

# Finite Volume Methods for Hyperbolic Problems

## Convergence to Weak Solutions and Nonlinear Stability

- Lax-Wendroff Theorem
- Entropy consistent finite volume methods
- Nonlinear stability
- Total Variation stability

# Conservation form

The method

$$Q_i^{n+1} = Q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (F_{i+1/2}^n - F_{i-1/2}^n)$$

is in **conservation form**.

The total mass is conserved up to fluxes at the boundaries:

$$\Delta x \sum_i Q_i^{n+1} = \Delta x \sum_i Q_i^n - \Delta t (F_{+\infty} - F_{-\infty}).$$

Note: an isolated shock must travel at the right speed!

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} q(x, t) dx = F(x_1) - F(x_2).$$

# Weak solutions to $q_t + f(q)_x = 0$

**Alternatively**, multiply PDE by smooth **test function**  $\phi(x, t)$ , with **compact support** ( $\phi(x, t) \equiv 0$  for  $|x|$  and  $t$  sufficiently large), and then integrate over rectangle,

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty (q_t + f(q)_x) \phi(x, t) dx dt$$

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$$\int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty (q_t + f(q)_x) \phi(x, t) dx dt$$

Then we can integrate by parts to get

$$\int_0^\infty \int_{-\infty}^\infty (q\phi_t + f(q)\phi_x) dx dt = - \int_{-\infty}^\infty q(x, 0)\phi(x, 0) dx.$$

$q(x, t)$  is a **weak solution** if this holds for all such  $\phi$ .

# Lax-Wendroff Theorem

Suppose the method is conservative and consistent with

$$q_t + f(q)_x = 0,$$

$$F_{i-1/2} = \mathcal{F}(Q_{i-1}, Q_i) \quad \text{with } \mathcal{F}(\bar{q}, \bar{q}) = f(\bar{q})$$

and Lipschitz continuity of  $\mathcal{F}$ .

If a sequence of discrete approximations converge to a function  $q(x, t)$  as the grid is refined, then this function is a weak solution of the conservation law.

**Note:**

Does not guarantee a sequence converges (need stability).

Two sequences might converge to **different** weak solutions.

Also need to satisfy an **entropy condition**.

# Sketch of proof of Lax-Wendroff Theorem

Conservative numerical method:

$$Q_i^{n+1} = Q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (F_{i+1/2}^n - F_{i-1/2}^n)$$

Multiply by  $\Phi_i^n$ : (cell-averaged version of test function  $\phi(x, t)$ )

$$\Phi_i^n Q_i^{n+1} = \Phi_i^n Q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \Phi_i^n (F_{i+1/2}^n - F_{i-1/2}^n).$$

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This is true for all values of  $i$  and  $n$  on each grid.

Now sum over all  $i$  and  $n \geq 0$  to obtain

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \Phi_i^n (Q_i^{n+1} - Q_i^n) = -\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \Phi_i^n (F_{i+1/2}^n - F_{i-1/2}^n).$$

Use [summation by parts](#) to transfer differences to  $\Phi$  terms.

# Summation by parts

Integration by parts:

$$\int_a^b u(x)v'(x) dx = u(b)v(b) - u(a)v(a) - \int_a^b u'(x)v(x) dx.$$

Consider sum:

$$\sum_{i=1}^N u_i(v_i - v_{i-1})$$



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Obtain analog of weak form of conservation law:

$$\Delta x \Delta t \left[ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Phi_i^n - \Phi_i^{n-1}}{\Delta t} \right) Q_i^n + \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\Phi_{i+1}^n - \Phi_i^n}{\Delta x} \right) F_{i-1/2}^n \right] = -\Delta x \sum_{i=-\infty}^{\infty} \Phi_i^0 Q_i^0.$$

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Must use  $F_{i-1/2}^n \rightarrow f(Q_i^n)$  almost everywhere, using **consistency** of numerical flux  $F_{i-1/2} = \mathcal{F}(Q_{i-1}, Q_i)$ .



## Analog of Lax-Wendroff proof for entropy

Suppose the numerical flux function  $\mathcal{F}(Q_{i-1}, Q_i)$  leads to a numerical entropy flux  $\Psi(Q_{i-1}, Q_i)$

such that the following discrete entropy inequality holds:

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Then multiply by test function  $\Phi_i^n$ , sum and use summation by parts to get discrete form of integral form of entropy condition.

$\implies$  If numerical approximations converge to some function, then the limiting function satisfies the entropy condition.

# Entropy consistency of Godunov's method

For Godunov's method,  $F(Q_{i-1}, Q_i) = f(Q_{i-1/2}^\downarrow)$

where  $Q_{i-1/2}^\downarrow$  is the constant value  
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If we use exact solution satisfying the entropy condition, then

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} \eta(\tilde{q}^n(x, t_{n+1})) dx &\leq \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} \eta(\tilde{q}^n(x, t_n)) dx \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} \psi(\tilde{q}^n(x_{i-1/2}, t)) dt - \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} \psi(\tilde{q}^n(x_{i+1/2}, t)) dt \end{aligned}$$

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Follows from **Jensen's inequality** for convex functions:

If  $\eta''(q) \geq 0$  then The value of  $\eta(q(x))$  evaluated at the average value of  $q(x)$  is less than or equal to the average value of  $\eta(q(x))$ , i.e.,

$$\eta \left( \int q(x) dx \right) \leq \int \eta(q(x)) dx.$$

# Convergence and stability

Let  $q^n$  be cell averages of exact solution at time  $t_n$

$$Q^n = q^n + E^n.$$

We apply the numerical method to obtain  $Q^{n+1}$ :

$$Q^{n+1} = \mathcal{N}(Q^n) = \mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n)$$

and the global error is now

$$\begin{aligned} E^{n+1} &= Q^{n+1} - q^{n+1} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - q^{n+1} \\ &= \mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - \mathcal{N}(q^n) + \mathcal{N}(q^n) - q^{n+1} \\ &= [\mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - \mathcal{N}(q^n)] + \Delta t \tau^n. \end{aligned}$$

where  $\tau^n$  is the local truncation error introduced in this step.

# Convergence and stability

$$E^{n+1} = [\mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - \mathcal{N}(q^n)] + \Delta t \tau^n.$$

so

$$\|E^{n+1}\| \leq \|\mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - \mathcal{N}(q^n)\| + \Delta t \|\tau^n\|$$

if

$$\|\mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - \mathcal{N}(q^n)\| \leq \|E^n\|$$

then

$$\begin{aligned} \|E^N\| &\leq \|E^0\| + \Delta t \sum_{n=1}^{N-1} \|\tau\| \\ &\leq (\|E^0\| + T\|\tau\|) \quad (\text{for } N\Delta t = T). \end{aligned}$$

# Nonlinear stability

Would like to show

$$\|\mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) - \mathcal{N}(q^n)\| \leq \|E^n\|$$

If method is linear,  $\mathcal{N}(q^n + E^n) = \mathcal{N}(q^n) + \mathcal{N}(E^n)$ , then enough to show:

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But in nonlinear case we need contractivity,

$$\|\mathcal{N}(P) - \mathcal{N}(Q)\| \leq \|P - Q\|.$$

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**Kružkov's Theorem (1970):** Entropy stability for  $\eta(q) = |q - k|$ ,

$$(|q - k|)_t + ((f(q) - f(k))\text{sgn}(q - k))_x \leq 0$$

for all constants  $k$  implies

$$\|q(\cdot, t) - w(\cdot, t)\|_1 \leq \|q(\cdot, 0) - w(\cdot, 0)\|_1$$

for all  $t \geq 0$ . (1-norm contractivity)

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**Numerical methods with this property are at best first order.**

A numerical method is **Total Variation Bounded (TVB)** if

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**Function space BV:** A set of functions such as

$$\{v \in L_1 : TV(v) \leq R \text{ and } \text{Supp}(v) \subset [-M, M]\}$$

is a **compact** set, so any sequence of functions has a convergent subsequence.

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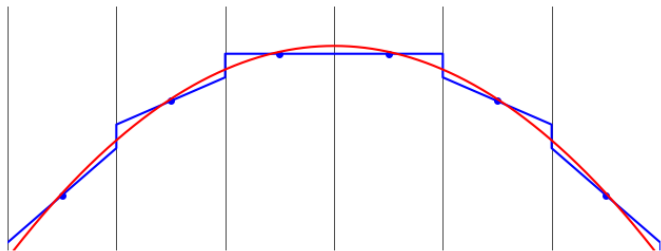
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But then Lax-Wendroff Theorem  $\implies q$  is a weak solution.

**Contradiction.**

# Accuracy at local extrema

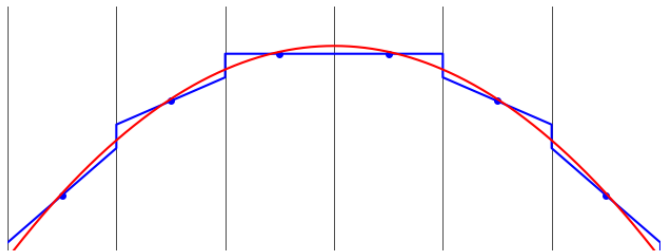
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**TVB methods:** Only require  $TV(Q^{n+1}) \leq (1 + \Delta t)TV(Q^n)$ .

**Essentially nonoscillatory (ENO) methods**

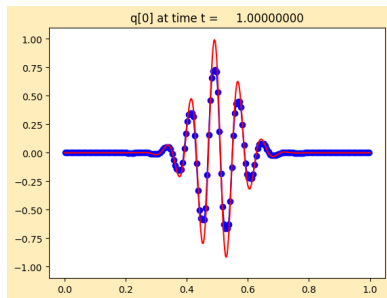
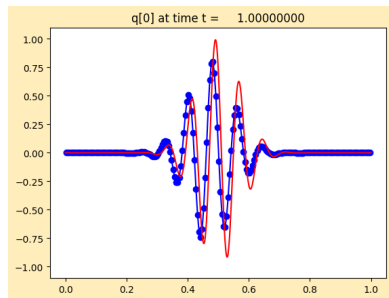
## Order of accuracy isn't everything

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Comparison of Lax-Wendroff and a high-resolution method on linear advection equation with smooth wave packet data.

The high-resolution method is not formally second-order accurate, but is more accurate on realistic grids.

Crossover in the max-norm is at 2800 grid points.

