

*NASA CR-181,683*

**NASA Contractor Report 181683**

**ICASE REPORT NO. 88-41**

NASA-CR-181683  
19880016773

# ICASE

SEMI-DISCRETE APPROXIMATIONS TO NONLINEAR  
SYSTEMS OF CONSERVATION LAWS; CONSISTENCY  
AND  $L^\infty$ -STABILITY IMPLY CONVERGENCE

Eitan Tadmor

Contract No. NAS1-18107  
July 1988

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# SEMI-DISCRETE APPROXIMATIONS TO NONLINEAR SYSTEMS OF CONSERVATION LAWS; CONSISTENCY AND $L^\infty$ - STABILITY IMPLY CONVERGENCE

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## ABSTRACT

We develop a convergence theory for semi-discrete approximations to nonlinear systems of conservation laws. We show, by a series of scalar counterexamples, that consistency with the conservation law alone does not guarantee convergence. Instead, we introduce a notion of consistency which takes into account both the conservation law and its augmenting entropy condition. In this context, we conclude that consistency and  $L^\infty$ -stability guarantee for a “relevant” class of admissible entropy functions, that their entropy production rate belong to a compact subset of  $H_{loc}^{-1}(x, t)$ . One can use now compensated compactness arguments in order to turn this conclusion into a convergence proof. The current state of the art for these arguments includes the scalar and a wide class of  $2 \times 2$  systems of conservation laws.

We study the general framework of the vanishing viscosity method as an effective way to meet our consistency and  $L^\infty$ -stability requirements. We show how this method is utilized to enforce consistency and  $L^\infty$ -stability for scalar conservation laws. In this context, we prove under the appropriate assumptions ( $L^\infty$ -bounds), the convergence of finite-difference approximations (e.g., the high-resolution TVD and UNO methods), finite-element approximations (e.g., the Streamline-Diffusion methods) and spectral and pseudospectral approximations (e.g., the Spectral Viscosity methods).

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Research was supported by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration under NASA Contract No. NAS1-18107 while the author was in residence at the Institute for Computer Applications in Science and Engineering (ICASE), NASA Langley Research Center, Hampton, VA 23665. Additional support was provided by U.S.-Israel BSF Grant No. 85-00346, and by NSF Grant No. DMS85-03294 while in residence at the University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90024.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

We consider  $2\pi$ -periodic initial-value problems, which consist of the one-dimensional system of conservation laws

$$(1.1a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u(x, t))] = 0,$$

together with an augmenting entropy condition, which requires that for all convex entropy pairs  $(U(u), F(u) \equiv \int^u < U'(w), f'(w)dw >)$  the following entropy inequality holds [7]

$$(1.1b) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[U(u(x, t))] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[F(u(x, t))] \leq 0.$$

We want to solve this problem by a semi-discrete algorithm. To this end one associates with a large parameter  $N$  (or a small parameter  $\Delta x \equiv \frac{2\pi}{2N+1}$ , depending on the point of view),

I. A finite  $(2N + 1)$ -dimensional space,  $\phi_N$ , spanned by  $2\pi$ -periodic basis functions,  $\{\varphi_k(x)\}_{k=-N}^N$ ,

and

II. A possibly nonlinear,  $f$ -dependent, spatial discretization operator,  $P_N^f$ ,

$$P_N^f : L^\infty[0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \Phi_N,$$

such that  $P_N^f w(x)$  is an appropriate  $\Phi_N$ -approximation of  $f(w(x))$ ; here,  $\Phi_N$  denotes the  $(2N + 1)$ -space spanned by the  $2\pi$ -periodic primitives of  $\{\varphi_k(x)\}_{k=-N}^N$ .

The exact solution of (1.1a), (1.1b),  $u(x, t)$ , is then approximated by a  $\phi_N$ -element,  $u_N(x, t)$ ,

$$(1.2) \quad u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k(t) \varphi_k(x),$$

which is determined by the following procedure:

Starting with prescribed (possibly pre-processed) initial-data  $u_N(x, 0)$  in  $\phi_N$ , we let  $u_N(x, t)$  evolve later in time according to the  $(2N + 1)$ -dimensional approximate model

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[P_N^f u_N(x, t)] = 0.$$

In what sense does (1.3) approximate (1.1a)? Let us rewrite (1.3) in the form

$$(1.4) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t))] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t)) - P_N^f u_N(x, t)].$$

The expression inside the right brackets is the discrete local error,  $E_N^f u_N(x, t)$ ,

$$(1.5) \quad E_N^f u_N(x, t) \equiv f(u_N(x, t)) - P_N^f u_N(x, t),$$

which reflects the amount by which  $u_N(x, t)$  fails to satisfy (1.1a). Its size may serve us as a measure for the order of accuracy of (1.3).

**Definition 1.1:** (Order of accuracy) The approximation (1.3) is accurate of order  $s \geq 0$  with the conservation law (1.1a), if there exist constants,  $C_j, j = 0, 1, \dots, s - 1$ , such that for any  $r, 0 < r \leq s$ , and for all  $w_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$ , the following estimate holds <sup>1</sup>

$$(1.6) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq \frac{1}{N^r} \left[ C_0 \cdot \left\| \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} w_N(x) \right\| + \sum_{j=1}^{r-1} C_j \right].$$

Here  $C_j, j = 0, 1, \dots$ , are constants which may depend on the  $L^\infty$ -bounds of  $w_N(x)$  and its first  $j$ -derivatives, but otherwise are independent of  $N$ .

**Remark:** In a similar manner one can define accuracy of nonintegral orders  $s > 0$ .

We note that (1.6) is a refinement of the usual definition of accuracy, in that here, the local error on the left and the highest derivative involved on the right are weighted by the  $L^2$  rather than the usual  $L^\infty$ -norm. This then implies that  $s$ -order accurate approximations are, in particular, consistent with the conservation law (1.1a), in the sense of

**Definition 1.2:** (Consistency with the conservation law) The approximation (1.3) is consistent with conservation law (1.1a), if for all  $w_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$  which are uniformly bounded w.r.t.  $N$ , there exists a vanishing sequence,  $c_N \rightarrow 0$ , such that the following estimate holds

$$(1.7) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|.$$

Indeed, an  $s$ -order accurate approximation satisfies the consistency requirements, (1.7), with  $c_N = \frac{C_0}{N}$ .

**Remark:** In the generic case, the discrete local error is upper-bounded by

$$(1.8) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq \frac{Const.}{N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(w_N(x)) \right\|,$$

with some universal constant  $Const.$ . Hence (1.7) holds with  $c_N = Const_0 \cdot \frac{1}{N}$ , where  $Const_0 \sim \|A \equiv f'(w_N(x))\|_{L^\infty(x)}$ .

The first of the two ingredients involved in discretizing the conservation law (1.1a), is the choice of the finite  $(2N + 1)$ -space  $\phi_N$ . A very convenient choice in this respect is

---

<sup>1</sup>We use  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$  and  $|\cdot|$  to denote the usual Euclidean vector inner product and norm. Similar notations are used for vector functions, e.g.,  $(\cdot, \cdot) = \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle dx$  and  $\|\cdot\|^2 = (\cdot, \cdot)$  for spatial vector functions and  $(\cdot, \cdot) = \int_0^T \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle dx dt$ ,  $\|\cdot\|^2 = (\cdot, \cdot)$  for  $L^2_{loc}(x, t)$  space-time integration.

the space of  $N$ -trigonometric polynomials,  $\pi_N$ , spanned by  $\{e^{ikx}\}_{k=-N}^N$ . In this case,  $\pi_N$  coincides with the space spanned by its  $2\pi$ -periodic primitives, and they consist of spatially smooth approximants of the form

$$(1.9) \quad u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k(t) e^{ikx}.$$

The principal raison d'être for the  $\pi_N$  space is contained in its isometry with the  $(2N+1)$ -space of Fourier coefficients  $\{\hat{u}_k(t)\}_{k=-N}^N$ . Spectral and pseudospectral methods are the canonical examples for  $\pi_N$ -discretizations of the conservation law (1.1a).

**Example 1.3: Spectral Methods.** Denote by  $S_N w(x)$  the spectral-Fourier projection of  $w(x)$  into  $\pi_N$

$$(1.10) \quad S_N w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{w}(k) e^{ikx}, \quad \hat{w}(k) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} w(x) e^{-ikx} dx.$$

The approximation (1.3) with  $P_N^f u_N(\cdot, t) = S_N f(u_N(\cdot, t))$ , amounts to the spectral method for the trigonometric approximant,  $u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k(t) e^{ikx}$ , which reads

$$(1.11) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \hat{u}_k(t) + ik \hat{f}_k(t) = 0, \quad \hat{f}_k(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} f(u_N(x, t)) e^{-ikx} dx, \quad |k| \leq N.$$

In Section 7 we prove that the spectral method (1.11) is accurate of any order  $s > 0$ , i.e., it is “infinitely-order” or spectrally accurate with the conservation law (1.1a).

**Example 1.4: Pseudospectral Methods.** Denote by  $\psi_N w(x)$  the  $\psi$ dospectral-Fourier projection of  $w(x)$ , which interpolates  $w(x)$  at the  $2N+1$  equidistant collocation points  $x_{\nu+\theta} \equiv (\nu+\theta)\Delta x$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, 2N$ , with fixed  $0 \leq \theta < 1$  and  $\Delta x = \frac{2\pi}{2N+1}$ ,

$$(1.12) \quad \psi_N w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{w}(k) e^{ikx}, \quad \hat{w}(k) = \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} w(x_{\nu+\theta}) e^{-ikx_{\nu+\theta}}.$$

The approximation (1.3) with  $P_N^f u_N(\cdot, t) = \psi_N f(u_N(\cdot, t))$ , amounts to the pseudospectral method for the trigonometric approximant,  $u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k(t) e^{ikx}$ , which reads

$$(1.13) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \hat{u}_k(t) + ik \hat{f}_k(t) = 0, \quad \hat{f}_k(t) = \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} f(u_N(x_{\nu+\theta}, t)) e^{-ikx_{\nu+\theta}}, \quad |k| \leq N.$$

In Section 7 we prove that the  $\psi$ dospectral method (1.13) is accurate of any order  $s > \frac{1}{2}$ , i.e., it is “infinitely-order” or spectrally accurate with the conservation law (1.1a).

Finite-difference and finite-element methods are usually interpreted as evolution discretizations of (1.1a) in terms of piecewise-constant or piecewise-linear approximants. As

we shall now see, these methods can be equally well interpreted as  $\pi_N$ -discretizations of (1.1a), governing the evolution of trigonometric approximants instead of piecewise-constant or piecewise-linear ones. Let us turn to

Conservative Methods. We deal with discrete approximations of (1.1a) which admit the conservative form [9]

$$(1.14) \quad \frac{d}{dt}u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{\Delta x}[h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^f] = 0, \quad x_\nu = \nu\Delta x, \quad \nu = 0, 1, \dots, 2N.$$

Here  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f \equiv h^f(u_N(x_{\nu-p+1}, t), \dots, u_N(x_{\nu+p}, t))$  is the Lipschitz continuous numerical flux which is consistent with the differential one

$$(1.15) \quad h^f(u_N(x, t), \dots, u_N(x, t)) \equiv f(u_N(x, t)).$$

In Section 7, we prove that arbitrary conservative schemes of this form are at least first-order accurate approximations of the conservation law (1.1a). In order to interpret such schemes within the  $\pi_N$ -framework (1.3)(1.9), let us introduce the  $\pi_N$ -polynomial,  $H_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{H}_k(t)e^{ikx}$ , which interpolates the numerical flux values at the grid points  $x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = (\nu + \frac{1}{2})\Delta x$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, 2N$ ,

$$(1.16a) \quad H_N(x = x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}, t) = h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f, \quad \hat{H}_k(t) = \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f e^{-ikx_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}},$$

and then define  $P_N^f u_N(x, t)$  as the sliding average of this interpolant

$$(1.16b) \quad P_N^f u_N(x, t) = \overline{H_N(x)}, \quad \overline{H_N(x)} \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x-\frac{\Delta x}{2}}^{x+\frac{\Delta x}{2}} H_N(\xi) d\xi.$$

By applying such averaging plus summation by parts to  $H_N(x, t)$ , we end up with the (possibly nonlinear) spatial operator,  $P_N^f$ , which approximates  $f(u_N(x, t))$  from  $\pi_N$  via

$$(1.17) \quad P_N^f u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{p}_k(t) e^{ikx}, \quad \hat{p}_k(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi ik} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^f] e^{-ikx_\nu}.$$

We note that due to conservation,  $\hat{p}_0(t)$ , is well-defined as  $\hat{p}_0(t) \equiv 0$ . The approximation (1.3) with  $P_N^f$  defined in (1.17) amounts to

$$(1.18) \quad \frac{d}{dt}\hat{u}_k(t) + \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^f] e^{ikx_\nu} = 0, \quad u_N(x_\nu, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k(t) e^{ikx_\nu},$$

which by the inverse discrete Fourier transform is equivalent with (1.14).

In this manner one can imbed any finite-difference or finite-element method as an evolution scheme in  $\pi_N$ .

An instructive example for this process is provided by

**Example 1.5: Centered Finite-Difference Methods.** Consider the standard centered finite-difference method

$$(1.19) \quad \frac{d}{dt}u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{2\Delta x}[f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = 0.$$

The discrete Fourier coefficients,  $\hat{p}_k(t)$  of  $P_N^f u_N(x, t)$  in (1.17), equal

$$(1.20) \quad \begin{aligned} \hat{p}_k(t) &= \frac{1}{2\pi i k} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] e^{-ikx_\nu} \equiv \\ &\equiv \frac{\sin k\Delta x}{k\Delta x} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} f(u_N(x_\nu, t)) e^{-ikx_\nu}. \end{aligned}$$

In Section 7 we prove that the finite-difference method (1.19) satisfies the expected second-order accuracy requirement (1.6). We note that the numerical flux associated with (1.19),

$$(1.21) \quad h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f = \frac{1}{2}[f(u_N(x_\nu, t)) + f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t))],$$

depends linearly on the gridvalues of  $f(u_N(\cdot, t))$ ; consequently we end up with a corresponding discretization operator,  $P_N^f$ , which operates linearly on  $f(u_N(\cdot, t))$ , i.e.,

$$(1.22a) \quad P_N^f u_N(\cdot, t) = FD_{\Delta x} f(u_N(\cdot, t)),$$

where

$$(1.22b) \quad FD_{\Delta x} w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{w}(k) e^{ikx}, \quad \hat{w}(k) = \frac{\sin k\Delta x}{k\Delta x} \cdot \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} w(x_\nu) e^{-ikx_\nu}.$$

The fact that the finite-difference operator,  $FD_{\Delta x}$ , turns out to be a smoothed version of the  $\psi$ -spectral projection  $\psi_N$  in (1.12),

$$(1.22c) \quad FD_{\Delta x} w(x) = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} \int_{x-\Delta x}^{x+\Delta x} \psi_N(w(\xi)) d\xi$$

is typical to all standard linear differencing methods, consult [19]. In other cases, the resulting operator  $P_N^f$  in (1.17) may depend on the flux  $f$  in a more intricate way as shown by

**Example 1.6: Finite-Element Methods.** Let  $(U_*(u), F_*(u))$  be any preferred entropy pair associated with (1.1a). Define the entropy variables

$$(1.23) \quad v = U_*'(u),$$

and note that the strict convexity of  $U_*(u)$  enables to uniquely invert (1.23),  $u = u(v)$ .



The finite-element approximation of (1.1a), based on piecewise-linear elements in the entropy variables  $v$  reads [18, Section 5] [21, Section 4],

$$(1.24a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0,$$

and the mass lumped version of this yields

$$(1.24b) \quad \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0.$$

Here  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*$  is the numerical flux given by

$$(1.25a) \quad h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = \int_{\xi=-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} f(u(v_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi))) d\xi,$$

where

$$(1.25b) \quad v_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi) \equiv \left(\frac{1}{2} - \xi\right) U'_*(u_N(x_\nu, t)) + \left(\frac{1}{2} + \xi\right) U'_*(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)).$$

We recall that in the case of standard linear finite-difference methods, the numerical flux depends solely on the gridvalues  $f(u_N(x_\nu, t))$ . In contrast, the current finite-element numerical flux in (1.25a), (1.25b),  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*$ , depend on all the intermediate values  $f(u(v(\xi)))$ . This fact is reflected in the corresponding discretization operator,  $P_N^f$ , which according to (1.16a), (1.16b) is given by

$$(1.26a) \quad P_N^f u_N(\cdot, t) = FE_{\Delta x} f(u_N(\cdot, t)),$$

with

$$(1.26b) \quad FE_{\Delta x} w(x) = \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x-\frac{\Delta x}{2}}^{x+\frac{\Delta x}{2}} H_N^*(\xi) d\xi, \quad H_N^*(x = x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}) = \int_{\xi=-1/2}^{1/2} w(v_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi.$$

**Remark:** In both cases of the finite-difference and finite-element methods (1.22), (1.26), the spatial discretization,  $P_N^f$ , operates linearly on the flux  $f$ , i.e.,

$$(1.27) \quad P_N^{\alpha_1 f_1 + \alpha_2 f_2} = \alpha_1 P_N^{f_1} + \alpha_2 P_N^{f_2}.$$

The more modern shock-capturing techniques employ numerical fluxes,  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f$ , which depend on the data,  $u_N(x, t)$  and  $f$ , in an essentially nonlinear manner [3]. These methods can be also interpreted as evolution schemes in  $\pi_N$  using the discretization recipe (1.16a), (1.16b); in such essentially nonlinear cases, however, the resulting discretization operator,  $P_N^f$ , need not satisfy the linearity property (1.27). Our foregoing discussion equally applies to linear methods as well as the essentially nonlinear ones.

The examples considered so far, were formulated within the trigonometric  $\pi_N$ -framework. We close this section with an example which shows how the finite-difference/element methods (1.24), can be equivalently formulated within the canonical piecewise-linear framework.

**Example 1.7: Finite-Difference/Element Methods revisited.** Let  $\phi_N$  be the space of piecewise-linear grid functions,  $w_N(x)$ ,

$$(1.28a) \quad w_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N w_N(x_k) \Lambda_k(x) ,$$

spanned by the  $2\pi$ -periodic ‘hat’ functions,  $\varphi_k(x) = \Lambda_k(x)$ , which are centered at  $x_k = k\Delta x$ ,

$$(1.28b) \quad \Lambda_k(x) = \frac{1}{\Delta x} \min([x] - x_{k-1}, x_{k+1} - [x]) \quad , \quad [x] = x[\bmod 2\pi] .$$

This family of basis functions is not orthogonal – the corresponding mass matrix  $M$ ,  $M_{ij} \equiv (\Lambda_i(x), \Lambda_j(x))$ , is given by the circulant matrix

$$(1.29) \quad M = \Delta x C \quad , \quad C = \text{Circulant} \left( \frac{1}{6}, \frac{4}{6}, \frac{1}{6} \right) .$$

In order to interpret (1.24) within the current piecewise-linear framework, we introduce the finite-element discretization operator,  $FE_{\Delta x}$ , which maps  $L^\infty[-\pi, \pi]$  into the space  $\Phi_N$  of piecewise-quadratic B-spline gridfunctions,

$$(1.30a) \quad FE_{\Delta x} w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \Omega_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x) .$$

Here,  $\Omega_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x)$  stands for the  $2\pi$ -periodic ‘bell-shaped’ functions supported on  $[x_{k-1}, x_{k+2}]$ ,

$$(1.30b) \quad \Omega'_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x) = \frac{1}{\Delta x} [\Lambda_k(x) - \Lambda_{k+1}(x)] ,$$

and  $\bar{w} \equiv \{\bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}}\}_{k=-N}^N$  is the vector of cell averages

$$(1.30c) \quad \bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} = \bar{w}(x_{k+\frac{1}{2}}) \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_k}^{x_{k+1}} w(x) dx .$$

Differentiating (1.30a) we obtain, in view of (1.30b) and (1.29),

$$(1.31) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} FE_{\Delta x} w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \frac{1}{\Delta x} [\bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} - \bar{w}_{k-\frac{1}{2}}] \Lambda_k(x) .$$

Hence approximation (1.3) with  $P_N^f u_N(\cdot, t) = FE_{\Delta x} f(u_N(\cdot, t))$  reads, at the collocation points  $x = x_\nu$ ,

$$(1.32a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [\bar{f}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} - \bar{f}_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}] = 0 ;$$

since  $u_N(\cdot, t)$  is piecewise-linear we have

$$(1.32b) \quad \bar{f}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_\nu}^{x_{\nu+1}} f(u_N(x, t)) dx = \int_{\xi=-1/2}^{1/2} f(u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi = h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*,$$

and we recover the mass lumped version of the finite-element method (1.24b), with  $U_*(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$  as the “preferred” entropy function,

$$(1.33) \quad \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0.$$

Similarly, the finite-element method (1.24b) with no mass lumping corresponds to

$$(1.34a) \quad FE_{\Delta x} w(x) = \sum_{k=-M}^N \tilde{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \Omega_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x),$$

where  $\Delta \tilde{w} \equiv \{\tilde{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} - \tilde{w}_{k-\frac{1}{2}}\}_{k=-N}^N$  is a vector solution of<sup>2</sup>

$$(1.34b) \quad C \cdot \Delta \tilde{w} = \Delta \bar{w}, \quad \Delta \bar{w} \equiv \{\bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} - \bar{w}_{k-\frac{1}{2}}\}_{k=-N}^N.$$

In this case, (1.31) is replaced by

$$(1.35) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} FE_{\Delta x} w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \frac{1}{\Delta x} [C^{-1} \cdot \Delta \bar{w}]_k \Lambda_k(x),$$

and approximation (1.3) with  $P_N^f u_N(\cdot, t) = FE_{\Delta x} f(u_N(\cdot, t))$  recovers the finite-element method (1.24a)

$$(1.36) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0.$$

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<sup>2</sup>Since the vector of ones is an eigenvector of  $C$ , a conservative solution of (1.34b) exists.

## 2. THE NECESSITY OF ENTROPY DISSIPATION

The consistency condition (1.7) guarantees that as  $N$  tends to infinity, the approximation (1.3) approaches the conservation law (1.1a). The question whether the approximate solution,  $u_N(x, t)$ , approaches the corresponding conservative solution,  $u(x, t)$ , is the question of convergence. The following scalar counterexamples—one for each of the discretizations methods mentioned above, show that the solutions of consistent approximations may fail to converge to the appropriate conservative solutions.

**Counterexample 2.1:** [20]. The spectral-Fourier approximation (1.11) of the scalar equation (1.1a) reads

$$(2.1) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[S_N f(u_N(x, t))] = 0.$$

Multiplying this by  $u_N(x, t)$  and integrating over the  $2\pi$ -period, we obtain that  $u_N$ —being orthogonal to  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[(I - S_N)f(u_N(x, t))]$ , satisfies

$$(2.2) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^{2\pi} u_N^2(x, t) dx = - \int_0^{2\pi} u_N(x, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t))] dx = - \int^{u_N(x, t)} u f'(u) du \Big|_{x=0}^{x=2\pi} = 0.$$

Thus, the total quadratic entropy,  $U(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ , is globally conserved in time

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} u_N^2(x, t) dx \equiv \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, t)) \Delta x = \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, 0)) \Delta x, \quad U(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2,$$

which in turn yields the existence of a weak  $L^2(x)$ -limit  $\bar{u}(x, t) = w \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N(x, t)$ . Yet,  $\bar{u}(x, t)$  cannot be the entropy solution of a genuinely nonlinear (GNL) Equation (1.1a) where  $f''(\cdot) \neq 0$ . Otherwise,  $S_N f(u_N(x, t))$  and therefore  $f(u_N(x, t))$  should tend weakly to  $f(\bar{u}(x, t))$ ; consequently, since  $f(u)$  is GNL,  $\bar{u}(x, t) = s \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N(x, t)$  which by (2.3) should satisfy  $\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \bar{u}^2(x, t) dx = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^{2\pi} \bar{u}^2(x, 0) dx$ . But this is incompatible with the entropy condition (1.1b) if  $\bar{u}(x, t)$  contains shock discontinuities.

**Counterexample 2.2:** The pseudospectral approximation (1.13) of the scalar conservation law

$$(2.4) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(e^u)}{\partial x} = 0,$$

reads

$$(2.5) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[\psi_N e^{u_N(x, t)}] = 0.$$

Multiply this by  $\psi_N e^{u_N(x,t)}$  and integrate over the  $2\pi$ -period: since the trapezoidal rule is exact with integration of the  $2N$ -trigonometric polynomial obtained from the second brackets, we have

$$(2.6) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} e^{u_N(x_\nu, t)} \Delta x = - \int_0^{2\pi} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{1}{2} (\psi_N e^{u_N(x,t)})^2 \right] dx = 0.$$

Thus, the total exponential entropy,  $U(u) = e^u$ , is globally conserved in time

$$(2.7) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, t)) \Delta x = \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, 0)) \Delta x, \quad U(u) = e^u.$$

Hence, if  $u_N(x, t)$  converges (even weakly) to a discontinuous weak solution  $\bar{u}(x, t)$  of (1.1a), then  $\psi_N e^{u_N(x,t)}$  tends (at least weakly) to  $e^{\bar{u}(x,t)}$ . Consequently, (2.7) would imply the global entropy conservation of  $\int_0^{2\pi} e^{\bar{u}(x,t)} dx$  in time, which rules out the possibility of  $\bar{u}(x, t)$  being the unique entropy solution of (1.1a).

**Counterexample 2.3:** [8]. The centered-difference approximation (1.19) of the scalar conservation law (2.4), yields the nonlinear completely integrable system [5],[12]

$$(2.8) \quad \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [e^{u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)} - e^{u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t)}] = 0.$$

Multiplying (2.8) by  $e^{u_N(x_\nu, t)}$  we obtain

$$(2.9a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} [e^{u_N(x_\nu, t)}] + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} - F_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}] = 0,$$

where the consistent entropy flux,  $F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = F(u_N(x_\nu, t), u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t))$ , is given by

$$(2.9b) \quad F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{1}{2} e^{[u_N(x_\nu, t) + u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)]}.$$

In particular, this implies a global entropy conservation of the exponential entropy,  $U(u) = e^u$ ,

$$(2.10) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, t)) \Delta x = \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, 0)) \Delta x, \quad U(u) = e^u.$$

It follows from the Lax-Wendroff theorem [9] that  $u_N(x, t)$  cannot converge boundedly a.e. to any function  $u(x, t)$ , for otherwise  $u \equiv u(x, t)$  would be an entropy conservative weak solution of (2.4), satisfying the entropy equality

$$(2.11) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [e^u] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{1}{2} e^{2u} \right] = 0;$$

this is incompatible with the entropy condition (1.1b), once the initial data  $u(x, 0) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} u_N(x, 0)$  permit discontinuous solution  $u(x, t)$ . Moreover, the bounded solutions of (2.8) cannot even converge weakly to the entropy solution,  $\bar{u}(x, t)$ , of (2.4). Otherwise,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} F D_{\Delta x} e^{u_N(x, t)}$  – and hence by (1.22c) also  $\psi_N e^{u_N(x, t)}$  – should tend weakly to  $e^{\bar{u}(x, t)}$ , which in view of (2.10) leads to the same contradiction we had in the  $\psi$ -dospectral Counterexample 2.2.

**Counterexample 2.4:** [18]. The scalar finite-element approximation (1.24b) of (1.1a), induced by the quadratic entropy,  $U_*(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ , reads

$$(2.12a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0, \quad h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = \int_{\xi=-\frac{1}{2}}^{\frac{1}{2}} f(u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi,$$

where  $u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)$  abbreviates

$$(2.12b) \quad u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi) = \frac{1}{2} [u_N(x_\nu, t) + u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)] + \xi [u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) - u_N(x_\nu, t)].$$

Multiplying this by  $u_N(x_\nu, t)$  we obtain after rearrangement

$$(2.13a) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} [u_N(x_\nu, t)]^2 + \frac{1}{\Delta x} u_N(x_\nu, t) [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] \equiv \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} [u_N(x_\nu, t)]^2 + \frac{1}{\Delta x} [F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - F_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0,$$

where the consistent entropy flux  $F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*$  is given by [18]

$$(2.13b) \quad F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = \frac{1}{2} [u_N(x_\nu, t) + u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)] h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - \frac{1}{2} \left[ \int^{u_N(x_\nu, t)} f(u) du + \int^{u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)} f(u) du \right].$$

In particular, this implies a global quadratic entropy conservation in time

$$(2.14) \quad \int_0^{2\pi} U(u_N(x, t)) dx \equiv \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, t)) \Delta x = \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, 0)) \Delta x, \quad U(u) = \frac{1}{2} u^2.$$

Hence  $u_N(x, t)$  cannot converge boundedly a.e. to any function  $u(x, t)$ , which otherwise, by the Lax-Wendroff theorem, would be an entropy conservative solution of (1.1a). Moreover, by the same argument as before, bounded solutions,  $u_N(x, t)$ , cannot even converge weakly to any conservative solution of the GNL equation (1.1a), for otherwise the convergence should be strong—a contradiction.

The essential ingredient behind the failure of convergence demonstrated in counterexamples 2.1-2.4, is the lack of entropy dissipation. Namely, in each case we have found an entropy function,  $U(u)$ , such that the total amount of entropy  $\sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, t)) \Delta x$  is conserved in time

$$(2.15) \quad \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, t)) \Delta x = \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} U(u_N(x_\nu, 0)) \Delta x.$$

This rules out (even weak) convergence to the entropy solution of our problem. In fact, in the finite-difference and finite-element cases, we found a local (cellwise) entropy conservation, consult (2.9), (2.13), which prevents the existence of any strong limit as well.

We conclude that some sort of global entropy dissipation is necessary for a consistent discrete approximation of (1.1a) to converge, for otherwise, the lack of such entropy dissipation is inconsistent with the augmenting entropy condition (1.1b).

### 3. CONSISTENCY WITH THE ENTROPY CONDITION

Let  $U(u)$  be a strictly convex entropy function (we assume that the system (1.1a) is equipped with at least one such entropy function). Multiplying (1.4) by  $U'(u_N(x, t))$  we have

$$(3.1) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[U(u_N(x, t))] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[F(u_N(x, t))] = \langle U'(u_N(x, t)), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f u_N(x, t) \rangle .$$

A possible attempt to define consistency with the entropy condition would be to require that the righthand-side of (3.1) is nonpositive for all  $U$ 's associated with (1.1a), in agreement with (1.1b). This means that we prohibit any local entropy production by our approximation. In this context one is led to the concept of E-schemes [13], [17], [15]. We recall that in the scalar case, E-schemes are convergent in view of their Total-Variation-Diminishing (TVD) property [13], [17], [15], and that in the GNL case of strictly hyperbolic  $2 \times 2$  systems, E-schemes are convergent provided their solutions remain with sufficiently small variation [1, p.33]. Unfortunately, such an E-consistency requirement which prohibits any local entropy producing waves, restricts our approximation to first-order accuracy [13], [15]. As noted by DiPerna, however, one can allow entropy producing waves to be mixed with entropy dissipating waves and still retain convergence, as long as the sum of the total amount of entropy production,  $\|U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t))\|_{L_{\text{loc}}^1(t)}$ , where

$$(3.2a) \quad U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x)) \equiv - \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(w_N(x)), E_N^f w_N(x) \rangle^- dx ,$$

plus the total amount of entropy dissipation,  $\|U_{\text{diss}}(u_N(x, t))\|_{L_{\text{loc}}^1(t)}$ , where

$$(3.2b) \quad U_{\text{diss}}(w_N(x)) \equiv \int_0^{2\pi} \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(w_N(x)), E_N^f w_N(x) \rangle^+ dx ,$$

remains uniformly bounded w.r.t.  $N$ . To this end, let us pick one strictly convex entropy function, say  $U_*(u)$ , and integrate by parts (3.1) with  $U(u) = U_*(u)$ , obtaining

$$(3.3) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \int_0^{2\pi} U_*(u_N(x, t)) dx + \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'_*(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right) = 0 .$$

The second term on the left is the amount of entropy dissipation rate. The counterexamples given in the previous section show that in order to agree with the entropy condition (1.1b), this amount of entropy dissipation rate should stay larger than a sufficiently small lower bound. In our next definition we precisely quantify the size of such lower bound. We make

**Definition 3.1:** (Consistency with the entropy condition). The approximation (1.3) is consistent with the entropy condition (1.1b) w.r.t. the “relevant” class  $\mathcal{U}$ , if for all  $w_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$  which are uniformly bounded w.r.t.  $N$ , there exist



- (i) at least one “preferred” entropy function,  $U_*(u)$ ,
- (ii) positive sequences,  $e_N \downarrow 0$  and  $0 < \eta_N < \eta_\infty$ ,
- (iii) a nonempty “relevant” class,  $\mathcal{U}$ , of strictly convex entropy functions,

such that for all  $U$ 's in  $\mathcal{U}$  the following estimate holds

$$(3.4) \quad \frac{1}{e_N} \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|^2 + \frac{1}{\eta_N} U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x)) \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'_*(w_N(x)), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 .$$

**Remark** (on the entropy consistency definition): The essence of the Definition 3.1 lies in the so called “relevant” class  $\mathcal{U}$ . As we shall see later on, consistency in the sense of Definition 3.1 +  $L^\infty$  stability implies convergence to a limit solution of scalar and some  $2 \times 2$  approximations (3.1). This limit solution agrees with the entropy inequalities (1.1b), precisely for those entropy pairs  $(U(u), F(u))$  with  $U(u)$  belonging to  $\mathcal{U}$ . Thus, Definition 3.1 yields consistency w.r.t. the entropy functions in the class  $\mathcal{U}$ , which motivates its description as the “relevant” class. Clearly, the larger the size of  $\mathcal{U}$  is, the sharper convergence results can be deduced.

An immediate consequence from this kind of entropy consistency definition is

**Lemma 3.2:** *If the approximation (1.9) is consistent with the entropy condition (1.1b), then it is also consistent with the conservation law (1.1a).*

**Proof:** Using the Cauchy-Schwartz inequality to upper bound the first term on the right of (3.4), we obtain

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{1}{e_N} \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|^2 \leq U_\infty'' \cdot \frac{e_N}{2} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{2e_N} \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|^2 + \|w_N(x)\|^2 ,$$

with  $U_\infty'' \equiv \|U''(w_N(x))\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2$ . Multiplying (3.5) by  $2e_N$  we find

$$(3.6) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|^2 \leq U_\infty'' \cdot e_N^2 \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 + 2e_N \|w_N(x)\|^2 .$$

Finally, thanks to conservation we can restrict our attention to  $w_N(x)$  with zero mean,  $\frac{1}{2\pi} \int_0^{2\pi} w_N(x) dx = 0$ , for which we have the Poincaré inequality

$$(3.7) \quad \|w_N(x)\|^2 \leq \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 .$$

The consistency estimate (1.7) with  $c_N = \sqrt{U_\infty'' e_N^2 + 2e_N} \rightarrow 0$  follows from (3.6) and (3.7).  $\square$

Thus, Definition 3.1 implies consistency with both parts of the initial-value problem (1.1a, (1.1b) – the conservation law (1.1a) and its augmenting entropy condition (1.1b). We shall therefore refer to approximations which fulfill Definition 3.1 as consistent with the initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b), or simply as consistent approximations.

We observe that our consistency requirement (3.4) places a rather weak restriction on the approximation (1.3), in that it allows for a mixture of entropy producing and entropy dissipating waves. Instead, it aligns with the necessary condition for convergence discussed already in Section 2, which requires some sort of global entropy dissipation. Indeed, the total mass of entropy production plus the total mass of entropy dissipation remains uniformly bounded in this case, as told by the essential

**Lemma 3.3:** *Consider the approximation (1.3) which is consistent with the initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b), and assume that it is  $L^\infty$ -stable, i.e., that there exists a constant  $M_\infty$  (independent of  $N$ ), such that*

$$(3.8) \quad \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)} \leq M_\infty.$$

*Then there exist constants (independent of  $N$ ), such that*

*I. The local error,  $E_N^f u_N(x, t)$ , satisfies*

$$(3.9) \quad \|E_N^f u_N(x, t)\|_{L_{loc}^2(x, t)} \leq Const_I \cdot \sqrt{\epsilon_N} \rightarrow 0.$$

*II. For all entropy functions  $U(u)$  in  $\mathcal{U}$ , we have*

$$(3.10) \quad \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t)) dt \leq Const_{II} \cdot \eta_N.$$

*III. For all entropy functions  $U(u)$  in  $\mathcal{U}$ , we have*

$$(3.11) \quad \left\| \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle \right\|_{L_{loc}^1(x, t)} \leq Const_{III}.$$

**Proof:** Applying the entropy consistency estimate (3.4) to  $w_N(\cdot) = u_N(\cdot, t)$ , we find after temporal integration that for any  $U(u)$  in  $\mathcal{U}$  the following estimate holds

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \int_{t=0}^T \|E_N^f u_N(x, t)\|^2 dt + \frac{1}{\eta_N} \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t)) dt \leq \\ & \leq \int_{t=0}^T \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'_*(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right) dt + \int_{t=0}^T \|u_N(x, t)\|^2 dt. \end{aligned}$$

To upper bound the righthand-side of (3.14), we integrate (3.1) by parts, obtaining that for all entropy functions  $U(u)$ , we have

$$(3.15) \quad \int_{t=0}^T \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right) dt = \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} U(u_N(x, t)) dx \Big|_{t=0}^{t=T} \leq 2U_\infty .$$

Using this with  $U(u) = U_*(u)$ , implies that the righthand-side of (3.14) does not exceed

$$(3.16) \quad 2U_{*\infty} + T \cdot M_\infty^2, \quad U_{*\infty} \equiv \|U_*(u_N(x, t))\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)} .$$

Hence (3.9) and (3.10) follow with  $Const_I^2 = Const_{II} = 2U_{*\infty} + TM_\infty^2$ . Finally, according to (3.15) we have for all entropy functions,  $U(u)$ ,

$$(3.17) \quad \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{diss}}(u_N(x, t)) dt - \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t)) dt \equiv \int_{t=0}^T \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right) dt \leq 2U_\infty ,$$

and hence (3.11) follows with  $Const_{III} = 2[U_\infty + Const_{II} \cdot \eta_\infty]$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \left\| \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle \right\|_{L_{loc}^1(x, t)} &\equiv \int_{t=0}^T [U_{\text{diss}}(u_N(x, t)) + U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t))] dt \leq \\ &\leq 2[U_\infty + \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t)) dt] \leq Const_{III} . \end{aligned}$$

### Remarks:

1. The estimate (3.9) shows that the local error of consistent schemes,  $E_N^f u_N(x, t)$ , tends to zero independently whether the underlying solutions are smooth are not.

2. The estimate (3.10) shows that for any entropy function  $U(u)$  in the “relevant” class  $\mathcal{U}$ , the total mass of its production remains bounded (by  $Const_{II} \cdot \eta_\infty$ ). Moreover, the total mass of its entropy production tends to zero in case

$$(3.19) \quad \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t)) dt \leq Const_{II} \cdot \eta_N \longrightarrow 0 .$$

3. According to the first remark

$$(3.20a) \quad F_N(u_N(x, t)) \equiv F(u_N(x, t)) - \left\langle U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle ,$$

is a numerical entropy flux which is consistent with the differential one

$$(3.20b) \quad \|F(u_N(x, t)) - F_N(u_N(x, t))\| \leq \|U'(u_N(x, t))\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)} \cdot \|E_N^f u_N(x, t)\| \longrightarrow 0 .$$

The estimate (3.11) shows that for any entropy function  $U(u)$  in the “relevant” class  $\mathcal{U}$ , the total mass of its production + dissipation,  $\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [U(u_N(x, t))] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [F_N(u_N(x, t))] \right\|_{L_{loc}^1(x, t)}$

remains bounded, as asserted. This agrees with DiPerna observation [1, p.39] that the control on the total entropy production is independent of the choice of the preferred entropy function  $U_*(u)$ .

4. Let us restrict our attention to consistent approximations of the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b), and apply Gronwall's inequality to (3.3) with  $U_*(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ ,

$$(3.21) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^2(x, t) dx = - \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right)_{L^2(x)} \leq \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^2(x, t) dx .$$

We conclude that independently of the  $L^\infty$ -stability assumption (3.8), we have

$$(3.22) \quad \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^2(x)} \leq M_2 .$$

In case  $U_*(u)$  is a strictly convex entropy function, the same conclusion also holds for systems of conservation laws, by appealing to (3.10) with the quadratic part of  $U_*(u)$ .

The intricate point in our entropy consistency Definition 3.1, is the size of the “relevant” class  $\mathcal{U}$ . The optimal situation of course, occurs when  $\mathcal{U} \equiv \mathcal{U}_{\text{all}}$  which includes all the admissible strictly convex functions associated with (1.1a). In this respect, it would be useful to have a sufficient consistency criterion which guarantees the optimality of  $\mathcal{U}$  by checking only one preferred entropy function, say  $U_*(u)$ . Our next result provides us with such a convenient criterion.

**Lemma 3.4:** (Sufficient criterion for consistency). *Assume that for all  $w_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$  which are uniformly bounded w.r.t.  $N$ , there exist (at least) one strictly convex entropy function,  $U_*(u)$ , and vanishing sequences,  $c_N \downarrow 0$  and  $d_N \downarrow 0$ , such that the following two estimates hold:*

A. (Consistency with the conservation law)

$$(3.23a) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| ,$$

B. (“Enough” entropy dissipation)

$$(3.23b) \quad d_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'_*(w_N(x)), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 .$$

*Then the approximation (1.3) is consistent w.r.t. all admissible entropy functions,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_{\text{all}}$ , provided*

$$(3.24) \quad \frac{c_N}{d_N} \leq \text{Const.}$$

**Proof:** By Cauchy-Schwartz inequality and (3.23a) we have for all entropy functions,  $U(u)$ ,

$$(3.25) \quad U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x)) \leq U''_{\infty} \cdot c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2, \quad U''_{\infty} = \|U''(w_N(x))\|_{L^{\infty}(x)}.$$

Take  $\epsilon_N = 2\text{Const.}^2 d_N \downarrow 0$  and  $\eta_N = 2\frac{\epsilon_N}{d_N} U''_{\infty} \leq \eta_{\infty} \equiv 2\text{Const.} U''_{\infty}$ ; then using (3.23a), (3.25) and (3.23b) we obtain for all strictly convex entropies,  $U(u)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|^2 + \frac{1}{\eta_N} U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x)) &\leq \frac{1}{2\text{Const.}^2 d_N} c_N^2 \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 + \frac{d_N}{2c_N U''_{\infty}} U''_{\infty} c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \\ &\leq \frac{1}{2} [d_N + d_N] \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \\ &\leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'_*(w_N(x)), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Remarks:

1. The sufficient consistency condition provided in Lemma 3.4 is sharp, in the sense that if (3.23) holds, and if instead of (3.24) we have

$$(3.26) \quad \frac{c_N}{d_N} \longrightarrow 0,$$

then approximation (1.3) does not converge. Indeed, if a limit solution of (1.3) exists in this case, then it is necessarily  $U_*$ -entropy conservative, for (3.23), (3.26) imply that both the  $U_*$ -entropy production and entropy dissipation tend to zero. Put differently, approximation (1.3) is not  $L^{\infty}$ -stable in such case, for otherwise it would contradict convergence along the lines of the scalar counterexamples in Section 2.

2. The entropy dissipation estimate, (3.23b), with no “lower-order” term  $\|w_N(x)\|^2$ ,

$$(3.27) \quad d_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'_*(w_N(x)), E_N^f w_N(x) \right),$$

can be viewed as an accretivity condition on the discrete local error  $E_N^f$ . However, it is worthwhile noting that such accretive approximations are restricted to first-order accuracy due to the following argument:

3. By the weighted Cauchy-Schwartz inequality, the righthand-side of (3.27) is smaller than

$$U''_{*\infty} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| \cdot \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|,$$

and hence (3.27) implies

$$(3.28) \quad \frac{d_N}{U''_{*\infty}} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| \leq \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|.$$

The inequality (3.24) implies that  $d_N \geq \text{Const.} \cdot \frac{1}{N}$ . Consequently, the inequality (3.28) shows that approximations which satisfy the entropy dissipation estimate, (3.27), are restricted to first-order accuracy. Instead, we adopt here the weaker entropy consistency estimate, (3.4), which, roughly speaking, requires the total entropy dissipation minus production to be proportional to the local discrete error  $E_N^f w_N(x)$ . This will enable us to deal with higher (than first) order approximations of (1.1a), including the modern high-resolution finite-difference schemes [2],[3],[14],[15].

#### 4. CONSISTENCY OF THE SCALAR VANISHING VISCOSITY METHOD

The vanishing viscosity method is one of the most effective ways to provide affirmative answers to the questions of consistency and  $L^\infty$ -stability, in the context of nonlinear systems of conservation laws. To this end, one starts from a given basic approximation,  $P_N^f$ , which is consistent with the conservation law (1.1a)

$$(4.1a) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|$$

Such basic approximation is then appended with a so called vanishing viscosity approximation,  $-\varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , which results in the modified viscous approximation

$$(4.1b) \quad \tilde{P}_N^f = P_N^f - \varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}.$$

Here  $\varepsilon_N \downarrow 0$  is the vanishing viscosity amplitude, and  $Q_N : L^\infty[0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \Phi_N$ , is a possibly nonlinear,  $f$  dependent, spatially bounded operator

$$(4.2) \quad \|Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N\| \leq Q_\infty \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|.$$

The boundedness of  $Q_N$  implies that  $-\varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$  is consistent with the zero flux, i.e.,

$$\|-\varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x)\| \leq Q_\infty \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|, \quad Q_\infty \varepsilon_N \rightarrow 0;$$

consequently, the discrete local error of the modified viscous approximation (4.1b),

$$(4.3a) \quad \tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x) \equiv f(w_N(x)) - \tilde{P}_N^f w_N(x) = E_N^f w_N(x) + \varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x),$$

satisfies, by (4.1a) and (4.2),

$$(4.3b) \quad \|\tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq \tilde{c}_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|, \quad \tilde{c}_N \equiv c_N + Q_\infty \varepsilon_N \rightarrow 0.$$

In this manner, the vanishing viscosity method retains the consistency with the conservation law, (1.1a), of its underlying basic approximation.

There are various ways to tune the viscosity parameters so as to guarantee the full consistency of the viscous discretization (4.1b). Namely, we seek for  $\varepsilon_N$  and  $Q_N$  so that  $\tilde{P}_N^f = P_N^f - \varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , which remains a consistent discretization of the conservation law (1.1a), gains in addition, the consistency with the entropy condition (1.1b). Taking advantage of the scalar case, we make the canonical choice of  $U_*(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$  as our preferred entropy function for the sufficient entropy consistency condition stated in Lemma 3.4, which is then simplified to

**Theorem 4.1:** Let  $P_N^f$  be a consistent discretization of the scalar conservation law (1.10)

$$(4.4) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|, \quad c_N \rightarrow 0.$$

Assume that there exists a vanishing sequence,  $\tilde{d}_N \downarrow 0$ , such that for uniformly bounded  $w_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$ ,

$$(4.5) \quad \tilde{d}_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), \tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2.$$

Then we have

(i) The vanishing viscosity method,  $\tilde{P}_N^f = P_N^f - \varepsilon Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , is consistent w.r.t. all strictly convex entropy functions,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_{\text{all}}$ , provided

$$(4.6) \quad \frac{\tilde{c}_N}{\tilde{d}_N} \leq \text{Const.}, \quad \tilde{c}_N \equiv c_N + Q_\infty \varepsilon_N.$$

(ii) The total amount of entropy produced by the basic approximation,  $P_N^f$ ,

$$(4.7a) \quad \int_{t=0}^T U_{\text{prod}}(u_N(x, t)) dt \equiv \int_{t=0}^T \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} - \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle^- dx dt,$$

tends to zero, provided

$$(4.7b) \quad \frac{c_N}{\tilde{d}_N} \rightarrow 0.$$

**Remark:** The second part of Theorem 4.1 shows that due to the presence of vanishing viscosity parametrized according to (4.7b), the entropy produced by the basic approximation tends to zero. Indeed, by (4.4), (4.5), (3.15) and (3.22) we have

$$(4.8) \quad - \int_{t=0}^T \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle^- dx dt \leq U_\infty'' \cdot c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right\|^2 \leq U_\infty'' \cdot \frac{\varepsilon_N}{\tilde{d}_N} (T+1) M_2^2 \rightarrow 0.$$

The following consequences of Theorem 4.1 are at the heart of the matter.

**Corollary 4.2:** Let  $P_N^f$  be a consistent approximation of the scalar conservation law (1.1a),

$$(4.9) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|.$$



Assume that for all  $w_N(x)$  in  $\Phi_N$ , there exists a positive constant (independent of  $N$ ),  $Const. > 0$ , such that,

$$(4.10) \quad \varepsilon_N \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 \geq Const. \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 .$$

Then, the resulting vanishing viscosity method

$$(4.11) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [P_N^f u_N(x, t)] = \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right]$$

satisfies

(i) It is a consistent approximation of the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b), w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_{\text{all}}$ , provided

$$(4.12a) \quad \frac{c_N}{\varepsilon_N} \leq Const_0 < Const. .$$

(ii) The total amount of entropy produced by its basic approximation in (4.7a) tends to zero, provided

$$(4.12b) \quad \frac{c_N}{\varepsilon_N} \longrightarrow 0 .$$

**Proof:** By (4.9), and (4.12a) or (4.12b) with sufficiently large  $N$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) &\geq - \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| \cdot \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \geq -c_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \\ &\geq -Const. \theta \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2, \quad 0 < \theta = \frac{Const_0}{Const.} < 1. \end{aligned}$$

Hence, (4.5) is fulfilled with  $\tilde{d}_N = Const. (1 - \theta) \varepsilon_N$ , for

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{d}_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 &= Const. \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 - Const. \theta \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \\ (4.13) \quad &\leq \left[ \varepsilon_N \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 \right] + \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) = \\ &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), \tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Now, with this choice of  $\tilde{d}_N$  we have

$$\frac{\tilde{c}_N}{\tilde{d}_N} = \frac{1}{Const.} \frac{c_N + Q_\infty \varepsilon_N}{(1 - \theta) \varepsilon_N} \leq \frac{\theta}{1 - \theta} + \frac{Q_\infty}{Const. (1 - \theta)} ;$$

moreover, (4.12a) implies

$$\frac{c_N}{\tilde{d}_N} = \frac{1}{\text{Const.} (1 - \theta) \varepsilon_N} \downarrow 0,$$

and the result follows from Theorem 4.1.  $\square$

The first part of Corollary 4.2 guarantees consistency, provided the amount of entropy produced by the basic approximation,  $P_N^f$ , is dominated by the amount of entropy dissipated by  $\tilde{P}_N^f = P_N^f - \varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ . In case the basic approximation was entropy conservative to begin with, then we can do with even less vanishing viscosity as told by

**Corollary 4.3:** *Let  $P_N^f$  be a consistent approximation of the scalar conservation law (1.1a), which is (quadratic) entropy conservative, i.e.,*

$$(4.14) \quad \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) = 0.$$

*Assume that (4.10) holds. Then the resulting vanishing viscosity method (4.11) is a consistent approximation of the initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies,  $u = u_{\text{all}}$ , provided there exists an arbitrary positive constant (independent of  $N$ ),  $\text{Const}_0 > 0$ , such that*

$$(4.15) \quad \frac{c_N}{\varepsilon_N} \leq \text{Const}_0, \quad \text{Const}_0 > 0.$$

**Proof:** Choosing  $\tilde{d}_N = \text{Const.} \varepsilon_N \downarrow 0$ , then (4.14) and (4.10) yield

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), \tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 &= \varepsilon_N \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 \geq \\ &\geq \tilde{d}_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \end{aligned}$$

and the result follows from Theorem 4.1 since

$$\frac{\tilde{c}_N}{\tilde{d}_N} = \frac{c_N + Q_\infty \varepsilon_N}{\text{Const.} \varepsilon_N} \leq \frac{1}{\text{Const.}} (\text{Const}_0 + Q_\infty). \quad \square$$

Corollaries 4.2 and 4.3 show that the vanishing viscosity method enables to gain entropy consistency while retaining consistency with the conservation law. It is possible however, that this method gains the entropy consistency at the expense of lowering the order of accuracy of the underlying discretization  $P_N^f$ . The vanishing viscosity method should be carefully parameterized in order to retain both the entropy consistency as well as the original order of accuracy. An extreme situation in this respect is provided by the “infinitely-order” accurate spectral and pseudospectral methods, which bring us to

The Spectral Viscosity (SV) Method [20] [10]. We consider spectral vanishing viscosity modifications, defined in terms of a convolution with a  $\pi_N$ -kernel,  $Q_N(x)$ ,

$$(4.16a) \quad -\varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) = -\varepsilon_N Q_N(x) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x),$$

where  $Q_N(x) \equiv Q_N(w_N(x), x)$  is a possibly nonlinear viscosity kernel of the form

$$(4.16b) \quad Q_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{Q}_k e^{ikx}, \quad 0 \leq \hat{Q}_k \leq Q_\infty.$$

Appending this either to the spectral ( $P_N \equiv S_N$ ) or  $\psi$ dospectral ( $P_N \equiv \psi_N$ ) approximation of (1.1a), results in the SV method

$$(4.17) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [P_N f(u_N(x, t))] = \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [Q_N(x, t) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)];$$

it can be efficiently implemented in the Fourier space as, see (1.11) or (1.13),

$$(4.18) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \hat{u}_k(t) + ik \hat{f}_k(t) = -\varepsilon_N k^2 \hat{Q}_k(t) \hat{u}_k(t).$$

According to Theorems 7.1 and 7.3, the spectral and pseudospectral methods are first-order accurate with (1.1a), i.e., they satisfy (4.1a) with  $c_N = \text{Const}_0 \cdot \frac{1}{N}$ , where  $\text{Const}_0 = (1 + \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}}) \|f'(u_N(x, t))\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)}$ . Appealing to Corollaries 4.2 and 4.3 we arrive at

**Theorem 4.4:** (Consistency of the SV Methods) *The following SV methods are consistent approximations of the initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies  $U(u)$ :*

I. *The spectral viscosity approximation*

$$(4.19a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [S_N f(u_N(x, t))] = \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [Q_N(x, t) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)],$$

with spectral viscosity parameters satisfying

$$(4.19b) \quad \hat{Q}_k(t) \geq \left( \text{Const.} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon_N k^2} \right)^+, \quad \frac{1}{N} \leq \varepsilon_N \downarrow 0, \quad \text{Const.} > 0.$$

II. *The  $\psi$ dospectral viscosity approximation*

$$(4.20a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [\psi_N f(u_N(x, t))] = \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [Q_N(x, t) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)],$$

with spectral viscosity parameters satisfying (here  $\text{Const}_0 = (1 + \frac{\pi}{\sqrt{3}}) \|f'\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)}$ )

$$(4.20b) \quad \hat{Q}_k(t) \geq \left( \text{Const.} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon_N k^2} \right)^+, \quad \frac{1}{N} \leq \varepsilon_N \downarrow 0, \quad \text{Const.} > \text{Const}_0.$$

III. The total amount of entropy produced by the basic spectral approximation (where  $P_N = S_N$ ), or the  $\psi$ dospectral one (where  $P_N = \psi_N$ ), tends to zero,

$$(4.21a) \quad - \int_{t=0}^T \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), [I - P_N] f(u_N(x, t)) \right\rangle dx dt \longrightarrow 0 ,$$

with spectral viscosity parameters satisfying

$$(4.21b) \quad \hat{Q}_k(t) \geq \left( \text{Const.} - \frac{1}{\varepsilon_N k^2} \right)^+ , \quad \frac{1}{N \varepsilon_N} \longrightarrow 0 .$$

**Proof:** According to Corollaries 4.2 and 4.3, consistency follows if (4.10) holds, and by Fourier transform this is equivalent with

$$(4.22) \quad \varepsilon_N k^2 \hat{Q}_k(t) + 1 \geq \text{Const.} \varepsilon_N k^2 .$$

In the spectral case there is no entropy production

$$\left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), [I - S_N] f(w_N(x)) \right) = 0$$

and the first part of the theorem follows from Corollary 4.3. In the  $\psi$ dospectral case we apply Corollary 4.2(i) and the second part of the theorem follows. Finally, the third part of the theorem follows from Corollary 4.2(ii).  $\square$

**Example 4.5:** The following choice of spectral viscosity for the SV method (4.17),

$$(4.23a) \quad \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [Q_N * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)] = - \frac{1}{N^\beta} \sum_{|k|=m_N}^N k^2 \hat{Q}_k(t) \hat{u}_k(t) e^{ikx}, \quad m_N^2 = \frac{N^\beta}{\text{Const.}},$$

where

$$(4.23b) \quad \hat{Q}_k(t) \geq \text{Const.} - \frac{N^\beta}{k^2}, \quad |k| \geq m_N, \quad 0 < \beta \leq 1, \quad \text{Const.} > \text{Const}_0 ,$$

demonstrates a consistent approximation of (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies, which retains the “infinite-order” accuracy of the underlying spectral or pseudospectral method. Moreover, if  $0 < \beta < 1$ , then the entropy produced by the basic spectral or  $\psi$ dospectral approximation tends to zero, when augmented with (4.23a), (4.23b). For example, the SV approximation

$$(4.24) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [P_N f(u_N(x, t))] = - \text{Const.} \frac{1}{N} \sum_{|k|=\sqrt{N}}^N k^2 \frac{(k - \sqrt{N})^2}{N - \sqrt{N}} \hat{u}_k(t),$$

is ‘infinitely-order’ accurate approximation of (1.1a), and at the same time it is consistent with (1.1a), (1.1b).

Remark: Let us rewrite the SV method (4.17) in the form

$$(4.25) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} [u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [(I - P_N)f(u_N(x, t))] + \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right].$$

This highlights the fact that the SV approximation has two sources of errors: the first term on the right is the error committed due to spectral discretization; the second term is due to the presence of spectral viscosity. The viscosity parameterization in (4.19b), (4.20b) guarantees that the local discretization error is dominated by the dissipative spectral viscosity error.

Next, we turn to study the vanishing viscosity method in the context of

Finite-Difference and Finite-Element Methods. We consider conservative approximations of (1.1a), whose numerical flux  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f$ , is given by (abbreviating  $\Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \equiv u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) - u_N(x_\nu, t)$ )

$$(4.26) \quad h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f = \frac{1}{2} [f(u_N(x_\nu, t)) + f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t))] - \frac{1}{2} Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t).$$

The conservative approximation (1.14) then recast into the form

$$(4.27) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \\ = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)], \end{aligned}$$

which reveals the role  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$  play as the numerical viscosity coefficients in (4.27). Simple linear examples are provided by centered finite-difference method (1.19), where

$$(4.28) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv 0,$$

and the piecewise-linear finite element method (2.12), whose numerical flux

$$(4.29a) \quad h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = \frac{1}{2} [f(u_N(x_\nu, t)) + f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t))] - \frac{1}{2} Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t),$$

corresponds to the viscosity coefficient,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*$ , consult [18], [21]

$$(4.29b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = 2 \int_{\xi=-1/2}^{1/2} \xi f'(u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi \equiv \int_{\xi=-1/2}^{1/2} \left( \frac{1}{4} - \xi^2 \right) f''(u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi \cdot \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t).$$

Once more, we would like to emphasize that our present treatment of the vanishing viscosity method allows for nonlinear viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$ , which may depend on the computed solution  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(x, t) = Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(u_N(x, t), x, t; f)$ . In particular, this includes the essentially nonlinear features which characterize the modern nonoscillatory finite-difference schemes [3].

In order to interpret (4.27) within the vanishing viscosity framework (4.1a), (4.1b), the following viscosity operator  $Q_N : L^\infty[0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \pi_N$  is introduced: We construct the  $\pi_N$ -polynomial

$$K_N(x) = K_N(x; Q) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{K}_k e^{ikx},$$

which interpolates the  $Q$ -weighted cell averages,  $\bar{w}(x) \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x-\frac{\Delta x}{2}}^{x+\frac{\Delta x}{2}} w(\xi) d\xi$  of  $w(x)$ ,

$$(4.30a) \quad K_N(x = x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}) = Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \bar{w}(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}), \quad \hat{K}_k = \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \bar{w}(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}) e^{-ikx_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}},$$

and then define  $Q_N w(x)$  as the sliding average of this interpolant

$$(4.30b) \quad Q_N w(x) = \bar{K}_N(x; Q), \quad \bar{K}_N(x) = \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x-\frac{\Delta x}{2}}^{x+\frac{\Delta x}{2}} K_N(\xi; Q) d\xi.$$

By applying such averaging plus summation by parts to  $K_N(x, t)$  we find, in analogy with (1.17),

$$(4.31a) \quad Q_N u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{q}_k(t) e^{ikx},$$

where

$$(4.31b) \quad \hat{q}_k(t) = \frac{1}{2\pi ik} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \bar{u}_N(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}, t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \bar{u}_N(x_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}, t)] e^{-ikx_\nu}.$$

Now, since  $\overline{\frac{\partial u_N}{\partial x}}(x = x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}) \equiv \frac{1}{\Delta x} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)$ , we have

$$(4.32) \quad Q_N \widehat{\frac{\partial}{\partial x}} u_N(k, t) = \frac{1}{2\pi ik} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} \frac{1}{\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)] e^{-ikx_\nu},$$

and we conclude that  $\frac{1}{2} \Delta x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)$  is the  $\pi_N$ -polynomial which interpolates at the equidistant point  $x_\nu = \nu \Delta x$ , the viscous part of (4.27),

$$(4.33) \quad \frac{1}{2} \Delta x \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x = x_\nu, t) = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)].$$

Thus, the conservative approximation (4.27) can be viewed as the vanishing viscosity method (4.1), which is based on the consistent centered finite-difference approximation (1.19) and augmented by the vanishing viscosity approximation (4.33),

$$(4.34) \quad \tilde{P}_N^f = FD_{\Delta x}f(\cdot) - \varepsilon_N Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad \varepsilon_N \equiv \frac{\Delta x}{2}.$$

The representation of a given approximation as a vanishing viscosity method is in general not unique: one can assign any part of it to serve as a basic approximation (as long as it is consistent with the conservation law), and then consider the rest as the vanishing viscosity contribution. For example, we can represent (4.27) as a vanishing viscosity method which is based on the finite-element approximation,  $P_N^f = FE_{\Delta x}f(\cdot)$  in (1.26). To this end we use (4.29a) to rewrite (4.27) in the equivalent form

$$(4.35a) \quad \frac{d}{dt}u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{\Delta x}[h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = \frac{1}{2\Delta x}[D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}\Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - D_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}\Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)],$$

where

$$(4.35b) \quad D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} - Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*,$$

are the numerical dissipation coefficients of (4.27). Now, by introducing the corresponding viscosity operator  $D_N : L^\infty[0, 2\pi] \rightarrow \pi_N$ ,

$$(4.36) \quad D_N w(x) = \bar{K}_N(x; D), \quad K_N(x = x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}; D) = D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}\bar{w}(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}),$$

we conclude that (4.35) is associated with the (modified) discretization operator

$$(4.37) \quad \tilde{P}_N^f = FE_{\Delta x}f(\cdot) - \varepsilon_N D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \quad \varepsilon_N \equiv \frac{\Delta x}{2}.$$

Which representation should we prefer? Corollary 4.3 suggests that in order to obtain sharp consistency estimates for a given approximation, the key step lies in isolating an entropy conservative part of it as a basic approximation, and considering the rest as the vanishing viscosity contribution. We therefore prefer (4.37) over (4.34) to make

**Theorem 4.5:** *The finite-difference/element approximation*

$$(4.38a) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt}u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{2\Delta x}[f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \\ = \frac{1}{2\Delta x}[Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}\Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}\Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)], \end{aligned}$$

with viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$ , satisfying

$$(4.38b) \quad 0 < Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* + \text{Const.} \leq Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \leq Q_\infty, \quad \text{Const.} > 0,$$

is a consistent approximation of the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies.

**Proof:** We first verify the (quadratic) entropy conservation of the basic finite-element approximation,  $P_N^f = FE_{\Delta x}f(\cdot)$ . By the exactness of the trapezoidal rule for  $\pi_{2N}$ -polynomials and the identity (2.13a), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \left( w_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} FE_{\Delta x} f(w_N(x)) \right) &= \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} w_N(x_\nu) \frac{1}{\Delta x} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] \cdot \Delta x = \\ &= \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} [F_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* - F_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^*] = 0, \end{aligned}$$

and since  $\langle w_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(w_N(x)) \rangle = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} F(w_N(x))$  is a perfect derivative,

$$\left( w_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(w_N(x)) \right) = 0.$$

Integrating by parts the difference between the last two equalities, we conclude

$$(4.39) \quad \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) = \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), [I - FE_{\Delta x}] f(w_N(x)) \right) = 0.$$

This reaffirms the quadratic entropy conservation, (4.14), of the basic finite-element approximation (2.12), which was already indicated (with different terminology) in Counterexample 2.4. According to Theorem 7.5, the finite-difference approximation (4.38) is first-order accurate with (1.1a), i.e., (4.1a) is satisfied with  $c_N = Const_0 \cdot \frac{1}{N}$ , and hence (4.15) holds.

Appealing to Corollary 4.3, consistency is therefore guaranteed if there exists a positive constant such that the following estimate holds

$$\frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 \geq \frac{1}{2} Const. \Delta x \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2, \quad Const. > 0;$$

by the trapezoidal rule this is the same as

$$(4.40) \quad \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}|^2 + \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} |w_N(x_\nu)|^2 \Delta x \geq \frac{1}{2} Const. \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}|^2,$$

and the result follows from our assumption (4.38b), for

$$D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} - Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* \geq Const. > 0.$$



Remarks:

1. We observe that the total amount of quadratic entropy dissipated by (4.38a) equals, in view of (4.39),

$$(4.41) \quad \begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), \tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x) \right) &= \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) = \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}|^2, \end{aligned}$$

which justifies calling  $D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$  the numerical dissipation coefficients of (4.38a); consult [18] [21] for the general case.

2. The finite-difference/element approximations (4.38a), (4.38b), are restricted to first-order accuracy, in agreement with Corollary 7.6. Indeed, the proof of Theorem 5.4 makes no use of the “lower-order” term  $\|w_N(x)\|^2$  in (4.40), hence (3.27) holds.

Theorem 4.5 tells us that the conservative approximations (4.27) are consistent with the initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b), provided they contain uniformly more viscosity than the entropy conservative ones, (1.24), (1.25). To obtain a sharper localized version of such result, we shall prefer to represent these approximations in terms of local ‘hat’ basis functions,  $\{\Lambda_k(x)\}_{k=-N}^N$ , instead of the global trigonometric ones,  $\{e^{ikx}\}_{k=-N}^N$ , we have used so far. To this end we may proceed as follows.

We first recall that in (4.35), the finite-difference/element methods (4.27) were based on the finite-element approximation with mass lumping (1.24b). Before we turn to consider the viscosity contribution in (4.35), however, we shall prefer to concentrate on a slightly different, yet closely related basic approximation – the finite-element approximation with no mass lumping in (1.24a). Example 1.7 provides us with the piecewise-linear formulation of this basic approximation: it is associated with the piecewise parabolic discretization operator in (1.35),  $P_N^f w_N(x) = FE_{\Delta x} f(w_N(x))$ , such that

$$(4.42) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} P_N^f w_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \frac{1}{\Delta x} [C^{-1} \Delta \bar{f}]_k \Lambda_k(x).$$

The important ingredient of this approximation, is the orthogonality of its discrete truncation error,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x)$ , to the  $\phi_N$ -space,

$$\begin{aligned} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x), \Lambda_\nu(x) \right) &= \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(w_N(x)), \Lambda_\nu(x) \right) - \sum_{k=-N}^N \frac{1}{\Delta x} [C^{-1} \Delta \bar{f}]_k (\Lambda_k(x), \Lambda_\nu(x)) = \\ &= [\bar{f}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} - \bar{f}_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}] - \frac{1}{\Delta x} [MC^{-1} \Delta \bar{f}]_\nu = 0. \end{aligned}$$

This brings us to the canonical formulation of the basic finite-element approximation (1.36)

as a Galerkin method, namely,  $u_N(x, t)$  is the piecewise-linear approximant such that of all  $\varphi_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$  we have

$$(4.43) \quad \left( \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] \right) = 0, \quad \varphi_N(x) \in \phi_N .$$

Counterexample 2.4 shows that this method is inconsistent with the entropy condition (1.1b), precisely because it is quadratic entropy conservative: indeed (4.43) implies that (4.14) holds, for

$$(4.44) \quad \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), E_N^f w_N(x) \right) = - \left( w_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x) \right) = 0, \quad w_N(x) \in \phi_N .$$

We therefore appeal to the vanishing viscosity method. In this context, we seek a piecewise-linear approximant,  $u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N u_N(x_k, t) \Lambda_k(x)$ , such that for all  $\varphi_N(x)$  in  $\phi_N$  we have

$$(4.45) \quad \left( \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] \right) + \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right)_D = 0 .$$

Here  $D = \{D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} > 0\}$  are given numerical dissipation coefficients, so that the vanishing viscosity contribution enters through the weighted inner product on the left

$$(v(x), w(x))_\omega \equiv \sum_{\nu=-N}^N \omega_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \int_{x_\nu}^{x_{\nu+1}} \langle v(x), w(x) \rangle dx, \quad \omega = \{\omega_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}\}_{\nu=-N}^N .$$

Choosing  $\varphi_N(x) = \Lambda_\nu(x)$ , then (4.45) reads at the collocation points  $x_\nu = \nu \Delta x$ ,

$$(4.46a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)] ,$$

where in view of (4.29a), (4.29b) we have, in agreement with (4.35),

$$(4.46b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* + D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} .$$

This approximation corresponds to (the unlumped mass version of) the finite-difference/element approximation (4.27), or equivalently (4.35). It is based on the piecewise-parabolic finite-element approximation in (1.35),

$$(4.47a) \quad P_N^f w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \tilde{f}_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \Omega_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x), \quad \Delta \tilde{f} = C^{-1} \Delta \bar{f} ,$$

which is appended by the piecewise parabolic viscosity approximation,  $\varepsilon_N D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ ,  $\varepsilon_N \equiv \frac{\Delta x}{2}$ , where

$$(4.47b) \quad D_N w(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N [\widetilde{D\bar{w}}]_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \Omega_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x), \quad [D\bar{w}]_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv D_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}}.$$

The difficulty of working with the explicit representation of the modified discretization operator,  $\tilde{P}_N^f = P_N^f - \frac{\Delta x}{2} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , lies in the nonlocal inverse of the mass matrix,  $C^{-1}$ , which enters (4.47a), (4.47b). It would be more convenient, therefore, to deal directly with the original weak formulation in (4.45): it asserts that for all  $C^\infty$ -test functions  $\varphi(x)$  and arbitrary  $\phi_N$ -approximants,  $\varphi_N(x)$ , we have

$$(4.48) \quad \begin{aligned} \left( \varphi(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] \right) &= \left( \varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) \right) + \\ &+ \left( \varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] \right) - \\ &- \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right)_D. \end{aligned}$$

The novelty of the weak formulation (4.48) is that it allows us to assign to  $\varphi(x)$  different  $\phi_N$ -approximants,  $\varphi_N(x)$ . Different choices of  $\varphi_N(x)$  amount to formulation of (4.46) within different setups.

For example, if we take  $\varphi_N(x) = \hat{\varphi}_N(x)$  to be the  $L_2$ -projection of  $\varphi(x)$ ,

$$(4.49) \quad \hat{\varphi}_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{\varphi}_k \Lambda_k(x), \quad \hat{\varphi}_k = C^{-1} \cdot \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int \varphi(x) \Lambda_k(x) dx,$$

then we recover the piecewise-parabolic discretization operators in (4.47). Indeed, since  $\varphi(x) - \hat{\varphi}_N(x)$  is orthogonal to the  $\phi_N$ -space, we are left with the second and third terms on the right of (4.48). The second term is a weak formulation for the local truncation error of the basic approximation

$$(4.50a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f u_N(x, t) [\varphi] = \left( \varphi(x) - \hat{\varphi}(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] \right),$$

so that  $E_N^f = [I - FE_{\Delta x}]f(\cdot)$ , in agreement with (4.47a). The third term represents (in a weak form) the truncation error due to the presence of vanishing viscosity

$$(4.50b) \quad \frac{\Delta x}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) [\varphi] = -\frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \hat{\varphi}_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right)_D,$$

in agreement with (4.47b). The difficulty with this representation lies again in the nonlocal inverse,  $C^{-1}$ , which enters in the definition of  $\hat{\varphi}_N(x)$  in (4.49).

Instead, let us assign  $\varphi_N(x)$ , as was done in [4], to be the piecewise-linear interpolant of  $\varphi(x)$ ,

$$(4.51) \quad \varphi_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \varphi(x_k) \Lambda_k(x) .$$

We now consider the three terms on the right of (4.48). The third term is a weak representation for the truncation error due to the presence of vanishing viscosity

$$(4.52a) \quad \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) [\varphi] = -\frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right)_D, \quad \varepsilon_N \equiv \frac{\Delta x}{2} .$$

This corresponds to the piecewise-constant viscosity operator (here  $\chi_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x)$  denotes the characteristic function of the  $[x_k, x_{k+1}]$ -cell)

$$(4.52b) \quad D_N w_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N D_{k+\frac{1}{2}} \bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \chi_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x), \quad \bar{w}_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \equiv \bar{w}(x_{k+\frac{1}{2}}, t) .$$

The second term is related to the discretization of the spatial flux,  $f_x$ ,

$$(4.53a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x, t) [\varphi] = \left( \varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))] \right),$$

where, as usual,

$$(4.53b) \quad E_N^f w(x, t) = f(w(x, t)) - P_N^f w(x, t) .$$

This uniquely determine a piecewise-constant spatial discretization operator

$$(4.53c) \quad P_N^f w(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \bar{f}_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \chi_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x), \quad \bar{f}_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \equiv \bar{f}(w(x_{k+\frac{1}{2}}, t)) .$$

We observe that  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x} P_N^f w(x, t)$  and  $\varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w(x, t)$  do not lie in the  $\phi_N$ -space; they belong to the space of measures  $W^{-1, \infty}$ . To balance these  $W^{-1, \infty}$  terms we have to “discretize” (in space) the temporal flux,  $u_t$ , as well. The first term on the right of (4.48) gives us the weak representation of the truncation error due to this “temporal” discretization

$$(4.54a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^u w_N(x, t) [\varphi] = \left( \varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right),$$

or equivalently,

$$(4.54b) \quad E_N^u w(x, t) [\varphi] = (\varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), w(x, t)) .$$

The discrete local error of our approximation consists now of two different sources of errors,

$$(4.55a) \quad E_N w_N(x, t) = E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) + E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) ,$$

where  $E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t)$  is associated with discretization of the temporal flux,

$$(4.55b) \quad E_N^{(t)} w(x, t) = E_N^u w(x, t) ,$$

and  $E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t)$  is associated with the spatial discretization (basic + viscosity approximations)

$$(4.55c) \quad E_N^{(x)} w(x, t) \equiv E_N^f w(x, t) + \frac{\Delta x}{2} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w(x, t) .$$

The (quadratic) entropy consistency estimate corresponds to (3.4) now reads

$$(4.56a) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{H_{loc}^{-1}(x, t)}^2 + \frac{1}{\eta_N} U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x, t)) \leq \\ & \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right) + \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right) + \|w_N(x, t)\|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Here, the quadratic entropy production,  $U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x, t))$ , takes into account the additional discretization of the temporal flux by modifying (3.2a),

$$(4.56b) \quad \begin{aligned} U_{\text{prod}}(w_N(x, t)) \equiv & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \langle w_N(x, t), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \rangle \right\|_{H_{loc}^{-1}(x, t)}^2 + \\ & + \left\| \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \rangle \right\|_{L_{loc}^1(x, t)} , \quad \epsilon_N \downarrow 0 . \end{aligned}$$

We now arrive at the localized version of Theorem 4.5.

**Theorem 4.6: (Upwind Differencing).** *The finite-difference/element approximation*

$$(4.57a) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \\ & + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)] , \end{aligned}$$

is consistent with scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. the quadratic entropy  $\mathcal{U} = \{\frac{1}{2}u^2\}$ , if its viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$ , satisfy

$$(4.57b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \geq \text{Const.} |\bar{a}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)| \quad , \quad \bar{a}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \equiv \left[ \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_\nu}^{x_{\nu+1}} |f'(u_N(x, t))|^2 dx \right]^{1/2} .$$

**Proof:** The proof consists of three steps.

(i) Entropy dissipation. The total amount of (quadratic) entropy dissipation minus entropy production of (4.57a) equals – in view of (4.52a), (4.53a), (4.54a) and the piecewise-linearity of  $w_N(x, t)$

$$\begin{aligned}
& \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right) + \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right) \equiv \\
& \equiv -\frac{\partial}{\partial t} E^{(t)} w_N(x, t) [\varphi = w_N(x, t)] - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x, t) [\varphi = w_N(x, t)] + \\
(4.58) \quad & + \frac{\Delta x}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) [\varphi = w_N(x, t)] = \\
& = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right)_D = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2,
\end{aligned}$$

in agreement with (4.41).

(ii) Entropy production. The viscosity approximation does not produce entropy, for

$$\left\langle \frac{\Delta x}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2 \chi_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(x) \geq 0.$$

Consequently, the spatial contribution to the entropy production in (4.56b) is upper bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.59a) \quad & \left\| \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right\rangle^- \right\|_{L^1(x)} \leq \left\| \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\rangle \right\|_{L^1(x)} \leq \\
& \leq \frac{\epsilon_N}{4} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_D^2 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Using the “super-approximation” estimate [4, Lemma 2.1], we can upper bound the temporal contribution to the entropy production in (4.56b)

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.59b) \quad & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \left\langle w_N(x, t), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right\rangle \right\|_{H^{-1}(x)}^2 \leq \\
& \leq \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \sup_{\|\varphi_x\|=1} \left| \left( w_N(x, t) \varphi(x) - (w_N(x, t) \varphi(x))_N, \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right) \right|^2 \leq \\
& \leq \eta_\infty \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2, \quad \eta_\infty = Const.
\end{aligned}$$

(iii) Discrete error. The spatial contribution does not exceed

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.60a) \quad & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{H^{-1}(x)}^2 \leq \\
& \leq \frac{D_\infty}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\Delta x}{2} D_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 + \frac{D_\infty}{\epsilon_N} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 \leq \\
& \leq \frac{D_\infty}{4} \cdot \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_D^2 + \frac{D_\infty}{\epsilon_N} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

An upper bound for the temporal contribution is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.60b) \quad \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{H^{-1}(x)} &\leq \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \sup_{\|\varphi_x\|=1} |(\varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t))|^2 \leq \\
&\leq \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2.
\end{aligned}$$

Now, let us choose  $\epsilon_N = \text{Const.} \Delta x \downarrow 0$  and  $\eta_N \equiv \text{Const.}$  with sufficiently large  $\text{Const.} > 0$ . In view of (4.58), (4.59) and (4.60), we conclude that the entropy consistency estimate (4.56) holds, provided there exists a positive constant such that

$$(4.61) \quad \Delta x \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{\Delta x} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 \leq \text{Const.} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2.$$

An energy estimate for the first term on the left is obtained by substituting  $\varphi_N(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t)$  in (4.45):

$$(4.62) \quad \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 \leq 2 \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} f(w_N(x, t)) \right\|^2 + 2D_\infty \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_D^2.$$

To estimate the second term on the left, we take advantage of its local representation in (4.53): since  $E_N^f w_N(x, t)$  is a conservative we have

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.63) \quad \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 &= \sup_{\|\varphi_x\|_D=1} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x, t) [\varphi] \right\|^2 \\
&= \sup_{\|\varphi_x\|_D=1} \left| \left( \varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))] \right) \right|^2 \leq \\
&\leq (\Delta x)^2 \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))] \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2.
\end{aligned}$$

The inequalities (4.61), (4.62) and our assumption (4.57b) imply (4.61), for

$$\begin{aligned}
&\Delta x \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{\Delta x} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 \leq \\
&\leq \text{Const.} \Delta x \left[ \left\| f'(w_N(x, t)) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_D^2 \right] \leq \\
&\leq \text{Const.} \left[ \sum_{\nu=-N}^N \frac{1}{D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}} \bar{a}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^2 |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2 + \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2 \right] \leq \\
&\leq \text{Const.} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|. \quad \square
\end{aligned}$$

The proof of Theorem 4.6 hinges on estimate (4.61). The latter was verified with the help of the first-order estimate

$$\|\varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x)\|_\omega \leq \Delta x \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi(x) \right\|_\omega.$$

In fact,  $\varphi_N(x)$  is a second-order accurate approximation of  $\varphi(x)$ , which brings us to the final result of this section.

**Theorem 4.7: (Second-Order Differencing).** *The finite-difference/element approximation*

$$(4.64a) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t)))] = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)],$$

is consistent with scalar initial-value problems (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. the quadratic entropy  $\mathcal{U} = \{\frac{1}{2}u^2\}$ , if its viscosity coefficients  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$ , satisfy

$$(4.64b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \geq \text{Const.} |\bar{a}'_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)| \cdot |\Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|, \quad \bar{a}'_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \equiv \left[ \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_\nu}^{x_{\nu+1}} |f''(u_N(x, t))|^2 dx \right]^{1/2}.$$

**Proof:** We consider a weak representation of (4.64a) of the form

$$(4.65) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left( \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) \right) + \left( \bar{\varphi}_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(u_N(x, t))] \right) + \\ & + \varepsilon_N \left( \frac{\partial \varphi_N}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right)_Q = 0, \quad \varepsilon_N \equiv \frac{\Delta x}{2}. \end{aligned}$$

Here  $\bar{\varphi}(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \frac{\varphi(x_k) + \varphi(x_{k+1})}{2} \chi_{k+\frac{1}{2}}(x)$  is the piecewise-constant projection of an arbitrary  $\phi_N$ -element,  $\varphi_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \varphi(x_k) \Lambda_k(x)$ .

The local truncation error,  $E_N = E_N^{(t)} + E_N^f + \frac{\Delta x}{2} Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , consists of temporal contribution

$$(4.66a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t)[\varphi] = \left( \varphi(x) - \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right),$$

and spatial contribution  $E_N^{(x)} \equiv E_N^f + \frac{\Delta x}{2} Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$ , where

$$(4.66b) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f w_N(x, t)[\varphi] &= \left( \varphi(x) - \bar{\varphi}_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))] \right) \equiv \\ &\equiv \left( \varphi(x) - \bar{\varphi}_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))] - \overline{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))]} \right), \end{aligned}$$

and

$$(4.66c) \quad \frac{\Delta x}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t)[\varphi] = \frac{\Delta x}{2} \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \varphi_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right)_Q.$$

Once more the entropy dissipation of (4.65) is given by



$$\begin{aligned}
(4.67) \quad & \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right) + \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right) = \\
& = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2 .
\end{aligned}$$

The entropy production does not exceed

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.68) \quad & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \left\langle w_N(x, t), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right\rangle \right\|_{H^{-1}(x)}^2 + \left\| \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t), E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right\rangle \right\|_{L^1(x)} \leq \\
& \leq \eta_\infty \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + \frac{\epsilon_N}{4} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_D^2 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 ,
\end{aligned}$$

and the discrete error is upper bounded by

$$\begin{aligned}
(4.69a) \quad & \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{H^{-1}(x)}^2 + \frac{1}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^{(x)} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{H^{-1}(x)}^2 \leq \\
& \leq \frac{(\Delta x)^2}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + \frac{D_\infty}{\epsilon_N} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 + \frac{Q_\infty}{\epsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\Delta x}{2} Q_N w_N(x, t) \right\|_{Q^{-1}}^2 .
\end{aligned}$$

Now, we note that  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$  and  $D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} - Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^*$  are of the same order of magnitude, for by (4.29b),

$$(4.69b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = \int_{\xi=-1/2}^{1/2} \left( \frac{1}{4} - \xi^2 \right) f''(w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi \cdot \Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) \leq \frac{1}{4} |\bar{a}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)| \cdot |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)| .$$

As before, we choose  $\epsilon_N = \text{Const.} \Delta x \downarrow 0$  and  $\eta_N = \text{Const.}$  with sufficiently large  $\text{Const.} > 0$ , and the entropy consistency (4.56) is reduced to, in view of (4.67), (4.68) and (4.69),

$$(4.70) \quad \Delta x \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + \frac{1}{\Delta x} \left\| E_N^f w_N(x, t) \right\|_{D^{-1}}^2 \leq \text{Const.} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2 .$$

Substituting  $\varphi_N(x) = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t)$  in (4.65), yields an energy-estimate for the first term on the left of (4.70); namely, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
\left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 & \leq \frac{1}{4} \left\| \overline{\frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t)} \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))] - \overline{\frac{\partial}{\partial x} [f(w_N(x, t))]} \right\|^2 \\
& \quad + \epsilon_N^2 \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x \partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_{Q^2}^2 \\
& \leq \frac{1}{2} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 + (\Delta x)^2 \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [f(w_N(x, t))] \right\|^2 + Q_\infty \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_Q^2 ,
\end{aligned}$$

which yields, with the help of (4.69b),

$$(4.71) \quad \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t) \right\|^2 \leq 2(\Delta x)^2 \left\| \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} [f(w_N(x, t))] \right\|^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x, t) \right\|_D^2 .$$

The second term on the left of (4.70) does not exceed

$$(4.72) \quad \begin{aligned} \|E_N^f w_N(x, t)\|_{D^{-1}}^2 &= \sup_{\|\varphi_x\|_D=1} |(\varphi(x) - \bar{\varphi}_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(w_N(x, t))] - \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[\overline{f(w_N(x, t))}])|^2 \\ &\leq (\Delta x)^4 \|\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}[f(w_N(x, t))]\|_{D^{-1}}^2. \end{aligned}$$

Now, since  $w_N(x, t)$  is piecewise-linear, we have at each cell,

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2}[f(w_N(x, t))] \equiv f''(w_N(x, t)) \left( \frac{\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)}{\Delta x} \right)^2.$$

Hence, the inequalities (4.71), (4.72) and our assumption (4.64b) imply (4.70), for

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta x \|\frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t)\|^2 + \frac{1}{\Delta x} \|E_N^f w_N(x, t)\|_{D^{-1}}^2 &\leq \\ &\leq \text{Const.} [\sum_{\nu=-N}^N \frac{1}{D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}} (\bar{a}'_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}})^2 |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^4 + \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2] \\ &\leq \text{Const.} \sum_{\nu=-N}^N D_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|^2. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Remarks:

1. Theorems 4.6 and 4.7 are based on energy-estimating, independently,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t)$  and  $\frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t))]$ . In fact we can do with even less, namely, energy-estimating the sum  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t))]$ . To this end, it will suffice to have a space-time viscosity approximation in the “direction” of the local error,  $\frac{\partial}{\partial t} u_N(x, t) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t))]$ . In this manner one concludes the consistency of finite-element Streamline-Diffusion (SD) method introduced by Hughes and his co-workers and analyzed in [4].

2. The case of no mass lumping, (4.27), can be treated similarly. The temporal “discretization” in such case is represented by the local truncation error,

$$(4.73a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t} E_N^{(t)} w_N(x, t)[\varphi] = (\varphi(x) - \tilde{\varphi}_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial t} w_N(x, t)),$$

where  $\tilde{\varphi}_N(x)$  is the  $\phi_N$ -interpolant of  $\varphi(x)$  after mass lumping,

$$(4.73b) \quad \tilde{\varphi}_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \tilde{\varphi}_k \Lambda_k(x), \quad \tilde{\varphi}_k = C^{-1} \varphi(x_k).$$

The mass lumping in (4.73) adds entropy dissipation to the unlumped mass version in (4.64).

3. Theorem 4.7 verifies the consistency of modern high-resolution nonlinear finite-difference approximations, e.g., the TVD and UNO methods described in [2], [3], [14], [15]. We observe that the viscosity coefficients in (4.64) need not be “limited” at critical extrema values.

## 5. $L^\infty$ -STABILITY OF THE SCALAR VANISHING VISCOSITY METHOD

In this section we study the  $L^\infty$ -stability of the scalar vanishing viscosity method. To make our point we shall concentrate on the  $\pi_N$ -framework, where a  $\pi_N$ -approximate solution,  $u_N(x, t) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{u}_k(t) e^{ikx}$ , evolves according to the viscous approximation

$$(5.1) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(u_N(x, t))] = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} E_N^f u_N(x, t) + \varepsilon_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right].$$

In all the examples demonstrated in the previous sections, (5.1) was based on a consistent – in fact (at least) first-order accurate approximation of the conservation law (1.1a),

$$(5.2) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq \text{Const}_0 \cdot \frac{1}{N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|.$$

In addition, we assume that the viscosity part of (5.1) is parametrized according to the setup of Corollaries 4.2 and 4.3. Namely, we have the inequality (4.10)

$$(5.3) \quad \varepsilon_N \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2 \geq \text{Const} \cdot \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2,$$

and the viscosity amplitude,  $\varepsilon_N$ , tends “sufficiently slow” to zero

$$(5.4) \quad \frac{1}{N} \leq \varepsilon_N \downarrow 0.$$

In this case, the vanishing viscosity method (5.1) is a consistent approximation of scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_{\text{all}}$ . This assertion was verified in Corollaries 4.2 and 4.3 with the help of the inequality

$$(5.5) \quad \tilde{d}_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 \leq \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), \tilde{E}_N^f w_N(x) \right) + \|w_N(x)\|^2, \quad \tilde{d}_N = \text{Const} \cdot (1 - \theta) \varepsilon_N.$$

Here  $\theta = \frac{\text{Const}_0}{\text{Const}} < 1$  in the general case of Corollary 4.2, see (4.13), and  $\theta = 0$  in the entropy conservative case of Corollary 4.3.

Finally we recall that according to a previous remark, see (3.22),  $\|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^2(x)}$  is uniformly bounded in time,  $\|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^2(x)} \leq M_2$ . Using this together with the fact that our ‘preferred’ entropy function is quadratic in the scalar case,  $U_*(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ , enables us to upper bound the lefthand-side of (3.15) independently of the  $L^\infty$ -bounds in (3.16),

$$\int_{t=0}^T \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right) dt = \frac{1}{2} \left\| u_N(x, t) \right\|_{L^2(x)}^2 \Big|_{t=0}^{t=T} \leq M_2^2.$$

Hence, applying (5.5) to  $w_N(\cdot) = u_N(\cdot, t)$  we find after temporal integration that

$$(5.6) \quad \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right\|_{L_{loc}^2(x,t)}^2 \leq \frac{1}{\text{Const}} \cdot \frac{2M_2^2}{(1 - \theta)}.$$

The  $L^\infty$ -stability of (5.1) hinges on  $L^p$ -estimates for the discrete error of the basic scheme,

$$(5.7) \quad \|E_N^f w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \text{Const}_\infty \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| ,$$

and for the discrete error due to the presence of vanishing viscosity,

$$(5.8) \quad \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ R_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right] \right\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \text{Const}_\infty \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} , \quad R_N + Q_N = Id_N .$$

The estimates (5.7) and (5.8) are the strengthened  $L^p$ -versions of estimates (5.2) and (5.3). Indeed, the  $L^p$ -version of (5.7),

$$\|E_N^f w_N(x)\|_{L^p(x)} \leq \text{Const}_p \cdot \frac{1}{N^{\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{p}}} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| ,$$

with  $p = 2$ , corresponds to (5.2). The  $L^p$ -version of (5.8),

$$\varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ R_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right] \right\|_{L^p(x)} \leq \text{Const}_\infty \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^p(x)} , \quad R_N + Q_N = Id_N ,$$

with  $p = 2$ , yields (5.3) for,

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon_N \left( \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x), Q_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right) &= \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 + \varepsilon_N \left( w_N(x), \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ R_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right] \right) \\ &\geq \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|^2 - \text{Const}_\infty \cdot \|w_N(x)\|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Equipped with these estimates we can iterate on the  $L^p(x)$  norms of  $u_N(x, t)$  with the help of

**Lemma 5.1:** *Consider the vanishing viscosity method (5.1) which satisfies the  $L^\infty$ -consistency estimates (5.7), (5.8). Then there exists a positive constant (independent of  $N$  and  $p$ ),  $\text{Const.} > 0$ , such that for any even integer  $p \geq 2$  we have*

$$(5.9) \quad \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)} \leq e^{\text{Const.} \cdot t} \left[ \|u_N(x, t=0)\|_{L^p(x)} + \text{Const.} \frac{\sqrt{p}}{\sqrt{N} \cdot \varepsilon_N} \right] .$$

**Proof:** Multiplying (5.1) by  $pu_N^{p-1}(x, t)$  and integrating by parts we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}^p &= -p(p-1) \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^{p-2}(x, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) E_N^f u_N(x, t) dx \\ &\quad -p(p-1) \varepsilon_N \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^{p-2}(x, t) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right]^2 dx \\ &\quad -p\varepsilon_N \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^{p-1}(x, t) \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ R_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right] dx \\ &\equiv I + II + III . \end{aligned} \tag{5.10}$$

For even integers  $p \geq 2$ , the weighted Cauchy-Schwartz inequality is used to upper bound the first term on the right

(5.11)

$$I \leq p(p-1)\varepsilon_N \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^{p-2}(x, t) \left[ \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right]^2 dx + \frac{p(p-1)}{4\varepsilon_N} \int_{x=0}^{2\pi} u_N^{p-2}(x, t) \cdot [E_N^f u_N(x, t)]^2 dx ,$$

and together with the second term on the right we have, in view of (5.7),

$$(5.12) \quad I + II \leq \text{Const}_\infty^2 \cdot \frac{p(p-1)}{4N\varepsilon_N} \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^{p-2}(x)}^{p-2} \cdot \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right\|_{L^2(x)}^2 .$$

Using (5.8) we can Hölder the third term,

$$(5.13) \quad \begin{aligned} III &\leq p\varepsilon_N \|u_N^{p-1}(x, t)\|_{L^{\frac{p}{p-1}}(x)} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [R_N \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)] \right\|_{L^p(x)} \leq \\ &\leq \text{Const}_\infty \cdot p \cdot \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}^p . \end{aligned}$$

Inserting (5.12) and (5.13) into (5.10) we obtain, after division by a common factor of  $\frac{p}{2} \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}^{p-2}$ ,

$$(5.14) \quad \frac{d}{dt} \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}^2 \leq \text{Const}_\infty^2 \cdot \frac{p}{2N\varepsilon_N} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t) \right\|_{L^2(x)}^2 + 2\text{Const}_\infty \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}^2 .$$

Temporal integration of the last inequality yields

$$\begin{aligned} e^{-2\text{Const}_\infty \cdot t} \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}^2 &\leq \|u_N(x, t=0)\|_{L^p(x)}^2 + \\ &+ \text{Const}_\infty^2 \cdot \frac{p}{2N\varepsilon_N^2} \int_{\tau=0}^t e^{-2\text{Const}_\infty \cdot \tau} \varepsilon_N \cdot \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, \tau) \right\|_{L^2(x)}^2 d\tau , \end{aligned}$$

and (5.9) follows with the help of (5.6).  $\square$

Lemma 5.1 shows that the  $L^p(x)$ -norms of  $u_N(x, t)$  are bounded (w.r.t.  $N, p$  and  $t$ ), at least for “sufficiently high”  $L^p(x)$ -norms, provided  $\varepsilon_N$  tends to zero “sufficiently slow”. Specifically, if instead of (5.4) we have the stronger

$$(5.15) \quad \sqrt{\frac{\log N}{N}} \leq \varepsilon_N \downarrow 0 ,$$

then  $\|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)}$  are bounded for  $p \leq \log N$ ,

$$(5.16) \quad \|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^p(x)} \leq M(t) , \quad p \leq \log N .$$

Now, we assert that the  $L^\infty(x)$ -norm of  $\pi_N$ -polynomials does not exceed a constant, say 10, times their “sufficiently high”  $L^p(x)$ -norm, say  $p \sim \log N$ , for by one of the Gagliardo-Nirenberg inequalities, e.g., [16, Section 3]

$$\begin{aligned}
\|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} &\leq \left(\frac{p+2}{4}\right)^{\frac{1}{p+2}} \cdot \left\|\frac{\partial}{\partial x}w_N(x)\right\|_{L^2(x)}^{\frac{2}{p+2}} \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^p(x)}^{\frac{p}{p+2}} \leq \\
&\leq 1.1 \cdot N^{\frac{2}{p+2}} \|w_N(x)\|_{L^2(x)}^{\frac{2}{p+2}} \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^p(x)}^{\frac{p}{p+2}} \leq \\
&\leq 1.1 \cdot e^2 \|w_N(x)\|_{L^{p=\log N}(x)} .
\end{aligned}$$

We conclude

**Theorem 5.2:** (*L<sup>∞</sup>-stability*). *If the scalar vanishing viscosity method (5.1) satisfies (5.7), (5.8) and (5.15), then it is L<sup>∞</sup>-stable, i.e., there exists a constant (independent of N), M<sub>∞</sub>, such that*

$$\|u_N(x, t)\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)} \leq M_\infty .$$

Remarks:

1. The consistency estimate (5.7) together with (5.6) imply

$$(5.18) \quad \int_{t=0}^T \|E_N^f u_N(x, t)\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 dt \leq \text{Const.} \frac{1}{N \varepsilon_N} .$$

Thus, the presence of vanishing viscosity in (5.4), parametrized according to (5.15), guarantees that the local error of the basic approximation in (5.1) tends to zero.

$$\int_{t=0}^T \|E_N^f u_N(x, t)\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 dt \leq \text{Const.} \frac{1}{\sqrt{N \log N}} \rightarrow 0 .$$

2. If instead of (5.15), the viscosity amplitude  $\varepsilon_N$  is restricted by the weaker (5.4), then (5.18) yields

$$\int_{t=0}^T \|E_N^f u_N(x, t)\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 dt \leq \text{Const.} ,$$

and we conjecture that the vanishing viscosity method (5.1) remains  $L^\infty$ -stable in such case.

The first step in implementing Theorem 5.2 requires us to verify the  $L^\infty$ -consistency estimate (5.7). To this end let us consider basic discretization operators which operate linearly on the flux  $f(\cdot)$ ,

$$(5.19) \quad P_N^f w_N(x) = P_N f(w_N(x))$$

We recall that the spectral,  $\psi$ dospectral, finite-difference and element methods discussed in Section 1, are the canonical examples of basic approximations which belong to this “linear” category. The consistency estimate(5.7) then reads

$$\|[I - P_N]f(w_N(x))\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \text{Const}_\infty \cdot \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\| ,$$

with a constant  $Const_\infty$  which may depend on the  $L^\infty$ -bound on  $w_N(x)$  but otherwise is dependent on  $N$ . Consequently, estimate (5.7) is fulfilled provided for all  $w(x)$  in  $H^1[0, 2\pi]$  we have

$$(5.20) \quad \|[I - P_N]w(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq Const. \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w(x) \right\| .$$

We shall verify the consistency estimate (5.7) – or equivalently (5.20), using the following von Neumann like stability analysis. To this end we define the symbols

$$(5.21) \quad g_{N,k}(x) = e^{-ikx} P_N e^{ikx} ,$$

and state

**Lemma 5.3:** *The linear basic approximation  $P_N^f = P_N f(\cdot)$ , fulfills the  $L^\infty$ -consistency estimate (5.7), provided its symbols satisfy*

$$(5.22) \quad \max_x |1 - g_{N,k}(x)| \leq Const. \min \left( 1, \frac{k}{N} \right) , \quad |k| \leq \infty .$$

**Proof:** For  $|k| > N$  we have by (5.22),

$$(5.23a) \quad \begin{aligned} & \left\| \sum_{|k|>N} \hat{w}(k) \cdot [1 - g_{N,k}(x)] e^{ikx} \right\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 \leq \\ & \leq \sum_{|k|>N} k^2 |\hat{w}(k)|^2 \cdot |1 - g_{N,k}(x)|^2 \cdot \sum_{|k|>N} \frac{1}{k^2} \leq \\ & \leq \frac{Const.^2}{N} \sum_{|k|>N} k^2 |\hat{w}(k)|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, (5.22) implies that for  $|k| \leq N$  we have

$$(5.23b) \quad \begin{aligned} \left\| \sum_{|k|\leq N} \hat{w}(k) \cdot [1 - g_{N,k}(x)] e^{ikx} \right\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 & \leq N \cdot \sum_{|k|\leq N} |\hat{w}(k)|^2 \cdot |1 - g_{N,k}(x)|^2 \leq \\ & \leq \frac{Const.^2}{N} \sum_{|k|\leq N} k^2 |\hat{w}(k)|^2 . \end{aligned}$$

Hence (5.20) follows in view of (5.23a), (5.23b),

$$\begin{aligned} \|(I - P_N)w(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 & = \left\| \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{w}(k) \cdot [1 - g_{N,k}(x)] e^{ikx} \right\|_{L^\infty(x)}^2 \leq \\ & \leq \frac{4Const.^2}{N} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} k^2 |\hat{w}(k)|^2 = \left[ 2Const. \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w(x) \right\| \right]^2 . \end{aligned}$$

□

We observe that the exponentials  $\{e^{ikx}\}_{k=-N}^N$  are eigenfunctions of the linear discretization operators associated with the spectral method,  $P_N = S_N$ ,  $\psi$ dospectral method,

$P_N = \psi_N$ , finite-difference method,  $P_N = FD_{\Delta x}$  and finite-element method (based on quadratic “preferred” entropy  $U_*(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ ),  $P_N = FE_{\Delta x}$ . We claim that therefore (5.22) is satisfied, which in turn implies that the  $L^\infty$ -consistency estimate (5.7) is valid in these cases. Indeed, since  $P_N$  are bounded

$$(5.24a) \quad \max_x |g_{N,k}(x)| = \max_x |P_N e^{ikx}| \leq \text{Const.}$$

Moreover, by the first-order accuracy estimate (5.2) we have

$$\|e^{ikx}[1 - g_{N,k}(x)]\|_{L^2(x)}^2 = \|[I - P_N]e^{ikx}\|_{L^2(x)}^2 \leq \text{Const}_0^2 \cdot \frac{k^2}{N^2}.$$

Now, if  $\{e^{ikx}\}_{k=-N}^N$  are eigenfunctions of  $P_N$ , then  $g_{N,k}(x)$  are constant amplification factors,  $g_{N,k}(x) \equiv g_{N,k}$ , and the last inequality yields

$$(5.24b) \quad \max_x |1 - g_{N,k}(x)|^2 \leq \frac{1}{2\pi} \text{Const}_0^2 \cdot \frac{k^2}{N^2}, \quad |k| \leq N.$$

This together with (5.24a) imply (5.22) as asserted.

**Example 5.4:**  $L^\infty$ -stability of the scalar SV method. We consider the SV method (4.17), (4.23)

$$(5.25a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[P_N f(u_N(x, t))] = \frac{1}{N^\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[Q_N(x, t) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)],$$

where  $Q_N(x, t) = \sum_{|k|=m_N}^N \hat{Q}_k(t) e^{ikx}$  is a viscosity kernel with monotonically increasing coefficients such that

$$(5.25b) \quad \hat{Q}_k(t) \geq \text{Const.} - \frac{N^\beta}{k^2 \cdot \log N}, \quad k^2 \geq m_N^2 = \frac{N^\beta}{\text{Const.} \log N}, \quad 0 < \beta < \frac{1}{2}.$$

The basic spectral or  $\psi$ dospectral approximation satisfies the  $L^\infty$ -consistency estimate (5.7) by Lemma 5.3. Next, we verify estimate (5.8) with  $R_N + Q_N = \text{Const.} Id_N$ . In this case, the corresponding kernel  $R_N(x, t)$  is given by

$$R_N(x, t) = \text{Const.} \sum_{|k| \leq m_N} e^{ikx} + \sum_{|k| > m_N} \hat{R}_k(t) e^{ikx} \equiv R_N^-(x) + R_N^+(x, t),$$

where  $R_N^-(x)$  is a multiple of the  $\pi_{m_N}$ -Dirichlet kernel,

$$R_N^-(x) = \text{Const.} D_{m_N}(x),$$

and by (5.25b),  $R_N^+(x, t)$  has monotonically decreasing coefficients

$$0 \leq \hat{R}_k(t) \leq \frac{N^\beta}{k^2 \cdot \log N}, \quad |k| \geq m_N.$$



Since  $R_N^-(x) * w_N(x)$  is a  $\pi_{m_N}$ -polynomial, we can estimate its derivatives by [23]

$$\begin{aligned}
(5.26a) \quad \varepsilon \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [R_N^-(x) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x)] \right\|_{L^\infty(x)} &\leq \varepsilon_N m_N^2 \cdot \|R_N^-(x)\|_{L^1(x)} \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \\
&\leq \text{Const.} \varepsilon_N m_N^2 \log m_N \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \\
&\leq \text{Const}_\infty \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)}.
\end{aligned}$$

Since the coefficients of  $\log N \cdot N^{-\beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} R_N^+(x, t)$  are monotonically decreasing,

$$0 \downarrow \log N \cdot N^{-\beta} k^2 \hat{R}_k(t) \leq 1,$$

we can apply [10, Lemma A.1] to obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
(5.26b) \quad \varepsilon_N \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [R_N^+(x, t) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x)] \right\|_{L^\infty(x)} &\leq \\
&\leq \varepsilon_N \frac{N^\beta}{\log N} \cdot \left\| \log N \cdot N^{-\beta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} R_N^+(x, t) \right\|_{L^1(x)} \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \\
&\leq \varepsilon_N \frac{N^\beta}{\log N} \cdot \text{Const.} \log N \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)} \leq \\
&\leq \text{Const}_\infty \cdot \|w_N(x)\|_{L^\infty(x)}.
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, estimate (5.8) holds in view of (5.26a), (5.26b). Finally, since  $\beta < \frac{1}{2}$ , the viscosity amplitude  $\varepsilon_N = N^{-\beta}$  satisfies (5.15), and Theorem 5.2 guarantees the  $L^\infty$ -stability of the SV method (5.25a), (5.25b).

## 6. CONSISTENCY AND $L^\infty$ -STABILITY IMPLY CONVERGENCE

We begin with

**Theorem 6.1:** Consider the semi-discrete approximation (1.4). We assume that

(i) The approximation (1.4) is consistent with the initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. a “relevant” class of entropy functions,  $\mathcal{U}$ ,

and

(ii) The approximation (1.4) is  $L^\infty$ -stable.

Then for any  $C^2$  entropy pair  $(U, F)$  associated with (1.1), such that  $U \in \mathcal{U}$ ,

$$(6.1) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[U(u_N(x, t))] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[F(u_N(x, t))] , \quad U \in \mathcal{U} ,$$

belongs to a compact subset of  $H_{loc}^{-1}(x, t)$ .

**Proof:** Multiplying (1.4) by  $U'(u_N(x, t))$  we obtain (3.1), which we rewrite us

$$(6.2) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[U(u_N(x, t))] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[F(u_N(x, t))] = \\ & = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \langle U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \rangle - \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \rangle \equiv \\ & \equiv I + II. \end{aligned}$$

By the first part of Lemma 3.3 we have, see (3.9),

$$(6.3) \quad \begin{aligned} \|I\| & \equiv \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \langle U'(u_N(x, t)), E_N^f u_N(x, t) \rangle \|_{H_{loc}^{-1}(x, t)} \leq \\ & \leq \|U'(u_N(x, t))\|_{L_{loc}^\infty(x, t)} \cdot Const_I \cdot \sqrt{e_N} \rightarrow 0 \end{aligned}$$

and hence the term I lies in the compact  $H_{loc}^{-1}$ . The third part of Lemma 3.3 gives us

$$(6.4) \quad \|II\| \equiv - \langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} [U'(u_N(x, t))], E_N^f u_N(x, t) \rangle \|_{L_{loc}^1(x, t)} \leq Const_{III},$$

and this estimate implies, with the help of Murat’s Lemma [22], that the term II also lies in the compact of  $H_{loc}^{-1}$ , which completes the proof.  $\square$

One can use now compensated compactness arguments [22], in order to turn the conclusion of Theorem 6.1 into a convergence proof. The current state of the art of these arguments in this context, includes scalar and  $2 \times 2$  systems of conservation laws [22], [1].

We start with the scalar case.

**Theorem 6.2:** Consider an  $L^\infty$ -stable approximation (1.4) which is consistent with the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_{all}$ . Then

(a subsequence of)  $u_N(x, t)$  converges weakly to a weak solution,  $\bar{u}(x, t)$ , of the conservation law (1.1a),

$$(6.5) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[\bar{u}(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(\bar{u}(x, t))] = 0.$$

**Proof:** Since the right-hand sides of (1.4),(3.1) were shown to lie in the compact of  $H_{\text{loc}}^{-1}(x, t)$ , we can apply the div-and lemma [22] to their left-hand sides: abbreviating  $\overline{g(u)} = w \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} g(u_N)$ , then for any  $C^2$  entropy pair  $(U(u), F(u))$  we can extract a subsequence (still denoted by  $u_N$ ) such that

$$(6.6) \quad \overline{uF(u)} - \overline{U(u)f(u)} = \bar{u} \cdot \overline{F(u)} - \overline{U(u)} \cdot \overline{f(u)}$$

But (6.6) depends continuously on  $(U, F)$  in the  $C^1$  topology and therefore it remains valid for piecewise  $C^1$  entropy pairs. Following Krushkov [6] we choose

$$U(u) = |u - c| \quad , \quad F(u) = \text{sgn}(u - c) \cdot (f(u) - f(c)) \quad c = \text{Const} \quad ,$$

in which case (6.6) reads

$$\begin{aligned} & \overline{u \cdot \text{sgn}(u - c) \cdot (f(u) - f(c))} - \overline{|u - c| \cdot f(u)} \\ &= \bar{u} \cdot \overline{\text{sgn}(u - c) \cdot (f(u) - f(c))} - \overline{|u - c| \cdot f(u)} . \end{aligned}$$

Equivalently, we can rewrite this as

$$\overline{(u - \bar{u}) \text{sgn}(u - c) \cdot (f(u) - f(c))} = \overline{|u - c| \cdot (f(u) - f(\bar{u}))} .$$

Let us examine the last equality by restricting the weak limits to an arbitrary fixed  $(x, t)$  location; with  $c = \bar{u}(x, t)$  we find after little rearrangement that

$$\overline{|u - \bar{u}| \cdot (f(u) - f(\bar{u}))} = 0 .$$

This implies that

$$(6.7) \quad \overline{f(u)} = f(\bar{u}) \quad ,$$

for otherwise  $\overline{|u - \bar{u}|}(x, t) = 0$ , which in turn leads again to (6.7)<sup>3</sup> Taking the weak limit of (1.4), then (3.9) implies that the righthand-side tends to zero, and by (6.7) the lefthand-side amounts to having (6.5),

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}[\bar{u}(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(\bar{u}(x, t))] = \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[\bar{u}(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[\overline{f(u(x, t))}] = 0 . \quad \square$$

<sup>3</sup>If  $\overline{|u - \bar{u}|}(x, t) = 0$  then  $\overline{g(u)}(x, t) = g(\bar{u}(x, t))$  for any  $C^1$  function. This follows, for example, by noting that the associated probability measure is concentrated at the single point  $\bar{u}$ , consult [22].

The above compensated compactness argument for convergence is due to Tartar [22, Theorem 2.6] who made use of (6.6) to further deduce that in case the scalar flux  $f(u)$ , is nonlinear, i.e., when there is no interval on which  $f'(u) \equiv \text{Const.}$ , then the convergence  $u_N(x, t) \rightarrow \bar{u}(x, t)$  is in fact strong in  $L^p_{loc}(x, t)$ ,  $p < \infty$ . Moreover, if the scalar flux  $f(u)$  is genuinely nonlinear (GNL), i.e.,  $f''(u) \neq 0$ , then the same conclusion of strong  $L^p_{loc}(x, t)$  convergence holds, by applying the div-curl lemma to a single strictly convex entropy function  $U(u)$  in  $\mathcal{U}$  [22, Remark 30].

**Theorem 6.3:** *Consider an  $L^\infty$ -stable approximation (1.4) which is consistent with the nonlinear scalar initial value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. a nonempty “relevant” class of strictly convex entropy functions  $\mathcal{U}$ . Then we have*

A. Convergence: *If either  $\mathcal{U}$  contains all strictly convex entropies,  $\mathcal{U} = \mathcal{U}_{\text{all}}$  or  $f(u)$  is GNL, then (a subsequence of)  $u_N(x, t)$  converges strongly in  $L^p_{loc}(x, t)$ ,  $p < \infty$ , to a weak solution  $\bar{u}(x, t)$  of the conservation law (1.1a),*

$$(6.8) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[\bar{u}(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[f(\bar{u}(x, t))] = 0 .$$

B. Entropy inequality: *For each entropy function,  $U(u)$  in  $\mathcal{U}$ , whose entropy production tends weakly to zero*

$$(6.9a) \quad w \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \left[ - \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)) , E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle^- \right] = 0 ,$$

*the weak limit solution  $\bar{u}(x, t)$  satisfies the entropy inequality*

$$(6.9b) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[U(\bar{u}(x, t))] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[F(\bar{u}(x, t))] \leq 0 .$$

**Proof:** The amount of entropy dissipated by (1.4),

$$- \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)) , E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle^+$$

tends weakly to a negative measure in view of the  $L^1_{loc}(x, t)$  bound in (3.11). Adding this to (6.9a) we conclude that the second term on the right of (6.2), tends weakly to a negative measure,

$$(6.10) \quad w \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} [II \equiv - \left\langle \frac{\partial}{\partial x} U'(u_N(x, t)) , E_N^f u_N(x, t) \right\rangle] \leq 0 .$$

Thus, in view of (6.3), (6.10) and the strong convergence,  $u_N(x, t) \rightarrow \bar{u}(x, t)$ , the weak limit of (6.2) recovers the entropy inequality (6.9b).  $\square$

**Example 6.4: Convergence of the SV methods.** We consider the SV method (4.17), (4.23)

$$(6.11a) \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t}[u_N(x, t)] + \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[P_N f(u_N(x, t))] = \frac{1}{N^\beta} \frac{\partial}{\partial x}[Q_N(x, t) * \frac{\partial}{\partial x} u_N(x, t)], \quad \beta < \frac{1}{2},$$

where  $Q_N(x, t) = \sum_{|k|=m_N}^N \hat{Q}_k(t) e^{ikx}$  is a viscosity kernel with monotonically increasing coefficients,

$$(6.11b) \quad \hat{Q}_k(t) \geq \text{Const.} - \frac{N^\beta}{k^2 \cdot \log N}, \quad k^2 \geq m_N^2 = \frac{N^\beta}{\text{Const.} \cdot \log N}, \quad \text{Const.} > \text{Const}_0.$$

The SV method (6.11a), (6.11b) satisfies

(i) It is consistent with the scalar initial-value (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies (by Theorem 4.3),

(ii) It is  $L^\infty$ -stable (by Theorem 5.2),

and as a consequence of (i),(ii) and the first part of Theorem 6.3,

(iii) The SV solution,  $u_N(x, t)$ , converges strongly to a weak solution,  $\bar{u}(x, t)$ , of the nonlinear scalar conservation law (1.1a).

(iv) The entropy produced by the basic approximation of (6.11a) tends strongly to zero (by Theorem 4.3 III).

(v) The entropy produced by the viscosity approximation of (6.11a) tends weakly to zero, consult [10, Section 5].

As a consequence of (iii), (iv), (v) and the second part of Theorem 6.3 we conclude:

The SV method (6.11a), (6.11b) converges strongly to the unique entropy solution of the nonlinear scalar conservation law (1.1).

Remarks:

1. The last conclusion extends the convergence results of [20], [10] which was restricted to the inviscid Burgers' equation where  $f(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ .

2. The  $L^\infty$ -stability of the SV method (6.11a), (6.11b) with  $\beta < 1$ , would imply its convergence along the lines of Example 6.4.

**Example 6.5: Convergence of Centered Finite-Difference Methods.** We consider the conservative finite-difference/element method (4.27)

$$(6.12a) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dt} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \\ = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)], \end{aligned}$$

with numerical viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \leq Q_\infty$ , such that

$$(6.12b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \geq Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* + \text{Const.} \quad , \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^* = 2 \int_{\xi=-1/2}^{1/2} \xi f'(u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(\xi)) d\xi .$$

This method is consistent with the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a),(1.1b) w.r.t. all strictly convex entropies (by Theorem 4.5). Since (6.12a), (6.12b) is also known to be  $L^\infty$ -stable, e.g., [14], the first part of Theorem 6.3 implies strong  $L_{\text{loc}}^p(x, t)$  convergence to a weak limit solution,  $\overline{u(x, t)}$  of (1.1a). Finally, since (6.11a), (6.11b) contains more numerical viscosity than the entropy conservative schemes (1.24b), then  $\overline{u(x, t)}$  satisfies (6.9b), (consult [18 21]). We conclude:

The finite-difference method (6.12a), (6.12b) converges strongly to the unique entropy solution of the nonlinear scalar conservation law (1.1).

**Example 6.6: Convergence of Upwind Differencing.** We consider the conservative finite-difference/element method

$$(6.13a) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \\ & + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)] , \end{aligned}$$

with numerical viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \leq Q_\infty$ , such that

$$(6.13b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \geq \text{Const.} |\bar{a}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}| , \quad \bar{a}_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv \left[ \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_\nu}^{x_{\nu+1}} |f'(u_N(x, t))|^2 dx \right]^{1/2} .$$

This method is consistent with the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. the quadratic entropy  $\mathcal{U} = \{\frac{1}{2}u^2\}$  (by Theorem 4.6). Since (6.13a), (6.13b) is known to be  $L^\infty$ -stable, e.g., [14], the first part of Theorem 6.3 implies strong  $L_{\text{loc}}^p(x, t)$  convergence to a weak limit solution,  $\overline{u(x, t)}$ , of the nonlinear conservation law (1.1a). Moreover, the quadratic entropy produced by the basic approximation of (6.13a) tends strongly (in  $H_{\text{loc}}^{-1}(x, t)$ ) to zero, while the viscosity approximation is purely dissipative, consult Theorem 4.6. Hence with the help of the second part of Theorem 6.3 we conclude:

The finite-difference/element method (6.13a), (6.13b) converges strongly to the unique entropy solution of the GNL scalar conservation law (1.1).

**Example 6.7: Convergence of Second-Order Differencing.** We consider the conservative finite-difference/element method

$$(6.14a) \quad \begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t) + \frac{4}{6} u_N(x_\nu, t) + \frac{1}{6} u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t) \right] + \\ & + \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [f(u_N(x_{\nu+1}, t)) - f(u_N(x_{\nu-1}, t))] = \frac{1}{2\Delta x} [Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t) - Q_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}} \Delta u_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}(t)] , \end{aligned}$$

with numerical viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \leq Q_\infty$ , such that

$$(6.14b) \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \geq \text{Const.} \cdot |\bar{a}'_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}| \cdot |\Delta u_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(t)|, \quad \bar{a}'_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \equiv \left[ \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x_\nu}^{x_{\nu+1}} |f''(u_N(x, t))|^2 dx \right]^{1/2}.$$

This method is consistent with the scalar initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b) w.r.t. the quadratic entropy  $\mathcal{U} = \{\frac{1}{2}u^2\}$  (by Theorem 4.7). Now, if (6.14a), (6.14b) is  $L^\infty$ -stable, then the first part of Theorem 6.3 implies strong  $L^p_{\text{loc}}(x, t)$  convergence to a weak limit solution,  $\overline{u}(x, t)$ , of the nonlinear conservation law (1.1a). Moreover, the quadratic entropy produced by the basic approximation of (6.14a) tends strongly (in  $H^{-1}_{\text{loc}}(x, t)$ ) to zero, while the viscosity approximation is purely dissipative, consult Theorem 4.7. Hence with the help of the second part of Theorem 6.3 we conclude:

The finite-difference/element method (6.14a), (6.14b) converges strongly to the unique entropy solution of the GNL scalar conservation law (1.1), provided it is  $L^\infty$ -stable.

Remarks:

1. The conclusions of Examples 6.6 and 6.7 remain valid with or without mass lumping on the left of (6.13a), (6.14a).
2. The question of  $L^\infty$ -stability for the second-order accurate approximation (6.14) remains open.

We conclude this section with convergence results for strictly hyperbolic GNL systems of two conservation laws. Making use of Theorem 6.1 and DiPerna's results in [1] we have

**Theorem 6.8:** *Consider an  $L^\infty$ -stable approximation (1.4) which is consistent with the  $2 \times 2$  initial-value problem (1.1a), (1.1b), w.r.t. a nonempty "relevant" class of strictly convex entropy function  $\mathcal{U}$ . Then we have*

- I. *If  $\|u_N(x, t)\|_{L^\infty_{\text{loc}}(x, t)}$  is sufficiently small then  $u_N(x, t)$  converges a.e. to an admissible (i.e., entropy satisfying) solution,  $\overline{u}(x, t)$ , of (1.1a).*
- II. *If (1.1a) is equipped with quasi-convex Riemann invariants and (5.6) holds, then  $u_N(x, t)$  converges a.e. to an admissible solution  $\overline{u}(x, t)$ , of (1.1a).*

Examples of utilizing Theorem 6.8 in the context of the vanishing viscosity method for  $2 \times 2$  systems will be given elsewhere; the consistency analysis in such cases can be carried out more conveniently in terms of the entropy variables,  $v$ , instead of the conservative variables,  $u$  [21].

## 7. APPENDIX: CONSISTENCY WITH THE CONSERVATION LAW

In this section we study the order of accuracy for various types of discretizations, including spectral and pseudospectral methods, as well as arbitrary recipes of finite-difference and finite-element methods which admit the general conservative form (1.14), (1.15). It is shown that all these methods are at least first-order accurate and hence consistent approximations of the conservation law (1.1a).

We start with

**Theorem 7.1:** *The spectral method (1.10), (1.11) is infinitely-order accurate, i.e., accurate of any order  $s > 0$ .*

**Proof:** With  $\hat{f}_k(t)$  denoting the  $k$ -th Fourier coefficient of  $f(w_N(x))$ , we have for any integer  $r > 0$ ,

$$(7.1) \quad \|(I - S_N)f(w_N(x))\|^2 = 2\pi \sum_{|k| > N} |\hat{f}_k|^2 \leq \frac{2\pi}{N^{2r}} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} |k|^{2r} |\hat{f}_k|^2 = \frac{1}{N^{2r}} \left\| \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} f(w_N(x)) \right\|^2,$$

and (1.6) follows with  $C_0 = \|f'(w_N(x))\|_{L^\infty(x)}$ .  $\square$

**Remark:** The linear case  $f(u) \equiv u$  shows that the above accuracy estimate is indeed sharp. We note that this estimate makes use of the  $L^\infty$ -bound of  $u_N(x, t)$ . In the quadratic scalar case,  $f(u) = \frac{1}{2}u^2$ , a weaker accuracy estimate of order  $s = \frac{1}{2}$  was proved in [20, Lemma 3.1], independently of  $L^\infty$ -bounds.

We turn to the pseudospectral method (1.12), (1.13) where  $P_N^f w_N(x) = \psi_N f(w_N(x))$  is the  $\pi_N$ -interpolation of  $f(w_N(x))$  at  $x_{\nu+\theta} = (\nu + \theta)\Delta x$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, 2N$  with fixed  $0 \leq \theta < 1$ . We recall that

$$(7.2a) \quad \psi_N = S_N + A_N,$$

where the aliasing projection,  $A_N$ , is given by

$$(7.2b) \quad A_N w(x) = \sum_{|k| \leq N} \left[ \sum_{j \neq 0} \hat{w}(k + j(2N + 1)) e^{ij2\pi\theta} \right] e^{ikx}.$$

To treat the pseudospectral case, we first prepare

**Lemma 7.2:** *There exist constants (independent of  $N$ ),  $C_r$ , such that for any  $r > \frac{1}{2}$  we have*

$$(7.3) \quad \|A_N w(x)\| \leq C_r \cdot \frac{1}{N^r} \left\| (I - S_N) \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} w(x) \right\|, \quad r > \frac{1}{2}.$$



**Proof:** Using the aliasing relation (7.2b) we have

$$(7.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \|A_N w(x)\|^2 &= \sum_{|k| \leq N} \left| \sum_{j \neq 0} \hat{w}(k + j(2N + 1)) e^{ij2\pi\theta} \right|^2 \leq \\ &\leq \sum_{|k| \leq N} \left[ \sum_{j \neq 0} \frac{1}{|j|^{2r} N^{2r}} \right] \cdot \sum_{j \neq 0} |j|^{2r} N^{2r} |\hat{w}(k + j(2N + 1))|^2. \end{aligned}$$

Since  $|j|N \leq |k + j(2N + 1)|$  for  $|k| \leq N, j \neq 0$ , the right-hand side of (7.4) does not exceed

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{j \neq 0} \frac{1}{|j|^{2r} N^{2r}} \sum_{|k| \leq N} \sum_{j \neq 0} |k + j(2N + 1)|^{2r} |\hat{w}(k + j(2N + 1))|^2 &= \\ &= \frac{1}{N^{2r}} \cdot \sum_{j \neq 0} \frac{1}{|j|^{2r}} \cdot \sum_{|\ell| \geq N} |\ell|^{2r} |\hat{w}(\ell)|^2, \end{aligned}$$

and (7.3) follows with  $C_r = (\sum_{j \neq 0} \frac{1}{|j|^{2r}})^{\frac{1}{2}}$ .  $\square$

Equipped with Lemma 7.2, we can show

**Theorem 7.3:** *The pseudospectral method (1.12), (1.13) is “infinitely-order” accurate, i.e., accurate of any order  $s > \frac{1}{2}$ .*

**Proof:** Since  $A_N$  and  $I - S_N$  are orthogonal projections, we have

$$(7.5) \quad \|(I - \psi_N) f(w_N(x))\|^2 = \|A_N f(w_N(x))\|^2 + \|(I - S_N) f(w_N(x))\|^2;$$

by Lemma 7.2, the first term on the right does not exceed

$$\begin{aligned} \|A_N f(w_N(x))\|^2 &\leq C_r^2 \cdot \frac{1}{N^{2r}} \|(I - S_N) \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} f(w_N(x))\|^2 \leq \\ &C_r^2 \frac{1}{N^{2r}} \left\| \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} f(w_N(x)) \right\|^2, \end{aligned}$$

and together with upper bound of the second term from Theorem 7.1, the accuracy estimate (1.6) follows with  $C_0 = (1 + C_r) \|f'(w_N(x))\|_{L^\infty(x)}$ .  $\square$

Next, we consider general conservative discretizations of the form (1.14), (1.15). These approximations can be interpreted as evolution schemes in  $\pi_N$  governed by (1.3), with  $P_N^f$  which is defined according to (1.17),

$$(7.6a) \quad P_N^f w_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{p}_k e^{ikx}, \quad \hat{p}_k = \frac{1}{2\pi ik} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} [h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f - h_{\nu-\frac{1}{2}}^f] e^{-ikx_\nu}.$$

Here  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f \equiv h^f(w_N(x_{\nu-p+1}), \dots, w_N(x_{\nu+p}))$  is the Lipschitz continuous numerical flux which is consistent with the differential one

$$(7.6b) \quad h^f(w_N(x_\nu), \dots, w_N(x_\nu)) \equiv f(w_N(x_\nu)).$$

We claim that such schemes are at least first-order accurate with (1.1a). To see this we first prepare

**Lemma 7.4:** *Let*

$$(7.7) \quad \bar{w}(x) = \frac{1}{\Delta x} \int_{x-\frac{\Delta x}{2}}^{x+\frac{\Delta x}{2}} w(\xi) d\xi, \quad \Delta x = \frac{2\pi}{2N+1},$$

*denotes the sliding average of a  $2\pi$ -periodic function  $w(x)$ . Then we have*

$$(7.8a) \quad \|\bar{w}(x)\| \leq \|w(x)\|,$$

$$(7.8b) \quad \|w(x) - \bar{w}(x)\| \leq \text{Const.} \frac{1}{N^r} \left\| \frac{\partial^r w}{\partial x^r} \right\|, \quad r \leq 2.$$

**Proof:** Using the obvious inequality (7.8a) we have

$$(7.9) \quad \|w(x) - \bar{w}(x)\| \leq 2\|w(x) - S_N w(x)\| + \|S_N w(x) - \overline{S_N w}(x)\|.$$

By Theorem 7.1, the first term on the right is bounded by  $\frac{2}{N^r} \left\| \frac{\partial^r w}{\partial x^r} \right\|$ . Also, for  $w_N(x) \equiv S_N w(x)$  we have

$$(7.10) \quad \bar{w}_N(x) = \sum_{0 \leq |k| \leq N} \hat{w}(k) \cdot \frac{\sin k \frac{\Delta x}{2}}{k \frac{\Delta x}{2}} \cdot e^{ikx}, \quad w_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{w}(k) e^{ikx};$$

hence the second term on the right of (7.9) does not exceed

$$(7.11) \quad \|w_N(x) - \bar{w}_N(x)\| \leq \sum_{0 < |k| \leq N} |\hat{w}(k)|^2 \left| 1 - \frac{\sin k \frac{\Delta x}{2}}{k \frac{\Delta x}{2}} \right|^2 \leq \frac{1}{6} (\Delta x)^4 \sum_k |k|^4 |\hat{w}(k)|^2,$$

and (7.8b) follows with  $\text{Const} = 2 + \frac{\pi^2}{6}$ .  $\square$

We arrive at

**Theorem 7.5:** *The conservative approximation (1.14), (1.15) is at least first-order accurate with the conservation law (1.1a).*

**Proof:** Let us recall (1.16a) where  $H_N(x)$  denotes the  $N$ -trigonometric polynomial which interpolates  $H_N(x_\nu) = h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f$ , i.e.,

$$(7.12) \quad H_N(x) = \sum_{k=-N}^N \hat{H}_k e^{ikx}, \quad \hat{H}_k = \frac{\Delta x}{2\pi} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f e^{-ikx_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}}.$$

We then have

$$(7.13) \quad \|f(w_N(x)) - P_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq I + II + III + IV.$$

By Theorem 7.1 we have

$$(7.14) \quad I \equiv \|f(w_N(x)) - S_N f(w_N(x))\| \leq \frac{1}{N^r} \left\| \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} f(w_N(x)) \right\|, \quad r \leq 2.$$

Lemma 7.4 implies

$$(7.15) \quad II = \|S_N f(w_N(x)) - \overline{S_N f}(w_N(x))\| \leq \text{Const.} \frac{1}{N^r} \left\| \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} f(w_N(x)) \right\|, \quad r \leq 2.$$

Let  $\psi_N f(w_N(x))$  denotes the  $\pi_N$ -interpolant of  $f(w_N(x))$  at  $x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = (\nu + \frac{1}{2})\Delta x$ ,  $\nu = 0, 1, \dots, 2N$ . Lemma 7.2 and 7.4 imply

$$(7.16) \quad III \equiv \|\overline{S_N f}(w_N(x)) - \overline{\psi_N f}(w_N(x))\| \leq \|A_N f(w_N(x))\| \leq \text{Const.} \frac{1}{N^r} \left\| \frac{\partial^r}{\partial x^r} f(w_N(x)) \right\|, \quad r \leq 2$$

Finally, we recall (1.16b) asserting that  $P_N^f w_N(x)$  is nothing but the sliding average of  $H_N(x)$ , i.e.,

$$(7.17) \quad P_N^f w_N(x) = \overline{H_N}(x).$$

Consequently, for the fourth term on the right of (7.13) we have

$$(7.18) \quad \begin{aligned} IV &\equiv \|\overline{\psi_N f}(w_N(x)) - P_N^f w_N(x)\| \leq \|\psi_N f(w_N(x)) - H_N(x)\| = \\ &= [\sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} |f(w_N(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}})) - h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f|^2 \Delta x]^{\frac{1}{2}}. \end{aligned}$$

Using the Lipschitz continuity of the consistent flux  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f$  we can upper bound

$$|f(w_N(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}})) - h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f|^2 \leq L^2 \left[ \sum_{\ell=-p}^{p-1} |w_N(x_{\nu+\ell}) - w_N(x_{\nu})|^2 \right] \leq 2pL^2 \cdot \sum_{\ell=-p}^{p-1} |w_N(x_{\nu+\ell}) - w_N(x_{\nu})|^2,$$

and hence the right-hand side of (7.18) does not exceed

$$(7.19) \quad IV \leq (2p \cdot L^2 \cdot \sum_{\ell=-p}^{p-1} \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} |w_N(x_{\nu+\ell}) - w_N(x_{\nu})|^2 \Delta x)^{\frac{1}{2}} \leq 2pL \cdot \text{Const.} \Delta x \left\| \frac{\partial}{\partial x} w_N(x) \right\|,$$

and the first-order accuracy estimate follows from (7.13) in view of (7.14), (7.15), (7.16), and (7.19).  $\square$

We observe that the first three terms on the right of (7.13) are in fact second order accurate, and hence the second-order accuracy of the conservative approximation (1.14), (1.15) depends on the  $\ell_2$ -distance, (7.18), between the numerical flux  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f$ , and the midvalues  $f(w_N(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}))$ . Making use of the detailed structure of  $h_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}^f$  in (4.26) we conclude

**Corollary 7.6:** *The conservative approximation (4.27) is second-order accurate with the conservation law (1.1a), provided its viscosity coefficients satisfy*

$$(7.20) \quad \|Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}\| \leq \text{Const.} |\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}|, \quad Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} = Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}(w_N(x), x).$$

**Proof:** Inserting (4.26) into (7.18) we obtain

$$(7.21a) \quad IV = [\sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} |f(w_N(x_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}})) - \frac{1}{2}(f(w_N(x_\nu)) + f(w_N(x_{\nu+1}))) + \frac{1}{2}Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}\Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}|^2 \Delta x]^{1/2} \leq \\ \leq (\Delta x)^2 \left[ \text{Const.} \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_N}{\partial x^2} \right\| + \left( \sum_{\nu=0}^{2N} \left| \frac{1}{(\Delta x)^2} Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \Delta w_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}} \right|^2 \Delta x \right)^{1/2} \right].$$

Assumption (7.20) implies that the righthand-side of (7.21a) does not exceed

$$(7.21b) \quad \frac{1}{N^2} \left[ C_0 \cdot \left\| \frac{\partial^2 w_N(x)}{\partial x^2} \right\| + C_1 \cdot \left\| \frac{\partial w_N(x)}{\partial x} \right\| \right],$$

and the result follows from (7.13) in view of (7.14),(7.15),(7.16) and (7.21).  $\square$

The essentially nonlinear high-resolution approximations surveyed in, e.g., [3],[15], are characterized by viscosity coefficients,  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$ , which satisfy (7.21) at all but a finite number of gridcells. In this case we have, in agreement with [3],

**Corollary 7.7:** *The high resolution approximations (4.27), whose viscosity coefficients  $Q_{\nu+\frac{1}{2}}$  satisfy (7.21) at all but a finite number of critical gridcells, are accurate of order  $s = 3/2$  with the conservation law (1.1a).*

Verification of this corollary is immediate noting that the contribution of the finite number of critical gridcells to the summation in (7.21a) is of order  $(\Delta x)^{3/2}$ .

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS** I would like to thank Steve Shochet for stimulating discussions.

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# Report Documentation Page

1. Report No. NASA CR-181683 ICASE Report No. 88-41		2. Government Accession No.		3. Recipient's Catalog No.	
4. Title and Subtitle SEMI-DISCRETE APPROXIMATIONS TO NONLINEAR SYSTEMS OF CONSERVATION LAWS; CONSISTENCY AND $L^\infty$ -STABILITY IMPLY CONVERGENCE				5. Report Date July 1988	
				6. Performing Organization Code	
7. Author(s) Eitan Tadmor				8. Performing Organization Report No. 88-41	
				10. Work Unit No. 505-90-21-01	
9. Performing Organization Name and Address Institute for Computer Applications in Science and Engineering Mail Stop 132C, NASA Langley Research Center Hampton, VA 23665-5225				11. Contract or Grant No. NAS1-18107	
				13. Type of Report and Period Covered Contractor Report	
12. Sponsoring Agency Name and Address National Aeronautics and Space Administration Langley Research Center Hampton, VA 23665-5225				14. Sponsoring Agency Code	
15. Supplementary Notes Langley Technical Monitor: Submitted to Math. Comp. Richard W. Barnwell  Final Report					
16. Abstract <p>We develop a convergence theory for semi-discrete approximations to nonlinear systems of conservation laws. We show, by a series of scalar counterexamples, that consistency with the conservation law alone does <u>not</u> guarantee convergence. Instead, we introduce a notion of consistency which takes into account both the conservation law and its augmenting entropy condition. In this context, we conclude that consistency and <math>L^\infty</math>-stability guarantee for a "relevant" class of admissible entropy functions, that their entropy production rate belong to a compact subset of <math>H_{loc}^{-1}(x, t)</math>. One can use now compensated compactness arguments in order to turn this conclusion into a convergence proof. The current state of the art for these arguments includes the scalar and a wide class of <math>2 \times 2</math> systems of conservation laws.</p> <p>We study the general framework of the vanishing viscosity method as an effective way to meet our consistency and <math>L^\infty</math>-stability requirements. We show how this method is utilized to enforce consistency and <math>L^\infty</math>-stability for scalar conservation laws. In this context, we prove under the appropriate assumptions (<math>L^\infty</math>-bounds), the convergence of finite-difference approximations (e.g., the high-resolution TVD and UNO methods), finite-element approximations (e.g., the Streamline-Diffusion methods) and spectral and pseudospectral approximations (e.g., the Spectral Viscosity methods).</p>					
17. Key Words (Suggested by Author(s)) conservation laws, entropy condition, finite-difference methods, finite-element methods, spectral methods, consistency, stability, convergence			18. Distribution Statement 64 - Numerical Analysis  Unclassified - unlimited		
19. Security Classif. (of this report) Unclassified		20. Security Classif. (of this page) Unclassified		21. No. of pages 62	22. Price A04

**End of Document**