

# Parabolic equation

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## Parabolic equation in 1D

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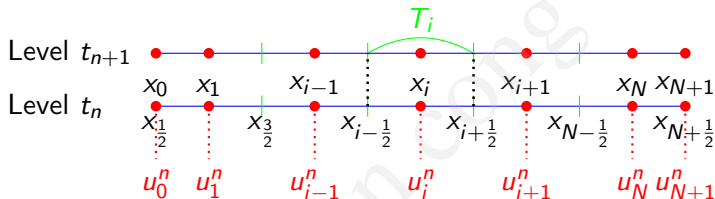
Linear stability analysis

## Convergence and error analysis

# Introduction

The domain of the computation will be  $\Omega = ]0; 1[$ . Let the function  $f \in L^2(\Omega)$ , we will look for an approximation of the following problem

$$\begin{cases} u_t(x, t) - u_{xx}(x, t) &= f(x, t) \text{ in } \Omega \\ u(x, 0) &= u_0(x), \quad x \in \Omega \\ u(x, t) &= g(x, t), \quad x \in \partial\Omega, t \in (0, T) \end{cases} \quad (1)$$



Let us choose  $N + 1$  points  $\{x_{i+1/2}\}_{i \in \overline{0, N}}$  in  $[0; 1]$  such that

$$0 = x_{1/2} < x_{3/2} < \cdots < x_{N-1/2} < x_{N+1/2} = 1.$$

We set  $T_i = [x_{i-1/2}, x_{i+1/2}]$ ,  $\forall i \in \overline{1, N}$ ,  $h = \max_{i \in \overline{1, N}} \{|T_i|\}$

$$x_0 = 0, \quad x_{N+1} = 1, \quad x_i \in T_i, \quad \forall i \in \overline{1, N}$$

We call  $(T_i)_{i \in \overline{1, N}}$  control volumes and  $(x_i)_{i \in \overline{0, N+1}}$  control points. We divide the interval  $[0, T]$  into  $N_k + 1$  sub-intervals of constant length  $k$  and denote  $t_n = nk$ . Denote by  $u_i^n$  the discrete unknowns; the value  $u_i^n$  is an approximation of  $u(x_i, t_n)$ .

## Semi-discrete approximation

Integrating the first equation in (1) over control volume  $T_i$ , there holds

$$\frac{1}{|T_i|} \int_{T_i} u_t(x, t) dx + \frac{1}{|T_i|} \int_{T_i} -u_{xx}(x, t) dx = \frac{1}{|T_i|} \int_{T_i} f(x, t) dx \quad (2)$$

Applying the Green's formula, we obtain

$$\frac{-1}{|T_i|} \int_{T_i} -u_{xx}(x, t) dx = \frac{-u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) + u_x(x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, t)}{|T_i|} \quad (3)$$

and we put

$$f_i(t) = \frac{1}{|T_i|} \int_{T_i} f(x, t) dx \quad \text{mean-value of } f \text{ over } T_i \quad (4)$$

Thus

$$\frac{du_i}{dt}(t) + \frac{-u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) + u_x(x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, t)}{|T_i|} = f_i(t) \quad (5)$$

# ◆ Approximate $u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)$ : use Taylor series expansion

$$u(x_{i+1}, t) = u(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) + u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)(x_{i+1} - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}) + \frac{u_{xx}(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)}{2!}(x_{i+1} - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})^2 + O(h^3)$$

$$u(x_i, t) = u(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) + u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)(x_i - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}) + \frac{u_{xx}(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)}{2!}(x_i - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})^2 + O(h^3)$$

Thus

$$u(x_{i+1}, t) - u(x_i, t) = (x_{i+1} - x_i)u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) + ((x_{i+1} - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)^2 - (x_i - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})^2) \frac{u_{xx}(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)}{2!} + O(h^3)$$

Thus

$$u(x_{i+1}, t) - u(x_i, t) = (x_{i+1} - x_i) u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) + ((x_{i+1} - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})^2 - (x_i - x_{i+\frac{1}{2}})^2) \frac{u_{xx}(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)}{2!} + O(h^3)$$

We have two cases:

**Case 1:**  $x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$  is the midpoint of segment  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$  then

$$u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) = \frac{u(x_{i+1}, t) - u(x_i, t)}{x_{i+1} - x_i} + O(h^2)$$

**Case 2:** Otherwise,

$$u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) = \frac{u(x_{i+1}, t) - u(x_i, t)}{x_{i+1} - x_i} + O(h)$$

From two cases, we get the approximation of the term  $u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)$

$$u_x(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t) = \frac{u_{i+1}(t) - u_i(t)}{x_{i+1} - x_i} \quad \forall i \in \overline{0, N+1} \quad (6)$$

Substituting this approximation to the equation (5), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{du_i(t)}{dt} - \frac{u_{i-1}(t)}{(x_i - x_{i-1})|T_i|} + \left( \frac{1}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)|T_i|} + \frac{1}{(x_i - x_{i-1})|T_i|} \right) u_i(t) \\ - \frac{u_{i+1}(t)}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)|T_i|} = f_i(t) \quad \forall i \in \overline{1, N} \end{aligned}$$



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{du_i(t)}{dt} - \frac{u_{i-1}(t)}{(x_i - x_{i-1})|T_i|} + \left( \frac{1}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)|T_i|} + \frac{1}{(x_i - x_{i-1})|T_i|} \right) u_i(t) \\ - \frac{u_{i+1}(t)}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)|T_i|} = f_i(t) \quad \forall i \in \overline{1, N} \end{aligned}$$

We set, for all  $i \in \overline{1, N}$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \alpha_i &= \frac{-1}{(x_i - x_{i-1})|T_i|} \\ \beta_i &= \frac{1}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)|T_i|} + \frac{1}{(x_i - x_{i-1})|T_i|} \\ \gamma_i &= \frac{-1}{(x_{i+1} - x_i)|T_i|} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we get

$$\frac{du_i(t)}{dt} + \alpha_i u_{i-1}(t) + \beta_i u_i(t) + \gamma_i u_{i+1}(t) = f_i(t) \quad \forall i \in \overline{1, N} \quad (7)$$

Linear system for the scheme

$$\begin{cases}
 \frac{du_1(t)}{dt} + \beta_1 u_1(t) + \gamma_1 u_2(t) & = f_1(t) \\
 \frac{du_2(t)}{dt} + \alpha_2 u_1(t) + \beta_2 u_2(t) + \gamma_2 u_3(t) & = f_2(t) \\
 \frac{du_3(t)}{dt} + \alpha_3 u_2(t) + \beta_3 u_3(t) + \gamma_3 u_4(t) & = f_3(t) \\
 \dots\dots\dots \\
 \frac{du_{N-1}(t)}{dt} + \alpha_{N-1} u_{N-2}(t) + \beta_{N-1} u_{N-1}(t) + \gamma_{N-1} u_N(t) & = f_{N-1}(t) \\
 \frac{du_N(t)}{dt} + \alpha_N u_{N-1}(t) + \beta_N u_N(t) & = f_N(t)
 \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

If the spacing  $T_i$  is uniform, for each  $i \in 1, \dots, N$  there holds

$$\frac{du_i(t)}{dt} = ru_{i+1}^n - 2ru_i^n + ru_{i-1}^n, \quad u_m^n \approx u(x_m, nk)$$

where  $r = k/h^2$ . Then we get the linear ODE system

$$\frac{dU(t)}{dt} = AU(t) + F(t) \quad (9)$$

where  $A$  is a discrete approximation of the differential operator  $\partial_{xx}^2$ .

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} r & -2r & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ r & -2r & r & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & r & -2r & r & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & r & -2r & r \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & r & -2r \end{bmatrix}, F = \begin{bmatrix} f_1(t) \\ f_2(t) \\ f_3(t) \\ \vdots \\ f_{N-1}(t) \\ f_N(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad (10)$$

The matrix  $A$  is tridiagonal and symmetric positive definite

## Fully-discrete approximation

The semi-discrete approximation leads to a system of ODEs

$$\frac{dU(t)}{dt} = AU(t) + F(t) \quad (11)$$

This can be solved by standard numerical methods for ODEs with a time step  $\Delta t = k$ , e.g. the Forward Euler method

$$U^{n+1} = U^n + k(AU^n + F^n), \quad U^n \approx U(nk) \quad (12)$$

or

$$U^{n+1} = (I + kA)U^n + kF^n, \quad U^n \approx U(nk) \quad (13)$$

This is an explicit method and the time step restriction is

$$r = \frac{k}{h^2} \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad (14)$$

In many cases, this restriction is too severe and we need to switch to implicit methods

$$U^{n+1} = U^n + kA [(\theta U^{n+1} + (1 - \theta)U^n) + \underbrace{k[\theta F^{n+1} + (1 - \theta)F^n]}_{F_\theta^n}] \quad (15)$$

or

$$(I - \theta kA)U^{n+1} = (I + (1 - \theta)kA)U^n + kF_\theta^n \quad (16)$$

This includes some common methods

- ▶  $\theta = 0 \Rightarrow$  Forward Euler (explicit, 1st order)
- ▶  $\theta = 1/2 \Rightarrow$  Crank-Nicolson (implicit, 2nd order)
- ▶  $\theta = 1 \Rightarrow$  Backward Euler (implicit, 1st order)

One can show the time step restriction

$$k \leq h^2 \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2(1-2\theta)}, & \theta < 1/2 \\ \infty, & 1/2 \leq \theta \leq 1 \end{cases} \quad (\text{unconditionally stable}) \quad (17)$$

However, we need to solve a linear system in each time step.

Consider the PDE:  $u_t = \frac{1}{16} u_{xx}$ ,  $x \in (0, 1)$ ,  $t \in (0, T)$

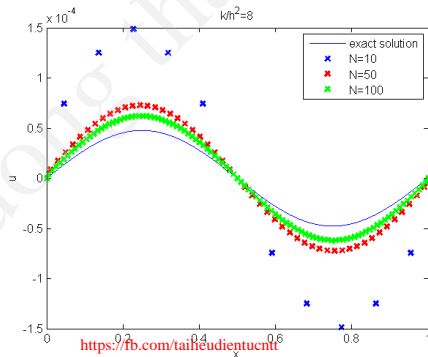
Initial condition:  $u_0(x) = \sin(2\pi x)$

Boundary condition:  $u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0$

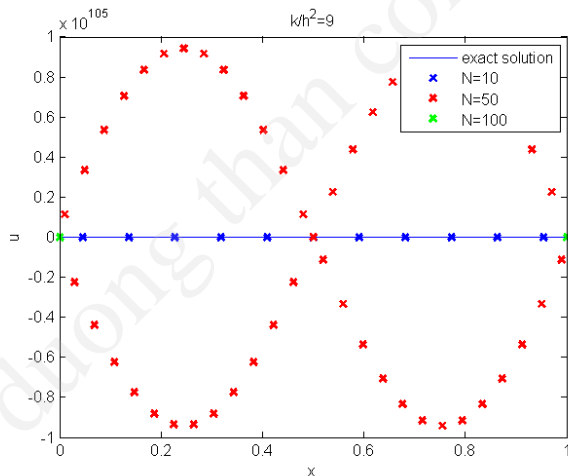
Exact solution:  $u(x, t) = e^{-\frac{1}{4}\pi^2 t} \sin(2\pi x)$

Stability condition:  $k/h^2 \leq (1/2)/(1/16) = 8$

Exact solution vs numerical solution at  $T = 4$ ,  $k/h^2 = 8$



Exact solution vs numerical solution at  $T = 4$ ,  $k/h^2 = 9$



**Lax equivalence theorem:** The approximate numerical solution to a well-posed linear problem converges to the solution of the continuous equation if and only if the numerical scheme is linear, consistent and stable.

Let  $u(x_i, t^n)$  be the exact solution of the PDE

$\bar{U}_i^n$  be the exact solution of the finite volume scheme

$U_i^n$  be the actually computed solution of that scheme.

Then

$$|u_i^n - U_i^n| \leq |u_i^n - \bar{U}_i^n| + |\bar{U}_i^n - U_i^n|$$

If the scheme is consistent then

$$|u_i^n - \bar{U}_i^n| \leq O(h^\alpha, k^\beta), \forall i = 1, \dots, N; n = 0, 1, \dots$$

If the scheme is stable then

$$|\bar{U}_i^n - U_i^n| \leq O(h^\alpha, k^\beta), \forall i = 1, \dots, N; n = 0, 1, \dots$$



## Method 1: Matrix stability analysis

Consider the heat equation

$$u_t = u_{xx}$$

subject to a Dirichlet boundary condition.

After discretization by forward Euler scheme we obtain

$$U^{n+1} = (I + kA)U^n$$

Let  $r = \frac{k}{h^2}$  and  $B = I + kA$ . For regular grid the matrix  $B$  has the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1-2r & r & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ r & 1-2r & r & 0 & \cdot & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & \cdot & 0 & r & 1-2r & r \\ 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & r & 1-2r \end{pmatrix}$$

Iteration of the scheme will converge to a solution only if all the eigenvalues of  $B$  do not exceed 1 in magnitude. Indeed, if any of these eigenvalues exceeds 1 (say,  $\lambda_1 > 1$ ), then  $\|U^n = B^n U^0\|$  will grow as  $\lambda_1^n$ .

**Proposition:** Let  $B$  be an  $N \times N$  matrix of the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} b & c & 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 \\ a & b & c & 0 & \cdot & 0 \\ \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot & \cdot \\ 0 & \cdot & 0 & a & b & c \\ 0 & \cdot & \cdot & 0 & a & b \end{pmatrix}$$

The eigenvalues and the corresponding eigenvectors of  $B$  are

$$\lambda_j = b + 2\sqrt{ac} \cos \frac{\pi j}{N+1}, \quad \begin{pmatrix} \left(\frac{a}{c}\right)^{1/2} \sin \frac{1 \cdot \pi j}{N+1} \\ \left(\frac{a}{c}\right)^{2/2} \sin \frac{2 \cdot \pi j}{N+1} \\ \dots \\ \left(\frac{a}{c}\right)^{N/2} \sin \frac{N \cdot \pi j}{N+1} \end{pmatrix}, \quad j = 1, \dots, N$$

We can immediately deduce that the eigenvalues of  $B$  are

$$\lambda_j = 1 - 2r + 2r \cos(\pi j/N), \quad j = 1, \dots, N-1$$

and hence

$$\lambda_{\min} = \lambda_{N-1} = 1 - 2r + 2r \cos(\pi(N-1)/N)$$

$$\lambda_{\max} = \lambda_1 = 1 - 2r + 2r \cos(\pi/N)$$

If  $\pi/N \ll 1$  the preceding expressions reduce to

$$\lambda_{\min} = \lambda_{N-1} = 1 - 4r + r(\pi/N)^2$$

$$\lambda_{\max} = \lambda_1 = 1 - r(\pi/N)^2$$

The condition for convergence for  $\lambda_{\min}$  yields

$$r \leq \frac{2}{4 - (\pi/N)^2} \approx \frac{1}{2}$$

With this condition, all the round-off errors will eventually decay,  
and the scheme is stable.

## Method 2: Von Neumann stability analysis

It is rare that the eigenvalues of a matrix are available. We would like to deduce stability without finding those eigenvalues.

Let us denote the error at point  $(x_m, nk)$  by  $\epsilon_m^n$ . Since the heat equation is linear, the error satisfies the same equation of the solution

$$\epsilon_m^{n+1} = r\epsilon_{i+1}^n + (1 - 2r)\epsilon_m^n + r\epsilon_{m-1}^n$$

At each time level, the error can be expanded as a linear superposition of Fourier harmonics:

$$\epsilon_m^n = \sum_l \rho^n e^{i\beta_l x_m}$$

Substituting the above expression into the equation for the error we obtain

$$\rho^{n+1} e^{i\beta x_m} = r\rho^n e^{i\beta x_{m+1}} + (1 - 2r)\rho^n e^{i\beta x_m} + r\rho^n e^{i\beta x_{m-1}}$$

We divide all terms by  $\rho^n e^{i\beta x_m}$  to obtain

$$\rho = re^{i\beta h} + (1 - 2r) + re^{-i\beta h} = 1 - 2r + 2r \cos(\beta h)$$

### Theorem (Von Neumann)

A numerical scheme for an evolution equation is stable if and only if the associated largest amplification factor satisfies

$$|\rho| \leq 1 + O(\Delta t)$$

Condition  $|\rho| \leq 1$  yields

$$-1 \leq 1 - 2r + 2r \cos(\beta h) \leq 1$$

or

$$-1 \leq 1 - 4r \sin^2\left(\frac{\beta h}{2}\right) \leq 1$$

The LHS inequality implies

$$r \sin^2 \left( \frac{\beta h}{2} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

In the worst case we must have

$$r \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

Compare method 1 and method 2

- ▶ The condition obtained by method 1

$$r \leq \frac{2}{4 - \left(\frac{\pi}{N}\right)^2}$$

is slightly different from that obtained by method 2

$$r \sin^2 \left( \frac{\beta h}{2} \right) \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

because method 1 takes into account the boundary condition while method 2 ignores these conditions.

- ▶ Method 1 provides a sufficient condition for stability of the numerical scheme. A condition on  $r$  obtained by Von Neumann analysis is necessary, but not sufficient for the stability of a finite volume scheme. A scheme may found to be stable according to the Von Neumann analysis, but taking into account the boundary conditions may reveal that there

## Existence and uniqueness of the solution

**Proposition:** For a given  $n$ , the discretized problem

$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n + k \left( \frac{(u_{i+1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1})}{|D_{i+1/2}| |T_i|} + \frac{(u_{i-1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1})}{|D_{i-1/2}| |T_i|} \right) + k f_i^{n+1} \quad (18)$$

for  $i = 1, \dots, N$ ,  $k = 1, \dots, N_k + 1$  with

$$u_i^0 = u_0(x_i), \quad i = 1, \dots, N$$

and

$$u_0^n = g(0, nk), \quad u_{N+1}^n = g(1, nk), \quad k = 1, \dots, N_k + 1$$

has a unique solution  $U^n = (u_1^n, \dots, u_N^n) \in \mathbb{R}^N$ .



**Proof**

We only need to prove the uniqueness of the solution. For a given  $n \in \{1, \dots, N_k + 1\}$ , set  $f_i^{n+1} = 0$  and  $u_i^n = 0$  in (18), and  $g(0, nk) = g(1, nk) = 0$  for all  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$ . Multiplying (18) by  $u_i^{n+1}$  and summing over  $i \in \{1, \dots, N\}$  gives

$$\sum_{i=1}^N |T_i| (u_i^{n+1})^2 = k \sum_{i=1}^N \left( \frac{(u_{i+1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1}) u_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i+1/2}|} + \frac{(u_{i-1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1}) u_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i-1/2}|} \right)$$

or

$$\|u^{n+1}\|_{0,\mathcal{T}} + k \sum_{i=2}^N \frac{(u_{i-1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1})^2}{|D_{i-1/2}|} + k \frac{(u_N^{n+1})^2}{|D_{N+1/2}|} + k \frac{(u_1^{n+1})^2}{|D_{1/2}|} = 0$$

It yields that  $u_i^{n+1} = 0$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, N$ .

## Stability of the solution

**Proposition:** There exists  $c$  only depending on  $u_0$ ,  $T$ ,  $f$  and  $g$  such that

$$\|u^n\|_\infty, \quad n \in \{1, \dots, N_k + 1\} \leq c$$

Moreover,

$$c = \|u_0\|_\infty + \|g\|_\infty + T\|f\|_\infty$$

### Proof

Let  $m_g = \min\{g(x, t), x \in \partial\Omega, t \in [0, T]\}$ . Suppose that  $\min\{u_i^{n+1}, \overline{1, N}\} < m_g$ . Take  $i_0$  such that  $u_{i_0}^{n+1} = \min\{u_i^{n+1}, \overline{1, N}\}$ . The discrete equation written for  $T_{i_0}$  is

$$u_{i_0}^{n+1} = u_{i_0}^n + k \left( \frac{(u_{i_0+1}^{n+1} - u_{i_0}^{n+1})}{|D_{i_0+1/2}| |T_{i_0}|} + \frac{(u_{i_0-1}^{n+1} - u_{i_0}^{n+1})}{|D_{i_0-1/2}| |T_{i_0}|} \right) + k f_{i_0}^{n+1}$$

Since  $u_{i_0}^{n+1} < m_g$  we get

$$k \left( \frac{(u_{i_0+1}^{n+1} - u_{i_0}^{n+1})}{|D_{i+1/2}| |T_i|} + \frac{(u_{i_0-1}^{n+1} - u_{i_0}^{n+1})}{|D_{i-1/2}| |T_i|} \right) > 0$$

Therefore

$$u_{i_0}^{n+1} \geq u_{i_0}^n + k f_{i_0}^{n+1} \geq \min\{u_i^n, \overline{1, N}\} + k m_f$$

where  $m_f = \min\{f(x, t), x \in \bar{\Omega}, t \in [0, T]\}$

It implies that

$$\min\{u_i^{n+1}, \overline{1, N}\} \geq \min\{\min\{u_i^n, i = \overline{1, N}\} + k m_f, m_g\}$$

By induction it yields

$$\min\{u_i^{n+1}, \overline{1, N}\} \geq \min\{\min\{u_i^0, \overline{1, N}\}, m_g\} + \min\{(n+1)k m_f, 0\}$$

Similarly,

$$\max\{u_i^{n+1}, \overline{1, N}\} \geq \max\{\max\{u_i^0, \overline{1, N}\}, M_g\} + \max\{(n+1)kM_f, 0\}$$

where  $M_f = \max\{f(x, t), x \in \bar{\Omega}, t \in [0, T]\}$  and

$M_g = \max\{g(x, t), x \in \partial\Omega, t \in [0, T]\}$ .

It follows that

$$\|u^n\|_\infty \quad n \in \{1, \dots, N_k + 1\} \leq c$$

where

$$c = \|u_0\|_\infty + \|g\|_\infty + T\|f\|_\infty$$

## Consistency of the scheme

If  $u \in \mathbb{C}^2([0, 1], \mathbb{R})$ , there exists  $C \in \mathbb{R}_+$  only depending on  $u$  such that

$$|\tau_{i+1/2}^{n+1}| = |S_i^{n+1} + R_{i-1/2}^{n+1} - R_{i+1/2}^{n+1}| \leq C(h + k)$$

where

$$S_i^{n+1} = \int_{|T_i|} u_t(x, t_{n+1}) dx - \frac{|T_i|(u(x_i, t_{n+1}) - u(x_i, t_n))}{k}$$

$$R_{i-1/2}^{n+1} = \int_{|D_{i-1/2}|} u_x(x_{i-1/2}, t_{n+1}) dx - \frac{u(x_i, t_{n+1}) - u(x_{i-1}, t_{n+1})}{|D_{i-1/2}|}$$

$$R_{i+1/2}^{n+1} = \int_{|D_{i+1/2}|} u_x(x_{i+1/2}, t_{n+1}) dx - \frac{u(x_{i+1}, t_{n+1}) - u(x_i, t_{n+1})}{|D_{i+1/2}|}$$

**Proof**

We have proved for elliptic problems that

$$|R_{i-1/2}^{n+1}| \leq Ch$$

and

$$|R_{i+1/2}^{n+1}| \leq Ch$$

It suffices to prove

$$|S_i^{n+1}| \leq C(h + k)$$

## Error estimate

**Proposition:** There exists  $C \in \mathbb{R}_+$  only depending on  $u$ ,  $\Omega$  and  $T$  such that

$$\left( \sum_{i=1}^N (e_i^n)^2 |T_i| \right)^{1/2} \leq C(h+k), \quad \forall n \in \{1, \dots, N_k + 1\}$$

where  $e_i^n = u(x_i, nk) - u_i^k$ .

**Proof**

Integrating equation  $u_t - u_{xx} = f$  over  $T_i$  yields

$$\int_{T_i} u_t(x, t_{n+1}) dx - [u_x(x_{i+1/2}, t_{n+1}) - u_x(x_{i-1/2}, t_{n+1})] = \int_{T_i} f(x, t_{n+1}) dx$$

The approximate solution  $U$  satisfies

$$\frac{|T_i|(u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n)}{k} - \left( \frac{u_{i+1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i+1/2}|} + \frac{u_{i-1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i-1/2}|} \right) = \int_{T_i} f(x, t_{n+1}) dx$$

Subtracting side by side these two equations gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|T_i|(u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n)}{k} - \left( \frac{u_{i+1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i+1/2}|} + \frac{u_{i-1}^{n+1} - u_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i-1/2}|} \right) \\ & - \int_{T_i} u_t(x, t_{n+1}) dx + [u_x(x_{i+1/2}, t_{n+1}) - u_x(x_{i-1/2}, t_{n+1})] = 0 \end{aligned}$$

From here we make appear the error

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{|T_i|(e_i^{n+1} - e_i^n)}{k} - \left( \frac{e_{i+1}^{n+1} - e_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i+1/2}|} + \frac{e_{i-1}^{n+1} - e_i^{n+1}}{|D_{i-1/2}|} \right) \\ & = -S_i^{n+1} + (R_{i+1/2}^{n+1} - R_{i-1/2}^{n+1}) \end{aligned}$$



Multiplying by  $e_i^{n+1}$  and summing all over  $i$  gives

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{k} \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 + \|e^{n+1}\|_{1,D}^2 &= \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^N |T_i| e_i^n e_i^{n+1} - \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^{n+1} e_i^{n+1} \\ &+ \sum_{i=0}^N R_{i+1/2}(e_i^{n+1} - e_{i+1}^{n+1}) \end{aligned}$$

Using the same technique for elliptic problems we get

$$\frac{1}{k} \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|e^{n+1}\|_{1,T}^2 \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^N |T_i| e_i^n e_i^{n+1} - \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^{n+1} e_i^{n+1} + C_1 h^2$$

We have the following inequalities

$$\left| \sum_{i=1}^N S_i^{n+1} e_i^{n+1} \right| \leq C_2(h+k) \sum_{i=1}^N |T_i| |e_i^{n+1}| \leq C_2(h+k) |[0,1]| \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}$$

$$\frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^N |T_i| e_i^n e_i^{n+1} \leq \frac{1}{2k} (\|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T} + \|e^n\|_{0,T})$$

Therefore

$$\frac{1}{2k} \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \|e^{n+1}\|_{1,D}^2 \leq \frac{1}{2k} \|e^n\|_{0,T}^2 + C_2(h+k) \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T} + C_1 h^2$$

It implies that

$$\|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 \leq \|e^n\|_{0,T}^2 + C_3(kh^2 + k(h+k) \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}) \quad (19)$$

where  $C_3 = \max\{2C_1, 2C_2\}$ .

Applying Cauchy-Schwarz inequality gives

$$k(h+k) \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T} \leq \epsilon^2 \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 + (1/\epsilon^2) C_3^2 k^2 (k+h)^2 \quad (20)$$

Taking  $\epsilon^2 = k/(k+1)$  in (20) yields

$$k(h+k)\|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T} \leq \frac{k}{k+1}\|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 + \frac{k+1}{k}C_3^2k^2(k+h)^2$$

Inequality (19) can now be rewritten as

$$\|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 \leq (1+k)\|e^n\|_{0,T}^2 + C_3kh^2(1+k) + (1+k)^2C_3^2k(k+h)^2 \quad (21)$$

Suppose that  $\|e^n\|_{0,T}^2 \leq c_n(h+k)^2$  then from (21) it yields

$$\begin{aligned} \|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 &\leq (1+k)(h+k)^2c_n + C_3kh^2(1+k) + (1+k)^2C_3^2k(k+h)^2 \\ &\leq (1+k)(h+k)^2c_n + C_3k(h+k)^2(1+k) + (1+k)^2C_3^2k(k+h)^2 \\ &\leq (h+k)^2[(1+k)c_n + k(C_3(1+k) + C_3^2(1+k)^2)] \\ &\leq (h+k)^2[(1+k)c_n + \underbrace{k(C_3(1+T) + C_3^2(1+T)^2)}_{C_4}] \end{aligned}$$

Setting  $c_{n+1} = (1 + k)c_n + C_4 k$  then

$$\|e^{n+1}\|_{0,T}^2 \leq c_{n+1}(h+k)^2$$

Since  $\|e^n\|_{0,T}^2 = 0$  we can choose  $c_0 = 0$ . This choice gives

$$c_n = [(k+1)^n - 1]C_4$$

We will prove by induction that

$$c_n \leq e^{2nk} \leq C_4 e^{2T}$$

which gives

$$\|e^n\|_{0,T}^2 \leq C_4 e^{2T} (h+k)^2$$