

Practical Module - Burgers Equation, 5 ways

Classic nonlinear 1st order hyperbolic equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \rightarrow \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{u^2}{2} \right) \text{ in conservative form}$$

$$\text{or: } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = -\frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \text{ with } E = \frac{u^2}{2}$$

STEP ① : Lax-Friedrichs (explicit, 1st order)

$$u_i^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} (u_{i+1}^n + u_{i-1}^n) - \frac{\Delta t}{2\Delta x} (E_{i+1}^n - E_{i-1}^n)$$

STEP ② : Lax-Wendroff  
with  $A = \frac{\partial E}{\partial u}$ , the Jacobian ( $A = u$  for Burgers)

From the Taylor expansion  $u^{n+1} = u^n + u_t \cdot \Delta t + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} u_{tt} + \dots$

and substituting time derivatives by spatial derivatives  
 $E_t = -A E_x$  and  $u_t = -E_x$  (from the equation)

Get:

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = -\frac{E_{i+1}^n - E_{i-1}^n}{2\Delta x} + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left( \frac{(A \frac{\partial E}{\partial x})_{i+1/2}^n - (A \frac{\partial E}{\partial x})_{i-1/2}^n}{\Delta x} \right)$$

then approximate:

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{(A \frac{\partial E}{\partial x})_{i+1/2}^n - (A \frac{\partial E}{\partial x})_{i-1/2}^n}{\Delta x} \right) &= \frac{A_{i+1/2}^n \left( \frac{E_{i+1}^n - E_i^n}{\Delta x} \right) - A_{i-1/2}^n \left( \frac{E_i^n - E_{i-1}^n}{\Delta x} \right)}{\Delta x} \\ &= \frac{\frac{1}{2\Delta x} (A_{i+1}^n + A_i^n) (E_{i+1}^n - E_i^n) - \frac{1}{2\Delta x} (A_i^n + A_{i-1}^n) (E_i^n - E_{i-1}^n)}{\Delta x} \end{aligned}$$

after evaluating the Jacobian at the midpoints.

Finally, the LW scheme: (with  $A=u$ )

$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{2\Delta x} (E_{i+1}^n - E_{i-1}^n) + \frac{\Delta t^2}{4\Delta x^2} \left[ (u_{i+1}^n + u_i^n)(E_{i+1}^n - E_i^n) - (u_i^n + u_{i-1}^n)(E_i^n - E_{i-1}^n) \right].$$

STEP ③ - MacCormack

$$u_i^* = u_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (E_{i+1}^n - E_i^n) \quad (\text{predictor})$$

$$u_i^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ u_i^n + u_i^* - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (E_i^* - E_{i-1}^*) \right] \quad (\text{corrector})$$

STEP ④ - Beam & Warming Implicit

Starting from Taylor expansions + manipulations, we get:

$$u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n + \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_i^n + \left. \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \right|_i^{n+1} \right] \Delta t + o(\Delta t^3)$$

For Burgers:  $\partial u / \partial t = -\partial E / \partial x$ , so:

$$\frac{u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n}{\Delta t} = -\frac{1}{2} \left[ \left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \right|_i^n + \left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \right|_i^{n+1} \right] + o(\Delta t^2)$$

$$= -\frac{1}{2} \left\{ \left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \right|_i^n + \left. \frac{\partial E}{\partial x} \right|_i^n + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [A(u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n)] \right\}$$

after introducing Taylor expansions for  $E$ ,

Use 2nd order CD for the term with the Jacobian  $A$ :

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [A(u_i^{n+1} - u_i^n)] &= \frac{1}{2\Delta x} (A_{i+1}^n u_{i+1}^{n+1} - A_{i-1}^n u_{i-1}^{n+1}) \\ &\quad - \frac{1}{2\Delta x} (A_{i+1}^n u_{i+1}^n - A_{i-1}^n u_{i-1}^n). \end{aligned}$$

Which leads to the tri-diagonal system :

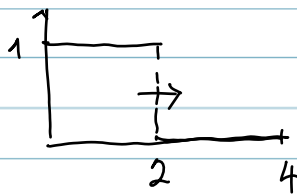
$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{\Delta t}{4\Delta x} (A_{i-1}^n u_{i-1}^{n+1}) + u_i^{n+1} + \frac{\Delta t}{4\Delta x} (A_{i+1}^n u_{i+1}^{n+1}) &= \\ &= u_i^n - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (E_{i+1}^n - E_{i-1}^n) + \frac{\Delta t}{4\Delta x} (A_{i+1}^n u_{i+1}^n - A_{i-1}^n u_{i-1}^n). \end{aligned}$$

STEP ⑤ — Add 4th order damping to BW-implicit

add to the RHS :

$$D = -\epsilon_e (u_{i+2}^n - 4u_{i+1}^n + 6u_i^n - 4u_{i-1}^n + u_{i-2}^n)$$

TEST PROBLEM



$$\text{l.c. } u(x,0) = \begin{cases} 1 & 0 \leq x < 2 \\ 0 & 2 \leq x \leq 4 \end{cases}$$

- \* Investigate the propagation of this discontinuous function with the 5 schemes listed
- \* Start with  $\Delta t = \Delta x = 1$ , then change  $\Delta t/\Delta x = 1$  to  $\Delta t/\Delta x = 0.5$  to see the effect of Courant number
- \* Change to finer step sizes to see the effect of the mesh resolution.
- \* for STEP ⑤, experiment with values  $0 < \epsilon_e < 0.125$   
With  $\epsilon_e = 0.1$ , experiment with different step sizes and different Courant numbers  $\Delta t/\Delta x$
- \* Try some values  $\epsilon_e > 0.125$
- \* Consider the expected advantage of implicit methods (stability at large  $\Delta t$ ) and the observations here.

Q — Which scheme gives the best results for the inviscid Burgers equation ?