
Computational Astrophysics 3

Hyperbolic Systems of Conservation Laws

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Outline

- The Euler equations
- Systems of conservation laws
- The advection equation
- Linear systems and hyperbolic systems
- The Bürger's equation
- Riemann invariants
- Shock relations
- The Riemann problem

The Euler equations in conservative form

A system of 3 conservation laws

$$\partial_t \rho + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{m} = 0$$

$$\partial_t \mathbf{m} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{u} \times \mathbf{u}) + \partial_x P = 0$$

$$\partial_t E + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}(E + P) = 0$$

The vector of **conservative variables** (ρ, \mathbf{m}, E)

The Euler equations in primitive form

A non-linear system of PDE (quasi-linear form)

$$\partial_t \rho + u \partial_x \rho + \rho \partial_x u = 0$$

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u + \frac{1}{\rho} \partial_x P = 0$$

$$\partial_t P + u \partial_x P + \gamma P \partial_x u = 0$$

The vector of ***primitive variables*** (ρ, \mathbf{u}, P)

We restrict our analysis to perfect gases $P = (\gamma - 1)\rho\epsilon$

The isothermal Euler equations

Conservative form with conservative variables $\mathbf{U} = (\rho, m)$

$$\partial_t \rho + \partial_x m = 0$$

$$\partial_t m + \partial_x (\rho u^2 + \rho a^2) = 0$$

Primitive form with primitive variables $\mathbf{W} = (\rho, u)$

$$\partial_t \rho + u \partial_x \rho + \rho \partial_x u = 0$$

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u + \frac{a^2}{\rho} \partial_x \rho = 0$$

a is the isothermal sound speed

Systems of conservation laws

General system of conservation laws with \mathbf{F} flux vector.

$$\partial_t \mathbf{U} + \partial_x \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{U}) = 0$$

Examples:

1- Isothermal Euler equations $\mathbf{U} = (\rho, m)$

$$\mathbf{F} = (u\rho, um + \rho a^2)$$

2- Euler equation $\mathbf{U} = (\rho, m, E)$

$$\mathbf{F} = (u\rho, um + P, u(E + P))$$

3- Ideal MHD equations $\mathbf{U} = (\rho, m_x, m_y, m_z, E, B_x, B_y, B_z)$

$$\mathbf{F} = (v_x \rho, v_x m_x + P_{tot} - B_x^2, v_x m_y - B_x B_y, v_x m_z - B_x B_z, \\ 0, v_x B_y - v_y B_x, v_x B_z - v_z B_x)$$

Primitive variables and quasi-linear form

We define the Jacobian of the flux function as: $\mathbf{J}(\mathbf{U}) = \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$

The system writes in the quasi-linear (non-conservative) form

$$\partial_t \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{J} \partial_x \mathbf{U} = 0$$

We define the primitive variables $\mathbf{W}(\mathbf{U})$
and the Jacobian of the transformation $\mathbf{P} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{W}}{\partial \mathbf{U}}$

The system writes in the primitive (non-conservative) form

$$\partial_t \mathbf{W} + \mathbf{A} \partial_x \mathbf{W} = 0$$

The matrix \mathbf{A} is obtained by $\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P} \mathbf{J} \mathbf{P}^{-1}$

The system is *hyperbolic* if \mathbf{A} or \mathbf{J} have positive eigenvalues.

The advection equation

Scalar (one variable) linear ($u=\text{constant}$)
partial differential equation (PDE)

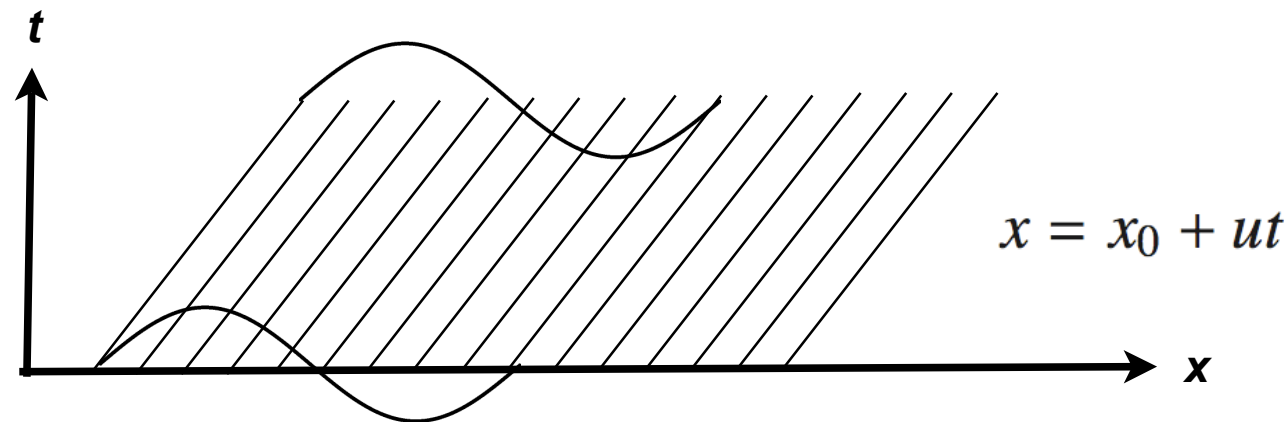
$$\partial_t \rho + u \partial_x \rho = 0$$

Initial conditions: $\rho(x, t = 0) = \rho_0(x)$

Define the function: $\mathcal{I}(t) = \rho(x_0 + ut, t)$

Using the *chain rule*, we have: $\partial_t \mathcal{I} = u \partial_x \rho + \partial_t \rho = 0$

ρ is a **Riemann Invariant** along the **characteristic curves** defined by u



The isothermal wave equation

We linearize the isothermal Euler equation around some equilibrium state.

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{W}_0 + \Delta\mathbf{W}$$

Using the system in primitive form, we get the **linear** system:

$$\partial_t \Delta\mathbf{W} + \mathbf{A}_0 \partial_x \Delta\mathbf{W} = 0$$

where the constant matrix has 2 real eigenvalues and 2 eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{A}_0 = \begin{Bmatrix} u & \rho \\ \frac{a^2}{\rho} & u \end{Bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \lambda^+ &= u + a \\ \lambda^- &= u - a \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta\alpha^+ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta\rho + \rho \frac{\Delta u}{a} \right) \\ \Delta\alpha^- &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta\rho - \rho \frac{\Delta u}{a} \right) \end{aligned}$$

The previous system is equivalent to 2 independent *scalar linear* PDEs.

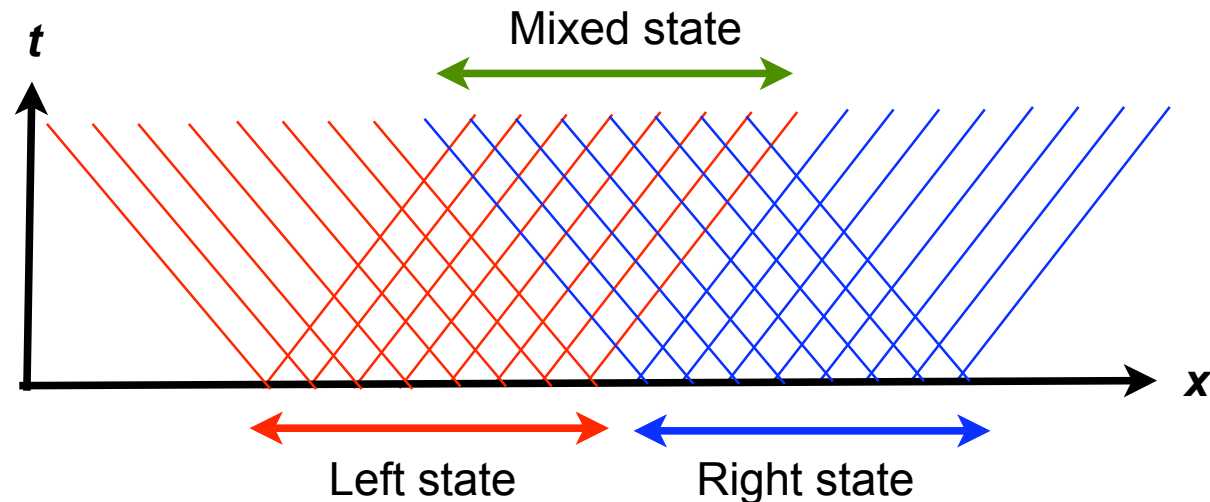
$$\partial_t \Delta\alpha^+ + (u + a) \partial_x \Delta\alpha^+ = 0$$

$$\partial_t \Delta\alpha^- + (u - a) \partial_x \Delta\alpha^- = 0$$

$\Delta\alpha^+$ ($\Delta\alpha^-$) is a Riemann invariant along characteristic curves moving with velocity $u + a$ ($u - a$)

Riemann problem for isothermal waves

Initial conditions are defined by 2 semi-infinite regions with piecewise constant initial states $(\Delta\rho_R, \Delta u_R)$ and $(\Delta\rho_L, \Delta u_L)$



“Star” state is obtained using the 2 Riemann invariants.

$$u - a < \frac{x}{t} < u + a$$

$$\Delta\rho^* = \Delta\alpha_L^+ + \Delta\alpha_R^-$$
$$\Delta u^* = \frac{a}{\rho} (\Delta\alpha_L^+ - \Delta\alpha_R^-)$$

The adiabatic wave equation

$$\mathbf{A_0} = \begin{Bmatrix} u & \rho & 0 \\ 0 & u & \frac{1}{\rho} \\ 0 & \gamma P & u \end{Bmatrix} \quad \begin{aligned} \lambda^+ &= u + a \\ \lambda^0 &= u \\ \lambda^- &= u - a \end{aligned} \quad \begin{aligned} \Delta\alpha^+ &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\Delta P}{a^2} + \rho \frac{\Delta u}{a} \right) \\ \Delta\alpha^0 &= \Delta\rho - \frac{\Delta P}{a^2} \\ \Delta\alpha^- &= \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\Delta P}{a^2} - \rho \frac{\Delta u}{a} \right) \end{aligned}$$

We define the adiabatic sound speed: $a^2 = \gamma \frac{P}{\rho}$

The system is equivalent to the 3 independent scalar PDEs:

$$\partial_t \Delta\alpha^+ + (u + a) \partial_x \Delta\alpha^+ = 0$$

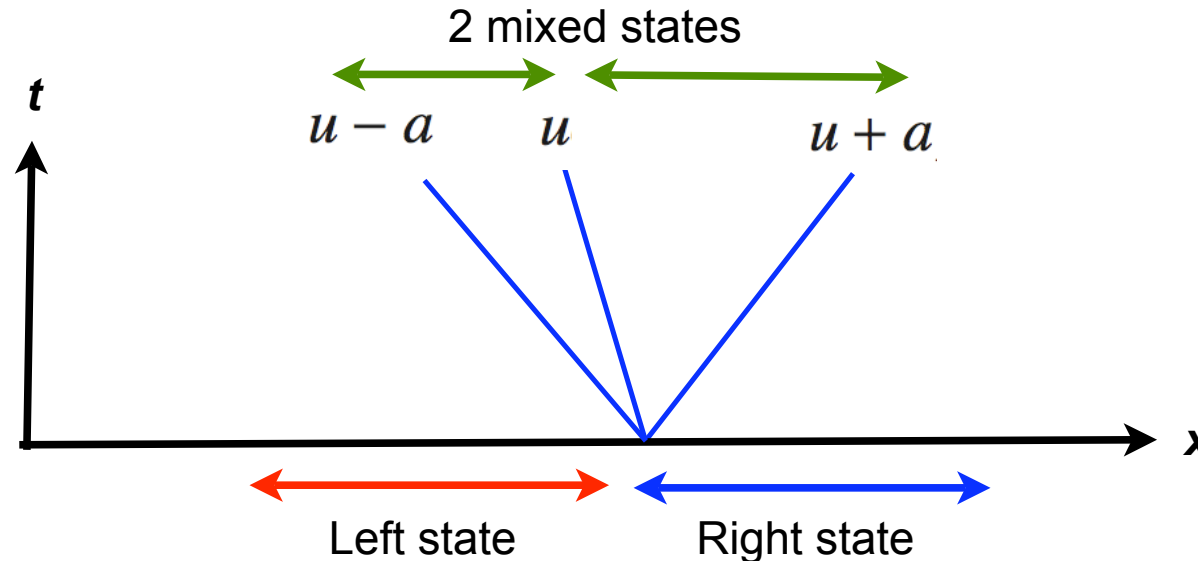
$$\partial_t \Delta\alpha^0 + u \partial_x \Delta\alpha^0 = 0$$

$$\partial_t \Delta\alpha^- + (u - a) \partial_x \Delta\alpha^- = 0$$

$\Delta\alpha^+$, $\Delta\alpha^-$ and $\Delta\alpha^0$ are 3 Riemann invariants along characteristic curves moving with velocity $u + a$, $u - a$ and u .

Riemann problem for adiabatic waves

Initial conditions are defined by 2 semi-infinite regions with piecewise constant initial states $(\Delta\rho_R, \Delta u_R, \Delta P_R)$ and $(\Delta\rho_L, \Delta u_L, \Delta P_L)$.



Left “star” state: $(-, 0, +) = (L, R, R)$ and right “star” state: $(-, 0, +) = (L, L, R)$.

$$\Delta u_{L,R}^* = \frac{a}{\rho} (\Delta \alpha_L^+ - \Delta \alpha_R^-) \quad \Delta \rho_R^* = \Delta \alpha_L^+ + \Delta \alpha_R^0 + \Delta \alpha_R^-$$

$$\Delta P_{L,R}^* = \frac{a}{\rho} (\Delta \alpha_L^+ + \Delta \alpha_R^-) \quad \Delta \rho_L^* = \Delta \alpha_L^+ + \Delta \alpha_L^0 + \Delta \alpha_R^-$$

The Bürger's equation

Scalar non-linear PDE $\partial_t u + u \partial_x u = 0$ with initial data $u(x, t = 0) = u_0(x)$

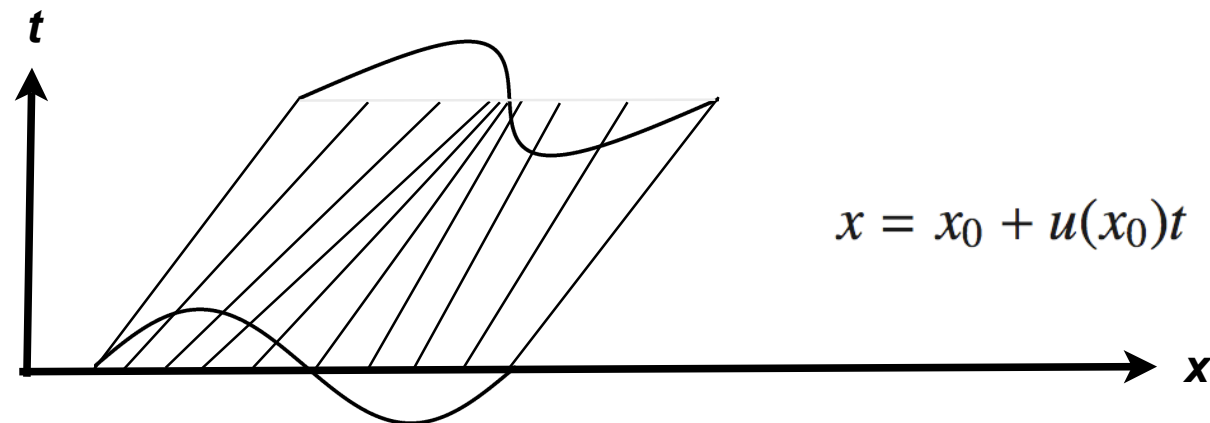
Isothermal Euler equation with vanishing sound speed ($a=0$)

Bürger's equation in conservative form $\partial_t u + \partial_x \frac{u^2}{2} = 0$

Characteristic curve $x(t)$ defined by $x'(t) = u(x(t), t)$

Defining $\mathcal{I}(t) = u(x(t), t)$, we have $\mathcal{I}'(t) = x'(t) \partial_x u + \partial_t u = 0$

$\mathcal{I}(t) = u_0(x)$ is a **Riemann Invariant** along **characteristic lines**.



Shock formation

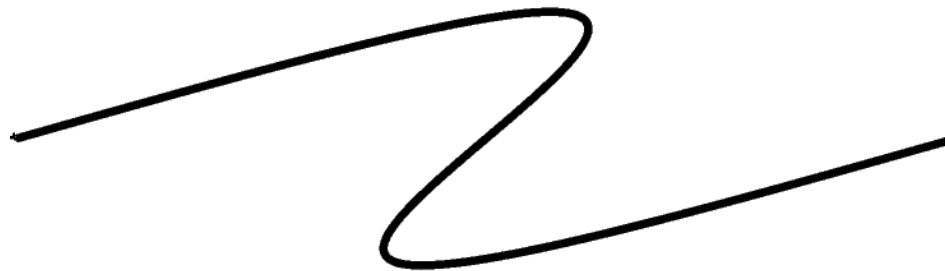
Implicit solution: $u(x, t) = u_0(x - u(x, t)t)$

$$\partial_t u = u'_0(x_0) (-u(x, t) - t \partial_t u) \quad \text{gives} \quad \partial_t u = \frac{-u(x, t) u'_0(x_0)}{1 + t u'_0}$$

Solution diverges at finite time $T = -\frac{1}{\min u'_0}$

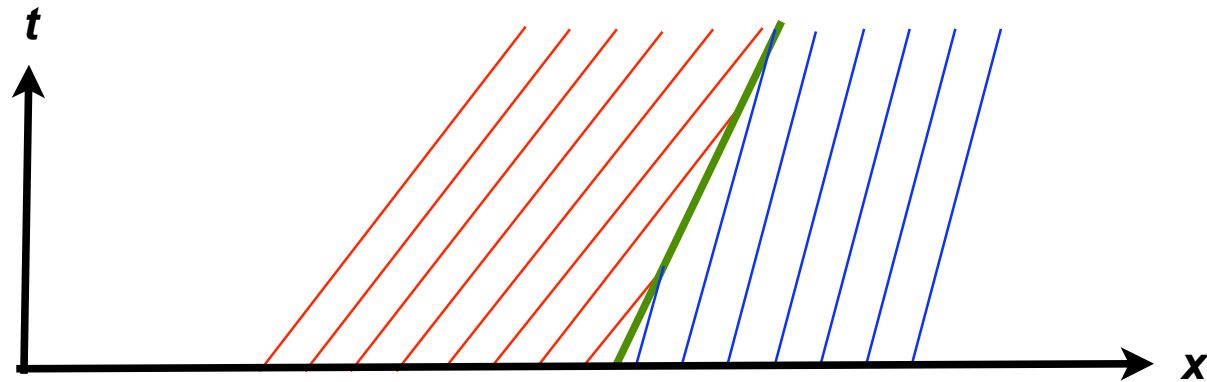
Discontinuities appear in the flow; uniqueness of the solution is lost.

Search for *weak solutions* of the flow with an *entropy condition*.



Riemann problem for Bürger's equation

Initial conditions are defined by 2 semi-infinite regions with piecewise constant initial states u_R and u_L .

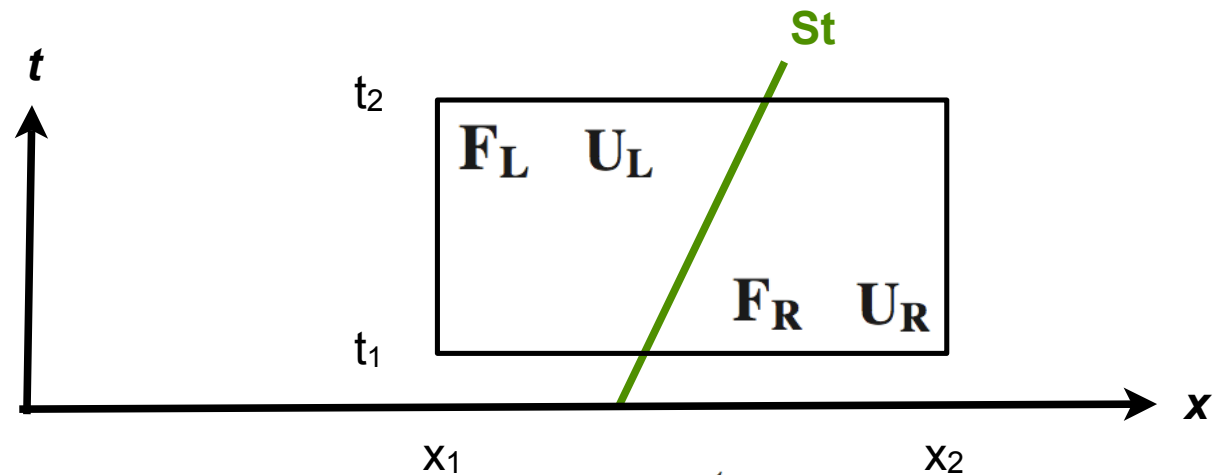


Case 1: $u_L > u_R$

Formation of a shock with velocity $S = \frac{u_L + u_R}{2}$

Solution: If $x < S t$ then $u(x, t) = u_L$ else $u(x, t) = u_R$

Shock speed and the Rankine-Hugoniot relation



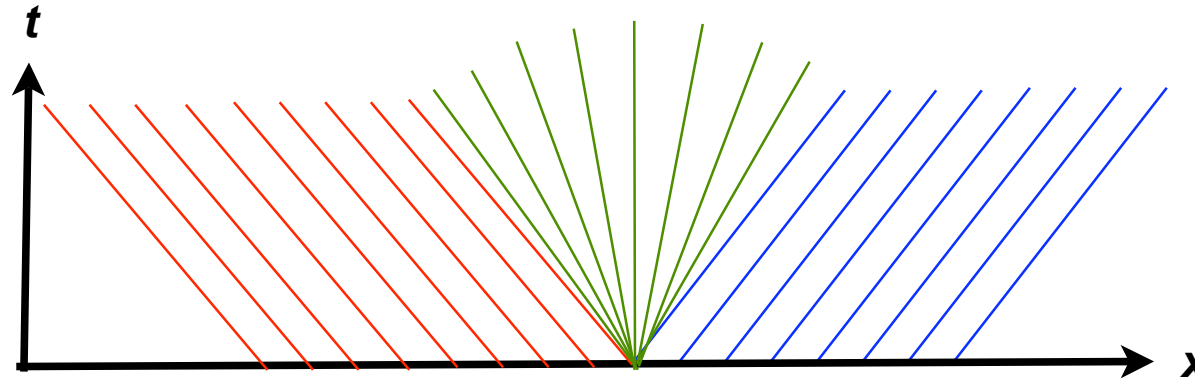
Integral form of the conservation law $\int_{t_1}^{t_2} \int_{x_1}^{x_2} (\partial_t \mathbf{U} + \partial_x \mathbf{F}) dx dt = 0$

$$\int_{x_1}^{x_2} \mathbf{U}(t_2) dx - \int_{x_1}^{x_2} \mathbf{U}(t_1) dx + \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathbf{F}(x_2) dt - \int_{t_1}^{t_2} \mathbf{F}(x_1) dt = 0$$

Shock relation: $\mathbf{F}_R - \mathbf{F}_L = S (\mathbf{U}_R - \mathbf{U}_L)$

Bürger's equation: $\frac{u_R^2}{2} - \frac{u_L^2}{2} = S (u_R - u_L)$ gives $S = \frac{u_R + u_L}{2}$

Rarefaction wave



Case 2: $u_L < u_R$

Characteristics are diverging: a rarefaction wave fills the gap.

Solution: If $x < u_L t$ then $u(x, t) = u_L$
If $u_L t < x < u_R t$ then $u(x, t) = \frac{x}{t}$
If $x > u_R t$ then $u(x, t) = u_R$

Another solution: a rarefaction shock ?

Vanishing viscosity solution

We know from kinetic theory that the Euler equations are derived under the LTE approximation: viscosity and conductivity are first-order non-LTE effects.

Goal: solve Bürger's equation with viscosity source term.

The entropy solution is the solution with $\nu \rightarrow 0$

$$\partial_t u + u \partial_x u = \nu \partial_x^2 u$$

Hopf-Cole transform: $u = -2\nu \frac{\partial_x \Phi}{\Phi}$ we get $\partial_t \Phi = \nu \partial_x^2 \Phi$

Solution of the heat transfer equation $\Phi(x, t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Phi_0(y) \exp\left[-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4\nu t}\right] dy$

with initial condition $\Phi_0(y) = \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\nu} \int_0^y u_0(z) dz\right]$

We finally get the viscosity solution $u(x, t) = \frac{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \frac{x-y}{t} \Phi_0(y) \exp\left[-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4\nu t}\right] dy}{\int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} \Phi_0(y) \exp\left[-\frac{(x-y)^2}{4\nu t}\right] dy}$

Riemann problem for vanishing viscosity

Initial conditions are defined by 2 semi-infinite regions with piecewise constant initial states u_R and u_L .

$$\text{For } y < 0: \Phi_0(y) = \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\nu}u_L y\right] \text{ and for } y > 0: \Phi_0(y) = \exp\left[-\frac{1}{2\nu}u_R y\right]$$

When $\nu \rightarrow 0$, the Gaussian converges towards a delta-function and the viscosity solution converges towards $\frac{x - y_{max}}{t}$

where y_{max} is the position of the minimum of the function defined by:

$$\text{For } y < 0 \quad \frac{(y - x)^2}{2t} + u_L y \quad \text{and for } y > 0 \quad \frac{(y - x)^2}{2t} + u_R y$$

Exercise: show that the vanishing-viscosity solution is unique, and is either a compression shock or a rarefaction wave.

Riemann invariants for propagating waves

Define the 3 differential forms:

$$d\mathcal{I}^+ = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{dP}{a^2} + \rho \frac{du}{a} \right) \quad d\mathcal{I}^- = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{dP}{a^2} - \rho \frac{du}{a} \right) \quad d\mathcal{I}^0 = d\rho - \frac{dP}{a^2}$$

These are Riemann invariants along the characteristic curves $(u+a, u-a, u)$

Exercise: using $dP = \partial_t P + (u + a)\partial_x P$ and the Euler system in primitive form, show that the previous forms are invariants along their characteristic curve.

Right-going waves satisfy

$$d\mathcal{I}^- = d\mathcal{I}^0 = 0$$

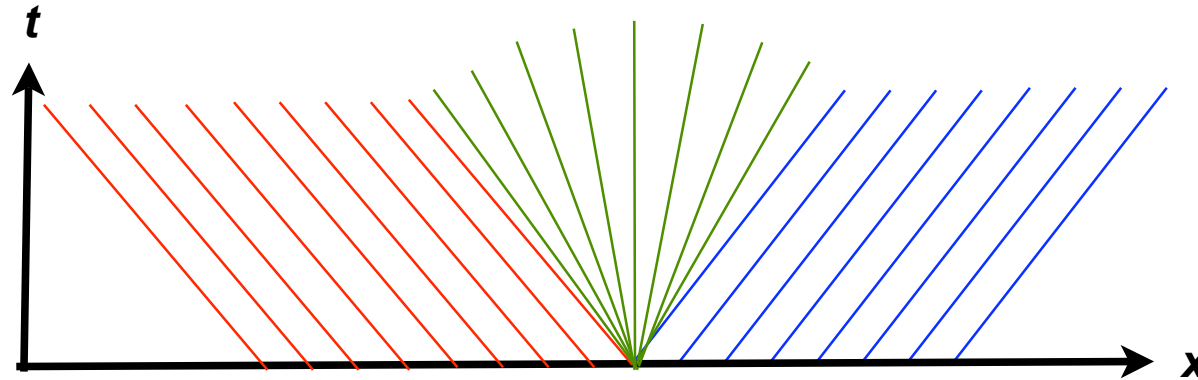
Left-going waves satisfy

$$d\mathcal{I}^+ = d\mathcal{I}^0 = 0$$

Entropy waves satisfy

$$d\mathcal{I}^+ = d\mathcal{I}^- = 0$$

Left-going rarefaction wave



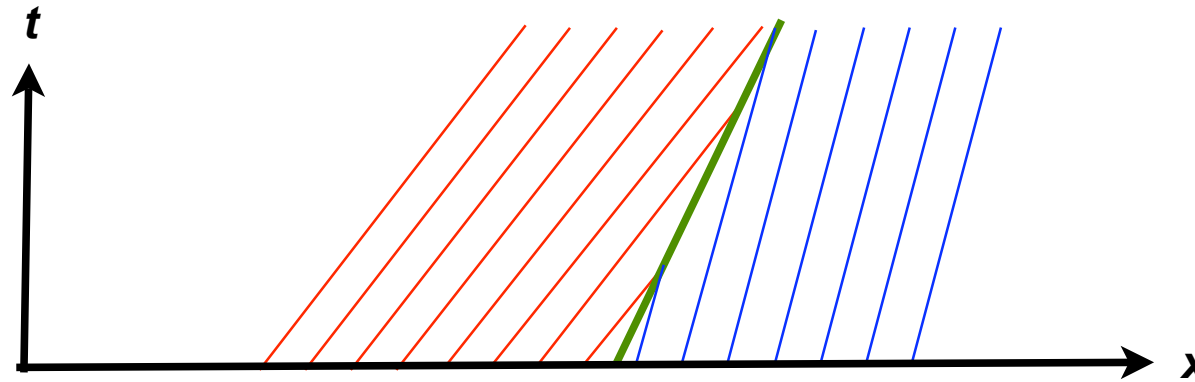
The entropy is conserved across the fan

$$P(x, t) = P_L \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_L} \right)^\gamma \quad a(x, t) = a_L \left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_L} \right)^{\frac{\gamma-1}{2}}$$

$$d\mathcal{I}^+ = 0 \text{ across the fan, which gives } u + \frac{2a}{\gamma-1} = \text{constant}$$

$$\text{Writing } x = (u - a)t \text{ we get } u(x, t) = \frac{2}{\gamma+1} \left(\frac{x}{t} + \frac{\gamma-1}{2} u_L + a_L \right)$$

Right-going shock wave



Because we have a discontinuity, Riemann invariants are not valid anymore:
we use Rankine-Hugoniot shock relations

$$\rho_L u_L - \rho_R u_R = S(\rho_L - \rho_R)$$

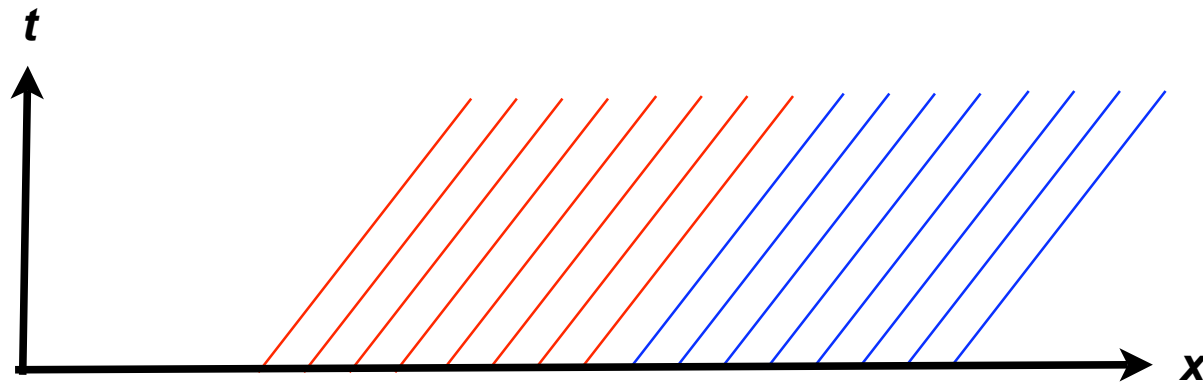
$$\rho_L u_L^2 + P_L - \rho_R u_R^2 - P_R = S(\rho_L u_L - \rho_R u_R)$$

$$(E_L + P_L)u_L - (E_R + P_R)u_R = S(E_L - E_R)$$

One parameter (shock speed) family, fully specified by the right-state.

Exercise: show that for a stationary shock, we get $m = \rho_R u_R = \text{constant}$
and $m(u_L - u_R) + (P_L - P_R) = 0$

Contact discontinuity



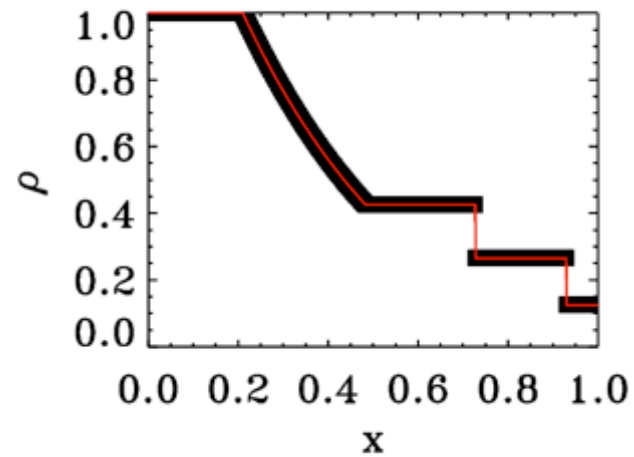
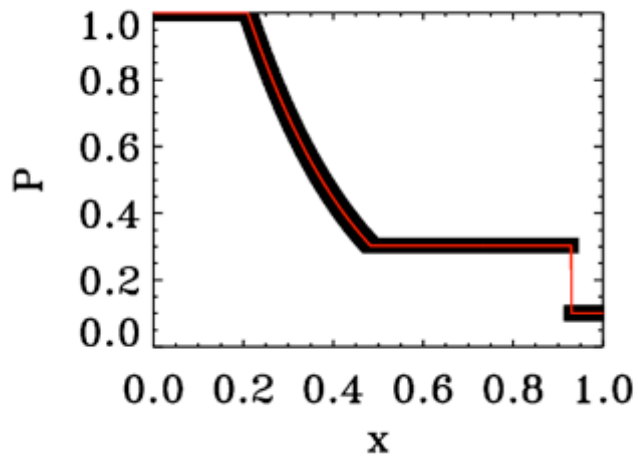
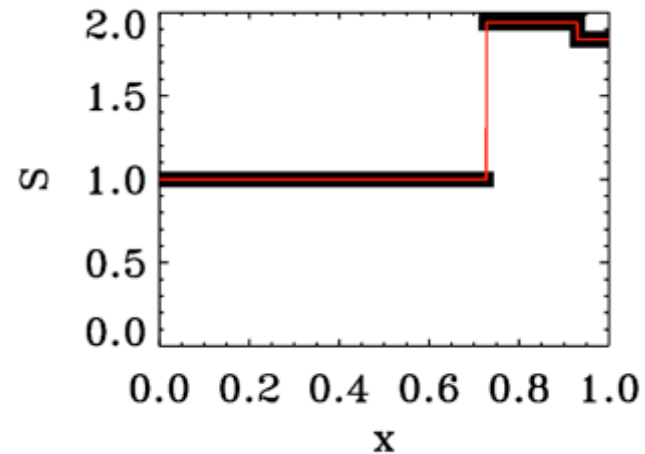
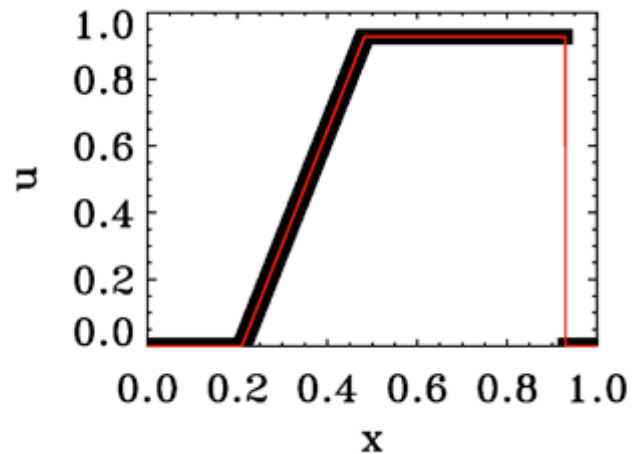
Both Riemann invariants and Rankine-Hugoniot relations gives:

$$P_L = P_R \quad u_L = u_R \quad \text{but} \quad \rho_L \neq \rho_R$$

Characteristic are moving parallel to each other.

The Sod shock tube

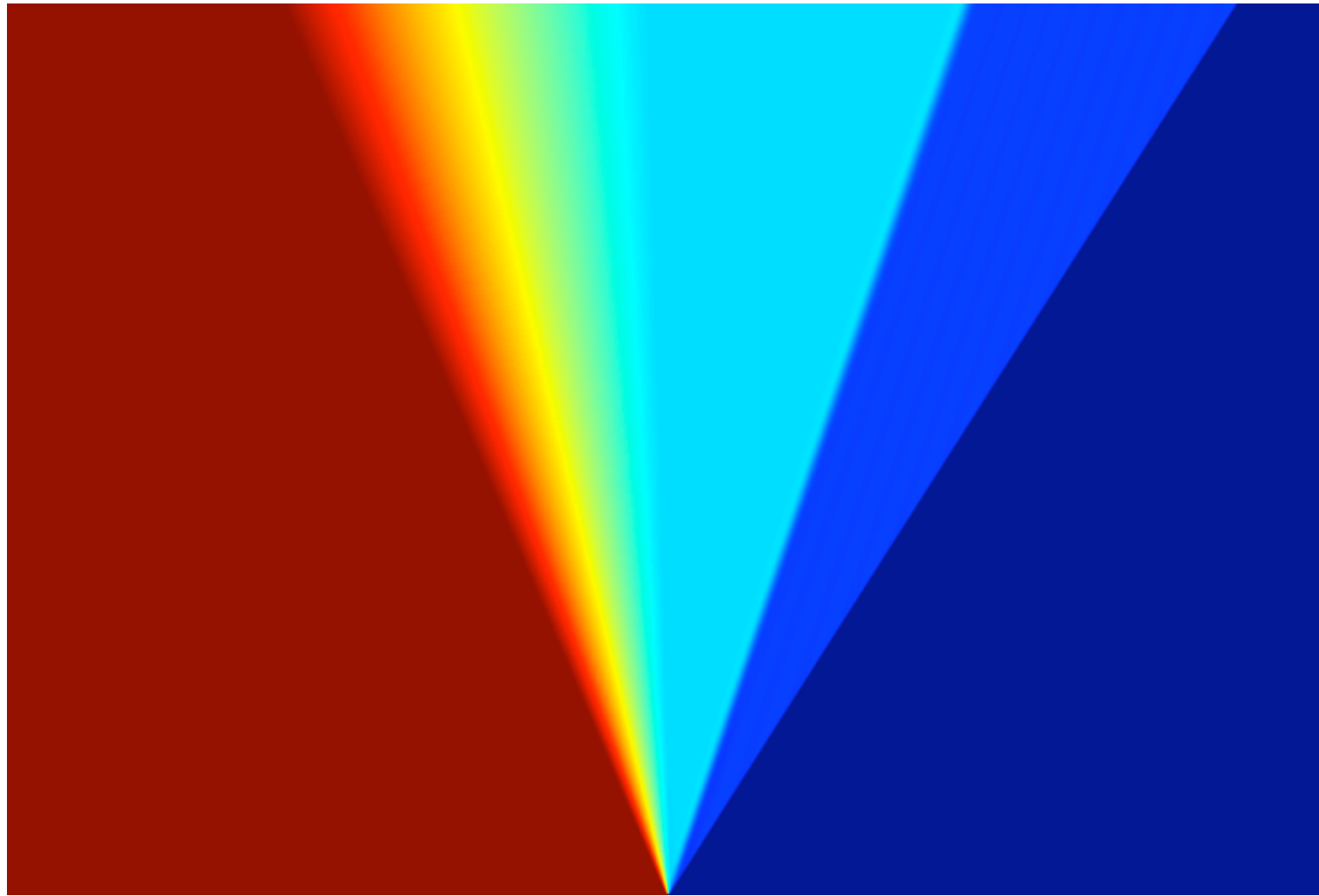
Analytical solution: we match the pressure and the velocity at the tip of the rarefaction wave with the pressure and velocity after the shock. (P_*, u_*)



The Sod shock tube

time

Space-time diagram of mass density



position

Conclusion

- Hyperbolic systems of conservation laws
- Propagation of waves and formation of shocks
- Vanishing-viscosity solution and weak solutions
- Exact solutions to various Riemann problems

Next lecture: Hydrodynamics 3

Exact solution to the Riemann problem are used to design numerical schemes.

Fundamental property: self-similarity with respect to variable x/t

Toro, E.F., “Riemann Solvers and Numerical Methods for Fluid Dynamics: A Practical Introduction”, 2nd Edition, Springer