

# Taylor-Couette Flow

Honours Progress Presentation

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# Introduction



Source: Siddharth Krishnamoorthy, *YouTube*, 2007

# Basics of fluid dynamics

- Understanding fluids
- Eulerian and Lagrangian frames:

$$\frac{DF}{Dt} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial t} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla F$$

- Continuity equations:

$$\frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial \rho}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0$$

$$\rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \rho(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \rho \mathbf{g}$$

- Navier-Stokes equations:

$$\rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}}{\partial t} + \rho(\mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{u} = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \rho \mathbf{g}$$

# Small experiments

- Double pendulum
- Dripping faucet
- Burette experiments

# Lattice Boltzmann method

- Flow past a cylinder
- Based on collision models
- Problem with boundary conditions

# Studying Partial Differential Equations

- Understanding what a PDE is, what it contains
- PDE's encountered in the past:
  - Laplace's equation:  $\nabla^2 u = 0$
  - Poisson's equation:  $\nabla^2 u = f(x, y, z)$
  - Diffusion equation:  $\nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$
  - Wave equation:  $\nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2}$
  - Linear and nonlinear convection:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0, \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$
  - Burgers' equation: x term:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$   
y term:  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \nu \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$

# Analytical methods of solving PDEs

- Laplace's equation for steady-state temperature in a rectangular plate:  $\nabla^2 T = 0, \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial y^2} = 0$
- Diffusion equation for heat flow:  $\nabla^2 u = \frac{1}{\alpha^2} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}$
- Wave equation:  $\frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{v^2} \frac{\partial^2 y}{\partial t^2}$
- Methods used:
  - Trial solution, separation of variables, partial separation, Boundary value problems: Dirichlet and Neumann conditions

# Numerical Methods of solving PDEs:

- Nonlinearity
- Finite Difference Method:
  - Applying forward, backward and central differences
  - Discretization of terms
- Finite Volume method



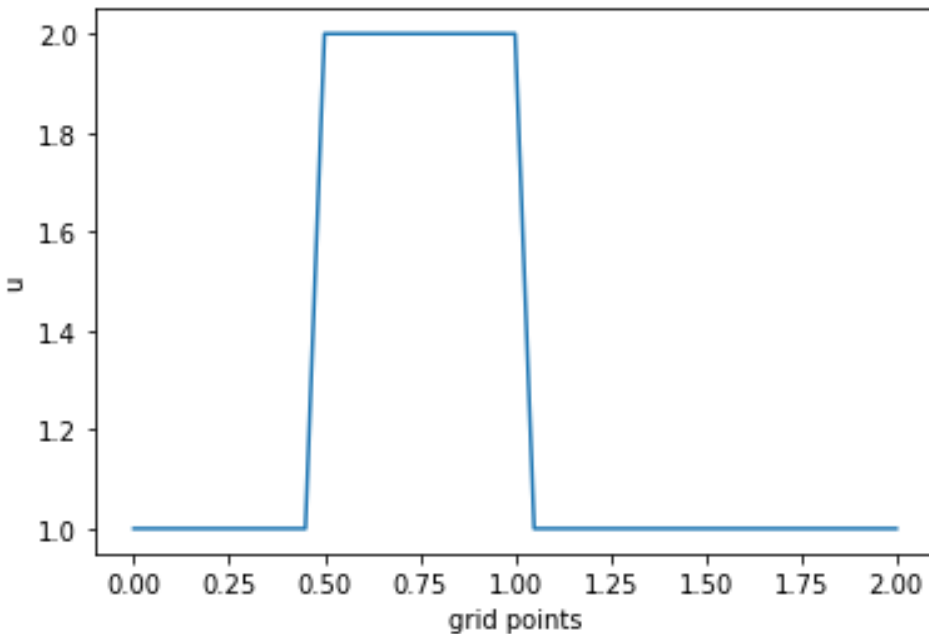
# Computation of numerical methods:

- Applying FDM to the previous PDEs in 1D and 2D in python
- Plots of velocity profiles in fluids

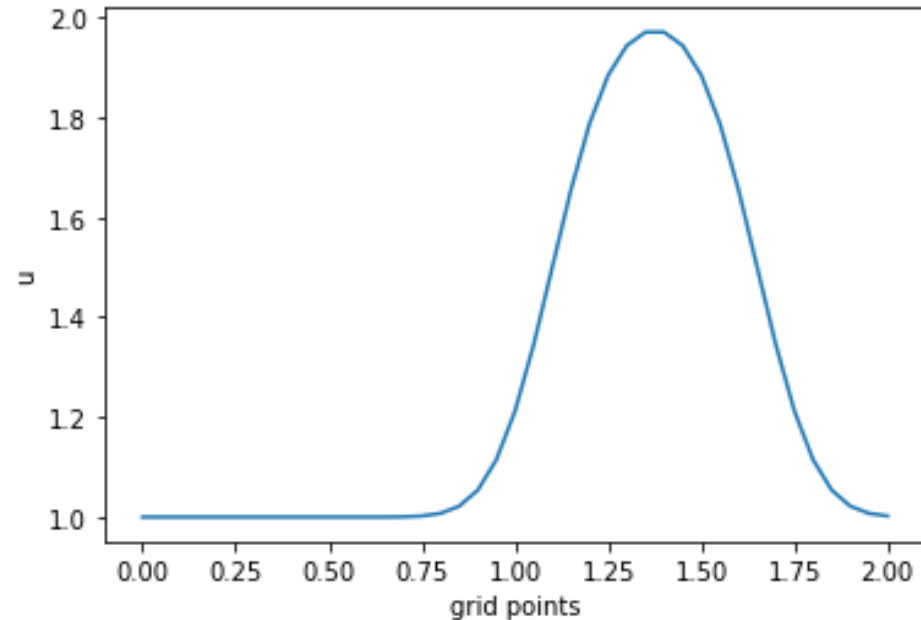
# Linear Convection in 1D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

Initial conditions- Linear convection in 1D



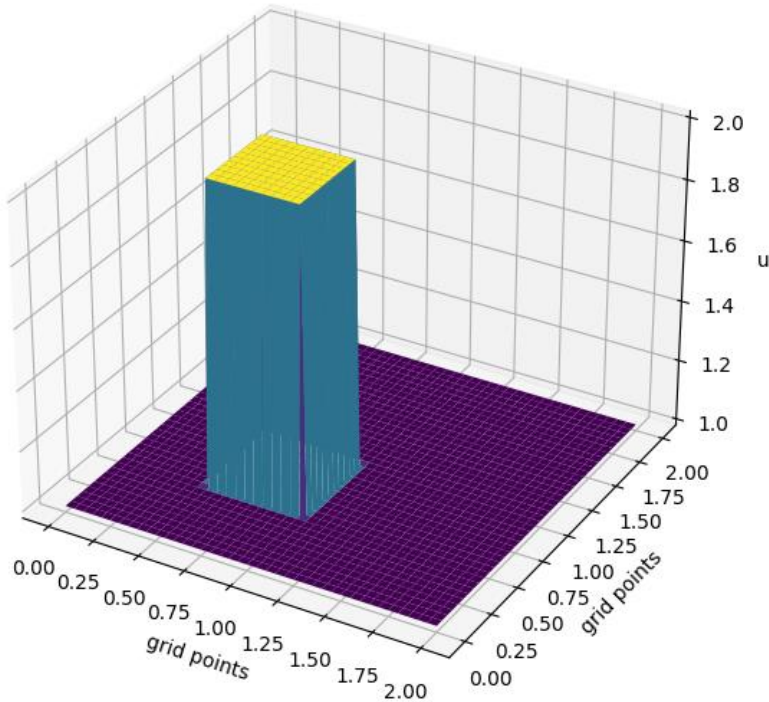
After time t - Linear convection in 1D



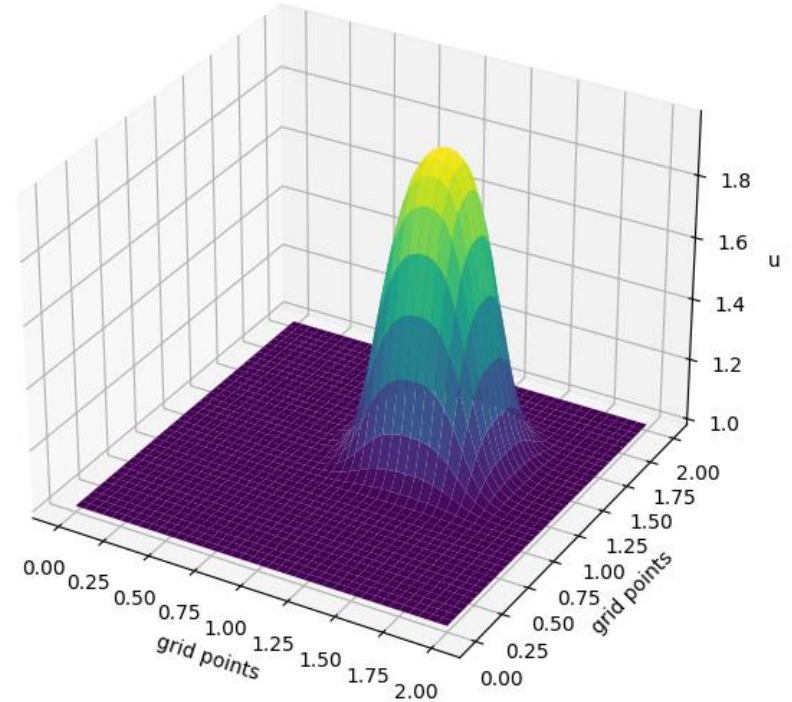
# Linear Convection in 2D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$

Initial conditions: 2D Linear Convection



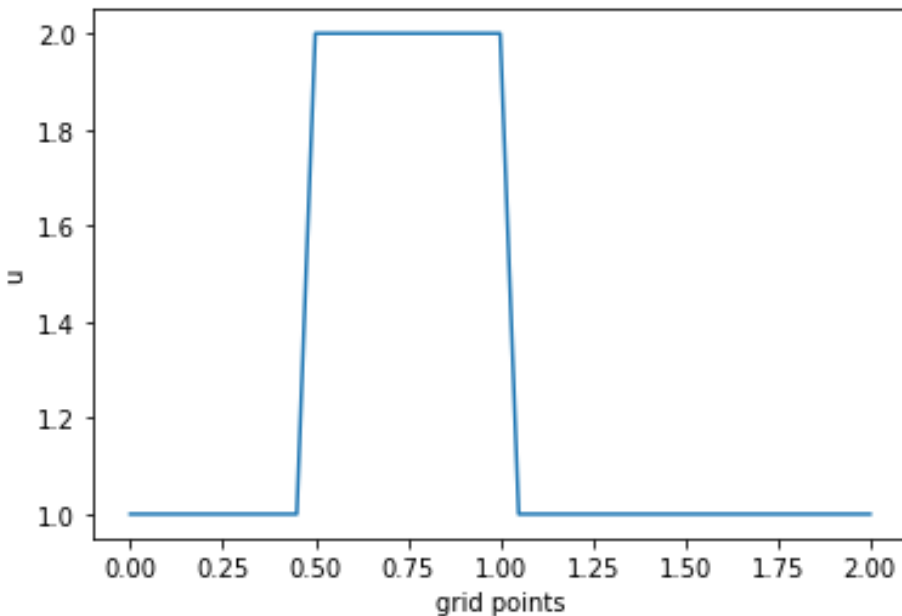
After time t - 2D Linear convection



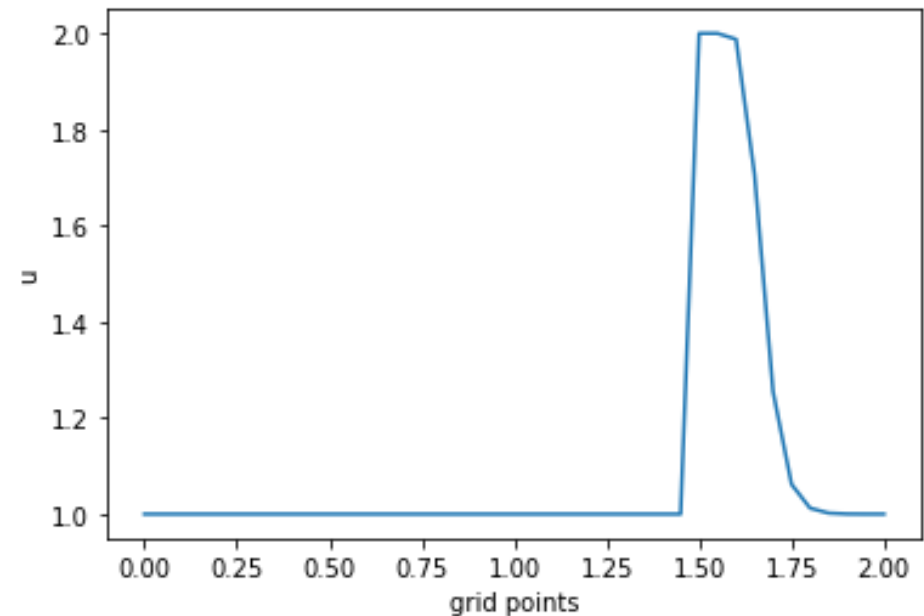
# Nonlinear Convection in 1D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0$$

Initial conditions- Nonlinear convection in 1D



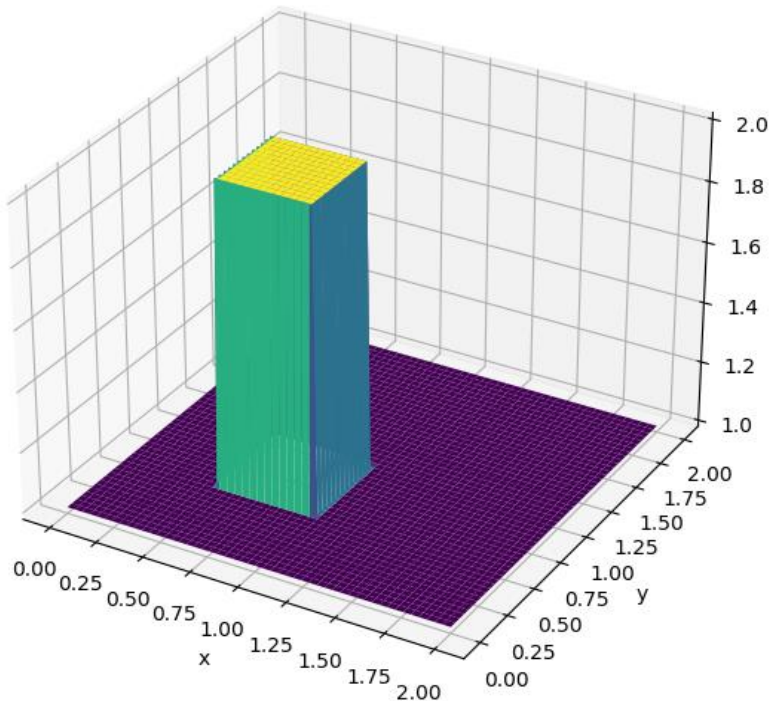
After time t - Nonlinear convection in 1D



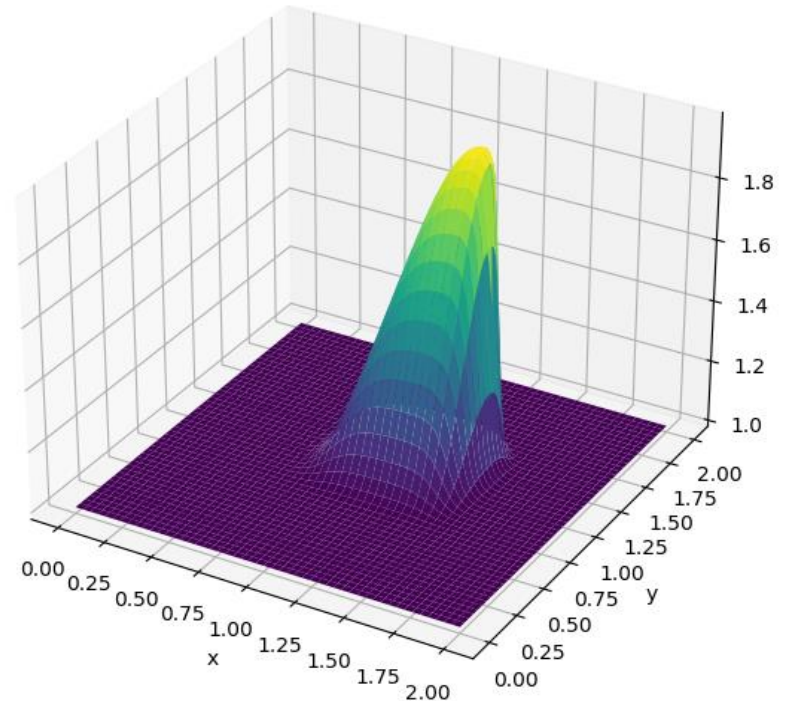
# Nonlinear Convection in 2D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = 0$$

Initial condition 2D Nonlinear convection



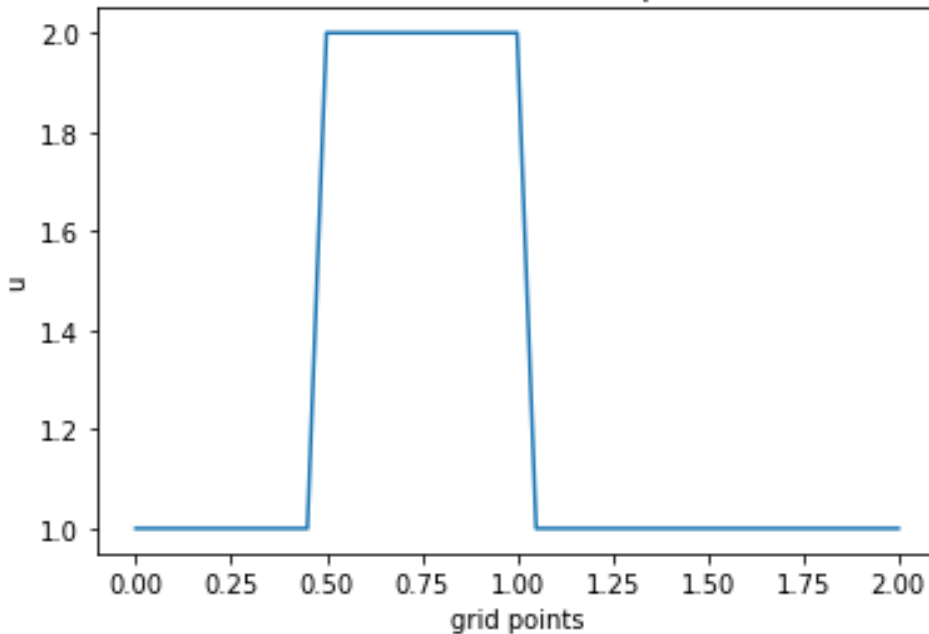
Velocity after time t- 2D nonlinear convection



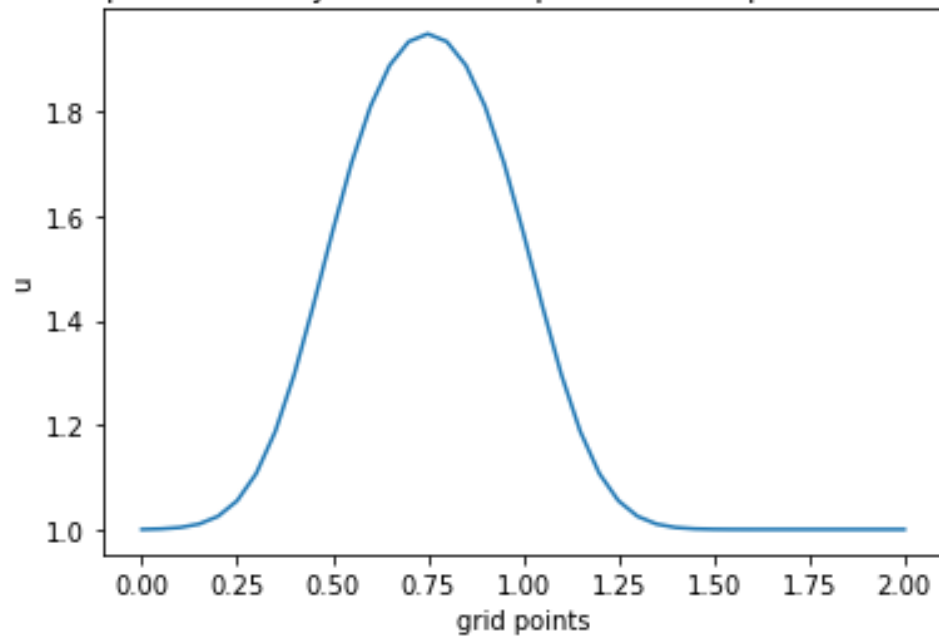
# Diffusion Equation in 1D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Initial conditions- Diffusion equation in 1D



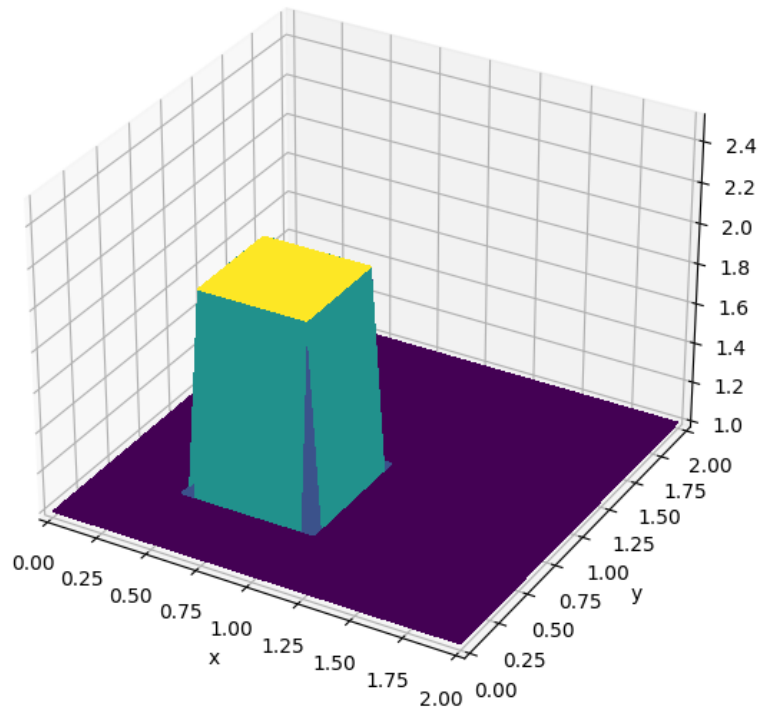
plot of velocity after timestep- Diffusion equation in 1D



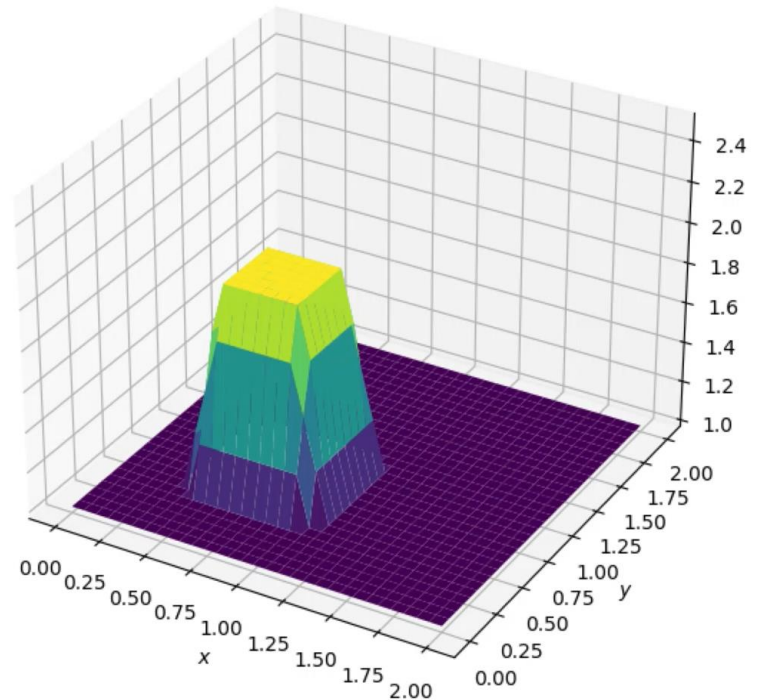
# Diffusion Equation in 2D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2}$$

Initial condition 2D Diffusion Equation



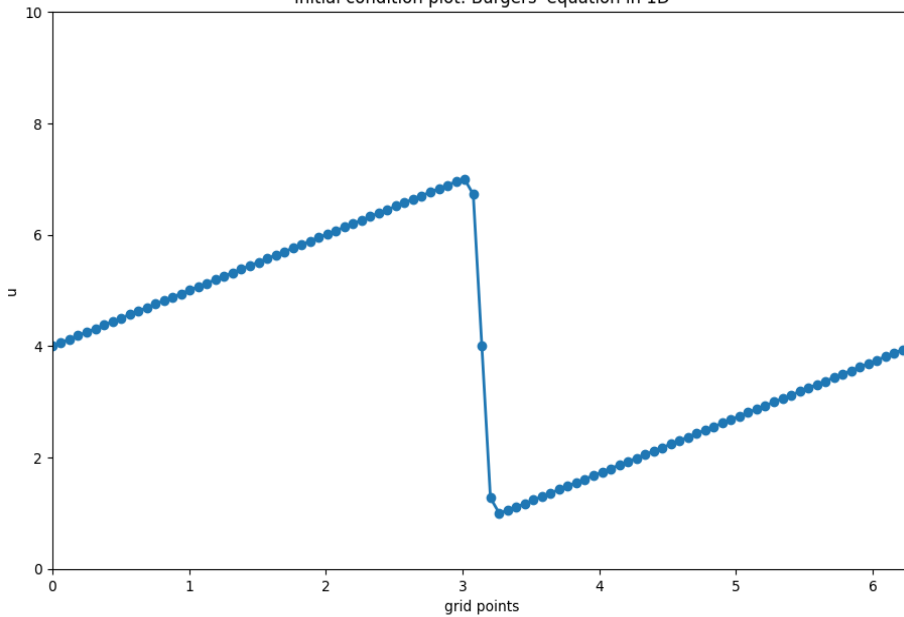
Velocity after time t- 2D diffusion equation



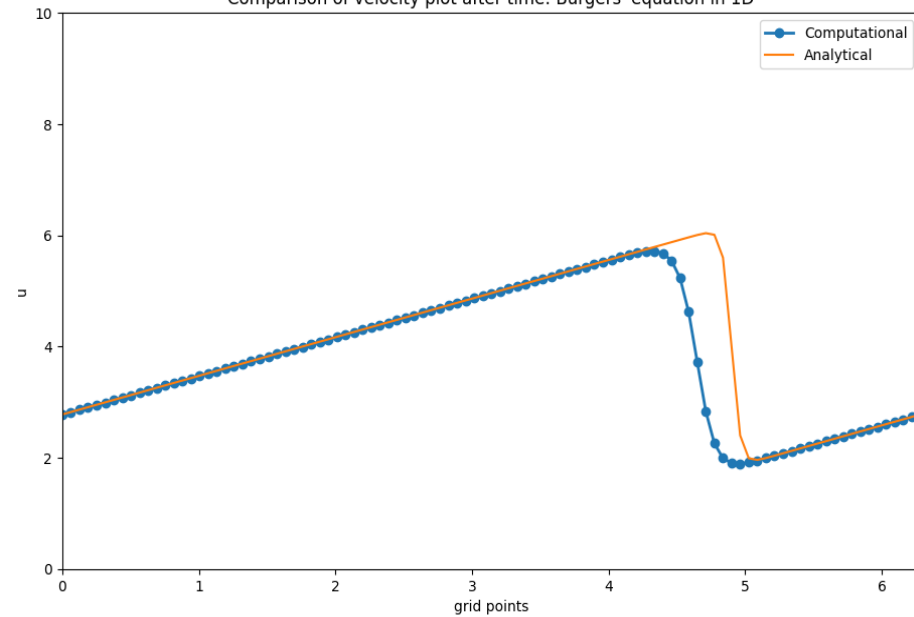
# Burgers' equation in 1D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \nu \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2}$$

Initial condition plot: Burgers' equation in 1D



Comparison of velocity plot after time: Burgers' equation in 1D

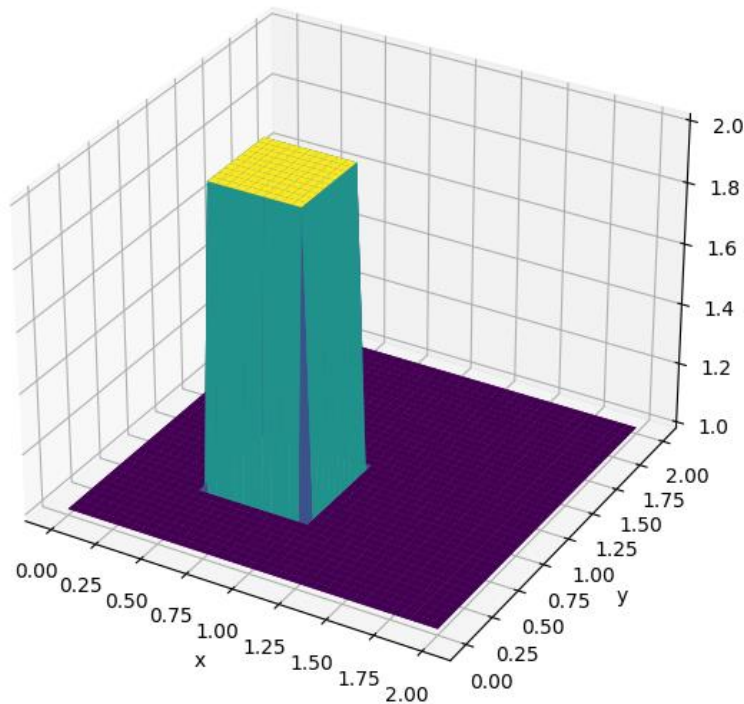




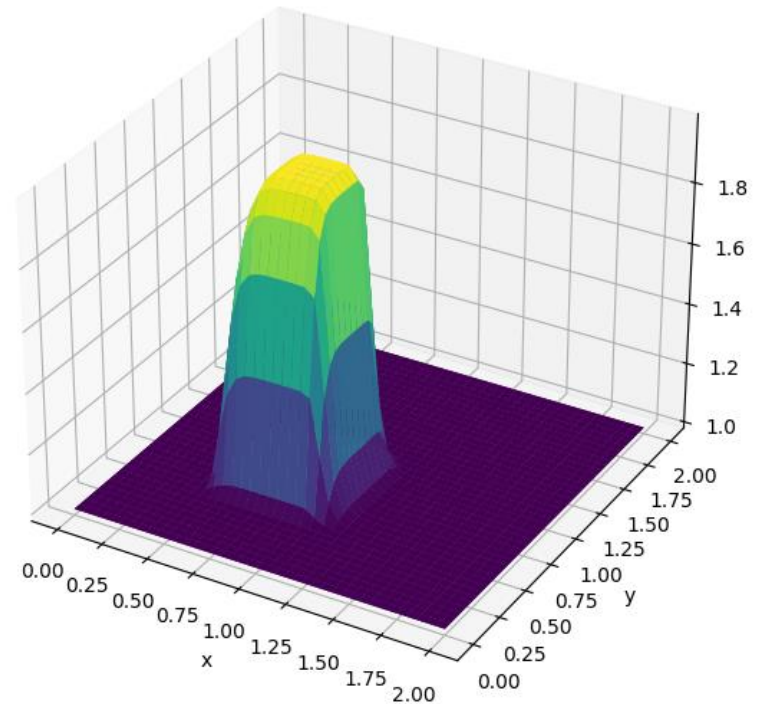
# Burgers' equation 2D

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial u}{\partial y} = \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial y^2} \right)$$
$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x} + v \frac{\partial v}{\partial y} = \nu \left( \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial y^2} \right)$$

Initial conditions: square function



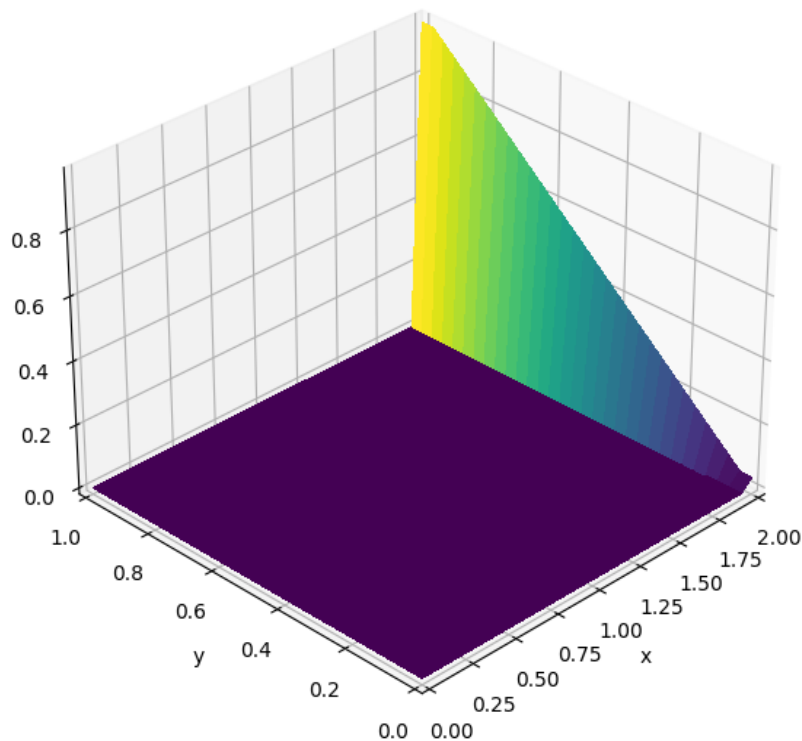
Velocity after time t - 2D Burgers' equation



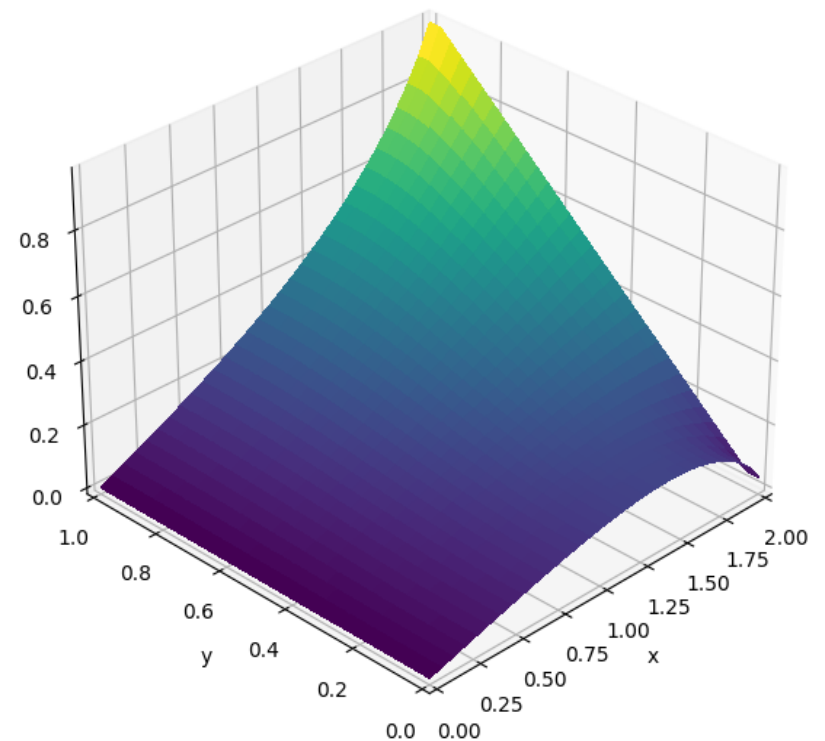
# Laplace equation in 2D

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial y^2} = 0$$

Initial conditions: 2D Laplace equation



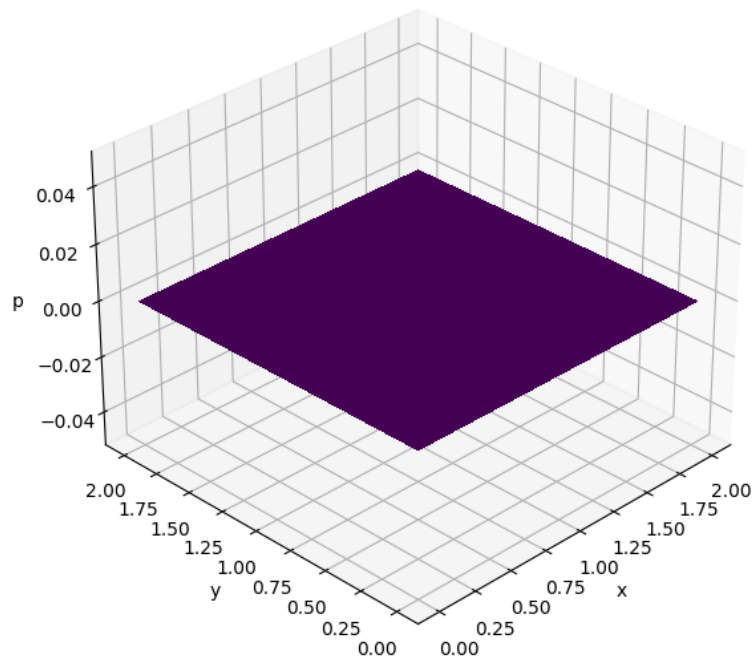
Velocity after time t - 2D Laplace equation



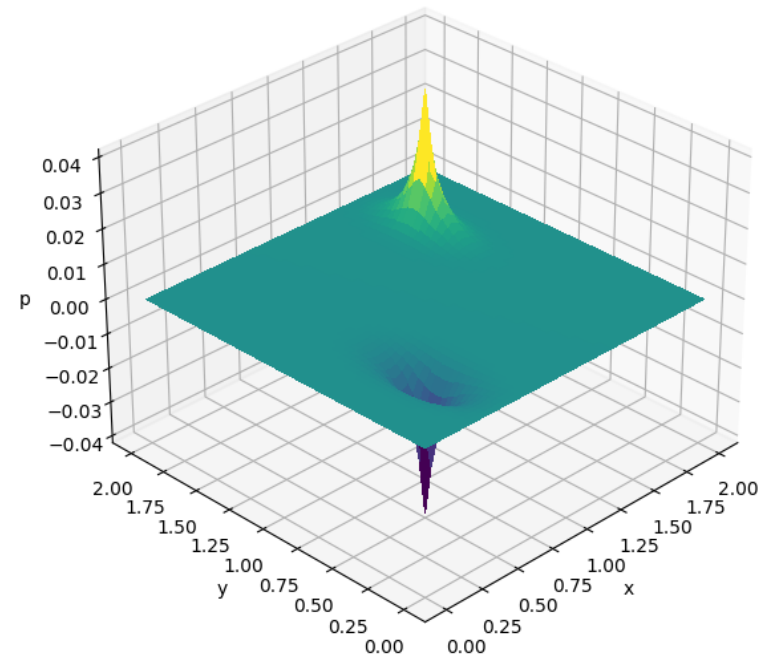
# Poisson Equation in 2D

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial y^2} = b$$

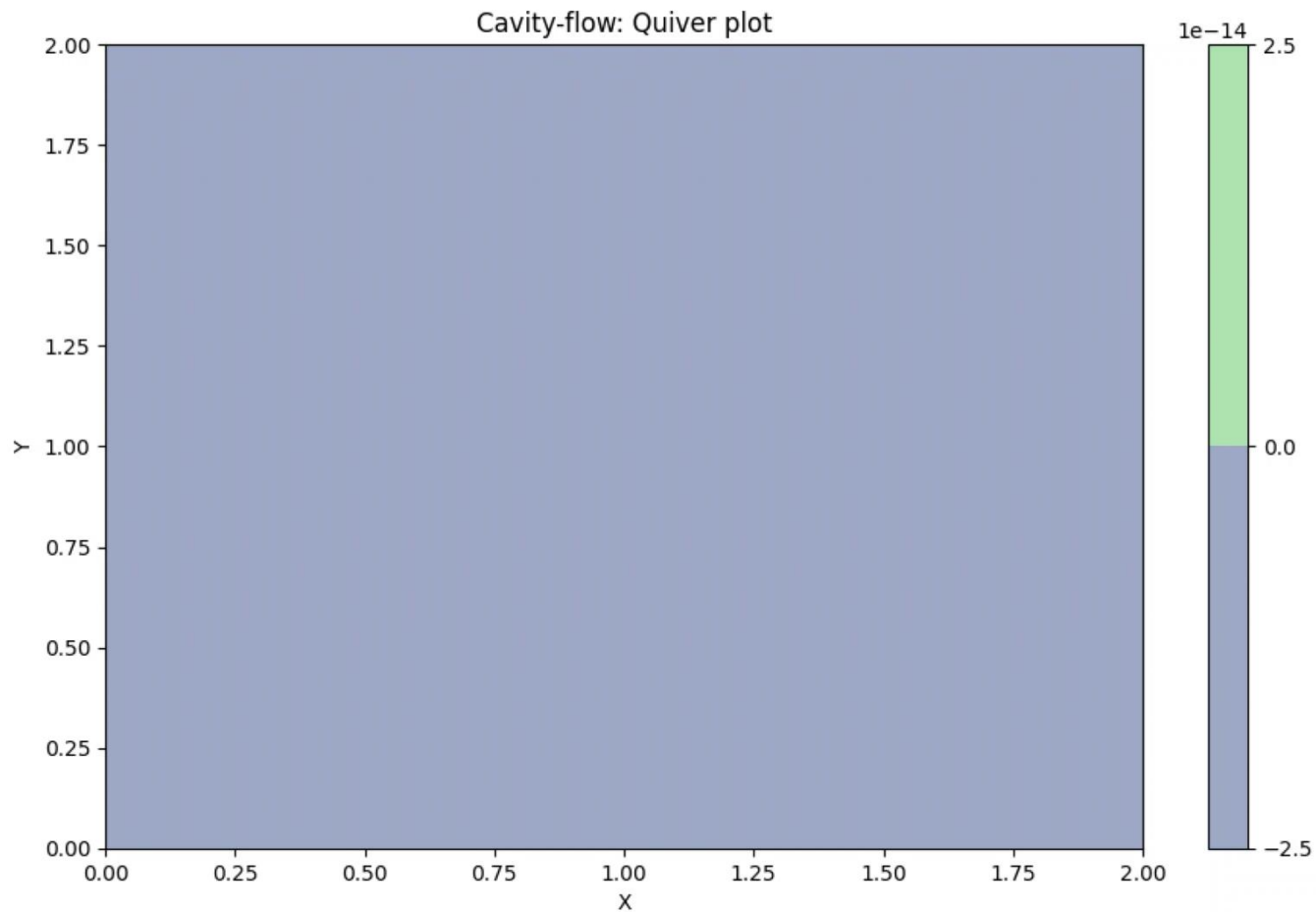
Initial conditions: Poisson's equation in 2D



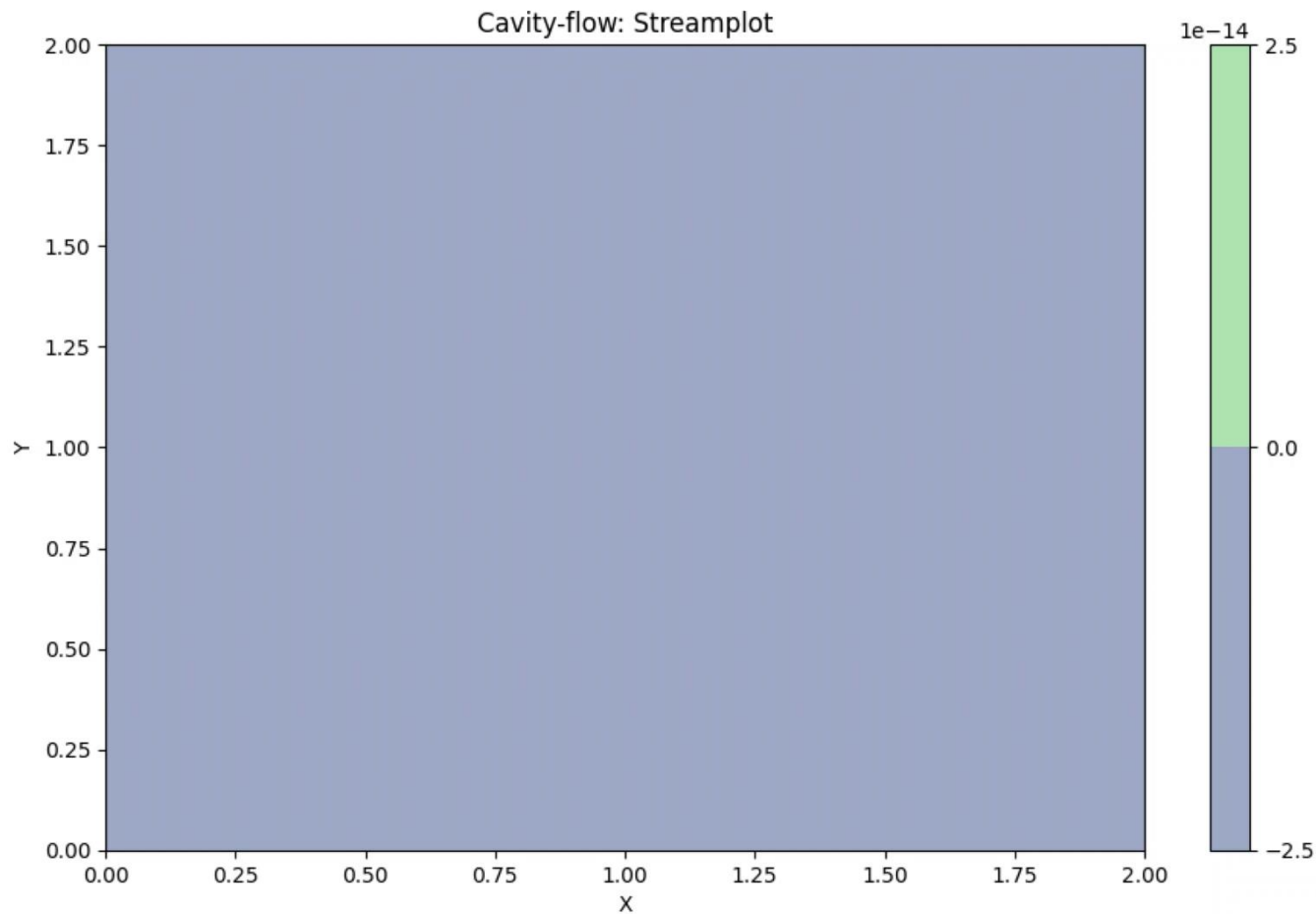
Poisson's equation 2D



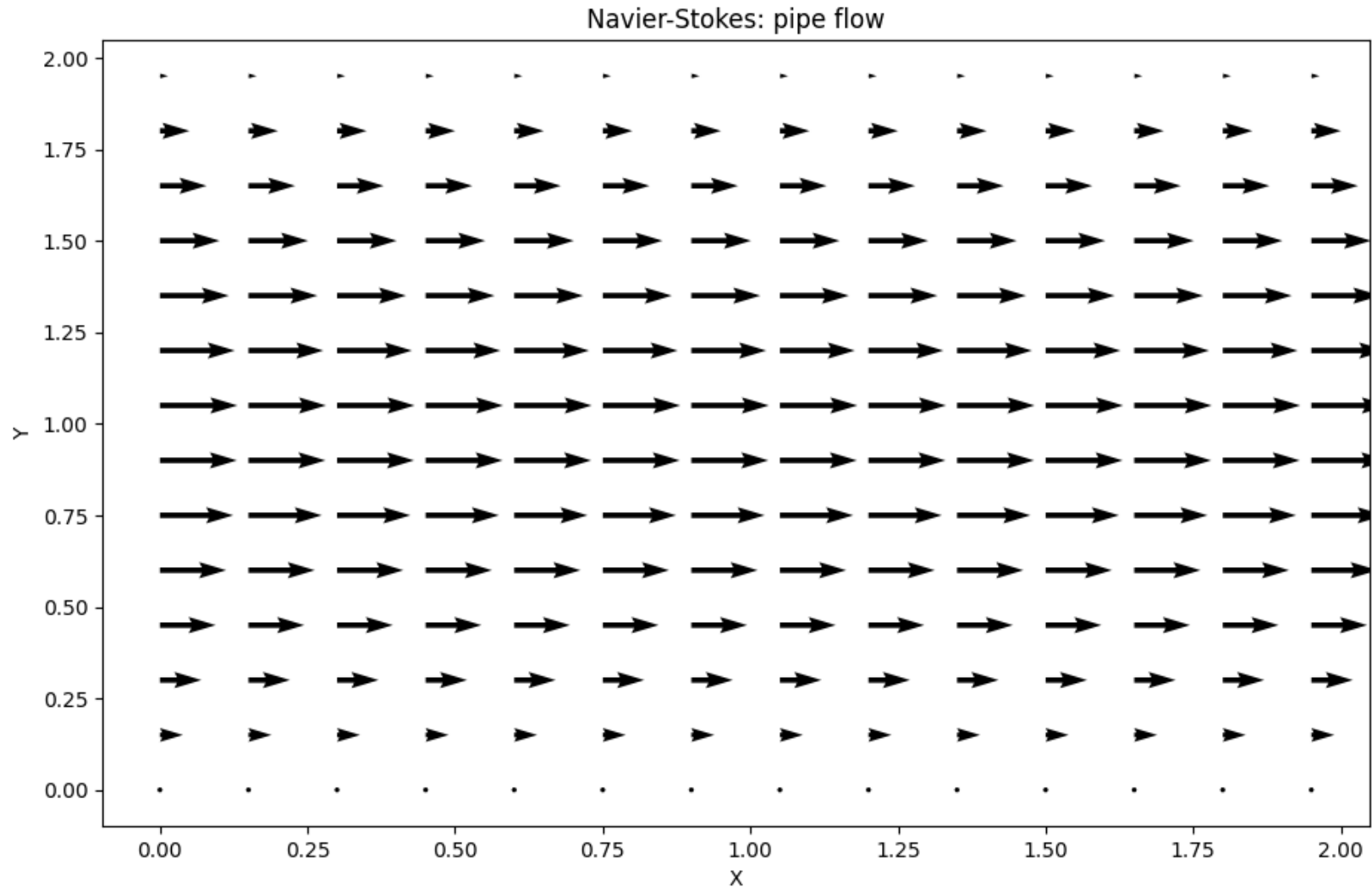
# Simulation of Navier-Stokes equation: Cavity Flow Quiverplot



# Simulation of Navier-Stokes equation: Cavity Flow Streamplot



# Simulation of Navier-Stokes equation: Channel Flow



# Learnings from CFD

- Solving PDEs by FDM
- Understanding initial and boundary conditions (Dirichlet and Neumann problems)
- Creating 3D plots on Python

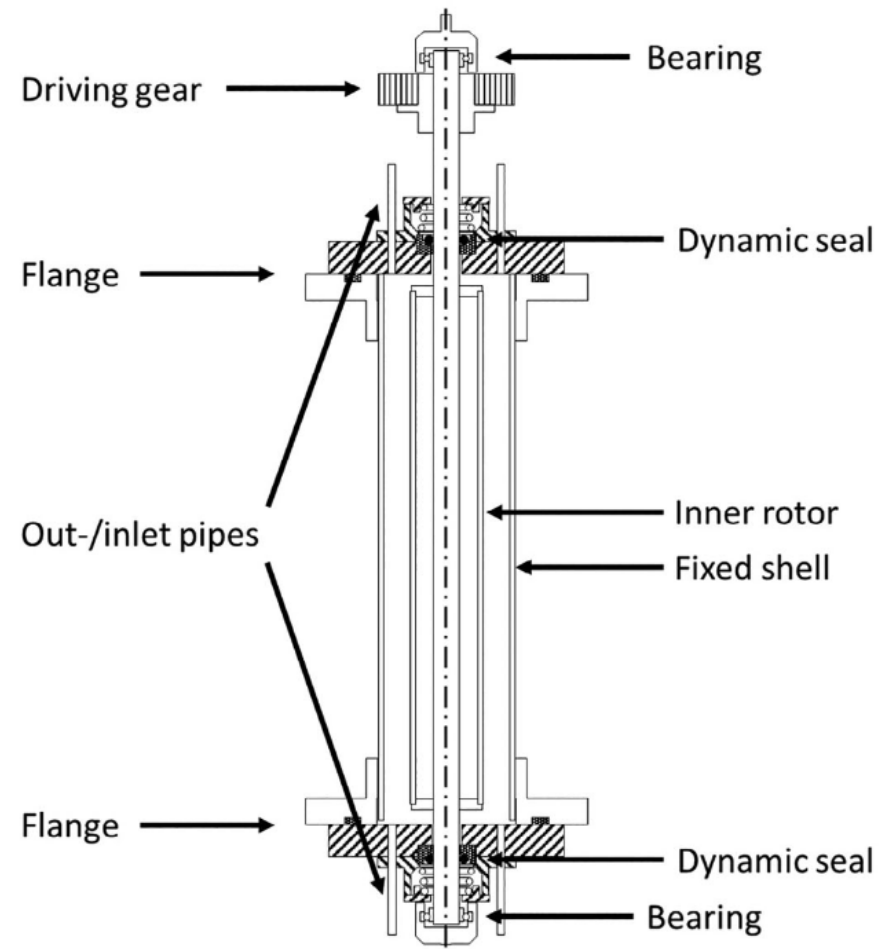
# Literature review for the set up:

- Stability of a Viscous Liquid contained between Two Rotating Cylinders, G I Taylor, 1922.
- An Experimental Study of the Motion of a Viscous Liquid contained between Two Coaxial Cylinders, J W Lewis, 1928.
- Taylor-Couette Flow: The Early Days, R J Donnelly, *American Institute of Physics*, 1991.
- Taylor-Couette Reactor: Principles, Designs, Applications, Schrimpf et al, *AIChE Journal*, 2021.
- Simulation of Taylor-Couette flow: Part 1: Numerical Methods and Comparison with Experiment, Part 2: Numerical Results for wavy Vortex flow, Philip S Marcus, *Journal of Fluid Mechanics*, 1984.



# Taylor-Couette Apparatus setup

- Mechanical arrangement: Coaxial plexiglass cylinders (different diameters), attached to a stepper motor, inner cylinder rotating.
- Fixed ends with stainless steel flanges. L shaped outlet at the bottom.
- Working fluid: water-glycerol mixture at different compositions.
- Visualisation: Aluminum pigment powder/artists silver powder as opposed to rheoscopic fluids. Also create contrast by painting or using black working fluid.



Schrimpf et al., *AIChE journal*, 2021.

# Additional Variations (long-term)

- Rotating second cylinder (changing directions)
- Adding axial/azimuthal flow
- Different orientations of the apparatus, changing aspect ratios
- Quantitative aspect: signal processing

# Plan for the semester:

- Set up the apparatus
- Work on computation
- Finish writing thesis

# References:

- Stability of a Viscous Liquid contained between Two Rotating Cylinders, G I Taylor, 1923. <https://royalsocietypublishing.org/doi/pdf/10.1098/rsta.1923.0008>
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- The Visual Room: Notes on Project Work, CFD, Programming and Computing. <https://www.thevisualroom.com/index.html>
- Lid-driven Cavity, Guido Dhondt, MIT, 2014. [https://web.mit.edu/calculix\\_v2.7/CalculiX/ccx\\_2.7/doc/ccx/node14.html](https://web.mit.edu/calculix_v2.7/CalculiX/ccx_2.7/doc/ccx/node14.html)