

# Clawpack Tutorial Part I

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Conservation Laws Package

[www.clawpack.org](http://www.clawpack.org)

(pdf's will be posted and [green links](#) can be clicked)

# Some collaborators

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Jan Olav Langseth, FFI, Oslo  
David George, USGS CVO  
Donna Calhoun, CEA, Paris  
Christiane Helzel, Bochum  
David Ketcheson, KAUST  
Sorin Mitran, UNC

## Current students:

Kyle Mandli (PyClaw, GeoClaw, storm surges)  
Jonathan Claridge (Implicit AMR)  
Grady Lemoine (Cut cells, bone modeling)  
Jihwan Kim (multi-layer, submarine landslides)

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# Outline

## Monday:

- Overview of Clawpack software
- What are hyperbolic problems?
- Finite volume methods
- Riemann problems and Godunov's method
- Downloading and installing
- Running and plotting

## Tuesday:

- Specifying boundary conditions
- Riemann solvers
- Limiters

## Wednesday:

- Plotting with the Python modules
- Multidimensional, Adaptive mesh refinement

# Options for using Clawpack

- 1 Use IMA computers platinum, carbon, or tan.  
Install from tar file or Subversion: **Instructions**.
- 2 Install on your own computer.  
Requires some **prerequisites**: Fortran, Python modules.
- 3 Use the **VirtualClaw** virtual machine.
- 4 For some applications, use **EagleClaw**  
(Easy Access Graphical Laboratory for Exploring  
Conservation Laws)

Also perhaps useful:

**Class notes** on Python, Fortran, version control, etc.

# First order hyperbolic PDE in 1 space dimension

**Linear:**  $q_t + Aq_x = 0$ ,  $q(x, t) \in \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}$

**Conservation law:**  $q_t + f(q)_x = 0$ ,  $f : \mathbb{R}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^m$  (flux)

**Quasilinear form:**  $q_t + f'(q)q_x = 0$

**Hyperbolic** if  $A$  or  $f'(q)$  is diagonalizable with real eigenvalues.

Models wave motion or advective transport.

**Eigenvalues** are wave speeds.

Note: Second order wave equation  $p_{tt} = c^2 p_{xx}$  can be written as a first-order system (acoustics).

# Some applications where CLAWPACK has been used

- Aerodynamics, supersonic flows
- Seismic waves, tsunamis, flow on the sphere
- Volcanic flows, dusty gas jets, pyroclastic surges
- Ultrasound, lithotripsy, shock wave therapy
- Plasticity, nonlinear elasticity
- Chemotaxis and pattern formation
- Semiconductor modeling
- Multi-fluids, multi-phase flows, bubbly flow
- Combustion, detonation waves
- Astrophysics: binary stars, planetary nebulae, jets,
- Magnetohydrodynamics, plasmas, relativistic flow
- Numerical relativity — gravitational waves, cosmology

# Finite differences vs. finite volumes

## Finite difference Methods

- Pointwise values  $Q_i^n \approx q(x_i, t_n)$
- Approximate derivatives by finite differences
- Assumes smoothness

## Finite volume Methods

- Approximate cell averages:  $Q_i^n \approx \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} q(x, t_n) dx$
- Integral form of conservation law,

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \int_{x_{i-1/2}}^{x_{i+1/2}} q(x, t) dx = f(q(x_{i-1/2}, t)) - f(q(x_{i+1/2}, t))$$

leads to conservation law  $q_t + f_x = 0$  but also directly to numerical method.

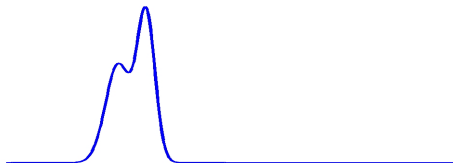
# Advection equation

$u = \text{constant flow velocity}$

$q(x, t) = \text{tracer concentration}, \quad f(q) = uq$

$$\implies q_t + uq_x = 0.$$

True solution:  $q(x, t) = q(x - ut, 0)$





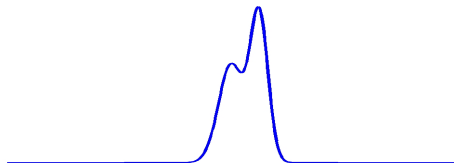
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# The Riemann problem

The **Riemann problem** consists of the hyperbolic equation under study together with initial data of the form

$$q(x, 0) = \begin{cases} q_l & \text{if } x < 0 \\ q_r & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

Piecewise constant with a single jump discontinuity from  $q_l$  to  $q_r$ .

**The Riemann problem is fundamental** to understanding

- The mathematical theory of hyperbolic problems,
- Godunov-type finite volume methods

**Why?** Even for nonlinear systems of conservation laws, the Riemann problem can often be solved for general  $q_l$  and  $q_r$ , and consists of a set of waves propagating at constant speeds.

# The Riemann problem for advection

The **Riemann problem** for the advection equation  $q_t + uq_x = 0$  with

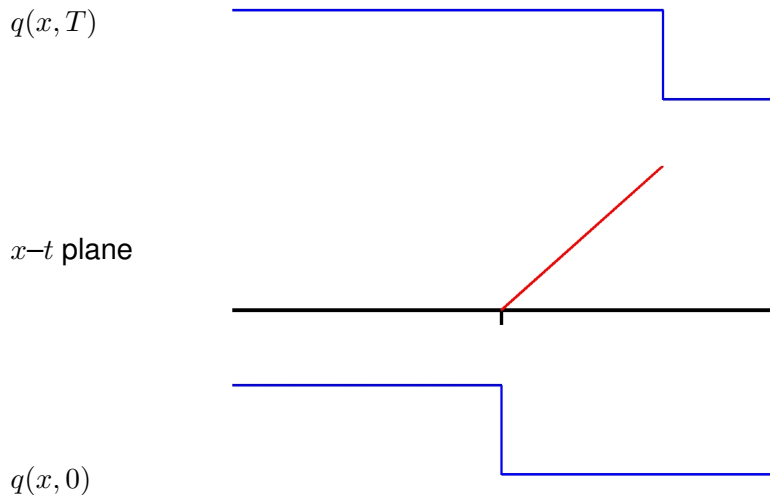
$$q(x, 0) = \begin{cases} q_l & \text{if } x < 0 \\ q_r & \text{if } x \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

has solution

$$q(x, t) = q(x - ut, 0) = \begin{cases} q_l & \text{if } x < ut \\ q_r & \text{if } x \geq ut \end{cases}$$

consisting of a single wave of strength  $\mathcal{W}^1 = q_r - q_l$  propagating with speed  $s^1 = u$ .

# Riemann solution for advection



# Advection examples

- [\\$CLAW/apps/advection/1d/example1/README.html](#)
- **Advection in EagleClaw**

## Example: Linear acoustics in a 1d tube

$$q = \begin{bmatrix} p \\ u \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} p(x, t) = \text{pressure perturbation} \\ u(x, t) = \text{velocity} \end{array}$$

Equations:

$$\begin{array}{ll} p_t + \kappa u_x = 0 & \kappa = \text{bulk modulus} \\ \rho u_t + p_x = 0 & \rho = \text{density} \end{array}$$

or

$$\begin{bmatrix} p \\ u \end{bmatrix}_t + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & \kappa \\ 1/\rho & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} p \\ u \end{bmatrix}_x = 0.$$

Eigenvalues:  $\lambda = \pm c$ , where  $c = \sqrt{\kappa/\rho} = \text{sound speed}$

**Second order form:** Can combine equations to obtain

$$p_{tt} = c^2 p_{xx}$$

# Riemann Problem

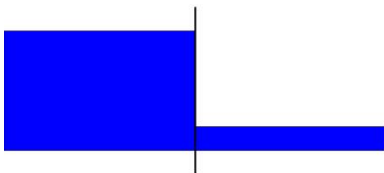
Special initial data:

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**Example:** Acoustics with bursting diaphragm



Pressure:



Acoustic waves propagate with speeds  $\pm c$ .



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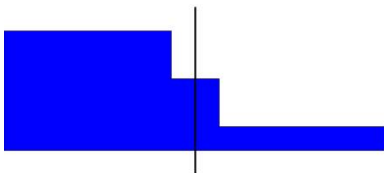
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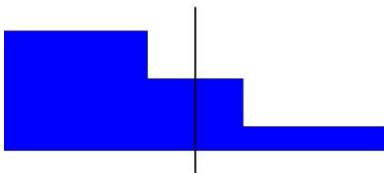
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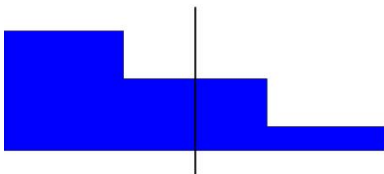
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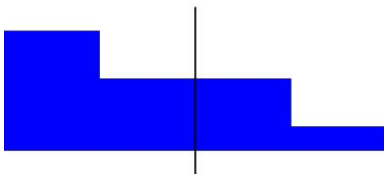
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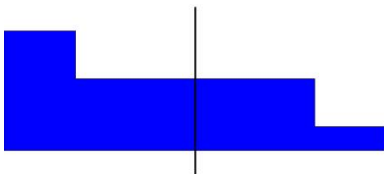
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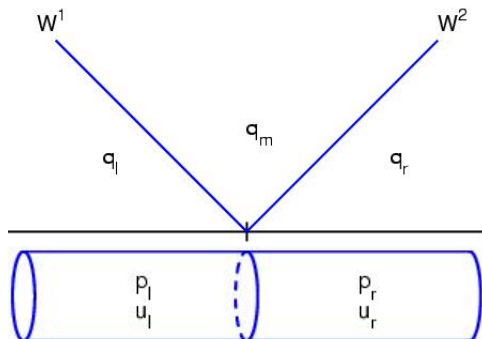
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# Riemann Problem for acoustics

Waves propagating in  $x-t$  space:



Left-going wave  $W^1 = q_m - q_l$  and  
right-going wave  $W^2 = q_r - q_m$  are eigenvectors of  $A$ .

# Acoustics examples

- [\\$CLAW/apps/acoustics/1d/example2/README.html](#)
- **Acoustics in EagleClaw**

- Open source, 1d, 2d, (3d in V4.3, soon to be ported)
- Originally f77 with Matlab graphics (V4.3).
- Now use Python for user interface, graphics
- Adaptive mesh refinement, GeoClaw.
- Coming: OpenMP and MPI.

## User supplies:

- **Riemann solver**, splitting data into waves and speeds  
(Need not be in conservation form)
- **Boundary condition routine** to extend data to ghost cells  
Standard `bc1.f` routine includes many standard BC's
- **Initial conditions** — `qinit.f`
- **Source terms** — `src1.f`



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