

Exercise 5, problem 2 (Q, ch. 5, ex. 2)

Problem:

(1) $u_t - (\alpha u_x)_x - \beta u = 0$ on $0 < x < 1, t > 0$

$u = u_0(x)$ for $t = 0$

$u = \eta$ for $x = 0$

$\alpha u_x + \gamma u = 0$ for $x = 1$

Parameters: $\alpha = \alpha(x), \beta, \gamma, \eta \in \mathbb{R}$ (constants), $\beta > 0$

For simplicity, I assume $\eta = 0$ in the following. The generalization to $\eta \neq 0$ is trivial, and left to you.

a) Weak formulation:

For each $t > 0$ find $u(t) \in V$ s.t.

$$\int_0^1 u_t \cdot v \, dx + a(u(t), v) = 0, \quad \forall v \in V$$

where $V = \{v \in H^1(0,1); v(0) = 0\}$

and

$$a(u, v) = \int_0^1 \alpha \cdot u_x \cdot v_x \, dx - \beta \int_0^1 u \cdot v \, dx + \gamma u(1) \cdot v(1)$$

and with $u(0) = u_0$.

This has a unique solution (Q, p. 120-121) if

$u_0 \in L^2(\Omega)$ and a is bilinear, continuous and weakly coercive:

Bilinear: Obvious

Continuous: $\exists M > 0$ s.t. $|a(u, v)| \leq M \cdot \|u\|_V \cdot \|v\|_V, \forall u, v \in V$

We have

$$|a(u, v)| \leq \left| \int_0^1 \alpha u_x v_x \, dx \right| + |\beta| \left| \int_0^1 u \cdot v \, dx \right| + |\gamma| \cdot |u(1)| \cdot |v(1)|$$

Here, let $\alpha_1 = \max_{0 < x < 1} |\alpha(x)|$

$$\left| \int_0^1 \alpha u_x v_x \, dx \right| \leq \alpha_1 \cdot \left| \int_0^1 u_x \cdot v_x \, dx \right| \leq \alpha_1 \cdot \left(\int_0^1 u_x^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2} \cdot \left(\int_0^1 v_x^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2} \leq \alpha_1 \cdot \|u\|_V \cdot \|v\|_V$$

similarly: $\left| \int_0^1 u \cdot v \, dx \right| \leq \|u\|_V \cdot \|v\|_V$

And $|u(1)| = \left| \int_0^1 u_x \cdot 1 \, dx \right| \leq \left(\int_0^1 u_x^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2} \left(\int_0^1 1^2 \, dx \right)^{1/2} \leq \|u\|_V$

using $u(0) = 0$.

We conclude that

$$|a(u, v)| \leq (\alpha_0 + |\beta| + \gamma) \cdot \|u\|_V \cdot \|v\|_V, \quad \forall u, v \in V$$

if $|\alpha| < \alpha_0$ ($\alpha \in L^\infty(0, 1)$)

Weak coercivity: We assume that $\alpha \geq \alpha_0 > 0$, on $(0, 1)$ and $\gamma > 0$. Then

$$\begin{aligned}
 a(v, v) &= \int_0^1 \alpha v_x^2 dx - \beta \int_0^1 v^2 dx + \gamma v(1)^2 \\
 &\geq \alpha_0 \int_0^1 v_x^2 dx - \beta \int_0^1 v^2 dx \\
 &= \alpha_0 \int_0^1 (v_x^2 + v^2) dx - (\alpha_0 + \beta) \int_0^1 v^2 dx \\
 &= \alpha_0 \|v\|_V^2 - (\alpha_0 + \beta) \|v\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus by choosing $\lambda > \alpha_0 + \beta$ the weak coercivity condition is proved satisfied, and we have a unique solution.

~~b) The semi-discrete problem is now~~

b) The semidiscrete problem is

$$\int \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_n \cdot v_n dx + a(u_n, v_n) = 0, \quad \forall v_n \in V_n$$

and $u_n = u_n(t)$.

let $v_n = u_n(t)$ (for a fixed t). Then

$$\int \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_n u_n dx = \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \|u_n\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2$$

Further

$$a(u_n, u_n) = \int_0^1 \alpha u_{n,x}^2 dx - \beta \int_0^1 u_n^2 dx + \gamma u_{n+1}^2$$

assuming Lagrangian basis functions,

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{so } \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \|u_n\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2 + \alpha_0 \|u_{n,x}\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2 &\leq \beta \cdot \|u_n\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 - \gamma u_{n+1}^2 \\
 &\leq \beta \|u_n\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 \quad \text{if } \gamma \geq 0
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $\alpha_0 \|u_{n,x}\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2 > 0$ we get

$$\|u_n(t)\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2 \leq \|u_n(0)\|_{L^2(0,1)}^2 \cdot e^{2\beta t}, \quad t \geq 0$$

(There may be better solutions!)

c) Let $u_n(t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N+1} u_i(t) \cdot \varphi_i(x)$

Then the discrete formulation is

$$M \frac{\partial \underline{u}}{\partial t} + A \underline{u} - \beta M \underline{u} = 0$$

where $M_{ij} = \int_0^1 \varphi_i \varphi_j dx$, $A_{ij} = \int_0^1 a(x) \varphi_{i,x} \varphi_{j,x} dx$

The explicit Euler is now

$$M \frac{\underline{u}^{k+1} - \underline{u}^k}{\Delta t} + A \underline{u}^k - \beta M \underline{u}^k = 0$$

or $(I - \beta M^{-1} A) \underline{u}^{k+1} = \underline{u}^k$

$$T \underline{u}^{k+1} = \underline{u}^k - \Delta t M^{-1} A \underline{u}^k + \Delta t \beta \underline{u}^k = C \cdot \underline{u}^k$$

We have not really discussed stability in this case. Since $\beta > 0$, we assume some growth. In fact, we will assume this to be stable if

$$|\lambda(C)| \leq 1 + \Delta t \cdot \alpha \quad \text{for some } \alpha > 0.$$

And this is true if $0 < \Delta t \leq 2\alpha^{-1}$.

where α_i are the eigenvalues of $M^{-1}A$, and $\alpha = \beta$.