

Matrix-equation-based strategies for convection-diffusion equations

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The convection-diffusion equation

Convection-diffusion equation:

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

with $d = 2, 3$, $\epsilon > 0$ (*viscosity parameter*), $\mathbf{w} \in \mathbb{R}^d$ (*convection vector*)



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Further assumptions:

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

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

- Ω 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



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 Ω with a uniform mesh Ω_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

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



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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

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

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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$$\Psi_1 = \Phi_2 = I$$



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



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$$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \Psi_1 = \Phi_2 = I \\ \downarrow \\ \epsilon T \mathbf{U} + \epsilon \mathbf{U} T + (\Phi_1 B) \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{U}(B^T \Psi_2) = F \\ \downarrow \\ (\epsilon T + \Phi_1 B) \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{U}(\epsilon T + B^T \Psi_2) = F \end{array}$$

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

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



The general case: preconditioning strategy

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

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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.



Implementation details

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At each iteration k :

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



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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:

- ❶ inner tolerance: `tol_inner=10-4`
- ❷ truncation tolerance: `tol_truncation=10-2`
- ❸ 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.



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

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:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{L}_h : \mathcal{U} &\mapsto (I \otimes \epsilon T) \mathcal{U} + \epsilon \mathcal{U} T + (\epsilon T \otimes I) \mathcal{U} + (\Upsilon_1 \otimes \Phi_1 B) \mathcal{U} \Psi_1 + \\ &\quad (\Upsilon_2 \otimes \Phi_2) \mathcal{U} B^T \Psi_2 + [(\Upsilon_3 B) \otimes \Phi_3] \mathcal{U} \Psi_3 \end{aligned}$$

Numerical experiments

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

- GMRES+MI20[†]
- FGMRES+AGMG[‡]

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

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

[‡]all default parameters, [Y. Notay, 2010]

Test 1. Explicit matrix solution (2D)

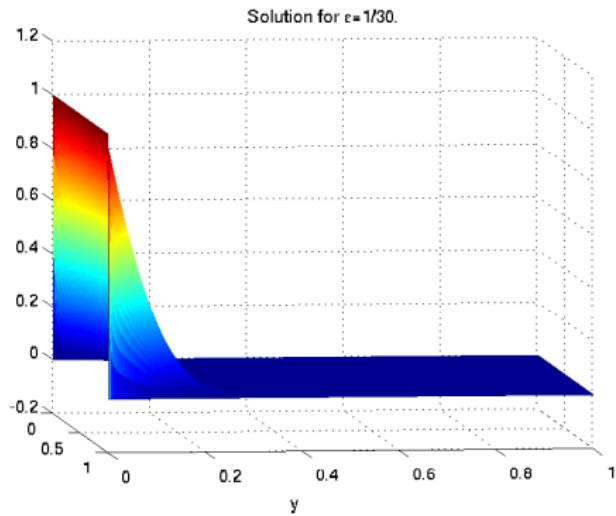
Consider

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

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

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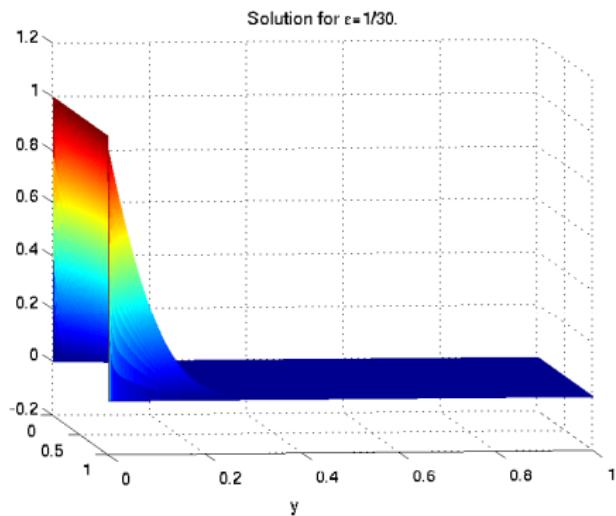
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$$\begin{cases} u(x, 0) = 1 & x \in [0, 1], \\ u(x, 1) = 0 & x \in [0, 1]. \end{cases}$$



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

Test 1. Explicit matrix solution (2D)

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

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

Test 2[†]. Preconditioning strategy (2D)

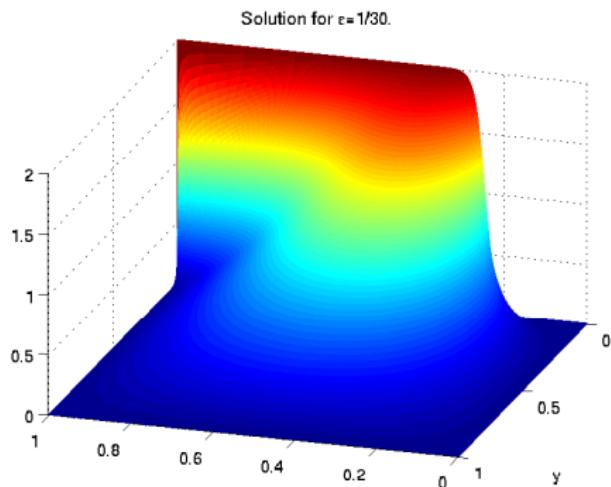
Consider

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

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

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

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



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

Test 2. Preconditioning strategy (2D)

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



Test 3. Explicit matrix solution (3D)

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

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

Zero Dirichlet b.c.

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

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)

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

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

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.

[‡]Other variable aggregations are possible.



Test 4. Preconditioning strategy (3D)

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

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Zero Dirichlet b.c.

The discretization yields[‡]

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

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

[‡]Other variable aggregations are possible.



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Zero Dirichlet b.c.

The discretization yields[‡]

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

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

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

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

[‡]Other variable aggregations are possible.



Test 4. Preconditioning strategy (3D)

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

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