

# Splitting methods (with processing) for near-integrable problems

Fernando Casas  
casas@mat.uji.es  
www.gicas.uji.es

Departament de Matemàtiques  
Institut de Matemàtiques i Aplicacions de Castelló (IMAC)  
Universitat Jaume I  
Castellón

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Based on a work with

- Sergio Blanes
- Ariadna Farrés
- Jacques Laskar
- Ander Murua
- Joseba Makazaga

# I. INTRODUCTION

# Some history

- In Oberwolfach GNI workshop (2011), [J. Laskar](#) proposed to construct more accurate and efficient integrators for the integration of the Solar System
- [The goal](#): to achieve round off error (in extended arithmetic) with the minimum computational cost
- Very accurate methods, to be used for long integration time intervals
- The methods should be [symplectic](#) and well adapted to the near-integrable structure of the Hamiltonian problem
- Result (until now):
  - S. Blanes, F.C., A. Farrés, J. Laskar, J. Makazaga and A. Murua. New families of symplectic splitting methods for numerical integration in dynamical astronomy. *Appl. Numer. Math.* **68** (2013), 58-72
  - A. Farrés, J. Laskar, S. Blanes, F. Casas, J. Makazaga and A. Murua. High precision symplectic integrators for the Solar System. *Celest. Mech. Dyn. Astr.* **116** (2013), 141-174

# Purpose of the talk

- ① To review the work done and the constructed methods
- ② To propose 'new' strategies to get **improved**? integrators: use of *processing*

We first review the simplified model of the Solar System for which the new methods have been designed:

The non-relativistic gravitational N-body problem

# Non-relativistic gravitational N-body problem

- Motion of  $n + 1$  particles (the Sun, with mass  $m_0$ , and  $n$  planets with masses  $m_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ ) only affected by their mutual gravitational interaction
- Hamiltonian system with

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{\|\mathbf{p}_i\|^2}{m_i} - G \sum_{0 \leq i < j \leq n} \frac{m_i m_j}{\|\mathbf{q}_i - \mathbf{q}_j\|} \quad (1)$$

- $\mathbf{q}_i$  and  $\mathbf{p}_i = m_i \dot{\mathbf{q}}_i$ : position and momenta of the  $n + 1$  bodies in a barycentric reference frame.
- Planets evolve around the central mass following almost Keplerian orbits
- By an appropriate change of coordinates one can rewrite (1) as

$$H = K + V_I, \quad \text{where} \quad |V_I| \ll |K|.$$

- Jacobi and Heliocentric coordinates

- Jacobi coord.:  $H_J(Q_J, P_J) = K_J(Q_J, P_J) + V_I^{[J]}(Q_J)$
- Heliocentric coord.:  
 $H_H(Q_H, P_H) = K_H(Q_H, P_H) + V_I^{[H]}(Q_H, P_H)$
- $K_J, K_H$ : sum of independent unperturbed Kepler problems
- $V_I^{[J]}, V_I^{[H]}$ : perturbations depending on the interactions of the planets
- $|V_I^{[J]}| \ll |K_J|, |V_I^{[H]}| \ll |K_H|$ , but an **important difference**:

$$V_I^{[J]}(Q_J), \quad \text{and} \quad V_I^{[H]}(Q_H, P_H)$$

so that  $V_I^{[H]}(Q_H, P_H)$  can be written as

$$V_I^{[H]}(Q_H, P_H) = V_{I_1}^{[H]}(Q_H) + V_{I_2}^{[H]}(P_H)$$



- Particular example of a *near-integrable Hamiltonian system*:

$$H(q, p; \varepsilon) = H^{[a]}(q, p) + \varepsilon H^{[b]}(q, p), \quad (2)$$

where  $\varepsilon \ll 1$  and  $H^{[a]}$  is exactly integrable.

- In Jacobi coordinates,  $H^{[b]}(q)$
- In heliocentric coordinates,  $H^{[b]}(q, p) = H_1^{[b]}(q) + H_2^{[b]}(p)$
- It makes sense to take into account this special structure when designing integration methods to approximate its dynamics.
- **Splitting methods** as compositions of the flows corresponding to  $H^{[a]}$  and  $H^{[b]}$  or  $H^{[a]}$ ,  $H_1^{[b]}$ ,  $H_2^{[b]}$
- A particular goal: to achieve the same accuracy in both types of coordinates

## II. SPLITTING METHODS FOR NEAR-INTEGRABLE SYSTEMS

# General framework

- Generic differential equation of the form

$$x' = f^{[a]}(x) + \varepsilon f^{[b]}(x), \quad x(0) = x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^D, \quad (3)$$

where  $|\varepsilon| \ll 1$  and each part

$$x' = f^{[a]}(x), \quad x' = \varepsilon f^{[b]}(x) \quad (4)$$

is exactly solvable (or can be numerically solved up to round off accuracy) with solutions

$$x(\tau) = \varphi_\tau^{[a]}(x_0), \quad x(\tau) = \varphi_\tau^{[b]}(x_0)$$

respectively, at  $t = \tau$ , the time step.

- If  $\varphi_\tau(x_0)$  is the *exact solution* then  $\psi_\tau = \varphi_\tau^{[b]} \circ \varphi_\tau^{[a]}$  provides a first-order approximation,

$$\psi_\tau(x_0) = \varphi_\tau(x_0) + \mathcal{O}(\tau^2)$$

# General framework

- Higher order approximations can be obtained by

$$\psi_\tau = \varphi_{a_{s+1}\tau}^{[a]} \circ \varphi_{b_s\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_s\tau}^{[a]} \circ \cdots \circ \varphi_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]} \quad (5)$$

for appropriately chosen coefficients  $a_i, b_i$ .

- The splitting method  $\psi_\tau$  is of order  $r$  if for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^D$ ,

$$\psi_\tau(x) = \varphi_\tau(x) + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{r+1}) \quad \text{as } \tau \rightarrow 0. \quad (6)$$

- Consistency condition:

$$\sum_{i=1}^{s+1} a_i = 1, \quad \sum_{i=1}^s b_i = 1. \quad (7)$$

- Symmetric / left-right palindromic compositions:  $a_{s+2-i} = a_i$ ,  $b_{s+1-i} = b_i$ . Then, if (7) holds, order 2

# Lie operators

- In term of the *Lie operators*  $A$  and  $B$  associated with  $f^{[a]}$  and  $f^{[b]}$ ,

$$A g(x) = \left. \frac{d}{d\tau} \right|_{\tau=0} g(\varphi_{\tau}^{[a]}(x)), \quad B g(x) = \left. \frac{d}{d\tau} \right|_{\tau=0} g(\varphi_{\tau}^{[b]}(x)),$$

one has

$$g(\varphi_{\tau}(x)) = e^{\tau(A+\varepsilon B)} g(x),$$

- Then, for all functions  $g$ ,

$$g(\varphi_{\tau}^{[a]}(x)) = e^{\tau A} g(x), \quad g(\varphi_{\tau}^{[b]}(x)) = e^{\tau \varepsilon B} g(x). \quad (8)$$

- Analogously, for the integrator

$$\psi_\tau = \varphi_{a_{s+1}\tau}^{[a]} \circ \varphi_{b_s\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_s\tau}^{[a]} \circ \cdots \circ \varphi_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]}$$

one has

$$g(\psi_\tau(x)) = \Psi(\tau) g(x),$$

where  $\Psi(\tau)$  is

$$\Psi(\tau) = e^{a_1\tau A} e^{b_1\tau \varepsilon B} \cdots e^{a_s\tau A} e^{b_s\tau \varepsilon B} e^{a_{s+1}\tau A}. \quad (9)$$

# Generalized order

- Two parameters:  $\tau$  and  $\varepsilon$
- We are interested in how the local error  $\psi_\tau(x) - \varphi_\tau(x)$  decreases as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$
- Any consistent symmetric method the local error satisfies  $\psi_\tau(x) = \varphi_\tau(x) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon \tau^3)$  or  $\Psi(\tau) - e^{\tau(A+\varepsilon B)} = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon \tau^3)$
- If  $\psi_\tau(x) = \varphi_\tau(x) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon \tau^5 + \varepsilon^2 \tau^3)$  then the method is of (generalized) order  $(4, 2)$  ([R.I. McLachlan](#))
- In general, a splitting method is of generalized order  $(r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m)$  if

$$\psi_\tau(x) = \varphi_\tau(x) + \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon \tau^{r_1+1} + \varepsilon^2 \tau^{r_2+1} + \dots + \varepsilon^m \tau^{r_m+1}).$$

$$r_1 \geq r_2 \geq \dots \geq r_m$$

In particular,

- $(8, 2)$ :  $\psi_\tau(x) - \varphi_\tau(x) = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon\tau^9 + \varepsilon^2\tau^3 + \dots)$
- $(8, 4)$ :  $\psi_\tau(x) - \varphi_\tau(x) = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon\tau^9 + \varepsilon^2\tau^5 + \varepsilon^3\tau^5 + \dots)$
- $(8, 6, 4)$ :  $\psi_\tau(x) - \varphi_\tau(x) = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon\tau^9 + \varepsilon^2\tau^7 + \varepsilon^3\tau^5 + \dots)$
- $(10, 6, 4)$ :  $\psi_\tau(x) - \varphi_\tau(x) = \mathcal{O}(\varepsilon\tau^{11} + \varepsilon^2\tau^7 + \varepsilon^3\tau^5 + \dots)$

*Independent* generalized order conditions obtained in

- S. Blanes, F.C., A. Farrés, J. Laskar, J. Makazaga and A. Murua. New families of symplectic splitting methods for numerical integration in dynamical astronomy. *Appl. Numer. Math.* **68** (2013), 58-72

by considering a particular subset of multi-indices called *Lyndon multi-indices*



Generalized order	Lyndon multi-indices
(8, 2)	(3), (5), (7)
(8, 4)	(3), (5), (7), (1, 2)
(8, 6, 4)	(3), (5), (7), (1, 2), (1, 4), (2, 3)
(10, 6, 4)	(3), (5), (7), (9), (1, 2), (1, 4), (2, 3)

Multi-index	Condition
$(j), j \geq 1$	$\sum_{i=1}^s b_i c_i^{j-1} = \frac{1}{j}$
(1, 2)	$\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{2} b_i^2 c_i + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq s} b_i b_j c_j = \frac{1}{3}$
(1, 4)	$\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{2} b_i^2 c_i^3 + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq s} b_i b_j c_j^3 = \frac{1}{5}$
(2, 3)	$\sum_{i=1}^s \frac{1}{2} b_i^2 c_i^3 + \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq s} b_i b_j c_i c_j^2 = \frac{1}{10}$

$$c_i = \sum_{j=1}^i a_j, i = 1, 2, \dots, s, c_{s+1} = 1$$

# New numerical schemes (Jacobi coordinates)

- (10, 4): 7 stages

$$a_1 \ b_1 \ a_2 \ b_2 \ a_3 \ b_3 \ a_4 \ b_4 \ a_4 \ b_3 \ a_3 \ b_2 \ a_2 \ b_1 \ a_1$$

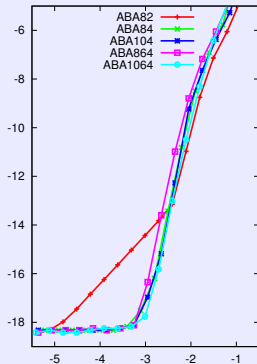
- (8, 6, 4): 7 stages
- (10, 6, 4): 8 stages

$$a_1 \ b_1 \ a_2 \ b_2 \ a_3 \ b_3 \ a_4 \ b_4 \ a_5 \ b_4 \ a_4 \ b_3 \ a_3 \ b_2 \ a_2 \ b_1 \ a_1.$$

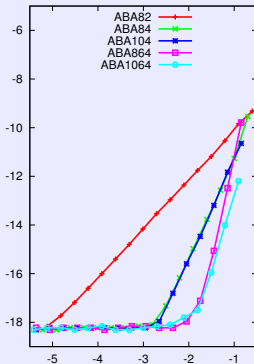
- This requires solving the order conditions, applying optimization procedures, homotopy continuation methods, etc.

# Illustration: Solar System in Jacobi coordinates

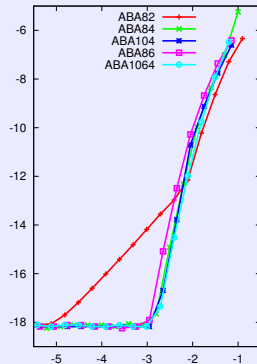
Mer - Ven - Ear - Mar (Jacobi Coord)



Jup - Sat - Ura - Nep (Jacobi Coord) [ short ]



Mercury to Neptune (Jacobi Coord)



# Heliocentric coordinates

- Now the system is of the form

$$x' = f^{[a]}(x) + \varepsilon f^{[b]}(x) + \varepsilon f^{[c]}(x),$$

- 'Idea': consider a composition

$$\tilde{\psi}_\tau = \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_2\tau}^{[a]} \circ \cdots \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]}$$

where  $\tilde{\varphi}_\tau^{[b]}$  is an approximation of  $\varphi_\tau^{[b]}$  obtained by some numerical integrator applied to  $\varepsilon(f^{[b]}(x) + f^{[c]}(x))$ ,

- In particular,

$$\tilde{\varphi}_{b_i\tau}^{[b]} = \varphi_{b_i\tau/2}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{b_i\tau}^{[c]} \circ \varphi_{b_i\tau/2}^{[b]}$$

- But in this way, the resulting method is only of order 2!.

- Series of differential operators associated with  $\tilde{\psi}_\tau$

$$\tilde{\Psi}(\tau) = e^{a_1\tau A} \tilde{\Phi}_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \dots e^{a_2\tau A} \tilde{\Phi}_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} e^{a_1\tau A}$$

with

$$\tilde{\Phi}_{b_j\tau}^{[b]} = e^{b_j\tau B + (b_j\tau\epsilon)^3 D_3 + (b_j\tau\epsilon)^5 D_5 + \dots}$$

- By applying the BCH formula, the new term

$$\left( \sum_{j=1}^s b_j^3 \right) \epsilon^3 \tau^3 D_3$$

appears in the expression of the (vector field of the) modified Hamiltonian

- We impose, in addition to the previous generalized order conditions,

$$\sum_{j=1}^s b_j^3 = 0$$

and the resulting method can be made of order  $\mathcal{O}(\tau^5 \epsilon^5)$

Result:

- Symmetric schemes with 1 additional stage
- Order (8,4) with 6 stages, minimum number (13 maps, 25 exponentials)

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_T = & \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_2\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_2\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_3\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_3\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_4\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_3\tau}^{[b]} \\ & \circ \varphi_{a_3\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_2\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_2\tau}^{[a]} \circ \tilde{\varphi}_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]}.\end{aligned}$$

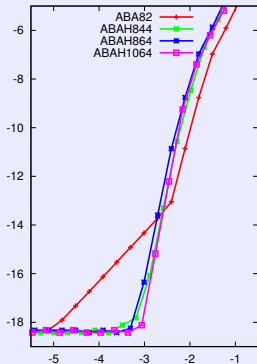
- Order (8,6,4), 8 stages
- Order (10,6,4), 9 stages (9 order conditions)
- In comparison a method (10,6,4) of the form

$$\psi_T = \varphi_{a_{s+1}\tau}^{[a]} \circ \varphi_{c_s\tau}^{[c]} \circ \varphi_{b_s\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_s\tau}^{[a]} \circ \cdots \circ \varphi_{c_1\tau}^{[c]} \circ \varphi_{b_1\tau}^{[b]} \circ \varphi_{a_1\tau}^{[a]}$$

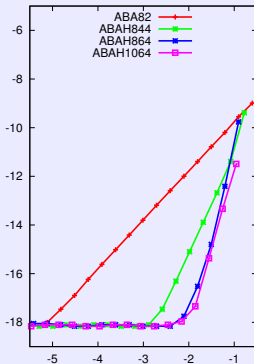
requires 23 order conditions

# Illustration: Solar System in Heliocentric coordinates

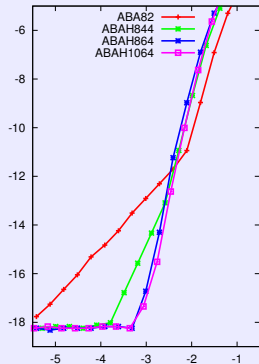
Mer - Ven - Ear - Mar (Helio Coord)



Jup - Sat - Ura - Nep (Helio Coord)

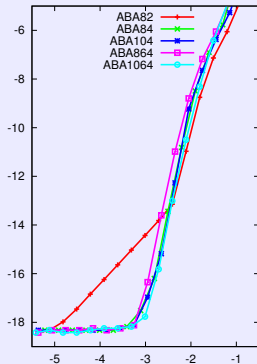


Mercury to Neptune (Helio Coord)

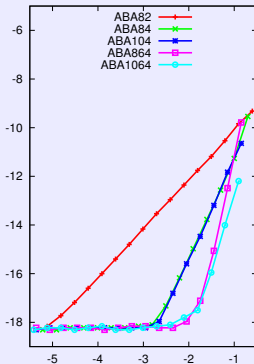


# Illustration: Solar System in Jacobi coordinates

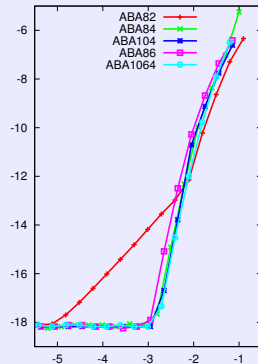
Mer - Ven - Ear - Mar (Jacobi Coord)



Jup - Sat - Ura - Nep (Jacobi Coord) [ short ]



Mercury to Neptune (Jacobi Coord)





- Is it possible to construct even more efficient schemes?
- One possibility: the use of [processing](#)
- Methods with a reduced number of stages
- Appropriate for long term integrations
- Well suited (we believe) for near-integrable problems

## III. PROCESSOR AND STARTER

- Methods of the form

$$\hat{\psi}_{\tau} = \pi_{\tau}^{-1} \circ \psi_{\tau} \circ \pi_{\tau}$$

- We *enhance*, *correct* or *process* the numerical scheme  $\psi_{\tau}$  (the **kernel**) with a (near-identity) map  $\pi_{\tau}$  (the **processor** or **corrector**) so that the resulting method  $\hat{\psi}_{\tau}$  is ‘better’ than  $\psi_{\tau}$ .
- After  $n$  steps,

$$\hat{\psi}_{\tau}^n = \pi_{\tau}^{-1} \circ \psi_{\tau}^n \circ \pi_{\tau}$$

- Introduced by J. Butcher in 1969 in the context of Runge–Kutta methods
- Processing + splitting: McLachlan, Wisdom, Sanz-Serna, Blanes, Ros, Murua,...

- $\psi_\tau$  is of *effective order*  $r$  if a processor  $\pi_\tau$  exists for which  $\hat{\psi}_\tau$  is of order  $r$ ,

$$\hat{\psi}_\tau = \pi_\tau^{-1} \circ \psi_\tau \circ \pi_\tau = \varphi_\tau + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{r+1})$$

- Many order conditions can be satisfied by  $\pi_\tau$ , and thus  $\psi_\tau$  must verify a much reduced set of conditions (less stages!!)
- Splitting + processing for near-integrable problems
- ... In particular for the integration of the Solar System (very long time integrations with a few intermediate outputs)

$$\hat{\psi}_\tau = \pi_\tau^{-1} \circ \psi_\tau \circ \pi_\tau$$

- Analysis as in the usual case: with operators
- For the kernel  $\psi_\tau \Rightarrow \Psi(\tau) = \exp(K)$
- For the processor  $\pi_\tau \Rightarrow \Pi(\tau) = \exp(P)$
- Then

$$\hat{\Psi}(\tau) = e^{\hat{F}} = \Pi(\tau)\Psi(\tau)\Pi^{-1}(\tau) = e^P e^K e^{-P}$$

and thus

$$\hat{F} = e^P K e^{-P} = e^{\text{ad}_P} K$$

- Both the kernel and the processor are built as compositions:

$$\begin{aligned} e^K &= e^{a_1 \tau A} e^{b_1 \tau \varepsilon B} \dots e^{a_s \tau A} e^{b_s \tau \varepsilon B} e^{a_{s+1} \tau A} \\ e^P &= e^{c_1 \tau A} e^{d_1 \tau \varepsilon B} \dots e^{c_q \tau A} e^{d_q \tau \varepsilon B} e^{c_{q+1} \tau A} \end{aligned}$$

- Symmetric kernel. Then

$$\sum_{j=1}^{s+1} a_j = \sum_{j=1}^s b_j = 1, \quad \sum_{j=1}^{q+1} c_j = \sum_{j=1}^q d_j = 0$$

# Procedure

- 1 Solve the effective order conditions for the kernel (more stages than strictly necessary for optimization, etc.): very good kernels
- 2 Given a particular kernel, solve the conditions for the processor

Remark: It is important to evaluate  $\pi_\tau$  as accurately as possible, whereas  $\pi_\tau^{-1}$  can be safely approximate (the error does not propagate). (just the opposite of G. Vilmart's problem for SDE)

- Several processed splitting methods exist involving less stages for near-integrable problems
- For simple examples they show an excellent behavior
- In the integration of the Solar System, however, they present some drawbacks (*instabilities*, etc.)
- Instabilities can be traced to the fact that

$$\sum_{j=1}^{q+1} c_j = \sum_{j=1}^q d_j = 0$$

for the processor, which can produce *large* coefficients

- Is there any procedure to avoid that?

- The use of a **starter** (J. Butcher, 1969)
- Consider 3 steps of a processed method (in terms of series of differential operators):

$$\begin{aligned}e^P e^{3K} e^{-P} &= (e^P e^K) e^K (e^K e^{-P}) \\ &\equiv e^T e^K e^V\end{aligned}$$

- $T$  and  $V$  are power series expansions in terms of  $A$ ,  $B$  and their nested Lie brackets  $[A, B]$ ,  $[A, [A, B]]$ ,  $[B, [A, B]]$ , etc
- Coefficients of  $T$  and  $V$  can be obtained from those of  $P$  and  $K$
- Order conditions to be satisfied by  $P$  translate into conditions for  $T$  and  $V$



- Since  $K$  is symmetric and of effective order  $r$ , then it is true that

$$V(\tau) = -T(-\tau) + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{r+1}),$$

so that

$$(e^T)^* \equiv e^{-T(-\tau)} = e^{V(\tau)} + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{r+1}),$$

and

$$e^T e^K (e^T)^* = e^{3\hat{F}} + \mathcal{O}(\tau^{r+1})$$

- We consider the composition  $e^T e^K (e^T)^*$  as our approximation
- ... but in this case to the exact solution after time  $3\tau$

- We construct the **starter**  $e^T$  as the composition

$$e^T = e^{\alpha_1 \tau A} e^{\beta_1 \tau \varepsilon B} \dots e^{\alpha_q \tau A} e^{\beta_q \tau \varepsilon B}$$

so that

$$(e^T)^* = e^{\beta_q \tau \varepsilon B} e^{\alpha_q \tau A} \dots e^{\beta_1 \tau \varepsilon B} e^{\alpha_1 \tau A}$$

- Advantages:
  - The whole method is *symmetric*
  - Now  $\sum_{j=1}^q \alpha_j = \sum_{j=1}^q \beta_j = 1$  and the coefficients are more reduced in size
- Our aim: to construct methods (8, 4), (8, 6, 4), (10, 6, 4) with processing involving less stages to be used in the integration of the Solar System (Jacobi and Heliocentric)

- $(s, 4)$ : kernel with 2 stages involving only complex solutions  
 $\Rightarrow$  minimum number of stages: 3
- But with 3 stages, already methods  $(s, 6, 4)$
- $(8, 6, 4)$ .
  - Kernel with 3 stages:  $a_1 b_1 a_2 b_2 a_2 b_1 a_1$ . 2 solutions
  - Starter with (at least) 5 stages
  - Add more stages in the kernel for optimization (4 or 5)
- Same strategy for Heliocentric coordinates: add **one** additional stage in the kernel

Work in progress