

# Applied Computational Fluid Dynamics Using OpenFOAM

Day - 5

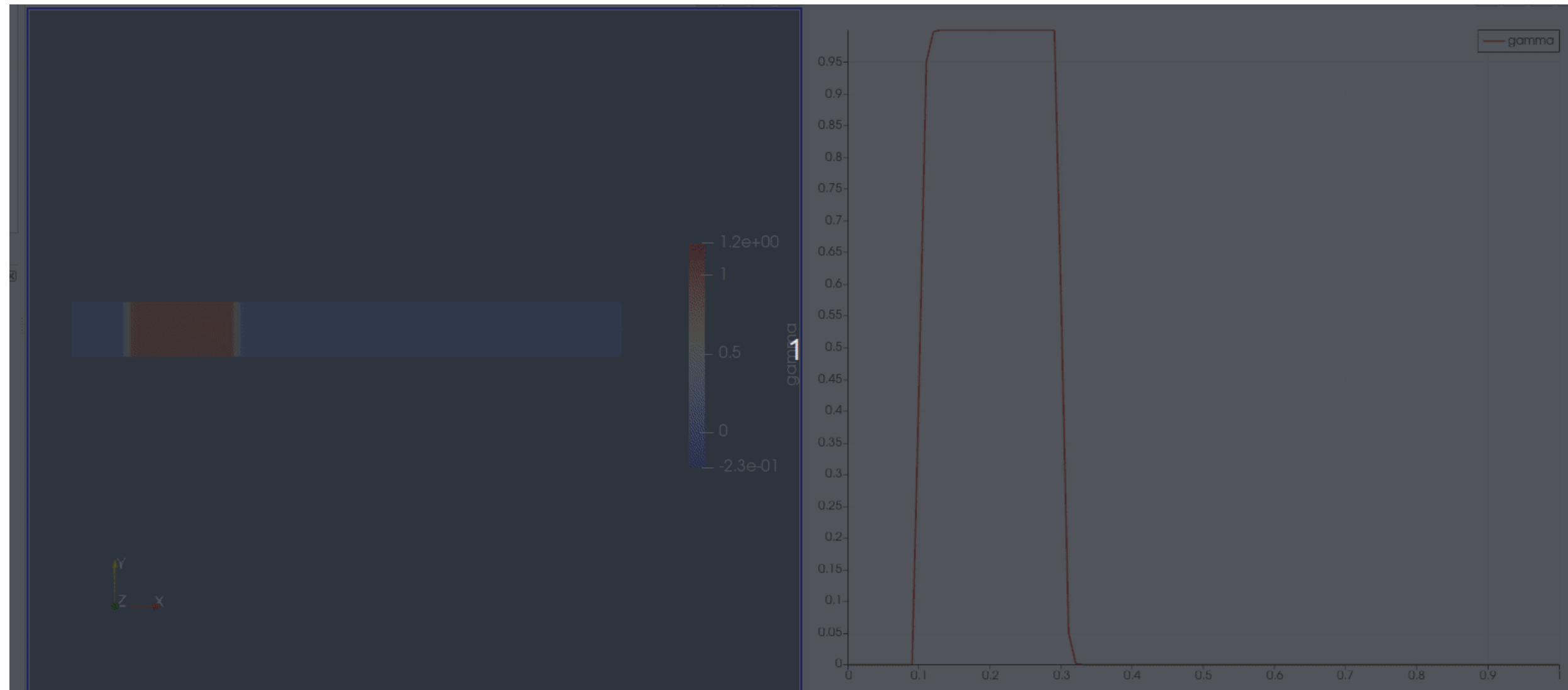
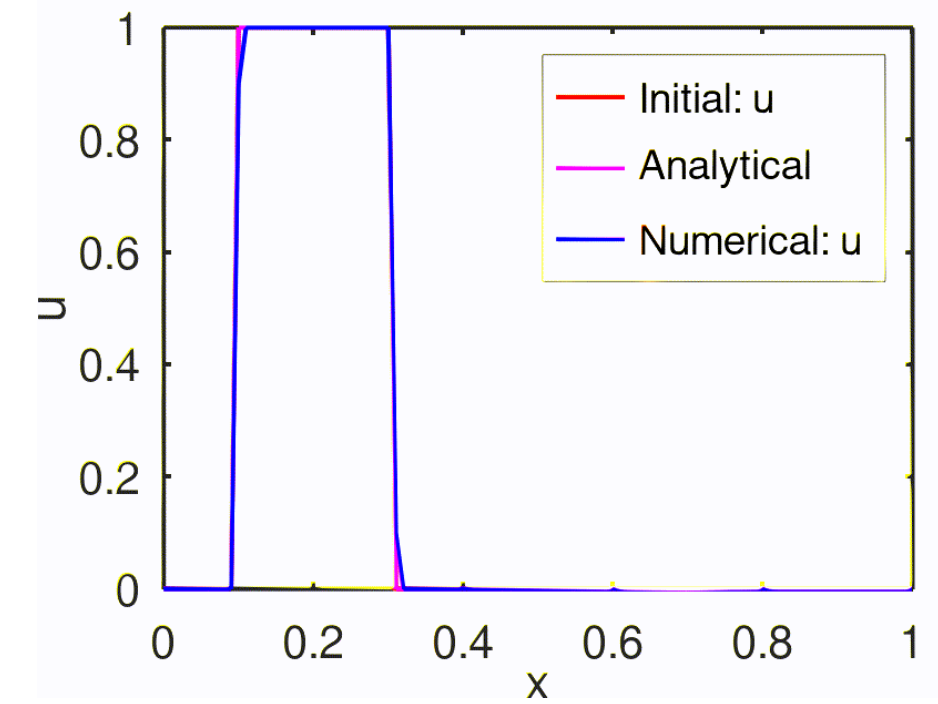
Value Added Course  
College/University: AEC  
Spring 2025



# Contents

- Solving Convection Equation in OpenFOAM
- Project – 2

# OpenFOAM: Numerical Solution to Convection Equation

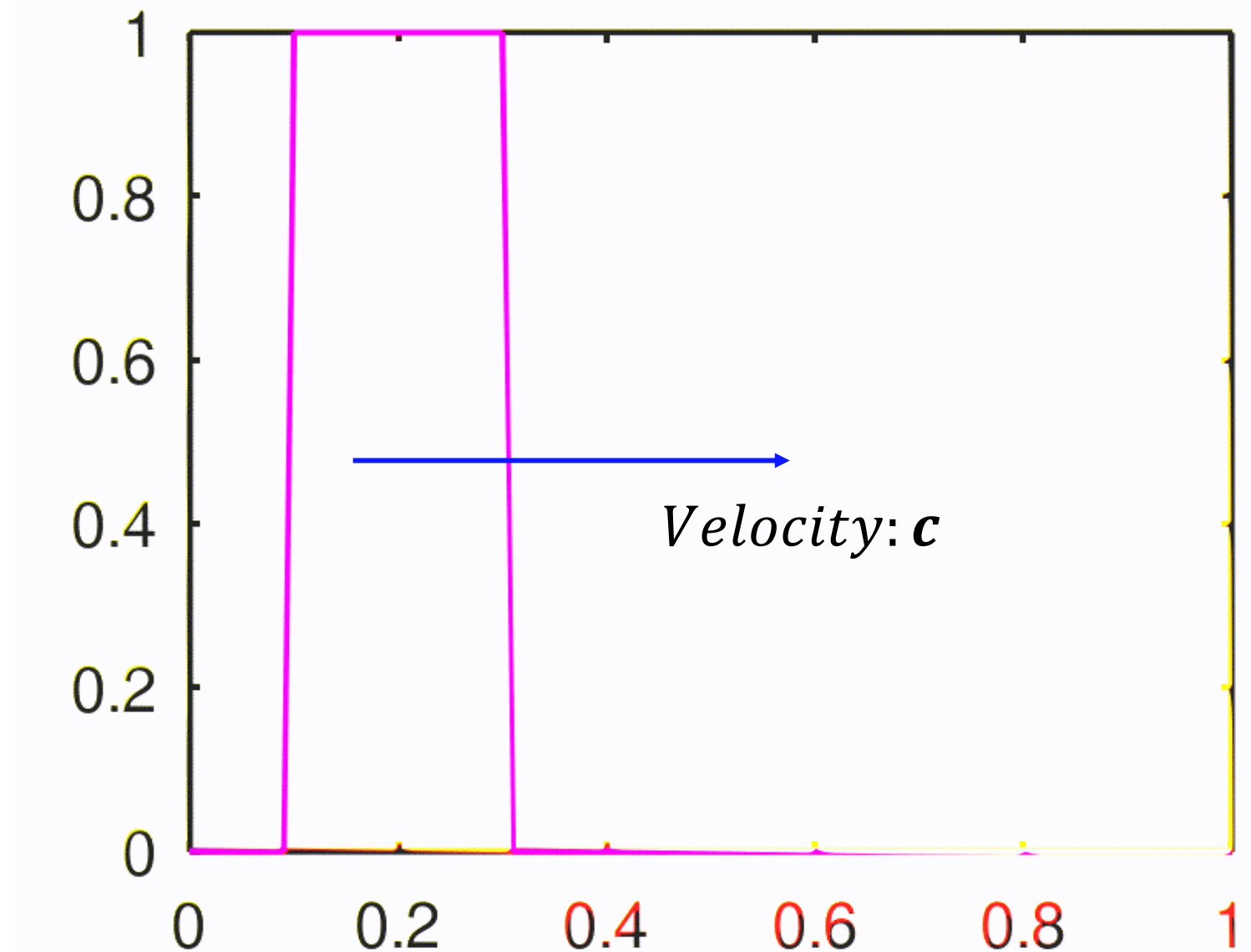
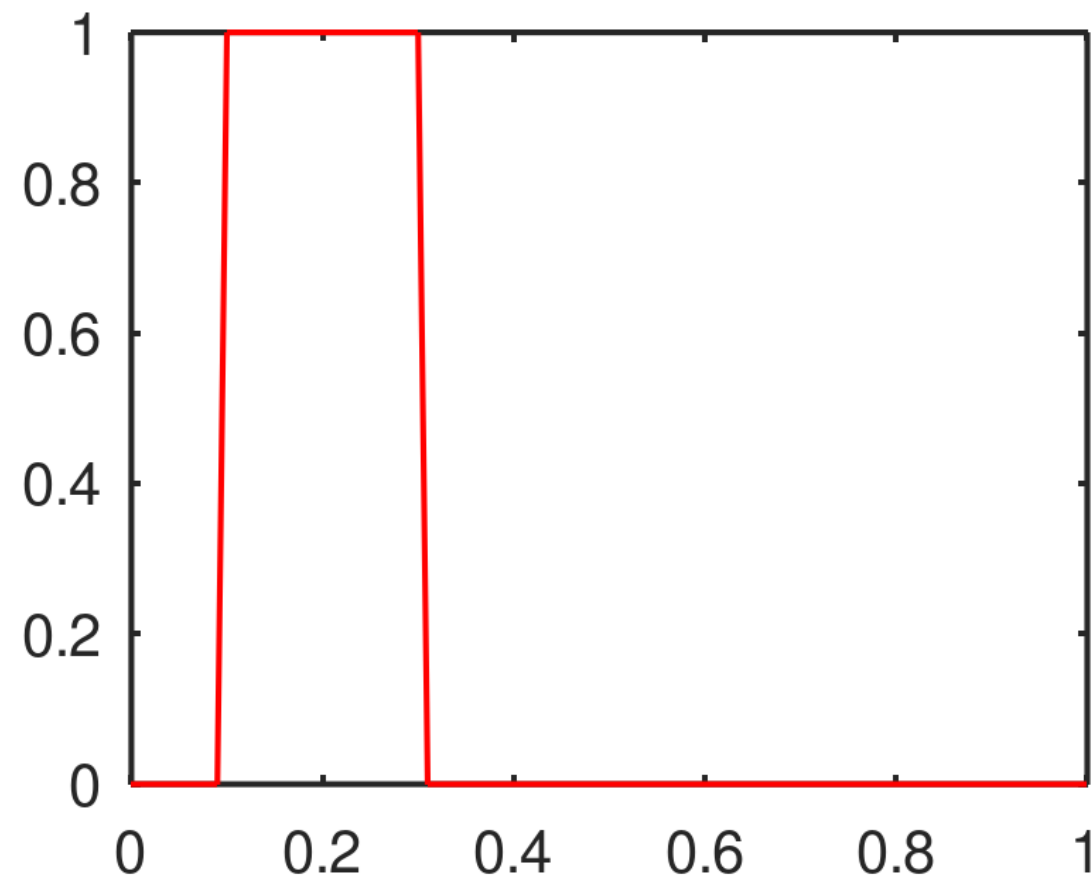


$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

# Convection Equation

## Setting initial field

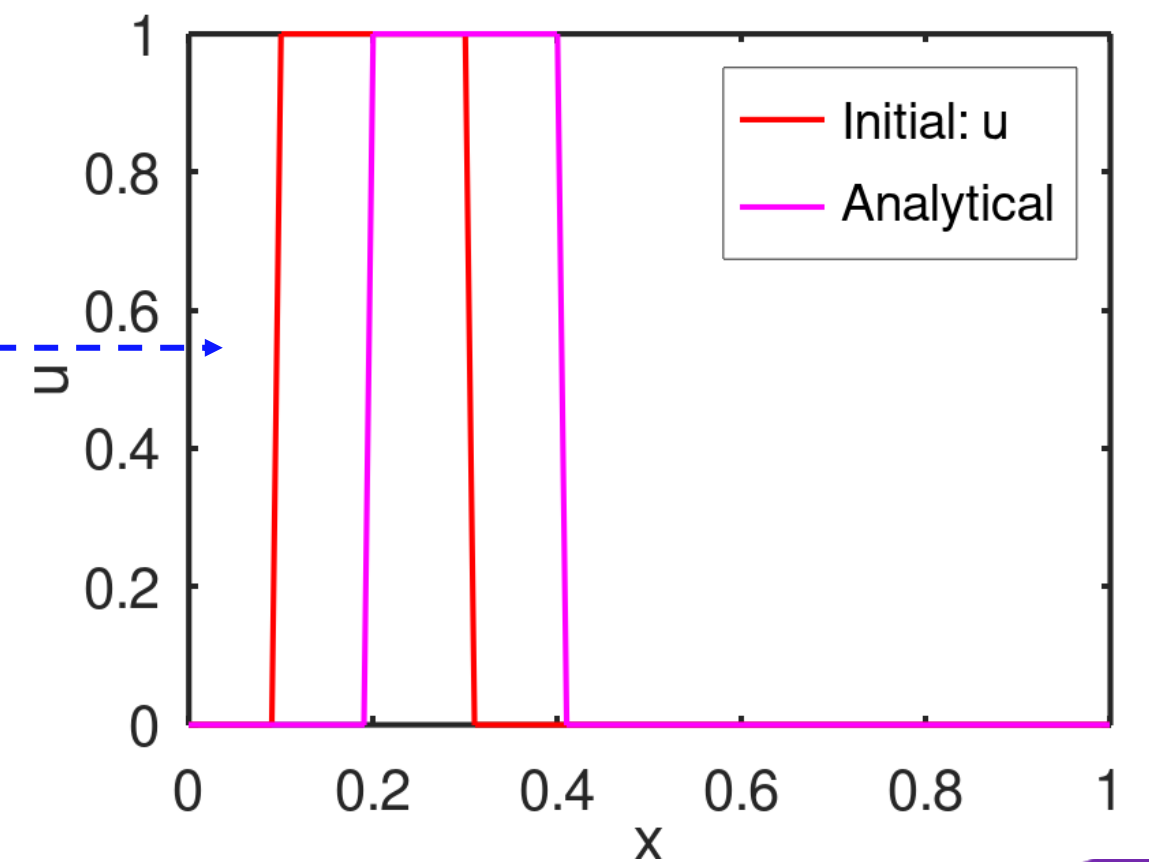
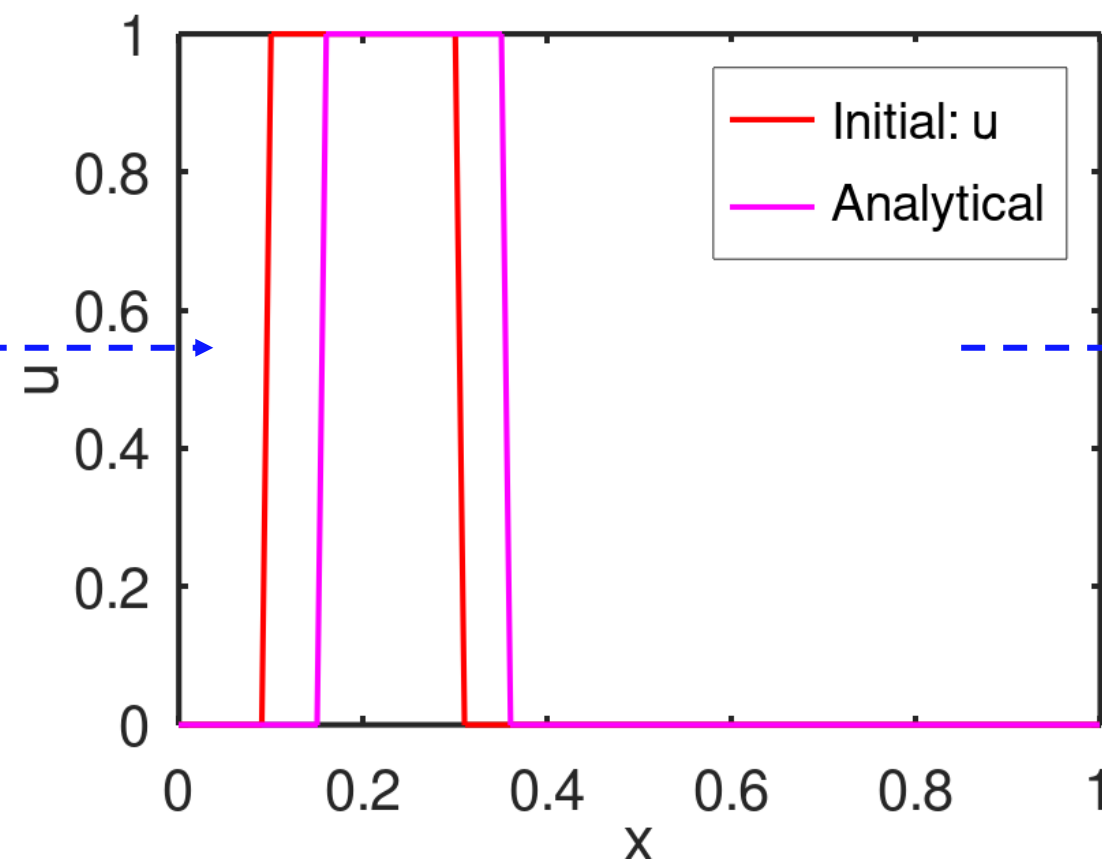
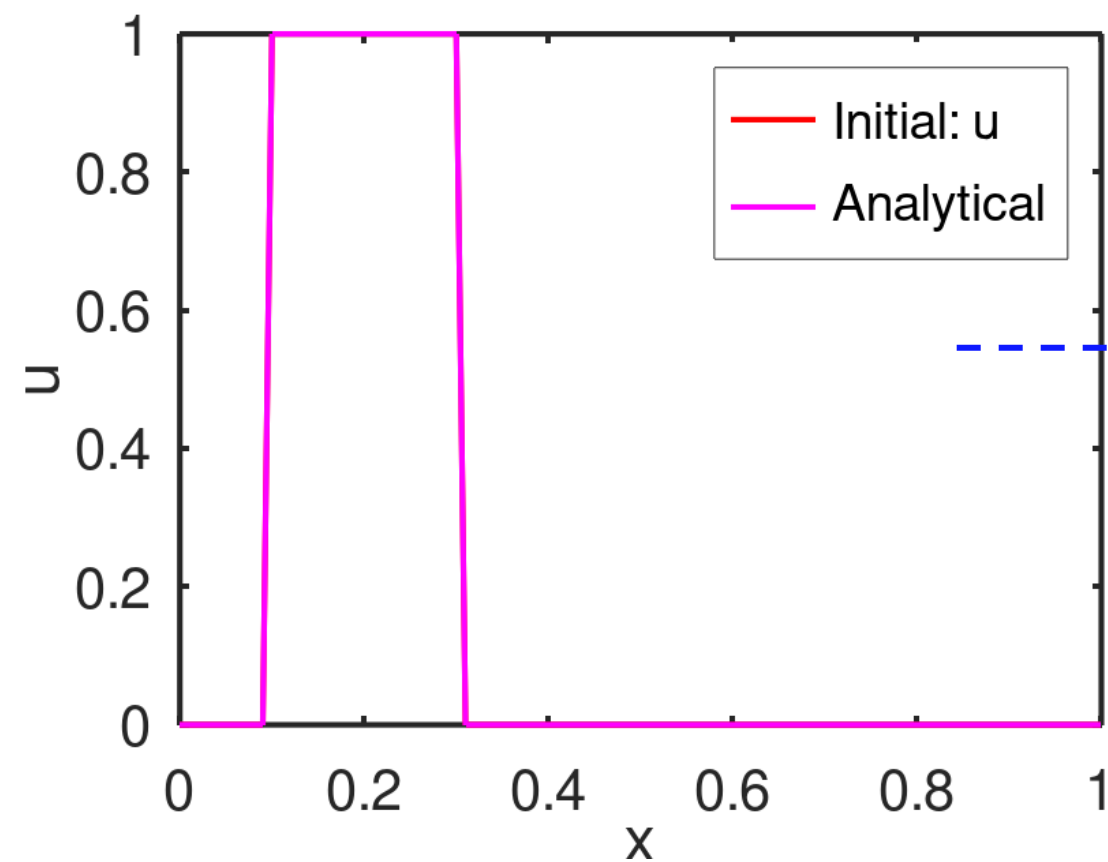
```
for i = 1 : length(x)
    if (x(i, 1) >= 0.1) && (x(i, 1) <= 0.3)
        u(i, 1) = 1;
    endif
end
```



# Convection Equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0 \quad \leftarrow \text{Advection equation}$$

```
for i = 1 : length(x)
    if (x(i, 1) >= 0.1+c*t) && (x(i, 1) <= 0.3+c*t)
        u_analytical(i, 1) = 1;
    endif
end
```



# Convection Equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} + c \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n = 0$$



$$\left( \frac{d\rho}{dx} \right)_i \approx \frac{\rho(x_{i+1}) - \rho(x_i)}{\Delta x_i} \quad \left( \frac{d\rho}{dx} \right)_i \approx \frac{\rho(x_{i+1}) - \rho(x_{i-1}))}{2\Delta x_i}$$

$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - c\Delta t \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n$$

Two arrows point from the derivative term in the equation above to the following approximations:

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n}{\Delta x_i}$$

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

Simple forward  
difference scheme

Central difference

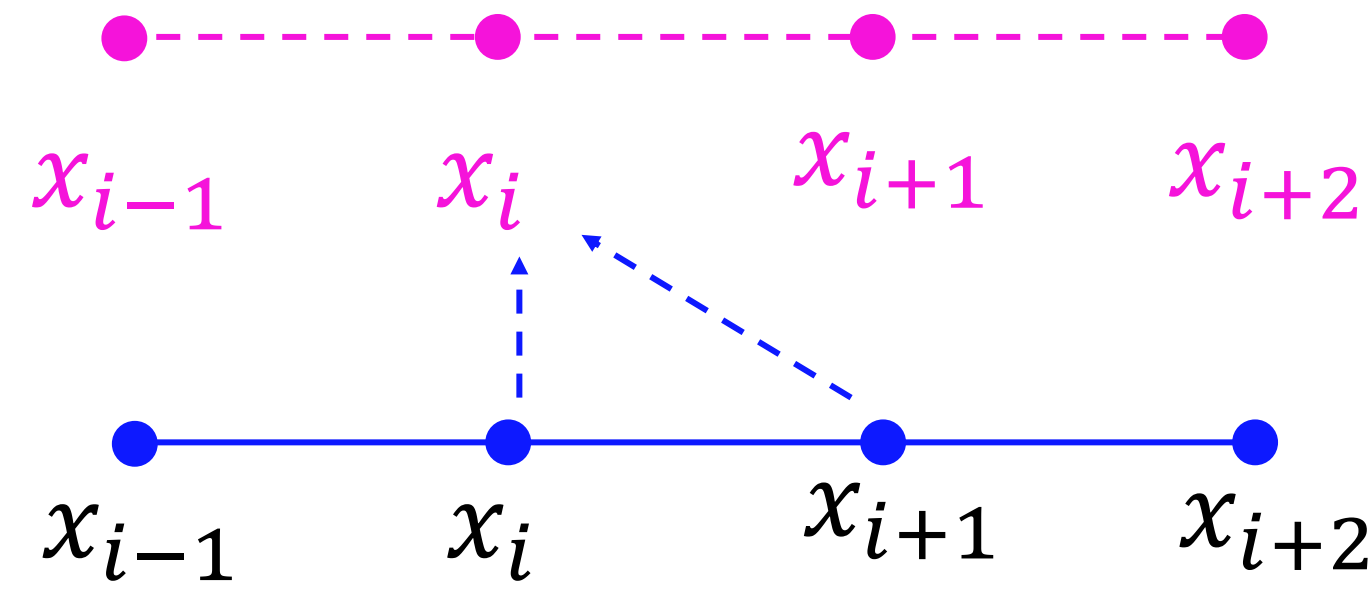
(Explicit) First order - Forward Euler

(only one unknown (n+1) with other knowns at n<sup>th</sup> node)  
→ conditionally stable

# Convection Equation

Time level:  $n + 1$

Time level:  $n$



Information from right  
to left end

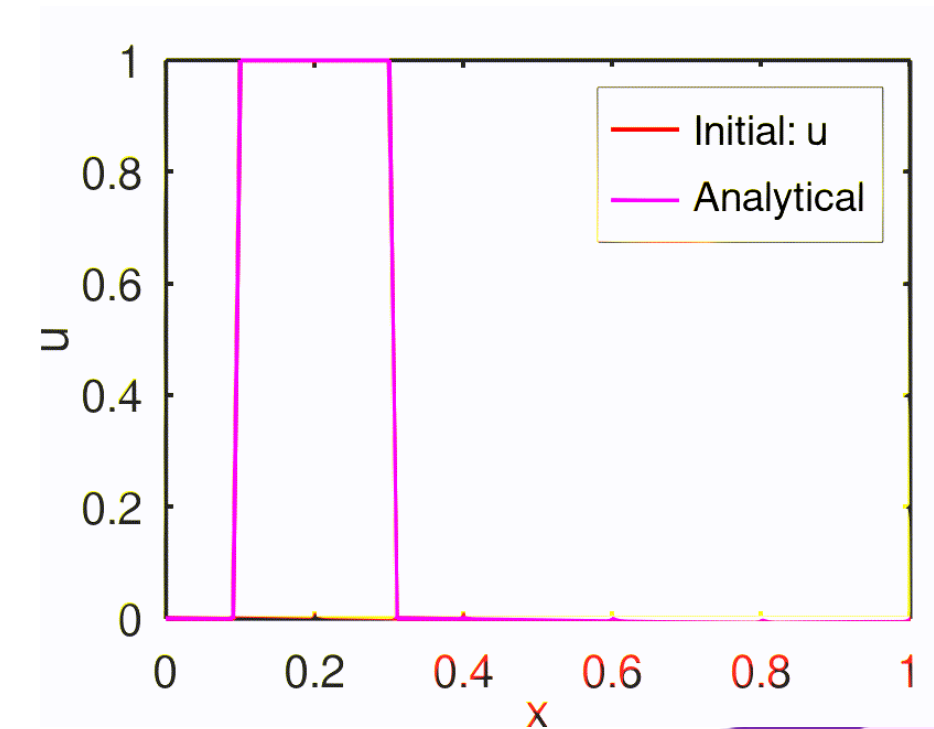
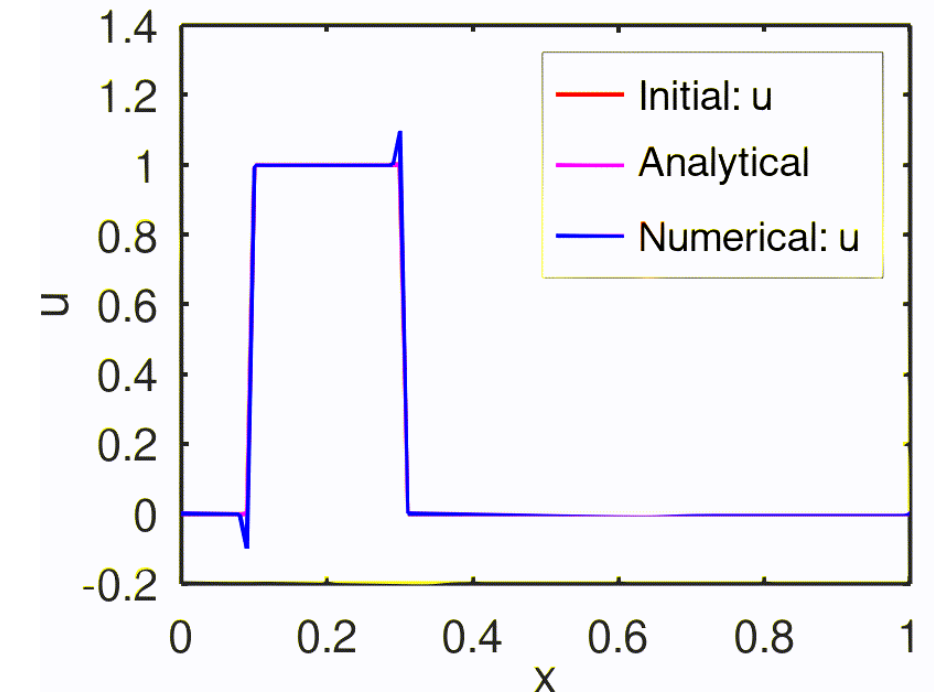
$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - c\Delta t \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n$$

Simple forward difference scheme

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n}{\Delta x_i}$$

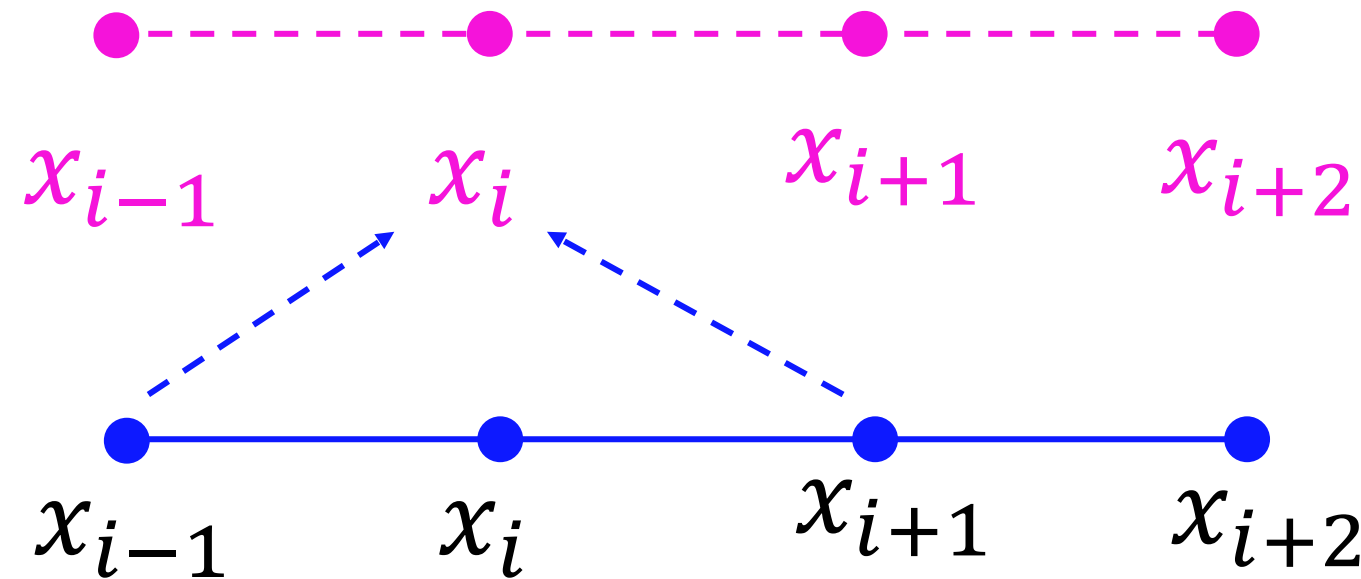
Central difference

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



# Convection Equation

Time level:  $n + 1$



Time level:  $n$

Information from left and right ends

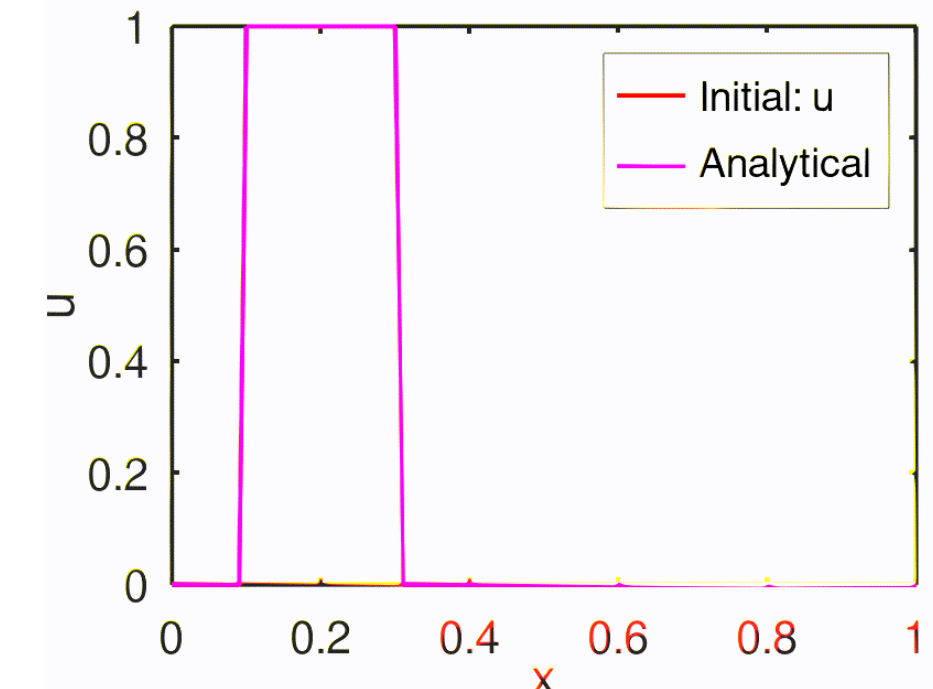
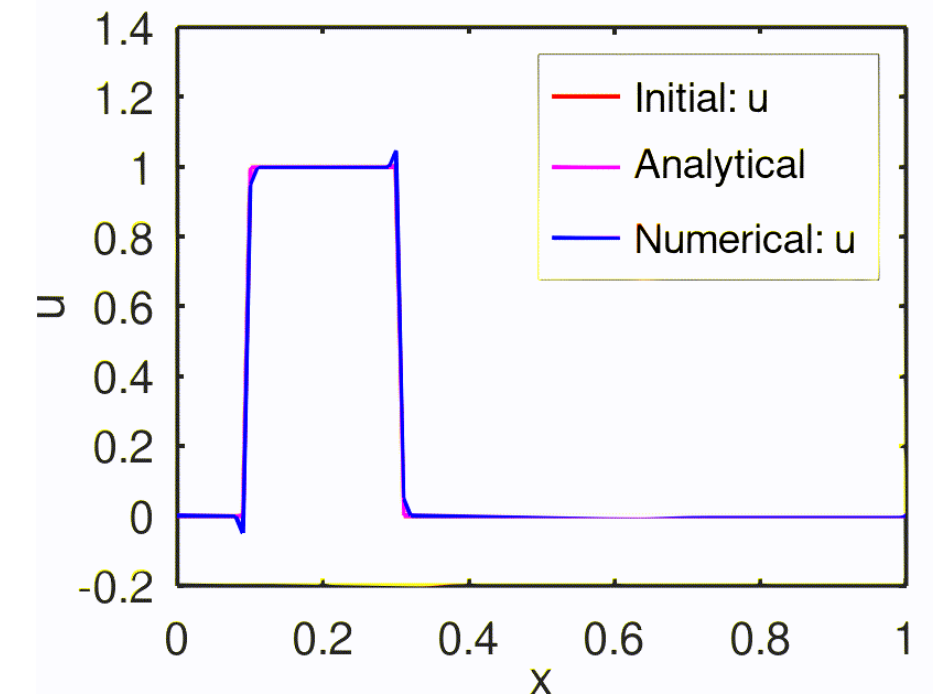
$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - c\Delta t \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n$$

Simple forward difference scheme

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n}{\Delta x_i}$$

Central difference

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





# Convection Equation

Time level:  $n + 1$



Time level:  $n$



Information from left to right end  
Wind is flowing from left end (bird moves from left to right)

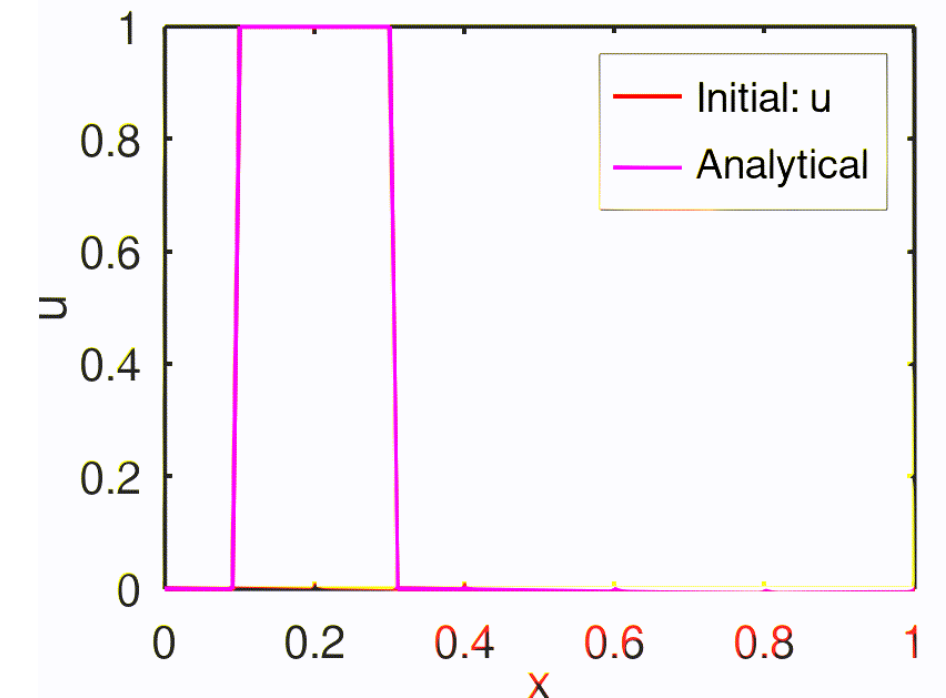
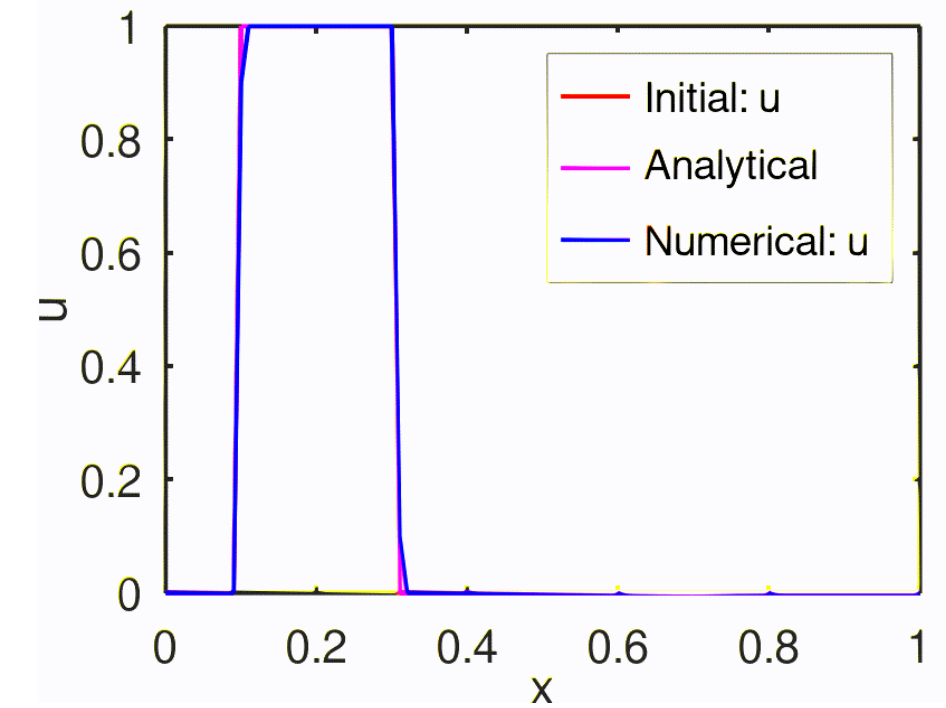
$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - c\Delta t \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \longrightarrow \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_i^n - u_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x_i} \quad \text{Simple backward difference scheme}$$

**CFL = 0.1**

$$CFL: \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x}$$

**CFL < 1** → Numerically stable (conditionally stable based on the condition imposed by CFL) – EXPLICIT method

**CFL ≥ 1** → Numerically unstable



$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

## Project 2 - Solving convection equation in OpenFOAM #11

kummi0402 started this conversation in **General**



**kummi0402** 2 weeks ago

Maintainer

edited ▾ ...

Make sure OpenFOAM is installed on your systems.  
Install ParaView.  
Copy solver and test case to the working directory.  
Build/compile the solver.

1. wclean
2. wmake

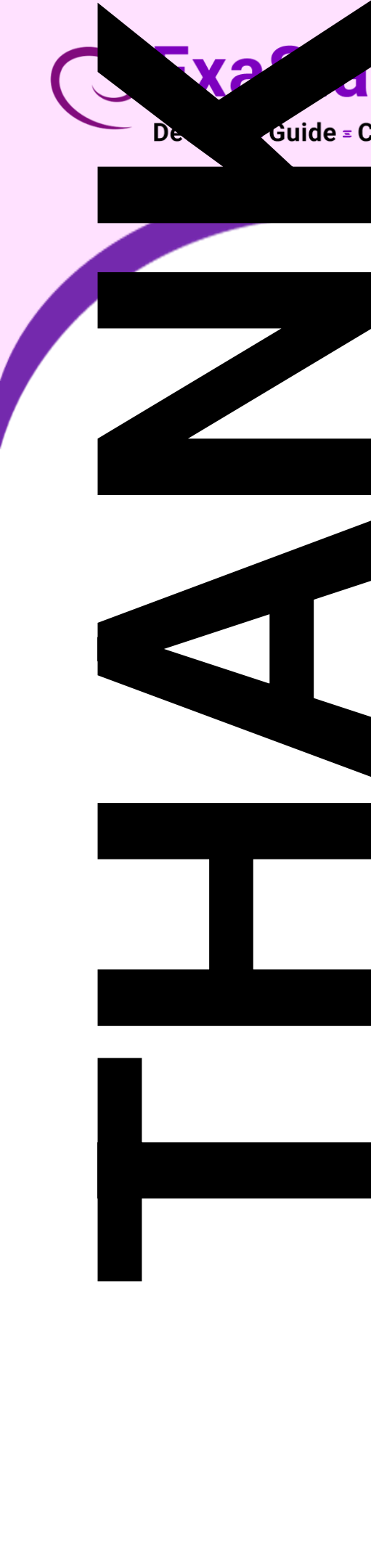
Run the test case by using following commands:

1. blockMesh
2. setFields
3. simpleConvection
4. touch a.foam

Visualize the results.  
Share screenshots of results here with clear description







YOU