

Computational Fluid Dynamics

Finite Volume Method – part 1

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Finite Volume Method

- Goal is to solve the incompressible Navier Stokes and scalar transport (energy, ...) equations numerically

Step 2

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho \vec{v}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v} \vec{v}) = -\nabla p + \nabla \cdot (\mu \nabla \vec{v}) + f_B$$

Step 1

$$\frac{\partial \rho \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \phi \vec{v}) = \nabla \cdot (\Gamma \nabla \phi) + q_\phi$$

Step 1.1 (no temporal term)

Step 1.2 (with temporal term)

Finite Volume Method

- We start with the steady scalar transport equation $\nabla \cdot (\rho \phi \vec{v}) = \nabla \cdot (\Gamma \nabla \phi) + q_\phi$
- Finite Volume Method uses the integral form of the governing equations

$$\int_S \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_S \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS + \int_V q_\phi \, dV$$

- The equation is solved for the unknown ϕ . All other quantities are treated as known (in reality, velocity itself comes from a solution of the momentum equation).

$$\int_S \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_S \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS + \int_V q_\phi \, dV$$

Unknown: ϕ

Known parameters: ρ , \mathbf{v} , Γ , q_ϕ

Finite Volume Method

$$\int_S \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_S \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS + \int_V q_\phi \, dV$$

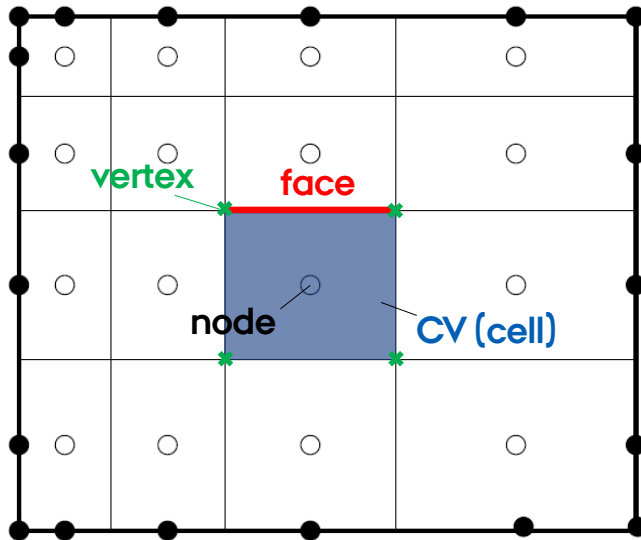
Surface integrals

Volume integral

Unknown: ϕ

Known parameters: ρ , \mathbf{v} , Γ , q_ϕ

- Basic concept of FVM: split the domain into a finite number of Control Volumes (cells); satisfy the governing equation for each one of them.

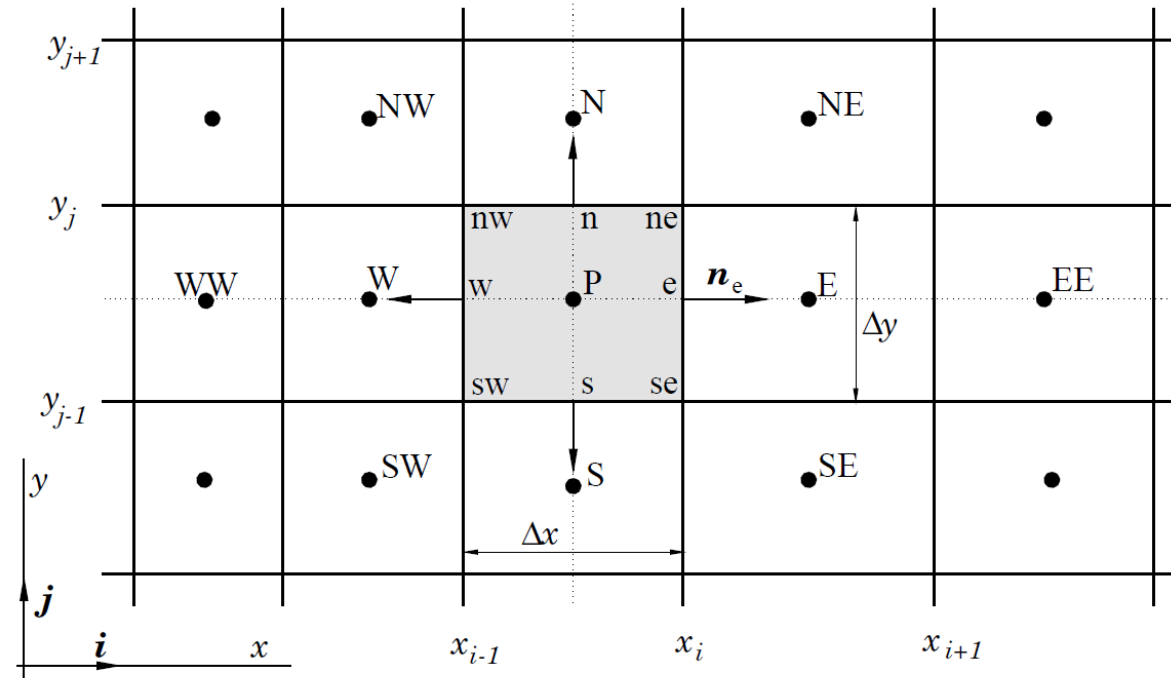


- Nodes are the locations where the value of the variable ϕ is evaluated.
- If there are N cells, there will be N equations and N unknowns (one ϕ per node). This system of equations yields the solution
- It is most common to have the nodes at the geometric center of the cell (cell-centered approach); however, other approaches are also used.

Finite Volume Method

- For simplicity, compass notation can be used : the node of interest is labeled P, and the neighbors N, W, E, ... Lower case letters are used for the faces and vertexes.

$$\int_S \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_S \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS + \int_V q \phi \, dV$$



Finite Volume Method

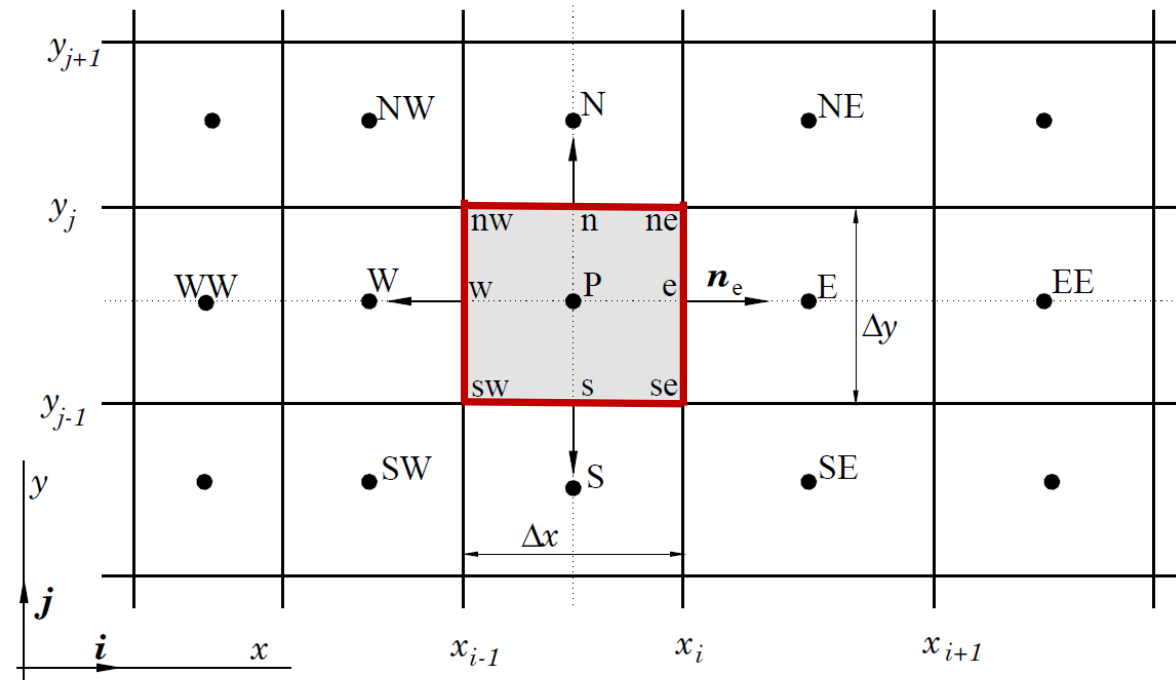
- For simplicity, compass notation can be used: the node of interest is labeled P, and the neighbors N, W, E, ... Lower case letters are used for the faces and vertexes.
- First we focus on surface integrals

$$\int_S \boxed{\rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}} dS = \int_S \boxed{\Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}} dS + \int_V q_\phi dV$$

f^c f^d

- Each surface integral is sum of surface integrals on all 4 (2D) or 6 (3D) boundaries.

$$\int_S f dS = \sum_k \int_{S_k} f dS$$



Approximation of surface integrals

- Calculating surface integrals is done in two steps:

Interpolation:

☞ Relate face values (f_e, f_{ne}, f_{se}) to nodal values (ϕ_P, ϕ_E, \dots)

Integration:

Find face integrals ($\int_e f dS$) from face values (f_e, f_{ne}, f_{se})

$$\int_{S_e} \overbrace{\rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}}^{f^c} dS$$

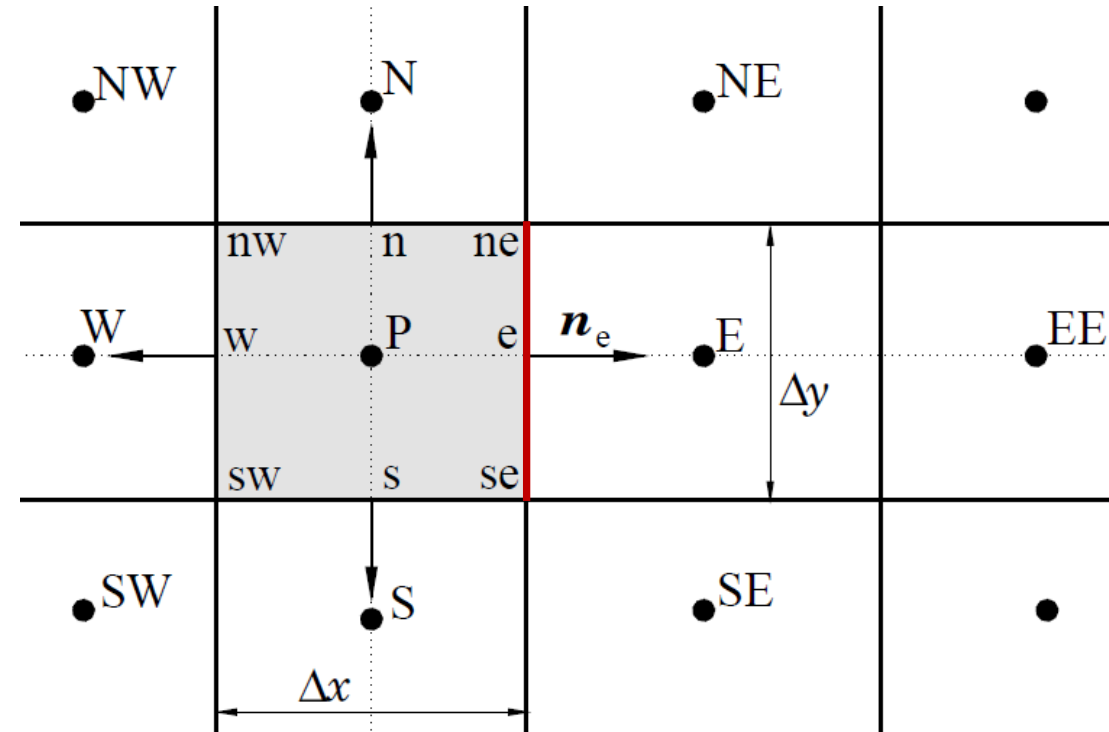
↓

$\phi_e = ?$

$$\int_{S_e} \overbrace{\Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}}^{f^d} dS$$

↓

$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e = ?$



$$\phi_e = ? \quad \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e = ?$$

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Interpolation schemes

$$\phi_e = ?$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e = ?$$

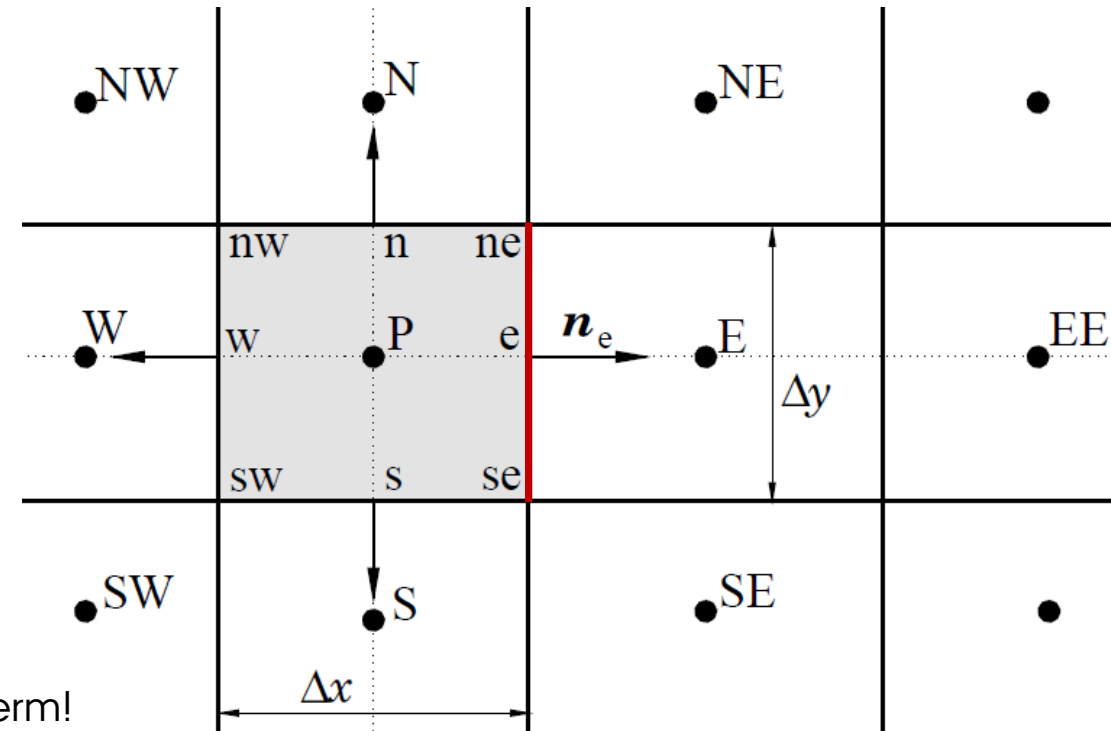
Upwind Interpolation scheme

- ϕ is assumed equal to the upstream neighboring node

$$\phi_e = \begin{cases} \phi_P & \text{if } (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n})_e > 0 \\ \phi_E & \text{if } (\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n})_e < 0 \end{cases}$$

(if the grid is orthogonal, e.g. Cartesian: $(\mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n})_e = u_e$)

$$\left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e = 0 \quad \text{Upwind is not typically used for the diffusion term!}$$



- Upwind scheme is **first order** accurate

Approximation of surface integrals

- Calculating surface integrals is done in two steps:

Interpolation:

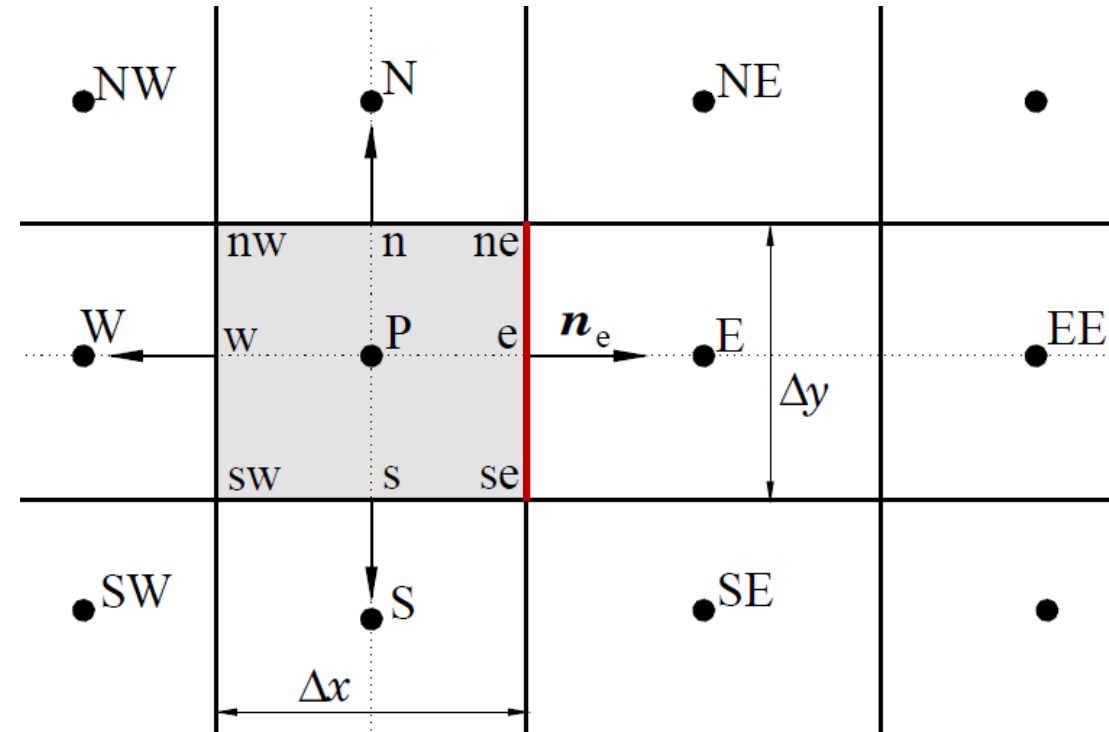
➡ Relate face values (f_e, f_{ne}, f_{se}) to nodal values (ϕ_P, ϕ_E, \dots)

Integration:

Find face integrals ($\int_e f dS$) from face values (f_e, f_{ne}, f_{se})

$$\int_{S_e} \boxed{\rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}}^{f^c} dS$$

$$\int_{S_e} \boxed{\Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}}^{f^d} dS$$



Approximation of surface integrals

$$\int_S \boxed{f^c} \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} dS$$

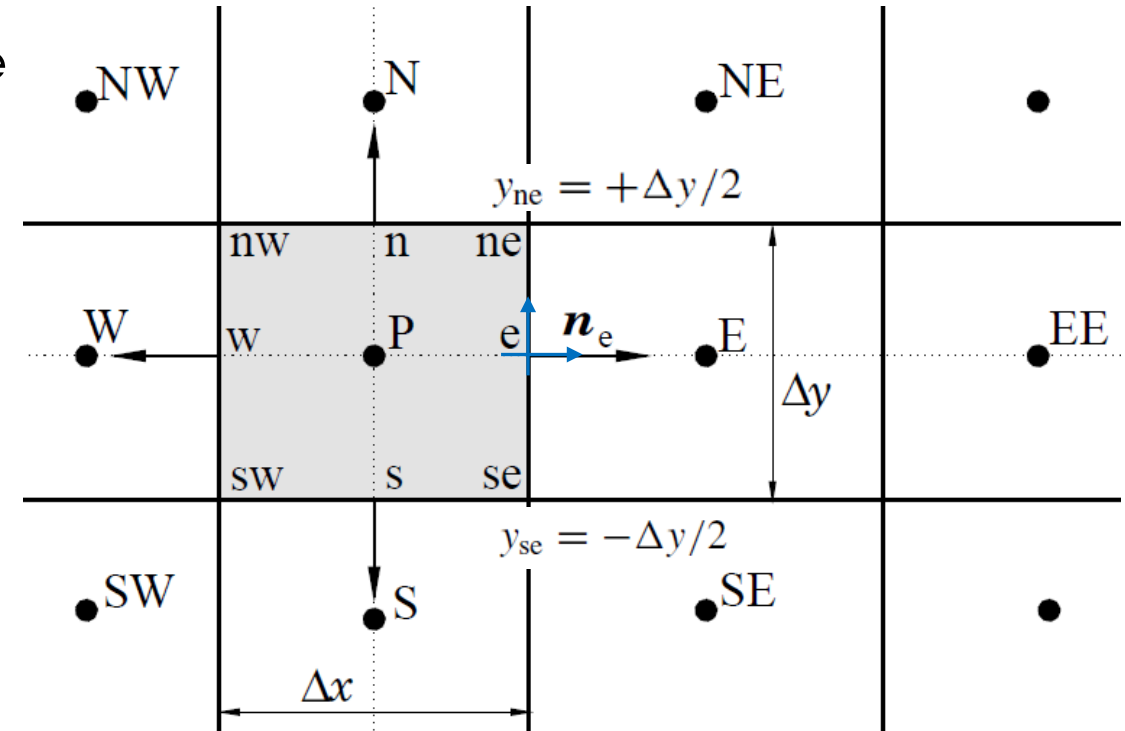
$$\int_S \boxed{f^d} \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} dS$$

Mid-point rule

- The value of ϕ at the face center is taken as the average over the face.

$$\int_{S_e} f dS = \bar{f}_e S_e \approx f_e S_e$$

- Mid-point rule is **second order** accurate (only if the value is known at the 'center' of the face).



Approximation of surface integrals

$$\int_S [\rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n}] dS$$

$$\int_S [\Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n}] dS$$

Trapezoid rule

$$\int_{S_e} f dS \approx \frac{S_e}{2} (f_{ne} + f_{se}) \quad \text{2nd order (always)}$$

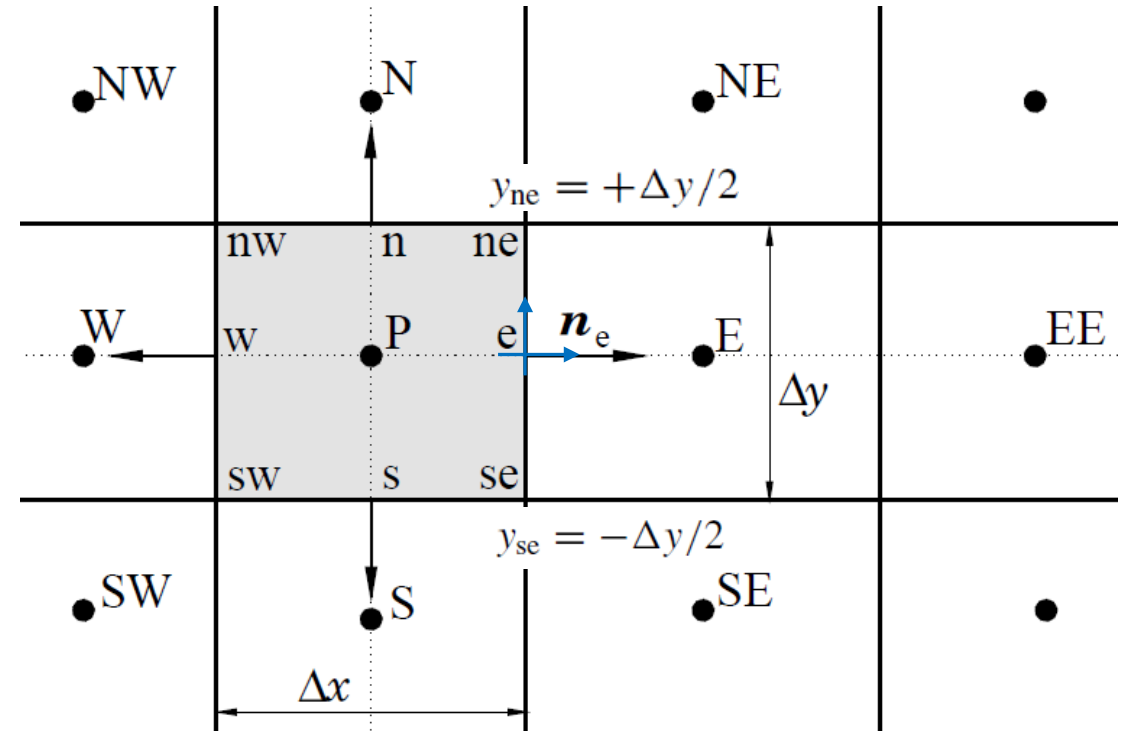
Simson's rule

$$\int_{S_e} f dS \approx \frac{S_e}{6} (f_{ne} + 4f_e + f_{se}) \quad \text{4th order}$$

Extension to 3D:

- Mid-point rule is simpler to 2D (simplest 2nd order approximation possible.)
- Extended Simson's rule requires 9 values: 1 face center, 4 edge centers, and 4 vertices (4th order):

$$\int_{S_P} f dS = \frac{\Delta x \Delta y}{36} (16f_P + 4f_s + 4f_n + 4f_e + 4f_w + f_{se} + f_{sw} + f_{ne} + f_{nw})$$



Approximation of volume integrals

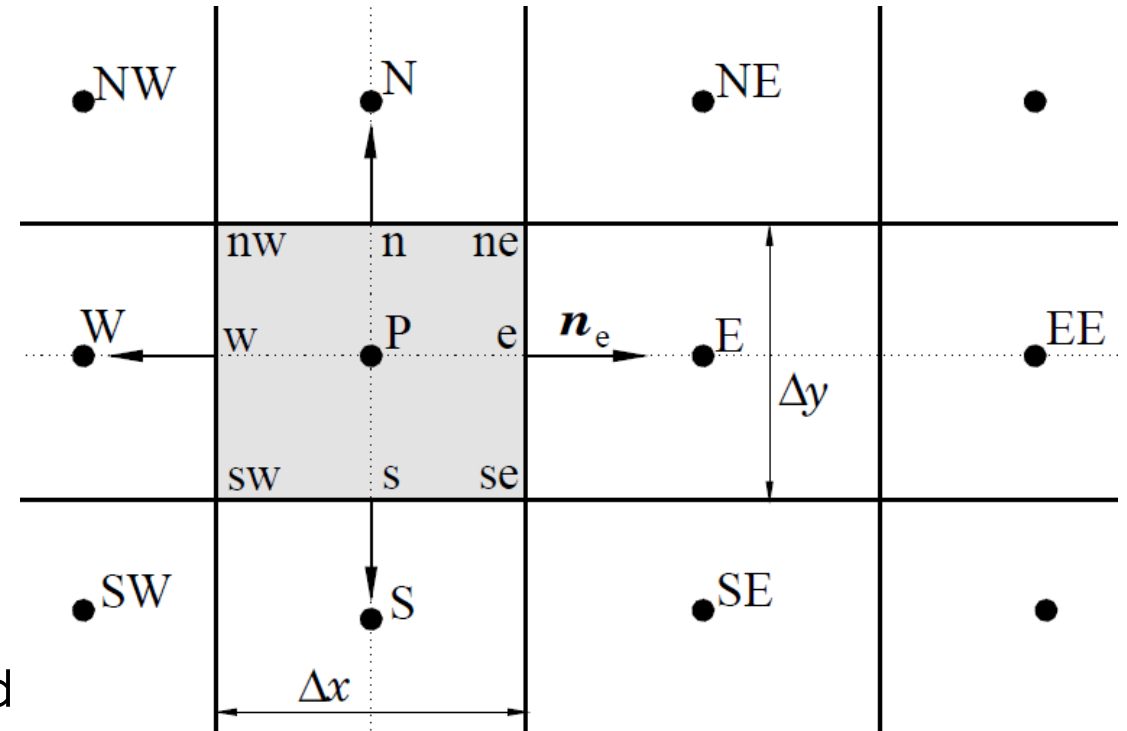
$$\int_S \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_S \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS + \int_V q_\phi \, dV$$

Cell-center rule

- The value of integrand at the cell center is taken as the average over the cell.

$$\int_V q \, dV = \bar{q} \Delta V \approx q_P \Delta V$$

- Cell-center rule is **second order** accurate (only if the node is at the 'geometric center' of the cell).
- Higher order rules can be derived (f.ex. Extended Simons's rule for 2D cells).



How to solve a problem?

- Take the example of a convection diffusion transport equation on a uniform Cartesian grid:

$$\int_S \rho \phi \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS = \int_S \Gamma \nabla \phi \cdot \mathbf{n} \, dS$$

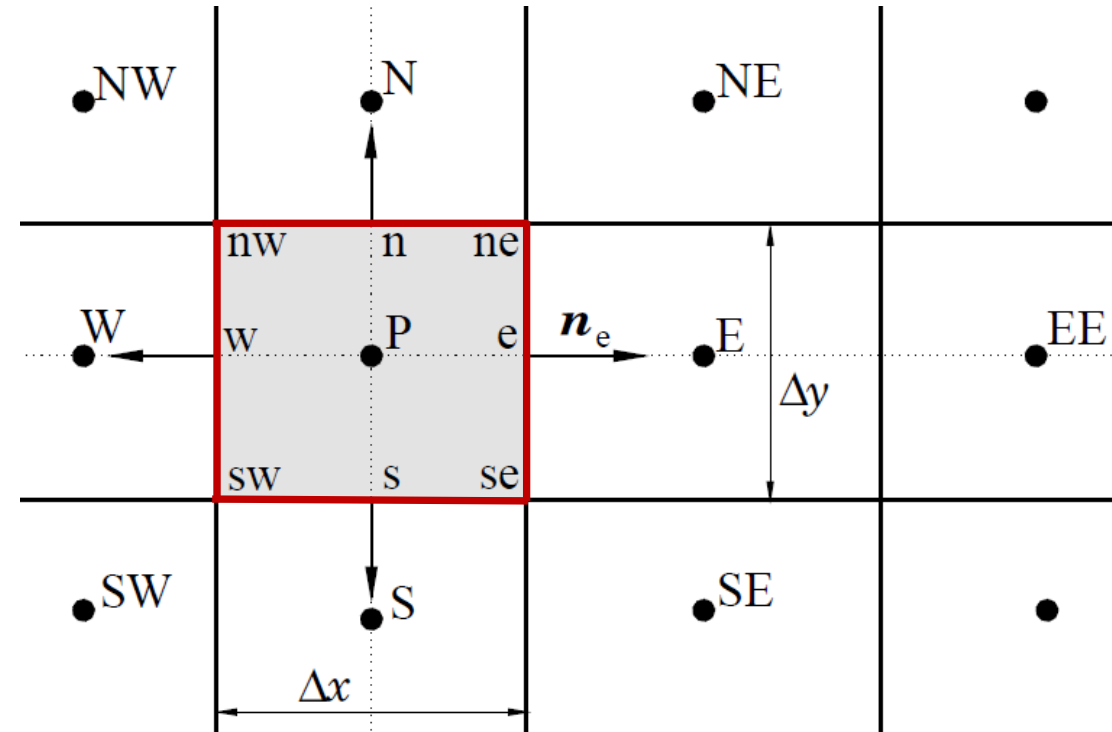
- Applying mid-point rule:

$$(\rho u)_e \phi_e \Delta y - (\rho u)_w \phi_w \Delta y + (\rho v)_n \phi_n \Delta x - (\rho v)_s \phi_s \Delta x$$

$$= \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e \Delta y - \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_w \Delta y + \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right)_n \Delta x - \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \right)_s \Delta x$$

- For simplicity we continue with the 1D problem:

$$(\rho u)_e \phi_e - (\rho u)_w \phi_w = \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e - \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_w$$



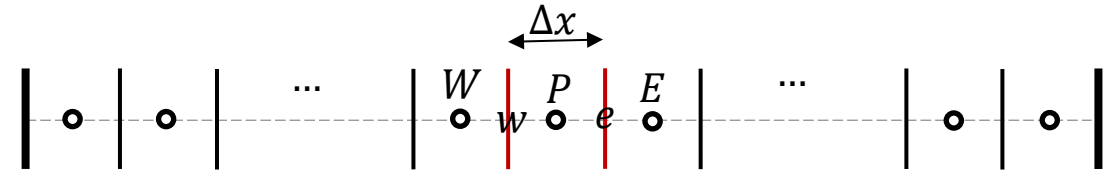
uniform grid
($\Delta x = \text{const.}$; $\Delta y = \text{const.}$)

How to solve a problem?

- Applying the interpolation rules

Use **linear** for both advection and diffusion terms:

$$(\rho u)_e \frac{\phi_P + \phi_E}{2} - (\rho u)_w \frac{\phi_P + \phi_W}{2} = \Gamma_e \frac{\phi_E - \phi_P}{\Delta x} - \Gamma_w \frac{\phi_P - \phi_W}{\Delta x}$$



uniform grid
($\Delta x = \text{const.}$)

- Rearranging the equations

$$\underbrace{\left[\frac{(\rho u)_e}{2} + \frac{\Gamma_e}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_P} \phi_P + \underbrace{\left[\frac{(\rho u)_e}{2} - \frac{\Gamma_e}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_E} \phi_E + \underbrace{\left[-\frac{(\rho u)_w}{2} - \frac{\Gamma_w}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_W} \phi_W = 0$$

How to solve a problem?

- Applying the interpolation rules

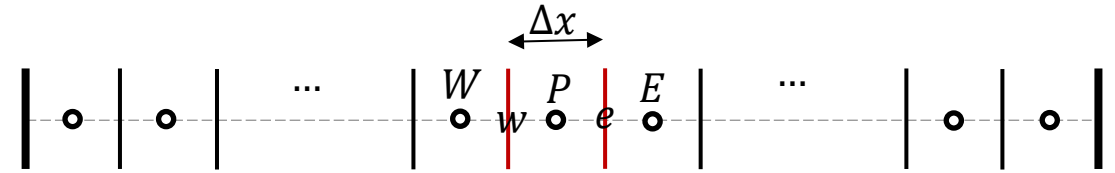
Use **upwind** for the advection term:

$$(\rho u)_e \phi_e = \max[(\rho u)_e, 0] \phi_P + \min[(\rho u)_e, 0] \phi_E$$

$$(\rho u)_w \phi_w = \max[(\rho u)_w, 0] \phi_W + \min[(\rho u)_w, 0] \phi_P$$

- Rearranging the equations

$$\underbrace{\left[\overset{A_P^c}{\max[(\rho u)_e, 0]} - \min[(\rho u)_w, 0] + \frac{\overset{A_P^d}{\Gamma_e + \Gamma_w}}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_P} \phi_P + \underbrace{\left[\overset{A_E^c}{\min[(\rho u)_e, 0]} - \frac{\overset{A_E^d}{\Gamma_e}}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_E} \phi_E + \underbrace{\left[\overset{A_W^c}{-\max[(\rho u)_w, 0]} - \frac{\overset{A_W^d}{\Gamma_w}}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_W} \phi_W = 0$$

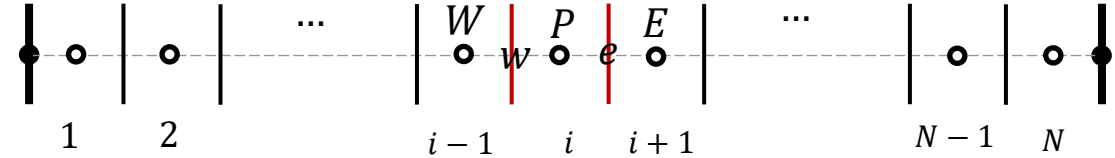


uniform grid
($\Delta x = \text{const.}$)

How to solve a problem

- The discretized equation can be written as

$$A_W \phi_W + A_P \phi_P + A_E \phi_E = 0$$



- If ϕ_P corresponds to the i -th cell :

$$0\phi_1 + 0\phi_1 + \dots + A_W^i \phi_{i-1} + A_P^i \phi_i + A_E^i \phi_{i+1} + \dots + 0\phi_N = 0$$

- The N equations for N cells can be written as a matrix equality:

$$\begin{bmatrix} \square & & & & & & & \\ \square & & \square & & \square & & & \\ & \square & & \square & & \square & & \\ & & & & \square & & & \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & A_W^i & A_P^i & A_E^i & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ & & & & \square & & \square & & \\ & & & & & \square & & \square & \\ & & & & & & \square & & \square & \\ & & & & & & & \square & & \square \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{i-1} \\ \phi_i \\ \phi_{i+1} \\ \vdots \\ \phi_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \vdots \\ 0 \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

$A \quad \phi \quad Q$

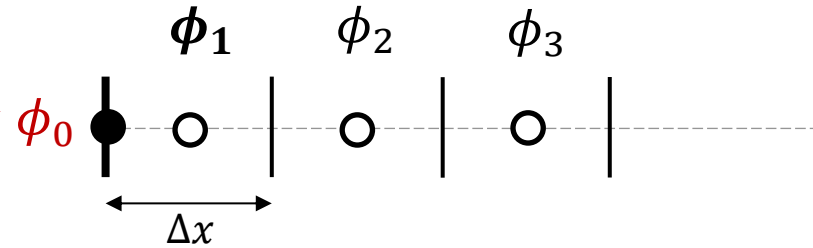
$$A\phi = Q$$

- $\phi = A^{-1}Q$ yields the solution.

How to solve a problem

- How about the cells next to the boundary?

Known boundary value (Dirichlet BC)



$$(\rho u)_e \phi_e - (\rho u)_w \phi_w = \Gamma \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e - \Gamma \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_w$$

$\frac{\phi_1 + \phi_2}{2}$ (linear scheme) \uparrow ϕ_0^* $\frac{\phi_2 - \phi_1}{\Delta x}$ (linear scheme) $\frac{\phi_1 - \phi_0}{\Delta x/2}$ (linear scheme) \uparrow ϕ_0^{**}

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{\left[\frac{(\rho u)_e}{2} + \frac{\Gamma_e + 2\Gamma_w}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_P^1} \phi_1 + \underbrace{\left[\frac{(\rho u)_e}{2} - \frac{\Gamma_e}{\Delta x} \right]}_{A_E^1} \phi_2 = \underbrace{\left[+(\rho u)_w + \frac{2\Gamma_w}{\Delta x} \right]}_{Q_1} \phi_0$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} A_P^1 & A_E^1 & 0 & \dots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \phi_1 \\ \vdots \\ \phi_{i-1} \\ \phi_i \\ \phi_{i+1} \\ \vdots \\ \phi_N \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} Q_1 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \end{bmatrix}$$

- Boundary-adjacent cells often require special treatment corresponding to the boundary condition.

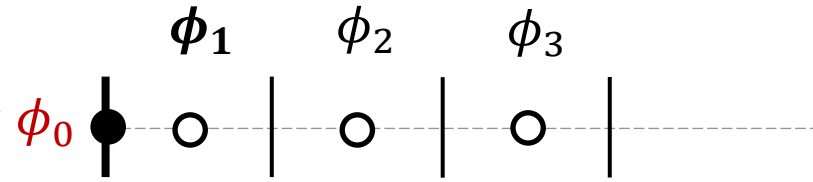
* No interpolation is needed here as the boundary value is known.

** One can use any order of approximation for the derivative. Here a first order formula is used. How to make it 2nd order?! (see lecture 1, how to discretize a derivative)

How to solve a problem

- Alternative upwind discretization for the boundary cell:

Known boundary value (Dirichlet BC)



$$\max[(\rho u)_e, 0] \phi_P + \min[(\rho u)_e, 0] \phi_E$$

(upwind scheme)

$$\underbrace{(\rho u)_e \phi_e}_{\text{(upwind scheme)}} - \underbrace{(\rho u)_w \phi_w}_{\text{(upwind scheme)}} = \Gamma \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e - \Gamma \left(\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_w$$

$\Rightarrow \dots$

$$\max[(\rho u)_w, 0] \phi_0 + \min[(\rho u)_w, 0] \phi_P$$

Assignment 1

Solving generic transport equation in 1D

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x}(\rho u \phi) - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) = 0 \quad , \quad \rho, u, \Gamma \text{ are constants}$$

$$\phi(x=0) = \phi_0$$

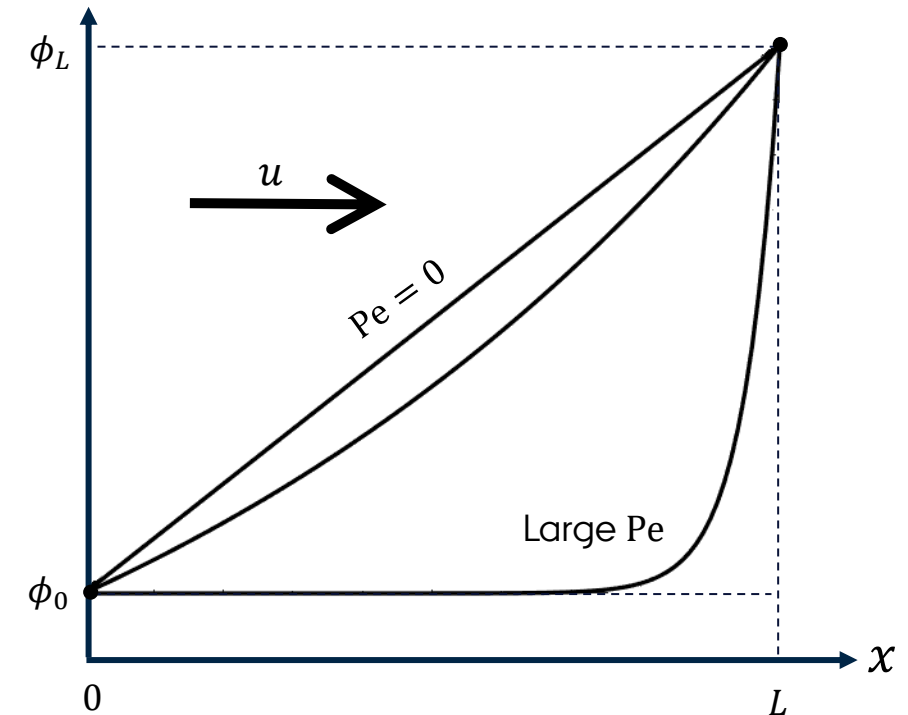
$$\phi(x=L) = \phi_L$$

- Discretize the equation, form the matrix of coefficients and constants.
- Find $\boldsymbol{\phi} = A^{-1}\mathbf{Q}$ and report the results according to the task description.
- You can simply use the existing functions to find $\boldsymbol{\phi} = A^{-1}\mathbf{Q}$
- Since the exact solution is known, error (ϵ) can be calculated. The error is dominated by discretization error, so you can estimate the order of approximation.

$$\epsilon = \frac{\sum_i |\phi_i^{\text{exact}} - \phi_i|}{N}$$

Analytical solution

$$\phi^{\text{exact}}(x) = \phi_0 + \frac{e^{\text{Pe} \frac{x}{L}} - 1}{e^{\text{Pe}} - 1} (\phi_L - \phi_0) \quad , \quad \text{Pe} = \frac{\rho u L}{\Gamma}$$





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