

# Improving physics-informed neural networks with an adaptive Fast Fourier Transform (FFT) loss weighting algorithm

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# Physics-informed neural networks (PINNs)

- Partial differential equations are important in fluid dynamics, heat transfer, and other physical systems
- PDEs are hard to solve with traditional numerical methods
- PINNs have a loss function that depends on the governing PDE

$$loss = \lambda_{PDE} loss_{PDE} + \lambda_{BC} loss_{BC} + \lambda_{IC} loss_{IC}$$

- After sufficient training, the PINN can approximate the PDEs

# The problem

## Standard PINNs use fixed loss weights

- Simple to implement but can lead to **slow convergence and poor solutions**
- **Spectral bias:** tendency to learn smooth regions better than sharp gradients and fine vortical structures

# Our solution

## Adaptive PINN with trainable weights

- Learns the optimal loss weights during training to balance competing loss terms
- Network can focus more on constraints that are currently harder to satisfy
  - Improves convergence and reduces bias toward any single loss term

# Datasets and features

- PINNs do not require any labeled data
- Training data is composed of coordinates uniformly sampled from a rectangular domain and constraints derived from the Navier–Stokes equations
- Coordinates are passed to the neural network to output the predicted physical quantities based on the Navier–Stokes equations
  - **Output:** velocity components and pressure ( $u,v,p$ ) of an incompressible fluid

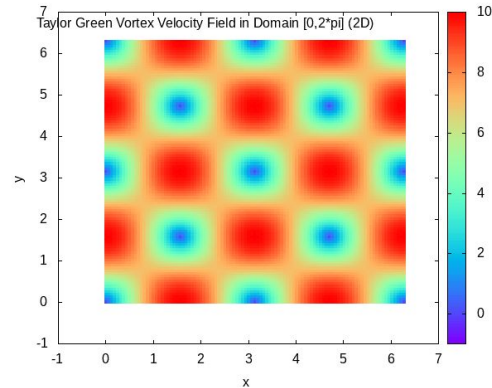
# Navier-Stokes equations and Taylor-Green vortex

- **Navier-Stokes equations:** describe motion of viscous fluids, but are notoriously difficult to solve analytically
- **Taylor-Green vortex:** analytically solvable, decaying vortex flow; results used to validate methods for solving the Navier-Stokes equations

$$u(x, y, t) = \sin(x) \cos(y) e^{-2\nu t},$$

$$v(x, y, t) = -\cos(x) \sin(y) e^{-2\nu t},$$

$$\rho(x, y, t) = \frac{\rho}{4} (\cos(2x) + \cos(2y)) e^{-4\nu t}$$



# Pipeline

# Pipeline Overview

1. Initialize model
2. Optimize with adam (and optimize coefficients)
3. Optimize with L-BFGS-B
4. Evaluate model on collocation points



# Initialize

- $(x, y, t) \rightarrow$  4 fully connected layers with 67 neurons  $\rightarrow (u, v, p)$
- Use Glorot Uniform initialization to ensure gradients remain stable
- For the FFT-weighted PINN add a Loss layer that will contain optimization parameters  $k_0, k_1, k_2$  that will optimize the loss function as well as an FFT term hft
- Connect the network to DeepXDE geometry and PDE functions, allowing for automatic differentiation.

# Optimize with adam (and optimize coefficients)

- Use adam (derived from gradient descent) to find a rough approximation of the answer
- Simultaneously update the network coefficients  $k_0, k_1, k_2$  to accurately weight terms relative to each other
- Run an FFT on residuals and increase penalty if the solution becomes noisy (dominated by high frequencies)
- Adjust the hft weight

# Optimize with L-BFGS-B

- Uses curvature information (Hessian approximations) to take precise steps
- While adam is good at finding general solutions, L-BFGS-B is much more efficient at driving the residual error to the precision limits of the computer
- $k_0$ ,  $k_1$ ,  $k_2$ , and hft are no longer trained

# Evaluate model on collocation points

- Generate a 50 x 50 grid of test points across the domain and query the trained network to predict velocity and pressure information
- Compare the predicted value against the actual TGV solution to get the relative L2 error

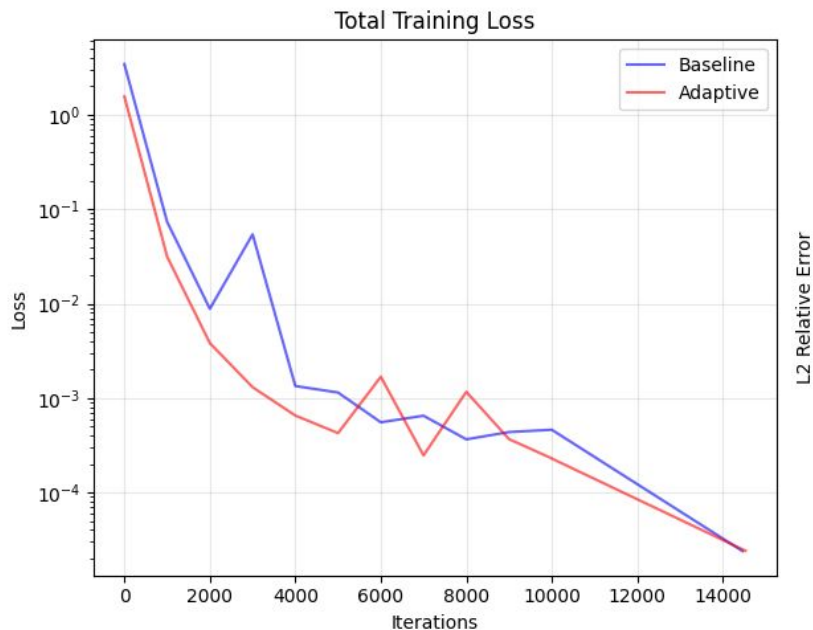
$$\epsilon_u = \frac{\|u_{PINN} - u_{exact}\|_2}{\|u_{exact}\|_2}$$

- Generate heatmaps, loss vs. iteration graphs, etc.

# Experiments, Results, Discussion

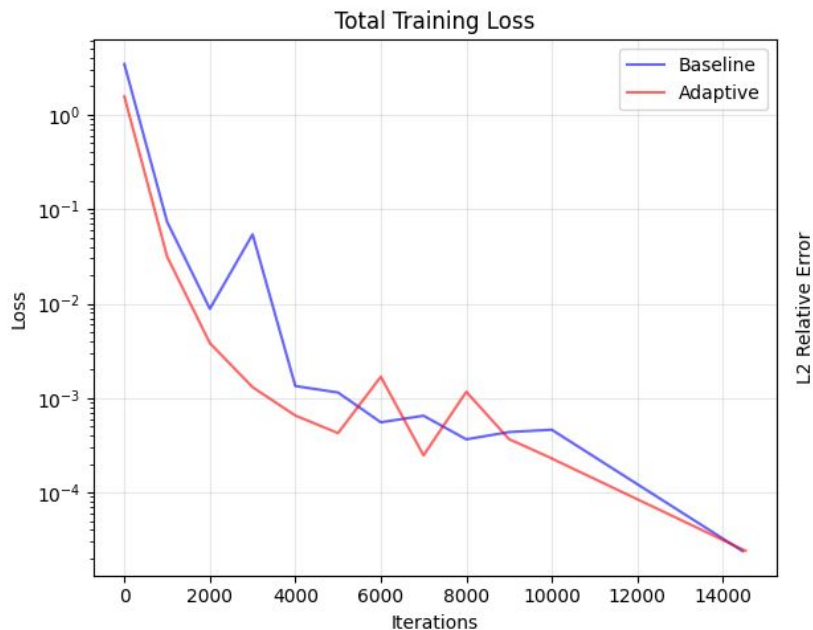
# Total Training Loss

- During the Adam phase, loss decreased rapidly for both models
  - Adaptive PINN decreased slightly faster
  - Both models quickly learn the dominant low-frequency structure, adaptive PINN achieves this goal more efficiently



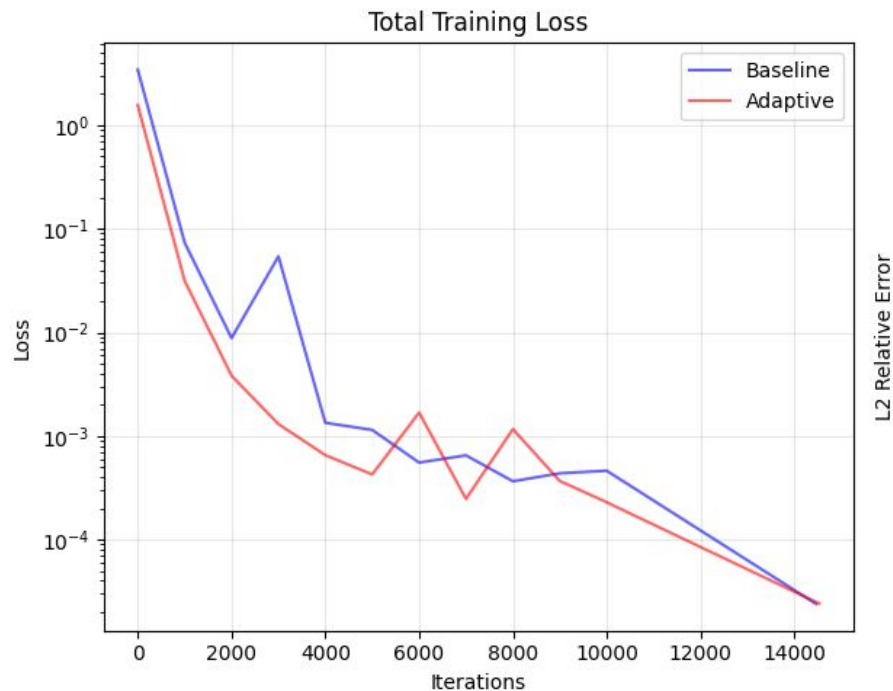
# Total Training Loss

- Baseline PINN oscillates more
  - FFT-weighted PINN better adapted to the high-frequency nature of TGV
  - Didn't need to retroactively correct for spectral bias, unlike the baseline PINN



# Total Training Loss

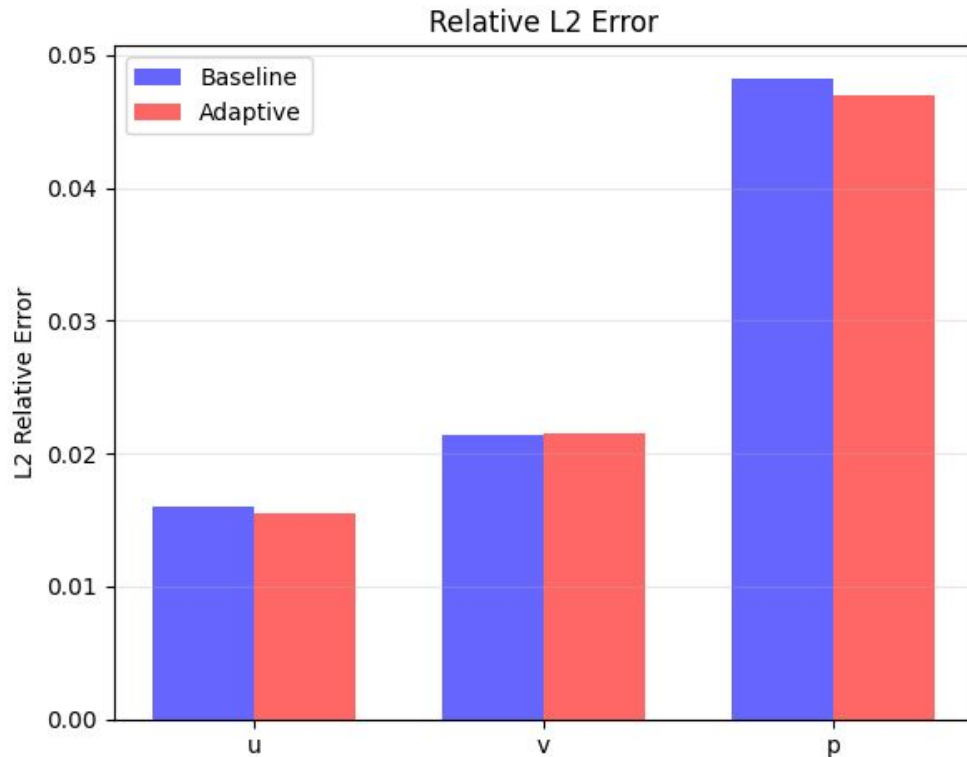
- The performance gap between the baseline and adaptive PINNs narrows during L-BFGS-B fine-tuning
  - They converge towards a similar loss
- Main benefit of adaptive weighting: faster convergence during first optimization phase



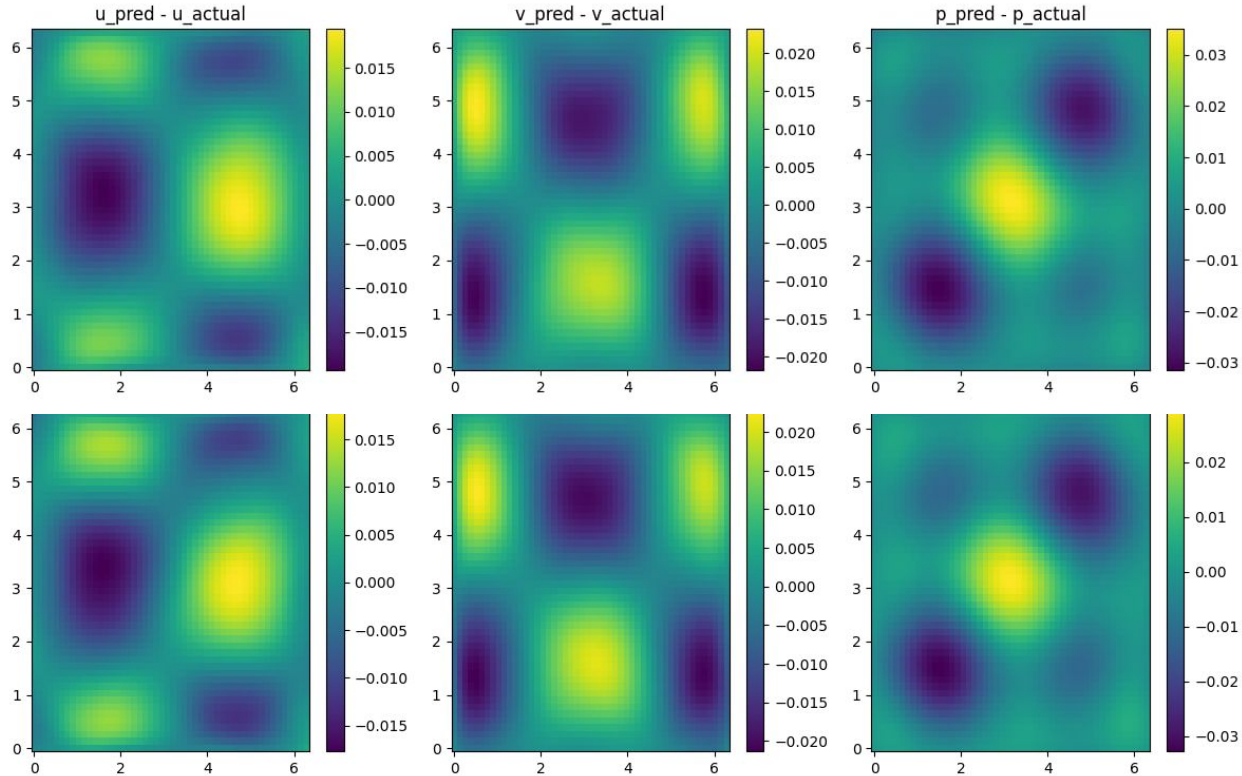


# Relative L2 error

Adaptive PINN achieves lower errors for  $u$  and  $p$ , with the most noticeable improvement in  $p$ , the pressure field.



# Error between analytical vs. baseline PINN solutions (top) and analytical vs. adaptive PINN solutions (bottom)



## Error between analytical vs. baseline PINN solutions (top) and analytical vs. adaptive PINN solutions (bottom)

- **Baseline PINN:** error fields for velocity and pressure are periodic and align with regions of high curvature and interactions between vortical structures
- **Adaptive PINN:** reduced error, especially in regions where the baseline model exhibited the greatest error
  - Better able to correct bias
- Regions with lower error remain similar between the two models → adaptive PINN does not harm performance in smooth areas where the solution is learned well

# Conclusion

# Key Takeaways

- **Frequency feedback is valuable**
  - PINNs struggle at high frequency and need to be compensated
- Adaptive weighting **improves convergence**
- More complex data and better compute are need
- Higher dimensions likely benefit from adaptive weighting

**Thanks!**