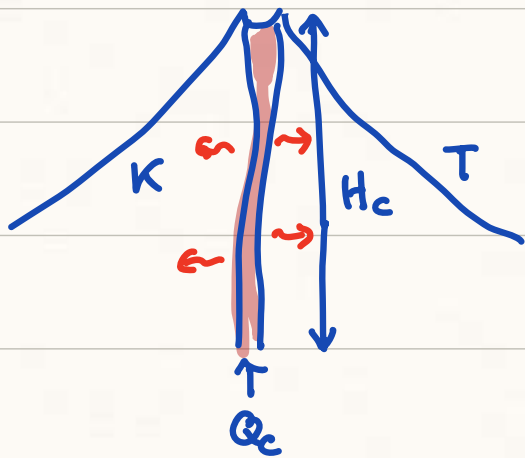


# Lecture 3: Conservative Finite Differences

Aim:  $\Rightarrow$  motivate our choice of FD

Example problem:

Steady heat flow from volcanic conduit  
(Flow from well  $\rightarrow$  hydrologic equivalent)



$H_c$  = height of conduit

$k$  = thermal cond. of rock

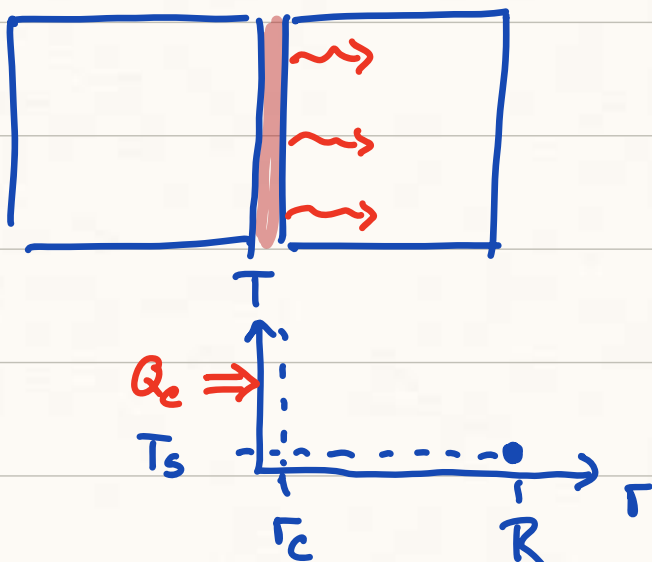
$T_s$  = surf. temp

$Q_c$  = heat flow

$r_c$  = conduit radius

$R$  = volcano radius

1D simplification



Heat equation

$$\cancel{\rho c_p \frac{\partial T}{\partial t}} - \nabla \cdot k \nabla T = 0$$

$$\cancel{\nabla \cdot k \nabla T} = 0 \quad -1/k$$

$$\Rightarrow \nabla \cdot \nabla T = 0$$

$$\underbrace{\cancel{\frac{1}{k}}}_{\uparrow} \underbrace{\frac{\partial}{\partial r}}_{\uparrow} \underbrace{\left( r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right)}_{\uparrow} = 0 \quad \cdot r$$

$$\text{PDE: } \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) = 0$$

$$r \in [r_c, R]$$

Boundary conditions:

1)  $T(R) = T_s$       fix  $T$  at surface  
(Dirichlet BC)

2)  $Q_c = A_c q(r_c)$        $A_c = 2\pi r_c H_c$

$$q = -\kappa \nabla T = -\kappa \frac{dT}{dr}$$

$$Q_c = -A_c \kappa \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right|_{r_c}$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right|_{r_c} = -\frac{Q_c}{A_c \kappa}$$

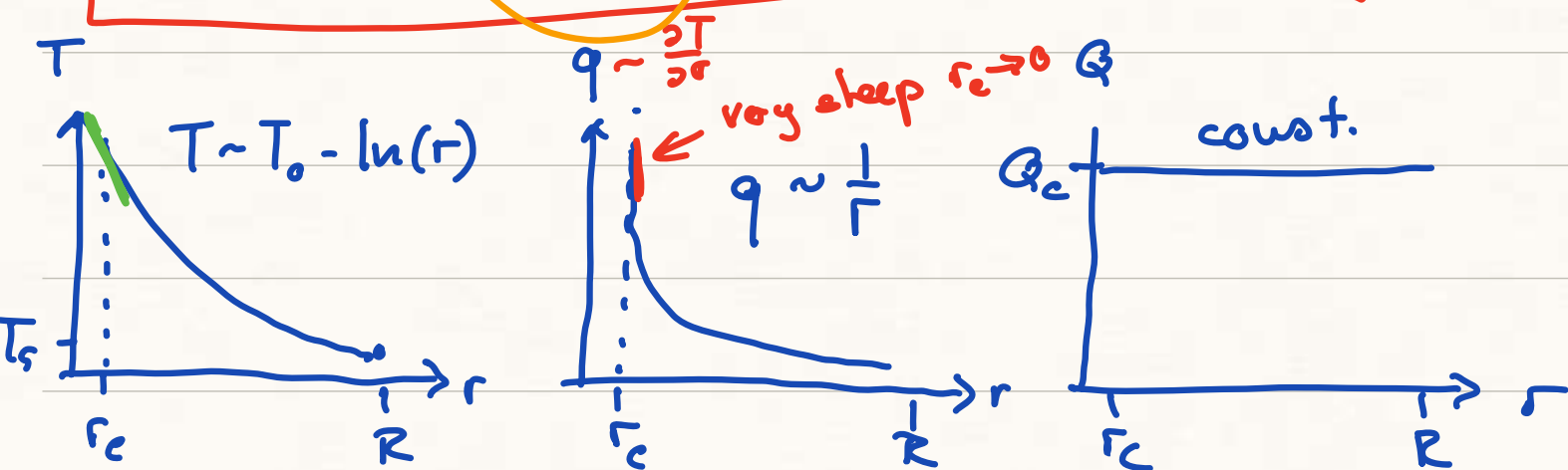
fix  $\frac{\partial T}{\partial r}$  at conduit (heat flow)  
(Neumann BC)

Summary:

$$\text{PDE: } \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right) = 0 \quad r \in [r_c, R]$$

$$\text{BC: } T(R) = T_s$$

$$\left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial r} \right|_{r_c} = -\frac{Q_c}{A_c \kappa}$$



# Finite difference discretization

PDE:  $\frac{d}{dr} \left( r \frac{dT}{dr} \right) = r \frac{d^2 T}{dr^2} + \frac{dT}{dr} = 0$

Look up Stand. FD:

$$\frac{dT}{dr} \approx \frac{T_{i+1} - T_{i-1}}{2\Delta r}$$

$$\frac{d^2 T}{dr^2} \approx \frac{T_{i+1} - 2T_i + T_{i-1}}{\Delta r^2}$$

# Finite differencing in conservation form

$$-\nabla \cdot [k \nabla T] = 0$$

radial:  $-\frac{1}{r} \frac{d}{dr} \left( r k \frac{dT}{dr} \right) = 0$

not simple deriv.

chain rule  $\rightarrow$  have simple derivatives

For now consider 1D linear geometry.

$$-\nabla \cdot [k \nabla T] = f_s$$

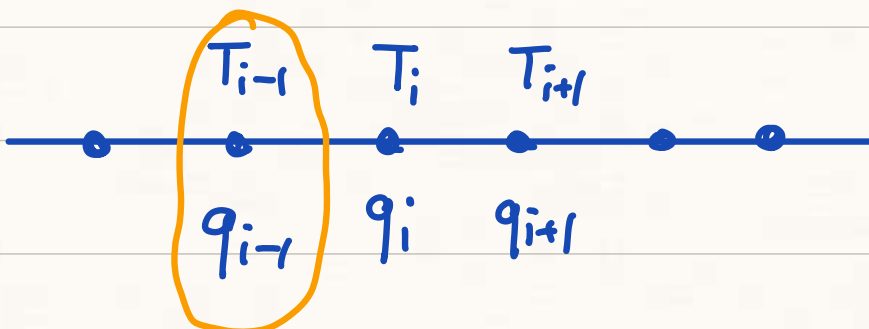
$$-\frac{d}{dx} \left[ k \frac{dT}{dx} \right] = f_s$$

Rewrite as div-grad system

1)  $\nabla \cdot q = f_s \xrightarrow{1D} \frac{dq}{dx} = f_s \xrightarrow{FD} \frac{q_{i+1} - q_{i-1}}{2\Delta x} = f_i$

2)  $q = -k \nabla T \xrightarrow{1D} q = -k \frac{dT}{dx} \quad q_i = -k_i \frac{T_{i+1} - T_{i-1}}{2\Delta x}$

notice: 2 variables ( $q, T$ ) collocated on grid



Either solve for both  $T$  &  $q$  simultaneously  
or eliminate  $q$  by substituting  $2 \rightarrow 1$

$$\frac{q_{i+1} - q_{i-1}}{2\Delta x} = f_i$$

$$\frac{1}{2\Delta x} \left[ \underbrace{-k_{i+1} \frac{T_{i+2} - T_i}{2\Delta x}}_{q_{i+1}} + \underbrace{k_{i-1} \frac{T_i - T_{i-2}}{2\Delta x}}_{q_{i-1}} \right] = f_i$$

$$\frac{1}{4\Delta x} \left[ -k_{i+1} T_{i+2} + (k_{i+1} - k_{i-1}) T_i - k_{i-1} T_{i-2} \right] = f_i$$

↪ Matlab

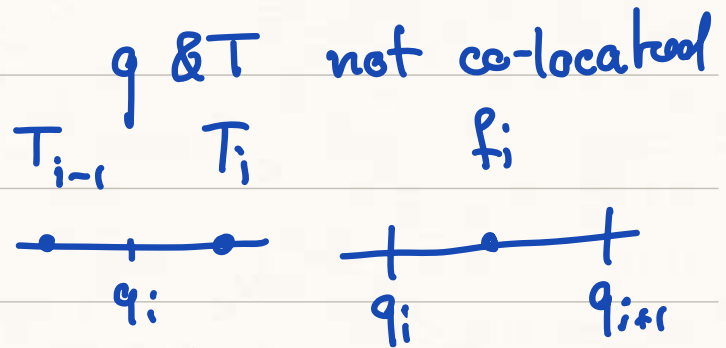
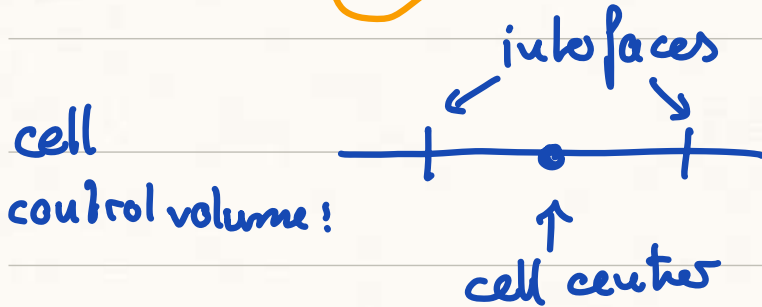
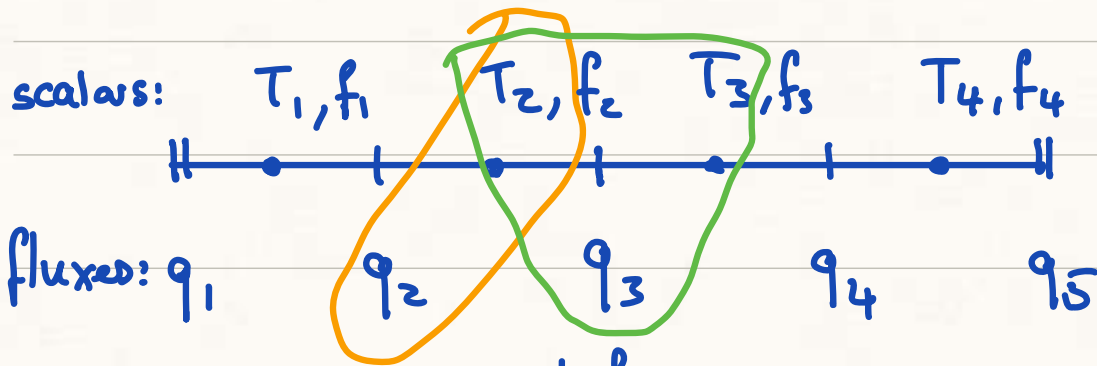


⇒ wide stencil ⇒ decoupling of even & odd nodes  
⇒ oscillations

but solution is improved in some ways.

# Conservative Finite Differences / Finite Volumes

Aims: 1) compact stencil } staggered grid  
 2) no decoupling



⇒ Discretize div-grad system:

$$\begin{aligned}
 1) \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{q} &= f_s \xrightarrow{1D} \frac{dq}{dx} = f \xrightarrow{CFD} \frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{\Delta x} = f_i \\
 2) \quad \mathbf{q} &= -\kappa \nabla T \xrightarrow{1D} \mathbf{q} = -\kappa \frac{dT}{dx} \xrightarrow{CFD} q_i = -\kappa \frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x}
 \end{aligned}$$

for now  $\kappa$  is constant

eliminate  $q_i$  by substituting ② into ①

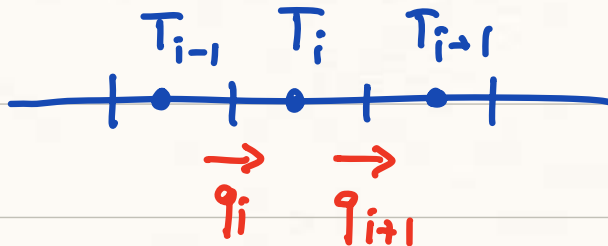
Note: indices are wrong here → new page

$$\frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{\Delta x} = f_i$$

$$\frac{1}{\Delta x} \left[ -k \frac{T_{i+2} - T_{i+1}}{\Delta x} + k \frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x} \right] = f_i$$

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{k}{\Delta x^2} \left[ T_{i+1} - 2T_i + T_{i-1} \right] = f_i$$

↑            ↑            ↑



$\Rightarrow$  excellent solution because heat is conserved exactly

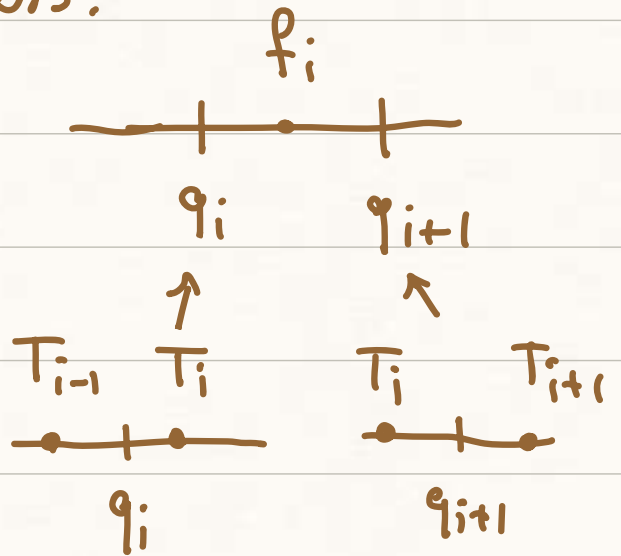
"Discrete conservation"

Indices fixed after class:

$$\frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{\Delta x} = f_i$$

$$q_i = -k \frac{T_i - T_{i-1}}{\Delta x}$$

$$q_{i+1} = -k \frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x}$$



substitute  $q_i$  &  $q_{i+1}$  into  $\frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{\Delta x} = f_i$

$$\frac{1}{\Delta x} \left[ -k \frac{T_{i+1} - T_i}{\Delta x} - \left( -k \frac{T_i - T_{i-1}}{\Delta x} \right) \right] = f_i$$

$$-\frac{k}{\Delta x^2} [T_{i+1} - 2T_i + T_{i-1}] = f_i$$