Spectral Solver for PDE

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Why Spectral Solvers?

- Traditional methods (finite difference)
 - Approximates using neighbours (local)
- Spectral methods
 - Approximates entire solution across grid
 - Exponentially faster convergence (smooth problems)

Spectral

One high-order polynomial for WHOLE domain

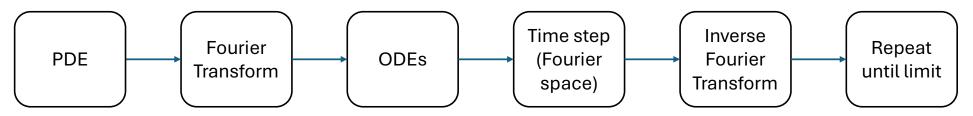


Finite Difference
Multiple Overlapping Low-Order Polynomials



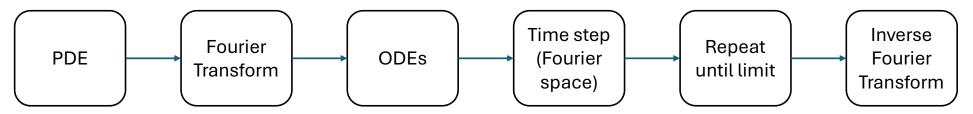
Pseudo-Spectral method workflow

- Transform Spatial domain to Fourier Space (FFT)
- Solve the simple ODEs for Fourier coefficients
- Advance in time
- Inverse transform to physical space (IFFT)
- Repeat until Limit



Full Spectral method workflow

- Transform Spatial & Time domain to Fourier Space (FFT)
- Solve the resulting ODEs with spatial coordinates
- Step in time within Fourier space
- Repeat time stepping until limit
- Transform back to spatial domain (IFFT)

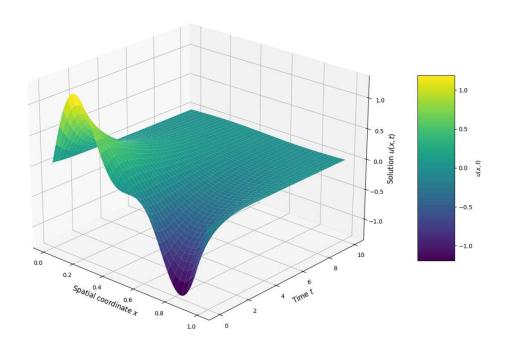


1D Heat

$$u_t = \alpha \nabla^2 u$$

- Fourier transform in x
- Solve ODE
- IFFT back to space
- Time step

Heat Equation Solution over Space and Time



1D Heat convergence

- Start with initial condition
 - $u(x,0) = \sin(2 \cdot \pi \cdot x)$
- Derive an analytical solution
 - $u(x,t) = e^{-4\pi^2\alpha t} \cdot u(x,0)$
- Used full spectral method for convergence testing
- Step forward in time until t=1
- Compute the Euclidian norm of the error

1D Heat convergence: RK4

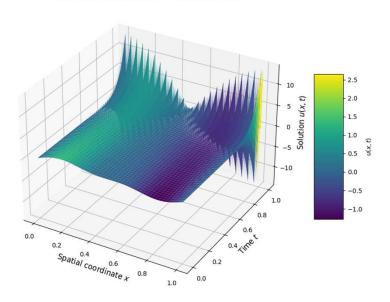
- RK4 does not converge for insufficiently small dt
 - Does not meet stability criteria
- However, once a small enough dt is reached, the error does not improve by further decreasing dt





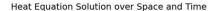
1D Heat convergence: RK4 Stability

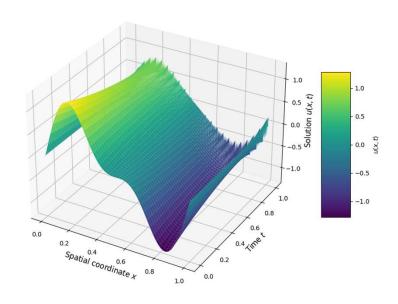
Heat Equation Solution over Space and Time



Timesteps: 9286

Error = 23.842



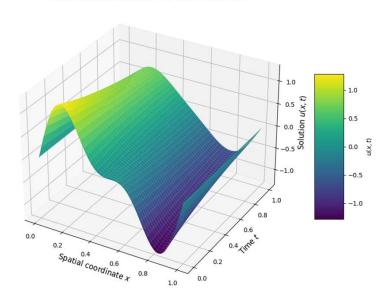


Timesteps: 9287

Error = 5.3729e-3

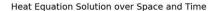
1D Heat convergence: RK4 Stability

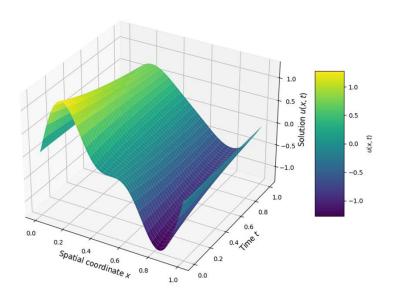
Heat Equation Solution over Space and Time



Timesteps: 9289

Error = 2.283e-6





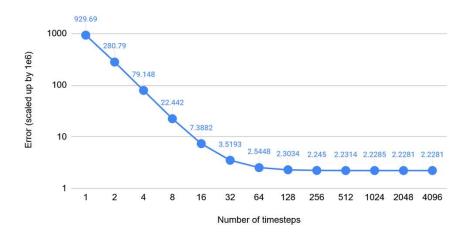
Timesteps: 20000

Error = 2.283e-6

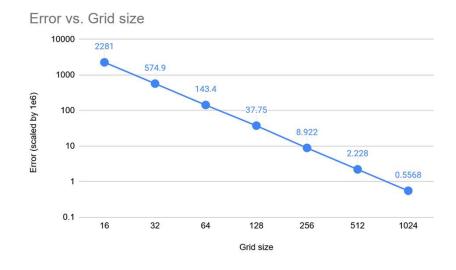
1D Heat convergence: Backward Euler

- Converged faster than RK4
- No stability issue (implicit integrator)

Backward Euler Error vs. Number of Timesteps



Grid spacing = 1/512



Timesteps = 8192

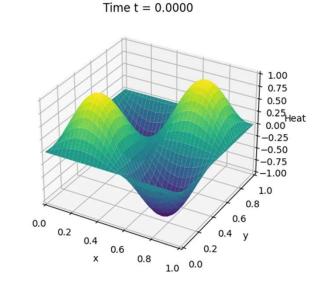
2D Heat

$$u_t = \alpha \nabla^2 u$$

- Spectral diffusion
- Alpha: 0.01
- Grid size: 128x128
- Time step: 0.0001
- Steps: 50000



- Solve ODE for each Fourier mode
- Solves in time-stepping (backward Euler and RK4)
 - Pseudo Spectral solver helps incorporate source term effects in time independently



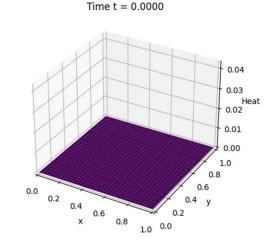
2D Heat with source

$$u_t = \alpha \nabla^2 u + f(x, t)$$

- Spectral diffusion with source
- Alpha: 0.01
- Grid size: 128x128
- Time step: 0.0001
- Steps: 50000



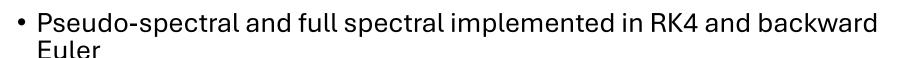
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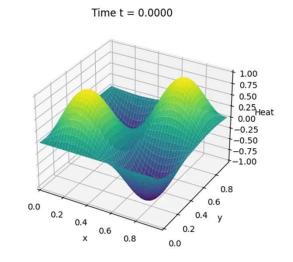
2D convection

$$u_t + v \cdot \nabla u = D \nabla^2 u$$

- Transport term in physical space
- Velocity: x=1.0 y=0.5
- Grid size: 128x128
- Diffusion coefficient: 0.01
- Time step: 0.0001
- Steps: 50000



• Expected full spectral to be more accurate but saw no difference



2D reaction

$$u_t = D\nabla^2 u + f(u)$$

- Non linear reaction in physical space
- Logistic model f(u) = ru(1 u)
- Grid size: 128x128
- Diffusion coefficient: 0.01
- Time step: 0.0001
- Steps: 50000

