

# On Solution Algorithms for Time-Dependent Quasi-Variational Inequalities with Gradient Constraints

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# Outline

- ① Motivation
- ② The QVI
- ③ Reformulation as a minimization problem
- ④ Algorithms
- ⑤ Numerical Experiments

# Motivation

- Granular cohesionless material that is poured onto a solid surface exhibits slopes that are not steeper than the **angle of repose**.
- materialspecific
- Example: Sand:  $34^\circ$



[source: [www.meyers-material.de](http://www.meyers-material.de)]

# Motivation

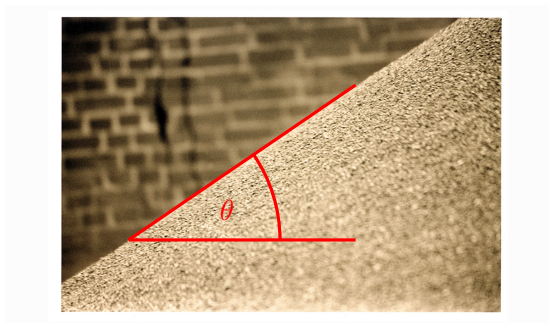
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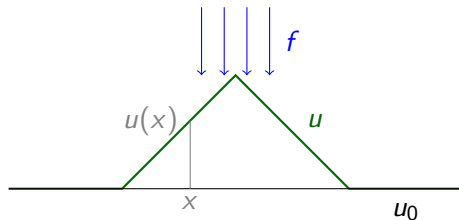
# Motivation

- underlying solid surface can exhibit slopes that are steeper than  $\theta$



steep slopes [source: [www.berlinonline.de](http://www.berlinonline.de)]

# Physical Modeling



$f$  – percipitation

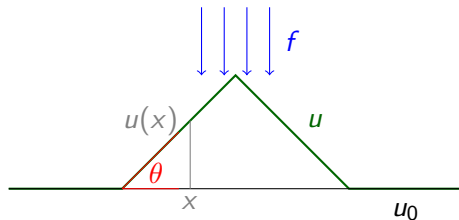
$u_0$  – initial surface

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Illustration in one dimension

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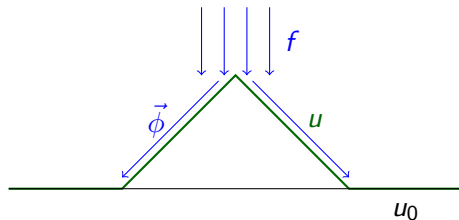
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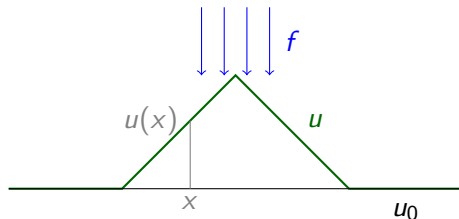
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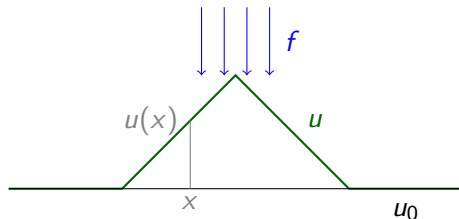
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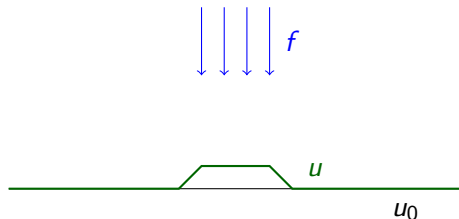
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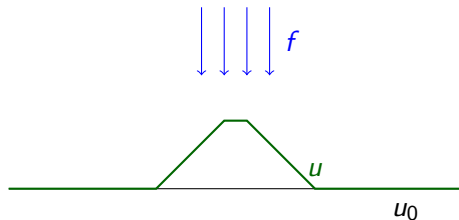
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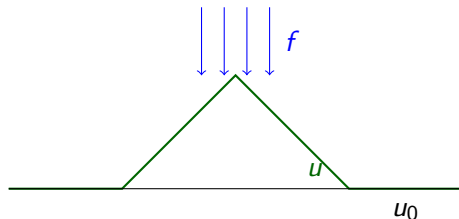
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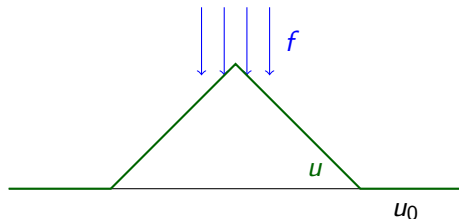
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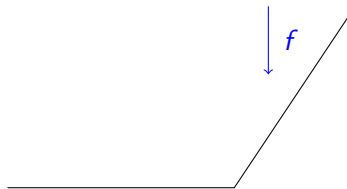
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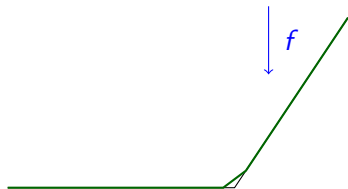
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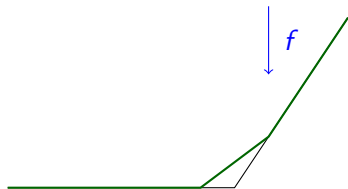
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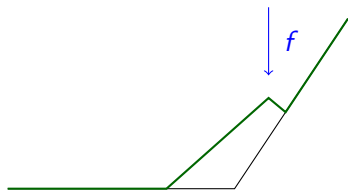
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# QVI with Gradient Constraint

- Gradient constraint

$$M(u)(x) = \begin{cases} \alpha & u(x) > u_0(x) \\ \max(\alpha, |\nabla u_0(x)|) & u(x) = u_0(x). \end{cases}$$

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$$K(u) = \left\{ v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \mid |\nabla v| \leq M(u), \text{ a.e. in } \Omega \right\}$$

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From (2)-(4) a Quasi-variational inequality can be derived [Prigozhin 94]:

## Problem 1 (QVI)

Find  $u \in W(0, T)$  s.t.  $u(x, 0) = u_0(x)$  and for a.e.  $t \in (0, T)$ ,  $u(t) \in K(u(t))$  and

$$(u_t(x, t) - f(x, t), v(x, t) - u(x, t))_{L^2(\Omega)} \geq 0, \quad \text{for all } v \in K(u(t))$$

where  $W(0, T) = \{y \mid y \in L^2(0, T; H_0^1(\Omega)) : y_t \in L^2(0, T; H^{-1}(\Omega))\}$

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- $M(u)$  is discontinuous in  $\Omega$ , in general.
- $M(u)$  constrains the gradient.

# Towards Implementation

Semidiscretization by applying implicit Euler yields

## Problem 2 (Stationary QVIs)

*find  $\{u_n\}_{n=0 \dots N}$  s.t. for  $n = 0, \dots, N-1$ ,  $u_{n+1}$  solves*

$$\left( \frac{u - u_n}{\tau} - f_n, v - u \right)_{L^2(\Omega)} \geq 0, \quad \forall v \in K(u)$$

- Existence of solution in case of regularization of  $M$  [Rodrigues, Santos]

# Equivalence for Variational Inequality

- In the case of Variational Inequality for  $u \in K$  one often has the equivalence between

$$(\nabla J(u), v - u) \geq 0, \quad \forall v \in K$$

and

$$\min J(u) \text{ over } K$$

- This does generally not hold for QVIs.

## Counterexample

The QVI is **not** equivalent to the minimization problem

$$\begin{aligned} \min J(u) &= \frac{1}{2\tau} \|u - u_n\|^2 - (f_n, u) \\ \text{s.t. } u &\in K(u) \end{aligned} \tag{1}$$

- Counterexample exists based on following proposition

### Proposition 1

Let  $u^*$  be a solution of the QVI. Further suppose that

- ①  $\{x \in \Omega : u^* > u_n(x)\} \neq \emptyset$  and
- ②  $\{x \in \Omega : u^* > u_n(x)\} \cap \{x \in \Omega : f(x) > 0\} = \emptyset$ .

Then  $u^*$  does not solve (1).

# Towards Implementation

Let  $u^*$  be a solution to the QVI

- Then

$$u^* = \operatorname{argmin} J(u), \quad \text{where } J(u) = \frac{1}{2\tau} \|u - u_n\|^2 - (f_n, u),$$
$$\text{s.t. } u \in K(u^*)$$

- this motivates fixed point iteration [Hintermüller, Rautenberg]

$$u^{k+1} = \operatorname{argmin}_{u^{k+1} \in K(u^k)} J(u)$$

- series of convex minimization problems

# Algorithm 1: Variable Splitting

- Idea: Variable Splitting [Hintermüller, Rasch]

$$\begin{aligned} \min J(u) &= \frac{1}{2\tau} \|u - u_n\|^2 - (f_n, u) \\ \text{s.t. } u &\in H_0^1(\Omega), \quad \mathbf{q} = \nabla u, \quad \mathbf{q} \in \tilde{K}(u^k) \end{aligned}$$

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$$\min J_\gamma(u, \mathbf{q}) = \frac{1}{2\tau} \|u - u_n\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2 - (f_n, u) - \frac{\gamma}{2} \|(\nabla u - \mathbf{q})^+\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$$

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- Solving via Alternating Minimization Scheme

$$\mathbf{q}_{\gamma j+1}^{k+1} := \operatorname{argmin}_{\mathbf{q} \in \tilde{K}(u^k)} J_\gamma(u_{\gamma j}^{k+1}, \mathbf{q}) \quad (\text{Explicit Projection})$$

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- Linear convergence with mesh dependent linear factor  $\approx 1$

## Algorithm 2: Semismooth Newton

- Moreau–Yosida regularization of  $I_{K(u^k)}$  yields unconstrained minimization problem

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- Ensure regularity of the differential operator by introducing  $\frac{\varepsilon}{2} \|\nabla u\|_{L^2(\Omega)}^2$

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### Proposition 2

*For  $\gamma \rightarrow \infty$  and  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , the sequence of the unique minimizers of  $J_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(u)$  converges weakly to the unique minimizer of  $J(u)$ .*

## Algorithm 2: Semismooth Newton

For the minimization problem  $\min J_{\gamma\varepsilon}(u)$ , the necessary and sufficient first-order condition for optimality of a point  $u$  for this problem is [Hintermüller, Rasch]

$$0 = F_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(u) := u - \varepsilon \Delta u - g - \gamma \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{a}(u) \nabla u) \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{a}(u) = \left(1 - \frac{M(u^k)(\mathbf{x})}{|\nabla u(\mathbf{x})|}\right)^+$

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$$0 = F_{\gamma,\varepsilon}(u) := u - \varepsilon \Delta u - g - \gamma \operatorname{div}(\mathbf{a}(u) \nabla u) \quad (2)$$

where  $\mathbf{a}(u) = \left(1 - \frac{M(u^k)(\mathbf{x})}{|\nabla u(\mathbf{x})|}\right)^+$

Characteristics:

- $\mathbf{a}(u)$  depends nonsmoothly on  $u$

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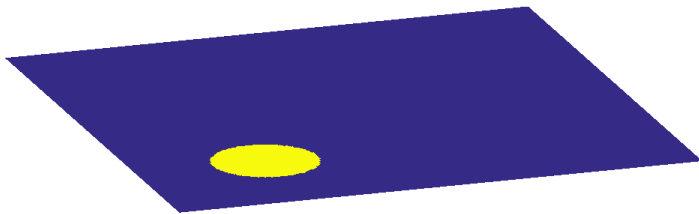
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- $\mathbf{a}(u)$  depends nonsmoothly on  $u$
- upon discretization, (2) is solved by SSN
- local superlinear convergent

# Evolving Cone (Algorithm 1)

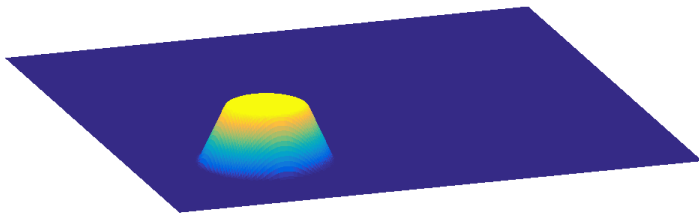


$$n = 0$$

$\alpha = 1$ , 66049 nodes, 200 time steps; took 227 min on a Core2Duo-processor



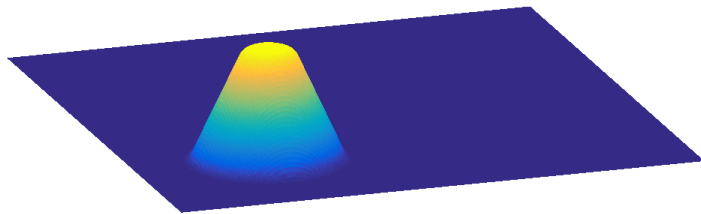
# Evolving Cone (Algorithm 1)



$$n = 20$$

$\alpha = 1$ , 66049 nodes, 200 time steps; took 227 min on a Core2Duo-processor

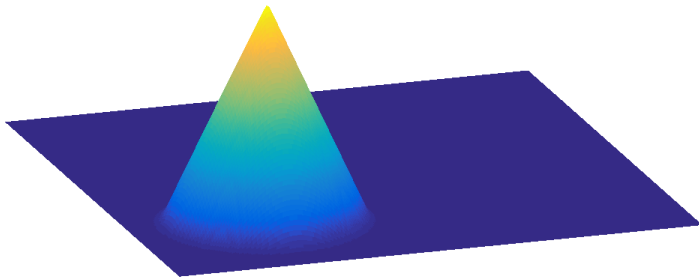
# Evolving Cone (Algorithm 1)



$$n = 40$$

$\alpha = 1$ , 66049 nodes, 200 time steps; took 227 min on a Core2Duo-processor

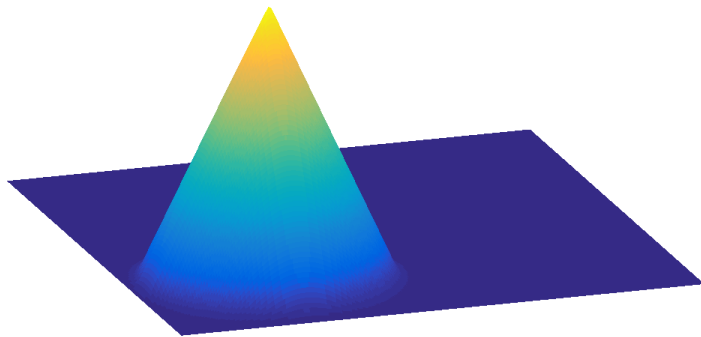
# Evolving Cone (Algorithm 1)



$$n = 100$$

$\alpha = 1$ , 66049 nodes, 200 time steps; took 227 min on a Core2Duo-processor

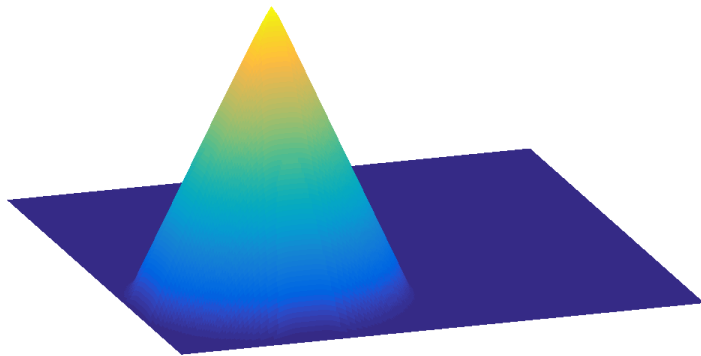
# Evolving Cone (Algorithm 1)



$n = 200$

$\alpha = 1$ , 66049 nodes, 200 time steps; took 227 min on a Core2Duo-processor

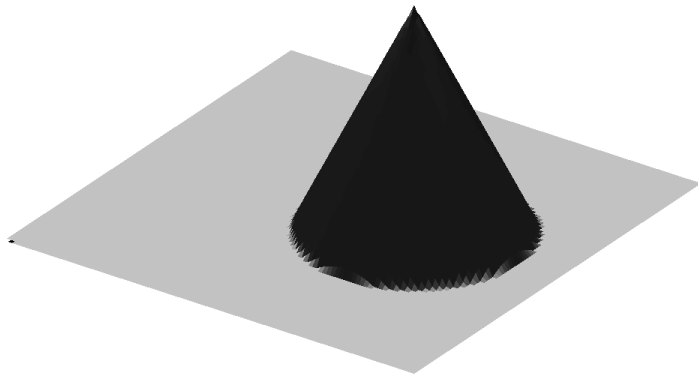
# Evolving Cone (Algorithm 1)



$n = 300$

$\alpha = 1$ , 66049 nodes, 200 time steps; took 227 min on a Core2Duo-processor

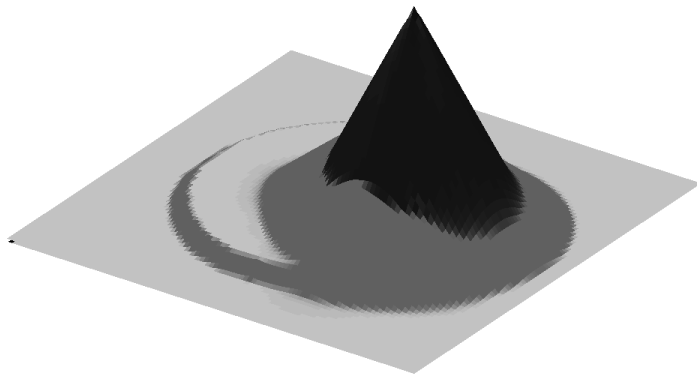
## Example with Steep Slopes (Algorithm 1)



$$n = 0$$

$\alpha = 0.4$ , 1021 nodes, 200 time steps; took 53 min

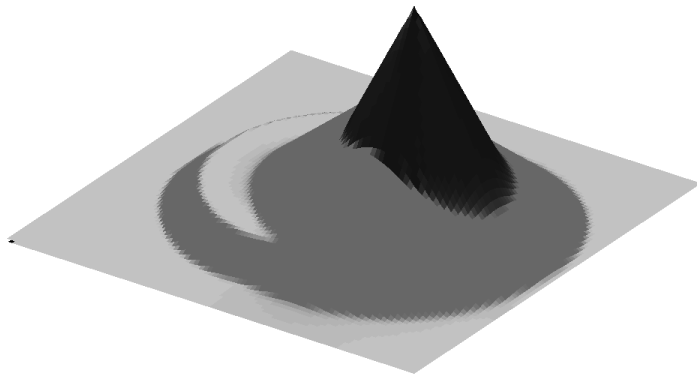
## Example with Steep Slopes (Algorithm 1)



$$n = 50$$

$\alpha = 0.4$ , 1021 nodes, 200 time steps; took 53 min

## Example with Steep Slopes (Algorithm 1)

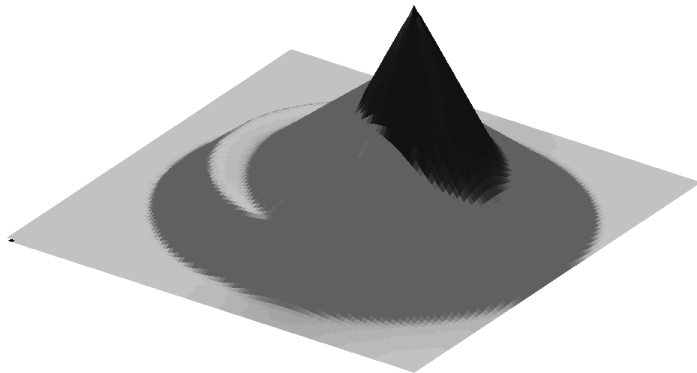


$$n = 100$$

$\alpha = 0.4$ , 1021 nodes, 200 time steps; took 53 min



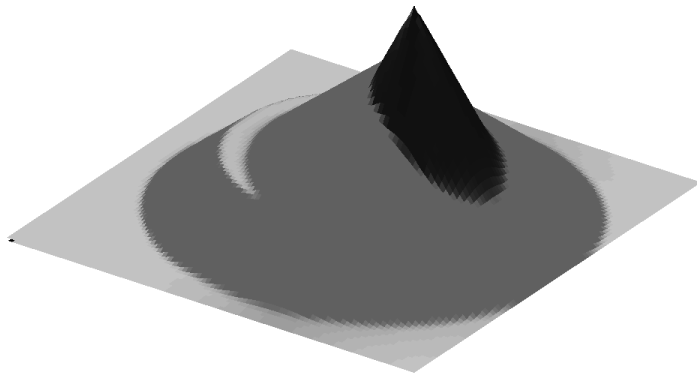
## Example with Steep Slopes (Algorithm 1)



$$n = 150$$

$\alpha = 0.4$ , 1021 nodes, 200 time steps; took 53 min

## Example with Steep Slopes (Algorithm 1)

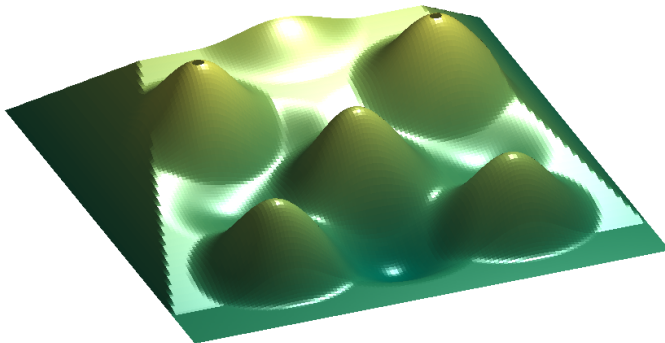


$$n = 200$$

$\alpha = 0.4$ , 1021 nodes, 200 time steps; took 53 min

## Further application: Water drainage

Application: Modelling the flow of water by using small  $\alpha > 0$

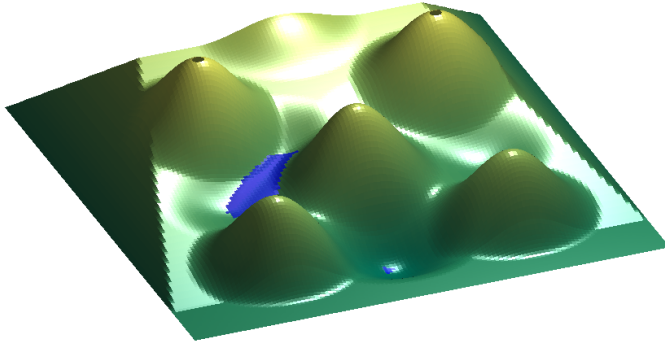


$$n = 0$$

$\alpha = 0.125$ , 20769 nodes, 30 time steps; took 162 min

## Further application: Water drainage

Application: Modelling the flow of water by using small  $\alpha > 0$

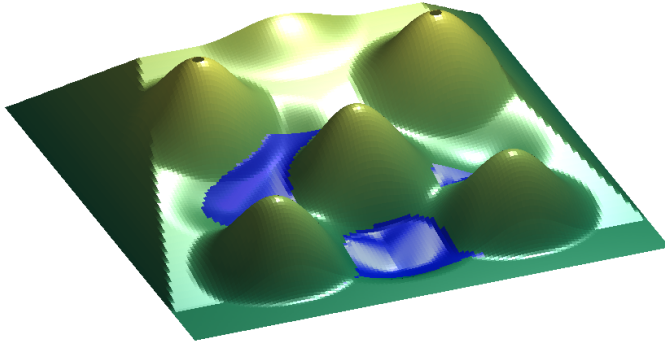


$$n = 2$$

$\alpha = 0.125$ , 20769 nodes, 30 time steps; took 162 min

## Further application: Water drainage

Application: Modelling the flow of water by using small  $\alpha > 0$

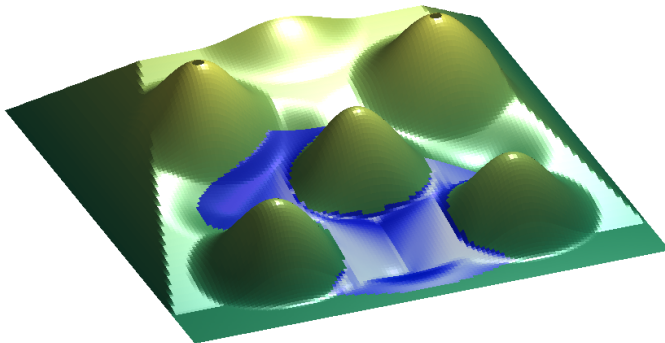


$$n = 10$$

$\alpha = 0.125$ , 20769 nodes, 30 time steps; took 162 min

## Further application: Water drainage

Application: Modelling the flow of water by using small  $\alpha > 0$

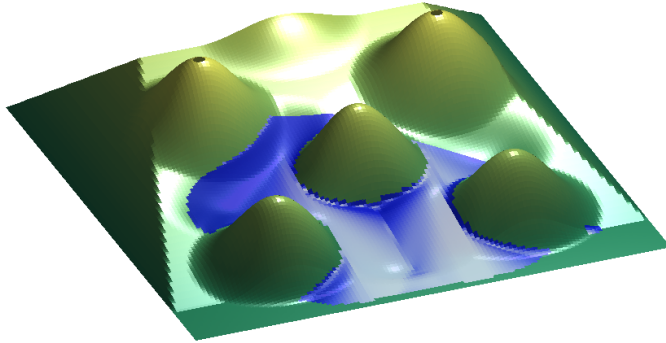


$$n = 18$$

$\alpha = 0.125$ , 20769 nodes, 30 time steps; took 162 min

## Further application: Water drainage

Application: Modelling the flow of water by using small  $\alpha > 0$



$$n = 30$$

$\alpha = 0.125$ , 20769 nodes, 30 time steps; took 162 min

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