

The primary tasks of this assignment, are to develop a working finite difference code for both steady-state and transient problems.

1. Provide a written summary of the theoretical formulation of the material related to your numerical investigations of finite difference solutions to the ODE  $(k\phi_{,x})_{,x} + Q = 0$ , numerical solutions to a one-degree-of-freedom ODE with time as the independent variable, and the partial differential equation  $C\phi_{,t} = (k\phi_{,x})_{,x} + Q$ .

2. For the equation  $(k\phi_{,x})_{,x} + Q = 0$  do the following: (a) Choose data for a relatively simple problem for which you know the analytical solution with the following restrictions: (i) the coefficient function is constant, (ii) One boundary condition consists of a prescribed value for the primary variable; the other boundary condition consists of a prescribed value of the gradient of the primary variable, and (iii) the forcing function results in a solution of sufficient continuity that the part of your theoretical summary that provides the rate of convergence is applicable.

(b) Write a finite difference algorithm based on a uniform mesh that provides approximate solutions.

(c) Provide plots that compare numerical solutions with the analytical solution for different mesh sizes.

(d) Provide a plot that shows the numerical rate of convergence and indicate how it compares with the theoretical rate.

3. (a) Consider the single-degree-of-freedom problem

$$\dot{T} + \Lambda T = 0 \quad T(0) = 2; \quad t \in [0, 8]$$

with  $\Lambda = 1$ . Overlay plots of the exact solution and approximate solutions obtained from the numerical integration algorithm based on the general trapezoidal rule for the following values of  $\alpha$  and time step,  $s$ :

$$(a) \alpha = 0 \quad s = 4, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.25, 0.125$$

$$(b) \alpha = 1/2 \quad s = 4, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.25, 0.125$$

$$(c) \alpha = 1 \quad s = 4, 2, 1, 0.5, 0.25, 0.125$$

(b) Now consider the transient problem when a smooth forcing term is present:

$$\begin{aligned} C\dot{T} + KT &= F(t) & C &= 1 & K &= 2 \\ F(t) &= \sin \Omega t & T(0) &= 0 & \Omega &= 10 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $t_p = 2\pi/\Omega$  be the period of the forcing function and let  $s_c$  be the critical time step for  $\alpha = 0$ . Obtain numerical solutions for three periods of time with time steps ranging from  $s_c$  up to  $t_p/4$  for the trapezoidal rules defined by  $\alpha = 0.5, \alpha = 0.75$  and  $\alpha = 1$  and overlay plots of these solutions with the analytical solution.

4. Now combine the steady-state finite difference algorithm with time integration to obtain approximate solutions to the governing equation  $C\phi_t = (k\phi_x)_{,x} + Q$ .

Common data for the two problems are:

Domains:  $0 \leq x \leq 1$   $t \geq 0$

Coefficient fns.  $C = 4$   $k = 2$

Forcing function  $F = 0$

Initial Condition:  $T = 0$  for  $0 \leq x \leq 1$

Boundary conditions for the two problems are:

(i)  $T(0) = 2$   $T(1) = 0$  (ii)  $T(0) = \sin 10t$   $T(1) = 0$

For problem (i) how do you resolve the contradiction between the boundary condition and the initial condition at  $x = 0$ ?