

**MAE 290C, Spring 2019**  
**HOMEWORK 3**

**Due Friday May 10 11:59PM (dropbox, email, google drive)**  
**Provide source codes used to solve all questions**

**Problem 1.** Let us consider non-dimensional Navier-Stokes equations for incompressible flow in non-dimensional form

$$\partial_t \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + Re^{-1} \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}, \quad (1)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad (2)$$

in a 2D periodic domain  $0 \leq x < 2\pi$  and  $0 \leq y < 2\pi$ . In order to illustrate the fractional step method, let us integrate the non-linear terms with an explicit Euler method and the linear terms including the pressure with an implicit Euler method, to arrive at

$$M \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^{n+1} \\ p^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & G\Delta t \\ D & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^{n+1} \\ p^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^n - \mathbf{H}^n \Delta t \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad (3)$$

where  $A = I - Re^{-1} \Delta t L$ ,  $G$  is the discretized gradient operator,  $D$  is the discretized divergence operator,  $L = D \cdot G$  is the discretized Laplacian operator and  $H$  are the discretized non-linear terms. To keep the illustration simple, let us consider a Fourier spatial discretization in both the  $x$  and  $y$  directions, with  $N_x = N_y = 32$ ,  $Re = 1000$  and  $\Delta t = 0.01$ .

1. Write a code to determine block matrices  $A$ ,  $G$ , and  $D$ , in wavenumber space  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and assemble matrix  $M$ . Plot each of these 4 matrices vs  $(\alpha, \beta)$ .

*Hints:* Plot matrices in 2D using the MATLAB command `imagesc` or a method that yields a similar output. Note that matrix  $A$  has a size  $2n \times 2n$  where  $n = N_x N_y$ ,  $D$  has a size  $n \times 2n$  and  $G = D^T$ . You can define these matrices by means of `for` or `do` loops but you may also find the `sparse`, `diag` and `repmat` commands useful if you are working with MATLAB. For instance, the identity matrix term in the  $A$  block of  $M$  is generated by

```
%
II_2n = diag(ones(2*n,1));
%
eye_in_A = sparse(1:2*n,1:2*n,II_2n,3*n,3*n);
%
```

and the  $\partial_x$  term in  $G$  can be generated by

```
%
alp = [0:Nx/2-1 -Nx/2:-1];
%
ialp = repmat(i*alp,[1,Ny]);
%
Galp = sparse(1:n,2*n+1:3*n,ialp,3*n,3*n);
%
```

2. The resulting matrix  $M$  is singular. In this Fourier representation, the singularity is easy to grasp since  $M$  has a row of zeros. Which one? (i.e. which value of  $(\alpha, \beta)$ ?) What does this mean physically in terms of the pressure?

3. The artificial compressibility method removes the singularity of  $M$  by solving the approximate problem

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & G\Delta t \\ D & \lambda I \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^{n+1} \\ p^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}^n - \mathbf{H}^n \Delta t \\ \lambda p^n \end{bmatrix}. \quad (4)$$

Write a code to assemble the new  $M$  matrix of the artificial compressibility method for  $\lambda = 0.01$ . Plot the matrix and calculate the eigenvalue closest to zero.

4. The fractional step method is equivalent to an approximate  $LU$  factorization of the original problem

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & G\Delta t \\ D & 0 \end{bmatrix} \approx \begin{bmatrix} A & ABG\Delta t \\ D & 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ D & -DBG\Delta t \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} I & BG\Delta t \\ 0 & I \end{bmatrix} \quad (5)$$

with  $B \approx \text{inv}(A)$ , leading to the scheme:

$$A\mathbf{u}^* = \mathbf{u}^n - \mathbf{H}^n \Delta t \quad (6)$$

$$DBGp^{n+1} = \frac{D\mathbf{u}^*}{\Delta t}, \quad (7)$$

$$\mathbf{u}^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}^* + BGp^{n+1}\Delta t. \quad (8)$$

It turns out that working with a Fourier spatial discretization makes computing  $\text{inv}(A)$  trivial since  $A$  is a diagonal matrix. Thus, we will use an *exact* fractional step replacing  $B$  with  $\text{inv}(A)$  in the scheme above, and then use the solution as reference to compute the errors of the artificial compressibility scheme.

- (a) Assuming that  $u^n = \sin x \sin y$  and  $v^n = \cos x \cos y$ , which satisfies continuity, show that the non-linear terms are

$$u\partial_x u + v\partial_y u = \sin(2x)/2, \quad (9)$$

$$u\partial_x v + v\partial_y v = -\sin(2y)/2. \quad (10)$$

so that  $\mathbf{u}^n - \mathbf{H}^n \Delta t$  does not satisfy continuity and therefore  $\mathbf{u}^*$  does not satisfy continuity either. Fourier transform  $\mathbf{u}^n$  and the non-linear terms and perform an exact iteration of the fractional step method. Assume  $p^n = 0$  everywhere. There is no aliasing in this case given that we chose  $N_x$  and  $N_y$  to be large enough. Plot the intermediate solution in the physical domain  $u^*(x, y)$ ,  $v^*(x, y)$  and  $p^*(x, y)$ . Plot the solution in the physical domain  $u^{n+1}(x, y)$ ,  $v^{n+1}(x, y)$  and  $p^{n+1}(x, y)$ . How does it differ from the intermediate solution? (*Hint*: Matrix  $DBG$  in 7 has one row of zeros for the same reason that  $M$  has one. But this indetermination is not important because the product  $BGp^{n+1}$  in 8 cancels it. So, it is ok to choose a bogus value of  $\hat{p}_{\alpha=0, \beta=0}$ .)

- (b) Perform one iteration with the artificial compressibility scheme. Plot the solution in the physical domain  $u^{n+1}(x, y)$ ,  $v^{n+1}(x, y)$  and  $p^{n+1}(x, y)$ .
- (c) Plot the L2-norm of the errors in  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $p$  as a function of  $\Delta t$  and  $\lambda$ . Vary  $\Delta t$  in the range  $[10^{-6}, 10^{-1}]$  and  $\lambda$  in the range  $[10^{-4}, 0.1]$ .
- (d) **Extra credit (kind of difficult)**: Incidentally, it also turns out that  $A$  being diagonal in Fourier discretizations also makes any matrix  $B$  produce an exact fractional step as long as  $B$  is diagonal, non-singular and  $B(n+j, n+j) = B(j, j)$  for  $j = 1, n$ . Prove this property for extra credit and try it numerically with  $B(j, j)$ ,  $j = 1, n$  defined as random matrix. The lesson to learn here is that depending on your spatial discretization scheme, there may be many simple ways to make the projection operation

$$\mathbf{u}^{n+1} = \left[ I - BG(DBG)^{-1}D \right] \mathbf{u}^{n+1}$$

accurate or even exact, and that choosing  $B$  to be the Taylor expansion of  $\text{inv}(A)$  might not always be the most efficient method.