A New 4th Order Hybrid Runge-Kutta Methods for Solving Initial Value Problems (IVPs)

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Abstract: Recently, there has been a great deal of interest in the formulation of Runge-Kutta methods based on averages other than the conventional Arithmetic Mean for the numerical solution of Ordinary differential equations. In this paper, a new 4th Order Hybrid Runge-Kutta method based on linear combination of Arithmetic mean, Geometric mean and the Harmonic mean to solve first order initial value problems (IVPs) in ordinary differential equations (ODEs) is presented. Also the stability region for the method is shown. Moreover, the new method is compared with Runge-Kutta method based on arithmetic mean, geometric mean and harmonic mean. The numerical results indicate that the performance of the new method show superiority in terms of accuracy to some of other well known methods in literature and the stability investigation is in agreement with the known fourth order Runge-Kutta methods but with excellent stability region.

Keywords: Hybrid Methods, Stability, Mean

1. Introduction

It is well known that most of the Initial Value Problems (IVPs) are solved by Runge-Kutta methods which in turn being applied to compute numerical solutions for variety of problems that are modeled as the differential equations and their systems Runge-Kutta algorithms are used to solve differential equations efficiently that are equivalent to approximate the exact solutions.

Many schemes have been developed for the solution of initial value problems. According to Butcher [1], a number of different approaches have been used in the analysis of Runge-Kutta methods. This is where the proposed approach and method of analysis of order 4 R-K such as Dingwen and Tingting [2] that investigated A Fourth-order Singly Diagonally Implicit Runge-Kutta Method for Solving One-dimensional Burgers’ Equation becomes very relevant.

In the last few years, there has been a growing interest in problem solving systems based on the Runge-Kutta methods. Several methods have been developed using the idea of different means such as the geometric mean, centroidal mean, harmonic mean, contra-harmonic mean and the heronian mean. Wusueta [3] and Wusu and Akanbi [4], presented a three stage method based on the harmonic mean and a multi-derivative method using the usual arithmetic mean respectively. Akanbi [5] developed a third-order method based on the geometric mean. But [6] and [7] introduced the concept of the heronian mean. Evans and Yaacob [8] introduced a fourth-order method based on the harmonic mean while Yaacob and Sangui [9] also developed a fourth-order method which is an embedded method based on the arithmetic and harmonic mean. Wazwaz [10] showed comparison of modified Runge-Kutta methods based on varieties of means.

This present paper is inspired by the work of Evans and Sangui [11], Fatunla [12]. The method developed here is applicable to mildly stiff first order ordinary differential equation. For instance, Sangui and Evans [11] motivated the work of Agbeboh et al [13] with the derivation and implemented a new fourth-order Runge-Kutta method for solving initial value problems in ordinary differential equations. Rini et al [14] considered a Third Runge-Kutta method based on a linear combination of arithmetic mean, harmonic mean and geometric mean. On the other hand, Ashiribo [15] derived and implemented the four stage Harmonic Explicit Runge –Kutta Method, in the paper, the authors proposed a new version of explicit Runge-Kutta method, by introducing the harmonic mean as against the
usual arithmetic averages in standard Runge-Kutta schemes. Ghazala and Amand [16] provided a solution to fourth order three-point boundary value problem using ADM and RK method. In the paper, the authors developed a computational method for solving linear and nonlinear fourth order three-point boundary value problem (BVP).

It is pertinent to mention that no effort, so far, has been made to develop a 4th Order Runge-Kutta Method based on a linear combination of arithmetic mean, the Harmonic mean and the Geometric mean. Keeping this in view, a modest effort has been made in the present paper to develop such a new efficient numerical algorithm which is, for the first time added to the literature. It is observed that the presently developed algorithm has also been found to be more suitable one to solve the system of ODEs. The stability analysis is also discussed.

Initial value problems (IVPs) such as

\[ u'(x) = f(x, u(x)), \quad u(x_0) = u_0 \]  

is often used in our daily life during Mathematical modeling. Where \( x \) is the independent variable which may indicate the time in a physical problem and the dependent variable \( u(x) \) is the solution. Moreover, since \( u(x) \) could be a \( N \)-dimensional vector valued function, the domain and range of the differential equation \( f \) and the solution \( u \) are given by

\[ f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \]
\[ u : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N \]  

The above equation (1) where \( f \) is a function of both \( x \) and \( u \) which is called "non-autonomous". However, by simply introducing an extra variable which is always exactly equal to \( x \), it can easily be rewritten in an equivalent "autonomous" form below, where \( f \) is a function of \( u \) only:

\[ u'(x) = f(u(x)) \]  

Though several problems are naturally expressed in the non-autonomous form, the autonomous form of differential equation (3) is preferred for most of the theoretical investigations. In addition, the autonomous form has some merits in numerical analysis since it yields a greater possibility that numerical methods can solve the differential equation exactly. It is of interest to note that the differential equation by itself is not enough to give a unique solution. Hence, some other additional information is needed. However, if all components of \( u \) are given at a certain value of \( x \), that is, "initial conditions", then the differential equation is called an "initial value problem (IVP)" which is closely and naturally involved with physical modeling.

2. Materials and Methods

The New 4th Order Runge-Kutta Method is derived out of the existing 4th Order classical Runge-Kutta Method which is based on the conventional Arithmetic mean. The general P-stage Runge-Kutta method for solving an IVP with the initial condition \( u(x_0) = u_0 \) is defined from the well known numerical integrator as

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + h\varphi(x_n, u_n; h) \]

Where

\[ \varphi(x_n, u_n; h) = \sum_{i=1}^{p} c_i w_i \]

With

\[ w_i = f(x_n + c_i h, u_n + \sum_{j=1}^{p} a_{ij} w_j) \]

The fourth order Runge-Kutta Method to solve the IVP (1) is defined as

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{h}{6} (w_1 + 2w_2 + 2w_3 + w_4) \]

Where

\[ w_1 = f(x_n, u_n) = f_n \]
\[ w_2 = f(x_n + \frac{h}{2}, u_n + \frac{h}{2} w_1) \]
\[ w_3 = f(x_n + \frac{h}{2}, u_n + \frac{h}{2} w_2) \]
\[ w_4 = f(x_n + h, u_n + h w_3) \]

(5) can be written in the form

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{h}{3} \left( \frac{w_1 + w_2}{2} + \frac{w_3 + w_4}{2} \right) \]

Equation (10) is known as Runge-kutta method based on arithmetic mean. This can be modified into a geometric mean as

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{h}{3} \left( \sqrt[3]{w_1 w_2} + \sqrt[3]{w_2 w_3} + \sqrt[3]{w_3 w_4} \right) \]

Also, Wazwaz [10] modifies the formula by replacing an arithmetic mean with harmonic mean, that is

\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + h \left( \frac{w_1 w_2}{w_1 + w_2} + \frac{w_2 w_3}{w_2 + w_3} + \frac{w_3 w_4}{w_3 + w_4} \right) \]

With \( w_1, w_2, w_3 \) and \( w_4 \) defined as in (6), (7), (8) and (9) respectively.

Our main aim in this paper is to construct a fourth order Runge-kutta method based on a linear combination of
arithmetic mean (AM), harmonic mean (HM) and geometric mean (GM) as introduced by Khattri [17] as follows

$$
\varphi_{RKM}(w_1, w_1) = \frac{14AM(w_1, w_1) - HM(w_1, w_1) + 32GM(w_1, w_1)}{45} 
$$

(13)

Considering the problem (1) and replacing the arithmetic mean in (12) by (13), yields

$$
u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{h}{135} \left[ 7\left(w_1 + 2w_2 + 2w_3 + w_4\right) - \left(\frac{3w_1w_2}{w_1 + w_2} + \frac{3w_2w_3}{w_2 + w_3} + \frac{3w_3w_4}{w_3 + w_4}\right) + \frac{48\left(\sqrt{w_1 + w_2} + \sqrt{w_2 + w_3} + \sqrt{w_3 + w_4}\right)}{w_1} \right]
$$

(14)

$$w_1 = f(x_n, u_n) = f_n$$

$$w_2 = f(x_n + ha_2, u_n + ha_2w_1)$$

$$w_3 = f(x_n + ha_3, u_n + h(b_{31}w_1 + b_{32}w_2))$$

$$w_4 = f(x_n + ha_4, u_n + h(b_{41}w_1 + b_{42}w_2 + b_{43}w_3))$$

(15)

With $a_r = \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} b_{2i}$

$\therefore a_2 = b_{21}, \text{ etc}$

Expanding $w_1, w_2, w_3$ and $w_4$ via Taylor series yields

$$w_1 = f(x_n, u_n) = f$$

$$w_2 = f + ha_1 ff_u + \frac{1}{2} h^2 a_1^2 f^2 f_{uu} + \frac{1}{6} h^3 a_1^3 f^3 f_{uuu} + \frac{1}{24} h^4 a_1^4 f^4 f_{uuuu}$$

(16)

Similarly, $w_3$ is expanded as

$$w_3 = f + h(a_2 + a_3) ff_u + h^2 a_1 a_2 f^2 f_u + \frac{h^3}{2} \left\{ a_1 a_3 + 2(a_1 a_2 + a_1 a_3) \right\} f^1 f_u f_{uu} + \frac{h^2}{2} (a_2 + a_3)^2 f^2 f_{uu}$$

$$+ \frac{h^3}{6} (a_2 + a_3)^3 f^3 f_{uuu}$$

(17)

Also, $w_4$ is expanded as

$$w_4 = f + h(a_4 + a_5 + a_6) ff_u + h^2 \left\{ a_1 a_5 + a_6 (a_2 + a_3) f^2 f_u + \frac{h^2}{2} (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^2 f^2 f_{uu} \right\}$$

$$+ \frac{h^3}{2} (a_1 a_6 + a_6 (a_2 + a_3)^2 + 2(a_1 a_6 + a_6 (a_2 + a_3))(a_4 + a_5 + a_6)) f^2 f_{uu}$$

$$+ \frac{h^3}{6} (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^3 f^3 f_{uuu}$$

(18)

Substituting (16), (17) and (18) into (14) by using Binomial and Geometric series.
\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{h}{135} \left[ p_4 - p_3 + p_6 \right] \]

Where

\[ p_4 = 7(w_1 + 2w_2 + 2w_3 + w_4) \]

\[ p_5 = \left( \frac{3w_1w_2 + 3w_2w_3 + 3w_3w_4}{w_1 + w_2 + w_3 + w_4} \right) \]

\[ p_6 = 48\left( \sqrt{w_1w_2} + \sqrt{w_2w_3} + \sqrt{w_3w_4} \right) \]

\[ p_4 = 42f + 14ha_1 f'_u + 7h^2a_1^2 f^2 f''_{uu} + \frac{7}{3}h^3a_1^3 f^3 f''_{uuu} + 14h(a_2 + a_3) f'_u \]

\[ + 14h^2a_1a_3 f^2 f''_u + 7h^3(a_1^2 a_3 + 2(a_1a_2) + 2a_1a_2a_3) f^2 f_{uuu} + 7h^2(a_2 + a_3)^2 f^2 f_{uu} \]

\[ + \frac{7}{3}h^3(a_2 + a_3) f^3 f_{uuu} + 7h(a_4 + a_5 + a_6) f'_u + 7(a_1a_5) + 7h^2(a_6(a_2 + a_3)a_3 + 2a_1a_3 + \]

\[ 2(a_6(a_2 + a_3) + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6) f^2 f_{uu} + \frac{7}{6}h^3(a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^2 f^3 f_{uu} \]

To compute the Geometric mean part \( p_6 \), and applying a binomial expansion strategy with fractional index.

\[ \sqrt{(1 + x)} = 1 + \frac{1}{2}x^2 + \frac{1}{8}x^3 + \frac{1}{16}x^4 + ... \]  (19)

Applying (19) by setting \( \sqrt{w_1w_2} = f((1+x)^2) \), \( \forall i,i \in \{1,2,3,4\} \)

Evaluating \( \sqrt{w_1w_2} \) in line with (19), yields

\[
\begin{aligned}
\sqrt{w_1w_2} &= 1 + \frac{1}{2}w_1 \frac{h}{f^2} \left( w_1 + ha_1w_1 f_u + \frac{h^2}{2} a_1^2 w_1^2 f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{6} a_1^3 w_1^3 f_{uuu} \right) - 1 \\
\frac{1}{8} w_1^2 f^4 &= \left[ w_1^2 + 2ha_1w_1^2 f_u + h^2 a_1^2 w_1^2 f_{uu} + h^2 a_1^2 w_1^2 f_{uu} + h^2 a_1^2 w_1^2 f_{uu} + h^3 a_1^3 w_1^3 f_{uuu} + \frac{h^3}{3} a_1^3 w_1^3 f_{uuu} \right] - \\
\frac{2}{f^2} w_1 (w_1 + ha_1w_1 f_u + \frac{h^2}{2} a_1^2 w_1^2 f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{6} a_1^3 w_1^3 f_{uuu}) + 1
\end{aligned}
\]
Substituting $w_i = f$ and simplifying we have

$$\sqrt{w_1 w_2} = 1 + \frac{h}{2} a_i f_u + \frac{h^2}{4} a_i^2 f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{16} a_i^3 f_{uuu} - \frac{h^2}{8} a_i^2 f_u^2 - \frac{h^3}{8} a_i^3 f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{16} a_i f_u^3$$  \hspace{1cm} (21)$$

In a similar way, $\sqrt{w_3 w_4}$ are evaluated as

$$\sqrt{w_3 w_4} = 1 + \frac{h}{2} (a_1 + a_2 + a_3) f_u + \frac{h^2}{16} (8a_3a_4 + 4a_2(a_2 + a_1) - 2a_1^2 (a_2 + a_3)) f_u^2 +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{4} (a_1^2 + (a_2 + a_3)^2) f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{32} \left( \frac{4a_1^2 a_3 + 4(a_1 a_2 + a_1 a_3) - 4a_2 (a_2 + a_3)^2 + 4a_1^2 (a_2 + a_3)}{4(a_2 + a_3)^3 - 4a_1^3 f_{uu}} \right) f_u^3$$

$$\sqrt{w_3 w_4} = 1 + \frac{h}{2} (a_1 + a_3) + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6) f_u +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{8} (4a_3a_4 + a_2(a_2 + a_3) + 4(a_4 + a_5 + a_6)(a_2 + a_3) - (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)) - (a_2 + a_3)^2) f_u^2 +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{4} (a_2 + a_3)^2 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^2) f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{16} \left( \frac{8a_3a_4 + 4a_2(a_2 + a_3)^2 + 4a_1(a_2 + a_3)}{4(a_2 + a_3)^3 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^3 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)} \right) f_u^3$$

$$\sqrt{w_3 w_4} = 1 + \frac{h}{2} (a_1 + a_3) + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6) f_u +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{8} (4a_3a_4 + a_2(a_2 + a_3) + 4(a_4 + a_5 + a_6)(a_2 + a_3) - (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)) - (a_2 + a_3)^2) f_u^2 +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{4} (a_2 + a_3)^2 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^2) f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{16} \left( \frac{8a_3a_4 + 4a_2(a_2 + a_3)^2 + 4a_1(a_2 + a_3)}{4(a_2 + a_3)^3 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^3 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)} \right) f_u^3$$

$$\sqrt{w_3 w_4} = 1 + \frac{h}{2} (a_1 + a_3) + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6) f_u +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{8} (4a_3a_4 + a_2(a_2 + a_3) + 4(a_4 + a_5 + a_6)(a_2 + a_3) - (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)) - (a_2 + a_3)^2) f_u^2 +$$

$$\frac{h^2}{4} (a_2 + a_3)^2 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^2) f_{uu} + \frac{h^3}{16} \left( \frac{8a_3a_4 + 4a_2(a_2 + a_3)^2 + 4a_1(a_2 + a_3)}{4(a_2 + a_3)^3 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)^3 + (a_4 + a_5 + a_6)} \right) f_u^3$$

Substituting $p_4, p_5$ and $p_6$ into (14)
\[ u_{n+1} = u_n + \frac{2h}{5} f + h^2 \left( \frac{16}{100} a_2 f_{u_n} + \frac{16}{100} a_2 f_{u_n} + \frac{16}{100} a_2 f_{u_n} \right) \]

\[ \left( \frac{16}{200} a_2 f_{u_n} + \frac{16}{100} a_2 f_{u_n} + \frac{16}{200} a_2 f_{u_n} \right) \]

\[ - \frac{16}{300} a_2 a_3 f_{u_n} - \frac{16}{300} a_1 a_2 f_{u_n} - \frac{16}{75} a_1 a_3 f_{u_n} \]

\[ \frac{16}{100} a_2 a_3 f_{u_n} - \frac{16}{300} a_3 f_{u_n} - \frac{16}{75} a_2 f_{u_n} - \frac{16}{75} a_2 f_{u_n} \]

By setting \((a_2 + a_3) = \frac{1}{2}, (a_4 + a_5 + a_6) = 1\) and comparing (24) with the fourth order Taylor series expansion for \( y(x_{n+1}) \), we have the following six systems of equations:

\[ h^2 f_{u_n} : -43a_1 + 21 = 0 \]

\[ h^3 f_{u_n} : 24 - 11a_6 - 5a_1 - 2a_1a_3 - 43a_1a_3 + 11a_1^2 = 0 \]

\[ h^3 f_{u_n} : 53 - 213a_1^2 = 0 \]

\[ h^3 f_{u_n} : 40 + 266a_6 + 6a_1 + 53a_1a_3 - 210a_1a_3a_6 + 13a_1^2 \]

\[ -106a_1^2 - 53a_1^3 = 0 \]

\[ h^3 f_{u_n} : 240 - 130a_6 - 13a_1 - 213a_1a_3 - 213a_1a_3 - 26a_1^2 \]

\[ -106a_1^2 - 210a_1^3 = 0 \]

and

\[ h^3 f_{u_n} : 88 - 711a_1^3 = 0 \]

Solving the above equations simultaneously, the six parameters values are to be determined. It is to be noticed that for simplicity, the algebra function \( f \) is considered as a function of \( u \) only

\[ a_1 = \frac{1}{4}, a_2 = -\frac{1}{32}, a_3 = \frac{9}{32}, a_4 = -\frac{1}{16}, a_5 = \frac{5}{48}, a_6 = \frac{11}{24} \]

With

\[ w_1 = f(x_n, u_n), \]

\[ w_2 = f(x_n + \frac{h}{4}, u_n + \frac{h}{4} w_1) \]

\[ w_3 = f(x_n + \frac{h}{4}, u_n + \frac{h}{32} (-w_1 + 9w_2)) \]

\[ w_4 = f(x_n + h, u_n + \frac{h}{96} (-6w_1 + 10w_2 + 44w_3)) \]

\[ 3. Results \]

In this section we discuss the stability regions for the new 4th order Runge-Kutta method based on a linear combination of the arithmetic mean, geometric mean and the harmonic mean

Agbeboh [18] considered the stability of the 4th order Runge-Kutta method based on the geometric mean. The
approach shall be applied to establish the stability of this new scheme

The stability region largely depends on the initial value problem (IVP). According to Fatunla [19] and Lawson [20], it should be noted that the condition \( \frac{\|u_{n+1}\|}{\|u_n\|} < 1 \) must be satisfied in order to determine the stability region of the New 4th Order Runge-Kutta method formula in the complex plane. With the help of stability polynomials, the stability regions for New 4th Order Runge-Kutta method based on a linear combination of the Arithmetic mean, Geometric mean and the harmonic mean can be obtained.

To get the area or region, the differential equation \( y' = \lambda y \) can be evaluated by using \( y' = \lambda y \) as a test of the equation.

Substituting \( y' \) into (27), we obtain

\[
\begin{align*}
    w_1 &= \lambda y \\
    w_2 &= \lambda y + \frac{1}{4} \lambda^2 y \\
    w_3 &= \lambda y + \frac{1}{4} \lambda^2 y + \frac{9}{128} \lambda^3 y \\
    w_4 &= \lambda y + \lambda^2 y + \frac{11}{24} \lambda^3 y + \frac{65}{236} \lambda^4 y
\end{align*}
\]  

Substituting (28) into (14), letting \( z = \lambda h \) and applying binomial and geometric series, we obtain

\[
\frac{y_{n+1}}{y_n} = 1 + z + \frac{1}{2} z^2 + \frac{1}{6} z^3 + \frac{1}{16} z^4 + \frac{1}{3645} z^5
\]

Using MATLAB package, we obtain the following results for the stability region for the new method.

![Stability Region of the new scheme.](image)

The figure 1 above shows the stability region of the new method that is the set of complex values of \( h\lambda \) for which all solutions of \( y' = \lambda y \) will remain bounded as \( n \to \infty \).

4. Discussion

In this section, the efficiency and suitability of the new computational methods is illustrated and discussed. The problems can be evaluated with different step sizes. The results are compared with other related methods in literature such as Runge- kutta Method based on Arithmetic mean (RKAM), Runge- kutta Method based on Geometric mean (RKGM), Runge- kutta Method based on Harmonic mean (RKHM) and the third order Runge-kutta method based on a linear combination of the three means. This is denoted as (RKMC). The results are presented in the figures (figure 2 –
Problem 1. \( u' = \frac{1}{u} \), \( u(0) = 1 \) and the exact solution is
\[ u = \left(2x + 1\right)^2 \quad \text{on} \ [0,1] \]

The results of problem 1 with different values of step sizes are presented in the figures below.

From the Figure 2 above, it is very clear that the propose method (BAZM) performs better in terms of accuracy than the Runge–Kutta method based on the Arithmetic Mean (RKAM).

From the Figure 2 above, it is very clear that the propose method (BAZM) performs better in terms of accuracy than the Runge–Kutta method based on the Arithmetic Mean (RKAM).

Problem 2. \( u' = \frac{1}{1+x^2} - 2u^2 \), \( u(0) = 0 \) and exact solution is
\[ u = \frac{1}{1+x^2} \quad \text{on} \ [0,1] \]

The results of problem 2 with different values of step sizes are shown in the figures below.
From the graph above, it can be shown that the new method competes favorably with other existing methods in terms of accuracy for problem 2.

**Problem 3:**
\[ u' = u^2 (\ln x)^3 - 2 xu (\ln x)^4 + 2 \ln x + 2, \quad u(1) = 0 \]
and exact solution is \[ u = 2x \ln x \quad \text{on} \quad [1, 2]. \]

The results of problem 3 with different values of step sizes is represented in figure 4 below.

**5. Conclusion**

In this paper, the derivation of the new hybrid 4th order Runge-Kutta methods which are based on a linear combination of arithmetic mean, harmonic mean and the geometric mean have been successfully carried out. Also, the region of stability was established with the aid of a MATLAB by drawing the curve of stability polynomial. It is revealed that the stability region of the new method is the set of complex values of \( h \lambda \) for which all solutions of \( y' = \lambda y \) will remain bounded as \( n \to \infty \). Several practically applicable problems have been considered to test the suitability, adoptability and accuracy of the proposed method. To achieve this, three test problems were considered and the results indicate that the New method is stable and of high degree of accuracy in comparison with the other existing methods.

**References**


