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Solution of transient viscoelastic flow problems approximated by a VMS stabilized finite element formulation using time-dependent subrid-scales

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Dynamic Subscales: Why are these necessary?

Classical residual-based stabilized methods for unsteady incompressible flows may experience **difficulties when the time step is small** relative to the spatial grid size.

- Bochev et al. argue that $\delta t > Ch^2$ a **sufficient condition** to avoid instabilities.
- For anisotropic space-time discretizations, this inequality is **not necessarily satisfied**: a very common issue in viscoelastic flow formulations.

Consequently...

New stabilization techniques must be designed to compute time-dependent viscoelastic flow problems with high elasticity and anisotropic space-time discretization.

Logarithmic conformation formulation

Main features

- High Weissenberg Number Problem: All numerical methods found a **breakdown** at a low Weissenberg number.
 - Log-conformation formulation was proposed by **Fattal and Kupferman** (2004).
 - Treats the **exponential growth** of the elastic stresses when the elastic component becomes dominant.
 - Allows to **extend the range** of Weissenberg numbers. ✓
 - More computational **expensive** than the standard formulation. ✗
- Physically-admissible conformation tensors must be **symmetric** and **positive-definite**.

Elastic stress tensor

$$\sigma = \frac{\eta_p}{\lambda} (\tau - \mathbf{I}) \rightarrow \tau = \frac{\lambda \sigma}{\eta_p} + \mathbf{I}$$

Conformation tensor

- Conformation tensor is replaced by $\psi = \log(\tau)$.

Spatial and temporal discretization

- **Galerkin FE approximation.** Consists in finding $\mathbf{U}_h : (0, t_f) \rightarrow \mathcal{X}_h$,

$$\underbrace{(\mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h), \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Temporal terms}} + \underbrace{B(\mathbf{u}; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Bilinear form}} = L(\mathbf{V}_h),$$

for all $\mathbf{V}_h = [\mathbf{v}_h, q_h, \chi_h] \in \mathcal{X}_h$

- **Monolithic time discretization.** BDF1 and BDF2 schemes have been employed in the work.

Stabilized formulation: Variational multiscale methods

- To approximate the components of the continuous problem solution that cannot be resolved by the finite element mesh.
- Split the unknowns as $\mathbf{U} = \underbrace{\mathbf{U}_h}_{\in \mathcal{X}_h} + \underbrace{\tilde{\mathbf{U}}}_{\in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}}$ and $\boldsymbol{\chi} = \boldsymbol{\chi}_h \oplus \tilde{\boldsymbol{\chi}}$.

$$\underbrace{(\underbrace{\mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h), \mathbf{V}_h}_{\text{Temporal terms}} + \underbrace{B(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Bilinear terms}})}_{\text{Galerkin terms}} + \underbrace{\sum_K \langle \tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \underbrace{\mathcal{L}^*(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{adjoint operator of } \mathcal{L}} \rangle_K}_{\text{Stabilization terms}} = L(\mathbf{V}_h)$$

$$\tilde{\mathbf{U}} = \alpha \tilde{\mathcal{P}}[\mathbf{F} - \mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h) - \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h)]$$

Sub-grid scale

- $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$ is the L^2 projection onto the space of sub-grid scales,
- α is a matrix computed within each element,
- \mathcal{L} is the operator associated to the problem.

Stabilized formulation: dynamic subscales. Adding a temporal derivative

$$\underbrace{(\underbrace{\mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h), \mathbf{V}_h}_{\text{Temporal terms}} + \underbrace{B(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Bilinear terms}})}_{\text{Galerkin terms}} + \underbrace{\sum_K \langle \tilde{\mathbf{U}}, \underbrace{\mathcal{L}^*(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{adjoint operator of } \mathcal{L}} \rangle_K}_{\text{Stabilization terms}} = L(\mathbf{V}_h)$$

- Quasi-static subscales:

$$\alpha^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{U}} = \tilde{P}[\mathbf{F} - \mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h) - \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h)]$$

- Dynamic subscales:

$$\frac{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{U}}}{\partial t} + \alpha^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{U}} = \tilde{P}[\mathbf{F} - \mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h) - \mathcal{L}(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h)]$$

Stabilized formulation: Residual based vs Split OSS.

$$\underbrace{\mathcal{D}_t(\mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h) + B(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Galerkin terms}} + \underbrace{S_1(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h) + S_2(\mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h) + S_3(\mathbf{u}_h; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Stabilization terms}} = \underbrace{L(\mathbf{V}_h)}_{\text{Gal. term}} + \underbrace{R_1(\mathbf{u}_h) + R_3(\mathbf{u}_h)}_{\text{Stab. term}}$$

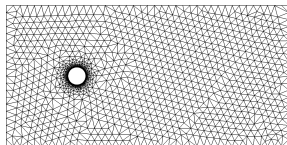
$$S_1(\hat{\mathbf{u}}_h; \mathbf{U}_h, \mathbf{V}_h) = \sum_K \alpha_{1\text{dyn}} \left\langle \rho \frac{1}{\delta t} \hat{\mathbf{u}}^n - \tilde{\mathcal{P}} \left[\rho \frac{\partial \mathbf{u}_h}{\partial t} - \frac{\eta_p}{\lambda_0} \nabla \cdot (\exp(\boldsymbol{\psi}_h)) - 2\eta_e \nabla \cdot (\nabla^s \mathbf{u}_h) + \rho \hat{\mathbf{u}}_h \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_h + \nabla p_h \right], \right. \\ \left. -\nabla \cdot \boldsymbol{\chi}_h + 2\eta_e \nabla \cdot (\nabla^s \mathbf{v}_h) + \rho \hat{\mathbf{u}}_h \cdot \nabla \mathbf{v}_h + \nabla q_h \right\rangle_K$$

$$\tilde{\mathcal{P}} = P_h^\perp$$

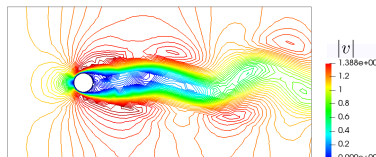
Split OSS

- 1 The **residual** based stabilization contemplates all terms.
- 2 **Split** OSS stabilization: neglect the cross local inner-product terms as well as some other terms that do not contribute to stability.

Example: Flow over a cylinder. Comparing stabilizations



Coarse mesh

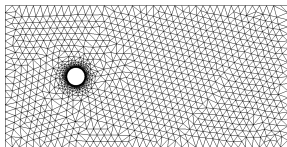
 $\delta t = 0.1$

P1 elements Method	Time step (δt)			
	0.050	0.0250	3.125×10^{-3}	1.562×10^{-3}
Static-OSS	Solved	Failed	-	-
Dyn-OSS	Solved	Solved	Solved	Solved
Static-SOSS	Solved	Solved	Solved	Failed
Dyn-SOSS	Solved	Solved	Solved	Solved

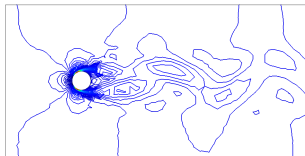
Table: Solved and failed cases $We = 0.125$, $\alpha_{1,\min} \approx 1.156 \times 10^{-3}$.

The **most unstable** stabilization is the **quasi-static** + OSS stabilization.

Example: Flow over a cylinder. Comparing formulations



Coarse mesh

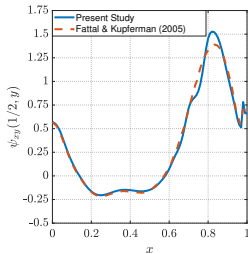
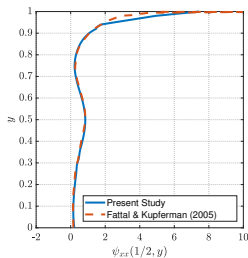
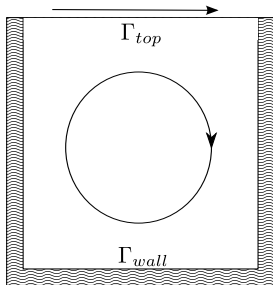
 $\delta t = 0.1$

Formulation	Weissenberg (We)			
	0.125	0.165	0.25	0.5
Std-Static	Solved	Failed	-	-
Std-Dyn	Solved	Solved	Solved	Failed
Log-Static	Solved	Solved	Failed	-
Log-Dyn	Solved	Solved	Solved	Solved

Table: Solved and failed cases for S-OSS formulations, dynamic and quasi-static, $\delta t = 0.1$.

Dynamic formulations are more efficient avoiding **elastic instabilities**.

Benchmark: Lid-driven cavity flow problem. Case $Re=0$.



Formulation	Stabilization S-OSS	
	Quasi-static	Dynamic
Standard	Failed - time step 265	Failed - time step 1316
Logarithmic	Failed - time step 340	Solved

Table: Comparison between different formulations, $We = 1.0$, $\delta t = 0.0025$. The time step at which convergence fails is indicated.

References

Presentation based on the paper:

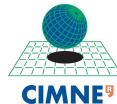
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Thank you for your attention!!

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