HIGHER-ORDER DGFEM TRANSPORT CALCULATIONS ON POLYTOPE MESHES FOR MASSIVELY-PARALLEL ARCHITECTURES

A Dissertation

by

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1. DIFFUSION SYNTHETIC ACCELERATION FOR DISCONTINUOUS FINITE ELEMENTS ON UNSTRUCTURED GRIDS

1.1 Introduction

In this chapter, we analyze the Modified Interior Penalty (MIP) form of the diffusion equation as a discretization scheme for use with Diffusion Synthetic Acceleration (DSA) of the DFEM S_N transport equation on unstructured grids. Specifically, we wish to analyze its efficacy on massively-parallel computer architectures where scalability of solution times and memory footprints can become burdensome. This chapter is laid out in the following manner. The remainder of this Section will provide an overview of synthetic acceleration techniques as well as a review of DSA schemes. Section 1.2 provides the DSA methodologies that we will employ for 1-group and thermal neutron upscattering acceleration. We then present the discontinuous Symmetric Interior Penalty (SIP) form of the diffusion equation in Section 1.3 as well as the MIP variant that we will use for our DSA analysis in Section 1.4. The numerical procedures that we will use to solve the diffusion system of equations is given in Section 1.5. The theoretical Fourier analysis tool is given in Section 1.6. Results are provided in Section 1.7 and we finish the chapter with some concluding remarks in Section 1.8

1.1.1 Review of Diffusion Synthetic Accleration Schemes

In Section ??, we described the full-domain transport sweep, and how it can efficiently invert the loss operator. We also provided the parallel implementation details that allow these full-domain transport sweeps to scale out to $O(10^6)$ processors. However, the ability to efficiently invert the transport (streaming and collision) operator does not necessarily mean that transport solutions can be easily obtained.

In general, radiation transport solutions are obtained iteratively. The simplest and widely-used method is a fixed-point scheme Richardson iteration) ubiquitously called Source Iteration (SI) in the transport community. Unfortunately, the iteration process of SI can converge arbitrarily slowly if the problem is optically thick [1]. This corresponds to long mean free paths for neutronics problems. This also corresponds to time steps and material heat capacities tending to infinity and zero, respectively, for thermal radiative transport (TRT) problems.

For the problem regimes in which solution is prohibitively slow, additional steps should be taken to speed up, or accelerate, solution convergence [1]. The most used methods to assist in solution convergence are often called synthetic acceleration techniques. These techniques were first introduced by Kopp [2] and Lebedev [3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9] in the 1960's. From Kopp's and Lebedev's work, Gelbard and Hageman then introduced two synthetic acceleration options for the low-order operator: diffusion and S_2 [10]. Their diffusion preconditioning led to efficient convergence properties on fine spatial meshes. Reed then showed that Gelbard and Hageman's diffusion preconditioning would yield a diverging system for coarse meshes [11]. At this point in time, no one knew if an unconditionally efficient acceleration method could be derived.

Then in 1976, Alcouffe proposed a remedy to Gelbard and Reed that he called diffusion synthetic acceleration (DSA) [12, 13, 14]. He showed that if you derived the diffusion operator consistently with the discretized transport operator, then SI could be accelerated with DSA in an efficient and robust manner. Larsen and McCoy then demonstrated that unconditional stability required that consistency be maintained in both spatial and angular discretization in their four-step procedure [15, 16]. However, Adams and Martin then showed that partially-consistent diffusion discretizations could effectively accelerate DFEM discretizations of the neutron transport equation

[17]. Their modified-four-step procedure (M4S), based on Larsen and McCoy's work, was shown to be unconditionally stable for regular geometries, but divergent for unstructured multi-dimensional meshes [18\overline{\text{D}}n more recent years, alternate discretizations for the diffusion operator have been applied to unstructured multi-dimensional grids. These include the partially consistent Wareing-Larsen-Adams (WLA) DSA [19], the fully consistent DSA (FCDSA) [18], and the partially consistent MIP DSA [20, 21, 22].

Most recently, the partially consistent MIP DSA method has been shown to be an unconditionally stable acceleration method for the 2D DFEM transport equation on unstructured meshes. Wang showed that it acted as an effective preconditioner for higher-order DFEM discretizations on triangles [20, 21]. Turcksin and Ragusa then extended the work to arbitrary polygonal meshes [22]. The MIP diffusion operator is symmetric positive definite (SPD) and was shown to be efficiently invertible with preconditioned conjugate gradient (PCG) and advanced preconditioners such as algebraic multi-grid (AMG) [22].

1.1.2 Synthetic Acceleration Overview

Synthetic acceleration techniques have been widely used in the nuclear engineering community to improve solution convergence for prohibitively slow problems. We now provide a general framework for how synthetic acceleration methods are derived. We begin by expressing our neutron transport equation in the following form,

$$(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})\Psi = \mathbf{Q},\tag{1.1}$$

where $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{B}$ are both linear operators, Ψ is the full angular flux solution in space, angle, and energy, and \mathbf{Q} is the source or driving function. If we had the ability to efficiently invert $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$ directly, then Ψ could be directly computed:

$$\Psi = (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{-1} \mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.2}$$

However, since in practice the discretized version of $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$ is much more costly to directly invert than the discretized version of \mathbf{A} , we instead choose to iteratively solve for Ψ .

To compute Ψ , the following iterative system of equations is usually employed,

$$\mathbf{A}\Psi^{(k+1)} \mathbf{\mathfrak{P}}\Psi^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}, \tag{1.3}$$

where directly solving for $\Psi^{(k+1)}$ yields the following:

$$\Psi^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{D}^{1} \mathbf{B} \Psi^{(k)} + \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.4}$$

For brevity, we define a new operator $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{B}$ which is known as the iteration operator. The spectral radius, ρ , of this operator is simply the supremum of the absolute values of its eigenvalues. For this work, we assume that ρ is less than unity to guarante where \mathbf{C} is next define the residual, $r^{(k)}$, as the difference between two successive solution iterates,

$$r^{(k)} = \Psi^{(k)} - \Psi^{(k-1)}, \tag{1.5}$$

which can also be written as the following:

$$r^{(k)} = \mathbf{C}r^{(k-1)}. (1.6)$$

With the iteration operator, \mathbf{C} , and the residual for iterate k, $r^{(k)}$, defined, we can then write the true, converged solution in terms of the solution at iteration k

and an infinite series of residuals:

$$\Psi = \Psi^{(k)} + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} r^{(k+n)}.$$
(1.7)

Using both Eqs. (1.6) and (1.7), we can rewrite Eq. (1.7) using the iteration operator and the last residual,

$$\Psi = \Psi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{C} + \mathbf{C}^2 + \dots\right) \mathbf{C} r^{(k)}.$$
(1.8)

Since we have assumed that the spectral radius of \mathbf{C} is less than unity, the infinite operator series of Eq. (1.8) converges to $(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{C})^{-1}\mathbf{C}$. This means that we can succinctly write Eq. (1.8) as the following:

$$\Psi = \Psi^{(k)} + (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{C})^{-1} \mathbf{C} r^{(k)}. \tag{1.9}$$

By using the definition of C along with some linear algebra, Eq. (1.9) becomes

$$\Psi = \Psi^{(k)} + (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})^{-1} \mathbf{B} r^{(k)}. \tag{1.10}$$

We would like to use the results of Eq. (1.10) to immediately compute our exact transport solution, Ψ . However, this would require the inversion of $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$ which we did not employ originally in Eq. (1.1) because of the difficulty. This means that, in its current form, Eq. (1.10) is no more useful to us than Eq. (1.1). This would then be an exercise in futility if we were restricted to only working with the $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$ operator. Instead, suppose that we could define an ratio $\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B}$ but it is easily invertible. If \mathbf{W} efficiently approximates the slowest converging error modes of $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$, then Eq. (1.10) can be modified to form a new iterative procedure.

The new iterative procedure begins by simply taking the half-iterate of Eq. (1.4) instead of its full version: (k + 1/2) instead of (k+1). This half-iterate has the form

$$\Psi^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{C}\Psi^{(k)} + \mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}.$$
(1.11)

We can then express the full-iterate by the suggestion of Eq. (1.10). Using the low-order operator, we express the full-iterate as the following,

$$\Psi^{(k+1)} = \Psi^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{B} r^{(k+1/2)}, \tag{1.12}$$

where $r^{(k+1/2)} = \Psi^{(k+1/2)} - \Psi^{(k)}$. We can also express Eq. (1.12) in terms of just the previous iterate, $\Psi^{(k)}$, and a new operator:

$$\Psi^{(k+1)} = \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{W}^{-1} \left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B} \right) \right] \mathbf{C} \Psi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{W}^{-1} \mathbf{B} \right) \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.13}$$

Observe in Eq. (1.13) that as **W** more closely approximates $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$, the operator $\mathbf{W}^{-1}(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$ converges to the identity matrix, **I**. This means that the spectral radius of this new iteration matrix will approach zero as **W** gets closer to $(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{B})$ and therefore more quickly and efficiently verge to the true solution.

1.2 Diffusion Synthetic Acceleration Methodologies

The procedures outlined in Section 1.1.2 define a general methodology to perform synthetic acceleration on the transport equation. We could utilize any of the acceleration strategies that have been developed over the years including DSA, TSA, BPA, etc. The only difference arises in what form the low-order operator, **W**, will take. We obviously are focusing on DSA for this dissertation work, and we do so by first describing in Section 1.2.1 a simple 1-group, continuous specification of the synthetic acceleration methodology just presented. Then, we present a generalized description

of the 1-group DSA strategy for the discretized transport equation in Section 1.2.2. We also show how DSA acts a preconditioner for the iterative transport methods. We conclude this section on DSA methodologies by presenting different strategies that can be employed to accelerate thermal neutron upscattering in Section 1.2.3.

Section 1.1.2 details the general methodology behind synthetic acceleration strategies. We now present a detailed derivation of DSA for a 1-group transport problem with isotropic scattering. This simple transport problem can be described by the following equation,

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi + \sigma_t \psi = \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \phi + \frac{Q}{4\pi}$$
 (1.14)

where we do not include the spatial parameter for clarity. If \mathbb{D} is the diameter of the problem domain, then Eq. (1.14) can slowly converge if the problem is optically thick $(\sigma_t \mathbb{D} \gg 1)$ and there is little absorption in the problem $(\sigma_s \approx \sigma_t)$. The Richardson method then calls for the following iterative approach where we use the half-iterate index, (k + 1/2),

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \psi^{(k+1/2)} + \sigma_t \psi^{(k+1/2)} = \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \phi^{(k)} + \frac{Q}{4\pi}.$$
 (1.15)

We could iterate on Eq. (1.15) continuously until we arrive at a converged solution. Each iteration simply adds the contribution of the scattering source from the previous iteration into the total source term. However, this process can be prohibitively slow if the problem is optically thick with little absorption.

Following the methodology of synthetic acceleration from Section 1.1.2, we now need to determine a formulation for the iteration error of this transport problem so that we can employ the correction procedure of Eq. (1.10). An exact definition for the iteration error can be obtained by taking the difference of Eq. (1.15) from Eq. (??). This forms the following error equation,

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \left(\psi - \psi^{(k+1/2)} \right) + \sigma_t \left(\psi - \psi^{(k+1/2)} \right) = \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \left(\phi - \phi^{(k)} \right), \tag{1.16}$$

where we note that the distributed source, Q, vanishes. We can then add and subtract the term $\frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi}\phi^{(k+1/2)}$ into the right-hand-side of Eq. (1.16) to form

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \left(\psi - \psi^{(k+1/2)} \right) + \sigma_t \left(\psi - \psi^{(k+1/2)} \right) = \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \left(\phi - \phi^{(k+1/2)} \right) + \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \left(\phi^{(k+1/2)} - \phi^{(k)} \right)$$

$$\tag{1.17}$$

For brevity, we can define succinct terms for the error in the angular and scalar fluxes as

$$\delta\psi^{(k+1/2)} \equiv \psi - \psi^{(k+1/2)},\tag{1.18}$$

and

$$\delta \phi^{(k+1/2)} \equiv \int_{4\pi} \delta \psi^{(k+1/2)},$$
 (1.19)

respectively. Inserting these error terms into Eq. (1.17) leads to the final, compact form for the continuous transport error:

$$\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \delta \psi^{(k+1/2)} + \sigma_t \delta \psi^{(k+1/2)} = \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \delta \phi^{(k+1/2)} + \frac{\sigma_s}{4\pi} \left(\phi^{(k+1/2)} - \phi^{(k)} \right). \tag{1.20}$$

If we could efficiently solve for Eq. (1.20), then we would have the exact distribution

of the transport error and could obtain the exact transport solution with

$$\psi = \psi^{(k+1/2)} + \delta\psi^{(k+1/2)}. \tag{1.21}$$

However, solving Eq. (1.20) is just as difficult as the original transport equation. Therefore, we will form an approximate, low-order equation to Eq. (1.20) that is easier to compute.

For this optically thick transport problem that is dominated by scattering, the diffusive error modes that are not attenuated by the transport sweep dominate [1]. Our low-order approximation to Eq. (1.20) then needs to attenuate these diffusive modes. DSA schemes attenuate the low frequency error modes and underestimate the high frequency modes that are efficiently handled by transport sweeps. Therefore, we will approximate Eq. (1.20) with a diffusion equation. We form the standard diffusion equation by taking the continuous transport equation of Eq. (1.14) and performing the following steps:

- 1. Compute the 0th angular moment of Eq. (1.14).
- 2. Compute the 1st angular moment of Eq. (1.14).
- 3. Use the P_1 approximation to evaluate the pressure tensor in the 1st angular moment equation.
- 4. Represent the error equation from the derived standard diffusion equation.

We first take the 0th angular moment of the continuous transport equation which is simply done by integrating Eq. (1.14) over all angle. This yields

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{J} + \sigma_a \phi = Q, \tag{1.22}$$

where we make use of the fact that $\sigma_t = \sigma_a + \sigma_s$ and that the angular current, \vec{J} , is defined as

$$\vec{J} = \int_{A\pi} d\Omega \, \vec{\Omega} \, \psi(\vec{\Omega}). \tag{1.23}$$

Next, we take the 1st angular moment of Eq. (1.14) by multiplying the equation by $\vec{\Omega}$ and then integrating over all angles. This then yields

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \int_{4\pi} d\Omega \, \vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} \, \psi(\vec{\Omega}) + \sigma_t \vec{J} = \vec{0}, \tag{1.24}$$

where the first term is a pressure term defined by the tensor product, $\vec{\Omega} \vec{\Omega}$, which has the form,

$$\vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} = \begin{bmatrix} \Omega_x \Omega_x & \Omega_x \Omega_y & \Omega_x \Omega_z \\ \Omega_y \Omega_x & \Omega_y \Omega_y & \Omega_y \Omega_z \\ \Omega_z \Omega_x & \Omega_z \Omega_y & \Omega_z \Omega_z \end{bmatrix}. \tag{1.25}$$

We then evaluate this pressure tensor by using the P_1 approximation on the angular flux. The P_1 expansion of the angular flux is linearly anisotropic and has the form

$$\psi = \frac{1}{4\pi} \left[\phi + 3\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{J} \right]. \tag{1.26}$$

Inserting this P_1 approximation into the pressure term and performing the angular integration leads to the following,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \int_{4\pi} d\Omega \, \vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} \, \psi(\vec{\Omega}) \approx \frac{1}{4\pi} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \int_{4\pi} d\Omega \, \vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} \, \left[\phi + 3\vec{\Omega} \cdot \vec{J} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left[\phi \int_{4\pi} d\Omega \, \vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} + 3\vec{J} \int_{4\pi} d\Omega \, \vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} \, \vec{\Omega} \right],$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\pi} \vec{\nabla} \cdot \left[\phi \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbb{I} + \vec{0} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{3} \vec{\nabla} \phi$$
(1.27)

where \mathbb{I} is the identity tensor. Inserting the result of Eq. (1.27) into Eq. (1.24) yields the approximate form for the 1st angular moment equation:

$$\frac{1}{3}\vec{\nabla}\phi + \sigma_t \vec{J} = \vec{0}. \tag{1.28}$$

Finally, we solve for the current, \vec{J} , in Eq. (1.28) and insert it into the 0th angular moment equation of Eq. (1.22). This leads to the standard reaction-diffusion equation,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot D \vec{\nabla} \phi + \sigma_a \phi = Q, \tag{1.29}$$

where the diffusion coefficient, D, has the form: $D = \frac{1}{3\sigma_t}$.

Equation (1.29) can then be represented as the low-order operator by properly inserting the error terms and the source residual. The final form for our low-order diffusion operator is the following:

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot D\vec{\nabla}\delta\phi^{(k+1/2)} + \sigma_a \delta\phi^{(k+1/2)} = \sigma_s \left(\phi^{(k+1/2)} - \phi^{(k)}\right). \tag{1.30}$$

Equation (1.30) represents the continuous form for the error operator which has not been spatially discretized. There are many such discretization schemes that could be employed as outlined in Section 1.1.1. We leave the details of the discretization scheme that we will employ in this work until Section 1.3. Once this approximate error distribution, $\delta\phi^{(k+1/2)}$, is computed by any solution algorithm of choice, the full-iterate correction of the scalar flux is given by:

$$\phi^{(k+1)} = \phi^{(k+1/2)} + \delta\phi^{(k+1/2)}. (1.31)$$

Thus far, we have presented a DSA scheme to accelerate the continuous 1-group, isotropic transport equation. We did not prescribe an angular or spatial discretization scheme for the transport and derived low-order diffusion equations. Next in Section 1.2.2, we detail a generalized DSA strategy for the discretized 1-group transport problem using operator notation. We then show how these DSA schemes form preconditioned operators for our Richardson and Krylov iterative methods.

1.2.2 Generalized 1-Group DSA Operators

Section 1.2.1 defined the DSA strategy for the simple case of the continuous, 1-group, isotropic transport equation. We now provide a detailed description of the DSA strategy for a generally-dscretized, 1-group transport problem using operator notation. We do this by again detailing how the error equation is formed from the discretized iterative equations. Then, we detail how the transport error equation can be restricted and prolongated from the coarse-grid, low-order diffusion operator. Finally, we combine all the operators into the appropriate correction equation, that is the discretized analogue to Eq. (1.31).

Recall the operator form of the fully discretized transport equation as defined in Section ??,

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{\Psi} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{\Phi} + \mathbf{Q},$$

$$\mathbf{\Phi} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{\Psi}$$
(1.32)

where \mathbf{L} is the total interaction and streaming operator, \mathbf{M} is the moment-to-discrete operator, \mathbf{D} is the discrete-to-moment operator, $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ is the scattering operator, and \mathbf{Q} is the forcing function. In this case, we simply treat this discretized problem as only having 1 energy group, but no restriction on the order of the Spherical Harmonic expansion, N_p . The functional form of the discretized moment-to-discrete and discrete-to-moment operators are

$$M_m \equiv \sum_{p=0}^{N_P} \frac{2p+1}{4\pi} \sum_{n=-p}^p Y_{p,n}(\vec{\Omega}_m), \qquad (1.33)$$

and

$$D_{p,n} \equiv \sum_{m=1}^{M} w_m Y_{p,n}(\vec{\Omega}_m), \qquad (1.34)$$

respectively. This means that the operation \mathbf{DL}^{-1} corresponds to a full-domain transport sweep followed by the computation of the flux moments from the angular flux. We next apply our half-iterate and previous iterate indices on Eq. (1.32) to form the Richardson iteration procedure for our transport equation:

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{\Psi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.35}$$

We can then use the \mathbf{DL}^{-1} operator to present our transport equation of Eq. (1.35) in terms of just the half-iterate flux moments,

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}.$$
 (1.36)

We define the operators $\mathbf{T} \equiv \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{\Sigma}$ and $\mathbf{b} \equiv \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}$ and insert them into Eq. (1.36) to form

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{T}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{b}. \tag{1.37}$$

Next, the functional form for the iteration error equation is formed by taking the difference of Eq. (1.35) from the first line of Eq. (1.32). This yields the following discretized iteration error equation,

$$\mathbf{L}\delta\mathbf{\Psi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\delta\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right). \tag{1.38}$$

In a similar manner as outlined in Section 1.2.1, the low-order diffusion operator for the transport error of Eq. (1.38) can be formed by taking its 0th and 1st angular moments. The left-hand-side of this error equation, which contains the reaction and diffusion terms, is now given by the single operator \mathbf{A} . The diffusion correction to the transport solution after the (k + 1/2) Richardson iteration is given by

$$\delta \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} \right), \tag{1.39}$$

where \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{X} are the prolongation and restriction operators, respectively. The restriction operator acts by limiting the contributions to the low-order residual to the 0th (and maybe 1st) moments. Then once the diffusion correction, $\delta \Phi^{(k+1/2)}$, is calculated, the prolongation operator manipulates the error corrections onto the appropriate flux moments. With the definitions of the half-iterate solution and the diffusion correction given in Eqs. (1.36) and (1.39), respectively, we can form the full-iterate operator:

$$\Phi^{(k+1)} = \Phi^{(k+1/2)} + \delta \Phi^{(k+1/2)}$$

$$= \mathbf{T}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \left(\Phi^{(k+1/2)} - \Phi^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \mathbf{T}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{T}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{b} - \Phi^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \mathbf{T}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I}\right)\Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\right)\mathbf{b}$$

$$= \left[\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I}\right)\right]\Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\right)\mathbf{b}$$

Equation (1.40) provides the accelerated iteration scheme where the matrix operator $[\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{\Sigma} (\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I})]$ is the corresponding iteration matrix for the DSA method. This matrix is in contrast to the unaccelerated iteration matrix, \mathbf{T} , given in Eq. (1.37). These accelerated and unaccelerated iteration matrices can be analyzed to obtain knowldege of how the transport solutions will converge.

We now quickly show how the DSA iterative procedure given by Eq. (1.40) is exactly a preconditioned Richardson iteration. We do this by first adding and subtracting $\Phi^{(k)}$ to the final line of Eq. (1.40) to form the following equivalent iteration scheme,

$$\Phi^{(k+1)} = \left[\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I} \right) \right] \Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right) \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I} \right) \Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I} \right) \Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right) \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right) \left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I} \right) \Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right) \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \Phi^{(k)} - \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right) \left(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T} \right) \Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \right) \mathbf{b}$$
(1.41)

Next, we replace the iteration terms of $\Phi^{(k)}$ and $\Phi^{(k+1)}$ with Φ in Eq. (1.41) and move the solution terms to the left-hand-side of the equation. This gives the following equation with no iteration indices,

$$(\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma})(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T})\boldsymbol{\Phi} = (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma})\mathbf{b}.$$
 (1.42)

Recall from Section ?? that the moment-only form of the discretized transport equation is given by

$$(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}) \, \mathbf{\Phi} = \mathbf{b}. \tag{1.43}$$

This means that the DSA scheme is exactly a preconditioned Richardson iterative scheme where the operator $(I + PA^{-1}X\Sigma)$ acts as a left-preconditioner. When Krylov schemes are used in place of Richardson iteration, Eq. (1.42) will still describe our preconditioned transport equation. Recall from Section ?? that only minor changes need to made to existing source iteration routines to enable Krylov solvers to properly solve the transport equation. In particular, the subtle differences lie in applying the matrix-free transport sweep operator on some Krylov vector, \mathbf{x} and in building the right-hand-side vector. We can show that we form the appropriate action of the matrix operator, which we denote as \mathbf{Z} , in an identical manner to unaccelerated Richardson iteration. Recall, that the unaccelerated matrix operator is computed by differencing the original Krylov vector by the vector following a transport sweep. Therefore, we compute this same difference with the results from our DSA accelerated transport sweep to form:

$$\mathbf{Z}\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x} - \left[\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{I}\right)\right]\mathbf{x}$$

$$= (\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T})\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma}\left(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}\right)\mathbf{x}.$$

$$= (\mathbf{I} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\boldsymbol{\Sigma})\left(\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{T}\right)\mathbf{x}$$
(1.44)

In Eq. (1.44), we see that we identically recover the left-preconditioned transport operator from Eq. (1.42). Finally, it is easy to show that we can compute the

right-hand-side source of Eq. (1.42). Recall that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}$, which is computed by performing a single transport sweep on \mathbf{Q} . This means that the accelerated Krylov right-hand-side vector, $\mathbf{b} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{b}$, can be formed by the same correction operation of Eq. (1.40). The only differences lie in the use of \mathbf{Q} instead of the Krylov vector, \mathbf{x} , and the use of \mathbf{b} instead of $\left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right)$ when computing the residual for the diffusion equation.

1.2.3 DSA Acceleration Strategies for Thermal Neutron Upscattering



We have just provided a detailed description of the DSA methodology for a 1-group transport problem. The transport and low-order diffusion operators were discretized, but left as arbitrary. If desired, this 1-group acceleration methodology could be utilized to precondition transport sweeps for a single group in a multigroup problem (if an energy group has a high scattering ratio). However, for a transport problem with many energy groups that need acceleration, there may be more efficient acceleration strategies. In particular, it is difficult to converge the scattering source for transport problems that are dominated by thermal neutron upscattering. We next present three different DSA strategies to accelerate the neutron upscattering that we will analyze for this work.

1.2.3.1 Standard Two-Grid (TG) Acceleration

The first thermal neutron upscatter acceleration methodology that we will investigate is the standard Two-Grid (TG) acceleration scheme devised by Adams and Morel [23]. They originally derived the scheme to accelerate 1D multigroup transport problems that are dominated by thermal neutron upscattering (physical systems containing a lot of graphite or heavy water). The method can be quickly summarized as the following:

1. Perform a Gauss-Seidel procedure in energy for the thermal groups and con-

verge the inner iterations;

- 2. Perform a spectral collapse of the transport iteration error into a 1-group diffusion equation;
- 3. Solve the 1-group diffusion equation for the spatial variation of the transport iteration error;
- 4. Interpolate the diffusive multigroup error back onto the transport solution.

We now provide fulls details for each of these steps of the TG method.

The first step in the TG method is to perform a Gauss-Seidel procedure in energy across the thermal groups. This means that for every outer iteration (we can also think of these as thermal iterations), we sequentially proceed through the thermal energy groups. Based on the notation of a group set introduced in Section ??, we can achieve this Gauss-Seidel iteration scheme by having each thermal group be in its own group set. The TG method then requires full convergence of the within-group inner iterations for each of the group sets. If we have G number of thermal groups, this Gauss-Seidel iteration scheme (with convergence of the inner iterations) leads to the following iteration equation,

$$\mathbf{L}_{gg}\psi_g^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\sum_{g'=1}^g \Sigma_{gg'}\phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{M}\sum_{g'=g+1}^G \Sigma_{gg'}\phi_{g'}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}_g,$$
(1.45)

where the scattering terms still contain some arbitrary number of moments. In operator form, the exact solution and half-iterate equations are given by

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{\Psi} = \mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\right)\mathbf{\Phi} + \mathbf{Q},\tag{1.46}$$

and

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{\Psi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M} \left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} \right) \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{M} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}} \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}, \tag{1.47}$$

respectively. $\mathbf{S_L}$, $\mathbf{S_D}$, and $\mathbf{S_U}$ are the strictly-downscattering, diagonal within-group scattering, and strictly upscattering portions of the scattering matrix, respectively. By moving the downscattering and diagonal portions of the scattering operator to the left side of the equation, inverting the \mathbf{L} operator, and applying the discrete-to-moment operator, \mathbf{D} , we can rewrite the iteration equation of Eq. (1.47) in terms of only the flux moments:

$$\left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}}\right)\right] \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.48}$$

By inverting the left-side operator, we directly solve for the half-iterate flux moments,

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}}\right)\right]^{-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{b},\tag{1.49}$$

where the simplified distributed source term, **b**, is now defined for further clarity:

$$\mathbf{b} = \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} \right) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.50}$$

At this point, Eq. (1.49) provides a formulation for the transport solution at iteration (k + 1/2) based on the solution at iteration (k). We now require a formulation for the accompanying error at this iteration step. We subtract Eq. (1.45) from the exact transport solution to form an equation specifying the exact error at iteration (k + 1/2),

$$\mathbf{L_{gg}}\delta\psi_g^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\sum_{g'=1}^{g} \Sigma_{gg'}\delta\phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{M}\sum_{g'=g+1}^{G} \Sigma_{gg'}\delta\phi_{g'}^{(k)},$$
(1.51)

where the angular flux and flux moment error terms have an analogous multigroup form,

$$\delta \psi_g^{(k+1/2)} = \psi_g - \psi_g^{(k+1/2)} \delta \phi_q^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{D} \delta \psi_q^{(k+1/2)}$$
(1.52)

Next, we add and subtract $\mathbf{M} \sum_{g'=g+1}^{G} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{gg'} \phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)}$ to Eq. (1.51) to form

$$\mathbf{L_{gg}}\delta\psi_g^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\sum_{g'=1}^{G} \Sigma_{gg'}\delta\phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{M}\sum_{g'=g+1}^{G} \Sigma_{gg'} \left(\phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)} - \phi_{g'}^{(k)}\right).$$
(1.53)

Equation (1.53) can be recast into its appropriate operator notation,

$$\mathbf{L}\delta\mathbf{\Psi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}\delta\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right), \tag{1.54}$$

where $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{S_L} + \mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U}$ is the full scattering operator. Equation (1.53) and the corresponding operator form in Eq. (1.54) provide the complete formulation of the multrigroup iteration error. Just like it was previously mentioned for the 1-group scenario, these error equations are just as difficult to solve as the full transport equation.

We again choose to utilize the diffusion operator as the low-order operator for the iteration error. Taking the 0th and 1st angular moments of Eq. (1.53) and applying Fick's Law, we arrive at the standard multigroup diffusion equation for the error,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot D_g \vec{\nabla} \delta \phi_g^{(k+1/2)} + \sigma_{t,g} \delta \phi_g^{(k+1/2)} - \sum_{g'=1}^G \sigma_{s,0}^{gg'} \delta \phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)} = R_g^{(k+1/2)}, \tag{1.55}$$

where the residual, R_g , is only in terms of the 0th-order scattering moment and has the following form:

$$R_g^{(k+1/2)} = \sum_{g'=g+1}^G \sigma_{s,0}^{gg'} \left(\phi_{g',0}^{(k+1/2)} - \phi_{g',0}^{(k)} \right). \tag{1.56}$$

We could solve these G coupled multigroup diffusion equations of Eq. (1.55) for the iteration error. However, if the number of thermal groups becomes large, then these coupled equations could be become burdensome to solve. Instead, the TG method opts to perform a spectral collapse of the multigroup diffusion error. First, we factorize the 0th moment of the multigroup error,

$$\delta \phi_{g,0}^{(k+1/2)} = \xi_g \epsilon^{(k+1/2)}(\vec{r}), \qquad \sum_{g=1}^G \xi_g = 1,$$
 (1.57)

into a spatial component, $\epsilon^{(k+1/2)}(\vec{r})$, and an energy component, ξ_g . The spectral shape, ξ_g , is the eigenfunction corresponding to the largest eigenvalue of the infinite medium iteration matrix of Eq. (1.47) with no driving source term. This eigenvalue problem can be succinctly written as,

$$\left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L},\mathbf{0}} - \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D},\mathbf{0}}\right)^{-1} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U},\mathbf{0}} \xi = \rho \xi, \tag{1.58}$$

where **T** is the diagonal matrix of total cross sections and $S_{L,0}$, $S_{D,0}$, and $S_{U,0}$ are restricted to the 0th-order moments of the scattering cross sections. Inserting the factorized error of Eq. (1.55) into Eq. (1.55) and summing over energy groups gives

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle D \rangle \vec{\nabla} \epsilon^{(k+1/2)} + \vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle \vec{D} \rangle \epsilon^{(k+1/2)} + \langle \sigma \rangle \epsilon^{(k+1/2)} = \langle R^{(k+1/2)} \rangle, \tag{1.59}$$

where the energy-averaged terms are

$$\langle D \rangle = \sum_{g=1}^{G} D_g \xi_g,$$

$$\langle \vec{D} \rangle = \sum_{g=1}^{G} D_g \vec{\nabla} \xi_g,$$

$$\langle \sigma \rangle = \sum_{g=1}^{G} \left(\sigma_{t,g} \xi_g - \sum_{g'=1}^{G} \sigma_{s,0}^{gg'} \xi_{g'} \right),$$

$$\langle R^{(k+1/2)} \rangle = \sum_{g=1}^{G} R_g^{(k+1/2)}.$$
(1.60)

Equation (1.59) is not the standard diffusion equation because of the drift term containing the gradient of the spectral shape. This term is an artifact of the factorization of the error and it is identically zero in homogeneous regions but undefined at material interfaces. The TG method simply neglects this term, which leads to the final form for our coarse-grid error equation,

$$\vec{\nabla} \cdot \langle D \rangle \vec{\nabla} \epsilon^{(k+1/2)} + \langle \sigma \rangle \epsilon^{(k+1/2)} = \langle R^{(k+1/2)} \rangle. \tag{1.61}$$

If we define the left-hand-side matrix operator of Eq. (1.61) as \mathbf{A} , then the operator form of this coarse-grid error equation is

$$\mathbf{A}\epsilon^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{X}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right),\tag{1.62}$$

where X is the restriction operator that confines the diffusion problem to the 0th-order moment and performs the sum from Eq. (1.60). Solving Eq. (1.61) gives the

spatial distribution of the iteration error. We can then update the error for the 0th moment flux with the following:

$$\phi_{a,0}^{(k+1)} = \phi_{a,0}^{(k+1/2)} + \xi_g \epsilon^{(k+1/2)}, \qquad g = 1, ..., G.$$
(1.63)

Up to this point, we have provided the full details of the TG methodology including the Gauss-Seidel iteration equations, the process to spectrally-collapse the diffusive error, and the addiditve interpolation of the diffusive error. We now go through these steps using compact operator notation to arive at a single matrix form for the TG accelerated transport iterations. First, we express the full phase-space update equation as

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} + \delta \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)}. \tag{1.64}$$

The half-iterate solution, $\Phi^{(k+1/2)}$, is given by Eqs. (1.49) and (1.50), and the iteration error, $\delta \Phi^{(k+1/2)}$, is

$$\delta \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}} \left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} \right), \tag{1.65}$$

where **P** is the prolongation operator which interpolates the error back into the full phase-space of the transport equation. For the TG method, this prolongation operator acts on only the 0th-order flux moments (the higher moments are characteristically zero) and appropriately adds the error correction for thermal group g with the appropriate spectral weight, ξ_g . Inserting these definitions into Eq. (1.64) gives

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1)} = \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}}\right)\right]^{-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b}$$
(1.66)

We further define the term $\mathbf{F} \equiv \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} \right) \right]^{-1} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1}$, and use it to re-express Eq. (1.66) into a singular equation for the full-iterate solution,

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k+1)} &= \mathbf{FMS_U}\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U}\left(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{FMS_U}\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U}\left(\mathbf{FMS_U}\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{b} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b} \\ &= \mathbf{FMS_U}\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U}\left(\mathbf{FMS_U} - \mathbf{I}\right)\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U} + \mathbf{I}\right)\mathbf{b} \\ &= \left[\mathbf{FMS_U} + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U}\left(\mathbf{FMS_U} - \mathbf{I}\right)\right]\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{P}\mathbf{A}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U} + \mathbf{I}\right)\mathbf{b} \end{split}$$

where we note that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{FDL}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}$. From Eq. (1.67), the iteration matrix for the TG scheme is given by $[\mathbf{FMS_U} + \mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS_U} (\mathbf{FMS_U} - \mathbf{I})]$. The eigenvalues of this iteration matrix will give insight into the convergence properties of the TG method in the asymptotic region.

The second thermal upscattering acceleration method that we will investigate is a simple modification to the standard TG method of Section 1.2.3.1. At the end of their work involving a TSA variant of the TG method [24], Evans, Clarno, and Morel proposed a modified form for the TG method, which they labeled the Modified Transport Two-Grid (MTTG) method. We wish to adopt their iterative strategy, but use the diffusion equation as our low-order operator. We choose to call this method the Modified Two-Grid (MTG) method. In their work, they proposed to not fully converge the inner iterations for each group in the Gauss-Seidel process. Just like the TG method, we again sequentially proceed through the thermal groups in a Gauss-Seidel manner but only perform 1 transport sweep for each group. This process yields the following iteration scheme,

$$\mathbf{L}_{gg}\psi_g^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M} \sum_{g'=1}^{g-1} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{gg'} \phi_{g'}^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{M} \sum_{g'=g}^{G} \mathbf{\Sigma}_{gg'} \phi_{g'}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}_g,$$
(1.68)

where it differs with Eq. (1.45) in the ending and beginning energy indices for the (k+1/2) and (k) iterations, respectively. In operator notation, the iteration equation of the MTG method is the following:

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{\Psi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} + \mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\right)\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}.$$
 (1.69)

This operator equation for the MTG differs from Eq. (1.47) of the TG method by the locations of the different scattering operators. Solving for the flux moments, we can give the half-iterate and external source equations as,

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}}\right]^{-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\right)\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{b},\tag{1.70}$$

and

$$\mathbf{b} = \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}. \tag{1.71}$$

respectively.

The generation of the spectrally-collapsed diffusion equation for the MTG iteration error is almost identical to the TG method. The only differences lie with generating the spectral shape functions and the residual. Like the TG method, the spectral shape function for each material is the eigenfunction corresponding to the largest eigenvalue of the infinite medium iteration matrix of Eq. (1.68). This eigenproblem is given by,

$$\left(\mathbf{T} - \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L},\mathbf{0}}\right)^{-1} \left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D},\mathbf{0}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U},\mathbf{0}}\right) \xi = \rho \xi, \tag{1.72}$$

where the matrix operators remain from before. With this spectral shape, the average diffusion coefficient and average absorption cross section can again be calculated by Eq. (1.60), while the error residual is given by

$$R_g^{(k+1/2)} = \sum_{g'=g}^{G} \sigma_{s,0}^{gg'} \left(\phi_{g',0}^{(k+1/2)} - \phi_{g',0}^{(k)} \right). \tag{1.73}$$

Again, the coarse-grid error equation is given by Eq. (1.61), with a corresponding operator form of

$$\mathbf{A}\epsilon^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{X}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U}}\right) \left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right). \tag{1.74}$$

We now provide the full phase-space update equation in a like manner to TG.

Just like the TG method, the update equation can be expressed as

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} + \delta \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)}, \tag{1.75}$$

where we insert the half-iterate and coarse-grid error terms from Eqs. (1.70) and (1.83), respectively. Defining $\mathbf{F} \equiv \left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}}\right]^{-1} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1}$ for brevity, we can give the singular equation for the MTG method,

$$\begin{split} & \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k+1)} = & \mathbf{FM} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) \left(\boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} \right) + \mathbf{b} \\ & = & \mathbf{FM} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) \left(\mathbf{FM} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) - \mathbf{I} \right) \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} \\ & \quad + \left(\mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) + \mathbf{I} \right) \mathbf{b} \\ & \quad = \left[\mathbf{FM} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) \left(\mathbf{FM} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) - \mathbf{I} \right) \right] \boldsymbol{\Phi}^{(k)} \\ & \quad + \left(\mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \left(\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U} \right) + \mathbf{I} \right) \mathbf{b} \end{split} \tag{1.76}$$

where we note that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{FDL}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}$ and is unchanged from the TG method (**F** just simply has a different definition). Equation (1.76) gives the iteration matrix for the MTG scheme, which can be used to understand the convergence properties of the method in the asymptotic region.

1.2.3.3 Multigroup Jacobi Acceleration

The third and final thermal neutron upscattering acceleration method that we will investigate is markedly different than the TG and MTG methods. With the increasing expansion of parallel computing resources, the sequential Gauss-Seidel approach for the thermal energy groups necessarily becomes a limiting bottleneck. Therefore, we have natural recourse to develop an alternate thermal upscattering acceleration method that can more effectively make use of parallel algorithms and architectures. Therefore, instead of sequentially marching through the thermal energy groups in a Gauss-Seidel, we solve them simultaneously at each outer iteration. This is achieved by placing all the thermal energy groups into a single group set. Then, each outer iteration performs one transport sweep where the thermal scattering source was generated from the sweep of the previous outer iteration. This procedure is identical to a block Jacobi iteration where a single inner iteration is performed for each thermal group. Therefore, we choose to call this methodology the Multigroup Jacobi Acceleration (MJA) method. This process of simultaneously solving all the thermal groups in a transport sweep yields the following iteration scheme:

$$\mathbf{L}_{gg}\psi_g^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{M} \sum_{g'=1}^{G} \Sigma_{gg'}\phi_{g'}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q}_g.$$
 (1.77)

Just like the TG and MTG methods, we can express Eq. (1.77) in compact operator notation,

$$\mathbf{L}\mathbf{\Psi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{MS}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{Q},\tag{1.78}$$

where $\mathbf{S} = \mathbf{S_L} + \mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U}$ is the full scattering operator that we utilize for brevity. Again, solving for the flux moments yields the half-iterate and external source equations of

$$\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)} + \mathbf{b},\tag{1.79}$$

and

$$\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{Q},\tag{1.80}$$

respectively. We note that Eq. (1.79) has an identical functional form as the halfiterate equation for the 1-group, isotropic scattering iteration operator of Eq. (1.36). Therefore, we can view Eq. (1.79) as the generalized iterative form for this Jacobi iterative procedure with an arbitrary number of energy groups and scattering moments, with Eq. (1.36) being a specialized case.

After each transport sweep, where all thermal groups perform 1 inner iteration, an energy collapsed, 1-group, diffusion acceleration step that is identical to TG and MTG is performed. The diffusion equation is still described by Eq. (1.61), with the only differences again arising with the spectral functions and residual. The spectral shape functions are calculated for each material by the following eigenproblem,

$$\mathbf{T}^{-1} \left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L},\mathbf{0}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D},\mathbf{0}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{U},\mathbf{0}} \right) \xi = \rho \xi, \tag{1.81}$$

which corresponds to the infinite medium iteration matrix of Eq. (1.78). For this MJA method, the residual corresponds to the full 0th moment scattering residual,

$$R_g^{(k+1/2)} = \sum_{g'=1}^G \sigma_{s,0}^{gg'} \left(\phi_{g',0}^{(k+1/2)} - \phi_{g',0}^{(k)} \right). \tag{1.82}$$

With this definition for the residual, the operator form for the coarse-grid error equation is given by,

$$\mathbf{A}\epsilon^{(k+1/2)} = \mathbf{XS}\left(\mathbf{\Phi}^{(k+1/2)} - \mathbf{\Phi}^{(k)}\right),\tag{1.83}$$

where the **A** and **X** operators are the same from the TG and MTG methods. Finally, using the half-iterate and coarse-grid error equations of Eqs. (1.79) and (1.83), respectively, the full-iterate equation becomes

$$\Phi^{(k+1)} = \mathbf{FMS}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS}\left(\Phi^{(k+1/2)} - \Phi^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \mathbf{FMS}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS}\left(\mathbf{FMS}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{b} - \Phi^{(k)}\right) + \mathbf{b}$$

$$= \mathbf{FMS}\Phi^{(k)} + \mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS}\left(\mathbf{FMS} - \mathbf{I}\right)\Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS} + \mathbf{I}\right)\mathbf{b}$$

$$= \left[\mathbf{FMS} + \mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS}\left(\mathbf{FMS} - \mathbf{I}\right)\right]\Phi^{(k)} + \left(\mathbf{PA}^{-1}\mathbf{XS} + \mathbf{I}\right)\mathbf{b}$$
(1.84)

where $\mathbf{F} \equiv \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}$ and we recall that $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{Q}$. Equation (1.84) provides the iteration matrix for the MJA method and its eigenspectrum can be analyzed to provide insight into the method.

1.2.3.4 Summary of the Thermal Neutron Upscattering Acceleration Methods

In this work, we have defined three different methodologies to accelerate thermal neutron upscattering: the Two-Grid method, the Modified Two-Grid method, and the Multigroup Jacobi method. These methods are similar in that we perform a single coarsening step for each iteration where a spectrally-collapsed, 1-group diffusion equation is the low-order error operator. However, there are key differences in the

iterative procedures of the three methods. Both the TG and MTG methods perform a Gauss-Seidel procedure in energy where the thermal energy groups are solved sequentially. However, the inner iterations are not converged for any of the thermal groups with the MTG method. The Multigroup Jacobi method is different from the other two in that the thermal groups are iterated upon simultaneously.

For all three methods, we can define a general expression for the full phase-space solution at each iteration by the following,

$$\Phi^{(k+1)} = \left[\mathbf{F} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{\Sigma} + \mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} \left(\mathbf{F} \mathbf{M} \mathbf{\Sigma} - \mathbf{I} \right) \right] \Phi^{(k)}
+ \left(\mathbf{P} \mathbf{A}^{-1} \mathbf{X} \mathbf{\Sigma} + \mathbf{I} \right) \mathbf{F} \mathbf{D} \mathbf{L}^{-1} \mathbf{Q}$$
(1.85)

where the differences lie in the \mathbf{F} and $\mathbf{\Sigma}$ terms. These terms are given in Table 1.1, and we can clearly see that the differences in the schemes arise from the ordering of the scattering operators.

Table 1.1: Iteration terms for the different thermal upscatter acceleration methods.

Method	F	Σ
Two-Grid	$\left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\left(\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}} + \mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{D}}\right)\right]^{-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}$	$\mathbf{S_{U}}$
Modified Two-Grid	$\left[\mathbf{I} - \mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\mathbf{S}_{\mathbf{L}}\right]^{-1}\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}$	$\mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U}$
Multigroup Jacobi	$\mathbf{D}\mathbf{L}^{-1}$	$\mathbf{S_L} + \mathbf{S_D} + \mathbf{S_U}$

1.3 Symmetric Interior Penalty Form of the Diffusion Equation

So far, we have presented several strategies in Section 1.2 in which DSA can be used to accelerate both within-group scattering and thermal neutron upscattering. We have also simply stated that our low-order operator will be the diffusion equation. However, we have not presented the exact form of the diffusion equation that we will

utilize. In Section 1.4, we present the full form of the modified interior penalty (MIP) form of the diffusion equation that we will use as our low-order operator for DSA calculations. However, we first present in this Section a more generalized version of the interior penalty form that we could use as a stand-alone solver for the standard diffusion equation: the symmetric interior penalty (SIP) form [25, 26, 27].

We begin our discussion of the SIP form by analyzing the standard form of the diffusion equation,

$$-\vec{\nabla} \cdot D(\vec{r})\vec{\nabla}\Phi(\vec{r}) + \sigma\Phi(\vec{r}) = Q(\vec{r}), \qquad \vec{r} \in \mathcal{D}, \tag{1.86}$$

with Dirichlet boundary conditions

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) = \Phi_0(\vec{r}), \qquad \vec{r} \in \partial \mathcal{D}^d, \tag{1.87}$$

Neumann boundary conditions

$$-D\partial_n \Phi(\vec{r}) = J_0(\vec{r}), \qquad \vec{r} \in \partial \mathcal{D}^n, \tag{1.88}$$

and Robin boundary conditions

$$\frac{1}{4}\Phi(\vec{r}) + \frac{D}{2}\partial_n\Phi(\vec{r}) = J^{inc}(\vec{r}), \qquad \vec{r} \in \partial \mathcal{D}^r.$$
(1.89)

We then convert Eq. (1.86) into its weak formulation by left-multiplying it with the test function, b, and apply Gauss' theorem to the Laplacian term,

$$\left(D\vec{\nabla}b, \vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} - \left\langle b, D\partial_n\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}} + \left(\sigma b, \Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} = \left(b, Q\right)_{\mathcal{D}} \tag{1.90}$$

If we were to use the CFEM form of Eq. (1.90), then there would be no further formu-

lations required except on how to properly apply the boundary term: $\langle b, D\partial_n \Phi \rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}}$. For the neumann and robin boundary conditions, this is straightforward since we simply need to insert the definitions of the outgoing currents, $D\partial_n \Phi$, of Eqs. (1.88) and (1.89) into Eq. (1.90). However, this still leaves the question of how to handle the dirichlet boundary conditions. Again, if we were to use CFEM, we could simply strongly enforce these boundary conditions [28].

Instead, we are choosing to utilize a discontinuous form of the diffusion equation. This means that we can employ the same finite elements used in the discretization of the transport operator in Section ??. With this in mind, we recast Eq. (1.90) to only contain the appropriate inner products for element K,

$$\left(D\vec{\nabla}b,\vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{K} - \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K} + \left(\sigma b, \Phi\right)_{K} = \left(b, Q\right)_{K},\tag{1.91}$$

where we use the same notation for the volumetric and surface inner products as Section ??. We further decompose the boundary terms for element K into its respective interior $(\partial K \setminus \partial \mathcal{D})$, dirichlet $(\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^d)$, neumann $(\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^n)$, and robin $(\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^r)$ components:

$$\left(D\vec{\nabla}b, \vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{K} + \left(\sigma b, \Phi\right)_{K} - \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K \setminus \partial \mathcal{D}} \\
- \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{d}} - \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{n}} - \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{r}}.$$

$$= \left(b, Q\right)_{K} \tag{1.92}$$

We can then immediately utilize the definitions of the outgoing currents from Eqs. (1.88) and (1.89), and add the neumann and robin boundary contributions from element K:

$$\left(D\vec{\nabla}b, \vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{K} + \left(\sigma b, \Phi\right)_{K} - \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{d}} + \frac{1}{2}\left\langle b, \Phi\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{r}}$$

$$= \left(b, Q\right)_{K} - \left\langle b, J_{0}\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{n}} + 2\left\langle b, J^{inc}\right\rangle_{\partial K \cap \partial \mathcal{D}^{r}}.$$
(1.93)

Unfortunately, we are now left with the burden of deciding what to do with element K's interior and dirichlet boundary surface terms. In conforming CFEM analysis, we would enforce at least C^0 continuity across the elements, thus not allowing any interelement jumps in the solution. Instead, with the choice of a DG formulation, we have a wide variability in how we wish to weakly express the discontinuous solution between two elements. This choice is extended to the dirichlet boundary conditions as well. Instead of simply strongly-enforcing the dirichlet conditions, we choose to weakly enforce them via a penalty method. The idea of penalty methods can be traced back to [29], where the weakly-enfoced dirichlet conditions now have the form,

$$\Phi(\vec{r}) + \frac{1}{\kappa} D \partial_n \Phi(\vec{r}) = \Phi_0(\vec{r}), \qquad \vec{r} \in \partial \mathcal{D}^d, \tag{1.94}$$

where κ is known as the penalty coefficient and $\kappa \gg 1$. It is clear that as κ becomes large, the solution, Φ , converges to the dirichlet value, Φ_0 . In his work [30], Nitsche further proposed a consistent formulation with this penalty method via symmetrization. This led to the following weak formulation of the Laplacian term with dirichlet boundary conditions,

$$\left(D\vec{\nabla}b, \vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} - \left\langle D\partial_{n}b, \Phi \right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}} - \left\langle b, D\partial_{n}\Phi \right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}}
+ \left\langle \kappa b, (\Phi - \Phi_{0}) \right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}} = - \left\langle D\partial_{n}b, \Phi_{0} \right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}}$$
(1.95)

where we dropped the reaction and forcing terms. Here the penalty coefficient, κ , has

the form $\kappa = \alpha/h$ and $\alpha > 1$ to ensure stability. Later, Arnold proposed extending the weak enforcement of the dirichlet boundaries by Nitsche onto all interior surfaces [31]. If the same symmetric consistency of Nitsche is utilized and we integrate over all mesh elements, then our weak formulation for the solution across all interior faces becomes,

$$\left\langle \kappa \llbracket b \rrbracket, \llbracket \Phi \rrbracket \right\rangle_{E_h^i} + \left\langle \llbracket b \rrbracket, \{ \{ D \partial_n \overset{\bullet}{\bigoplus} \right\}_{E_h^i} + \left\langle \{ \{ D \partial_n b \} \}, \llbracket \Phi \rrbracket \right\rangle_{E_h^i} = 0, \tag{1.96}$$

where κ is again a penalizing coefficient to ensure stability. The mean value and the jump of the terms on a face from Eq. (1.96) are defined as

$$\{\{\Phi\}\} \equiv \frac{\Phi^+ + \Phi^-}{2}$$
 and $[\![\Phi]\!] \equiv \Phi^+ - \Phi^-,$ (1.97)

respectively. The directionality of the terms across a face can be defined in negative, Φ^- , and positive, Φ^+ directions by their trace:

$$\Phi^{\pm} \equiv \lim_{s \to 0^{\pm}} \Phi(\vec{r} + s\vec{n}), \tag{1.98}$$

where the face's unit normal direction, \vec{n} , has been arbitrarily chosen.

These weak formulations for the dirichlet boundary conditions and the interior faces can now be inserted into Eq. (1.93). From there, we sum the remaining inner products besides the interior face terms across all elements. With this completed, the SIP form of the diffusion equation can be succinctly written as

$$a^{SIP}(b,\Phi) = b^{SIP}(b), \tag{1.99}$$

with the following bilinear matrix:

$$a^{SIP}(b,\Phi) = \left(D\vec{\nabla}b,\vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} + \left(\sigma b,\Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} + \frac{1}{2}\left\langle b,\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{r}} + \left\langle \kappa_{e}^{SIP} \llbracket b \rrbracket, \llbracket \Phi \rrbracket \right\rangle_{E_{h}^{i}} + \left\langle \llbracket b \rrbracket, \{\{D\partial_{n}\Phi\}\}\right\rangle_{E_{h}^{i}} + \left\langle \{\{D\partial_{n}b\}\}, \llbracket \Phi \rrbracket \right\rangle_{E_{h}^{i}},$$

$$+ \left\langle \kappa_{e}^{SIP}b,\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}} - \left\langle b,D\partial_{n}\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}} - \left\langle D\partial_{n}b,\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}}$$

$$(1.100)$$

and with the following linear right-hand-side:

$$b^{SIP}(b) = \left(b, Q\right)_{\mathcal{D}} - \left\langle b, J_0 \right\rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}^n} + 2\left\langle b, J^{inc} \right\rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}^r}$$

$$+ \left\langle \kappa_e^{SIP} b, \Phi_0 \right\rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}^d} - \left\langle D \partial_n b, \Phi_0 \right\rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}^d}$$
(1.101)

As previously stated, the general penalty term, κ needs to have sufficient positive measure to ensure stability. From previous investigations [20, 21, 22], we choose the SIP penalty coefficient to be face dependent with the following form,

$$\kappa_f^{SIP} = \begin{cases} \frac{c}{2} \left(\frac{D^+}{h^+} + \frac{D^-}{h^-} \right) & f \in E_h^i \\ c \frac{D^-}{h^-} & f \in \partial \mathcal{D} \end{cases},$$
(1.102)

for interior, E_h^i , and boundary, $\partial \mathcal{D}$, faces respectively. In Eq. (1.102), h^{\pm} is the orthogonal projection of the face, f, into the cells defined by the trace in Eq. (1.98). Turcksin and Ragusa, [22], defined h^{\pm} for 2D polygons, whose definitions can be seen in Table 1.2. The orthogonal projection for both triangles and quadrilaterals can be explicitly defined from simple geometric relationships. However, for polygons with > 4 faces, there is no explicit geometric relationship to define the orthogonal projection. Instead, the polygon is approximated as regular, and the orthogonal projection is no longer face-dependent. For polygons with an even number of faces greater than 4, the orthogonal projection is twice the apothem, which is the line

segment between the polygon's center and the midpoint of each polygon's side. For odd number of faces greater than 4, the polygon's orthogonal projection becomes the sum of the apothem and the circumradius.

In a similar manner to the 2D orthogonal projections defined in Table 1.2, we define our choice for the extension of the orthogonal projections to 3D in Table 1.3. Like triangles and quadrilaterals in 2D, the orthogonal projections for tetrahedra and hexahedra can be explicitly defined from the volume equations for pyramids and parallelepipeds, respectively. For cells that are not tetrahedra or hexahedra, we introduce an approximation similar to 2D where we treat the cell as a regular polyhedron. In 3D there is no compact formula that can be given, unlike the definitions of the apothem and circumradius for 2D. Instead, we take the geometric limit of a polyhedra as the number of faces tends to infinity (a sphere). In this limiting case, the orthogonal projection simply becomes the sphere's diameter. We can then define the sphere's diameter with geometric information that would also be available to polyhedra by dividing a sphere's volume (the polyhedral volume) by its surface area (the sum of the areas of the polyhedral faces). While this leads to an approximation of the orthogonal projection for polyhedra that are not tetrahedra or hexahedra, it will provide appropriate geometric measure, especially for strictly convex polyhedra.

Table 1.2: Orthogonal projection, h, for different polygonal types: A_K is the area of cell K, L_f is the length of face f, and P_K is the perimeter of cell K.

Number of Vertices	3	4	>4 and even	> 4 and odd
h	$2\frac{A_K}{L_f}$	$\frac{A_K}{L_f}$	$4\frac{A_K}{P_K}$	$2\frac{A_K}{P_K} + \sqrt{\frac{2A_K}{N_K \sin(\frac{2\pi}{N_K})}}$

Table 1.3: Orthogonal projection, h, for different polyhedral types: V_K is the volume of cell K, A_f is the area of face f, and SA_K is the surface area of cell K.

Number of Faces	4	6	otherwise
h	$3\frac{V_K}{A_f}$	$\frac{V_K}{A_f}$	$6\frac{V_K}{SA_K}$

1.3.1 Elementary Stiffness Matrices

In Eqs. (1.100) and (1.101), there are two additional elementary matrix types required other than those presented in Chapter ??. The first has the form of $\left(D\vec{\nabla}b,\vec{\nabla}\Phi\right)_{K}$ and is referred to as the stiffness matrix [28]. For a cell K, we define the stiffness matrix \mathbf{S} as

$$\mathbf{S}_K = \int_K \vec{\nabla} \mathbf{b}_K \cdot \vec{\nabla} \mathbf{b}_K^T dr, \qquad (1.103)$$

which has dimensionality $(N_K \times N_K)$. Just like the cell-wise elementary matrices presented in Chapter ??, it is possible that these integrals can be computed analytically, depending on the FEM basis functions used. However, for most of the 2D basis functions presented in Chapter ??, this cannot be done. Instead, we can again employ a numerical quadrature set, $\{\vec{x}_q, w_q^K\}_{q=1}^{N_q}$, for cell K, consisting of N_q points, \vec{x}_q , and weights, w_q^K . Using this quadrature set, the stiffness matrix can be calculated by the following

$$\mathbf{S}_K = \sum_{q=1}^{N_q} w_q^K \vec{\nabla} \mathbf{b}_K(\vec{x}_q) \cdot \vec{\nabla} \mathbf{b}_K^T(\vec{x}_q). \tag{1.104}$$

In this case, the local cell-wise stiffness matrix has the full matrix form:

$$\mathbf{S}_{K} = \begin{bmatrix} \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{1} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{1} & \dots & \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{1} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{j} & \dots & \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{1} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{N_{K}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{i} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{1} & \dots & \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{i} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{j} & \dots & \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{i} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{N_{K}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{N_{K}} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{1} & \dots & \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{N_{K}} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{j} & \dots & \int_{K} \vec{\nabla}b_{N_{K}} \cdot \vec{\nabla}b_{N_{K}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.105)$$

where an individual matrix entry is of the form:

$$S_{i,j,K} = \int_{K} \vec{\nabla} b_i \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_j. \tag{1.106}$$

1.3.2 Elementary Surface Gradient Matrices

The second new elementary matrix corresponds to the integrals of the product of the basis functions with their gradients on a given surface. For a given face f, these matrices are of the general form: $\langle D\partial_n b, \Phi \rangle_f$. These terms are analogous to the cell streaming matrix but are computed on the cell boundary with dimensionality (d-1). Analyzing a single face, f, in cell K, the analytical surface gradient matrix is of the form,

$$\mathbf{N}_{f,K} = \int_{f} \vec{n}(s) \cdot \vec{\nabla} \mathbf{b}_{K} \, \mathbf{b}_{K}^{T} \, ds, \qquad (1.107)$$

where the surface normal, \vec{n} , is directed outwards from cell K and is allowed to vary along the cell face. From the analytical integral, we can see that these matrices have dimensionality, $(N_K x N_K)$. We include the operation of the dot product between the outward normal and the basis function gradient for two reasons. First, it reduces the dimensionality of the matrices. Second, because the interior face terms in the SIP

bilinear form are independent of the orientation of the normal unit vector along the face, we do not need to perform any additional handling of the face normals. We can see that the bilinear form is independent of the face normal orientation by observing the following relations:

$$\left\langle \llbracket u \rrbracket, \{\{\partial_n v\}\} \right\rangle_f = -\left\langle \{\{\vec{n}u\}\}, \{\{\vec{n}\partial_n v\}\} \right\rangle_f$$

$$\left\langle \{\{\partial_n u\}\}, \llbracket v \rrbracket \right\rangle_f = -\left\langle \{\{\vec{n}\partial_n u\}\}, \{\{\vec{n}v\}\} \right\rangle_f$$
(1.108)

If the direction of the normal is changed from \vec{n} to $-\vec{n}$ in Eq. (1.108), we can see that these terms are not modified.

Similar to the surface matrix defined in Chapter ??, it is possible that the gradients of the basis functions cannot be integrated analytically along a cell face. Using the same face-wise quadrature notation as before, $\{\vec{x}_q, w_q^f\}_{q=1}^{N_q^f}$, we can numerically calculate the surface gradient matrix for face f along cell K:

$$\mathbf{N}_{f,K} = \sum_{q=1}^{N_q^f} w_q^f \vec{n}(\vec{x}_q) \, \vec{\nabla} \mathbf{b}_K(\vec{x}_q) \, \mathbf{b}_K^T(\vec{x}_q). \tag{1.109}$$

In this case, the local face-wise surface gradient matrix for face f has the full matrix form,

$$\mathbf{N}_{f,K} = \begin{bmatrix} \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{1} b_{1} & \dots & \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{1} b_{j} & \dots & \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{1} b_{N_{K}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{i} b_{1} & \dots & \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{i} b_{j} & \dots & \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{i} b_{N_{K}} \\ \vdots & & \vdots & & \vdots \\ \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{N_{K}} b_{1} & \dots & \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{N_{K}} b_{j} & \dots & \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_{N_{K}} b_{N_{K}} \end{bmatrix}, \quad (1.110)$$

where an individual matrix entry is of the form:

$$N_{i,j,f,K} = \int_{f} \vec{n} \cdot \vec{\nabla} b_i \, b_j. \tag{1.111}$$

1.4 Modified Interior Penalty Form of the Diffusion Equation used for Diffusion Synthetic Acceleration Applications

In Section 1.3, we presented the SIP form of the diffusion equation that uses discontinuous Galerkin finite elements. This form can be used as a general solver for the diffusion equation that contains boundary conditions of the first three kinds: dirichlet, neumann, and robin. From the SIP form, we simply need to make some modifications to account for the boundary conditions that arise from the transport solution error as detailed in Section 1.2. The two types of transport conditions that we have considered in this work are dirichlet type conditions (incoming incident and vacuum) and neumann type conditions (reflecting). Since there is no iteration error associated with the incident boundary conditions, we can express the corresponding diffusion boundary condition as a zero dirichlet condition ($\delta\Phi_0 = 0$). Conversely, reflecting transport boundary conditions yield neumann diffusion boundary conditions that we express as δJ^{inc} . However, depending on the mesh and sweep ordering employed, we are not guaranteed to have this reflecting boundary condition error be strictly zero. If we seek to accelerate the k iterate, then the error in the incoming current, δJ^{inc} , is given by

$$\delta J^{inc} = \sum_{\vec{\Omega}_m \cdot \vec{n} > 0} w_m \left(\vec{\Omega}_m \cdot \vec{n} \right) \delta \Psi_m^{(k)}. \tag{1.112}$$

Using these modifications to the SIP diffusion form with the appropriate boundary conditions required to express the transport solution error, we write the MIP diffusion form as

$$a^{MIP}(b, \delta\Phi) = b^{MIP}(b), \tag{1.113}$$

with the following bilinear matrix,

$$a^{MIP}(b,\delta\Phi) = \left(D\vec{\nabla}b,\vec{\nabla}\delta\Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} + \left(\sigma b,\delta\Phi\right)_{\mathcal{D}} + \left\langle\kappa_{e}^{MIP}\llbracket b\rrbracket,\llbracket \delta\Phi\rrbracket\right\rangle_{E_{h}^{i}} + \left\langle\llbracket b\rrbracket,\{\{D\partial_{n}\delta\Phi\}\}\right\rangle_{E_{h}^{i}} + \left\langle\{\{D\partial_{n}b\}\},\llbracket \delta\Phi\rrbracket\right\rangle_{E_{h}^{i}}, \qquad (1.114)$$
$$+\left\langle\kappa_{e}^{MIP}b,\delta\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}} - \frac{1}{2}\left\langle b,D\partial_{n}\delta\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}} - \frac{1}{2}\left\langle D\partial_{n}b,\delta\Phi\right\rangle_{\partial\mathcal{D}^{d}}$$

and with the following linear right-hand-side,

$$b^{MIP}(b) = \left(b, Q\right)_{\mathcal{D}} + \left\langle b, \delta J^{inc} \right\rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}^{ref}}.$$
 (1.115)

The MIP penalty coefficient also needs to be of a different form than the one used for SIP. From Eq. (1.102), we can see that as the orthogonal projection, h, grows large compared to the diffusion coefficient, D, the SIP penalty coefficient can become arbitrarily small. Wang and Ragusa demonstrated in [32] that if the penalty coefficient becomes too small, then MIP used as a DSA diffusion form becomes unstable. Instead, they limited κ^{MIP} to the maximum of either κ^{SIP} or 1/4. The value of 1/4 arises as the constant in the terms $\left\langle \llbracket b \rrbracket, \llbracket \delta \Phi \rrbracket \right\rangle_{E_h^i}$ and $\left\langle b, \delta \Phi \right\rangle_{\partial \mathcal{D}^d}$ when the diffusion conforming form (DCF) of the diffusion equation is consistently derived from the DGFEM transport equation [20]. This new definition of κ_e^{MIP} can be succinctly written as

$$\kappa_e^{MIP} = \max\left(\kappa_e^{SIP}, \frac{1}{4}\right). \tag{1.116}$$

Just like the SIP penalty coefficient, this definition of κ_e^{MIP} ensures that the MIP bilinear form of Eq. (1.114) is SPD. We next describe the procedures used to efficiently invert the MIP system matrix for our work.

1.5 Solving the MIP Diffusion Problem

Equations (1.114) and (1.115) form the system matrix and right-hand-side, respectively, that we need to solve for a given DSA step. Just like the system of equations for the transport problem is too large to solve in a direct manner, we again employ an iterative scheme. Because the MIP bilinear form is SPD, we have natural recourse to use the simple Preconditioned Conjugate Gradient (PCG) method [33]. If the system of equations you are trying to solve for is SPD, then Conjugate Gradient (CG) is the most light-weight iterative method possible. It has a low memory footprint and is guaranteed to converge in $(N_{dof}/2)$ iterations, even if it is ill-conditioned. With a good preconditioner, the iteration counts with PCG can be reduced substantially further. If we define **A** as the MIP system matrix to be inverted and **b** as the right-hand-side vector, then the CG algorithm acts by minimizing the residual $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}$. This is accomplished by taking successive operations of matrix-vector multiplications on conjugate krylov vectors, \mathbf{p}_k . The PCG algorithm performs one additional step by solving the equation $\mathbf{Mz_k} = \mathbf{r_k}$ at each CG iteration, where **M** is some preconditioner. We provide the simple pseudocode for PCG in algorithm 1.

There are several choices of preconditioners that can be employed with PCG [33]. Depending on the structure and conditioning of the matrix to be inverted, some simple preconditioners can be effective. We can decompose the MIP system matrix, $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{L} + \mathbf{D} + \mathbf{L}^T$, into its strictly lower-triangular portion, \mathbf{L} , its strictly diagonal portion, \mathbf{D} , and its strictly lower-triangular portion, \mathbf{L}^T . The simplest preconditioner we could employ is Jacobi preconditioning, which is just the strictly diagonal portion

of the system matrix: $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{D}$. This preconditioner is effective for diagonally-dominant matrices. The next preconditioner would be a simple Symmetric Successive Over-Relaxation (SSOR) method: $\mathbf{M}(\omega) = \frac{\omega}{2-\omega} \left(\frac{1}{\omega}\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{L}\right) \mathbf{D}^{-1} \left(\frac{1}{\omega}\mathbf{D} + \mathbf{L}\right)^T$. The PCG algorithm can be simplified with this preconditioner choice by the Eisenstat trick [34]. The final simple preconditioner that we will consider is Incomplete LU Factorization (ILU). Instead of simply decomposing the system matrix, we factorize it into a unit-lower triangular portion, $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}$, and an upper triangular portion, $\tilde{\mathbf{U}}$. These factorized matrices then form our preconditioner: $\mathbf{M} = \tilde{\mathbf{L}}\tilde{\mathbf{U}}$. From this factorization, the preconditioning step to solve $\mathbf{Mz} = \mathbf{r}$ is accomplished by first solving $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}\mathbf{y} = \mathbf{r}$, followed by $\tilde{\mathbf{U}}\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{y}$. While this leads to a second preconditioning step, the factorized matrices are easy to invert since they are triangular.

Besides Jacobi, SSOR and ILU preconditioning, we also seek to investigate multigrid methods to invert the MIP system matrix. Turcksin and Ragusa demonstrated in [22] that multigrid preconditioning methods can efficiently invert the MIP operator. Both Algebraic MultiGrid (AMG) [35, 36] and AGgregation-based algebraic MultiGrid (AGMG) [37, 38, 39, 40] were shown to be effective. We leave the general details of multigrid methods to the previously defined references.

1.6 Fourier Analysis

With the acceleration methodologies and diffusion discretization scheme described in detail, we now present the Fourier Analysis (FA) tool. Fourier Analysis is commonly used to analyze the performance characteristics of acceleration schemes for the transport equation. It is a powerful tool because it allows us to express the iteration error in terms of a Fourier series. Then, because of the orthogonality of the terms in the series, each Fourier mode can be analyzed independently. If these modes were not independent, then we would have no ability to simultaneously solve the infinite

Algorithm 1 PCG Algorithm

```
1: Compute \mathbf{r}_0 = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x}_0
  2: for k=1,2,... do
                   Solve: \mathbf{Mz}_{i-1} = \mathbf{r}_{i-1}
  3:
                   \rho_{i-1} = \mathbf{r}_{i-1}^T \mathbf{z}_{i-1}
  4:
                   if k = 1 then
  5:
  6:
                            \mathbf{p}_i = \mathbf{z}_{i-1}
  7:
                   else
                            \mathbf{p}_i = \mathbf{z}_{i-1} + \frac{\rho_{i-1}}{\rho_{i-2}} \mathbf{p}_{i-1}
  8:
                   end if
  9:
10:
                   \mathbf{q}_i = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{p}_i
                  \alpha_i = \frac{\rho_{i-1}}{\mathbf{p}_i^T \mathbf{q}_i} \\ \mathbf{x}_i = \mathbf{x}_{i-1} + \alpha_i \mathbf{p}_i
12:
                  \mathbf{r}_i = \mathbf{r}_{i-1} - \alpha_i \mathbf{q}_i
if \frac{||\mathbf{r}_i||}{||\mathbf{b}||} < \text{tol then}
Exit
13:
14:
15:
                   end if
16:
17: end for
```

spectrum of Fourier modes except for an extremely small set of idealized problems where analytical analysis can be performed.

For the Fourier Analysis of this work, we will only investigate geometries with tensor-based mesh cells (quadrilaterals and hexahedra). For completeness, some examples of 1D FA is provided in Appendix ??. The FA domains are composed of regular Cartesian geometries defined by the global domain size and cell widths in each dimension. The domain size is given by (X, Y) in 2D and (X, Y, Z) in 3D. The cell layout is described by its N_x cell widths $(\Delta x_1, \Delta x_2, ..., \Delta x_{N_x})$ in the x-dimension, its N_y cell widths $(\Delta y_1, \Delta y_2, ..., \Delta y_{N_y})$ in the y-dimension, and its N_z cell widths $(\Delta z_1, \Delta z_2, ..., \Delta z_{N_z})$ in the z-dimension. This simple, yet structured, geometric layout is shown in Figure 1.1 for a 2D domain. The analogous 3D geometric layout can be formed by extruding this 2D grid. For FA, periodic boundary conditions are applied on the domain boundary. A graphical depiction of periodic boundary

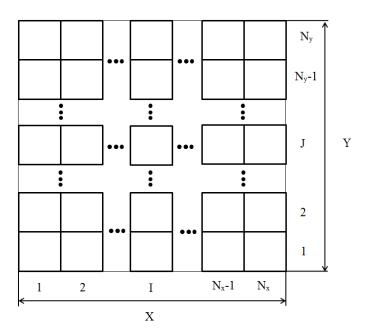


Figure 1.1: Fourier domain for 2D quadrilateral cells or an axial slice of 3D hexahedral cells in a regular grid.

conditions is given for a 2D, 2-cell domain in Figure 1.2. The periodic boundary conditions work by actually representing boundary faces as extensions to the interior faces. In other words, boundary faces are simply additional "interior" faces. Figure 1.2 shows this with the translocations of the neighboring cells to the exterior. For example, the periodic condition for the left face of cell 1 states that the degrees of freedom that we employ actually come from cell 2 (which we denote as 2'). Likewise, the periodic condition for the right face of cell 2 states that the degrees of freedom that we employ actually come from cell 1 (which we denote as 1'). The cells 1' and 2' can be viewed as virtual cells for use as an implementation detail.

Once the geometric domain is specified, we can then expand the solution vectors in terms of the domain's Fourier modes. The wave numbers of the Fourier modes, $\vec{\lambda}$, span the interval $[0, \frac{2\pi}{X}) \otimes [0, \frac{2\pi}{Y})$ in 2D and $[0, \frac{2\pi}{X}) \otimes [0, \frac{2\pi}{Y}) \otimes [0, \frac{2\pi}{Z})$ in 3D. The wave numbers have the definition of $\vec{\lambda} = [\lambda_x, \lambda_y]$ in 2D and $\vec{\lambda} = [\lambda_x, \lambda_y, \lambda_z]$ in 3D. Given a

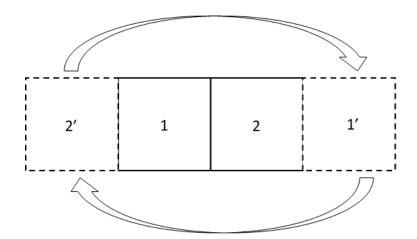


Figure 1.2: Representation of the periodic boundary conditions used for Fourier analysis for a 2-cell geometric layout.

particular wave number, $\vec{\lambda}$, the error modes for the angular flux can be given by the following Fourier ansatz,

$$\Psi^{(k)}(\vec{r},\vec{\Omega}) = \hat{\Psi}^{(k)}(\vec{\Omega}) e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}}, \qquad (1.117)$$

where $i = \sqrt{-1}$. Also, the error modes for the discretized angular flux along direction m and the flux moments can be given by

$$\Psi_m^{(k)}(\vec{r}) = \hat{\Psi}_m^{(k)} e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}}, \tag{1.118}$$

and

$$\Phi^{(k)}(\vec{r}) = \hat{\Phi}^{(k)} e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}},\tag{1.119}$$

respectively. In Eqs. (1.117) - (1.119), we see that the term $e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}}$ acts to transform the spatial parameter into the complex space. For a collection of error modes (e.g., the degrees of freedom of a mesh cell) corresponding to the spatial locations $(\vec{r}_1, \vec{r}_2, \vec{r}_3, \vec{r}_4)$,

we can express Eq. (1.119) by

$$\Phi^{(k)}(\vec{r}) = \mathbb{P}(\vec{\lambda})\hat{\Phi}^{(k)},\tag{1.120}$$

where the diagonal phase matrix has the form:

$$\mathbb{P}(\vec{\lambda}) = \begin{bmatrix}
e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}_1} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}_2} & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}_3} & 0 \\
0 & 0 & 0 & e^{i\vec{\lambda}\cdot\vec{r}_4}
\end{bmatrix}.$$
(1.121)

One can also utilize an alternative version of Eq. (1.121) by using exponent laws and physical offsets $(\Delta x, \Delta y)$ from some starting base point.

Now that we have defined our periodic heterogeneous domain configuration and expressed the expansion of the flux solutions in terms of their Fourier modes, we can now detail how to compile the FA iteration matrix. Recall from Section 1.2 the different iteration matrices expressing our accelerated transport iterations. Equations (1.41), (1.67), (1.76), and (1.84) give the accelerated transport iteration matrices for the 1-group DSA scheme, the Two-Grid scheme, the Modified Two-Grid scheme, and Multigroup Jacobi Acceleration scheme, respectively. Each of these matrices can be expressed in the Fourier phase space by appropriate application of the phase matrices, $\mathbb{P}(\vec{\lambda})$. For example, let's consider the simple case of the 1-group DSA scheme. The FA iteration matrices for unaccelerated and accelerated Richardson iterations are given by

$$\mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{L}}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}},\tag{1.122}$$

and

$$\mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{L}}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} + \mathbf{P}\tilde{\mathbf{A}}^{-1}\mathbf{X}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} \left(\mathbf{D}\tilde{\mathbf{L}}^{-1}\mathbf{M}\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}} - \mathbf{I}\right), \tag{1.123}$$

respectively. In Eqs. (1.122) and (1.123), the $\tilde{\mathbf{L}}$, $\tilde{\boldsymbol{\Sigma}}$, and $\tilde{\mathbf{A}}$ operators have had phase transformations applied, which we denote with the overhead tilde, $\tilde{}$. During the assembly of the transport and diffusion operators, the phase transformations can be applied with the right-multiplication of the appropriate phase matrix on the corresponding elementary matrices. We note that when assembling the face coupling terms on the domain boundary, the base phase of the cell on the other side of the periodic boundary is not used. Instead, the phase corresponding to the virtual cell is used. For example, let us analyze the left face of cell 1 in Figure 1.2. When applying the periodic condition, we use the degrees of freedom corresponding to cell 2, but use the phase matrix corresponding to cell 2'. Finally, we note that the FA iteration matrices for the thermal neutron upscattering acceleration methods are computed in an identical manner.

Once the FA iteration matrix is assembled for a given wave number, $\vec{\lambda}$, we compute all of its corresponding eigenvalues. The largest of these eigenvalues is the spectral radius for the given wave number. If we compute the spectral radii for all the possible wave numbers $(e.g., [0, \frac{2\pi}{X}) \otimes [0, \frac{2\pi}{Y})$ in 2D) for a given problem configuration, then the maximum corresponds to the global spectral radius for the problem. For Richardson iteration in the asymptotic regime, we will converge to our transport solution more rapidly with a smaller spectral radius that is strictly less than 1. Likewise, our scheme would be unstable if the spectral radius is larger than 1.

For this work, all fourier analysis was performed in MATLAB. All the eigenmodes corresponding to a fourier wave number for a given iteration matrix can be easily computed with MATLAB's built-in *eig* function. The maximum eigenvalue is found

over the wave number space by use of the Nelder-Mead simplex algorithm [41]. We stress that some sort of minimization algorithm must be employed because some problem configurations can have extremely narrow local maxima. These difficult to find local maxima can correspond to the global maximum which is our desired spectral radius that we wish to compute.

We illustrate the necessity for a minimization algorithm in Figure 1.3. We have modeled a single 2D square mesh cell with dimensions X = 1 and Y = 1. The total cross section, σ_t , is set to 10^{-2} and the scattering ratio, c, set to 0.9999. We use the S4 level-symmetric quadrature set. The left image of Figure 1.3 has the 2D fourier wave number span the full domain space of $[\lambda_x, \lambda_y] = [0, 2\pi]^2$. The right image zooms in on the wave number ranging: $[\lambda_x, \lambda_y] = [0, 1/4]^2$. From the right image, we can see two extremely narrow local maxima. We can qualitatively ascertain that these local maxima would be difficult to find if we had simply laid a grid of wave number points over $[0, 2\pi]^2$. It would require a very fine wave number grid that is both expensive to compute and not guaranteed to locate the maximum. Chang and Adams presented an even more extreme example of a difficult to find global maximum using transport synthetic acceleration [42].

1.7 Numerical Results

1.8 Conclusions

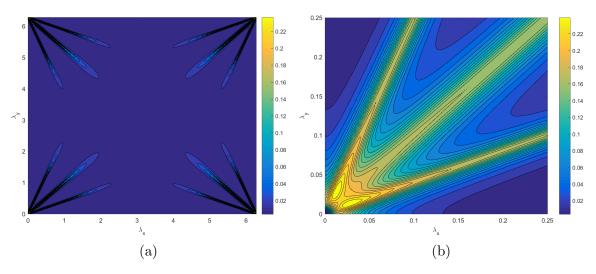


Figure 1.3: 2D fourier wave form for MIP, with 1 square cell with 1e-2 mfp, with the PWL coordinates, with the LS4 quadrature, and where the wave numbers range from: (a) $[\lambda_x, \lambda_y] = [0, 2\pi]^2$ and (b) $[\lambda_x, \lambda_y] = [0, 1/4]^2$.

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