

# Numerical Methods for Fluid Dynamics TD2

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## Foreword

Please download the TD2.tar archive from the course website, move it to a directory dedicated to the course, and then type

```
$ tar xvf TD2.tar
$ cd TD2
$ ipython --pylab
```

## 1 Advection-diffusion problem

We want to consider the following advection-diffusion equation  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -U \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$ , with  $u(t=0, x) = u_0(x)$ , and where  $\nu$  and  $U$  are given.

1. We want to write a dispersion relation for this continuous problem. To that end we consider elementary solutions of the form  $u = A e^{\sigma t} e^{ikx}$ . Relate  $\sigma$  and  $k$  through a dispersion relation.
2. Let us now consider a centered finite difference scheme in space

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -U \frac{u(x + \Delta x) - u(x - \Delta x)}{2\Delta x} + \nu \frac{u(x - \Delta x) - 2u(x) + u(x + \Delta x)}{\Delta x^2}.$$

Introducing  $u(x, t) = \hat{u}(t) e^{ikx}$ , and plugging this function into the above numerical scheme, what is the equation governing  $\hat{u}/dt$ ? Compare to the equation obtained in question 1. How is the above expression modified if we now consider the case of a periodic domain of size  $L$ ?

(Hint: then  $k = 2\pi n/L$  with  $n$  an integer.)

3. We will now consider a matrix formulation. We introduce a uniform grid with  $N$  points in the periodic interval  $[0, L)$ , i.e.

$$[x_1 = 0, x_2 = 0 + \Delta x, x_3 = 0 + 2\Delta x, \dots, x_N = L - \Delta x].$$

We still consider the same numerical scheme in space as previously

$$\frac{d}{dt}u_j = -U \frac{u_{j+1} - u_{j-1}}{2\Delta x} + \nu \frac{u_{j+1} - 2u_j + u_{j-1}}{\Delta x^2}.$$

(a) What is the matrix  $A$  such that  $\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \dots \\ u_{N-1} \\ u_N \end{pmatrix} = A \begin{pmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ \dots \\ u_{N-1} \\ u_N \end{pmatrix}$ ?

(b) Now implement this matrix into the file *AdvDiff.py*.  
(Look for “TO BE COMPLETED” in the file.)

4. Read the program and understand in particular what the variables “p”, “pp” and “ppp” correspond to. Compare the 3 different curves. (The black dashed curve bounds the absolute stability region for the explicit Euler scheme.)
5. In the case of pure diffusion ( $U = 0$ ), do we recover analytical the criterion for the explicit Euler scheme to be stable?
6. What happens in the case  $U \neq 0$  and  $\nu = 0$  (i.e. pure advection)?

## Suggested homework (analytical):

We want to study the diffusion equation in one dimension of space

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{with the scheme} \quad \frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^{n-1}}{2\Delta t} = \nu \frac{u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n}{\Delta x^2}.$$

Can you show that this scheme is second order in space and in time?  
Under which condition is this scheme stable?

## Suggested homework (numerical):

Write a program in *Python* to compute  $u(t = 1, x)$  in a periodic domain of size  $L$  using the following numerical scheme

$$\frac{u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n}{\Delta t} = -U \frac{u_{j+1}^n - u_{j-1}^n}{2\Delta x} + \nu \frac{u_{j+1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n}{\Delta x^2},$$

with initial conditions

$$\begin{cases} u(t = 0, x) = 1 & \text{for } x \leq L/2, \\ u(t = 0, x) = 0 & \text{for } x > L/2. \end{cases}$$

It is interesting to study the behaviour of  $u(t = 1, x)$  for  $U = 1$  and small values of  $\nu$ .