.** Above considerations imply **exact local error representation**

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u(t_{n-1})) \\ = \int_0^{\tau_{n-1}} \int_0^{\sigma_1} \mathcal{E}_F(\tau_{n-1} - \sigma_1) e^{\sigma_2 B} [B, A] e^{-\sigma_2 B} \mathcal{S}_F(\sigma_1) u(t_{n-1}) d\sigma_2 d\sigma_1. \end{aligned}$$

Provided that bound  $\|\mathcal{E}_F(\tau_{n-1} - \sigma_1) e^{\sigma_2 B} [B, A] e^{-\sigma_2 B} \mathcal{S}_F(\sigma_1) u(t_{n-1})\|_X \leq C \|u(t_{n-1})\|_D$  holds, **local error estimate**  $\|\mathcal{L}_F(\tau_{n-1}, u(t_{n-1}))\|_X \leq C \tau_{n-1}^2$  follows.

**Generalisation.** Generalisation of exact local error representation, see DESCOMBES, TH. (2010, 2012).

- **High-order splitting methods** for linear evolution equations.
- Lie–Trotter splitting method for **nonlinear evolution equations**.

# Exact local error representation (Linear equations)

Theorem (Descombes & Th. 2010)

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t) = \prod_{j=1}^s e^{b_j t B} e^{a_j t A} - e^{t(A+B)} = \int_0^t \mathcal{E}_F(t-\tau) \mathcal{R}(\tau) d\tau, \quad t \geq 0,$$

$$\mathcal{R} = \prod_{j=\sigma+1}^s e^{b_j t B} e^{a_j t A} \mathcal{F} \prod_{j=1}^{\sigma} e^{b_j t B} e^{a_j t A}, \quad \sigma = \frac{1}{2} \begin{cases} s, & s \text{ even,} \\ s+1, & s \text{ odd,} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathcal{F} = \sum_{j=0}^{\sigma-1} C_{\sigma-j,j} + \sum_{j=0}^{s-\sigma-1} D_{\sigma+1+j,j}, \quad \mathcal{F}_{\pm}(L_1, L_2, t) = \int_0^t e^{\pm t L_1} [L_1, L_2] e^{\mp t L_1} d\tau,$$

$$C_{k,0} = c_k \mathcal{F}_+(B_k, A) + d_{k-1} \mathcal{F}_+(A_k, B) + d_{k-1} \mathcal{F}_+(B_k, \mathcal{F}_+(A_k, B)),$$

$$C_{k,j} = C_{k,j-1} + \mathcal{F}_+(A_{k+j}, C_{k,j-1}) + \mathcal{F}_+(B_{k+j}, C_{k,j-1})$$

$$+ \mathcal{F}_+(B_{k+j}, \mathcal{F}_+(A_{k+j}, C_{k,j-1})), \quad 1 \leq k \leq \sigma, \quad 0 \leq j \leq \sigma-1,$$

$$D_{k,0} = c_k \mathcal{F}_-(B_k, A) - c_k \mathcal{F}_-(A_k, \mathcal{F}_-(B_k, A)) + d_{k-1} \mathcal{F}_-(A_k, B),$$

$$D_{k,j} = D_{k,j-1} - \mathcal{F}_-(A_{k-j}, D_{k,j-1}) - \mathcal{F}_-(B_{k-j}, D_{k,j-1})$$

$$+ \mathcal{F}_-(A_{k-j}, \mathcal{F}_-(B_{k-j}, D_{k,j-1})), \quad \sigma+1 \leq k \leq s, \quad 0 \leq j \leq s-\sigma-1.$$

**Alternative representation.** Related approach exploited in the context of a posteriori local error estimators for high-order splitting methods (with W. Auzinger, O. Koch).

## Exact local error representation (Nonlinear equations, Lie)

## Theorem (Descombes &amp; Th. 2012)

*The defect operator of the first-order Lie–Trotter splitting method admits the (formal) integral representation*

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) &= \int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_1} e^{\tau_1 D_A} e^{\tau_2 D_B} [D_A, D_B] e^{(\tau_1 - \tau_2) D_B} e^{(t - \tau_1) D_F} d\tau_2 d\tau_1 \\ &= \int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_1} \partial_2 \mathcal{E}_F(t - \tau_1, \mathcal{S}_F(\tau_1, \cdot)) \partial_2 \mathcal{E}_B(\tau_1 - \tau_2, \mathcal{E}_A(\tau_1, \cdot)) \\ &\quad \times [B, A] \left( \mathcal{E}_B(\tau_2, \mathcal{E}_A(\tau_1, \cdot)) \right) d\tau_2 d\tau_1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T.\end{aligned}$$

**Remark.** Formal extension of linear case

$$\mathcal{L}_F(t, \cdot) = \int_0^t \int_0^{\tau_1} e^{(t - \tau_1)(A+B)} e^{(\tau_1 - \tau_2)B} [B, A] e^{\tau_2 B} e^{\tau_1 A} d\tau_2 d\tau_1.$$

**Current work.** Extend approach to higher-order splitting methods and prove asymptotical correctness of a posteriori local error estimators (with W. AUZINGER, H. HOFSTÄTTER, O. KOCH).

## Application (Problems with critical parameters)

**Application.** Error analysis of splitting methods for Schrödinger equations involving **critical parameters**  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$

$$i \varepsilon \partial_t \psi(x, t) = \left( -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^2 \Delta + U(x) + \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2 \right) \psi(x, t),$$

see DESCOMBES, TH. (2010, 2012).


- **High-order splitting methods** for linear evolution equations.

$$\text{Local error} = \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{\tau^{p+1}}{\varepsilon}\right).$$

- Lie–Trotter splitting method for **nonlinear evolution equations**.

$$\text{Smooth initial value:} \quad \text{Local error} = C\left(\frac{\tau}{\varepsilon}\right) \tau^2,$$

$$\text{WKB initial value:} \quad \text{Local error} = C\left(\frac{\tau}{\varepsilon}\right) \tau.$$

**Remark.** Difficult task to adjust time stepsize in suitable manner. Reliable and efficient time integration of **Schrödinger equations with critical parameters** based on **adaptive time stepsize control**. 

## Illustrations (Adaptive time integration)

# Illustration

**Model problem.** Nonlinear Schrödinger equation for

$$\psi : \mathbb{R}^d \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{C} : (x, t) \mapsto \psi(x, t)$$

$$\begin{cases} i \varepsilon \partial_t \psi(x, t) = \left( -\frac{1}{2} \varepsilon^2 \Delta + U(x) + \vartheta |\psi(x, t)|^2 \right) \psi(x, t), \\ \psi(x, 0) = \rho_0(x) e^{i\sigma_0(x)} \text{ given,} \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^d, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T, \end{cases}$$

involving critical parameter  $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$  under harmonic potential (scaling  $\omega$ ) and **WKB initial condition**

$$\rho_0(x) = e^{-x^2}, \quad \sigma_0(x) = -\ln(e^x + e^{-x}), \quad x \in \mathbb{R},$$

see also BAO, JIN, MARKOWICH (2003).



## Illustrations (Smaller parameter, Solution behaviour)

**Movie.** Space and time discretisation of model problem ( $d = 1$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$ ,  $\omega = 1$ ,  $\vartheta = 1$ ) by **Fourier pseudo-spectral method** and **embedded 4(3) time-splitting pair** based on 4th-order scheme by BLANES, MOAN (2002) ( $x \in [-8, 8]$ ,  $M = 8192$ ,  $t \in [0, 3]$ ,  $\text{tol} = 10^{-6}$ ,  $N = 2178$ ).

Movie (Smaller parameter, Solution behaviour)

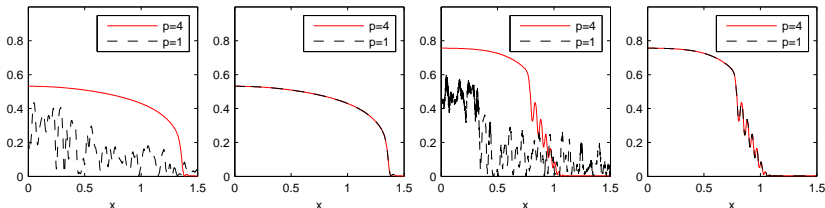
# Illustration (Smaller parameter, Reliable time integration)

*Integration without preparation is frustration.*

(REVEREND LEON SULLIVAN)

**Situation.** Time integration of model problem ( $\vartheta = 1$ ) by **splitting methods with constant time stepsizes**.

**Illustration.** Model problem with  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$  and  $\omega = 1$  (columns 1 and 2) or  $\omega = 2$  (columns 3 and 4), respectively. Comparison of the solution profiles  $|\psi(x, t)|^2$  for  $x \in [0, 1.5]$  at time  $t = 3$ , computed by the first-order Lie–Trotter ( $p = 1$ ) and a fourth-order splitting method proposed by BLANES & MOAN ( $p = 4$ ). Time stepsize  $h = \varepsilon/20$  (columns 1 and 3) or  $h = \varepsilon/50$  (columns 2 and 4), respectively, for  $p = 1$ . Time stepsize  $h = \varepsilon/20$  for  $p = 4$ .



# Illustration (Smaller parameter, Reliable time integration)

*Integration without preparation is frustration.*

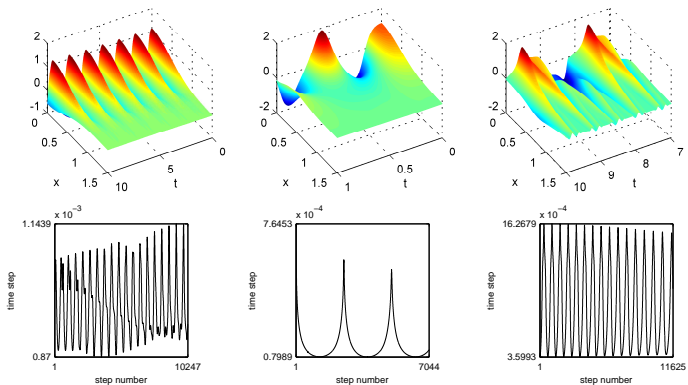
(REVEREND LEON SULLIVAN)

**Movie.** Time integration of model problem ( $d = 1$ ,  $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$ ,  $\omega = 2$ ,  $\vartheta = 1$ ) under WKB initial condition by **Fourier pseudo-spectral method** and **embedded 4(3) splitting pair** based on 4th-order time-splitting scheme by BLANES, MOAN (2002) ( $x \in [-8, 8]$ ,  $M = 8192$ ,  $t \in [0, 3]$ ). Solution profile  $|\psi(x, t)|^2$  for  $\text{tol} = 10^{-1}, 10^{-2}, 10^{-3}, 10^{-6}$  ( $N = 951, 2342, 2452, 3560$ ).

Movie (Smaller parameter, Reliable time integration)

# Illustration (Smaller parameter, Reliable time integration)

**Further illustrations.** Time integration of model equation ( $d = \varepsilon = 1$ ,  $\omega = 5$ ) by the embedded 4(3) pair (tol =  $10^{-10}$ ). Solution profiles  $\Re\psi$  for  $(x, t) \in [0, 1.5] \times [T_0, T]$  and associated time stepsizes. Left: **Additional lattice potential** with  $\kappa = 10$  and defocusing nonlinearity with  $\vartheta = 1$  for  $t \in [0, 10]$ . Middle: **Focusing nonlinearity** with  $\vartheta = -10$  for  $t \in [0, 1]$ . Right: Defocusing nonlinearity with  $\vartheta = 1$  and **sharp initial Gaussian** with  $\gamma = 4$  for  $t \in [0, 10]$ .



# Conclusions and future work

## Conclusions.

- Theoretical analysis of discretisations for model problems provides insight in regard to more complex applications.
- Adaptivity in time essential for reliable numerical simulations.

## Future work.

- Asymptotical correctness of higher-order a posteriori local error estimators for nonlinear Schrödinger equations.
- Convergence analysis of higher-order time-splitting pseudo-spectral methods for nonlinear Schrödinger equations involving small parameters  $iu' = Au + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}B(u)$ .
- Convergence analysis of multi-revolution composition methods combined with time-splitting pseudo-spectral methods for Schrödinger equations  $iu' = \frac{1}{\varepsilon}Au + B(u)$ .

**Thank you!**

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1. H. HOFSTÄTTER, O. KOCH, AND M. TH. *Convergence of split-step generalized-Laguerre–Fourier–Hermite methods for Gross–Pitaevskii equations with rotation term.*
2. W. AUZINGER, O. KOCH, AND M. TH. *Defect-based local error estimators for splitting methods, with application to Schrödinger equations. Part II. Higher-order methods for linear problems.*

**Lecture note.** *Time-splitting spectral methods for nonlinear Schrödinger equations.*