



Numerical Methods for Elliptic Equations-I

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Examples of elliptic equations
Direct Methods for 1D problems
Elementary Iterative Methods
Iteration as Time Integration
Example
Boundary Conditions
Convergence of Iterative Methods
1D Example
Formal Discussion



Elliptic equations often arise due to the application of conservation principles to quantities whose fluxes are proportional to their gradient

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} F = -S \quad \text{where the flux is given by } F = -\alpha \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$$

$$\text{gives } \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \alpha \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} = S$$

In 2 or 3 dimension:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F} = -S \\ \mathbf{F} = -\alpha \nabla f \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \alpha \nabla f = S$$

If the transport coefficient is constant:

$$\alpha \nabla^2 f = S$$



One-Dimensional Boundary Value Problems

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} a \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + b \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + cf = s$$

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \text{ or } f \text{ given} \quad \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \text{ or } f \text{ given} \quad \text{periodic}$$

Notice that if f is not given on the boundary, f is not uniquely determined



Two-Dimensional

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 0; \quad \nabla^2 f = 0 \quad \text{Laplace's Equation}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = S; \quad \nabla^2 f = S \quad \text{Poisson's Equation}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} a \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} b \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} = S; \quad \nabla \cdot \phi \nabla f = S$$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \text{On the boundaries (BC)} & f = f_0(x, y) \quad \text{Dirichlet} \\ & \frac{\partial f}{\partial n} = g_0(x, y) \quad \text{Neumann} \end{array}$$



Three-Dimensional

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = 0 \quad \text{Laplace's Equation}$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial z^2} = s \quad \text{Poisson's Equation}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x} a \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} b \frac{\partial f}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial}{\partial z} c \frac{\partial f}{\partial z} = s$$



Examples of Elliptic Equations

$$\nabla^2 T = -\frac{\dot{q}}{k} \quad \text{Steady conduction equation}$$

$$\nabla^2 \psi = -\omega \quad \text{2-D stream function equation}$$

$$\nabla_h^2 P_{i,j} = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \nabla_h \cdot \mathbf{u}_{i,j}^t \quad \text{Projection method (Step 2)}$$

$$\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla f - \nabla^2 f = 0 \quad \text{Steady state advection/diffusion}$$

$$\nabla^4 f = 0 \quad \text{Biharmonic equation}$$



One-Dimensional Boundary Value Problems — Direct Methods



$$U \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} - D \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} = 0$$

$$U \frac{f_{i+1} - f_{i-1}}{2h} - D \frac{f_{i+1} - 2f_i + f_{i-1}}{h^2} = 0$$

$$\frac{R}{2} (f_{i+1} - f_{i-1}) - (f_{i+1} - 2f_i + f_{i-1}) = 0$$

$$\left(1 + \frac{1}{2}R\right) f_{i-1} - 2f_i + \left(1 - \frac{1}{2}R\right) f_{i+1} = 0$$

$$a_{j-1} f_{j-1} - d_j f_j + c_{j+1} f_{j+1} = b_j$$

$$R = \frac{Uh}{D}$$



$$a_j f_{j-1} - d_j f_j + c_j f_{j+1} = b_j$$

Write out

$$\begin{aligned} d_1 f_1 + c_1 f_2 &= b_1 \\ a_2 f_1 + d_2 f_2 + c_2 f_3 &= b_2 \\ &\vdots \\ a_{N-1} f_{N-2} + d_{N-1} f_{N-1} + c_{N-1} f_N &= b_{N-1} \\ a_N f_{N-1} + d_N f_N &= b_N \end{aligned}$$

If the endpoints are given

$$\begin{aligned} b_1 &= -a_1 f_0 \\ b_N &= -c_N f_{N+1} \end{aligned}$$



```
% solving a tridiagonal system
nx=50;r=0.1;
a=zeros(nx,1)+(1+r);d=zeros(nx,1)-2;c=zeros(nx,1)+(1-r);
b=zeros(nx,1); x=zeros(nx,1); b(nx)=-(1-r);
```

```
% forward elimination
for j=2:nx
    d(j)=d(j)-(a(j)/d(j-1))*c(j-1);
    b(j)=b(j)-(a(j)/d(j-1))*b(j-1);
    x(j)=b(j)/d(j);
end
```

```
% backward substitution
for j=nx-1:-1:1
    x(j)=(b(j)-c(j)*x(j+1))/d(j);
end
```

```
plot(x)
```



Matlab functions

For simple problems MATLAB has a number of functions to deal with matrices.

Help matfun: general

Help sparsfun: sparse matrices

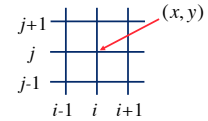


Elementary Iterative Methods



Solving the Poisson equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = S$$



Applying central differencing

$$\frac{f_{i+1,j} - 2f_{i,j} + f_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{f_{i,j+1} - 2f_{i,j} + f_{i,j-1}}{\Delta y^2} = S_{i,j}$$



Discretized Poisson Equation

$$f_{i+1,j} + f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j+1} + f_{i,j-1} - 4f_{i,j} = h^2 S_{i,j}$$

Rearranging for $f_{i,j}$

$$f_{i,j} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i+1,j} + f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j+1} + f_{i,j-1} - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

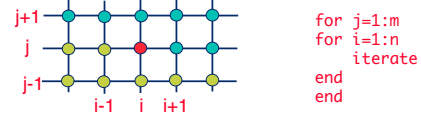
$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}] \quad \text{Jacobi}$$

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} - h^2 S_{i,j}] \quad \text{Gauss-Seidel}$$

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{\beta}{4} [f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} - h^2 S_{i,j}] + (1-\beta)f_{i,j}^n \quad \text{SOR}$$



The Jacobi iteration can be improved somewhat by using new values as soon as they become available.



$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} (f_{i+1,j}^n + \overset{n+1}{f_{i-1,j}} + f_{i,j+1}^n + \overset{n+1}{f_{i,j-1}} - h^2 S_{i,j})$$

From a programming point of view, Gauss-Seidler iteration is even simpler than Jacobi iteration since only one vector with f values is needed.



The Gauss-Seidler iteration can be accelerated even further by various acceleration techniques. The simplest one is the **Successive Over-Relaxation (SOR)** iteration

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{\beta}{4} (f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} - h^2 S_{i,j}) + (1-\beta)f_{i,j}^n$$

The SOR iteration is very simple to program, just as the Gauss-Seidler iteration. The user must select the coefficient. It must be bounded by $1 < \beta < 2$. $\beta = 1.5$ is usually a good starting value.



The iteration must be carried out until the solution is sufficiently accurate. To measure the error, define the residual:

$$R_{i,j} = \frac{f_{i+1,j} + f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j+1} + f_{i,j-1} - 4f_{i,j}}{h^2} - S_{i,j}$$

At steady-state the residual should be zero. The point-wise residual or the average absolute residual can be used, depending on the problem. Often, simpler criteria, such as the change from one iteration to the next is used



Iteration versus time integration



Jacobi as a time integration

The solution of:

$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

can be thought of as the steady-state solution of

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2}$$

Using the discretization derived earlier:

$$\frac{f_{i,j}^{n+1} - f_{i,j}^n}{\Delta t} = \frac{f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n - 4f_{i,j}^n}{h^2}$$



or

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = f_{i,j}^n + \left(\frac{\Delta t}{h^2}\right) (f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n - 4f_{i,j}^n)$$

Rearrange:

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \left(1 - 4\frac{\Delta t}{h^2}\right) f_{i,j}^n + \left(\frac{\Delta t}{h^2}\right) (f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n)$$

Select the maximum time step: $\frac{\Delta t}{h^2} = \frac{1}{4}$

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} (f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n)$$

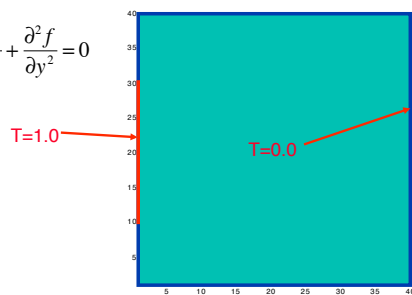
Which is exactly the Jacobi iteration



Example



$$\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} = 0$$



```
% two-dimensional steady-state problem by SOR
n=40;m=40;nstep=5000;alpha=0.05;length=2.0;h=length/(n-1);
T=zeros(n,m);bb=1.7;
T(10:n-10,1)=1.0;
for l=1:nstep,
    for i=2:n-1, for j=2:m-1
        T(i,j)=bb*0.25*(T(i+1,j)+...
            T(i,j+1)+T(i-1,j)+T(i,j-1))+(1.0-bb)*T(i,j);
    end,end
    % find residual
    res=0;
    for i=2:n-1, for j=2:m-1
        res=res+abs(T(i+1,j)+...
            T(i,j+1)+T(i-1,j)+T(i,j-1)-4*T(i,j))/h^2;
    end,end
    l,res/((m-2)*(n-2)) % Print iteration and residual
    if (res/((m-2)*(n-2)) < 0.001), break,end
end;
contour(T);
```



Average absolute error: 0.001

Number of iterations

Jacobi: 1989

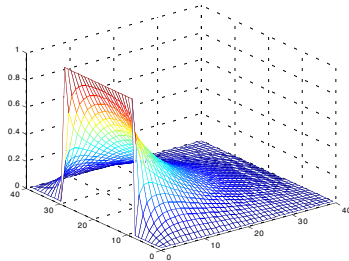
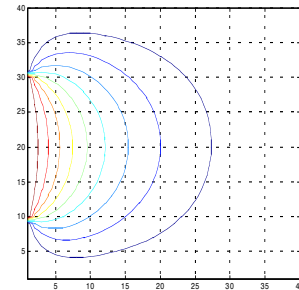
Gauss-Seidler: 986

SOR (1.5): 320

SOR (1.7): 162

SOR (1.9): 91

SOR (1.95): 202



Note on Boundary Conditions



Dirichlet conditions are easily implemented.

For Neumann condition, the simplest approach is

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial n} = 0 \Rightarrow f_{i,0} - f_{i,1} = 0 \quad (1\text{st order})$$

Update interior points $f_{i,1}, f_{i,2}, f_{i,3}, \dots$ and then set $f_{i,0} = f_{i,1}$

This generally does not converge.

Instead, incorporate BC directly into the equations

$$f_{i,1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i-1,1} + f_{i+1,1} + f_{i,2} + f_{i,0} - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

$$f_{i,1} = \frac{1}{3} [f_{i-1,1} + f_{i+1,1} + f_{i,2} - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$



With only a few exceptions, Iterative Methods are used to solve systems of equations resulting from the discretization of elliptic equations or implicit methods in CFD



Numerical Methods for Elliptic Equations-II

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Convergence of Iterative Methods



A One Dimensional Example

An equation in the form

$$x = F(x)$$

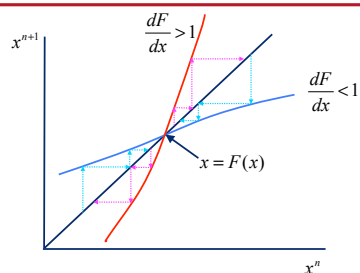
can be solved by iterative procedure:

$$x^{n+1} = F(x^n)$$

for which convergence is achieved when

$$x^{n+1} \approx x^n \quad \text{or} \quad \left| \frac{x^{n+1}}{x^n} - 1 \right| < \varepsilon$$

When does the iteration converge?



The above figure suggests that

$$\left| \frac{dF}{dx} \right| \leq 1 \quad \text{for convergence}$$



A One Dimensional Example

For the linear equation

$$x^{n+1} = ax^n$$

We must have:

$$|a| \leq 1$$

for convergence



For multidimensional problems we have:

$$\mathbf{x}^{\alpha+1} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}^{\alpha}$$

For symmetric M it can be shown that its eigenvectors form a complete and orthogonal set and span the space of \mathbf{x} . It is therefore possible to write:

$$\mathbf{x} = y_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + y_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots = \sum_j y_j \mathbf{v}_j$$

where

$$\mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}_j = \lambda_j \mathbf{v}_j \quad j = 1 \dots M \times N$$



Hence it is possible to write

$$\mathbf{x}^{\alpha+1} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{x}^{\alpha}$$

as

$$\begin{aligned} y_1^{\alpha+1} \mathbf{v}_1 + y_2^{\alpha+1} \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots &= \mathbf{M}(y_1^{\alpha} \mathbf{v}_1 + y_2^{\alpha} \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots) \\ &= y_1^{\alpha} \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}_1 + y_2^{\alpha} \mathbf{M}\mathbf{v}_2 + \dots \\ &= y_1^{\alpha} \lambda_1 \mathbf{v}_1 + y_2^{\alpha} \lambda_2 \mathbf{v}_2 + \dots \end{aligned}$$

or

$$\begin{aligned} y_1^{\alpha+1} &= \lambda_1 y_1^{\alpha} \\ y_2^{\alpha+1} &= \lambda_2 y_2^{\alpha} \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

Which are the same as for the 1-D example. Therefore:

$$|\lambda_{\max}| \leq 1$$

for convergence



More Formal Discussion of Iterative Methods



$$\text{If } \Delta x = \Delta y = h \Rightarrow f_{i+1,j} + f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j+1} + f_{i,j-1} - 4f_{i,j} = h^2 S_{i,j}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} -4 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots \\ 1 & -4 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \dots & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & -4 & 1 & \dots & \dots & 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \\ 1 & 0 & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & f_{i,j-1} & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 1 & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & f_{i,j} & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \vdots & \vdots & f_{i,j+1} & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ & & & & & 0 & 1 & -4 & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_{1,1} \\ f_{1,2} \\ \vdots \\ f_{i,j-1} \\ f_{i,j} \\ f_{i,j+1} \\ f_{i,j} \\ f_{i,j-1} \\ f_{i,j} \end{bmatrix} = h^2 \begin{bmatrix} S_{1,1} \\ S_{1,2} \\ \vdots \\ S_{i,j-1} \\ S_{i,j} \\ S_{i,j+1} \\ S_{i,j} \\ S_{i,j-1} \\ S_{i,j} \end{bmatrix}$$

Sparse matrix: only 5 non-zero entries in each row



A few definitions:

$$[D] = \begin{bmatrix} a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & b & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & c & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & d \end{bmatrix} \quad [U] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & a & b & c \\ 0 & 0 & d & e \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & f \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad [L] = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ a & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ b & c & 0 & 0 \\ d & e & f & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Diagonal

Upper
triangular

Lower
triangular



Ultimately, the difference form of the Poisson equation boils down to solving for

$$[A]\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{b}$$

Hence,

$$\mathbf{f} = [A]^{-1} \mathbf{b}$$

Direct method:

- Solving inverse matrix directly (Cramer's rule)
- Inverting matrix more cleverly (Gaussian elimination)
- Other (L-U decomposition, Thomas algorithm)



Gaussian Elimination

- Pivoting: rearranging equations to put the largest coefficient on the main diagonal.
- Eliminate the column below main diagonal.
- Repeat until the last equation is reached.
- Back-substitution

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 a_{11}f_1 + a_{12}f_2 + \dots = c_1 & & a_{11}f_1 + a_{12}f_2 + \dots = c_1 \\
 a_{21}f_1 + a_{22}f_2 + \dots = c_2 & \rightarrow & a'_{22}f_2 + \dots = c_2 \\
 \vdots & & \vdots \\
 a_{n1}f_1 + a_{n2}f_2 + \dots = c_n & & a'_{nn}f_n = c_n
 \end{array}$$

- Special case: tri-diagonal matrix - Thomas algorithm



General iterative procedure

$$[A]\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{b}$$

$$\text{Let } [A] = [A_1] - [A_2]$$

$$[A_1]\mathbf{f} = [A_2]\mathbf{f} + \mathbf{b}$$

An iterative scheme is constructed as

$$[A_1]\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = [A_2]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}$$

For example,

$$[A_1] = [D] = -\frac{1}{4}[I], \quad [A_2] = [B] = [A_1] - [D] \quad \text{Jacobi}$$

$$[A_1] = [D] - [L], \quad [A_2] = [U] \quad \text{Gauss-Seidel}$$



$$[A_1]\mathbf{e}^{n+1} = [A_2]\mathbf{e}^n + \mathbf{b}$$

Requirements:

1. $[A_1]$ should be invertible.
2. Iteration should converge, i.e.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{f}^n = \mathbf{f}$$

Define error at n-th iteration: $\mathbf{e}^n = \mathbf{f} - \mathbf{f}^n$

$$[A_1]\mathbf{e}^{n+1} = [A_2]\mathbf{e}^n$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbf{e}^{n+1} = [A_1]^{-1}[A_2]\mathbf{e}^n$$

$$\rightarrow \mathbf{e}^n = ([A_1]^{-1}[A_2])^n \mathbf{e}^0$$



Condition for convergence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{e}^n = 0$$

$$\text{which requires } \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} ([A_1]^{-1}[A_2])^n = 0$$

This is achieved if the modulus of the eigenvalues are less than unity.

Therefore, the convergence condition becomes:

$$\rho = |\lambda|_{\max} \leq 1$$

ρ Spectral radius of convergence

λ_i Eigenvalues of matrix $[A_1]^{-1}[A_2]$

Jacobi Iteration Method for Poisson Equation
(2nd order central difference with uniform mesh)

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

$$[A_1]^{-1} = [I]$$

and using a discrete analog of separation of variables, it can be shown that the eigenvalues of $[A_2]$ are

$$\lambda_{mn} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\cos \frac{m\pi}{M} + \cos \frac{n\pi}{N} \right], \quad m = 1, \dots, M-1, \quad n = 1, \dots, N-1$$

Therefore, $|\lambda_{mn}| \leq 1$ and the Jacobi method **converges**.



For a large matrix

$$\begin{aligned}
 \lambda_{m,n,\max} &= \frac{1}{2} \left[\cos \frac{\pi}{M} + \cos \frac{\pi}{N} \right] & \text{largest eigenvalues for } m=1, n=1 \\
 &\cong 1 - \frac{1}{4} \left[\frac{\pi^2}{M^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{N^2} \right] + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, for a large matrix, $|\lambda_{m,n,\max}|$ is only slightly less than unity.

→ Very slow convergence



Gauss-Seidel Iteration Method for Poisson Equation
(2nd order central difference with uniform mesh)

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

$$[A_1] = [D] - [L], \quad [A_2] = [U]$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ -1 & 4 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 4 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 4 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \cdots & \cdots & 0 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_{1,1}^{n+1} \\ f_{1,2}^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ f_{M,N}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_{1,1}^n \\ f_{1,2}^n \\ \vdots \\ f_{M,N}^n \end{bmatrix} - h^2 \begin{bmatrix} S_{1,1} \\ S_{1,2} \\ \vdots \\ S_{M,N} \end{bmatrix}$$

A_1 A_2



It can be shown that the eigenvalues of matrix $[A_1]^{-1}[A_2]$ are simply square of the eigenvalues of Jacobi method

$$\lambda_{mn,\max} = \frac{1}{4} \left[\cos \frac{\pi}{M} + \cos \frac{\pi}{N} \right]^2$$

Thus, Gauss-Seidel method is twice as fast as the Jacobi method.



Successive Overrelaxation

Consider the Gauss-Seidel method

$$([D] - [L])\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}$$

If Gauss-Seidel is an attempt to change the solution as

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{d}$$

Accelerate the change by introducing a parameter

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \mathbf{f}^n + \beta \mathbf{d}, \quad \beta > 1$$



Hence, SOR first uses Gauss-Seidel to compute intermediate solution, $\tilde{\mathbf{f}}$

$$([D] - [L])\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b} \quad \text{or} \quad [D]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [L]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} + [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}$$

Then accelerate the next iteration solution

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \mathbf{f}^n + \beta(\tilde{\mathbf{f}} - \mathbf{f}^n) = \beta\tilde{\mathbf{f}} + (1 - \beta)\mathbf{f}^n$$

Combining the two steps

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \frac{\beta}{c} ([L]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} + [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}) + (1 - \beta)\mathbf{f}^n$$

$$\text{since } [D] = c[I]$$



Example: Poisson Equation (2nd order CD, uniform mesh)

$$f_{i+1,j} + f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j+1} + f_{i,j-1} - 4f_{i,j} = h^2 S_{i,j}$$

G-S

$$[D]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [L]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} + [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}$$

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

Combining

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \frac{\beta}{c} ([L]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} + [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}) + (1 - \beta)\mathbf{f}^n$$

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{\beta}{4} [f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}] + (1 - \beta)f_{i,j}^n$$



Convergence of SOR

$$\text{From } [D]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} = [L]\tilde{\mathbf{f}} + [U]\mathbf{f}^n + \mathbf{b}$$

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \mathbf{f}^n + \beta(\tilde{\mathbf{f}} - \mathbf{f}^n)$$

Eliminating $\tilde{\mathbf{f}}$ and solving for \mathbf{f}^{n+1}

$$\mathbf{f}^{n+1} = \left([I] - \beta[D]^{-1}[L] \right)^{-1} \left\{ (1 - \beta)[I] + \beta[D]^{-1}[U] \right\} \mathbf{f}^n + \left([I] - \beta[D]^{-1}[L] \right)^{-1} \beta[D]^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

Convergence depends on the eigenvalues of $[M]_{\text{SOR}}$



For the discretized Poisson operator, it can be shown that that eigenvalues of the SOR matrix are:

$$\mu^{1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \left[\lambda\beta + \sqrt{\lambda^2\beta^2 - 4(\beta-1)} \right]$$

where λ is an eigenvalue of the Jacobi matrix

$$[M]_J = [D]^{-1}([L] + [U])$$

Note that $\mu = \lambda^2$ if $\beta = 1$ (Gauss-Seidel)

Minimum μ occurs at

$$\beta_{\text{opt}} = \frac{2}{1 + \sqrt{1 - \lambda_{\text{max}}^2}}$$

Typically

$$\beta_{\text{opt}} \approx 1.7 \sim 1.9$$

$$|\lambda_{\text{max}}| \approx 1$$



For problems with irregular geometry and non-uniform mesh, β_{opt} must be found by trial and error.

Typical Comparison Chart

	$\lambda_{\text{max}} (\mu_{\text{max}})$	Iterations
Jacobi	0.9945	1250
Gauss-Seidel	0.9890	625
SOR	0.7906	29

Ferziger, J. H., *Numerical Method for Engineering Application* (1981)



Numerical Methods for Elliptic Equations-III

Grétar Tryggvason
Spring 2010



Examples of elliptic equations
Direct Methods for 1D problems
Elementary Iterative Methods
Iteration as Time Integration
Example
Boundary Conditions
Convergence of Iterative Methods
1D Example
Formal Discussion
SOR on vector computers



SOR on Vector Computers



In large computer application (vector or parallel platform), SOR faces difficulties in using constantly updated values.

Remedy: Two separate grid system (red & black)

do i = 1, nx, 2

$$f_{i,j} = \frac{\beta}{4} [f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j-1} + f_{i+1,j} + f_{i,j+1}$$

$$-h^2 S_{i,j}] + (1-\beta) f_{i,j}$$

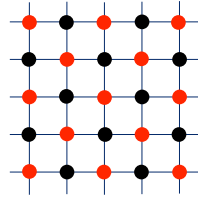
enddo

do i = 2, nx, 2

$$f_{i,j} = \frac{\beta}{4} [f_{i-1,j} + f_{i,j-1} + f_{i+1,j} + f_{i,j+1}$$

$$-h^2 S_{i,j}] + (1-\beta) f_{i,j}$$

enddo





Computational Fluid Dynamics I
Successive Line Overrelaxation (SLOR) - 1

Line Relaxation Method (Line Gauss-Seidel Method)

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i+1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + f_{i+1,j}^n + f_{i,j+1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

Adding one more coupling

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + f_{i+1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

$$-\frac{1}{4} f_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} - \frac{1}{4} f_{i+1,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

→ Thomas algorithm



Computational Fluid Dynamics I
Successive Line Overrelaxation (SLOR) - 2

SLOR = Line Relaxation + Overrelaxation

Apply line relaxation for intermediate solution

$$-\frac{1}{4} \tilde{f}_{i-1,j} + \tilde{f}_{i,j} - \frac{1}{4} \tilde{f}_{i+1,j} = \frac{1}{4} [f_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + f_{i,j+1}^n - h^2 S_{i,j}]$$

and then overrelax

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} = \beta \tilde{f}_{i,j} + (1 - \beta) f_{i,j}^n$$

which is no more complicated than line relaxation.



Computational Fluid Dynamics I
Successive Line Overrelaxation (SLOR) - 3

Notes on SLOR

- Exact eigenvalues are unknown.
- To ensure convergence, $\beta \leq 2$
- Converges approximately twice as fast as Gauss-Seidel.
- May be faster than pointwise SLOR, but each iteration takes longer with Thomas algorithm.
- Improved convergence is due to the direct effect of the boundary condition in each row.



Computational Fluid Dynamics I
Alternating-Direction Implicit - 1

ADI for elliptic equation is analogous to ADI in parabolic equation

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = \alpha \left[\frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial y^2} \right] - S$$

In discrete form

$$f_{i,j}^{n+1} - f_{i,j}^n = \alpha \Delta t [\delta_{xx} f + \delta_{yy} f] + S$$

and take it to the limit to obtain the steady solution.

$$\left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} = 0 \right)$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics I
Alternating-Direction Implicit - 2

ADI for $f_{i,j}^{n+1} - f_{i,j}^n = \alpha \Delta t [\delta_{xx} f + \delta_{yy} f] - S$

is written as

$$f^{n+1/2} - f^n = \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{2h^2} [(f_{i+1,j}^{n+1/2} - 2f_{i,j}^{n+1/2} + f_{i-1,j}^{n+1/2}) + (f_{i,j+1}^n - 2f_{i,j}^n + f_{i,j-1}^n)] - S'_{i,j}$$

$$f^{n+1} - f^{n+1/2} = \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{2h^2} [(f_{i+1,j}^{n+1/2} - 2f_{i,j}^{n+1/2} + f_{i-1,j}^{n+1/2}) + (f_{i,j+1}^{n+1} - 2f_{i,j}^{n+1} + f_{i,j-1}^{n+1})] - S''_{i,j}$$

or

$$(1 - \rho_n \delta_{xx}) f^{n+1/2} = (1 + \rho_n \delta_{yy}) f^n - S'_{i,j}$$

$$(1 - \rho_n \delta_{yy}) f^{n+1} = (1 + \rho_n \delta_{xx}) f^{n+1/2} - S''_{i,j} \quad \left(\rho_n = \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{2} \right)$$



Computational Fluid Dynamics I
Alternating-Direction Implicit - 3

Convergence of ADI

- Iteration parameter $\rho_n = \frac{\alpha \Delta t_n}{2}$ usually varies with iteration
- For example (Wachspress)

$$\frac{\rho_k}{h^2} = \frac{\alpha \Delta t_k}{2h^2} = b \left(\frac{a}{b} \right)^{(k-1)(n-1)}, \quad k = 1, \dots, n$$

a lower bound eigenvalue

b upper bound eigenvalue

- Comparison with SLOR is difficult
- ADI can be efficient if appropriate parameters are found.



Although the iterative methods discussed here are important for understanding iterative methods, they are rarely used for practical applications due to their slow convergence rate.

The exception is the SOR method, which was widely used in the 70's and early 80's. Due to its simplicity, it is an excellent choice during code development or for runs where programming time is of more concern than computer time.