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One approach is to use the **leapfrog scheme** for the **oscillation term** and the **forward scheme** for the **friction term**:

$$U^{n+1} = U^{n-1} + 2\Delta t(i\omega U^n - \kappa U^{n-1}) .$$

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$$U^{n+1} = U^{n-1} + 2\Delta t(i\omega U^n - \kappa U^{n-1}) .$$

We can show that this is stable provided

$$(2\kappa\Delta t + \omega^2\Delta t^2) \leq 1 .$$

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The Navier-Stokes equations are

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{V} + 2\boldsymbol{\Omega} \times \mathbf{V} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla p = \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{V} + \mathbf{g}.$$

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NWP models also use various filtering processes to limit spatial and temporal noise.

Some of these represent diffusive **physical processes**. Others are just **numerical damping**, to prevent spurious noise.

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We may assume  $\bar{u} < 100 \text{ m s}^{-1}$  and  $\sqrt{gH} < 300 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ , so a safe maximum value for  $c$  is  $400 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ .

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In the **two-dimensional case**, the stability criterion is more stringent: we need to choose a time step that is  **$\sqrt{2}$  times smaller** than that permitted in the one-dimensional case.

# Implicit Schemes

For the simple **oscillation equation**

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = i\omega U$$

the (centered) implicit approximation is

$$\frac{U^{n+1} - U^n}{\Delta t} = i\omega \left( \frac{U^{n+1} + U^n}{2} \right).$$

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This is second-order accurate and unconditionally stable:

$$U^{n+1} = \rho U^n \quad \text{where} \quad \rho = \left( \frac{1 + \frac{1}{2}i\omega\Delta t}{1 - \frac{1}{2}i\omega\Delta t} \right)$$



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**Exercise:** Verify that  $\rho$  is unimodular:  $|\rho| = 1$ .

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Formally, we separate the terms into two groups.

Thus, the equation

$$\frac{du}{dt} = F(u) = F_1(u) + F_2(u)$$

is discretised by something like

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Schemes of this sort are pivotal in modern NWP models, due to their excellent stability properties.

# Distortion of the Phase Speed

We consider the simple 1-D advection equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0,$$

where  $u(x, t)$  depends on both  $x$  and  $t$ .



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We use **centered difference approximations**

$$\left( \frac{U_m^{n+1} - U_m^{n-1}}{2\Delta t} \right) + c \left( \frac{U_{m+1}^n - U_{m-1}^n}{2\Delta x} \right) = 0,$$

in both time and space (CTCS). Here  $U_m^n = U(m\Delta x, n\Delta t)$ .

Again, the CTCS or leapfrog scheme is

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Substituting  $U_m^n$  into the FDE, we find that

$$C = \frac{1}{k\Delta t} \sin^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} \right) \sin k\Delta x \right].$$



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**Exercise:** Verify this expression for  $C$ .

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Thus, the condition for stability of the solution is

$$Le \equiv \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1.$$

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$$Le \equiv \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1 .$$

This non-dimensional parameter is often called the Courant number, but is denoted here as  $Le$  for Lewy, who first discovered this stability criterion.

The above analysis may be repeated for an **implicit discretization** (six-point Crank-Nicholson scheme):

$$\frac{U_m^{n+1} - U_m^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{c}{2} \left( \frac{U_{m+1}^n - U_{m-1}^n}{2\Delta x} + \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_{m-1}^{n+1}}{2\Delta x} \right) = 0.$$



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Then the phase speed  $C$  of the numerical solution is

$$C = \frac{2}{k\Delta t} \tan^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{c\Delta t}{2\Delta x} \right) \sin k\Delta x \right].$$

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**Exercise:** Verify this result. **Hint:** Substitute  $U_m^n = U^0 \exp[ik(m\Delta x - Cn\Delta t)]$  into the equation.

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This equation contains an **inverse tangent** term instead of the **inverse sine** occurring in the leapfrog scheme.

Thus, the numerical phase speed  $C$  is always real, so the scheme is *unconditionally stable*.

It is easily shown that  $C \leq c$  and that  $C \rightarrow \pi/k\Delta t$  as  $c \rightarrow \infty$ .

Thus, the implicit scheme slows down the faster waves.

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## MATLAB Exercise:

- Write a program to evaluate

$$C = \frac{1}{k\Delta t} \sin^{-1} \left[ \left( \frac{c\Delta t}{\Delta x} \right) \sin k\Delta x \right].$$

and determine the behaviour of  $C$  in the limits  $c = 0$  and  $c \rightarrow \infty$ .

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## Hints for MATLAB Exercise.

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Then the relationships can be written:

- $\frac{C}{c} = \frac{1}{\kappa\mu} \sin^{-1}(\mu \sin \kappa)$  for the explicit scheme.
- $\frac{C}{c} = \frac{1}{\kappa\mu} \tan^{-1}\left(\frac{1}{2}\mu \sin \kappa\right)$  for the implicit scheme.

Now there are only two parameters,  $\kappa$  and  $\mu$ .

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Now there are only two parameters,  $\kappa$  and  $\mu$ .

You should plot curves of  $C/c$  as functions of  $\mu$  for a selection of values of  $\kappa$ , say for  $\kappa \in \{0, \frac{\pi}{10}, \frac{2\pi}{10}, \dots, \pi\}$ , with  $\mu$  varying from zero to, say, 10.

## Exercise.

Consider the four-point Crank-Nicholson scheme

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{U_m^{n+1} - U_m^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_{m+1}^n}{\Delta t} \right] + \frac{c}{2} \left[ \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_m^{n+1}}{\Delta x} + \frac{U_{m+1}^n - U_m^n}{\Delta x} \right] = 0$$

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## Hint.

Substitute  $U_m^n = U^0 \exp[ik(m\Delta x - Cn\Delta t)]$  into the equation.

# Implicit Time Schemes

In implicit schemes the advection or diffusion terms are written in terms of the **new time level variables**.

$$\text{PDE: } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\text{FDE: } \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{U_m^{n+1} - U_m^n}{\Delta t} \right) + \left( \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_{m+1}^n}{\Delta t} \right) \right] + c \left[ \alpha \left( \frac{U_{m+1}^n - U_m^n}{\Delta x} \right) + (1 - \alpha) \left( \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_m^{n+1}}{\Delta x} \right) \right] = 0$$

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The factor  $\alpha$  determines the weight of the “old” time values compared with the “new” time values in the FDE.



Using the von Neumann method, we substitute

$$U_m^n = A\rho^n e^{im\kappa} = Ae^{i(m\kappa - n\theta)}$$

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This implies  $\rho \leq 1$  if  $\alpha \leq 0.5$ , i.e., if the new values are given **at least as much weight as the old values.**

Again,

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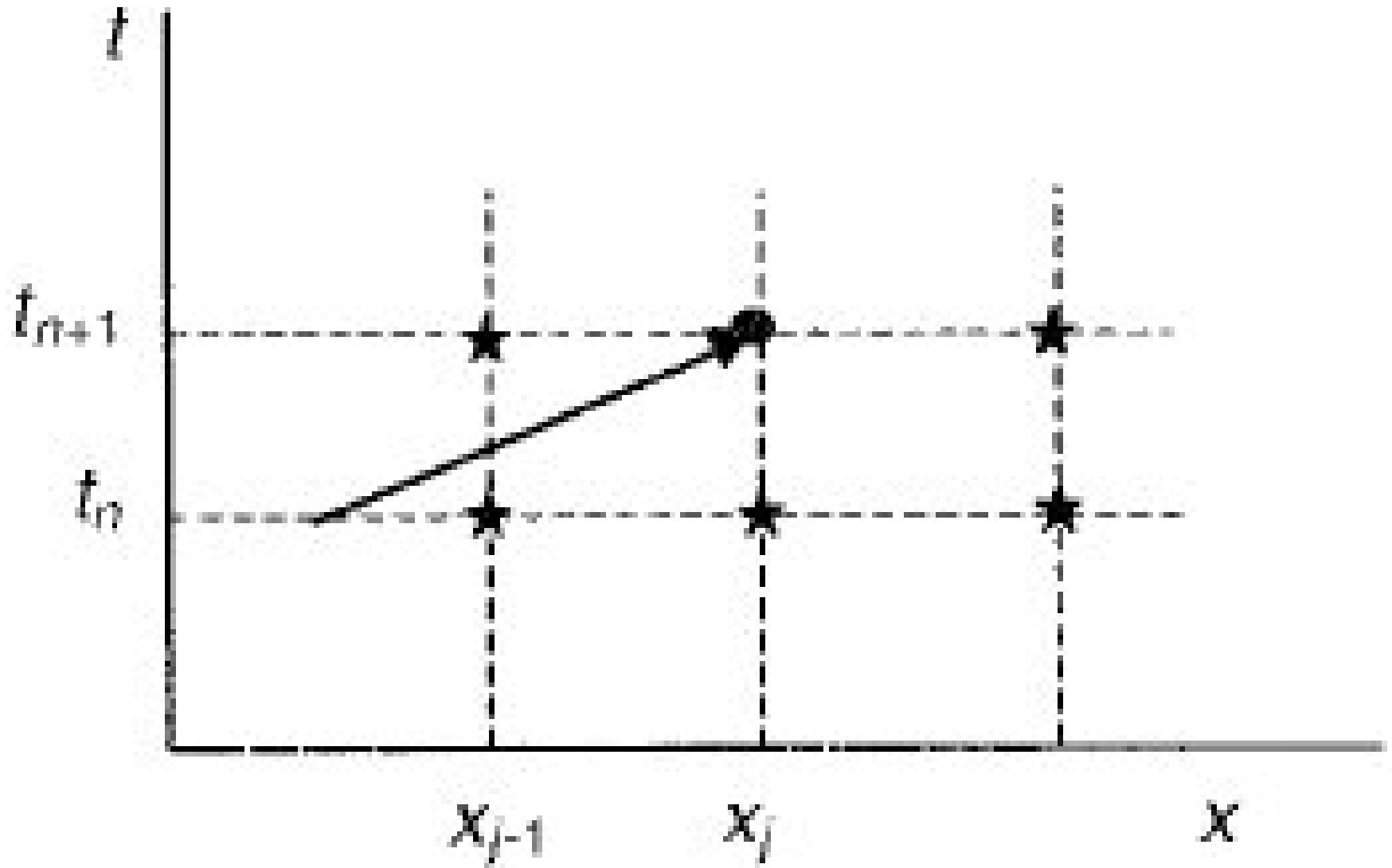
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This property is useful for solving problems such as spuriously growing mountain waves in semi-Lagrangian schemes.



Schematic of an implicit scheme. Note that with the implicit scheme there is no extrapolation.

# Summary I

If we consider a marching equation

$$\frac{dU}{dt} = F(U)$$

explicit methods such as the **forward scheme**

$$\frac{U^{n+1} - U^n}{\Delta t} = F(U^n)$$

or the **leapfrog scheme**

$$\frac{U^{n+1} - U^{n-1}}{2\Delta t} = F(U^n)$$

are either

- **Conditionally stable, or**
- **Absolutely unstable.**

# Summary II

A **fully implicit scheme**

$$\frac{U^{n+1} - U^n}{\Delta t} = F(U^{n+1})$$

and a **centered implicit scheme**

$$\frac{U^{n+1} - U^n}{\Delta t} = F\left(\frac{U^n + U^{n+1}}{2}\right)$$

are **absolutely stable**.

The latter scheme is attractive because it is centered in time, and it can be written with centered space differences, which makes it **second order in space and in time**.

As these schemes have only two time levels, **they have no computational mode**.

Break here

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Two forms of the Crank-Nicholson scheme for the advection scheme are commonly used:

- The four-point C-N scheme:

$$\frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{U_m^{n+1} - U_m^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_{m+1}^n}{\Delta t} \right] + \frac{c}{2} \left[ \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_m^{n+1}}{\Delta x} + \frac{U_{m+1}^n - U_m^n}{\Delta x} \right] = 0$$

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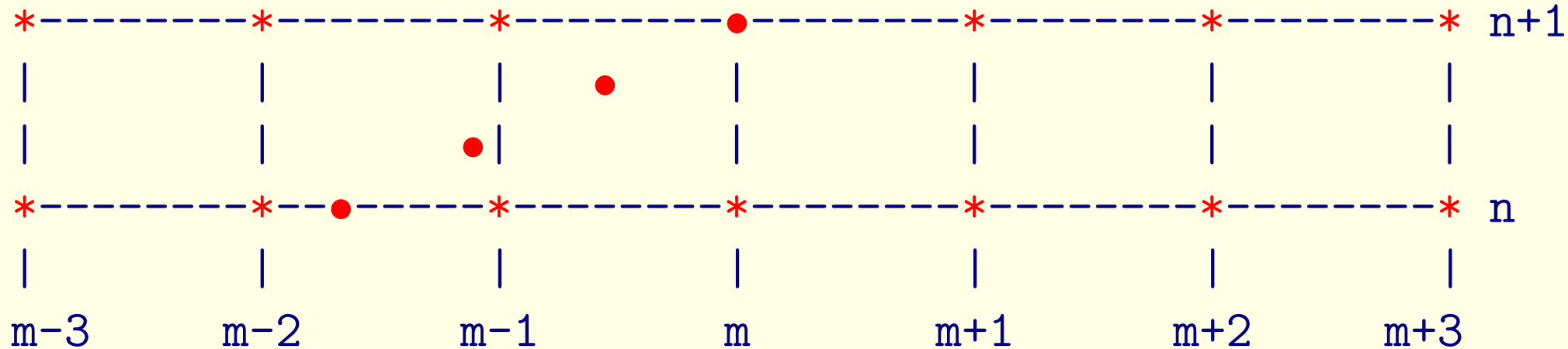
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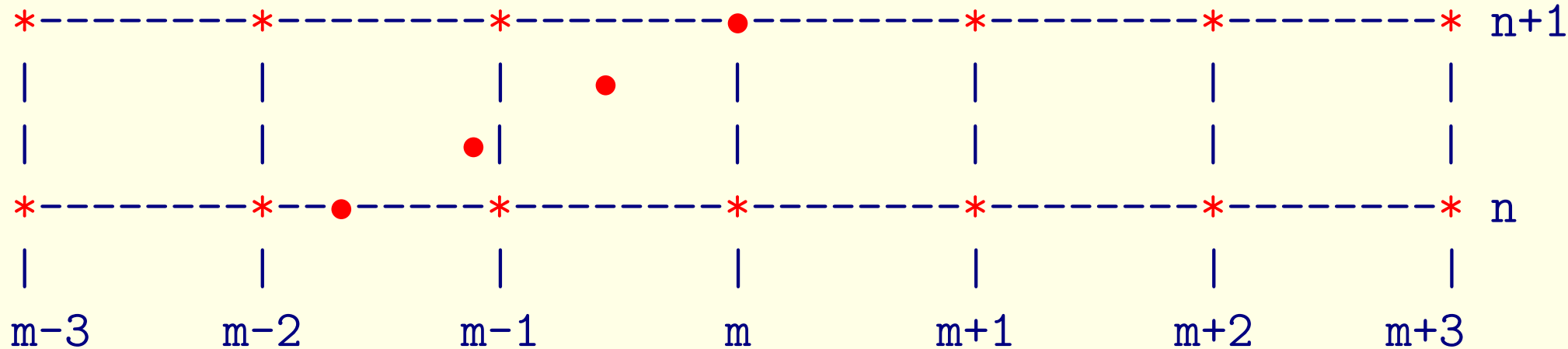
- The six-point C-N scheme:

$$\frac{U_m^{n+1} - U_m^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{c}{2} \left[ \frac{U_{m+1}^{n+1} - U_{m-1}^{n+1}}{2\Delta x} + \frac{U_{m+1}^n - U_{m-1}^n}{2\Delta x} \right] = 0$$

# Domain of Dependence of Implicit Scheme



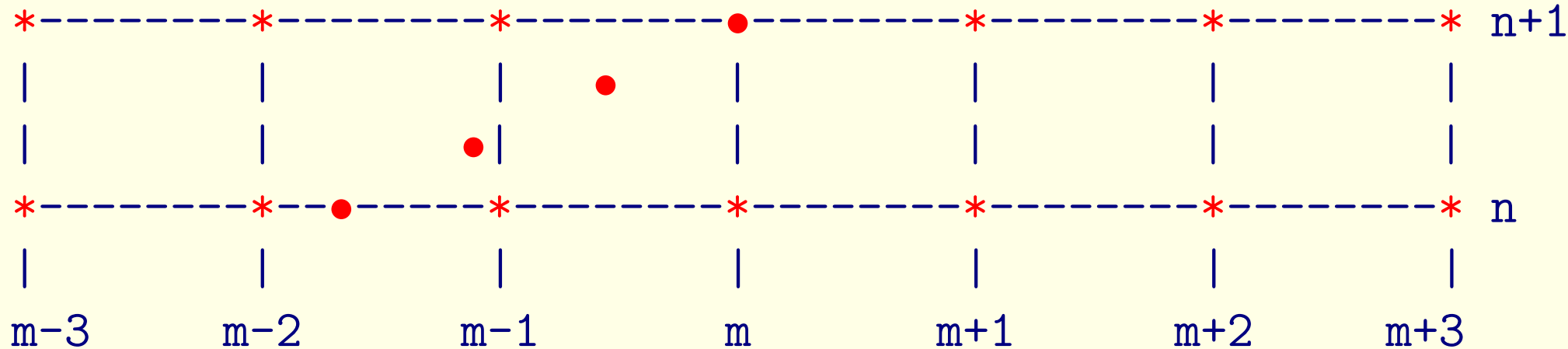
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The value at the point  $m\Delta x$  at time  $(n+1)\Delta t$  depends on **all the points denoted by red asterisks (\*)**.

Thus, the computational domain of dependence surrounds the physical domain of dependence.

This is a **necessary condition for a stable scheme**.

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There are also methods, such as fractional steps (with each spatial direction solved successively), where one space dimension is considered at a time.

These so-called ADI (alternating direction implicit) schemes allow large time steps without a large additional computational cost.

## Example of a Linear System.

The 1-D advection equation on a periodic domain is

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0 \quad u(L, t) = u(0, t)$$

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We can write this in matrix form (with  $\mu = c\Delta t/4\Delta x$ )

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & +\mu & 0 & \dots & -\mu \\ -\mu & 1 & +\mu & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & -\mu & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ +\mu & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_0^{n+1} \\ U_1^{n+1} \\ U_2^{n+1} \\ \vdots \\ U_{M-1}^{n+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -\mu & 0 & \dots & +\mu \\ +\mu & 1 & -\mu & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & +\mu & 1 & \dots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ -\mu & 0 & 0 & \dots & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} U_0^n \\ U_1^n \\ U_2^n \\ \vdots \\ U_{M-1}^n \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $x_M = M\Delta x$  and  $U_M^n = U_0^n$  for all  $n$ .

Symbolically, the equation may be written

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If the non-linear terms are treated implicitly, **we must solve a nonlinear algebraic system** every time step.

This is normally *impractical*.

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**Exercise:** See Notes and Exercises, Kalnay, pp. 87–88.



## Conclusion of §3.2.4