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AKNUM: Non-local operators

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About me

- studied at TU Wien (PhD 2015)
- since 2021 permanent at ASC TU Wien (senior scientist)
- **research focus**: numerical analysis of PDEs, non-local operators
- **teaching**: lectures for mathematicians (numerics, analysis), CSE
 - ▶ **special lectures**: numerics on quantum computers, non-local operators, hierarchical matrices

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Formalities

Lecture

- 2 academic hours = 1h30 per week
- date: Wednesday 13:15-14:45
 - ▶ room: small seminar room DA04G10 (Freihaus, 4th floor green, inside the institute)
- lecture notes on my website (will be updated)
 - ▶ <https://www.tuwien.at/mg/asc/faustmann/lehre/nichtlokale-operatoren>
- oral exam: write me an email for date

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Assumed Knowledge

Course is in the curriculum

- Technical Mathematics (066 394), [elective](#), [AKNUM catalogue](#)

It is assumed that the hearer has basic knowledge on

- [Finite element methods](#) (e.g. done in Numerics of partial differential equations: stationary problems – 101.506)
- PDE analysis (e.g. done in Partial Differential Equations – 101.803)
- [Numerical integration](#) (e.g. done in Numerical analysis – 101.320)

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Contents of the lecture

Local Operators

Local operators - definition

X, Y ... function spaces of functions $u : \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$\mathcal{A} : X \rightarrow Y$ is **local**, if for $u \in X$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$

$$(\mathcal{A}u)(x) \quad \text{only depends on values} \quad u|_{B_\varepsilon(x)} \quad \forall \varepsilon > 0$$

Example: differential operators, e.g. Laplacian on $X = C^2(\mathbb{R}^d)$

$$\Delta u(x) := \sum_{i=1}^d \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_i^2} u(x)$$

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Non-local Operators

Non-local operators

$\mathcal{A} : X \rightarrow Y$ is **non-local**, if definition of local (prev. slide) does not hold.

In other words: $(\mathcal{A}u)(x)$ does not only depend on values of u close to x .

Toy example: integral operator on $X = L^2(0, 1)$, $x \in (0, 1)$ arbitrary

$$\mathcal{A}u(x) := \int_0^1 (x - y)u(y) dy$$

here: computation of $\mathcal{A}u(x)$ needs **all values** $u(y)$ for $y \in (0, 1)$, support of $\mathcal{A}u$ is $[0, 1]$!

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Non-local Operators - Examples

- The Fourier transform

$$\mathcal{F}(f)(\zeta) := \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t) e^{-i\zeta t} dt$$



- Physics examples: gravity, quantum entanglement, Coulomb potentials, ...
- This lecture: singular integral operators of convolution type

$$Au(x) := \int k(x-y)u(y) dy, \quad k \dots \text{kernel fct., singular for } x = y$$

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Integral Operators of Convolution Type - Example 1

Reformulation of PDE on unbounded domain (very difficult for FEM only!)

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta u &= f && \text{in } \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \Omega \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} &= g && \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{aligned}$$

Green's formula \implies representation formula for solution

$$u(x) = \tilde{N}f(x) + \tilde{V}\partial_n u(x) - \tilde{K}g(x) \quad \text{for } x \in \Omega,$$

with non-local operators Newton, single-layer, double-layer potential ($G \dots$ fundamental sol.)

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{N}f(x) &= \int_{\Omega} G(x, y) f(y) dy && \tilde{V}\phi(x) := \int_{\partial\Omega} G(x, y) \phi(y) ds_y \\ \tilde{K}g(x) &:= \int_{\partial\Omega} \frac{\partial}{\partial n_y} G(x, y) g(y) ds_y \end{aligned}$$

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Unknowns: u (in Ω) and $\partial_n u$ (normal derivative on $\partial\Omega$)

Solution: Take traces \implies only unknown $\phi := \partial_n u$ (operators are traces of $\tilde{N}, \tilde{V}, \tilde{K}$)

$$g(x) = N_0 f(x) + V\phi(x) - (K - 1/2)g(x) \quad \text{for } x \in \partial\Omega$$

Can be solved with Galerkin method ("boundary element method" – BEM)

Advantage: equation posed on $\partial\Omega$ (bounded!!)

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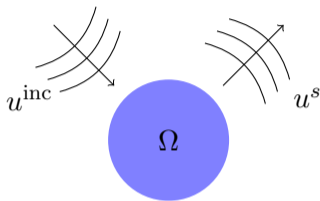
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Wave Scattering

Problem: Send wave $u^{\text{inc}}(x) = e^{ikx}$ onto object Ω – compute the scattered wave u^s



PDE for $u = u^{\text{inc}} + u^s$: Helmholtz equation + Sommerfeld radiation condition

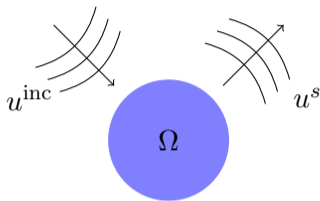
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta u + k^2 u &= 0 && \text{in } \mathbb{R}^d \setminus \Omega \\ \partial_r u^s - iku^s &= o(r^{-1}) && r = |x|\end{aligned}$$

Corresponding integral equation

$$u(x) = u^{\text{inc}} - \int_{\partial\Omega} G(x-y) \partial_n u(y) dy \quad G(x-y) := \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{4\pi|x-y|}$$

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Wave Scattering – Simulation

Simulation: bempp (Univ. College London)

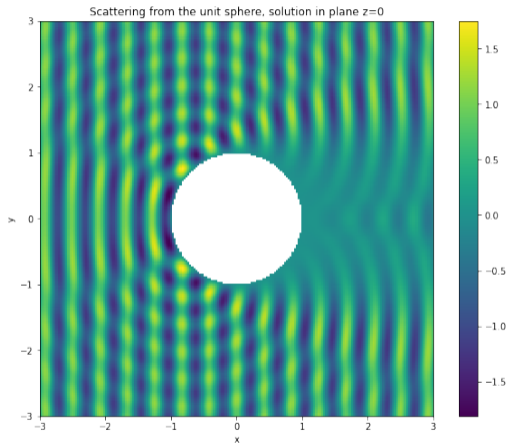


Figure: Scattering at unit sphere ($d = 3$), solution plot in the plane $z = 0$

Fractional Differential Operators

Main model problem of this lecture

$$(-\Delta)^s \quad \text{for } s \in (0, 1)$$

Formal definition – plenty ideas in literature:

- Fourier transform: $\mathcal{F}^{-1}(|\zeta|^{2s} \mathcal{F}u)$
- Integral fractional Laplacian:

$$(-\Delta)^s u(x) := C(d, s) \text{ P.V. } \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} \frac{u(x) - u(y)}{|x - y|^{d+2s}} dy$$

- Spectral fractional Laplacian: (λ_k, φ_k) ... eigenpair for Laplacian

$$(-\Delta)_\sigma^s u := \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda_k^s u_k \varphi_k, \quad u_k := \int_{\Omega} u \varphi_k dx$$

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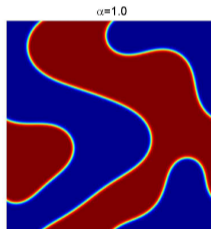
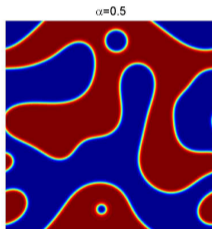
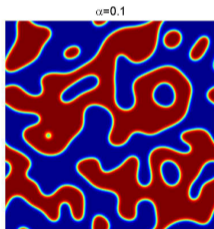
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Fractional Models – Including Non-local Effects

Gives additional parameter for more accurate models (e.g. physics, finance, . . .)

Example: phase separation by (non-local) Cahn-Hilliard equation

$$\partial_t u + (-\Delta)_\sigma^\alpha (-\Delta u + f(u)) = 0$$



Some Questions Answered in Lecture

- Are different definitions of $(-\Delta)^s$ equivalent?
- How to do a reasonable FEM for PDEs of the form $(-\Delta)^s u = f$?
- How to derive bounds for the FEM error and improve convergence rates?
- Are solutions to fractional PDEs smooth?
- How to deal with fully populated matrices arising from non-locality?

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