



## Finite Difference Discretisation of the Poisson-Dirichlet Problem on a Rectangular Domain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & -\Delta u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega & u = g & \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \\
 \Leftrightarrow & \left( -\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2} - \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_2^2} \right) u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega & u = g & \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega \\
 & \stackrel{\text{FDM}}{\leadsto} (L_1^h + L_2^h) u^h = f^h
 \end{aligned}$$

### Discrete Laplacian

$$L_1^h = \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|ccc} 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & & & & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & \\ & & & & -1 & 2 & & & & & \end{array} & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|ccc} 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & & & & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & \\ & & & & -1 & 2 & & & & & \end{array} & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \ddots & & & & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|ccc} 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & & \\ -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & & & & \\ & & \ddots & & & & & & & & \\ & & & -1 & 2 & -1 & & & & & \\ & & & & -1 & 2 & & & & & \end{array} & & & & & & & & & & \end{array}$$

$$L_2^h = \frac{1}{h_2^2} \begin{pmatrix} \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|ccc} 2 & & & -1 & & & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & 2 & & & -1 & & & & & \\ -1 & & & 2 & & & -1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & -1 & & & 2 & & -1 & & & \end{array} & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & \ddots & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|ccc} 2 & & & -1 & & & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & 2 & & & -1 & & & & & \\ -1 & & & 2 & & & -1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & -1 & & & 2 & & -1 & & & \end{array} & & & & & & & & & & \\ & & & & & & & \begin{array}{ccc|ccc|ccc|ccc} 2 & & & -1 & & & & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & 2 & & & -1 & & & & & \\ -1 & & & 2 & & & -1 & & & & \\ & \ddots & & & \ddots & & & & & & \\ & & -1 & & & 2 & & -1 & & & \end{array} & & & & & & & & & & \end{array}$$

Note that these matrices are composed of  $(N_2 - 1) \times (N_2 - 1)$  blocks, and each block has  $(N_1 - 1) \times (N_1 - 1)$  entries.

They can also be expressed in more compact form by using a Kronecker product

$$L_1^h = \frac{1}{h_1^2} I_{N_2-1} \otimes A_{N_1-1}$$

$$L_2^h = \frac{1}{h_2^2} A_{N_2-1} \otimes I_{N_1-1}$$

where  $I_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix and  $A_n$  is the  $n \times n$  second-difference matrix (with entries -1, 2, -1).

### Discrete Source Term with Boundary Data

$$f^h = \left( \begin{array}{c} f_1^h + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} g_{W,1}^h \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ g_{E,1}^h \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{h_2^2} g_S^h \\ \hline f_2^h + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} g_{W,2}^h \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ g_{E,2}^h \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline \vdots \\ \hline f_{N_2-2}^h + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} g_{W,N_2-2}^h \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ g_{E,N_2-2}^h \end{bmatrix} \\ \hline f_{N_2-1}^h + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} g_{W,N_2-1}^h \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{h_1^2} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ g_{E,N_2-1}^h \end{bmatrix} + \frac{1}{h_2^2} g_N^h \end{array} \right)$$

where  $f_j^h$  is the vector of length  $N_1 - 1$  with the source term  $f$  evaluated on the  $j$ -th row of interior grid points,  $g_N^h, g_S^h$  are vectors of length  $N_1 - 1$  with the boundary values on the top or bottom and  $g_W^h, g_E^h$  are vectors of length  $N_2 - 1$  with the boundary values on the left or right.

The boundary contributions to  $f^h$  can also be expressed in more compact form using Kronecker products between vectors  $g_X^h$  of boundary values and standard unit vectors  $e_i \dots$