

Lecture 07: Macroscopic Second-Order Models

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7.1 General Mathematical Form

In contrast to the LWR models, **second-order models** have their own dynamic equation for the dynamic speed. They come in two forms: **local** and **nonlocal**.

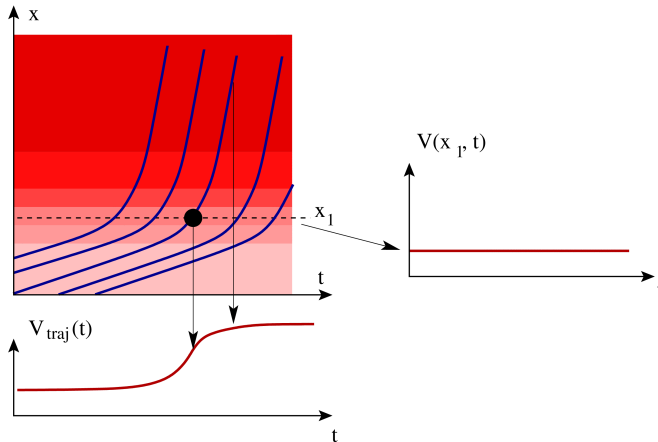
$$\frac{dV(x, t)}{dt} = \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) V + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P(\rho)}{\partial x} = A[\rho, V] \quad \text{local formulation}$$

- ▶ $\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) V(x, t)$ is the acceleration from the driver's point of view (Lagrangian formulation)
- ▶ The “traffic pressure” $P(\rho)$ is a statistical effect caused by speed variations
- ▶ The acceleration functional describes the aggregated vehicle accelerations:

$$A[\rho(x, t), V(x, t)] = f_{\text{loc}} \left(\rho, V, \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2}, \dots \right)$$

- ▶ the derivatives of the pressure and acceleration terms are crucial since, without them, this model class would be *unconditionally unstable*

Acceleration in the Lagrangian view

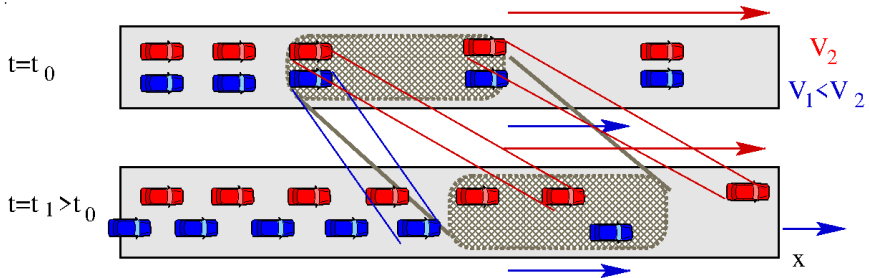


Derive the expression for $\frac{dV}{dt}$ by looking at the speed change

$$dV = \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} dx = \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} dt + \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \frac{dx}{dt} dt = \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \right) dt$$

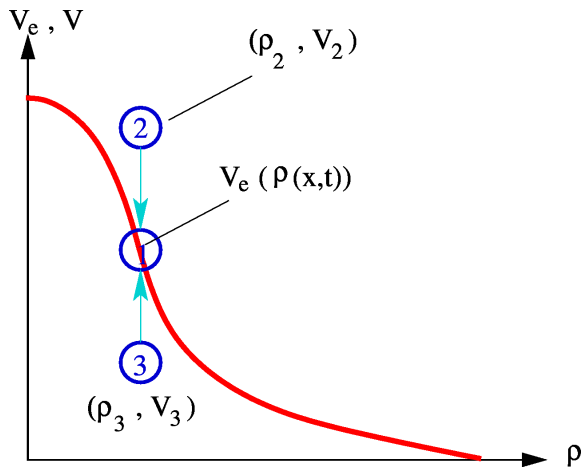
1. changes of the speed field $\frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$ at a fixed location,
2. changes of the speed field $V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$ when moving along the spatially varying field

The “pressure term”: a purely statistical effect



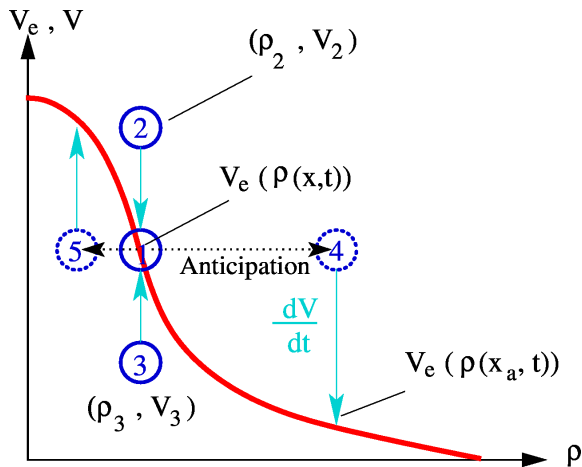
- ▶ Neither the red nor the blue vehicles accelerate but the red vehicles are twice as fast as the blue ones all the time
- ▶ Macroscopically, the local density and speed in the hatched region of length Δx is relevant. At $t = 0$, we have $V(t = 0) = \frac{V_1 + V_2}{2}$
- ▶ While being advected at speed V (advection term!), the faster (slower) cars enter the hatched area from the upstream (downstream) end.
- ▶ Due to the density gradient, more faster vehicles entering than leaving the region, less slower vehicles entering than leaving \Rightarrow macroscopic local speed changes if there is both finite speed variance Θ and a density gradient (here $V(t_1) = (2V_2 + V_1)/3 > V(0)$)

True acceleration I: relaxation



The relaxation term $f_{\text{relax}} = (V_e(\rho) - V)/\tau$ realizes a desire of the drivers to “come back” to the fundamental diagram in the relaxation time τ

True acceleration II: anticipation



The anticipation terms $f_{antic} = \gamma_1 \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} + \gamma_2 \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$ anticipate the situation at some forward location. Give the expression when anticipating the relaxation process at a distance $1/\rho_{relax} + f_{antic} = (V_e(\rho_a) - V)/\tau$ where $V_e(\rho_a) = V_e(\rho) + V_e'(\rho) \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \frac{1}{\rho}$

True acceleration III: diffusion

- ▶ The formation mechanism of shock waves/fronts (see last lecture) is hardly suppressed by the anticipation mechanism
- ▶ However, in second-order models, shock waves have unfavourable numeric properties
- ▶ Therefore, an ad-hoc term $f_{\text{diffus}} = D_v \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2}$ is often added.
- ▶ Another possibility is using **nonlocal models** as presented next

Nonlocal second-order models

Instead of spatial derivatives, nonlocal models introduce anticipation explicitly into the acceleration function:

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P(\rho)}{\partial x} = f_{\text{nonloc}}(\rho, V, \rho_a, V_a)$$

where

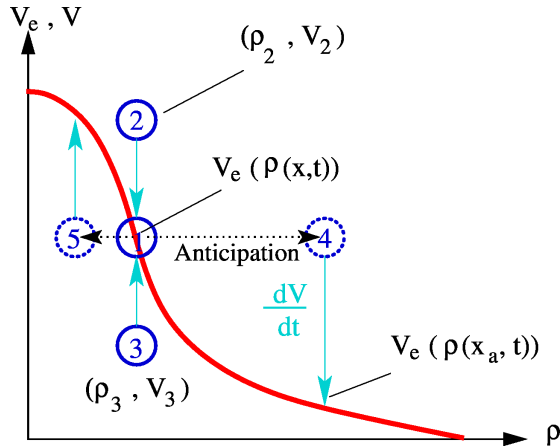
$$\rho_a = \rho(x_a, t), \quad V_a = V(x_a, t)$$

with $x_a > x$ an advanced location (model-dependent forward-looking anticipation), e.g., $x_a - x = 1/\rho$ or $= VT$

- ▶ Nonlocal models contain forward-looking explicitly, so upwind numerical differentiation (using only upstream information) is always applicable. **why?** Because downstream information is contained in the anticipated position x_a
- ▶ The “traffic pressure” $P(\rho)$ describes the same kinematic-statistical effect as in local models
- ▶ The right-hand side can be written as a nonlocal relaxation:

$$f_{\text{nonloc}}(\rho, V, \rho_a, V_a) = \frac{V_e^*(\rho, V, \rho_a, V_a) - V}{\tau}$$

Relaxation and nonlocal anticipation



- ▶ The local relaxation is the same as in local models, $f = (V(\rho) - V)/\tau$.
- ▶ The nonlocal relaxation is just $f_{antic} = (V(\rho_a) - V)/\tau$. No further approximation via Taylor series ($V(\rho_a) = V(\rho) + V'(\rho) \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} (x_a - x)$) needed.

7.2 Plausibility Criteria

Introduce the (commonly used) abbreviations $V_x \equiv \frac{\partial V}{\partial x}$, $V_{xx} \equiv \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2}$, $\rho_x = \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}$ etc. to rewrite local and nonlocal models (pressure term integrated into f):

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \begin{cases} f_{\text{loc}}(\rho, V, \rho_x, V_x, \rho_{xx}, \dots) & \text{local models} \\ f_{\text{nonloc}}(\rho, V, \rho_a, V_a) & \text{nonlocal models} \end{cases}$$

- Response to local speed:** $\frac{\partial f_{\text{loc}}}{\partial V} < 0$, $\frac{\partial f_{\text{nonloc}}}{\partial V} < 0$ **Why?**
- Response to local density:** $\frac{\partial f_{\text{loc}}}{\partial \rho} \leq 0$, $\frac{\partial f_{\text{nonloc}}}{\partial \rho} \leq 0$ **Why?**
- Homogeneous steady state:** The implicit relations

$$0 = f_{\text{loc}}(\rho, V_e(\rho), 0, 0, \dots), \quad 0 = f_{\text{nonloc}}(\rho, V_e(\rho), \rho, V_e(\rho))$$

leads to a steady-state speed function obeying

$$V_e(0) = V_0 = \max, \quad V_e'(\rho) \leq 0, \quad V_e(\rho_{\max}) = 0$$

Why? The steady state is valid for all ρ . Hence $0 = \frac{df}{d\rho} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial \rho} + \frac{\partial f}{\partial V} V_e'(\rho)$, so $V_e'(\rho) = -\frac{\partial f}{\partial \rho} / \left(\frac{\partial f}{\partial V}\right) \leq 0$. The maximum V_0 is reached at zero density, the value $V_e(0)$ at maximum density

7.2 Plausibility Criteria II

4. Response to density and speed gradients:

$$\frac{\partial f_{\text{loc}}}{\partial \rho_x} \leq 0, \quad \frac{\partial f_{\text{loc}}}{\partial V_x} \geq 0$$

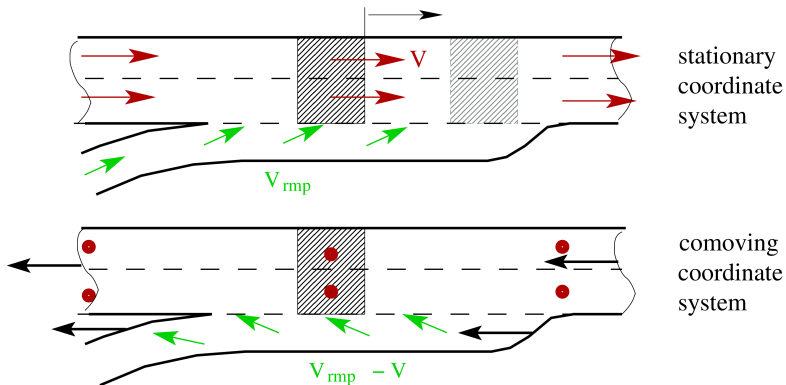
“Decelerate if the local density is increasing or the local speed is decreasing”

5. Response to nonlocalities:

$$\frac{\partial f_{\text{nonloc}}}{\partial \rho_a} \leq 0, \quad \frac{\partial f_{\text{nonloc}}}{\partial V_a} \geq 0$$

“Decelerate if the density ahead is larger or the speed ahead is smaller”

7.3 Ramp Terms



- ▶ The inflow/outflow of vehicles from/to ramps is modelled by the ramp term $\nu(x) = Q_{rmp}/L_{rmp}$ of the density equation. **Why?** Because the conservation of the vehicles is *always* valid
- ▶ Inflowing/outflowing vehicles that are slower than the mainroad vehicles when entering/leaving cause an additional ramp term A_{rmp} in the speed equation
- ▶ To derive it, we need to consider the rate of change of the local speed in the grey box in above figure

Derivation of the on-ramp term

Rate of local speed change in the gray box of width Δx
 ($E(\cdot)$ denotes the expectation value):

$$A_{\text{rmp}} = \frac{d}{dt} \left(E(v_\alpha) \right) = \frac{d}{dt} \left(\frac{1}{n(t)} \sum_{i=1}^{n(t)} v_i \right).$$

Assuming no acceleration of the mainroad and ramp vehicles (**why?**), the expectation value changes only due to vehicles entering the ramp (the off-ramp case leads to the same term if the vehicles brake on the mainroad to V_{rmp})

$$n = \rho L \Delta x, \quad \frac{dn}{dt} = Q_{\text{rmp}} \frac{\Delta x}{L_{\text{rmp}}}, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n(t)} v_i = nV, \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n v_i \right) = V_{\text{rmp}} \frac{dn}{dt}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow A_{\text{rmp}} &= -\frac{1}{n^2} \left(\frac{dn}{dt} \right) nV + \frac{1}{n} V_{\text{rmp}} \frac{dn}{dt} \\ &= \frac{V_{\text{rmp}} - V}{n} \frac{dn}{dt} \\ &\stackrel{n=\rho L \Delta x}{=} \frac{V_{\text{rmp}} - V}{\rho L L_{\text{rmp}}} Q_{\text{rmp}} \\ &= \nu \left(\frac{V_{\text{rmp}} - V}{\rho} \right), \quad \nu = \frac{Q_{\text{rmp}}}{L L_{\text{rmp}}} \end{aligned}$$

7.4 Specific Models I: Payne's Model

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \frac{V_e(\rho) - V}{\tau} + \frac{V'_e(\rho)}{2\rho\tau} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \quad \text{Payne's model}$$

- ▶ Homogeneous steady state: $V(\rho) = V_e(\rho)$ where $V_e(\rho)$ can be chosen as in the LWR model (**plausibility criteria?**)
- ▶ The density gradient comes from the derivation from a simple microscopic model, the **Optimal Velocity Model (OVM)** $dv_i / dt = (v_{\text{opt}}(s) - v) / \tau$:

$$v_{\text{opt}}(s) \rightarrow V_e(\rho(x + \frac{\Delta x}{2}, t)) \approx V_e(\rho(x, t)) + V'_e \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} \frac{\Delta x}{2} = V_e + \frac{V'_e}{2\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x}$$

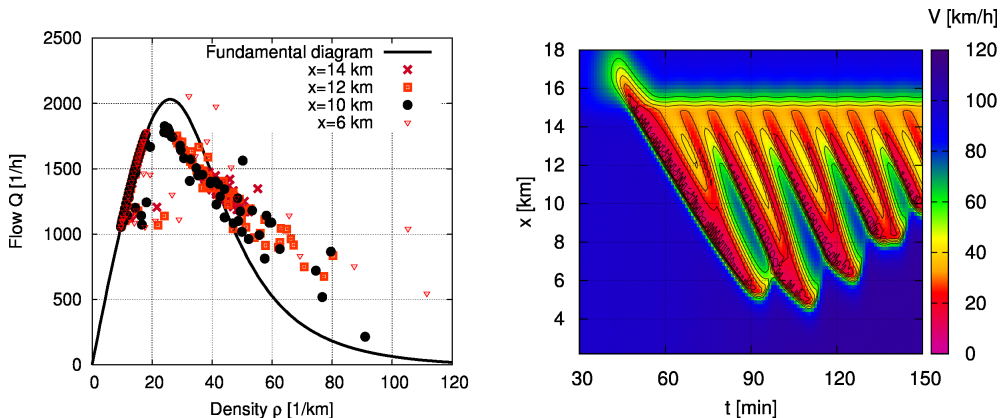
- ▶ The density gradient can also be written as a pressure term $-1/\rho \frac{\partial P}{\partial x}$ with $P = (V_0 - V_e(\rho)) / (2\tau)$
- ▶ Only one parameter besides those in $V_e(\rho)$: Speed relaxation time τ of the order of 10s

II: Kerner-Konhäuser Model

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = \frac{V_e(\rho) - V}{\tau} - \frac{c_0^2}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial x} + \frac{\eta}{\rho} \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \quad \text{KK model}$$

- ▶ Heuristic model; no microscopic derivation; analogies to 1d compressible gas
- ▶ Same homogeneous steady state as Payne's model: $V = V_e(\rho)$
- ▶ The density gradient term is similar as in Payne's model and can be written in terms of a traffic pressure $P = c_0^2 \rho$
- ▶ Additional "speed diffusion term" to avoid shock waves
- ▶ Three parameters besides that in $V_e(\rho)$ (typical values):
 - ▶ Relaxation time τ (10-30 s)
 - ▶ Sonic speed c_0 (15 m/s)
 - ▶ Speed diffusion factor η (150 m/s)

On-ramp simulation of the KK model



- ▶ Used Speed density relation ($V_0 = 120$ km/h):

$$V_e(\rho) = V_0 \frac{1 - \rho/\rho_{\max}}{1 + 200(\rho/\rho_{\max})^4}$$

- ▶ The higher τ , the more prone to flow instabilities. Here, $\tau = 30$ s

III: Aw-Rascle Model

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (V + p(\rho)) + V \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (V + p(\rho)) = 0 \quad \text{Aw-Rascle model}$$

- ▶ Mathematicians love this model because it can be reformulated in totally conservative form allowing some analytic solutions:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\rho(V + p(\rho))) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\rho V(V + p(\rho))) = 0$$

- ▶ $p(\rho)$ (not the traffic pressure!) increases with speed. Often, $p(\rho) = (V_0 - V_e(\rho))$ is used (**ARZ model**)
- ▶ Its time derivative is somewhat peculiar. Using the (always valid!) continuity equation, it can be written as

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} = -\rho p'(\rho) \frac{dV}{dx}$$

- ▶ This model does not have a FD (**why?**). For use in traffic flow simulation, a relaxation term $(V_e(\rho) - V)/\tau$ must be added

IV: Gas-Kinetic Based Traffic-flow (GKT) Model

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P(\rho)}{\partial x} = \frac{V_e^*(\rho, V, \rho_a, V_a) - V}{\tau} \quad \text{GKT Model}$$

Nonlocal model with anticipated locations: $x_a = x + \gamma VT$

From the gas-kinetic derivation comes the following:

- ▶ “Traffic pressure” $P(\rho) = \rho\alpha(\rho)V_e^2$, variation coefficient $\sqrt{\alpha}(\rho)$ from the data
- ▶ Target (generally not steady-state) speed

$$V_e^*(\rho, V, \rho_a, V_a) = V_0 \left[1 - \frac{\alpha(\rho)}{\alpha(\rho_{\max})} \left(\frac{\rho_a VT}{1 - \rho_a/\rho_{\max}} \right)^2 B \left(\frac{V - V_a}{\sqrt{2\alpha(\rho)}V} \right) \right]$$

- ▶ “Boltzmann factor” (see [a statistical derivation](#))

$$B(x) = 2 [x f_N(x) + (1 + x^2)\Phi(x)] \quad (\text{notice } B(0) = 1)$$

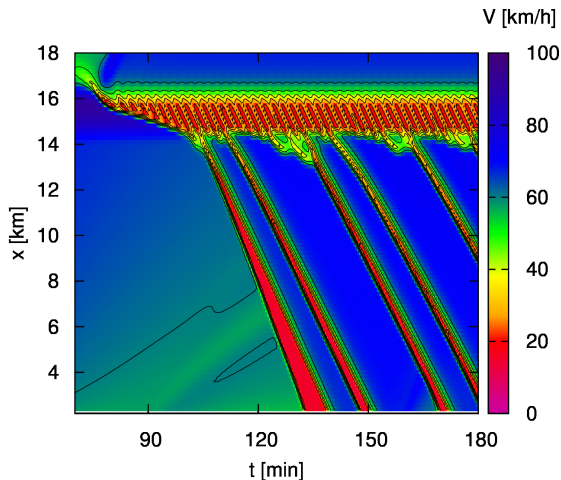
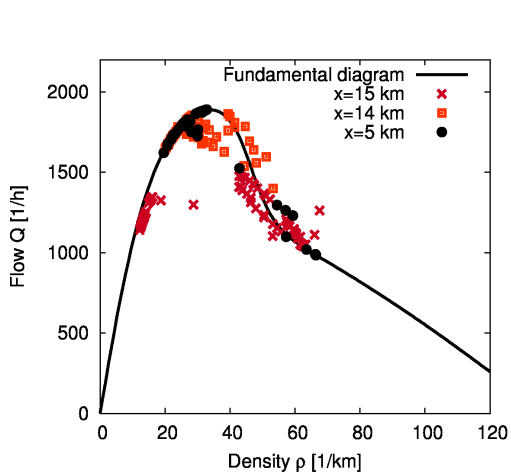
Model IV: Properties of the GKT Model

- ▶ In spite of its complexity, it is numerically stable and can be simulated efficiently
- ▶ No explicit FD, but can be calculated implicitly:

$$\begin{aligned}
 V_e^*(\rho, V, \rho, V) &= V, \\
 V_0 - V &= \frac{\alpha(\rho)}{\alpha(\rho_{\max})} \left(\frac{\rho_a VT}{1 - \rho_a/\rho_{\max}} \right)^2 \\
 &\Rightarrow \text{quadratic equation for } V = V_e(\rho)
 \end{aligned}$$

Parameter	Typical Value Highway	Typical Value City Traffic
Desired speed V_0	120 km/h	50 km/h
Desired time gap T	1.2 s	1.2 s
Maximum Density ρ_{\max}	160 vehicles/km	160 vehicles/km
Speed adaptation time τ	20 s	8 s
Anticipation factor γ	1.2	1.0
variation coefficient $\sqrt{\alpha(\rho)}$	from data	(around 0.1)

Off-ramp-on-ramp simulation of the GKT model



- ▶ Off-ramp at $x = 14$ km, on-ramp at $x = 16$ km
- ▶ Solid line left image: GKT fundamental diagram
- ▶ Flow instabilities grow with increasing τ , decreasing V_0 , decreasing γ and decreasing sensitivity $\alpha^{-1/2}$ (increasing speed variation coefficient)

7.5 Numerics

Essential parts of the equations of second-order models are conservative:

- ▶ Conservation of the number of vehicles in the continuum equation
- ▶ Conservation of momentum at the left-hand side of the speed equation \Rightarrow **take account of this in the numerical solution!**

In addition, there are source terms:

- ▶ Ramps or change of the number of lanes in the continuity equation,
- ▶ Vehicle accelerations or decelerations as well as ramp source terms in the speed equation

Conservation form of the speed equation: the left-hand side

Because it is crucial for numerical accuracy to satisfy the conservation laws, reformulate the velocity equation as a flow equation: Replace in the general local or nonlocal formulation V by Q/ρ , apply the continuity equation to get rid of the appearing $\frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t}$:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho \text{ (lhs.)} &= \rho \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \right) \\ &= \frac{\partial(\rho V)}{\partial t} - V \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \rho V \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \\ &\stackrel{\text{cont.}}{=} \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + V \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} + Q \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \\ &= \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(QV)}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} \\ &= \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\rho} + P \right)\end{aligned}$$

Conservation form: right-hand side and result

- ▶ Everything that will become a complete derivative of x in this formulation should appear on the left-hand side. This is also true for the diffusion term of the KK model becoming $-\frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\eta \frac{\partial Q / \rho}{\partial x} \right)$
- ▶ rhs: just redefine the remaining parts of $\rho f_{\text{loc}}(\rho, V, \dots)$ or $\rho f_{\text{nonloc}}(\rho, V, \dots)$ (including ramp terms) to be the source $S(\rho, Q, \rho_x, Q_x, \rho_a, Q_a)$ (there should be as few gradients as possible)

Together with the continuity equation with bottlenecks, the general result is

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial Q}{\partial x} &= \nu_{\text{rmp}} - \frac{Q}{I} \frac{dI}{dx} \\ \frac{\partial Q}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{Q^2}{\rho} + P - \eta \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left(\frac{Q}{\rho} \right) \right) &= S(\rho, Q, \rho_x, Q_x, \rho_a, Q_a) \end{aligned}$$

With $\mathbf{u} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ Q \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) = \begin{pmatrix} Q \\ \frac{Q^2}{\rho} + P - \eta \dots \end{pmatrix}$, $\mathbf{s}(\mathbf{u}) = \begin{pmatrix} \nu_{\text{rmp}} - \frac{Q}{I} \frac{dI}{dx} \\ S \end{pmatrix}$:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u})}{\partial x} = \mathbf{s}(\mathbf{u})$$

Upwind and McCormack Scheme

- ▶ The **upwind method** approximates $\frac{\partial f}{\partial x}$ by asymmetric first-order finite differences using upstream information (as in the LWR model for free traffic):

$$\mathbf{u}_k^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}_k^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (\mathbf{f}_k^n - \mathbf{f}_{k-1}^n) + \Delta t \mathbf{s}_k^n$$

It is useful for nonlocal models since the anticipated variables ρ_a and V_a in s_k^n ensure using the upstream information

- ▶ The **McCormack method** includes two steps:
 1. calculating a **predictor** using upwind finite differences,
 2. calculating a **corrector** using downwind differences:

$$\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_k^{n+1} = \mathbf{u}_k^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (\mathbf{f}_k^n - \mathbf{f}_{k-1}^n) + \Delta t \mathbf{s}_k^n \quad \text{predictor}$$

$$\mathbf{u}_k^{n+1} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_k^{n+1} + \mathbf{u}_k^n - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} (\tilde{\mathbf{f}}_{k+1}^{n+1} - \tilde{\mathbf{f}}_k^{n+1}) + \Delta t \tilde{\mathbf{s}}_k^{n+1} \right) \quad \text{corrector}$$

Approximating Nonlocalities

Assume you want to approximate $(\rho_a)_k^n$ for cell k (position $x = k \Delta x$) at time $t = n \Delta t$:

- ▶ Given the spatial anticipation horizon s_a , determine the number K of integer cells this corresponds to:

$$K = \left\lfloor \frac{s_a}{\Delta x} \right\rfloor.$$

(typical, $K = 0$ or $=1$)

- ▶ do a piecewise linear interpolation:

$$(\rho_a)_k^n \approx \rho_{k+K}^n + (\rho_{k+K+1}^n - \rho_{k+K}^n) \left(\frac{s_a}{\Delta x} - K \right)$$

- ▶ Near the downstream boundary, just use the most downstream information available

Numerical Instabilities

- ▶ Numerical instabilities have nothing to do with real flow instabilities that are possible in second-order models
- ▶ Compared to the LWR numerics, there are more types of possible instabilities:
 - ▶ **convection** instabilities as in the LWR
 - ▶ **diffusive** instabilities
 - ▶ **relaxational** instabilities
 - ▶ **nonlinear** instabilities
- ▶ An analysis is only possible in the linear case \rightarrow linearize the continuity and speed equations in the conservative form (w : deviations in ρ and Q)

$$\frac{\partial w}{\partial t} + \mathbf{C} \cdot \frac{\partial w}{\partial x} = \mathbf{L} \cdot w$$

C: **convection matrix**; **L**: **relaxation matrix**

Convection instabilities

- ▶ As in the LWR, not any signal may travel through more than one cell in one timestep.
- ▶ Two independent fields \rightarrow two signal velocities given by the eigenvalues of the convection matrix

$$\mathbf{C} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -V^2 + \frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} & 2V + \frac{\partial P}{\partial Q} \end{pmatrix}$$

- ▶ Calculation of the eigenvalues $c_{1/2}$ is easy if (as often) $\frac{\partial P}{\partial Q} = 0$ (and always $\frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho} \geq 0$)

$$c_{1/2} = V \pm \sqrt{\frac{\partial P}{\partial \rho}}$$

- ▶ Convection instability is avoided (for the upwind and McCormack methods) if the **first Courant-Friedrichs-Lévy (CFL) condition**

$$\Delta t < \frac{\Delta x}{\max(|c_1|, |c_2|)}$$

is satisfied for all possible V and ρ

Diffusive instabilities

Just consider the KK model, the only one with a diffusion term. In non-conservative form (no change when using the conservative form) we have with $\nu = \eta/\rho$:

$$\frac{dV}{dt} = \dots + \nu \frac{\partial^2 V}{\partial x^2} \approx \dots + \nu \frac{V_{ki1}^n - 2V_k^n + V_{k-1}^n}{\Delta x^2}$$

Euler update:

$$V_k^{n+1} \approx V_k^n + \nu \Delta t \frac{V_{k+1}^n - 2V_k^n + V_{k-1}^n}{\Delta x^2} + \text{other terms}$$

How would oscillating speed data $V_k^n = V_e + A(-1)^k$ be updated?

show that, in the next step, we would have

$$V_k^{n+1} = V_e + A \left(1 - \frac{4\nu \Delta t}{(\Delta x)^2} \right) (-1)^k.$$

Result: The **second CFL condition**

$$\Delta t < \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{2\nu}$$

must be satisfied for all possible V and ρ (ν may depend on ρ or V)

Relaxational instabilities for the Euler update

- ▶ For the relaxational instabilities, we need the eigenvalues of the matrix \mathbf{L} . Without road inhomogeneities, we have

$$\mathbf{L} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \frac{\partial S}{\partial \rho} & \frac{\partial S}{\partial Q} \end{pmatrix}$$

which has the eigenvalues $\lambda_1 = 0$ (**plausible?**) and $\lambda_2 = \frac{\partial S}{\partial Q}$

- ▶ Obviously, $\lambda_2 > 0$ means real instability (“the faster I am with respect to the steady-state speed, the more I accelerate”). However, numerical instabilities arise for $\lambda_2 < 0$ if $1 + \Delta t \lambda_2 < -1$ (**why?**):

$\Delta t < 2 / \left \frac{\partial S}{\partial Q} \right $	Relaxational stability criterion
$\Delta t < 1 / \left \frac{\partial S}{\partial Q} \right $	no spurious oscillations

- ▶ For Payne’s model and the KKL model, we have the source term

$$S = \frac{Q_e(\rho) - Q}{\tau} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial S}{\partial Q} = -1/\tau \Rightarrow \Delta t < \frac{2}{\tau}$$

- ▶ For the GKT model, relaxational instabilities become a problem near ρ_{\max} since then $\left| \frac{\partial S}{\partial Q} \right|$ becomes large

Nonlinear instabilities

- ▶ All of the above needs linearity for its derivation
- ▶ Usually, we are nonlinear (e.g., traffic waves). You need to just look what happens ;-)
- ▶ However, the linear limits give a good guess and their negation at least is a *sufficient* criterion for instabilities!

Numerical diffusion for the Euler update

Numerical instabilities are the worst but also numerical diffusion is unwanted: To analyse, let's assume that

- ▶ the exact state $\mathbf{u}(x, t)$ is given at time $t = n\Delta t$ and the grid points \mathbf{u}_k^n are exact as well,
- ▶ the flow-conservative part $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u})$ is at least twice differentiable in x and t ,
- ▶ the convective information flow is in driving direction, so we use upwind finite differences,
- ▶ the second-order model is stripped to the bare minimum $\mathbf{u}_t + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{u}) = 0$ with $\mathbf{u}_t = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t}$ (and later on $\mathbf{u}_x = \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial x}$, $\mathbf{u}_{xx} = \frac{\partial^2 \mathbf{u}}{\partial x^2}$)

Numerical diffusion for the Euler update (ctnd)

Let's develop both the true solution and the upwind approximation for $\mathbf{u}(t + \Delta t, k\Delta x)$ to second order in Δx and Δt :

True solution:

$$\mathbf{u}(t + \Delta t, k\Delta x) \approx \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}_t \Delta t + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}_{tt} (\Delta t)^2 = \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{C} \Delta t \mathbf{u}_x + \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{C}^2 (\Delta t)^2 \mathbf{u}_{xx}$$

where $C_{ij} = \frac{\partial f_i(t)}{\partial u_j}$ is the matrix of the partial derivatives (**Hesse matrix**) already mentioned at the convection instabilities.

Upwind approximation: Typically, the eigenvalue of \mathbf{C} with the largest absolute value is positive (information direction in driving direction) \Rightarrow analyze upwind finite differences (always used in the GKT model):

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}_k^{n+1} &= \mathbf{u}_k^n - \mathbf{C} \frac{\mathbf{u}_k^n - \mathbf{u}_{k-1}^n}{\Delta x} \Delta t \\ &\approx \mathbf{u} - \frac{\mathbf{C} \Delta t}{\Delta x} \left(\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u}_x \Delta x - \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{u}_{xx} (\Delta x)^2 \right) \\ &\approx \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{C} \Delta t \mathbf{u}_x + \frac{\mathbf{C}}{2} \Delta t \Delta x \mathbf{u}_{xx} \end{aligned}$$

Numerical diffusion for the Euler update (ctnd)

The *numerical diffusion* is just the difference between the numerical and true solution in second order:

$$\frac{u_k^{n+1} - u(x, t + \Delta t)}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{2} \mathbf{C} \Delta x \left(\mathbf{1} - \frac{\mathbf{C} \Delta t}{\Delta x} \right) u_{xx} \stackrel{!}{=} D_{\text{num}} u_{xx}$$

For $c_{1/2} < 0$, we need to use the downwind method leading to a sign change in the first term but the product is unchanged.

In summary, with the right upwind/downwind differentiation to avoid numerical instabilities, we have the **numerical diffusion**

$$D_{\text{num}} = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \mathbf{C} \left(\mathbf{1} - \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \mathbf{C} \right)$$

Remarkable: The numerical diffusion becomes very small just at the first CFL limit $\Delta t = \frac{\Delta x}{\max(|c_1|, |c_2|)}$ is reached