

Exercise 8 : MFK 2004

Backward equation

$$U(x - \Delta x) = U(x) - \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \Delta x + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \Delta x^2 - \frac{1}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} \Delta x^3 + O(\Delta x^4)$$

Solving for $\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}$ and divide by Δx .

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \frac{\cancel{\Delta x}}{\cancel{\Delta x}} = \frac{U(x) - U(x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x} + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{\Delta x} - \frac{1}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} \frac{\Delta x^3}{\Delta x} + O(\Delta x^2)$$

Below is velocity gradient !

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = \frac{U(x) - U(x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x} + \frac{1}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \Delta x - \frac{1}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} \Delta x^2 + O(\Delta x^3)$$

Backward in space approximation : (First-order)

→ The higher order polynomials x^2/x^3 are removed!

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = \frac{U(x) - U(x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x}$$

Now using discrete indices :

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \approx \frac{U_i - U_{i-1}}{\Delta x} + O(\Delta x)$$