

EP 501 Final exam

December 10, 2019

This is a take-home exam (work ALL problems) to be turned in 48 hours from the time it is posted (see canvas due date), unless you have notified me of a medical issue, family emergency, or other extenuating circumstance. Unexcused late exams will not be graded.

I will also be checking my email regularly over the next 48 hours to answer questions. If you do not understand a question, please ask for a clarification.

You MAY NOT work in groups or discuss details of the solution to these or similar problems with other students or faculty. You also MAY NOT use online “work this problem for me” resources (i.e. you must complete this problem without direct assistance of another human being). You ARE ALLOWED to use internet references, your notes, textbooks, and other resources such as physics books, differential equations books, integral tables, the TI-89, or mathematical software like Mathematica, Matlab, Maple, and similar.

Include citations, where appropriate, to results that you use for your solutions (e.g. “Jackson eqn. 3.70” “Wolfram website” “Maple software” and so on) and make sure that your work is completely described by your solution (i.e. it adequately developed and explained). Please start a new page for each problem. You may turn in this midterm via email to zettergm@erau.edu (.pdf or image formats like .jpg, .png or L^AT_EX) or on paper (I’ll be in my office at the time it is due).

The first two problems are intended to have written solutions and the third problem is intended to have a Matlab script solution. However, you may take any approach you want to any of these problems. Please submit all codes that you generate for this exam.

You must sign (below) and attach this page to the front of your solution when you submit your solutions for this exam. Electronic signatures are acceptable and encouraged. If you are typing up your solution in L^AT_EX, please note that the source code for this document is included in the course repository.

I, _____, confirm that I did not discuss the solution to these problems with anyone else.

1. (25 pts) Consider an ODE:

$$\frac{df}{dt} = -\alpha f \quad (\alpha > 0) \quad (1)$$

differenced in the “non-standard” form:

$$\frac{f^{n+1} - f^n}{\Delta t} = -\alpha \left(\frac{2}{3}f^n + \frac{1}{3}f^{n+1} \right) \quad (2)$$

- (a) Develop an update formula ($f^{n+1} = \dots$) for this “non-standard” method
 - (b) Derive the conditions under which this method is stable
 - (c) Rigorously determine whether this method consistent, viz. whether the numerical solution approaches the exact solution in the limit as $\Delta t \rightarrow 0$.
 - (d) What is the order of accuracy of the method (e.g. it is $\mathcal{O}(\Delta t^m)$ accurate, you need to find m)?
2. (25 pts) In class we discussed many of the complexities of numerically solving PDEs, particularly that different methods are often needed for different types of equations, and that certain methods can generate artifacts or be unconditionally unstable. Construct a ~ 2 -4 page, typeset (in Word, Pages, or L^AT_EX– with equations as appropriate) set of notes that *provides a survey of numerical approaches to PDEs*. Write your notes in narrative form (viz. using complete sentences and proper grammar). Include the following items in your survey:

- Definitions different PDE types (elliptic, hyperbolic, and parabolic)
- An example of a typical physical/engineering system, for each PDE type, that can be modeled with these equations.
- Discuss, in qualitative/intuitive terms, the basic features of the exact solutions of each of these types of equations. You do not need to solve the equations just describe characteristics of the solution (what they “look like”).
- The finite difference approach to solving elliptic equations, leading to a system of equations. Give example equations.
- Discuss various options available for solving the large set of FDEs that result.
- Finite difference approaches to solving parabolic equations; discuss the use of explicit vs. implicit methods and give one example of each type of method, including equations and methods of solution (e.g. simple algebraic update formula vs. system of equations).
- Discuss two different conditionally stable methods for solving hyperbolic equations. Also discuss the drawbacks of each of these methods.
- Define numerical diffusion and discuss, conceptually, its role in stabilizing the Lax-Friedrichs method.
- Define and explain the advantage of upwinding. Describe, conceptually, why it is used as the basis for many numerical methods for solving hyperbolic equations.
- Include a list of references for your survey.

3. (50 pts) Explore two different methods to solve the advection-diffusion equation.

$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \underbrace{v \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}}_{\text{hyperbolic term}} - \underbrace{\lambda \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x^2}}_{\text{parabolic term}} = 0 \quad (3)$$

- (a) Derive an explicit time update formula for your method using the following differencing approach: (1) a forward Euler time differencing, (2) an upwind difference for the hyperbolic term (describing advection) and (3) a centered difference for the parabolic term (describing diffusion).

- (b) Solve this equation for $f(x, t)$ numerically in Matlab using the parameters:

$$v = 20 \quad (4)$$

$$\lambda = 0.25 \quad (5)$$

on the domain $0 \leq x \leq 1$, $0 \leq t \leq 0.05$ with initial condition:

$$f(x, 0) = e^{-\frac{(x-0.5)^8}{2(0.1)^8}} \quad (6)$$

and plot your result vs. space and time using `imagesc` or `pcolor`, `shading flat`.

- (c) By repeating your explicit solutions for different choices of Δt , approximate the largest time step that will allow a stable solution. Show an example of your solution for a unstable time step that is just past this stability limit, such that mild instability growth and/or artifacts can be seen.
- (d) Change your finite difference method such that the second derivative parabolic term is computed using the solution at the $n + 1$ time level, i.e. $f_i^{n+1}, f_{i\pm 1}^{n+1}$. Keep the first spatial derivative term as explicit, viz. computed via upwind difference from f_i^n , as it was in part a. This makes the algorithm semi-implicit and means that a system of equations must be solved at each time step. Write down this system and submit it with your solution.
- (e) Show that your semi-implicit method from part d produces stable results with much larger time steps than the method derived in part a.
- (f) Show that your semi-implicit scheme will eventually become unstable if the time step is too large. It will not look as bad as the fully explicit method in part a, but you can still show that the numerical solution increases in amplitude with time for large time steps - this is unphysical behavior. Plot this instability growth and speculate as to its cause.