



PHYS 8750

*NUMERICAL
FLUID
DYNAMICS*

*HUNT FOR THE SUPERTWISTER –
[PBS.ORG/NOVA/TORNADO](https://www.pbs.org/nova/tornado)*

FALL 2020

PHYS 8750

Class #1 (Chapter 1.1)

1) Terminology

ODE vs. PDE

Order of PDE

Linear vs. nonlinear

Types of equations

2) Numerical Scheme

Forward/backward/leapfrog

Upstream/downstream/center space

CLASS #2

**(CHAPTER 2.1,
2.2)**

Outline

- Criteria to evaluate
Stability; accuracy;
convergence; consistency
- 1) Truncation errors & order of accuracy
- 2) A-stability and stability diagram
- 3) Amplitude and phase error

Truncation Error & Order of Accuracy

1-D TRANSPORT ODE

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = F(\psi, t) = \lambda \psi$$

CENTERED
TIME

FORWARD
TIME

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt}(t_n) \approx \frac{\psi(t_n + \Delta t) - \psi(t_n)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt}(t_n) \approx \frac{\psi(t_n + \Delta t) - \psi(t_n - \Delta t)}{2\Delta t}$$

TAYLOR
EXPANSION:

$$\begin{aligned} \psi(t_n + \Delta t) &= \psi(t_n) + \Delta t \frac{d\psi}{dt}(t_n) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2}(t_n) + \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{6} \frac{d^3\psi}{dt^3}(t_n) + \dots \\ \psi(t_n - \Delta t) &= \psi(t_n) - \Delta t \frac{d\psi}{dt}(t_n) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2}(t_n) - \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{6} \frac{d^3\psi}{dt^3}(t_n) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

TRUNCATION
ERROR

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\psi(t_n + \Delta t) - \psi(t_n)}{\Delta t} - \frac{d\psi}{dt}(t_n) &= \frac{\Delta t}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2}(t_n) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{6} \frac{d^3\psi}{dt^3}(t_n) + \dots \\ \frac{\psi(t_n + \Delta t) - \psi(t_n - \Delta t)}{2\Delta t} - \frac{d\psi}{dt}(t_n) &= \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{3} \frac{d^3\psi}{dt^3}(t_n) + \dots \end{aligned}$$

The lowest order of Δt determines the order of accuracy of the finite difference scheme:

Forward time: first-order accurate; Centered time: second-order accurate

Consistency and Convergence

1. **CONSISTENCY:** truncation error $\tau_n \rightarrow 0$ as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$

FORWARD TIME

$$\tau_n = \frac{\Delta t}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2}(t_n) + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{6} \frac{d^3\psi}{dt^3}(t_n) + \dots = \frac{\Delta t}{2} \frac{d^2\psi}{dt^2}(t_n) + O[(\Delta t)^2]$$

CENTERED TIME

$$\tau_n = \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{3} \frac{d^3\psi}{dt^3}(t_n) + O[(\Delta t)^3]$$

2. **CONVERGENCE:** global error at time T $E_N \rightarrow 0$ as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$
accumulate local errors over every time step.

FORWARD TIME $E_N \leq N\Delta t(1 + |\lambda|\Delta t)^N \tau_{max} \leq Te^{|\lambda|T} \tau_{max}$

$$\tau_{max} \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \Delta t \rightarrow 0$$

$$E_N \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } \Delta t \rightarrow 0$$

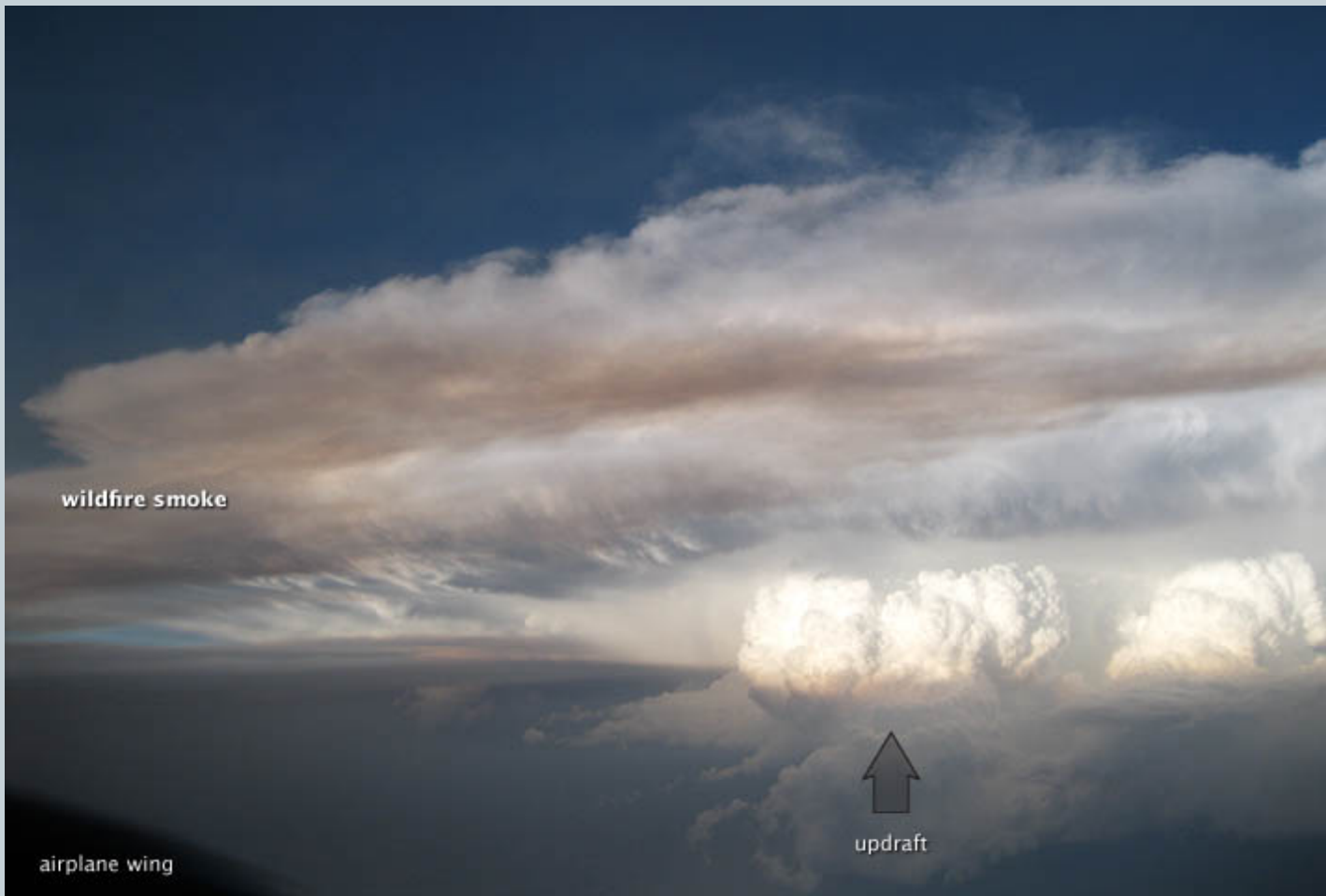
The order of accuracy determines the rate at which the solution of a stable finite-difference method converges to the true solution as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$.

Higher order schemes converge to true solution faster.

Examples of instability in nature

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- Thunderstorms



earthobservatory.nasa.gov/IOTD/view.php?id=78497

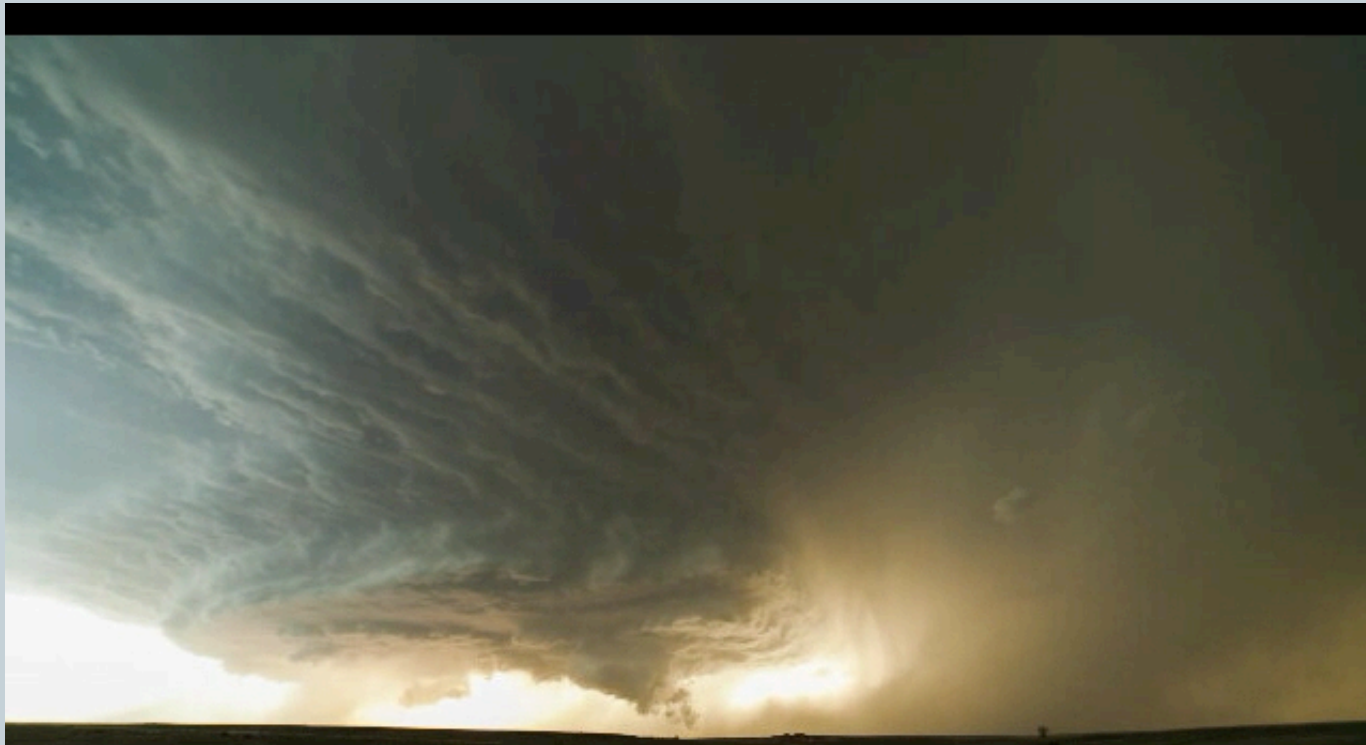
smoke from Colorado fire

- From
 - Aircraft
- Location
 - Wyoming
- Duration
 - hours
- Date
 - 7/11/2012
- Credit
 - DC3 project

Examples of instability in nature

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- Thunderstorms



Instability has been defined as "outputs of internal states growing without bounds" or "if small perturbations cause changes that reinforce the original perturbation"

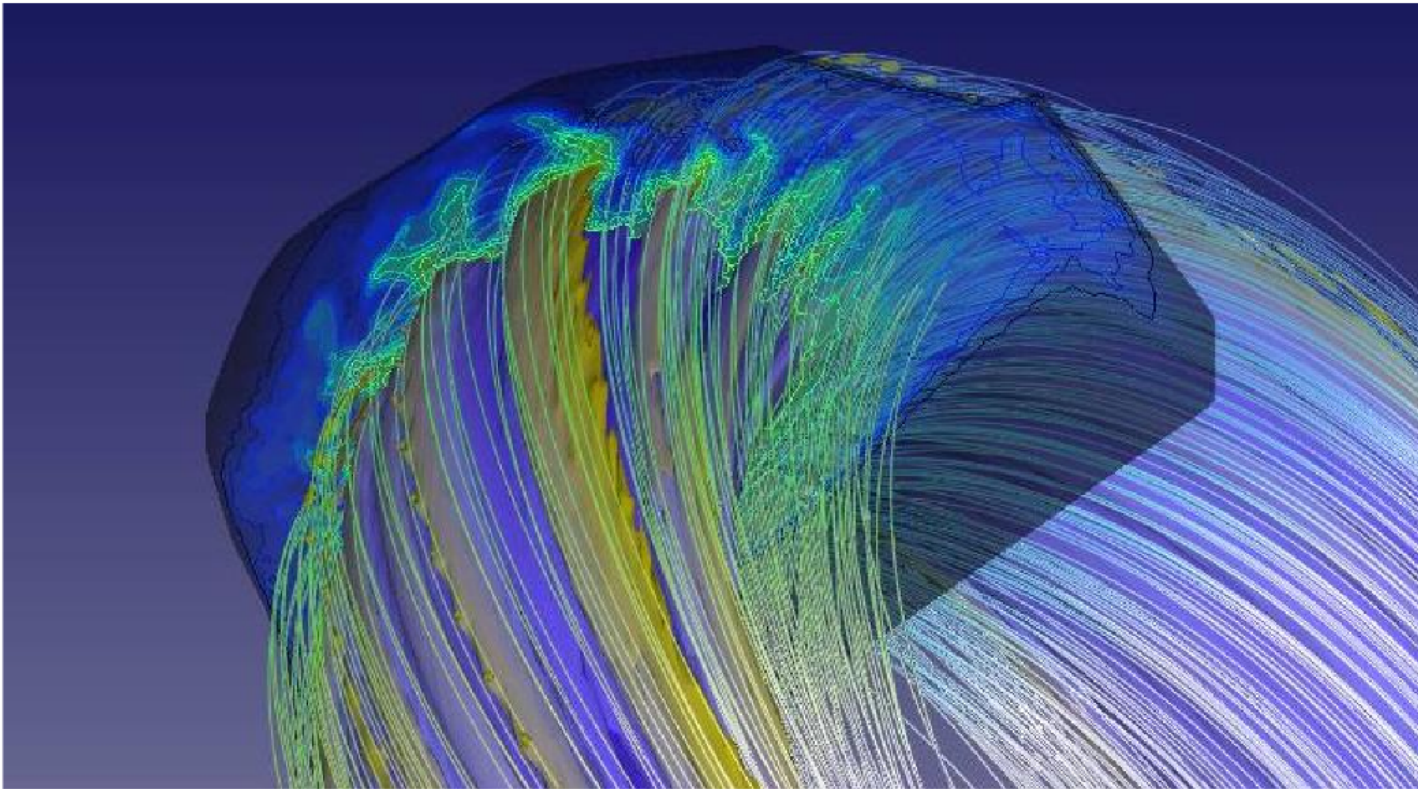
- From
 - Ground
- Location
 - Booker TX
- Duration
 - hours
- Date
 - 6/3/2013
- Credit
 - [Mike Oblinski](#)



Examples of instability in nature

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- Nonlinear instability in toroidal fusion plasma



- From:
 - Simulation
- Location:
 - Nat'l Energy Research Scientific Computing Center (NERSC)
- Credit
 - MIT: Linda Sugiyama

- The *extended magnetohydrodynamics* (MHD) code M3D was used to study magnetic confinement and stability properties of fusion plasma in a Tokamak. *Edge Localized Modes* were noted, a new class of plasma instability.

Ref: www.nersc.gov/science/fusion-science/a-new-class-of-tokamak-nonlinear-plasma-instability/

Stability: computational perspective

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- What is stability?
 - Let's work backwards. What is *instability*?
- Instability
 - *Unstable numerical scheme*: numerical solution grows much more rapidly than the *true* one
- What is “more rapidly?”
 - We *must* be knowledgeable of the PDE properties (and thus of the physical phenomenon) to assess *reasonable* behavior.
 - If amplitude should *not* change –
 - ✦ any continued growth in the numerical solution is *unstable*
 - If exponential growth in amplitude is possible
 - ✦ than any growth *beyond* that is considered a numerical instability.

Stability

To make model really run reasonably, consistency and convergence are not enough, because $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$ is an idealized case.

- Stability: prevent model to “blow up” with finite Δt

- General definition:

ϕ_n : numerical solution of ψ at time step $n + 1$

Amplification factor:

$$|A| = \left| \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} \right| \leq 1 + \eta \Delta t$$

- A-stability (absolute stable): Solution that doesn't increase with time

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\psi}{dt} &= F(\psi, t) = \gamma\psi = (\lambda + i\omega)\psi \\ \psi &= \psi_0 e^{(\lambda + i\omega)t} = \psi_0 e^{\lambda t} e^{i\omega t} \end{aligned}$$

λ : amplitude, ω : phase

$\lambda < 0$, damping system

$$|A| = \left| \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} \right| \leq 1$$

A-Stability

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$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = F(\psi, t) = \gamma\psi = (\lambda + i\omega)\psi$$
$$\psi = \psi_0 e^{(\lambda + i\omega)t} = \psi_0 e^{\lambda t} e^{i\omega t}$$

λ : amplitude, ω : phase

$\lambda < 0$, damping system

$$|A| = \left| \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} \right| \leq 1$$

- Forward time difference

$$\frac{\phi_{n+1} - \phi_n}{\Delta t} = (\lambda + i\omega)\phi_n \Rightarrow \phi_{n+1} = [1 + (\lambda + i\omega)\Delta t]\phi_n$$



$$|A| = \left| \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} \right| = |1 + (\lambda + i\omega)\Delta t| \leq 1 \Rightarrow (1 + \lambda\Delta t)^2 + (\omega\Delta t)^2 \leq 1$$



$$1 + 2\lambda\Delta t + (\lambda^2 + \omega^2)(\Delta t)^2 \leq 1 \Rightarrow \Delta t \leq \frac{-2\lambda}{(\lambda^2 + \omega^2)}$$

A-Stability

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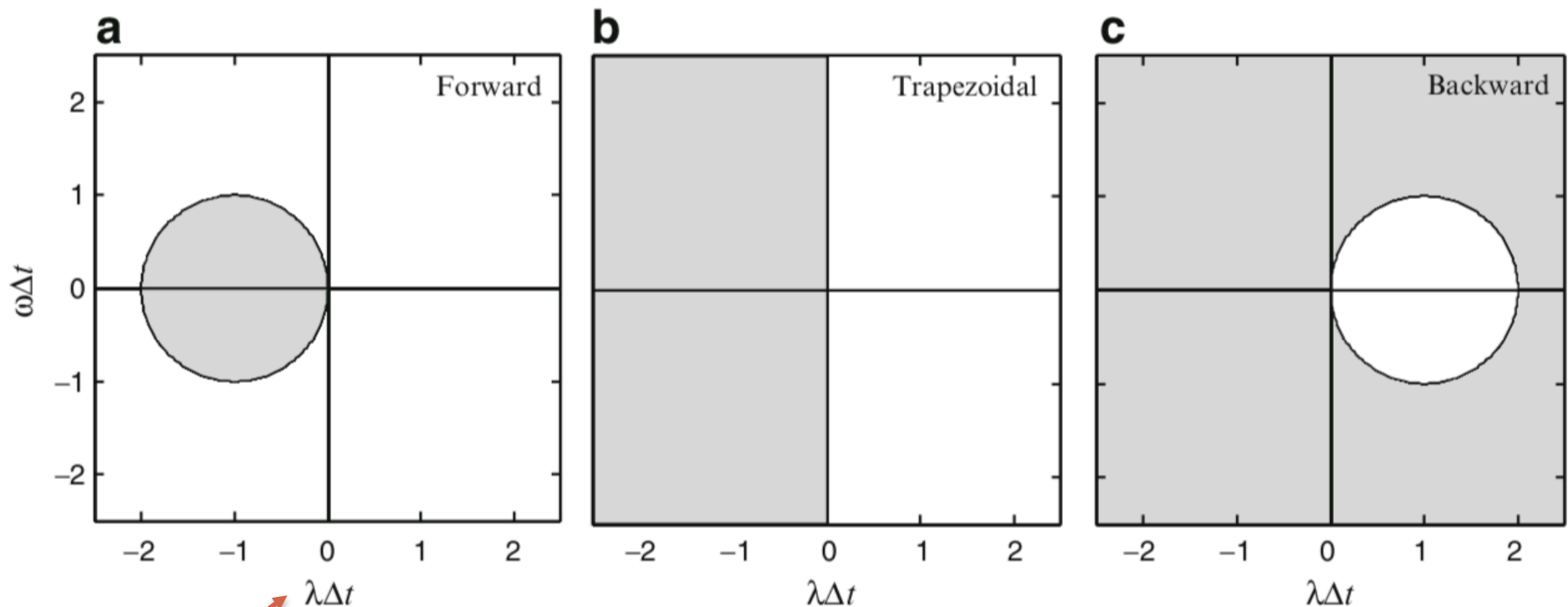


Fig. 2.1 Absolute stability regions (shaded) for **a** forward-Euler differencing, **b** trapezoidal differencing, and **c** backward-Euler differencing

$$|A| = \left| \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} \right| = [1 + (\lambda + i\omega)\Delta t] \leq 1 \Rightarrow (1 + \lambda\Delta t)^2 + (\omega\Delta t)^2 \leq 1$$

A-Stability

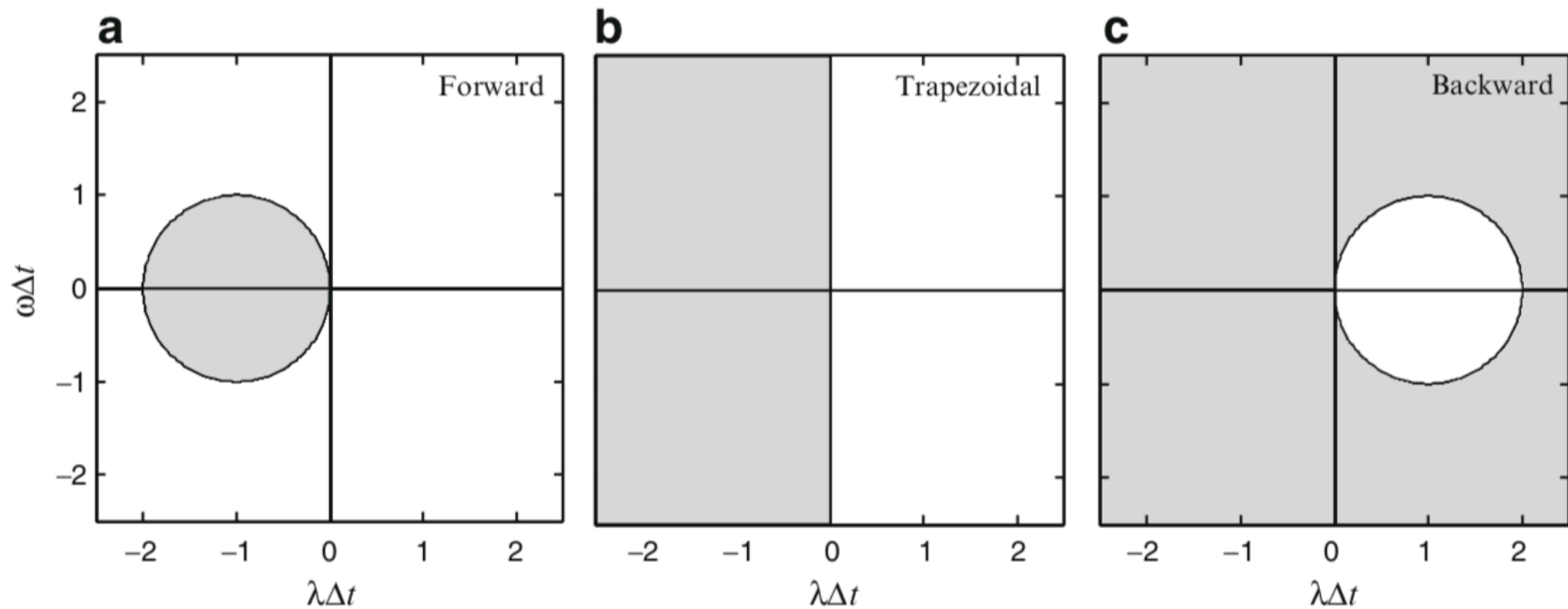


Fig. 2.1 Absolute stability regions (shaded) for **a** forward-Euler differencing, **b** trapezoidal differencing, and **c** backward-Euler differencing

BACKWARD TIME

$$\frac{\phi_n - \phi_{n-1}}{\Delta t} = (\lambda + i\omega)\phi_n$$

TRAPEZOIDAL

$$\frac{\phi_{n+1} - \phi_n}{\Delta t} = (\lambda + i\omega) \frac{\phi_{n+1} + \phi_n}{2}$$

Matlab Code-Forward Time

```
%%% define constants %%%
tau = 1;
omega = 2*pi/(tau);
%%% define true solution parameters %%%
phi0 = 1;
deltt = 0.01;
t0 = 0; t1 = 4*tau;
tt_true = t0:deltt:t1;
%%% select different del
col = {'b','g','r'};
```

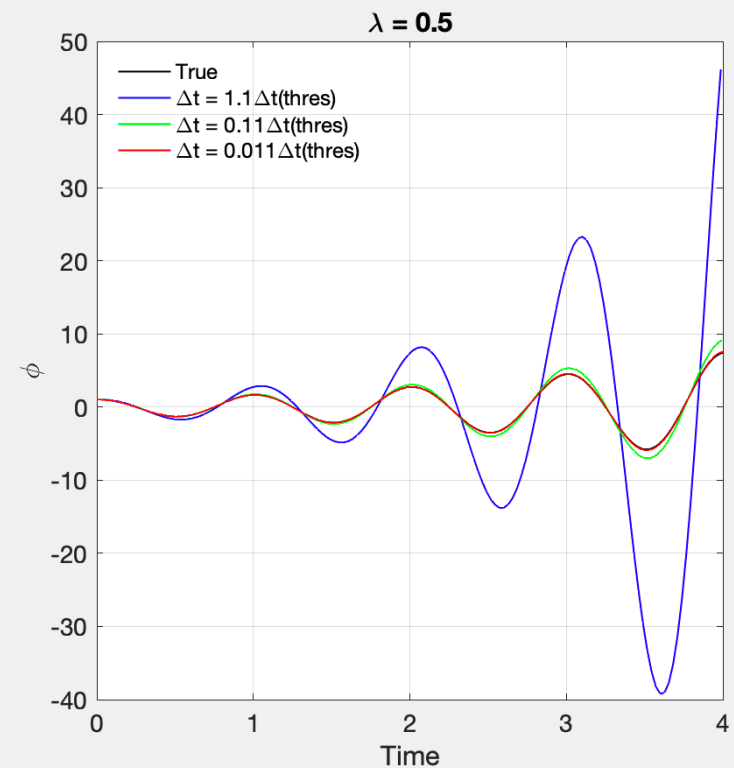
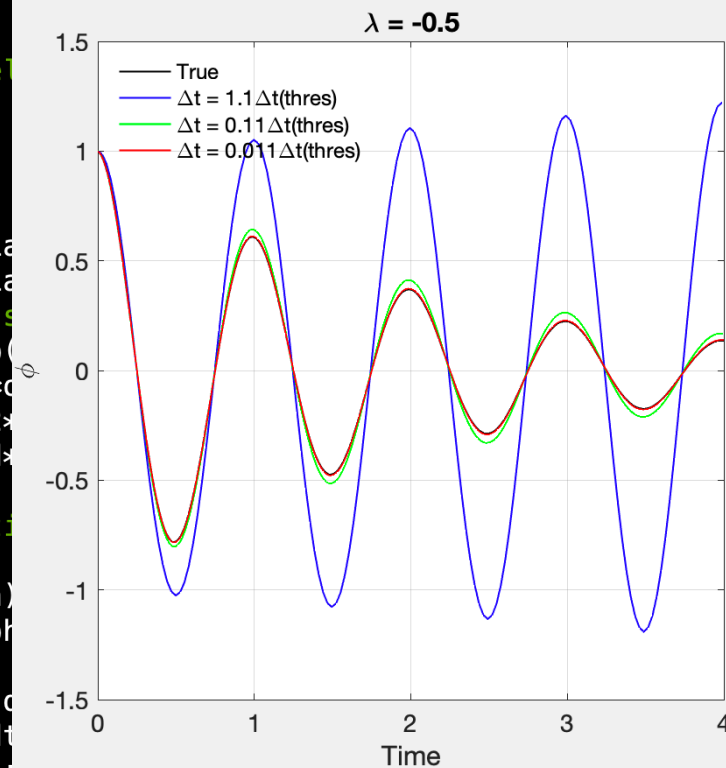
```
% wave period
% wave frequency
```

```
lambda0 = [-0.5,0.5];
figure(1);clf;
for ilambda = 1:numel(la
    lambda = lambda0(ilambda);
    %%% construct true s
    phi_true = phi0*exp(
    gamma = (lambda+1i*
    delt_shred = abs(-2*
    delt0 = [delt_shred*

    %%% plot true soluti
    figure(1);
    subplot(1,2,ilambda)
    plot(tt_true,real(phi

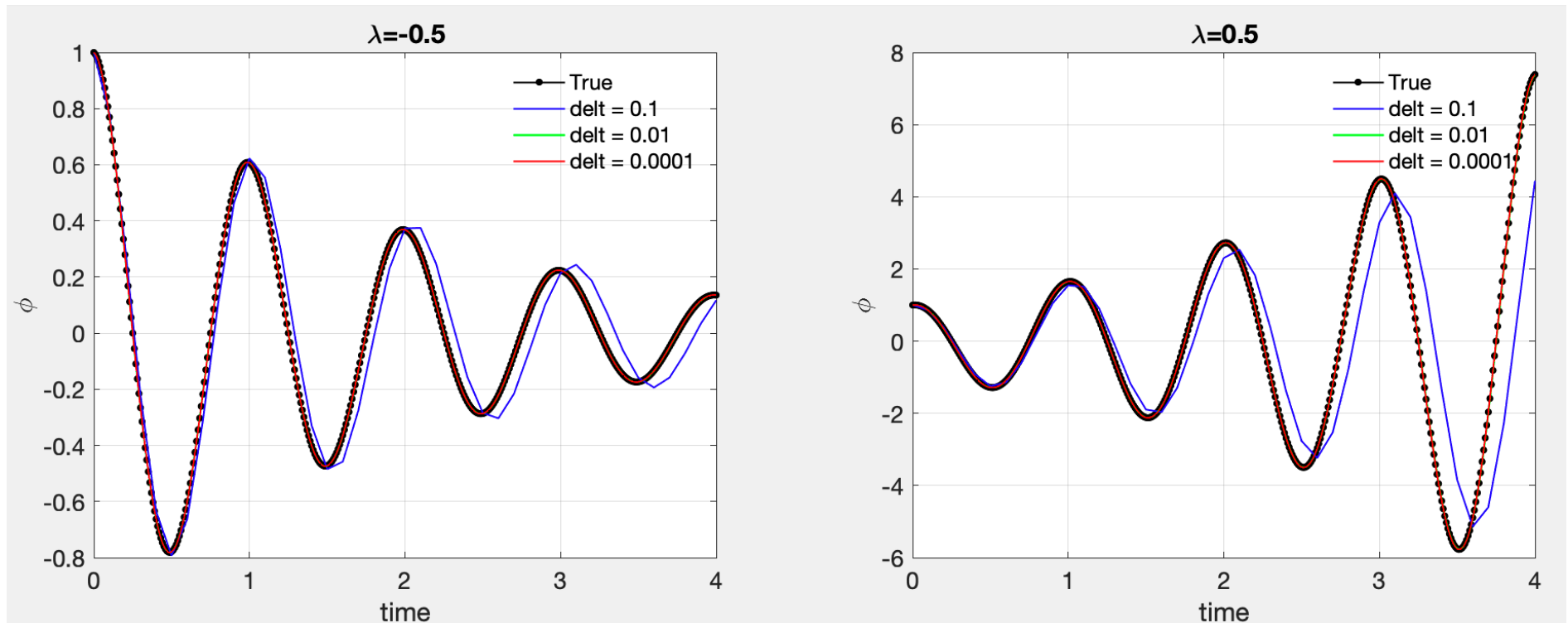
    %%% solve ODE %%%
    for idtt = 1:numel(d
        delt = delt0(idt
        tt = t0:delt:t1;
```

```
phi = nan(size(tt));
phi(1) = phitrue(1);
for itt = 2:numel(tt)
    phi(itt) = phi(itt-1)*(1+gamma*delt);
end
plot(tt,real(phi),col[idtt], 'linewidth', 1);
```



Trapezoidal

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Trapezoidal method is less critical to Δt . But still, all show amplitude and phase errors compared with true solutions. How to quantify these errors?

Amplitude Error

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OSCILLATION
EQUATION

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = F(\psi, t) = i\omega\psi$$
$$\psi = \psi_0 e^{i\omega t}$$



$$|A|_{real} = 1$$

FORWARD TIME

$$A = \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} = [1 + (i\omega\Delta t)] \Rightarrow |A| = \sqrt{1 + (\omega\Delta t)^2} \approx 1 + \frac{1}{2}(\omega\Delta t)^2 \geq 1$$

BACKWARD TIME

$$\frac{\phi_n - \phi_{n-1}}{\Delta t} = i\omega\phi_n$$

$$A = \frac{\phi_n}{\phi_{n-1}} = \frac{1}{1 - (i\omega\Delta t)} \Rightarrow |A| = (1 + (\omega\Delta t)^2)^{-\frac{1}{2}} = 1 - \frac{1}{2}(\omega\Delta t)^2 \leq 1$$

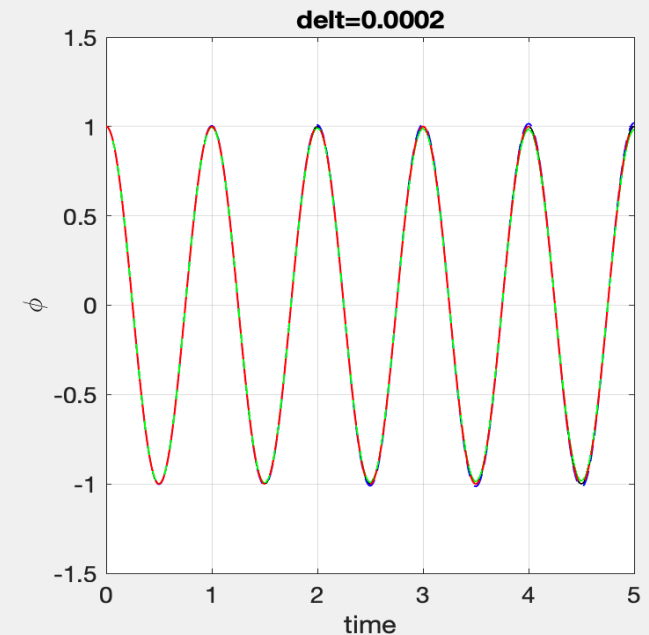
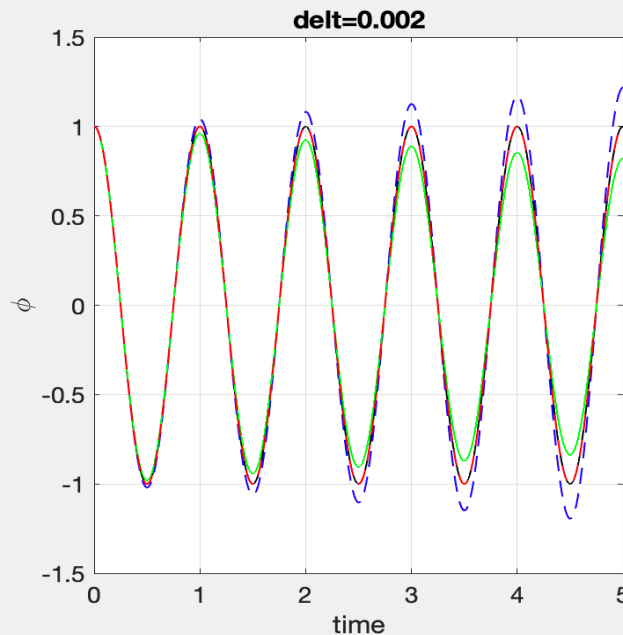
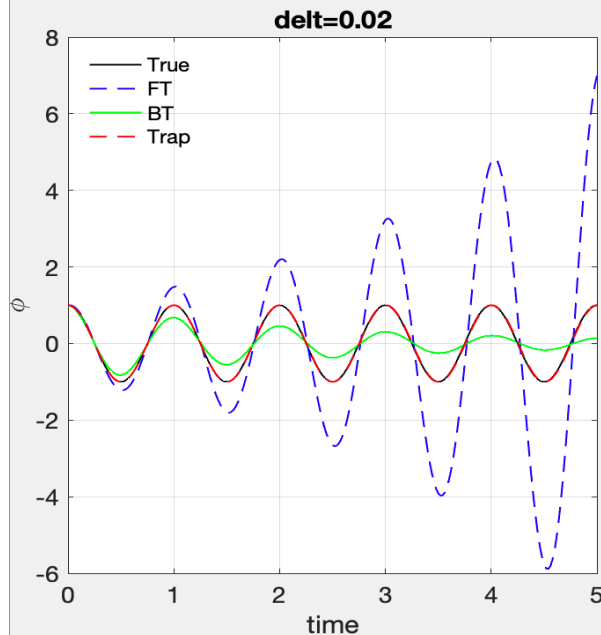
Amplitude Error

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TRAPEZOIDAL

$$\frac{\phi_{n+1} - \phi_n}{\Delta t} = i\omega \frac{\phi_{n+1} + \phi_n}{2}$$

$$|A| = \left| \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} \right| = \frac{1 + (i\omega\Delta t)/2}{1 - (i\omega\Delta t)/2} \Rightarrow |A| = 1$$



Forward scheme amplifies, while backward scheme damps solution.
Amp errors increase with larger Δt . Trapezoidal scheme is free of amp error.

Phase Error

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REAL PHASE
EVOLUTION

$$\frac{d\psi}{dt} = i\omega\psi, \text{ and } \psi = \psi_0 e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\psi(t + \Delta t) = \psi(t) e^{i\omega\Delta t}$$

FORWARD TIME

$$A = \frac{\phi_{n+1}}{\phi_n} = 1 + (i\omega\Delta t) = |A|e^{i\theta} \Rightarrow \theta = \arctan(\omega\Delta t)$$

$$R = \frac{\theta}{\text{real phase change}} = \frac{\arctan(\omega\Delta t)}{\omega\Delta t} \approx 1 - \frac{(\omega\Delta t)^2}{3} < 1$$

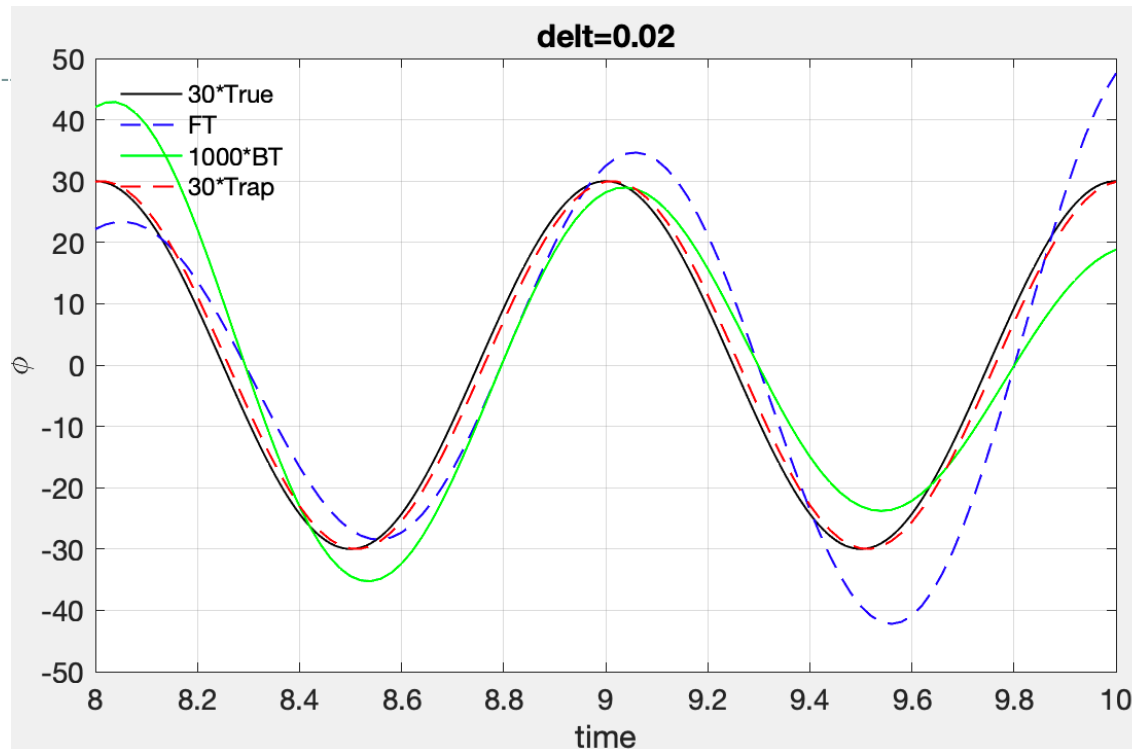
TRAPEZOIDAL

$$A = \frac{1 + (i\omega\Delta t)/2}{1 - (i\omega\Delta t)/2} \Rightarrow \theta = \arctan\left(\frac{\omega\Delta t}{1 - (\omega\Delta t)^2/4}\right)$$

$$R \approx 1 - \frac{(\omega\Delta t)^2}{12} < 1$$

All two-level schemes will delay the phase of true solution. The deceleration by trapezoidal is one quarter of that by forward and backward schemes.

Phase Error



FORWARD TIME

$$R = \frac{\theta}{\text{real phase change}} 1 - \frac{(\omega \Delta t)^2}{3} < 1$$

TRAPEZOIDAL

$$R \approx 1 - \frac{(\omega \Delta t)^2}{12} < 1$$

All two-level schemes will delay the phase of true solution. The deceleration by trapezoidal is less than that by forward and backward schemes.