

# Iterative Pressure Poisson Equation Method for Solving the Unsteady Incompressible N–S Equations

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**Abstract** <sup>2 3</sup>

We present an iterative pressure Poisson equation method for solving the viscous incompressible Navier–Stokes equations. Comparing with the pressure Poisson equation method, it uses the increment of the pressure, the difference of two successive pressures ( $p_k^{n+1}$  and  $p_{k+1}^{n+1}$ ), instead of the pressure  $p^{n+1}$  as an unknown variable. We apply it to a fourth order accurate staggered mesh compact difference scheme, simulate the driven flow in a square cavity with  $Re = 5000$  and  $10000$ .

**Key Words:** N–S equations, pressure Poisson equation method, incompressible, compact scheme.

## 1. Introduction

To solve incompressible fluid flow problems numerically, we can use the primitive variables velocity and pressure as well as the vortex and stream function in the control equations. A main difficulty associated with the solution of the incompressible Navier–Stokes equations in velocity–pressure formulation is the presence of the constraint  $\text{div } \mathbf{V} = 0$ , which must be satisfied at any time, does not allow the use of a simple explicit method that avoids solution of an algebraic system of equations. While using the vortex–stream function equations, the continuity equation is satisfied automatically. Therefore there is no problem of the constraint, but the boundary condition for the vortex is difficult to handle, and it is not easy to apply to three dimensional problems and problems with free surface or other fluid interface.

The methods of solving the difficulty of the velocity must satisfy the divergence–free constraint are: the artificial compressibility method<sup>[3][17]</sup>; the pressure Poisson equation method<sup>[4][16]</sup>; and the projection method<sup>[17]</sup>; the divergence–free scheme<sup>[5]–[7]</sup>, and etc. For the unsteady problems, Chorin’s artificial compressibility method<sup>[3]</sup> can be written as: for each time step:

(1) calculate the velocity  $\mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1}$  (using the momentum equations with the last step pressure  $p_k^{n+1}$ )

$$(2) p_{k+1}^{n+1} = p_k^{n+1} - \lambda^{-1} \text{div}_h \mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1} \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\lambda > 0$  is a small parameter that needs adjust in the computation.

The pressure Poisson equation method is<sup>[4][16]</sup>: taking the divergence of the momentum equations, eliminating the divergence of the  $(n+1)$ –step velocity, we get the pressure Poisson equation which is used to replace the continuity equation.

This paper improves the pressure Poisson equation method to an iterative algorithm, using the increment of the pressure, the difference of two successive pressures ( $p_k^{n+1}$  and

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$p_{k+1}^{n+1}$ ), instead of the pressure  $p^{n+1}$  as an unknown variable, see (2.7). It has the following advantages:

1. it can ensure the discrete continuity equation satisfied as exactly as expected (see (2.8));
2.  $\nabla_H^2$  in the Poisson equation (2.7) needs not adopt a high order accurate operator, e. g., for a 2D 4th order accurate compact scheme,  $\nabla_H^2$  can adopt the 5-point central difference. Chorin method (1.1) corresponds to (2.7) with  $\nabla_H^2 = -\lambda/\Delta t$ ;
3. comparing with Chorin method (1.1), it convergent much faster;
4. it can be applied to three dimensional problems directly. (for a 3D problem,  $\nabla_H^2$  can adopt a 7-point central difference);
5. it can be extended to finite element schemes.

Constructing a difference scheme with a thrice spline function interpolation may improve computation accuracy without increasing the mesh points, see [9]. The compact schemes were developed on the basis of the trice spline function difference scheme. Its essential idea is using trice spline functions to make difference of the spatial derivatives. Liu Hong<sup>[1]</sup> used a second order accurate scheme in [11] to calculate a driven flow in a square cavity, the results agree well with the experiment only in the case of low  $Re$ . He<sup>[1]</sup> constructed a compact scheme according to [10], applied it to solving the driven flow problem, in the calculation he found oscillations near the left-upper corner. When  $Re$  much larger, there were oscillations near a lower corner too, so that the computations could not keep on. This shows that the central difference non-staggered mesh compact scheme produces non-physical numerical oscillations at where flow parameter varies acutely. He<sup>[1]</sup> applied the upwind technique to the non-staggered mesh compact difference scheme to solve the incompressible flow, solved the above oscillations problem successfully. His main results in [1] are published in [19].

The staggered mesh compact scheme proposed by us does not produce the above oscillations in the same calculations of the driven flow problem without using the upwind technique. The three-point central difference scheme is of the fourth order accuracy, while the upwind three-point compact scheme is of third order accuracy. This shows a good quality of the staggered mesh schemes.

Since unsteady phenomenon is concerned, it is necessary to approximate the time derivative with high order accuracy. We use the fourth order accurate Runge-Kutta method, see §3.4.

This paper is a revised version of [18].

## 2. The Iterative Pressure Poisson Equation Method

The unsteady viscous Navier-Stokes equations are:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla p = \mathbf{0}, \text{ in } \Omega, \quad (\text{ where } \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{V}) = (\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{V} - \nu \nabla^2 \mathbf{V} ) \quad (2.1)$$

The incompressible continuity equation is:

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{V} = 0, \quad \text{ in } \Omega \quad (\text{ in this paper: } \mathbf{V} = (u, v)^T ) \quad (2.2)$$

We consider an explicit discrete form of (2.1)(2.2):

$$\frac{\mathbf{V}^{n+1} - \mathbf{V}^*}{\Delta t} + \nabla_h p^{n+1} = \mathbf{0}, \quad (\text{ where } \mathbf{V}^* = \mathbf{V}^n - \Delta t \mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V}^n) ), \quad (2.3)$$

$$\operatorname{div}_h \mathbf{V}^{n+1} = 0, \quad (\mathbf{V}^{n+1} = (u^{n+1}, v^{n+1})^T \text{ for 2D problems }) \quad (2.4)$$

(We will describe a particular scheme — a compact difference scheme in §3.1). Then the pressure Poisson equation can be written as:

$$\nabla_h^2 p^{n+1} = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \operatorname{div}_h \mathbf{V}^* \quad (2.5)$$

where  $\mathbf{V}^* = \mathbf{V}^n - \Delta t \mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V}^n)$ ,  $\Delta t$  is the time step. Both LHS and RHS of (2.5) have various forms, corresponding to a kind of different pressure Poisson equation methods. [16] proposed a class of pressure Poisson equation schemes that satisfy the equivalency<sup>4</sup>.

**The iterative pressure Poisson equation method:**

Take  $n$ -step values as initial:  $\mathbf{V}_0^{n+1} = \mathbf{V}^n, p_0^{n+1} = p^n$ , calculate  $\mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1}, p_{k+1}^{n+1}, k = 0, 1, 2, \dots$  iteratively:

(1) calculate the velocity  $\mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1}$ :

$$\frac{\mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1} - \mathbf{V}^*}{\Delta t} + \nabla_h p_k^{n+1} = 0, \quad (\text{where } \mathbf{V}^* = \mathbf{V}^n - \Delta t \mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V}^n)), \quad (2.6)$$

(2) solve the pressure  $p_{k+1}^{n+1}$  with an approximate Poisson equation (first solve  $p_{k+1}^{n+1} - p_k^{n+1}$  as one unknown variable):

$$\nabla_H^2 (p_{k+1}^{n+1} - p_k^{n+1}) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} \operatorname{div}_h \mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1} \quad (2.7)$$

(3) set  $\mathbf{V}^{n+1} = \mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1}$  when the following inequality valid

$$\|\operatorname{div}_h \mathbf{V}_{k+1}^{n+1}\| \leq \epsilon \quad (2.8)$$

where  $\epsilon > 0$  is a small quantity given beforehand,  $\|\cdot\|$  is a norm.  $\epsilon$  can be  $O(h^4)$  when (2.3)(2.4) are of fourth order accuracy.

$\operatorname{div}_h$  in (2.7) (2.8) is a part of the original scheme, while  $\nabla_H^2$  in (2.7) can adopt a simple difference operator. e. g., for a 2D compact scheme,  $\nabla_H^2$  may adopt a 5-point central difference.

The iterative algorithm above is a means of solving the original scheme, such as the compact scheme. It does not change the numerical solution. (In this point, it just likes the Gauss-Seidel method for a system of linear equations). The divergence-free scheme, (the dimensional reduction method in [5]–[7]), is also a means of solving the original scheme.

We write the iterative method above to a general form: for linear equations

$$Lp = b \quad (2.9)$$

iterate to solve  $\{p_k\}$  from:

$$L_1(p_{k+1} - p_k) = b - Lp_k, \quad (k = 0, 1, 2, \dots) \quad (2.10)$$

where  $L_1$  is an approximate form of  $L$ . Generally  $L_1$  is simpler than  $L$ , (2.10) is easily to be solved than (2.9). Now we briefly analyze the convergency. (2.10) can be written as:

$$p_{k+1} = L_1^{-1}(L_1 - L)p_k + L_1^{-1}b \quad (2.11)$$

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<sup>4</sup>The continued form (in contrast with the discrete form in [16]) of the equivalency is: the differential equation  $\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V} - \alpha \mathbf{NS}) = 0$  (corresponding to (3.3) in [16]) and (2.1) are equivalent to (2.2)(2.1), here  $\mathbf{NS}$  is the left hand side of (2.1),  $\alpha$  is an arbitrary constant.

$\operatorname{div}(\mathbf{V} - \alpha \mathbf{NS}) = 0$  leads to a pressure Poisson equation.

the convergence condition is  $\rho(L_1^{-1}(L_1 - L)) < 1$ . Comparing (2.6)–(2.10),  $L = \text{div}_h \nabla_h$ ,  $L_1 = \nabla_H^2$ . Therefore  $\rho(L_1^{-1}(L_1 - L)) < 1$  should be no problem generally.

### 3. Compact Difference Schemes (2D, staggered mesh, fourth order)

We consider the two dimensional unsteady viscous incompressible N-S equations:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{A}(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla p = \mathbf{0}, \text{ in } \Omega, \quad (3.1)$$

$$\text{div } \mathbf{V} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \quad (3.2)$$

where  $\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{V}) = (uu_x + vu_y - \nu(u_{xx} + u_{yy}), uv_x + vv_y - \nu(v_{xx} + v_{yy}))^T$ ,  $\nabla p = (p_x, p_y)^T$ ,  $\text{div } \mathbf{V} = u_x + v_y$

#### 3.1 Fourth order accurate compact schemes on a 2D staggered mesh

For this kind of schemes, the derivatives, as well as the velocity and the pressure themselves, are employed to be unknowns of the difference equations. For explicit schemes and those that have no implicit compact difference, we can solve the derivatives  $u_x, u_y$  from  $u$  first. The solution pattern is similar to the ADI method: in  $x$  and  $y$  directions, solve the partial derivatives in  $x$  and  $y$  directions respectively. For a uniform mesh: consider a finite difference scheme of (3.1)(3.2),

$$\frac{\mathbf{V}^{n+1} - \mathbf{V}^n}{\Delta t} + \mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V}^n) + \nabla_h p^{n+1} = \mathbf{0}, \quad (3.3)$$

$$\text{div}_h \mathbf{V}^{n+1} = 0, \quad (3.4)$$

where  $\mathbf{V}^n = (u^n, v^n)^T$ ;  $\mathbf{A}_h, \nabla_h, \text{div}_h$  are finite difference forms of  $\mathbf{A}, \nabla, \text{div}$ :

(1) finite difference forms of the first derivatives  $u_x, u_y$  in  $\mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V})$  are:

$$\frac{u'_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 4u'_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + u'_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{6} = \frac{u_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - u_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{2\Delta x}, (i \geq 1, j \geq 1), \quad (3.5)_1$$

$$\frac{u'_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 4u'_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} + u'_{i,j+\frac{3}{2}}}{6} = \frac{u_{i,j+\frac{3}{2}} - u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{2\Delta y}, (i \geq 1, j \geq 1), \quad (3.5)_2$$

$v_y, v_x$  in  $\mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V})$  are similar to (3.5),

(2) finite difference forms of the second derivatives  $u_{xx}, u_{yy}$  in  $\mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V})$ :

$$\frac{u''_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 10u''_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + u''_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{12} = \frac{u_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - 2u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + u_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{(\Delta x)^2}, (i \geq 2, j \geq 1), \quad (3.6)_1$$

$$\frac{u''_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 10u''_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} + u''_{i,j+\frac{3}{2}}}{12} = \frac{u_{i,j+\frac{3}{2}} - 2u_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} + u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{(\Delta y)^2}, (i \geq 1, j \geq 1), \quad (3.6)_2$$

$v_{yy}, v_{xx}$  in  $\mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V})$  are similar to (3.6),

(3) for the derivative  $p_x$  in  $\nabla_h p$ ,

$$\frac{p'_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 2p'_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + p'_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{2\Delta x} = \frac{p_{i+\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} - p_{i-\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x}, (i \geq 2, j \geq 1), \quad (3.7)$$

similar for  $p_y$ ,

(4) for  $u_x$  in  $\text{div}_h \mathbf{V}$ ,

$$\frac{u'_{i-\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} + 22u'_{i+\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} + u'_{i+\frac{3}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}}}{24} = \frac{u_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x}, (i \geq 1, j \geq 1), \quad (3.8)$$

similar for  $v_y$  in  $\text{div}_h \mathbf{V}$  in  $v_y$ ,

(5) for  $u$  in  $uv_x$  in  $(\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{V}$ , the interpolation is employed:

$$u_{i-\frac{1}{2},j} = \frac{\bar{u}_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + \bar{u}_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + \bar{u}_{i-1,j+\frac{1}{2}} + \bar{u}_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}}}{4}, (i \geq 1, j \geq 1), \quad (3.9)_1$$

$$\bar{u}_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} = u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{8}[(\Delta x)^2 u_{xx} + (\Delta y)^2 u_{yy}]_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}, (i \geq 0, j \geq 1), \quad (3.9)_2$$

where  $u_{xx}, u_{yy}$  can adopt the result of (3.6), and for  $v$  in  $vu_y$ , similar to above. (3.9)<sub>3</sub>

(6) for  $\mathbf{V}_t$ : (3.3) adopts the first order accurate difference. A fourth order accurate Runge-Kutta method is given in §3.4.

### 3.2 difference formulations on the boundary

$\mathbf{V}|_\Gamma = \mathbf{V}_\Gamma = (u^\Gamma, v^\Gamma)^T$  on  $\Gamma = \partial\Omega$ . Now we mainly describe difference formulations near the left boundary  $x = 0$ .

$$(1)_1 \quad (u_x)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = (-v_y^\Gamma)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}}, (j \geq 1) \quad (\text{from the continuity equation (3.2)}), \quad (3.10)$$

$$(1)_2 \quad u_y \text{ at } y = \frac{3}{4}\Delta y \text{ and } v_x \text{ at } x = \frac{3}{4}\Delta x :$$

$$\frac{3u'_{i,\frac{1}{2}} + u'_{i,\frac{3}{2}}}{4} = \frac{u_{i,\frac{3}{2}} - u_{i,0}}{\frac{3}{2}\Delta y}, (i \geq 1); \quad \frac{3v'_{\frac{1}{2},j} + v'_{\frac{3}{2},j}}{4} = \frac{v_{\frac{3}{2},j} - v_{0,j}}{\frac{3}{2}\Delta x}, (j \geq 1), \quad (3.11)$$

here  $u_{i,0} = (u^\Gamma)_{i,0} = u^\Gamma|_{x=i\Delta x, y=0}$ ,  $v_{0,j} = (v^\Gamma)_{0,j} = v^\Gamma|_{x=0, y=j\Delta y}$

$$(2)_1 \quad u_{xx} \text{ at } x = \frac{10}{9}\Delta x:$$

$$\frac{8u''_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + u''_{2,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{9} = \frac{9u_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} - 16u_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 7u_{2,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{6(\Delta x)^2} + \frac{u'_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{3\Delta x}, (j \geq 1) \quad (3.12)$$

where  $u'_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = -(v_y^\Gamma)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = -v_y^\Gamma|_{x=0, y=(j-\frac{1}{2})\Delta y}$ .  $v_{yy}$  at  $y = \frac{10}{9}\Delta y$  is similar to (3.12),

$$(2)_2 \quad u_{yy} \text{ at } y = \frac{2}{3}\Delta y:$$

$$\frac{5u''_{i,\frac{1}{2}} + u''_{i,\frac{3}{2}}}{6} - \frac{1}{48}(u''_{i,\frac{1}{2}} - 2u''_{i,\frac{3}{2}} + u''_{i,\frac{5}{2}}) = \frac{4}{3} \cdot \frac{2u_{i,0} - 3u_{i,\frac{1}{2}} + u_{i,\frac{3}{2}}}{(\Delta y)^2}, (i \geq 1), \quad (3.13)$$

where  $u_{i,0} = u_{i,0}^\Gamma$ ,  $v_{xx}$  at  $x = \frac{2}{3}\Delta x$  is similar to (3.13),

$$(3) \quad p_x \text{ at } x = \Delta x:$$

$$p'_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{p'_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - 2p'_{2,j-\frac{1}{2}} + p'_{3,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{24} = \frac{p_{\frac{3}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} - p_{\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x}, (j \geq 1) \quad (3.14)$$

$p_y$  at  $y = \Delta y$  similar,

$$(4) \quad u_x \text{ in } \text{div} \mathbf{V} \text{ at } x = \frac{1}{2}\Delta x:$$

$$\frac{2u'_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 15u'_{\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} + u'_{\frac{3}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}}}{18} = \frac{u_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - u_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x}, (j \geq 1), \quad (3.15)$$

where  $u'_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = -(v_y^\Gamma)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} \cdot v_y$  at  $y = \frac{1}{2}\Delta y$  is similar to (3.15),

(5) boundary values of  $u_{xx}, u_{yy}$  in (3.9)<sub>2</sub>:

$$(u_{xx})_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = 2(u_{xx})_{\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} - (u_{xx})_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}}, (u_{xx})_{\frac{1}{2},j-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{(u_x)_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - (u_x)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{\Delta x}, \quad (3.16)_1$$

$$(u_{yy})_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = (u_{yy}^\Gamma)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}}, \quad (3.16)_2$$

where  $(u_x)_{1,j-\frac{1}{2}}$  can be got from (3.5).  $(u_x)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}} = -(v_y^\Gamma)_{0,j-\frac{1}{2}}$ .

### 3.3 An upwind compact difference scheme

Alter the formulation (3.5)<sub>1</sub> to

$$\frac{1}{3}u'_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{2}{3}u'_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{u_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}} + 4u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} - 5u_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{6\Delta x}, \text{ (if } v_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} \geq 0) \left( \begin{matrix} i \geq 1 \\ j \geq 1 \end{matrix} \right) \quad (3.17)_1$$

$$\frac{2}{3}u'_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} + \frac{1}{3}u'_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}} = \frac{5u_{i+1,j-\frac{1}{2}} - 4u_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} - u_{i-1,j-\frac{1}{2}}}{6\Delta x}, \text{ (if } v_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}} < 0) \left( \begin{matrix} i \geq 1 \\ j \geq 1 \end{matrix} \right) \quad (3.17)_2$$

(where  $v_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}$  see (3.9)<sub>3</sub>). alter(3.5)<sub>2</sub> similarly. Other formulations are same with (3.6)–(3.16).

The difference between (3.17) and (1.1.26)(1.1.27) in [1], i. e. (2.8)(2.9) in [19], is  $F(=u')$  has no superscripts + and -. ( $I - 4 + 5I^{-1}$  should be  $I + 4 - 5I^{-1}$  in (2.8) of [19]).

### 3.4 The Runge–Kutta method (For unsteady problem, time direction)

Define  $\mathbf{f}(\mathbf{V}) = \mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla_h p$ , where  $p = p(\mathbf{V})$  satisfies  $\text{div}_h(\mathbf{A}_h(\mathbf{V}) + \nabla_h p) = 0$ . Thus  $\mathbf{f}$  is a function of  $\mathbf{V}$ . The fourth order Runge–Kutta formulation for solving  $\mathbf{V}_t + \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{V}) = \mathbf{0}$  is:

$$\frac{\mathbf{V}^{n+1} - \mathbf{V}^n}{\Delta t} + \frac{\mathbf{k}_1 + 2\mathbf{k}_2 + 2\mathbf{k}_3 + \mathbf{k}_4}{6} = \mathbf{0}, \quad (3.18)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{V}^{(1)} &= \mathbf{V}^n - \frac{\Delta t}{2}\mathbf{k}_1, \quad \mathbf{V}^{(2)} = \mathbf{V}^n - \frac{\Delta t}{2}\mathbf{k}_2, \quad \mathbf{V}^{(3)} = \mathbf{V}^n - \Delta t\mathbf{k}_3, \\ \mathbf{k}_1 &= \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{V}^n), \quad \mathbf{k}_2 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{V}^{(1)}), \quad \mathbf{k}_3 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{V}^{(2)}), \quad \mathbf{k}_4 = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{V}^{(3)}) \end{aligned}$$

For intermediate boundary conditions, we have proposed the following formulations in the journal "Mathematica Numerica Sinica" (Vol. 20, No. 1, 1998, page 56), (in the paper, the last "-" in the formulation for  $V^{(2)}$  should be altered by "+"):

$$\mathbf{V}^{(1)} = \mathbf{V}^n + \frac{\Delta t}{2} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{V}}{\partial t} \Big|_{t=n\Delta t} \right), \quad \mathbf{V}^{(2)} = 2(\mathbf{V}|_{t=(n+\frac{1}{2})\Delta t}) - \mathbf{V}^{(1)}, \quad \mathbf{V}^{(3)} = (\mathbf{V}|_{t=(n+1)\Delta t}), \quad (\text{on } \Gamma)$$

## 4. Calculations of the Driven Flow in a Square Cavity

We consider the viscous incompressible fluid flow problem driven by the shearing force in a two dimensional unit square cavity. The control equations adopt the unsteady Navier–Stokes equations (3.1)(3.2). Computation area:  $0 < x < 1, 0 < y < 1$ . Boundary conditions:

$$\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_\Gamma = \begin{cases} (-1, 0)^T & \text{when } y = 1 \\ (0, 0)^T & \text{when } y = 0 \text{ or } x = 0 \text{ or } x = 1 \end{cases} \quad (4.1)$$

$\Delta x = \Delta y = 1/N$  with  $N \times N$ .  $\nabla_H^2$  in (2.7) adopts the five–point central difference.

To solve (2.7), use the multigrid method one loop (grid from fine to coarse, then from coarse to fine), thus the algorithm likes an integrated multigrid procedure. (for such "multigrid method", in the "first–grid",  $\nabla_h^2$  is the "fine grid",  $\nabla_H^2$  is the "coarse grid").

Figure 1 presents the calculation results of the iterative pressure Poisson equation method with the upwind staggered mesh compact difference scheme (3.17)(3.6)–(3.9),  $Re = 1/\nu = 5000, N = 128$ . The boundary conditions and the method for time derivative adopt those in [18] (in fact, figure 1 and figure 2 are computation examples in [18]), Figure 1b and 1c show that our results agree well with those in [14]. Figure 2 presents calculation results of the iterative pressure Poisson equation method with the non-upwind staggered mesh compact difference scheme (3.5)–(3.9),  $Re = 1/\nu = 10000, N = 256$ . The boundary conditions and the method for time derivative adopt those in [18]. Figure 2a1 and 2a2 are close to figure 7 in [1] (i. e., figure 5 in [19]).

Now we use the boundary conditions in §3.2 and the Runge–Kutta method in §3.4 (the intermediate boundary conditions adopt  $\mathbf{V}^{(1)} = \mathbf{V}^{(2)} = \mathbf{V}_\Gamma|_{t=(n+\frac{1}{2})\Delta t}$ ,  $\mathbf{V}^{(3)} = \mathbf{V}_\Gamma|_{t=(n+1)\Delta t}$ ) on  $\Gamma$ , the iterative pressure Poisson equation method in §2, the non-upwind staggered mesh compact scheme in §3.1,  $Re = 10^4$ , the initial condition:  $\mathbf{V}=\mathbf{0}$  on inner grids,  $\mathbf{V} = \mathbf{V}_\Gamma$ ,  $N = 256 \times 256, \Delta t = 0.6\Delta x$ , set  $\epsilon = 10^{-5}$  for (2.8). Figure 3 presents the stream fields for time steps  $n = 73840, 86800, 121840$ .

To verify the **equivalency** of the iterative method (2.6)(2.7) and the original equations (2.3)(2.4), from  $t = 80640 \times 0.6/256$ , we alter  $\epsilon$  in (2.8) to  $10^{-13}$ , the calculations continued. This shows the iterative method replaces the original equations equivalently. When the test calculations for verifying the equivalency performed 100 time steps, the procedure with  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$  finished 646 steps within the same computing time. besides, we calculated for the following three cases, all calculations continued (we calculated 10 time steps for each case):

- (1) from  $t = 80640 \times 0.6/256$ , we alter  $\epsilon$  in (2.8) to  $10^{-13}$ ,  $Re$  to  $10^3$ ;
- (2) set  $N=64, Re = 10^4, \epsilon = 10^{-14}$ , calculate from the beginning;
- (3) set  $N=64, Re = 10^3, \epsilon = 10^{-13}$ , calculate from the beginning.

Fig.1a. Streamlines,  $128 \times 128$  grids,  $Re = 5000$ ,  
the upwind compact difference scheme

Fig.1b. velocity  $u$  profile,  $x = 0.5$   
—: our results,  $\cdots$ : results in [14]

Fig.1c. velocity  $v$  profile,  $y = 0.5$   
 —: our results,  
 ... : results in [14]

Fig.2a1. Streamlines,  $256 \times 256$  grids,  
 the compact difference scheme,  
 $Re = 10000, t = t_0 + 12.7490$

Fig.2a2. Streamlines,  $256 \times 256$  grids,  
 the compact difference scheme,  
 $Re = 10000, t = t_0 + 13.9111$

Fig.2b1. velocity  $u$  profile,  $x = 0.5$



Fig.2c1. velocity  $v$  profile,  $y = 0.5$

Fig.3a. Streamlines,  $256 \times 256$  grids,  
 $Re = 10000, t = 73840 \times 0.6/256$   
 values of stream function:  $-0.002, -0.001,$   
 $-0.0003, 0, 0.0003, 0.01, 0.02, \dots, 0.09$

Fig.3b. Streamlines,  $256 \times 256$  grids,  
 $Re = 10000, t = 86800 \times 0.6/256$   
 values of stream function:  $-0.002, -0.001,$   
 $-0.0003, 0, 0.0003, 0.01, 0.02, \dots, 0.09, 0.098$

Fig.3c. Streamlines,  $256 \times 256$  grids,  
 $Re = 10000, t = 121840 \times 0.6/256$   
 stream function values:  $-0.002, -0.001,$   
 $-0.0003, 0, 0.0003, 0.01, 0.02, \dots, 0.09, 0.1$

Further discusses, proofs and deductions will be put in our website:

<http://www.cerse.psu.edu/yu/ipp/>

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