The IDEFIX radiative transfer module

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- Introduction on radiative transfer
- Radiative transfer module in IDEFIX and tests
- User guide
- Some technical details

What is radiative transfer?

Study of the propagation of light and its interaction with matter

Three kind of interactions:

- absorption
- emission
- scattering

- 1. Compute observational signature of an object
 - Light curve
 - Spectrum

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2024

• Polarisation



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- Polarisation
- 2. Compute the dynamics when radiative effects are dominant
 - High luminosity objects
 - Irradiated disks
 - Objects with lots of absorption lines
 - "High-energy" plasmas (pair-creation basically)

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Introduction

How do we do radiative transfer?

We solve the radiative transfer equation!

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}I_{\nu} + \vec{n}\cdot\vec{\nabla}I_{\nu} = \eta_{\nu} - (\kappa_{\nu} + \sigma_{\nu})I_{\nu}$$

- I_{ν} is the specific intensity
- η_{ν} is the emissivity
- κ_{ν} is the absorption opacity
- σ_{ν} is the scattering opacity





Introduction

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We solve the radiative transfer equation!

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial}{\partial t}I_{\nu} + \vec{n}\cdot\vec{\nabla}I_{\nu} = \eta_{\nu} - (\kappa_{\nu} + \sigma_{\nu})I_{\nu}$$

Basically means "light get transported along \vec{n} with absorption/ emission/scattering events along the way"

So why is radiative transfer difficult?



Why is radiative transfer difficult?

• **Depends on** $(t, \vec{x}, \vec{n}, \nu)$

• Non-local effects (for example scattering)!

• Time scale separation between hydro and radiation

To simplify the problem, we get rid of the directionality of radiation

Define the moments of the radiation distribution and solve for "fluid" equations

To simplify the problem, we get rid of the directionality of radiation

Define the moments of the radiation distribution and solve for "fluid" equations

0th order:
$$E_{r,\nu} = \frac{1}{c} \int_{\Omega} I_{\nu} d\Omega$$
 is the radiative energy density
1st order: $F_{r,\nu}^{i} = \int_{\Omega} I_{\nu} n^{i} d\Omega$ is the radiation energy flux vector
2nd order: $P_{r,\nu}^{ij} = \int_{\Omega} I_{\nu} n^{i} n^{j} d\Omega$ is the radiation energy pressure tensor

Introduction

Fluid approximation

Conservation of radiation energy density:

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{\nabla}\cdot\overrightarrow{F}_r = G^0$$

Conservation of radiation energy flux:

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial \overrightarrow{F}_{r}}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{P}_{r} = \overrightarrow{G}$$

where
$$G^{\mu} = \int_{\Omega} ((\kappa_{\nu} + \sigma_{\nu})I_{\nu} - \eta_{\nu})n^{\mu}d\Omega$$

Equation of moment of order *m* requires information on moment m+1

Need a closure somewhere!

Diffusion approximation

Introduction

Simplest case is to say that $\overrightarrow{F}_r \propto \overrightarrow{\nabla} E_r$

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot (\frac{c\lambda}{\kappa\rho}\overrightarrow{\nabla} E_r) = G^0$$

This is called the diffusion approximation!

Introduction

Diffusion approximation

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This is called the diffusion approximation!



Cannot handle shadows, bad in optically thin regions Not suited for irradiated disks or radiation-driven outflows...

2024

Assume that $\overline{P} = f(E_r, \overline{F}_r)$ for the closure

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{F}_r = G^0$$

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial \overrightarrow{F}_{r}}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{P}_{r} = \overrightarrow{G}$$

 $f(E_r, \overrightarrow{F}_r)$ is chosen to recover free-streaming and diffusion limit but might fail in between

Radiative transfer module in IDEFIX and tests

M1 and tests

Assume that $\overline{P} = f(E_r, \overline{F}_r)$ for the closure

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \overrightarrow{\nabla} \cdot \overrightarrow{F}_r = G^0$$

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 $f(E_r, \vec{F}_r)$ is chosen to recover free-streaming and diffusion limit but might fail in between

We follow *Melon Fuksman et al. (2019, 2021)* and split the solver in **explicit** and **implicit** part

Radiation transport

M1 and tests

Explicit step:

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{F}_r = 0$$
$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial \vec{F}_r}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{P}_r = 0$$

Solve Riemann problem for radiation

Solver can be HLL or HLLC

Radiation transport

Explicit step:

$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{F}_r = 0$$
$$\frac{1}{c}\frac{\partial \vec{F}_r}{\partial t} + \vec{\nabla}\cdot\vec{P}_r = 0$$

Solve Riemann problem for radiation

Solver can be HLL or HLLC





M1 and tests

M1 cannot handle crossing of light rays (more generally multiple sources)



M1 and tests

Semi-implicit step:

We use implicit, iterative method called the fixed-point method

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} = G^0$$
$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial \overrightarrow{F}_r}{\partial t} = \overrightarrow{G}$$

In the limit $v/c \rightarrow 0$

$$G^{0} = \rho \kappa (E_{r} - a_{R}T^{4})$$
$$\overrightarrow{G} = \rho (\kappa + \sigma) \overrightarrow{F}_{r}$$

Opacities can be constant, Kramerstype or imported from table



Source terms



M1 and tests

Radiation and MHD together

$$\begin{split} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) &= 0\\ \frac{\partial (\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}) + \nabla p_g &= \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{S}_m - \rho \nabla \Phi\\ \frac{\partial (E + \rho \Phi)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(E + p_g + \rho \Phi) \mathbf{v}] &= c \ \mathbf{G}^0 + \mathbf{S}_{\mathrm{E}} - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_{\mathrm{Irr}}\\ \frac{1}{\hat{c}} \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_r &= -\mathbf{G}^0\\ \frac{1}{\hat{c}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_r}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbb{P}_r &= -\mathbf{G}, \end{split}$$

M1 and tests

Radiation and MHD together

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v}) &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial (\rho \mathbf{v})}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\rho \mathbf{v} \mathbf{v}) + \nabla p_g &= \mathbf{G} + \mathbf{S}_m - \rho \nabla \Phi \\ \frac{\partial (E + \rho \Phi)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot [(E + p_g + \rho \Phi) \mathbf{v}] = \mathbf{C} \mathbf{G}^0 + \mathbf{S}_{\mathrm{E}} - \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_{\mathrm{Irr}} \\ \frac{1}{\mathbf{C}} \frac{\partial E_r}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}_r &= -\mathbf{G}^0 \\ \frac{1}{\mathbf{C}} \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}_r}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{P}_r &= -\mathbf{G}, \end{aligned}$$

We use a reduced speed of light, \hat{c} , to have reasonable time steps

Ok for steady-state solutions but produce artifacts in non-steady solutions!

Reduced speed of light



\hat{c} needs to be chosen with care for the problem at hand!

M1 and tests

User guide

Using the radiative module

Only need to update two files:

- idefix.ini to define input parameters
- setup.cpp to define initial conditions and user functions

idefix.ini

[Rad]				
nFrequencies			1	
solver_rad		hll_	rad	
reduced_c			1.	
kappa	constan	t	0.1	
xi	userdef		1	
[Units]				
velocity		1.49598e10		
length		1.49598e13		
density		1.e-30		

→ Number of frequency groups

[Rad] nFreque solver_ reduced kappa xi	ncies rad _c constan userdef	1 hll_rad 1. t 0.1 1		Sol
[Units] velocit length density	у	1.49598e 1.49598e 1.e-30	10 13	

Solver for radiation (HLL or HLLC)

User guide

idefix.ini

```
[Rad]
nFrequencies
                        1
solver_rad
                  hll_rad
reduced_c
                        1.
                                     Value of \hat{c}/c
kappa
         constant
                        0.1
xi
         userdef
                        1
[Units]
velocity
                  1.49598e10
length
                  1.49598e13
density
                  1.e-30
```

User guide



idefix.ini

[Rad] nFrequen	cies		1	
solver_r	ad	hll_1	ad	
kappa xi	 constant userdef	:	0.1 1	
[Units] velocity	,	1.495	598e10	
length density		1.498 1.e-3	398e13 30	Set units in cgs

setup.cpp

To initialize the radiation fluid variables



setup.cpp

To enroll userdef functions (boundary conditions, additional source term)



Some technical details

Radiation as a type of fluid

IDEFIX uses class templates that encapsulate arrays, fonctions, etc...

```
Fluid class template
template<typename Phys>
class Fluid {
public:
 Fluid( Grid &, Input&, DataBlock *, int n = 0);
 void ConvertConsToPrim();
 void ConvertPrimToCons();
 template <int> void CalcParabolicFlux(const real);
 template <int> void CalcRightHandSide(real, real );
 // Our boundary conditions
 std::unique_ptr<Boundary<Phys>> boundary;
 // E0S
 std::unique_ptr<EquationOfState> eos;
 // Arrays required by the Hydro object
 IdefixArray4D<real> Vc; // Main cell-centered primitive variables index
 IdefixArray4D<real> Uc; // Main cell-centered conservative variables
  std::unique_ptr<RiemannSolver<Phys>> rSolver;
```

Radiation as a type of fluid

Each fluid has a type of physics ("Hydro" fluid, dust fluid, radiation fluid)

```
template<typename Phys>
class Fluid {
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 Fluid( Grid &, Input&, DataBlock *, int n = 0);
 void ConvertConsToPrim();
 void ConvertPrimToCons();
 template <int> void CalcParabolicFlux(const real);
 template <int> void CalcRightHandSide(real, real );
```

// Our boundary conditions std::unique ptr<Boundary<Phys>> boundary;

// E0S

```
std::unique_ptr<EquationOfState> eos;
```

// Arrays required by the Hydro object IdefixArray4D<real> Vc; // Main cell-centered primitive v

```
IdefixArray4D<real> Uc; // Main cell-centered conservativ
```

std::unique_ptr<RiemannSolver<Phys>> rSolver;

```
// Physics type
                                                  Physics class
// The default Physics class
struct DefaultPhysics {
                                                        template
  static constexpr bool dust{false};
 #if HAVE_ENERGY == 1
   static constexpr bool pressure{true};
  #else
    static constexpr bool pressure{false};
  #endif
  static constexpr bool eos = pressure; // whether we have a eos
  #if MHD == YES
    static constexpr bool mhd{true};
    static constexpr int nvar{1+2*COMPONENTS + (pressure?1:0)};
  #else
    static constexpr bool mhd{false};
   static constexpr int nvar{1+COMPONENTS + (pressure?1:0)};
  #endif
 static constexpr bool radiation{false};
}
// Some Dust
struct DustPhysics {
 static constexpr bool dust{true};
  static constexpr bool pressure{false};
  static constexpr bool eos{false};
  static constexpr bool mhd{false};
  static constexpr int nvar{1+COMPONENTS};
 static constexpr bool radiation{false}; // No radiation for dust for now
}:
// Radiation Physics
struct RadiationPhysics {
 static constexpr bool dust{false};
  static constexpr bool pressure{false};
  static constexpr bool eos{false};
  static constexpr bool mhd{false};
  static constexpr int nvar{1+COMPONENTS};
 static constexpr int radiation{true};
```

Radiation as a type of fluid

<pre>template <typename phys=""> KOKKOS_INLINE_FUNCTION void K_ConsToPrim(real Vc[], real Uc[], const EquationOfState *eos) { Vc[RH0] = Uc[RH0];</typename></pre>
<pre>if constexpr(Phys::radiation) { EXPAND(Vc[FR1] = Uc[FR1]; , ConsToPrim function </pre>
Vc[FR2] = Uc[FR2]; , Vc[FR3] = Uc[FR3];) <u>template</u>
<pre>} else {</pre>
EXPAND(Vc[VX1] = Uc[MX1]/Uc[RH0]; ,
Vc[VX2] = Uc[MX2]/Uc[RH0];,
<pre>Vc[VX3] = Uc[MX3]/Uc[RH0];) }</pre>
<pre>if constexpr(Phys::mhd) {</pre>
EXPAND(Vc[BX1] = Uc[BX1]; ,
Vc[BX2] = Uc[BX2];,
Vc[BX3] = Uc[BX3];)
if constexpr(Phys::pressure) {
real kin = HALF_F / Uc[RHO] * (EXPAND(Uc[MX1]*Uc[MX1] , + Uc[MX2]*Uc[MX2] , + Uc[MX3]*Uc[MX3]));
if constexpr(Phys::mhd) {
real mag = HALF F * (EXPAND(Uc[BX1]*Uc[BX1] .
+ $Uc[BX2]*Uc[BX2]$
+ Uc[BX3]*Uc[BX3]));
<pre>Vc[PRS] = eos->GetPressure(Uc[ENG] - kin - mag, Uc[RH0]);</pre>
} else { // Hydro case
<pre>Vc[PRS] = eos->GetPressure(Uc[ENG] - kin, Uc[RH0]);</pre>
} // MHD
} // Have Energy
}

One class template for all fluid types (very easy to add a new fluid)

Choice of physics is made at instantiation of class

M1 radiation module of IDEFIX passed tests:

•	In 1D, 2D, 3D
•	In cartesian, cylindrical and spherical coordinates
•	With HD (to test with MHD and/or dust yet)
•	With reduced speed of light
•	With analytical or imported table of opacities (1D or 2D)
•	With an external source of irradiation (in progress)

Next step is to test and optimize performance on GPUs.