

# Report 4: Partial Differential Equations (PDEs)

Simon BLAUE

December 15, 2022

Universität Göttingen  
Faculty of Physics  
Instructor: Prof. Dr. S. Schumann  
Tutors: Dr. E. Bothmann, M. Knobbe

## 1 Laplace Equation

### 1.1 Iterator methods

First let's check which method converges the fastest:

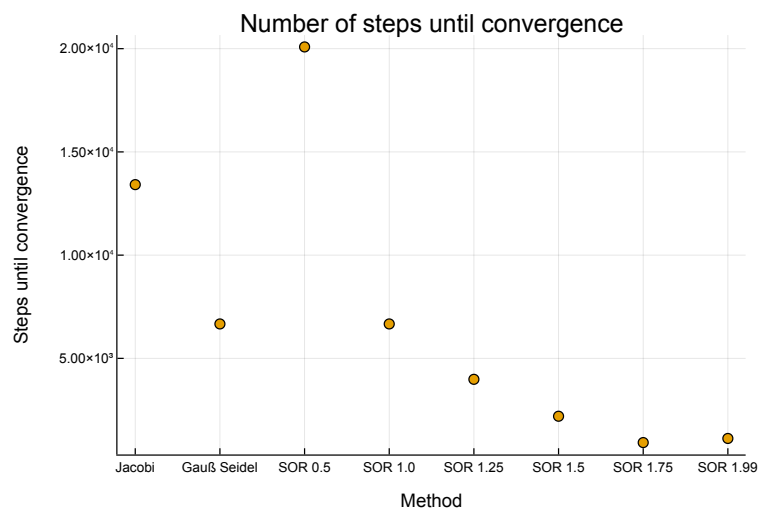


Figure 1: Number of steps until convergence concerning the Laplace error  $\max \epsilon < 1 \times 10^{-3}$ .

I observe that Gauss-Seidel and SOR with  $\alpha = 1.0$  need the same timestep as expected. The fastest method is SOR with  $\alpha = 1.75$ , because with  $\alpha = 1.99$  we get close to unstable regimes. Obviously SOR with  $\alpha = 0.5$  takes the longest, as the updating step is damped with the factor  $\alpha$ . Now I will observe the evolution of the maximal error and the average error of the different methods.

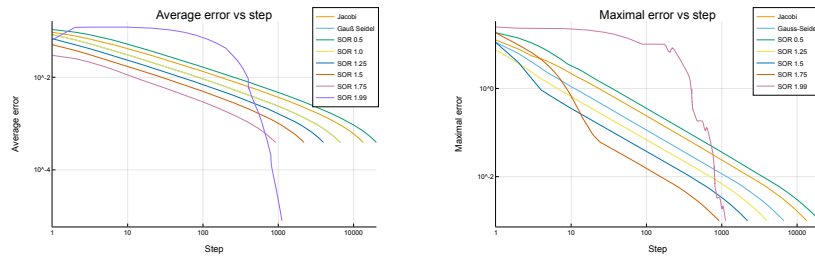


Figure 2: Maximal and average error for different iteration methods.

As discussed before, SOR with  $\alpha = 1.0$  and Gauß-Seidel method are the same, hence I plotted only the latter. The error development for all methods besides SOR with  $\alpha \geq 1.5$  seem qualitatively the same. However for higher  $\alpha$  I observe indentations in the curve, which seem to boost the algorithm. This is due to the algorithm taking bigger steps in the right direction once it found this direction. For  $\alpha = 1.99$  the curve is very rigid, and I was not sure, if it really converged to the right solution, hence I plotted the result below. As it turns out the method also converges to the expected result.

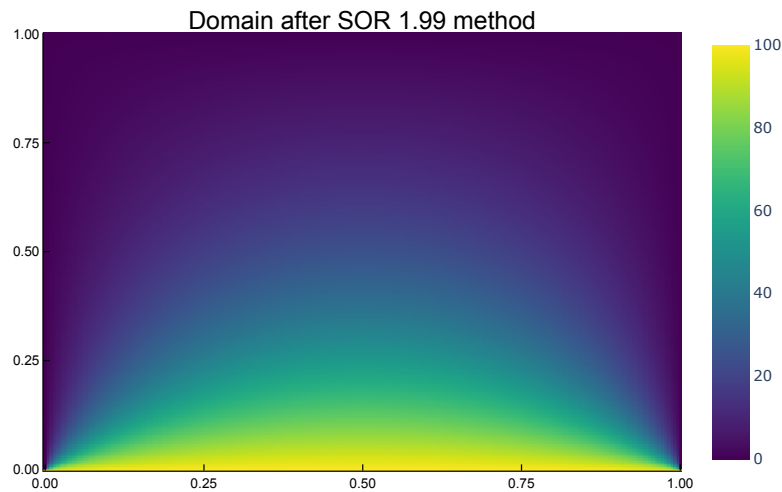
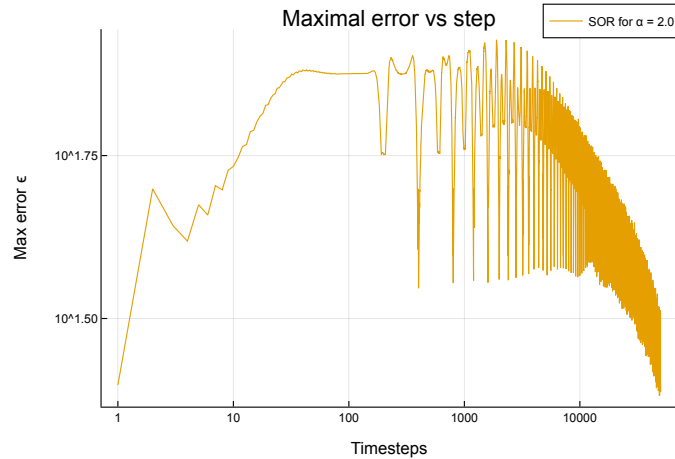
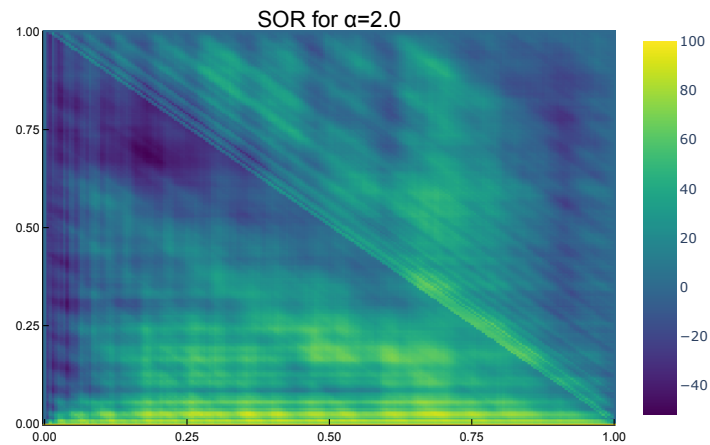


Figure 3: Domain after iterating with the SOR 1.99 method to verify right convergence.

## 1.2 SOR for $\alpha = 2.0$

The natural question to ask is what happens for an even further boosted SOR method? I found that for  $\alpha = 2.0$  the algorithm does not converge in 50000 steps. It seems that it would not have converged to the right domain, as the result shows stripes and the maximal error starts to fluctuate a lot after 100 timesteps. The system can not recover from that.



## 1.3 Infinite sum solution

Now I will cross verify the iterative solution with an approximated analytical solution. First have a look at the analytical "infinite" sum solution for different numbers of summands.

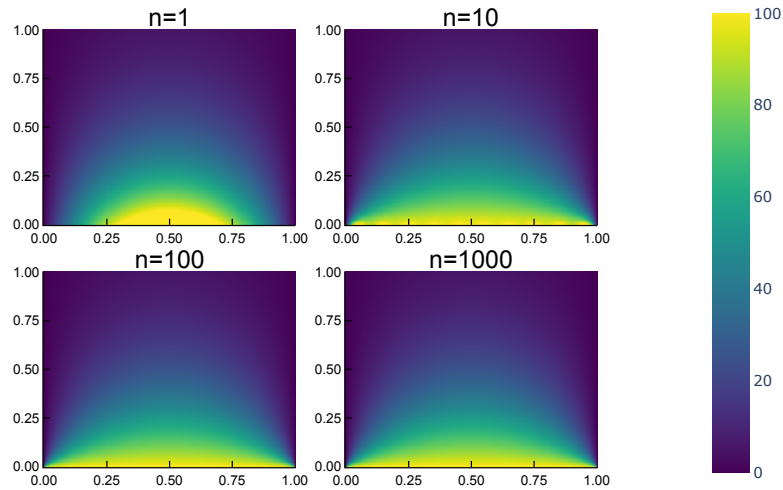
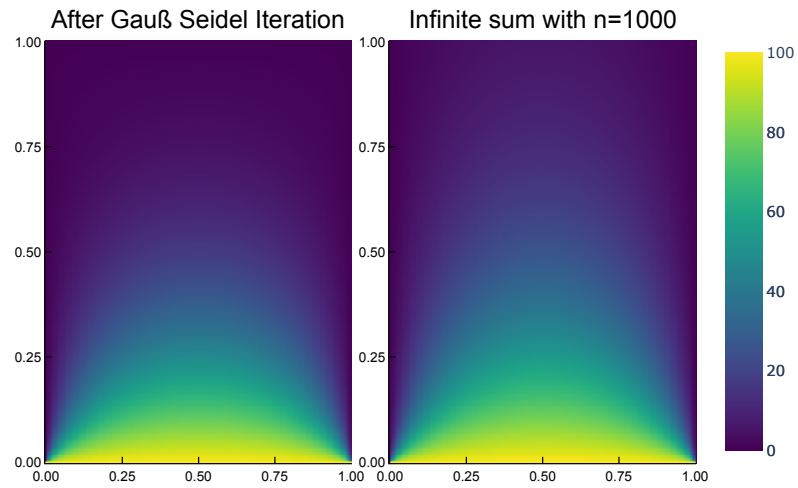
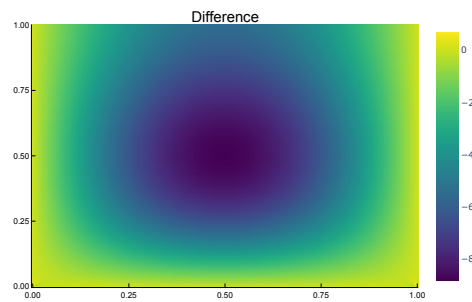


Figure 4: Results for the "infinite" sum solution to the Laplace equation for different numbers of terms  $n$ .

As I increase the number of terms more and more sine functions are added left and right to the first one, and towards the top an exponential decay fills in. Comparing the "infinite" sum solution for 1000 terms with the Gauß-Seidel method reveals that the exponential decay is too weak, or the Gauß-Seidel method did not propagate long enough. Subtracting both results displays that at the edges the solutions are identical (yellow) in the middle-top they don't fit together as discussed before.



(a) Comparison of the infinite sum solution with 1000 terms and the Gauß Seidel iterator solution.



(b) Difference between the infinite sum solution with 1000 terms and the Gauß Seidel iterator solution.

## 2 Diffusion

## 3 Solitons