

AN EXPLICIT WAVELET-BASED FINITE DIFFERENCE SCHEME FOR SOLVING ONE-DIMENSIONAL HEAT EQUATION

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ABSTRAK

Metode finite difference eksplisit adalah metode yang mudah diprogram dibandingkan metode finite difference implicit atau metode-metode numerik lainnya. Selain itu, metode eksplisit itu dapat digunakan untuk menyelesaikan persamaan panas (heat equation) linear dalam satu dimensi. Akan tetapi, metode eksplisit itu mempunyai sebuah kekurangan yaitu keterbatasan stabilitas dari penyelesaian numerik adalah sangat ketat. Oleh sebab itu, metode eksplisit itu tidak lagi termasuk daftar metode-metode numerik yang handal yang dapat digunakan untuk menyelesaikan persamaan-persamaan diferensial parsial.

Oleh karena itu, maka diusulkan untuk menggunakan analisis wavelet Haar di dalam skema numerik dari metode eksplisit untuk mengatasi kekurangan metode itu, yaitu keterbatasan stabilitas, dengan menjaga diskretisasi dari metode eksplisit agar tidak berubah. Kekurangan dari metode finite difference eksplisit itu sudah dapat diatasi secara signifikan oleh analisis Haar wavelet yang tidak mempengaruhi logika metode asli yaitu metode eksplisit.

Kata kunci: metode finite difference eksplisit, persamaan panas

1. INTRODUCTION

There are many practical situations in engineering where the geometry or boundary conditions are such that an analytical solution has not been obtained at all, or if the solution has been developed, it involves such a complex series solution that numerical evaluation becomes exceedingly difficult. For such situations the most fruitful and yet primitive approach to the problem is one based on finite difference techniques.

Finite differences are used to approximate differential increments in time and space coordinates; and the smaller we choose these finite increments, the more closely the solution which is numerically approximated. There are two fundamental approaches in finite difference; explicit and implicit approaches.

The explicit method steps out in time in a fashion that is similar to Euler's technique for solving ordinary differential equations. It has the advantage that it is simple to program but unfortunately has the disadvantage of a very stringent stability.

Stability of a numerical scheme for solving a partial differential equation means that the error at any stage of the computation are not amplified but are

attenuated as the computation progresses. It has been proven [2] that if the spatial step is halved in order to improve the approximation of the spatial second derivative in heat equation, the time step must be quartered to maintain the stability of explicit method, otherwise the solution will oscillate or lead to a considerably high unstable scheme. Furthermore, the computation of each of these time steps will take twice as long because it results in eightfold increase in the number of calculations. Thus, the computation burden may be large to attain acceptable accuracy.

The aim of this research is to introduce wavelet analysis in the explicit finite difference scheme, which is applied for solving one-dimensional heat equation, in order to alleviate the stability requirements of the numerical solution obtained from that scheme.

2. BASIC THEORY

The one-dimensional heat equation can be expressed as follows:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} \quad (1)$$

The temperature (T) in equation (1) is a function of space and time that is $T = T(x, t)$. This function is expanded in Haar scaling function $\phi(x)$ and Haar wavelet function $\psi(x)$ [3] then multiplied by Haar scaling function in time $h(t)$ as follows

$$(T_n)_x = \sum_{i=0}^I \sum_{n=0}^N h_n(t) [T_{i,n}^\phi \phi_i(x) + T_{i,n}^\psi \psi_i(x)] \quad (2)$$

At time level $n+1/2$, the expansion of T in Haar scaling and wavelet functions is

$$(T_{n+1/2})_x = \sum_{i=0}^I \sum_{n=0}^N h_{n+1/2}(t) [T_{i+1/2, n+1/2}^\phi \phi_{i+1/2}(x) + T_{i+1/2, n+1/2}^\psi \psi_{i+1/2}(x)] \quad (3)$$

where

$$h_n(t) = h\left(\frac{t}{\Delta t} - k\right) \quad (4a)$$

$$\phi_i(t) = \phi\left(\frac{x}{\Delta x} - k\right) \quad (4b)$$

$$\psi_i(t) = \psi\left(\frac{x}{\Delta x} - k\right) \quad (4c)$$

The notation I and N represents the number of grids in space and time (resolution), respectively.

Equation (2) and (3) are substituted in equation (1). Equation (2) represents the derivative in time while equation (3) is the spatial derivative, that is

$$\left(\frac{\partial T_n}{\partial t}\right) - \alpha \left(\frac{\partial^2 T_{n+1/2}}{\partial x^2}\right) = 0 \quad (5)$$

The inner product of this equation with a weighted function w , which can be expressed as follows

$$w = h_{n+1/2}(\phi_i(x) + \psi_i(x))$$

is then integrated using Galerkin method [1]. The resulting equations are

$$T_{i,n+1}^\phi = T_{i,n}^\phi + \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \begin{bmatrix} -T_{i-1/2,n+1/2}^\phi + 2T_{i,n+1/2}^\phi - T_{i+1/2,n+1/2}^\phi \\ -T_{i-1/2,n+1/2}^\psi + 2T_{i,n+1/2}^\psi - T_{i+1/2,n+1/2}^\psi \end{bmatrix} \quad (6a)$$

$$T_{i,n+1}^\psi = T_{i,n}^\psi + \frac{\alpha \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \begin{bmatrix} T_{i-1/2,n+1/2}^\phi - 2T_{i,n+1/2}^\phi + T_{i+1/2,n+1/2}^\phi \\ +T_{i-1/2,n+1/2}^\psi + 2T_{i,n+1/2}^\psi + T_{i+1/2,n+1/2}^\psi \end{bmatrix} \quad (6b)$$

Temperatures appeared in equations (6a) and (6b) are shown in Figure 1. It is obvious that the scheme is implicit in time step n to $n + 1/2$ and explicit in $n + 1/2$ to $n + 1$. This will ensure an unconditionally stable scheme even with infinitesimal time steps.

For more details about the discretization of this equation see [6]

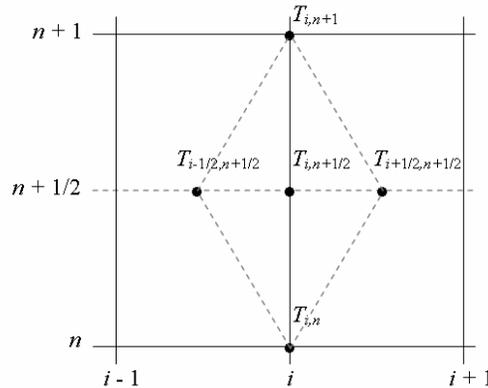


Figure 1. Positions of temperatures appeared in equations (6a) and (6b)

3. NUMERICAL RESULTS

The one-dimensional heat equation obtained from a wall subjected to a temperature of zero degrees centigrade on its both sides and has a thickness of L , see Figure 2, along with its boundary and initial conditions can be expressed as follows:

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2}$$

$$T(t,0) = T(t,L) = 0$$

$$T(t,x) = 100 \sin \pi x$$
(7)

The exact solution of this equation (7) is

$$T(x,t) = 100e^{-\pi^2 \alpha t} \sin \pi x ; 0 \leq x \leq L, 0 \leq t < \infty$$
(8)

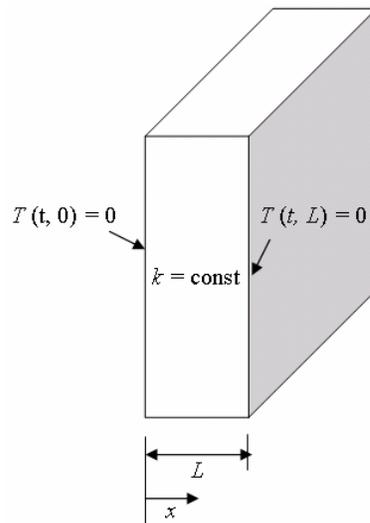


Figure 2. A plane wall zero temperature at the boundaries

Equation (8) represents the temperature distribution within the wall at any point within the wall and at any time. The heat conduction transferred through the wall can be then evaluated from Fourier's law [5]. Figure 3 shows the plot of Equation (8) at three time levels, $t = 0, 15, 30, 45$ and 60 seconds

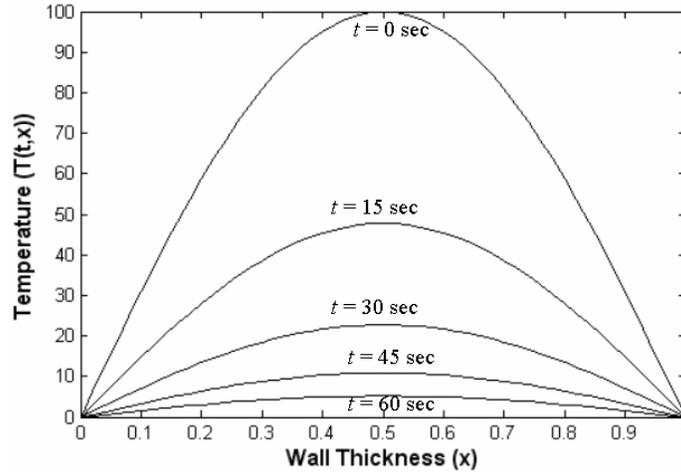


Figure 3. The temperature distribution obtained from Equation (8) along wall thickness during five time levels $t = 0, 15, 30, 45,$ and 60 seconds

Figure 3 was obtained applying the exact solution (Equation 8) using time step 15 seconds starts at 0. The total number of data points is 50 that is, $(L/50)$ where $L = 1$ m and the value of heat diffusivity $(\alpha = 0.005 \text{ m}^2/\text{s})$.

The same details, time step $\Delta t = 15 \text{ sec}$ and special step $\Delta x = L/50 \text{ m}$, was applied to obtain the numerical solution of Equation (7) applying the numerical the wavelet-based numerical scheme (Equations (6a) and (6b)). The result is shown in Figure 4.

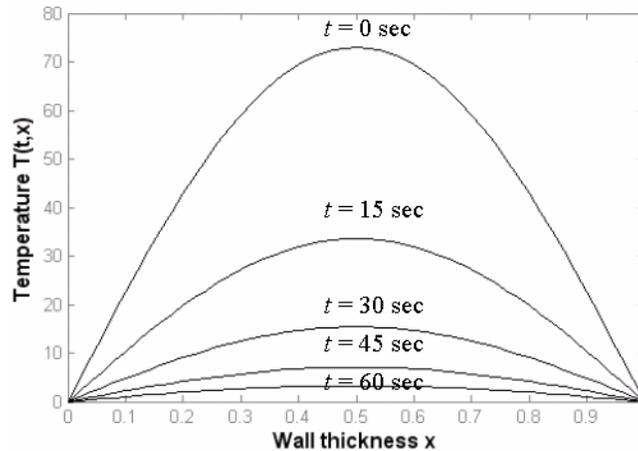


Figure 4. the solution of Equation (7) using wavelet-based numerical scheme Equations (6a) and (6b)

4. DISCUSSION

It is obvious that the values of temperatures in figures (3) and (4) are not the same. For instance, at $t = 0$, the maximum value of temperature in figure (3) that is the exact solution, is 100°C occurs at $L/2$ while the maximum value of temperature in figure (4) that is the numerical solution obtained from the wavelet-based numerical solution is 73°C which occurs at the same position, $L/2$.

This difference in temperature values is understood as the numerical error which occurs as a result of truncating the expansion of temperature function in wavelet series. By other words, it is the difference between the derivative and difference equation based on wavelet coefficients.

The wavelet-based numerical scheme, as expected, resulted in stable solution which can be compared to the exact solution yet with an acceptable percentage of error. This unconditional stability of wavelet-based scheme represents one of the distinctive features of wavelet-based schemes based on its ability to copying with nonlinearity and large discretization meshes [3].

In wavelet-based scheme, as the time and/or special step gets larger, some of additional bases will be added to keep tracing with change of the route of curve that might result in floating points as the case of conventional explicit scheme. As a result, the numerical solution will be unaffected by the sudden change of the time and/or special step.

5. CONCLUSION

We now get to this conclusion that the draw back of the explicit finite difference, namely instability, has been overcome by introducing Haar wavelet analysis which, in its essence, did not influence the logical approach of that method in term of getting one temperature value in the new time step from three known temperature values obtained at the previous time step [2]. Rather, wavelet has improved this approach by self adding of new temperature values found at the middle point between the previous and next time steps (figure 1). The same can be said concerning the special steps.

This self adding of new values can be interpreted as that wavelet analysis is built on multi-resolution analysis [3] in context of expressing a function, temperature here, in two coexist levels of resolution; the coarse level is obtained by the Haar scaling function and the other refining level is obtained by Haar wavelet function. With this the first order of approximation by wavelet expansion, compared to the first order of approximation by Taylor expansion on which the explicit finite difference approach is based [2], will results in one unknown temperature value obtained from six known values at shorter time step. Those three extra known values will result in higher accuracy and stability scheme than the Taylor-based numerical scheme which gives one known value of temperature corresponds to three known values at longer time step.

It is of course more consuming time of computation evaluating total number of temperature values at one time level than half of that number in the same level. This is true as long as the stability restrictions of the conventional scheme without wavelets have been satisfied. However, when the problem needs more details for the temperature distribution within the physical space the situation will be different as this twice as long as the time required for

computation will be compensated by the high stability addressed to wavelet-based approach.

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