

# Computational Physics

PHYS 6260

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## Fluid Dynamics

Announcements:

- Last class!
- Term project paper: Due Thursday May 2



We will skim these topics

- Fluid dynamics equations
- Eulerian vs Lagrangian
- Shocks: Riemann Problem
- Fluid advection
- Reconstruction of cell interfaces
- Conservative system
- Primitive system
- Jumps across waves

# Lecture Outline



# Euler's equations

- Continuity equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v}) = 0$$

- Momentum equation

$$\frac{\partial \vec{v}}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \vec{v} + \frac{1}{\rho} \nabla P = 0$$

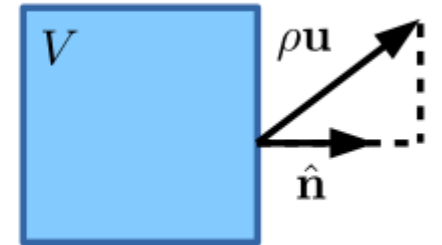
- Energy equation

$$\frac{\partial \epsilon}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \epsilon + \frac{P}{\rho} \nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

$$\int dV \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = - \int dV \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u})$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int dV \rho = - \int dA \rho \mathbf{u} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}}$$

$$\frac{dM}{dt} = \text{net rate of inflow}$$





# Choice of reference frame

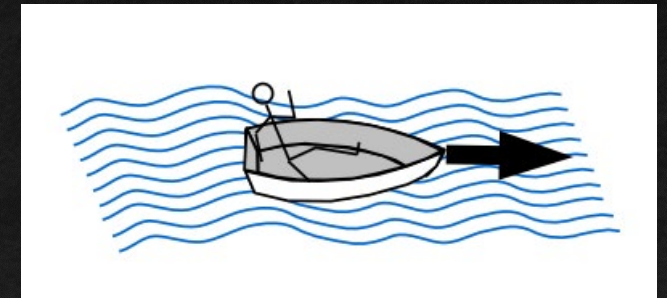
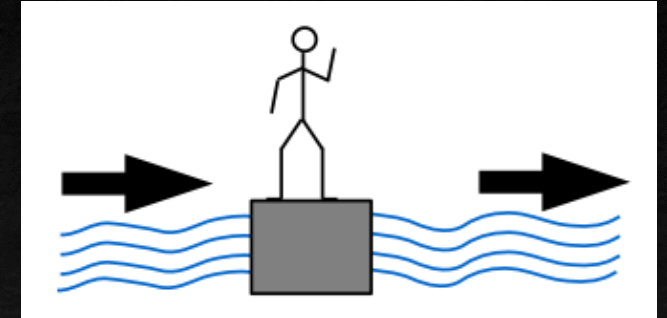
- **Eulerian**: stand still as fluid moves by
  - Fluid quantities are functions of position and time

$$\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} = -\nabla \cdot (\rho \vec{v})$$

- **Lagrangian**: move with the fluid
  - Fluid quantities are functions of initial position and time

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \vec{v}$$

- Convective derivative:  $\frac{D}{Dt} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} + \vec{v} \cdot \nabla$





# Lagrangian form of hydro equations

- Continuity equation

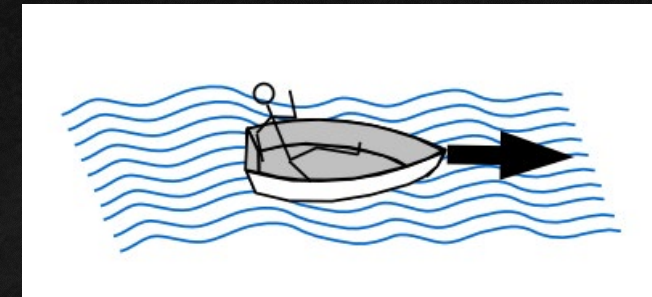
$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \vec{v}$$

- Euler's equation

$$\rho \frac{D\vec{v}}{Dt} = -\nabla P$$

- Energy equation

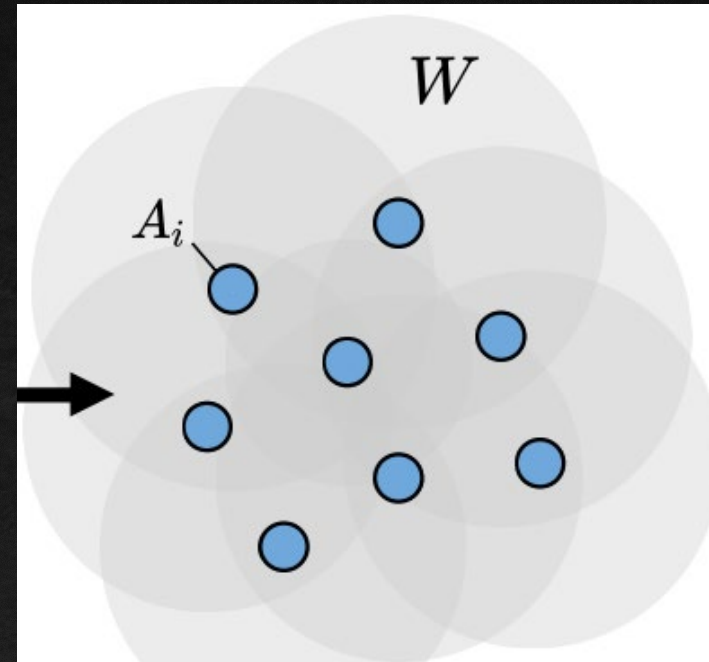
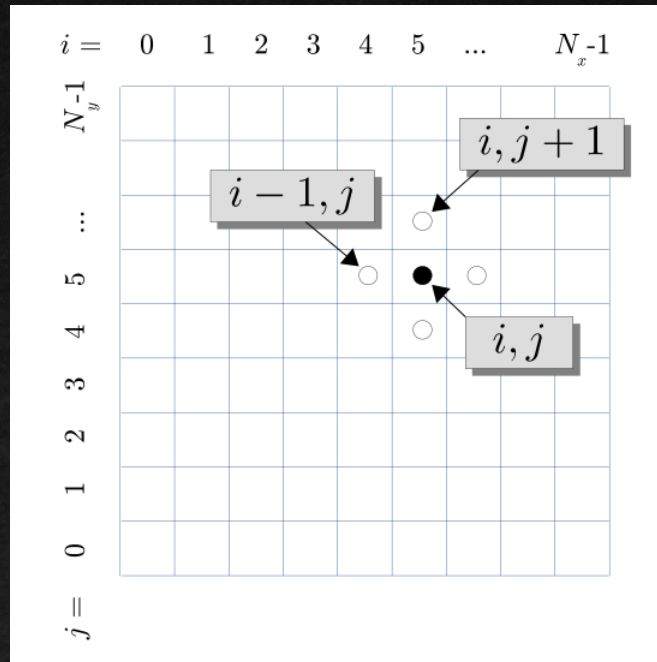
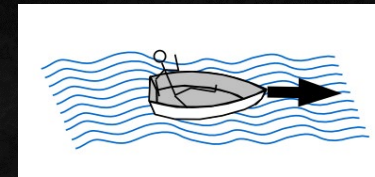
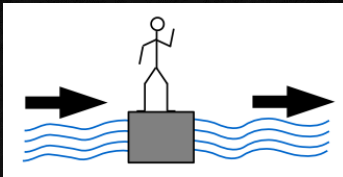
$$\rho \frac{D\epsilon}{Dt} = -P \nabla \cdot \vec{v}$$





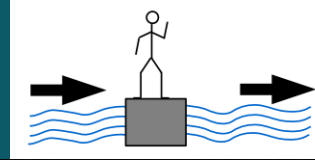
# Eulerian vs Lagrangian

- To numerically solve a partial differential equation, we must discretize the system





# Eulerian (grid) description

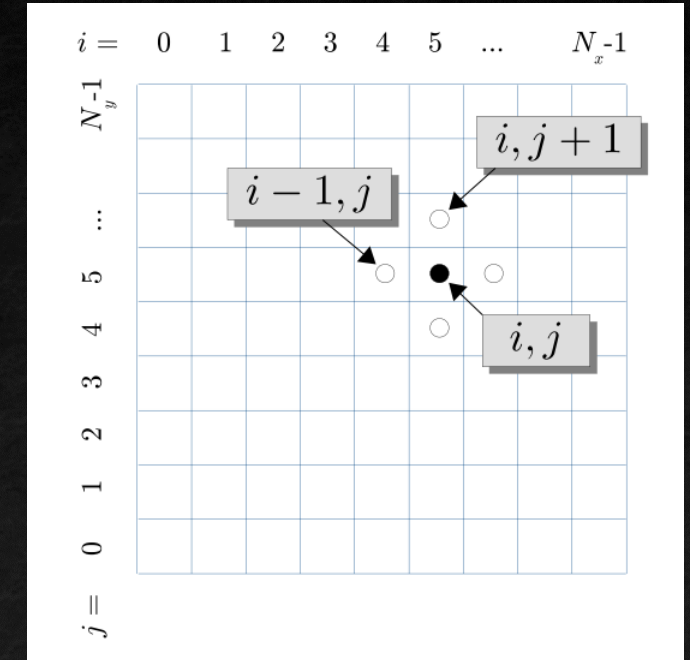


- **Finite differencing**: Given a fixed grid, we can estimate its derivative
- However there are many different ways with associated numerical errors and instabilities
- Take a Taylor expansion and solve for the derivative

$$q(x) = q(x_i) + q'(x_i)(x - x_i) + \frac{1}{2}q''(x_i)(x - x_i)^2 + \dots$$

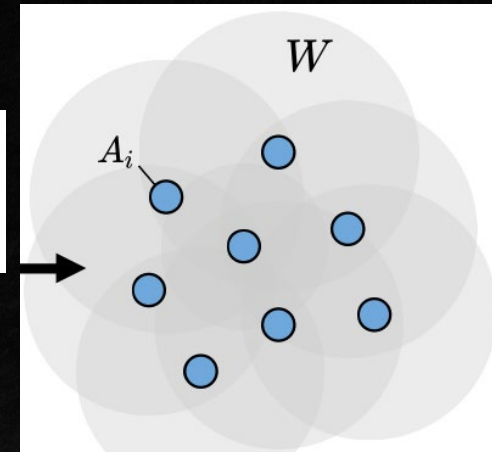
- Forward differencing (1<sup>st</sup> order accurate)

$$q'(x_i) = \frac{q(x_{i+1}) - q(x_i)}{\Delta x} + O(\Delta x)$$



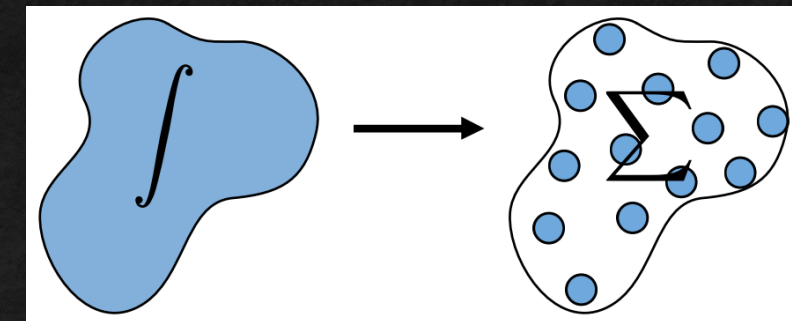
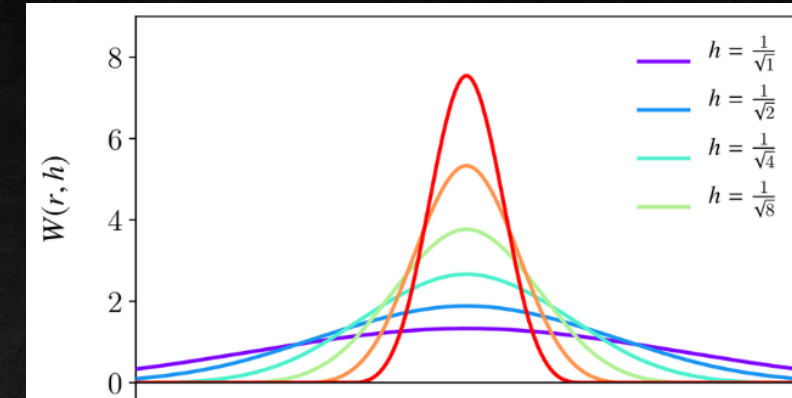


# Lagrangian (particle) description



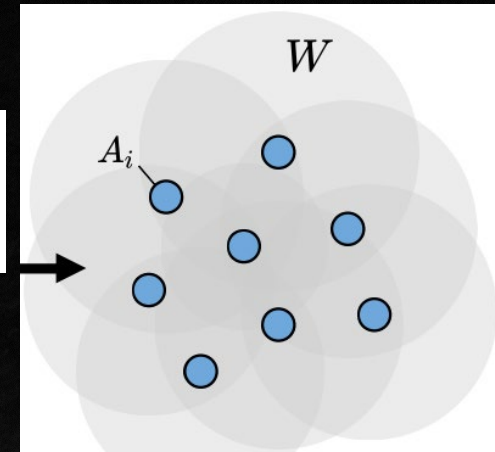
- **Smoothed particle hydrodynamics (SPH)**
- **Kernel smoothing** → continuous approximation
  - Usual choice: cubic spline
- Spread the particle's mass to its surrounding volume
- Quantities (A) are weighted averages among N nearest neighbors

$$\begin{aligned}\langle A(x_i) \rangle &= \int \frac{A(x')}{\rho(x')} W(x_i - x', h) \rho(x') dV' \\ &\approx \sum_j^N A_j \frac{m_j}{\rho_j} W(x_i - x_j, h)\end{aligned}$$





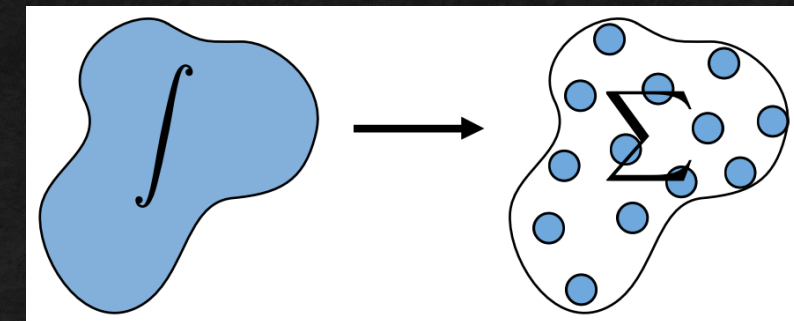
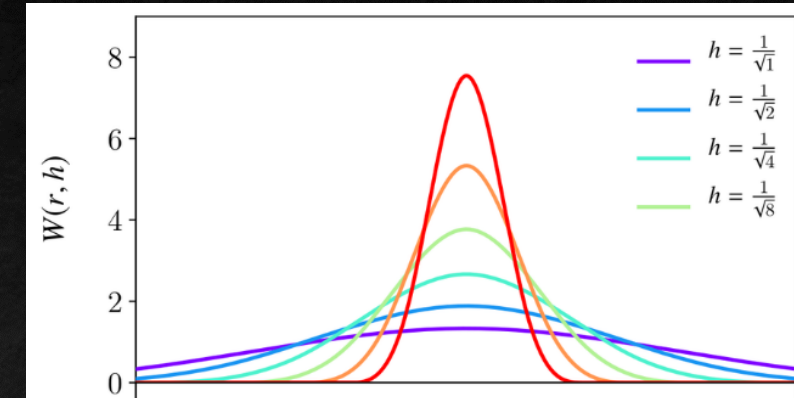
# Lagrangian (particle) description



- Derivatives: most simple method is to take the direct discretization of the field (particles)

$$\nabla A_i \approx \sum_j A_j \frac{m_j}{\rho_j} \nabla W_{ij}$$

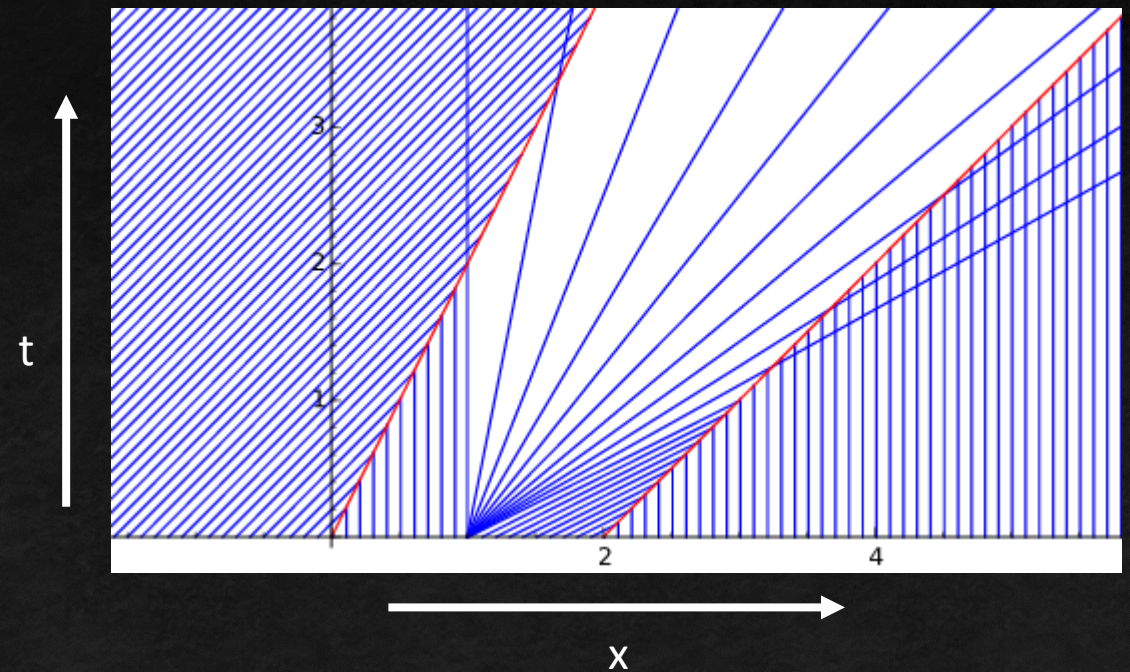
- However this leads to numerical instabilities
- Stability can be recovered from an error analysis, correcting for it (outside the scope of this class)
  - SPH Difference formula
  - Symmetric formula





# Shocks: Riemann Problem

- Can solve a PDE with the method of characteristics
- This method creates a set of curves along which the PDE simplifies to an ODE
- These curves represent the path of a gas parcel, given an initial position
- In the example to the right, one sees different regions
  - Constant velocity
  - Static
  - Diverging flow



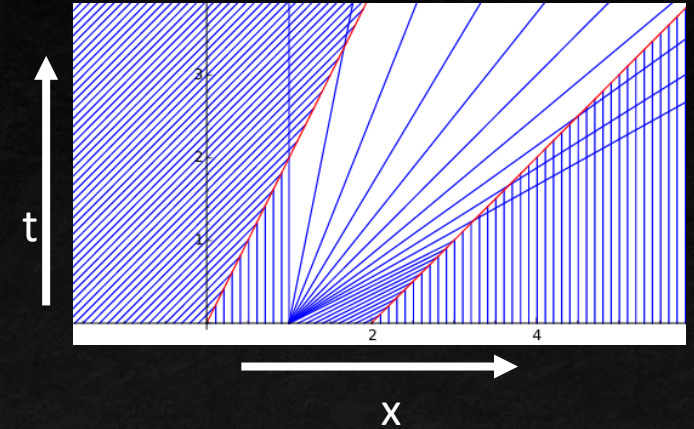


# Shocks: Riemann Problem

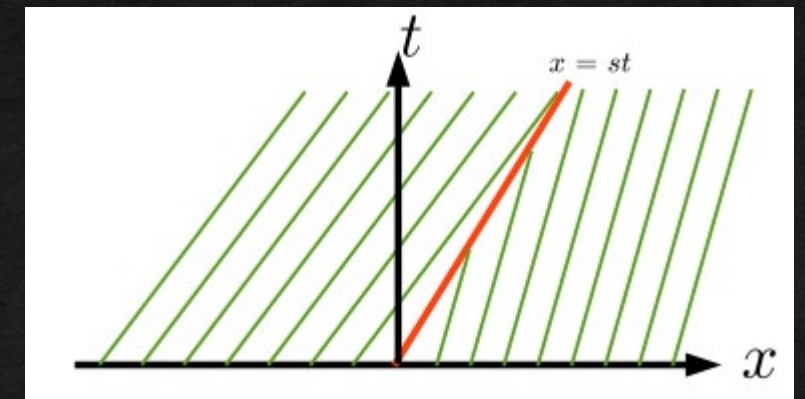
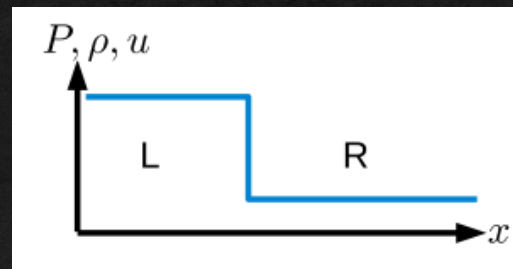
- Where the characteristics intersect, the solutions become multi-valued

→ Shocks

- These boundaries are denoted in red



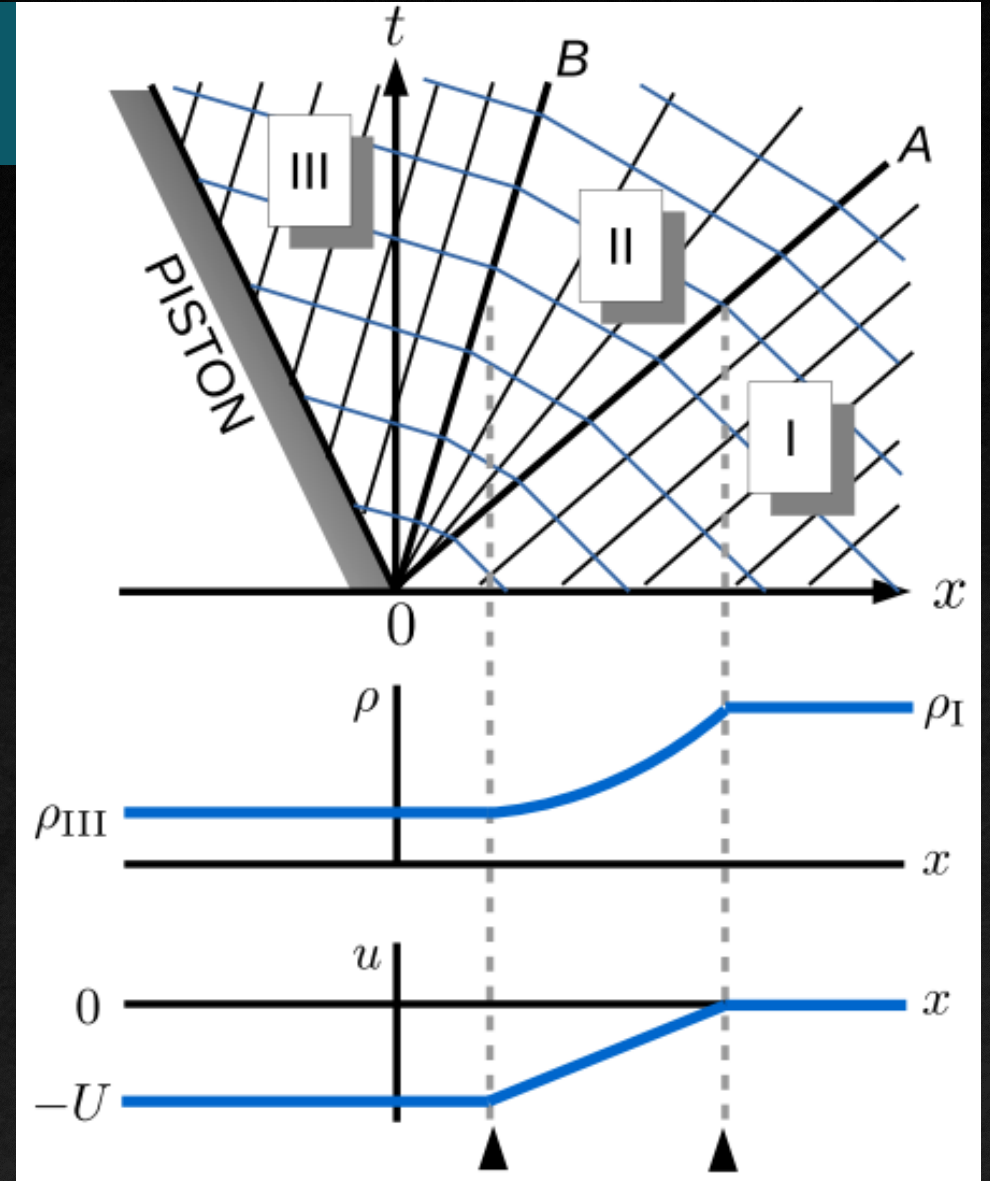
- The lower figure shows a simple system with a single shock
  - Moves at a velocity  $s$
  - Left / right states





# Shocks: Riemann Problem

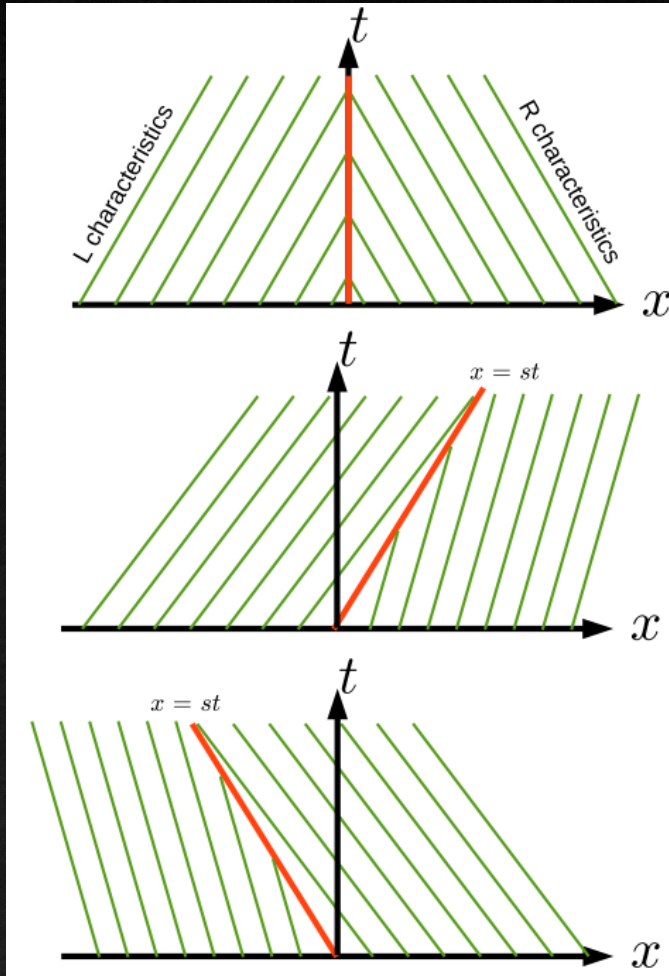
- In addition to shocks, there are **rarefaction waves**
- This is a non-linear wave but with a finite width
- Imagine a 1D piston that accelerates quickly to a constant velocity  $-U$  away from the fluid to its right
- Region I: undisturbed flow
- Region II: rarefaction fan (A = “head”, B = “tail”)



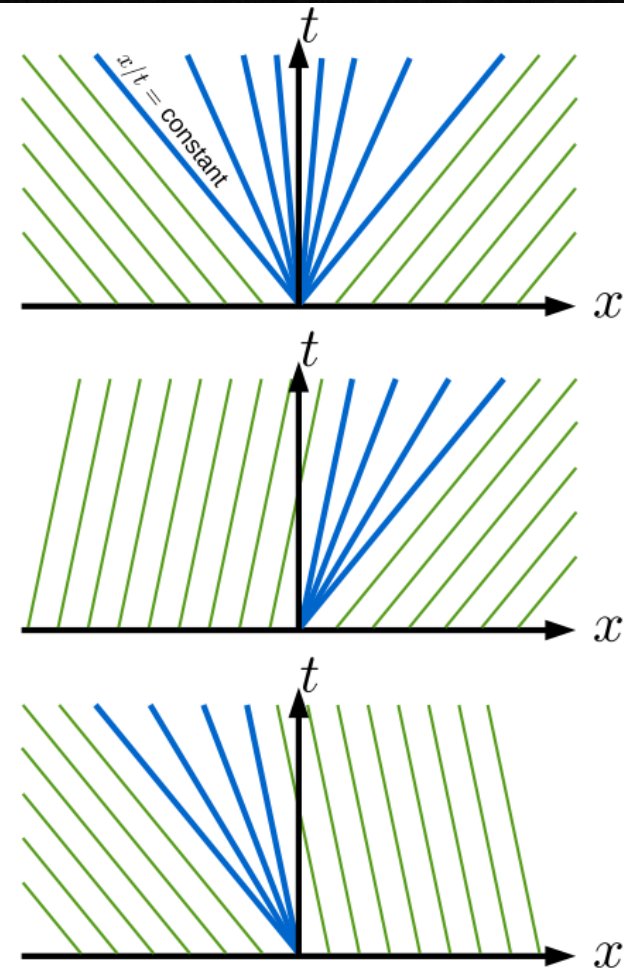


# Shocks: Riemann Problem

Shocks



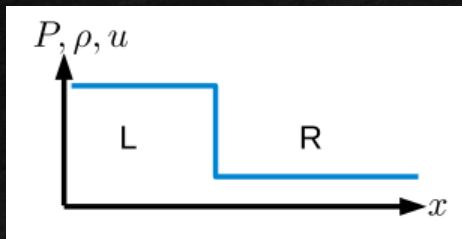
Rarefactions



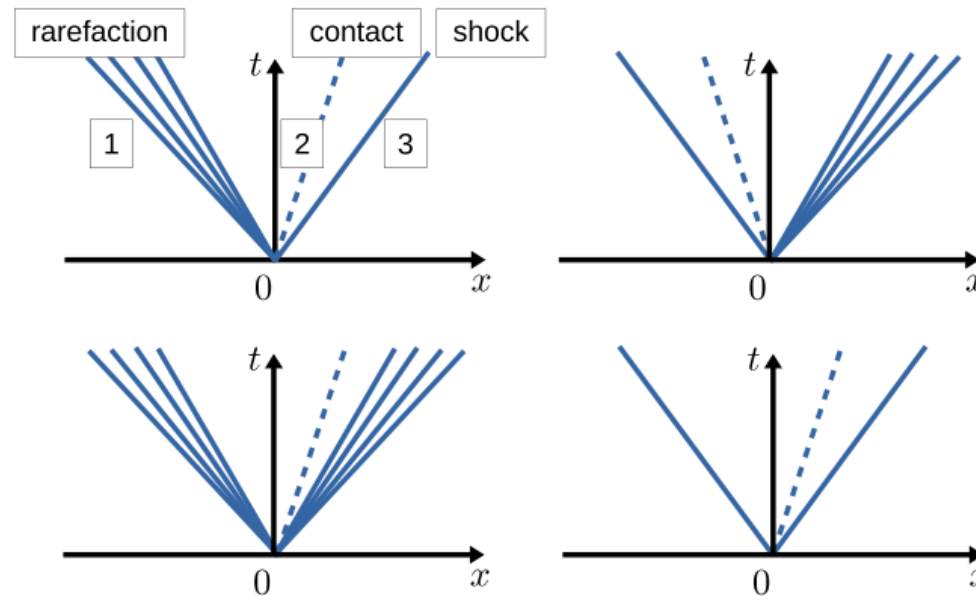


# Shocks: Riemann Problem

- **Riemann problem**: arbitrary finite 1D jump in density, pressure, and velocity
- Need to solve for the Left and Right states
- **Solution**: decompose the sum of the waves from each of the three characteristic families
- Combine the time evolution of each



Four possibilities:



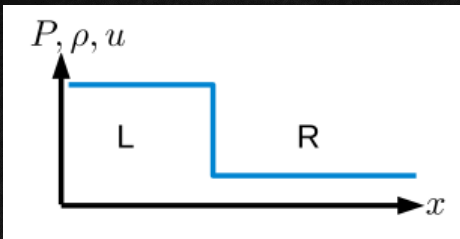
Center wave is always a contact

Self-similar: solution is a function of  $x/t$

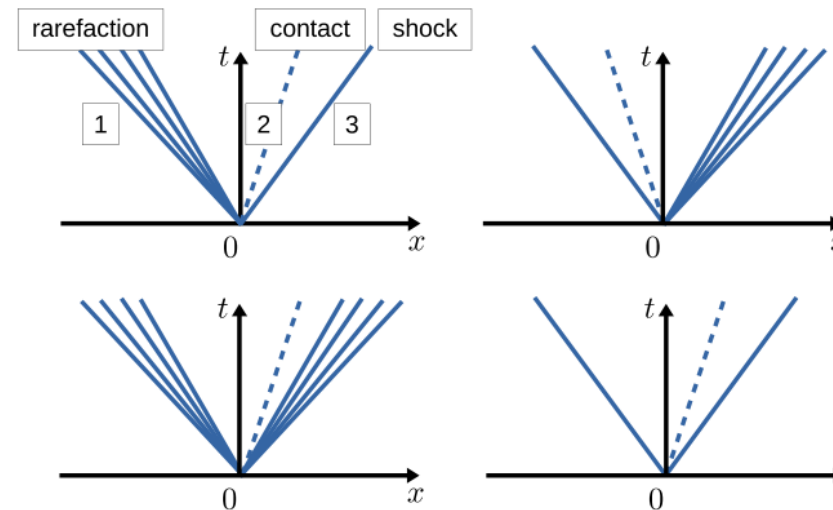


# Shocks: Riemann Problem

- **Contact discontinuity:** associated with the “0” characteristic and move with the fluid speed
  - Density is discontinuous
  - Pressure and transverse velocities are continuous
  - Parallel velocities may be discontinuous (shear flow)



Four possibilities:



Center wave is always a contact

Self-similar: solution is a function of  $x/t$



# Shocks: Sedov test

- **Point explosion** with energy  $E$  expands into a uniform medium with density  $\rho_1$  and negligible pressure  $P_1$

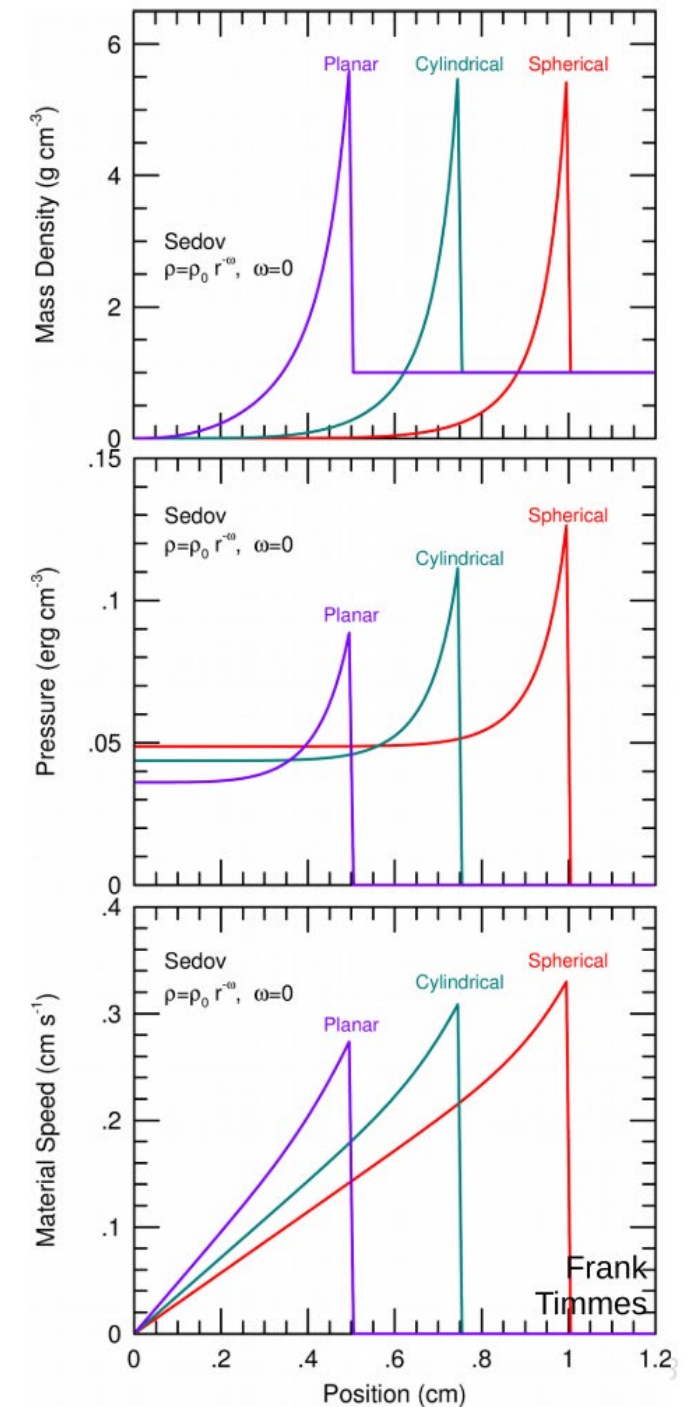
- Shock position solution is self-similar

$$R(t) = \beta \left( \frac{Et^2}{\rho_1} \right)^{1/5}$$

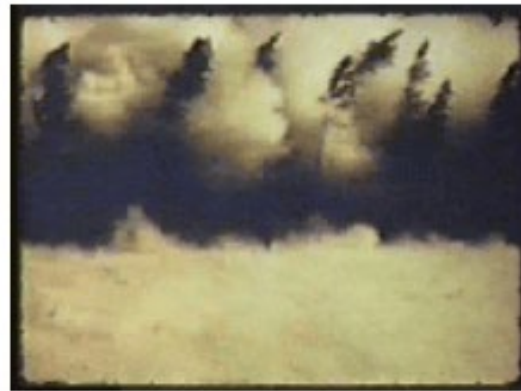
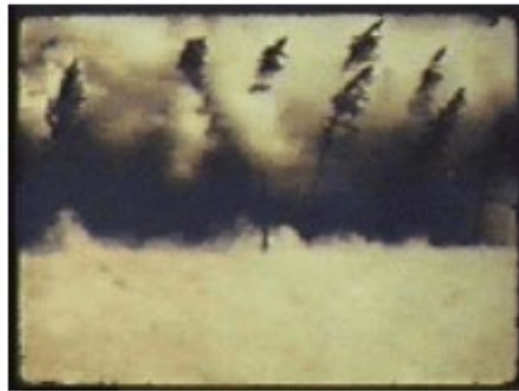
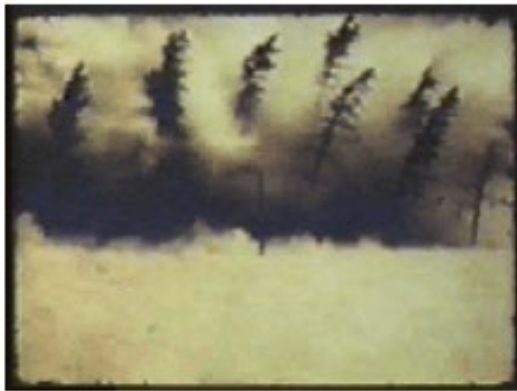
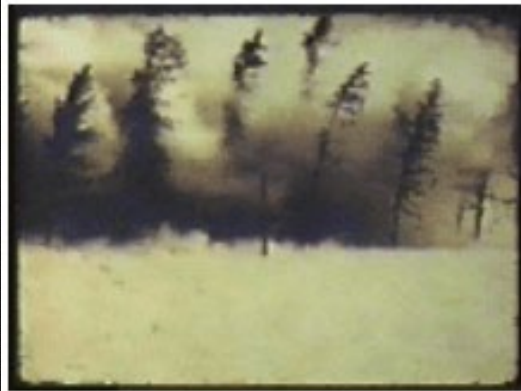
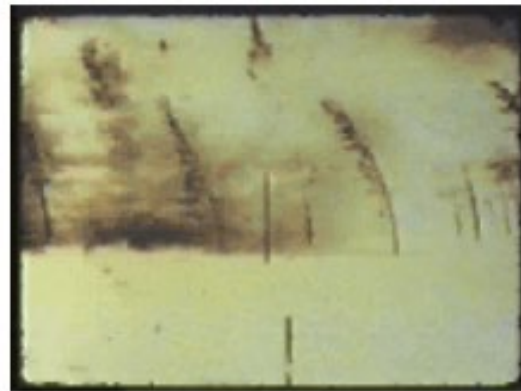
- Shock velocity:  $u_1 = dR/dt$

- Post-shock quantities

- $\rho_2 = \text{constant}$
- $u_2 - u_1 \propto t^{-3/5}$
- $P_2 \propto t^{-6/5}$







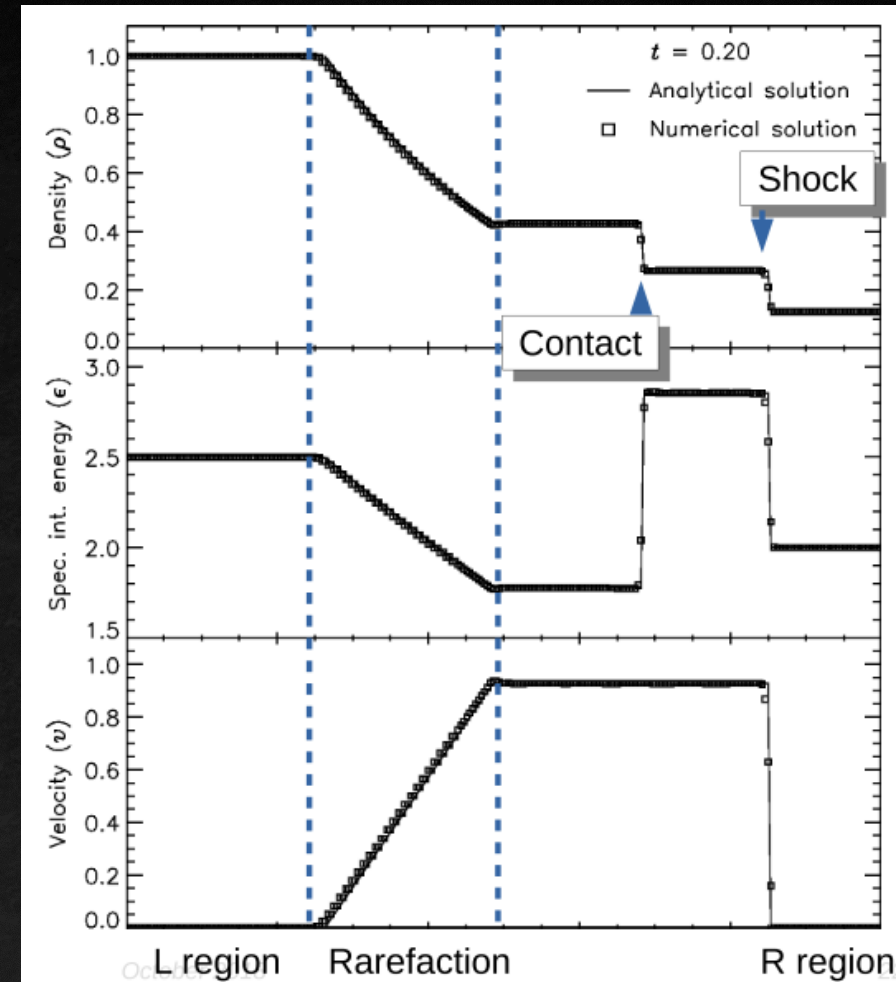
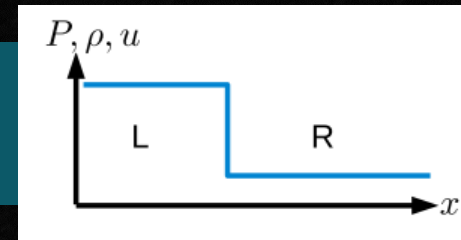






# Shocks: Sod test

- **Sod (1978) shock tube:** standard test problem
- Fluid initially at rest
- $\gamma = 1.4$
- Left side:  $\rho = 1, P = 1$
- Right side:  $\rho = 0.125, P = 0.1$
- Displays all three types of non-linear waves
  - Shocks
  - Rarefaction waves
  - Contact discontinuities









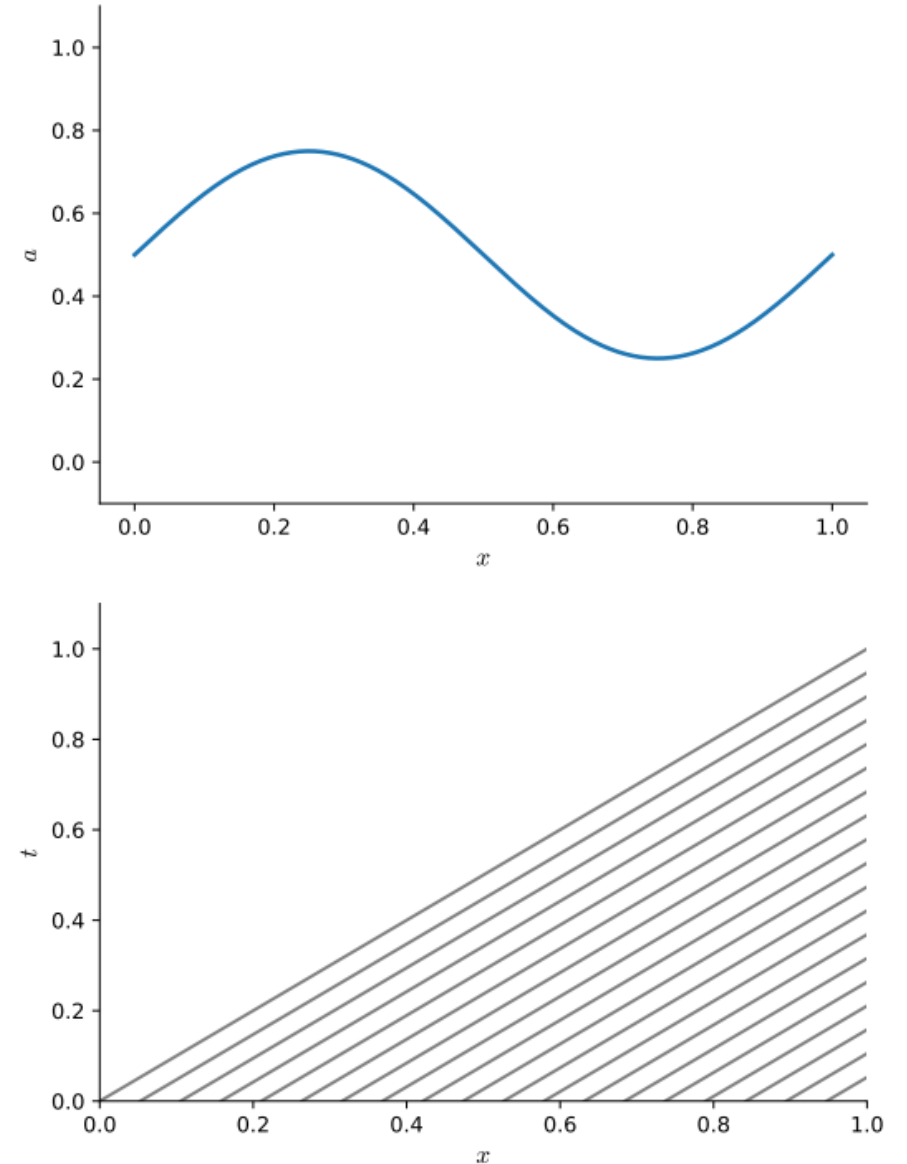
# Fluid advection

- Advection equation:

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f(q)}{\partial x} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{df}{dq} \frac{\partial q}{\partial x} = 0$$

- $df/dq$  is the wave speed
- Theoretically, any pattern should be advected without any shape change as it moves
- Numerical stability  $\rightarrow$  any wave should not propagate farther than a cell width in a given timestep





# Fluid advection

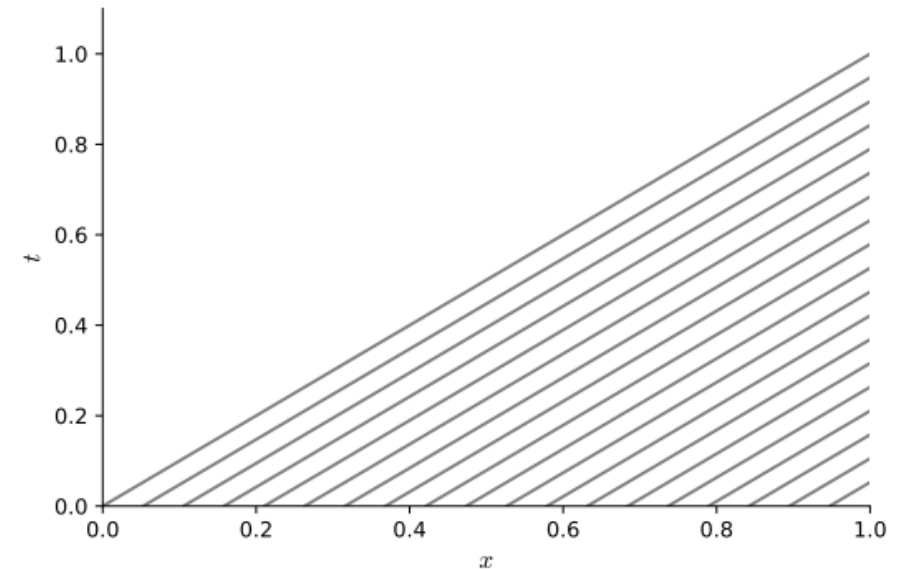
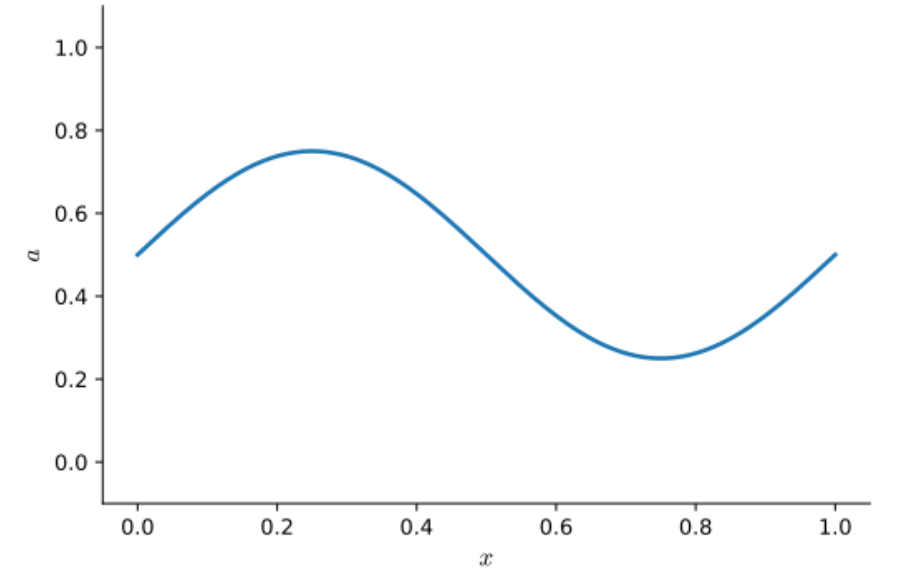
- Timestep restriction: information must not travel farther than one zone per timestep

$$\Delta t \leq \frac{\Delta x}{u}$$

- This is known as the Courant-Friedrichs-Lewy (CFL) condition
- The CFL number is defined as

$$C = \frac{u\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq 1$$

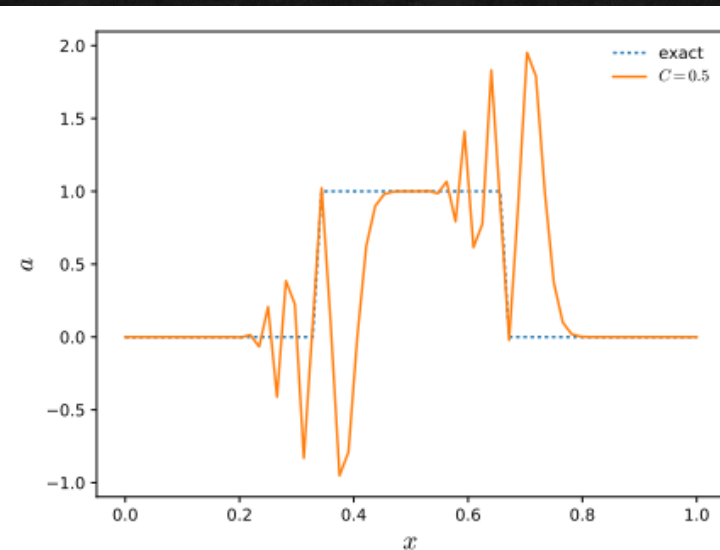
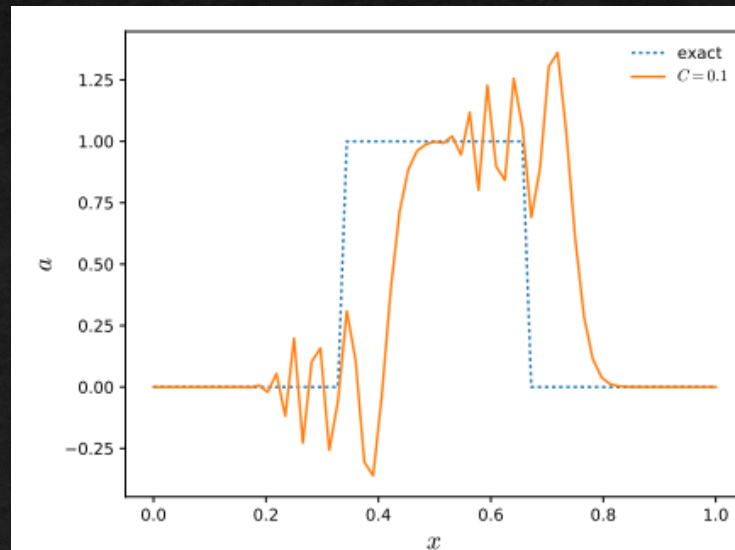
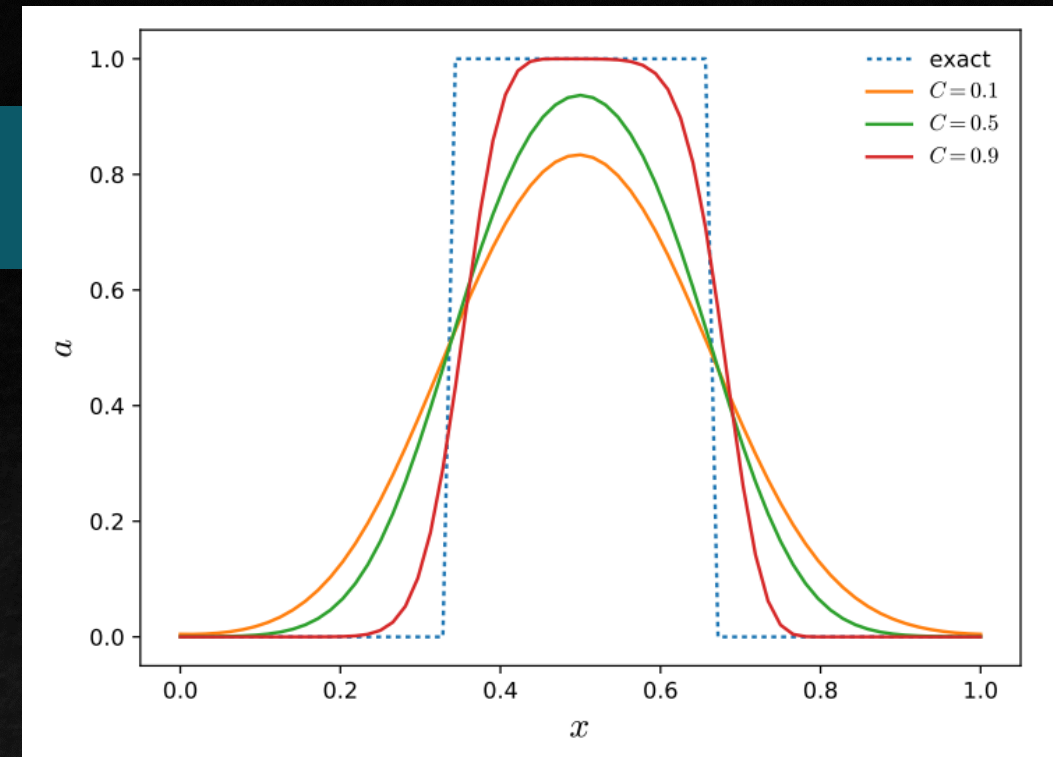
- This is a parameter in simulations and is usually set to be  $\leq 0.7$





# Fluid advection test

- Consider a square wave moving at velocity  $u$  with periodic boundary conditions
- At time  $t = x/u$ , returns to its starting position
- Basic numerical test for any numerical method
- Tests for numerical diffusion and errors





# Methods

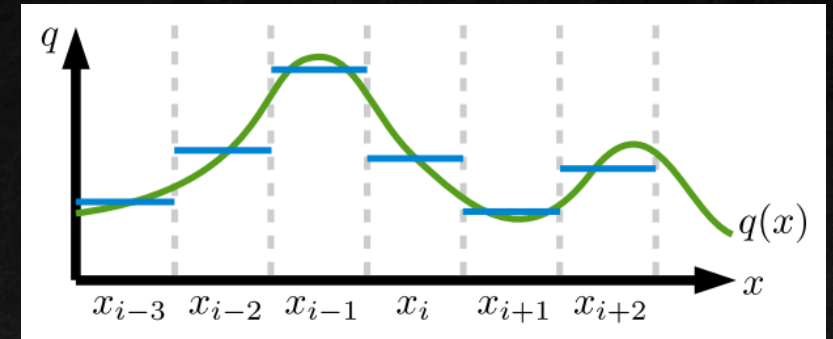
- Recall that we can approximate the derivatives with finite differencing. For example, forward differencing

$$\frac{dq}{dx} \approx \frac{q_{i+1} - q_i}{\Delta x}$$

- For the advection equation, we have

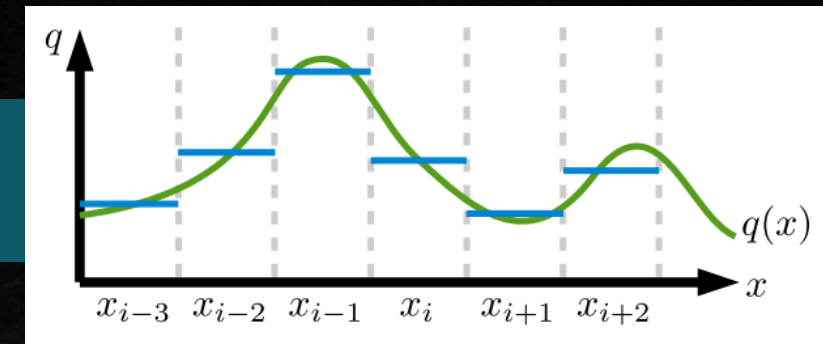
$$\frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f(q)}{\partial x} = 0 \rightarrow q_i^{n+1} = q_i^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \left( f_{i+1/2}^{n+1/2} - f_{i-1/2}^{n+1/2} \right)$$

- Here the  $\frac{1}{2}$  steps are for better numerical stability  $\rightarrow$  L/R states of a zone

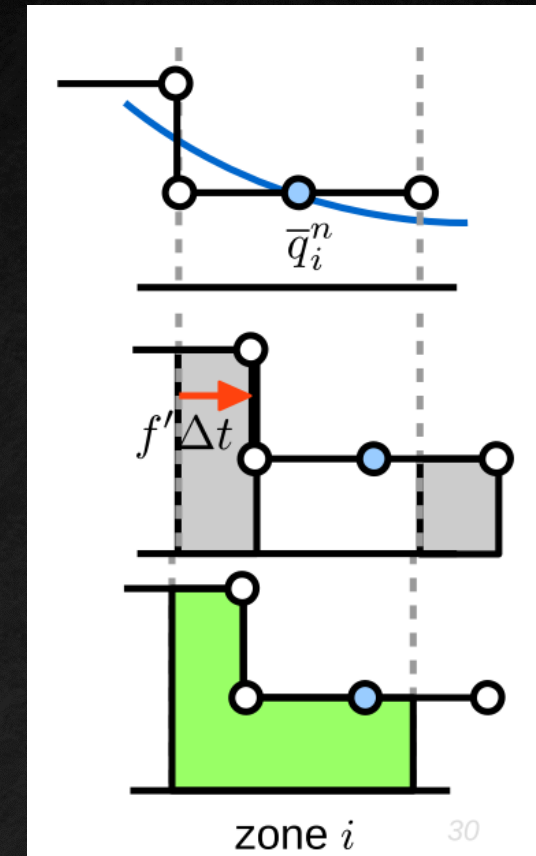




# Methods

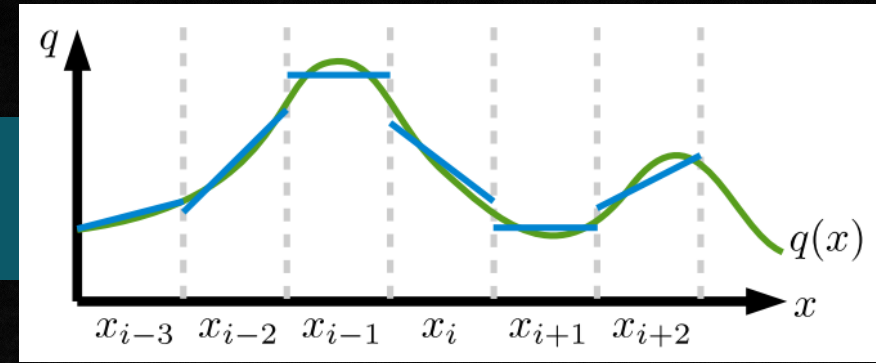


- How to represent a continuous function in a discrete fashion?
- Most simple: **piecewise constant**
- How to calculate the L/R edges of the zones?
- **Reconstruction**: approximate solution at the edges
- **Evolution**: advect the constants forward through  $\Delta t$
- **Averaging**: average the new solution over the zones

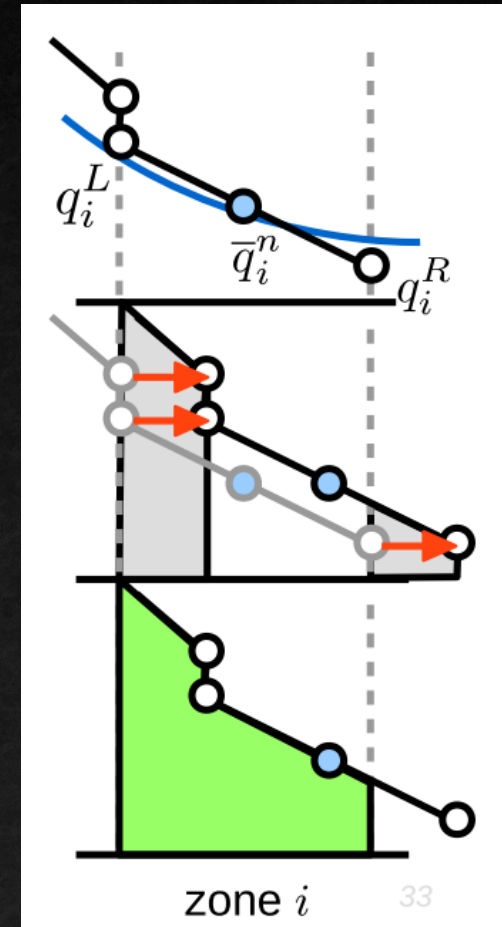




# Methods



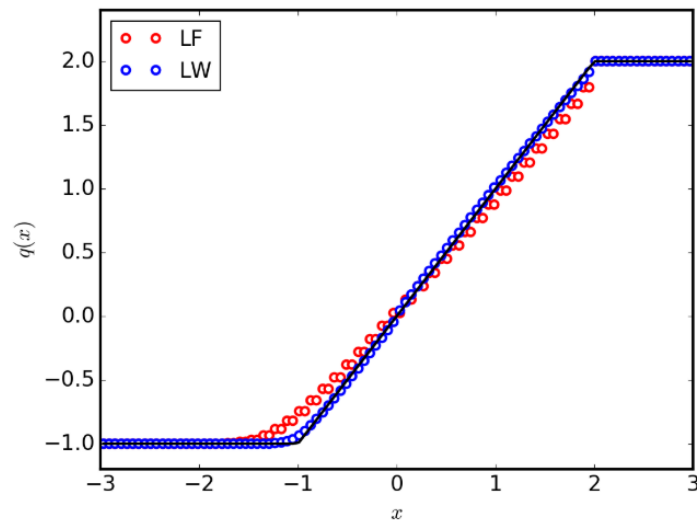
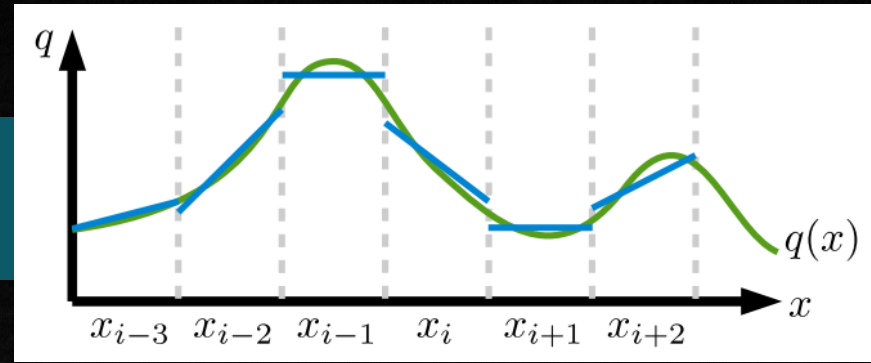
- To the next order, we can approximate the function with a **piecewise linear** representation
- **Reconstruction**: compute interpolant slopes
- **Evolution**: advect the constants forward through  $\Delta t$
- **Averaging**: average the new solution over the zones
- Freedom in slope choices
  - Centered difference (Fromm's method)
  - Upwind difference (Beam-Warming method)
  - Downwind difference (Lax-Wendroff method)



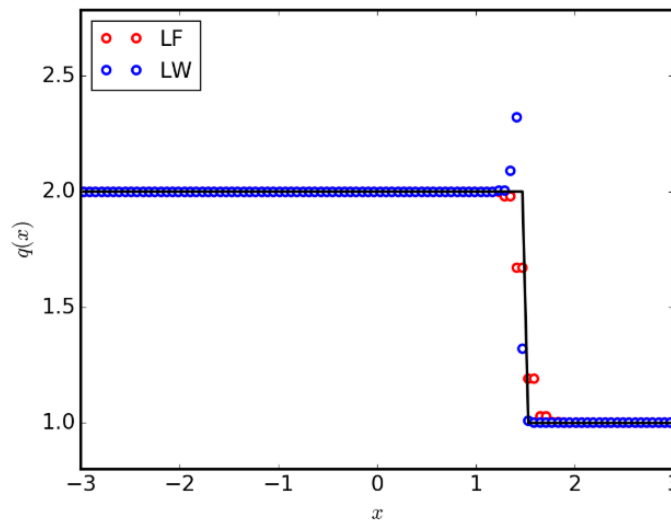


# Methods

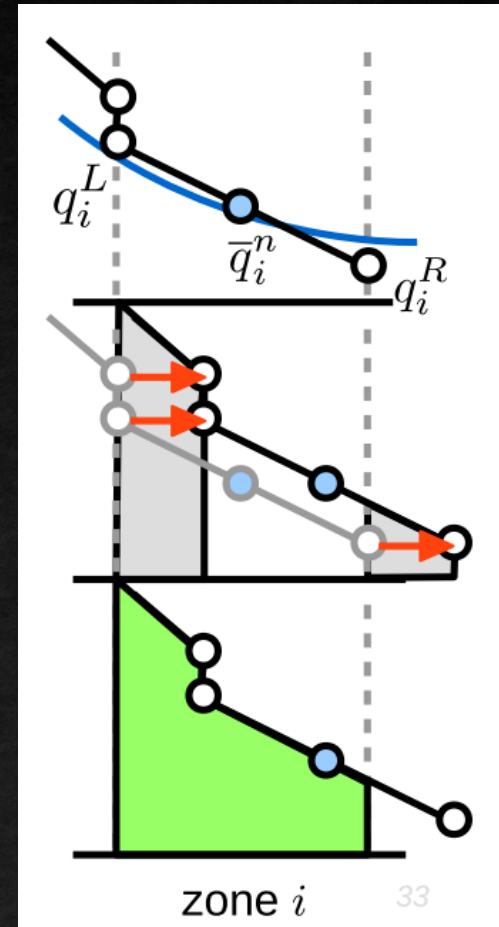
- Example: inviscid Burger's equation  $f(q) = q^2/2$
- Lax-Friedrichs (1<sup>st</sup> order): diffusive, “stair-stepping”
- Lax-Wendroff (2<sup>nd</sup> order): oscillation at shocks
- Can we do better?



$$q_L = -1, q_R = 2$$



$$q_L = 2, q_R = 1$$



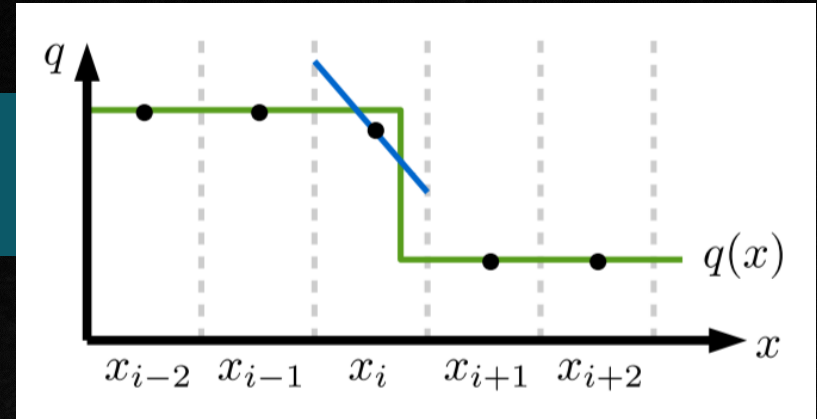


# Methods

- The slope can be anything as long as

$$\frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}} q(x, t^n) dx = \bar{q}_i^n$$

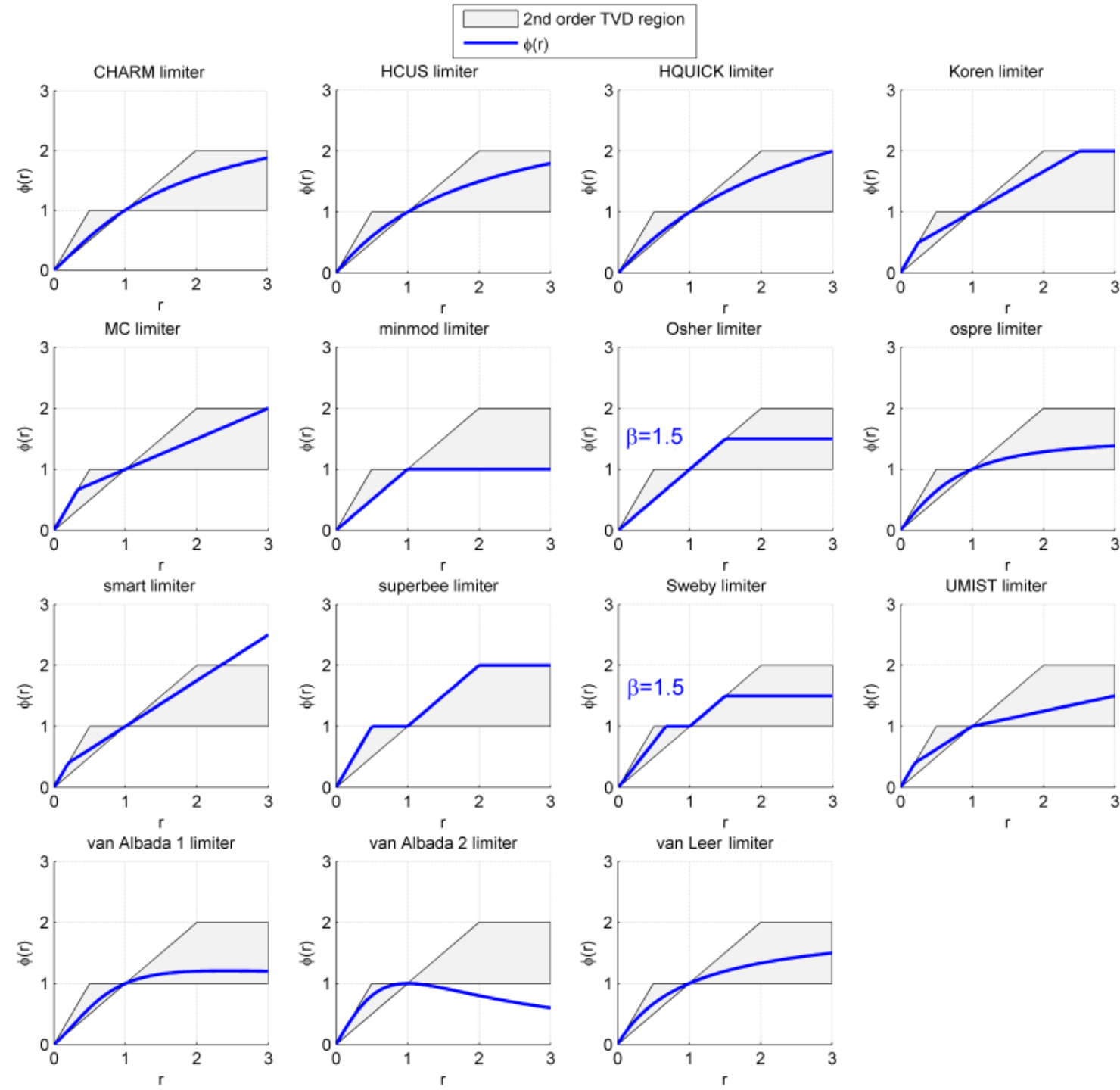
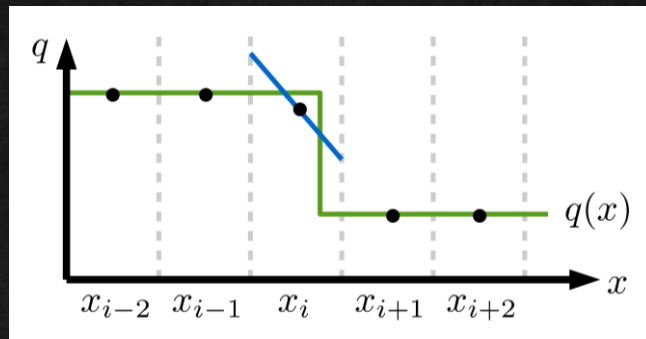
- At discontinuities, we should flatten the interpolants to avoid introducing spurious oscillations
- Goal: prevent numerical method from introducing oscillations → maintain monotonicity
- Define total variation:  $TV(q) \equiv \sum_i^N |q_i - q_{i-1}|$
- This quantity should never increase → **Total variation diminishing (TVD) method**





# Methods

- We need to modify the slopes  $\sigma$  near discontinuities. Based them on the solution
- Solution: Use a **slope limiter function** to maintain TVD
- $r$  is the ratio of the forward and backwards slopes

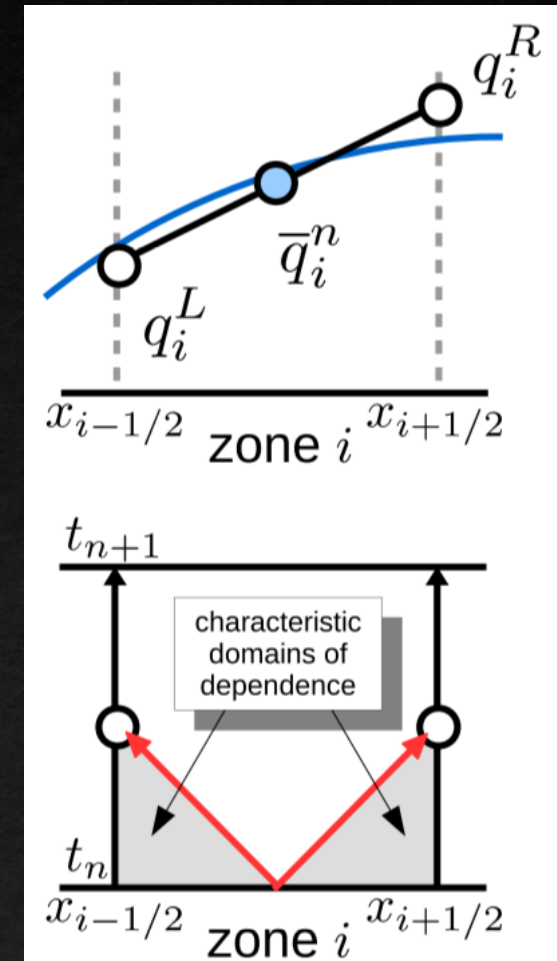




# Methods

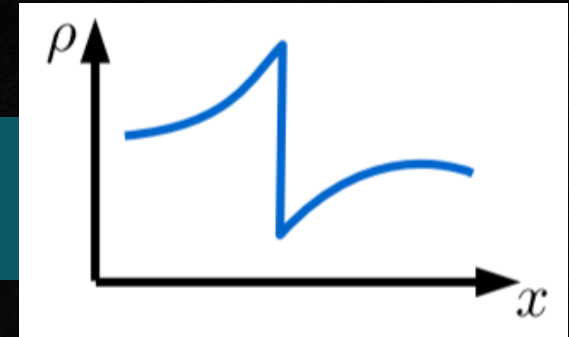


- Godunov's method: solve the Riemann problem at every zone interface
- **MUSCL (Monotone Upwind Scheme for Conservation Laws; van Leer 1979)**: solve ordinary Riemann problem with input states modified to include characteristic information
- Reconstruction: use slope limiter
- Characteristic tracing: Use limiter and wave speeds
- Evolution: Solve the Riemann problem given L/R states

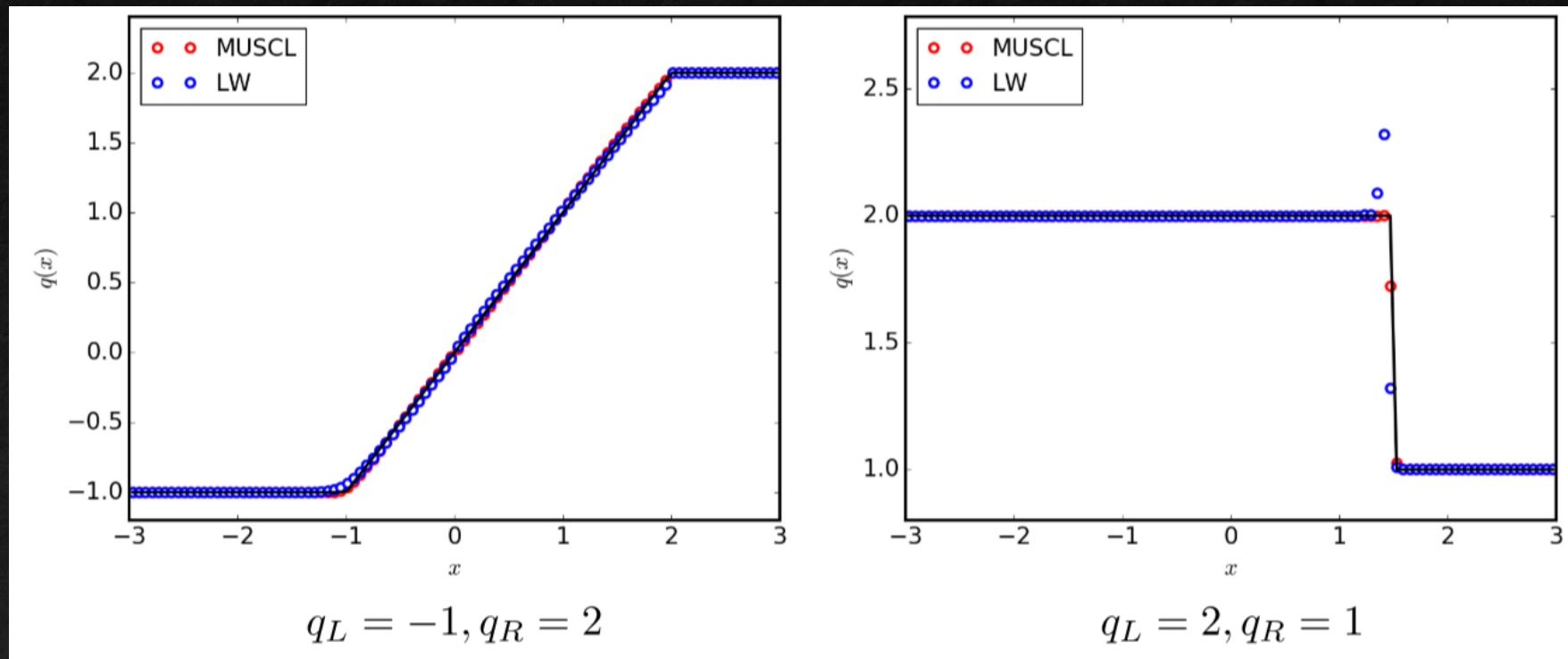




# Methods



- Example: inviscid Burger's equation,  $f(q) = q^2/2$
- Shock oscillation eliminated, 2<sup>nd</sup> order accurate

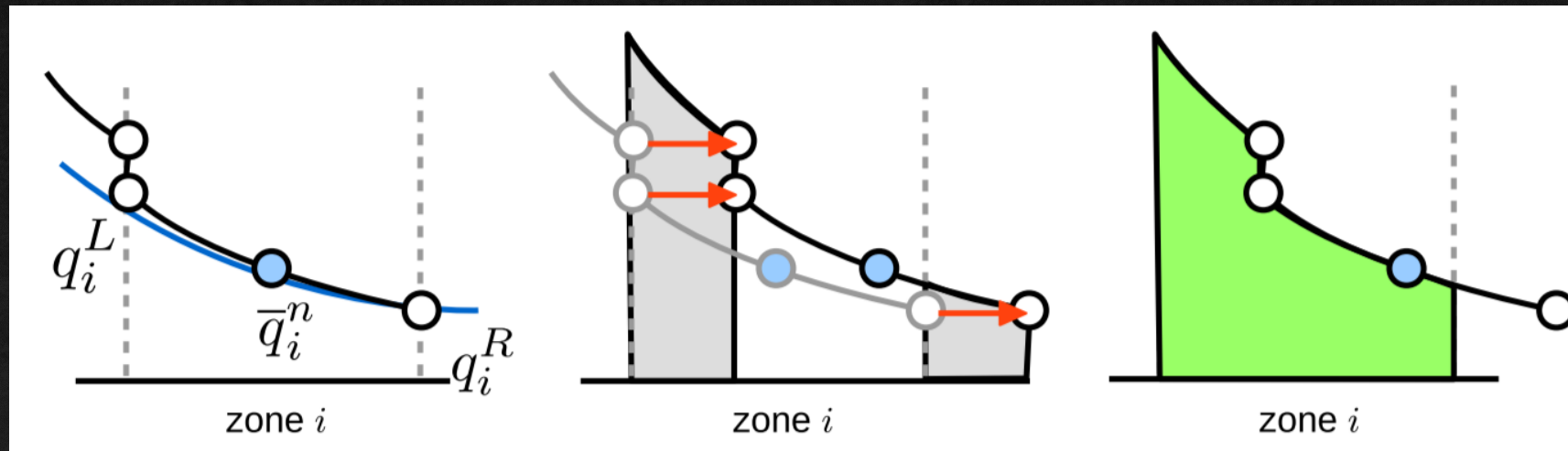




# Methods



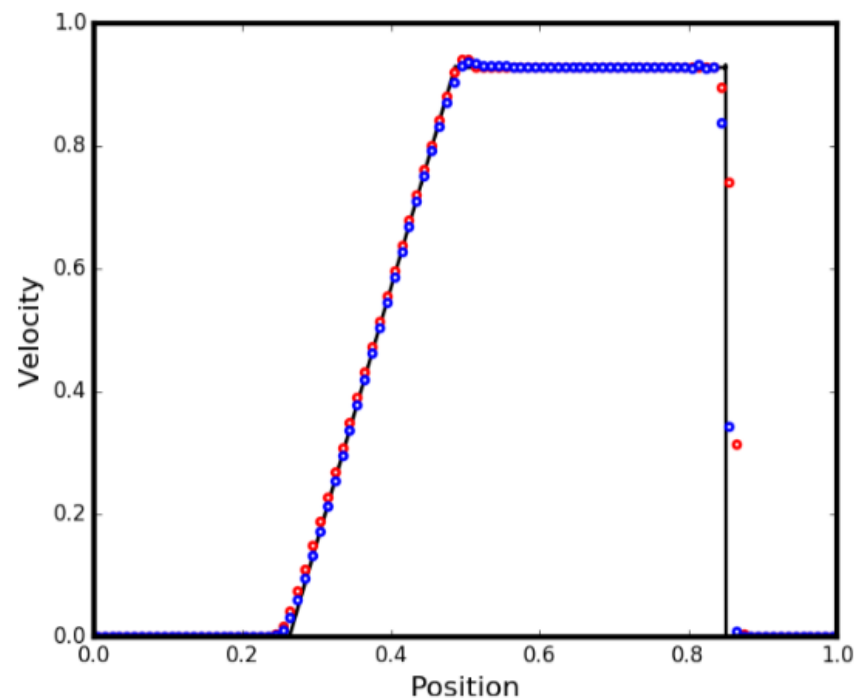
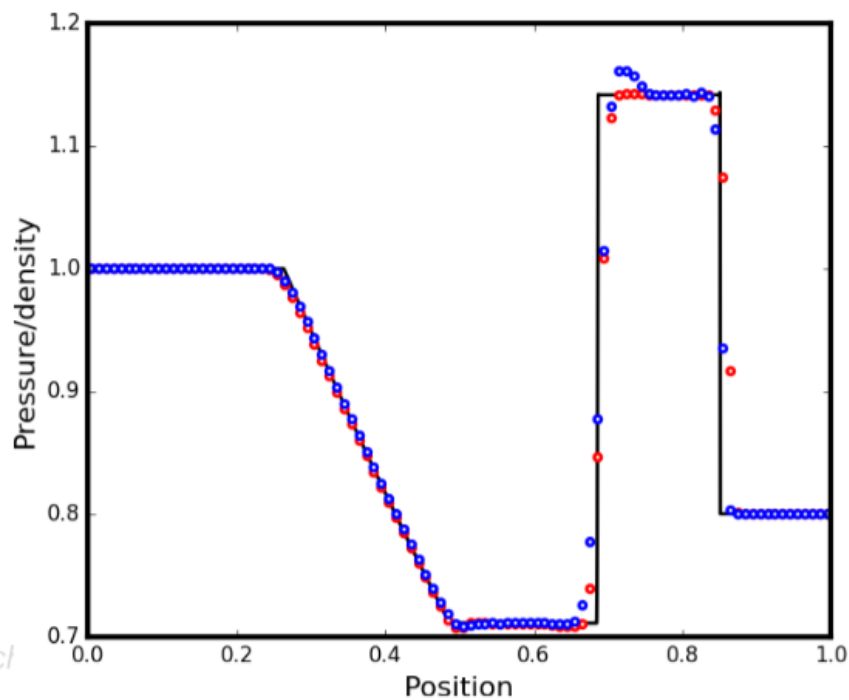
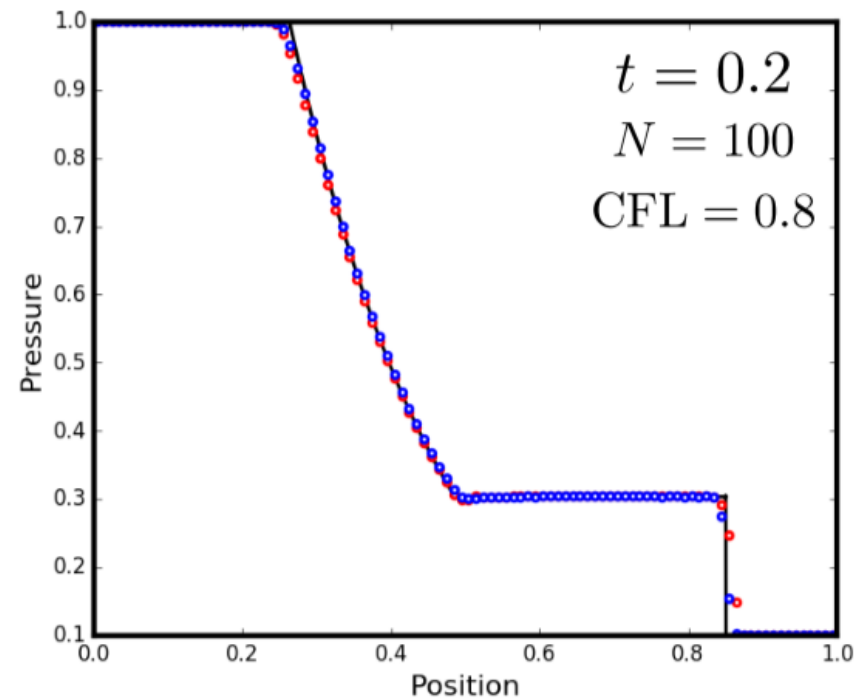
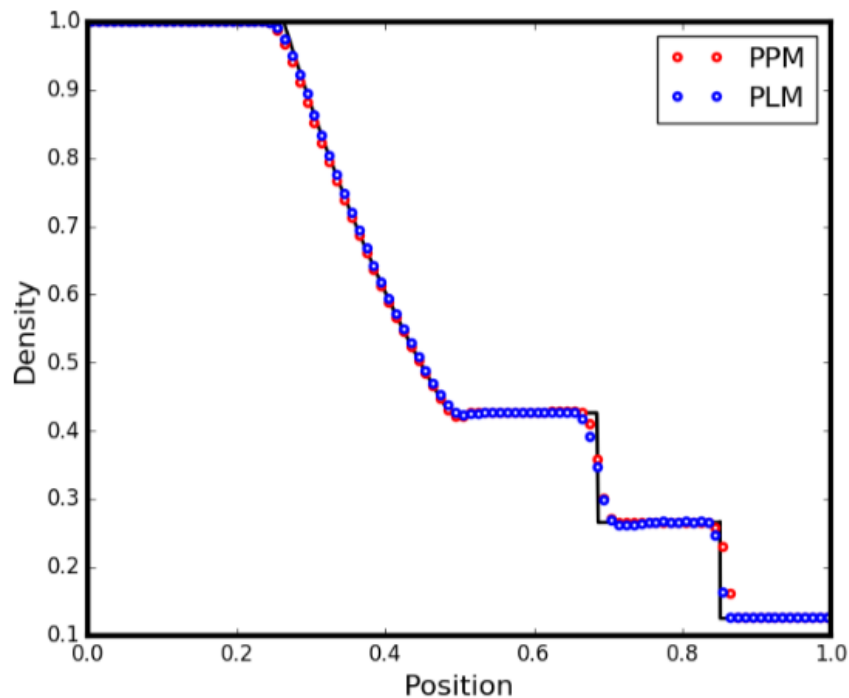
- Extensions to MUSCL to make third order accurate
  - Piecewise parabolic reconstruction
  - Extrema removal
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> order time integration
  - Artificial dissipation for strong shocks





# Methods

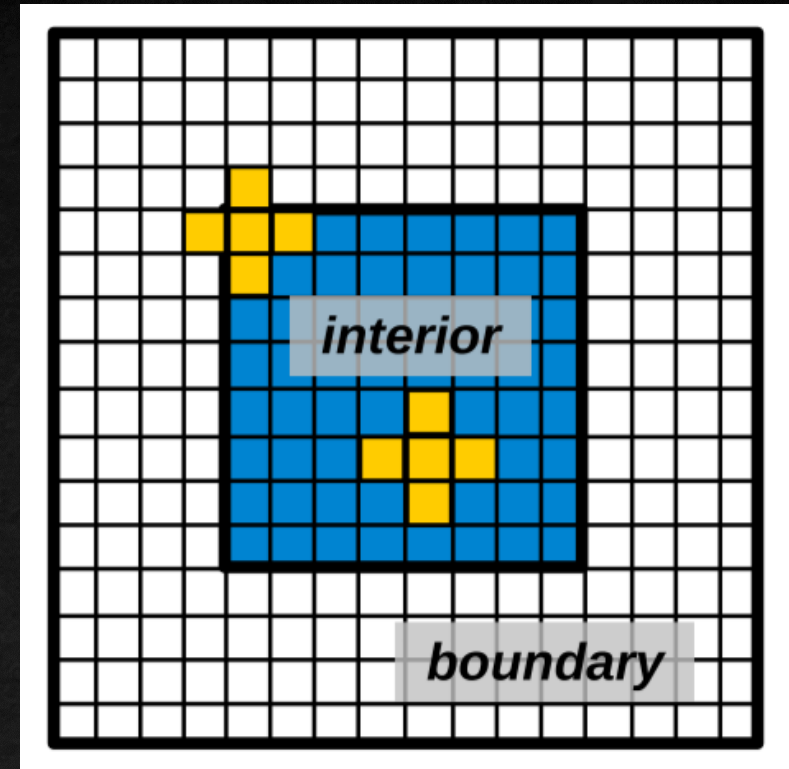
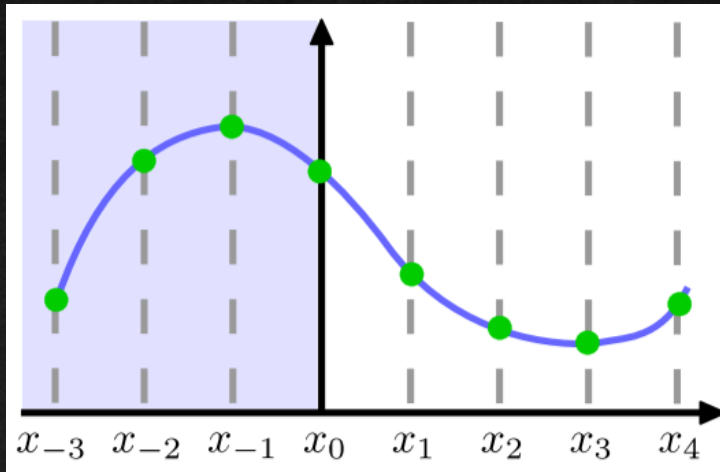
## ■ PLM vs PPM





# Boundary conditions

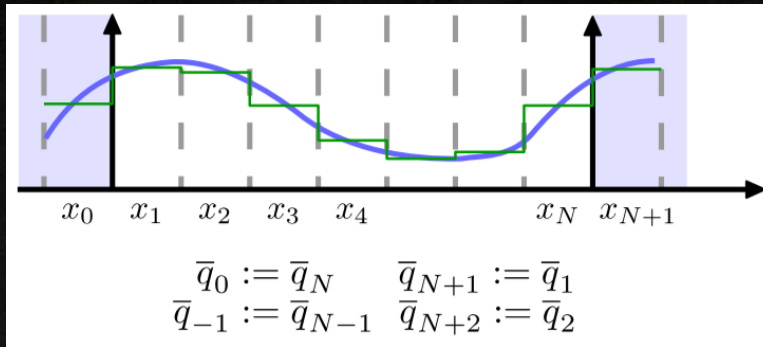
- Boundary conditions are handled with ghost zones
- Need neighboring cells for finite differencing
- The more accurate the method, the more cells are needed



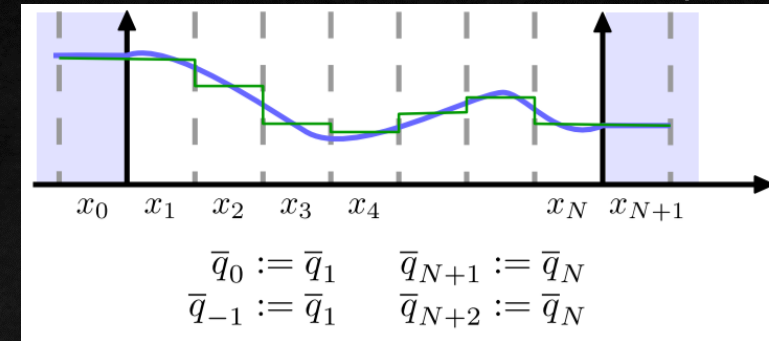


# Boundary conditions

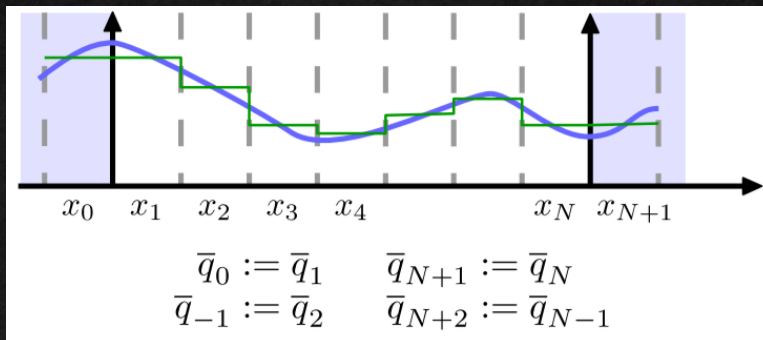
## ■ Periodic boundaries



## ■ Outflow boundaries (supersonic)



## ■ Reflecting boundaries





## More rigor: Euler's Equations

- Now that we have a general overview of hydro solvers, let's look at the details
- In 1-dimension, we have the conservation of mass, momentum, and energy through their fluxes (subscripts denote partials)

$$\rho_t + (\rho u)_x = 0$$

$$(\rho u)_t + (\rho u u + p)_x = 0$$

$$(\rho E)_t + (\rho u E + u p)_x = 0$$



## More rigor: Euler's Equations

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_t + (\rho u)_x &= 0 \\ (\rho u)_t + (\rho u u + p)_x &= 0 \\ (\rho E)_t + (\rho u E + u p)_x &= 0\end{aligned}$$

- We can write this in a conservation law form:  $U_t + [F(U)]_x = 0$

$$U = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u \\ \rho E \end{pmatrix}, \quad F(U) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u u + p \\ \rho u E + u p \end{pmatrix}$$

- We close this system with an equation of state. Let's use a polytrope (ideal gas)

$$\begin{aligned}p &= \rho e(\gamma - 1) \\ \rho e &= \rho E - \rho u^2 / 2\end{aligned}$$



# Conservative system

$$F(U) = \begin{pmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u u + p \\ \rho u E + u p \end{pmatrix}$$

- We want to express this system like advection, which has a quasi-linear form:  
 $U_t + A(U)U_x = 0$
- Define the flux vectors:  $m \equiv \rho u, \mathcal{E} \equiv \rho E$

$$p = \rho e(\gamma - 1) = \left( \mathcal{E} - \frac{m^2}{2\rho} \right) (\gamma - 1)$$

$$F(U) = \begin{pmatrix} m \\ \frac{m^2}{2\rho} (3 - \gamma) + \mathcal{E}(\gamma - 1) \\ \frac{m\mathcal{E}\gamma}{\rho} - \frac{m^3}{2\rho^2} (\gamma - 1) \end{pmatrix}$$



# Conservative system

$$F(U) = \begin{pmatrix} m \\ \frac{m^2}{2\rho}(3 - \gamma) + \varepsilon(\gamma - 1) \\ \frac{m\varepsilon\gamma}{\rho} - \frac{m^3}{2\rho^2}(\gamma - 1) \end{pmatrix}$$

- Compute the Jacobian

$$A(U) = \frac{\partial F}{\partial U} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ -\frac{1}{2}u^2(3 - \gamma) & u(3 - \gamma) & \gamma - 1 \\ \frac{1}{2}(\gamma - 2)u^3 - \frac{uc^2}{\gamma - 1} & \frac{3 - 2\gamma}{2}u^2 + \frac{c^2}{\gamma - 1} & u\gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

- Here  $c \equiv \sqrt{\frac{\gamma p}{\rho}}$  is the sound speed
- Now we can write the system as desired:  $U_t + A(U)U_x = 0$



# Simpler alternative: primitive variable formulation

- Alternatively we can cast the system in terms of density, velocity, and pressure
- These are known as primitive variables  $q$
- Keep the same quasi-linear form:  $q_t + A(q)q_x = 0$ , where

$$q = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ u \\ p \end{pmatrix}, \quad A(q) = \begin{pmatrix} u & \rho & 0 \\ 0 & u & \frac{1}{\rho} \\ 0 & \gamma p & u \end{pmatrix}$$



# Eigensystem

$$A(q) = \begin{pmatrix} u & \rho & 0 \\ 0 & u & \frac{1}{\rho} \\ 0 & \gamma p & u \end{pmatrix}, c \equiv \sqrt{\frac{\gamma p}{\rho}}$$

- For this system, the eigenvalues are

$$\lambda^- = u - c, \quad \lambda^0 = u, \quad \lambda^+ = u + c$$

- These are the speeds at which information travels in the system
- Three distinct wave speeds for 3 equations
- Same eigenvalues for the conservative Jacobian



# Eigensystem

$$\lambda^- = u - c, \quad \lambda^0 = u, \quad \lambda^+ = u + c$$

- The eigenvectors (normalized:  $l^i \cdot r^j = \delta_{ij}$ ) are

$$A r^i = \lambda^i r^i, \quad l^i A = \lambda^i l^i$$

$$r^- = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \\ -\frac{\rho}{c^2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad r^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad r^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \\ \frac{\rho}{c^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$l^- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\rho}{2c} & \frac{1}{2c^2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad l^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{c^2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad l^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\rho}{2c} & \frac{1}{2c^2} \end{pmatrix}$$



# Characteristic variables

$$r^- = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -\frac{c}{\rho} \\ c^2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad r^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad r^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{c}{\rho} \\ c^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$l^- = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -\frac{\rho}{2c} & \frac{1}{2c^2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad l^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & -\frac{1}{c^2} \end{pmatrix}, \quad l^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & \frac{\rho}{2c} & \frac{1}{2c^2} \end{pmatrix}$$

- The final form of the system is in terms of the characteristic variables
- Construct matrices of the left and right eigenvectors

$$R = (r^- | r^0 | r^+), \quad L = \begin{pmatrix} l^- \\ l^0 \\ l^+ \end{pmatrix}$$

- These satisfy  $LR = RL = \mathbb{I}$
- If we define  $dw = Ldq$ , our system can be written as

$$w_t + \Lambda w_x = 0$$



# Characteristic variables

$$w_t + \Lambda w_x = 0$$

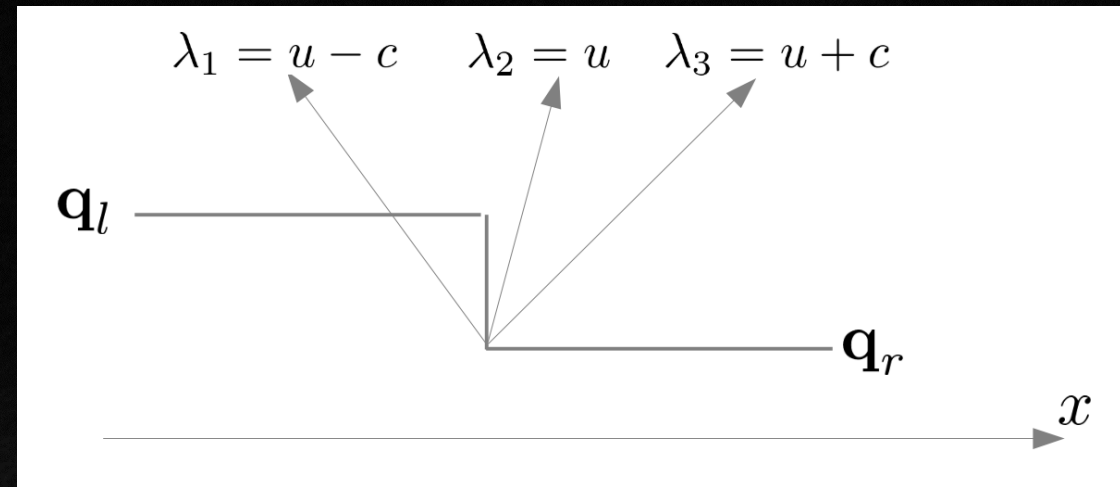
- Here  $w$  are the characteristic variables
- The three equations are now decoupled

$$\Lambda = LAR = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda^- & & \\ & \lambda^0 & \\ & & \lambda^+ \end{pmatrix}$$

- This characteristic system is telling us about the waves
- Each wave will carry a jump in their associated characteristic quantity away from the discontinuity at their speed
- The corresponding jump in the primitive variable is  $dq = L^{-1}dw = R$



# Jumps across waves



- Recall that there are three waves in a Riemann problem
- The eigenvectors  $r^i$  tell us the jumps in the primitive quantities

$$r^- = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ -\frac{c}{\rho} \\ c^2 \end{pmatrix}, \quad r^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}, \quad r^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ \frac{c}{\rho} \\ c^2 \end{pmatrix}$$



# Sod shock tube

$$\rho_L = 1.0$$

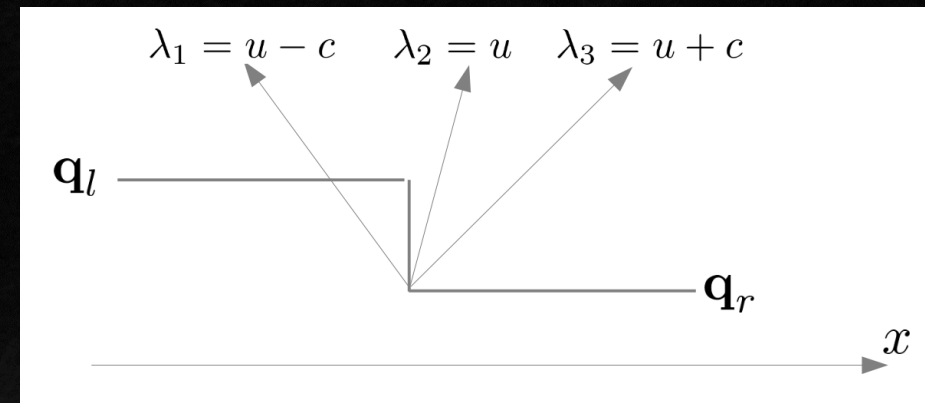
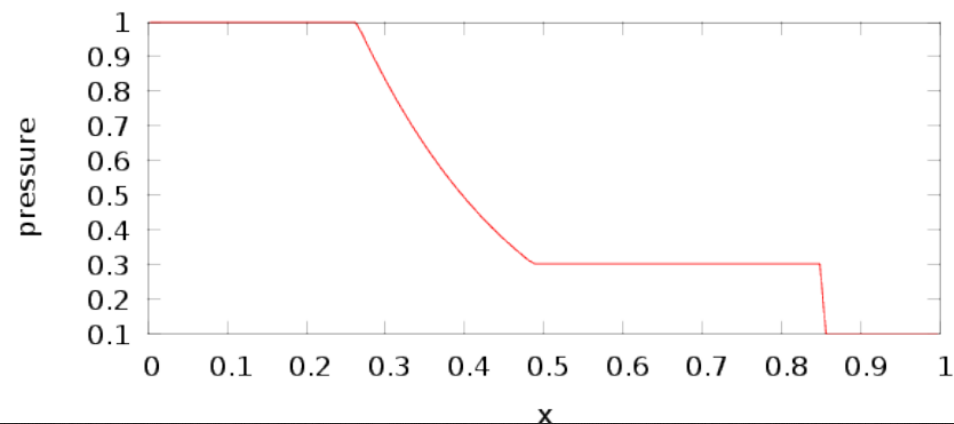
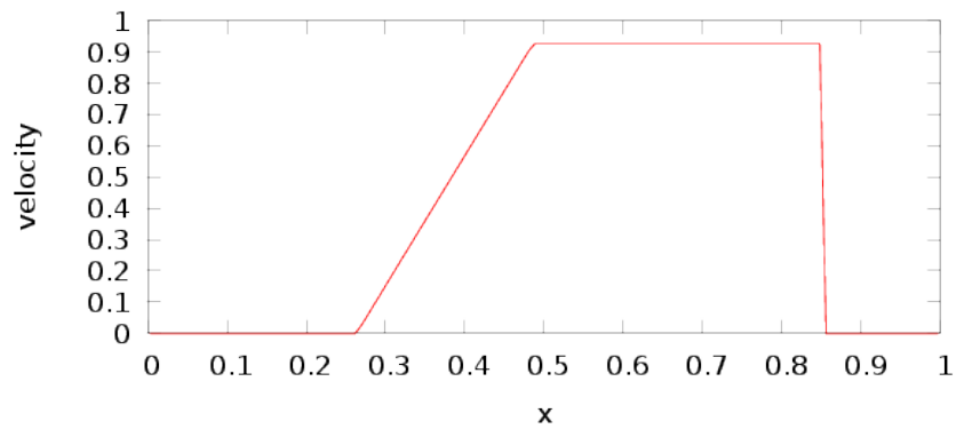
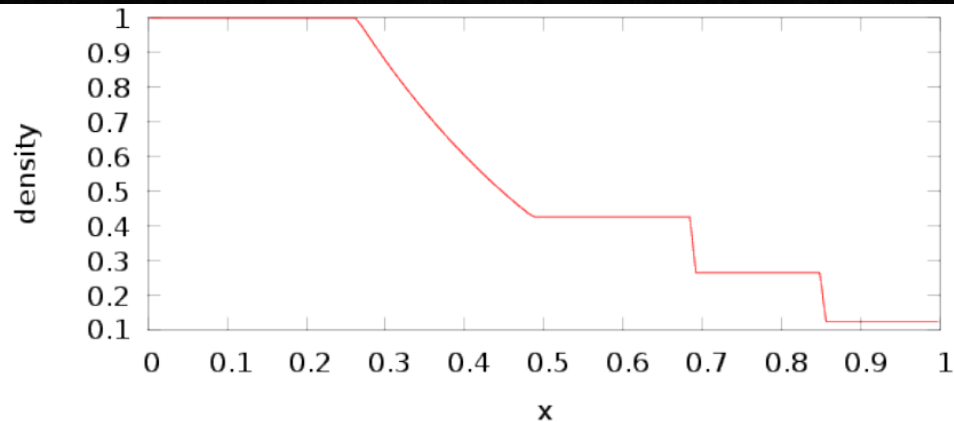
$$\rho_R = 1/8$$

$$u_L = 0$$

$$u_R = 0$$

$$p_L = 1.0$$

$$p_R = 1/10$$



$$r^- = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \\ -\frac{1}{\rho} \\ c^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r^0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$r^+ = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ c \\ \frac{1}{\rho} \\ c^2 \end{pmatrix}$$