

# Applied Computational Fluid Dynamics with OpenFOAM

Day - 5



# Quick Recap

## [Exercise-2] Solve using first order forward derivative scheme #3

kummi0402 started this conversation in General



kummi0402 3 days ago Maintainer

edited ...

Make use of Octave code and plot for the forward first order derivative: when  $\rho = x^2$  and  $x^3$

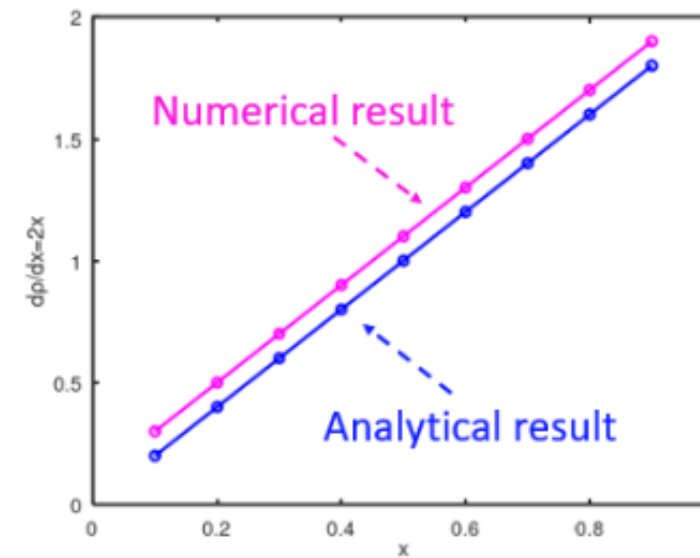
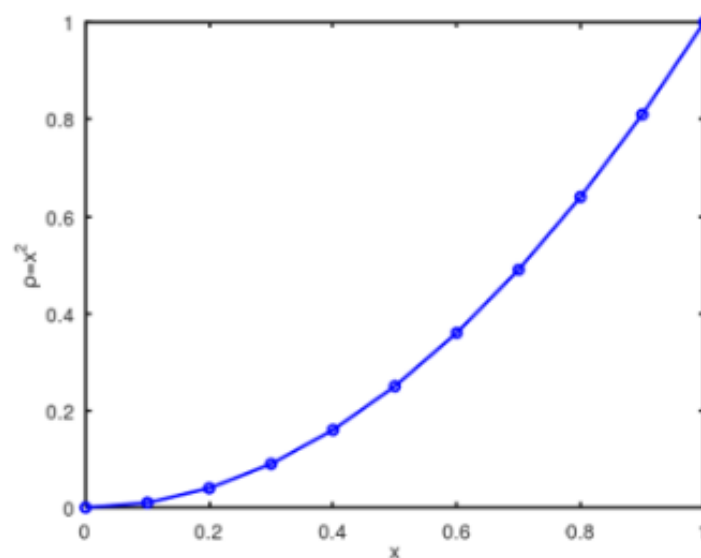
OCTAVE code:

<https://github.com/exaslate-learn/applied-cfd-using-openfoam-ksr-spring-2025/tree/main/day-2>

### Analytical and Numerical solutions

$x_{i-1}$   $x_i$   $x_{i+1}$   $x_{i+2}$

$$\left(\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}\right)_i = \frac{\rho(x_{i+1}) - \rho(x_i)}{\Delta x_i} + O(\Delta x_i)$$



Resolved in OCTAVE



# Quick Recap

## [Exercise-3] Solve using first order backward and second order central difference schemes #5

Edit

kummi0402 started this conversation in General

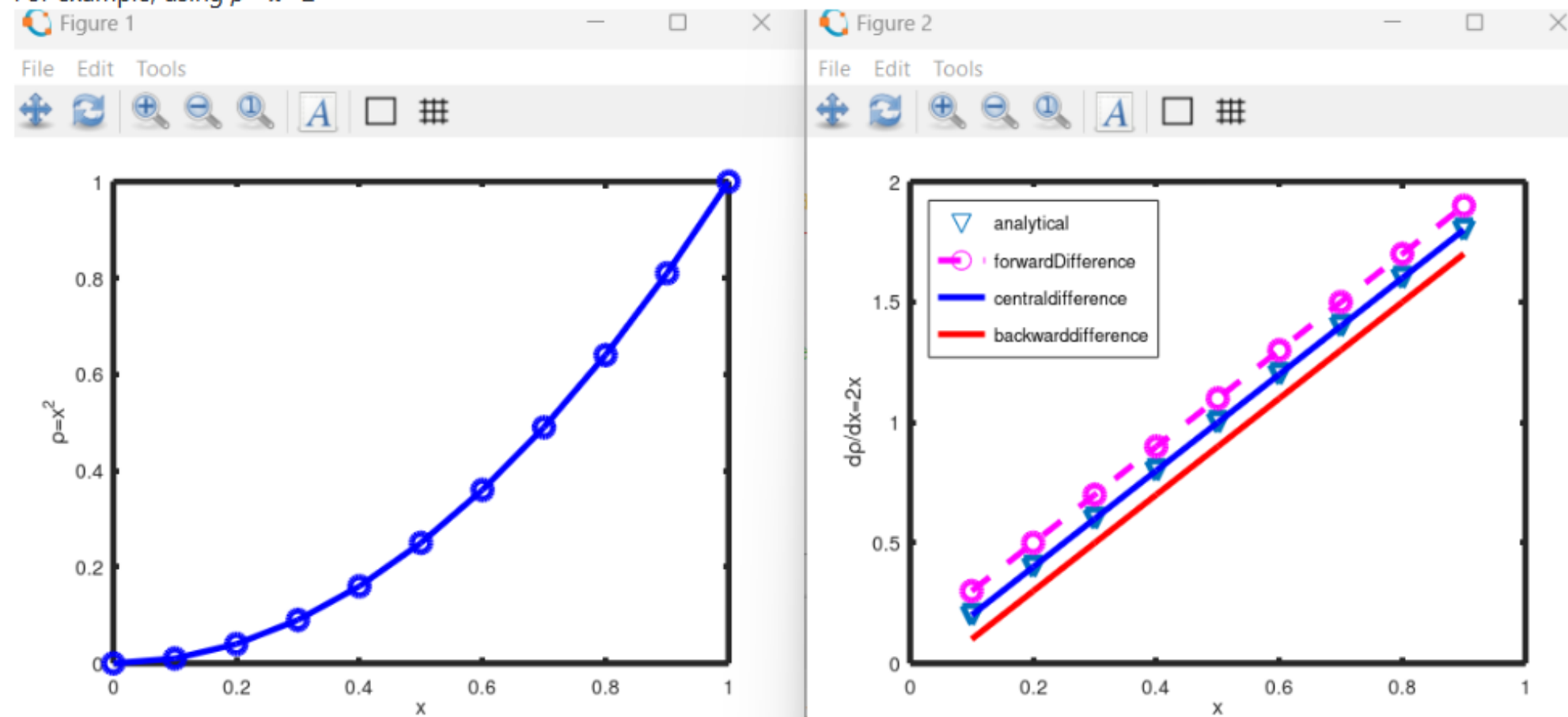


kummi0402 2 days ago Maintainer

Make use of Octave code and plot for the backward and central difference schemes: when  $p = x^2$  and  $x^3$

Octave code: <https://github.com/exaslate-learn/applied-cfd-using-openfoam-ksr-spring-2025/tree/main/day-3>

For example, using  $p = x^2$



↑ 1

Category



General

Labels



None yet

1 participant



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# Quick Recap

[Exercise-4] Estimate second order derivative using second order central difference scheme #6

Edit

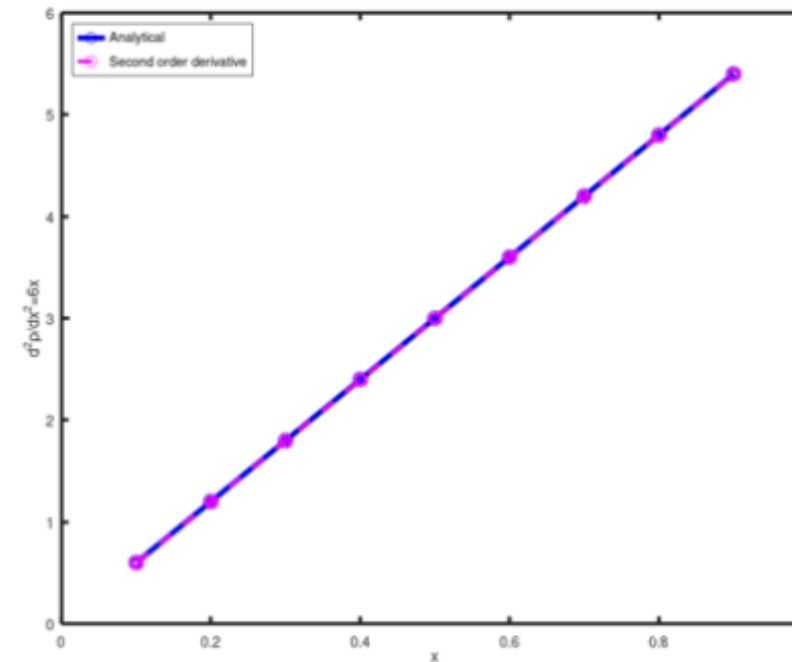
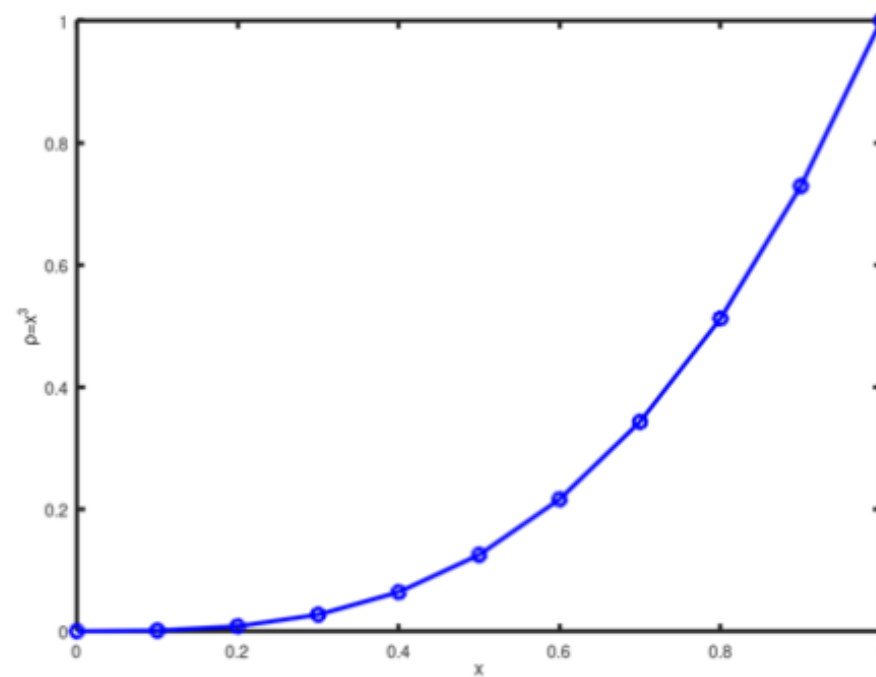
kummi0402 started this conversation in General



kummi0402 yesterday Maintainer

## Approximating Second Order Derivative

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



↑ 1



Category



General

Labels



None yet

2 participants



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# Contents

- Numerical stability
- Advection equation
- Exercise – 5 (i) and (ii)

# Numerical Stability

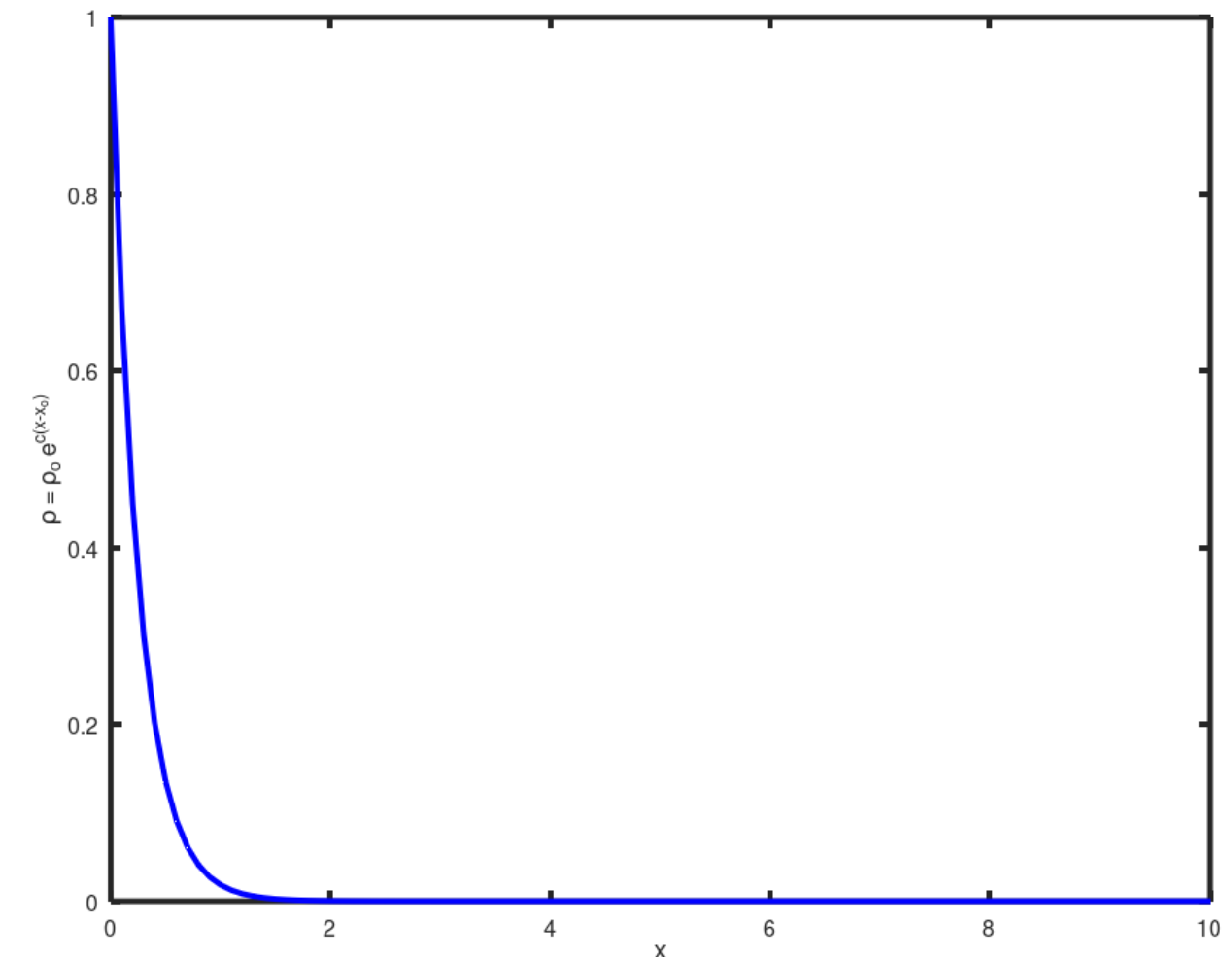
- Numerical approach should not magnify the error that appears in the solution.

$$\frac{d\rho}{dx} = -c\rho$$

$$\int_{\rho_0}^{\rho} \frac{d\rho}{\rho} = \int_{x_0}^x -cdx$$

**Analytical**

$$\rho = \rho_0 e^{-c(x-x_0)}$$



$$c = 4, x_0 = 0, \rho_0 = 1, x \in [0, 10]$$

# Numerical Stability

- Numerical discretization

$$\frac{d\rho}{dx} = -c\rho$$



$$\frac{\rho_{i+1} - \rho_i}{\Delta x} = -c\rho_i$$

**Numerical**

$$\rho_{i+1} = \rho_i(1 - c\Delta x)$$

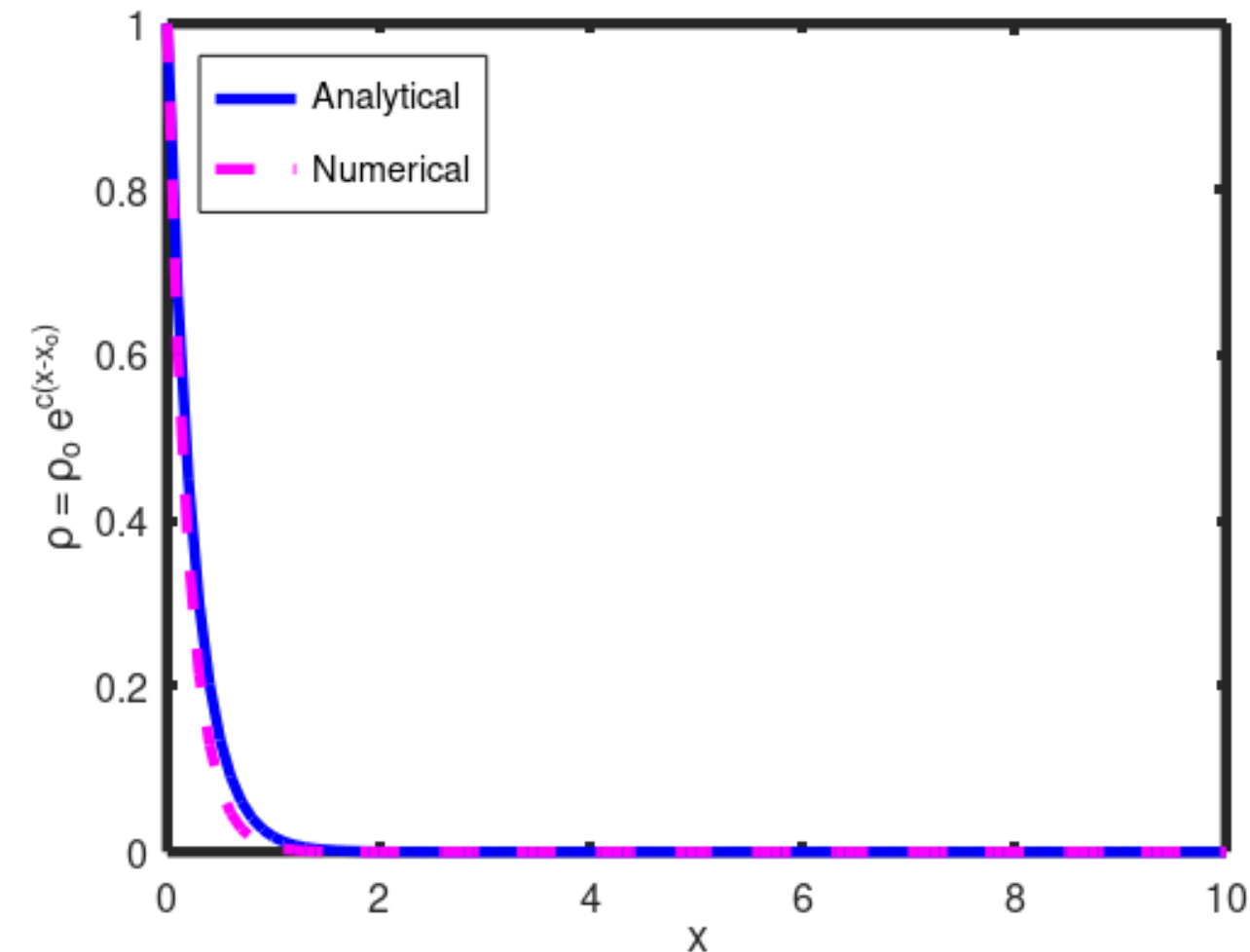
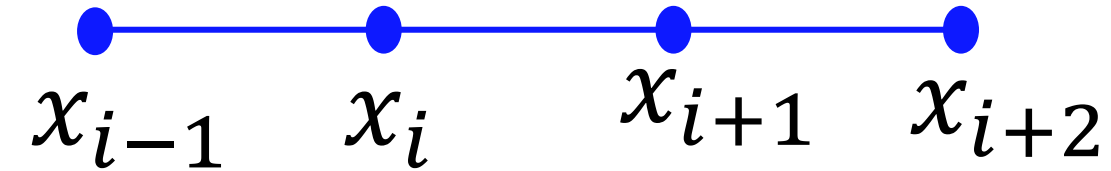
# Numerical Stability

- Numerical discretization

$$\frac{d\rho}{dx} = -c\rho$$

$$\frac{\rho_{i+1} - \rho_i}{\Delta x} = -c\rho_i$$

$$\rho_{i+1} = \rho_i(1 - c\Delta x)$$



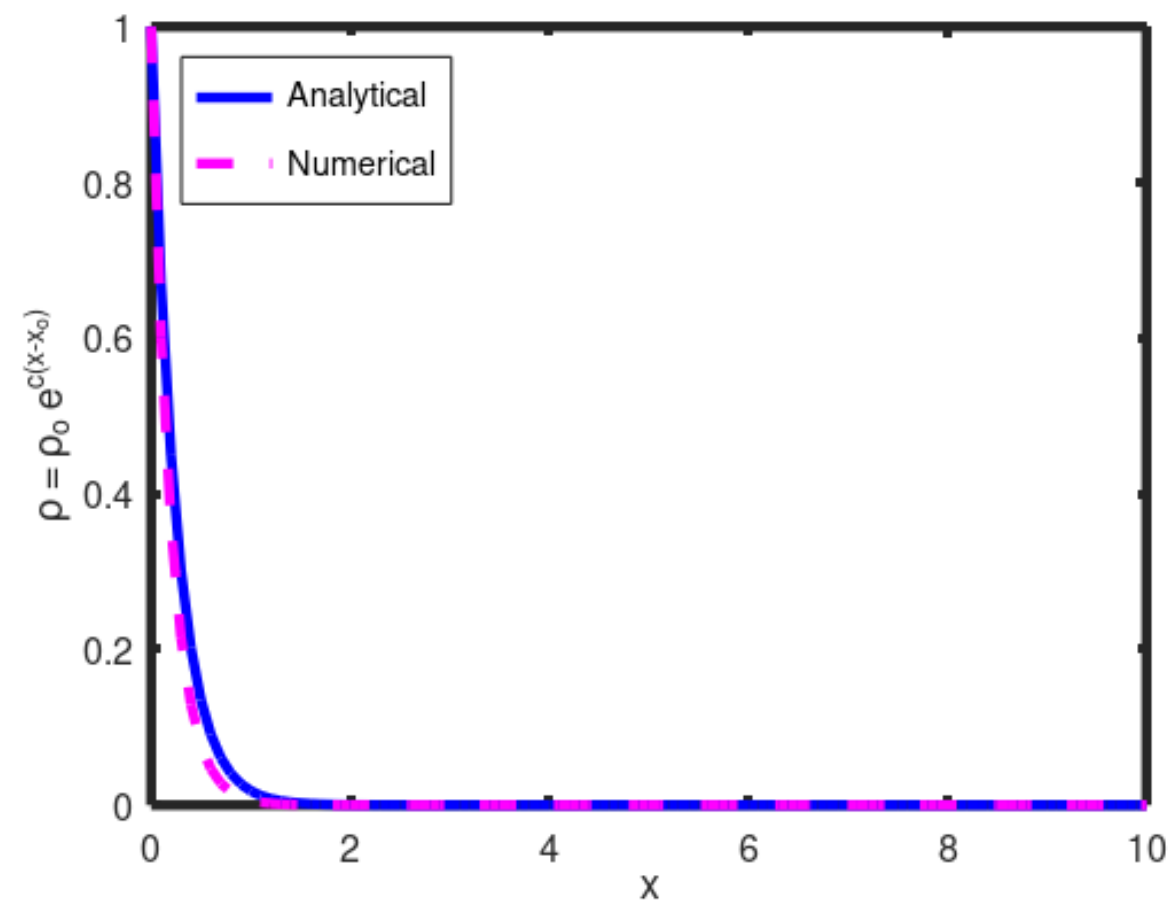
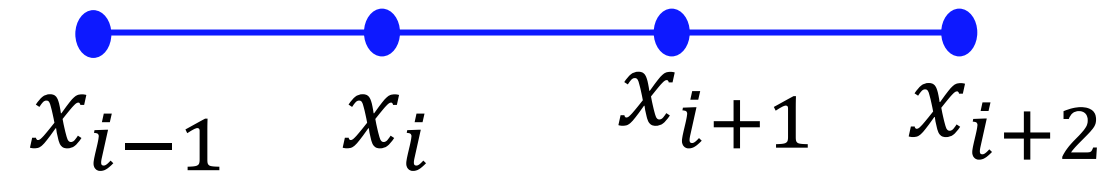
$$c = 4, x_0 = 0, \rho_0 = 1, x \in [0, 10], \Delta x = 0.1$$



# Numerical Stability

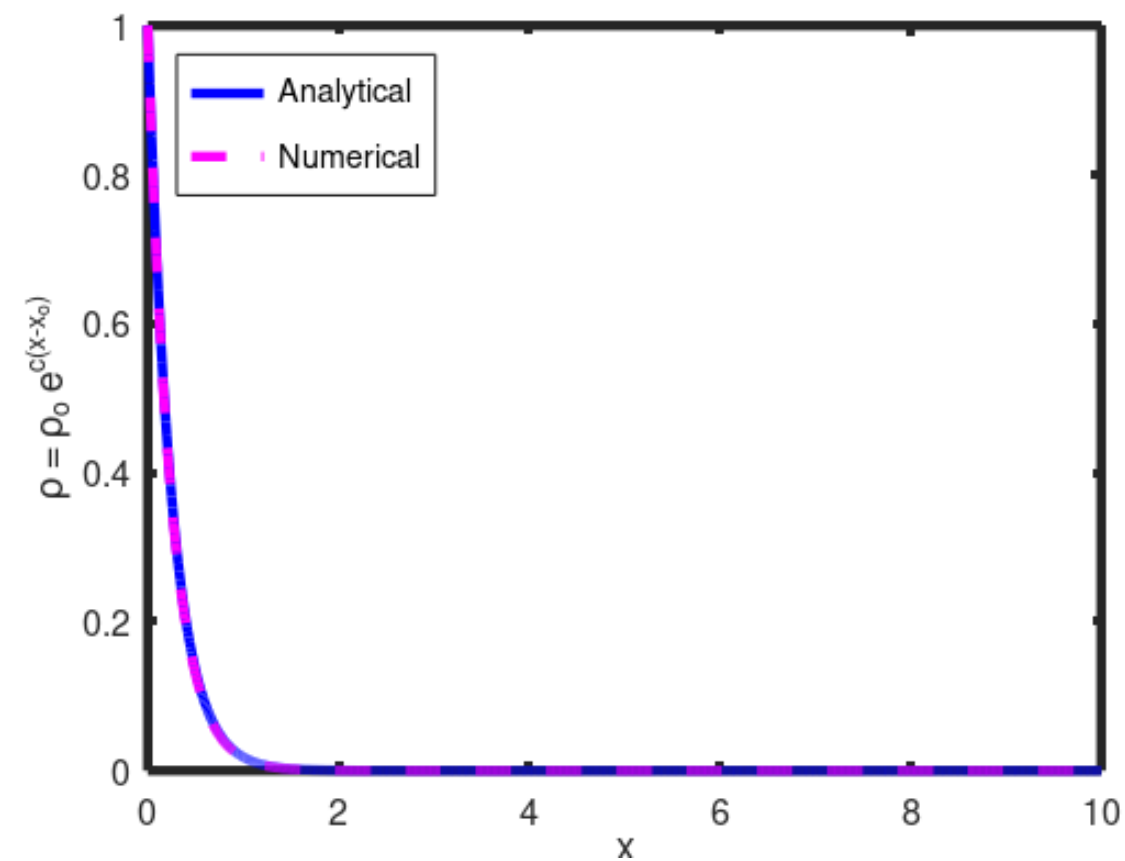
$$\frac{d\rho}{dx} = -c\rho$$

$$\rho_{i+1} = \rho_i(1 - c\Delta x)$$



$$c = 4, x_0 = 0, \rho_0 = 1, x \in [0,10],$$

$$\Delta x = 0.1$$



$$c = 4, x_0 = 0, \rho_0 = 1, x \in [0,10],$$

$$\Delta x = 0.01$$

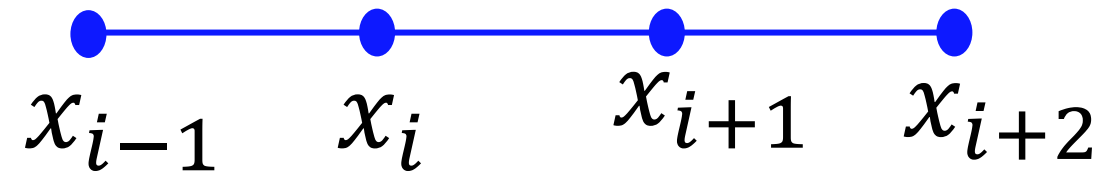
*Stability Condition*

$$\left| \frac{\rho_{i+1}}{\rho_i} \right| < 1$$

# Numerical Stability

$$\frac{d\rho}{dx} = -c\rho$$

$$\rho_{i+1} = \rho_i(1 - c\Delta x)$$



*Stability  
Condition*

$$\left| \frac{\rho_{i+1}}{\rho_i} \right| < 1$$

$$\left| \frac{\rho_{i+1}}{\rho_i} \right| = |1 - c\Delta x| < 1$$

$$-1 < 1 - c\Delta x < 1$$

$$0 < \Delta x < 2/c$$

$$\Delta x < 2/c$$

$$\Delta x < \frac{2}{c}$$
$$\frac{2}{c} = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$$



# Numerical Stability

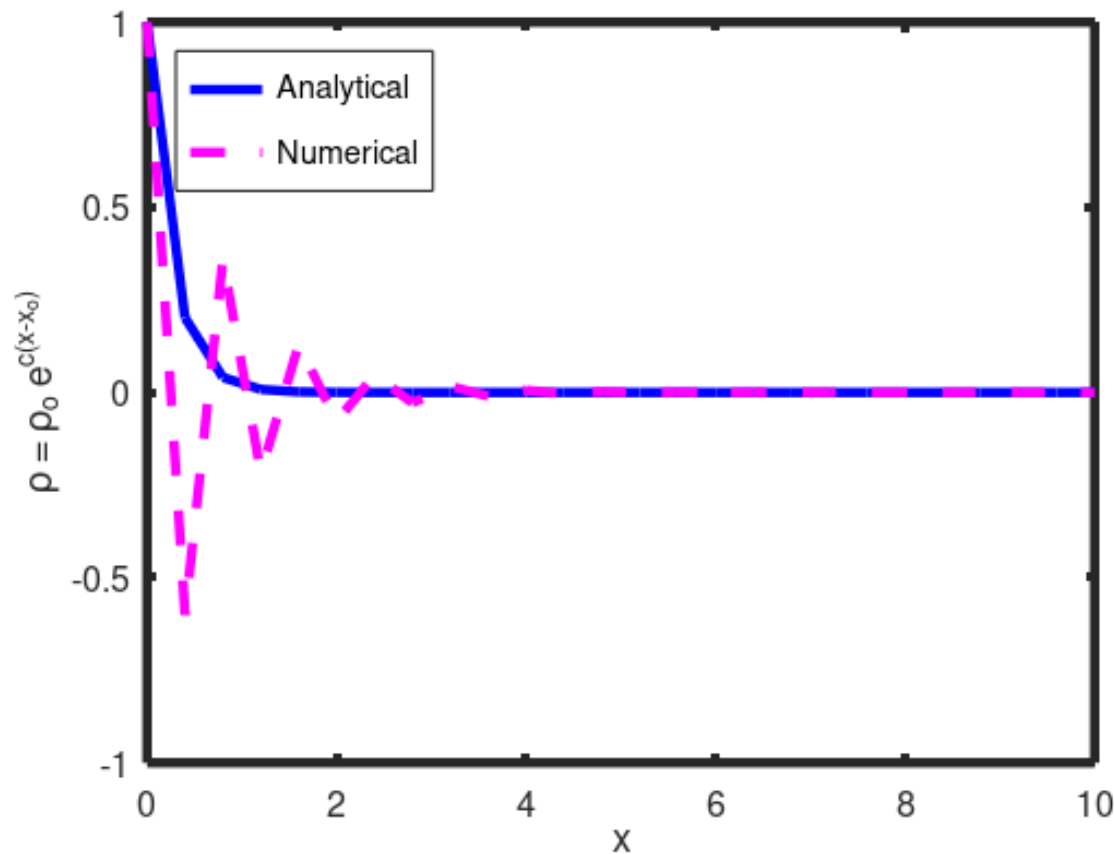
$$\frac{d\rho}{dx} = -c\rho$$

$$\rho_{i+1} = \rho_i(1 - c\Delta x)$$

$$x_{i-1} \quad x_i \quad x_{i+1} \quad x_{i+2}$$

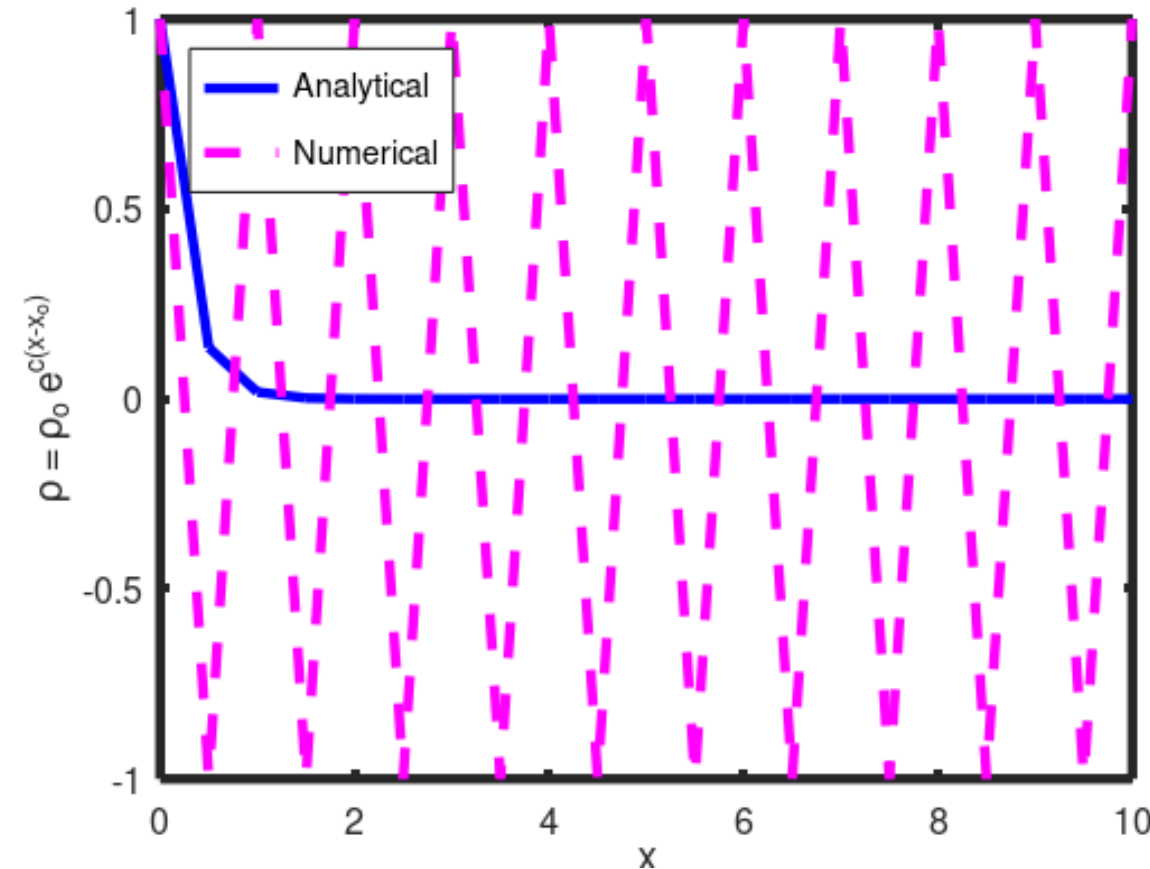
$$\Delta x < \frac{2}{c}$$

$$\frac{2}{c} = \frac{2}{4} = 0.5$$



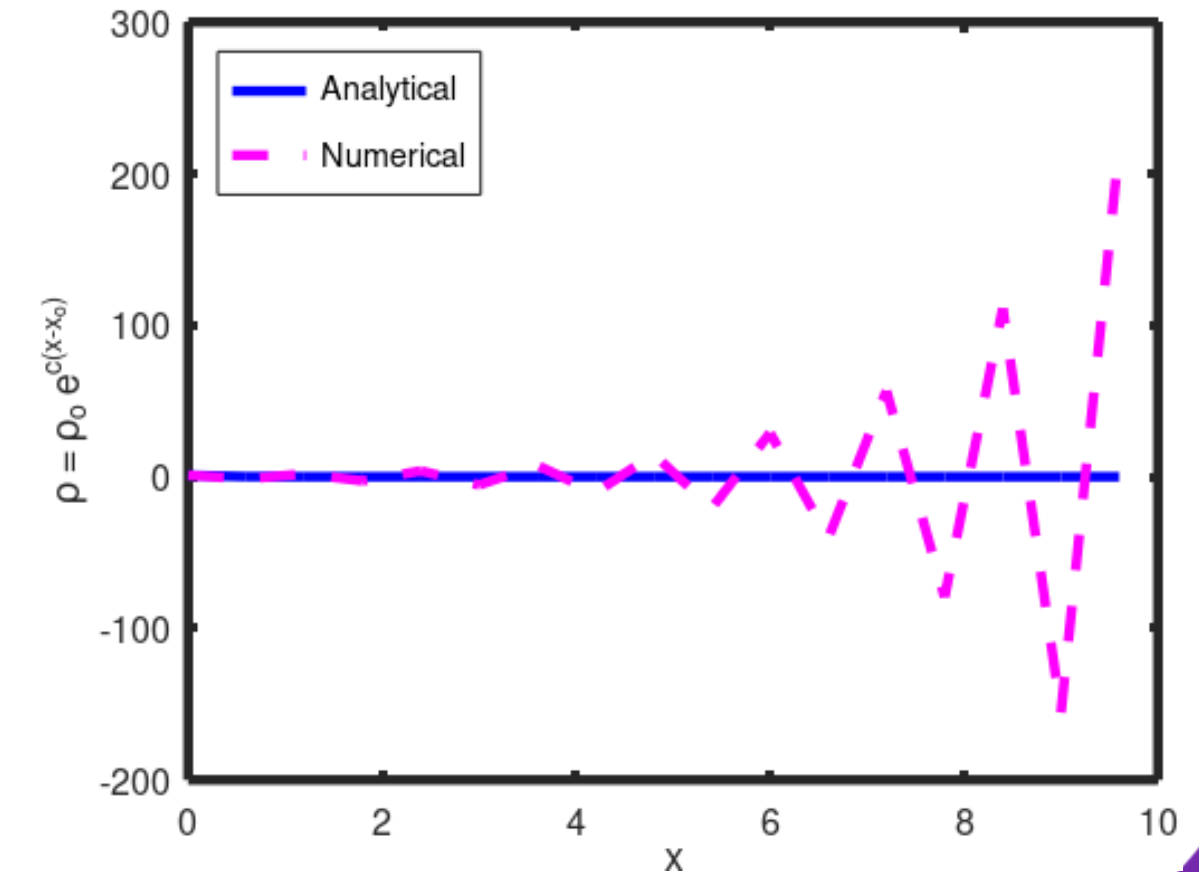
$$c = 4, x_o = 0, \rho_o = 1, x \in [0,10],$$

$$\Delta x = 0.4$$



$$c = 4, x_o = 0, \rho_o = 1, x \in [0,10],$$

$$\Delta x = 0.5$$



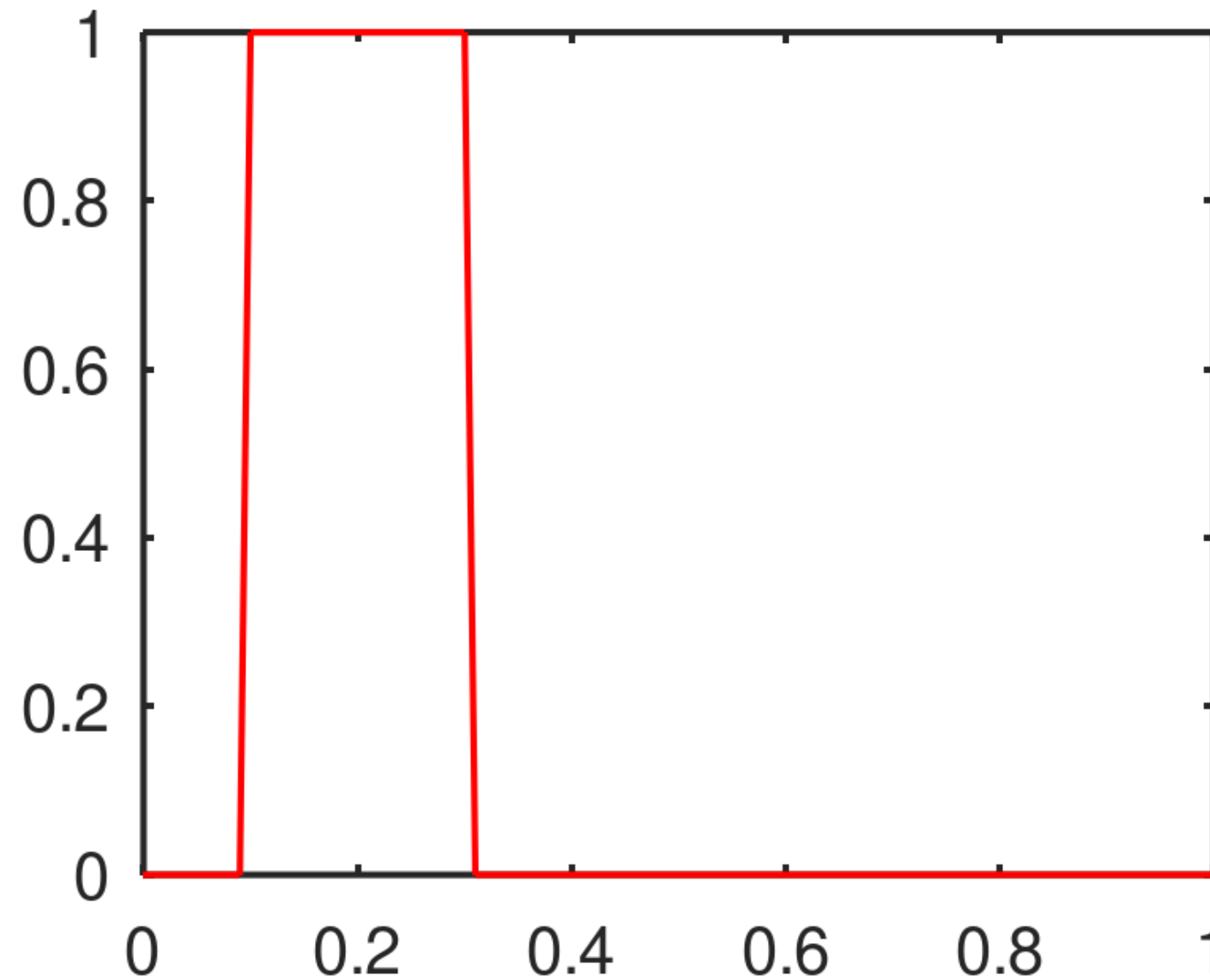
$$c = 4, x_o = 0, \rho_o = 1, x \in [0,10],$$

$$\Delta x = 0.6$$



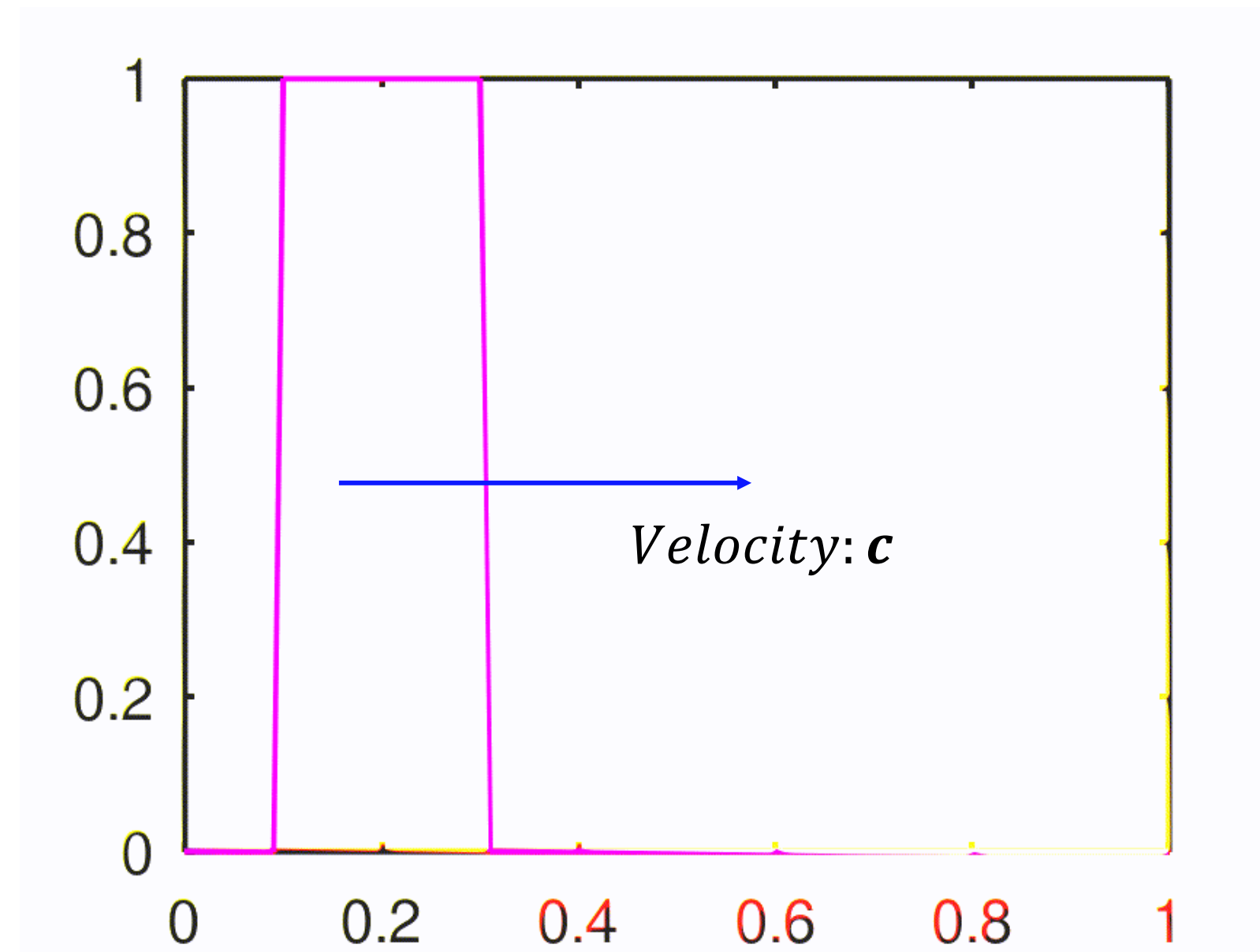


# Numerical Stability - Advection equation



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

# Numerical Stability - Advection equation

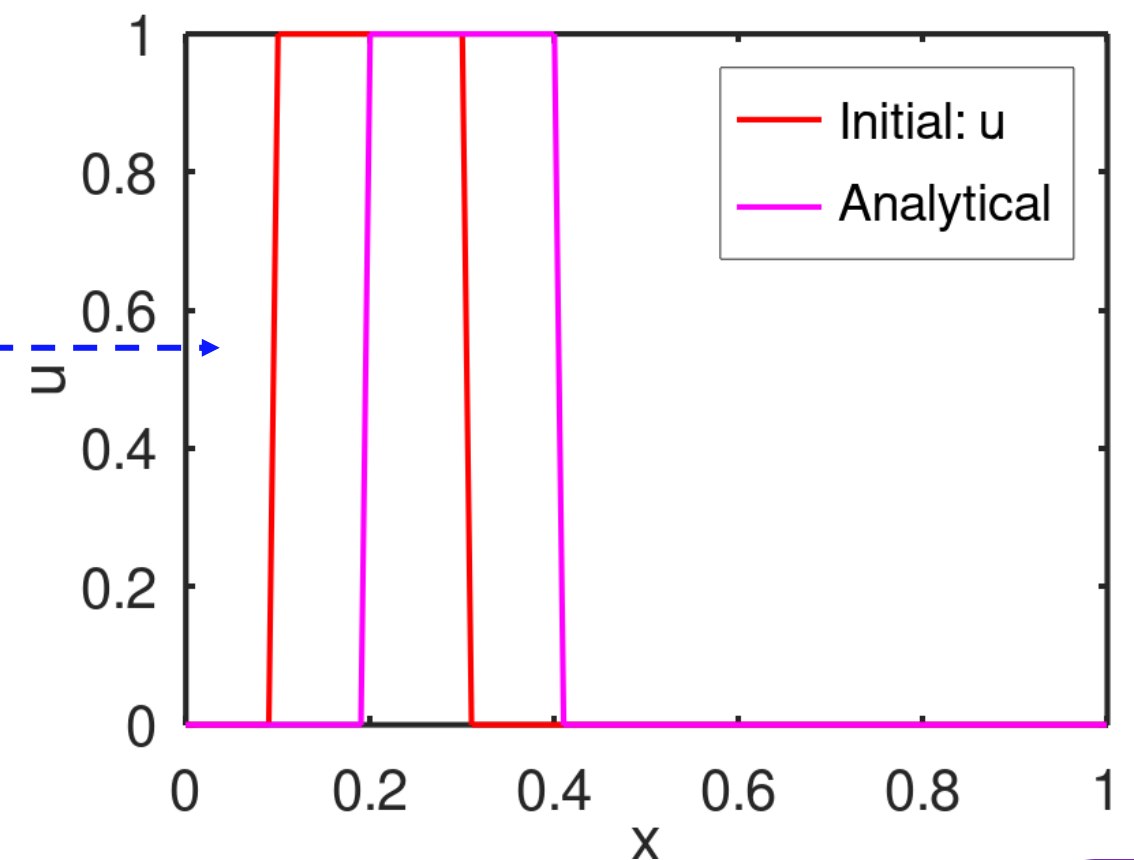
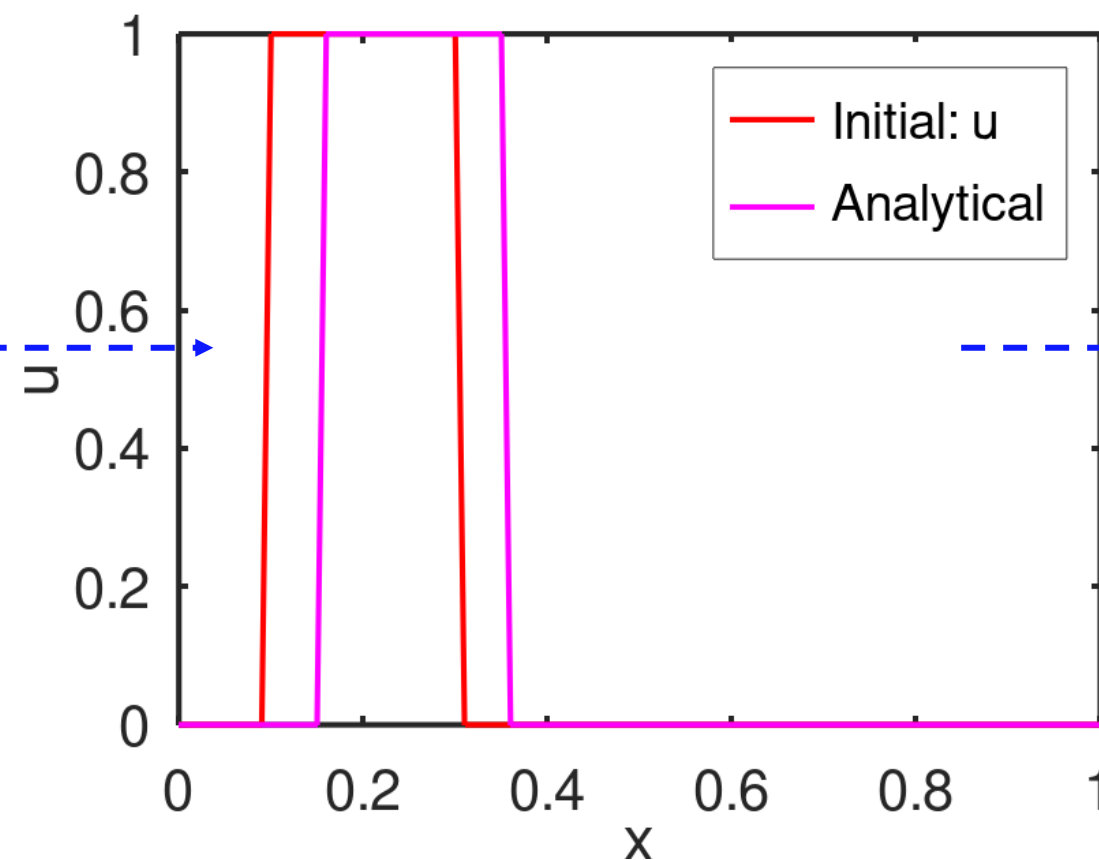
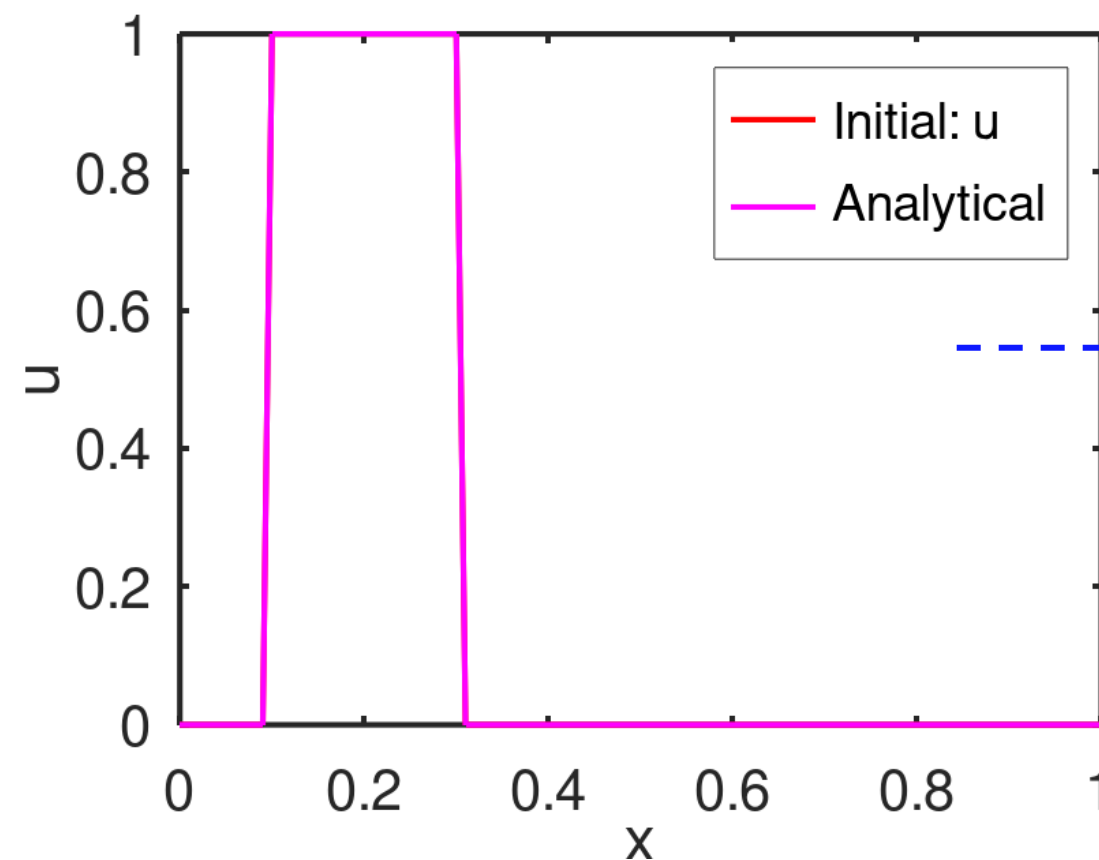




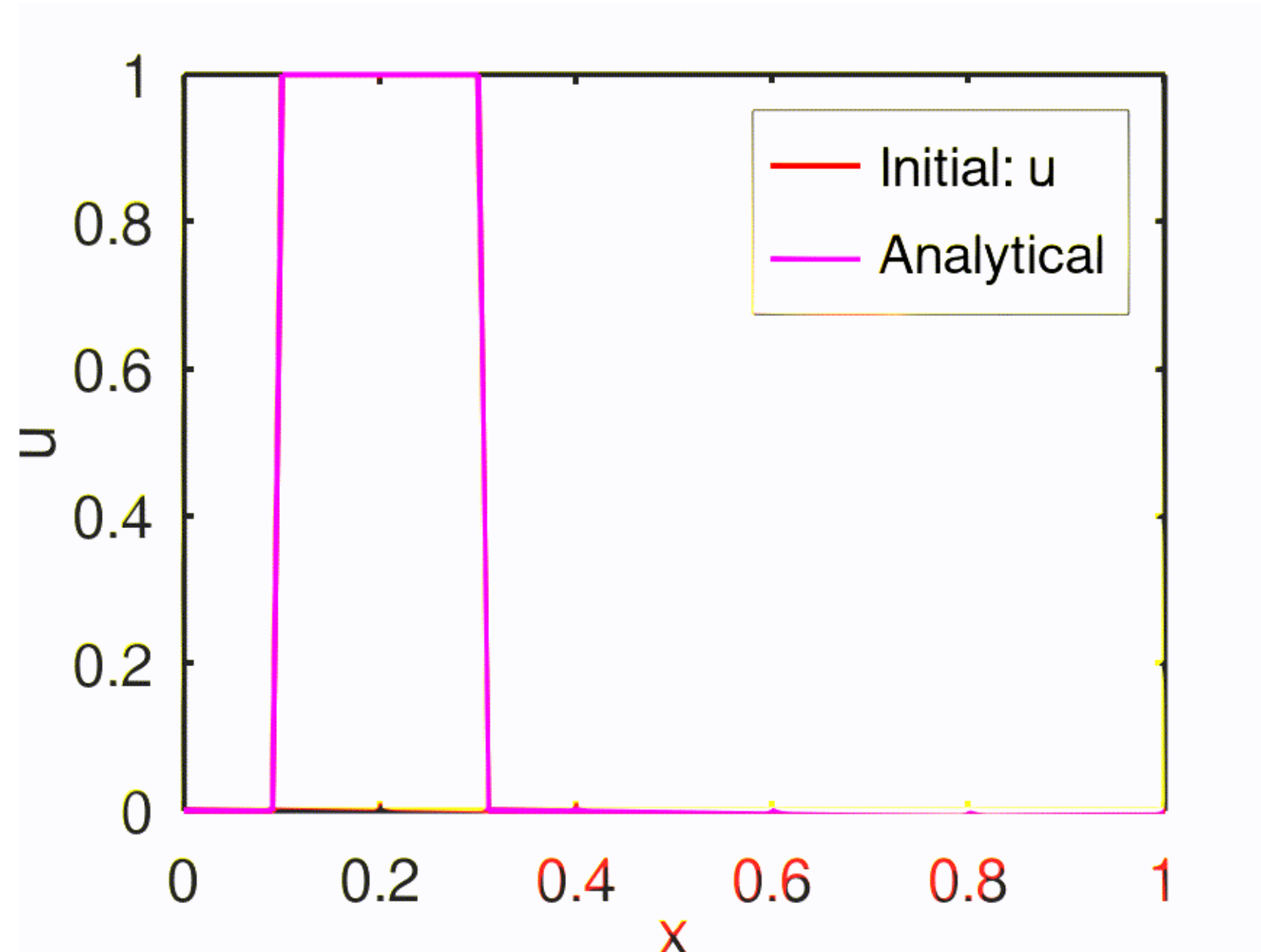
# Numerical Stability - Advection equation

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

```
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
```



# Numerical Stability - 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
```



## Exercise – 5 (i)



1. Solve the following advection equation **analytically** in octave

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

2. Upload in GitHub

# Numerical Stability - Advection 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

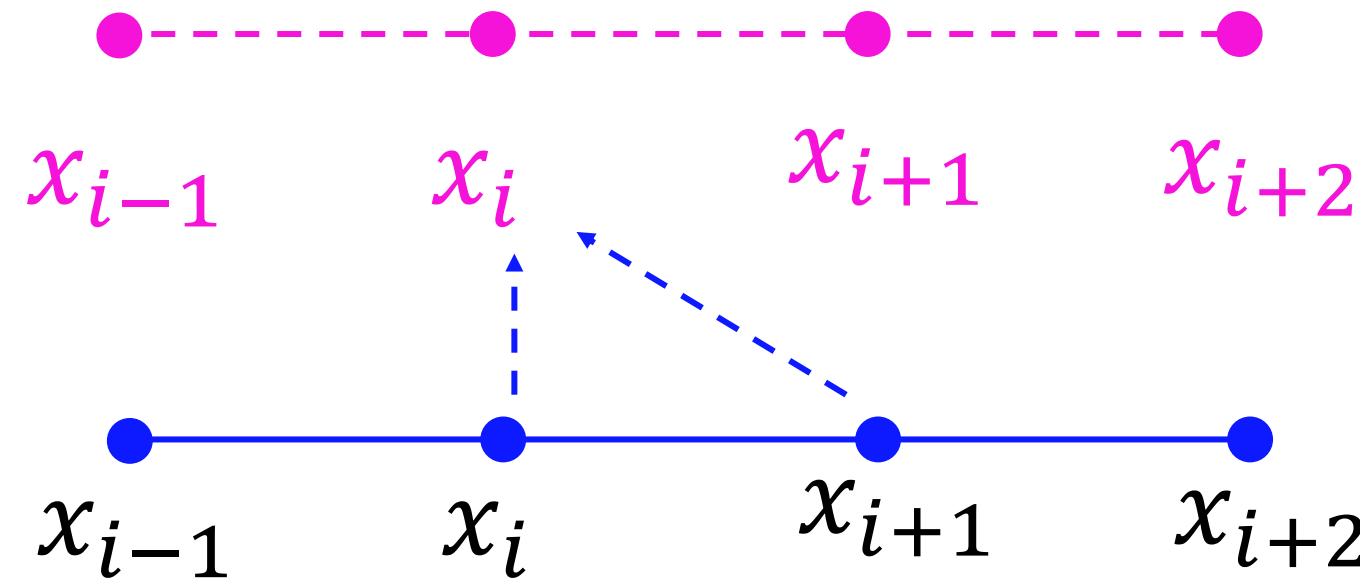
Central difference

(Explicit) First order - Forward Euler

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

# Numerical Stability - Advection equation

Time level:  $n + 1$

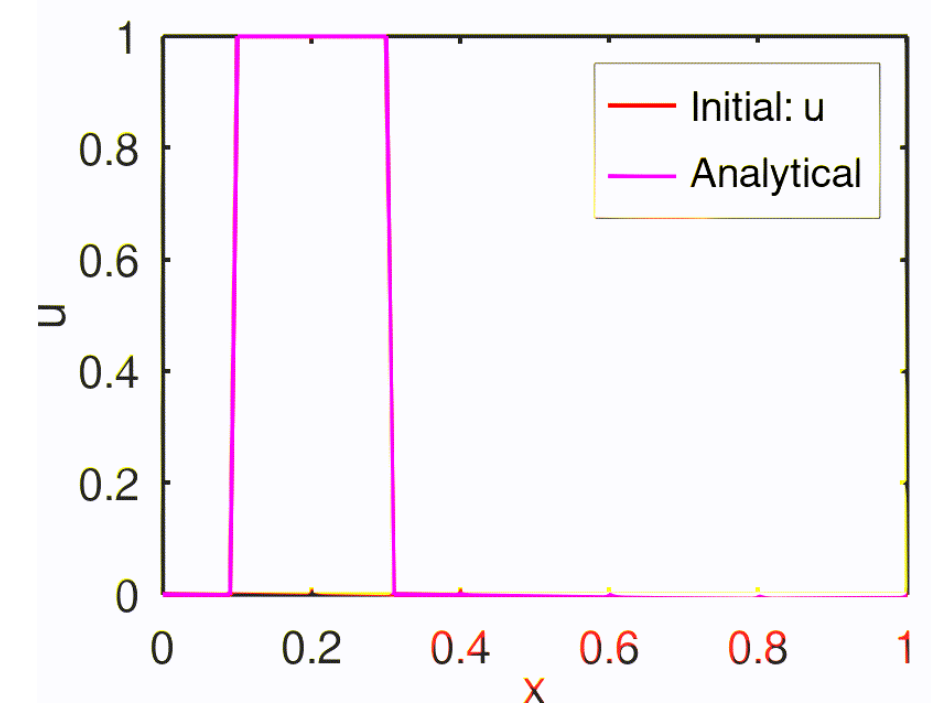
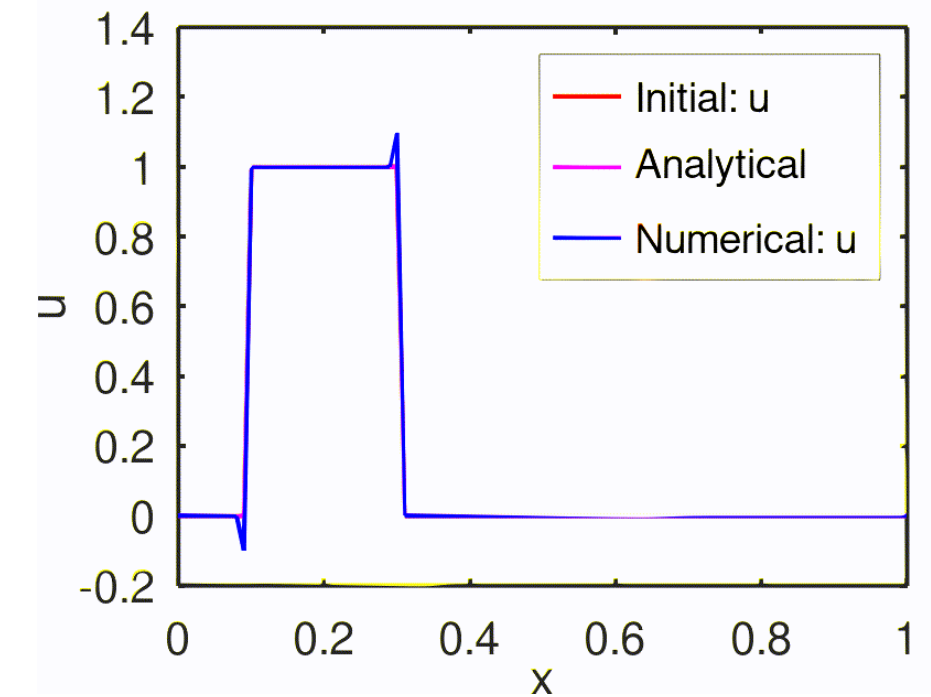


Time level:  $n$

Information from right  
to left end

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

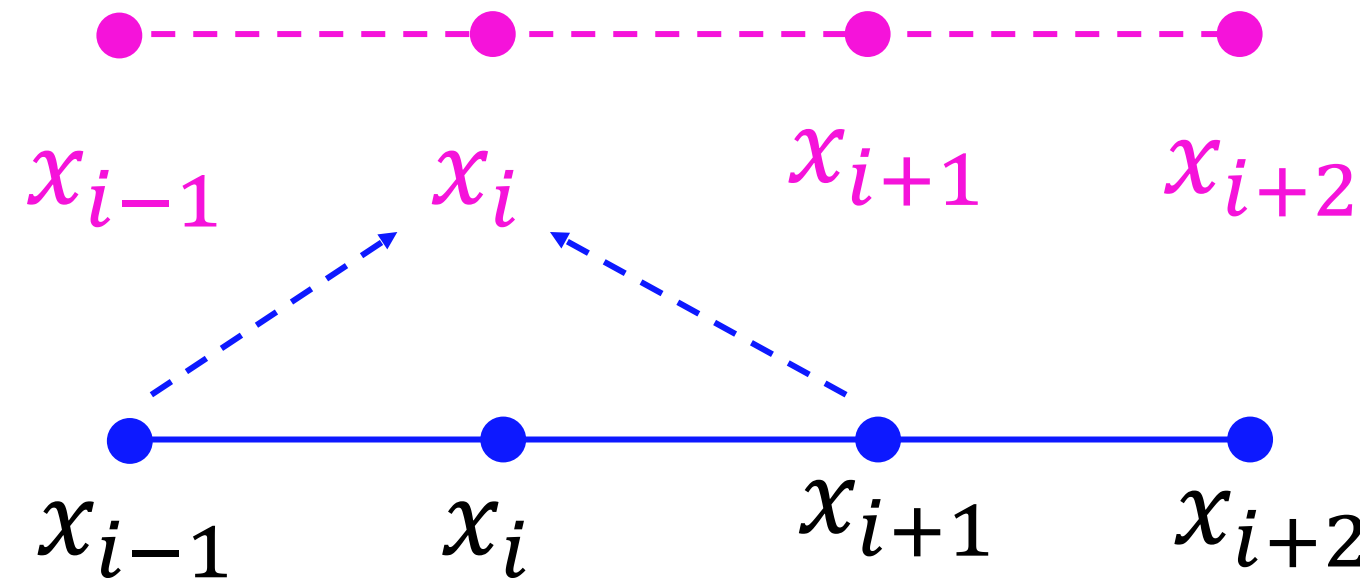
$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n}{\Delta x_i}$  Simple forward difference scheme  
 $\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_{i-1}^n}{2\Delta x_i}$  Central difference



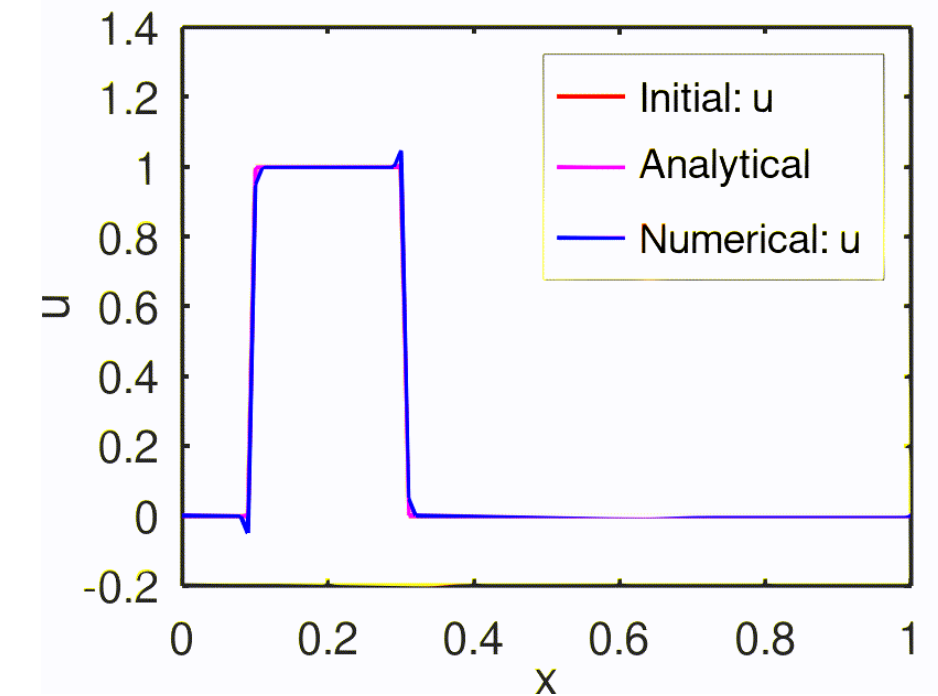


# Numerical Stability - Advection equation

Time level:  $n + 1$



Time level:  $n$



Information from left and right ends

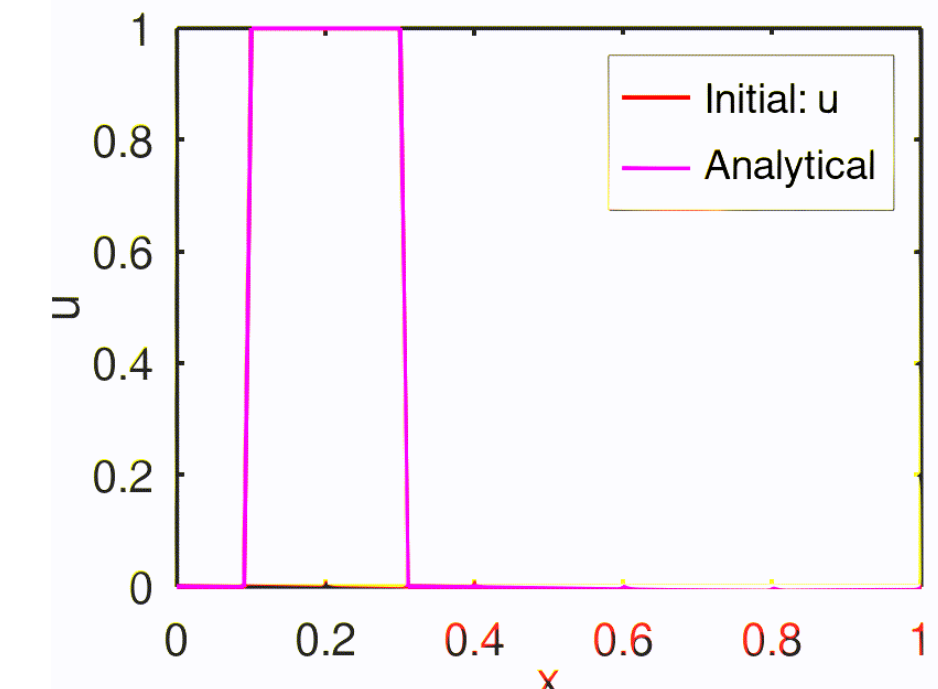
$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - c\Delta t \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n$$

Simple forward difference scheme

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

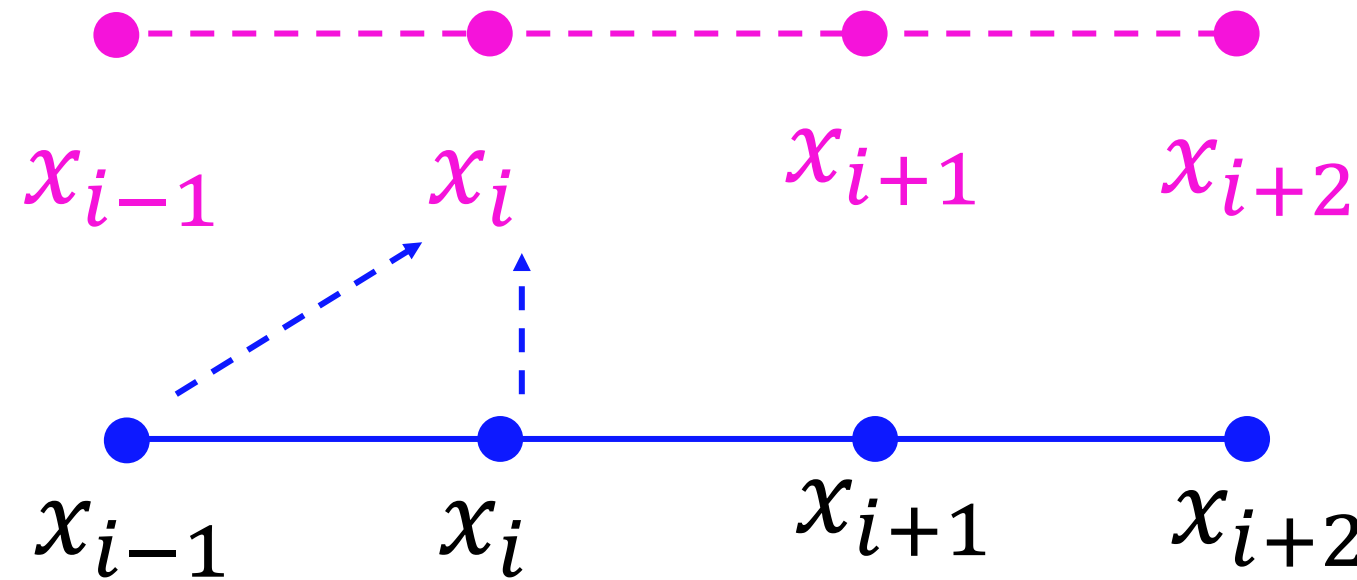
Central difference

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



# Numerical Stability - Advection equation

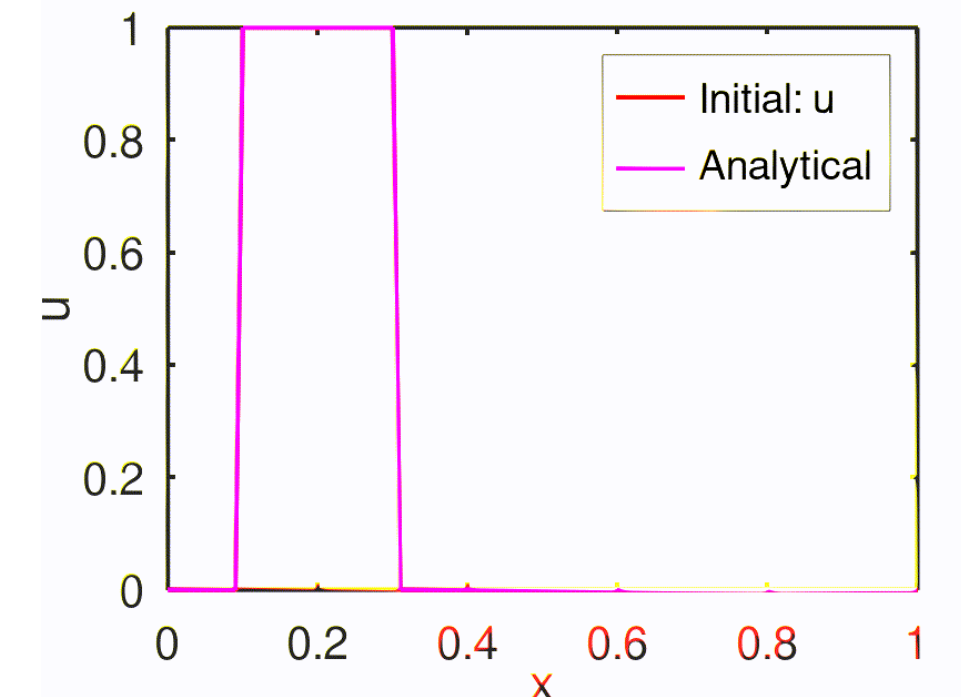
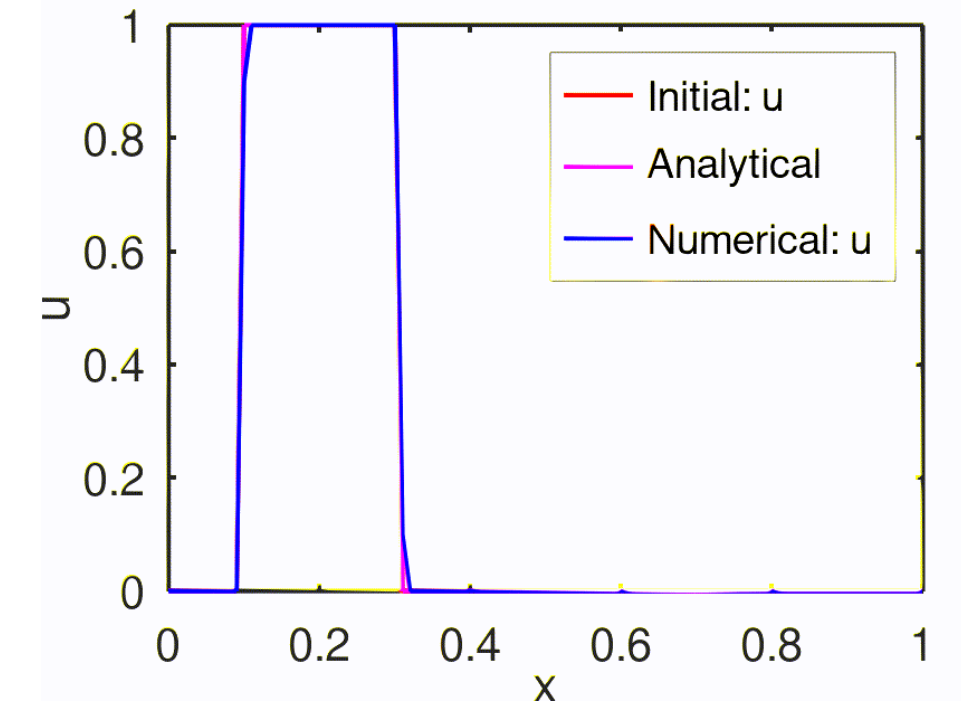
Time level:  $n + 1$



Time level:  $n$

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

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



# Numerical Stability - Advection equation

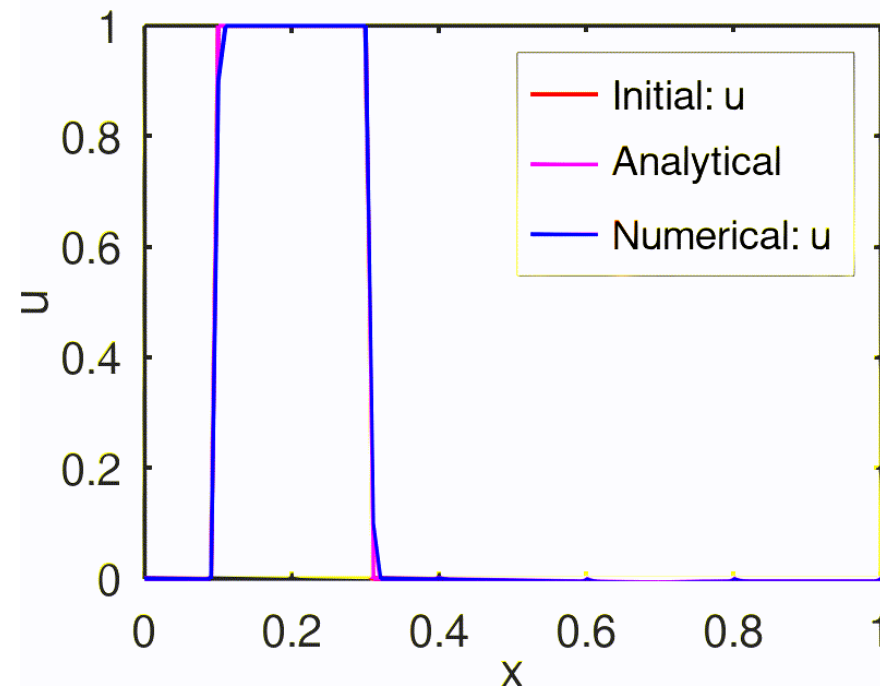
$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

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

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

Simple backward difference scheme

Upwind scheme



**CFL = 0.1**       $CFL: \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x}$

Courant - Friedrichs - Lewy Number

Information from left to right end

Wind is flowing from left end (Flowing towards the source of the wind)

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

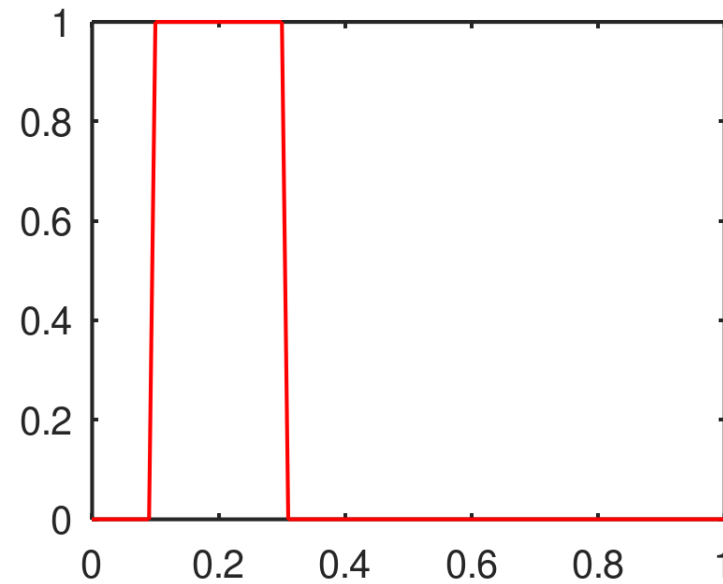
$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n \approx \frac{u_{i+1}^n - u_i^n}{\Delta x_i}$$

Simple forward difference scheme

Downwind scheme

Wind is flowing from right end (Flowing away from the source of wind)

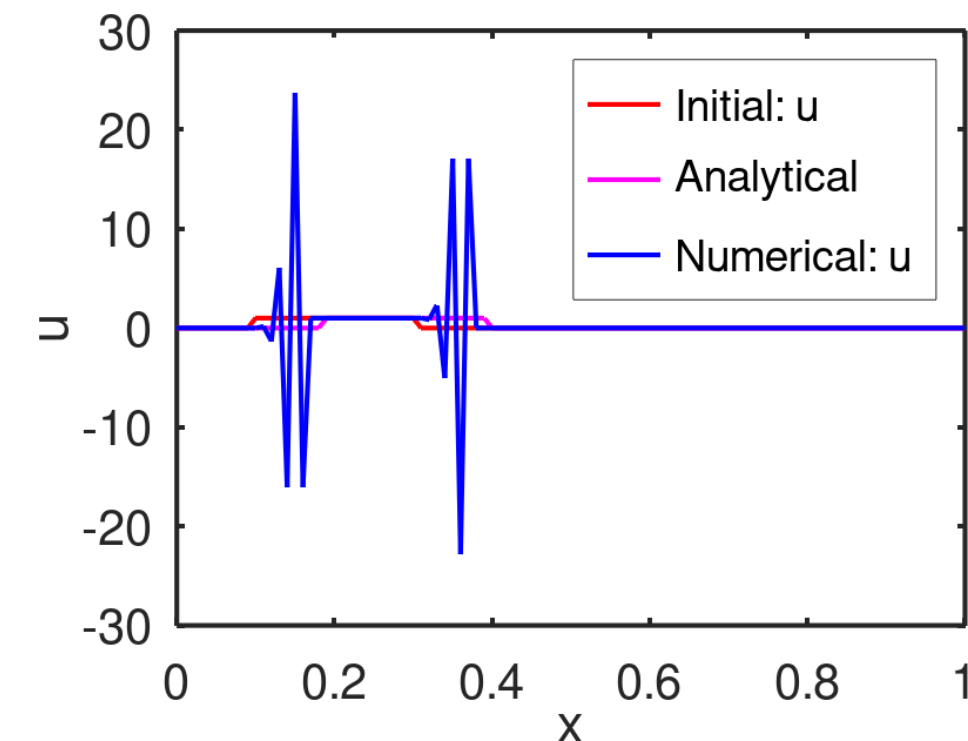
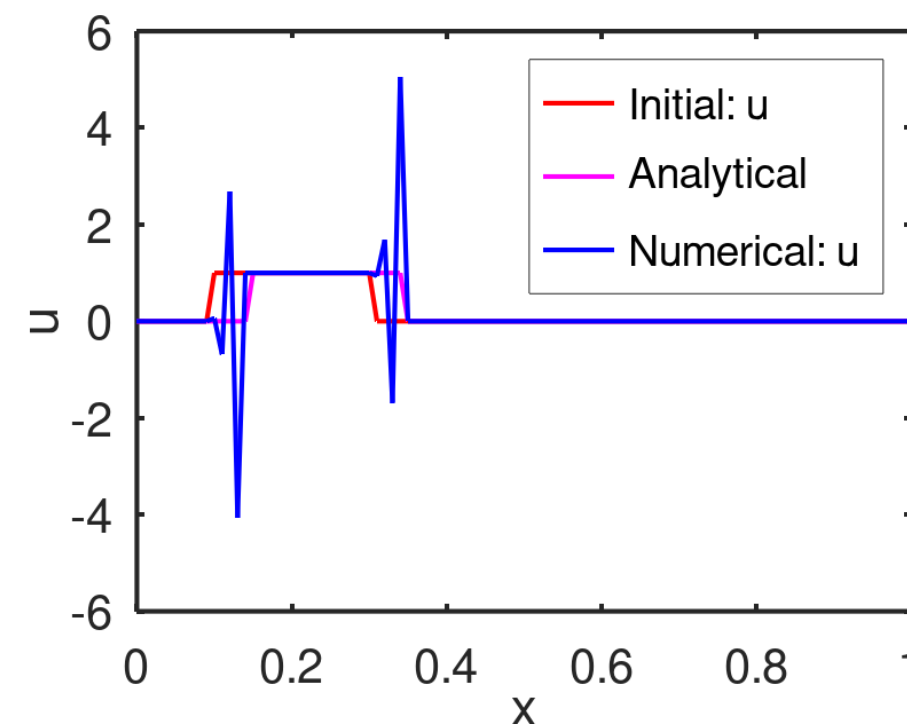
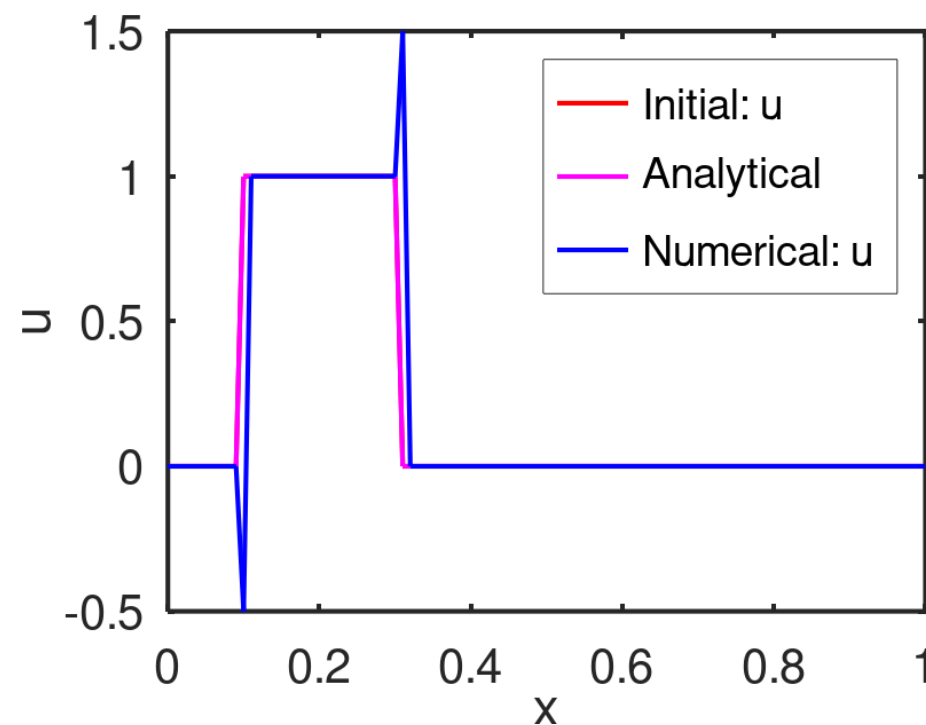
# Numerical Stability - Advection equation



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

Upwind scheme

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



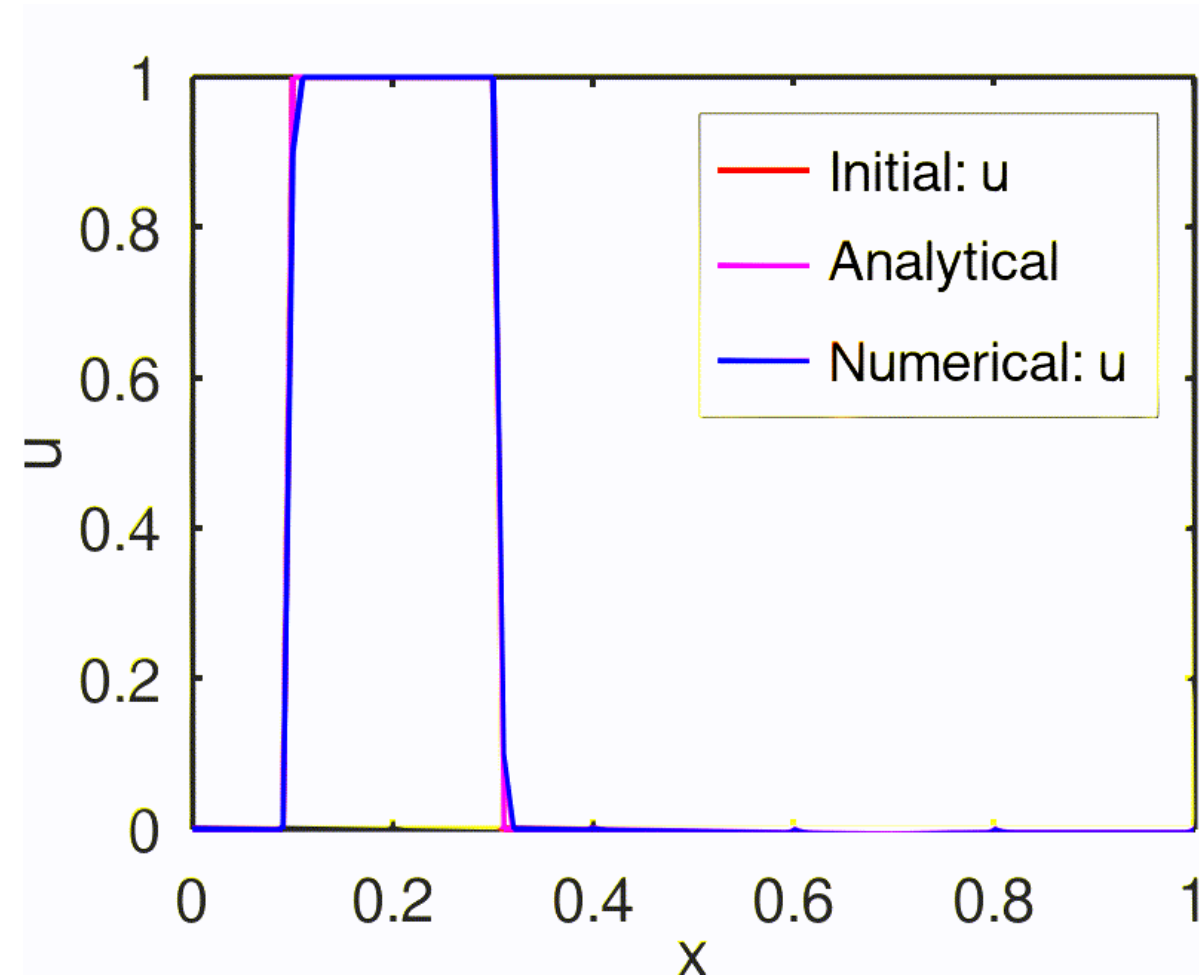
CFL = 1.5

$\Delta t$  increase



# What did we discuss ?

- Proper discrete approximations need to be chosen based on the velocity field.
- CFL number is critical to ensure numerical stability.



## Upwind scheme

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

Simple backward difference scheme

## Downwind scheme

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

Simple forward difference scheme

# Exercise – 5 (ii)



1. Solve the following advection equation **numerically** in octave

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

- a) Central difference with CFL = 0.1 (dx = 0.01, c = 0.01, dt = 0.1, t\_final = 5)
2. **Upwind scheme** (backward difference) with CFL = 0.1 (dx = 0.01, dt = 0.1, t\_final = 5). Change the "c" value between 0.01 and -0.01 and analyze the stability. Hint: Upwind scheme with c = -0.01 becomes unstable and act as downwind.
  3. **Downwind scheme** (forward difference) with CFL = 0.1 (dx = 0.01, dt = 0.1, t\_final = 5). Change the "c" value between 0.01 and -0.01 and analyze the stability. Hint: Downwind scheme with c = -0.01 becomes stable and act as upwind.
  4. Examine **CFL numbers**. Analyse the upwind scheme with CFL = 0.1, 1.0, and 10. Analyze the stability. (dx = 0.01, c = 0.01, dt = 0.1, t\_final = 5)
  5. Upload in GitHub.

**THANK YOU**