Asymptotic preserving IMEX-DG-S schemes for linear kinetic transport equations based on Schur complement

Zhichao Peng∗ Fengyan Li†

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Abstract

We consider a linear kinetic transport equation under a diffusive scaling, that converges to a diffusion equation as the Knudsen number $\varepsilon \to 0$. In [3, 23], to achieve the asymptotic preserving (AP) property and unconditional stability in the diffusive regime with $\varepsilon \ll 1$, numerical schemes are developed based on an additional reformulation of the even-odd or micro-macro decomposed version of the equation. The key of the reformulation is to add a weighted diffusive term on both sides of one equation in the decomposed system. The choice of the weight function, however, is problem-dependent and ad-hoc, and it can affect the performance of numerical simulations. To avoid issues related to the choice of the weight function and still obtain the AP property and unconditional stability in the diffusive regime, we propose in this paper a new family of AP schemes, termed as IMEX-DG-S schemes, directly solving the micro-macro decomposed system without any further reformulation. The main ingredients of the IMEX-DG-S schemes include globally stiffly accurate implicit-explicit (IMEX) Runge-Kutta (RK) temporal discretizations with a new IMEX strategy, discontinuous Galerkin (DG) spatial discretizations, discrete ordinate methods for the velocity space, and the application of the Schur complement to the algebraic form of the schemes to control the overall computational cost. The AP property of the schemes is shown formally. With an energy type stability analysis applied to the first order scheme, and Fourier type stability analysis applied to the first to third order schemes, we confirm the uniform stability of the methods with respect to $\varepsilon$ and the unconditional stability in the diffusive regime. A series of numerical examples are presented to demonstrate the performance of the new schemes.

1 Introduction

Important physical phenomena like radiative transfer and neutron transport can be modeled by kinetic transport equations. In this work, we consider a linear kinetic transport equation under a diffusive scaling:

$$\varepsilon \frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + v \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = \frac{\sigma_s}{\varepsilon} (\langle f \rangle - f) - \varepsilon \sigma_a f.$$  \hspace{1cm} (1.1)

Here, $f(x, v, t)$ is the probability distribution function of particles, $x \in \Omega_x$ is the spatial position, $v \in \Omega_v$ is the velocity with $\Omega_v$ being bounded, and $t$ is time. $\sigma_s(x) \geq 0$ and $\sigma_a(x) \geq 0$ are the scattering and the absorption coefficients, respectively. $\langle f \rangle = \int_{\Omega_v} f d\nu$, where $\nu$ is a measure of the velocity space satisfying $\int_{\Omega_v} d\nu = 1$. $\varepsilon > 0$ denotes the Knudsen number, which is the ratio of mean free path of particles to the characteristic length.

The linear kinetic transport equation (1.1) has a multiscale nature. With the assumption $\sigma_s > 0$, the kinetic transport equation will converge to its diffusion limit as $\varepsilon \to 0$:

$$\partial_t \rho = \langle v^2 \rangle \partial_x (\partial_x \rho / \sigma_s) - \sigma_a \rho.$$  \hspace{1cm} (1.2)

∗Department of Mathematical Sciences, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY 12180, U.S.A. pengz2@rpi.edu
†Department of Mathematical Sciences, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Troy, NY 12180, U.S.A. lif@rpi.edu. Research is supported by NSF grants DMS-1719942 and DMS-1913072.
where $\rho = \langle f \rangle$ is the macroscopic density of particles. This multiscale nature poses computational challenges: (1) a standard explicit numerical scheme has a time step restriction $\Delta t \leq O(\varepsilon h)$ ($h$ is the mesh size) due to numerical stability, with prohibitive computational cost for small $\varepsilon$; (2) an implicit scheme, though possibly being unconditionally stable and hence not suffering from stability issue, may still fail to capture the correct physical limit as $\varepsilon \to 0$ on under-resolved meshes [4, 22].

Asymptotic preserving (AP) schemes [12, 9], which preserve the asymptotic behavior of the physical model on the discrete level, are a well established candidate to address above challenges. An AP scheme for (1.1) converges to a scheme solving the limiting diffusion equation (1.2) as $\varepsilon \to 0$, while being consistent and stable for a broad range of $\varepsilon$, even on under-resolved meshes for small $\varepsilon$. AP schemes having explicit limiting schemes are considered in [13, 15, 14, 17, 11]. With the diffusive nature of the physical limit and the explicitness of the limiting schemes, these methods have a parabolic time step restriction $\Delta t = O(h^2)$ in the diffusive regime $\varepsilon \ll 1$. To enhance the stability, AP schemes with implicit limiting schemes are developed in [3, 23], and they are demonstrated, either numerically or analytically, to be unconditionally stable in the diffusive regime.

To achieve unconditional stability in the diffusive regime, in [3], a second reformulation is introduced to the even-odd decomposition [18, 14] of (1.1). And a similar strategy is applied to the micro-macro decomposition [20] of (1.1) in [23]. Taking the methods in [23] as an example, a weighted diffusive term $\omega \partial_x (\partial_x \rho / \sigma_x)$, determined by the diffusion limit, is added to both sides of one equation in the micro-macro decomposed system. Then, a suitable implicit-explicit (IMEX) Runge-Kutta (RK) time discretization is applied to the newly reformulated system. Under the adopted IMEX strategy, the two added diffusive terms are treated differently. In space, local discontinuous Galerkin (LDG) method [8] is applied. The resulting IMEX-LDG schemes are AP and can be high order, with the limiting schemes being implicit to solve the diffusion limit. Based on Fourier analysis, stability condition is obtained in [23] by numerically solving an eigenvalue problem, and it confirms the unconditional stability in the diffusive regime. Following an energy approach, the stability condition is rigorously established in [24] for the first order in time scheme applied to the model with general material properties $\sigma_x(x)$ and $\sigma_g(x)$.

In a multiscale problem, $\sigma_x(x)$ may vary spatially, and the diffusion dominant and transport dominant subregions can coexist. Despite the success of enhancing the stability in the diffusive regime, the strategy in [3, 23] with an additional reformulation also faces some issues. First, the choice of the numerical weight is problem-dependent, and this ad-hoc choice has an influence on the performance of numerical simulations. Second, when the scattering coefficient $\sigma_s(x)$ varies spatially, intuitively, a spatially dependent weight function $\omega$ seems to be preferred to better capture the multiscale behavior. However, with such a spatially dependent weight, an extra non-physical assumption would be needed to maintain local conservation property, see Section 2 for more discussions.

To overcome these issues and still accomplish unconditional stability in the diffusive regime, we here design a new family of IMEX discontinuous Galerkin (DG) AP schemes based on the Schur complement [27], referred to as IMEX-DG-S methods. Our new schemes directly solve the micro-macro decomposed system without any additional reformulation, and hence they do not suffer from issues mentioned above. In time, we apply globally stiffly accurate IMEX-RK time integrators [3] with a new IMEX strategy. In space, we use DG discretizations [6] with carefully chosen numerical fluxes. In the velocity space, a discrete ordinates method [25] is utilized. On the solver level, the key is to apply the Schur complement to the fully discrete system, and this is important for the computational cost. Indeed our proposed methods have comparable computational complexity as the IMEX-LDG schemes in [23]. As $\varepsilon \to 0$, asymptotic analysis shows that our new schemes formally converge to high order methods that involve implicit RK methods in time and LDG methods in space solving the diffusion limit, implying the AP property of the schemes. When an initial layer exists in the solution, our schemes no longer need special treatment for the first step as in [23] in order to stay AP, while to achieve higher than first order temporal accuracy, the first time step size may still need to be adjusted, see Remark 4.1 for more discussions, also see Section 3.1 and Remark 5.2 in [23]. With an energy type stability analysis applied to the first order scheme, and Fourier type stability analysis applied to the first to third order schemes, we obtain stability conditions that confirm the uniform stability of the methods with respect to $\varepsilon$ and the unconditional stability in the diffusive regime. A discrete
energy different from that in [10, 24] is used in the energy analysis. Numerical examples are presented to demonstrate the performance of the IMEX-DG-S schemes and its advantage over the IMEX-LDG schemes in some test cases.

The rest of the paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we present the micro-macro decomposition, and briefly review the additional reformulation strategy in [23] to motivate our work. In Section 3, we define our numerical schemes, and provide the details of the Schur complement for the final matrix-vector system. In Section 4, formal asymptotic analysis is presented to confirm the AP property. In Section 5, energy and Fourier analyses are performed to obtain stability conditions. In Section 6, numerical results are reported to illustrate the performance of the proposed schemes, and this will be followed by conclusions in Section 7.

2 Micro-macro decomposition and motivation

Following the micro-macro decomposition framework [20, 17], we reformulate (1.1). We first define a scattering operator $L f = \langle f \rangle - f$, and let $\Pi$ denote the $L^2$ projection onto the null space of $L$. $\text{Null}(L) = \text{Span}\{1\}$. We then decompose $f$ orthogonally into $f = \rho + \varepsilon g$, where $\rho := \Pi f = \langle f \rangle$, and $g := \frac{1}{\varepsilon}(I - \Pi)f$ satisfying $\langle g \rangle = 0$. Finally we apply $\Pi$ and its orthogonal complement $I - \Pi$ to (1.1), and obtain the micro-macro decomposed system:

$$\partial_t \rho + \partial_x (\varepsilon g) = -\sigma_a \rho, \quad (2.1a)$$
$$\varepsilon \partial_t g + (I - \Pi)\partial_x (\varepsilon g) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \omega \partial_x \rho = -\frac{\sigma_s}{\varepsilon} g - \varepsilon \sigma_a g. \quad (2.1b)$$

Assume $\sigma_s(x) > 0$. As the Knudsen number $\varepsilon \to 0$, (2.1) formally converges to its diffusion limit

$$\sigma_s g = -\varepsilon \partial_x \rho, \quad \partial_t \rho = -\partial_x (\varepsilon g) - \sigma_a \rho = \langle \varepsilon^2 \partial_x (\omega \partial_x \rho/\sigma_s) \rangle - \sigma_a \rho. \quad (2.2)$$

To define AP schemes with unconditional stability in the diffusive regime with $\varepsilon \ll 1$, [23] applies a second reformulation to (2.1) by adding the weighted diffusive term $\langle \varepsilon^2 \partial_x (\omega \partial_x \rho/\sigma_s) \rangle$ to both sides of (2.1a):

$$\partial_t \rho + \partial_x (\varepsilon (g + \omega \partial_x (\varepsilon g/\sigma_s))) = \langle \varepsilon^2 \partial_x (\omega \partial_x \rho/\sigma_s) \rangle - \sigma_a \rho, \quad (2.3a)$$
$$\varepsilon \partial_t g + (I - \Pi)\partial_x (\varepsilon g) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \omega \partial_x \rho = -\frac{\sigma_s}{\varepsilon} g - \varepsilon \sigma_a g. \quad (2.3b)$$

Here, $\omega$ is a non-negative numerical weight function, and it satisfies $\omega \to 1$ as $\varepsilon \to 0$.

In [23], globally stiffly accurate IMEX-RK time discretizations are applied, where the weighted diffusive term $\langle \varepsilon^2 \partial_x (\omega \partial_x \rho/\sigma_s) \rangle$ on the left hand side of (2.3a) is treated explicitly and that on the right hand side is treated implicitly. With LDG methods further applied in space, the resulting schemes are AP, unconditionally stable in the diffusive regime, and they also show good performance numerically. However, the choice of $\omega$ is problem-dependent, and it can affect the performance of the methods (see, e.g. Examples 2, 4, 5 in Section 6). Moreover, when $\sigma_s(x)$ is not constant, a spatially dependent weight $\omega$ would be preferred intuitively in order to better capture the multiscale behavior. If such weight function is used, one would need to assume $\omega \partial_x /\sigma_s$ to be continuous to ensure the local conservation, and this is apparently not physical due to the weight-dependence. As far as we know, only weight functions that do not vary spatially have been considered in the literature.

3 Numerical methods

In this section, we will design a new family of AP schemes directly based on the micro-macro decomposition (2.1), aiming at achieving unconditional stability in the diffusive regime without the need for a weight function. In the following subsections, we will present discretizations in time, in space, and in velocity. For the fully discrete schemes, Schur complement will be applied to their algebraic systems. We end this section by extending the IMEX strategy to some more general kinetic transport models. Throughout this section, periodic boundary conditions are assumed in space.
3.1 Time discretization

In time, we apply globally stiffly accurate IMEX-RK methods of type ARS. The first order one is defined as follows. Given $\rho^n$ and $g^n$ at $t = t^n$, we seek $\rho^{n+1}$ and $g^{n+1}$ at $t^{n+1} = t^n + \Delta t$, which satisfy

$$
\frac{\rho^{n+1} - \rho^n}{\Delta t} + \partial_x(\nu g^{n+1}) = -\sigma_a \rho^{n+1},
$$

$$
\frac{g^{n+1} - g^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon}(I - \Pi)(v \partial_x g^n) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}v \partial_x \rho^{n+1} = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \sigma_s g^{n+1} - \sigma_a g^{n+1}.
$$

The same IMEX strategy in (3.1) will be also used to achieve high order temporal accuracy. Recall that a general IMEX-RK scheme can be represented by a double Butcher tableau:

$$
\begin{array}{c|c}
\hat{c} & \hat{A} \\
\hline
\hat{b} & c & \hat{A} \\
\end{array}
.$$  

Here, $\hat{A} = (\hat{a}_{ij}), A = (a_{ij})$ are $s \times s$ lower triangular matrices, and $\hat{a}_{ii} = 0, i = 1, \ldots, s, \hat{b} = (\hat{b}_i), b = (b_i), \hat{c} = (\hat{c}_i)$, and $c = (c_i)$ are $s$-dimensional vectors, and $\hat{c}_i = \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} \hat{a}_{ij}, c_i = \sum_{j=1}^{i} a_{ij}$. An IMEX-RK scheme is globally stiffly accurate [3] if

$$
c_a = \hat{c}_a = 1, \text{ and } b_j = a_s, \hat{b}_j = \hat{a}_s, \forall j = 1, \ldots, s,
$$

and it is of type ARS [1] if

$$
A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & A \end{bmatrix}, \text{ where } A \text{ is invertible.}
$$

For the second and third order accuracy, we use ARS(2,2,2) and ARS(4,4,3), respectively [1, 3].

3.2 Space discretization

Let $\Omega_x = [x_L, x_R]$ be the computational domain, and $\Omega_h = \{I_i = [x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}], i = 1, \ldots, N \}$ be a partition of $\Omega_x$. Let $x_i = (x_{i-\frac{1}{2}} + x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})/2, h_i = x_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, h = \max_i h_i$. Given a nonnegative integer $k$, define the discrete space $U_h^k = \{u \in L^2(\Omega_x) : u|_{I_i} \in P^k(I_i), \forall 1 \leq i \leq N \}$, where $P^k(I_i)$ denotes the space of polynomials with degree at most $k$ on $I_i$. Define $u_i^{+\frac{1}{2}} = \lim_{\Delta x \rightarrow 0^+} u(x_i^{+\frac{1}{2}} + \Delta x)$ and the jump $[u]_{i^{+\frac{1}{2}}} = u_i^{+\frac{1}{2}} - u_i^{-\frac{1}{2}}, \forall i$.

We apply the following DG spatial discretization to the semi-discrete method in (3.1). Given numerical solutions $\rho_h^n$ and $g_h^n \in U_h^k$, we look for $\rho_h^{n+1}$ and $g_h^{n+1} \in U_h^k$ satisfying, $\forall \phi, \psi \in U_h^k$

$$
\frac{(\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n)}{\Delta t}, \phi + l_h ((v g_h^{n+1}), \phi) = - (\sigma_a \rho_h^{n+1}, \phi),
$$

$$
\frac{(g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n)}{\Delta t}, \psi + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} \bar{b}_{h,v}(g_h^n, \psi) - \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} vd_h(\rho_h^{n+1}, \psi) = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}(\sigma_s g_h^{n+1}, \psi) - (\sigma_a g_h^{n+1}, \psi).
$$

Here, $(\cdot, \cdot)$ is the standard $L^2$ inner product of $L^2(\Omega_x)$. Bilinear forms $d_h(\cdot, \cdot), l_h(\cdot, \cdot), \bar{b}_{h,v}(\cdot, \cdot)$ are defined as

$$
d_h(\rho_h, \phi) = \sum_i \int_{I_i} \rho_h \partial_x \phi dx + \sum_i (\tilde{\rho}_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}} |\phi|_{i-\frac{1}{2}},
$$

$$
l_h((v g_h), \phi) = \sum_i \int_{I_i} (v g_h) \partial_x \phi dx - \sum_i \langle \widetilde{v g_h} \rangle_{i-\frac{1}{2}} |\phi|_{i-\frac{1}{2}},
$$

$$
\bar{b}_{h,v}(g_h, \psi) = (I - \Pi) \mathcal{D}_h^{up}(g_h; v), \psi = (\mathcal{D}_h^{up}(g_h; v) - \langle \mathcal{D}_h^{up}(g_h; v) \rangle, \psi),
$$

where $\mathcal{D}_h^{up}(g_h; v) \in U_h^k$ is an upwind approximation to $v \partial_x g$ for any given velocity $v$:

$$
\mathcal{D}_h^{up}(g_h; v), \psi = \sum_i \left( \int_{I_i} v g_h \partial_x \psi dx \right) - \sum_i \langle \widetilde{v g_h} \rangle_{i-\frac{1}{2}} |\psi|_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, \forall \psi \in U_h^k.
$$
Lemma 3.1. In velocity variable, we will apply the discrete ordinates method [25]. Let \( \rho, g \). By combining the temporal, spatial, and velocity discretizations described above, we are now ε

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{upwind: } (v g_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}} & = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
(v g_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^-, & \text{if } v \geq 0, \\
(v g_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^+, & \text{if } v < 0,
\end{array} \right. \\
\text{alternating: } (\rho_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}} & = (\rho_h)^{n-1}_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (\tilde{v} g_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}} = (v g_h)_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^+.
\end{align*} \]

Based on the Riesz representation, we can further find two well-defined bounded linear operators \( D_h^-, D_h^+ : U_h^k \rightarrow U_h^k \) such that
\[ (D_h^- \phi, \psi) = -d_h(\phi, \psi), \quad (D_h^+ \phi, \psi) = l_h(\phi, \psi), \quad \forall \phi, \psi \in U_h^k. \]
\( D_h^+ \) can be seen as discrete derivative operators, and the scheme (3.4) can be rewritten as:
\[ \begin{align*}
\frac{\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n}{\Delta t} & + D_h^+ (v g_h^{n+1}) = -\pi_h(\sigma_a \rho_h^{n+1}), \\
\frac{g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n}{\Delta t} & = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (D_h^u p (g_h^n, v) + \frac{\varepsilon}{\varepsilon^2} D_h^- \rho_h^{n+1}) = -\frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} \pi_h(\sigma_a g_h^{n+1}) - \pi_h(\sigma_a g_h^{n+1}).
\end{align*} \]
with \( \pi_h \) being the \( L^2 \) projection onto \( U_h^k \).

The DG spatial discretization can be coupled directly with high order IMEX-RK time integrators. At \( t = 0, \rho_h^0 \) and \( g_h^0 \) are initialized by \( L^2 \) projection, namely, \( \rho_h^0 = \pi_h(\rho(x, 0)) \) and \( g_h^0 = \pi_h(g(x, v, 0)) \). The following lemma summarizes a property of the bilinear forms \( l_h \) and \( d_h \), and it is important in stability analysis and can be easily verified.

**Lemma 3.1.** With periodic boundary conditions in space, there hold
\[ l_h(\phi, \psi) = d_h(\psi, \phi), \quad \forall \phi, \psi \in U_h^k, \quad \text{and} \quad D_h^+ = -(D_h^-)^\top, \]
where the superscript \( \top \) to an operator denotes its adjoint.

### 3.3 Velocity discretization

In velocity variable, we will apply the discrete ordinates method [25]. Let \( \{v_l\}_{l=1}^{N_v} \) denote a set of quadrature points as collocation points in the velocity space \( \Omega_v \), and \( \{\omega_l\}_{l=1}^{N_v} \) be the corresponding quadrature weights. An integral in velocity will be approximated by
\[ \langle \eta(v) \rangle = \int_{\Omega_v} \eta(v) d\nu \approx \sum_{l=1}^{N_v} \omega_l \eta(v_l) \overset{\text{def}}{=} \langle \eta(v) \rangle_h, \]
(3.10)
Particularly, we choose \( \{\omega_l\}_{l=1}^{N_v} \) and \( \{v_l\}_{l=1}^{N_v} \) satisfying
\[ \langle v^2 \rangle = \langle v_l^2 \rangle_h. \]
(3.11)
This requirement is essential for our fully discrete schemes to capture the correct diffusion limit as \( \varepsilon \rightarrow 0 \).

### 3.4 Fully discrete schemes

By combining the temporal, spatial, and velocity discretizations described above, we are now ready to present the fully discrete schemes: Given \( \rho_h^n \in U_h^k, \{g_h^n\}_{l=1}^{N_v} \in U_h^k \), we look for \( \rho_h^{n+1} \in U_h^k, \{g_h^{n+1}\}_{l=1}^{N_v} \in U_h^k \), satisfying for \( i = 1, \ldots, s, l = 1, \ldots, N_v \)
\[ \begin{align*}
(\rho_h^{n,(i)}, \phi) & = (\rho_h^n, \phi) - \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^i a_{ij} \left( (D_h^+ (v g_h^{n,(j)})_h, \phi) + (\sigma_a \rho_h^{n,(j)}, \phi) \right), \forall \phi \in U_h^k \\
\varepsilon^2 (g_h^{n,(i)}, \psi) & = \varepsilon^2 (g_h^n, \psi) - \varepsilon \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij} \left( (D_h^{u p} (g_h^{n,(j)}; v_l), \psi) - (D_h^{u p} (g_h^{n,(j)}; v_l), \psi) \right) - \Delta t \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} a_{ij} \left( (D_h^- p (g_h^{n,(j)}; v_l), \psi) - (D_h^- p (g_h^{n,(j)}; v_l), \psi) \right), \forall \psi \in U_h^k \\
\rho_h^{n+1} & = \rho_h^{n,(s)}, \quad g_h^{n+1} = g_h^{n,(s)}.
\end{align*} \]
We here have used $g^n_{h,l} := g^n_h(\cdot, v_l)$, $g^{n,i}_h(\cdot, v_l)$, and $(G(g^n_{h,l}))_h = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \omega_i G(g^{n,i}_{h,l})$ with $G : L^2(\Omega_v) \rightarrow L^2(\Omega_v)$. And the intermediate functions $g^{n,i}_{h,l}, \ g^{n,i}_h$ are also in $U^n_h$.

Particularly, the first order in time scheme is: $\forall \phi, \psi \in U^n_h$, \ \lbrack 99x714 \rbrack
\begin{align*}
\frac{\rho^{n+1}_h - \rho^n_h}{\Delta t}, \phi) + l_h((v^n_{h,l})_h, \phi) &= - (\sigma_a \rho^{n+1}_h, \phi), \\
\frac{g^{n+1}_h - g^n_h}{\Delta t}, \psi) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} b_{h,v}(g^n_{h,l}, \psi) - \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} v_nh(\rho^{n+1}_h, \psi) &= - \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2}(\sigma_s g^{n+1}_h, \psi) - (\sigma_a g^{n+1}_h, \psi),
\end{align*}
\label{3.13a}

where
\begin{equation}
\begin{aligned}
b_{h,v}(g^n_{h,l}, \psi) &= (D^{np}(g^n_{h,l}; v_l), \psi) - ((D^{np}(g^n_{h,l}; v), h), \psi).
\end{aligned}
\label{3.14}
\end{equation}

From here on, we will use IMEX-$p$-DG-S to refer to the fully discrete scheme with $p$-th order IMEX-RK time integrator, and use IMEX-$p$-DG$k$-S with the discrete space $U^{k-1}_h$ in the spatial discretization. Here S stands for the Schur complement, which will be discussed in next subsection. Finally one can obtain the following property of the numerical solution following a similar proof of Lemma 3.1 in [10],
\begin{equation}
(g^n_h)_h = 0, \ \forall n \geq 0.
\label{3.15}
\end{equation}

### 3.5 Matrix-vector formulation and Schur complement

To implement the proposed schemes, we will further apply Schur complement at the algebraic level. With this, our methods will have comparable computational complexity as the IMEX-LDG schemes in [23, 24]. Next we use the first order in time IMEX-DG-S scheme to illustrate. Similar discussion can go to the high order in time schemes.

We start with the matrix-vector formulation of the IMEX1-DG-S scheme (3.13). Let \( \{e_i(x)\}_{i=1}^m \) be a basis of the discrete space $U^n_h$. Define \( e = (e_1(x), \ldots, e_m(x))^T \). Then the numerical solutions can be expanded as
\begin{equation}
\begin{aligned}
\rho^n_h(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^m \rho^n_i e_i(x) = (\rho^n)^T e, \\
g^{n,j}_h(x) &= \sum_{i=1}^m g^{n,j}_i e_i(x) = (g^{n,j}_i)^T e,
\end{aligned}
\end{equation}
where $\rho^n = (\rho^n_1, \ldots, \rho^n_m)^T$ and $g^{n,j}_i = (g^{n,j}_1, \ldots, g^{n,j}_m)^T$.

Define the mass matrix \( (M)_{ij} = (e_j, e_i) \), and advection matrices \( (D^+)^{ij} = (D^+_j e_j, e_i) \), \( (D^-)^{ij} = (D^-_j e_j, e_i) \). Also define \( (\Sigma_s)_{ij} = (\sigma_s e_j, e_i) \) and \( (\Sigma_a)_{ij} = (\sigma_a e_j, e_i) \). The fully discrete IMEX1-DG-S scheme (3.13) can be written into its matrix-vector form:
\begin{equation}
\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L} (\rho^{n+1}, g^{n+1}_1, g^{n+1}_2, \ldots, g^{n+1}_{N_v})^T &= (b^0_n, b^1_n, b^2_n, \ldots, b^N_v)^T, \quad \text{and,} \\
\mathcal{L} &= \begin{pmatrix}
M + \Delta t \Sigma_s & \Delta t \omega v_1 D^+ & \Delta t \omega v_2 D^+ & \cdots & \Delta t \omega v_{N_v} D^+ \\
v_1 \Delta t D^- & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
v_2 \Delta t D^- & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
v_{N_v} \Delta t D^- & 0 & 0 & \cdots & \Theta
\end{pmatrix}.
\end{aligned}
\label{3.16a}
\end{equation}

Here $\Theta = \varepsilon^2 (M + \Delta t \Sigma_a) + \Delta t \Sigma_s$, and $b^j_n, \ \forall j = 0, \ldots, N_v$, are vectors determined by the data on time level $n$. Given that the mass matrix $M$ is symmetric positive definite (SPD) and $\sigma_s \geq 0$, $\sigma_a \geq 0$, $\Theta$ is SPD hence invertible. Following the standard procedure of the Schur complement [27], we first express $g^{n+1}_j$ in terms of $b^j_n$, and $\rho^{n+1}$, namely,
\begin{equation}
g^{n+1}_j = \Theta^{-1} (b^j_n - v_j \Delta t D^- \rho^{n+1}), \quad \forall j = 1, \ldots, N_v.
\label{3.17}
\end{equation}

With the local nature of the DG discrete space $U^n_h$, its basis functions can be chosen such that $M, \Sigma_s$ and $\Sigma_a$ are block diagonal. As a result, $\Theta$ can be inverted locally on each element, with an $O(N)$ total cost.
Next substitute (3.17) into the first row of (3.16) and utilize \( \langle v^2 \rangle_H = \sum_j \omega_j v_j^2 \), one obtains

\[
\mathcal{H} \rho^{n+1} = \tilde{b}_n^n,
\]

with

\[
\mathcal{H} = M + \Delta t \Sigma_a - \langle v^2 \rangle \Delta t^2 D^+ \Theta^{-1} D^-,
\]

and \( \tilde{b}_n^n \) depends on the solution on time level \( n \). For each time step, we need to invert \( \mathcal{H} \). Based on Lemma 3.1, \( -\mathcal{D}_h^* \) is the adjoint operator of \( \mathcal{D}_h^+ \). This leads to \(-D^+ = (D^-)^T\), therefore \( \mathcal{H} \) is SPD. Indeed \( \mathcal{H} \) is a discrete version of \( 1 + \Delta t \Sigma_a - \langle v^2 \rangle \Delta t^2 \partial_s \left( (\varepsilon^2 (1 + \Delta t \Sigma_a) + \Delta t \Sigma_a)^{-1} \partial_s \right) \), a diffusive operator with the absorption effect. With the nice property such as being SPD, \( \mathcal{H} \) is much easier to invert numerically than the matrix \( \mathcal{L} \) in (3.16).

For high order IMEX-RK schemes, the Schur complement can be applied similarly. On each inner stage, a discrete diffusive operator with the absorption effect needs to be inverted. Particularly, in the double Butcher tableaus of either ARS(2,2,2) or ARS(4,4,3), the diagonal entries of the matrix from the implicit part are exactly the same. Hence, for each time step, exactly the same matrix is inverted (numerically) for all inner stages.

**Remark 3.1.** With a similar derivation, one can show that the IMEX1-LDG scheme in [23, 24] needs to invert \( \tilde{\mathcal{H}} = M + \Delta t \Sigma_a - \omega(v^2) \Delta t D^+ \Sigma_a^{-1} D^- \) for each step, where \( \omega \to 1 \) as \( \varepsilon \to 0 \). With both \( \Sigma_a \) and \( \Theta \) being block diagonal, the computational cost of the IMEX1-LDG-S scheme is comparable with that of IMEX1-LDG schemes in [23, 24]. The same comment also goes to higher order methods in both families. Note that as \( \varepsilon \to 0 \), \( \tilde{\mathcal{H}} \) and \( \mathcal{H} \) approach the same operator.

**Remark 3.2.** For the discretization of the velocity space, one can alternatively apply the \( P_N \) method [25], which expands \( f \) in terms of orthogonal polynomials in the velocity variable \( v \). If applying \( P_N \) method as well as our spatial and temporal discretizations, based on the Schur complement, one still just needs to invert one discrete diffusive operator for one inner RK stage. The key to verify this is to use the commuting property \((\psi(v,x)), \phi(x)) = (\langle \psi(v,x), \phi(x) \rangle)\). The schemes with the \( P_N \) method in velocity are not explored here.

### 3.6 More general linear kinetic transport equations

Though not considered in this paper, we want to point out that our temporal strategy works for more general linear kinetic transport equations, for example, the case when the scattering effect is anisotropic in the velocity space. Consider a more general linear kinetic transport equation:

\[
\varepsilon \partial_t f + v \partial_x f = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} Q f,
\]

where \( Q \) is a collision operator. As in [17], we assume that there exists an equilibrium state \( E \) independent of \( t \) and \( x \) satisfying \( E \geq 0 \), \( \langle E \rangle = 1 \) and \( \langle v E \rangle = 0 \). The collision operator \( Q \) satisfies the following:

1. \( Q \) is a linear operator in the velocity space, independent of \( f \), and local in \( x \);
2. \( Q \) is non-positive self-adjoint;
3. \( \text{Null}(Q) = \text{Span}(E) = \{ f = \rho E = \langle f \rangle E \} \).

Following [17], we apply micro-macro decomposition. Define an orthogonal projection \( \Pi : L^2(\Omega_v; E^{-1} dv) \to \text{Null}(Q) \), that is \( \Pi f = \rho E \). Rewrite \( f \) as \( f = \Pi f + (I - \Pi) f = \rho E + \varepsilon g \). The micro-macro decomposed system of (3.20) is

\[
\partial_t \rho + \partial_x \langle v g \rangle = 0,
\]

\[
\partial_t g + \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (I - \Pi) (v \partial_x g) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} v E \partial_x \rho = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} Q g.
\]
Under the assumption on $Q$, as $\varepsilon \to 0$ we formally obtain the diffusion limit:

\[ g = Q^{-1}(vE)\partial_x \rho, \quad (3.22a) \]
\[ \partial_t \rho + \partial_x (vQ^{-1}(vE))\partial_x \rho = 0. \quad (3.22b) \]

Apply the same time discretization as (3.1), we have

\[ \frac{\rho^{n+1} - \rho^n}{\Delta t} + \partial_x (vg^{n+1}) = 0, \quad (3.23a) \]
\[ \frac{g^{n+1} - g^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} (I - \Pi)(v\partial_x g^n) + \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} vE \partial_x \rho^{n+1} = \frac{1}{\varepsilon^2} Qg^{n+1}. \quad (3.23b) \]

The spatial derivatives can be further replaced by discrete derivatives as in Section 3.2. On the solver level, we apply Schur complement as below. At each time step, we first express

\[ g^{n+1} = (\varepsilon^2 - \Delta t Q)^{-1} (-vE \Delta t \partial_x \rho^{n+1} + b^n), \quad (3.24) \]

where $b^n$ is determined by the data on time level $n$. We then substitute (3.24) into (3.23a), and obtain $(1 - \Delta t \partial_x (\kappa_{\Delta t}(x) \partial_x)) \rho^{n+1} = \tilde{b}$, where $\kappa_{\Delta t}(x) = \Delta t (v^2 - \Delta t Q)^{-1}(vE)$ and $\tilde{b}$ depends on the solution on time level $n$. To obtain $\rho^{n+1}$, a discrete diffusion operator is inverted. If $\Delta t$ is fixed in time, $\kappa_{\Delta t}(x)$ can be pre-computed locally.

## 4 AP property

We formally analyze the asymptotic behavior of the proposed schemes in (3.12) and show they are AP. Assume the initial data $\rho(x, 0)$ and $g(x, v, 0)$ are uniformly bounded with respect to $\varepsilon$. Then, the initialization through $L^2$ projection leads to uniform boundedness of $\rho_0^h$ and $g^0_h$. Using mathematical induction and boundedness of the discrete operator $D_1^h$, $D^w_h$, we formally obtain that as $\varepsilon \to 0$, $\forall \phi, \psi \in U_h^k$, $\forall n \geq 0$,

\[ (\rho_h^{n(i), \phi}) = (\rho_h^n, \phi) - \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^N a_{ij} \left( (D_1^h v g_h^{n(i), \phi})_h + (\sigma_h^{n(i), \phi}) \right), \quad i = 1, \ldots, s, \quad (4.1a) \]
\[ (\sigma_s g_h^{n(i), \phi}, \psi) = -v_i (D_1^h \rho_h^{n(i), \phi}), \quad l = 1, \ldots, N_v, \quad i = 1, \ldots, s, \quad (4.1b) \]
\[ \rho_h^{n+1} = \rho_h^n, \quad g_h^{n+1} = g_h^n, \quad l = 1, \ldots, N_v. \quad (4.1c) \]

Multiply $\omega l v_l$ on both sides of (4.1b) and sum up with respect to $l$, we get

\[ (\sigma_s (v g_h^{n(i), \phi})_h, \psi) = \sum_{i=1}^{N_v} \omega l v_l (\sigma_s g_h^{n(i), \phi}, \psi) = -\sum_{i=1}^{N_v} (\omega l v_l^2 D_1^h \rho_h^{n(i), \phi}, \psi) \rightarrow -(v^2) h (D_1^h \rho_h^{n(i), \phi}, \psi). \quad (4.2) \]

Substitute (4.2) into (4.1), then the limiting scheme can be rewritten as: $\forall \phi, \psi \in U_h^k$, $\forall n \geq 0$

\[ (\rho_h^{n(i), \phi}) = (\rho_h^n, \phi) - \Delta t \sum_{i=1}^N a_{ij} \left( (D_1^h v g_h^{n(i), \phi})_h + (\sigma_h^{n(i), \phi}) \right), \quad i = 1, \ldots, s, \quad (4.3a) \]
\[ (\sigma_s (v g_h^{n(i), \phi})_h, \psi) = -(v^2) h (D_1^h \rho_h^{n(i), \phi}, \psi), \quad i = 1, \ldots, s, \quad (4.3b) \]
\[ (\sigma_s g_h^{n(i), \phi}, \psi) = -v_i (D_1^h \rho_h^{n(i), \phi}), \quad l = 1, \ldots, N_v, \quad i = 1, \ldots, s, \quad (4.3c) \]
\[ \rho_h^{n+1} = \rho_h^n, \quad g_h^{n+1} = g_h^n, \quad l = 1, \ldots, N_v. \quad (4.3d) \]

In (4.3a) and (4.3b), $\langle v g_h^{n(i), \phi} \rangle_h$ actually provides an approximation to $-(v^2) \sigma_{\Delta t}^{-1}(x) \partial_x \rho$. Hence, (4.3a), (4.3b) and (4.3d) define a high order implicit RK LDG scheme solving the diffusion limit (2.2), whose time discretization is determined by the implicit part of the IMEX-RK scheme. Moreover, in (4.3c), the local equilibrium $\sigma_s g = -v_i \partial_x \rho$ is preserved on the discrete level at each RK inner stage. Therefore, we formally verify the AP property of the proposed schemes.
Remark 4.1. Though our analysis above does not require the initial data \( f(x, v, 0) = \rho(x, 0) + \varepsilon g(x, v, 0) \) to be close to the local equilibrium \( \sigma_s g(x, v, 0) = -v \partial_x \rho(x, 0) \), it does not cover the worst scenario \( g(x, v, 0) = \frac{1}{\varepsilon} (f(x, v, 0) - \rho(x, 0)) = O(\frac{1}{\varepsilon}) \). For this case, with formal analysis similar to [23], one can show that the limiting scheme is an \( O(\Delta t) \) perturbation to (4.1), regardless the temporal accuracy. Hence, the limiting scheme is a first order in time scheme \( O(\Delta t) \). Similar to [23], one can show that the limiting scheme is an \( O(\Delta t) \) perturbation to (4.1) and alter the first time step size into \( \Delta t_1 = \Delta t^p \), where \( \Delta t \) is the time step size for later steps, predicted by stability analysis.

5 Stability

In this section, numerical stability analysis will be carried out. An energy approach will be applied to the first order IMEX-DG1-S scheme in Section 5.1, and Fourier analysis will then be applied to the first to the third order schemes, namely IMEXk-DGk-S scheme, \( k = 1, 2, 3 \) in Section 5.2. The analysis shows that our schemes are uniformly stable with respect to \( \varepsilon \) and unconditionally stable in the diffusive regime. Throughout this Section, we assume periodic boundary conditions in \( x \), and \( \sigma_s(x) \geq \sigma_m > 0, \forall x \in \Omega_x \).

5.1 Energy analysis for IMEX1-DG1-S scheme

In this section, we will present an energy approach for stability analysis of the IMEX1-DG1-S scheme (3.13). The mesh is assumed to be regular, namely, there exists \( \delta \) such that \( h_i / h \geq \delta, \forall i \), during the mesh refinement. We use \( || \cdot || \) to denote the standard \( L^2 \) norm for \( L^2(\Omega_x) \), and let \( |||g||| = \sqrt{\langle (g, g) \rangle_h} \) and \( |||g|||_s = \sqrt{\langle (\sigma_s g, g) \rangle_h} \). For stability, we first define a \( \mu \)-dependent discrete energy \( E_{\mu, h} \) with \( \mu \in [0, 1] \) as a parameter. To guarantee \( E_{\mu, h} \) non-increasing, we obtain \( \mu \)-dependent stability conditions. The results are further optimized with respect to \( \mu \). The energy type stability analysis for higher order in time schemes is left to our future investigation.

Definition 5.1. Given \( \mu \in [0, 1] \), we define a discrete energy for our schemes,

\[
E_{\mu, h}^n = |||\rho_h^n|||^2 + \varepsilon^2 |||g_h^n|||^2 + (1 - \mu) \Delta t |||g_h^n|||_s^2.
\]

(5.1)

The scheme is \( \mu \)-stable, if \( E_{\mu, h}^{n+1} \leq E_{\mu, h}^n, \forall n \geq 0 \). If there exists \( \mu \in [0, 1] \) such that the scheme is \( \mu \)-stable, then the scheme is stable. If the scheme is stable (resp. \( \mu \)-stable) for arbitrary \( \Delta t > 0 \), then it is unconditionally stable (resp. \( \mu \)-stable).

Remark 5.2. The \( \mu \)-dependent discrete energy \( E_{\mu, h}^n \) in (5.1) is quite different from that in [10, 24]. Particularly, the discrete energy in [10, 24] involves \( \rho_h \) and \( g_h \) from different time levels.

Theorem 5.3 (\( \mu \)-stability). Given \( \mu \in [0, 1] \), the IMEX1-DG1-S scheme is unconditionally \( \mu \)-stable, if

\[
\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h} \leq \lambda_0(\mu) := \frac{(1 - \mu)\delta}{2 ||v||_\infty}.
\]

(5.2)

Otherwise, it is \( \mu \)-stable under the time step condition

\[
\Delta t \leq \tau_0(\mu) := \frac{2\varepsilon \sigma_m}{2 \varepsilon ||v||_\infty / \delta - (1 - \mu) \sigma_m h}.
\]

(5.3)

Here \( \delta \) is the mesh regularity parameter.
Proof. Take $\phi = \rho_h^{n+1}$ in (3.13a), and take $\psi = \varepsilon^2 g_h^{n+1}$ in (3.13b). Sum up (3.13b) for different collocation points $v_i$ with the corresponding weight $\omega_i$, we have

\[
\frac{1}{\Delta t} \left( \langle \rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n, \rho_h^{n+1} \rangle + l_h(\langle v g_h^{n+1}, \rho_h^{n+1} \rangle) \right) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \left( ||\rho_h^{n+1}||^2 - ||\rho_h^n||^2 + ||\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n||^2 \right) + l_h(\langle v g_h^{n+1}, \rho_h^{n+1} \rangle) = - (\sigma \rho_h^{n+1}, \rho_h^{n+1}), \quad (5.4a)
\]

\[
\varepsilon^2 \left( \langle g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n, g_h^{n+1} \rangle + h(\langle b_{h,v}(g_h^n, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle - \langle v d_h(\rho_h^{n+1}, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle) - h(\rho_h^{n+1}, (v g_h^{n+1})_h) \right) = - \langle g_h^{n+1}, \varepsilon^2 (\sigma g_h^{n+1}, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle_h. \quad (5.4b)
\]

Summing up (5.4a) and (5.4b), with Lemma 3.1, we obtain

\[
\frac{1}{2\Delta t} \left( ||\rho_h^{n+1}||^2 + \varepsilon^2 \left( ||g_h^{n+1}||^2 - ||g_h^n||^2 - \varepsilon^2 ||g_h^n||^2 \right) + \frac{1}{2\Delta t} \left( ||\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n||^2 + \varepsilon^2 \left( ||g_h^n||^2 - ||g_h^{n+1}||^2 \right) \right) \right) + (\sigma \rho_h^{n+1}, \rho_h^{n+1}) + \varepsilon \langle b_{h,v}(g_h^n - g_h^{n+1}, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle_h + ||g_h^{n+1}||^2
\]

\[
+ \varepsilon \langle b_{h,v}(g_h^n - g_h^{n+1}, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle_h + \varepsilon \langle b_{h,v}(g_h^{n+1}, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle h = 0. \quad (5.5)
\]

Similar to [24], we split $||g_h^{n+1}||^2$ into

\[
||g_h^{n+1}||^2 = \mu ||g_h^{n+1}||^2 + (1 - \mu) \left( \frac{1}{2} ||g_h^{n+1}||^2 - \frac{1}{2} ||g_h^n||^2 + \frac{4}{4} ||g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n||^2 + \frac{1}{4} ||g_h^{n+1} + g_h^n||^2 \right). \quad (5.6)
\]

With the piecewise constant in the discrete space, $\partial_x g_h^{n+1} = 0$, and $|u(x, \pm 1/2)| = h^{-1/2} ||u||_{L^2(I)}$, $\forall u \in P^0(I)$. Following similar steps as in [10] (such as its equation (3.22) and (3.24)), using the property of the solution in (3.15) and Young’s inequality, we obtain

\[
\langle b_{h,v}(g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n, g_h^{n+1}) \rangle_h = \left( \sum_i \frac{|v_i|}{2} \parallel g_h^{n+1} \parallel_{\frac{1}{i-\frac{1}{2}}} \right)_{h}, \quad (5.7)
\]

\[
||b_{h,v}(g_h^n - g_h^{n+1}, g_h^{n+1})||_h \leq \eta \langle g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n \rangle^2 + \frac{1}{\varepsilon \delta h} \sum_i \left( \frac{|v_i|}{2} \parallel g_h^{n+1} \parallel_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \right)^2. \quad (5.8)
\]

Here, $\eta$ is a positive parameter, which will be determined later.

Substitute (5.6)-(5.8) into (5.5), and utilize $\sigma \geq 0$, we get

\[
\frac{1}{2\Delta t} (E_{\mu,h}^{n+1} - E_{\mu,h}^n) + \frac{1}{2\Delta t} (||\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n||^2 + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\Delta t} \left( ||\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n||^2 + \frac{1}{\mu} |||\rho_h^{n+1} - \rho_h^n||^2 \right) + \frac{1}{4} |||g_h^n||^2 + \mu ||g_h^{n+1} - g_h^n||^2 + \frac{1}{4} ||g_h^{n+1} + g_h^n||^2 ) + \frac{1}{4} ||g_h^{n+1} + g_h^n||^2)
\]

\[
+ \frac{1}{4} ||g_h^{n+1} + g_h^n||^2 + \mu ||g_h^n||^2 + \varepsilon \langle |\varepsilon|^\infty_{2\eta \delta h} \left( \sum_i \frac{|v_i|}{2} \parallel g_h^{n+1} \parallel_i \right) \rangle_h \leq 0. \quad (5.9)
\]

In order to guarantee $E_{\mu,h}^{n+1} \leq E_{\mu,h}^n$, we require

\[
\frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\Delta t} + \frac{1}{\mu} \sigma_m - \varepsilon \eta \geq 0, \quad (5.10a)
\]

\[
1 - \frac{|\varepsilon|^\infty_{2\eta \delta h} \left( \sum_i \frac{|v_i|}{2} \parallel g_h^{n+1} \parallel_i \right) }{2\Delta t} \geq 0. \quad (5.10b)
\]

We choose $\eta = \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2\Delta t} + \frac{1}{4\mu} \sigma_m$, so (5.10a) holds, and the inequality in (5.10b) becomes

\[
\frac{\varepsilon}{\Delta t} \geq 2\varepsilon |\varepsilon|^\infty_{2\eta \delta h} / \delta - (1 - \mu) \sigma_m h. \quad (5.11)
\]

When $\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m} \leq (1-\mu) \delta / 2|v|_\infty$, (5.11) holds for arbitrary $\Delta t > 0$, hence the method is unconditionally stable. Otherwise, we need $\Delta t$ to satisfy (5.13) to have the conditional $\mu$-stability. 

\[\square\]
Next we will optimize the results in Theorem 5.3 in μ to maximize the unconditionally stable region and also the allowable time step size when the scheme is conditionally stable.

**Theorem 5.4 (stability).** The IMEX1-DG1-S scheme is unconditionally stable, if

\[
\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h} \leq \frac{\delta}{2||v||_\infty}. \tag{5.12}
\]

Otherwise, it is stable under the time step condition

\[
\Delta t \leq \frac{2\varepsilon^2 h}{2\varepsilon||v||_\infty/\delta - \sigma_m h}. \tag{5.13}
\]

**Proof.** Based on the definition of μ-stability and stability in Definition 5.1, the results in Theorem 5.3 further imply that the IMEX1-DG1-S scheme is unconditionally stable if

\[
\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h} \leq \max_{\mu \in [0,1]} \lambda_0(\mu) = \max_{\mu \in [0,1]} \left(\frac{(1 - \mu)\delta}{2||v||_\infty}\right) = \frac{\delta}{2||v||_\infty}. \tag{5.14}
\]

When \(\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h} > \frac{\delta}{2||v||_\infty}\), the scheme is conditionally stable under the following time step restriction

\[
\Delta t \leq \max_{\mu \in [0,1]} \tau_0(\mu) = \max_{\mu \in [0,1]} \left(\frac{2\varepsilon^2 h}{2\varepsilon||v||_\infty/\delta - (1 - \mu)\sigma_m h}\right) = \frac{2\varepsilon^2 h}{2\varepsilon||v||_\infty/\delta - \sigma_m h}. \tag{5.15}
\]

\(\square\)

**Remark 5.5.** For a multiscale problem, it is possible to have subregions with \(\sigma_s = 0\) where the problem is purely transport. In this case, \(\sigma_m = 0\), and our proofs above still hold. Specifically, the IMEX1-DG1-S scheme is always conditionally stable under the time step condition \(\Delta t \leq \frac{2\varepsilon^2 h}{2\varepsilon||v||_\infty} = \frac{\varepsilon h}{\delta},\) and the unconditional stability is not expected.

### 5.2 Fourier Analysis for IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S scheme, \(k = 1, 2, 3\)

In this section, Fourier analysis is performed for the IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S scheme, \(k = 1, 2, 3\), when the schemes are applied to the one-group transport equation in slab geometry with \(\Omega_s = [-1, 1]\). Related, \(f = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} f(v) dv\), with \(dv\) the standard Lebesgue measure. 16 Gaussian quadrature points together with the respective quadrature weights are applied to discretize the velocity space. As typical for Fourier analysis, it is assumed that the mesh is uniform and \(\sigma_s(x) = \sigma_m > 0, \forall x \in \Omega_s\). Motivated by that the stability result for the IMEX1-DG1-S scheme in Section 5.1 does not depend on \(\sigma_s\), we further assume \(\sigma_s = 0\). Similar to [23], we first identify an invariant scaling structure of the amplification matrix. Then, by numerically solving an eigenvalue problem, we obtain the stability condition for IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S scheme, \(k = 1, 2, 3\).

**Setup of the Fourier analysis:** We will use the IMEX1-DG1-S scheme as an example to demonstrate the setup. On the element \(I_m\), the numerical solutions can be expanded as

\[
\rho^n_h(x) = \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} \rho^n_{m,l} \phi^n_l(x), \quad g^n_{h,j}(x) = \sum_{l=0}^{k-1} g^n_{j,m,l} \phi^n_l(x), \forall x \in I_m \tag{5.16}
\]

where \(\phi^n_l(x) = \phi_l \left(\frac{x-x_m}{h_m/2}\right)\), \(\phi_l(x)\) is the \(l\)-th order Legendre polynomial on \([-1, 1]\). Let \(\rho^n_m = (\rho^n_{m,0}, \ldots, \rho^n_{m,k-1})^T\) and \(g^n_{j,m} = (g^n_{j,m,0}, \ldots, g^n_{j,m,k-1})^T\).

Take the Fourier anstatz \(\rho^n_m = \exp(\mathcal{I} \kappa x_m) \tilde{\rho}^n\) and \(g^n_{j,m} = \exp(\mathcal{I} \kappa x_m) \tilde{g}^n_{j,m}\) (with \(\mathcal{I}^2 = -1\), and
plug them into the IMEX1-DGk-S scheme, we obtain

\[
\begin{pmatrix}
  h\hat{M} & \Delta t\omega_1 v_1 \hat{D}^+ & \Delta t\omega_2 v_2 \hat{D}^+ & \ldots & \Delta t\omega_N v_N \hat{D}^+ \\
  v_1 \Delta t \hat{D}^- & h(\varepsilon^2 + \sigma_m \Delta t)\hat{M} & 0 & \ldots & 0 \\
v_2 \Delta t \hat{D}^- & 0 & h(\varepsilon^2 + \sigma_m \Delta t)\hat{M} & \ldots & 0 \\
  \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\
v_{N_t} \Delta t \hat{D}^- & 0 & 0 & \ldots & h(\varepsilon^2 + \sigma_m \Delta t)\hat{M}
\end{pmatrix}
\begin{pmatrix}
  \rho_{n+1}^1 \\
  g_{n+1}^1 \\
  g_{n+1}^2 \\
  \vdots \\
  g_{n+1}^{N_u}
\end{pmatrix}
\]

(5.17)

Here, \(\hat{M}, \hat{D}^+, \hat{D}^-, \text{ and } \hat{U}\) are \(k \times k\) matrices, and they are defined as follows.

\[
(\hat{M})_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} \phi_i(x)\phi_j(x)dx,
\]

(5.18a)

\[
(\hat{D}^-)_{ij} = -\int_{-1}^{1} \phi_j(x)\partial_x\phi_i(x)dx + \phi_j(1)\phi_i(1) - \exp(-i\xi)\phi_j(1)\phi_i(-1),
\]

(5.18b)

\[
(\hat{D}^+)_{ij} = -\int_{-1}^{1} \phi_j(x)\partial_x\phi_i(x)dx + \exp(i\xi)\phi_j(-1)\phi_i(1) - \phi_j(-1)\phi_i(-1),
\]

(5.18c)

\[
(\hat{U}_t)_{ij} = \begin{cases}
  v_l(\hat{D}^-)_{ij} & \text{if } \xi \geq 0, \\
  v_l(\hat{D}^+)_{ij} & \text{if } \xi < 0,
\end{cases}
\]

(5.18d)

where \(\xi = \kappa h\) is the discrete wave number, and \(\mathbb{I}_S(y)\) is the indicator function of the set \(S\).

Define block matrices

\[
D^- = \begin{pmatrix} v_1 \hat{D}^-, \ldots, v_{N_u} \hat{D}^- \end{pmatrix}^T \in \mathbb{R}^{kN_u \times k}, \\
D^+ = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_1 v_1 \hat{D}^+, \ldots, \omega_{N_u} v_{N_u} \hat{D}^+ \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{k \times kN_u}, \\
M = \text{diag}(\hat{M}, \ldots, \hat{M}) \in \mathbb{R}^{kN_u \times kN_u}, \\
U = \text{diag}(\hat{U}_1, \ldots, \hat{U}_{N_u}) \in \mathbb{R}^{kN_u \times kN_u}.
\]

(5.19)

Then, \(G_L\) and \(G_R\) can be rewritten as

\[
G_L = \begin{pmatrix} h\hat{M} & \Delta tD^+ \\
\Delta tD^- & h(\varepsilon^2 + \sigma_m \Delta t)M \end{pmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad G_R = \begin{pmatrix} h\hat{M} & 0 \\
0 & \varepsilon^2hM + \varepsilon \Delta tU \end{pmatrix},
\]

(5.20)

With the amplification matrix \(G^{(1,k)} = G^{(1,k)}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \Delta t; \xi) = G_L^{-1}G_R\) and \(V^n = (\rho^n, g_1^n, g_2^n, \ldots, g_{N_u}^n)^T\), (5.17) becomes \(V^{n+1} = G^{(1,k)}V^n\). Similarly, the amplification matrix \(G^{(p,k)}\) of the IMEXP-DGk-S scheme can be derived. To study the numerical stability, we will adopt the following principle.

**Principle for Numerical Stability [23]:** For any given \(\varepsilon, h, \Delta t\), let the eigenvalues of \(G^{(p,k)}\) be \(\lambda_i(\xi)\), \(i = 1, \ldots, 2k\). Our scheme is said to be stable, if for all \(\xi \in [-\pi, \pi]\), it satisfies either

\[
(*) \quad \max_{i=1,\ldots,2k} |\lambda_i(\xi)| < 1, \quad \text{or} \quad \max_{i=1,\ldots,2k} |\lambda_i(\xi)| = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad G^{(p,k)} \quad \text{is diagonalizable.}
\]

(5.21)

(5.22)

This principle is a necessary condition to guarantee the standard \(L^2\) energy non-increasing. Before presenting the stability results, we first show an intrinsic scaling structure of the amplification matrices.
Theorem 5.6. For any given $k \geq 1$ and $p = 1, 2, 3$, the amplification matrix $G^{(p,k)}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \Delta t; \xi)$ of the IMEX-p-DGk-S method is similar to some matrix $G^*(p,k)^{(\sigma_m h, \Delta t, \Delta t; \xi)}$. In other words, the eigenvalues of $G^{(p,k)}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \Delta t; \xi)$ depend on $\varepsilon, h, \Delta t, \sigma_m$ only in terms of $\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h}$ and $\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h}$, or equivalently, only in terms of $\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h}$ and $\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h}$.

Proof. We start with $p = 1$. With $J_m$ as the $m \times m$ identity matrix, one gets

\[
G^{(1,k)} = G_L^{-1} G_R
\]

\[
= \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} J_k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\varepsilon h} J_k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h \hat{M} & \Delta t D^+ \\ \Delta t D^- \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} J_k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\varepsilon h} J_k \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} J_k & 0 \\ \frac{1}{\varepsilon h} J_k \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} h \hat{M} & 0 \\ \varepsilon^2 h M + \varepsilon \Delta t U \end{pmatrix} \right)
\]

\[
= \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t D^+ \\ \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t D^- + (1 + \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t) M \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & M + \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h} U \end{pmatrix} \right).
\]

Using the relations of

\[
\left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h J_k & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t D^+ \\ \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t D^- + (1 + \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t) M \end{pmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h J_k & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h \hat{M} & \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h} D^+ \\ \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t D^- + (1 + \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \Delta t) M \end{pmatrix} \right),
\]

we obtain

\[
\left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h J_k & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h J_k & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) = \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) = G^{(1,k)}(p,k) \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right).
\]

This implies that $G^{(1,k)}$ is similar to $G^{(1,k)}(p,k)$. (\sigma_m h, \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h}; \xi).

The proof can be generalized to $p = 2, 3$ through the mathematical induction. To see this, let $V^{n,(0)} = V^n, V^{n,(l)} = (\rho^{n,(l)},\hat{g}_1^{n,(l)},\hat{g}_2^{n,(l)},\ldots,\hat{g}_{N_v}^{n,(l)})^T, l = 1, \ldots, s$, we have

\[
V^{n,(l)} = \sum_{q=0}^{l-1} G^{(p,k)}_{lq}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \Delta t; \xi) V^{n,(q)}, l = 1, \ldots, s, \text{ and } V^{n+1} = V^{n,(s)}.
\]

With similar argument as for $p = 1$, one can find a $G^{(p,k)}_{lq}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \Delta t; \xi)$ such that $\forall l = 1, \ldots, s$,

\[
\left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h J_k & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right)^{-1} \left( \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon} \hat{M} & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) \left( \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_m h J_k & 0 \\ 0 & J_{kN_v} \end{pmatrix} \right) = G^{(p,k)}_{lq}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h}; \xi), q = 0, \ldots, l-1.
\]

For every $G^{(p,k)}_{lq}(\varepsilon, \sigma_m, h, \Delta t; \xi)$, exactly the same similar transformation is performed, hence, $G^{(p,k)}$ is similar to some $G^{(p,k)}(p,k)$. (\sigma_m h, \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h}; \xi). \square

Fourier analysis results: Based on Theorem 5.6 and the principle for numerical stability, the numerical stability results shall only depend on $\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h}$ and $\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h}$. Set $\alpha = \log_{10}(\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h})$ and $\beta = \log_{10}(\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h})$. For the IMEX-k-DGk-S scheme, $k = 1, 2, 3$, we numerically compute eigenvalues of the amplification matrix by uniformly sampling the discrete wave number $\xi \in [-\pi, \pi]$ with spacing $\frac{\pi}{\Delta \xi}$, $\alpha \in [-5, 5]$ and $\beta \in [-5, 4]$ with $\frac{\Delta \xi}{\Delta \beta}$ spacing. The stability results are presented in Figure 5.1, with the white region being stable, and the black region being unstable. The main observations are summarized as follows, with $k = 1, 2, 3$:

1.) For some $\alpha_k$, the IMEX-k-DGk-S scheme is unconditionally stable when $\alpha < \alpha_k$, i.e. when $\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h} < C_k$. This confirms the unconditional stability of the proposed schemes in the diffusive regime.
Figure 5.1: Stability regions of the IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S methods, \(k = 1, 2, 3\). White: stable; black: unstable. \(\alpha = \log_{10}(\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h})\) and \(\beta = \log_{10}(\frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h})\).

2.) In the transport dominant regime with \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) = O(1)\), the stability region for the IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S is under a straight line \(\beta = \beta_k\). In other words, in the transport dominant regime, the scheme is conditionally stable under a standard hyperbolic type CFL condition

\[
\beta = \log_{10} \frac{\Delta t}{\varepsilon h} \leq \beta_k \Leftrightarrow \Delta t \leq \hat{C}_k \varepsilon h.
\]

3.) The IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S scheme is stable under the condition \(\beta \leq \mathcal{F}_k(\alpha)\), with some function \(\mathcal{F}_k\). Based on this, we can further derive the stability condition \(\Delta t \leq \bar{\mathcal{F}}_k(\varepsilon, h, \sigma_m)\). The time step condition for the IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S schemes with \(k = 2, 3\) in Section 6 is actually obtained through such procedure.

4.) The Fourier results for IMEX1-DG1-S scheme match well with the energy analysis results.

Remark 5.7. We want to mention that the stability properties of the IMEX-DG-S schemes are qualitatively similar to that for the IMEX-LDG schemes in [23] with the numerical weight \(\omega = \exp(-\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h})\). In Table 5.1, we present a more detailed comparison. One can see that the unconditionally stable regions for the IMEX-DG-S schemes are larger than that of the IMEX-LDG schemes of the same formal accuracy. In the kinetic regime when \(\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h} \gg 1\) and the methods are conditionally stable, the IMEX-DG-S schemes of the first and second order accuracy allow larger time step sizes, while the third order IMEX-DG-S scheme allows slightly smaller time step size (also see (6.1) in next section and (6.2d)-(6.2f) of [23]). It is expected that a different set of discrete velocities or a different weight function for IMEX-LDG methods may affect the stability conditions and therefore the comparison.

Table 5.1: Comparison between the stability conditions for IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\)-S methods, and IMEX\(k\)-DG\(k\) methods with the weight function \(\omega = \exp(-\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_m h})\), \(k = 1, 2, 3\); The velocity space is discretized by 16 Gaussian quadrature points.

| Method       | Unconditionally stable region | Conditional stability condition when \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \gg 1\) |
|--------------|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------|
| IMEX1-DG1-S  | \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \leq \frac{1}{2}\) | \(\Delta t \approx \varepsilon h\)                           |
| IMEX1-LDG1   | \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \leq \frac{1}{2}\) | \(\Delta t \approx 0.5\varepsilon h\)                        |
| IMEX2-DG2-S  | \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \leq \frac{1}{20}\) | \(\Delta t \approx 0.31\varepsilon h\)                       |
| IMEX2-LDG2   | \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \leq \frac{1}{20}\) | \(\Delta t \approx 0.25\varepsilon h\)                       |
| IMEX3-DG3-S  | \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \leq \frac{1}{50}\) | \(\Delta t \approx 0.125\varepsilon h\)                      |
| IMEX3-LDG3   | \(\varepsilon/(\sigma_m h) \leq \frac{1}{35}\) | \(\Delta t \approx 0.125\varepsilon h\)                      |
6 Numerical tests

In this section, we will demonstrate the performance of the IMEXk-DGk-S scheme, \( k = 1, 2, 3 \). Two models will be considered. One is the telegraph equation with \( \Omega_v = \{-1, 1\} \) and \( \langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{2}(f|_{v=1} + f|_{v=-1}) \), the other is the one-group transport equation in slab geometry with \( \Omega_v = [-1, 1] \) and \( \langle f \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-1}^{1} f dv \). For the latter, we discretize the velocity space with 16 Gaussian quadrature points. The meshes in space are uniform unless otherwise specified.

Based on the energy and Fourier analysis in Section 5, for the one-group transport equation in slab geometry, the time step size \( \Delta t \) for the IMEXk-DGk-S scheme is chosen as \( \Delta t_{CFLk} \):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{IMEX1-DG1-S : } & \quad \Delta t_{CFL1} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
0.75h, & \varepsilon \leq 0.5\sigma_m h, \\
\min(0.75h, \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon}), & \varepsilon > 0.5\sigma_m h,
\end{array} \right. \\
\text{IMEX2-DG2-S : } & \quad \Delta t_{CFL2} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
0.75h, & \varepsilon \leq 0.025\sigma_m h, \\
\min(0.75h, \frac{\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon}), & \varepsilon \geq 0.025\sigma_m h,
\end{array} \right. \\
\text{IMEX3-DG3-S : } & \quad \Delta t_{CFL3} = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
0.75h, & \varepsilon \leq 0.05\sigma_m h, \\
\min(0.75h, \frac{0.1\sigma_m h}{\varepsilon}), & \varepsilon > 0.05\sigma_m h.
\end{array} \right.
\end{align*}
\]

When the schemes are unconditionally stable, \( \Delta t = 0.75h \) is used to ensure good resolution. The time step conditions in (6.1) also work well for the telegraph equation. We want to mention that, when boundary conditions are Dirichlet (see next subsection), due to the numerical boundary treatment, a smaller time step size is taken for the second order IMEX2-DG2-S scheme in the diffusive regime. For the linear solver, we apply the Schur complement discussed in Section 3.5 and GMRES [26] solver, which is implemented under the framework of C++ library PETSC [2].

6.1 Numerical boundary condition

For some numerical tests, the following inflow (also Dirichlet) boundary conditions are given:

\[
f(x_L, v, t) = f_L(v, t), \quad v \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad f(x_R, v, t) = f_R(v, t), \quad v \leq 0.
\]

These conditions are insufficient to define the boundary conditions for \( \rho = \langle f \rangle \) and \( g \), hence numerical treatments are needed. We here adopt a close-loop strategy similar to [11, 23]. For simplicity, we present the strategy using the one-group transport equation in slab geometry with the velocity space being continuous. In implementation, we substitute integrals in \( \Omega_v \) with their discrete counterparts.

**Main idea:** Our numerical boundary treatment is based on the following idea. At the left boundary, we set

\[
\begin{align*}
\rho_L(t) + \varepsilon g_L(v, t) &= f_L(v, t), \quad v \geq 0 \quad \text{(inflow)}, \\
\rho_L(t) + \varepsilon g_L(v, t) &= \rho_h(x^+_\frac{v}{2}, t) + \varepsilon g_h(x^+_\frac{v}{2}, v, t), \quad v < 0 \quad \text{(outflow)}, \\
(g_L(v, t)) &= 0.
\end{align*}
\]

Integrate (6.2a) in \( v \) from 0 to 1 and (6.2b) from \(-1\) to 0, and sum them up, we get

\[
\begin{align*}
\rho_L = \rho_L(t) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \rho_h(x^+_\frac{v}{2}, t) + \int_{0}^{1} f_L(v, t) dv + \varepsilon \int_{-1}^{0} g_h(x^+_\frac{v}{2}, v, t) dv \right). \\
g_L = g_L(v, t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\frac{1}{2} (f_L(v, t) - \rho_L(t)), & v \geq 0, \\
\frac{1}{2} (\rho_h(x^+_\frac{v}{2}, t) + \varepsilon g_h(x^+_\frac{v}{2}, v, t) - \rho_L(v, t)), & v < 0.
\end{array} \right.
\end{align*}
\]

With a similar idea, we obtain at the right boundary

\[
\begin{align*}
\rho_R = \rho_R(t) - \frac{1}{2} \left( \rho_h(x^-_{N+\frac{v}{2}}, t) + \int_{-1}^{0} f_R(v, t) dv + \varepsilon \int_{0}^{1} g_h(x^-_{N+\frac{v}{2}}, v, t) dv \right), \\
g_R = g_R(v, t) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
\frac{1}{2} (\rho_h(x^-_{N+\frac{v}{2}}, t) + \varepsilon g_h(x^-_{N+\frac{v}{2}}, v, t) - \rho_R(v, t)), & v \geq 0, \\
\frac{1}{2} (f_R(v, t) - \rho_R(t)), & v < 0.
\end{array} \right.
\end{align*}
\]
Numerical flux: The boundary strategies are imposed through numerical fluxes. On boundaries, we modify numerical fluxes in (3.7) to be

\begin{align}
(\rho h)_\frac{1}{2} &:= \rho_L, \quad (v g h)_\frac{1}{2} := (v g h)_+^\frac{1}{2}, \\
(\rho h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}} &:= \rho_R, \quad (v g h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}} := (v g h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}}^+ + c_R(\rho_R - (\rho h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}}), \\
(\bar{v} g h)_\frac{1}{2} &:= \begin{cases} 
 v g_L, & \text{if } v \geq 0, \\
 (v g h)_+^\frac{1}{2}, & \text{if } v < 0,
\end{cases} \quad (\bar{v} g h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}} := \begin{cases} 
 (v g h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}}^+, & \text{if } v \geq 0, \\
 v g_R, & \text{if } v < 0.
\end{cases}
\end{align}

(6.5a) (6.5b) (6.5c)

The penalty term $c_R(\rho_R - (\rho h)_{N+\frac{1}{2}})$ is added to maintain the accuracy of the schemes, and one can refer to [5, 19] for details on the role of this penalty term. In our simulation, we take $c_R = 1$.

We want to mention that, due to this numerical boundary treatment, the IMEX2-DG2-S scheme is no longer unconditionally stable in the diffusive regime. We modify the time step condition in (6.1) with $\Delta t_{CFL2} = 0.1h$ when $\varepsilon \leq 0.025h$. Note that this time step condition can still be larger than a parabolic time step condition $\Delta t = O(h^2)$.

6.2 Numerical examples

Example 1: smooth example [23]. We consider the one-group transport equation in slab geometry with a smooth example on $\Omega_{x} = [0, 2\pi]$. The initial conditions are

$$
\rho(x, 0) = \sin(x), \quad g(x, v, 0) = -v \cos(x),
$$

with periodic boundary conditions, and $\sigma_s = 1$, $\sigma_a = 0$. $\Omega_{x}$ is partitioned with a uniform mesh and we define $N = \frac{(x_{R} - x_{L})}{\Delta x}$. Numerical errors in $L_\infty$-norm and convergence orders are obtained by Richardson extrapolation:

\begin{align}
E_{N}^p &= ||\rho h(x, T) - \rho h_{2}(x, T)||_{L_\infty(\Omega_{x})}, \quad \text{and}, \quad O_{N}^p = \log_2(E_{N}^p/E_{2N}^p), \\
E_{N}^g &= \max_{j=1,...,N_{v}} ||g h(x, v_{j}, T) - g h_{2}(x, v_{j}, T)||_{L_\infty(\Omega_{x})}, \quad \text{and}, \quad O_{N}^g = \log_2(E_{N}^g/E_{2N}^g).
\end{align}

(6.6a) (6.6b)

Numerical results at $T = 1$ with $\varepsilon = 0.5$, $\varepsilon = 10^{-2}$ and $\varepsilon = 10^{-6}$ are shown in Tables 6.2-6.4. We observe that the IMEXk-DGk-S scheme, $k = 1, 2, 3$, has the optimal $k$-th order accuracy that seems to be uniform in $\varepsilon$.

We further use this example to compare the computational cost of the IMEX-DG-S schemes and the IMEX-LDG schemes. Particularly, we consider the third order ones, namely the IMEX3-DG3-S scheme, and the IMEX3-LDG3 scheme with the weight function $\omega = \exp(-\frac{x}{h})$, on a uniform mesh of $N = 100$ elements and with the same time step size. The relative CPU time is presented in Table 6.5, and it is closed to 1 for a wide range of $\varepsilon$, implying that the computational costs of these two methods are comparable over one time step.

Example 2: two-material problem [16, 17]. We consider a two-material problem on $\Omega_{x} = [0, 11]$ and $\Omega_{v} = [-1, 1]$ with isotropic inflow boundary conditions. The setup is as follows:

$$
\sigma_s = 0, \quad \sigma_a = 1, \quad \text{if } x \in [0, 1], \\
\sigma_s = 100, \quad \sigma_a = 0, \quad \text{if } x \in [1, 11], \\
f_{L}(v, t) = 5, \quad f_{R}(v, t) = 0, \quad f(x, v, 0) = 0.
$$

(6.7)

and $\varepsilon = 1$. We examine the numerical solutions at a shorter time $T = 1.5$ and also the steady state solution obtained at $T = 20000$. This problem has a pure absorbing region with the length of one mean-free path on the left and a pure scattering region with the length of 1000 mean-free path on the right. Subregions with different scales coexist. From the left boundary, an isotropic inflow enters the computational region, and it instantly becomes anisotropic. An interior layer is formed near the interface between the absorbing region and the scattering region.

We use a non-uniform mesh with $h = h^{(1)} = \frac{1}{20}$ on $[0, 1]$ and $h = h^{(2)} = \frac{1}{2}$ on $[1, 11]$, and the time step $\Delta t$ is determined by (6.1) using $h = h^{(1)}$. With this example, we also want to compare the performance of the IMEXk-DGk-S schemes proposed here and the IMEXk-LDGk schemes in [23] with the weight function $\omega = \exp(-\frac{x}{1000})_{h=h(1)}$. Numerical results are shown
| $\varepsilon$ | $N$ | $E_N^{\varepsilon}$ | order | $E_N^{\varepsilon}$ | order |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0.5 | 10 | 1.921E-02 | - | 1.909E-02 | - |
| | 20 | 8.709E-02 | 1.14 | 8.390E-03 | 1.19 |
| | 40 | 3.540E-02 | 1.30 | 3.699E-03 | 1.18 |
| | 80 | 1.619E-03 | 1.13 | 1.744E-03 | 1.08 |
| | 160 | 7.737E-04 | 1.07 | 8.469E-04 | 1.04 |
| $10^{-2}$ | 10 | 1.029E-02 | - | 1.467E-02 | - |
| | 20 | 4.371E-03 | 1.23 | 6.742E-03 | 1.12 |
| | 40 | 2.014E-03 | 1.12 | 3.204E-03 | 1.07 |
| | 80 | 9.648E-04 | 1.06 | 1.553E-03 | 1.04 |
| | 160 | 5.265E-04 | 0.87 | 7.986E-04 | 0.96 |
| $10^{-6}$ | 10 | 1.011E-02 | - | 1.459E-02 | - |
| | 20 | 4.306E-03 | 1.23 | 6.709E-03 | 1.12 |
| | 40 | 1.988E-03 | 1.12 | 3.189E-03 | 1.07 |
| | 80 | 9.520E-04 | 1.06 | 1.546E-03 | 1.04 |
| | 160 | 4.657E-04 | 1.03 | 7.618E-04 | 1.02 |

| $\varepsilon$ | $N$ | $E_N^{\varepsilon}$ | order | $E_N^{\varepsilon}$ | order |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 0.5 | 10 | 3.505E-02 | - | 3.911E-02 | - |
| | 20 | 8.916E-03 | 1.97 | 9.991E-03 | 1.97 |
| | 40 | 2.205E-03 | 2.02 | 2.590E-03 | 1.95 |
| | 80 | 5.479E-04 | 2.01 | 6.563E-04 | 1.98 |
| | 160 | 1.365E-04 | 2.01 | 1.650E-04 | 1.99 |
| $10^{-2}$ | 10 | 3.519E-02 | - | 4.215E-02 | - |
| | 20 | 8.763E-03 | 2.01 | 8.869E-03 | 2.25 |
| | 40 | 2.206E-03 | 2.00 | 2.283E-03 | 1.96 |
| | 80 | 5.523E-04 | 2.00 | 5.906E-04 | 1.95 |
| | 160 | 1.381E-04 | 2.00 | 1.536E-04 | 1.94 |
| $10^{-6}$ | 10 | 3.518E-02 | - | 3.482E-02 | - |
| | 20 | 8.726E-03 | 2.01 | 8.629E-03 | 2.01 |
| | 40 | 2.195E-03 | 1.99 | 2.172E-03 | 1.99 |
| | 80 | 5.494E-04 | 2.00 | 5.435E-04 | 2.00 |
| | 160 | 1.374E-04 | 2.00 | 1.360E-04 | 2.00 |
Table 6.4: Errors and convergence orders for the example 1, IMEX3-DG3-S

| $\epsilon$ | N  | $E_N^e$       | order | $E_N^f$       | order |
|-----------|----|--------------|-------|--------------|-------|
| 0.5       | 10 | 2.588E-03    | -     | 2.676E-03    | -     |
|           | 20 | 3.215E-04    | 3.01  | 4.103E-04    | 2.71  |
|           | 40 | 4.028E-05    | 3.00  | 6.495E-05    | 2.66  |
|           | 80 | 5.036E-06    | 3.00  | 9.198E-06    | 2.82  |
|           | 160| 6.303E-07    | 3.00  | 1.22E-06     | 2.91  |
| $10^{-2}$ | 10 | 2.510E-03    | -     | 2.543E-03    | -     |
|           | 20 | 3.214E-04    | 2.97  | 3.724E-04    | 1.75  |
|           | 40 | 4.039E-05    | 2.99  | 1.109E-04    | 1.75  |
|           | 80 | 5.061E-06    | 3.00  | 5.292E-06    | 4.39  |
|           | 160| 6.328E-07    | 3.00  | 6.659E-07    | 2.99  |
|           | 320| 7.910E-08    | 3.00  | 8.355E-08    | 2.99  |
| $10^{-6}$ | 10 | 2.505E-03    | -     | 2.554E-03    | -     |
|           | 20 | 3.211E-04    | 2.96  | 3.174E-04    | 3.01  |
|           | 40 | 4.041E-05    | 2.99  | 3.998E-05    | 3.00  |
|           | 80 | 5.060E-06    | 3.00  | 5.007E-06    | 3.00  |
|           | 160| 6.327E-07    | 3.00  | 6.269E-07    | 3.00  |
|           | 320| 7.910E-08    | 3.00  | 8.355E-08    | 3.00  |

Table 6.5: Relative CPU time $R = \frac{t_{IMEX3-DG3-S}}{t_{IMEX3-LDG3}}$

| $\epsilon$ | $10^{-1}$ | $10^{-2}$ | $10^{-3}$ | $10^{-4}$ | $10^{-5}$ | $10^{-6}$ |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| R         | 1.01      | 0.99      | 0.98      | 1.02      | 0.97      | 0.99      | 0.99      |

in Figure 6.2 and Figure 6.3. The reference solution is obtained by the first order forward Euler upwind finite difference scheme applied to the original kinetic equation (1.1) with $h = \frac{11}{20000}$ and $\Delta t = 10^{-5}$ for $T = 1.5$, and with $h = \frac{11}{2000}$ and $\Delta t = 10^{-4}$ for $T = 2000$.

At $T = 1.5$, our proposed schemes capture the solutions very well. The third order IMEX3-LDG3-S scheme has the best result. We observe that the IMEX$k$-DG$k$-S schemes outperform the IMEX$k$-LDG$k$ schemes with the chosen weight. Unlike for IMEX$k$-LDG$k$ schemes, one does not need to choose a weight function for our proposed methods for this example when both transport dominant and diffusion dominant regions coexist.

At $T = 20000$ when the solution reaches its steady state, the numerical solutions by the IMEX$k$-DG$k$-S scheme, $k = 1, 2, 3$ match the reference solutions well, and they are comparable with those in [23] by IMEX$k$-LDG$k$ scheme. Higher order schemes lead to better resolution as expected.

Example 3: problem with varying scattering frequency and constant source term [17]. We consider the one-group transport equation in slab geometry with a source term $G$:

$$\varepsilon \partial_t f + v \partial_x f = -\frac{\sigma_s}{\varepsilon}((f) - f) + \varepsilon \sigma_a f + \varepsilon G. \quad (6.8)$$

The computational domain is $\Omega_x = [0, 1]$, and

$$\sigma_s(x) = 1 + 100x^2, \quad \sigma_a = 0, \quad G = 1,$$
$$f_L(v, t) = 0, \quad f_R(v, t) = 0, \quad f(x, v, 0) = 0, \quad \varepsilon = 10^{-2}. \quad (6.9)$$

The effective scaling is determined by $\frac{\varepsilon}{\sigma_s(x)}$, hence, it is varying in the computational domain.

We use a uniform mesh with $h = \frac{1}{100}$ and the source term $G$ is treated explicitly. Numerical results for $T = 0.4$ are presented in Figure 6.4. The reference solution is obtained by the first order forward Euler upwind finite difference scheme applied to (1.1) with $h = \frac{1}{20000}$ and $\Delta t = 0.1\varepsilon h$. As the value of $\sigma_s(x)$ is larger on the right, the scattering effect is stronger on
Figure 6.2: Example 2: two-material problem $T = 1.5$, zoomed in with $x \in [0, 2]$.

Figure 6.3: Example 2: two-material problem, $T = 20000$, $x \in [0, 11]$. 

that side. As a result, a sharp feature exists near the right boundary. All schemes match the reference solution well on this relatively coarse mesh, and high order schemes perform better, especially near the right boundary.

**Example 4:** diffusive and kinetic regime with isotropic inflow Dirichlet boundary conditions [3, 17]. In this example, we consider the one-group transport equation in slab geometry on $\Omega = [0, 1]$, and $\sigma_s = 1$, $\sigma_a = 0$, $f_L(v,t) = 1$, $f_R(v,t) = 0$, $f(x,v,0) = 0$, $\rho(x,0) = 2$, $g(x,v,0) = 0$, $x \leq 0$, $\rho(x,0) = 1$, $g(x,v,0) = 0$, $x > 0$. (6.10)

In Figure 6.5, we report numerical results on a uniform mesh with $h = 1/40$. The reference solution for $\varepsilon = 1$ is obtained by the first order forward Euler upwind finite difference scheme applied to (1.1) with $h = 1/2000$ and $\Delta t = 0.5eh$, while the reference solution for $\varepsilon = 10^{-8}$ is obtained by a central difference scheme solving the diffusion limit (2.2) with $h = 1/2000$ and $\Delta t = 0.25h^2$. For comparison, we also include in Figure 6.5 the numerical results by the IMEX$^k$-LDG$k$ schemes in [23] with the weight function $\omega = \exp(-\varepsilon h)$ and $\omega = 1$, and when $\varepsilon = 1$.

When the problem is relatively kinetic with $\varepsilon = 1$, it is observed that the numerical solutions by the proposed methods match the reference solutions well. The results are comparable with that by the IMEX$k$-LDG$k$ methods with the weight function $\omega = \exp(-\frac{\varepsilon}{2})$, and both are better than that by the IMEX$k$-LDG$k$ methods with the constant weight function $\omega = 1$. Note that in this example, the initial and boundary conditions at $x = 0$ are not compatible, and this introduces a Dirac delta structure in $\partial_x \rho$ at $t = 0$ and subsequently sharper features in the solution form near the left boundary. All these pose challenge to approximate the weighted diffusion term $\omega \partial_{xx} \rho$, unless $\omega$ is chosen to be small to balance the term $\partial_{xx} \rho$. This explains the IMEX$k$-LDG$k$ schemes with the weight function $\omega = \exp(-\frac{\varepsilon}{2})$ outperform that with $\omega = 1$. Our IMEX-DG-S schemes on the other hand do not have a weight function to tune for this example.

When the problem is relatively diffusive with $\varepsilon = 10^{-8}$, we take $\Delta t = 0.25h$ in the diffusive regime, instead of the original $\Delta t = 0.75h$ in (6.1) (still stable), for both the IMEX1-DG1-S and IMEX3-DG3-S schemes. The numerical solutions by the IMEX$k$-DG$k$-S scheme, $k = 1, 2, 3$, match the reference solutions well. The higher order schemes lead to better resolution.

**Example 5:** Riemann problem for telegraph equation [3, 11]. We consider a Riemann problem with $\Omega = \{-1, 1\}$, $\sigma_s = 1$, $\sigma_a = 0$ and the initial data

$$
\begin{align*}
\rho(x,0) &= 2, \quad g(x,v,0) = 0, \quad x \leq 0, \\
\rho(x,0) &= 1, \quad g(x,v,0) = 0, \quad x > 0.
\end{align*}
$$

(6.11)

Two different cases are considered: the more kinetic case with $\varepsilon = 0.7$ and $\Omega_x = [-1, 1]$, and the more diffusive case with $\varepsilon = 10^{-6}$ and $\Omega_x = [-2, 2]$. For both, a uniform partition of $\Omega_x$ with $h = \frac{1}{10}$ is used, and the final time is set as $T = 0.15$. Numerical results for $\rho$ and $j(x,t) = \langle vg \rangle$ are presented in Figure 6.6 and Figure 6.7. The reference solution for $\varepsilon = 0.7$ is obtained by the first order forward Euler upwind finite difference scheme solving (1.1) with a uniform mesh.
Figure 6.5: Example 4: diffusive and kinetic regime with isotropic inflow Dirichlet boundary conditions for one-group transport equation. Top three rows: \( \rho \) for \( \varepsilon = 1 \) and \( T = 0.1, 0.4, 1.0, 1.6, 4.0 \); Bottom row: \( \rho \) for \( \varepsilon = 10^{-8} \) and \( T = 0.15, 0.25, 2.0 \).
Figure 6.6: Example 5: Riemann problem for the telegraph equation. \( \varepsilon = 0.7 \) and \( T = 0.15 \).

\[ h = \frac{1}{1000} \] and \( \Delta t = 0.05 \varepsilon h \). The reference solution for \( \varepsilon = 10^{-6} \) is calculated by a central difference scheme solving the diffusion limit (2.2) with \( h = \frac{1}{1000} \) and \( \Delta t = 0.25h^2 \).

For the kinetic case with \( \varepsilon = 0.7 \), results in Figure 6.6 by all schemes match the reference solution well. Compared with the first order scheme, the second and the third order schemes give less dissipative results and capture the sharp features better. With the discontinuity present in the solution, when IMEX-LDG schemes are applied to this example (see Section 6.1.2 in [23]), the quality of the computed solutions really depends on the choice of the weight function. For the diffusive case with \( \varepsilon = 10^{-6} \), all schemes capture the solution well, and high order schemes show better resolutions, see Figure 6.7.

Note that when \( \varepsilon = 0.7 \), small oscillations are observed near discontinuity of the solutions by IMEX\( k \)-DG\( k \)-S \((k = 2, 3)\) methods. One can consider to apply nonlinear limiters to reduce or control oscillations. As pointed out in [21], naively applying limiters may break the AP property and change the asymptotic behavior of the methods. Here, we apply the TVB minmod limiter [7] with \( M = 1.0 \) to \( \rho \) after each full RK step, and the results by the IMEX\( k \)-DG\( k \)-S \((k = 2, 3)\) methods with the limiter are shown in Figure 6.8. In the kinetic regime with \( \varepsilon = 0.7 \), the numerical oscillations are reduced, and this is especially pronounced for IMEX3-DG3-S scheme.

In the diffusive regime with \( \varepsilon = 10^{-6} \), both schemes match the diffusive limit perfectly. This provides numerical evidence that the AP property of the methods are not affected by the use of the nonlinear limiter. With the visual similarity, in Figure 6.8 we only include the results of the IMEX3-DG3-S method when \( \varepsilon = 10^{-6} \). The design of effective limiters that keep the AP property with theoretical guarantees is not the focus of the current paper, and more future investigations would be needed.

7 Conclusions

To design AP schemes with unconditional stability in the diffusive regime, numerical schemes are developed in [3, 23] based on an additional reformulation to the decomposed system. The key of the additional reformulation is to introduce a weighted diffusive term. In this paper, to avoid issues related to the ad-hoc choice of the weight function, we design IMEX-DG-S schemes by applying a new implicit-explicit temporal strategy. Asymptotic analysis confirms the AP property of the proposed schemes. Energy type stability analysis for the IMEX1-
Figure 6.7: Example 5: Riemann problem for telegraph equation. $\varepsilon = 10^{-6}$ and $T = 0.15$.

Figure 6.8: Example 5: Riemann problem for telegraph equation, using TVB nonlinear limiter [7] with $M = 1.0$. $T = 0.15$. 
DG1-S scheme and Fourier type stability analysis for the IMEX\textsuperscript{k}-DG\textsuperscript{k}-S scheme, \(k = 1, 2, 3\), are presented. These analyses verify uniform stability of the schemes with respect to \(\varepsilon\) and unconditional stability in the diffusive regime. To achieve these AP and stability properties with computational cost similar to the IMEX-LDG schemes in [23], the Schur complement is applied on the linear solver level. Numerical examples are presented to demonstrate the performance of the IMEX-DG-S schemes and their advantages over the weight-dependent IMEX-LDG schemes in [23]. Though the numerical evidence in this work seems to imply that the IMEX-DG-S schemes outperform the IMEX-LDG schemes, a more systematic study (such as with more general models or models in high dimensions) would be needed in order to see whether this is always the case, or the IMEX-LDG methods may perform better with some specially chosen weight functions.

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