

## 2. Sparsity

1. Write a code that builds the second order finite difference matrix, called `s`, for the Laplacian in two dimensions using the command `scipy.sparse.diags`. This data format exploits that most of the entries of the matrix are zero, which are not stored.
2. Select a size of  $m = 100$ , i.e.  $100 \times 100$  grid points for the  $x$  and  $y$  axes. The size of `s` in bytes is given by

```
s.data.nbytes + s.indptr.nbytes + s.indices.nbytes
```

For comparison, we copy the matrix into a dense format with

```
d = np.copy(sparse.todense())
```

This latter format is similar to a  $2d$  array in C++. The size in bytes can be obtained by `d.nbytes`. Print both the size of the sparse and dense matrices in megabytes.

3. Calculate a multiplication of the given matrix in both formats with a vector `v` consisting of ones only and print out the computation time. The current time in seconds can be obtained by `time.time()` after importing `import time`.
4. **Optional:** Repeat 2 and 3 with larger  $m$ . Depending on your system, maybe  $m \approx 120 - 200$ . Try to find a system monitor for your computer, which shows you how much working memory and swap memory is used. For  $m = 100$  your computer will likely only use working memory. For higher  $m$  it will have to use swap memory. Observe the effect on the time of the matrix vector multiplication.

**WARNING:** If  $m$  becomes large enough to use swap memory, your computer may freeze or become very slow. So save all your work before you try this and exit all other applications!

*Hint:* If you just get a `MemoryError`, replace `d` by `d = np.ones((m*m, m*m))`