

A Brief overview of numerical approximation of differential equations:

\* scalar 1<sup>st</sup> order ODE  $\frac{dy}{dt} = f(x, y)$  IVP

\* BVP: 2<sup>nd</sup> order ODE

$$y'' = f(x, y, y'); \quad y(a) = \alpha, \quad y(b) = \beta$$

\* PDE: 2<sup>nd</sup> order with IC & BC.

$$\text{eg. } \frac{\partial y}{\partial t} = a \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2}, \quad \begin{aligned} y(x, 0) &= y_0(x) \\ y(a, t) &= y_a(t) \\ y(b, t) &= y_b(t) \end{aligned}$$

Key concepts: {Convergence, Consistency, Stability, ALL NECESSARY!

### Part II: Numerical Solution of IVP's & BVP's of ODE's

- Euler's methods
- Runge-Kutta methods
- Multi-step methods
- Error analysis (consistency, convergence, stability)

### Initial Value Problems (IVP's) of ODE

• 1<sup>st</sup>-order (scalar) ODE:

$$\begin{cases} y' = f(x, y), & x \in [a, b] \\ y(a) = y_0 \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases} \quad (\text{initial value})$$

Question: Under what conditions on  $f$  does this problem have a unique solution?

Existence and uniqueness theorem: Assume that

- $f(x, y)$  is continuous for all  $x \in [a, b]$  and  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ ;
- there is a constant  $L$  (independent of  $x, y$ )

Such that

$$|f(x, y_1) - f(x, y_2)| \leq L |y_1 - y_2| \quad (\text{Lipschitz condition})$$

for all  $x \in [a, b]$  &  $y_1, y_2 \in \mathbb{R}$   $\hookrightarrow$  Lipschitz constant.

Remark:  $f(x, y)$  satisfies the Lipschitz condition if  $\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}$  is bounded. In fact,

$$|f(x, y_1) - f(x, y_2)| = \left| \underbrace{\frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x, \xi)}_{\text{bounded by } L} (y_1 - y_2) \right| \leq L |y_1 - y_2|$$

Ex. The IVP  $\begin{cases} y' = x + \frac{x^2}{1+x^2} \sin y \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases}$  has a unique sol<sup>n</sup>.

Ex. The IVP  $\begin{cases} y' = \sqrt{y} \\ y(0) = 0 \end{cases}$  has at least 2 sol<sup>ns</sup>:  $y=0$   
 $y = \frac{1}{4}x^2$

This is because the function  $\sqrt{y}$  does not satisfy the Lipschitz condition

$$\left| \frac{\sqrt{y_1} - \sqrt{y_2}}{y_1 - y_2} \right| = \frac{1}{\sqrt{y_1} + \sqrt{y_2}} \text{ not bounded as } y_1, y_2 \rightarrow 0.$$

• System of 1st-order ODE's:  $N$  is called the dimension of the system

$$\begin{cases} y_1' = f_1(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \\ y_2' = f_2(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \\ \vdots \\ y_N' = f_N(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \end{cases} \Leftrightarrow \begin{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_N \end{bmatrix}' \\ \text{(a vector)} \end{matrix} = \begin{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \\ f_2(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \\ \vdots \\ f_N(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{f(x, y) (a vector function)} \end{matrix}$$

$\Leftrightarrow \boxed{y' = f(x, y)}$  (same form as 1st-order scalar ODE)

• Higher order scalar ODE's

$$\frac{d^N y}{dx^N} = f(x, y, y', \dots, y^{(N-1)})$$

Convert it to a system of 1st-order ODE's by change of variables:

$$\begin{cases} y_1 = y \\ y_2 = y' \\ y_3 = y'' \\ \vdots \\ y_N = y^{(N-1)} \end{cases} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} y_1' = y_2 \\ y_2' = y_3 \\ y_3' = y_4 \\ \vdots \\ y_N' = y^{(N)} = f(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \end{cases}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \begin{bmatrix} y_1' \\ y_2' \\ \vdots \\ y_N' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \\ f_2(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \\ \vdots \\ f_N(x, y_1, \dots, y_N) \end{bmatrix} \text{ or } \boxed{y' = f(x, y)}$$

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Remark: ① The existence and uniqueness theorem also holds for vector ODE's. However, in the Lipschitz condition the absolute sign  $| \cdot |$  should be replaced by vector norms  $\| \cdot \|$ .

② IVP's with more than one solution are difficult to solve numerically. Thus, in what follows we always assume each IVP has a unique solution!

③ For simplicity, only scalar ODE's will be fully discussed. Numerical methods for vector ODE's are similar to those for scalar ODE's.

### Euler's Method (§ 5.3 of text)

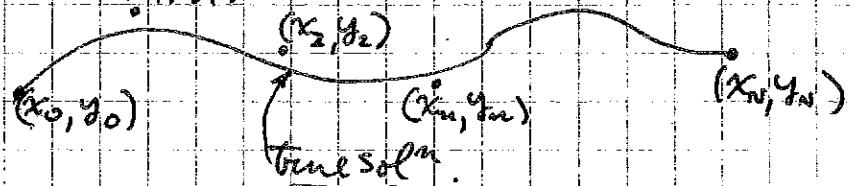
We try to solve  $\begin{cases} y' = f(x, y) \\ y(a) = y_0 \end{cases}$ ,  $x \in [a, b]$  numerically.

Notation:  $h = \frac{b-a}{N}$   $\rightarrow$  step size.

$x_n = a + nh$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$ ,  $a = x_0 \quad \overset{h}{\text{---}} \quad x_1 \quad \overset{h}{\text{---}} \quad x_2 \quad \dots \quad x_n \quad \overset{h}{\text{---}} \quad x_{n+1} \quad \dots \quad x_{N-1} \quad \overset{h}{\text{---}} \quad x_N = b$

$y(x) \rightarrow$  exact (true) solution

$y_n$  denotes the approximate value of  $y(x_n)$ , i.e.  $y_n \approx y(x_n)$



We call  $(x_0, y_0), (x_1, y_1), \dots, (x_N, y_N)$  a numerical solution

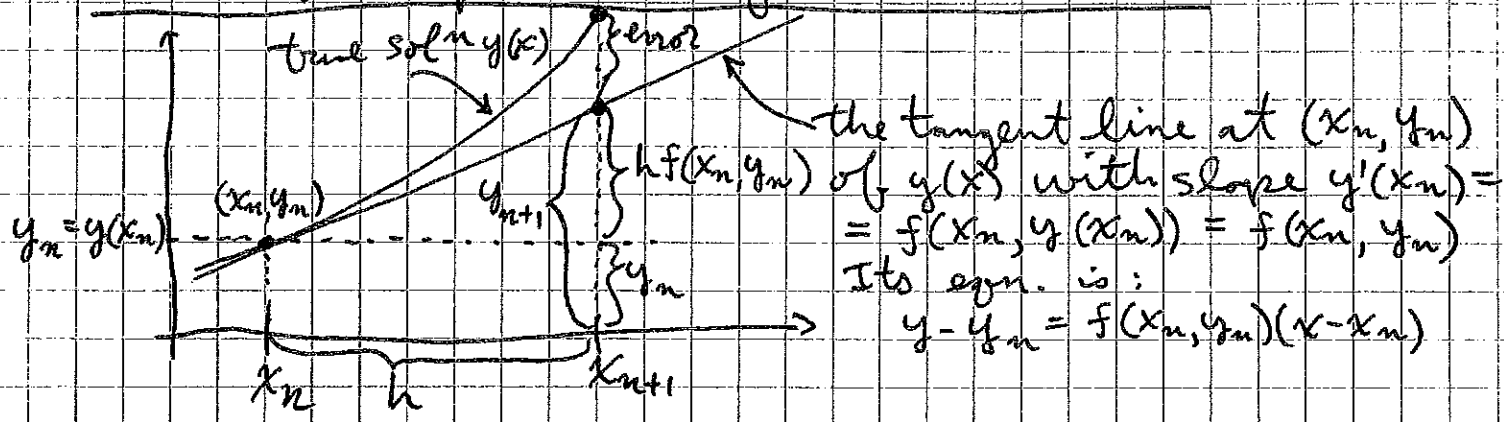
We derive Euler's method as follows:

$$y(x_{n+1}) = y(x_n + h) = y(x_n) + h \underbrace{y'(x_n)}_{f(x_n, y(x_n))} + \frac{h^2}{2!} y''(\xi)$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(x_n, y_n)}$$



# Geometrical Interpretation of the Euler Method



$$\Rightarrow y_{n+1} - y_n = f(x_n, y_n) (x_{n+1} - x_n) = hf(x_n, y_n)$$

## • Error analysis:

Def<sup>n</sup>: ① The per-steps (or local) truncation error is  $e_{n+1}(h) = y(x_{n+1}) - y_{n+1}$  when  $y_n$  is exactly  $y(x_n)$

② The accumulated (or global) truncation error is  $E_{n+1}(h) = y(x_{n+1}) - y_{n+1}$  with no restriction on  $y_n$ .

We estimate  $e_{n+1}(h)$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 e_{n+1}(h) &= y(x_{n+1}) - y(x_n) - hf(x_n, y(x_n)) \\
 &= y(x_n+h) - y(x_n) - hf(x_n, y(x_n)) \\
 &= \cancel{y(x_n)} + h y'(x_n) + \frac{h^2}{2} y''(\xi) \\
 &\quad - \cancel{y(x_n)} - h \cancel{f(x_n, y(x_n))} \quad (\text{cancel}) \\
 &= \frac{h^2}{2} y''(\xi) = O(h^2)
 \end{aligned}$$

$\Rightarrow$  the local truncation error is of order  $[2]$

We estimate  $E_{n+1}(h)$  as follows (assume no round-off errors)

$$\begin{cases}
 y(x_{n+1}) = y(x_n) + hf(x_n, y(x_n)) + e_{n+1}(h) \\
 y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)
 \end{cases}$$

$\frac{h^2}{2} y''(\xi)$

$$\Rightarrow E_{n+1}(h) = y(x_{n+1}) - y_{n+1} = y(x_n) - y_n + h(f(x_n, y(x_n)) - f(x_n, y_n)) + e_{n+1}(h)$$

$$\Rightarrow |E_{n+1}(h)| \leq |y(x_n) - y_n| + h |f(x_n, y(x_n)) - f(x_n, y_n)| + |e_{n+1}(h)|$$

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$$\leq |E_n(h)| + Lh |y(x_n) - y_n| + \frac{M}{2} h^2$$

where

$$M = \max_{\xi} |y''(\xi)|,$$

$$L = \max_{\xi} \left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial y}(x_n, \xi) \right|$$

$$= \underbrace{(1+Lh)}_{\alpha} \underbrace{|E_n(h)|}_{z_n} + \underbrace{\frac{M}{2} h^2}_{\beta}$$

$$\Leftrightarrow z_{n+1} \leq \alpha z_n + \beta \leq \alpha(\alpha z_{n-1} + \beta) + \beta = \alpha^2 z_{n-1} + \beta(1+\alpha)$$

$$\leq \alpha^2(\alpha z_{n-2} + \beta) + \beta(1+\alpha) = \alpha^3 z_{n-2} + \beta(1+\alpha+\alpha^2)$$

$$\leq \dots \leq \alpha^{n+1} z_0 + (\alpha^n + \alpha^{n-1} + \dots + \alpha + 1) \beta$$

$$= \alpha^{n+1} z_0 + \frac{1-\alpha^{n+1}}{1-\alpha} \beta$$

$$\Rightarrow |E_{n+1}(h)| \leq (1+Lh)^{n+1} |E_0(h)| + \frac{1-(1+Lh)^{n+1}}{1-(1+Lh)} \cdot \frac{M}{2} h^2$$

$$\leq e^{(n+1)hL} |E_0(h)| + \frac{M}{2L} h (e^{(n+1)hL} - 1)$$

(using  $(1+Lh) \leq e^{hL}$ )

$$\begin{matrix} (x_{n+1} = a + (n+1)h) \\ E_0(h) = y(a) - y_0 \end{matrix} = \boxed{e^{L(x_{n+1}-a)} |E_0(h)| + \frac{M}{2L} h e^{L(x_{n+1}-a)}}$$

Def<sup>n</sup>: A numerical solution  $\{(x_n, y_n)\}$  is said to be convergent if  $\lim_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0 \\ y_0 \rightarrow y(a)}} y_n = y(x_n)$  at any fixed  $x_n \in [a, b]$

Remark: ① Euler's method is convergent since  $E_{n+1}(h) \rightarrow 0$  as  $E_0(h) \rightarrow 0$  and  $h \rightarrow 0$ .

② The local error of the Euler method =  $O(h^2)$   
 " global " " " " " "  $O(h)$

$\Rightarrow$  it is generally true that the global error order is one less than the local error order.

Example: Consider  $y' = \lambda y$ ,  $y(0) = y_0$ . The analytic solution is  $y(x) = e^{\lambda x} y_0$ .

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By Euler's method:  $y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(x_n, y_n) \Rightarrow$

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h(\lambda y_n) = (1 + h\lambda) y_n$$

$$= (1 + h\lambda)(1 + h\lambda) y_{n-1} = (1 + h\lambda)^2 y_{n-1}$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{n+1} = (1 + h\lambda)^{n+1} y_0 \quad (\text{numerical solution})$$

Note that  $(1 + h\lambda)^{n+1} y_0 = (1 + h\lambda)^{\frac{x_{n+1} - 0}{h}} y_0 = \left[ (1 + \lambda h)^{\frac{1}{h}} \right]^{x_{n+1}} y_0$

$$\rightarrow e^{\lambda x_{n+1}} y_0 = y(x_{n+1}) \text{ as } h \rightarrow 0.$$

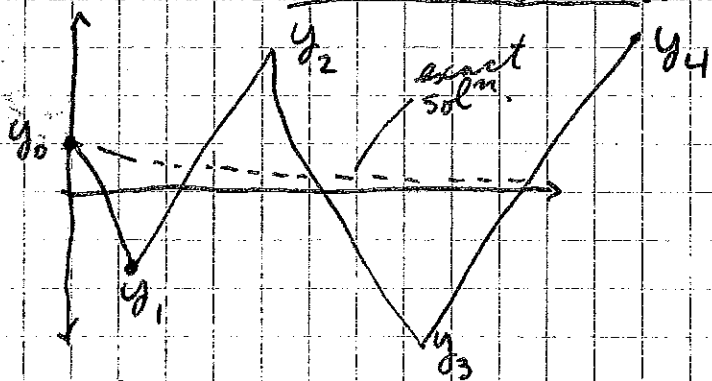
$\{(x_n, y_n)\}$  is convergent for all  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ .

However, if  $\lambda < 0$  (i.e.  $\lambda < 0$  and  $|\lambda|$  is large), e.g.  $\lambda = -10$ ,  $h = 0.5$  then:

The exact solution:  $y(x) = e^{-10x} y_0 \rightarrow 0$  as  $x \rightarrow \infty$

The numerical solution:  $y_1 = (1 + \lambda h) y_0 \rightarrow -4 y_0$   
 $y_2 = (1 + \lambda h)^2 y_0 \rightarrow (-4)^2 y_0 = 4^2 y_0$   
 $y_3 = (-4)^3 y_0$   
 $y_4 = (-4)^4 y_0$

$\rightarrow$  oscillates without bound.



Conclusion: Convergence is necessary for a numerical method to be good, but not sufficient. We need another concept called stability to determine if a method is useful or not.

Definition: A numerical method is said to be stable if small changes in  $y_0$  lead to small changes in  $y_n$  for all  $0 \leq h \leq h_0$ .

Question: How to determine whether a numerical method is stable?

A useful stability analysis method: Suppose that a numerical method, when it is applied to the model equation  $y' = \lambda y$ , leads to

(24)

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$$y_{n+1} = E(\lambda h) y_n, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

Then it is a stable method if  $|E(\lambda h)| \leq 1$ . The stability region is all such  $\lambda$  in the complex plane that satisfy

$$\boxed{|E(\lambda h)| \leq 1} \quad \text{or} \quad \{ \lambda : |E(\lambda h)| \leq 1 \}$$

Remark: ① From (\*) we can see that  $y_{n+1} = (E(\lambda h))^{n+1} y_0$ . Thus if  $y_0$  is slightly changed to  $\tilde{y}_0$ , its perturbed soln is

$$\tilde{y}_{n+1} = (E(\lambda h))^{n+1} \tilde{y}_0 \quad \text{and} \quad |y_{n+1} - \tilde{y}_{n+1}| = |E(\lambda h)|^{n+1} |y_0 - \tilde{y}_0|$$

$\leq |y_0 - \tilde{y}_0|$  if  $|E(\lambda h)| \leq 1$ ,  $\Rightarrow y_{n+1} \sim \tilde{y}_{n+1}$  if  $y_0 \sim \tilde{y}_0$  and thus we have stability

② There are two reasons why  $y' = \lambda y$  is chosen for the stability analysis:

(i) if a numerical method is unstable when it is applied to such a simple problem equation, it is unlikely to be stable for more complicated problems.

(ii) Any complicated ODE can be locally linearized and put into this form:

$$\begin{aligned} y' &= F(x, y) \\ &= f(x_n, y_n) + (x - x_n) \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}(x_n, y_n) + (y - y_n) \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x_n, y_n) + \dots \\ &\approx (y - y_n) \frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x_n, y_n) + y'_n \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{(y - y_n)'}_{Y'} \approx \underbrace{(y - y_n)}_Y \underbrace{\frac{\partial F}{\partial y}(x_n, y_n)}_{\lambda}$$

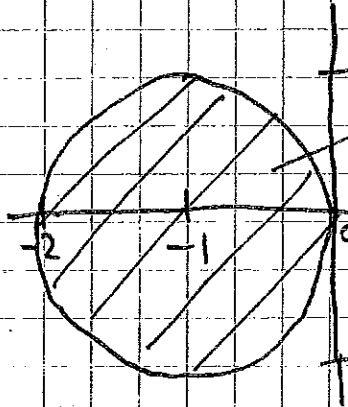
$$\Rightarrow \boxed{Y' = \lambda Y} \quad \text{— the model equation!}$$

Ex. Consider the Euler method  $y_{n+1} = y_n + hf(x_n, y_n)$ .  
We apply it to the model equation  $y' = \lambda y$ , i.e.  $f(x, y) = \lambda y$   
It leads to

$$y_{n+1} = y_n + h\lambda y_n = (1+h\lambda)y_n \Rightarrow \boxed{E(\lambda h) = 1+h\lambda}$$

For stability we need  $|1+h\lambda| \leq 1 \Leftrightarrow |h\lambda - (-1)| \leq 1$

Consider also complex  $\lambda \rightarrow \lambda h = z, z = x+iy$



→ the stability region for Euler's method.

If  $\lambda = 10, h = 0.5$  then  $1+h\lambda = -4$  is not in the stability region.

Conclusion: For a numerical method to be useful, it must be stable.

### Generalization / Improvements of Euler's Method

- Objective:
- ① To obtain higher order methods (more accurate).
  - ② To obtain methods with a larger stability region.

Overall Picture:

Euler's Method

#### Single Step Methods

- Improved Euler
- Implicit Euler
- Modified Euler
- $\theta$ -method
- Runge-Kutta methods (★)

#### Multi-step Methods

- Adams-Bashforth
- Adams-Moulton

#### Predictor/Corrector Methods

Derive Numerical Methods from numerical Quadrature:

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = f(x, y) \Rightarrow dy = f(x, y) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow \int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} dy = \int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{n+1} = y_n + \int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx$$

• Left-point integration formula gives:

$$\int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx \approx f(x_n, y(x_n))h + O(h^2)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(x_n, y_n) \rightarrow \text{the Euler method.}$$

• Mid-point integration formula gives

$$\int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx = f(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h, y(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h)) h + O(h^3)$$

$$\approx f(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h, y(x_n) + \frac{1}{2}h f(x_n, y(x_n)))$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{n+1} = y_n + h f(x_n + \frac{1}{2}h, y_n + \frac{1}{2}h f(x_n, y_n))$$

called 'Modified Euler'  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{global error} = 2 \\ \text{function evaluations} = 2 \end{array} \right.$

• Trapezoidal Rule gives

$$\int_{x_n}^{x_{n+1}} f(x, y(x)) dx = \frac{h}{2} [f(x_n, y(x_n)) + f(x_{n+1}, y(x_{n+1}))] + O(h^3)$$

$$\Rightarrow y_{n+1} = y_n + \frac{h}{2} [f(x_n, y_n) + f(x_{n+1}, y_{n+1})]$$

called 'implicit "Euler"'  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{global error} = O(h^2) \\ \text{Disadvantage: have to solve for } y_{n+1} \end{array} \right.$

Remark: the stability region of a numerical method solving a system of ODE's is obtained by applying the method to the model equations

$$\frac{dy}{dx} = \lambda_i y, \quad i=1, 2, \dots, N$$

so all  $\lambda_i h$  should lie inside the stable region if the method is to be stable.

Difficulties in solving stiff equations:

Usually stable region is bounded, to keep method stable  $\lambda_i h$  should also be bounded. Now, if  $\lambda_{max}$  is large  $\rightarrow$   $h$  must be small  $\rightarrow$  expensive computation and is also likely to lead to roundoff errors. Implicit methods usually usually have large stability domains  $\rightarrow$  good for stiff problems.

Boundary Value problems (Baby elliptic PDE's) <sup>eg.  $\Delta u = 0$  Laplace's eqn.</sup>

We consider the 2<sup>nd</sup>-order nonlinear/linear BVP.

BVP 
$$\begin{cases} y'' = f(x, y, y') \\ y(a) = \alpha, \quad y(b) = \beta \end{cases}, \quad x \in [a, b]$$
 (Boundary conditions of 1<sup>st</sup> kind (Dirichlet))

A theoretical result: The above BVP has a unique solution if:

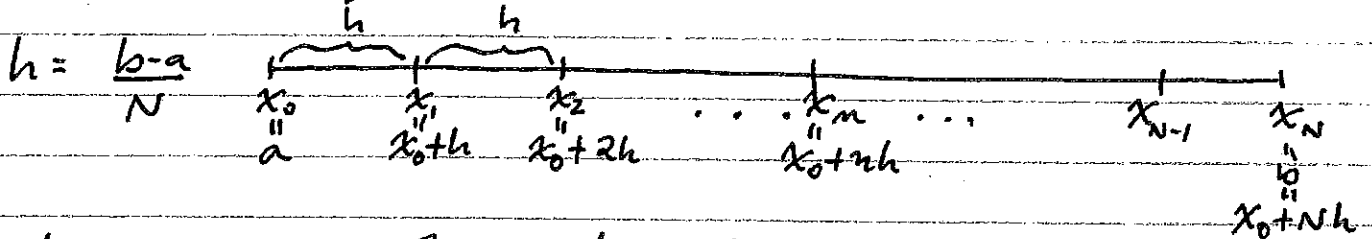
- (i)  $f(x, y, z)$  is continuous
- (ii)  $f_y, f_z$  exist and are continuous
- (iii)  $f_y > 0$  and  $f_z$  is bounded.

eg.  $f(x, y, y') = y - 4x e^x, \quad f(x, y, y') = (1+x^2) y - y'$  etc.

Question: How do we find the solution numerically?  
(Finite difference method).

[Note: an PDE  $A u_{xx} + 2B u_{xy} + C u_{yy} = F(x, y, u, u_x, u_y)$   
is elliptic if  $AC - B^2 > 0$ , parabolic if  $AC - B^2 = 0$ , hyperbolic  $AC - B^2 < 0$ .  
(Laplace's eqn) (Heat eqn.) (Wave eqn.)

Shooting Method: satisfy ODE initially & iterate until B.C.'s satisfied. (28)  
 could also satisfy B.C. & then iterate until ODE is satisfied:  
 → F.D., Galerkin methods  
 System of algebraic equations rather than sequence of ODE's (as in shooting method).  
Idea: Discretize the space  $[a, b]$  and replace the derivatives by difference quotients:



Let  $y \approx y(x_n)$ . Then at node  $x_n$ ,  $y_n'' = f(x_n, y_n, y_n')$ .

Note that:

$$y_n' = \begin{cases} (y_{n+1} - y_{n-1}) / 2h & \text{(central difference)} \\ (y_n - y_{n-1}) / h & \text{(backward difference)} \\ (y_{n+1} - y_n) / h & \text{(forward difference)} \end{cases}$$

$$y_n'' = \frac{y_{n+1} - 2y_n + y_{n-1}}{h^2} \quad \text{(central difference)}$$

$$\text{BVP} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} \frac{y_{n+1} - 2y_n + y_{n-1}}{h^2} = f(x_n, y_n, \frac{y_{n+1} - y_{n-1}}{2h}), \quad n=1: N-1 \\ y_0 = \alpha, \quad y_N = \beta \rightarrow \text{incorporate in RHS.} \end{cases}$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 & & & \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & & \\ & & & & 1 & \\ & & & & & -2 & 1 \\ & & & & & & & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ \vdots \\ y_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_y = h^2 \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ f_2 \\ \vdots \\ f_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\gamma(y)} - \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}}_{\text{from B.C.'s}}$$

where  $f_n = f(x_n, y_n, (y_{n+1} - y_{n-1}) / 2h)$ ,  $n=1, \dots, N-1$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{Ay = \gamma(y)} \rightarrow \text{a system of } N-1 \text{ nonlinear algebraic equations for } N-1 \text{ unknowns } = y_1, \dots, y_{N-1}$$

Linear BVP - A special case

$$(i) \begin{cases} y'' + Q(x)y = F(x), & x \in [a, b] \\ y(a) = \alpha, & y(b) = \beta \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow f(x, y, y') = -Q(x)y + F(x), \quad Q(x) < 0.$$

$$\Rightarrow \delta(y) = h^2 \begin{bmatrix} f_1 \\ \vdots \\ f_{N-1} \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \beta \end{bmatrix} = h^2 \begin{bmatrix} -Q(x_1)y_1 + F(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ -Q(x_{N-1})y_{N-1} + F(x_{N-1}) \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}$$

$$= h^2 \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} -Q(x_1) & & & & \\ & \circ & & & \\ & & \ddots & & \\ & & & -Q(x_{N-1}) & \\ & & & & \circ \end{pmatrix}}_B \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_{N-1} \end{pmatrix}}_y + \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} h^2 F(x_1) \\ \vdots \\ h^2 F(x_{N-1}) \end{bmatrix} - \begin{bmatrix} \alpha \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \beta \end{bmatrix}}_C$$

$$\Rightarrow Ay - By - C = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{(A-B)y = C}$$

where

$$A-B = \begin{bmatrix} -2 + h^2 Q_1 & & & & \\ & 1 & & & \\ & & -2 + h^2 Q_2 & & \\ & & & \ddots & \\ & & & & \ddots & \\ \circ & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & 1 \\ & & & & & & & -2 + h^2 Q_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

$\therefore A-B$  is symmetric tridiagonal, diagonal dominant !!  
 $\rightarrow$  use Jacobi, Gauss-Seidel, S.G.R. methods converge!

Newton's method for solving nonlinear algebraic systems: Find  $\bar{x}$  s.t.  $G(\bar{x}) = 0$ .

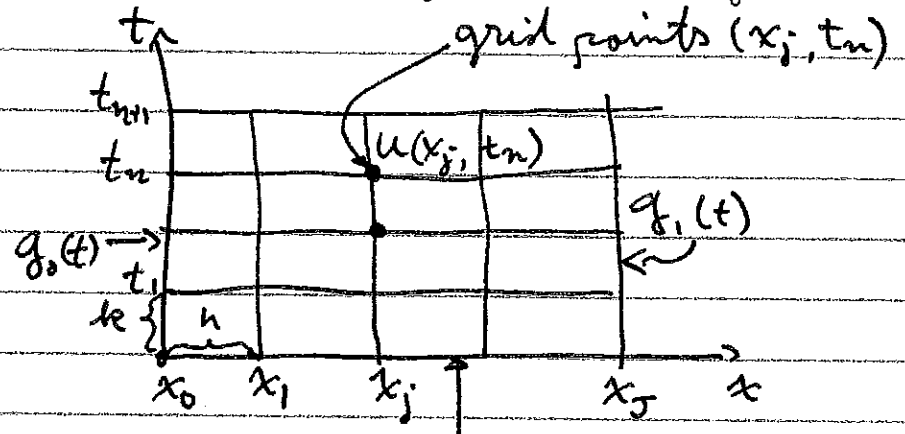
Finite Difference Method for solving Heat Equation - fully discretized by F.D. in x+t

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < l$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq l$$

$$u(0, t) = g_0(t), \quad t > 0$$

$$u(l, t) = g_1(t), \quad t > 0$$



Notation:  $u(x, t)$  is the exact solution

$u(x_j, t_n)$  is the exact value of  $u(x, t)$  at the grid point  $(x_j, t_n)$ .

$u_j^n$  is the approximate value of  $u(x_j, t_n)$ ,  
i.e.  $u_j^n \approx u(x_j, t_n)$

Note that:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \Big|_{(x_j, t_n)} = \frac{u(x_j, t_{n+1}) - u(x_j, t_n)}{k} + O(k)$   
(1st-order forward difference in time)

$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{(x_j, t_n)} = \frac{u(x_{j+1}, t_n) - 2u(x_j, t_n) + u(x_{j-1}, t_n))}{h^2} + O(h^2)$   
(2nd-order central difference in space)

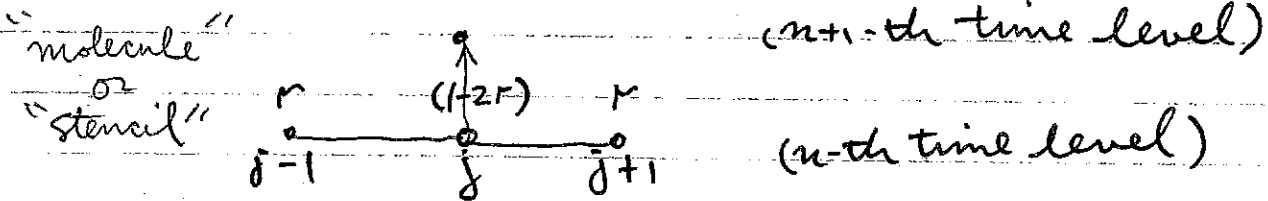
$$\rightarrow \frac{u(x_j, t_{n+1}) - u(x_j, t_n)}{k} + O(k) = \alpha \left( \frac{u(x_{j+1}, t_n) - 2u(x_j, t_n) + u(x_{j-1}, t_n))}{h^2} + O(h^2) \right)$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n}{k} = \alpha \left( \frac{u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n}{h^2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow u_j^{n+1} = r u_{j-1}^n + (1-2r) u_j^n + r u_{j+1}^n, \quad r = \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{h^2}$$

This is a Forward-Time Centred-Space (FTCS) finite difference approximation equation.

$\Rightarrow$  Two-level explicit formula  $GTE = O(\Delta t + \Delta t^2)$



Example: choose  $f(x) = 1, g_0(t) = g_1(t) = 0$ .

(i)  $h = \frac{1}{4}, \Delta t = \frac{1}{32}, \alpha = 1 \rightarrow r = \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{h^2} = \frac{1 \cdot \frac{1}{32}}{\frac{1}{16}} = \frac{1}{2}$   $r = \frac{1}{2}$

$$\Rightarrow u_j^{(n+1)} = \frac{1}{2} (u_{j-1}^n + u_{j+1}^n)$$

smaller stepsize in time  
more expensive, slower!

(ii)  $h = \frac{1}{4}, \Delta t = \frac{1}{16}, \alpha = 1 \rightarrow r = 1$   $r = 1$

$$\Rightarrow u_j^{(n+1)} = u_{j-1}^n - u_j^n + u_{j+1}^n$$

larger stepsize in time, faster, no division operations

$k = \frac{1}{32}$

0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
0	$\frac{1}{4}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{4}$	0
0	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
0	$\frac{1}{2}$	1	$\frac{1}{2}$	0
0	1	1	1	0

$h = \frac{1}{4}$

$k = \frac{1}{16}$

0	5	-7	5	0
0	-2	3	-2	0
0	1	-1	1	0
0	0	1	0	0
0	1	1	1	0
1	1	1	1	1

$h = \frac{1}{4}$

Case (i) with  $r = \frac{1}{2}$

An exponentially decaying solution (approaches the equilibrium 0)

Case (ii) with  $r = 1$

An explosive oscillatory solution (physically impossible)  
 $\rightarrow$  unstable, doesn't converge

# Convergence, consistency, stability

Key concepts for evaluating a numerical method for a PDE.

Convergence: A solution  $u_j^n$  to a finite difference equation which approximates a given PDE is said to be convergent if

$$\lim_{\substack{h \rightarrow 0 \\ \Delta t \rightarrow 0}} u_j^n = u(x_j, t_n) \quad (x_j, t_n \text{ fixed})$$

Conclusion: If  $r \leq 1/2$  the FTCS method is convergent. Why?

Let  $e_j^n = u(x_j, t_n) - u_j^n$  be the truncation error. Then

$$u_j^n = u(x_j, t_n) - e_j^n \quad \text{Substitute into FTCS}$$

$$\rightarrow u(x_j, t_{n+1}) - e_j^{n+1} = r(u(x_{j-1}, t_n) - e_{j-1}^n) + (1-2r)(u(x_j, t_n) - e_j^n) + r(u(x_{j+1}, t_n) - e_{j+1}^n)$$

$$\Rightarrow e_j^{n+1} = r e_{j-1}^n + (1-2r) e_j^n + r e_{j+1}^n + [u(x_j, t_{n+1}) - u(x_j, t_n) - r(u(x_{j+1}, t_n) + u(x_{j-1}, t_n) - 2u(x_j, t_n))]$$

$$[ ] = [O(\Delta t) + O(h^2)] \Delta t \quad (\text{using FTCS approx.})$$
$$\text{or } [ ] \leq M(\Delta t^2 + \Delta t h^2)$$

**IF  $r \leq 1/2$**   $\rightarrow (1-2r) \geq 0$

$$\Rightarrow |e_j^{n+1}| \leq r |e_{j-1}^n| + (1-2r) |e_j^n| + r |e_{j+1}^n| + M(\Delta t^2 + \Delta t h^2)$$

Let  $e_{max}^n = \max_{j=1:J-1} |e_j^n|$ . Then

$$e_j^{n+1} \leq r e_{max}^n + (1-2r) e_{max}^n + r e_{max}^n + M \Delta t (\Delta t + h^2)$$

$$\rightarrow e_j^{n+1} \leq e_{max}^n + M \Delta t (\Delta t + h^2)$$

initial error is zero

$$\leq e_{max}^{n-1} + 2M \Delta t (\Delta t + h^2) \leq \dots \leq e_{max}^0 + M(n+1) \Delta t (\Delta t + h^2)$$
$$(e_{max}^n \leq e_{max}^{n-1} + M \Delta t (\Delta t + h^2))$$

(13) (14)

$$= M t_{n+1} (k+h^2) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } h, k \rightarrow 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{LTE} = O(k+h^2)$$

can also show that  $r > 1/2$  is not convergent in a similar way

Thus the FTCS method is convergent if  $r \leq 1/2$ .  
What about  $r > 1/2$ ?  $\rightarrow$  we will show this is unstable and hence not convergent.

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Consistency: A finite difference formula is said to be consistent with a PDE if as  $h, k \rightarrow 0$ , the difference equation becomes the PDE at each point in the solution domain.

Conclusion: The FTCS method is consistent with the heat equation for any  $r > 0$  because the (global) truncation error is  $O(k+h^2)$  which  $\rightarrow 0$  as  $h, k \rightarrow 0$ . More specifically, using Taylor series, we find the (global) truncation error is

$$e_j^n = -\frac{\alpha k^2}{2} (r - 1/6) \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4}(x_j, t_n) + O(k^2 + h^4)$$

$\rightarrow r = 1/6$  is the optimum value!

$\rightarrow$  the solution of the FTCS finite difference equation approaches the exact solution more rapidly when  $r = 1/6$  than for other values of  $r \leq 1/2$ .

$\Rightarrow$  Consistency is necessary, but not sufficient to ~~give a~~ have a correct method.

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Stability: A finite difference method is said to be stable if a small round-off error at one stage is not amplified by later computations.

Note that we have 3 types of solutions :

- $U(x, t)$  - the exact solution
  - $U_j^n$  - the approximate solution (exact solution of FTCS)
  - $U_j$  - the numerical (or computer) solution
- $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{truncation error} \\ \rightarrow \text{convergence} \end{array} \right\}$   
 $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{roundoff error} \\ \rightarrow \text{stability} \end{array} \right\}$

$\Rightarrow \boxed{\xi_j^n = U_j^n - U_j^n}$  is called the roundoff error

We need  $|\xi_j^n|$  to be bounded or tend to zero as the computation goes on.

Note that  $U_j^n$  also satisfies the FTCS scheme, i.e.

$$U_j^{n+1} = r U_{j-1}^n + (1-2r) U_j^n + r U_{j+1}^n$$

Thus the error  $\xi_j^n$  also satisfies

$$\boxed{\xi_j^{n+1} = r \xi_{j-1}^n + (1-2r) \xi_j^n + r \xi_{j+1}^n}$$

Example : Consider again  $f(x)=1, g_0(t)=g_1(t)=c$ .

(i)  $h=k_1, \ell=k_2, \alpha=1, r=k_2$   
 $\rightarrow \xi_j^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} (\xi_{j-1}^n + \xi_{j+1}^n)$

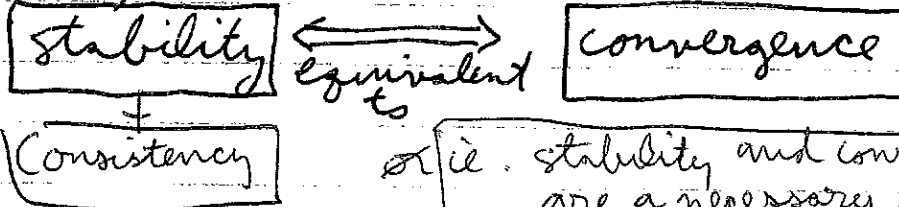
(ii)  $h=k_4, \ell=k_6, \alpha=1, r=1 \rightarrow \xi_j^{n+1} = \xi_{j-1}^n - \xi_j^n + \xi_{j+1}^n$

Assume errors at boundary are zero.

$\begin{matrix} 0 & \epsilon/8 & 0 & \epsilon/8 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon/4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon/4 & 0 & \epsilon/4 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon/2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon/2 & 0 & \epsilon/2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$	<p>Error propagation due to introduction of error <math>\xi_2^1 = \epsilon</math> with <math>r=1/2</math>  <math>\rightarrow</math> <u>stable</u>                  (error does <u>not</u> grow)</p>	$\begin{matrix} 0 & 2\epsilon & 0 & 2\epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & -12\epsilon & 17\epsilon & -12\epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 5\epsilon & -7\epsilon & 5\epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & -2\epsilon & 3\epsilon & -2\epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & \epsilon & -\epsilon & \epsilon & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \epsilon & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{matrix}$	<p><math>r=1</math>                  error <u>grows</u>  <math>\downarrow</math>  <u>UNSTABLE</u></p>
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se results illustrate:

ax's Equivalence Theorem: Given a properly posed linear initial value problem and a finite difference approximation to it that satisfies the consistency condition, then



i.e. stability and consistency together are a necessary & sufficient condition for convergence.

Remarks:

- ① well-posedness of an IVP means that the solution of the PDE depends continuously on the given initial data. The diffusion (heat) equation and its associated IVP & BVP ~~are~~ is well-posed.
- ② We need only show the stability of the method to prove it converges, which is good since stability is easier to show provided the PDE is well-posed and the method is consistent with the PDE.

Stability Analysis Methods:

- (1) Discrete perturbation stability method
- (2) Matrix method
- (3) Von Neumann's method (also called Fourier series method)  $\rightarrow$  Most useful in practice.