

**MECH 479/587**

# **Computational Fluid Dynamics**

Module 4 (a): Stability Analysis

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## Module #4: Stability Analysis

### Today's Plan

0. Recap
1. Modified FDE  
(Equivalent Eq<sup>n</sup>)
2. 2D Von Neumann Analysis
  - Basic Steps
  - Example
3. Physical interpretation

## 2D incompressible NS Eq<sup>ns</sup>:

Continuity:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$

X-Mom  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} + \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$

Y-Mom  $\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = -\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial p}{\partial y} + \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \right)$

Independent variables:  $(x, y, t)$

Dependent variables:  $(u, v, p)$

1D Convection:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$

1D Diffusion:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$

1D Convection-Diffusion:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$   
(Burger Eq<sup>n</sup>)

Energy / Heat Eq<sup>n</sup>:

$$\rho C_p \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right) = k \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

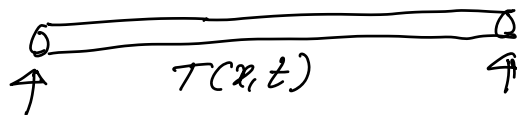
$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}}_{\text{2D Convection}} = \underbrace{\alpha \left( \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} \right)}_{\text{2D Diffusion}}$$

1D Diffusion:  $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$

2D Convection:  $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = 0$

1D Convection-Diffusion:

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial T}{\partial t}}_{\text{Unsteady}} + \underbrace{u \frac{\partial T}{\partial x}}_{\text{Convection}} = \underbrace{k \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}}_{\text{Diffusion}}$$



# Review: Analysis of Numerical Scheme

## □ General steps

- (a) Write down the finite difference equation
- (b) Write down the truncation/(modified) equation
- (c) Find the accuracy of the scheme
- (d) Use the von Neumann's method to derive an equation for the amplification factor

Consider 1D diffusion equation

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}}$$

- (a) Approximate both terms by centered differences

Modified Eq<sup>n</sup> (Equivalent Eq<sup>n</sup>)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{PDE} & \neq & \text{FDE} \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} & \approx & \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_j^n \end{array}$$

$$\Delta t \rightarrow 0, \quad \Delta x \rightarrow 0$$

$$\underbrace{\text{FDE}}_{\Delta t \rightarrow 0, \Delta x \rightarrow 0} \rightarrow \text{PDE} \quad (\text{Consistency})$$

Using the FDE, we are effectively  
solving an equation that is  
somewhat different than the  
original PDE!

## Neumann Stability Condition:



$$|G| = \left| \frac{u^{n+1}}{u^n} \right| \leq 1$$

Example: 1D Diffusion:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Three choices: ~~~~~

Forward Euler: Conditional Stability

$$\Delta t \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{\alpha}$$

Backward Euler: Unconditional Stable

Central Difference:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \approx \frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^{n-1}}{\Delta t}$

# Analysis of Numerical Scheme (1)

(b) Write down modified equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

$$\rightarrow \frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^{n-1}}{2\Delta t} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n)$$

$$\frac{(1) - (2)}{2\Delta t} = \alpha \frac{(3) - 2u_j^n + (4)}{h^2}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \rightarrow (1) \underline{u_j^{n+1}} &= u_j^n + \frac{\partial u_j^n}{\partial t} \Delta t + \frac{\partial^2 u_j^n}{\partial t^2} \frac{\Delta t^2}{2} + \frac{\partial^3 u_j^n}{\partial t^3} \frac{\Delta t^3}{6} + \dots \\ \rightarrow (2) \underline{u_j^{n-1}} &= u_j^n - \frac{\partial u_j^n}{\partial t} \Delta t + \frac{\partial^2 u_j^n}{\partial t^2} \frac{\Delta t^2}{2} - \frac{\partial^3 u_j^n}{\partial t^3} \frac{\Delta t^3}{6} + \dots \\ \rightarrow (3) \underline{u_{j+1}^n} &= u_j^n + \frac{\partial u_j^n}{\partial x} h + \frac{\partial^2 u_j^n}{\partial x^2} \frac{h^2}{2} + \frac{\partial^3 u_j^n}{\partial x^3} \frac{h^3}{6} + \dots \\ \rightarrow (4) \underline{u_{j-1}^n} &= u_j^n - \frac{\partial u_j^n}{\partial x} h + \frac{\partial^2 u_j^n}{\partial x^2} \frac{h^2}{2} - \frac{\partial^3 u_j^n}{\partial x^3} \frac{h^3}{6} + \dots \end{aligned}$$

Yielding

$$\text{Rearrange } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \frac{\Delta t^2}{6} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \alpha \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} \frac{h^2}{12} + \dots$$

Modified equation:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \alpha \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} \frac{h^2}{12} - \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} \frac{\Delta t^2}{6}$$



# Analysis of Numerical Scheme (2)

(c) Find the accuracy of the scheme

$$O(\Delta t^2, h^2)$$

*Second order in  
space & time!*

(d) Use von Neumann (Fourier series) for the stability analysis

$$\frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^{n-1}}{2\Delta t} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \left( u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n \right)$$

$$u_j^{n+1} - u_j^{n-1} = s \left( u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n \right) \quad s = \alpha \frac{2\Delta t}{\Delta x^2}$$

$$\frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n}{2\Delta t} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \left( u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n \right)$$

$$S = \alpha \frac{2\Delta t}{\Delta x^2}$$

(\*)  $\Rightarrow u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n = S \left( u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n \right)$

Substituting:  $u_j^n = \underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{amplitude } C}}{v^n} e^{\underset{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{spatial error}}}{iKx_j}}$

$$u_{j\pm 1}^n = v^n e^{iK(x_j \pm h)}$$

$$u_j^{n\pm 1} = v^{n\pm 1} e^{iKx_j}$$

$\Rightarrow$  From (\*)

$$\begin{aligned} & v^{n+1} e^{iKx_j} - v^n e^{iKx_j} \\ &= S \left( v^n e^{iK(x_j+h)} - v^n e^{iKx_j} + v^n e^{iK(x_j-h)} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Goal: Amplification factor  $G$

$$G = \frac{v^{n+1}}{v^n}, \quad G = \frac{v^n}{v^{n-1}}$$

Some algebraic arrangement

$$v^{n+1} - v^{n-1} = s v^n (e^{ikh} - 2 + e^{-ikh})$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{v^{n+1}}{v^n} - \frac{v^{n-1}}{v^n} = s (e^{i\theta} - 2 + e^{-i\theta})$$

$$\Rightarrow G - \frac{1}{G} = s (2\cos\theta - 2)$$
$$= -2s \times 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow G - \frac{1}{G} = -4s \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_B$

$$G - \frac{1}{G} = -B$$

$$\Rightarrow G^2 + BG - 1 = 0$$

$$G = \frac{-B \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{B}{2}\right)^2 + 1}}{1}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} Kh = \theta \\ \hline e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta} = 2\cos\theta \\ 2\sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos 2\theta \end{array}$$

Consider worst case scenario

$$|G| = \left| \frac{B}{2} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{B}{2}\right)^2 + 1} \right|$$

$$> 1$$

Hence this discretization or numerical scheme (Central in time & Central in space) is unconditionally unstable!

# Von Neumann Stability Analysis

Substituting  $u_j^n = v^n e^{ik \cdot x_j}$ ;  $u_{j\pm 1}^n = v^n e^{ik(x_j \pm \Delta x)}$ ;  $u_j^{n\pm 1} = v^{n\pm 1} e^{ik \cdot x_j}$

$$v^{n+1} e^{ik x_j} - v^{n-1} e^{ik x_j} = s \left( v^n e^{ik(x_j + \Delta x)} - 2v^n e^{ik x_j} + v^n e^{ik(x_j - \Delta x)} \right)$$

Algebraic manipulation



$$G - \frac{1}{G} = -s (2 \cos \theta - 2) = -2s * 2 \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow G^2 - 1 = -BG \quad \text{where } B = 4s \sin^2 \frac{\theta}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow G^2 + BG - 1 =$$

$$G = -\frac{B}{2} \pm \sqrt{\left(\frac{B}{2}\right)^2 + 1} \Rightarrow G > 1$$

$$e^{i\theta} + e^{-i\theta} = 2 \cos \theta$$

$$2 \sin^2 \theta = 1 - \cos 2\theta$$



Hence this scheme is **unconditionally** unstable.

# Summary on von Neumann Method...

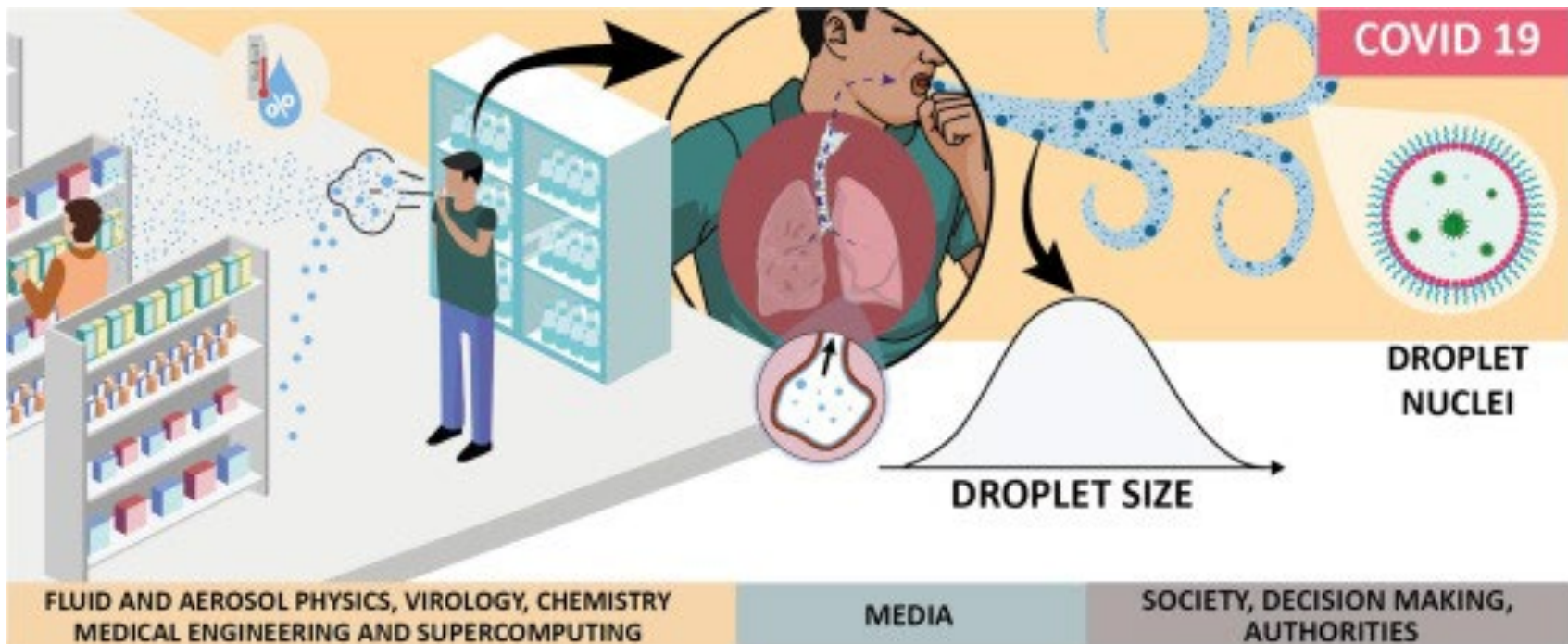
- Application to the combination of time and spatial discretization for linear equations.
  - Periodic boundary condition (other Boundary conditions cannot be included)
- Considers a component of the Fourier series expansion for error.
  - For stability make sure the amplitude does not amplify.
- For explicit scheme – conditionally stable;  
Courant number:  $c \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1$   
  
Diffusion number:  $\nu \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \leq 1/2$  →
  - $c \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1$   
Courant number
  - $\nu \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}$
- Can be extended to multidimensional problems
  - Easy application to practical use

# Multi-dimensional System

- ❑ Aerosol-based transmission of SARS-CoV-2 virus in public place

2D Convection:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + V_x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + V_y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$   $\rightarrow$

$\rightarrow$  2D Diffusion:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = D \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$



# Multi-dimensional Case (2D and 3D) $e^{x+y} = e^x e^y$

For the multi-dimensional case, the error can also satisfy the homogenous equation. The error is approximated by the higher dimension Fourier series expansion in 2-D as below:

$$\epsilon_{l,m}^n = \sum_{k_x} \sum_{k_y} \varphi^n e^{i k_x x_l} e^{i k_y y_m}$$

$x \rightarrow l, m$   
 $y \rightarrow$   
 $\varphi^n$  temporal amplitude  
 $e^{i k_x x_l} e^{i k_y y_m}$  Spatial error

and in 3-D;

$$\epsilon_{l,m,p}^n = \sum_{k_x} \sum_{k_y} \sum_{k_z} \varphi^n e^{i k_x x_l} e^{i k_y y_m} e^{i k_z z_p}$$

$x \rightarrow l, m, p$   
 $y \rightarrow$   
 $z \rightarrow$

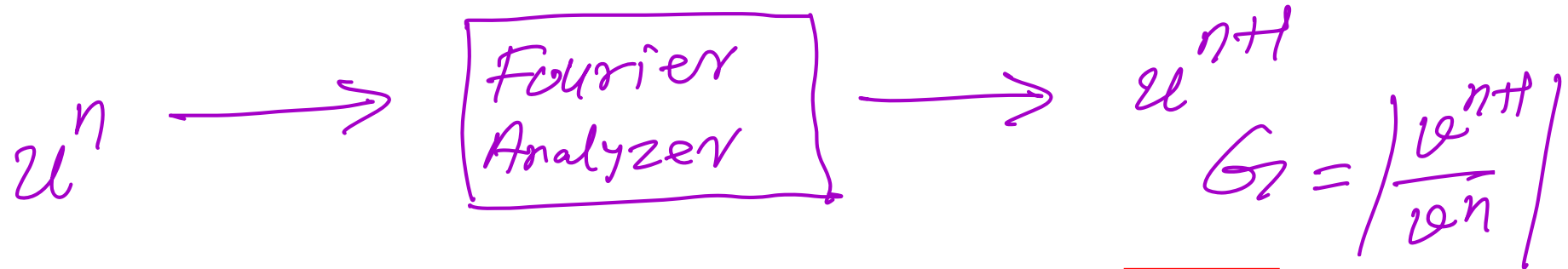


# Multi-dimensional Case

The application of Fourier stability analysis in the multi-dimensional case is the same as in the 1-D case. That is, we only need to consider an arbitrary component of the series expansion.

$$\rightarrow v^n e^{ik_x x_l} \cdot e^{ik_y y_m} \quad \text{in 2-D}$$

$$v^n e^{ik_x x_l} \cdot e^{ik_y y_m} \cdot e^{ik_z z_p} \quad \text{in 3-D}$$



**The stability condition is still the same**

$$\boxed{|G| \leq 1}$$

## 2-D Example...

$$u(x, y, t)$$

Our model equation is the 2-D convection equation

$$v = (v_x, v_y)$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + v_x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v_y \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$u \rightarrow T$$

Using the Lax scheme,

$$u_{j,k}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} \left( u_{j+1,k}^n + u_{j-1,k}^n + u_{j,k+1}^n + u_{j,k-1}^n \right)$$

Substituting  $u_{j,k}^n = v^n e^{ik_x x_j} \cdot e^{ik_y y_k}$  into the above equation gives

$$u_{j,k}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} \left( u_{j+1,k}^n + u_{j-1,k}^n + u_{j,k+1}^n + u_{j,k-1}^n \right)$$

$$- \frac{\Delta t}{2h} v_x \left( \underbrace{u_{j+1,k}^n - u_{j-1,k}^n}_{\text{Central for } x} \right)$$

$$- \frac{\Delta t}{2h} v_y \left( \underbrace{u_{j,k+1}^n - u_{j,k-1}^n}_{\text{Central for } y} \right)$$

$$\psi^{n+1} e^{iK_x x_j} e^{iK_y y_k}$$

$$= \frac{1}{4} \psi^n e^{iK_x x_j} e^{iK_y y_k}$$

$$\left( e^{iK_x h} + e^{-iK_x h} + e^{iK_y h} + e^{-iK_y h} \right)$$

$$- \frac{\Delta t}{2h} \dots \left( e^{iK_x h} - e^{-iK_x h} \right)$$

$$- \frac{\Delta t}{2h} \left( e^{iK_y h} - e^{-iK_y h} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow G = \frac{\psi^{n+1}}{\psi^n}, \quad \theta_x = \psi_x \frac{\Delta t}{h} \quad \text{--- (1)}$$

$$\theta_y = \psi_y \frac{\Delta t}{h} \quad \text{--- (2)}$$

$$\rightarrow \alpha = K_x h$$

$$\beta = K_y h$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \psi_x \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0}$$

## 2-D Example...

$$G = \frac{1}{4} \left( e^{i\alpha} + e^{-i\alpha} + (e^{i\beta} + e^{-i\beta}) \right) - \frac{1}{2} \theta_x (e^{i\alpha} - e^{-i\alpha}) - \frac{1}{2} \theta_y (e^{i\beta} - e^{-i\beta})$$

$$= \frac{1}{2} (\cos \alpha + \cos \beta) - i (\theta_x \sin \alpha + \theta_y \sin \beta)$$

$$(a + ib)^2 = a^2 + b^2$$

$$\frac{e^{i\alpha} - e^{-i\alpha}}{2} = \sin \alpha$$

$$|G|^2 = \frac{1}{4} (\cos \alpha + \cos \beta)^2 + (\theta_x \sin \alpha + \theta_y \sin \beta)^2 = \frac{1}{4} (\cos^2 \alpha + \cos \alpha \cdot \cos \beta + \cos^2 \beta)$$

$$+ \theta_x^2 \sin^2 \alpha + 2\theta_x \theta_y \sin \alpha \cdot \sin \beta + \theta_y^2 \sin^2 \beta$$

$$= \underbrace{1 - (\sin^2 \alpha + \sin^2 \beta)}_{+ve} \left[ \frac{1}{2} - (\theta_x^2 + \theta_y^2) \right] + \underbrace{\frac{1}{4} (\cos \alpha - \cos \beta)^2}_{+ve} + \underbrace{(\theta_y \sin \alpha - \theta_x \sin \beta)^2}_{+ve}$$

So to guarantee  $|G|^2 \leq 1$ ;  $\frac{1}{2} - (\theta_x^2 + \theta_y^2) \geq 0 \Rightarrow \frac{1}{2} - v_x^2 \frac{\Delta t^2}{\Delta^2} - v_y^2 \frac{\Delta t^2}{\Delta^2} \geq 0$

$$\frac{1}{2} - (\theta_x^2 + \theta_y^2) \geq 0$$

$$\Delta t \leq \frac{A}{\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2}}$$

Goal :  $|G| \leq 1$

For given speed  $(v_x, v_y)$

& discretization  $(\Delta t, h)$

$$(v_x, v_y) \rightarrow \underline{|G| \leq 1}$$

$$(v_x^2 + v_y^2) \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\Delta t \leq \frac{h}{\sqrt{2} \sqrt{v_x^2 + v_y^2}}}$$

$$v_x = \frac{v_x \Delta t}{h}$$

$$v_y = \frac{v_y \Delta t}{h}$$

Problem  
set #3

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = v \left( \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

## Continuous / Physical Form

Consider

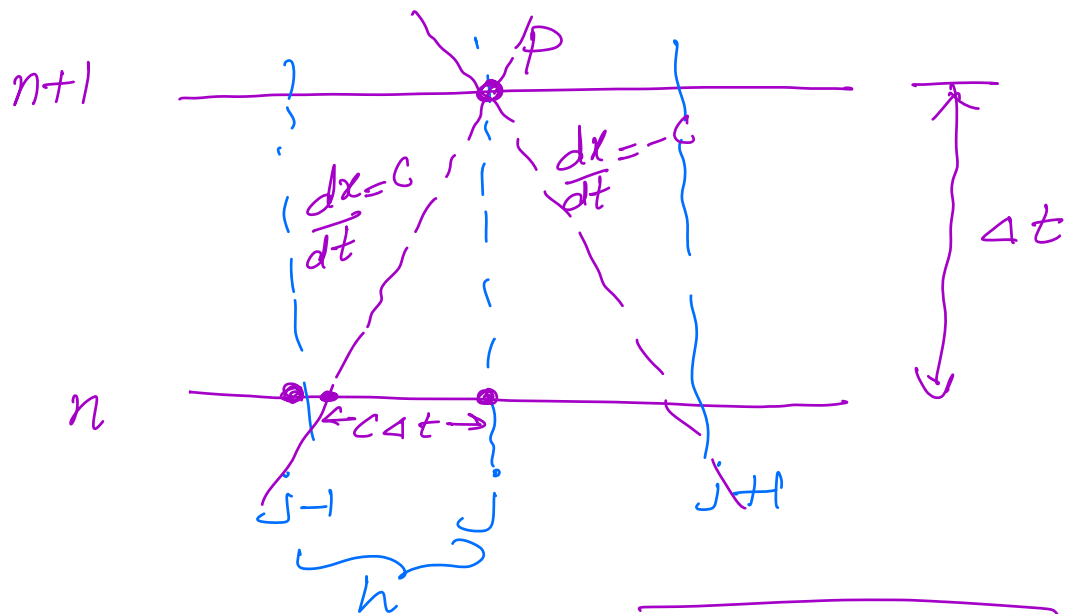
1D Advection  
(Wave) Eq<sup>n</sup>:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0 ;$$

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = c$$

$c$  = Speed of  
information

## Discrete Form



$$\underline{c \Delta t < h}$$

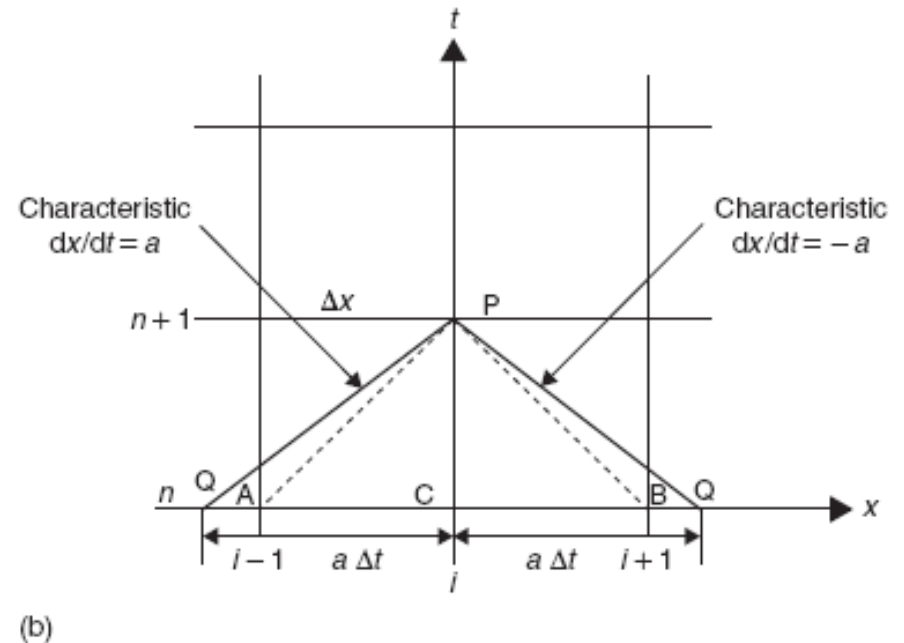
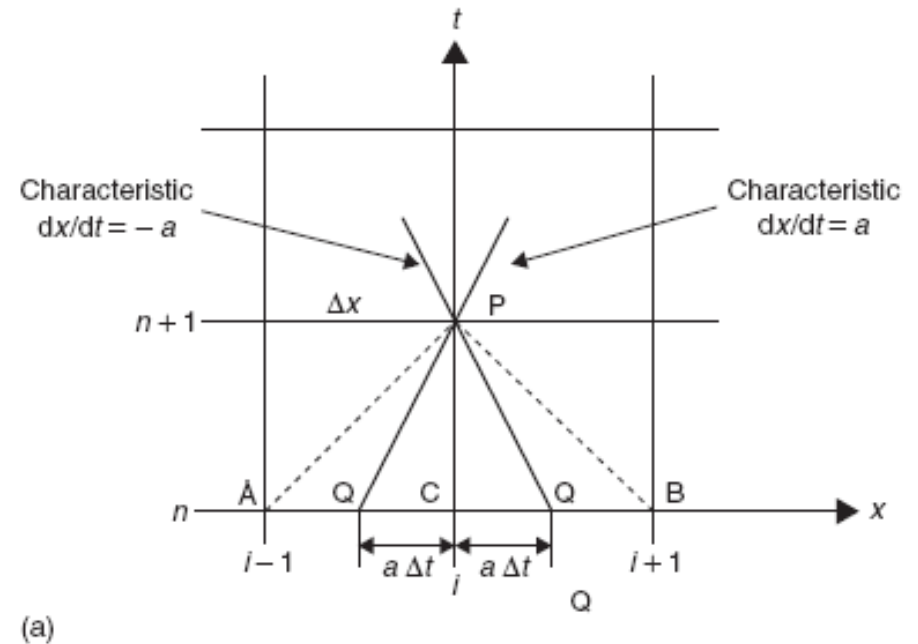
$$\boxed{\frac{c \Delta t}{h} < 1}$$

The distance covered (physically) during  $\Delta t$ , the physical information should be lower than the minimum distance between the two mesh points!

# Characteristic Interpretation of the CFL Condition

□ The domain of dependence of the differential equation should be entirely contained in the numerical domain of dependence of the discretized equations.

□ This interpretation is generally applied for two- and three-dimensional problems when it appears difficult to express analytically





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