

12 The equation $\partial\phi/\partial t - \alpha\partial^2\phi/\partial x^2 = 0$ is to be solved in the domain $0 \leq x \leq 1, t > 0$ with boundary conditions $\phi(0,t) = 0, \phi(1,t) = \phi_R$ and the initial condition $\phi(x,0) = 0$. Show via the separation of variables technique, that the solution is

$$\phi = \phi_R x + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{2\phi_R (-1)^k \exp(-k^2\pi^2\alpha t) \sin(k\pi x)}{k\pi}.$$

13. Accuracy:

A three-level explicit discretization of $\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} - \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} = 0$ can be written as

$$\frac{0.5T_j^{n-1} - 2T_j^n + 1.5T_j^{n+1}}{\Delta t} - \alpha \left[\frac{(1+d)(T_{j-1} - 2T_j + T_{j+1})^n}{\Delta x^2} - \frac{d(T_{j-1} - 2T_j + T_{j+1})^{n-1}}{\Delta x^2} \right] = 0$$

- (a) Expand each term as a Taylor series to determine the truncation error of the complete equation for arbitrary values of d .
- (b) Use the general technique to choose d as a function of $s = \alpha\Delta t/\Delta x^2$ so that the scheme is fourth-order accurate in Δx .

Hint: Terms involving $\partial T/\partial t$ (or higher derivatives of t) can be expressed as x derivatives by making use of $\partial T/\partial t = \alpha\partial^2 T/\partial x^2$. Terms with Δt in the expansion can be written as $\Delta t = s\Delta x^2/\alpha$ since the time integration parameter is usually s .

14. Simulation of the diffusion equation - SIM1:

Try to understand the simulation code sim1. Run the code for different parameters by varying the time step through s , and Δx (by means of nx). Plot results for $\Delta x = 0.1$ and 0.05 (fixed α and $s = 0.5$) with the provided IDL program (or choice of a plotting routine but in a similar format as shown in class). To compare results change the output parameter for the different resolutions such that outputs are generated at the same physical time. Now change α to half the initial value. Generate again output at the same physical times (for $\Delta x = 0.05$). Understand and comment at which time levels output is generated depending on the altered parameters. If you change s to half its value (keeping α and Δx fixed) how do you need to change the output parameter to generate output at the same physical times? Finally run the program for $s = 1/6$ (again with output at the same physical times) How does the error change for different resolution and different values of s ? What is the reason for the change in the error?