

# Numerical Solutions to PDEs

## Lecture Notes #12

— Systems of PDEs in Higher Dimensions —  
2D and 3D; Time Split Schemes

Peter Blomgren,  
([blomgren.peter@gmail.com](mailto:blomgren.peter@gmail.com))

Department of Mathematics and Statistics  
Dynamical Systems Group  
Computational Sciences Research Center  
San Diego State University  
San Diego, CA 92182-7720

<http://terminus.sdsu.edu/>

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## Last Time

- **Discussion:** Lower Order Terms and Stability
- **Proof:** Dissipation and Smoothness
- **Example:** Crank-Nicolson in Non-Dissipative Mode ( $\lambda$  fixed)
- **Example:** Crank-Nicolson in Dissipative Mode ( $\mu$  fixed)
- **Boundary Conditions:** accuracy, ghost points
- **Convection-Diffusion:** Grid restrictions due to the **physics** (Reynolds or Peclet number) of the problem; upwinding.



## The World is not One-Dimensional!

In order to model interesting physical phenomena, we often are forced to leave the confines of our one-dimensional “toy universe.”

The **good news** is that most of our knowledge from 1D carries over to 2D, 3D, and  $n$ D without change. Such is the case for convergence, consistency, stability and order of accuracy.

The **bad news** is that the analysis necessarily becomes a “little” messier — we have to Taylor expand in multiple (space) dimensions, all of which will affect stability, etc...

## The World is not One-Dimensional!

From a practical standpoint things also get harder — **the computational complexity grows** — we go from  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  to  $\mathcal{O}(n^d)$  spatial grid-points; and each point has more “neighbors” (1D: 2, 2D: 4/8, 3D: 6/26)  $\Rightarrow$  More computations, more storage, more challenging to visualize in a meaningful way...

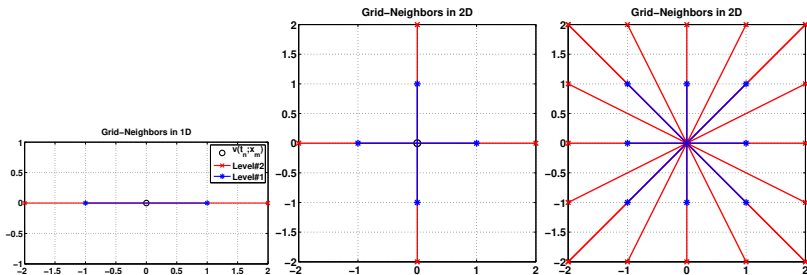
|             | 1D                 | 2D                 | 3D                 |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Grid-points | $\mathcal{O}(n)$   | $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ | $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ |
| Matrix Size | $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ | $\mathcal{O}(n^4)$ | $\mathcal{O}(n^6)$ |
| GE/LU Time  | $\mathcal{O}(n^3)$ | $\mathcal{O}(n^6)$ | $\mathcal{O}(n^9)$ |

**Table:** With  $n$  points in each unit-direction, we quickly build very large matrices which are work-intensive to invert (for implicit schemes) using naive Gaussian Elimination / Factorization Methods. Using the fact that most matrix entries are zeros (sparsity), and approximate inversion methods (e.g. Conjugate Gradient), problems can still be propagated fairly quickly.



# Increased Grid / “Bookkeeping” Complexity

1 of 2

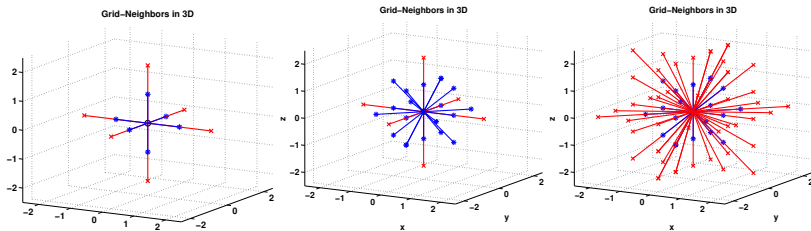


**Figure:** First- and second “level” grid neighbors on 1D and 2D grids; for 2D we may consider the “mixed” offsets (rightmost panel). In 2D, we have 4 first-level “pure”  $x$ -, or  $y$ -neighbors; including the “mixed” offsets we have 8; on the second level the numbers are 8 and 24.



## Increased Grid / "Bookkeeping" Complexity

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**Figure:** First- and second "level" grid neighbors on a 3D grid. LEFT: Only the "pure" x-, y-, and z-directions (6, and 12 neighbors); MIDDLE: Including the first level "mixed" offsets (26); and RIGHT: including the second level "mixed" offsets (124)

## Moving to Higher Dimensions

"Physical" Dimensionality

We start out by discussion stability for systems of equations, both **hyperbolic** and **parabolic**, and then move on to a discussion of these systems in 2 and 3 space dimensions.

The vector versions of our model problems are of the form

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}_t + \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{u}}_x = \mathbf{0}, \quad \bar{\mathbf{u}}_t = \mathbf{B}\bar{\mathbf{u}}_{xx}$$

where  $\bar{\mathbf{u}}$  is a  $d$ -vector, and the matrices  $A, B$  are  $d \times d$ ;  $A$  must be diagonalizable with real eigenvalues, and the eigenvalues of  $B$  must have positive real part.

There is very little news here — for instance, The Lax-Wendroff scheme for the vector-one-way-wave-equation and the Crank-Nicolson schemes for both vector equations, look just as in the 1D case, but with the scalars  $a, b$  replaced the matrices  $A, B$ .





## Moving to Higher Dimensions

## Stability, 1 of 2

There is some news in testing for stability: instead of a scalar amplification factor  $g(\theta)$ , we get an **amplification matrix**. We obtain this matrix by making the substitution  $\bar{\mathbf{v}}_m^n \rightsquigarrow G^n e^{im\theta}$ .

The **stability condition** takes the form:  $\forall T > 0, \exists C_T$  such that for  $0 \leq nk \leq T$ , we have

$$\|G^n\| \leq C_T.$$

Computing the  $G$  to the  $n$ th power may not be a lot of fun for a large matrix  $G$ ... For **hyperbolic systems** this simplifies when  $G$  is a polynomial or rational function of  $A$  — this occurs in the Lax-Wendroff and Crank-Nicolson schemes.

In this case, the matrix which diagonalizes  $A$ , also diagonalizes  $G$ , and the stability only depends on the eigenvalues,  $a_i$  of  $A$ , e.g. for Lax-Wendroff we must have  $|a_i \lambda| \leq 1$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, d$ .



## Moving to Higher Dimensions

## Stability, 2 of 2

For **parabolic** systems, especially for dissipative schemes with  $\mu$  constant, similar simplifying methods exist:

The unitary matrix which transforms  $B$  to upper triangular form ( $\tilde{B} = U^{-1}BU$ ) can also be used to transform  $G$  to upper triangular form,  $\tilde{G}$ . Then if we can find a bound on  $\|\tilde{G}^n\|$ , a similar bound applies to  $\|G^n\|$ .

For more general schemes, the situation is more complicated. A **necessary condition** for stability is

$$|g_\nu| \leq 1 + Kk,$$

for all eigenvalues  $g_\nu$  of  $G$ . However, this condition is **not sufficient** in general.



## Example: An Unstable Scheme

1 of 2

We consider the (“somewhat” artificial, but simple) example

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \end{bmatrix}_t = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

and the first order accurate scheme

$$\begin{aligned} v_m^{n+1} &= v_m^n - \epsilon(w_{m+1}^n - 2w_m^n + w_{m-1}^n) \\ w_m^{n+1} &= w_m^n. \end{aligned}$$

The corresponding amplification matrix is

$$G = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4\epsilon \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

## Example: An Unstable Scheme

The eigenvalues of  $G$  are both 1, but

$$G^n = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 4n\epsilon \sin^2\left(\frac{\theta}{2}\right) \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

Hence  $\|G^n(\pi)\| = \mathcal{O}(n)$ , which shows that the scheme is unstable.  $\square$

The good news is that the straight-forward extensions of (stable) schemes for single equations to systems **usually** results in stable schemes.

As for scalar equations, lower order terms resulting in  $\mathcal{O}(k)$  modifications of the amplification matrix, do not affect that stability of the scheme.

## Multistep Schemes as Systems

1 of 2

We can analyze multi-step schemes by converting them into systems form, e.g. the scheme

$$\hat{v}^{n+1}(\xi) = \sum_{\nu=0}^K a_{\nu}(\xi) \hat{v}^{n-\nu}(\xi),$$

can be written in as a  $K + 1$  system

$$\hat{V}^{n+1} = G(\theta) \hat{V}^n,$$

where  $\hat{V}^n = [\hat{v}^n(\xi), \dots, \hat{v}^{n-K}(\xi)]^T$ . The matrix  $G(\theta)$  is the **companion matrix** of the polynomial with coefficients  $-a_{\nu}(\xi)$ , given by...



## Multistep Schemes as Systems

2 of 2

$$G(\theta) = \begin{bmatrix} a_0 & a_1 & \dots & a_{K-1} & a_K \\ I & 0 & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & I & \dots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & \dots & I & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

We note that this form of the companion matrix, seems to be somewhat non-standard — both **PlanetMath.org** and **mathworld.wolfram.com** give a slightly different (but equivalent) form.

## Some Comments

For scalar finite difference schemes, the algorithm given in the context of *simple von Neumann polynomials* and *Schur polynomials* is usually much easier than trying to verify an estimate like  $\|G^n\| \leq C_T$ .

For **multi-step schemes** applied to **systems of equations**, there is no working extension of the theory of Schur polynomials, so writing the scheme in the form of a one-step scheme for an enlarged system is usually the best route in determining the stability for such schemes.

## Finite Difference Schemes in Two and Three Dimensions

As stated earlier, our definitions for convergence, consistency, and stability carry over to multiple dimensions; however, the von Neumann stability analysis becomes quite challenging... We consider two examples:

First, we consider the leapfrog scheme for the system

$$\bar{\mathbf{u}}_t + A\bar{\mathbf{u}}_x + B\bar{\mathbf{u}}_y = 0$$

where  $A, B$  are  $d \times d$  matrices. We write the scheme

$$\frac{v_{\ell,m}^{n+1} - v_{\ell,m}^{n-1}}{2k} + A \left[ \frac{v_{\ell+1,m}^n - v_{\ell-1,m}^n}{2h_1} \right] + B \left[ \frac{v_{\ell,m+1}^n - v_{\ell,m-1}^n}{2h_2} \right] = 0.$$



## Leapfrogging Along in 2D

1 of 3

In order to perform the stability analysis, we introduce the Fourier transform solution  $\widehat{v}^n(\bar{\xi}) = \widehat{v}^n(\xi_1, \xi_2)$ , formally we can let  $v_{\ell,m}^n \rightsquigarrow G^n e^{i\ell\theta_1} e^{im\theta_2}$ , where  $\theta_i = h_i \xi_i$ ,  $i = 1, 2$ . With  $\lambda_1 = k/h_1$ , and  $\lambda_2 = k/h_2$ , we get the recurrence relation

$$\widehat{v}^{n+1} + 2i(\lambda_1 A \sin(\theta_1) + \lambda_2 B \sin(\theta_2)) \widehat{v}^n - \widehat{v}^{n-1} = 0,$$

*i.e.* we are interested in the amplification matrix  $G$ , which satisfies

$$G^2 + 2i(\lambda_1 A \sin(\theta_1) + \lambda_2 B \sin(\theta_2)) G - I = 0.$$

The scheme can be rewritten as a one-step scheme for a larger system, and we can derive an expression for  $G$  for that system, and check  $\|G^n\| \leq C_T \dots$  However, it is very difficult to get reasonable conditions without making some assumptions on  $A$  and  $B \dots$



## Leapfrogging Along in 2D

2 of 3

The most common assumption, which rarely has any connection to reality, is that  $A$  and  $B$  are **simultaneously diagonalizable**.

That is, we assume there exists a matrix  $P$  for which both  $PAP^{-1}$  and  $PBP^{-1}$  are diagonal matrices. We let  $\alpha_\nu$  and  $\beta_\nu$  be the diagonal entries of these matrices, and note that with the linear transform  $\bar{\mathbf{w}} = P\bar{\mathbf{v}}$ , we get  $d$  uncoupled scalar relations

$$\widehat{w}_\nu^{n+1} + 2i(\lambda_1\alpha_\nu \sin(\theta_1) + \lambda_2\beta_\nu \sin(\theta_2))\widehat{w}_\nu^n - \widehat{w}_\nu^{n-1} = 0,$$

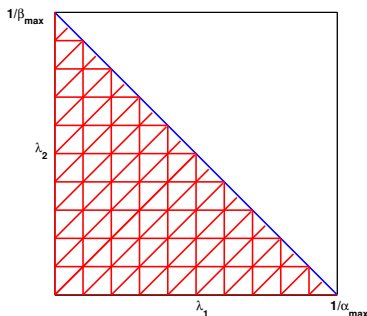
where  $\nu = 1, \dots, d$ . This is somewhat more tractable (we can reuse our previous knowledge), and we can conclude that the scheme is stable **if and only if**

$$\lambda_1|\alpha_\nu| + \lambda_2|\beta_\nu| < 1, \quad \nu = 1, \dots, d.$$



## Leapfrogging Along in 2D

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The most pessimistic stability region is given by

$$\lambda_1 |\alpha|_{\max} + \lambda_2 |\beta|_{\max} < 1$$

where  $|\alpha|_{\max}$  and  $|\beta|_{\max}$  are computed from the separate diagonalizations of  $A$  and  $B$ .

## The Abarbanel-Gottlieb Scheme

1 of 2

A resource-saving modification to the leapfrog scheme, which allows for larger time-steps, is given by

$$\frac{v_{\ell,m}^{n+1} - v_{\ell,m}^{n-1}}{2k} + A\delta_{0x} \underbrace{\left[ \frac{v_{\ell,m+1}^n + v_{\ell,m-1}^n}{2} \right]}_{\text{Average in } y} + B\delta_{0y} \underbrace{\left[ \frac{v_{\ell+1,m}^n + v_{\ell-1,m}^n}{2} \right]}_{\text{Average in } x} = 0.$$

With the simultaneous diagonalizable assumption, the stability condition is given by

$$|\lambda_1 \alpha_\nu \sin(\theta_1) \cos(\theta_2) + \lambda_2 \beta_\nu \sin(\theta_2) \cos(\theta_1)| < 1.$$

A sequence of inequalities can make some sense out of this...



## The Abarbanel-Gottlieb Scheme

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Since, “obviously,”

$$\begin{aligned} & |\lambda_1 \alpha_\nu \sin(\theta_1) \cos(\theta_2) + \lambda_2 \beta_\nu \sin(\theta_2) \cos(\theta_1)| \\ & \leq \max \left\{ \lambda_1 |\alpha_\nu|, \lambda_2 |\beta_\nu| \right\} (|\sin(\theta_1)| |\cos(\theta_2)| + |\sin(\theta_2)| |\cos(\theta_1)|) \\ & \leq \max \left\{ \lambda_1 |\alpha_\nu|, \lambda_2 |\beta_\nu| \right\} \left( (\sin^2(\theta_1) + \cos^2(\theta_1))^{1/2} (\sin^2(\theta_2) + \cos^2(\theta_2))^{1/2} \right) \\ & = \max \left\{ \lambda_1 |\alpha_\nu|, \lambda_2 |\beta_\nu| \right\}. \end{aligned}$$

The two conditions

$$\lambda_1 |\alpha_\nu| < 1, \quad \lambda_2 |\beta_\nu| < 1,$$

are sufficient for stability (and also necessary).



## More General Stability Conditions

It is possible to derive more general stability conditions, without simultaneous diagonalization. If the problem is **hyperbolic** (easiest argued from the physics), then the matrix function  $A\xi_1 + B\xi_2$  is uniformly diagonalizable, *i.e.* we can find a matrix  $P(\xi)$  with uniformly bounded condition number so that

$$P(\xi)(A\xi_1 + B\xi_2)P(\xi)^{-1} = D(\xi),$$

is a diagonal matrix with real eigenvalues. The stability condition becomes

$$\max_{1 \leq i \leq d} \max_{\theta_1, \theta_2} |D_i(\lambda_1 \sin(\theta_1), \lambda_2 \sin(\theta_2))| < 1.$$

Sometimes this can be done with reasonable effort, in other cases it is a big task...



Much of the work when it comes to devising **practically useful** schemes in higher dimensions, is in the direction of dimension reduction; *i.e.* reducing the problem to a sequence of lower-dimensional problems.

Consider

$$u_t + \left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] u + \left[ B \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right] u = 0.$$

One way to simplify this is to let  $\left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right]$  act with twice the strength during half of the time-step, with  $\left[ B \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right]$  “turned off”, and then switch, *i.e.*

$$u_t + 2 \left[ A \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right] u = 0, \quad t_0 \leq t \leq t_0 + k/2,$$

$$u_t + 2 \left[ B \frac{\partial}{\partial y} \right] u = 0, \quad t_0 + k/2 \leq t \leq t_0 + k.$$



The analysis of time-split schemes becomes quite “interesting,” to say the least.

- If we use second-order accurate difference schemes, the overall scheme is second-order accurate only if the order of the splitting is reversed on alternate time steps.
- Stability for split-time schemes **do not necessarily** follow from the stability of each of the steps. Only in the case where the amplification factors (if being matrices) **commute** is this true (see [1], and [2]).
- Prescribing appropriate boundary conditions is a challenge (see [3]).



## References — For More Details

- [1] D. Gottlieb, *Strang-type Difference Schemes for Multidimensional Problems*, SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis, **9** (1972), pp. 650–661.
- [2] G. Strang, *On the Construction and Comparison of Difference Schemes*, SIAM Journal on Numerical Analysis, **5** (1968), pp. 506–517.
- [3] R.J. LeVeque and J. Olinger, *Numerical Methods Based on Additive Splittings for Hyperbolic Partial Differential Equations*, Mathematics of Computation, **40** (1983), pp. 469–497.

## A Quick Note on Strang-Splitting

1 of 3

After Fourier transformation we have

$$\hat{u}_t = -i(A\omega_x + B\omega_y)\hat{u}$$

so that

$$\hat{u}_t(t+k; \omega_x, \omega_y) = e^{-i(A\omega_x + B\omega_y)k} \hat{u}(t; \omega_x, \omega_y) = e^{(\tilde{A} + \tilde{B})k} \hat{u}(t; \omega_x, \omega_y).$$

In the time-split case

$$\hat{u}_t(t+k; \omega_x, \omega_y) = e^{\tilde{A}k} e^{\tilde{B}k} \hat{u}(t; \omega_x, \omega_y).$$

Next, we consider the Taylor expansions of the propagators  $e^{(\tilde{A} + \tilde{B})k}$  and  $e^{\tilde{A}k} e^{\tilde{B}k}$  (dropping the tildes).

## A Quick Note on Strang-Splitting

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### True Solution

$$\begin{aligned} e^{(A+B)k} &\sim I + k(A+B) + \frac{k^2}{2}(A+B)^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \\ &\sim I + k(A+B) + \frac{k^2}{2}(A^2 + B^2 + AB + BA) + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \end{aligned}$$

### Standard Split

$$\begin{aligned} e^{Ak} e^{Bk} &\sim \left[ I + kA + \frac{k^2}{2}A^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \left[ I + kB + \frac{k^2}{2}B^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \\ &\sim I + k(A+B) + \frac{k^2}{2}(A^2 + B^2 + 2AB) + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \end{aligned}$$

### Strang Split

$$\begin{aligned} e^{Ak/2} e^{Bk} e^{Ak/2} &\sim \left[ I + \frac{k}{2}A + \frac{k^2}{8}A^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \left[ I + kB + \frac{k^2}{2}B^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \left[ I + \frac{k}{2}A + \frac{k^2}{8}A^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \\ &\sim I + k(A+B) + \frac{k^2}{2}(A^2 + B^2 + AB + BA) + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \end{aligned}$$



## True Solution

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{(A+B+C)k} &\sim I + k(A + B + C) + \frac{k^2}{2}(A + B + C)^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \\
 &\sim I + k(A + B + C) + \\
 &\quad \frac{k^2}{2}(A^2 + B^2 + C^2 + (AB + BA) + (AC + CA) + (BC + CB)) + \mathcal{O}(k^3)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Strang Split

$$\begin{aligned}
 e^{Ak/2} e^{Bk/2} e^{Ck} e^{Bk/2} e^{Ak/2} &\sim \left[ I + \frac{k}{2}A + \frac{k^2}{8}A^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \left[ I + \frac{k}{2}B + \frac{k^2}{8}B^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \\
 &\quad \left[ I + kC + \frac{k^2}{2}C^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \left[ I + \frac{k}{2}B + \frac{k^2}{8}B^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \left[ I + \frac{k}{2}A + \frac{k^2}{8}A^2 + \mathcal{O}(k^3) \right] \\
 &\sim I + k(A + B + C) + \frac{k^2}{2}(A^2 + B^2 + C^2 + (AB + BA) + (AC + CA) + (BC + CB)) + \mathcal{O}(k^3)
 \end{aligned}$$

## Homework #3 — Due 3/9/2018

**Strikwerda-6.3.2** — Theoretical

**Strikwerda-6.3.10** — Numerical

**Strikwerda-6.3.14** — Theoretical