

Stability and Stegotons

Understanding Waves through Computation

David I. Ketcheson

CSGF Annual Meeting

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- Partnerships with IBM, Boeing, Dow, GE, Schlumberger, ...

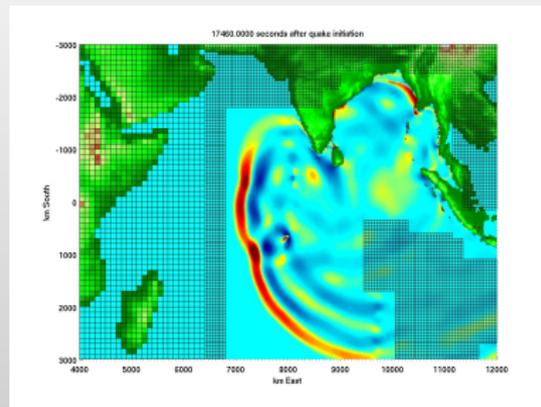
Wave Equations

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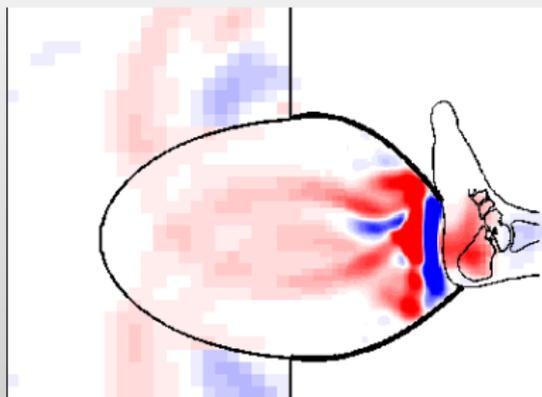
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 - Tsunamis
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 - Lithotripsy/shock-wave therapy
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- Memory becomes limiting factor
- Error tolerances get smaller
- Multiscale, 3D problems become the norm

I think there will be always a demand for high order schemes, because you will always push the computers to the limit...

...In a high order scheme you can get, with fewer resources, more accurate results...

...The issue about high order methods is robustness. When the method is high order and sophisticated, it's less robust...

...if the second order scheme goes unstable once every four days, the high order scheme goes unstable once every two days, and you have to fix it.

I think that this is something basic that you cannot get rid of. This is the trade off. So, you have to choose.

–David Gottlieb

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Alternative: Cauchy-Kovalevskaya generalization of Lax-Wendroff

Shocks lead to Oscillations

- Nonlinear wave equations naturally develop discontinuities ('shocks')
- Godunov's Theorem: even for the advection equation, any linear numerical method that is more than first order accurate will develop oscillations when approximating a shock.
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Burger's equation: $u_t + \left(\frac{1}{2}u^2\right)_x = 0$

Total Variation Diminishing

The total variation semi-norm:

$$\|u\|_{\text{TV}} = \int |u_x| dx$$

TVD: $\|u(t + \Delta t)\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \|u(t)\|_{\text{TV}}$.

TVD \implies no spurious oscillations

TVD \implies compact space \implies convergence

BUT

TVD methods are at most 2nd order accurate
(1st order accurate in 2D)

Hence much focus has shifted to **non-oscillatory** methods

Other constraints: Positivity

Consider the equations of inviscid, compressible flow:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_t + (\rho u)_x &= 0 \\ (\rho u)_t + (\rho u^2 + p)_x &= 0 \\ E_t + (u(E + p))_x &= 0.\end{aligned}$$

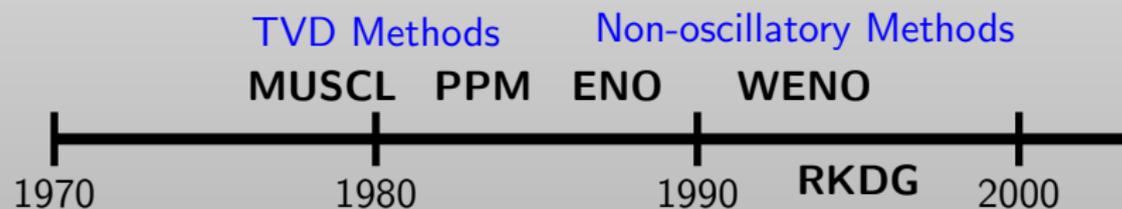
Physics says:

- $\rho \geq 0$
- $p \geq 0$
- $E \geq 0$

\implies Violation leads to unphysical states

Dodging Godunov's Theorem

- **The Challenge:** Develop high-order numerical methods that avoid oscillations and/or preserve positivity.
- **The Solution:** Use methods that are **nonlinear**, even when applied to linear equations.
- **The Difficulty:** Very hard to directly analyze high-order full discretizations.
- Note that one must still sacrifice either formal high order or strict non-oscillatory property (or both) to go beyond 2nd order and 1D.



The Method of Lines: Stability

Rather than analyze the full discretization directly, design a spatial discretization that satisfies the required bound with Forward Euler integration *under an appropriate timestep restriction*.

$$\|u^n + \Delta t F(u^n)\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \|u^n\|_{\text{TV}} \quad 0 \leq \Delta t \leq \Delta t_{\text{FE}} \quad (*)$$

Then if (*) is integrated by a strong stability preserving (SSP) time integrator, the numerical solution satisfies

$$\|u^{n+1}\|_{\text{TV}} \leq \|u^n\|_{\text{TV}}$$

when applied to any system satisfying (*) *under an appropriate timestep restriction*.

Decouples spatial and temporal stability analysis

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- Quasilinear systems not in conservation form:

$$\kappa(x)\mathbf{q}_t + A(\mathbf{q}, x)\mathbf{q}_x = 0$$

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- Any combination of the above

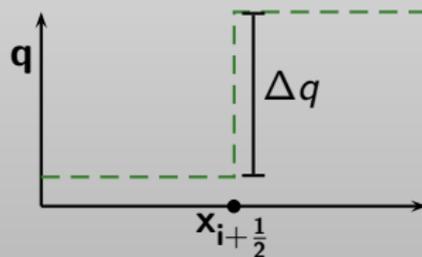
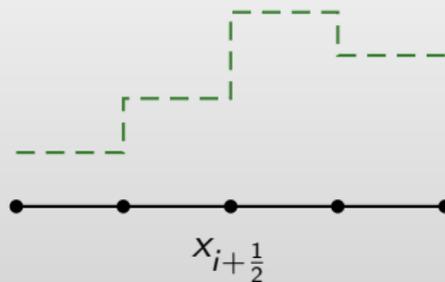
Finite Volume Godunov-type Methods

- Solution represented by cell averages Q_i
- Each cell interface represents a *Riemann problem*
- Flux-differencing:

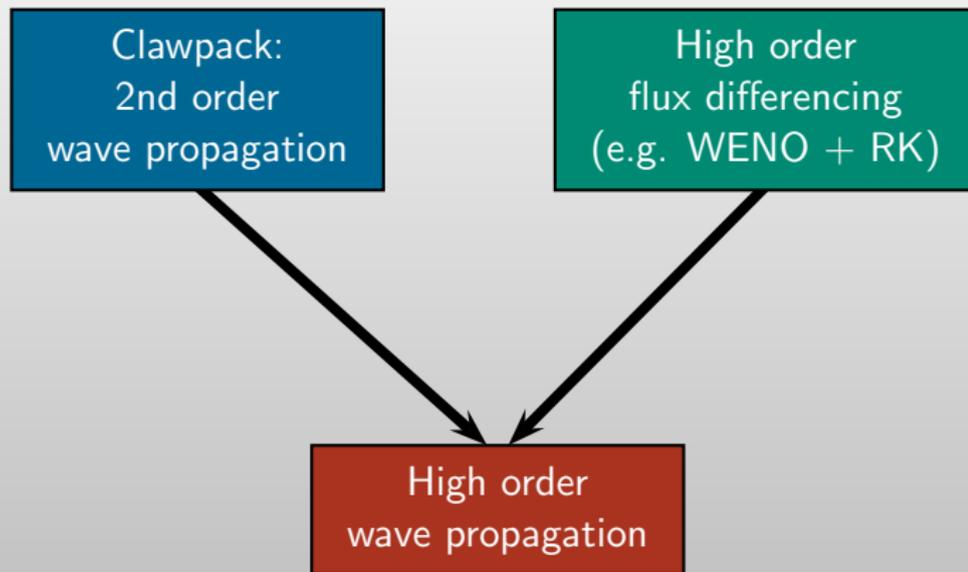
$$Q_i^{n+1} = Q_i^n + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \left(F(x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}) - F(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}) \right)$$

- Wave propagation:

$$Q_i^{n+1} = Q_i^n + \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \left(\mathcal{W}_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^+ + \mathcal{W}_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^- \right)$$



The Best of Both Worlds



Implemented in the **SharpClaw** software package at
www.clawpack.org

Elasticity in 1 Dimension

$$\epsilon_t - u_x = 0$$

$$\rho(x)u_t - \sigma(\epsilon, x)_x = 0$$

$\epsilon(x, t)$: Strain $u(x, t)$: Velocity

$\sigma(\epsilon, x)$: Stress $\rho(x)$: Density

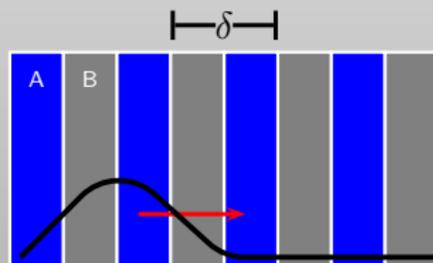
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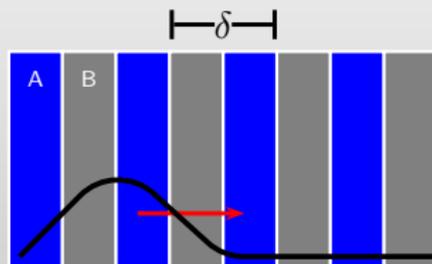
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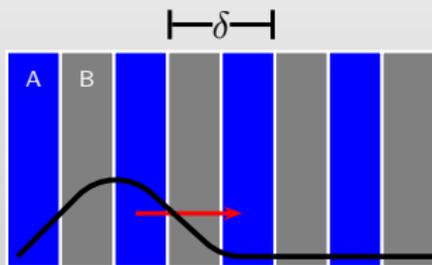
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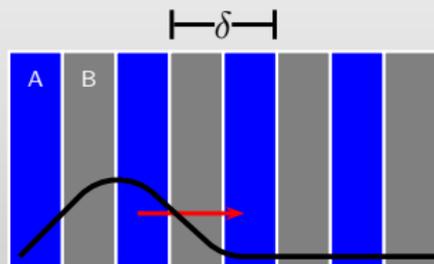


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Linear elasticity: $\sigma = K\epsilon$

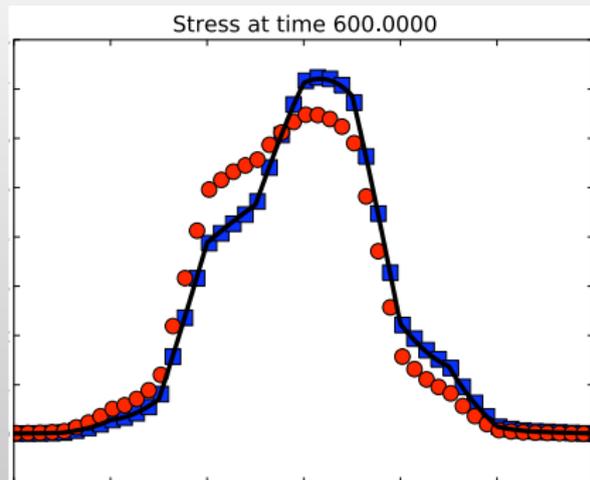
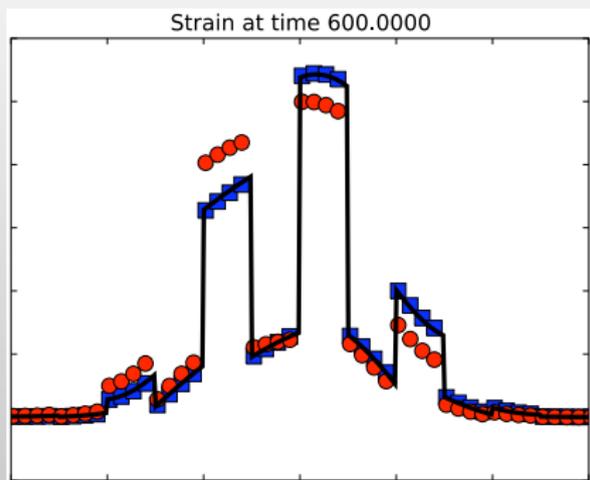
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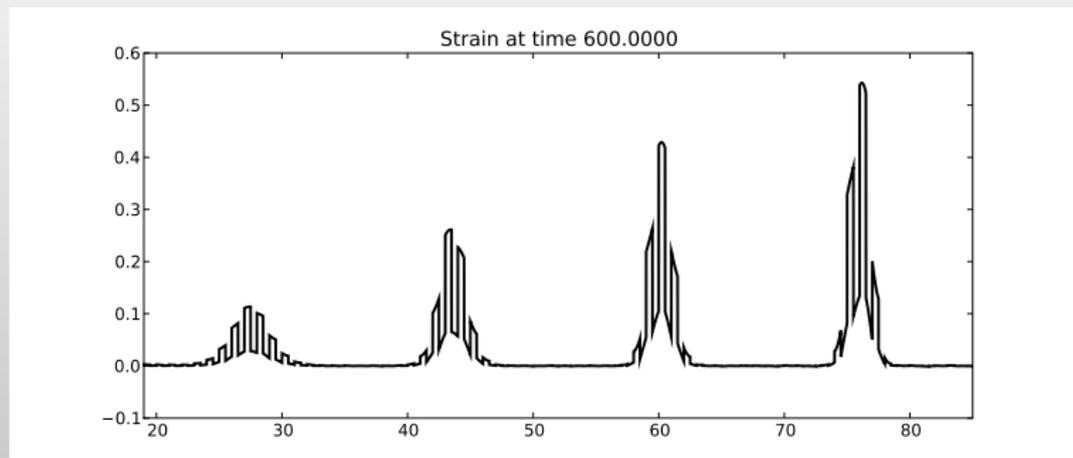
Nonlinearity: $\sigma = e^{K\epsilon} - 1$

A comparison of high and low order accuracy



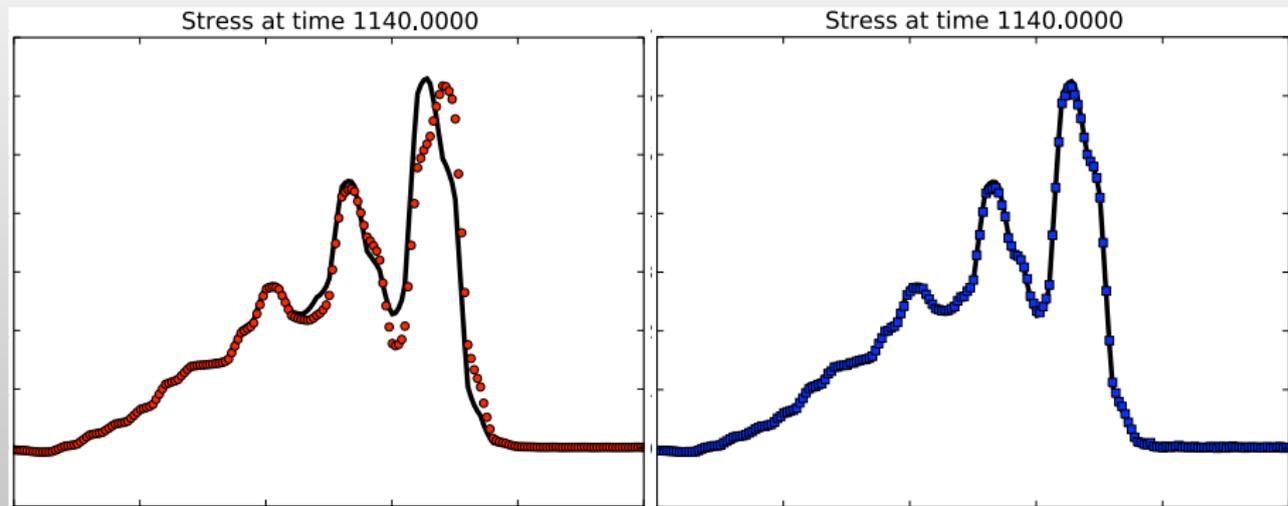
Black - "exact" solution
Red - 2nd order solution
Blue - 5th order solution

Time Reversal Test



This is a unique test problem because we can expect high order convergence even after long-distance wave propagation.

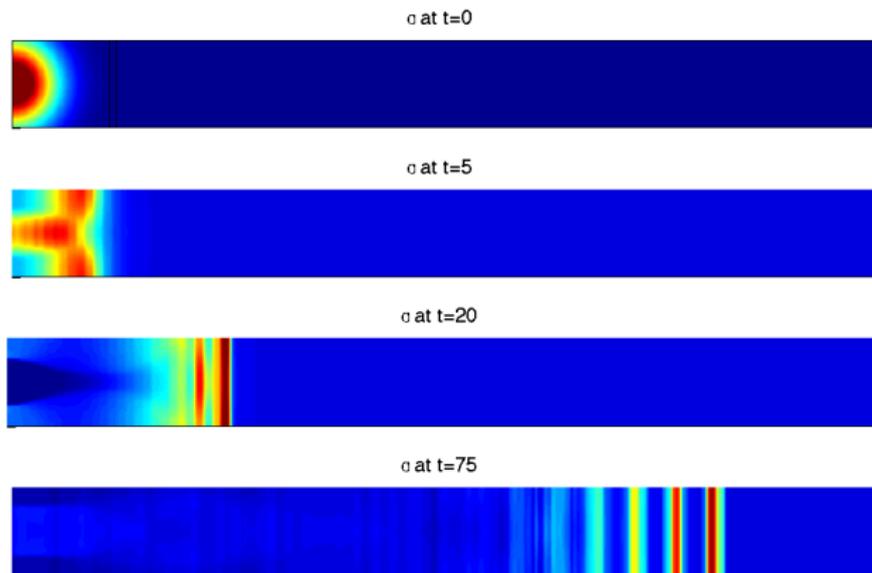
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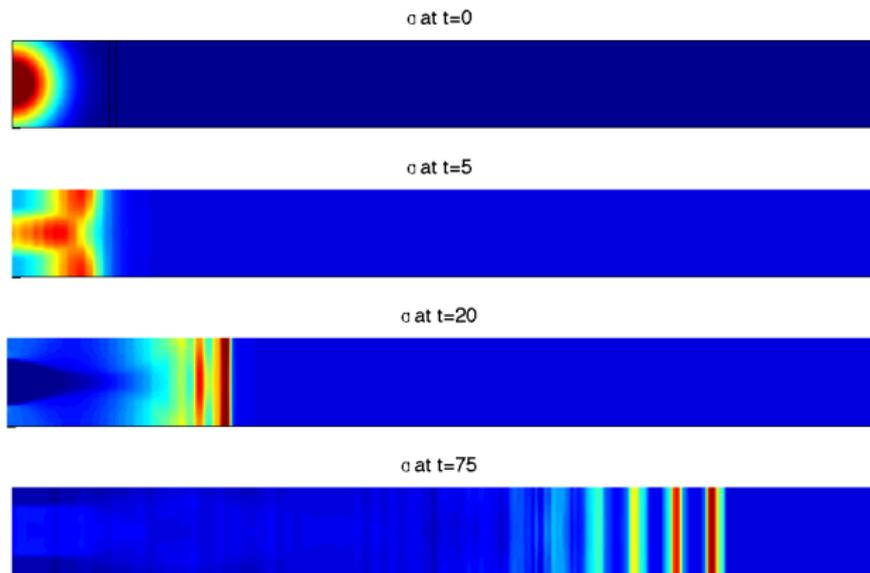
2nd order solution

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Stability of 2D Stegotons



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A partial experimental realization: Berezovski et. al., 2006