On Flux Vector Splitting for the Euler Equations: Some Recent Results *

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The Euler Equations and Flux Splitting
The Euler equations in one space dimension are

\[
\frac{\partial}{\partial t} Q + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \mathbf{F}(Q) = 0 ,
\]

where \( Q \) is the vector of conserved variables and \( \mathbf{F}(Q) \) is the flux vector, both given as

\[
Q = \begin{bmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u \\ E \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{F}(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 + p \\ u(E + p) \end{bmatrix} .
\]

Here \( \rho \) is density, \( u \) is particle velocity, \( p \) is pressure and \( E \) is total energy given as

\[
E = \rho \left( \frac{1}{2} u^2 + e \right) .
\]

The specific internal energy \( e \) is, in general, a function of other variables via an equation of state. For example, \( e \) may be taken to be a function of density and pressure, namely

\[
e = e(\rho, p) .
\]
For ideal gases

\[ e(\rho, p) = \frac{p}{\rho(\gamma - 1)} , \]  

(5)

where \( 1 < \gamma < 3 \) is the ratio of specific heats. For air at moderate pressures and temperatures one uses \( \gamma = 1.4 \).

For solving numerically equations of the type (1) we adopt a conservative method of the form

\[ Q_{i}^{n+1} = Q_{i}^{n} - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} [F_{i+\frac{1}{2}} - F_{i-\frac{1}{2}}] , \]  

(6)

where \( F_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \) is the numerical flux. For background on the Euler equations and conservative schemes of the form (6).

**Flux vector splitting:**

\[ F(Q) = A(Q) + P(Q) , \]  

(7)
The Liou-Steffen Splitting
Liou and Steffen (1993) split the flux vector into an advection part $A(Q)$ and a pressure part $P(Q)$ as follows

$$ F(Q) = A(Q) + P(Q), $$

with

$$ A(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 \\ \rho u H \end{bmatrix}, \quad P(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ p \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, $$

(8)

where

$$ H = \frac{E + p}{\rho} $$

(9)

is the enthalpy.

From the numerical point of view the aim is to obtain a numerical flux for (6) of the form

$$ F_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} + P_{i+\frac{1}{2}} $$

(10)

by finding partial advection and pressure fluxes $A_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ and $P_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$. 
To begin with, Liou and Steffen express $A(Q)$ as

$$A(Q) = M \begin{bmatrix} \rho a \\ \rho au \\ \rho aH \end{bmatrix},$$

(11)

where $M = u/a$ is the Mach number and $a = \sqrt{\gamma p/\rho}$ is the speed of sound.

The advection flux is then taken as

$$A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = M_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \hat{A}_{i+\frac{1}{2}},$$

(12)

with

$$\hat{A}_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = \begin{cases} 
\begin{bmatrix} \rho a \\ \rho au \\ \rho aH \end{bmatrix}^{n} & \text{if } M_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \geq 0, \\
\begin{bmatrix} \rho a \\ \rho au \\ \rho aH \end{bmatrix}_{i+1} & \text{if } M_{i+\frac{1}{2}} < 0.
\end{cases}$$

(13)
The advection flux is *upwinded* according to advection speed *implied* in the Mach number \( M_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \), which is split as

\[
M_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = M_i^+ + M_i^- ,
\]

(14)

with

\[
M^\pm = \begin{cases} 
\pm \frac{1}{4} (M \pm 1)^2 & \text{if } |M| \leq 1 , \\
\frac{1}{2} (M \pm |M|) & \text{if } |M| > 1 . 
\end{cases}
\]

(15)

The pressure vector \( \mathbf{p}_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \) is constructed by splitting the pressure as

\[
p_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = p_i^+ + p_{i+1}^- ,
\]

(16)

with two choices for the negative and positive components as follows

\[
p^\pm = \begin{cases} 
\frac{1}{2} p (1 \pm M) & \text{if } |M| \leq 1 , \\
\frac{1}{2} p \frac{(M \pm |M|)}{M} & \text{if } |M| > 1 , 
\end{cases}
\]

(17)

and

\[
p^\pm = \begin{cases} 
\frac{1}{4} p (M \pm 1)^2 (2 \mp M) & \text{if } |M| \leq 1 , \\
\frac{1}{2} p \frac{(M \pm |M|)}{M} & \text{if } |M| > 1 . 
\end{cases}
\]

(18)
The Zha-Bilgen Splitting
Zha and Bilgen (1993) split the flux vector into as in (7) with

\[
A(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
    \rho u \\
    \rho u^2 \\
    uE
\end{bmatrix}, \quad P(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
    0 \\
    p \\
    pu
\end{bmatrix}.
\] (19)

Numerically, they propose fluxes \( A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \) and \( P_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \) as follows.

\[
A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = A_i^+ + A_i^-,
\] (20)

where

\[
A_i^- = \min(0, u_i^n) Q_i^n, \quad A_i^+ = \max(0, u_i^n) Q_i^n.
\] (21)

For the pressure flux vector Zha and Bilgen use the splitting

\[
P_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = P_i^+ + P_{i+1}^-.
\] (22)
For the $p$ component Zha and Bilgen adopt the Liou-Steffen splitting (16), (17), while for the $pu$ component they propose

$$(pu)_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = (pu)^{+}_i + (pu)^{-}_i,$$  

(23)

where

$$(pu)^{-}_i = p^n_i \begin{cases} u^n_i & \text{if } M^n_i \leq -1, \\ \frac{1}{2}(u^n_i - a^n_i) & \text{if } -1 < M^n_i < 1, \\ 0 & \text{if } M^n_i \geq 1, \end{cases}$$  

(24)

and

$$(pu)^{+}_i = p^n_i \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } M^n_i \leq -1, \\ \frac{1}{2}(u^n_i + a^n_i) & \text{if } -1 < M^n_i < 1, \\ u^n_i & \text{if } M^n_i \geq 1. \end{cases}$$  

(25)

Finally the Zha-Bilgen numerical flux is

$$F_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = A^{+}_i + P^{+}_i + A^{-}_{i+1} + P^{-}_{i+1}. $$  

(26)
A Flux-Splitting Framework
The framework

We propose to split system (1) via the flux splitting (7) into the two systems

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial_t Q + \partial_x A(Q) &= 0, \\
\partial_t Q + \partial_x P(Q) &= 0,
\end{align*}
\]

(27)
called respectively the advection system and the pressure system. The aim is then to compute a numerical flux as

\[
F_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} + P_{i+\frac{1}{2}},
\]

(28)
where \(A_{i+\frac{1}{2}}\) and \(P_{i+\frac{1}{2}}\) are obtained respectively from appropriate Cauchy problems for the advection and pressure systems (27).
Consider the Cauchy problem for the linear advection equation

\[
\begin{align*}
\partial_t q(x, t) + \lambda \partial_x q(x, t) &= 0 , \quad -\infty < x < \infty , \quad t > 0 , \\
q(x, 0) &= h(x) ,
\end{align*}
\]  

(29)

where \( \lambda \) is a constant. The exact solution of IVP (29) after a time \( \Delta t \) is

\[
q(x, \Delta t) = h(x - \lambda \Delta t) .
\]  

(30)

We now decompose the characteristic speed \( \lambda \) as

\[
\lambda = \beta \lambda + (1 - \beta) \lambda = \lambda_a + \lambda_p , \quad 0 \leq \beta \leq 1 ,
\]  

(31)

with definitions

\[
\lambda_a = \beta \lambda , \quad \lambda_p = (1 - \beta) \lambda ,
\]  

(32)

so as to obtain two linear partial differential equations, namely

\[
\partial_t q + \lambda_a \partial_x q = 0 , \quad \partial_t q + \lambda_p \partial_x q = 0 .
\]  

(33)
Now consider first the Cauchy problem for the \textit{advection} equation
\begin{align*}
\partial_t \tilde{q} + \lambda_a \partial_x \tilde{q} &= 0 , \\
\tilde{q}(x, 0) &= h(x) , \tag{34}
\end{align*}
the solution of which after a time $\Delta t_1$ is
\begin{align*}
\tilde{q}(x, \Delta t_1) &= h(x - \lambda_a \Delta t_1) . \tag{35}
\end{align*}
Consider the Cauchy problem
\begin{align*}
\partial_t \bar{q} + \lambda_p \partial_x \bar{q} &= 0 , \\
\bar{q}(x, 0) &= h(x - \lambda_a \Delta t_1) . \tag{36}
\end{align*}
The exact solution of IVP (36), after a time $\Delta t_2$, is
\begin{align*}
\bar{q}(x, \Delta t_2) &= h(x - \lambda_a \Delta t_1 - \lambda_p \Delta t_2) . \tag{37}
\end{align*}
The combined solution of IVPs (34) and (36) for $\Delta t_1 = \Delta t_2 = \Delta t$ is
\begin{align*}
\bar{q}(x, \Delta t) &= h(x - (\lambda_a + \lambda_p) \Delta t) = h(x - \lambda \Delta t) = q(x, \Delta t) . \tag{38}
\end{align*}
The above result can be stated as the following proposition.

**Proposition 3.1.** The exact solution of the initial value problem (29) can be obtained by solving in sequence the initial-value problems (34) and (36).

**Remark 3.1.** We note that in the wave decomposition (31), (32) of the model problem (29) one can accept the characteristic speeds to be arbitrarily different. For example, for $\lambda > 0$, by taking a very small $\beta$ in (31) we would have $\lambda_a << \lambda_p$, situation that resembles the slow advection waves and the fast pressure waves.

**Remark 3.2.** From the numerical point of view, Proposition 3.1 suggests a way to compute a numerical flux for IVP (29) by computing numerical fluxes for IVPs (34) and (36). This would lead to *split* flux vector splitting methods and could potentially be of use to deal with systems in which there is large disparity in the magnitude of the wave speeds present. This line of enquiry has not been pursued, to my knowledge.
Remark 3.3. For the full non-linear problem, such as the Euler equations, the proposed framework has two components: (a) the particular way the full system is split into two subsystems, called here the advection and pressure systems, and (b) the numerical treatment of each subsystem to produce corresponding advection and pressure numerical fluxes to make up the numerical flux for the full system.
A Novel Splitting for the Euler Equations
Here we propose a new splitting for the Euler equations by noting that the flux may be decomposed thus

\[
F(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
\rho u \\
\rho u^2 + p \\
u(\frac{1}{2}\rho u^2 + \rho e + p)
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
\rho u \\
\rho u^2 \\
\frac{1}{2}\rho u^3
\end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
p \\
u(\rho e + p)
\end{bmatrix}, \quad (39)
\]

with the corresponding advection and pressure fluxes defined as

\[
A(Q) = u \begin{bmatrix}
\rho \\
\rho u \\
\frac{1}{2}\rho u^2
\end{bmatrix}, \quad P(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
p \\
u(\rho e + p)
\end{bmatrix}. \quad (40)
\]

We note that the proposed advection flux \( A(Q) \) contains no pressure terms. All pressure terms from the flux \( F(Q) \), including that of the total energy \( E \), are now included in the pressure flux \( P(Q) \). The advection flux may be interpreted as representing advection of mass, momentum and kinetic energy. For the ideal gas case (5) the pressure flux (40) becomes

\[
P(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
0 \\
p \\
\frac{\gamma}{\gamma-1} pu
\end{bmatrix}. \quad (41)
\]
The advection system is

\[ \partial_t Q + \partial_x A(Q) = 0 \, , \quad (42) \]

where \( Q = [\rho, \rho u, E]^T \) and \( A(Q) \) as in (40) above. In quasi-linear form the advection system becomes

\[ \partial_t Q + M(Q)\partial_x Q = 0 \, , \quad (43) \]

where \( M(Q) \) is the Jacobian matrix given as

\[
M(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -u^2 & 2u & 0 \\ -u^3 & \frac{3}{2}u^2 & 0 \end{bmatrix} . \quad (44)
\]
It is easy to show that the eigenvalues of this matrix are

$$\lambda_1 = 0, \quad \lambda_2 = \lambda_3 = u.$$  \hfill (45)

There are only two linearly independent right eigenvectors, namely

$$R_1 = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad R_2 = \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ u \\ \frac{1}{2}u^2 \end{bmatrix}.$$ \hfill (46)

Thus the system is *weakly hyperbolic*, as there is no complete set of linearly independent eigenvectors.

Regarding the nature of the characteristic fields, it is easy to show that the $\lambda_1$-field is linearly degenerated and that the $\lambda_2$-field is genuinely non-linear if $\alpha_2 \neq 0$ and $u \neq 0$; otherwise it is linearly degenerate.
The pressure system

In terms of the conserved variables \( \mathbf{Q} = [\rho, \rho u, E]^T \) the pressure system is

\[
\partial_t \mathbf{Q} + \partial_x \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{Q}) = 0 ,
\]

with \( \mathbf{P}(\mathbf{Q}) \) as given in (40) above. In quasi-linear form the advection system becomes

\[
\partial_t \mathbf{Q} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{Q})\partial_x \mathbf{Q} = 0 ,
\]

where \( \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{Q}) \) is the Jacobian matrix given as

\[
\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{Q}) = \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
\frac{1}{2}(\gamma - 1)u^2 & -(\gamma - 1)u & \gamma - 1 \\
\gamma u^3 - \gamma uE/\rho & \gamma E/\rho - \frac{3}{2}\gamma u^2 & \gamma u
\end{bmatrix} .
\]
The eigenvalues of $N(Q)$ are always real and given as

$$
\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{2}u - \frac{1}{2}A , \quad \lambda_2 = 0 , \quad \lambda_3 = \frac{1}{2}u + \frac{1}{2}A ,
$$

(50)

where

$$
A = \sqrt{u^2 + 4a^2} , \quad a^2 = \frac{\gamma p}{\rho} .
$$

(51)

Here $a$ is the usual speed of sound for the full Euler equations. In terms of physical variables the system reads

$$
\partial_t V + B(V)\partial_x V = 0 ,
$$

(52)

where

$$
V = \begin{bmatrix}
\rho \\
u \\
p
\end{bmatrix} , \quad B = \begin{bmatrix}
0 & 0 & 0 \\
0 & 0 & \frac{1}{\rho} \\
0 & \gamma p & u
\end{bmatrix} .
$$

(53)
Note that, since \( u < A = \sqrt{u^2 + 4a^2} \), the system is *always subsonic*, that is
\[
\lambda_1 = \frac{1}{2} u - \frac{1}{2} A < 0 < \lambda_3 = \frac{1}{2} u + \frac{1}{2} A .
\] (54)

The right eigenvectors of matrix \( \mathbf{B} \) in (53) corresponding to the eigenvalues (50) are
\[
\mathbf{R}_1 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ \rho(u - A) \end{bmatrix} , \quad \mathbf{R}_2 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} , \quad \mathbf{R}_3 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 2 \\ \rho(u + A) \end{bmatrix} .
\] (55)
Numerical Fluxes

In order to compute advection and pressure fluxes $A_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ and $P_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ we consider the Riemann problem for each subsystem. We start with the pressure system.

To compute the flux for the pressure system we consider the Riemann problem in terms of physical variables

$$\partial_t V + B(V)\partial_x V = 0 ,$$

$$V(x, 0) = \begin{cases} V_L \equiv V^n_i & \text{if } x < 0 , \\ V_R \equiv V^n_{i+1} & \text{if } x > 0 . \end{cases}$$

(56)

The solution of this problem has structure as shown in Fig. 1. The wave pattern is always subsonic, with a stationary contact discontinuity and two non-linear waves to the left and right of the contact wave.
Fig. 1. Structure of the solution of the Riemann problem for the pressure system.

\[
\begin{align*}
(\lambda_1 &= \frac{1}{2}(u - A)) \\
(\lambda_2 &= \frac{1}{2}(u + A))
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
u_* &= \frac{C_R u_R - C_L u_L}{C_R - C_L} - \frac{2}{C_R - C_L} (p_R - p_L) \\
p_* &= \frac{C_R p_L - C_L p_R}{C_R - C_L} + \frac{1}{2} \frac{C_R C_L}{C_R - C_L} (u_R - u_L)
\end{align*}
\]

with

\[
C_L = \rho_L (u_L - A_L) ; \quad C_R = \rho_R (u_R + A_R)
\]

where \(A_L\) and \(A_R\) are computed from (51).
One could improve upon the linear approximation by applying the exact generalised Riemann invariants throughout. The result is the $2 \times 2$ non-linear system for $p_*$ and $u_*$

\[
\begin{align*}
    u_* - \sqrt{u_*^2 + 4\frac{\gamma p_*}{\rho_L}} &= u_L - \sqrt{u_L^2 + 4\frac{\gamma p_L}{\rho_L}}, \\
    u_* + \sqrt{u_*^2 + 4\frac{\gamma p_*}{\rho_R}} &= u_L + \sqrt{u_R^2 + 4\frac{\gamma p_R}{\rho_R}}.
\end{align*}
\]

(59)

Finally, the numerical flux for the pressure system is given as

\[
P_{i + \frac{1}{2}} = p_* \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \frac{\gamma}{\gamma - 1} u_* \end{bmatrix}.
\]

(60)

Remark: no visible difference between "exact" and approximate solutions.
The advection system

Recall that in our splitting (40) the advection operator may be written thus

\[
A(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
    \rho u \\
    \rho u^2 \\
    \frac{1}{2} \rho u^3
\end{bmatrix} = uK(Q), \quad K(Q) = \begin{bmatrix}
    \rho \\
    \rho u \\
    \frac{1}{2} \rho u^2
\end{bmatrix}, \quad (61)
\]

Advection of \( K \) (mass, momentum and kinetic energy) with speed \( u \). Here we propose two algorithms.

Algorithm 1 (TV scheme).

\[
A(Q) = u^*_i + \frac{1}{2} K, \quad (62)
\]

where \( u^*_i + \frac{1}{2} \) is the intercell advection velocity taken as \( u^*_i + \frac{1}{2} \) from solution (57) of the Riemann problem (56)

\[
A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = u^*_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \left\{ \begin{array}{ll}
    K_i & \text{if } u^*_{i+\frac{1}{2}} > 0, \\
    K_{i+1} & \text{if } u^*_{i+\frac{1}{2}} \leq 0.
\end{array} \right. \quad (63)
\]
Algorithm 2 (TV-AWS scheme). Here propose a weighted splitting scheme, which is a simple modification of the scheme proposed by Zha and Bilgen [?] for their advection system. The modified scheme is given as follows

\[
A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = A_i^+ + A_i^- ,
\]

with

\[
A_i^- = \frac{1}{2}(1 - \omega)u_i^nK_i^n , \quad A_i^+ = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \omega)u_i^nK_i^n .
\]

Here

\[
\omega = \omega(u_i^n) = \frac{u_i^n}{\sqrt{\epsilon + (u_i^n)^2}} ,
\]

with \( \epsilon \) a small positive quantity, \( \epsilon = 0.1 \), for example. The function \( \omega(u_i^n) \) allows a smooth transition from upwinding fully to the left and fully to the right, in the vicinity of \( u_i^n = 0 \).

The resulting scheme from Algorithm 2, called the TV-AWS scheme, is effectively a weighted averaged scheme and the Zha-Bilgen scheme is recovered from it by simply setting the weight to be \( \omega = \text{sign}(u_i^n) \).
Summary of the present scheme

In order to compute a numerical flux $F_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ for the conservative scheme (6) we proceed as follows:

- **Pressure flux.** Evaluate the intercell pressure $p^*_i+\frac{1}{2}$ and velocity $u^*_i+\frac{1}{2}$ from the solution of the Riemann problem given in (57) to compute the pressure flux $P_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ as in (60).

- **Advection flux.** We have proposed two options. From algorithm 1 (TV scheme) we evaluate the advection flux $A_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ as in (63). Algorithm 2 (TV-AWS) is described in equations (64) to (66).

- **Intercell flux.** Compute the intercell flux $F_{i+\frac{1}{2}}$ as in (28), namely

$$F_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = A_{i+\frac{1}{2}} + P_{i+\frac{1}{2}}.$$  

(67)
Reinterpretation of Other Flux Splittings
The Liou-Steffen scheme

The Liou-Steffen splitting (1993) may be interpreted in our framework defining the advection system as

\[ \partial_t Q + \partial_x A(Q) = 0 , \]  

(68)

with

\[ A(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 \\ u(E + p) \end{bmatrix} \]  

(69)

and the pressure system as

\[ \partial_t Q + \partial_x P(Q) = 0 , \]  

(70)

with

\[ P(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ p \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} . \]  

(71)
In terms of primitive variables $\mathbf{V} = [\rho, u, p]^T$ the pressure system can be shown to hyperbolic with eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0, \quad \lambda_3 = -(\gamma - 1)u$$

(72)

and three linearly independent eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{R}_1 = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R}_2 = \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R}_3 = \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -\rho(\gamma - 1)u \end{bmatrix}.$$  

(73)

Here $\alpha_1$, $\alpha_2$ and $\alpha_3$ are scaling factors. Simple calculations show that the characteristic fields associated with $\lambda_1$ and $\lambda_2$ are linearly degenerate and the characteristic field associated with $\lambda_3$ is genuinely non-linear.

Unfortunately we have not been able to find a straightforward pressure numerical flux by solving the Riemann problem for this unusual hyperbolic system. Thus the re-interpretation of the Liou-Steffen splitting in our framework has not been productive.
The Zha-Bilgen splitting (1993) assumes a very natural splitting that may be interpreted in our framework as follows. The advection system is

\[
\partial_t Q + \partial_x A(Q) = 0, \quad A(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} \rho u \\ \rho u^2 \\ uE \end{bmatrix}
\] (74)

and the pressure system is

\[
\partial_t Q + \partial_x P(Q) = 0, \quad P(Q) = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ p \\ pu \end{bmatrix}.
\] (75)
In terms of primitive variables $\mathbf{V} = [\rho, u, p]^T$ the pressure system can be shown to be hyperbolic with real eigenvalues

$$\lambda_1 = -C, \quad \lambda_2 = 0, \quad \lambda_3 = C,$$  \hspace{1cm} (76)

with

$$C = \sqrt{(\gamma - 1)p/\rho},$$  \hspace{1cm} (77)

and three linearly independent right eigenvectors

$$\mathbf{R}_1 = \alpha_1 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ -\rho C \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R}_2 = \alpha_2 \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{R}_3 = \alpha_3 \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \\ \rho C \end{bmatrix}.$$  \hspace{1cm} (78)

Here $\alpha_1$, $\alpha_2$ and $\alpha_3$ are scaling factors.
The Riemann problem for the Zha-Bilgen pressure system in terms of primitive variables is

\[ \partial_t V + Z(V) \partial_x V = 0 \]

\[ V(x,0) = \begin{cases} 
V_L \equiv V^n_i & \text{if } x < 0 , \\
V_R \equiv V^n_{i+1} & \text{if } x > 0 . 
\end{cases} \quad (79) \]

The structure of the solution is analogous to that shown in Fig. 1,

\[ u_* = \frac{\rho_L C_L u_L + \rho_R C_R u_R}{\rho_L C_L + \rho_R C_R} - \frac{(p_R - p_L)}{\rho_L C_L + \rho_R C_R}, \]

\[ p_* = \frac{\rho_R C_R p_L + \rho_L C_L p_R}{\rho_L C_L + \rho_R C_R} - \frac{\rho_L C_L \rho_R C_R}{\rho_L C_L + \rho_R C_R} (u_R - u_L), \quad (80) \]

with

\[ C_L = \sqrt{(\gamma - 1)p_L/\rho_L} , \quad C_R = \sqrt{(\gamma - 1)p_R/\rho_R} . \quad (81) \]
Proposition 4.1. The Zha-Bilgen splitting along with the Zha-Bilgen numerical scheme cannot sustain isolated stationary contact discontinuities for the Euler equations.

Proof. Define the problem for a stationary, isolated contact discontinuity for the ideal gas Euler equations with initial condition

\[ u(x, 0) = 0 , \quad p(x, 0) = \hat{p} : \text{constant} , \quad \forall x \text{ such that } x_L < x < x_R , \]

\[ \rho(x, 0) = \begin{cases} 
\rho_L & \text{if } x < x_0 , \\
\rho_R & \text{if } x > x_0 , 
\end{cases} \]

(82)

with \( x_L < x_0 < x_R \). Assume the discretisation of \([x_L, x_R]\) such that the contact discontinuity is between cells \( i \) and \( i + 1 \). Application of the Zha-Bilgen scheme to any cell away from cells \( i \) and \( i + 1 \) leaves the flow undisturbed.
However, application of the scheme to cell $i$ for one time step gives

$$E_{i}^{n+1} = \frac{\hat{p}}{\gamma - 1} + \delta_i \hat{p}, \quad \delta_i = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \sqrt{\gamma \hat{p}} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho_R}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\rho_R}} \right).$$

Application of the scheme to cell $i + 1$ gives an analogous expression but with $\delta_{i+1} = -\delta_i$. In order to preserve the contact discontinuity unaltered one requires $\delta_i = 0$, which is not satisfied by the Zha-Bilgen scheme, as seen in (83).

![Fig. 2. Test 6: Stationary isolated contact. Exact (line) and numerical solution (symbols) using the Zha-Bilgen original scheme (ZB-orig).](image)
Proposition 4.2. The Toro-Vazquez splitting (TV) along with their numerical method can recognise exactly isolated stationary contact discontinuities for the Euler equations.

Proof. Define the problem for a stationary, isolated contact discontinuity for the ideal gas Euler equations with initial condition as in (82). Assume the discretization of the domain \([x_L, x_R]\) is such that the cell just to the left of the discontinuity is \(i\) and that immediately to the right of the discontinuity is \(i + 1\). Application of the TV scheme to any cell away from cells \(i\) and \(i + 1\) leaves the flow indisturbed. Let us now apply the scheme to cell \(i\) for one time step. First we need the solution (57) of the Riemann problem with initial data (82). Clearly \(u_* = u_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = 0\) and \(p_* = p_{i+\frac{1}{2}} = \hat{p}\). Then it is easy to verify that the state \(Q_{i+1}^{n+1} = Q_i^n\) and thus the isolated stationary contact is preserved exactly. Application of the scheme to cell \(i + 1\) gives an analogous result and the proposition is thus proved.
**Proposition 4.3.** The Zha-Bilgen splitting along with the Godunov-type numerical method of section 4.2 can recognise exactly isolated stationary contact discontinuities for the Euler equations.

**Proof.** The proof is straightforward and is thus omitted.

---

**Fig. 3.** Test 6: Stationary isolated contact. Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols).
Numerical Results for the Euler Equations
Two classes of test problems

<table>
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<th>$\rho_L$</th>
<th>$u_L$</th>
<th>$\rho_L$</th>
<th>$\rho_R$</th>
<th>$u_R$</th>
<th>$p_R$</th>
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<td>0.1</td>
</tr>
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<td>0.4</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>2.0</td>
<td>0.4</td>
</tr>
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<td>1000.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>0.01</td>
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<td>5.99242</td>
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<td>6</td>
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<td>1.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
<td>0.0</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Test problems with exact solution (Toro, 2009)


\[
0 \leq x \leq 0.1 \quad 0.1 < x \leq 0.9 \quad 0.9 < x \leq 1.0 \\
\rho_L = 1.0 \quad \rho_M = 1.0 \quad \rho_R = 1.0 \\
u_L = 0.0 \quad u_M = 0.0 \quad u_R = 0.0 \\
p_R = 1000.0 \quad p_M = 0.01 \quad p_R = 100.0
\]  

(84)
Test 1 (sonic flow). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes (TV and TV-AWS) for the flux splitting of this paper.
Test 1 (sonic flow). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes: Liou-Steffen (LS) and Zha-Bilgen (ZB-orig).
Test 2 (low density). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes (TV and TV-AWS) for the flux splitting of this paper.
Test 3 (very strong shock). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes (TV and TV-AWS) for the flux splitting of this paper.
Test 4 (collision of two strong shocks). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes (TV and TV-AWS) for the flux splitting of this paper.
Test 5 (non-isolated stationary contact discontinuity). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes (TV and TV-AWS) for the flux splitting of this paper.
Test 6 (Isolated stationary contact discontinuity). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes (TV and TV-AWS) for the flux splitting of this paper.
Test 6 (Isolated stationary contact discontinuity). Exact (line) and numerical solutions (symbols) using two numerical schemes: the Zha-Bilgen original scheme (ZB-orig) and the Zha-Bilgen splitting with present Godunov-type numerical approach (ZB-God).
Test 7 (Woodward and Colella blast wave problem). Reference solutions (WAF and Godunov’s method with exact Riemann solver) and numerical solutions from two numerical schemes of this paper: TV (top) and TV-AWS (bottom).
Other Potential Schemes for the Pressure System
- Lax-Friedrichs
- FORCE
- Rusanov
- HLL
- Godunov Centred
Concluding Remarks

- New flux splitting
- New way of dealing with pressure term
- Scheme captures contact discontinuity as well as AUSM
- Our scheme is more robust and more accurate than AUSM
- Other schemes for pressure system under study
- Best combination: explicit for advection implicit for pressure