

# NFT INTEGRATION ON UNSTRUCTURED MESHES: FLOWS PAST OBSTACLES



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# Lipps-Hemler anelastic system

Mass, momentum and entropy conservation laws:

$$\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{V} \rho_o) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho_o V_I}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{V} \rho_o V_I) = -\rho_o \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial x_I} + \rho_o g \frac{\theta'}{\theta_o} \delta_{I3} + (\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\tau})_I$$

$$\frac{\partial \rho_o \theta'}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{V} \rho_o \theta') = -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \theta_e$$

$$ds = c_p d \ln \theta$$

$$\varphi = c_p \theta_o (\pi - \pi_e) \quad \pi \equiv (p/p_o)^{R/c_p}$$

$$\theta' = \theta - \theta_e$$

$$\theta_e(x_3) = \theta_o + S_o x_3$$

Mass and momentum conservation laws:

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Deviatoric stress tensor  $\tau_{IJ} = (\mu + \mu_T) \left( \frac{\partial V_I}{\partial x_J} + \frac{\partial V_J}{\partial x_I} \right)$   $\varphi = (p - p_e) / \rho_o$

Dynamic eddy viscosity  $\mu_T = \mu_t$  for RANS;  $\mu_T = \mu_{sgs}$  for LES

DES hybrid approach for simulating turbulent incompressible flows

Particularly,  $\mu_t$  is computed by Spalart-Allmaras model:  $\mu_t = \rho_o \hat{\nu} f_{v1}$

$$\frac{\partial \hat{\nu}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \hat{\nu} = c_{b1} \hat{S} \hat{\nu} + \frac{1}{\sigma} \nabla \cdot (\nu + \hat{\nu}) \nabla \hat{\nu} + \frac{c_{b2}}{\sigma} (\nabla \hat{\nu})^2 - c_{w1} f_w \left( \frac{\hat{\nu}}{d} \right)^2$$

## Time and space discretization

Generalized equation

$$\frac{\partial \rho_o \xi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (\mathbf{v} \rho_o \xi) = \rho_o R$$

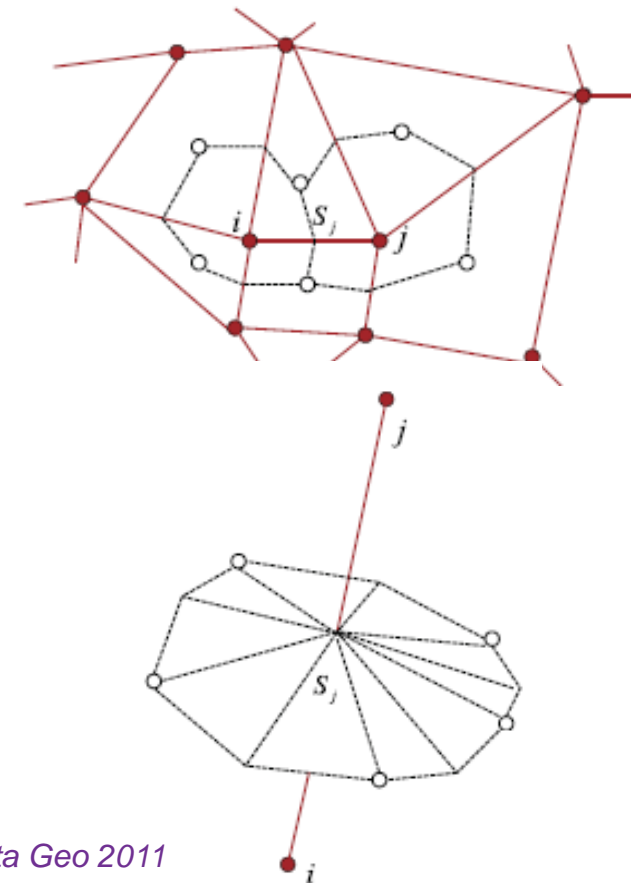
Semi-Implicit NFT based solver

$$\xi_P^{n+1} = \mathcal{A}_P \left( \tilde{\xi}, \mathbf{v}^{n+1/2}, \rho_o \right) + 0.5 \delta t R_P^{n+1}$$

Advection using MPDATA

BVP (Poisson equation) solved using GCR Solver

Median dual meshes with  
edge-based connectivity



# Summary of the procedure

1. Linear extrapolation of the advective components to the time  $t^{n+1/2}$

$$\rho_o V_I^{n+1/2} = 1.5 \rho_o V_I^n - 0.5 \rho_o V_I^{n-1}$$

2. Computation of auxiliary variables according to previous time steps

$$\widetilde{\mathbf{V}} = (\mathbf{V} + 0.5\delta t R^{\mathbf{V}})^n \quad \widetilde{\theta}' = (\theta' + 0.5\delta t R^{\theta'})^n$$

$$\widetilde{\nu} = \hat{\nu} + 0.5\delta t 2R^{\nu}$$

3. MPDATA transports the auxiliary variables  $\widetilde{V}$  and  $\widetilde{\theta}'$ . For solution using DES, MPDATA completes the solution of  $\hat{\nu}^{n+1}$

4. The solution of elliptic BVP leads to an updated value of pressure  $\varphi^{n+1}$

$$\forall P \quad \left\{ \sum_{J=1,3} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_J} \left[ \rho_o \left( \widehat{\widehat{V}}_J - 0.5\delta t \beta_J^{-1} \frac{\partial \varphi^{n+1}}{\partial x_J} \right) \right] \right\}_P = 0$$

5. Evaluation of updated  $V_I^{n+1}$  and  $\theta'^{n+1}$

$$V_I^{n+1} = \widehat{\widehat{V}}_I - 0.5\delta t \beta_I^{-1} \frac{\partial \varphi^{n+1}}{\partial x_I} \quad \theta'^{n+1} = \widehat{\theta}' - 0.5\delta t \frac{\partial \theta_e}{\partial x_3} V_3^{n+1}$$

6. Update the forcings using  $V_I^{n+1}$  and  $\theta'^{n+1}$ . For solution using DES, Spalart-Allmaras model retrieve  $\mu_t$  using  $\hat{\nu}^{n+1}$

# Incompressible viscous flow past a sphere

## Setup of experiment

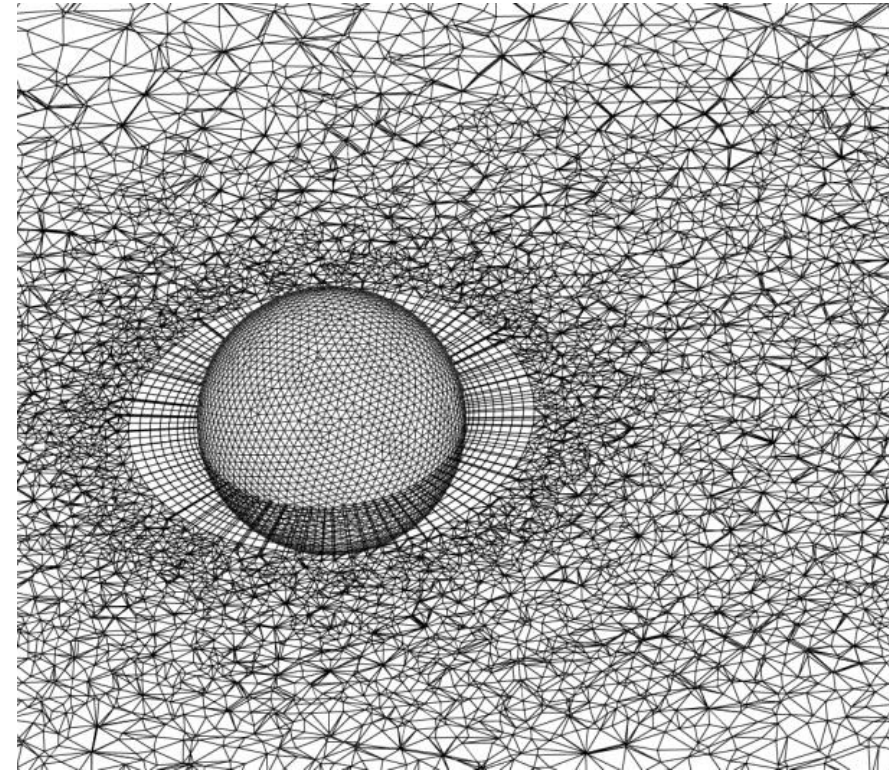
Computational domain: 20 x 20 x 20 cube  
Sphere in the centre having diameter  $D=1$

## Meshes adopted

- Prismatic layers in the proximity of the sphere
- Tetrahedral elsewhere

Ambient state is the constant velocity flow  $V_e = (1,0,0)$ , and potential flow determines the initial condition of Navier-Stokes equations

Variable Reynolds number



$Re = 200$

Number of nodes: 190327

Prismatic elements:

- 9 layers of increasing thickness
- within  $0.6D$  from the boundary of sphere

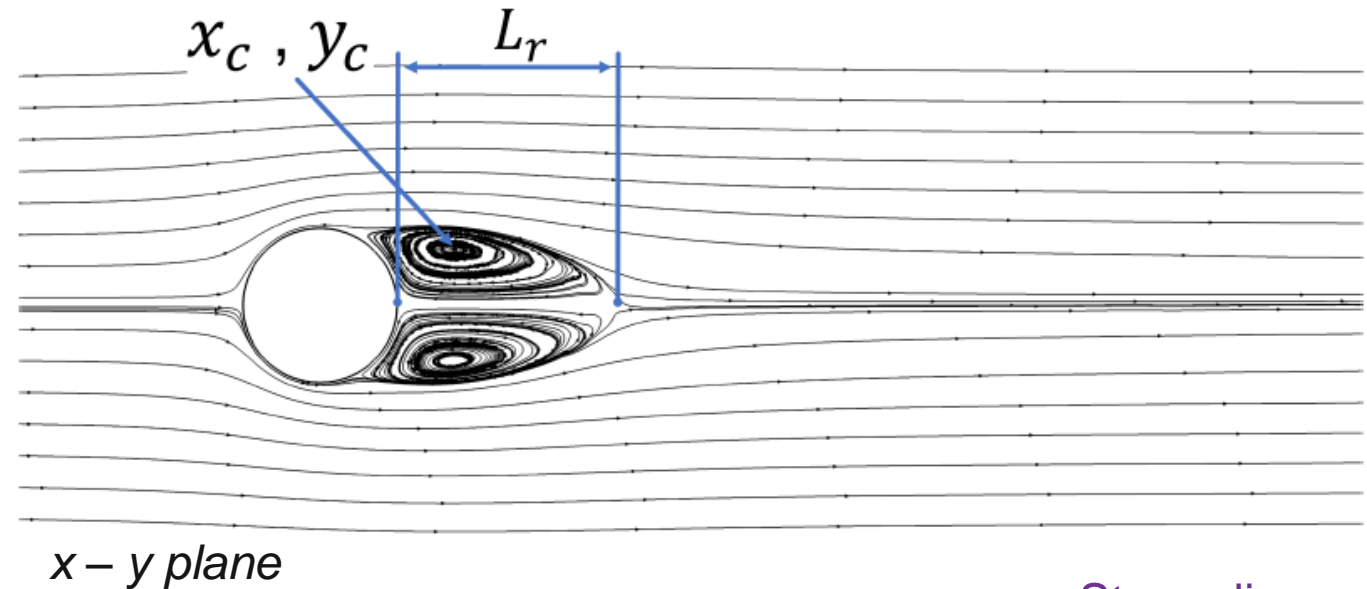


# Results

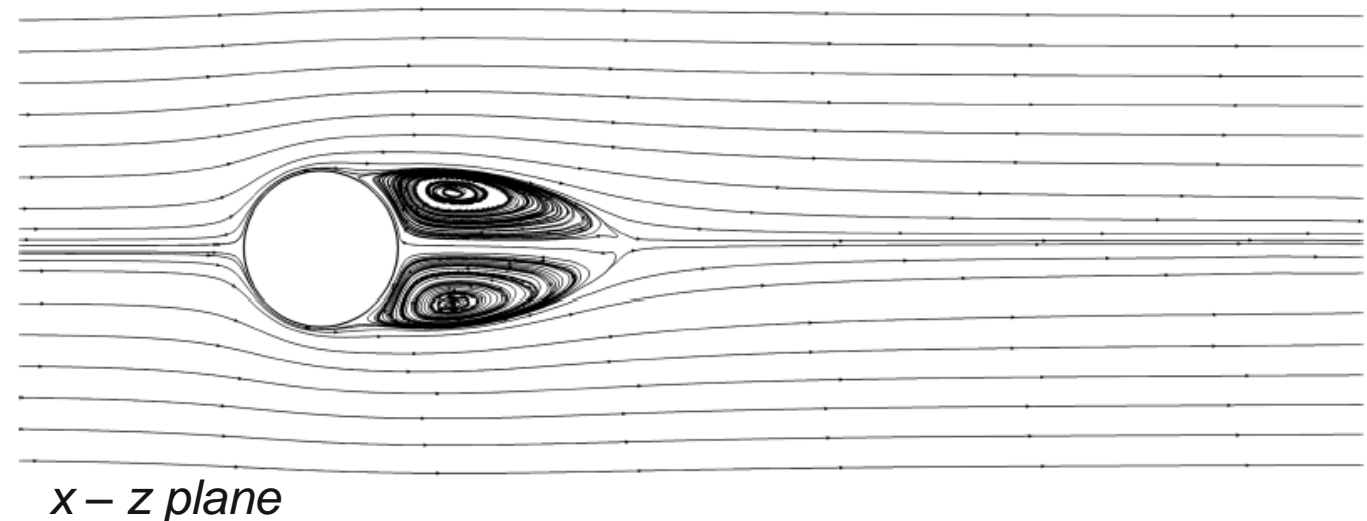
Steady flow: circulation behind the sphere  
is axisymmetric to the x-directed axis

Agreement with previous results, both  
numerical and experimental:

- drag coefficient  $C_d$
- recirculation length  $L_r$
- separation angle  $\phi_s$



Streamlines



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Szmelter et al., under review JCP

	$C_d$	$L_r$	$\phi_s$
NFTFV	0.774	1.429D	116.6°
[34] (experiment)	-	-	116.5°
[3]	0.77	1.43D	116.3°
[70]	-	1.429D	116.1°
[14]	0.768	1.436D	-
[17]	0.776	1.427D	116.2°
[4]	0.775	1.430D	116.7°
[30]	0.749	-	114.3°
[7]	-	1.436D	116.3°
[67]	0.771	-	-
[62]	0.784	1.310D	118°
[25]	0.772	-	-



# Stratified laminar flow past a sphere

## Setup of experiment

Computational domain: 20 x 20 x 20 cube  
Sphere in the centre having diameter  $D=1$

## Meshes adopted

- 24 prismatic layers in the proximity of the sphere
- Tetrahedral elsewhere

Ambient state is the constant velocity flow  $V_e = (V_0, 0, 0) = (1, 0, 0)$  m/s, and kinematic viscosity  $\nu = 5 \cdot 10^{-3} m^2 s^{-1}$  is chosen to give  $Re = 200$

## Varying Froude number

$$Fr = \frac{2V_0}{ND}$$

where  $N$  is the buoyancy frequency function of the stratification  $S_0$

$$N = \sqrt{\frac{g}{S_0}}$$

$$\theta_e(x_3) = \theta_o + S_o x_3$$

Stratification is modified to have resulting Froude numbers equals to

$$Fr \nearrow \infty \quad Fr = 1 \quad Fr = 0.25$$

# Stratified laminar flow past a sphere

$$Fr \nearrow \infty$$

Flow neutrally stratified,  
axisymmetric circulation

$$Fr = 1$$

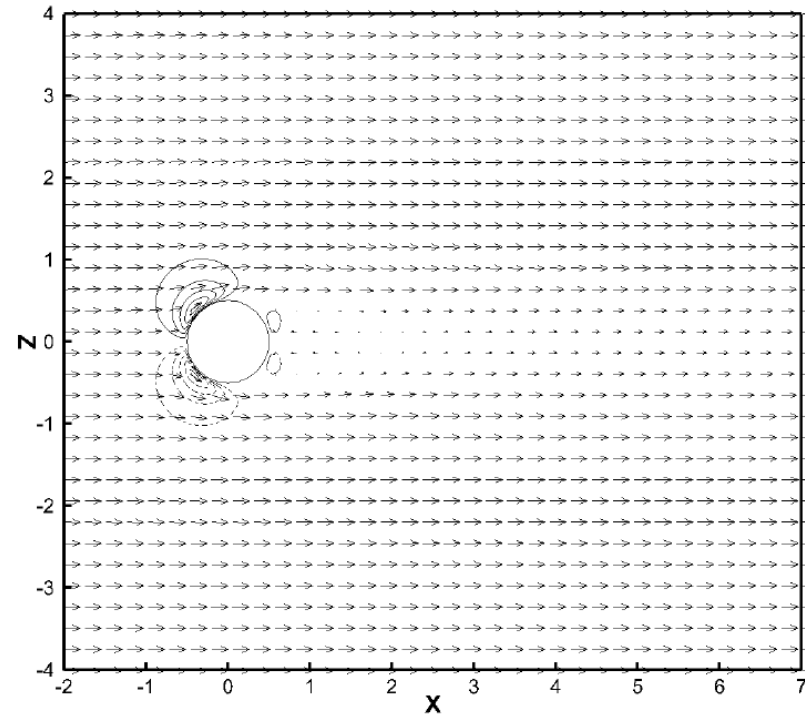
Buoyancy-induced gravity  
waves,  
Dividing streamline height  
 $h_s = h(1 - Fr)$

$$Fr = 0.25$$

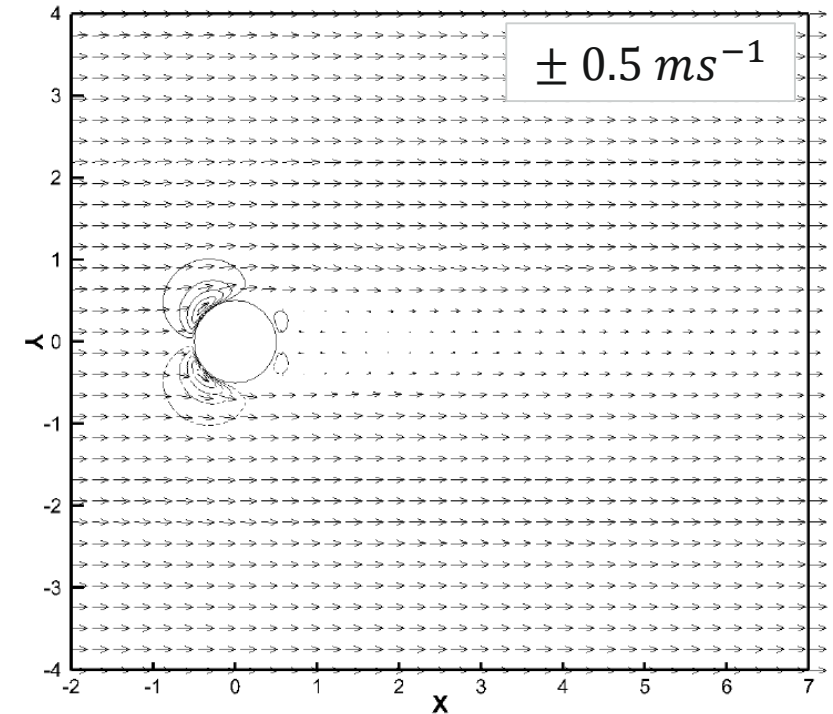
Large horizontal eddies

Good agreement with linear  
theory,  $\lambda$  of gravity waves  
*Smith R.B., 1988*

$$Fr \nearrow \infty$$



*z-component velocity*



*y-component velocity*

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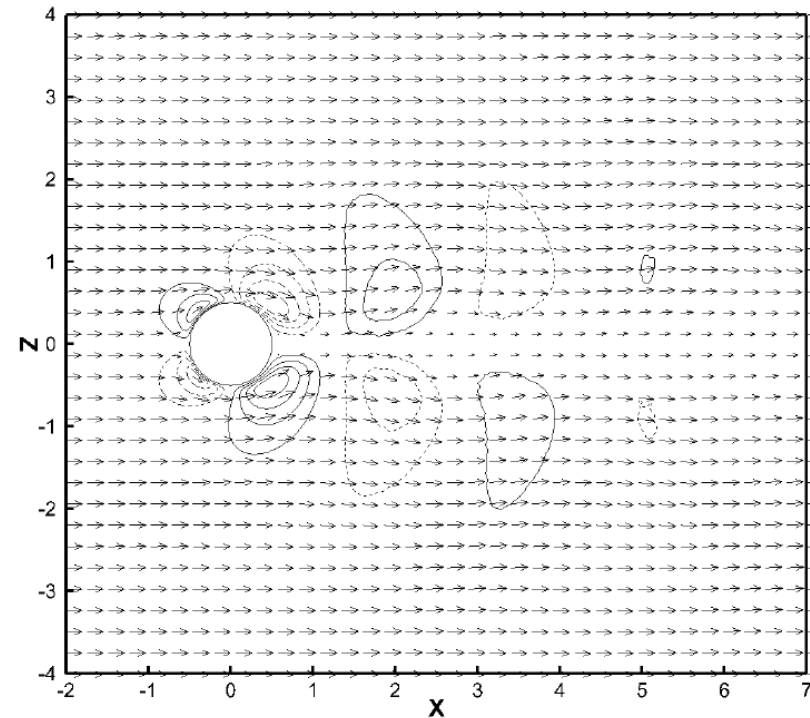
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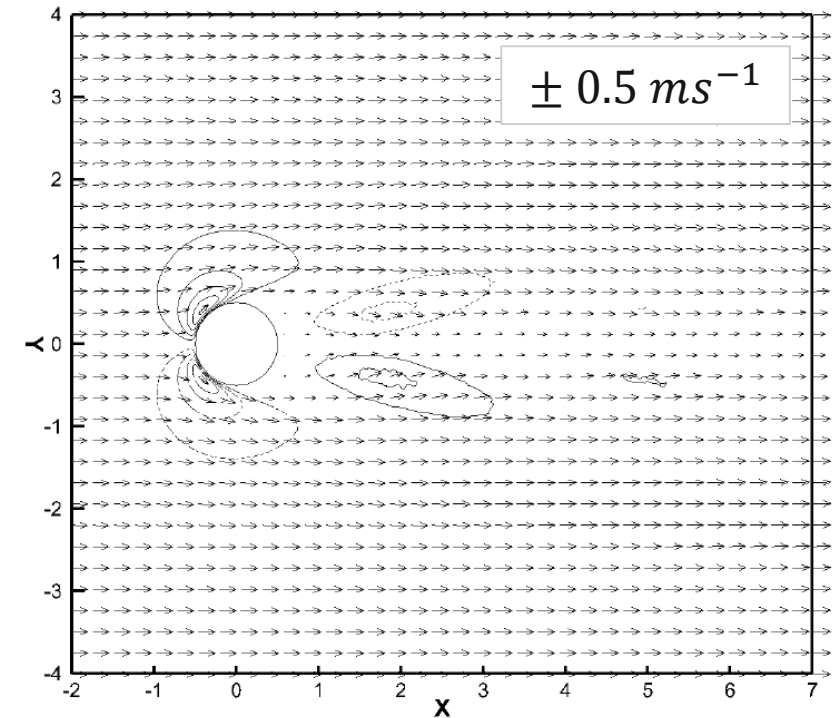
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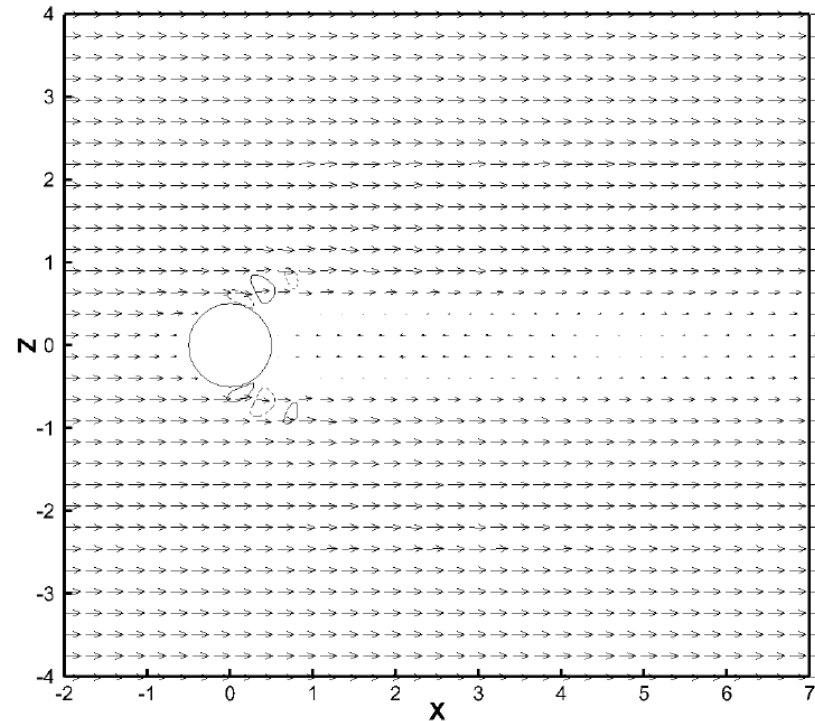
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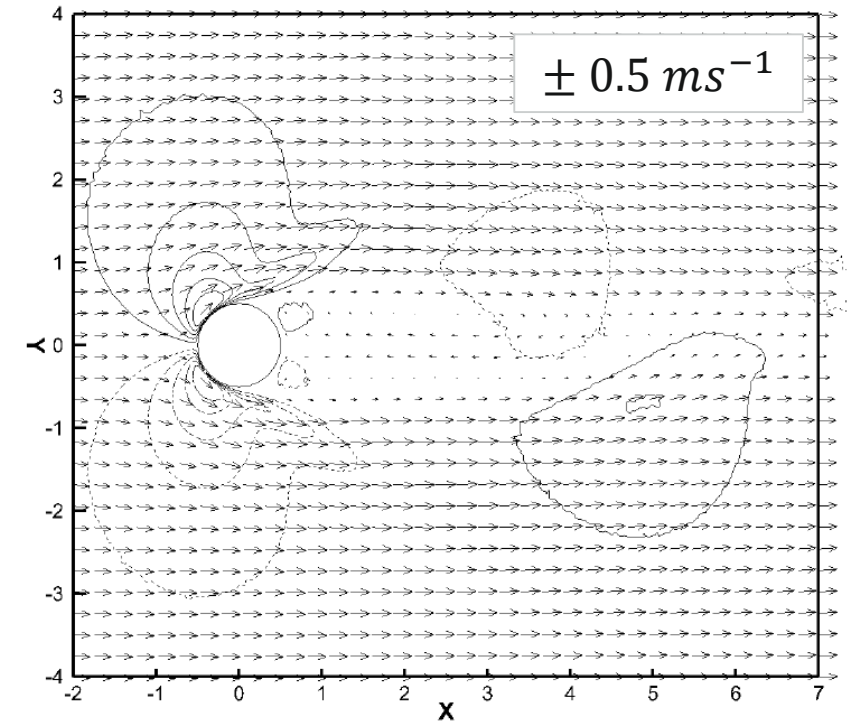
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# Effects of stratification on drag coefficient

Drag coefficient of flow compared to neutral stratified flow

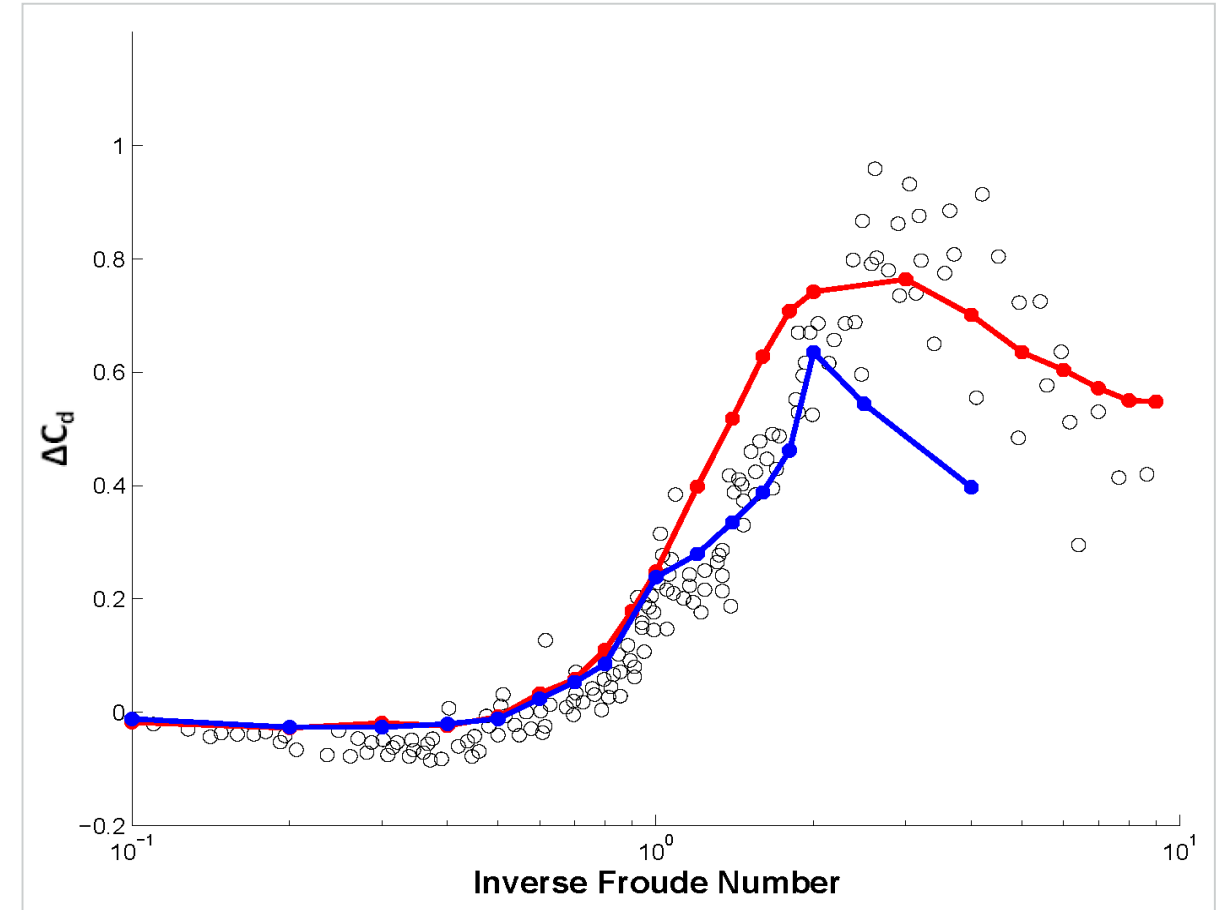
$$\Delta C_d = C_d(Re, 1/Fr) - C_d(Re, 0)$$

$$C_d = \frac{F_d}{0.5\rho_0 V_0^2 A}$$

- NTFV solutions  $Re = 200$
- Early numerical solutions
- Laboratory experiments  $10^2 < Re < 10^4$

Reasonable agreement between numeric solutions and experimental data

Sharp transition related to the concept of dividing streamline height



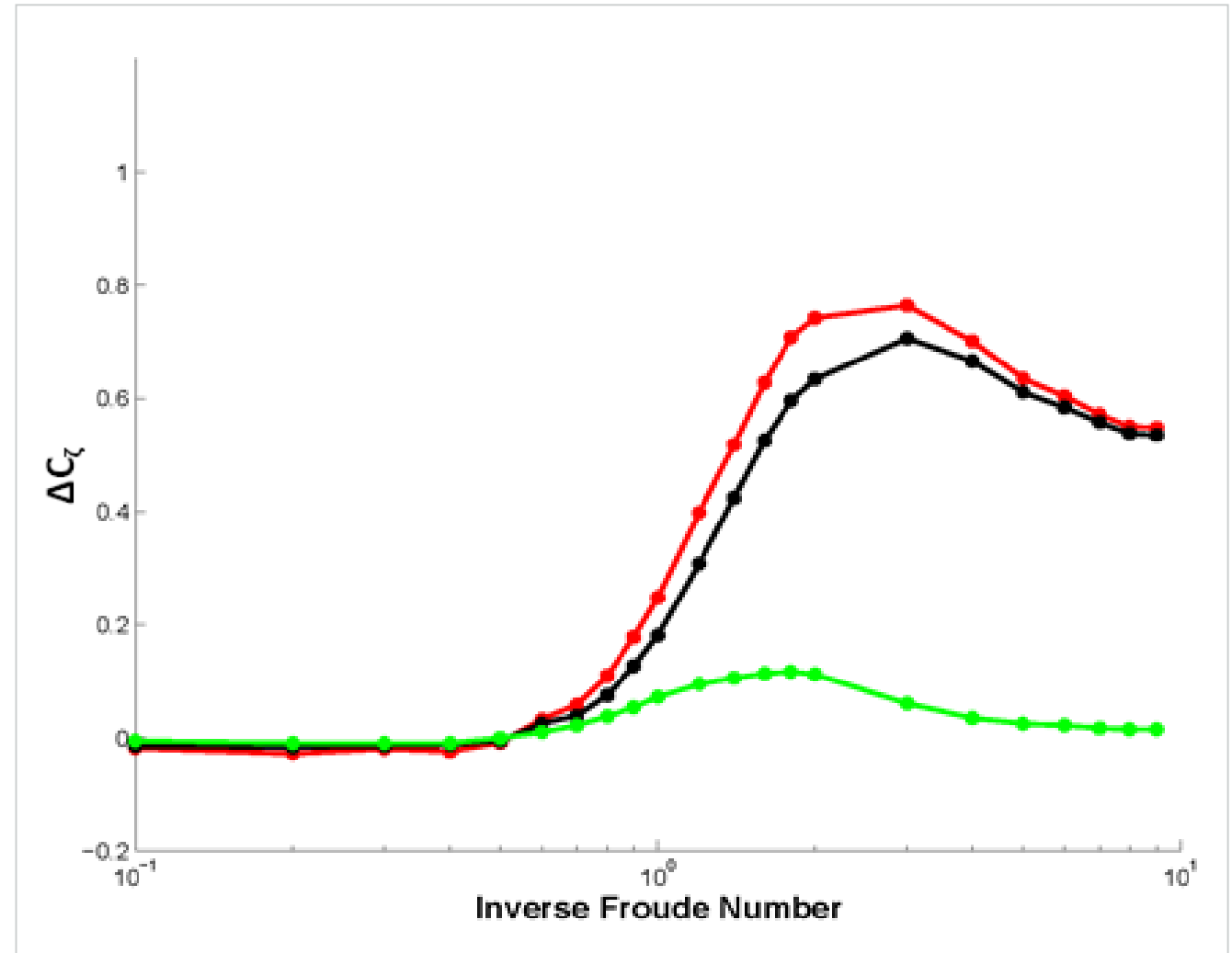
- NTFV
- Hanazaki, JFM 1989
- Lofquist et al., JFM 1984

# Effects of stratification on drag coefficient

Study on drag coefficient components:

Flow organization is controlled by the stratification

— *Total drag*  
— *Form drag*  
— *Viscous drag*





# Stratified flow past a steep isolated hill

## Stratified flow past a steep isolated hill

- Hill definition

$$h(x, y) = \begin{cases} h_0 \cos^2\left(\frac{\pi r}{2L}\right), & \text{if } r \geq L \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$r = \sqrt{(x - x_0)^2 + (y - y_0)^2}, \quad L = 3000 \text{ m}, \quad h_0 = 1500 \text{ m}$$

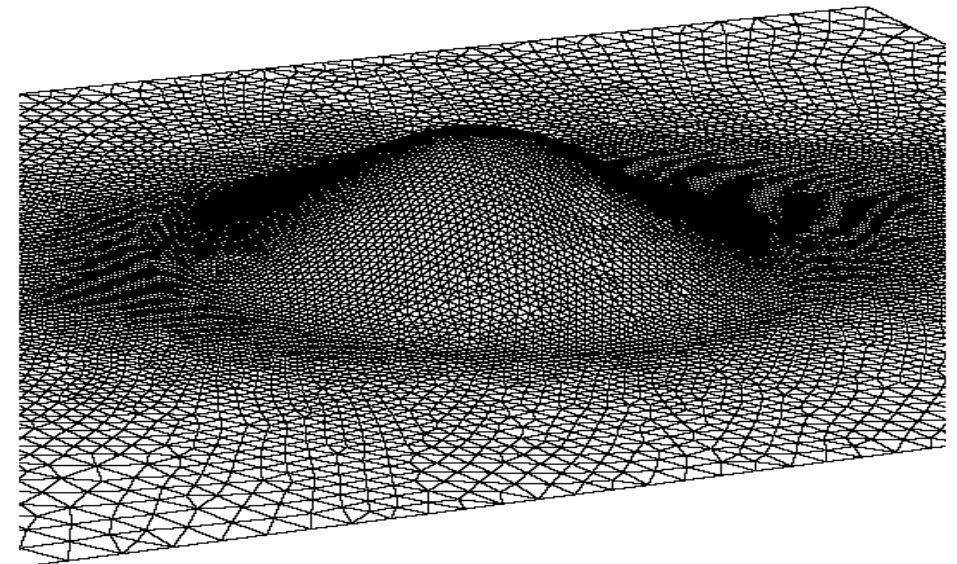
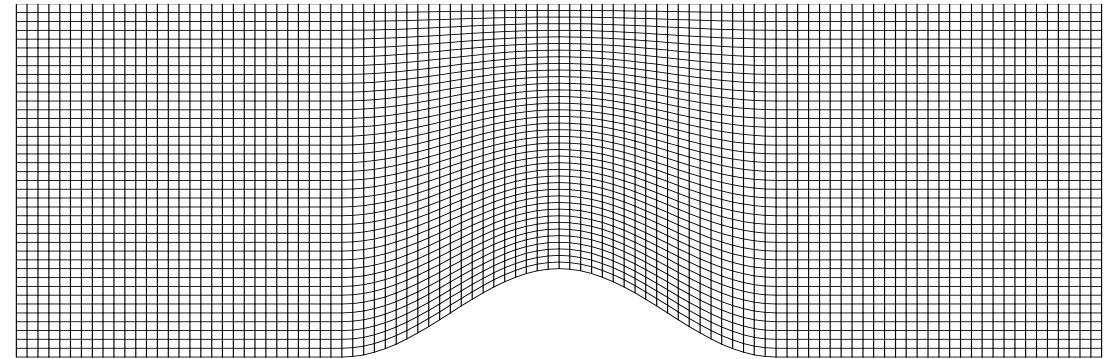
- Vertical mesh construction

$$z_{ijk} = (k - 1)\delta z * \left(1 - \frac{h_{ij}}{H}\right) + h_{ij}$$

- Flow features

$$Fr = \frac{1}{3}, \quad N = 0.01 \text{ s}^{-1}, \quad u_e = 5 \text{ m s}^{-1}$$

## Computational meshes

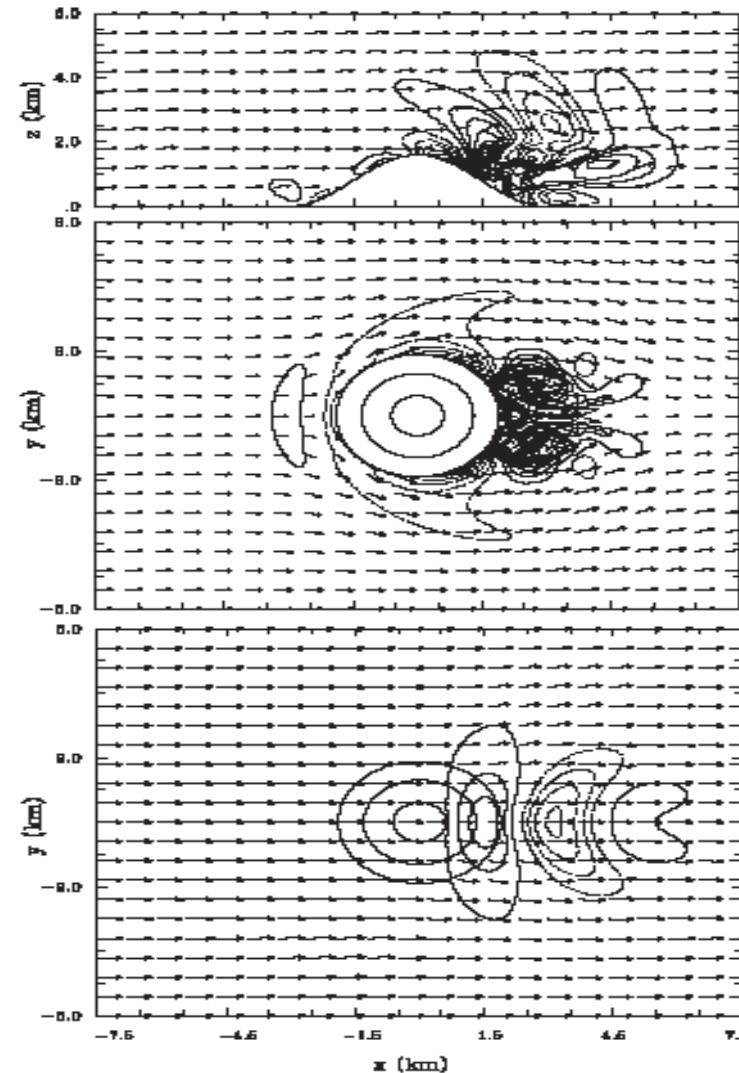


# Stratified flow past a steep isolated hill

## Previous results

*Smolarkiewicz et al., JCP 2013*

- Turbulent wake on the lee side
- Gravity-wave response above dividing streamline height



Vertical velocity and  
flow vectors are  
reported

$z = 500$  m

$z = 2500$  m



# MPI-Parallelization of the code

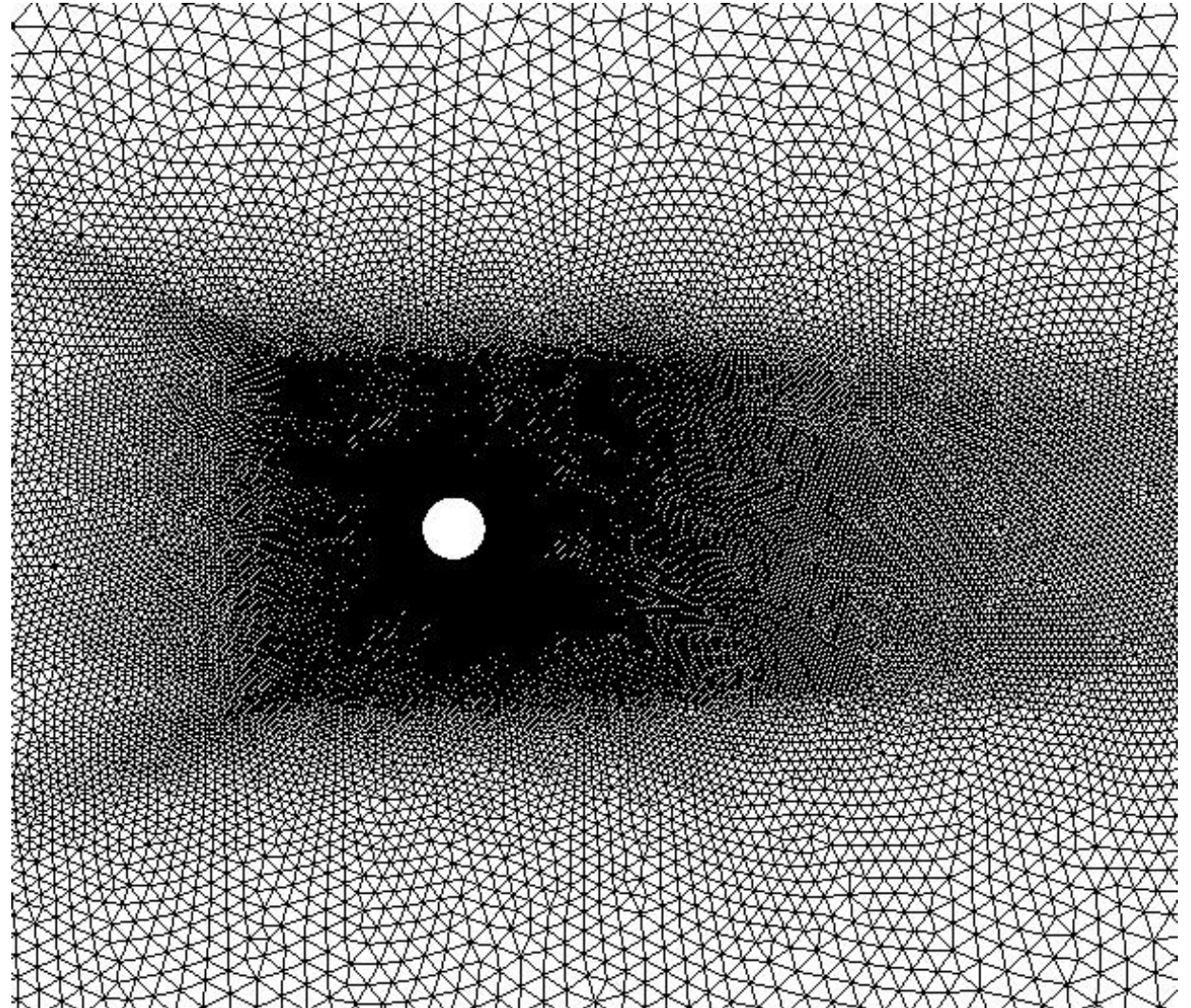
MPI library specification for distributed memory model

Domain decomposed using METIS library

Communication using double halos

Hydra HPC architecture:

- 2460 cores
- 64-bit Intel Xenon CPUs



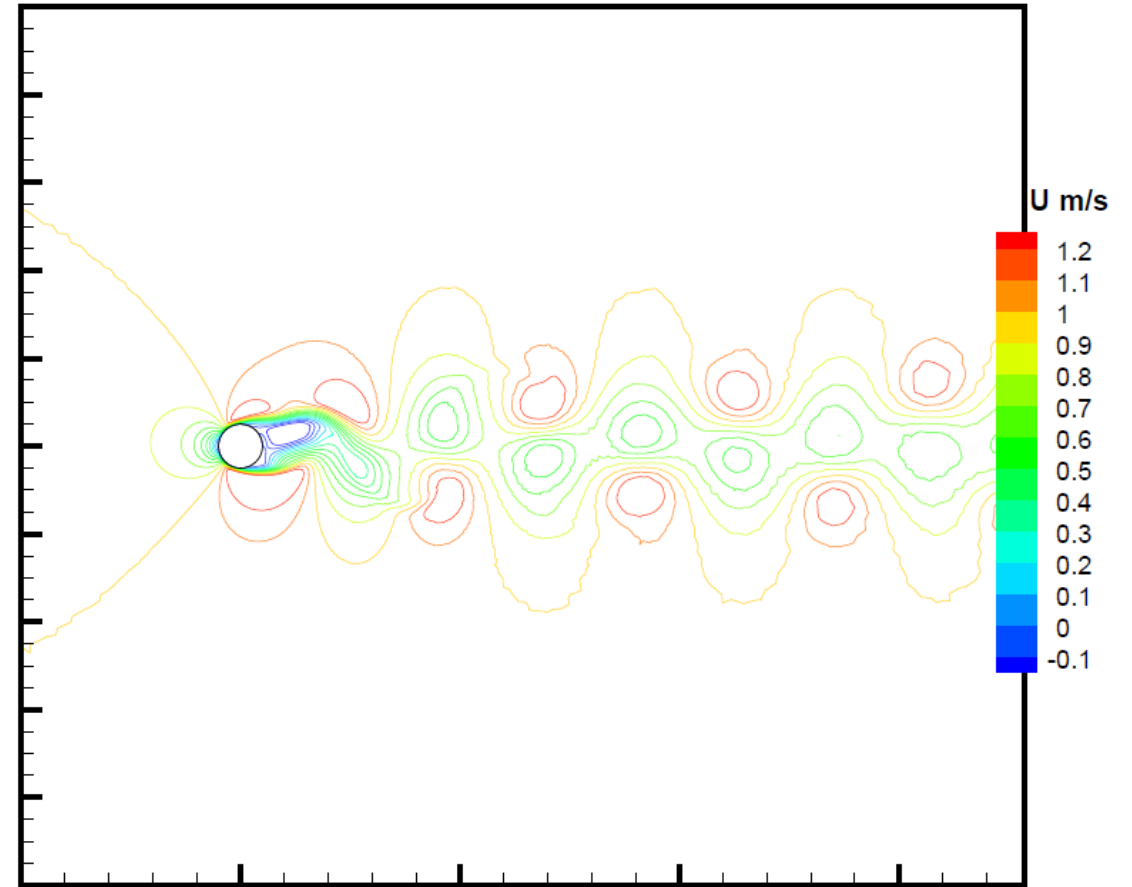
# Void 2D-cylinder in uniform flow

## Setup of experiment

- Domain  $90D \times 20D$ , where  $D$  is the diameter of the cylindrical void – 22524 points
- Velocity of the uniform flow  $u = (1, 0)$   
 $Re = 200$
- Incompressible Navier-Stokes equations

## Performance

- Speedup ratio  $S_N = \frac{T_1}{T_N} \cdot 100$
- Good scaling until 24 cores, then scaling deteriorates
- Parallel efficiency is affected by relatively small number of points



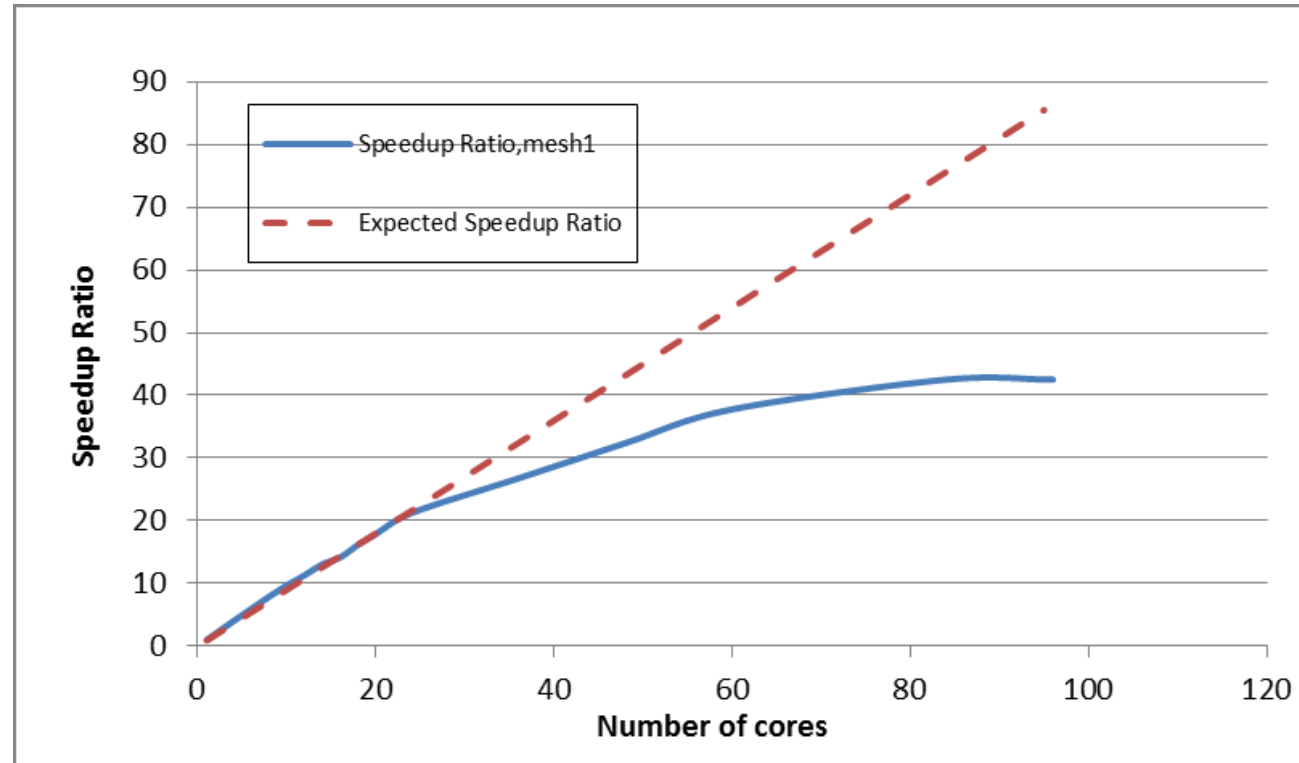
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- Capability of NTFV schemes to accurately simulate viscous and stratified flows at a range of Reynolds and Froude numbers has been demonstrated.
- Parallel implementation in 2D shows a promising speed up.  
For the 2D-cylinder benchmark the parallel efficiency is about 90% when using up to 24 cores.



THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION

# Preconditioners adopted

## Richardson-iteration preconditioner

For any initial guess  $\phi^0$ , subsequent  $\phi^{v+1}$  are evaluated by

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \phi_i^v}{\partial \tau} &= \mathcal{L}(\phi_i^v) - r_i \\ \frac{\phi_i^{v+1} - \phi_i^v}{\beta} &= \mathcal{L}(\phi_i^v) - r_i \\ \phi_i^{v+1} &= \phi_i^v + \beta(\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^v) - r_i)\end{aligned}$$

where pseudo-time  $\beta$  is defined minimizing the distance between points of the primary mesh ( $\widetilde{dx}$ ) and applying

$$\beta = \frac{1}{2}\widetilde{dx}^2$$

## Jacobi smoother as preconditioner

Starting from Poisson equation

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^v) &= r_i \\ \mathcal{L}(\phi_i^v) - \mathcal{D}_i \phi_i^v + \mathcal{D}_i \phi_i^{v+1} &= r_i\end{aligned}$$

For any initial guess  $\phi^0$ , subsequent  $\phi^{v+1}$  are evaluated by

$$\phi_i^{v+1} = \phi_i^v - (\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^v) - r_i)\mathcal{D}_i^{-1}$$

where  $\mathcal{D}_i$  aims to consider the diagonal part of Laplacian operator

$$\mathcal{D}_i = \frac{1}{4\mathcal{V}_i} \sum_{j=1}^{l(i)} \left[ \frac{s_{xj}^2}{\mathcal{V}_j} + \frac{s_{yj}^2}{\mathcal{V}_j} + \frac{s_{zj}^2}{\mathcal{V}_j} \right]$$



# Preconditioners adopted

## Mixed preconditioner

Starting from Richardson preconditioner

$$\begin{aligned}\phi_i^{\nu+1} &= \phi_i^{\nu} + \beta(\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^{\nu}) - r_i) \\ \phi_i^{\nu+1} &= \phi_i^{\nu} + \beta(\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^{\nu}) - r_i - \mathcal{D}_i\phi_i^{\nu} + \mathcal{D}_i\phi_i^{\nu+1})\end{aligned}$$

For any initial guess  $\phi^0$ , subsequent  $\phi^{\nu+1}$  are evaluated by

$$\phi_i^{\nu+1} = \phi_i^{\nu} + \frac{\beta}{1 - \beta\mathcal{D}_i}(\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^{\nu}) - r_i)$$

where pseudo-time  $\beta$  and  $\mathcal{D}$  operator are mesh-dependent and can be pre-computed

## Relaxation

Elliptic solver could also benefit from relaxing (or over-relaxing) the solution of preconditioner operator, e.g.

$$\phi_i^{\nu+1} = (1 - \omega)\phi_i^{\nu} + \omega\beta(\mathcal{L}(\phi_i^{\nu}) - r_i)$$

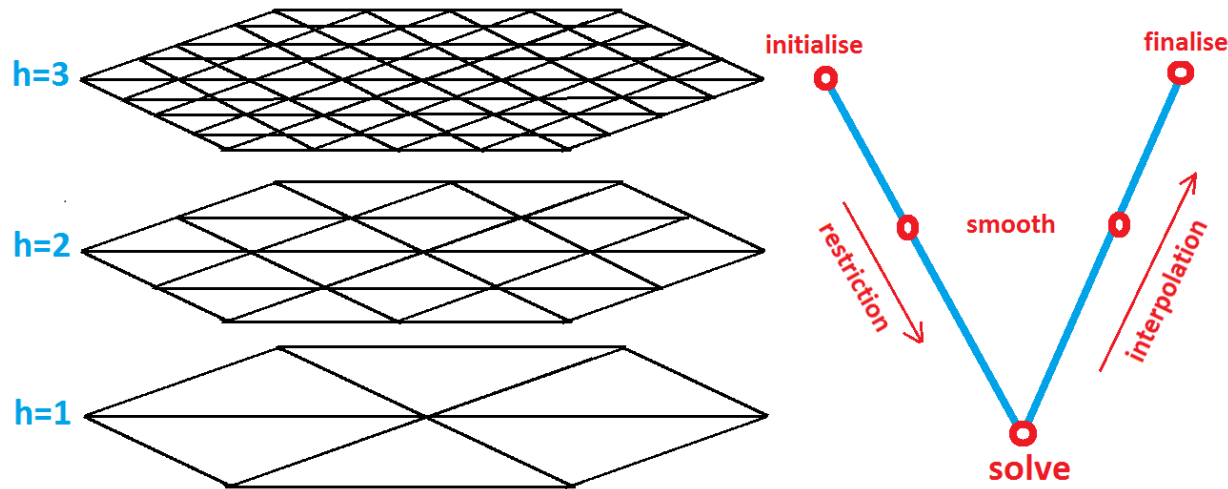
	Richardson	Jacobi	Mixed
$\omega$	1.5	0.6	1.5



# Multigrid Preconditioning

## V-Cycle

The aim is to minimize the solution error acting on length-waves quickly detected by coarser meshes



## Example on 2-levels multigrid

Smooth  $p_i^f$  on the finest grid

Calculate residuals  $rr_i^f = rr_i^f - \mathcal{L}(p_i^f)$

→ Restrict  $rr_j^c = I_f^c rr_i^f$

Solution for  $e_j^c$

← Interpolate  $e_i^f = I_c^f e_j^c$

Add coarse grid error  $p_i^f = p_i^f + e_i^f$

Smooth  $p_i^f$  on the finest grid

# Preliminary/Intermediate results

- Flow past a steep hill
- Cartesian grid
- Relaxation factor  $\omega = 1.5$

Considering the potential flow

- Number of iterations of the flow solver VS number of iterations of preconditioner
- Comparison between Richardson preconditioner and Richardson preconditioner implemented with 2-levels multigrid (5 loops on the coarser grid)
- No gain in terms of elapsed time

