

Helmholtz equation in 2D using ADI

We want to solve the two-dimensional Helmholtz equation numerically:

$$(1 - c\partial_{xx} - c\partial_{yy})u = f, \quad (1)$$

where u and f are spectral coefficients and c is a scalar constant.

ADI

Our intent is to decouple the x and y dimension, which allows the use of efficient solvers. This can be achieved by the eigendecomposition method as described in *doc_poisson2d*. However, here we use the alternating direction implicit (ADI) method, whose accuracy depends on the size of the parameter c (c smaller \rightarrow more accurate). The idea of the ADI method is to approximate the multidimensional Helmholtz operator by a product of one-dimensional operators, i.e.

$$(I - c\nabla^2) = (I - c\nabla_x^2)(I - c\nabla_y^2) - c^2\nabla_x^2\nabla_y^2 \stackrel{c \text{ small}}{\approx} (I - c\nabla_x^2)(I - c\nabla_y^2) \quad (2)$$

which can be solved successively along x and y , i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbf{I} - c\nabla_x^2)g &= f, \\ (\mathbf{I} - c\nabla_y^2)u &= g \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Implementation

Multivariate problems can be described well with Kronecker notation, i.e.

$$[I \otimes I - c(D_2 \otimes I - I \otimes D_2)]u = f, \quad (4)$$

where D_2 is the discrete differentiation operator, I the identity matrix and u and f are the flattened one-dimensional vectors. We impose boundary conditions by using basis recombinations $u = (S \otimes S)v$, where v are spectral coefficients in a function base that already satisfies the boundary conditions. Here we will impose Dirichlet BCs on all sides. In this case $u \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$, $v \in \mathbb{R}^{N-2 \times N-2}$ and $S \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N-2}$. We get

$$[S \otimes S - c(D_2 S \otimes S - S \otimes D_2 S)]u = f. \quad (5)$$

Using the ADI approximation eq. (??) or eq. (??), we get a set of one dimensional helmholtz equations

$$\begin{aligned} (S - cD_2 S)g_i &= f_i, \\ (S - cD_2 S)v_i &= g_i. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

Those can be solved more efficiently by preconditioning with the inverse of the D_2 operator, i.e. D_2^{-1} , thus we get

$$\begin{aligned} (D_2^{-1}S - cS)g_i &= D_2^{-1}f_i, \\ (D_2^{-1}S - cS)v_i &= D_2^{-1}g_i. \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

where the lhs $(D_2^{-1}S - cS)$ and rhs (D_2^{-1}) operators are banded with diagonals on $-2, 0, 2, 4$, respectively $-2, 0, 2$.

Example

See *examples/hholtz2d_cheb_dirichlet.rs*.