

# Solving nonlinear PDEs using RBF-FD

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# Nonlinear time-dependent PDEs

Consider the following general form of nonlinear time-dependent PDE problem:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t} = \mathcal{D}u(\mathbf{x}, t) + f(\mathbf{x}, t, u(\mathbf{x}, t)), & \mathbf{x} \in \Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \\ \mathcal{B}u(\mathbf{x}, t) = g(\mathbf{x}, t, u(\mathbf{x}, t)), & \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega, \\ u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = u^0(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \Omega \cup \partial\Omega, \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathcal{D}$  is a nonlinear partial differential operator and  $\mathcal{B}$  is the boundary differential operator,  $f, g$ , and  $u^0$  are known linear or nonlinear functions,  $\Omega$  is a computational domain, and  $\partial\Omega$  is the boundary of  $\Omega$ .

# Nonlinear time-dependent PDEs (Cont'd)

## FDM in time:

- **Time-space** is discretized by the **Implicit Time Stepping** method:

$$\frac{\partial u(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t} \approx \frac{u(\mathbf{x}, t) - u(\mathbf{x}, t_0)}{h} = \mathcal{D}u(\mathbf{x}, t) + f(\mathbf{x}, t, u(\mathbf{x}, t)). \quad (2)$$

where  $t = t_0 + h$  and  $h$  is the time step size.

Rearranging (2) and rewriting the boundary condition at  $t$ , gives

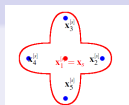
$$\begin{cases} h\mathcal{D}u(\mathbf{x}, t) - u(\mathbf{x}, t) + u(\mathbf{x}, t_0) + hf(\mathbf{x}, t, u(\mathbf{x}, t)) = 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \\ \mathcal{B}u(\mathbf{x}, t) - g(\mathbf{x}, t, u(\mathbf{x}, t)) = 0, & \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \end{cases} \quad (3)$$

This is a nonlinear elliptic PDE, where  $u(\mathbf{x}, t)$  is the unknown function. We will use the localized implicit method of approximated particular solutions (LMAPS) to find it. It actually is almost the same as RBF-FD.

# Nonlinear time-dependent PDEs (Cont'd)

General elliptic equations:

$$\begin{cases} \tilde{\mathcal{D}}u(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \\ \tilde{\mathcal{B}}u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

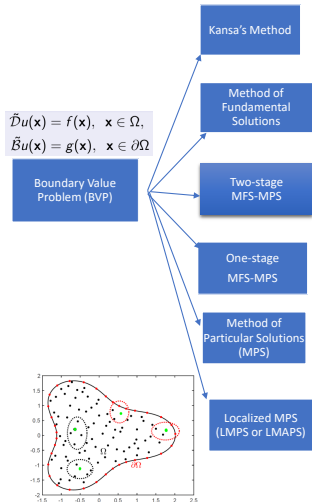


- **Spatial-space** is discretized by the **LMAPS (RBF-FD)** using polyharmonic splines together with the polynomial bases.

- Collocation technique:

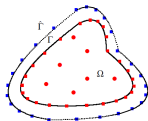
$$\begin{bmatrix} \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_1^{[s]}) \\ \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_2^{[s]}) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_n^{[s]}) \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_1^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_1^{[s]}\|) & \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_1^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_2^{[s]}\|) & \cdots & \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_1^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_n^{[s]}\|) & 1 & x_1 & y_1 \\ \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_2^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_1^{[s]}\|) & \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_2^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_2^{[s]}\|) & \cdots & \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_2^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_n^{[s]}\|) & 1 & x_2 & y_2 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_n^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_1^{[s]}\|) & \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_n^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_2^{[s]}\|) & \cdots & \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_n^{[s]} - \mathbf{x}_n^{[s]}\|) & 1 & x_n & y_n \\ 1 & 1 & \cdots & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ x_1 & x_2 & \cdots & x_n & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ y_1 & y_2 & \cdots & y_n & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_1^{[s]} \\ \alpha_2^{[s]} \\ \vdots \\ \alpha_n^{[s]} \\ \alpha_{n+1}^{[s]} \\ \alpha_{n+2}^{[s]} \\ \alpha_{n+3}^{[s]} \end{bmatrix}$$

# History of LMAPS, really it is just RBF-FD



$$\hat{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j\|)$$

$$\hat{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^m \alpha_j G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}_j^*)$$



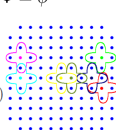
$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{D}G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) &= \delta(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) \\ \tilde{B}u(\mathbf{x}) &= g(\mathbf{x}) \end{aligned}$$

$$u = u_h + u_p$$

$$\hat{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^{N_i} \alpha_j \Phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j\|) + \sum_{l=1}^{N_b} \beta_l G(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_l^*\|)$$

$$\hat{u}(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^N \alpha_j \Phi(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_j\|) \quad \tilde{D}\Phi = \phi$$

$$u(\mathbf{x}_s) \approx \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_s) = \sum_{k=1}^n \alpha_k^{[s]} \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_s - \mathbf{x}_k^{[s]}\|)$$



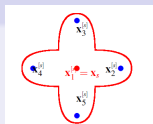
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{z}(\mathbf{x}_n) \\ \mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{x}_{n+1}) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{Y}(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_n) \\ \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_{n+1}) \\ \vdots \\ \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f(\mathbf{x}_1) \\ \vdots \\ f(\mathbf{x}_n) \\ g(\mathbf{x}_{n+1}) \\ \vdots \\ g(\mathbf{x}_N) \end{bmatrix}$$

# LMAPS for Elliptic Equations

General Elliptic Equations:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{D}}u(\mathbf{x}) = f(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \Omega, \quad (5)$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{B}}u(\mathbf{x}) = g(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega \quad (6)$$



LMAPS using PH of order  $k$  and polynomials of order  $m$ :

$$u(\mathbf{x}_i) \approx \hat{u}(\mathbf{x}_i) = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j \Phi(\|\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j^{[i]}\|) + \sum_{l=1}^w \alpha_{n+l} p_l(\mathbf{x}_i); \quad \mathbf{x}_i \in \Omega. \quad (7)$$

Collocation in local domains:  $u(\mathbf{x}) = \Phi\alpha \Rightarrow \mathbf{u} = \Phi\alpha \Rightarrow \alpha = \Phi^{-1}\mathbf{u}$

Differentiation of unknowns:

$$\tilde{\mathcal{D}}u(\mathbf{x}) = \tilde{\mathcal{D}}\Phi(\mathbf{x})\Phi^{-1}\mathbf{u} \quad (8)$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{B}}u(\mathbf{x}) = \tilde{\mathcal{B}}\Phi(\mathbf{x})\Phi^{-1}\mathbf{u} \quad (9)$$

# LMAPS for Elliptic Equations

Discretized **linear** elliptic equations in matrix-vector form:

$$\mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad (10)$$

where  $\mathbf{A}$  is a global sparse matrix,  $\mathbf{u}$  is the unknown solution of the given elliptic equation at a set of evaluation points of interests. This can be solved by a sparse system solver. Note that this is similar to what so called RBF-FD scheme.

Discretized **nonlinear** elliptic equations in matrix-vector form:

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{b}. \quad (11)$$

This is a system of nonlinear algebraic equations, which can be solved by nonlinear solver for system of equations, such as Picard method or Newton-Raphson method.

# Example 1 – Interpolation of Franke's Functions

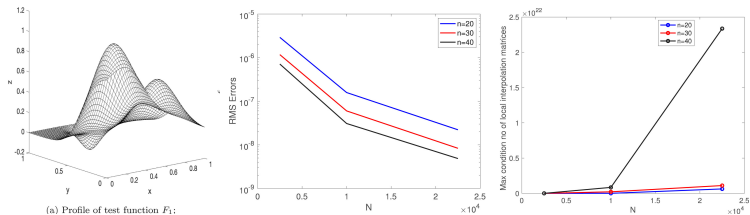


Figure 1: Left:  $F_1$ ; Middle: RMS errors vs total number of interpolation points; Right: maximum condition number of local matrices with order of PH  $k = 4$ , and order of polynomials  $m = 3$ .

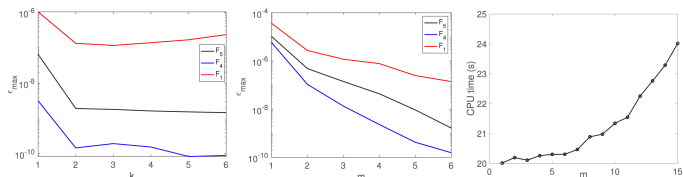


Figure 2:  $N = 100^2$ ,  $N_t = 9000$ ,  $n = 30$ . Left:  $m = 6$ ; Middle:  $k = 4$ ; Right: CPU time.



## Example 2 – Nonlinear Elliptic

Nonlinear elliptic equation with mixed BCs:

$$\Delta u(x, y) + y \cos(y) \frac{\partial u(x, y)}{\partial x} - x \sin(x) \frac{\partial u(x, y)}{\partial y} + u^2(x, y) = f(x, y)$$

$$u(x, y) = g(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \partial\Omega^D,$$

$$\frac{\partial u(x, y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = h(x, y), \quad (x, y) \in \partial\Omega^N,$$

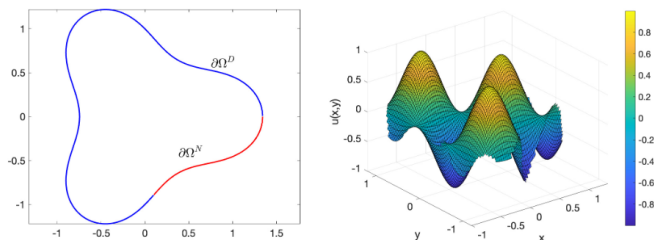


Figure 3: Left: domain; Right: analytical solution.

## Example 2 – Nonlinear Elliptic (Cont'd)

Table 5. Example [4.4](#): Comparison of  $\epsilon_{\text{rms}}$ ,  $\epsilon_{\infty}$  using ILMAPS with PHS and LMAPS with PBF for different order of polynomial basis with  $n_i = 14,350$ ,  $n_b = 400$ .

$m$	LMAPS with PHS		LMAPS with PBF <a href="#">[Dangal et al. (2021)]</a>	
	$\epsilon_{\text{rms}}$	$\epsilon_{\infty}$	$\epsilon_{\text{rms}}$	$\epsilon_{\infty}$
3	9.915E-07	2.406E-06	2.96E-03	2.73E-02
4	8.324E-08	2.785E-07	5.34E-04	2.91E-03
5	6.426E-08	1.670E-07	7.70E-06	6.19E-05
6	2.605E-09	3.924E-08	5.77E-06	5.53E-05

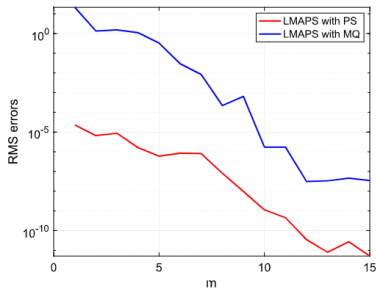
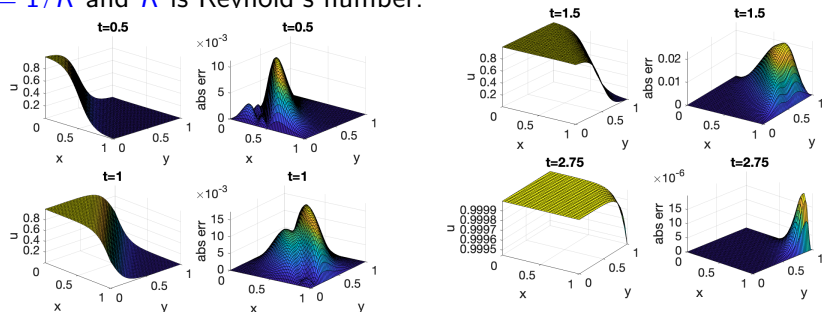


Figure 4:  $N_i = 6830$ ,  $N_b = 400$ ,  $n = 150$ ,  $k = 4$ .

## Example 3 – Nonlinear Burger's equation:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + uu_x + uu_y = \alpha \Delta u, \quad (x, y) \in \Omega, \quad (12)$$

where  $\Omega = [0, 1]^2$  and initial and Dirichlet boundary conditions are obtained using the exact solution  $u(x, y, t) = 1/(1 + e^{(x+y-t)/2\alpha})$ , where  $\alpha = 1/R$  and  $R$  is Reynold's number.



Profiles of the analytical solutions and the absolute errors at  $t = 0.5, 1, 1.5,$  and  $2.75$  computed with  $k = 2, m = 2,$  and  $n = 9$  and  $R = 10$ .

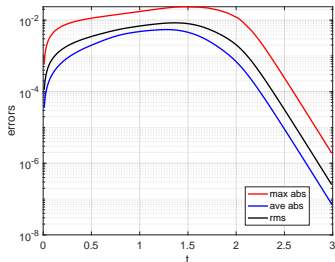


Figure 5: The errors as functions of time when  $31 \times 31$  uniformly distributed nodes are used. Note that  $\Delta t = 0.01$ ,  $k = 2$ ,  $m = 2$  and  $n = 9$ .

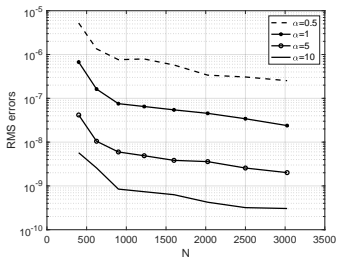


Figure 6: The rate of convergence with respect to  $N$  for various  $\alpha$  when time  $t = 3$ .

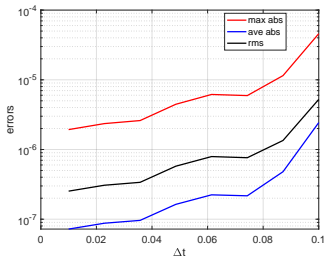


Figure 7: The rate of convergence with respect to  $\Delta t$  when time  $t = 3$ .

# Conclusion

- The localized interpolation methods based on polyharmonic splines have been found to be **highly accurate**.
- **High efficiency** of ILMAPS when coupled with the Picard method for solving nonlinear elliptic and parabolic PDEs in both 2D and 3D.
- The method's benefits include using **shape parameter-free** polyharmonic splines and can **improve accuracy** through **more points in local domains** and **higher-order polynomial basis functions** combined with PHS.
- **Ill-conditioning problem** with small interpolation matrices – pre-conditioning needed?
- **Me not be too lazy** – work on RBF+nonlinear solver with high Reynold's number.



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*Thank You!*



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