

Computational Fluid Dynamics: Lecture 7

(ME EN 6720)

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Parabolic Equations

Parabolic Equations:

- Equations of the form: $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \nabla^2 u$
- This equation is representative of diffusion type problems
- Examples of problems dominated by diffusion:
 - Heat transfer in a solid
 - mass transport through porous media
 - Couette flow
 - Poiseuille flow
 - laminar-fully developed flow phenomena
- Lets examine the 1D version of this equation and look at examples of techniques:

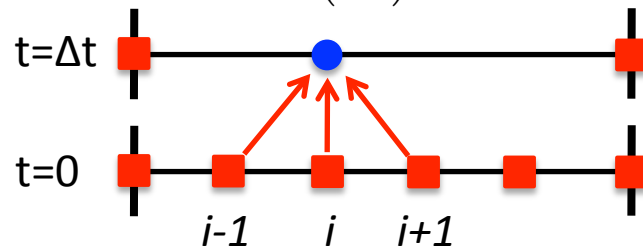
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Explicit Schemes

- **Simple Explicit Method:**

-using a forward in time and centered in space (FTCS) scheme we get the following algebraic equation:

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = \alpha \frac{1}{(\Delta x)^2} [u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n] \quad \text{or} \quad u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n + \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} [u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n]$$



The scheme has:

- T.E. $\sim \mathcal{O}[\Delta t, \Delta x^2]$

- stability: conditioned on $d = \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}$

→ diffusion number

- in general we have $N-2$ equations with $N-2$ unknowns at each time step

- for this explicit method the equations are independent. i.e. we can calculate point i at Δt without points $i-1$ or $i-2$, etc.

- **How could we improve on this** (better T.E. and/or stability)?

-Use a centered in time discretization for $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \rightarrow \frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^{n-1}}{2\Delta t} = \alpha \frac{1}{(\Delta x)^2} [u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n]$

-**T.E.** $\sim \mathcal{O}[\Delta t^2, \Delta x^2]$

-**stability:** we can show that this scheme is unconditionally unstable

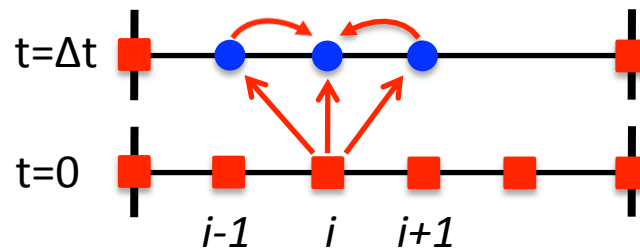
-**This scheme is basically useless!**

Implicit Schemes

- **Simple Implicit Method:**

-using forward in time and centered in space:

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = \alpha \frac{1}{(\Delta x)^2} [u_{i+1}^{n+1} - 2u_i^{n+1} + u_{i-1}^{n+1}]$$



The scheme has:

- T.E. $\sim \mathcal{O}[\Delta t, \Delta x^2]$
- stability: unconditionally stable

-here we end up with:

- N-2 unknowns
 - N-2 equations
- } Equations are coupled

-we have to solve a systems of linear algebraic equations at each time step

Implicit Schemes

- how can we improve our implicit scheme?

-average our two schemes (simple explicit and implicit)

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = \alpha \left[\theta \frac{u_{i+1}^{n+1} - 2u_i^{n+1} + u_{i-1}^{n+1}}{(\Delta x)^2} + (1 - \theta) \frac{u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n}{(\Delta x)^2} \right] \text{ with } 0 \leq \theta \leq 1$$

-for:

- $\theta=0 \rightarrow$ simple explicit method T.E. $\sim \mathcal{O}[\Delta t, \Delta x^2]$ and stability: $d \leq \frac{1}{2}$
- $\theta=1 \rightarrow$ simple implicit method T.E. $\sim \mathcal{O}[\Delta t, \Delta x^2]$ and stability: unconditional
- $\theta=\frac{1}{2} \rightarrow$ Crank-Nicolson scheme.

-Crank-Nicolson is one of the most popular ways to solve parabolic equations.

- What does this system look like?

-separating known and unknown terms: $-\frac{\alpha\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2}u_{i-1}^{n+1} + \left(1 + \frac{2\alpha\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2}\right)u_i^{n+1} - \frac{\alpha\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2}u_{i+1}^{n+1} = u_i^n$

-we can write this in matrix form: $\mathbf{A}\vec{x} = \vec{b}$

- we get c_2^* and c_{N-1}^* from our BCs:

$$\begin{aligned} c_2^* &= c_2 - b_2 u_1^{n+1} \\ c_{N-1}^* &= c_{N-1} - a_{N-1} u_N^{n+1} \\ c_i^* &= c_i \end{aligned}$$

Implicit 1-D Heat Equation

Implicit Solutions to the 1-D Heat Equation:

- we need to solve:
$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = \frac{\alpha}{(\Delta x)^2} [u_{i+1}^{n+1} - 2u_i^{n+1} + u_{i-1}^{n+1}]$$

- we can rearrange this into:

$$b_i u_{i-1}^{n+1} + d_i u_i^{n+1} + a_i u_{i+1}^{n+1} = c_i \quad \text{where} \quad a_i = b_i = -\frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2}; \quad c_i = u_i^n; \quad d_i = 1 + \frac{2\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2}$$

- This is a system of linear (dependent) equations

$$\underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} d_1 & a_1 & & & & \\ b_2 & d_2 & a_2 & 0 & & \\ & b_3 & d_3 & a_3 & 0 & \\ & 0 & b_4 & d_4 & a_4 & 0 \\ & & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & b_{N-2} & d_{N-2} & a_{N-2} \\ & 0 & & & & b_{N-1} & d_{N-1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\mathbf{A}} \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} u_2^{n+1} \\ u_3^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-2}^{n+1} \\ u_{N-1}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix}}_{\tilde{\mathbf{x}}} = \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} c_2^* \\ c_3^* \\ \vdots \\ c_{N-2}^* \\ c_{N-1}^* \end{bmatrix}}_{\tilde{\mathbf{b}}}$$

- we get c_2^* and c_{N-1}^* from our BCs:

$$\begin{aligned} c_2^* &= c_2 - b_2 u_1^{n+1} \\ c_{N-1}^* &= c_{N-1} - a_{N-1} u_N^{n+1} \\ c_i^* &= c_i \end{aligned}$$

Solving the System of Equations

- In general, solving a system of linear equations requires $\sim \mathcal{O}(N^3)$ operations (Gaussian elimination)
- We have a **tridiagonal system** of equations
 - This is a special case which can be solved **very efficiently**
- A few notes about the Matrix **A**:
 - it is diagonally dominant: $|d_i| \geq |b_i| + |a_i|$
 - it has positive elements in the diagonal and negative elements in the off diagonals
 - for these conditions we have a M-matrix and a solution will always exist.
- A good way to solve this type of system is the **Thomas Algorithm**

(i) First we can transform the matrix into an upper-triangular matrix by:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} d'_i &= d_i - \frac{b_i}{d'_{i-1}} a_{i-1} \\ c'_i &= c_i - \frac{b_i}{d'_{i-1}} c'_{i-1} \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ for } i = 3 \rightarrow N-1$$

(ii) Now we just need to do a backwards substitution to find our values:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} u_{N-1}^{n+1} &= c'_{N-1} / d'_{N-1} \\ u_i^{n+1} &= (c'_i - a_i u_{i+1}^{n+1}) / d'_i \end{aligned} \right\} \text{ for } i = N-2, N-3 \rightarrow 2$$

2-D Heat Equation

- Computational cost of the Thomas Algorithm is $\sim \mathcal{O}(N)$
- see Ferziger page 95 for more details on the Thomas Algorithm

- **2-D Heat Equation**

$$\frac{u_{i,j}^{n+1} - u_{i,j}^n}{\Delta t} = \alpha \left[\frac{u_{i+1,j}^n - 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i-1,j}^n}{(\Delta x)^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1}^n - 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i,j-1}^n}{(\Delta y)^2} \right]$$

- T.E. $\sim \mathcal{O}[\Delta t, (\Delta x)^2, (\Delta y)^2]$

• Stability:
$$\underbrace{\left[\frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \right]}_{d_x} + \underbrace{\left[\frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta y)^2} \right]}_{d_y} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

-if $\Delta x = \Delta y \Rightarrow d_x = d_y \Rightarrow d \leq \frac{1}{4}$

-explicit method in **2-D is twice as restrictive as in 1-D**

Implicit 2-D Heat Equation

- **Implicit Scheme for 2-D heat:** (simple implicit)

$$\frac{u_{i,j}^{n+1} - u_{i,j}^n}{\Delta t} = \alpha \left[\frac{u_{i+1,j}^{n+1} - 2u_{i,j}^{n+1} + u_{i-1,j}^{n+1}}{(\Delta x)^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1}^{n+1} - 2u_{i,j}^{n+1} + u_{i,j-1}^{n+1}}{(\Delta y)^2} \right]$$

- We can rearrange this into: (using same idea as for 1-D)

$$a_{i,j}u_{i+1,j}^{n+1} + b_{i,j}u_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + c_{i,j}u_{i,j}^{n+1} + d_{i,j}u_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + e_{i,j}u_{i,j+1}^{n+1} = f_{i,j}$$

-if we drop the indexes and note that $b_{i,j} = d_{i,j}$ and $a_{i,j} = e_{i,j}$ (for a uniform grid) we get a Matrix looks as follows for the given 2D mesh:

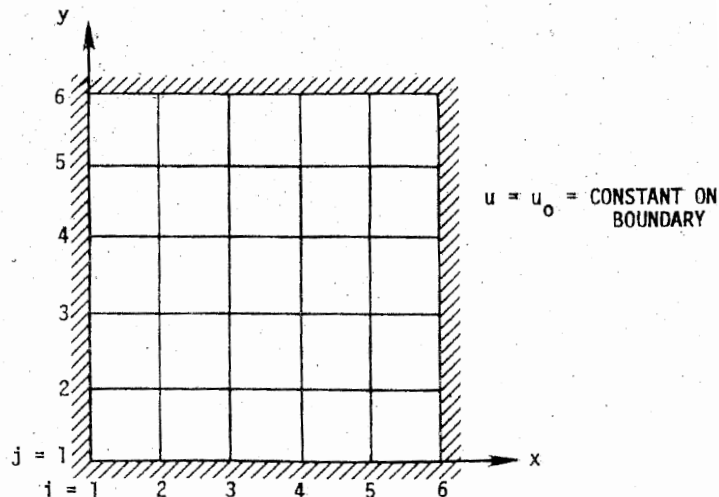


Figure 4.18 Two-dimensional computational mesh.

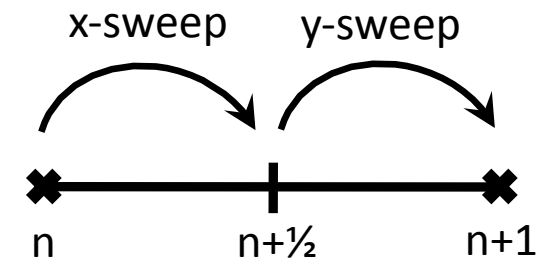
$$\begin{bmatrix} c & b & 0 & 0 & a & 0 \\ b & c & b & & a & \\ 0 & b & c & b & & a \\ 0 & & b & c & 0 & a \\ a & & 0 & c & b & a \\ 0 & a & & b & c & b & a \\ & a & & b & c & b & a \\ & & a & & b & c & 0 & a \\ & & & a & & b & c & b & a \\ & & & & a & & b & c & 0 & a \\ & & & & & a & & b & c & b \\ & & & & & & a & & b & c \\ 0 & & & & & & & 0 & a & 0 & 0 & b & c \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{2,2}^{n+1} \\ u_{3,2}^{n+1} \\ u_{4,2}^{n+1} \\ u_{5,2}^{n+1} \\ u_{2,3}^{n+1} \\ u_{3,3}^{n+1} \\ u_{4,3}^{n+1} \\ u_{5,3}^{n+1} \\ u_{2,4}^{n+1} \\ u_{3,4}^{n+1} \\ u_{4,4}^{n+1} \\ u_{5,4}^{n+1} \\ u_{2,5}^{n+1} \\ u_{3,5}^{n+1} \\ u_{4,5}^{n+1} \\ u_{5,5}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} d_{2,2}'' \\ d_{3,2}'' \\ d_{4,2}'' \\ d_{5,2}'' \\ d_{2,3}'' \\ d_{3,3}'' \\ d_{4,3}'' \\ d_{5,3}'' \\ d_{2,4}'' \\ d_{3,4}'' \\ d_{4,4}'' \\ d_{5,4}'' \\ d_{2,5}'' \\ d_{3,5}'' \\ d_{4,5}'' \\ d_{5,5}'' \end{bmatrix}$$

Implicit 2-D Heat Equation

- The matrix for the 2-D heat equation (with simple implicit) is a pentadiagonal matrix (in 3-D we would have even more diagonals).
- As we add diagonals our cost (computationally) goes up considerably
- We need an alternative method

Alternating Direction Implicit (ADI): Ferziger pg 105-107

- Idea: breakup the problem into different directions:



$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{- x-sweep: } \frac{u_{i,j}^{n+1/2} - u_{i,j}^n}{(\Delta t/2)} &= \alpha \left[\frac{u_{i+1,j}^{n+1/2} - 2u_{i,j}^{n+1/2} + u_{i-1,j}^{n+1/2}}{(\Delta x)^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1}^n - 2u_{i,j}^n + u_{i,j-1}^n}{(\Delta y)^2} \right] \\
 \text{- y-sweep: } \frac{u_{i,j}^{n+1} - u_{i,j}^{n+1/2}}{(\Delta t/2)} &= \alpha \left[\frac{u_{i+1,j}^{n+1/2} - 2u_{i,j}^{n+1/2} + u_{i-1,j}^{n+1/2}}{(\Delta x)^2} + \frac{u_{i,j+1}^{n+1} - 2u_{i,j}^{n+1} + u_{i,j-1}^{n+1}}{(\Delta y)^2} \right]
 \end{aligned}$$

- This gives us two tridiagonal systems:

$$\begin{aligned}
 * \quad & -d_1 u_{i-1,j}^{n+1/2} + (1 + 2d_1) u_{i,j}^{n+1/2} - d_1 u_{i+1,j}^{n+1/2} = d_2 u_{i,j+1}^n + (1 - 2d_2) u_{i,j}^n + d_2 u_{i,j-1}^n \\
 * \quad & -d_2 u_{i,j-1}^{n+1} + (1 + 2d_2) u_{i,j}^{n+1} - d_2 u_{i,j+1}^{n+1} = d_1 u_{i-1,j}^{n+1/2} + (1 - 2d_1) u_{i,j}^{n+1/2} + d_1 u_{i+1,j}^{n+1/2}
 \end{aligned}
 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} d_1 = \frac{1}{2} d_x \\ d_2 = \frac{1}{2} d_y \end{array} \right\}$$