The Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty (CTBT)

- The CTBT bans all nuclear explosions for military or civilian purposes to limit the proliferation of nuclear weapons by cutting a vital link, testing, in their development.
- A network of seismological, hydroacoustic, infrasound, and radionuclide sensors will monitor compliance. Once the Treaty enters into force, on-site inspection will be provided to check compliance.
- The US has signed the CTBT, but not ratified it.





Red, Blue - ratified Orange, Azure - signed Yellow, Cyan - outside treaty

Can an Opponent Cheat on the CTBT?

- U.S. and Russian experiments have demonstrated that seismic signals can be muffled, or decoupled, for a nuclear explosion detonated in a large underground cavity.
- Such technical scenarios are credible only for yields of at most a few kilotons.
- Seismic component of the International Monitoring Syster consist of 170 seismic stations.
- The INS is expected to detect all seismic events of about magnitude 4 or larger corresponds to an explosive yield of approximately 1 kiloton (the explosive yield of 1,000 tons of TNT).

What can be learned from low-yield, surreptitious blasts?

Can it extrapolated to full-up tests?



Demonstration of size of cavity needed to decouple a 5 kT blast.

Nuclear Weapons 101

- Fissile materials (^{235}U , ^{233}U , ^{239}Pu) are used to make weapons of devastating power.
- As each nucleus fissions, it emits 2 or so neutrons plus lots of energy. Usually most of the neutrons leave without striking any other nuclei.

 $^{235}\text{U} + \text{n} \rightarrow ^{236}\text{U}^* \rightarrow ^{140}\text{Xe} + {}^{94}\text{Sr} + 2\text{n} + \approx 200 \text{ MeV}$

- Increasing the density creates a 'chain reaction' where the emitted neutrons cause other fissions in a self-propagating process.
- Only about 8 kg of plutonium or 25 kg of highly-enriched uranium (HEU) is needed is needed to produce a weapon.



HEU Gun-Type Design

The figure to the right shows the 'Little Boy' design of the nuclear bomb dropped on Hiroshima. The fissile, 235 U is shown in red. A cordite charge was detonated behind one of the pieces of 235 U accelerating it to a speed of 300 m/s before it struck the target to form a critical mass (see figure below). A neutron trigger/initiator was used to start the chain reaction.





Critical Mass

In the greatest gathering of scientific talent in human history, the Manhattan Project had the goal 'to produce a practical military weapon in the form of a bomb in which the energy is released by a fast neutron chain reaction'. This chain reaction will occur when the neutron number density $n(\vec{r}, t)$ grows exponentially in time. Under what conditions will this occur given the fissile material ²³⁵U has a neutron diffusion constant $D = 10^5 m^2/s$ and a neutron creation rate $C = 10^8 s^{-1}$?



Nuclear fireball 1 *ms* after detonation showing rope tricks (Tumbler Snapper).

Treat the system as a one-dimensional one of length *L* in the range 0 < x < L. Neutrons that reach the boundaries escape and no longer contribute to the reaction so require that n(x = 0, t) = n(x = L, t) = 0.

The Diffusion Equation - Getting Started

- Consider a portion of a distribution of matter in a pipe of area A where the number density n depends on position in the x direction.
- Frick's Law describes the flow of material through volume

$$J_x = -D\frac{\partial n}{\partial x}$$

where J_x is the *x*-component of the flow of material (units: $particles/m^2 - s$), *n* is the number density of the material, and *D* is a constant of proportionality (unit: m^2/s).



The Diffusion Equation - An Example

Consider the one-dimensional diffusion equation corresponding to particles in a long pipe of length L.

$$\frac{\partial n(x,t)}{\partial t} = D\frac{\partial^2 n}{\partial x^2} + Cn$$

where n(x,t) is the particle density, D is the self-diffusion coefficient, and C is the creation rate. Restrict the problem to the case where there are no sources of particles (C = 0).

- 1. What is the general solution to this differential equation?
- 2. What restrictions are there on the parameters of the solution?
- 3. Suppose the particle density goes to zero at the ends of the pipe so n(x = 0, t) = n(x = L, t) = 0. What is the particular solution?

The Diffusion Equation - Discretization



The Diffusion Equation - Discretization



Now discretize the initial values and boundary conditions.









Euler's Relation - 1

Euler's relation (also known as *Euler's formula*) is considered the first bridge between the fields of algebra and geometry, as it relates the exponential function to the trigonometric sine and cosine functions.

Euler's relation states that

$$e^{ix} = \cos x + i \sin x$$

Start by noting that

$$i^{k} = \begin{cases} 1 & k \equiv 0\\ i & k \equiv 1\\ -1 & k \equiv 2\\ -i & k \equiv 3 \end{cases}$$

Euler's Relation - 2

Using the Taylor series expansions of e^x , $\sin x$ and $\cos x$ it follows that

$$e^{ix} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{i^n x^n}{n!} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \left(\frac{x^{4n}}{(4n)!} + \frac{ix^{4n+1}}{(4n+1)!} - \frac{x^{4n+2}}{(4n+2)!} - \frac{ix^{4n+3}}{(4n+3)!} \right)$$

Because the series expansion above is absolutely convergent for all x, we can rearrange the terms of the series as

$$e^{ix} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n}}{(2n)!} + i \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (-1)^n \frac{x^{2n+1}}{(2n+1)!} = \cos x + i \sin x$$



Sample Code - 1

```
(* Define diffusion parameters. *)
Dn = 0.001; (* self diffusion coefficient in m<sup>2</sup>/shake *)
Ln = 0.1; (* size of the region in meters. *)
```

```
(* parameters for the algorithm. *)
tmax = 10.0; (* maximum time in shakes. *)
Nxsteps = 20; (* steps in x. *)
Ntsteps = 1000; (* steps in time. *)
dx = Ln/Nxsteps; (* stepsize in x (m). *)
dt = tmax/Ntsteps; (* stepsize in time. *)
```

```
(* set up the distribution of particles at t=0 so there is always
a spike of the same size in the middle. *)
n0 = Table[{x, 0, 0}, {x, 0, Ln, dx}];
n0[[Nxsteps/2 + 1, 3]] = 1/dx ;
```

```
(* initialize the main array. *)
particle = Table[0.0, {i, 1, Nxsteps}, {n, 1, Ntsteps}];
```

Sample Code - 2

```
(* put in the initial conditions for t=0. *)
Do[particle[[i, 1]] = n0[[i, 3]], {i, 1, Nxsteps}];
```

```
(* The boundary condition at x=0. *)
Do[particle[[1, n]] = 10.0, {n, 2, Ntsteps}];
(* The boundary condition at x=L. *)
Do[particle[[Nxsteps, n]] = 0.6, {n, 2, Ntsteps}];
```

```
(* constants for the recursion relation. *)
A0 = 1 - (2*dt*Dn)/dx^2;
B0 = (dt*Dn)/dx^2;
```

(* main loop. outer loop over time and inner loop over position. *) Do[

Oh-Oh



Neutron Diffusion, $L_n=0.13$, x=0.065 m



Oh-Oh



The Code - 1

```
(* Define diffusion parameters. *)
Dn = 0.001; (* self diffusion coefficient in m<sup>2</sup>/shake *)
Cn = 1.0; (* Creation rate in fraction/shake. *)
Ln = 0.13; (* size of the region in meters. *)
```

```
(* parameters for the algorithm. *)
tmax = 10.0; (* maximum time in shakes. *)
Nxsteps = 40; (* steps in x. *)
Ntsteps = 3000; (* steps in time. *)
dx = Ln/Nxsteps; (* stepsize in x (m). *)
dt = tmax/Ntsteps; (* stepsize in time (shakes). *)
```

```
(* set up the distribution of neutrons at t=0 so there is always
a spike of the same size in the middle. *)
n0 = Table[{x, 0, 0}, {x, 0, Ln, dx}];
n0[[IntegerPart[Nxsteps/2], 3]] = 1/dx ;
```

```
(* some test parameters. *)
tsigma = dx^2/(2*Dn);
```

The Code - 2

```
(* monitor the choice of parameters. *)
Print["tsigma=", tsigma, " shakes, dt=", dt, " shakes, L=", Ln, " m"]
(* initialize the main array. *)
neutron = Table[0.0, {i, 1, Nxsteps}, {n, 1, Ntsteps}];
(* put in the initial conditions for t=0. *)
Do[neutron[[i, 1]] = n0[[i, 3]], {i, 1, Nxsteps}];
(* The boundary condition at x=0. *)
Do[neutron[[1, n]] = 0.0, {n, 2, Ntsteps}];
(* The boundary condition at x=L. *)
Do[neutron[[Nxsteps, n]] = 0.0, {n, 2, Ntsteps}];
```

```
(* constants for the recursion relation. *)
A0 = 1 - (2*dt*Dn)/dx^2 + dt*Cn;
B0 = (dt*Dn)/dx^2;
```

The Code - 3

```
(* main loop. outer loop over time and inner loop over position. *)
Do
 Do[neutron[[i, n]] =
   A0*neutron[[i, n - 1]] + B0*neutron[[i + 1, n - 1]] +
    B0*neutron[[i - 1, n - 1]],
  {i, 2, Nxsteps -1}](* end of inner loop *),
 {n, 2, Ntsteps}] (* end of outer loop *)
(* plotting the results in the middle of the x range. *)
xcounter = IntegerPart[Nxsteps/2];
xvalue = dx*xcounter;
t1 = Table[{dt*(n - 1), neutron[[xcounter, n]]}, {n, 1, Ntsteps}];
t1a = Table[t1[[n, 2]], {n, 2, Ntsteps}];
p1 = ListLogLogPlot[t1,
  PlotRange -> {{dt, tmax}, {Automatic, Automatic}}, Frame -> True,
  FrameLabel -> {"t (shakes)", "n (inverse meters)",
        StringForm["Neutron Diffusion, Ln=`` m", Ln], ""}, Joined -> True
  BaseStyle -> Large, PlotStyle -> Thickness[0.005],
  LabelStyle -> Directive[Larger], ImageSize -> 7*72]
```