

DISCRETE PHYSICAL REALM

ALGEBRAIC FORMULATION OF PHYSICS

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ERRORS, STABILITY AND CODE VERIFICATION

TAMING THE BEAST



"Programming is thinking, not typing." — Casey Patton

ERROR LANDSCAPE

Validation

Solve the right equations



$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} + \Gamma \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} = f$$

Verification

Solve the equations right

$$\frac{d \varphi_h}{d t} + D \varphi_h = f_h$$

$$Ax = b \Rightarrow x \approx A^{-1}b$$

Physical realm

Math model

Discrete eqs.

Numerical solution

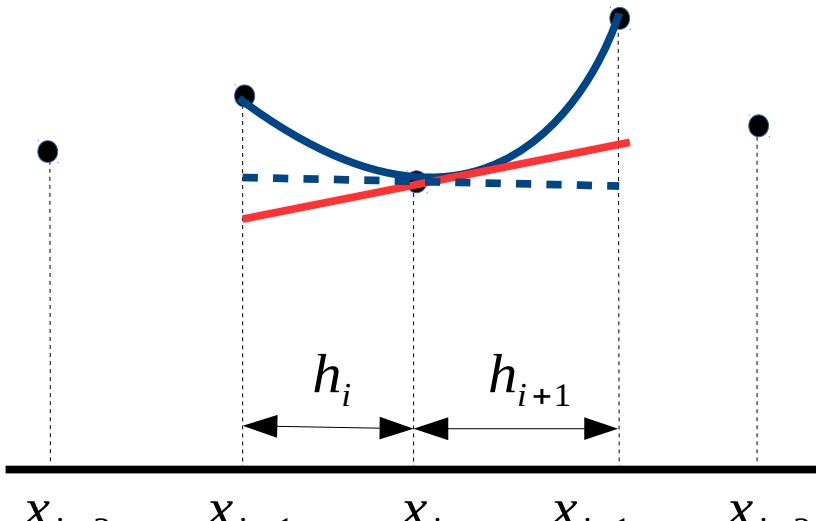
Modelization
errors

Discretization
errors

Solver residual
Round-off errors

- Local truncation error
- Global truncation error
- Dispersion error
- Aliasing error





$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i}$$

Taylor series expansion around x_i :

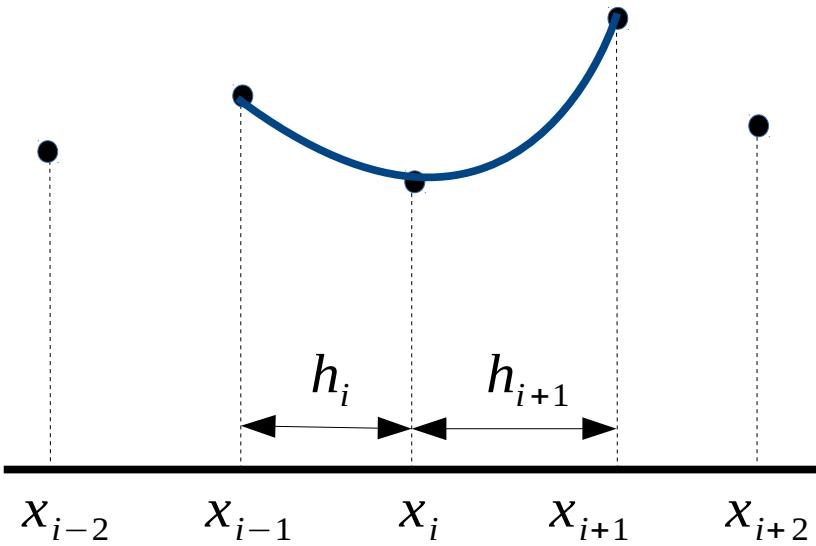
$$\varphi_i = \varphi_i$$

$$\varphi_{i+1} = \varphi_i + h_{i+1} \partial_x \varphi_i + \frac{h_{i+1}^2}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i + \frac{h_{i+1}^3}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i + \dots$$

$$\varphi_{i-1} = \varphi_i - h_i \partial_x \varphi_i + \frac{h_i^2}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i - \frac{h_i^3}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i + \dots$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i + h_{i+1}} + O(h^1)$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{h_i^2 \varphi_{i+1} + (h_{i+1}^2 - h_i^2) \varphi_i - h_{i+1}^2 \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i h_{i+1} (h_i + h_{i+1})} + O(h^2)$$



$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x_i}$$


Taylor series expansion around x_i :

$$\varphi_i = \varphi_i$$

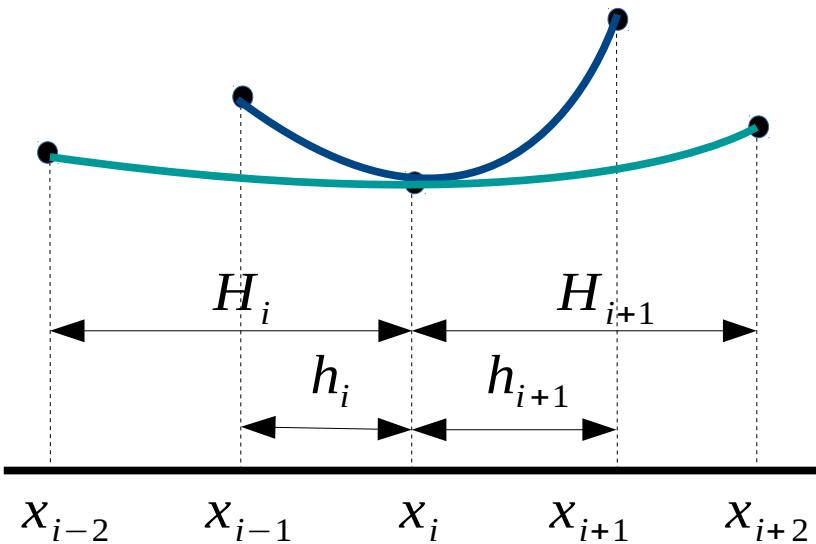
$$\varphi_{i+1} = \varphi_i + h_{i+1} \partial_x \varphi_i + \frac{h_{i+1}^2}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i + \frac{h_{i+1}^3}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i + \dots$$

$$\varphi_{i-1} = \varphi_i - h_i \partial_x \varphi_i + \frac{h_i^2}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i - \frac{h_i^3}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i + \dots$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 \\ -h_i & 0 & h_{i+1} \\ h_{i-1}^2/2 & 0 & h_{i+1}^2/2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} c_{i-1} \\ c_i \\ c_{i+1} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} c_{i-1} \\ c_i \\ c_{i+1} \end{pmatrix} = \frac{1}{h_i h_{i+1} (h_i + h_{i+1})} \begin{pmatrix} h_{i+1} \\ -(h_i + h_{i+1}) \\ h_i \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{h_i \varphi_{i+1} - (h_{i+1} + h_i) \varphi_i + h_{i+1} \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i h_{i+1} (h_i + h_{i+1})} + O(h^2)$$

GOING TO HIGHER ORDER...



$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x_i}$$



...using Richardson extrapolation

Taylor series expansion around x_i :

$$\varphi_i = \varphi_i$$

$$\varphi_{i+1} = \varphi_i + h_{i+1} \partial_x \varphi_i + \frac{h_{i+1}^2}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i + \frac{h_{i+1}^3}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i + \dots$$

$$\varphi_{i-1} = \varphi_i - h_i \partial_x \varphi_i + \frac{h_i^2}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i - \frac{h_i^3}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i + \dots$$

Local truncation error

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - 2\varphi_i + \varphi_{i-1}}{h^2} + \underbrace{\frac{h^2}{4!} \partial_{xxxx} \varphi_i}_{O(h^4)} + O(h^4) \quad \times \quad 4/3$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+2} - 2\varphi_i + \varphi_{i-2}}{H^2} + \frac{(2h)^2}{4!} \partial_{xxxx} \varphi_i + O(h^4) \quad \times -1/3$$

$O(h^4)$ approximation

...using the Method of Manufactured Solutions (MMS)

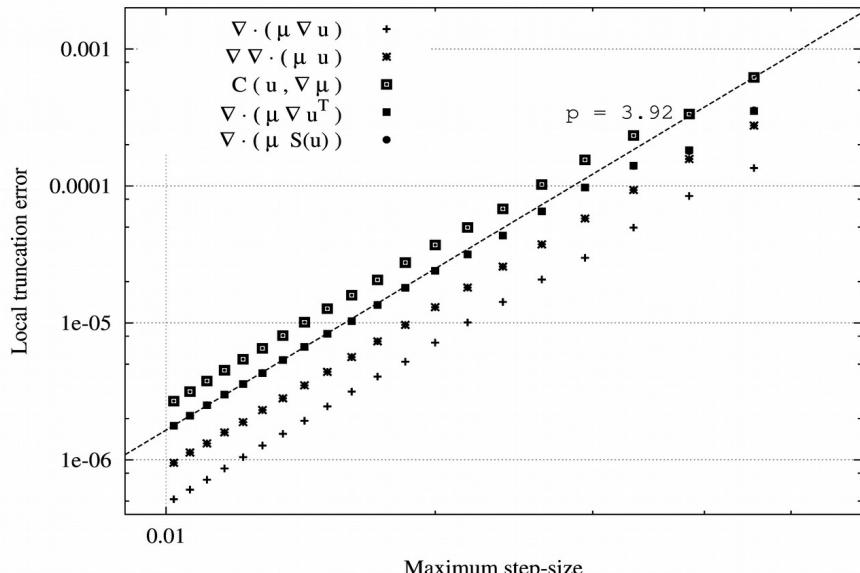
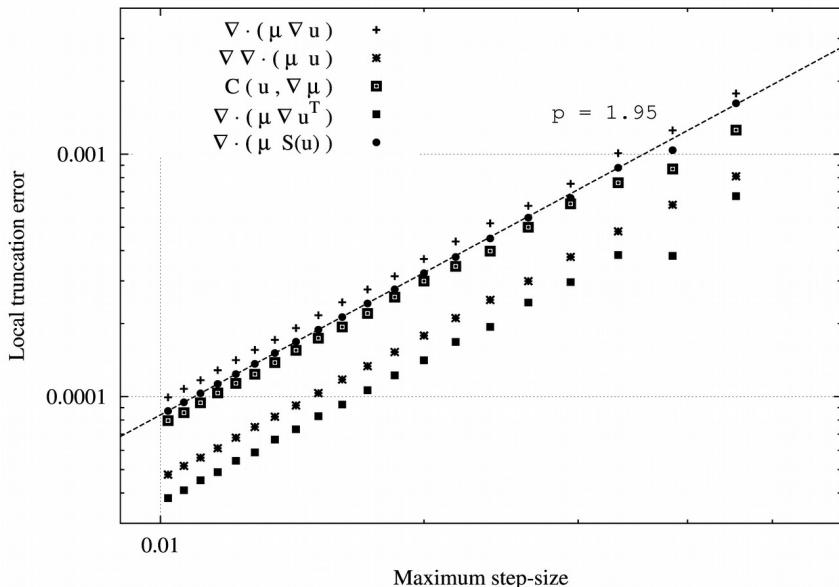
by Eq. (14) was completely straightforward. Then, to measure the order of accuracy of the resulting implementation, a 2D Taylor–Green vortex flow together with the following dynamic viscosity function

$$\mathbf{u}_a(\mathbf{x}) = 1/A^2 (-\cos(Ax_1) \sin(Ax_2), \sin(Ax_1) \cos(Ax_2), 0), \quad (15a)$$

$$\mu_a(\mathbf{x}) = C + \sin(Bx_1) \cos(Bx_2)/B^2, \quad (15b)$$

with $A = 5\pi$, $B = 8\pi$ and $C = 20$, have been used to evaluate the different terms of interest on the bounded square domain

manufactured solution!



Extracted from F.X. Trias, A. Gorobets and A. Oliva. "A simple approach to discretize the viscous term with spatially varying (eddy-)viscosity", Journal of Computational Physics, 253 (1): 405-417, 2013.

What is really important?



Continuous problem: $\nabla^2 \varphi^a = f^a$

Discrete problem: $D \varphi_h = f_h^a$

Local truncation error: $\tau_h = D \varphi_h - f_h^a$

Global truncation error: $\varepsilon_h = \varphi_h - \varphi_h^a = D^{-1} f_h^a - \varphi_h^a$

$$D \varepsilon_h = \tau_h \quad \Rightarrow \quad \varepsilon_h = D^{-1} \tau_h$$

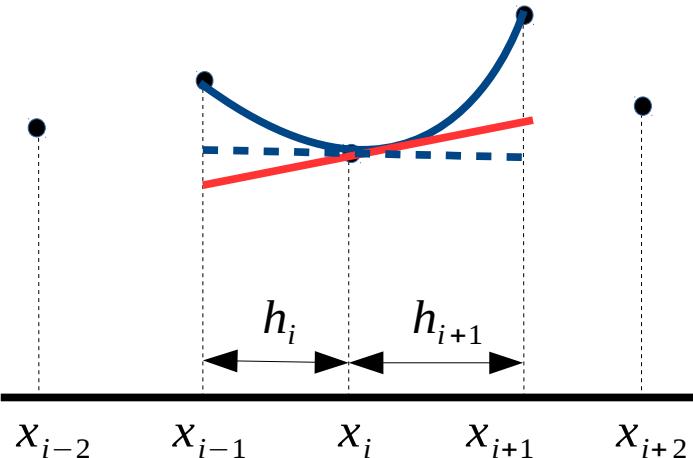


A (nearly) singular discrete operator can destroy the favorable properties of the local truncation error!

What is really important?



Of course ε_h



$$\Omega^{-1} C \varepsilon_h = \tau_h \Rightarrow \varepsilon_h = C^{-1} \Omega \tau_h$$

$$\varepsilon_{i+1} - \varepsilon_{i-1} = 1/2(h_{i+1}^2 - h_i^2) \partial_{xx} \varphi_i + O(h^3)$$

$$\varepsilon_{i+1} - \varepsilon_1 = 1/2 \sum_{k=1}^i (h_{k+1}^2 - h_k^2) \partial_{xx} \varphi_k + O(h^2)$$

$$= 1/2 \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^{i-1} h_k^2 (\partial_{xx} \varphi_{k-1} - \partial_{xx} \varphi_k)}_{O(h^2)} + O(h^2)$$

1st order local error

O(h²)

$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i + h_{i+1}} + \overbrace{\frac{h_{i+1} - h_i}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i} + O(h^2)$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{h_i^2 \varphi_{i+1} + (h_{i+1}^2 - h_i^2) \varphi_i - h_{i+1}^2 \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i h_{i+1} (h_i + h_{i+1})} + O(h^2)$$

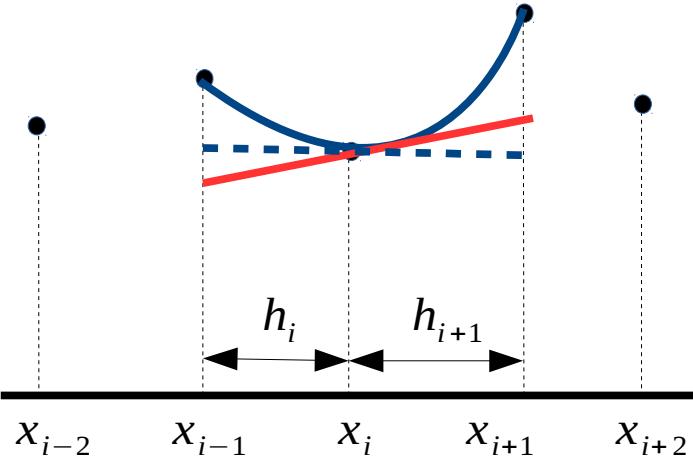
That's why symmetry-preserving works well!



What is really important?



Of course ε_h



$$\Omega^{-1} C \varepsilon_h = \tau_h \Rightarrow \varepsilon_h = C^{-1} \Omega \tau_h$$

$$\varepsilon_{i+1} - \varepsilon_{i-1} = 1/2(h_{i+1}^2 - h_i^2) \partial_{xx} \varphi_i + O(h^3)$$

$$\varepsilon_{i+1} - \varepsilon_1 = 1/2 \sum_{k=1}^i (h_{k+1}^2 - h_k^2) \partial_{xx} \varphi_k + O(h^2)$$

$$= 1/2 \underbrace{\sum_{k=1}^{i-1} h_k^2 (\partial_{xx} \varphi_{k-1} - \partial_{xx} \varphi_k)}_{O(h^2)} + O(h^2)$$

1st order local error

O(h²)

$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i + h_{i+1}} + \overbrace{\frac{h_{i+1} - h_i}{2} \partial_{xx} \varphi_i}^{\text{1st order local error}} + O(h^2)$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} = \frac{h_i^2 \varphi_{i+1} + (h_{i+1}^2 - h_i^2) \varphi_i - h_{i+1}^2 \varphi_{i-1}}{h_i h_{i+1} (h_i + h_{i+1})} + O(h^2)$$

That's why symmetry-preserving works well!



LOCAL VS GLOBAL TRUNCATION ERROR



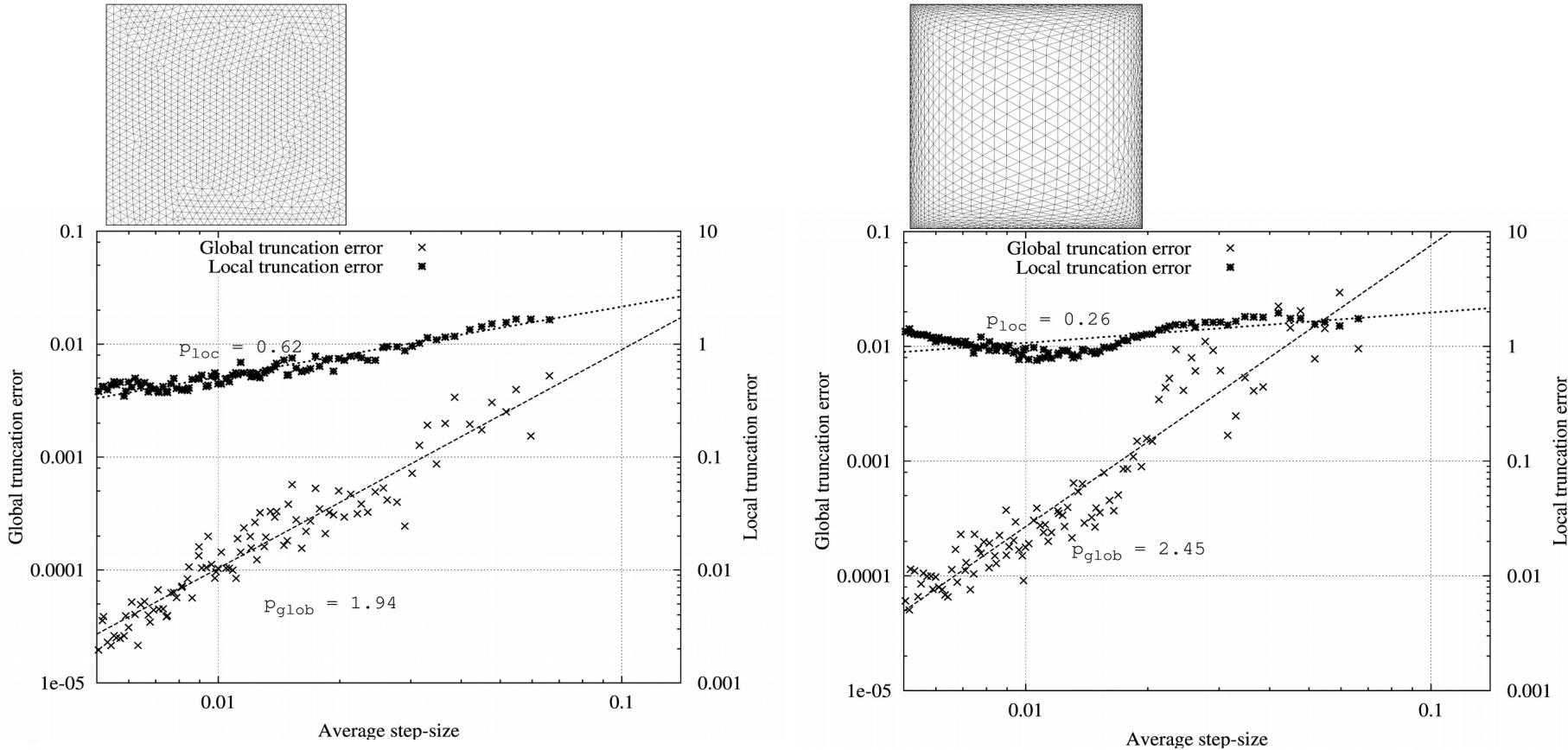
A complete analytical approach for the general case is beyond the scope of this paper. Instead, the following problem

$$\Delta\varphi = f \quad \text{on } \Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, 1) \quad \text{and} \quad \varphi|_{\partial\Omega} = 0,$$

with $f(x_1, x_2) = \Delta(A^{-2} \sin(Ax_1) \sin(Ax_2))$ and $A = 25\pi$ has been numerically solved on 150 different meshes using the discrete approximation of the Laplacian operator defined in Eq. (46). The ANSYS ICEM CFD package has been used to ran-

manufactured solution!

(58)



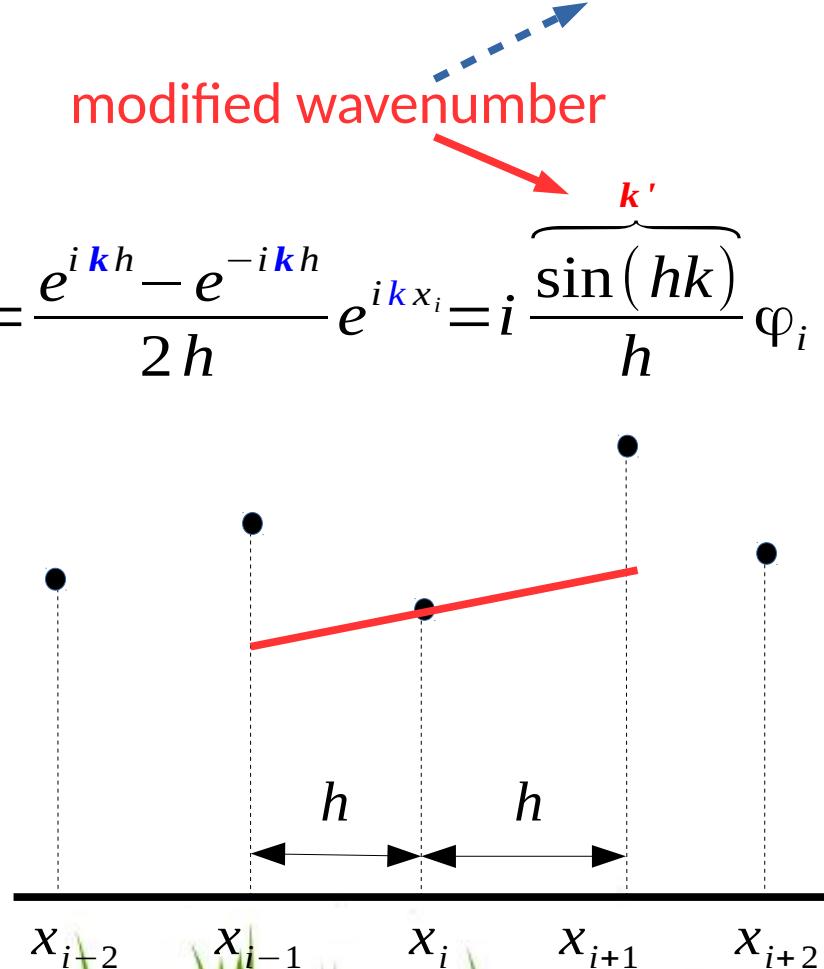
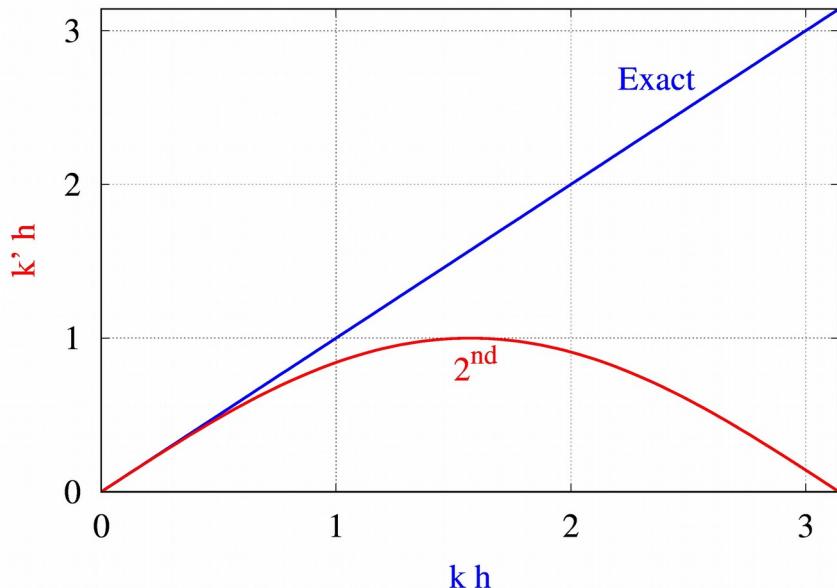
Extracted from F.X. Trias, O. Lehmkuhl, A. Oliva, C.D. Pérez-Segarra and R.W.C.P. Verstappen. "Symmetry-preserving discretization of Navier-Stokes equations on collocated unstructured grids", Journal of Computational Physics, 258 (1): 246-267, 2014.

DISPERSION ERROR

Let us consider a single wave: $\varphi(x) = e^{i\mathbf{k}x} \Rightarrow \partial_x \varphi(x) = i\mathbf{k} \varphi(x)$

Second-order central difference:

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \Big|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_{i-1}}{2h} = \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}(x_i+h)} - e^{i\mathbf{k}(x_i-h)}}{2h} = \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}h} - e^{-i\mathbf{k}h}}{2h} e^{i\mathbf{k}x_i} = i \underbrace{\frac{\sin(hk)}{h}}_{k'} \varphi_i$$

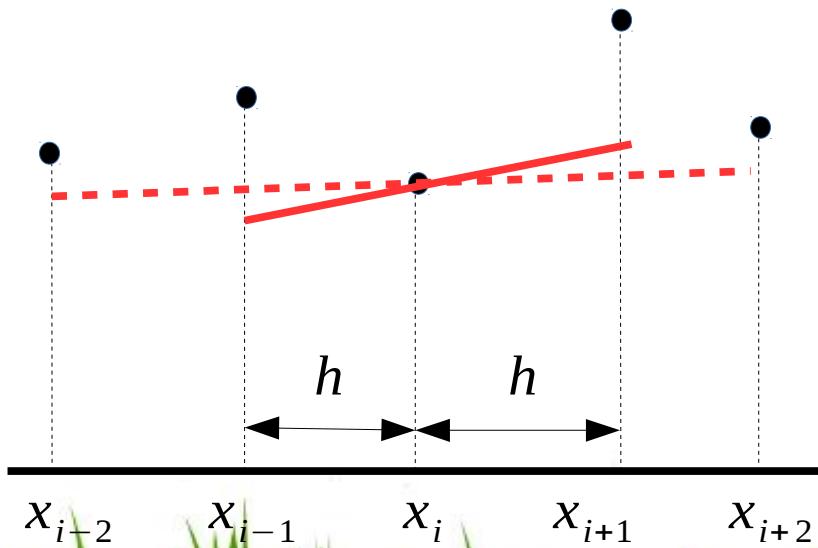
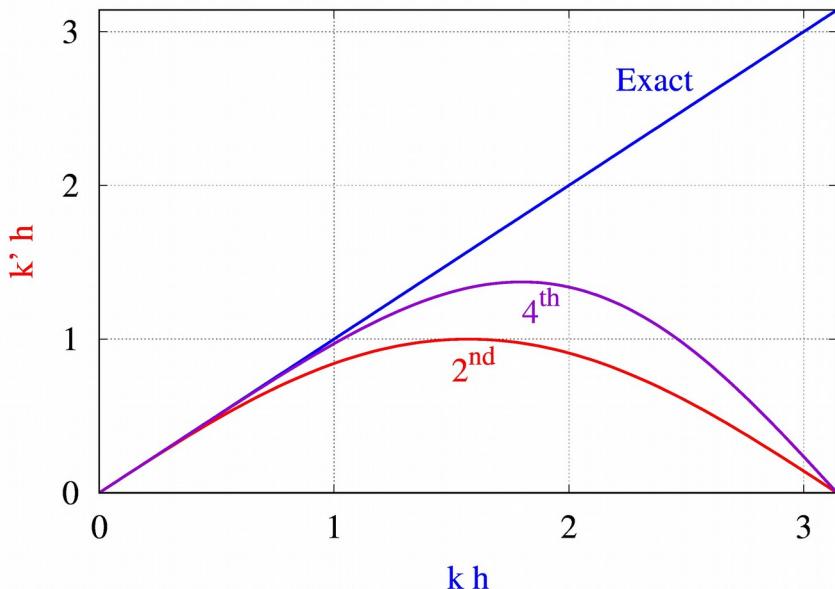


DISPERSION ERROR

Fourth-order central difference:

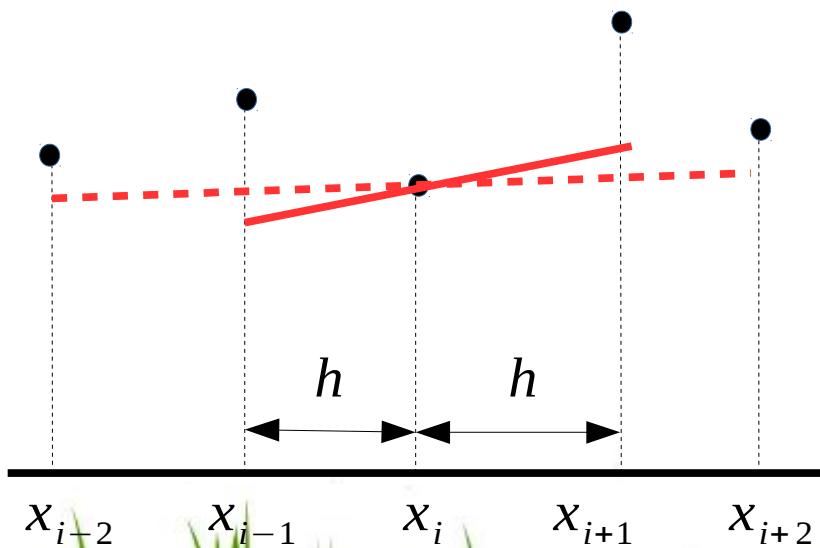
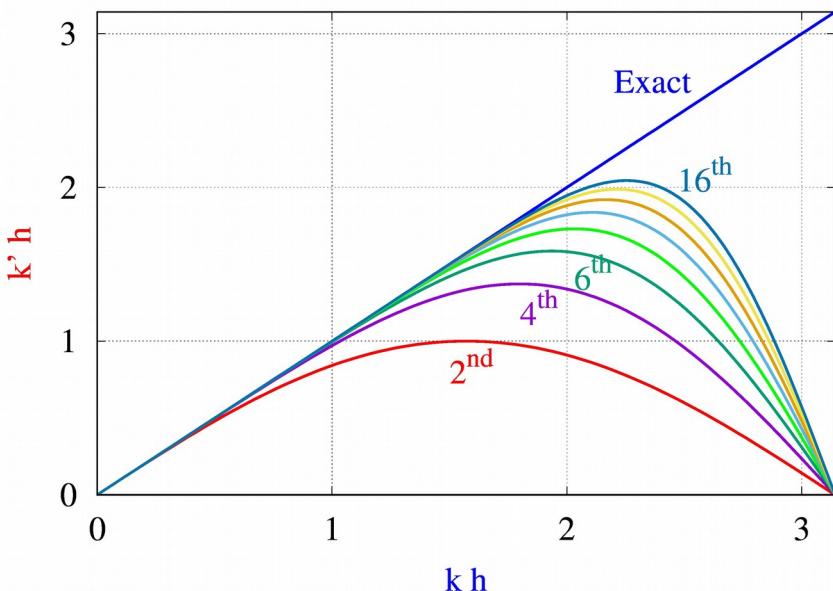
$$\begin{aligned}
 \left. \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \right|_{x_i} &= \frac{-\varphi_{i+2} + 8\varphi_{i+1} - 8\varphi_{i-1} + \varphi_{i-2}}{12h} = \left(\frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}h} - e^{-i\mathbf{k}h}}{3h/2} - \frac{e^{i\mathbf{k}2h} - e^{-i\mathbf{k}2h}}{12h} \right) \varphi_i \\
 &= i \underbrace{\left(\frac{4 \sin(hk)}{3h} - \frac{\sin(2hk)}{6h} \right)}_{k'} \varphi_i
 \end{aligned}$$

k' ← modified wavenumber



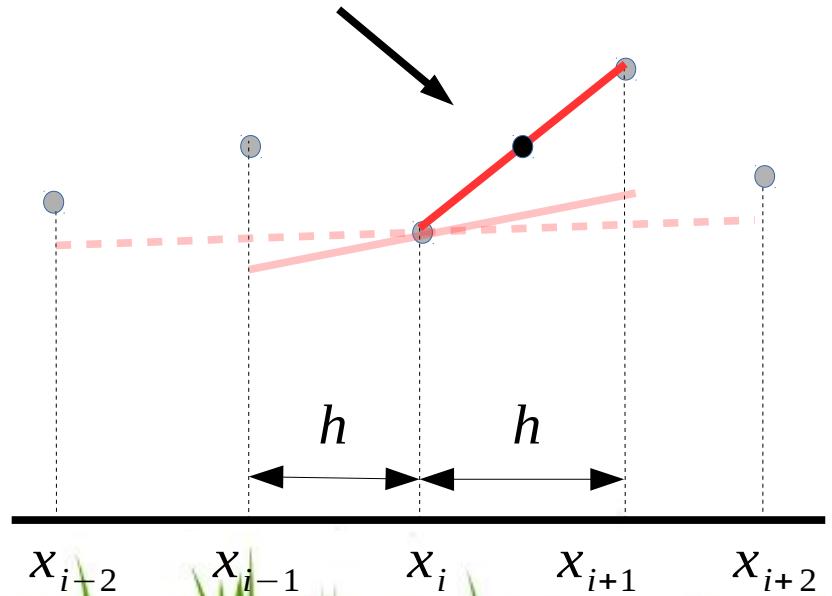
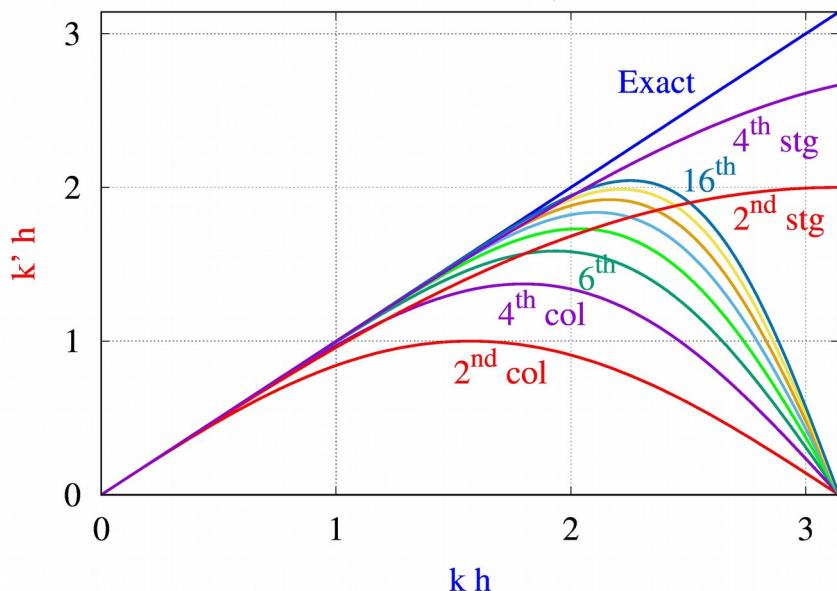
DISPERSION ERROR

Increasing order of accuracy helps...
... but it is so expensive!

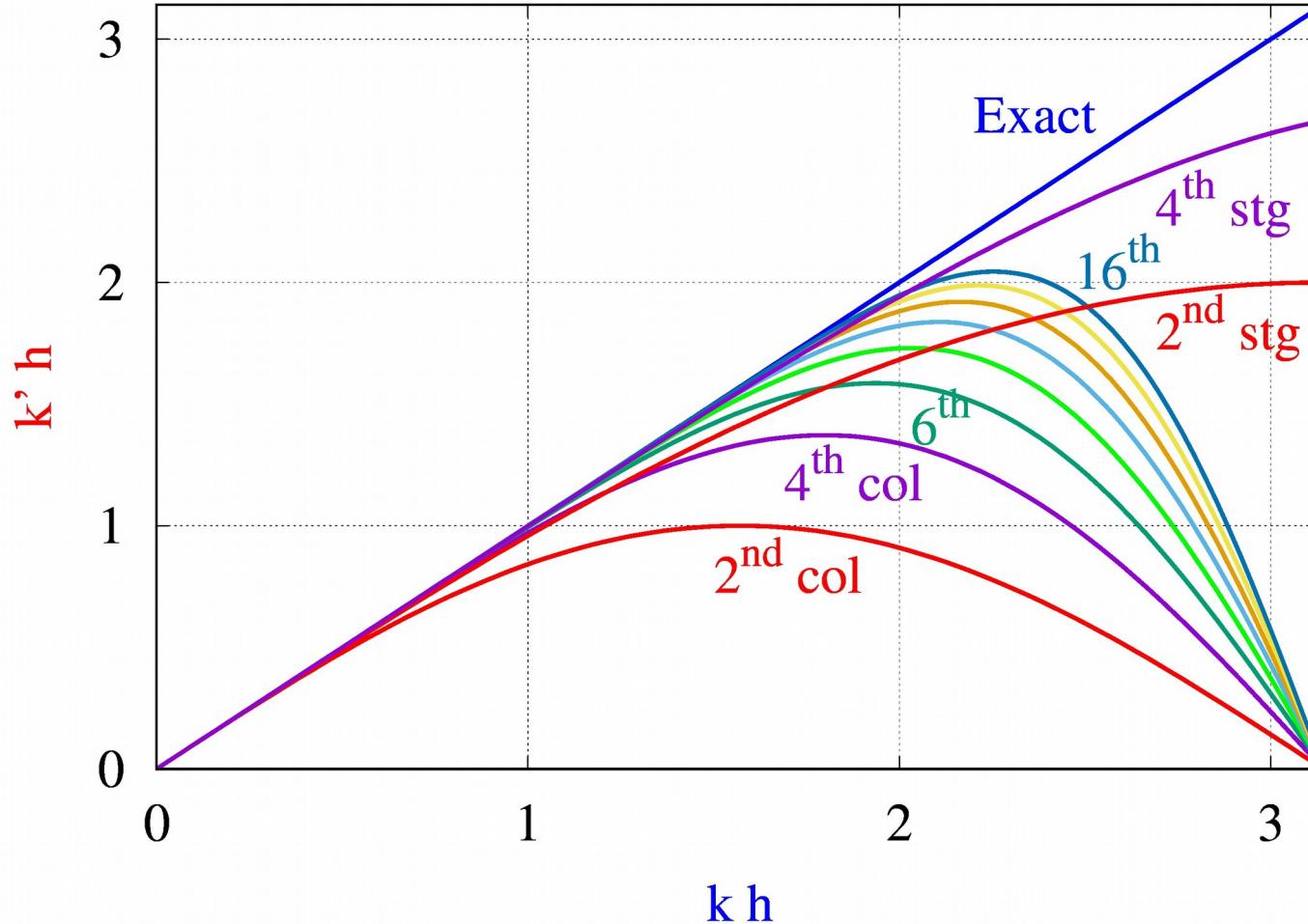


Here you can see (again) the benefits of using a **staggered arrangement**!

It is equivalent to increase mesh resolution by a factor of 2!



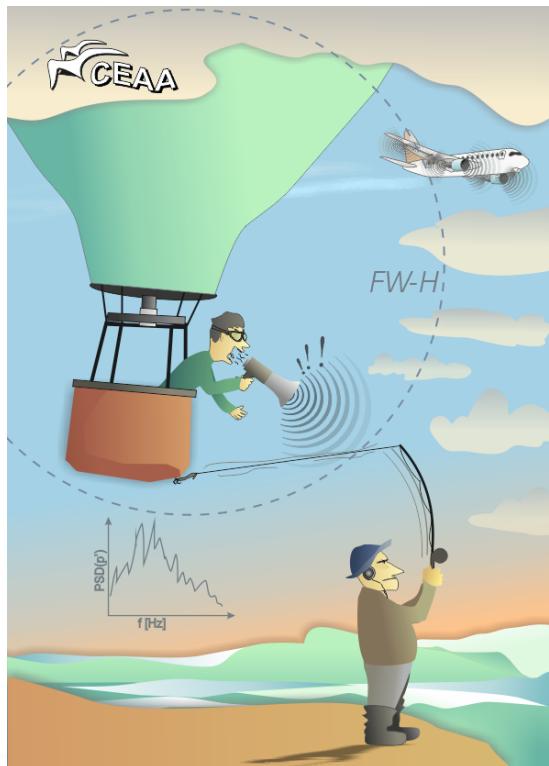
But why dispersion errors are important?



DISPERSION ERROR

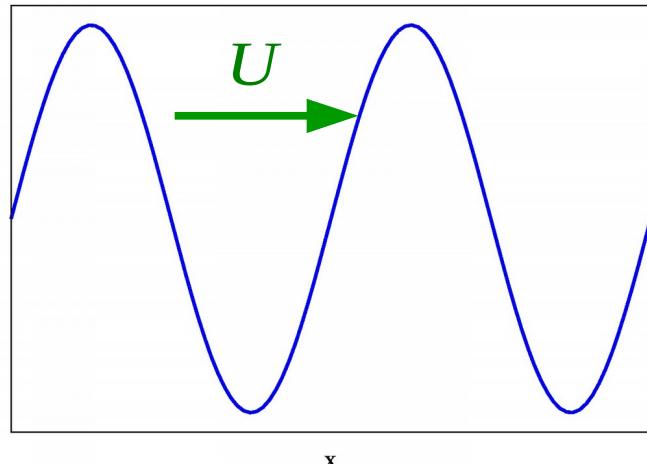
Let us consider a single wave traveling at speed $\textcolor{green}{U}$:

$$\varphi(x,t) = e^{i \mathbf{k}(x - \textcolor{green}{U}t)} \Rightarrow \partial_t \varphi = \textcolor{green}{U} \partial_x \varphi = i \mathbf{k} \textcolor{green}{U} \varphi$$
$$\Rightarrow \partial_t \varphi = \textcolor{green}{U} \hat{\partial}_x \varphi = i \mathbf{k}' \textcolor{green}{U} \varphi \quad \text{Dispersion error}$$
$$\Rightarrow \partial_t \varphi = \textcolor{green}{U}' \partial_x \varphi = i \underbrace{\mathbf{k} \textcolor{green}{U}'}_{\text{Actual measured wavenumber}} \varphi \quad \text{Doppler effect}$$

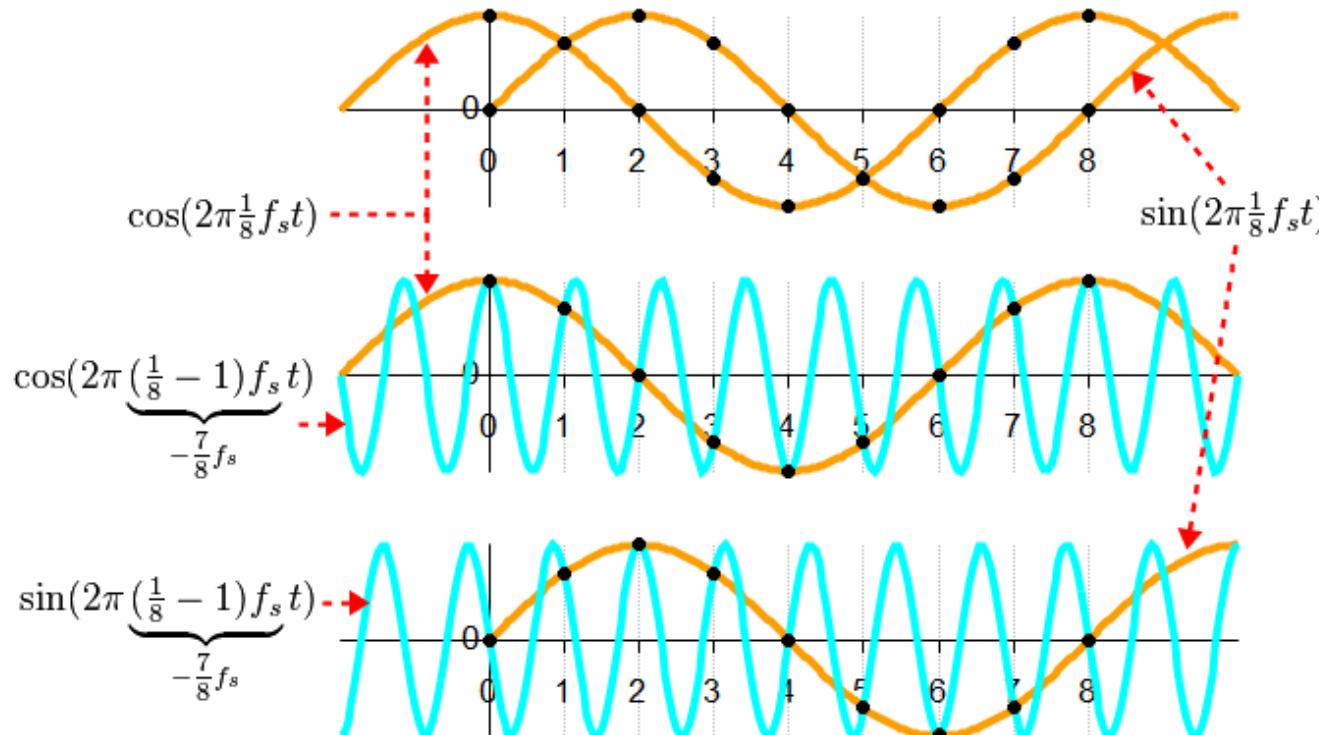


Cover of the Fourth International Workshop Computational Experiment in AeroAcoustics, Svetlogorsk, Russia, September 2016.

By Dr.Sci.Andrey Gorobets



It is simply due to under-sampling



Wikipedia contributors, "Aliasing," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia,
<https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Aliasing&oldid=749178544>
 (accessed February 24, 2017).

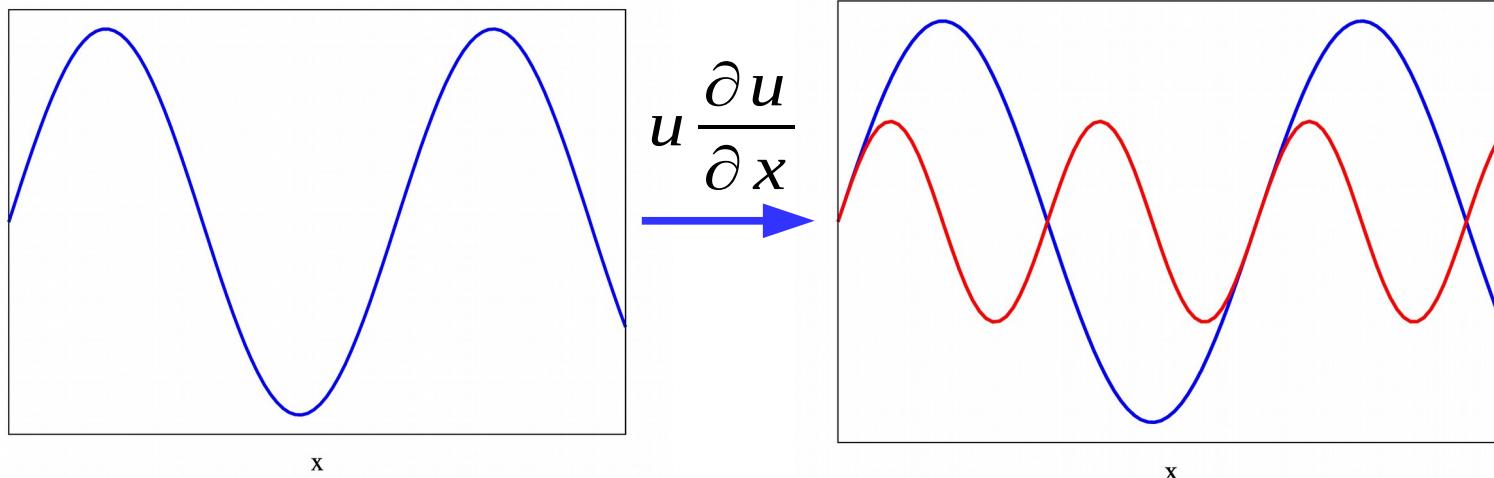
But who can create over-sampled signals?



Of course, our **non-linear** friend!

Let us consider a one single 1D wave, $u(x) = \sin(kx)$

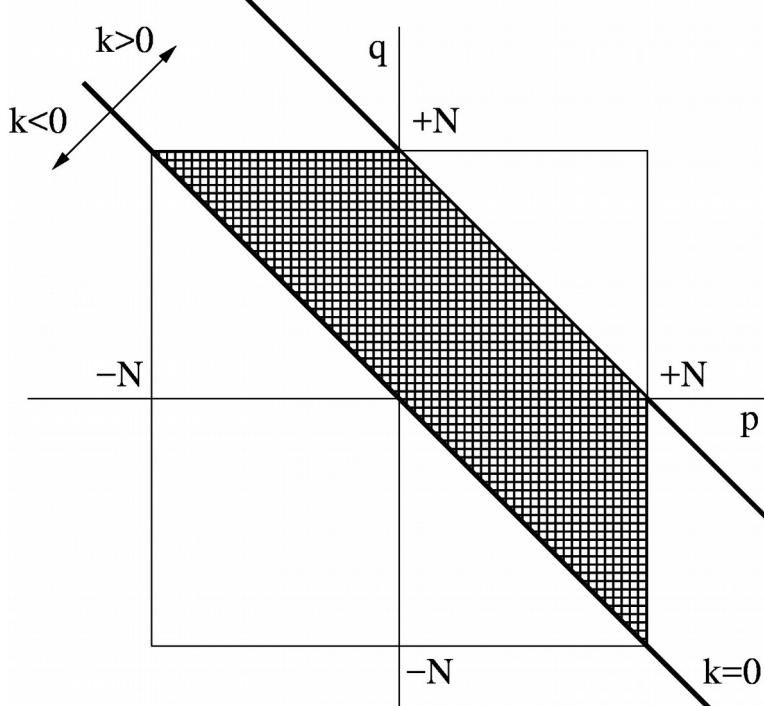
$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = k \sin(kx) \cos(kx) = \frac{k}{2} \sin(2kx)$$



$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + \underbrace{(\vec{u} \cdot \nabla) \vec{u}}_{\text{nonlinear guy in NS}} = \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u} - \nabla p; \quad \nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \quad \text{REMAINDERS!!!} \quad \text{Double-angle formula: } \sin(2x) = 2 \sin(x) \cos(x)$$

Of course, our **non-linear** friend!

$$\partial_t \hat{u}_k + \sum_{k=p+q}^N \hat{u}_p i q \hat{u}_q = -\nu k^2 \hat{u}_k + \hat{f}_k$$

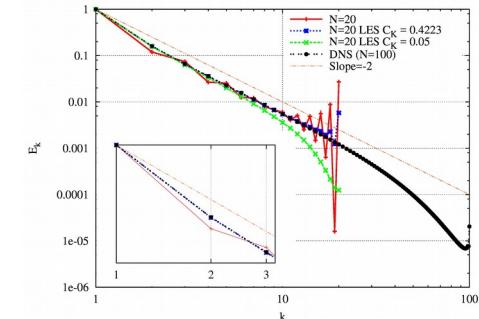


Easy to remember:

$$\begin{aligned} \sin((2N - k)x_n) &= \sin(2\pi n - kx_n) \\ &= -\sin(kx_n) \end{aligned}$$

Nyquist frequency

$$N = \frac{\pi}{h} \quad \text{and} \quad x_n = x_0 + nh$$



$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} \Big|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - \varphi_{i-1}}{2h} + \underbrace{\frac{h^2}{3!} \partial_{xxx} \varphi_i}_{\text{Odd local truncation error}} + O(h^4)$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \varphi}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{x_i} = \frac{\varphi_{i+1} - 2\varphi_i + \varphi_{i-1}}{h^2} + \underbrace{\frac{h^2}{4!} \partial_{xxxx} \varphi_i}_{\text{Even local truncation error}} + O(h^4)$$

Let us consider a single wave: $\varphi(x) = e^{i\mathbf{k}x}$

$$\begin{aligned}\partial_x \varphi(x) &= i\mathbf{k} \varphi(x) \\ \partial_{xx} \varphi(x) &= -\mathbf{k}^2 \varphi(x) \\ \partial_{xxx} \varphi(x) &= -i\mathbf{k}^3 \varphi(x) \\ \partial_{xxxx} \varphi(x) &= \mathbf{k}^4 \varphi(x)\end{aligned}$$



Transport
Dispersion errors
Wiggles

Diffusion-like
Dissipation errors
Hyper-viscosity...

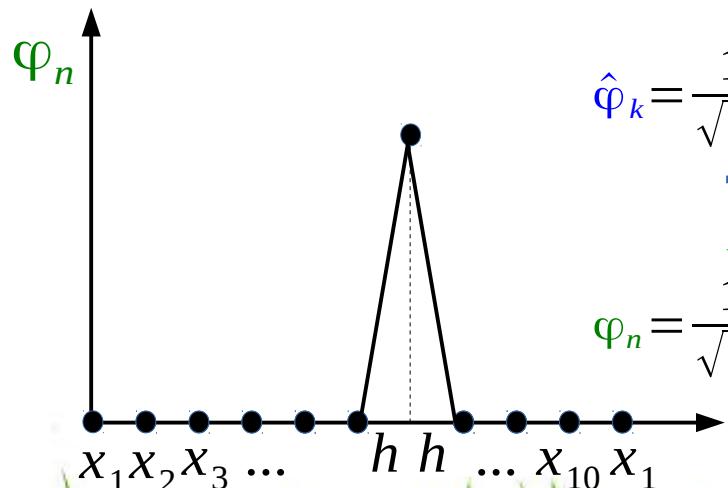
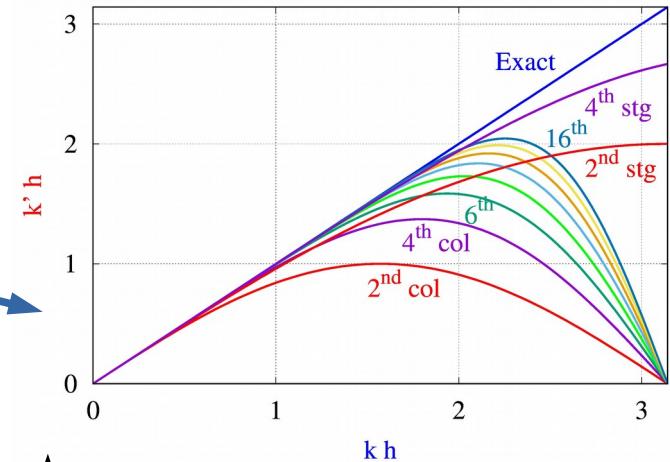
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Wikipedia contributors, "Odds and evens," Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia,
https://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=Odds_and_evens&oldid=754671496 (accessed February 27, 2017).

EVEN derivatives are amenable for numerical methods...
 but they suffer with ODD derivatives

We have seen that they
 introduce dispersion errors

But peaks are even worse... why?



$$E_k \equiv \hat{\phi}_k \bar{\hat{\phi}}_k$$

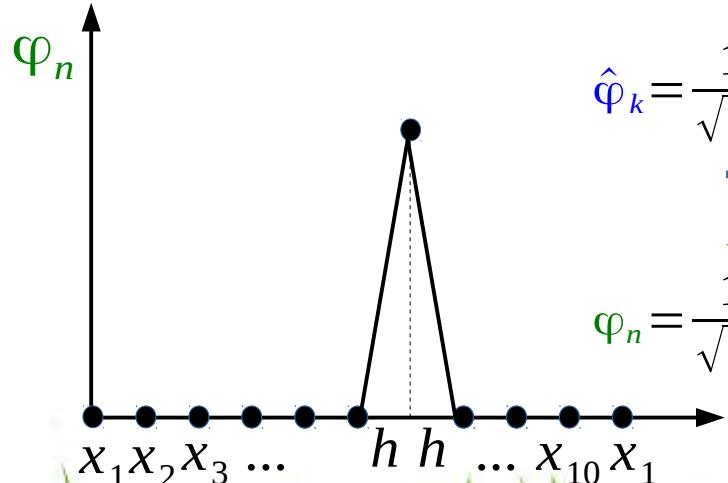
$$\sigma_{\varphi} = \|\varphi - \langle \varphi \rangle\|^2 \geq O(h^2)$$

$$\sigma_{\hat{\varphi}} = \|\hat{\varphi} - \langle \hat{\varphi} \rangle\|^2 \geq O(h^2)$$

Heisenberg-Weyl inequality:

$$\|\varphi - \langle \varphi \rangle\|^2 \|\hat{\varphi} - \langle \hat{\varphi} \rangle\|^2 \geq \frac{1}{4L}$$

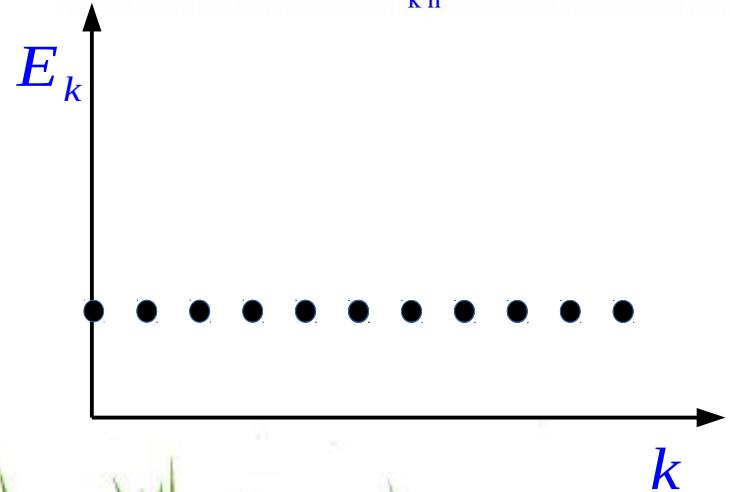
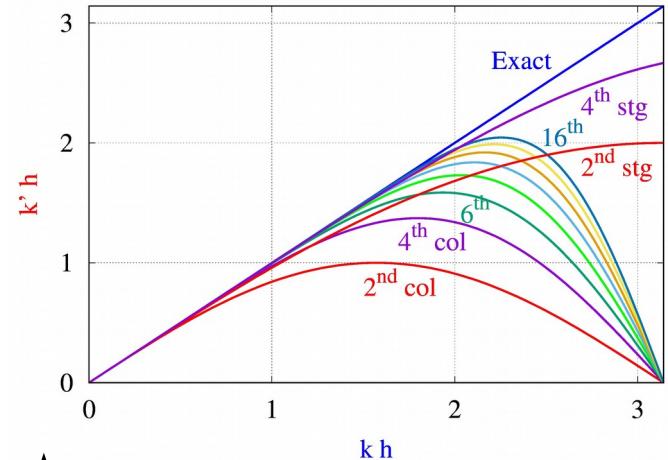
This is an intrinsic problem:
 it cannot be solved



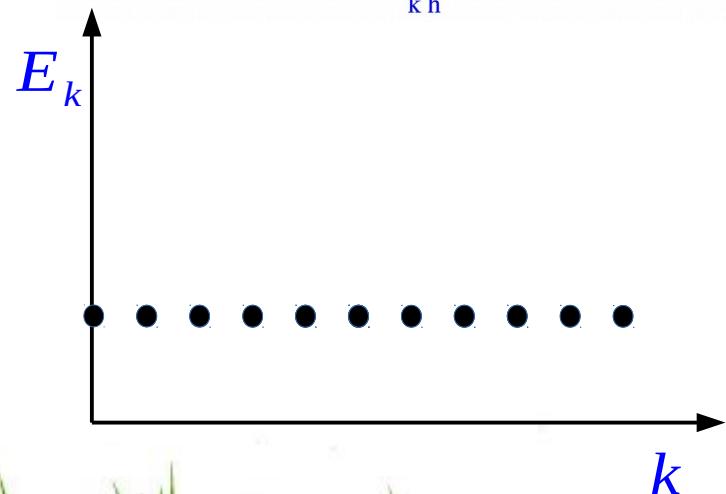
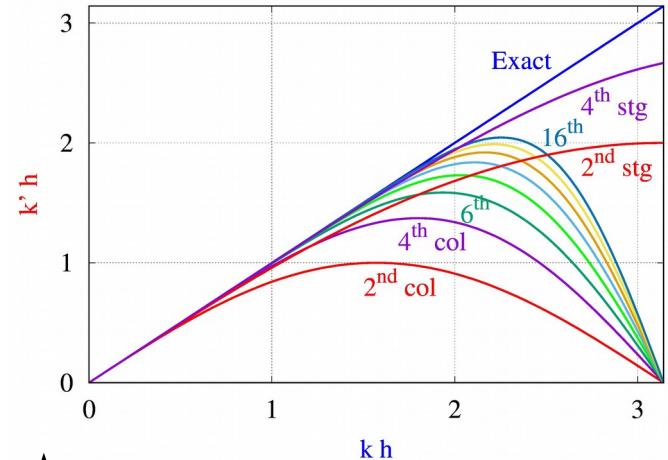
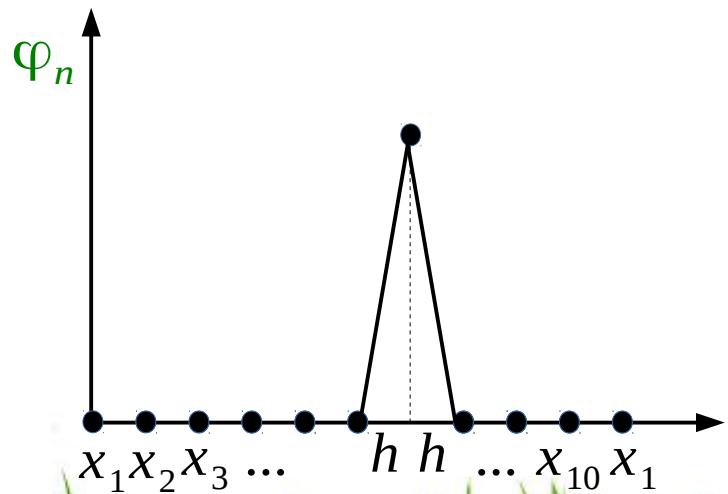
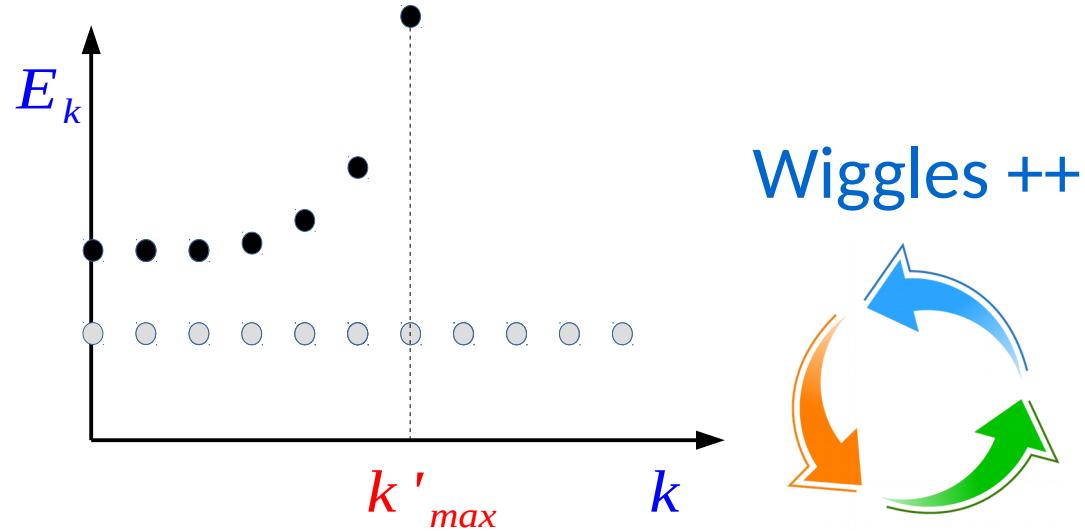
$$\hat{\varphi}_k = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \varphi_n e^{-i\mathbf{k}x_n}$$

$$\varphi_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{\mathbf{k}=-N}^{+N} \hat{\varphi}_{\mathbf{k}} e^{i\mathbf{k}x_n}$$

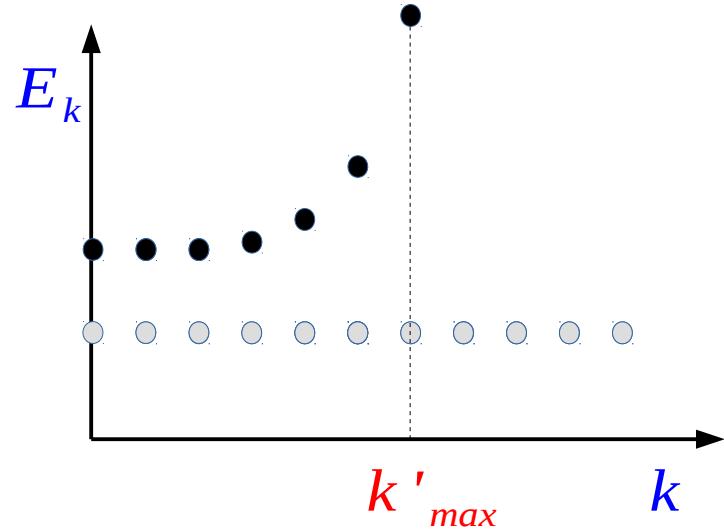
$$E_k \equiv \hat{\varphi}_k \bar{\hat{\varphi}_k}$$



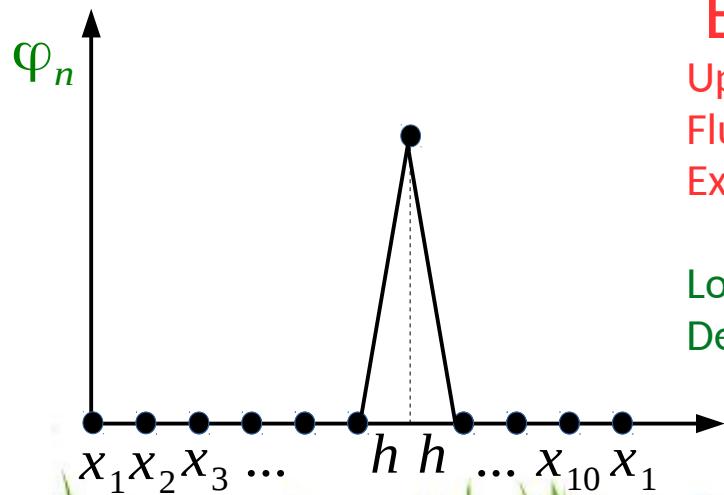
ODDS AND EVENTS



ODDS AND EVENTS

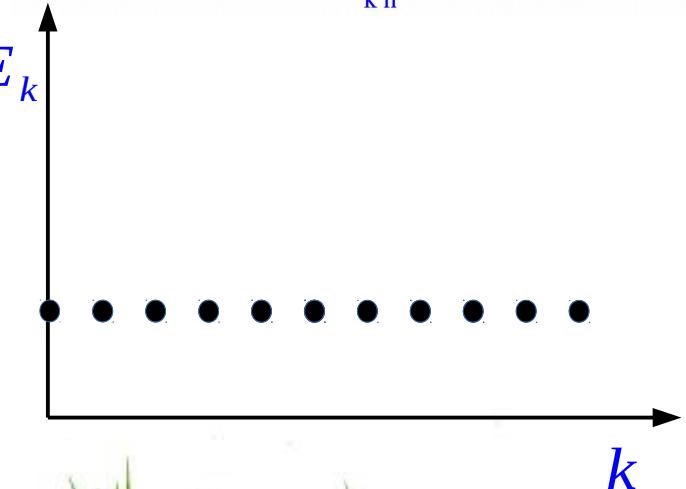
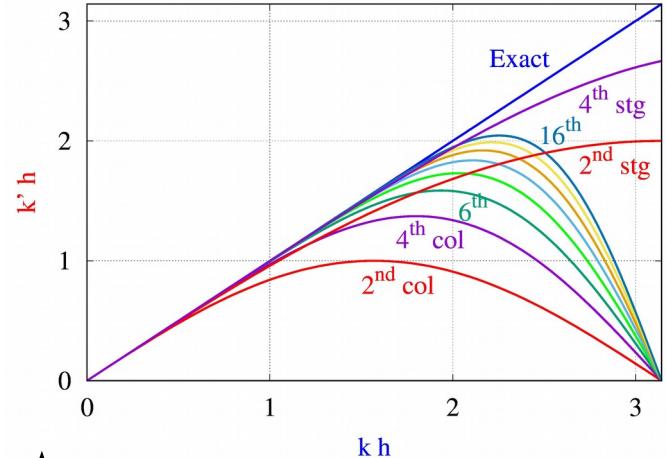


Wiggles --



Evens vs odds
 Upwind-like schemes
 Flux limiters
 Explicit filtering (ask Aleix)

Low-dispersion schemes
 Dealising techniques

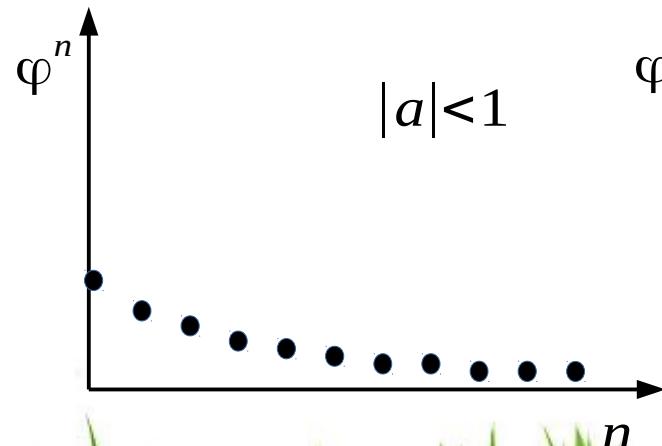


A simulation might blow up, but **you MUST know why**

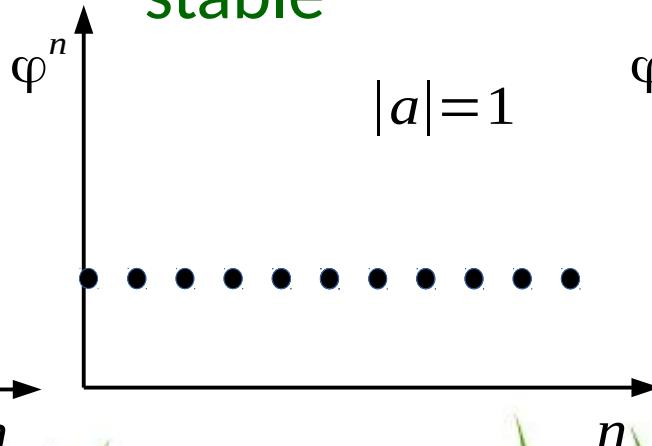
Preview of ideas:

$$\varphi^{n+1} = a \varphi^n \text{ is stable if } |a| \leq 1$$

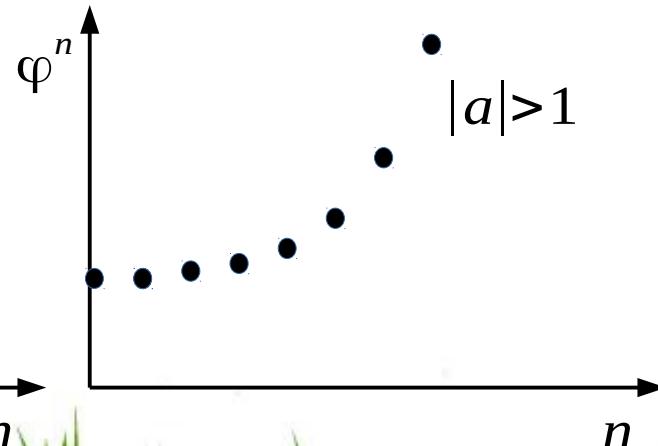
Stable



Marginally stable



Unstable



So, at the end, we just need to know the **spectral radius** of our **transfer function**

$$\varphi^{n+1} = f(\varphi^n) \text{ is stable if } |f| = |\lambda_{max}| \leq 1$$

$$\varphi^{n+1} = a \varphi^n \text{ is stable if } |a| \leq 1$$

$$\varphi_h^{n+1} = A \varphi_h^n \text{ is stable if } |A| = |\lambda_{max}| \leq 1$$

Hence, it is basically an **eigenvalue problem** (ask Nico)

Nothing more, nothing else!

Most typical example is **explicit time-integration**

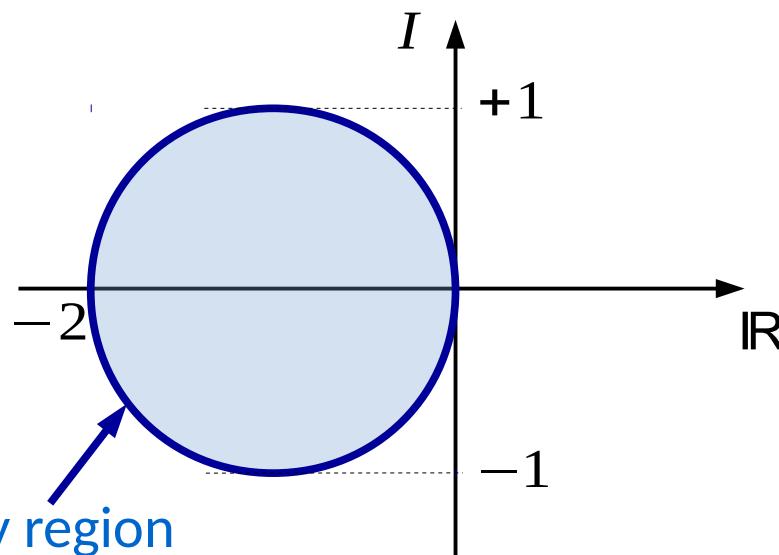
$$\varphi_t = \lambda \varphi \quad \xrightarrow{\text{First-order Euler scheme}} \quad \frac{\varphi^{n+1} - \varphi^n}{\Delta t} = \lambda \varphi^n$$

transfer function

$$\varphi^{n+1} = (1 + \lambda \Delta t) \varphi^n$$

$$\tilde{\lambda} \equiv \lambda \Delta t$$

$$|1 + \tilde{\lambda}| \leq 1 \quad \xrightarrow{\text{Stability region}}$$



Most typical example is explicit time-integration

$$\varphi_t = \lambda \varphi \quad \xrightarrow{\text{2}^{\text{nd}}\text{-order Adams-Bashforth}} \quad \frac{\varphi^{n+1} - \varphi^n}{\Delta t} = \lambda \left(\frac{3}{2} \varphi^n - \frac{1}{2} \varphi^{n-1} \right)$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} \varphi^{n+1} \\ \varphi^n \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 + 3 \tilde{\lambda}/2 & -\tilde{\lambda}/2 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \varphi^n \\ \varphi^{n-1} \end{pmatrix} \quad \tilde{\lambda} \equiv \lambda \Delta t$$

transfer function

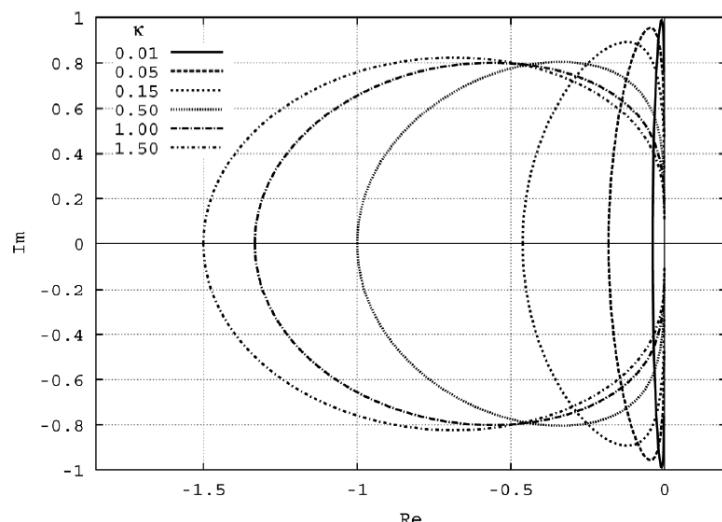


Figure 1 in F.X. Trias and O. Lehmkuhl. "A self-adaptive strategy for the time-integration of Navier-Stokes equations". Numerical Heat Transfer, part B, 60(2):116–134, 2011.

So, what is CFL? A very popular (inaccurate) way to do it

$$\Delta t \leq C_{conv} \left(\frac{\Delta x}{U} \right)_{min}$$

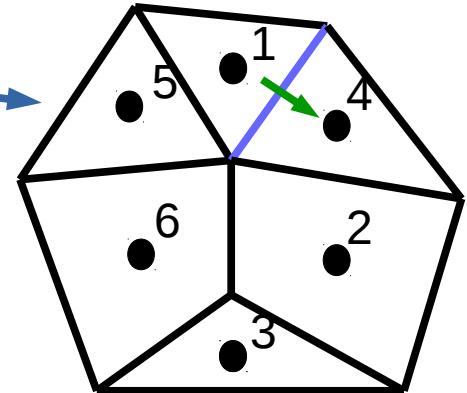
$$\Delta t \leq C_{diff} \left(\frac{\Delta x^2}{\nu} \right)_{min}$$

What is Δx and U in an unstructured mesh?

ANSWER: This is the typical "1D uniform mesh" idea applied to "3D unstruct"

$$\Omega \frac{d u_h}{d t} + C(u_h) u_h = D u_h - \Omega G p_h$$

$$M u_h = 0_h$$



REMAINDER!!!

$$u_h^T C(u_h) u_h = 0 \longrightarrow C(u_h) = -C^T(u_h)$$

$$u_h^T \Omega G p_h = 0 \longrightarrow \Omega G = -M^T$$

$$u_h^T D u_h \leq 0 \longrightarrow D = D^T \text{ def-}$$

Instead we can compute the spectral radius of this operator

- Many types of pathologies (dispersion&aliasing errors, wiggles,...) are associated with **ODD**-derivative errors.
- **EVEN**-derivative errors tend to smooth (diffusion-like process). Hence, they are commonly used (Upwind-like, flux-limiters, filtering, ...) to “heal” our **ODD** pathologies.

Questions:



- What are the adverse side-effect of these **EVEN**-derivative healing?
- Is it reasonable to use “1D uniform mesh” ideas for “3D unstructured mesh” problems? Is there a better way to do it?