# A general method to compute numerical dispersion error

### J. Ruano<sup>1</sup>, A. Baez Vidal<sup>1</sup>, J. Rigola<sup>1</sup>, F. X. Trias<sup>1</sup>

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### Numerical Dispersion errors: What are they?

Some background on numerical errors

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### Numerical Dispersion errors: What are they?

### Some background on numerical errors

- Numerical derivatives do not match analytical ones.
  - Numerical errors are introduced when equations are discretised.

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- Numerical Diffusion is well known and is easy to eliminate: central or symmetric schemes.
  - If it is not eliminated, the error is proportional to  $\Delta x$ .
  - Thus, is easy to reduce: densify mesh.

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  - Except if Spectral Methods are used, where derivative is imposed to be exact: f'(k) = kf(k).

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- Numerical Dispersion cannot be avoided, just reduce it.
  - Except if Spectral Methods are used, where derivative is imposed to be exact: f'(k) = kf(k).
- How is Numerical Dispersion usually studied? By means of a **Fourier Transform.**

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  - The extrapolation to 3D unstructured domains with generic boundary conditions is NOT straightforward.

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- A methodology that allows studying dispersion in a general mesh would be interesting.
  - Numerical dispersion is, then, a function of the studied mesh.

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- Authors report that conclusions extracted in uniform meshes fail in slightly stretched meshes.
  - Not even unstructured; just stretched.
- A methodology that allows studying dispersion in a general mesh would be interesting.
  - Numerical dispersion is, then, a function of the studied mesh.
- Instead of using the sinusoids base, use an orthogonal base extracted from studied mesh.
  - For example, eigenvectors of the discrete Laplacian matrix.

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# Methodology: Calculus background (I)

Let  $\Phi = \{\phi_{-N}(x), \phi_{-N+1}(x), \dots, \phi_{-1}(x), \phi_0(x), \phi_1(x), \dots, \phi_N(x)\}$  be an orthonormal basis of functions in a domain  $\Omega_x$ .

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### We can define a mapping T

$$\mathcal{T}:\mathcal{L}^2(\Omega_x,x)\mapsto\mathbb{C}^{2N+1};\;\mathcal{T}:f(x)\mapsto(lpha_m)\in\mathbb{C}^{2N+1}$$
, where

$$\alpha_m = \langle f | \phi_m \rangle_{\Omega_x} = \int_{\Omega_x} f(x) \overline{\phi_m}(x) \, dx, \qquad (1)$$

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### And the inverse mapping of T

$$\mathcal{T}^{-1}: \mathbb{C}^{2N+1} \mapsto \mathcal{L}^2(\Omega_x, x), \ \mathcal{T}: (\alpha_m) \in \mathbb{C}^{2N+1} \mapsto f(x).$$

$$f(x) \simeq S_N = \sum_{m=-N}^{N} \alpha_m \phi_m(x); \quad \lim_{N \to \infty} S_N = f(x). \tag{2}$$

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# Methodology: Calculus background (II)

### We can write the derivative of f(x) in terms of the orthonormal basis $\Phi$ :

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We can write the derivative of f(x) in terms of the orthonormal basis  $\Phi$ :

$$f'(x) \simeq S'_N = \sum_{m=-N}^N \alpha_m \phi'_m(x) \simeq \sum_{m=-N}^N \left( \alpha_m \sum_{n=-N}^N \gamma_{mn} \phi_n(x) \right), \quad (3)$$

where  $\gamma_{mn}$  represent the projections of the derivatives of  $\phi_m$  on  $\phi_n$ .

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#### We can define a matrix $\Gamma$

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Where its elements  $(\Gamma)_{mn} = \gamma_{mn} = \langle \phi'_m | \phi_n \rangle_{\Omega_x}$ . The structure of  $\Gamma$  will provide information about the errors produced during differentiation.

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# Methodology: Calculus background (III)

Some calculus background: Example with sinusoids

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# Methodology: Calculus background (III)

### Some calculus background: Example with sinusoids

If sinusoids  $(\phi_m = e^{ik_m x})$  are used as the orthonormal base, such as Fourier Transform does, then matrix  $\Gamma$  should be:

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If sinusoids  $(\phi_m = e^{ik_m x})$  are used as the orthonormal base, such as Fourier Transform does, then matrix  $\Gamma$  should be:

$$\Gamma = diag(k_m) \in \mathbb{I}.$$

However, three different errors could occur:

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# Methodology: Algebra background (I)

Hermitian and Skew-Hermitian matrices

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# Methodology: Algebra background (I)

### Hermitian and Skew-Hermitian matrices

Every matrix A, for example a discrete differential operator, can be decomposed as the sum of an Hermitian, D, plus skew-Hermitian, C:

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$$C = \frac{1}{2}(A - A^*)$$
  $D = \frac{1}{2}(A + A^*)$  (4)

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Expressing the terms of matrix  $\Gamma$  in a discrete way, denoted by  $\widetilde{\gamma_{mn}}$ , using aforementioned properties:

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Expressing the terms of matrix  $\Gamma$  in a discrete way, denoted by  $\widetilde{\gamma_{mn}}$ , using aforementioned properties:

$$\widetilde{\gamma_{mn}} = \langle A\phi_m \, | \, \phi_n \rangle \tag{5}$$

$$Im(\widetilde{\gamma_{mn}}) = \langle C\phi_m | \phi_n \rangle = \frac{\langle A\phi_m | \phi_n \rangle - \langle \phi_m | A\phi_n \rangle}{2}$$
(6)

$$Re(\widetilde{\gamma_{mn}}) = \langle D\phi_m | \phi_n \rangle = \frac{\langle A\phi_m | \phi_n \rangle + \langle \phi_m | A\phi_n \rangle}{2}$$
(7)

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# Methodology: Orthonormal basis

Discrete Laplacian eigenvectors

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# Methodology: Orthonormal basis

### Discrete Laplacian eigenvectors

• It is the logical choice.

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#### Discrete Laplacian eigenvectors

- It is the logical choice.
  - If this has begun with a generalisation of a method that uses Fourier Transform, it's logical to employ the discrete version of what Fourier does: using eigenfunctions of the continuous Laplacian.

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#### Discrete Laplacian eigenvectors

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  - If this has begun with a generalisation of a method that uses Fourier Transform, it's logical to employ the discrete version of what Fourier does: using eigenfunctions of the continuous Laplacian.
  - In evenly spaced domains, i.e. structured uniform meshes, eigenvectors are discretised sinusoids.

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- In the continuous limit, eigenvectors and eigenvalues colapse onto its corresponding eigenfunctions, i.e sinusoids.

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- The set of eigenvectors form an orthonormal base.
- In the continuous limit, eigenvectors and eigenvalues colapse onto its corresponding eigenfunctions, i.e sinusoids.
- Retain the concept of mesh connectivity without being restrained to mesh uniformity.

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# Methodology: Eigenvectors example

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# Methodology: Eigenvectors example







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# Methodology: Eigenvectors example













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# Methodology: Phase

### Rotation matrix

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# Methodology: Phase

#### Rotation matrix

Sinusoids orthonormal basis have a free parameter: the phase of the function.

• Working in a discrete way, with eigenvectors, this is translated as a matrix rotation.

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• Working in a discrete way, with eigenvectors, this is translated as a matrix rotation.

This allows to obtain the average of the recovered numerical eigenvalue.

• Useful for non-linear operators or when non-uniform meshes are used.

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• Working in a discrete way, with eigenvectors, this is translated as a matrix rotation.

This allows to obtain the average of the recovered numerical eigenvalue.

• Useful for non-linear operators or when non-uniform meshes are used.

The matrix containing eigenvectors is multiplied by a rotation matrix with a random phase.

• And this is repeated N times (5000) to ensure a correct average.

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Selected cases Results Computational cost

# Test cases: Selected cases

### Used schemes

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## Test cases: Selected cases

Used schemes

Mixture of linear and non-linear schemes:

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Selected cases Results Computational cost

## Test cases: Selected cases

### Used schemes

Mixture of linear and non-linear schemes:

• Symmetry preserving of 2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> order {SP2, SP6} Dispersion relation preserving of 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> order {DRP4, DRP6}, and Moving Least squares of 6<sup>th</sup> order {MLS3}

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Selected cases Results Computational cost

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- First-order upwind {UPW}, WENO of 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> order {WENO3, WENO5, WENO7}, and Superbee {SB}, Van Leer{VL} and Minmod {MM} flux limiters.

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Selected cases Results Computational cost

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#### Used meshes

Using 30 one-dimensional stretched meshes:

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Using 30 one-dimensional stretched meshes:

• From 0 to 5% stretching ratio

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# Test cases: Selected cases

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Mixture of linear and non-linear schemes:

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### Used meshes

Using 30 one-dimensional stretched meshes:

- From 0 to 5% stretching ratio
- $\Delta x_{min}$  from 1/32 to 1/512.

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## Test cases: Results



Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Uniform mesh.

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## Test cases: Results



Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Uniform mesh.

$$\lambda_{an} = \frac{4}{\Delta x} \sin^2 \left( k_{an} \Delta x \right)$$

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## Test cases: Results



Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Until 1% stretching.

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## Test cases: Results



Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Until 2% stretching.

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## Test cases: Results



Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Until 3% stretching.

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## Test cases: Results



Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Until 4% stretching.

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Left: Numerical eigenvalues. Right: Numerical wavenumbers. Until 5% stretching.

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## Test cases: Results



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## Test cases: Results



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Selected cases Results Computational cost

## Test cases: Results



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Stretch. [%]	SP2	DRP4	DRP6	SP6	MLS3
0	1	1.7254	1.8368	1.586	1.5615
1	1.203	1.8884	1.9638	1.7688	1.7466
2	1.2396	1.8792	1.9466	1.7704	1.7488
3	1.2501	1.856	1.9239	1.7564	1.7369
4	1.2512	1.8364	1.9018	1.7412	1.7205
5	1.2432	1.8223	1.8748	1.7268	1.708
AVG	1.2374	1.8565	1.9222	1.7527	1.7322

Table: Non-dimensional maximum eigenvalue normalized respect maximum eigenvalue for second-order symmetry preserving in uniform meshes, linear schemes.

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## Test cases: Results

Stretch. [%]	WENO3	WENO5	WENO7	MM	SB	VL
0	1.1667	1.3317	1.4529	1.2526	1.4053	1.3237
1	1.3747	1.52	1.6315	1.4713	1.6272	1.543
2	1.4036	1.5402	1.6432	1.4946	1.6444	1.566
3	1.4072	1.5362	1.6377	1.4966	1.637	1.5611
4	1.4047	1.5296	1.6249	1.4973	1.6344	1.5573
5	1.3889	1.5183	1.6132	1.4736	1.6205	1.5374
AVG	1.3958	1.5289	1.6301	1.4867	1.6327	1.553

Table: Non-dimensional maximum eigenvalue normalized respect maximum eigenvalue for first-order upwind in uniform meshes, non-linear schemes.

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# Test cases: Computational cost

J. Ruano, A. Baez Vidal, J. Rigola, F. X. Trias A general method to compute numerical dispersion error

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Numerical Dispersion errors: What are they? Methodology Test cases

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# Test cases: Computational cost



Computational cost vs relative error at uniform meshing.

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Computational cost vs relative error at uniform meshing.

### At uniform meshing ...

High-order schemes are more cost-effective. They achieve lesser relative errors than low-order schemes for the same computational cost.

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# Test cases: Computational cost



Computational cost vs relative error at 2% stretching.

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Computational cost vs relative error at 2% stretching.

### At slightly stretched...

All schemes present a higher relative error: High-order lose two order of magnitude; low-order just one. High-order schemes seem to have lost order of accuracy. For errors in range, low-order are more cost effective.

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Computational cost vs relative error at 4% stretching

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# Test cases: Computational cost



Computational cost vs relative error at 4% stretching

#### At highly stretched...

All schemes relative error is higher than 1%. Non-linear schemes do not behave correctly.

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# Conclusions and further work

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J. Ruano, A. Baez Vidal, J. Rigola, F. X. Trias A general method to compute numerical dispersion error

# Conclusions and further work

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A methodology to compute dispersion error in a general framework has been developed.

• No mesh uniformity nor periodic boundary conditions are required. Instead, uses the eigenvectors of the **discrete Laplacian operator**.

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A methodology to compute dispersion error in a general framework has been developed.

• No mesh uniformity nor periodic boundary conditions are required. Instead, uses the eigenvectors of the **discrete Laplacian operator**.

A new numerical relation between expected and recovered eigenvalues has been found for studied schemes.

• Stretched meshes, independently on the stretching factor used on the study range, colapse onto the **same plot**, which is not the same that if uniform meshes are used.

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# Conclusions and further work

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J. Ruano, A. Baez Vidal, J. Rigola, F. X. Trias A general method to compute numerical dispersion error

# Conclusions and further work

#### Conclusions

Maximum allowed eigenvalue with minimal dispersion directly related to maximum mesh size  $(\lambda \Delta x_{Max} < 2)$ .

• A maximum allowed frequency related to mesh size does not appear. Instead, results are mesh dependent.

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Low-order schemes are less affected with mesh stretching than high-order schemes.

• High-order schemes **loss order of accuracy** whereas low-order seem to keep it.

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#### Further work

Propose a meshing technique leading to dispersion reduction.

• Select the most appropiate scheme for a given mesh.

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# Thanks for your attention