# **Discontinuous Galerkin Methods**

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#### Introduction

Consider the one-dimensional scalar conservation law

$$\frac{\mathbf{f_1}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f(u)}{\partial x} = S(x), \quad x \in \Omega, \tag{1}$$

subject to an appropriate set of initial and boundary conditions

- We will need to decide how we solve this system, and we will need to discretize in space and time
- How does DG compare with already established methods such as FEM, FVM?

#### **Weak Form**

• The weak form of the PDE is the integral (over the global domain  $\Omega$ ) of our solution times some test function  $\phi$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \phi \, dx + \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial f(u)}{\partial x} \phi \, dx = 0$$
 (2)

- In DG the global domain is split into K elements, where the local solution is defined for a particular element
- The global solution is then the direct sum of each of these local polynomials, a piece-wise polynomial

#### **Domain Decomposition**

• Integration by-parts to reduce smoothness requirements

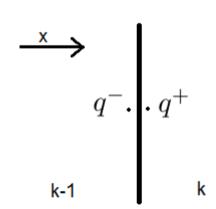
$$\int_{k} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \, \phi \, dx + \left[ f(u)\phi \right]_{x_{L}}^{x_{R}} - \int_{k} f(u) \, \frac{d\phi}{dx} \, dx = 0 \tag{3}$$

- The integration domain is now over the element instead of the whole domain such that  $\{x|x \in k, x_L \leq x \leq x_R\}$
- This is similar to a FEM approach, however continuity is not enforced across elements

#### Flux function

 Many choices: Lax-Friedrichs, Richtmyer, Godunov, Osher, etc

- In the linear case f(q) = cq, all the above numerical fluxes coincide with the so-called *upwind* flux
- Flux is very important in wave dominated problems



## Soln approximation

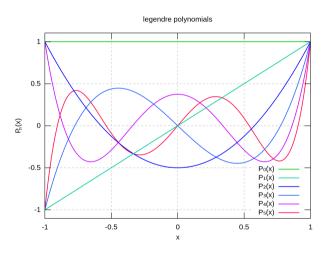
- We need a suitable basis set for our solution approximation
- To get a flexible method, we'd like to be able to generate an arbitrary order solution approximation. How do we do this in code?

We can think in terms of nodal or modal

$$u(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{M} a_i \psi_i(x)$$



## **Legendre Polynomials**



#### **Basis functions**

Let us begin by introducing the affine mapping

$$x \in \mathbf{D}^k: \ x(r) = x_l^k + \frac{1+r}{2}h^k, \ h^k = x_r^k - x_l^k$$
 (5)

with the reference variable  $r \in I = [-1, 1]$ . We consider local polynomial approximations of the form

$$x \in \mathbf{D}^k: \ u_h^k(x(r),t) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_p} \hat{u}_n^k \psi_n(r) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_p} u_h^k(x_i,t) l_i^k(r)$$
 (6)

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#### **Basis functions (contd...)**

$$\psi_n(r) = \widetilde{P}_{n-1}(r) = \frac{P_{n-1}(r)}{\gamma_{n-1}}$$

where  $P_n(r)$  are the classic Legendre polynomials of order n and

$$\gamma_n = \frac{2}{2n+1}$$
  $\int_{-1}^{2} \int_{-1}^{2} \int$ 

is the normalization.

What are the benefits of using Legendre functions?

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### **Initial approximation**

Equating inner products of each of the test functions with our approximation, and with that of initial condition  $u_0(x)$ ,

(Eq 2.2) Cockburn, Bernardo and Shu, Chi-Wang Runge-Kutta Discontinuous Galerkin Methods for Convection-Dominated Problems In: Journal of Scientific Computing 16/3 (2001), 173-261.

In: Journal of Scientific Computing 16/3 (2001), 173-261 
$$\hat{u}_n \simeq \sum_{i=1}^{N_p} u(r_i) \widetilde{P}_{n-1}(r) w_i \tag{7}$$

where  $r_i$  are the quadrature points and  $w_i$  are the weights.

## Lagrange interpolation

The nodal approach is convenient to generalize problems to higher dimensions. Therefore, if

$$u(r) \simeq u_h(r) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_p} \hat{u}_n \widetilde{P}_{n-1}(r),$$

is an interpolant (i.e.,  $u(\varepsilon_i)=u_h(\varepsilon_i)$  at the grid points,  $\varepsilon_i$ ,

$$u_h(r) = \sum_{n=1}^{N_p} u(\varepsilon_i) l_i(r)$$
 where  $l_i(r) = \prod_{n=1}^{N_p} \frac{r - \varepsilon_j}{\varepsilon_i - \varepsilon_j}$ 

#### 1D advection-diffusion eqn

 We have done what seems like quite a bit of tangential work, but it now pays off. Let us illustrate through an example

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \alpha \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$
 in  $(0,1) \times (0,T)$  (8)

$$u(x,0) = \sin(2\pi x), \quad u(0,t) = u(1,t) & u_x(0,t) = u_x(1,t)$$

• We will now substitute the expression for our solution approximation and arrive at linear systems describing evolution of the variable u(x,t)

## Semi-discrete system

Let us revisit the weak form

$$\int_{k} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \, \phi \, dx + \left[ (cu - \alpha u_{x}) \phi \right]_{x_{L}}^{x_{R}} - \int_{k} (cu - \alpha u_{x}) \, \frac{d\phi}{dx} \, dx = 0 \qquad (9)$$

Plugging in 
$$u(x,t) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} a_i(t)\psi_i(x)$$
,

$$\int_{k} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \,\phi_{j} \,dx = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{da_{i}}{dt} \int_{k} \psi_{i}(x)\phi_{j}(x) \,dx = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{da_{i}}{dt} \int_{I} l_{i}(r)l_{j}(r) \frac{h^{k}}{2} dr$$

## Semi-discrete system (contd...)

$$\int_{k} \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left[ ca_{i}\psi_{i}(x)\phi_{j}'(x) - \alpha a_{i}\psi_{i}'(x)\phi_{j}'(x) \right] dx = \sum_{i=1}^{N} ca_{i} \int_{I} l_{i}(r)l_{j}'(r)dr$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha a_{i} \int_{I} l_{i}'(r)l_{j}'(r)dr$$

$$-\sum_{i=1}^{N} \alpha a_{i} \int_{I} l_{i}'(r)l_{j}'(r)dr$$

$$\operatorname{Upwind}: \left[ u\phi \right]_{x_{L}}^{x_{R}} = u_{K}(x_{R})\phi_{j}(x_{R}) - u_{K-1}(x_{R})\phi_{j}(x_{L})$$

$$\operatorname{Downwind}: \left[ u_{x}\phi \right]_{x_{L}}^{x_{R}} = \{u_{x}\}_{K+1}(x_{L})\phi_{j}(x_{R}) - \{u_{x}\}_{K}(x_{L})\phi_{j}(x_{L})$$

## Semi-discrete system (contd...)

Mass matrix 
$$\mathcal{M}^k \doteq \frac{h^k}{2} \int_I l_i(r) l_j(r) dr$$

Stiffness matrix 
$$\mathcal{S}^k \doteq c \int_I l_i(r) l_j'(r) dr - \alpha \int_I l_i'(r) l_j'(r) dr$$

Since the Legendre functions form a complete set, we can represent Lagrange interpolants through Legendre basis to simplify above expressions

(2008) Making it work in one dimension In: Nodal Discontinuous Galerkin Methods: Texts in Applied
Mathematics, vol 54. Springer, New York

$$\left[ c\hat{u}\phi \right]_{x_L}^{x_R} = \left[ -cu_{K-1} \ 0 \ 0 \dots \dots 0 \ 0 \ cu_K \right]^T$$

$$\left[ \alpha \hat{u}_x \phi \right]_{x_L}^{x_R} = \left[ -\alpha \{u_{x}\}_K \ 0 \ 0 \dots \dots 0 \ 0 \ \alpha \{u_x\}_{K+1} \right]^T$$

Flux vector  $\hat{f} = \{c[\hat{u}\phi]|_{x_r}^{x_R} - \alpha[\hat{u}_x\phi]|_{x_r}^{x_R}\}$ 

## **Assembly of system**

 We can now combine the mass, stiffness, and numerical flux terms

$$\mathcal{M}^k \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}_h^k}{\partial t} + \hat{f} - \mathcal{S}^T \boldsymbol{u}_h^k = 0$$
 (10)

$$ullet$$
 Solving for  $rac{\partial oldsymbol{u}_h^k}{\partial t}$ ,  $rac{\partial oldsymbol{u}_h^k}{\partial t} = \{\mathcal{M}^k\}^{-1} \Big(\mathcal{S}^T oldsymbol{u}_h^k - \hat{f}\Big)$ 

#### **Time discretization**

We obtain from the semi-discrete equation

$$\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{u}_h}{\partial t} = \boldsymbol{\mathcal{L}}_h(\boldsymbol{u}_h, t)$$

RK4 trial steps to determine  $u_h$ , the vector of unknowns at next time step

$$\mathbf{k}^{(1)} = \mathcal{L}_h(\mathbf{u}_h^n, t^n)$$

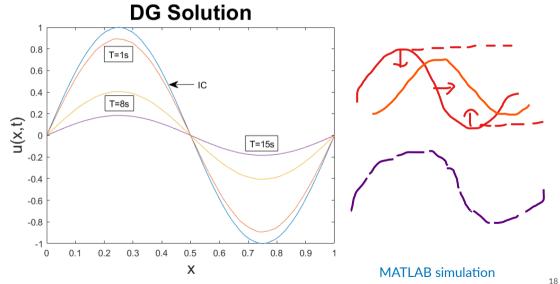
$$\mathbf{k}^{(2)} = \mathcal{L}_h(\mathbf{u}_h^n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t \mathbf{k}^{(1)}, t^n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t)$$

$$\mathbf{k}^{(3)} = \mathcal{L}_h(\mathbf{u}_h^n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t \mathbf{k}^{(2)}, t^n + \frac{1}{2}\Delta t)$$

$$\mathbf{k}^{(4)} = \mathcal{L}_h(\mathbf{u}_h^n + \Delta t \mathbf{k}^{(3)}, t^n + \Delta t)$$

$$\mathbf{u}_h^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}_h^n + \frac{1}{6}\Delta t \left(\mathbf{k}^{(1)} + 2\mathbf{k}^{(2)} + 2\mathbf{k}^{(3)} + \mathbf{k}^{(4)}\right)$$

#### Soln evolution





- How does choice of initial parameters affect stability?
- Does the smoothness of the initial soln seem to effect the rate of convergence? (e.g. sin(x) vs gaussian curve)
- Does h or p refinement seem to be more efficient?

