

# **Fast Iterative Solvers for Buoyancy Driven Flow Problems**

David Silvester  
University of Manchester, UK

# Buoyancy driven flow

$$\frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla \vec{u} - \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u} + \nabla p = \vec{j}T \quad \text{in } \mathcal{W} \equiv \Omega \times (0, T)$$

$$\nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{W}$$

$$\frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \vec{u} \cdot \nabla T - \nu \nabla^2 T = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathcal{W}$$

## Boundary and Initial conditions

$$\vec{u} = \vec{0} \quad \text{on } \Gamma \times [0, T]; \quad \vec{u}(\vec{x}, 0) = \vec{0} \quad \text{in } \Omega.$$

$$T = T_g \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D \times [0, T]; \quad \nu \nabla T \cdot \vec{n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N \times [0, T];$$

$$T(\vec{x}, 0) = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega.$$

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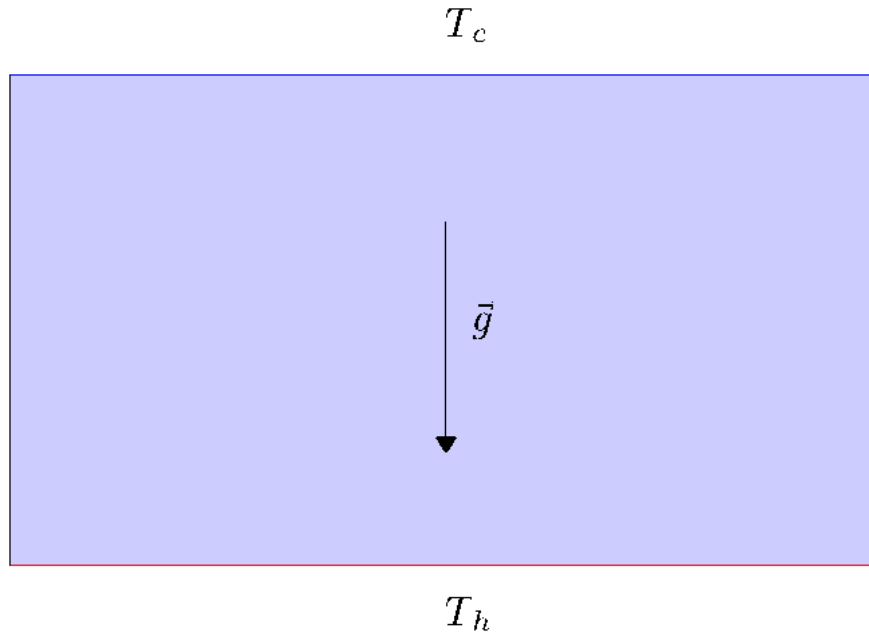
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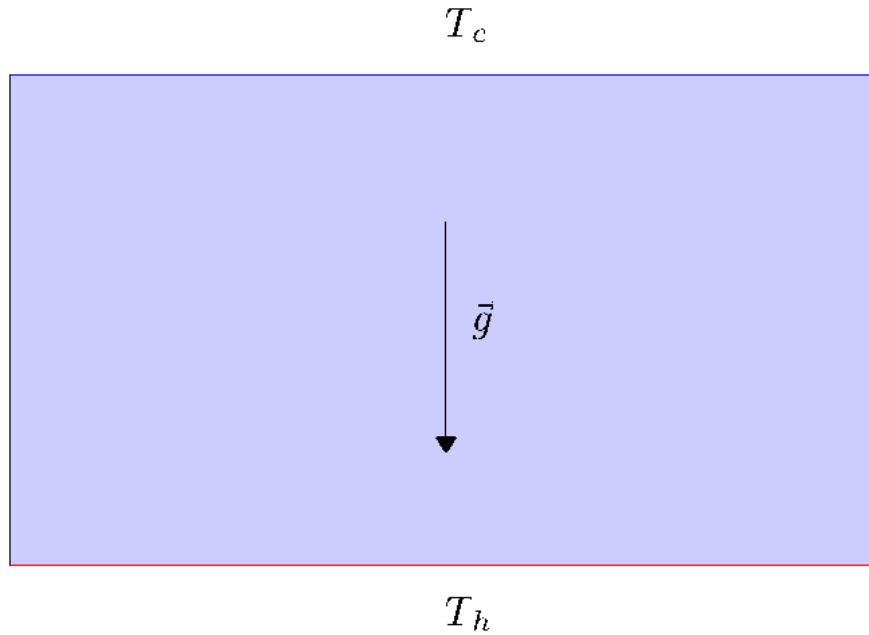
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$$T(\vec{x}, 0) = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega.$$

$$\nu = \sqrt{Pr/Ra}, \quad \nu = 1/\sqrt{Pr \cdot Ra}, \quad T_g = (1 - e^{-10t})T_\infty.$$

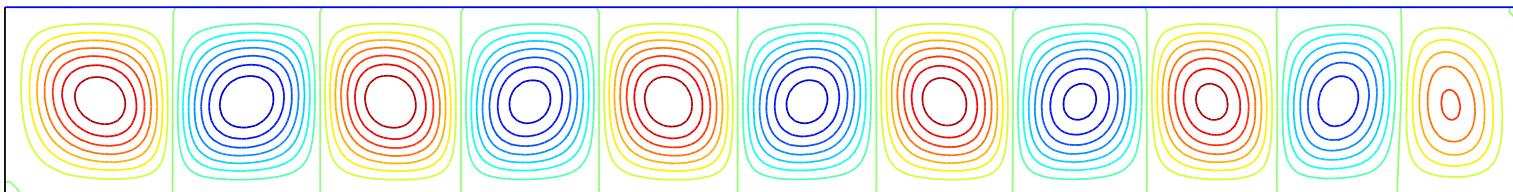


Rayleigh–Bénard |  $Pr = 7.1$ ,  $Ra = 15000$ .



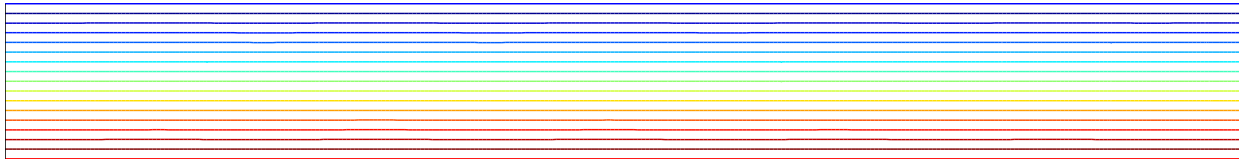
Rayleigh–Bénard |  $Pr = 7.1$ ,  $Ra = 15000$ .

Stationary streamlines: time = 300.00

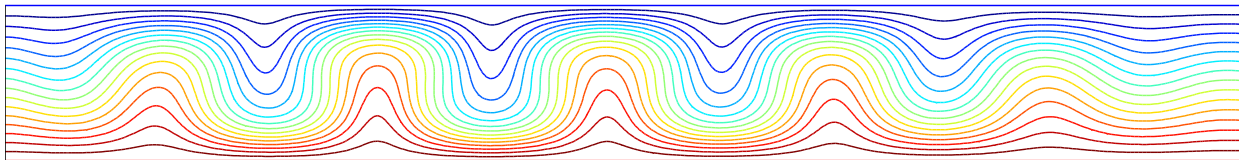


Rayleigh–Bénard |  $Pr = 7.1$ ,  $Ra = 1.5 \times 10^4$ .

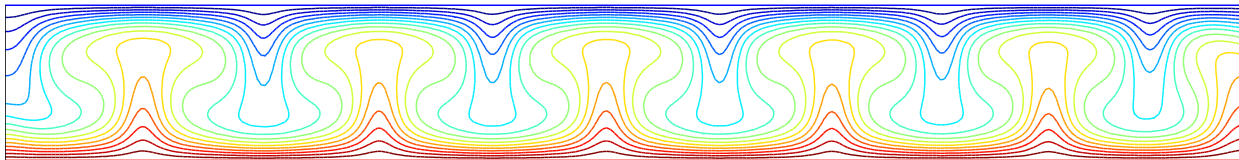
Isotherms: time = 100.72



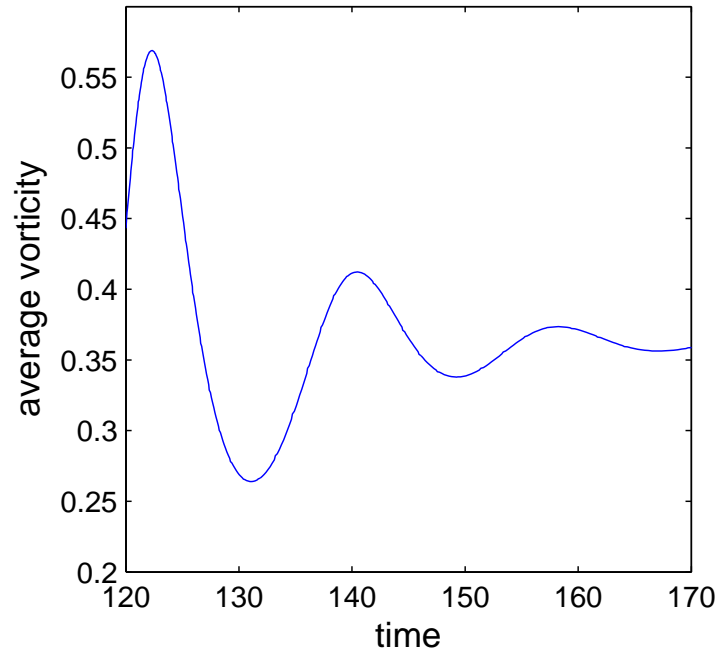
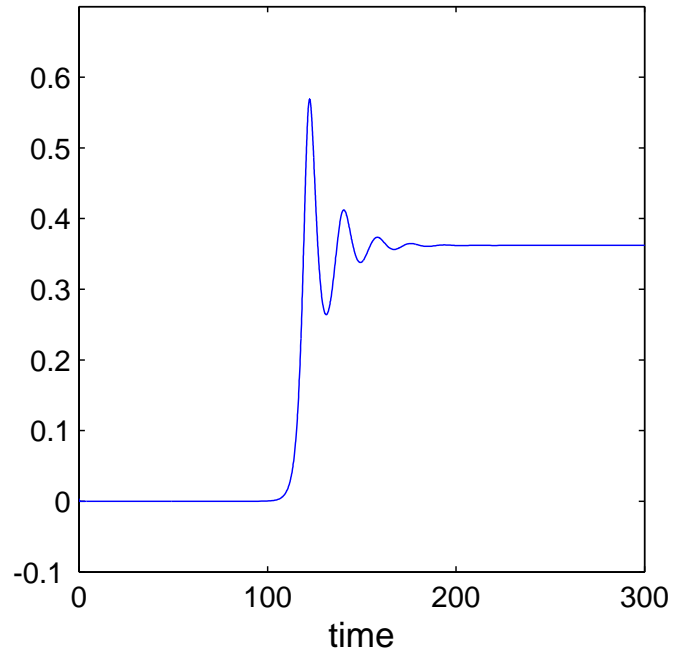
Isotherms: time = 119.28



Isotherms: time = 300.00



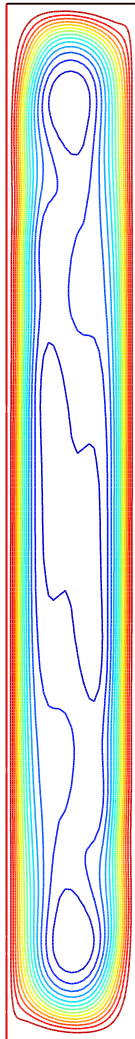
Rayleigh–Bénard |  $Pr = 7.1$ ,  $Ra = 1.5 \times 10^4$ .



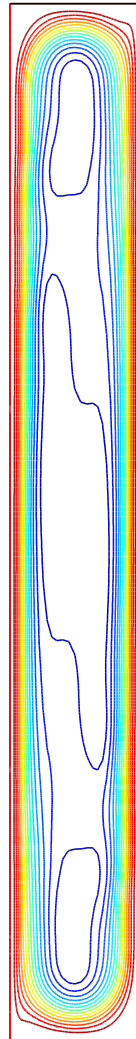
$$\omega = \nabla \times \vec{u}, \quad \bar{\omega}_\Omega = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\mathcal{A}} \int_\Omega \omega^2}$$

MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .

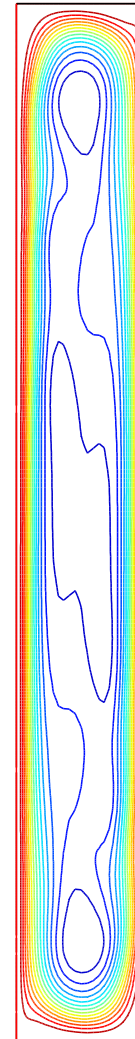
time = 826.53



time = 828.23

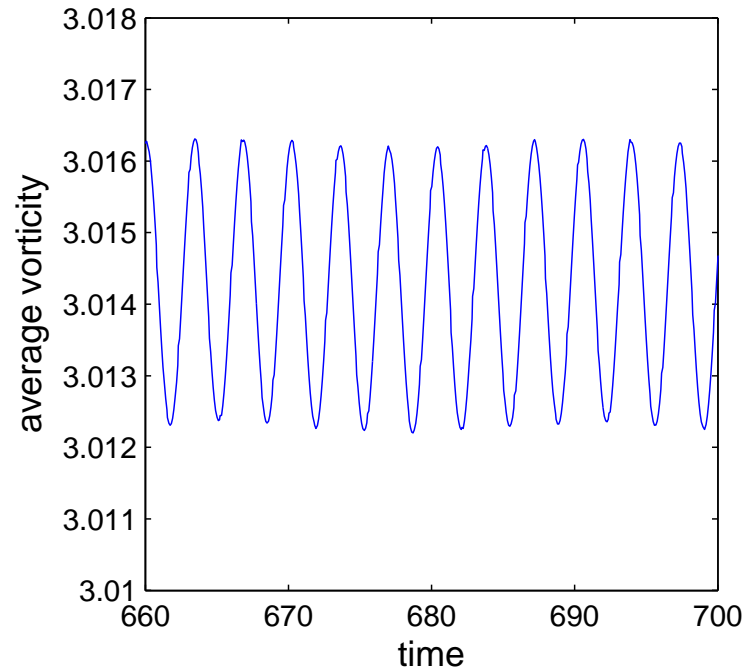
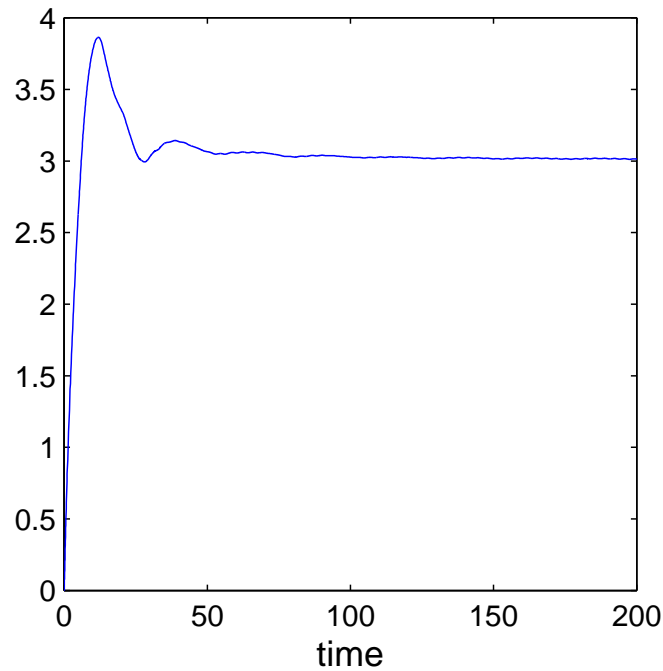


time = 829.96





MIT test problem |  $Pr = 7.1$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .



$$\omega = \nabla \times \vec{u}, \quad \bar{\omega}_\Omega = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\mathcal{A}} \int_\Omega \omega^2}$$

# References

- Philip Gresho & David Griffiths & David Silvester  
[Adaptive time-stepping for incompressible flow; part I: scalar advection-diffusion](#)  
SIAM J. Scientific Computing, 30: 2018–2054, 2008.
- David Kay & Philip Gresho & David Griffiths & David Silvester  
[Adaptive time-stepping for incompressible flow; part II: Navier-Stokes equations](#)  
SIAM J. Scientific Computing, 32: 111–128, 2010.
- Howard Elman, Milan Mihajlović and David Silvester.  
[Fast iterative solvers for buoyancy driven flow problems](#)  
J. Computational Physics, 230: 3900–3914, 2011.



## Incompressible Flow & Iterative Solver Software

An open-source software package

### Summary

IFISS is a graphical package for the interactive numerical study of incompressible flow problems which can be run under [Matlab](#) or [Octave](#). It includes algorithms for discretization by mixed finite element methods and a posteriori error estimation of the computed solutions. The package can also be used as a computational laboratory for experimenting with state-of-the-art preconditioned iterative solvers for the discrete linear equation systems that arise in incompressible flow modelling.

### Key Features

Key features include

- implementation of a variety of mixed finite element approximation methods;
- automatic calculation of stabilization parameters where appropriate;
- a posteriori error estimation for steady problems;
- a range of state-of-the-art preconditioned Krylov subspace solvers ;
- built-in geometric and algebraic multigrid solvers and preconditioners;
- fully implicit self-adaptive time stepping algorithms;
- useful visualization tools.

The developers of the IFISS package are [David Silvester](#) (School of Mathematics, University of Manchester), [Howard Elman](#) (Computer Science Department, University of Maryland), and [Alison Ramage](#) (Department of Mathematics and Statistics, University of Strathclyde).

### Links

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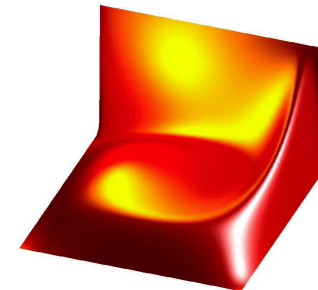
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The IFISS logo represents the solution of the *double glazing* convection-diffusion problem. It can be reproduced in IFISS via the function **ifisslogo**.

# “Smart Integrator” (SI)

- **Optimal time-stepping:** time-steps automatically chosen to “follow the physics”.
- **Black-box implementation:** few parameters that have to be estimated a priori.
- **Algorithm efficiency:** solve linear equations at every timestep.

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- **Algorithm efficiency:** solve linear equations at every timestep.
- **Solver efficiency:** see later ...

# PART I

# Trapezoidal Rule (TR) time discretization

Subdivide  $[0, T]$  into time levels  $\{t_i\}_{i=1}^N$ . Given  $(\vec{u}^n, p^n, T^n)$  at time  $t_n$ ,  $k_{n+1} := t_{n+1} - t_n$ , compute  $(\vec{u}^{n+1}, p^{n+1}, T^{n+1})$  via

$$\frac{2}{k_{n+1}} \vec{u}^{n+1} - \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u}^{n+1} + \vec{u}^{n+1} \cdot \nabla \vec{u}^{n+1} + \nabla p^{n+1} - \vec{j} T^{n+1} = \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} \vec{u}^n + \frac{\partial \vec{u}^n}{\partial t} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$-\nabla \cdot \vec{u}^{n+1} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$\vec{u}^{n+1} = \vec{0} \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

$$\frac{2}{k_{n+1}} T^{n+1} - \nu \nabla^2 T^{n+1} + \vec{u}^{n+1} \cdot \nabla T^{n+1} = \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} T^n + \frac{\partial T^n}{\partial t} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$T^{n+1} = T_g^{n+1} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D$$

$$\nu \nabla T^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N.$$

# Linearization

Subdivide  $[0, T]$  into time levels  $\{t_i\}_{i=1}^N$ . Given  $(\vec{u}^n, p^n, T^n)$  at time  $t_n$ ,  $k_{n+1} := t_{n+1} - t_n$ , compute  $(\vec{u}^{n+1}, p^{n+1}, T^{n+1})$  via

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} \vec{u}^{n+1} - \nu \nabla^2 \vec{u}^{n+1} + \vec{w}^{n+1} \cdot \nabla \vec{u}^{n+1} + \nabla p^{n+1} - \vec{j} T^{n+1} &= \\ & \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} \vec{u}^n + \frac{\partial \vec{u}^n}{\partial t} \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ -\nabla \cdot \vec{u}^{n+1} &= 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ \vec{u}^{n+1} &= \vec{0} \quad \text{on } \Gamma. \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} T^{n+1} - \nu \nabla^2 T^{n+1} + \vec{w}^{n+1} \cdot \nabla T^{n+1} &= \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} T^n + \frac{\partial T^n}{\partial t} \quad \text{in } \Omega \\ T^{n+1} &= T_g^{n+1} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D \\ \nu \nabla T^{n+1} \cdot \vec{n} &= 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_N, \end{aligned}$$

with  $\vec{w}^{n+1} = \left(1 + \frac{k_{n+1}}{k_n}\right) \vec{u}^n - \frac{k_{n+1}}{k_n} \vec{u}^{n-1}$ .



# Adaptive Time Stepping TR–AB2

The adaptive time step selection is based on **coupled** physics.

Given  $L_2$  error estimates  $\|\vec{e}_h^{n+1}\|$  and  $\|e_h^{n+1}\|$  for the velocity and temperature respectively, the subsequent **TR–AB2** time step  $k_{n+2}$  is computed using

$$k_{n+2} = k_{n+1} \left( \frac{\varepsilon_t}{\sqrt{\|\vec{e}_h^{n+1}\|^2 + \|e_h^{n+1}\|^2}} \right)^{1/3} .$$

# Adaptive time stepping components

- Starting from rest,  $\vec{u}^0 = \vec{0}$ , and given a steady-state temperature boundary condition  $T(\vec{x}, t) = T_\infty$ , we model the impulse with a time-dependent boundary condition:

$$T(\vec{x}, t) = (1 - e^{-10t}) T_\infty \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D \times [0, T].$$

We also choose a very small initial timestep, typically,  $k_1 = 10^{-9}$ .

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We also choose a very small initial timestep, typically,  $k_1 = 10^{-9}$ .

- The following parameters must be specified:

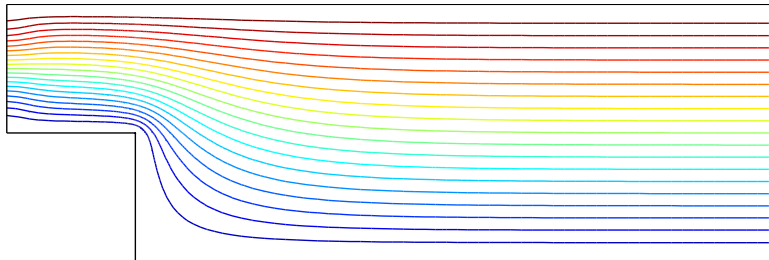
time accuracy tolerance	$\varepsilon_t$ ( $10^{-5}$ )
<b>GMRES</b> tolerance	<code>itol</code> ( $10^{-6}$ )
<b>GMRES</b> iteration limit	<code>maxit</code> (50)

## PROBLEM # 1

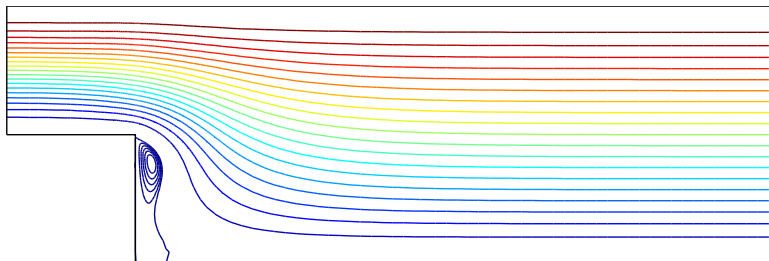
Vanilla TR is not L-stable

# Isothermal flow over step | $Re = 100$ .

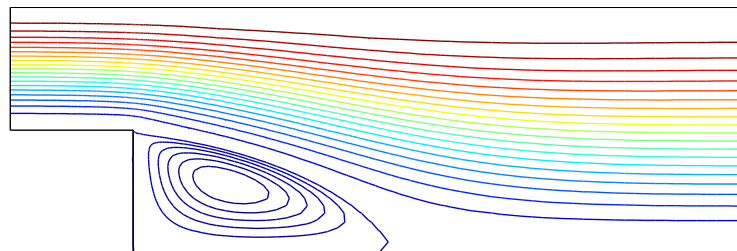
Stationary streamlines: time = 0.20

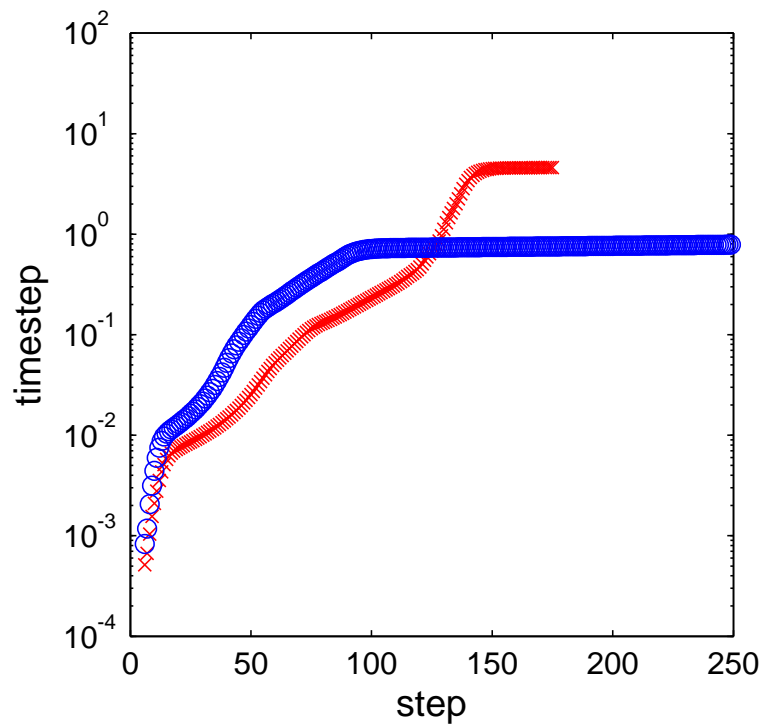
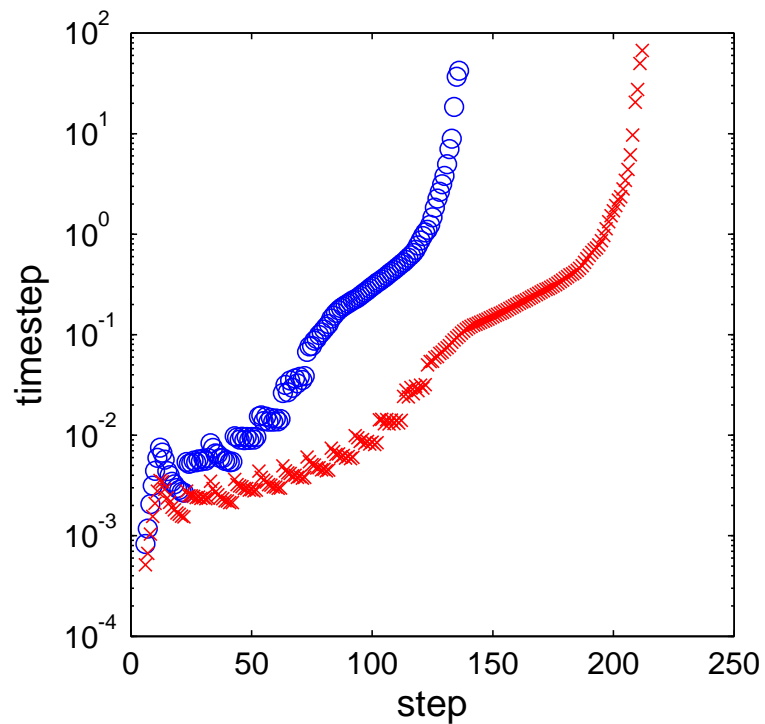


Stationary streamlines: time = 0.99



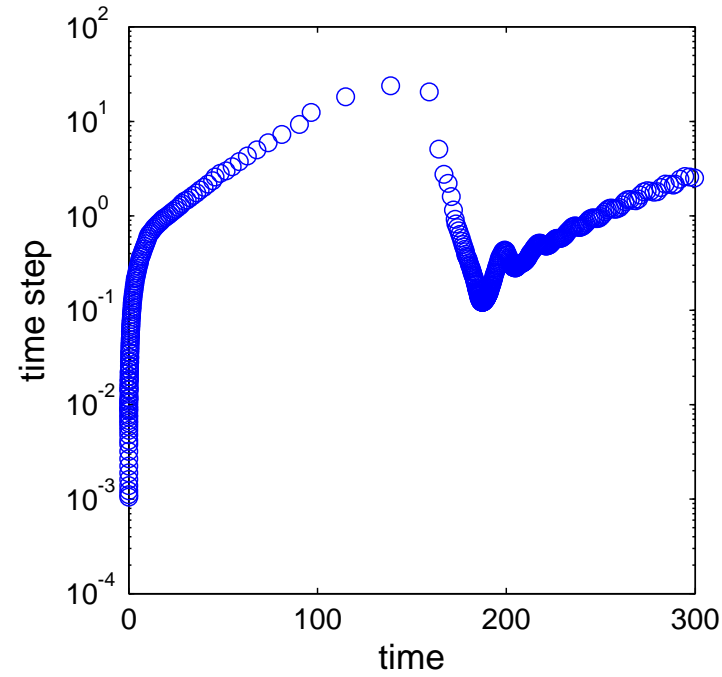
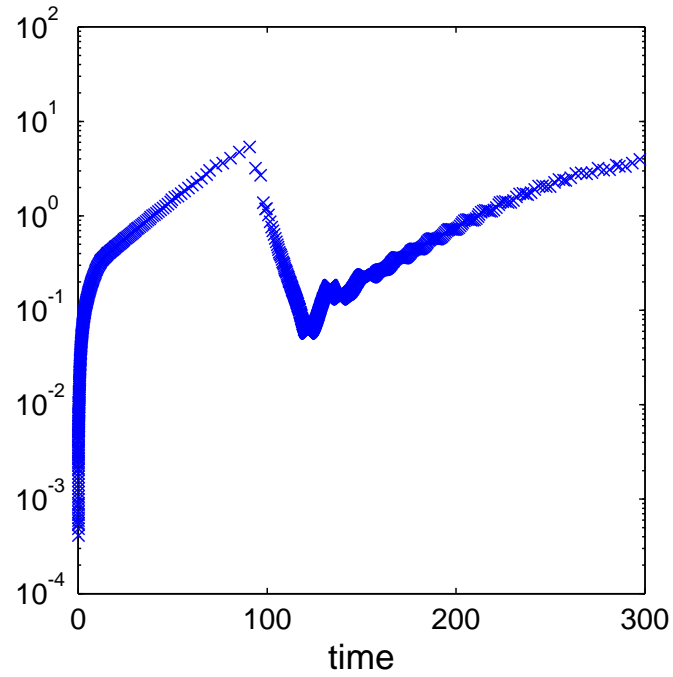
Stationary streamlines: time = 200.00





stabilized TR with  $n_* = 10$  (left) vs unstabilized TR (right) for error tolerance  $\varepsilon_t = 10^{-4}$  ( $\circ$ ) and  $\varepsilon_t = 3 \times 10^{-5}$  ( $\times$ ).

Rayleigh–Bénard |  $Pr = 7.1$ ,  $Ra = 1.5 \times 10^4$ .



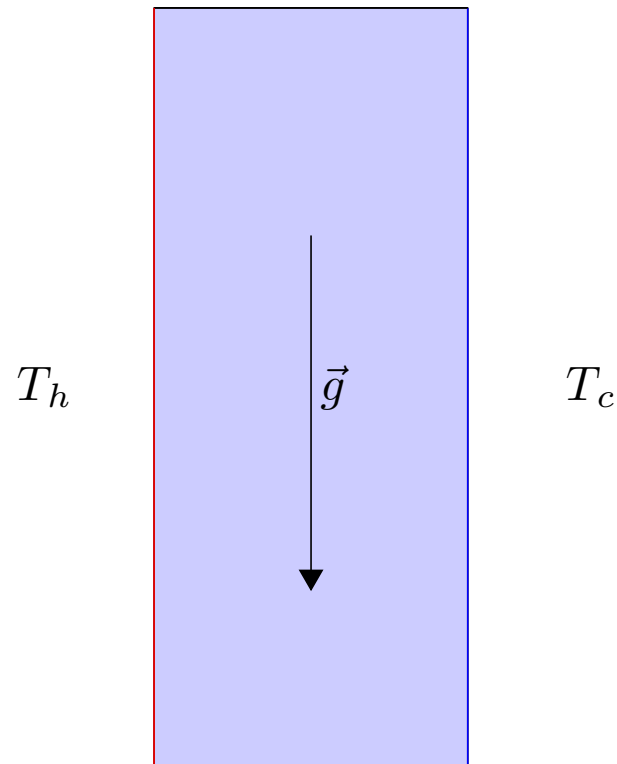
stabilized TR |  $\varepsilon_t = 10^{-6}$  (left) and  $\varepsilon_t = 10^{-5}$  (right).

## PROBLEM # 2

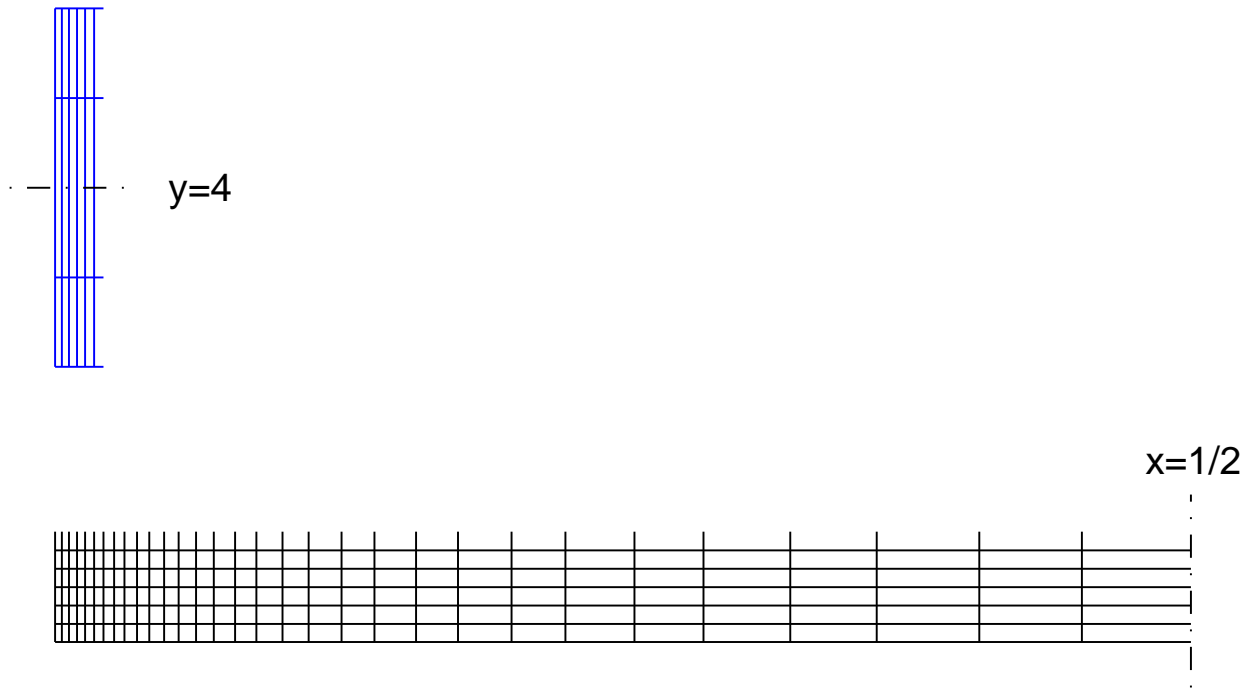
linearized TR is not coupled physics



MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .

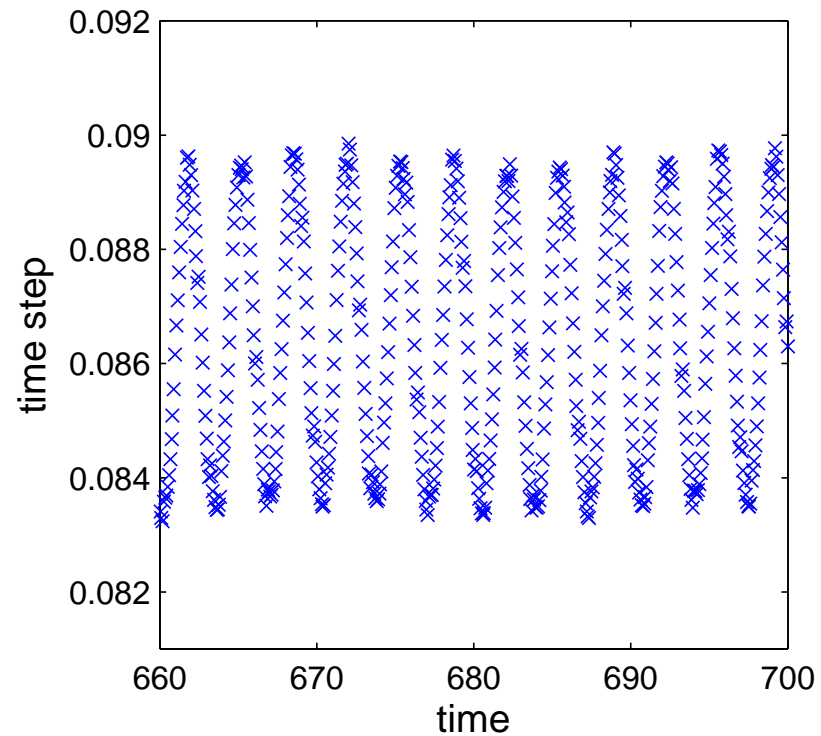
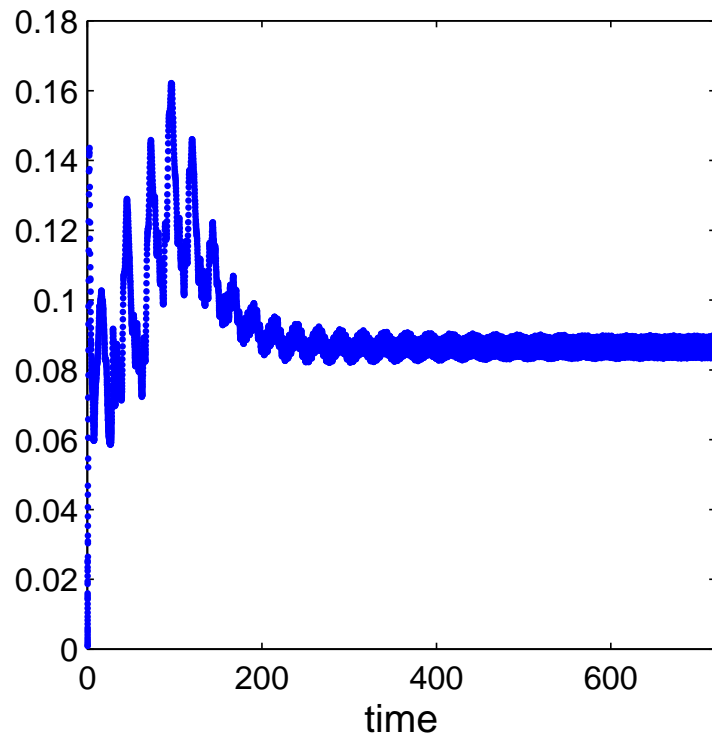


MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .



$31 \times 248$  stretched grid

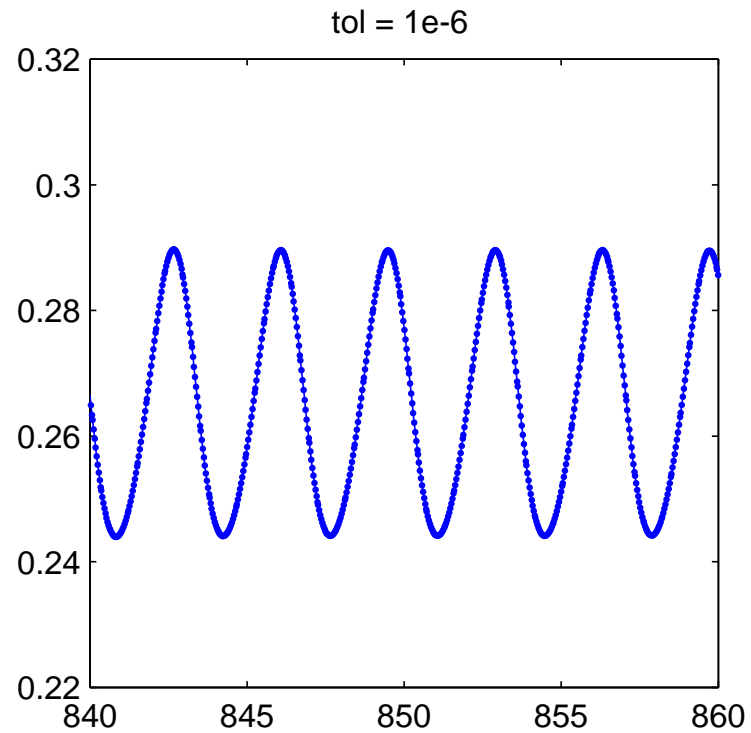
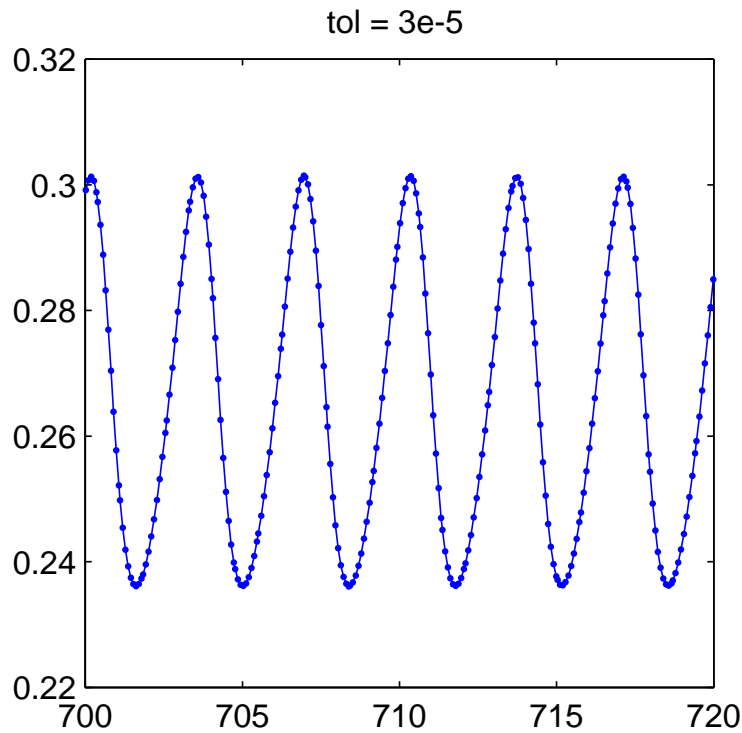
MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .



MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .

	MIT Benchmark	$\varepsilon_t = 3 \cdot 10^{-5}$	$\varepsilon_t = 1 \cdot 10^{-6}$
$(\Delta p)_{\min}$	-0.0125	-0.0178	-0.0135
$(\Delta p)_{\max}$	0.0074	0.0116	0.0082
$\Delta(\Delta p)$	0.0198	0.0294	0.0218
$\overline{\Delta p}$	-0.0026	-0.0031	-0.0027
$T_{\min}$	0.2461	0.2362	0.2442
$T_{\max}$	0.2872	0.3012	0.2896
$\Delta T$	0.0411	0.0650	0.0454
$\overline{T}$	0.2666	0.2687	0.2669
Period	3.4135	3.382	3.412

MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .



Temperature evolution at the MIT reference point.

## PART II

# “Smart Integrator” (SI) revisited

- Optimal time-stepping
- Black-box implementation
- Algorithm efficiency
- **Solver efficiency:** the linear solver convergence rate is robust with respect to the mesh size  $h$  and the flow problem parameters.

# Finite element matrix formulation

Introducing the basis sets

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{X}_h &= \text{span}\{\vec{\phi}_i\}_{i=1}^{n_u}, & \text{Velocity basis functions;} \\ M_h &= \text{span}\{\psi_j\}_{j=1}^{n_p}, & \text{Pressure basis functions.} \\ T_h &= \text{span}\{\phi_k\}_{k=1}^{n_T}, & \text{Temperature basis functions;} \end{aligned}$$

gives the method-of-lines discretized system:

$$\begin{pmatrix} M & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & M \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial \vec{u}}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} F & B^T & -\overset{\circ}{M} \\ B & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \vec{u} \\ p \\ T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \vec{0} \\ 0 \\ g \end{pmatrix}$$

with a (vertical–) **mass** matrix:

$$\left(\frac{\circ}{M}\right)_{ij} = ([0, \phi_i], \phi_j)$$



# Preconditioning strategy

$$\begin{pmatrix} F & B^T & -\overset{\circ}{M} \\ B & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F \end{pmatrix} \mathcal{P}^{-1} \mathcal{P} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^u \\ \alpha^p \\ \alpha^T \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \mathbf{f}^u \\ \mathbf{f}^p \\ \mathbf{f}^T \end{pmatrix}$$

Given  $S = BF^{-1}B^T$ , a **perfect** preconditioner is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} F & B^T & -\overset{\circ}{M} \\ B & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F \end{pmatrix} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} F^{-1} & F^{-1}B^T S^{-1} & F^{-1}\overset{\circ}{M}F^{-1} \\ 0 & -S^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & F^{-1} \end{pmatrix}}_{\mathcal{P}^{-1}} \\ = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 & 0 \\ BF^{-1} & I & BF^{-1}\overset{\circ}{M}F^{-1} \\ 0 & 0 & I \end{pmatrix}$$

For an **efficient** preconditioner we need to construct a sparse approximation to the “exact” Schur complement

$$S^{-1} = (BF^{-1}B^T)^{-1}$$

For an efficient implementation we must also have an efficient AMG (convection-diffusion) solver ...

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# HSL

# HSL\_MI20

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PACKAGE SPECIFICATION

HSL 2007

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## 1 SUMMARY

Given an  $n \times n$  sparse matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  and an  $n$ -vector  $\mathbf{z}$ , HSL\_MI20 computes the vector  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{Mz}$ , where  $\mathbf{M}$  is an algebraic multigrid (AMG) v-cycle preconditioner for  $\mathbf{A}$ . A classical AMG method is used, as described in [1] (see also Section 5 below for a brief description of the algorithm). The matrix  $\mathbf{A}$  must have positive diagonal entries and (most of) the off-diagonal entries must be negative (the diagonal should be large compared to the sum of the off-diagonals). During the multigrid coarsening process, positive off-diagonal entries are ignored and, when calculating the interpolation weights, positive off-diagonal entries are added to the diagonal.

### Reference

[1] K. Stüben. *An Introduction to Algebraic Multigrid*. In U. Trottenberg, C. Oosterlee, A. Schüller, eds, 'Multigrid', Academic Press, 2001, pp 413-532.

**ATTRIBUTES — Version:** 1.1.0 **Types:** Real (single, double). **Uses:** HSL\_MA48, HSL\_MC65, HSL\_ZD11, and the LAPACK routines `_GETRF` and `_GETRS`. **Date:** September 2006. **Origin:** J. W. Boyle, University of Manchester and J. A. Scott, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. **Language:** Fortran 95, plus allocatable dummy arguments and allocatable components of derived types. **Remark:** The development of HSL\_MI20 was funded by EPSRC grants EP/C000528/1 and GR/S42170.

# Schur complement approximation – I

Introducing the diagonal of the velocity mass matrix

$$M_* \sim M_{ij} = (\vec{\phi}_i, \vec{\phi}_j),$$

gives the “least-squares commutator preconditioner”:

$$(BF^{-1}B^T)^{-1} \approx \underbrace{(BM_*^{-1}B^T)^{-1}}_{amg} (BM_*^{-1}FB_*^{-1}B^T) \underbrace{(BM_*^{-1}B^T)^{-1}}_{amg}$$

# Schur complement approximation – II

Introducing associated pressure matrices

$$M_p \sim (\nabla\psi_i, \nabla\psi_j), \quad \text{mass}$$

$$A_p \sim (\nabla\psi_i, \nabla\psi_j), \quad \text{diffusion}$$

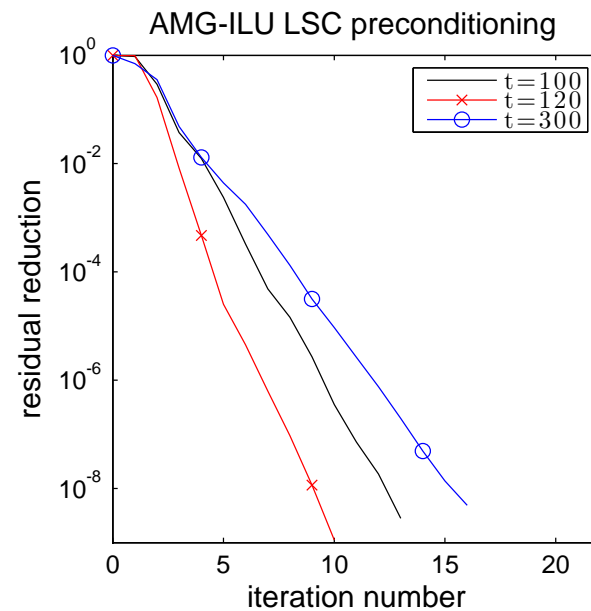
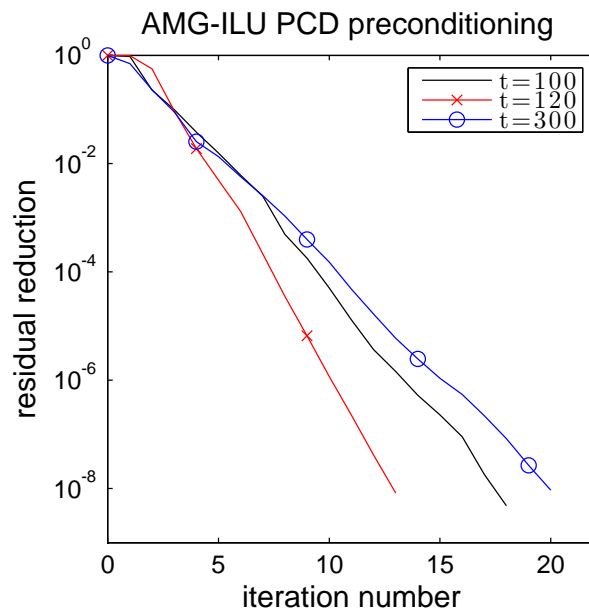
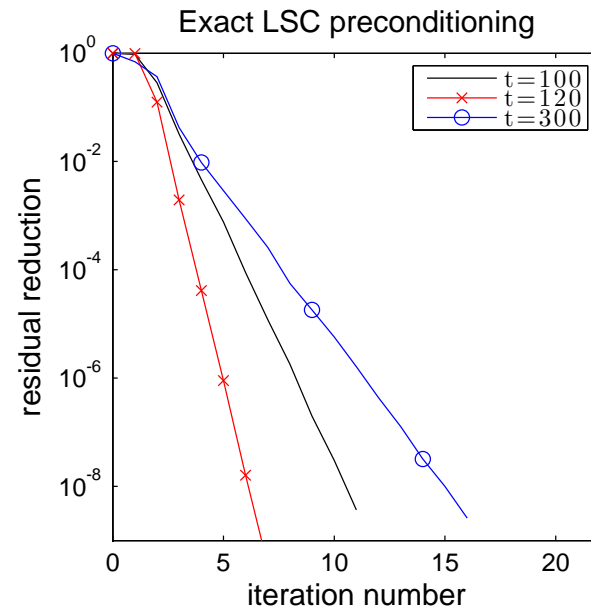
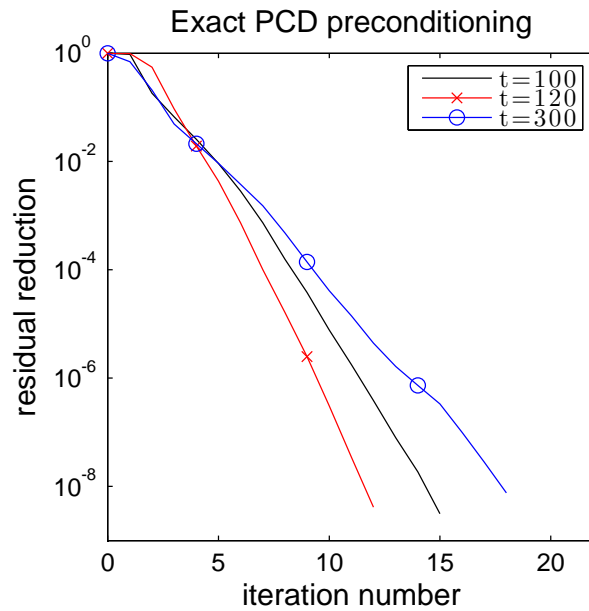
$$N_p \sim (\vec{w}_h \cdot \nabla\psi_i, \psi_j), \quad \text{convection}$$

$$F_p = \frac{2}{k_{n+1}} M_p + \nu A_p + N_p, \quad \text{convection-diffusion}$$

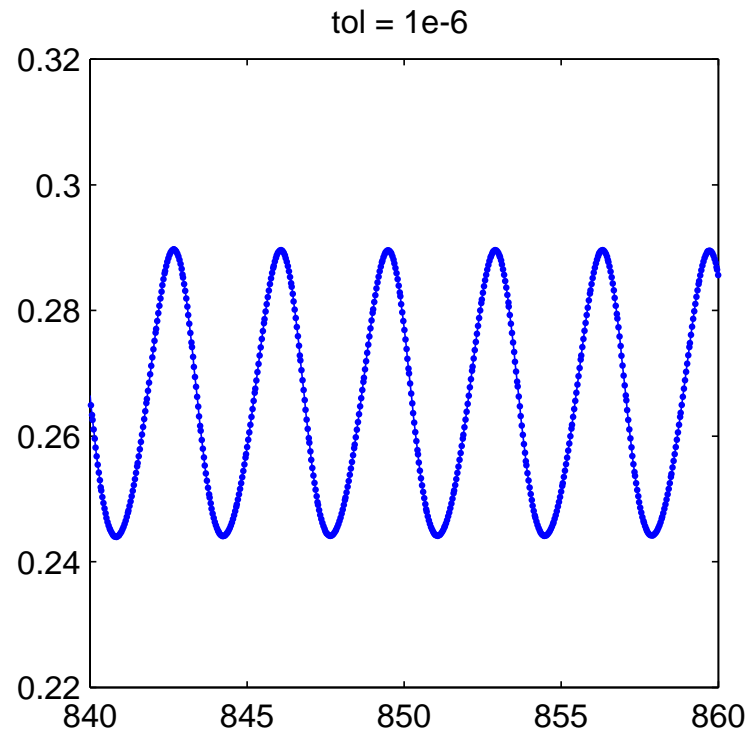
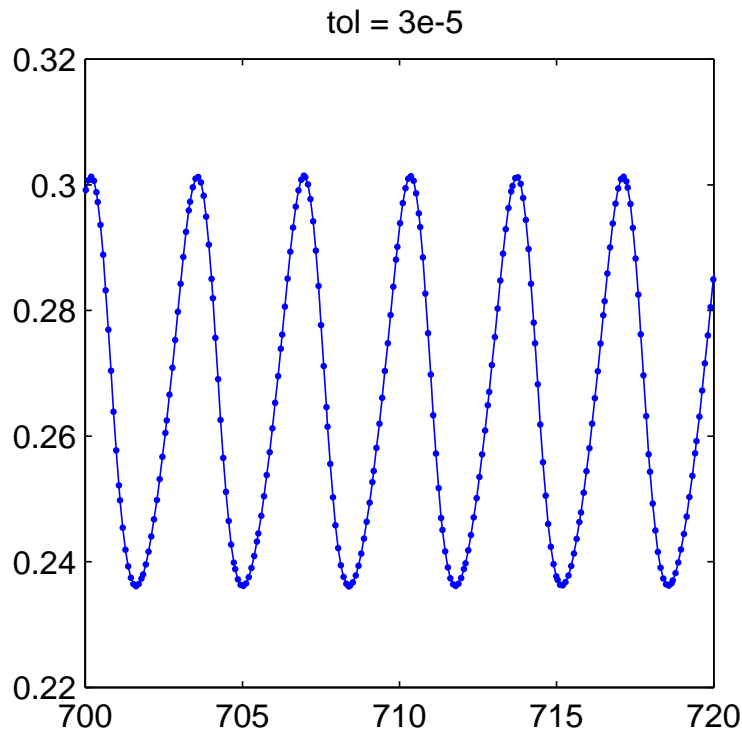
gives the “pressure convection-diffusion preconditioner”:

$$(BF^{-1}B^T)^{-1} \approx M_p^{-1} F_p \underbrace{A_p^{-1}}_{\text{amg}}$$

# Rayleigh–Bénard | $Pr = 7.1$ , $Ra = 1.5 \times 10^4$ .

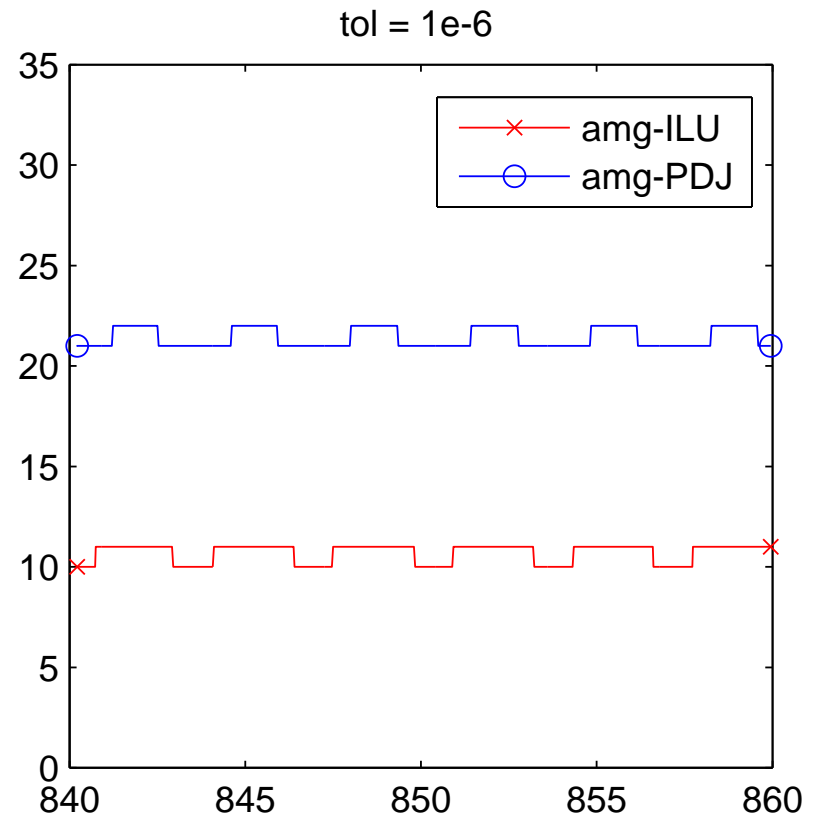
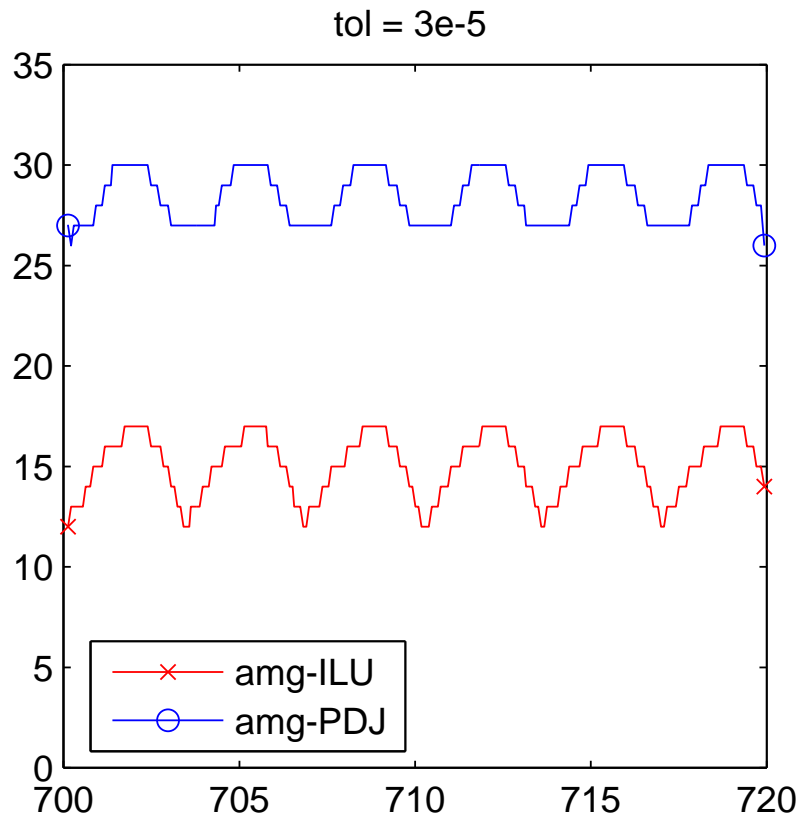


MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .



Temperature evolution at the MIT reference point.

MIT test problem |  $Pr = 0.71$ ,  $Ra = 3.4 \times 10^5$ .



Iteration counts using inexact PCD preconditioning.



## What have we achieved?

- **Black-box implementation:** few parameters that have to be estimated a priori.
- **Optimal complexity:** essentially  $O(n)$  flops per iteration, where  $n$  is dimension of the discrete system.
- **Efficient linear algebra:** convergence rate is (essentially) independent of  $h$ . Given an appropriate time accuracy tolerance convergence is also robust with respect to diffusion parameters  $\nu$  and  $\nu$ .

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- Silvester, D., Bespalov, A. and Powell, C.  
**A framework for the development of implicit solvers for incompressible flow problems**  
Discrete and Continuous Dynamical Systems — Series S (DCDS–S), 5:1195–1221, 2012.