



Analysis of a Time Multigrid Algorithm for DG-Discretizations in Time

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ANALYSIS OF A TIME MULTIGRID ALGORITHM FOR DG-DISCRETIZATIONS IN TIME

MARTIN J. GANDER * AND MARTIN NEUMÜLLER †

Abstract. We present and analyze for a scalar linear evolution model problem a time multigrid algorithm for DG-discretizations in time. We derive asymptotically optimized parameters for the smoother, and also an asymptotically sharp convergence estimate for the two grid cycle. Our results hold for any A-stable time stepping scheme and represent the core component for space-time multigrid methods for parabolic partial differential equations. Our time multigrid method has excellent strong and weak scaling properties for parallelization in time, which we show with numerical experiments.

Key words. Time parallel methods, multigrid in time, DG-discretizations, RADAU IA

AMS subject classifications. 65N55, 65L60, 65F10

1. Introduction. The parallelization of algorithms for evolution problems in the time direction is currently an active area of research, because today's supercomputers with their millions of cores can not be effectively used any more when only parallelizing the spatial directions. In addition to multiple shooting and parareal [21, 15, 10], domain decomposition and waveform relaxation [14, 13, 11], and direct time parallel methods [23, 9, 12], multigrid methods in time are the fourth main approach that can be used to this effect, see the overview [8] and references therein. The parabolic multigrid method proposed by Hackbusch in [16] was the first multigrid method in space-time. It uses a smoothing iteration (e.g. Gauss-Seidel) over many time levels, but coarsening is in general only possible in space, since time coarsening might lead to divergence of the algorithm. The multigrid waveform relaxation method proposed by Lubich and Ostermann in [22] is defined by applying a standard multigrid method to the Laplace transform in time of the evolution problem. This leads after back-transform to smoothers of waveform relaxation type. The first complete space-time multigrid method that also allowed coarsening in time was proposed by Horten and Vandewalle in [19]. It uses adaptive semi-coarsening in space or time and special prolongation operators only forward in time. The analysis is based on Fourier techniques, and fully mesh independent convergence can be obtained for F-cycles. More recently, Emmett and Minion proposed the Parallel Full Approximation Scheme in Space-Time (PFASST), which is a non-linear multigrid method using a spectral deferred correction iteration as the smoother, see [6]. This method has been successfully tested on real problems, see for example [27, 26], but there is no convergence analysis so far. A further time multigrid method can be found in [7].

We present and analyze in this paper a new multigrid method in time based on a block Jacobi smoother and standard restriction and prolongation operators in time. This algorithm appeared for the first time in the PhD thesis [24]. To focus only on the time direction, we consider for $T > 0$ the one-dimensional model problem

$$(1.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \partial_t u(t) + u(t) &= f(t) && \text{for } t \in (0, T), \\ u(0) &= u_0, \end{aligned}$$

where $u_0 \in \mathbb{R}$ and $f : (0, T) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ are some given data. In Section 2, we present a general Discontinuous Galerkin (DG) time stepping scheme for (1.1), originally

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On the time interval $[t_{n-1}, t_n]$ we then have the approximation $u_\tau^n(t) = \sum_{\ell=1}^{N_t} u_n[\ell] \psi_\ell^n(t)$, and for the coefficients, we have to solve the block triangular linear system

$$(2.3) \quad \begin{pmatrix} K_\tau + M_\tau & & & & \\ -N_\tau & K_\tau + M_\tau & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & -N_\tau & K_\tau + M_\tau \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{u}_N \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{f}_1 \\ \mathbf{f}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{f}_N \end{pmatrix}.$$

Using for example constant polynomials, we simply obtain the backward Euler scheme.

2.2. General properties. To study the properties of the discontinuous Galerkin discretization (2.1), we consider for a function $f : (t_{n-1}, t_n) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ the Radau quadrature rule of order $2s - 1$,

$$\int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} f(t) dt \approx \tau \sum_{k=1}^s b_k f(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau),$$

with the weights $b_k \in \mathbb{R}_+$ and the integration points $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2, \dots, c_s \in [0, 1]$, see [18].

THEOREM 2.1. *The discontinuous Galerkin approximation (2.1) of the model problem (1.1) is equivalent to the $(p_t + 1)$ -stage implicit Runge-Kutta scheme RADAU IA, if the integral of the right hand side is approximated by the Radau quadrature of order $2p_t + 1$.*

Proof. With this approximation, and using integration by parts, we obtain from (2.1) the variational problem

Find $u_\tau^n \in \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(t_{n-1}, t_n)$ such that for all $v_\tau^n \in \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(t_{n-1}, t_n)$

$$(2.4) \quad \begin{aligned} & \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} \partial_t u_\tau^n(t) v_\tau^n(t) dt + u_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) + \int_{t_{n-1}}^{t_n} u_\tau^n(t) v_\tau^n(t) dt \\ & = \tau \sum_{k=1}^{p_t+1} b_k f(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) + u_\tau^{n-1}(t_{n-1}) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1}). \end{aligned}$$

The idea of the proof is to apply the discontinuous collocation method introduced in [17] to the model problem (1.1). Let $c_1 = 0$ and $c_2, \dots, c_{p_t+1} \in [0, 1]$ be the integration points of the Radau quadrature of order $2p_t + 1$ with the weights $b_1, \dots, b_{p_t+1} \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$. Then the discontinuous collocation method is given by

Find $w_\tau^n \in \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(t_{n-1}, t_n)$ such that for all $k = 2, \dots, p_t + 1$

$$(2.5) \quad \begin{aligned} & w_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) - w_\tau^{n-1}(t_{n-1}) = \tau b_1 [f(t_{n-1}) - \partial_t w_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) - w_\tau^n(t_{n-1})], \\ & \partial_t w_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) + w_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) = f(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau). \end{aligned}$$

In [17] it was shown that the discontinuous collocation method (2.5) is equivalent to the $(p_t + 1)$ -stage implicit Runge-Kutta scheme RADAU IA. Hence it remains to show the equivalence of the discontinuous Galerkin method (2.4) to the discontinuous collocation method (2.5). First, we observe that $\partial_t u_\tau^n v_\tau^n$ and $u_\tau^n v_\tau^n$ are polynomials of degree at most $2p_t$. Therefore we can replace the integrals on the left hand side of

(2.4) with the Radau quadrature of order $2p_t + 1$, and obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(2.6) \quad & \tau \sum_{k=1}^{p_t+1} b_k \partial_t u_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) + u_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) \\
& + \tau \sum_{k=1}^{p_t+1} b_k u_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) \\
& = \tau \sum_{k=1}^{p_t+1} b_k f(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) + u_\tau^{n-1}(t_{n-1}) v_\tau^n(t_{n-1}),
\end{aligned}$$

with $v_\tau^n \in \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(t_{n-1}, t_n)$. As test functions v_τ^n we consider the Lagrange polynomials

$$\ell_i^n(t) = \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq i}}^{p_t+1} \frac{t - (t_{n-1} + c_j \tau)}{\tau(c_i - c_j)} \quad \text{for } i = 1, \dots, p_t + 1.$$

Hence we have $\ell_i^n(t_{n-1} + c_j \tau) = 0$ for $i \neq j$ and $\ell_i^n(t_{n-1} + c_i \tau) = 1$ for $i = 1, \dots, p_t + 1$. First we use the test function $v_\tau^n = \ell_1^n$ in (2.6) and obtain

$$\tau b_1 \partial_t u_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) + u_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) + \tau b_1 u_\tau^n(t_{n-1}) = \tau b_1 f(t_{n-1}) + u_\tau^{n-1}(t_{n-1}).$$

This implies that the solution u_τ^n of (2.4) satisfies the first equation of (2.5). For the test function $v_\tau^n = \ell_k^n$, $k = 2, \dots, p_t + 1$ we further get

$$\tau b_k \partial_t u_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) + \tau b_k u_\tau^n(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau) = \tau b_k f(t_{n-1} + c_k \tau).$$

Dividing this equation by $\tau b_k \neq 0$ we see that the solution u_τ^n of the discontinuous Galerkin scheme (2.4) also satisfies the second equation of the discontinuous collocation method (2.5). Hence the solution u_τ^n of the discontinuous Galerkin scheme (2.4) is a solution of the discontinuous collocation method (2.5). The converse is proved by reverting the arguments. \square

The RADAU IA scheme has been introduced in the PhD thesis [5] in 1969, see also [3]. From the proof of Theorem 2.1 we see that the jump of the discrete solution at time t_{n-1} is equal to the point wise error multiplied by the time step size τ and the weight b_1 , see (2.5). Hence the height of the jump can be used as a simple error estimator for adaptive time stepping.

THEOREM 2.2. *For $s \in \mathbb{N}$, the s -stage RADAU IA scheme is of order $2s - 1$ and the stability function $R(z)$ is given by the $(s - 1, s)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of the exponential function e^z . Furthermore the method is A -stable, i.e.*

$$|R(z)| < 1 \quad \text{for } z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ with } \Re(z) < 0.$$

Proof. The proof can be found in [18]. \square

COROLLARY 2.3. *The stability function $R(z)$ of the discontinuous Galerkin approximation with polynomial degree $p_t \in \mathbb{N}$ is given by the $(p_t, p_t + 1)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of the exponential function e^z . Furthermore the method is A -stable, i.e.*

$$|R(z)| < 1 \quad \text{for } z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ with } \Re(z) < 0.$$

Proof. For the Dahlquist test equation $\partial_t u = \lambda u$, $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ we obtain by Theorem 2.1 that the discontinuous Galerkin scheme is equivalent to the RADAU IA method. Hence the two methods have the same stability function $R(z)$. Applying Theorem 2.2 completes the proof. \square

3. Multigrid method. To apply multigrid to (2.3), we write the linear system (2.3) using Kronecker products,

$$(3.1) \quad [I_N \otimes (K_\tau + M_\tau) + U_N \otimes N_\tau] \mathbf{u} =: \mathcal{L}_\tau \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f},$$

with the matrix

$$(3.2) \quad U_N := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & & \\ -1 & 0 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}.$$

We assume a nested sequence of decompositions \mathcal{T}_{N_L} with time step τ_L for $L = 0, \dots, M_L$. We use standard restriction and prolongation operators \mathcal{R}^L and \mathcal{P}^L , see (4.8) and (4.9) and $\nu \in \mathbb{N}$ steps of a damped block Jacobi smoother

$$(3.3) \quad \mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} = \mathbf{u}^\nu + \omega_t D_{\tau_L}^{-1} [\mathbf{f} - \mathcal{L}_{\tau_L} \mathbf{u}^\nu], \quad \omega_t \in (0, 2)$$

with block diagonal matrix $D_{\tau_L} := \text{diag}\{K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L}\}_{n=1}^{N_L}$. For a given time step size τ_L , the error of the $\nu + 1$ st Jacobi iteration for $\nu \in \mathbb{N}_0$ is given by

$$(3.4) \quad \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^{\nu+1} =: \mathbf{e}^{\nu+1} = [I - \omega_t D_{\tau_L}^{-1} \mathcal{L}_{\tau_L}]^\nu \mathbf{e}^\nu =: \mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^\nu \mathbf{e}^\nu.$$

The $k + 1$ st error of the two-grid cycle is given by

$$(3.5) \quad \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^{k+1} =: \mathbf{e}^{k+1} = \mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_2} [I - \mathcal{P}^L \mathcal{L}_{2\tau_L}^{-1} \mathcal{R}^L \mathcal{L}_{\tau_L}] \mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_1} \mathbf{e}^k =: \mathcal{M}_{\tau_L} \mathbf{e}^k,$$

where we use the same symbol \mathbf{e} also for this error to keep the notation simple. To ensure asymptotically mesh independent convergence of the two-grid cycle we need that the spectral radius of the iteration matrix \mathcal{M}_{τ_L} is smaller than one, i.e.

$$\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L}) \leq q < 1,$$

with a constant q independent of the time step size. The computation of the spectral radius for arbitrary two-grid iteration matrices is in general not trivial, because the inverse of the coarse grid operator $\mathcal{L}_{2\tau_L}$ is involved. We therefore transform the equation (3.1) into the frequency domain, where we apply the analysis based on exponential Fourier modes. This type of analysis was introduced in [1], and can be made rigorous for model problems with periodic boundary conditions, see [2], and also [28, 30, 29]. For general boundary conditions, one can in general only get some insight into the local behavior of the two-grid algorithm, and the method is called Fourier mode analysis. In our case, we will see however that the Fourier mode analysis gives parameter and contraction estimates of excellent quality.

For periodic boundary conditions the problem (1.1) changes to

$$(3.6) \quad \partial_t u(t) + u(t) = f(t) \quad \text{for } t \in (0, t), \quad u(0) = u(T).$$

For the discretization of the problem (3.6) with a discontinuous Galerkin time stepping method we therefore have to solve a modified linear system (3.1), i.e.

$$(3.7) \quad [I_N \otimes (K_\tau + M_\tau) + \tilde{U}_N \otimes N_\tau] \mathbf{u} =: \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_\tau \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f},$$

where the matrix \tilde{U}_N is given by the circulant matrix

$$(3.8) \quad \tilde{U}_N := \begin{pmatrix} 0 & & & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & -1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}.$$

4. Fourier mode analysis. We now use Fourier mode analysis to study the behavior of the block Jacobi smoother and the two-grid cycle.

THEOREM 4.1 (Discrete Fourier transform). *For $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^{2m}$ we have*

$$\mathbf{u} = \sum_{k=1-m}^m \hat{u}_k \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k), \quad \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k)[\ell] := e^{i\ell\theta_k}, \quad \ell = 1, \dots, 2m, \quad \theta_k := \frac{k\pi}{m},$$

with the coefficients

$$\hat{u}_k := \frac{1}{2m} (\mathbf{u}, \boldsymbol{\varphi}(-\theta_k))_{\ell_2} = \frac{1}{2m} \sum_{\ell=1}^{2m} \mathbf{u}[\ell] \boldsymbol{\varphi}(-\theta_k)[\ell], \quad \text{for } k = 1 - m, \dots, m.$$

Proof. The proof can be found for example in [30, Theorem 7.3.1]. \square

DEFINITION 4.2 (Fourier modes, Fourier frequencies). *Let $N_L \in \mathbb{N}$. Then the vector valued function $\boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k)[\ell] := e^{i\ell\theta_k}$, $\ell = 1, \dots, N_L$ is called Fourier mode with frequency*

$$\theta_k \in \Theta_L := \left\{ \frac{2k\pi}{N_L} : k = 1 - \frac{N_L}{2}, \dots, \frac{N_L}{2} \right\} \subset (-\pi, \pi].$$

The frequencies Θ_L are further separated into low and high frequencies

$$\begin{aligned} \Theta_L^{\text{low}} &:= \Theta_L \cap \left(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2}\right], \\ \Theta_L^{\text{high}} &:= \Theta_L \cap \left(\left(-\pi, -\frac{\pi}{2}\right] \cup \left(\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi\right)\right) = \Theta_L \setminus \Theta_L^{\text{low}}. \end{aligned}$$

We denote by $N_L \in \mathbb{N}$ the number of time steps for the level $L \in \mathbb{N}_0$, and by $N_t = p_t + 1 \in \mathbb{N}$ the degrees of freedom with respect to one time step, see also (2.2). The next lemma permits the transform of a given vector corresponding to problem (3.1) into the frequency domain.

LEMMA 4.3. *The vector $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N_L})^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{N_L N_t}$ for $N_{L-1}, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ and $N_L = 2N_{L-1}$ can be written as*

$$\mathbf{u} = \sum_{k=-N_{L-1}+1}^{N_{L-1}} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k, U) = \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k, U),$$

with the vectors $\boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k, U) := U \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k)$ and $\boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k)[\ell] := \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k)[n]$ for $n = 1, \dots, N_L$ and $\ell = 1, \dots, N_t$, and the coefficient matrix $U = \text{diag}(\hat{u}_k[1], \dots, \hat{u}_k[N_t]) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}$ with the coefficients $\hat{u}_k[\ell] := \frac{1}{N_L} \sum_{i=1}^{N_L} u_i[\ell] \boldsymbol{\varphi}(-\theta_k)[i]$ for $k = 1 - N_{L-1}, \dots, N_{L-1}$.

Proof. For a fixed index $\ell \in \{1, \dots, N_t\}$ we apply Theorem 4.1 to the vector $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_\ell \in \mathbb{R}^{N_L}$ with $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_\ell[n] := \mathbf{u}_n[\ell]$, $n = 1, \dots, N_L$. Now by using the definition of the

coefficient $\hat{u}_k[\ell]$ and the definition of the vector $\boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)$, the statement of the lemma follows with

$$\begin{aligned} u_n[\ell] = \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_\ell[n] &= \sum_{k=-N_{L-1}+1}^{N_{L-1}} \hat{u}_k[\ell] \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k)[n] = \sum_{k=-N_{L-1}+1}^{N_{L-1}} \hat{u}_k[\ell] \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k)[\ell] \\ &= \sum_{k=-N_{L-1}+1}^{N_{L-1}} U[\ell, \ell] \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k)[\ell] = \sum_{k=-N_{L-1}+1}^{N_{L-1}} \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k, U)[\ell] = \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k, U)[\ell]. \end{aligned}$$

□

Note that in Lemma 4.3 the vector $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L = \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k, U)$ depends on the frequency $\theta_k \in \Theta_L$ and on the coefficient matrix $U \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}$, where the coefficient matrix U can be computed via the given vector $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N_L})^\top$. In the following we will study the mapping properties of the system matrix \mathcal{L}_{τ_L} and the smoother $\mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^\nu$ with respect to the vector $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L = \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k, U)$. Since the coefficient matrix U will be fixed and since we have to study the mapping properties of \mathcal{L}_{τ_L} and $\mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^\nu$ with respect to the frequencies $\theta_k \in \Theta_L$, we will use the simpler notation $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L = \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k)$. The dependence of the vector $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L$ on the coefficient matrix U is given in

DEFINITION 4.4 (Fourier space). *For $N_L, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ let the vector $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^L(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t N_L}$ be defined as in Lemma 4.3 with frequency $\theta_k \in \Theta_L$. Then we define the linear space of Fourier modes with frequency θ_k as*

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_L(\theta_k) &:= \text{span} \{ \boldsymbol{\Phi}^L(\theta_k) \} \\ &= \{ \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t N_L} : \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) = U \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k), n = 1, \dots, N_L \text{ and } U \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t} \}. \end{aligned}$$

4.1. Smoothing analysis. To study the mapping properties of the system matrix \mathcal{L}_{τ_L} and the smoother $\mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^\nu$, we need the following

LEMMA 4.5. *For $N_L, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$. Then we have for $n = 2, \dots, N_L$ the shifting equality $\boldsymbol{\psi}_{n-1}^L(\theta_k) = e^{-i\theta_k} \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)$.*

Proof. Using the definition of the blockwise Fourier mode $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$, we get the statement of the lemma for $n = 2, \dots, N_L$ and $\ell = 1, \dots, N_t$ with

$$\begin{aligned} \boldsymbol{\psi}_{n-1}^L(\theta_k)[\ell] &= \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} U[\ell, i] \boldsymbol{\Phi}_{n-1}^L(\theta_k)[i] = \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} U[\ell, i] \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k)[n-1] = \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} U[\ell, i] e^{i(n-1)\theta_k} \\ &= e^{-i\theta_k} \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} U[\ell, i] e^{in\theta_k} = e^{-i\theta_k} \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} U[\ell, i] \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\theta_k)[n] \\ &= e^{-i\theta_k} \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} U[\ell, i] \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k)[i] = e^{-i\theta_k} \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)[\ell]. \end{aligned}$$

□

We can now obtain the Fourier symbol of the periodic system matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$.

LEMMA 4.6. *For $N_L, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$. Then for the system matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$ as defined in (3.7) the Fourier symbol is*

$$(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n = (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L}) \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) \quad \text{for } n = 1, \dots, N_L.$$

Proof. Using the representation (3.7) of the matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$, we get for a fixed but arbitrary $j = 1, \dots, N_t$

$$\begin{aligned}
(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n[j] &= \sum_{m=1}^{N_L} \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} (I_{N_L}[n, m](K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})[j, i] + \tilde{U}_{N_L}[n, m]N_{\tau_L}[j, i]) \boldsymbol{\psi}_m^L(\theta_k)[i] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})[j, i] \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)[i] + \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} N_{\tau_L}[j, i] \sum_{m=1}^{N_L} \tilde{U}_{N_L}[n, m] \boldsymbol{\psi}_m^L(\theta_k)[i] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})[j, i] \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)[i] - \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} N_{\tau_L}[j, i] \boldsymbol{\psi}_{n-1}^L(\theta_k)[i] \\
&= \sum_{i=1}^{N_t} (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L})[j, i] \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)[i] \\
&= ((K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L}) \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)) [j],
\end{aligned}$$

where we used the definition of the matrix \tilde{U}_{N_L} and Lemma 4.5, assuming $n \neq 1$. For $n = 1$, we observe that

$$\sum_{m=1}^{N_L} \tilde{U}_{N_L}[n, m] \boldsymbol{\psi}_m^L(\theta_k)[i] = -N_{\tau_L}[j, i] \boldsymbol{\psi}_{N_L}^L(\theta_k)[i] = -e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)[i],$$

and hence we conclude that $(\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n[j] = ((K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L}) \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k)) [j]$. \square

Lemma 4.6 shows that the periodic system matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$ is a self-map on the Fourier space $\Psi_L(\theta_k)$, i.e. $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} : \Psi_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \Psi_L(\theta_k)$. This would not be the case for the system matrix \mathcal{L}_{τ_L} , but the two are closely related.

We next obtain the Fourier symbol of the periodic smoother $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu := [I - \omega_t D_{\tau_L}^{-1} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}]^\nu$.

LEMMA 4.7. *For $N_L, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ let $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$. Then for the smoother $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu$, we obtain for $\omega_t \in \mathbb{R}$ the symbol*

$$(\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n = S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) \quad \text{for } n = 1, \dots, N_L,$$

with the local iteration matrix

$$S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) := (1 - \omega_t) I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k} \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}.$$

Proof. Let $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$ and $\nu = 1$. Then, for $n = 1, \dots, N_L$ we obtain, using that $D_{\tau_L}^{-1}$ is a block diagonal matrix and applying Lemma 4.6

$$\begin{aligned}
(\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^1 \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n &= ((I_{N_L N_t} - \omega_t D_{\tau_L}^{-1} \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}) \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n \\
&= \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) - \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} (\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k))_n \\
&= \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) - \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L}) \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) \\
&= ((1 - \omega_t) I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k} \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}) \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k).
\end{aligned}$$

For $\nu > 1$ the statement follows simply by induction. \square

To analyze the smoothing behavior of the damped block Jacobi smoother $\tilde{S}_{\tau_L}^\nu$, we have to estimate the spectral radius of the local iteration matrix

$$S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) = (1 - \omega_t)I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k} \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}.$$

Hence, we have to compute the eigenvalues of the matrix $(K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}$.

LEMMA 4.8. *For $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ the eigenvalues of the matrix $(K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}$ are given by*

$$\sigma((K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}) = \{0, R(\lambda \tau_L)\},$$

where $R(z)$ is the A-stability function of the given discontinuous Galerkin time stepping scheme.

Proof. First we notice that the eigenvalues of the matrix $(K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}$ are independent of the basis $\{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^{N_t}$ which is used to compute the matrices K_{τ_L}, M_{τ_L} and N_{τ_L} . Hence we can use basis functions $\{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^{N_t}$ where the eigenvalues of the matrix $(K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}$ are easy to compute, i.e. polynomials $\psi_k \in \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(0, \tau_L)$ with the property

$$\psi_k(\tau_L) = \begin{cases} 1 & k = 1, \\ 0 & k \neq 1 \end{cases} \quad \text{for } k = 1, \dots, N_t.$$

To study the A-Stability of the discontinuous Galerkin discretization, we consider for $\lambda \in \mathbb{C}$ the model problem

$$\partial_t u(t) = \lambda u(t), \quad t \in (0, \tau_L) \quad \text{and} \quad u(0) = u_0.$$

This leads to the linear system

$$(K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L}) \mathbf{u}_1 = u_0 N_{\tau_L} \mathbf{v},$$

with the vector $\mathbf{v}[1] = 1$ and $\mathbf{v}[k] = 0$ for $k = 2, \dots, N_t$ and with the solution vector $\mathbf{u}_1 \in \mathbb{R}^{N_t}$ for the first step. Therefore the value at the endpoint τ_L of the discrete solution is given by

$$u_1 = u_0 \mathbf{v}^\top (K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L} \mathbf{v} \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Hence the stability function $R(z)$ with $z = \lambda \tau_L$ is given by

$$(4.1) \quad R(z(\lambda, \tau_L)) = R(\lambda \tau_L) = \mathbf{v}^\top (K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L} \mathbf{v}.$$

Since the matrix N_{τ_L} has rank one, only one eigenvalue can be nonzero and with (4.1), it is easy to see that this eigenvalue is given by $R(\lambda \tau_L)$. \square

Lemma 4.8 holds for any one step method. Hence a one step method is A-stable if and only if

$$|R(z(\lambda, \tau_L))| = \varrho((K_{\tau_L} - \lambda M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}) < 1 \quad \text{for all } z \in \mathbb{C} \text{ with } \Re(z) < 0.$$

Now we are able to compute the spectral radius of the local iteration matrix $S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) = (1 - \omega_t)I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k} \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}$.

LEMMA 4.9. *Let $p_t \in \mathbb{N}_0$. Then for the smoother $\tilde{S}_{\tau_L}^\nu$, the spectral radius of the local iteration matrix $S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) = (1 - \omega_t)I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k} \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L}$ is given by*

$$\varrho(S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)) = \max \left\{ |1 - \omega_t|, \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha(\tau_L), \theta_k) \right\},$$

with

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k)\right)^2 := (1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)\alpha \cos(\theta_k) + \alpha^2\omega_t^2,$$

where $\alpha = \alpha(t)$ is the $(p_t, p_t + 1)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of the exponential function e^{-t} .

Proof. Since I_{N_t} is the identity matrix, the eigenvalues of the local iteration matrix $S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)$ are given by

$$\sigma(S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)) = 1 - \omega_t + e^{-i\theta_k}\omega_t\sigma((K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1}N_{\tau_L}).$$

With Theorem 4.8 we are now able to compute the spectrum of the iteration matrix $S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)$,

$$\sigma(S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)) = \{1 - \omega_t, 1 - \omega_t + e^{-i\theta_k}\omega_t\alpha(\tau_L)\}.$$

Hence we obtain the spectral radius

$$\rho(S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)) = \max\{|1 - \omega_t|, |1 - \omega_t + e^{-i\theta_k}\omega_t\alpha(\tau_L)|\}.$$

Simple calculations lead to

$$\left|1 - \omega_t + e^{-i\theta_k}\omega_t\alpha(\tau_L)\right|^2 = (1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)\alpha(\tau_L)\cos(\theta_k) + (\alpha(\tau_L))^2\omega_t^2,$$

which completes the proof. \square

To proof the convergence of the block Jacobi smoother introduced in (3.3), we will estimate the spectral radius of the local iteration matrix $S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}$.

LEMMA 4.10. *Let $p_t \in \mathbb{N}_0$ and $\omega_t \in (0, 1]$, then the spectral radius of the local iteration matrix $S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t) = (1 - \omega_t)I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k}\omega_t(K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1}N_{\tau_L}$ is strictly bounded by one, i.e.*

$$\rho(S_{\tau_L}(\theta_k, \omega_t)) < 1.$$

Proof. In view of Lemma 4.9 we have to estimate the function

$$\max\left\{|1 - \omega_t|, \hat{S}(\omega_t, \tau_L, \theta_k)\right\}.$$

For $\omega_t \in (0, 1]$ we clearly have that $|1 - \omega_t| < 1$. For $\hat{S}(\omega_t, \tau_L, \theta_k)$ we estimate

$$\begin{aligned} \left|\hat{S}(\omega_t, \tau_L, \theta_k)\right|^2 &= \left|(1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)\alpha(\tau_L)\cos(\theta_k) + (\alpha(\tau_L))^2\omega_t^2\right| \\ &\leq (1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)|\alpha(\tau_L)| + |\alpha(\tau_L)|^2\omega_t^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since $\alpha(\tau_L) = R(-\tau_L)$ is the A-stability function for $z = -\tau_L$, see Theorem 4.8, and using the fact that the discontinuous Galerkin scheme is A-stable, see Corollary 2.3, we have $|\alpha(\tau_L)| < 1$ for $\tau_L > 0$. Hence we obtain the statement of this lemma with

$$\left|\hat{S}(\omega_t, \tau_L, \theta_k)\right|^2 < (1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t) + \omega_t^2 = (1 - \omega_t + \omega_t)^2 = 1.$$

\square

To analyze the smoothing behavior, we will need

LEMMA 4.13. *Let $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\alpha \geq -1$. Then for the function*

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k)\right)^2 = (1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)\alpha \cos(\theta_k) + \alpha^2\omega_t^2,$$

the min-max principle

$$\inf_{\omega_t \in (0,1]} \sup_{\theta_k \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k) = \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{1+\alpha^2}} & \alpha \geq 0, \\ |\alpha| & \alpha < 0, \end{cases} \in [0, 1]$$

holds with the asymptotically optimal parameter

$$\omega_t^* = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1+\alpha^2} & \alpha \geq 0, \\ 1 & \alpha < 0 \end{cases} \quad \text{and} \quad \theta^* = \begin{cases} \frac{\pi}{2} & \alpha \geq 0, \\ \pi & \alpha < 0. \end{cases}$$

Proof. Since $\hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k) \geq 0$, we will study the function

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k)\right)^2 = (1 - \omega_t)^2 + 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)\alpha \cos(\theta_k) + \alpha^2\omega_t^2.$$

For $\omega_t \in (0, 1]$, only the terms with α and $\cos(\theta_k)$ can become negative. We thus consider first the case $\alpha \geq 0$. We then simply have

$$\operatorname{argsup}_{\theta_k \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k) = \frac{\pi}{2} \quad \text{for } \omega_t \in (0, 1],$$

which leads to

$$\inf_{\omega_t \in (0,1]} \sup_{\theta_k \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k) = \inf_{\omega_t \in (0,1]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \frac{\pi}{2}).$$

Since $\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \frac{\pi}{2})\right)^2 = (1 - \omega_t)^2 + \alpha^2\omega_t^2$, we find that

$$\operatorname{arginf}_{\omega_t \in (0,1]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \frac{\pi}{2}) = \frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{S}\left(\frac{1}{1 + \alpha^2}, \alpha, \frac{\pi}{2}\right) = \frac{\alpha}{\sqrt{1 + \alpha^2}}.$$

For the case $\alpha < 0$ we have

$$\operatorname{argsup}_{\theta_k \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \theta_k) = \pi \quad \text{for } \omega_t \in (0, 1].$$

Because of

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \pi)\right)^2 = (1 - \omega_t)^2 - 2\omega_t(1 - \omega_t)|\alpha| + |\alpha|^2\omega_t^2 = (1 - \omega_t(1 + |\alpha|))^2,$$

we find that

$$\operatorname{arginf}_{\omega_t \in (0,1]} \hat{S}(\omega_t, \alpha, \pi) = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \hat{S}(1, \alpha, \pi) = |\alpha|,$$

which completes the proof. \square

The next lemma shows that the asymptotic smoothing factor μ_S is strictly bounded by $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$, if we use the optimal damping parameter $\omega_t^* = \omega_t^*(\tau_L)$.

LEMMA 4.14. *For the optimal choice of the damping parameter*

$$\omega_t^*(\tau_L) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1+(\alpha(\tau_L))^2} & \alpha(\tau_L) \geq 0, \\ 1 & \alpha(\tau_L) < 0 \end{cases}$$

the smoothing factor μ_S of the damped block Jacobi iteration (3.3) satisfies $\mu_S \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}$.

Proof. In view of Lemma 4.9 we have to estimate

$$\max_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{high}}} \left\{ |1 - \omega_t^*|, \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha(\tau_L), \theta_k) \right\}$$

with

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) \right)^2 = (1 - \omega_t^*)^2 + 2\omega_t^*(1 - \omega_t^*)\alpha \cos(\theta_k) + \alpha^2(\omega_t^*)^2.$$

Since $\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k)$ is symmetric with respect to the frequencies θ_k , we only have to estimate the function $\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k)$ for the frequencies $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{high}} \cap [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]$. Applying Lemma 4.13 for $\alpha = \alpha(\tau_L)$ gives the estimate

(4.2)

$$\max_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{high}}} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha(\tau_L), \theta_k) \leq \sup_{\theta_k \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha(\tau_L), \theta_k) = \begin{cases} \frac{\alpha(\tau_L)}{\sqrt{1+(\alpha(\tau_L))^2}} & \alpha(\tau_L) \geq 0, \\ |\alpha(\tau_L)| & \alpha(\tau_L) < 0. \end{cases}$$

Since $\alpha(\tau_L)$ is the $(p_t, p_t + 1)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of the exponential function, see Lemma 4.9, we have

$$-0.0980762 \approx \frac{5 - 3\sqrt{3}}{2} \leq \alpha(\tau_L) \leq 1 \quad \text{for } \tau_L \geq 0.$$

Combining this estimate with the results of (4.2) yields

$$\max_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{high}}} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) \leq \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} & \alpha \geq 0, \\ \frac{3\sqrt{3}-5}{2} & \alpha < 0, \end{cases} \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}.$$

Simple calculations show that

$$\sup_{\theta_k \in [\frac{\pi}{2}, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) \geq |1 - \omega_t^*|,$$

which completes the proof. \square

Because $\alpha(\tau_L)$ is the $(p_t, p_t + 1)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of the exponential function e^{-t} , we have that $\alpha(\tau_L) \rightarrow 1$ as $\tau_L \rightarrow 0$, and hence $\omega_t^* \approx \frac{1}{2}$ for τ_L close to zero, see Figure 2b. It turns out that the estimate of Lemma 4.14 also holds for a uniform damping parameter $\omega^* = \frac{1}{2}$. But for large time steps τ_L , better smoothing behavior is obtained when the optimal damping parameter $\omega^* = \omega^*(\tau_L)$ as given in Lemma 4.14 is used.

To show the convergence behavior of the damped block Jacobi smoother (3.3) with respect to the time step size τ_L , we now prove the following lemma for an arbitrary $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$.

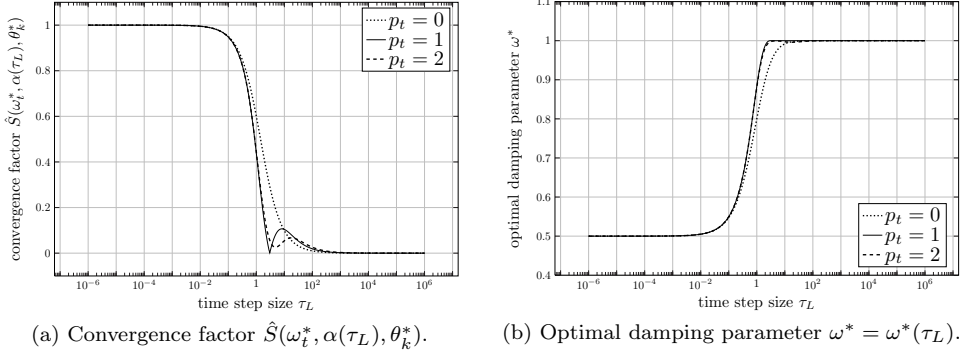


Fig. 2: Convergence factor $\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha(\tau_L), \theta_k^*)$ and optimal damping parameter ω^*

LEMMA 4.15. For $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ and the optimal choice for the damping parameter

$$\omega_t^* = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{1+\alpha^2} & \alpha \geq 0, \\ 1 & \alpha < 0, \end{cases}$$

we have the estimate

$$\max_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) \leq \frac{|\alpha|(1+|\alpha|)}{1+\alpha^2}.$$

Proof. For the optimal damping parameter ω_t^* , we have

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k)\right)^2 = \frac{\alpha^2}{1+\alpha^2} + \frac{2\alpha^3}{(1+\alpha^2)^2} \cos(\theta_k).$$

For the case $\alpha \geq 0$ we therefore obtain

$$\operatorname{argsup}_{\theta_k \in [0, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) = 0.$$

Thus we have

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, 0)\right)^2 = \frac{\alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + 2\alpha^3}{(1+\alpha^2)^2} = \frac{\alpha^2(1+\alpha)^2}{(1+\alpha^2)^2}.$$

For the case $\alpha < 0$ we find that

$$\operatorname{argsup}_{\theta_k \in [0, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) = \pi$$

and thus

$$\left(\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, 0)\right)^2 = \frac{\alpha^2 + \alpha^4 + 2|\alpha|^3}{(1+\alpha^2)^2} = \frac{\alpha^2(1+|\alpha|)^2}{(1+\alpha^2)^2}.$$

The statement of this lemma follows with the fact that

$$\max_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k) \leq \sup_{\theta_k \in [0, \pi]} \hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha, \theta_k).$$

□

REMARK 4.16. For sufficiently small values of $\alpha = \alpha(\tau_L)$, i.e. for sufficiently large time step sizes τ_L , it is shown in Lemma 4.15 that the convergence factor $\hat{S}(\omega_t^*, \alpha(\tau_L), \theta_k^*)$ of the block Jacobi smoother (3.3) is close to zero, see Figure 2a. Hence the block Jacobi smoother (3.3) is already a very good iterative solver.

All the estimates above are valid for arbitrary polynomial degrees $p_t \in \mathbb{N}_0$. For the limiting case $p_t \rightarrow \infty$, the function $\alpha(\tau_L)$ is given by

$$\alpha(\tau_L) = e^{-\tau_L},$$

since $\alpha(t)$ is the $(p_t, p_t + 1)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of the exponential function e^{-t} . Hence, the choice of the best damping parameter ω^* and the smoothing factors converge also to a limit function.

4.2. Two-grid analysis. We turn our attention now to the two-grid cycle for (3.1), for which the error satisfies

$$(4.3) \quad e^{k+1} = \mathcal{M}_{\tau_L} e^k := \mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_2} [I - \mathcal{P}^L \mathcal{L}_{2\tau_L}^{-1} \mathcal{R}^L \mathcal{L}_{\tau_L}] \mathcal{S}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_1} e^k.$$

We use again Fourier mode analysis, which would be exact for time periodic problems, see (3.6). We thus need to compute the Fourier symbol of the two-grid iteration matrix \mathcal{M}_{τ_L} . In Lemma 4.6 we already derived the local Fourier symbol for the system matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$,

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}(\theta_k) := K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t},$$

and the local Fourier symbol for the smoother $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu$ is given by

$$\hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu(\theta_k, \omega_t) := ((1 - \omega_t)I_{N_t} + e^{-i\theta_k} \omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L})^\nu \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t},$$

see Lemma 4.7. For the local parts it is convenient to use the so called stencil notation: for the system matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$, its stencil is

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} := \begin{bmatrix} -N_{\tau_L} & K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

and one smoothing iteration $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu$, $\nu = 1$, is given in stencil notation by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^1 := \begin{bmatrix} -\omega_t (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L})^{-1} N_{\tau_L} & (1 - \omega_t) I_{N_t} & 0 \end{bmatrix}.$$

Using periodic boundary conditions leads to the mapping properties

$$(4.4) \quad \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} : \Psi_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \Psi_L(\theta_k) \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu : \Psi_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \Psi_L(\theta_k).$$

We next analyze the mapping properties of the restriction and the prolongation operators, for which we need

LEMMA 4.17. The mapping $\gamma : \Theta_L^{\text{low}} \rightarrow \Theta_L^{\text{high}}$ with $\gamma(\theta_k) := \theta_k - \text{sign}(\theta_k)\pi$ is a one to one mapping.

Proof. Let $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$. By definition we have

$$\theta_k = \frac{2k\pi}{N_L} \quad \text{with} \quad k \in \left\{ 1 - \frac{N_L}{4}, \dots, \frac{N_L}{4} \right\}.$$

For the mapping γ we then obtain

$$\gamma(\theta_k) = \theta_k - \text{sign}(\theta_k)\pi = \frac{2k\pi}{N_L} - \text{sign}(\theta_k)\pi = \frac{2(k - \text{sign}(\theta_k)\frac{N_L}{2})\pi}{N_L} = \frac{2\hat{k}\pi}{N_L},$$

with

$$\hat{k} = k - \text{sign}(\theta_k)\frac{N_L}{2} \in \left\{1 - \frac{N_L}{2}, \dots, -\frac{N_L}{4}\right\} \cup \left\{\frac{N_L}{4} + 1, \dots, \frac{N_L}{2}\right\}.$$

This implies that $\gamma(\theta_k) \in \Theta_L^{\text{high}}$ and that $\text{sign}(\gamma(\theta_k)) = -\text{sign}(\theta_k)$. Hence we have

$$\gamma(\gamma(\theta_k)) = \gamma(\theta_k) - \text{sign}(\gamma(\theta_k))\pi = \gamma(\theta_k) + \text{sign}(\theta_k)\pi = \theta_k,$$

which completes the proof. \square

LEMMA 4.18. *The vector $\mathbf{u} = (\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \dots, \mathbf{u}_{N_L})^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{N_L N_t}$ for $N_{L-1}, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ and $N_L = 2N_{L-1}$ can be written as*

$$\mathbf{u} = \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}} [\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) + \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\gamma(\theta_k))],$$

where the vector $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t N_L}$ is defined as in Lemma 4.3.

Proof. Applying Lemma 4.3 and Lemma 4.17 proves the statement of this lemma with

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u} &= \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) = \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) + \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{high}}} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \\ &= \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) + \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}} \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\gamma(\theta_k)) = \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}} [\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) + \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\gamma(\theta_k))]. \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 4.18 motivates

DEFINITION 4.19 (Space of harmonics). *For $N_L, N_t \in \mathbb{N}$ and for a low frequency $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ let the vector $\boldsymbol{\Phi}^L(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t N_L}$ be defined as in Lemma 4.3. Then the linear space of harmonics with frequency θ_k is given by*

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k) &:= \text{span} \{ \boldsymbol{\Phi}^L(\theta_k), \boldsymbol{\Phi}^L(\gamma(\theta_k)) \} \\ &= \{ \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t N_L} : \boldsymbol{\psi}_n^L(\theta_k) = U_1 \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\theta_k) + U_2 \boldsymbol{\Phi}_n^L(\gamma(\theta_k)), \\ &\quad n = 1, \dots, N_L \text{ and } U_1, U_2 \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t} \}. \end{aligned}$$

Under the assumption of periodic boundary conditions, the mappings (4.4) imply the mapping properties

$$(4.5) \quad \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L} : \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k) \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu : \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k),$$

with the mapping for the system matrix $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}$

$$(4.6) \quad \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}(\theta_k) & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}(\gamma(\theta_k)) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix},$$

and the mapping for the smoother $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu$

$$(4.7) \quad \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu(\theta_k, \omega_t) & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^\nu(\gamma(\theta_k), \omega_t) \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We now analyze the two-grid cycle on the space of harmonics $\mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k)$ for frequencies $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$. To do so, we further have to investigate the mapping properties of the restriction and prolongation operators \mathcal{R}^L and \mathcal{P}^L . The restriction operator is given by

$$(4.8) \quad \mathcal{R}^L := \begin{pmatrix} R_1 & R_2 & & & \\ & & R_1 & R_2 & \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & R_1 & R_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_t N_L \times N_t N_{L-1}},$$

and the prolongation operator is given by

$$(4.9) \quad \mathcal{P}^L := \begin{pmatrix} R_1^\top & & & & \\ R_2^\top & & & & \\ & R_1^\top & & & \\ & R_2^\top & \ddots & & \\ & & \ddots & R_1^\top & \\ & & & & R_2^\top \end{pmatrix} = (\mathcal{R}^L)^\top \in \mathbb{R}^{N_t N_{L-1} \times N_t N_L},$$

with the local prolongation matrices

$$R_1^\top := M_{\tau_L}^{-1} \widetilde{M}_{\tau_L}^1 \quad \text{and} \quad R_2^\top := M_{\tau_L}^{-1} \widetilde{M}_{\tau_L}^2,$$

where for basis functions $\{\psi_k\}_{k=1}^{N_t} \subset \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(0, \tau_L)$ and $\{\tilde{\psi}_k\}_{k=1}^{N_t} \subset \mathbb{P}^{p_t}(0, 2\tau_L)$ the local projection matrices from coarse to fine grids are defined for $k, \ell = 1, \dots, N_t$ by

$$\widetilde{M}_{\tau_L}^1[k, \ell] := \int_0^{\tau_L} \tilde{\psi}_\ell(t) \psi_k(t) dt \quad \text{and} \quad \widetilde{M}_{\tau_L}^2[k, \ell] := \int_{\tau_L}^{2\tau_L} \tilde{\psi}_\ell(t) \psi_k(t + \tau) dt.$$

To prove the mapping properties of the restriction operator \mathcal{R}^L we need

LEMMA 4.20. *Let $\psi^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$ for $\theta_k \in \Theta_L$. Then $\psi_{2n}^L(\theta_k) = \psi_n^L(2\theta_k)$ holds for $n = 1, \dots, N_{L-1}$.*

Proof. Let $\psi^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$. Hence we have $\psi_n^L(\theta_k) = U \Phi_n^L(\theta_k)$ for $n = 1, \dots, N_L$. Then for $\Phi_{2n}^L(\theta_k)$ with $n \in \{1, \dots, N_{L-1}\}$ we obtain for $\ell = 1, \dots, N_t$ that

$$\Phi_{2n}^L(\theta_k)[\ell] = \varphi_{2n}(\theta_k) = e^{i2n\theta_k} = \varphi_n(2\theta_k) = \Phi_n^L(2\theta_k)[\ell].$$

Hence the statement of this lemma follows from

$$\psi_{2n}^L(\theta_k) = U \Phi_{2n}^L(\theta_k) = U \Phi_n^L(2\theta_k) = \psi_n^L(2\theta_k).$$

□

The next two lemmas give the mapping properties of the restriction and extension:

LEMMA 4.21. *Let $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$. Then the restriction operator \mathcal{R}^L has the mapping property*

$$\mathcal{R}^L : \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \Psi_{L-1}(2\theta_k),$$

with the mapping

$$\begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto (\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) \quad \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\gamma(\theta_k))) \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}$$

and the Fourier symbol

$$\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) := e^{-i\theta_k} R_1 + R_2.$$

Proof. Let $\psi^L(\theta_k) \in \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k)$ for some frequency $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ with the linear combination $\psi_n^L(\theta_k) = U_1 \Phi_n^L(\theta_k) + U_2 \Phi_n^L(\gamma(\theta_k))$. Then for the Fourier mode $\Phi^L(\theta_\ell)$ with frequency $\theta_\ell \in \Theta_L$ we have for a fixed $n \in \{1, \dots, N_{L-1}\}$

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathcal{R}^L \Phi^L(\theta_\ell))_n &= R_1 \Phi_{2n-1}^L(\theta_\ell) + R_2 \Phi_{2n}^L(\theta_\ell) = [e^{-i\theta_\ell} R_1 + R_2] \Phi_{2n}^L(\theta_\ell) \\ &= [e^{-i\theta_\ell} R_1 + R_2] \Phi_n^{L-1}(2\theta_\ell), \end{aligned}$$

since $\Phi^L(\theta_\ell) \in \Psi_L(\theta_\ell)$ using Lemma 4.5, and also applying Lemma 4.20. Using this result for the vector $\psi^L(\theta_k)$ leads to

$$(\mathcal{R}^L \psi^L(\theta_k))_n = \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) U_1 \Phi_n^{L-1}(2\theta_k) + \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\gamma(\theta_k)) U_2 \Phi_n^{L-1}(2\gamma(\theta_k)).$$

For $i = 1, \dots, N_t$ we further have that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_n^{L-1}(2\gamma(\theta_k))[i] &= \varphi_n(2\gamma(\theta_k)) = e^{in2\gamma(\theta_k)} = e^{in2\theta_k - i \text{sign}(\theta_k)2\pi} \\ &= e^{in2\theta_k} = \varphi_n(2\theta_k) = \Phi_n^{L-1}(2\theta_k)[i]. \end{aligned}$$

Hence we obtain

$$(\mathcal{R}^L \psi^L(\theta_k))_n = \left[\hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k) U_1 + \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\gamma(\theta_k)) U_2 \right] \Phi_n^{L-1}(2\theta_k),$$

which completes the proof. \square

LEMMA 4.22. *Let $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$. Then the the prolongation operator \mathcal{P}^L has the mapping property*

$$\mathcal{P}^L : \Psi_{L-1}(2\theta_k) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k),$$

with the mapping

$$U \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{P}}(\theta_k) \\ \hat{\mathcal{P}}(\gamma(\theta_k)) \end{pmatrix} U \in \mathbb{C}^{2N_t \times N_t}$$

and the Fourier symbol

$$\hat{\mathcal{P}}(\theta_k) := \frac{1}{2} [e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top + R_2^\top].$$

Proof. For $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ let $\psi^{L-1}(2\theta_k) \in \Psi_{L-1}(2\theta_k)$ with $\psi_{\hat{n}}^{L-1}(2\theta_k) = U \Phi_{\hat{n}}^{L-1}(2\theta_k)$ for $\hat{n} \in \{1, \dots, N_{L-1}\}$. We then define $\psi^L(\theta_k) \in \Psi_L(\theta_k)$ as $\psi_n^L(\theta_k) = U \Phi_n^L(\theta_k)$ for $n \in \{1, \dots, N_L\}$ and obtain

$$(\mathcal{P}^L \psi^{L-1}(2\theta_k))_{2\hat{n}-1} = R_1^\top \psi_{\hat{n}}^{L-1}(2\theta_k) = R_1^\top \psi_{2\hat{n}}^L(\theta_k) = e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top \psi_{2\hat{n}-1}^L(\theta_k),$$

where we used Lemma 4.20 and Lemma 4.5. Similar computations also give

$$(\mathcal{P}^L \psi^{L-1}(2\theta_k))_{2\hat{n}} = R_2^\top \psi_{\hat{n}}^{L-1}(2\theta_k) = R_2^\top \psi_{2\hat{n}}^L(\theta_k).$$

Hence we have for $n \in \{1, \dots, N_L\}$

$$(\mathcal{P}^L \psi^{L-1}(2\theta_k))_n = \begin{cases} e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top \psi_n^L(\theta_k) & n \text{ odd,} \\ R_2^\top \psi_n^L(\theta_k) & n \text{ even} \end{cases} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t}.$$

For the image of the prolongation operator \mathcal{P}^L to be contained in $\mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k)$, the following equations have to be satisfied for $n = 1, \dots, N_L$:

$$(4.10) \quad \begin{aligned} U_1 \Phi_n^L(\theta_k) + U_2 \Phi_n^L(\gamma(\theta_k)) &= e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top U \Phi_n^L(\theta_k) && \text{for } n \text{ odd,} \\ U_1 \Phi_n^L(\theta_k) + U_2 \Phi_n^L(\gamma(\theta_k)) &= R_2^\top U \Phi_n^L(\theta_k) && \text{for } n \text{ even.} \end{aligned}$$

Further computations show for $\ell = 1, \dots, N_t$ that

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_n^L(\gamma(\theta_k))[\ell] &= \varphi_n(\gamma(\theta_k)) = e^{in\gamma(\theta_k)} = e^{in\theta_k - i \text{sign}(\theta_k)n\pi} = \varphi_n(\theta_k) e^{i \text{sign}(\theta_k)n\pi} \\ &= \Phi_n^L(\theta_k)[\ell] \begin{cases} 1 & n \text{ even,} \\ -1 & n \text{ odd.} \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Hence the equations (4.10) are equivalent to the system of linear equations

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 - U_2 &= e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top U, \\ U_1 + U_2 &= R_2^\top U. \end{aligned}$$

Solving for U_1 and U_2 results in

$$\begin{aligned} U_1 &= \frac{1}{2} [e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top + R_2^\top] = \hat{\mathcal{P}}(\theta_k)U, \\ U_2 &= \frac{1}{2} [-e^{i\theta_k} R_1^\top + R_2^\top] = \frac{1}{2} [e^{i(\theta_k - \text{sign}(\theta_k)\pi)} R_1^\top + R_2^\top] \\ &= \frac{1}{2} [e^{i\gamma(\theta_k)} R_1^\top + R_2^\top] = \hat{\mathcal{P}}(\gamma(\theta_k))U, \end{aligned}$$

which completes the proof. \square

In view of Lemma 4.21 and Lemma 4.22, the stencil notations for the restriction and prolongation operators \mathcal{R}^L and \mathcal{P}^L are given by

$$\tilde{\mathcal{R}}^L := [R_1 \quad R_2 \quad 0] \quad \text{and} \quad \tilde{\mathcal{P}}^L := \frac{1}{2} [0 \quad R_2^\top \quad R_1^\top].$$

For the two-grid operator \mathcal{M}_{τ_L} it now remains to prove the mapping property of the coarse grid operator $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{2\tau_L}^{-1}$. Assuming periodic boundary conditions, we have for $\theta_k \in \Theta_{L-1}$ by using (4.4) that

$$\tilde{\mathcal{L}}_{2\tau_L}^{-1} : \Psi_{L-1}(\theta_k) \rightarrow \Psi_{L-1}(\theta_k),$$

with the Fourier symbol

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{2\tau_L}^{-1}(\theta_k) = (K_{\tau_L} + M_{\tau_L} - e^{-i\theta_k} N_{\tau_L})^{-1} = (\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{2\tau_L}(\theta_k))^{-1} \in \mathbb{C}^{N_t \times N_t}.$$

LEMMA 4.23. *The frequency mapping*

$$\beta : \Theta_L^{\text{low}} \rightarrow \Theta_{L-1} \quad \text{with} \quad \theta_k \mapsto 2\theta_k$$

is a one to one mapping.

Proof. For $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ we obtain

$$\beta(\theta_k) = 2\theta_k = 2 \frac{2k\pi}{N_L} = \frac{2k\pi}{\frac{N_L}{2}} = \frac{2k\pi}{N_{L-1}} \in \Theta_{L-1}.$$

The proof of this lemma then follows from the identity

$$k \in \left\{ 1 - \frac{N_L}{4}, \dots, \frac{N_L}{4} \right\} = \left\{ 1 - \frac{N_{L-1}}{2}, \dots, \frac{N_{L-1}}{2} \right\}.$$

□

With Lemma 4.23 we now have for $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ the coarse grid operator mapping property

$$(4.11) \quad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{2\tau_L}^{-1} : \Psi_{L-1}(2\theta_k) \rightarrow \Psi_{L-1}(\theta_k).$$

We are now able to prove the following theorem for the two-grid operator \mathcal{M}_{τ_L} .

THEOREM 4.24. *Let $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$. With time periodic boundary conditions, the two-grid operator \mathcal{M}_{τ_L} has the mapping property*

$$\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L} : \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k) \rightarrow \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k),$$

with the mapping

$$\begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix} \mapsto \hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \begin{pmatrix} U_1 \\ U_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

and the iteration matrix

$$\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) := \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_2}(\theta_k, \omega_t) & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_2}(\gamma(\theta_k), \omega_t) \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{K}(\theta_k) \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_1}(\theta_k, \omega_t) & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mathcal{S}}_{\tau_L}^{\nu_1}(\gamma(\theta_k), \omega_t) \end{pmatrix}$$

with

$$\mathcal{K}(\theta_k) := I_{2N_t} - \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{P}}(\theta_k) \\ \hat{\mathcal{P}}(\gamma(\theta_k)) \end{pmatrix} (\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{2\tau_L}(2\theta_k))^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\theta_k)^\top \\ \hat{\mathcal{R}}(\gamma(\theta_k))^\top \end{pmatrix}^\top \begin{pmatrix} \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}(\theta_k) & 0 \\ 0 & \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\tau_L}(\gamma(\theta_k)) \end{pmatrix}.$$

Proof. The statement of this theorem is a direct consequence of Lemma 4.21, Lemma 4.22 and the mapping properties (4.5) and (4.11). □

We now write the initial error $\mathbf{e}^0 = \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}^0$ as

$$\mathbf{e}^0 = \sum_{\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}} [\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) + \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\gamma(\theta_k))],$$

with $\boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\theta_k) + \boldsymbol{\psi}^L(\gamma(\theta_k)) \in \mathcal{E}_L(\theta_k)$ for all $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$, see Lemma 4.18. In view of Theorem 4.24 we can analyze the asymptotic behavior of the two-grid cycle by simply

computing the largest spectral radius of $\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{2N_t \times 2N_t}$ with respect to the low frequencies $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$. This motivates

DEFINITION 4.25 (Asymptotic two-grid convergence factor). *For the two-grid iteration matrix \mathcal{M}_{τ_L} , we define the asymptotic convergence factor*

$$\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L}) := \max \left\{ \varrho \left(\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \right) : \theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}} \right\}.$$

For the simplest case, i.e. for the polynomial degree $p_t = 0$, we have to compute the spectral radius of the 2×2 iteration matrix $\mathcal{M}(\theta_k)$. Using one pre and post smoothing step, i.e. $\nu_1 = \nu_2 = 1$, we find that the spectral radius of $\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \in \mathbb{C}^{2 \times 2}$ is

$$\varrho \left(\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \right) = \left| \frac{4(1 + \tau_L)^2 (\sin(\theta_k))^2 + \tau_L^2 (1 + 2\tau_L - e^{2i\theta_k})}{(2 + \tau_L(2 + \tau_L))^2 ((1 + 2\tau_L)e^{2i\theta_k} - 1)} \right|.$$

Further calculations show that the maximum of $\varrho \left(\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \right)$ with respect to the low frequencies $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ is obtained for $\theta_k^* = \frac{\pi}{2}$. Hence for this simple case we can compute the asymptotic convergence factor explicitly,

$$\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L}) = \frac{1}{2 + 2\tau_L + \tau_L^2} \in \left[0, \frac{1}{2}\right] \quad \text{for all } \tau_L \geq 0.$$

For periodic boundary conditions we therefore conclude that the two-grid cycle converges for any $\tau_L \geq 0$ to the exact solution, since $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L}) \leq \frac{1}{2}$ for all $\tau_L \geq 0$. Furthermore, we obtain that the asymptotic convergence factor $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ gets very small for large time step sizes, i.e. $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L}) = \mathcal{O}(\tau_L^{-2})$. This results from the fact that the smoother itself is already an efficient iterative solver for large time step sizes, see Remark 4.16.

For higher polynomial degrees p_t , we have to compute the eigenvalues of the $2(p_t + 1) \times 2(p_t + 1)$ iteration matrix $\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k)$, which are difficult to obtain in closed form. We thus compute numerically for all frequencies $\theta_k \in \Theta_L^{\text{low}}$ the eigenvalues of $\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k)$ to determine the asymptotic convergence factor $\varrho \left(\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \right)$ for a given time step size τ_L .

We show in Figures 3–8 the theoretical asymptotic convergence factors $\varrho \left(\hat{\mathcal{M}}(\theta_k) \right)$ as solid lines for $\tau_L \in [10^{-6}, 10^6]$ and $p_t \in \{0, 1, \dots, 5\}$ and three numbers of smoothing iterations $\nu_1 = \nu_2 = \nu$ with $\nu \in \{1, 2, 5\}$. We see that for higher polynomial degrees $p_t \geq 1$ the theoretical convergence factors are about half the theoretical convergence factor of the lowest order case $p_t = 0$. We also notice that the theoretical convergence factors are close to zero for large time step sizes τ_L , as expected, see Remark 4.16. Furthermore, for odd polynomial degrees p_t we observe a peak in the plots for the theoretical convergence factors. This is because for odd polynomial degrees, the $(p_t, p_t + 1)$ subdiagonal Padé approximation of e^{-t} has exactly one zero for $t > 0$. Hence for one $\tau_L^* > 0$ we have $\alpha(\tau_L^*) = 0$ which implies for the smoothing factor $\mu_S = 0$, see Lemma 4.15. Hence the application of only two smoothing iterations results in an exact solver.

We also show in the same Figures 3–8, using dots, triangles and squares, the numerically computed convergence factors when solving the equation

$$\mathcal{L}_{\tau_L} \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$$

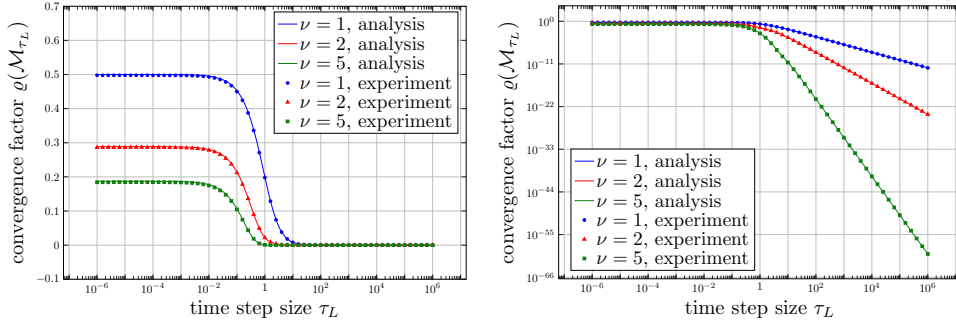


Fig. 3: Average convergence factor $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ for different time step sizes τ_L , $p_t = 0$ and numerical convergence rates for $N_t = 1024$ time steps. Log-linear plot (top) and Log-log plot (bottom).

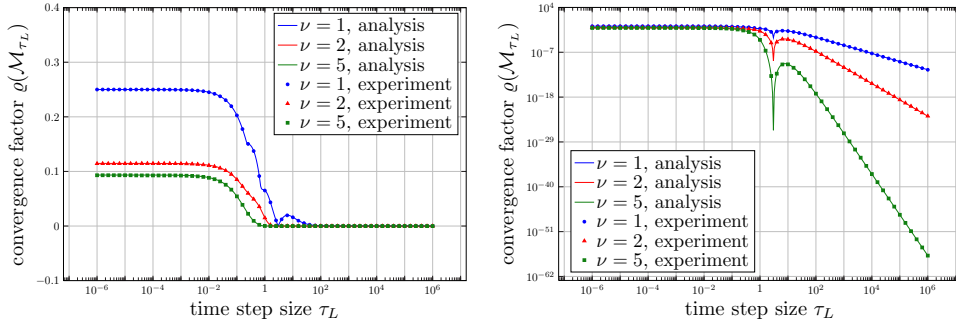


Fig. 4: Average convergence factor $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ for different time step sizes τ_L , $p_t = 1$ and numerical convergence rates for $N_t = 1024$ time steps. Log-linear plot (top) and Log-log plot (bottom).

with our two-grid cycle. We use $N_L = 1024$ time steps with a zero right hand side, i.e. $\mathbf{f} = \mathbf{0}$, and a random initial vector \mathbf{u}^0 with values between zero and one. The numerical convergence factor we measure is

$$\max_{k=1, \dots, N_{\text{iter}}} \frac{\|\mathbf{r}^{k+1}\|_2}{\|\mathbf{r}^k\|_2}, \quad \text{with } \mathbf{r}^k := \mathbf{f} - \mathcal{L}_{\tau_L} \mathbf{u}^k,$$

where $N_{\text{iter}} \in \mathbb{N}$, $N_{\text{iter}} \leq 250$ is the number of two-grid iterations used until we have reached a given relative error reduction of ε_{MG} . To measure the asymptotic behavior of the two-grid cycle, we have to use quite a small tolerance $\varepsilon_{\text{MG}} = 10^{-140}$, since in the pre-asymptotic range the convergence rates of the two-grid cycle are in fact even better than our asymptotic estimate. We see that the theoretical results from the Fourier mode analysis agree very well with the numerical results, even though the Fourier mode analysis is only rigorous for time periodic conditions.

5. Numerical example. In this example we test the weak and strong scaling behavior of our new time multigrid algorithm. We use different polynomial degrees

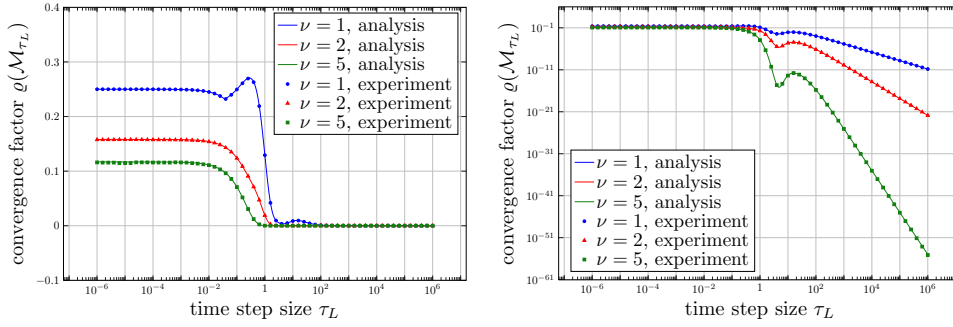


Fig. 5: Average convergence factor $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ for different time step sizes τ_L , $p_t = 2$ and numerical convergence rates for $N_t = 1024$ time steps. Log-linear plot (top) and Log-log plot (bottom).

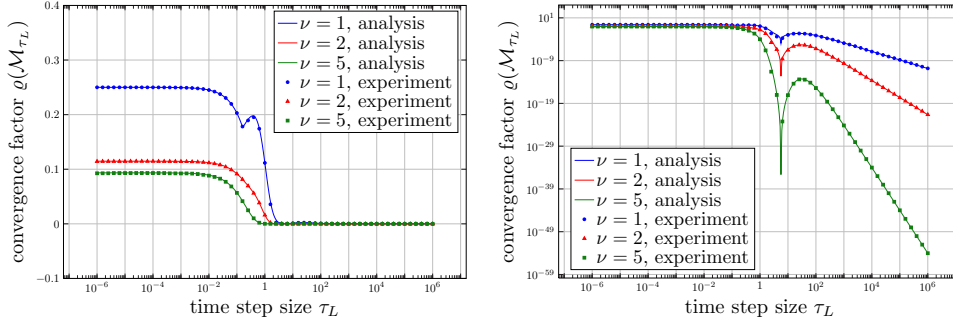


Fig. 6: Average convergence factor $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ for different time step sizes τ_L , $p_t = 3$ and numerical convergence rates for $N_t = 1024$ time steps. Log-linear plot (top) and Log-log plot (bottom).

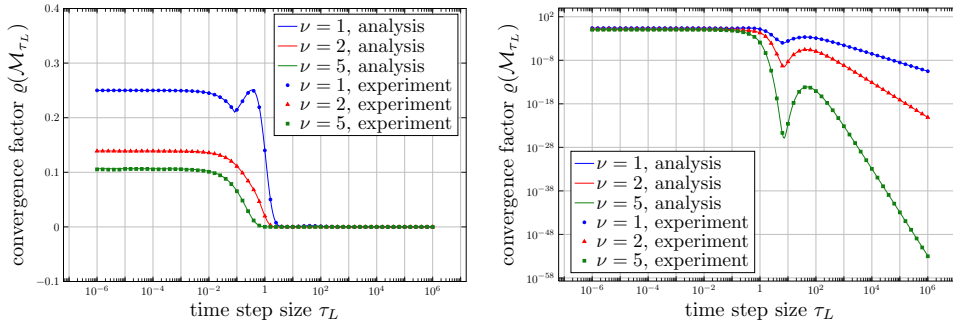


Fig. 7: Average convergence factor $\varrho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ for different time step sizes τ_L , $p_t = 4$ and numerical convergence rates for $N_t = 1024$ time steps. Log-linear plot (top) and Log-log plot (bottom).

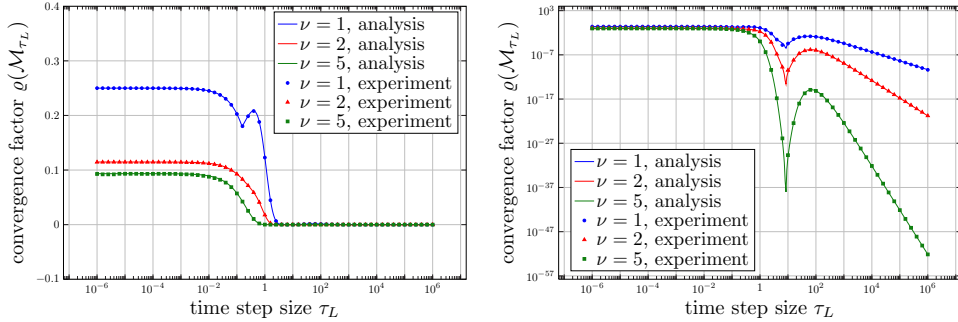


Fig. 8: Average convergence factor $\rho(\mathcal{M}_{\tau_L})$ for different time step sizes τ_L , $p_t = 5$ and numerical convergence rates for $N_t = 1024$ time steps. Log-linear plot (top) and Log-log plot (bottom).

$p_t \in \{0, 1, 5, 10, 20\}$ and a fixed time step size $\tau = 10^{-6}$. For a random initial guess and a zero right hand side we run the algorithm until we have reached a relative error reduction of $\varepsilon_{\text{MG}} = 10^{-8}$. We first study the weak scaling behavior by using a fixed number of time steps per core (32 768), and we increase the number of cores when increasing the number of time steps. In Table 1a, we give computation times for different numbers of cores and polynomial degrees. We observe excellent weak scaling, i.e. the computation times remain bounded when we increase the number of cores. We next study the strong scaling behavior by fixing the problem size, i.e. we use 1 048 576 time steps in this example. Then we increase the number of cores from 1 up to 32 768. In Table 1b the computation times are given for different number of cores and polynomial degrees. We observe that the computation costs are basically divided by a factor of two if we double the number of cores, only for 32 768 cores and $p_t \in \{0, 1, 5\}$ we obtain no speedup any more, since the local problems are too small, i.e. for $p_t = 0$ one core has to solve for only 32 unknowns.

These computations were performed on the cluster Monte Rosa in Manno, Switzerland.

6. Conclusions. We focused in this paper on the analysis of the multigrid method in time, and our model problem did not contain an operator in space. To fully leverage the speedup, we consider now the time dependent heat equation $\partial_t u = \Delta u + f$. Applying our time multigrid algorithm requires now in each step of the block Jacobi smoother the solution of Laplace like problems, which we do by just applying one V-cycle of spatial multi-grid. Doing so, we obtain a space-time parallel method which takes on one processor for a problem of size 131 120 896 a solution time of 10416.90 seconds, which is about the same as for forward substitution which took 9970.89 seconds, but which can run in parallel on 2048 cores in about 10 seconds, about one thousand times faster than using forward substitution. These results have been computed on the Vienna Scientific Cluster VSC-2. The precise analysis of this space-time multigrid algorithm builds on the results we presented in this paper, but requires techniques for the spatial part that will appear elsewhere.

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cores	time steps	$p_t = 0$	$p_t = 1$	$p_t = 5$	$p_t = 10$	$p_t = 20$
1	32 768	3.96	2.45	3.60	7.97	17.77
2	65 536	5.30	3.39	5.10	10.74	25.83
4	131 072	5.34	3.38	5.45	10.84	26.13
8	262 144	5.95	3.77	5.75	11.70	28.54
16	524 288	5.94	3.77	5.78	11.69	28.61
32	1 048 576	5.96	3.80	5.87	11.73	27.21
64	2 097 152	7.92	4.73	6.68	12.62	27.96
128	4 194 304	8.03	4.74	6.66	12.76	28.52
256	8 388 608	8.09	4.91	6.80	12.90	28.29
512	16 777 216	8.06	4.79	6.75	12.82	29.13
1 024	33 554 432	7.96	4.75	6.69	13.01	28.89
2 048	67 108 864	8.06	4.79	6.73	13.02	28.86
4 096	134 217 728	8.14	4.80	6.77	12.77	29.18
8 192	268 435 456	8.14	4.89	6.84	13.03	29.23
16 384	536 870 912	8.10	4.80	6.82	13.25	29.52
32 768	1 073 741 824	8.21	4.94	6.90	13.19	29.03

(a) Weak scaling results.

cores	time steps	$p_t = 0$	$p_t = 1$	$p_t = 5$	$p_t = 10$	$p_t = 20$
1	1 048 576	129.11	78.79	117.99	254.95	535.43
2	1 048 576	85.66	54.69	82.36	172.46	396.71
4	1 048 576	42.90	27.22	41.17	86.81	199.71
8	1 048 576	23.83	15.08	22.90	46.87	107.77
16	1 048 576	11.91	7.57	11.50	23.40	54.06
32	1 048 576	5.96	3.80	5.87	11.73	27.21
64	1 048 576	3.98	2.45	3.31	6.50	13.70
128	1 048 576	1.97	1.18	1.67	3.23	6.97
256	1 048 576	0.984	0.598	0.808	1.57	3.49
512	1 048 576	0.508	0.299	0.407	0.787	1.77
1 024	1 048 576	0.264	0.155	0.210	0.444	0.904
2 048	1 048 576	0.146	0.0864	0.114	0.210	0.465
4 096	1 048 576	0.0861	0.0506	0.0653	0.116	0.243
8 192	1 048 576	0.0548	0.0329	0.0405	0.0743	0.129
16 384	1 048 576	0.0400	0.0230	0.0272	0.0424	0.0767
32 768	1 048 576	0.0511	0.0241	0.0288	0.0376	0.0608

(b) Strong scaling results.

Table 1: Scaling results with solving times in seconds.

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