

Truncation Error in Finite Difference

Backward difference in space

$$\left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n \approx \frac{U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x}$$

$$\tau_i^n = \left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n - \frac{U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x}$$

$$U_{i-1}^n = \cancel{U_i^n} - \Delta x \left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n + \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \right|_i^n + O(\Delta x^3)$$

$$\tau_i^n = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \right|_i^n + O(\Delta x^2) = \underline{O(\Delta x)}$$

First Order

Truncation Error in Finite Difference

Central difference in space

$$\left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n \approx \frac{U_{i+1}^n - U_{i-1}^n}{2 \Delta x}$$

$$\tau_i^n = \left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n - \frac{U_{i+1}^n - U_{i-1}^n}{2 \Delta x} + O(\Delta x^4)$$

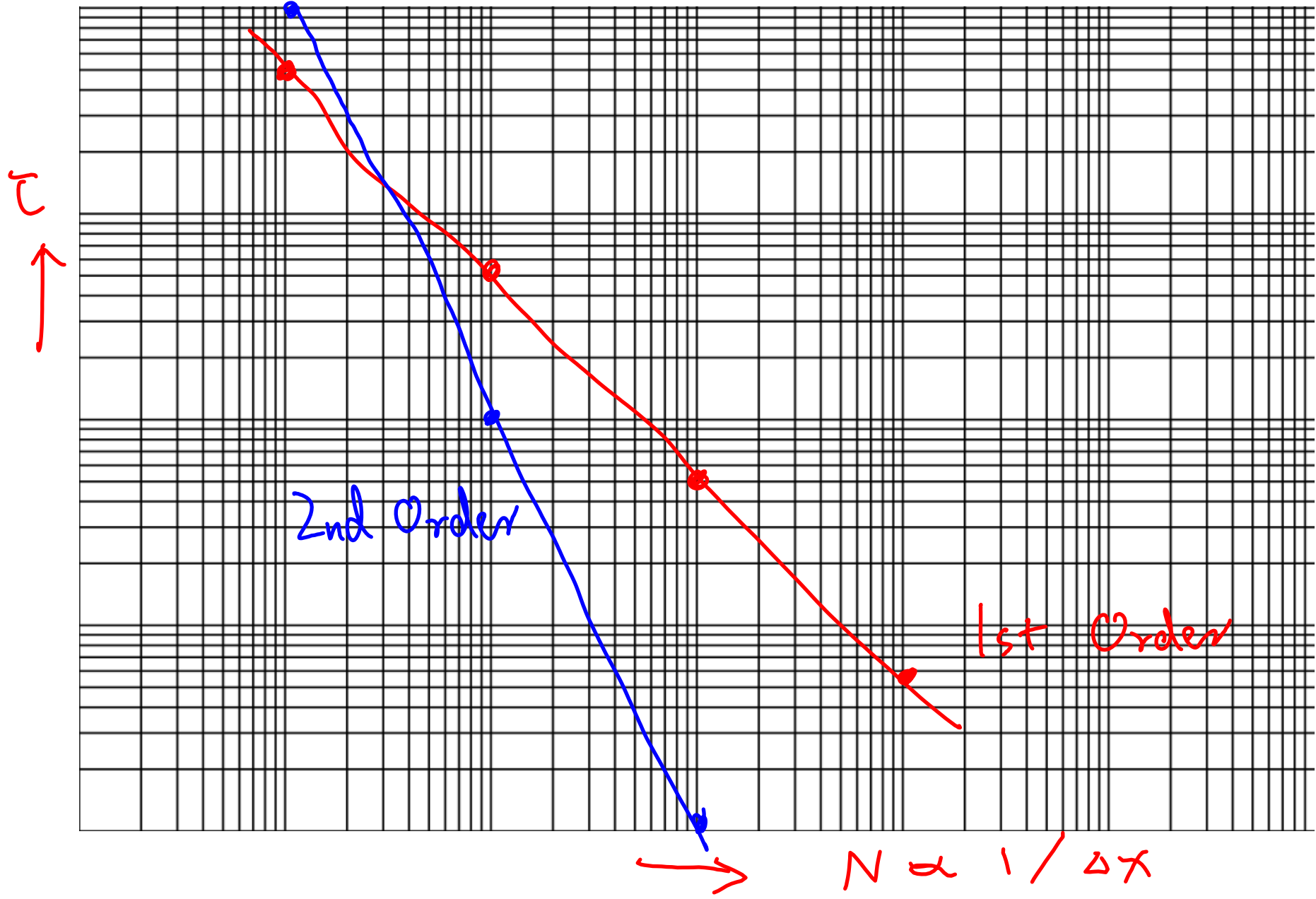
$$U_{i+1}^n = \cancel{U_i^n} + \Delta x \left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n + \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \right|_i^n + \frac{\Delta x^3}{6} \left. \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} \right|_i^n$$

$$U_{i-1}^n = \cancel{U_i^n} - \Delta x \left. \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \right|_i^n + \frac{\Delta x^2}{2} \left. \frac{\partial^2 U}{\partial x^2} \right|_i^n - \frac{\Delta x^3}{6} \left. \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} \right|_i^n$$

$$\tau_i^n = -\frac{\Delta x^2}{6} \left. \frac{\partial^3 U}{\partial x^3} \right|_i^n + O(\Delta x^3) = \underline{O(\Delta x^2)} + O(\Delta x^4)$$

Second Order

Truncation Error in Finite Difference



Error in Finite Difference Solution (Global Error)

$U(x, t)$: exact solution

U_i^n : finite difference solution

$$e_i^n = U_i^n - U(x_i, t_n)$$

$$\|e\|_\infty := \max_{\substack{\text{All } i \\ \text{All } t_n \leq T}} |e_i^n| \quad (L-\infty \text{ norm})$$

A global measure of solution error

$$\|e\| = O(\Delta x^p) + O(\Delta t^q)$$

order of spatial discretization order of time discretization


Consistency, Stability, Convergence

Consistency := $\sum_i^n \xrightarrow{\Delta x \rightarrow 0 \ \& \ \Delta t \rightarrow 0} 0$

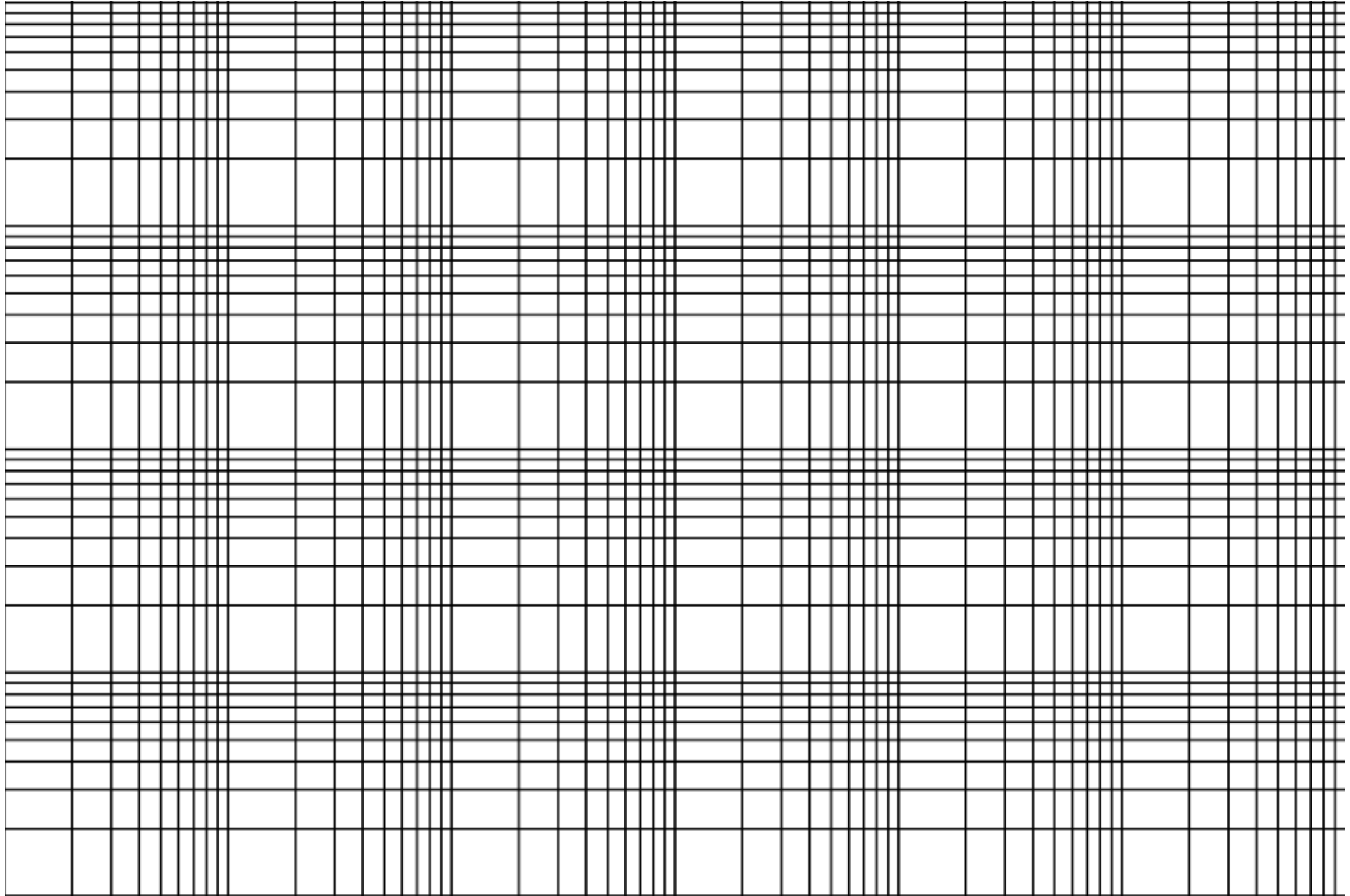
Stability := solution won't diverge as
 $\Delta x \rightarrow 0 \ \& \ \Delta t \rightarrow 0$

(More on this soon)

$\|e\| \xrightarrow{\Delta x \rightarrow 0 \ \& \ \Delta t \rightarrow 0} 0$



Convergence of Finite Difference Solution



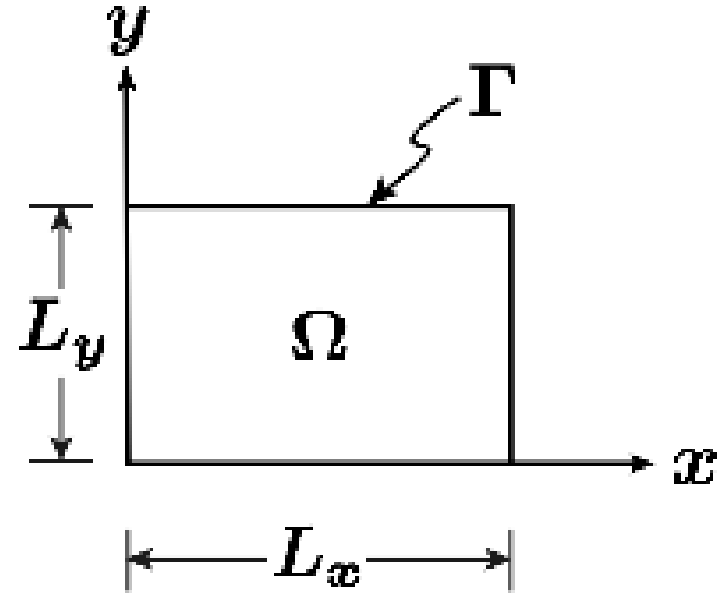
Finite Difference for Multi-D Partial Differential Equations

Example: Advection in 2D:

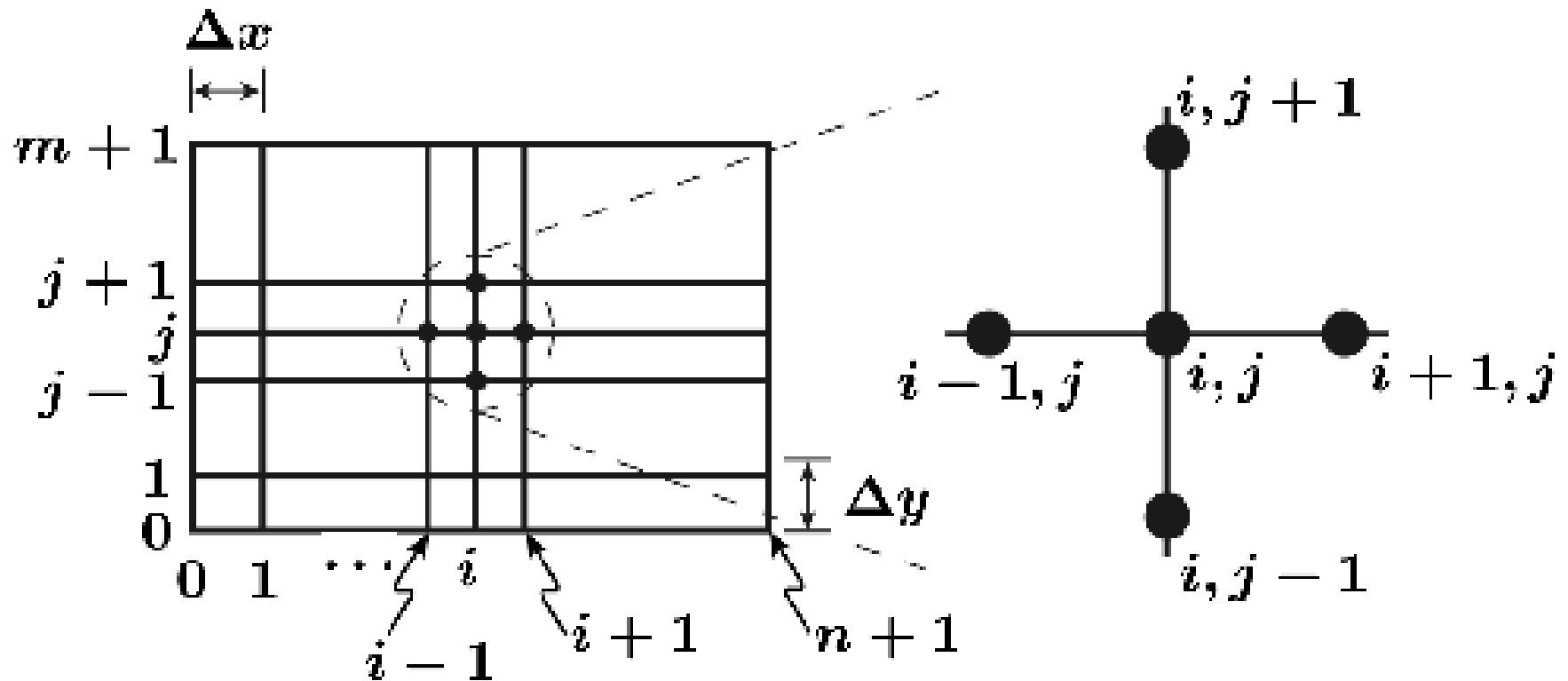
$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + c_x \frac{\partial U}{\partial x} + c_y \frac{\partial U}{\partial y} = 0$$

Conservation Law:

$$\vec{F} = (c_x U, c_y U)$$

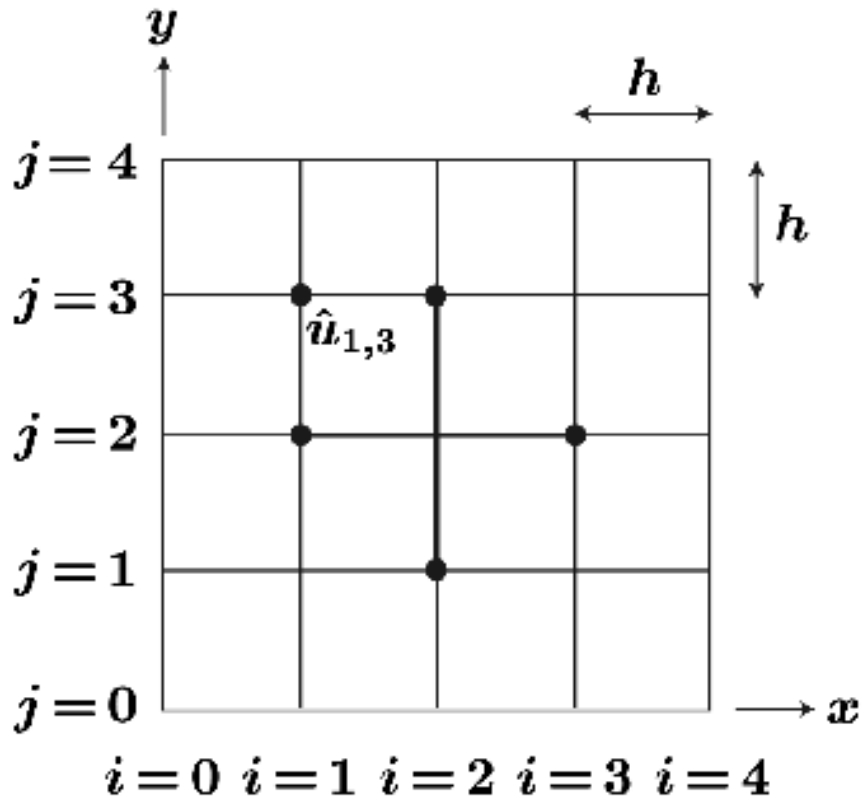


FD Discretization of in 2D



$$U_{\tilde{i}, \tilde{j}}^n \approx V(x_{\tilde{i}}, y_{\tilde{j}}, t_n)$$

FD for 2D Advection Equation



Central-in-space

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \Big|_{i,j} \approx \frac{U_{i,j} - U_{i-1,j}}{\Delta x}$$

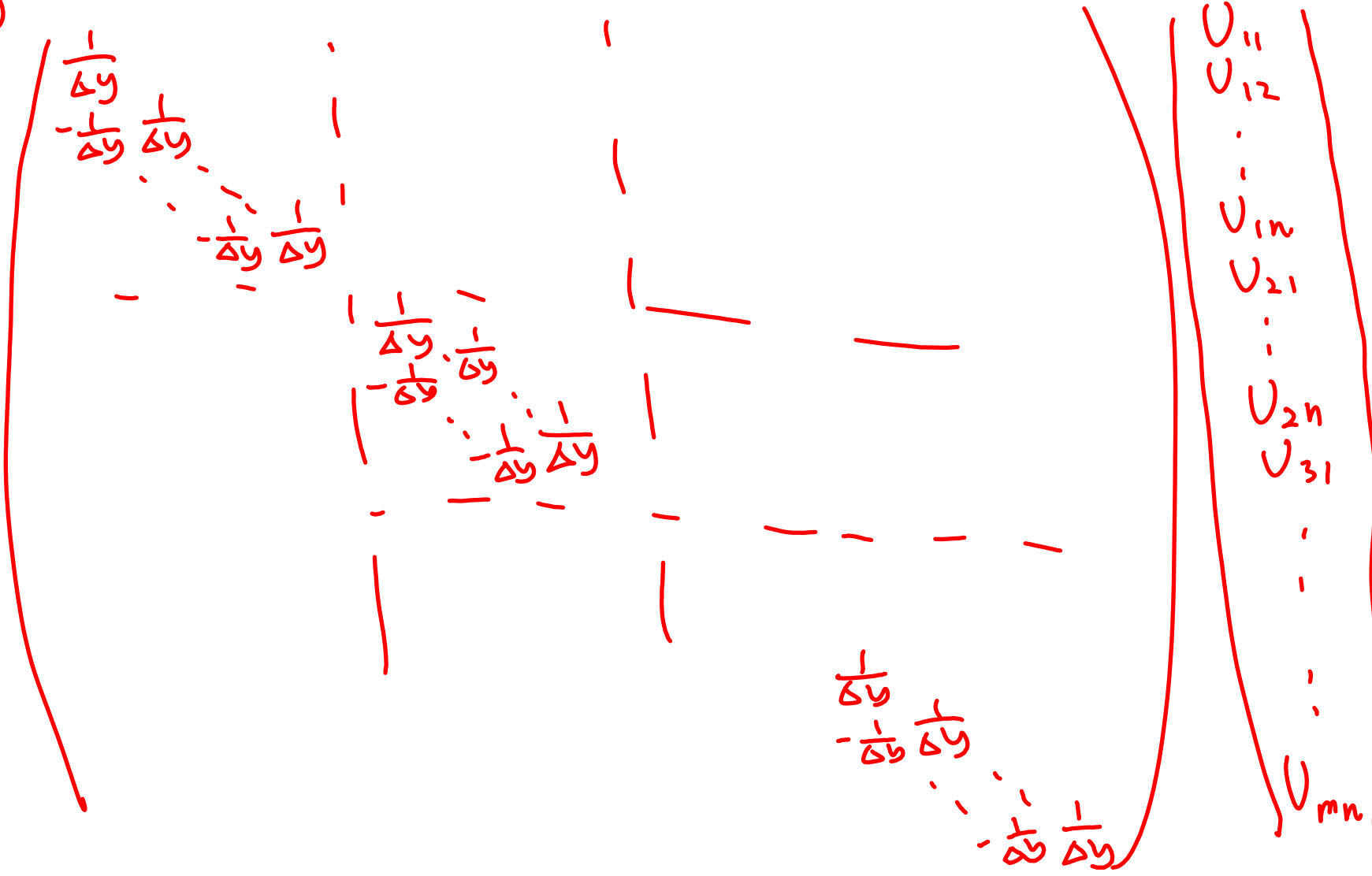
$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \Big|_{i,j} \approx \frac{U_{i,j} - U_{i,j-1}}{\Delta y}$$

Backward-in-space

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial x} \Big|_{i,j} \approx \frac{U_{i+1,j} - U_{i-1,j}}{2\Delta x}$$

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial y} \Big|_{i,j} \approx \frac{U_{i,j+1} - U_{i,j-1}}{2\Delta y}$$

25/5



- U_{11}
- U_{12}
- \vdots
- U_{1n}
- U_{21}
- \vdots
- U_{2n}
- U_{31}
- \vdots
- \vdots
- \vdots
- U_{mn}

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

16.90 Computational Methods in Aerospace Engineering
Spring 2014

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.