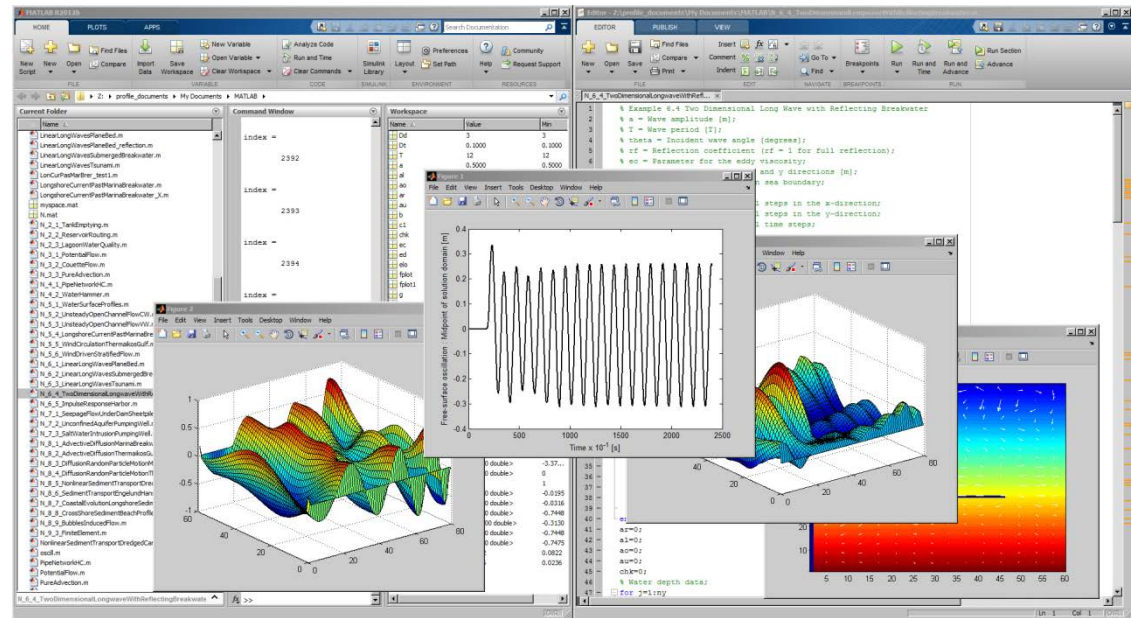
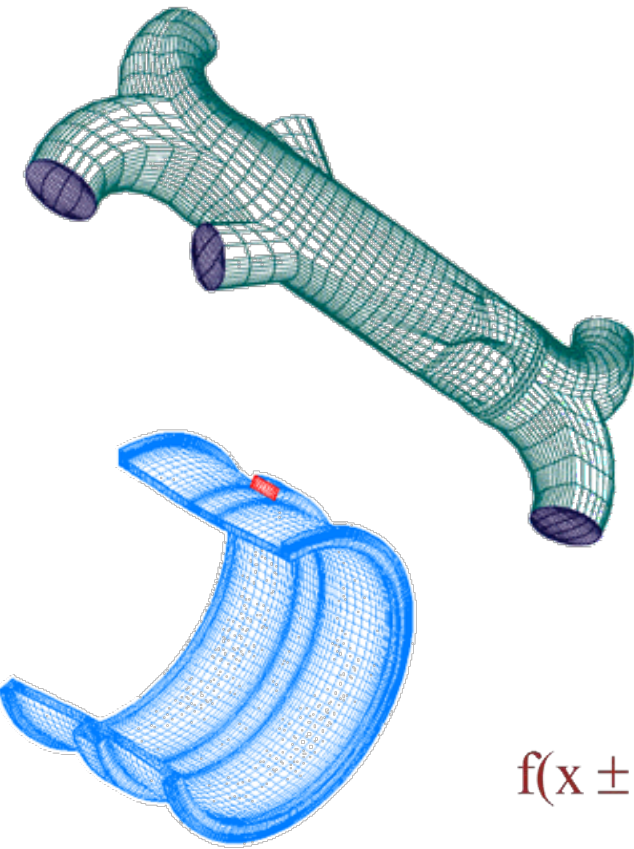


# Computational Hydrodynamics

## - Chapter 1 : Introduction



$$f(x \pm \Delta x) = f(x) \pm \frac{df}{dx} \Delta x + \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2!} \pm \frac{d^3f}{dx^3} \frac{(\Delta x)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

# Mathematical Modelling

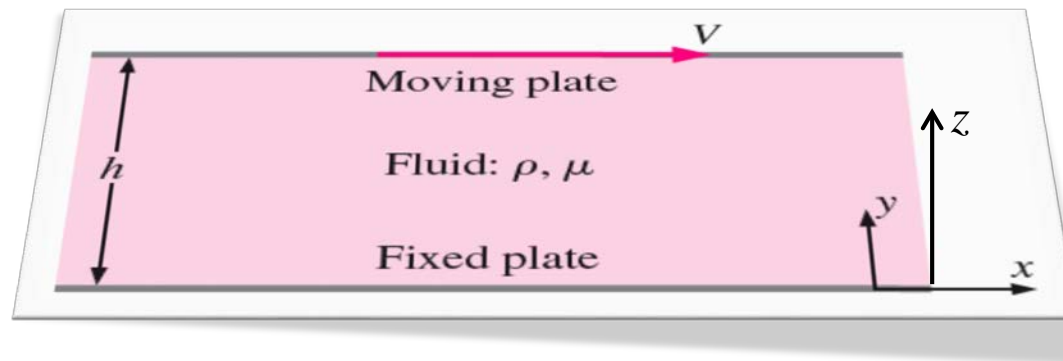
- **Mathematical Models** approximate *cause-response* relations in a wide variety of applications in engineering, physical and social sciences, and economics.
- Depending on the methodology used, mathematical models can be *deterministic / stochastic / a combination of both*.
- **Deterministic Models** are *using equations* based on underlying principles and physical laws.
- **Stochastic Models** are based on *probabilistic and statistical* methods.

# Mathematical Modelling

- The solution of a mathematical model can be either *analytical* or *numerical* (focus of this class).
- **Analytical Solutions** are limited only to simple (or idealized) problems, and are presented as *closed-form* or *open-form* (series with infinite number of terms) solutions.
- **Numerical Solutions** are approximate (or alternative) of analytical solution and require the usage of a computer.

# Analytical Solutions

- Example : Fully developed Couette Flow
- For the given geometry and BC's, calculate the velocity and pressure fields, and estimate the shear force per unit area acting on the bottom plate
- Step 1: Geometry, dimensions, and properties



# Analytical Solutions

- Step 2: Assumptions and BC's
- Assumptions
  1. Plates are infinite in x and z (no edge effects)
  2. Flow is steady,  $\partial/\partial t = 0$
  3. Parallel flow,  $V=0$
  4. Incompressible, Newtonian, laminar, constant properties
  5. No pressure gradient in x-direction
  6. 2D,  $W=0$ ,  $\partial/\partial z = 0$
  7. Gravity acts in the -z direction,  $\vec{g} = -g\vec{k}$ ,  $g_z = -g$
- Boundary conditions
  1. Bottom plate ( $y=0$ ) :  $u=0$ ,  $v=0$ ,  $w=0$
  2. Top plate ( $y=h$ ) :  $u=V$ ,  $v=0$ ,  $w=0$

# Analytical Solutions

- Step 3: Simplify

Continuity

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + \cancel{\frac{\partial V}{\partial y}} + \cancel{\frac{\partial W}{\partial z}} = 0$$

Note: these numbers refer to the assumptions on the previous slide

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} = 0$$

This means the flow is “fully developed” or not changing in the direction of flow

X-momentum

$$\rho \left( \cancel{\frac{\partial U}{\partial t}} + U \cancel{\frac{\partial U}{\partial x}} + V \cancel{\frac{\partial U}{\partial y}} + W \cancel{\frac{\partial U}{\partial z}} \right) = - \cancel{\frac{\partial P}{\partial x}} + \rho g_x + \mu \left( \cancel{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2}} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial y^2} + \cancel{\frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial z^2}} \right)$$

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dy^2} = 0$$

# Analytical Solutions

- Step 3: Simplify, (cont'd)

Y-momentum

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} + W \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \right) = - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} + \rho g_y + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

Annotations: Boxes above terms indicate variable counts: (2,3) for  $\frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$ , 3 for  $U \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$ , 3 for  $V \frac{\partial V}{\partial y}$ , (3,6) for  $W \frac{\partial V}{\partial z}$ , 7 for  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial y}$ , 3 for  $\rho g_y$ , and 3 for each of the three second-order derivative terms.

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial y} = 0 \longrightarrow p = p(z)$$

Z-momentum

$$\rho \left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial W}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial W}{\partial y} + W \frac{\partial W}{\partial z} \right) = - \frac{\partial P}{\partial z} + \rho g_z + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 W}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 W}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 W}{\partial z^2} \right)$$

Annotations: Boxes above terms indicate variable counts: (2,6) for  $\frac{\partial W}{\partial t}$ , 6 for  $U \frac{\partial W}{\partial x}$ , 6 for  $V \frac{\partial W}{\partial y}$ , 6 for  $W \frac{\partial W}{\partial z}$ , 7 for  $\frac{\partial P}{\partial z}$ , and 6 for each of the three second-order derivative terms.

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial z} = \rho g_z \longrightarrow \frac{dp}{dz} = -\rho g$$

# Analytical Solutions

- Step 4: Integrate

X-momentum

$$\frac{d^2 u}{dy^2} = 0 \xrightarrow{\text{integrate}} \frac{du}{dy} = C_1 \xrightarrow{\text{integrate}} u(y) = C_1 y + C_2$$

Z-momentum

$$\frac{dp}{dz} = -\rho g \xrightarrow{\text{integrate}} p = -\rho g z + C_3$$



# Analytical Solutions

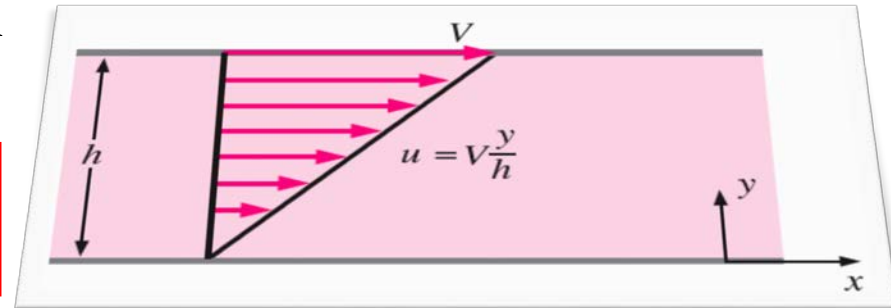
- Step 5: Apply BC's

- $y=0, u=0=C_1 \times 0 + C_2 \Rightarrow C_2 = 0$

- $y=h, u=V=C_1 h \Rightarrow C_1 = V/h$

- This gives

$$u(y) = V \frac{y}{h}$$



- For pressure, no explicit BC, therefore  $C_3$  can remain an arbitrary constant (recall only  $\nabla P$  appears in NSE).

- Let  $p = p_0$  at  $z = 0$  ( $C_3$  renamed  $p_0$ )

$$p(z) = p_0 - \rho g z \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} 1. \text{ Hydrostatic pressure} \\ 2. \text{ Pressure acts independently of flow} \end{array} \right.$$

# Analytical Solutions

- Step 6: Verify solution by back-substituting into differential equations
  - Given the solution  $(u,v,w)=(Vy/h, 0, 0)$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0, \frac{\partial w}{\partial z} = 0$$

- Continuity is satisfied

$$0 + 0 + 0 = 0$$

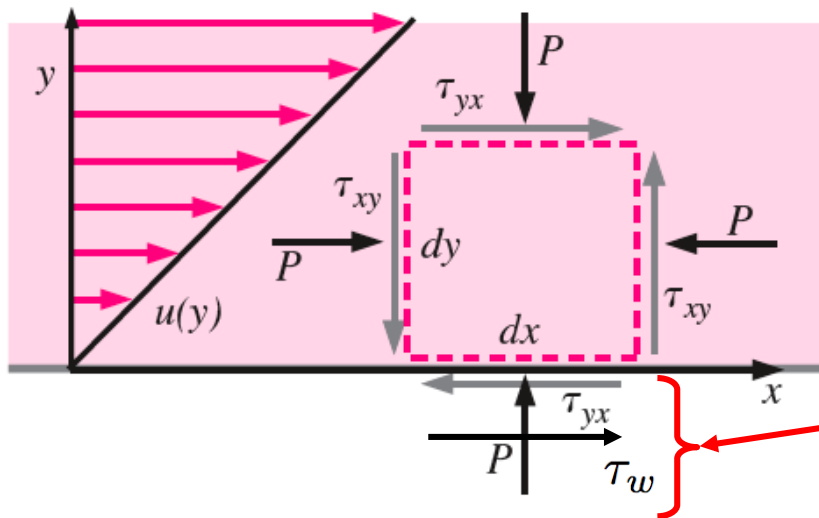
- X-momentum is satisfied

$$\begin{aligned} \rho \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + U \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + V \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} + W \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} \right) &= -\frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + \rho g_x + \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial z^2} \right) \\ \rho \left( 0 + V \frac{y}{h} \cdot 0 + 0 \cdot V/h + 0 \cdot 0 \right) &= -0 + \rho \cdot 0 + \mu (0 + 0 + 0) \\ 0 &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

# Analytical Solutions

- Finally, calculate shear force on bottom plate

$$\tau_{ij} = \begin{pmatrix} 2\mu \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} & \mu \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right) & \mu \left( \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial x} \right) \\ \mu \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \right) & 2\mu \frac{\partial V}{\partial y} & \mu \left( \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} + \frac{\partial W}{\partial y} \right) \\ \mu \left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial U}{\partial z} \right) & \mu \left( \frac{\partial W}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial z} \right) & 2\mu \frac{\partial W}{\partial z} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \mu \frac{V}{h} & 0 \\ \mu \frac{V}{h} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$



Shear force per unit area acting on the wall

$$\frac{\vec{F}}{A} = \tau_w = \mu \frac{V}{h} \hat{i}$$

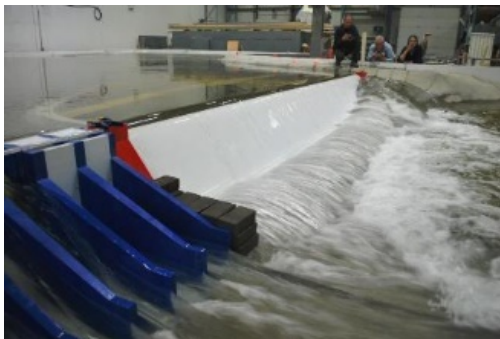
Note that  $\tau_w$  is equal and opposite to the shear stress acting on the fluid  $\tau_{yx}$  (Newton's third law).

# Computational Hydraulics

- **Numerical Analysis** is the branch of mathematics that develops and analyzes methodologies for *numerical solutions*.
- **Numerical Models** are mathematical models that utilize numerical analysis and computers to provide numerical solutions. Numerical models are relatively easy to develop and very easy to modify and adapt to different scenarios.
- **Computational Hydraulics** or **Computational Hydrodynamics** is the discipline that seeks solutions of hydraulic/hydrodynamic problems by means of numerical models.

# Computational Hydraulics

- Computational Hydraulics is part of the broader discipline of *Computational Fluid Dynamics* (CFD).
- Nowadays, *Computational Hydraulics* simulations have replaced, almost exclusively, the application of *Physical Modelling*.
- **Physical Models** involve the study of engineering applications by using small-scale replicas of the *prototype*. Physical Models are expensive to construct and maintain, and once built are very difficult to modify.



# Numerical Algorithms

- **Numerical Algorithm** describes a pre-determined sequence of basic *arithmetic* and *logical* operations, for the solution of a mathematical problem:

$$Y = L(X)$$

where  $X$  is a set of *input data*,  $Y$  is a set of *output data* (the solution in numerical form), and  $L$  is an *operator*.

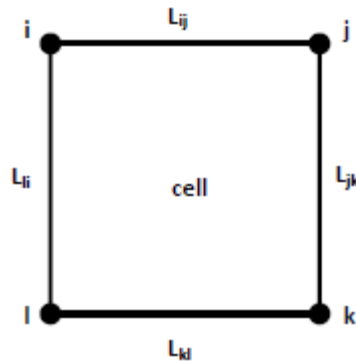
- Problems in hydraulics can be described mainly by means of *partial differential equations* (PDEs). These are, most of the time, *linear* or *linearized homogeneous 2<sup>nd</sup> order PDEs*.
- The problems that can be described and solved by using PDEs include but are not limited to flows in: *Pressurized Conduits; Open Channels; Waves Mechanics; Coastal Hydraulics; Pollutant Transport; and Sedimentation Processes*.
- Those equations in their general form can only be solved by using some numerical algorithm.

# Well-Posed Mathematical Models

- A mathematical model of a physical system is well-posed under the following conditions:
  - The solution algorithm produces a solution for all sets of *input data*, under specified conditions and limitations.
  - The produced solution is unique, i.e. only one solution output corresponds to each set of *input data*.
  - The *output* has to be related to the *input*, (via a “Lipschitz” condition) - i.e. each infinitesimal change of input values  $\delta X$ , results into a finite change of output  $\delta Y$ .
- Note that for a mathematical model to be *well-posed*, it is necessary that the *governing PDEs*, the *auxiliary data* (i.e. boundary and initial conditions) and the *numerical algorithm* are all well-posed.

# Discretization and Numerical Solution of Mathematical Models

- The solution domain is *discretized* appropriately into one-, two- or three-dimensional “cells” (or “grids”) and the solution is approximated at: the corner nodes (i,j,k,l), or the sides ( $L_{ij}$ ,  $L_{jk}$ ,  $L_{kl}$ ,  $L_{li}$ ) or the interior of the cell. Some numerical methods (e.g. Finite Elements) can handle cells of arbitrary shape.

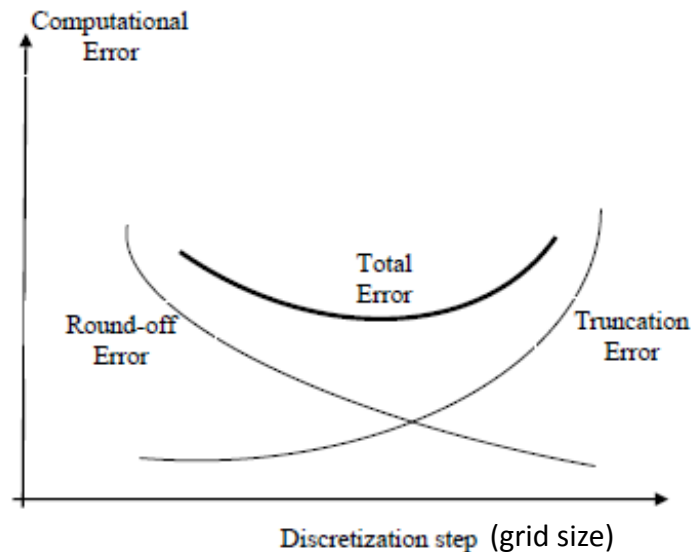


- The independent variables in space (x, y, z) and time (t) are also discretized into small steps  $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta y$ ,  $\Delta z$ , and  $\Delta t$ .
- The Differentials are approximated by Differences and the Differential Equations are converted into Difference Equations.



# Truncation and Round-off Errors

- The *truncation error* is introduced by the discretization of the solution domain. This error increases with increasing discretization steps.
- The *round-off error* is the result of arithmetic operations. This error increases with decreasing discretization steps.
- The *total computational error* is the summation of both the *truncation* and the *round-off* errors.



# Numerical Solutions

- Any numerical solution method needs to satisfy three conditions:
- It has to be consistent, i.e. the approximation used for the derivatives has to be correct, according to the numerical method used.
- It has to be convergent, i.e. the numerical solution must tend asymptotically towards the analytical solution, as the discretization steps ( $\Delta x$ ,  $\Delta y$ ,  $\Delta z$ ,  $\Delta t$ ) tend to zero. A *non-convergent* method is of no practical use.
- It has to be numerically stable. For stable methods, the inevitably introduced errors during the solution procedure do not increase indefinitely, but *decay* and become negligible after some solution steps.

**Consistency + Convergence + Stability = Good Model**

# Taylor Series

- A function  $f(x)$  can be expanded into a neighbouring point by means of the Taylor series

$$f(x \pm \Delta x) = f(x) \pm \frac{df}{dx} \Delta x + \frac{d^2f}{dx^2} \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2!} \pm \frac{d^3f}{dx^3} \frac{(\Delta x)^3}{3!} + \dots$$

where  $\Delta x$  is a very small number and  $n!$  is the factorial ( $n! = 1 \times 2 \times 3 \times \dots \times n$ ).

- Since  $\Delta x$  is a very small number,  $(\Delta x)^m \rightarrow 0$  for any exponent  $m$  that is a positive integer greater than 1.
- That leads to *truncated* Taylor Series

$$f(x \pm \Delta x) = f(x) \pm \frac{df}{dx} \Delta x + O[(\Delta x)^2]$$

where  $O[ ]$  is the order of the *truncation error*.

# Truncation Errors

- From the previous equation, *truncation error* ( $T_E$ ) can be expressed as

$$T_E = \frac{(\Delta x)^{n+1}}{(n+1)!} \frac{d^{(n+1)} f}{dx^{(n+1)}}$$

- How to reduce truncation errors?
  - (a) Reduce grid spacing, use smaller  $\Delta x$
  - (b) Increase order of accuracy, use larger  $n$

# The Finite Differences (F.D.) Method

- The Finite Differences Method is a classical method of *Numerical Analysis* where *differentials* are approximated by *differences* using the truncated Taylor series as:

- Forward or Upwind F.D.  $\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x)}{\Delta x} + O(\Delta x)$
- 1<sup>st</sup> derivative - 1<sup>st</sup> order

- Backward or Downwind F.D.  $\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{f(x) - f(x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x} + O(\Delta x)$
- 1<sup>st</sup> derivative - 1<sup>st</sup> order

- Central F.D.  $\frac{df}{dx} = \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - f(x - \Delta x)}{2(\Delta x)} + O[(\Delta x)^2]$
- 1<sup>st</sup> derivative - 2<sup>nd</sup> order

- Central F.D.  $\frac{d^2f}{dx^2} = \frac{f(x + \Delta x) - 2f(x) + f(x - \Delta x)}{(\Delta x)^2} + O[(\Delta x)^2]$
- 2<sup>nd</sup> derivative - 2<sup>nd</sup> order

# The Finite Differences Solution Schemes

- After replacement of the differentials by “FINITE” differences, the resulting Finite Differences algebraic equation(s) is known as the *Finite Differences Scheme* or *Algorithm*.
- Depending on the procedure for the solution of the algebraic equation(s) corresponding to all the points in the solution domain, the finite difference scheme used, is characterized as:
- Explicit, when the deriving algebraic equation(s) can be solved independently, or
- Implicit, when those equations need to be solved simultaneously, as a system of algebraic equations.
- *Explicit schemes* are much easier to use but commonly are subject to certain restrictions due to *instability criteria*.
- Note that a Finite Difference Scheme may not always lead to a physically correct and operationally acceptable solution .

# Background Knowledge Requirements

- Some fundamental knowledge of the following topics is necessary for taking this class, as follows
- Calculus including differential equations.
- Introductory numerical analysis.
- Any computer language (e.g., FORTRAN, C++, BASIC, **MATLAB**, etc.)
- Basic understanding of mass and momentum conservation principles as apply to fluid flow.
- In addition, all the students must have access to MATLAB R2015a (or earlier version) on campus in order to run the computer models, and to conduct the suggested exercises throughout the class.

# Brief Introduction of MATLAB

## Current Folder-Editor-Command Window-Workspace

- The *computer programs*, *subroutines*, and *data files* are all listed in the “Current Folder” tile (left).

**Current Folder**

**Editor**

**Workspace**

**Command Window**



# Brief Introduction of MATLAB

## Run-Output windows

- All programs and data related to MATLAB should be stored in the MATLAB folder under *Libraries-Documents* (Microsoft platform).
- Once a program is selected from the “*Current Folder*” tile (right), a new window the “*Editor*” appears.
- The program can be executed by clicking on the “*Run*” icon on the top of the “*Editor*” window.
- The program will run on the “*Command Window*” (center) and the results of the various variables will appear on the “*Workplace*” tile (right).
- Any plot will be shown on a separate “*Figure*” window.

### Output Windows

# Solving the PDE's using Numerical Methods

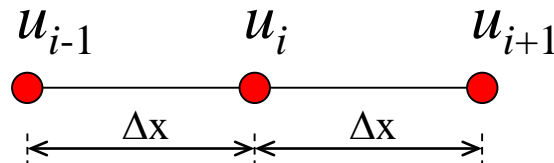
- There are a number of methods for the solution of the governing PDE's on the discretized domain
- The most important discretization methods are:
  - Finite Difference Method (FDM)
  - Finite Volume Method (FVM)
  - Finite Element Method (FEM)

# Finite Difference Method - Introduction

- Oldest method for the numerical solution of PDE's
- Procedure:
  - Start with the conservation equation in differential form
  - Solution domain is covered by grid
  - Approximate the differential equation at each grid point by approximating the partial derivatives from the nodal values of the function giving one algebraic equation per grid point
  - Solve the resulting algebraic equations for the whole grid. At each grid point you solve for the unknown variable value and the value of it's neighboring grid points

# Finite Difference Method - Concept

- The finite difference method is based on the Taylor series expansion about a point,  $x$



$$u_{i-1} = u_i - \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i \Delta x + \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right)_i \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} + \text{H.O.T.}$$

where  $u_{i-1}$  is defined as  $u(x - \Delta x)$

Subtracting the two eqns above gives

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i = \frac{u_{i+1} - u_{i-1}}{2\Delta x} + O(\Delta x^2)$$

$$u_{i+1} = u_i + \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i \Delta x + \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right)_i \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} + \text{H.O.T.}$$

where  $u_{i+1}$  is defined as  $u(x + \Delta x)$

Adding the two eqns above gives

$$\left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right)_i = \frac{u_{i+1} - 2u_i + u_{i-1}}{\Delta x^2} + O(\Delta x^2)$$

# Finite Difference Method - Application

- Consider the steady 1-dimensional convection/diffusion equation:

$$\frac{\partial(\rho u \phi)}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)$$

- From the Taylor series expansion, get

$$-\left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) \right]_i \approx -\frac{\left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x} = -\frac{1}{\Delta x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\phi_{i+1} - \phi_i}{\Delta x} - \Gamma \frac{\phi_i - \phi_{i-1}}{\Delta x} \right)$$

$$\frac{\partial(\rho u \phi)}{\partial x} \approx \rho u \frac{\phi_{i+1} - \phi_{i-1}}{2\Delta x}$$

## Finite Difference Method – Application(Cont'd)

- Substitute the discrete forms of the differentials to get:

$$\rho u \frac{\phi_{i+1} - \phi_{i-1}}{2\Delta x} - \frac{1}{\Delta x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\phi_{i+1} - \phi_i}{\Delta x} - \Gamma \frac{\phi_i - \phi_{i-1}}{\Delta x} \right) = 0$$

$$\frac{2\Gamma}{\Delta x} \phi_i = \left( -\frac{\rho u}{2} + \frac{\Gamma}{\Delta x} \right) \phi_{i+1} + \left( \frac{\rho u}{2} + \frac{\Gamma}{\Delta x} \right) \phi_{i-1}$$

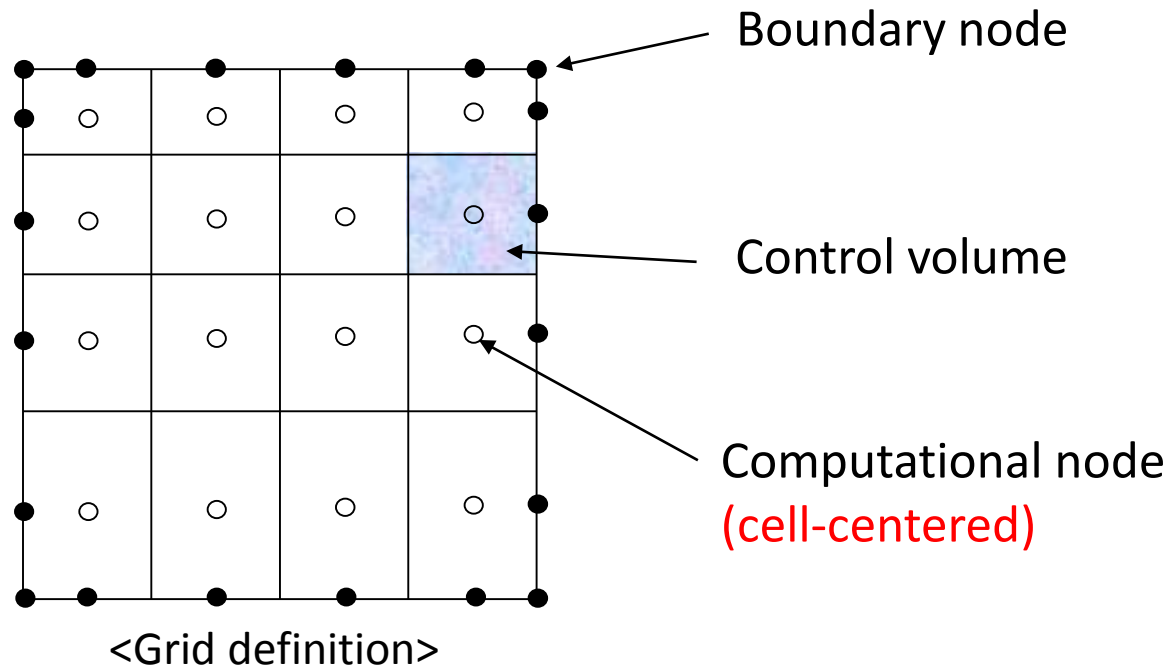
*Algebraic form of PDE*

## Finite Difference Method – Summary

- Discretized the one-dimensional convection/diffusion equation
- The derivatives were determined from a Taylor series expansion
- Advantages of FDM: simple and effective on structured grids
- Disadvantages of FDM: conservation is not enforced unless with special treatment, restricted to simple geometries

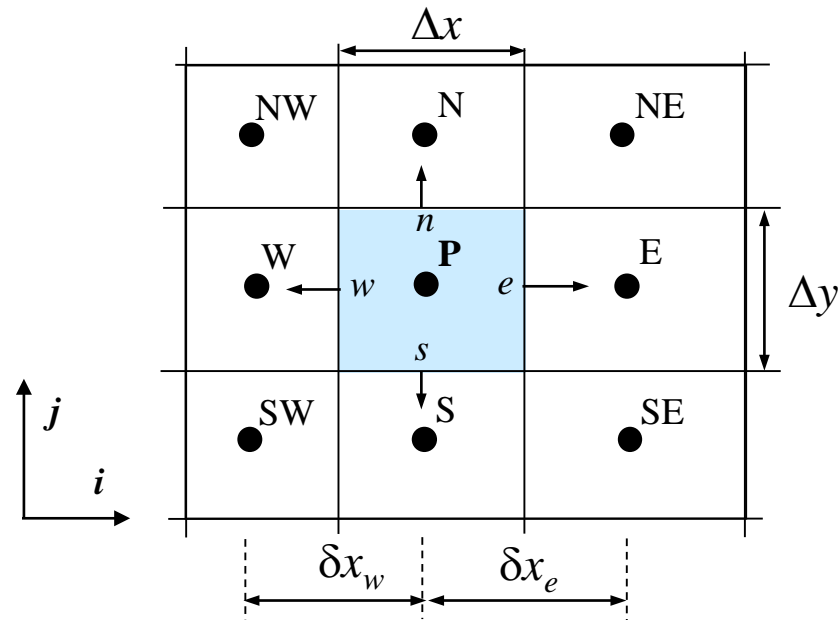
# Finite Volume Method - Introduction

- Using Finite **Volume** Method, the solution domain is subdivided into a finite number of small **control volumes** by a grid
- The grid defines to boundaries of the control volumes while the computational node lies at the center of the control volume
- The advantage of FVM is that the integral conservation is satisfied exactly over the control volume





# Finite Volume Method – Typical Control Volume



- The net flux through the control volume boundary is the sum of integrals over the four control volume faces (six in 3D). The control volumes do not overlap
- The value of the integrand is not available at the control volume faces and is determined by interpolation (*Why?*)

# Finite Volume Method – Application

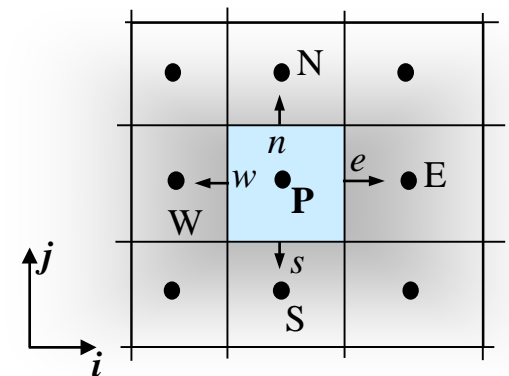
- Consider the one-dimensional convection/diffusion equation
- The finite volume method (FVM) uses the integral form of the conservation equations over the control volume: *(please recall what FDM does for the equation)*

$$\oint_V \left[ \frac{\partial(\rho u \phi)}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) \right] dV = \oint_V S dV$$

- Integrating the above equation in the x-direction across faces  $e$  and  $w$  of the control volume and leaving out the source term gives

$$(\rho u \phi)_e - (\rho u \phi)_w = \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e - \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_w$$

- The values of  $\phi$  at the faces  $e$  and  $w$  are needed



# Finite Volume Method – Interpolation

- Using a piecewise-linear interpolation between control volume centers gives

$$(\rho u \phi)_e - (\rho u \phi)_w = \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_e - \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right)_w$$

$$\frac{1}{2}(\rho u)_e(\phi_E + \phi_P) - \frac{1}{2}(\rho u)_w(\phi_P + \phi_W) = \frac{\Gamma_e(\phi_E - \phi_P)}{(\delta x)_e} - \frac{\Gamma_w(\phi_P - \phi_W)}{(\delta x)_w}$$

where

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \phi_e &= \frac{1}{2}(\phi_E + \phi_P) \\ \phi_w &= \frac{1}{2}(\phi_P + \phi_W) \end{aligned} \right\} \begin{aligned} &\blacksquare \text{ linear interpolation between nodes} \\ &\blacksquare \text{ face is midway between nodes} \\ &\blacksquare \text{ equivalent to } \textit{Central Difference Scheme (CDS)} \end{aligned}$$

$$\left( \frac{2\Gamma}{\delta x} \right) \phi_P = \left( \frac{1}{2} \rho u_w + \left( \frac{\Gamma}{\delta x} \right)_w \right) \phi_W + \left( -\frac{1}{2} \rho u_e + \left( \frac{\Gamma}{\delta x} \right)_e \right) \phi_E$$

- Under assumption of continuity, discrete form of PDE from FVM is identical to FDM

# Finite Volume Method – Interpolation

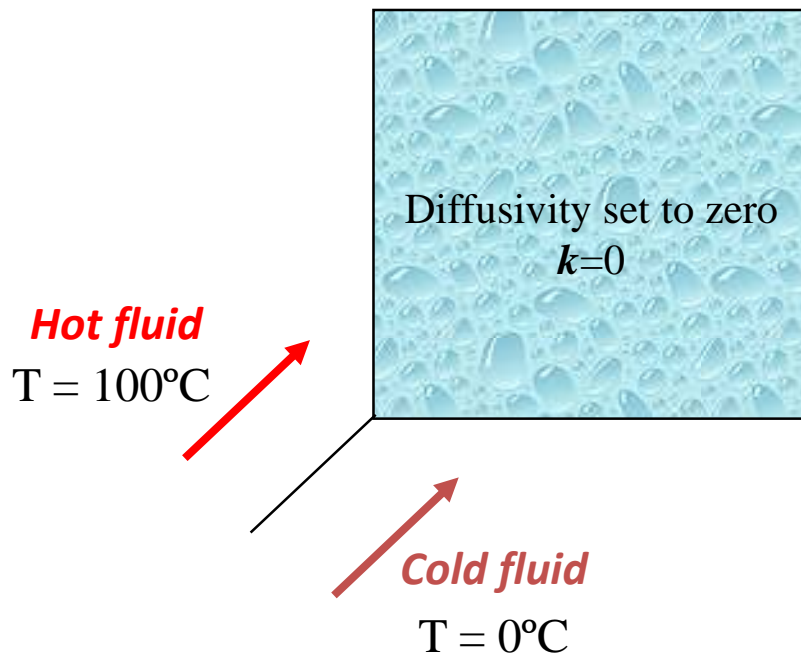
- The piecewise-linear or CDS interpolation may give rise to (oscillatory) numerical errors. CDS was used only as an example of discretization and is inappropriate for most convection/diffusion flows.
- A large number of interpolation techniques are improvements on the CDS. Some of these, in increasing level of accuracy, are:
  - First-Order Upwind Scheme
  - Power Law Scheme
  - Second-Order Upwind Scheme
  - Higher Order
    - Blended Second-Order Upwind/Central Difference
    - Quadratic Upwind Interpolation (QUICK)
    - MUSCL(Monotonic Upstream-Centered Scheme for Conservation Law)

## Sources of Numerical Errors – FDM & FVM

- Discretization Errors from inexact interpolation of nonlinear profile (FVM)
- Truncation Errors due to exclusion of Higher Order Terms (FDM)
- Domain discretization not well resolved to capture flow physics
- Artificial or False Diffusion due to interpolation method and grid

## Example of Numerical Errors – False Diffusion

- False diffusion is numerically introduced diffusion and arises in convection dominant flows, i.e., high  $Pe$  number flows ( $Pe = \text{advection rate}/\text{diffusion rate}$ )
- Consider the problem below:



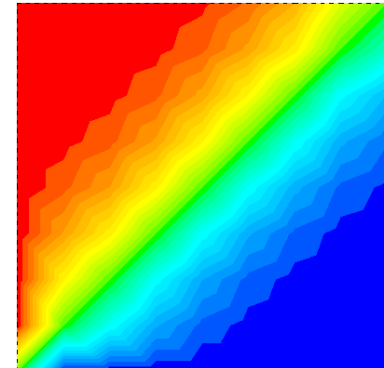
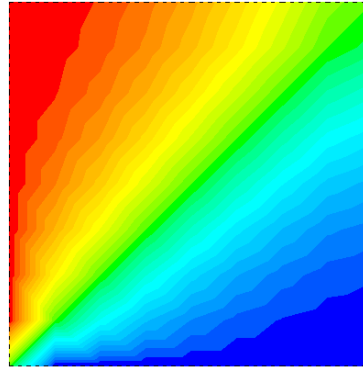
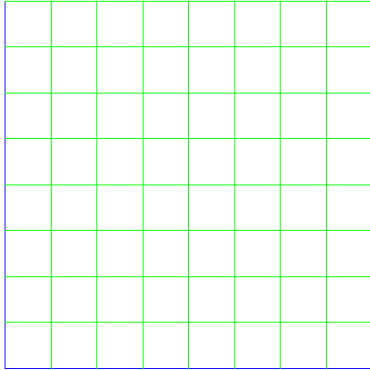
- ♦ If there is no false diffusion, the temperature along the diagonal will be either  $100^\circ\text{C}$  or  $0^\circ\text{C}$ , exactly.
- ♦ False diffusion will occur due to the oblique flow direction and non-zero gradient of temperature in the direction normal to the flow
- ♦ Grid refinement coupled with a higher-order interpolation scheme will minimize the false diffusion (*see the next slide*)

## Example of Numerical Errors – False Diffusion(Cont'd)

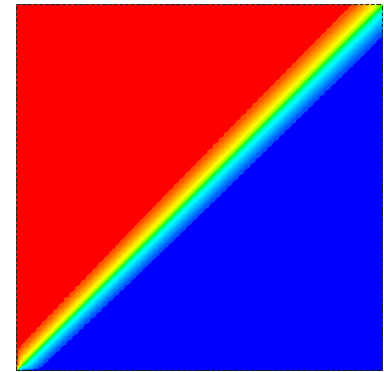
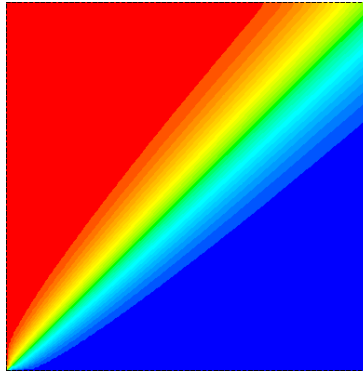
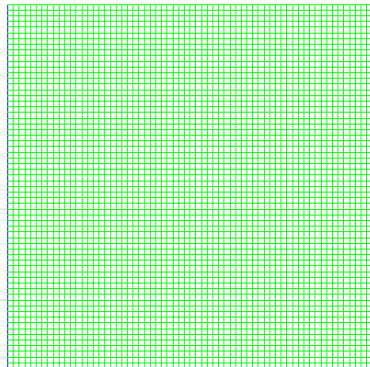
*First-order Upwind*

*Second-order Upwind*

8 x 8



64 x 64



## Finite Volume Method – Summary

- The FVM uses the integral conservation equation applied to control volumes which subdivide the solution domain, and to the entire solution domain
- The variable values at the faces of the control volume are determined by interpolation. False diffusion can arise depending on the choice of interpolation scheme
- The grid must be refined to reduce “smearing” of the solution as shown in the last example
- Advantages of FVM: Integral conservation is exactly satisfied, Not limited to grid type (structured or unstructured, Cartesian or body-fitted)



# Finite Volume Method – Homework #1

- One governing equation can be written in either conservative or non-conservative form as shown below.

- Conservative form : 
$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 0$$

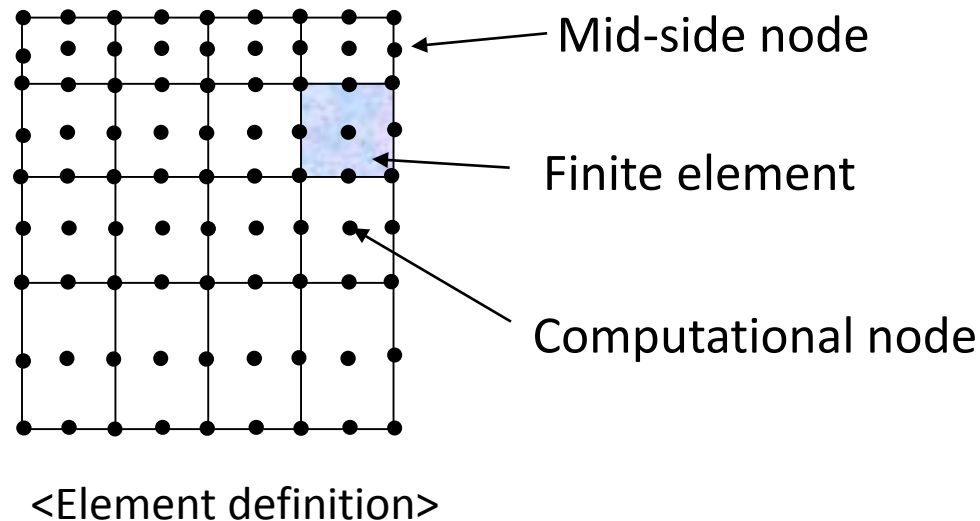
- Non-conservative form : 
$$G \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} = 0$$

where F and G are unknowns to be discretized.

- Q1) Please prove that when using a simple numerical scheme(e.g., FDM) the equation of conservative form retains conservative property while the one of non-conservative form cannot.
- Q2) What will be the benefit through the conservative property in the computational hydraulics?

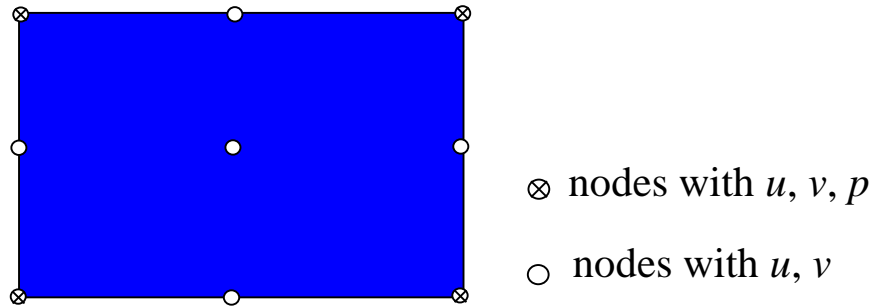
# Finite Element Method – Introduction

- Using Finite Element Method, the solution domain is subdivided into a finite number of small elements by a grid
- The grid defines to boundaries of the elements and location of nodes — for higher-order elements, there can be mid-side nodes also
- FEM uses multi-dimensional shape functions which afford geometric flexibility and limit false diffusion



# Finite Element Method – Typical Element

- 9-noded quadrilateral



- Within each element, the velocity and pressure fields are approximated by:

$$u = \sum_{i=1}^r u_i \phi_i \quad v = \sum_{i=1}^r v_i \phi_i \quad p = \sum_{i=1}^s p_i \psi_i$$

where  $u_i, v_i, p_i$  are the nodal point unknowns and  $\phi_i$  and  $\psi_i$  are interpolation functions

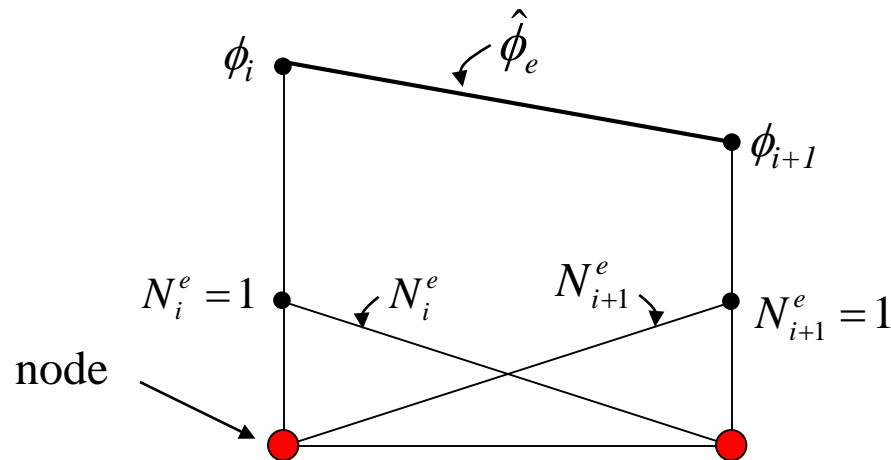
- Quadratic approximation for velocity, linear approximation for pressure required to avoid spurious pressure modes

# Finite Element Method – Interpolation

- The solution on an element is represented as:

$$\phi \cong \hat{\phi}_e = \phi_i N_i^e + \phi_{i+1} N_{i+1}^e$$

where  $N$  are the basis functions. We choose basis functions that are 1 at one node of the element and 0 at all other the nodes.



## Finite Element Method – Application

- Recall the one-dimensional convection/diffusion equation
- Most often, the finite element method (FEM) uses the Method of Weighted Residuals to discretize the equation
- Multiply governing equation by weight function  $W_i$  and integrate over the element

$$\int_e W_i \left\{ \rho \left( u \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) \right\} dx = 0$$

- How do we choose the  $W_i$ ? For Galerkin FEM, replace  $W_i$  by  $N_i$ , the shape or basis functions

## Finite Element Method – “Weak” Form

- Use integration by parts to obtain the “weak” formulation — involves first derivatives rather than second derivatives
- We can now substitute the interpolation function for  $\phi$  :

$$\phi = \sum_{i=1}^r \phi_i N_i$$

and evaluate the required integrals to produce the discrete equation:

$$\mathbf{K}(u)\phi = 0$$

$$\text{where } K^e = \int_e \Gamma \frac{d^2 N_i}{dx^2} dx + \int_e \rho N_i u \frac{dN_i}{dx} dx$$

# Finite Element Method – Summary

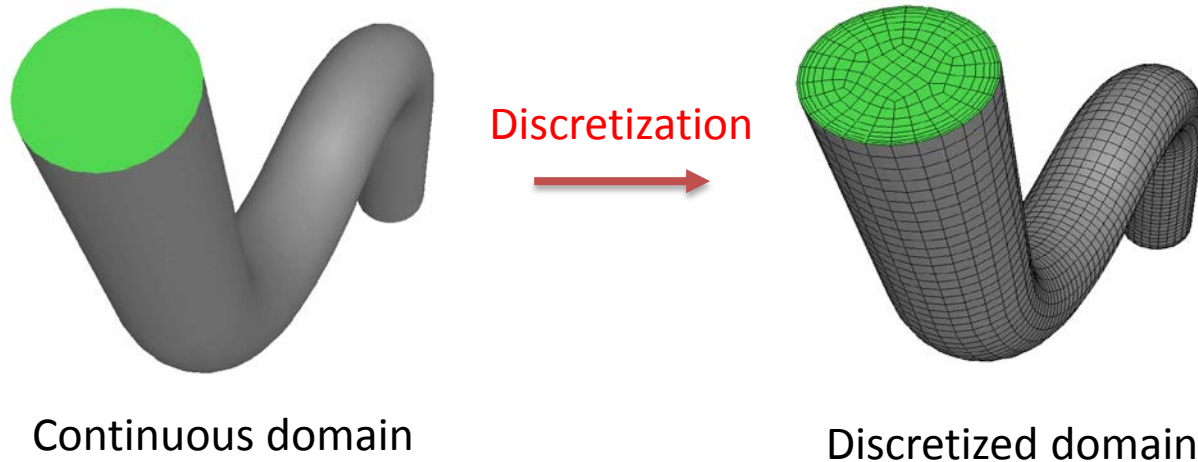
- FEM solves the “weak” form of the governing equations
  - weak form requires continuity of lower order operators only
  - very similar to using the divergence theorem in FVM
- The technique is conservative in a weighted sense (*recall the previous example*)

$$\int_e W_i \left\{ \rho \left( u \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \Gamma \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \right) \right\} dx = 0$$

- The weight functions can easily be made multi-dimensional
  - this limits false diffusion

# What is discretization?

- Discretization is the method of approximating the differential equations by a system of algebraic equations for the variables at some set of discrete locations in space and time
- The discrete locations are **grid/mesh points** or **cells**
- The continuous information from the exact solution of PDE's is replaced with discrete values
- Transforming the physical model into a form in which the equations governing the flow physics can be solved can be referred to as *discretizing the domain*



Continuous domain

Discretized domain

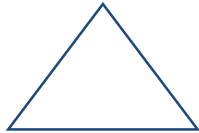


# Numerical Grids – Why is a grid needed?

- The grid:
  - is a discrete representation of the geometry of the problem
  - indicates the location on which the flow is solved
  - has a cell group on the boundary zones — where BC's are applied
  - is called cell/mesh/element depending on the numerical scheme used
- The grid has a significant impact on:
  - rate of convergence (or even *lack* of convergence)
  - solution accuracy
  - CPU time required (efficiency)

# Grid/Cell/Element Types

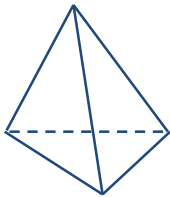
- Many different cell/element and grid types are available — choice depends on the problem and the solver capabilities
- Different grid/cell/element types



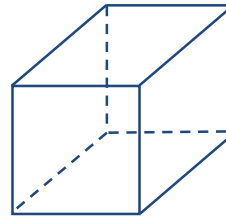
triangle



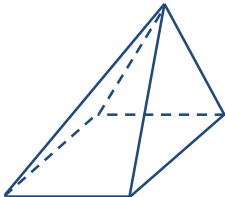
2D rectangular



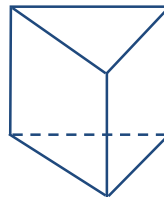
tetrahedron



prism with  
quadrilateral base  
(hexahedron)



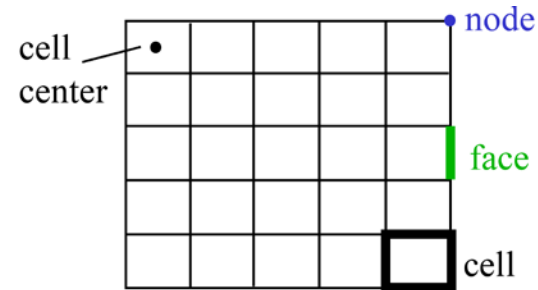
pyramid



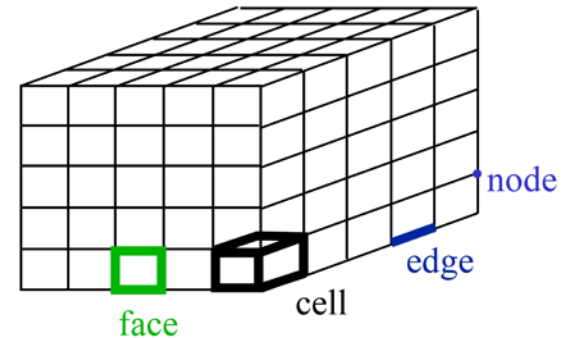
prism with  
triangular base

# Terminology

- Cell = control volume into which domain is broken up.
- Node = grid point.
- Cell center = center of a cell.
- Edge = boundary of a face.
- Face = boundary of a cell.
- Zone = grouping of nodes, faces, and cells:
  - Wall boundary zone.
  - Fluid cell zone.
- Domain = group of node, face and cell zones.



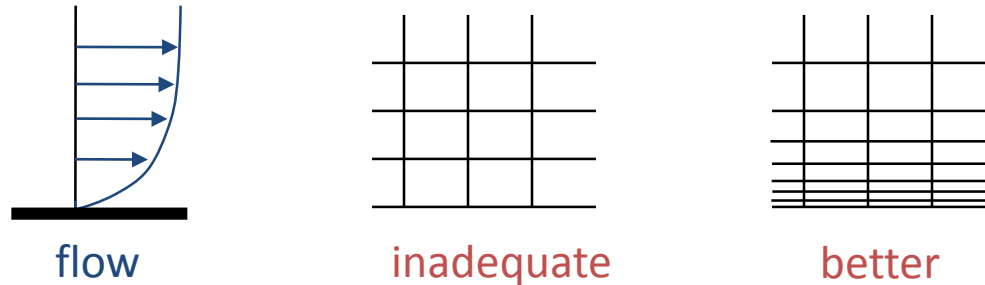
2D computational grid



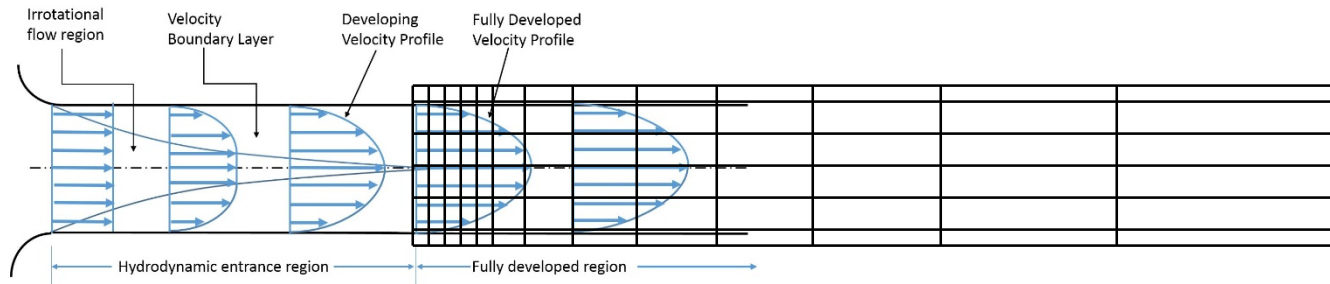
3D computational grid

# Grid Design Guideline : Resolution

- Flow features should be adequately resolved



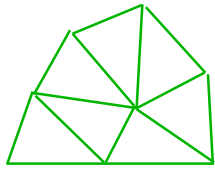
- Cell aspect ratio (width/height) should be near 1 where flow is multi-dimensional
- Quad/hex cells can be stretched where flow is fully-developed and essentially one-dimensional



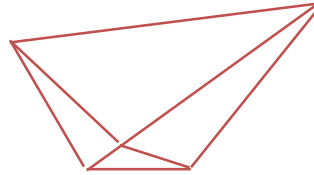
OK!

## Grid Design Guideline : Smoothness

- Change in cell/element size should be gradual (smooth)



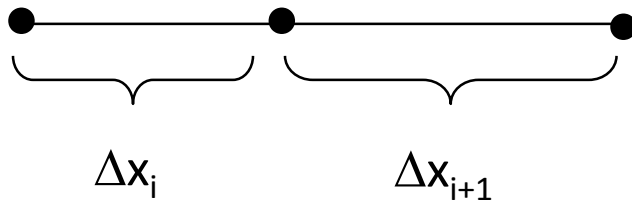
smooth change  
in cell size



sudden change  
in cell size — **AVOIDED!**



- Ideally, the maximum change in grid spacing should be less than 20%:



$$\frac{\Delta x_{i+1}}{\Delta x_i} \leq 1.2$$

## Grid Design Guideline : Total Cell Count

- More cells can give higher accuracy — downside is increased memory and CPU time (will be a highly demanding computation) **Trade-off problem!**
- To keep cell count down, use a non-uniform grid to cluster cells only where they're needed
- Design and construction of a quality grid is crucial to the success of the CFD analysis.
- Appropriate choice of grid type depends on:
  - geometric complexity
  - flow field characteristics
  - cell/element types supported by numerical methods

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# Nested Grids (Multi-grids)

- At different sizes of grids can be used for several domains which are connected and nested to the grid of higher level.

