Discontinuous Galerkin Method for Numerical Weather Prediction

Discontinuous Galerkin in a large-eddy simulation

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Numerical weather prediction models





Atmospheric processes





Numerical methods

Conserved variables:

$$\frac{d}{dt}\varphi(x,t)=0$$

1D advection equation:

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x} = 0$$





Requirements advection scheme

- High numerical accuracy
- Fast



Proposed solution

Discontinuous Galerkin method

Advantages:

- superconvergence $\mathcal{O}(h^{p+1})$,
- high scalability,
- dynamic h-p refinements,
- unstructured grids,
- conservation of mass.



Discontinuous Galerkin





Discontinuous Galerkin

Prescribe the unknown function per element by:

$$\varphi^k(x,t) = \sum_{i=0}^p a_i^k(t)\ell_i(x)$$





Basis functions



Figure: Lagrange polynomials $\ell_j(x)$ using p + 1 Legendre-Gauss-Lobatto nodes.



Discontinuous Galerkin

For each element:

$$\varphi^k(x,t) = \sum_{i=0}^p a_i^k(t)\ell_i(x)$$

Advection equation:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\varphi + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}\left(u\varphi\right) = 0$$

Linear system of ODEs:





Discontinuous Galerkin





$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\tilde{\varphi} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0(z)}\nabla\cdot(\rho_0(z)\tilde{\varphi}\tilde{\boldsymbol{u}})\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\tilde{\varphi} = -\frac{1}{\rho_0(z)}\nabla\cdot(\rho_0(z)\tilde{\varphi}\tilde{\boldsymbol{u}}) + \frac{1}{\rho_0(z)}\nabla\cdot(\rho_0(z)\tilde{\varphi}\tilde{\boldsymbol{u}})$$
Advection equation
Diffusion



DALES

ŤUDelft



Advection scheme





Mappings





Mappings

Mappings a (FVM to DG):

- Cell average a
- L₂-projection

Mappings b (DG to FVM):

- Cell average of tendency $\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t}$
- Cell average b



Cell average a



- Simple, computational efficient
- Discontinuities



L₂-projection



- mass conservation
- no discontinuities

Mappings b

From DG values to FVM values:

$$g_{\text{FVM}} = \frac{1}{\Delta x \Delta y \Delta z} \int_{\Omega_k} g(\mathbf{x}) \ d\Omega_k,$$

Cell average of tendency:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi_{\mathsf{DG}} o \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \varphi_{\mathsf{FVM}}$$

Cell average b:

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\varphi_{\mathsf{DG}} \rightarrow \varphi_{\mathsf{DG}}(t + \beta \Delta t) \rightarrow \varphi_{\mathsf{FVM}}(t + \beta \Delta t) \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial t}\varphi_{\mathsf{FVM}}$$



Numerical Results

Using cell average *a* and the cell average of the tendency:



Overdiffusive



Numerical Results

Using the L_2 -projection and the cell average of the tendency:



Underdiffusive



Numerical Results

Using the L_2 -projection and cell average b:



Time delay



Discontinuous Galerkin





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Mappings





Conclusions

- DG as advection solver very promising
- in DALES inaccurate due to mappings



A recommendation

Multiple DALES cells as a DG cell: for example:



