

# Matrix-equation-based strategies for convection-diffusion equations

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# The convection-diffusion equation

Convection-diffusion equation:

$$-\epsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla u = f, \quad \text{in } \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$$

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Further assumptions:

- $\mathbf{w}$  separable coefficients, e.g., in 2D

$$\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2) = (\phi_1(x)\psi_1(y), \phi_2(x)\psi_2(y))$$

- $\Omega$  is a rectangle (parallelepipedal) domain



# Discretization phase

Discretizing by FEM or FD, we get the **nonsymmetric** linear system

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**REMARK:** The discretization step is crucial to avoid *spurious oscillations* in the numerical solution: **Refine the meshsize  $h \Rightarrow$  huge increase of  $N$**

Different strategies:

- Artificial diffusion
- SUPG
- ...



# A matrix-equation-based strategy

**AIM:** Preconditioning the very large and sparse nonsymmetric linear system

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \quad \text{where } A \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

with a “simplified” matrix version of the discretized differential operator



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[O. Axelsson, J. Karátson, 2003 and 2007], [R.C.Y. Chin, T.A. Manteuffel, J. De Pillis 1984],

[H.C. Elman, G.H. Golub, 1990], [H.C. Elman, M.H. Schultz, 1986], [T.A. Manteuffel, J. Otto, 1993],

[V. Simoncini, 1996], [G. Starke, 1991], [E.L. Wachspress, 1963 and 1984], ...





# A matrix oriented formulation

Poisson equation

$$-u_{xx} - u_{yy} = f, \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^2 \quad (\text{w/ zero Dirichlet b.c.})$$



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Discretize  $\Omega$  with a uniform mesh  $\Omega_h$  with nodes  $(x_i, y_j)$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, n-1$ . Define  $T, F \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$  such that

$$T = \frac{1}{h^2} \text{tridiag}(-1, \underline{2}, -1) \quad \text{and} \quad F_{i,j} = f(x_i, y_j)$$



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$$T = \frac{1}{h^2} \text{tridiag}(-1, \underline{2}, -1) \quad \text{and} \quad F_{i,j} = f(x_i, y_j)$$

Centered FD leads to the symmetric linear system

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \quad \mathbf{f} = \text{vec}(F)$$

where  $A = T \otimes I_{n-1} + I_{n-1} \otimes T \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1)^2 \times (n-1)^2}$



## A matrix oriented formulation

$U_{i,j} \approx u(x_i, y_j)$  at interior node  $(x_i, y_j)$

For each  $i, j = 1, \dots, n - 1,$

$$u_{xx}(x_i, y_j) \approx \frac{U_{i-1,j} - 2U_{i,j} + U_{i+1,j}}{h^2} = \frac{1}{h^2} [1, -2, 1] \begin{bmatrix} U_{i-1,j} \\ U_{i,j} \\ U_{i+1,j} \end{bmatrix}$$

and

$$u_{yy}(x_i, y_j) \approx \frac{U_{i,j-1} - 2U_{i,j} + U_{i,j+1}}{h^2} = \frac{1}{h^2} [U_{i,j-1}, U_{i,j}, U_{i,j+1}] \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -2 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



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$$TU + UT = F$$



A matrix oriented formulation,  $-\epsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla u = f$ 

Proposition. (2D case)

Assume  $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2) = (\phi_1(x)\psi_1(y), \phi_2(x)\psi_2(y))$ .

Let  $(x_i, y_j) \in \Omega_h$ ,  $i, j = 1, \dots, n-1$ , and set, for  $k = 1, 2$ ,

- $\Phi_k = \text{diag}(\phi_k(x_1), \dots, \phi_k(x_{n-1}))$
- $\Psi_k = \text{diag}(\psi_k(y_1), \dots, \psi_k(y_{n-1}))$

Then, the centered FD discretization of the continuous operator

$$\mathcal{L} : u \mapsto -\epsilon \Delta u + \phi_1(x)\psi_1(y)u_x + \phi_2(x)\psi_2(y)u_y$$

leads to the following operator:

$$\mathcal{L}_h : \mathbf{U} \mapsto \epsilon T \mathbf{U} + \epsilon \mathbf{U} T + (\Phi_1 B) \mathbf{U} \Psi_1 + \Phi_2 \mathbf{U} (B^T \Psi_2)$$

where

$$B = \frac{1}{2h} \text{tridiag}(-1, \mathbf{0}, 1) \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$$

The “easy” case:  $-\epsilon \Delta u + \phi_1(x) u_x + \psi_2(y) u_y = f$

$\mathbf{w} = (\phi_1(x), \psi_2(y))$  (common in academic examples!)



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$$\begin{array}{c} \Downarrow \\ \Psi_1 = \Phi_2 = I \end{array}$$





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↓

$$(\epsilon T + \Phi_1 B) \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{U} (\epsilon T + B^T \Psi_2) = F$$

This is a Sylvester equation that can be **explicitly** and **efficiently** solved!



# The general case: preconditioning strategy

$$\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2) = (\phi_1(x)\psi_1(y), \phi_2(x)\psi_2(y))$$

$$\mathcal{L}_h : \mathbf{U} \mapsto \epsilon T\mathbf{U} + \epsilon \mathbf{U}T + (\Phi_1 B)\mathbf{U}\Psi_1 + \Phi_2 \mathbf{U}(B^T \Psi_2)$$



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Approximating

$$\Psi_1 \approx \bar{\psi}_1 I, \quad \Phi_2 \approx \bar{\phi}_2 I, \quad \text{where, e.g., } \bar{\psi}_1, \bar{\phi}_2 \text{ mean values}$$



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Approximating

$$\Psi_1 \approx \bar{\psi}_1 I, \quad \Phi_2 \approx \bar{\phi}_2 I, \quad \text{where, e.g., } \bar{\psi}_1, \bar{\phi}_2 \text{ mean values}$$

$$\mathcal{P} : \mathbf{Y} \mapsto (\epsilon T + \bar{\psi}_1 \Phi_1 B) \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Y} (\epsilon T + \bar{\phi}_2 B^T \Psi_2)$$



# Implementation details

Nonsymmetric linear system:

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \quad A \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1)^2 \times (n-1)^2}$$

Solver: GMRES with right preconditioning.



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$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_k = \mathcal{P}^{-1}\mathbf{v}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1)^2}$$



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At each iteration  $k$ :

$$\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_k = \mathcal{P}^{-1}\mathbf{v}_k \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1)^2}$$

How to compute it?

- 1 Compute  $G_k \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}$  s.t.  $\mathbf{v}_k = \text{vec}(G_k)$
- 2 Solve  $(\epsilon T + \bar{\psi}_1 \Phi_1 B)\mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Y}(\epsilon T + B^T \bar{\phi}_2 \Psi_2) = G_k$
- 3 Compute  $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_k = \text{vec}(\mathbf{Y})$



# Implementation details

Sylvester equation:

$$(\epsilon T + \bar{\psi}_1 \Phi_1 B) \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Y} (\epsilon T + B^T \bar{\phi}_2 \Psi_2) = G_k$$

Solver: KPIK [v. Simoncini, 2007], [T. Breiten, V. Simoncini, M. Stoll, 2014].



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Observations:

- Inner: Inexact method  $\Rightarrow$  Outer: FGMRES
- rhs **must** be low rank: Truncated SVD of  $G_k$



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Three parameters:

- 1 inner tolerance: `tol_inner` =  $10^{-4}$
- 2 truncation tolerance: `tol_truncation` =  $10^{-2}$
- 3 maximum rank allowed: `r_max` = 10



## 3D case

To fix ideas:  $\Omega = (0, 1)^3$ .

$U_{i,j}^{(k)} \approx u(x_i, y_j, z_k)$ , and define the tall matrix\*

$$\mathbf{u} := \begin{bmatrix} U^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ U^{(n-1)} \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} (e_k \otimes U^{(k)}) \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1)^2 \times (n-1)}$$

where  $e_j = I(:, j)$ .

---

\*Other orderings are possible.

3D case:  $\mathcal{L} : u \mapsto -\epsilon \Delta u + w_1 u_x + w_2 u_y + w_3 u_z$

Proposition. (3D case)

Assume  $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, w_2, w_3)$  s.t.

- $w_1 = \phi_1(x)\psi_1(y)v_1(z)$
- $w_2 = \phi_2(x)\psi_2(y)v_2(z)$
- $w_3 = \phi_3(x)\psi_3(y)v_3(z)$

Let  $(x_i, y_j, z_k) \in \Omega_h$ ,  $i, j, k = 1, \dots, n-1$ , and set, for  $\ell = 1, 2, 3$ ,

- $\Phi_\ell = \text{diag}(\phi_\ell(x_1), \dots, \phi_\ell(x_{n-1}))$
- $\Psi_\ell = \text{diag}(\psi_\ell(y_1), \dots, \psi_\ell(y_{n-1}))$
- $\Upsilon_\ell = \text{diag}(v_\ell(z_1), \dots, v_\ell(z_{n-1}))$

Then, the centered FD discretization leads to the following operator:

$$\mathcal{L}_h : \mathbf{u} \mapsto (I \otimes \epsilon T) \mathbf{u} + \epsilon \mathbf{u} T + (\epsilon T \otimes I) \mathbf{u} + (\Upsilon_1 \otimes \Phi_1 B) \mathbf{u} \Psi_1 + (\Upsilon_2 \otimes \Phi_2) \mathbf{u} B^T \Psi_2 + [(\Upsilon_3 B) \otimes \Phi_3] \mathbf{u} \Psi_3$$

# Numerical experiments

Competitors on  $A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$ :

- GMRES+MI20<sup>†</sup>
- FGMRES+AGMG<sup>‡</sup>

**REMARK:** our preconditioner/solver is implemented in interpreted Matlab functions while both MI20 and AGMG are fortran90 compiled codes provided with mex files

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<sup>†</sup>`control.one_pass_coarsen=1`, [J. Boyle, M.D. Mihajlović, J.A. Scott, 2010]

<sup>‡</sup>all default parameters, [Y. Notay, 2010]

# Test 1. Explicit matrix solution (2D)

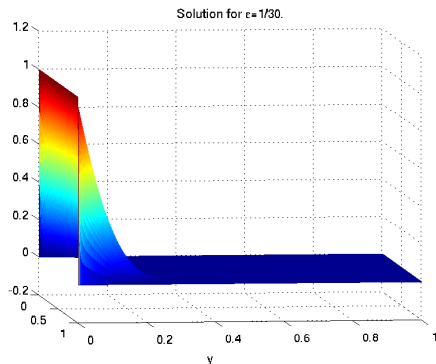
Consider

$$-\epsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla u = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^2$$

$$\mathbf{w} = \left( 1 + \frac{1}{4}(x+1)^2, 0 \right)$$

Dirichlet b.c.:

$$\begin{cases} u(x, 0) = 1 & x \in [0, 1], \\ u(x, 1) = 0 & x \in [0, 1]. \end{cases}$$





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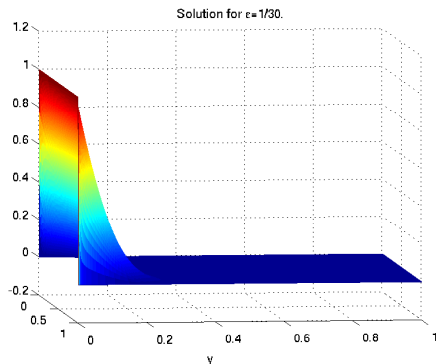
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$$(\epsilon T + \Phi_1 B) \mathbf{U} + \epsilon \mathbf{U} T = F$$



## Test 1. Explicit matrix solution (2D)

$\epsilon$	$n_x$	FGMRES+AGMG time (# its)	GMRES+MI20 time (# its)	KPIK time (# its)
0.0333	129	<b>0.1649</b> (13)	0.2843 ( 7)	0.2131 (24)
0.0333	257	0.3874 (15)	0.5715 ( 8)	<b>0.2817</b> (32)
0.0333	1025	11.4918 (20)	8.4540 ( 8)	<b>1.5002</b> (44)
0.0333	1200	12.5441 (17)	8.7843 ( 7)	<b>1.9722</b> (46)
0.0167	129	0.2150 (14)	0.2750 ( 7)	<b>0.1638</b> (22)
0.0167	257	0.4356 (14)	0.6533 ( 9)	<b>0.3628</b> (32)
0.0167	513	2.0712 (15)	2.2171 ( 9)	<b>0.6324</b> (38)
0.0167	1025	11.5428 (18)	8.0454 ( 8)	<b>2.8454</b> (64)
0.0167	1200	13.2109 (18)	9.5501 ( 8)	<b>2.1961</b> (52)
0.0083	129	0.1501 (14)	0.2685 (10)	<b>0.1394</b> (22)
0.0083	257	0.3651 (15)	0.5871 ( 8)	<b>0.2885</b> (34)
0.0083	513	1.6615 (14)	2.1814 (10)	<b>0.5439</b> (42)
0.0083	1025	10.0859 (18)	10.6729 (11)	<b>2.7800</b> (66)
0.0083	1200	14.4866 (18)	11.0856 ( 9)	<b>2.8459</b> (58)

Table : Test 1 (2D). Performance achieved as the viscosity and mesh parameter vary.  
 $\text{tol\_outer} = 10^{-8}$ .

# Test 2<sup>†</sup>. Preconditioning strategy (2D)

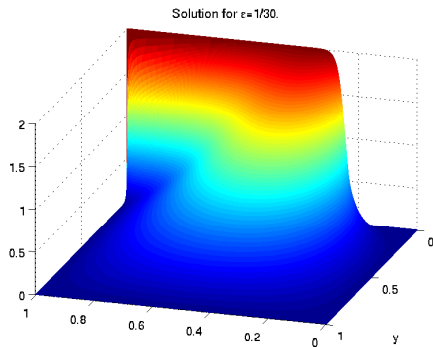
Consider

$$-\epsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla u = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^2$$

$$\mathbf{w} = (y(1 - (2x + 1)^2), -2(2x + 1)(1 - y^2))$$

Zero Dirichlet b.c. except for the side  $y = 0$ :

$$\begin{cases} u(x, 0) = 1 + \tanh[10 + 20(2x - 1)], & 0 \leq x \leq 0.5 \\ u(x, 0) = 2, & 0.5 < x \leq 1 \end{cases}$$



<sup>†</sup>slightly modification of Example V in [H.C. Elman, A. Ramage, 2002].

## Test 2. Preconditioning strategy (2D)

$\epsilon$	$n_x$	FGMRES+AGMG time (# its)	GMRES+MI20 time (# its)	FGMRES+KPIK time (# its)
0.1000	128	<b>0.1081</b> (11)	0.1989 (4)	0.5743 (8)
0.1000	256	<b>0.3335</b> (14)	0.3812 (4)	0.5351 (7)
0.1000	512	1.0773 (11)	1.1731 (4)	<b>1.0543</b> (7)
0.1000	1024	9.2493 (17)	4.3287 (4)	<b>2.6372</b> (6)
0.1000	2048	52.0430 (15)	19.6757 (4)	<b>16.7394</b> (5)
0.0500	128	<b>0.0936</b> (9)	0.2269 (4)	0.5168 (10)
0.0500	256	<b>0.2897</b> (12)	0.3862 (4)	0.6455 (9)
0.0500	512	1.2603 (11)	1.2380 (4)	<b>1.1769</b> (8)
0.0500	1024	10.3623 (18)	4.3345 (4)	<b>3.0812</b> (7)
0.0500	2048	60.5041 (17)	20.4056 (4)	<b>14.9237</b> (6)
0.0333	128	<b>0.0882</b> (8)	0.2368 (4)	0.6428 (11)
0.0333	256	<b>0.2181</b> (9)	0.4218 (4)	0.8149 (11)
0.0333	512	1.5849 (14)	<b>1.1977</b> (4)	1.3786 (9)
0.0333	1024	5.4624 (12)	4.4130 (4)	<b>3.7214</b> (8)
0.0333	2048	120.9686 (23)	20.1120 (4)	<b>17.9188</b> (7)

Table : Test 2 (2D). Performance achieved as the viscosity and mesh parameter vary.  $\text{tol\_outer} = 10^{-6}$



## Test 3. Explicit matrix solution (3D)

Consider

$$-\epsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla u = 1, \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^3$$

$$\mathbf{w} = (x \sin x, y \cos y, e^{z^2-1})$$

Zero Dirichlet b.c.



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Zero Dirichlet b.c.

$$[I \otimes (\epsilon T + \Phi_1 B) + (\epsilon T + \Psi_2 B)^T \otimes I] \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} (\epsilon T + B \Upsilon_3) = \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  is the vector of all ones

**REMARK:** low rank rhs in the matrix equation is crucial for explicit solution!



## Test 3. Explicit matrix solution (3D)

$\epsilon$	$n_x$	FGMRES+AGMG time (# its)	GMRES+MI20 time (# its)	KPIK time (# its)
0.0050	60	1.1250 (14)	1.8022 ( 7)	<b>0.1734</b> (18)
0.0050	70	2.0385 (14)	3.4253 ( 7)	<b>0.2326</b> (20)
0.0050	80	3.4803 (14)	4.4297 ( 7)	<b>0.3583</b> (20)
0.0050	90	5.7324 (15)	6.8705 ( 7)	<b>0.4999</b> (22)
0.0050	100	8.0207 (15)	9.7207 ( 7)	<b>0.5677</b> (22)
0.0010	60	1.3011 (14)	1.7854 ( 7)	<b>0.2386</b> (18)
0.0010	70	1.9509 (14)	2.7829 ( 7)	<b>0.2346</b> (20)
0.0010	80	3.5291 (14)	4.6576 ( 7)	<b>0.4096</b> (20)
0.0010	90	5.1344 (14)	6.8176 ( 7)	<b>0.4253</b> (22)
0.0010	100	7.6815 (14)	9.4935 ( 7)	<b>0.5446</b> (22)
0.0005	60	1.2560 (14)	1.7341 ( 6)	<b>0.2314</b> (18)
0.0005	70	2.2242 (14)	2.9667 ( 7)	<b>0.2301</b> (20)
0.0005	80	3.4558 (14)	4.5964 ( 7)	<b>0.3472</b> (22)
0.0005	90	4.8076 (14)	6.4841 ( 7)	<b>0.4257</b> (22)
0.0005	100	7.3914 (14)	9.6274 ( 7)	<b>0.5927</b> (24)

Table : Test 3 (3D). Performance achieved as the viscosity and mesh parameter vary.  $\text{tol}_{\text{outer}} = 10^{-9}$



## Test 4. Preconditioning strategy (3D)

Consider

$$-\epsilon \Delta u + \mathbf{w} \cdot \nabla u = 1, \quad \text{in } \Omega = (0, 1)^3$$

$$\mathbf{w} = (yz(1 - x^2), 0, e^z)$$

Zero Dirichlet b.c.

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<sup>‡</sup>Other variable aggregations are possible.



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The discretization yields<sup>‡</sup>

$$\epsilon T \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}(I \otimes \epsilon T + \epsilon T \otimes I) + \Upsilon_3 B \mathbf{u} + \Upsilon_1 \mathbf{u}(\Psi_1 \otimes \Phi_1 B) = \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  is the vector of all ones

---

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The discretization yields<sup>‡</sup>

$$\epsilon T \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}(I \otimes \epsilon T + \epsilon T \otimes I) + \Upsilon_3 B \mathbf{u} + \Upsilon_1 \mathbf{u}(\Psi_1 \otimes \Phi_1 B) = \mathbf{1} \mathbf{1}^T$$

where  $\mathbf{1}$  is the vector of all ones

$\Upsilon_1 \approx \bar{v}_1 I$  and obtain the preconditioning operator

$$\mathcal{P} : \mathbf{Y} \mapsto (\epsilon T + \Upsilon_3 B) \mathbf{Y} + \mathbf{Y}(I \otimes \epsilon T + \epsilon T \otimes I + \Psi_1 \otimes \bar{v}_1 \Phi_1 B)$$

<sup>‡</sup>Other variable aggregations are possible.

## Test 4. Preconditioning strategy (3D)

$\epsilon$	$n_x$	FGMRES+AGMG	GMRES+MI20	FGMRES+KPIK
0.5000	60	1.2095 (15)	1.8236 (7)	<b>1.2027</b> (6)
0.5000	70	2.1041 (15)	3.1649 (7)	<b>1.6585</b> (6)
0.5000	80	3.7370 (16)	4.9765 (7)	<b>2.4943</b> (6)
0.5000	90	7.5874 (16)	9.2040 (8)	<b>3.2513</b> (6)
0.5000	100	7.7626 (16)	11.9912 (8)	<b>4.7548</b> (6)
0.1000	60	2.1310 (18)	- (-)	<b>1.5299</b> (8)
0.1000	70	2.8043 (18)	- (-)	<b>1.8926</b> (8)
0.1000	80	5.1219 (19)	- (-)	<b>3.2928</b> (9)
0.1000	90	7.3179 (19)	- (-)	<b>4.6429</b> (9)
0.1000	100	9.5759 (19)	- (-)	<b>6.5590</b> (9)
0.0500	60	1.4318 (18)	- (-)	<b>1.7296</b> (10)
0.0500	70	2.8427 (19)	- (-)	<b>2.5215</b> (10)
0.0500	80	4.9616 (20)	- (-)	<b>3.6615</b> (10)
0.0500	90	7.1038 (20)	- (-)	<b>5.0098</b> (10)
0.0500	100	10.7181 (21)	- (-)	<b>6.8661</b> (10)

Table : Test 4 (3D). Performance achieved as the viscosity and mesh parameter vary.

"-" stands for excessive time in building the preconditioner.  $\text{tol\_outer} = 10^{-9}$ .

# Conclusions and outlook

- Preliminary numerical experiments show that the new approach performs comparably well with respect to state-of-the-art approaches.
- Generalize the approach to more general settings overcoming the limitation to the use of uniform mesh on rectangle (parallelepipedal) domains.
- Modify the approach to handle different discretization strategies, e.g., SUPG (early attempts in [D.P., 2014, Master's thesis]).

## Reference:

*Matrix-equation-based strategies for convection-diffusion equations*

D. Palitta and V. Simoncini

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