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On parallel numerical algorithms  
for simulating industrial filtration  
problems

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# Vorwort

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In der Reihe »Berichte des Fraunhofer ITWM« soll die Arbeit des Instituts kontinuierlich einer interessierten Öffentlichkeit in Industrie, Wirtschaft und Wissenschaft vorgestellt werden. Durch die enge Verzahnung mit dem Fachbereich Mathematik der Universität Kaiserslautern sowie durch zahlreiche Kooperationen mit internationalen Institutionen und Hochschulen in den Bereichen Ausbildung und Forschung ist ein großes Potenzial für Forschungsberichte vorhanden. In die Berichtreihe sollen sowohl hervorragende Diplom- und Projektarbeiten und Dissertationen als auch Forschungsberichte der Institutsmitarbeiter und Institutsgäste zu aktuellen Fragen der Techno- und Wirtschaftsmathematik aufgenommen werden.

Darüber hinaus bietet die Reihe ein Forum für die Berichterstattung über die zahlreichen Kooperationsprojekte des Instituts mit Partnern aus Industrie und Wirtschaft.

Berichterstattung heißt hier Dokumentation des Transfers aktueller Ergebnisse aus mathematischer Forschungs- und Entwicklungsarbeit in industrielle Anwendungen und Softwareprodukte – und umgekehrt, denn Probleme der Praxis generieren neue interessante mathematische Fragestellungen.



Prof. Dr. Dieter Prätzel-Wolters  
Institutsleiter

Kaiserslautern, im Juni 2001



# On Parallel Numerical Algorithms for Simulating Industrial Filtration Problems

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## Abstract

The performance of oil filters used in the automotive industry can be significantly improved, especially when computer simulation is an essential component of the design process. In this paper, we consider parallel numerical algorithms for solving mathematical models describing the process of filtration, filtering out solid particles from liquid oil. The Navier-Stokes-Brinkmann system of equations is used to describe the laminar flow of incompressible isothermal oil. The space discretization in the complicated filter geometry is based on the finite-volume method. Special care is taken for an accurate approximation of velocity and pressure on the interface between the fluid and the porous media. The time discretization used here is a proper modification of the fractional time step discretization (cf. Chorin scheme) of the Navier-Stokes equations, where the Brinkmann term is considered at both, prediction and correction substeps.

A data decomposition method is used to develop a parallel algorithm, where the domain is distributed among processors by using a structured reference grid. The MPI library is used to implement the data communication part of the algorithm. A theoretical model is proposed for the estimation of the complexity of the given parallel algorithm and a scalability analysis is done on the basis of this model. Results of computational experiments are presented, and the accuracy

and efficiency of the parallel algorithm is tested on real industrial geometries.

## 1 Introduction

The numerical solution of nonlinear PDEs, such as porous media models or Navier-Stokes equations, require very large computational efforts. A significant step in reducing the CPU time and/or increasing the accuracy of the simulations is the usage of parallel computers and clusters of workstations. The power of modern personal computers is increasing constantly, but not enough to fulfill all scientific and engineering computational demands. In such cases, parallel computing may be the answer. Parallel computing not only gives access to increasing computational resources but it also becomes economically feasible. This is mainly because clusters of workstations can be used as local dedicated computational nodes or as a parallel computer, according to momental needs of a department. A good review on the state of the art in numerical solution of PDEs on parallel computers is given in [7]. This book surveys the major topics that are essential to high-performance simulation on parallel computers, including programming models, load balancing, mesh generation, efficient numerical solvers, and scientific software.

Filtering out solid particles from liquid oil is very essential for automotive engines (as well as for many other applications). An oil filter can be described shortly as a filter box (which could be of complicated shape) with inlet/s for dirty oil and outlet/s for filtrated oil. The inlet/s and outlet/s are separated by a filtering medium, which is usually a single layer or a multilayer porous media. Optimal shape design for the filter housing, achieving optimal pressure drop - flow rate ratio, etc., require detailed knowledge about the flow field through the filter. Accurate information about the velocity and pressure distributions can be obtained from a 3-D computer simulation of the fully coupled flow: flow in the area between the inlet/s and the filtering medium, flow within filtering medium, and flow between the filtering medium and the outlet/s. A general purpose commercial CFD software might be inefficient and/or inaccurate in computing such particular flows. An efficient numerical algorithm for such problems is developed. The algorithm is further implemented to meet the needs of an existing manufacturing oil filter company, namely IBS Filtran. Intensive collaboration with the company achieved success with the release of a specialized software, namely SuFiS (Suction Filter Simulation). The single grid version of the algorithm is shortly presented in [19, 20] (for some details, see [27]).

The top and bottom pans of a typical filter housing are shown in Fig.1, and a sketch of a cross-section of a filter assembly is shown in Fig.2. Several challenging problems have to be solved to support the design of oil filters: detailed simulation of coupled flows through filters; modeling and simulation of capturing of dirt particles by the filtering media; interaction of the flow and the deformable filtering medium; optimal shape design and so on. Here we discuss the first of these problems, i.e. the coupled flow simulations. More precisely, we discuss the development of efficient numerical algorithms and software for the simulation of 3-D flow through oil filters. We also pay special attention to the usage of correct parameters and to the validation of the software. Note that some details concerning modelling and simulation of capturing of the particles by the filtering medium, as well as of related filtration processes, can be found in [16].



Figure 1: Top pan (left) and bottom pan (right) of a filter housing;



Figure 2: A schematic drawing of a vertical cross-section of the filter

This paper aims to discuss parallelization of the existing industrial sequential code SuFiS, which is extensively used for the simulation of fluid flows in industrial filters. The domain or data parallelization paradigm is used to build a parallel algorithm [25]. The MPI library is used to implement the data communication among processors.

The paper is organized as follows. In Section 2, we first formulate the problem. The following two subsections describe the fractional time step discretization, and the Finite Volume (FV) discretization method used for solving the flow problem, respectively. A parallel algorithm is described

in Section 3, which is based on the parallel domain (data) decomposition method. The systems of linear equations are solved by a parallel version of the preconditioned BiConjugate Gradient Stabilized algorithm. A theoretical model, which estimates the complexity of the parallel SuFiS algorithm is proposed. The results of computational experiments corresponding to the SP5 computer and a cluster of workstations are presented and the efficiency of some popular parallel preconditioners is investigated. During computations, the diagonal and the incomplete LU (ILU) factorization preconditioners are considered. A parallel version of ILU is obtained by doing the factorization of a local part of the matrix at each processor. It is well known that such strategy reduces the convergence rate of the iterative algorithm, however, the parallelism of the obtained preconditioner is the same as the one obtained for the diagonal one. In Section 4, the computational results of experiments are presented, where some industrial filters are simulated and flows in such filters are investigated. Some final conclusions are given in Section 5.

## 2 Governing equations and space and time discretization

### 2.1 Governing equations

The Brinkmann model (see, e.g. [6, 24]) describing the flow in porous media,  $\Omega_p$ , and the Navier-Stokes equations (see, e.g. [13]) describing the flow in the pure fluid region,  $\Omega_f$ , together with the interface conditions for the continuity of the velocity and the continuity of the normal component of the stress tensor, are reformulated such that a single system of partial differential equations governs the flow in the pure liquid and in the porous media. This is done using the fictitious regions method manner. Note that the fictitious region method allows the use of one system of equations in order to treat the fluid, porous and solid regions simultaneously (see, e.g. [1, 30, 31]). The coefficients of the equations vary in a way such that the single system is reduced to the Navier-Stokes equations in the liquid zone, and to the Brinkmann-like model in the porous media. This approach is relevant when the interface conditions between the plain (fluid) and porous media are chosen to be the continuity of the velocity and the continuity of the normal component of the stress tensor. For a theoretical justification of this approach, for the case of Stokes flow, see [1, 30] and the references therein.

The Navier-Stokes-Brinkmann system of equations describing laminar, incompressible and isothermal flow in the whole domain reads:

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \underbrace{\frac{\partial \rho \vec{u}}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (\tilde{\mu} \nabla \vec{u}) + (\rho \vec{u}, \nabla) \vec{u}}_{\text{Navier-Stokes}} + \underbrace{\tilde{\mu} \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \vec{u} + \nabla p}_{\text{Darcy law}} = \vec{f}, \\ \nabla \cdot \vec{u} = 0. \end{array} \right. \quad (1)$$

In this case, the tilde-quantities are defined as follows:

$$\tilde{\mu} = \begin{cases} \mu & \text{in } \Omega_f, \\ \mu_{eff} & \text{in } \Omega_p, \end{cases} \quad \vec{f} = \begin{cases} \vec{f}_{NS} & \text{in } \Omega_f, \\ \vec{f}_B & \text{in } \Omega_p, \end{cases} \quad \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{in } \Omega_f, \\ \mathbf{K}^{-1} & \text{in } \Omega_p. \end{cases}$$

Here  $\vec{u}$  and  $p$  stand for the velocity vector and the pressure, respectively, and  $\rho, \mu, \mathbf{K}$  denote the density, the viscosity, and the permeability tensor of the porous medium, respectively.

No slip boundary conditions are prescribed on the solid wall, prescribed flow rate (i.e., prescribed velocity) are the boundary conditions at the inflow, and soft boundary conditions are prescribed at the outflow.

## 2.2 Time Discretization

The choice of the time discretization influences the accuracy of the numerical solution and the stability of the algorithm (e.g., the restrictions on the time step). In this paper, we are interested in the steady state solution only, when the steady state solution is a limit of the unsteady one for  $t \rightarrow \infty$ . Thus stability and fast convergence are the criteria influencing the choice of the time discretization here. Studies of the unsteady regimes will be the subject of another paper. Before the time discretizations are presented, some notations are introduced. The operators corresponding to the discretized convective and diffusive terms in the momentum equations are denoted by  $C(\vec{u})\vec{u}$  and  $D\vec{u}$ , respectively. The particular form of these operators depend on the space discretization, and will be discussed below. Further, the discretization of the gradient is denoted by  $G$ , and  $G^T$  denotes the discretization of the divergence operator. Finally,  $B\vec{u}$  denoted the operator corresponding to Darcy term, namely  $\mu \tilde{\mathbf{K}}^{-1} \vec{u}$ , in the momentum equations. In some cases, the same notation is used for the continuous and discrete functions, when this does not cause misunderstanding. Below, the superscript  $^n$  is used to denote the values at the old time level, and  $^{n+1}$  or NO superscript to

denote the values at the new time level. Notation  $\tau$  stands for the time step,  $\tau = t^{n+1} - t^n$ . With these notations, the following fractional time step discretization scheme can be written:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left( \rho \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \rho \vec{u}^n \right) + \tau (C(\vec{u}^n) - D + B) \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \tau G p^n, \\ & \left( \rho u^{n+1} - \rho \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) + \tau \left( B \vec{u}^{n+1} - B \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) = \tau (G p^{n+1} - G p^n), \quad (2) \\ & G^T \rho u^{n+1} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

This algorithm for the Navier-Stokes-Brinkmann equations can be viewed as a modification of the well-known Chorin method for Navier-Stokes equations. The sum of the first and the second equations above gives an implicit discretization of the momentum equations. The first equation is solved with respect to the velocities, using the old value of the pressure gradient, thus obtaining a prediction for the velocity. To solve the second equation with respect to pressure correction, one takes the divergence from it and uses the continuity equation. The result is a Poisson-type equation for the pressure correction. There exists extensive mathematical literature, concerning first and second order fractional time step discretizations, incremental and non-incremental form of equations, stability, splitting of the boundary conditions, etc. Some discussions on this topic, as well as further references, can be found in [14, 8].

As mentioned above, the Darcy term in the Navier-Stokes-Brinkmann equations needs special treatment. In equation (2), this term is accounted for at both time substeps. Note that the pressure correction equation should be carefully derived in this case. A naive application of the Chorin method would give:

$$G^T \left( \rho \vec{u}^{n+1} - \rho \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) + G^T \tau \left( B \vec{u}^{n+1} - B \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) = G^T \tau (G p^{n+1} - G p^n). \quad (3)$$

Denoting  $q$  for the pressure correction, where  $q = p^{n+1} - p^n$ , one can rewrite the above equation as

$$G^T \tau G q = G^T \left( \rho \vec{u}^{n+1} - \rho \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right) + G^T \tau \left( B \vec{u}^{n+1} - B \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right). \quad (4)$$

Furthermore, using the continuity equation  $G^T \rho u^{n+1} = 0$ , and assuming that  $G^T B u^{n+1} \approx 0$ , the above equation reduces to

$$G^T \tau G q = -G^T \left( \rho \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \tau B \vec{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right). \quad (5)$$

A drawback of this pressure correction equation is that its operator does not "see" the porous media, and that the continuity equation is approximately satisfied in the porous media. For a constant time step, its operator is equivalent to Poisson equation with constant coefficients.

In order to achieve a better convergence, let us consider another approach for forming a pressure correction equation. Denote  $I$  as the identity  $3 \times 3$  matrix. Rewriting equation (2) gives:

$$\left(I + \frac{\tau}{\rho}B\right)\rho\bar{u}^{n+1} - \left(I + \frac{\tau}{\rho}B\right)\rho\bar{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = \tau(G p^{n+1} - G p^n). \quad (6)$$

Keeping in mind that  $(I + \frac{\tau}{\rho}B)^{-1}$  always exists because  $B$  is positive definite, the above equation can be transformed to

$$\left(\rho\bar{u}^{n+1} - \rho\bar{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}\right) = \left(I + \frac{\tau}{\rho}B\right)^{-1}\tau(G p^{n+1} - G p^n). \quad (7)$$

Now, applying the divergence operator,  $G^T$ , to this equation, and using the continuity equation, the following pressure correction equation is obtained:

$$G^T\left(I + \frac{\tau}{\rho}B\right)^{-1}\tau G q = -G^T\rho\bar{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}. \quad (8)$$

It is easy to see that the derived pressure correction equation in the pure fluid region, where  $B = 0$ , reduces to the standard Chorin scheme. The same equation for pure fluids is obtained within the SIMPLEC approach (see [13]), or within the Schur complement approach (see [32]). It is more important to see that this equation has the form of the well-known Darcy equation in the porous medium (note that in the porous medium  $I \ll B$ ). Thus, the equation describes both, the pure fluid zones and the porous zones equally well.

After the pressure correction equation is solved, the pressure is updated,  $p^{n+1} = p^n + q$ , and the new velocity is calculated based on equation (7):

$$\rho\bar{u}^{n+1} = \rho\bar{u}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \left(I + \frac{\tau}{\rho}B\right)^{-1}\tau G q \quad (9)$$

### 2.3 Grid and Finite Volume Discretization in space

The geometrical information about the computational domain is usually provided in a CAD format, for example, the *stl* format. A pre-processor

based on Level Set Method (see [15]), is used in order to process the given CAD data for attaining the assembly of a filter housing. The output of the pre-processor is a computational domain (i.e., the internal volume of the filter housing), along with a generated grid. An example of a computational domain can be seen in Figure 3.

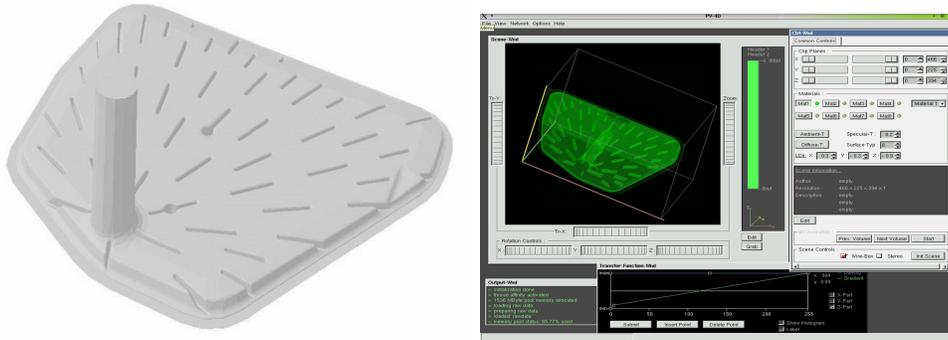


Figure 3: Computational domain of a filter housing (left) and a snapshot of the visualization tool (right)

The governing equations are discretized by the Finite Volume Method (see [13]) on the generated Cartesian grid. Cell-centered grid with collocated arrangement of the velocity and pressure is used. The Rhie-Chow interpolation (see [12]) is used to avoid the spiral oscillations, which could appear due to the collocated arrangement of the unknowns. Upwind, central differencing, and deferred correction schemes can be used for the convective term. In general, the discretization of the convective and the diffusive (viscous) terms in the pure fluid region is close or identical to the one described in [12, 13], and therefore it will not be described here (some details can be found in our earlier papers, for example, [20, 21, 22]). Special attention is paid to the discretizations near the interfaces between the fluid and the porous medium. Conservativity of the discretization is achieved here by choosing finite volume method as a discretization technique. To get an accurate approximation for the velocity and for the pressure on the interface, a special modification of the discretizations near the interface is used. First of all, it should be noted that the pressure gradient in the momentum equation is discretized in each cell separately. To do this, the pressure values from the cell centers are interpolated to the cell faces. In the pure fluid region, this is done by linear interpolation where the pressure gradient is discretized via central differences. The more crucial part is the interpolation of pressure

on the interface between the pure fluid and the porous regions. Problem-dependent interpolation employed, using the operator from (8) together with the mass conservation assumption (i.e., continuity of the normal component of the flux across the interface). For a detailed illustration of this approach, suppose that  $p_L$  is a pressure value in a pure fluid cell located left from the interface, and  $p_R$  is a pressure value in a porous cell located right from the interface. The pressure at the interface is assumed to be continuous, and the value there,  $p_e$ , in the case of isotropic media (i.e. scalar permeability) is calculated from (8) as follows:

$$p_e = \frac{(1 + \frac{\tau}{\rho}b)_L^{-1}p_L + (1 + \frac{\tau}{\rho}b)_R^{-1}p_R}{(1 + \frac{\tau}{\rho}b)_L^{-1} + (1 + \frac{\tau}{\rho}b)_R^{-1}}, \quad (10)$$

where  $b$  is the component of  $B$  in the isotropic case.

## 2.4 Series of computations with different velocities and viscosities

In practice, a series of computations with different velocities and different viscosities need to be performed for a fixed geometry. Particularly, in the case of oil filter simulations, the performance of a filter is usually evaluated at different flow rates and different temperatures (the last results in different viscosities and different densities). Also, recall that each single computation is performed for incompressible nonisothermal fluid. In order to reduce the computational efforts, a *start from previous* procedure is briefly discussed. This routine takes advantage of the fact that there exists a good initial guess for all simulated cases except for the first one. The cases to be simulated are ordered such that the parameter

$$\gamma_l = \frac{1}{\mu_l Q_l}$$

is increasing. Here  $Q$  stands for the prescribed flow rate at the inlet, and  $l$  stands for the current number of the set of input parameters. After the first case corresponding to  $\gamma_l$  is computed, the computations corresponding to  $\gamma_{l+1}$  start with reading the  $l$ -th steady state solution, and thereby rescaling the pressure in accordance with the formula

$$Gp_{l+1} = \frac{\gamma_l}{\gamma_{l+1}}Gp_l. \quad (11)$$

## 2.5 Implementational sketch

At the end of this section we summarize the proposed discrete scheme and numerical algorithms. In Figure 4 a short description of the sequential SUFIS algorithm is given.

```

SUFIS ()
begin
(1) Define computational domain
(2) ok = true; k = 0;
(3) while ( ok ) do
(4)     k := k+1; Uk = Uk-1; Pk = Pk-1;
(5)     for (i=0; i < MaxNonLinearIter; i++) do
(6)         Compute velocities from momentum equations
           QjUj* = Fji - ∂xjPk, j = 1, 2, 3;
(7)         Solve equation for the pressure correction
           LhPc = Ri;
(8)         Correct the velocities
           Ujk = Uj* - αu(D-1∇hPc)j, j = 1, 2, 3;
(9)         Correct the pressure
           Pk := Pk + αpPc;
           end do
(10)     if ( final time step ) ok = false;
           end do
end SUFIS

```

Figure 4: Sequential SUFIS algorithm

During each iteration at steps (6) and (7) four systems of linear equations are solved. For many problems this part of the algorithm requires till 90% of total CPU time. We use the BiCGSTAB algorithm which solves the unsymmetric linear system

$$Ax = f$$

by using the preconditioned BiConjugate Gradient Stabilized method [4]. A short description of the sequential BiCGSTAB algorithm is given in Figure 5.

```

BiCGSTAB (Vec x, Vec f, Matrix A, double  $\varepsilon$ )
begin
  (1) Compute the preconditioner  $D$ ;
  (2) normf =  $\|f\|$ ;
  (3) if (normf <  $\varepsilon$ ) normf = 1;
  (4)  $r = f - Ax$ ;
  (5)  $\tilde{r} = r$ ;  ok = true;  i = 0;
  (6) while ( ok ) do
  (7)   i++;   $\rho_1 = (\tilde{r}, r)$ ;
  (8)   if ( i == 1 ) then
  (9)     p = r;
  (10)    else
  (11)      $\beta = (\rho_1 \alpha) / (\rho_2 \omega)$ ;
  (12)      $p = r + \beta(p - \omega v)$ ;
  (13)    end if
  (14)     $D\hat{p} = p$ ;
  (15)     $v = A\hat{p}$ ;
  (16)     $\alpha = \rho_1 / (\tilde{r}, v)$ ;
  (17)     $s = r - \alpha v$ ;
  (18)    if (  $\|s\| / \text{normf} < \varepsilon$  ) then
  (19)       $x + = \alpha \hat{p}$ ;
  (20)      ok = false;
  (21)    else
  (22)       $D\hat{s} = s$ ;
  (23)       $t = A\hat{s}$ ;
  (24)       $\omega = (t, s) / (t, t)$ ;
  (25)       $x + = \alpha \hat{p} + \omega \hat{s}$ ;   $r = s - \omega t$ ;
  (26)       $\rho_2 = \rho_1$ ;
  (27)      if (  $\|r\| / \text{normf} < \varepsilon$  ) ok = false;
  (28)    end if
  (29)  end do
end BiCGSTAB

```

Figure 5: Serial BiCGSTAB algorithm

### 3 Parallel Algorithm

In this section, the main details of the developed parallel algorithm are described. A theoretical model estimating the complexity of the parallel SuFiS algorithm is also proposed.

As stated above, the solver for the linear system of equations typically requires up to 70 to 90 percents of total computation time. Thus there is a possibility to parallelize only the linear system solver by using one of the well-known parallel software packages such as PETSc [3]. Alternatively, in many cases, the main goal of parallel computations is not only to increase the size of simulated problems but also to solve them faster. Therefore, the distribution of the discretization part of the algorithm to scale the problem size according to the increased number of processors becomes a crucial point to consider. Also, when only the linear solver is parallelized, computing the discretization is done only on the master processor using the sequential code while the linear systems of equations are solved in parallel. The drawback of this practice becomes apparent when the additional costs, pertaining to the distribution of the matrix and right-hand side vector among processors and assembling the solution on the master processor, are considered.

#### 3.1 Domain Decomposition

The Navier-Stokes-Brinkmann system of equations (1) is solved in a complicated 3D region. A discrete grid is described as a general non-structured set of finite-volumes. The discretization of the PDEs and assembling of the coefficients of the linear equations is done by using a general technique, which is standard for solvers of flows in porous media and Navier-Stokes equations [5, 26]. The goal of the domain (data) decomposition method is to define a suitable mapping of all finite-volumes  $V$  to the set of  $p$  processors

$$V = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \dots \cup V_p,$$

where  $V_j$  defines the elements mapped to  $j$ -th processor. The load balancing problem should be solved during the implementation of this step. First, it is aimed that each processor has about the same number of elements, since this number would define the computational complexity for all parts of the SuFiS algorithm. Due to the stencil of discretization, the computational domains of processors can overlap. The information belonging to the overlapped regions should be exchanged among processors. For distributed memory computers, MPI library is used to send explicit messages between processors,

contributing to the additional costs of the parallel algorithm. Thus, a second goal of defining the optimal data mapping is to minimize the overlapping regions.

The  $p$ -way graph partitioning problem is  $NP$ -complete, i.e. no polynomial time algorithm is likely to be found to solve this problem. Therefore heuristic algorithms are developed to find a good solution in a reasonable time. The multilevel partitioning method is one of the most efficient partitioning methods having a linear time complexity. State of the art implementation of a family of multilevel partitioning methods for partitioning unstructured graphs and hypergraphs is available as a METIS software library [23].

A simpler domain decomposition algorithm has been applied for this particular case. It takes into account that the orthogonal 3D structured grid is used as a reference grid for definition of computational grid. Therefore a standard 3D decomposition of processors  $p_1 \times p_2 \times p_3$  can be used. Such a strategy simplifies the implementation of data exchange algorithms, since it is very easy to define the neighbours of each processor and the overlapping elements.

**Load balancing.** In order to solve the load balancing problem for a given number of processors, all combinations of 3D processors topologies are generated. The topology with the best load balancing and minimizing the number overlapping elements is found.

In a series of computational experiments, the quality of the obtained partitionings were tested and compared with the partitionings computed by METIS. In Table 1, the values of load disbalance parameter  $d_p$  and the number of overlapping elements  $w_p$  (or edges cutting the partitioned subsets of elements in the case of METIS partitioning) are presented for METIS and orthogonal 3D partitionings. The grid was generated for a real industrial application, the graph of this grid had 596094 nodes and 1507732 edges, the auxiliary structured grid had 5428000 nodes.

It was seen that the simple grid partitioning algorithm gives mappings with good load balancing and the number of overlapped elements is also close to the number of similar elements in partitionings generated by METIS.

Now the costs of data initialization are estimated. The *master* processor reads the information on the grid from a file and broadcasts it to the other processors. The complexity of the global *broadcast* operation depends strongly on the architecture of the parallel computer, see [10, 17, 18]. The cost of broadcasting  $n$  items of data between  $p$  processors is estimated by

Table 1: Experimental investigation of the quality of partitioning algorithms

$p$	$d_{p,Metis}$	$2w_{p,Metis}$	$d_{3D}$	$w_{3D}$
2	1.0	6090	1.05	5874
4	1.0	12164	1.19	16884
8	1.0	24162	1.21	34450
12	1.0	32836	1.22	60270

$$B(n, p) = R(p)(\alpha_b + \beta_b n), \quad (12)$$

where  $R(p)$  depends on the algorithm used to implement the *broadcast* operation and the architecture of the computer. For the simplest algorithm,  $R(p) = p$ . Taking into account the time  $\mathcal{O}(n)$  required to read data from the file and assuming that  $\alpha_b \ll \beta_b n$ , a bound on costs of grid initialization is found

$$W_{p,init} = (c_0 + \beta_b p)n. \quad (13)$$

Note that this part of computations does not depend on the number of nonlinear iterations and the number of time steps. Therefore, the initialization costs can be neglected for problems where a long transition time is simulated.

### 3.2 Parallel Discretization

The sequential algorithm is decomposed into local computations supplemented with corresponding communication operations. The matrixes and right-hand side vectors are assembled element by element. This can be done locally by each processor, if all ghost values of the vectors belonging to overlapping regions are exchanged among processors. The data communication is implemented by an *odd - even* type algorithm and can be done in parallel between different pairs of processors. Thus, we can estimate the costs of data exchange operation as

$$W_{exch} = \alpha_e + \beta_e m,$$

where  $m$  is the number of items sent between two processors,  $\alpha$  is the message startup time and  $\beta$  is the time required to send one element of data.

The time required to calculate all coefficients of the discrete problem is given by

$$W_{p,coeff} = c_1 d_p \frac{n}{p},$$

where  $d_p$  is a load disbalance parameter.

### 3.3 Parallel BiCGSTAB algorithm

The sequential BiCGSTAB algorithm is modified in a way such that its convergence properties are not changed during the parallelization process. The only exception is due to implementation of the preconditioner  $D$ . If  $D$  is a diagonal part of the matrix, i.e. for Jacobi smoothing a parallel realization of the preconditioner is exactly the same as for sequential one. In the case of ILU preconditioner, parallelization can reduce the convergence rate of the parallel BiCGSTAB algorithm. These questions will be addressed in the following section. Here, it is assumed that the number of iterations required to solve the systems of linear equations (6), (7) (see sequential SuFiS algorithm) are the same for the sequential and parallel versions of the BiCGSTAB algorithm.

Four different operations of the BiCGSTAB algorithm require different data communications between processors:

1. Vector *saxpy* operations (see steps (11), (15) and (22)) can be computed in parallel, when parameters  $\alpha, \beta, \omega$  are given. No communication between processors is needed, since all required data is locally available on each processor. The complexity of all vector *saxpy* operations calculated during one iteration is

$$W_{p,saxpy} = c_2 d_p \frac{n}{p}.$$

2. Implementation of the matrix – vector multiplication at steps (4), (13) and (20) requires additional information when boundary nodes of the local part of the vector  $x$  are updated (note, that these nodes are inner nodes in the global grid). Such information is obtained by exchanging data with neighbour processors in the specified topology of processors. The amount of data depends on the grid stencil, which is used to discretize the PDE model, i.e. on the overlap of local subgrids. The communication step can be done in parallel. After exchange of the ghost elements the multiplication  $Ax$  is performed locally on each processor. Taking into account that matrixes are sparse, the complexity

of two matrix-vector multiplications during one iteration is estimated by

$$W_{p,mv} = c_3 d_p \frac{n}{p} + 2(\alpha_e + \beta_e m).$$

3. The computation of inner products of two vectors at steps (2), (7), (14), (21) and (24) require a global communication of all processors: first all processors compute inner products of local parts of vectors and then these local products are summed up. Different algorithms can be used to implement the global reduction step. In MPI, there exists a special function `MPI_ALLREDUCE`, which computes a sum and distributes it to all processors. It is assumed that MPI library is optimized for each type of super-computer, taking into account specific details of the computer network. The complexity of computation of all inner products and norms during one iteration is estimated as

$$W_{p,dot} = c_4 d_p \frac{n}{p} + 5R(p)(\alpha_r + \beta_r).$$

For a simple implementation of `MPI_ALLREDUCE` function, when all processors send their local values to the master processor, which accumulates results and broadcasts the sum to all processors,  $R(p) = cp$ .

4. The computation of the preconditioner  $D$  is done locally by each processor without any communication operation, the complexity of this step is given by

$$W_{p,D} = c_5 d_p \frac{n}{p}.$$

The solution of linear systems  $Dx = b$  also requires only local computations. Thus the complexity of steps (12), (19) is given by

$$W_{p,D^{-1}} = c_6 d_p \frac{n}{p}.$$

After summing up all the estimates, the theoretical model of the complexity of the parallel SUFIS algorithm is achieved

$$\begin{aligned} W_p = & (c_0 + \beta_b p)n + K((c_1 + c_5)d_p \frac{n}{p} + c_7(\alpha_e + \beta_e m(p))) \\ & + N((c_2 + c_6 + c_{dot})d_p \frac{n}{p} + c_8 R(p)(\alpha_r + \beta_r) + c_9(\alpha_e + \beta_e m(p))), \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

where  $K$  is the number of steps in the outer loop of SuFiS algorithm, and  $N$  is a total number of BiCGSTAB iterations. Note that the initialization

costs (i.e. the first term of the total costs) do not depend on the number of time steps  $K$  and they can be neglected in the case when  $K$  is a large number.

## 4 Results of Computational Experiments

The accuracy of the theoretical complexity model developed above was tested experimentally. Computations were performed on IBM SP5 computer at CINECA, Bologna and on Virgo cluster of computers at ITWM, Kaiserslautern. Results of simulations are presented in Figure 6.

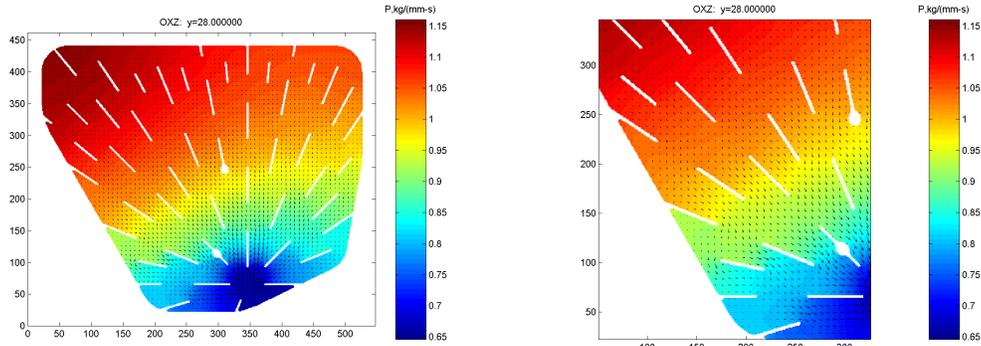


Figure 6: Results of simulations: velocity (arrows) and pressure (colour) in a cross-section of the filter

The same industrial application, as in the example of grid partitioning, is used to test the prediction accuracy of the theoretical model.

In the following tables, experimental times and theoretical predictions of CPU time

$$T_{init} = (c_0 + \beta_b p)n, \quad T_1 = K(c_1 + c_5)d_p \frac{n}{p}, \quad T_2 = N(c_2 + c_6)d_p \frac{n}{p},$$

$$T_{exch} = (Kc_7 + Nc_8)(\alpha_e + \beta_e m), \quad T_{dot} = c_4 d_p \frac{n}{p} + c_8 R(p)(\alpha_r + \beta_r).$$

are presented. For each number of processors, the first line gives experimental values of CPU and the second lines present theoretical predictions. In Table 2, the results of computations are presented for the Virgo cluster of computers.

Table 2: Experimental results and theoretical predictions of CPU times for Virgo cluster

$p$	$T_{init}$	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_{dot}$	$T_{exch}$	$T_{total}$	$S_p$	$E_p$
1	1.66	106	834	117.3	0.0	1059	1	1
2	3.24	54.5	435	63.0	4.7	560.5	1.89	0.95
	3.24	55.7	438	63.4	4.7	565.0		
4	4.23	31.0	252.5	36.1	6.6	330.7	3.20	0.80
	4.80	31.5	248	37.0	6.1	327.7		
8	5.12	15.6	126.2	20.7	7.3	175.0	6.05	0.76
	6.50	16.0	126.1	21.0	6.4	176.0		
12	7.39	10.7	84.9	15.3	5.1	123.3	8.59	0.71
	9.21	10.8	84.8	15.8	7.3	126.0		

The presented results show that theoretical complexity model gives accurate predictions of different parts of SuFiS algorithm. The efficiency of the parallel algorithm is also good. We note that cluster Virgo uses a Myrinet communication network, therefore communication costs do not reduce seriously the efficiency of the algorithm for a given number of processors.

Results of calculations done on SP5 computer are presented in Table 3.

It can be seen that the theoretical complexity model overestimates the CPU time. The accuracy of the model can be increased if the well-known fact that efficiency of vector operations increases is taken into account. Also, a superlinear speedup of the parallel algorithm is obtained for larger numbers of processors due to the better cache memory utilization in SP5 processors. A simple test was implemented, where matrix operations  $A := A + B$ ,  $C := C - D$  were performed many times. The dimension of matrices were taken to be  $4 \cdot 10^6$ . The following results were obtained:

$$T_1 = 35.3, \quad T_2 = 15.3, \quad T_4 = 7.18, \quad T_8 = 2.83, \quad T_{16} = 1.29.$$

### Data distributon using METIS library

In previous computations, a 3D data decomposition among processors was used. Since the geometry of a computational region is quite complicated, such a decomposition leads to an imbalance of the work-load between processors (up to 1.20 times). Additionally, a general grid distribution algorithm

Table 3: Experimental results and theoretical predictions of CPU times for SP5

$p$	$T_{init}$	$T_1$	$T_2$	$T_{dot}$	$T_{exch}$	$T_{total}$	$S_p$	$E_p$
1	1.83	82.1	735	70.3	0.0	889	1	1
2	3.12	44.1	381	35.7	0.58	464	1.92	0.96
	3.12	43.1	386	37.1	0.58	470		
4	3.58	23.3	203	19.1	3.20	252	3.52	0.88
	5.16	24.4	218.7	21.4	1.2	271		
8	4.54	11.8	93.2	10.2	3.06	122.7	7.25	0.91
	6.66	12.4	111	11.6	1.9	143.6		
12	6.65	8.4	63.0	6.61	3.1	87.8	10.1	0.84
	8.78	8.2	73.8	8.1	2.7	101.5		

was implemented, which was based on graph distribution algorithms implemented in METIS library [23]. In Table 4, the results of computations are presented and the two strategies of data distribution are compared. The computations were performed on Virgo cluster of computers, but in this case a Gigabit Ethernet network is used. The code was compiled with the full optimization option  $O3$  in order to make a ration between computation and communication speeds more challenging. In order to get more realistic estimates of the speed-up and the efficiency coefficients, the initialization time  $T_{init}$  was excluded from the computation time  $T_p$ , since this time could be neglected for real simulations. During the computational experiments, the solution was computed only for six time steps.

Table 4: Experimental results for 3D and METIS data distributions

$p$	$T_{p,3D}$	$S_{p,3D}$	$E_{p,3D}$	$T_{p,M}$	$S_{p,M}$	$E_{p,M}$
1	885.7	1.00	1.00	893.0	1.00	1.00
2	480.4	1.84	0.92	459.7	1.94	0.97
4	270.6	3.27	0.82	234.3	3.81	0.95
8	150.8	5.87	0.73	127.0	7.03	0.88
12	104.4	8.48	0.70	90.2	9.92	0.83

## 4.1 Parallel Preconditioners

There have been many studies of the use of various ordering techniques to overcome the trade-off between parallelism and convergence in ILU factorization. Some new multicolor orderings are proposed by D’Azevedo *et al.* [2], Doi and Washio [11], Monga–Made and Van der Vorst [29], Čiegis [9]. The comparison of parallel preconditioners for non-symmetric sparse linear systems is done by Ma [28].

A simple parallel version of ILU preconditioner was implemented, with each processor computing the required factorization by using only a local part of the matrix  $A$ . Such a Jacobi type ILU preconditioner is fully parallel, but the convergence rate of the obtained iterations is decreased, see also [3, 9]. It is very difficult to estimate the convergence rate of the BiCGSTAB algorithm with the Jacobi ILU preconditioner even for problems obtained after discretization of the Laplace equation on uniform grids. The efficiency of preconditioners also depends strongly on the given problem coefficients and the properties of the grid. Therefore mainly experimental investigations are used in for the analysis of simplified preconditioners. In Table 5, the performance of BiCGSTAB iterative algorithm with the Jacobi ILU preconditioner is given. Here,  $N_p$  is the total number of BiCGSTAB iterations calculated in solving all systems of linear equations by using  $p$  processors, and  $S_p$  and  $E_p$  are the speed-up and efficiency coefficients, respectively, of the parallel SuFiS algorithm. Note that the number of iterations was exactly the same for any number of processors in the previous experiments, i.e. the iterative process was always stopped after computing the maximal number of iterations. The computations were done on the ITWM cluster Virgo.

Table 5: Iteration numbers  $N_p$ , CPUtime  $T_p$ , speed-up  $S_p$  and efficiency  $E_p$  coefficients for the Jacobi ILU preconditioner

$p$	$N_p$	$T_p$	$S_p$	$E_p$
1	3304	1246	1.00	1.000
2	3741	742	1.68	0.840
4	4070	465.5	2.68	0.670
8	4137	248.6	5.01	0.627
12	4181	175.6	7.10	0.591

It can be seen that the number of iterations for the BiCGSTAB algorithm with the Jacobi ILU preconditioner increase when compared with the global

ILU preconditioner. Therefore, the efficiency of parallel SuFiS is decreased (compare the new values of  $E_p$  with the values given in Table 2). However, the quality of the Jacobi ILU preconditioner is still quite satisfactory.

The calculations of the ILU factorization and the solution of problems  $Dx = f$  are quite costly. The efficiency of the sequential ILU preconditioner with the Jacobi diagonal preconditioner was compared. The same problem was solved by using  $N = 9849$  iterations and  $T_1 = 2315$  CPU time. Thus, the number of iterations increased 2.98 times, but the CPU time increased by 1.85 times only.

## 5 Conclusions

A parallel algorithm for the solution of mathematical models describing filtering of solid particles from liquid oil in complicated 3D geometries is described. Governing Navier-Stokes-Brinkmann equations are discretized by finite volume method, taking special care for accurate discretization of the velocity and the pressure on the interface between the pure fluid regions and the porous media region. The parallelization is based on the data decomposition method. The data is distributed among processors by using two approaches. In the first approach, a structured reference grid is distributed using the optimal decomposition topology. In the second one, the general mesh is decomposed using the Metis library. A theoretical model is proposed for the estimation of complexity of the given parallel algorithm. The theoretical and experimental results obtained are in very good agreement, and thus it can be predicted that the proposed parallel algorithm scales well, and it can be used efficiently for simulation of oil filters with complicated 3D geometries.

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