Discretization of a triangular Grid

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1 Cartesian Coordinates

1.1 Gradient

The base equation is given as

$$\int_A \nabla f \,\mathrm{d}A = \oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \,\mathrm{d}S \tag{1.1}$$

The left hand side of the equation can be rewritten as

$$\int_A \nabla f \,\mathrm{d}A = A_c \cdot \nabla f_c \tag{1.2}$$

The right hand side can be written as

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \,\mathrm{d}S = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{f_{i+1} + f_i}{2} \cdot \vec{n}_i \cdot |\vec{r}_{i+1,i}| \tag{1.3}$$

where $\vec{r}_{i+1,i} = \vec{x}_{i+1} - \vec{x}_i$ and it can be written

$$\vec{n}_i \cdot |\vec{r}_{i+1,i}| = M_{rot} \cdot \vec{r}_{i+1,i} \tag{1.4}$$

where

$$M_{rot} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(\theta) & -\sin(\theta) & 0 \\ \sin(\theta) & \cos(\theta) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{1.5}$$

with $\theta = -\pi/2$

$$M_{rot} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \tag{1.6}$$

Since the integral mus be performed over a closed loop

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f_c &= \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_c} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N} (f_{i+1} + f_i) \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{i+1,i} \\ &= \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_c} \cdot [(f_{i+1} + f_i) \cdot M \cdot (\vec{x}_{i+1} - \vec{x}_i) + \dots + (f_i + f_{i-1}) \cdot M \cdot \vec{x}_i - \vec{x}_{i-1}] \\ &= \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_c} \cdot [f_i \cdot M \cdot (\vec{x}_{i+1} - \vec{x}_{i-1}) + f_{i+1} \cdot M \cdot (\vec{x}_{i+2} - \vec{x}_i) + \dots] \end{aligned} \tag{1.7}$$

Thus

$$\nabla f_c = \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_c} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_i \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{i+1,i-1} \tag{1.8}$$

1.2 Normal derivative

For the normal derivative at the cell wall w with the normal vector n_w one can write

$$\underbrace{\nabla f_c \cdot \vec{n}_w}_{\nabla_w f_c} = \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_c} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_i \cdot (M \cdot \vec{r}_{i+1,i-1}) \cdot \vec{n}_w \tag{1.9}$$

To find the derivative on a node surrounded by K neighbouring cells with the total surface $A_{tot} = \sum_{c=1}^{K} A_c$

$$\sum_{c=1}^{K} \frac{A_c}{A_{tot}} \cdot \nabla_{c,w} f_c = \sum_{c=1}^{K} \frac{A_c}{A_{tot}} \cdot \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_c} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_{c,i} \cdot (M \cdot \vec{r}_{c,i+1,i-1}) \cdot \vec{n}_{c,w} \tag{1.10}$$

using $\overline{A_c} = \frac{A_c}{A_{tot}}$

$$\sum_{c=1}^{K} \overline{A_c} \cdot \nabla_{c,w} f_c = \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_{tot}} \cdot \sum_{c=1}^{K} \sum_{i=1}^{N} f_{c,i} \cdot (M \cdot \vec{r}_{c,i+1,i-1}) \cdot \vec{n}_{c,w} \tag{1.11}$$

1.3 Laplace

The integral is made over a pseudo cell which connects the barycentres of adjacent cells

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^2 f \cdot \underbrace{\sum_{b=1}^{N} A_b}_{A_{b,tot}} &= \sum_{b=1}^{N} \nabla f \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{b+1,b} \\ &= \sum_{b=1}^{N} \frac{A_b \cdot \nabla f_b + A_{b+1} \cdot \nabla f_{b+1}}{A_{b+1,b}} \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{b+1,b} \end{aligned} \tag{1.12}$$

Using Eqn. (1.8)

$$\nabla^2 f \cdot A_{b,tot} = \sum_{b=1}^{N} \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_{b+1,b}} \cdot \left(\sum_{q=0}^{1} \sum_{i=1}^{3} f_i^{b+q} \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{i+1,i-1}^{\,b+q} \right) \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{b+1,b} \tag{1.13}$$

As the gradient is considered constant inside the cell

$$\nabla^2 f \approx \frac{1}{2 \cdot A_{b,tot}} \cdot \sum_{b=1}^{N} \frac{1}{A_{b+1,b}} \cdot \left(\sum_{q=0}^{1} \sum_{i=1}^{3} f_i^{b+q} \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{i+1,i-1}^{\,b+q} \right) \cdot M \cdot \vec{r}_{b+1,b} \tag{1.14}$$

2 Cylindrical Coordinates

2.1 Gradient

The base equation is given as

$$\int_V \nabla f \,\mathrm{d}V = \oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \,\mathrm{d}S \tag{2.1}$$

2.2 Left hand side

The left hand side of the equation above can be expressed as follows

$$\int_V \nabla f \,\mathrm{d}V = \iiint \nabla f \,\mathrm{d}x\mathrm{d}y\mathrm{d}z \tag{2.2}$$

For a coordinate transformation first consider the Cartesian coordinates in cylindrical

$$x = r\,\cos\theta \tag{2.3}$$

$$y = r\,\sin\theta \tag{2.4}$$

$$z = z \tag{2.5}$$

For a 2d case the Jacobian can be expressed as

$$J = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial x}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial x}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial y}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial y}{\partial z} \\ \frac{\partial z}{\partial r} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial \theta} & \frac{\partial z}{\partial z} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -r\,\sin\theta & 0 \\ \sin\theta & r\,\cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.6}$$

with the determinant

$$\det(J) = r \tag{2.7}$$

Using this information the left hand side can be expressed in cylindrical coordinates as

$$\iiint \nabla f \,\mathrm{d}x\mathrm{d}y\mathrm{d}z = \iiint \nabla f \cdot r \,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}\theta\mathrm{d}z \tag{2.8}$$

For further calculations $\frac{\partial}{\partial \theta}$ and ∇f to be constant over a cell hence

$$\iiint \nabla f \cdot r \,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}\theta\mathrm{d}z = \nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot \iint r \,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z \tag{2.9}$$

Assuming that the the point of interest is surrounded by a polygonal cell which consists of sub cells, the integral can be expressed as a sum of integrals over the sub cells:

$$\nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot \iint r \,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z = \nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot \sum_{i=1}^{N} \iint_{p_{i,0}}^{p_{i,1}(r,z)} r \,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z. \tag{2.10}$$

2.2.1 Triangular Mesh

To the solve the equation on a cell of a triangular mesh the equation is first solved on a unit triangle. The solution on a unit triangle is the special case of the solution on a right triangle:

$$\nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot \int_{z_0}^{z_1} \int_{r_1}^{r(z)} r \, \mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z = \nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-z} r \, \mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z. \tag{2.11}$$

To solve the equation on a arbitrary triangle

$$\iint r \, \mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z = \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-\tilde{z}} \tilde{r}(r(\tilde{r},\tilde{z}), z(\tilde{r},\tilde{z})) \, |\det(J)| \, \mathrm{d}\tilde{r}\mathrm{d}\tilde{z}. \tag{2.12}$$

Assuming the that the vertices of the original triangle are denoted **a**, **b** and **c** the map can be defined as

$$\mathbf{g}: \quad (u,v) \mapsto \mathbf{a} + u(\mathbf{b}-\mathbf{a}) + v(\mathbf{c}-\mathbf{a}) \tag{2.13}$$

which for our case means

$$r(\tilde{r},\tilde{z}) = a_r + \tilde{r}(b_r - a_r) + \tilde{z}(c_r - a_r) \tag{2.14}$$

and the determinant of the jacobina is constant as

$$\det(J) = (b_r - a_r)(c_z - a_z) - (c_r - a_r)(b_z - a_z). \tag{2.15}$$

The equation can now be rewritten to

$$\iint r \, \mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z = |\det(J)| \int_0^1 \int_0^{1-\tilde{z}} \tilde{r}(\tilde{r},\tilde{z}) \, \mathrm{d}\tilde{r}\mathrm{d}\tilde{z}. \tag{2.16}$$

The integral in the right hand side can be solved to

$$\int_0^1 \int_0^{1-\tilde{z}} \tilde{r}(\tilde{r},\tilde{z}) \, \mathrm{d}\tilde{r}\mathrm{d}\tilde{z} = \frac{1}{6}\Big\{ 3a_r + (b_r - a_r) + (c_r - a_r) \Big\} \tag{2.17}$$

which reduces the whole equation to

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot \iint r \, \mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}z = \nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot & \big| (b_r - a_r)(c_z - a_z) - (c_r - a_r)(b_z - a_z) \big| \\ & \cdot \frac{1}{6}\Big\{ 3a_r + (b_r - a_r) + (c_r - a_r) \Big\} \end{aligned}. \tag{2.18}$$

Substituting

$$G = \Big| (b_r - a_r)(c_z - a_z) - (c_r - a_r)(b_z - a_z) \Big| \cdot \frac{1}{6}\Big\{ 3a_r + (b_r - a_r) + (c_r - a_r) \Big\} \tag{2.19}$$

one can write

$$\iiint \nabla f \cdot r \, \mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}\theta\mathrm{d}z = \nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot G. \tag{2.20}$$

2.3 Right hand side

For a polygonal mesh the right hand side of the equation above can be considered as a sum of line integrals

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \, \mathrm{d}S = \iint f(\vec{r}(t,s)) \cdot \underbrace{\frac{\frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s}}{\left|\left| \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right|\right|}}_{\vec{n}} \cdot \left|\left| \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right|\right| \mathrm{d}t\mathrm{d}s \tag{2.21}$$

which reduces to

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \, \mathrm{d}S = \iint f(\vec{r}(t,s)) \cdot \left(\frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right) \mathrm{d}t\mathrm{d}s. \tag{2.22}$$

For the parametrization the choice is made

$$r = r(t) \tag{2.23}$$

$$\theta = s \tag{2.24}$$

$$z = z(t) \tag{2.25}$$

which leads to

$$\frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial r(t)}{\partial t} \\ 0 \\ \frac{\partial z(t)}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.26}$$

and

$$\frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.27}$$

hence

$$\left(\frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right) = \begin{pmatrix} -\frac{\partial z(t)}{\partial t} \\ 0 \\ \frac{\partial r(t)}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.28}$$

and

$$\left|\left| \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial t} \times \frac{\partial \vec{r}(t,s)}{\partial s} \right|\right| = \sqrt{\frac{\partial r(t)}{\partial t}^2 + \frac{\partial z(t)}{\partial t}^2}. \tag{2.29}$$

2.3.1 Surface Integral

Assuming a surface integral for a polygonal cell

$$S = \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\sum_i \int_0^{l_i} r_i(t) \, \mathrm{d}t \right] \mathrm{d}\theta \tag{2.30}$$

with r_i independent of θ leads to

$$S = 2\pi \sum_i \int_0^{l_i} r_i(t) \, \mathrm{d}t. \tag{2.31}$$

2.3.2 Function integral

The approach above can be extended with a function f and an normal vector

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \, \mathrm{d}S = \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\sum_i \vec{n}_i \int_0^{l_i} f_i(t) \cdot r_i(t) \, \mathrm{d}t \right] \mathrm{d}\theta \tag{2.32}$$

again assuming an Independence of θ

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \, \mathrm{d}S = 2\pi \sum_i \vec{n}_i \int_0^{l_i} f_i(t) \cdot r_i(t) \, \mathrm{d}t \tag{2.33}$$

The radius function r_i can be expressed as

$$r_i(t) = \frac{t}{l_i}(r_{i,1} - r_{i,0}) + r_{i,0} \tag{2.34}$$

a similar approach can be done for the function value f_i

$$f_i(t) = \frac{t}{l_i}(f_{i,1} - f_{i,0}) + f_{i,0}. \tag{2.35}$$

Using the above the integral in the sum can be solved as

$$\int_0^{l_i} f_i(t) \cdot r_i(t) \, \mathrm{d}t = f_{i,1} \cdot \frac{l_i}{6} \cdot (2\, r_{i,1} + r_{i,0}) + f_{i,0} \cdot \frac{l_i}{6} \cdot (r_{i,1} + 2\, r_{i,0}) \tag{2.36}$$

which leads to the final result

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \, \mathrm{d}S = 2\pi \sum_i \vec{n}_i \left\{ f_{i,1} \cdot \frac{l_i}{6} \cdot (2\, r_{i,1} + r_{i,0}) + f_{i,0} \cdot \frac{l_i}{6} \cdot (r_{i,1} + 2\, r_{i,0}) \right\} \tag{2.37}$$

which using $l_i = |\vec{x}_{i+1} - \vec{x}_i| = |\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|$ can be rewritten as

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n} \, \mathrm{d}S = 2\pi \sum_i^N \vec{n}_i \left\{ f_{i+1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|}{6} \cdot (2\, r_{i+1} + r_i) + f_i \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|}{6} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\, r_i) \right\}. \tag{2.38}$$

As the in integral must be closed the last value in the chain is automatically the first one hence the inner sum can be rewritten as

$$\vec{n}_1 \left\{ f_2 \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{2,1}|}{6} \cdot (2\, r_2 + r_1) + f_1 \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{2,1}|}{6} \cdot (r_2 + 2\, r_1) \right\} \tag{2.39}$$

$$\vec{n}_2 \left\{ f_{i+1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|}{6} \cdot (2\, r_{i+1} + r_i) + f_i \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|}{6} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\, r_i) \right\} \tag{2.40}$$

$$\vec{n}_3 \left\{ f_1 \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{1,3}|}{6} \cdot (2\, r_1 + r_3) + f_3 \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{1,3}|}{6} \cdot (r_1 + 2\, r_3) \right\} \tag{2.41}$$

which leads to the reformulation

$$f_i \left(\vec{n}_{i+1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|}{6} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\,r_i) + \vec{n}_{i-1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i,i-1}|}{6} \cdot (2\,r_i + r_{i-1}) \right). \tag{2.42}$$

Taking this result the surface integral can be cast in the form

$$\oint_S f \cdot \vec{n}\,\mathrm{d}S = 2\pi \sum_i^N f_i \left(\vec{n}_{i+1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|}{6} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\,r_i) + \vec{n}_{i-1} \cdot \frac{|\vec{x}_{i,i-1}|}{6} \cdot (2\,r_i + r_{i-1}) \right). \tag{2.43}$$

Since the term $\vec{n}_{i+1} \cdot |\vec{x}_{i+1,i}|$ is just the non normalized outward verctor of the surface element it can be cast in the form

$$\vec{n}_{i+1} \cdot |\vec{x}_{i+1,i}| = M \cdot \vec{x}_{i+1,i} \tag{2.44}$$

where M is a rotation matrix defined as

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\theta & -\sin\theta & 0 \\ \sin\theta & \cos\theta & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.45}$$

which for $\theta = -\pi/2$ is

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \tag{2.46}$$

hence

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_S f \cdot \vec{n}\,\mathrm{d}S &= \frac{2}{6}\pi \sum_i^N f_i \Big[M \cdot \vec{x}_{i+1,i} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\,r_i) + M \cdot \vec{x}_{i,i-1} \cdot (2\,r_i + r_{i-1}) \Big] \\ &= \frac{2}{6}\pi M \cdot \sum_i^N f_i \Big[\vec{x}_{i+1,i} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\,r_i) + \vec{x}_{i,i-1} \cdot (2\,r_i + r_{i-1}) \Big]. \end{aligned} \tag{2.47}$$

2.4 Gradient - Triangular Mesh

For a triangular mesh the the gradient can be formulated as

$$\iiint \nabla f \cdot r\,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}\theta\mathrm{d}z = \oint_S f \cdot \vec{n}\,\mathrm{d}S \tag{2.48}$$

$$\nabla f \cdot 2\pi \cdot G = \frac{2}{6}\pi M \cdot \sum_i^N f_i \Big[\vec{x}_{i+1,i} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\,r_i) + \vec{x}_{i,i-1} \cdot (2\,r_i + r_{i-1}) \Big] \tag{2.49}$$

which reduces to

$$\nabla f = \frac{M}{6\,G} \cdot \sum_{i=1}^3 f_i \Big[\vec{x}_{i+1,i} \cdot (r_{i+1} + 2\,r_i) + \vec{x}_{i,i-1} \cdot (2\,r_i + r_{i-1}) \Big]. \tag{2.50}$$

2.5 Laplace - Triangular Mesh

Using the divergence theorem in cylinder coordinates and assuming a triangular mesh, $\frac{\partial}{\partial\theta} = 0$ and $\nabla^2 f$ to be constant over the cell

$$
\begin{aligned}
\int_V \nabla^2 f \;\mathrm{d}V &= \oint_S \nabla f \cdot \vec{n} \;\mathrm{d}S \\
\iiint \nabla^2 f \cdot r \,\mathrm{d}r\mathrm{d}\theta\mathrm{d}z &= \int_0^{2\pi} \left[\sum_b \vec{n}_b \int_0^{l_b} \nabla f_b(t) \cdot r_b(t) \,\mathrm{d}t \right] \mathrm{d}\theta \\
2\pi \cdot \nabla^2 f_i \cdot \underbrace{\sum_{c=1}^{N} G_c}_{G_{tot}} &= \frac{2\pi}{6} M \cdot \sum_{b=1}^{N} \nabla f_b \Big[\vec{x}_{b+1,b} \cdot (r_{b+1} + 2\, r_b) + \vec{x}_{b,b-1} \cdot (2\, r_b + r_{b-1}) \Big] \\
\nabla^2 f_i &= \frac{M}{6\, G_{tot}} \cdot \sum_{b=1}^{N} \nabla f_b \Big[\vec{x}_{b+1,b} \cdot (r_{b+1} + 2\, r_b) + \vec{x}_{b,b-1} \cdot (2\, r_b + r_{b-1}) \Big]
\end{aligned}
\tag{2.51}
$$

using the definition above

$$
\begin{aligned}
\nabla^2 f_i = \frac{1}{36\, G_{tot}} \cdot \sum_{b=1}^{N} \frac{1}{G_b} \Bigg\{ \\
\left(\sum_{b_i=1}^{3} f_{b_i} M \left[\vec{x}_{b_i+1,b_i} \cdot (r_{b_i+1} + 2\, r_{b_i}) + \vec{x}_{b_i,b_i-1} \cdot (2\, r_{b_i} + r_{b_i-1}) \right] \right) \\
\cdot M \left[\vec{x}_{b+1,b} \cdot (r_{b+1} + 2\, r_b) + \vec{x}_{b,b-1} \cdot (2\, r_b + r_{b-1}) \right] \Bigg\}.
\end{aligned}
\tag{2.52}
$$