# Project 2



Computational Methods for Engineering Applications

Last edited: November 7, 2019 Due date: December 7 at 23:59

Template codes are available on the course's webpage at https://moodle-app2.let.ethz.ch/course/view.php?id=11356.

This project contains some tasks marked as **Core problems**. If you hand them in before the deadline above, these tasks will be corrected and graded. After a successful interview with the assistants (to be scheduled after the deadline), extra points will be awarded. Full marks for the all core problems in all assignments will give a 20% bonus on the total points in the final exam. This is really a bonus, which means that at the exam you can still get the highest grade without having the bonus points (of course then you need to score more points at the exam).

You only need to hand in your solution for tasks marked as core problems for full points, and the interview will only have questions about core problems. However, in order to do them, you may need to solve the previous non-core tasks.

The total number of points for the Core problems of this project is **60 points**. The total number of points over both projects will be 100.

## Exercise 1 Finite Differences in 2D

In this problem we consider the Finite Differences discretization of the following problem (Poisson equation with a mass term) on the unit square:

$$u - \Delta u = f$$
 in  $\Omega := (0, 1)^2$ ,  
 $u = g$  on  $\partial \Omega$ , (1)

for a bounded and continuous function  $f \in C^0(\overline{\Omega})$ , and g the restriction of a  $C^2$  function to the boundary of the square.

We consider a regular tensor product grid with meshwidth  $h := (N+1)^{-1}$  and we assume a lexicographic numbering of the interior vertices of the mesh as depicted in Fig. 1.

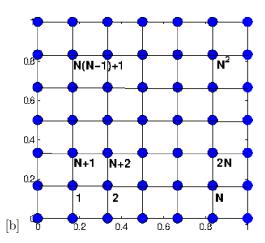


Figure 1: Lexicographic numbering of vertices of the equidistant tensor product mesh.

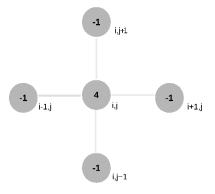


Figure 2: 5-point stencil used in this problem.

We consider the 5-point stencil finite difference scheme for the operator  $-\Delta$  described by the 5-points stencil shown in Fig. 2.

1a)

Write the system

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{F} \tag{2}$$

corresponding to the discretization of (1) using the stencil in Fig. 2, specifying the matrix **A** and the vectors **u** and **F**.

1b)

(Core problem) In the template file finite\_difference.cpp, implement the function

void createPoissonMatrix2D(SparseMatrix& A, int N, double dx),

to construct the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  in (2), where N denotes the number of interior grid points along one dimension, with typedef Eigen::SparseMatrix<double> SparseMatrix, and dx the spacing  $h = (N+1)^{-1}$  in the grid. Assume the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  to have an uninitialized size at the beginning.

1c)

(Core problem) In the template file finite\_difference.cpp, implement the function

void createRHS(Vector& rhs, FunctionPointer f, int N, double dx, FunctionPointer g),

to build the vector  $\mathbf{F}$  in (2), with typedef Eigen::VectorXd Vector and typedef double(\*FunctionPointer)(double, double). The arguments  $\mathbf{f}$  and  $\mathbf{g}$  are function pointers to the functions f and g in (1),  $\mathbb{N}$  is the number of interior grid points and  $\mathbf{dx}$  is cell width. Again, assume that the vector  $\mathbf{rhs}$  has uninitialized size when passed in input.

1d)

(Core problem) In the template file finite\_difference.cpp, implement the function

 $\begin{tabular}{ll} \begin{tabular}{ll} void poissonSolve(Vector\&\ u,\ FunctionPointer\ f,\ int\ N,\ FunctionPointer\ g), \end{tabular}$ 

to solve the system (2), with u the vector containing the values of the approximate solution at all the grid points, and the other arguments as in the previous subproblems.

**Hint:** The output of your code needs to be a vector of  $(N+2)^2$  elements, including the points at the boundary. If your code computes an array of  $N^2$  points, make sure you add the boundary before writing to a file.

# 1e)

Plot the discrete solution that you get from subproblem 1d) for  $f(x,y)=(1+8\pi^2)\sin(2\pi x)\cos(2\pi y),\ g(x,y)=\sin(2\pi x),\ and\ N=100,$  and compare it to the exact solution  $u(x,y)=\sin(2\pi x)\cos(2\pi y)$ .

# Exercise 2 Linear Finite Elements for the Poisson equation in 2D

We consider the problem

$$-\Delta u = f(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2$$
 (3)

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega$$
 (4)

where  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ .

**Hint:** This exercise has *unit tests* which can be used to test your solution. To run the unit tests, run the executable **unittest**. Note that correct unit tests are *not* a guarantee for a correct solution. In some rare cases, the solution can be correct even though the unit tests do not pass (always check the output values, and if in doubt, ask the teaching assistant!)

#### 2a)

Write the variational formulation for (3)-(4).

We solve (3)-(4) by means of linear finite elements on triangular meshes of  $\Omega$ . Let us denote by  $\varphi_i^N$ ,  $i = 0, \ldots, N-1$  the finite element basis functions (hat functions) associated to the vertices of a given mesh, with  $N = N_V$  the total number of vertices. The finite element solution  $u_N$  to (3) can thus be expressed as

$$u_N(\boldsymbol{x}) = \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \mu_i \varphi_i^N(\boldsymbol{x}), \tag{5}$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \{\mu_i\}_{i=0}^{N-1}$  is the vector of coefficients. Notice that we don't know  $\mu_i$  if i is an interior vertex, but we know that  $\mu_i = 0$  if i is a vertex on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

**Hint:** Here and in the following, we use zero-based indices in contrast to the lecture notes.

Inserting  $\varphi_i^N$ , i = 0, ..., N-1 as test functions in the variational formulation from subproblem **2a**) we obtain the linear system of equations

$$\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{F},\tag{6}$$

with  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  and  $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ .

#### 2b)

Write an expression for the entries of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{F}$  in (6).

2c)

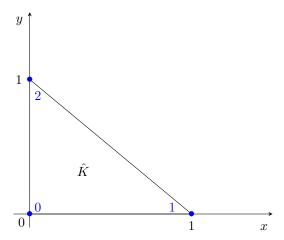
(Core problem) Complete the template file shape.hpp implementing the function

```
inline double lambda(int i, double x, double y)
```

which computes the the value a local shape function  $\lambda_i(\mathbf{x})$ , with i that can assume the values 0, 1 or 2, on the reference element depicted in Fig. 3 at the point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$ .

The convention for the local numbering of the shape functions is that  $\lambda_i(\mathbf{x}_j) = \delta_{i,j}$ , i, j = 0, 1, 2, with  $\delta_{i,j}$  denoting the Kronecker delta.

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./unittest/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestShapeFunction.



**Figure 3:** Reference element  $\hat{K}$  for 2D linear finite elements.

2d)

(Core problem) Complete the template file grad\_shape.hpp implementing the function

```
inline Eigen:: Vector2d gradientLambda(const int i, double x, double y)
```

which returns the value of the derivatives (i.e. the gradient) of a local shape functions  $\lambda_i(x)$ , with i that can assume the values 0,1 or 2, on the reference element depicted in Fig. 3 at the point x = (x, y). Hint: You can test your code by running the unit tests (./unittest/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestGradientShapeFunction.

The routine makeCoordinateTransform contained in the file coordinate\_transform.hpp computes the Jacobian matrix of the linear map  $\Phi_l : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2$  such that

$$\Phi_l \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{12} \end{pmatrix} = \boldsymbol{a}_1, \quad \Phi_l \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} \\ a_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \boldsymbol{a}_2,$$

where  $a_1, a_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2$  are the two input arguments.

#### 2e)

(Core problem) Complete the template file stiffness\_matrix.hpp implementing the routine template<class MatrixType, class Point> void computeStiffnessMatrix(MatrixType& stiffnessMatrix, const Point& a, const Point& b, const Point& c)

that returns the element stiffness matrix for the bilinear form associated to (3) and for the triangle with vertices a, b and c.

Hint: Use the routine gradientLambda from subproblem 2d) to compute the gradients and the routine makeCoordinateTransform to transform the gradients and to obtain the area of a triangle.

**Hint:** You do not have to analytically compute the integrals for the product of basis functions; instead, you can use the provided function integrate. It takes a function f(x, y) as a parameter, and it returns the value of  $\int_K f(x, y) dV$ , where K is the triangle with vertices in (0, 0), (1, 0) and (0, 1). Do not forget to take into account the proper coordinate transforms!

**Hint:** You will need to give a parameter f to **integrate** representing the function to be integrated. You can define your own routine for that, or you can use an "anonymous function" (or "lambda expression"), e.g.:

auto f = [&] (double x, double y){ return /\*something depending on (x,y), i, j...\*/}; which produces a function pointer in object f (that one can call as a normal function).

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./unittest/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestStiffnessMatrix.

The routine integrate in the file integrate.hpp uses a quadrature rule to compute the approximate value of  $\int_{\hat{K}} f(\hat{x}) d\hat{x}$ , where f is a function, passed as input argument.

#### 2f)

(Core problem) Complete the template file load\_vector.hpp implementing the routine

that returns the *element load vector* for the linear form associated to (3), for the triangle with vertices a, b and c, and where f is a function handler to the right-hand side of (3).

Hint: Use the routine lambda from subproblem 2c) to compute values of the shape functions on the reference element, and the routines makeCoordinateTransform and integrate from the handout to map the points to the physical triangle and to compute the integrals.

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./unittest/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestElementVector.

#### 2g)

(Core problem) Complete the template file stiffness\_matrix\_assembly.hpp implementing the routine

to compute the finite element matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  as in (6). The input argument vertices is a  $N_V \times 2$  matrix of which the *i*-th row contains the coordinates of the *i*-th mesh vertex,  $i=0,\ldots,N_V-1$ , with  $N_V$  the number of vertices. The input argument triangles is a  $N_T \times 3$  matrix where the *i*-th row contains the *indices* of the vertices of the *i*-th triangle,  $i=0,\ldots,N_T-1$ , with  $N_T$  the number of triangles in the mesh.

**Hint:** Use the routine computeStiffnessMatrix from subproblem **2e**) to compute the local stiffness matrix associated to each element.

**Hint:** Use the sparse format to store the matrix A.

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./unittest/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestAssembleStiffnessMatrix.

#### 2h)

(Core problem) Complete the template file load\_vector\_assembly.hpp implementing the routine

to compute the right-hand side vector  $\mathbf{F}$  as in (6). The input arguments vertices and triangles are as in subproblem  $2\mathbf{g}$ ), and  $\mathbf{f}$  is an in subproblem  $2\mathbf{f}$ ).

**Hint:** Proceed in a similar way as for assembleStiffnessMatrix and use the routine computeLoadVector from subproblem **2f**).

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./unittest/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestAssembleLoadVector.

The routine

implemented in the file dirichlet\_boundary.hpp provided in the handout does the following:

- it gets in input the matrices vertices and triangles as defined in subproblem 2g) and the function handle g to the boundary data, i.e. to g such that u = g on  $\partial\Omega$  (in our case  $g \equiv 0$ );
- it returns in the vector interior VertexIndices the indices of the interior vertices, that is of the vertices that are not on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ ;
- if  $x_i$  is a vertex on the boundary, then it sets  $u(i)=g(x_i)$ , that is, in our case, it sets to 0 the entries of the vector u corresponding to vertices on the boundary.

2i)

(Core problem) Complete the template file fem\_solve.hpp with the implementation of the function

This function takes in input the matrices vertices, triangles as defined in the previous subproblems, and the function handle f to the right-hand side f in (3). The output argument u has to contain, at the end of the function, the finite element solution  $u_N$  to (3).

**Hint:** Use the routines assembleStiffnessMatrix and assembleLoadVector from subproblems **2g**) and **2h**), respectively, to obtain the matrix **A** and the vector **F** as in (6), and then use the provided routine setDirichletBoundary to set the boundary values of u to zero and to select the free degrees of freedom.

**Hint:** You will need to give a parameter g to setDirichletBoundary representing the boundary condition. In our case, this is an identically zero function. You could define your own routine for that, or you can use an "anonymous function" (or "lambda expression"), e.g.:

auto zerobc = [](double x, double y){ return 0;};

which produces a function pointer in object zerobc (that one can call as a normal function).

# 2j)

Run the code in the file fem2d.cpp to compute the finite element solution to (3) when  $\Omega = [0,1]^2$  is the unit square, the forcing term is given by  $f(\boldsymbol{x}) = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y)$  and the mesh is square\_5.  $\rightarrow$  mesh. Use then the routine plot\_on\_mesh.py to produce a plot of the solution.

### Exercise 3 Heat equation in 1D with variable coefficient

We consider the following one-dimensional, time dependent heat equation:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}(x,t) - a(x)\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(x,t) = 0, \qquad (x,t) \in (0,1) \times (0,T), \tag{7}$$

$$u(0,t) = g_L(t), \quad u(1,t) = g_R(t), \qquad t \in [0,T],$$
 (8)

$$u(x,0) = u_0(x), x \in [0,1], (9)$$

where T > 0 is the final time, and  $g_L, g_R : [0, T] \longrightarrow \mathbb{R}$  are Dirichlet boundary conditions<sup>1</sup>, and  $a : [0, 1] \to \mathbb{R}$  is a given function modeling a spatially varying heat conductivity.

We first discretize the above equation with respect to the spatial variable, using centered finite differences.

To this aim, we subdivide the interval [0,1] in N+1 subintervals of equal length, where N is the number of interior grid points  $x_1, \ldots, x_N$ , and  $x_0 = 0$ ,  $x_{N+1} = 1$ .

The space discretization leads to a semidiscrete system of equations associated to (7):

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}{\partial t}(t) + \mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{u}(t) = \boldsymbol{G}(t), \tag{10}$$

where  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  and  $\mathbf{u} = \{u_i\}_{i=1}^N$  denotes the approximate values of the solution at the interior grid points, and

 $\boldsymbol{G}:[0,T]\longrightarrow\mathbb{R}^N$  is a source term coming from the boundary conditions.

**Hint:** G appears from the fact that the discretization for  $u_1$  and  $u_N$  includes respectively  $u_0 = g_L(t)$  and  $u_{N+1} = g_R(t)$ 

**Hint:** This exercise has *unit tests* which can be used to test your solution. To run the unit tests, run the executable **unittest**. Note that correct unit tests are *not* a guarantee for a correct solution. In some rare cases, the solution can be correct even though the unit tests do not pass (always check the output values, and if in doubt, ask the teaching assistant!)

Hint: The template of this exercise has a lot of files, but you only need to edit the following files:

- create\_poisson\_matrix.cpp
- forward\_euler.cpp
- crank\_nicolson.cpp

all other files should not be edited.

**Hint:** If you are running from the command line, all executables are located in build/bin, so from your build-folder, you should run

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The problem is only well-defined if  $g_L(0) = u_0(0)$ ,  $g_R(0) = u_0(1)$ .

- ./bin/unittest
- ./bin/run\_boundaries\_forward\_euler
- ./bin/run\_stability\_forward\_euler
- ./bin/run\_boundaries\_crank\_nicolson
- ./bin/run\_stability\_crank\_nicolson

If you are using Visual Studio, Xcode, QtCreator or any similar IDE, the projects have the same names as the executable (unittest, run\_boundaries\_forward\_euler, run\_stability\_forward\_euler, run\_stability\_crank\_nicolson, run\_boundaries\_crank\_nicolson).

#### 3a)

Denote by h the mesh width, that is  $h = \frac{1}{N+1}$ . Write down the matrix **A** and the vector G(t) explicitly.

**Hint:** Both A and G will depend on a.

To fully discretize (7), we still need to apply a time discretization to (10).

#### 3b)

Apply the forward Euler scheme to (10), denoting by  $\mathbf{u}^k = \{u_i^k\}_{i=1}^N$  the approximate value of the vector  $\mathbf{u}$  at time k, for  $k = 0, \dots, K$ , and by  $\Delta t = \frac{T}{K}$  the time step. How does the update formula at each time step look like?

#### 3c)

(Core problem) In the template file create\_poisson\_matrix.cpp, implement the function

SparseMatrix createPoissonMatrix(int N, const std::functional<double(double)>& a),

where using SparseMatrix = Eigen::SparseMatrix<double>. This function computes the matrix A from (10). Here the input parameter N denotes the number of *interior* grid points. Assume that the size of the input matrix A has not been initialized.

**Hint:** You can copy the routine directly from the solution to an old assignment and do very small modifications to obtain the desired matrix!

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./bin/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestCreatePoissonMatrix.

#### 3d)

(Core problem) In the template file forward\_euler.cpp, implement the function

The input and output parameters are specified in the template file.

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./bin/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestForwardEuler.

**Hint:** Eigen's function **segment** to access part of a vector can be very useful here. If **a**, **b** are two vectors, one can do e.g. **a.segment(3,5)** = **b.segment(0,2)**;

#### 3e)

Assume a is constant, that is

$$a(x) = \bar{a} > 0 \qquad \text{for all } x \in [0, 1],$$

and assume zero boundary conditions ( $g_L = g_R = 0$ ). Show that if

$$\Delta t \leq \frac{h^2}{2\bar{a}},$$

then the maximum is obeyed for the Forward Euler scheme in exercise 3c).

#### 3f)

Run the executable run\_boundaries\_forward\_euler, which will run the following configurations:

• N = 63

- T = 0.25
- $\Delta t = \frac{1}{2.64.64}$
- Boundary and initial conditions:
  - 1.  $g_L^1(x) = g_R^1(x) = 0$ ;  $u_0^1(x) = \min(2x, 2 2x)$ .
  - 2.  $g_L^2(x) = 0$ ,  $g_R^2(x) = 1$ ;  $u_0^2(x) = x + \min(2x, 2 2x)$ .
  - 3.  $g_L^3(x) = g_R^3(x) = \exp(-10t); \ u_0^3(x) = 1 + \min(2x, 2 2x)$

With the help of the script sol\_movie.m or sol\_movie.py provided in the handout, observe a movie of the approximate solution to (7) when using the forward Euler scheme. What happens to the energy of the system for each of the boundary conditions?

**Hint:** To run the script, on Matlab, you can use sol\_movie("forward\_euler"); on Python, use python sol\_movie.py forward\_euler (resp. crank\_nicolson).

#### **3g**)

For this exercise, we will test the following coefficients:

$$a_1(x) = 0.1$$
  $a_2(x) = 1$   $a_3(x) = 0.5 + 0.25\sin(4\pi x)$  for  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

Run the executable run\_stability\_forward\_euler, which will run the following configurations:

- N = 127
- T = 0.25
- $\Delta t_1 = \frac{128}{2 \cdot 128^2}$ ,  $\Delta t_2 = \frac{8}{2 \cdot 128^2}$ ,  $\Delta t_3 = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 128^2}$
- Boundary and initial conditions:  $g_L(x) = g_R(x) = 0$ ,  $u_0(x) = \min(2x, 2-2x)$

With the help of the script plot\_stability.m or plot\_stability.py provided in the handout, study the plot of the solution with the different values of a and  $\Delta t$  to (7) when using the forward Euler scheme. Which combinations are stable?

#### 3h)

We now consider an implicit timestepping. Namely, we derive the Crank-Nicolson scheme. Start with the semidiscrete formulation (10) and integrate over  $[t^k, t^{k+1}]$ . Use the trapezoidal rule for the integrals involving  $\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}$  and G(t), and the approximation  $\mathbf{u}^k \approx \mathbf{u}(t^k)$ . Write down the system of equations to be solved at each timestep (this should agree with the Crank-Nicolson scheme stated in the script).

(Core problem) In the template file crank\_nicolson.cpp, implement the function

```
std::pair<Eigen::MatrixXd, Eigen::VectorXd> crankNicolson(
    const Eigen::VectorXd& u0,
    double dt, double T, int N,
    const std::function<double(double)>& gL,
    const std::function<double(double)>& gR,
    const std::function<double(double)>& a);
```

The input and output parameters are specified in the template file.

**Hint:** You can test your code by running the unit tests (./bin/unittest from the command line). The relevant unit tests are those marked as TestCrankNicolson.

**Hint:** In this exercise, you may want to compute I - M, where M is a certain sparse matrix and I is the identity. Due to Eigen typecasting, if I is not explicitly defined as a sparse matrix (e.g. it is generated with Eigen::MatrixXd::Identity), I - M will not be a sparse matrix, and sparse solvers will not work. There are several ways to go around this; a simple one is to define I as sparse too with:

```
SparseMatrix I(N,N);
I.setIdentity();
```

#### 3j)

Run the executable run\_boundaries\_crank\_nicolson, which will run the following configurations:

- N = 63
- T = 0.25
- $\Delta t = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 64 \cdot 64}$
- Boundary and initial conditions:

```
 \begin{aligned} &1. \ \ g_L^1(x) = g_R^1(x) = 0; \ u_0^1(x) = \min(2x, 2-2x). \\ &2. \ \ g_L^2(x) = 0, \ g_R^2(x) = 1; \ u_0^2(x) = x + \min(2x, 2-2x). \\ &3. \ \ g_L^3(x) = g_R^3(x) = \exp(-10t); \ u_0^3(x) = 1 + \min(2x, 2-2x). \end{aligned}
```

With the help of the script sol\_movie.m or sol\_movie.py provided in the handout, observe a movie of the approximate solution to (7) when using the Crank-Nicolson scheme. What happens to the energy of the system for each of the boundary conditions?

**Hint:** You should observe the same as in exercise 3j)

#### 3k)

For this exercise, we will test the following coefficients:

$$a_1(x) = 0.1$$
  $a_2(x) = 1$   $a_3(x) = 0.5 + 0.25\sin(4\pi x)$  for  $x \in [0, 1]$ .

Run the executable run\_stability\_crank\_nicolson, which will run the following configurations:

- N = 127
- T = 0.25
- $\Delta t_1 = \frac{128}{2 \cdot 128^2}$ ,  $\Delta t_2 = \frac{8}{2 \cdot 128^2}$ ,  $\Delta t_3 = \frac{1}{2 \cdot 128^2}$
- $\bullet$  Boundary and initial conditions:  $g_L(x)=g_R(x)=0,\,u_0^1(x)=\min(2x,2-2x)$

With the help of the script plot\_stability.m or plot\_stability.py provided in the handout, study the plot of the solution with the different values of a and  $\Delta t$  to (7) when using the forward Euler scheme. Which combinations are stable?