



LEAST-SQUARES FINITE ELEMENT MODELS

- General idea of the least-squares formulation applied to an abstract boundary-value problem
- Works of our group
- Application to Poisson's equation
- Application to flows of viscous incompressible fluids
- Numerical Examples



Least-Squares Variational Formulation: *Abstract Nonlinear Formulation*

- Abstract nonlinear boundary value problem

$$\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$g(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{h} \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

Ω : domain of boundary value problem

Γ : boundary of Ω

\mathcal{L} : first-order nonlinear partial
differential operator

g : linear boundary condition operator

\mathbf{f}, \mathbf{h} : data



Least-Squares Variational Formulation: *Abstract Nonlinear Formulation*

- Abstract least-squares variational principle

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{u}; \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{h}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\|\mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) - \mathbf{f}\|_{\Omega,0}^2 + \|g(\mathbf{u}) - \mathbf{h}\|_{\Gamma,0}^2 \right)$$

- Find $\mathbf{u} \in \mathcal{V}$ such that $\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{u}; \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{h}) \leq \mathcal{J}(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}; \mathbf{f}, \mathbf{h})$ for all $\tilde{\mathbf{u}} \in \mathcal{V}$, where \mathcal{V} is an appropriate vector space, such as $\mathbf{H}^1(\Omega)$

- Necessary condition for minimization:

$$\mathcal{G}(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \mathbf{u}) = \left(\nabla \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) \cdot \tilde{\mathbf{u}}, \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}) - \mathbf{f} \right)_{\Omega,0} + \left(g(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}), g(\mathbf{u}) - \mathbf{h} \right)_{\Gamma,0}$$



Least-Squares Finite Element Models: *Formulations for Nonlinear Problems*

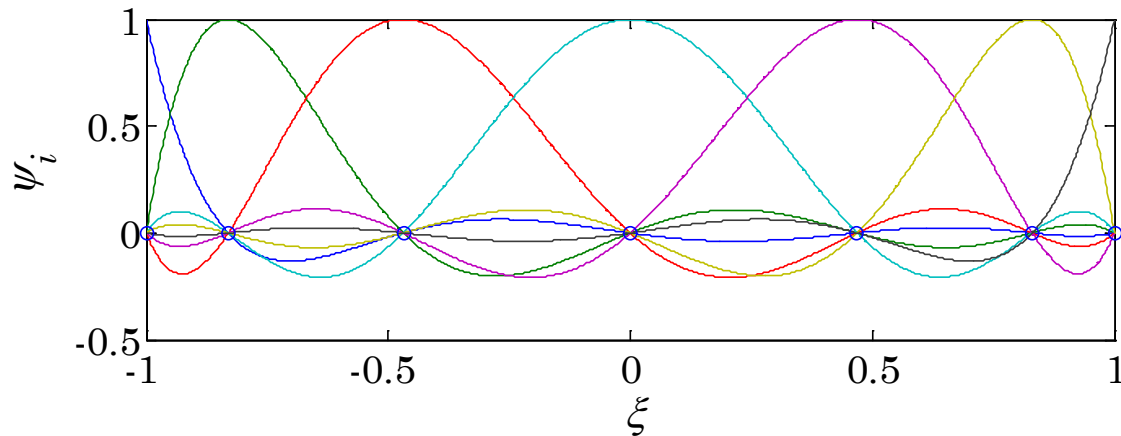
- Two approaches may be adopted when formulating least-squares finite element models of nonlinear problems
 - (1) Linearize PDE prior to construction and minimization of least-squares functional \mathcal{J}
 - Element matrices will always be symmetric
 - Simplest possible form of the element matrices
 - (2) Linearize finite element equations following construction and minimization of least-squares functional \mathcal{J}
 - Approach is consistent with variational setting
 - Finite element matrices are more complicated
 - Resulting coefficient matrix may not be symmetric

Finite Element Implementation

Spectral/hp Finite Elements

- One-dimensional high-order Lagrange interpolation functions

$$\psi_i(\xi) = \frac{(\xi - 1)(\xi + 1)L'_p(\xi)}{p(p + 1)L_p(\xi_i)(\xi - \xi_i)}$$



- Multi-dimensional interpolation functions constructed from tensor products of the one-dimensional functions
- We employ full Gauss Legendre quadrature rules in evaluation of the integrals



APPLICATIONS OF LSFEM TO DATE

by JNReddy and his coauthors

- Fluid Dynamics (2-D)
 - Viscous incompressible fluids
 - Viscous compressible fluids (with shocks)
 - Non-Newtonian (polymer and power-law) fluids
 - Coupled fluid flow and heat transfer
 - Fluid-solid interaction
- Solid Mechanics (static and free vibration analysis)
 - Beams
 - Plates
 - Shells
 - Fracture mechanics
 - Helmholtz equation



Finite Element Formulations Of the Poisson Equation

(Primal) Problem :

$$-\nabla^2 u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$(-\nabla^2 = -\nabla \cdot \nabla)$$

$$u = \hat{u} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_u$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = \hat{g} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_g$$

(Mixed) Problem :

$$\mathbf{v} - \nabla u = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = f \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$u = \hat{u} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_u$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{v} = \hat{g} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_g$$

Least-Squares Formulation - Primal

1. $I_1(u) = \| -\nabla^2 u - f \|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \left\| \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} - \hat{g} \right\|_{0,\Gamma_g}^2$

2. **Minimize** $I_1(u)$

$$B_1(u, v) = l_1(v)$$

$$B_1(u, v) = \left(-\nabla^2 v, -\nabla^2 u \right)_{0,\Omega} + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial n}, \frac{\partial u}{\partial n} \right)_{0,\Gamma_g}$$

$$l_1(v) = \left(\nabla^2 v, f \right)_{0,\Omega} + \left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial n}, g \right)_{0,\Gamma_g}$$



Least Squares Formulation - Mixed

$$I_m(u) = \|\mathbf{v} - \nabla u\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \|-\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} - f\|_{0,\Omega}^2 + \|\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \mathbf{v} - \hat{g}\|_{0,\Gamma_g}^2$$

Minimize I_m : $\delta I_m = 0$ gives

$$B_m((u, \mathbf{v}), (\delta u, \delta \mathbf{v})) = l_m((\delta u, \delta \mathbf{v}))$$

Least-squares Mixed Fe Model

Finite element approximation

$$u(\mathbf{x}) \approx u_h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^m u_j \psi_j(\mathbf{x}), \quad \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{x}) \approx \mathbf{v}_h(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{j=1}^n \mathbf{v}_j \varphi_j(\mathbf{x})$$

$$\text{Finite element model} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{K}^{11} & \mathbf{K}^{12} \\ (\mathbf{K}^{12})^T & \mathbf{K}^{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{Bmatrix} = \begin{Bmatrix} \mathbf{F}^1 \\ \mathbf{F}^2 \end{Bmatrix}$$

$$K_{ij}^{11} = \int_{\Omega} \nabla \psi_i \cdot \nabla \psi_j \, d\mathbf{x}, \quad K_{ij}^{12} = - \int_{\Omega} \nabla \psi_i \cdot \varphi_j \, d\mathbf{x} = K_{ji}^{21}$$

$$K_{ij}^{22} = \int_{\Omega} (\varphi_i \varphi_j + \nabla \varphi_i \cdot \nabla \varphi_j) \, d\mathbf{x} + \oint_{\Gamma} (\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \varphi_i)(\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \varphi_j) \, ds$$

$$F_i^1 = 0, \quad F_i^2 = - \int_{\Omega} f \nabla \cdot \varphi_i \, d\mathbf{x} + \oint_{\Gamma} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \varphi_i \hat{g} \, ds$$

Example (Using LSFEM Mixed Model):

Differential Equation

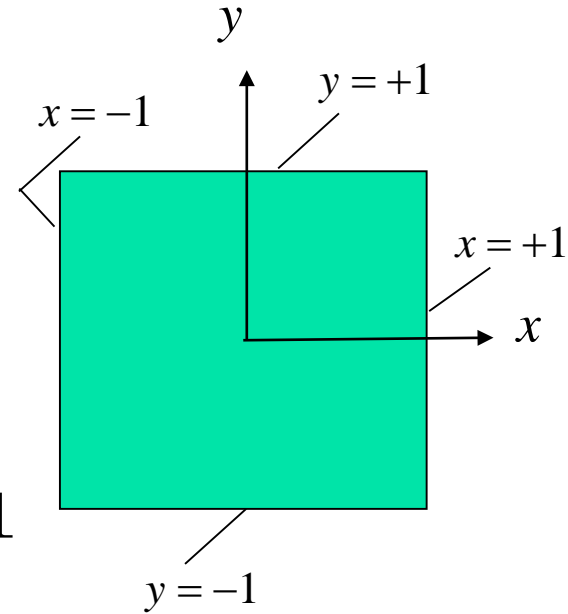
$$-\nabla^2 u = f \text{ in } -1 \leq x, y \leq 1$$

Boundary Conditions

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial y} \equiv v = 0 \text{ on } y = \pm 1$$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} \equiv w = q^*(y) = 0 \text{ on } x = -1$$

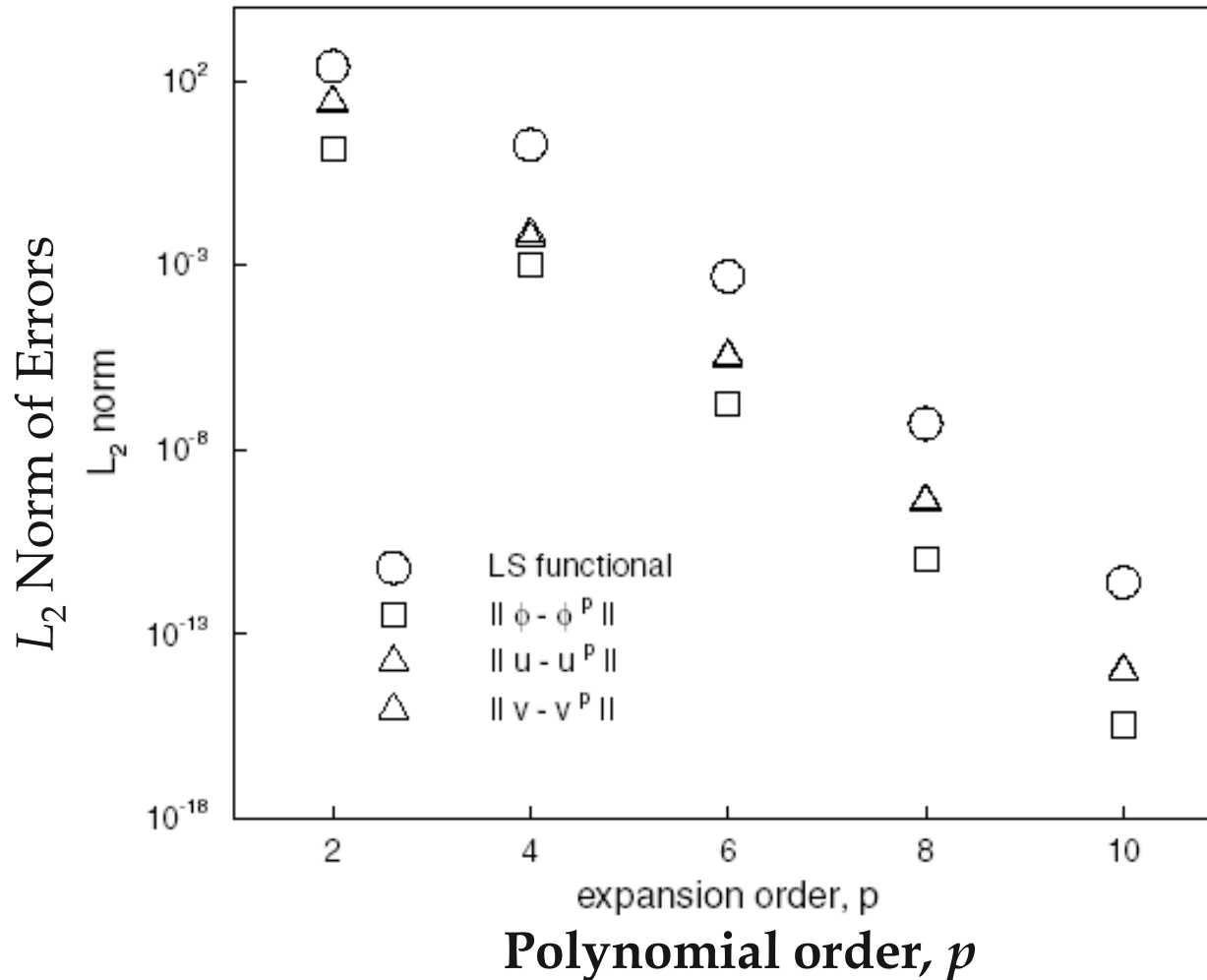
$$u = u^*(y) = 8 \cos \pi y \text{ on } x = 1$$



Analytical solution:

$$u(x, y) = (7x + x^7) \cos \pi y$$

Plots of the L_2 -Error norms as a function of p





LEAST-SQUARES FORMULATION OF VISCOUS INCOMPRESSIBLE FLUIDS

Governing equations (Navier-Stokes equations)

$$(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} + \nabla p - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla \cdot [(\nabla \mathbf{u}) + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T] = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \hat{\mathbf{u}} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_u$$

$$\hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot \boldsymbol{\sigma} = \hat{\mathbf{t}} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_\sigma$$

VELOCITY-PRESSURE-VORTICITY FORMULATION OF N-S EQUATIONS FOR VISCOUS INCOMPRESSIBLE FLUIDS

$$(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p - \frac{1}{Re} \nabla \times \boldsymbol{\omega} = \mathbf{f}$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} - \nabla \times \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega} = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \hat{\mathbf{u}} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_u$$

$$\boldsymbol{\omega} = \hat{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_\omega$$

$$(\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{U})^T + \nabla p - \frac{1}{Re} (\nabla \cdot \mathbf{U})^T = \mathbf{f}$$

$$\mathbf{U} - (\nabla \mathbf{u})^T = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\nabla \times \mathbf{U} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\nabla(\text{tr } \mathbf{U}) = 0$$

$$\mathbf{u} = \hat{\mathbf{u}} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_u$$

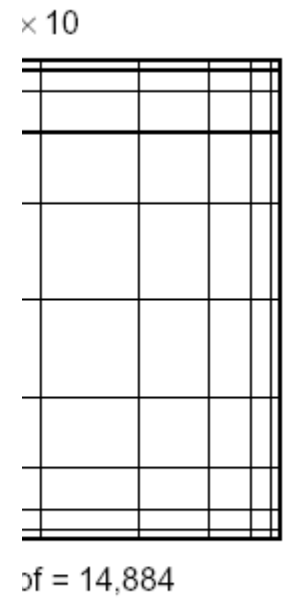
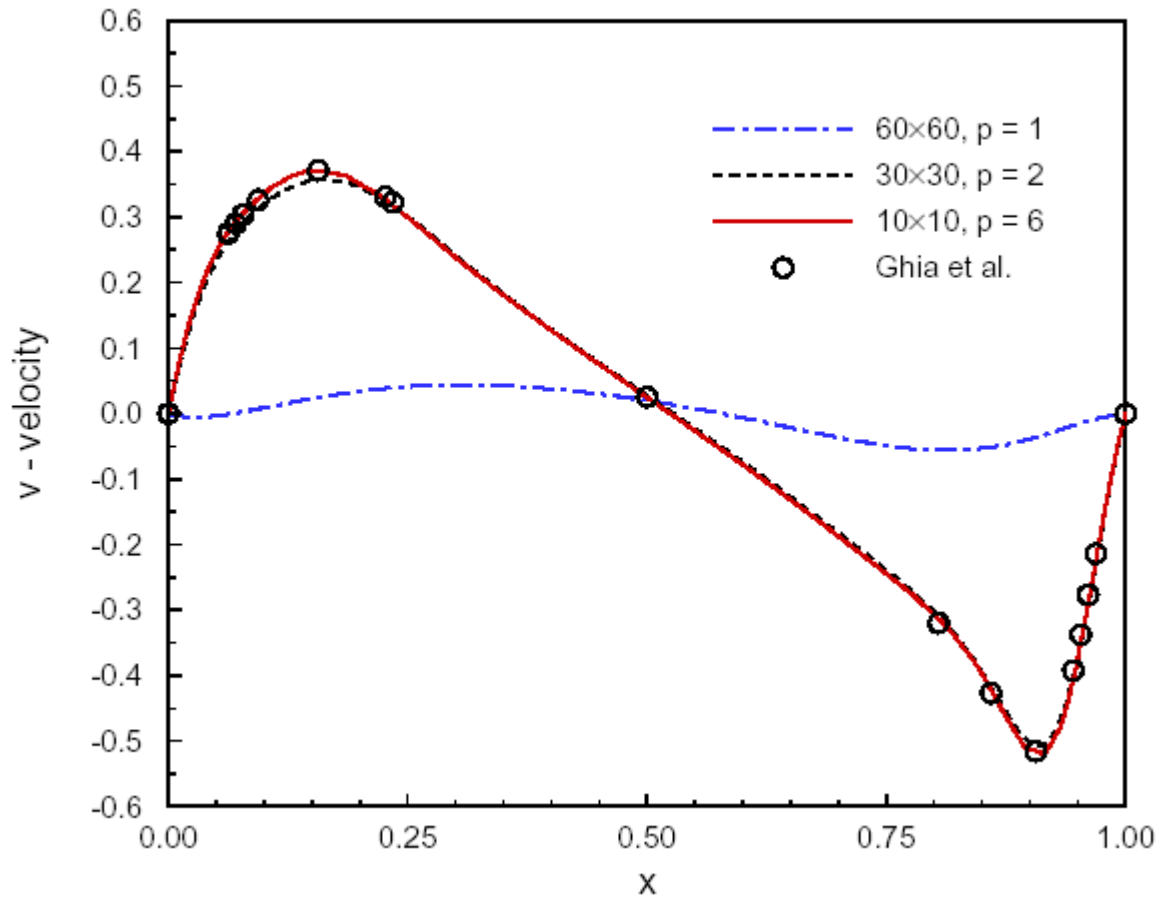
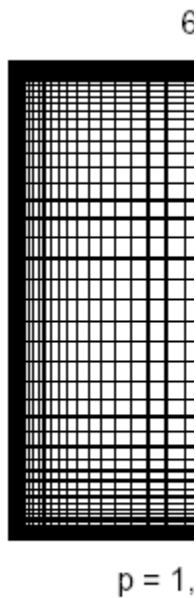
$$\mathbf{U} = \hat{\mathbf{U}} \quad \text{on } \Gamma_\omega$$

$$\mathcal{J}(\mathbf{u}, p, \boldsymbol{\omega}; \mathbf{f}) = \frac{1}{2} \left(\left\| (\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p + \frac{1}{Re} \nabla \times \boldsymbol{\omega} - \mathbf{f} \right\|_0^2 + \left\| \boldsymbol{\omega} - \nabla \times \mathbf{u} \right\|_0^2 \right. \\ \left. + \left\| \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \right\|_0^2 + \left\| \nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\omega} \right\|_0^2 \right)$$

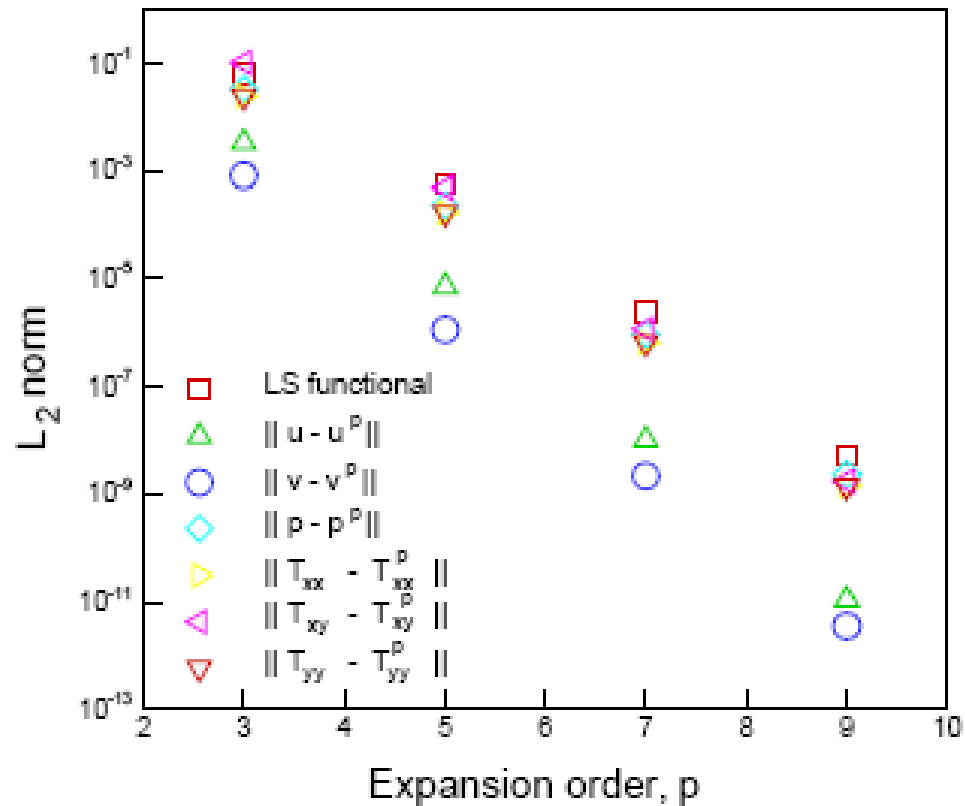


NUMERICAL EXAMPLES

Lid-driven Cavity-1

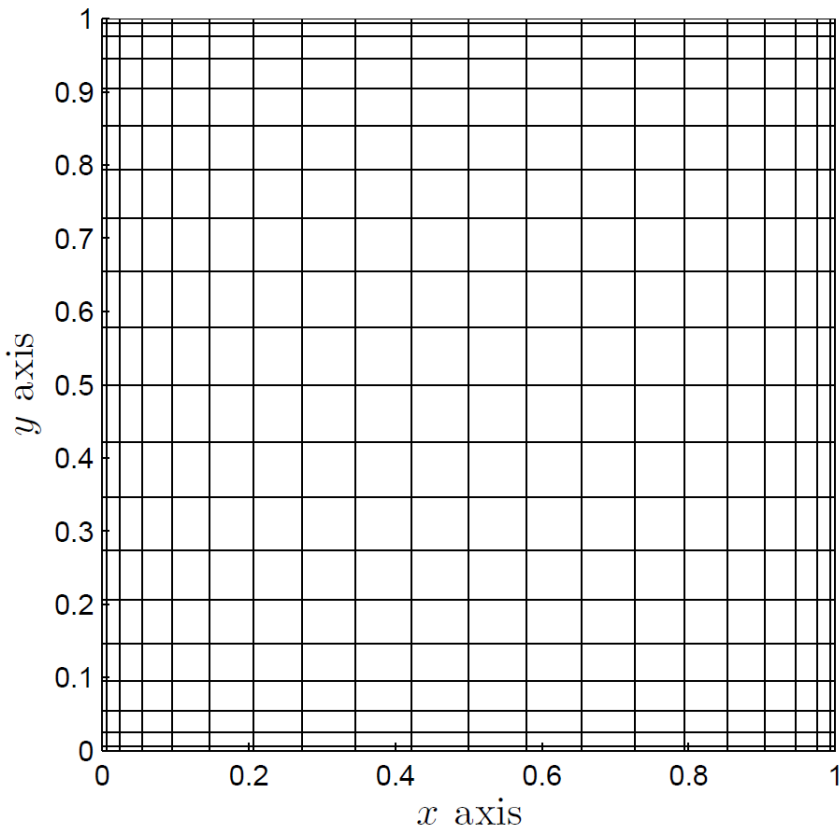


Lid-driven Cavity-2

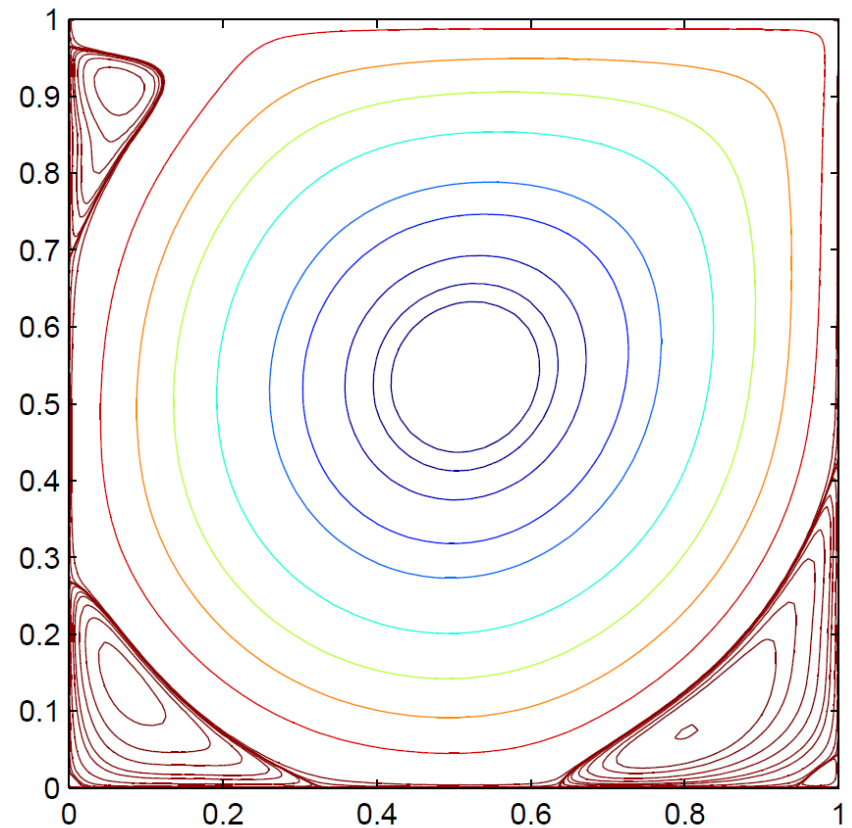


Lid-driven Cavity-3

Finite element mesh
(20x20)

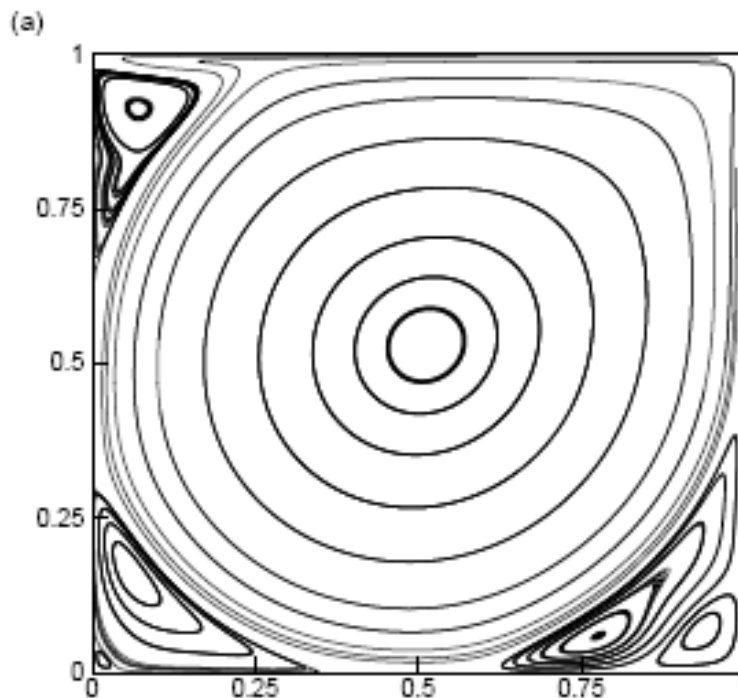


Stream function (Re=5,000,

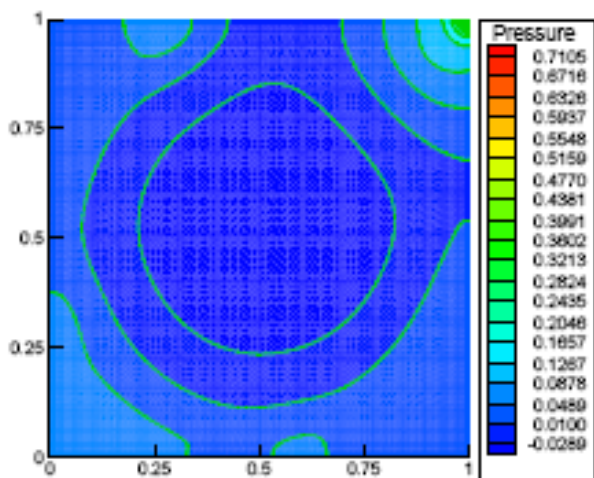




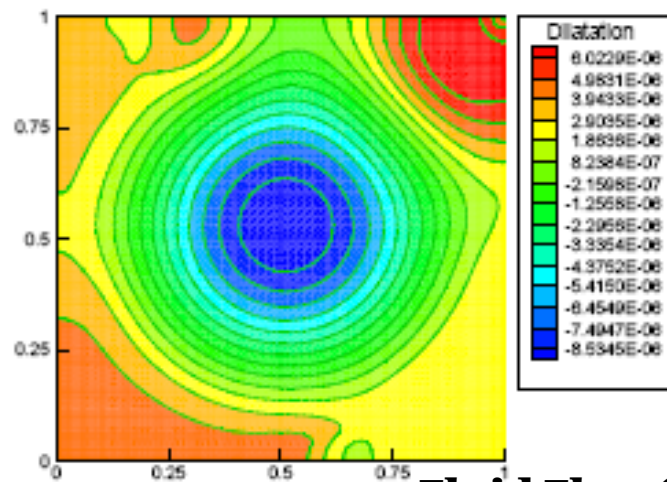
$Re = 10^4$



(b) Pressure contours

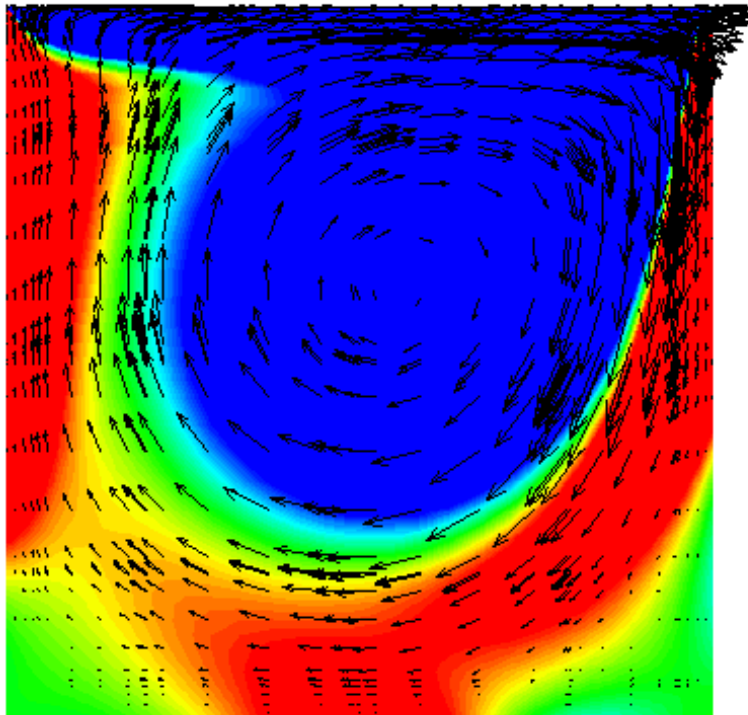


(c) Dilatation contours



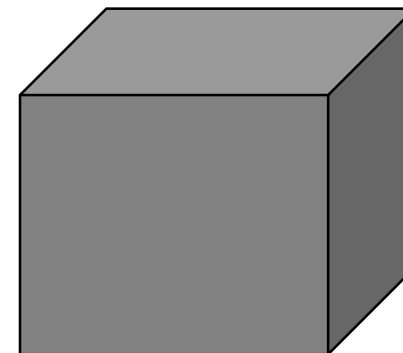
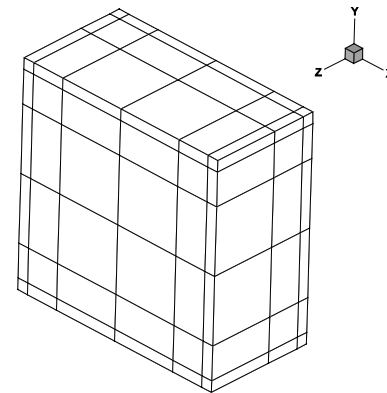
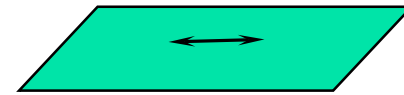
Oscillatory flow of a viscous incompressible fluid in a lid-driven cavity

Oscillatory Lid-Driven Cavity Flow
Velocity Vector Field and Vorticity Contours

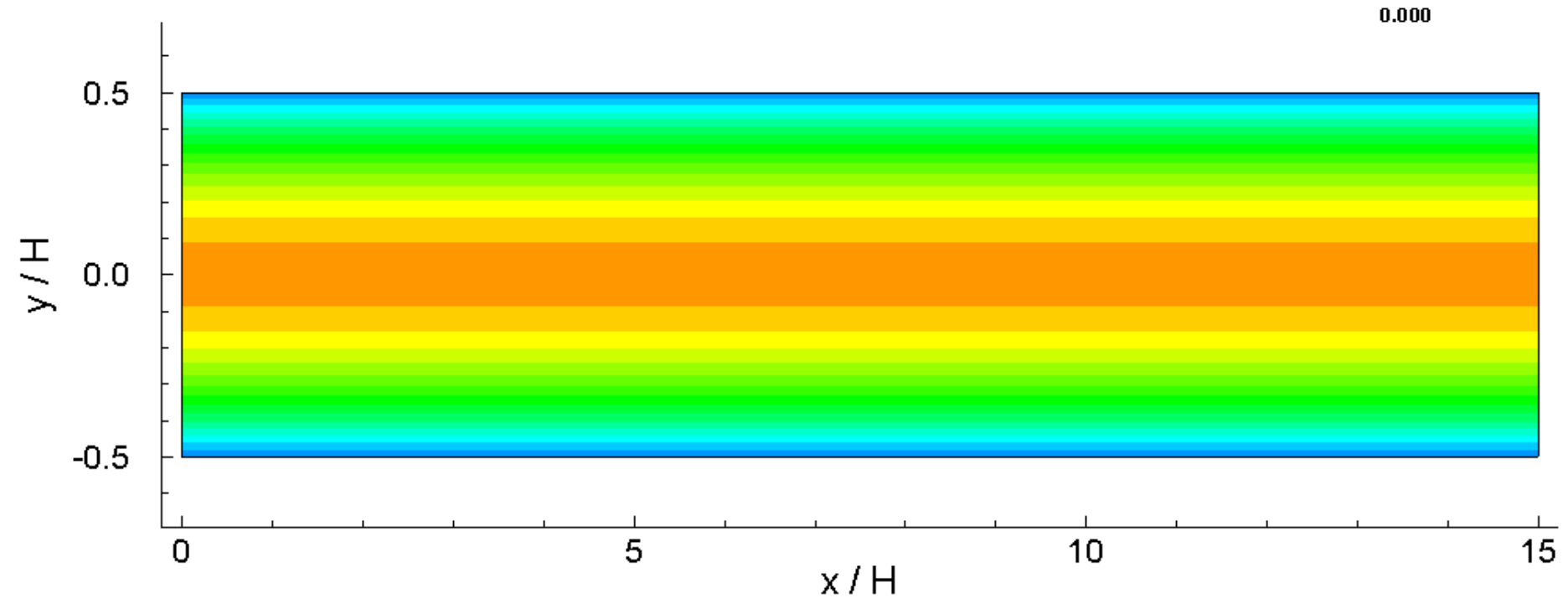


Non-stationary incompressible N-S equations, $Re = 400$
Least-Squares space / time decoupled formulation
 6×6 mesh with $p = 5$

J.P. Posa
TAMU



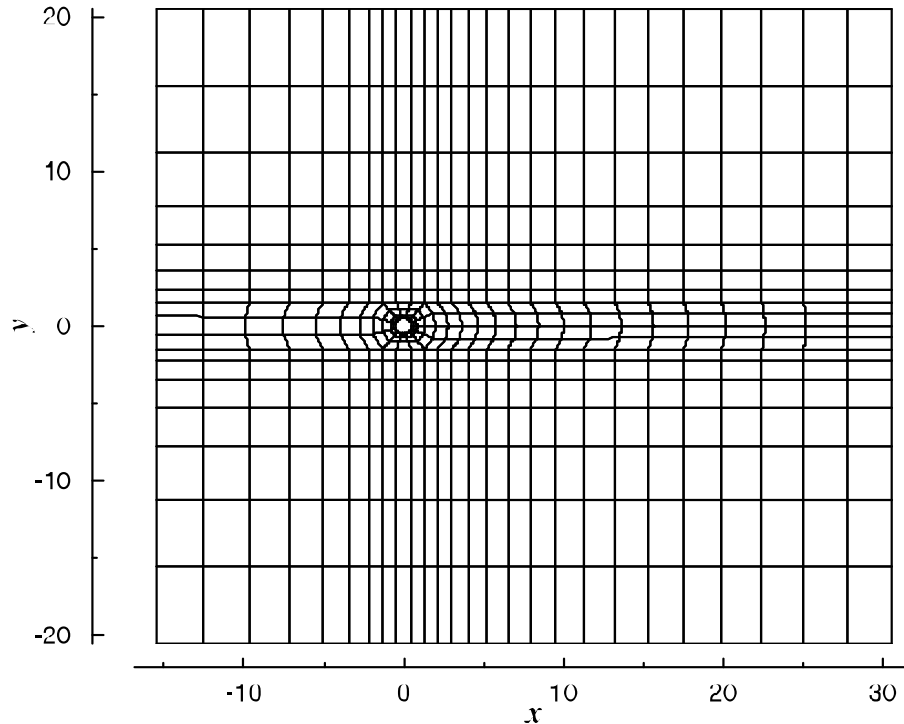
Flow of a viscous fluid in a narrow channel (backward facing step)



Flow of a Viscous Incompressible Fluid around a Cylinder-1

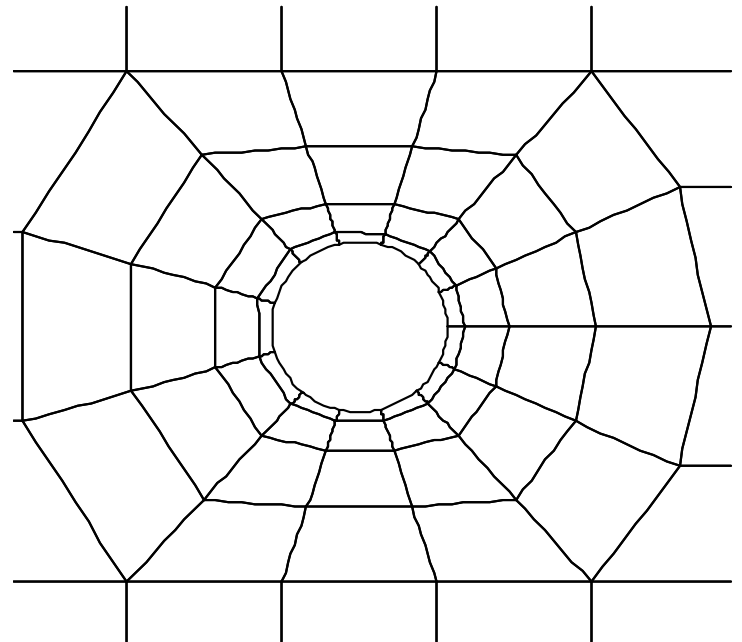
Mesh (501 elements; $p=4$)

(a)



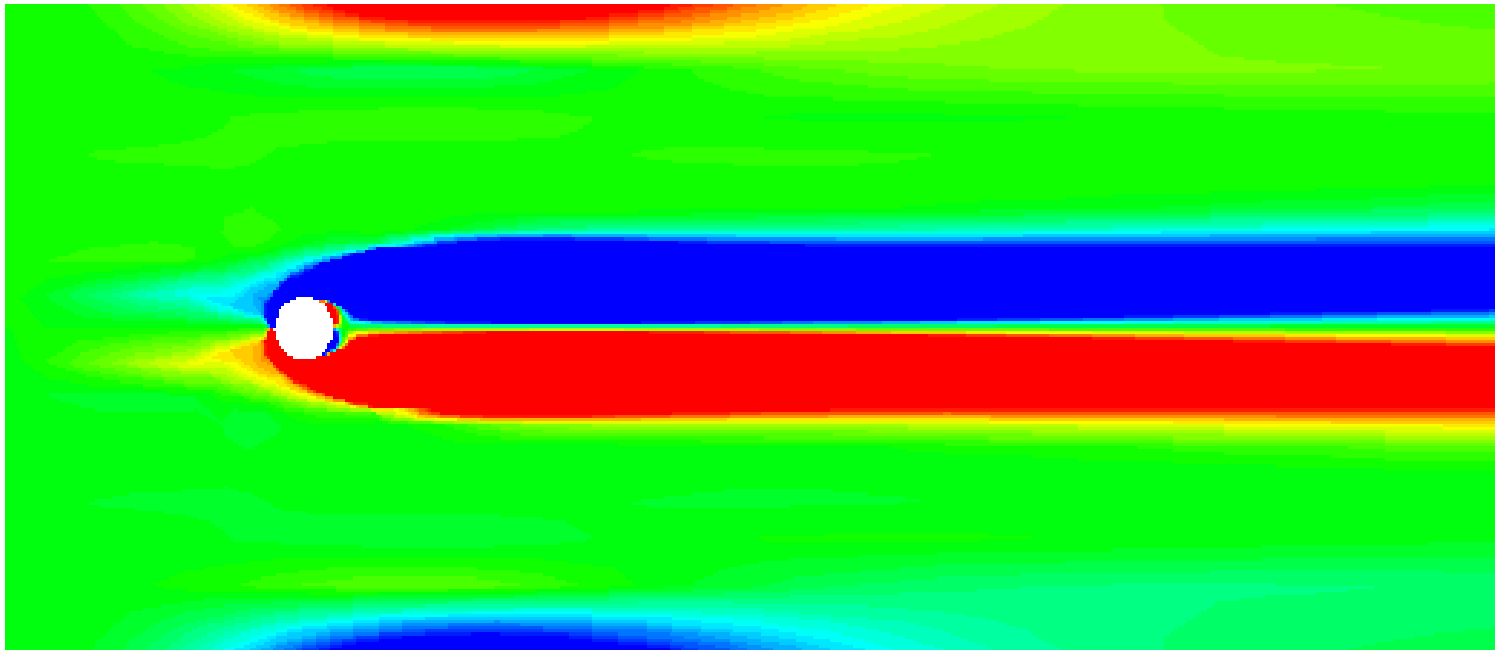
Close-up of mesh around
the cylinder

(b)



Circular Cylinder in Crossflow

Vorticity Contours

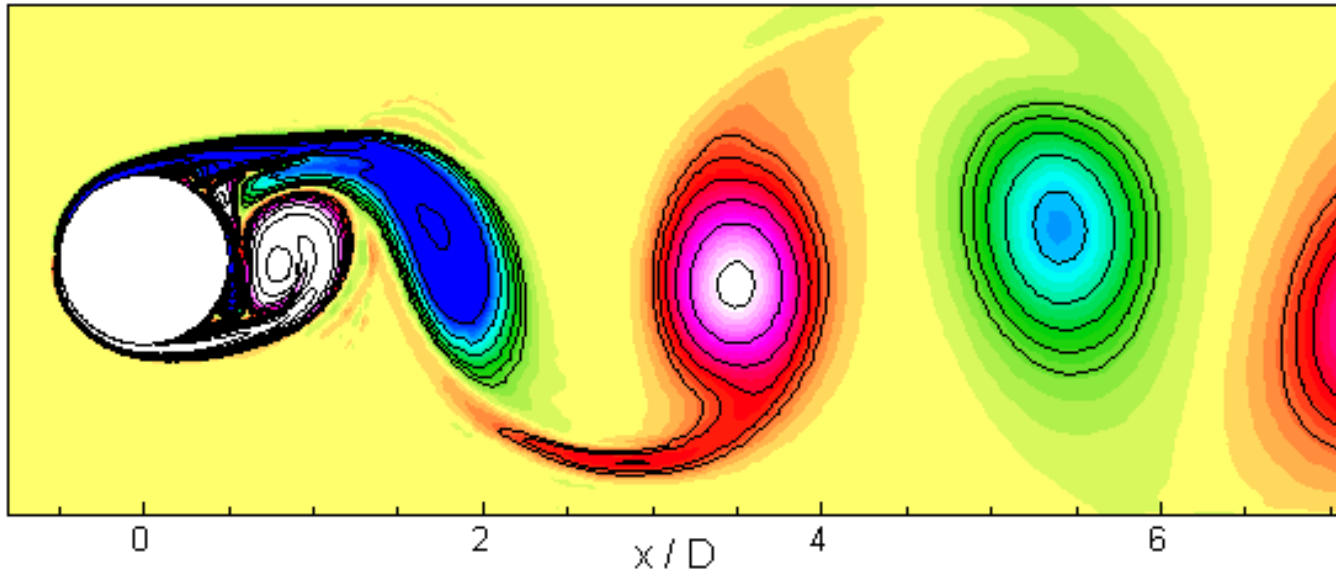


Non-stationary incompressible N-S equations, $Re = 100$

Least-Squares time / space decoupled formulation

1200 elements with $p = 2$

2D Flows Past a Circular Cylinder-2



- Robust at moderately high Reynolds numbers: $Re = 100 - 10^4$
- High p -level solution: $p = 4, 6, 8, 10$
- No filters or stabilization are needed

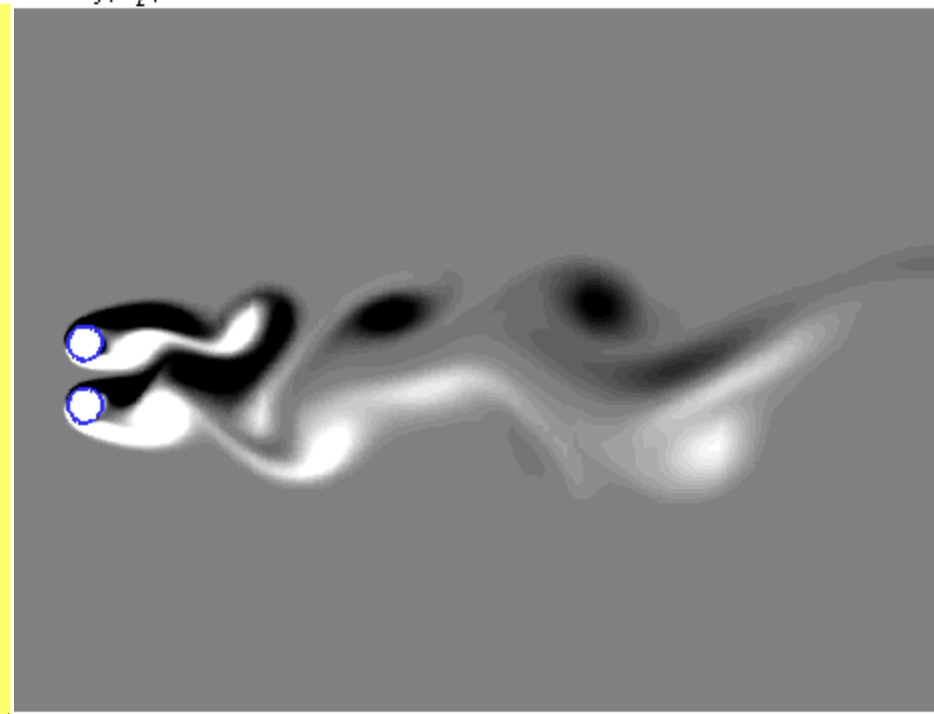
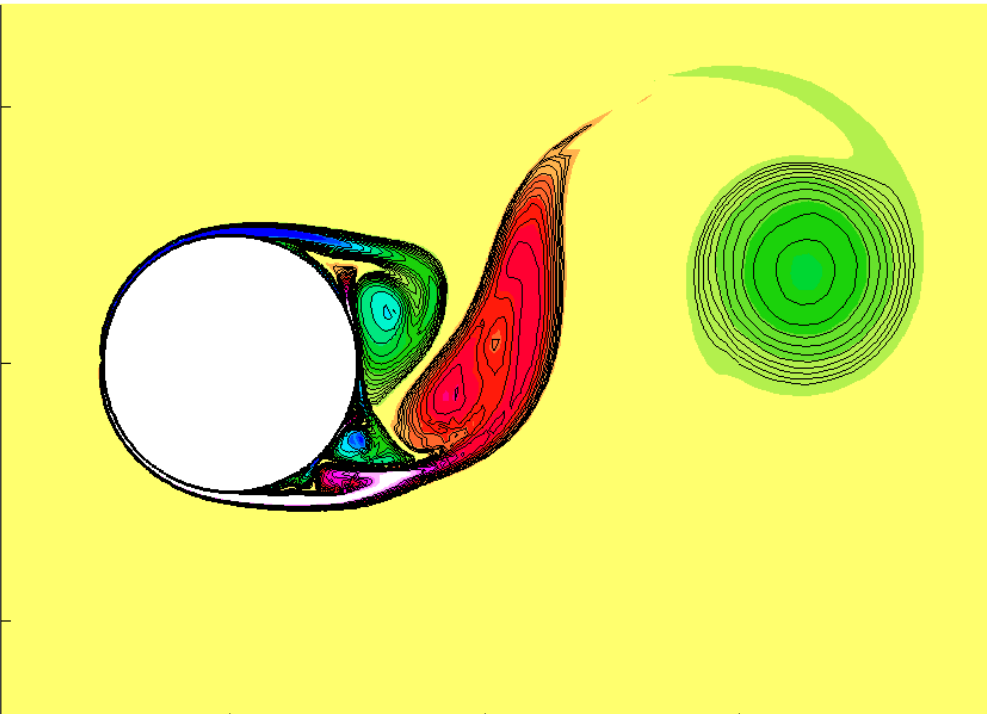
Flow of a viscous fluid past a circular cylinder-3

vorticity contours

25.000

Incompressible flow past two circular cylinders in a side-by-side arrangement
surface-to-surface gap, $S/D = 0.85$, $Re = 100$
vorticity, ω_z , contours

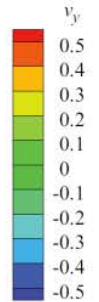
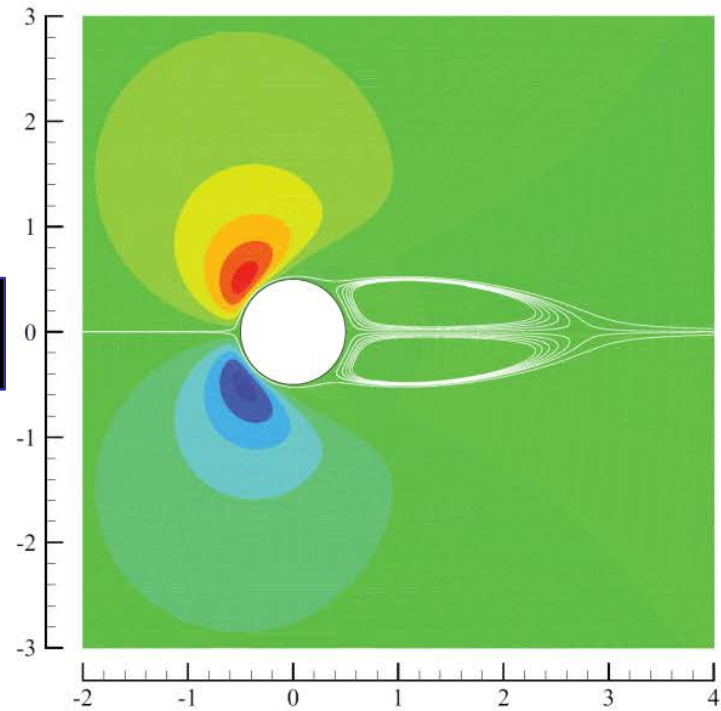
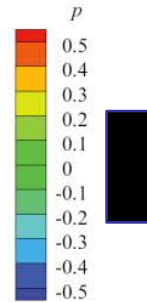
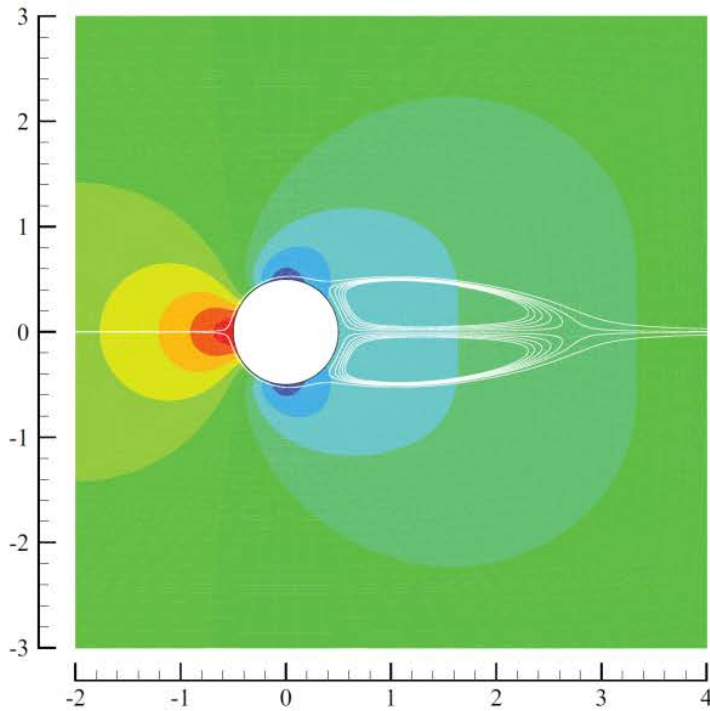
300.000



Least-squares finite element formulation
p-levels of 4/4/2 in space-time

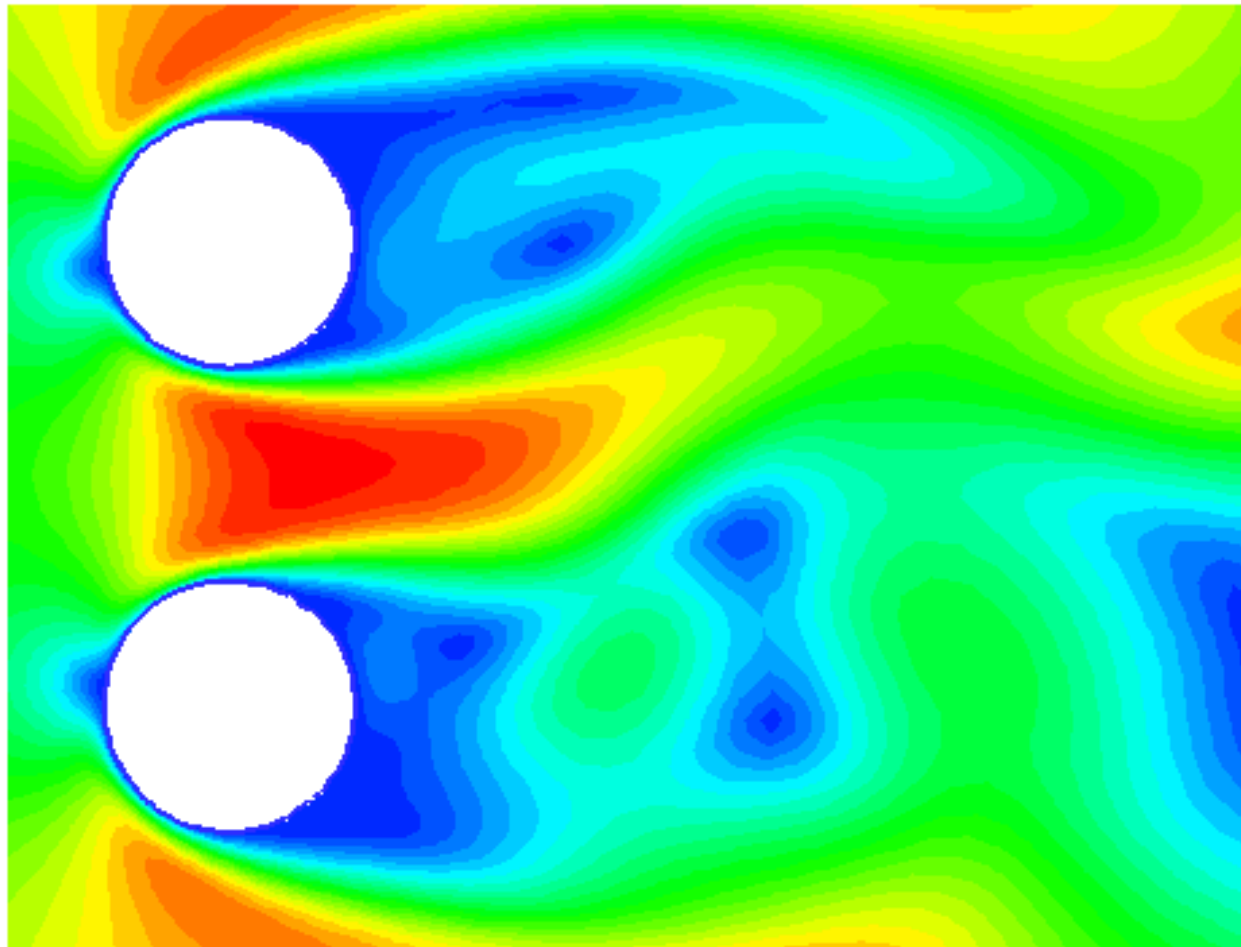
J.P. Pontaza, 20

Steady Flow Past a Circular Cylinder-4



Flow Past Two Circular Cylinders

Incompressible flow past two circular cylinders in a side-by-side arrangement
surface-to-surface gap, $S/D=0.85$, $Re=100$
velocity magnitude contours showing the "bistable gap jet" 300.000



Least-squares finite element formulation
p-levels of 4/4/2 in space-time

Motion of a Cylinder in a Square Cavity

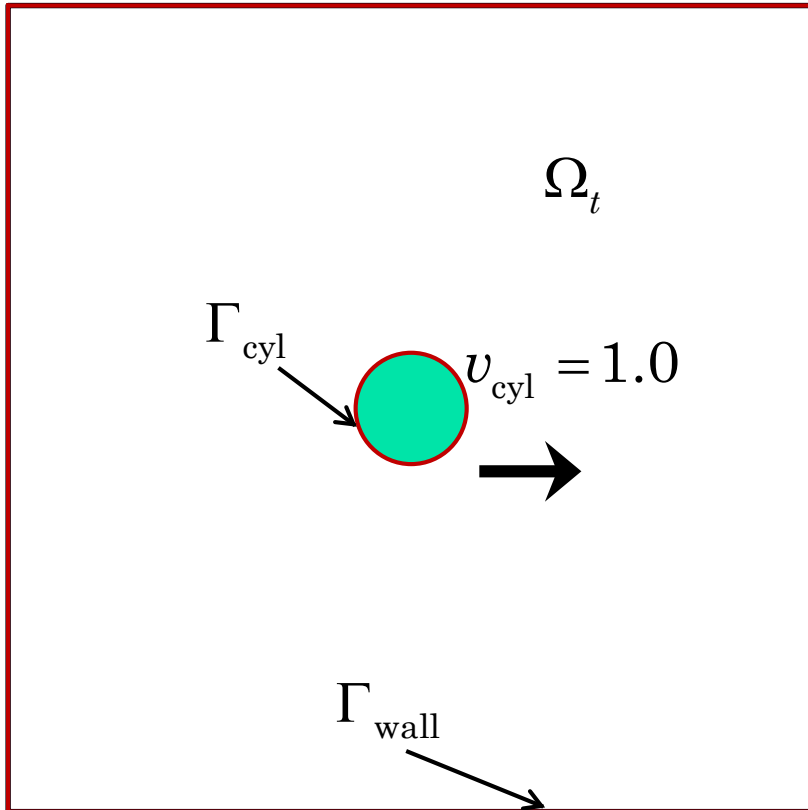
Initial boundary value problem

Problem parameters

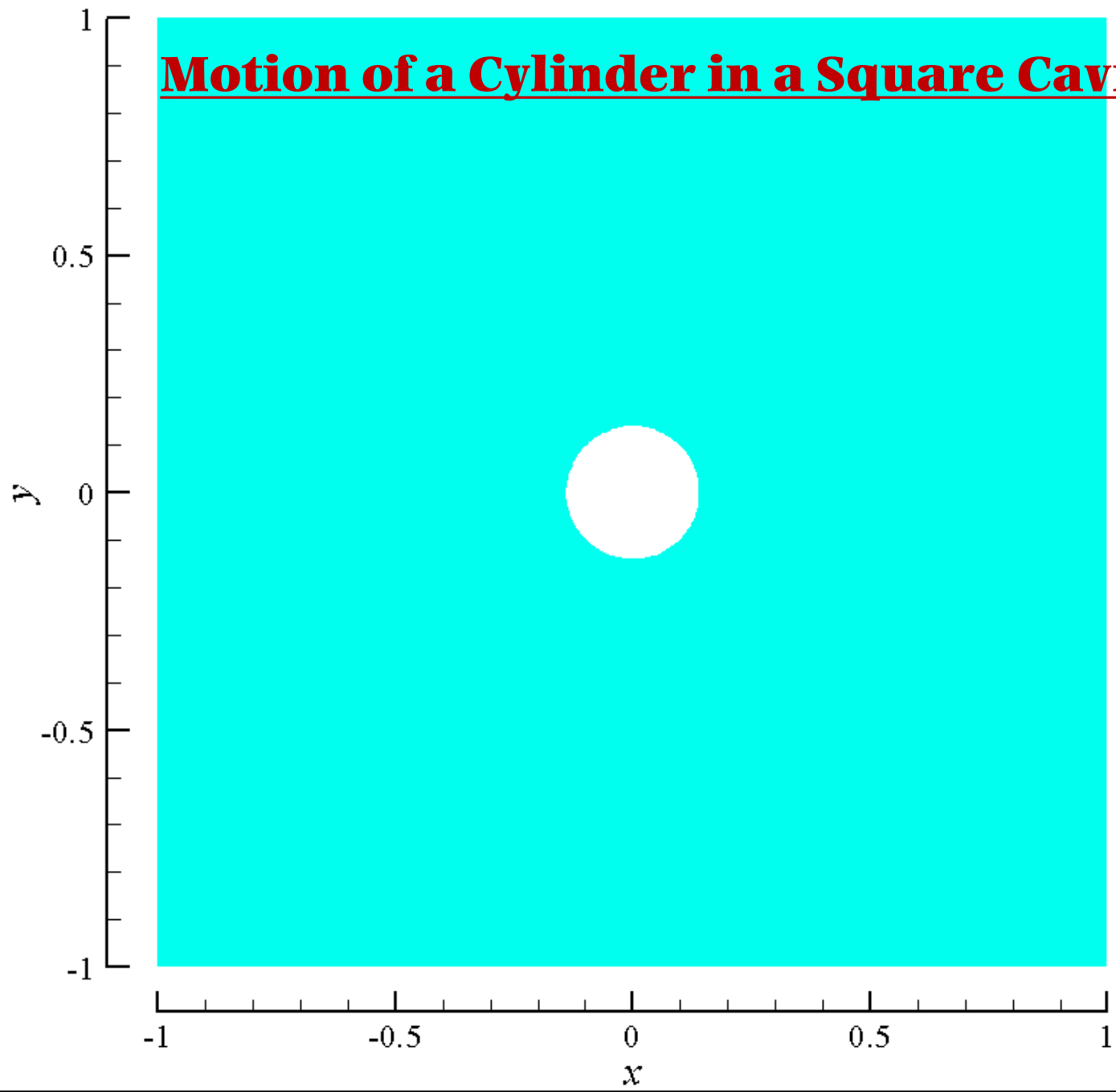
- $\rho = 1, \quad \text{Re} = 100$
- $\mathbf{v}_{\text{walls}} = 0 \quad v_{\text{cyl}} = 1.0$
- $t \in (0, 0.70]$

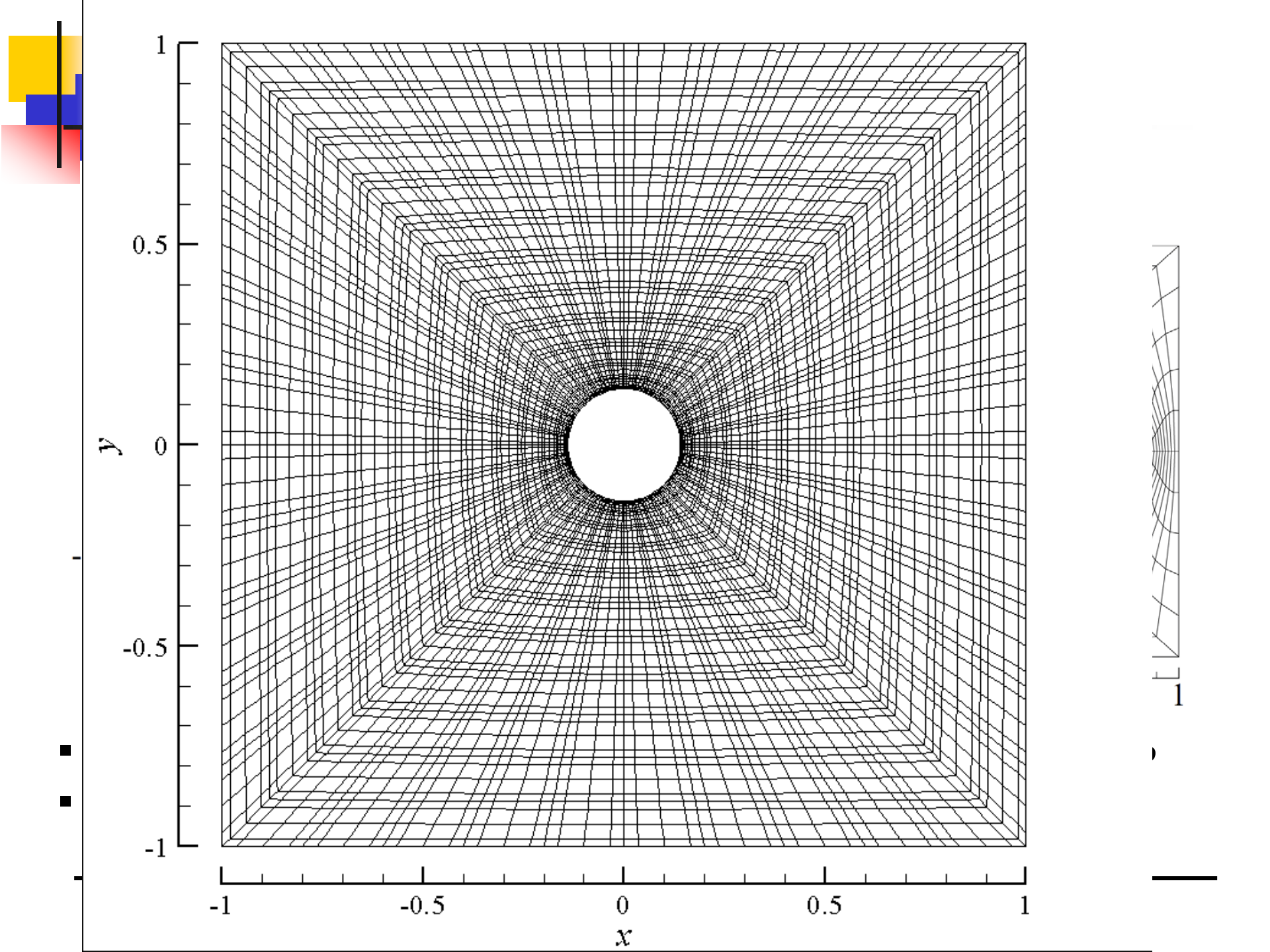
Finite element discretization

- NE = 400, p -level = 4
- 31,360 degrees of freedom
- Time step: $\Delta t = 0.005$
- $\alpha = 0.5$ (α -family)
- $\varepsilon = 10^{-6}$ (nonlinear iteration)



Motion of a Cylinder in a Square Cavity





Fluid-Solid Interaction

(movement of a rigid solid circular cylinder in a viscous fluid)

