

Summary of Hyperbolic PDEs

- We looked at a simple linear and a nonlinear scalar hyperbolic PDE
 - There is a speed associated with the change of the solution
 - Explicit methods cannot take a step larger than the time it takes for a solution to cross a single zone
 - For nonlinear equations, this speed changes on the grid—you need to find the most restrictive timestep in a zone
 - Upwinding (for linear advection) gives a stable method
 - For nonlinear PDEs, this idea is contained in the solution to the Riemann problem

Elliptic Problems in Physics

- Gravitational and Electric potentials (Poisson equation)

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho \qquad \nabla^2 \Phi = -\frac{\rho}{\epsilon}$$

(gravitational potential)

(electric potential)

- Helmholtz equation:

$$(\alpha + \nabla \cdot \beta \nabla) \Phi = f$$

- Often arises by discretizing or separating out time in a PDE

Elliptic Problems in Physics

- Sometimes we have a system with different PDE types.
- Fluid dynamics w/ self gravity

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho U) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho U}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho U U) + \nabla p = \rho \nabla \Phi$$

$$\nabla^2 \Phi = 4\pi G \rho$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho E}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho U E + U p) = \rho U \cdot \nabla \Phi$$

- Incompressible hydrodynamics

$$U_t + U \cdot \nabla U + \nabla p = 0 \quad \nabla \cdot U = 0$$

(constraint on velocity)

Elliptic PDEs and Boundary Conditions

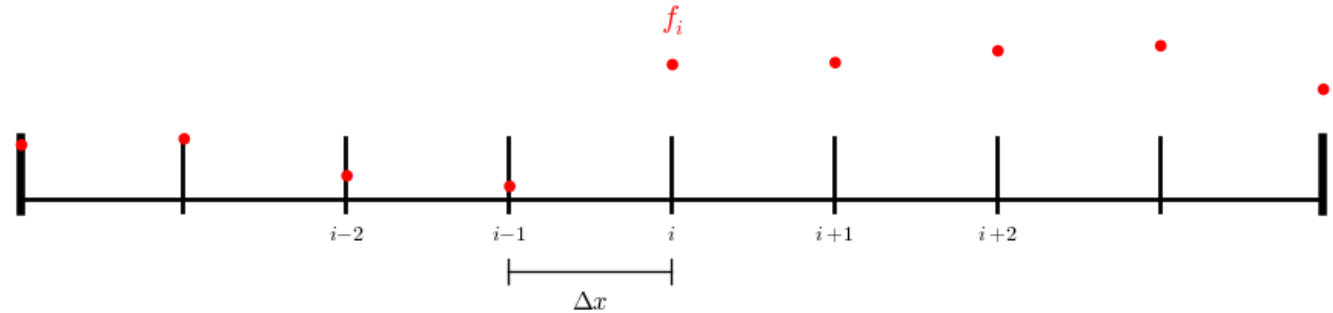
- There is no time-dependence in these equations
- Field responds instantly to the boundary conditions and source
 - There is no propagation speed as in the hyperbolic / advection equations we studied
 - Treatment of boundary conditions becomes essential

Relaxation Methods

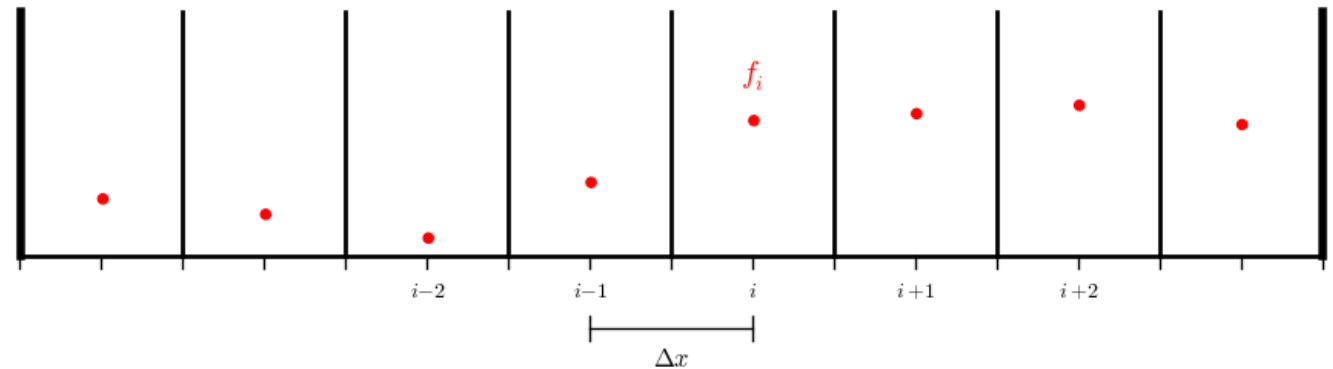
- We'll see that for a broad class of elliptic problems, **relaxation methods** (iterative) are easy to implement
 - Multigrid is a technique that we'll study to accelerate the convergence of relaxation methods
- There is an excellent book, *The Multigrid Tutorial*, that gives a great introduction to these methods and the math behind them
 - We'll follow this a bit, but focus on just some of the main results
 - We'll do things in terms of cell-centered finite-difference / finite-volume grids (the text focuses on finite-difference)
 - Differences come up in boundary conditions and transferring the problem through a hierarchy of grids (as we'll see shortly)
 - Some PDF notes are linked online

Grid Types

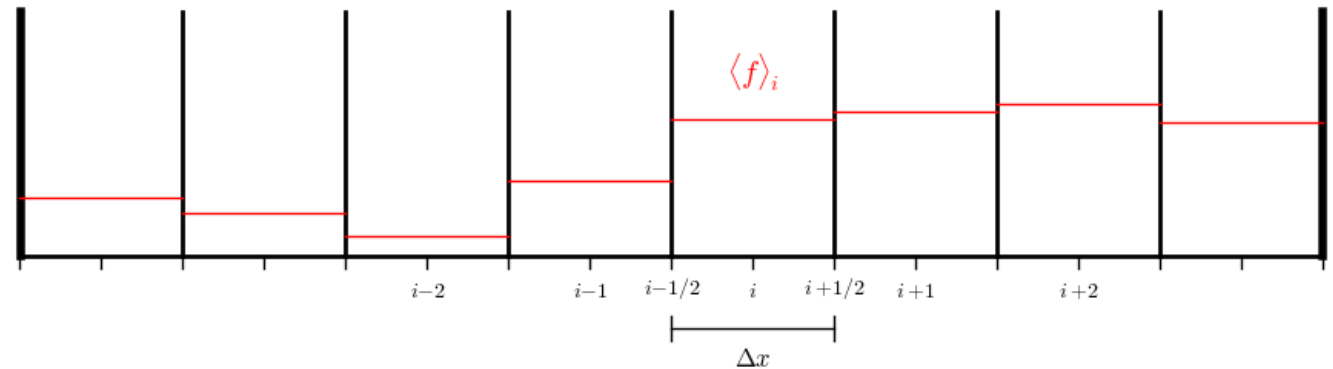
finite-difference



cell-centered finite-difference



finite-volume



Grid Types

- Major difference between grid types:
 - Does the data exist precisely on the boundary?
 - Since boundary conditions critically affect the solution, we need to keep the centering of the data in mind
- Cell-centered finite-difference vs. Finite-volume:
 - To second-order accuracy, we can treat the cell-averages as centered in the zone
$$\langle f \rangle_i = f(x_i) + \mathcal{O}(\Delta x^2)$$
 - Blackboard derivation...
 - Our methods will be second-order accurate for both of these grid types

Model Problem

- Consider a one-dimensional Poisson equation:

$$\phi'' = f$$

- This is a second-order ODE, so we need 2 boundary conditions
 - Dirichlet: $\phi(a) = A$
 - Neumann: $\phi'(a) = C$
- In two or more dimensions, this would be a PDE
- We already saw the shooting method for solving this (when we studied ODEs)
 - That does not translate to multi-dimensions easily

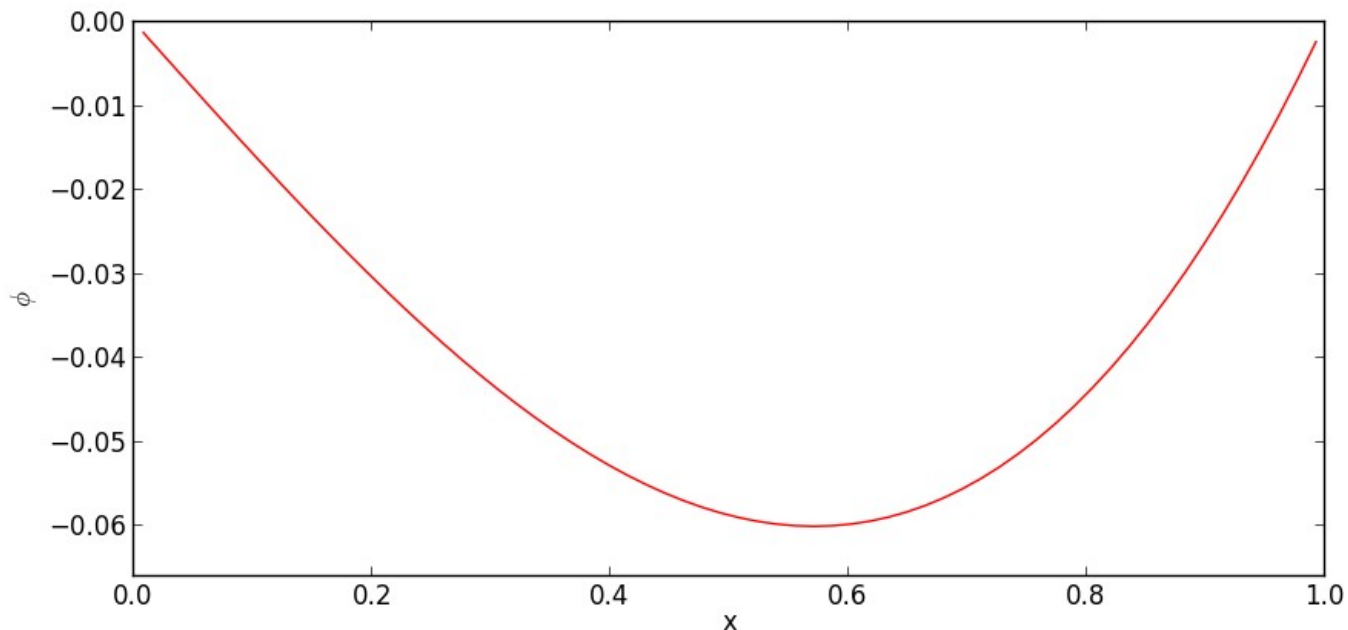
Model Problem

- To allow us to test things, let's pick something with an analytic solution

$$\phi'' = \sin(x) \quad \phi(0) = 0, \phi(1) = 0$$

- Solution:

$$\phi(x) = -\sin(x) + x \sin(1)$$



Relaxation

- Recall from our lecture on derivatives that a second-order accurate difference for the second derivative is:

$$\phi_i'' = \frac{\phi_{i+1} - 2\phi_i + \phi_{i-1}}{\Delta x^2}$$

- True on F-D or F-V grids
- Our 1-d Poisson equation becomes:

$$\frac{\phi_{i+1} - 2\phi_i + \phi_{i-1}}{\Delta x^2} = f_i$$

- Solve for a single zone:

$$\phi_i = \frac{1}{2}(\phi_{i+1} + \phi_{i-1} - \Delta x^2 f_i)$$

- Set of coupled algebraic equations (think matrices)

Relaxation

- Instead of a direct matrix solve, we'll use an iterative method
 - We are just shy of being diagonally dominant, nevertheless, these methods converge

- Jacobi iteration

- Pick initial guess: $\phi_i^{(0)}$
 - Improve the guess through relaxation:

$$\phi_i^{(k+1)} = \frac{1}{2}(\phi_{i+1}^{(k)} + \phi_{i-1}^{(k)} - \Delta x^2 f_i)$$

- Assess the error, if needed iterate...

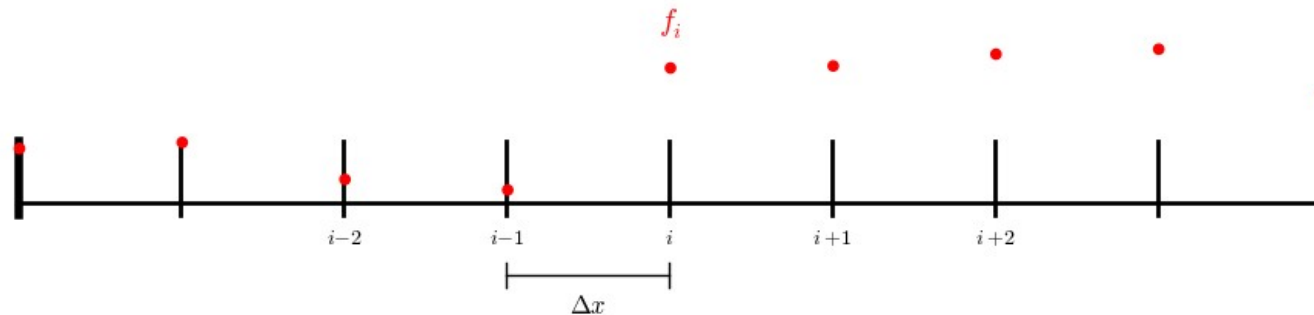
- Gauss-Seidel iteration

- Use new data as it becomes available:

$$\phi_i^{(k+1)} \leftarrow \frac{1}{2}(\phi_{i+1}^{(k)} + \phi_{i-1}^{(k)} - \Delta x^2 f_i)$$

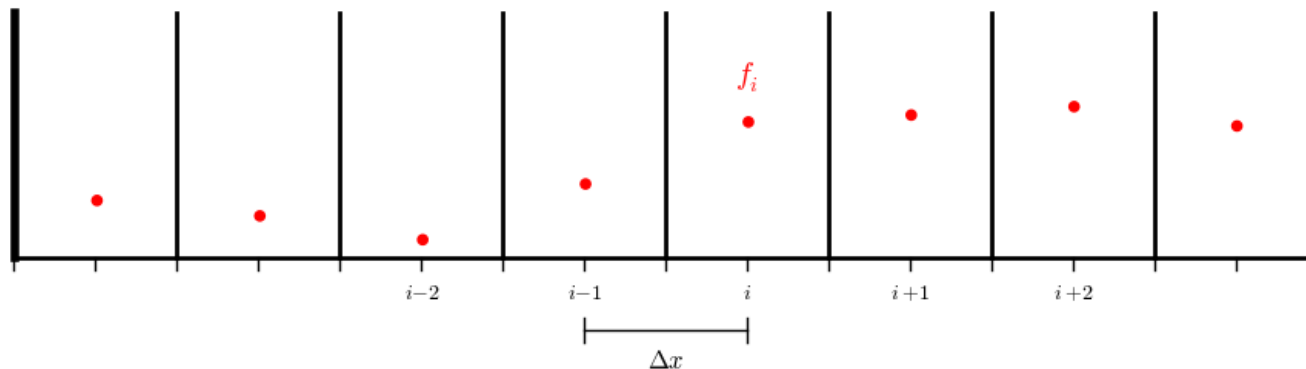
Boundary Conditions: FV vs. FD

- F-D grid:



- We have a point exactly on the boundary—iterate only over the interior points

- F-V or cc F-D grid:



- Must interpolate to the boundary

Finite-Volume BCs

- Dirichlet: we need the value on the boundary itself to satisfy the boundary condition:

$$\phi(a) = A$$

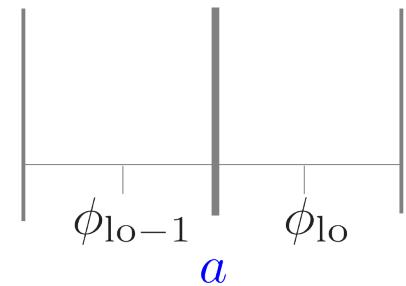
- Use ghost cells to extend past the physical domain
- Interpolation to fill the ghost cell:

- Naive guess:

$$\phi_{lo-1} = A$$

- Second-order accurate:

$$A = \frac{\phi_{lo} + \phi_{lo-1}}{2}$$



Finite-Volume BCs

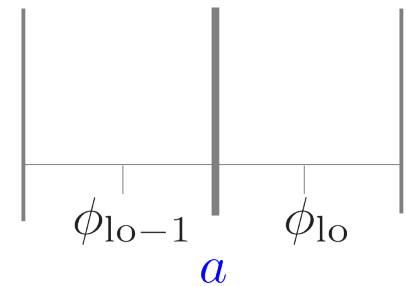
- Neumann: we need the gradient, centered at the boundary, to match the given value

$$\phi'(a) = B$$

- Use ghost cells to extend past the physical domain
- Centered difference at boundary:

$$\phi_a = \frac{\phi_{l_0} - \phi_{l_0-1}}{\Delta x}$$

- This is second-order accurate



Solvable Boundary Conditions

- Integrate our Poisson equation over the domain:

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla^2 \phi \, d\Omega = \int_{\partial\Omega} \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_{\Omega} f \, d\Omega$$

- Consider homogeneous Neumann BCs on all sides, $\nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0$
 - Our source must satisfy:

$$\int_{\Omega} f \, d\Omega = 0$$

- Likewise, with periodic BCs all around, the flux in one end of the domain is the flux out the other end, so again, we require

$$\int_{\Omega} f \, d\Omega = 0$$

- We will not converge if our source is not consistent with the boundary conditions

Solvable Boundary Conditions

- Another way to see this:
 - Consider a 1-d Laplace equation $\phi'' = 0$
 - Solution is just a line: $\phi = ax + b$
 - If you specify different inhomogeneous Neumann BCs on each end, then you are giving conflicting values for the slope—unsolvable!

Error and Norms

- There are many different norms that can be used to determine the error
- General p-norm:

$$\|e\|_p = \left(\Delta x \sum_{i=1}^N |e_i|^p \right)^{1/p}$$

- We already saw the L2 norm
- Also interesting are the L1 norm:

$$\|e\|_1 = \Delta x \sum_{i=1}^N |e_i|$$

- And the inf norm:

$$\|e\|_\infty = \max_i |x_i|$$

Error and Norms

- The norm gives us a single number with which to measure if we are converged
 - The choice of norm should not matter—if we converge, we should converge in all norms
 - L2 falls somewhere between L1 and the inf-norm in magnitude
 - L1 and L2 are more “global”—all values contribute

Error and Norms

- We still need to define the error that we are taking the norm of
 - For our test problems, we can compare to the analytic solution, but that's not general
 - Only other measure: how well we satisfy the discrete equation—this is the **residual**

$$r_i \equiv f_i - \frac{\phi_{i+1}^{(k)} - 2\phi_i^{(k)} + \phi_{i-1}^{(k)}}{\Delta x^2}$$

- We use the **source norm** to provide a size to compare to. Stop when:

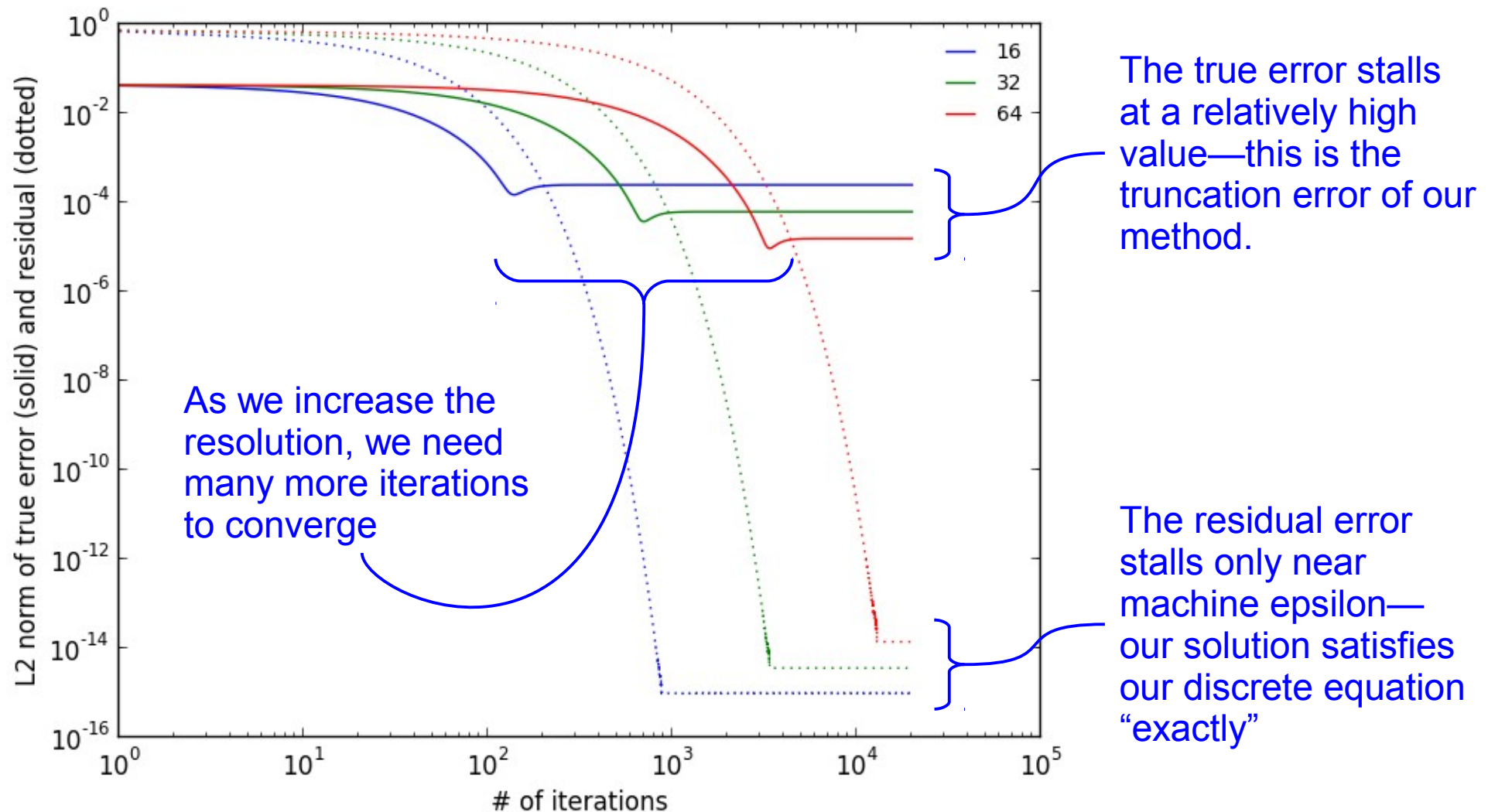
$$\|r\| < \epsilon \|f\|$$

Implementation

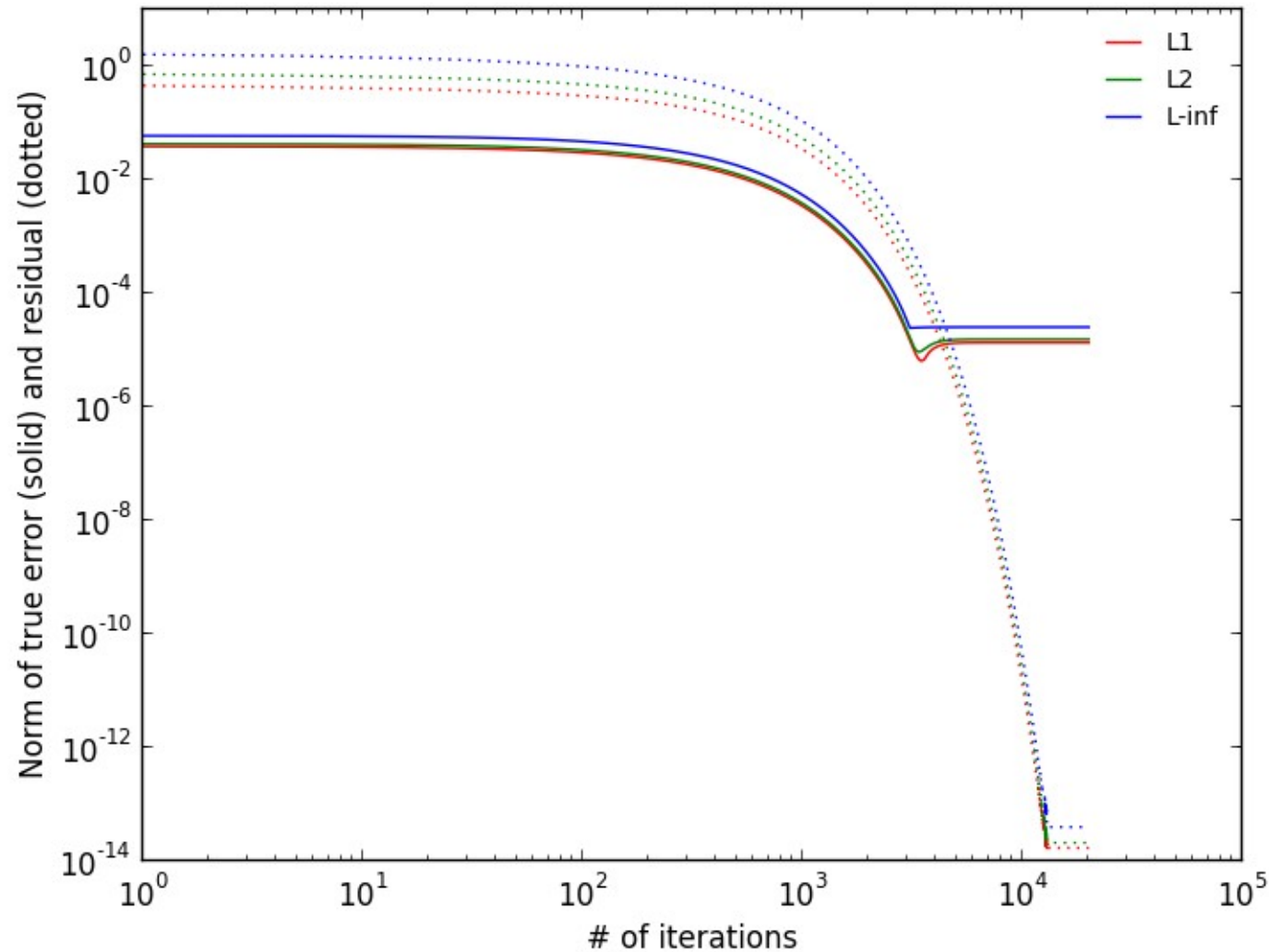
- We need to fill the ghost cells after each iteration to reflect the change in the solution
- Let's start by doing a fixed number of iterations
- Let's look at the code...

Convergence

- Residual error vs. true error using Gauss-Seidel (red-black)

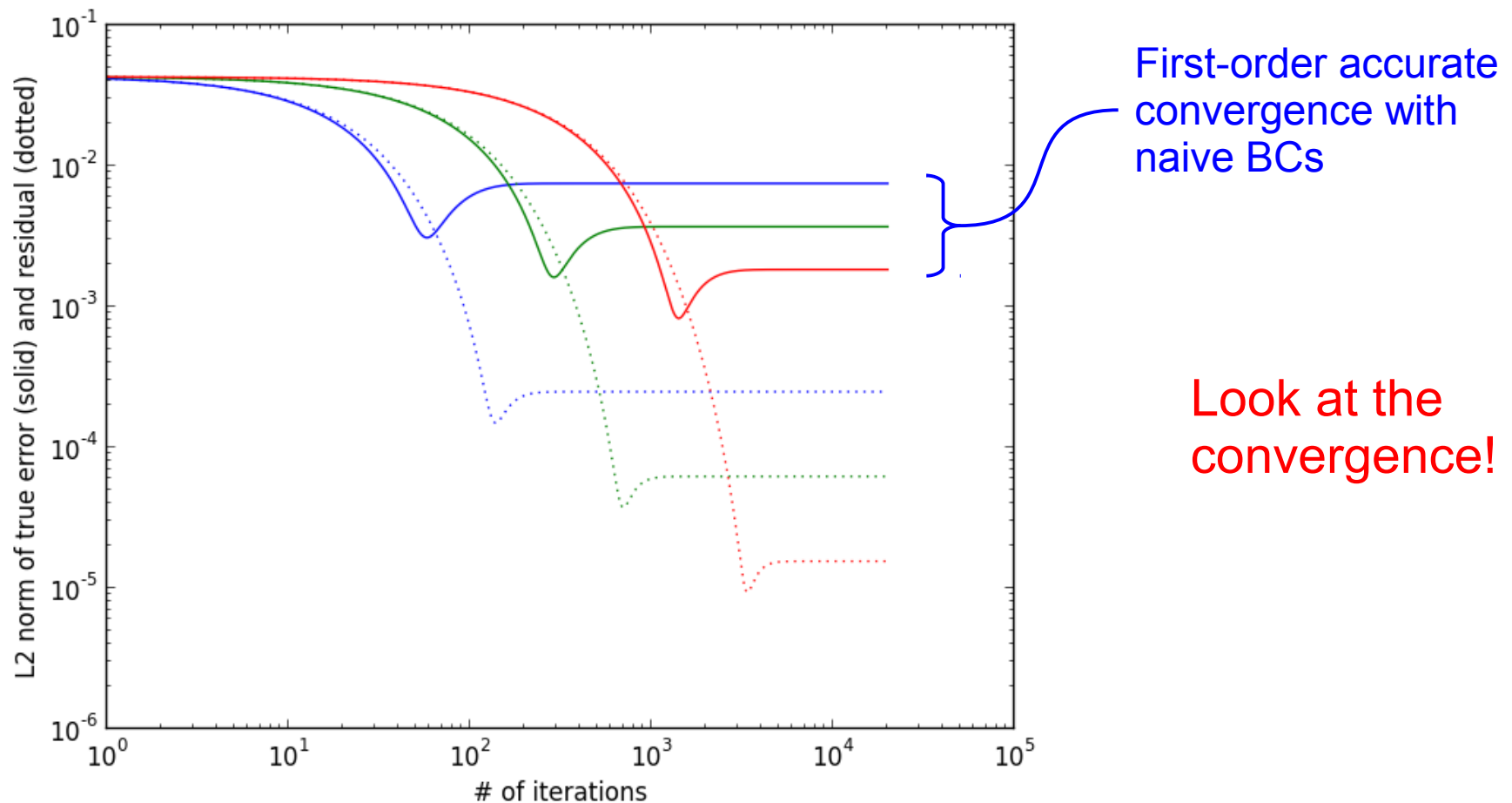


Convergence with Different Norms



Effect of Boundary Conditions

- What if we didn't take into account the BCs properly?
 - i.e. Set the ghost cell value to the BC value instead of interpolate to the actual boundary



Behavior of Different Modes

- Consider Laplace's equation:

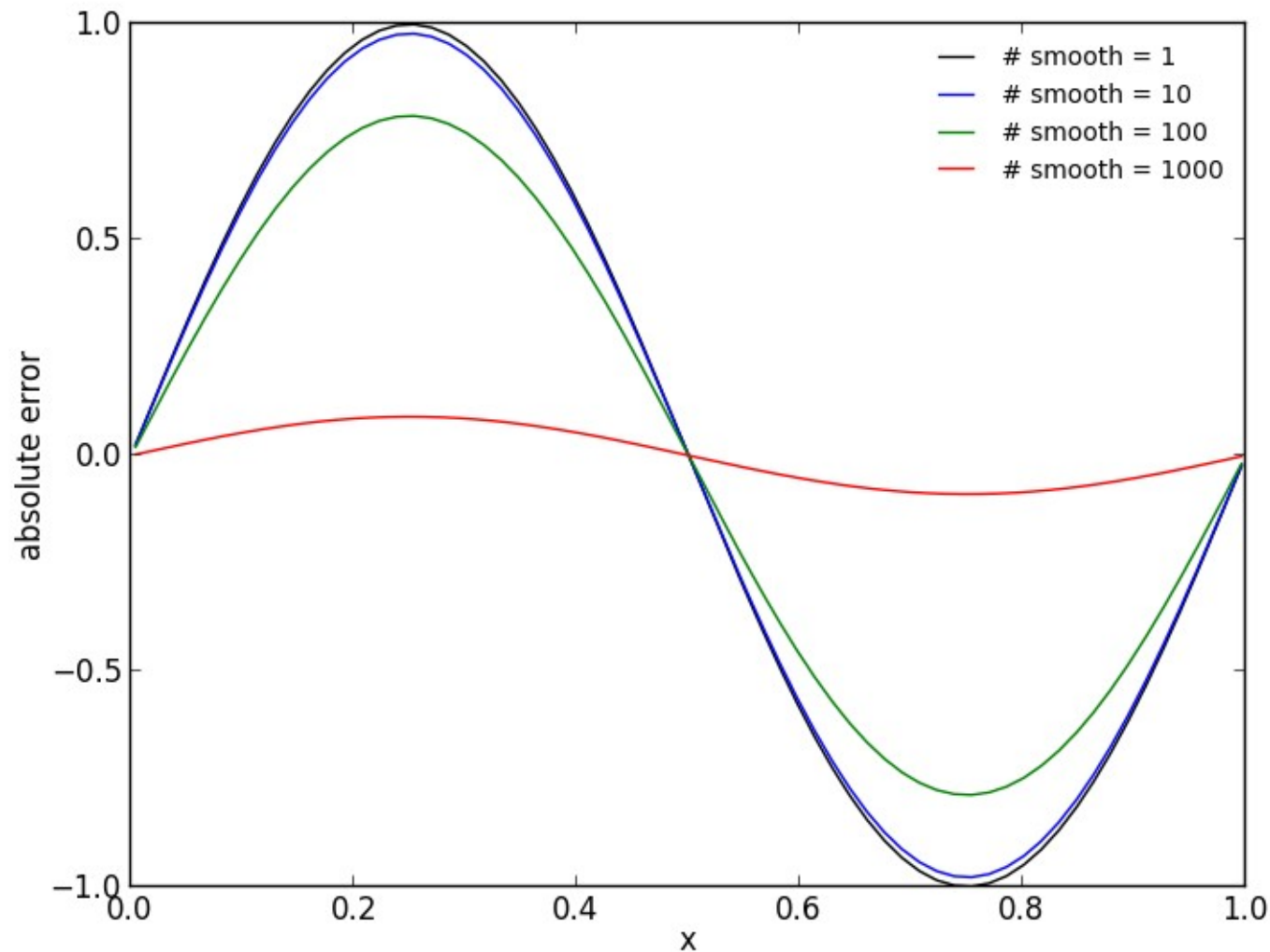
$$\nabla^2 \phi = 0, \quad \phi(0) = 0, \phi(1) = 0$$

- The solution is simply: $\phi(x) = 0$
- Pick a single mode sine wave as an initial guess:

$$\phi^{(0)}(x) = \sin(2\pi m x)$$

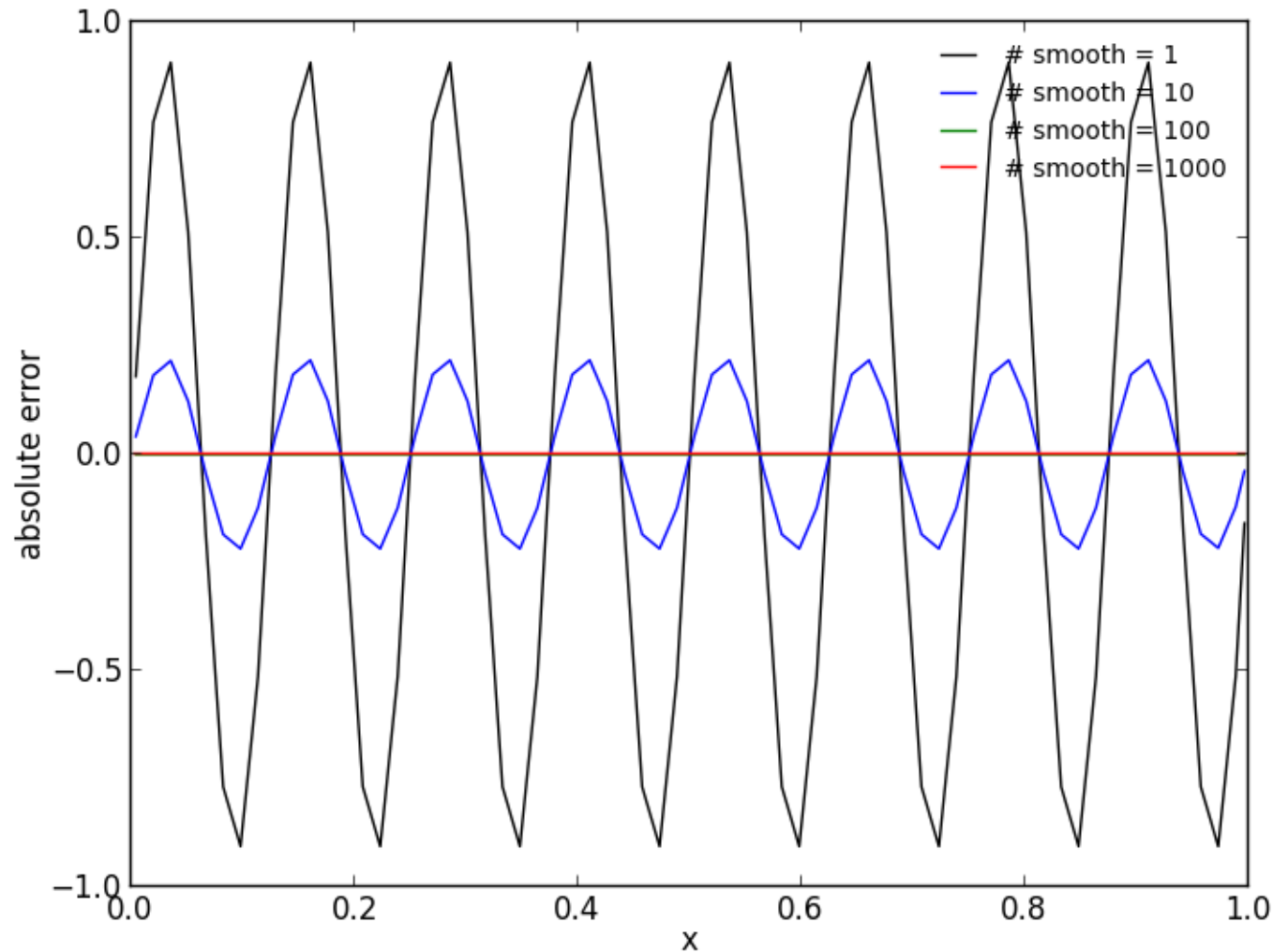
- The error after X iterations is simply $\phi(x)$
- Let's look at how different modes behave

M=1 Mode



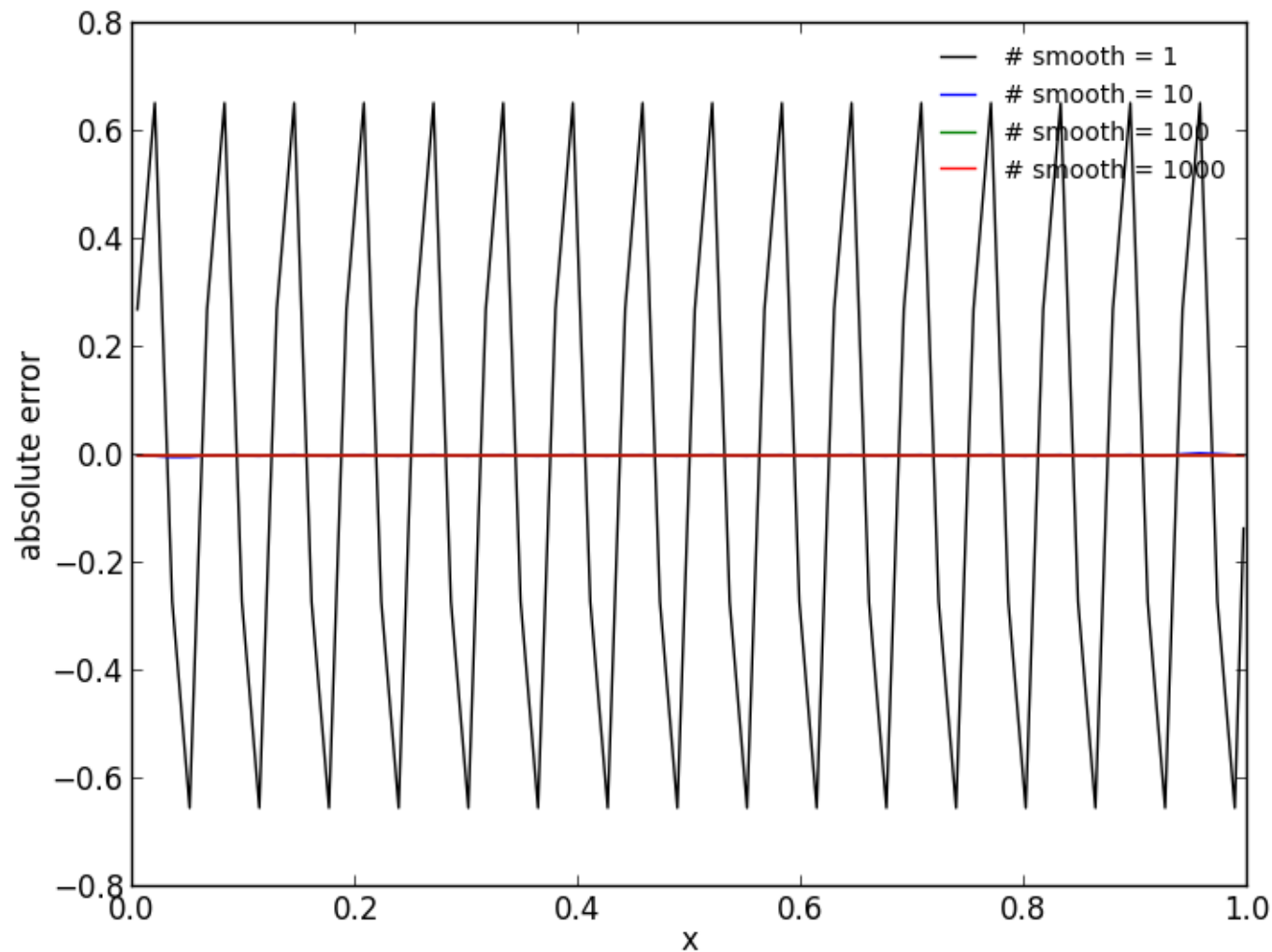
Initial guess after 1, 10, 100, and 1000 smoothings for $m = 1$ and 128 zones
Not much progress...

M=8 Mode



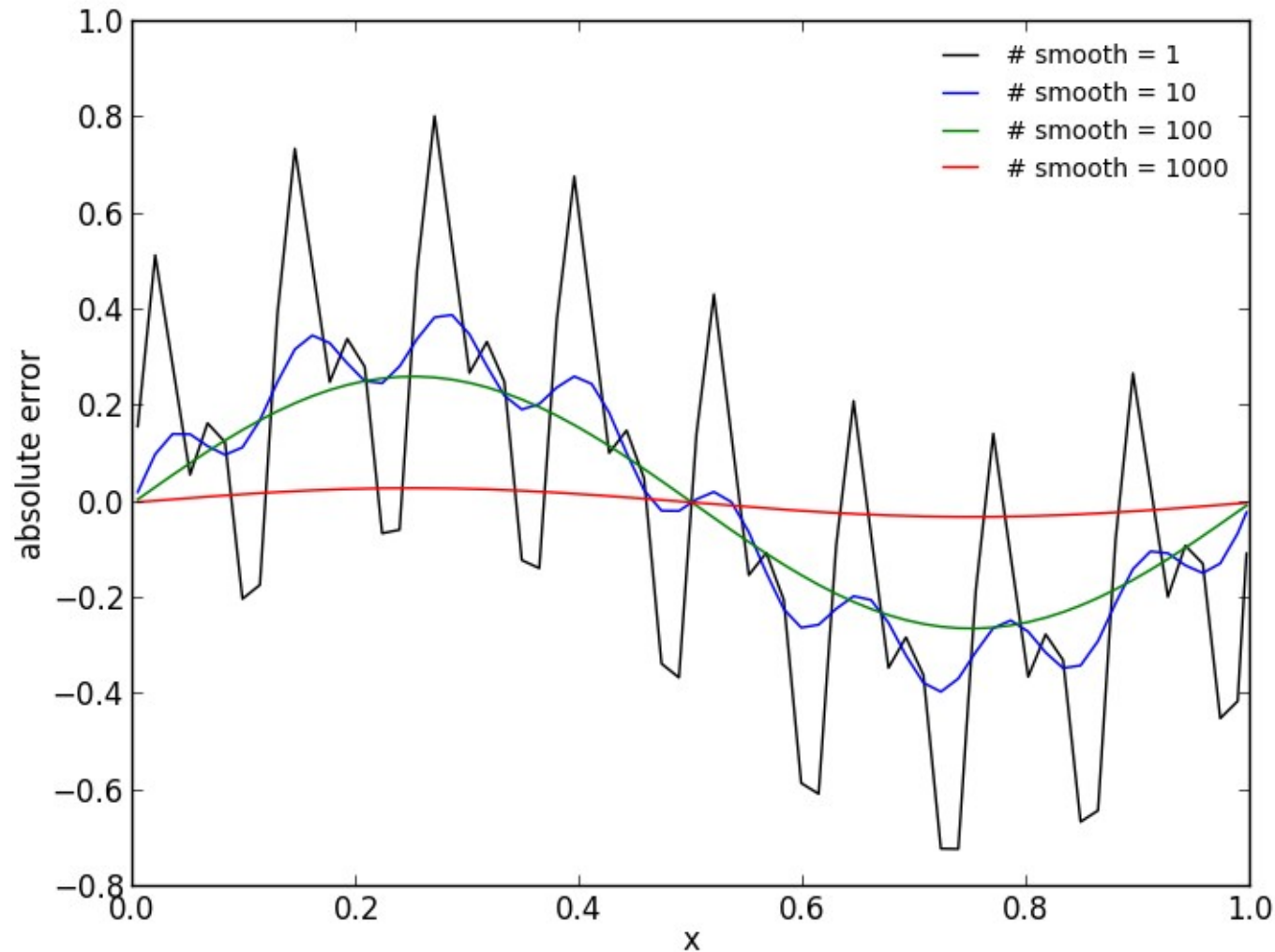
Initial guess after 1, 10, 100, and 1000 smoothings for $m = 8$ and 128 zones
Here we see that after 100 smoothings, the error is mostly gone

M=16 Mode



Initial guess after 1, 10, 100, and 1000 smoothings for $m = 16$ and 128 zones
Now after 10 smoothings, the error is small

Multiple Modes



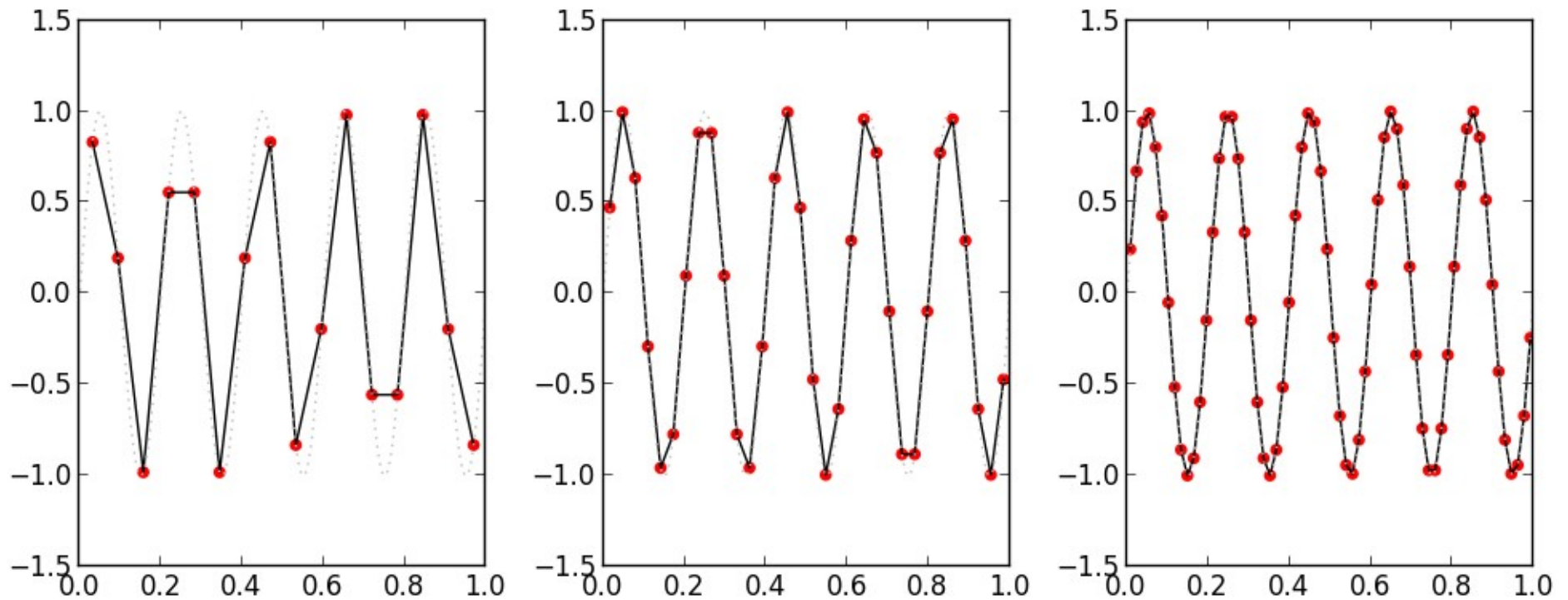
Initial guess after 1, 10, 100, and 1000 smoothings for an initial guess consisting of $m=1, 8$, and 16 modes (equally weighted) and 128 zones. Notice that the highest wavelength errors disappear fastest.

Relaxation Observations

- Observe that the higher-frequency (shorter wavelength) errors smooth away fastest
 - Here we measure the wavelength in terms of number of zones
- Every zone is linked to every other zone
 - If an error has a wavelength of N zones, then N iterations are required to communicate across it
- Our PDE is linear
 - Each mode evolves independent of the others

Coarsening

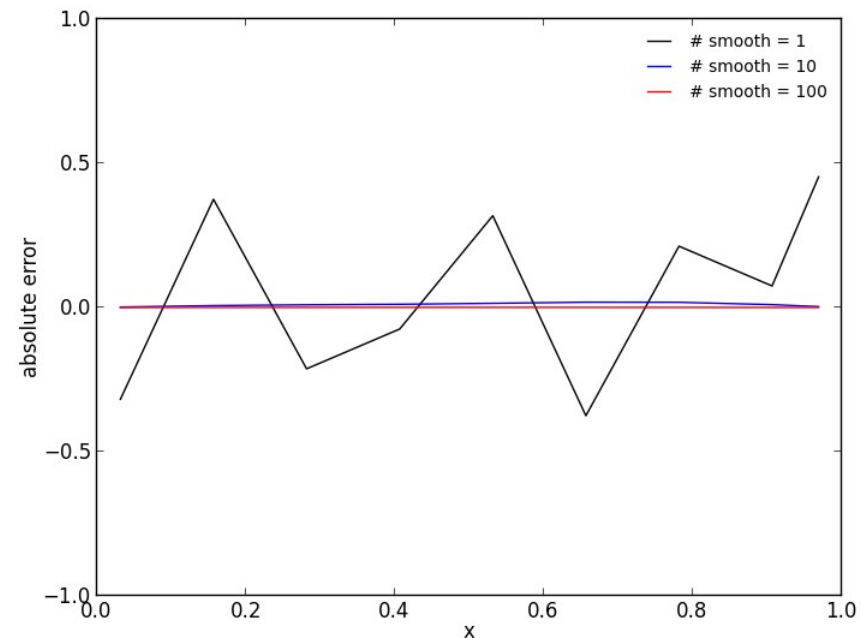
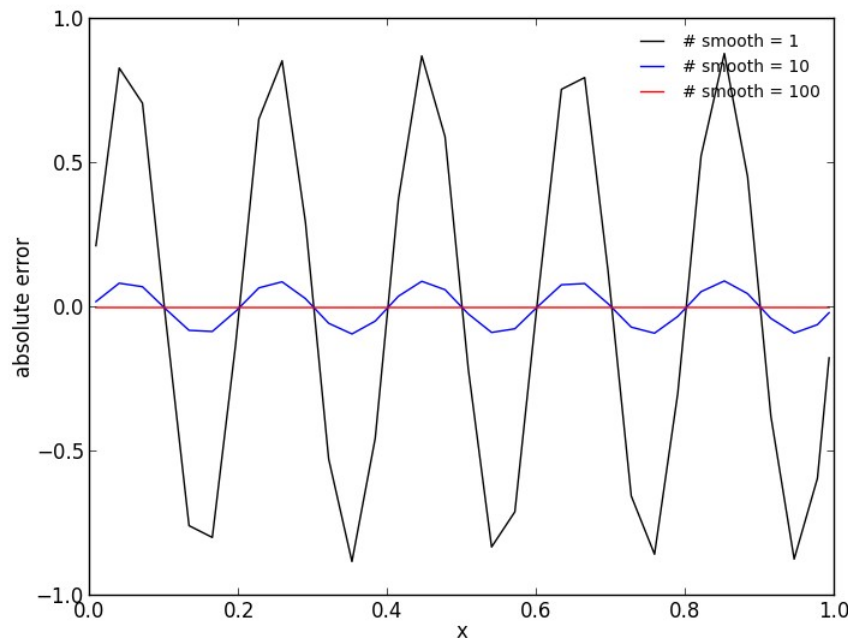
- On a coarser grid, long wavelength errors appear to have a shorter wavelength
- Consider $m = 5$ mode on a 64, 32, and 16 zone grid



- Notice that on a 64 zone mesh the error appears smooth, but on a 16 zone mesh, it is very oscillatory

Coarsening

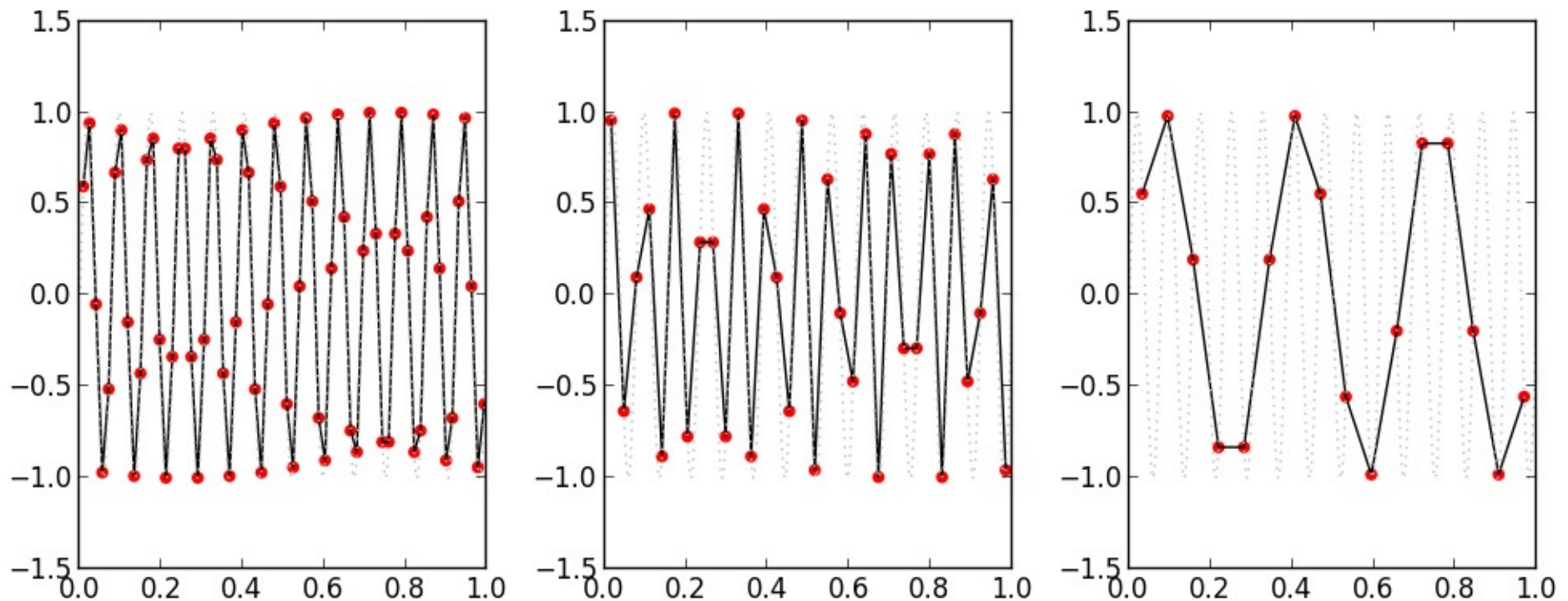
- Since the error appears higher frequency on the coarser grid, we expect that we will solve with fewer iterations



Error for $m = 5$ mode with 64 zones (left) and 16 zones (right) after 1, 10, and 100 iterations

Aliasing

- However, if we coarsen a short wavelength error, it can appear to have a longer wavelength on the coarse grid—this is **aliasing**



$m = 13$ mode on a 64, 32, and 16 zone grid

On To Multigrid

- Multigrid is a method to accelerate the convergence of relaxation
 - It eliminates the short wavelength errors on the original grid
 - Coarsens the problem and eliminates the formerly long wavelength errors on the new coarser grid
- Multigrid relies on a method to move the solution up and down a hierarchy of grids