

# PHY604 Lecture 16

October 31, 2021

# Review: Examples of PDE types

- Parabolic equations

- E.g., Time-dependent Schrodinger equation, 1D diffusion equation
- Consider the Fourier equation with temperature  $T$  and thermal diffusion coefficient  $\kappa$ :

$$\frac{\partial T(x, t)}{\partial t} = \kappa \frac{\partial^2 T(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

- Hyperbolic equations

- E.g., 1D wave equation with amplitude  $A$  and speed  $c$ :

$$\frac{\partial^2 A(x, t)}{\partial t^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 A(x, t)}{\partial x^2}$$

- Elliptic equations

- E.g., Poisson equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y^2} = -\frac{1}{\epsilon_0} \rho(x, y)$$

# Review: Diffusion equation with FTCS

- Now the discretized PDE is:

$$\frac{T_i^{n+1} - T_i^n}{\tau} = \kappa \frac{T_{i+1}^n + T_{i-1}^n - 2T_i^n}{h^2}$$

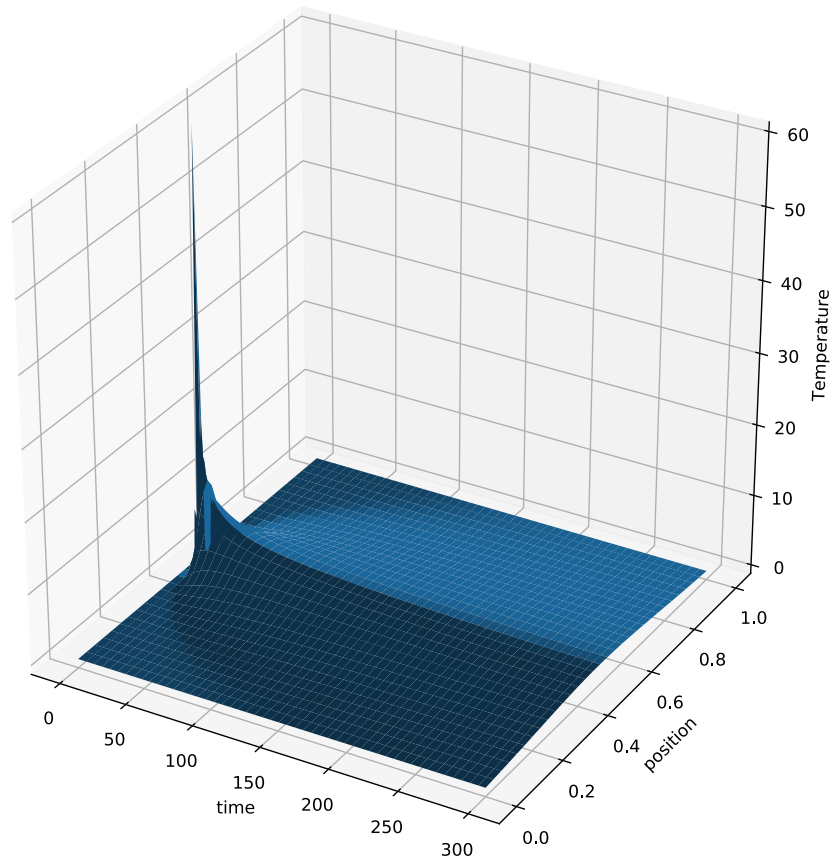
- And temperature at future time is:

$$T_i^{n+1} = T_i^n + \frac{\kappa\tau}{h^2} (T_{i+1}^n + T_{i-1}^n - 2T_i^n)$$

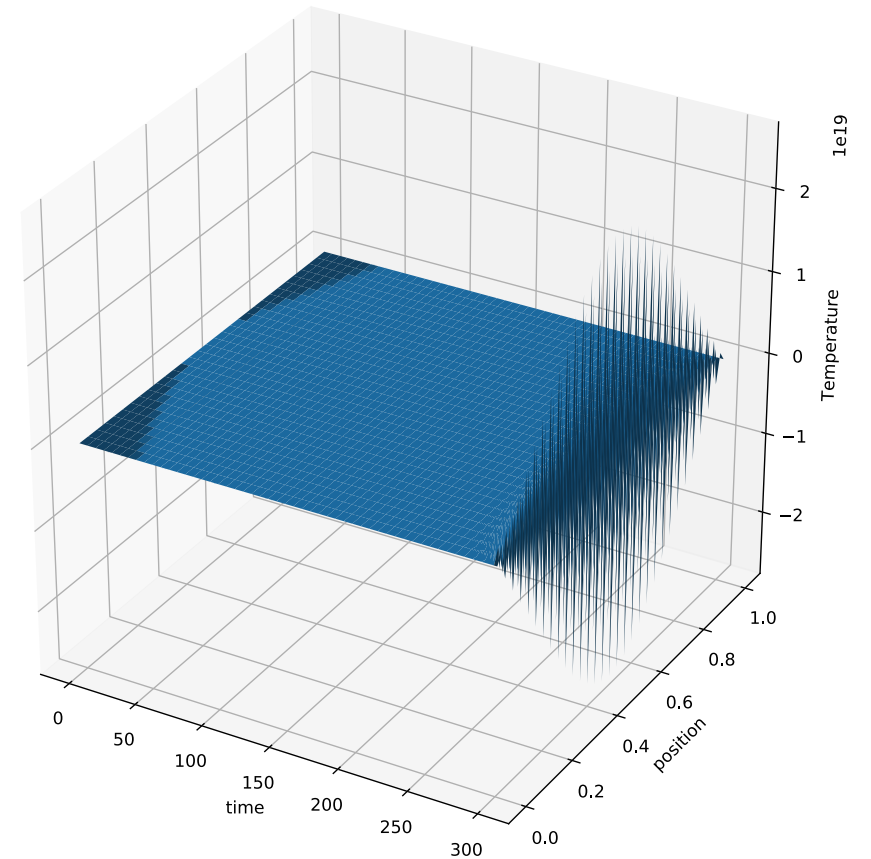
- **Explicit:** Everything that depends on previous timestep  $n$  is on RHS
- Discretization is reminiscent of Euler's method for ODEs

# Review: FCTS method on diffusion equation

Numerically stable:  $\tau = 1e-4$



Numerically stable:  $\tau = 1.5e-4$



# Review: Advection equation

- Thus, we see that there is a simpler hyperbolic equation, the **advection equation**:

$$\frac{\partial a}{\partial t} = -c \frac{\partial a}{\partial x}$$

- Describes the evolution of some scalar field  $a$  carried by a flow of velocity  $c$ 
  - Also known as linear convection equation
  - Waves move only in one direction (to the right if  $c > 0$ ), unlike the wave equation
- “Flux conservation” equation
  - E.g., continuity equation in electrodynamics/quantum mechanics:

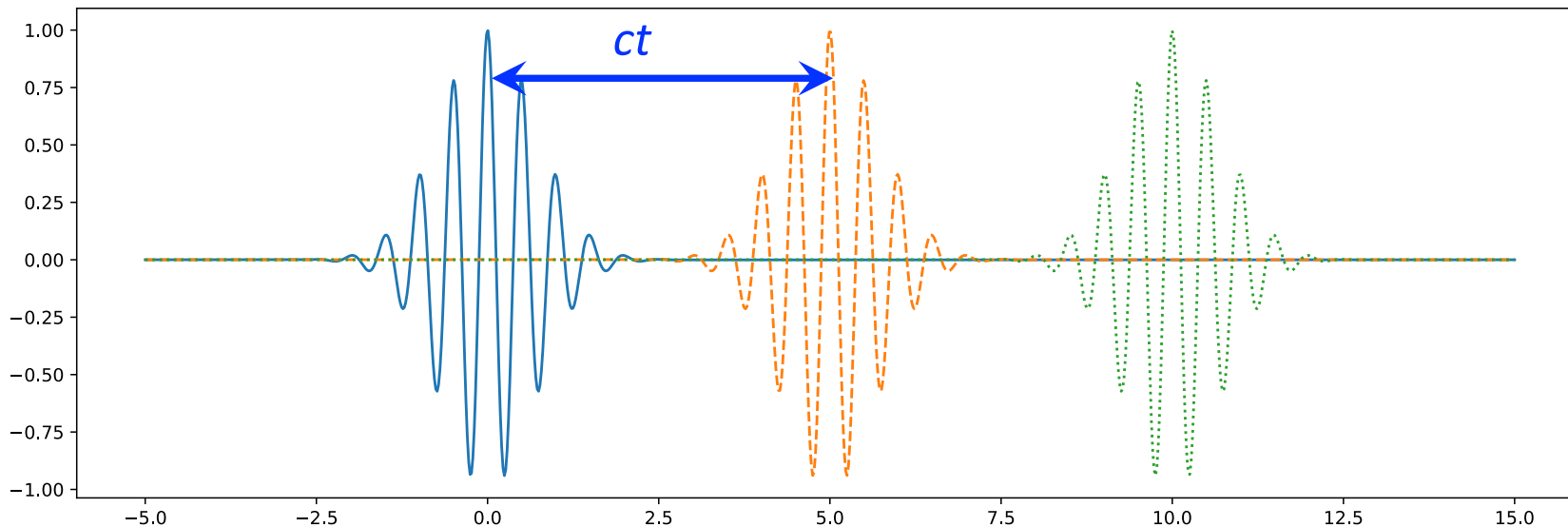
$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{J}(p)$$

# Review: Analytical solution to advection equation

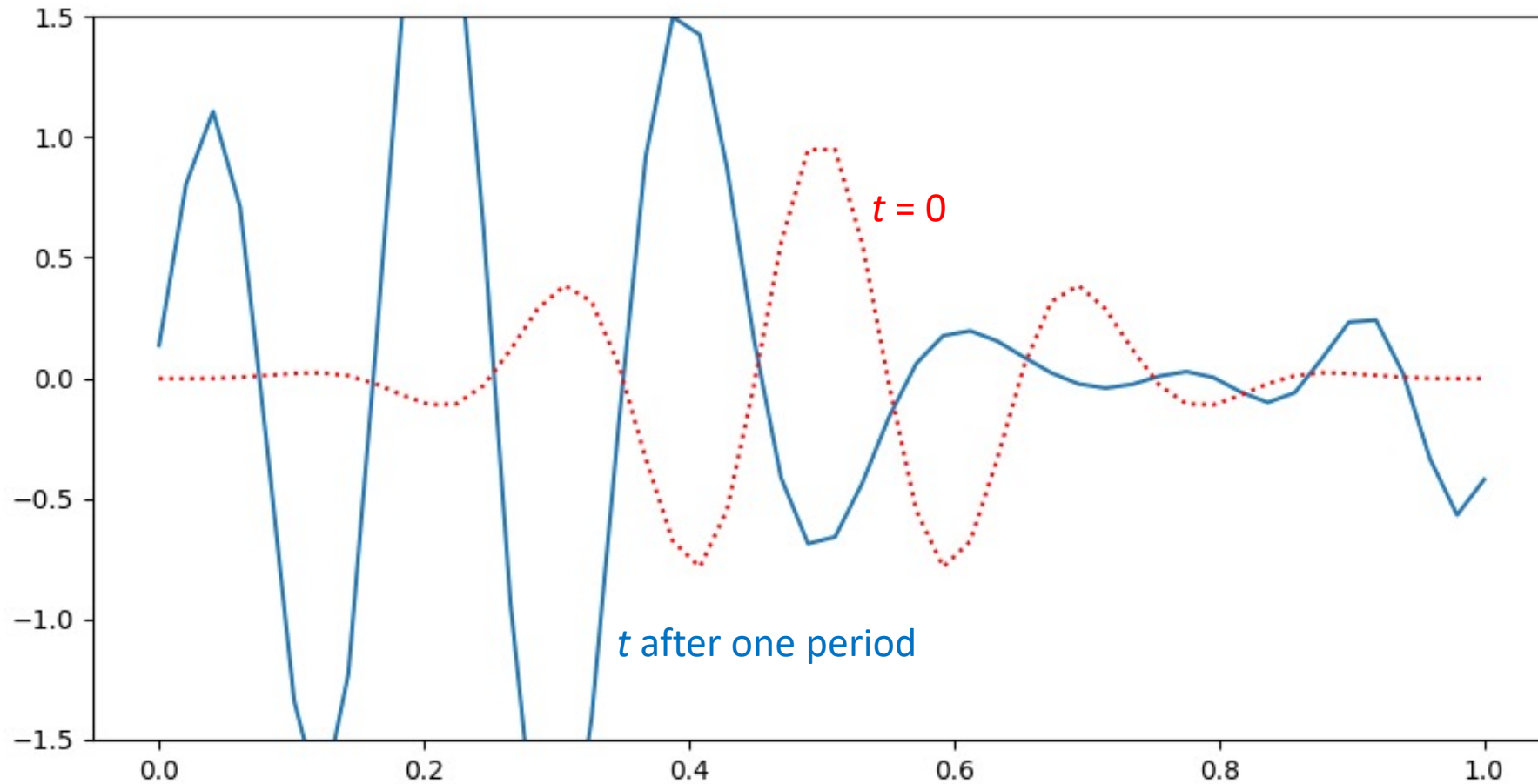
- For initial condition:  $a(x, t = 0) = f_0(x)$
- Solution is:  $a(x, t) = f_0(x - ct)$
- Consider a wavepacket of the form:

$$a(x, t = 0) = \cos[k(x - x_0)] \exp\left[-\frac{(x - x_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$$

- Solution:  $a(x, t) = \cos[k((x - ct) - x_0)] \exp\left[-\frac{((x - ct) - x_0)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]$



# Review: FTCS method clearly fails for the advection equation



# Review: How can we do a better job?

- We could try to adjust numerical parameters, but it will not work!
  - FTCS is unstable for any  $\tau$ ! (will come back to this later)
  - Can delay the problems but not get rid of them
- Stability problem can be helped with a simple modification: The **Lax method**:

$$a_i^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(a_{i+1}^n + a_{i-1}^n) - \frac{c\tau}{2h}(a_{i+1}^n - a_{i-1}^n)$$

- Simply replacing the first term with the average of the left and right neighbors



# Today's lecture: PDEs

- Hyperbolic PDEs: Lax-Wendroff scheme
- Elliptical PDEs: Relaxation methods

# Lax-Wendroff scheme for hyperbolic PDEs

- Lax-Wendroff is second-order finite difference scheme
- Take the Taylor expansion in time:

$$a(x, t + \tau) = a(x, t) + \tau \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} + \frac{\tau^2}{2} \frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} + \mathcal{O}(\tau^3)$$

- Generally, for a flux-conserving equations:  $\frac{\partial a}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} F(a)$ 
  - $F(a) = ca$  for advection equations

- Differentiate both sides:  $\frac{\partial^2 a}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \frac{\partial F(a)}{\partial t}$

- Chain rule:  $\frac{\partial F}{\partial t} = \frac{dF}{da} \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} = F'(a) \frac{\partial a}{\partial t} = -F'(a) \frac{\partial F}{\partial x}$



# Second order expansion

- So, we have: 
$$a(x, t + \tau) \simeq a(x, t) - \tau \frac{\partial F(a)}{\partial x} + \frac{\tau^2}{2} \frac{\partial F'(a)}{\partial x} \frac{\partial F(a)}{\partial x}$$

- Now we discretize derivatives:


$$a_i^{n+1} = a_i^n - \tau \frac{F_{i+1} - F_{i-1}}{2h} + \frac{\tau^2}{2h} \left( F'_{i+1/2} \frac{F_{i+1} - F_i}{h} - F'_{i-1/2} \frac{F_i - F_{i-1}}{h} \right)$$

- Where:  $F_i \equiv F(a_i^n), \quad F'_{i\pm 1/2} \equiv F'[(a_{i\pm 1}^n + a_i^n)/2]$

- For advection equations,  $F_i = ca_i^n, \quad F'_{i\pm 1/2} = c$

$$a_i^{n+1} = a_i^n - \frac{c\tau}{2h} (a_{i+1}^n - a_{i-1}^n) + \frac{c^2\tau^2}{2h^2} (a_{i+1}^n + a_{i-1}^n - 2a_i^n)$$

Discretized  
second  
derivative of a



# Today's lecture: PDEs

- Hyperbolic PDEs: Lax-Wendroff scheme
- Elliptical PDEs: Relaxation methods

# Elliptical equations: e.g., Laplace equation

- The PDEs we will discuss here represent boundary-value problems
  - Solution is a static field

- Consider Laplace's equation: 
$$\frac{\partial^2 \Phi(x, y)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi(x, y)}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

- $\Phi$  is the electrostatic potential
- As usual it is useful to solve a simple problem analytically so that we can benchmark numerical methods

# Separation of variables for Laplace's equation

- Write  $\Phi$  as the product:  $\Phi(x, y) = X(x)Y(y)$
- Insert into Laplace's equation and divide by  $\Phi$ :

$$\frac{1}{X(x)} \frac{d^2 X}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{Y(y)} \frac{d^2 Y}{dy^2} = 0$$

- This equation should hold for all  $x$  and  $y$ , so each term must be a constant:

$$\frac{1}{X(x)} \frac{d^2 X}{dx^2} = -k^2, \quad \frac{1}{Y(y)} \frac{d^2 Y}{dy^2} = k^2$$

- $k$  is a complex constant
  - Writing constant as  $k^2$  to simplify notation later
  - Signs can be switched
- Now we have two ODEs

# Solution of Laplace's eq. ODEs

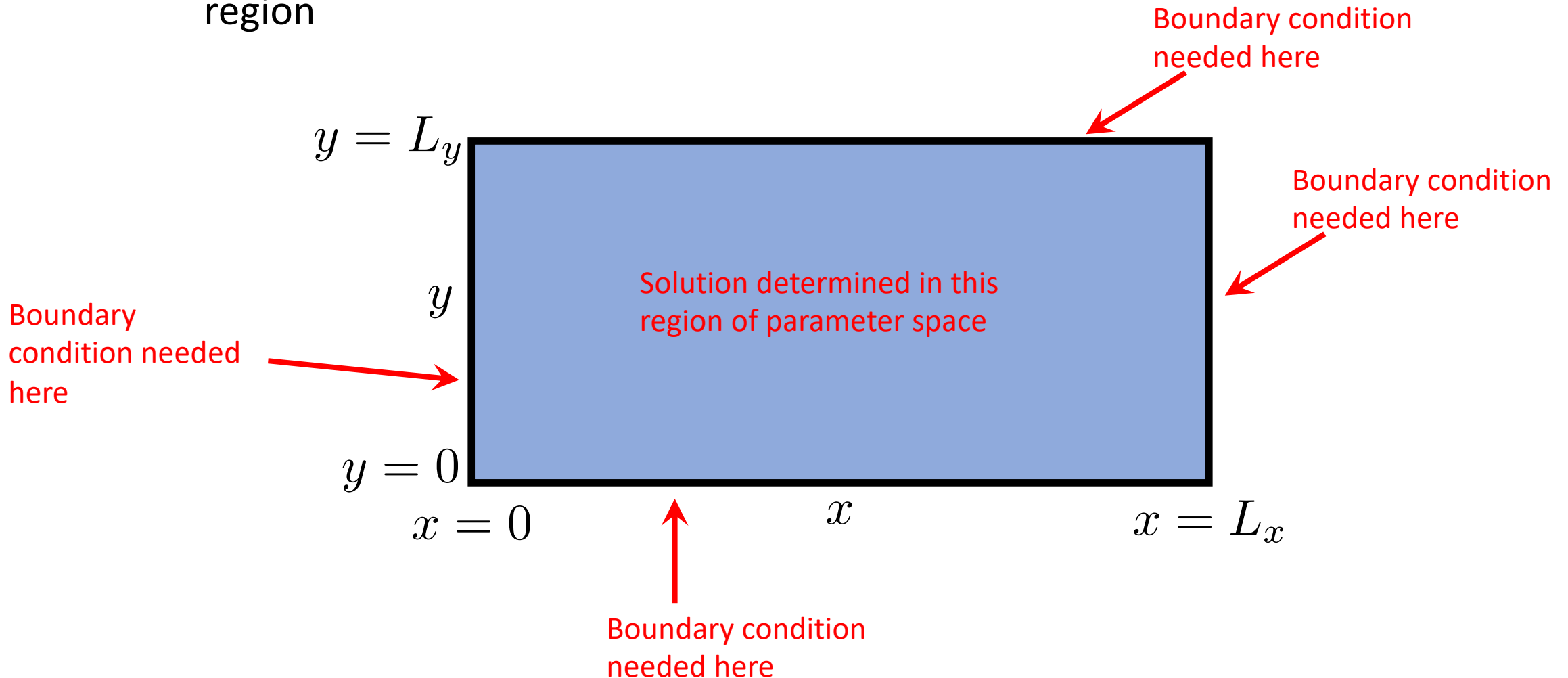
- Solution of these equations are well known:

$$X(x) = C_s \sin(kx) + C_c \cos(kx), \quad Y(y) = C'_s \sinh(ky) + C'_c \cosh(ky)$$

- Recall that  $k$  is complex, so solutions are “symmetric”
- To get the coefficients, we need to specify the boundary conditions

# Boundary value problems

- All boundary values are specified at the outset
  - E.g., Laplace's equation in electrostatics, potential fixed on for sides of spatial region





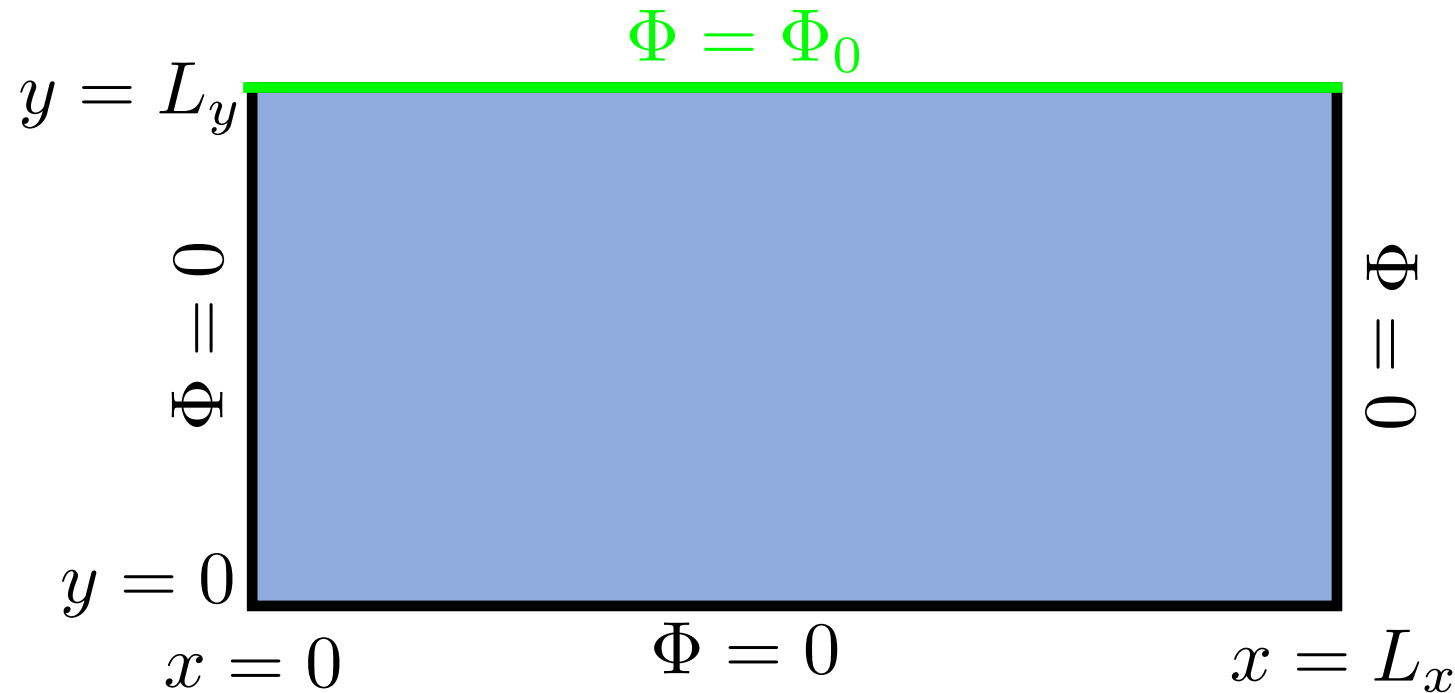
# Solution of Laplace's eq. ODEs

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- Recall that  $k$  is complex, so solutions are “symmetric”
- To get the coefficients, we need to specify the boundary conditions

$$\Phi(x = 0, y) = \Phi(x = L_x, y) = \Phi(x, y = 0) = 0, \quad \Phi(x, y = L_y) = \Phi_0$$



# Solution of Laplace's eq. ODEs

$$X(x) = C_s \sin(kx) + C_c \cos(kx), \quad Y(y) = C'_s \sinh(ky) + C'_c \cosh(ky)$$

- Use our boundary conditions:

$$\Phi(x = 0, y) = 0 \quad \implies \quad C_c = 0$$

$$\Phi(x, y = 0) = 0 \quad \implies \quad C'_c = 0$$

$$\Phi(x = L_x, y) = 0 \quad \implies \quad k = \frac{n\pi}{L_x}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

- So, we have solutions of the form:

$$c_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi y}{L_x}\right)$$

- Any linear combination is also a solution, so:

$$\Phi(x, y) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi y}{L_x}\right)$$

# Solution of Laplace's equation

- Now we use our last boundary condition:

$$\Phi_0 = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi L_y}{L_x}\right)$$

- To solve the equation, multiply both sides by  $\sin(m\pi x/L_x)$  and integrate from 0 to  $L_x$ :

$$\int_0^{L_x} dx \Phi_0 \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L_x}\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} c_n \sinh\left(\frac{n\pi L_y}{L_x}\right) \int_0^{L_x} dx \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L_x}\right)$$

- Left-hand side integral:

$$\int_0^{L_x} dx \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L_x}\right) = \begin{cases} 2L_x/m\pi, & m \text{ odd} \\ 0, & m \text{ even} \end{cases}$$

# Solution of Laplace's equation

- Sum on the right-hand side simplifies because:

$$\int_0^{L_x} dx \sin\left(\frac{m\pi x}{L_x}\right) \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L_x}\right) = \frac{L_x}{2} \delta_{n,m}$$

- So, we have:

$$\Phi_0 \frac{2L_x}{\pi m} = c_m \sinh\left(\frac{m\pi L_y}{L_x}\right) \frac{L_x}{2}, \quad m = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

- So: 
$$c_m = \frac{4\Phi_0}{\pi m \sinh\left(\frac{m\pi L_y}{L_x}\right)}, \quad m = 1, 3, 5, \dots$$

# Solution of Laplace's equation

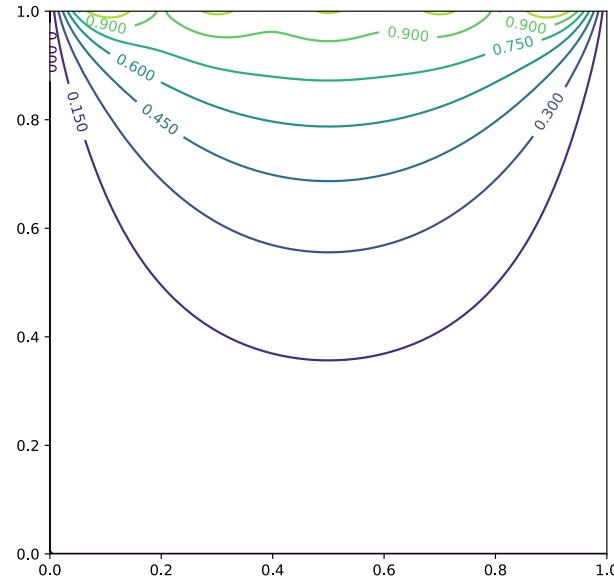
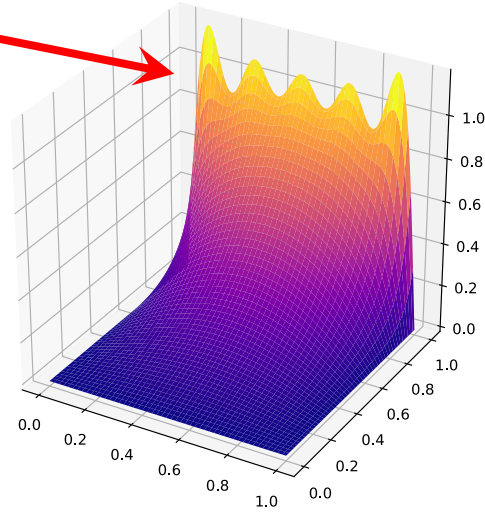
- Our final solution of Laplace's equation with our chosen boundary conditions:

$$\Phi(x, y) = \Phi_0 \sum_{n=1,3,5,\dots}^{\infty} \frac{4}{\pi n} \sin\left(\frac{n\pi x}{L_x}\right) \frac{\sinh\left(\frac{n\pi y}{L_x}\right)}{\sinh\left(\frac{n\pi L_y}{L_x}\right)}$$

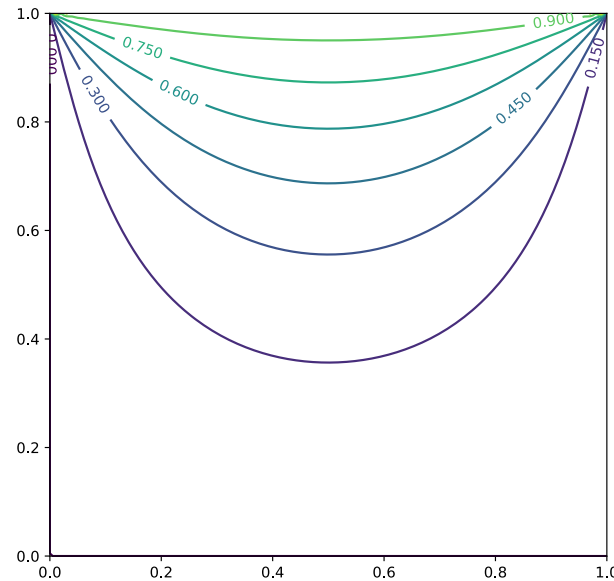
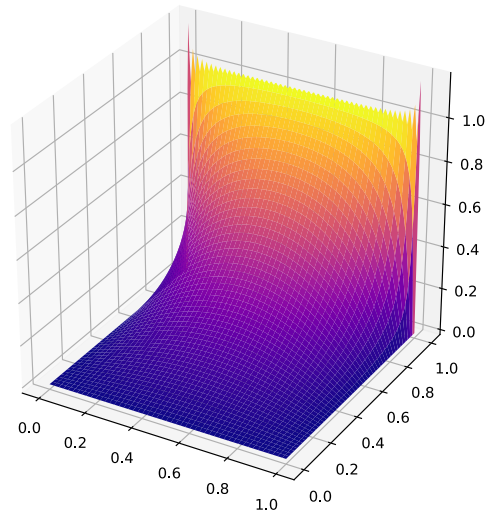
# Analytical solution to Laplace equation

“Gibbs phenomenon,”  
oscillations of Fourier series for  
discontinuous function

5 terms in the sum:



50 terms in the sum:



# Numerical solution of the Laplace equation

- To do this, we'll go back to the *diffusion* equation we have solved previously, this time in two spatial dimensions:

$$\frac{\partial T(x, y, t)}{\partial t} = \kappa \left( \frac{\partial^2 T(x, y, t)}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T(x, y, t)}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

- Given an initial temperature profile and stationary boundary conditions, the solution will eventually relax to some steady state:

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} T(x, y, t) = T_s(x, y)$$

- In this state  $\partial T / \partial t = 0$ , so:

$$\frac{\partial^2 T_s}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T_s}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

- We can think of the Laplace equation as the steady-state of the diffusion equation

# Relaxation methods

- Methods based on this physical intuition are called relaxation methods
- We can use the FTCS method that we have used previously for the diffusion equation
- Start with the 2D “diffusion” equation:

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

Remember, solving an electrostatic problem, so  $\Phi$  does not actually have time dependence

Will drop out later



# Relaxation methods

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- We can use the FTCS method that we have used previously for the diffusion equation
- Start with the 2D “diffusion” equation:

$$\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial t} = \mu \left( \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \Phi}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

- Discretize:

$$\begin{aligned} \Phi_{i,j}^{n+1} = & \Phi_{i,j}^n + \frac{\mu\tau}{h_x^2} (\Phi_{i+1,j}^n + \Phi_{i-1,j}^n - 2\Phi_{i,j}^n) \\ & + \frac{\mu\tau}{h_y^2} (\Phi_{i,j+1}^n + \Phi_{i,j-1}^n - 2\Phi_{i,j}^n) \end{aligned}$$

- $n$  here is not really time, more an improved guess for the solution

# Jacobi relaxation method

- Recall that FTCS is stable for  $\mu\tau/h^2 \leq 1/2$

- In 2D the stability criteria is :

$$\frac{\mu\tau}{h_x^2} + \frac{\mu\tau}{h_y^2} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

- If  $h_x = h_y = h$ , then the criterion is

$$\frac{\mu\tau}{h^2} \leq \frac{1}{4}$$

- Since we want to take  $n$  to infinity, we choose the largest timestep:

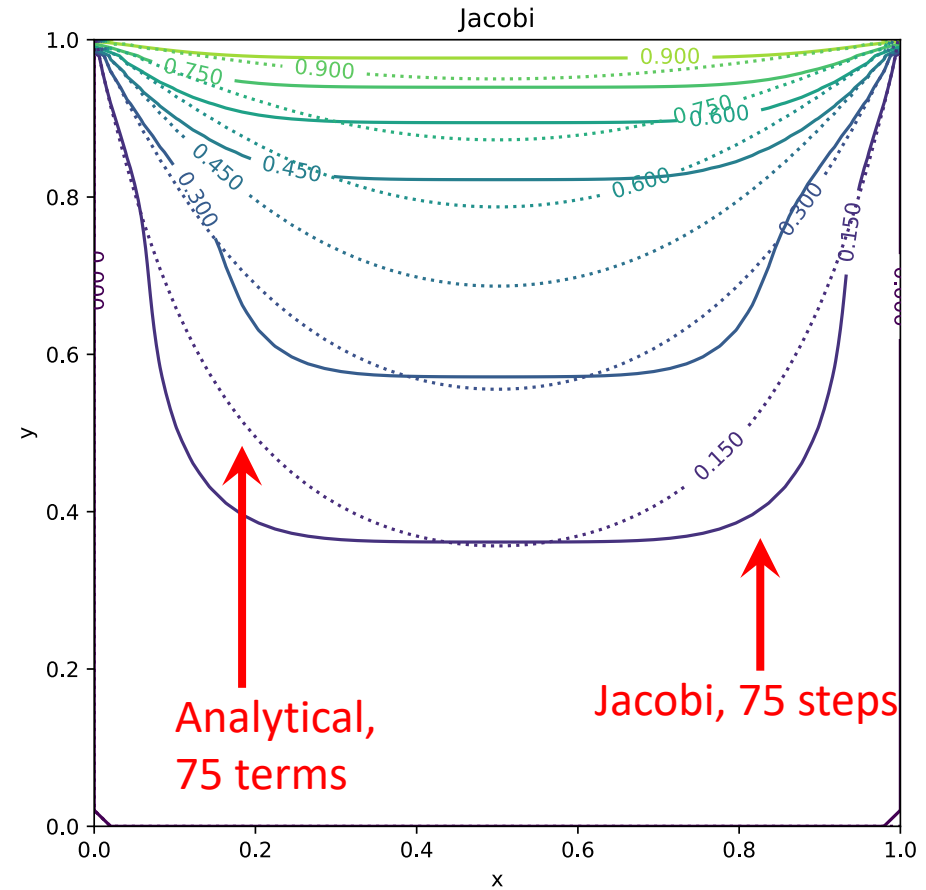
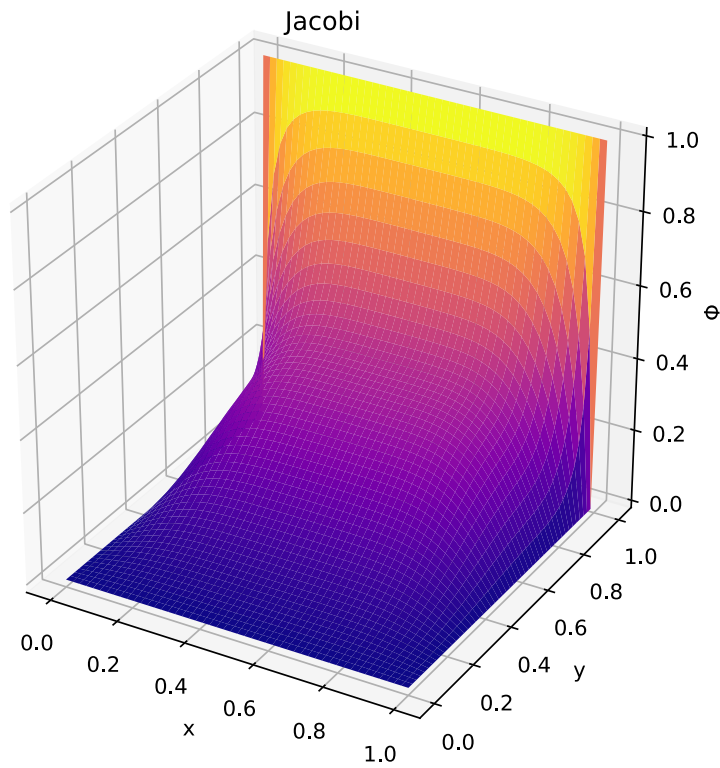
$$\Phi_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} (\Phi_{i+1,j}^n + \Phi_{i-1,j}^n + \Phi_{i,j+1}^n + \Phi_{i,j-1}^n)$$

# Jacobi method for Laplace equation

$$\Phi_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} (\Phi_{i+1,j}^n + \Phi_{i-1,j}^n + \Phi_{i,j+1}^n + \Phi_{i,j-1}^n)$$

- Note that the  $\mu$  has dropped out
- Involves replacing the value of the potential at a point with the average value of the four nearest neighbors
  - Discrete version of mean-value theorem for the electrostatic potential
- This equation is for the interior points (exterior are set by boundary conditions)
- Simple to generalize for Poisson equation

# Jacobi method for Laplace equation



# Gauss-Seidel and simultaneous overrelaxation

- **Gauss-Seidel**: We can improve the convergence over the Jacobi method by using updated values of the potential as they are calculated:

$$\Phi_{i,j}^{n+1} = \frac{1}{4} (\Phi_{i+1,j}^n + \Phi_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + \Phi_{i,j+1}^n + \Phi_{i,j-1}^{n+1})$$

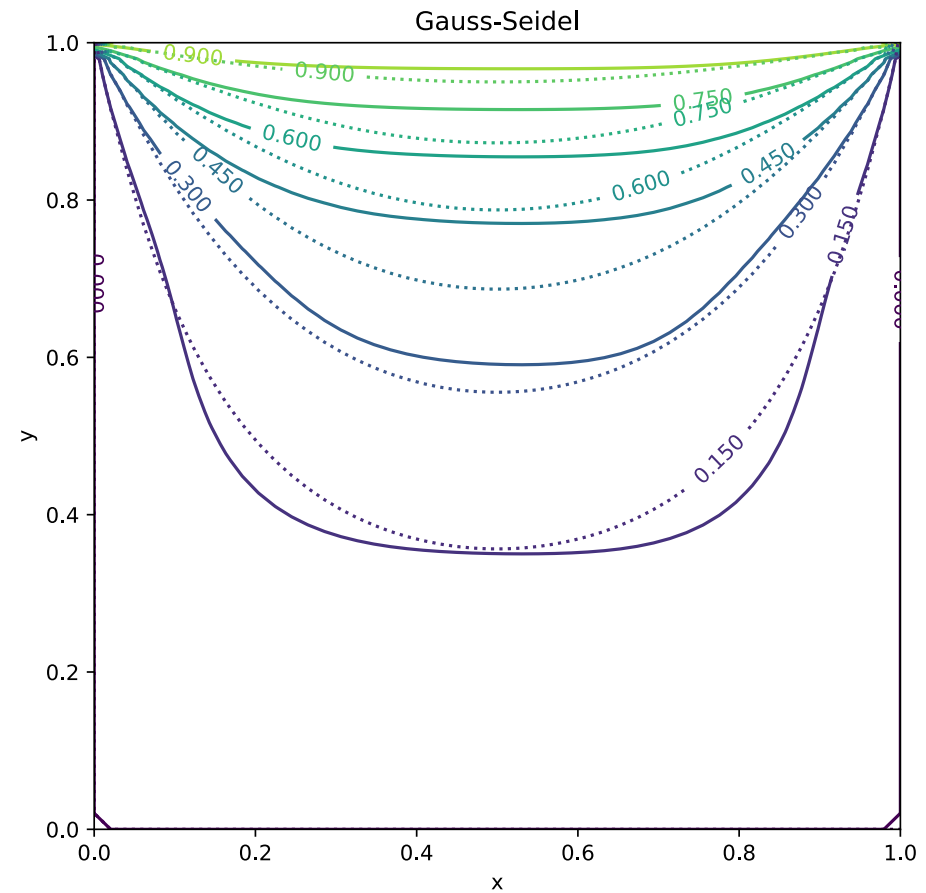
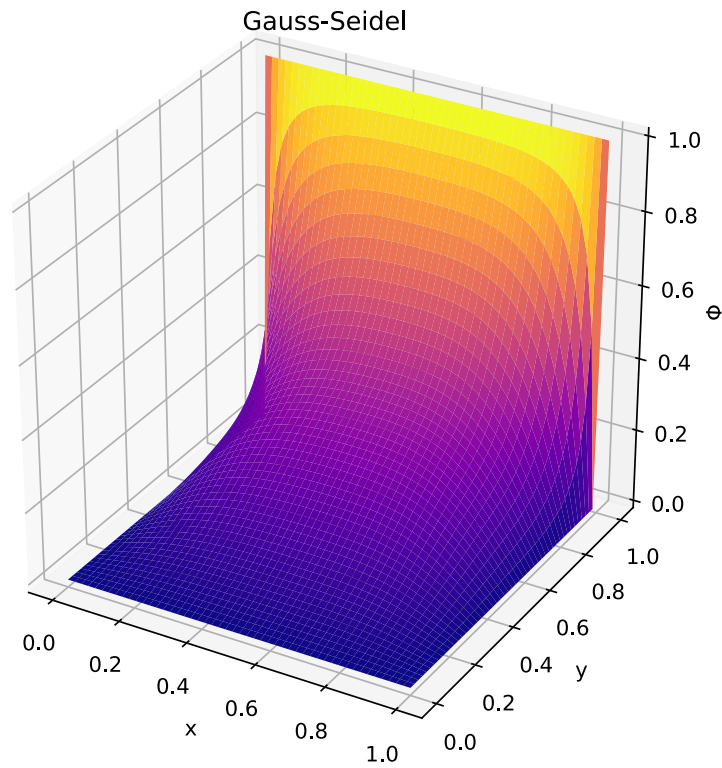
- **Simultaneous overrelaxation**: Choose a mixing parameter  $\omega$ :

$$\Phi_{i,j}^{n+1} = (1 - \omega) \Phi_{i,j}^n + \frac{\omega}{4} (\Phi_{i+1,j}^n + \Phi_{i-1,j}^{n+1} + \Phi_{i,j+1}^n + \Phi_{i,j-1}^{n+1})$$

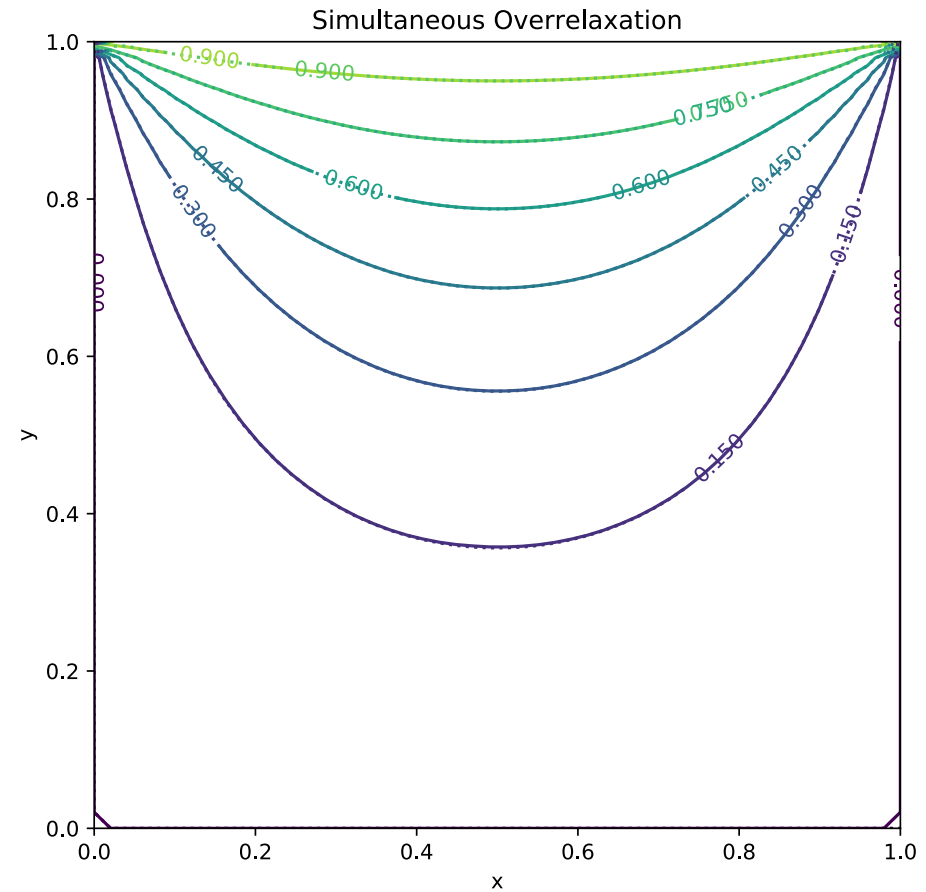
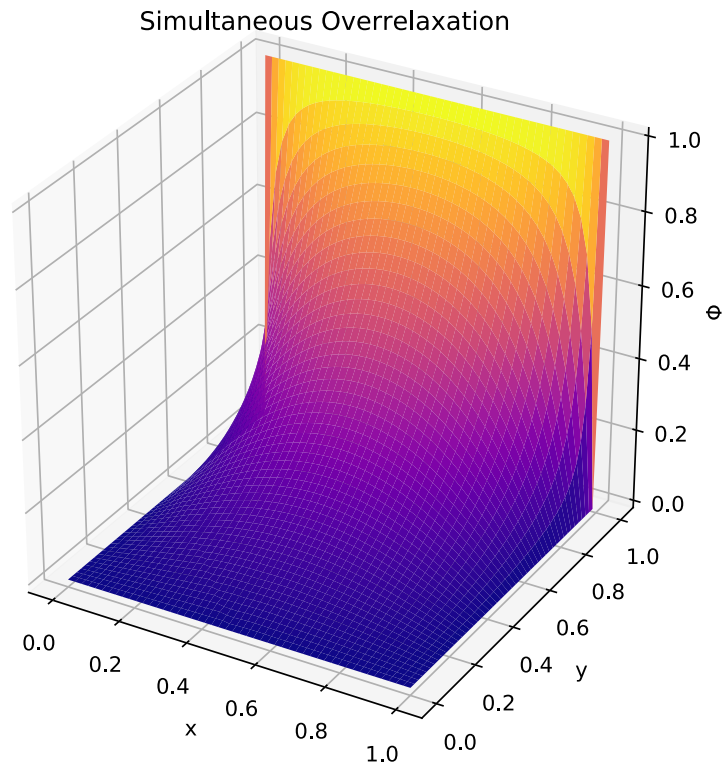
- $\omega < 1$  slows convergence,  $\omega > 2$  is unstable
- Often chosen by trial and error
- E.g., for a square geometry with equal discretization, often a good choice:

$$\omega_{\text{opt}} = \frac{2}{1 + \sin(\pi/N)}$$

# Gauss-Seidel for Laplace equation



# Simultaneous overrelaxation for Laplace eq.



# The iterative methods discussed here are the same as we used to solve linear systems

- Can interpret  $\Phi$  as a vector, so are solving  $\mathbf{A}\Phi=\mathbf{b}$
- Going back to our initial discretization of the Laplace equation (for  $h_x=h_y$ ):

$$\frac{1}{h^2} (\Phi_{i+1,j}^n + \Phi_{i-1,j}^n + \Phi_{i,j+1}^n + \Phi_{i,j-1}^n - 4\Phi_{i,j}^n) = 0$$

- Note that  $\mathbf{A}$  is a banded matrix with 4's on the diagonal, 1's on off-diagonal elements
- This is when the Jacobi method is guaranteed to be accurate (diagonally dominated)!
- Same holds for Gauss-Seidel and SOR



# Recall: Jacobi iterative method

- Starting with a linear system:
$$\begin{aligned} a_{11}x_1 + a_{12}x_2 + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n &= b_1 \\ a_{21}x_1 + a_{22}x_2 + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n &= b_2 \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ &\vdots \\ a_{n1}x_1 + a_{n2}x_2 + \cdots + a_{nn}x_n &= b_n \end{aligned}$$

- Pick initial guesses  $\mathbf{x}^k$ , solve equation  $i$  for  $i$ th unknown to get an improved guess:

$$x_1^{k+1} = -\frac{1}{a_{11}}(a_{12}x_1^k + a_{13}x_2^k + \cdots + a_{1n}x_n^k - b_1)$$

$$x_2^{k+1} = -\frac{1}{a_{22}}(a_{21}x_1^k + a_{23}x_2^k + \cdots + a_{2n}x_n^k - b_2)$$

$$\vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots \qquad \qquad \qquad \vdots$$

$$x_n^{k+1} = -\frac{1}{a_{nn}}(a_{n1}x_1^k + a_{n2}x_2^k + \cdots + a_{n,n-1}x_{n-1}^k - b_n)$$

# Recall: Jacobi iterative method

- We can write an element-wise formula for  $\mathbf{x}$ :

$$x_i^{k+1} = \frac{1}{a_{ii}} \left( b_i - \sum_{j \neq i} a_{ij} x_j^k \right)$$

- Or:

$$\mathbf{x}_i^{k+1} = \mathbf{D}^{-1} (\mathbf{b} - (\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{D})\mathbf{x}^k)$$

- Where  $\mathbf{D}$  is a diagonal matrix constructed from the diagonal elements of  $\mathbf{A}$
- Convergence is guaranteed if matrix is diagonally dominant (but works in other cases):

$$a_{ii} > \sum_{j=1, j \neq i}^N |a_{ij}|$$

# After class tasks

- Homework 3 due today Oct. 31
- Homework 4 will be posted soon
  
- Readings
  - Garcia Chapters 7
  - [Mike Zingale's notes on computational hydrodynamics](#)