

# Finite volume methods for the advection equation in 1D

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## Introduction

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- MATLAB Code & Paper (in Spanish):  
<https://github.com/rnartallo/volumenesefinitos>
- Simulation videos:  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cp0dO8CouTslist=PLXhFGfjdT6WK6j7njosild4ldxc15tycl>

# Introduction

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## Abstract:

- In this presentation I will study various finite volume schemes for the advection equation in one dimension with an emphasis on the linear case when deriving numeric theory
- I will present numerical results from implementation of these methods
- Finally, I will present a refinable mesh for the sphere for the generalisation of these methods to more dimensions (motivated by applications in earth science)

## What is advection?

- Advection is the movement or transport of a substance, like mass, or a quantity, like heat, in a liquid.
- In closed systems, these quantities are conserved and can be modelled by a conservation law
- The advection equation is given by

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad (1)$$

where  $\mathbf{u}$  is the *state* vector vector and  $\mathbf{f}$  is the *flux* vector.

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## Philosophy

- To derive a finite volume method, the first step is to discretise space into *volumes* or *cells*
- If we consider a volume  $V_i$ , then the idea is to calculate an average value of the solution  $U_i(t)$  that we regard as constant in  $V_i$ .
- We calculate an average solution by the following:

$$U_i(t) = \frac{1}{|V_i|} \int_{V_i} u(x, t) \, dx \quad (2)$$

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## Derivation

We integrate the equation w.r.t  $x$  and we apply divergence theorem

$$\int_{V_i} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} dx + \int_{V_i} \nabla \cdot f(u) dx = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$|V_i| \frac{dU_i}{dt}(t) + \int_{V_i} \nabla \cdot f(u) dx = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$|V_i| \frac{dU_i}{dt}(t) + \oint_{S_i} f(u) \cdot n dS = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\frac{dU_i}{dt}(t) + \frac{1}{|V_i|} \oint_{S_i} f(u) \cdot n dS = 0 \quad (6)$$

$S_i$  is the boundary of  $V_i$ .  $n$  is the outward normal of the volume.

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## Derivation

- The idea now is to use to a form of interpolation to reconstruct the flux value on the border  $S_i$
- The properties of our final method depend not only on the mesh, but also on the chosen form of flux approximation

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## Problem in 1D

- The IVP in 1D is the following:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial f(u)}{\partial x} = 0 & x \in \mathbb{R} \quad t \geq 0 \\ u(x, 0) = u_0(x) & x \in \mathbb{R} \end{cases} \quad (P)$$

where  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$ .

- The volumes are intervals centred in a point  $x_i$ .
- Each volume has the form  $V_i = [x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}]$  con  $|V_i| = h_i = x_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}$ .
- The border is made up of two isolated points,  $S_i = \{x_{i-1/2}\} \cup \{x_{i+1/2}\} \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .



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- This means the flux integral reduces to,

$$\frac{1}{|V_i|} \oint_{S_i} f(u) \cdot n \, dS = \frac{1}{h_i} \left[ f(u(x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}, t)) - f(u(x_{i-\frac{1}{2}}, t)) \right] \quad (7)$$

$$= \frac{1}{h_i} \left[ f_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - f_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \right] \quad (8)$$

where  $f_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}} = f(u(x_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}, t))$ .

- The method in 1D is,

$$\frac{du_i}{dt} + \frac{1}{h_i} \left[ f_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - f_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \right] = 0 \quad \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}, \quad t > 0. \quad (9)$$

- We must reconstruct the flux on the border to estimate  $f_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}$ .

# Weak solutions

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## Weak solution

Let  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R}, \mathbb{R})$  and  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . A *weak solution* to the previous problem is a function  $u \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}} u(x, t) \partial_t \phi(x, t) \, dx dt + \int_0^\infty \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(u(x, t)) \partial_x \phi(x, t) \, dx dt \\ + \int_{\mathbb{R}} u_0(x) \phi(x, 0) \, dx = 0, \quad \forall \phi \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}) \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

[Eym+19] proves the existence of a weak solution to the problem but uniqueness only holds in the linear case.

# Weak entropy solutions

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## Weak entropy solution

Let  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ ; a *weak entropy solution* to the problem is a function  $u \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*, \mathbb{R})$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} \eta(u(x, t)) \phi_t(x, t) dt dx \\ + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}_+} \varphi(u(x, t)) \phi_x(x, t) dt dx \\ + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \eta(u(x, 0)) \phi(x, 0) dx \geq 0, \end{aligned}$$

$\forall \phi \in C_c^1(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+, \mathbb{R}_+), \forall \eta \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$  convex function

$$\forall \varphi \in C^1(\mathbb{R}) \text{ such that } \varphi' = \eta' f'. \quad (11)$$

# Existence & uniqueness

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With this definition [Eym+19, p. 124] proves the following theorem

## Theorem

*Let  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ , then there is a unique weak entropy solution to the problem.*

# Analysis of explicit schemes in 1D

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## Mesh in 1D

We use a uniform mesh both in space and time. We define a mesh to be a set  $\mathcal{T}_{h,k}$  whose spacial value form the sequence  $(x_{i+1/2})_{i \in \mathbb{Z}}$  increasing, such that  $x_{i+1/2} - x_{i-1/2} = h > 0, \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}$ .

- The temporal values  $t_n = nk, n \in \mathbb{N}$
- The volumes are  $V_i = (x_{i-1/2}, x_{i+1/2}), \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}$

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- We consider a scheme based on

$$\frac{dU_i}{dt} + \frac{1}{h} \left[ f_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - f_{i-\frac{1}{2}} \right] = 0 \quad (12)$$

- We discretise forward in time,

$$\frac{U_i^{n+1} - U_i^n}{k} + \frac{1}{h} \left[ f_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^n - f_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^n \right] = 0 \quad (13)$$

- The resulting explicit form is,

$$\begin{cases} U_i^{n+1} = U_i^n - \frac{k}{h} \left[ f_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^n - f_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^n \right] & \forall i \in \mathbb{Z}, \forall n \in \mathbb{N}_0 \\ U_i^0 = \int_{V_i} u_0(x) dx & \forall i \in \mathbb{Z} \end{cases} \quad (14)$$

# Approximating the flux

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- We use  $F$  to refer to the numerical approximation,  
 $F_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}^n \approx f_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}^n = f(u(x_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}, t_n))$
- We assume  $F_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^n$  can be approximated using only  $U_i^n, U_{i+1}^n$
- We define the *conservation function*  $\mathcal{F} : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$F_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^n = \mathcal{F}(U_i^n, U_{i+1}^n) \quad (15)$$

- For a 'good' approximation, we impose the consistency condition

$$\mathcal{F}(c, c) = f(c) \quad \forall c \in \mathbb{R} \quad (16)$$

# Upwind scheme

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The idea is that

$$F_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}^n \approx f(u(x_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}, nk)) \quad (17)$$

but we don't have an approximation of  $u(x_{i\pm\frac{1}{2}}, nk)$  because it is on the border of two volumes with different (but constant) approximate solutions. We must pick one.

- Recall that the solution moves with speed  $f'(u)$ .
- If the speed in  $x_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$  is positive the right hand direction (towards  $V_{i+1}$ ) is called *downwind* and the left hand direction (toward  $V_i$ ) is called *upwind* and viceversa.

We take the upwind value.



# Upwind scheme

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## Upwind scheme

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} U_i^{n+1} = \begin{cases} U_i^n - \frac{k}{h}[f(U_i^n) - f(U_{i-1}^n)] & \text{if } f'(u) \geq 0 \\ U_i^n - \frac{k}{h}[f(U_{i+1}^n) - f(U_i^n)] & \text{if } f'(u) < 0 \end{cases} \\ \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall i \in \mathbb{Z} \\ U_i^0 = \frac{1}{h} \int_{V_i} u_0(x), \\ \forall i \in \mathbb{Z} \end{array} \right. \quad (18)$$

# The linear problem

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To study stability and convergence, consider the linear problem

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + a \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} &= 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}, \quad t \in [0, T]. \\ u(x, 0) &= u_0(x) & x \in \mathbb{R} \end{aligned} \quad (\text{PLin})$$

with  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  constant y  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ .

- We recall that  $u(x, t) = u_0(x - at) \quad \forall (x, t) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+$  is the unique solution
- The max principle holds as  $u$  never surpasses the bounds of  $u_0$ . We use the max principle as our notion of stability (we discuss this later for a more general family of methods).

# Weak-\* convergence of Upwind for (PLin)

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## Weak-\* convergence

Let  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset L^\infty(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*)$ . The sequence  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  converges to  $u \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*)$  weak-\* (or converges in the weak-\* topology), if

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (u_n(x, t) - u(x, t)) \phi(x, t) \, dx \, dt \rightarrow 0 \quad (19)$$

when  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\forall \phi \in L^1(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}_+^*)$

## Theorem of convergence

Let  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R})$ . We take a mesh satisfying  $|a| \leq (1 - \xi)h/k$  with  $\xi \in (0, 1)$ . Let  $u_{h,k}$  be the approximate solution using Upwind and let  $u$  be the unique weak solution. When  $(h, k) \rightarrow 0$ ,  $u_{h,k}$  converges weak-\* to  $u$ .

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To prove this we need some other results

## Corollary of Banach-Alaoglu-Bourbaki Theorem [Bre10]

Let  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \subset L^\infty(\Omega)$  bounded. Then, there exists a subsequence of  $(u_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  and a function  $u \in L^\infty(\Omega)$  such that the subsequence converges to  $u$  weak- $*$ .

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I will give an overview of the proof:

- We use the max principle to say our approximate solution is bounded
- We apply the corollary to find a convergent subsequence
- We multiply by a test function and integrate by parts
- We treat the temporal and spatial derivatives separately and pass to the limit (using a bounded variation estimator)
- We see that the weak-\* limit of the subsequence is the weak solution
- We apply uniqueness of the weak solution to say the whole sequence tends weak-\* to the weak solution.

# Lax-Friedrichs Method

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Here is another explicit scheme. Using the following approximations,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \approx \frac{u(x, t+k) - \frac{1}{2}(u(x+h, t) + u(x-h, t))}{k} \quad (20)$$

$$\frac{\partial f(u)}{\partial x} \approx \frac{f(u(x+h, t)) - f(u(x-h, t))}{2h} \quad (21)$$

We get the following method,

$$U_i^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2}(U_{i+1}^n + U_{i-1}^n) - \frac{k}{2h}(f(U_{i+1}^n) - f(U_{i-1}^n)) \quad (22)$$

# Lax-Friedrichs Method - inverse CFL condition

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The LF method poses an interesting condition. Using Taylor, we are approximating the temporal derivative by

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} \approx \frac{u(x, t+k) - u(x, t) - h^2 \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(\mu, t) \right)}{k} \quad (23)$$

where  $\mu \in [t-h, t+h]$ . Therefore, this only converges if

$$\frac{h^2}{k} \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}(\mu, t) \right) \xrightarrow{h, k \rightarrow 0} 0 \quad (24)$$

So that this terms converge to 0,  $k$  must be chosen such that  $k \geq h^2$  when  $k, h \rightarrow 0$  so we take  $k$  of the same order as  $h$ . This is called *the inverse CFL condition* in [Eym+19, p. 190]

# Monotone flux methods

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Monotone flux methods are an important subclass (e.g. Upwind, LF) that satisfy the following

## Definition

A scheme with conservation function  $\mathcal{F} : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is of *monotone flux* for the advection equation (P) if given  $f \in C^1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $u_0 \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R})$  with bounds  $U_m \leq u_0 \leq U_M$ , it satisfies

- ①  $\mathcal{F}$  is locally Lipschitz from  $\mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .
- ②  $\mathcal{F}(s, s) = f(s) \quad \forall s \in [U_m, U_M]$ .
- ③  $(a, b) \mapsto \mathcal{F}(a, b)$  from  $[U_m, U_M]^2$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  is non-decreasing with respect to the first variable and non-increasing with respect to the second variable.



# Stability of monotone flux methods

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Monotone flux methods are stable under a CFL condition that only depends on the Lipschitz constants of the flux

## Stability of monotone flux methods

Consider a mesh  $\mathcal{T}_{h,k}$  and let  $k > 0$ . Let  $u_{h,k}$  be the approximate solution given by a monotone flux method. Let  $g_1, g_2$  be the Lipschitz constants of  $\mathcal{F}$  in  $[U_m, U_M]^2$  with respect to its two variables. Under the CFL condition

$$k \leq \frac{h}{g_1 + g_2} \quad (25)$$

the approximate solution satisfies

$$U_m \leq u_{h,k}(x, t) \leq U_M \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}, t \in \mathbb{R}_+ \quad (26)$$

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I will only give an idea of the proof:

- We write the scheme as a combination  $U_{i-1}^n, U_i^n, U_{i+1}^n$
- Using the three parts of the monotone flux definition we bound the coefficients of  $U_{i-1}^n, U_i^n, U_{i+1}^n$
- We prove this is a convex combination and apply induction.

# Lax-Wendroff Method

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The Lax-Wendroff method has the following form,

$$U_i^{n+1} = U_i^n - \frac{k}{2h} [f(U_{i+1}^n) - f(U_{i-1}^n)] + \frac{k^2}{2h^2} \left[ f' \left( \frac{U_i^n + U_{i+1}^n}{2} \right) \cdot \right. \\ \left. - f' \left( \frac{U_i^n + U_{i-1}^n}{2} \right) \cdot (f(U_i^n) - f(U_{i-1}^n)) \right] \quad (27)$$

Which simplifies in the linear case to,

$$U_i^{n+1} = U_i^n - \frac{ak}{2h} [U_{i+1}^n - U_{i-1}^n] + \frac{a^2 k^2}{2h^2} [U_{i+1}^n - 2U_i^n + U_{i-1}^n] \quad (28)$$

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We can prove *von Neumann stability* for the linear case by considering the solution in the following form:

$$U_i^n = \psi^n e^{iKx_i} \quad (29)$$

where  $i^2 = -1$ . The CFL condition is  $\frac{k}{h} \leq \frac{1}{|a|}$ .

# Lax-Wendroff variants

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To avoid calculating the derivative of  $f$ , we consider a variant

Richtmyer

$$U_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2}(U_{i+1}^n + U_i^n) - \frac{k}{2h}(f(U_{i+1}^n) - f(U_i^n)) \quad (30)$$

$$U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2}(U_i^n + U_{i-1}^n) - \frac{k}{2h}(f(U_i^n) - f(U_{i-1}^n)) \quad (31)$$

$$U_i^{n+1} = U_i^n - \frac{k}{h} \left[ f(U_{i+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) - f(U_{i-\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) \right] \quad (32)$$

# Numerical results

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## Linear case

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + 7 \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0 & x \in (0, 1) \quad t \in (0, 1) \\ u(x, 0) = \sin(x) & x \in (0, 1) \end{cases} \quad (33)$$

$$\text{Exact solution: } u(x, t) = \sin(x - 7t) \quad (34)$$

Order of convergence:

- Upwind: 1.
- Lax-Friedrichs: 1.
- Richtmyer: 2.

## Non-viscous Burger's equation

$$\text{IVP: } \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0 & x \in (0, 1) \quad t \in (0, 10) \\ u(x, 0) = 2x + 1 & x \in (0, 1) \end{cases} \quad (35)$$

$$\text{Exact solution: } u(x, t) = \frac{2x + 1}{2t + 1} \quad (36)$$

Order of convergence:

- Upwind: 1.
- Lax-Friedrichs: 1.
- Richtmyer: 2.

# Examples

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## Solutions with shocks

**Youtube playlist:** <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLXhFGfjdT6WK6j7nj0sild4ldxc15tycl>



# Spherical mesh

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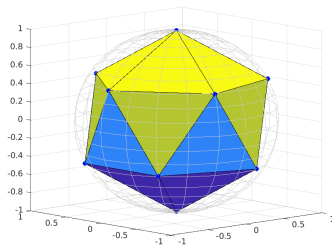
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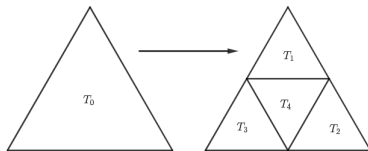
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Bibliography

- The algorithm comes from [Gir97].
- We begin with an icosahedron inscribed in a sphere. It has 12 vertices and is made of 20 equilateral triangles
- For each triangle, we refine by dividing it into 4 triangles



(a) Icosahedron



(b) Refining

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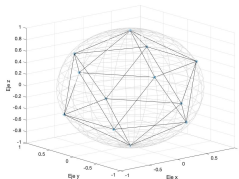
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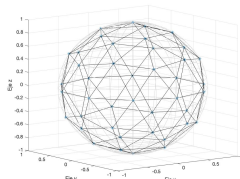
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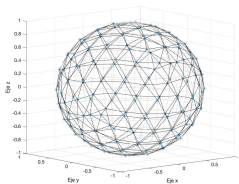
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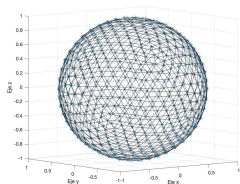
(c) Icosahedron



(d) Iteration 1



(e) Iteration 2



(f) Iteration 3

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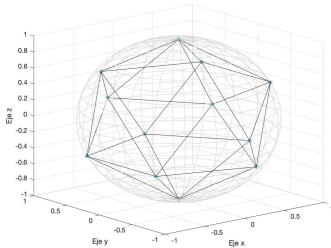
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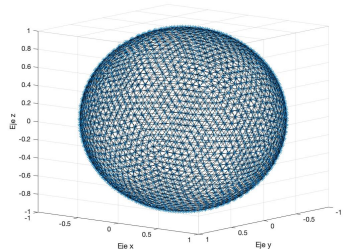
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(g) Icosahedron



(h) Iteration 4

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