

Computational practicum: Lecture 2

Numerical methods for partial differential equations (Part 1)

Zoë J.G. Gromotka, Artur M. Schweidtmann, Ferdinand Grozema, Tanuj Karia

With support from Giacomo Lastrucci



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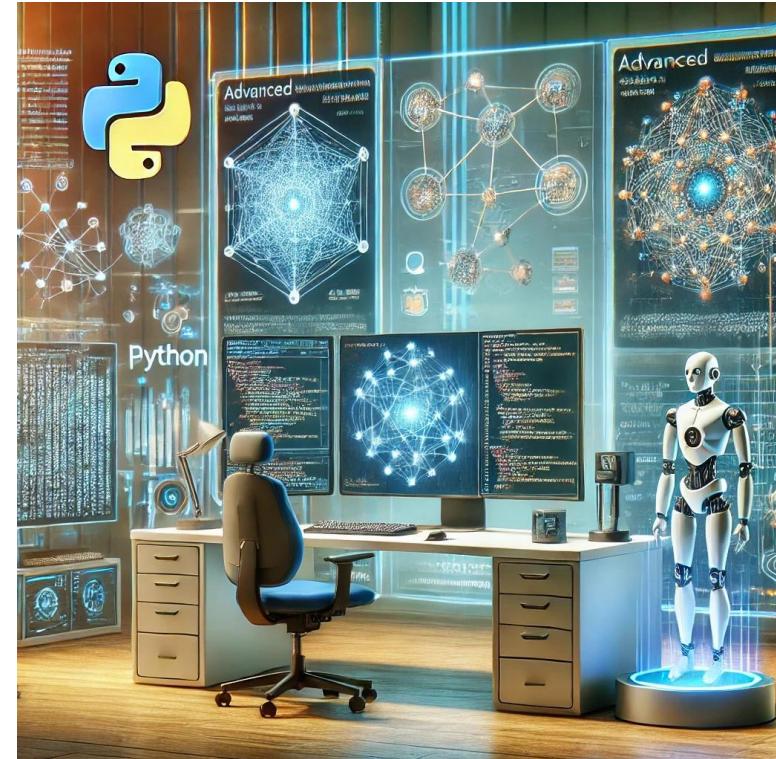
Computational Practicum
Dept. Chemical Engineering
Delft University of Technology

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Recap last lecture



- Advanced Python programming:
 - Programming principles
 - Managing imports, packages, virtual environments
 - Managing multiple modules
 - Basic object-oriented programming (OOP)
 - Unit testing

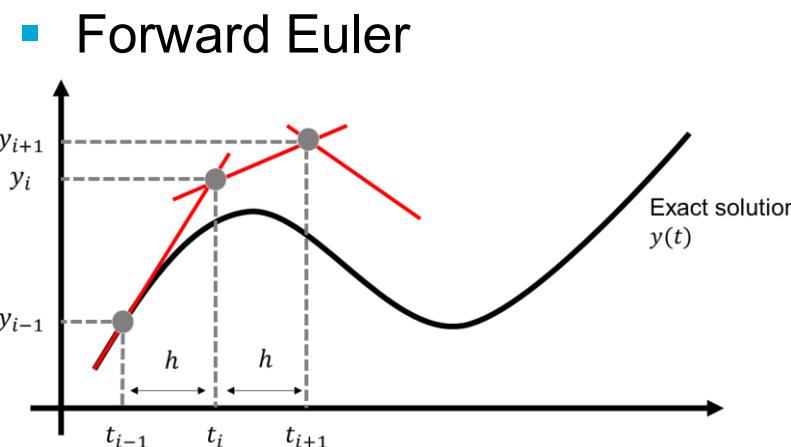


Recap from Q1: relevant concepts



Initial value problem (IVP)

- An ODE (system) with given initial conditions is called an initial value problem (IVP)
- Numerical solution methods



- Backward Euler

Boundary value problems (BVPs)

- BVPs have side constraints at more than one point
- Boundary conditions define side constraints, e.g.,
 - Dirichlet boundary condition $y = f$
 - Neumann boundary condition $\frac{dy}{dx} = f$
 - ...

Finite difference method

- Differential equation → Finite difference equations for all nodes of a discretized domain

Learning objectives

After successfully completing this lecture, you are able to...

- Explain what a partial differential equation (PDEs) is, how it can be classified, and how it is different from ordinary differential equations (ODEs).
- Give an overview of the main techniques to solve partial differential equations in (chemical) engineering
- Implement different numerical solution approaches for parabolic PDEs from scratch
- Discuss stability of numerical solution approaches for parabolic PDEs
- Use Python libraries' built-in functions to support the solution of parabolic PDEs

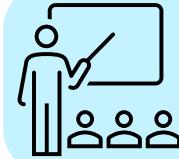
Agenda

- What is a Partial Differential Equation (PDE)?
 - Classification of PDE's (Elliptic, Parabolic, Hyperbolic)
 - Recap: Initial conditions (ICs) and boundary conditions (BCs)
- Introduction to numerical methods to solve PDEs
- Finite Difference Method for PDEs
 - Discretize the multivariate domain
 - Discretize with ghost points
- Parabolic PDE: 1D unsteady heat equation
- Semidiscrete method to solve parabolic PDEs
 - Spatial derivatives
 - Internal points
 - Handling boundary conditions
 - Time derivatives
 - Forward Euler
 - Stability
 - Backward Euler
 - Built-in IVP solvers

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Partial Differential Equations: what are?

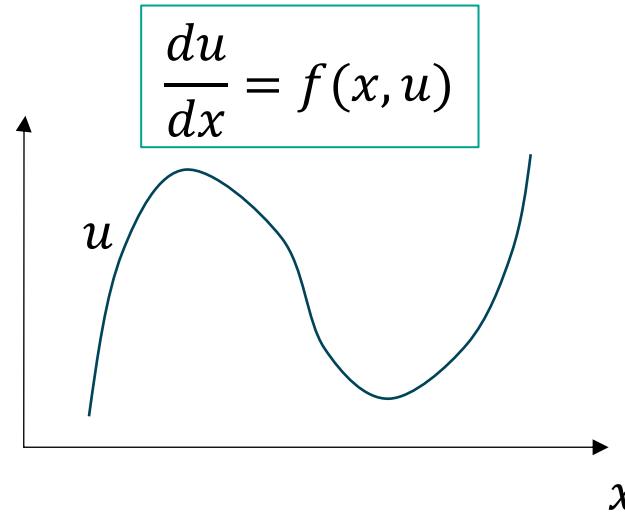


See CP Q1
Lecture 2

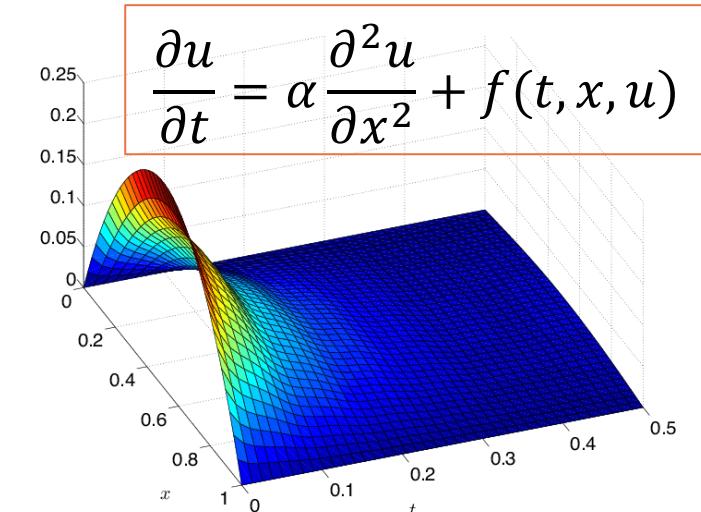
- Recap: Partial derivative

Consider a function $f: D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with independent variables $x = [x_1, \dots, x_n]$. The **partial derivate** of f with respect to a variable $x_j \in x$ is denoted by $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x_j}$.

- A **partial differential equation (PDE)** is an equation involving partial derivatives of an unknown function with respect to more than one independent variable.

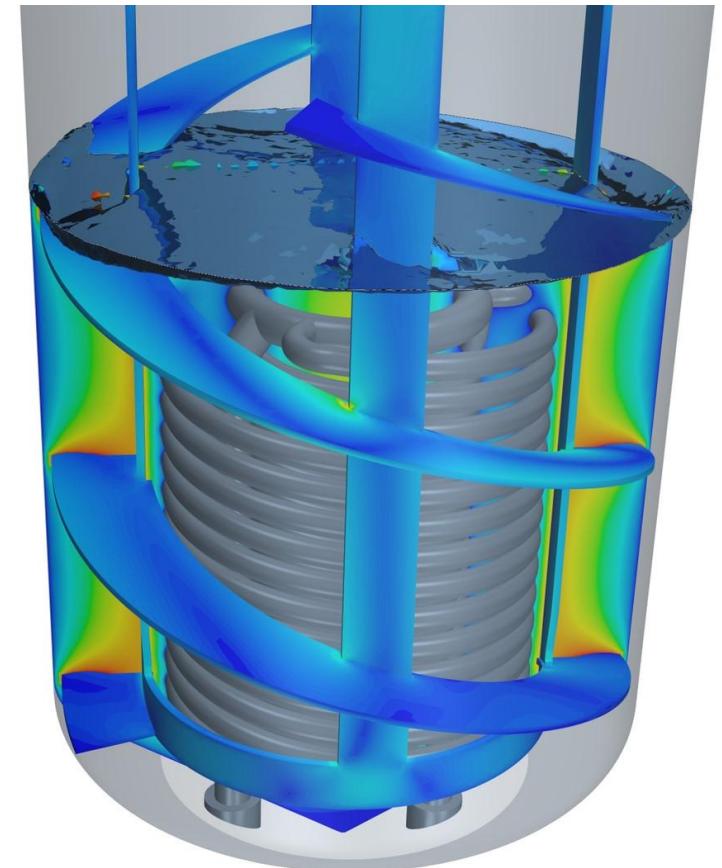


ODE vs. PDE



Partial Differential Equation: why?

- PDEs are fundamental in modeling continuous phenomena in nature and Chemical Engineering.
- Example of applications are:
 - Unsteady processes (time and space derivatives)
 - Heat/mass transfer in reactors
 - Mass transfer in separation processes
 - Navier-Stokes equations (system of PDEs)



Partial Differential Equation: scope, aim and notation

- Solving a PDE means to search for a function $u: \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (or $u: \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$) that:
 - Satisfies the relationship prescribed by a given PDE on a specified domain
 - Meets the imposed initial and/or boundary conditions
 - In case of two independent variables, the solution is a bivariate function u and can be visualized as a surface over the 2D domain (x, t) or (x, y) .
- Alternative notations you may find in books and publications:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = u_x, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = u_{xx}, \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} = u_{xy} = u_{yx} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y \partial x}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = u_t = \dot{u}$$

Partial Differential Equation: scope, aim and notation

- We will deal with **single** PDEs (systems will not be analysed)
- **PDE Lecture 1**
 - Two independent variables: 1D space and time (x, t) → Parabolic PDEs
- **PDE Lecture 2:**
 - Two independent variables: 2D space (x, y) → Elliptic PDEs

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Partial Differential Equation: classification

- The *order* of a PDE is determined by the highest-order partial derivative in the PDE.
- A PDE is *linear* if the dependent variable and its partial derivatives appear only linearly (only degree one, no products/nonlinear functions), otherwise it is *non-linear*
- Given an example of PDE:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + f(x, y) \cdot u + g(x, y, u) = 0$$

- u is the dependent variable
- x and y are the independent variables
- $f(x, y) \cdot u$ is a linear function of u
- $g(x, y, u)$ is a nonlinear function. If $g(x, y, u) = 0$, then the PDE above is linear

Partial Differential Equation: classification

A classification is available for bivariate second order PDEs:

- The general form of second order linear PDEs is:

$$a \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + b \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x \partial y} + c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} + d \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + e \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + fu + g = 0$$

- We define the *discriminant* as the quantity $D = b^2 - 4ac$, then:

- $D > 0$: **Hyperbolic** PDE
- $D = 0$: **Parabolic** PDE
- $D < 0$: **Elliptic** PDE

- In this course, we cover solution methods for parabolic and elliptic PDEs.



HINT

The independent variables x and y in the definition are generic. Other can be considered (e.g., x and t).

Introduction to parabolic PDE

- Parabolic PDEs describe time-dependent, dissipative physical processes, like diffusion, which evolve toward a steady state.
 - The two independent variables are **time** and **1D space**. Generally, we refer to as 1D parabolic PDE (referring only to spatial coordinates).
- An example is the **1D heat equation**:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + S(u, x, t), \quad 0 \leq x \leq L, \quad t \geq 0$$

- The heat equation models the propagation of heat in a body through conduction:
 - u is the temperature (or concentration, etc.)
 - α is the thermal diffusivity $\alpha = \frac{k}{c_p \rho}$
 - $S(u, x, t)$ is the source term, potentially nonlinear

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Initial and boundary conditions

- As you may recall from Q1, differential equations are satisfied by infinitely many solutions. Additional conditions must be specified, depending on the problem, to characterize them fully.
 - **Initial conditions:** quantity specified for the solution of a PDE at the beginning of the time interval.
 - **Boundary conditions:** quantity specified for the solution of a PDE (or its derivatives) along the boundaries of the spatial domain.
- In general, you need a condition for each order of derivative appearing in the equation
 - $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} \rightarrow 1 \text{ IC}, 2 \text{ BC}$
 - $\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} \rightarrow 2 \text{ IC}, 2 \text{ BC}$

Initial and boundary conditions for parabolic PDEs

For parabolic PDEs:

- 1D parabolic PDE: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + S(u, x, t)$
 - First order time derivative → 1 initial condition
 - 1x second order spatial derivatives → 2 boundary conditions

Recap of different boundary conditions

- There are numerous possibilities for the boundary conditions (BCs) that must be specified on the domain boundaries:

- **Dirichlet boundary conditions** (*essential* BCs): the solution u is specified.

For instance: $u(x = 0) = \bar{u}$

- **Neumann boundary conditions** (*natural* BCs): one of the derivatives u_x or u_y is specified.

For instance: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=L} = 0$

- **Robin boundary conditions** (*mixed* boundary conditions): a combination of the previous conditions is specified.

For instance: $\alpha u(x = 0) + \beta \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = q$

- We will mainly deal with Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions.

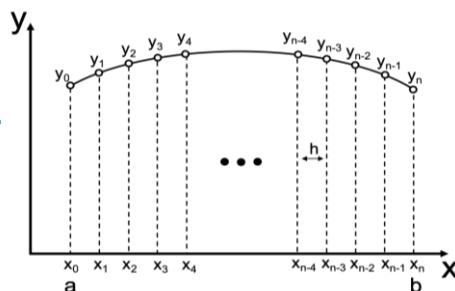
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Numerical methods for solving PDEs

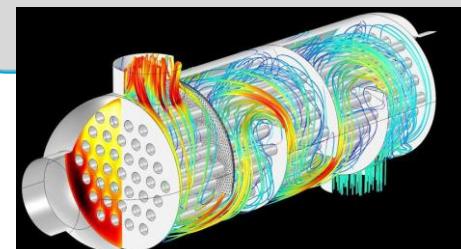
Finite Difference Method (FDM)

- The finite difference method approximates derivatives by discretizing the domain over grid points.
- Applied in mass and heat transfer problems in simple domains.



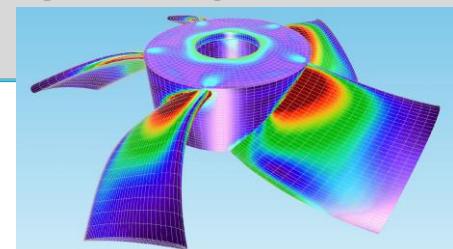
Finite Volume Method (FVM)

- The finite volume method conserves quantities by integrating over control volumes
- Widely used in computational fluid dynamics (CFD)



Finite Element Method (FEM)

- The finite element method divides the domain into elements and uses variational methods to solve.
- Ideal for structural analysis and stress distribution in materials engineering.



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Finite difference method for PDEs: Introduction

- The finite difference method (FDM) approximates derivatives in partial differential equations (PDEs) using differences between function values at discrete grid points.
 - Continuous domain → grid of discrete points
 - Partial derivatives → finite differences
 - System of algebraic equations → iterative numerical methods

Discretized function:

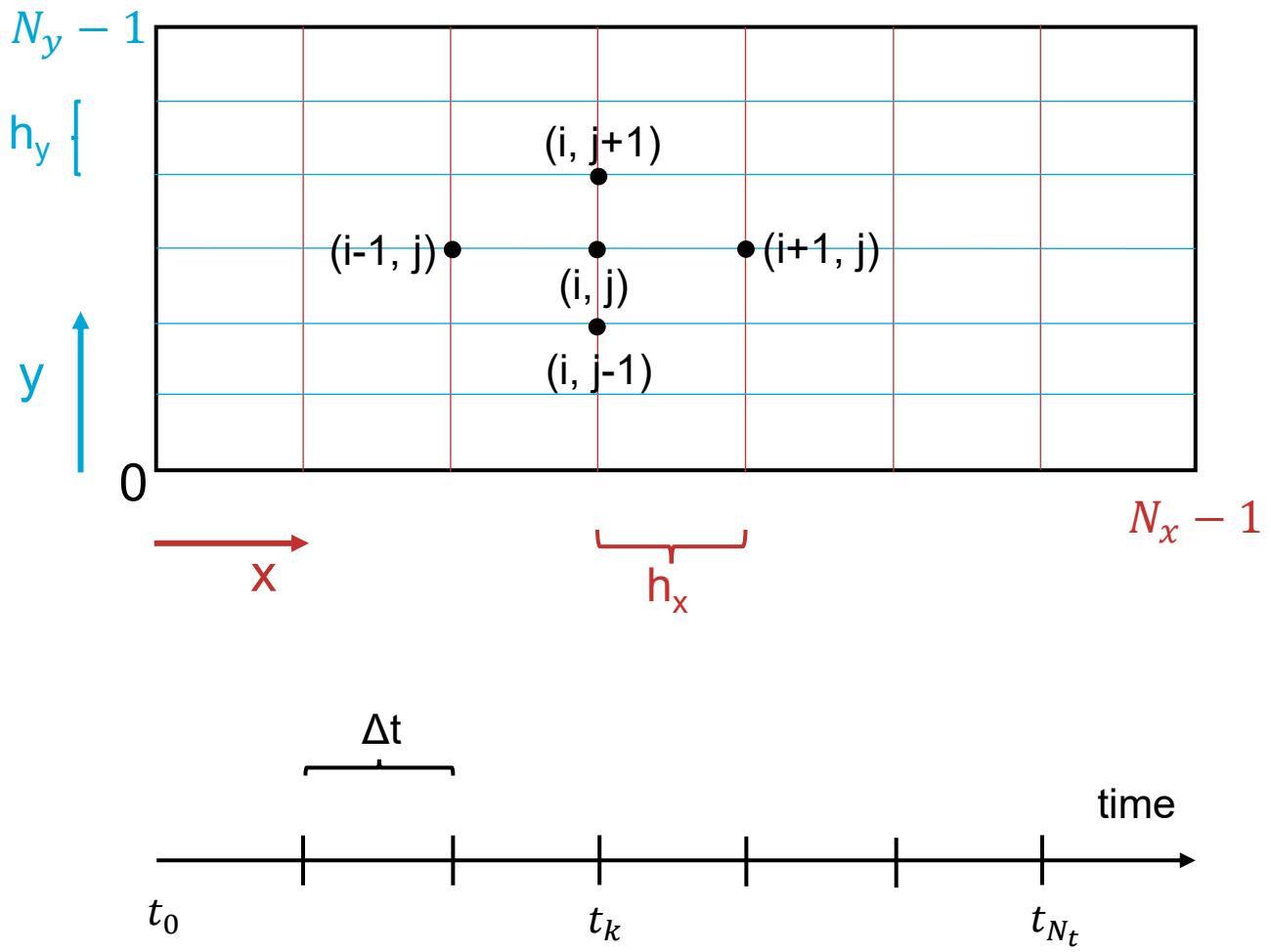
$$f_0 \quad f_1 \quad f_2 \quad \dots \quad f_i \quad \dots \quad f_{N-2} \quad f_{N-1}$$

1D discretization grid:

$$x_0 \equiv a \quad x_1 \quad x_2 \quad \dots \quad x_i \quad \dots \quad x_{N-2} \quad x_{N-1} \equiv b$$


Discretize multivariate domains

- By definition, PDEs involve multiple independent variables:
 - Space (x, y, z)
 - Time (t)
 - Possibly other variables
- Every variable will have its own (possibly different) discretization scheme
 - In general: $h_x \neq h_y$
 - Often: $h_x = h_y$
 - The choice of time step Δt depends on the stability of the system

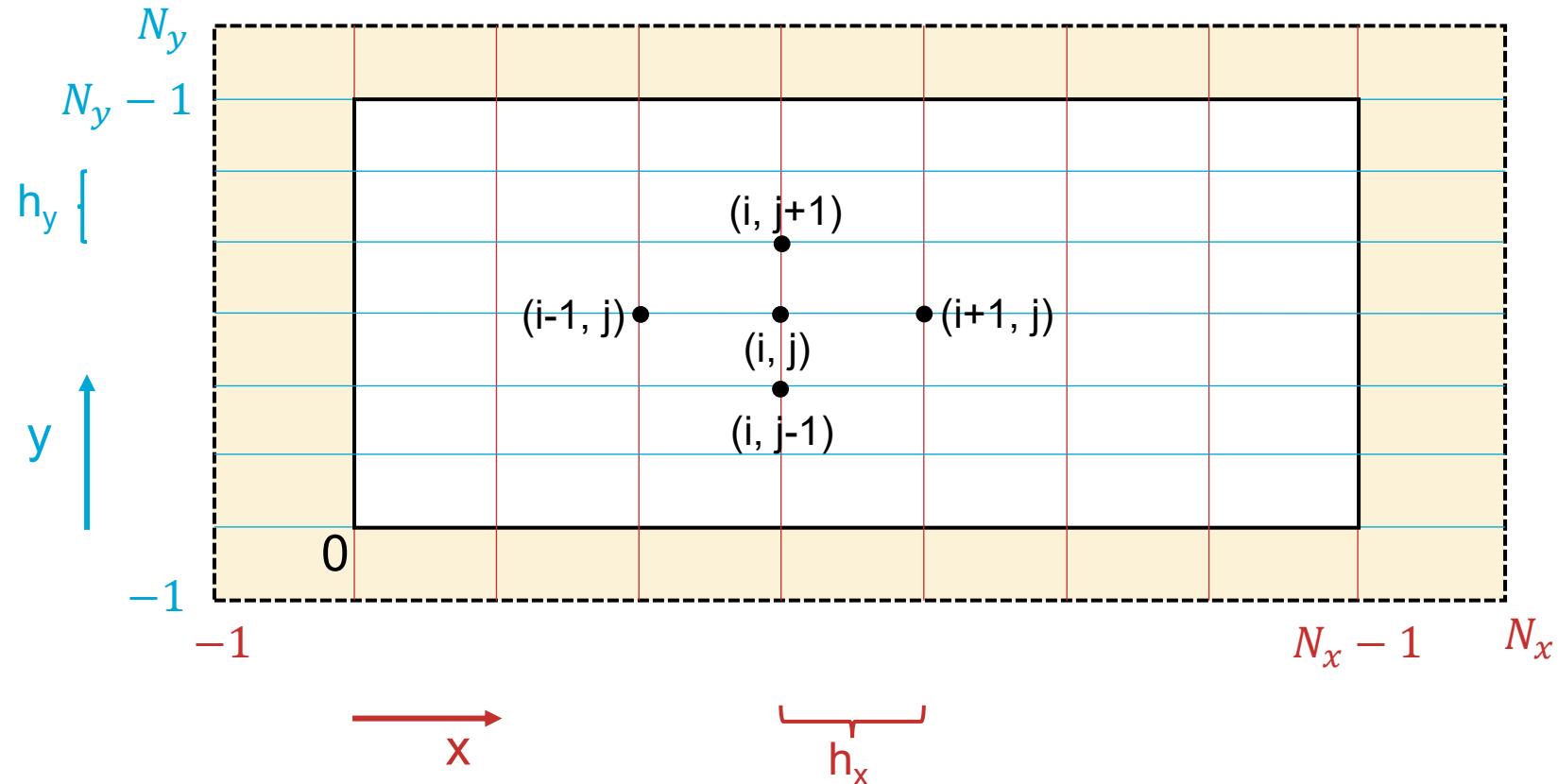


Discretization with ghost points



Recap from
CP Q1L6

- Artificial (ghost) points can be added as a padding around the domain (for each coordinate: 2 points, 2 intervals)
- Useful to discretize boundary conditions with more accurate schemes



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Heat transport problem

- Microscopic governing equations for transport phenomena are typically modelled by partial differential equations, describing how quantities as concentration, velocity or temperature evolve in space and time.
- We consider the case of heat transport problem as a case study for PDEs.
- More specifically:
 - **Unsteady heat transport in 1D** (e.g., tube wall)
→ Parabolic PDE (this lecture)
 - Steady state heat transport in 2D (e.g., plate heat exchanger)
→ Elliptic PDE (next lecture)



Parabolic PDEs: chemical engineering applications

- We explore the solution method for parabolic PDEs, exemplified by the heat equation:

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

The equation describes the transient temperature propagation along a single-dimensional space.

- Several other chemical engineering problems can be modelled as parabolic PDEs.
 - Mass diffusion equation

$$\frac{\partial C}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 C}{\partial x^2}$$

- Concentration profiles in catalyst pellets

$$\frac{\partial C_A}{\partial t} = D \frac{\partial^2 C_A}{\partial r^2} - r_A(C_A)$$

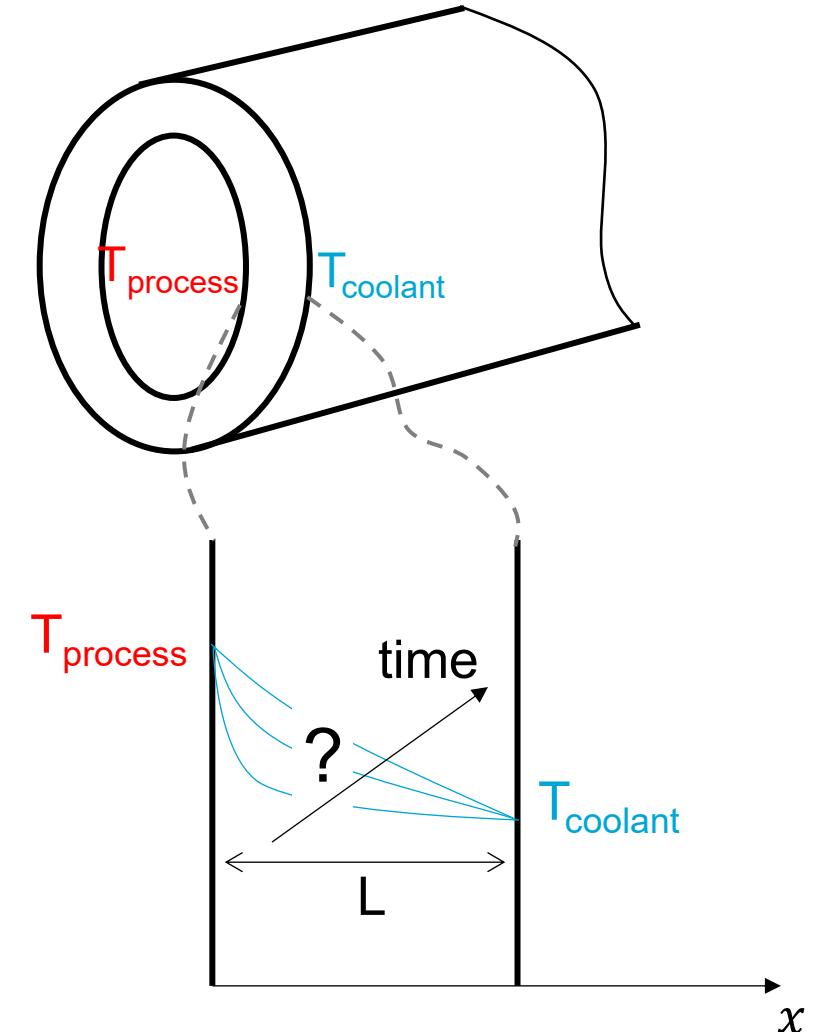
Possibly nonlinear PDE!

Case study for parabolic PDEs

- 1D Heat Equation:

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

- Consider heat transfer across the wall of a tube in a shell-and-tube heat exchanger:
 - The temperatures of the process fluid (tube side) and coolant (shell side) are known.
 - Initially, the tube wall is in thermal equilibrium with the coolant.
 - How does the temperature evolve over time and across the wall?



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Semidiscrete Method: PDE to ODE system

- A way to approximate the solution of transient PDEs is to initially **discretize** in space and leave the time variable **continuous**
- Introduce spatial mesh points $x_i, i = 0, \dots, N_x - 1$, where i is the discretization index and Δx the interval
- Discretize the second order spatial derivative by finite differences (internal points):

$$\frac{d^2T}{dx^2} \approx \frac{T_{i-1} - 2T_i + T_{i+1}}{\Delta x^2} \quad \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \text{Note: } T_i = T_i(t) \text{ is time dependent}$$

- The equation results in a system of **ODEs**:

$$\frac{dT_i}{dt} = \alpha \frac{T_{i-1} - 2T_i + T_{i+1}}{\Delta x^2}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

- With initial and boundary condition:

$$\begin{aligned} T_i(0) &= T_{coolant} & i &= 1, \dots, N_x - 2 \\ T_0(t) &= T_{process} & T_{N_x-1}(t) &= T_{coolant} \quad \forall t \end{aligned}$$

Semidiscrete Method: PDE to ODE system

- In matrix form:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{T} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} A \mathbf{T}_{(complete)}$$

- Here, $\frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2}$ is a scalar constant and A is a matrix
- Note that the vector \mathbf{T} is different from the vector $\mathbf{T}_{(complete)}$, this is directly arising from the indices previously shown:

only internal points



$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix} = A \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-2} \\ T_{N_x-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

boundary points included

- Hence, the matrix A is rectangular ($N_x - 2 \times N_x$), thus the system is under determined.
- Two more equations are needed! → **Boundary conditions!!**

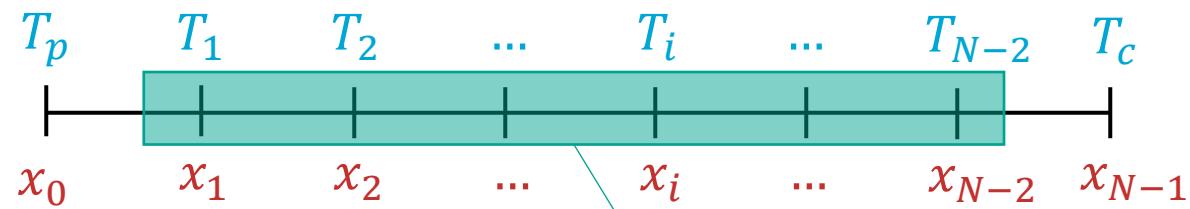
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Dirichlet boundary conditions

- Remember Q1 Lecture 6 – BVP with FDM:
We want to only use the internal points of the domain grid (vector T) to discretize the boundary conditions.
- Consider Dirichlet boundary conditions as in the stated problem: $T_0 = T_p$ and $T_{N_x-1} = T_c$

Discretized function:



1D discretization grid:

We want to only consider these
points in our system of equations

Dirichlet boundary conditions

- We can develop specialized equations for T_1 and T_{N_x-2} :

i = 1:

$$\frac{dT_1}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_0 - 2T_1 + T_2)$$

...but $T_0(t) = T_p \quad \forall t$, then:

$$\frac{dT_1}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_p - 2T_1 + T_2)$$

$$\frac{dT_1}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (-2T_1 + T_2) + \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} T_p$$

Dirichlet boundary conditions

- We can develop specialized equations for T_1 and T_{N_x-2} :

$i = N_x - 2$:

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-2}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-3} - 2T_{N_x-2} + T_{N_x-1})$$

...but $T_{N_x-1}(t) = T_c \quad \forall t$, then:

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-2}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-3} - 2T_{N_x-2} + T_c)$$

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-2}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-3} - 2T_{N_x-2}) + \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} T_c$$

System of equations with Dirichlet boundary conditions

- The final system of ODEs given Dirichlet boundary conditions is

algebraic equations

$$\begin{cases} T_0(t) = T_p \\ \frac{dT_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{i-1} - 2T_i + T_{i+1}) \\ T_{N_x-1}(t) = T_c \end{cases} \quad \forall t \text{ and } i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

$N_x - 2$ ordinary differential equations

- The initial condition is given by

$$T_i(0) = T_c \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

Matrix form with Dirichlet boundary conditions

- The system of ODEs given Dirichlet boundary conditions can be written in matrix form, including a vector with the initial condition

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{T} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \cdot (A \mathbf{T} + \mathbf{b}), \quad \mathbf{T}(0) = \mathbf{T}_c,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \begin{bmatrix} T_p \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ T_c \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} T_c \\ T_c \\ \vdots \\ T_c \\ T_c \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2 \times N_x-2}$$

$$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T}_c \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

$$\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

Neumann boundary conditions

- For completeness, consider now the case of Neumann boundary conditions:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = \gamma_1$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=L} = \gamma_2$$

- We aim to derive an updating rule in matrix form, including Neumann boundary conditions for which the derivative is constant on the boundaries.
- We aim to use only internal discretization points ($i = 2, \dots, N_x - 3$)
- Discretization scheme:
 - First order derivative in $x = 0 \rightarrow$ Forward difference scheme
 - First order derivative in $x = L \rightarrow$ Backward difference scheme
 - Central difference scheme is possible with ghost points! (discuss this later...)

Neumann boundary conditions

- We can develop specialized equations for T_1 and T_{N_x-2} :

i = 1:

Forward difference scheme: $\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = \gamma_1 \rightarrow \frac{T_1 - T_0}{\Delta x} = \gamma_1 \rightarrow T_0 = T_1 - \gamma_1 \Delta x$

Updating equation:

$$\frac{dT_1}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_0 - 2T_1 + T_2)$$

Substituting the equation arising from the boundary condition:

$$\frac{dT_1}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_1 - \gamma_1 \Delta x - 2T_1 + T_2)$$

$$\frac{dT_1}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (-T_1 + T_2) - \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x} \gamma_1$$

Neumann boundary conditions

- We can develop specialized equations for T_1 and T_{N_x-2} :

$i = N_x - 2$:

Backward difference scheme: $\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=L} = \gamma_2 \rightarrow \frac{T_{N_x-1} - T_{N_x-2}}{\Delta x} = \gamma_2 \rightarrow T_{N_x-1} = T_{N_x-2} + \gamma_2 \Delta x$

Updating equation:

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-2}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-3} - 2T_{N_x-2} + T_{N_x-1})$$

Substituting the equation arising from the boundary condition:

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-2}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-3} - 2T_{N_x-2} + T_{N_x-2} + \gamma_2 \Delta x)$$

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-2}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-3} - T_{N_x-2}) + \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x} \gamma_2$$

System of ODEs with Neumann boundary conditions

- The Final system of equations given Neumann boundary conditions is

algebraic equations

$$\begin{cases} T_0(t) = T_1 - \gamma_1 \Delta x \\ \frac{dT_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{i-1} - 2T_i + T_{i+1}) \\ T_{N_x-1}(t) = T_{N_x-2} + \gamma_2 \Delta x \end{cases} \quad \forall t \text{ and } i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

$N_x - 2$ ordinary differential equations

- The initial condition is given by

$$T_i(0) = T_c \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

Matrix form with Neumann boundary conditions

- The system of ODEs given Neumann boundary conditions can be written in matrix form, including a vector with the initial condition

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{T} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \cdot (A\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{b}), \quad \mathbf{T}(0) = \mathbf{T}_c,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \begin{bmatrix} -\gamma_1 \Delta x \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \gamma_2 \Delta x \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} T_c \\ T_c \\ \vdots \\ T_c \\ T_c \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2 \times N_x-2}$$

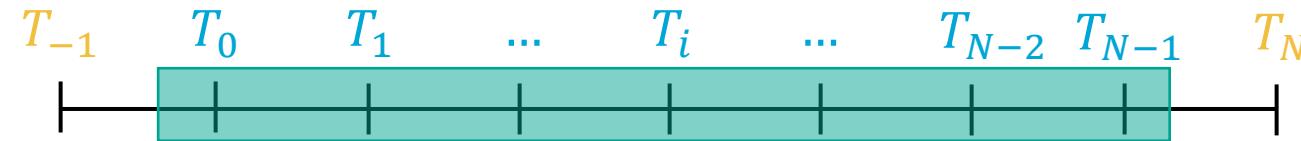
$$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T}_c \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

$$\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

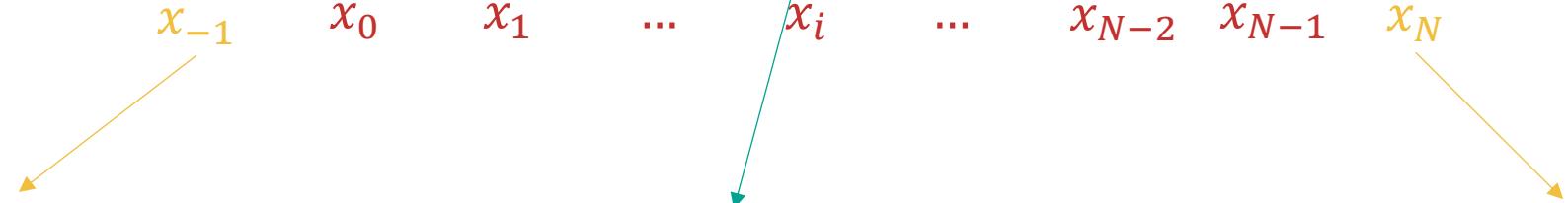
Neumann boundary conditions with ghost points

- The concept of **ghost points** can be used to unlock more accurate discretization schemes for Neumann boundary conditions (i.e., central difference scheme)

Discretized function:



1D discretization grid:



Ghost point

We use the same *trick* to consider
“only” the domain points

Ghost point

Neumann boundary conditions: ghost points

- We can develop specialized equations for T_0 and T_{N_x-1} : (boundary points!)

$i = 0$:

Central difference scheme: $\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0} = \gamma_1 \rightarrow \frac{T_1 - T_{-1}}{2\Delta x} = \gamma_1 \rightarrow T_{-1} = T_1 - 2\gamma_1 \Delta x$

Updating equation:

$$\frac{dT_0}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{-1} - 2T_0 + T_1)$$

Substituting the equation arising from the boundary condition:

$$\frac{dT_0}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_1 - 2\gamma_1 \Delta x - 2T_0 + T_1)$$

$$\frac{dT_0}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (-2T_0 + 2T_1) - 2 \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x} \gamma_1$$

Neumann boundary conditions: ghost points

- We can develop specialized equations for T_0 and T_{N_x-1} : (boundary points!)

$i = N_x - 1$:

Central difference scheme: $\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=L} = \gamma_2 \rightarrow \frac{T_{N_x} - T_{N_x-2}}{2\Delta x} = \gamma_2 \rightarrow T_{N_x} = T_{N_x-2} + 2\gamma_2\Delta x$

Updating equation:

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-1}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-2} - 2T_{N_x-1} + T_{N_x})$$

Substituting the equation arising from the boundary condition:

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-1}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{N_x-2} - 2T_{N_x-1} + T_{N_x-2} + 2\gamma_2\Delta x)$$

$$\frac{dT_{N_x-1}}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (2T_{N_x-2} - 2T_{N_x-1}) + 2\frac{\alpha}{\Delta x}\gamma_2$$

System of equations with Neumann bcs

- The final system of ODEs given Neumann boundary conditions with ghost points is

algebraic equations

$$\begin{cases} T_{-1}(t) = T_1 - 2\gamma_1 \Delta x \\ \frac{dT_i}{dt} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (T_{i-1} - 2T_i + T_{i+1}) \\ T_{N_x}(t) = T_{N_x-2} + 2\gamma_2 \Delta x \end{cases} \quad \forall t \text{ and } i = 0, \dots, N_x - 1$$

N_x ordinary differential equations

- The initial condition is given by

$$T_i(0) = T_c \quad i = 0, \dots, N_x - 1$$

Matrix form with Neumann boundary conditions

- The system of ODEs given Neumann boundary conditions with ghost points can be written in matrix form, including a vector with the initial condition

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{T} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \cdot (A\mathbf{T} + \mathbf{b}), \quad \mathbf{T}(0) = \mathbf{T}_c,$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-2} \\ T_{N_x-1} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 2 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 2 & -2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-2} \\ T_{N_x-1} \end{bmatrix} + \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} \begin{bmatrix} -2\gamma_1 \Delta x \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 2\gamma_2 \Delta x \end{bmatrix}, \quad \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-2} \\ T_{N_x-1} \end{bmatrix}(0) = \begin{bmatrix} T_c \\ T_c \\ \vdots \\ T_c \\ T_c \end{bmatrix}.$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-1 \times N_x-1}$$

$$\mathbf{T}, \mathbf{T}_c \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-1}$$

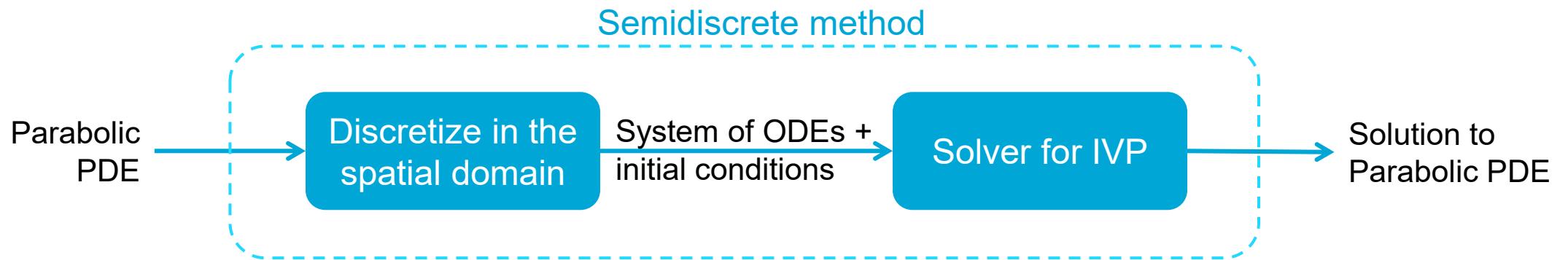
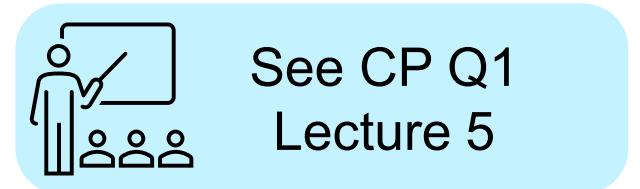
$$\mathbf{b} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-1}$$

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Semidiscrete Method: Solution methods

- The solution of the PDE is translated into solving a system of ODEs with given initial conditions.
 - In Q1, you learnt how to solve Initial Value Problems (IVPs) in the context of ODEs:
 - Forward (explicit) Euler
 - Backward (implicit) Euler
 - More advanced schemes (Runge-Kutta)



Semidiscrete Method: Forward Euler

- The simplest choice for solving systems of ODEs is to use Forward (explicit) Euler method.
- Discretization of the first order time derivative:

$$\frac{dT_i}{dt} = \frac{T_i^{k+1} - T_i^k}{\Delta t}, \quad t_k = k \cdot \Delta t$$

- The PDE can be written as:

$$\frac{T_i^{k+1} - T_i^k}{\Delta t} = \alpha \frac{T_{i-1}^k - 2T_i^k + T_{i+1}^k}{\Delta x^2}, \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2, \quad k = 0, \dots, N_t - 2$$

- Thus, giving the **updating closed form** for every internal point: ($Fo = \alpha \Delta t / \Delta x^2$)

$$T_i^{k+1} - T_i^k = Fo(T_{i-1}^k - 2T_i^k + T_{i+1}^k)$$

$$T_i^{k+1} = T_i^k + Fo(T_{i-1}^k - 2T_i^k + T_{i+1}^k)$$

Note: Boundary conditions determine final form of the system of equations

System of eqs with Dirichlet bcs: Forward Euler

- The final system of equations given Dirichlet boundary conditions is

$$\begin{cases} T_0^{k+1} = T_p \\ T_i^{k+1} = T_i^k + F_0(T_{i-1}^k - 2T_i^k + T_{i+1}^k) & \forall k \text{ and } i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2 \\ T_{N_x-1}^{k+1} = T_c \end{cases}$$

N_x algebraic equations

- The initial condition is given by

$$T_i^0 = T_c \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

- Double for-loop needed to calculate each T_i^k in the domain.

System of eqs with Neumann bcs (1): Forward Euler

- The final system of equations given Neumann boundary conditions is

$$\begin{cases} T_0^{k+1} = T_1 - \gamma_1 \Delta x \\ T_i^{k+1} = T_i^k + F_0(T_{i-1}^k - 2T_i^k + T_{i+1}^k) & \forall k \text{ and } i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2 \\ T_{N_x-1}^{k+1} = T_{N_x-2} + \gamma_2 \Delta x \end{cases}$$

N_x algebraic equations

- The initial condition is given by

$$T_i^0 = T_c \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

- Double for-loop needed to calculate each T_i^k in the domain.

System of eqs with Neumann bcs (2): Forward Euler

- The final system of equations given Neumann boundary conditions with **ghost points** is

$$\begin{cases} T_{-1}^{k+1} = T_1 - 2\gamma_1 \Delta x \\ T_i^{k+1} = T_i^k + F_0(T_{i-1}^k - 2T_i^k + T_{i+1}^k) \\ T_{N_x}^{k+1} = T_{N_x-2} + 2\gamma_2 \Delta x \end{cases} \quad \forall k \text{ and } i = 0, \dots, N_x - 1$$

$N_x + 2$ algebraic equations

- The initial condition is given by

$$T_i^0 = T_c \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x - 2$$

- Double for-loop needed to calculate each T_i^k in the domain.

How do I avoid for-loops?

Semidiscrete Method (Matrix form): Forward Euler

- Again, the simplest choice for solving systems of ODEs is to use Forward Euler method.
- Discretization of the first order time derivative in **vector form**:

$$\frac{dT}{dt} = \frac{T^{k+1} - T^k}{\Delta t}, \quad t_k = k \cdot \Delta t$$

- The PDE can be written as:

Note: A and b depend on the dv and bcs

$$\frac{T^{k+1} - T^k}{\Delta t} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (AT^k + b), \quad k = 0, \dots, N_t - 2$$

- Thus, giving the **updating closed form**: ($Fo = \alpha \Delta t / \Delta x^2$)

$$T^{k+1} - T^k = Fo(AT^k + b)$$

$$T^{k+1} = T^k + Fo(AT^k + b)$$

It is preferable to work in matrix form for computational reasons (avoid for-loops!)

Matrix form with Dirichlet bcs: Forward Euler

- The equations can be composed in an **explicit** linear system in matrix form:

$$T^{k+1} = F_o \cdot A_{DF} T^k + F_o \cdot b_{DF}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix}^{k+1} = F_o \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{F_o} - 2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{F_o} - 2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{F_o} - 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{F_o} - 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix}^k + F_o \begin{bmatrix} T_p \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ T_c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{DF} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2 \times N_x-2}$$

$$T^{k+1}, T^k \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

$$b_{DF} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

Matrix form with Neumann bcs (1): Forward Euler

- For Neumann boundary conditions the same Euler forward scheme holds. However, the matrix A and the vector b are replaced accordingly. Resulting in an **explicit** linear system in matrix form:

$$T^{k+1} = F_O \cdot A_{NF} T^k + F_O \cdot b_{NF}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix}^{k+1} = F_O \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{F_O} - 1 & 1 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{F_O} - 2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{F_O} - 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{F_O} - 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \end{bmatrix}^k + F_O \begin{bmatrix} -\gamma_1 \Delta x \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ \gamma_2 \Delta x \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A_{NF} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2 \times N_x-2}$$

$$T^{k+1}, T^k \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

$$b_{NF} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x-2}$$

Matrix form, Neumann bcs (2): Forward Euler

- For Neumann boundary conditions with ghost points the same Euler forward scheme holds. However, the matrix A and the vectors b and T are replaced accordingly. Resulting in an **explicit** linear system in matrix form:

$$T_G^{k+1} = Fo \cdot A_{NFG} T_G^k + Fo \cdot b_{NFG}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \\ T_{N_x-1} \end{bmatrix}^{k+1} = Fo \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{Fo} - 2 & 2 & 0 & \dots & \dots & 0 \\ 1 & \frac{1}{Fo} - 2 & 1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & 1 & \frac{1}{Fo} - 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 2 & \frac{1}{Fo} - 2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} T_0 \\ T_1 \\ T_2 \\ \vdots \\ T_{N_x-3} \\ T_{N_x-2} \\ T_{N_x-1} \end{bmatrix}^k + Fo \begin{bmatrix} -2\gamma_1 \Delta x \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 2\gamma_2 \Delta x \end{bmatrix}$$

extremes included $\rightarrow T_G$

$$A_{NFG} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x \times N_x}$$

$$T_G^{k+1}, T_G^k \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x}$$

$$b_{NFG} \in \mathbb{R}^{N_x}$$

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Semidiscrete Method: Forward Euler

- Considerations about Explicit Euler method are the same as discussed in Q1 Lecture 5:
- **PROS:**
 - simple implementation
 - explicit formula
 - efficient computation
- **CONS:**
 - stability issues
 - required small time steps (potential memory issues)

Stability criterion for explicit methods

- The Courant-Friedrichs-Lowy (CFL) condition is a necessary condition for the convergence of parabolic PDEs.
- For 1D problems parabolic PDEs, the CFL condition has the following form:

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

- Fo is the Fourier number (dimensionless)
- CFL condition states that, given an arbitrary space step, the time step must be necessarily small “enough” to converge:

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

Are there alternatives to explicit methods to avoid instability issues?

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Semidiscrete Method: Backward Euler

- The simplest choice for solving systems of ODEs is to use Forward (explicit) Euler method.
- Discretization of the first order time derivative:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{T}}{\partial t} = \frac{\mathbf{T}^{k+1} - \mathbf{T}^k}{\Delta t}, \quad t_k = k \cdot \Delta t$$

- The PDE can be written as:

Note: A and \mathbf{b} depend on the dv and bcs

$$\frac{\mathbf{T}^{k+1} - \mathbf{T}^k}{\Delta t} = \frac{\alpha}{\Delta x^2} (A \mathbf{T}^{k+1} + \mathbf{b}), \quad k = 0, \dots, N_t - 2$$

- Thus, giving the **updating closed form**: ($Fo = \alpha \Delta t / \Delta x^2$)

$$\mathbf{T}^{k+1} - \mathbf{T}^k = Fo (A \mathbf{T}^{k+1} + \mathbf{b})$$

$$(I - FoA) \mathbf{T}^{k+1} = \mathbf{T}^k + Fob$$

It is preferable to work in matrix form for computational reasons (solving systems of eq.)

Agenda

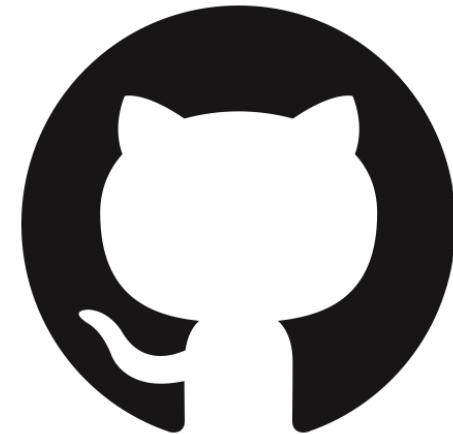
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Semidiscrete Method: ODE Solver

- Recall the method for solving parabolic PDEs:
 1. Discretize spatial derivatives with finite differences
 2. Obtain a system of ODE equations
 3. Solve the system of ODE equations
- We analysed two simple techniques for 3: Euler Forward and Backward
- More advanced schemes for ODEs can be used instead (Runge-Kutta) and built-in functions (`scipy.integrate.solve_ivp()`)
- Want to speed up your computation? Exploit the sparsity of the discretization matrices!
 - `scipy.sparse.spdiag` → Define a sparse diagonal matrix
 - `scipy.sparse.linalg.spsolve` → Solve sparse linear systems efficiently

Parabolic PDE: Live coding

- Open Colab: [Parabolic PDE - Heat Equation](#)



- Find more in the Github repository of the course: https://github.com/process-intelligence-research/computational_practicum_lecture_coding/tree/main

Learning objectives

After successfully completing this lecture, you are able to...

- Explain what a partial differential equation (PDEs) is, how it can be classified, and how it is different from ordinary differential equations (ODEs).
- Give an overview of the main techniques to solve partial differential equations in (chemical) engineering
- Implement different numerical solution approaches for parabolic PDEs from scratch
- Discuss stability of numerical solution approaches for parabolic PDEs
- Use Python libraries' built-in functions to support the solution of parabolic PDEs

Thank you very much for your attention!