



NUMERICAL SCHEMES FOR CONSERVATION LAWS:
A GUIDE FOR A QUICK IMPLEMENTATION.
PART I

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These notes list some numerical methods for the advection equation with constant coefficients in one dimension.

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1 BASIC NOTATIONS

Let us consider a structured (rectangular) grid $\{x_i, t^n\}$, $i = 1, \dots, N$, $n = 1, \dots, M$, with time step Δt and space step Δx . Denote by U_i^n the approximate value of a function u at the grid node (x_i, t^n) .

Let us define the constant

$$\lambda := \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x}.$$

Let us consider the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u(x, t) + \partial_x [f(u(x, t))] = 0, & x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x). \end{cases}$$

Hereafter we will consider numerical schemes written in the form

$$\partial_t u(x_i, t^n) = \mathcal{L}_i(u(\cdot, t^n)),$$

so that one can easily decouple the space discretization and the time discretization.

2 TIME DISCRETIZATION

Given \mathcal{L}_i , one can write a high-order-in-time approximation scheme by using the following approximations [7, Sect. 4.2.1].

2.1 Forward Euler I order

$$U^{n+1} = U_i^n + \Delta t \mathcal{L}(U^n)$$

2.2 Runge-Kutta TVD II order

$$\begin{aligned} U^{(1)} &= U^n + \Delta t \mathcal{L}(U^n) \\ U^{n+1} &= \frac{1}{2} U^n + \frac{1}{2} U^{(1)} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta t \mathcal{L}(U^{(1)}) \end{aligned}$$

2.3 Runge-Kutta TVD III order

$$\begin{aligned} U^{(1)} &= U^n + \Delta t \mathcal{L}(U^n) \\ U^{(2)} &= \frac{3}{4}U^n + \frac{1}{4}U^{(1)} + \frac{1}{4}\Delta t \mathcal{L}(U^{(1)}) \\ U^{n+1} &= \frac{1}{3}U^n + \frac{2}{3}U^{(2)} + \frac{2}{3}\Delta t \mathcal{L}(U^{(2)}) \end{aligned}$$

3 SPACE DISCRETIZATION FOR THE ADVECTION EQUATION WITH CONSTANT COEFFICIENT

Let us consider the initial value problem

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u(x, t) + a \partial_x u(x, t) = 0, & x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad t > 0, \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x), \end{cases}$$

with $a > 0$. Let us define the CFL parameter

$$\zeta := a\lambda$$

and assume that $\zeta \leq 1$ (included semi-Lagrangian schemes).

3.1 Upwind method (UPW) [4]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -\zeta(U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n), \quad i = 2, \dots, N$$

3.2 Lax-Wendroff (LW) [4]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -\frac{1}{2}\zeta(U_{i+1}^n - U_{i-1}^n) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta^2(U_{i+1}^n - 2U_i^n + U_{i-1}^n), \quad i = 2, \dots, N-1$$

3.3 Beam Warming (BW) [4]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -\frac{1}{2}\zeta(3U_i^n - 4U_{i-1}^n + U_{i-2}^n) + \frac{1}{2}\zeta^2(U_i^n - 2U_{i-1}^n + U_{i-2}^n), \quad i = 3, \dots, N$$

3.4 Semi-Lagrangian I order (SL1) [3]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -U_i^n + I[U^n](x^*) \quad i = 2, \dots, N$$

$$x^* = x_i - a\Delta t, \quad (x^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i])$$

$$I[U^n](x) = \gamma_1 x + \gamma_2, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^2$ solution to

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{i-1} & 1 \\ x_i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{i-1}^n \\ U_i^n \end{pmatrix}$$

3.5 Semi-Lagrangian II order (SL2) [3]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -U_i^n + I[U^n](x^*) \quad i = 3, \dots, N$$

$$x^* = x_i - a\Delta t, \quad (x^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i])$$

$$I[U^n](x) = \gamma_1 x^2 + \gamma_2 x + \gamma_3, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^3$ solution to

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{i-2}^2 & x_{i-2} & 1 \\ x_{i-1}^2 & x_{i-1} & 1 \\ x_i^2 & x_i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \\ \gamma_3 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{i-2}^n \\ U_{i-1}^n \\ U_i^n \end{pmatrix}$$

3.6 Semi-Lagrangian III order (SL3) [3]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -U_i^n + I[U^n](x^*) \quad i = 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$x^* = x_i - a\Delta t, \quad (x^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i])$$

$$I[U^n](x) = \gamma_1 x^3 + \gamma_2 x^2 + \gamma_3 x + \gamma_4, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$\gamma \in \mathbb{R}^4$ solution to

$$\begin{pmatrix} x_{i-2}^3 & x_{i-2}^2 & x_{i-2} & 1 \\ x_{i-1}^3 & x_{i-1}^2 & x_{i-1} & 1 \\ x_i^3 & x_i^2 & x_i & 1 \\ x_{i+1}^3 & x_{i+1}^2 & x_{i+1} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \\ \gamma_3 \\ \gamma_4 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{i-2}^n \\ U_{i-1}^n \\ U_i^n \\ U_{i+1}^n \end{pmatrix}$$

3.7 Flux Limiter (FLUXLIM) [4]

$$\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = \lambda(H^- - H^+), \quad i = 3, \dots, N-1$$

$$H^+ = aU_i^n + \frac{1}{2}a(1 - \zeta)\phi\left(\frac{U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n}{U_{i+1}^n - U_i^n + \varepsilon}\right)(U_{i+1}^n - U_i^n)$$

$$H^- = aU_{i-1}^n + \frac{1}{2}a(1 - \zeta)\phi\left(\frac{U_{i-1}^n - U_{i-2}^n}{U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n + \varepsilon}\right)(U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n)$$

$\varepsilon = \text{small constant } (10^{-6})$

$$\phi(r) = \begin{cases} \text{minmod}(1, r) & \text{[minmod limiter]} \\ \max(0, \min(1, 2r), \min(2, r)) & \text{[superbee limiter]} \end{cases}$$

$$\text{minmod}(a, b) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } |a| \leq |b| \text{ and } ab > 0 \\ b & \text{if } |a| > |b| \text{ and } ab > 0 \\ 0 & \text{if } ab \leq 0 \end{cases}$$

3.8 Semi-Lagrangian II order WENO (SL2WENO) [1, 3]

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) &= -U_i^n + I[U^n](x^*) \quad i = 3, \dots, N-2 \\
x^* &= x_i - a\Delta t, \quad (x^* \in [x_{i-1}, x_i]) \\
I[U^n](x) &= w_L P_L(x) + w_R P_R(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \\
P_L(x) &= \gamma_1 x^2 + \gamma_2 x + \gamma_3, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \\
P_R(x) &= \delta_1 x^2 + \delta_2 x + \delta_3, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \\
\begin{pmatrix} x_{i-2}^2 & x_{i-2} & 1 \\ x_{i-1}^2 & x_{i-1} & 1 \\ x_i^2 & x_i & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \gamma_1 \\ \gamma_2 \\ \gamma_3 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} U_{i-2}^n \\ U_{i-1}^n \\ U_i^n \end{pmatrix} \\
\begin{pmatrix} x_{i-1}^2 & x_{i-1} & 1 \\ x_i^2 & x_i & 1 \\ x_{i+1}^2 & x_{i+1} & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta_1 \\ \delta_2 \\ \delta_3 \end{pmatrix} &= \begin{pmatrix} U_{i-1}^n \\ U_i^n \\ U_{i+1}^n \end{pmatrix} \\
w_L(x) &= \frac{\alpha_L(x)}{\alpha_L(x) + \alpha_R(x)}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad w_R(x) = \frac{\alpha_R(x)}{\alpha_L(x) + \alpha_R(x)}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \\
\alpha_L(x) &= \frac{C_L(x)}{(\beta_L + \varepsilon)^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \quad \alpha_R(x) = \frac{C_R(x)}{(\beta_R + \varepsilon)^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R} \\
\varepsilon &= \text{small constant } (10^{-6}) \\
\beta_L &= \frac{13}{12}(U_{i-2}^n)^2 + \frac{16}{3}(U_{i-1}^n)^2 + \frac{25}{12}(U_i^n)^2 - \frac{13}{3}U_{i-2}^n U_{i-1}^n + \frac{13}{6}U_{i-2}^n U_i^n - \frac{19}{3}U_i^n U_{i-1}^n \\
\beta_R &= \frac{13}{12}(U_{i+1}^n)^2 + \frac{16}{3}(U_i^n)^2 + \frac{25}{12}(U_{i-1}^n)^2 - \frac{13}{3}U_{i+1}^n U_i^n + \frac{13}{6}U_{i+1}^n U_{i-1}^n - \frac{19}{3}U_i^n U_{i-1}^n \\
C_L(x) &= \frac{x_{i+1} - x}{3\Delta x}, \quad C_R(x) = \frac{x - x_{i-2}}{3\Delta x}
\end{aligned}$$

3.9 Conservative Semi-Lagrangian III order (CSL3) [6]

$$\begin{aligned}
\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) &= -\frac{1}{\Delta x}(H^+ - H^-), \quad i = 3, \dots, N-1 \\
H^+ &= \Delta x(C_1 U_{i-1}^n + C_2 U_i^n + C_3 U_{i+1}^n) \\
H^- &= \Delta x(C_1 U_{i-2}^n + C_2 U_{i-1}^n + C_3 U_i^n) \\
C_1 &= \frac{1}{6}(\zeta^3 - \zeta), \quad C_2 = -\frac{1}{3}\zeta^3 + \frac{1}{2}\zeta^2 + \frac{5}{6}\zeta, \quad C_3 = \frac{1}{6}\zeta^3 - \frac{1}{2}\zeta^2 + \frac{1}{3}\zeta
\end{aligned}$$

3.10 Conservative Semi-Lagrangian V order (CSL5) [6]

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) &= -\frac{1}{\Delta x}(H^+ - H^-), \quad i = 4, \dots, N-2 \\ H^+ &= \Delta x(C_1 U_{i-2}^n + C_2 U_{i-1}^n + C_3 U_i^n + C_4 U_{i+1}^n + C_5 U_{i+2}^n) \\ H^- &= \Delta x(C_1 U_{i-3}^n + C_2 U_{i-2}^n + C_3 U_{i-1}^n + C_4 U_i^n + C_5 U_{i+1}^n) \\ C_1 &= \frac{1}{30}\zeta - \frac{1}{24}\zeta^3 + \frac{1}{120}\zeta^5, \quad C_2 = -\frac{13}{60}\zeta - \frac{1}{24}\zeta^2 + \frac{1}{4}\zeta^3 + \frac{1}{24}\zeta^4 - \frac{1}{30}\zeta^5 \\ C_3 &= \frac{47}{60}\zeta + \frac{5}{8}\zeta^2 - \frac{1}{3}\zeta^3 - \frac{1}{8}\zeta^4 + \frac{1}{20}\zeta^5, \quad C_4 = \frac{9}{20}\zeta - \frac{5}{8}\zeta^2 + \frac{1}{12}\zeta^3 + \frac{1}{8}\zeta^4 - \frac{1}{30}\zeta^5 \\ C_5 &= -\frac{1}{20}\zeta + \frac{1}{24}\zeta^2 + \frac{1}{24}\zeta^3 - \frac{1}{24}\zeta^4 + \frac{1}{120}\zeta^5\end{aligned}$$

3.11 Conservative Semi-Lagrangian III order WENO (CSL3WENO) [6]

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta t \mathcal{L}_i(U^n) &= -\frac{1}{\Delta x}(H^+ - H^-), \quad i = 3, \dots, N-1 \\ H^+ &= w_1^+ \mathcal{H}_1^+ + w_2^+ \mathcal{H}_2^+, \quad H^- = w_1^- \mathcal{H}_1^- + w_2^- \mathcal{H}_2^- \\ w_i^\pm &= \frac{\tilde{w}_i^\pm}{\tilde{w}_1^\pm + \tilde{w}_2^\pm}, \quad i = 1, 2 \\ \tilde{w}_i^\pm &= \frac{\gamma_i}{(\varepsilon + \beta_i^\pm)^2}, \quad i = 1, 2 \\ \varepsilon &= \text{small constant } (10^{-6}) \\ \gamma_1 &= \frac{1}{3}(1 + \zeta), \quad \gamma_2 = \frac{1}{3}(2 - \zeta) \\ \beta_1^+ &= (U_{i-1}^n - U_i^n)^2, \quad \beta_2^+ = (U_i^n - U_{i+1}^n)^2, \quad \beta_1^- = (U_{i-2}^n - U_{i-1}^n)^2, \quad \beta_2^- = (U_{i-1}^n - U_i^n)^2 \\ \mathcal{H}_1^+ &= \Delta x(C_1 U_{i-1}^n + C_2 U_i^n), \quad \mathcal{H}_2^+ = \Delta x(C_3 U_i^n + C_4 U_{i+1}^n) \\ \mathcal{H}_1^- &= \Delta x(C_1 U_{i-2}^n + C_2 U_{i-1}^n), \quad \mathcal{H}_2^- = \Delta x(C_3 U_{i-1}^n + C_4 U_i^n) \\ C_1 &= -\frac{1}{2}\zeta + \frac{1}{2}\zeta^2, \quad C_2 = -\frac{1}{2}\zeta^2 + \frac{3}{2}\zeta, \quad C_3 = \frac{1}{2}\zeta + \frac{1}{2}\zeta^2, \quad C_4 = -\frac{1}{2}\zeta^2 + \frac{1}{2}\zeta\end{aligned}$$

3.12 WENO III order (WENO3) [5]

$$\mathcal{L}_i(U^n) = -\frac{a}{\Delta x} \left(R_i(x_{i+1/2}) - R_{i-1}(x_{i-1/2}) \right)$$

$$R_i(x) = w_i P_i^-(x) + (1 - w_i) P_i^+(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$R_{i-1}(x) = w_{i-1} P_{i-1}^-(x) + (1 - w_{i-1}) P_{i-1}^+(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$w_i = \frac{\frac{1}{2(\varepsilon + \beta_i)^2}}{\frac{1}{2(\varepsilon + \beta_i)^2} + \frac{1}{(\varepsilon + \beta_{i+1})^2}} = \left(1 + \frac{2(\varepsilon + \beta_i)^2}{(\varepsilon + \beta_{i+1})^2} \right)^{-1}$$

$$w_{i-1} = \left(1 + \frac{2(\varepsilon + \beta_{i-1})^2}{(\varepsilon + \beta_i)^2} \right)^{-1}$$

$\varepsilon = \text{small constant } (10^{-6})$

$$\beta_{i-1} = (U_{i-1}^n - U_{i-2}^n)^2, \quad \beta_i = (U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n)^2, \quad \beta_{i+1} = (U_{i+1}^n - U_i^n)^2$$

$$P_i^-(x) = U_i^n + \frac{U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x} (x - x_i), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$P_i^+(x) = U_i^n + \frac{U_{i+1}^n - U_i^n}{\Delta x} (x - x_i), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$P_{i-1}^-(x) = U_{i-1}^n + \frac{U_{i-1}^n - U_{i-2}^n}{\Delta x} (x - x_{i-1}), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$P_{i-1}^+(x) = U_{i-1}^n + \frac{U_i^n - U_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x} (x - x_{i-1}), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

3.13 Runge Kutta Discontinuous Galerkin III order (RKDG3) [2]

$$U(x, t^{n+1}) = V_{0,i}^{n+1} + \frac{12}{\Delta x} V_{1,i}^{n+1} (x - x_i) + \frac{180}{\Delta x^2} V_{2,i}^{n+1} \left((x - x_i)^2 - \frac{\Delta x^2}{12} \right), \quad x \in [x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}]$$

or for the mean value

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} U(x, t^{n+1}) dx &= \frac{1}{12} \left(V_{0,i}^{n+1} - 6V_{1,i}^{n+1} + 30V_{2,1}^{n+1} \right) + \frac{5}{12} \left(V_{0,i}^{n+1} - \frac{6}{\sqrt{5}} V_{1,i}^{n+1} - 6V_{2,1}^{n+1} \right) \\ &+ \frac{5}{12} \left(V_{0,i}^{n+1} + \frac{6}{\sqrt{5}} V_{1,i}^{n+1} - 6V_{2,1}^{n+1} \right) + \frac{1}{12} \left(V_{0,i}^{n+1} + 6V_{1,i}^{n+1} + 30V_{2,i}^{n+1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

Initialization:

$$\begin{aligned}
x_1 &= x_i - \frac{\Delta x}{2}, & x_2 &= x_i - \frac{\Delta x}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{5}}, & x_3 &= x_i + \frac{\Delta x}{2} \sqrt{\frac{1}{5}}, & x_4 &= x_i + \frac{\Delta x}{2} \\
V_0^0 &= \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} u_0(x) dx = \frac{1}{12} u_0(x_1) + \frac{5}{12} u_0(x_2) + \frac{5}{12} u_0(x_3) + \frac{1}{12} u_0(x_4) \\
V_1^0 &= \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} (x - x_i) u_0(x) dx = \frac{1}{12\Delta x} (x_1 - x_i) u_0(x_1) + \frac{5}{12\Delta x} (x_2 - x_i) u_0(x_2) \\
&+ \frac{5}{12\Delta x} (x_3 - x_i) u_0(x_3) + \frac{1}{12\Delta x} (x_4 - x_i) u_0(x_4) \\
V_2^0 &= \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} \left((x - x_i)^2 - \frac{\Delta x^2}{12} \right) u_0(x) dx = \frac{1}{12\Delta x^2} \left((x_1 - x_i)^2 - \frac{\Delta x^2}{12} \right) u_0(x_1) \\
&+ \frac{5}{12\Delta x^2} \left((x_2 - x_i)^2 - \frac{\Delta x^2}{12} \right) u_0(x_2) + \frac{5}{12\Delta x^2} \left((x_3 - x_i)^2 - \frac{\Delta x^2}{12} \right) u_0(x_3) \\
&+ \frac{1}{12\Delta x^2} \left((x_4 - x_i)^2 - \frac{\Delta x^2}{12} \right) u_0(x_4)
\end{aligned}$$

Time iteration:

$$\begin{aligned}
V_l^{n+1} &= \frac{1}{3} V_l^n + \frac{2}{3} V_l^{(2)} + \frac{2}{3} \Delta t \mathcal{L}_l(V_0^{(2)}, V_1^{(2)}, V_2^{(2)}), & l &= 0, 1, 2 \\
V_l^{(2)} &= \frac{3}{4} V_l^n + \frac{1}{4} V_l^{(1)} + \frac{1}{4} \Delta t \mathcal{L}_l(V_0^{(1)}, V_1^{(1)}, V_2^{(1)}), & l &= 0, 1, 2 \\
V_l^{(1)} &= V_l^n + \Delta t \mathcal{L}_l(V_0^n, V_1^n, V_2^n), & l &= 0, 1, 2
\end{aligned}$$

Space discretization:

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathcal{L}_{0,i}(U) &= -\frac{1}{\Delta x} (F_i^+ - F_i^-), & i &= 2, \dots, N-1 \\
\mathcal{L}_{1,i}(U) &= -\frac{1}{2\Delta x} (F_i^+ + F_i^-) + \frac{1}{12\Delta x} (f_0^i + 5f_1^i + 5f_2^i + f_3^i) \\
\mathcal{L}_{2,i}(U) &= -\frac{1}{6\Delta x} (F_i^+ - F_i^-) + \frac{1}{12\Delta x} (f_3^i - f_0^i - \sqrt{5}f_1^i + \sqrt{5}f_2^i + f_3^i) \\
f_0^i &= a(V_{0,i} - 6V_{1,i} + 30V_{2,i}), & f_1^i &= a \left(V_{0,i} - \frac{6}{\sqrt{5}} V_{1,i} - 6V_{2,i} \right) \\
f_2^i &= a \left(V_{0,i} + \frac{6}{\sqrt{5}} V_{1,i} - 6V_{2,i} \right), & f_3^i &= a(V_{0,i} + 6V_{1,i} + 30V_{2,i}) \\
F^- &= F_{num}(U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^-, U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^+) = a U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^-, & F^+ &= F_{num}(U_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^-, U_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^+) = a U_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^- \\
U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^- &= V_{0,i-1} + 6V_{1,i-1} + 30V_{2,i-1}, & U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^+ &= V_{0,i} - 6V_{1,i} + 30V_{2,i} \\
U_{i+1/2}^- &= V_{0,i} + 6V_{1,i} + 30V_{2,i}, & U_{i+1/2}^+ &= V_{0,i+1} - 6V_{1,i+1} + 30V_{2,i+1}
\end{aligned}$$

N.B. CFL condition requires $\zeta < \frac{1}{6}$.

N.B. This version does not include slope limiters.

GENERAL REMARKS

In the case of constant advection with CFL condition $\zeta \leq 1$, we have the following equivalences: SL1 \equiv UPW, SL2 \equiv BW, SL3 \equiv CSL3.

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