

# Series 3



Numerical methods for PDEs

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Template codes are available on the course's webpage at <https://moodle-app2.let.ethz.ch/course/view.php?id=3089>.

## Exercise 1 Quadratic Finite Elements for the Poisson equation in 2D

We consider the problem

$$-\Delta u = f(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^2 \quad (1)$$

$$u(\mathbf{x}) = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \quad (2)$$

where  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ .

We know that its variational formulation is given by: Find  $u \in V = H_0^1(\Omega)$  such that

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u(\mathbf{x}) \cdot \nabla v(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x} = \int_{\Omega} f(\mathbf{x})v(\mathbf{x}) \, d\mathbf{x}, \quad \text{for all } v \in H_0^1(\Omega). \quad (3)$$

We solve (3) by means of *quadratic finite elements* on triangular meshes  $\mathcal{M}$  of  $\Omega$ . Consequently, we consider the following finite-dimensional subspace of  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ :

$$V^h = \left\{ w: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}: w \text{ is continuous, } w = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \right. \\ \left. \text{and } w|_K \text{ is a **second order polynomial** } \forall K \in \mathcal{M} \right\}.$$

This means we now consider two types of basis functions:

- The ones associated to the vertices of the given mesh

$$b_i(\mathbf{x}_j) := \begin{cases} 1, & i = j \\ 0, & \text{else} \end{cases}, \quad i = 0, \dots, N_V - 1, \quad (4)$$

with  $N_V$  the total number of vertices.

- The basis functions associated to the midpoint  $\mathbf{m}_i$  of each edges  $i$  of the given mesh

$$\psi_i(\mathbf{m}_j) := \begin{cases} 1, & i = j \\ 0, & else \end{cases}, \quad i = 0, \dots, N_E - 1, \quad (5)$$

with  $N_E$  the total number of edges.

We therefore have degrees of freedom associated to vertices and edges, and a total number of  $N = N_V + N_E$  basis functions. Let us order our basis functions by first considering vertices and then edges. In other words

$$\varphi_i^N := \begin{cases} b_i, & i = 0, \dots, N_V - 1 \\ \psi_{i-N_V}, & i = N_V, \dots, N - 1. \end{cases}$$

The finite element solution  $u_N$  to (1) can thus be expressed as

$$\begin{aligned} u_N(\mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{i=0}^{N_V-1} \mu_i b_i(\mathbf{x}) + \sum_{i=0}^{N_E-1} \mu_{i+N_V} \psi_i(\mathbf{x}) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} \mu_i \varphi_i^N(\mathbf{x}), \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

where  $\boldsymbol{\mu} = \{\mu_i\}_{i=0}^{N-1}$  is the vector of coefficients. Notice that we don't know  $\mu_i$  if  $i$  is an interior degree of freedom, but we know that  $\mu_i = 0$  if  $i$  is a vertex or edge on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ .

**Hint:** Here and in the following, we use zero-based indices in contrast to the lecture notes.

Inserting  $\varphi_i^N$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, N - 1$  as test functions in the variational formulation from (3) we obtain the linear system of equations

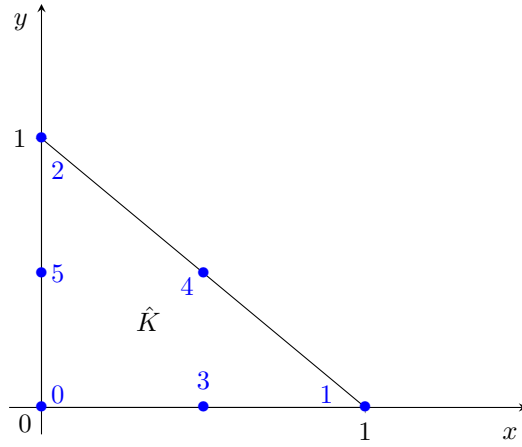
$$\mathbf{A}\boldsymbol{\mu} = \mathbf{F}, \quad (7)$$

with  $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$  and  $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbb{R}^N$ .

**1a)**

Write an expression in terms of  $b_i$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, N_V - 1$  and  $\psi_i$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, N_E - 1$ , for the entries of  $\mathbf{A}$  and  $\mathbf{F}$  in (7).

The convention for the local numbering of the shape functions is given in the following figure



**Figure 1:** Reference element  $\hat{K}$  for 2D quadratic finite elements.

1b)

(**Core problem**) Complete the template file `shape.hpp` implementing the function

```
inline double shapefun(int i, double x, double y)
```

which computes the value a local shape function  $\varphi_i^K(\mathbf{x})$ , with  $i = 0, \dots, 5$ , on the reference element depicted in Fig. 1 at the point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$ .

Use your previous *linear* finite elements implementation and the following formulas to complete this task:

$$\begin{aligned}\varphi_0^K(\mathbf{x}) &= (2\lambda_0(\mathbf{x}) - 1)\lambda_0(\mathbf{x}), \\ \varphi_1^K(\mathbf{x}) &= (2\lambda_1(\mathbf{x}) - 1)\lambda_1(\mathbf{x}), \\ \varphi_2^K(\mathbf{x}) &= (2\lambda_2(\mathbf{x}) - 1)\lambda_2(\mathbf{x}), \\ \varphi_3^K(\mathbf{x}) &= 4\lambda_0(\mathbf{x})\lambda_1(\mathbf{x}), \\ \varphi_4^K(\mathbf{x}) &= 4\lambda_1(\mathbf{x})\lambda_2(\mathbf{x}), \\ \varphi_5^K(\mathbf{x}) &= 4\lambda_0(\mathbf{x})\lambda_2(\mathbf{x}),\end{aligned}$$

where  $\lambda_i, i = 0, \dots, 2$  are the *linear* local shape functions.

1c)

(**Core problem**) Compute the gradients of the local shape functions described above and complete the template file `grad_shape.hpp` implementing the function

```
inline Eigen::Vector2d gradientShapefun(const int i, double x, double y)
```

which returns the value of the derivatives (i.e. the gradient) of a local shape functions  $\varphi_i^K(\mathbf{x})$ , with  $i = 0, \dots, 5$ , on the reference element depicted in Fig. 1 at the point  $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$ .

The routine `makeCoordinateTransform` contained in the file `coordinate_transform.hpp` computes the Jacobian matrix of the *linear* map  $\Phi_l : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  such that

$$\Phi_l \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{12} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{a}_1, \quad \Phi_l \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} a_{21} \\ a_{22} \end{pmatrix} = \mathbf{a}_2,$$

where  $\mathbf{a}_1, \mathbf{a}_2 \in \mathbb{R}^2$  are the two input arguments.

1d)

Complete the template file `stiffness_matrix.hpp` implementing the routine

```
template<class MatrixType, class Point>
void computeStiffnessMatrix(MatrixType& stiffnessMatrix, const Point& a, const Point& b,
                           const Point& c)
```

that returns the *element stiffness matrix* for the bilinear form associated to (1) and for the triangle with vertices `a`, `b` and `c`. Notice that for *quadratic* finite elements you should obtain a  $6 \times 6$  element stiffness matrix.

**Hint:** Use the routine `gradientShapefun` from subproblem 1c) to compute the gradients and the routine `makeCoordinateTransform` to transform the gradients and to obtain the area of a triangle.

**Hint:** You do not have to analytically compute the integrals for the product of basis functions; instead, you can use the provided function `integrate`. It takes a function  $f(x, y)$  as a parameter, and it returns the value of  $\int_K f(x, y) dV$ , where  $K$  is the triangle with vertices in  $(0, 0)$ ,  $(1, 0)$  and  $(0, 1)$ . Do not forget to take into account the proper coordinate transforms!

The routine `integrate` in the file `integrate.hpp` uses a quadrature rule to compute the approximate value of  $\int_K f(\hat{\mathbf{x}}) d\hat{\mathbf{x}}$ , where  $f$  is a function, passed as input argument.

1e)

Complete the template file `load_vector.hpp` implementing the routine

```
template<class Vector, class Point>
void computeLoadVector(Vector& loadVector, const Point& a, const Point& b,
                      const Point& c, const std::function<double(double, double)>& f)
```

that returns the *element load vector* for the linear form in the right-hand side of (3), for the triangle with vertices *a*, *b* and *c*, and where *f* is a function handler to the right-hand side of (1).

**Hint:** Use the routine `shapefun` from subproblem 1b) to compute values of the shape functions on the reference element, and the routines `makeCoordinateTransform` and `integrate` from the handout to map the points to the physical triangle and to compute the integrals.

1f)

(Core problem) Complete the template file `stiffness_matrix_assembly.hpp` by implementing the routine

```
template<class Matrix>
void assembleStiffnessMatrix(Matrix& A, const Eigen::MatrixXd& vertices,
                             const Eigen::MatrixXi& dofs, const int& N)
```

to compute the finite element matrix **A** as in (7). The input argument `vertices` is a  $N_V \times 3$  matrix of which the *i*-th row contains the coordinates of the *i*-th mesh vertex,  $i = 0, \dots, N_V - 1$ , with  $N_V$  the number of vertices. The input argument `dofs` is a  $N_T \times 6$  matrix where the *i*-th row contains the *indices* of the vertices and edges of the *i*-th triangle,  $i = 0, \dots, N_T - 1$ , with  $N_T$  the number of triangles in the mesh. Finally, the input `N` gives the number of degrees of freedom (i.e.  $N = N_V + N_E$ ).

**Hint:** Use the routine `computeStiffnessMatrix` from subproblem 1d) to compute the local stiffness matrix associated to each element.

**Hint:** Use the sparse format to store the matrix **A**.

1g)

(Core problem) Complete the template file `load_vector_assembly.hpp` implementing the routine

```
void assembleLoadVector(Eigen::VectorXd& F, const Eigen::MatrixXd& vertices,
                       const Eigen::MatrixXi& dofs, const int& N,
                       const std::function<double(double, double)>& f)
```

to compute the right-hand side vector **F** as in (7). The input arguments `vertices`, `dofs` and `N` are as in subproblem 1f), and `f` is as in subproblem 1e).

**Hint:** Proceed in a similar way as for `assembleStiffnessMatrix` and use the routine `computeLoadVector` from subproblem 1e).

The routine

```
void setDirichletBoundary(Eigen::VectorXd& u,
                        Eigen::VectorXi& interiorDofs,
                        QDofs& quadraticDofs,
                        const std::function<double(double, double)>& g)
```

implemented in the file `dirichlet_boundary.hpp` provided in the handout does the following:

- it gets in input the class `quadraticDofs` that has the information about the vertices and edges, and the function handle `g` to the boundary data, i.e. to  $g$  such that  $u = g$  on  $\partial\Omega$  (in our case  $g \equiv 0$ );
- it returns in the vector `interiorDofs` the indices of the interior degrees of freedom, that is of the vertices and edges that are *not* on the boundary  $\partial\Omega$ ;
- if  $\mathbf{x}_i$  is a node on the boundary, then it sets `u(i)=g(xi)`, that is, in our case, it sets to 0 the entries of the vector `u` corresponding to vertices on the boundary.

## 1h)

Complete the template file `fem_solve.hpp` with the implementation of the function

```
int solveFiniteElement(Vector& u, const QDofs& quadraticDofs,
                       const std::function<double(double, double)>& f)
```

This function takes in input the class `quadraticDofs` that has the information about the vertices and edges (as in the previous subproblems), and the function handle `f` to the right-hand side  $f$  in (1). The output argument `u` has to contain, at the end of the function, the finite element solution  $u_N$  to (3).

**Hint:** Use the routines `assembleStiffnessMatrix` and `assembleLoadVector` from subproblems **1f)** and **1g)**, respectively, to obtain the matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and the vector  $\mathbf{F}$  as in (7), and then use the provided routine `setDirichletBoundary` to set the boundary values of `u` to zero and to select the free degrees of freedom.

## 1i)

Run the code in the file `fem2d.cpp` to compute the finite element solution to (1) when  $\Omega = [0, 1]^2$  is the unit square, the forcing term is given by  $f(\mathbf{x}) = 2\pi^2 \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y)$  and the mesh is `square.5`.  $\hookrightarrow$  `mesh`. Use then the routine `plot_on_mesh.py` to produce a plot of the solution.

**Hint:** This should look like the solution in series 2 warmup.

1j)

(Core problem) Complete the functions

```
double computeL2Difference(const Eigen::MatrixXd& vertices,
const Eigen::MatrixXi& dofs,
const Eigen::VectorXd& u1,
const std::function<double(double, double)>& u2)

double computeH1Difference(const Eigen::MatrixXd& vertices,
const Eigen::MatrixXi& dofs,
const Eigen::VectorXd& u1,
const std::function<Eigen::Vector2d(double, double)>& u2grad)
```

contained in the files `L2_norm.hpp` and `H1_norm.hpp`, respectively.

In both cases, the argument `u1` is considered to be a vector corresponding to a *quadratic* finite element function  $u_1$ , and thus containing the value of this function in the vertices of a mesh. The argument `u2` in `computeL2Difference` is a function handle to a scalar function  $u_2$  which is known analytically. The argument `u2grad` in `computeH1Difference` is a function handle to a function gradient  $\nabla u_2$ , supposed to be known analytically. Then the routines `computeL2Difference` and `computeH1Difference` compute an approximation to  $\|u_1 - u_2\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$  and  $|u_1 - u_2|_{H^1(\Omega)} = \|\nabla u_1 - \nabla u_2\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$ , respectively.

1k)

Complete the template file `convergence.hpp` by implementing the routine

```
void convergenceAnalysis(const std::string& baseMeshName, int maxLevel
const std::function<double(double, double)> f,
const std::function<double(double, double)> g,
const std::function<double(double, double)> exactSol,
const std::function<Eigen::Vector2d(double, double)> exactSol_grad)
```

to compute the convergence analysis for a sequence of meshes `baseMeshName_X`, with  $X=0.. \text{maxLevel}$ . This means, for each mesh you will compute the difference between the exact solution and the finite elements solution you get with the given input in terms of the  $L^2$  and  $H^1$ -norms. This routine should write a file with the number of degrees of freedom used at each convergence step, a file with the computed  $L^2$ -error norms and a file with the computed  $H^1$ -error seminorms.

Use the functions `computeL2Difference` and `computeH1Difference` in order to do this.

**Hint:** Use the function `solveFiniteElement` to get the number of degrees of freedom on each mesh.

11)

Run the routine `convergenceAnalysis` to perform a convergence study for the finite element solution to (1)-(2) for the mesh `square` and the data contained in `fem2d.cpp`.

Which convergence order with respect to the number of degrees of freedom do you observe? Compare it with your *linear* finite element implementation.

## Exercise 2 Finite-Differences for the Heat Equation on a disc

In this exercise we will solve the heat equation on the unit disc

$$\Omega := B(0, 1) := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid \|x\| < 1\}$$

. Concretely, we consider the heat equation in two space dimensions given as

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \Delta u = 0 & \text{on } \Omega \times [0, T] \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \\ u(x, y, 0) = u_0(x, y) & x, y \in \Omega \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

We remind you of the polar coordinate transformation

$$x(r, \theta) = r \cos(\theta) \quad y(r, \theta) = r \sin(\theta) \quad (r, \theta) \in [0, \infty) \times [0, 2\pi). \quad (9)$$

For a given function  $u : \Omega \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , define

$$\tilde{u}(r, \theta, t) = u(r \cos \theta, r \sin \theta, t) \quad (r, \theta, t) \in [0, 1) \times [0, 2\pi) \times [0, T].$$

2a)

Assume  $u$  is a smooth solution of (8), show that  $\tilde{u}$  satisfies

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial^2 \tilde{u}}{\partial \theta^2} = 0 \quad \text{on } [0, 1) \times [0, 2\pi) \times [0, T] \quad (10)$$



2b)

For the rest of the problem, we assume  $u$  is radially symmetric, that is

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial \theta} = 0.$$

Notice that this reduces the problem to a one dimensional partial differential equation

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial t} - \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial r} \right) = 0 \quad \text{on } [0, r) \times [0, T] \quad (11)$$

Assume  $u$  is a smooth solution of (11), show that

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}(0, t) = 0 \quad \text{for all } t > 0. \quad (12)$$

**Hint:**  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$  and  $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial r^2}$  will be bounded around 0 since it's a continuous functions on a compact (bounded and closed) domain.

2c)

We discretize the domain into  $N + 2$  points, where we set  $\Delta r = \frac{1}{N+1}$  and

$$r_i = i\Delta r \quad i = 0, \dots, N + 1.$$

We discretize the temporal domain into  $M + 1$  points, and we choose

$$t^n = n\Delta t \quad n = 0, \dots, M$$

where

$$\Delta t = \frac{1}{M}.$$

We let  $U_j^n$  be an approximation of  $\tilde{u}$  at  $r_i, t^n$ , that is

$$U_j^n \approx \tilde{u}(r_i, t^n) \quad i = 0, \dots, N + 1, n = 0, \dots, M.$$

State the boundary conditions for  $U_{N+1}^n$  and  $U_0^n$ , as well as the initial value  $U_j^0$ .

**Hint:** You can use the approximation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial r}(r_i, t^n) \approx \frac{U_{i+1}^n - U_i^n}{\Delta r}.$$

2d)

Discretize (11) using the discretization defined in the previous exercise. For the time discretization, use Forward-Euler, that is

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial t} \approx \frac{U_i^{n+1} - U_i^n}{\Delta t}.$$

**Hint:** Use

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial r} \right) (r_i, t^n) \approx \frac{r_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial r}(r_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t^n) - r_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \frac{\partial \tilde{u}}{\partial r}(r_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, t^n)}{\Delta r}$$

where

$$r_{i \pm \frac{1}{2}} = r_i \pm \Delta r/2.$$

2e)

Recall that we say the scheme obeys the maximum condition if

$$\max_i U_i^n \leq \max_i U_i^0 \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

Find necessary conditions on  $\Delta t$  for the maximum condition to be fulfilled for the scheme derived in the previous exercise.

2f)

(Core problem) Implement the C++ function

```
//! Does one Forward-Euler timestep of the heat equation
//!
//! @param[out] u at the end, u will contain the values at time t^{n+1}
//! @param[in] uPrevious should contain the values at time t^n
//! @param[in] dr the cell length in r direction
//! @param[in] dt the timestep size
void stepHeatEquation(Eigen::VectorXd& u,
    const Eigen::VectorXd& uPrevious,
    const double dr,
    const double dt);
```

The function should increment the solution from  $u^n$  (given in `uPrevious`) to  $u^{n+1}$  (to be written to `u`).

For a template, see `heqateq_polar/heateq_polar.cpp`.

**Hint:** Remember to handle the boundary conditions!

2g)

Implement a C++ function

```
///! Gives an approximation to the heat equation with the given initial data
///!
///! @param initialData represents the function  $\tilde{u}_0$ .
///!
///! @param shouldStop is a function taking as first
///! parameter the current value of u, and
///! as second value the current time t.
///! The simulation should run until shouldStop(u,t) == true. That is
///!
///! \code{.cpp}
///! while(!shouldStop(u,t)) { /* Do one more timestep */ }
///! \endcode
///!
///! @param N the number of inner points
///! @param cfl the constant C with which we choose the timestep size. We set
///! \code{.cpp}
///! dt = cfl*dr*dr
///! \endcode
Eigen::VectorXd solveHeatEquation(
    const std::function<double(double)>& initialData,
    const std::function<bool(const Eigen::VectorXd, double)>& shouldStop,
    const int N,
    double cfl = 0.5
)
```

That solves the heat equation. The simulation should run until `shouldStop(u,t)` returns `true`.

2h)

In the function `main` in `heateq_polar/heateq_polar.cpp`, we call the function with  $N = 20$  and  $cfl=0.5$  and  $cfl=0.51$  and simulate until  $t = 1$ . The initial value is given as  $u_0(x, y) = 20$ . Run the program, and plot the result for  $cfl=0.5$  and  $cfl=0.51$ . What happens when  $cfl=0.51$ ? Explain your results.

**Hint:** When does the solution obey the maximum principle?

2i)

(**Core problem**) For practical purposes, it's often convenient to run the simulation until a certain criterion is met, rather than running the simulation to a fixed time  $t$ . In this subtask, we will run the simulation until the maximum of  $U$  reaches the value 4. In a real world use case, this would correspond to finding out when the temperature reaches the given threshold.

In the function `main` in `heateq_polar/heateq_polar.cpp`, call `solveHeatEquation` where the parameters are

- `initialData` the same as in the previous exercise
- `shouldStop` a function that checks if the maximum of the solution is 4 or less.
- `N=500`
- `cfl=0.5`

At what time did the solution reach the maximum value of 4?

**Remark 1.** *This task only rewards bonus points if it is solved through using the `shouldStop` function parameter correctly. **No** alteration of `solveHeatEquation` should be needed for this exercise.*

**Hint:** You do **not** need to alter `solveHeatEquation` to solve this exercise.

2j)

(**Core problem**) Perform a convergence study against a reference solution. Implement your solution in the method

`void convergenceStudy()`

Use the initial data

$$\tilde{u}_0(r) = 1 - r^2 \cos(r).$$

For the reference solution, use  $N = 2^{k+1} - 2$ . Set the final time  $T = 0.025$ , and measure the error when

$$N = 2^k - 2 \quad k = 4, 5, \dots, 8.$$

What is the order of convergence?