

Adaptive Collocation Schemes for Conservation Laws

Erwan DERIAZ, IJL - CNRS - Université de Lorraine

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When applying adaptive collocation schemes [1] to conservative laws, we face the following problem: how to conserve the circulating quantity? Collocation schemes, as for instance Finite Differences, compute the solution to a partial differential equation through point values. Hence, contrarily to the Finite Volumes schemes, they do not make fluxes appear naturally. And generally they do not ensure the mass conservation.

However, Collocation schemes have the advantage to easily open the way to high order schemes with an adaptive mesh refinement [2, 3], while increasing the order of Finite Volumes inside an adaptive mesh refinement is a very difficult challenge.

If we consider a set of points (x_i) associated to volumes (l_i) containing a quantity (u_i) circulating according to the conservation law

$$\partial_t u + \partial_x(a(x)u) = 0 \quad (1)$$

and discretized in space as

$$\forall i, \quad \partial_t u_i + \frac{1}{l_i} \sum_j \alpha_{ij} a(x_j) u_j = 0, \quad (2)$$

where (α_{ij}) corresponds to p -th order finite differences –for instance, assuming $l_i = h$ for all i , and second order finite differences $\alpha_{i, i+1} = 1/2$, $\alpha_{i, i-1} = -1/2$, this is written:

$$\frac{1}{l_i} \sum_j \alpha_{ij} a(x_j) u_j = \frac{a_{i+1} u_{i+1} - a_{i-1} u_{i-1}}{2h},$$

then we are able to derive conditions on (x_i, l_i) which guaranty both the mass conservation and the order of the scheme.

The interpolation schemes used in an adaptive mesh refinement enforce the values of volumes (l_i) . And a second result shows that, given a q -th order interpolation scheme, it is possible to provide a $(q - 1)$ -th order conservative collocation scheme.

Applications to Plasma Physics and Astrophysics simulations illustrate this approach.

Références

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