Solving one- and two-dimensional unsteady Burgers’ equation using fully implicit finite difference schemes

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ABSTRACT
This paper introduces new fully implicit numerical schemes for solving 1D and 2D unsteady Burgers’ equation. The non-linear Burgers’ equation is discretized in the spatial direction by using second order Finite difference method which converts the Burgers’ equation to non-linear system of ODEs. Then, the backward differentiation formula of order two (BDF-2) is employed to march the solution in the time direction. The non-linear term in the obtained system is linearized without any transformation; and it forms a system of linear algebraic equations that is solved by using Thomas’s algorithm. Accuracy and performance of the proposed schemes are studied by using four test problems with Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions. Comparing the numerical results with exact solutions and the solutions of other schemes shows that the proposed schemes are simple, efficient and accurate even for the cases with high Reynolds numbers.

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1. Introduction

Non-linear partial differential equations are found in various fields of science and engineering as in plasma fields (Seadawy, 2015a, 2015b, 2017a, 2017b), nanofluid flow (Sheikholeslami, Zeeshan, & Majeed, 2018; Sheikholeslami & Zeeshan, 2018; Sheikholeslami & Zeeshan, 2017) and shallow-water waves (Seadawy, 2017c). Burgers’ equation is considered one of the most common non-linear partial differential equations. It arises in many physical problems, including shock flows, traffic flows, non-linear wave propagation, waves of impact and sound waves in a viscous medium.

This paper considers two cases of the unsteady Burgers’ equation:

1.1. One-dimensional Burgers’ equation

\[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad P_1 \leq x \leq P_2, \quad t \in [0, \ T], \]

with the initial condition

\[ u(x, \ 0) = u_0(x), \]

and, the Dirichlet boundary conditions

\[ u(P_1, \ t) = u(P_2, \ t) = 0; \quad t \in [0, \ T], \]

or, the Mixed boundary conditions

\[ u_u(P_1, \ t) = 0, \quad u(P_2, \ t) = f(x, \ t); \quad t \in [0, \ T], \]

1.2 Two-dimensional Burgers’ equation

\[ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = v \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right), \]

where \( u \) is the velocity, \( \nu = 1/Re > 0 \) is an arbitrary number which is known as kinematic viscosity coefficient, \( Re \) is the Reynolds number, \( u_0, \ g_1, \ g_2, \ g_3, \ g_4 \) are known functions, \( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \) is unsteady term, \( u \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \) is the non-linear convective term, and \( v \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \) is the diffusive term. Burgers’ equation is taken as a model for testing numerical methods; and also for obtaining the numerical solutions of the equation for small viscosity values due to its similarity to the Navier-Stokes equations. Scientists and engineers are interested in...
using various numerical techniques in order to study the properties of the Burgers’ equation due to its applicability in the different fields of science and engineering.

Bateman in (Bateman 1915) is the first who introduced Burgers’ equation. Later, in the papers (Burgers 1939, 1948), Burgers investigated various aspects of turbulence and provided a mathematical model illustrating the theory. Also, he studied the statistical and spectral aspects of the equation and related systems of equations. Hopf and Cole in (Cole 1951, Hopf 1950) studied the general properties of the equation in order to show the typical characteristics of the shock wave theory.

The solution of the Burgers’ equation is an active area through which researchers developed many numerical algorithms; and they obtained its approximate solution. These numerical algorithms depended on numerical methods such as finite difference method (Ciment, Leventhal, & Weinberg, 1978; Iskandar & Mohsen, 1992), explicit and exact explicit finite difference methods (Kutulay, Bahadir, & Odes, 1999), fourth order finite difference method (Hassanien, Salama, & Hosham, 2005), higher-order accurate finite difference method (Zhanlav, Chuluunbaatar, & Ulzibayar, 2015), collection of numerical techniques based on finite difference (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015; Radwan, 2005), finite elements method (Dogán, 2004; Ozis, Aksan, & Ozdes, 2003), quadratic B-splines finite element method (Aksan, 2006), spectral least-squares method (Heinrichs, 2007; Maerschack & Gerritsma, 2005; Maerschack & Gerritsma, 2008), variational iteration method (Abdou & Soliman, 2005; Biazar & Aminikhah, 2009), Adomian–Padé technique (Dehghan, Hamidi, & Shakourifar, 2007), homotopy analysis method (Rashidi, Domairry, & Dinarvand, 2009), differential transform method and the homotopy analysis method (Rashidi & Erfani, 2009), automatic differentiation method (Asaithambi, 2010), cubic spline quasi-interpolant scheme (Xu, Wang, Zhang, & Fang, 2011), Laplace decomposition method (Khan, 2014), B-splines collocation method (Ali, Gardner, & Gardner, 1992), Quartic B-spline collocation method (Saka & Daş, 2007), Spectral collocation method (Khalifa, Noor, & Noor, 2011; Khater, Temsah, & Hassan, 2008), Cubic Hermite collocation method (Ganaie & Kukreja, 2014), Sinc differential quadrature method (Korkmaz & Daş, 2011a), Polynomial based differential quadrature method (Korkmaz & Daş, 2011b), Modified cubic B-spline differential quadrature method (Arora & Singh, 2013; Mittal & Jain, 2012), Exponential modified cubic B-spline differential quadrature method (Tamsir, Srivastava, & Jiwari, 2016), Hybrid numerical scheme based on Haar wavelets (Jiwari, 2015), High order splitting method (Seydaoğlu, Erdoğan, & Özış, 2016), etc.

It is known that the big challenge in solving Burgers’ equation occurs when it involves high Reynolds numbers due to the formation of a thin layer that is close to the wall that is known as the boundary layer where the velocity transition from the limiting solution’s finite value is close to the wall to the value of zero directly at the wall. So, at large Reynolds numbers, the viscosity must be taken into account in order to satisfy the no-slip condition. The concept of the boundary layer implies that flows at high Reynolds numbers can be divided up into two unequally large regions where the second region is the very thin boundary layer at the wall where the viscosity must be taken into account (Kadalbajoo & Gupta, 2010). Different numerical methods considered this problem and obtained an accurate solution as in (Arafa, 1996). It used Finite difference method to obtain solution for \( Re = 10,000 \). Zhang et al. as in (Zhang, Wei, Kouri, & Hoffman, 1997). It solved numerically Burgers’ equation by using a new approach based on the distributed approximating function for \( Re = 10^{-5} \) with a very large mapping parameter to shift most of the 200 grid points into the boundary layer region to obtain oscillation-free solution and small time increment is chosen in order to ensure high accuracy. Liu (Liu, 2006) used a group of preserving schemes to solve Burgers’ equation for \( Re = 10000 \). 20000. An exponentially fitted method (Ozis & Erdogan, 2009) succeeded in solving non-linear problems of Burgers’ type at \( Re = 10^5 \), \( 10^6 \). Liu (Liu, 2009) used a new fictitious time integration method and the solution of \( Re = 10000 \) was obtained.

In this paper, the proposed schemes based on second order finite difference method are used to solve the one- and two-dimensional Burgers’ equation; and the linearization is done as in (Kay, Gresho, Griffiths, & Silvester, 2010). The results are compared with exact solution and other techniques even for the high Reynolds numbers.

The structure of the paper is as follows. In Section 2, the solution procedure is described. In Section 3, error analysis of the proposed scheme is presented. Numerical results of test problems and discussions are listed in Section 4. Finally, conclusions are given in Section 5.

## 2. The solution procedure

The following is the procedure illustrating two cases that are related to the 1-D Burgers’ and 2-D Burgers’ equations:
2.1. 1-D Burgers’ equation

The Burgers’ Eq. (1) can be rewritten as:
\[
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad P_1 \leq x \leq P_2, \quad t \in [0, T],
\]
with initial and boundary conditions as in (2), (3), respectively. Discretization is obtained by using central
finite difference discretization along \(x\) direction while \(t\) direction is discretized by using \(p^{th}\) order
backward differentiation formula (BDF) (Atkinson et al., 2010) such that

Divide the interval \([0, T]\) into \(N\) steps \(0 = t_0 \leq t_1 \leq \ldots \leq t_N = T\), with constant time step \(\Delta t = T/N\)
and \(t_n = n\Delta t\) for \(n = 1, 2, \ldots , N\) and apply second-order backward differentiation formula (BDF-2)
(Atkinson et al., 1999) along \(t\) direction in Eq. (7); it becomes:

\[
\frac{u^{n+1} - u^n}{\Delta t} = \left( \frac{2}{3} \frac{u^n - u^{n-1}}{2} + \frac{2}{3} \Delta t \right) \left( v \frac{u_{x+1}^n - u_{x-1}^n}{2} \right)
\]

Applying Eq. (8), at every time step, needs to get the solutions at the previous time levels \(n - 1\) and \(n\); so:

1. For \(n = 1\), the solution at time level \(n - 1\) is the solution that is obtained from initial condition
and the solution at time level \(n\) in this work is obtained by using backward Euler Formula
(BDF-1) (Atkinson et al., 1999):
\[
u^n = u^{n-1} + \Delta t \left( v \frac{u_{x+1}^{n-1} - u_{x-1}^{n-1}}{2} \right)
\]

2. For \(n > 1\), the solutions at the previous time levels \(n - 1\) and \(n\) are already obtained and the
solution at the time level \(n + 1\) is obtained by using Eq. (8).

Also, from Eq. (8), the non-linear term \(u^{n+1} u_x^{n+1}\) is needed to be computed at every time step. In
this work the linearization of this term is done as in (Kay et al., 2010) such that \(u^{n+1} u_x^{n+1} \approx w^{n+1} u_x^{n+1}\),
where \(w^{n+1}\) is computed by linear extrapolation using \(u^n\) and \(u^{n-1}\) as:

\[
w^{n+1} = w^n + \frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left( v \frac{u_{x+1}^n - u_{x-1}^n}{2} \right)
\]

where \(K_{n+1} = t_{n+1} - t_n\) and \(K_n = t_n - t_{n-1}\). Substitution of Eq. (9) in Eq. (8) yields:

\[
u^{n+1} = \frac{4}{3} u^n - \frac{1}{3} u^{n-1} + \frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left( v \frac{u_{x+1}^n - u_{x-1}^n}{2} \right)
- \left( 1 + \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) \right) u^n - \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) u^{n-1}
\]

Along \(x\) direction, the central finite difference discretization for the terms \(u_x^{n+1}\) and \(u_x^{n+1}\) in Eq. (10) is
used within one of the following schemes.

2.1.1. Uniform spacing scheme

Divide the interval \([P_1, P_2]\) into \(M\) nodes \(P_i = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \ldots \leq x_M = P_2\), with constant spacing step \(h = (P_2 - P_1)/M\) and \(x_i = P_i + i h\) for \(i = 1, 2, \ldots , M\),
given \(u^n\) at time level \(t_n\) and compute \(u^{n+1}\) at \(t_{n+1}\) via:

\[
u^{n+1} = \frac{4}{3} u^n - \frac{1}{3} u^{n-1} + \frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left( v \frac{u_{x+1}^n - u_{x-1}^n}{2} \right)
- \left( 1 + \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) \right) u^n - \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) u^{n-1}
\]

Applying Eq. (12) at each point \(i\) results in a system of tri-diagonal matrix equation \(Bu = F\) that can be
solved efficiently by Thomas algorithm.

2.1.2. Non-uniform spacing scheme

Divide the interval \([P_1, P_2]\) into two intervals \([P_1, P_3]\) and \([P_3, P_2]\), where \(P_3 \in [P_1, P_2]\). \(l_1\) is the length of
the interval \([P_1, P_3]\) that is divided with constant spacing step size \(h = \frac{P_3 - P_1}{M_1}\) where \(P_1 = x_0 \leq x_1 \leq \ldots \leq x_{M_1} = P_3\) and
\(x_i = P_i + i h\) for \(i = 1, 2, \ldots , M_1\) while \(l_2\) is the length of the interval \([P_3, P_2]\) that is divided with
constant spacing step size \(r = \frac{P_2 - P_3}{M_2}\) where \(P_3 = x_{M_1} \leq \ldots \leq x_i \leq \ldots \leq x_{M_2} = P_2\) and \(x_i = P_3 + i r\) for \(i = 1, 2, \ldots , M_2\). Taylor series expansion is applied to get \(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\) and \(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\)
with unequal space size as follows:
\[
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{1}{h^2} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon(1 + \varepsilon)} u_{i+1} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} u_i - \left( \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} \right) u_{i-1} \right)
\]

(15)

and,

\[
\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{2}{h^2} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon(1 + \varepsilon)} u_{i+1} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} u_i - \left( \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} \right) u_{i-1} \right)
\]

(16)

Substitute with Eqs. (15) (16) in Eq. (10) to get:

\[
u \left( \frac{2}{h^2} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon(1 + \varepsilon)} u_{i+1} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} u_i - \left( \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} \right) u_{i-1} \right) \right) = \left( 1 + \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) \right) u_i - \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) u_{i-1}
\]

\[
\frac{1}{h} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon(1 + \varepsilon)} u_{i+1} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} u_i - \left( \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} \right) u_{i-1} \right)
\]

(17)

Equal time steps are used such that \(K_n = K_{n+1} = \Delta t\), then Eq. (17) will be:

\[
u \left( \frac{2}{h^2} \left( \frac{1}{\varepsilon(1 + \varepsilon)} u_{i+1} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon} u_i - \left( \frac{1}{1 + \varepsilon} \right) u_{i-1} \right) \right) = \left( 1 + \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) \right) u_i - \left( \frac{K_{n+1}}{K_n} \right) u_{i-1}
\]

(18)

Simplifying Eq. (18) leads to:

\[
\left[ 1 + \frac{4\nu \Delta t}{3h^2} \left( \frac{2}{\varepsilon h^2} (2u_i - u_{i-1}) \right) \right] u_i + \frac{1}{3} \Delta t \left[ -\frac{2\nu}{h^2 (1 + \varepsilon)} + \frac{1}{(1 + \varepsilon)h} (2u_i - u_{i-1}) \right] u_i = \frac{4}{3} u_i - \frac{1}{3} u_{i-1}
\]

(19)

Multiplication of Eq. (19) by \(h^2 e(1 + \varepsilon)\) yields:

\[
h^2 e(1 + \varepsilon) \left[ 1 + \frac{4\nu \Delta t}{3h^2} \left( \frac{2}{\varepsilon h^2} (2u_i - u_{i-1}) \right) \right] u_i + \frac{1}{3} \Delta t \left[ -2\nu + h(2u_i - u_{i-1}) \right] u_i + \frac{1}{3} \Delta t \left[ -2\nu e^{-c^2 h} (2u_i - u_{i-1}) \right] u_i = h^2 e(1 + \varepsilon) \left[ \frac{4}{3} u_i - \frac{1}{3} u_{i-1} \right]
\]

(20)

Eq. (20) can be written in a simple form as:

\[
\delta_i u_i^{n+1} + \omega_i u_i^{n+1} + \tau_i u_i^{n+1} = S_i
\]

(21)

where,

\[
\delta_i = h^2 e(1 + \varepsilon) + \frac{4}{3} \nu \Delta t \left( \frac{1}{(1 - e^2)(2u_i - u_{i-1})} \right)
\]

\[
\omega_i = -\frac{4}{3} \nu \Delta t + \frac{2}{3} h \Delta t \left( 2u_i - u_{i-1} \right)
\]

\[
\tau_i = -\frac{4}{3} \nu \Delta t - \frac{2}{3} h \Delta t \left( e^2 (2u_i - u_{i-1}) \right)
\]

\[
S_i = h^2 e(1 + \varepsilon) \left[ \frac{4}{3} u_i - \frac{1}{3} u_{i-1} \right]
\]

The non-uniform space scheme is described by the following steps:

1. Determine \(I_2\) (the length of the second interval) to locate the internal point \(P_3\).
2. Determine the spacing step size \(h\) for the first interval and arbitrary value of \(\varepsilon\) to get the spacing step size \(r\) for the second interval.
3. Apply Eq. (14) at every point in the first interval with the spacing step size \(h\).
4. Apply Eq. (21) at the point \(P_3\).
5. Apply Eq. (14) at every point in the second interval with the spacing step size \(r = eh\).
6. Construct and solve the system of linear equations \(Gu = S\) at each time step to find \(u\) of all points by using the Thomas algorithm.

### 2.2. 2-D Burgers’ equation

The Burgers’ Eq. (4) can be rewritten as:

\[
\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} - u \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right), \quad \frac{z_1}{2} \leq x \leq z_2, \quad \frac{z_3}{2} \leq y \leq z_4, \quad t \in [0, T],
\]

with initial and boundary conditions as in Eqs. (5) and (6) respectively. Applying the procedure in section 2.1 to Eq. (22), we will get the following:

\[
\alpha_{ij} u_{i+1}^{n+1} + \beta_{ij} u_{i+1}^{n+1} + \gamma_{ij} u_{i-1}^{n+1} + \tau_{ij} u_{i-1}^{n+1} + \omega_{ij} u_{i+1}^{n+1} = f_i
\]

(23)

where,

\[
\alpha_{ij} = \left[ 1 + \frac{4}{3} \nu (\Delta y)^2 \Delta t + \frac{2}{3} \nu (\Delta y)^2 \Delta t \right]
\]

\[
\beta_{ij} = -\frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left[ \frac{\nu (2u_i - u_{i-1})}{(\Delta x)^2} \right]
\]

\[
\gamma_{ij} = -\frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left[ \frac{\nu (2u_i - u_{i-1})}{(\Delta y)^2} \right]
\]

\[
\tau_{ij} = -\frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left[ \frac{\nu (2u_i - u_{i-1})}{(\Delta y)^2} \right]
\]

(22)
Table 1. Comparison of Proposed Scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points with $h = 0.01, T = 0.1$ and $v = 10$.

| $x$   | BDF-2   | BDF-3   | Proposed Scheme | Exact Solution |
|-------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------------|
|       | $D_t = 0.01$ |         | $D_t = 0.00016$ |                |
|       | $h = 0.0125$ |         | $h = 0.01$      |                |
|       | Exact Solution |         | BDF-2           |                |
| 0.1   | 1.600 E-05 | 1.598 E-05 | 1.598 E-05      | 1.598 E-05     |
| 0.2   | 3.043 E-05 | 3.039 E-05 | 3.040 E-05      | 3.040 E-05     |
| 0.3   | 4.188 E-05 | 4.183 E-05 | 4.184 E-05      | 4.184 E-05     |
| 0.4   | 4.923 E-05 | 4.918 E-05 | 4.918 E-05      | 4.919 E-05     |
| 0.5   | 5.177 E-05 | 5.171 E-05 | 5.171 E-05      | 5.172 E-05     |
| 0.6   | 4.923 E-05 | 4.918 E-05 | 4.918 E-05      | 4.919 E-05     |
| 0.7   | 4.188 E-05 | 4.183 E-05 | 4.184 E-05      | 4.184 E-05     |
| 0.8   | 3.043 E-05 | 3.039 E-05 | 3.040 E-05      | 3.040 E-05     |
| 0.9   | 1.600 E-05 | 1.598 E-05 | 1.598 E-05      | 1.598 E-05     |

Table 2. Comparison of Proposed Scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points with $h = 0.01$, $T = 0.5$ and $v = 1$.

| $x$   | BDF-2   | BDF-3   | Proposed Scheme | Exact Solution |
|-------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------------|
|       | $D_t = 0.0001$ |         | $D_t = 0.000125$ |                |
|       | $h = 0.01$ |         | $h = 0.0025$    |                |
|       | Exact Solution |         | BDF-2           |                |
| 0.1   | 0.002214 | 0.002213 | 0.002213        | 0.002213       |
| 0.2   | 0.004212 | 0.004209 | 0.004210        | 0.004210       |
| 0.3   | 0.005796 | 0.005795 | 0.005796        | 0.005796       |
| 0.4   | 0.006819 | 0.006816 | 0.006816        | 0.006816       |
| 0.5   | 0.007172 | 0.007168 | 0.007170        | 0.007169       |
| 0.6   | 0.008623 | 0.008620 | 0.008621        | 0.008621       |
| 0.7   | 0.005806 | 0.005803 | 0.005804        | 0.005804       |
| 0.8   | 0.004220 | 0.004217 | 0.004218        | 0.004218       |
| 0.9   | 0.002219 | 0.002218 | 0.002218        | 0.002218       |

Table 3. Comparison of Proposed Scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points with $h = 0.01$, $T = 2.3$ and $v = 0.1$.

| $x$   | BDF-2   | BDF-3   | Proposed Scheme | Exact Solution |
|-------|---------|---------|-----------------|----------------|
|       | $D_t = 0.01$ |         | $D_t = 0.0023$ |                |
|       | $h = 0.01$ |         | $h = 0.0125$   |                |
|       | Exact Solution |         | BDF-2           |                |
| 0.1   | 0.02234  | 0.02253  | 0.02214         | 0.02214        |
| 0.2   | 0.04319  | 0.04357  | 0.04280         | 0.04280        |
| 0.3   | 0.06100  | 0.06155  | 0.06043         | 0.06043        |
| 0.4   | 0.07415  | 0.07485  | 0.07344         | 0.07344        |
| 0.5   | 0.08104  | 0.08182  | 0.08023         | 0.08023        |
| 0.6   | 0.08023  | 0.08104  | 0.07940         | 0.07940        |
| 0.7   | 0.07087  | 0.07161  | 0.07010         | 0.07011        |
| 0.8   | 0.05311  | 0.05368  | 0.05252         | 0.05252        |
| 0.9   | 0.02850  | 0.02881  | 0.02817         | 0.02817        |

Table 4. Comparison of Proposed Scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points and time with $v = 0.1$.

| $x$   | $T$ | BDF-2 | BDF-3 | Proposed Scheme | Exact Solution |
|-------|-----|-------|-------|-----------------|----------------|
|       | $D_t = 0.01$, $h = 0.0125$ |         | $D_t = 0.02$, $h = 0.01$ |
|       | $T = 0.015$ |         | $T = 0.02$        |                |
| 0.25  | 2.4  | 4.756 E-02 | 4.755 E-02 | 4.755 E-02      | 4.755 E-02     |
| 0.25  | 2.6  | 3.956 E-02 | 3.955 E-02 | 3.955 E-02      | 3.955 E-02     |
| 0.25  | 3.0  | 2.721 E-02 | 2.720 E-02 | 2.720 E-02      | 2.720 E-02     |
| 0.5   | 2.4  | 7.270 E-02 | 7.268 E-02 | 7.269 E-02      | 7.269 E-02     |
| 0.5   | 2.6  | 5.968 E-02 | 5.966 E-02 | 5.967 E-02      | 5.967 E-02     |
| 0.5   | 3.0  | 4.021 E-02 | 4.020 E-02 | 4.021 E-02      | 4.021 E-02     |
| 0.75  | 2.4  | 5.594 E-02 | 5.593 E-02 | 5.593 E-02      | 5.593 E-02     |
| 0.75  | 2.6  | 4.522 E-02 | 4.520 E-02 | 4.521 E-02      | 4.521 E-02     |
| 0.75  | 3.0  | 2.978 E-02 | 2.977 E-02 | 2.977 E-02      | 2.977 E-02     |
$i_j = \frac{1}{3} \Delta t \left( \frac{v}{(\Delta y)^2} \frac{2u_{i,j}^n - u_{i,j}^{n-1}}{2(\Delta y)} \right)$

Where $\Delta x$ and $\Delta y$ are constant spacing steps in $x$ and $y$ directions, respectively. Applying Eq. (23) at each point $(i, j)$ results in a system of tri-diagonal matrix equation $Bu = F$ that can be solved efficiently by Thomas algorithm.

3. Error analysis

The error analysis of the discretized numerical scheme in Eq. (12) is obtained by using the Taylor Series Expansion. Eq. (12) can be written as:

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1}}{\Delta t} - \frac{1}{3} u_{i,j}^{n-1} + \frac{2}{3} \Delta t \left[ (\xi - \Omega) u_{i,j}^{n+1} - 2\zeta u_{i,j}^{n+1} + (\xi + \Omega) u_{i,j}^{n-1} \right]$$

where,

$$\zeta = \frac{v}{\Delta t}$$

Eq. (24) can be expressed as:
Table 6. Comparison of Proposed Scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) in order to get $L_2$ and $L_{\infty}$ with different $\nu = 1$, 0.1 and $h = 0.0125$.

| $\nu$ | $T$ | Error  | BDF-2 | BDF-3 | Proposed Scheme |
|-------|-----|--------|-------|-------|-----------------|
| 1     | 1   | $L_2$  | 4.6043 E-08 | 4.8173 E-09 | 1.1488 E-08     |
|       | 1   | $L_{\infty}$ | 6.5114 E-08 | 6.8127 E-09 | 1.6246 E-08     |
| 2     | 2   | $L_2$  | 7.1885 E-05 | 9.7552 E-05 | 9.2756 E-05     |
|       | 2   | $L_{\infty}$ | 5.0898 E-012 | 6.9285 E-013 | 6.5599 E-013    |
| 0.1   | 3   | $L_2$  | 7.1682 E-006 | 1.5263 E-006 | 1.2204 E-006    |
|       | 3   | $L_{\infty}$ | 1.0225 E-005 | 2.1892 E-006 | 1.9313 E-006    |
| 3.5   | 3   | $L_2$  | 5.6070 E-006 | 7.0422 E-007 | 1.9764 E-007    |
|       | 3   | $L_{\infty}$ | 7.9505 E-006 | 1.0085 E-006 | 2.8145 E-007    |

Local Truncation Error (LTE) is obtained by:

$$\text{LTE} = u(x_i, t_{n+1}) = \frac{4}{3}u(x_i, t_n) - \frac{1}{3}u(x_i, t_{n-1}) + \frac{2}{3}\Delta t \left[(\xi - \Omega)u(x_{i+1}, t_{n+1}) - 2\xi u(x_i, t_{n+1}) + (\xi + \Omega)u(x_{i-1}, t_{n+1})\right]$$

Apply Taylor series expansion to Eq. (26) and simplify to get:

$$\text{LTE} = \frac{2}{3}\Delta t \left[u_i + \frac{2}{3}(\Delta t)^2 u_{i+1} + \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{9} u_{i+2} - \frac{2}{3}\Delta t \left[(-2\Omega)h u_x + \frac{1}{2}[(2\xi)h^2 u_{xx} - (4\xi)h\Delta t u_x]\right] + \frac{1}{3}[(2\xi - 4\Omega)h^3 u_{xxx} + (6\xi h^3)\Delta t u_{xxt}] - (6\Omega)h(\Delta t)^2 u_{xxt} + \frac{1}{4}[(2\xi)h^4 u_{xxxx} - (8\Omega)h(\Delta t)^3 u_{xxtt} + (12\xi h^2)(\Delta t)^2 u_{xxtt} - (8\Omega)h^3(\Delta t)^3 u_{xxtt} + (2\xi(\Delta t)^4 u_{xxtt})] + \ldots \right]$$

1-D Burgers' equation ($\nu = 1$)

**Figure 2.** $L_2$-norm of Proposed Scheme for $\Delta t = 0.00125$ at (a) different $T$ and fixed $\nu = 1$ (b) different $\nu$ and fixed $T = 1$. 

Truncation Error (TE) is computed by:

$$TE = (\Delta t)^{-1}(\text{LTE}) = O((\Delta t)^2 + h^2)$$
So, the errors are proportional to the square of time step and square of space step.

4. The numerical results

Four test problems of Burgers’ Equation are solved to demonstrate the accuracy and efficiency of the proposed numerical schemes; and the numerical results are compared with exact solution and the numerical results which are listed in previous references at different nodal points and at different final time T for different values of kinematic viscosity v.

Since the exact solution is given, the $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ error norms are computed after each time step by using the following definitions:

$$L_2 := \left\| u_{\text{exact}} - u_{\text{computed}} \right\|_2 = \sqrt{\sum_{j=1}^{N} \left| u_{\text{exact}}(x_j) - u_{\text{computed}}(x_j) \right|^2}$$

Table 7. Comparison of proposed scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points with T = 1 and v = 1.

| x   | BDF-2 | BDF-3 | Proposed Scheme | Exact Solution |
|-----|-------|-------|-----------------|---------------|
|     |       |       | $\Delta t = 0.001$, $h = 0.0125$ | $\Delta t = 0.00125$, $h = 0.01$ |
| 0.1 | 1.646 E-005 | 1.644 E-005 | 1.644 E-005 | 1.644 E-005 |
| 0.2 | 3.131 E-005 | 3.128 E-005 | 3.128 E-005 | 3.127 E-005 |
| 0.3 | 4.310 E-005 | 4.305 E-005 | 4.305 E-005 | 4.304 E-005 |
| 0.4 | 5.066 E-005 | 5.061 E-005 | 5.061 E-005 | 5.060 E-005 |
| 0.5 | 5.327 E-005 | 5.321 E-005 | 5.321 E-005 | 5.320 E-005 |
| 0.6 | 5.066 E-005 | 5.061 E-005 | 5.061 E-005 | 5.060 E-005 |
| 0.7 | 4.310 E-005 | 4.305 E-005 | 4.305 E-005 | 4.304 E-005 |
| 0.8 | 3.131 E-005 | 3.128 E-005 | 3.128 E-005 | 3.127 E-005 |
| 0.9 | 1.646 E-005 | 1.644 E-005 | 1.644 E-005 | 1.644 E-005 |

Figure 3. The numerical solution of the Proposed Scheme and the comparison with (Liu, 2006) at $h = 0.01$.

Table 7. Comparison of proposed scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points with T = 1 and v = 1.
Table 8. Comparison of Proposed Scheme with (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) at different space points and time with \( \nu = 0.1 \).

| x    | T     | \( \Delta t = 0.01, h = 0.0125 \) | \( \Delta t = 0.025, h = 0.01 \) | Exact Solution |
|------|-------|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------|
| 0.25 | 2.2   | 5.814 E-002                     | 5.813 E-002                     | 5.814 E-002    |
|      | 2.4   | 4.850 E-002                     | 4.849 E-002                     | 4.849 E-002    |
|      | 2.6   | 4.035 E-002                     | 4.034 E-002                     | 4.034 E-002    |
| 0.5  | 2.2   | 9.046 E-002                     | 9.044 E-002                     | 9.045 E-002    |
|      | 2.4   | 7.426 E-002                     | 7.424 E-002                     | 7.424 E-002    |
|      | 2.6   | 6.096 E-002                     | 6.094 E-002                     | 6.094 E-002    |
| 0.75 | 2.2   | 7.110 E-002                     | 7.108 E-002                     | 7.108 E-002    |
|      | 2.4   | 5.724 E-002                     | 5.723 E-002                     | 5.723 E-002    |
|      | 2.6   | 4.625 E-002                     | 4.624 E-002                     | 4.624 E-002    |

Figure 4. The comparison between the results obtained by the Proposed Scheme and exact solution at different \( T, h = 0.01 \) for (a) \( \nu = 0.025, \Delta t = 0.025 \) (b) \( \nu = 0.005, \Delta t = 0.025 \) (c) \( \nu = 0.001, \Delta t = 0.01 \) (d) \( \nu = 0.0007, \Delta t = 0.01 \).

\[
L_\infty := \left\| u_{\text{exact}} - u_{\text{computed}} \right\|_\infty = \max_j \left| u_{j+}^{\text{exact}} - u_{j+}^{\text{computed}} \right|
\]

Where \( u_{\text{exact}} \) and \( u_{\text{computed}} \) are the exact and computed solutions at each point, respectively.

Example 1. Solve Burgers’ Eqs. (1–3a) with initial condition:

\[
u(x, 0) = f(x) = \sin(\pi x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1
\]

and the boundary conditions

\[
u(0, t) = \nu(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T
\]

whose exact solution is given by Cole Hopf as in
ux(t) = \frac{2}{mp} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \exp(-n^2\pi^2vt) \sin(n\pi x) \cos(n\pi x)

where the Fourier coefficients \( c_0 \) and \( c_n \) are:

\[
c_0 = \int_0^1 \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\pi} \sin(n\pi x) \right\} dx
\]

\[
c_n = 2 \int_0^1 \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2\pi} [1 - \cos(n\pi x)] \right\} \cos(n\pi x) dx
\]

In this problem, the numerical solutions are presented for \( \nu = 10, 1, 0.1 \) to get the solutions at final time \( T = 0.1, 0.5, 2.3 \), respectively in Tables 1–3. Results show that the Proposed Scheme that used BDF-2 is more accurate than that used in (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015). Mukundan and Awasthi (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) needed to solve more iterations and apply BDF-3 in order to get the accuracy that obtained in the Proposed Scheme. In Table 4, results are also shown at different times and a good agreement is still found with the earlier work.

Figure 1 shows the comparison between the numerical results obtained by Proposed Scheme and exact solution for different values of \( T, h = 0.0125 \) and \( m = 0.01 \). It is clear that Proposed Scheme is accurate even for small values of \( m \).

In Table 5, results of the proposed scheme have been compared with other schemes; and excellent agreement is still achieved.

Table 6 shows the comparison of Proposed Scheme in term of \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) errors for different values of time at \( m = 1, 0.1 \) with the existing method in (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015). The \( L_2 \) error in Figure 2 shows the effect of changing time \( T \) at fixed \( \nu \) on the solution and vice versa. From Table 6 and
Figure 2, it is observed that the accuracy and efficiency of the Proposed Scheme have been achieved.

As viscosity gets smaller and smaller, the graphs demonstrate a very sharp front near the left boundary and the steepness of the solution that increases sharply near the right boundary. This steepness is controlled by using the non-uniform scheme with \( l_2 = 0.1 \) and \( \varepsilon = 1/50 \). Figure 3 concludes that the present results at different values of times are in good agreement with the results in (Liu, 2006) at \( Re = 10000, 20000 \).

\[
\Delta t = 0.0001 \quad \text{and different time (six curves at } T = 0.1, 0.2, 0.4, 0.6, 0.8, 1.0 \text{ from left to right) for (a) } Re = 10000 \quad \text{(b) } Re = 20000 \]

**Example 2.** In this example Burgers’ Eqs. (1–3a) are solved with

Initial condition:

\[
u(x, 0) = 4x (1 - x), 0 \leq x \leq 1
\]

and the boundary conditions

\[
u(0, t) = \nu(1, t) = 0, 0 \leq t \leq T
\]
where exact solution is given by Eq. (27) and the Fourier coefficients $c_0$ and $c_n$ are, as in (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015):

$$c_0 = \int_0^1 \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{3\nu} [x^2(3-2x)] \right\} \, dx$$

$$c_n = 2 \int_0^1 \exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{3\nu} [x^2(3-2x)] \right\} \cos(n\pi x) \, dx$$

In this problem, the numerical solutions are presented for $\nu = 1$ in order to get the solutions at final time $T = 1$ in Table 7. Results show that the Proposed Scheme that used BDF-2 is more accurate than used in (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015). Mukundan and Awasthi in (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015) needed to solve more iterations and apply BDF-3 to get the accuracy that obtained in the Proposed Scheme. In Table 8, results are also shown at different times and a good agreement is still found with the earlier work.

Figure 4 shows the comparison between the numerical results obtained by the Proposed Scheme and exact solution for different values of $T$, $h = 0.01$ and $\Delta t = 0.025$, 0.01 at $\nu = 0.01, 0.005, 0.001, 0.0007$. It is clear that the Proposed Scheme is efficient to obtain good agreement with the exact solution even for large values of Reynolds number $Re$. In Table 9, it is observed that the results of the proposed scheme are still achieving a good agreement compared with other schemes.

Table 10 shows the comparison of the computed results in term of $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ errors for different values of time at $\nu = 0.05$ with the existing method in (Mukundan & Awasthi, 2015). $L_2$ error in Figure 5 shows the effect of changing time $T$ at fixed $\nu$ on the solution and vice versa. From Table 10 and Figure 5, it is observed that the accuracy and efficiency of the Proposed Scheme have been achieved.

As viscosity gets smaller and smaller, the graphs demonstrate a very sharp front near the left boundary and the steepness of the solution increases sharply near the right boundary. This steepness is controlled by using the non-uniform scheme with $l_2 = 0.1$ and $e = 1/50$. Figure 6 concludes that the present results at different values of times are in good agreement with the results in (Liu, 2006) at $Re = 10000, 20000$.

**Example 3.** Solve one-dimensional Burgers’ Eqs. (1-3b) with initial condition:

$$u(x,0) = \frac{1}{4} \cos(\pi x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1,$$

and the boundary conditions:

$$u_x(0,t) = 0, \quad u(1,t) = -\frac{1}{4} e^{-\nu t}, \quad t > 0,$$

for which the exact solution is given as in (Pugh, 1995):

$$u(x,t) = \frac{1}{4} e^{-\nu t} \cos(\pi x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

Error norms $L_2$ and $L_\infty$ are computed for $Re = 20, 100$ at different time levels and listed in Table 11.
In Figure 7, the numerical solutions are presented to show the effect of changing \( Re \) at fixed \( T \). It is observed from Table 11 and Figure 7 that the Proposed Scheme is efficient for solving the mixed boundary condition Burgers’ equation.

**Example 4.** Solve two-dimensional Burgers’ Eqs. (4–6) over a square domain \( \Omega := [0, 1] \times [0, 1] \) with initial condition:

\[
  u(x, y, 0) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}}, \quad (x, y) \in \Omega
\]

and the boundary conditions:

\[
  u(0, y, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{y^2}{2}}}, \quad u(1, y, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{(1-y)^2}{2}}}, \quad y \in [0, 1], \ t > 0,
\]

\[
  u(x, 0, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{y^2}{2}}}, \quad u(x, 1, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{(1-x)^2}{2}}}, \quad x \in [0, 1], \ t > 0,
\]

for which the exact solution is given as in (Liu, Pope, & Sepehroo, 1995):

\[
  u(x, y, t) = \frac{1}{1 + e^{\frac{x^2 + y^2}{2}}}, \quad (x, y) \in \Omega, \ t \geq 0.
\]

The computed solutions of Eqs. (4–6) have been obtained with the above initial and boundary conditions by using the Proposed Scheme for different grid size and Reynolds number \( (Re) \). In Table 12 the error norms \( L_2 \) and \( L_\infty \) with different grid sizes and time at \( Re = 1.10 \) are listed. It is observed from Table 12 that the changing of the grid size is efficient to get the suitable accuracy of the Proposed Scheme. The comparison between the exact solution and numerical solution for \( Re = 100 \), grid size = 30 \times 30, \( \Delta t = 0.0005 \) and \( T = 0.25 \) is shown in Figure 8. Figure 8 shows the solution behaviour of the Proposed Scheme which is similar to the exact solution.

5. Conclusions

In this study the author presents efficient numerical algorithms based on finite difference method in order to solve one and two dimensions unsteady Burgers’ equation without transformation of the equation. The proposed schemes are examined on four examples of Burgers’ equation with different values of \( v \) and all the numerical results that are obtained demonstrating the efficiency and accuracy of the considered schemes and approaching the exact solutions. It is evident that the proposed schemes using backward differentiation formula of order two produce accurate results compared with the exact solution and better than other schemes available in the literature. Even for very high Reynolds number the scheme is applicable under a reasonable grid spacing length and time step size compared with (Liu, 2006). Also, this paper proposes a scheme which has succeeded in solving 1) D. Burgers’ equation with mixed boundary conditions, and obtain the accurate solutions of 2) D. Burgers’ equation with different parameters. The proposed schemes can be easily implemented and have the possibility of expanding to solve Coupled Burgers’ equations in two-dimensional and other non-linear problems in fluid dynamics.

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