## ELEC 4700 Assignment-2 Finite Difference Method

Due: Sunday, Feb. 28, 2019 11:59PM

## Submission

The format for submission will be a repo named assignment in exactly that format, all one word, all lower case.

The code should be organized such that the master branch of the repo contains the submission version, and in the root folder is the assignment report with the title assignment2meeting if you want to opt in to the one-on-one, assignment2 otherwise. The entry point script (the one that creates the report or runs all the other code) is titled as the repo. Any additional code should be stored in a folder titled code.

In order to create a repo for your assignment, you can follow these instructions:

- 1. On github, create a new repo named "assignment2"
- 2. On your local machine, make sure you do git init in your assignment 1 folder.
- 3. In the same directory as your assignment code and PDF commit all changes you've made to your project with first git add -A and then git commit -m "MyMessage"
- 4. From within the directory you've been working in, push your code to your github repousing the git push -u https://github.com/YourGithubUsername/assignment\AsstNum master
- 5. You'll need to provide your github credentials, but then you'll be done, your code uploaded and ready for grading!

As mentioned before, the submission should have the format of:

- 1. The report, as published by the MATLAB publishing tool
- 2. A folder name "code" containing the code used to create the report

Your code will be checked using the latest version of MATLAB as found on DOE computers. The code will be run through the publisher again to verify the graphs produced. Please ensure that your code clearly indicates which question and which part it is answering.

Laplace's equation by FD can be used to solve electrostatic potential problems  $\nabla^2 V = 0$ , or current flow problems in inhomogeneous solids  $\nabla (\sigma_{x,y} \nabla V) = 0$ . Either case can be modeled as an orthogonal resistor network with resistors of value 1 or  $\frac{1}{\sigma}$ . The conception of the problem as an orthogonal 2-D mesh of resistors is very useful for setting up the boundary conditions (BC) and the interface conditions where two regions have different  $\sigma$ .

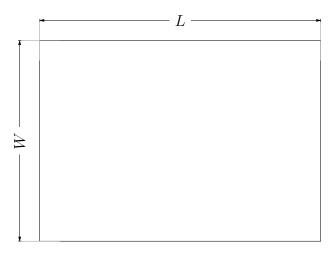


Figure 1: Rectangular region with isolated conducting sides

- 1. Use the Finite Difference Method (I strongly suggest you use the matrix form of the problem GV = F) to solve for the electrostatic potential in the rectangular region  $L \times W$  shown in Figure 1 using  $\nabla^2 V = 0$ . In this exercise we'll experiment to see how accurate our model is.
  - (a) Solve the simple case where  $V = V_0$  at x = 0 and V = 0 at x = L. Note that in this case the top/bottom BC are not fixed. You could use  $\frac{dV}{dy} = 0$  for the BC or treat this as a 1-D case.
  - (b) Solve the case where  $V = V_0$  at x = 0, x = L and V = 0 at y = 0, y = W. Compare the solution of a bunch of mesh sizes to the analytical series solution:

$$V(x,y) = \frac{4V_0}{\pi} \sum_{n=1,3.5...}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \frac{\cosh\left(\frac{n\pi x}{a}\right)}{\cosh\left(\frac{n\pi b}{a}\right)} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi y}{a}\right)$$

A typical plot is given in Figure 2.

Draw some conclusions about meshing. (Hint: does the solution approach the analytical solution? ). Note that both solutions have some explicit error. It is useful to plot a "movie" of the analytical series solution as it converges to the "real" solution. How do you know/decide when to stop the analytical series? Griffiths "Intro to Electrodynamics 3e" contains a derivation of the analytical solution in Example 3.4. Comment on the advantages and disadvantages of the numerical versus analytical solution.

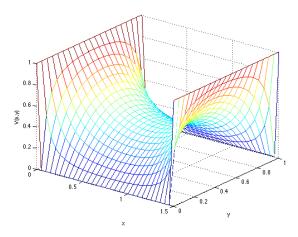


Figure 2: Typical potential plot for case where ends are at same potential and sides at same potential.

Note: For plots use a ratio of 3/2 for L/W.

## **Include in Report**

a) 2-D plot of V(x) b) Matching surface plots of V(x,y). Only include one plot for each. Conclusions on meshing and comments on numerical vs analytical

- 2. Use the Finite Difference Method to solve for the current flow in the rectangular region  $L \times W$  shown in Figure 3 using  $\nabla (\sigma_{x,y} \nabla V) = 0$ . To model the boxes as highly resistive we will use a low  $\sigma_{x,y}$  inside the boxes. Note that  $\sigma_{x,y}$  needs to remain finite. Start with  $\sigma = 1$  outside the boxes and  $\sigma = 10^{-2}$  inside. In this exercise we'll experiment to see how the current flow is affected by the "bottle-neck".
  - (a) Calculate the current flow at the two contacts. Generate plots of  $\sigma(x,y)$ , V(x,y),  $\vec{E_x}$ ,  $\vec{E_y}$ ,  $\vec{J}(x,y)$
  - (b) Investigate mesh density.
  - (c) Investigate narrowing of "bottle-neck".
  - (d) Investigate varying the  $\sigma$  of the box.

## Include in Report

- a) Current, plots:  $\sigma(x,y)$ , V(x,y),  $\vec{E}(x,y)$ ,  $\vec{J}(x,y)$  b) Graph of current vs mesh size
- c) Graph or table of current vs various bottle-necks. d) Graph of current vs  $\sigma$

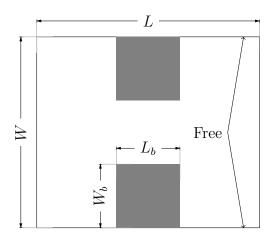


Figure 3: Rectangular region with isolated conducting sides and "bottle-neck".