

ZEUS-3D 1-D Gallery #24: Isothermal C-shock with Ambipolar Diffusion



See the page for the adiabatic C-shock for a definition and reference for ambipolar diffusion (AD), and a discussion on sub-cycling and super-stepping.

In the panels, open circles represent the dzeus36 solution for the isothermal AD-MHD shock tube problem with left state $(\rho, v_1, v_2, v_3, B_2, B_3, p_1) = (1, 5, 0, 0, 1/\sqrt{2}, 0, 0.01)$, right state (8.045, 0.621, 0.840, 0, 6.644, 0, 0.0804), $B_1 = 1/\sqrt{2}$ and $\gamma = 5/3$ at t = 4. CMoC is used with second order interpolation (iord=2), artificial viscous parameters qcon=1, qlin=0.2, Courant number courno=0.75, and super-stepping engaged (iscyad=2). The domain $0 \le x_1 \le 1.5$ is resolved with 150 zones with only $0 \le x_1 \le 1.25$ shown and, at t = 0, the discontinuity is at $x_1 = 0.5$. The units are not scale-free, and additional dzeus36 parameters needed here are: gammaad=1.0e6, mpnp=1.0, ionconst=1, and dscale=1.0e-5.

The initial discontinuity launches numerous transients and, after $\sim 1,400$ MHD cycles, the solution begins to converge to a steady state. The panels shown are after $\sim 2,800$ MHD cycles and exhibit an isothermal *C-shock*, whose continuous nature is a direct consequence of AD.

Semi-analytical solutions generated within dzeus36 using a sixth-order Runga-Kutta scheme are overlaid; differences between numerical and analytical solutions for no sub-cycling are less than 1% everywhere and in most places, < 0.1%. With sub-cycling, errors can be as high as 2%.