

## Chapter 5




# Stability

### Finite Difference Method


**Second Session Contents:**

- 1) Von Neumann Method
- 2) Matrix Method for Stability Analysis
- 3) Crank Nicolson Implicit Method
- 4) Neumann Boundary Condition

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## Von Neumann Method



### John von Neumann




**Born:** December 28, 1903,  
Budapest, Hungary

**Died:** February 8, 1957,  
Washington, D.C., United States

**Education:** ETH Zurich

John von Neumann was a Hungarian and later American pure and applied mathematician, physicist, inventor, polymath, and polyglot. He made major contributions to a number of fields, including mathematics, physics, economics, computing, and statistics.

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## Von Neumann Method

$$u_t - \alpha u_{xx} = 0, \quad -\infty < x < +\infty, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad -\infty < x < +\infty$$

Using Fourier series for u function




$$u(x, t) = \hat{u}(t)e^{imx} \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \\ \end{array} \right\} \xrightarrow{\text{FTCS method}} u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n + r(u_{j-1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j+1}^n)$$

$$u(j\Delta x, n\Delta t) = \hat{u}_n e^{imx_j}$$

Which  $\rightarrow r = k\alpha/h^2$

$$\hat{u}_{n+1} e^{imx_j} = \hat{u}_n e^{imx_j} + r\hat{u}_n (e^{imx_{j-1}} - 2e^{imx_j} + e^{imx_{j+1}})$$

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## Von Neumann Method

$$\text{By dividing on } e^{imx_j} \rightarrow \begin{cases} \hat{u}_{n+1} = \hat{u}_n [1 + r(e^{imh} + e^{-imh} - 2)] \\ \text{Which } h = x_{j+1} - x_j = x_j - x_{j-1} \end{cases}$$

$$\rightarrow \hat{u}_{n+1} = \hat{u}_n [1 + r(2 \cos(mh) - 2)]$$

Trigonometric equations  $\hat{u}_{n+1} = \hat{u}_n [1 - 4r \sin^2(mh/2)]$

Amplification factor:  $g = \frac{\hat{u}_{n+1}}{\hat{u}_n}$

In this example:  $g = 1 - 4r \sin^2(mh/2)$

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### Von Neumann Method

Stability condition:  $\left| \frac{\hat{u}_{n+1}}{\hat{u}_n} \right| \leq 1$

For the last example:  $|1 - 4r \sin^2(mh/2)| \leq 1 \implies -2 \leq -4r \implies r \leq \frac{1}{2}$

**The important steps of Von Neumann analysis:**

- The solution of finite difference problem can be assume as the combination of Fourier modes

$$\hat{u}_n e^{imx_j}$$

- Using  $\hat{u}_n e^{imx_j}$  in finite difference equation and finding  $\hat{u}_{n+1} / \hat{u}_n$

- Von Neumann stability condition:  $\left| \frac{\hat{u}_{n+1}}{\hat{u}_n} \right| \leq 1$  for all modes

### Von Neumann Method

**Applications and limitations of Von Neumann method**

- Can be used only for linear equations
- The effect of boundary conditions are not considered in stability analysis
- For PDEs discretization which used two time steps, the stability conditions can be determined by:
  - a) if  $g$  is a real number:  $|g| \leq 1$
  - b) If  $g$  is a complex number:  $|g|^2 \leq 1$
- For PDEs discretization which used three time steps, the Amplification factor is a matrix: for Eigenvalues of this matrix:
  - a) if  $\lambda_i$  is a real number:  $|\lambda_i| \leq 1$
  - b) If  $\lambda_i$  is a complex number:  $|\lambda_i|^2 \leq 1$

### Von Neumann Method

- Can be used for several dimensional equations
- Can be used for system of linear equations ( in this situation, we should consider the maximum amount of eigenvalues as stability criterion)
- Using graphical solutions for stability analysis (in the situations that calculating the Amplification factor is hard)

### Von Neumann Method

**Example 1:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for BTCS method

PDE:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  BTCS method  $u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n + r(u_{j-1}^{n+1} - 2u_j^{n+1} + u_{j+1}^{n+1})$

$$u_j^n = \hat{u}_n e^{imx_j}$$

$$\hat{u}_{n+1} = \hat{u}_n + r\hat{u}_{n+1}(e^{-imh} - 2 + e^{imh})$$

$$g = 1 + rg(2 \cos mh - 2) = 1 - 4rg \sin^2 \frac{mh}{2} \implies g = \frac{1}{1 + 4r \sin^2 \frac{mh}{2}}$$

**Von Neumann Method**

**Example 1:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for BTCS method

$$|g| = \frac{1}{1 + 4r \sin^2\left(\frac{mh}{2}\right)}$$

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**Von Neumann Method**

**Example 2:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for CTCS method

PDE:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  CTCS method  $u_j^{n+1} = u_j^{n-1} + 2r(u_{j-1}^n - 2u_j^n + u_{j+1}^n)$

$$u_j^n = \hat{u}_n e^{imx_j}$$

$$\hat{u}_{n+1} = \hat{u}_{n-1} + 2r\hat{u}_n(e^{-imh} - 2 + e^{imh})$$

$$g = \frac{1}{g} + 2r(2 \cos mh - 2) \rightarrow g = 2r(\cos mh - 1) \pm 2\sqrt{r^2(\cos mh - 1)^2 + 1}$$

$$\xi = 2(\cos mh - 1) \rightarrow g = 2r\xi \pm 2\sqrt{r^2\xi^2 + 1}$$

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**Von Neumann Method**

**Example 2:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for CTCS method

$$|g| = r\xi - \sqrt{r^2\xi^2 + 1}$$

$$|g| = r\xi + \sqrt{r^2\xi^2 + 1}$$

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**Von Neumann Method**

**Example 3:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for Dufort Frankel method

PDE:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$  Dufort Frankel  $u_j^{n+1} = \left(\frac{1-2r}{1+2r}\right)u_j^{n-1} + \frac{2r}{1+2r}(u_{j+1}^n + u_{j-1}^n)$

$$u_j^n = \hat{u}_n e^{imx_j}$$

$$\hat{u}_{n+1} = \left(\frac{1-2r}{1+2r}\right)\hat{u}_{n-1} + \frac{2r}{1+2r}\hat{u}_n(e^{imh} + e^{-imh})$$

$$g^2 - \left[\frac{4r}{1+2r} \cos mh\right]g - \frac{1-2r}{1+2r} = 0 \rightarrow g = \frac{2r \cos mh \pm \sqrt{1 - 4r^2 \sin^2 mh}}{1+2r}$$

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### Von Neumann Method

**Example 3:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for Dufort Frankel method

For small amount of  $\Delta T$ :

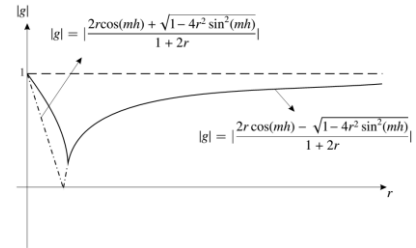
$$4r^2 \sin^2 mh \leq 1 \implies |g| < 1$$

For large amount of  $\Delta T$ :

$$4r^2 \sin^2 mh > 1 \implies |g| = \frac{1 - 2r}{1 + 2r} \text{ which always is less than one}$$

### Von Neumann method

**Example 3:** Applying Von Neumann criteria for Dufort Frankel method



### Matrix Method for Stability Analysis

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq T$$

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, \quad t > 0$$

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 < x < 1$$

Using explicit finite difference method:

$$u_i^n = r u_{i-1}^{n-1} + (1 - 2r) u_i^{n-1} + r u_{i+1}^{n-1}$$

$$u_0 = u_N = 0$$

$$i = 1, 2, \dots, N - 1$$

### Matrix Method for Stability Analysis

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_1^n \\ u_2^n \\ u_3^n \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^n \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1-2r & r & & & \\ r & 1-2r & r & & \\ & r & 1-2r & r & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & r & 1-2r \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1^{n-1} \\ u_2^{n-1} \\ u_3^{n-1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^{n-1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Or  $\vec{u}^n = A \vec{u}^{n-1}$  which  $\vec{u}$  column matrix and A is  $(N - 1) \times (N - 1)$  matrix

$$\vec{u}^n = A \vec{u}^{n-1} = A(A \vec{u}^{n-2}) = \dots = A^n(\vec{u}^0)$$

Which  $\vec{u}^0 = \{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_{N-1}\}^T$  initial value vector

**Matrix Method for Stability Analysis**

If error is defined at each point along x axis at t=0

Replacing  $\vec{u}^n$  by  $(\vec{u}^n)^*$

$$(\vec{u}^1)^* = A(\vec{u}^0)^*, \quad (\vec{u}^2)^* = A(\vec{u}^1)^* = A^2(\vec{u}^0)^*$$

And ...

$$(\vec{u}^n)^* = A^n(\vec{u}^0)^*$$

Error vector can be defined as:

$$\vec{e}^1 = \vec{u}^1 - \vec{u}^{1*}$$

Therefore:

$$\vec{e}^n = \vec{u}^n - (\vec{u}^n)^* = A^n(\vec{u}^0 - (\vec{u}^0)^*) = A^n \vec{e}^0$$

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**Matrix Method for Stability Analysis**

$$\vec{e}^n = \vec{u}^n - (\vec{u}^n)^* = A^n(\vec{u}^0 - (\vec{u}^0)^*) = A^n \vec{e}^0$$

The error propagation formula is the same as  $u$

- Based on superposition principle in linear problems, we can only study the behavior of one error
- A finite-difference method is stable if  $\vec{e}^n$  = limited values  $n \rightarrow \infty$
- It was shown that matrix  $A$  has  $N-1$  eigenvector. Therefore, the error vector can be determined by  $N-1$  eigenvector as follow

$$\vec{e}^0 = \sum_{k=1}^{N-1} C_k \vec{V}_k$$

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**Matrix Method for Stability Analysis**

$$\vec{e}^1 = A\vec{e}^0 = A \sum C_k \vec{V}_k = \sum C_k A\vec{V}_k \quad A\vec{V}_k = \lambda_k \vec{V}_k$$

$$\vec{e}^1 = \sum C_k \lambda_k \vec{V}_k$$

$$\vec{e}^2 = \sum C_k \lambda_k^2 \vec{V}_k$$

$$\vec{e}^n = \sum C_k \lambda_k^n \vec{V}_k$$

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**Matrix Method for Stability Analysis**

$$\vec{e}^1 = A\vec{e}^0 = A \sum C_k \vec{V}_k = \sum C_k A\vec{V}_k \quad A\vec{V}_k = \lambda_k \vec{V}_k$$

$$\vec{e}^1 = \sum C_k \lambda_k \vec{V}_k$$

$$\vec{e}^2 = \sum C_k \lambda_k^2 \vec{V}_k$$

$$\vec{e}^n = \sum C_k \lambda_k^n \vec{V}_k \rightarrow \lambda_k = 1 - 4r \sin^2 \frac{k\pi}{2N}$$

$$\left| 1 - 4r \sin^2 \frac{k\pi}{2N} \right| \leq 1 \rightarrow r \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

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**Example**

$$u_i^{n+1} = Au_i^n \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} 1+r & r & 0 \\ 0 & 1+r & r \\ -r & 0 & 1+r \end{pmatrix} \quad r = \Delta t / \Delta x$$

$$|A - \lambda I| = 0$$

$$(1+r-\lambda)^3 - r^3 = 0 \quad \begin{cases} \lambda_1 = 1 \\ \lambda_{2,3} = \frac{(2+3r) \pm ir\sqrt{3}}{2} \end{cases}$$

$|\lambda| > 1$  for any  $r \rightarrow$  **The method is not stable**

**Stability Analysis of Crank Nicolson Method**

$$\begin{bmatrix} (2+2r) & -r & & & & \\ -r & (2+2r) & -r & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & -r(2+2r) & -r & \\ & & & -r & (2+2r) & \\ & & & & & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & r & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & & & r(2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & & r & (2-2r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1^{n+1} \\ u_2^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (2-2r) & r & & & & \\ r & (2-2r) & r & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & r(2-2r) & r & \\ & & & r & (2-2r) & \\ & & & & & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & r & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & & & r(2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & & r & (2-2r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1^n \\ u_2^n \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^n \end{bmatrix}$$

**Stability Analysis of Crank Nicolson Method**

$$\begin{bmatrix} (2+2r) & -r & & & & \\ -r & (2+2r) & -r & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & -r(2+2r) & -r & \\ & & & -r & (2+2r) & \\ & & & & & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & r & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & & & r(2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & & r & (2-2r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1^{n+1} \\ u_2^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} (2-2r) & r & & & & \\ r & (2-2r) & r & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & r(2-2r) & r & \\ & & & r & (2-2r) & \\ & & & & & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & r & (2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & \ddots & \ddots \\ & & & & & & & r(2-2r) & r \\ & & & & & & & r & (2-2r) \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1^n \\ u_2^n \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_{N-1}^n \end{bmatrix}$$

$$(2I - rB)u^{n+1} = (2I + rB)u^n$$

$$u^{n+1} = (2I - rB)^{-1}(2I + rB)u^n$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} -2 & 1 & & & & \\ 1 & -2 & 1 & & & \\ & & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & 1 & -2 & 1 \\ & & & & 1 & -2 \end{bmatrix}$$

**Stability Analysis of Crank Nicolson Method**

$$u^{n+1} = (2I - rB)^{-1}(2I + rB)u^n$$

$$(2I - rB)^{-1}(2I + rB) = A$$

$$\lambda_k = \frac{2 - 4r \sin^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{2N}\right)}{2 + 4r \sin^2\left(\frac{k\pi}{2N}\right)} \quad (k = 1, 2, \dots, N-1)$$

$|\lambda_k| < 1$  for any  $r \rightarrow$  **The method is unconditionally stable**

**Example**

$$(2I - rB)u^{n+1} = (2I + rB)u^n = \{4I - (2I - rB)\}u^n$$

$$Cu^{n+1} = (4I - C)u^n$$

$$u^{n+1} = (4C^{-1} - I)u^n$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} (2+2r) & -r & & & \\ -r & (2+2r) & -r & & \\ & \dots & \dots & \dots & \\ & & & -r(2+2r) & -r \\ & & & -r & (2+2r) \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Example**

$$(2I - rB)u^{n+1} = (2I + rB)u^n = \{4I - (2I - rB)\}u^n$$

$$Cu^{n+1} = (4I - C)u^n$$

$$u^{n+1} = (4C^{-1} - I)u^n$$

$$\left| \frac{4}{\lambda} - 1 \right| \leq 1$$

$$\lambda \geq 2$$

Appendix  $|\lambda - 2 - 2r| \leq 2r$   
 $-2r \leq \lambda - 2 - 2r \leq 2r$   
 $2 \leq \lambda \leq 2 + 4r \rightarrow$  **unconditionally stable**

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**Stability Analysis of Neumann Boundary Condition**

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < 1$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \begin{cases} h_1(u - v_1) & x = 0 \quad t \geq 0 \\ h_2(v_2 - u) & x = 1 \quad t \geq 0 \end{cases} \quad h_1, h_2, v_1, v_2 = const$$

$$h_1, h_2 > 0$$

$$\frac{u_1^j - u_{-1}^j}{2\Delta x} = h_1(u_0^j - v_1) \quad \text{Boundary condition}$$

$$\frac{u_{N+1}^j - u_{N-1}^j}{2\Delta x} = -h_2(u_N^j - v_2) \quad (N\Delta x = 1)$$

$$u_i^{j+1} = ru_{i-1}^j + (1 - 2r)u_i^j + ru_{i+1}^j$$

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**Stability Analysis of Neumann Boundary Condition**

$$u_i^{j+1} = ru_{i-1}^j + (1 - 2r)u_i^j + ru_{i+1}^j \quad \text{By omitting } u_{N+1}^j \text{ and } u_{-1}^j$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_0^{j+1} \\ u_1^{j+1} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_N^{j+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} [1 - 2r(1 + h_1\Delta x)] & 2r & & & \\ & r & (1 - 2r) & r & \\ & & \dots & \dots & \dots \\ & & & r & (1 - 2r) & r \\ & & & 2r & [1 - 2r(1 + h_2\Delta x)] \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} u_0^j \\ u_1^j \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_N^j \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2rh_1v_1\Delta x \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 2rh_2v_2\Delta x \end{bmatrix}$$

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**Stability Analysis of Neumann Boundary Condition**

$u_i^{j+1} = ru_{i-1}^j + (1 - 2r)u_i^j + ru_{i+1}^j$  By omitting  $u_{N+1}^j$  and  $u_{-1}^j$

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_0^{j+1} \\ u_1^{j+1} \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_N^{j+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \{1-2r(1+h_1\Delta x)\} & 2r & & & \\ r & (1-2r) & r & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & r & (1-2r) & r \\ & & & 2r & \{1-2r(1+h_2\Delta x)\} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{bmatrix} u_0^j \\ u_1^j \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ u_N^j \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 2rh_1v_1\Delta x \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ \vdots \\ 2rh_2v_2\Delta x \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix determines the error propagation

**Stability Analysis of Neumann Boundary Condition**

Based on Brauer Theorem

$$|\lambda - \{1 - 2r(1 + h_1\Delta x)\}| \leq 2r$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1 - 2r(2 + h_1\Delta x) \quad \lambda_2 = 1 - 2rh_1\Delta x$$

$$|\lambda_1| \leq 1 \quad |\lambda_2| \leq 1$$

$$r \leq \frac{1}{2 + h_1\Delta x} \quad r \leq \frac{1}{h_1\Delta x}$$

**Stability Analysis of Neumann Boundary Condition**

Based on Brauer Theorem

$$|\lambda - \{1 - 2r(1 + h_1\Delta x)\}| \leq 2r$$

$$\lambda_1 = 1 - 2r(2 + h_1\Delta x) \quad \lambda_2 = 1 - 2rh_1\Delta x$$

$$|\lambda_1| \leq 1 \quad |\lambda_2| \leq 1$$

$$r \leq \frac{1}{2 + h_1\Delta x} \quad r \leq \frac{1}{h_1\Delta x}$$

Minimum value

**Stability Analysis of Neumann Boundary Condition**

$$r \leq \frac{1}{2 + h_1\Delta x} \quad r \leq \frac{1}{2 + h_2\Delta x} \quad r \leq \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2 + h_1\Delta x} ; \frac{1}{2 + h_2\Delta x} \right\}$$

$$e_{j+1} = (4B^{-1} - I)e_j$$

$$|\lambda - \{2 + 2r(1 + h_1\Delta x)\}| \leq 2r$$

$$2 + 2rh_1\Delta x \leq \lambda$$

$$\lambda \geq 2$$

$$\lambda \geq 2 + 2rh_2\Delta x$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 2+2r(1+h_1\Delta x) & -2r & & & \\ -r & 2+2r & -r & & \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \\ & & & -r & 2+2r & -r \\ & & & & -2r & 2+2r(1+h_2\Delta x) \end{bmatrix}$$

unconditionally stable