School of Computing
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING

UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

Matrix Solvers for Stochastic Galerkin Schemes

Alexander Harvey

Submitted in accordance with the requirements for the degree of
MSc Advanced Computer Science

2017/18

Contents

1 Introduction

This project involves exploring methods for solving matrix equations that arise from partial differential equations (PDEs) and how a problem's structure can be exploited when dealing with equations in this form. This is not often the case using conventional methods to solve PDEs, which usually involve stacking the unknowns of a problem into a single vector. The project then goes on to investigate how the methods explored can be applied to stochastic PDEs (PDEs with uncertain input). We begin by constructing the matrix form of Poission's equation.

1.1 Possion Equation

As an example, define spatial domain $\mathcal{D} = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq x \leq 1,\ 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$ and let $u : \mathcal{D} \to \mathbb{R}$ be the solution of Poisson's equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -u_{xx} - u_{yy} &= f \quad \text{on } \mathcal{D} \\ u &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{D} \end{aligned} \tag{1.1}$$

as shown in Figure 1.

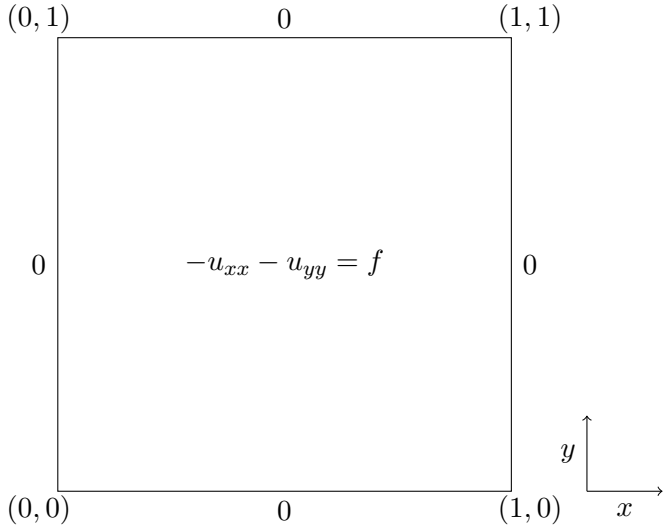

Figure 1: Domain for $-u_{xx} - u_{yy} = f$.

The domain of this PDE can be discretised into a mesh with uniform spacing h using the centred finite difference approximations:

$$u_{xx} \approx \frac{u_{i-1j} - 2u_{ij} + u_{i+1j}}{h^2} \tag{1.2}$$

$$u_{yy} \approx \frac{u_{ij-1} - 2u_{ij} + u_{ij+1}}{h^2} \tag{1.3}$$

where $u_{ij} = u(x_i, y_j)$. The mesh is shown in Figure 2.

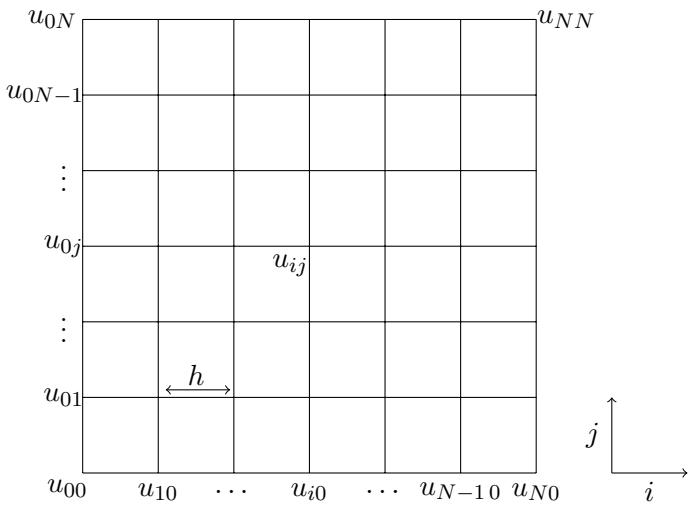

Figure 2: Discretised domain for $-u_{xx} - u_{yy} = f$.

The discretised form of this PDE can then be solved by computing the equation:

$$f_{ij} = -\frac{1}{h^2}\big(u_{i-1j} - 2u_{ij} + u_{i+1j}\big) - \frac{1}{h^2}\big(u_{ij-1} - 2u_{ij} + u_{ij+1}\big) \tag{1.4}$$

at each internal grid point, meaning the system has n^2 unknowns with $n = N - 2$. The traditional approach to solving this discretised form would be to write (1.4) as:

$$f_{ij} = -\frac{1}{h^2}\big(u_{i-1j} + u_{ij-1} - 4u_{ij} + u_{i+1j} + u_{ij+1}\big) \tag{1.5}$$

and then stack all unknowns u_{ij} into a single vector U, resulting in the linear system $AU = F$.

1.2 Sylvester Equation

A Sylvester equation is a matrix equation of the form $AX + XB = C$, where A is a $n \times n$ matrix, B is a $m \times m$ matrix, and X and C are $n \times m$ matrices. We can write (1.4) as a Sylvester equation in the form:

$$TU + UT = F \tag{1.6}$$

where T, U and F are of size $n \times n$.

Let tridiag(j, i, k) be defined as a tridiagonal matrix with i on the main diagonal and j and k on the left and right diagonals, respectively. Then for (1.6) we have $T = -\frac{1}{h^2}$ tridiag$(1, -2, 1)$ and $U_{ij} = u(x_i, y_j)$, where (x_i, y_j) are interior grid nodes for $i, j = 1, \ldots, n$. The system has n unknowns in each direction meaning there is a total of n^2 unknowns. The matrix equation is visualised below:

$$\frac{-1}{h^2}\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix}\begin{pmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \dots & u_{1j} & \dots & u_{1n} \\ u_{21} & u_{22} & \dots & u_{2j} & \dots & u_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ u_{i1} & u_{i2} & \dots & u_{ij} & \dots & u_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{n1} & u_{n2} & \dots & u_{nj} & \dots & u_{nn} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$+\begin{pmatrix} u_{11} & u_{12} & \dots & u_{1j} & \dots & u_{1n} \\ u_{21} & u_{22} & \dots & u_{2j} & \dots & u_{2n} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ u_{i1} & u_{i2} & \dots & u_{ij} & \dots & u_{in} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ u_{n1} & u_{n2} & \dots & u_{nj} & \dots & u_{nn} \end{pmatrix}\frac{-1}{h^2}\begin{pmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & -2 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 & -2 \end{pmatrix} = F$$

A variety of methods can now be used to solve this equation. These methods will be explored in Section 3.

1.3 Organisation

The organisation of this report is as follows. Section 2 sets out the objectives and planning of the project. Section 3 explores different methods for solving Sylvester equations. Section 4 explores ways of solving stochastic PDEs. Section 5 studies an application problem that combines the knowledge gained in the previous sections. Finally, Section 6 is an evaluation of the project's success.

2 Scope and Schedule

2.1 Aim

The aim of this project is to first study, implement and compare a range of matrix equation solvers. Following this, a specific problem will be derived with the help of my supervisor so that these solvers may be used and compared for a suitable application.

2.2 Objectives

The objectives of this project are as follows:

- To carry out an extensive, in-depth literature review on methods (both direct and iterative) for solving matrix equations from a wide range of sources. To decide which of these methods are appropriate to implement and to gain a solid understanding of how they work.
- To use and expand upon my programming experience to implement the chosen methods for solving matrix equations to solve the specified problem.
- To evaluate the implementation by comparing and contrasting the methods implemented to try to decide which is the best method for solving the given problem.
- To derive a suitable application equation so that the methods studied in this project can be applied to a specific problem.
- To clearly present the work carried out during the project by using and building upon my report writing skills.

2.3 Deliverables

The deliverables of this project include:

- The final report that will include the details of the matrix solvers that have been studied, how the solvers were implemented, an evaluation and comparison of the

implemented solvers, an analysis of how these solvers were used to solve the chosen application problem, and finally an evaluation of the success of the project.

- Code that successfully implements the chosen matrix solvers so that they solve the given problem.

2.4 Methodology

The methodology of this project will first involve studying academic publishings to gain an understanding of various methods for solving matrix equations. Python will be used as the programming language of choice for the implementation because of my familiarity with it, the extensive amount of documentation available for it and the excellent libraries it has available (e.g. NumPy and SciPy). GitHub will be used for version control and the final report will be written using LaTeX.

2.5 Tasks, Milestones and Timeline

The steps of this project will be divided into iterations, with the problem in each iteration becoming successively more complex and difficult to solve. This is because understanding is a key part of this project, and so each iteration will build on the understanding of the last. Each iteration will consist of studying and applying matrix methods to the problem, implementing them in Python to solve the problem, evaluating the results and write up. Also rough deadlines will be given for when each iteration should be completed by, to ensure the project is on track at any given stage.

The iterations are as follows:

- Introductory problem: $-u_{xx} - u_{yy} = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y)$ - deadline June 1st
- Problem introducing uncertainty: $-\varepsilon u_{xx} - \varepsilon u_{yy} = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y)$ - deadline June 22nd
- A Poisson equation on a surface defined by a height map (not yet derived) - deadline July 13th
- Application reaction-diffusion equation (not yet derived) - deadline August 3rd

If the project deadlines are met the remaining time will be dedicated to project evaluation, write up and any possible project extensions.

3 Matrix Solvers

This section explores different methods for solving a particular matrix equation in Sylvester form. For spatial domain $\mathcal{D} = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq x \leq 1,\ 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$ and $u : \mathcal{D} \to \mathbb{R}$, let $u(x, y) = \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y)$ be the exact solution of the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -u_{xx} - u_{yy} &= f \qquad \text{on } \mathcal{D} \\ u &= 0 \qquad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{D} \end{aligned} \tag{3.1}$$

This gives:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{xx} = u_{yy} &= -\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) \\ \implies f &= 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) \end{aligned} \tag{3.2}$$

The equation to be be solved is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} -u_{xx} - u_{yy} &= 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) \qquad \text{on } \mathcal{D} \\ u &= 0 \qquad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{D} \end{aligned} \tag{3.3}$$

Using the centred finite difference approximations with uniform grid spacing h to discretise the domain of this system, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{h^2}\big(u_{i-1j} - 2u_{ij} + u_{i+1j}\big) - \frac{1}{h^2}\big(u_{ij-1} - 2u_{ij} + u_{ij+1}\big) \\ = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x_i)\sin(\pi y_j) \end{aligned} \tag{3.4}$$

to be solved at each grid point for $i, j = 1, \ldots n$, where n is the total number of unknowns in each direction. The matrix form of this equation is therefore:

$$TU + UT = F \tag{3.5}$$

where $T = -\frac{1}{h^2}\,\text{tridiag}(1, -2, 1)$, $U_{ij} = u(x_i, y_j)$ and $F_{ij} = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x_i)\sin(\pi y_j)$ are all matrices of size $n \times n$ and (x_i, y_j) are interior grid nodes for $i, j = 1, \ldots, n$. This form allows us to explore different methods for solving this equation and compare them to the exact solution $u = \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y)$. A plot of the exact solution, with $n = 1000$, is given in Figure 3.

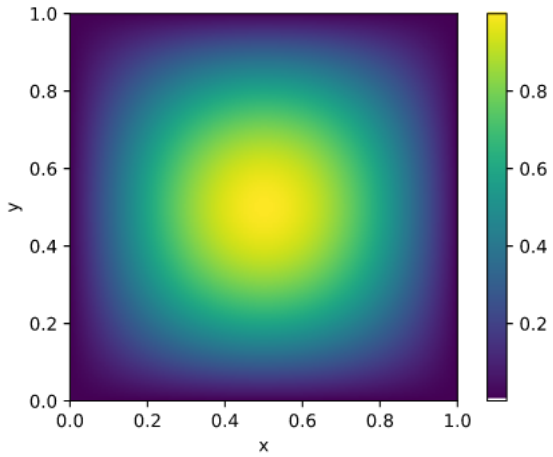

Figure 3: Plot of the solution with $n = 1000$.

Throughout the following section, each of the implemented methods will be given a maximum execution time of 6000 seconds to compute a solution. If a method does not compute a solution in this time for a certain problem size, then this will be specified in the results. If a method does not compute a solution because it needs more memory than is available, then this will also be specified. All tests in this section (and throughout the report) will be run on a DEC-10 computer with 32GB of RAM and 8 cores.

The following measurements will be given to evaluate the performance of each of the methods implemented:

- n: The number of unknowns in each direction for the system - the total number of unknowns is n^2. The mesh size will be continually refined by a factor of $\frac{1}{2}$, meaning the total number of unknowns in each direction will be doubled at each level, until either the time limit is reached or too much memory is used. The starting value will be $n = 125$, which will allow for a range of problem sizes to be tested without running more tests than necessary.
- Time(s): The time taken in seconds for the method to compute the solution to the problem. As previously stated the maximum time allowed will be 6000 seconds.
- $||u - u_h||_{L^\infty}$: An error measurement which measures the maximum difference between

the actual solution and computed solution for each u. Defined as:

$$||u - u_h||_{L^\infty} = \max_{ij}|u(x_i, y_i) - u_{ij}|$$

- $||u - u_h||_{L^2}$: An error measurement which measures the average difference between the actual solution and computed solution for all u, defined as:

$$||u - u_h||_{L^2} = \sqrt{h^2 \sum |u(x_i, y_j) - u_{ij}|^2}$$

- Experimental order of convergence (eoc): Measures the rate of convergence of a method as the problem size is increased, which should approach 2 as the step size is increased. Defined as:

$$\text{eoc}(i) = \frac{\log(E_i/E_{i-1})}{\log(h_i/h_{i-1})}$$

  where E_i is the error (chosen here as $||u - u_h||_{L^\infty}$) and h_i is the mesh size at level i.

- Experimental order of growth (eog): Measures the order of growth of the execution time of an algorithm as the problem size is increased (that is, the approximate time complexity). Defined as:

$$\text{eog}(i) = \frac{\log(t_i/t_{i-1})}{\log(n_i/n_{i-1})}$$

  where t_i is the total execution time and n_i is the problem size at level i.

- No. iters (iterative methods only): The number of iterations taken for the method to converge to the given convergence tolerance.

All non-integer measurements will be given to five significant figures. It is worth noting that as the total number of unknowns, and therefore the problem size, is n^2, the best time complexity that an optimal solver can achieve is $O(n^2)$, as it must compute a solution for each unknown. Also, as each of the methods is solving the same equation, the differences in error for each of the methods should be small.

3.1 Direct Methods

3.1.1 Kronecker Product

A naive approach to solving this equation is to use the Kronecker product to rewrite (3.5) as a standard vector linear system. The Sylvester equation $AX + XB = C$ can be written as the standard vector linear system:

$$\mathcal{A}x = c \tag{3.6}$$

with $\mathcal{A} = I \otimes A + B^* \otimes I$, where I is the identity matrix, B^* denotes the conjugate transpose of B, $x = \text{vec}(X)$ and $c = \text{vec}(C)$.[1]

The equivalent linear system for the matrix equation $TU + UT = F$ is:

$$\mathcal{T}u = \mathcal{F} \tag{3.7}$$

where $\mathcal{F} = \text{vec}(F)$, $\mathcal{T} = I \otimes T + T \otimes I$ and $u = \text{vec}(U)$.

This is the exact linear system that would be obtained from equation (1.5), that is, stacking all unknowns u_{ij} into a single vector in the first place. Since the matrix $\mathcal{T}$ is sparse, this equation can be solved using a standard direct sparse solver. This approach provides a good base case for comparison. Results solving this linear system using the direct sparse solver `sparse.linalg.spsolve` from the SciPy library are shown in Table 1. As can be seen from the results, both errors decrease as the problem size n is increased. The eoc is close to 2 for all n, demonstrating the convergence of the algorithm. As n is increased the eog grows beyond 3, which shows this algorithm has worse than cubic time complexity for large n. For $n = 4000$, this method results in a memory error. This is because `spsolve` tries to compute a (incomplete) LU decomposition of $\mathcal{T}$ which destroys the sparsity of the matrix and therefore requires much more memory to store it.

[1] The vec operator reshapes a matrix into a vector by stacking the columns one after another.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.18141	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.60371	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	1.7346
500	4.1663	3.2767×10^{-6}	1.6384×10^{-6}	1.9999	2.7868
1000	36.113	8.2082×10^{-7}	4.1041×10^{-7}	2.0000	3.1157
2000	404.48	2.0539×10^{-7}	1.0267×10^{-7}	2.0001	3.4855
4000	Memory Error				

Table 1: Results obtained from solving the linear system $\mathcal{A}x = c$ using the direct solver `sparse.linalg.spsolve` from the SciPy library.

3.1.2 Bartels-Stewart Algorithm

The Bartels-Stewart algorithm [1] can be used to solve the Sylvester equation $AX + XB = C$. This algorithm works by computing the Schur decompositions of the coefficient matrices A and B, which are used to transform the equation into an equivalent form which has coefficient matrices which are upper and lower triangular, meaning it can be solved one element at a time. The solution of this triangular system is then used to obtain the solution to the original equation.

In the general case the algorithm is as follows:

1. Compute the Schur forms $A^* = PRP^*$ and $B = QSQ^*$.
2. Solve $R^*Y + YS = \hat{C}$ for Y, where $\hat{C} = P^*CQ$.
3. Compute $X = PYQ^*$.

Here the matrices R and S are upper/lower triangular matrices with the eigenvalues of A and B on the diagonal, respectively. The matrices P and Q unitary matrices whose columns are orthonormal sets of eigenvectors obtained from the eigenvectors of A and B, respectively.

By breaking this algorithm down into its component parts, we can examine each part to see which is the most costly. The first step of the algorithm can be computed using `linalg.schur` from the SciPy library, which uses the QR algorithm and has time complexity

$O(n^3)$. For the second step, each entry of Y can be computed as:

$$Y_{ij} = \hat{C}_{ij} - \sum_{p=1}^{i-1} R_{ip} Y_{pj} - \sum_{q=1}^{j-1} Y_{iq} S_{qj} \tag{3.8}$$

for $i, j = 1, \ldots, n$. This also has time complexity $O(n^3)$, as it will have a `for` loop running from $i = 1$ to n, a nested `for` loop running from $j = 1$ to n and then two nested `for` loops which run from $p = 1$ and $q = 1$ to $i - 1$ and $j - 1$, respectively. The last step of the algorithm is a simple matrix multiplication, which has time complexity of at most $O(n^3)$. Therefore we can expect this algorithm to run in roughly $O(n^3)$.

The algorithm simplifies for $TU + UT = F$. In this case the algorithm is as follows:

1. Compute the Schur form $T = PRP^*$.
2. Solve $R^*V + VR = \hat{F}$ for V, where $\hat{F} = P^*FP$.
3. Compute $U = PVP^*$.

The first step now only requires a Schur decomposition of one matrix to be computed. The matrix T is symmetric which means that its eigenvectors are orthogonal, which implies that R is now a diagonal matrix which has the eigenvalues of T on the diagonal. We can see this is true by examining the steps of the Schur decomposition. For a general matrix A, a Schur decomposition $A = PRP^*$ has 4 steps:

1. Find the eigenvalues of A.
2. Find the corresponding eigenvectors of A.
3. Compute an orthonormal set of eigenvectors using the eigenvectors of A, for example by using Gram-Schmidt orthogonalisation.
4. The eigenvectors found in Step 3 make up the columns of P. R can now be found as $R = P^*AP$.

As the eigenvectors of T are already orthogonal, they only need to be normalised in the 3rd step of the decomposition. This means that R will be a diagonal matrix with the eigenvalues of T on the diagonal.

This property reduces the complexity of the second step to $O(n^2)$, as only the diagonal

elements need to be calculated and so the two summations are not necessary. We can therefore expect the algorithm to run faster than in the general case and to be dominated by the first step. We should therefore expect this algorithm to have, in the worst case, time complexity $O(n^3)$.

SciPy Solver

The SciPy library has a built in solver for solving Sylvester equations, `linalg.solve_sylvester`, which uses the Bartels-Stewart algorithm. We can use this to test the general algorithm. Results using this solver are given in Table 2. We can see from these results that the errors for this method are almost exactly the same as the errors in Table 1. Also this method is much faster and is able to solve a much larger problem size than using the Kronecker product. The eoc is close enough to 2 for all values of n to conclude that this algorithm converges. The eog seems to change depending on the problem size, however for large n has close to cubic time complexity. Although it is difficult to analyse the steps of this solver directly, `solve_sylvester` makes use of LAPACK, an optimised software library for solving linear algebra problems, to compute the Schur decomposition in the first step. LAPACK uses a couple of different methods for computing the eigenpairs of symmetric tridiagonal matrices [**add reference**] and so it is likely that the method changes depending on the problem size, which causes the changes in the eog.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.059959	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.11421	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	0.92964
500	1.9383	3.2767×10^{-6}	1.6384×10^{-6}	1.9999	4.0850
1000	4.0920	8.2084×10^{-7}	4.1042×10^{-7}	2.0000	1.0780
2000	32.029	2.0503×10^{-7}	1.0259×10^{-7}	2.0027	2.9685
4000	279.95	4.9949×10^{-8}	2.4876×10^{-8}	2.0377	3.1277
8000	2812.2	8.6380×10^{-9}	4.1216×10^{-9}	2.5321	3.3285
16000	Time Limit Reached				

Table 2: Results using SciPy's `linalg.solve_sylvester`.

Simplified Implementation

Results using the simplified version of this algorithm are shown in Table 3. These results demonstrate that this simplified implementation is much faster than the SciPy solver. The eoc demonstrates that this algorithm converges well up until $n = 4000$, but after this point stops converging and when $n = 16000$ the error becomes bigger than when $n = 8000$. This is because `linalg.Schur` is used to compute the Schur decomposition in the first step, which uses the QR algorithm to approximate the eigenpairs of T (as there is no general formula for calculating the eigenpairs of an arbitrary matrix). This approximation becomes less accurate as n increases and for large n has a significant impact on the solution. The eog here demonstrates that this algorithm has better than cubic time complexity.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.036654	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.084191	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	1.1997
500	0.35179	3.2766×10^{-6}	1.6383×10^{-6}	2.0000	2.0630
1000	1.2846	8.2081×10^{-7}	4.1041×10^{-7}	2.0000	1.8685
2000	7.3734	2.0531×10^{-7}	1.0265×10^{-7}	2.0007	2.5210
4000	40.664	4.8578×10^{-8}	2.4421×10^{-8}	2.0802	2.4634
8000	291.47	1.5975×10^{-8}	7.9337×10^{-9}	1.6048	2.8415
16000	1797.2	1.6116×10^{-7}	9.0649×10^{-8}	-3.3352	2.6243
32000	Memory Error				

Table 3: Results using the simplified Bartels-Stewart algorithm.

Timing results of each step of the algorithm are given in Table 4, where the headings of the table correspond to each step of the algorithm. These results show that this algorithm is largely dominated by computing the Schur decompositions in the first step, as expected.

n	1	2	3	Total	eog
125	0.023111	0.013408	0.00013494	0.036654	-
250	0.035753	0.047841	0.00059700	0.084191	1.1997
500	0.15627	0.19206	0.0034585	0.35179	2.0630
1000	0.49460	0.76522	0.024728	1.2846	1.8685
2000	3.1751	4.0314	0.16686	7.3734	2.5210
4000	25.373	14.011	1.2787	40.664	2.4634
8000	218.92	61.979	10.566	291.47	2.8415
16000	1433.7	277.08	86.375	1797.2	2.6243

Table 4: Timings for each step using the simplified Bartels-Stewart algorithm.

3.1.3 Similarity Transformation

A similarity transformation [5] can be used to solve the Sylvester equation $AX + XB = C$. Assuming that the coefficient matrices A and B can be diagonalised, this method uses an eigendecomposition to reform the equation so that the solution can be easily obtained. The method is as follows:

1. Compute the eigendecompositions $P^{-1}AP = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$ and $Q^{-1}BQ = \text{diag}(\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_m)$:
   (a) Compute the eigenpairs of A and B
   (b) Compute the inverses of P and Q
2. Compute the solution $X = P\widetilde{X}Q^{-1}$, where $\widetilde{X}_{ij} = \frac{\widetilde{C}_{ij}}{\lambda_i + \mu_j}$ and $\widetilde{C} = P^{-1}CQ$.

Here $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$ are the eigenvalues of A, $\mu_1, \ldots, \mu_m$ are the eigenvalues of B and the columns of P and Q are the eigenvectors of A and B, respectively. We can analyse the steps of this algorithm as done previously to obtain the time complexity. Step 1a consists of computing the eigenpairs of A and B, which in general is $O(n^3)$. Step 1b computes the inverse of P and Q which is greater than $O(n^2)$. The last step involves matrix multiplication which is at most $O(n^3)$. Therefore we can expect this algorithm in the general case to have, in the worst case, complexity $O(n^3)$, with the steps 1a and 2 dominating.

For $TU + UT = F$ this method also simplifies. The steps are:

1. Compute the eigendecomposition $P^{-1}TP = \text{diag}(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$
   (a) Compute the eigenpairs of T

(b) Compute the inverse of P

2. Compute the solution $U = P\widetilde{U}P^{-1}$, where $\widetilde{U}_{ij} = \frac{\widetilde{F}_{ij}}{\lambda_i + \lambda_j}$ and $\widetilde{F} = P^{-1}FP$

As before $\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n$ are the eigenvalues of T and the columns of P are the eigenvectors of T. The complexity of the first step can be drastically reduced. Here only one eigendecomposition needs to be performed. As T is a matrix in Toeplitz form, we can compute the eigenvalues and eigenvectors directly as:

$$\lambda_i = \frac{2}{h^2}\Big(\cos\Big(\frac{i\pi}{n+1}\Big) - 1\Big) \tag{3.9}$$

and:

$$t_{ij} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{n+1}}\sin\Big(\frac{ij\pi}{n+1}\Big) \tag{3.10}$$

which reduces the time complexity to $O(n)$ as T has n eigenpairs. Also, in this case the matrix P is unitary, which means that $P^{-1} = P^T$ and so calculating the inverse of P reduces to $O(n^2)$. This should result in a significant speed up compared to the general version of this algorithm.

An interesting fact to note here is that in this specific case the Schur decomposition and eigendecomposition of T actually produce the same matrices.

Numpy's `linalg.eig` function

In the general case of this method, the eigenpairs can be computed using NumPy's `linalg.eig` function. The results doing this are given in Table 5. Here we can see the errors for $n < 8000$ are similar to that of the previous methods. The eoc is close enough to 2 to conclude this algorithm converges up to $n = 4000$. Similarly to the implementation of the Bartels-Stewart algorithm, the algorithm stops converging for $n \geq 8000$ and the error grows when $n = 16000$. As before, this is because `linalg.eig` is approximating the eigenpairs and which has a significant impact on the solution for large n. This should not happen when computing the eigenpairs directly. The eog here shows that the algorithm has better than cubic time complexity.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.029165	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.12221	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	2.0671
500	0.43136	3.2766×10^{-6}	1.6383×10^{-6}	2.0000	1.8208
1000	2.2521	8.2081×10^{-7}	4.1041×10^{-7}	2.0000	2.3843
2000	9.7767	2.0530×10^{-7}	1.0265×10^{-7}	2.0007	2.1181
4000	55.058	4.8654×10^{-8}	2.4421×10^{-8}	2.0770	2.4935
8000	358.09	1.5899×10^{-8}	7.9333×10^{-9}	1.6139	2.7013
16000		1.5711×10^{-7}	9.0192×10^{-8}	-3.3054	
32000	Memory Error				

Table 5: Results using a similarity transformation, calculating the eigenpairs using `numpy.linalg.eig`.

Results of each step of the algorithm are given in Table 6. It is clear from these results that calculating the eigenpairs is the most dominant step, followed by computing the solution in the last step of the algorithm.

n	1a	1b	2	Total	eog
125	0.014773	0.0017848	0.012608	0.029165	-
250	0.048301	0.0036919	0.070221	0.12221	2.0671
500	0.16522	0.0085607	0.25759	0.43136	1.8208
1000	0.56480	0.85656	0.83078	2.2521	2.3843
2000	5.0672	1.0012	3.7083	9.7767	2.1181
4000	37.665	1.3572	16.035	55.058	2.4935
8000	265.57	7.6024	84.917	358.09	2.7013
16000					

Table 6: Timing results for each step of the similarity transformation method, calculating the eigenvalues and eigenvectors using `numpy.linalg.eig`.

Calculating eigenpairs explicitly

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.022027	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.076186	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	1.7903
500	0.25554	3.2767×10^{-6}	1.6384×10^{-6}	1.9999	1.7460
1000	1.0070	8.2082×10^{-7}	4.1041×10^{-7}	2.0000	1.9784
2000	4.5035	2.0541×10^{-7}	1.0270×10^{-7}	2.0000	2.1610
4000	16.906	5.1313×10^{-8}	2.5656×10^{-8}	2.0018	1.9084
8000	82.150	1.2813×10^{-8}	6.4065×10^{-9}	2.0021	2.2807
16000	411.78	7.7527×10^{-10}	3.8764×10^{-10}	4.0475	2.3255
32000	Memory Error				

Table 7: Results using a similarity transformation, calculating the eigenpairs explicity.

n	1a	1b	2	Total
125	0.0012403	0.00025010	0.020537	0.022027
250	0.0056314	0.00060773	0.069947	0.076186
500	0.014874	0.00034022	0.24032	0.25554
1000	0.054291	0.00083232	0.95189	1.0070
2000	0.16762	0.0026162	4.3333	4.5035
4000	0.64618	0.0062704	16.253	16.906
8000	2.7878	0.029123	79.333	82.150
16000	13.124	0.092426	398.57	411.78

Table 8: Timing results for each step of the similarity transformation method, calculating the eigenpairs explicitly.

As can be seen from the results in Table 8, calculating the eigenvalues and eigenvectors explicitly outperforms calculating them using the NumPy library when n is large.

3.1.4 Shifted System

A projection method [5] can be used to solve $AX + XB = C$. This method works by computing the eigendecomposition of B to reform the problem as solving n independent linear systems. Each of these linear systems can be solved simultaneously to obtain the solution X. The steps of this method are as follows:

1. Compute the eigendecomposition $B = WSW^{-1}$:
   (a) Calculate the eigenpairs of B
   (b) Calculate the inverse of W
2. For $i = 1$ to n, solve the system $(A + s_i I)(\hat{X})_i = (\hat{C})_i$, where $\hat{C} = CW$
3. Compute solution $X = \hat{X}W^{-1}$

where $S = \text{diag}(s_1, \ldots, s_n)$ are the eigenvalues of B, the columns of W are the eigenvectors of B and $(\hat{X})_i$ denotes the i^{th} column of $\hat{X}$.

Calculating the eigenpairs in the first step runs in general in $O(n^3)$, and then computing the inverse is greater than $O(n^2)$. The second step solves n linear systems. Solving a linear system directly is of complexity at best $O(n^2)$, and so solving n of these is of time complexity $O(n^3)$. The last step is a simple matrix multiplication which is at worst $O(n^3)$. Therefore this algorithm in general should have at least cubic time complexity.

In the case of $TU + UT = F$, the steps are as follows:

1. Compute $T = WSW^{-1}$
   (a) Calculate the eigenpairs of T
   (b) Calculate the inverse of W
2. For $i = 1$ to n, solve the system $(T + s_i I)(\hat{U})_i = (\hat{F})_i$, where $\hat{F} = FW$
3. Compute solution $U = \hat{U}W^{-1}$ where $S = \text{diag}(s_1, \ldots, s_n)$ are the eigenvalues of T and the columns of W are the eigenvectors of T

As with the similarity transformation method, we can calculate the eigenpairs explicitly using (3.9) and (3.10), reducing this to $O(n)$. Also W is unitary which means we can calculate its transpose rather than its inverse, reducing this to $O(n^2)$. We should therefore expect this algorithm to be largely dominated by the second step of solving n linear systems.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.050499	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.14952	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5274×10^{-6}		
500	0.96337	3.2767×10^{-6}	1.6384×10^{-6}		
1000	8.3502	8.2082×10^{-7}	4.1041×10^{-7}		
2000	100.60	2.0541×10^{-7}	1.0270×10^{-7}		
4000	1375.5	5.1347×10^{-8}	2.5674×10^{-8}		
8000	Time Limit Reached				

Table 9: Results using a projection method to solve n linear systems.

n	1a	1b	2	3	Total
125	0.0049276	0.00084090	0.044659	7.1526×10^{-5}	0.050499
250	0.0079846	0.00059628	0.14070	0.00024056	0.14952
500	0.013740	0.00093865	0.94713	0.0015626	0.96337
1000	0.046594	0.00083065	8.2913	0.011436	8.3502
2000	0.16451	0.0026150	100.28	0.15234	100.60
4000	0.64751	0.0063558	1374.2	0.64156	1375.5

Table 10: Timing results of each step using a projection method to solve n linear systems.

3.2 Iterative Methods

3.2.1 Kronecker Product

Similarly to Section 3.1.1, the Kronecker product can be used to write the matrix equation as a standard vector linear system. A a standard iterative solver can then be used to solve the system, which can provide a base case for comparison. Results using `scipy.sparse.linalg.cg`, which is a sparse solver that uses the conjugate gradient iterative method, are given in Table 11, using a convergence tolerance of 10^{-9}. The results show errors similar to all the direct methods. The eoc demonstrates that the algorithm converges very well. Although this algorithm is much faster than all the previous direct methods, the eog demonstrates that when n is significantly large, the algorithm exhibits a worse than cubic time complexity, which is shown here when $n = 8000$. For $n = 16000$, using this solver resulted in a memory error. This because the matrix $\mathcal{T} = I \otimes T + T \otimes I$ has dimension $n^2 \times n^2$ with either four or five entries in each row and so even in sparse format this requires a huge amount of memory to store.

n	Time(s)	no. iters	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u-u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.014182	1	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.042605	1	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	1.5870
500	0.14136	1	3.2767×10^{-6}	1.6384×10^{-6}	1.9999	1.7303
1000	0.54308	1	8.2082×10^{-7}	4.1041×10^{-7}	2.0000	1.9418
2000	2.3162	1	2.0541×10^{-7}	1.0271×10^{-7}	2.0000	2.0925
4000	9.8487	1	5.1379×10^{-8}	2.5689×10^{-8}	2.0000	2.0882
8000	103.34	2	1.2848×10^{-8}	6.4239×10^{-9}	2.0000	3.3913
16000	Memory Error					

Table 11: Results obtained from solving the linear system $\mathcal{A}x = c$ using the iterative solver `sparse.linalg.cg` from the SciPy library.

3.2.2 Gradient Based Method

In [7] a gradient based method for solving Sylvester equations is given. The equation $TU + UT = F$ can be written as two recursive sequences:

$$U_k^{(1)} = U_{k-1}^{(1)} + \kappa T(F - TU_{k-1}^{(1)} - U_{k-1}^{(1)}T) \tag{3.11}$$

$$U_k^{(2)} = U_{k-1}^{(2)} + \kappa(F - TU_{k-1}^{(2)} - U_{k-1}^{(2)}T)T \tag{3.12}$$

where κ represents the relative step size. The approximate solution U_k is taken as the average of these two sequences:

$$U_k = \frac{U_k^{(1)} + U_k^{(2)}}{2} \tag{3.13}$$

This solution only converges if:

$$0 < \kappa < \frac{1}{\lambda_{\max}(T^2)} \tag{3.14}$$

where $\lambda_{\max}(T^2)$ denotes the maximum eigenvalue of T^2. We can use the formula (3.8) to calculate the maximum eigenvalue of T^2 as:

$$\lambda_{\max}(T^2) = \frac{4}{h^4}\max\Big(\big(\cos\Big(\frac{i\pi}{n+1}\Big) - 1\big)^2\Big) \tag{3.15}$$

$\lambda_{\max}(T^2)$ therefore scales with $\frac{1}{h^4}$ meaning its reciprocal scales with h^4. This implies that κ will need to be significantly small as n is increased for the solution to converge. Even for small values of n, this is impractical and therefore this method is not appropriate for

solving this equation. This is confirmed by the fact that, using this method with $n = 125$, a step size of $\kappa = 1/2\lambda_{\max}(T^2)$ and initial guess $U = 0$, the method took longer than the maximum time of 6000 seconds allowed to compute a solution.

3.2.3 Modified Conjugate Gradient

In [4] a modified conjugate gradient (MCG) algorithm is proposed, which is adapted for solving Sylvester Equations. The general algorithm for solving $AX + XB = C$, where A, B, C and X are all $n \times n$ matrices, is as follows:

1. Choose initial guess $X^{(0)}$ and calculate:
   - $R^{(0)} = C - AX^{(0)} - X^{(0)}B$
   - $Q^{(0)} = A^T R^{(0)} + R^{(0)} + R^{(0)}B^T$
   - $Z^{(0)} = Q^{(0)}$
2. If $R^{(k)} < \text{tol}$ or $Z^{(k)} < \text{tol}$, stop. Else, go to 3.
3. Calculate:
   - $\gamma_k = \frac{[R^{(k)}, R^{(k)}]}{[Z^{(k)}, Z^{(k)}]}$, where $[R, R] = \text{tr}(R^T R)$ is the trace of the matrix $R^T R$
   - $X^{(k+1)} = X^{(k)} + \gamma_k Z^{(k)}$
   - $R^{(k+1)} = C - AX^{(k+1)} - X^{(k+1)}B$
   - $Q^{(k+1)} = A^T R^{(k+1)} + R^{(k+1)} + R^{(k+1)}B^T$

   and return to Step 2.

In the case of the matrix equation $TU + UT = F$, the algorithm is as follows:

1. Choose initial guess $U^{(0)}$ and calculate:
   - $R^{(0)} = F - TU^{(0)} - U^{(0)}T$
   - $Q^{(0)} = TR^{(0)} + R^{(0)} + R^{(0)}T$
   - $Z^{(0)} = Q^{(0)}$
2. If $R^{(k)} < \text{tol}$ or $Z^{(k)} < \text{tol}$, stop. Else, go to 3.

3. Calculate:

   - $\gamma_k = \frac{[R^{(k)}, R^{(k)}]}{[Z^{(k)}, Z^{(k)}]}$
   - $U^{(k+1)} = U^{(k)} + \gamma_k Z^{(k)}$
   - $R^{(k+1)} = F - TU^{(k+1)} - U^{(k+1)}T$
   - $Q^{(k+1)} = TR^{(k+1)} + R^{(k+1)} + R^{(k+1)}T$

   and return to Step 2.

Results using this algorithm with a convergence tolerance of 10^{-3} are given in Table 12. These results show that, even when using this relatively large convergence tolerance, this algorithm is slow. Also the errors does not always decrease as n is increased, which is reflected in the eoc. The errors here are also bigger than those for previous methods for large n, which is due to the large convergence tolerance. The eog demonstrates that this algorithm has a worse than cubic time complexity for large n.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	11.006	1.1451×10^{-6}	5.7254×10^{-7}	-	-
250	53.234	3.7599×10^{-5}	1.8800×10^{-5}	-5.0662	2.2741
500	397.11	4.6673×10^{-5}	2.3337×10^{-5}	-0.31294	2.8991
1000	3865.5	3.3353×10^{-5}	1.6677×10^{-5}	0.48547	3.2830

Table 12: Results obtained using the MCG algorithm.

3.2.4 Preconditioned MCG

[4] also proposes a preconditioned version of the MCG algorithm which accelerates the speed of convergence. This version of the algorithm solves $AX + XB = C$ by solving the equation $X^{(k+1)} = \widetilde{A}X^{(k)}\widetilde{B} + \widetilde{C}$, with:

$$\widetilde{A} = I + 2(\alpha A - I)^{-1}$$

$$\widetilde{B} = I + 2(\alpha B - I)^{-1}$$

$$\widetilde{C} = -2\alpha(\alpha A - I)^{-1}C(\alpha B - I)^{-1}$$

where α is a parameter that needs to be chosen and I is the identity matrix. [4] suggests choosing $\alpha = \pm\sqrt{n}/||A||_F$ or $\alpha = \pm\sqrt{n}/||B||_F$, where $||A||_F = \sqrt{[A,A]} = \sqrt{\text{tr}(A^T A)}$, for good convergence. Once α has been chosen and $\widetilde{A}, \widetilde{B}$ and $\widetilde{C}$ have been calculated, the algorithm is as follows:

1. Choose initial guess $X^{(0)}$ and calculate:
   - $R^{(0)} = -\widetilde{C} + X^{(0)} - \widetilde{A}X^{(0)}\widetilde{B}$
   - $Q^{(0)} = \widetilde{A}^T R^{(0)}\widetilde{B}^T + R^{(0)}$
   - $Z^{(0)} = Q^{(0)}$
2. If $R^{(k)} < \text{tol}$ or $Z^{(k)} < \text{tol}$, stop. Else, go to 3.
3. Calculate:
   - $\gamma_k = \frac{[R^{(k)},R^{(k)}]}{[Z^{(k)},Z^{(k)}]}$
   - $X^{(k+1)} = X^{(k)} + \gamma_k Z^{(k)}$
   - $R^{(k+1)} = -\widetilde{C} + X^{(k+1)} - \widetilde{A}X^{(k+1)}\widetilde{B}$
   - $Q^{(k+1)} = \widetilde{A}^T R^{(k+1)}\widetilde{B}^T - R^{(k+1)}$
   - $\eta_k = \frac{[R^{(k+1)},R^{(k+1)}]}{[R^{(k)},R^{(k)}]}$
   - $Z^{(k+1)} = Q^{(k+1)} + \eta_k Z^{(k)}$

   and return to Step 2.

To solve the matrix equation $TU + UT = F$, we instead solve the equation $U^{(k+1)} = \widetilde{T}U^{(k)}\widetilde{T} + \widetilde{F}$, with:

$$\widetilde{T} = I + 2(\alpha T - I)^{-1}$$

$$\widetilde{F} = -2\alpha(\alpha A - I)^{-1}C(\alpha B - I)^{-1}$$

Choosing $\alpha = \pm\sqrt{n}/||T||_F$ and calculating $\widetilde{T}$ and $\widetilde{F}$, the algorithm proceeds as follows:

1. Choose initial guess $U^{(0)}$ and calculate:
   - $R^{(0)} = -\widetilde{F} + U^{(0)} - \widetilde{T}U^{(0)}\widetilde{T}$
   - $Q^{(0)} = \widetilde{T}R^{(0)}\widetilde{T} + R^{(0)}$

- $Z^{(0)} = Q^{(0)}$

2. If $R^{(k)} < \text{tol}$ or $Z^{(k)} < \text{tol}$, stop. Else, go to 3.

3. Calculate:

   - $\gamma_k = \frac{[R^{(k)}, R^{(k)}]}{[Z^{(k)}, Z^{(k)}]}$
   - $U^{(k+1)} = U^{(k)} + \gamma_k Z^{(k)}$
   - $R^{(k+1)} = -\widetilde{F} + U^{(k+1)} - \widetilde{T} U^{(k+1)} \widetilde{T}$
   - $Q^{(k+1)} = \widetilde{T} R^{(k+1)} \widetilde{T} - R^{(k+1)}$
   - $\eta_k = \frac{[R^{(k+1)}, R^{(k+1)}]}{[R^{(k)}, R^{(k)}]}$
   - $Z^{(k+1)} = Q^{(k+1)} + \eta_k Z^{(k)}$

   and return to Step 2.

Results using the preconditioned MCG algorithm with a tolerance of 10^{-9} are given in Table 13. These results demonstrate that this method vastly outperforms the standard MCG algorithm. The errors are similar to previous methods (excluding the MCG algorithm) and the eoc is close to 2 in most cases demonstrating that this algorithm converges well apart from in the case where $n = 8000$, which could be because the error is approaching the convergence tolerance. The eog shows that although this algorithm is fast, for large n it has close to cubic time complexity.

n	Time(s)	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^\infty}$	$\|\|u - u_h\|\|_{L^2}$	eoc	eog
125	0.0010328	5.1807×10^{-5}	2.5904×10^{-5}	-	-
250	0.0040712	1.3054×10^{-5}	6.5275×10^{-6}	2.0001	1.9789
500	0.027955	3.2767×10^{-6}	1.6384×10^{-6}	1.9999	2.7796
1000	0.58508	8.2078×10^{-7}	4.1038×10^{-7}	2.0001	4.3875
2000	3.5886	2.0585×10^{-7}	1.0275×10^{-7}	1.9968	2.6167
4000	39.681	5.3078×10^{-8}	2.6012×10^{-8}	1.9561	3.4670
8000	336.49	1.7720×10^{-8}	6.6084×10^{-9}	1.5830	3.0840

Table 13: Results obtained using the preconditioned MCG algorithm.

[4] also proposes a parallel implementation of the preconditioned MCG algorithm, which would result in better performance than given above. However the parallel version of this

algorithm goes beyond the scope of this project.

4 Uncertainty

Uncertainty can arise in PDEs if, for example, coefficients, boundary conditions or initial conditions are unknown. A solution to dealing with uncertainty is to model unknown parameters as random variables, and then appropriate methods can be used to solve the system.

4.1 Single Parameter

The simplest way to introduce uncertainty into a PDE is by introducing a single unknown parameter. Define the spatial domain $\mathcal{D}$ as $\mathcal{D} = \{(x, y) : 0 \leq x \leq 1,\ 0 \leq y \leq 1\}$, and let Ω denote the sample space. We can introduce an unknown coefficient $\varepsilon(\omega)$, where $\omega \in \Omega$ denotes dependence on a random variable and $\varepsilon : \Omega \to \mathbb{R}$ is uniformly distributed over the interval $[1, 3]$. Let $u(x, y, \varepsilon) = \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \varepsilon \sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)$ be the exact solution of the equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon u_{xx} - \varepsilon u_{yy} &= f \quad \text{on } \mathcal{D} \times \Omega \\ u &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{D} \times \Omega \end{aligned} \tag{4.1}$$

which gives:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{xx} &= -\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) - 9\pi^2 \varepsilon \sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y) \\ u_{yy} &= -\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) - 25\pi^2 \varepsilon \sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y) \\ \implies f &= 2\pi^2 \varepsilon \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + 34\pi^2 \varepsilon^2 \sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y) \end{aligned} \tag{4.2}$$

The equation to be solved is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon u_{xx} - \varepsilon u_{yy} &= 2\pi^2 \varepsilon \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + 34\pi^2 \varepsilon^2 \sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y) \quad \text{on } \mathcal{D} \times \Omega \\ u &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{D} \times \Omega \end{aligned} \tag{4.3}$$

By discretising the domain using the centred finite difference approximations, (4.3) can be formed as a matrix equation:

$$TU + UT = F \tag{4.4}$$

with $T = -\frac{\varepsilon}{h^2}\text{tridiag}(1, -2, 1)$, $U_{ij} = u(x_i, y_j)$ and $F_{ij} = 2\pi^2\varepsilon\sin(\pi x_i)\sin(\pi y_j) + 34\pi^2\varepsilon^2\sin(3\pi x_i)\sin(5\pi y_j)$. This problem is significantly harder to solve accurately and efficiently than the problem in Section 3 due to the fact that ε is an unknown, random coefficient.

As ε is unknown, the exact solution to (4.3) cannot be computed and therefore solutions to (4.4) cannot be compared to the true solution. Instead, certain quantities of interest can be computed using the probability density function $\rho(\omega)$ of ε. Firstly, the expectation $\mathbb{E}[u]$ can be computed as:

$$\mathbb{E}[u] = \int_\Omega u(x, y, \varepsilon)\rho(\omega)d\omega \tag{4.5}$$

The variance $\text{Var}[u]$ can also be computed as:

$$\text{Var}[u] = \int_\Omega \left(u(x, y, \varepsilon) - \mathbb{E}[u]\right)^2 \rho(\omega)d\omega \tag{4.6}$$

and the standard deviation as $\text{Std}[u] = \sqrt{\text{Var}[u]}$.

As ε is uniformly distributed over the interval $[1, 3]$, it has a probability distribution function:

$$\rho(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \tag{4.7}$$

The expectation is therefore:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{E}[u] =& \frac{1}{2}\int_1^3 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \varepsilon\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)d\omega \\
=& \frac{1}{2}\left[\varepsilon\sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \frac{\varepsilon^2}{2}\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)\right]_1^3 \\
=& \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + 2\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)
\end{aligned} \tag{4.8}$$

and the variance is:

$$\begin{aligned}\mathrm{Var}[u] =& \frac{1}{2}\int_1^3 \Big(\big(\sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \varepsilon\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)\big) \\ & - \big(\sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + 2\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)\big)\Big)^2 d\omega \\ =& \frac{1}{2}\int_1^3 (\varepsilon-2)^2\sin^2(3\pi x)\sin^2(5\pi y)d\omega \\ =& \frac{1}{2}\left[\left(\frac{\varepsilon^3}{3} - 2\varepsilon^2 + 4\varepsilon\right)\sin^2(3\pi x)\sin^2(5\pi y)\right]_1^3 \\ =& \frac{1}{3}\sin^2(3\pi x)\sin^2(5\pi y)\end{aligned} \tag{4.9}$$

which gives the standard deviation as $\mathrm{Std}[u] = \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}}\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)$.

Methods can now be used which compute approximate solutions to these quantities of interest, which can then be compared to the known quantities above to give an estimation of the error.

4.1.1 Monte Carlo

A simple way of solving (4.4) is to use the Monte Carlo method. The Monte Carlo method works by taking M random samples of ε over its range, and then solves (4.4) for each of these samples. This allows the most effective method from Section 3 to be used as a 'black box' strategy. Once solved, the mean solution can be calculated as:

$$\mu = \frac{1}{M}\sum_{i=1}^{M} u_h(x, y, \varepsilon) \tag{4.10}$$

where M is the number of samples used in the Monte Carlo method and u_h is the solution obtained from the finite difference method using a mesh of size h. Similarly, the variance can also be computed as:

$$\sigma^2 = \frac{1}{M-1}\sum_{i=1}^{M}(u_h - \mu)^2 \tag{4.11}$$

and the standard deviation is σ. Any of these quantites can be calculated and compared to the known values as a measure of error for the problem. By choosing the mean we can

measure the error as:

$$\text{Error} = \left|\left|\mathbb{E}[u] - \mu\right|\right| \tag{4.12}$$

which can be evaluated using the L^∞ and L^2 error measures as used in the previous section. As noted in [2], for the error to converge to 0 the mesh size must be decreased as the number of samples is increased. This is because the error depends both on the mesh size and the number of samples, so by changing only one of these factors the method will be converging to the error of the factor that is not being changed, rather than to 0.

It is also worth noting that as the solution and therefore the error is dependent on a random variable, the error is then itself a random variable and therefore not guaranteed to decrease at each level, as the samples are increased. However, the law of large numbers tells us that by taking more and more samples the mean solution should approximate the expected value and hence the error should tend towards 0.

Results using the Monte Carlo method, with a single uncertain parameter, are given in Table 14. As can be seen by these results, the error here is much bigger than the PDE without uncertainty.

n	M	Time(s)	Error
125	10	0.15511	0.071286
250	40	2.2698	0.19918
500	160	39.878	0.074265
1000	640	641.37	0.0050958
2000	2560	11957	0.0045691

Table 14: Results using the Monte Carlo method with a single uncertain parameter.

4.1.2 Stochastic Galerkin

The stochastic Galerkin method uses the properties of orthogonal polynomials to produce a functional approximation to the solution of a stochastic PDE (a PDE with some kind of random input). It does this by using a Galerkin projection to "discretise the random dimensions to allow computation" [3].

A set of polynomials $\{\Psi_n(x), n \in \mathbb{N}\}$, where $\Psi_n(x)$ is a polynomial of exact degree n, is

orthogonal if it satisfies the orthogonality condition:

$$\int_{\Omega} \Psi_n(x)\Psi_m(x)w(x)dx = h_n\delta_{nm}, \qquad n, m \in \mathbb{N} \tag{4.13}$$

where Ω represents the support of $\{\Psi_n\}$ (the subset of the domain containing elements not mapped to zero), $w(x)$ is a weight function, h_n are non-zero constants and δ_{nm} is the Kronecker delta ($\delta_{nm} = 1$ for $n = m$ and 0 otherwise). This condition is used to define the inner product of two polynomial functions, $f(x)$ and $g(x)$, with respect to a weight function $w(x)$, as:

$$\langle f, g\rangle = \int_{\Omega} f(x)g(x)w(x)dx \tag{4.14}$$

As noted in [6], certain classes of orthogonal polynomials have the exact same weight function as the probability distribtutions of certain random variables. This property allows the solution u of a stochastic PDE to be approximated via a truncated polynomial chaos expansion using the distribution of the random variable, as:

$$u(x, y, \varepsilon) = \sum_{k=0}^{P} u_k(x, y)\Psi_k(\varepsilon) \tag{4.15}$$

and can then be substituted into the PDE. Here $P+1 = \frac{(K+N)!}{K!N!}$, where N is the number of random variables and K is a convergence parameter to be chosen. Any random quantities can be represented via a Karhunen-Loeve expansion as:

$$\alpha = \bar{\alpha} + \sum_{k=1}^{Q} \sqrt{\lambda_k}\phi_k\varepsilon_k \tag{4.16}$$

for a spatially varying random field α with mean $\bar{\alpha}$, where λ_k and ϕ_k are the eigenvalues and eigenfunctions of the covariance function C_α.

A Galerkin projection is then performed on the PDE by multiplying it by Ψ_k for $k = 0, \ldots, P$ and taking the inner product, which gives a system of coupled deterministic differential equations, which can then be discretised and solved via, for example, the finite difference method. The resulting solution matrix will be of size $n^2 \times (P+1)$, where n is the number of unknowns in each direction of the mesh and P is defined as above. The mean

and variance are then computed as:

$$\mu = u_0 \tag{4.17}$$

$$\sigma^2 = \sum_{k=1}^{P} u_k^2 \mathbb{E}[\Psi_k^2] \tag{4.18}$$

For equation (4.4), ε is uniformly distrubted over the interval $[1, 3]$. We introduce the substitution $\varepsilon = \varepsilon_0 + 2$ into this equation, with $\varepsilon_0 \sim u(-1, 1)$, so that the random variable in the equation has zero mean. We then use the Legendre polynomials, which have the same weighting function as the probability density function of the uniform distribution, to solve the equation. They are defined as the polynomials which solve the equation:

$$\frac{d}{d\varepsilon}\left[(1-\varepsilon^2)\frac{d\Psi_n(\varepsilon)}{d\varepsilon}\right] + n(n+1)\Psi_n(\varepsilon) = 0 \tag{4.19}$$

The SciPy library has a built in function, `special.legendre`, for calculating Legendre polynomials, which will be used along with the numerical integration function `integrate.quad`, to evaluate the inner product.

From equation (4.3), we now have:

$$(\varepsilon_0+2)(-u_{xx}-u_{yy}) = 2\pi^2(\varepsilon_0+2)\sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + 34\pi^2(\varepsilon_0+2)^2\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y) \tag{4.20}$$

Approximating the solution u using a polynomial chaos expansion and subtituting gives:

$$\begin{aligned}(\varepsilon_0+2)\sum_{i=0}^{P}(-(u_i)_{xx}-(u_i)_{yy})\Psi_i = 2\pi^2(\varepsilon_0+2)\sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) \\ + 34\pi^2(\varepsilon_0+2)^2\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)\end{aligned} \tag{4.21}$$

Finally, we multiply both sides by Ψ_k and take the inner product, giving:

$$\begin{aligned}\sum_{i=0}^{P}(-(u_i)_{xx}-(u_i)_{yy})\langle\Psi_k(\varepsilon_0+2)\Psi_i\rangle = 2\pi^2\sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y)\langle\Psi_k(\varepsilon_0+2)\rangle \\ + 34\pi^2\sin(3\pi x)\sin(5\pi y)\langle\Psi_k(\varepsilon_0+2)^2\rangle\end{aligned} \tag{4.22}$$

for $k = 0, \ldots, P$. The uncertainty has been removed from this PDE and we now have a system of coupled deterministic differential equations, which can be solved for u. The next step is to rewrite (4.22) in a form that can be easily solved.

Firstly, we can use the finite difference method to discretise the system in space and represent the unknowns u_i as a single vector[2]:

$$Lu_i = -(u_i)_{xx} - (u_i)_{yy} \tag{4.23}$$

where L has dimension $n^2 \times n^2$ (the total number of unknowns) and u_i is a vector of length n^2. We can also represent the inner product on the left-hand side as a $(P+1) \times (P+1)$ matrix:

$$P_{ij} = \langle \Psi_i(\varepsilon_0 + 2)\Psi_j \rangle \tag{4.24}$$

Finally, we represent the right-hand side of the system as a $n^2 \times (P+1)$ matrix:

$$F_k = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x_i) \sin(\pi y_j) \langle \Psi_k(\varepsilon_0 + 2) \rangle + 34\pi^2 \sin(3\pi x_i) \sin(5\pi y_j) \langle \Psi_k(\varepsilon_0 + 2)^2 \rangle \tag{4.25}$$

where $k = 0, \ldots, P$ represents the columns (the random discretisation) and $i, j = 1, \ldots, n$ represent the rows (the vectorised spatial dicretisation). We can now use these matrices to write (4.22) in a form that can be easily solved.

Linear System

The simplest way to solve (4.22) is to form the problem as a linear system. By reshaping F into a vector we can represent the problem in the form:

$$Au = f \tag{4.26}$$

where $A = P \otimes L$ has dimension $n^2(P+1) \times n^2(P+1)$ and $f = \text{vec}(F)$ and u are vectors of length $n^2(P+1)$. We can now use a standard sparse solver to solve the system. Results using the conjugate gradient method `sparse.linalg.cg` from the SciPy library, using a convergence tolerance of 10^{-9}, are given in Table 15.

[2]Note that here $L = I \otimes T + T \otimes I$, where $T = -\frac{1}{h^2}\text{tridiag}(1, -2, 1)$ and I is the identity matrix, because we are representing all unknowns in a single matrix, rather than using two matrices as before.

n	K	Time(s)	Error
125	1	0.014717	0.0021941
250	1	0.077675	0.00055263
500	1	0.52634	0.00013874
1000	1	3.7997	3.4817×10^{-5}
2000	1	33.354	8.7386×10^{-6}
4000	1	308.21	2.2358×10^{-6}
8000	1	3090.0	6.4883×10^{-7}
16000	Memory Error		

Table 15: Results using the stochastic Galerkin method with a single uncertain parameter by solving the linear system using `sparse.linalg.cg`.

Matrix Equation

An alternative approach to solving (4.22) is to rewrite it as a matrix equation, in the form:

$$LXP = F \tag{4.27}$$

where $u = \text{vec}(X)$ and L, P and F are defined as before.

One way to solve this is by using a variation of the Bartels-Stewart algorithm. The basic idea is the same as the standard Bartels-Stewart algorithm from Section 3.1.2. Firstly, the Schur decomposition of L and P is computed, so that the equation can be transformed into an equivalent upper-triangular system that can be solved element by element. The solution to the original equation is then easily obtained using the solution of the triangular system. The steps of this algorithm are as follows:

1. Compute the Schur forms $L = U\hat{L}U^*$ and $P = V\hat{P}V^*$, and let $\hat{F} = U^*FV$.
2. Solve $\hat{L}Y\hat{P} = \hat{F}$ for Y, where $\hat{L}$ and $\hat{P}$ are upper triangular.
3. Compute solution $X = UYV^*$.

The problem with this method is that the Schur forms in the first step are computed using the QR algorithm, which only works on dense matrices. Therefore a huge amount of memory is required to compute the Schur form of L (of size $n^2 \times n^2$), which is impractical even for a relatively small problem size. This method was tested on the problem with $n = 125$ and

$K = 1$, and resulted in a memory error when computing the Schur forms, which confirms that this method is not appropriate for this problem.

Alternatively, we can right multiply by P^{-1} to obtain:

$$LX = FP^{-1} \tag{4.28}$$

The resulting right-hand side is a matrix, which means we can use `sparse.linalg.spsolve` from the SciPy library can be used to compute a solution. Results of doing so are given in Table 16.

n	K	Time(s)	Error
125	1	0.059279	0.0021941
250	1	0.25614	0.00055258
500	1	1.4756	0.00013872
1000	1	10.827	3.4752×10^{-5}
2000	1	76.430	8.6968×10^{-6}
4000	Memory Error		

Table 16

Sylvester Equation

The can instead be written as an alternative matrix equation in the form:

$$2LXG_0 + LXG_1 = F \tag{4.29}$$

where $u = \text{vec}(X)$, $(G_0)_{ij} = \langle \Psi_i \Psi_j \rangle$ and $(G_1)_{ij} = \langle \Psi_i \varepsilon_0 \Psi_j \rangle$. By left and right multiplying by L^{-1} and G_0^{-1} respectively, we obtain the equation in Sylvester form:

$$AX + XB = C \tag{4.30}$$

where $A = L^{-1}2L$, $B = G_1 G_0^{-1}$ and $C = L^{-1}FG_0^{-1}$. This can now be solved using any of the methods from Section 3, assuming that they can be adapted for sparse matrices. Results using the similarity transformation method, using `sparse.linalg.eigs` from the SciPy library to calculate the eigenpairs, are given in Table 17.

n	K	Time(s)	Error
125	1	0.011544	0.0021941
250	1	0.032874	0.00055258
500	1	0.11274	0.00013872
1000	1	0.70258	3.4752×10^{-5}
2000	1	5.8607	8.6968×10^{-6}
4000	1	52.552	2.1753×10^{-6}
8000	1	761.23	5.4395×10^{-7}
16000	Memory Error		

Table 17

4.2 Multiple Parameters

Multiple unknown parameters can be introduced into the PDE, which makes it significantly harder to solve. These are again modelled as random variables. Let ε now be defined as:

$$\varepsilon = (\varepsilon_0 + 2) + \sum_{p,q=1}^{N} \varepsilon_{pq} \sin(p\pi x) \sin(q\pi y) \tag{4.31}$$

with $\varepsilon_0 \sim u(-1, 1)$ and $\varepsilon_{pq} \sim \left(-2^{-\sqrt{p^2+q^2}}, 2^{-\sqrt{p^2+q^2}}\right)$. Then let $u = \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \varepsilon$ be the solution of the PDE:

$$\begin{aligned} -\varepsilon u_{xx} - \varepsilon u_{yy} &= f \quad \text{on } \mathcal{D} \times \Omega \\ u &= 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\mathcal{D} \times \Omega \end{aligned} \tag{4.32}$$

which gives:

$$\begin{aligned} u_{xx} &= -\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) - \sum_{p,q=1}^{N} p^2\pi^2 \varepsilon_{pq} \sin(p\pi x)\sin(q\pi y) \\ u_{yy} &= -\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) - \sum_{p,q=1}^{N} q^2\pi^2 \varepsilon_{pq} \sin(p\pi x)\sin(q\pi y) \\ \implies f &= \varepsilon\Big(2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \pi^2 \sum_{p,q=1}^{N} (p^2+q^2)\varepsilon_{pq} \sin(p\pi x)\sin(q\pi y)\Big) \\ &= \Big((\varepsilon_0 + 2) + \sum_{p,q=1}^{N} \varepsilon_{pq} \sin(p\pi x)\sin(q\pi y)\Big) \\ &\quad \times \Big(2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x)\sin(\pi y) + \pi^2 \sum_{p,q=1}^{N} (p^2+q^2)\varepsilon_{pq} \sin(p\pi x)\sin(q\pi y)\Big) \end{aligned} \tag{4.33}$$

4.2.1 Monte Carlo

4.2.2 Stochastic Galerkin

5 Application

6 Evaluation

6.1 Aims

6.2 Extensions

6.3 Conclusion

References

[1] R. H. Bartels and G. W. Stewart. Solution of the Matrix Equation AX + XB = C. *Commun. ACM*, 15(9):820–826, Sept. 1972.

[2] J. Bishop and O. E. Strack. A statistical method for verifying mesh convergence in Monte Carlo simulations with application to fragmentation. 88:279 – 306, 10 2011.

[3] P. Constantine. A Primer on Stochastic Galerkin Methods. 03 2007.

[4] J. Hou, Q. Lv, and M. Xiao. A Parallel Preconditioned Modified Conjugate Gradient Method for Large Sylvester Matrix Equation. 2014:1–7, 03 2014.

[5] V. Simoncini. Computational Methods for Linear Matrix Equations. 58:377–441, 01 2016.

[6] D. Xiu and G. Karniadakis. The Wiener-Askey Polynomial Chaos for Stochastic Differential Equations. *SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing*, 24(2):619–644, 2002.

[7] J. Zhou, W. Ruirui, and Q. Niu. A Preconditioned Iteration Method for Solving Sylvester Equations. 2012, 07 2012.