

HW2.

1. In the simulation of a standing wave, why does v_x have double wave vector of v_y ?
2. Experiment with the timestep dt in the code, what does dt/dx have to be for stability?
3. Put in an option for a Gaussian initial velocity ($v_{pert} \cdot \exp(-((x(i)-0.5)/w_0)^2)$):
 - a) Why there are left and right going packets?
 - b) If the perturbation velocity is only in the x direction (v_x), show that you get the sound wave solution with the correct sound speed ($\omega/k = V_{sound}$);
 - c) How does the choice of w_0 affect the conservation of energy? Why?
4. Put in a hard-wall perfect conductor boundary condition, simulate the motion of a traveling Alfvénic gaussian wave packet (v_y perturbation only). Show that
 - a) you get the sound wave solution with the correct Alfvén speed;
 - b) the gaussian wave packet reflects off the boundary;
 - c) Energy is conserved.
5. Put in a constant B_{y0} term in the equations, and simulate the fast mode wave (small amplitude v_x sinoidal perturbation), show that you get the wave period based on $V_{fast}^2 = V_{alfven}^2 + V_{sound}^2$
6. What happens if you simulate the Alfvén wave (v_y sinoidal perturbation) for a long time with $\beta = 0$? why? Explain it quantitatively.
7. [Optional, extra credit 20%] Implement the one-step Adams-Bashforth time stepping method and simulate a traveling Alfvén wave packet.