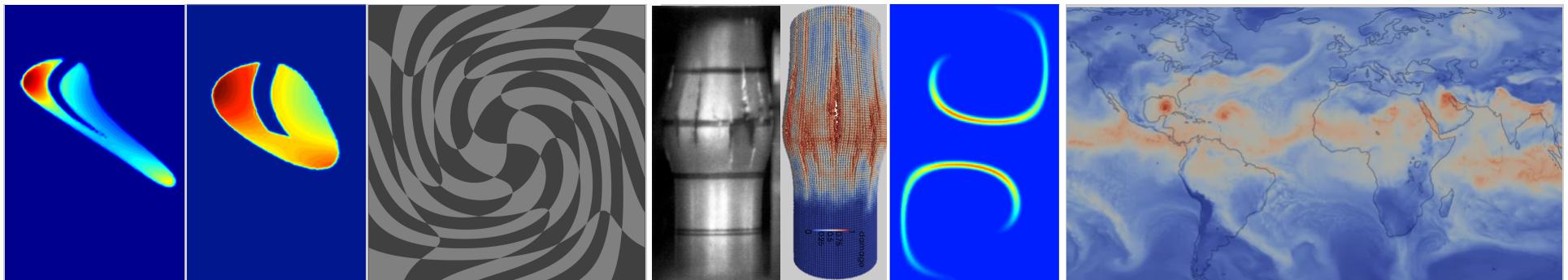


*Exceptional service in the national interest*



## Optimization-Based Property Preserving Methods, or Going Boldly Beyond Compatible Discretizations



Pavel Bochev  
Sandia National Laboratories

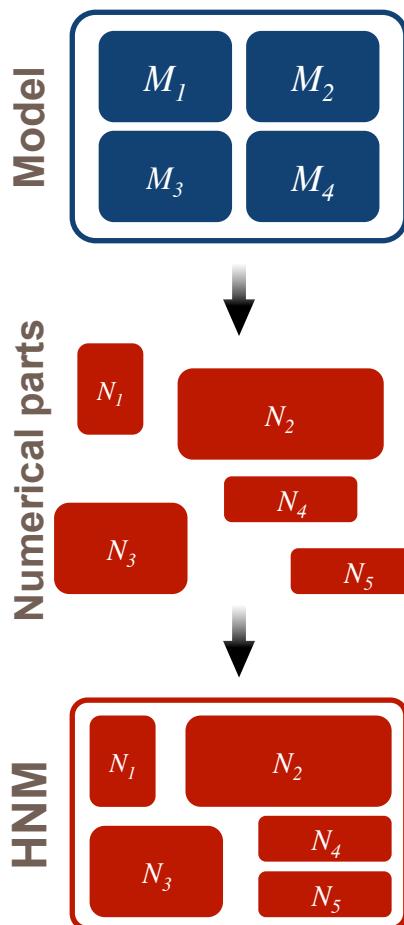
WONAPDE

Fifth Chilean Workshop on Numerical Analysis of PDEs  
University of Concepcion, Chile, January 11-15.

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# Research drivers & objectives

DOE uses **computer models** to understand, predict, and verify **complex systems** in **high consequences analyses** that would be difficult or even impossible by other means.



**Complex systems** require diverse “mathematical parts”: PDEs, integral equations, classical DFT, potential-based atomistic...

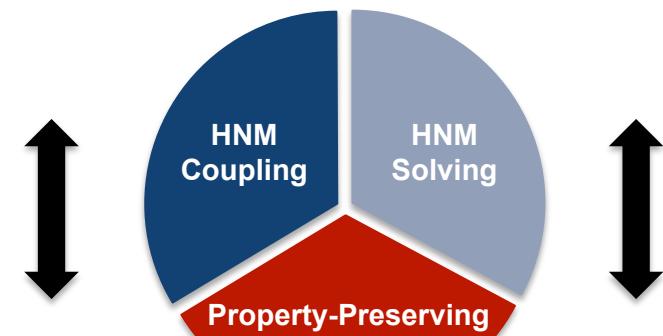
**Diverse math models** require diverse “numerical parts”: mesh based (FE, FV, FD), meshless (SPH, MLS), implicit, explicit, Eulerian, Lagrangian...

**HNM** = Collection of **dissimilar numerical parts** from multiple disciplines functioning together as a **unified simulation tool**

## Challenges: beyond compatible methods

The parts must function **together as a unified simulation tool (HNM)**.

We must be able to **solve our HNMs efficiently**



**HNMs** must be **stable, accurate and preserve key physical properties**

**Parts** must be **stable, accurate and preserve key physical properties**.

We carry out a comprehensive research effort to address these challenges

# Taxonomy of challenges

## 1. Achieving Stability & Accuracy (Structural aspects)

- **Game changer: Homological techniques:** FE exterior calculus (DEC), mimetic FD,...
- Typically achieved by *topological means*:
  - Careful placement of the variables on the mesh.
  - Special grid structure, e.g., topologically dual grids.
- **Challenges:**
  1. **Models that don't fit EC structure**, e.g., heterogeneous methods: FEM+cDFT
  2. **Stable and accurate does not imply property preserving...**

## 2. Preserving Physical Properties (Qualitative aspects)

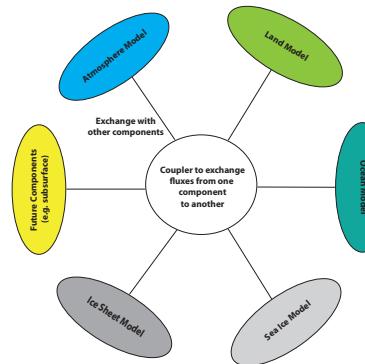
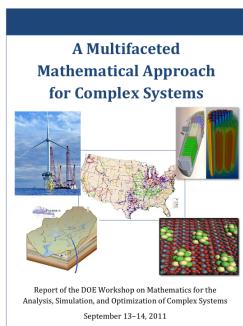
- Maximum principles, local bounds, symmetries, Geometric Conservation Laws,...
- Correlations between variables, e.g., between two passive tracers.
- **Challenges:** conventional ways to preserve these properties are either
  - **Restrictive**: Cartesian mesh, angle conditions, etc, and/or,
  - **Entangle accuracy** with the property preservation, e.g., limiters.
- **Game changer?**

# Taxonomy of challenges

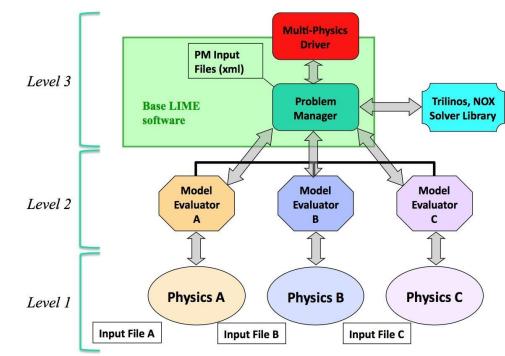
## 3. Assembling Diverse Numerical Parts into HNMs and solving them

- “Exascale computing will enable consideration of **new classes of multiscale problems** in which **different types of discretizations**, appropriate to a particular scale **in different portions of the domain**, are employed and models **which treat distinct phenomena in different parts of the domain**, such as ocean-atmosphere coupling...”
- “Effective models **must be hierarchical and include multiple sub-models** that represent different phenomena with vastly differing scales.”

**“As this type of simulation expands, there is a critical need to develop systematic approaches for coupling across the range of scales and quantification of the properties of these types of coupling strategies”**



Global Earth System Model



LIME: Lightweight Integrating Multiphysics Environment (CASL)

Traditional **monolithic** and **operator-splitting** modeling approaches fall short of meeting the crosscutting challenges; see **Multifaceted Mathematical Approach for Complex Systems**.

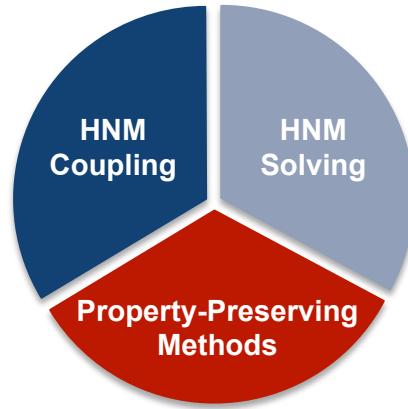
Game changer?

# Game changer?

The use of **optimization ideas** to couple **heterogeneous numerical methods** and to **preserve the relevant physical properties** could be a **game changer**.

## Optimization-based operator coupling

- Local-to-Nonlocal couplings  
(D'Elia talk, Tuesday)
- Atomistic-to-Continuum
- Interface problems:  
Friday, 11:20, AUD1.



## Optimization-based operator splitting

- Abstract decomposition theory
- Application to the Navier-Stokes eqs.
- Application to advection-diffusion equations

## Optimization-based property-preserving methods

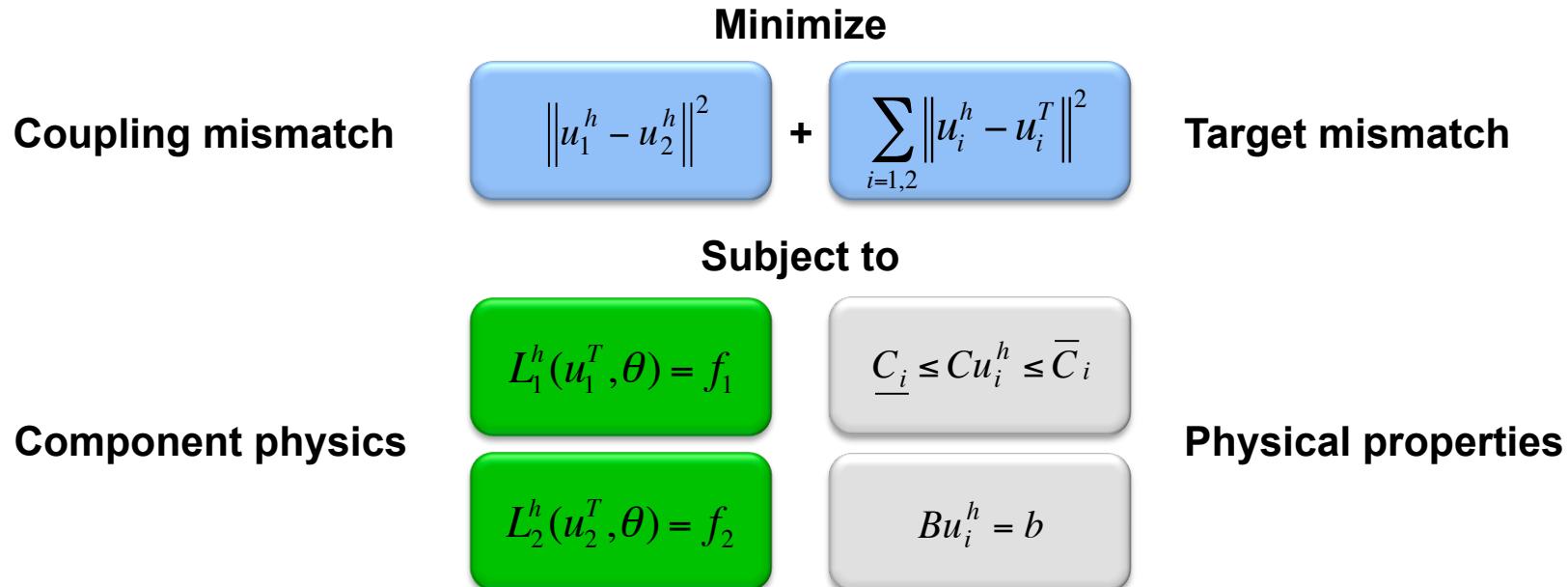
- Semi-Lagrangian transport of passive tracers
- Volume correction (Geometric Conservation Law)
- Property-preserving data transfer (remap)

## Thanks to:

- M. D'Elia, P. Kuberry, D. Littlewood, M. Perego, K. Peterson, D. Ridzal (SNL), M. Shashkov (LANL)
- M. Gunzburger (FSU), A. Shapeev (SkolTech), S. Moe (U. WA), M. Luskin, D. Olson (U. MN)

# The optimization approach in a nutshell

Couch **assembly** of numerical parts and preservation of properties into an optimization problem:

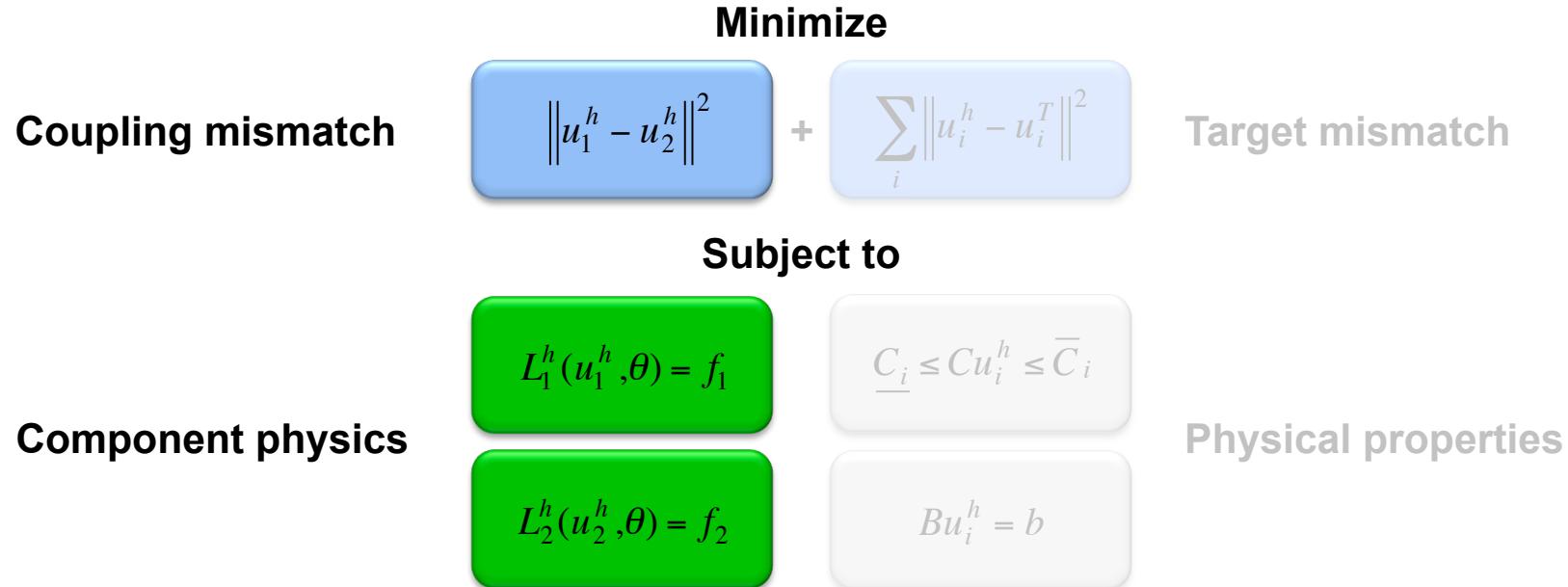


- **Reverses the roles** of the coupling conditions and the models.
- **Divide and conquer approach:**
  - **separates numerical parts:** facilitates merging of heterogeneous methods.
  - **separates accuracy from physical properties** (local bounds, conservation, etc..)

# Part 1

# Optimization-based operator splitting

In Part 1 we consider application of optimization to operator splitting.



**This case study highlights the use of optimization ideas for the design of robust and efficient solvers for multiphysics problems.**

Related work: Lions (2001), Quarteroni (2000), Gunzburger (2000), Du (2001) – applications to PDEs, Oden (2011 – Atomistic to Continuum), Discacciati (2013 – heterogeneous domain decomposition), Karniadakis (2014-Stochastic PDE) 8

# Abstract additive operator-splitting theory



## Model problem

$U, V, H$  - Hilbert spaces,  $V^*$  - dual of  $V$ , s.t.  $\{V, H, V^*\}$  is Gelfand triple

$Q(\cdot, \cdot) : U \times V \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$       **weak form of a “multiphysics” operator**

Seek  $u \in U$  such that  $Q(u, v) = \langle f, v \rangle \quad \forall v \in V, f \in V^*$

## Assumptions

$$\begin{cases} \sup_{v \in V} \frac{Q(u, v)}{\|v\|_V} \geq \underline{\gamma} \|u\|_U & \text{and} \quad \sup_{u \in U} \frac{Q(u, v)}{\|u\|_U} > 0 \\ Q(u, v) \leq \bar{\gamma} \|u\|_U & \forall u \in U, \forall v \in V \end{cases} \Rightarrow \|u\|_U \leq \frac{1}{\underline{\gamma}} \|f\|_{V^*}$$

## Sufficient for a well-posed variational formulation

P. Bochev and D. Ridzal, *Optimization-based additive operator decomposition of weakly coercive problems with applications*, CAMWA, 2016.

# Abstract additive operator-splitting theory

## Assumptions

- $Q(u,v) = Q_1(u,v) + Q_2(u,v)$  with weakly coercive component forms:

$$\begin{cases} \sup_{v \in V} \frac{Q_i(u,v)}{\|v\|_V} \geq \underline{\gamma}_i \|u\|_U \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{u \in U} \frac{Q_i(u,v)}{\|u\|_U} > 0 \\ Q_i(u,v) \leq \bar{\gamma}_i \|u\|_U \quad \forall u \in U, \forall v \in V \end{cases} \Rightarrow Q_i(u,v) = \langle f, v \rangle \text{ is well-posed}$$

- **Component problems** are **easier to solve** than the **monolithic problem**

**Reformulation of  $Q(u,v) = \langle f, v \rangle$  as a constrained optimization problem**

$$\begin{cases} \text{minimize} \quad J(u_1, u_2) = \frac{1}{2} \|u_1 - u_2\|_U^2 \\ \text{subject to} \quad \begin{cases} Q_1(u_1, v_1) - (\theta, v_1)_V = \langle f, v_1 \rangle \quad \forall v_1 \in V \\ Q_2(u_2, v_2) + (\theta, v_2)_V = 0 \quad \forall v_2 \in V \end{cases} \end{cases} \begin{matrix} \Leftrightarrow u_1, u_2 - \text{the states} \\ \Leftrightarrow \theta - \text{virtual (distributed) control} \end{matrix}$$

Optimization **exposes** the **constituent components** of the **multiphysics** operator<sub>10</sub>

# Abstract additive operator-splitting theory



## Lagrange multiplier solution: saddle-point optimality system

$$\begin{cases} (u_1 - u_2, \hat{u}_1 - \hat{u}_2)_U + Q_1(\hat{u}_1, \lambda_1) + Q_2(\hat{u}_2, \lambda_2) = 0 & \forall \hat{u}_1, \hat{u}_2 \in U \\ (\hat{\theta}, \lambda_2 - \lambda_1)_V = 0 & \forall \hat{\theta} \in V \\ Q_1(u_1, \hat{\lambda}_1) + Q_2(u_2, \hat{\lambda}_2) + (\theta, \hat{\lambda}_2 - \hat{\lambda}_1)_V = \langle f, \hat{\lambda}_1 \rangle & \forall \hat{\lambda}_1, \hat{\lambda}_2 \in V \end{cases}$$

### Theorem

(Bochev & Ridzal, 2015)

The optimality system is well-posed problem with a unique solution  $(u_1, u_2, \theta, \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$ .

Moreover, if  $u$  is a solution of the original variational equation, then  $u = u_1 = u_2$

### Notable facts

- ⇒ Control penalty is **not required** for well-posedness of the optimality system!
- ⇒ As a result, **original** and **reformulated** problems are **completely equivalent**

**There's no splitting error!**

# Abstract additive operator-splitting theory



## Discretization

Assume  $U^h \subset U$ ,  $V^h \subset V$  is a pair of LBB-stable spaces for the form  $Q$ :

$$\sup_{v^h \in V^h} \frac{Q(u^h, v^h)}{\|v^h\|_V} \geq \underline{\gamma} \|u^h\|_U \quad \text{and} \quad \sup_{u^h \in U^h} \frac{Q(u^h, v^h)}{\|u^h\|_U} > 0$$

This turns out to be sufficient for the well-posedness of the discrete reformulated problem

## Theorem

(Bochev & Ridzal, 2015)

- The KKT optimality system is well-posed with a unique solution  $(u_1^h, u_2^h, \theta^h, \lambda_1^h, \lambda_2^h)$
- Discrete reformulated and monolithic problems are equivalent:  $u^h = u_1^h = u_2^h$
- The following quasi-optimal error estimate holds:

$$\sum_{i=1,2} \|u_i^h - u_i\|_U + \sum_{i=1,2} \|\lambda_i^h - \lambda_i\|_V \leq C \left( \inf_{U^h} \sum_{i=1,2} \|v_i^h - u_i\|_U + \inf_{V^h} \sum_{i=1,2} \|\mu_i^h - \lambda_i\|_U \right)$$

# Abstract additive operator-splitting theory

## Solving the KKT system

**Monolithic problem**

$$(\mathbf{Q}_1 + \mathbf{Q}_2)\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f}$$

**KKT**

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{U} & -\mathbf{U} & 0 & \mathbf{Q}_1^T & 0 \\ -\mathbf{U} & \mathbf{U} & 0 & 0 & \mathbf{Q}_1^T \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -\mathbf{V} & \mathbf{V} \\ \mathbf{Q}_2 & 0 & -\mathbf{V} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \mathbf{Q}_2 & \mathbf{V} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \theta \\ \lambda_1 \\ \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ \mathbf{f} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

Can we really solve this 5X larger problem faster and more efficiently than the monolithic one?

## Theorem

(Bochev & Ridzal, 2015)

Let  $(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \theta, \lambda_1, \lambda_2)$  be the solution of the full KKT system. Then

- $\lambda_1 = \lambda_2 = 0$  and  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{u}_2$
- The triple  $(\mathbf{u}_1, \mathbf{u}_2, \theta)$  solves the reduced KKT system

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_1 & 0 & -\mathbf{V} \\ 0 & \mathbf{Q}_2 & \mathbf{V} \\ 0 & 0 & (\mathbf{Q}_1^{-1} + \mathbf{Q}_2^{-1})\mathbf{V} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \mathbf{u}_2 \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ 0 \\ -\mathbf{Q}_1^{-1}\mathbf{f} \end{bmatrix}$$

This system provides a foundation for an efficient iterative procedure for the solution of the KKT system

# Additive splitting $\rightarrow$ solution algorithm

## 1. Use GMRES to solve the reduced space equation $(\mathbf{Q}_1^{-1} + \mathbf{Q}_2^{-1})\mathbf{V}\theta = -\mathbf{Q}_1^{-1}\mathbf{f}$

- Application of  $(\mathbf{Q}_1^{-1} + \mathbf{Q}_2^{-1})$  decouples trivially into linear system solves with  $\mathbf{Q}_1$  and  $\mathbf{Q}_2$ .
- By assumption sub-problems are **easier to solve** than the monolithic problem:  
 $\Rightarrow \mathbf{Q}_1, \mathbf{Q}_2$  are **easier to invert** than  $(\mathbf{Q}_1 + \mathbf{Q}_2)$

## 2. Recover the state by solving either $\mathbf{Q}_1\mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{f} + \mathbf{V}\theta$ or $\mathbf{Q}_2\mathbf{u}_2 = -\mathbf{V}\theta$

- Since  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{u}_1 = \mathbf{u}_2$  both yield **the solution of the monolithic problem!**
- Note that this also allows to further simplify the KKT system to

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{Q}_1 & -\mathbf{V} \\ \mathbf{Q}_2 & \mathbf{V} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u}_1 \\ \theta \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

In principle one could bypass optimization and derive the split via **auxiliary variables**

- However, derivation of this system is not obvious at first!
- The variational setting and its discretization are left to a guesswork and serendipity.
- Optimization automates and formalizes the discovery of decompositions.

# Application to the Navier-Stokes equations



## Focus on the Oseen equations

$$\begin{cases} -\nu \Delta \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + \nabla p = \mathbf{f} & \text{in } \Omega \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 & \text{in } \Omega \\ \mathbf{u} = 0 & \text{on } \Gamma \end{cases}$$

Result from linearization of the Navier-Stokes equations (NSE) by fixed point or a Newton-type method

- ⇒ Availability of robust solvers with optimal complexity is prerequisite to solve the NSE
- Convergence should be at best independent of the mesh size and the viscosity
- Formulation of such solvers remains a challenge. Existing approaches include
  - physics-based splitting: vector Laplacian + convection term (Hamilton et al NLA, 2010)
  - dimension-based splitting: 1D scalar advection-diffusion (Benzi et al, ANM 2011)
  - Iterative algorithm design must be tailored to the splitting employed
- We apply optimization-based splitting to develop efficient solvers for Oseen equations
- Approach is agnostic to the type of splitting used, only requires well-posed subproblems
- Could in principle apply it with the same splitting as above

# Specialization to the Oseen equations

## Variational setting for the monolithic problem

$$Q(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q) = \nu(\nabla \mathbf{u}, \nabla \mathbf{v}) + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - (p, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + (q, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})$$

$$U = V = H_0^1(\Omega) \times L_0^2(\Omega); \quad H = L^2(\Omega)$$

$$(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q)_U = (\nabla \mathbf{u}, \nabla \mathbf{v}) + (p, q); \quad \|\mathbf{u}, p\|_U^2 = \|\nabla \mathbf{u}\|_0^2 + \|p\|_0^2$$

$Q$  is **weakly coercive** on  $U \times V$ :  
the monolithic problem  
satisfies our assumptions

**Additive splitting:**  $Q(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q) = Q_1(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q) + Q_2(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q)$

$$Q_1(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q) = \sigma(\nabla \mathbf{u}, \nabla \mathbf{v}) + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) - 2(p, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) + 2(q, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})$$

$$Q_2(\mathbf{u}, p; \mathbf{v}, q) = (\nu - \sigma)(\nabla \mathbf{u}, \nabla \mathbf{v}) + (p, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}) - (q, \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u})$$

Choosing a **sufficiently large** splitting parameter  $\sigma$  ensures that each subproblem is **dominated by the Laplacian**

**Additive splitting: strong form**

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\sigma \Delta \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + 2 \nabla p \\ 2 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} (\sigma - \nu) \Delta \mathbf{u} - \nabla p \\ -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

“Easy” Oseen

Stokes

Each subproblem is **weakly coercive** on  $U \times V$ : the split satisfies our assumptions

# Specialization to the Oseen equations

## Optimization reformulation

$$\begin{cases}
 \text{minimize} \quad J(\mathbf{u}_1, p_1; \mathbf{u}_2, p_2) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \|\nabla \mathbf{u}_1 - \nabla \mathbf{u}_2\|_0^2 + \|p_1 - p_2\|_0^2 \right) & \text{Virtual distributed control} \\
 \text{s.t.} \quad \begin{cases} Q_1(\mathbf{u}_1, p_1; \mathbf{v}_1, q_1) - (\xi, \mathbf{v}_1)_1 - (r, q_1)_0 = \langle f, \mathbf{v}_1 \rangle \quad \forall \mathbf{v}_1, q_1 \in U \\ Q_2(\mathbf{u}_2, p_2; \mathbf{v}_2, q_2) + (\xi, \mathbf{v}_2)_1 + (r, q_2)_0 = 0 \quad \forall \mathbf{v}_2, q_2 \in U \end{cases} & \theta = \{\xi, r\} \in H_0^1(\Omega) \times L_0^2(\Omega)
 \end{cases}$$

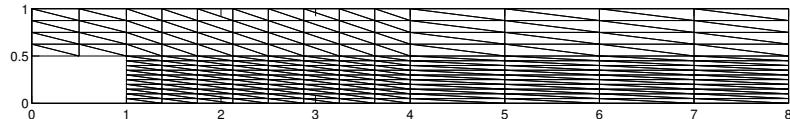
## Interpretation via auxiliary variables

$$\begin{bmatrix} -\sigma \Delta \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + 2 \nabla p - \Delta \xi \\ 2 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} - r \end{bmatrix}^+ \begin{bmatrix} (\sigma - \nu) \Delta \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \Delta \xi \\ -\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} + r \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{f} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

## As in the abstract case

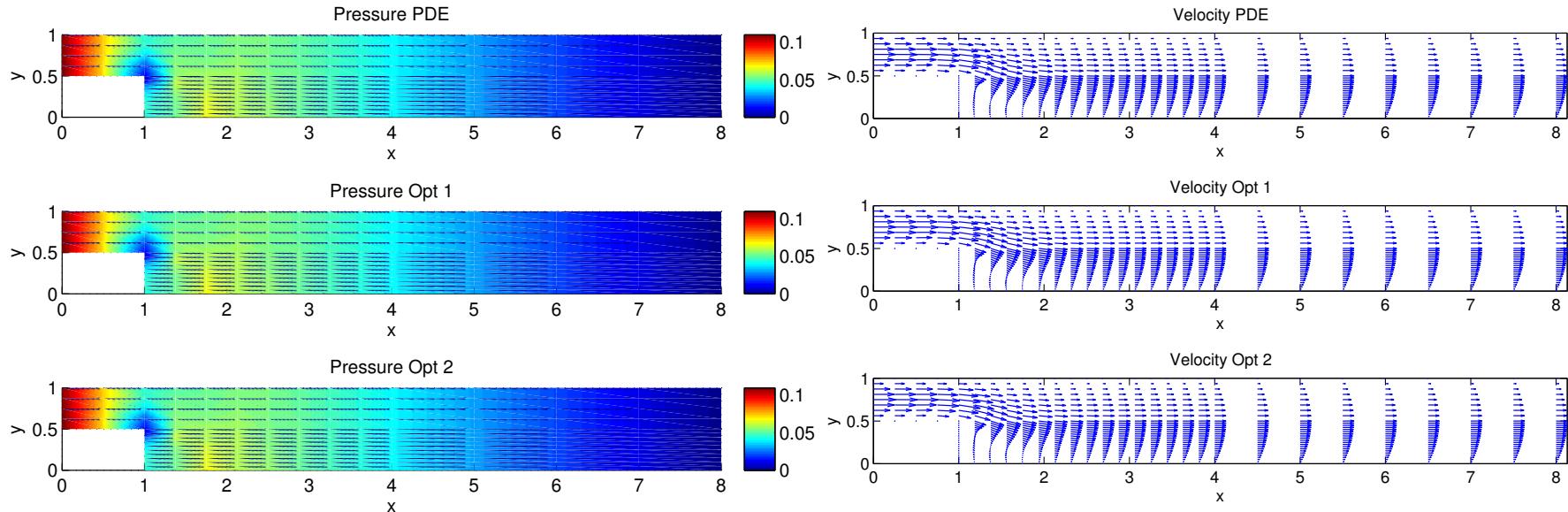
- Derivation of this system is not obvious at first!
- The variational setting and its discretization are left to a guesswork and serendipity.
- Optimization automates and formalizes the discovery of decompositions.

# Numerical examples



**Backward facing step channel geometry and a typical mesh**

## Equivalence of reformulated and monolithic problems



$$\sum_{i=1,2} \|\mathbf{u}^h - \mathbf{u}_i^h\|_0^2 + \|p^h - p_i^h\|_0^2 = 1.0 \times 10^{-7}$$

Solutions of optimization-based decomposition match monolithic solution to within the GMRES tolerance set to 1.0E-08

# Numerical results

**Optimization-based solver is independent of the mesh size**

Mesh level	# cells	#DoF	#GMRES
1	352	1,727	37
2	1,408	6,619	39
4	5,632	25,907	40
8	22,528	102,499	40
16	90,112	407,747	38

## Parameters

GMRES tol=10<sup>-6</sup>

$\nu = 5 \times 10^{-3}$

$\sigma = 1$

**Optimization-based solver is mildly dependent on viscosity**

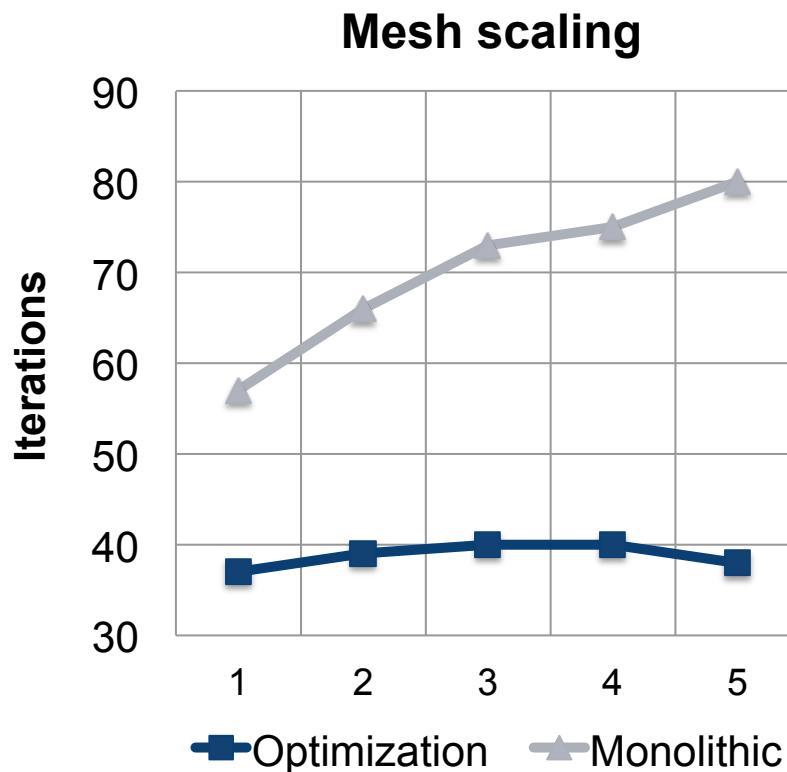
Visc.	1E+2	1E+1	1E-1	1E-2	5E-3
#GMRES	4	4	6	22	40

Viscosity **decreases** by **five** orders of magnitude.

Iterations **increase** by a **single** order of magnitude.

# Numerical results

## Optimization-based vs. preconditioned monolithic solver



### Parameters

GMRES tol= $10^{-6}$ ,  $\nu = 5 \times 10^{-3}$ ,  $\sigma = 1$ .

### Monolithic solver

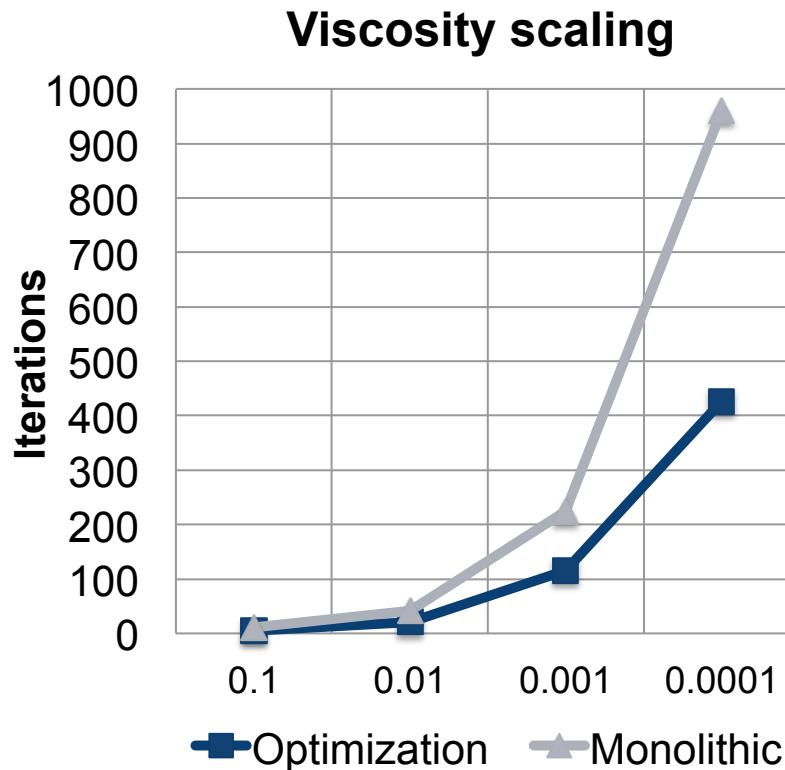
$(\mathbf{Q}_1 + \mathbf{Q}_2)$  preconditioned by  $\mathbf{Q}_1$ :

$$\mathbf{Q}_1 \sim \begin{bmatrix} -\sigma \Delta \mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} + 2 \nabla p \\ 2 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix}$$

"Easy" Oseen

# Numerical results

## Optimization-based vs. preconditioned monolithic solver



### Parameters

GMRES tol=10<sup>-6</sup>,  $\sigma = 1$ , Level 8 mesh.

### Monolithic solver

$(\mathbf{Q}_1 + \mathbf{Q}_2)$  preconditioned by  $\mathbf{Q}_1$ :

$$\mathbf{Q}_1 \sim \begin{bmatrix} -\sigma\Delta\mathbf{u} + (\mathbf{b} \cdot \nabla)\mathbf{u} + 2\nabla p \\ 2\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \end{bmatrix}$$

"Easy" Oseen

These preliminary results do not explore further tuning of the optimization solver by virtue of the splitting parameter

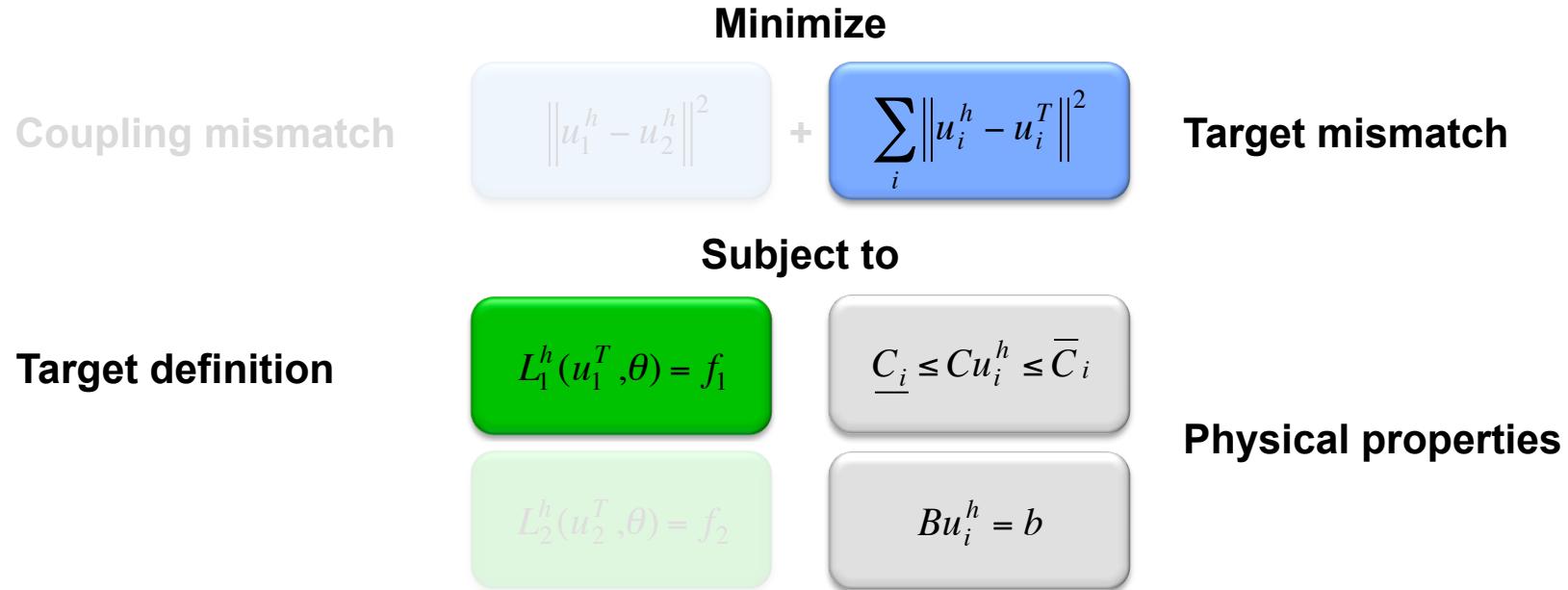
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9. P. Bochev and D. Ridzal, *Optimization-based additive operator decomposition of weakly coercive problems with applications*, CAMWA, 2016.

# Part 2

# Case study 2: Transport schemes

In Part 2 we apply optimization ideas to develop **property-preserving** methods for **transport of passive tracers** in climate models.



This case study highlights application of optimization ideas for the preservation of relevant physical properties in numerical methods.

P. Bochev, D. Ridzal, M. Shashkov, *Fast optimization-based conservative remap of scalar fields*, *J. Comp. Phys.* 246 (2013)

P. Bochev, D. Ridzal, K. Peterson, *Optimization-based remap and transport: A divide and conquer strategy for feature-preserving discretizations*, *J. Comp. Phys.* 257, (2014) 1113 – 1139.

# Transport of passive tracers

**An ubiquitous problem in geosciences and climate modeling**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho \mathbf{u} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial \rho q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho q \mathbf{u} = 0 \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla q = 0 \quad \text{where:} \quad \begin{array}{l} \rho \text{ - density} \\ q \text{ - tracer mixing ratio} \\ \mathbf{u} \text{ - velocity} \end{array}$$

## Key requirements

1. **Conservation** of mass and total tracer:  $M = \int_{\Omega} \rho dV$   $Q = \int_{\Omega} \rho q dV$
2. **Preservation** of local bounds for  $q$  and  $\rho$ :  $\rho_i^{\min} \leq \rho_i \leq \rho_i^{\max}$   $q_i^{\min} \leq q_i \leq q_i^{\max}$
3. **Preservation** of linear correlations between tracers:
4. **Preservation** of constant tracers, i.e., “compatibility”.  $q_1(x) = aq_2(x) + b$

**Semi-Lagrangian schemes are the method of choice in these communities because they allow for time steps much larger than the CFL-limited time steps in Explicit Eulerian methods. This is even more critical for recent high-order nodal schemes deployed in climate models.**

# Why SL + SE?

We begin Part 2 by developing a new scheme, which combines

- **Spectral elements** (SE) for spatial discretization.
- **Semi-Lagrangian** (SL) approach for time stepping.
- **Optimization** for enforcing conservation and local bounds.

## Advantages

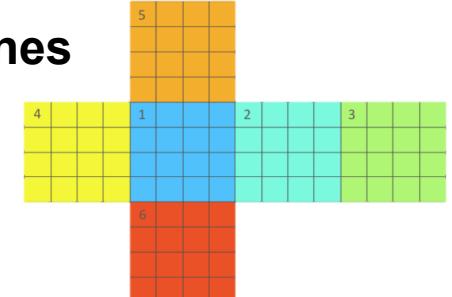
- **SE: Diagonal** mass matrix + **Spectral** accuracy
- **SL: avoids severe CFL** restrictions of high-order methods
- **SL+SE: Simple, efficient and accurate!**
- **HOMME** (High Order Modeling Environment) uses SE and DG on fully **unstructured quadrilateral** meshes on the sphere

HOMME is a **community model** supported by the NSF and the DOE with contributions from NCAR, DOE laboratories and universities.

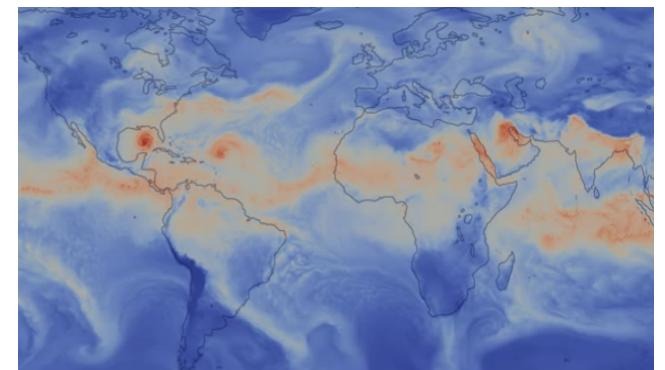
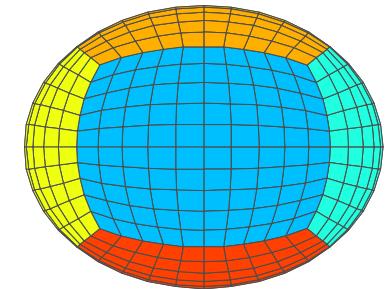
HOMME is the **default dynamical core** of the Community Atmosphere Model (CAM) and the Community Earth System Model (CESM)

**The new SL-SE scheme for tracers is motivated by and implemented in HOMME.**

Dennis J, Edwards J, Evans K, Guba O, Lauritzen P, Mirin A, St.-Cyr A, Taylor M, Worley P. 2012. *CAM-SE: A scalable spectral element dynamical core for the Community Atmosphere Model.* IJHPCA. 26:74-89.



cubed-sphere mesh



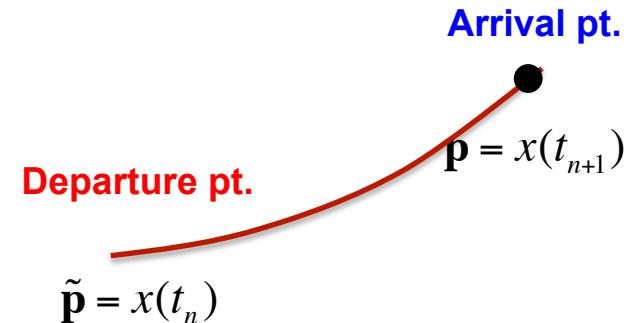
# A generic nodal SL transport scheme

**Key idea:** convert PDEs into ODEs along Lagrangian particle paths

$$\left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho \mathbf{u} &= 0 \\ \frac{\partial \rho q}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \rho q \mathbf{u} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right. \rightarrow \left. \begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \rho &= -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \\ \frac{\partial q}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla q &= 0 \end{aligned} \right\} \rightarrow \frac{dx}{dt} = \mathbf{u}(x(t), t) \rightarrow \left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{D\rho}{Dt} &= -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \\ \frac{Dq}{Dt} &= 0 \end{aligned} \right.$$

**Step 1:** solve the “final value” problem in  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ :

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathbf{u}(x(t), t) \text{ and } x(t_{n+1}) = \mathbf{p} \rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{p}} = x(t_n)$$



**Step 2:** solve the **initial value** problems in  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ :

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \text{ and } \rho(t_n) = \rho_h(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}, t_n) \rightarrow \rho_h(\mathbf{p}, t_{n+1}) = \rho(t_{n+1})$$

$$\frac{Dq}{Dt} = 0 \text{ and } q(t_n) = q_h(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}, t_n) \rightarrow q_h(\mathbf{p}, t_{n+1}) = q(t_{n+1})$$

ODE solution at  $t_{n+1}$  = PDE solution at **arrival pt.**

Initial value at  $t_n$  = PDE solution at **departure pt.**

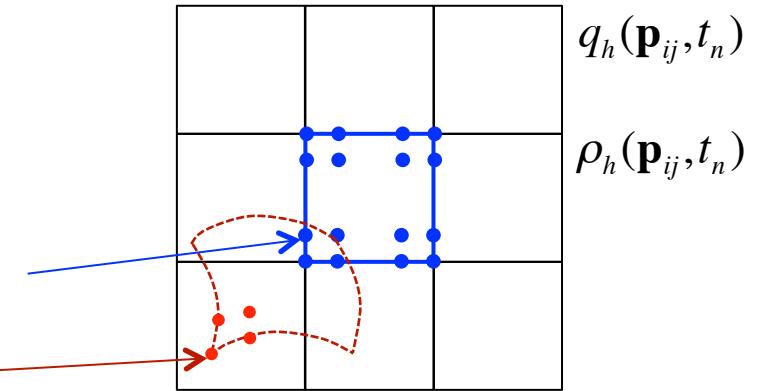
# Combine with SE reconstruction

**Step 1:** solve the “final value” problem in  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ :

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathbf{u}(x(t), t) \text{ and } x(t_{n+1}) = \mathbf{p}_{ij}$$

$\{\mathbf{p}_{ij}\} \rightarrow$  Arrival points = Gauss-Lobatto points

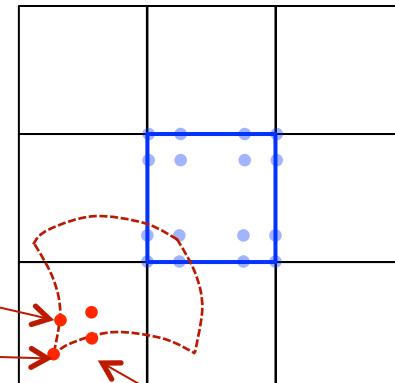
$\{\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij}\} \rightarrow$  Departure points



**Step 2:** solve the initial value problems in  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$ :

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \text{ and } \rho(t_n) = \rho_h(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij}, t_n)$$

$$\frac{Dq}{Dt} = 0 \text{ and } q(t_n) = q_h(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij}, t_n)$$



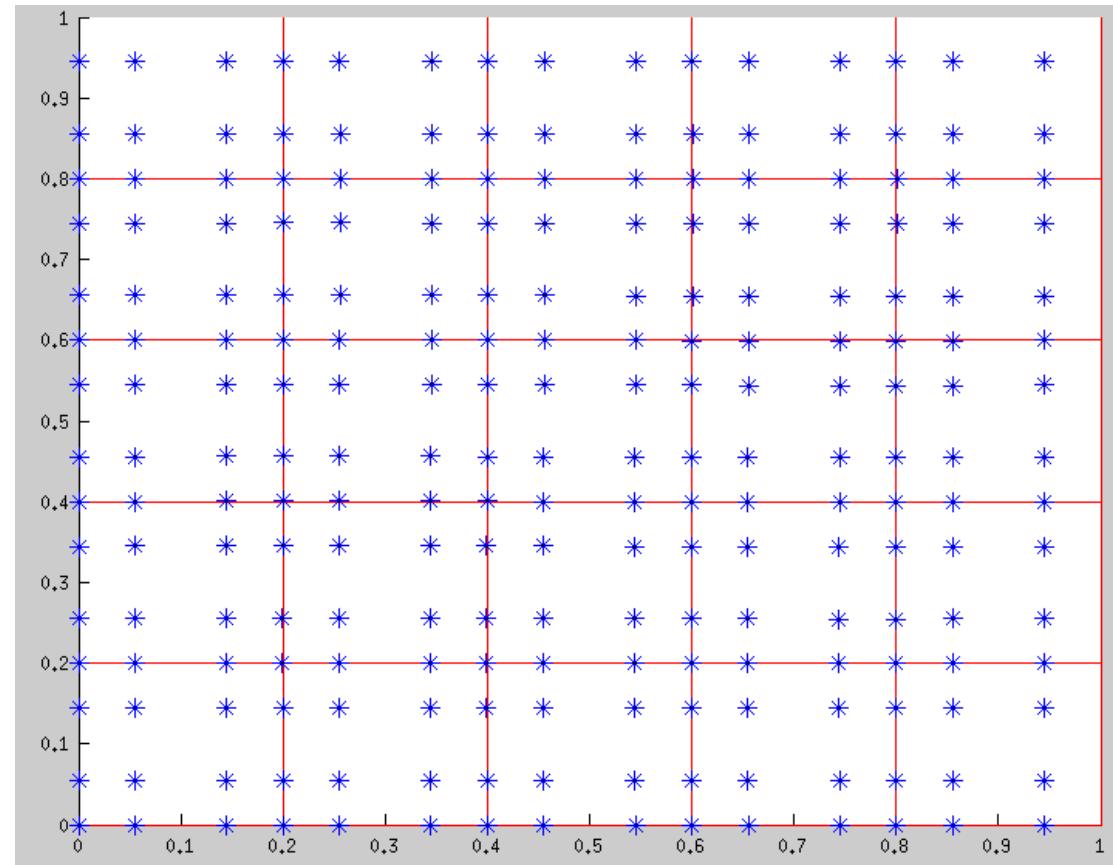
**Initial values** = spectral element reconstruction at Gauss-Lobatto **departure points**

# Example: rotation

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = \mathbf{u}(x(t), t) \text{ and } x(t_{n+1}) = \mathbf{p}_{ij}$$

$$\mathbf{u}(x(t), t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 - y \\ 0.5 - x \end{pmatrix}$$

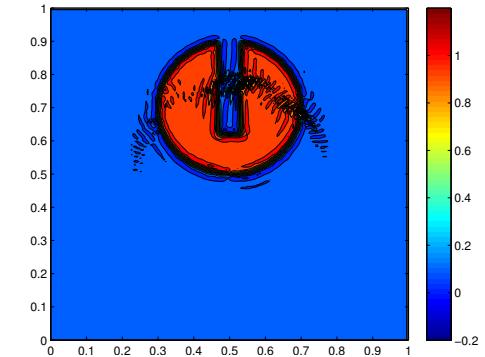
Solved by RK4



# Generic SE+SL scheme scorecard

## Recall the advantages:

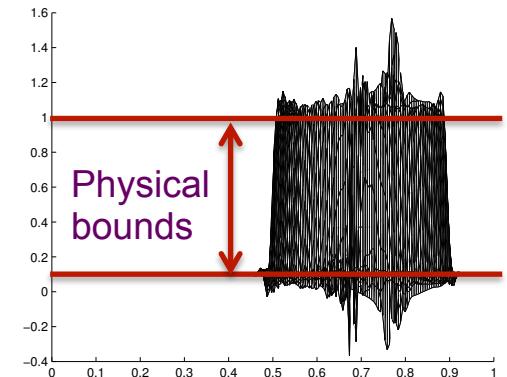
- **Diagonal** mass matrix
- **Spectral** accuracy
- **Avoids severe CFL** restrictions of high-order methods
- **Simple!!** (compare, e.g., to tent-pitching schemes)



## However, the generic scheme

- **Does not conserve mass and total tracer**
- **Does not preserve local solution bounds**

Critical for physically consistent tracer transport, since **high-order spatial schemes are** prone to **unphysical oscillations**:



## Solution: combine the generic SE+SL scheme with optimization to

- **Conserve mass and total tracer**
- **Preserve local solution bounds**

# Optimization-based SE-SL scheme

**Start with a generic SE+SL scheme:**

1. Determine GL **departure points**  $\rightarrow \tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij} = x(t_n)$
2. Determine solution at **arrival points**  $\rightarrow \rho_h(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_{n+1}) = \rho(t_{n+1}) \text{ and } q_h(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_{n+1}) = q(t_{n+1})$

**Then proceed as follows to find the tracer at  $t_{n+1}$  (density is similar)**

3. Set **optimization target** to SE+SL solution:  $\hat{q} := q_h(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_{n+1})$
4. Determine **local solution bounds**:  $q_{ij}^{\min} \leq q(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_{n+1}) \leq q_{ij}^{\max}$   $\rightarrow \text{TBD later!}$
5. Set solution at the new time step by solving

$$q_{n+1}^* = \underset{q \in Q^r}{\operatorname{argmin}} \|q - \hat{q}\|_0^2 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \begin{cases} \int_{\Omega} q \, dx = \int_{\Omega} q_n \, dx & \xleftarrow{\text{Conservation}} \\ q_{ij}^{\min} \leq q_{ij} \leq q_{ij}^{\max} & \xleftarrow{\text{Local bounds}} \end{cases}$$

# The optimization problem

## Algebraic form

$$\mathbf{q}_{n+1} = \underset{\mathbf{q}}{\operatorname{argmin}} \mathbf{q}^T \mathbf{M} \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{c}^T \mathbf{q} + \mathbf{c}_0 \quad \text{subject to} \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{q} = \mathbf{w}^T \mathbf{q}_n & \leftarrow \text{Conservation} \\ \mathbf{q}^{\min} \leq \mathbf{q} \leq \mathbf{q}^{\max} & \leftarrow \text{Local bounds} \end{cases}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \int_{\Omega} \phi_{ij} \phi_{kl} dx = \operatorname{diag}(M_{ij}); \quad \mathbf{c} = -2\mathbf{M}\hat{\mathbf{q}}; \quad \mathbf{c}_0 = \hat{\mathbf{q}}^T \mathbf{M} \hat{\mathbf{q}}; \quad \mathbf{w} \rightarrow \text{Gauss-Lobato weights}$$

- ☞ Example of a “*singly linearly constrained QP with simple bounds*”
- ☞ QP structure admits a *fast O(N)* optimization algorithm.

### Theorem (Existence of optimal solutions)

The feasible set of the optimization problem for the solution transfer is non-empty. The problem has a unique optimal solution.

# Fast Optimization Algorithm

Without the **equality constraint** the QP **splits** into  $N$  one-dimensional QPs with simple bounds:

$$\begin{aligned}
 q_{ij,n+1} &= \underset{q_{ij}}{\operatorname{argmin}} M_{ij} (q_{ij} - \hat{q}_{ij})^2 \\
 \text{subject to } q_{\bar{ij}}^{\min} &\leq q_{ij} \leq q_{\bar{ij}}^{\max}
 \end{aligned}
 \rightarrow q_{ij,n+1} = \operatorname{med}(q_{\bar{ij}}^{\min}, \hat{q}_{ij}, q_{\bar{ij}}^{\max})$$

## The Lagrangian

$$L(\mathbf{q}, \lambda, \mu_1, \mu_2) = \sum_{node} M_{ij} (q_{ij} - \hat{q}_{ij})^2 - \lambda \sum_{node} w_{ij} (q_{ij} - q_{ij,n}) - \sum_{node} \mu_{1,ij} (q_{ij} - q_{\bar{ij}}^{\min}) - \sum_{node} \mu_{2,ij} (q_{ij} - q_{\bar{ij}}^{\max})$$

## The Karush-Kuhn-Tucker (KKT) conditions

$$\begin{cases}
 q_{ij} = \hat{q}_{ij} + \lambda + \mu_{1,ij} - \mu_{2,ij} \\
 q_{\bar{ij}}^{\min} \leq q_{ij} \leq q_{\bar{ij}}^{\max} \\
 \mu_{1,ij} \geq 0, \quad \mu_{2,ij} \geq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \sum_{node} w_{ij} (q_{ij} - q_{ij,n}) = 0 \\
 \mu_{1,ij} (q_{ij} - q_{\bar{ij}}^{\min}) = 0, \\
 \mu_{2,ij} (q_{ij} - q_{\bar{ij}}^{\max}) = 0
 \end{cases}$$

Without the **equality constraint** the KKT conditions are **fully separable** and can be solved for any fixed value of  $\lambda$ .

# Fast Optimization Algorithm

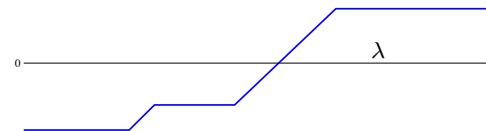
**Step 1: solve the first set of KKT conditions to find  $q$  as a function of  $\lambda$**

$$\begin{cases} q_{ij} = \tilde{q}_{ij} + \lambda; \mu_{1,ij} = 0; \mu_{2,ij} = 0 & \text{if } q_{ij}^{\min} \leq \tilde{q}_{ij} + \lambda \leq q_{ij}^{\max} \\ q_{ij} = q_{ij}^{\min}; \mu_{2,ij} = 0; \mu_{1,ij} = q_{ij} - \tilde{q}_{ij} - \lambda & \text{if } q_{ij}^{\min} \geq \tilde{q}_{ij} + \lambda \\ q_{ij} = q_{ij}^{\max}; \mu_{1,ij} = 0; \mu_{2,ij} = \tilde{q}_{ij} - q_{ij} + \lambda & \text{if } \tilde{q}_{ij} + \lambda \geq q_{ij}^{\max} \end{cases} \rightarrow q_{ij}(\lambda) = \text{med}(q_{ij}^{\min}, \tilde{q}_{ij} + \lambda, q_{ij}^{\max});$$

Trivial, communication-free  
 $O(N)$  computation

**Step 2: solve the single equality constraint for  $\lambda$**

Solve  $\sum_{node} w_{ij} (q_{ij}(\lambda) - q_{ij,n}) = 0$  



- Piecewise linear, monotonically increasing function of single scalar variable  $\lambda$
- Can solve to machine precision by a simple secant method
- Globalization is unnecessary:  $\lambda_0=0$  is an excellent initial guess:  $q_{ij}(\lambda_0) = \text{med}(q_{ij}^{\min}, \tilde{q}_{ij}, q_{ij}^{\max})$ ;
- $q_{ij}(\lambda_0)$  solves the QP without the equality constraint, i.e., “almost” a solution
- Locality  $\Rightarrow q_{ij}(\lambda_0)$  barely violates the mass conservation constraint

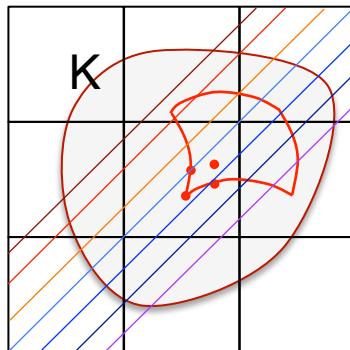
# Local solution bounds: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$

For solenoidal fields local bounds are easy:

$$\frac{D\rho}{Dt} = 0 \Rightarrow \rho(x(t), t) = \text{const} \rightarrow \rho_h(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_{n+1}) = \rho(t_{n+1}) = \rho(t_n) = \rho_h(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij}, t_n)$$

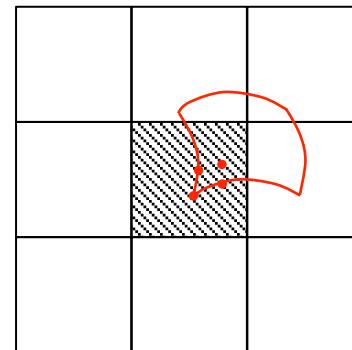
$$\frac{Dq}{Dt} = 0 \Rightarrow q(x(t), t) = \text{const} \rightarrow q_h(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_{n+1}) = q(t_{n+1}) = q(t_n) = q_h(\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij}, t_n)$$

Solution is **constant** along Lagrangian paths  $\Rightarrow$  taking min/max in a **neighborhood of the departure points** is sufficient to determine solution bounds:

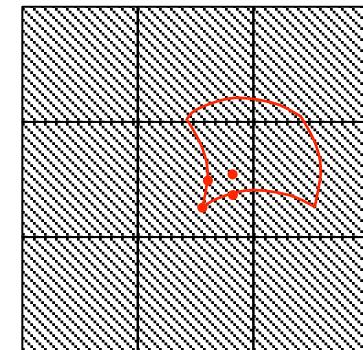


$$q_{ij}^{\min} = \min_{\mathbf{p} \in K} q(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_n)$$

$$q_{ij}^{\max} = \max_{\mathbf{p} \in K} q(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_n)$$



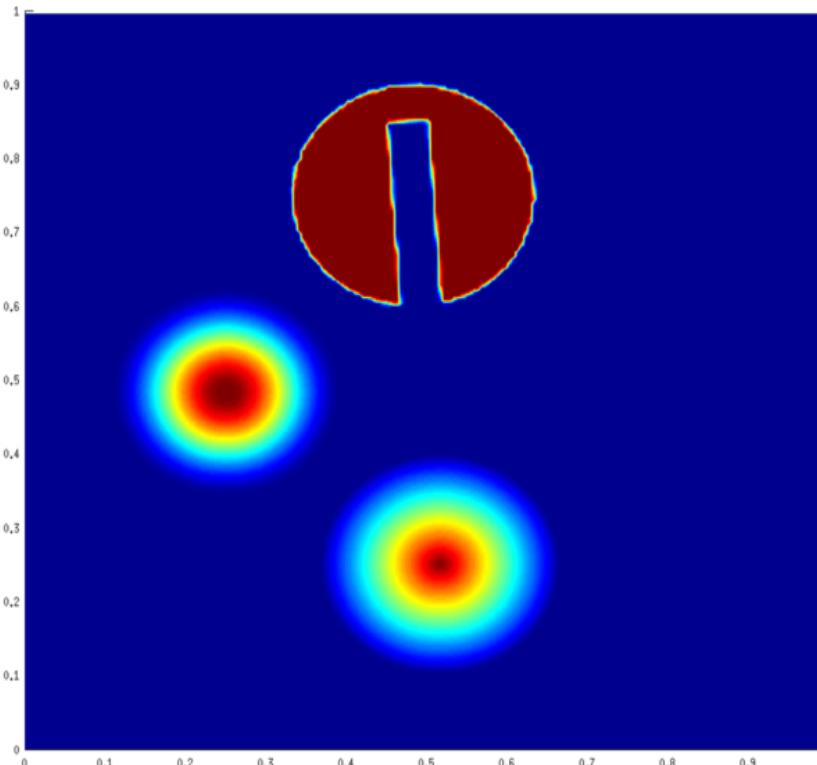
**Tight bounds**



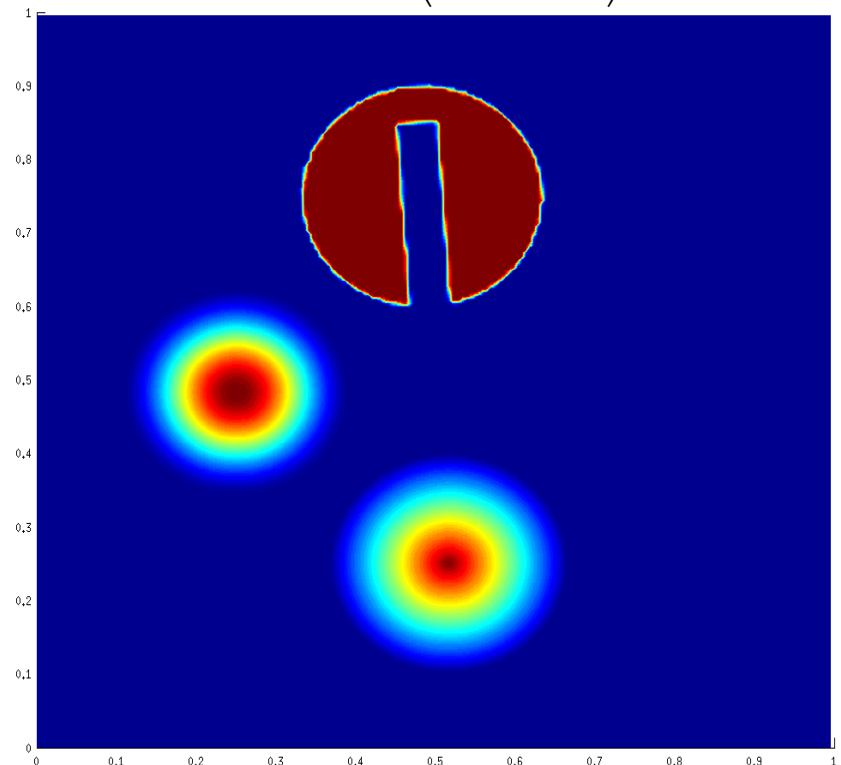
**Loose bounds**

# Rotational flow: LeVeque's combo

Zalesak cylinder, cone and a smooth hump



$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 - y \\ 0.5 - x \end{pmatrix}$$

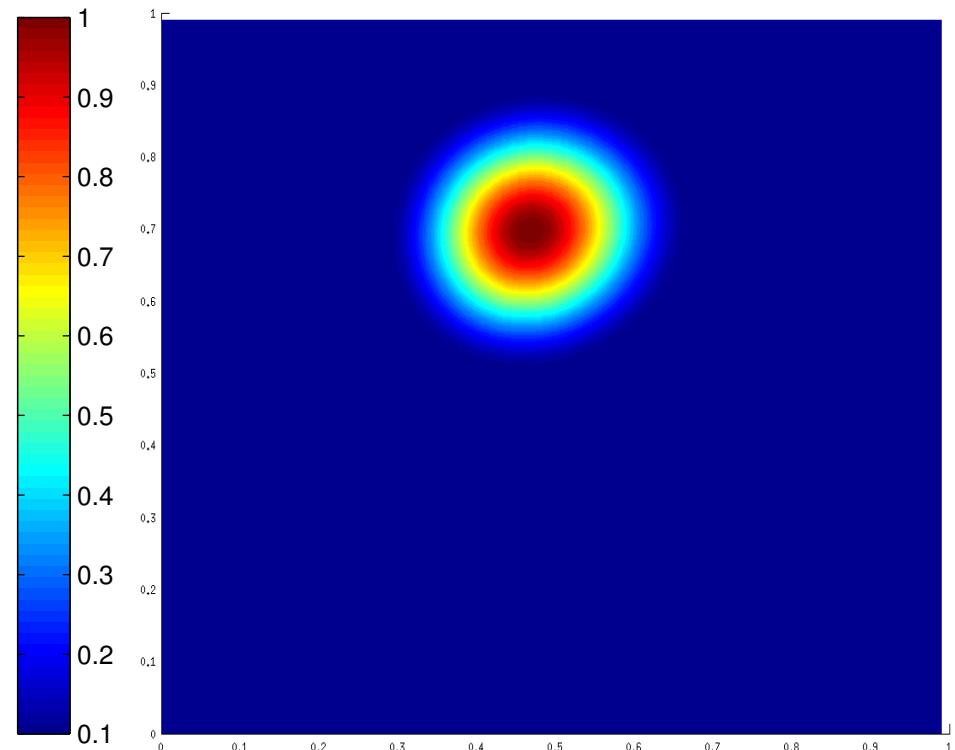
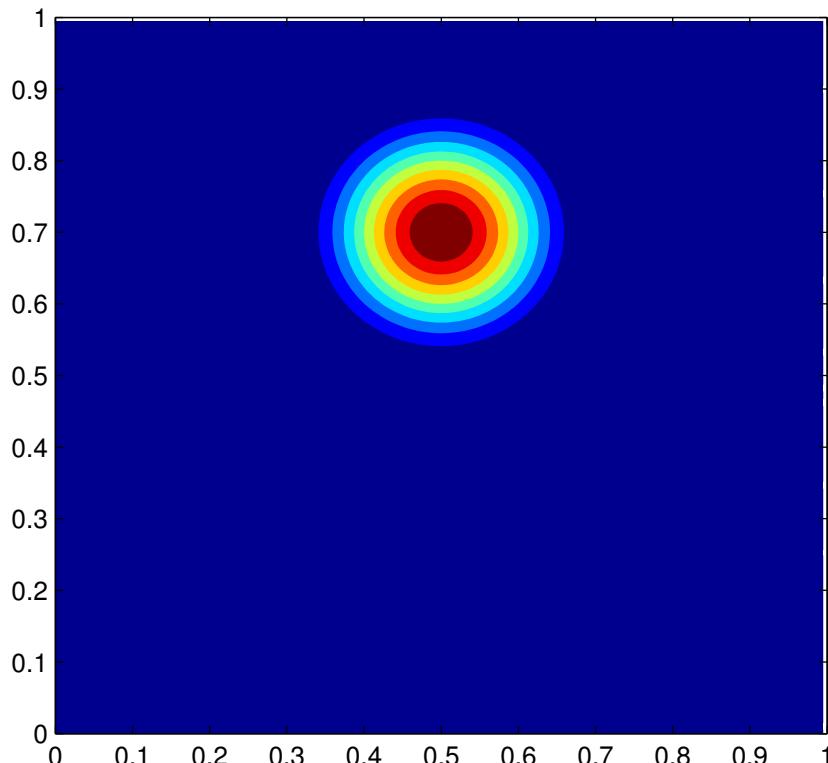


**80x80 bi-cubic elements; CFL=0.7**

# Deformational flow: cosine bell

$$q(x,t) = 0.5(1.0 + \cos(\pi r_1)); \quad r_1 = \frac{\min(r, r_0)}{r_0}$$

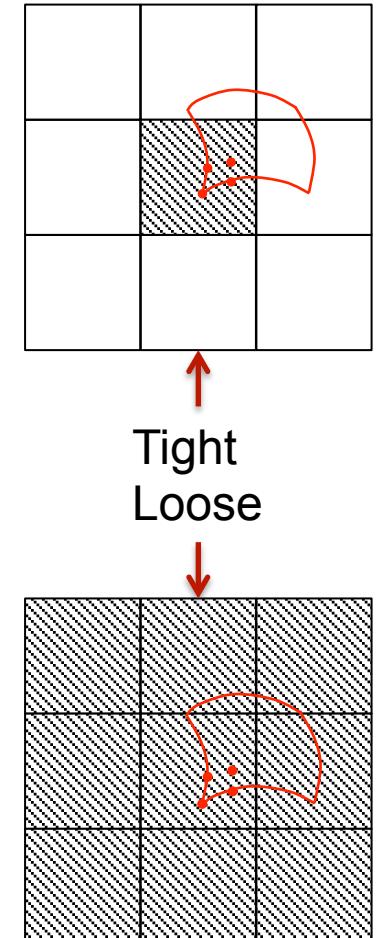
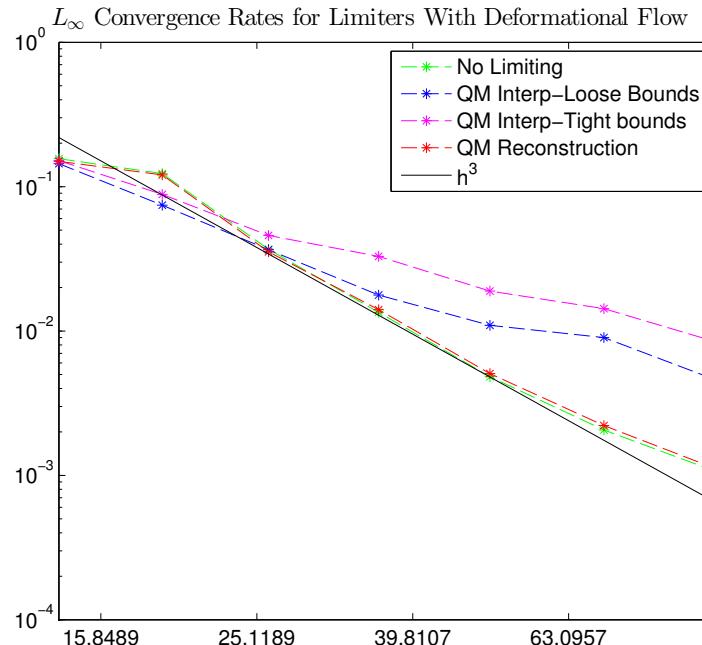
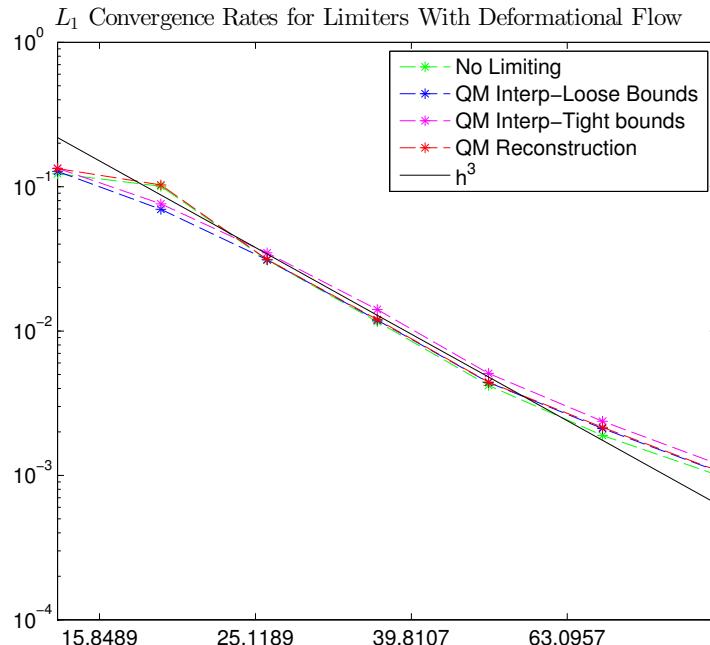
$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p},t) = \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi x)^2 \sin(2\pi y) \cos(\pi t / T) \\ -\sin(\pi y)^2 \sin(2\pi x) \cos(\pi t / T) \end{pmatrix}$$



**80x80 bi-cubic elements; CFL=0.7**

R. J. LeVeque, High-resolution conservative algorithms for advection in incompressible flow, SINUM 33 (1996) 627–665.

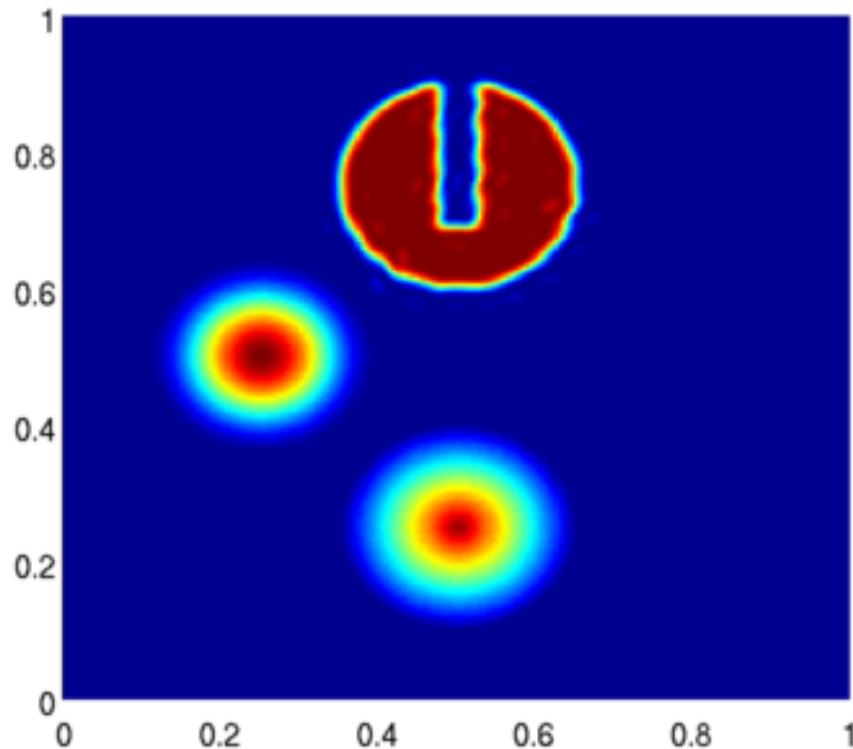
# Convergence rates: Gaussian hill



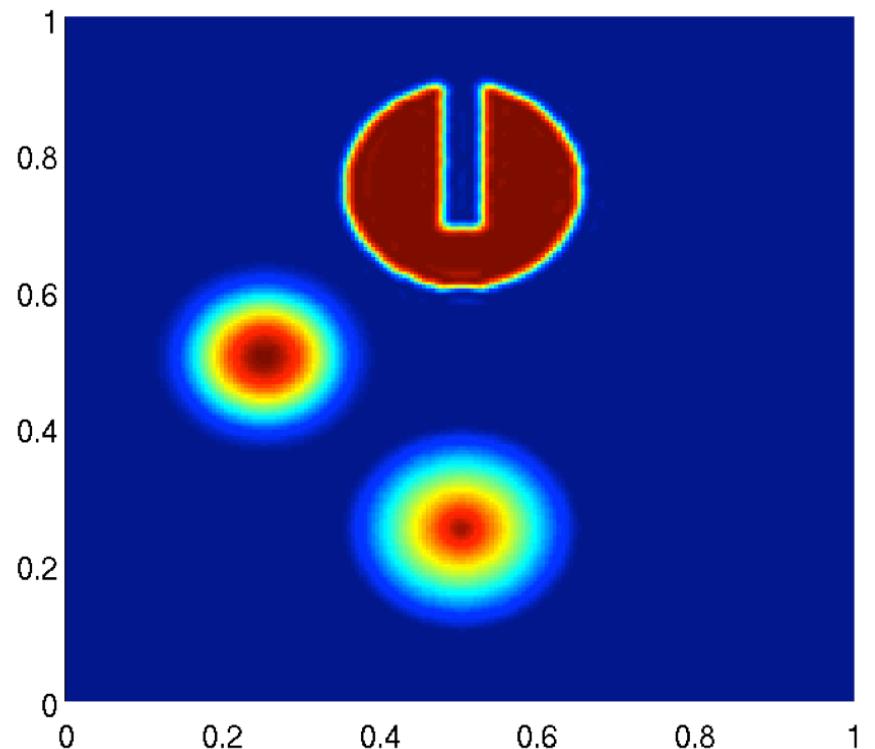
A SE+SL method with **limiters** would typically **truncate the order** of convergence to 2 even for L1 errors.

We see **essentially no degradation** in the 3<sup>rd</sup> order L1 error rate (compared to “raw” solution convergence).

# Long-time accuracy



CFL=7.04



CFL=14.08

**60x60 bi-cubic elements; 20 full revolutions.**

# Local solution bounds: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \neq 0$

For  $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \neq 0$  the density equation is a **balance** rather than a **conservation law**.

- ⇒ The density is **not constant** along Lagrangian paths.
- ⇒ Taking **min/max in a neighborhood** of the departure points is **not appropriate**.

**Solution:** combining the **Geometric Conservation Law** and the **balance law**

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{GC Law: } \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla V = V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \\ \text{Balance law: } \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \rho = -\rho \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \frac{\partial \rho V}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla(\rho V) = 0 \Rightarrow \boxed{\frac{D(\rho V)}{Dt} = 0}$$

yields a **new conservation law** for the point “mass” distribution  $M := \rho V$ .

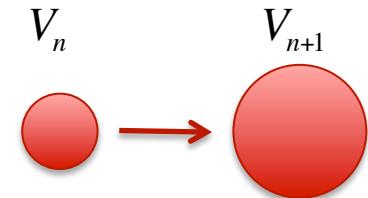
The idea is to **associate and track** an arbitrary **initial volume**  $V_0$  and “mass” with **every GLL point** and use these quantities to provide bounds for the density. This resembles what we do in a **finite volume** semi-Lagrangian scheme (next topic).

# Local solution bounds: $\nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \neq 0$

**Assume  $V_n$  and  $M_n$  are given at  $t_n$ :**

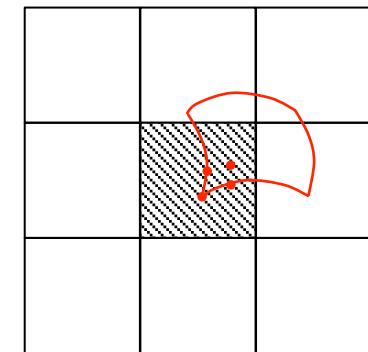
**4a.** Solve the GCL in  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$

$$\frac{DV}{Dt} = V \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} \quad \text{and} \quad V(t_n) = V_n \quad \rightarrow \quad V_{n+1} = V(t_{n+1})$$



**4b.** Determine local bounds for the point masses:

$$M_{ij}^{\min} = \min_{\mathbf{p} \in K} M(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_n) \quad M_{ij}^{\max} = \max_{\mathbf{p} \in K} M(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_n)$$



**4c.** Determine local bounds for the density:

$$\rho^{\min} = \frac{M^{\min}}{V_{n+1}} \quad \rho^{\max} = \frac{M^{\max}}{V_{n+1}}$$

$$M_{ij}^{\max} = \max_{\mathbf{p} \in K} M(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_n)$$

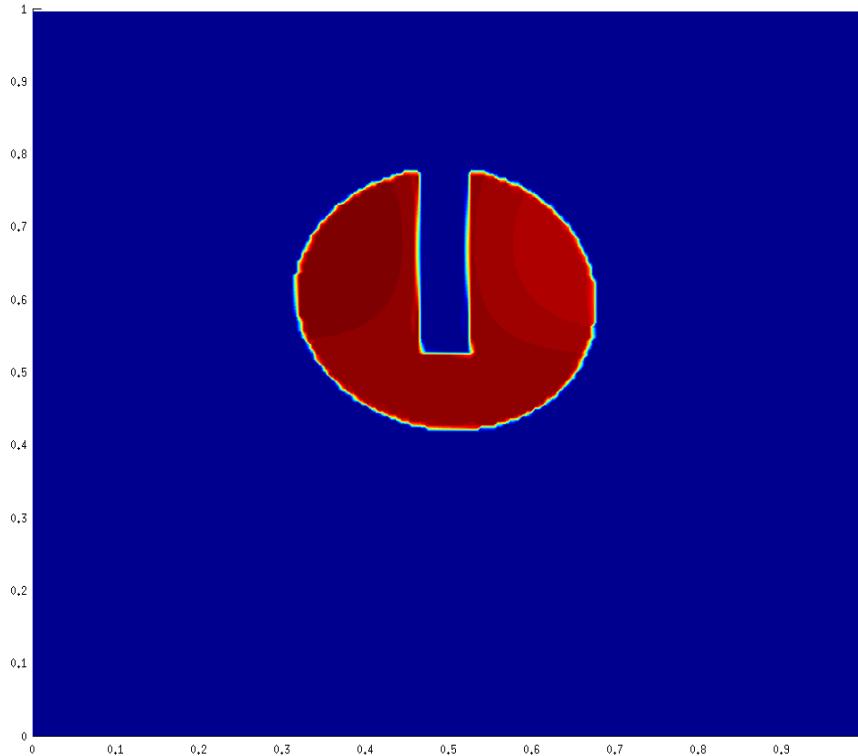
**4d.** Solve the mass law in  $[t_n, t_{n+1}]$

$$\frac{DM}{Dt} = 0 \quad \text{and} \quad M(t_n) = M_n$$

$$M_{ij}^{\min} = \min_{\mathbf{p} \in K} M(\mathbf{p}_{ij}, t_n)$$

# Divergent flow

$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} -\sin(\pi x)^2 \sin(2\pi(y-0.5)) \cos(\pi(y-0.5)^2 \cos(\pi t / T)) \\ \frac{1}{2} \sin(\pi x) \cos(\pi(y-0.5))^3 \cos(\pi t / T) \end{pmatrix}$$



80x80 bi-cubic elements; CFL=0.7

# A finite volume semi-Lagrangian (SL) scheme

## Why do we care about finite volume schemes?

- Cell-centered schemes are **ubiquitous in DOE codes**. However,
  - These schemes use **monotone reconstruction**, i.e., **limiters** to control bounds.
  - Limiters use **local “worst case”** scenarios when enforcing the bounds.
  - Limiters **entangle accuracy** with **preservation of bounds**, which **obscures** sources of discretization errors.
- Besides getting a **better scheme** we will have another chance to showcase the **use of optimization** to preserve physical properties!

## Cell-centered discretization of density and tracer

$$\mu_i = \int_{C_i} dx$$

Cell area



$$\rho_i = \frac{m_i}{\mu_i} \quad \text{Cell average density}$$

$$m_i = \int_{C_i} \rho dx$$

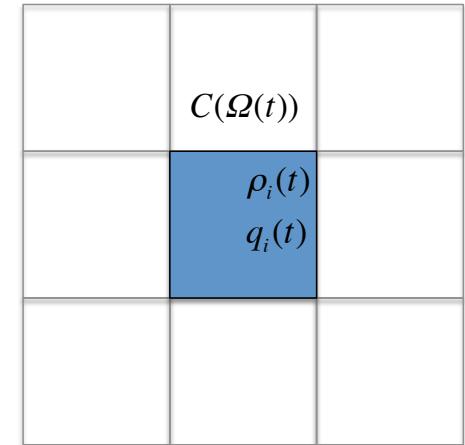
Cell mass



$$q_i = \frac{Q_i}{m_i} \quad \text{Cell average tracer}$$

$$Q_i = \int_{C_i} \rho q dx$$

Cell tracer

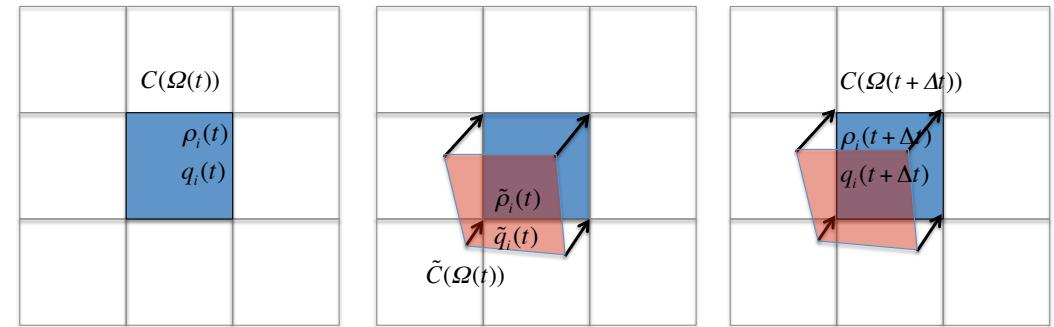


# A generic finite volume SL scheme

For Lagrangian volumes

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{C_i} \rho dx = 0 \longrightarrow m_i(t + \Delta t) = m_i(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{C_i} \rho q dx = 0 \longrightarrow Q_i(t + \Delta t) = Q_i(t)$$



**Step 1:** Trace back cell vertices to find the Lagrangian (departure) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

**Step 2: Remap Lagrangian quantities from arrival to departure grid:**

- Reconstruct  $\tilde{\rho}_i$  such that  $\rho_i^{\min} \leq \tilde{\rho}_i \leq \rho_i^{\max}$
- Reconstruct  $\tilde{q}_i$  such that  $q_i^{\min} \leq \tilde{q}_i \leq q_i^{\max}$

**Lagrangian quantities**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tilde{m}_i = \int_{\tilde{C}_i} \tilde{\rho}_i dx \\ \tilde{Q}_i = \int_{\tilde{C}_i} \tilde{\rho}_i \tilde{q}_i dx \end{array} \right.$$

**Step 3:** Update values on the Eulerian (arrival) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

$$m_i(t + \Delta t) = \tilde{m}_i \longrightarrow \rho_i = \frac{\tilde{m}_i}{\mu_i}$$

$$Q_i(t + \Delta t) = \tilde{Q}_i \longrightarrow q_i = \frac{\tilde{Q}_i}{m_i}$$

# Optimization-based finite volume SL scheme



**Step 1: Trace back** cell vertices to find the Lagrangian (**departure**) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

**Step 2: Remap Lagrangian quantities from arrival to departure grid:**

- Reconstruct  $\tilde{\rho}_i$  **without applying bounds**
- Reconstruct  $\tilde{q}_i$  **without applying bounds**
- **Solve two quadratic programs (QP) for the Lagrangian quantities:**

**Lagrangian targets**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tilde{m}_i^T = \int_{\tilde{C}_i} \tilde{\rho}_i \, dx \\ \tilde{Q}_i^T = \int_{\tilde{C}_i} \tilde{\rho}_i \tilde{q}_i \, dx \end{array} \right.$$

$$\min_{\tilde{m}_i} \sum_{C_i} \left( \tilde{m}_i - \tilde{m}_i^T \right)^2 \text{ subject to} \\ \sum_{C_i} \tilde{m}_i = M; \quad \text{and} \quad m_i^{\min} \leq \tilde{m}_i \leq m_i^{\max}$$

$$\min_{\tilde{Q}_i} \sum_{C_i} \left( \tilde{Q}_i - \tilde{Q}_i^T \right)^2 \text{ subject to} \\ \sum_{C_i} \tilde{Q}_i = Q; \quad \text{and} \quad Q_i^{\min} \leq \tilde{Q}_i \leq Q_i^{\max}$$

**Step 3: Update values on the Eulerian (**arrival**) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$**

$$m_i(t + \Delta t) = \tilde{m}_i \quad \longrightarrow \quad \rho_i = \frac{\tilde{m}_i}{\mu_i}$$

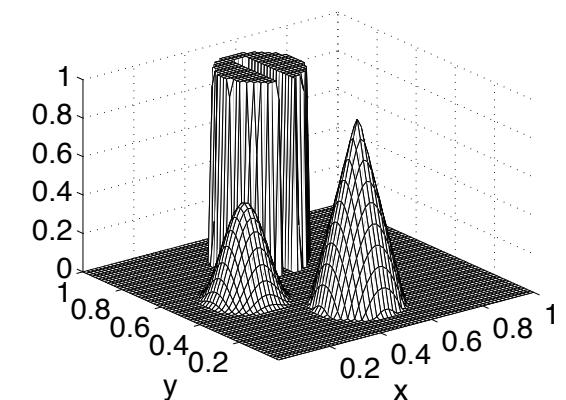
$$Q_i(t + \Delta t) = \tilde{Q}_i \quad \longrightarrow \quad q_i = \frac{\tilde{Q}_i}{m_i}$$

# Advantages

- The solution is a **globally optimal state** that also satisfies the bounds:
  - By definition it is the **best possible solution** satisfying the bounds!
- The solution **provably preserves linear tracer correlations**.
- The two QPs have the exact **same structure** as in the SE-SL case:
  - We have a **fast, scalable optimization algorithm!**
  - Solution times are **essentially the same** as for conventional limiters:

Timings for Leveque's combo example.

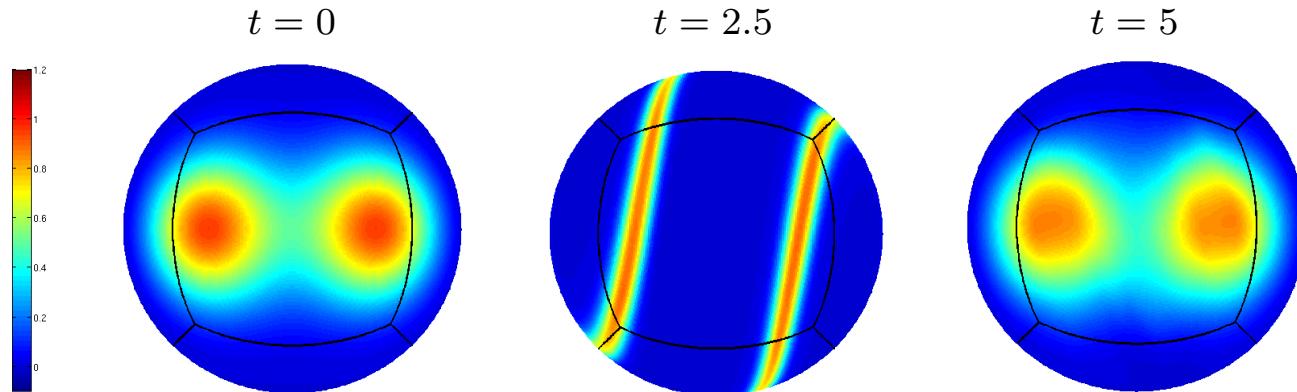
Cells	Time steps	FCT (sec)	Van Leer	OB-SL	Ratio
64x64	400	4.51	4.55	<b>4.98</b>	<b>1.1</b>
128x128	810	47.60	48.35	<b>48.78</b>	<b>1.0</b>
256x256	1,610	390.47	399.15	<b>405.92</b>	<b>1.0</b>
512x512	3,220	5802.05	5804.66	<b>5655.00</b>	<b>0.9</b>



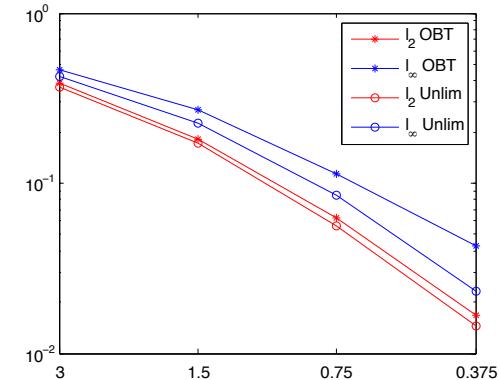
Vectorized Matlab code: wall-clock times on a 3.06GHz Intel Core Duo MacBook Pro

# Convergence test:

**Smooth Gaussian hills on a cubed sphere mesh**



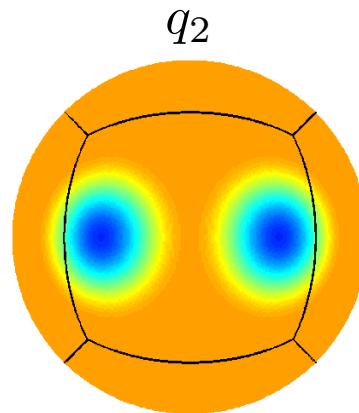
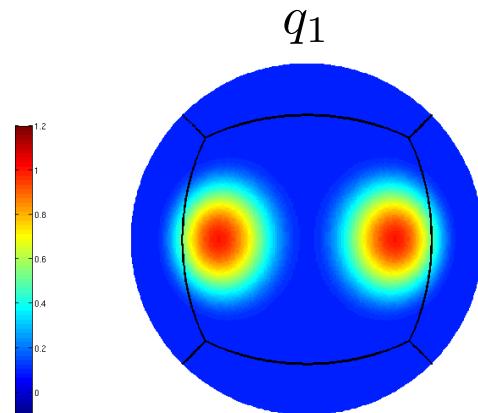
mesh	steps	OBT*		Unlimited	
		$l_2$	$l_\infty$	$l_2$	$l_\infty$
$3^\circ$	600	0.386	0.465	0.368	0.425
$1.5^\circ$	1200	0.182	0.268	0.172	0.225
$0.75^\circ$	2400	0.0626	0.113	0.0559	0.0843
$0.375^\circ$	4800	0.0167	0.0425	0.0144	0.0233
<i>Rate</i>		1.51	1.16	1.56	1.40



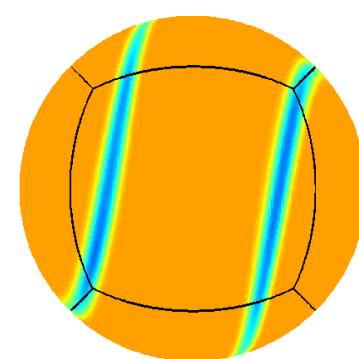
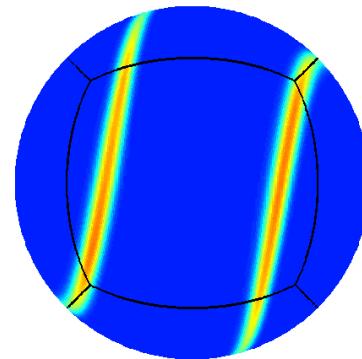
Using optimization to enforce bounds does not lead to degradation of accuracy!

# Linear tracer correlations

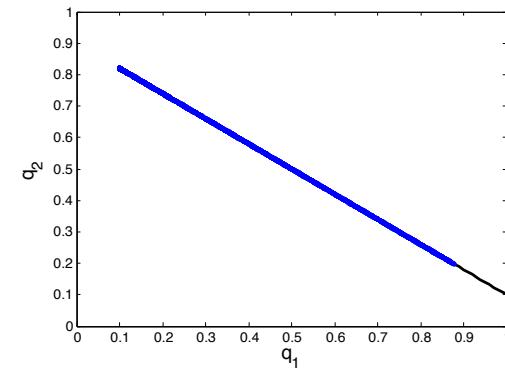
Initial tracer distributions: two linearly correlated cosine bells



$$q_2 = -0.8q_1 + 0.9$$



Correlation  $t = 2.5$

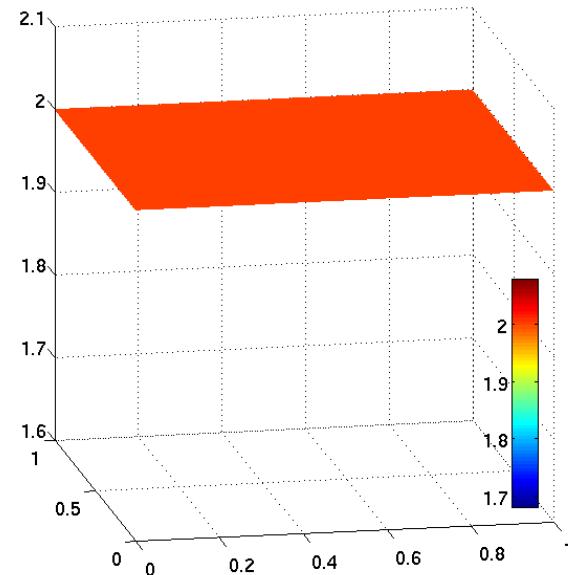
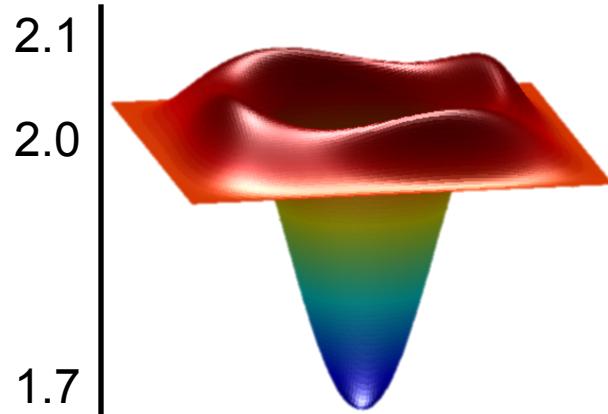


Optimization formulation provably preserves linear tracer correlations

# Part 3

# However, ...

Do you think there's anything wrong with this result?

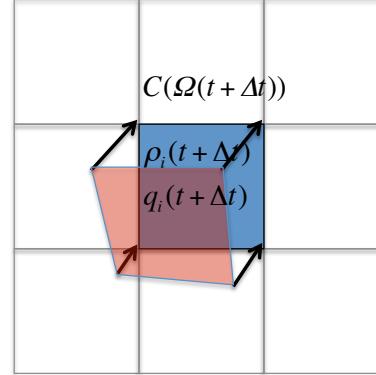
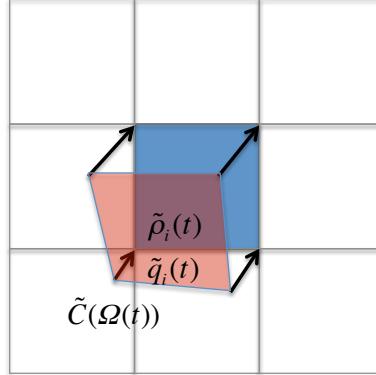
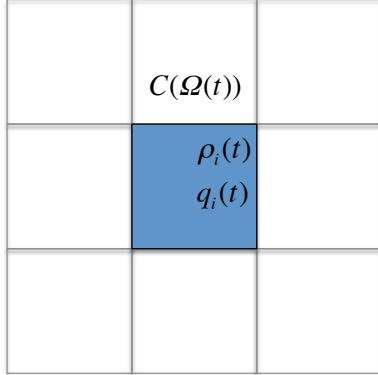


**Everything! Exact solution (density) is constant in time!**

All we did was **switch from RK4 to a forward Euler**. Clearly Euler is less accurate but it is still supposed to **preserve constant in time** functions. So what is causing such a **dramatic deterioration** in the solution?

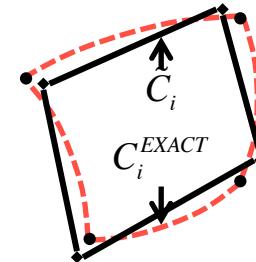
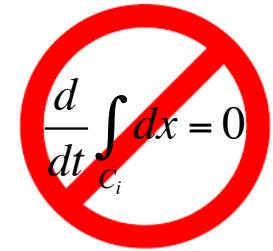
# There's another physical property...

Let's take  $\rho=const$  and examine what happens during a single time step:



$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho_i(t) &= \frac{m_i}{\mu_i} = \rho_{const} & \tilde{\rho}_i &= \rho_{const} \\
 \tilde{m}_i &= \int_{\tilde{C}_i} \tilde{\rho}_i dx = \rho_{const} \tilde{\mu}_i & m_i(t + \Delta t) &= \tilde{m}_i \\
 \rho_i(t + \Delta t) &= \frac{\tilde{m}_i}{\mu_i} & \rho_i(t + \Delta t) &= \frac{\tilde{m}_i}{\mu_i}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\rho_i(t + \Delta t) = \frac{\tilde{m}_i}{\mu_i} = \frac{\rho_{const} \tilde{\mu}_i}{\mu_i} = \rho_{const} \frac{\tilde{\mu}_i}{\mu_i} \neq \rho_{const}$$



Our **departure grid** approximates the true **Lagrangian grid**, hence it violates the property that **non-divergent Lagrangian flows preserve volumes!**

# The Geometric Conservation Law

Our scheme violates the **Geometric Conservation Law** (GCL), which is **critical for methods** involving **any kind of moving grids**:

$$\frac{d}{dt} \int_{C_i(t)} dx = \int_{\partial C_i(t)} \mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{n} ds$$

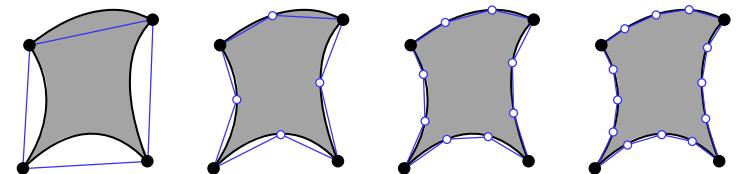
Thomas, Lombardi, AIAA 17, 1979

## Some recent work on GCL:

**Use more Lagrangian points.**

- **Enforces GCL approximately.**

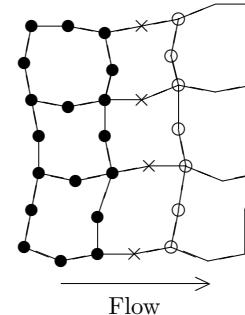
Lauritzen, Nair, Ullrich, *A conservative semi-Lagrangian multi-tracer transport scheme on the cubed-sphere grid*, JCP 229/5 (2010)



**Heuristic mesh adjustment procedure:**

- **No theoretical assurance of completion.**

Arbogast, Huang, *A fully mass and volume conserving implementation of a characteristic method for transport problems*, SISC 28 (6) (2006).



- Adjusted point to remain fixed at this stage.
- Points adjusted simultaneously in the direction of the characteristic.
- × Points adjusted “sideways” to the flow.

**Monge-Ampere trajectory correction**

- **Requires** nontrivial solution of the nonlinear MAE
- **Approximate:** GCL  $\approx$  accuracy of MAE scheme

Cossette, Smolarkiewicz, Charbonneau, *The Monge–Ampere trajectory correction for semi-Lagrangian schemes*, JCP, (2014) –

**Correct departure points according to**

$$\tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij}^{corr} = \tilde{\mathbf{p}}_{ij} + (t - t_n) \nabla \phi; \quad \det \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}_{ij}^{corr}}{\partial x} = 1$$

# An optimization solution to the GCL

## Statement of the volume correction problem

**Given:** a **source mesh**  $\tilde{C}(\Omega)$  and  $\mathbf{c}_o \in \mathbf{R}^m$  such that  $\sum_{C_i} c_{0,i} = |\Omega|$  and  $c_{0,i} \geq 0 \quad \forall i$

**Find:** a **volume compliant** mesh  $C(\Omega)$  such that:

- a)  $C(\Omega)$  has the **same connectivity** as the source mesh
- b) The **volumes** of its cells **match the volumes** prescribed in  $\mathbf{c}_o$
- c) Every cell  $C_i \in C(\Omega)$  is **valid**; or **convex**
- d) Boundary points in  $C(\Omega)$  **correspond** to boundary points in  $\tilde{C}(\Omega)$

- **The volume correction problem may or may not have a solution!**
- **An important setting in which solution always exist is when**

The source mesh  $\tilde{C}(\Omega)$  is transformation of another mesh  $\breve{C}(\Omega)$  such that:

$$\forall \breve{C}_i \in \breve{C}(\Omega) \text{ is valid, or convex and } |\breve{C}_i| = c_{0,i}$$

In this case  $C(\Omega) = \breve{C}(\Omega)$  is a **trivial solution** of the volume correction problem

# Volume correction as an optimization problem

We consider quads (simplices are actually easier). We need few things:

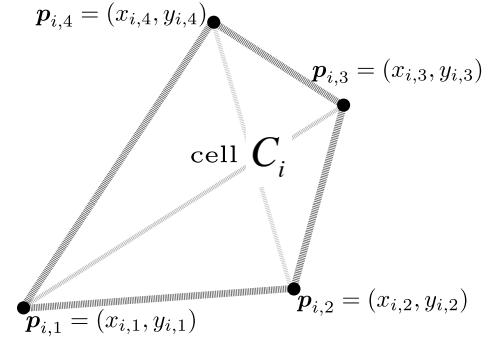
**Oriented volume of a quad cell:**

$$\forall C_i \in C(\Omega), \quad |C_i| = \frac{1}{2} \left( (x_{i,1} - x_{i,3})(y_{i,2} - y_{i,4}) + (x_{i,2} - x_{i,4})(y_{i,3} - y_{i,1}) \right)$$

**Partitioning of a quad into triangles:**

$$T_{i,r} \in C_i, \quad T_{i,r} = (p_{a_r}, p_{b_r}, p_{c_r})$$

$$(a_r, b_r, c_r) = \begin{cases} (1, 2, 4) & r = 1 \\ (2, 3, 4) & r = 2 \\ (1, 3, 4) & r = 3 \\ (1, 2, 3) & r = 4 \end{cases}$$



**Oriented volume of a triangle**

$$T_{i,r} \in C_i, \quad |T_{i,r}| = \frac{1}{2} \left( x_{i,a_r} (y_{i,c_r} - y_{i,b_r}) - x_{i,b_r} (y_{i,a_r} - y_{i,c_r}) - x_{i,c_r} (y_{i,b_r} - y_{i,a_r}) \right)$$

**Convexity indicator for a quad cell:**

$C_i$  is convex, if the oriented areas of all its triangles are positive:  $\forall T_{i,r} \in C_i, |T_{i,r}| > 0$

# Volume correction as an optimization problem



**Optimization objective:**

**Mesh distance**



$$J_0(p, \tilde{p}) = \frac{1}{2} d(C(\Omega), \tilde{C}(\Omega))^2 = \|p - \tilde{p}\|_{\ell^2}^2$$

**Optimization constraints:**

**① Volume equality**



$$\forall C_i \in C(\Omega), |C_i| = c_{0,i}$$

**② Cell convexity**



$$\forall C_i \in C(\Omega), \forall T_{i,r} \in C_i, |T_{i,r}| > 0$$

**③ Boundary compliance**



$$\forall p_j \in \partial\Omega, \gamma(p_j) = 0$$

**Nonlinear programming problem (NLP)**

$$p^* = \arg \min \{J_0(p, \tilde{p}) \text{ subject to (1), (2), and (3)}\}$$

# A simplified NLP formulation

Consider a polygonal domain:

- Boundary compliance on polygonal  $\Omega$  can be subsumed in the volume constraint
- Convexity can be enforced weakly by logarithmic barrier functions
- This leaves only the equality volume constraint and gives the simplified NLP:

$$p^* = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ J(p) \text{ subject to } |C_i| = c_{0,i} \forall i \right\} \quad J(p) = J_0(p) - \beta \sum_{C_i} \sum_{T_{i,r} \in C_i} \log |T_{i,r}|$$

Specialization to simplicial cells

A **valid** simplex is always **convex**  $\longrightarrow$  A simplex is valid if and only if  $|C_i| > 0$

Since  $c_{0,i} > 0$ , the volume equality constraint  $\forall C_i \in C(\Omega)$ ,  $|C_i| = c_{0,i}$  implies  $|C_i| > 0$ !

$$p^* = \operatorname{argmin} \left\{ J_0(p) \text{ subject to } |C_i| = c_{0,i} \forall i \right\}$$

# A scalable optimization algorithm

Based on the [inexact trust region](#) sequential quadratic programming (SQP) method of Ridzal and Heinkenschloss. Key properties of the inexact SQP approach:

- [Fast local convergence](#), based on its relationship to Newton's method,
- [Use of 'inexact' solvers](#) enables an efficient solution of very large NLP.
- [Key requirement](#) in the method: [design of an efficient preconditioner](#).

**Given an optimization iterate  $p^k$  all linear systems involved are of the form**

$$\begin{pmatrix} I & \nabla C(p^k)^T \\ \nabla C(p^k) & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} v^1 \\ v^2 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} b^1 \\ b^2 \end{pmatrix} \quad C(p^k) \text{ - polynomial matrix function of coordinates}$$

## Preconditioner

$$\pi^k = \begin{pmatrix} I & 0 \\ 0 & (\nabla C(p^k) \nabla C(p^k)^T + \varepsilon I)^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

- $\varepsilon > 0$  small parameter  $\sim 10^{-8}h$
- $\nabla C(p^k) \nabla C(p^k)^T + \varepsilon I$  formed explicitly
- Inverse: smoothed aggregation AMG – Trilinos

If  $\nabla C(p^k)$  is full rank, preconditioned GMRES converges in 3 iterations (Golub et al SISC 21/6, 2000)

# Algorithm scalability

To challenge the algorithm we test performance as follows:

- Start with a uniform  $nxn$  mesh and advance to final time using the deformational velocity field.
- Apply algorithm to the **deformed mesh** at final time **setting  $c_0$  to initial mesh volumes**.

Analytic action of  $\nabla^2 J(p)$  but finite difference  $\nabla C(p)$

n	SQP	CG	GMRES	GMRES av.	CPU	%ML
64	3	2	34	<b>2.3</b>	0.962	<b>59</b>
128	3	2	42	<b>2.8</b>	3.551	<b>75</b>
256	2	1	30	<b>3.0</b>	10.54	<b>82</b>
512	3	1	49	<b>3.5</b>	87.07	<b>88</b>

Analytic action of  $\nabla^2 J(p)$

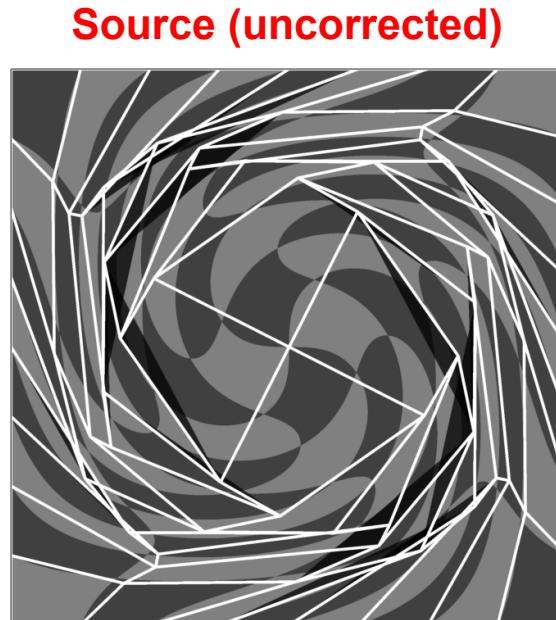
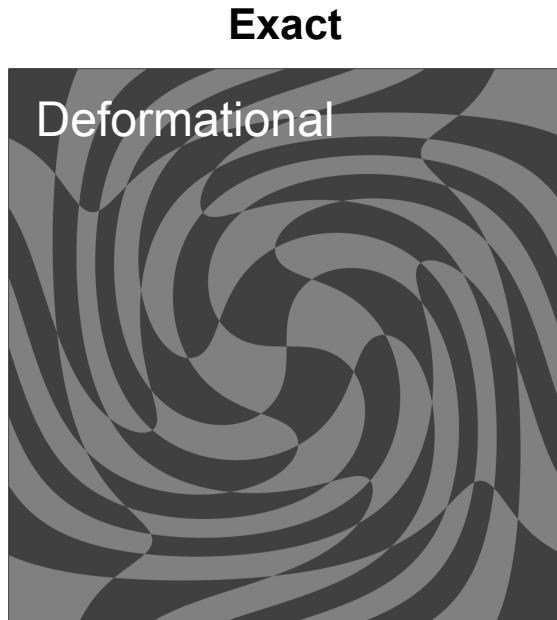
n	SQP	CG	GMRES	GMRES av.	CPU	%ML
64	3	2	28	<b>1.9</b>	0.860	<b>65</b>
128	3	2	36	<b>2.4</b>	3.115	<b>81</b>
256	2	1	25	<b>2.5</b>	8.787	<b>85</b>
512	3	1	43	<b>3.1</b>	73.775	<b>90</b>

- Almost constant GMRES iterations; average GMRES  $\sim$  theoretical bound of 3 (inexact ML solve!)
- The matrix  $\nabla C(\cdot)\nabla C(\cdot)^T \approx \Delta$ , hence the appropriateness of AMG for the preconditioner
- CPU per SQP iteration scales linearly with problem size & confirms choice of preconditioner
- SQP and inner CG iteration counts to achieve machine precision are mesh independent
- The algorithm inherits its scalability from the AMG solver.

# Applications: Lagrangian mesh motion

**Models the evolution of the computational mesh under a non-divergent velocity**

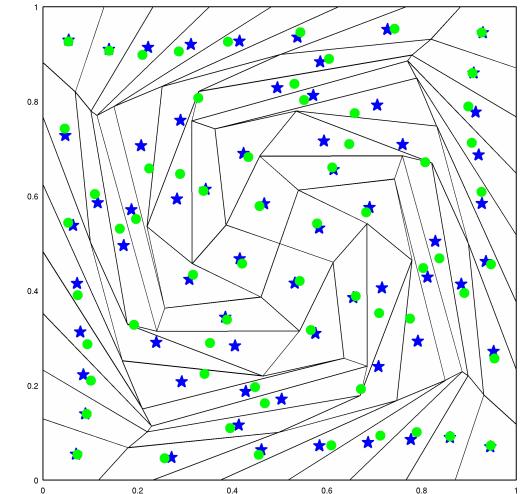
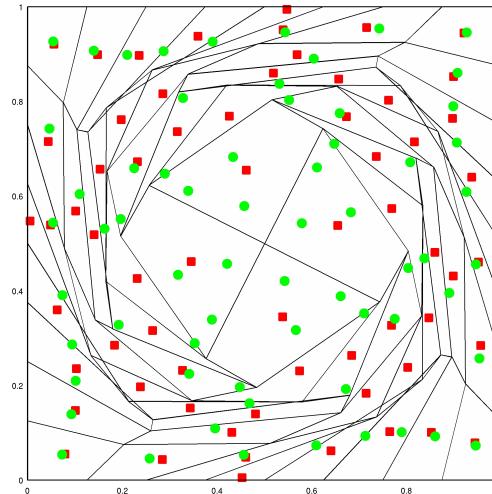
$$\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} \sin(\pi x)^2 \sin(2\pi y) \cos(\pi t / T) \\ -\sin(\pi y)^2 \sin(2\pi x) \cos(\pi t / T) \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \leftarrow \text{Deformational} \\ \text{Rotational} \rightarrow \end{array} \quad \mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}, t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0.5 - y \\ 0.5 - x \end{pmatrix}$$



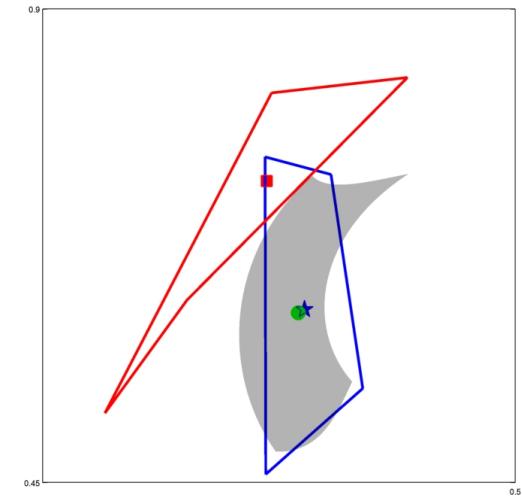
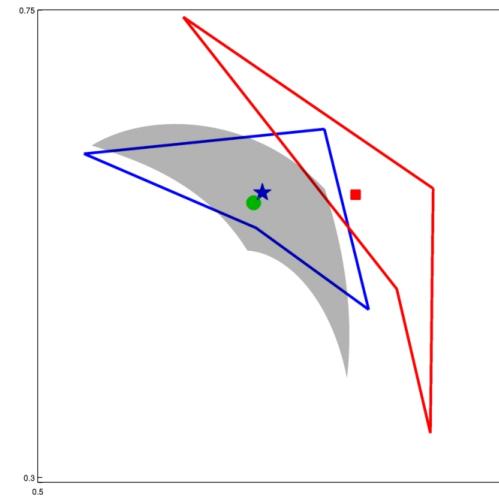
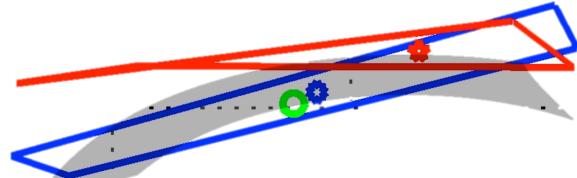
# Improvements in mesh geometry

## Cell barycenters

- ★ - exact Lagrangian mesh
- - source (uncorrected)
- - compliant (corrected)

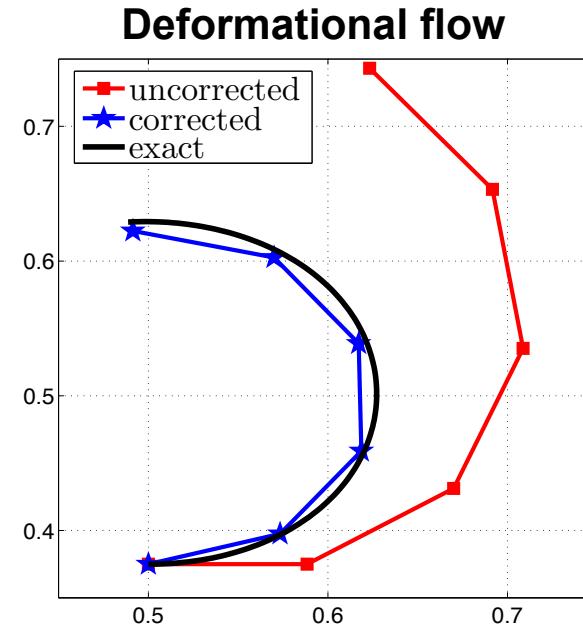
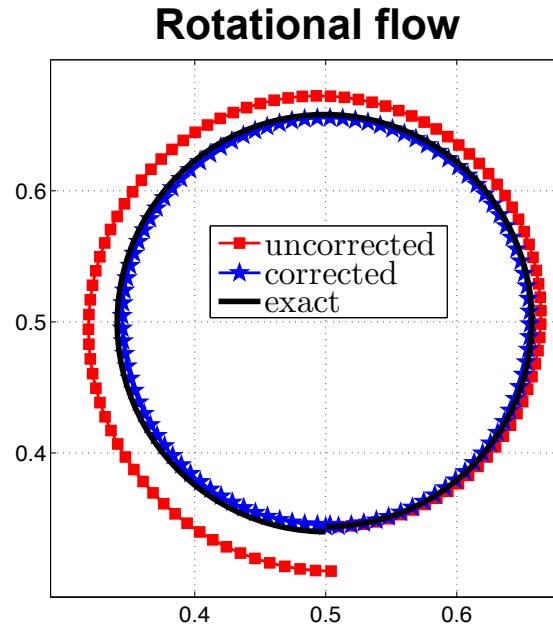


## Invalid cell in the source mesh:



# Improvements in mesh geometry

## Point trajectories



We observe significant improvements in the geometry of the corrected mesh:

- The **shapes** of the corrected cells are close to the **exact Lagrangian shapes**
- The **barycenters** of the corrected cells are very close to the **exact barycenters**
- The **trajectories** of the corrected points track the **exact Lagrangian trajectories** very closely

# Applications: semi-Lagrangian transport



Recall the cell-centered optimization-based semi-Lagrangian scheme:

**Step 1: Trace back** cell vertices to find the Lagrangian (**departure**) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

**Step 2: Optimization-based remap** of Lagrangian values from arrival to departure grid.

**Step 3: Update** values on the Eulerian (**arrival**) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

We modify it to include a volume correction step:

Step 1: Trace back cell vertices to find the Lagrangian (**departure**) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

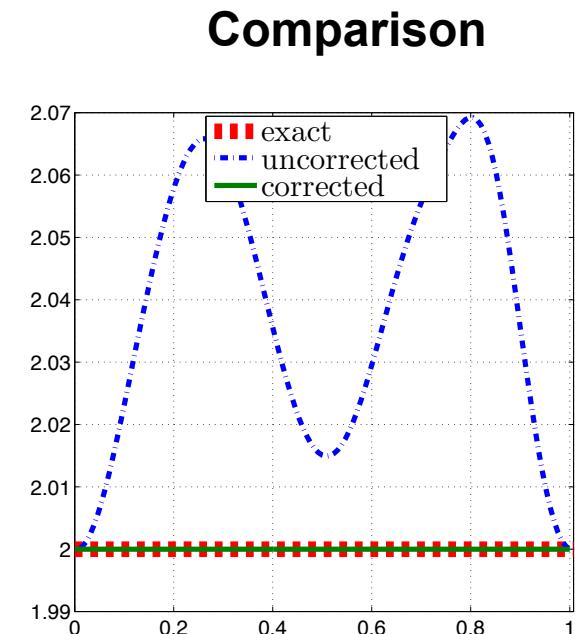
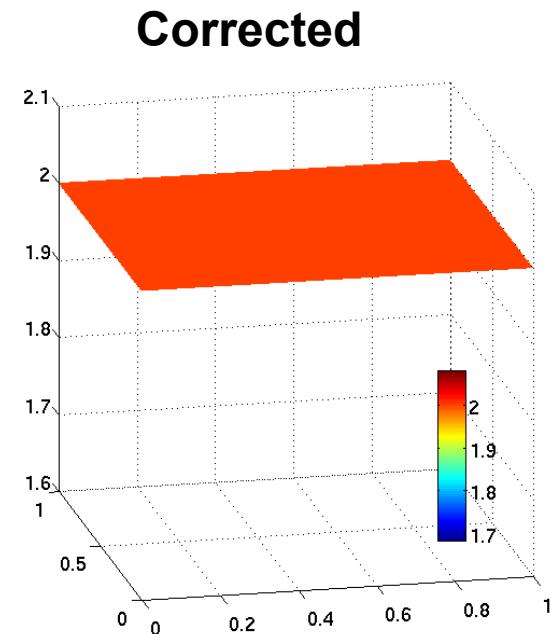
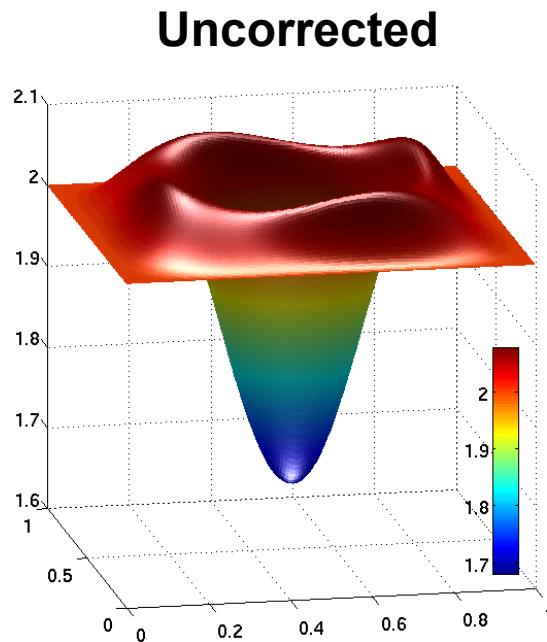
**Step 1+:** Correct the **departure grid** to match the cell volumes of the **arrival grid**

Step 2: Optimization-based remap of Lagrangian values from arrival to departure grid.

Step 3: Update values on the Eulerian (**arrival**) grid  $\tilde{C}(\Omega(t))$

# Applications: semi-Lagrangian transport

Constant in time density: rotational flow

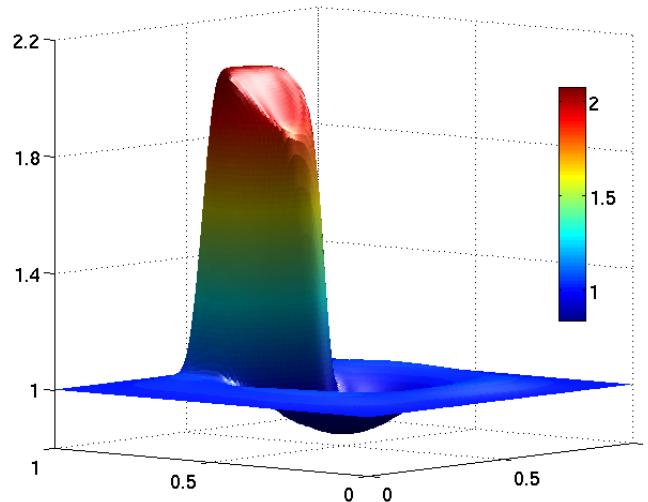


Plots of the density at time  $t^N = 1.5$  for Forward Euler simulations with  $\Delta t = 0.006$

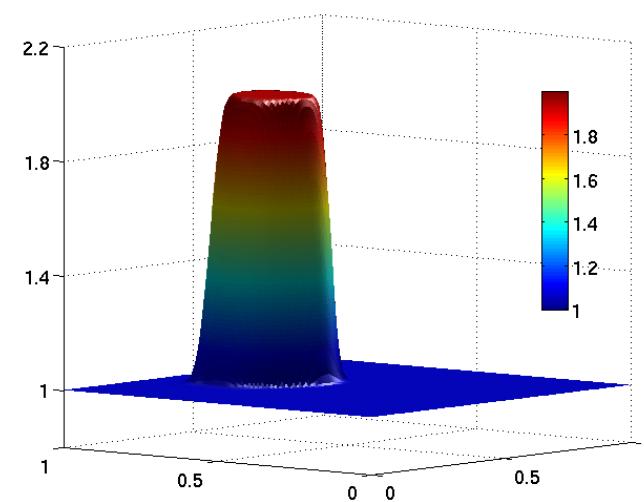
# Applications: semi-Lagrangian transport

Initial cylindrical density distribution: rotational flow

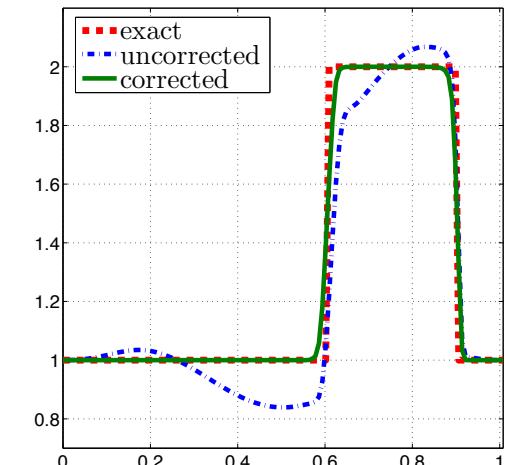
Uncorrected



Corrected



Comparison



Plots of the density at time  $t^N = 1.5$  for Forward Euler simulations with  $\Delta t = 0.006$

# Conclusions

Traditional approaches to devise stable and accurate numerical methods are reaching **a point of diminishing returns for complex applications** involving multiple mathematical models, requiring diverse, heterogeneous numerical methods.

The use of **optimization ideas** to couple **heterogeneous numerical methods** and to **preserve the relevant physical properties** is very promising.

However, its **success depends critically on the availability of efficient and scalable optimization algorithms** to solve the resulting QPs and NLPs.

We've presented **two examples** where such **algorithms are available** and optimization leads to **successful heterogeneous numerical methods** and **property preserving schemes**.

**Development of fast, scalable optimization algorithms is likely to play the same role for Heterogeneous Numerical Methods as the development of fast, scalable linear solvers did in the past for conventional PDE methods.**