

# Outline

- 1 Partial Differential Equations
- 2 Numerical Methods for PDEs
- 3 Sparse Linear Systems



## Some Distinguishing Features of PDEs

- Interaction of scales.
  - e.g., often cannot let  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$  unless  $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$  *fast enough*.
- Size of the systems.
  - Time-dependent: solve  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$   $N_{step} \gg 1$  times.
  - Multiple space dimensions,  $d > 1$ :  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ 
    - $n = N^d$ ,  $N :=$  number of points in *each* direction.
    - System bandwidth is  $O(N^{d-1}) \gg 1$ .
    - Systems are typically *sparse*.
    - Iterative solvers important, particularly for  $d > 2$ .

# Partial Differential Equations

- *Partial differential equations* (PDEs) involve partial derivatives with respect to more than one independent variable
- Independent variables typically include one or more space dimensions and possibly time dimension as well
- More dimensions complicate problem formulation: we can have pure initial value problem, pure boundary value problem, or mixture of both
- Equation and boundary data may be defined over irregular domain



# Partial Differential Equations, continued

- For simplicity, we will deal only with single PDEs (as opposed to systems of several PDEs) with only two independent variables, either
  - two space variables, denoted by  $x$  and  $y$ , or
  - one space variable denoted by  $x$  and one time variable denoted by  $t$
- Partial derivatives with respect to independent variables are denoted by subscripts, for example
  - $u_t = \partial u / \partial t$
  - $u_{xy} = \partial^2 u / \partial x \partial y$





# Classification of PDEs

- *Order* of PDE is order of highest-order partial derivative appearing in equation
- For example, advection equation is first order  $u_t = -c u_x$
- Important second-order PDEs include
  - *Heat equation*:  $u_t = u_{xx}$
  - *Wave equation*:  $u_{tt} = u_{xx}$
  - *Laplace equation*:  $u_{xx} + u_{yy} = 0$



## Classification of PDEs, continued

- Second-order linear PDEs of general form

$$au_{xx} + bu_{xy} + cu_{yy} + du_x + eu_y + fu + g = 0$$

are classified by value of *discriminant*  $b^2 - 4ac$

- $b^2 - 4ac > 0$ : *hyperbolic* (e.g., wave equation)
- $b^2 - 4ac = 0$ : *parabolic* (e.g., heat equation)
- $b^2 - 4ac < 0$ : *elliptic* (e.g., Laplace equation)



## Classification of PDEs, continued

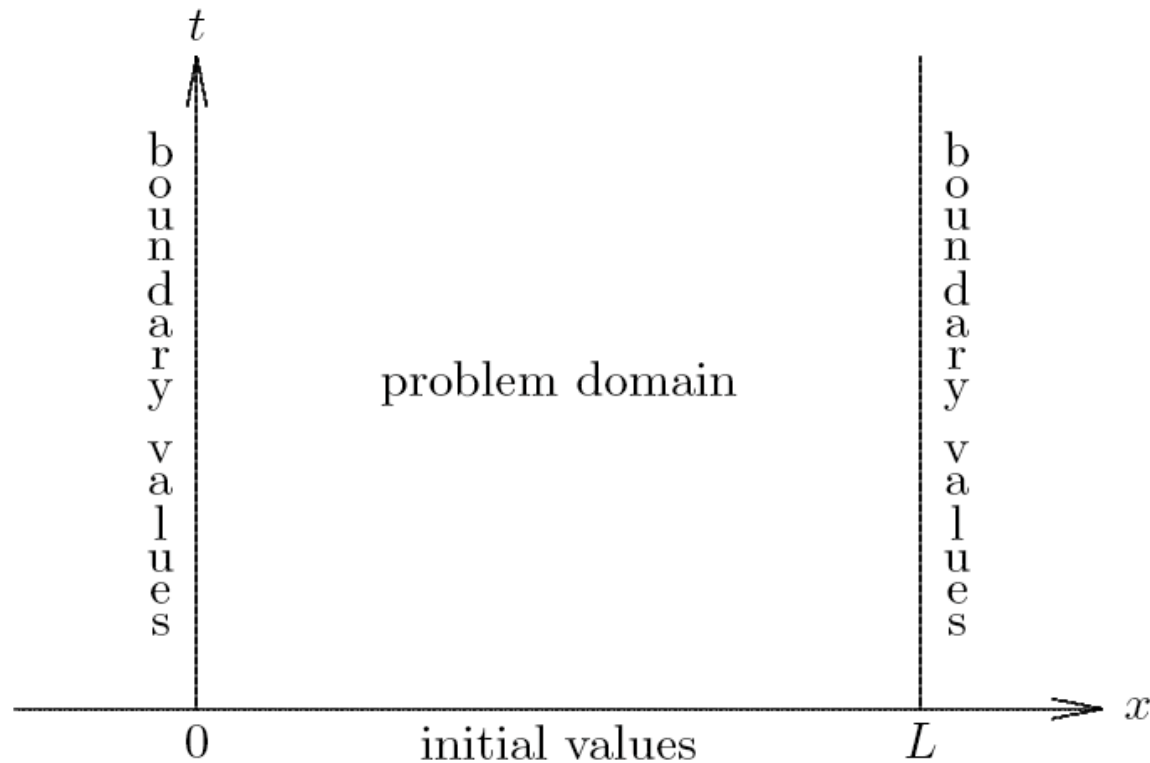
Classification of more general PDEs is not so clean and simple, but roughly speaking

- *Hyperbolic* PDEs describe time-dependent, conservative physical processes, such as convection, that *are not* evolving toward steady state
- *Parabolic* PDEs describe time-dependent, dissipative physical processes, such as diffusion, that *are* evolving toward steady state
- *Elliptic* PDEs describe processes that have already reached steady state, and hence are time-independent



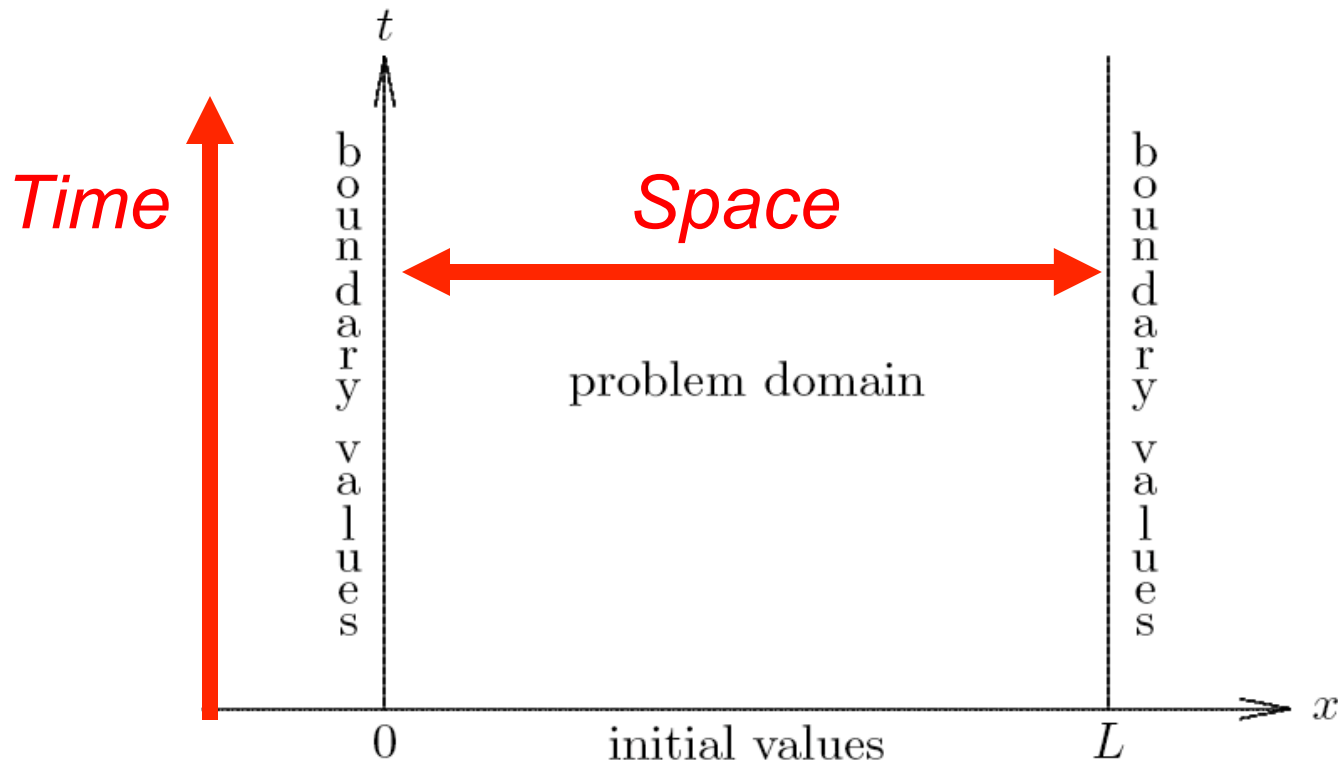
# Time-Dependent Problems

- Time-dependent PDEs usually involve both initial values and boundary values



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## Example: Advection Equation

- *Advection equation*

$$u_t = -c u_x$$

where  $c$  is nonzero constant

- Unique solution is determined by initial condition

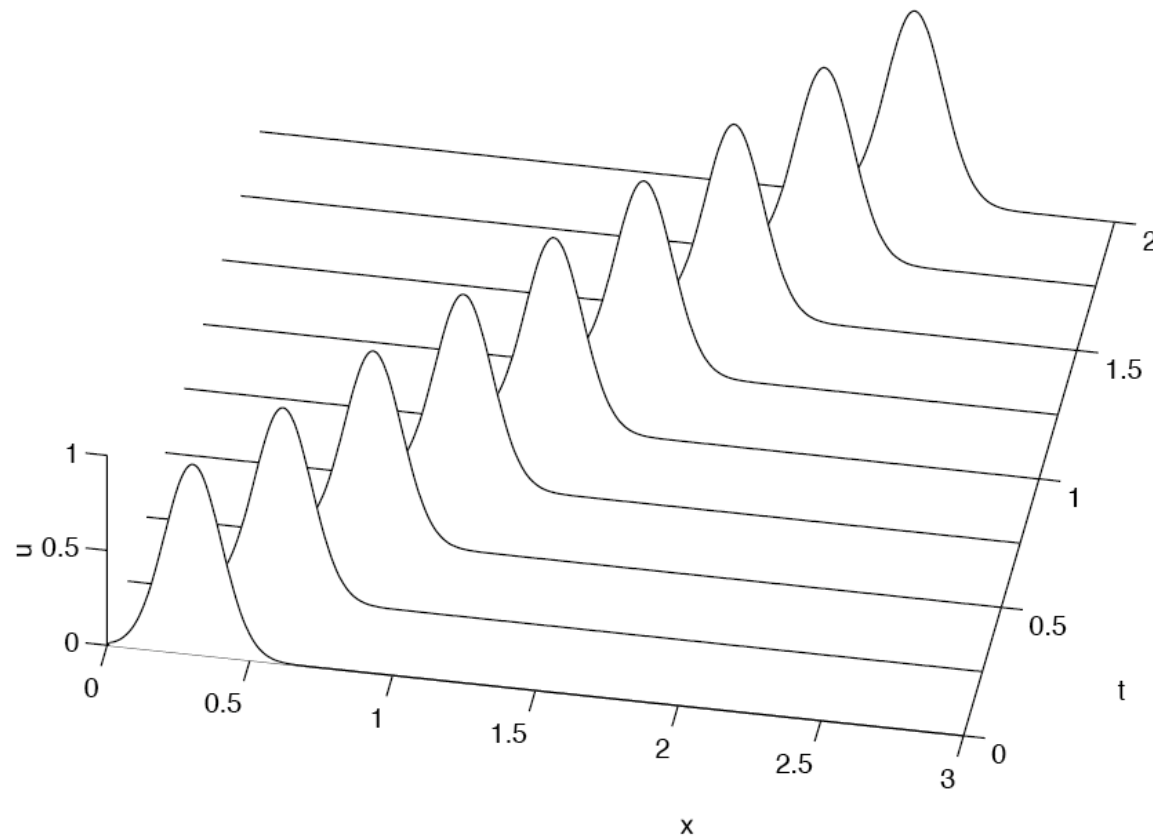
$$u(0, x) = u_0(x), \quad -\infty < x < \infty$$

where  $u_0$  is given function defined on  $\mathbb{R}$

- We seek solution  $u(t, x)$  for  $t \geq 0$  and all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$
- From chain rule, solution is given by  $u(t, x) = u_0(x - ct)$
- Solution is initial function  $u_0$  shifted by  $ct$  to right if  $c > 0$ , or to left if  $c < 0$



## Example, continued

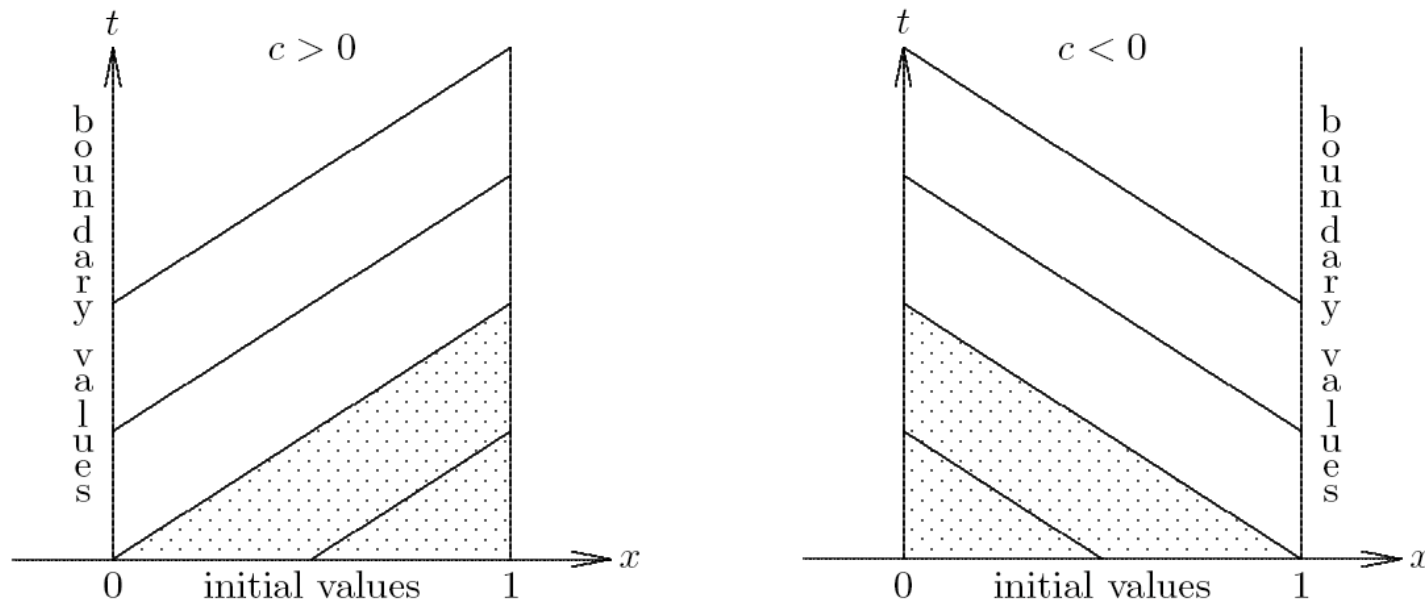


Typical solution of advection equation, with initial function  
“advected” (shifted) over time [< interactive example >](#)



# Characteristics

- **Characteristics** for PDE are level curves of solution
- For advection equation  $u_t = -c u_x$ , characteristics are straight lines of slope  $1/c$



- Characteristics determine where boundary conditions can or must be imposed for problem to be well-posed





# Matlab Demo: Convection

```
c=1; Tf = 4; % Final time
x0=-5; xn=5;

dx = .01; x=x0:dx:xn; x=x'; n=length(x);

a = -1; b=0; c=1; e = ones(n,1);
C = spdiags([a*e b*e c*e],[-1:1, n,n]); C = C/(2*dx);

C(n,n)=-C(n,n-1); C(1,1)=C(1,2); % To drain energy at bdry

CFL = 0.50; dt = CFL*dx/abs(c); nsteps = Tf/dt;

u=exp(-x.*x/.04); hold off; plot(x,u,'k-'); hold on;
f=0*u;f1=0*u;
io=floor(nsteps/20); kk=0; t=0;
for k=1:nsteps; t=t+dt;

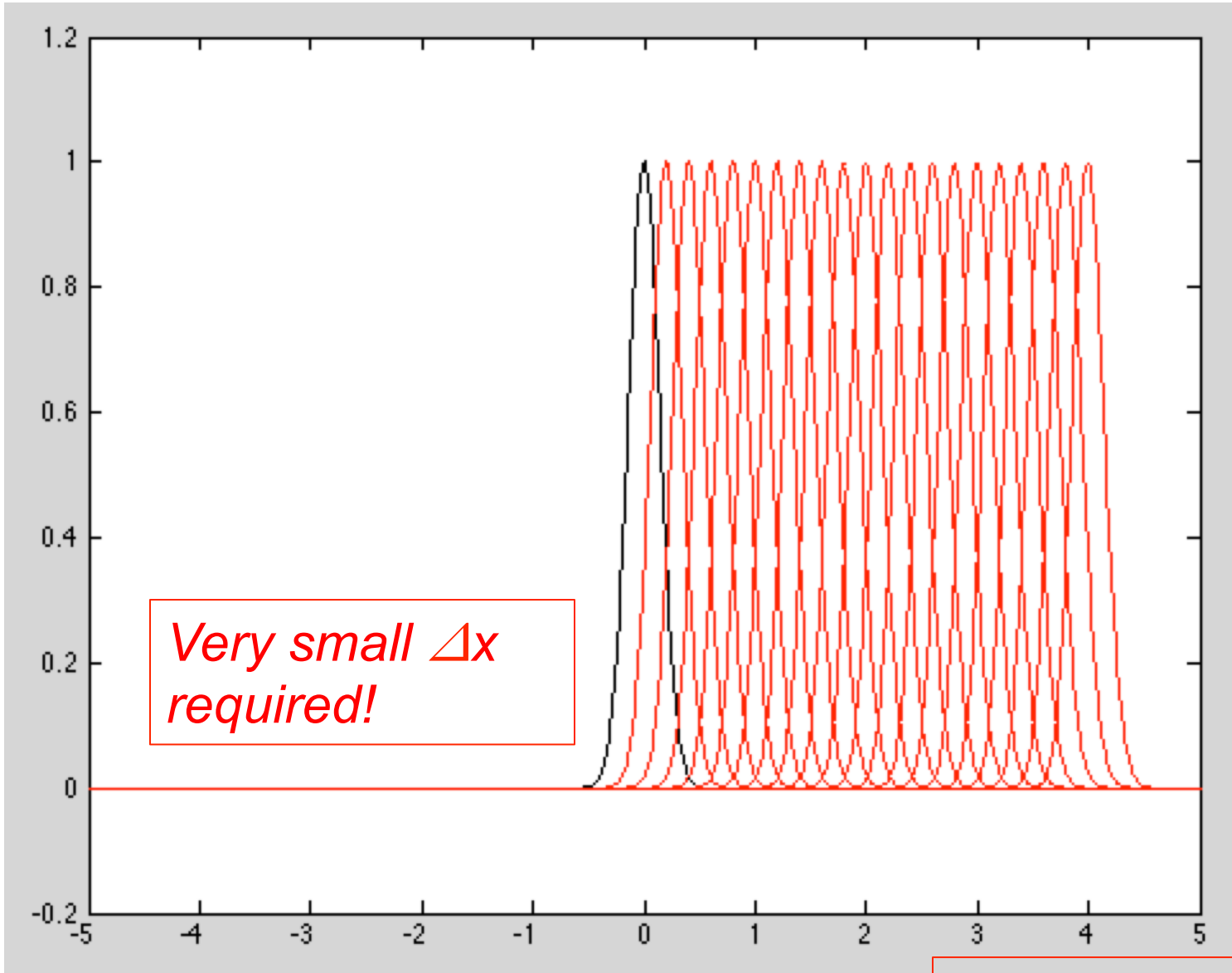
    if k==1; c0=1; c1=0; c2=0; end;
    if k==2; c0=3/2; c1=-1/2; c2=0; end;
    if k==3; c0=23/12; c1=-16/12; c2=5/12; end;

    f2=f1; f1=f; f= -C*u;

    rhs = c0*f + c1*f1 + c2*f2;
    u = u+dt*rhs;

    if mod(k,io)==0; plot(x,u,'r-'); pause(.2); end;
end;
```

# Matlab Demo: Convection



*conv\_ab3\_cd2.m*

## Time Stepping for Advection Equation: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$

- Unlike the diffusion equation, which smears out the initial condition (with high wavenumber components decaying particularly fast), the advection equation simply moves things around, with no decay.
- This property is evidenced by the spatial operator having purely (or close to purely) imaginary eigenvalues.
- Preserving high-wavenumber content (in space) for all time makes this problem particularly challenging.
  - There is always some spatial discretization error.
  - Its effects accumulate over time (with no decay of the error).
  - For sufficiently large final time  $T$  any fixed grid (i.e., fixed  $n$ ) simulation for general problems will eventually have too much error.
  - Long time-integrations, therefore, typically require relatively fine meshes and/or high-order spatial discretizations.

## CFL, Eigenvalues, and Stability: Fourier Analysis

- Consider:  $u_t = -cu_x$ ,  $u(0) = u(1)$  (periodic BCs)
- Centered difference formula in space:

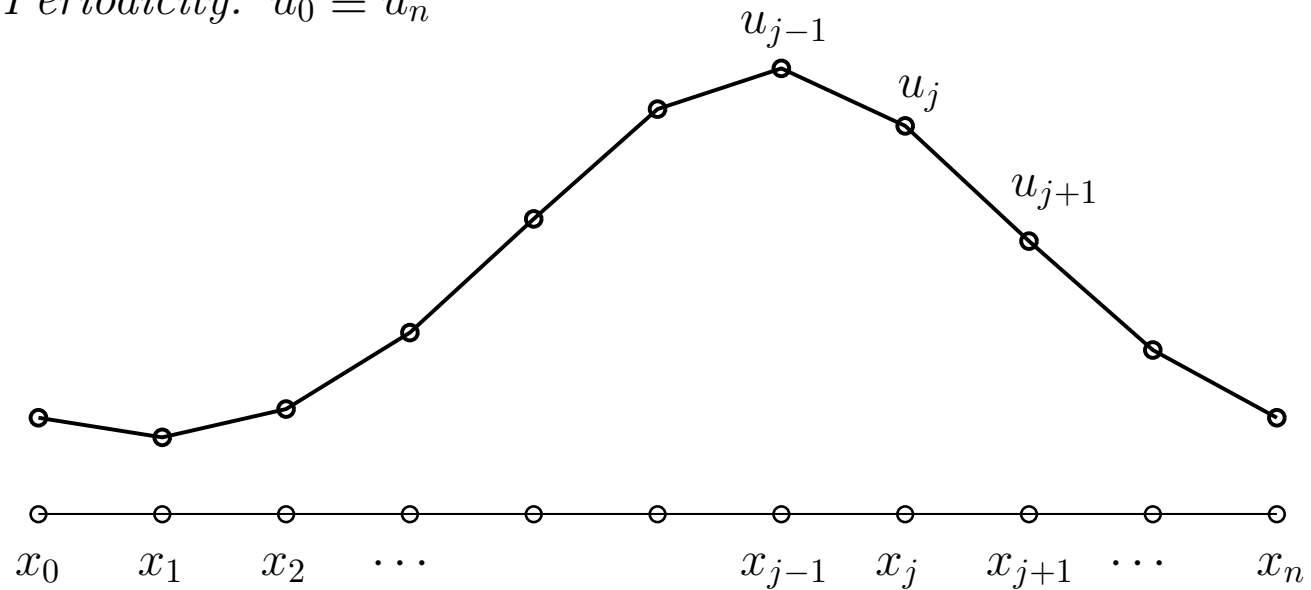
$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} (u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}) = C \underline{u}|_j$$

$$C = -\frac{1}{2\Delta x} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & & & -1 \\ -1 & 0 & 1 & & \\ & -1 & \cdots & \cdots & \\ & & \cdots & \cdots & 1 \\ 1 & & & -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

*Periodic Matrix*

## Periodic Domain

*Periodicity:  $u_0 \equiv u_n$*



- Allows us to run for long times without having to have a very long domain.
- Allows us to analyze the properties of our spatial discretization.

## CFL, Eigenvalues, and Stability: Fourier Analysis

- Consider:  $u_t = -cu_x$ ,  $u(0) = u(1)$  (periodic BCs)
- Centered difference formula in space:

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} (u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}) = C \underline{u}|_j$$

- Eigenvector:  $u_j = e^{i2\pi k x_j}$ .
- Eigenvalue:

$$\begin{aligned} C \underline{u}|_j &= -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} (e^{i2\pi k \Delta x} - e^{-i2\pi k \Delta x}) e^{i2\pi k x_j} \\ &= -\frac{2ic}{2\Delta x} \frac{(e^{i2\pi k \Delta x} - e^{-i2\pi k \Delta x})}{2i} u_j \\ &= \lambda_k u_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda_k = \frac{-ic}{\Delta x} \sin(2\pi k \Delta x)$$

# CFL, Eigenvalues, and Stability: Fourier Analysis

- Eigenvalue:

$$\begin{aligned} C \underline{u}|_j &= -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} (e^{i2\pi k\Delta x} - e^{-i2\pi k\Delta x}) e^{i2\pi kx_j} \\ &= \frac{2ic}{2\Delta x} \frac{(e^{i2\pi k\Delta x} - e^{-i2\pi k\Delta x})}{2i} u_j \\ &= \lambda_k u_j \end{aligned}$$

$$\lambda_k = \frac{-ic}{\Delta x} \sin(2\pi k\Delta x)$$

- Eigenvalues are purely imaginary, max modulus is

$$\max_k |\lambda_k| = \frac{|c|}{\Delta x}$$

- For constant  $c$  and  $\Delta x$ , we define the CFL for the advection equation as

$$\text{CFL} = \frac{\Delta t |c|}{\Delta x}.$$

*Courant Number*

# Courant Number, Eigenvalues, and Stability: Fourier Analysis

- For constant  $c$  and  $\Delta x$ , we define the CFL for the advection equation as

$$\text{CFL} = \frac{\Delta t |c|}{\Delta x}.$$

- CFL=1 would correspond to a timestep size where a particle moving at speed  $c$  would move one grid spacing in a single timestep.
- For centered finite differences in space, CFL=1 also corresponds  $\lambda \Delta t = 1$ .
- From our IVP stability analysis, we know that we need  $|\lambda \Delta t| < .7236$  for AB3 and  $< 2.828$  for RK4.
- This would correspond to  $\text{CFL} < .7236$  and  $2.828$ , respectively.



# CFL, Eigenvalues, and Stability: Fourier Analysis

▣ MATLAB EXAMPLE: `conv_ab3.m`

## Advection

- For advection, no decay in physical solution.
- Solution is *persistent*.
- Numerical method is either dispersive, dissipative, or both.
- If  $C = -C^T$ , discrete operator is skew-symmetric (imaginary eigenvalues) and numerical method has *no decay* (due to spatial error, at least).
- But it *will* be dispersive.
- We come back to dissipative shortly.

- Long time-integration  $\longrightarrow$  accumulation of error.
- Second-order,  $O(\Delta x^2)$ , accuracy is *not* sufficient.
- Modulo boundary conditions (or with periodicity), we can easily extend our 2nd-order centered-difference formula to  $O(\Delta x^4)$  through Richardson extrapolation.
- Let

$$C_h \mathbf{u}|_j := \frac{c}{2\Delta x} [u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}]$$

and

$$C_{2h} \mathbf{u}|_j := \frac{c}{4\Delta x} [u_{j+2} - u_{j-2}]$$

for  $j = 1, \dots, n$  (with wrap for periodic ends).

- Instead of

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -C_h \mathbf{u}$$

now use

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = - \left[ \frac{4}{3} C_h \mathbf{u} - \frac{1}{3} C_{2h} \mathbf{u} \right].$$

- For AB3, say,

$$\mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t \left( \frac{23}{12} \mathbf{f}^k - \frac{16}{12} \mathbf{f}^{k-1} + \frac{5}{12} \mathbf{f}^{k-2} \right)$$
$$\mathbf{f}^k = - \left[ \frac{4}{3} C_h \mathbf{u}^k - \frac{1}{3} C_{2h} \mathbf{u}^k \right].$$

- Don't re-evaluate  $\mathbf{f}^{k-1}$  or  $\mathbf{f}^{k-2}$ .
- Just re-use the previously computed values.

*conv\_ab3\_cd4.m*

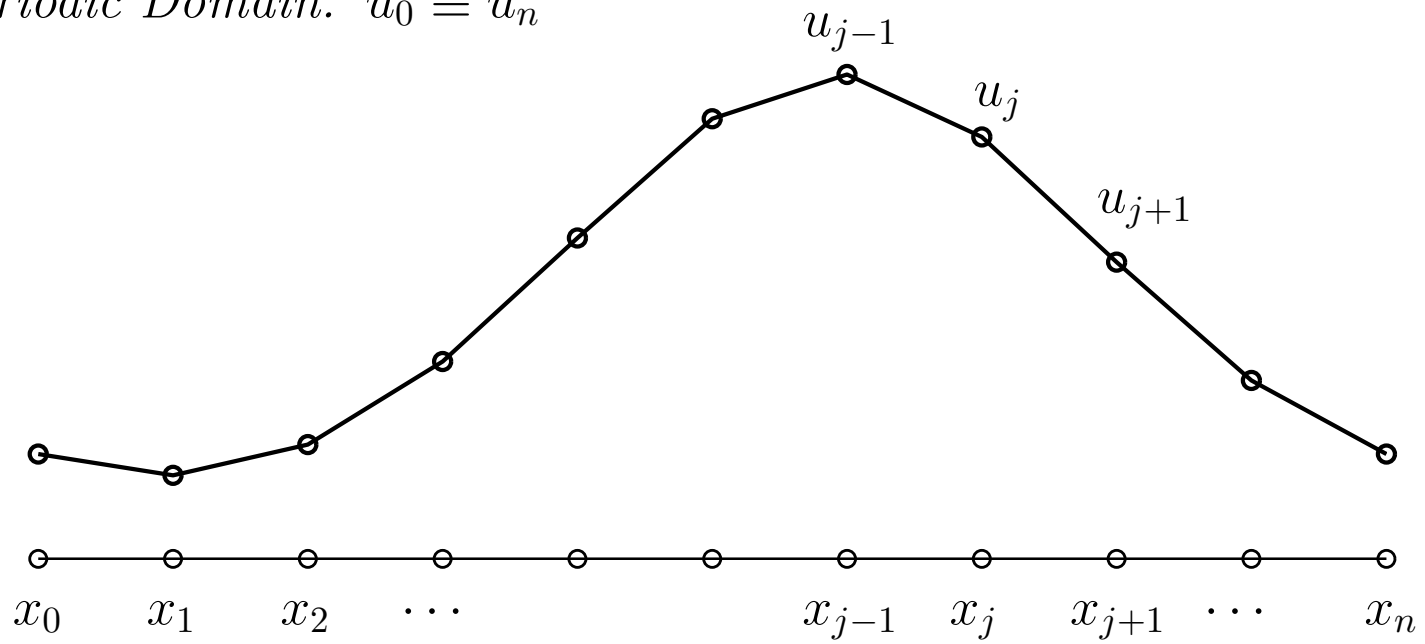
# Numerical Dissipation

## Numerical Dissipation

- So far, we've consider only central difference formulas.
- Upwind discretizations offer more stability, through the introduction of numerical dissipation.
- You must be very careful about the wind direction!

# Alternative Discretizations for Advection

*Periodic Domain:  $u_0 \equiv u_n$*



- First-order upwinding:

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = -\frac{c}{\Delta x} (u_j - u_{j-1}) \quad \text{if } c > 0,$$

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = -\frac{c}{\Delta x} (u_{j+1} - u_j) \quad \text{if } c < 0.$$

- Questions:

- What is the order of accuracy?
- Do we preserve skew-symmetry?
- Do we have stability?
- Under which conditions?

- Consider  $c > 0$ . With some rearranging, we find:

$$\begin{aligned}
\frac{du_j}{dt} &= -\frac{c}{\Delta x} (u_j - u_{j-1}) \\
&= -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} (2u_j - 2u_{j-1}) \\
&= -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} (u_{j+1} - u_{j+1} + 2u_j - 2u_{j-1}) \\
&= -\frac{c}{2\Delta x} ((u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}) + (-u_{j+1} + 2u_j - u_{j-1})) \\
&= -c \frac{u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}}{2\Delta x} + \frac{c\Delta x}{2} \frac{-u_{j+1} + 2u_j - u_{j-1}}{\Delta x^2} \\
&= -C\mathbf{u} - \nu_h A\mathbf{u}.
\end{aligned}$$

- Here,  $\nu_h = \frac{c\Delta x}{2}$  is the *numerical diffusivity* and the term

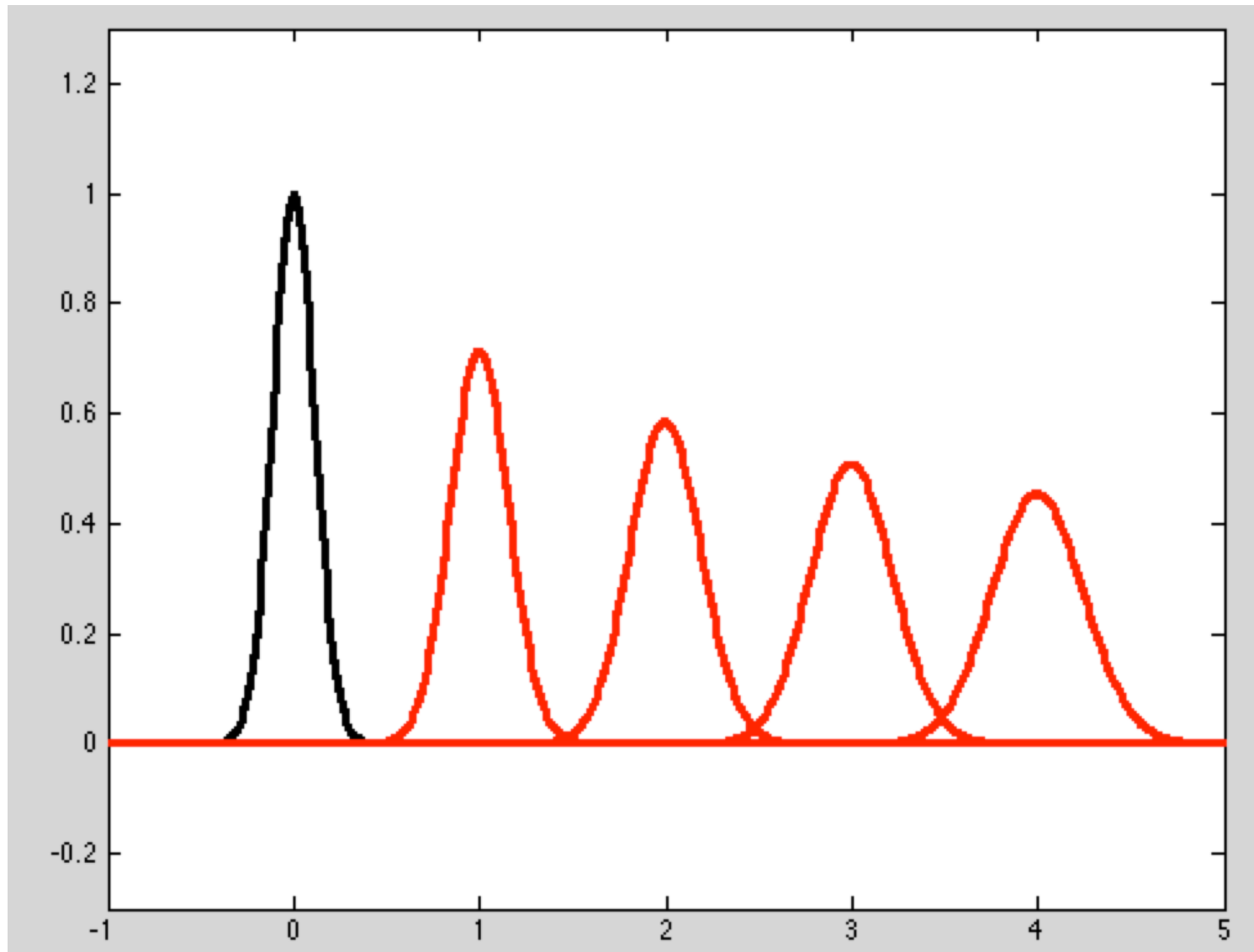
$$- \nu_h A\mathbf{u}$$

represents *numerical dissipation*.

- $\nu_h = \frac{c\Delta x}{2} \rightarrow 0$  as  $\Delta x \rightarrow 0$  (but only linearly in  $\Delta x$ ).
- This method is thus first-order,  $O(\Delta x)$ , accurate in space and *dissipative*.

*conv\_ab3\_b.m demo*





*conv\_ab3\_b.m demo*

- **Eigenvalues.**

- For our *periodic* boundary conditions, the eigenvectors are

$$u_j = e^{i2\pi kx_j} \quad (i := \sqrt{-1}).$$

- With  $\theta := 2\pi k\Delta x$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} C\mathbf{u} &= \frac{c}{2\Delta x} \cdot 2i \left[ \frac{e^{i\theta} - e^{-i\theta}}{2i} \right] e^{i2\pi kx_j} \\ &= \frac{ic}{\Delta x} \sin(2\pi k\Delta x) e^{i2\pi kx_j}. \end{aligned}$$

$$\nu_h A\mathbf{u} = \frac{\nu_h}{\Delta x^2} [2 - 2\cos(2\pi k\Delta x)] e^{i2\pi kx_j}$$

$$\lambda(J) = -\frac{ic}{\Delta x} \sin(2\pi k\Delta x) - \frac{\nu_h}{\Delta x^2} (2 - 2\cos(2\pi k\Delta x)).$$

- **Eigenvalues.**

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$$\lambda(J) = \underbrace{-\frac{ic}{\Delta x} \sin(2\pi k\Delta x)}_{\in \mathcal{I}m} - \underbrace{\frac{\nu_h}{\Delta x^2} (2 - 2 \cos(2\pi k\Delta x))}_{< 0, \in \mathbb{R}}.$$

- Thus, the eigenvalues are complex and in the left (stable) half of the complex plane.

- Q: What happens if  $c < 0$  ??

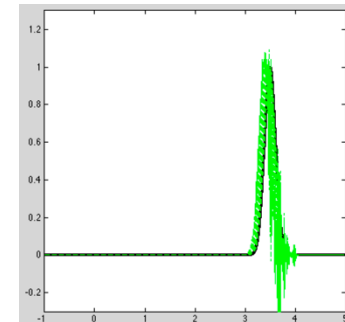
- Now,  $\nu_h < 0$  and

$$\lambda(J) = \underbrace{-\frac{ic}{\Delta x} \sin(2\pi k \Delta x)}_{\in \mathcal{I}m} - \underbrace{\frac{\nu_h}{\Delta x^2} (2 - 2 \cos(2\pi k \Delta x))}_{> 0, \in \mathbb{R}}.$$

- Here, we will have very rapid instability.
- We must in this case use the one-sided derivative

$$\frac{du_j}{dt} = -\frac{c}{\Delta x} (u_{j+1} - u_j) \quad \text{if } c < 0. \quad (1)$$

- Consider the logic of this statement.



*conv\_ab3\_bb.m demo*

- Suppose we use Euler forward, with  $c = 1 > 0$  and  $\Delta t = \Delta x$ .
- Then, the update step is

$$\frac{\mathbf{u}^{n+1} - \mathbf{u}^n}{\Delta t} = J\mathbf{u}^n, \text{ or} \quad (2)$$

$$\frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n}{\Delta t} = -c \frac{u_j^n - u_{j-1}^n}{\Delta x}, \quad (3)$$

implying

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n - \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} (u_j^n - u_{j-1}^n). \quad (4)$$

- If our CFL = 1, then

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_{j-1}^n, \quad (5)$$

which corresponds to a perfect shift of data from the left.

- Being in Illinois, we take our prediction of tomorrow's weather,  $u_j^{n+1}$ , from today's weather in Iowa,  $u_{j-1}^n$ .
- Not from Indiana ( $u_{j+1}^n$ ).

# Numerical Dispersion: Finite Differences

- Analytical advection, periodic boundary conditions:

$$u_t = -c u_x = \mathcal{L}u, \quad u(0) = u(1),$$

- Analytical eigenfunctions:  $s_k(x) = e^{i2\pi kx}$ .

- Analytical eigenvalues. Set  $u(x, t = 0) = u_0 = s_k(x)$ . Then,

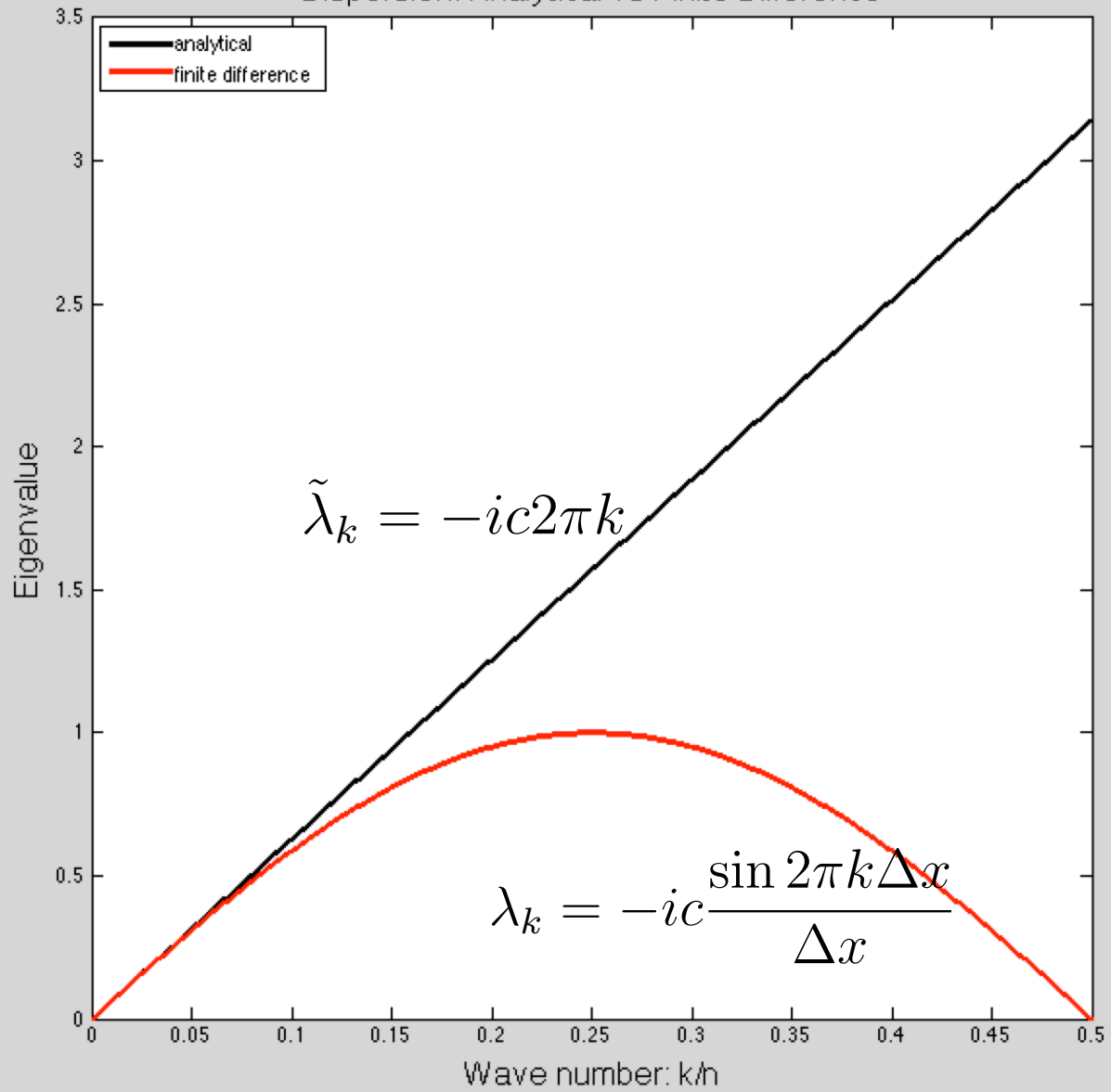
$$\mathcal{L}u = -c u_x = -ic2\pi k u = \tilde{\lambda}_k u$$

$$\tilde{\lambda}_k = -ic2\pi k$$

- Numerical eigenvalues:

$$\lambda_k = -ic \frac{\sin 2\pi k \Delta x}{\Delta x} \sim -ic2\pi k \left( 1 - \frac{(2\pi k \Delta x)^2}{3!} \dots \right).$$

Dispersion: Analytical vs Finite Difference





# Advection Demos

- ❑ Numerical dispersion (spatial error dominating)
  - ❑ High wavenumber components have more error than low wavenumbers
  - ❑ Longer time-integrations yield larger error
  
- ❑ Instability if CFL too large
  - ❑  $CFL < .72$  (say, for AB3) for standard 2<sup>nd</sup>-order finite difference scheme
  - ❑ Smaller CFL required for 4<sup>th</sup>-order finite difference scheme
  
- ❑ First-order upwinding:
  - ❑ unstable if the wind direction (“c”) changes without changing the stencil (e.g.,  $u_j - u_{j-1}$  to  $u_{j+1} - u_j$ ).
  - ❑ Perfect shift if  $CFL == 1$
  - ❑ Dissipative if  $CFL < 1$
  - ❑ Explosive if  $CFL > 1$

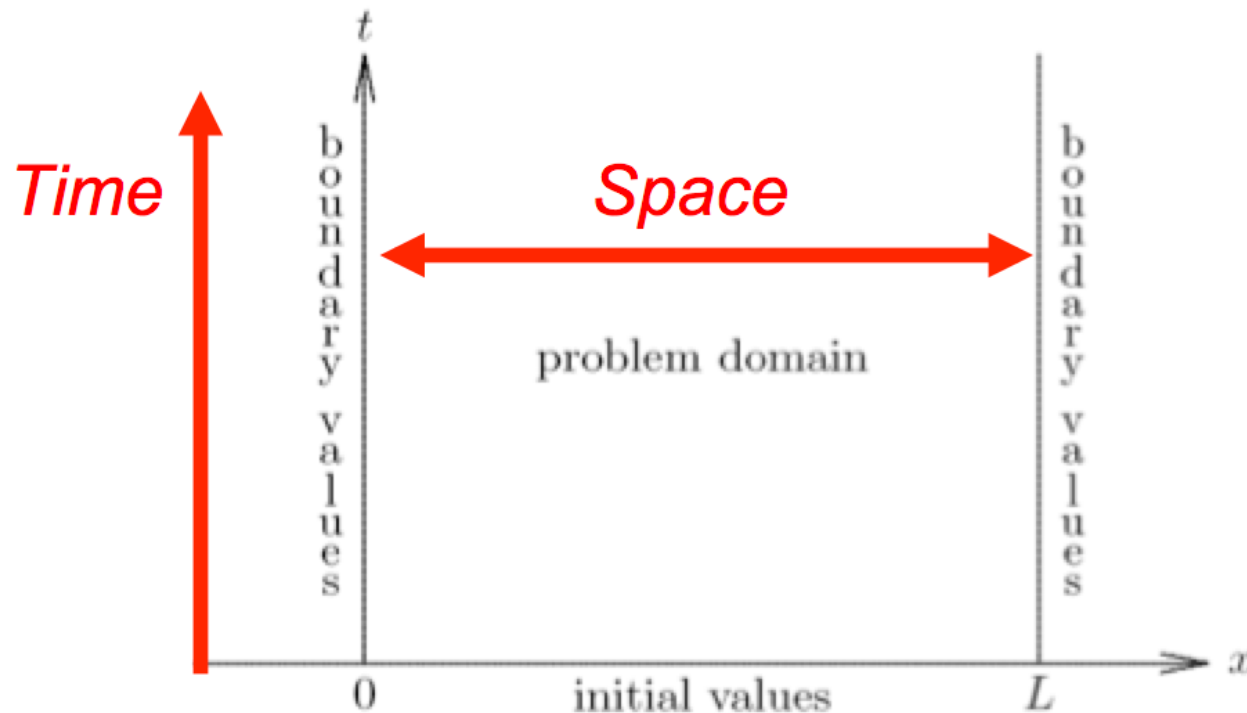
conv\_sine.m

# Time Dependent Problems

- We'll consider two examples: diffusion (heat equation) and advection.

heat equation:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \text{BCs and IC}$

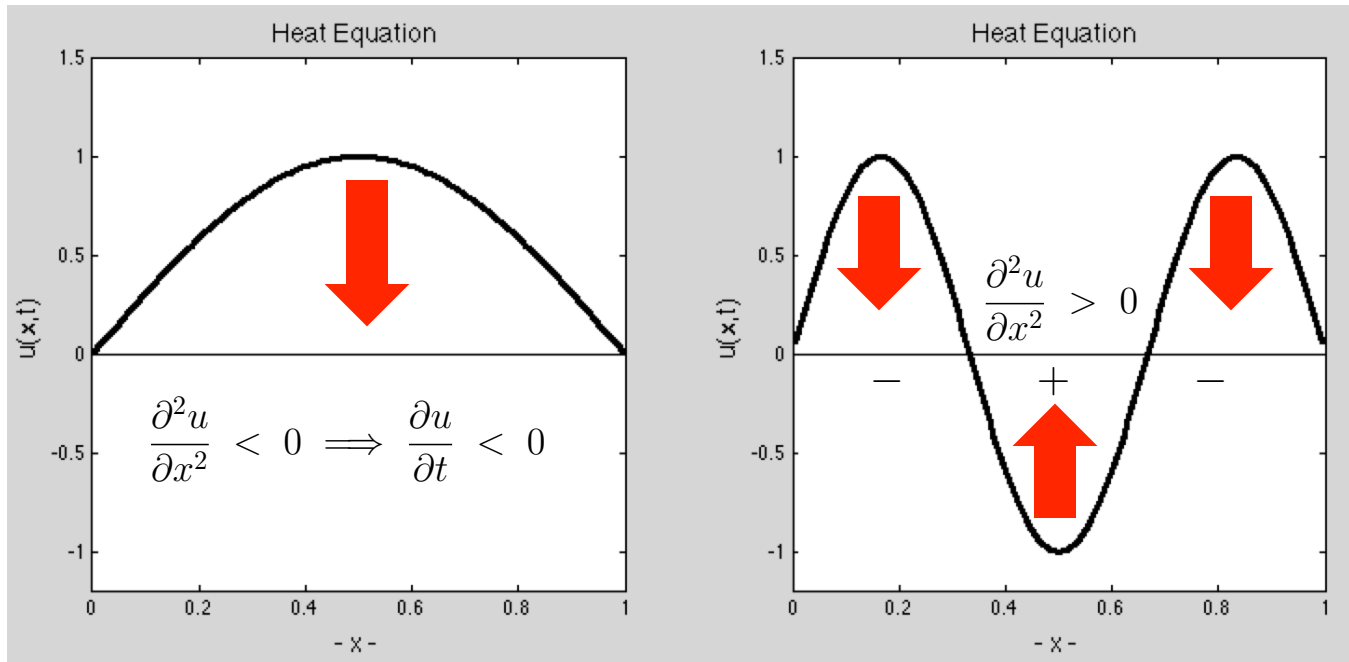
advection:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \text{BCs and IC}$



# Heat Equation:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad \nu > 0$$

- For the heat equation, the solution evolves in the direction of local curvature.
  - If the the solution is locally concave down,  $u$  decreases there.
  - If the the solution is concave up,  $u$  increases.



**Example Solutions (eigenfunctions):**  $u_t = \nu u_{xx}$ ,  $u(0) = u(1) = 0$

$$u(x, t) = \hat{u}(t) \sin \pi x$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{d\hat{u}}{dt} \sin \pi x = -\nu \pi^2 \hat{u} \sin \pi x$$

$$\frac{d\hat{u}}{dt} = -\nu \pi^2 \hat{u}$$

$$\hat{u} = e^{-\nu \pi^2 t} \hat{u}(0)$$

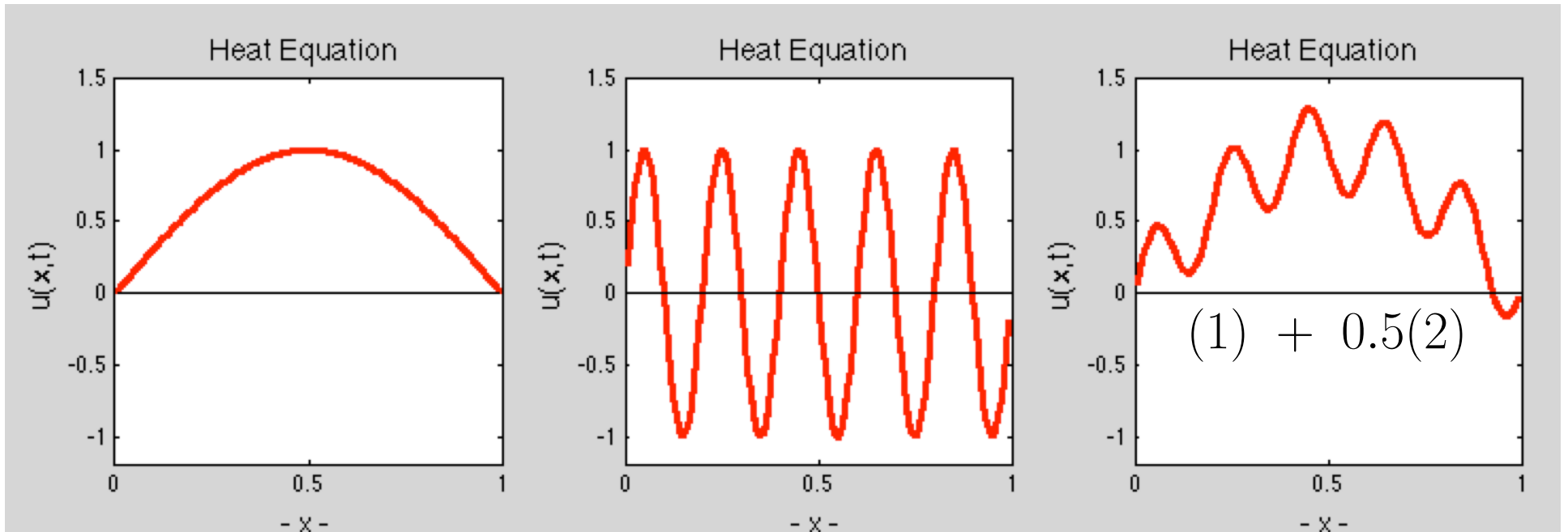
$$u(x, t) = \hat{u}(t) \sin 10\pi x$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{d\hat{u}}{dt} \sin 10\pi x = -\nu 100\pi^2 \hat{u} \sin 10\pi x$$

$$\frac{d\hat{u}}{dt} = -\nu 100\pi^2 \hat{u}$$

$$\hat{u} = e^{-\nu 100\pi^2 t} \hat{u}(0)$$

→ *Very rapid decay.*



## Solution of Partial Differential Equations

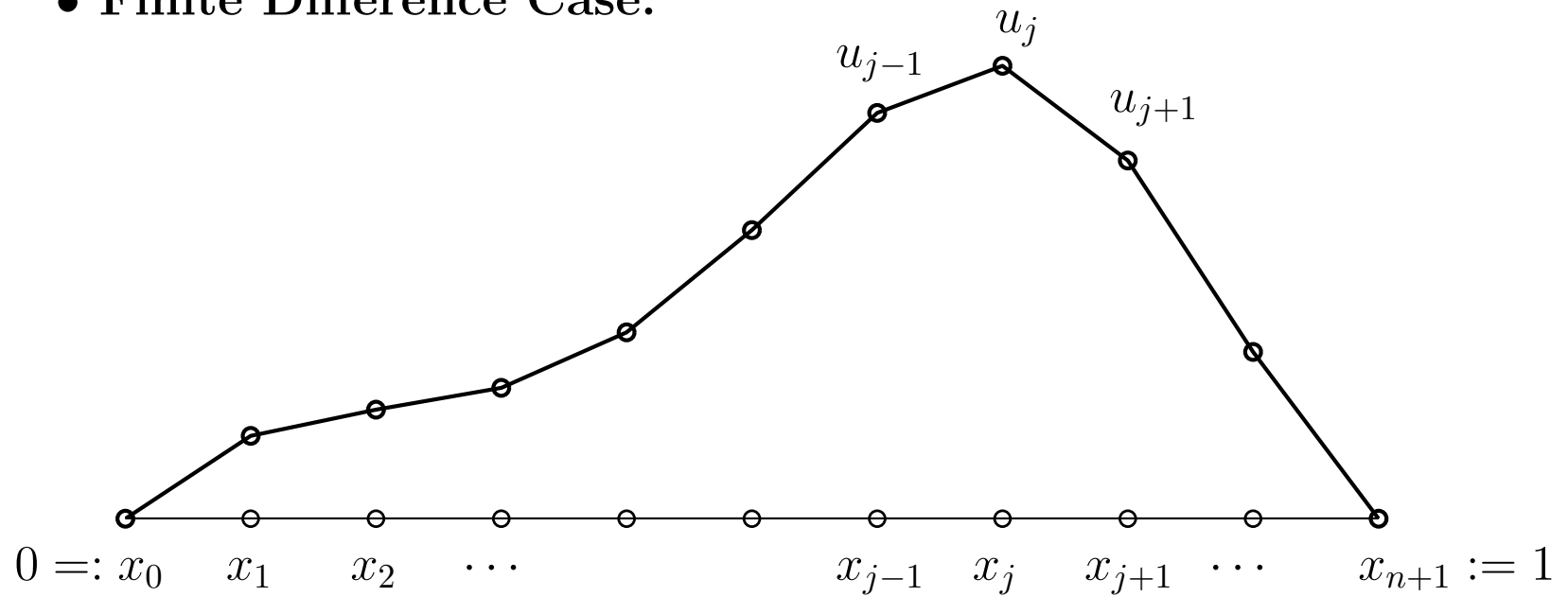
- **Unsteady Heat Equation:**

$$u_t = \nu u_{xx} + q(x, t), \quad u(x = 0, t) = u(x = L, t) = 0, \quad u(x, t = 0) = u^0(x).$$

- Discretize in space:

- Finite difference
- Weighted residual technique (FEM, Galerkin + high-order polynomials, etc.)

- Finite Difference Case:



$$\frac{du_i}{dt} = -\nu (A\mathbf{u})_i + q_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

- In ODE form:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -\nu A\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{q}, \quad \mathbf{u}(t = 0) = \mathbf{u}^0.$$

- Here,  $\Delta x = 1/(n + 1)$  and  $A$  is the SPD tridiagonal matrix

$$A = \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} \begin{pmatrix} 2 & -1 & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}.$$

- Eigenvalues:

$$\begin{aligned} \lambda(A) &= \frac{2}{\Delta x^2} (1 - \cos(k\pi\Delta x)) \in (\pi^2(1 + O(\Delta x^2)), 4(n + 1)^2) \\ &\in \left( \pi^2(1 + O(\Delta x^2)), \frac{4}{\Delta x^2} \right). \end{aligned}$$

- Can view this semi-discrete form as a system of ODEs:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) \quad := -\nu A\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}, t).$$

- Jacobian  $\frac{df_i}{du_j} = -\nu a_{ij} \quad J = -\nu A.$

- Stability is determined by the eigenvalues of  $J$  *and* by the choice of timestepper.
- Some possible explicit timesteppers

$$\text{EF: } \mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t \mathbf{f}^k$$

$$\text{AB3: } \mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t \left( \frac{23}{12} \mathbf{f}^k - \frac{16}{12} \mathbf{f}^{k-1} + \frac{5}{12} \mathbf{f}^{k-2} \right)$$

- **Stable**, as long as  $\lambda(J)\Delta t$  in the stability region.



- **Stability:**

- $\lambda(J) = -\nu\lambda(A) = -\frac{2\nu}{\Delta x^2} (1 - \cos k\pi\Delta x).$

- Worst case is  $|\lambda(J)| \sim \left| \frac{4\nu}{\Delta x^2} \right|.$

- For Euler forward (EF), require

$$|\Delta t\lambda(J)| < 2$$

or

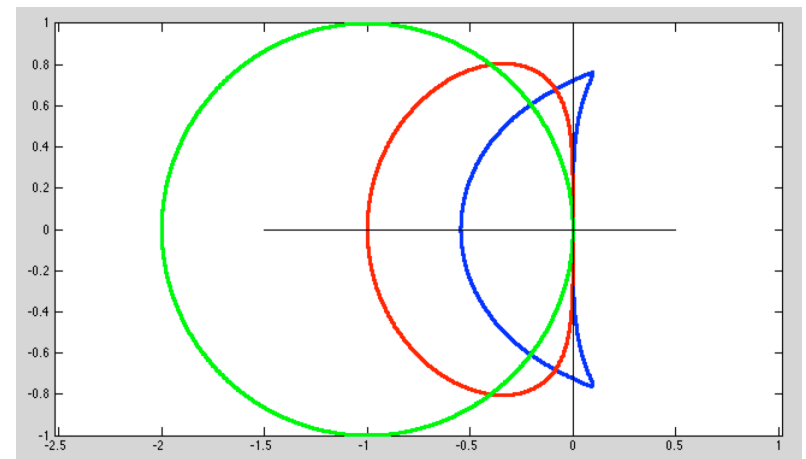
$$\Delta t < \frac{2\Delta x^2}{4\nu} = \frac{\Delta x^2}{2\nu},$$

which is a *very severe* timestep restriction.

- **Question:**

*What is the maximum allowable timestep size for AB3 in this case?*

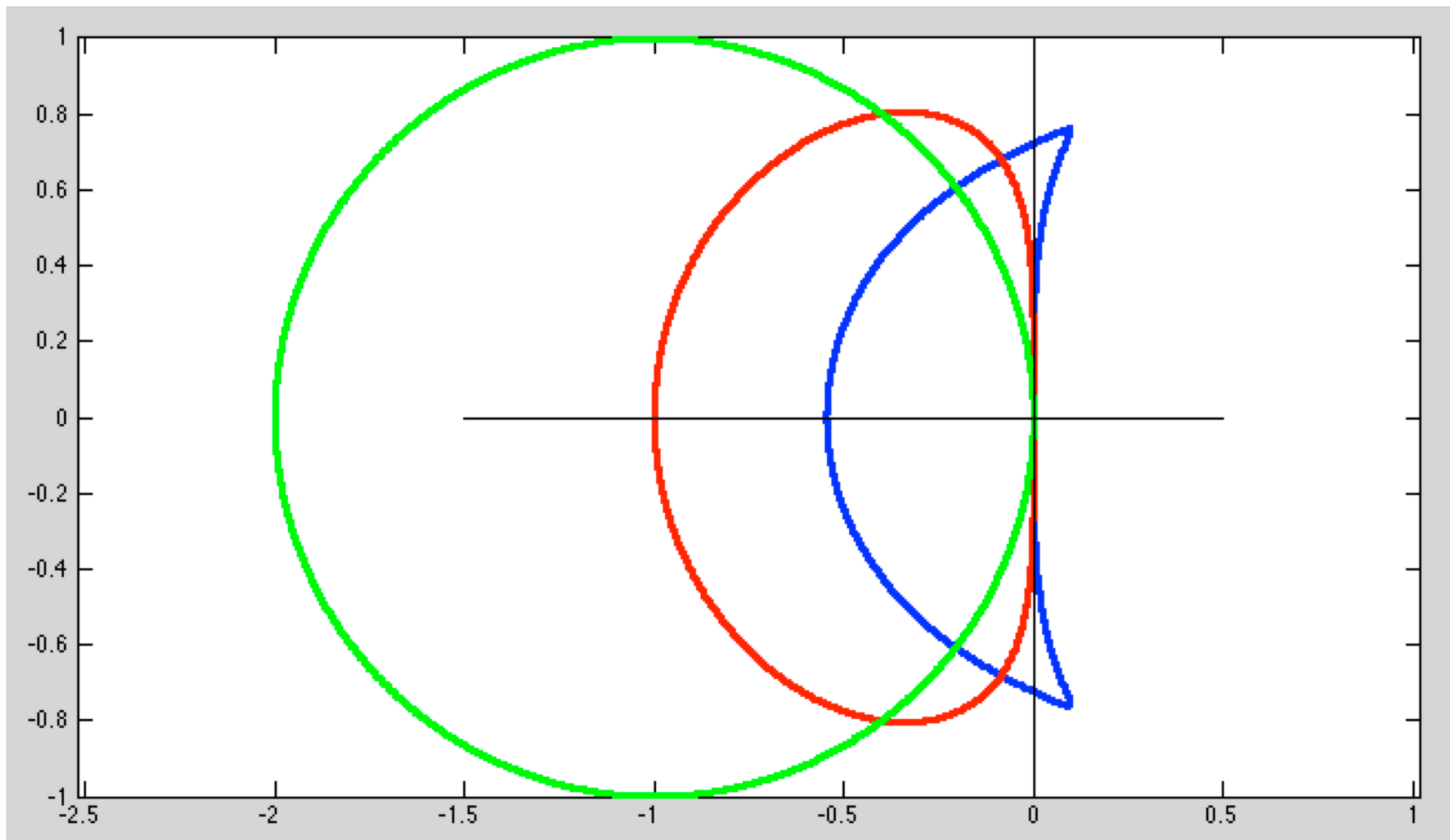
*Stability Regions, EF, AB2, AB3.*



- **Question:**

*What is the maximum allowable timestep size for AB3 in this case?*

*Stability Regions, EF, AB2, AB3.*



- Severity of explicit timestep restriction:
  - Suppose  $\nu = 1$  and you want error  $\approx 10^{-6}$ .
    - $\Delta x \approx 10^{-3}$ .
    - $\Delta t \approx 10^{-6}$ , just for stability.
- This is an example of a stiff system.
- High wavenumbers ( $\lambda(A)$ ) are uninteresting but restrict the timestep size.
- For this reason, the heat equation is most often treated *implicitly*.

- Possible Implicit Approaches:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \mathbf{EB} \\ \text{Trapezoid (aka Crank-Nicolson)} \\ \mathbf{BDF2} \text{ or } \mathbf{BDF3} \end{array} \right.$$

- Examples:

$$\mathbf{EB:} \quad \mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t [-\nu A\mathbf{u}^{k+1} + \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}, t^{k+1})]$$

$$\mathbf{CN:} \quad \frac{\mathbf{u}^{k+1} - \mathbf{u}^k}{\Delta t} = +\frac{1}{2} (-\nu A\mathbf{u}^{k+1} + \mathbf{q}^{k+1} - \nu A\mathbf{u}^k + \mathbf{q}^k)$$

$$\mathbf{BDF2:} \quad \frac{3\mathbf{u}^{k+1} - 4\mathbf{u}^k + \mathbf{u}^{k-1}}{2\Delta t} = -\nu A\mathbf{u}^{k+1} + \mathbf{q}(\mathbf{x}, t^{k+1})$$

- EB Example:

$$\mathbf{u}^{k+1} + \nu\Delta t A \mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t \mathbf{q}^{k+1}$$

$$[I + \nu\Delta t A] \mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t \mathbf{q}^{k+1}$$

$$H \mathbf{u}^{k+1} = \mathbf{u}^k + \Delta t \mathbf{q}^{k+1}.$$

- Here,  $H := [I + \nu\Delta t A]$  is SPD, tridiagonal, and strongly diagonally dominant. (In all number of space dimensions.)
- $H \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$  is easier to solve than  $A \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$ .
- Jacobi- (diagonal-) preconditioned conjugate gradient iteration is often the best choice of solver, particularly in higher space dimensions.
- Note that all the implicit solvers end up with the form  $H \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$  and generally have the *same* costs for the linear heat equation considered here.
- Note that CN (aka trapezoid method) is *not*  $L$ -stable and will have potential difficulties noted in our discussion of IVPs.

- **Discretization Based on Weighted Residual Technique in Space**
- Coming back to the heat equation (with BCs/ICs),

$$u_t = \nu u_{xx} + q(x, t),$$

- WRT - residual orthogonal to test functions

$$\int v(\nu u_{xx} + q(x, t) - u_t) dx = 0 \quad \forall v \in X_0^N.$$

- If  $u = \sum_{j=1}^n u_j(t) \phi_j(x)$  and  $v = \phi_i(x)$ , then

$$\text{LHS: } \int v \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dx = \left( \sum_{j=1}^n \phi_i \phi_j dx \right) u_j(t) = B \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt},$$

with the *mass matrix*  $B$  having entries

$$B_{ij} := \int \phi_i(x) \phi_j(x) dx.$$

- On the right, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= \nu \int v \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} dx + \int v q dx \\ &= -\nu \int \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \int v q dx. \end{aligned}$$

- Setting  $v = \phi_i$  and  $u = \sum_j \phi_j u_j(t)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \text{RHS} &= -\nu \sum_{j=1}^n \left( \int \frac{d\phi_i}{dx} \frac{d\phi_j}{dx} dx \right) u_j(t) + \int \phi_i q dx \\ &= -\nu A \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \begin{cases} a_{ij} := \int \frac{d\phi_i}{dx} \frac{d\phi_j}{dx} dx \\ b_i := \int \phi_i q dx \end{cases}. \end{aligned}$$

- In summary, the WRT formulation is, *Find*  $u(x, t) \in X_0^N$  such that,

$$\int v \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dx = -\nu \int \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \int v q dx \quad \forall v \in X_0^N,$$

which leads to the ODE

$$B \frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -\nu A \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b}, \quad \text{plus initial condition } \mathbf{u}(t=0) = \mathbf{u}^0.$$

- In standard form,

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -\nu B^{-1} A \mathbf{u} + B^{-1} \mathbf{b},$$

- Stability is thus governed by  $\lambda(J) = -\nu \lambda(B^{-1} A)$ , *not* just  $-\nu \lambda(A)$ .
- Presence of  $B$  in front of  $\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt}$  must not be ignored.
- Choice of timestepper motivated by same concerns as for finite-differences:
  - $|\lambda(J)| \sim O(\Delta x^2)$
  - Implicit timestepping generally preferred
  - SPD systems
  - Jacobi (diagonal) preconditioned conjugate gradient iteration is generally the solver of choice.



## Time Stepping for Diffusion Equation:

- Recall, with boundary conditions  $u(0) = u(1) = 0$ , the finite difference operator

$$A\mathbf{u} = -\frac{\nu}{h^2} [u_{j+1} - u_j - u_{j-1}]$$

with  $h := 1/(n + 1)$  has eigenvalues in the interval  $[0, M]$  with

$$M = \max_k \lambda_k = \max_k \frac{2\nu}{h^2} [1 - \cos k\pi h] \sim \frac{4}{h^2} \nu$$

- Our ODE is  $\mathbf{u}_t = -A\mathbf{u}$ , so we are concerned with  $-\lambda_k$ .
- With Euler Forward, we require  $|\lambda\Delta t| < 2$  for stability,
  - $\longrightarrow \Delta t < \frac{h^2}{2} \nu$
  - *no matter how smooth the initial condition.*
- This intrinsic *stiffness* motivates the use of implicit methods for the heat equation (BDF2 is a good one).
- *matlab example:* heat1d.m

*heat1d\_ef.m and heat1d\_eb.m and heat1d\_cn.m*



## Steady State Problems

- Heat equation evolves to a steady state:

$$u_t = \nu u_{xx} + q(x) \quad [ + \text{BCs and IC} ]$$

- After waiting long enough,  $u(x, t = \infty)$  satisfies:

$$-\nu u_{xx} = q(x) \quad [ + \text{BCs} ]$$

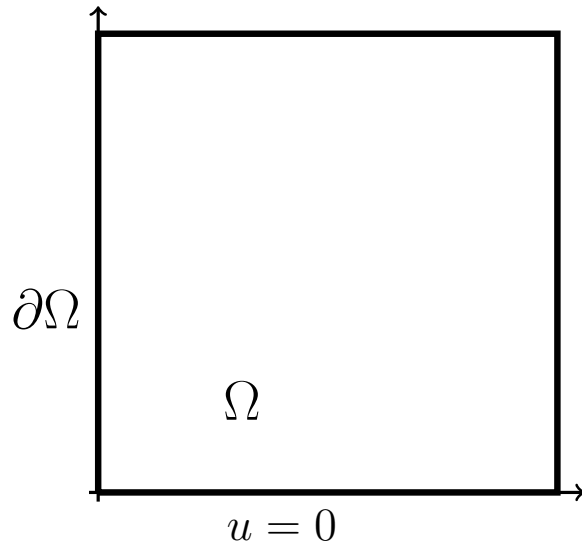
- In 2D, we have:

$$-\nu (u_{xx} + u_{yy}) = q(x, y) \quad [ + \text{BCs} ],$$

which can also be solved by time evolving

$$u_t = \nu (u_{xx} + u_{yy}) + q(x, y) \quad [ + \text{BCs and } \textit{arbitrary} \text{ IC} ]$$

## Example: Poisson Equation in 2D



$$-\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) = f(x, y) \text{ in } \Omega$$
$$u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega$$

- Ex 1: If  $f(x, y) = \sin \pi x \sin \pi y$ ,

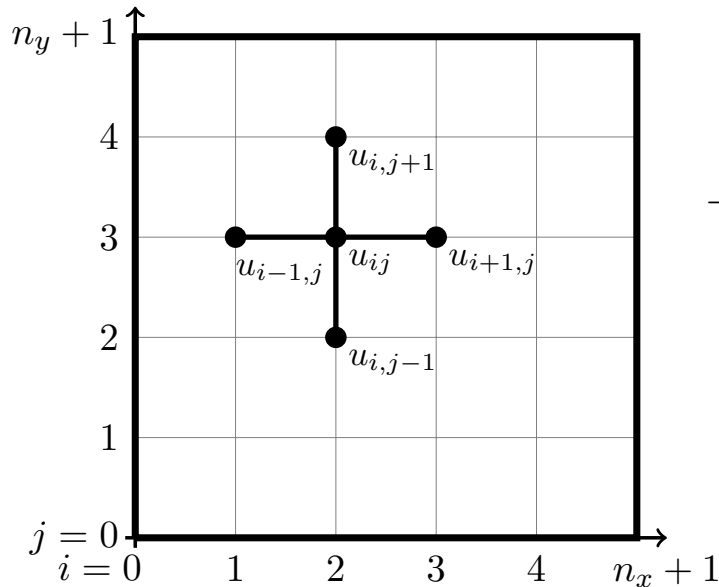
$$u(x, y) = \frac{1}{2\pi^2} \sin \pi x \sin \pi y$$

- Ex 2: If  $f(x, y) = 1$ ,

$$u(x, y) = \sum_{k, l \text{ odd}}^{\infty, \infty} \frac{16}{\pi^4 k l (k^2 + l^2)} \sin k\pi x \sin l\pi y.$$

- Q: How large must  $k$  and  $l$  be for “exact” solution to be correct to  $\epsilon_M$  ?
- Spectral collocation would yield  $u = u_{\text{exact}} \pm \epsilon_M$  by  $N \approx 15$ .

# Numerical Solution: Finite Differences



“5-point finite-difference stencil”

$$-\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) \approx -\left(\frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} - u_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{i,j} - u_{i,j-1}}{\Delta y^2}\right) = f_{ij}$$

$$i = 1 \dots n_x$$

$$j = 1 \dots n_y$$

- Here, the unknowns are  $\mathbf{u} = [u_{11}, u_{21}, \dots, u_{n_x, n_y}]^T$ .
- This particular (so-called natural or lexicographical) ordering gives rise to a banded system matrix for  $\mathbf{u}$ .
- As in the 1D case, the error is  $O(\Delta x^2) + O(\Delta y^2) = O(h^2)$  if we take  $\Delta x = \Delta y =: h$ .
- Assuming for simplicity that  $N = n_x = n_y$ , we have  $n = N^2$  unknowns.

- For  $i, j \in [1, \dots, N]^2$ , the governing finite difference equations are

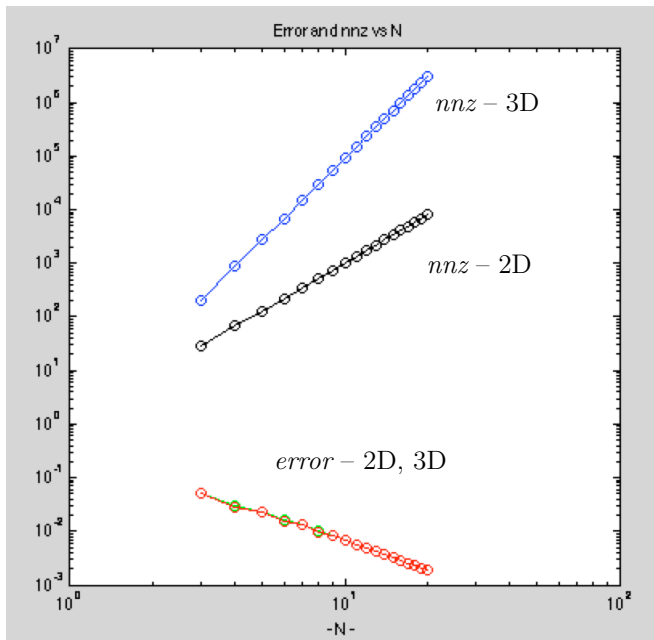
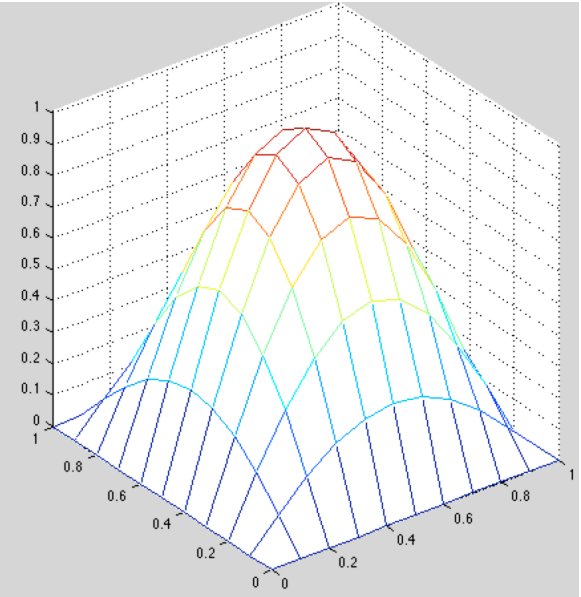
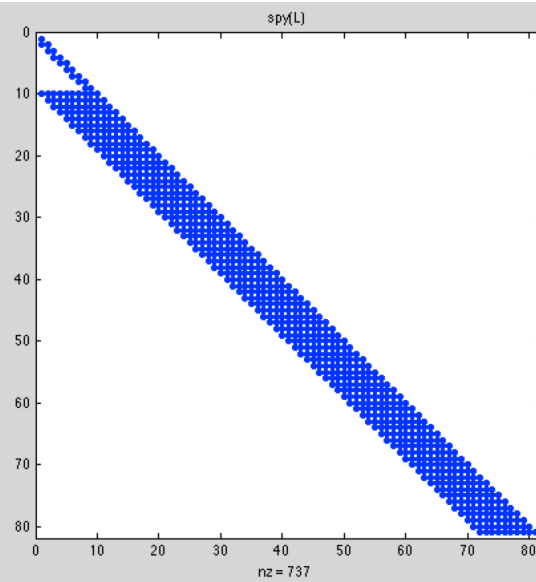
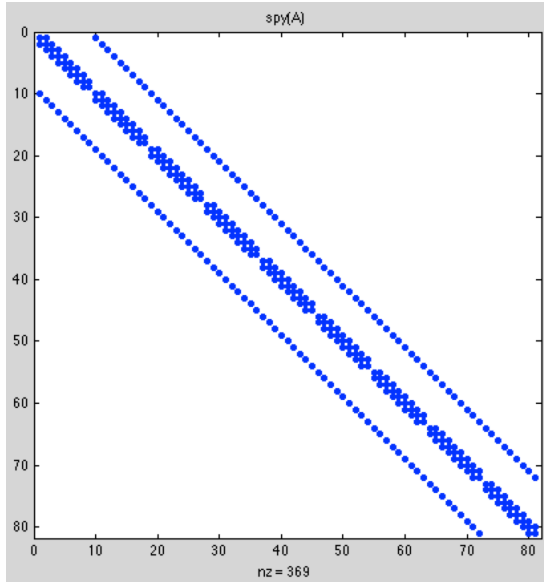
$$-\left( \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i,j-1}}{\Delta y^2} \right) = f_{ij}.$$

- Assuming a *lexicographical ordering* in which the  $i$ - ( $x$ -) index advances fastest, the system matrix has the form

$$\frac{1}{h^2} \underbrace{\left( \begin{array}{c|c|c|c} \begin{array}{cccc} 4 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 4 & -1 & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 4 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & & \\ \hline \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{cccc} 4 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 4 & -1 & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & \\ \hline & \begin{array}{ccc} \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} \\ \hline & & \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & \begin{array}{cccc} 4 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 4 & -1 & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 4 \end{array} \end{array} \right) \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} u_{11} \\ u_{21} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{N1} \\ u_{12} \\ u_{22} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{N2} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{1N} \\ u_{2N} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{NN} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{u}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} f_{11} \\ f_{21} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{N1} \\ f_{12} \\ f_{22} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{N2} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{1N} \\ f_{2N} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{NN} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathbf{f}}$$

- The system matrix  $A$  is
  - *sparse*, with 5 nonzeros per row (good)
  - and has a bandwidth  $N$  (bad).
- The difficulty is that solving  $A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$  using Gaussian elimination results in significant *fill*— each of the factors  $L$  and  $U$  have  $N^3 = n^{3/2}$  nonzeros.
- Worse, for 3D problems with  $N^3$  unknowns,  $\mathbf{u} = [u_{111}, u_{211}, \dots, u_{n_x, n_y, n_z}]^T$ ,  $A$  is
  - *sparse*, with 7 nonzeros per row (good)
  - and has a bandwidth  $N^2$  (awful).
- In 3D,  $LU$  decomposition yields  $N^5 = n^{5/3}$  nonzeros in  $L$  and  $U$ .
- The situation can be rescued in 2D with a reordering of the unknowns (e.g., via nested-dissection) to yield  $O(n \log n)$  nonzeros in  $L$  and  $U$ .
- In 3D, nested-dissection yields  $O(n^{3/2})$  nonzeros in the factors. Direct solution is not scalable for more than two space dimensions.
- The following Matlab examples illustrate the issue of fill:
  - fd\_poisson\_2d.m
  - fd\_poisson\_3d.m

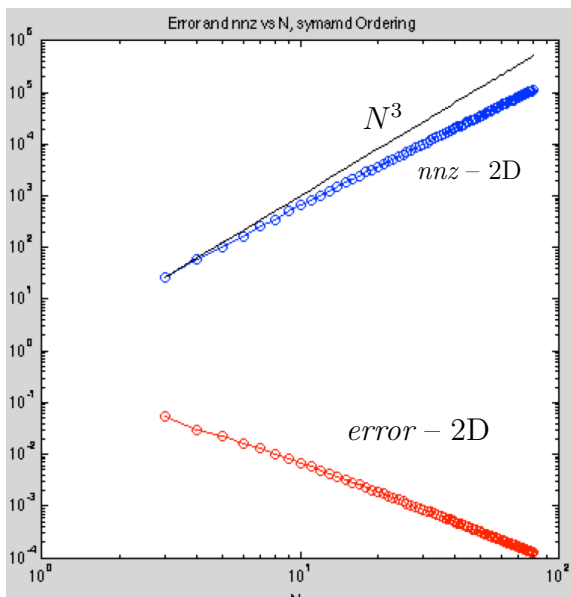
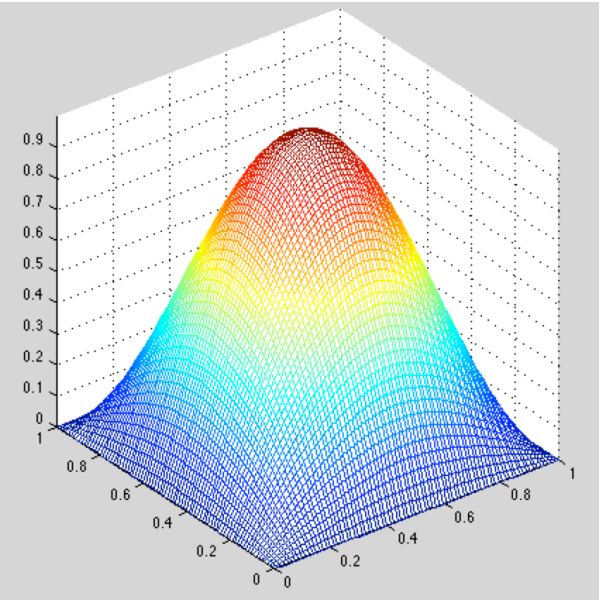
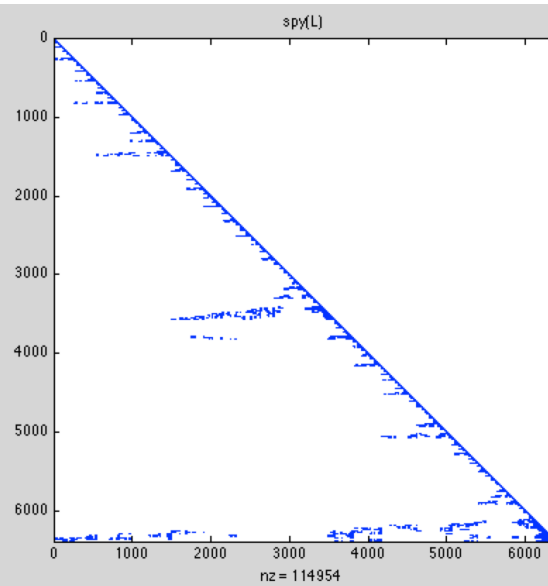
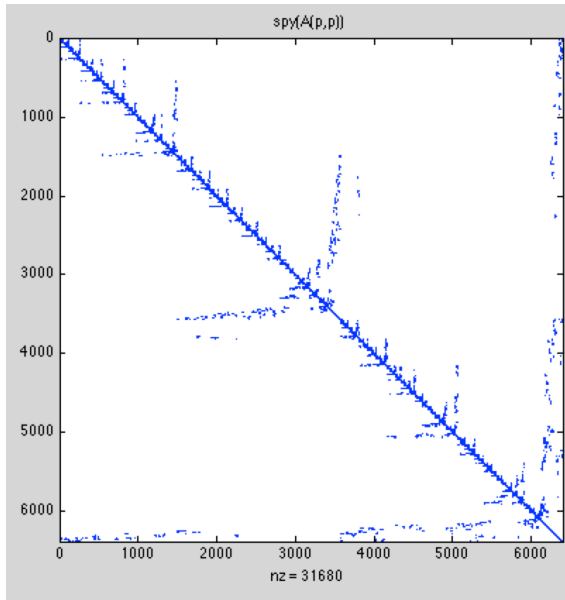
## Matrix-Fill for 2D and 3D Poisson, Lexicographical Ordering



- As expected, the error scales like  $h^2 \sim 1/N^2$  in both 2D and 3D.
- The respective storage costs (and work per rhs) are  $\sim N^3$  and  $N^5$ .
- Alternative orderings are asymptotically better, but the constants tend to be large.



# Matrix-Fill for 2D Poisson, symamd Ordering



- We see for  $N = 80$  ( $n = 6400$ ) a  $5\times$  reduction in number of nonzeros by reordering with matlab's `symamd` function.
- The requirements for indirect addressing to access elements of the compactly-stored matrix further adds to overhead.
- Gains tend to be realized only for very large  $N$  and are even less beneficial in 3D.
- Despite this, it's still a reasonable idea to reorder in matlab because it's available and easy to use.

# More on 2D Systems Matrices for Poisson Equation

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla^2 u &= f(x, y), \quad \text{plus BCs} \\ &= -\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) \\ &= -\left(\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} + \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2}\right) + O(h^2), \end{aligned} \tag{10}$$

where we have substituted the finite difference approximations, assumed to be about the point  $\mathbf{x}_{ij} := (x_i, y_j)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} &:= \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x^2} \\ \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2} &:= \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i,j-1}}{\Delta y^2}, \end{aligned} \tag{11}$$

with the further assumption of uniform grid spacing,  $\Delta x = \Delta y = h$ . We'll also consider homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions, that is,  $u(x, y)|_{\partial\Omega} \equiv 0$ . The respective unknowns and data in this case are  $u_{ij}$  and  $f_{ij}$ , governed by the following system of equations

$$-\left(\frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i,j-1}}{\Delta y^2}\right) = f_{ij}, \tag{12}$$

for  $i, j \in [1, \dots, N]^2$ .

Assuming a *lexicographical ordering* in which the  $i$ - ( $x$ -) index advances fastest, the system takes on the following matrix structure for  $\Delta x = \Delta y = h$ .

$$\frac{1}{h^2} \underbrace{\left( \begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
\begin{array}{cccc}
4 & -1 & & \\
-1 & 4 & -1 & \\
& -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\
& & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\
& & & -1 & 4
\end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc}
-1 & & \\
& -1 & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & -1
\end{array} & & \\
\hline
\begin{array}{ccc}
-1 & & \\
& -1 & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & -1
\end{array} & \begin{array}{cccc}
4 & -1 & & \\
-1 & 4 & -1 & \\
& -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\
& & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\
& & & -1 & 4
\end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc}
\ddots & & \\
& \ddots & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & \ddots
\end{array} & \\
\hline
& \begin{array}{ccc}
\ddots & & \\
& \ddots & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & -1
\end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc}
\ddots & & \\
& \ddots & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & -1
\end{array} & \begin{array}{ccc}
-1 & & \\
& -1 & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & -1
\end{array} & \\
\hline
& & \begin{array}{ccc}
-1 & & \\
& -1 & \\
& & \ddots \\
& & & \ddots \\
& & & & -1
\end{array} & \begin{array}{cccc}
4 & -1 & & \\
-1 & 4 & -1 & \\
& -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\
& & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\
& & & -1 & 4
\end{array}
\end{array} \right) \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} u_{11} \\ u_{21} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{M1} \\ u_{12} \\ u_{22} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{M2} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{1N} \\ u_{2N} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{MN} \end{pmatrix}}_{\underline{u}} = \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} f_{11} \\ f_{21} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{M1} \\ f_{12} \\ f_{22} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{M2} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{1N} \\ f_{2N} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ f_{MN} \end{pmatrix}}_{\underline{f}}$$

Note that  $A_{2D}$  can be expressed as the sum of two systems, one associated with  $A_x$  coming from  $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2}$ , and one associated with one associated with  $A_y$  coming from  $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2}$ . Specifically, we can write

$$A_{2D} = (I_y \otimes A_x) + (A_y \otimes I_x), \quad (13)$$

where we have introduced the Kronecker (or *tensor*) product,  $\otimes$ . For two matrices  $A$  and  $B$ , their Kronecker product  $C = A \otimes B$  is defined as the block matrix

$$C := \begin{pmatrix} a_{11}B & a_{12}B & \cdots & \cdots & a_{1n}B \\ a_{21}B & a_{22}B & \cdots & \cdots & a_{2n}B \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots \\ a_{m1}B & a_{m2}B & \cdots & \cdots & a_{mn}B \end{pmatrix}. \quad (14)$$

We will soon explore a few properties of this form, but for now simply note that it allows a clean expression of the discretized Poisson operator in 2D. Consider the following splitting of  $A_{2D}$ .

$$A_{2D} = \frac{1}{h^2} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{array} & & & \\ & \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{array} & & \\ & & \begin{array}{c} \ddots \\ \ddots \\ \ddots \\ \ddots \\ \ddots \end{array} & & \\ & & & \begin{array}{cccc} 2 & -1 & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & \\ & -1 & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ & & & -1 & 2 \end{array} \end{pmatrix}$$

+

$$+ \frac{1}{h^2} \begin{pmatrix}
 \begin{array}{c|c|c|c}
 \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & & \\ & 2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & 2 \end{array} &
 \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} & & \\
 \hline
 \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} &
 \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & & \\ & 2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & 2 \end{array} &
 \begin{array}{ccc} \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \ddots \end{array} & \\
 \hline
 &
 \begin{array}{ccc} \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \ddots \end{array} &
 \begin{array}{ccc} \ddots & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & \ddots \end{array} &
 \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} \\
 \hline
 & &
 \begin{array}{ccc} -1 & & \\ & -1 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & -1 \end{array} &
 \begin{array}{ccc} 2 & & \\ & 2 & \\ & & \ddots \\ & & & 2 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
A_{2D} &= \begin{pmatrix} A_x & & & \\ & A_x & & \\ & & \ddots & \\ & & & A_x \end{pmatrix} + \frac{1}{h^2} \begin{pmatrix} 2I_x & -I_x & & \\ -I_x & 2I_x & \ddots & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & -I_x \\ & & -I_x & 2I_x \end{pmatrix} \\
&= (I_y \otimes A_x) + (A_y \otimes I_x)
\end{aligned}$$

```

close all; format compact;
% Kronecker Product Demo
%
% NOTE: It is important to use SPARSE matrices throughout.
%
% Otherwise, your run times will be very long and
% you will likely run out of memory!

Lx=2; Ly=1;
nx=15; ny=3; % Number of _interior_ points

dx=Lx/(nx+1); dy=Ly/(ny+1);

% USE help spdiags

e = ones(nx,1); Ax = spdiags([-e 2*e -e], -1:1, nx, nx)/(dx*dx);
e = ones(ny,1); Ay = spdiags([-e 2*e -e], -1:1, ny, ny)/(dy*dy);

Ix=speye(nx); Iy=speye(ny);

A = kron(Iy,Ax) + kron(Ay,Ix);   %%% FINITE DIFFERENCE STIFFNESS MATRIX

% A couple of demo cases without the 1/(dx*dx) scaling.

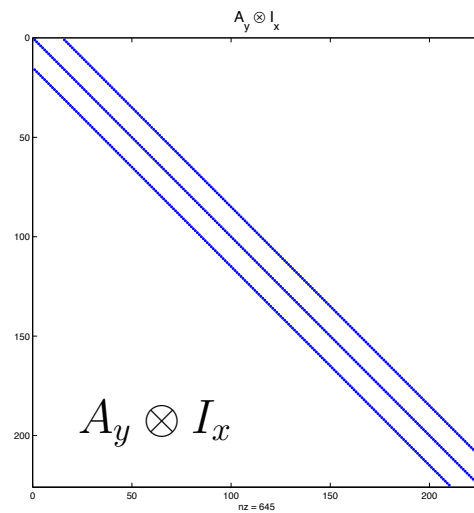
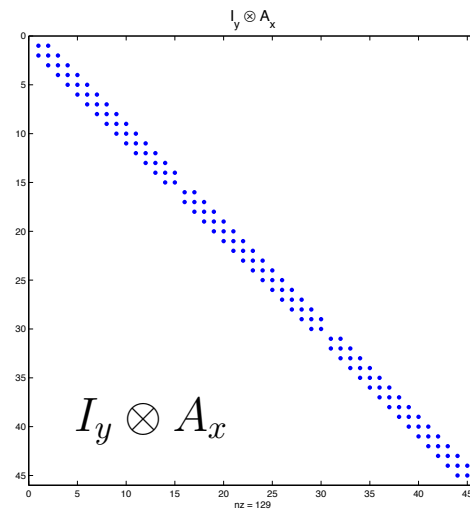
nd= 5;
e = ones(nd,1); Ad = spdiags([-e 2*e -e], -1:1, nd, nd);
T = kron(Iy,Ad); full(T)

nd= 15;
e = ones(nd,1); Ad = spdiags([-e 2*e -e], -1:1, nd, nd);
T = kron(Iy,Ad); spy(T)
title('I_y \otimes A_x','fontsize',16)
set(gcf,'PaperUnits','normalized');set(gcf,'PaperPosition',[0 0 1 1])
print -dpdf iyax.pdf

pause; figure
nd= 5;
e = ones(nd,1); Ad = spdiags([-e 2*e -e], -1:1, nd, nd);
T = kron(Ad,Ix); full(T)

nd= 15;
e = ones(nd,1); Ad = spdiags([-e 2*e -e], -1:1, nd, nd);
T = kron(Ad,Ix); spy(T)
title('A_y \otimes I_x','fontsize',16)
set(gcf,'PaperUnits','normalized');set(gcf,'PaperPosition',[0 0 1 1])
print -dpdf ayix.pdf

```





**Note** that our finite-difference stiffness matrix in matlab would be written as

$$\mathbf{A} = \text{kron}(\mathbf{I}_y, \mathbf{A}_x) + \text{kron}(\mathbf{A}_y, \mathbf{I}_x)$$

where  $\mathbf{A}_x$  and  $\mathbf{A}_y$  are formed using the matlab `spdiags` command (`help spdiags`), and  $\mathbf{I}_y$  and  $\mathbf{I}_x$  are formed using `speye`.

**It is important** to use *sparse matrices* in matlab for these higher-dimensional (2D and 3D) problems or you will run out of memory and it will take *very long* to solve these problems.

This problem is known in scientific computing and *the curse of dimensionality*.

## 1.4 Poisson Equation in $\mathbb{R}^3$

We now extend the 1D and 2D concepts to the most important 3D case. The short story is that the 3D stiffness matrix takes the wonderfully symmetric form

$$\begin{aligned} A_{3D} &= (I_z \otimes A_{2D}) + (A_z \otimes I_{2D}) \\ &= (I_z \otimes I_y \otimes A_x) + (I_z \otimes A_y \otimes I_x) + (A_z \otimes I_y \otimes I_x). \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

and the discrete system is as before  $A_{3D}\underline{u} = \underline{f}$ . This of course is the form that arises for a finite difference discretization of  $-\nabla^2 u = f$  in  $\Omega = [0, 1]^3$ ,  $u = 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , or, more explicitly,

$$-\left( \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} + \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2} + \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta z^2} \right) = f(x_i, y_j, z_k), \quad (16)$$

with

$$\left. \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta z^2} \right|_{ijk} := \frac{u_{ij,k+1} - 2u_{ijk} + u_{ij,k-1}}{\Delta z^2}, \quad (17)$$

and equivalent expressions for  $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2}$  and  $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2}$ .

## Iterative Solvers

- The *curse of dimensionality* for  $d > 2$  resulted in a move towards iterative (rather than direct-,  $LU$ -based) linear solvers once computers became fast enough to tackle 3D problems in the mid-80s.
- With iterative solvers, factorization

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f} \implies \mathbf{u} = A^{-1}\mathbf{f} = U^{-1}L^{-1}\mathbf{f}$$

is replaced by, say,

$$\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{u}_k + M^{-1}(\mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u}_k),$$

which only requires matrix-vector products.

- With  $\mathbf{e}_k := \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_k$ , we have

$$\mathbf{e}_{k+1} = (I - M^{-1}A)\mathbf{e}_k, \quad (\text{as we've seen before}).$$

- This is known as Richardson iteration.
- For the particular case  $M = D = \text{diag}(A)$ , it is Jacobi iteration.
- We can derive Jacobi iteration (and multigrid by looking at a *parabolic* PDE, known as the (unsteady) heat equation. (The Poisson equation is sometimes referred to as the steady-state heat equation.)

- The intrinsic advantage of iterative solvers is that there is no *fill* associated with matrix factorization.
- Often one does not even construct the matrix. Rather, we simply evaluate the residual  $\mathbf{r}_k := \mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u}_k$  and set  $\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{u}_k + M^{-1}\mathbf{r}_k$ .
- For a *sparse matrix*  $A$ , the operation count is  $O(n)$  per iteration.
- Assuming the preconditioner cost is also sparse, the overall cost is  $O(n k_{\max})$ , where  $k_{\max}$  is the number of iterations required to reach a desired tolerance.
- The choice of iteration (Richardson, conjugate gradient, GMRES) can greatly influence  $k_{\max}$ .
- Even more significant is the choice of  $M$ .
- Usually, one seeks an  $M$  such that the cost of solving  $M\mathbf{z} = \mathbf{r}$  is  $O(n)$  and that  $k_{\max} = O(1)$ . That is, the iteration count is bounded, independent of  $n$ .
- The overall algorithm is therefore  $O(n)$ , which is optimal.

## Iterative Solvers - Linear Elliptic Problems

- PDEs give rise to large sparse linear systems of the form

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}.$$

Here, we'll take  $A$  to be the (SPD) matrix arising from finite differences applied to the Poisson equation

$$-\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}\right) = f(x, y) \quad x, y \in [0, 1]^2, \quad u = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega$$

$$-\left(\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} + \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2}\right)_{ij} \approx f|_{ij},$$

- Assuming uniform spacing in  $x$  and  $y$  we have

$$\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2} := \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{ij} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2} := \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{ij} + u_{i,j-1}}{h^2}$$

- Our finite difference formula is thus,

$$\frac{1}{h^2} (u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} - 4u_{ij} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j-1}) = f_{ij}.$$

- Rearranging, we can solve for  $u_{ij}$ :

$$\frac{4}{h^2} u_{ij} = f_{ij} + \frac{1}{h^2} (u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j-1})$$

$$u_{ij} = \frac{h^2}{4} f_{ij} + \frac{1}{4} (u_{i+1,j} + u_{i-1,j} + u_{i,j+1} + u_{i,j-1})$$

- Jacobi iteration uses the preceding expression as a fixed-point iteration:

$$\begin{aligned}
 u_{ij}^{k+1} &= \frac{h^2}{4} f_{ij} + \frac{1}{4} (u_{i+1,j}^k + u_{i-1,j}^k + u_{i,j+1}^k + u_{i,j-1}^k) \\
 &= \frac{h^2}{4} f_{ij} + \text{average of current neighbor values}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Note that this is analogous to

$$u_{ij}^{k+1} = u_{ij}^k + \frac{h^2}{4} \left[ f_{ij} + \frac{1}{h^2} (u_{i+1,j}^k + u_{i-1,j}^k - 4u_{ij}^k + u_{i,j+1}^k + u_{i,j-1}^k) \right]$$

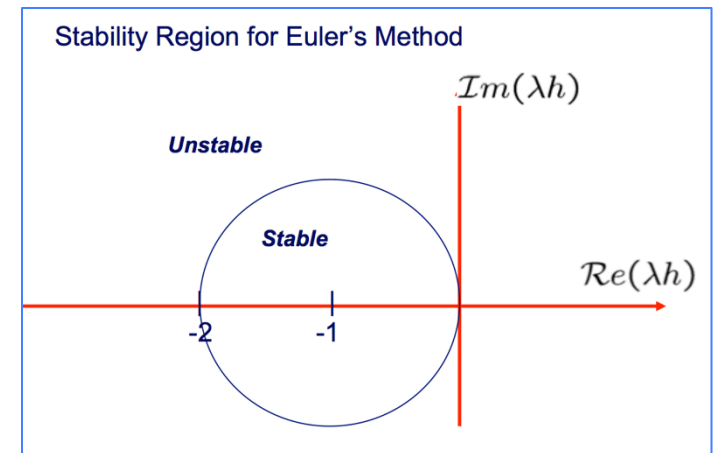
$$\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{u}_k + \Delta t (\mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u}_k), \quad \Delta t := \frac{h^2}{4},$$

← FOR 2D Poisson!

which is Euler forward applied to

$$\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -A\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}.$$

- We note that we have stability if  $|\lambda\Delta t| < 2$



- Recall that the eigenvalues for the 1D diffusion operator are

$$\lambda_j = \frac{2}{h^2} (1 - \cos j\pi\Delta x) < \frac{4}{h^2}$$

- In 2D, we pick up contributions from both  $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta x^2}$  and  $\frac{\delta^2 u}{\delta y^2}$ , so

$$\max |\lambda| < \frac{8}{h^2}$$

and we have stability since

$$\max |\lambda\Delta t| < \frac{8}{h^2} \frac{h^2}{4} = 2$$

- So, Jacobi iteration is equivalent to solving  $A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$  by time marching  $\frac{d\mathbf{u}}{dt} = -A\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{f}$  using EF with maximum allowable timestep size,

$$\Delta t = \frac{h^2}{4}.$$



# MULTIGRID ITERATION

## Jacobi Iteration in Matrix Form

- Our unsteady heat equation has the matrix form

$$\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{u}_k + \Delta t (\mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u}_k)$$

- For variable diagonal entries, Richardson iteration is

$$\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{u}_k + \sigma M^{-1} (\mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u}_k)$$

- If  $\sigma = 1$  and  $M = D^{-1} = \text{diag}(A)$  [ $d_{ii} = 1/a_{ii}$ ,  $d_{ij} = 0$ ,  $i \neq j$ ], we have standard Jacobi iteration.
- If  $\sigma < 1$  we have *damped Jacobi*.
- $M$  is generally known as a smoother or a preconditioner, depending on context.

## Rate of Convergence for Jacobi Iteration

- Let  $\mathbf{e}_k := \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_k$ .
- Since  $A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = \mathbf{u}_k + \Delta t (A\mathbf{u} - A\mathbf{u}_k)$$

$$-\mathbf{u} = -\mathbf{u}$$

-----

$$-\mathbf{e}_{k+1} = -\mathbf{e}_k - \sigma \Delta t A \mathbf{e}_k$$

$$-\mathbf{e}_{k+1} = -(I - \sigma \Delta t A) \mathbf{e}_k$$

$$\mathbf{e}_k = (I - \sigma \Delta t A)^k \mathbf{e}_0$$

$$= (I - \sigma \Delta t A)^k \mathbf{u} \quad \text{if } \mathbf{u}_0 = 0.$$

- If  $\sigma < 1$ , then the high wavenumber error components will decay because  $\lambda \Delta t$  will be well within the stability region for EF.

- The low-wavenumber components of the solution (and error) evolve like  $e^{-\lambda\sigma\Delta tk}$ , because these will be well-resolved in time by Euler forward.
- Thus, we can anticipate

$$\|\mathbf{e}_k\| \approx \|\mathbf{u}\|e^{-\lambda_{\min}\sigma\Delta tk}$$

with  $\lambda_{\min} \approx 2\pi^2$  (for 2D).

- If  $\sigma \approx 1$ , we have

$$\|\mathbf{e}_k\| \approx \|\mathbf{u}\|e^{-2\pi^2(h^2/4)k} \leq \text{tol}$$

- Example, find the number of iterations when  $\text{tol}=10^{-12}$ .

$$e^{-(\pi^2 h^2/4)k} \approx 10^{-12}$$

$$-(\pi^2 h^2/4)k \approx \ln 10^{-12} \approx 24 \quad (27.6\dots)$$

$$k \approx \frac{28 \cdot 2}{\pi^2 h^2} \approx 6N^2$$

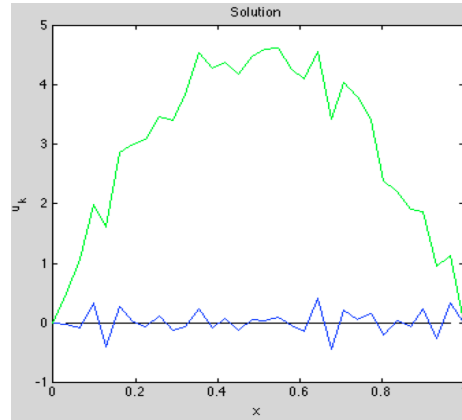
*Here,  $N$ =number of points in each direction.*

## Recap

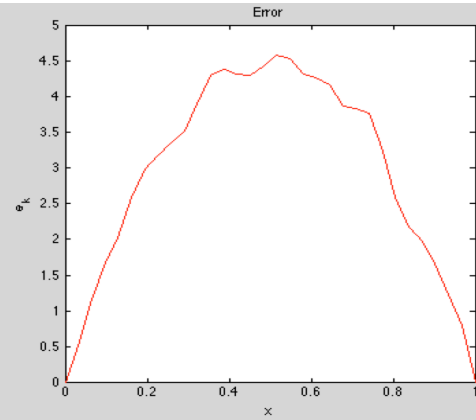
- Low-wavenumber components decay at a fixed rate:  $e^{-\lambda_{\min}\Delta tk}$ .
- Stability mandates  $\Delta t < h^2/4 = 1/4(N + 1)^{-2}$ .
- Number of steps scales like  $N^2$ .
- Note, if  $\sigma = 1$ , then *highest* and *lowest* wavenumber components decay at *same* rate.
- If  $\frac{1}{2} < \sigma < 1$ , high wavenumber components of error decay very fast. We say that damped Jacobi iteration is a *smoother*.

# Example: 1D Jacobi Iteration

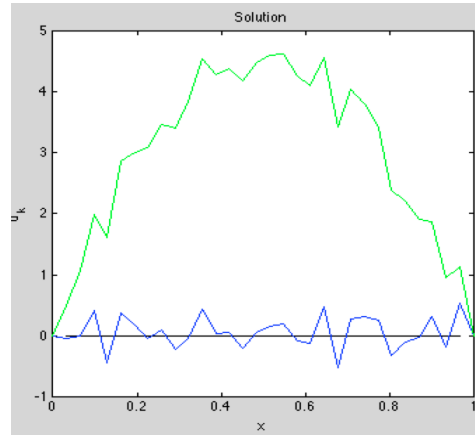
***Solution after  
1 iteration***



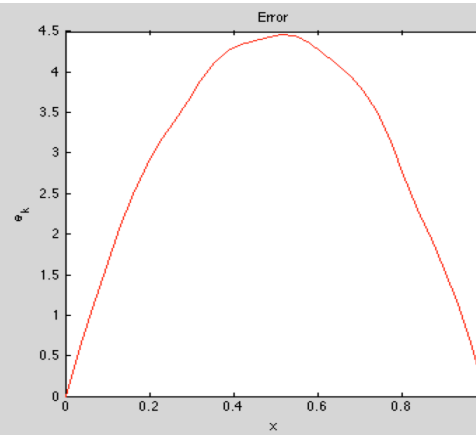
***Error after 1  
iteration***



***Solution after  
5 iterations***



***Error after 5  
iterations***



## Observations:

- Error,  $\mathbf{e}_k$  is smooth after just a few iterations:
  - Error components are  $\approx \hat{u}_j e^{-j^2 k h^2 \pi^2 / 4} \sin k \pi x_j$ , and components for  $j > 1$  rapidly go to zero.

- Exact solution is  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{e}_k$  ( $\mathbf{e}_k$  unknown, but smooth).

- Error satisfies, and can be computed from,

$$A\mathbf{e}_k = \mathbf{r}_k \quad ( := \mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u}_k = A\mathbf{u} - A\mathbf{u}_k = A\mathbf{e}_k ).$$

- These observations suggest that the *error* can be well approximated on a coarser grid and added back to  $\mathbf{u}_k$  to improve the current guess.
- The two steps, *smooth* and *coarse-grid correction* are at the heart of one of the fastest iteration strategies, known as **multigrid**.

## Multigrid:

- Solve  $A\mathbf{e}_k = \mathbf{r}_k$  approximately on a coarse grid and set  $\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_k = \mathbf{u}_k + \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_k$ .
- Approximation strategy is similar to least squares. Let

$$\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_k = V\mathbf{e}_c, \quad \text{and}$$

$$AV\mathbf{e}_c \approx \mathbf{r},$$

where  $V$  is an  $n \times n_c$  matrix with  $n_c \approx n/2$ .

- Typically, columns of  $V$  interpolate coarse point values to their mid-points.
- Most common approach (for  $A$  SPD) is to require  $\mathbf{e}_c$  to solve

$$V^T [AV\mathbf{e}_c - \mathbf{r}] = 0$$

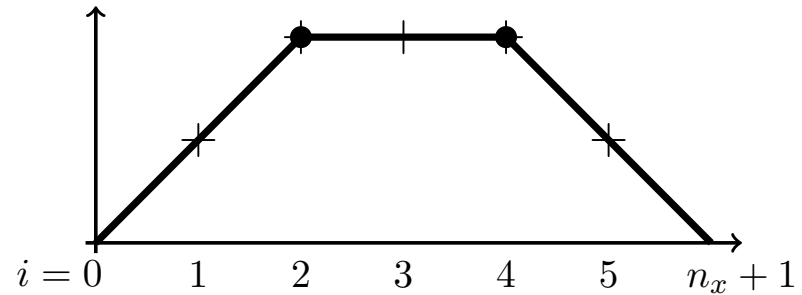
$$\implies \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_k = V (V^T AV)^{-1} V^T \mathbf{r} = V (V^T AV)^{-1} V^T A \mathbf{e}_k.$$

- For  $A$  SPD,  $\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_k$  is the  $A$ -orthogonal projection of  $\mathbf{e}_k$  onto  $\mathcal{R}(V)$ .



An example of  $V$  for  $n = 5$  and  $n_c=2$  is

$$V = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 \\ \frac{1}{2} \end{bmatrix}$$



*Coarse-to-fine interpolation*

```
% Multigrid stuff % n must be odd!

nc = (n-1)/2; V=spalloc(n,nc,n*nc); i=1;
for j=1:nc;
    V(i,j)=1/2; V(i+1,j)=1; V(i+2,j)=1/2; i=i+2;
end;
Ac = V'*A*V;

% A Simple Two-Level MG iteration:

for k=1:5000

    r = f-A*u;           % Smoothing step
    u = u + d*r;

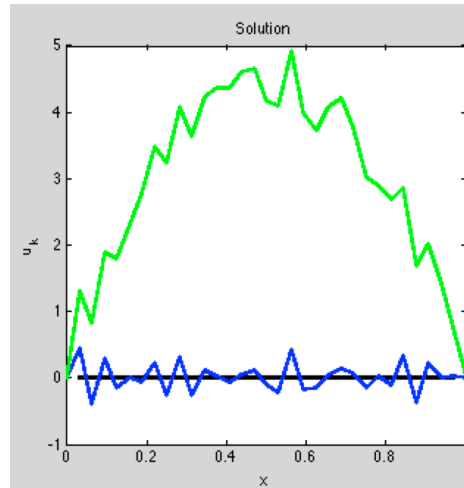
    r = f-A*u;           % Coarse-grid correction
    rc = V'*r;
    ec = V*( Ac \ rc );
    u = u+ec;

end;
```

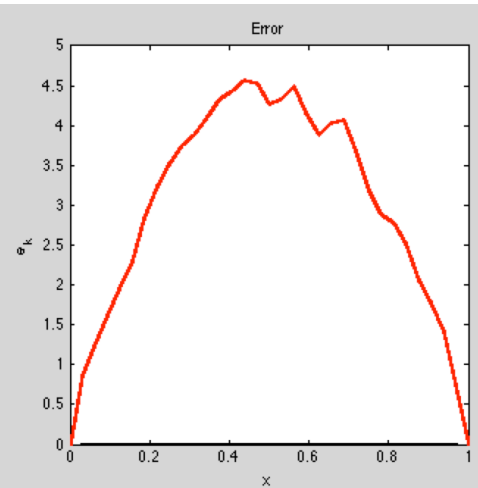
*poisson\_mg.m demo*

# Example: Damped Jacobi (Richardson) Iteration

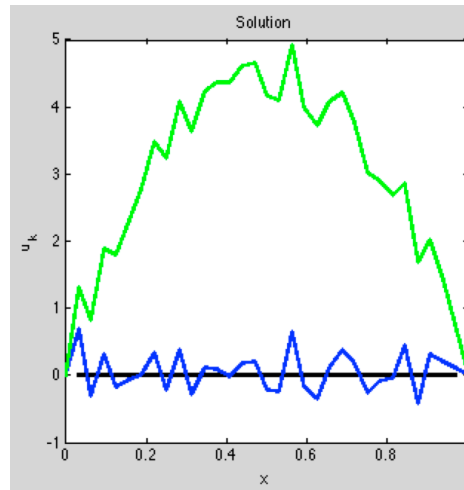
***Solution after  
1 iteration***



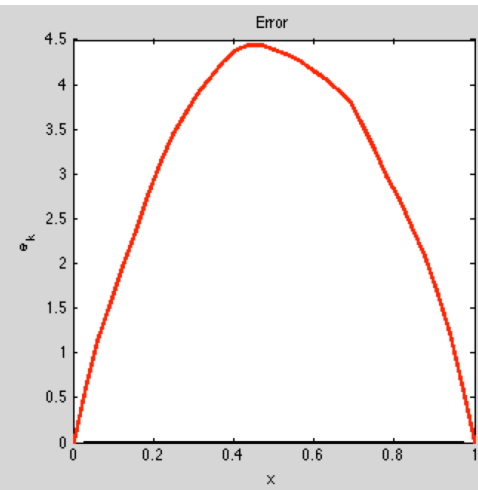
***Error after 1  
iteration***



***Solution after  
5 iterations***

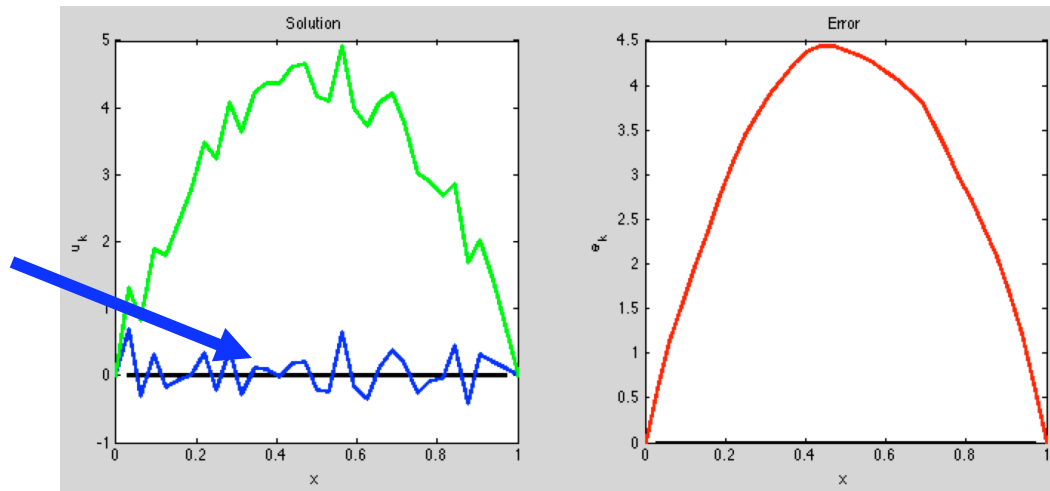


***Error after 5  
iterations***



# Multigrid Summary – Main Ideas

**Solution after  
5 iterations**



**Error after 5  
iterations**

- Take a few damped-Jacobi steps (smoothing the *error*), to get  $\mathbf{u}_k$ .
- Approximate this *smooth error*,  $\mathbf{e}_k := \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u}_k$ , on a coarser grid.
- Exact error satisfies

$$A\mathbf{e}_k = A\mathbf{u} - A\mathbf{u}_k = \mathbf{f} - A\mathbf{u} =: \mathbf{r}_k.$$

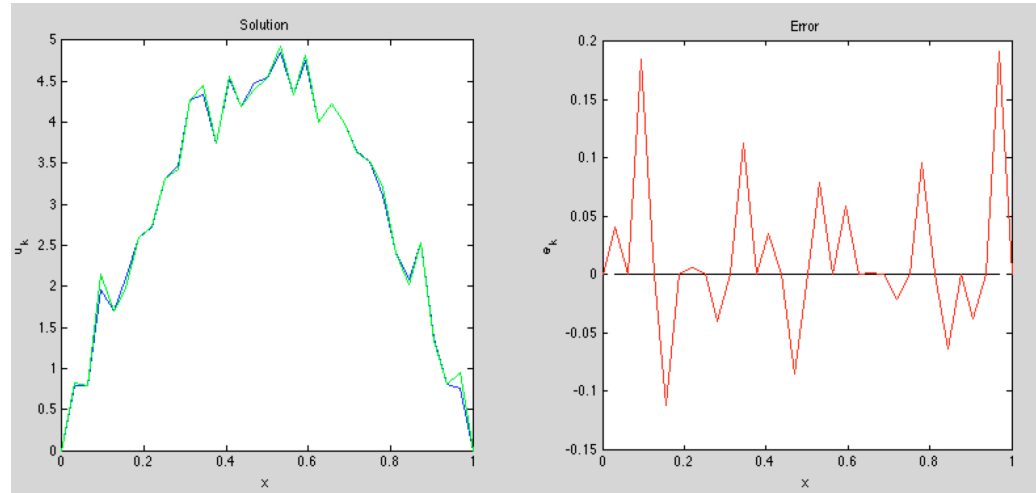
- Let  $\mathbf{e}_f := V\mathbf{e}_c$  be the *interpolant* of  $\mathbf{e}_c$ , the coarse-grid approximation to  $\mathbf{e}_k$ .
- $\mathbf{e}_f$  is *closest element* in  $\mathcal{R}(V)$  to  $\mathbf{e}_k$  (in the  $A$ -norm), given by the **projection**:

$$\mathbf{e}_f = V(V^T A V)^{-1} V^T A \mathbf{e}_k = V(A_c)^{-1} V^T \mathbf{r}_k.$$

- **Update  $\mathbf{u}_k$**  with the coarse-grid correction:  $\mathbf{u}_k \leftarrow \mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{e}_f$ .
- Smooth again and repeat.

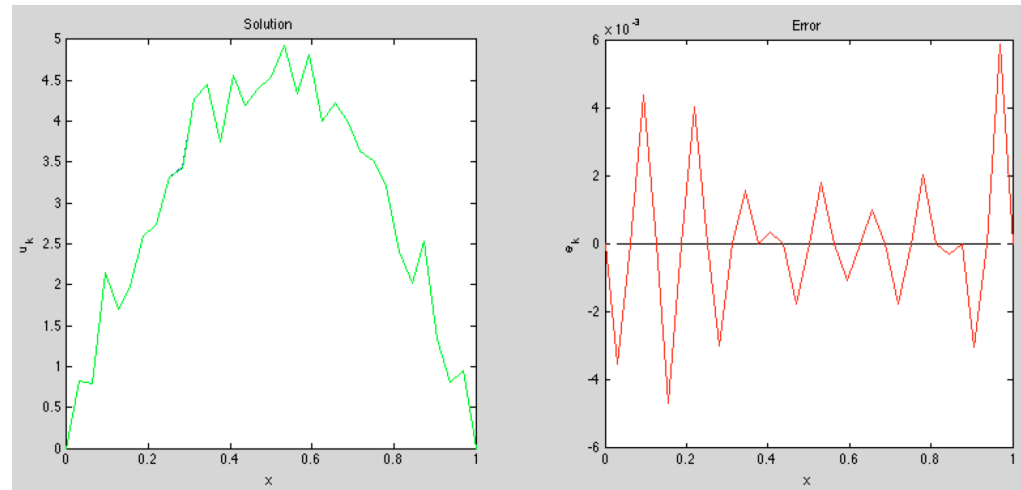
# Example: Two-Level Multigrid

***Solution after  
1 iteration***



***Error after 1  
iteration***

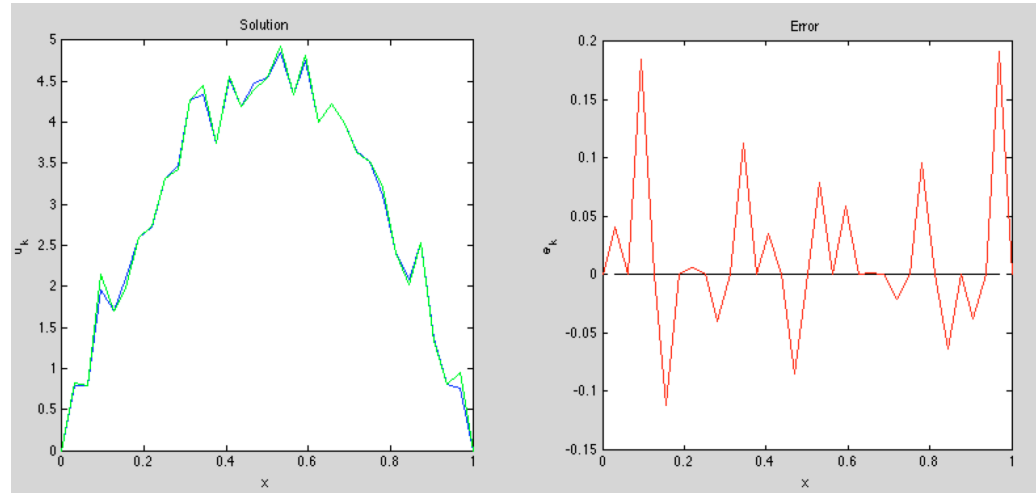
***Solution after  
5 iterations***



***Error after 5  
iterations***

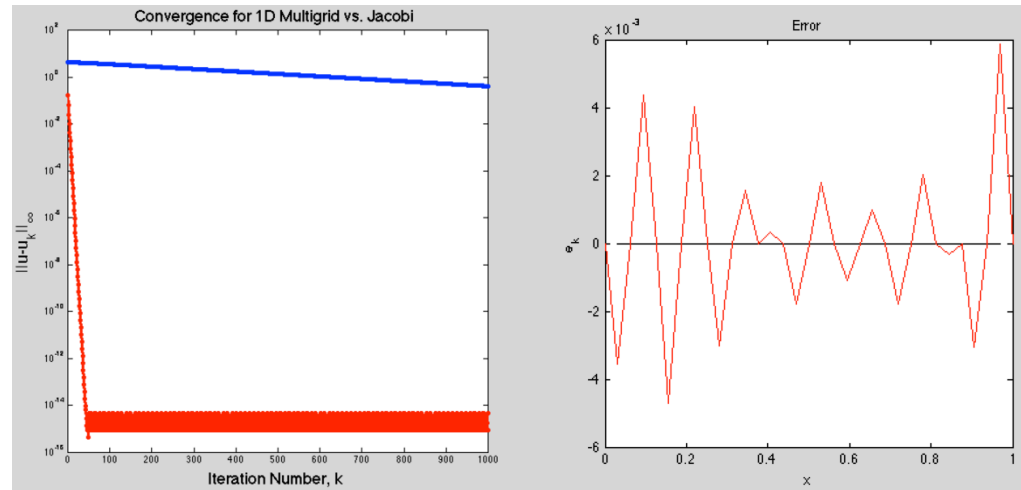
# Example: Two-Level Multigrid

**Solution after  
1 iteration**



**Error after 1  
iteration**

**Iteration  
History**



**Error after 5  
iterations**

# Multigrid Comments

- ❑ Smoothing can be improved using under-relaxation ( $\sigma = 2/3$  is optimal for 1D case).
  - ❑ Basically – want more of the high-end error spectrum to be damped.
- ❑ We've described in the previous slides ***two-level multigrid***.
- ❑ System in  $A_c$  is less expensive to solve, but is typically best solved by repeating the smooth/coarse-grid correct pair on yet another level down.
- ❑ Can recur until  $n_c \sim 1$ , at which point system is easy to solve.
- ❑ Typical MG complexity is  $O(n)$  or  $O(n \log n)$ , with very good constants in higher space dimensions ( $N_c = N/2 \rightarrow n_c = n/8$  in 3D).
- ❑ For high aspect-ratio cells, variable coefficients, etc., smoothing and coarsening strategies require more care, so this continues to be an active research area.

## A Two-Level Multigrid Algorithm:

Solve  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{r}_0$ , starting with  $\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{0}$ .

for  $j = 1 : n_{smooth}$

$$\mathbf{s}_j = \sigma S^{-1} \mathbf{r}_{j-1}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_j = \mathbf{x}_{j-1} + \mathbf{s}_j$$

$$\mathbf{r}_j = \mathbf{b} - A\mathbf{x}_j = \mathbf{r}_{j-1} - A\mathbf{s}_j$$

end

$$\tilde{\mathbf{r}}_c = V^T \mathbf{r}_j$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{e}}_c = A_c^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{r}}_c, \quad A_c := V^T A V$$

$$\mathbf{e}_f = V \tilde{\mathbf{e}}_c = V A_c^{-1} V^T \mathbf{r}_j, = V A_c^{-1} V^T A \mathbf{e}_j$$

$$\mathbf{x}_c = \mathbf{x}_j + \mathbf{e}_f \quad (\text{coarse-grid correction})$$

Return to smoothing step or return  $\mathbf{x}_c$ .

- Produces a polynomial in  $AS^{-1}$  and  $P_V := V A_c^{-1} V^T$ .
- Does *not* produce the best-fit (i.e., *projection*) in  $\{\mathbf{s}_j\} \cup \{\mathbf{e}_f\}$ .
- Best fit can be realized by coupling multigrid with GMRES or conjugate gradient iteration.
- This is known as *preconditioned* GMRES or CG or, multigrid-preconditioned GMRES or CG.
- These are state-of-the-art methods as they are fast and robust.

## Recall GMRES/CG Projection for $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$ :

Solve  $A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$  starting with  $\mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{0}$  and  $\mathbf{r}_0 := \mathbf{b}$ .

for  $k = 1 : k_{\max}$

$$\mathbf{p}_k = \mathbf{r}_{k-1} - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \beta_j \mathbf{p}_j \quad \text{such that } \mathbf{p}_k^T A \mathbf{p}_j = 0$$

$$\mathbf{w}_k = A \mathbf{p}_k$$

$$\alpha_k = \frac{\mathbf{p}_k^T A \mathbf{e}_k}{\mathbf{p}_k^T A \mathbf{p}_k} = \frac{\mathbf{p}_k^T \mathbf{r}_k}{\mathbf{p}_k^T \mathbf{w}_k}$$

$$\mathbf{x}_k = \mathbf{x}_k + \alpha_k \mathbf{p}_k$$

$$\mathbf{r}_k = \mathbf{r}_k - \alpha_k \mathbf{w}_k$$

end

- CG: Produces best-fit in  $K_k(A, \mathbf{b})$  in the  $\|\cdot\|_A$  norm, assuming  $A$  is SPD.
- CG: Short-term recurrence in computation of  $\mathbf{p}_k$  ( $\beta_j = 0$  if  $j < k - 1$ ).
- GMRES: If  $A$  not SPD, used  $\alpha_k = (\mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{r}_k) / (\mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{w}_k)$  to get best fit in  $A^T A$  norm, and insist that  $(\mathbf{w}_k^T \mathbf{w}_j) = 0$ .
- GMRES: No short term recurrence.
- (Both algorithms have more standard formulations, which should be used.)



## Preconditioned GMRES/CG Projection for $Ax = b$ :

Solve  $Ax = b$  starting with  $x_0 = 0$  and  $r_0 := b$ .

for  $k = 1 : k_{\max}$

Solve  $Mz_k = r_{k-1}$       **Preconditioning step.**

$$p_k = r_k - \sum_{j=1}^{k-1} \beta_j p_j \quad \text{such that } p_k^T A p_j = 0$$

$$w_k = A p_k$$

$$\alpha_k = \frac{p_k^T A e_k}{p_k^T A p_k} = \frac{p_k^T r_k}{p_k^T w_k}$$

$$x_k = x_k + \alpha_k p_k$$

$$r_k = r_k - \alpha_k w_k$$

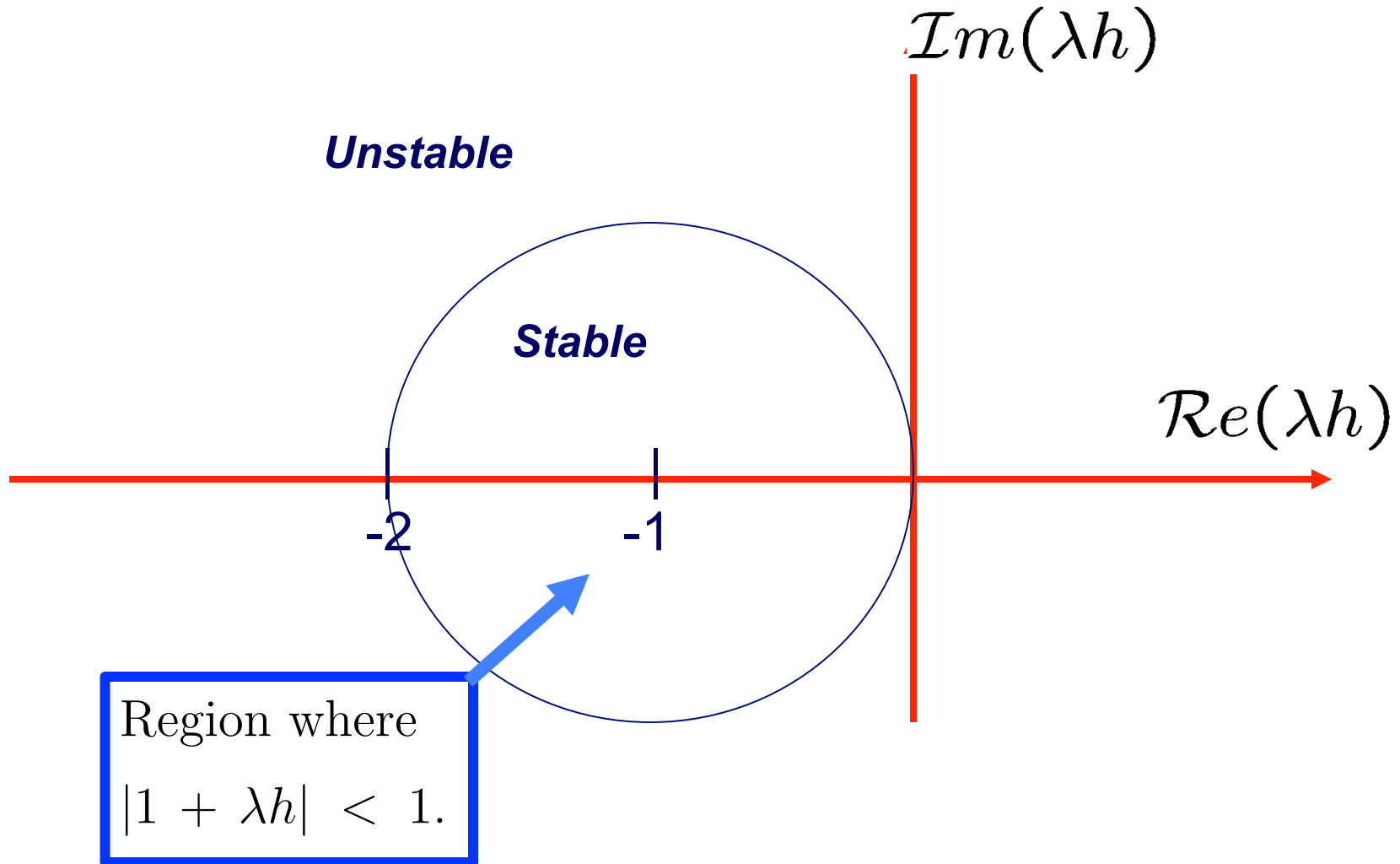
end

- Produces best-fit in  $K_k(M^{-1}A, M^{-1}b)$ .
- For CG,  $M$  must be SPD to get short-term recurrence in  $p_k$  step.
- To solve the  $Mz = r$  step, can use, for example, multigrid.

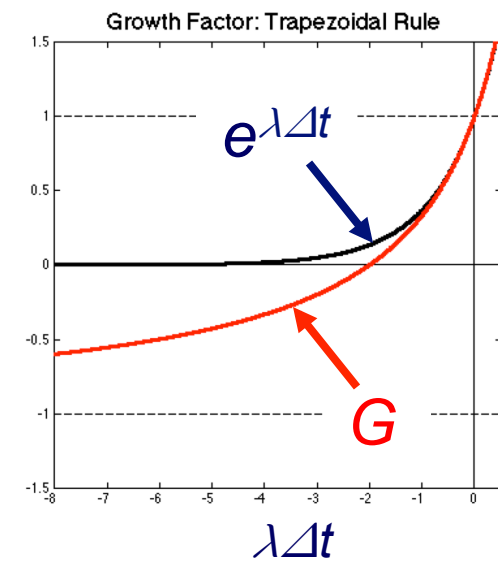
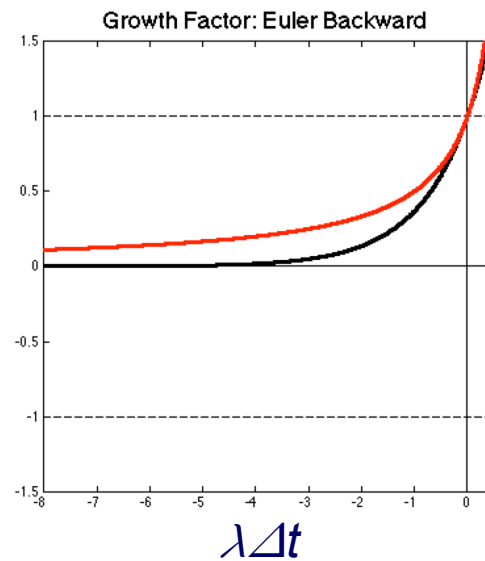
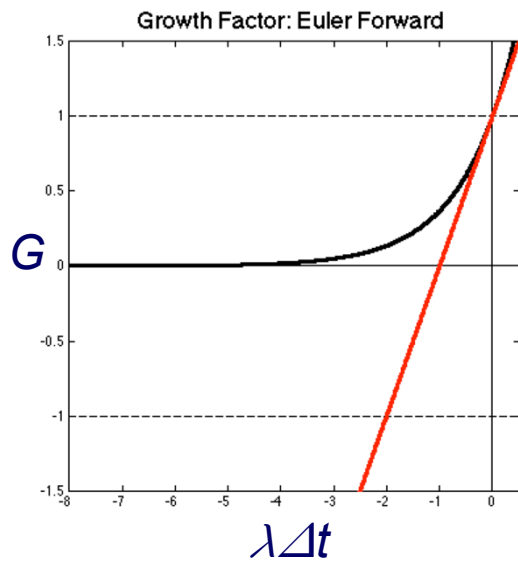




# Stability Region for Euler's Method



# Growth Factors for Real $\lambda$



- ❑ Each growth factor approximates  $e^{\lambda\Delta t}$  for  $\lambda\Delta t \rightarrow 0$
- ❑ For EF,  $|G|$  is not bounded by 1
- ❑ For Trapezoidal Rule, local (small  $\lambda\Delta t$ ) approximation is  $O(\lambda\Delta t^2)$ , but  $|G| \rightarrow -1$  as  $\lambda\Delta t \rightarrow -\infty$ . [ Trapezoid method is not **L-stable**. ]
- ❑ BDF2 will give 2<sup>nd</sup>-order accuracy, stability, and  $|G| \rightarrow 0$  as  $\lambda\Delta t \rightarrow -\infty$ .