1 Expanding the conservation laws

The conservation laws are given below in terms of $\mu = 1$. For numerical convenience, place a dimensionless μ in front of each \vec{B} appearance and let $\mu = 0$ be plain compressible hydrodynamics.

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

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

$$\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} = \vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{B})$$

$$\frac{\partial E}{\partial t} = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \left((E + P^*) \vec{v} - \vec{B} (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{v}) \right)$$
(1)

where $P^* = (\gamma - 1) \left(E - \rho \frac{v^2}{2} - \frac{B^2}{2} \right) + \frac{B^2}{2}$. Note that $\vec{B}\vec{B}$ is a dyadic tensor $\mathbf{B} = \vec{B}\vec{B}$ such that $\mathbf{B}_{ij} = B_iB_j$. Then the divergence $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \mathbf{B} = \partial^i B_i B_j \hat{e}_j = B_i \partial_i B_j \hat{e}_j = \left(\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla} \right) \vec{B}$. On the other hand, $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \rho \vec{v} \vec{v} = \left(\vec{\nabla} \cdot \rho \vec{v} \right) \vec{v} + (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \rho \vec{v}$ where in general we allow $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \rho \vec{v} \neq 0$.

Some intermediate steps: $\vec{\nabla} \cdot (\rho \vec{v} \vec{v}) = \frac{\rho \vec{v}}{\rho} \cdot \vec{\nabla} (\rho \vec{v})$. Additionally, $\vec{\nabla} \times (\vec{v} \times \vec{B}) = (\vec{B} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{v} - (\vec{v} \cdot \vec{\nabla}) \vec{B} - \vec{B} (\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{v})$ since only $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$.

Construct the vector field $\vec{u}(x,y,z)$ where $\vec{u}=(\rho,\rho v_x,\rho v_y,\rho v_z,B_x,B_y,B_z,E)$ and assume we have point-by-point cached values of $-(E+P^*)\vec{v}+\vec{B}(\vec{B}\cdot\vec{v})=EPmDV_i$ (along with P^* , four values), then we can represent these evolution equations as (two lines b/c too damn long)

$$\frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial u_3}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial u_4}{\partial z} - \frac{\partial u_2}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial P^*}{\partial x$$

Note that all derivatives are given by the expression $\frac{\partial f_{x,y,z}}{\partial x} = \frac{f_{x+1,y,z} - f_{x-1,y,z}}{2 dx}$, which is the slope of the extrapolated quadratic fit between points (x+1,y,z), (x,y,z), (x-1,y,z), unless we are at a boundary, in which case we simply take $\frac{f_{x+1,y,z} - f_{x,y,z}}{dx}$ for instance.

Lastly, let's compute the components for P^* , EPmDV and obtain

$$u_9 = P^* = (\gamma - 1) \left(u_8 - \frac{u_2^2 + u_3^2 + u_4^2}{2u_1} + \frac{u_5^2 + u_6^2 + u_7^2}{2} \right)$$
 (3)

$$\begin{pmatrix} u_{10} \\ u_{11} \\ u_{12} \end{pmatrix} = EPmDV = \begin{pmatrix} -(u_8 + u_9)u_2 + u_5(u_2u_5 + u_3u_6 + u_4u_7) \\ -(u_8 + u_9)u_3 + u_6(u_2u_5 + u_3u_6 + u_4u_7) \\ -(u_8 + u_9)u_4 + u_7(u_2u_5 + u_3u_6 + u_4u_7) \end{pmatrix}$$
(4)

1.1 Divergence-free

The condition $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{B} = 0$ must always be maintained for physical results. While this is theoretically enforced in the continuous limit since the divergence of a curl is zero and $\frac{\partial \vec{B}}{\partial t} \propto \vec{\nabla} \times (\dots)$, this is not enforced to machine precision upon discretization, and manual treatment should be effected. We do not in this present iteration of the code.

2 Numerics Considerations

• Runge-Kutta takes the entire $12L^3$ size \vec{u} (including the $EPmDV_i, P^*$ variables) and updates it at once by computing a $d\vec{u}$. This requires three temporary arrays before obtaining $d\vec{u}$. Since this is evolving the entire array forward at each timestep, we require 4N operations to move forward a timestep, the same as if we run R-K at each point individually (fixing all other points on the grid constant) just requiring more space. However, the upshot is that we require storing updates to the whole grid to compute $d\vec{u}$ accurately using R-K, while using something like Euler we don't need temporary values and can ignore updates to the grid with no accuracy penalty.

GPU optimizations must be considered. Since GPU-side storage is limited and computing all these temporary arrays seems slow, it would seem that some local approximation to the R-K at each pixel would be preferable. While this loses some accuracy and actually requires at least as many operations, it may be preferred for its decreased memory footprint.