

A doubly reduced approximation for the solution to PDE's based on a domain truncation and a reduced basis method: Application to Navier-Stokes equations

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1 A small digression

2 Introduction

3 Rectification

4 New rectification

- Navier-Stokes equations
- NIRB method with parabolic equations

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Documentation for Reduced Basis Methods (RBM)

[Read the docs](#)

Reduced basis methods: <https://grosjean1.github.io>

[POD-DL-ROM](#)

[POD-Books](#)

[POD-interpretation](#)

[EM](#)

[GCM](#)

[HRR 2-3/11](#)

[PRDM](#)

[References](#)

topological dual of V solving a PDE of the form

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{L}(\mu)(u(\mu)) &= F(\mu), \text{ in } \Omega, \\ &+ \text{ boundary conditions on } \partial\Omega,\end{aligned}\quad (2)$$

where $\mathcal{L}(\mu) : V \rightarrow V'$ is the PDE operator that depends on $\mu \in \mathcal{G}$ and $F(\mu) \in V'$ is the PDE right-hand side which does not depend on u . For instance, we may consider elliptic equations of the form

$$\begin{aligned}-\operatorname{div}(A(\mu)\nabla u) &= f(\mu) \text{ in } \Omega, \\ u &= 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.\end{aligned}$$

The purpose of RBM is to very quickly find a good finite dimensional approximation of any solution to the problem (2). Usually, classical methods such as Finite Difference Methods (FDM), Finite Volume schemes (FV) or the Finite Element Method (FEM) are used to provide an accurate approximation. This consists in solving the problem (2) in a subspace $V_h \subset V$, where h is the mesh size. The obtained discrete approximations are denoted $u_h \in V_h$. RBM are not meant to replace such methods but are employed in addition to such solvers, in order to reduce the computational time.

★ [Intuition from an encoder-decoder perspective](#)

★ [Intuition from simple examples](#)

With RBM, we look for a solution on a manifold which implies a reduction of complexity. This complexity reduction relies on the notion of the Kolmogorov n -width. It is linked to the concept of solution manifold, which is the set of all solutions, to the parameterized problem (2) under a parameter variation. If we consider the discretized solution, computed with a High-Fidelity (HF) code § a. the solver of our classical discretization method), the solution manifold is denoted $\mathcal{S}_h$.

$$\mathcal{S}_h = \{u_h(\mu) \in V_h \mid \mu \in \mathcal{G}\}.\quad (3)$$

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Events

Welcome to the RBM Events Calendar!

Conferences/Workshops/Courses

- Upcoming

2026: RBM courses at College de France with Yvon Maday [link](#)

- Previous

[Summer School on Reduced Order Methods in Computational Fluid Dynamics](#) (2022, Trieste, Italy)

[Reduced Order Models: Bridging PDE Models and Simulation Data](#) (2024, Palaiseau, France)

[MORTech 2025](#)

[ICOSAHOM 2025](#) (2025, Montréal, Canada)

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Motivation

Motivation

Further reduce the online cost of the NIRB 2-grid algorithm

NIRB 2-grid method

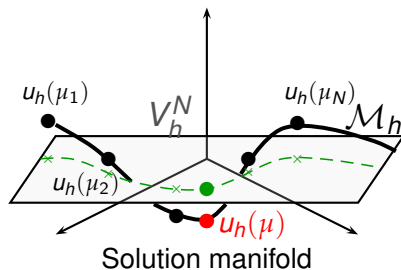
$PDE : \mu \rightarrow u(\mu)$

$\mu \in \mathcal{G}$: Parameter of interest

$u(\mu) \in V$: Solution

$(\cdot, \cdot) = (\cdot, \cdot)_V$

$h = \max_{K \in \mathcal{M}_h} h_K$, where $h_K = \sup_{x, y \in K} |x - y|$.



Offline Part

$\mathcal{M}_h = \{u_h(\mu) \mid \mu \in \mathcal{G}\}$

V_h^N L^2 -orthonormalized Reduced space

Parameters $\mu_1, \dots, \mu_N \in \mathcal{G}$

Online Part

Approximation onto V_h^N : $u_h^N(\mu)$

NIRB 2-grid method

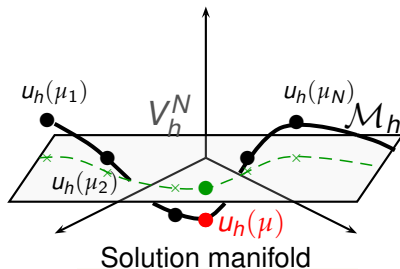
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Approximation onto V_h^N : $u_h^N(\mu)$



NIRB two-grid method

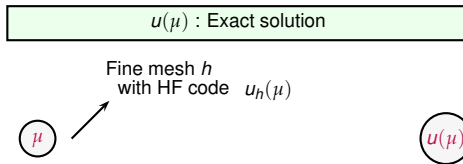
$u(\mu)$: Exact solution

μ

$u(\mu)$

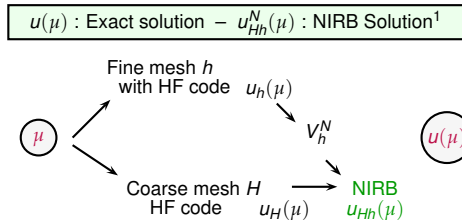
¹Chakir, R. & Maday, Y. (2009). *A two-grid finite-element/reduced basis scheme for the approximation of the solution of parameter dependent PDE.*

NIRB two-grid method



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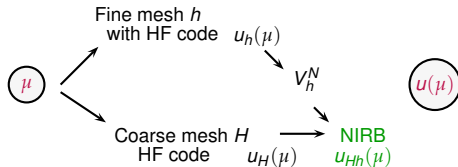
NIRB two-grid method



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NIRB two-grid method

$u(\mu)$: Exact solution – $u_{Hh}^N(\mu)$: NIRB Solution¹



Decomposition

$$u_h^N(\mathbf{x}, \mu) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j^h(\mu) \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x})$$

$(\Phi_j^h)_{j=1, \dots, N} \in V_h^N$: fine L^2 -orthonormalized modes

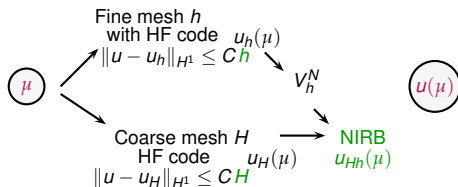
Optimal coefficients: $a_j^h(\mu) = (u_h(\mu), \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x}))_{L^2(\Omega)}$,

Our choice: $b_j^H(\mu) = (u_H(\mu), \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x}))_{L^2(\Omega)}$

¹Chakir, R. & Maday, Y. (2009). *A two-grid finite-element/reduced basis scheme for the approximation of the solution of parameter dependent PDE.*

NIRB two-grid method

$u(\mu)$: Exact solution – $u_{Hh}^N(\mu)$: NIRB Solution¹



Convergence (FEM / FV ...) ^{1,2}

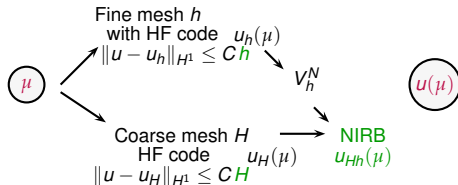
$$\|u(\mu) - u_{Hh}^N(\mu)\|_V \leq \underbrace{\varepsilon(N)}_{T_1} + \underbrace{C_1 h}_{T_2} + \underbrace{C_2(N) H^2}_{T_3}$$

¹Chakir, R. & Maday, Y. (2009). *A two-grid finite-element/reduced basis scheme for the approximation of the solution of parameter dependent PDE.*

²G., E. & Maday, Y. (2021). *Error estimate of the non-intrusive reduced basis method with finite volume schemes*

NIRB two-grid method

$u(\mu)$: Exact solution – $u_{Hh}^N(\mu)$: NIRB Solution¹



Post-treatment: rectification¹

$$B_{ij} = b_j^H(\mu^i) \longrightarrow A_{ij} = a_j^h(\mu^i) \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$$

Least-square approach:

$$\arg \min_{R^i} \|BR^i - A^i\|_2^2 + \lambda \|R^i\|_2^2.$$

$$R_i = (B^T B + \lambda I_N)^{-1} B^T A_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

$$u_{Hh}^N(\mu) = \sum_{i,j=1}^N R_{ij} b_j^H(\mu) \Phi_i^h.$$

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Rectification

^aR. Chakir *Contribution à l'analyse numérique de quelques problèmes en chimie quantique et mécanique*, PhD. 2009

^bR. Chakir, Y. Maday, P. Parnaudeau, *A non-intrusive reduced basis approach for parametrized heat transfer problems*. 2019

^cR. Chakir, B. Streichenberger, P. Chatellier, *A Non-intrusive reduced basis method for urban flows simulation*. 2021

^dE. Grosjean, *Variations and further developments on the Non-Intrusive Reduced Basis two-grid method*, PhD. 2022

^eO. Mula, *Quelques contributions vers la simulation parallèle de la cinétique neutronique et la prise en compte de données observées en temps réel*, PhD. 2014

Rectification setting

- ◇ Fine reduced space: $V_h^N = \text{span}\{\Phi_1^h, \dots, \Phi_N^h\} = \text{span}\{u_h(\mu_1), \dots, u_h(\mu_N)\} \subset V_h$.
- ◇ Fine reduced projection:

$$P_N^h: V_h \rightarrow V_h^N, \quad P_N^h u_h(\mu) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j^h(\mu) \Phi_j^h.$$

- ◇ Cheap/coarse approximation expressed in the fine basis:

$$J_N^H: V_h \rightarrow V_h^N, \quad J_N^H u_h(\mu) = \sum_{j=1}^N b_j^H(\mu) \Phi_j^h \in V_h^N.$$

- ◇ Rectification matrix:

$$R: \mathbb{R}^N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^N, \text{ and } R_i = (B^T B + \lambda I_N)^{-1} B^T A_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, N.$$

- ◇ Rectified operator:

$$P_N^R u_H(\mu) = \sum_{i,j=1}^N R_{ij} b_j^H(\mu) \Phi_i^h.$$

A model problem

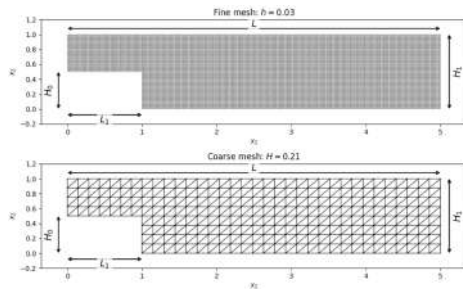
We solve the stationary Navier–Stokes problem: find $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2) \in H^1(\Omega)^2$ and $p \in L^2(\Omega)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} -\nu \Delta \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla p &= 0 && \text{in } \Omega, \\ \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} &= 0 && \text{in } \Omega, \\ \mathbf{u} &= \begin{pmatrix} g_{\text{in}}(x_2) \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} && \text{on } \Gamma_{\text{in}}, \\ \nu \partial_{\mathbf{n}} \mathbf{u} - p \mathbf{n} &= 0 && \text{on } \Gamma_{\text{out}}, \\ \mathbf{u} &= 0 && \text{on } \partial\Omega \setminus (\Gamma_{\text{in}} \cup \Gamma_{\text{out}}). \end{aligned}$$

where the inflow profile is

$$g_{\text{in}}(x_2) = \frac{4}{H_0^2} (H_1 - x_2)(x_2 - H_1 + H_0).$$

$$\nu = \frac{1}{Re} \text{ and } \mu := Re \in \mathcal{G} = [30, 300].$$



A model problem

We solve the stationary Navier–Stokes problem: find $\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2) \in H^1(\Omega)^2$ and $p \in L^2(\Omega)$ such that

$$\nu = 0.01$$

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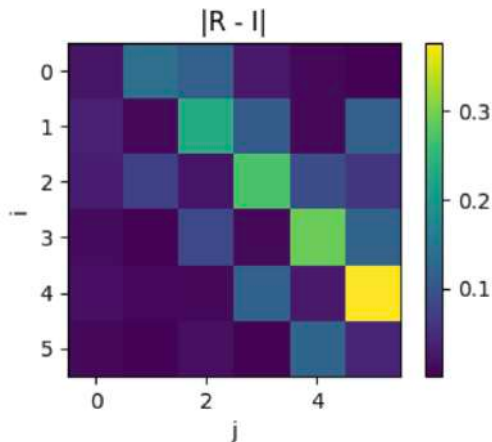
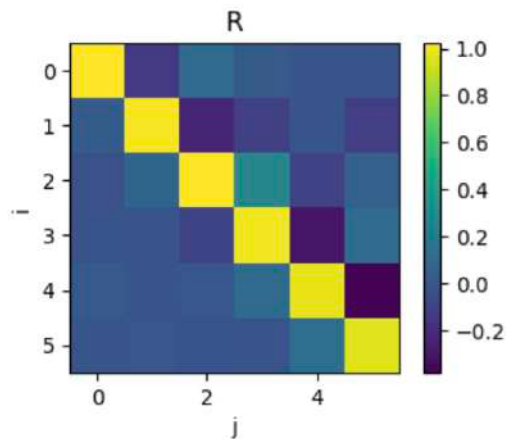
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Conditioning of R

Rectification matrix:

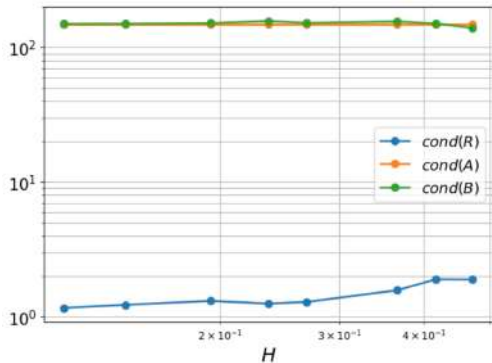
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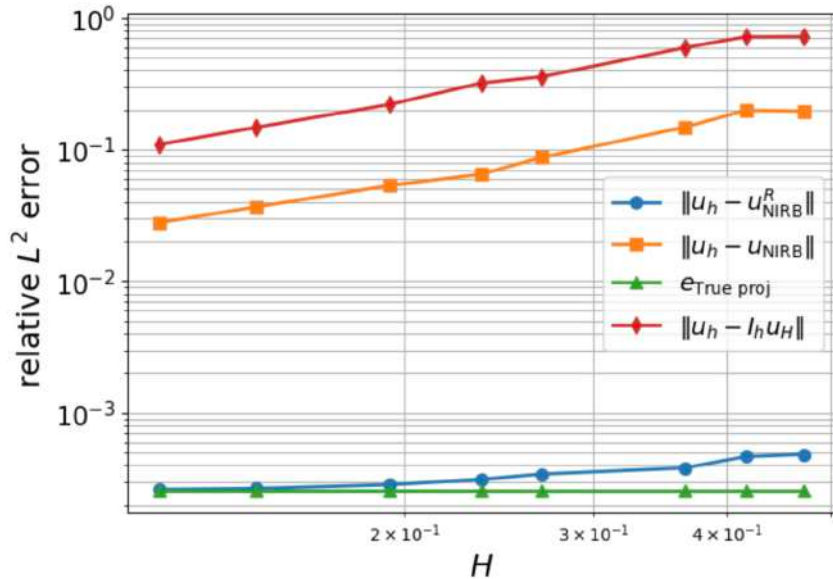
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NIRB Error



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How can we further reduce the online costs?

New method

Decomposition

$$u_h^N(\mathbf{x}, \mu) = \sum_{j=1}^N a_j^h(\mu) \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x})$$

$(\Phi_j^h)_{j=1,\dots,N} \in V_h^N$: fine L^2 -orthonormalized modes

Optimal coefficients: $a_j^h(\mu) = (u_h(\mu), \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x}))_{L^2(\Omega)}$,

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New method

Decomposition

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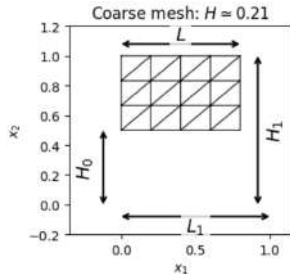
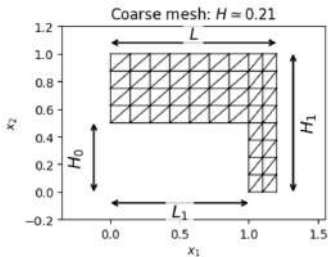
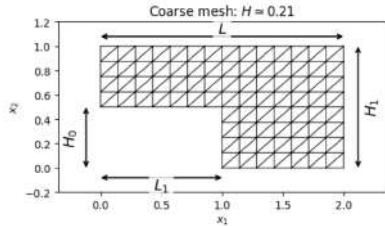
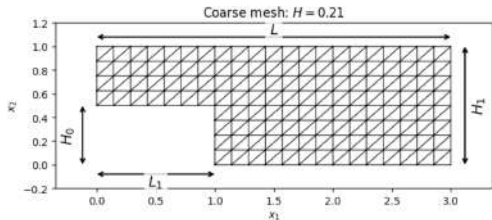
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Natural truncations $\omega \subset \Omega$



Error contributions, $\omega = \Omega$

The fine and coarse coefficients are

$$a_i^h = (u_h, \Phi_i^h)_{L^2(\Omega)}, \quad b_i^H = (u_H, \Phi_i^h)_{L^2(\Omega)}.$$

The coarse reduced coefficients are

$$\gamma_i^H = (u_H, \Phi_i^H)_{L^2(\Omega)}.$$

Define the cross-Gram matrix $(C_H)_{ij} = (\Phi_i^H, \Phi_j^h)_{L^2(\Omega)}$.

Then

$$b^H \approx C_H^T \gamma^H.$$

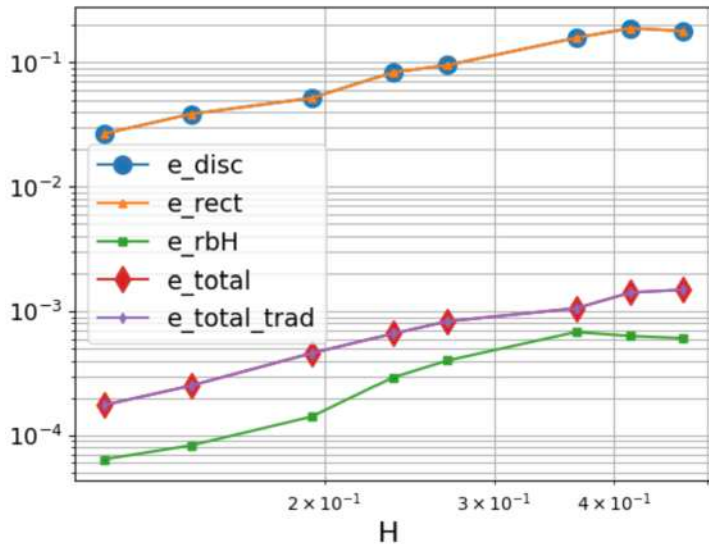
The online coefficient error satisfies

$$a^h - R\gamma^H = (a^h - b^H) + (b^H - C_H^T \gamma^H) + (C_H^T - R)\gamma^H.$$

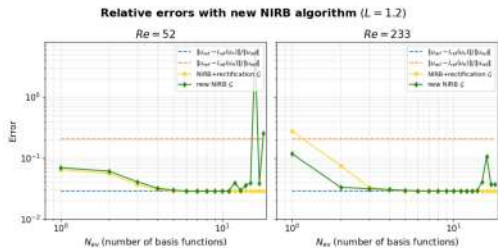
Hence

$$\|a^h - R\gamma^H\| \leq \underbrace{\|a^h - b^H\|}_{e_{disc}} + \underbrace{\|b^H - C_H^T \gamma^H\|}_{e_{rbH}} + \underbrace{\|(C_H^T - R)\gamma^H\|}_{e_{rect}}.$$

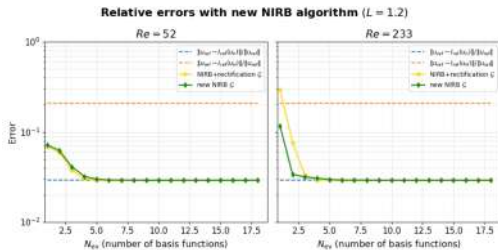
NIRB Error



NIRB Error with $L = 1.2$



$$\lambda = 0$$



$$\lambda = 10^{-10}$$

Conditioning with $H = 0.15$

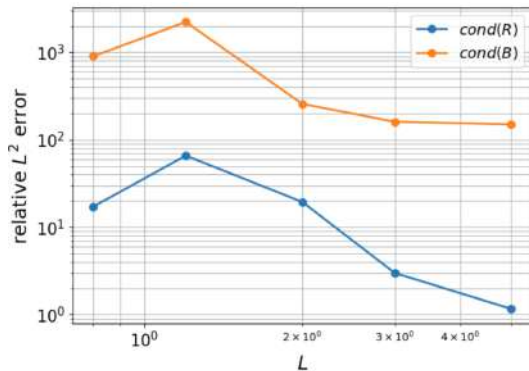


Figure: conditioning

Runtimes

Table: FEM runtimes min:sec

	FEM high fidelity solver	FEM coarse solution
	00:43	00:01
	NIRB Offline ($N = 18$)	classical NIRB online
	14:30	00:10
	new NIRB offline ($N = 18$)	new NIRB online
$\omega = \Omega$	14:52	00:10
$L = 3$	14:52	00:09
$L = 1.2$	14:50	00:09

3D results

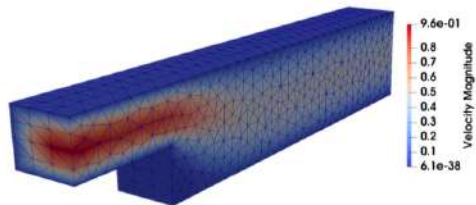


Figure: 3D domain (clip)

Results

Table: Relative L^2 errors, $N \in \{2, 3, 5\}$ with $\lambda = 10^{-10}$

N	FEM results		NIRB results		
	fine mesh	coarse mesh	$L = 5$ ($\omega = \Omega$)	$L = 3$ ($\omega \subset \Omega$)	$L = 1.2$ ($\omega \subset \Omega$)
$N = 2$	2.50E^{-2}	9.80E^{-2}	1.14E^{-1}	1.15E^{-1}	1.46E^{-1}
$N = 3$	2.50E^{-2}	9.80E^{-2}	2.85E^{-2}	3.55E^{-2}	4.51E^{-2}
$N = 5$	2.50E^{-2}	9.80E^{-2}	2.53E^{-2}	2.57E^{-2}	2.65E^{-2}

NIRB convergence results

$\mathbf{u}(\mu) \in H^s(\Omega)$ with $s \simeq 1.54448$. Thus, a standard FEM yields reduced convergence rates and the following estimates hold for any $\mu \in \mathcal{G}$ with a uniform mesh of size h :

$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{u}(\mu) - \mathbf{u}_h(\mu)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} &\leq Ch^{s-1} \|u\|_{H^s(\Omega)}, \\ \|\mathbf{u}(\mu) - \mathbf{u}_h(\mu)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} &\leq Ch^{2(s-1)} \|u\|_{H^s(\Omega)},\end{aligned}$$

¹C. Bernardi and G. Raugel, *Méthodes d'éléments finis mixtes pour les équations de stokes et de navier-stokes dans un polygone non convexe*, 1981.

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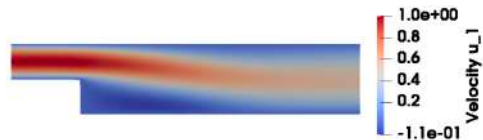
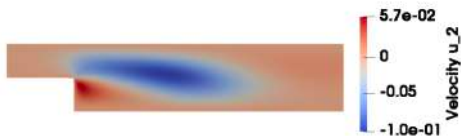
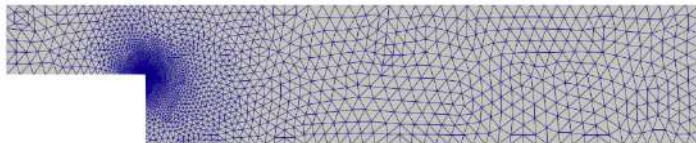
$$\begin{aligned}\|\mathbf{u}(\mu) - \mathbf{u}_h(\mu)\|_{H^1(\Omega)} &\leq Ch^{s-1} \|u\|_{H^s(\Omega)}, \\ \|\mathbf{u}(\mu) - \mathbf{u}_h(\mu)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} &\leq Ch^{2(s-1)} \|u\|_{H^s(\Omega)},\end{aligned}$$

Convergence (FEM / FV ...)

$$\|u(\mu) - u_{Hh}^N(\mu)\|_V \leq \underbrace{\varepsilon(N)}_{T_1} + \underbrace{C_1 h}_{T_2} + \underbrace{C_2(N) H^2}_{T_3}$$

¹C. Bernardi and G. Raugel, *Méthodes d'éléments finis mixtes pour les équations de stokes et de navier-stokes dans un polygone non convexe*, 1981.

Results



$$h = \min_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} h_K, \quad h_K = \sup_{x, y \in K} |x - y|.$$

Results

Reference mesh size = 2.54×10^{-5} .

Table: Relative errors with the semi H^1 -norm, refined meshes $N = 6$ with $\lambda = 0$

h	FEM with the fine refined mesh	NIRB with $H = 0.320156$			NIRB with $H = 0.707107$		
		NIRB + Rectifi- cation	New NIRB $\omega = \Omega$	New NIRB with $L = 3$ ($\omega \subset \Omega$)	NIRB + Rectifi- cation	New NIRB $\omega = \Omega$	New NIRB with $L = 3$ ($\omega \subset \Omega$)
1.99E⁻⁴	1.93E⁻³	1.93E⁻³	1.93E⁻³	1.93E⁻³	1.93E⁻³	1.93E⁻³	1.95E⁻³
1.79E⁻⁴	1.70E⁻³	1.71E⁻³	1.71E⁻³	1.71E⁻³	1.71E⁻³	1.71E⁻⁴	1.73E⁻³
1.02E⁻⁴	9.72E⁻⁴	9.73E⁻⁴	9.73E⁻⁴	9.74E⁻⁴	9.74E⁻⁴	9.74E⁻⁴	9.81E⁻⁴
5.09E⁻⁵	5.39E⁻⁴	5.42E⁻⁴	5.42E⁻⁴	5.42E⁻⁴	5.43E⁻⁴	5.42E⁻⁴	5.42E⁻⁴

FEM Error estimates within the parabolic context

**NIRB two-grid method applied to
parabolic equations**

FEM Error estimates within the parabolic context

$$\partial_t u - \nabla \cdot (A(\mathbf{p}) \nabla u) = f, \text{ dans } \Omega \times]0, T],$$

$$u(\mathbf{x}, 0) = u^0(\mathbf{x}), \text{ in } \Omega,$$

$$\partial_n u(\cdot, t) = 0, \text{ on } \partial\Omega \times]0, T],$$

$\mu = (t, \mathbf{p}) \in \mathcal{G} \subset \mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}^P$: parameter

$u(t, \mathbf{x}; \mathbf{p})$: unknowns

FEM error estimates

Theorem [E G.-Y M.] (H^1 semi-norm error estimate)²

Pod-greedy³ or greedy-greedy algorithm for the BR construction

$$\forall n, |u(t^n)(p) - u_{Hh}^{N,n}(p)|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq \overbrace{\varepsilon(N)}^{T_1} + \underbrace{C_1(p)(h + \Delta t_F)}_{T_2} + \overbrace{C_2(N)(H^2 + \Delta t_G^2)}^{T_3}$$

C_1, C_2 : constants independent of h et H

$u_h^n(p^k) = u_h(p^k, t^n) \in V_h$, for $n = 1, \dots, N_T$: Fine snapshots

$u_H^m(p) = u_H(p, \tilde{t}^m) \in V_H$, for $m = 1, \dots, M_T$: Coarse solution, $H \gg h$.

¹V. Thomée, *Galerkin finite element methods for parabolic problems*, 1984.

²E. G., Y. Maday, *Error estimate of the non-intrusive reduced basis two-grid method with parabolic equations*. 2023.

³B. Haasdonk, *Convergence rates of the pod-greedy method*, 2013.

FEM error estimates

Theorem [E G.-Y M.] (H^1 semi-norm error estimate)²

$$\forall n, |u(t^n)(p) - u_{Hh}^{N,n}(p)|_{H^1(\Omega)} \leq \overbrace{\varepsilon(N)}^{T_1} + \underbrace{C_1(p)(h + \Delta t_F)}_{T_2} + \overbrace{C\sqrt{\lambda_N}(H^2 + \Delta t_G^2)}^{T_3}$$

λ_N : $\forall v \in X_h^N, \int_{\Omega} \nabla \Phi_h \cdot \nabla v = \lambda \int_{\Omega} \Phi_h \cdot v$,
and C_1, C : constants independent of h, H and N .

$$\begin{aligned} \|u(\tilde{t}^m) - u_H^m\|_{L^2(\Omega)} &\leq C H^2 \left[\|u^0\|_{H^2(\Omega)} + \int_0^{\tilde{t}^m} \|u_t\|_{H^2(\Omega)} ds \right] \\ &\quad + C \Delta t_G^2 \left[\left(\int_0^{\tilde{t}^m} \|u_{ttt}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds \right)^{1/2} + \left(\int_0^{\tilde{t}^m} \|\Delta u_{tt}\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 ds \right)^{1/2} \right]. \end{aligned}$$

¹V. Thomée, *Galerkin finite element methods for parabolic problems*, 1984.

²E. G., Y. Maday, *Error estimate of the non-intrusive reduced basis two-grid method with parabolic equations*. 2023.

Decomposition

Projection coefficients

$$u_h(\mathbf{x}, t^n; p) = \sum_j \mathbf{a}_j^h(p, t^n) \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x}), \quad n = 1, \dots, N_T$$

$(\Phi_j^h)_{j=1, \dots, N} \in X_h^N$: L^2 -orthonormalized basis functions (modes)

Coefficients $a_j^h(\mu) = a_j^h(p, t^n)$

Optimal coefficients: $(u_h(p, t^n), \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x})), n = 1, \dots, N_T$

Our choice with classical rectification: $(I_n(u_H(p, \tilde{t}^m)), \Phi_j^h(\mathbf{x}))_{L^2}, m = 1, \dots, M_T$

Our choice with new rectification: $(I_n(u_H(p, \tilde{t}^m)), \Phi_j^H(\mathbf{x}))_{L^2(\omega)}, m = 1, \dots, M_T$

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Results

We have taken the parameter set to be $\mathcal{G} = [0.5, 9.5]^2$.

For $\mu = (1, 1)$,

$$u(\mathbf{x}, t; 1) = (t + x^2/2 - x^3/3)(t - y^2/2 + y^3/3),$$

for a right-hand side function

$$f(\mathbf{x}, t) = x^2(1 - x)^2 + t[-2 + 12x - 11x^2 - 2x^3 + x^4],$$

where $\mathbf{x} = (x, y)$.

Table: Relative $l^\infty(0, \dots, N_T)$ errors, $N \in \{5, 10, 15\}$ with $\lambda = 10^{-10}$

Number of modes	mesh sizes	FEM results		NIRB results		
N	h	fine mesh	coarse mesh	NIRB + Rect. ($\omega = \Omega$)	$\omega = [0.2, 0.8]^2$	$\omega = [0.4, 0.6]^2$
$N = 5$	0.01	6.20E^{-3}	5.88E^{-2}	6.25E^{-3}	1.08E^{-2}	2.01E^{-2}
	0.02	1.08E^{-2}	8.88E^{-2}	1.11E^{-2}	1.41E^{-2}	2.02E^{-2}
	0.05	2.91E^{-2}	1.50E^{-1}	2.97E^{-2}	3.17E^{-2}	3.73E^{-2}
	0.1	5.88E^{-2}	1.90E^{-1}	5.99E^{-2}	6.18E^{-2}	6.37E^{-2}
$N = 10$	0.01	6.20E^{-3}	5.88E^{-2}	6.23E^{-3}	6.38E^{-3}	1.99E^{-2}
	0.02	1.08E^{-2}	8.88E^{-2}	1.11E^{-2}	1.14E^{-2}	2.02E^{-2}
	0.05	2.91E^{-2}	1.50E^{-1}	2.97E^{-2}	2.97E^{-2}	3.74E^{-2}
	0.1	5.88E^{-2}	1.90E^{-1}	5.99E^{-2}	6.00E^{-2}	6.37E^{-2}
$N = 15$	0.01	6.20E^{-3}	5.88E^{-2}	6.23E^{-3}	6.38E^{-3}	1.99E^{-2}
	0.02	1.08E^{-2}	8.88E^{-2}	1.11E^{-2}	1.14E^{-2}	2.02E^{-2}
	0.05	2.91E^{-2}	1.50E^{-1}	2.97E^{-2}	2.97E^{-2}	3.74E^{-2}
	0.1	5.88E^{-2}	1.90E^{-1}	5.99E^{-2}	6.00E^{-2}	6.37E^{-2}

Conclusions and perspectives

Perspectives

- ◇ More insights on the theory
- ◇ More realistic problem
- ◇ Application of this strategy after removing the leading singular term
- ◇ Put the NIRB 2-grid CG-T on the RB website!

Thank you!