

Exercises for Partial Differential Equations II

1. Poisson-equation in 2D:

Gauss law (in dimensionless form) is given by $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{E} = \rho$. With $\mathbf{E} = -\nabla\phi$ we derive a Poisson equation. Here we consider the problem in 2D:

($\mathbf{E} = E_x(x, y)\mathbf{e}_x + E_y(x, y)\mathbf{e}_y$) which leads to:

$$-\frac{\partial^2\phi(x, y)}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^2\phi(x, y)}{\partial y^2} = \rho(x, y)$$

Solve this equation numerically with Dirichlet boundary conditions $\phi = 0$ on all boundaries. Compute the potential $\phi(x, y)$ and the electric field $\mathbf{E}(x, y)$.

- Jacobi method.
- Gauss-Seidel method.
- Successive Overrelaxation (SOR-method).
- Try to find the optimum relaxation factor w for the SOR-method.
- Investigate how the methods scale with the grid resolution. Say $h = 0.4, 0.2, 0.1$.

For an implementation in IDL you can start with the program

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The program computes a distribution of electric charges $\rho(x, y)$ on a grid $L_x = 12$, $L_y = 10$ with a grid resolution $\Delta x = \Delta y = h = 0.4$

