

InitBase

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Abstract

Thorn `InitBase` specifies how initial data are to be set up. It does not set up any initial data by itself, nor does it contain any routines which are to be called. It is merely a convenient repository remembering how initial data are to be set up, so that other thorns can check their actions against this thorn.

There are several possibilities:

1. The initial data thorn sets up data on one time level, while other time levels are scratch space. The time evolution method must start up from a single time level. (This is the default.)
2. The initial data thorn sets up data on exactly one time level, and is called once for each active time level. (This means that the initial data thorn can only access the current time level.)
3. The initial data thorn sets up data on exactly two time levels, and is called once for each active time level. (This means that the initial data thorn can only access the current and the first past time level.)
4. The initial data thorn sets up data on all active time levels. (This makes it necessary that the initial data thorn checks the number of active time levels.)

This thorn does not set up any initial data by itself. It only selects the mechanism; it is the responsibility of other thorns to follow this specification. If all other thorns follow this specification, then they are guaranteed to interact nicely. If other thorns ignore this specification, then end-users may be surprised and may have difficulties setting up parameter files which work correctly.