

Finite Difference Schemes (1)

for PARABOLIC Eqs

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Consider the diffusion equation

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_t = k u_{xx} \quad \text{on } [0, 1] \\ u(x, 0) = \eta(x) \\ u(0, t) = g_0(t) \\ u(1, t) = g_1(t) \end{array} \right. , \quad t > 0$$

Discretize in space and time
using a finite difference interpretation

$$x_i = \bar{i}h, \quad \bar{i} = 1, \dots, N$$

$$t_n = n\bar{\tau}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

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Often we denote $h = \Delta x$, $\bar{\tau} = \Delta t$

FD $\left[u_i^n \approx u(x_i, t_n) \right]$ pointwise

METHOD OF LINES idea (MOL):

Discretize in space first to get a system of ODEs, then solve those ODEs using existing methods

NOTE: NOT ALL METHODS are MOL!
(especially HYPERBOLIC EQS)

SPATIAL DISCRETIZATION

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The steady-state solution of a parabolic PDE satisfies an elliptic PDE:

$$u_{t \rightarrow \infty} = 0 \quad \Rightarrow \quad 0 = k \tilde{u}_{xx} + BCs$$

$$\text{where} \quad u(x, t \rightarrow \infty) \rightarrow \tilde{u}$$

So the first step is to simply use a discretization of the elliptic operator, e.g., the 3rd Laplacian

$$(u_{xx})_i \approx \frac{u_{i+1} - 2u_i + u_{i-1}}{h^2}$$

Denote this in matrix notation (4)

$$U_{xx} \approx A U$$

Now we get the system of ODEs

$$\frac{dU(t)}{dt} = k A U(t)$$

Set $k=1$
for now

where $U = \{u_1(t), \dots, u_N(t)\}$

Now we can use any explicit, implicit, IMEX, or exponential method to solve these ODEs.

However, this system of ODEs has a growing dimension as we refine

Examples of popular discretizations
(see HW5)

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Forward Euler (explicit)

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} (u_{i-1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i+1}^n)$$

or

$$u^{n+1} = u^n + (A u^n) \Delta t$$

CRANK-NICOLSON or implicit midpoint

$$\frac{u^{n+1} - u^n}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{2} A (u^n + u^{n+1})$$

$$\Rightarrow \left(I - \frac{A \Delta t}{2} \right) u^{n+1} = \left(I + \frac{A \Delta t}{2} \right) u^n$$

Local truncation error (LTE)

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is done by Taylor series as usual
For Euler + 3rd Laplacian:

$$\tau(x, t) = \frac{u(x, t + \bar{\tau}) - u(x, t)}{\bar{\tau}} -$$

$$\frac{1}{h^2} (u(x-h, t) - 2u(x, t) + u(x+h, t)) =$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \bar{\tau} u_{tt} + O(\bar{\tau}^2) \leftarrow \begin{array}{l} \text{temporal} \\ \text{discretization} \\ \text{error} \end{array}$$

$$- \frac{h^2}{12} u_{xxxx} + O(h^4) \leftarrow \text{spatial error}$$

For MOL error = spatial + temporal

$$u_t = \dots = u_{xx} \quad \Rightarrow \left\{ \begin{array}{l} u_{tt} = (u_{xx})_t = \\ = (u_t)_{xx} = u_{xxxx} \end{array} \right. \quad (7)$$

(very useful!)

$$\bar{\tau}_{\text{Euler}}(x, t) = \left(\frac{\bar{\tau}}{2} - \frac{h^2}{12} \right) u_{xxxx} + O(h^4 + \bar{\tau}^2)$$

So the method is first-order in time and second order in space as expected.

Crank-Nicolson is second order in both space and time

$$\bar{\tau}_{\text{CN}} = O(\bar{\tau}^2 + h^2)$$

If we use $\tau \sim h^2$ for the Euler method, which as we will see shortly is required for stability, then

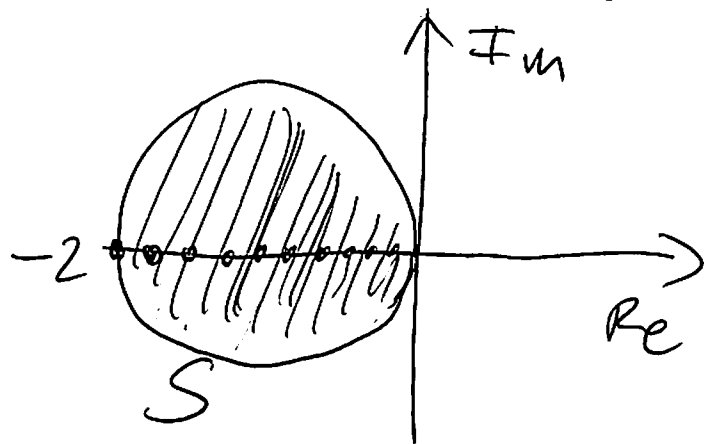
$$\tau_{\text{Euler}} = O(h^2) \quad \text{if} \quad \tau \sim h^2 \\ \approx \text{const. } U_{xxxx} \cdot h^2$$

This will be true of all explicit methods for the diffusion equation: We will require/need/choose $\tau \sim h^2$ and get second-order overall accuracy even with forward Euler

By contrast, for CN we want to choose $\boxed{\tau \sim h}$ so that both spatial and temporal error are $O(h^2)$, i.e., neither one dominates. (9)

When is Euler method A-stable?

We want $\lambda_p \Delta t \in S$ (stability region) for all eigenvalues of A



Here all eigenvalues are real and negative (for Dirichlet BCs)

$$\lambda_{\phi} = \frac{2}{h^2} (\cos(p\pi h) - 1)$$

(10)

$$\lambda_{\text{min}} \approx -\frac{4}{h^2} \quad \text{when} \quad p\pi h \approx \pi$$

We want $|\lambda_{\text{min}} \Delta t| \leq 2$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{k \bar{\tau}}{h^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}}$$

Courant -
Friedrichs-Lewy
CFL condition
for diffusion

Physics:

In time $\bar{\tau}$, diffusion spreads material
over a distance

$$\sqrt{k \bar{\tau}} \sim h$$

Denote the CFL number

(11)

diffusive

$$\nu = \frac{k\tau}{h^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

The LTE was

$$\tau_\epsilon \approx \left(\frac{k\tau}{2} - \frac{h^2}{12} \right) u_{xxxx}$$

$$= \left(\frac{\nu}{2} - \frac{1}{12} \right) h^2 u_{xxxx} = O(h^2)$$

The fact $\tau_\epsilon = O(h^2)$ is a problem \rightarrow
system of ODEs is stiff.

Crank-Nicolson is A-stable so no
stability limit on τ , only accuracy & robustness
(see HW5)

Convergence of FD methods

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For a linear PDE the method must be linear and a one-step method will take the form

$$U^{n+1} = B(\bar{\tau}) U^n + b^n(\bar{\tau})$$

e.g. $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} B = (I - \frac{\bar{\tau}}{2} A)^{-1} (I + \frac{\bar{\tau}}{2} A) \quad \text{CN} \\ B = (I + \bar{\tau} A) \quad \text{FE (Forward Euler)} \\ B = (I - \bar{\tau} A)^{-1} \quad \text{Backward Euler} \end{array} \right.$

A method is LAX-RICHTMYER stable (13)
if, for every $T > 0$, $\forall C_T > 0$ s.t.

$$\|B(\bar{\tau})^n\| \leq C_T$$

for all $\bar{\tau} > 0$ and integers

$$n \leq \frac{T}{\bar{\tau}}$$

A fundamental result is the
Lax-Equivalence theorem

A CONSISTENT METHOD IS CONVERGENT IFF
IT IS LAX-RICHTMYER STABLE

Proof of this is essentially identical as the proof that

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Euler's method converges for ODEs

$$E^n = U^n - \hat{U}^n \leftarrow \text{exact solution}$$

$$\boxed{E^{n+1} = B E^n - \tau (LTE)^n} \Rightarrow$$

$$\|E^N\| \leq C_T \|E^0\| + T C_T \max_n |LTE|^n$$

If: $\boxed{\|B(\tau)\| \leq 1 + \alpha \tau} \Rightarrow$

$$\|B^n\| \leq (1 + \alpha \tau)^{T/\tau} \leq e^{\alpha T} = C_{IT}$$

Often, we can prove or seek

$$\boxed{\|B\| \leq 1} \equiv \text{STRONG stability}$$

(15)

E.g. Crank-Nicolson for diffusion:

Eigenvalues of B (symmetric) are

$$\lambda_B = \frac{1 + \bar{\tau} \lambda_A / 2}{1 - \bar{\tau} \lambda_A / 2}, \quad \lambda_A < 0$$

and $|\lambda_B| \leq 1$ for any $\bar{\tau} > 0$

So that absolute stability ensures
strong stability in the L_2 norm

Note that there is no concept of zero stability for PDEs like for ODEs, instead, we care about absolute stability.

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This is because for PDEs as we add more points the eigenvalues can grow also, and so because τ and h are related it is often not true that $\tau \lambda \rightarrow 0$ as $\tau \rightarrow 0$.

Furthermore, while Euler's method could be shown to converge even for nonlinear ODEs, for PDEs there is only results for linear PDEs that are general

As we already discussed in class,
 with periodic BCs one can use
 Fourier series to diagonalize the
 FD matrices and thus obtain
 Eigenvalues and do stability analysis.

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This is called Von Neumann stability analysis

Read section 9.6 of LeVeque

wavenumber $\hat{U}_k^n \approx \hat{U}_k(n\Delta t)$, $U^n = \sum_k \hat{U}_k^n e^{ikx}$

$$\hat{U}_k^{n+1} = g(k) \hat{U}_k^n, \quad k \in [0, \frac{\pi}{h}]$$

AMPLIFICATION FACTOR

$$|g(k; \tau)| \leq 1 + \alpha k$$

Observe that VON NEUMANN analysis (18)
is more general than just MOL schemes.
We don't have to rely on ODE theory

E.g. Euler for diffusion

In Fourier space symbol of Laplacian (3rd) is

$$\hat{L}_k = \frac{1}{h^2} (e^{ikh} - 2 + e^{-ikh}) = \frac{2}{h^2} (\cos(kh) - 1)$$

Euler's method

$$|g_k| = |1 + \tau \hat{L}_k| \leq 1 \quad (\text{strong stability})$$

$$\Rightarrow 1 - \frac{4 \cdot \tau}{h^2} \leq 1 \Rightarrow \tau \leq h^2/2$$

AS BEFORE

Homework: Do VON NEUMANN
in TWO DIMENSIONS $u_t = \nabla^2 u$

How do we solve the linear systems that arise in implicit methods? E.g. Crank-Nicolson

$$(I - \frac{\tau}{2}A)x = b$$

Condition number

$$K_2^{CN} = \left| \frac{1 - \frac{\tau}{2} \lambda_{\max}}{1 + \frac{\tau}{2} \lambda_{\min}} \right|$$

$$K_2^{CN} \approx \left| \frac{1 + \frac{8\tau}{2h^2}}{1 + \frac{\tau\pi^2}{2}} \right| \approx |1 + 4\nu|$$

$$K_2^{CN} \approx O(\nu)$$

Condition number is bounded

$$\nu \gg 1$$

So now iterative methods are OK if $\nu \gg 1$
Use u^n as an initial guess!