Mathematical Tripos Part II: Michaelmas Term 2021

Numerical Analysis – Examples’ Sheet 1

1. The Laplace operator $\nabla^2 = \partial^2/\partial x^2 + \partial^2/\partial y^2$ is approximated by the nine-point formula

$$h^2 \nabla^2 u(ih, jh) \approx \frac{10}{3} u_{i,j} + \frac{2}{3} (u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j-1}) + \frac{1}{6} (u_{i+1,j+1} + u_{i+1,j-1} + u_{i-1,j+1} + u_{i-1,j-1}),$$

where $u_{i,j} \approx u(ih, jh)$. Find the error of this approximation when $u$ is any infinitely-differentiable function. Show that the error is smaller if $u$ happens to satisfy Laplace’s equation $\nabla^2 u = 0$.

2. Determine the order (in the form $O((\Delta x)^n)$) of the finite difference approximation to $\partial^2/\partial x \partial y$ given by the computational stencil:

Matlab demo: Download the Matlab GUI from Stencil and Images [http://www.damtp.cam.ac.uk/user/hf323/821-1.html] and check what happens if you apply the above stencil to an image of your choice. You might also want to try some of the preset stencil options which include the nine-point formula for the Laplacian in Exercise 2. Playing around with this Matlab GUI, can you think of any image processing tasks that could be carried out by applying differential operators to an image?

3. Let $M \geq 2$ and $N \geq 2$ be integers and let $u \in \mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ have the components $u_{m,n}$, $1 \leq m \leq M$, $1 \leq n \leq N$, where two subscripts occur because we associate the components with the interior points of a rectangular grid. Further, let $u_{m,n}$ be zero on the boundary of the grid, which means $u_{m,n} = 0$ if either $m \in \{0,M+1\}$ or $n \in \{0,N+1\}$. Thus, for any real constants $\alpha$, $\beta$ and $\gamma$, we can define a linear transformation $A$ from $\mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ to $\mathbb{R}^{M \times N}$ by the equations

$$(Au)_{m,n} = \alpha u_{m-1,n} + \beta (u_{m-1,n} + u_{m+1,n}) + \gamma (u_{m-1,n+1} + u_{m-1,n-1} + u_{m+1,n+1} + u_{m+1,n-1}), \quad 1 \leq m \leq M, 1 \leq n \leq N.$$

We now let the components of $u$ have the special form $u_{m,n} = \sin(\frac{mk\pi}{M+1}) \sin(\frac{n\ell\pi}{N+1})$, where $k$ and $\ell$ are fixed integers. Prove that $u$ is an eigenvector of $A$ and find its eigenvalue. Hence deduce that, if $\alpha$, $\beta$ and $\gamma$ provide the nine-point formula of Exercise 1, and if $M$ and $N$ are large, then the least modulus of an eigenvalue is approximately $4 \sin^2(\frac{\pi}{2(M+1)}) + 4 \sin^2(\frac{\pi}{2(N+1)})$.

4. Verify that the $n \times n$ tridiagonal matrix

$$A = \begin{bmatrix}
\alpha & \beta & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\
\beta & \alpha & \beta & \ddots & \\
0 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & 0 \\
\vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \beta \\
0 & \cdots & 0 & \beta & \alpha
\end{bmatrix}$$

has the eigenvalues $\lambda_k = \alpha + 2\beta \cos \frac{k\pi}{n+1}$, $k = 1, \ldots, n$. Hence, deduce $\rho(A) = |\alpha| + 2|\beta| \cos \frac{\pi}{n+1}$.

[Hint: Show that $v \in \mathbb{R}^n$ with the components $u_i = \sin ix$, $i = 1, \ldots, n$, where $x = \frac{n\pi}{M+1}$, satisfies the eigenvalue equation $Av = \lambda_i v$.]

5. Let $A$ be the $m^2 \times m^2$ matrix that occurs in the five-point difference method for Laplace’s equation on a square grid. By applying the orthogonal similarity transformation of Hockney’s method, find a tridiagonal matrix, say $T$, that is similar to $A$, and derive expressions for each element of $T$. Hence, deduce the eigenvalues of $T$. Verify that they agree with the eigenvalues of Proposition 1.12.
6. Let

\[
\begin{array}{cccccccc}
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\
0 & 1 & 2 & 3 & 4 & 5 & 6 & 7 \\
\end{array}
\]

By applying the FFT algorithm, calculate \( xy = \sum_{j=0}^{n} w^{j_0} y_j \) for \( \ell = 0, 2, 4, 6 \), where \( w_8 = \exp \frac{2\pi i}{8} \). Check your results by direct calculation. [Hint: Because all values of \( \ell \) are even, you can omit some parts of the usual FFT algorithm.]

7. Let \( u(x, t) : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2 \) be an infinitely-differentiable solution of the convection-diffusion equation

\[
u_t = u_{xx} - bu_{x} \]

where the subscripts denote partial derivatives and where \( b \) is a positive constant, and let \( u(x, 0) \) for \( 0 \leq x \leq 1 \) and \( u(0, t), u(1, t) \) for \( t > 0 \) be given. A difference method sets \( h = \Delta x = \frac{1}{M+1} \) and \( k = \Delta t = \frac{T}{N} \), where \( M \) and \( N \) are positive integers and \( T \) is a fixed bound on \( t \). Then it calculates the estimates \( u^n_m \approx u(mh, nk) \), \( 1 \leq m \leq M, 1 \leq n \leq N \), by applying the formula

\[
u^n_{m+1} = \nu^n_m + \mu (\nu^n_{m-1} - 2\nu^n_m + \nu^n_{m+1}) - \frac{1}{2} (\Delta x)^2 b \nu^n_m (\nu^n_{m+1} - \nu^n_{m-1}),
\]

where \( \mu = \frac{\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \), the values of \( \nu^n_m \) being set to \( \nu(mh, nk) \) when \( mh, nk \) is on the boundary. Show that, subject to \( \mu \) being constant, the local truncation error of the formula is \( O(h^4) \).

8. Let \( u(x, t) : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2 \) be a solution of Laplace’s equation \( u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0 \) on the unit square \( 0 \leq x, y \leq 1 \), and let \( u(x, y, t) \) solve the diffusion equation \( \nu_t = u_{xx} + u_{yy} \), where the subscripts denote partial derivatives. Further, let \( u(x, y, t) \) satisfy the boundary conditions \( u(0, t) = v(x, y) \) at all points \( (x, y) \) on the boundary of the unit square for all \( t \geq 0 \). Prove that, if \( u \) and \( v \) are sufficiently differentiable, then the integral

\[
\phi(t) = \int_0^1 \int_0^1 [u(x, y, t) - v(x, y)]^2 \, dx \, dy, \quad t \geq 0,
\]

has the property \( \phi'(t) \leq 0 \). Then prove that \( \phi(t) \) tends to zero as \( t \to \infty \). [Hint: In the first part, try to replace \( u_{xx} \) and \( u_{yy} \) when they occur by \( u_{xx} - v_{xx} \) and \( u_{yy} - v_{yy} \) respectively.]

9. Let \( u(x, t) : \mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}^2 \) be a sufficiently differentiable function that satisfies the diffusion equation \( \nu_t = u_{xx} \) and let \( \theta \) be a positive constant. Using the notation \( \nu^n_m \approx u(mh, nk) \), where \( \mu = \frac{k}{(\Delta x)^2} = \frac{\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \) is constant, we consider the implicit finite-difference scheme

\[
u^n_{m+1} - \frac{1}{2} (\mu - \theta) (\nu^{n+1}_{m-1} - 2\nu^{n+1}_m + \nu^{n+1}_{m+1}) = \nu^n_m + \frac{1}{2} (\mu + \theta) (\nu^{n}_{m-1} - 2\nu^n_m + \nu^n_{m+1}).
\]

Show that its local error is \( O(h^4) \), unless \( \theta = \frac{1}{2} \) (the Crandall method), which makes the local error of order \( O(h^5) \). Is it possible for the order to be even higher?

10. The Crank-Nicolson formula is applied to the diffusion equation \( \nu_t = u_{xx} \) on a rectangular mesh \((mh, nk), 0 \leq m \leq M + 1, 0 \leq n \leq N \), where \( h = \Delta x = \frac{1}{M+1} \). We assume zero boundary conditions \( u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0 \) for all \( t \geq 0 \). Prove that the estimates \( u^n_m \approx u(mh, nk) \) satisfy the equation

\[
\sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( u^{n+1}_m - u^n_m \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} (\Delta t)^2 \sum_{m=1}^{M+1} \left( (u^{n+1}_{m+1} - u^n_{m+1}) + (u^n_{m+1} - u^{n+1}_m) \right)^2, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \ldots
\]

Because the right hand side is nonpositive, it follows that \( \sum_{m=1}^{M} (u^n_m)^2 \) is a monotonically decreasing function of \( n \). We see that this property is analogous to part of Exercise 8 if \( \nu \equiv 0 \) there. [Hint: Substitute the value of \( u^{n+1}_m - u^n_m \) that is given by the Crank-Nicolson formula into the elementary equation

\[
\sum_{m=1}^{M} \left( u^{n+1}_m - u^n_m \right)^2 = \sum_{m=1}^{M} (u^{n+1}_m - u^n_m) (u^{n+1}_m + u^n_m)
\]

and use \( u^{n+1}_m - 2u^n_m + u^n_{m-1} = (u^{n+1}_m - u^n_m) - (u^n_m - u^n_{m-1}). \) It is also helpful occasionally to change the index \( m \) of the summation by one.]
