

# A plodding derivation of the equations for compressible air flow in tunnels

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This document is a derivation of the equations of the homentropic method of characteristics (MoC) that is often used for calculating 1D air flow in the tunnel ventilation field.

Many researchers have written papers that summarized the derivation of the characteristic forms of the equations. Until I started a sabbatical I never had the time or patience to sit down and figure out how those researchers got from A to B. I wrote this document to help me figure it all out.

This document has four sections.

- Derivation of the method of characteristics (MoC) for two independent variables.
- Derivation of the relationship between speed of sound, pressure and density in an ideal gas.
- Derivation of the differential forms of the isentropic flow equations.
- Conversion of the mass and momentum equations for isentropic compressible flow at low Mach number into a form suitable for solving by MoC.

This document might be expanded to cover non-homentropic flow if I ever get my head around the papers by Woods, Gawthorpe and Pope. But that seems unlikely.

I have no doubt that there are errors in this document that I haven't spotted. I welcome corrections.

# 1 Method of characteristics for two variables

Sources:

- Lister, M, “*The numerical solution of hyperbolic partial differential equations by the method of characteristics*”, in Ralston & Wilf, “*Mathematical Methods for Digital Computers*”, Wiley, 1960
- Fox, J A, “*The use of the digital computer in the solution of waterhammer problems*”, Paper 7020, J. Instn. Civ. Engrs, 1968
- Fox, J A, and Henson, D A, “*The prediction of the magnitudes of pressure transients generated by a train entering a single tunnel*”, Paper 7635, J. Instn. Civ. Engrs, 1971
- Fox, J A, “*Hydraulic analysis of unsteady flow in pipe networks*”, Macmillan Press, 1977

In the tunnel vent field, Lister’s 1960 paper seems to have been the main influence. Fox used her derivation to write waterhammer programs in Algol 60 at the University of Leeds in the 1960s, then supervised the Ph.Ds of three of the early players in the compressible airflow in tunnels field. In 1977 Fox wrote an excellent book about how to calculate unsteady flows in a practical manner.

The derivation in this section is mostly an expansion of the summary in chapter 4 of Fox’s book.

Consider a pair of partial differential equations with two independent variables  $x$  and  $y$  and two dependent variables  $u$  and  $v$ :

$$L_1 = A_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + B_1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + C_1 \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + D_1 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + E_1 = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$L_2 = A_2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + B_2 \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + C_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + D_2 \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + E_2 = 0 \quad (2)$$

where  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are known functions of  $x, y, u$  and  $v$ .

In terms of the software, independent variable  $x$  will be time and independent variable  $y$  will be distance along a tunnel (or vice-versa—doesn’t matter yet). They are independent because when we write the software we choose our timestep and our grid length. As long as the dependent variables  $u$  and  $v$  define the state of the fluid it doesn’t appear to matter what they are. Fox used water head and water velocity in his waterhammer papers. Lister used gas velocity and speed of sound in her (somewhat more theoretical) paper. Fox, Henson, Vardy and Highton used air velocity and speed of sound in their tunnel ventilation papers.

Consider a linear combination of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  using an arbitrary function  $\vartheta$ :

$$L = L_1 + \vartheta L_2 \quad (3)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
= & (A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + (B_1 + \vartheta B_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} + \\
& (C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + (D_1 + \vartheta D_2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} + \\
& (E_1 + \vartheta E_2)
\end{aligned} \tag{4}$$

Let  $y = y(x)$ , a curve. Its tangent slope is  $dy/dx$ .

If  $u = u(x, y)$  and  $v = v(x, y)$  and  $u$  and  $v$  are valid solutions of  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  then

$$du = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} dy, \tag{5}$$

$$dv = \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} dx + \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} dy. \tag{6}$$

Take the  $u$  terms in (4),

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + (B_1 + \vartheta B_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} : \tag{7}$$

this can be rewritten as

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{(B_1 + \vartheta B_2)}{(A_1 + \vartheta A_2)} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right). \tag{8}$$

Now take the  $v$  terms in (4),

$$(C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + (D_1 + \vartheta D_2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} : \tag{9}$$

this can be rewritten as

$$(C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{(D_1 + \vartheta D_2)}{(C_1 + \vartheta C_2)} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right). \tag{10}$$

At this point both Fox and Lister do something that I just took on trust, as I'm too stupid to understand it. We choose our value of  $\vartheta$  such that

$$\frac{(B_1 + \vartheta B_2)}{(A_1 + \vartheta A_2)} = \frac{(D_1 + \vartheta D_2)}{(C_1 + \vartheta C_2)} = \frac{dy}{dx}. \tag{11}$$

We can now replace  $\frac{(B_1 + \vartheta B_2)}{(A_1 + \vartheta A_2)}$  in (8) with  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ :

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \left( \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \right). \tag{12}$$

Likewise, we can replace  $\frac{(D_1 + \vartheta D_2)}{(C_1 + \vartheta C_2)}$  in (10) with  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ :

$$(C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + \frac{dy}{dx} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} \right). \tag{13}$$

Now  $\frac{dy}{dx} \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$  and  $\frac{dy}{dx} \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = 0$  so those terms vanish. We get

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{du}{dx} \text{ and} \quad (14)$$

$$(C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{dv}{dx}. \quad (15)$$

Recall that these are equivalent to the  $u$  and  $v$  terms in (4), so

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + (B_1 + \vartheta B_2) \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = (A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{du}{dx} \quad (16)$$

and

$$(C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + (D_1 + \vartheta D_2) \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = (C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{dv}{dx}. \quad (17)$$

The careful selection of the value of  $\vartheta$  allows us to hide the four terms  $B_1$ ,  $B_2$ ,  $D_1$  and  $D_2$  in (4) and eliminate the partial derivatives. We substitute the right hand sides of (16) and (17) back into (4) to get

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{du}{dx} + (C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{dv}{dx} + E_1 + \vartheta E_2. \quad (18)$$

Both  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  equal zero, so their sum must also equal zero i.e.,

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{du}{dx} + (C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{dv}{dx} + E_1 + \vartheta E_2 = 0. \quad (19)$$

Now we put (19) to one side for a while. We want to express  $\vartheta$  in terms of the  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ , ... terms, because those are known functions of  $x$ ,  $y$ ,  $u$  and  $v$ . We rearrange one version of (11) to place  $\vartheta$  on its own:

$$\frac{(B_1 + \vartheta B_2)}{(A_1 + \vartheta A_2)} = \frac{dy}{dx}$$

$$\Rightarrow (B_1 + \vartheta B_2)dx = (A_1 + \vartheta A_2)dy \quad (20)$$

$$\Rightarrow B_1 dx + \vartheta B_2 dx = A_1 dy + \vartheta A_2 dy \quad (21)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vartheta B_2 dx - \vartheta A_2 dy = A_1 dy - B_1 dx \quad (22)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vartheta (B_2 dx - A_2 dy) = A_1 dy - B_1 dx \quad (23)$$

$$\Rightarrow \vartheta = \frac{A_1 dy - B_1 dx}{B_2 dx - A_2 dy} \quad (24)$$

We rearrange the other version of (11) to place  $\vartheta$  on its own in the same way and end up with

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{(D_1 + \vartheta D_2)}{(C_1 + \vartheta C_2)} &= \frac{dy}{dx} \\ \Rightarrow \vartheta &= \frac{C_1 dy - D_1 dx}{D_2 dx - C_2 dy}. \end{aligned} \quad (25)$$

(24) and (25) both give  $\vartheta$  so they are equal to each other.

$$\frac{A_1 dy - B_1 dx}{B_2 dx - A_2 dy} = \frac{C_1 dy - D_1 dx}{D_2 dx - C_2 dy} \quad (26)$$

We can multiply them out and collect terms associated with  $dx^2$ ,  $dx dy$  and  $dy^2$ .

$$(A_1 dy - B_1 dx)(D_2 dx - C_2 dy) = (C_1 dy - D_1 dx)(B_2 dx - A_2 dy) \quad (27)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \quad & A_1 D_2 dy dx - A_1 C_2 dy^2 - B_1 D_2 dx^2 + B_1 C_2 dx dy = \\ & C_1 B_2 dy dx - C_1 A_2 dy^2 - D_1 B_2 dx^2 + D_1 A_2 dx dy \end{aligned} \quad (28)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \quad & A_1 D_2 dx dy - A_1 C_2 dy^2 - B_1 D_2 dx^2 + B_1 C_2 dx dy - \\ & C_1 B_2 dx dy + C_1 A_2 dy^2 + D_1 B_2 dx^2 - D_1 A_2 dx dy = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (29)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow \quad & (D_1 B_2 - B_1 D_2) dx^2 + \\ & (A_1 D_2 + B_1 C_2 - C_1 B_2 - D_1 A_2) dx dy + \\ & (C_1 A_2 - A_1 C_2) dy^2 = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Then we divide both sides by  $dx^2$  to generate a quadratic in  $\frac{dy}{dx}$ .

$$\begin{aligned} & (D_1 B_2 - B_1 D_2) \frac{dx^2}{dx^2} + \\ & (A_1 D_2 + B_1 C_2 - C_1 B_2 - D_1 A_2) \frac{dx dy}{dx^2} + \\ & (C_1 A_2 - A_1 C_2) \frac{dy^2}{dx^2} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

In the process both Lister and Fox reversed the sign of the coefficients, presumably for a good reason (the sum is still zero). We'll do the same.

$$\begin{aligned} & (B_1 D_2 - D_1 B_2) + \\ & (C_1 B_2 + D_1 A_2 - A_1 D_2 - B_1 C_2) \frac{dy}{dx} + \\ & (A_1 C_2 - C_1 A_2) \frac{dy^2}{dx^2} = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (32)$$

We define the following collective terms for the coefficients:

$$p = A_1 C_2 - C_1 A_2, \quad (33)$$

$$q = C_1 B_2 + D_1 A_2 - A_1 D_2 - B_1 C_2, \quad (34)$$

$$r = B_1 D_2 - D_1 B_2. \quad (35)$$

We can now re-write (32) as

$$p \frac{dy^2}{dx^2} + q \frac{dy}{dx} + r = 0 \quad (36)$$

The solution of this quadratic can have one of three types:

$$q^2 - 4pr > 0: \text{ two different real roots, the PDEs are hyperbolic,} \quad (37)$$

$$q^2 - 4pr = 0: \text{ one real root, the PDEs are parabolic,} \quad (38)$$

$$q^2 - 4pr < 0: \text{ two complex roots, the PDEs are elliptical.} \quad (39)$$

In this case the PDEs are hyperbolic. There are two roots, which we will call  $\kappa_+$  and  $\kappa_-$ , defined by

$$\kappa_+ = \frac{-q + \sqrt{q^2 - 4pr}}{2p}, \quad (40)$$

$$\kappa_- = \frac{-q - \sqrt{q^2 - 4pr}}{2p}. \quad (41)$$

These two solutions represent values of  $dy/dx$  and are thus the slopes of lines in the  $x - y$  plane (characteristic lines). At each point in the  $x - y$  plane two characteristic lines pass through, one with slope  $\kappa_+$  the other with slope  $\kappa_-$ . For convenience we will represent them both by one symbol,  $\kappa_{\pm}$  so that we only have to do the derivation once. We can go back to (24) and (25) and determine values of  $\vartheta$  in terms of  $\kappa_{\pm}$ . We start with (24):

$$\vartheta = \frac{A_1 dy - B_1 dx}{B_2 dx - A_2 dy} \quad (42)$$

We divide both top and bottom by  $dx$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \vartheta &= \frac{(A_1 dy - B_1 dx)/dx}{(B_2 dx - A_2 dy)/dx} \\ \Rightarrow \vartheta &= \frac{A_1 \frac{dy}{dx} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2 \frac{dy}{dx}}. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

We cancel  $\frac{dx}{dx}$ :

$$\vartheta = \frac{A_1 \frac{dy}{dx} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2 \frac{dy}{dx}}. \quad (44)$$

We replace  $\frac{dy}{dx}$  with the slopes of our characteristic lines,  $\kappa_{\pm}$ .

$$\vartheta = \frac{A_1 \kappa_{\pm} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2 \kappa_{\pm}}. \quad (45)$$

The same process is then applied to (25):

$$\begin{aligned} \vartheta &= \frac{C_1 dy - D_1 dx}{D_2 dx - C_2 dy} \\ \Rightarrow \vartheta &= \frac{C_1 \kappa_{\pm} - D_1}{D_2 - C_2 \kappa_{\pm}}. \end{aligned} \quad (46)$$

Now we go back to (19) and substitute for  $\vartheta$ :

$$(A_1 + \vartheta A_2) \frac{du}{dx} + (C_1 + \vartheta C_2) \frac{dv}{dx} + E_1 + \vartheta E_2 = 0 \quad (47)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & \left( A_1 + \frac{A_1 \kappa_{\pm} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2 \kappa_{\pm}} A_2 \right) \frac{du}{dx} + \\ & \left( C_1 + \frac{C_1 \kappa_{\pm} - D_1}{D_2 - C_2 \kappa_{\pm}} C_2 \right) \frac{dv}{dx} + \\ & E_1 + \frac{A_1 \kappa_{\pm} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2 \kappa_{\pm}} E_2 = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

If we multiply both sides by  $dx$  we get

$$\begin{aligned} & (A_1 + \frac{A_1\kappa_{\pm} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}}A_2)du + \\ & (C_1 + \frac{A_1\kappa_{\pm} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}}C_2)dv + \\ & (E_1 + \frac{A_1\kappa_{\pm} - B_1}{B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}}E_2)dx = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (49)$$

Next we multiply both sides by  $B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}$  and collect common terms of  $\kappa_{\pm}$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & [A_1(B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}) + (A_1\kappa_{\pm} - B_1)A_2] du + \\ & [C_1(B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}) + (A_1\kappa_{\pm} - B_1)C_2] dv + \\ & [E_1(B_2 - A_2\kappa_{\pm}) + (A_1\kappa_{\pm} - B_1)E_2] dx = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (50)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & [A_1B_2 - A_1A_2\kappa_{\pm} + A_1\kappa_{\pm}A_2 - A_2B_1] du + \\ & [B_2C_1 - A_2C_1\kappa_{\pm} + A_1\kappa_{\pm}C_2 - B_1C_2] dv + \\ & [B_2E_1 - A_2E_1\kappa_{\pm} + A_1\kappa_{\pm}E_2 - B_1E_2] dx = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (51)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & [A_1B_2 - A_2B_1] du + \\ & [B_2C_1 - A_2C_1\kappa_{\pm} + A_1\kappa_{\pm}C_2 - B_1C_2] dv + \\ & [B_2E_1 - A_2E_1\kappa_{\pm} + A_1\kappa_{\pm}E_2 - B_1E_2] dx = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (52)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & [A_1B_2 - A_2B_1] du + \\ & [B_2C_1 - B_1C_2 - A_2C_1\kappa_{\pm} + A_1C_2\kappa_{\pm}] dv + \\ & [B_2E_1 - B_1E_2 - A_2E_1\kappa_{\pm} + A_1E_2\kappa_{\pm}] dx = 0 \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow & [A_1B_2 - A_2B_1] du + \\ & [B_2C_1 - B_1C_2 + (A_1C_2 - A_2C_1)\kappa_{\pm}] dv + \\ & [B_2E_1 - B_1E_2 + (A_1E_2 - A_2E_1)\kappa_{\pm}] dx = 0. \end{aligned} \quad (54)$$

Recall that  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  are known functions of  $x, y, u$  and  $v$ . We define five new terms of their combinations:

$$N = A_1B_2 - A_2B_1, \quad (55)$$

$$O = A_1C_2 - A_2C_1, \quad (56)$$

$$P = B_1C_2 - B_2C_1, \quad (57)$$

$$Q = A_1E_2 - A_2E_1, \quad (58)$$

$$R = B_1E_2 - B_2E_1. \quad (59)$$

We can rewrite (54) as

$$Ndu + (O\kappa_{\pm} - P)dv + (Q\kappa_{\pm} - R)dx = 0 \quad (60)$$

and know that it applies along the characteristic lines. We also have the characteristic slope equations  $\kappa_{\pm} = \frac{dy}{dx}$ .

We have four unknowns  $du, dv, \kappa_+$  and  $\kappa_-$ . We have four equations

$$Ndu + (P\kappa_+ - O)dv + (Q\kappa_+ - R)dx = 0, \quad (61)$$

$$dy - \kappa_+ dx = 0, \quad (62)$$

$$Ndu + (P\kappa_- - O)dv + (Q\kappa_- - R)dx = 0 \text{ \& } (63)$$

$$dy - \kappa_- dx = 0 \quad (64)$$

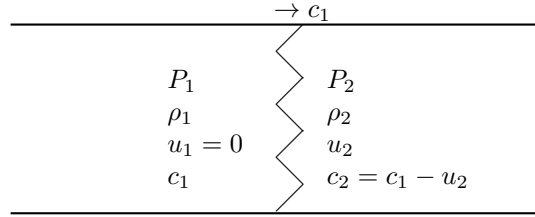
and can solve these by finite difference methods.



## 2 Speed of sound in a perfect gas

The main source of this derivation is chapter 6 of “*Intermediate Fluid Mechanics*” by R H Nunn (Hemisphere Publishing, 1989).

First we look for a relationship between the conditions on either side of a weak pressure wave moving at speed  $c_1$  in a rigid duct. The control volume around the wavefront is travelling at the same speed as the wave and we assume it is short enough to allow us to discount changes in area. The figure below shows conditions on either side of the control volume as it travels through the duct.



On the left-hand side we have pressure  $P_1$ , density  $\rho_1$ , velocity zero (because the control volume is travelling at the same speed as the wave) and speed of sound  $c_1$ . On the right-hand side we have pressure  $P_2$ , density  $\rho_2$ , velocity (relative to the wavefront)  $u_2$  and speed of sound  $c_1 - u_2$ .

First we look at conservation of mass and rearrange it to make  $u_2$  the subject.

$$\rho_1 c_1 = \rho_2 (c_1 - u_2) \quad (65)$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_1 c_1 = \rho_2 c_1 - \rho_2 u_2 \quad (66)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} c_1 = c_1 - u_2 \quad (67)$$

$$\Rightarrow u_2 = c_1 - \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} c_1 \quad (68)$$

$$\Rightarrow u_2 = c_1 \left( 1 - \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} \right) \quad (69)$$

Next we take the momentum equation across the pressure wave and rearrange it so that the pressure terms are on the left-hand side.

$$P_1 + \rho_1 c_1^2 = P_2 + \rho_2 (c_1 - u_2)^2 \quad (70)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = \rho_2 (c_1 - u_2)^2 - \rho_1 c_1^2 \quad (71)$$

Now we substitute for  $u_2$  and collect common terms.

$$P_1 - P_2 = \rho_2 \left[ c_1 - c_1 \left( 1 - \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} \right)^2 \right] - \rho_1 c_1^2 \quad (72)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = \rho_2 \left( c_1 - c_1 + c_1 \frac{\rho_1^2}{\rho_2^2} \right) - \rho_1 c_1^2 \quad (73)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = \rho_2 \left( c_1 \frac{\rho_1^2}{\rho_2^2} \right) - \rho_1 c_1^2 \quad (74)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = c_1^2 \left( \rho_2 \frac{\rho_1^2}{\rho_2^2} \right) - c_1^2 \rho_1 \quad (75)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = c_1^2 \left( \frac{\rho_1^2}{\rho_2} \right) - c_1^2 \rho_1 \quad (76)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = c_1^2 \rho_1 \left( \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} \right) - c_1^2 \rho_1 \quad (77)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = c_1^2 \rho_1 \left( \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} - 1 \right) \quad (78)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_1 - P_2 = c_1^2 \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} (\rho_1 - \rho_2) \quad (79)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{P_1 - P_2}{\rho_1 - \rho_2} = c_1^2 \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_2} \quad (80)$$

Finally, we make  $c_1^2$  the subject of the equation.

$$c_1^2 = \frac{P_1 - P_2}{\rho_1 - \rho_2} \frac{\rho_2}{\rho_1} \quad (81)$$

Now we define  $P_2 = P_1 + \delta P$  and  $\rho_2 = \rho_1 + \delta \rho$ . This lets us simplify it further.

$$c_1^2 = \frac{P_1 - (P_1 + \delta P)}{\rho_1 - (\rho_1 + \delta \rho)} \frac{\rho_1 + \delta \rho}{\rho_1} \quad (82)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1^2 = \frac{P_1 - P_1 - \delta P}{\rho_1 - \rho_1 - \delta \rho} \frac{\rho_1 + \delta \rho}{\rho_1} \quad (83)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1^2 = \frac{-\delta P}{-\delta \rho} \frac{\rho_1 + \delta \rho}{\rho_1} \quad (84)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1^2 = \frac{\delta P}{\delta \rho} \frac{\rho_1 + \delta \rho}{\rho_1}. \quad (85)$$

Now when  $\delta P$  and  $\delta \rho$  tend to small values,  $\frac{\delta P}{\delta \rho} \rightarrow \frac{dP}{d\rho}$  and  $\frac{\rho_1 + \delta \rho}{\rho_1} \rightarrow \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_1}$ . So

$$c_1^2 = \frac{dP}{d\rho} \frac{\rho_1}{\rho_1} \quad (86)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1^2 = \frac{dP}{d\rho} (1) \quad (87)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_1^2 = \frac{dP}{d\rho}. \quad (88)$$

### 3 Differential forms of the isentropic flow relationships

Most papers in the field express the isentropic flow relationships in differential form without giving a derivation. Even Shapiro's book "*The Dynamics and Thermodynamics of Compressible Fluid Flow*" (rightly regarded as the most comprehensive treatment of the subject) takes the isentropic flow relationship, the equation of state for a perfect gas and the expression for sound velocity

$$\frac{P}{\rho^\gamma} = \text{constant}, \quad (89)$$

$$\frac{P}{\rho T} = \text{constant}, \quad (90)$$

$$c^2 = \gamma R T \quad (91)$$

and states that they can be rearranged into their differential forms (eqn. 23.7, vol. 2, page 910):

$$\frac{d\rho}{\rho} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{1}{\gamma - 1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{dc}{c}. \quad (92)$$

Those differential forms were not obvious to me.

This section is just a derivation of the four terms in (92) from (89)–(91). The main source I used for this was a NASA web page on isentropic fluid flow relationships.<sup>1</sup>

We start by stating a couple of additional thermodynamic relationships. The first relates the two specific heats of a gas (specific heat at constant pressure  $c_p$  and at constant volume  $c_v$ ) to the gas constant  $R$ .

$$R = c_p - c_v. \quad (93)$$

The second is the definition of the ratio of specific heats,  $\gamma$ . It is

$$\gamma = \frac{c_p}{c_v}. \quad (94)$$

$R$  is a constant. We treat  $c_p$ ,  $c_v$  as constants too, even though it is not strictly true (treating them as constants is good enough for engineering work). So in the derivation that follows each time we find  $c_p$ ,  $c_v$  or  $R$  inside a partial derivative term we can take them out of the derivative and treat them as constants.

We rearrange (93) and put (94) into it to get  $\frac{c_p}{R}$  in terms of  $\gamma$ ;

$$\frac{R}{c_p} = \frac{c_p - c_v}{c_p} \quad (95)$$

$$\Rightarrow = \frac{c_p}{c_p} - \frac{c_v}{c_p} \quad (96)$$

$$\Rightarrow = 1 - \frac{1}{\gamma} \quad (97)$$

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<sup>1</sup><https://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/BGH/isndrv.html> (accessed 29 July 2020).

We take the reciprocal of  $\frac{R}{c_p}$  and simplify it

$$\frac{c_p}{R} = \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}} \quad (98)$$

$$\Rightarrow = \left( \frac{1}{1 - \frac{1}{\gamma}} \right) \left( \frac{\gamma}{\gamma} \right) \quad (99)$$

$$\Rightarrow = \frac{\gamma}{(1 - \frac{1}{\gamma})\gamma} \quad (100)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c_p}{R} = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \quad (101)$$

Next we take the isentropic flow relationship, the perfect gas equation (in slightly different form to (90)), the expression for speed of sound and the relationship for entropy change  $ds$ . These are:

$$\frac{P}{\rho^\gamma} = \text{constant}, \quad (102)$$

$$P = \rho RT, \quad (103)$$

$$c^2 = \gamma RT, \quad (104)$$

$$ds = c_p \frac{dT}{T} - R \frac{dP}{P} \quad (105)$$

For an isentropic process  $ds = 0$ , so

$$c_p \frac{dT}{T} - R \frac{dP}{P} = 0 \quad (106)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_p \frac{dT}{T} = R \frac{dP}{P} \quad (107)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c_p}{R} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{dP}{P} \quad (108)$$

We can substitute (101) into (108) to yield one of the relationships in Shapiro's equation 23.7,

$$\frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{dP}{P}, \quad (109)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\gamma - 1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{dP}{P}. \quad (110)$$

Next we take the equation of state (103) and substitute it for  $P$  in the entropy equation (107).

$$c_p \frac{dT}{T} = R \frac{dP}{\rho RT}. \quad (111)$$

We can now cancel  $R$  and  $T$ ,

$$\Rightarrow c_p dT = \frac{dP}{\rho}. \quad (112)$$

Now we take the equation of state (103) again, make  $T$  the subject and differentiate it.

$$T = \frac{P}{\rho R}, \quad (113)$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial T = \partial \left( \frac{P}{\rho R} \right), \quad (114)$$

$$\Rightarrow c_p \partial T = \frac{c_p}{R} \partial \left( \frac{P}{\rho} \right). \quad (115)$$

(112) and (115) are equal so we can equate their right-hand side terms and simplify:

$$\frac{c_p}{R} \partial \left( \frac{P}{\rho} \right) = \frac{dP}{\rho}, \quad (116)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c_p}{R} \left[ \frac{dP}{\rho} + P d \left( \frac{1}{\rho} \right) \right] = \frac{dP}{\rho}, \quad (117)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{c_p}{R} \left[ \frac{dP}{\rho} - \frac{P}{\rho^2} d\rho \right] = \frac{dP}{\rho}. \quad (118)$$

Collect common terms of  $dP$  on the left hand side, multiply both sides by  $\frac{\rho}{P}$  and simplify:

$$\frac{c_p}{R} \frac{dP}{\rho} - \frac{dP}{\rho} = \frac{c_p}{R} \frac{P}{\rho^2} d\rho, \quad (119)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{c_p}{R} - 1 \right) \frac{dP}{\rho} = \frac{c_p}{R} \frac{P}{\rho^2} d\rho, \quad (120)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{c_p}{R} - 1 \right) \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{c_p}{R} \frac{\rho}{\rho^2} d\rho, \quad (121)$$

$$\Rightarrow \left( \frac{c_p}{R} - 1 \right) \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{c_p}{R} \frac{d\rho}{\rho}. \quad (122)$$

(101) gives  $\frac{c_p}{R}$  in terms of  $\gamma$  and we substitute that into (123) and simplify.

$$\left[ \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} - 1 \right] \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \frac{d\rho}{\rho}, \quad (123)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\gamma - 1) \left[ \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} - 1 \right] \frac{dP}{P} = (\gamma - 1) \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} \frac{d\rho}{\rho}, \quad (124)$$

$$\Rightarrow (\gamma - 1) \left[ \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} - 1 \right] \frac{dP}{P} = \gamma \frac{d\rho}{\rho}, \quad (125)$$

$$\Rightarrow [\gamma - (\gamma - 1)] \frac{dP}{P} = \gamma \frac{d\rho}{\rho}, \quad (126)$$

$$\Rightarrow [1] \frac{dP}{P} = \gamma \frac{d\rho}{\rho}, \quad (127)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dP}{P} = \gamma \frac{d\rho}{\rho}, \quad (128)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{d\rho}{\rho}. \quad (129)$$

The end result (129) is another identity in Shapiro's equation 23.7. It may be worth stating the three relationships together before we get to the fourth. They are

$$\frac{d\rho}{\rho} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \frac{dT}{T}. \quad (130)$$

Now re-arrange the speed of sound relationship (104) to make  $T$  the subject and differentiate it;

$$T = \frac{c^2}{\gamma R}, \quad (131)$$

$$\partial T = \partial \left( \frac{c^2}{\gamma R} \right) \quad (132)$$

$$\Rightarrow dT = \frac{1}{\gamma R} d(c^2), \quad (133)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{1}{\gamma R T} d(c^2). \quad (134)$$

Now  $\gamma R T = c^2$ , from (104). We also multiply by  $\frac{1}{\gamma-1}$  to give a result that is compatible with (131),

$$\frac{dT}{T} = \frac{1}{c^2} d(c^2), \quad (135)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \frac{d(c^2)}{c^2}. \quad (136)$$

Finally—and I only write this out in full because I know I'll forget it otherwise—we take a new variable to represent  $c^2$ , say  $X = c^2$  and use it to express  $d(c^2)$  in terms of  $dc$ .

$$X = c^2, \quad (137)$$

$$\Rightarrow dX = d(c^2), \quad (138)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dX}{dc} = \frac{d}{dc}(c^2), \quad (139)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{dX}{dc} = 2c, \quad (140)$$

$$\Rightarrow dX = 2cdc, \quad (141)$$

$$\Rightarrow d(c^2) = 2cdc. \quad (142)$$

If we substitute (142) into (136) we can cancel  $\frac{c}{c}$  and get the last of the terms in Shapiro's equation 23.7,

$$\frac{1}{\gamma-1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{2c}{\gamma-1} \frac{dc}{c^2}, \quad (143)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{2}{\gamma-1} \frac{dc}{c}. \quad (144)$$

Putting (130) and (144) together, the relationships for isentropic flow in differential form in Shapiro's equation 23.7 are

$$\frac{d\rho}{\rho} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \frac{dP}{P} = \frac{1}{\gamma-1} \frac{dT}{T} = \frac{2}{\gamma-1} \frac{dc}{c}. \quad (145)$$

## 4 1D compressible flow equations

We consider unsteady, one-dimensional, compressible fluid flow in a rigid pipe of constant area (e.g. air in a tunnel).

The main sources for this section are

- Fox, J A, “*Hydraulic analysis of unsteady flow in pipe networks*”, Macmillan Press, 1977
- Kestin, J and Glass, J S, “*Application of the Method of Characteristics to the Transient Flow of Gases*”, Proc. Instn. Mech. Engrs vol. 161, 1949

Fox’s book was written for engineers rather than mathematicians, so it was much easier for me to follow than many of the other sources I came across. The 1949 IMechE paper by Kestin & Glass is a gem. They take time to explain in some detail a few things I had difficulty with, no doubt because it was written in the early years of the field. For example, they explain why the best pair of parameters to use are air velocity  $u$  and speed of sound  $c$ . More recent papers just take that as a given.

We take the equation of conservation of mass

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{u}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = 0 \quad (146)$$

and the equation of momentum

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} + E = 0. \quad (147)$$

We have two independent variables:  $x$ , distance along the tunnel and  $t$ , time.

We have three dependent variables:  $P$ , air pressure;  $\rho$ , air density; and  $v$ , air velocity.

$E$  represents body forces on the fluid, such as wall friction (we ignore smooth changes in area, porous walls and changes in elevation).

We are interested in isentropic flow. In sections 2 and 3 we showed that when we have isentropic flow,

$$c^2 = \frac{dP}{d\rho} \text{ and} \quad (88)$$

$$\frac{d\rho}{\rho} = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{dc}{c}. \quad (145)$$

We can use these relationships to make both  $P$  and  $\rho$  dependent variables of  $c$ .

Then we can use the method of characteristics to make a set of equations that can be solved simultaneously for the two dependent variables  $u$  and  $c$ , use  $u$  and  $c$  in the mass equation to get  $\rho$ , then use those three to determine  $P$ .

First we take (88) and make  $\partial P$  the subject:

$$\partial P = c^2 \partial \rho. \quad (148)$$

This allows us to replace  $\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}$  with  $\frac{c^2}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}$  in the momentum equation (147), giving

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{c^2}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} + E = 0. \quad (149)$$

Next we substitute the  $\rho$  terms. From (145) it follows that

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} = \frac{2}{(\gamma - 1)c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} \text{ and} \quad (150)$$

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = \frac{2}{(\gamma - 1)c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t}. \quad (151)$$

(150) lets us substitute the  $\partial \rho$  term with a  $\partial c$  term in the modified equation of momentum (149). We get

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{2c^2}{(\gamma - 1)c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + E = 0 \quad (152)$$

$$\Rightarrow u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{2c}{\gamma - 1} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + E = 0. \quad (153)$$

Next we substitute the two  $\partial \rho$  terms with  $\partial c$  terms in the equation of mass (146),

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{2u}{(\gamma - 1)c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + \frac{2}{(\gamma - 1)c} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = 0 \quad (154)$$

$$\Rightarrow c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{2u}{\gamma - 1} \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = 0. \quad (155)$$

(153) and (155) are the equations of momentum and mass respectively with two independent variables ( $x$  as distance along the tunnel and  $t$  as time). We now have two dependent variables instead of three and they are  $u$  and  $c$ —neither  $P$  nor  $\rho$  are present.

To make the momentum and mass equations easier to typeset we will define a constant

$$\psi = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1}. \quad (156)$$

Substituting  $\psi$  into the momentum (153) and mass (155) equations gives us

$$u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \psi c \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + E = 0 \quad (\text{momentum}) \text{ and} \quad (157)$$

$$c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \psi u \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + \psi \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} = 0 \quad (\text{mass}). \quad (158)$$



Next we put (157) and (158) in the same form as (1) and (2). It makes things easier if we treat time  $t$  as the independent variable  $x$  in (1) and distance  $x$  as the other independent variable  $y$  in (1). That might seem counterintuitive: just let it go. We get

$$1 \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + 0 \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \psi c \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + E = 0 \text{ (momentum)} \quad (159)$$

$$0 \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \psi \frac{\partial c}{\partial t} + \psi u \frac{\partial c}{\partial x} + 0 = 0 \text{ (mass)}. \quad (160)$$

The ten coefficient terms in (1) and (2) are

$$A_1 = 1 \quad (161)$$

$$B_1 = u \quad (162)$$

$$C_1 = 0 \quad (163)$$

$$D_1 = \psi c \quad (164)$$

$$E_1 = -E \quad (165)$$

$$A_2 = 0 \quad (166)$$

$$B_2 = c \quad (167)$$

$$C_2 = \psi \quad (168)$$

$$D_2 = \psi u \quad (169)$$

$$E_2 = 0 \quad (170)$$

We can use these to find the slopes of the characteristic lines, which are the roots of the quadratic in  $p$ ,  $q$  and  $r$  (36).

$$\begin{aligned} p &= A_1 C_2 - C_1 A_2 \\ &= 1 \times \psi - 0 \times 0 = \psi, \end{aligned} \quad (171)$$

$$\begin{aligned} q &= C_1 B_2 + D_1 A_2 - A_1 D_2 - B_1 C_2 \\ &= 0 \times c + \psi c \times 0 - 1 \times \psi u - u \times \psi = -2\psi u, \end{aligned} \quad (172)$$

$$\begin{aligned} r &= B_1 D_2 - D_1 B_2 \\ &= u \times \psi u - \psi c \times c = \psi(u^2 - c^2). \end{aligned} \quad (173)$$

The two roots of the quadratic ( $\kappa_{\pm}$  in section 1) are

$$\kappa_{\pm} = \frac{-q \pm \sqrt{q^2 - 4pr}}{2p} \quad (174)$$

$$= \frac{+2\psi u \pm \sqrt{(-2\psi u)^2 - 4 \times \psi \times \psi(u^2 - c^2)}}{2 \times \psi} \quad (175)$$

$$= \frac{2\psi u \pm \sqrt{4u^2\psi^2 - 4\psi^2(u^2 - c^2)}}{2\psi} \quad (176)$$

$$= u \pm \sqrt{u^2 - (u^2 - c^2)} \quad (177)$$

$$= u \pm \sqrt{u^2 - u^2 + c^2} \quad (178)$$

$$= u \pm \sqrt{c^2} \quad (179)$$

$$= u \pm c. \quad (180)$$

So

$$\kappa_+ = u + c \text{ and} \quad (181)$$

$$\kappa_- = u - c. \quad (182)$$

Next we use the ten coefficient terms to get the values of  $N$ - $R$  in the simplified linear combination equation (60):

$$\begin{aligned} N &= A_1 B_2 - A_2 B_1 \\ &= 1 \times c - 0 \times u = c, \end{aligned} \quad (183)$$

$$\begin{aligned} O &= A_1 C_2 - A_2 C_1 \\ &= 1 \times \psi - 0 \times 0 = \psi, \end{aligned} \quad (184)$$

$$\begin{aligned} P &= B_1 C_2 - B_2 C_1 \\ &= u \times \psi - u \times 0 = \psi u, \end{aligned} \quad (185)$$

$$\begin{aligned} Q &= A_1 E_2 - A_2 E_1 \\ &= 1 \times 0 - 0 \times E = 0, \end{aligned} \quad (186)$$

$$\begin{aligned} R &= B_1 E_2 - B_2 E_1 \\ &= u \times 0 - c \times (-E) = cE. \end{aligned} \quad (187)$$

If we substitute these into (60) we get

$$cdu + [\psi\kappa_{\pm} - \psi u]dc + cEdt = 0 \quad (188)$$

Now we can substitute  $\kappa_+$  and  $\kappa_-$  into this and simplify them to get the equations that hold along the characteristic lines. First we do  $\kappa_+$  ( $\kappa_+ = u + c$ ):

$$cdu + [\psi(u + c) - \psi u]dc + cEdt = 0 \quad (189)$$

$$\Rightarrow cdu + (\psi u + \psi c - \psi u)dc + cEdt = 0 \quad (190)$$

$$\Rightarrow cdu + \psi cdc + cEdt = 0 \quad (191)$$

$$\Rightarrow du + \psi dc + Edt = 0. \quad (192)$$

We do  $\kappa_-$  in the same manner.

$$cdu + [\psi(u - c) - \psi u]dc + cEdt = 0 \quad (193)$$

$$\Rightarrow cdu + (\psi u - \psi c - \psi u)dc + cEdt = 0 \quad (194)$$

$$\Rightarrow cdu - \psi cdc + cEdt = 0 \quad (195)$$

$$\Rightarrow du - \psi dc + Edt = 0. \quad (196)$$

We now have two equations that can be solved simultaneously to determine 1D compressible homentropic flow in tunnels. They are

$$du + \psi dc + Edt = 0 \quad (197)$$

which holds along a characteristic line of slope  $u + c$  and

$$du - \psi dc + Edt = 0 \quad (198)$$

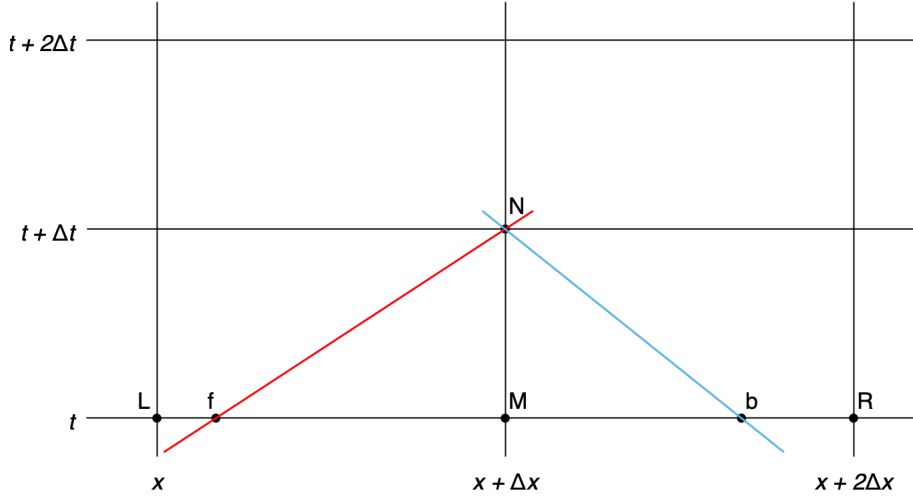
which holds along a characteristic line of slope  $u - c$ .

Most researchers in the field express (197) and (198) in a form where the  $dc$  term is always positive, so we'll rearrange them to follow that convention. We get

$$\psi dc + du + E dt = 0 \text{ and} \quad (199)$$

$$\psi dc - du - E dt = 0. \quad (200)$$

To get into the computational domain we have to put (199) and (200) into differential form. Consider three equally-spaced grid points at which we know the values of  $u$  and  $c$  at time  $t$  (points  $L$ ,  $M$  and  $R$  in the figure). We know how far apart they are ( $\Delta x$ ) because we decide where the gridpoints go. We want to figure out the conditions at gridpoint  $M$  in the next timestep  $t + \Delta t$  (denoted as  $N$  in the figure). The characteristics for the middle gridpoint meet



in the next timestep at  $N$  and intersect the values on the current timestep at  $f$  (on the forward characteristic) and at  $b$  (on the backward characteristic).

We have to choose a timestep  $\Delta t$ . We set  $\Delta t$  such that the characteristics lines emanating from the grid point  $N$  at time  $t + \Delta t$  fall near the outer grid points (to minimise interpolation errors), but are not so close that there is a danger that the value of  $u + c$  puts  $f$  to the left of  $L$  (which causes the calculation to blow up).

We also add subscripts to the friction terms along the backward characteristic and the forward characteristic ( $E_b$ ,  $E_f$ ) to distinguish between them.

In differential form (199) and (200) are

$$\psi(c_N - c_f) + (u_N - u_f) + E_f dt = 0 \text{ and} \quad (201)$$

$$\psi(c_N - c_b) - (u_N - u_b) - E_b dt = 0. \quad (202)$$

We can get the values of  $u_f$  and  $c_f$  by linear interpolation between the values at  $L$  and  $M$  using the slope of the forward characteristic  $u_N + c_N$ . We do not yet know the values of  $u_N$  and  $c_N$ ; but if our cell sizes and timesteps are not terrible, the characteristic lines should be short enough that  $u_M$  and  $c_M$  are acceptable first approximations to  $u_N$  and  $c_N$ . So,

$$x_{fM} = \frac{\Delta x}{u_N + c_N}, \quad (203)$$

$$\approx \frac{\Delta x}{u_M + c_M}, \quad (204)$$

$$u_f = u_M + \frac{x_{fM}}{\Delta x}(u_L - u_M), \quad (205)$$

$$c_f = c_M + \frac{x_{fM}}{\Delta x}(c_L - c_M). \quad (206)$$

We get the values of  $u_b$  and  $c_b$  in a similar way,

$$x_{bM} = \frac{-\Delta x}{u_N - c_N}, \quad (207)$$

$$\approx \frac{-\Delta x}{u_M - c_M}, \quad (208)$$

$$u_b = u_M + \frac{x_{bM}}{\Delta x}(u_R - u_M), \quad (209)$$

$$c_b = c_M + \frac{x_{bM}}{\Delta x}(c_R - c_M). \quad (210)$$

Now that we have these, the only unknowns in the two differential forms (201) and (202) are  $c_N$  and  $u_N$ . Both equations hold at point  $N$ . We can solve them simultaneously to eliminate  $c_N$  and determine  $u_N$ :

$$\psi(c_N - c_f) + (u_N - u_f) - E_f dt = \psi(c_N - c_b) - (u_N - u_b) + E_b dt \quad (211)$$

$$(u_N - u_f) + (u_N - u_b) = \psi(c_N - c_b) - \psi(c_N - c_f) + (E_f + E_b)dt \quad (212)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2u_N - u_f - u_b = \psi(c_f - c_b) + (E_f + E_b)dt \quad (213)$$

$$\Rightarrow 2u_N = u_f + u_b + \psi(c_f - c_b) + (E_f + E_b)dt \quad (214)$$

$$\Rightarrow u_N = \frac{1}{2} [u_f + u_b + \psi(c_f - c_b) + (E_f + E_b)dt] \quad (215)$$

Now that we have  $u_N$  we can back-substitute  $u_N$  into (201) to get  $c_N$ ,

$$c_N = c_f + \frac{u_f - u_N + E_f dt}{\psi}. \quad (216)$$

We could have used (202) instead. Doing both is a useful sanity check: if they don't give the same answer then something is wrong in the code.

Having evaluated  $u_N$  and  $c_N$  we can re-evaluate  $x_{fM}$  and  $x_{bM}$  with them and go round again as many times as is necessary (Fox states that few or no iterations are typically needed and I have no reason to doubt him).

We can now use the differential form of (145) and the knowledge that any change in the conditions is an isentropic change to determine  $\rho$ . If our tunnel

is at sea level, then the base atmospheric conditions are  $P_0 = 101325 \text{ Pa}$  and  $\rho_0 = 1.225 \text{ kg/m}^3$  (the International Standard Atmosphere at sea level). First we calculate the celerity of that air,

$$c_0 = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P_0}{\rho_0}} \quad (217)$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{1.4 \times 101325}{1.225}} \quad (218)$$

$$= 340.294 \text{ m/s.} \quad (219)$$

Next we cast (145) in differential form, use  $\rho_0$  and  $c_0$  as our reference conditions and solve for  $\rho_N$ ;

$$\frac{d\rho}{\rho} = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{dc}{c} \quad (146)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\Delta\rho}{\rho_0} = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{\Delta c}{c_0} \quad (220)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\rho_N - \rho_0}{\rho_0} = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{c_N - c_0}{c_0} \quad (221)$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\rho_N - \rho_0}{\rho_0} = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{c_N - c_0}{c_0} \quad (222)$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_N = \rho_0 + \rho_0 \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{c_N - c_0}{c_0} \quad (223)$$

$$\Rightarrow \rho_N = \rho_0 \left( 1 + \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \frac{c_N - c_0}{c_0} \right). \quad (224)$$

Now that we have both  $c_N$  and  $\rho_N$  we can determine  $P_N$  by an equivalent of (219),

$$c_N = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P_N}{\rho_N}} \quad (225)$$

$$\Rightarrow P_N = \rho_N \frac{c_N^2}{\gamma} \quad (226)$$