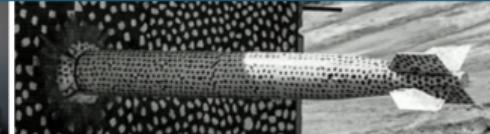
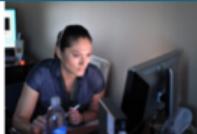




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Optimization-based multigrid-enabled finite element solvers for the Monge-Ampère equation



Kelsey DiPietro, Diana Morales, and Denis Ridzal

ICCOPT

Lehigh University



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2 Introduction to the Monge-Ampère Equation



Optimal transport problem:

$$\min_{\phi} \int_{\Omega} \mu_0(\mathbf{x}) |\phi(\mathbf{x}) - \mathbf{x}|^2 d\mathbf{x},$$

$$\text{subject to } \det(\nabla \phi(\mathbf{x})) \mu_1(\phi(\mathbf{x})) - \mu_0(\mathbf{x}) = 0,$$

where μ_0, μ_1 are the source and target densities.

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with Hessian H .

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Obtain the Monge-Ampère equation (MAE) with Dirichlet boundary conditions

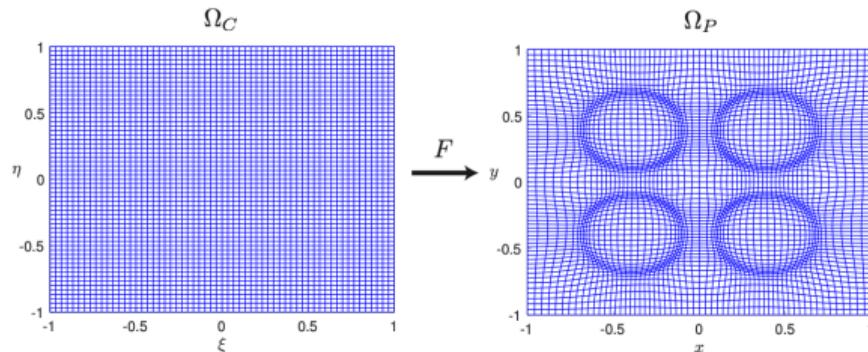
$$\det(H(\mathbf{u})) = \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_1} = \mathbf{f}, \quad \mathbf{u} \in \Omega,$$

$$\mathbf{u} = g, \quad \mathbf{u} \in \partial\Omega.$$

Applications of the Monge-Ampère Equation

Several applications for the Monge-Ampère equation:

- Inverse problems in seismic imaging.
- Differential geometry.
- Wasserstein Neural Networks.
- Mesh adaptation
 - If u is a convex solution to the Monge-Ampère equation, then $\vec{x} = \nabla u$ gives an adaptive mesh in the physical space (assumption of a transport boundary condition).
 - Mesh point locations are determined through a density function $f = \frac{\mu_0}{\mu_1}$.



Types of Solutions

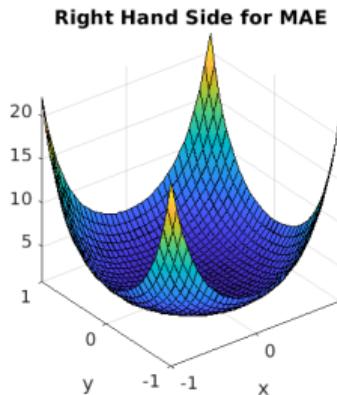
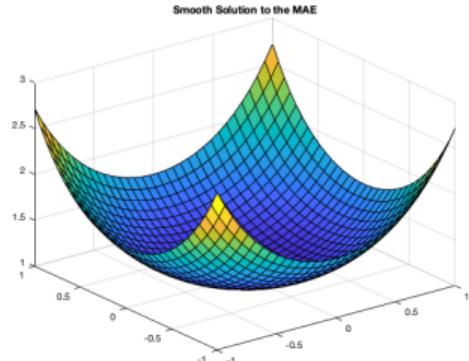


- The Monge-Ampère equation admits several possible solution types.

Types of Solutions



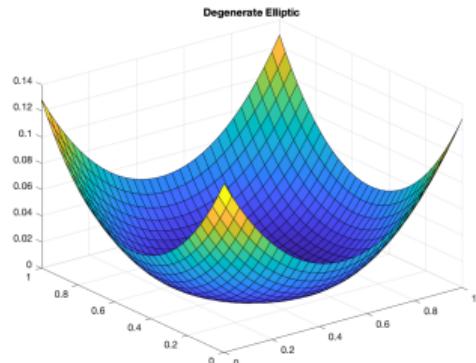
- The Monge-Ampère equation admits several possible solution types.
- Classical solutions: $u \in C^{2,\alpha}(\Omega)$
 - Strongest solution type.
 - **Classical solutions may not always exist!**



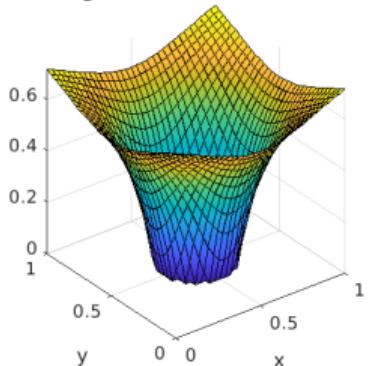
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 - **Classical solutions may not always exist!**
- Viscosity solutions $u \in C(\Omega)$.
 - Weak solution type.
 - Requires continuity of $f \in C(\Omega)$.
 - Based on theory of sub and super solutions and elliptic operators.



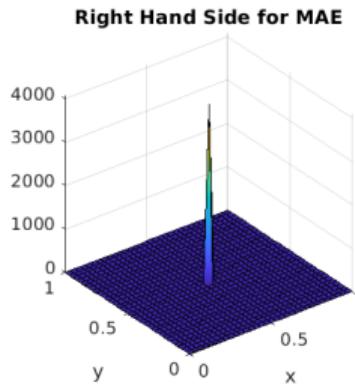
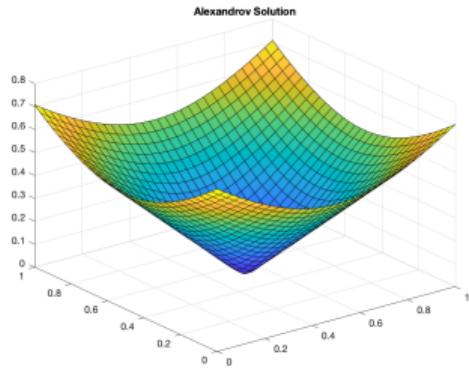
Right Hand Side for MAE



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- Viscosity solutions $u \in C(\Omega)$.
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 - Requires continuity of $f \in C(\Omega)$.
 - Based on theory of sub and super solutions and elliptic operators.
- Alexandrov solutions: $u \in C(\Omega)$.
 - Weakest solution type.
 - **Stable with respect to weak convergence.**
 - Does not require continuity in the source term f .



Conditional Ellipticity for the MAE



Define the Monge-Ampère operator as

$$F(\mathbf{x}, r, H(\mathbf{u})) = \begin{cases} \det H(\mathbf{u}) - f(\mathbf{x}), & \mathbf{x} \in \Omega \\ g(\mathbf{x}) - r, & \mathbf{x} \in \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$

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The restriction to convex functions significantly complicates numerical approaches.

We will “sidestep” convexity through a robust nonlinear solver.

Highlighted Numerical Method



- Focus on the mixed finite element method (or *nonvariational* finite element method) by Lakkis and Pryer [†].
- Mixed in that we have auxiliary variables that define the Hessian matrix – thus resulting in a system of equations.
- Remaining talk summary:
 - ① Mixed finite element method for linear elliptic problems that use the Hessian matrix.
 - ② Application to general nonlinear elliptic systems.
 - ③ Focusing specifically on the Monge-Ampère equation, propose an **optimization-based multigrid-enabled nonlinear solver**.
 - ④ Present a variety of 2D and 3D examples.

[†] Lakkis, Pryer (2011), *A finite element method for second order nonvariational elliptic problems*, SISC.

Mixed Finite Element Method for Elliptic Problems



This method directly applies conforming finite elements to elliptic problems dependent on the Hessian matrix \dagger . Uses the notation D^2u to denote the Hessian of u .

General formulation entails finding \mathbf{u} such that

$$\mathbf{A} : D^2\mathbf{u} = f \text{ in } \Omega \quad \text{and } \mathbf{u} = g \text{ on } \partial\Omega,$$

for $\mathbf{A} : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$.

$\mathbf{A} : D^2\mathbf{u} = \text{trace}(\mathbf{A}^T D^2\mathbf{u})$ is the Frobenius inner product.

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Requires a finite element approximation for the Hessian $D^2\mathbf{u}$.

Allows us to solve an *augmented system* for the elliptic PDE and the Hessian.

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Mixed Finite Element Method for Elliptic Problems



Define a piecewise polynomial finite element space \mathbb{P}^k for elements K in triangulation \mathcal{T} .

$$\mathbb{V} := \{\Phi \in H^1(\Omega) : \Phi|_K \in \mathbb{P}^k \forall K \in \mathcal{T}\},$$

$$\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{V}} := \mathbb{V} \cap H_0^1(\Omega) = \{\Phi \in \mathbb{V} : \Phi|_{\partial\Omega} = 0\}.$$

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For test function $\phi \in H_0^1(\Omega)$, an FE approximation for the problem is given by

$$\langle \mathbf{A} : D^2 \mathbf{u}, \phi \rangle = \langle f, \phi \rangle.$$

Still need an approximation for the Hessian $D^2 \mathbf{u}$.

9 Finite Element Hessian



Consider the smooth function $v \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^1(\bar{\Omega})$ and apply integration by parts to show the Hessian D^2v of v satisfies

$$\langle D^2v, \varphi \rangle = -\langle \nabla v D\varphi \rangle + \langle \nabla v \mathbf{n}^T \varphi \rangle_{\partial\Omega}, \text{ for each } \varphi \in H^1(\Omega).$$

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Define the generalized Hessian of v , where D^2v maps to $\mathbb{R}^{d \times d}$.

Generalize for functions $v \in H^1(\Omega)$ with $\nabla v n^T|_{\partial\Omega}$ in $(H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega))^{d \times d}$.

$$\langle D^v | \varphi \rangle := -\langle \nabla v D\varphi \rangle + \langle \nabla v n^T | \varphi \rangle_{(H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)) \times H^{1/2}(\partial\Omega)} \text{ for each } \varphi \in H^1(\Omega)$$

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. Define the finite element Hessian for $v \in \mathbb{V}$,

$$\langle \mathbf{H}v, \Phi \rangle_{\Omega_T} = \langle D^2v | \Phi \rangle = \langle \nabla V \otimes \nabla \Phi \rangle + \langle \nabla V \otimes \mathbf{n} \Phi \rangle_{\partial\Omega} \quad \forall \Phi \in \mathbb{V},$$

where $a \otimes b = ab^T$ for vectors a, b .

Finite Element Convexity for Low-Order Elements



Aguilera and Morin [†] define the potential limitation for low-order finite elements to accurately approximate convex functions .

Define the discrete finite element Hessian:

$$\langle Hu, \varphi \rangle_{ij} = - \int_{\Omega} \partial_i u(\mathbf{x}) \partial_j \phi(\mathbf{x}) d\mathbf{x} + \int_{\partial\Omega} \partial_i u(\mathbf{x}) \varphi(\mathbf{x}) \mathbf{n}_j dS.$$

Finite element convexity: A function $u \in V_h$ is finite element convex with respect to test and trial functions $\{\phi_r^h\}, \{\varphi_s^h\}$ if $H_s^h \succeq 0$ for all $s \in I_{test}^h$.

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They note in their experiments that FE convexity is not **always** guaranteed when using linear elements so they cannot prove convergence.

However this does not mean that it is impossible for linear elements to be finite element convex.

[†]Aguilera, Morin (2009), *On convex functions and the finite element method*, SINUM.

Mixed FEM System



Discretized augmented system for a Dirichlet boundary condition, $\mathbf{Ev} = \mathbf{b} - \mathbf{E}_{dc}\mathbf{b}_{dc}$.

$$\mathbf{E} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{M} & \mathbf{0} & \dots & \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{C}_{1,1} \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{M} & \dots & \mathbf{0} & -\mathbf{C}_{1,2} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{0} & \mathbf{0} & \dots & \mathbf{M} & -\mathbf{C}_{d,d} \\ \mathbf{B}^{1,1} & \mathbf{B}^{1,2} & \dots & \mathbf{B}^{d,d} & \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{E}_{dc} = \begin{bmatrix} -\mathbf{C}_{1,1}^{dc} \\ -\mathbf{C}_{1,2}^{dc} \\ \vdots \\ -\mathbf{C}_{d,d}^{dc} \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$\mathbf{v} = (\mathbf{h}_{1,1}, \mathbf{h}_{1,2}, \dots, \mathbf{h}_{d,d}, \mathbf{u})^T, \mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{0}, \dots, \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{f}), \mathbf{b}_{dc} = [\mathbf{g}]^T.$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{\alpha, \beta} := \langle \overset{\circ}{\Phi}, \mathbf{A}^{\alpha, \beta} \Phi^T \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N} \times N},$$

$$\mathbf{M} := \langle \Phi, \Phi^T \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N},$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\alpha, \beta} := -\langle \partial_\beta \Phi, \partial_\alpha \overset{\circ}{\Phi}^T \rangle + \langle \Phi \mathbf{n}_\beta, \partial_\alpha \overset{\circ}{\Phi}^T \rangle_{\partial\Omega} \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N} \times N}$$

$$\mathbf{f} := \langle f, \overset{\circ}{\Phi} \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N}}$$

Schur Complement System



If low order elements are used, then \mathbf{M} can be diagonalized using mass lumping and a Schur complement can be used to solve for \mathbf{u} and the auxiliary Hessian variables are recovered separately.

$$\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u} := \sum_{\alpha=1}^d \sum_{\beta=1}^d \mathbf{B}^{\alpha,\beta} \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C}_{\alpha,\beta} \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}.$$

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$$\mathbf{f} := \langle f, \overset{\circ}{\Phi} \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N}}$$

Note: We can reduce the size of the system by using the symmetry of the Hessian, i.e.
 $h_{a,b} = h_{b,a}$.

Equivalence to standard FEM

† For the second order elliptic problem $\mathbf{A} : D^2u = f$, if the problem coefficients in \mathbf{A} are piecewise constant then the mixed finite element method coincides with the standard FEM $\mathbf{A} : D^2u = \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{A}\nabla u)$. This implies that \mathbf{u} solves both

$$\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{S}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$$

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$$\text{where } \mathbf{S} = \sum_{\alpha, \beta=1}^d \langle \partial_\beta \Phi, a^{\alpha, \beta} \partial_\alpha \Phi^T \rangle.$$

Opens up the possibility to use **algebraic multigrid** to solve the Schur complement system, due to its structure, which resembles the structure of the **discrete Laplacian**.

† Lakkis, Pryer (2011), *A finite element method for second order nonvariational elliptic problems*, SISC.

Mixed FEM for Nonlinear Elliptic Problems



General nonlinear elliptic problem^{††}:

$$\mathcal{N}[\mathbf{u}] = F(D^2\mathbf{u}) - \mathbf{f} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega.$$

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Previous applications use a Newton's method to obtain the linear system of equations

$$\mathbf{N}(D^2\mathbf{u}^n) : D^2\mathbf{u}^{n+1} = g(D^2\mathbf{u}^n),$$

$$\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{X}) := F'(\mathbf{X}),$$

$$g(\mathbf{X}) := \mathbf{f} - F(\mathbf{X}) + F'(\mathbf{X}) : \mathbf{X}.$$

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Solve using the mixed finite element method, given an initial guess $U^0 := \Pi_0 u^0$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$ find $(U^{n+1}, \mathbf{H}[U^{n+1}]) \in \mathbb{V} \times \mathbb{V}^{d \times d}$ such that,

$$\begin{aligned} < \mathbf{H}[U^{n+1}], \Phi > + \int_{\Omega} \nabla U^{n+1} \otimes \nabla \Phi - \int_{\partial\Omega} \nabla U^{n+1} \otimes \mathbf{n} \Phi &= 0 \quad \forall \Phi \in \mathbb{V}, \\ < \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{H}[U^n]) : \mathbf{H}[U^{n+1}], \Psi > &= < g(\mathbf{H}[U^n]), \Psi > \quad \forall \Psi \in \mathbb{V}, \end{aligned}$$

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Mixed FEM Applied to the MAE



Recall the MAE:

$$\det(D^2 u) = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad u = g \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega.$$

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Newton's method applied to the MAE:

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \mathbf{H}[U^{n+1}], \Phi \rangle + \int_{\Omega} \nabla U^{n+1} \otimes \Phi - \int_{\partial\Omega} \nabla U^{n+1} \otimes \mathbf{n}\Phi = \mathbf{0} \quad \forall \Phi \in \mathbb{V} \\ & \langle \mathbf{Cof}(D^2 U^n) : \mathbf{H}[U^{n+1}], \Psi \rangle = \langle f + \det D^2 U^n, \Psi \rangle \quad \forall \Psi \in \overset{\circ}{\mathbb{V}}. \end{aligned}$$

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Where $\mathbf{Cof}(D^2 U^n)$ is the cofactor matrix given by

$$2D : \quad \mathbf{Cof}(D^2 U^n) = \begin{pmatrix} U_{yy}^n & -U_{xy}^n \\ -U_{yx}^n & U_{xx}^n \end{pmatrix},$$

$$3D : \quad \mathbf{Cof}(D^2 U^n) = \begin{pmatrix} U_{yy} U_{zz} - U_{yz}^2 & U_{yz} U_{xz} - U_{xy} U_{zz} & U_{xy} U_{yz} - U_{yy} U_{xz} \\ U_{yz} U_{xz} - U_{xy} U_{zz} & U_{xx} U_{zz} - U_{xz}^2 & U_{xy} U_{xz} - U_{xx} U_{yz} \\ U_{xy} U_{yz} - U_{yy} U_{xz} & U_{xy} U_{xz} - U_{xx} U_{yz} & U_{xx} U_{yy} - U_{xy}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

The Mixed FEM for \mathbb{P}^1 Elements



Previous applications of the method are limited to \mathbb{P}^k elements with $k \geq 2$. [†]

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Motivates using a robust optimization-based solver for the low-order system.

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An Optimization-based Nonlinear Solver



- Combine auxiliary and primal variables into $x = (\mathbf{h}_{1,1}, \mathbf{h}_{1,2}, \dots, \mathbf{h}_{d,d-1}, \mathbf{h}_{d,d}, \mathbf{u})$. We solve the nonlinear equation:

$$c(x) = 0,$$

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- Observation:** Solving the problem

$$\begin{aligned} & \min 0 \\ & \text{subject to } c(x) = 0, \end{aligned}$$

with a *composite-step sequential quadratic programming (SQP)* solver **converges without exception** for a variety of MAE examples, using \mathbb{P}^1 elements.

- Simplify the nonlinear solution method by using the normal step, and eliminating the tangential step, of the SQP method[†].

[†]Heinkenschloss, Ridzal (2014). A matrix-free trust-region SQP method for equality constrained optimization, SIOPT.

SQP Summary



- The SQP solver is a **composite-step method** that coordinates two steps: tangential step, which improves optimality, and a normal step, which improves feasibility.
- At every nonlinear iteration k , the feasibility step s solves the trust-region subproblem:

$$\begin{aligned} & \min \|c'(x_k)s + c(x_k)\|_C^2 \\ & \text{subject to } \|s\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq \Delta_k, \end{aligned}$$

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- We compute the feasibility step using **Powell's dogleg method**.

Dogleg Method



Cauchy point

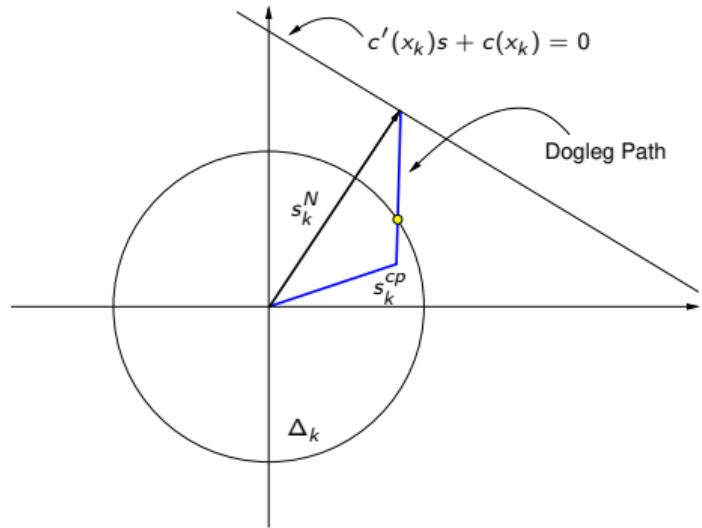
$$s_k^{cp} = \min_{\alpha \geq 0, \|s\|_x \leq \Delta_k} \|c'(x_k)s + c(x_k)\|_C^2$$

subject to $s = -\alpha c'(x_k)^* c(x_k)$

Newton point

s_k^N = minimum norm solution of

$$\min_s \|c'(x_k)s + c(x_k)\|_C^2$$



Dogleg Method



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$$s_k^{cp} = \min_{\alpha \geq 0, \|s\|_C \leq \Delta_k} \|c'(x_k)s + c(x_k)\|_C^2$$

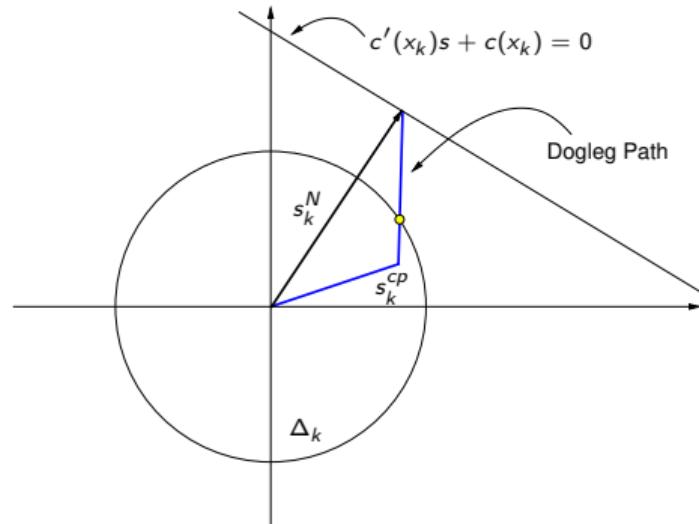
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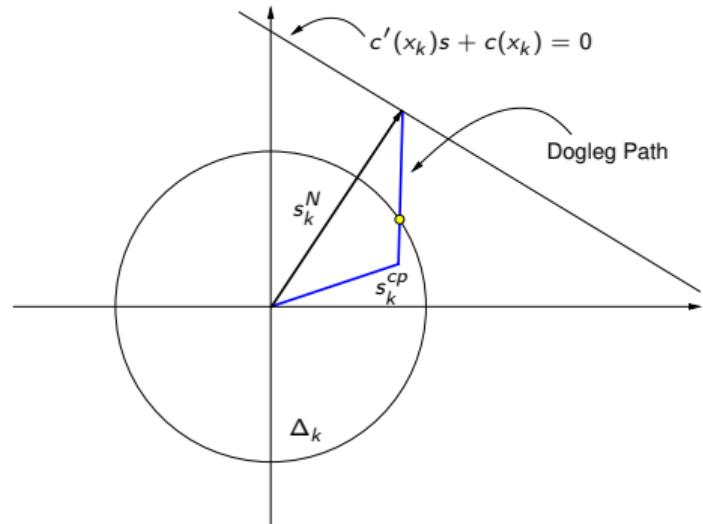
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Step: $s_k = s_k^{cp} + s_k^N$.

If $\|s_k\|_{\mathcal{X}} > \Delta_k$, compute $s_k = s_k^{cp} + \tau s_k^N$, with $\|s_k^{cp} + \tau(s_k^N - s_k^{cp})\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2 = \Delta_k^2$.



Step Acceptance



Calculate ratio of actual and predicted reduction,

$$r = \frac{\|c(x_k)\|_C^2 - \|c(x_k + s_k)\|_C^2}{\|c(x_k)\|_C^2 - \|c'(x_k)s_k + c(x_k)\|_C^2}.$$

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Algorithm terminates if the norm of the residual is less than a specific tolerance or the maximum number of iterations is reached.



Recall $c'(x_k)$ is the Jacobian of the discretized Monge-Ampère equation evaluated at the step x_k , $c'(x_k)^*$ is the adjoint of the Jacobian, $c(x_k)$ is the residual of the Monge-Ampère equation at x_k , and Δ_k is the trust region radius at step k .

Cauchy Point Computation



Recall $c'(x_k)$ is the Jacobian of the discretized Monge-Ampère equation evaluated at the step x_k , $c'(x_k)^*$ is the adjoint of the Jacobian, $c(x_k)$ is the residual of the Monge-Ampère equation at x_k , and Δ_k is the trust region radius at step k .

First compute

$$s_k^{cp} = -\frac{\|c'(x_k)^* c(x_k)\|_{\mathcal{X}}^2}{\|c'(x_k) c'(x_k)^* c(x_k)\|_{\mathcal{C}}^2} c'(x_k)^* c(x_k).$$

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Cauchy point computation is inexpensive, as it does not involve application of $(c'(x_k))^{-1}$.



Algorithm converges from any initial guess under the following assumptions:

The step s_k must satisfy the boundedness condition

$$\|s_k\|_{\mathcal{X}} \leq \kappa_1 \|c(x_k)\|_C,$$

and the sufficient decrease condition

$$\|c(x_k)\|_C^2 - \|c'(x_k)s_k + c(x_k)\|_C^2 \geq \kappa_2 \|c(x_k)\|_C \min \{\kappa_3 \|c(x_k)\|_C, \Delta_k\},$$

where $\kappa_1, \kappa_2, \kappa_3 > 0$ are independent of k .



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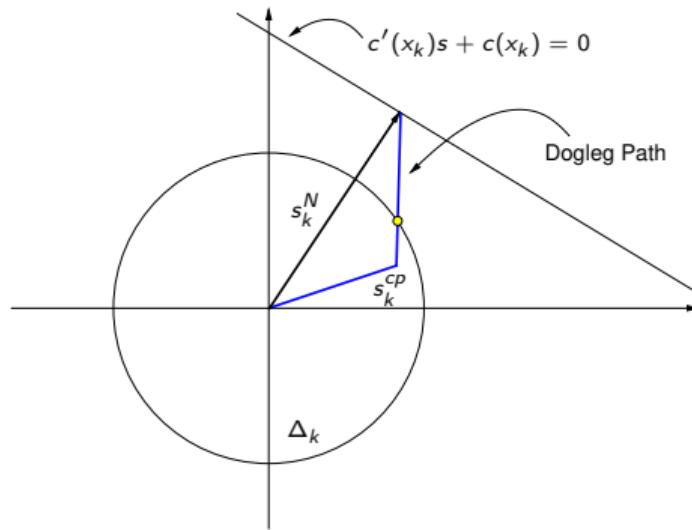
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Must ensure that the Newton point does not destroy the progress made by the Cauchy point.

Newton Point Computation



Newton point: $s_k^N = -(c'(x_k))^{-1}c(x_k)$



23 |

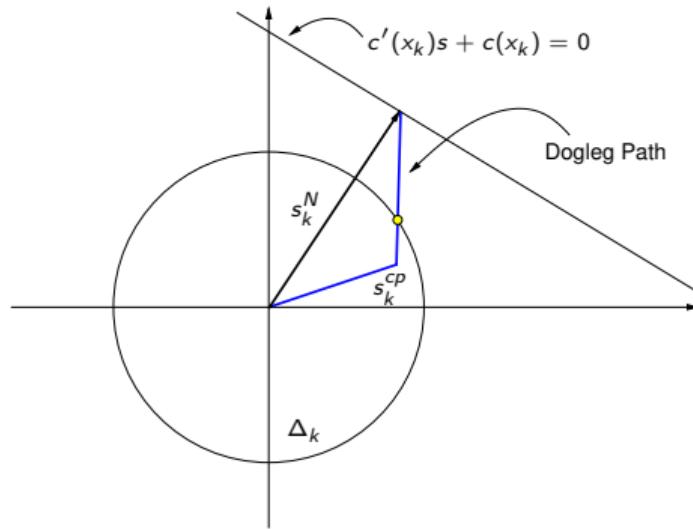
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Instead of solving for s_k^N , we solve for

$$\delta s_k = s_k^N - s_k^{cp}$$



23 |

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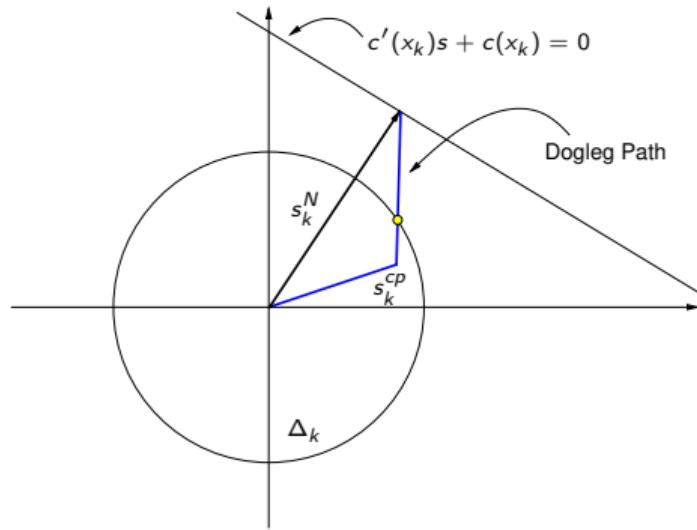
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In other words, solve

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23 **Newton Point Computation**



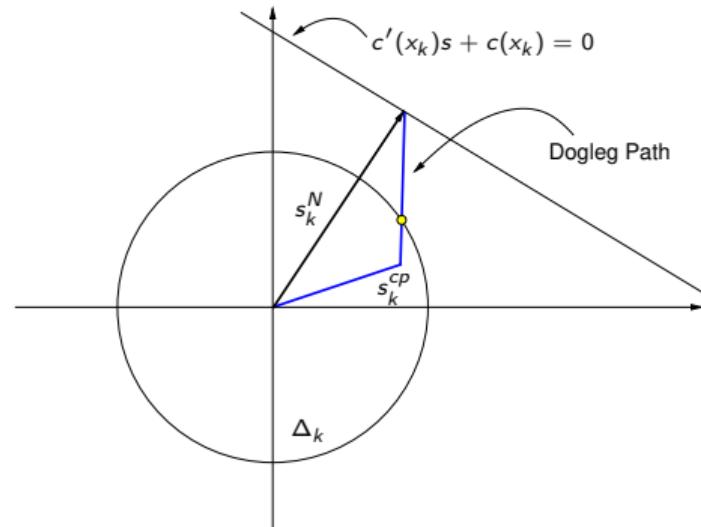
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If the linear system is solved iteratively with nonzero error vector e , i.e.,

$$c'(x_k)\delta s_k = -(c'(x_k)s_k^{cp} + c(x_k)) + e,$$

then for global convergence it is sufficient to require $\|e\|_C / \|c'(x_k)s_k^{cp} + c(x_k)\|_C \leq 1$.
 → Any reasonable relative residual will do!!!

Efficient Solution of the Linear System



- Solve the linear system using the Schur complement,

$$\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u} := \sum_{\alpha=1}^d \sum_{\beta=1}^d \mathbf{B}^{\alpha,\beta} \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C}_{\alpha,\beta} \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \text{ for } \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, d,$$

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- Use the Trilinos package Muelu to set up and solve the resulting system.
 - Symmetric Gauss-Siedel smoother.
 - GMRES used for solving the resulting system.
 - Future plans to explore Petrov-Galerkin methods for nonsymmetric linear systems. [†]

[†]Sala, Tuminaro (2008), *A new Petrov-Galerkin smoothed aggregation preconditioner for nonsymmetric linear systems*, SISC.

Efficient Solution of the Linear System



- Solve the linear system using the Schur complement,

$$\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u} := \sum_{\alpha=1}^d \sum_{\beta=1}^d \mathbf{B}^{\alpha,\beta} \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{C}_{\alpha,\beta} \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}, \text{ for } \alpha, \beta = 1, \dots, d,$$

$$\mathbf{B}^{\alpha,\beta} := \langle \overset{\circ}{\Phi}, \mathbf{Cof}(\mathbf{H}[U])^{\alpha,\beta} \overset{\circ}{\Phi}^T \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N} \times N},$$

$$\mathbf{C}_{\alpha,\beta} := -\langle \partial_\beta \overset{\circ}{\Phi}, \partial_\alpha \overset{\circ}{\Phi}^T \rangle + \langle \overset{\circ}{\Phi} \mathbf{n}_\beta, \partial_\alpha \overset{\circ}{\Phi}^T \rangle_{\partial\Omega} \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N} \times N}$$

$$\mathbf{M} := \langle \overset{\circ}{\Phi}, \overset{\circ}{\Phi}^T \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}, \quad \mathbf{f} := \langle f, \overset{\circ}{\Phi} \rangle \in \mathbb{R}^{\overset{\circ}{N}}, \quad f = -(c'(x_k) s_k^{cp} + c(x_k))$$

- Schur complement of the linear system $\mathbf{D}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$ is solved using an **algebraic multigrid method**.
- Use the Trilinos package Muelu to set up and solve the resulting system.
 - Symmetric Gauss-Siedel smoother.
 - GMRES used for solving the resulting system.
 - Future plans to explore Petrov-Galerkin methods for nonsymmetric linear systems.[†]
- Hessian terms $\mathbf{h}_{\alpha,\beta}$ are recovered separately using the definition of the finite element Hessian.

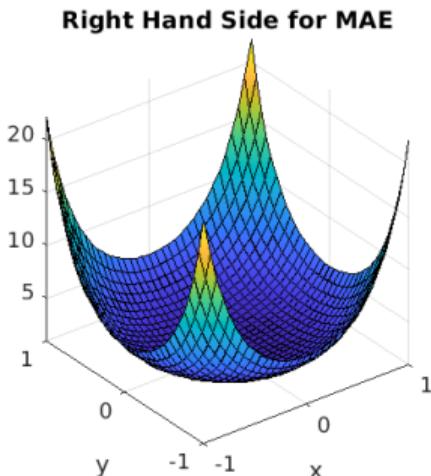
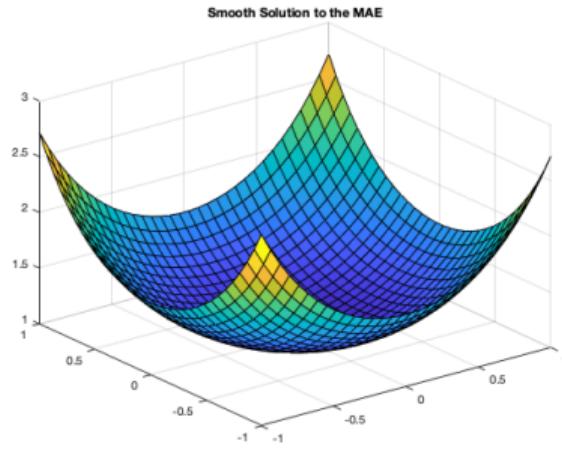
[†]Sala, Tuminaro (2008), *A new Petrov-Galerkin smoothed aggregation preconditioner for nonsymmetric linear systems*, SISC.

Results - 2D Smooth Solution



Exact Solution: $u = \exp\left(\frac{|x|^2}{2}\right)$, $u \in C^\infty$.

Classical solution of the Monge-Ampère equation.



Results - 2D Smooth Solution



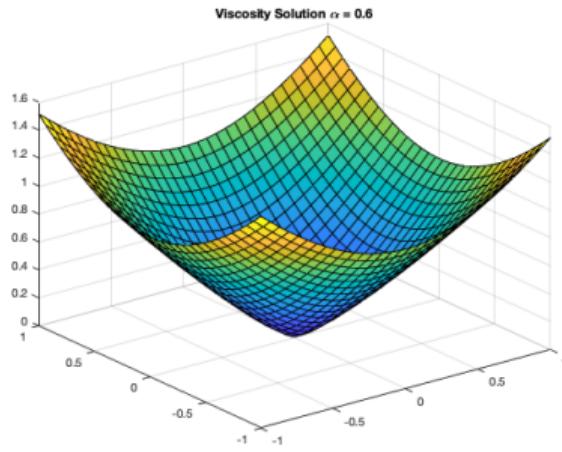
Grid Size	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	Rate	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	Rate
$2^5 \times 2^5$	3.40e-03	-	4.40e-03	-
$2^6 \times 2^6$	8.60e-04	1.98	1.10e-03	2
$2^7 \times 2^7$	2.16e-04	2.0	2.88e-04	1.93
$2^8 \times 2^8$	5.40e-05	2.0	7.27e-05	1.99

Standard smooth problem used in every numerical paper for the MAE, we attain **optimal L_2** error estimates.

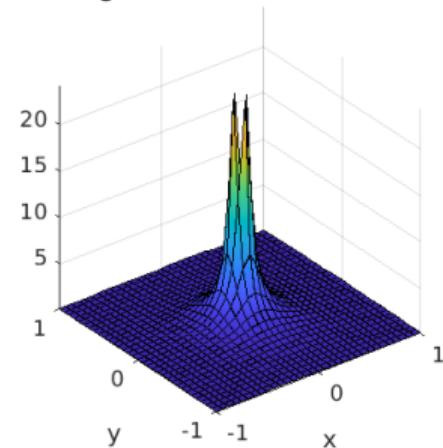
Results - 2D Viscosity Solution



Exact solution: $u(\mathbf{x}) = |\mathbf{x}|^{2\alpha}$, $\alpha \in (1/2, 3/4)$, singular derivatives at $(0, 0)$, $\alpha = 0.6$.



Right Hand Side for MAE



Results - 2D Viscosity Solution



Grid Size	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	L_2 Rate	LP L_2 Rate [†]	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	∞ Error Rate
$2^5 \times 2^5$	0.1249	-	-	0.1841	-
$2^6 \times 2^6$	0.0937	0.41	0.42	0.1381	0.41
$2^7 \times 2^7$	0.0705	0.41	0.41	0.1036	0.41
$2^8 \times 2^8$	0.0531	0.41	0.41	0.0777	0.42

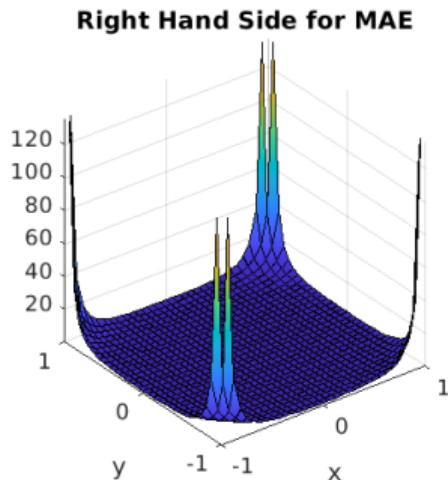
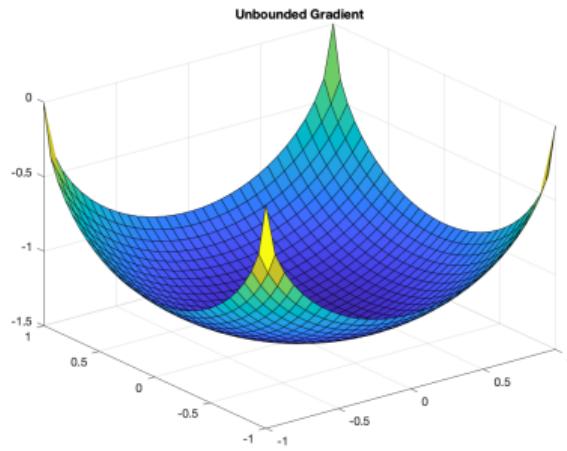
Compared to the paper by Lakkis and Pryer[†] which uses \mathbb{P}^2 elements to solve for the Monge-Ampère equation using a Newton's method. We attain similar errors with \mathbb{P}^1 element method.

Lakkis, Pryer (2011), *A finite element method for second order nonvariational elliptic problems*, SJSC.

Results - 2D Unbounded Gradient



Exact solution: $u(x, y) = -\sqrt{2 - x^2 - y^2}$, $u \in C^\infty(\Omega) \cap C^0(\Omega)$.



Results - 2D Unbounded Gradient



Grid Size	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	L_2 Rate	LP Rate [†]	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	FO Max Error ^{††}
$2^5 \times 2^5$	6.4e-03	-	-	8.62e-02	1.74e-03
$2^6 \times 2^6$	2.3e-03	1.48	1.62	6.10e-02	5.9e-04
$2^7 \times 2^7$	8.2460e-04	1.48	1.60	4.32e-02	2.0e-04
$2^8 \times 2^8$	2.9253e-04	1.50	1.55	3.05e-02	1.5e-04

Compared to the \mathbb{P}^2 mixed finite element method by Lakkis and Pryer [†] and the wide stencil, monotone finite difference schemes by Froese and Oberman ^{††}.

Lakkis, Pryer (2011), *A finite element method for second order nonvariational elliptic problems*, SJSC.

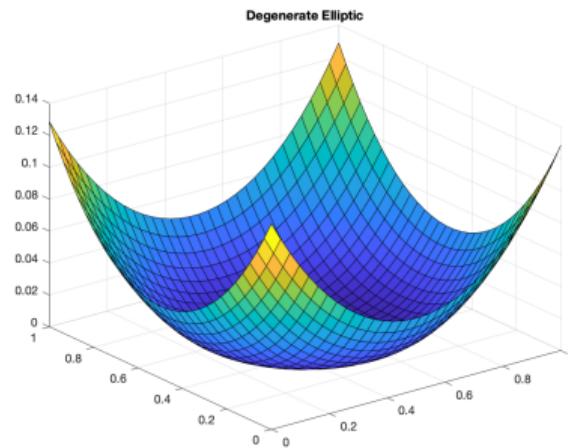
Froese, Oberman (2013), *Convergent filtered schemes for the Monge-Ampère partial differential equation*, SJNA.

Results - 2D Degenerate Elliptic

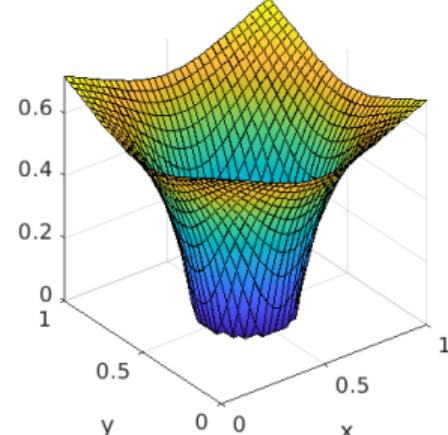


Exact solution: $u(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2}(\max(|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0| - 0.2, 0))^2$, $\mathbf{x}_0 = (0.5, 0.5)$.

Forcing term: $f(\mathbf{x}) = \max\left(1 - \frac{0.2}{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_0|}, 0\right)$.



Right Hand Side for MAE



Results - 2D Degenerate Elliptic



Grid Size	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	Rate	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	NNZ Max Error [†]	FO Max Error ^{††}
$2^5 \times 2^5$	2.18e-04	-	4.22e-04	5.4e-04	3.73e-04
$2^6 \times 2^6$	6.04e-05	1.8516	1.39e-04	2.8e-04	1.51e-04
$2^7 \times 2^7$	2.00e-05	1.5915	5.51e-05	1.5e-4	9.2e-05
$2^8 \times 2^8$	6.48e-06	1.6282	2.22e-05	7.8e-05	3.8e-05

Compared to two-scale (unstructured wide scale) finite element method by Nocetto et al. [†] and the wide stencil, monotone finite differences schemes by Froese and Oberman ^{††}.

Nocetto, Ntogkas, Zhang (2019), *Two-Scale method for the Monge-Ampère equation: convergence to the viscosity solution*. Mathematics of Computation.

Froese, Oberman (2013), *Convergent filtered schemes for the Monge-Ampère partial differential equation*, SJNA.

Results - 3D Smooth Solution

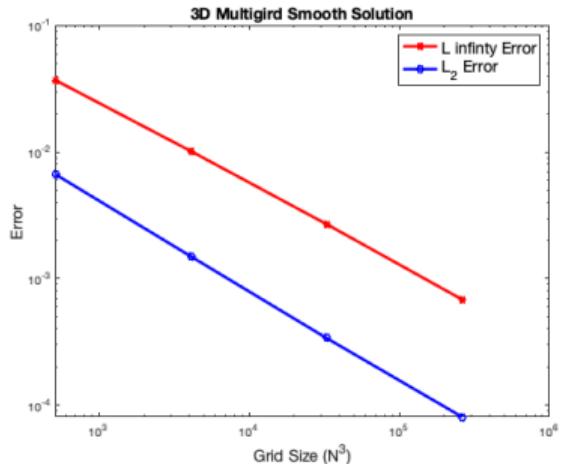


$$f = (1 + x^2 + y^2 + z^2) \exp\left(\frac{3(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)}{2}\right)$$

$$u = \exp\left(\frac{x^2 + y^2 + z^2}{2}\right)$$

$$\Omega = (0, 1)^3$$

Taken from: [Liu et al. \(2016\)](#), *A multigrid scheme for 3D Monge-Ampère equations*, IJCM.



Convergence results for the 3D smooth problem.

Grid Size N	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	Rate	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	Rate	Max GMRES
8	6.70e-03	-	3.72e-02	-	3
16	1.50e-03	2.16	1.02e-02	1.87	3
32	3.39e-04	2.15	2.70e-03	1.89	3
64	8.06e-05	2.07	6.84e-04	1.92	5

Results - 3D Smooth Solution

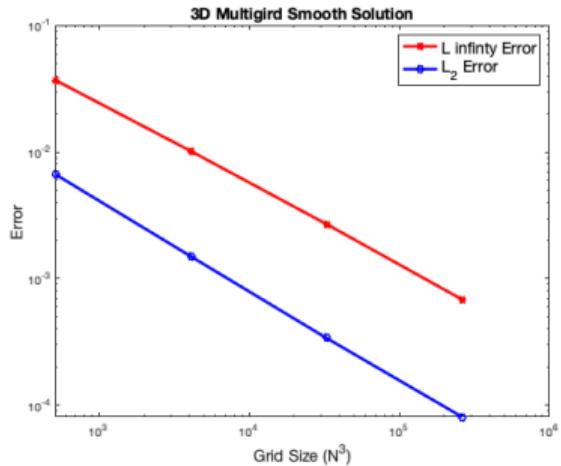


$$f = (\sin(x) + 1)(\sin(y) + 1)(\sin(z) + 1)$$

$$u = -\sin(x) - \sin(y) - \sin(z) + (x^2 + y^2 + z^2)/2$$

$$\Omega = (0, \pi)^3$$

Taken from: [Liu et al. \(2016\)](#), *A multigrid scheme for 3D Monge-Ampère equations*, IJCM.



Convergence results for the 3D smooth problem.

Grid Size N	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	Rate	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	Rate	Max GMRES
8	2.09e-01	-	7.12e-02	-	4
16	4.84e-02	2.11	1.82e-02	1.97	4
32	1.16e-02	2.06	4.60e-03	1.98	3
64					

Results - 3D Non-smooth Solution

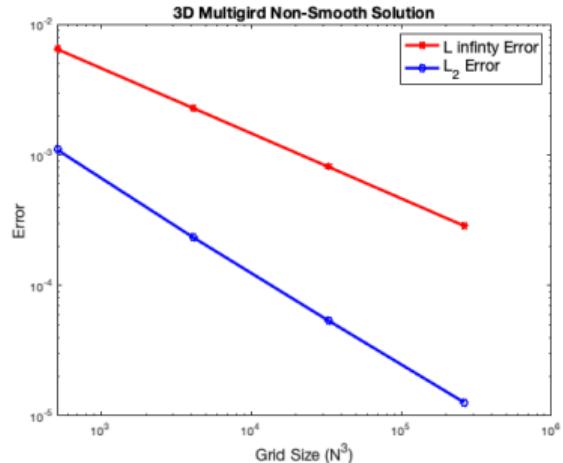


$$f = (1/16)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{-3/4}$$

$$u = (1/3)(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{3/4}$$

$$\Omega = (0, 1)^3$$

Taken from: [Liu et al. \(2016\)](#), *A multigrid scheme for 3D Monge-Ampère equations*, IJCM.



Convergence results for the 3D non-smooth problem.

Grid Size N	$\ u - u_e\ _2^2$	Rate	$\ u - u_e\ _\infty$	Rate	Max GMRES
8	1.10e-03	-	6.50e-03	-	3
16	2.35e-04	1.50	2.30e-03	2.23	4
32	5.38e-05	1.50	8.13e-04	2.13	5
64	1.27e-05	1.50	1.27e-05	2.08	6

Conclusion



- Presented an optimization-based solver for any standard low-order finite element discretization of nonlinear elliptic problems.
- Our optimization-based algorithm combined with a \mathbb{P}^1 discretization demonstrates good results with solid numerical error and convergence rates.
- While the method does not directly impose convexity like other discretizations for the Monge-Ampère equation, we have reason to believe that it is provably convergent to a solution of the MAE.
- Future work will further leverage the built in machinery for inexact methods that can offer additional speed ups for the methods.
- Potential to build in convexity constraints or other boundary conditions (such as the optimal transport condition) directly into the objective function of the optimization solver.

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