

# A SECOND-ORDER METHOD FOR SPACE-TIME FRACTIONAL DIFFUSION EQUATION WITH LOW REGULAR SOLUTION\*

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**Abstract.** This is an example SIAM L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X article. This can be used as a template for new articles. Abstracts must be able to stand alone and so cannot contain citations to the paper's references, equations, etc. An abstract must consist of a single paragraph and be concise. Because of online formatting, abstracts must appear as plain as possible. Any equations should be inline.

**Key words.** example, L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X

**MSC codes.** 68Q25, 68R10, 68U05

**1. Introduction.** We study  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$  and  $\Omega = (0, 2L)$ .

$$(1.1) \quad D_t^\gamma u + (-\Delta)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} u = f(x, t), \quad x \in \Omega, t \in (0, T].$$

where

$$(1.2) \quad D_t^\gamma u(x, t) = \frac{1}{\Gamma(1-\gamma)} \int_0^t \frac{\partial u(x, s)}{\partial s} (t-s)^{-\gamma} ds$$

$$(1.3) \quad (-\Delta)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} u(x, t) = \frac{1}{2 \cos(\alpha\pi/2) \Gamma(2-\alpha)} \int_0^{2L} u(y, t) |x-y|^{1-\alpha} dy$$

where  $\gamma \in (0, 1)$ ,  $\alpha \in (1, 2)$ .

**2. Regularity of the solution.** For the space-time fractional diffusion equation, it was first assumed that the solution regularity satisfies

$$(2.1a) \quad \left| \frac{\partial^l u}{\partial t^l}(x, t) \right| \leq C(1+t^{\gamma-l}) \quad \text{for } l = 0, 1, 2,$$

$$(2.1b) \quad \left| \frac{\partial^l u}{\partial x^l}(x, t) \right| \leq C\delta(x)^{\alpha/2-l} \quad \text{for } l = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4,$$

$$(2.1c) \quad \left| \frac{\partial^l}{\partial x^l} (-\Delta)^{\alpha/2} u(x, t) \right| \leq C\delta(x)^{-\alpha/2-l} \quad \text{for } l = 0, 1, 2,$$

for all  $(x, t) \in (0, 2L) \times (0, T]$ .

*Remark 2.1.* (2.1c) can be derived from (2.1b) by

$$\begin{aligned} I^{2-\alpha} u(x, t) &= \int_0^{x/2} + \int_{L+x/2}^{2L} u(y, t) \frac{|x-y|^{1-\alpha}}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} dy \\ &+ \int_0^{x/2} (u(x-z, t) + u(x+z, t)) \frac{z^{1-\alpha}}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} dz \\ &+ \int_{x+x/2}^{L+x/2} u(y, t) \frac{|y-x|^{1-\alpha}}{\Gamma(2-\alpha)} dy \end{aligned}$$

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### 3. Numerical scheme.

**3.1. Discretisation of  $(-\Delta)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}}$  on Graded Mesh.** We discretize the  $(-\Delta)^{\alpha/2}$  on a graded mesh.

$$(3.1) \quad -D_M^\alpha u(x_m, t_n) = -D_M^2 I^{2-\alpha} \Pi_M u(x_m, t_n)$$

The discrete operator can be written in matrix form

$$(3.2) \quad A = H^{-1}D, \quad \text{with} \quad H = \text{diag} \left( \frac{h_i + h_{i+1}}{2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad D_{ij} = \frac{\kappa_\alpha}{\Gamma(4-\alpha)} C_i K_{ij} C_j^T$$

$$C_j := \left( \frac{1}{h_j}, -\frac{1}{h_j} - \frac{1}{h_{j+1}}, \frac{1}{h_{j+1}} \right) \quad \text{and}$$

$$K_{ij} := \begin{pmatrix} |x_{i-1} - x_{j-1}|^{3-\alpha} & |x_{i-1} - x_j|^{3-\alpha} & |x_{i-1} - x_{j+1}|^{3-\alpha} \\ |x_i - x_{j-1}|^{3-\alpha} & |x_i - x_j|^{3-\alpha} & |x_i - x_{j+1}|^{3-\alpha} \\ |x_{i+1} - x_{j-1}|^{3-\alpha} & |x_{i+1} - x_j|^{3-\alpha} & |x_{i+1} - x_{j+1}|^{3-\alpha} \end{pmatrix}.$$

LEMMA 3.1. *The stiffness matrix  $A$  has the following properties:*

1. *The eigenvalues of  $A$  are positive real numbers.*
2.  *$A$  is positive definite, which means that the eigenvalues of  $\frac{A+A^T}{2}$  are positive.*
3. *The eigenvectors of  $A$  are orthogonal in space where  $\langle u, v \rangle := uHv$ , where  $H := \text{diag} \left( \frac{h_i + h_{i+1}}{2} \right)$ .*
4.  *$(I + \tau A)^{-1} > O$  for any  $\tau > 0$ , and  $A^{-1} > O$ .*

*Proof.* Since

$$(3.3) \quad A = H^{-1}D = H^{-1/2}H^{-1/2}DH^{-1/2}H^{1/2},$$

where  $H^{-1/2}DH^{-1/2}$  is symmetric positive definite,  $H^{-1/2}DH^{-1/2} = U\Lambda U^T$ . Thus,

$$(3.4) \quad A = H^{-1/2}U\Lambda U^T H^{1/2} = (H^{-1/2}U)\Lambda(H^{-1/2}U)^{-1}.$$

The eigenvectors of  $A$  form an orthogonal basis of the Hilbert space defined by  $\langle u, v \rangle := uHv$ . Let  $v_i = H^{-1/2}u_i$  be an eigenvector of  $A$  with eigenvalue  $\lambda_i$ .  $\square$

**3.2. Discretisation of  $D_t^\gamma$  on a General Mesh.** Consider the temporal mesh  $0 = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_M = T$ . Set  $\tau_j := t_j - t_{j-1}$  for  $j = 1, \dots, M$ .

On this mesh, we discretise  $D_t^\gamma v$  for  $v \in C[0, T] \cap C^3(0, T]$ .

$$(3.5) \quad \begin{aligned} D_N^\gamma u(x, t_n) &= \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{\Gamma(2-\gamma)} (u(x, t_k) - u(x, t_{k-1})) \frac{(t_n - t_{k-1})^{1-\gamma} - (t_n - t_k)^{1-\gamma}}{\tau_k} \\ &= d_{n,n}u(x, t_n) - \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k})u(x, t_k) - d_{n,1}u(x, t_0), \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(3.6) \quad d_{n,k} = \frac{(t_n - t_{k-1})^{1-\gamma} - (t_n - t_k)^{1-\gamma}}{\Gamma(2-\gamma)\tau_k} \quad \text{for} \quad 1 \leq k \leq n \quad \text{and} \quad d_{n,0} = 0,$$

$$d_{n,n} = \frac{\tau_n^{-\gamma}}{\Gamma(2-\gamma)}, \quad d_{n,k+1} \geq d_{n,k}.$$

The final scheme is

$$(3.7) \quad D_N^\gamma U^n + AU^n = F^n$$

#### 4. truncation error.

THEOREM 4.1. [1]

$$|R_t^n| := |D_N^\gamma u(x_m, t_n) - D_t^\gamma u(x_m, t_n)| \leq C n^{\min\{2-\gamma, r_t \gamma\}}.$$

THEOREM 4.2.

$$\begin{aligned} |R_x^n| &:= \left| -D_M^\alpha u(x_m, t_n) - (-\Delta)^{\alpha/2} u(x_m, t_n) \right| \\ &\leq C M^{-\min\{r_x \frac{\alpha}{2}, 2\}} (x_i^{-\alpha} + (2L - x_i)^{-\alpha}) + C(r-1)M^{-2}(L - \delta(x_i) + 1/M)^{1-\alpha} \\ &=: R_x. \end{aligned}$$

*Proof.* Replace the requirements of  $f$  by  $(-\Delta)^{\alpha/2} u$ . □

#### 5. Convergence. Numerical scheme:

$$(5.1) \quad D_N^\gamma U^n + A U^n = F^n$$

We have

$$(5.2) \quad (d_{n,n}I + A) E^n = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k}) E^k + d_{n,1} E^0 + R^n$$

Define the matrices  $\Theta_{n,j}$ , for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N$  and  $j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1$  by

$$(5.3) \quad \Theta_{n,n} = (d_{n,n} + A)^{-1}, \quad \Theta_{0,0} = I, \quad \Theta_{n,j} = \sum_{k=j}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k}) \Theta_{n,n} \Theta_{k,j}.$$

Observe that  $\Theta_{n,j} > O$  for all  $n, j$ .

LEMMA 5.1.

$$\begin{aligned} E^n &= \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R^j + \Theta_{n,0} E^0 \\ (5.4) \quad &= \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R_t^j + \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R_x^j + \Theta_{n,0} E^0 \end{aligned}$$

Our stability result will be presented in a general framework. Assume that

$$(5.5) \quad \mathcal{L}_{M,N} v_m^n = g_m^n \quad \text{for } 1 \leq m \leq 2M-1, \quad 1 \leq n \leq N,$$

with  $v_0^n = v_{2M}^n = 0$  for  $0 \leq n \leq N$  and  $v_m^0$  given for  $0 \leq m \leq 2M$ .

Here the discrete operator is  $\mathcal{L}_{M,N} v_m^n = D_N^\gamma v_m^n - D_M^\alpha v_m^n$ .

LEMMA 5.2. *The solution of the discrete problem (5.5) satisfies*

$$\|v^n\|_\infty \leq d_{n,n}^{-1} \left[ \|g^n\|_\infty + d_{n,1} \|v^0\|_\infty + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k}) \|v^k\|_\infty \right]$$

for  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $n \in \{1, 2, \dots, N\}$ . Choose  $i_0$  such that  $|v_{i_0}^n| = \|v^n\|_\infty$ . Then, it yields

$$d_{n,n}v_{i_0} + \sum_{j=1}^{2M-1} a_{i_0,j}v_j^n = g_{i_0}^n + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k})v_{i_0}^k + d_{n,1}v_{i_0}^0.$$

Hence, by  $a_{i_0,i_0} > 0$  and the choice of  $i_0$ , one obtains

$$(d_{n,n} + a_{i_0,i_0})|v_{i_0}^n| \leq \sum_{j \neq i_0} |a_{i_0,j}| |v_j^n| + |g_{i_0}^n| + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k})|v_{i_0}^k| + d_{n,1}|v_{i_0}^0|.$$

Since  $A$  is strictly diagonally dominant, we can get

$$d_{n,n}\|v^n\|_\infty \leq \|g\|_\infty + d_{n,1}\|v^0\|_\infty + \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (d_{n,k+1} - d_{n,k})\|v^k\|_\infty.$$

The proof is completed.  $\square$

THEOREM 5.3.

$$(5.6) \quad \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R_t^j \right| \leq CT^\gamma N^{-\min\{2-\gamma, r_t\gamma\}}.$$

*Proof.* Let  $v^n = \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R_t^j$ . Then, we can check that  $v_n$  satisfies (5.5)

$$\mathcal{L}_{M,N} v^n = R_t^n.$$

According to Theorem 4.1 and Lemma 5.2 and the proof of [1, Theorem 5.3], one has  $\square$

$$\|v^n\|_\infty \leq C^\gamma N^{-\min\{2-\gamma, r_t\gamma\}}.$$

LEMMA 5.4. For  $n = 1, 2, \dots, N$ , one has

$$(5.7) \quad \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} < A^{-1}$$

*Proof.* Use induction on  $n$ . When  $n = 1$ , then  $\sum_{j=1}^1 \Theta_{1,j} = \Theta_{1,1} < A^{-1}$ . Next, assume that (5.7) holds for  $k = 1, 2, \dots, m-1$  ( $2 \leq m \leq N$ ). We want to prove (5.7) for  $n = m$ . Invoking (5.3) and interchanging the order of summation,

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j=1}^m \Theta_{m,j} &= \Theta_{m,m} + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \sum_{k=j}^{m-1} (d_{m,k+1} - d_{m,k}) \Theta_{m,m} \Theta_{k,j} \\ &= \Theta_{m,m} + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (d_{m,k+1} - d_{m,k}) \Theta_{m,m} \sum_{j=1}^k \Theta_{k,j} \\ &\leq \Theta_{m,m} + \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} (d_{m,k+1} - d_{m,k}) \Theta_{m,m} A^{-1} \\ &= \Theta_{m,m} + (d_{m,m} - d_{m,1}) \Theta_{m,m} A^{-1} \\ &= A^{-1} - d_{m,1} \Theta_{m,m} A^{-1} < A^{-1} \end{aligned}$$

The proof is completed.  $\square$

THEOREM 5.5.

$$(5.8) \quad \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R_x^j \right| \leq CM^{-\min\{r_x \alpha/2, 2\}}$$

*Proof.* Since  $\Theta_{n,j} > 0$ , we have

$$(5.9) \quad \left| \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} R_x^j \right| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} |R_x^j| \leq \sum_{j=1}^n \Theta_{n,j} |R_x| < A^{-1} R_x$$

Since  $A^{-1} R_x$  is bounded by  $CM^{-\min\{r_x \alpha/2, 2\}}$ , the proof is completed.  $\square$

THEOREM 5.6.

$$(5.10) \quad |E_N| \leq C \left( N^{-\min\{2-\gamma, r_\varepsilon \gamma\}} + M^{-\min\{r_x \frac{\alpha}{2}, 2\}} \right)$$

*Proof.* According to Theorems 5.3 and 5.5, the desired result is obtained.  $\square$

**One-order.**

$$(5.11) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + (-\Delta)^{\frac{\alpha}{2}} u = f(x, t), \quad x \in \Omega, t \in (0, T].$$

scheme: Let  $\tau = \frac{T}{M}$ ,  $U^n, F^n \in \mathbb{R}^{2N-1}$ ,

$$(5.12) \quad \frac{U^{n+1} - U^n}{\tau} + AU^{n+1} = F^{n+1}.$$

Then  $E^n = U^n - \hat{U}^n \in \mathbb{R}^{2N-1}$ ,

$$(5.13) \quad (I + \tau A)E^{n+1} = E^n + \tau R^{n+1}.$$

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$$(5.14) \quad \begin{aligned} E^n &= (I + \tau A)^{-1} E^{n-1} + (I + \tau A)^{-1} \tau R^n \\ &= (I + \tau A)^{-n} E^0 + \sum_{k=1}^n (I + \tau A)^{-k} \tau R^{n-k+1} \end{aligned}$$

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$$(5.15) \quad \begin{aligned} (I + \tau A)^{-k} \tau R^{n-k+1} &= (\tau A)(I + \tau A)^{-k} (\tau A)^{-1} \tau R^{n-k+1} \\ &= (\tau A)(I + \tau A)^{-k} (A^{-1} R^{n-k+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Suppose that

$$(5.16) \quad \begin{aligned} |R^n| &\leq |R| \\ &:= Ch^{\min\{r\alpha/2, 2\}} (x_i^{-\alpha} + (2T - x_i)^{-\alpha}) \\ &\quad + C(r-1)h^2(T - \delta(x_i) + h_N)^{1-\alpha} + C\tau^? \end{aligned}$$

Since  $0 < A^{-1} R \leq Ch^{\min}$ ,

$$(5.17) \quad |(I + \tau A)^{-k} \tau R^{n-k+1}| \leq (I + \tau A)^{-k} \tau R = \tau A(1 + \tau A)^{-k} A^{-1} R$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} |E^n| &\leq |(I + \tau A)^{-n} E^0| + \sum_{k=1}^n \tau A (1 + \tau A)^{-k} A^{-1} R \\ &= |(I + \tau A)^{-n} E^0| + (I - (I + \tau A)^{-n}) A^{-1} R. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $A$  is diagonally dominant,  $\|(I + \tau A)^{-1} E\|_\infty \leq \|E\|_\infty$ , we have

$$\|E^n\|_\infty \leq \|E_0\|_\infty + \|A^{-1} R\|_\infty.$$

**LEMMA 5.7.**  *$A^{-1} R$  is bounded by  $C (h^{\min\{r\alpha/2, 2\}} + \tau^?)$ , where  $C$  is a constant independent of  $h, \alpha$ .*

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#### REFERENCES

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