

(25.11.13) Computational Physics B

class 1

- reconstruction method
 - the core idea is to use concrete values to reconstruct the slopes and avoid unphysical oscillations.
 - piecewise constant
 - $\left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial x}\right)_i = 0$
 - this is 1st order accurate
 - piecewise linear
 - $\left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial x}\right)_i = \frac{a_{i+1} - a_i}{\Delta x_i}$
 - $a_{i+1/2,l} = a_i + \frac{1}{2}\Delta a_i$
 - this method is 2nd order accurate
 - piecewise parabolic
 - $\left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial x}\right)_i = \frac{3}{2} \frac{a_{i+1} - a_{i-1}}{2\Delta x_i} - \frac{1}{4} \left(\frac{\Delta a_{i+1}}{\Delta x_{i+1}} + \frac{\Delta a_{i-1}}{\Delta x_{i-1}} \right)$
 - this method is 3rd order accurate
 - after the interpolation we get a left and right value at each cell interface.
 - to decide which value to use, we need a Riemann solver.
 - $R(a_l, a_r) = \begin{cases} F(a_l) & \text{if } u > 0 \\ F(a_r) & \text{if } u < 0 \end{cases}$
 - this means that the information flows from left to right if $u > 0$, so we use the left state to calculate the flux, and vice versa.
 - slope limiters
 - to avoid unphysical oscillations near discontinuities, we can use slope limiters to limit the slope.
 - minmod limiter
 - $\left(\frac{\partial a}{\partial x}\right)_i = \text{minmod} \left(\frac{a_i - a_{i-1}}{\Delta x}, \frac{a_{i+1} - a_i}{\Delta x} \right)$
 - where

$$\text{minmod}(a, b) = \begin{cases} \text{sgn}(a) \min(|a|, |b|) & \text{if } \text{sgn}(a) = \text{sgn}(b) \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

- this limiter helps to maintain stability and accuracy in the presence of discontinuities and can get rid of extrema of slopes.

- reference book
 - "Riemann Solvers and Numerical Methods for Fluid Dynamics" , Springer

class 2

- Burgers' equation
 - $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$
 - this is a non-linear advection equation, and the wave speed depends on the amplitude.
 - when u is a sinusoidal function, the characteristics can cross each other, leading to shock formation.
 - when u is a step function, the characteristics diverge, leading to rarefaction waves.
 - rewrite the equation in conservative form:
 - $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{u^2}{2} \right) = 0$
 - then we can use finite-volume method to solve it.
 - $u_{i+1/2,l}^{n+1} = u_i^n + \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} u_i \right) \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \right)_i^n$, and the flux is $f(u) = \frac{u^2}{2}$
 - u_i varied from zone to zone, causing great complexity.
 - the speed of shock
 - Rankine-Hugoniot jump condition
 - $S = \frac{f(u_r) - f(u_l)}{u_r - u_l} = \frac{u_r + u_l}{2}$
 - where S is the shock speed, and u_r and u_l are the right and left states of the shock.
 - the Riemann problem solution for Burgers' equation
 - if $u_l > u_r$, then a shock forms, and the solution is:
 - $$u(x, t) = \begin{cases} u_l & \text{if } x < St \\ u_r & \text{if } x > St \end{cases}$$
 - if $u_l \leq u_r$, then a rarefaction wave forms, and the solution is:
 - $$u(x, t) = \begin{cases} u_l & \text{if } x < u_l t \\ \frac{x}{t} & \text{if } u_l t \leq x \leq u_r t \\ u_r & \text{if } x > u_r t \end{cases}$$
 - then we can compute the flux $F_{i+1/2}^{n+1/2} = \frac{1}{2} \left(u_{i+1/2}^{n+1/2} \right)^2$ based on the above solution.
 - conservative update: $u_i^{n+1} = u_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \left(F_{i+1/2}^{n+1/2} - F_{i-1/2}^{n+1/2} \right)$
- Back to Euler equation
 - conservative form

- $\vec{u}_t + [\vec{F}(\vec{u})]_x = 0$
- where $\vec{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho v \\ E \end{pmatrix}$, $\vec{F}(\vec{u}) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho v \\ \rho v^2 + P \\ v(E + P) \end{pmatrix}$
- $E = e + \frac{1}{2}\rho v^2$, total energy density
- closure relation: $P = (\gamma - 1)\rho e$
- Jacobian $\vec{A} = \frac{\partial \vec{F}}{\partial \vec{u}}$
 - then the equation becomes $\vec{u}_t + \vec{A}\vec{u}_x = 0$ -- eigenvalue problem
 - solve for eigenvalue $|\vec{A} - \lambda \vec{I}| = 0$, we get three eigenvalues:
 - $\lambda_1 = v - c_s$
 - $\lambda_2 = v$
 - $\lambda_3 = v + c_s$
 - where $c_s = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma P}{\rho}}$ is the sound speed.
 - these eigenvalues represent the speeds of the three characteristic waves: left-moving sound wave, contact discontinuity, and right-moving sound wave.
 - the three eigenvalues divide the x-t plane into four regions, and in each region the solution is constant along the characteristics.