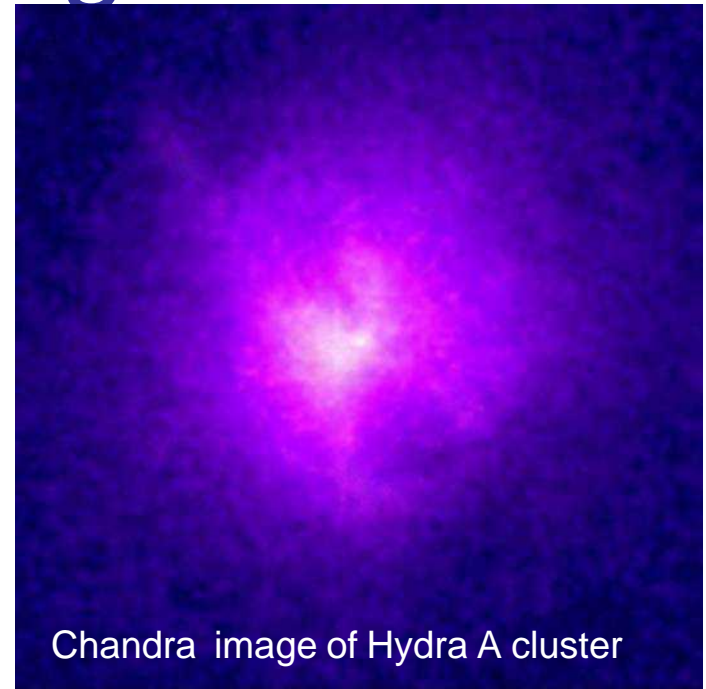


# Anisotropic conduction with large temperature gradients



Prateek Sharma (Princeton)

(thanks to G. Hammett)

# Motivation and Outline

- Anisotropic transport for hot, dilute plasmas ( $\Omega_c \gg v \propto nT^{-3/2}$ ).
- Thermal conduction along B
- Finite differencing anisotropic conduction
- Symmetric, Asymmetric methods
- Negative temperature: simple tests
- Basic review of slope limiters in CFD.
- Limiting temperature gradient: slope, entropy limiters
- Tests
- Applications

# Anisotropic thermal conduction

$$\frac{\partial e}{\partial t} = -\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{q}$$

$$\vec{q} = -\vec{b}n(\chi_{\parallel} - \chi_{\perp})\nabla_{\parallel}T - n\chi_{\perp}\vec{\nabla}T$$

$$\nabla_{\parallel} = \vec{b} \cdot \vec{\nabla}$$

$T = e/n(\gamma-1)$ ,  $\gamma=5/3$  for ideal gas in 3-D

$e$  : internal energy density

$q$  : anisotropic heat flux

$T$  : temperature

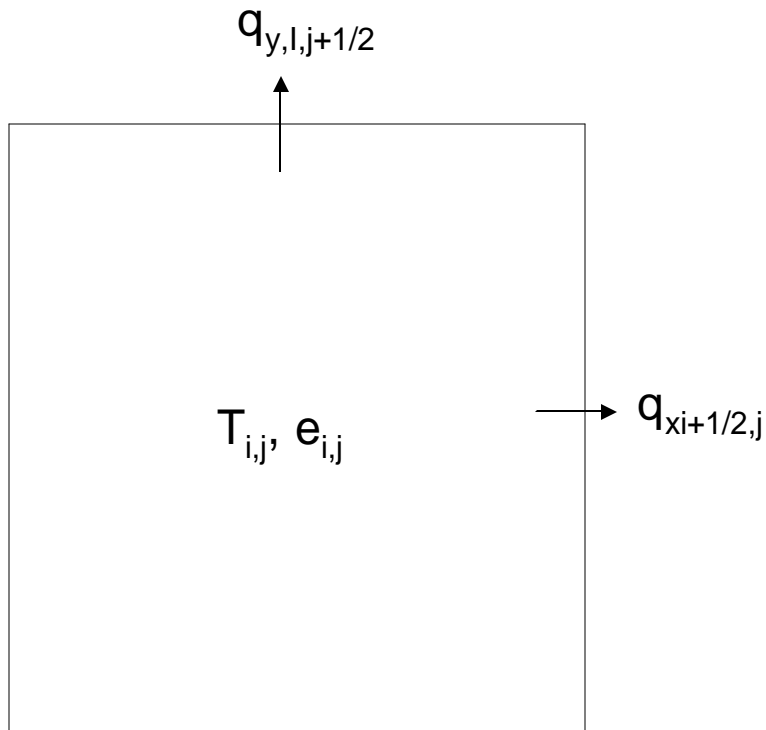
$t$  : time

$\chi_{\perp}, \chi_{\parallel}$  : conduction coefficients

Finite difference equation in conservative form in 2-D:

$$e_{i,j}^{n+1} = e_{i,j}^n - \Delta t \left[ \frac{q_{x,i+1/2,j}^n - q_{x,i-1/2,j}^n}{\Delta x} + \frac{q_{y,i,j+1/2}^n - q_{y,i,j-1/2}^n}{\Delta y} \right]$$

# Grid



Staggered grid with scalars at zone centers, vectors at zone faces.

Natural location for conservative form

# Asymmetric differencing

- Most natural differencing

$$q_{x,i+1/2,j} = -\bar{n}\bar{\chi}b_x \left[ b_x \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + \bar{b}_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right]$$

$$\bar{n} = \min [n_{i,j}, n_{i+1,j}]$$

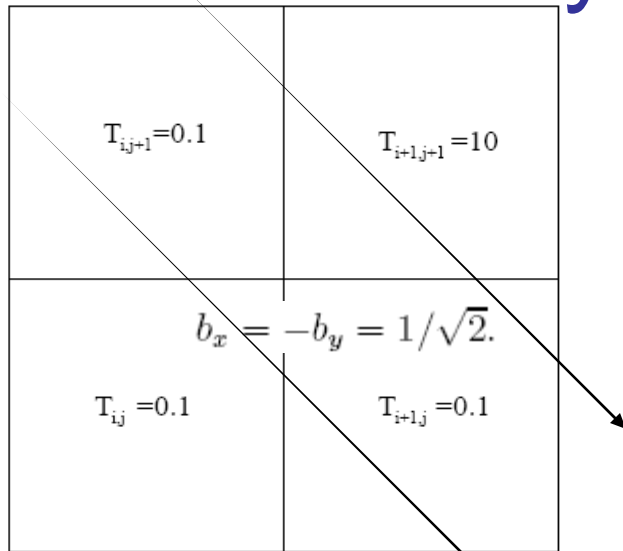
$$\bar{\chi} = \frac{\chi_{i,j} + \chi_{i+1,j}}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \frac{T_{i,j+1} + T_{i+1,j+1} - T_{i,j-1} - T_{i+1,j-1}}{4\Delta y}$$

$$\bar{b}_y = \frac{b_{y,i,j-1/2} + b_{y,i+1,j-1/2} + b_{y,i,j+1/2} + b_{y,i+1,j+1/2}}{4}$$

Min used so that Courant stability condition is not severe.

# Negative temperature with asymmetric method



Reflecting BC for temperature

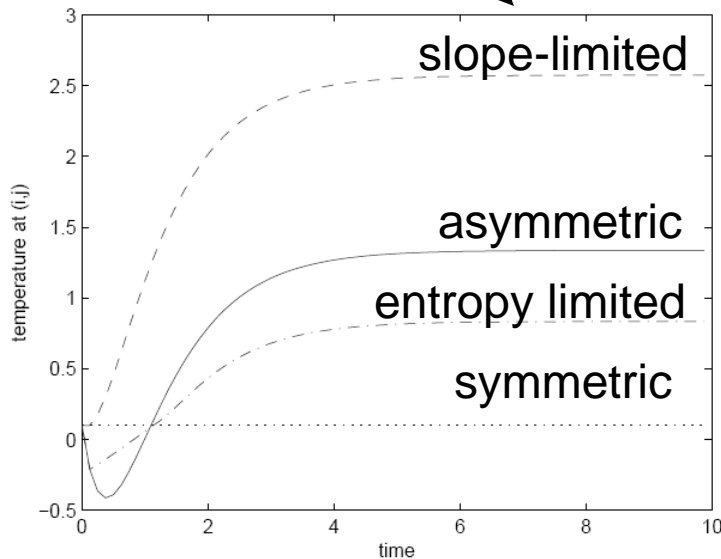
$$q_{x,i-1/2,j} = 0$$

$$q_{y,i,j-1/2} = 0$$

$$q_{x,i+1/2,j} = -n\chi b_x \left[ b_x \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + b_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right]$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \frac{10 + 0.1 - 0.1 - 0.1}{4\Delta y} = \frac{9.9}{4\Delta y}$$

$$q_{x,i+1/2,j} = q_{y,i,j+1/2} = -n\chi b_x b_y \frac{9.9}{4\Delta y} > 0$$



# Symmetric method

$$q_{x,i+1/2,j+1/2} = -\bar{n}\bar{\chi}\bar{b}_x \left[ \bar{b}_x \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} + \bar{b}_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \right]$$

$$\bar{n} = \min [n_{i,j}, n_{i+1,j}, n_{i,j+1}, n_{i+1,j+1}]$$

$$\bar{\chi} = \frac{\chi_{i,j} + \chi_{i+1,j} + \chi_{i,j+1} + \chi_{i+1,j+1}}{4}$$

$$\bar{b}_x = \frac{b_{x,i+1/2,j} + b_{x,i+1/2,j+1}}{2}$$

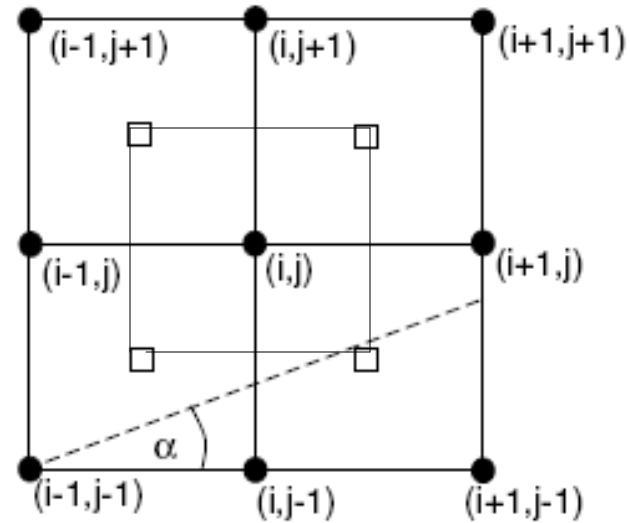
$$\bar{b}_y = \frac{b_{y,i,j+1/2} + b_{y,i+1,j+1/2}}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial x} = \frac{T_{i+1,j} + T_{i+1,j+1} - T_{i,j} - T_{i,j+1}}{2}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial y} = \frac{T_{i,j+1} + T_{i+1,j+1} - T_{i,j} - T_{i+1,j}}{2}$$

$$q_{x,i+1/2,j} = \frac{q_{x,i+1/2,j+1/2} + q_{x,i+1/2,j-1/2}}{2}$$

$$q_{y,i,j+1/2} = \frac{q_{x,i+1/2,j+1/2} + q_{y,i-1/2,j+1/2}}{2}$$



Primary heat fluxes at cell corners  
[Gunter et al., JCP, 2005]

# Why Symmetric method?

- Numerical cross-field diffusion does not scale with  $\chi_{\parallel} / \chi_{\perp}$ , Sovinec's test
- Self-adjointness of  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \chi_{\parallel} (\vec{b} \cdot \vec{\nabla} T) \vec{b}$ , matrix is symmetric, good for Krylov methods
- Entropy condition satisfied at the cell corners,  $-q \cdot \vec{N} T^3 = 0$
- good when temperature gradients are not enormous
- Less sensitive to angle between  $\vec{b}$  and coordinate axes



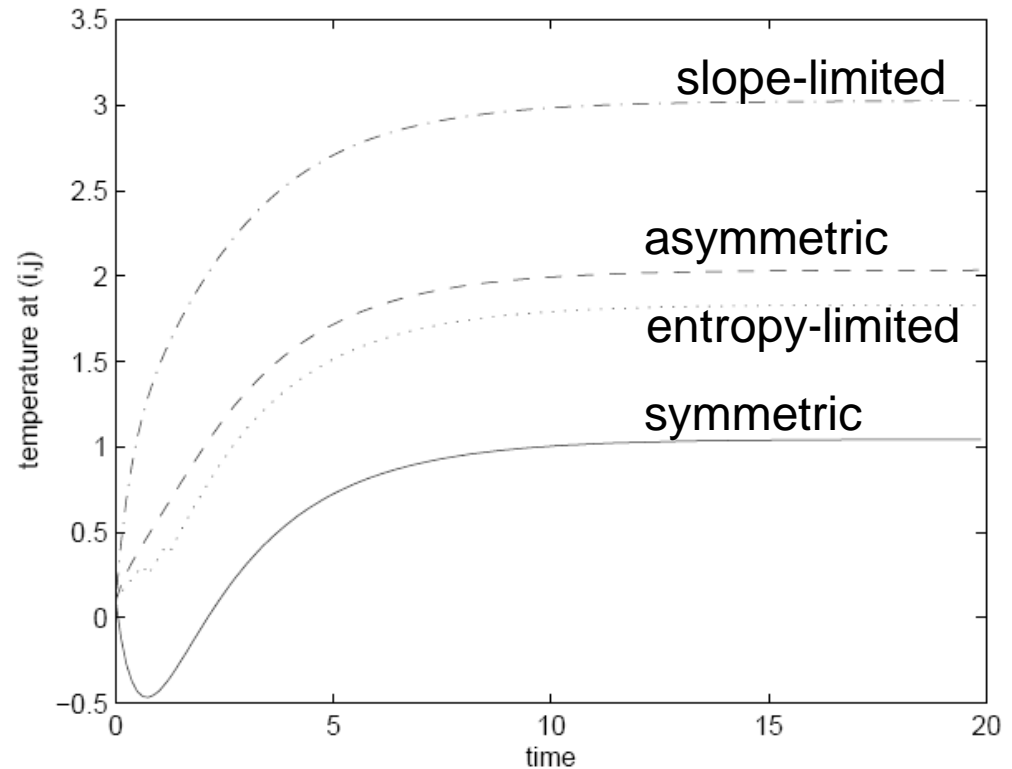
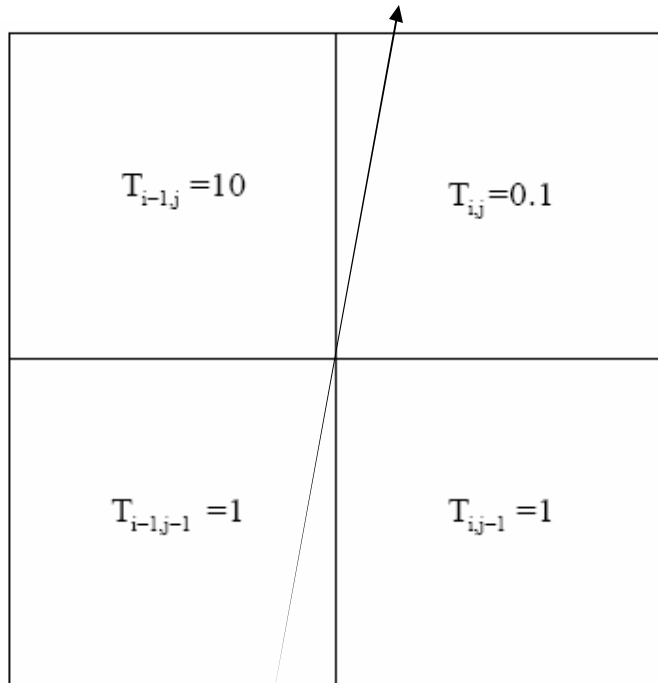
# Problems with symmetric method

- Small scale overshoots are not damped.
- Unable to diffuse away a chess-board pattern.

+	-	+	-
-	+	-	+
+	-	+	-
-	+	-	+

$$\overline{\frac{\partial T}{\partial x}} = 0, \quad q=0$$
$$\overline{\frac{\partial T}{\partial y}} = 0$$

# Negative temperature with symmetric method



$$b_x = 1/\sqrt{5}, b_y = 2/\sqrt{5}$$

Heat flows out of (i,j) despite it being a minimum.  
 Reflective BC.  
 $q_x, q_y$  at  $(i-1/2, j-1/2) < 0$

# Why negative temperature?

$$q_x = q_{xx} + q_{xy}$$

$$q_{xx} = -\bar{n}\chi b_x^2 \frac{\partial T}{\partial x}$$

$$q_{xy} = -\bar{n}\chi b_x b_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y}$$

$q_{xx}$  satisfies the entropy condition, with heat flowing from higher to lower temp., but  $q_{xy}$  can have any sign.

Need to limit transverse term  $q_{xy}$   
Responsible for heat flowing in wrong direction

What is the best interpolation?

Arithmetic average for  $dT/dy$ ?

Limiters for averaging?

# Basic Eulerian/Continuum Advection Algorithms

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$$\frac{\partial f}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial(vf)}{\partial z} = 0$$

*thanks to Greg Hammett  
for introductory slides on  
limiters.*

Discrete grid,  $f(z_j) = f_j$  Conservative differencing:

$$\frac{\partial f_j}{\partial t} = - \frac{v_{j+1/2} f_{j+1/2} - v_{j-1/2} f_{j-1/2}}{\Delta z}$$

Std 2nd order centered differencing  
(okay for smooth regions, phase  
errors too large for sharp-gradient  
regions, gives unphysical  
oscillations):

$$f_{j+1/2} = \frac{1}{2}(f_j + f_{j+1})$$

1st order upwind (eliminates unphysical  
oscillations, but too dissipative):

$$f_{j+1/2} = f_j$$

# Higher-order upwind Methods with clever monotonicity-preserving slope limiters

---

Reconstruct  $f(z)$  in each cell, extrapolate to bdys:  $f(z) = f_j + s_j(z - z_j)$

Piecewise constant = 1st order upwind :  $s_j = 0$

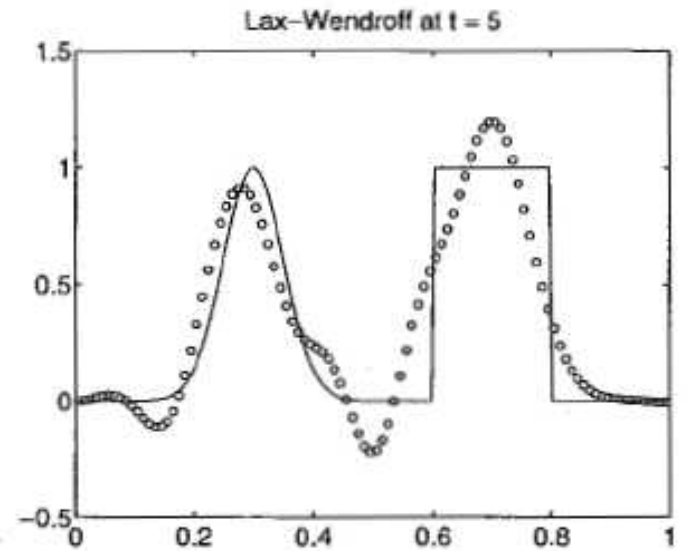
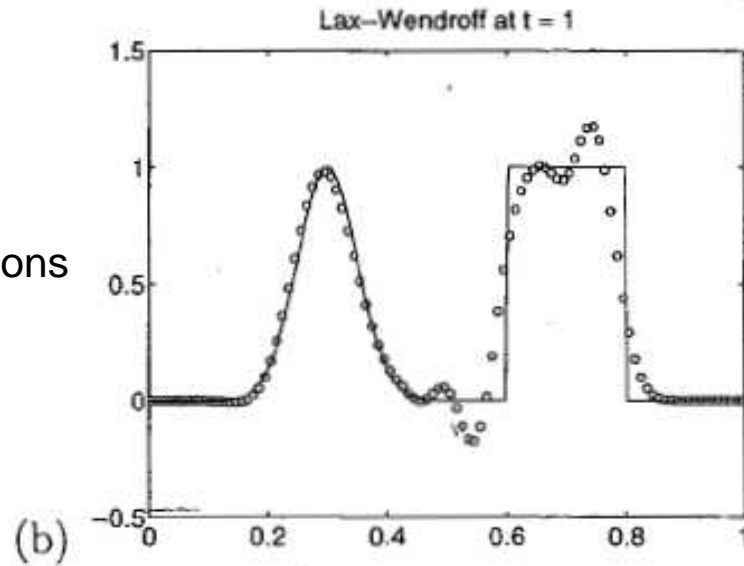
Simplest, minmod limiter:  $\text{minmod}(a,b) = \text{sign}(a,b) \cdot \min(|a|,|b|)$

van Leer's (MC) limiter:  
"Monotonized Central"  $s_j = \text{minmod}\left(\frac{f_{j+1} - f_{j-1}}{2\Delta z}, 2\frac{f_{j+1} - f_j}{2\Delta z}, 2\frac{f_j - f_{j-1}}{2\Delta z}\right)$

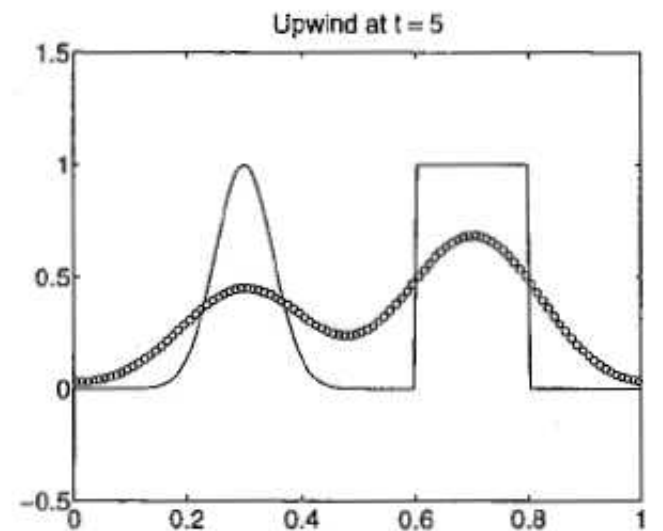
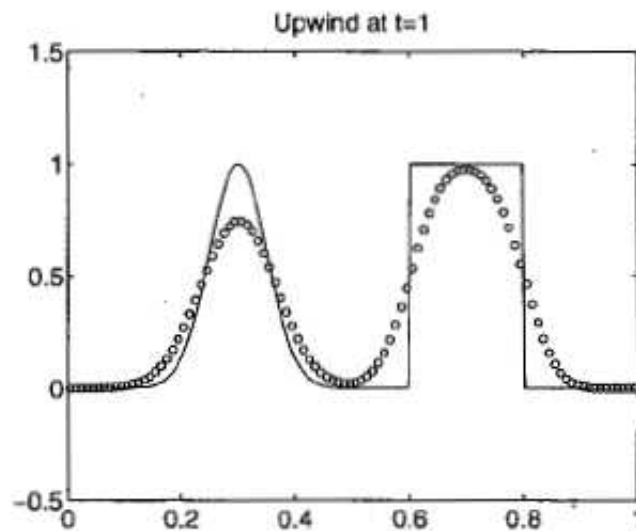
Higher order extensions, e.g., 2<sup>nd</sup> order PPM of Colella & Woodward

# Advection tests

2nd order Centered  
Algorithm  
okay in smooth regions  
Phase errors large  
for sharp gradients

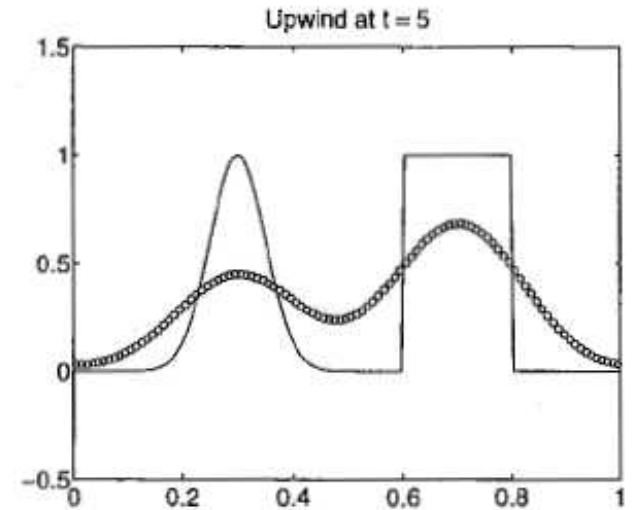
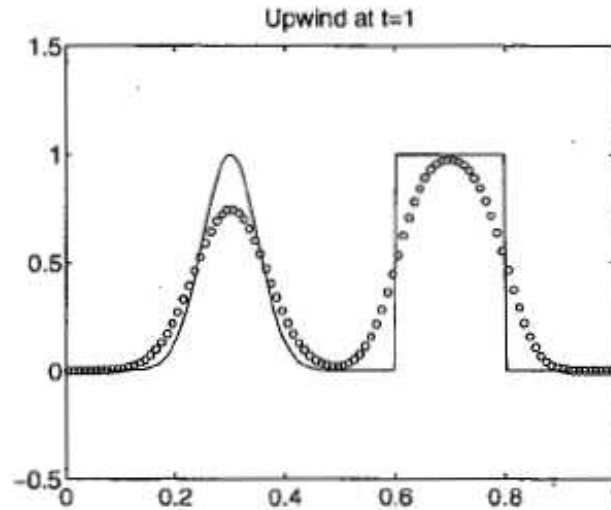


1st Order upwind  
Too dissipative

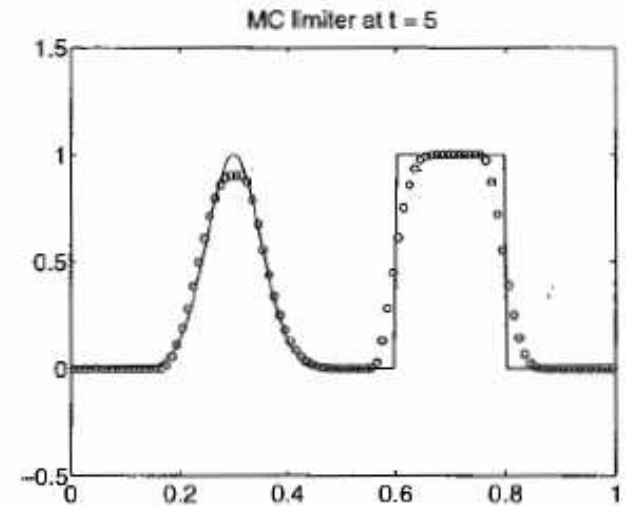
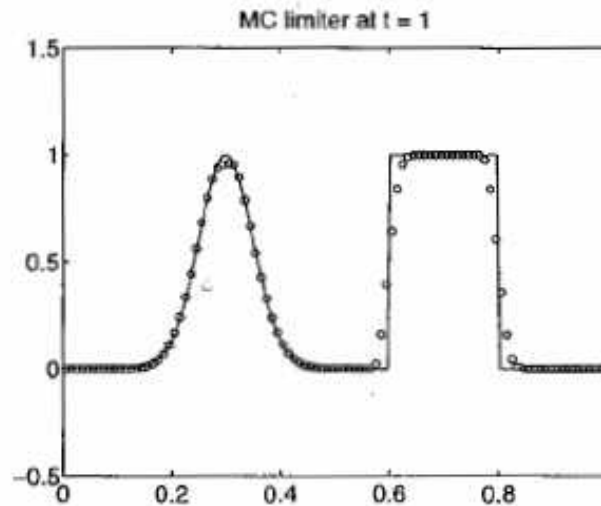


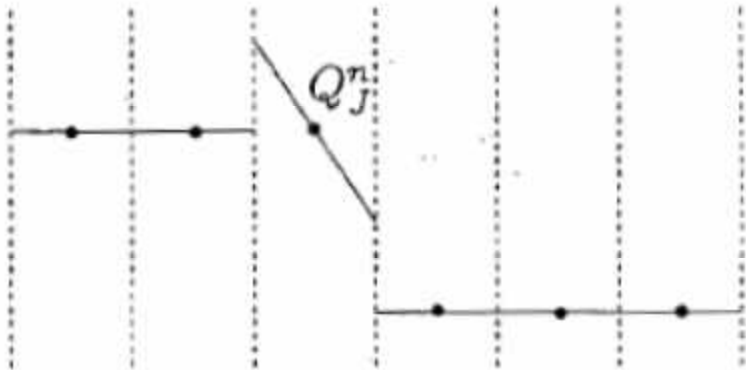
# Advection tests: Higher order upwind w/ limiters

1st Order upwind  
Too dissipative

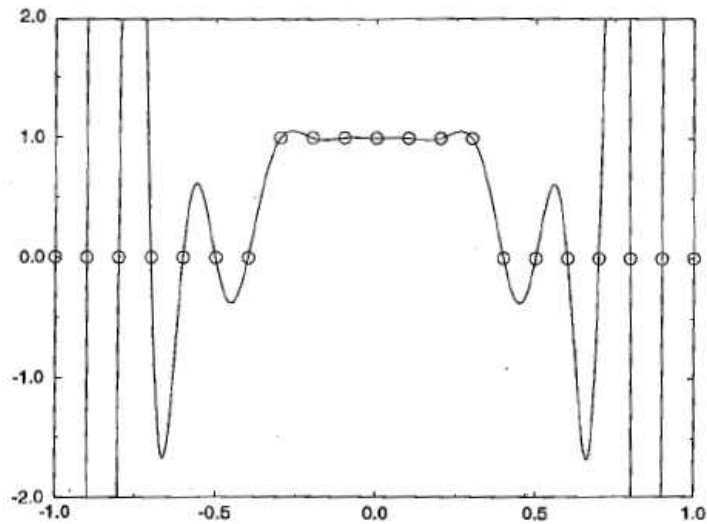


2nd order upwind  
With MC limiter  
Much better





Lax-Wendroff equivalent to downwind Slope. Can lead to overshoots in reconstruction



Just going to higher order doesn't help near sharp gradient regions (Gibb's phenomena)

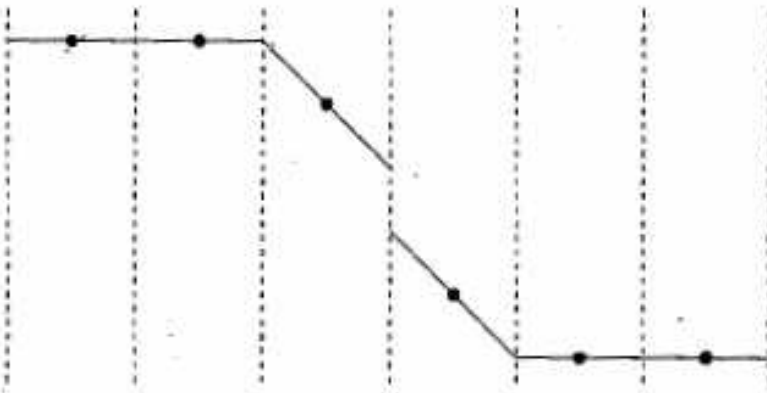
Figure 8.5 Twentieth-order polynomial interpolation for a square wave.

Top Fig. From R.J. Leveque, Finite Volume Methods for Hyperbolic Problems, Cambridge Univ. Press (2002).  
 2cd Fig. From C.B. Laney, Computational Gasdynamics, Cambridge Univ. Press (1998).





Central differencing to determine slopes can lead to overshoots in reconstruction, Slope limiter uses  $s=0$  at extrema to avoid oscillations



MC limiter gives much more robust and accurate result.

# Limiting transverse gradient

$$\overline{\frac{\partial T}{\partial y}} \Big|_{i+1/2,j} = L \left\{ L \left[ \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \Big|_{i,j-1/2}, \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \Big|_{i,j+1/2} \right], L \left[ \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \Big|_{i+1,j-1/2}, \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \Big|_{i+1,j+1/2} \right] \right\}$$

We limit transverse temperature gradient to calculate  $q_x$

L is a limiter like: minmod, van Leer, monotonized central (MC)

Limiters return a zero if arguments are of opposite sign

Temperature extrema are not amplified

Only normal term remain nonzero at extrema

	At extrema
	$dT/dx = 0$
	$dT/dy = 0$

# Limiting symmetric method

$$q_{xx,i+1/2,j+1/2} = -\bar{n}\chi\bar{b}_x^2 L2 \left[ \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+1/2,j}, \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+1/2,j+1} \right]$$

$$q_{xx,i+1/2,j-1/2} = -\bar{n}\chi\bar{b}_x^2 L2 \left[ \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+1/2,j}, \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+1/2,j-1} \right]$$

$$q_{xx,i+1/2,j} = (q_{xx,i+1/2,j+1/2} + q_{xx,i+1/2,j-1/2})/2$$

$$L2(a, b) = (a + b)/2, \text{ if } \alpha a \lesssim (a + b)/2 \gtrsim a/\alpha, \text{ otherwise,}$$

$$\alpha a, \text{ if } \text{sgn}(a) \neq \text{sgn}(b),$$

$$a/\alpha, \text{ if } \text{sgn}(a) = \text{sgn}(b).$$

$\alpha=0.75$ , L2 not symmetric in its arguments

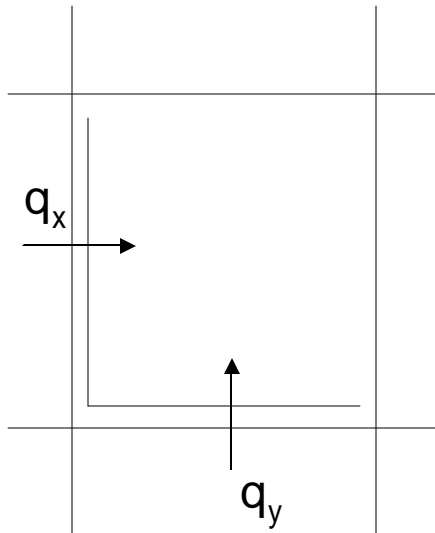
Need to limit both normal and transverse gradients.

Normal derivative limited so that  $q_{xx}$  is always from higher to lower temp.

Chess-board pattern will not diffuse if normal derivative not limited!

# Entropy limiting

- Using face pairs to satisfy entropy condition  $\dot{s} = -\vec{q} \cdot \nabla T \geq 0$



$$\dot{s} = -q_x \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} - q_y \frac{\partial T}{\partial y} \geq 0$$

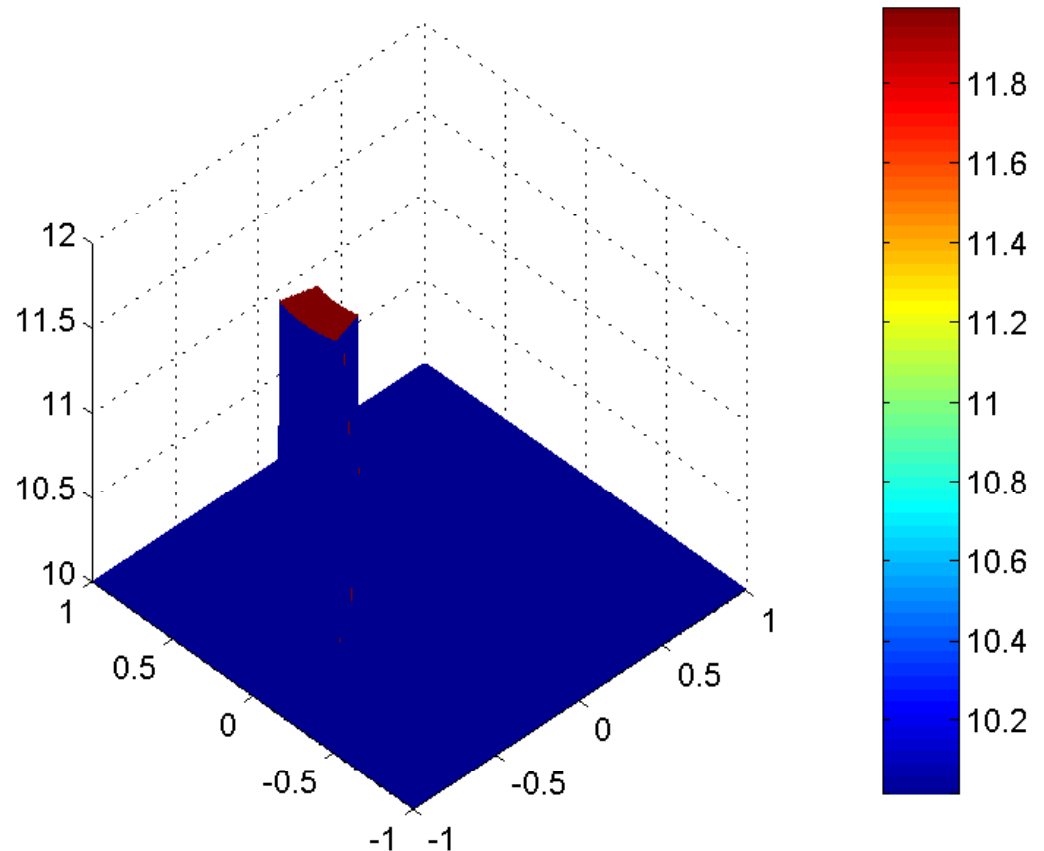
If  $dT/dx=0$ , then an arbit.  $q_x$  can give neg. temp.

Not strictly monotonic, but overshoots highly damped

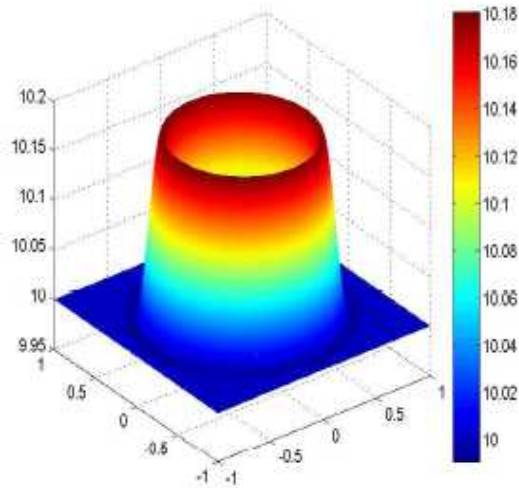
Entropy condition satisfied at some point is not a sufficient condition for heat flowing in the right dirn.

# Ring diffusion test

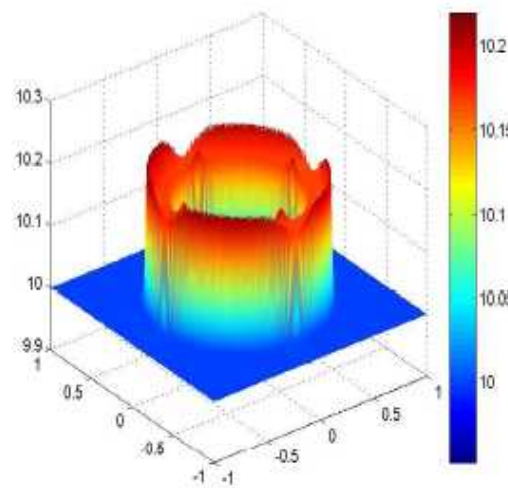
- Initial hot patch  
 $0.5 < r < 0.7$ ,  
 $11\pi/12 < \theta < 13\pi/12$
- Coefft.  $\chi_{\parallel} = 0.01$ ,  
 $\chi_{\perp} = 0$ ,  $t_{\text{end}} = 200$
- Reflective BC
- Circular magnetic field lines



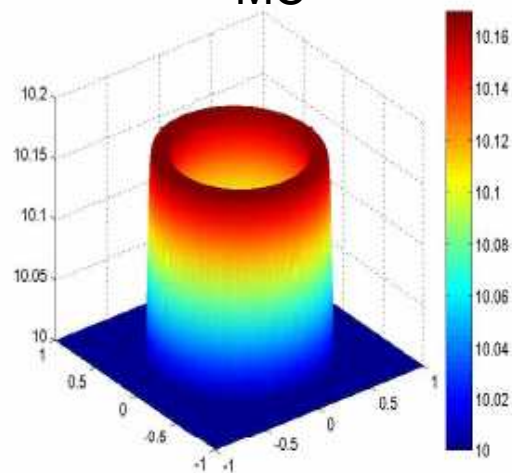
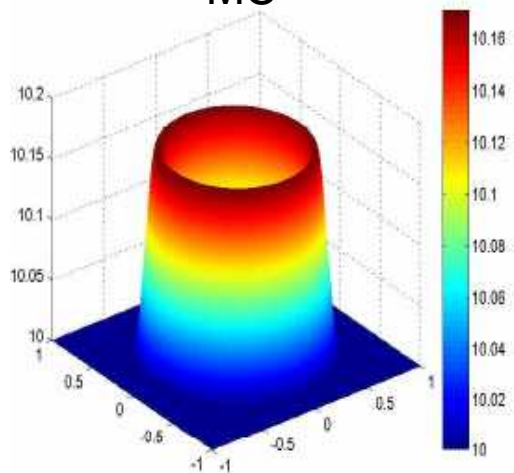
# Small temperature gradient



Asymmetric  
MC



Symmetric  
MC



400 X 400 box

Asymmetric and symmetric  
methods non-monotonic  
even late times

Slope limited methods  
monotonic

Sharp boundaries even with  
limiting

For lower resln. slope lim.  
methods are more diffusive.

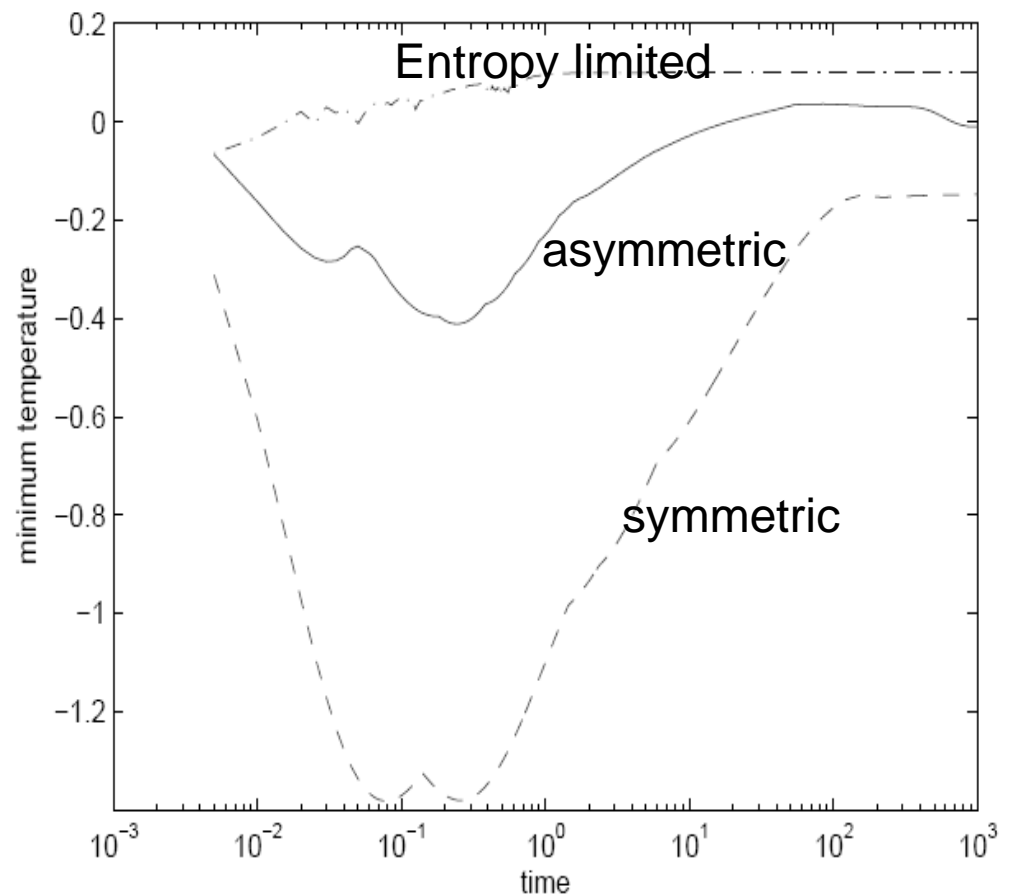
# Ring diffusion with large temp. gradient

Initially  $T_{\max}=10$ ,  $T_{\min}=0.1$

Both symmetric and asymmetric methods give negative temp. at late times

Slope limited methods are strictly monotonic with  $T_{\min}=0.1$  at all times

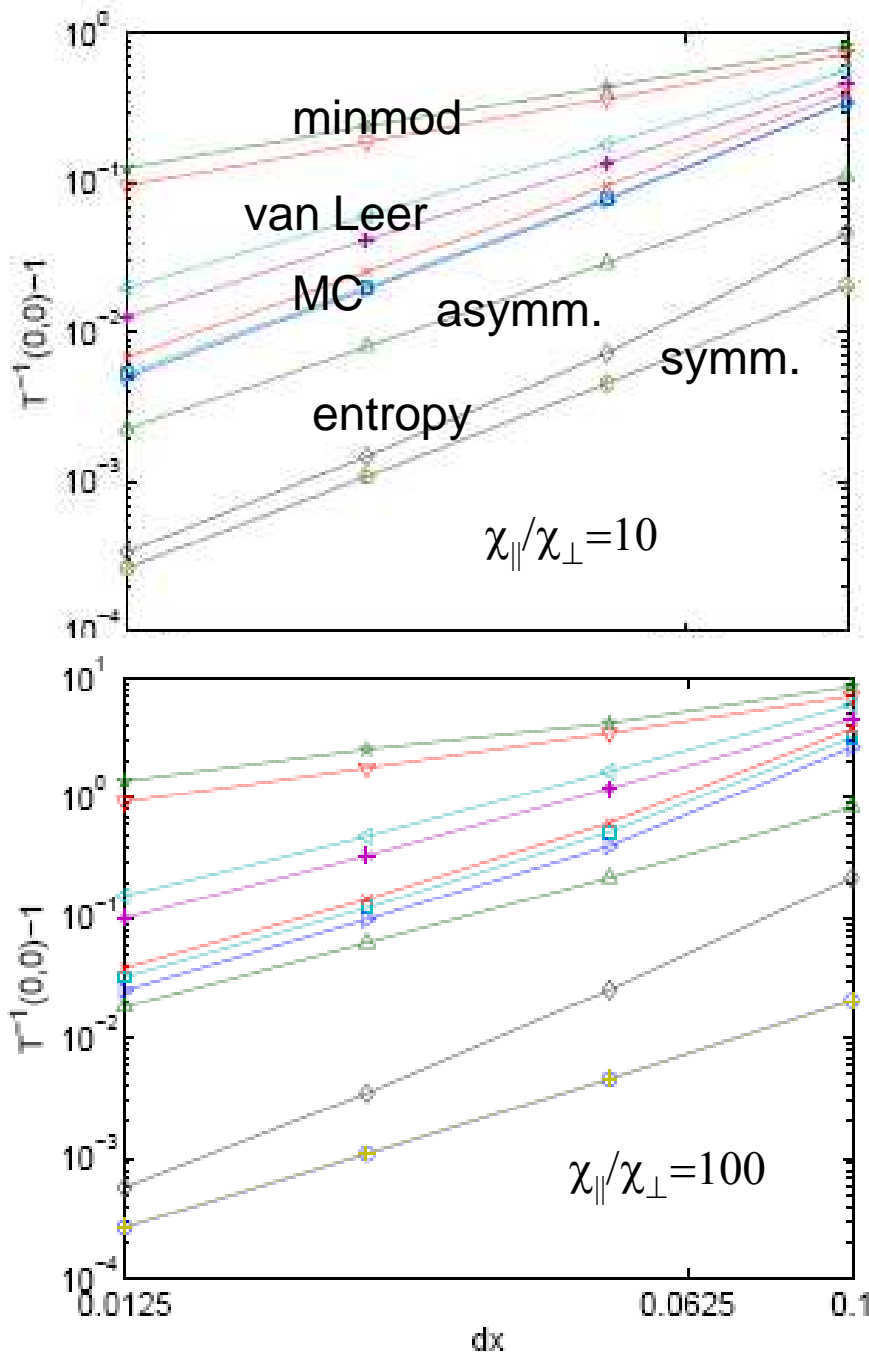
Entropy limiting damps the undershoots.



# Perpendicular numerical diffusion

- Test problem by *Sovinec et al. 2005*
- Solve anisotropic diffusion with source term to get steady state, circular field lines
- $L_x=L_y=1$ , in SS heat diffusion balances  $Q$
- $Q = 2\pi^2 \cos(\pi x) \sin(\pi x)$
- An explicit  $\chi_{\perp}$ ,  $T_{\text{anal}}(0,0)=1/\chi_{\perp}$ 
  - $\chi_{\perp\text{num}} = 1/T(0,0)-1$ , correct defn. is
  - $\chi_{\perp\text{num}} = 1/T(0,0)-1/T_{\text{iso}}(0,0)$





Symmetric method is least diffusive (also entropy limited)

$\chi_{\perp,num}$  independent of  $\chi_{\parallel}/\chi_{\perp}$

Asymmetric method & MC limiter close,  $\chi_{\perp,num}$  scales with  $\chi_{\parallel}/\chi_{\perp}$

Second order convergence for all except minmod

Correct defn. for  $\chi_{\perp,num}$  implies even tinier diffusion

$\chi_{\parallel}/\chi_{\perp,num} = \text{few } 10^3 \text{ for } N=100$

# Applications

- Problems with large temperature gradients where negative temperature cause numerical problems (spurious instabilities)
- Astrophysical systems e.g., Disk-corona interface, warm-hot phase interface in ISM
- Systems where a huge  $\chi_{\parallel}/\chi_{\perp}$  is not reqd., or where  $\chi_{\perp}$  need not be resolved.

# Future Directions

- Methods that are both monotonic and less diffusive, higher order reconstructions
- Faster implicit methods for anisotropic conduction
- Applications to problems with large temperature gradients and anisotropic thermal conduction, e.g., global models of RIAFs

# Conclusions

- Non-monotonic behavior of centered differencing in presence of large temp. gradients
- simple test problems for negative temp.
- slope limited methods are monotonic, second order convergence
- test problem to measure  $\chi_{\perp\text{num}}$
- Astrophysical applications, ISM, disk-corona interface

Thank you for your attention!