

**NUMERICAL METHODS LABORATORY( MA29202) &  
NUMERICAL TECHNIQUES LABORATORY( MA39110)  
Assignment-8 Explicit Methods for Parabolic Equations <sup>1</sup>**

1. Solve the following heat equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

subject to the initial and boundary conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \sin \pi x, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1 \quad \text{and} \quad u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, \quad t \geq 0.$$

For numerical simulations, take  $\Delta x = 1/50$  and  $\Delta t = \mathcal{F} \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2}$ , where  $\mathcal{F} = 0.9$  is a safety factor. Obtain the numerical results after 300, 400 and 500 time steps, and plot these solutions together.

2. Solve the following heat equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

subject to the following initial and boundary conditions

$$u(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 2x, & 0 \leq x \leq 1/2, \\ 2(1-x), & 1/2 \leq x \leq 1, \end{cases} \quad u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, \quad t \geq 0 \quad (1)$$

For numerical simulations, take  $\Delta x = 1/50$  and  $\Delta t = \mathcal{F} \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2}$ , where  $\mathcal{F} = 0.9$  is a safety factor. Obtain the numerical results after 50, 100 and 200 time steps, and plot these solutions together.

**Explicit Finite Difference Scheme:**

Replace the time derivative by a first-order forward difference and the spatial derivative by a central difference:

$$\frac{(u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n)}{\Delta t} = \frac{(u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n)}{(\Delta x)^2}$$

This can be rearranged to give the explicit FD scheme,

$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n + \frac{\Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} (u_{i+1}^n - 2u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n).$$

Note that the presence of  $u_{i+1}^n$  and  $u_{i-1}^n$  indicates the need for left and right ghost values.

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<sup>1</sup>Sent on: March 27, 2024.