

How to write an Eulerian Fluid Simulator with 200 lines of JavaScript code

Matthias Müller, Ten Minute Physics

For the code and the demo see:

www.matthiasmueller.info/tenMinutePhysics

TypeScript port: <https://github.com/p-sun/typescript-fluid-simulator>

a few remarks...

Fluid =



liquid

or



gas

Similar physical structures → same simulation method

Eulerian

$e^{i\pi} = -1$




Swiss

Leonhard Euler (1707-1783)



grid-based



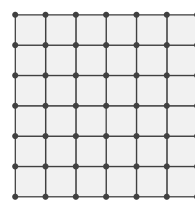
Italian

Joseph-Louis Lagrange (1736-1813)

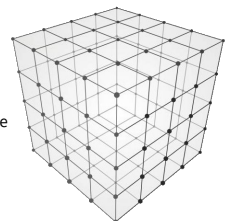


grid-free (e. g. particles)

From 2d to 3d

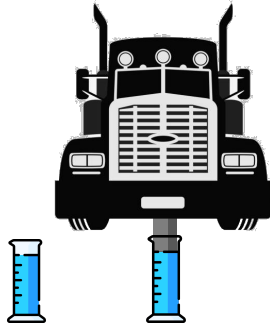


straight forward - left as an exercise



Incompressible Fluid

- We assume incompressibility
- Water is very close to being incompressible
 $10,000 \text{ kg / cm}^2 \rightarrow 3\% \text{ compression!}$
- Reasonable assumption for free gas as well



→ compressible simulation in upcoming tutorial

Inviscid Fluid

- We assume zero viscosity
- Good approximation for gas and water



inviscid

viscous

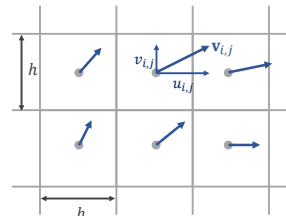
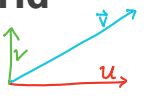
→ viscous simulation in upcoming tutorial

the method...

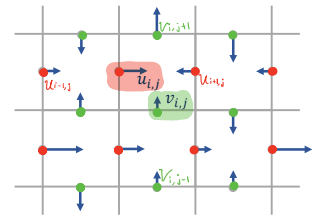
Fluid as a Velocity Field on a Grid

- Velocity is a 2d vector $\mathbf{v} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{u} \\ \mathbf{v} \end{bmatrix}$ (vectors are written in boldface)

\mathbf{u} = horizontal vector
 \mathbf{v} = vertical vector



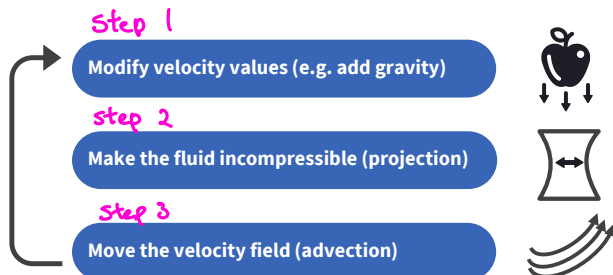
collocated grid



staggered grid

h = grid height

Fluid Simulation



Step 1: Update Velocity

for all i, j

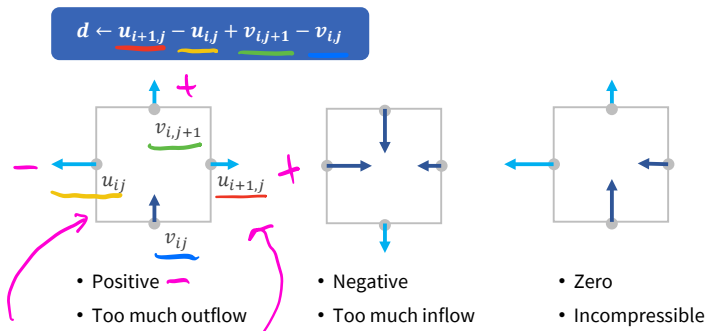
$$v_{i,j} \leftarrow v_{i,j} + \Delta t \cdot g$$

Just add gravity

- Gravity g : -9.81 m/s^2
- Timestep Δt : (e. g. $\frac{1}{30} \text{ s}$)

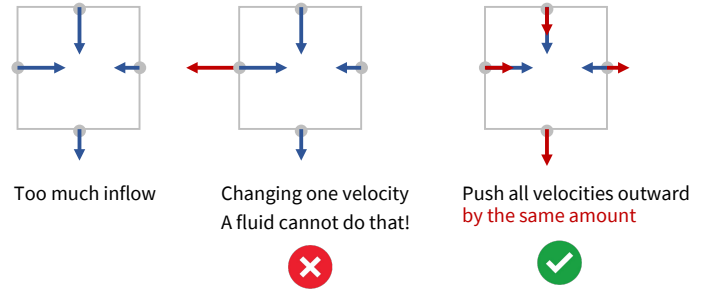
```
integrate(dt: number, gravity: number) {
  let n = this.numY;
  for (let i = 1; i < this.numX; i++) {
    for (let j = 1; j < this.numY - 1; j++) {
      if (this.s[i * n + j] != 0.0 && this.s[i * n + j - 1] != 0.0)
        this.v[i * n + j] += gravity * dt;
    }
  }
}
```

Divergence (Total Outflow)

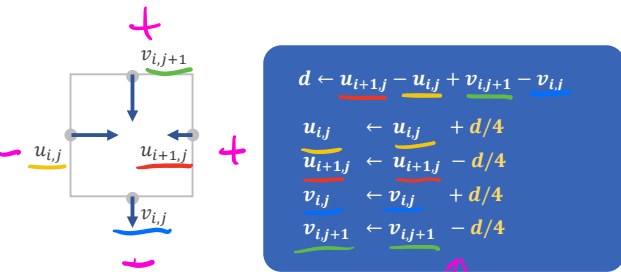


Note the signs are opposite on each axis.

Forcing Incompressibility

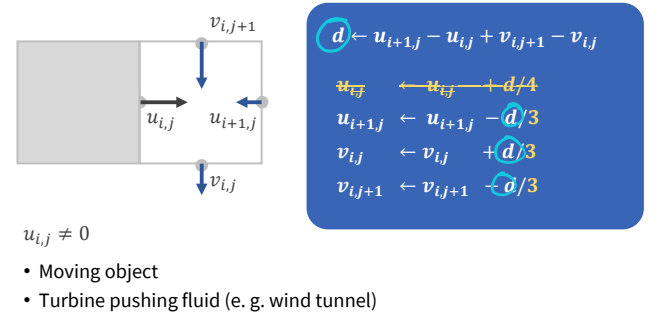


Forcing Incompressibility



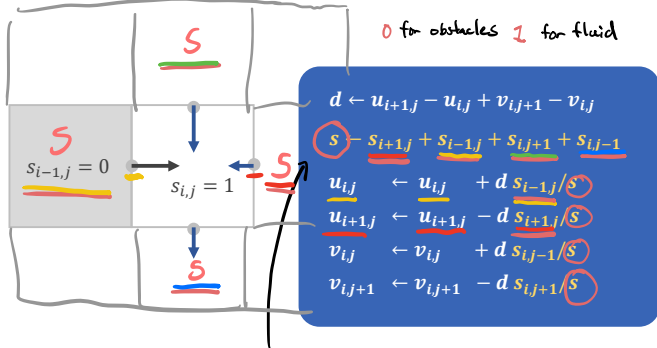
Note signs

Obstacles / Walls



General Case

Scalar S in a cell is...
0 for obstacles 1 for fluid



Look at its NSEW neighbours to get total # of obstacles

Step 2: Make fluid incompressible Solving the Grid

for n iterations

for all i, j

$d \leftarrow u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j} + v_{i,j+1} - v_{i,j}$
 $S \leftarrow \frac{S_{i+1,j} + S_{i-1,j} + S_{i,j+1} + S_{i,j-1} - d}{4}$
 $u_{i,j} \leftarrow u_{i,j} + d s_{i-1,j} / S$
 $u_{i+1,j} \leftarrow u_{i+1,j} - d s_{i+1,j} / S$
 $v_{i,j} \leftarrow v_{i,j} + d s_{i,j-1} / S$
 $v_{i,j+1} \leftarrow v_{i,j+1} - d s_{i,j+1} / S$

- Gauss-Seidel method
- On the boundary we access cells outside of the grid!
So we can:
• Add border cells
- Set $s_{i,j} = 0$ for walls
- or copy neighbor values

```

integrate(dt: number, gravity: number) {
  let n = this.numY;
  for (let i = 1; i < this.numX; i++) {
    for (let j = 1; j < this.numY - 1; j++) {
      if (this.s[i * n + j] != 0.0 && this.s[i * n + j - 1] != 0.0)
        this.v[i * n + j] += gravity * dt;
    }
  }
}

```

gravity
↓

$$\underline{V_{ij}} \leftarrow \underline{V_{ij}} + a \Delta t$$

```

solveIncompressibility(scene: Scene, numIters: number, dt: number) {
  const n = this.numY;
  const cp = (this.density * this.h) / dt;

  for (let iter = 0; iter < numIters; iter++) {
    for (let i = 1; i < this.numX - 1; i++) {
      for (let j = 1; j < this.numY - 1; j++) {
        if (this.s[i * n + j] == 0.0) continue;

        // s - # of NSEW obstacles
        // s_ij is 0 for obstacle, 1 for fluid
        const sx0 = this.s[(i - 1) * n + j];
        const sx1 = this.s[(i + 1) * n + j];
        const sy0 = this.s[i * n + j - 1];
        const sy1 = this.s[i * n + j + 1];
        const s = sx0 + sx1 + sy0 + sy1;
        if (s == 0.0) continue;

        // div - Total divergence of NSEW velocities
        const div =
          this.u[(i + 1) * n + j] -
          this.u[i * n + j] +
          this.v[i * n + j + 1] -
          this.v[i * n + j];

        // dDiv - Average divergence of non-obstacle NESW cells
        const dDiv = (-div / s) * scene.overRelaxation;

        // u, v - Velocity
        // Note that if s_ij is an obstacle, its velocity doesn't change.
        this.u[i * n + j] -= sx0 * dDiv;
        this.u[(i + 1) * n + j] += sx1 * dDiv;
        this.v[i * n + j] -= sy0 * dDiv;
        this.v[i * n + j + 1] += sy1 * dDiv;

        // p - Pressure. Not needed for simulation.
        this.p[i * n + j] += cp * dDiv;
      }
    }
  }
}

```

$$\frac{\rho h}{\Delta t}$$

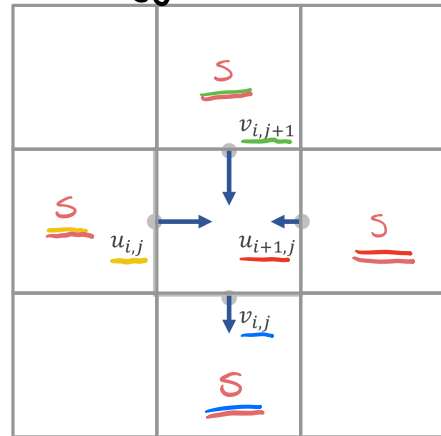
for n iterations

for all i, j overrelax *

$$d \leftarrow (u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j} + v_{i,j+1} - v_{i,j})$$

$$s \leftarrow s_{i+1,j} + s_{i-1,j} + s_{i,j+1} + s_{i,j-1}$$

Staggered Grid



(s)

(d)

$$-\frac{od}{s}$$

$$\underline{u_{i,j}} \leftarrow \underline{u_{i,j}} + \underline{d} \underline{s_{i-1,j}} / \underline{s}$$

$$\underline{u_{i+1,j}} \leftarrow \underline{u_{i+1,j}} - \underline{d} \underline{s_{i+1,j}} / \underline{s}$$

$$\underline{v_{i,j}} \leftarrow \underline{v_{i,j}} + \underline{d} \underline{s_{i,j-1}} / \underline{s}$$

$$\underline{v_{i,j+1}} \leftarrow \underline{v_{i,j+1}} - \underline{d} \underline{s_{i,j+1}} / \underline{s}$$

$$P_{ij} \leftarrow P_{ij} - \frac{od}{s} \cdot \frac{\rho h}{\Delta t}$$

(Optional)

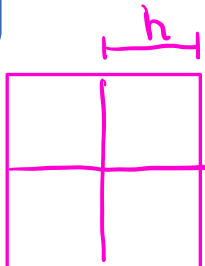
Measuring Pressure

```

for all i,j
  pi,j ← 0
for n iterations
  for all i,j
    d ← ui+1,j - ui,j + vi,j+1 - vi,j
    s ← st+1,j + st-1,j + si,j+1 + si,j-1
    ...
    pi,j ← pi,j +  $\frac{d}{s} \cdot \frac{\rho h}{\Delta t}$ 
  
```

$p_{i,j}$ is physical pressure
 ρ density ← always 1000 in the demo
 h grid spacing
 Δt time step
 Not necessary for simulation

Should be - sign
 b/c we want to reduce divergence.



Overrelaxation

makes Gauss-Seidel faster to converge!

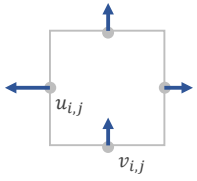
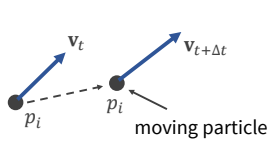
- Gauss-Seidel is very simple to implement
- Needs more iterations than global methods
- Acceleration: Overrelaxation - Magic!

$$d \leftarrow o(u_{i+1,j} - u_{i,j} + v_{i,j+1} - v_{i,j})$$

- Multiply the divergence by a scalar $1 < o < 2$
- I use $o = 1.9$ in the code
- Increases convergence dramatically
- The computed pressure value is still correct!

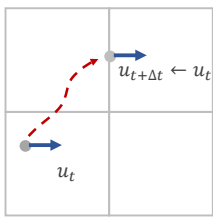
Step 3: Advection

Last step: Advection



- In a fluid the velocity state is carried by the particles
- Particles move, grid cells are static
- We need to move the velocity values in the grid!

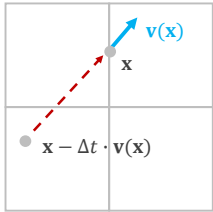
Semi-Lagrangian Advection



- Which fluid "particle" moved to the location where u is stored?
- Set the new velocity $u_{t+\Delta t}$ to the velocity u_t at the previous position

Step 3A - Advect velocity

Semi-Lagrangian Advection

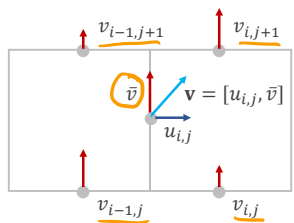


Approximate prev position

$$X_0 = X - \Delta t \cdot V(X)$$

- Compute v at position x where u is stored
- The previous location can be approximated as $x - \Delta t \cdot v(x)$
- Assuming a straight path introduces viscosity!
 Can be reduced with vorticity confinement

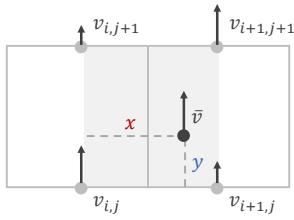
Get the 2d Velocity



- Average surrounding vertical velocities

$$\bar{v} = (v_{i,j} + v_{i,j+1} + v_{i-1,j} + v_{i-1,j+1})/4$$

General Grid Interpolation



$$w_{00} = 1 - x/h \quad w_{01} = x/h$$

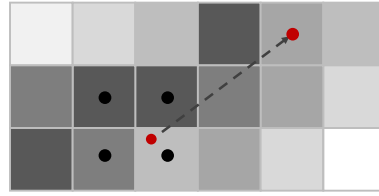
$$w_{10} = 1 - y/h \quad w_{11} = y/h$$

$$\bar{v} = w_{00}w_{10}v_{i,j} + w_{01}w_{10}v_{i+1,j} + w_{01}w_{11}v_{i,j+1} + w_{00}w_{11}v_{i+1,j+1}$$

Weighted average

Step 3B - Advect smoke

Smoke Advection



- Store density value at the center of each cell
- Advect it like the velocity components

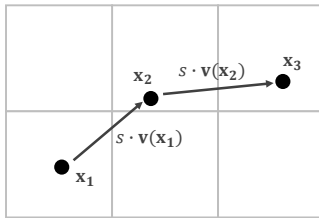
Streamlines

$x \leftarrow$ start position
 $s \leftarrow$ step size

for n steps

$v \leftarrow$ sampleV(x)

$x \leftarrow x + sv$



Let's look into the code...

```

extrapolate() {
  let n = this.numY;
  for (let i = 0; i < this.numX; i++) {
    // 0th col = 1st col
    this.u[i * n + 0] = this.u[i * n + 1];
    // last col = 2nd last col
    this.u[i * n + this.numY - 1] = this.u[i * n + this.numY - 2];
  }
  for (let j = 0; j < this.numY; j++) {
    // 0th row = 1st row
    this.v[0 * n + j] = this.v[1 * n + j];
    // last row = 2nd last row
    this.v[(this.numX - 1) * n + j] = this.v[(this.numX - 2) * n + j];
  }
}
    
```

```

simulate(scene: Scene, dt: number, gravity: number, numIters: number) {
  this.integrate(dt, gravity); // Add gravity  $\bar{w} \quad v' = v + a \Delta t$ 

  this.p.fill(0.0);
  this.solveIncompressibility(scene, numIters, dt);

  this.extrapolate();
  this.advectVel(dt);
  this.advectSmoke(dt);
}
    
```

```

// Set velocity to be the predicted velocity of a particle dt time
// in the past, calculated by averaging neighbouring velocities.
advectVel(dt: number) {
  this.newU.set(this.u);
  this.newV.set(this.v);

  const n = this.numY;
  const h = this.h;
  const h2 = 0.5 * h;

  for (let i = 1; i < this.numX; i++) {
    for (let j = 1; j < this.numY; j++) {
      // u component (horizontal) -----
      if (
        this.s[i * n + j] != 0.0 &&
        this.s[(i - 1) * n + j] != 0.0 &&
        j < this.numY - 1
      ) {
        // position at index i,j
        const x = i * h;
        const y = j * h + h2;

        // velocity at index i,j
        const u = this.u[i * n + j];
        const v = this.avgV(i, j); // similar to this.sampleField(x, y, 'V_FIELD');

        // previous position, dt time ago
        const x0 = x - dt * u;
        const y0 = y - dt * v;

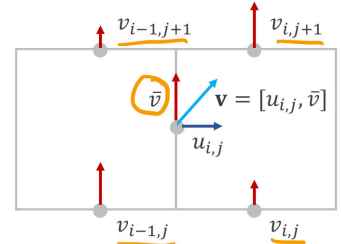
        // weighted average of velocity at prev position
        const u0 = this.sampleField(x0, y0, 'U_FIELD');
        this.newU[i * n + j] = u0;
      }

      // v component (vertical) -----
      // Same as above, but for v instead of u
      if (
        this.s[i * n + j] != 0.0 &&
        this.s[i * n + j - 1] != 0.0 &&
        i < this.numX - 1
      ) {
        const x = i * h + h2;
        const y = j * h;
        const u = this.avgU(i, j); // similar to this.sampleField(x, y, 'U_FIELD');
        const v = this.v[i * n + j];
        const x0 = x - dt * u;
        const y0 = y - dt * v;
        const v0 = this.sampleField(x0, y0, 'V_FIELD');
        this.newV[i * n + j] = v0;
      }
    }
  }

  this.u.set(this.newU);
  this.v.set(this.newV);
}

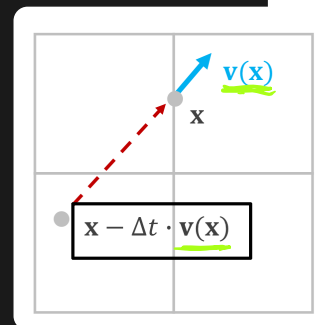
```

Get the 2d Velocity

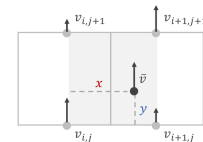


- Average surrounding vertical velocities

$$\bar{v} = (v_{i,j} + v_{i,j+1} + v_{i-1,j} + v_{i-1,j+1}) / 4$$



General Grid Interpolation



$$w_{00} = 1 - x/h \quad w_{01} = x/h$$

$$w_{10} = 1 - y/h \quad w_{11} = y/h$$

$$\bar{v} = w_{00}w_{10}v_{i,j} + w_{01}w_{10}v_{i+1,j} + w_{01}w_{11}v_{i,j+1} + w_{00}w_{11}v_{i+1,j+1}$$

```

// Similar to advectVel, but for smoke density.
// Averages neighbouring smoke densities to get new density.
advectSmoke(dt: number) {
  this.newM.set(this.m);

  const n = this.numY;
  const h = this.h;
  const h2 = 0.5 * h;

  for (let i = 1; i < this.numX - 1; i++) {
    for (let j = 1; j < this.numY - 1; j++) {
      if (this.s[i * n + j] != 0.0) {
        const u = (this.u[i * n + j] + this.u[(i + 1) * n + j]) * 0.5;
        const v = (this.v[i * n + j] + this.v[i * n + j + 1]) * 0.5;
        const x = i * h + h2 - dt * u;
        const y = j * h + h2 - dt * v;

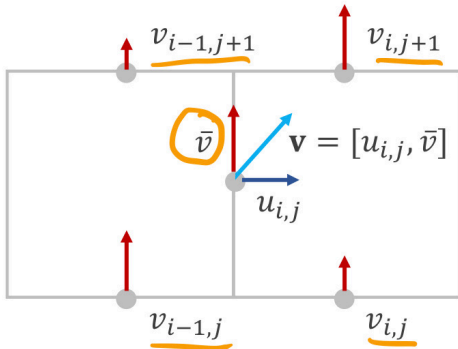
        this.newM[i * n + j] = this.sampleField(x, y, 'S_FIELD');
      }
    }
  }
  this.m.set(this.newM);
}

```

```
// Average horizontal velocity at index (i, j)
avgU(i: number, j: number) {
  const n = this.numY;
  const u =
    (this.u[i * n + j - 1] +
     this.u[i * n + j] +
     this.u[(i + 1) * n + j - 1] +
     this.u[(i + 1) * n + j]) *
    0.25;
  return u;
}
```

```
// Average vertical velocity at index (i, j)
avgV(i: number, j: number) {
  const n = this.numY;
  const v =
    (this.v[(i - 1) * n + j] +
     this.v[i * n + j] +
     this.v[(i - 1) * n + j + 1] +
     this.v[i * n + j + 1]) *
    0.25;
  return v;
}
```

Get the 2d Velocity



- Average surrounding vertical velocities

$$\bar{v} = (v_{i,j} + v_{i,j+1} + v_{i-1,j} + v_{i-1,j+1}) / 4$$

```
// Average weighted velocity at position (x, y)
sampleField(x: number, y: number, field: Field) {
  const n = this.numY;
  const h = this.h;
  const h1 = 1.0 / h;
  const h2 = 0.5 * h;

  x = Math.max(Math.min(x, this.numX * h), h);
  y = Math.max(Math.min(y, this.numY * h), h);

  let dx = 0.0;
  let dy = 0.0;

  let f;
  switch (field) {
    case 'U_FIELD':
      f = this.u;
      dy = h2;
      break;
    case 'V_FIELD':
      f = this.v;
      dx = h2;
      break;
    case 'S_FIELD':
      f = this.m;
      dx = h2;
      dy = h2;
      break;
  }

  const x0 = Math.min(Math.floor((x - dx) * h1), this.numX - 1);
  const tx = (x - dx - x0 * h) * h1;
  const x1 = Math.min(x0 + 1, this.numX - 1);

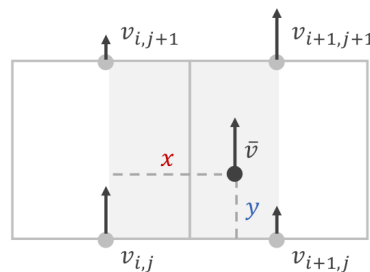
  const y0 = Math.min(Math.floor((y - dy) * h1), this.numY - 1);
  const ty = (y - dy - y0 * h) * h1;
  const y1 = Math.min(y0 + 1, this.numY - 1);

  const sx = 1.0 - tx;
  const sy = 1.0 - ty;

  const val =
    sx * sy * f[x0 * n + y0] +
    tx * sy * f[x1 * n + y0] +
    tx * ty * f[x1 * n + y1] +
    sx * ty * f[x0 * n + y1];

  return val;
}
```

General Grid Interpolation



$$w_{00} = 1 - x/h \quad w_{01} = x/h$$

$$w_{10} = 1 - y/h \quad w_{11} = y/h$$

$$\bar{v} = w_{00}w_{10}v_{i,j} + w_{01}w_{10}v_{i+1,j} + w_{01}w_{11}v_{i,j+1} + w_{00}w_{11}v_{i+1,j+1}$$