

# Acoustic raytracing comparisons in the context of geodetic precise off-shore positioning experiments : Supplemental Materials

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Here are presented in details mathematical formulations and algorithms for the eikonal and Snell-Descartes ray tracing methods.

## 1 Eikonal equation

### 1.1 Formulation

The fundamental relation of underwater acoustics is the eikonal equation, linking the wavefront of the emitted rays set with an equal phase  $\phi$ , thus an equal propagation time  $\tau$ .

$$|\nabla\phi|^2 = \frac{1}{c^2(\mathbf{x})} \quad (1)$$

$s$  is the arc length of the ray. By definition,  $\nabla\phi$  is perpendicular to the wavefront, so :

$$\frac{d\mathbf{x}}{ds} = c \nabla\phi \quad (2)$$

Then we differentiate this expression along  $s$  for each component  $x_i$  of  $\mathbf{x}$ .

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{dx_i}{ds} \right) = \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \right) \quad (3)$$

$$= \sum_j \frac{dx_j}{ds} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_i} \right) \quad (4)$$

$$= \sum_j c \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} \right) \quad (5)$$

$$= c \sum_j \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 \quad (6)$$

$$= \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \sum_j \left( \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x_j} \right)^2 \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left( \frac{1}{c} \right)^2 \quad (8)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x_i} \quad (9)$$

So we have for each component :

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{dx}{ds} \right) = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \quad \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{dy}{ds} \right) = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} \quad \frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{dz}{ds} \right) = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \quad (10)$$

Or in a vector notation :

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{d\mathbf{x}}{ds} \right) = -\frac{1}{c^2} \nabla c \quad (11)$$

We substitute the sound speed  $c(\mathbf{x})$  by his reciprocal, the sound slowness  $\sigma(\mathbf{x})$  so as  $\sigma(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{c(\mathbf{x})}$ .

We can also define the sound slowness as a vector  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_x \\ \sigma_y \\ \sigma_z \end{bmatrix}$ . Because  $\sigma = \frac{dt}{ds}$  and  $\sigma_{x_i} = \frac{dt}{dx_i}$ , we have

$$\frac{\sigma_{x_i}}{\sigma} = \frac{dx_i}{ds}.$$

Using equation (10), we have :

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \sigma \frac{dx}{ds} \right) = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \quad \frac{d}{ds} \left( \sigma \frac{dy}{ds} \right) = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial y} \quad \frac{d}{ds} \left( \sigma \frac{dz}{ds} \right) = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial z} \quad (12)$$

And by the following substitution :

$$\frac{d\sigma_x}{ds} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \quad \frac{d\sigma_y}{ds} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial y} \quad \frac{d\sigma_z}{ds} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial z} \quad (13)$$

The final set of differential equations to be solved is :

$$\frac{dx}{ds} = c(s)\sigma_x(s) = \frac{\sigma_x(s)}{\sigma(s)} \quad \frac{d\sigma_x}{ds} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \quad (14)$$

$$\frac{dy}{ds} = c(s)\sigma_y(s) = \frac{\sigma_y(s)}{\sigma(s)} \quad \frac{d\sigma_y}{ds} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial y} \quad (15)$$

$$\frac{dz}{ds} = c(s)\sigma_z(s) = \frac{\sigma_z(s)}{\sigma(s)} \quad \frac{d\sigma_z}{ds} = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} = \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial z} \quad (16)$$

And can be simplified in the vector form :

$$\frac{d\mathbf{Y}}{ds} = \mathbf{f}(s, \mathbf{Y}) \quad (17)$$

$$\mathbf{Y} = \begin{bmatrix} x \\ y \\ z \\ \sigma_x \\ \sigma_y \\ \sigma_z \end{bmatrix} \quad (18)$$

and

$$\mathbf{f} = \frac{d\mathbf{Y}}{ds} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{dx}{ds} \\ \frac{dy}{ds} \\ \frac{dz}{ds} \\ \frac{d\sigma_x}{ds} \\ \frac{d\sigma_y}{ds} \\ \frac{d\sigma_z}{ds} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\sigma_x}{\sigma} \\ \frac{\sigma_y}{\sigma} \\ \frac{\sigma_z}{\sigma} \\ \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial x} \\ \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial y} \\ \frac{\partial \sigma}{\partial z} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} c \sigma_x \\ c \sigma_y \\ c \sigma_z \\ -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \\ -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial y} \\ -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial z} \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

## 1.2 Solving Methods

Here are described the different methods used to solve the set of differential equations above.

### 1.2.1 Euler method

The Euler Method is the simplest ODE resolution method existing. With a stepwise approach, new values at point  $s+h$  can be obtained using values and their derivatives at point  $s$ , where  $h$  is the step of integration :

$$\mathbf{Y}_{i+1}(s+h) = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + h \cdot \frac{d\mathbf{Y}_i}{ds} \quad (20)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} x_{i+1}(s+h) \\ y_{i+1}(s+h) \\ z_{i+1}(s+h) \\ \sigma_{x,i+1}(s+h) \\ \sigma_{y,i+1}(s+h) \\ \sigma_{z,i+1}(s+h) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} x_i(s) \\ y_i(s) \\ z_i(s) \\ \sigma_{x,i}(s) \\ \sigma_{y,i}(s) \\ \sigma_{z,i}(s) \end{bmatrix} + h \cdot \begin{bmatrix} c(s) \sigma_{x,i}(s) \\ c(s) \sigma_{y,i}(s) \\ c(s) \sigma_{z,i}(s) \\ -\frac{1}{c(s)^2} \frac{\partial c(s)}{\partial x} \\ -\frac{1}{c(s)^2} \frac{\partial c(s)}{\partial y} \\ -\frac{1}{c(s)^2} \frac{\partial c(s)}{\partial z} \end{bmatrix} \quad (21)$$

### 1.2.2 Runge-Kutta 4 (RK4) method

The main idea of Runge-Kutta method is to dispatch the points where  $\mathbf{f}$  is evaluated between  $s$  and  $s + h$  to gain in precision. The method is called a fourth-order one, meaning that the total accumulated error is order  $O(h^4)$ .

Knowing  $\mathbf{Y}_i$  at point  $s$ , values  $\mathbf{Y}_{i+1}$  at point  $s + h$  may be determined using the following formulas (Butcher, 1963) :

$$\mathbf{Y}_{i+1}(s + h) = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{h}{6} \cdot (\mathbf{k}_1 + 2\mathbf{k}_2 + 2\mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4) \quad (22)$$

where :

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = \frac{d\mathbf{Y}_i(s)}{ds} \quad (23)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_2}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_2} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{h}{2} \cdot \mathbf{k}_1 \quad (24)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_3 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_3}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_3} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{h}{2} \cdot \mathbf{k}_2 \quad (25)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_4 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_4}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_4} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + h \cdot \mathbf{k}_3 \quad (26)$$

We also implement the simpler Order 2 Runge-Kutta Method, in order to compare the differences between both methods.

### 1.2.3 Adaptive Runge Kutta Integration, the Fehlberg method

The aim of an adaptive method is to validate the stability of the ODE solving, by estimating two forward steps with a different order, and use them to find the optimal step for the next iteration. It allows a stable final result with a minimum number of iterations, thus a reduced processing time.

Here we describe the Runge-Kutta-Fehlberg (RKF45) (Fehlberg, 1969), which estimates a forward step  $\mathbf{Y}_{i+1}$  of order 4, and a second one  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{i+1}$  of order 5, along with an optimized step.

We have :

$$\mathbf{Y}_{i+1}(s + h) = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + h \cdot \left( \frac{25}{216}\mathbf{k}_1 + \frac{1408}{2565}\mathbf{k}_3 + \frac{2197}{4104}\mathbf{k}_4 - \frac{1}{5}\mathbf{k}_5 \right) \quad (27)$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{i+1}(s + h) = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + h \cdot \left( \frac{16}{135}\mathbf{k}_1 + \frac{6656}{12825}\mathbf{k}_3 + \frac{28561}{56430}\mathbf{k}_4 - \frac{9}{50}\mathbf{k}_5 - \frac{2}{55}\mathbf{k}_6 \right) \quad (28)$$

where :

$$\mathbf{k}_1 = \frac{d\mathbf{Y}_i(s)}{ds} \quad (29)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_2}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_2} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{\mathbf{k}_1}{4} \quad (30)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_3 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_3}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_3} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{3}{32}\mathbf{k}_1 + \frac{9}{32}\mathbf{k}_2 \quad (31)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_4 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_4}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_4} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{1932}{2197}\mathbf{k}_1 - \frac{7200}{2197}\mathbf{k}_2 + \frac{7296}{2197}\mathbf{k}_3 \quad (32)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_5 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_5}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_5} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) + \frac{439}{216}\mathbf{k}_1 - 8\mathbf{k}_2 + \frac{3680}{513}\mathbf{k}_3 - \frac{845}{4104}\mathbf{k}_4 \quad (33)$$

$$\mathbf{k}_6 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_6}) \text{ with } \mathbf{Y}_{\mathbf{k}_6} = \mathbf{Y}_i(s) - \frac{8}{27}\mathbf{k}_1 + 2\mathbf{k}_2 - \frac{3544}{2565}\mathbf{k}_3 + \frac{1859}{4104}\mathbf{k}_4 - \frac{11}{40}\mathbf{k}_5 \quad (34)$$

the step  $h$  is adapted using the following algorithm. We first determine two coefficients  $R$  and  $\delta$  :

$$R = \frac{1}{h} |\mathbf{Y}_{i+1} - \tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{i+1}| \quad (35)$$

$$\delta = 0.84 \left( \frac{\epsilon}{R} \right)^{1/4} \quad (36)$$

If  $R \leq \epsilon$  we keep  $\tilde{\mathbf{Y}}_{i+1}$  as the step solution, and the next solution will be determined using the step size  $\delta \cdot h$ .

If  $R > \epsilon$  another step solution shall be determined, using  $\delta \cdot h$  as step size.

We have also implemented the Cash-Karp method (RKCK) (Cash and Karp, 1990) and Dormand-Prince method (RKDP) (Dormand and Prince, 1986), based on the same principle, but with different coefficients, in order to compare the effective differences between those adaptive methods.

### 1.3 Implementation of the eikonal method direct problem solver

The implementation of a direct problem solver for an eikonal ray tracing is described in algorithm 1.

## 2 Snell-Descartes's Law

With the hypothesis of a horizontally layered ocean like described in section 2 of the article, meaning that there is only a sound speed gradient along the  $z$  axis, the problem may be simplified using a radial symmetry, so the planimetrics components  $x$  and  $y$  becomes equivalent to a radial component  $r$ . Hence, the azimuthal angle  $\phi$  becomes superfluous, thus the propagation direction can only be described with a unique dip angle  $\theta(s)$ .

### 2.1 Formulation

Starting from the equations 10, we have :

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{dr}{ds} \right) = -\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial c}{\partial r} \quad (37)$$

If there is no variation of sound speed along  $r$ ,  $\frac{\partial c}{\partial r} = 0$ , so :

$$\frac{d}{ds} \left( \frac{1}{c} \frac{dr}{ds} \right) = 0 \quad (38)$$

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{dr}{ds} = k \text{ constant} \quad (39)$$

$$\frac{\cos \theta(s)}{c(s)} = k \text{ constant for each point of the path} \quad (40)$$

This relation, linking the incident angle with the sound speed is known as the Snell-Descartes law.

The constant  $k$ , called the ray parameter, only depends on the sound speed in the water column and the initial emission angle, and we have  $k = \frac{\cos \theta(0)}{c(0)}$ . This approach is used in the GNSS/A technique (Chadwell and Sweeney, 2010).

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**Algorithm 1** Algorithm used to solve the eikonal method direct problem

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```
 $i \leftarrow 0$ 
 $s_0 \leftarrow 0$ 
 $h_{new} \leftarrow h_0$ 
 $\mathbf{Y}_0 = [x_S, y_S, z_S, \frac{\cos \theta_0 \cos \phi_0}{c_0}, \frac{\cos \theta_0 \sin \phi_0}{c_0}, \frac{\sin \theta_0}{c_0}]$ 
 $end\ of\ path \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
 $border\ zone \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
 $change\ direction \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
while not  $end\ of\ path$  do
  if  $s_i + h_{new} \geq s_{max}$  then
     $h_i = \|s_{max} - s_i\|$ 
  else if  $border\ zone$  then
     $h_i = s_i$ 
  else
     $h_i = h_{new}$ 
  end if
  if  $change\ direction$  then
     $change\ direction \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
     $border\ zone \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
  end if
   $good\ step \leftarrow \text{false}$ 
  while not  $good\ step$  do
     $\mathbf{Y}_{new}, h_{new} \leftarrow \text{IntegrationFunction}(\mathbf{Y}_i, s_i, h_i)$ 
    if  $z_{min} < z_{new} < z_{max}$  then
       $good\ step \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
      break
    else if  $change\ direction$  then
       $good\ step \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
      break
    else
       $border\ zone \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
      if  $h_i = H[\text{last element}]$  then
        if  $z_{new} > z_{max}$  then
           $h_i = \frac{z_{max} - z_i}{c_i \sigma_z}$ 
           $change\ direction \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
        else if  $z_{new} > z_{max}$  then
           $h_i = \frac{z_{min} - z_i}{c_i \sigma_z}$ 
           $change\ direction \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
        end if
      else if  $h_i \text{ in } H[\text{last element}]$  then
         $h_i \leftarrow H[\text{next element}]$ 
      else
         $h_i \leftarrow H[\text{first element}]$ 
      end if
    end if
  end while
   $\mathbf{Y}_{i+1} \leftarrow \mathbf{Y}_{new}$ 
   $s_{i+1} \leftarrow s_i + h_i$ 
  if  $\|s_{i+1} - s_{max}\| < 10^{-6}$  then
     $end\ of\ path \leftarrow \text{true}$ 
  end if
   $i \leftarrow i + 1$ 
end while
```

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**Direct problem** In the case of a discretized SSP  $c(z)$ , the water column may be divided in layers of depth  $[z_i, z_{i+1}]$ . In each layer  $i$  a sound speed gradient may be defined.

$$g(z) = \frac{dc(z)}{dz} = \frac{c_{i+1} - c_i}{z_{i+1} - z_i} \quad (41)$$

In the layer  $i$ , the sound speed variation is  $i$  :

$$c(z) = c_i + g(z - z_i) \quad (42)$$

The equation 41 leads directly to the relation :

$$dc = g dz \quad (43)$$

And differencing the relation 40 gives :

$$dc = -\frac{\sin \theta}{k} d\theta \quad (44)$$

### 2.1.1 Ray progression into a layer

Taking account of the identity  $\sin^2 x + \cos^2 x = 1$ , we have :

$$\sin \theta = \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2} \quad (45)$$

$$\cot \theta = \frac{k^2 c^2}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2}} \quad (46)$$

The propagation time in the layer  $i$  is :

$$\Delta \tau_i = \tau_{i+1} - \tau_i = \int_{z_i}^{z_{i+1}} \frac{ds}{c} \quad (47)$$

$$= \int_{z_i}^{z_{i+1}} \frac{dz}{c(z) \sin \theta(z)} \quad (48)$$

$$= \int_{z_i}^{z_{i+1}} \frac{dz}{c(z) \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z)}} \quad (49)$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{|g_i|} \ln \left[ \frac{c(z_{i+1})}{c(z_i)} \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z_i)}}{1 + \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z_{i+1})}} \right] \right] \quad (50)$$

The spatial propagation along the radial component  $r$  is :

$$\Delta r_i = r_{i+1} - r_i = \int_{z_i}^{z_{i+1}} \cot \theta(z) dz \quad (51)$$

$$= \int_{z_i}^{z_{i+1}} \frac{kc dz}{\sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z)}} \quad (52)$$

$$= \left[ \frac{1}{kg_i} \left[ \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z_i)} - \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z_{i+1})} \right] \right] \quad (53)$$

The length of the ray path  $s$  in the layer  $i$  is :

$$\Delta s_i = s_{i+1} - s_i = \int_{z_i}^{z_{i+1}} \frac{dz}{\sin \theta(z)} \quad (54)$$

$$= \frac{c_i}{g_i \cos \theta_i} (\theta_i - \theta_{i+1}) \quad (55)$$

$$= \boxed{\frac{1}{kg_i} (\arccos(kc_i) - \arccos(kc_{i+1}))} \quad (56)$$

If  $k^2 c^2(z_{i+1}) \geq 1$  (leading to  $\cos \theta \geq 1$ , which is impossible), then the direction of propagation is inverted along  $z$ , and the previous equations become (Hovem, 2013) :

$$\Delta t_i = \frac{2}{|g_i|} \ln \left[ \frac{1 + \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z_i)}}{kc(z_i)} \right] \quad (57)$$

$$\Delta r_i = \frac{2}{kg_i} \left[ \sqrt{1 - k^2 c^2(z_i)} \right] \quad (58)$$

Finally, the total propagation time, the total radial propagation distance, and the total path length are the sum of each parameter in each layer.

$$\tau = \sum_i^n \Delta \tau_i \quad r = \sum_i^n \Delta r_i \quad s = \sum_i^n \Delta s_i \quad (59)$$

If we use the propagation time  $t_{max}$  as the stop parameter, we need to determine the sound speed  $c_{\tau_n}$  in the last layer at  $\tau_n$  to have  $\tau = \sum_i^{n-1} \Delta \tau_i + \Delta \tau_n$ . It is given by :

$$c_{\tau_n} = 2 \frac{e^{tg} c(z_i) \left( 1 + \sqrt{-(kc(z_i) - 1)(kc(z_i) + 1)} \right)}{k^2 (e^{tg})^2 c^2(z_i) + 2 + 2 \sqrt{-(kc(z_i) - 1)(kc(z_i) + 1)} - k^2 c^2(z_i)} \quad (60)$$

We can also use a maximum depth  $z_{max}$  as a stop parameter. In this case, the sound speed is “cut” at the depth  $z_{max}$ , the corresponding sound speed is given by  $c(z_{max}) = g(z_{max}) \cdot (z_{max} - z_i)$ , and a ray tracing is performed in the whole water column.

## 2.2 Implementation of the Snell-Descartes method direct problem solver

The implementation of a direct problem solver for a Snell-Descartes ray tracing is described in algorithm 2.



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**Algorithm 2** Algorithm used to solve the Snell-Descartes method direct problem

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```
 $a \leftarrow \theta_{0,max,init} = 88^\circ$   
 $b \leftarrow \theta_{0,min,init} = 0^\circ$   
 $r_{stop} \leftarrow 10^9$   
 $\epsilon \leftarrow 10^9$   
 $\Delta r \leftarrow \|r_R - r_S\|$   
while  $\epsilon > \epsilon_{min}$  do  
   $r_{R,a} \leftarrow f(r_S, \mathbf{C}, a, z_R)$   
   $r_{R,b} \leftarrow f(r_S, \mathbf{C}, b, z_R)$   
   $\delta r_{R,a} \leftarrow r_{R,a} - \Delta r$   
   $\delta r_{R,b} \leftarrow r_{R,b} - \Delta r$   
   $c \leftarrow a - \frac{a - b}{\delta r_{R,a} - \delta r_{R,b}} \cdot \delta r_{R,a}$   
   $b \leftarrow a$   
   $a \leftarrow c$   
   $r_{stop} \leftarrow r_{R,a}$   
   $\epsilon \leftarrow |\Delta r - r_{stop}|$   
end while  
 $\theta_0 \leftarrow c$   
 $r_R, \tau, s \leftarrow f(r_S, \mathbf{C}, \theta_0, z_R)$ 
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### 3 Comparison of the different eikonal ray tracing methods

### 3.1 Direct problem

Eikonal raytracings vs Snell-Descartes raytracing as reference

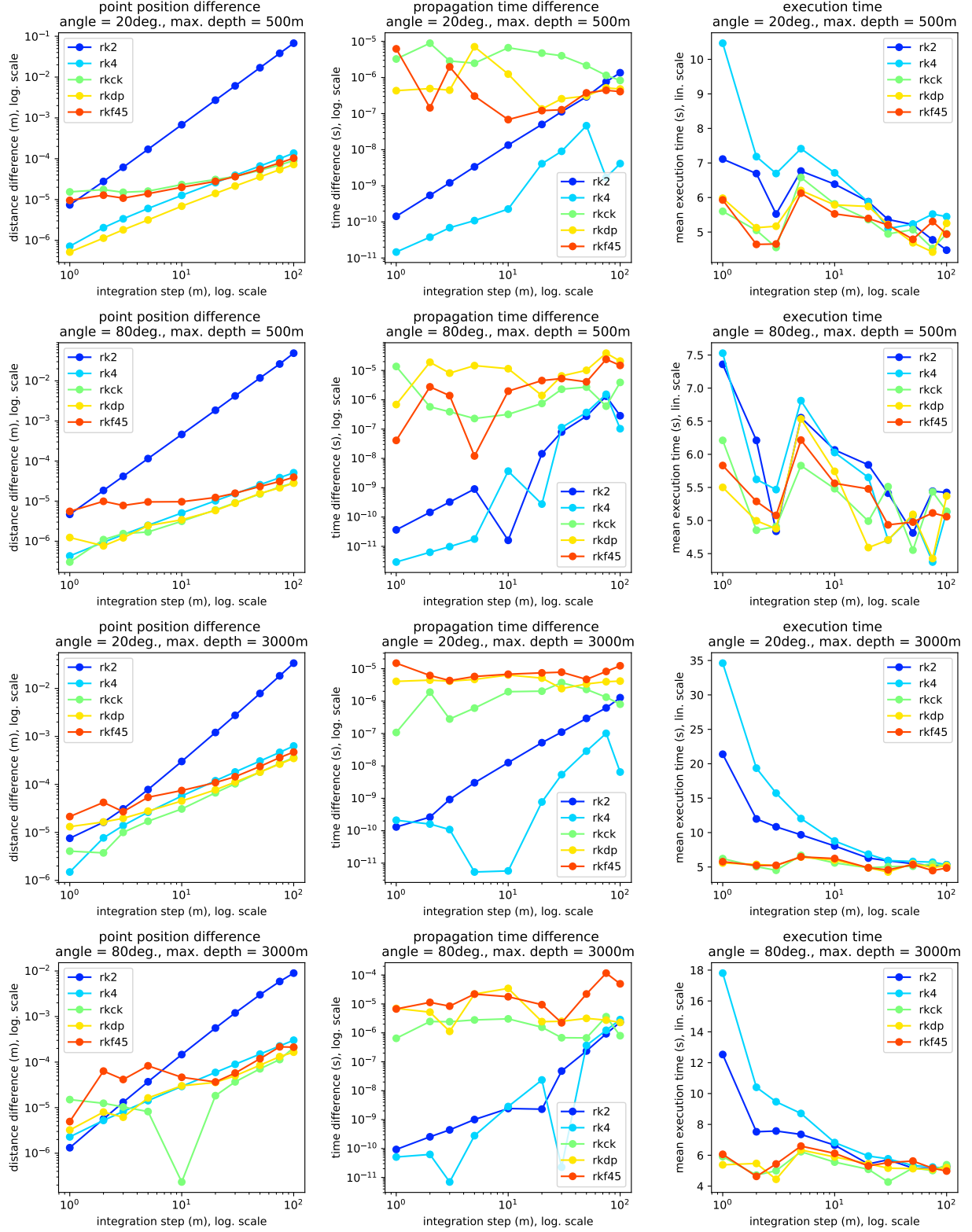


Figure 1: Direct ray tracing using the eikonal method compared to the Snell-Descartes one depending on integration steps  $h$  and different initial parameters (emission angle equal to 40° and 80°, and maximum depth equal to 500 m and 3000 m).

### 3.2 Inverse problem

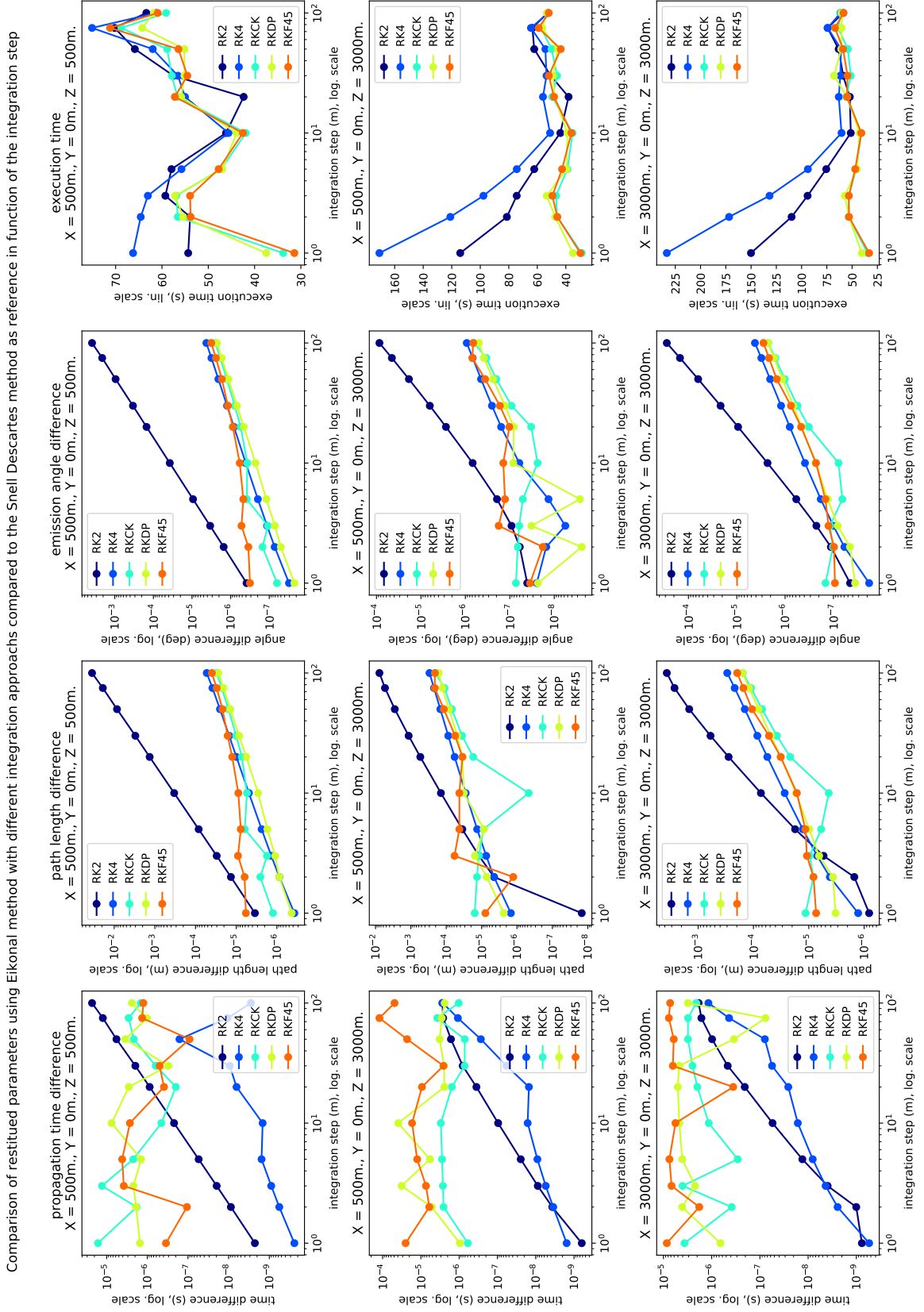


Figure 2: Inverse ray tracing using the eikonal method compared to the Snell-Descartes one depending on integration steps  $h$  and different initial parameters ( $x_R$  equal to 500 m and 3000 m, and  $z_R$  equal 500 m to 3000 m).

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