

Grid-based Fluid Simulation

Stable Fluids [Stam 1999]

- One of the most cited paper in the computer graphics field



Jos Stam

NVIDIA

Verified email at nvidia.com - [Homepage](#)

[computer graphics](#)

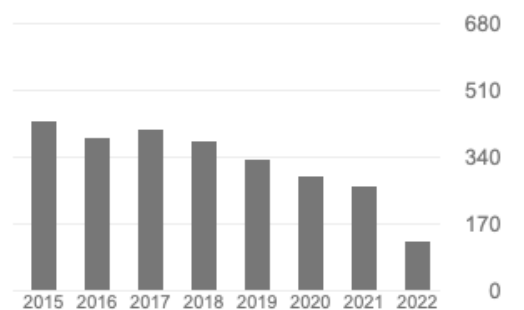
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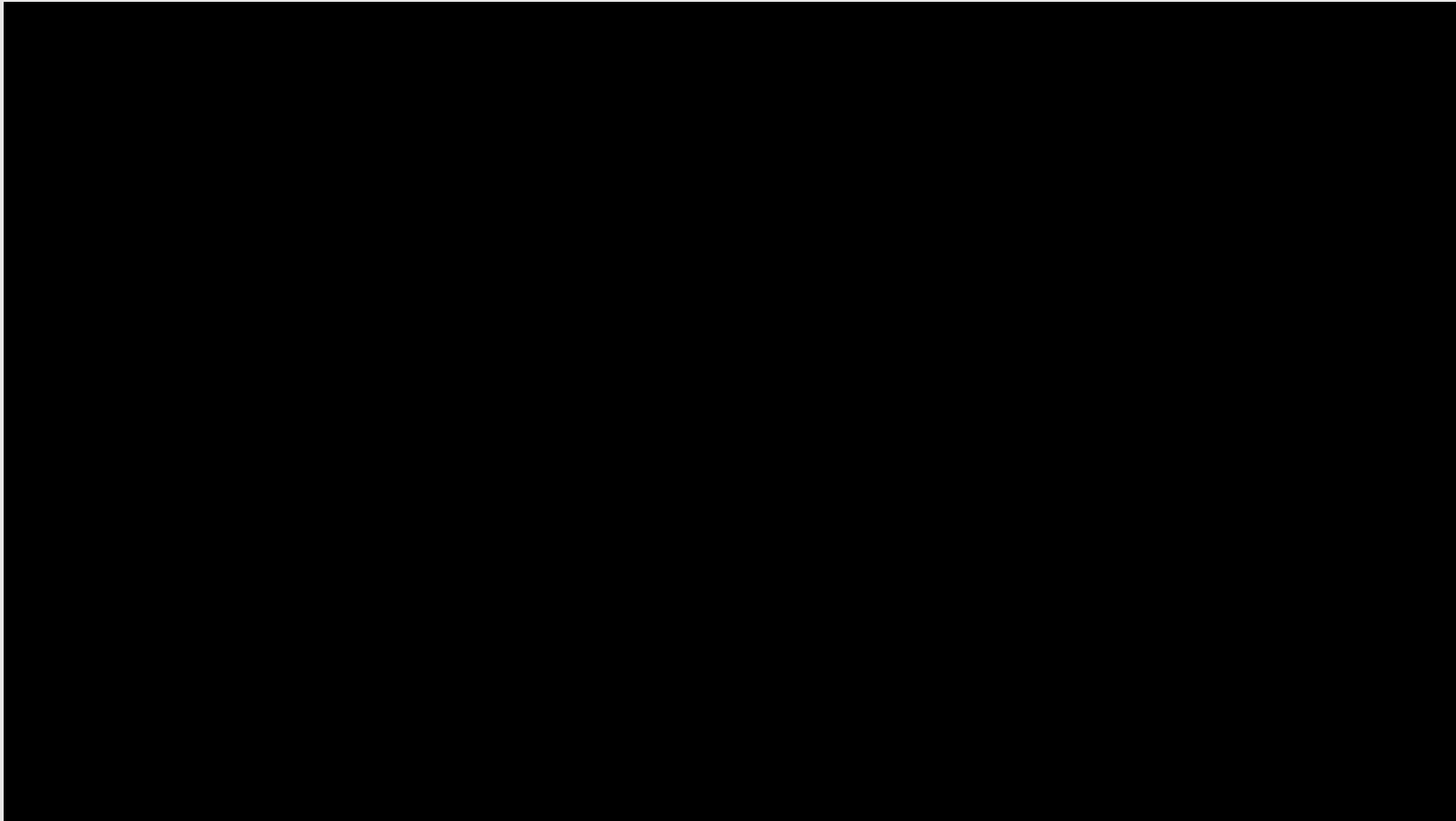
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Implementation of Stable Fluids



Magic Fluids - beautiful fluid simulation app for iOS and Android
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FdhRi6Zsh5w>

Key Ingredients of Fluid

Inertia



Incompressibility



Navier-Stokes equation

$$\rho \left\{ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \phi \right\} = -\nabla p$$
$$\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$

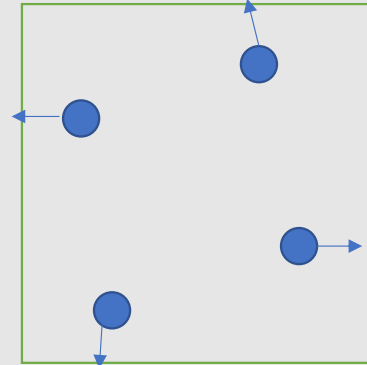
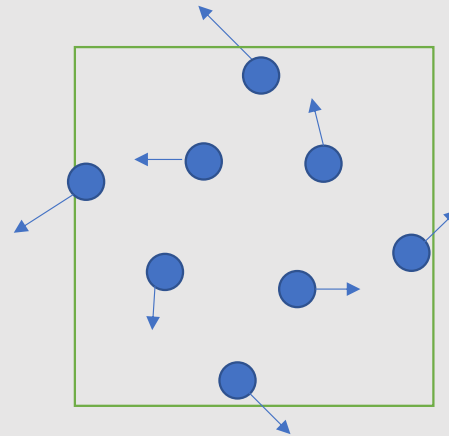
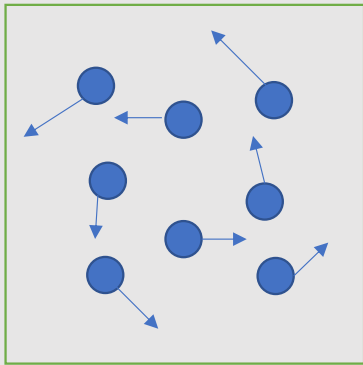
Incompressibility Makes Vortex



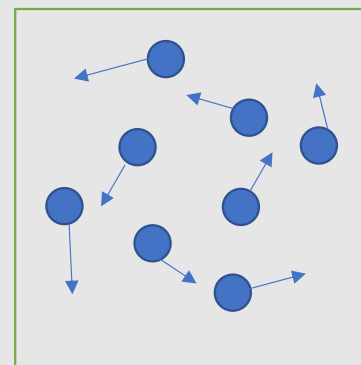
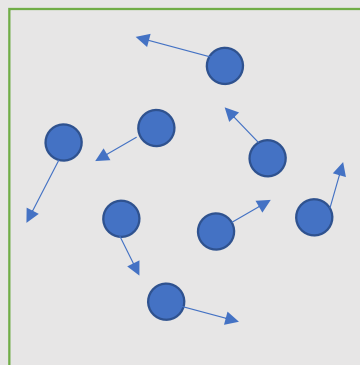
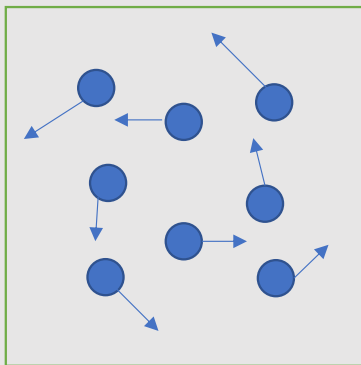
Credit: Astrobob @ Wikipedia

Vortex and Particles

Inertia only

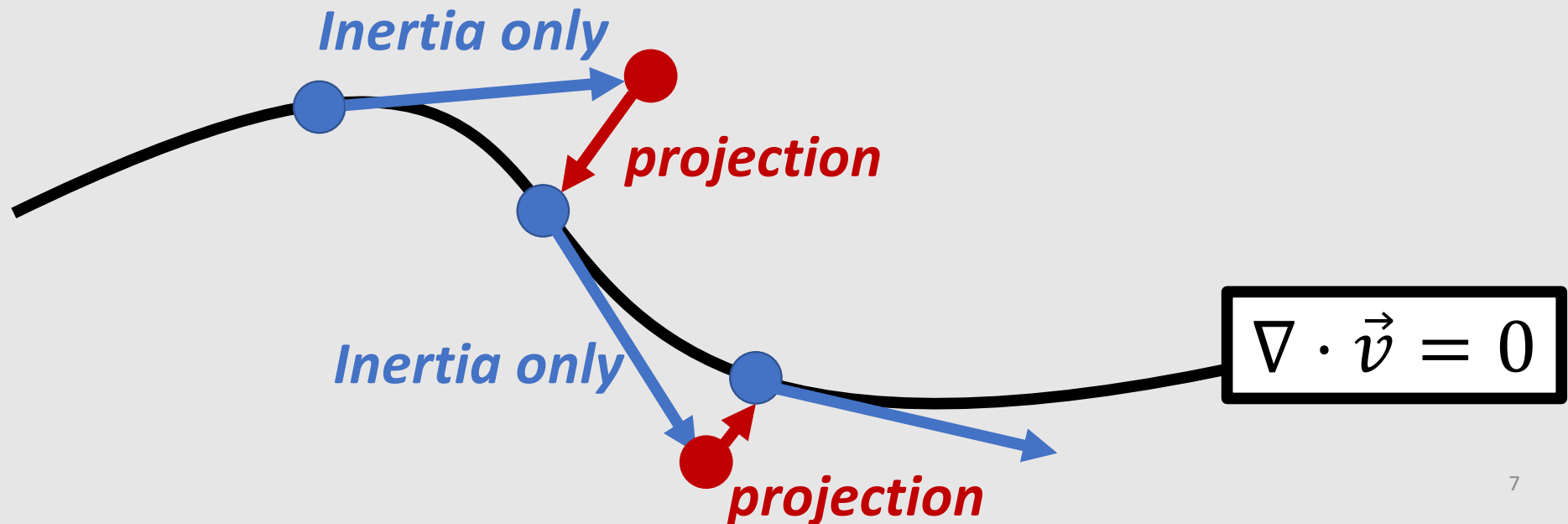


Inertia & incompressibility



Operator Splitting for Fluid Animation

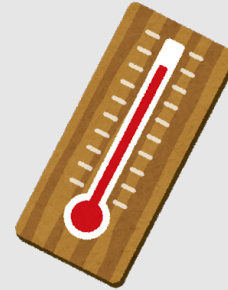
$$\rho \left\{ \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \phi \right\} = -\nabla p$$
$$\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = 0$$



Lagrangian vs. Eulerian

Temperature of a River

- How to record the history of temperature of the flowing water?



Reference Frames



Lagrangian

Observation point is moving together with flow

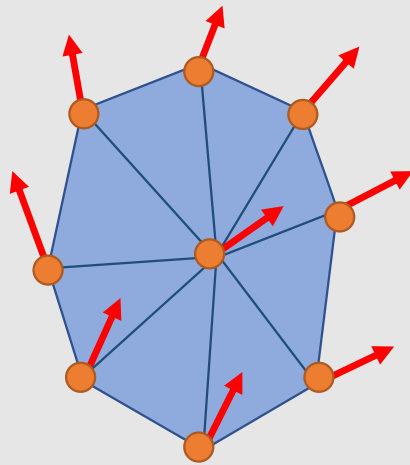


Eulerian

Observation point is fixed

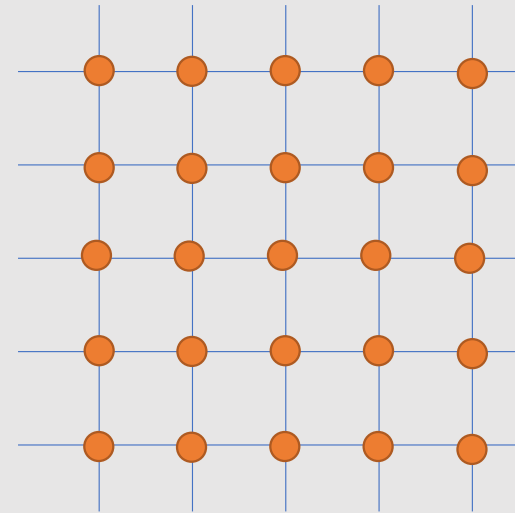
Data Structure for Continuum

Lagrangian
(e.g., deformable mesh)



Observation points moves over time

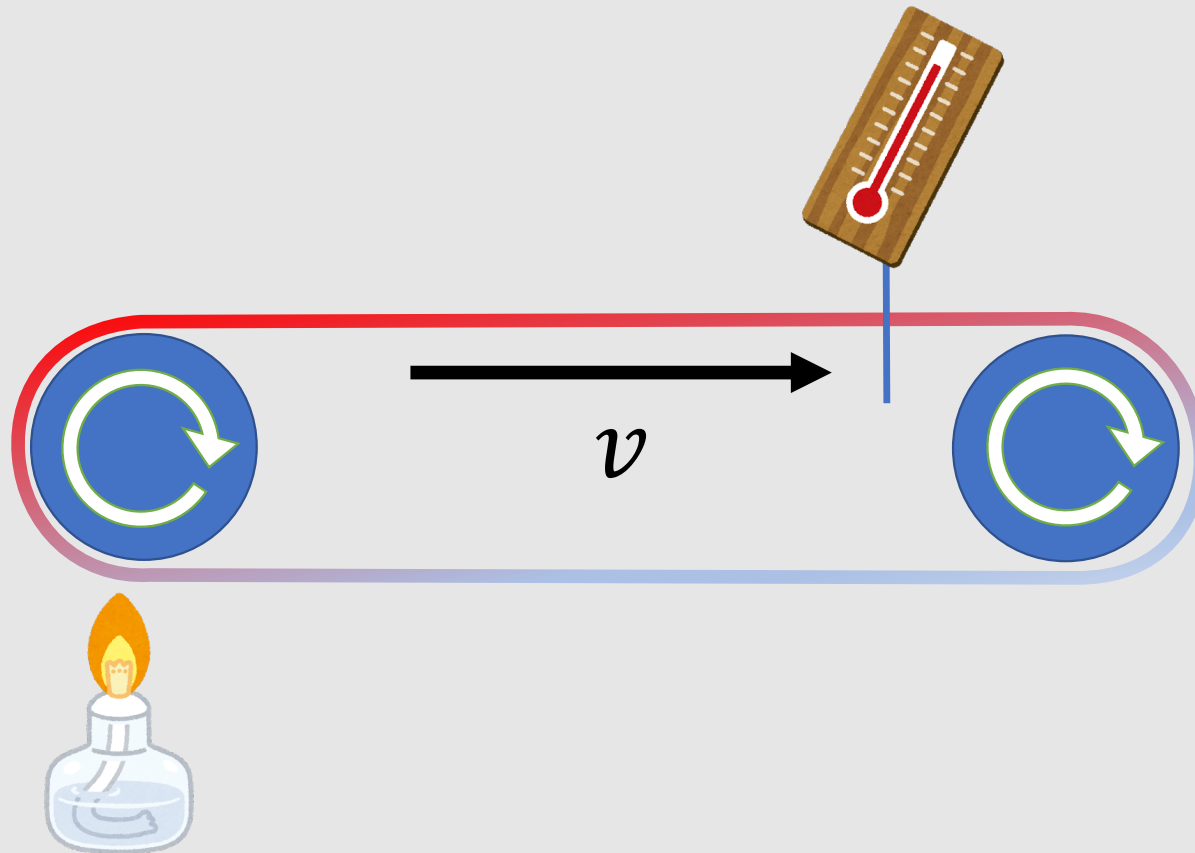
Eulerian
(e.g., regular grid)



Observation points don't move

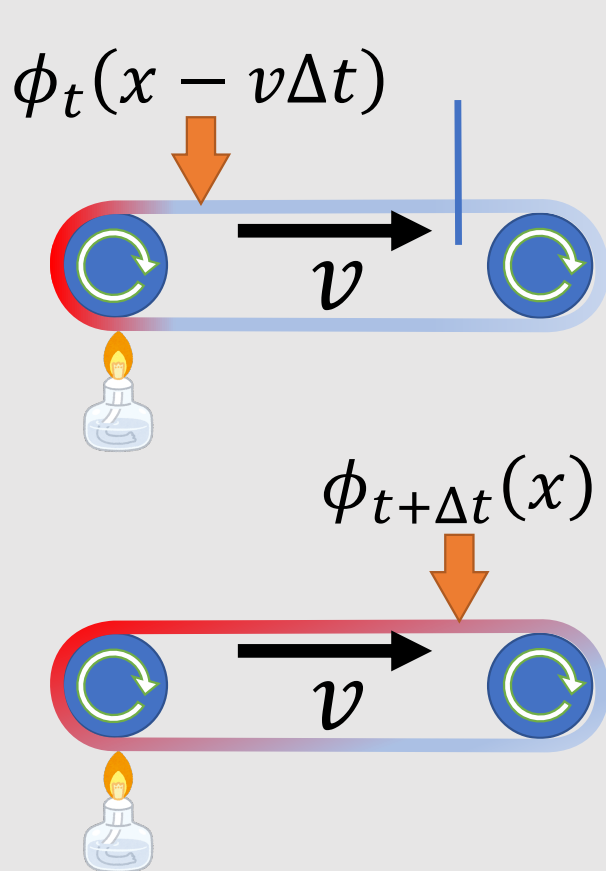
Moving Field Observed at Fixed Position

- Measuring the **change** of the temperature on the carousel



Material Derivative

- Measuring the **change** of the temperature on the carousel



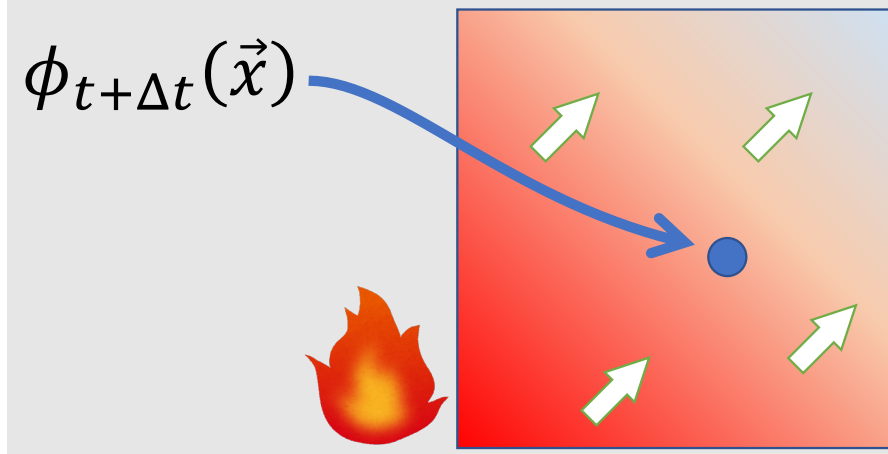
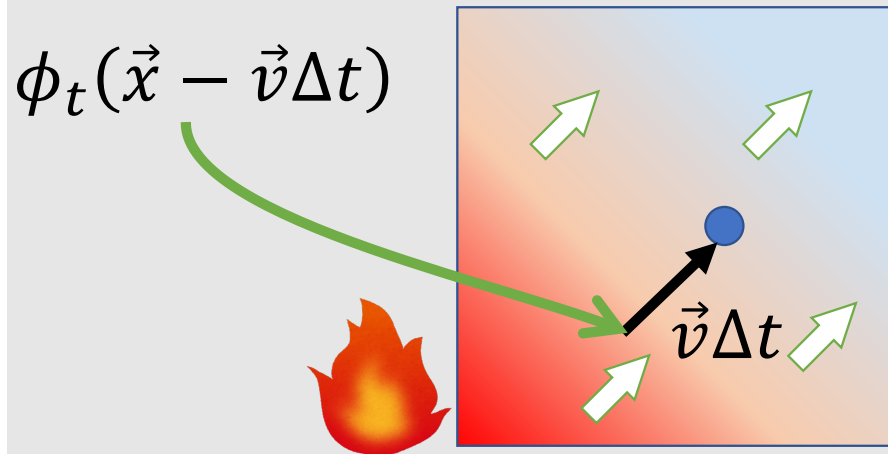
$$\phi_{t+\Delta t}(x) \simeq \underbrace{\phi_t(x - v\Delta t)} + \left(\frac{D\phi}{Dt} \right) \Delta t$$

Material derivative

$$\simeq \phi_t(x) + \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} (-v\Delta t)$$

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = -v \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} + \frac{D\phi}{Dt}$$

Material Derivative in 2D



$$\phi_{t+\Delta t}(\vec{x}) \simeq \underbrace{\phi_t(\vec{x} - \vec{v}\Delta t)} + \frac{D\phi}{Dt} \Delta t$$

$$\simeq \phi_t(x) + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial x} (-v_x\Delta t) + \frac{\partial\phi}{\partial y} (-v_y\Delta t)$$

$$\frac{\partial\phi}{\partial t} = -(\vec{v} \cdot \nabla)\phi + \frac{D\phi}{Dt}$$

Equation of Motion in Lagrangian Frame

- Newton's second law

$$m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \vec{F}$$




Equation of Motion in Eulerian Frame

$$m \frac{d\vec{v}}{dt} = \vec{F}$$

$$\rho \frac{D\vec{v}}{Dt} = \vec{f}$$

Pressure gradient,
viscosity, gravity...etc



$$= \frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + (\vec{v} \cdot \nabla) \phi$$

Fluid With No External Force

$$\vec{v}_{t+\Delta t}(\vec{x}) \simeq \vec{v}_t(\vec{x} - \vec{v}\Delta t) + \frac{D\vec{v}}{Dt} \Delta t$$



No external force $\rho \frac{D\vec{v}}{Dt} = 0$

$$\vec{v}_{t+\Delta t}(\vec{x}) \simeq \vec{v}_t(\vec{x} - \vec{v}\Delta t)$$

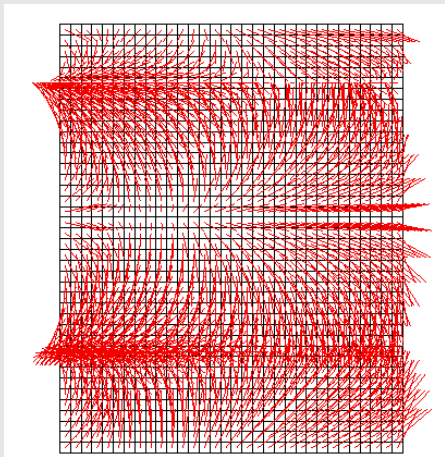
Pressure Projection

Helmholtz Decomposition

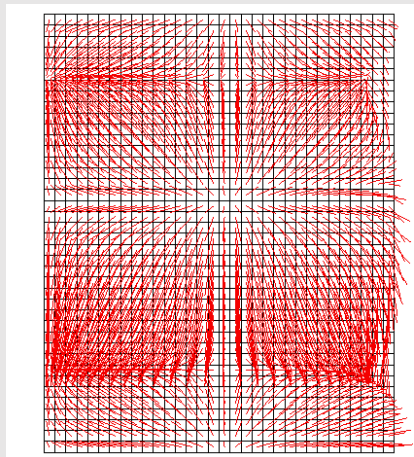
$$\vec{v} = \nabla\phi + \nabla\times\Psi$$

No rotation
Only divergence

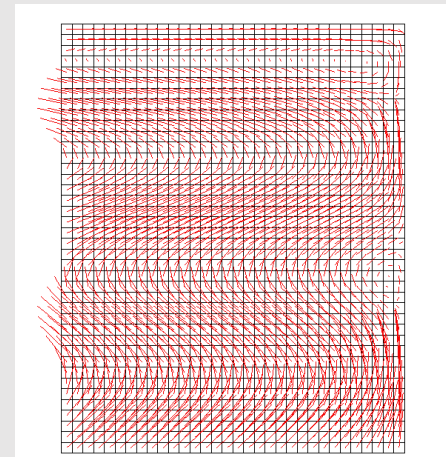
No divergence
Only rotation



=



+



Projection to Incompressible Space

$$\vec{v} = \nabla\phi + \nabla\times\Psi$$



$$\nabla \cdot \vec{v} = \nabla \cdot \nabla\phi + \boxed{\nabla \cdot (\nabla\times\Psi)} \stackrel{= 0}{}$$



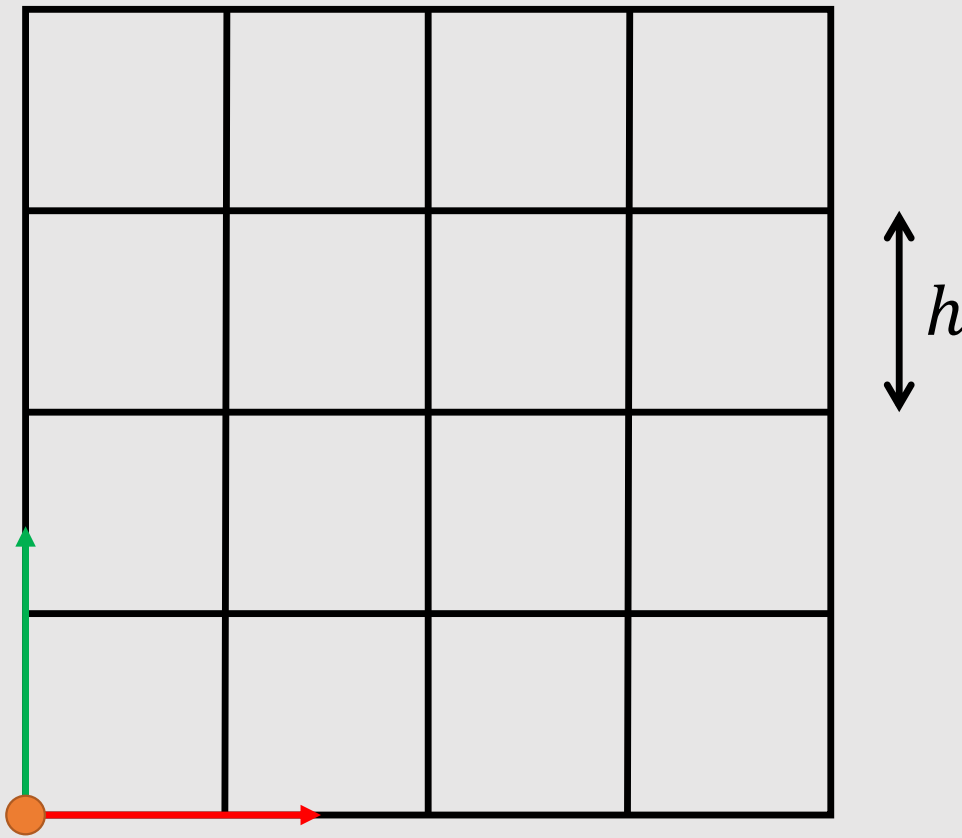
$$\vec{v}' = \vec{v} - \nabla\phi$$

Solution for Poisson's equation $\nabla \cdot \nabla\phi = \nabla \cdot \vec{v}$

Spatial Discretization

Regular Grids

- Most common discretization for spatial values



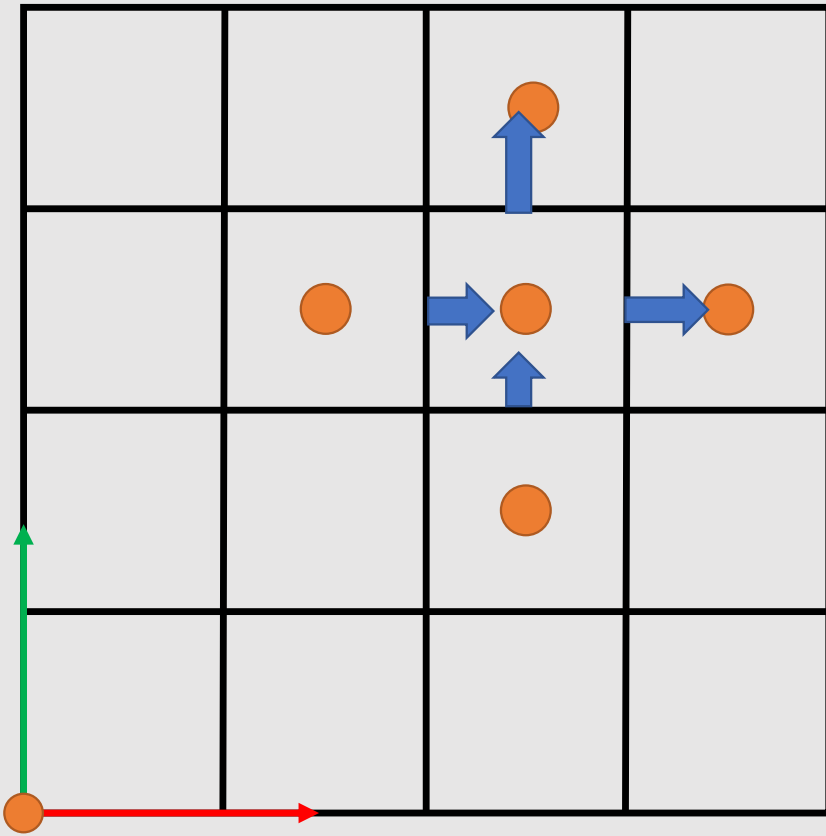
Let's find out the corresponding grid cell for (p_x, p_y)

Check it out!

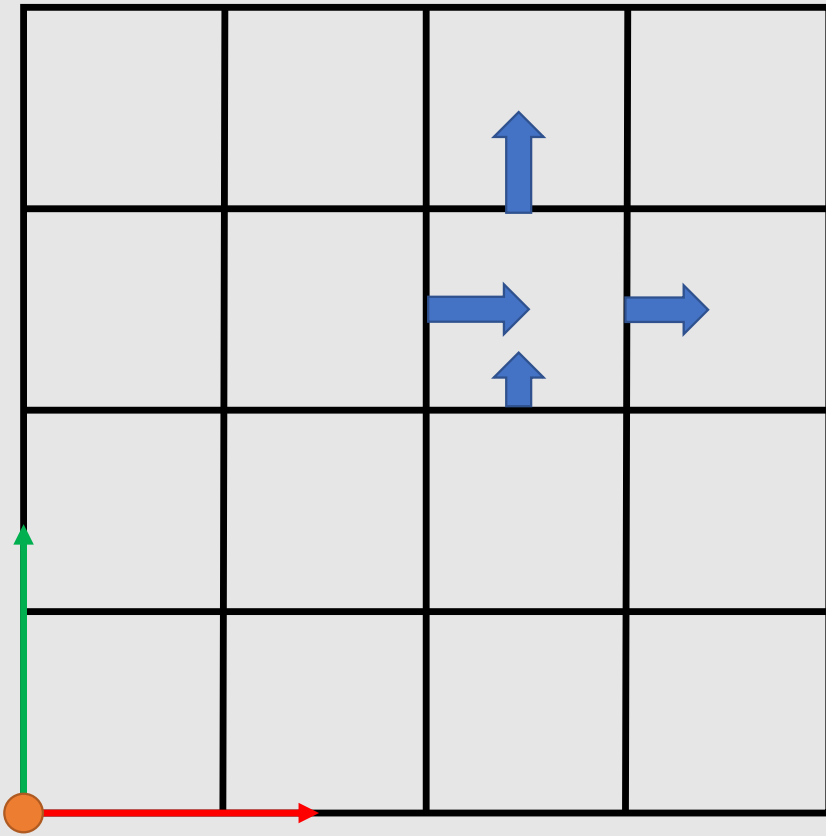


Staggered Grid

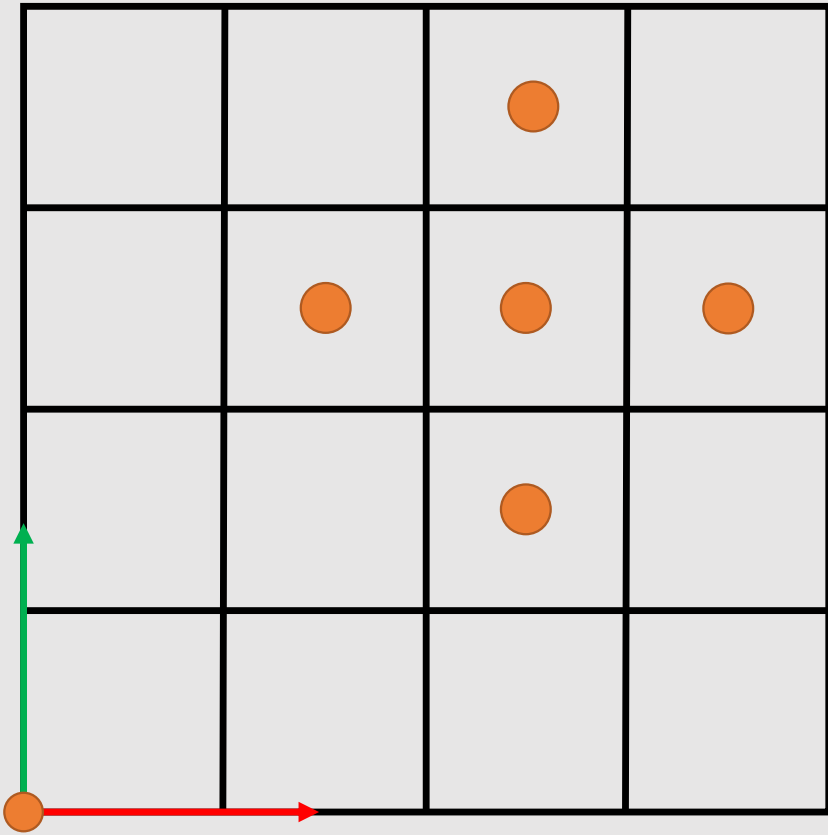
- Most common discretization for grid-based fluid simulation



Staggered Lattice for Divergence

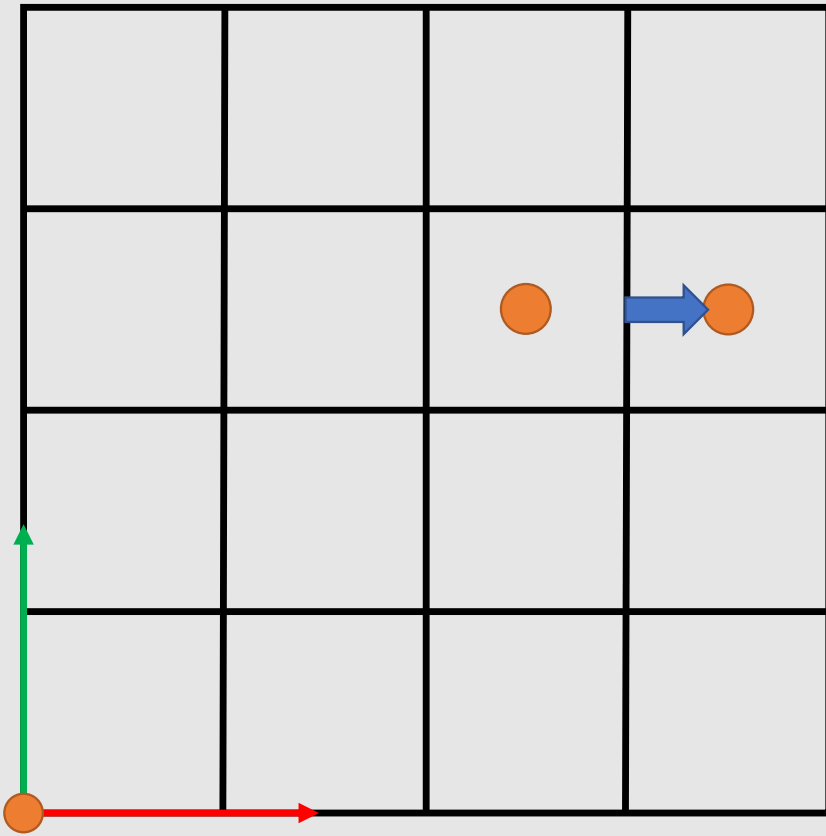


Staggered Grid for Poisson Equation

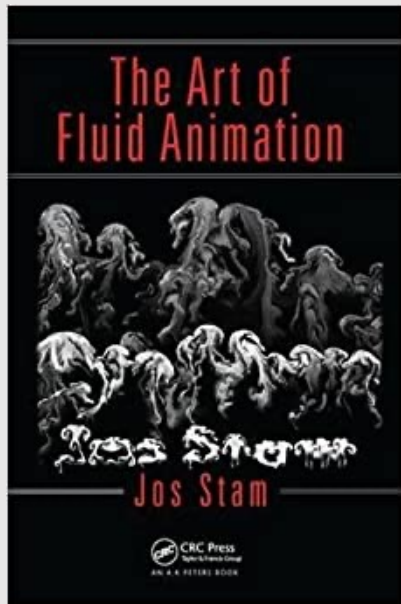


Staggered Grid

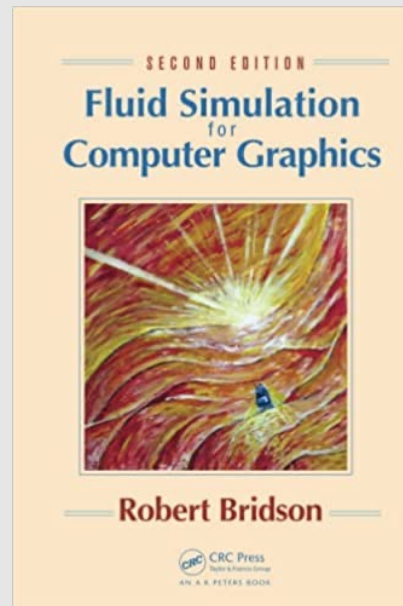
- Most common discretization for grid-based fluid simulation



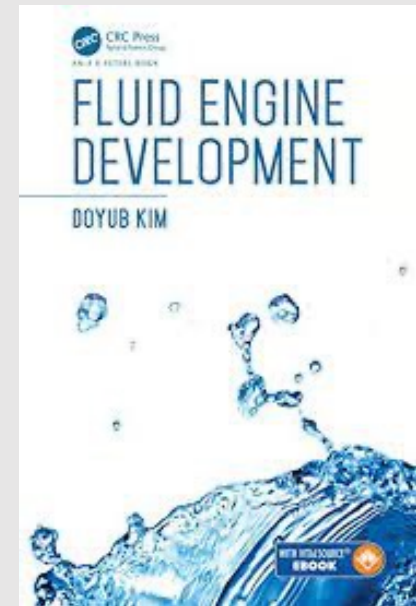
For Further Study



The Art of Fluid
Animation



Fluid Simulation for
Computer Animation
<https://www.cs.ubc.ca/~rbridson/fluidsimulation/>



Fluid Engine
Development