Inverse design of one-dimensional Burgers equation

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Scalar conservation laws

We consider the one-dimensional Burgers equation

$$\partial_t u(t,x) + \partial_x f(u(t,x)) = 0, \quad (t,x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R},$$
 (1)

where *u* is the state and the flux function *f* is a strictly convex function defined by $f(u) = \frac{u^2}{2}$. We denote by

$$(t,x) \rightarrow S^+_t(u_0)(x) \in L^\infty([0,T] \times \mathbb{R}) \cap C^0([0,T], L^1_{\mathsf{loc}}(\mathbb{R}))$$

the weak entropy solution of (1) with initial datum $u_0 \in L^{\infty}(\mathbb{R})$.

The goal is to find theoretically and numerically the set of initial data u_0 such that $S_{\tau}^+(u_0)$ is close to a given target u^{τ} as much as possible.

Motivation : minimization of the Sonic boom effects generated by supersonic aircrafts which are modeled by an augmented Burgers equation

This leads to the following optimal control problem

$$\min_{u_0 \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}^0} J_0(u_0) := \| u^T(\cdot) - S_T^+(u_0) \|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})},$$
(2)

where $u^T \in BV(\mathbb{R})$ and the class of admissible initial data is defined by

$$\mathcal{U}^0_{\mathsf{ad}} = \{u_0 \in BV(\mathbb{R})/\|u_0\|_{BV(\mathbb{R})} < C \text{ and } \operatorname{Supp}(u_0) \subset K_0\}.$$

Two main difficulties arise.

- There exist multiple initial data leading to the same given target.
- The given target u^T may be unreachable along forward entropic evolution.
- Making sense of the derivative of J_0 is complex.

The backward operator S_t^- associated to the Burgers dynamic is defined by

$$S_t^-(u^T)(x) = S_t^+(x \to u^T(-x))(-x),$$

for every $t \in [0, T]$ and for a.e $x \in \mathbb{R}$.

The solution $S_t^-(u^T)$ may be regarded as the zero viscosity limit of $S_T^{-,\epsilon}(u^T)$ solution of the following backward equation

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t u(t,x) + \partial_x f(u(t,x)) = -\epsilon \partial_{xx}^2 u(t,x), & (t,x) \in \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}, \\ u(T,\cdot) = u^T(x), & x \in \mathbb{R}. \end{cases}$$

Using the change of variable $(t, x) \rightarrow (T - t, -x)$, we notice that the backward equation above is well-defined.

Thus, $S_T^-(u^T)$ is also called the backward entropy solution with final target u^T .

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Theorem

The optimal control problem (2) admits multiple optimal solutions. Morever, the initial datum $u_0 \in BV(\mathbb{R})$ is an optimal solution of (2) if and only if $u_0 \in BV(\mathbb{R})$ verifies $S_T^+(u_0) = S_T^+(S_T^-(u^T))$.

- A full characterization of the set of initial data u₀ ∈ BV(ℝ) such that S⁺_T(u₀) = S⁺_T(S⁻_T(u^T)) is given in [Colombo-Perrolaz, 2019].
- If there exists an initial datum $u_0 \in BV(\mathbb{R})$ such that $S^+_T(u_0) = u^T$ then $S^+_T(S^-_T(u^T)) = u^T$.

If u^T is a reachable target with finite number of shocks

The two following results are given in [Colombo-Perrolaz, 2019].

There exists an initial datum u₀ ∈ BV(ℝ) such that S⁺_T(u₀) = u^T iff u^T satisfies the Oleinik condition, means that ∂_xu^T ≤ ¹/_T in the sense of distributions.

 A map u₀ ∈ BV(ℝ) verifies S⁺_T(u₀) = u^T if and only if the two following statements hold :

• For every $x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{N} [a_i, b_i], u_0(x-) = S_T^-(u^T)(x-).$

• For every
$$x \in \bigcup_{i=1}^{N} [a_i, b_i]$$

$$\int_{a_i}^{x} u_0(s) \, ds \geq \int_{a_i}^{x} S_T^-(u^T)(s) \, ds, \ \int_{a_i}^{b_i} u_0(s) \, ds = \int_{a_i}^{b_i} S_T^-(u^T)(s) \, ds.$$

with $a_i := x_i^T - Tf'(u^T(x_i^T -))$ and $b_i := x_i^T - Tf'(u^T(x_i^T +))$ and $(x_i^T)_{i \in \{0, \dots, N\}}$ the $N \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ discontinuous poins of u^T such that $u^T(x_i^T +) < u^T(x_i^T -)$.

Example



Construction of six random initial data u_0 leading to u^T using a wave-front tracking method

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• Rewrite (2) as

$$\min_{q \in \mathcal{U}_{ad}^1} \mathcal{J}_1(q) := \| u^T - q \|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})}, \quad (3)$$

where the admissible set \mathcal{U}^1_{ad} is defined by

$$\mathcal{U}^1_{\mathsf{ad}} = \{q \in \mathsf{BV}(\mathbb{R}) / \ \partial_x q \leq \frac{1}{T} \text{ and } \|q\|_{\mathsf{BV}(\mathbb{R})} \leq C \text{ and } \mathsf{Supp}(q) \subset \mathsf{K}_1 \}.$$

• Using $S_T^-(S_T^+(S_T^-(u^T)) = S_T^-(u^T)$ and a full characterization of u_0 such that $S_T^-(u_0) = S_T^-(u^T)$, we prove that $S_T^+(S_T^-(u^T))$ is a critical point of (3).

 $u^{T}(x) = \begin{cases} 2 & \text{if } x \in (-0.2, 1.1) \bigcup (2, 3.1) \bigcup (4.1, 5.3) \bigcup (6.1, 7.2), \\ -1 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$







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$$\begin{split} u^T = & -\mathbb{1}_{(-\infty,0)} + 3\mathbb{1}_{(0,1.1)} + 0.55\mathbb{1}_{(1.1,2)} + 2.11\mathbb{1}_{(2,3.1)} - 0.7\mathbb{1}_{(3.1,5)} \\ & -0.23\mathbb{1}_{(5.5,8)} - \mathbb{1}_{(5.8,6.1)} + 2.89\mathbb{1}_{(6.1,7.2)} - \mathbb{1}_{(7,2,\infty)}. \end{split}$$



 u^T and $x \to S^+_T(S^-_T(u^T))(x)$

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 $S_T^+(S_T^-(u^T))$ is constructed using a backward-forward approach. The shaded area (in red) at time x and at time t are the set of initial data $u_0 \in BV(\mathbb{R})$ such that $S_T^+(u_0) = S_T^+(S_T^-(u^T))$ and the set of initial data $u_t \in BV(\mathbb{R})$ such that $S_{T-t}^+(u_t) = S_T^+(S_T^-(u^T))$ respectively.

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Open problems

- It would be interesting to replace the L²-norm by the BV-norm in (2) which seems to be more natural since we do not need the artificial constraint ||u||_{BV(ℝ)} ≤ C in the admissible class of initial data U_{ad} anymore to prove the existence of minimizers for (2).
- We may also consider a convex-concave function as a flux function in (1) which is for instance a more realistic choice to describe the flow of pedestrian.
- A source term may be added to the Burgers equation. In this case, the backward-forward method described in this paper may not be well-defined.
- To finish we can also investigate systems of conservation laws in one dimension or in multi-dimension (Euler equations, Shallow water equations).

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