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# Implicitly preconditioned and globalized residual method for large-scale nonlinear systems

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*Dedicated with friendship to Victor Pereyra for his outstanding scientific contributions*

## Abstract

We develop free-derivative preconditioned residual methods for solving large-scale nonlinear systems of equations. The new scheme is based on a variable implicit preconditioning technique associated to the globalized spectral residual method. The new scheme is robust and allows to compute numerically the steady state of the bi-dimensional and incompressible Navier-Stokes equations (NSE), that we consider here in both primary variables and streamfunction-vorticity formulations. The results are encouraging and agree with those reported in the literature.

**Keywords:** Nonlinear systems of equations, residual methods, globalization strategies, preconditioning, Navier-Stokes equations.

## 1 Introduction

The art of preconditioning has become a widely used approach to accelerate numerical methods for solving linear as well as non-linear problems. For linear systems, it is widely developed and very well understood. However, the art of preconditioning iterative methods for nonlinear problems remains a challenge, and it is not so well understood.

The emergence of non-monotone residual methods, as the one introduced by Barzilai and Borwein in optimization [1, 11, 24], and its globalized versions which enhances its robustness and effectiveness [19, 20, 21, 25], gives the possibility of solving efficiently large scale nonlinear problems, incorporating in a natural way a preconditioning strategy. Non-monotone globalization strategies for nonlinear problems have become popular in the last few years. These strategies make it possible to define globally convergent algorithms without monotone decrease requirements. The main idea behind non-monotone strategies is that, frequently, the first choice of a trial point, along the search direction hides significant information about the problem structure and that such knowledge can be destroyed by the decrease imposition.

In this work we adapt and extend the ideas introduced in [19, 20] for large-scale nonlinear problems like the ones that appear in the solution of the steady fluid flow problem. In particular, we add a preconditioning strategy fully described in [9]. The so-called *lid driven cavity* problem, which corresponds to the computation of the evolutive (or the steady) flow of the bi-dimensional incompressible Navier-Stokes equations (NSE) on a rectangular cavity, displays classical benchmarks for testing nonlinear solvers, because of the amount of numerical solutions refereed, and also of the numerical difficulty of the problem. To compute steady states, two approaches are commonly considered: on one hand, the time-dependent methods which consist in computing the steady state as the equilibrium solution of the evolutive NSE (for

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Reynolds numbers that are lower than that of the bifurcation value) by time marching scheme and, on the other hand, the steady methods which consist in solving the steady NSE by fixed point or Newton-like schemes. It is a well-known fact that the solution of the steady NSE is more difficult since it requires very robust schemes, especially as the Reynolds number  $Re$  increases. The literature on that topic is very rich from, e.g., the relaxation schemes proposed by Crouzeix [10] to the more recent defect-correction methods, see e.g. [30] and the references therein. However, these methods are very closely related to the structure of the NSE and use a linearization of the equation at each step.

Our aim in this article is to compute the solution of the steady NSE by an implicit preconditioned version of the spectral residual method, with globalization. The method we introduce here is general and uses only the solution of the linear part of the equation that can be obtained efficiently with a fast solver (e.g., FFT, and multigrid).

The article is organized as follows. First, in section 2, after recalling the definition of the globalization strategy for the spectral gradient scheme, we derive our new algorithm combining the dynamical and the optimization approach. Then, in Section 3, we adapt the discretization of the steady bi-dimensional incompressible Navier-Stokes equations to the framework of the nonlinear scheme. Finally, in section 4, as a numerical illustration, we present the solution of steady NSE for different Reynolds numbers (up to  $Re = 5000$ ). We solve the problem in primary variable as well as in stream function-vorticity formulation. Our results agree with the ones in the literature and show the robustness of the proposed method.

## 2 The basic algorithm

In a general framework, let us consider the nonlinear system of equations

$$F(x) = 0, \tag{1}$$

where  $F : \mathfrak{R}^n \rightarrow \mathfrak{R}^n$  is a continuously differentiable mapping. This framework generalizes the nonlinear systems that appear for example after discretizing the steady state models for fluid flows, to be discussed later in this work.

For solving (1), some new iterative schemes have recently been presented that use in a systematic way the residual vectors as search directions [19, 20]. i. e., the iterations are defined as

$$x_{k+1} = x_k \pm \lambda_k F(x_k), \tag{2}$$

where  $\lambda_k > 0$  is the step-length and the search direction is either  $F(x_k)$  or  $-F(x_k)$  depending on which one is a descent direction for the merit function

$$f(x) = \|F(x)\|_2^2 = F(x)^T F(x). \tag{3}$$

These ideas become effective, and competitive with Newton-Krylov ([2, 3, 18]) schemes for large-scale nonlinear systems, when the step lengths are chosen in a suitable way. The convergence of (2) is attained when it is associated with a free-derivative non-monotone line search, fully described in [20], and that will be discussed in the forthcoming subsections.

For the choice of the step-length  $\lambda_k > 0$ , there are many options for which convergence is guaranteed. We propose to use the non-monotone spectral choice that has interesting properties, and is defined as the absolute value of

$$\lambda_k = \frac{s_{k-1}^T s_{k-1}}{s_{k-1}^T y_{k-1}}, \tag{4}$$

where  $s_{k-1} = x_k - x_{k-1}$ , and  $y_{k-1} = F(x_k) - F(x_{k-1})$ . Obtaining the step length using (4) requires a reduced amount of computational work, accelerates the convergence of the process, and involves the last two iterations in such a way that incorporates first order information into the search direction [1, 11, 24, 15].

## 2.1 The preconditioned version

In order to present the preconditioned version of (2) we extend the ideas discussed in [21], for unconstrained minimization, to the solution of (1). The well-known and somehow ideal Newton's method for solving (1), from an initial guess  $x_0$ , can be written as

$$x_{k+1} = x_k - J_k^{-1}F(x_k), \quad (5)$$

where  $J_k = J(x_k)$ , and  $J(x)$  is the Jacobian of  $f$  evaluated at  $x$ .

Recently [21] a preconditioned scheme, associated to the gradient direction, was proposed to solve unconstrained minimization problems. For solving (1) the iterates associated with the preconditioned version of (2) are given by

$$x_{k+1} = x_k + \lambda_k d_k, \quad (6)$$

where  $d_k = \pm C_k F(x_k)$ ,  $C_k$  is a nonsingular approximation to  $J_k^{-1}$ , and the scalar  $\lambda_k$  is given by

$$\lambda_k = (\lambda_{k-1}) \frac{d_{k-1}^T F(x_{k-1})}{d_{k-1}^T y_{k-1}}. \quad (7)$$

In (6), if  $C_k = I$  (the identity matrix) for all  $k$ , then  $d_k = \pm F(x_k)$ ,  $\lambda_k$  coincides with (4), and so the method reduces to (2). On the other hand, if the sequence of iterates converges to  $x^*$ , and we improve the quality of the preconditioner such that  $C(x_k)$  converges to  $J^{-1}(x^*)$  then, as discussed in [9],  $\lambda_k$  tends to 1 and we recover Newton's method, which possesses fast local convergence under standard assumptions [12]. In that sense, the iterative scheme (6) is flexible and allows intermediate options, by choosing suitable approximations  $C_k$ , between the identity matrix and the inverse of the Jacobian matrix. For building suitable approximations to  $J^{-1}(x_k)F(x_k)$  we will test implicit preconditioning schemes that do not require the explicit computation of  $C_k$ , and that will be described in Section 2.3.

## 2.2 Globalization strategy

In order to guarantee convergence of the preconditioned residual algorithm previously described, from any initial guess, we need to add a globalization strategy. This is certainly an interesting feature, specially when dealing with highly nonlinear flow problems and high Reynolds numbers. To avoid the derivatives of the merit function, which are not available, we will adapt the recently developed strategy of La Cruz et al [20] to our preconditioned version.

Assume that  $\{\eta_k\}$  is a sequence such that  $\eta_k > 0$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \eta_k = \eta < \infty. \quad (8)$$

Assume that  $0 < \gamma < 1$  and  $0 < \sigma_{min} < \sigma_{max} < \infty$ . Let  $M$  be a positive integer. Let  $\tau_{min}, \tau_{max}$  be such that  $0 < \tau_{min} < \tau_{max} < 1$ .

Given  $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^n$  an arbitrary initial point, the algorithm that allows us to obtain  $x_{k+1}$  starting from  $x_k$  is given below.

### Global Preconditioned Residual (GPR) Algorithm.

#### Step 1.

- Choose  $\sigma_k$  such that  $|\sigma_k| \in [\sigma_{min}, \sigma_{max}]$  (e.g., the spectral coefficient)
- Build  $C_k$  (an inverse preconditioner)
- Compute  $\bar{f}_k = \max\{f(x_k), \dots, f(x_{\max\{0, k-M+1\}})\}$ .

- Set  $d \leftarrow -\sigma_k C_k F(x_k)$ .
- Set  $\alpha_+ \leftarrow 1, \alpha_- \leftarrow 1$ .

**Step 2.**

If  $f(x_k + \alpha_+ d) \leq \bar{f}_k + \eta_k - \gamma \alpha_+^2 \|d\|_2^2$  then

Define  $d_k = d, \alpha_k = \alpha_+, x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k d_k$

else if  $f(x_k - \alpha_- d) \leq \bar{f}_k + \eta_k - \gamma \alpha_-^2 \|d\|_2^2$  then

Define  $d_k = -d, \alpha_k = \alpha_-, x_{k+1} = x_k + \alpha_k d_k$

else

choose  $\alpha_{+new} \in [\tau_{min}\alpha_+, \tau_{max}\alpha_+], \alpha_{-new} \in [\tau_{min}\alpha_-, \tau_{max}\alpha_-]$ ,

replace  $\alpha_+ \leftarrow \alpha_{+new}, \alpha_- \leftarrow \alpha_{-new}$

and go to Step 2.

**Remark 1.** As we will see later, the coefficient  $\sigma_k$  will be intended to be an approximation of the quotient  $\|F(x_k)\|^2 / \langle J(x_k)F(x_k), F(x_k) \rangle$ . This quotient may be positive or negative (or even null).

**Remark 2.** As discussed in [20], the algorithm is well defined, i. e., the backtracking process (choosing  $\alpha_{+new}$  and  $\alpha_{-new}$ ) is guaranteed to terminate successfully in a finite number of trials. A backtracking scheme is described in [20]. Moreover, global convergence is also established in [20]. Indeed, if the symmetric part of the Jacobian of  $F$  at any  $x_k$  is positive (or negative) definite for all  $k$ , then the sequence  $\{f(x_k)\}$  tends to zero.

### 2.3 Inverse preconditioning schemes

We will adapt the recent work by Chehab and Raydan [9] for approximating the Newton's direction using an Ordinary Differential Equation (ODE) model, to the nonlinear system (1) within the framework of the iterative global preconditioned residual algorithm of the previous subsection. For that, we develop an automatic and implicit scheme to approximate directly the preconditioned direction  $d_k$  at every iteration, without an *a priori* knowledge of the Jacobian of  $F$ , and involving only a reduced and controlled amount of storage and computational cost. As we will discuss later, this new scheme avoids as much as possible the cost of any calculations involving matrices, and will also allow us to obtain asymptotically the Newton's direction by improving the accuracy in the ODE solver.

The method we introduce here starts from the numerical integration of the Newton flow aimed at computing the root of  $F$  as the stable steady state of

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -(\nabla F(x))^{-1} F(x). \quad (9)$$

The value  $\|F(x)\|$  is decreasing along the integral curves and converges at an exponential rate to the root of  $F$ . Introducing the decoupling

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -z \quad (10)$$

$$(\nabla F(x))z = F(x), \quad (11)$$

we see that the algebraic condition that links  $z$  to  $x$  is in fact a preconditioning equation. In order to relax its resolution, a time derivative in  $z$  is added as

$$\frac{dx}{dt} = -z, \quad (12)$$

$$\epsilon \frac{dz}{dt} = F(x) - \nabla F(x)z. \quad (13)$$

Here  $\epsilon > 0$  is a given parameter, generally chosen to be equal to 1. This last system allows to compute numerically the root of  $F$  by an explicit time marching scheme since the steady state is asymptotically stable, see [9] for more details. Let  $t_k$  be discrete times, we denote by  $x_k \simeq x(t_k)$  and by  $z_k \simeq z(t_k)$ . The application of the simple forward Euler method to (12) reads

$$x^{k+1} = x^k + (t_{k+1} - t_k)z_k, \quad (14)$$

$$z^{k+1} = z^k + \frac{(t_{k+1} - t_k)}{\epsilon} \left( F(x^k) - \nabla F(x^k)z^k \right). \quad (15)$$

**Remark 1** *As stated above, we want to avoid the computation of the Jacobian matrix, so  $\nabla F(x)z$  is classically approached by a finite difference scheme*

$$\nabla F(x)z \simeq \frac{F(x + \tau z) - F(x)}{\tau},$$

for a small given real number  $\tau$ .

Notice that the dynamics of the differential system (12) can be very slow and, as proposed in [9], a way to speed-up the convergence to the steady state is to introduce artificially two scales in time by computing for every discrete time  $t_k$  an approximation of the steady state of the equation in  $z$ . More precisely we write

<p>Step 1- With optimization method 1, compute <math>z^k</math> as the approximation of the steady state of</p>	$\epsilon \frac{dz}{dt} = F(x^k) - \frac{F(x^k + \tau z) - F(x^k)}{\tau}$ $z(0) = z^{k-1}.$
<p>Step 2- With optimization method 2 compute <math>x^{k+1}</math> from <math>x^k</math> by</p>	$x^{k+1} = x^k + \alpha_k z_k$

The preconditioning lies on the accuracy for solving step 1. As optimization method #1 we proposed in [9] to apply some iteration of Cauchy-like schemes that we describe in the next subsection. As optimization scheme # 2, that defines the time step  $\alpha_k = t_{k+1} - t_k$ , we used the spectral gradient method. Promising results were obtained on some classical optimization problems. However, the resolution of steady NSE necessitates a more robust scheme for the time marching of  $x^k$ . The globalized scheme GPR described above becomes crucial in practical cases. We now present the general form of the scheme

#### Implicit GPR Method (IGPR)

<p>Step 1- With Cauchy-like minimization, compute <math>z^k</math> as the approximation of the steady state of</p>	$\epsilon \frac{dz}{dt} = F(x^k) - \frac{F(x^k + \tau z) - F(x^k)}{\tau}$ $z(0) = z^{k-1}.$
<p>Step 2- with GPR compute <math>x^{k+1}</math> from <math>x^k</math> by</p>	$x^{k+1} = x^k + \alpha_k z_k$

## 2.4 Generalized Cauchy methods

The computation of a steady state by an explicit scheme can be speeded up by enhancing the stability domain of the scheme since it allows the use of larger time steps. In that sense the accuracy of a time marching scheme is not a priority. A simple way to derive more stable methods is to use parametrized one-step schemes and to fit the parameters, not for increasing the accuracy such as in the classical schemes (Heun's, Runge Kutta's), but for improving the stability. For example, in [5, 8] it was proposed a method

for computing iteratively fixed points with larger descent parameter starting from a specific numerical time scheme. More precisely, this method consists in integrating the differential equation

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dU}{dt} = F(U), \\ U(0) = U_0, \end{cases} \quad (16)$$

by the p- steps scheme

```

Given  $X_0$ 
For  $k=0, \dots$ 
Set  $K_1 = F(X^k)$ 
    for  $m=2, \dots, p$ 
    set  $K_m = F(x^k + \Delta t K_{m-1})$ 
Set  $X^{k+1} = X^k + \Delta t \sum_{i=0}^p \alpha_i K_i$ 

```

Here  $\sum_{i=0}^p \alpha_i = 1$ .

**Minimizing parameters.** Classically, the convergence can be speeded-up by computing at each iteration the step-length in order to minimize the Euclidian norm of the current residual: this gives rise to the variant of the Cauchy scheme [7]. Of course the minimizing parameter becomes harder to compute as  $p$  increases. We list hereafter the optimal values of the parameters for  $p = 1, 2, 3$

- $p = 1$  (Cauchy method)

$$\alpha_i^k = 1, \Delta t_k = \frac{\langle Ar^k, r^k \rangle}{\|Ar^k\|^2}$$

- $p = 2$  (Enhanced Cauchy 1 (EC1) see [8, 9])

We set

$$a = \|r^k\|^2, b = \langle Ar^k, r^k \rangle, c = \|Ar^k\|^2, d = \langle A^2r^k, r^k \rangle, e = \langle A^2r^k, Ar^k \rangle, f = \langle A^2r^k, A^2r^k \rangle,$$

$$\Delta t_k = \frac{fb - ed}{fc - e^2}, \alpha_1 = 1 - \frac{\Delta t_k e - d}{\Delta t_k^2 f}, \alpha_2 = 1 - \alpha_1$$

- $p = 3$  (Enhanced Cauchy 2 (EC2))

We set

$$a = \|Ar^k\|^2, b = \|A^2r^k\|^2, c = \|A^3r^k\|^2, d = \langle Ar^k, r^k \rangle, e = \langle A^2r^k, r^k \rangle,$$

$$f = \langle A^3r^k, r^k \rangle, g = \langle A^2r^k, Ar^k \rangle, hh = \langle A^3r^k, Ar^k \rangle, ii = \langle A^3r^k, A^2r^k \rangle$$

$$\Delta t_k = \frac{-hh \ ii \ e - g \ ii \ f + hh \ f \ b + d \ ii^2 - d \ c \ b + g \ c \ e}{(g^2 \ c + hh^2 \ b - a \ c \ b + a \ ii^2 - 2 \ hh \ ii \ g)}$$

$$\alpha_1 = \frac{(ii \ f - ii \ \Delta t_k \ hh + (\Delta t_k)^2 \ ii^2 - (\Delta t_k)^2 \ b \ c - e \ c + \Delta t_k \ g \ c)}{((\Delta t_k)^2 \ (-b \ c + ii^2))}$$

$$\alpha_2 = -\frac{(\Delta t_k \ ii \ f - hh \ (\Delta t_k)^2 \ ii - dt \ e \ c + (\Delta t_k)^2 \ g \ c - f \ b + \Delta t_k \ hh \ b + ii \ e - ii \ \Delta t_k \ g)}{((\Delta t_k)^3 \ (-b \ c + ii^2))}$$

$$\alpha_3 = 1 - \alpha_1 - \alpha_2$$

### 3 Application to the solution of the Steady 2D lid driven cavity

#### 3.1 The problem

The equilibrium state of a driven square cavity is described by the steady Navier-Stokes which, in primary variables, can be written as

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{\text{Re}}\Delta U + \nabla P + (U \cdot \nabla)U &= f \text{ in } \Omega = ]0, 1[^2, \\ \nabla \cdot U &= 0, \text{ in } \Omega = ]0, 1[^2, \\ U &= g, \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \end{aligned} \tag{17}$$

Here  $U = (u, v)$  is the velocity field,  $P$  is the pressure and  $f$  is the external force. For our applications we will consider the so-called driven cavity case so  $f = 0$  and the fluid is driven by a proper boundary condition. We denote by  $\Gamma_i$   $i = 1, \dots, 4$  the sides of the unit square  $\Omega$  as follows:  $\Gamma_1$  is the lower horizontal side,  $\Gamma_3$  is the upper horizontal side,  $\Gamma_2$  is the left vertical side, and  $\Gamma_4$  is the right vertical side.

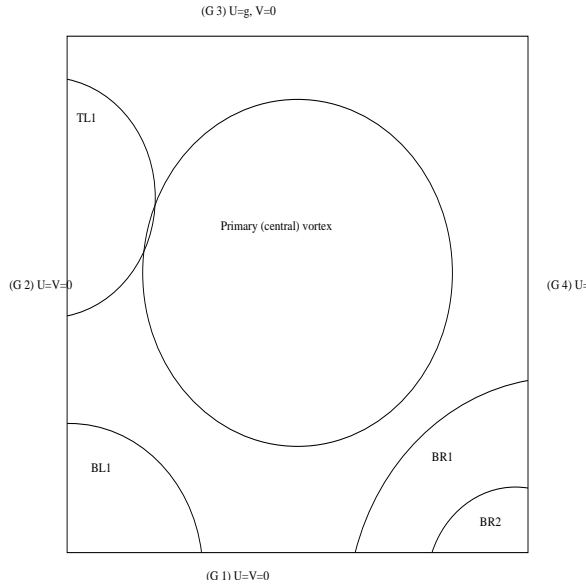


Figure 1: The lid driven cavity - Schematic localization of the mean vortex regions

We distinguish two different driven flow, according to the choice of the boundary conditions on the velocity. More precisely we have

- $g(x) = 1$  : Cavity A (lid driven cavity)
- $g(x) = (1 - (1 - 2x)^2)^2$  : Cavity B (regularized lid driven cavity)

Anyway, as described bellow, we shall rewrite the driven cavity test problem in terms of stream function and vorticity.

#### 3.2 Discretization and implementation in primary variable

##### 3.2.1 Discretization

The discretization is performed on staggered grids of MAC type in order to verify a discrete Inf-Sup (or Babushka-Brezzi) condition which guarantees the stability, see [23]. Taking  $N$  discretization points on



each direction of the pressure grid, we obtain the linear system

$$\begin{cases} \nu A_u U + B_x P + NL_u(U, V) - F1 = 0 \\ \nu A_v V + B_y P + NL_v(U, V) - F2 = 0 \\ B_x^t U + B_v^t V = 0, \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

where  $U, V \in \mathbb{R}^{N(N-1)}$ ,  $P \in \mathbb{R}^{N \times N}$ . (18) is then a square linear system of  $2 \times N(N-1) + N^2$  unknowns.

### 3.2.2 Implementation

The discrete problem is given by

$$\begin{cases} \nu A_u U + B_x P + NL_u(U, V) - F1 = 0 \\ \nu A_v V + B_y P + NL_v(U, V) - F2 = 0 \\ B_x^t U + B_v^t V = 0, \end{cases} \quad (19)$$

or equivalently

$$\mathcal{F}(U, V, P) = 0,$$

with the obvious notation.

Now, let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the Stokes solution operator defined by

$$\mathcal{S}(F, G, 0) \mapsto (U, V, P)$$

where  $(U, V, P)$  solves the Stokes problem

$$\begin{cases} \nu A_u U + B_x P = F \\ \nu A_v V + B_y P = G \\ B_x^t U + B_v^t V = 0. \end{cases} \quad (20)$$

Let us introduce the functional  $\mathcal{G}$

$$\mathcal{G}((U, V, P) = \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{F}(U, V, P)).$$

The scheme consists in applying the dynamical preconditioned spectral gradient method to the differential system

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dX}{dt} = -Z, \\ \epsilon \frac{dZ}{dt} = \mathcal{G}(X) - \mathcal{H}Z, \end{cases} \quad (21)$$

where  $X = (U, V, P)$  and where  $\mathcal{H}$  is an approximation to the gradient of  $\mathcal{G}(X)$ .

## 3.3 The $\omega - \psi$ formulation

One of the advantage of the  $\omega - \psi$  formulation is that the NSE are decoupled into two problems: A convection diffusion equation and a Poisson problem. In particular we can use the FFT for solving the linear problems, as pointed out hereafter.

### 3.3.1 The formulation

The  $\omega - \psi$  is obtained by taking the curl of the NSE [14, 23]. Letting  $\omega = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}$  and  $u = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial y}$ ,  $v = -\frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x}$  hence  $\Delta \psi = \omega$ . We have the equations

$$-\frac{1}{Re} \Delta \omega + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial y} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial x} - \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial \omega}{\partial y} = 0 \quad (22)$$

$$\Delta \psi = \omega \quad (23)$$

$$\omega(x, 0) = \omega_0(x). \quad (24)$$

The boundary conditions on  $\omega$  are derived by the discretization of  $\Delta\psi$  on the boundaries. With the conditions on  $u$  and  $v$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}\omega(x, 0, t) &= \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2}(x, 0, t) \quad \text{on } \Gamma_1 \\ \omega(x, 1, t) &= \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial y^2}(x, 1, t) \quad \text{on } \Gamma_3 \\ \omega(0, y, t) &= \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2}(0, y, t) \quad \text{on } \Gamma_2 \\ \omega(1, y, t) &= \frac{\partial^2\psi}{\partial x^2}(1, y, t) \quad \text{on } \Gamma_4.\end{aligned}$$

So, since  $\psi_{\partial\Omega} = 0$  and  $u = \frac{\partial\psi}{\partial y}$ ,  $v = -\frac{\partial\psi}{\partial x}$ , we obtain by using Taylor expansions

$$\begin{aligned}\omega_{i,0} &= \frac{\psi_{i,1} - 8\psi_{i,2}}{2h^2} \\ \omega_{i,N+1} &= \frac{-\psi_{i,N-1} + 8\psi_{i,N} - 6h\beta(ih)}{2h^2} \\ \omega_{0,j} &= \frac{\psi_{1,j} - 8\psi_{2,j}}{2h^2} \\ \omega_{N+1,j} &= \frac{-\psi_{N-1,j} + 8\psi_{N,j}}{2h^2}.\end{aligned}\tag{25}$$

Here  $\beta(x)$  denotes the boundary condition function for the horizontal velocity at the boundary  $\Gamma_3$ . The boundary conditions on  $\psi$  are homogeneous Dirichlet BC, and the operators are discretized by second order centered schemes on a uniform mesh composed by  $N$  points in each direction of the domain of step-size  $h = \frac{1}{N+1}$ . The total number of unknowns is then  $2N^2$ .

The boundary conditions on  $\omega$  are iteratively implemented according to the relations (25-25), making the finite differences scheme second order accurate.

### 3.3.2 Implementation

With the formulae (25-25) we can compute the boundary condition of  $\omega$ . We denote by  $\partial_x^h(\psi)$ ,  $\partial_y^h(\psi)$  and by  $\partial_\Delta^h(\psi)$  the contributions of the boundary conditions to the discretization operators of  $\partial_x$ ,  $\partial_y$  and  $-\Delta$ . The problem to solve is

$$F_1(\omega, \psi) = \frac{1}{Re} \left( A\omega + \partial_\Delta^h(\psi) \right) + D_y\psi \left( D_x\omega + \partial_x^h(\psi) \right) - D_x\psi \left( D_y\omega + \partial_y^h(\psi) \right) = 0,\tag{26}$$

$$F_2(\omega, \psi) = A\psi + \omega = 0.\tag{27}$$

Here  $A$  is the discretization matrix of  $-\Delta$ ,  $D_x$  and  $D_y$  are the discretization matrices of  $\partial_x$  and  $\partial_y$  respectively. The problem to solve is then

$$F(\omega, \psi) = \begin{pmatrix} F_1(\omega, \psi) \\ F_2(\omega, \psi) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}.$$

We set for convenience  $X = (\omega, \psi)$ . Now, as for the primary variables formulation and returning to the dynamical system framework of the method, we set

$$\mathcal{G}(\omega, \psi) = \begin{pmatrix} A^{-1}F_1(\omega, \psi) \\ A^{-1}F_2(\omega, \psi) \end{pmatrix},$$

and we consider the evolutionary system

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dX}{dt} = -Z, \\ \epsilon \frac{dZ}{dt} = \mathcal{G}(X) - \mathcal{H}Z, \end{cases}\tag{28}$$

where  $\mathcal{H}Z$  is an approximation of the gradient of  $\mathcal{G}(X)$  at  $Z$ .

Here  $A$  is the classical pentadiagonal finite differences matrix of the Laplace operator on a square and the solution of linear systems with  $A$  can be cheaply done by using fast solvers such as FFT or multigrid. We will use in this paper the FFT.

## 4 Numerical results

### 4.1 General implementation of the algorithm

We now list the information (data) required by the IGPR method:

- The positive integer number  $M$ .
- The parameters  $\gamma$  and  $\eta_k$ .
- The initial value of the descent parameter  $\alpha_0$ .
- The merit function. We use the Euclidian norm of the residual  $\|F(X)\|$ .
- The accuracy of the global method: The solution is considered accurate when  $\|F(X)\| < 1.e - 6$ .
- The accuracy imposed for solving the preconditioning equation

$$\frac{F(x^k + \tau z) - F(x^k)}{\tau} - F(x^k) = 0,$$

that is characterized by

- the choice of the optimization method 1. In our implementation we have used the Enhanced Cauchy 2 as discussed above.
- the number  $\tau$ . We set  $\tau = 1.e - 8$ .
- the number of iteration  $nprec$  that can vary at each step. We choose to increase  $nprec$  as the residual  $r^k$  decreases for improving the preconditioning near the solution as follows (adaptive preconditioning)

**adaptive computation of  $nprec$**

$nprec0$  given

for  $k = 0, \dots$  (until convergence)

if  $\|r^k\| < 1.e - 1$

$nprec = ceil * (-log_{10}(\|r^k\|) + 1) * nprec0$ .

### 4.2 Computation of Steady states of NSE

We present hereafter the numerical solution of the steady state of the bi-dimensional driven cavity for different Reynolds numbers. Our results agree with those in the literature [6, 4, 13, 16, 17, 22, 26, 27, 28] (see figures and tables below) and to prove the robustness of the resolution method, we take as initial guess the solution of the Stokes problem which becomes farther from the steady state as the Reynolds number increases. In here we pay special attention on the solution of NSE in the  $\omega - \Psi$  formulation. However let us mention that the scheme applies also to NSE in primary variables ( $U - P$ ), the linear solver being a Stokes solver. The crucial practical point is to have at the disposal a fast solver for the linear problems: FFT or multigrid for  $\omega - \Psi$  formulation and Multigrid Uzawa [6] for the  $U - P$  formulation.

As pointed out in the following results, the globalization strategy is important while the residual is not small enough. Furthermore, the preconditioning makes sense “close to the solution”. For that reason we

choose to activate the preconditioning progressively as the residual decreases by increasing the number of inner iterations in the solution of the preconditioning step (step 1 of the scheme). This allows us to obtain a fast convergence at the end while saving computational time at the beginning.

We observe that the number of outer iterations increases with the Reynolds number but not so much with the dimension of the problem. In all cases, the first part of the convergence process is devoted to “maintaining” the iterates in a neighborhood of the solution. All the computations have been made using Matlab © software on a 2Ghz dual core PC with 2 ram’s Gbytes.

#### 4.2.1 Cavity B

We now present the parameters of the scheme that we used for solving the flow in cavity  $B$  for the stream function-vorticity formulation of NSE.  $N$  is the number of discretization point in each direction of the domain. We give in the following table the values of the parameters of the method

Re	N	$\gamma$	M	nprec0	Prec. Method	Adapted nprec	$\alpha_0$
1000	127	9.e2	M=2	4	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e1
2000	127	9.e11	2	4	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e4
5000	255	9.e2	2	4	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e4

#### 4.2.2 Cavity A

Re	N	$\gamma$	M	nprec0	Prec. Method	Adapted nprec	$\alpha_0$
1000	127	9.10 <sup>2</sup>	M=2	4	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e1
3200	255	9.e6	2	4	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e4

The results are reported on Figures 2, 3, and 4; and special values of the solution are given in Tables 1, 2, and 3 where we also compare them with those in the literature.

We note that the main effort of the iterative method is done at the beginning of the iterations, while the globalization is acting to stabilize the iterates. This phenomenon is amplified as the Reynolds number  $Re$  becomes large. An acceleration of the convergence is obtained when the residual is small enough since  $nprec$  increases. The shape of the solutions are identical with that of the literature, such as in [6, 4, 13, 14, 16, 17, 22, 26, 27, 28]; particularly, the special values agree.

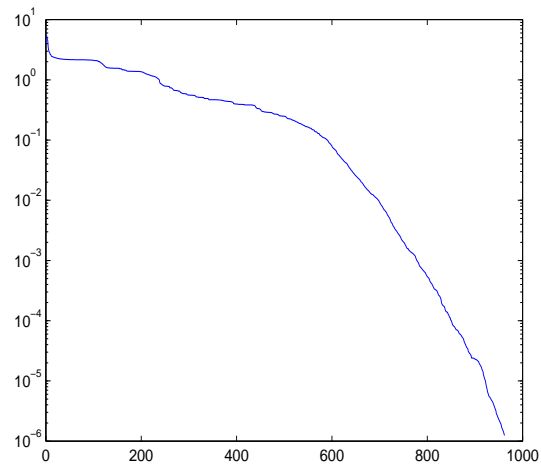
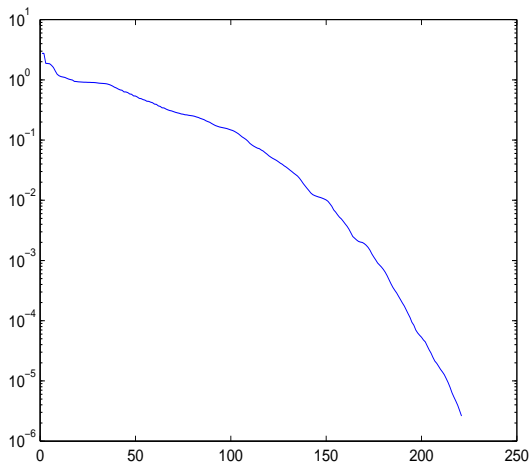
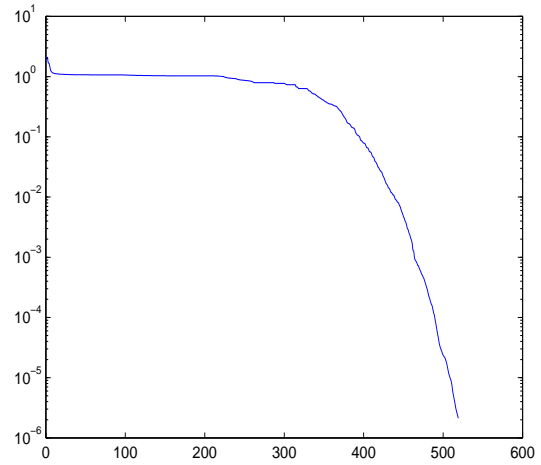
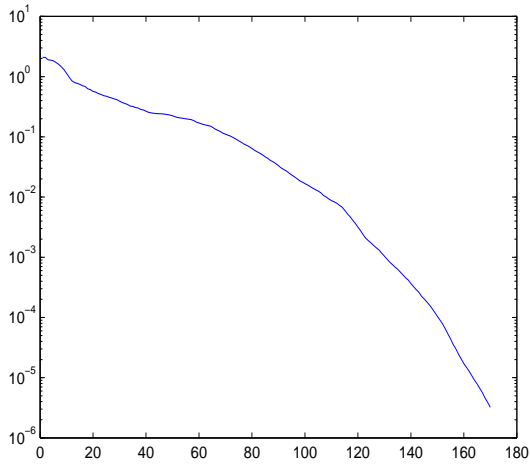


Figure 2: Convergence history (residual norm versus iterations): First row, Cavity B,  $Re=1000$  (left), and  $Re=2000$  (right); second row, cavity A,  $Re=1000$  (left), and  $Re=3200$  (right).

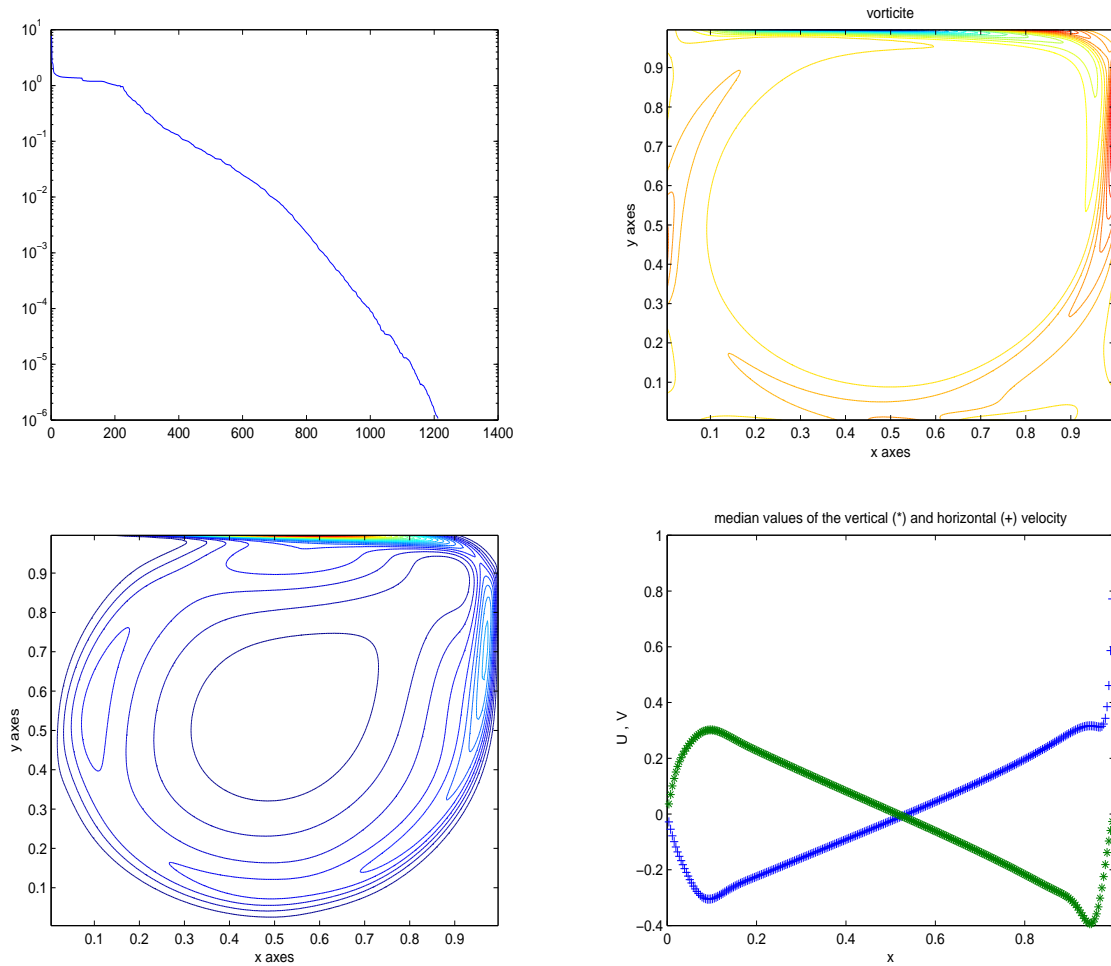


Figure 3: Steady NSE,  $Re=5000$ ,  $N=255$ . Residual norm versus iterations (top left), isolines of the vorticity (top right), isolines of the kinetic energy (bottom left), and median values of the horizontal and of the vertical velocity (bottom right).

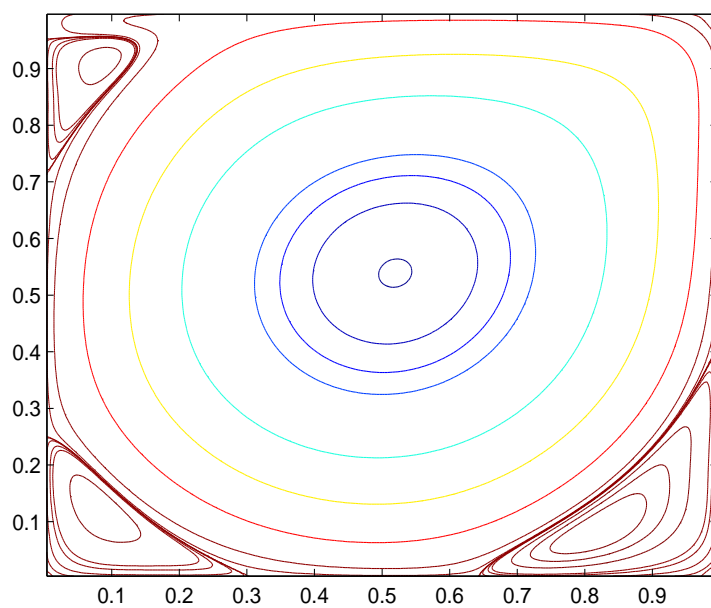


Figure 4: Steady NSE, Cavity B,  $Re=5000$ ,  $N=255$  isolines of the stream function.

### 4.3 Solution of NSE in primary variables

We now present the numerical results on the solution of the steady NSE in primary variables. We change the value of  $\gamma$  during the iterations in order to increase the non-monotonicity of the IGPR as follows

$$\text{if } \|r^k\| < 1.e - 3 \text{ then } \gamma = 0.9$$

We now present the numerical solution of the cavity B problem for  $Re = 400$  and  $Re = 2000$ . The level curves of the pressure, the vorticity, the kinetic energy and the stream function agree with those in the literature. Notice that the number of iterations for convergence are less than the ones needed for the same example but using the stream-vorticity formulation. However the solution of the linear problem requires more effort since the Stokes problem needs to be solved at each evaluation of the nonlinear functional, while the solution of Poisson problems is needed when considering the  $\omega - \Psi$  formulation for NSE.

Re	N	$\gamma_0$	M	nprec0	Prec. Method	Adapted nprec	$\alpha_0$
400	63	1.e4	M=2	5	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e2
1000	127	1.e4	2	4	Enhanced Cauchy 2	yes	1.e4

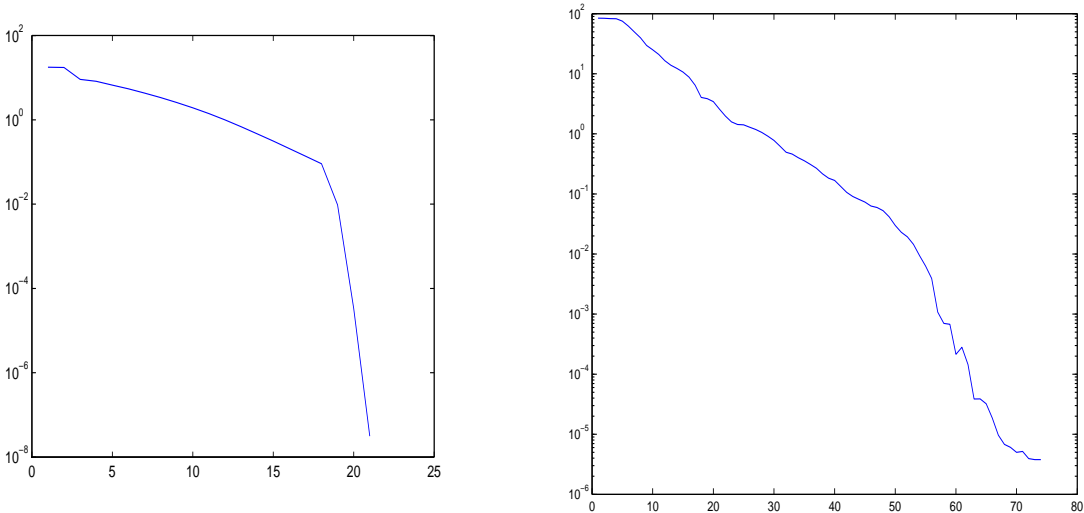


Figure 5: Convergence history (residual norm versus iterations), Cavity B,  $N=63$ ,  $Re=400$  (left) and  $N=127$ ,  $Re=1000$  (right).

## 5 Concluding remarks

We have presented a scheme that takes into account only the linear part of the nonlinear equation for solving steady fluid flows, making our method a very general one. The efficiency of the scheme is increased when a fast solver is used for the linear problem. The results we obtain on the numerical solution of NSE show that the proposed method is robust; as it has been already established, it is harder to solve directly the steady NSE than to compute the steady state by time marching schemes applied to the evolutionary equation. The new method is also flexible since the choice of the preconditioning step is completely free. We would like to stress out that the preconditioned globalized spectral residual method can be applied to a large number of scientific computing topics, especially when no (simple) preconditioning can be built, such as in Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), and also in numerical linear algebra when solving Riccati matrix equations or some other nonlinear matrix problems. These are topics that deserve further investigation.

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