# The Shock Tube Problem

ME702 Final project

Luisa Capannolo

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- Studied by Gary A. Sod in 1978
- 1D problem
- analytical solutions are known
- used to test and validate computational fluid models

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## Governing Equations



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## Analytical solutions



diaphragm rarefaction wave shock wave contact discontinuity

### OpenFOAM 2D shock tube set-up





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# OpenFOAM rhoCentralFoam solver

- Greenshields et al., 2010
- compressible fluids  $\nabla \cdot (\rho \ \vec{u}) \neq 0$ .
- finite volumes method
- values are provided at the centroid of the volume cell
- cells are contiguous polyhedral volumes
- volume integrals in divergence and gradient terms are converted to surface integrals via Gauss's theorem



line cuts along x-axis

line cuts along x-axis



speed

density





## Results: resolution

line cuts along x-axis

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#### Results

line cuts along x-axis for 300x300x1 resolution grid



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Results: 2D plots

xy plane cut

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## Results: 2D plots

xy plane cut



# Python solvers

#### Python solvers: Lax-Friedrichs (1-step)



#### Python solvers: MacCormack (2-step)



## OpenFOAM vs. MacCormack



## Conclusions

- OpenFOAM can simulate the 2D shock tube problem
- solutions match to the analytical ones for resolution of at least 300x300
- 2D solutions are the same for the 1D case
- can extract 1D solutions to 2D and 3D case, if the diaphragm is along x only

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- MacCormack 2-step scheme also approximates well the analytical solutions, but additional artificial viscosity is needed
- MacCormack 2-step scheme has more diffusion

Temperature is obtained given that  $e = C_V T = (\gamma - 1)RT$ :

$$T = \frac{1}{C_V} \left( \frac{E}{\rho} - \frac{u^2}{2} \right)$$

