

Verification of FEniCs solver for heat equation

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Note, these were mostly done for myself as means of verifying correctness of the solver and require more detailed descriptions.

1 Verification of monolithic solver

1.1 Time

Time integration error using 64 internal unknowns per unit length. See Figure 1.1, first, resp. second orders are observed.

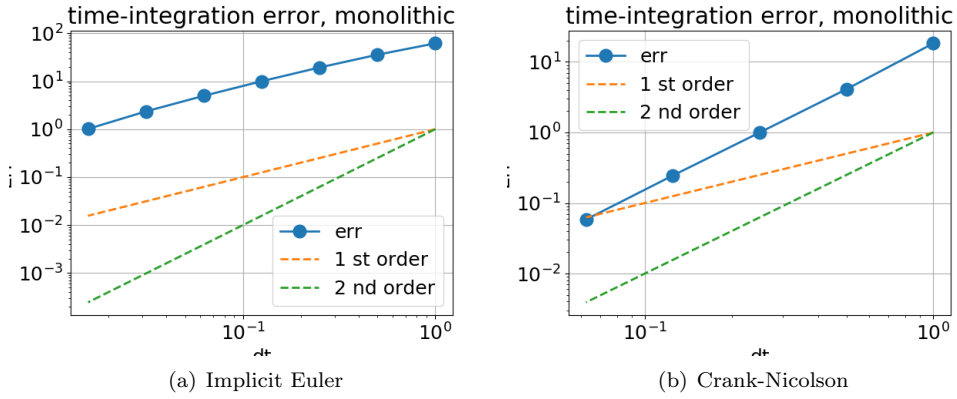


Figure 1: Time integration error, monolithic.

1.2 Space

L2 error in space, using 2nd order time-integration and sufficiently many timesteps. See Figure 1.2, second order observed.

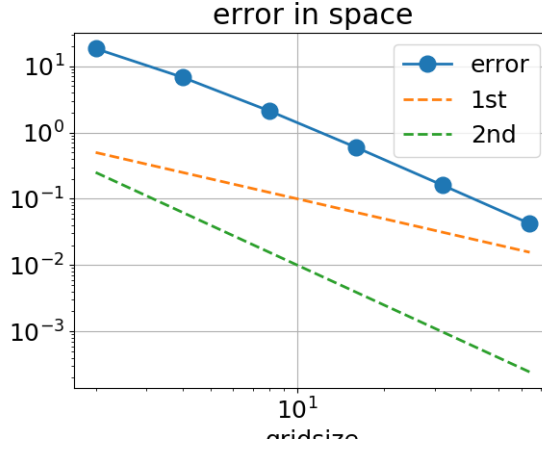


Figure 2: Space error of monolithic solver.

2 Individual solvers

We first verify the correctness of the Dirichlet and Neumann solvers on themselves, using exact values for the boundaries.

2.1 Dirichlet solver

2.1.1 Time

See Figure 2.1.1, first, resp. second order is observed, stagnates upon hitting the spatial error limit.

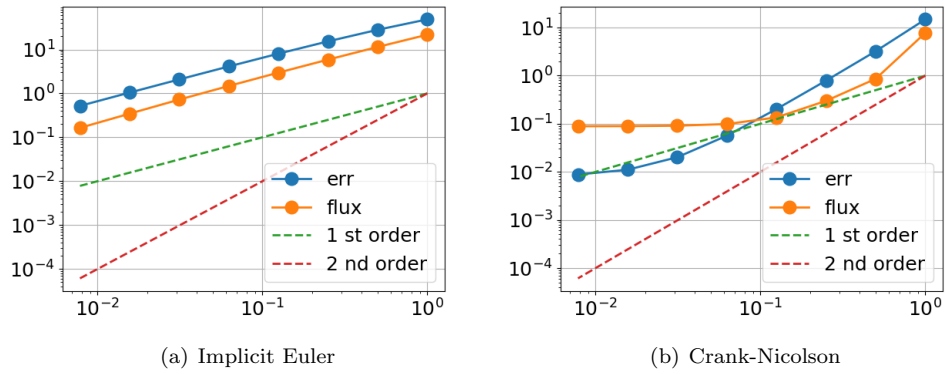


Figure 3: Time integration error, Dirichlet solver.

2.1.2 Space

See Figure 2.1.2. Second order in the solution is observed, stagnates a bit too early for IE due to hitting limit of time-integration error. Flux is only first order accurate due to being the derivative of the solution.

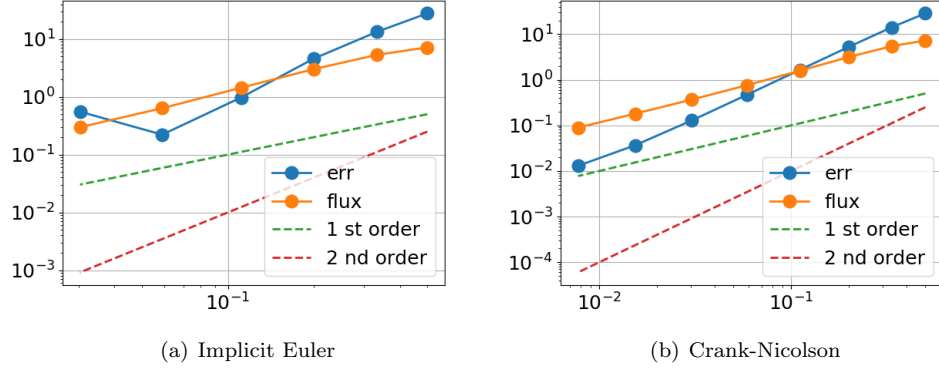


Figure 4: Space discretization error, Dirichlet solver.

2.2 Neumann solver

2.2.1 Time

See Figure 2.2.1, first, resp. second order is observed.

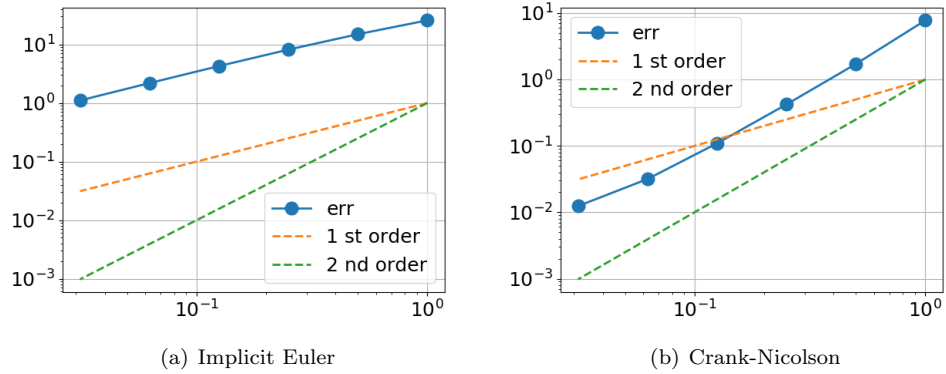
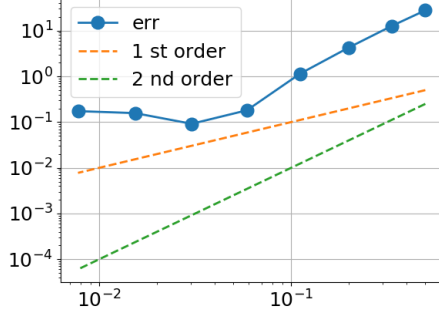


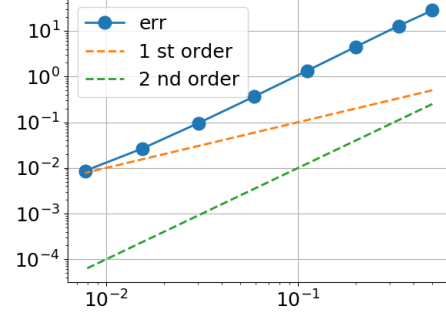
Figure 5: Time integration error, Dirichlet solver.

2.2.2 Space

See Figure 2.2.2. Second order in the solution is observed, stagnates a bit too early for IE due to hitting limit of time-integration error.



(a) Implicit Euler



(b) Crank-Nicolson

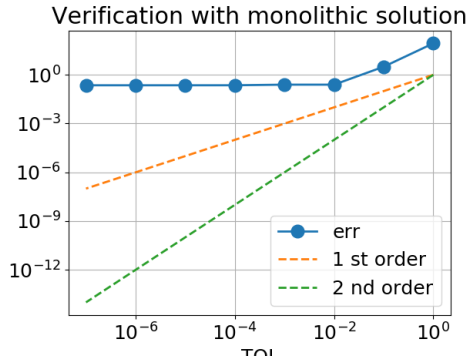
Figure 6: Space discretization error, Dirichlet solver.

3 Waveform relaxation (WR)

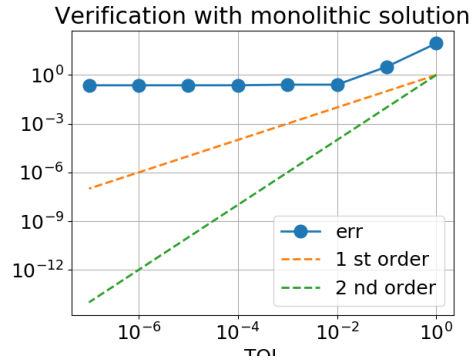
The general question is if the solution obtained from using WR converges to the monolithic solution. Our key parameters to control are Δt , Δx and TOL , the tolerance used for the termination criterion in the WR. In the following test we vary one while keeping the other 2 fixed.

3.1 Tolerance

We want to see that the solution from using WR converges to the monolithic solution for $TOL \rightarrow 0$. Result can be seen in Figure 3.1. We do not observe convergence. At this point, we can assume that the data exchange due to WR introduces an error in time or space.



(a) Implicit Euler



(b) Crank-Nicolson

Figure 7: WR for $TOL \rightarrow 0$.

3.2 Time

Next up we take $TOL = 10^{-10}$ and let $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$. See Figure 3.2 for the result. Again, the error is bounded by a limit, which is likely due to an error in space.

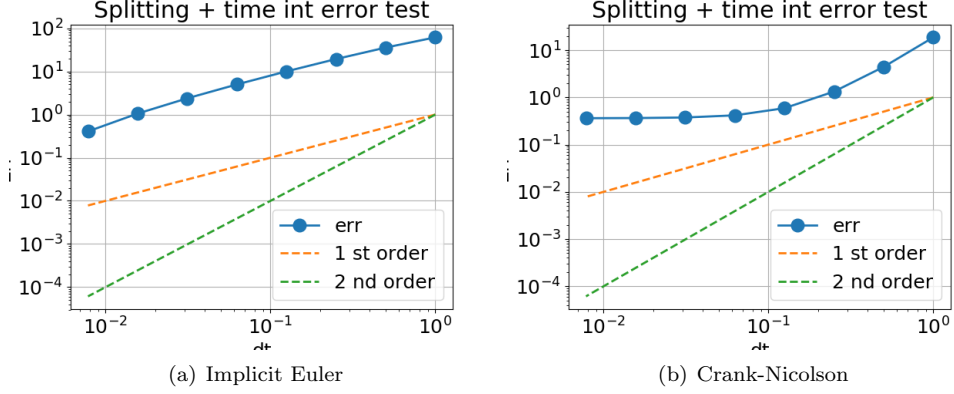


Figure 8: WR for $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$.

3.3 Space

Lastly, we consider $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$. See Figure 3.3 for the result. We do not see the expected second order in space as given by linear FE, but only first order. This is due to the computation of the flux only resulting in a spatially first order accurate flux, see Figure 2.1.1.

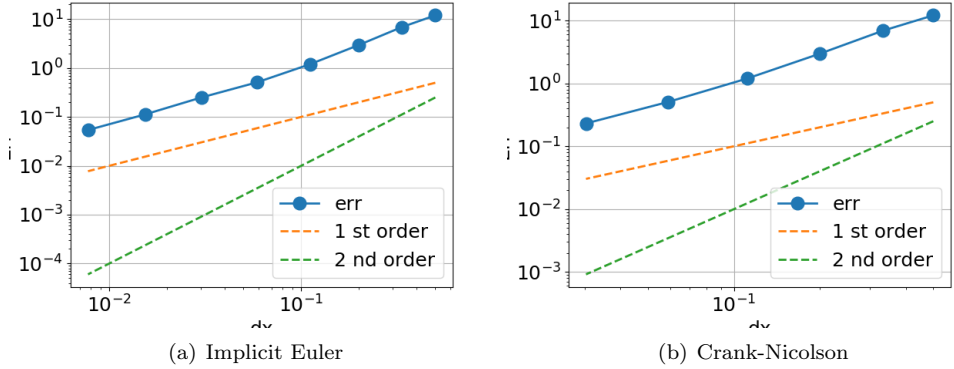


Figure 9: WR for $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$.

3.4 Self consistency

While we observe an additional error in space due to WR, our main goal is to resolve the time-coupling. Thus we the question is if the order in time is

preserved. We verify repeating the verification of $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ and instead measure the error using a reference solution for a sufficiently small timestep. Figure 3.4 shows the result, which is that the time-integration orders are preserved.

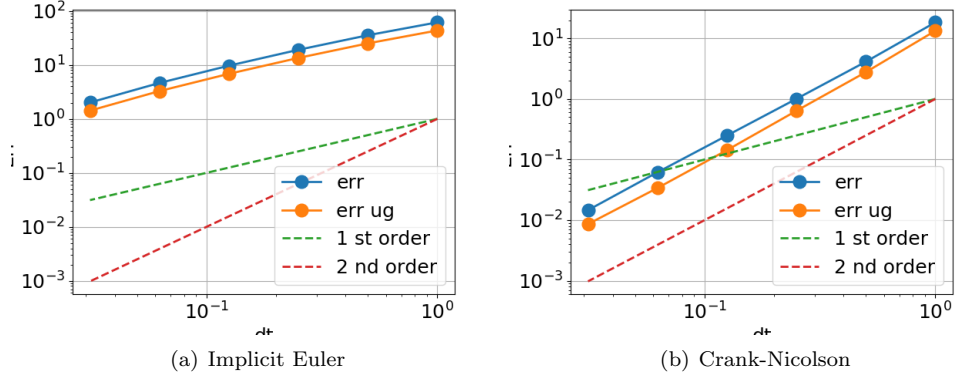


Figure 10: WR for $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ using reference solution with smaller Δt .

3.5 Optimal Θ

Here we want to verify the optimal relaxation parameter being $\Theta = 1/2$ for equal material parameters. Results are in Figure 3.5 and look good.

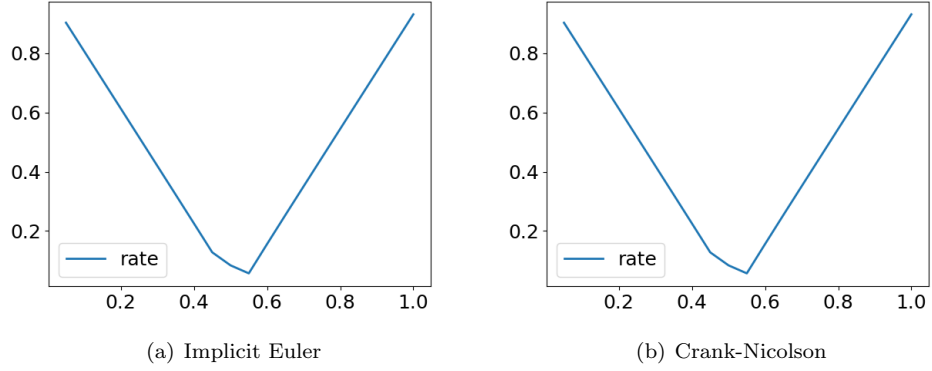


Figure 11: Observed convergence rates.