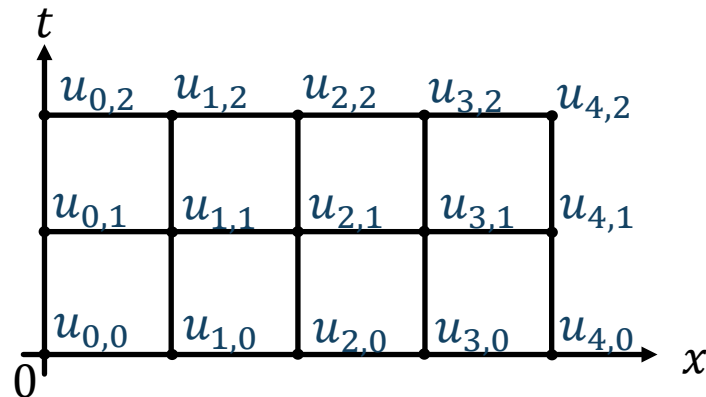


# BMCG 1013

## DIFFERENTIAL EQUATIONS

### FINITE DIFFERENCE METHOD (PARABOLIC EQUATION)



Ser Lee Loh

[slloh@utm.edu.my](mailto:slloh@utm.edu.my)

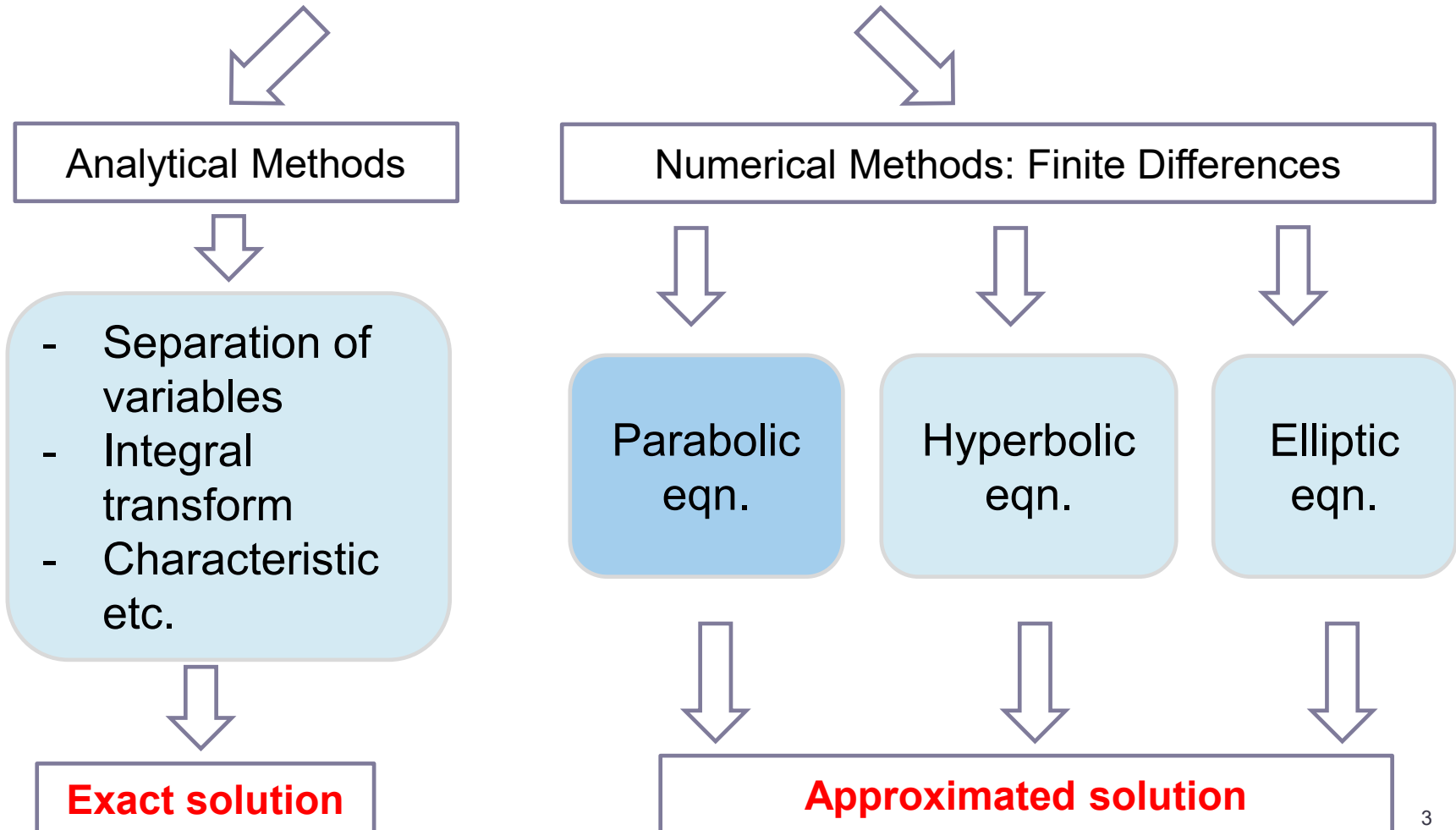
## Lesson Outcomes

---

Upon completion of this lesson, students should be able to:

- apply finite difference method in solving partial differential equations
- solve parabolic equation using finite difference method

## Second Order Linear Partial Differential Equation



## 5.4 Numerical Methods for PDE (Explicit Finite Difference Method)

Why numerical methods are needed?

- Limitation of analytical method: Analytical methods are limited to highly simplified problems in simple geometries with simple thermal conditions.
- A better modeling: There is always a tendency to oversimplify a problem into a mathematical model to ensure an analytical solution. Hence, a mathematical model for a numerical solution may represent the actual problem better.
- Flexibility: Numerical methods suit the needs of engineering problems that requires extensive parametric studies.

## 5.4.1 Difference Formulas

**Forward-Difference Formula:**

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}}{k}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j}}{h}$$

**Backward-Difference Formula:**

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j} - u_{i,j-1}}{k}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j} - u_{i-1,j}}{h}$$

**Central-Difference Formula:**

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j-1}}{2k}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - u_{i-1,j}}{2h}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i,j-1}}{k^2}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2}$$

## 5.4.2 Parabolic Equation – Heat Equation

Consider the **Heat Equation**:

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

with boundary conditions

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

and initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = f(x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq a.$$

By forward-difference and central-difference formulas,

$$\left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right)_{i,j} - c \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \right)_{i,j} = 0$$

is approximated to

$$\frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}}{k} - c \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2} = 0$$

where  $h = \Delta x$  and  $k = \Delta t$ .

### Example 5.17:

Find approximate solution for the following heat equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0.5 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

with boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.1$$

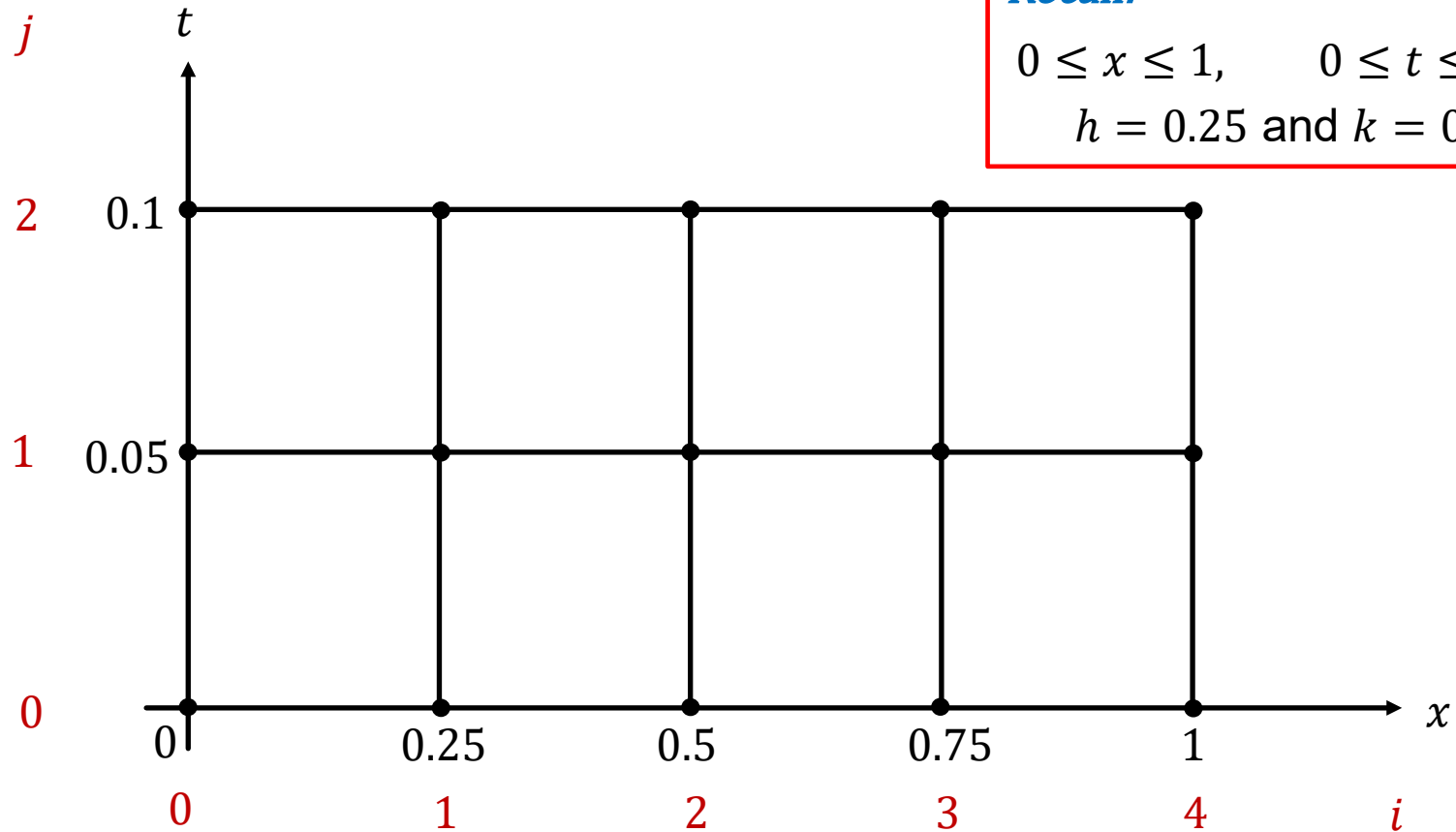
and initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = x \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

by using the forward-difference and central-difference formula. Given  $h = 0.25$  and  $k = 0.05$ .

**Solution:**

*Step 1: Sketch the grid points.*



*Recall:*

$$0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.1$$

$$h = 0.25 \text{ and } k = 0.05$$



*Step 2: Compute boundary and initial values.*

$$u(x, 0) = x \cos\left(\frac{\pi x}{2}\right), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$u(0, 0) = 0$$

$$u(0.25, 0) = 0.2310$$

$$u(0.5, 0) = 0.3536$$

$$u(0.75, 0) = 0.2870$$

$$u(1, 0) = 0$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.1$$

$$u(0, 0) = 0$$

$$u(1, 0) = 0$$

$$u(0, 0.05) = 0$$

$$u(1, 0.05) = 0$$

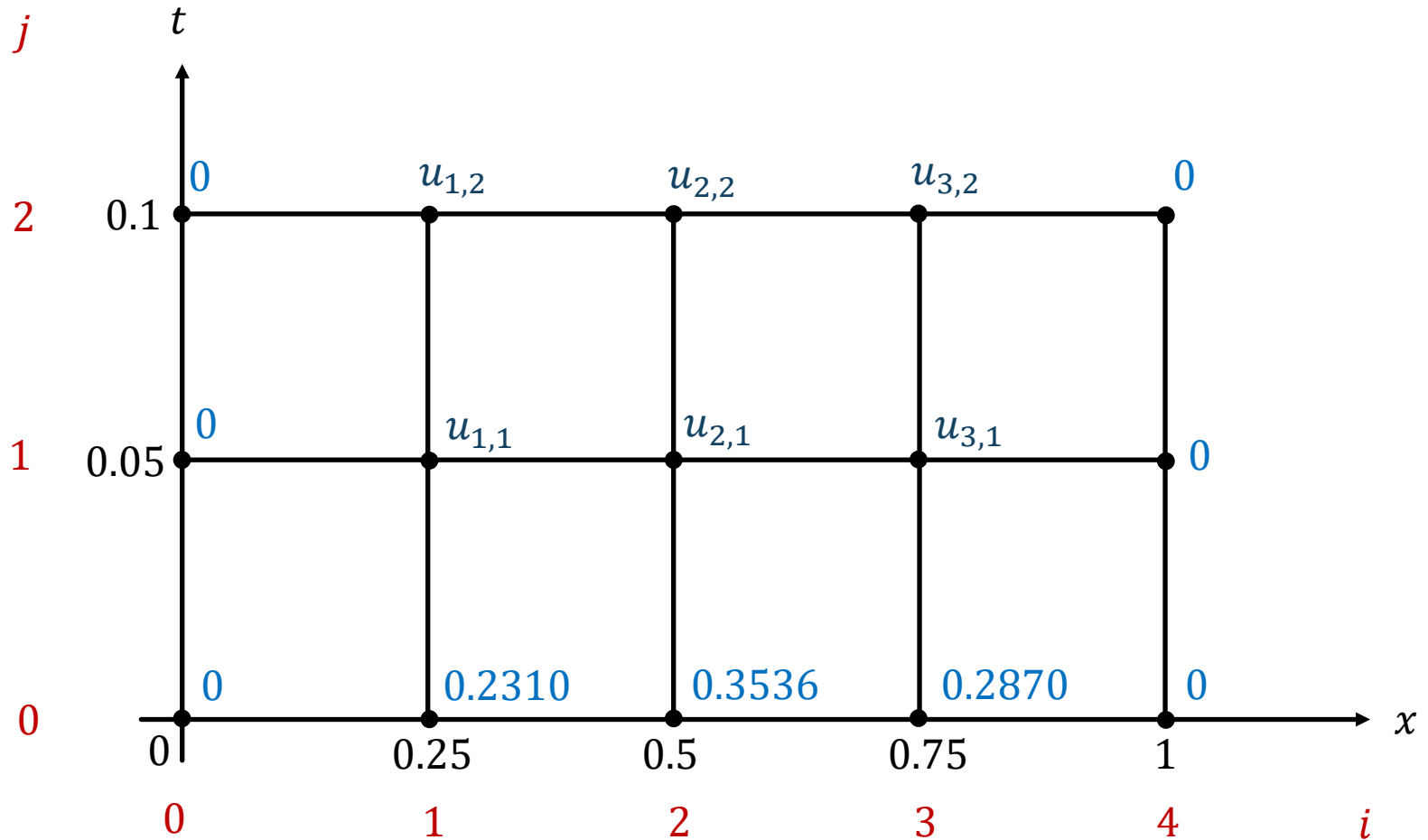
$$u(0, 0.1) = 0$$

$$u(1, 0.1) = 0$$

*Recall:*

$$h = 0.25 \text{ and } k = 0.05$$

Step 3: Fill in the values into the grid.



*Step 4: Obtain formula  $u_{i,j+1}$  from finite-difference formula.*

By forward-difference and central-difference formulas,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0.5 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} - 0.5 \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right)_{i,j} = 0$$

Choose the required difference formula from the list:

**Forward-Difference Formula:**

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}}{k}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j}}{h}$$

**Backward-Difference Formula:**

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j} - u_{i,j-1}}{k}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j} - u_{i-1,j}}{h}$$

**Central-Difference Formula:**

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j-1}}{2k}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - u_{i-1,j}}{2h}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i,j+1} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i,j-1}}{k^2}$$

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right)_{i,j} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2}$$

By forward-difference and central-difference formulas,

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} - 0.5 \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right)_{i,j} = 0$$

is approximated to

*Recall:*

$$h = 0.25 \text{ and } k = 0.05$$

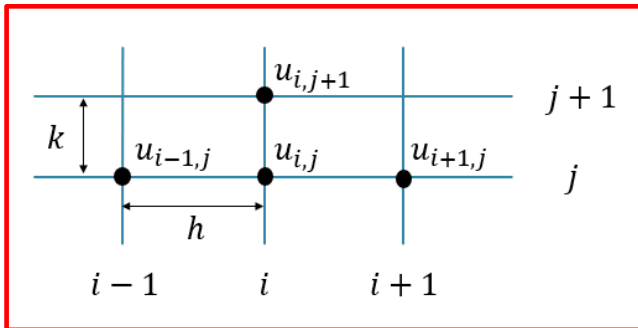
$$\frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}}{k} - 0.5 \left(\frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2}\right) = 0$$

$$u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j} = \frac{0.5k}{h^2} (u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j})$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = \frac{0.5(0.05)}{(0.25)^2} (u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}) + u_{i,j}$$

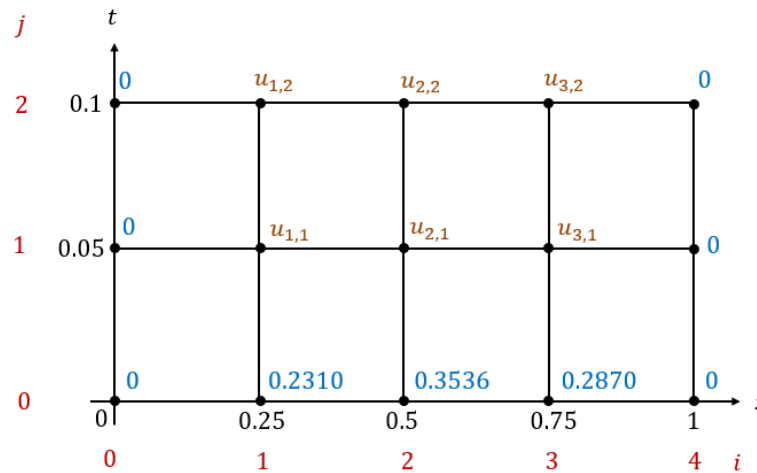
$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4(u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}) + u_{i,j}$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



Step 5: Compute solutions for internal points  $u_{i,j+1}$  (Refer to grid in Step 3).

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



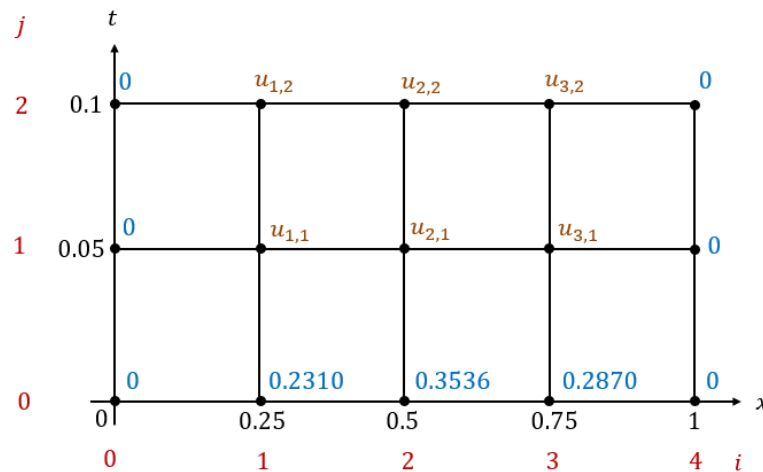
Let  $i = 1, j = 0,$

$$u_{1,1} = 0.4u_{0,0} + 0.2u_{1,0} + 0.4u_{2,0}$$

$$u_{1,1} = 0.4(0) + 0.2(0.2310) + 0.4(0.3536)$$

$$u_{1,1} = 0.1876$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



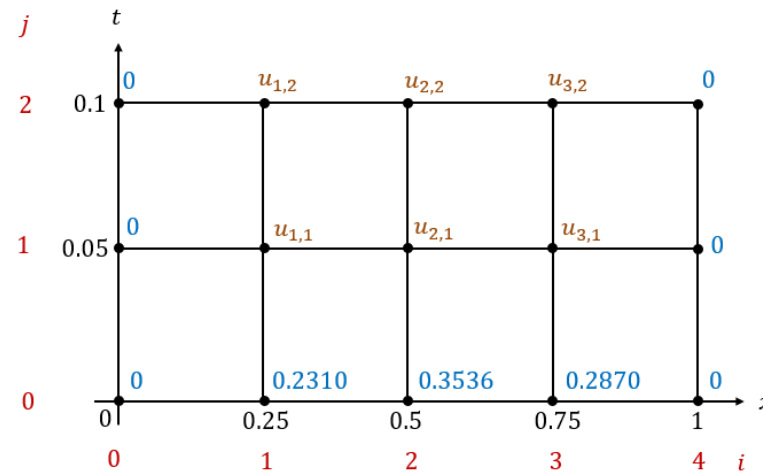
Let  $i = 2, j = 0,$

$$u_{2,1} = 0.4u_{1,0} + 0.2u_{2,0} + 0.4u_{3,0}$$

$$u_{2,1} = 0.4(0.2310) + 0.2(0.3536) + 0.4(0.2870)$$

$$u_{2,1} = 0.2779$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



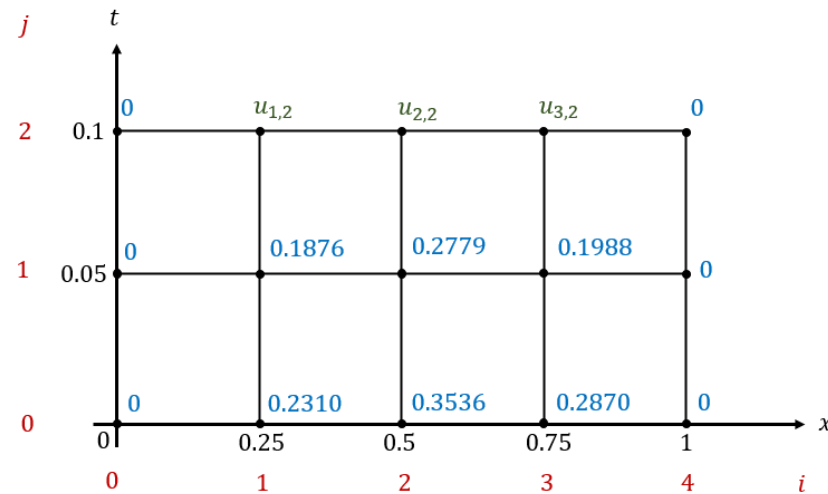
Let  $i = 3, j = 0,$

$$u_{3,1} = 0.4u_{2,0} + 0.2u_{3,0} + 0.4u_{4,0}$$

$$u_{3,1} = 0.4(0.3536) + 0.2(0.2870) + 0.4(0)$$

$$u_{3,1} = 0.1988$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



Let  $i = 1, j = 1,$

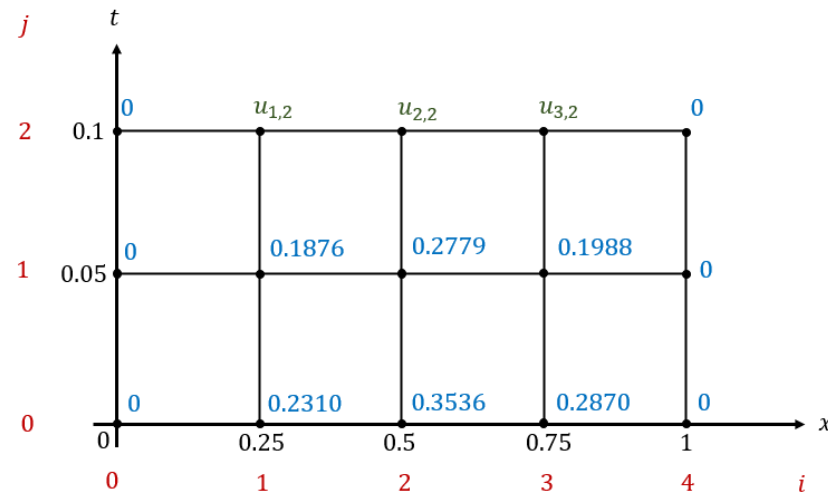
$$u_{1,2} = 0.4u_{0,1} + 0.2u_{1,1} + 0.4u_{2,1}$$

$$u_{1,2} = 0.4(0) + 0.2(0.1876) + 0.4(0.2779)$$

$$u_{1,2} = 0.1489$$



$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



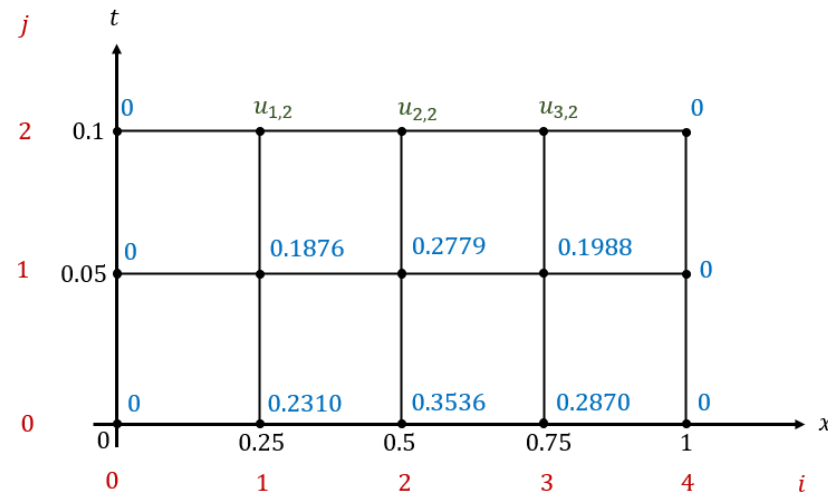
Let  $i = 2, j = 1,$

$$u_{2,2} = 0.4u_{1,1} + 0.2u_{2,1} + 0.4u_{3,1}$$

$$u_{2,2} = 0.4(0.1876) + 0.2(0.2779) + 0.4(0.1988)$$

$$u_{2,2} = 0.2101$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.4u_{i-1,j} + 0.2u_{i,j} + 0.4u_{i+1,j}$$



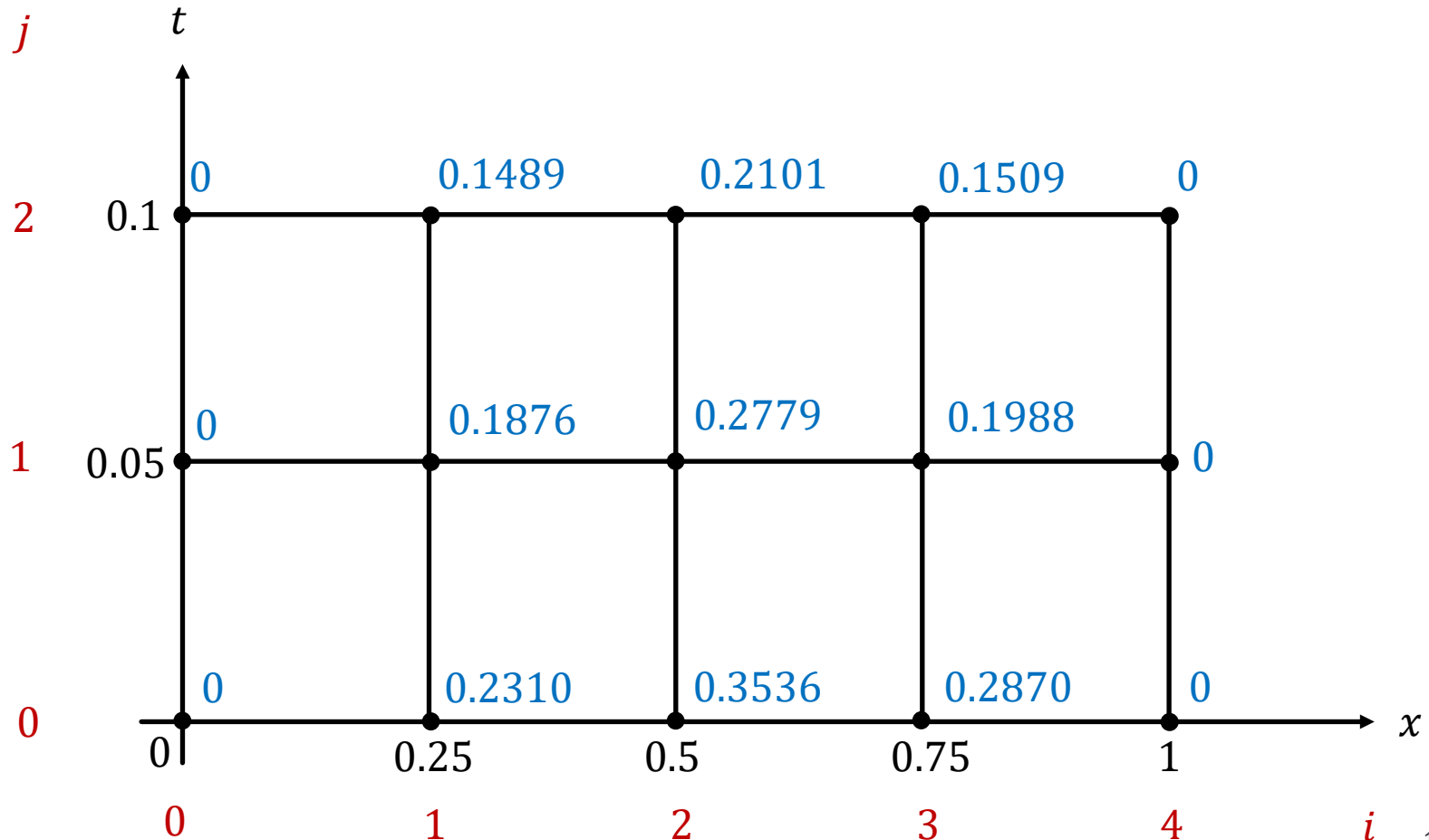
Let  $i = 3, j = 1,$

$$u_{3,2} = 0.4u_{2,1} + 0.2u_{3,1} + 0.4u_{4,1}$$

$$u_{3,2} = 0.4(0.2779) + 0.2(0.1988) + 0.4(0)$$

$$u_{3,2} = 0.1509$$

Step 6: Fill in the values into the grid.



### Example 5.18:

Find approximate solution for the following heat equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0.1 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0$$

with boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.4$$

and initial condition

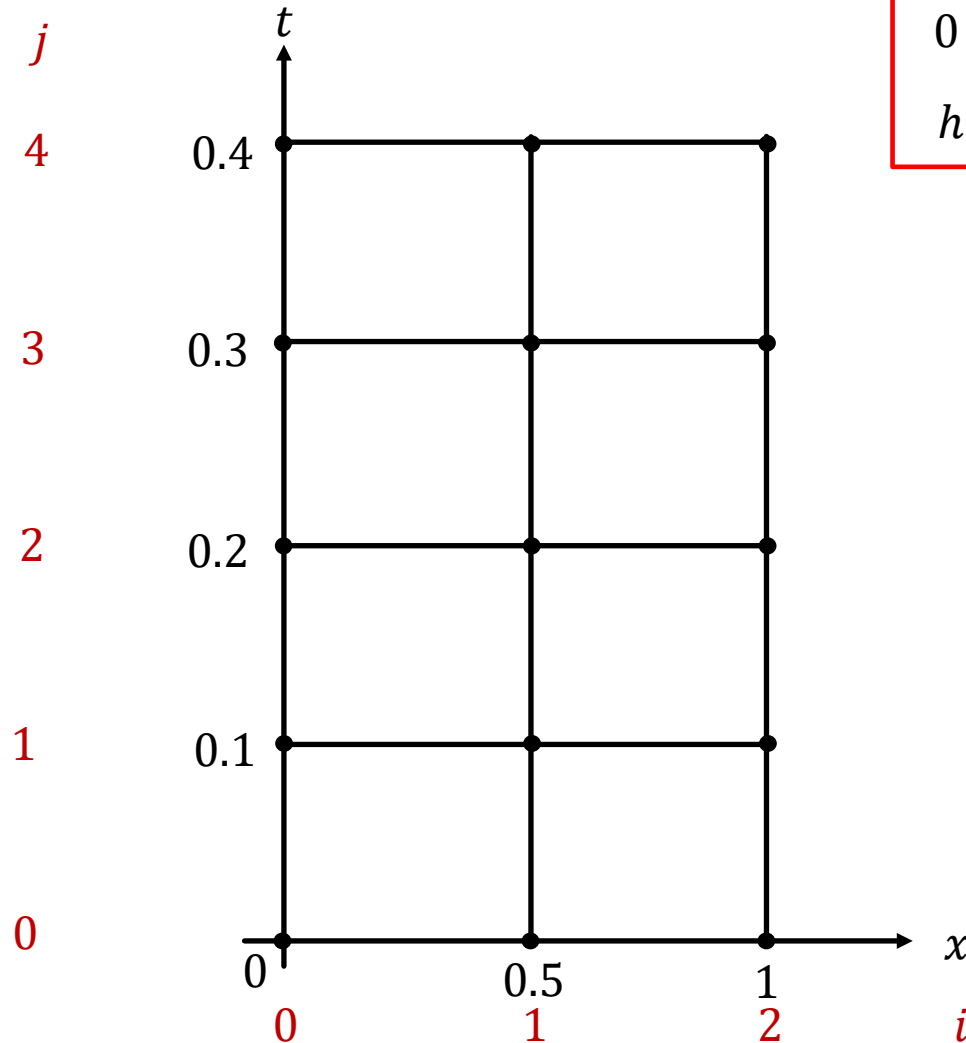
$$u(x, 0) = x^2(1 - x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

by using the forward-difference and central-difference formula. Given

$h = 0.5$  and  $k = 0.1$ .

## Solution:

Step 1: Sketch the grid points.



*Recall:*

$$0 \leq x \leq 1, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.4$$

$$h = 0.5 \text{ and } k = 0.1$$

*Step 2: Compute boundary and initial values.*

$$u(x, 0) = x^2(1 - x), \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1$$

$$u(0, 0) = 0$$

$$u(0.5, 0) = 0.125$$

$$u(1, 0) = 0$$

*Recall:*

$$h = 0.5 \text{ and } k = 0.1$$

$$u(0, t) = 0, \quad u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.4$$

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

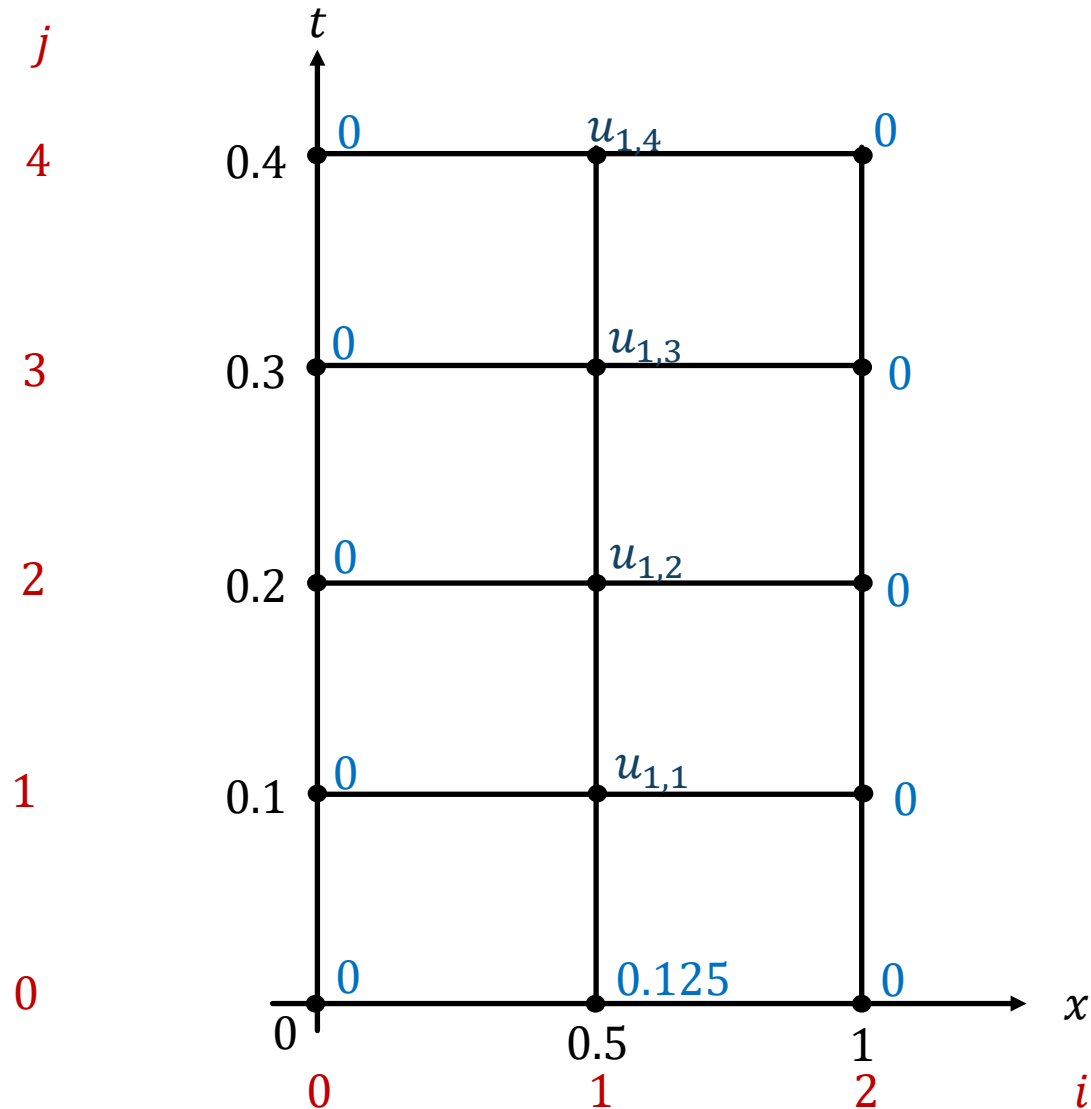
$$u(0, 0.1) = 0 \quad u(1, 0.1) = 0$$

$$u(0, 0.2) = 0 \quad u(1, 0.2) = 0$$

$$u(0, 0.3) = 0 \quad u(1, 0.3) = 0$$

$$u(0, 0.4) = 0 \quad u(1, 0.4) = 0$$

Step 3: Fill in the values into the grid.



*Step 4: Obtain formula  $u_{i,j+1}$  from finite-difference formula.*

By forward-difference and central-difference formulas,

$$\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}\right)_{i,j} - 0.1 \left(\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}\right)_{i,j} = 0$$

is approximated to

*Recall:*

$$h = 0.5 \text{ and } k = 0.1$$

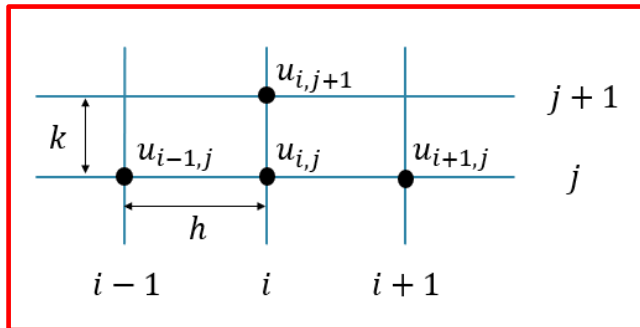
$$\frac{u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j}}{k} - 0.1 \left(\frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2}\right) = 0$$

$$u_{i,j+1} - u_{i,j} = \frac{0.1k}{h^2} (u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j})$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = \frac{0.1(0.1)}{(0.5)^2} (u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}) + u_{i,j}$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.04(u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i-1,j}) + u_{i,j}$$

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.04u_{i-1,j} + 0.92u_{i,j} + 0.04u_{i+1,j}$$





Step 5: Compute solutions for internal points  $u_{i,j}$  (Refer to grid in Step 3).

$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.04u_{i-1,j} + 0.92u_{i,j} + 0.04u_{i+1,j}$$

Let  $i = 1, j = 0,$

$$u_{1,1} = 0.04u_{0,0} + 0.92u_{1,0} + 0.04u_{2,0}$$

$$u_{1,1} = 0.04(0) + 0.92(0.125) + 0.04(0)$$

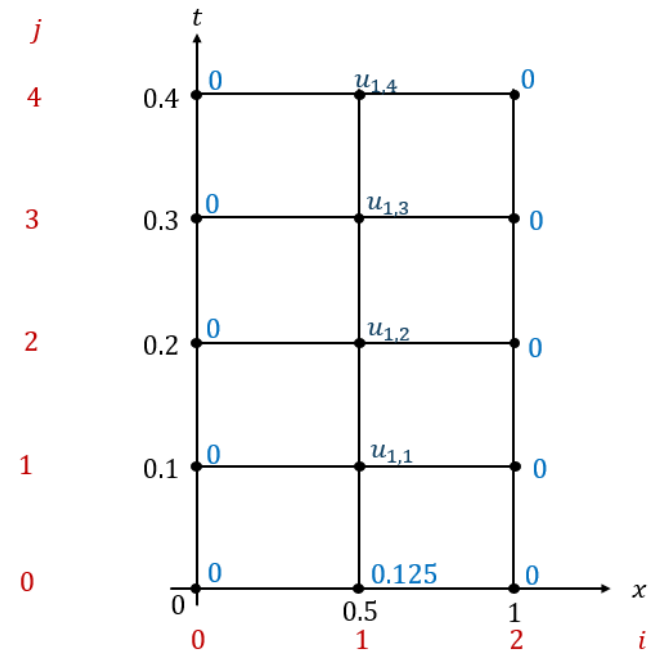
$$u_{1,1} = 0.115$$

Let  $i = 1, j = 1,$

$$u_{1,2} = 0.04u_{0,1} + 0.92u_{1,1} + 0.04u_{2,1}$$

$$u_{1,2} = 0.04(0) + 0.92(0.115) + 0.04(0)$$

$$u_{1,2} = 0.1058$$



$$u_{i,j+1} = 0.04u_{i-1,j} + 0.92u_{i,j} + 0.04u_{i+1,j}$$

Let  $i = 1, j = 2,$

$$u_{1,3} = 0.04u_{0,2} + 0.92u_{1,2} + 0.04u_{2,2}$$

$$u_{1,3} = 0.04(0) + 0.92(0.1058) + 0.04(0)$$

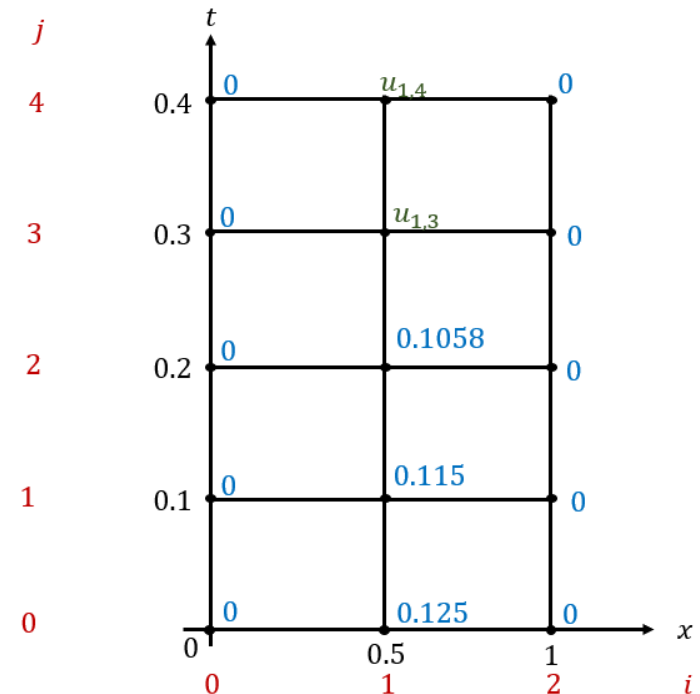
$$u_{1,3} = 0.0973$$

Let  $i = 1, j = 3,$

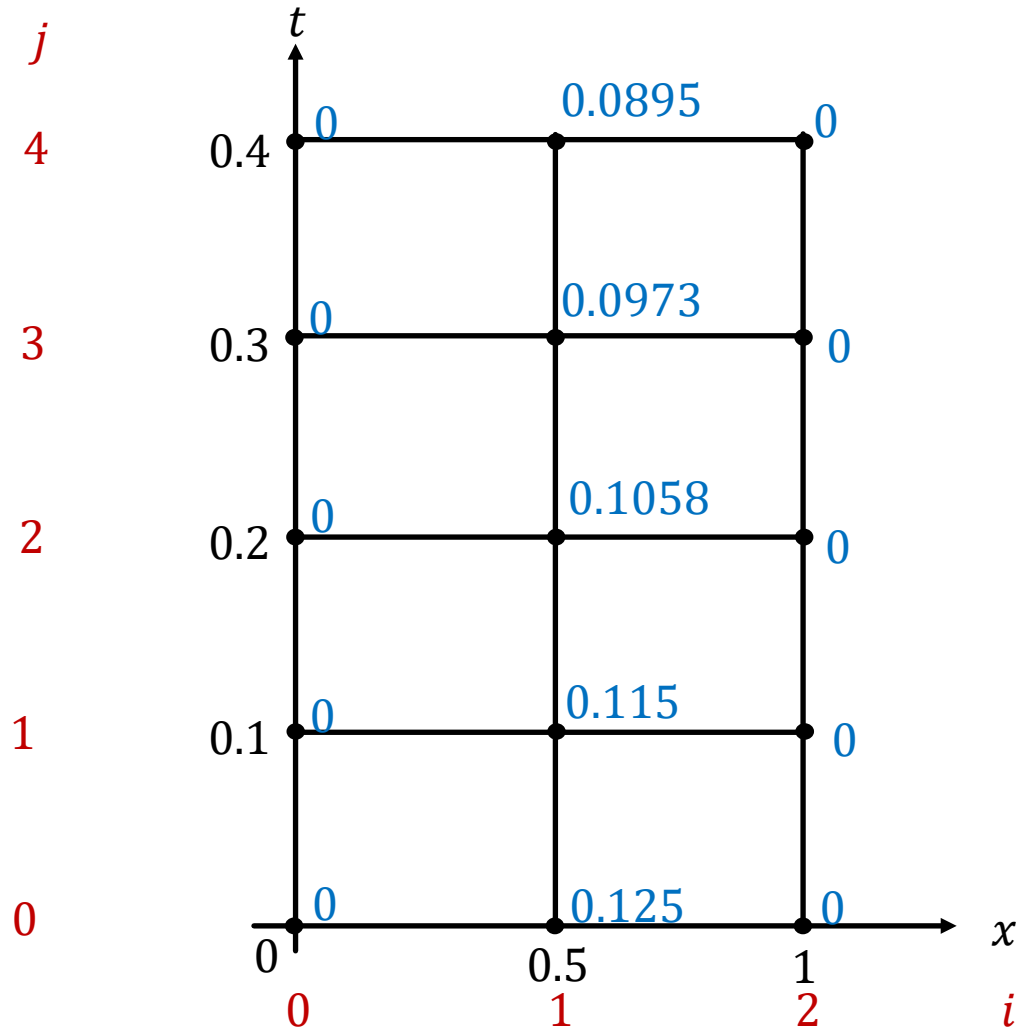
$$u_{1,4} = 0.04u_{0,3} + 0.92u_{1,3} + 0.04u_{2,3}$$

$$u_{1,4} = 0.04(0) + 0.92(0.0973) + 0.04(0)$$

$$u_{1,4} = 0.0895$$



Step 6: Fill in the values into the grid.



## Exercise 5.10:

1) Solve the heat equation

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

with boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(1, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 0.02$$

and initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = x(1 - x) \quad 0 \leq x \leq 1.$$

by using the forward-difference and central-difference formula. Given  $h = 1/5$

and  $k = 1/100$ .

[Ans:  $u_{0,0} = u_{0,1} = u_{0,2} = u_{5,0} = u_{5,1} = u_{5,2} = 0$ ;  $u_{1,0} = u_{4,0} = 0.16$ ;  $u_{2,0} = u_{3,0} = 0.24$ ;  $u_{1,1} = u_{4,1} = 0.14$ ;  $u_{2,1} = u_{3,1} = 0.22$ ;  $u_{1,2} = u_{4,2} = 0.125$ ;  $u_{2,2} = u_{3,2} = 0.2$ ]

## Exercise 5.10:

2) Solve the heat equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0.03 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}, \quad 0 < x < 2, \quad t > 0$$

with boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = u(2, t) = 0, \quad 0 \leq t \leq 1$$

and initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = 3 \sin \frac{\pi}{2} x, \quad 0 \leq x \leq 2.$$

by using the forward-difference and central-difference formula. Given  $h = 1/2$  and  $k = 1/2$ .

$$[\text{Ans: } u_{0,0} = u_{0,1} = u_{0,2} = u_{4,0} = u_{4,1} = u_{4,2} = 0; u_{1,0} = u_{3,0} = 2.1213; u_{2,0} = 3; \\ u_{1,1} = u_{3,1} = 2.0468; u_{2,1} = 2.8946; u_{1,2} = u_{3,2} = 1.9748; u_{2,2} = 2.7928]$$

## References

1. S.C. Chapra and R.P. Canale. (2015). Numerical Methods for Engineers, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition. McGraw-Hill Education.
2. R.L. Burden, D.J. Faires and A.M. Burden. (2016). Numerical Analysis, 10<sup>th</sup> Edition. Cengage Learning.

# Thank You

---

## Questions & Answer?