

Consider a square plate with sides  $[-1, 1] \times [-1, 1]$ . At time  $t = 0$  we are heating the plate up such that the temperature is  $u = 5$  on one side and  $u = 0$  on the other sides. The temperature evolves according to:

$$u_t = \Delta u.$$

At what time  $t^*$  does the plate reach  $u = 1$  at the center of the plate?

Implement a finite difference scheme and try with explicit and implicit time-stepping. Numerically investigate the stability of your schemes.

By increasing the number of discretisation points demonstrate how many correct digits you can achieve. Also, plot the convergence of your computed time  $t^*$  against the actual time. To 12 digits the wanted solution is  $t^* = 0.424011387033$ .

A GPU implementation of the explicit time-stepping scheme is not necessary but would be expected for a very high mark beyond 80%.

## ✓ 1) Explicit time-stepping

```

import numpy as np
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
from numba import cuda

def initial_conditions(N):

    # square plate with sides [-1,1]x[-1,1], L=1-(-1)=2
    x = np.linspace(-1, 1, N)
    y = np.linspace(-1, 1, N)
    h = x[1] - x[0]

    u = np.zeros((N, N), dtype=np.float64)

    u[:, 0] = 5.0      # Left boundary
    u[:, -1] = 0.0     # Right boundary
    u[0, :] = 0.0      # Top boundary
    u[-1, :] = 0.0     # Bottom boundary

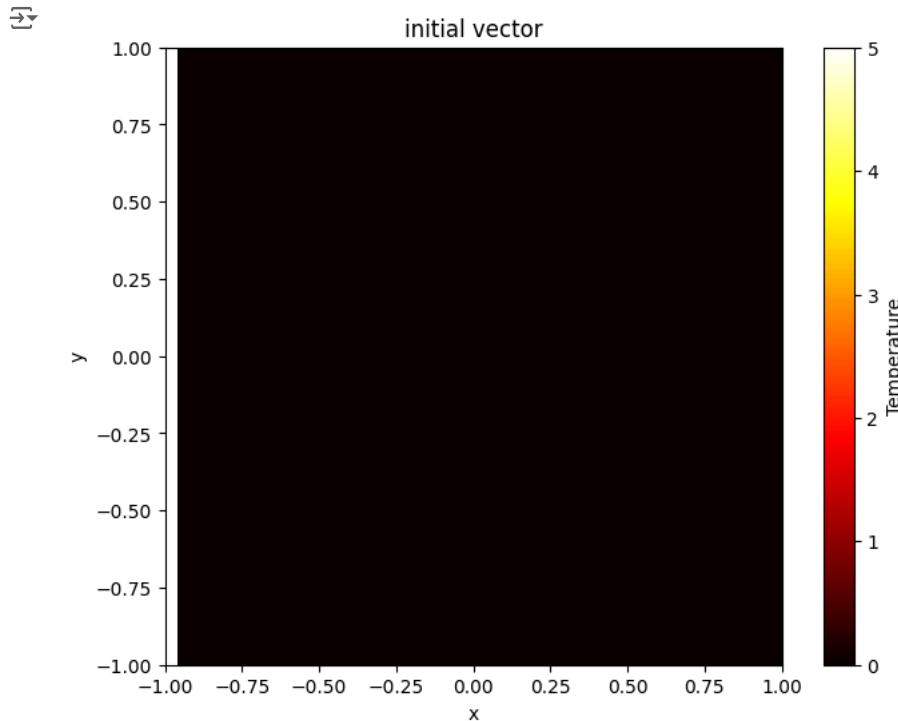
    u[0, 0] = 5.0      # Top-left corner
    u[-1, 0] = 5.0     # Bottom-left corner

    return u, h

# checking the initial conditions by plotting it
N = 50
u, h = initial_conditions(N)

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.imshow(u, extent=[-1, 1, -1, 1], origin='lower', cmap='hot', vmin=0, vmax=5)
plt.colorbar(label='Temperature')
plt.title('initial vector')
plt.xlabel('x')
plt.ylabel('y')
plt.show()

```



```

@cuda.jit(fastmath=True)
def build_laplacian_matrix_explicit(u, laplacian, h):
    i, j = cuda.grid(2)
    row, col = u.shape

```

```

if 1 <= i < row-1 and 1 <= j < col-1:
    # Δu ≈
    laplacian[i, j] = ( u[i, j+1] + u[i, j-1] + u[i+1, j] + u[i-1, j] - 4 * u[i, j] ) / (h**2)

@cuda.jit(fastmath=True)
def explicit_timestep(u, u_next, laplacian, dt):
    i, j = cuda.grid(2)
    row, col = u.shape

    if 1 <= i < row-1 and 1 <= j < col-1:
        u_next[i, j] = u[i, j] + dt * laplacian[i, j]

def check_stability(h, alpha, dt):
    courant_number = 2 * alpha * dt / (h * h)

    if courant_number > 1:
        print("The scheme may be unstable.")

def solve_explicit(N, T, dt, alpha):
    u, h = initial_conditions(N)
    u_next = np.copy(u)

    check_stability(h, alpha, dt)

    u_device = cuda.to_device(u)
    u_next_device = cuda.to_device(u_next)
    laplacian_device = cuda.device_array((N, N), dtype=np.float64)

    threads_per_block = (32, 32)
    blocks_per_grid_x = (N + threads_per_block[0] - 1) // threads_per_block[0]
    blocks_per_grid_y = (N + threads_per_block[1] - 1) // threads_per_block[1]
    blocks_per_grid = (blocks_per_grid_x, blocks_per_grid_y)

    center = N // 2
    times = []

    num_steps = int(T / dt)
    for step in range(num_steps):
        build_laplacian_matrix_explicit[blocks_per_grid, threads_per_block](u_device, laplacian_device, h)
        explicit_timestep[blocks_per_grid, threads_per_block](u_device, u_next_device, laplacian_device, dt)

        u_device, u_next_device = u_next_device, u_device

        u_host = u_device.copy_to_host()
        times.append(step * dt)

        if u_host[center, center] >= 1.0:
            return times[-1]

    return None

T = 2.0 # let t=2
dt = 0.00001
alpha = 0.01
points = [100, 120, 150, 200, 250, 300, 317]
computed_t_stars = []

for N in points:
    computed_t_star = solve_explicit(N, T, dt, alpha)
    computed_t_stars.append(computed_t_star)

for i, N in enumerate(points):
    t_star = computed_t_stars[i]
    if t_star is not None:
        print(f"N = {N}: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = {t_star:.12f}")

exact_t_star = 0.424011387033

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(points, computed_t_stars, marker='o', linestyle='-', color='blue', label='Computed t*')

```

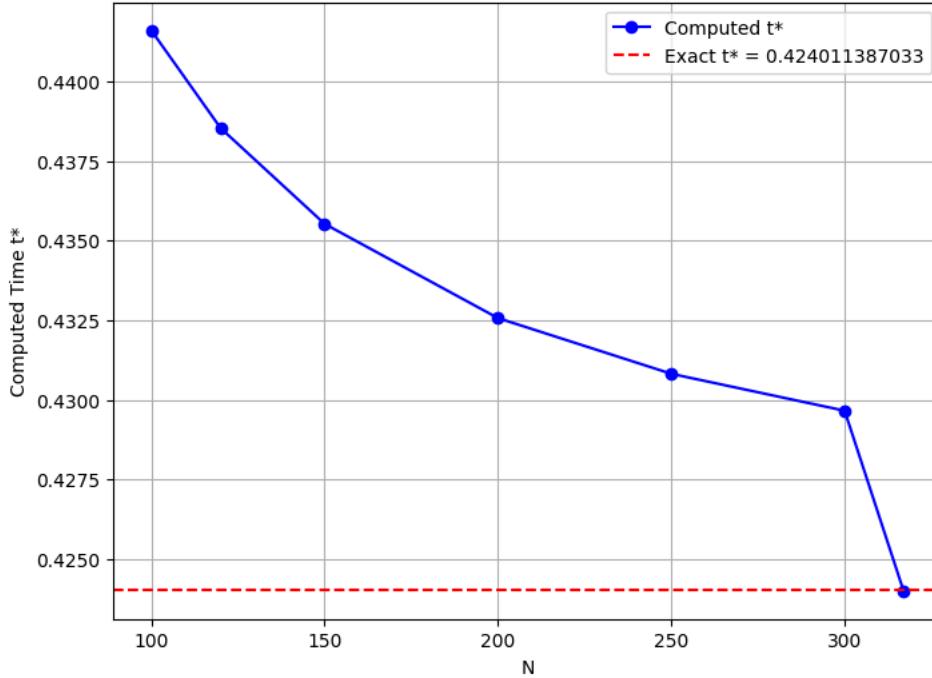
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plt.axhline(y=exact_t_star, color='red', linestyle='--', label=f'Exact t* = {exact_t_star:.12f}')
plt.xlabel('N')
plt.ylabel('Computed Time t*')
plt.title('Convergence of t* against the actual time')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()

```

→ N = 100: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.441610000000  
 N = 120: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.438540000000  
 N = 150: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.435530000000  
 N = 200: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.432570000000  
 N = 250: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.430820000000  
 N = 300: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.429660000000  
 N = 317: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t\* = 0.424000000000

Convergence of t\* against the actual time



We observed that when N=317, our  $t^* = 0.424000000000$ , which is the closest value to the exact solution. We noticed also, that as we increase discretisation point the computed  $t^*$  gets closer to the exact solution.

## 2) Implicit time-stepping

```

import numpy as np
from scipy.sparse import diags, identity
from scipy.sparse.linalg import spsolve
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt

def build_laplacian_matrix_implicit(n, h):
    N = n * n
    diagonals = []

    diagonals.append(-4 * np.ones(N))
    diagonals.append(np.ones(N - 1))
    diagonals.append(np.ones(N - 1))
    diagonals.append(np.ones(N - n))
    diagonals.append(np.ones(N - n))

    positions = [0, -1, 1, -n, n]

    for i in range(1, n):
        diagonals[1][i * n - 1] = 0
        diagonals[2][i * n - 1] = 0

    L = diags(diagonals, positions, shape=(N, N), format='csr') / (h ** 2)
    return L

# h = 2 / (10 + 1)
# A = build_laplacian_matrix(10,h)
# A.toarray()

```

```

def implicit_timestep(L, u, dt):
    I = identity(L.shape[0])
    A = I - dt * L
    return spsolve(A, u)

def solve_implicit(n, dt, T):
    u, h = initial_conditions(n)
    steps = int(T / dt)

    L = build_laplacian_matrix_implicit(n, h)

    I = identity(n * n, format='csr')
    M = I - dt * L

    center = (n // 2, n // 2)
    time = 0

    for _ in range(steps):
        u = spsolve(M, u.ravel()).reshape((n, n))

        u[:, 0] = 5.0           # We reapply boundary conditions after each time step to ensure that the fixed boundary values remain constant
        u[:, -1] = 0.0
        u[0, :] = 0.0
        u[-1, :] = 0.0
        u[0, 0] = 5.0
        u[-1, 0] = 5.0

        time += dt

        if u[center] >= 1.0:
            return time

    return time

T = 2.0  # let t=2
dt = 0.00001
alpha = 0.01

points = [ 10, 11, 13, 15, 17]
computed_t_stars = []

for n in points:
    t_star = solve_implicit(n, dt, T)
    computed_t_stars.append(t_star)
    print(f"N = {n}: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = {t_star:.12f}")

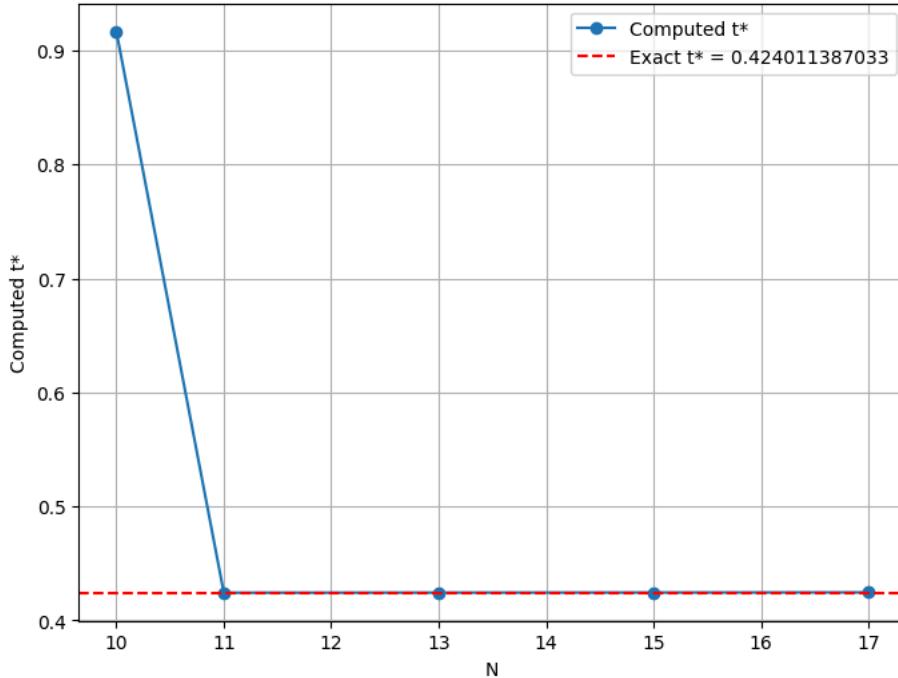
exact_t_star = 0.424011387033

plt.figure(figsize=(8, 6))
plt.plot(points, computed_t_stars, 'o-', label='Computed t*')
plt.axhline(y=exact_t_star, color='r', linestyle='--', label=f'Exact t* = {exact_t_star}')
plt.xlabel('N')
plt.ylabel('Computed t*')
plt.title('Convergence of t* against the actual time')
plt.legend()
plt.grid(True)
plt.show()

```



```
↳ N = 10: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = 0.916569999998  
N = 11: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = 0.424350000000  
N = 13: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = 0.424430000000  
N = 15: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = 0.424520000000  
N = 17: Center temperature reached u = 1 at t* = 0.424640000000
```

Convergence of  $t^*$  against the actual time

we notice that the closest value we could reach to the exact solution is:  $t^* = 0.424350000000$ . Moreover, the Backward Euler method (implicit) is unconditionally stable for the heat equation, that's why I didn't investigate the stability of it unlike before in (explixit time stepping)

Start coding or generate with AI.