

block I - numerical methods

books

structured like Introduction to 3+1 numerical relativity

numerical relativity

1.1: method of lines

idea: rewriting your set of PDEs as a set of ODEs

example: the wave equation

$$\partial_t^2 u = c^2 \partial_x^2 u$$

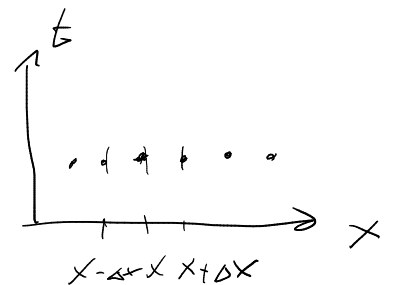
get rid of all space derivatives

so the right side is zero

rewrite / approximate our derivative as

$$\partial_x^2 u(t, x) \approx \frac{u(t, x + \Delta x) - 2u(t, x) + u(t, x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x^2}$$

$u(t, x)$ should be continuous function and the $\Delta x \ll 1$



$$\partial_t^2 u(t, x) \approx c^2 \left(\frac{u(t, x + \Delta x) - 2u(t, x) + u(t, x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x^2} \right)$$

$$\partial_t u(t, x) = v(t, x)$$

$$\partial_t v = c^2 \left(\frac{u(t, x + \Delta x) - 2u(t, x) + u(t, x - \Delta x)}{\Delta x^2} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow \partial_t \vec{y} = f(\vec{y}) \quad \vec{y} = \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} \quad f = \begin{pmatrix} v \\ c^2(\dots) \end{pmatrix}$$

1.2: Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy condition (CFL)

the CFL condition expresses the timestep to ensure stability of your simulation

example:

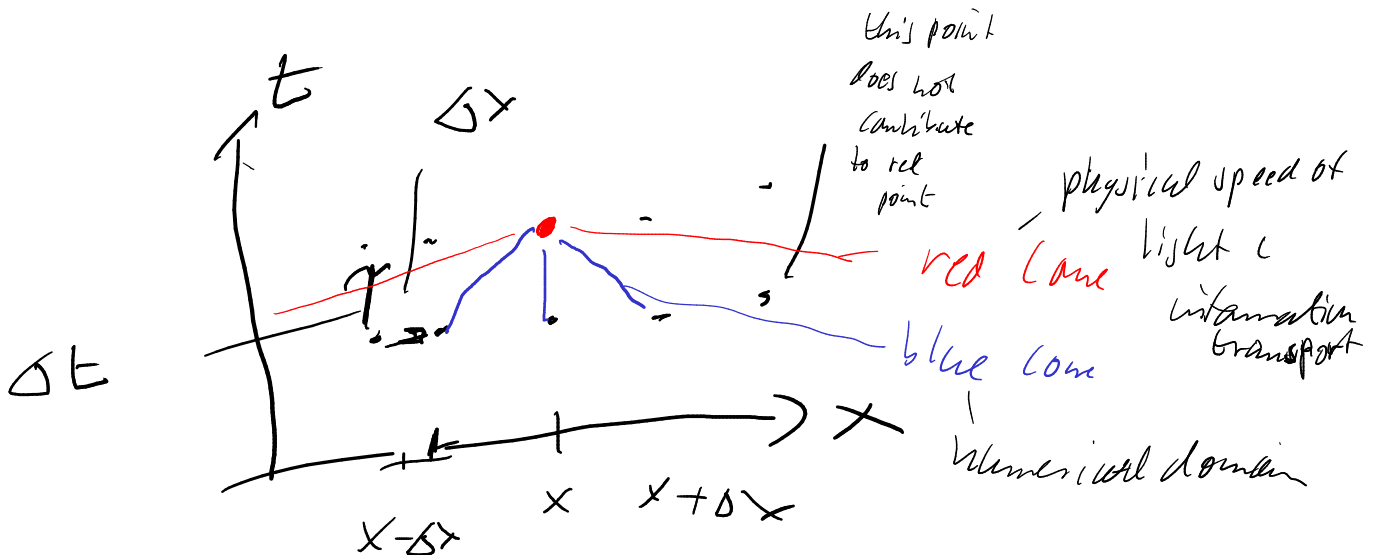
$$\partial_t u = -c \partial_x u = -c \left(\frac{u(t, x + \Delta x) - u(t, x - \Delta x)}{2 \Delta x} \right)$$

Euler approach

Spatial derivative 2nd order

$$\partial_t u \approx \frac{u(t + \Delta t, x) - u(t, x)}{\Delta t}$$

$$\Rightarrow u(t + \Delta t, x) = u(t, x) - \frac{c \Delta t}{2 \Delta x} (u(t, x + \Delta x) - u(t, x - \Delta x))$$



to ensure that the physical domain of dependence is covered by the numerical domain of dependence we can decrease Δt

alternatively you can also increase your order of differentiation

Shift the data points in the red cone

we would need to make sure, that

Courant-number

$$C_{CFL} = \frac{u \Delta t}{\Delta x} \quad C_{CFL} < 1$$

here $u = c$

$$C_{CFL} = \frac{c \Delta t}{\Delta x} < 1$$

$$\text{or } \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} < \frac{1}{c}$$

or absolute values

$$\left| \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \right| \leq \left| \frac{1}{c} \right|$$

CFL number

CFL

Condition

$$\lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

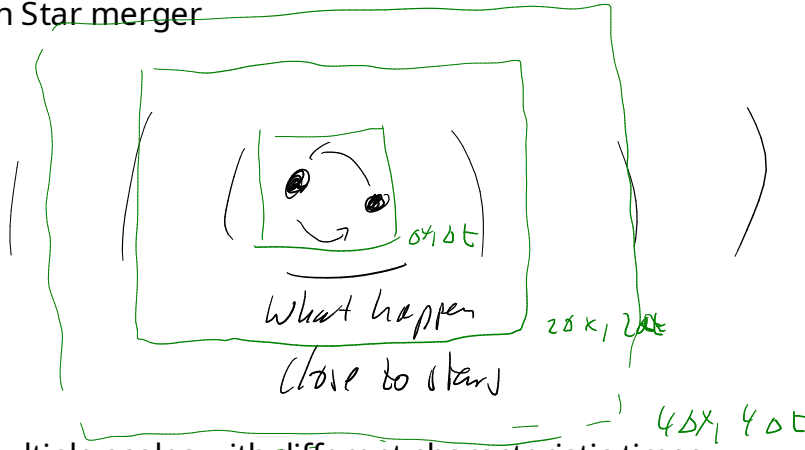
$$\lambda = \frac{c \Delta t}{2 \Delta x} = C_{CFL}$$

$$u = c$$

$$\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq \frac{1}{2c}$$

1.3. adaptive mesh refinement

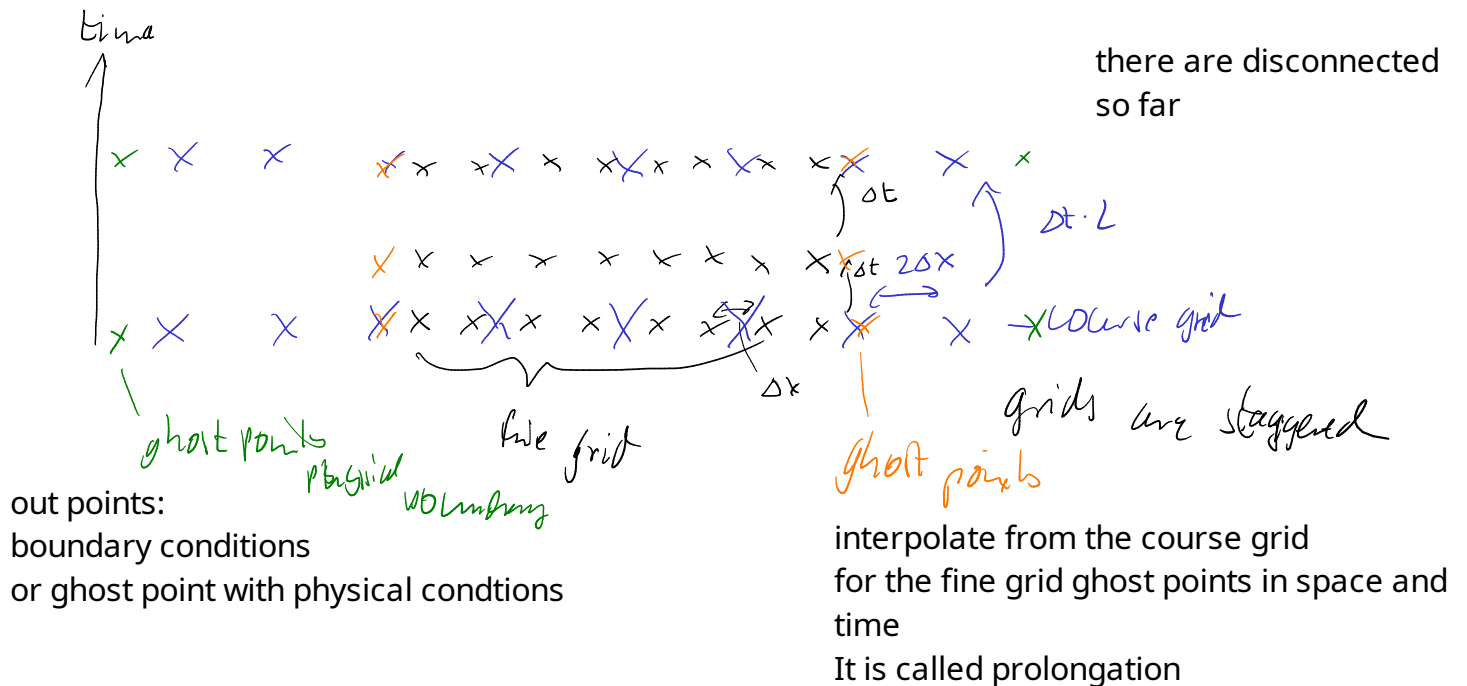
example: Neutron Star merger



how there are
changing the
surrounding

want resolve multiple scales with different characteristic times

now in 1D



connection between the grids

if your levels are aligned in time, you restrict your information to the course grid,
which means that you rewrite your values on the course grid via the interpolation of the fine one

this approach is one of the simplest refinement strategies and
was introduced by Berger & Oliger

you can extend this e.g. by enforce also that fluxes accross refinement boundaries are conserved
by introducing an correction step, which goes back to Berger & Colella

1.4. Explicit vs implicit schemes

Let us assume: $\frac{d}{dt} \vec{q} = A(t) \vec{q} \quad ; \quad A(t) = \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -100 \end{pmatrix}$

applying the Euler scheme would lead to

$$\begin{pmatrix} q_1(t+\Delta t) \\ q_2(t+\Delta t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q_1(t) \\ q_2(t) \end{pmatrix} + \Delta t \cdot \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -100 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} q_1(t) \\ q_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Following the CFL condition, we would have a necessary time stepping wrt:

$$q_1 \text{ of } \sim 1 \quad \text{and for } q_2 \text{ of } \sim \frac{1}{100}$$

when using explicit schemes and the same timestep for different variables, this gets computation very expensive.

alternative: implicit scheme

$$\begin{pmatrix} q_1(t+\Delta t) \\ q_2(t+\Delta t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q_1(t) \\ q_2(t) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} -1 & 0 \\ 0 & -100 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} q_1(t+\Delta t) \\ q_2(t+\Delta t) \end{pmatrix} \Delta t$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1+\Delta t & 0 \\ 0 & 1+100\Delta t \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} q_1(t+\Delta t) \\ q_2(t+\Delta t) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} q_1(t) \\ q_2(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$q_1(t+\Delta t) = \frac{1}{1+\Delta t} q_1(t)$$

$$q_2(t+\Delta t) = \frac{1}{1+100\Delta t} q_2(t)$$

example 2

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} q = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(D \frac{\partial}{\partial x} q \right) = b$$

for an explicit scheme you would end up with

$$q(t+\Delta t) = q(t) + \frac{\Delta t D}{\Delta x^2} \left(q(t, x+\Delta x) - 2q(t, x) + q(t, x-\Delta x) \right) + \Delta t b$$

CFL condition

$$\Delta t \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{D}$$

$$\lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$\lambda = \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x^2} D$$

$$C_{cfl} = u \cdot \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq \frac{1}{2}$$

$$u = \frac{D}{\Delta x} \quad \frac{D}{\Delta x} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq \frac{1}{2} \quad \Delta t \leq \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta x^2}{D}$$