

# The Fourier Transforms of the Chebyshev and Legendre Polynomials

A S Fokas

School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard University,  
Cambridge, MA 02138, USA

*Permanent address:*

Department of Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics,  
University of Cambridge, Cambridge CB3 0WA

S A Smitheman

School of Biosciences, University of Nottingham, Sutton Bonington Campus,  
Loughborough, Leicestershire LE12 5RD, UK

20 September 2012

## Abstract

Analytic expressions for the Fourier transforms of the Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials are derived, and the latter is used to find a new representation for the half-order Bessel functions. The numerical implementation of the so-called unified method in the interior of a convex polygon provides an example of the applicability of these analytic expressions.

## 1 Introduction

The importance of Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials in numerical analysis is well known. The finite Fourier transform plays a crucial role in mathematics and applications. In spite of these facts it appears that the finite Fourier transform of Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials has not been constructed. Here, we present explicit formulae for these transforms.

The finite Fourier transform of the Legendre polynomials can be expressed in terms of the half-order Bessel functions, thus a direct application of our results is the construction of an explicit representation for the half-order Bessel functions.

Our results are motivated from the recent work of B Fornberg and collaborators [1], [6] on the numerical implementation of the unified method of [2]–[4] to linear elliptic partial differential equations (PDEs) formulated in the interior of a convex polygon. In this case, the unified method yields a simple algebraic equation, the so-called global relation, which couples the finite Fourier transforms of the given boundary data with the finite Fourier transforms of the unknown boundary values. For the determination of these boundary values one has to choose (a) appropriate basis functions and (b) suitable collocation

points in the Fourier space. Several such choices have appeared in the literature [1], [5]-[12]; it appears that the best choice is (a) the unknown boundary values are expanded in terms of Legendre functions and (b) the collocation points are chosen on rays introduced in [5], [12]. We note that Chebyshev and Legendre functions give rise to equivalent finite bases of  $L^2$ , and hence either choice will result in the same numerical method; however, in general the conditioning of the resulting linear systems will differ as conditioning is not invariant under matrix column operations.

As an example of the applicability of these analytic formulae we apply this approach to the simplest possible polygon, namely to a square, and we use the explicit construction of the finite Fourier transform of the Legendre functions instead of the usual representation in terms of the Bessel functions.

## 2 Fourier transforms of the Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials

**Theorem 1** *Let  $\hat{T}_m(\lambda)$  denote the finite Fourier transform of the Chebyshev polynomial  $T_m(x)$ , i.e.*

$$\hat{T}_m(\lambda) = \int_{-1}^1 e^{-i\lambda x} T_m(x) dx, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (2.1)$$

where  $T_m(x)$  denotes the Chebyshev polynomial

$$T_m(x) = \cos(m \cos^{-1}(x)), \quad -1 < x < 1, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (2.2)$$

Then,

$$\hat{T}_m(0) = \begin{cases} 0, & m = 1, \\ \frac{(-1)^{m+1} - 1}{m^2 - 1}, & m = 0, 2, 3, \dots \end{cases} \quad (2.3)$$

Furthermore,

$$\hat{T}_m(\lambda) = \sum_{n=1}^{m+1} \alpha_n^m \left[ \frac{e^{i\lambda}}{(i\lambda)^n} + (-1)^{n+m} \frac{e^{-i\lambda}}{(i\lambda)^n} \right], \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (2.4)$$

where the coefficients  $\alpha_n^m$  are defined as follows:

$$\alpha_1^m = (-1)^m, \quad \alpha_2^m = (-1)^{m+1} m^2, \quad (2.5)$$

$$\alpha_n^m = (-1)^{m+n-1} 2^{n-2} m \sum_{k=1}^{m-n+2} \binom{n+k-3}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-3} (m-j), \quad n = 3, 4, \dots, m+1. \quad (2.6)$$

**Proof** Making in (2.1) the change of variables  $x = \cos w$ , we find

$$\hat{T}_m(\lambda) = \int_0^\pi e^{-i\lambda \cos w} \sin w \cos(mw) dw, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots, \quad (2.7)$$

from which the results for  $\lambda = 0$  follow. Using the identity

$$\sin w e^{-i\lambda \cos w} = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \frac{d}{dw} \left( e^{-i\lambda \cos w} \right), \quad (2.8)$$

and employing integration by parts in (2.7) we find

$$\hat{T}_m(\lambda) = \frac{1}{i\lambda} \left[ e^{i\lambda} (-1)^m - e^{-i\lambda} + m K_m(-i\lambda) \right], \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots, \quad (2.9)$$

where

$$K_m(z) = \int_0^\pi e^{z \cos w} \sin(mw) dw, \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 0, 1, \dots \quad (2.10)$$

We now derive an analytic expression for  $K_m(z)$ . It is clear that  $K_0(z) = 0$ , and on replacing  $-i\lambda$  by  $z$  in (2.8) we find

$$K_1(z) = -\frac{1}{z} e^{z \cos w} \Big|_{w=0}^\pi = \frac{1}{z} (e^z - e^{-z}), \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}. \quad (2.11)$$

The function  $K_m(z)$  satisfies the relation

$$K_{m+1}(z) = -\frac{2m}{z} K_m(z) + K_{m-1}(z) + \frac{2}{z} (e^z + (-1)^{m-1} e^{-z}), \quad z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots \quad (2.12)$$

For the derivation of this equation we will use the identity

$$\sin((m+1)w) = \sin((m-1)w) + 2 \sin w \cos(mw). \quad (2.13)$$

Thus,

$$\begin{aligned} K_{m+1}(z) &= \int_0^\pi e^{z \cos w} \sin((m+1)w) dw \\ &= K_{m-1}(z) + 2 \int_0^\pi \sin w e^{z \cos w} \cos(mw) dw. \end{aligned} \quad (2.14)$$

Using integration by parts we find that the above integral can be rewritten in the following form:

$$\begin{aligned} &\int_0^\pi \sin w e^{z \cos w} \cos(mw) dw \\ &= -\frac{1}{z} e^{z \cos w} \cos(mw) \Big|_0^\pi - \frac{m}{z} \int_0^\pi e^{z \cos w} \sin(mw) dw \\ &= \frac{1}{z} (e^z + (-1)^{m-1} e^{-z}) - \frac{m}{z} K_m(z). \end{aligned} \quad (2.15)$$

We now show that for  $m = 0, 1, \dots$ ,

$$\begin{aligned}
K_m(z) &= \frac{m}{z}(e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{2}{z}\right)^n ((-1)^n e^z + (-1)^{m-n} e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m-j),
\end{aligned} \tag{2.16}$$

from which (2.4) follows using (2.9). Clearly, this relation is valid for  $m = 0$  and  $m = 1$ .

Furthermore, the function  $K_m(z)$  in (2.16) satisfies the relation (2.12) if, and only if,

$$\begin{aligned}
&\frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=1}^m \left(\frac{2}{z}\right)^n ((-1)^n e^z + (-1)^{m+1-n} e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^{m-n+1} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m+1-j) \\
&= -\frac{2m^2}{z^2}(e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \\
&\quad - \frac{2m}{z^2} \sum_{n=1}^{m-1} \left(\frac{2}{z}\right)^n ((-1)^n e^z + (-1)^{m-n} e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m-j) \\
&\quad + \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=1}^{m-2} \left(\frac{2}{z}\right)^n ((-1)^n e^z + (-1)^{m-1-n} e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^{m-n-1} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m-1-j).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.17}$$

To prove (2.17), we compare coefficients of each power of  $z$  on each side of this equation. The coefficient of  $z^{-2}$  on the left-hand side of (2.17) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
&2(-e^z + (-1)^{m+1} e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^m k(m+1-k) \\
&= -(e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \left[ m(m+1)^2 - \frac{1}{3}m(m+1)(2m+1) \right], \tag{2.18}
\end{aligned}$$

the coefficient of  $z^{-2}$  on the right-hand side of (2.17) is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
&-(e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \left[ 2m^2 + 2 \sum_{k=1}^{m-2} k(m-1-k) \right] \\
&= -(e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \left[ 2m^2 + (m-1)^2(m-2) - \frac{1}{3}(m-2)(m-1)(2m-3) \right],
\end{aligned} \tag{2.19}$$

and the expressions in (2.18), (2.19) are equivalent. The coefficient of  $z^{-(m+1)}$  on the left-hand side of (2.17) is given by

$$2^m((-1)^m e^z + (-1)^{m+1} e^{-z}) \prod_{j=1}^m (m+1-j) = 2^m((-1)^m e^z + (-1)^{m+1} e^{-z}) m!, \tag{2.20}$$

the coefficient of  $z^{-(m+1)}$  on the right-hand side of (2.17) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & -2^m m((-1)^{m-1} e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \prod_{j=1}^{m-1} (m-j) \\ & = 2^m m((-1)^m e^z + (-1)^{m+1} e^{-z})(m-1)!, \end{aligned} \quad (2.21)$$

and the expressions in (2.20), (2.21) are equivalent. The coefficient of  $z^{-m}$  on the left-hand side of (2.17) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & 2^{m-1}((-1)^{m-1} e^z + (-1)^{m+1} e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^2 \binom{m+k-2}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{m+k-2} (m+1-j) \\ & = 2^{m-1}(-1)^{m-1} (e^z + e^{-z}) \left[ \prod_{j=1}^{m-1} (m+1-j) + m \prod_{j=2}^m (m+1-j) \right] \\ & = 2^m m!(-1)^{m-1} (e^z + e^{-z}), \end{aligned} \quad (2.22)$$

the coefficient of  $z^{-m}$  on the right-hand side of (2.17) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & -2^{m-1} m((-1)^{m-2} e^z + (-1)^m e^{-z}) \sum_{k=1}^2 \binom{m+k-3}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{m+k-3} (m-j) \\ & = 2^{m-1} m(-1)^{m-1} (e^z + e^{-z}) \left[ \prod_{j=1}^{m-2} (m-j) + (m-1) \prod_{j=2}^{m-1} (m-j) \right] \\ & = 2^m m(-1)^{m-1} (e^z + e^{-z})(m-1)!, \end{aligned} \quad (2.23)$$

and the expressions in (2.22), (2.23) are equivalent. Finally, we consider  $z^{-(n+1)}$ ,  $n = 2, 3, \dots, m-2$ . Omitting the common factor of  $2^n((-1)^n e^z + (-1)^{m-1} e^{-z})$  for convenience, the difference of the coefficients of the two sides of equation (2.17) is given by

$$\begin{aligned} & \sum_{k=1}^{m-n+1} \left[ m \binom{n+k-2}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-2} (m-j) - \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m+1-j) \right] \\ & \quad + \sum_{k=1}^{m-n-1} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m-1-j). \end{aligned} \quad (2.24)$$

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned} & m \binom{n+k-2}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-2} (m-j) - \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m+1-j) \\ & = \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \left[ \frac{mn}{n+k-1} - (m-k+1) \right] \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-2} (m-j), \end{aligned} \quad (2.25)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=1}^{m-n-1} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-1} (m-1-j) \\
&= \sum_{k=3}^{m-n+1} \binom{n+k-3}{k-3} \prod_{j=k-2}^{n+k-3} (m-1-j) \\
&= \sum_{k=1}^{m-n+1} \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \frac{(k-1)(k-2)(m-k+1)}{(n+k-1)(n+k-2)} \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-2} (m-j).
\end{aligned} \tag{2.26}$$

Hence the above difference is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{k=1}^{m-n+1} \left[ \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left[ \frac{mn}{n+k-1} - (m-k+1) \left( 1 - \frac{(k-1)(k-2)}{(n+k-1)(n+k-2)} \right) \right] \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-2} (m-j) \right] \\
&= n \sum_{k=1}^{m-n+1} \left[ \binom{n+k-1}{k-1} \frac{1}{n+k-1} \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left[ m - \frac{(n+2k-3)(m-k+1)}{n+k-2} \right] \prod_{j=k}^{n+k-2} (m-j) \right] \\
&= n \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} \left[ \binom{n+k}{k} \frac{k(n+2k-m-1)}{(n+k)(n+k-1)} \prod_{j=k+1}^{n+k-1} (m-j) \right] = \frac{1}{(n-1)!} \sum_{k=1}^{m-n} a_k,
\end{aligned} \tag{2.27}$$

where

$$a_k = \frac{(m-k-1)!(n+k-2)!(n+2k-m-1)}{(m-n-k)!(k-1)!}, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots, m-n. \tag{2.28}$$

Hence  $a_{m-n+1-k} = -a_k$ . If  $m-n$  is odd, then

$$n + 2 \left( \frac{m-n+1}{2} \right) - m - 1 = 0, \tag{2.29}$$

and hence  $a_{\frac{m-n+1}{2}} = 0$ . Thus the coefficients of  $z^{-(n+1)}$  of the two sides of (2.17) are equal for  $n = 2, 3, \dots, m-2$ . This establishes the validity of (2.17), which completes the proof of (2.4).  $\square$

**Theorem 2** Let  $\hat{P}_m(\lambda)$  denote the finite Fourier transform of the Legendre polynomial  $P_m(x)$ , i.e.

$$\hat{P}_m(\lambda) = \int_{-1}^1 e^{-i\lambda x} P_m(x) dx, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (2.30)$$

where  $P_m(x)$  denotes the Legendre polynomial

$$P_m(x) = \frac{1}{2^m m!} \frac{d^m}{dx^m} ((x^2 - 1)^m), \quad -1 < x < 1, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (2.31)$$

Then,

$$\hat{P}_m(0) = \begin{cases} 2, & m = 0, \\ 0, & m = 1, 2, \dots \end{cases} \quad (2.32)$$

Furthermore,

$$\hat{P}_m(\lambda) = \sum_{n=1}^{m+1} \beta_n^m \left[ \frac{e^{i\lambda}}{(i\lambda)^n} + (-1)^{m+n} \frac{e^{-i\lambda}}{(i\lambda)^n} \right], \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (2.33)$$

where the coefficients  $\beta_n^m$  are defined as follows:

$$\beta_1^m = 1 \text{ if } m \text{ even}, \quad (2.34a)$$

$$\beta_n^m = \left( (m+n) \binom{\frac{m+n-3}{2}}{n-1} + \binom{\frac{m+n-3}{2}}{n-2} \right) R_{\frac{m-n+3}{2}, \frac{m+n-3}{2}}(m),$$

$$n = \begin{cases} 3, 5, \dots, m+1 & \text{if } m \text{ even}, \\ 2, 4, \dots, m+1 & \text{if } m \text{ odd}, \end{cases} \quad (2.34b)$$

$$\beta_n^m = - \binom{\frac{m+n}{2}-1}{n-1} R_{\frac{m-n}{2}+1, \frac{m+n}{2}-1}(m), \quad n = \begin{cases} 2, 4, \dots, m & \text{if } m \text{ even}, \\ 1, 3, \dots, m & \text{if } m \text{ odd}, \end{cases} \quad (2.34c)$$

where

$$R_{s,t}(r) = \begin{cases} \prod_{k=s}^t (2(r-k) + 1), & s \leq t, \\ 1, & s > t, \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \binom{s}{t} = \begin{cases} \frac{s!}{(s-t)!t!}, & s \geq t, \\ 0, & s < t. \end{cases} \quad (2.35)$$

**Proof** We first consider (2.32) for  $m = 0$ :

$$\hat{P}_0(0) = \int_{-1}^1 P_0(x) dx = 2. \quad (2.36)$$

Using the identity

$$(2m+1)P_m(x) = \frac{d}{dx}(P_{m+1}(x) - P_{m-1}(x)), \quad -1 < x < 1, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots, \quad (2.37)$$

as well as the equations  $P_m(1) = 1$  and  $P_m(-1) = (-1)^m$  for  $m = 0, 1, \dots$  we find the second line of (2.32):

$$\hat{P}_m(0) = \int_{-1}^1 P_m(x) dx = \frac{1}{2m+1} [P_{m+1}(x) - P_{m-1}(x)]_{-1}^1 = 0. \quad (2.38)$$

For  $m = 0, 1$ ,  $P_m(\lambda) = T_m(\lambda)$  and thus  $\hat{P}_m(\lambda) = \hat{T}_m(\lambda)$ ; hence (2.4) establishes the validity of (2.33).

Furthermore, using (2.37) and integrating by parts we find

$$\hat{P}_{m+1}(\lambda) = -\frac{i}{\lambda}(2m+1)\hat{P}_m(\lambda) + \hat{P}_{m-1}(\lambda), \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots \quad (2.39)$$

For convenience, we consider the following equivalent forms of (2.33) for  $m$  even and odd respectively:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{P}_m(\lambda) &= \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m}{2}}}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m}{2}-1} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j-1}} \left( (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \right) \psi(\lambda) \\ &\quad + \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j-1} \chi(\lambda) R_{j+1, m-j-1}(m) \\ &\quad + \psi(\lambda) + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m}{2}}}{\lambda^m} \chi(\lambda) R_{1, m-1}(m), \end{aligned} \quad (2.40)$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{P}_m(\lambda) &= -\frac{i}{\lambda} \left( 1 + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{1, m-1}(m) \right) \chi(\lambda) - \frac{i(m-1)(m+2)}{2\lambda} \psi(\lambda) \\ &\quad - \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}} i}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-3}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j-1}} \left( (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \right) \psi(\lambda) \\ &\quad + \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j-1} \chi(\lambda) R_{j+1, m-j-1}(m), \end{aligned} \quad (2.41)$$

where

$$\psi(\lambda) = \frac{i}{\lambda} (e^{-i\lambda} - e^{i\lambda}) \quad \text{and} \quad \chi(\lambda) = \psi(\lambda) - (e^{-i\lambda} + e^{i\lambda}). \quad (2.42)$$



For odd  $m$ , (2.39) is equivalent to the following expression:

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j}} R_{j+1,m-j}(m+1) \\
& \quad \left( (2(m-j)+3) \binom{m-j}{m-2j+1} \psi(\lambda) + \binom{m-j}{m-2j} \chi(\lambda) \right) \\
& + \psi(\lambda) + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m+1}} R_{1,m}(m+1) \chi(\lambda) \\
& = \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-3}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j-2}} R_{j+1,m-j-2}(m-1) \\
& \quad \left( (2(m-j)-1) \binom{m-j-2}{m-2j-1} \psi(\lambda) + \binom{m-j-2}{m-2j-2} \chi(\lambda) \right) \\
& + \psi(\lambda) + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{1,m-2}(m-1) \chi(\lambda) \\
& - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} (2m+1) \left( 1 + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{1,m-1}(m) \right) \chi(\lambda) \\
& - \frac{1}{2\lambda^2} (2m+1)(m-1)(m+2) \psi(\lambda) \\
& - \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^2} (2m+1) \\
& \quad \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-3}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j-1}} R_{j+1,m-j-1}(m) \\
& \quad \left( \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j-1} \chi(\lambda) + (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \psi(\lambda) \right). \tag{2.43}
\end{aligned}$$

Furthermore,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-3}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j-2}} \left( (2(m-j)-1) \binom{m-j-2}{m-2j-1} \psi(\lambda) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \binom{m-j-2}{m-2j-2} \chi(\lambda) \right) R_{j+1,m-j-2}(m-1) \\
& = \sum_{j=2}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} \frac{(-1)^{j-1}}{\lambda^{m-2j}} \left( (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j+1} \psi(\lambda) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \chi(\lambda) \right) R_{j,m-j-1}(m-1). \tag{2.44}
\end{aligned}$$

It is straightforward to show that

$$\begin{aligned} R_{j+1,m-j}(m+1) &= (2(m-j)+1)R_{j+1,m-j-1}(m), \\ R_{j,m-j-1}(m-1) &= (2j+1)R_{j+1,m-j-1}(m). \end{aligned} \quad (2.45)$$

Hence for odd  $m$ , (2.39) is equivalent to the following equation:

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda} \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j}} (2(m-j)+1) R_{j+1,m-j-1}(m) \\ & \quad \left( (2(m-j)+3) \binom{m-j}{m-2j+1} \psi(\lambda) + \binom{m-j}{m-2j} \chi(\lambda) \right) \\ & + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m+1}} (2m+1) R_{1,m-1}(m) \chi(\lambda) \\ & = \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda} \sum_{j=2}^{\frac{m-1}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j}} (2j+1) R_{j+1,m-j-1}(m) \\ & \quad \left( (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j+1} \psi(\lambda) + \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \chi(\lambda) \right) \\ & + \frac{3(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{2,m-2}(m) \chi(\lambda) \\ & - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} (2m+1) \left( 1 + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{1,m-1}(m) \right) \chi(\lambda) \\ & - \frac{1}{2\lambda^2} (2m+1)(m-1)(m+2) \psi(\lambda) \\ & + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda} (2m+1) \\ & \quad \cdot \sum_{j=1}^{\frac{m-3}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j}} R_{j+1,m-j-1}(m) \\ & \quad \left( \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j-1} \chi(\lambda) + (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \psi(\lambda) \right). \end{aligned} \quad (2.46)$$

Hence,

$$\begin{aligned}
& \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda} \\
& \cdot \sum_{j=2}^{\frac{m-3}{2}} \frac{(-1)^j}{\lambda^{m-2j}} R_{j+1, m-j-1}(m) \\
& \left( (2(m-j)+1) \left( (2(m-j)+3) \binom{m-j}{m-2j+1} - (2j+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j+1} \right. \right. \\
& \quad \left. \left. - (2m+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \right) \right) \psi(\lambda) \\
& + \left( (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j}{m-2j} - (2j+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \right. \\
& \quad \left. - (2m+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j-1} \right) \chi(\lambda) \\
& + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{2, m-2}(m) [(2m-1)((2m+1)\psi(\lambda) + (m-1)\chi(\lambda)) \\
& \quad - (2m+1)((m-2)\chi(\lambda) + (2m-1)\psi(\lambda))] \\
& - \frac{1}{\lambda^2} \left( (m+2) \left( \frac{1}{8}(m+4)(m+1)(m-1)\psi(\lambda) + \frac{1}{2}(m+1)\chi(\lambda) \right) \right. \\
& \quad \left. - m \left( \frac{1}{8}(m+2)(m-1)(m-3)\psi(\lambda) + \frac{1}{2}(m-1)\chi(\lambda) \right) \right) \\
& + \left( \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m+1}} (2m+1) R_{1, m-1}(m) + \frac{3(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{2, m-2}(m) \right. \\
& \quad \left. + \frac{1}{\lambda^2} (2m+1) \left( 1 + \frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}} R_{1, m-1}(m) \right) \right) \chi(\lambda) \\
& + \frac{1}{2\lambda^2} (2m+1)(m-1)(m+2)\psi(\lambda) \\
& = 0.
\end{aligned} \tag{2.47}$$

Equation (2.47) follows from the identities

$$\begin{aligned}
& (2(m-j)+3) \binom{m-j}{m-2j+1} - (2j+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j+1} \\
& - (2m+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} = 0, \tag{2.48}
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
& (2(m-j)+1) \binom{m-j}{m-2j} - (2j+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j} \\
& - (2m+1) \binom{m-j-1}{m-2j-1} = 0, \tag{2.49}
\end{aligned}$$

and the coefficients of  $\frac{(-1)^{\frac{m+1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m+1}}R_{1,m-1}(m)\chi(\lambda)$ ,  $\frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}}\psi(\lambda)R_{2,m-2}(m)$ ,  $\frac{(-1)^{\frac{m-1}{2}}}{\lambda^{m-1}}\chi(\lambda)R_{2,m-2}(m)$ ,  $-\frac{1}{8\lambda^2}\psi(\lambda)$  and  $-\frac{1}{2\lambda^2}\chi(\lambda)$  on the left hand side of (2.47) vanishing:

$$\begin{aligned}(2m+1) - (2m+1) &= 0, \quad (2m-1)(2m+1) - (2m+1)(2m-1) = 0, \\ (2m-1)(m-1) - (2m+1)(m-2) - 3 &= 0, \\ (m-1)(m+2)((m+1)(m+4) - m(m-3) - 4(2m+1)) &= 0, \\ (m+1)(m+2) - m(m-1) - 2(2m+1) &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

The validity of (2.39) for even  $m$  can be demonstrated similarly, completing the proof of equation (2.33).  $\square$

### 3 An explicit representation for the half-order Bessel functions

**Lemma 3** Let  $J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda)$  denote the half-order Bessel function, i.e.

$$\begin{aligned}J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda) &= \frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\pi \cos\left(\left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right)\tau - \lambda \sin \tau\right) d\tau \\ &+ \frac{(-1)^{m+1}}{\pi} \int_0^\infty \exp\left(-\lambda \sinh \tau - \left(m+\frac{1}{2}\right)\tau\right) d\tau, \quad (3.1) \\ \lambda &\in \mathbb{C}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots\end{aligned}$$

Then

$$J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(0) = 0, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (3.2)$$

and  $J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda)$  admits the following explicit representation:

$$\begin{aligned}J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \sum_{n=1}^{m+1} \beta_n^m \left[ \frac{e^{i\lambda}}{i^{n-m}\lambda^{n-\frac{1}{2}}} + (-1)^{n+m} \frac{e^{-i\lambda}}{i^{n-m}\lambda^{n-\frac{1}{2}}} \right], \\ \lambda &\in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots, \quad (3.3)\end{aligned}$$

where the coefficients  $\beta_n^m$  are defined by equations (2.34).

**Proof** Recall that the finite Fourier transforms of the Legendre polynomials  $\hat{P}_m(\lambda)$  can be expressed in the form

$$\hat{P}_m(\lambda) = \frac{1}{i^m} \sqrt{\frac{2\pi}{\lambda}} J_{m+\frac{1}{2}}(\lambda). \quad (3.4)$$

This equation, together with the results of Theorem 2, immediately gives equation (3.3).  $\square$

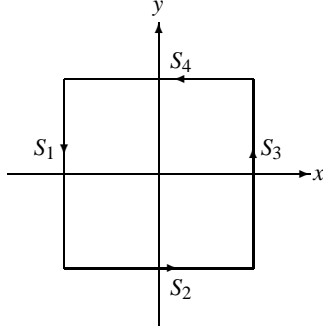


Figure 1: The square with sides of length 2.

## 4 The modified Helmholtz equation in the interior of a square

Let  $u(x, y)$  satisfy the modified Helmholtz equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} - 4u = 0, \quad (4.1)$$

in the interior of a convex polygon. Associated with each side  $\{S_j\}_1^n$  of this  $n$ -gon, define the following functions

$$\hat{u}_j(\lambda) = \int_{S_j} e^{-i(\lambda z - \frac{\bar{z}}{\lambda})} \left\{ \left[ -u_y + \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) u \right] dx + \left[ u_x + \left( i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) u \right] dy \right\},$$

$$j = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}, \quad (4.2)$$

and

$$\tilde{u}_j(\lambda) = \int_{S_j} e^{i(\lambda \bar{z} - \frac{z}{\lambda})} \left\{ \left[ -u_y + \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) u \right] dx + \left[ u_x - \left( i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) u \right] dy \right\},$$

$$j = 1, 2, \dots, n, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}. \quad (4.3)$$

Then, the functions  $\{\hat{u}_j(\lambda)\}_1^n$  and  $\{\tilde{u}_j(\lambda)\}_1^n$  satisfy the global relations [12]

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \hat{u}_j(\lambda) = 0, \quad \sum_{j=1}^n \tilde{u}_j(\lambda) = 0, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}. \quad (4.4)$$

For brevity of presentation, we consider the simplest possible polygon, namely the square with corners at (Figure 1)

$$(-1, 1), \quad (-1, -1), \quad (1, -1), \quad (1, 1).$$

For the sides  $S_1, S_2, S_3, S_4$ , we have respectively

$$z = -1 + iy, \quad z = x - i, \quad z = 1 + iy, \quad z = x + i. \quad (4.5)$$

Hence, taking into account the orientations of the sides, we find the following expressions:

$$\hat{u}_1(\lambda) = e^{(i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda})} \int_{+1}^{-1} e^{(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})y} \left[ u_x^{(1)} + \left( i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) u^{(1)} \right] dy, \quad (4.6a)$$

$$\hat{u}_2(\lambda) = e^{-(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})} \int_{-1}^{+1} e^{(-i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda})x} \left[ -u_y^{(2)} + \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) u^{(2)} \right] dx, \quad (4.6b)$$

$$\hat{u}_3(\lambda) = e^{-(i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda})} \int_{-1}^{+1} e^{(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})y} \left[ u_x^{(3)} + \left( i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) u^{(3)} \right] dy, \quad (4.6c)$$

$$\hat{u}_4(\lambda) = e^{(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})} \int_{+1}^{-1} e^{(-i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda})x} \left[ -u_y^{(4)} + \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) u^{(4)} \right] dx. \quad (4.6d)$$

Let  $\hat{D}_j$  and  $\hat{N}_j$  denote the parts of  $\hat{u}_j$  corresponding to the Dirichlet and Neumann boundary values. Then,

$$\hat{u}_1(\lambda) = -e^{(i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda})} \hat{N}_1(\lambda) - \left( i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) e^{(i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda})} \hat{D}_1(\lambda), \quad (4.7a)$$

$$\hat{u}_2(\lambda) = -e^{-(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})} \hat{N}_2(-i\lambda) + \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) e^{-(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})} \hat{D}_2(-i\lambda), \quad (4.7b)$$

$$\hat{u}_3(\lambda) = e^{-(i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda})} \hat{N}_3(\lambda) + \left( i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) e^{-(i\lambda + \frac{1}{i\lambda})} \hat{D}_3(\lambda), \quad (4.7c)$$

$$\hat{u}_4(\lambda) = e^{(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})} \hat{N}_4(-i\lambda) - \left( \lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) e^{(\lambda + \frac{1}{\lambda})} \hat{D}_4(-i\lambda). \quad (4.7d)$$

For simplicity, we consider the symmetric Dirichlet boundary value problem:

$$u^{(1)} = u(-1, y) = \cosh(1) \cosh(\sqrt{3}y) + \cosh(\sqrt{3}) \cosh(y), \quad -1 < y < 1; \quad (4.8a)$$

$$u^{(3)} = u(1, y) = \cosh(1) \cosh(\sqrt{3}y) + \cosh(\sqrt{3}) \cosh(y), \quad -1 < y < 1; \quad (4.8b)$$

$$u^{(2)} = u(x, -1) = \cosh(1) \cosh(\sqrt{3}x) + \cosh(\sqrt{3}) \cosh(x), \quad -1 < x < 1; \quad (4.8c)$$

$$u^{(4)} = u(x, 1) = \cosh(1) \cosh(\sqrt{3}x) + \cosh(\sqrt{3}) \cosh(x), \quad -1 < x < 1. \quad (4.8d)$$

Then,

$$u(x, y) = u(-x, y), \quad u(x, y) = u(x, -y), \quad u(x, y) = u(y, x). \quad (4.9)$$

Thus,

$$u_x^{(3)} = -u_x^{(1)}, \quad u_y^{(4)} = -u_y^{(2)}, \quad u_y^{(2)} = u_x^{(1)} \Big|_{(x,y) \leftrightarrow (y,x)}. \quad (4.10)$$

Hence, the first of the global relations (4.4) becomes

$$\begin{aligned} & \cos \left( \lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \hat{N}_1(\lambda) + \cos \left( i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) \hat{N}_1(-i\lambda) \\ &= \left( \lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \sin \left( \lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda} \right) \hat{D}_1(\lambda) + \left( i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) \sin \left( i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda} \right) \hat{D}_1(-i\lambda), \\ & \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.11a)$$

The simplest way to obtain the second of the global relations (4.4) is to take the Schwartz conjugate of equation (4.11a) (i.e. to take the complex conjugate of (4.11a) and then to replace  $\bar{\lambda}$  with  $\lambda$ ). This yields the equation

$$\begin{aligned} & \cos\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \hat{N}_1(\lambda) + \cos\left(i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda}\right) \hat{N}_1(i\lambda) \\ &= \left(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \sin\left(\lambda - \frac{1}{\lambda}\right) \hat{D}_1(\lambda) + \left(i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda}\right) \sin\left(i\lambda - \frac{1}{i\lambda}\right) \hat{D}_1(i\lambda), \\ & \lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}. \end{aligned} \quad (4.11b)$$

Using  $N$  basis functions to approximate  $u_x^{(1)}$ , equations (4.11) yield 2 equations for  $N$  unknowns.

Regarding the numerical solution of the global relations (4.11), Fourier basis functions [5], [7]–[12], as well as Chebyshev and Legendre polynomials [1], [6], [9], have been used to approximate  $u_x^{(1)}$ . In most of the earlier papers the collocation points  $\lambda \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \{0\}$  were chosen to lie on the rays in the complex  $\lambda$ -plane which are parallel to the edges of the polygon and its reflection in the imaginary axis. Recently B Fornberg and collaborators introduced the use of the so-called Halton nodes, [1], [6].

It appears that the most efficient numerical method involves (a) approximating the data  $u_x^{(1)}$  in terms of Legendre polynomials (following Fornberg) and (b) using the collocation points employed in our earlier work [12] where ideas of A G Sifalakis and collaborators [9] for the Laplace equation were extended to the modified Helmholtz equation. Furthermore, in order to ensure that the collocation matrix remains well conditioned as the number  $N$  of basis functions increases, it is important following Fornberg to (i) divide each row, as well as each column, of the collocation matrix by its  $l^1$ -norm [1] and (ii) to “over-determine” the linear system by choosing the number of collocation points to be about the same as the number of unknowns.

Numerical experiments suggest that Legendre polynomials yield spectral accuracy rather than the algebraic accuracy found with a Fourier basis. Furthermore, as a result of choosing the collocation points to be on the above rays, the semi-block circulant structure of the collocation matrix for regular polygons, demonstrated for the Laplace equation in [8], is preserved in modified Helmholtz equation as well.

Plots of the relative error  $E_\infty$  (defined in [12]), as well as of the matrix condition number as a function of  $N$ , for  $N/2$ ,  $N$ ,  $3N/2$  and  $2N$  collocation points, are presented in Figure 2. The rectangular collocation matrix was inverted by using the “backslash” command in Matlab. It is clear that over-determining the linear system by a factor of 2 is sufficient to achieve very good matrix conditioning.

## 5 Acknowledgements

ASF is grateful to EPSRC, UK and to Onassis foundation, USA for partial support. SAS wishes to thank Prof B Fornberg for many useful discussions.

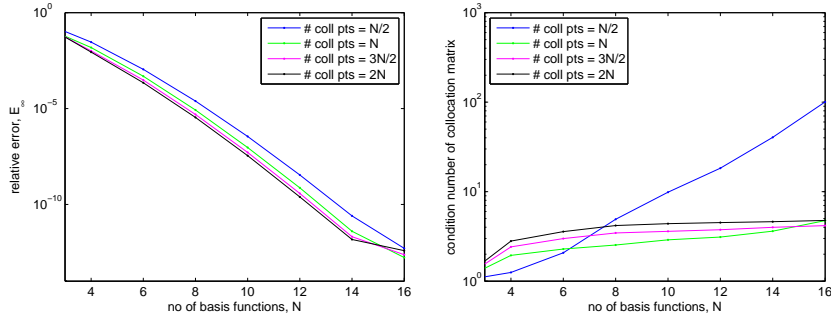


Figure 2: Numerical solution of the global relations (4.11) for the symmetric Dirichlet boundary value problem (4.8).

## References

- [1] Davis, C.-I.: Numerical tests of the Fokas method for Helmholtz-type partial differential equations: Dirichlet to Neumann Maps, Masters Thesis, University of Colorado at Boulder (2008)
- [2] Fokas, A.S.: A unified transform method for solving linear and certain nonlinear PDEs. *Proc. R. Soc. A* **453**, 1411–1443 (1997)
- [3] Fokas, A.S.: On the integrability of linear and nonlinear partial differential equations. *J. Math. Phys.* **41**, 4188–4237 (2000)
- [4] Fokas, A.S.: Two-dimensional linear PDEs in a convex polygon. *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. Ser. A* **457**, 371–393 (2001)
- [5] Fokas, A.S., Flyer, N., Smitheman S.A., Spence E.A.: A semi-analytical numerical method for solving evolution and elliptic partial differential equations. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **227**, 59–74 (2009)
- [6] Fornberg, B., Flyer, N.: A numerical implementation of Fokas boundary integral approach: Laplace’s equation on a polygonal domain. *Proc. R. Soc. A* **467**, 2983–3003 (2011)
- [7] Fulton, S.R., Fokas, A.S., Xenophontos, C.A.: An analytical method for linear elliptic PDEs and its numerical implementation. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **167**, 465–483 (2004)
- [8] Saridakis, Y.G., Sifalakis, A.G., Papadopoulou, E.P.: Efficient numerical solution of the generalized Dirichlet-Neumann map for linear elliptic PDEs in regular polygon domains. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **236**, 2515–2528 (2012)
- [9] Sifalakis, A.G., Fokas, A.S., Fulton, S.R., Saridakis, Y.G.: The generalized Dirichlet-Neumann map for linear elliptic PDEs and its numerical implementation. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **219**, 9–34 (2008)



- [10] Sifalakis, A.G., Fulton, S.R., Papadopoulou, E.P., Saridakis, Y.G.: Direct and iterative solution of the generalized Dirichlet-Neumann map for elliptic PDEs on square domains. *J. Comput. Appl. Math.* **227**, 171–184 (2009)
- [11] Sifalakis, A.G., Papadopoulou, E.P., Saridakis, Y.G.: Numerical study of iterative methods for the solution of the Dirichlet-Neumann map for linear elliptic PDEs on regular polygon domains. *Int. J. Appl. Math. Comput. Sci.* **4**, 173–178 (2007)
- [12] Smitheman, S.A., Spence, E.A., Fokas, A.S.: A spectral collocation method for the Laplace and modified Helmholtz equations in a convex polygon. *IMA J. Numer. Anal.* **30**, 1184–1205 (2010)