Computational Methods for Flow Problems

Problem Set 4

(Out Thu 10/06/2022, Due Tue 10/18/2022)

Problem 4

Consider the Lighthill-Whitham-Richards (LWR) model for traffic flow $\rho_t + f(\rho)_x = 0$, where $f(\rho) = \rho(1-\rho)$ is the Greenshields flux, and initial conditions

$$\rho(x,0) = \begin{cases}
0.3 & x \le 0 \\
0.6 & 0 < x \le 1 \\
0.9 & \text{for} & 1 < x \le 2 \\
0.6 & 2 < x \le 3 \\
0.4 & 3 < x .
\end{cases}$$

a) Use the software *particleclaw*, available on

https://math.temple.edu/~seibold/research/particleclaw/ to solve the LWR problem given above. Email your program yourfamilyname_problem4a.m (that can be run together with the *particleclaw* solver file) that produces an animation of the solution on $x \in [-1, 8]$ for $t \in [0, 20]$.

b) Find the true solution of the problem at $t = 20.^{1}$

c) Start with the resolution parameters.d = $[0 \ 1e-1 \ 2e-1]$. Then successively refine the resolution by powers of 2. For each computation, evaluate the L^1 error. Visualize the error convergence rate, by plotting (in log-log scale) the L^1 error vs. the third argument of parameters.d = $[0 \ 1e-1 \ 2e-1]$. Email your program yourfamilyname_problem4c.m. What convergence order do you observe, and how does it compare to the convergence order obtained with fixed-grid finite volume methods?¹

Problem 5

Download the Matlab files particleclaw_network_ex_diamond.m and particleclaw_network_solver.m from the course website, and run the former file. Then, write a program that solves the same problem, but by using a simple Godunov method on each edge, and the standard vertex coupling conditions discussed in class. You can use the plotting routines from the particleclaw files for the output of the numerical solutions of your programs.

Problem P1

The task of this practice problem is for the assigned team of students to get the *Clawpack* software, hosted on http://www.clawpack.org, to run, to prepare several representative and interesting examples of hyperbolic conservations laws and systems in various dimensions, and to give a short talk about the experience to the rest of the class.

¹You are allowed to use solutions from past courses here.