



# AE/ME 339 Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD)

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topic20\_Burger's\_Equation

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Computational Fluid Dynamics (AE/ME 339)

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### Burger's Equation

(Ref. Tannehill, Anderson and Pletcher, *Computational Fluid Mechanics and Heat Transfer*, Sect. 4.4, 1997)

It is a model equation used to test finite difference techniques

Inviscid and viscous forms can be used

Has a time dependent term, non-linear term similar to the convection term, and a viscous dissipation term

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}}_{\text{time-dependent term}} + u \underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}}_{\text{convection term}} = \nu \underbrace{\frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}}_{\text{viscous diffusion term}} \dots\dots(1)$$

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Equation (1) is parabolic when the viscous dissipation term is included. When the RHS term = 0, the equation is hyperbolic, which gives the following inviscid form.

Inviscid form

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}}_{\text{time-dependent term}} + u \underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}}_{\text{convection term}} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (2)$$

Equation 2 can be thought of as the non-linear wave equation, where each point on the wave can propagate with a different speed leading to the formation of shock waves.

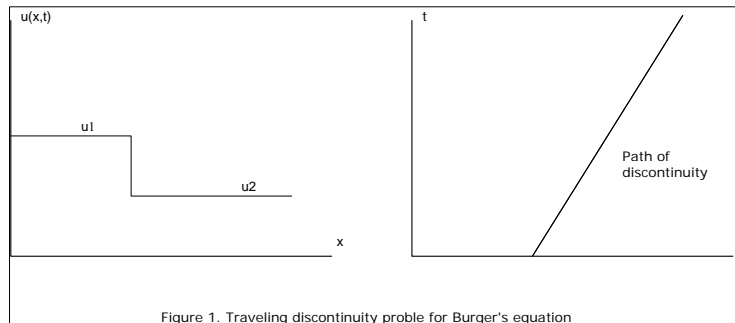
Shock formation is a non-linear phenomenon.

Linear wave equation

$$\underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial t}}_{\text{time-dependent term}} + a \underbrace{\frac{\partial u}{\partial x}}_{\text{convection term}} = 0 \dots \dots \dots (3)$$

Governs propagation of acoustic waves (linearized shock waves) where  $a$  is the constant wave propagation speed (speed of sound)

Traveling Discontinuity (shock propagation)  
Problem for Burger's Equation.  
Consider the initial data shown below



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It can be shown that the discontinuity travels  
with the speed (Tannehill et al., 1997)

$$u = \frac{dx}{dt} = \frac{u_1 + u_2}{2} \quad (6)$$

See Figure 1 (previous slide).

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Consider a different initial data  $u(x,0)$  shown in Figure 2.

The solution will show centered expansion

The characteristic equation is given by

$$\frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{u} \quad (7)$$

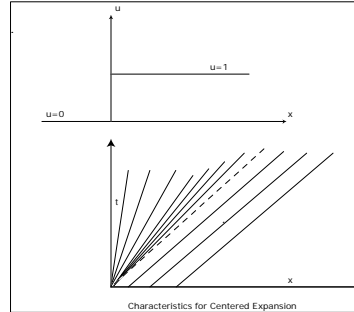


Figure 1.

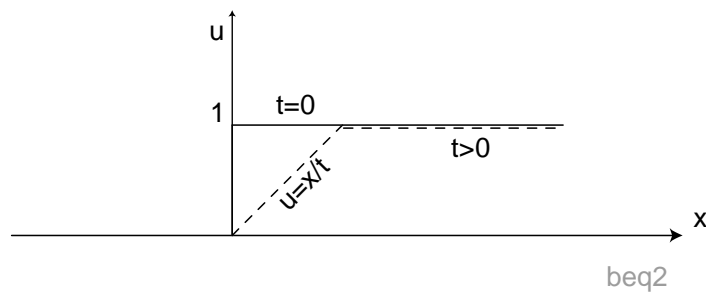
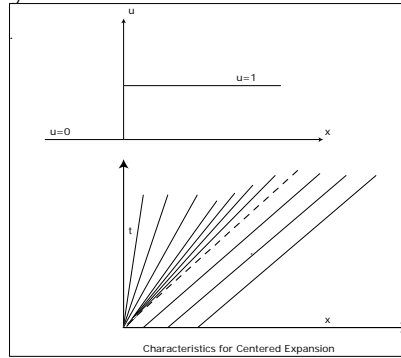


Figure 2. Solution at  $t = 0$  and  $t > 0$

Figure 1 shows the characteristic diagram plotted in the  $(x, t)$  space. Bounded by the  $x = 0$  (vertical) line and the characteristic denoted by the dashed line.



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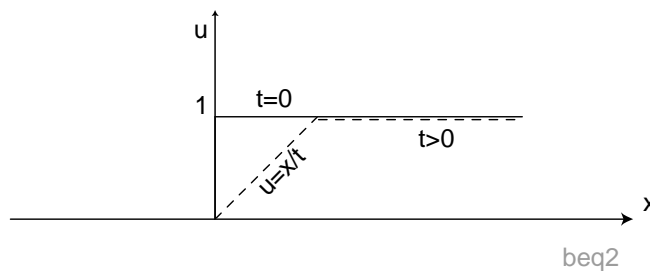
Solution can be written as

$$u = 0 \quad x \leq 0$$

$$u = \frac{x}{t} \quad 0 < x < u_0 t \quad \left(\text{recall: } \frac{dt}{dx} = \frac{1}{u_0}\right)$$

$$u = u_0 \quad x \geq u_0 t$$

Graph showing solution at  $t = 0$  and  $t > 0$



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The initial distribution of  $u$  results in a centered expansion where the width of the expansion grows linearly with time.

The above solutions can now be used to evaluate finite difference algorithms.

## Beam and Warming method Outline

1. Write Taylor series for  $u_j^{n+1}$  about  $u_j^n$  and  $u_j^n$  about  $u_j^{n+1}$
2. Subtract the second from the first
3. Write Taylor Series for  $(u_t)_j^{n+1}$  and substitute in Eq. (10)
4. Replace  $u_t$  with  $-au_x$
5. Use central difference for  $u_x$  on the RHS
6. Drop third order terms

**Beam-Warming Method (Beam and Warming, 1976)**

Let us consider the following equation

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial F(u)}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (3)$$

where  $F = F(u)$

$$\text{Rewrite as } \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + A \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0 \quad (4)$$

$$\text{where } A = \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} \quad (5)$$

Equation (3) could represent a vector

in which case  $A = \frac{\partial F_i}{\partial u_j}$  is the Jacobian matrix

Consider the the following two Taylor series expansions

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n + \Delta t (u_t)_j^n + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} (u_{tt})_j^n + \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{6} (u_{ttt})_j^n + \dots \quad (8)$$

$$u_j^n = u_j^{n+1} - \Delta t (u_t)_j^{n+1} + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} (u_{tt})_j^{n+1} - \frac{(\Delta t)^3}{6} (u_{ttt})_j^{n+1} + \dots \quad (9)$$

Subtract Equation (9) from Equation (8)

$$u_j^{n+1} - u_j^n = u_j^n - u_j^{n+1} + \Delta t \left\{ (u_t)_j^n + (u_t)_j^{n+1} \right\} + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \left\{ (u_{tt})_j^n - (u_{tt})_j^{n+1} \right\} + O[(\Delta t)^3] \quad (10)$$

$(u_u)_j^{n+1}$  can be substituted in Eq. (10) using the following

Taylor series expansion

$$(u_u)_j^{n+1} = (u_u)_j^n + \Delta t (u_{uu})_j^n + \dots \quad (11)$$

Eq. (10) becomes

$$2u_j^{n+1} = 2u_j^n + \Delta t \left\{ (u_t)_j^n + (u_t)_j^{n+1} \right\} + \frac{(\Delta t)^2}{2} \left\{ (u_{tt})_j^n - (u_{tt})_j^{n+1} - \Delta t (u_{ttt})_j^n \right\} + O[(\Delta t)^3] \quad (12)$$

Which reduces to

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left\{ (u_t)_j^n + (u_t)_j^{n+1} \right\} + O[(\Delta t)^3] \quad (13)$$

Now we substitute the wave equation  $u_t = -au_x$  to get the following

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n - \frac{a\Delta t}{2} \left\{ (u_x)_j^n + (u_x)_j^{n+1} \right\} + O[(\Delta t)^3] \quad (14)$$

and now replace the  $u_x$  terms by 2nd order central differences

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n - \frac{a\Delta t}{4} \left\{ (u_x)_{j+1}^n - (u_x)_{j-1}^n + (u_x)_{j+1}^{n+1} - (u_x)_{j-1}^{n+1} \right\} + O[(\Delta t)^3] \quad (15)$$



The method is 2<sup>nd</sup> order accurate ( $\varepsilon = O[(\Delta t)^2, (\Delta x)^2]$ ) and unconditionally stable for all time steps.  
A tridiagonal system must be solved for each time step.

## Summary

1. Write Taylor series for  $u_j^{n+1}$  about  $u_j^n$  and  $u_j^n$  about  $u_j^{n+1}$
2. Subtract the second from the first
3. Write Taylor Series for  $(u_{tt})_j^{n+1}$  and substitute in Eq. (10)
4. Replace  $u_t$  with  $-au_x$
5. Use central difference for  $u_x$  on the RHS
6. Drop third order terms

The Beam-Warming method can now be applied to the inviscid Burger's equation

Substituting in Eq. (14) using Eq. (3) gives

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n - \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left\{ \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)^n + \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)^{n+1} \right\} \quad (15)$$

The above is a non-linear problem since  $F = F(u)$ .

Linearization or iteration is therefore necessary

Beam and Warming (1976) suggested the following

$$F^{n+1} \approx F^n + \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial u} \right)^n (u^{n+1} - u^n) = F^n + A^n (u^{n+1} - u^n) \quad (16)$$

$$u_j^{n+1} = u_j^n - \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left\{ 2 \left( \frac{\partial F}{\partial x} \right)^n + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [A^n (u^{n+1} - u^n)] \right\} \quad (17)$$

Replacing the x-derivatives using 2nd order CD  
would yield the following

$$-\frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} A_{j-1}^n u_{j-1}^{n+1} + u_j^{n+1} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} A_{j+1}^n u_{j+1}^{n+1} =$$

$$-\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \frac{F_{j+1}^n - F_{j-1}^n}{2} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} A_{j-1}^n u_{j-1}^n + u_j^n + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} A_{j+1}^n u_{j+1}^n \quad (18)$$

The Jacobian A has a single element for the Burger's  
equation.

Eq. (18) represents linear tridiagonal system.

Solution by Thomas algorithm is feasible.

Beam and Warming suggests the following  
explicit artificial viscosity term

$$D = -\frac{\omega}{8} (u_{j+2}^n + u_{j+1}^n + u_j^n + u_{j-1}^n + u_{j-2}^n) \quad (19)$$

Recommended values of  $\omega$  lie in the range

$$0 \leq \omega \leq 1$$

### Delta Form

Sometimes it is better to write the equation for change in the variable from time level  $n$  to  $(n+1)$ .

Eq. (18) then becomes

$$-\frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} A_{j-1}^n \Delta u_{j-1}^{n+1} + \Delta u_j^{n+1} + \frac{1}{4} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} A_{j+1}^n \Delta u_{j+1}^{n+1} = -\frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \frac{F_{j+1}^n - F_{j-1}^n}{2} \quad (20)$$

The delta form reduces the number of arithmetic operations since the RHS has only one term.

Also round-off error will be smaller in this case.

## Some Examples

### Solution of Burger's equation

Use MacCormack's method to solve inviscid Burger's equation using a mesh with 51 points in the x-direction. Solve the equation for a right propagating discontinuity with  $u = 1$  at the first 11 nodes and  $u = 0$  at the rest of the nodes.

Use Courant number = 1.

#### Solution

MacCormack's method

$$\bar{u}_j^{n+1} = u_j^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (F_{j+1}^n - F_j^n)$$

$$u_j^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left[ u_j^n + \bar{u}_j^{n+1} - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (\bar{F}_j^n - \bar{F}_{j-1}^n) \right]$$



# ***Program Completed***

***University of Missouri-Rolla***

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