

ICTS Summer School on Numerical Relativity: Course work

10-21 June 2013

ICTS-TIFR Building, IISc Campus, Bangalore, India.

C1: Numerical relativity: Mathematical formulation (Thomas Baumgarte)

Day 1: A brief Review of GR

Tensors

- expansion into bases
- covariant derivative
- Christoffel symbols
- Riemann tensor

Einstein's Field Equations

Some Important Solutions

- weak fields: gravitational radiation
- Schwarzschild (in different coordinate systems)
- Tolman-Oppenheimer-Volkoff

Day 2: The 3+1 Decomposition

Foliations of spacetime

- normal vector
- spatial metric
- projections of tensors
- 3D covariant derivative

Extrinsic Curvature

Interlude: The Lie Derivative

Projections of the Riemann tensor

Day 3: The 3+1 Decomposition continued

Gauss, Codazzi and Ricci Equations

The ADM equations

Examples: decompositions of Schwarzschild

The role of the lapse and shift

Comparison with Maxwell's equations

Day 4: Solving the constraint equations

Freely specifiable versus constrained variables

Conformal transformations

Solving the Hamiltonian constraint

- time symmetry
- examples

Solving the Momentum constraint

- the CTT decomposition
- examples

The puncture method

Day 5: Solving the evolution equations

- Comparison with Maxwell's equations
- The "generalized harmonic" approach
- Reformulations of the ADM equations
 - Choosing the lapse and shift: slicing and gauge conditions
 - The moving-puncture method

Suggested references

- Thomas Moore, *A General Relativity Workbook*, University Science Books, or any other textbook on general relativity.
- Thomas Baumgarte & Stuart Shapiro, *Numerical Relativity: Solving Einstein's Equations on the Computer*, Cambridge University Press
- Miguel Alcubierre, *Introduction to 3+1 Numerical Relativity*, Oxford University Press
- Ericourgoulhon, *3+1 Formalism in General Relativity*, Springer
- Carles Bona, Carlos Palenzuela-Luque & Carles Bona-Casas, *Elements of Numerical Relativity and Relativistic Hydrodynamics*, Springer

C2: Introduction to theory and numerics of partial differential equations (Sascha Husa)

- Lectures (90 mins x 5):
- Tutorials: (90 mins x 5):

C3: Introduction to numerical hydrodynamics (David Neilsen)

This is a rough outline of these lectures, but it will certainly change as I spend more time putting things together. I am not sure what the schedule will be, but I am thinking of one lecture on fluids and one lecture on methods per day. The tutorials will be used for students to work on some computational examples.

Lecture 1: Relativistic Fluids 1

1. The fluid equations in special relativity
 - a. Ideal fluid
 - b. Stress-energy tensor
 - c. Equations of motion & conservation laws
2. Thermodynamics and equations of state
 - a. ideal gas equation of state
 - b. degenerate Fermi gas
 - c. nuclear equations of state
3. Conserved and primitive variables
 - a. Balance laws
 - b. Solving for primitive variables

Lecture 2: Numerical Methods 1

This is an introduction to simple numerical techniques that will be explored in the tutorial session.

1. Nonlinear equations
 - a. characteristics
 - b. weak solutions
 - c. numerical issues
2. Conservative schemes
 - a. Example of Burger's equation
3. Solving ODEs
 - a. Solving the TOV equations

- b. The method of lines

Lecture 3: Relativistic Fluids 2

1. Riemann problem for relativistic fluids
2. Fluid equations in general relativity (Valencia formulation)
3. Ideal MHD and astrophysical applications

Lecture 4: Numerical Methods 2

1. Linear systems of conservation laws
2. High-resolution shock-capturing methods
3. Shock-tube tests

Suggested References

Relativistic Fluids

1. Jose Maria Marti and Ewald Müller, [Numerical Hydrodynamics in Special Relativity](#), *Living Rev. Relativity*, **6**, (2003)
2. Jose A. Font, [Numerical Hydrodynamics and Magnetohydrodynamics in General Relativity](#), *Living Rev. Relativity*, **11** (2008), 7
3. Nils Andersson and Gregory L. Comer, [Relativistic Fluid Dynamics: Physics for Many Different Scales](#), *Living Rev. Relativity*, **10** (2007), 1
4. Ericourgoulhon, [Introduction to Relativistic Hydrodynamics](#), arXiv:gr-qc/0603009 (2006).

Numerical Methods

1. Randy J. LeVeque, *Nonlinear Conservation Laws and Finite Volume Methods for Astrophysical Fluid Flow*, 1998.

Python Tutorials

1. [How to Think Like a Computer Scientist](#) (A general python tutorial.)
2. [Matplotlib Tutorial](#) (A simple introduction to matplotlib, a plotting package for python.)
3. [matplotlib.org](#) (The homepage for matplotlib. Includes documentation and examples.)
4. [Python tutorial](#) (The python tutorial from python.org)

C4: Advanced course in theory and numerics of partial differential equations (Mark Hannam)

- Lectures (90 mins x 4):
- Tutorials: (90 mins x 4):

C5: Overview of current research in numerical relativity (Harald Pfeiffer)

- Lecture (90 mins x 1):

C6: Overview of current research in GW astronomy (B. S. Sathyaprakash)

- Lecture (90 mins x 1):