GEMINI test descriptions

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September 5, 2019

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1 Purpose of this document

The **G**eospace **E**nvironment **M**odel of **I**on-**N**eutral **I**nteractions (GEMINI) is a general-purpose, three-dimensional (3D) terrestrial ionospheric model capable of describing most processes relevant to the ionosphere at medium to small spatial scales (200 m to 10000 km). The main source code repository for GEMINI can be found at `https://github.com/gemini3d/GEMINI`. This document describes the formulation of tests used to verify the GEMINI build and functioning.

2 Diffusion solver test problem

As discussed in the formulation document `https://github.com/gemini3d/GEMINI-docs/blob/master/formulation/GEMINI.pdf`, the parabolic portions of the energy equations are solved using implicit finite difference methods (including TRBDF2 and backward Euler). These are tested via solution of a simple heat equation describing the evolution of temperature $T(z,t)$ in space and time subject to uniform thermal conduction:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \lambda \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial z^2} = 0. \tag{1}$$

For purposes of testing we solve this equation on the *bounded* domain $0 \leq x \leq 1$. Invoking separation of variables we presume $T(z,t) = Z(z)\mathcal{T}(t)$ and substitute back into the original equation:

$$\frac{1}{\lambda \mathcal{T}} \frac{\partial \mathcal{T}}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{Z} \frac{\partial^2 Z}{\partial z^2} = 0. \tag{2}$$

Each term depends solely on one of the independent variables x, t, which implies that for this relation to be valid for all x, t then each term must be equal to a constant.

$$\frac{1}{\lambda \mathcal{T}} \frac{d\mathcal{T}}{dt} = -k^2 \tag{3}$$

$$-\frac{1}{Z} \frac{d^2 Z}{dz^2} = k^2. \tag{4}$$

Note also that since we have dependence on only one variable that we have converted the derivatives into *ordinary* derivatives. The solutions to these ODEs read:

$$\mathcal{T}(t) = A e^{-k^2 \lambda t} \tag{5}$$

$$Z(z) = A' \sin kz + B' \cos kz \tag{6}$$

The elemental solution (k arbitrary) is given by:

$$\tilde{T}(z,t) = Z(z)\mathcal{T}(t) = e^{-k^2 \lambda t} \left(A'' \sin kz + B'' \cos kz \right) \tag{7}$$

Further progress toward a general solution requires specific initial and boundary conditions. For our test problem we assume that the temperature goes to zero on the boundaries ($z \in \{0, 1\}$). Let us also assume that the initial temperature of the system is given by: $T(z,0) = f(z)$. First employing the condition $T(0,t) = 0$, we find that $B'' = 0$. The other boundary condition $T(1,t) = 0$ sets restrictions on the argument/eigenvalues of the sine function, namely that $k = n\pi, n \in \mathbb{Z}^+$ is a set of roots for the sine function. The elemental solution is then:

$$\tilde{T}_n(z,t) = A_n e^{-n^2\pi^2\lambda t} \sin(n\pi z) \tag{8}$$

Any integer value chosen for n results in a legitimate solution for the original partial differential equation; therefore, the general solution is a linear superposition of all such solutions.

$$T(z,t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \; e^{-n^2\pi^2\lambda t} \sin(n\pi z). \tag{9}$$

The initial condition can now be applied to solve for the coefficients A_n by leveraging orthogonality of the sine functions. That is by making use of the fact that:

$$\big\langle \sin(n\pi z) \big| \sin(n'\pi z) \big\rangle = \int_0^1 \sin(n\pi z)\sin(n'\pi z)dz = \frac{1}{2}\delta_{nn'}, \tag{10}$$

we may produce a solution for A_n from the series solution. The initial condition is represented in summation form (a Fourer sine series) as:

$$T(z,0) = f(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \; \sin(n\pi z). \tag{11}$$

Taking the scalar product of both sides with $\sin(n'\pi z)$ gives:

$$\big\langle f(z) \big| \sin(n'\pi z) \big\rangle = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \; \big\langle \sin(n\pi z) \big| \sin(n'\pi z) \big\rangle = \sum_{n} = \frac{A_n}{2}\delta_{nn'} = \frac{A_{n'}}{2} \tag{12}$$

Thus the coefficients are:

$$A_{n'} = 2\big\langle f(z) \big| \sin(n'\pi z) \big\rangle = 2\int_0^1 f(z)\sin(n'\pi z)dz \tag{13}$$

For purposes of testing it is easiest to pick a test problem with boundary conditions that are represented by a finite sum - one way this can be accomplished is by choosing a boundary condition that is an eigenfunction for this particular problem, say:

$$f(z) = \sin(2\pi z). \tag{14}$$

From this, and orthogonality of the sine function it follows that:

$$A_{n'} = \begin{cases} 0 & n \neq 2 \\ 1 & n = 2 \end{cases}, \tag{15}$$

and that the general solution for this specific set of boundary and initial conditions is:

$$T(z,t) = e^{-4\pi^2\lambda t} \sin(2\pi z) \tag{16}$$

3 Potential solver test problem

The elliptic potential solver is tested using a simplified 2D test problem, Laplace's equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y^2} = 0, \tag{17}$$

on the domain $0 \leq x \leq 1, 0 \leq y \leq 1$ with the boundary conditions $\Phi(x,0) - = \Phi(0,y) = \Phi(1,y) = 0, \Phi(x,1) = f(x)$. Exploying separation of variables $\Phi(x,y) = X(x)Y(y)$ we find the ODE solutions for $X(x)$ and $Y(y)$ to be:

$$X(x) = A \sin kx + B \cos kx \tag{18}$$

$$Y(y) = A' \sinh ky + B' \cosh ky \tag{19}$$

The boundary conditions dictate the following constraints: $\Phi(0,y) = 0 \implies B = 0, \Phi(x,0) \implies B' = 0, \Phi(1,y) = 0 \implies k = n\pi$. Thus we have the general solution:

$$\Phi(x,y) = \sum_n A_n \sinh(n\pi y) \sin(n\pi x) \tag{20}$$

Again choosing our boundary conditions for this test problem so that only one term in the series survives we may choose:

$$f(x) = \sin(2\pi x). \tag{21}$$

Which gives:

$$f(x) = \sum_n A_n \sinh(n\pi) \sin(n\pi x), \tag{22}$$

for the potential evaluated at the non-grounded boundary. By orthogonality the coefficients are:

$$A_n = \frac{2}{\sinh(n\pi)} \left\langle f(x) \middle| \sin(n\pi x) \right\rangle; \tag{23}$$

however the only nonzero coefficient occurs for $n = 2$:

$$A_2 = \frac{2}{\sinh(2\pi)} \left\langle \sin(2\pi x) \middle| \sin(2\pi x) \right\rangle = \frac{1}{\sinh(2\pi)}; \tag{24}$$

The solution for this set of boundary conditions is, thus:

$$\Phi(x,y) = \frac{\sinh(2\pi y)}{\sinh(2\pi)} \sin(2\pi x) \tag{25}$$

4 Error reporting

Please create an issue on our GitHub website `https://github.com/gemini3d/` if you find an error in our documentation or codes.

5 Contributors

Major contributors to GEMINI source code and testing include: M. Hirsch, G. Grubbs, and M. Burleigh.