Towards parallel in time methods for numerical weather prediction.

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We present recent work on a parareal algorithm for solving the rotating shallow water equations. These equations are the simplest to exhibit behaviour relevant for atmospheric modelling and as such are often used as a test bed for new numerical algorithms.

The parareal algorithm has two ingredients: a cheap integrator (the coarse propagator) and a more accurate integrator (the fine propagator). The convergence rate, and hence efficiency, of this scheme is strongly affected by the accuracy of the coarse propagator. Our approach follows that of [1] where it was shown that averaging the nonlinear terms over some fast oscillations includes the effects of near-resonances, essential for accuracy and hence convergence. A key component of this scheme is the computation of the exponential of the linear operator corresponding to the fast linear waves in the system. Here we use the rational approximation approach of [2]. This requires the solution of an elliptic problem for each term. The method is highly parallelisable as each term can be computed separately, but the solution of each term must be efficient, scalable and fast. In this talk, we describe how we construct a coarse propagator and present the latest results from various test cases.

REFERENCES

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