

18 Gudonov scheme

We recall that the cell averages and flux averages

$$\bar{U}_j^n = \frac{1}{h} \int_{x_{j-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{j+\frac{1}{2}}} u(x, t^n) dx$$

$$\bar{F}_{j+\frac{1}{2}}^n = \frac{1}{k} \int_{t^n}^{t^{n+1}} f(x_{j+\frac{1}{2}}, t) dt$$

satisfy the "numerical" formula

$$\bar{U}_j^{n+1} = \bar{U}_j^n + \frac{k}{h} \left(\bar{F}_{j+\frac{1}{2}}^n - \bar{F}_{j-\frac{1}{2}}^n \right)$$

No numerical approximation yet whatsoever.
Generally not computable.

But you use this as a starting point to develop a numerical scheme, as we replace exact quantities by approximations.

#1

Suppose we have $\bar{U}_j^n$. We define a polynomial p_j of degree $p+q$ by setting

$$\frac{1}{h} \int_{x_{l-\frac{1}{2}}}^{x_{l+\frac{1}{2}}} p_j(x) dx = \bar{U}_l^n \quad l = j-p, \dots, j+q$$

$$x_{l-\frac{1}{2}}$$

Most simple choice: $p = q = 0$

$$p_j = \bar{u}_j^n \quad l=j$$

#2 We define the Riemann problem

$$\partial_t u + \partial_x F(u) = 0$$

⊛

$$u_0(x) = \begin{cases} p_{j-1}(x_{j-\frac{1}{2}}) & x < x_{j-\frac{1}{2}} \\ p_j(x_{j-\frac{1}{2}}) & x > x_{j-\frac{1}{2}} \end{cases}$$

#3 Whatever emerges from the discontinuity at $x_{j-\frac{1}{2}}$ will not reach the neighboring interval boundaries if

$$k|f'| < h$$

$$\frac{k}{h}|f'| < 1$$

#4 Solve the local Riemann problem **exactly** and integrate **exactly**

$$\bar{F}_{j+\frac{1}{2}}^n := \int_{t^n}^{t^{n+k}} f(u(x_{j+\frac{1}{2}}, t)) dt$$

Thus we can perform the time-step.

:-) Only approximation at the very beginning

:-(Not computable unless in special cases

A compromise is to solve + integrate approximately.