



Research Article

APPLICATION OF CRANK-NICOLSON METHOD TO A RANDOM COMPONENT HEAT EQUATION

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ABSTRACT

In this study, the solution of a random component heat equation is obtained by using Crank-Nicolson Method. The initial condition of this equation is examined by Normal distribution. The expected value and variance of solution of this equation are obtained. Crank-Nicolson method is applied to analyze the solution of this equation. Also, the solution and the graphs of the expected value and variance are obtained by using MATLAB software. The results of the heat equation are compared with random characteristics of this equation. Firstly, a random component heat equation is solved by this method.

**Keywords:** Random component heat equation, expected value, Crank-Nicolson method, variance.

**2010 Mathematics Classification:** 35R11, 35R60.

1. INTRODUCTION

The random partial differential equations (RPDEs) are defined as random partial differential equations with random inputs that can be a random variable or a stochastic process. The subject of the random component partial differential equations is one of much current interests due to the great importance of many applications in engineering, mathematics, biology, physics and a lot of applied sciences.

In the literature, there are very few studies on random partial differential equations (RPDEs). Babuska et al. proposed and analysed a stochastic collocation method to solve elliptic partial differential equations by random coefficients and forcing terms [2]. Nobile et al. proposed and analysed an anisotropic sparse grid stochastic collocation method for solving partial differential equations with random coefficients and forcing terms [21]. Charrier examined the problem of the numerical solution of an elliptic partial differential equation by random coefficients and homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions [3]. Kuo applied quasi-Monte Carlo methods to a class of elliptic partial differential equations by random coefficients which was parametrized by a countably infinite number of terms in a Karhunen–Loeve expansion [17]. Gunzburger used the stochastic finite element methods for solving partial differential equations by random input data [10]. It is generally impossible to solve random nonlinear partial differential equations

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analytically. Thus, various numerical methods and approximation schemes for RPDEs, ordinary differential equations and partial differential equations have been developed. There are a lot of numerical methods and approximation schemes as adomian decomposition method (ADM) [16], homotopy perturbation method [12-14,22,27], collocation method [24,25,28], Galerkin-type method [29], differential transformation method (DTM) [1,15,19,20,26,30], variational iteration method (VIM) [11], finite difference method [7,8,23], Crank-Nicolson method [4,6,18,23], random finite difference scheme [5,8] and many other methods. The main motivation of this paper is to analyze a random component heat equation by the Crank-Nicolson method which is the reliable computational method.

This work studies a random component heat equation solve numerically by the Crank-Nicolson method. Crank and Nicolson established a practical method for numerical evaluation of solutions of partial differential equations of the heat conduction type [4]. The aim of this study is to present the application of Crank-Nicolson method for obtaining the approximate analytical solution of the random component heat equation and for calculating the expected value and variance of this solution. It is observed that the numerical solution obtained by Crank-Nicolson method for this equation is almost similar to exact solution for this equation.

## 2. CRANK-NICOLSON METHOD

In this section, we present Crank-Nicolson method [18].

Consider the one-dimensional heat equation, for  $0 \leq x < a$ , and  $0 < t < b$ ,

$$u_t(x, t) = c^2 u_{xx}(x, t) \tag{1}$$

with the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = f(x) \quad \text{for } t = 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq x \leq a \tag{2}$$

with the boundary conditions

$$u(0, t) = c_1 \text{ for } x = 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq b,$$

$$u(1, t) = c_2 \text{ for } x = a \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq b.$$

If the Crank- Nicolson discretization is applied to the problem (1) and (2), then it is obtained as [18]

$$\frac{u_{i,j+1}-u_{i,j}}{k} = c^2 \frac{u_{i-1,j+1}-2u_{i,j+1}+u_{i+1,j+1}+u_{i-1,j}-2u_{i,j}+u_{i+1,j}}{2h^2} \tag{3}$$

Moreover,  $r = \frac{c^2 k}{h^2}$  is substituted in Eq. (3). If Eq. (3) is rearranged, then the following implicit difference formula is obtained. For  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1$  [18]

$$-ru_{i-1,j+1} + (2 + 2r)u_{i,j+1} - ru_{i+1,j+1} = (2 - 2r)u_{i,j} + r(u_{i-1,j} + u_{i+1,j}) \tag{4}$$

where the terms on the right hand side of this equation are all known. Formula (4) is sometimes implemented by using ratio  $r=1$ . In this case, Eq. (4) become [18]

$$-u_{i-1,j+1} + 4u_{i,j+1} - u_{i+1,j+1} = u_{i-1,j} + u_{i+1,j} \tag{5}$$

for  $i = 2, 3, \dots, n - 1$ . Also, The boundary conditions gives the first and last equations (i.e.  $u_{1,j} = u_{1,j+1} = c_1$  and  $u_{n,j} = u_{n,j+1} = c_2$ , respectively). Equations (5) are usually solved in their tridiagonal matrix form  $Ax = B$  [18]

$$\begin{bmatrix} 4 & -1 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ -1 & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & \ddots & 4 & \ddots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots & -1 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & -1 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_{2,j+1} \\ u_{3,j+1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{p,j+1} \\ \vdots \\ u_{n-2,j+1} \\ u_{n-1,j+1} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2c_1 + u_{3,j} \\ u_{2,j} + u_{4,j} \\ \vdots \\ u_{p-1,j} + u_{p+1,j} \\ \vdots \\ u_{n-3,j} + u_{n-1,j} \\ u_{n-2,j} + 2c_2 \end{bmatrix}.$$

If the Crank-Nicolson method is applied in Matlab software, then this linear system  $Ax = B$  is solved by either direct means or by iteration.

### 3. NORMAL DISTRIBUTION

**Definition (Normal random variable):** If the probability density function of a random variable  $X$  has the following form, this random variable has the Normal distribution and is called a Normal random variable.

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sigma\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{1}{2}\left(\frac{x-\mu}{\sigma}\right)^2}, \quad -\infty < x < \infty, -\infty < \mu < \infty, \sigma^2 > 0 \tag{6}$$

If the random variable  $X$  gets a normal distribution with parameters  $\mu$  and  $\sigma^2$ , the expected value and variance of the random variable  $X$  are given as [9]

$$E(X) = \mu, Var(X) = \sigma^2 \tag{7}$$

### 4. NUMERICAL EXPERIMENT

Consider the following random component heat equation. For  $0 < x < 1$  and  $0 < t < 0.1$ ,  
 $u_t(x, t) = u_{xx}(x, t)$  (8)

with the initial condition

$$u(x, 0) = A\sin(\pi x) + B\sin(3\pi x) \text{ for } t = 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq x \leq 1 \tag{9}$$

with the boundary conditions

$$\begin{aligned} u(0, t) &= 0 \text{ for } x = 0 \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq 0.1 \\ u(1, t) &= 0 \text{ for } x = 1 \text{ and } 0 \leq t \leq 0.1 \end{aligned}$$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are normal distributed random variable with parameters  $\mu = 1, \sigma = 1$ , i.e.  $A, B \sim N(\mu = 1, \sigma^2 = 1)$ .

If we use the step sizes  $\Delta x = h = 0.1$  and  $\Delta t = k = 0.01$ , the ratio  $r = 1$ . The grid is obtained  $n = 11$  columns wide with  $m = 11$  rows high. If we apply the algorithm, then it is generated the expected values of the approximate solutions of Eq. (8) for  $0 < x_i < 1$  and  $0 \leq t_j \leq 0.1$ . Also, Monte Carlo simulation is performed 1000 times for the expected values of these solutions of the Eq. (8) using the Matlab software. Then the expected values of approximate solutions of Eq. (8) in Table 1 is obtained for  $0 < x_i < 1$  and  $0 \leq t_j \leq 0.1$ .

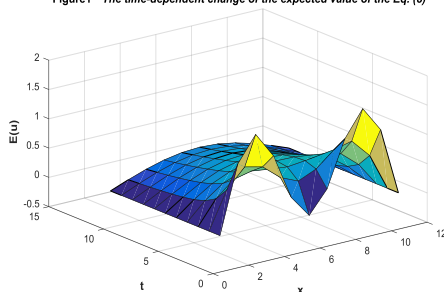
If we compare these values obtained from Crank-Nicolson method, it is seen that these are almost similar with the analytical solution  $u(x, t) = \sin(\pi x)e^{-\pi^2 t} + \sin(3\pi x)e^{-9\pi^2 t}$  for  $A = B = 1$ .

**Table 1.** The expected values of approximate solutions of Eq. (8)

	$x_2 = 0.1$	$x_3 = 0.2$	$x_4 = 0.3$	$x_5 = 0.4$	$x_6 = 0.5$	$x_7 = 0.6$	$x_8 = 0.7$	$x_9 = 0.8$	$x_{10} = 0.9$
$t_1$	1,14413	1,55603	1,08649	0,27368	-0,11527	0,27368	1,08649	1,55603	1,14413
$t_2$	0,61866	0,91861	0,82517	0,55235	0,41301	0,55235	0,82517	0,91861	0,61866
$t_3$	0,38665	0,62802	0,68160	0,62741	0,58988	0,62741	0,68160	0,62802	0,38665
$t_4$	0,27804	0,48414	0,59028	0,62156	0,62449	0,62156	0,59028	0,48414	0,27804
$t_5$	0,22190	0,40347	0,52367	0,58549	0,60353	0,58549	0,52367	0,40347	0,22190
$t_6$	0,18863	0,35105	0,47000	0,53998	0,56274	0,53998	0,47000	0,35105	0,18863
$t_7$	0,16580	0,31214	0,42414	0,49339	0,51669	0,49339	0,42414	0,31214	0,16580
$t_8$	0,14815	0,28045	0,38373	0,44893	0,47116	0,44893	0,38373	0,28045	0,14815
$t_9$	0,13341	0,25322	0,34757	0,40769	0,42831	0,40769	0,34757	0,25322	0,13341
$t_{10}$	0,12059	0,22914	0,31499	0,36992	0,38881	0,36992	0,31499	0,22914	0,12059
$t_{11}$	0,10918	0,20757	0,28554	0,33551	0,35272	0,33551	0,28554	0,20757	0,10918

Also, the graph of the expected values of approximate solutions of the Eq. (8) is given in figure 1.

Figure1 The time-dependent change of the expected value of the Eq. (8)



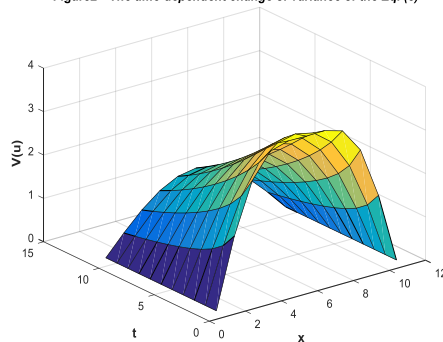
Moreover, if we apply the algorithm, then it is generated the variances of the approximate solutions of Eq. (8) for  $0 < x_i < 1$  and  $0 \leq t_j \leq 0.1$ . Also, Monte Carlo simulation is performed 1000 times for the variances of these solutions of the Eq. (8) using the Matlab software. Then then the variances of approximate solutions of Eq. (8) in Table 2 is obtained for  $0 < x_i < 1$  and  $0 \leq t_j \leq 0.1$ .

**Table 2.** The variances of approximate solutions of Eq. (8)

	$x_2 = 0.1$	$x_3 = 0.2$	$x_4 = 0.3$	$x_5 = 0.4$	$x_6 = 0.5$	$x_7 = 0.6$	$x_8 = 0.7$	$x_9 = 0.8$	$x_{10} = 0.9$
$t_1$	1,60787	2,77220	3,32875	3,45015	3,44174	3,45015	3,32875	2,77220	1,60787
$t_2$	1,26553	2,28933	2,95050	3,27783	3,36993	3,27783	2,95050	2,28933	1,26553
$t_3$	1,06739	1,98239	2,64701	3,03423	3,15924	3,03423	2,64701	1,98239	1,06739
$t_4$	0,93447	1,75856	2,38828	2,77700	2,90762	2,77700	2,38828	1,75856	0,93447
$t_5$	0,83340	1,57829	2,16053	2,52864	2,65426	2,52864	2,16053	1,57829	0,83340
$t_6$	0,74986	1,42428	1,95688	2,29716	2,41405	2,29716	1,95688	1,42428	0,74986
$t_7$	0,67748	1,28856	1,77342	2,08466	2,19189	2,08466	1,77342	1,28856	0,67748
$t_8$	0,61326	1,16715	1,60758	1,89090	1,98864	1,89090	1,60758	1,16715	0,61326
$t_9$	0,55561	1,05775	1,45741	1,71476	1,80360	1,71476	1,45741	1,05775	0,55561
$t_{10}$	0,50359	0,95884	1,32135	1,55487	1,63551	1,55487	1,32135	0,95884	0,50359
$t_{11}$	0,45652	0,86927	1,19801	1,40983	1,48298	1,40983	1,19801	0,86927	0,45652

Also, the graph of the variances of approximate solutions of Eq. (8) is given in figure 2.

Figure2 The time-dependent change of variance of the Eq. (8)



## 5. CONCLUSION

In this study, we successfully applied Crank-Nicolson method to solve a random component heat equation. Also, the expected value and variance of this solution are obtained. Graphs of the expected value and variance are plotted with MAPLE software. Numerical results show that this method is very effective and practical.

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