

COL865: Special Topics in Computer Applications

# **Physics-Based Animation**

---

## **11 – Continuum models and PDEs**

# Assignments and feedback

---

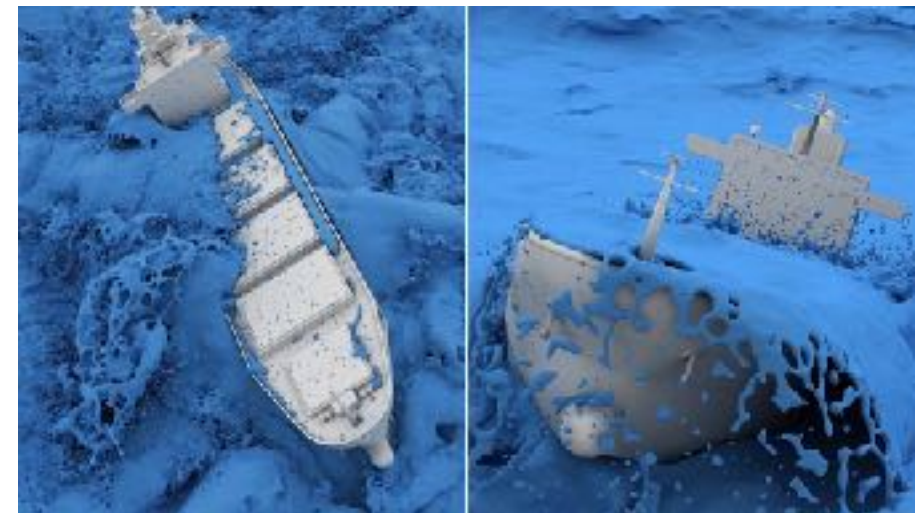
- **Assignment 1** submissions received, will grade soon
  - Feedback?
- **Assignment 2** on rigid bodies will be posted today
- **General feedback** about the course?
  - Fill in feedback form on Moodle (anonymous)

# Paper discussions

---

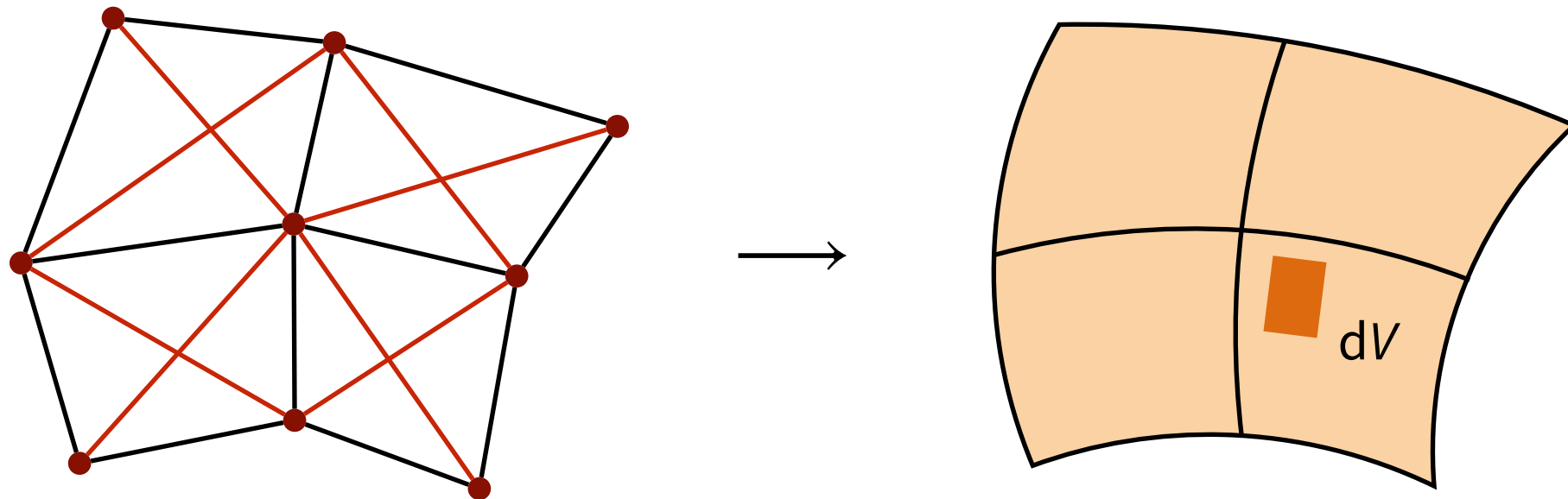
Wednesday, 12 Sep 2018

- ***Dwizotman***: Batty et al., “A Fast Variational Framework for Accurate Solid- Fluid Coupling”, 2007
- ***Amar***: Ihmsen et al., “Implicit Incompressible SPH”, 2014



# Discrete vs. continuous models

---



Assume materials are *infinitely divisible*  
(reasonable assumption above microstructure level)

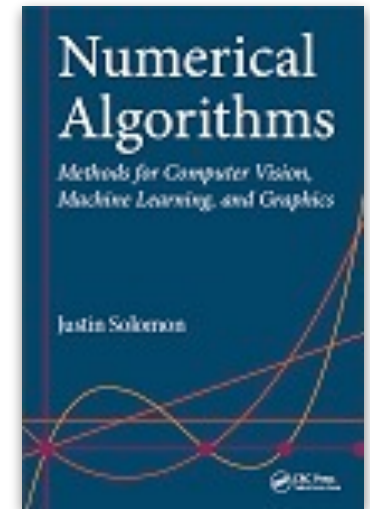
- Mathematical representation?
- Equations of motion?
- Discretization?

# Recommended reading

---

- **Basic intro to PDEs:**

Solomon, *Numerical Algorithms*, 16.2–3

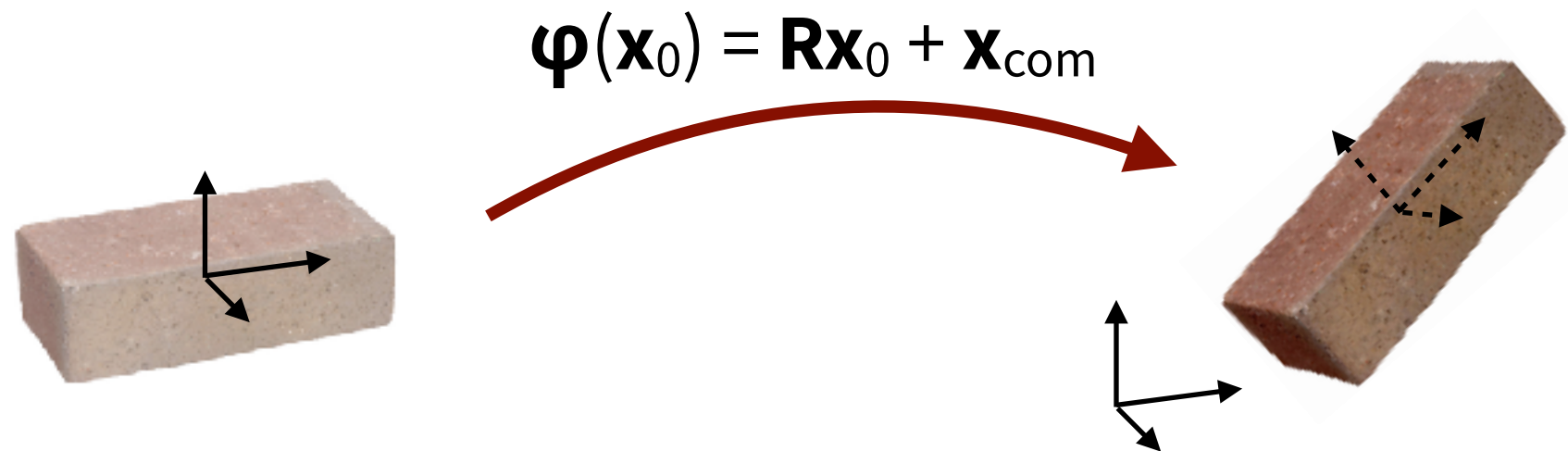


- **Optional (lots more theoretical detail):**

Trefethen, *Finite Difference and Spectral Methods for Ordinary and Partial Differential Equations*, Ch. 3.1–3 and 4.1–4



# Continuum modeling



***Rigid body:***

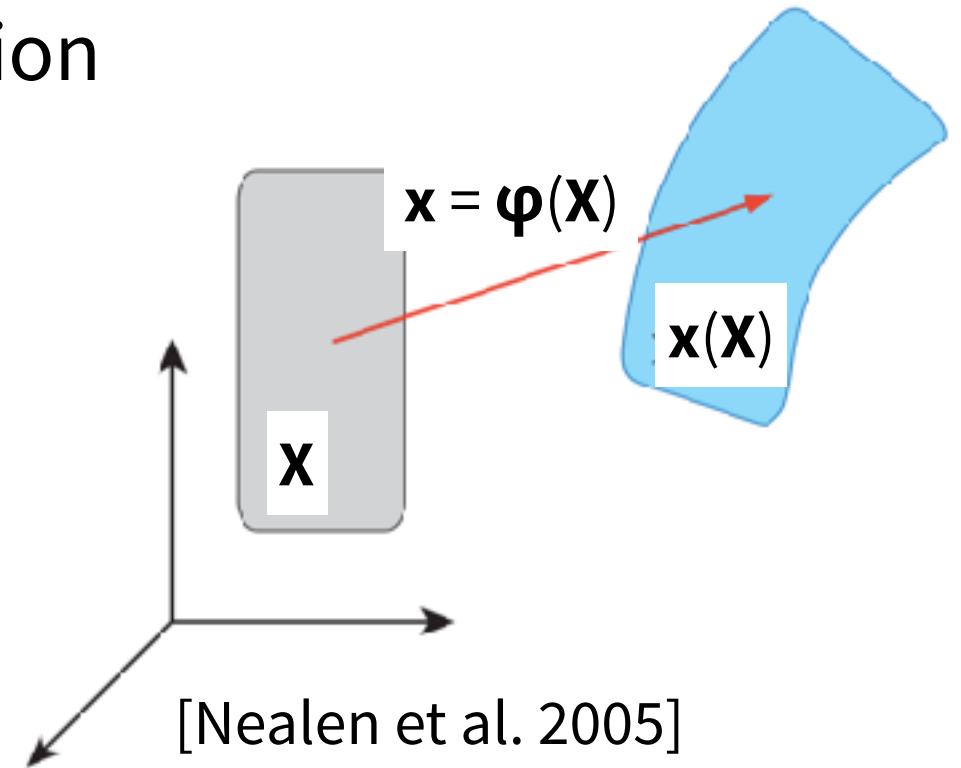
$\varphi$  : body  $\rightarrow$  world is a rigid transformation

***Deformable body:***

$\varphi$  is an arbitrary continuous function

$$\mathbf{x} = \varphi(\mathbf{X}, t)$$

$$\mathbf{v} = \partial\varphi(\mathbf{X}, t)/\partial t$$



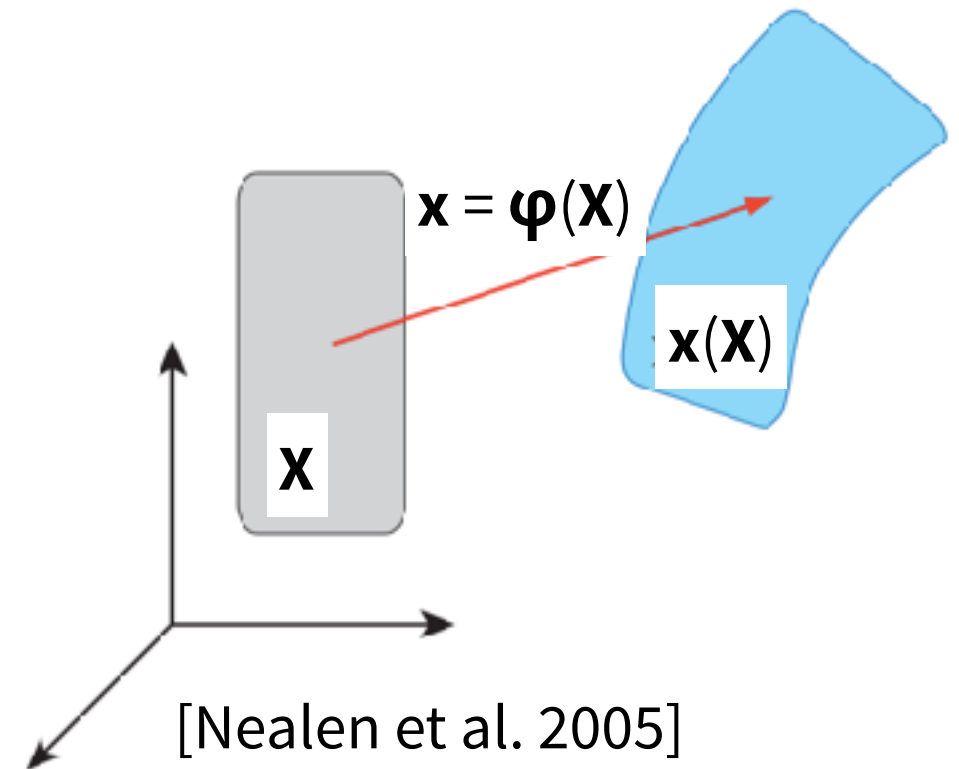
# Continuum modeling

$$\mathbf{x} = \boldsymbol{\varphi}(\mathbf{X}, t)$$

Compare with mass-spring system:

- index  $(i_1, i_2, i_3)$   
→ reference coordinate  $\mathbf{X}$
- mass  $m_i \rightarrow$  density  $\rho$
- spring vector  $\mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j \rightarrow$  deformation gradient  $d\boldsymbol{\varphi}/d\mathbf{X}$   
e.g. stretching ratio along  $X_1 = \|\partial\boldsymbol{\varphi}/\partial X_1\|$
- Equation of motion:

$$m_i d^2\mathbf{x}_i/dt^2 = (\dots \mathbf{x}_i - \mathbf{x}_j \dots)$$
$$\rightarrow \rho \partial^2\boldsymbol{\varphi}/\partial t^2 = (\dots \partial\boldsymbol{\varphi}/\partial\mathbf{X} \dots)$$



# Continuum models

---

State is usually a function  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$

- **Elastic solid:** reference space  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow$  world space  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,
- **cloth:** reference space  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow$  world space  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,
- **fluid flow:** position  $\mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow$  velocity  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ,
- **water waves:** position  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow$  height  $\mathbb{R}^1$

Force involves **spatial derivatives** of function,  
Newton's second law becomes a partial differential equation

- How to store a function  $\mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$ , compute spatial derivatives?
- How to solve a PDE involving such a function?



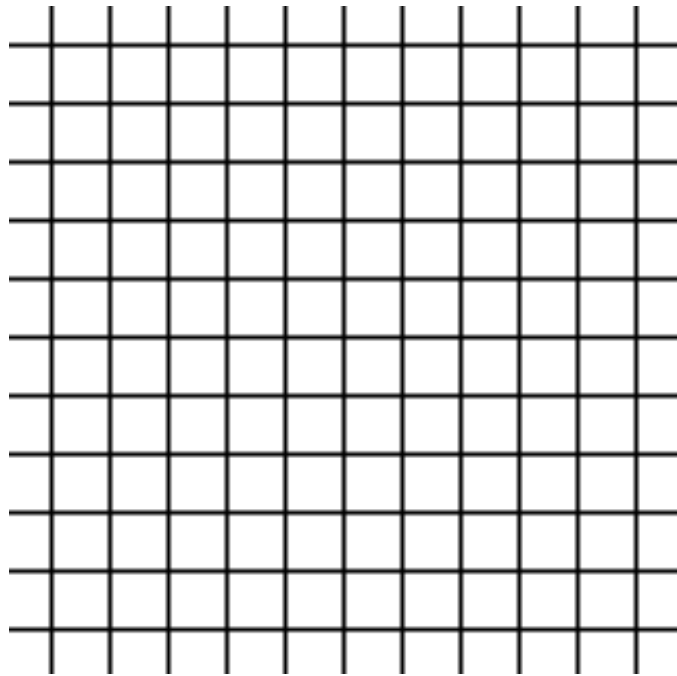
# **Spatial discretization**

---

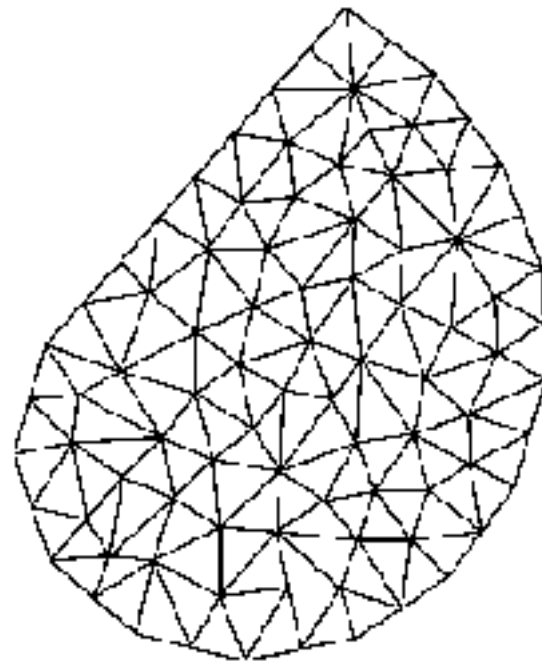
# Spatial discretizations

---

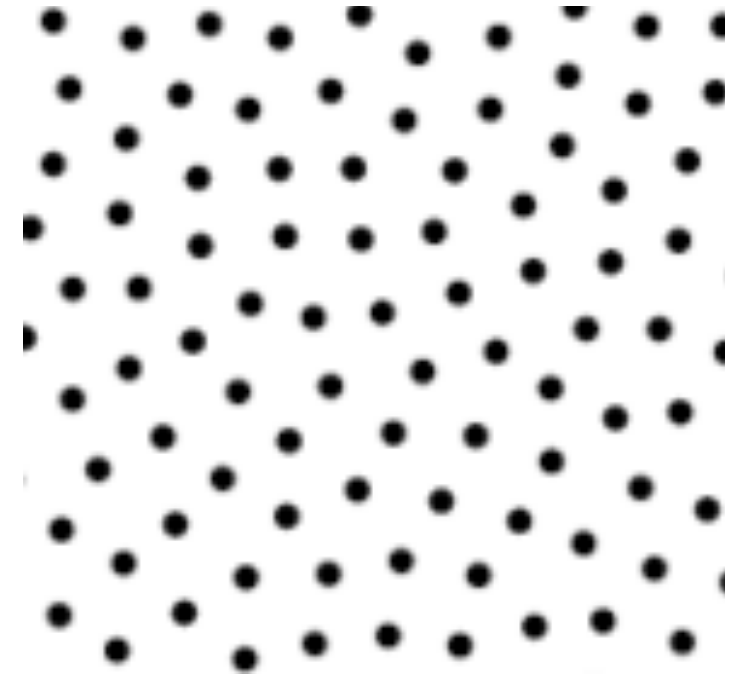
In 1D, not much choice. In  $nD$ , lots of options!



Grids



Meshes



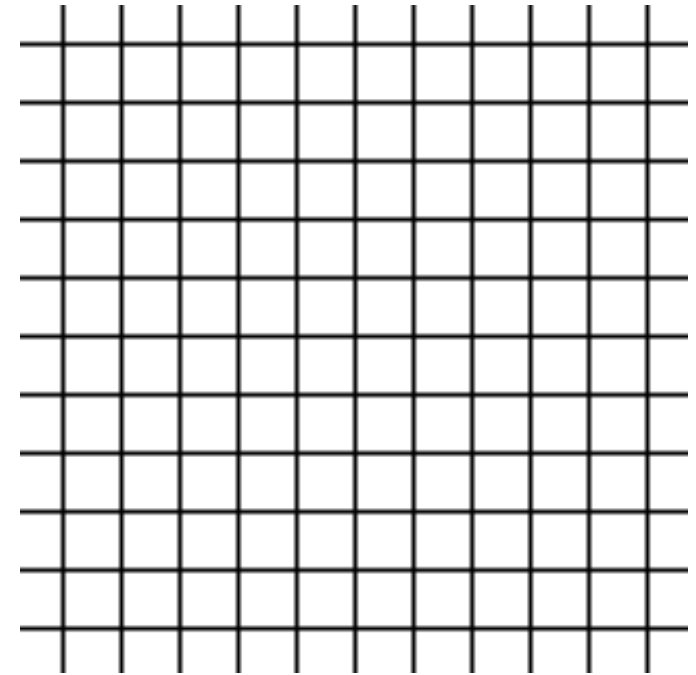
Particles

# Grids

---

Values arranged in a regular array

- Easy indexing, efficient memory layout
- **Reconstruction:** just apply 1D interpolation along each axis
- **Differentiation:** 1D finite difference formulae
- Extra work needed to support non-axis-aligned boundaries
- Non-uniformity only along axes

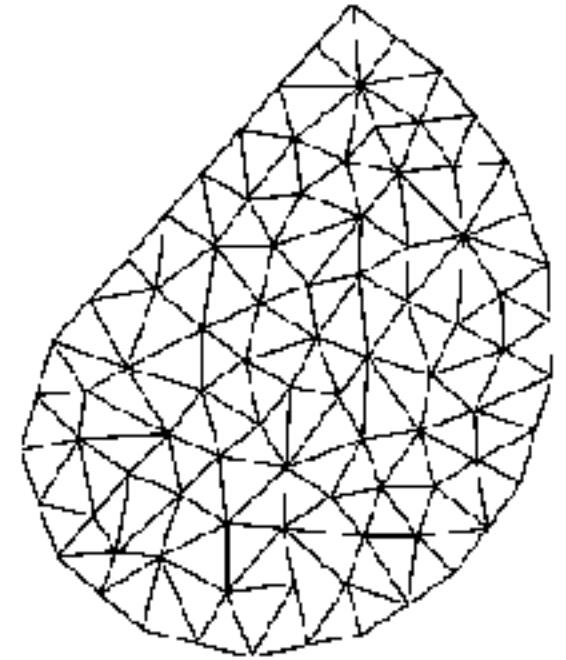


# Meshes

---

Divide space into elements (usually triangles, tetrahedra), put samples at vertices

- Requires more complex data structures
- **Reconstruction:** linear / polynomial within each element
- **Differentiation:** naively, gradient only defined in element interior.  
Sophisticated discretization via finite element method
- Can fit any shape with piecewise smooth boundary
- Element should be “well-shaped”, can be adaptive



# Particles

---

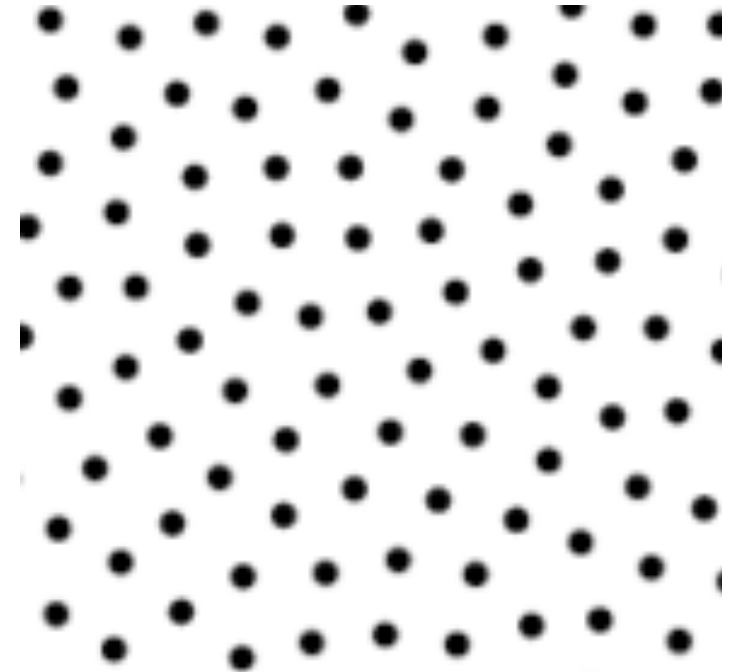
Collection of unorganized point samples

- No connectivity needed, but requires neighbourhood search
- **Reconstruction**: weighted average of nearby samples

$$\langle f \rangle(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{\sum_i f_i w(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|)}{\sum_i w(\|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{x}_i\|)}$$

- **Differentiation**: differentiate reconstruction function

Various modifications used in practice: smoothed particle hydrodynamics, moving least squares



# **Numerical methods for PDEs**

---

# Numerical methods for PDEs

---

Spatial discretizations  $\approx$  data structures

Numerical methods  $\approx$  algorithms

Vast subject, many different techniques

- ***Finite differences*** (only on grids)
- ***Finite elements*** (usually on meshes and grids)
- ***Meshless methods*** (on particles)
- Many others less used in graphics: ***finite volumes, spectral & pseudospectral*** methods

# An example PDE: The wave equation

---

Describes propagation of waves in a medium (sound waves, waves in stretched string/membrane, surface waves in water, ...)

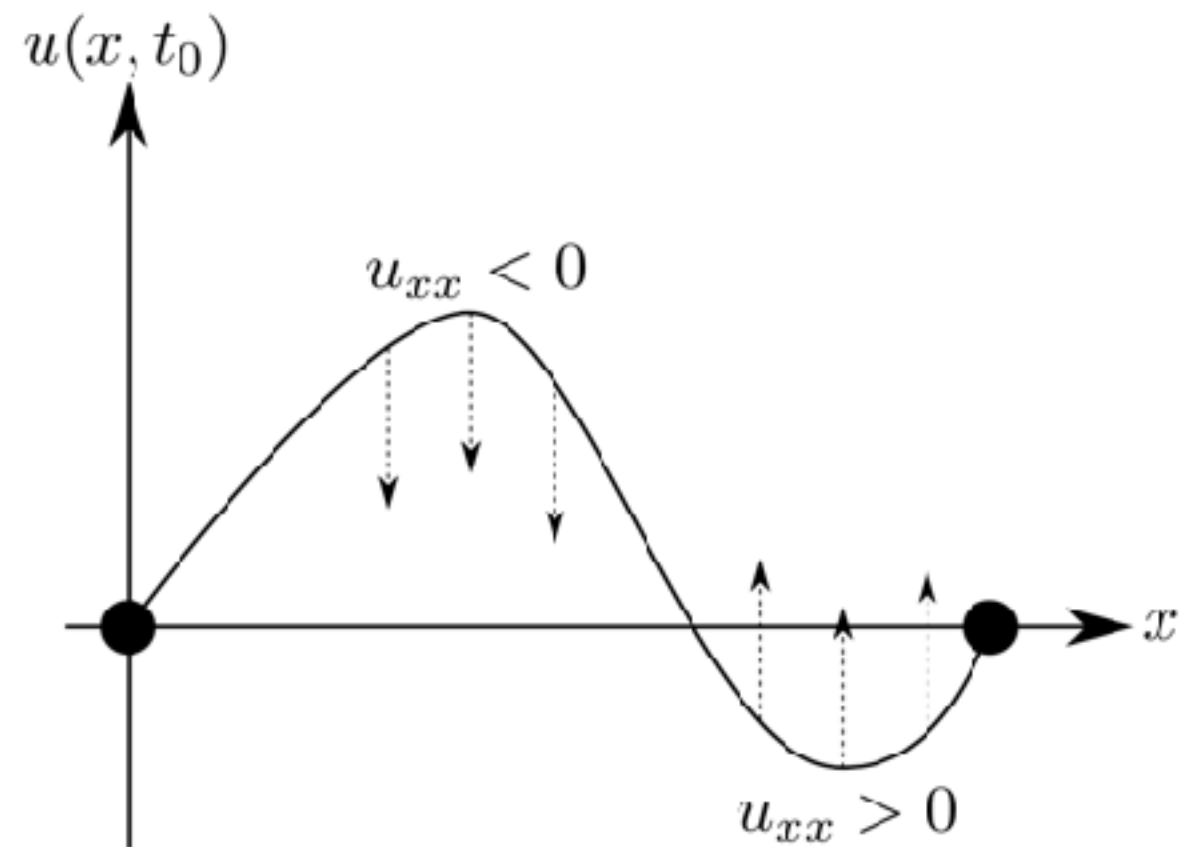
In 1D (string):  $u_{tt} = c u_{xx}$

On 2D surface:  $u_{tt} = c \nabla^2 u$

Like with ODE, need to specify initial conditions:

$$u(x, t_0) = u_0(x)$$

$$u_t(x, t_0) = \dot{u}_0(x)$$



[Solomon]



# The wave equation

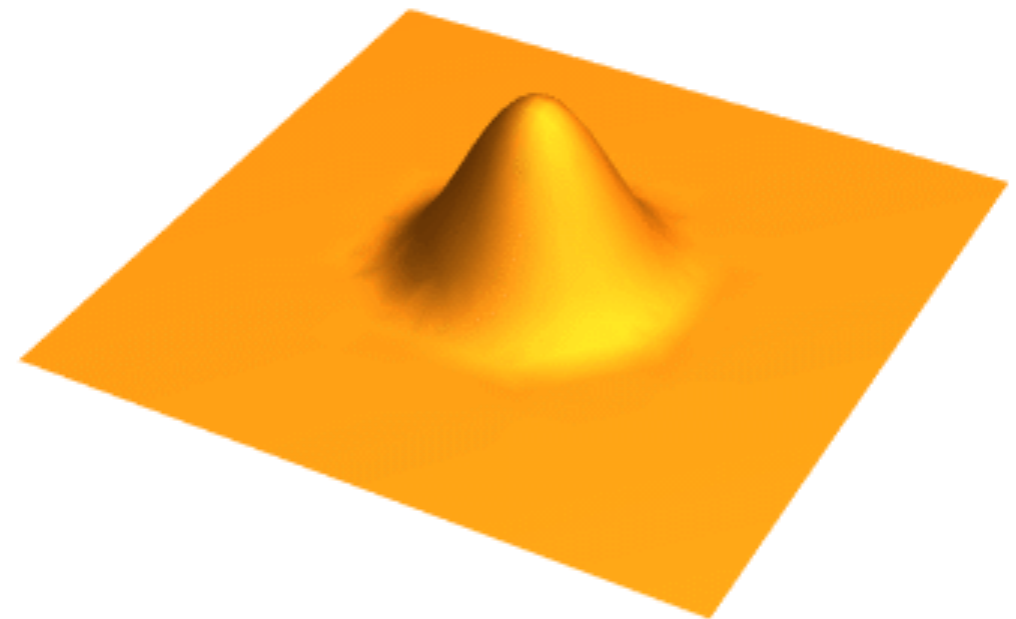
---

$$u_{tt} = c \nabla^2 u$$

$$u(x, t_0) = \dots$$

$$u_t(x, t_0) = \dots$$

On an unbounded domain, this is enough:



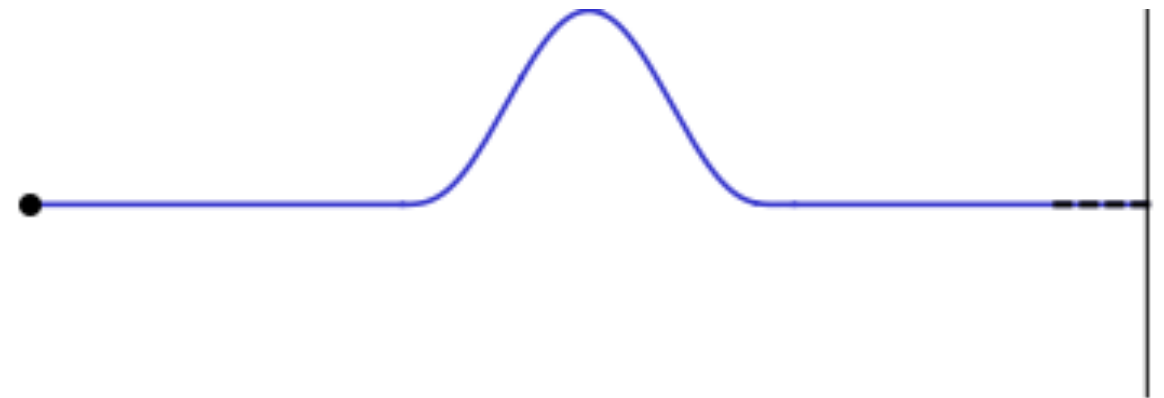
# Boundary conditions

---

Usually domain  $\Omega$  is bounded: what happens at the boundary?

- **Dirichlet** BCs:  $u(x, t) = \dots$  for all  $x \in \partial\Omega$
- **Neumann** BCs:  $u_x(x, t) = \dots$  for all  $x \in \partial\Omega$ 
  - In  $nD$ , only fix **normal** derivative  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla u$

- **Mixed** BCs: Dirichlet & Neumann on subsets of  $\partial\Omega$



- **Robin** BCs:  $u(x, t) + a u_x(x, t) = \dots$
- **Absorbing** BCs: act as if infinite domain (hard!)

# Finite differences for the wave equation

---

Discretize space using a grid:

$$u(x, y, t) \approx u_{i,j}(t)$$

Discretize spatial derivatives using 1D finite difference formulas:

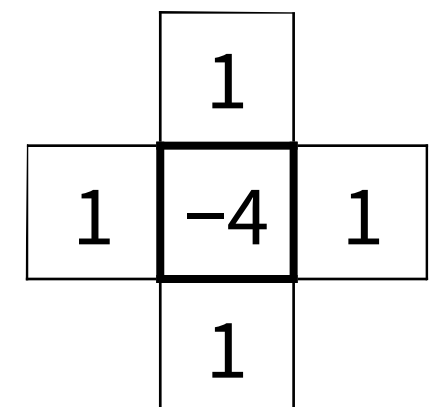
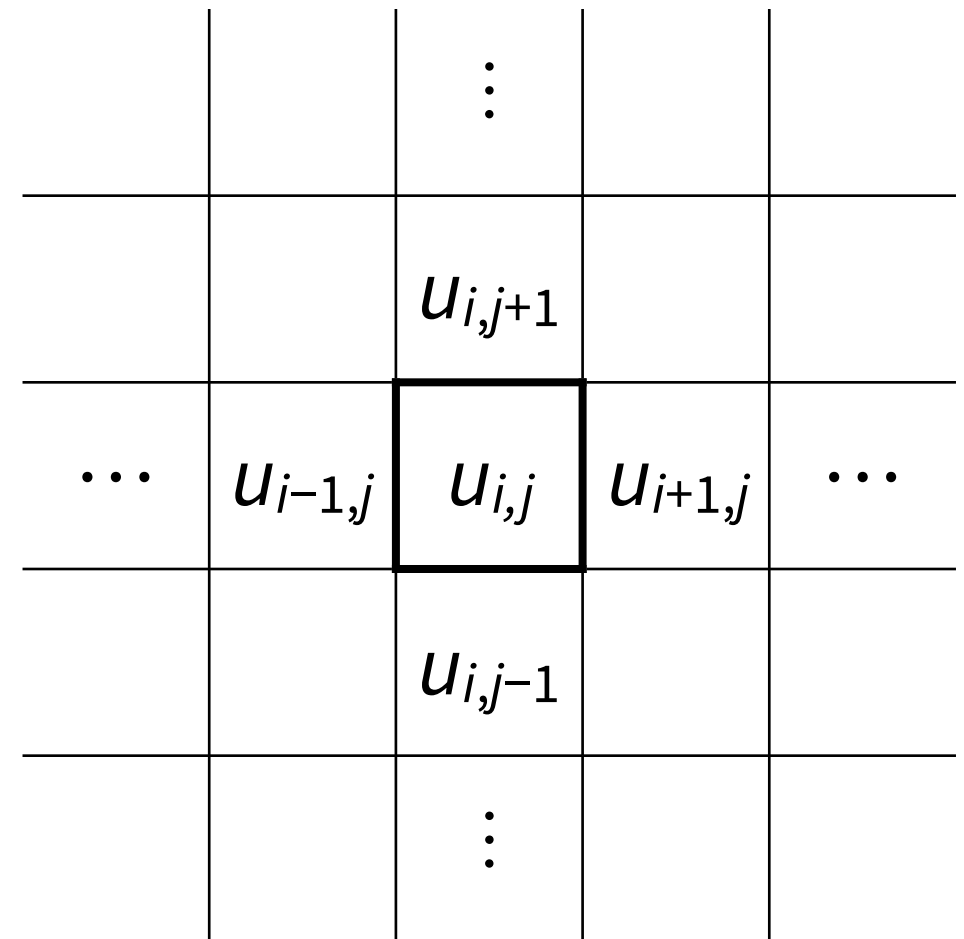
$$\begin{aligned} \partial^2 u / \partial t^2 &= c \nabla^2 u \\ &= c (\partial^2 u / \partial x^2 + \partial^2 u / \partial y^2) \end{aligned}$$

$$\partial^2 u / \partial x^2 \approx (u_{i-1,j} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i+1,j}) / \Delta x^2$$

$$\partial^2 u / \partial y^2 \approx (u_{i,j-1} - 2u_{i,j} + u_{i,j+1}) / \Delta x^2$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla^2 u \approx (u_{i-1,j} + u_{i+1,j} + u_{i,j-1} + u_{i,j+1} - 4u_{i,j}) / \Delta x^2$$

**Five-point stencil** for 2D Laplacian



# Boundary conditions

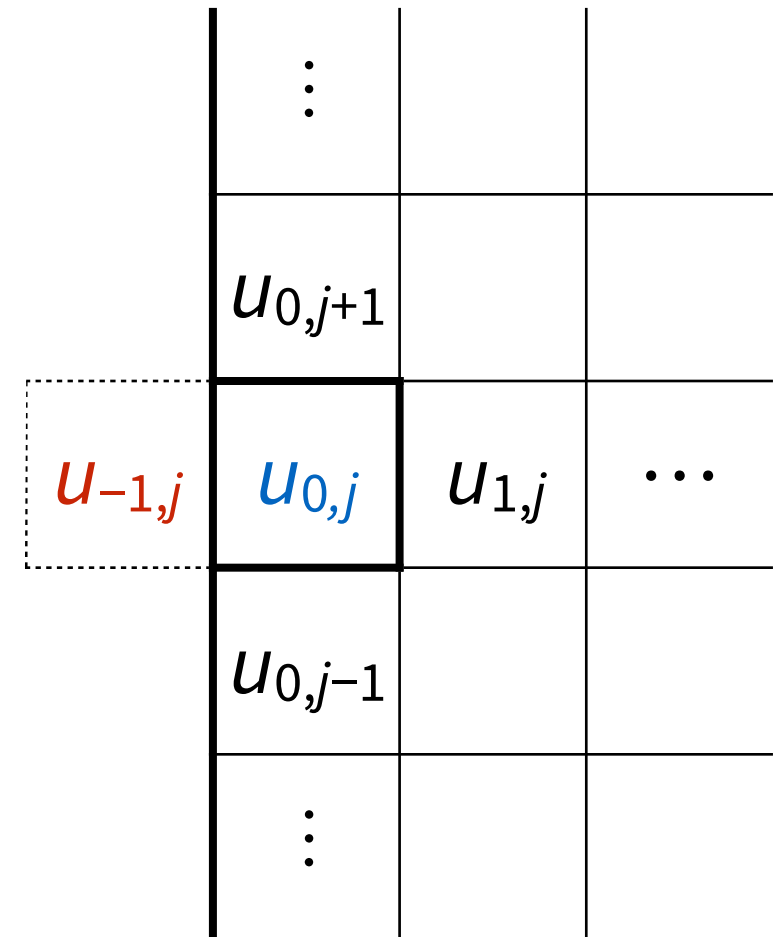
---

**Dirichlet:**  $u = f$  on  $\partial\Omega$

- Just fix value of  $u_{i,j} = f$  on boundary

**Neumann:**  $\mathbf{n} \cdot \nabla u = g$  on  $\partial\Omega$

- First-order: Fix value of  $u_{0,j}$  so that  $(u_{1,j} - u_{0,j})/\Delta x = g$
- Second-order: “**ghost nodes**”
  - Compute fictitious value of  $u_{-1,j}$  so that  $(u_{1,j} - u_{-1,j})/(2 \Delta x) = g$
  - Plug into finite difference Laplacian



# Finite differences

---

After spatial discretization, PDE becomes system of ODEs:

$$\partial^2 u / \partial t^2 = c \nabla^2 u$$

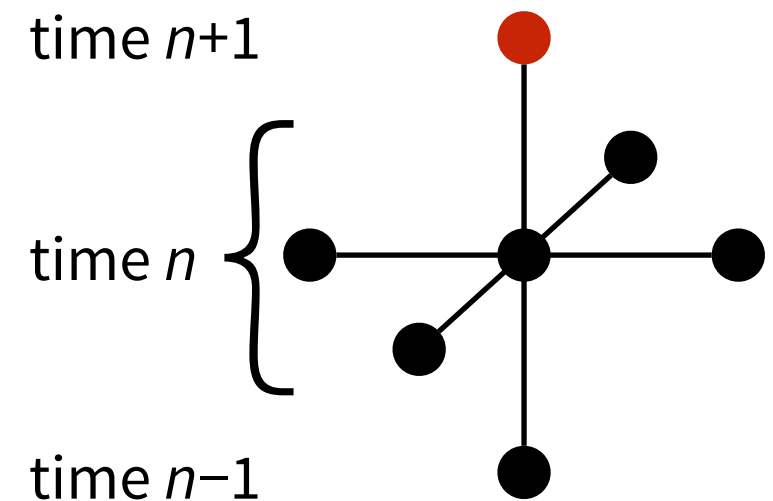
$$\longrightarrow d^2 u_{i,j} / dt^2 = (u_{i-1,j} + u_{i+1,j} + u_{i,j-1} + u_{i,j+1} - 4 u_{i,j}) / \Delta x^2$$

Solve with any time integration scheme

e.g. 3-point difference in time:

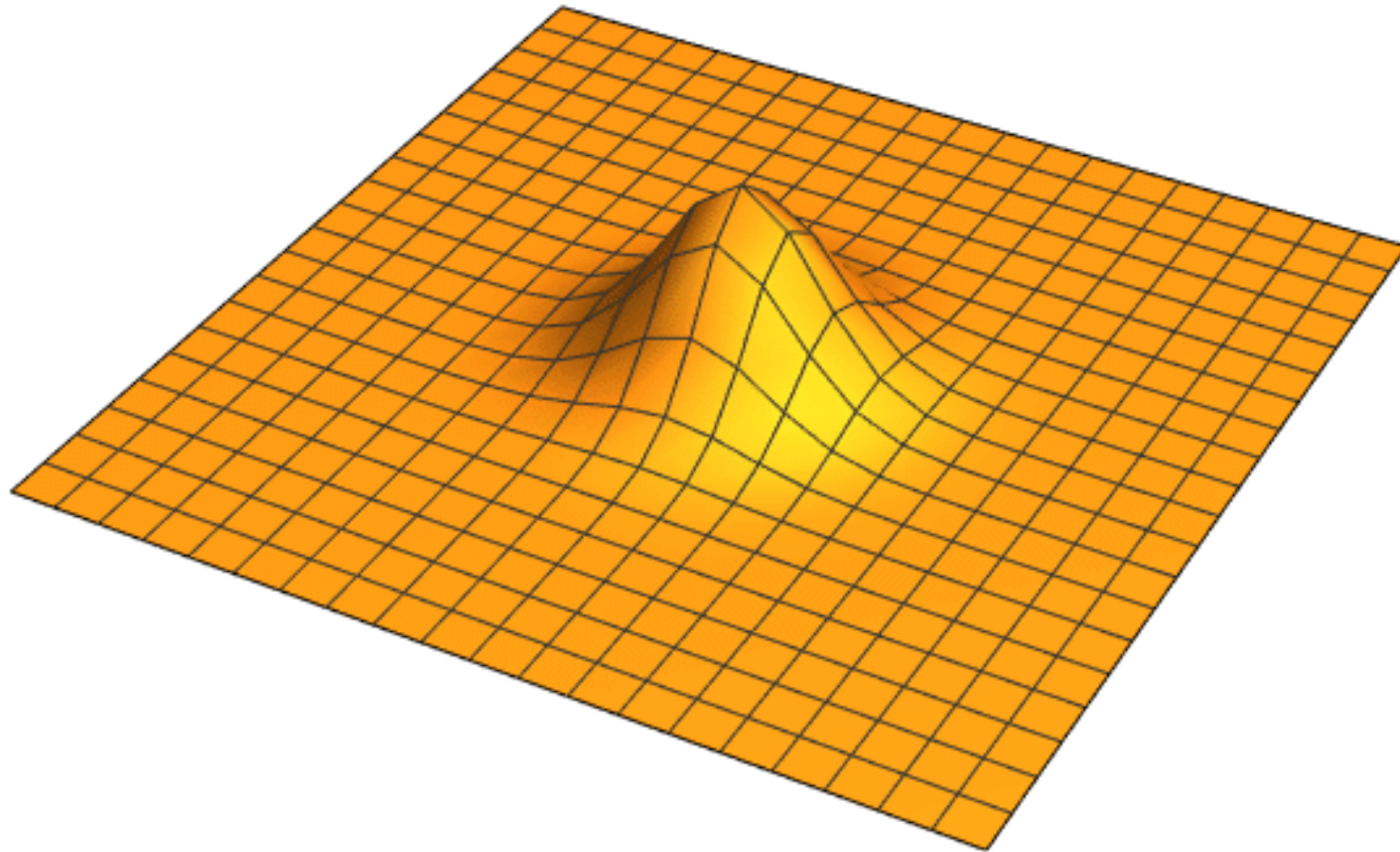
$$\frac{1}{\Delta t^2} (u_{i,j}^{n-1} + u_{i,j}^{n+1} - 2u_{i,j}^n)$$

$$= \frac{1}{\Delta x^2} (u_{i-1,j}^n + u_{i+1,j}^n + u_{i,j-1}^n + u_{i,j+1}^n - 4u_{i,j}^n)$$



# Finite difference solution

---



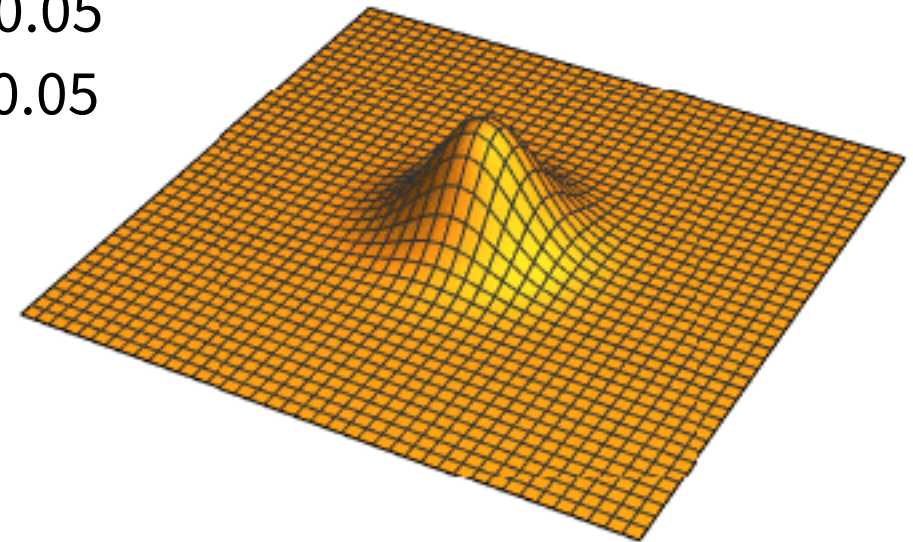
$$c = 1, \Delta x = 0.1, \Delta t = 0.05$$

# Stability

---

$$\Delta x = 0.05$$

$$\Delta t = 0.05$$



Can't always reduce  $\Delta x$   
without changing  $\Delta t$

Stability via ***von Neumann analysis*** (Trefethen Ch. 3.5, 4.4):  
amplification factor of ***all*** Fourier modes should be  $\leq 1$

- For wave equation in  $n$  dimensions,  $\Delta t \leq \Delta x / (n^{1/2} c)$

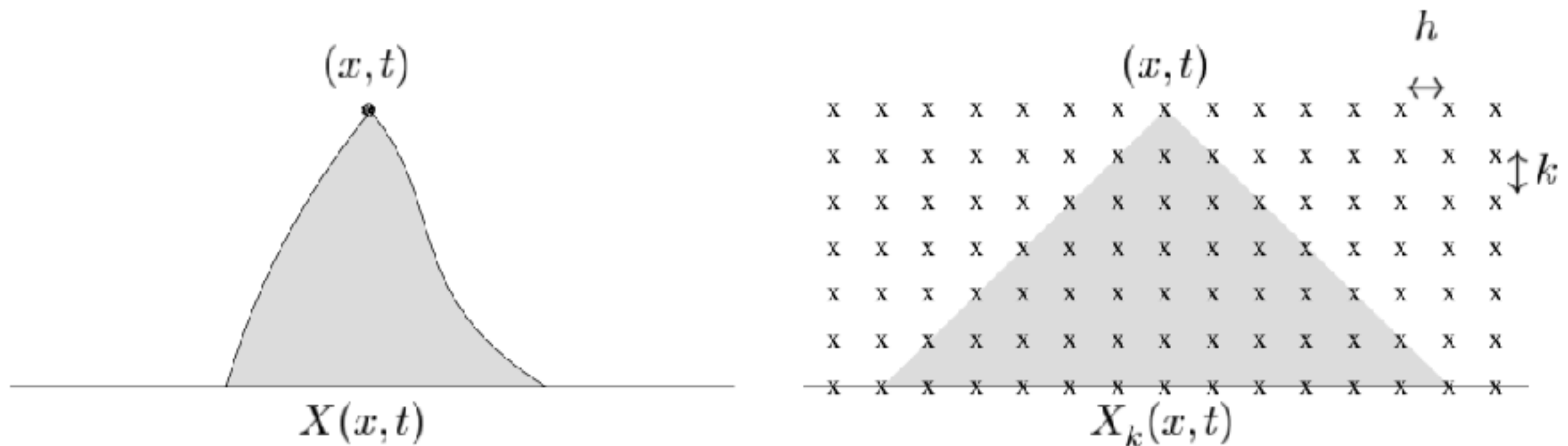
# The Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy (CFL) condition

---

True solution at  $u(x, t)$  depends on some subset of initial data  $u_0$

- e.g. waves propagate at finite speed  $c$

Numerical method cannot converge unless it “takes all the necessary data into account” (Trefethen Ch. 4.3)



[Trefethen]

Compare with wave eq. stability:  $\Delta t \leq \Delta x / (n^{1/2} c)$



# Next class

---

## *The Navier-Stokes equations for fluids*

- Reading: Stam, “Stable Fluids”, 1999



[Zhang et al. 2015]