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High order numerical schemes for CFD in astrophysics

Carving through the Codes: Challenges in Computational Astrophysics

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Outline

- Introduction and Motivation
- High Order Discontinuous Galerkin (DG) Methods
- Steady states
- Conclusions



Introduction

- What are high order methods?
 - Solution error e of a smooth solution $\propto \mathcal{O}(h^k)$, $k > 2$ [Persson2012].
 - E.g: High order reconstruction in Finite Volume methods (ENO/WENO), Finite element methods (FEM)

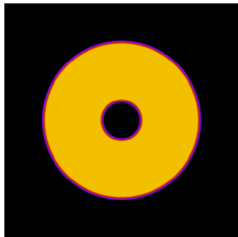


Introduction

- What are high order methods?
 - Solution error e of a smooth solution $\propto \mathcal{O}(h^k)$, $k > 2$ [Persson2012].
 - E.g: High order reconstruction in Finite Volume methods (ENO/WENO), Finite element methods (FEM)
- Why are they appealing?
 - Higher fidelity predictions in computational methods
 - High-order gives superior performance for equal resolution
 - Schemes can be designed to exploit computational resources



Motivation

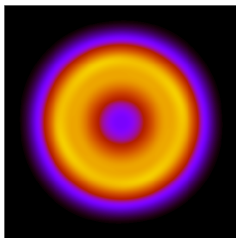


Density profile at $T=0$
 $N = 256^2$.

Protoplanetary disk evolution.
Modeled by 2-D inviscid Euler equation + gravity source term.



Motivation



Density profile, 1 rotation
 $N = 256^2$

Balance law:

$$\partial_t U + \nabla \cdot F(U) = S(U) \quad (1)$$

where

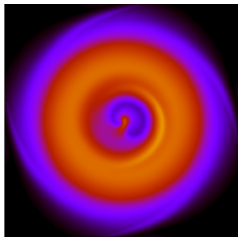
$$U = [\rho, \rho v_x, \rho v_y, \epsilon]^T$$

$$F(U) = \begin{bmatrix} \rho v_x & \rho v_y \\ \rho v_x^2 + p & \rho v_x v_y \\ \rho v_x v_y & \rho v_y^2 + p \\ v_x(\epsilon + p) & v_y(\epsilon + p) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$S(U) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ -\rho \partial_x \phi \\ -\rho \partial_y \phi \\ -(\rho u \partial_x \phi + \rho v \partial_x \phi) \end{bmatrix}$$



Motivation



Density profile, 2 rotations
 $N = 256^2$

Looking at our system of PDEs:

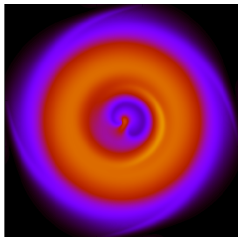
$$\partial_t U + \nabla \cdot F(U) = S(U)$$

We can improve the quality of the solution by:

- More accurate description of U ;
- For steady states, fulfill the flux-source balance
 $\nabla \cdot F(U) = S(U)$.



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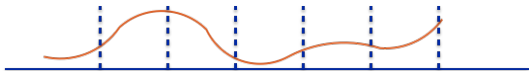
Improving accuracy of U

General idea: We look for a weak solution to (1) $U \in \mathcal{L}_{loc}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2 \times [0, +\infty])^4$, a locally bounded measurable function.

We further assume that $U_0 \in \mathcal{L}_{loc}^{\infty}(\mathbb{R}^2)^4$, meaning can be either continuous or discontinuous.



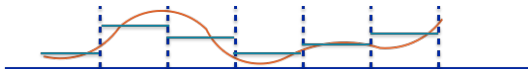
Improving accuracy of U



A simple example on approximating functions in 1-D.
Let us discretize $\mathbb{R} = \bigcup I_j$, $I_j = [x_i, x_{i+1}[$.



Improving accuracy of U



A simple example on approximating functions in 1-D.

Let us discretize $\mathbb{R} = \bigcup I_j$, $I_j = [x_i, x_{i+1}[$.

1st order Finite Volume Scheme: $u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (F(u_{i+1/2}^n) - F(u_{i-1/2}^n))$.

$F(u_{i+1/2}^n) \approx \hat{F}(a, b)$ a suitable numerical flux.

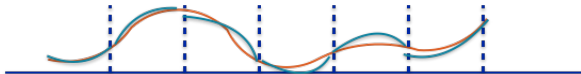


Improving accuracy of U

Discontinuous Galerkin method[2]

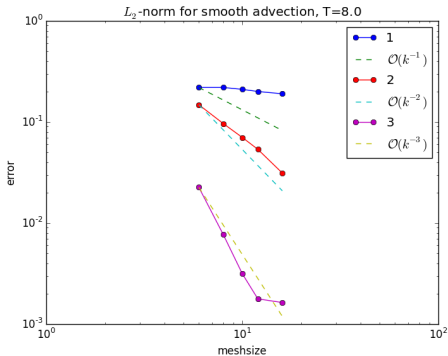
We look for $u^h \in V_k^h := \{u^h \in L^1_{loc}(\mathbb{R}) \cap BV(\mathbb{R}), u^h|_{I_j} \in \mathbb{P}^k(I_j) \forall I_j\}$ s.t.
 $\forall v^h \in V_k^h$:

$$\int_{I_j} v^h(x) \partial_t u^h dx + [v^h(x) \hat{f}(u(x, t))]_{x_{j-1/2}^+}^{x_{j+1/2}^+} - \int_{I_j} \partial_x v^h f(u^h) dx = 0$$





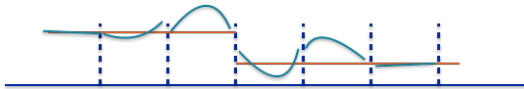
Improving accuracy of U



\mathcal{L}_2 -error of density after 8 boundary crossings.



What if solution is not smooth?

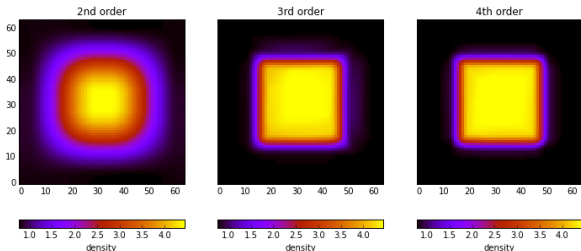


- High order approximation leads to oscillations (Gibbs phenomena);
- We can't apply Weierstrass approximation theorem anymore.
- Limiters in our code:
 - TVD limiter: 2nd order [2]
 - Positivity preserving limiter [5], ideally Maximum principle preserving limiters¹
 - High order limiter [3]

¹If you are interested, ask me about what we are working on after the talk!



Results: Supersonic advection of a discontinuous density profile[4]



Density, $(v_x, v_y) = (100, 50)$ at $T = 10$.



Results: 2D Riemann problem case 3 [1]



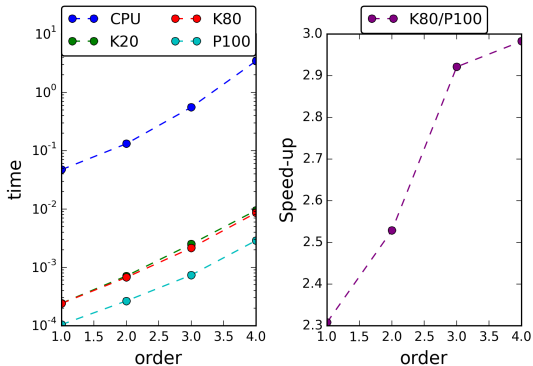
Figure: Density at $T = 0.25$. 1st order, $N = 128^2$ and 1024^2 .



Figure: Density at $T = 0.25$. 2nd, 3rd, 4th order with $N = 128^2$.



Computational cost



CPU and GPU timing for advection of discontinuous density at $T = 10$
 $N = 64^2$.



Disks

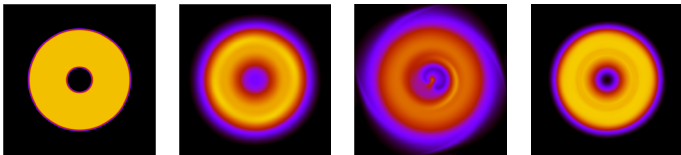


Figure: Density, 1st order, rotation = 0, 1, 2 at $N = 512^2$, 1 at $N = 1600^2$

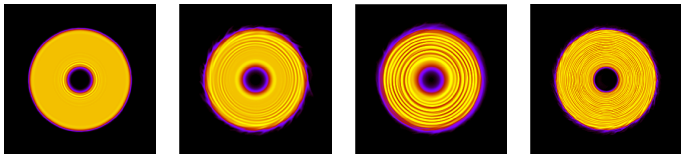


Figure: $N = 256^2$: 2nd order, rotation = 1, 10, 40. 3rd order, rotation = 10



Steady states: Preliminary work

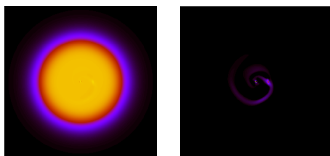


Figure: Density. Well balanced scheme, $\eta = 1 \times 10^{-4}$, 1 rotation, 1st order

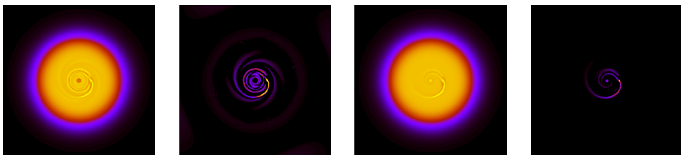


Figure: Non vs well balanced scheme, $\eta = 1 \times 10^{-4}$, 1 rotation, 2nd order



Conclusions & Outlooks

- DG is a good scheme for parallel implementations
- Better resolution power for the same resolution
- Time integration order must be at least as high as space integration
- Going to high order can lead to less Taylor made solutions (by reducing error from e.g. mesh alignment, specific geometry)
- Finding appropriate limiters is important
 - Limiting conservative variables is generally bad
 - Primitives yield better results
 - Characteristics yield the best results but unclear how to do it for cross terms in high order modes
 - Maximum preserving limiters are desirable - discretized solution mimics the solution to the original PDE
- Well balanced schemes for general equilibria states is an open question



Appendix: Test cases

Riemann problem: case 3

Configuration 3.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \overleftarrow{S}_{21} & \\ \overleftarrow{S}_{32} & & \overleftarrow{S}_{41} \\ & \overleftarrow{S}_{34} & \end{array}$$

The initial data are

$$\begin{array}{cccc} p_2 = 0.3 & \rho_2 = 0.5323 & p_1 = 1.5 & \rho_1 = 1.5 \\ u_2 = 1.206 & v_2 = 0 & u_1 = 0 & v_1 = 0 \\ \\ p_3 = 0.029 & \rho_3 = 0.138 & p_4 = 0.3 & \rho_4 = 0.5323 \\ u_3 = 1.206 & v_3 = 1.206 & u_4 = 0 & v_4 = 1.206 \end{array}$$



Appendix: Cold keplerian disk

Based on [Cullen & Dehnen 2010].

$$\rho = \rho_0$$
$$\rho(r) = \begin{cases} \rho_0 & r < 0.5 - \frac{\Delta r}{2} \\ (\rho_D - \rho_0)(r - (0.5 - \frac{\Delta r}{2})) + \rho_0 & r - 0.5 \leq |\frac{\Delta r}{2}| \\ \rho_D & 0.5 + \frac{\Delta r}{2} \leq r < 2 - \frac{\Delta r}{2} \\ -(\rho_D - \rho_0)(r - (2.0 - \frac{\Delta r}{2})) + \rho_D & r - 2 \leq |\frac{\Delta r}{2}| \\ \rho_0 & \text{elsewhere} \end{cases}$$
$$v_x(r) = \begin{cases} -y/r^{3/2} & r - 2 \leq 2|\frac{\Delta r}{2}| \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$
$$v_y(r) = \begin{cases} x/r^{3/2} & r - 2 \leq 2|\frac{\Delta r}{2}| \\ 0 & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



Appendix: Cold keplerian disk

x, y are centered at $(3, 3)$.

Acceleration is given:

$$a_x(r) = \begin{cases} -x/r^3 & r > r_c \\ -\frac{x}{r(r^2+\epsilon^2)} \frac{(r_c^2+\epsilon^2)}{r_c^3} & r \leq r_c \end{cases}$$
$$a_y(r) = \begin{cases} -y/r^3 & r > r_c \\ -\frac{y}{r(r^2+\epsilon^2)} \frac{(r_c^2+\epsilon^2)}{r_c^3} & r \leq r_c \end{cases}$$

$$\epsilon = 0.25, r_c = 0.5 - 0.5\Delta r, \nabla\Phi = -a.$$



Appendix: Flux-Source balance

General idea: For problems where a steady state solution exists, a solution *close by* the steady state can be seen as:

$$U = U_e + \delta U$$

For a steady state solution U_e of (1), we have the following equality:

$$\nabla \cdot F(U_e) = S(U_e) \tag{1}$$

The idea is to develop numerical schemes which can preserve a discrete steady state of interest up to machine precision.

This is called a "well-balanced scheme" [LeVeque1998].



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Steady state

$$\partial_t \cdot \equiv 0$$

Hydrostatic equilibrium: $u, v \equiv (0, 0)$

Euler system simplifies to:

$$\partial_x(\rho) = -\rho\Phi_x \quad (2)$$

$$\partial_y(\rho) = -\rho\Phi_y \quad (3)$$

Dynamic equilibrium: $v_\theta = \sqrt{\left(-\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{dP}{dr} + \nabla\Phi\right)}$ Taking a simplified solution:

$$\rho = \text{const} \quad (4)$$

$$v_x = -\frac{v_t}{r} y \quad (5)$$

$$v_y = \frac{v_t}{r} x \quad (6)$$

$$p = cs^2 \rho \quad (7)$$

with $\nabla\Phi = \frac{r}{(r^2 + \epsilon^2)^{\frac{3}{2}}}$ and $v_t = \sqrt{-\frac{1}{\rho} (1 + 2h^2 - \frac{3h^2 r^2}{r^2 + \epsilon^2}) r^2 \Omega_k + r \nabla\Phi}$



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- ▶ **Lilia Krivodonova**. “Limiters for high-order discontinuous Galerkin methods”. In: *Journal of Computational Physics* 226.1 (2007), pp. 879–896. ISSN: 0021-9991. DOI: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1016/j.jcp.2007.05.011>. URL: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0021999107002136>.
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