

# FreeFem++, a PDEs solver : Basic Tutorial

Yannick Deleuze

Laboratoire Jacques-Louis Lions, Sorbonne Universités, UPMC Univ Paris 06, France  
Scientific Computing and Cardiovascular Lab, Department of ESOE, National Taiwan University  
Center of Advanced Study in Theoretical Sciences, National Taiwan University

CASTS-LJLL Workshop  
on Applied Mathematics and Mathematical Sciences  
May 28, 2013



Introduction

First FreeFem++ first code

Numerical examples

## Introduction

FreeFem++

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Numerical examples

FreeFem++ is an open source partial differential equation solver. It is developed in the Laboratory Jacques-Louis Lions (LJLL) of University Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris, France) to solve PDEs.

- ▶ finite elements method, including discontinuous FE spaces;
- ▶ 2D/3D
- ▶ built on C++, syntax from C++ adapted to mathematics
- ▶ automatic mesh generator (2D/3D);
- ▶ load, save mesh;
- ▶ unstructured meshes;
- ▶ mesh adaptation (2D);
- ▶ problem definition using variational formulation
- ▶ fast linear solvers;
- ▶ mpi tools for parallel computing.

## Goal

Present a basic introduction to FreeFem++ for beginners with FreeFem++.

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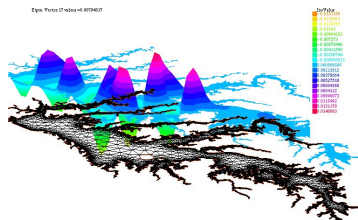
- ▶ Download the current **FreeFem++** from Frédéric Hecht website :  
<http://www.freefem.org/ff++/>
- ▶ Full documentation and examples at  
<http://www.freefem.org/ff++/ftp/freefem++doc.pdf>
- ▶ **FreeFem++-cs**, an integrated environment with graphical interface , from Antoine Le Hyaric website :  
<http://www.ann.jussieu.fr/~lehyaric/ffcs/index.htm>
- ▶ Taiwan Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics (TWSIAM) FreeFem++ activity group :  
<http://homepage.ntu.edu.tw/~twshsheu/twsiamff++/freefem.html>
- ▶ Tutorial website :  
<http://www.ljll.math.upmc.fr/deleuze/freefem.html>

# FreeFem++

Third Edition, Version 3.20

<http://www.freefem.org/ff++>

F. Hecht



Keep FreeFem++ documentation close by.

Installation of FreeFem++ is really easy on Windows and MacOS platforms. On Linux, the software needs to be compiled from source code.

FreeFem++ scripts can be written in any text editor and saved to a ".edp" file. Launching an '.edp' file depends on your operating system.

I recommend to start using FreeFem++ with FreeFem++-cs, an integrated environment for FreeFem++ (Windows, OS X, Linux). It provides a text editor with FreeFem++ syntax and highlighting of FreeFem++ compilation errors, a text output and visualisation. Developed by Antoine Lehyaric (LJLL).  
<http://www.ann.jussieu.fr/~lehyaric/ffcs/index.htm>



## Main steps to a PDE using the FEM

- ▶ define the domain and generate the mesh.
- ▶ define the finite element space (basis functions) for the unknowns and test functions.
- ▶ set the problem : in FreeFem++, a problem must be given in it's weak form.
- ▶ solve the problem.
- ▶ visualise the solution.

Generate the mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h$

```
mesh  $\mathcal{T}_h = \dots$  ;
```

Define the finite element space  $V_h$

```
fespace  $V_h$  ( $\mathcal{T}_h$ , P1);
```

Define the variational problem  $P$

```
problem  $P(u,v) = a(u,v) - l(f,v) +$  (Dirichlet boundary condition);
```

solve the problem  $P$

```
 $P$ ;
```

visualise the solution  $u$

```
plot( $u$ );
```

```

1  x,y,z // Cartesian coordinates
2  N.x, N.y, N.z //Normal vector components
3  int k = 10; // integer
4  real a=2.5; // real
5  bool b=(a<3.); /boolean
6  real [int] array(k); // array of k elements
7  array[][5]; //6th value of the array
8  mesh Th; //2d mesh
9  mesh3 Th3 //3d mesh
10 fespace Vh(Th,P1); //finite element space
11 Vh u=x; //finite element function
12 Vh3<complex> uc = x+ 1.i *y; //complex finite element function
13 fespace Xh(Th,[P2,P2,P1]);
14 Xh [u1,u2,p]; // a vectorial finite element function or array
15 u[]; //the array associated to FE function u
16 u(1.,0.1,3.); //value of u at point (1.,0.1,3.)
17 u[].max; // max of the array u
18 u[].min; // max of the array u
19 u[].sum; //sum of all elements of u
20 u[].l1; // l1 norm of u
21 u[].l2; // l2 norm of u
22 u[].linfty; // linfinity norm of u
23 macro div(u,v) (dx(u)+dy(v))// EOM
24 macro Grad(u) [dx(u),dy(u)]// EOM
25 func f=x+y; //function
26 func real f(int i, real a) { .....; return i+a;}
27 varf a([u1,u2,p],[v1,v2,q])= int2d(...) + on(..)
28 matrix A = a(Vh,Vh,solver=UMFPACK); //rigid matrix of the problem
29 real[int] b=a(0,V3h); // right hand side
30 u[] =A^-1*b; // solving u = A^-1*b

```

## Introduction

### First FreeFem++ first code

- Model problem

- Finite element method

- FreeFem++ implementation

- Finite element spaces and discrete problem

## Numerical examples

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## Numerical examples

## Laplace equation

An elastic membrane  $\Omega$  is attached to a rigid support  $\partial\Omega$ , and a force  $f(x)$  is exerted on the surface. The vertical membrane displacement  $u(x)$  is obtained by solving Poisson's equation:

$$\begin{aligned} -\nabla^2 u &= f, \text{ in } \Omega \\ u|_{\partial\Omega} &= g. \end{aligned}$$



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- Model problem

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## Numerical examples

Let  $\Omega$  be an open compact domain of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with a smooth boundary  $\partial\Omega$ . Let  $u, v \in \mathcal{C}^2(\bar{\Omega})$ . Then

1. Gauss-Ostrogradsky theorem (divergence theorem)

$$\int_{\Omega} \operatorname{div} U \, dx = \int_{\partial\Omega} U \cdot n \, d\Gamma$$

2. Integration by parts

$$\int_{\Omega} u \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_i} \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_i} v \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} u v \, d\Gamma$$

3. Green's first identity

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla^2 u v \, dx = - \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx + \int_{\partial\Omega} (\nabla u \cdot n) v \, d\Gamma$$

4. Green's second identity

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla^2 u v \, dx - \int_{\Omega} u \nabla^2 v \, dx = \int_{\partial\Omega} ((\nabla u \cdot n) v - (\nabla v \cdot n) u) \, d\Gamma$$



First, we derive the weak form of the equation.

We multiply the Laplace's equation by a smooth test function  $v$  and integrate over the entire domain. We apply Green's identity and it gives

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx - \int_{\partial\Omega} (\nabla u \cdot n) v \, d\Gamma = \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx.$$

Due to the Dirichlet boundary conditions we choose  $v$  such that  $v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$ . Let  $V_{\varphi} = \{w \in H^1(\Omega) | w|_{\partial\Omega} = \varphi\}$ , then the problem becomes

find  $u \in V_g$  such that  $\forall v \in V_0$

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \, dx - \int_{\Omega} f v \, dx = 0$$

$a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v$  is the bilinear form and  $l(v) = \int_{\Omega} f v$  is the linear form.

Freefem++ uses the most common finite elements for the discretisation of the continuous problem.

Consider the continuous piecewise polynomial of degree one ( $P_1$ ) finite element discretization on the triangulation  $T_h$  of  $\Omega_h$ .

The discrete problem becomes

find  $u_h \in V_g^h$  such that  $\forall v_h \in V_0^h$

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h - \int_{\Omega} f v_h = 0$$

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## Numerical examples

In order to solve the problem on a computer, we need to discretize it. The first step of the discretisation is to triangulate the physical domain  $\Omega$  into the computational domain  $Th$ . We can use the keyword **square** to triangulate the domain and generate the mesh. We need to provide a number  $N$  of vertices placed on the borders.

## square

```
1 int nn=10;
2 mesh Th = square (nn, nn);
3 plot(Th, wait=1, ps="meshsquare.eps");
```

## rectangle

```
1 real x0=0, x1=10; real lx=x1-x0;
2 real y0=0, y1=5; real ly=y1-y0;
3 mesh Th1=square(nn, 2*nn, [x0+(x1-x0)*x, y0+(y1-y0)*y]);
4 plot(Th1, wait=1, ps="meshrectangle.eps");
```

Note that we use the keyword **plot** to plot the mesh and the keyword **wait** to stop the program at each plot.

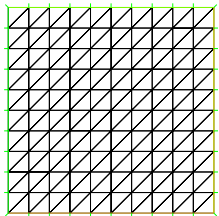


Figure : Square mesh generated with square

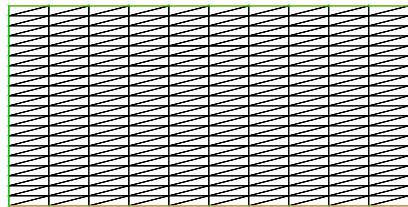


Figure : Rectangle mesh generated with square

In FreeFem++, the geometry of the domain can be easily defined by an analytic description of boundaries by pieces and the mesh is automatically generated. Each piece of boundary is described by its parametric equation. The borders are declared with the type **border**. The keyword **label** defines a group of boundaries. The **label** type can be either an integer or a name. The mesh is then generated by the keyword **buildmesh**. For is border, we need to provide a number of vertex to be placed on it. The border has to be well defined in the counterclockwise direction. The borders can not cross each others.

```
1 border c1(t=x0, x1){ x=t; y=y0; label=1;};
2 border c2(t=y0, y1){ x=x1; y=t; label=2;};
3 border c3(t=x1, x0){ x=t; y=y1; label=3;};
4 border c4(t=y1, y0){ x=x0; y=t; label=4;};
5 mesh Th2= buildmesh(c1(lx*N/2)+c2(ly*N/2)+c3(lx*N/2)+c4(ly*N/2));
6 plot(Th2, wait=1, ps="mesh.eps");
```

We use the keyword **ps** to save the plot in an eps file.

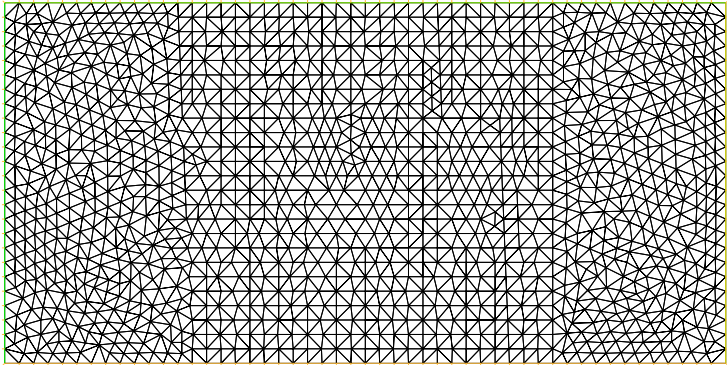


Figure : Mesh generated with **border** and **build mesh**

```
1 int circle=0;  
2 border c(t=0,2*pi){x=1+3*cos(t);y=-1+3*sin(t);label=circle;}  
3 mesh Th3=buildmesh(c(100));  
4 plot(Th3,wait=1,ps="circle.eps",cmm="Circle mesh");
```

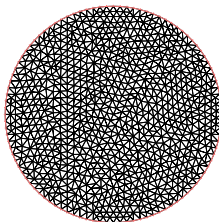
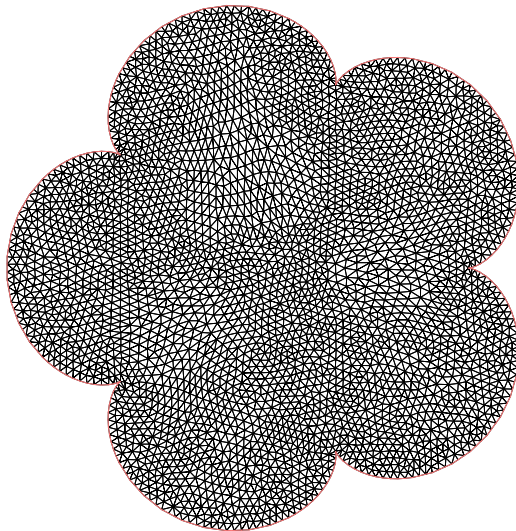


Figure : Mesh generated with **border** and **buildmesh**



# Meshing : ranunculoid

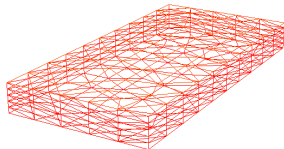
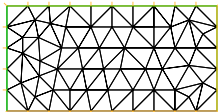
Ranunculoid mesh



Use `savemesh` and `readmesh` to save or load a mesh file ".msh"

```
1 savemesh (Th2, " meshfile .msh" );
```

```
1 mesh Th3 = readmesh (" meshfile .msh" );
```



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### First FreeFem++ first code

- Model problem

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## Numerical examples

The FEM approximates all function

$u(x, y) \simeq u_0 \Phi_0(x, y) + \dots + u_{M-1} \Phi_{M-1}(x, y)$  with finite element basis functions  $\Phi_k(x, y)$ .

FreeFem++ handles Lagrangian finite elements (P0,P1,P2,P3,P4), bubble elements (P1b,P2b), discontinuous P1, Raviart-Thomas, ... (see full documentation).

`fespace` defines the the discrete FE space for the unknowns and test functions;

$$Vh(Th, P1) = \left\{ w(x, y) \mid w(x, y) = \sum_{k=1}^M w_k \Phi_k(x, y), w_k \in \mathbb{R} \right\}$$

Declare the finite element space

```
1  fespace Vh(Th, P1);           // P1 FE space
```

Declare the unknown and the test functions

```
1  Vh u, v;                       // unknown and test function.
```

- P0 piecewise constant discontinuous finite element. The degrees of freedom are the barycenter element value.
- P1 piecewise linear continuous finite element. The degrees of freedom are the vertices values.
- P2 piecewise continuous quadratic finite element. The degrees of freedom are the vertices values and the middle point of each edge.
- P3 piecewise continuous cubic finite element. (need : load "Element\_P3")
- P4 piecewise continuous quartic finite element. (need : load "Element\_P4")
- P1b piecewise linear continuous plus bubble. [1]
- P2b piecewise quadratic continuous plus bubble. [1]
- P1dc piecewise linear discontinuous finite element.
- P2dc piecewise P2 discontinuous finite element.

For full list, refer to FreeFem++ documentation.

[1] Brezzi, F. & Russo, A. Choosing Bubbles for Advection-Diffusion Problems. *Mathematical Models and Methods in Applied Sciences* 04, 571587 (1994). (The residual-free bubbles technique interprets the stabilization parameter as the mean value of the solution of a differential equation defined at the element level.)

In FreeFem++, the problem can be declared with the keyword

**problem**  $P(u,v) = a(u,v) - l(f,v) + (\text{Dirichlet BC});$

The bilinear form and the linear form should not be written under the same integral.

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla u \cdot \nabla v \rightarrow \text{int2d}(\text{Th})( \text{dx}(u)*\text{dx}(v) + \text{dy}(u)*\text{dy}(v) )$$
$$\int_{\Omega} f v \rightarrow \text{int2d}(\text{Th})(f*v )$$

where  $\text{dx}(u) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial x}$ ,  $\text{dy}(u) = \frac{\partial u}{\partial y}$ . The keyword **on** defines the Dirichlet boundary condition on the borders 1, 2, 3 and 4.

```
1  func f=1;           // right hand side function
2  func g=0;           // boundary condition function
3
4  // definition of the problem
5  problem laplace(u,v) =
6      int2d(Th)( dx(u)*dx(v) + dy(u)*dy(v) ) //bilinear form
7      - int2d(Th)( f*v )                       // linear form
8      + on(1,2,3,4,u=g) ; // boundary condition form
```

FreeFem++ solves the linear problem of the form

$$\sum_{j=0}^{M-1} A_{ij} u_j - F_i = 0, \quad i = 1, \dots, M-1, \quad F_i = \int_{\Omega} f \Phi_i$$

FreeFem++ automatically builds the associate matrix and the second member vector.

```
1  laplace ;
```

FreeFem++ solves elliptic equation. The user should specify it's own algorithms to solve parabolic and hyperbolic problems.

The user can specify the solver to solve the linear problem associated. FreeFem++ provides a large variety of linear direct and iterative solvers (LU, Cholesky, Crout, CG, GMRES, multi-frontal method UMFPACK, MUMPS (MULTifrontal Massively Parallel sparse direct Solver), SuperLU, ...).

Use the keyword `plot` to plot the solution with useful options :

- ▶ `ps`= string to save the plot in a eps file;
- ▶ `cmm` = string to add comment
- ▶ if `value`= 1 plot the value of isolines
- ▶ if `fill`=1 color fill between isolines
- ▶ if `wait`=1 stop the program at this plot

```
1 plot(u, ps=" Laplace.eps", value=1, wait=1, fill=1, cmm=" Solution u of  
the Laplace equation in \Omega");
```



Introduction

First FreeFem++ first code

Numerical examples

- Heat equation

- Convection

- Stationary Stokes problem

- Convection-Diffusion Equation

Introduction

First FreeFem++ first code

## Numerical examples

### Heat equation

Time discretization

Spatial discretization

Practical implementation

### Convection

### Stationary Stokes problem

### Convection-Diffusion Equation

Freefem++ is able to solve time indecent problems but it is the user's responsibility to provide the algorithms.

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla u) = 0 \text{ in } (0, T) \times \Omega \\ u|_{t=0} = U_0 \text{ in } \Omega \\ \nabla u \cdot n = U_N \text{ on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_N \\ u = U_D \text{ on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_D \end{array} \right.$$

First, let us consider a time discretization of the heat equation (35) . Time is discretize with finite difference schemes such as

$\theta$  - scheme [Raviart-Thomas 1998]

We discretize time  $(0, T)$  in  $M - 1$  intervals  $\Delta t = \frac{T}{M-1}$  and  $M$  points  $(t_m)_{m=0}^{M-1}$  such that  $U(t_m, x) = U^m(x)$ .

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} \approx \frac{U^{n+1} - U^n}{\Delta t} = \theta F(U^{n+1}) + (1 - \theta)F(U^n)$$

- ▶ Euler explicit ( $\theta = 0$ )
- ▶ Euler implicit ( $\theta = 1$ )
- ▶ Crank-Nicolson ( $\theta = \frac{1}{2}$ )

Let us choose the Euler implicit quadrature. The heat problem in its semi-discrete form becomes

$$\frac{u^{n+1} - u^n}{\Delta t} - \nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla u^{n+1}) = 0$$

Exercise : Implement the Crank-Nicolson scheme or any higher order scheme of your choice.

We multiply the Laplace's equation by a smooth test function  $v$  and integrate over the entire domain. We apply Green's identity and it gives

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\Delta t} u^{n+1} v + \int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla u^{n+1} \nabla v - \int_{\partial\Omega} \kappa (\nabla u^{n+1} \cdot n) v - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\Delta t} u^n v = 0$$

Due to the Dirichlet boundary conditions we choose  $v$  such that  $v|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$  on  $\Gamma_D$  and we use the Neumann boundary condition on  $\Gamma_N$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\Delta t} u^{n+1} v + \int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla u^{n+1} \nabla v - \int_{\partial\Gamma_N} \kappa U_N v - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\Delta t} u^n v = 0$$

We can rewrite it, find  $u^{n+1} \in V$  such that  $\forall v \in V_0$

$$a(u, v) = l(v)$$

with

- ▶  $a(u, v) = \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\Delta t} u^{n+1} v + \int_{\Omega} \kappa \nabla u^{n+1} \nabla v$  the bilinear form,
- ▶ and  $l(v) = - \int_{\partial\Gamma_N} \kappa U_N v - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\Delta t} u^n v$  the linear form.

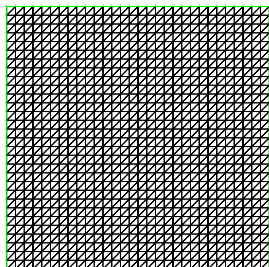
Let's consider the problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla u) = 0 & \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ u|_{t=0} = \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = 0 & \text{on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_D = \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$

Then, the exact solution is

$$u(x, y, t) = \sin(\pi x) \sin(\pi y) e^{-2\pi^2 t}$$

## Generating mesh



```
1  int CD=10; // could be anything
2  real x0=0, x1=1;
3  real y0=0, y1=1;
4  int nn=30;
5  mesh Ths=square(nn,nn,[x0+(x1-x0)*x,y0+(y1-y0)*y]);
6  int[int] labels=[1,CD,2,CD,3,CD,4,CD]; // change the labels from
    1,2,3,4 to CD
7  Ths=change(Ths,label=labels);
8  plot(Ths, wait=1, ps="square.eps", cmm="square mesh");
```



# Defining the problem

## Parameters

```
1      int i; //time loop iterator
2      int M=10; //time iterations
3      real dt = 0.00001; //time step
```

## Finite element space

```
1      fespace Vhs(Ths,P1);
2      Vhs u,u0,v; //unknow and test function
```

## Initial condition

```
1      u = sin(pi*x)*sin(pi*y);
```

## Variational problem

```
1      real kappa= 1;
2      macro F(u,v) kappa*(dx(u)*dx(v)+dy(u)*dy(v)) //eom
3      problem heat(u,v,init=i)
4          = int2d(Ths)(u*v/dt)
5          + int2d(Ths)(F(u,v))
6          - int2d(Ths)(u0*v/dt)
7          + on(CD,u=0)
8      ;
```

## Time loop

```
1     for(i=0;i<M; i++) {
2         u0=u; //update from previous step time
3         heat; //solve the linear system
4         plot(u, wait=0, fill=1, value=1, cmm="solution at time "
              +i*dt, viso=viso); // plot the solution at each
              step time
5     }
```

## Visualize the solution

```
1     real time= M*dt; //current time
2     plot(u,value=true,wait=1,fill=true,cmm="solution at time "+
         time, viso=viso);
```

# Heat equation with Dirichlet and Neumann boundary conditions

Exercise: Now, let's consider the problem

$$\begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} - \nabla \cdot (\kappa \nabla u) = 0 & \text{in } (0, T) \times \Omega, \\ u|_{t=0} = U_D = 20 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ \nabla u \cdot n = U_N = -1 & \text{on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_N, \\ u = U_D = 20 & \text{on } (0, T) \times \Gamma_D. \end{cases}$$

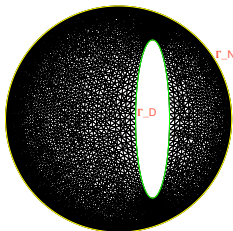


Figure :  $\Omega$

1D integration on the border  $\Gamma$

$$\int_{\Gamma} \nabla u \cdot n v \rightarrow \text{int1d}(\text{Th})(( \text{dx}(u)*\mathbf{N}.x + \text{dy}(u)*\mathbf{N}.y ) v )$$

Introduction

First FreeFem++ first code

## Numerical examples

Heat equation

Convection

Characteristic-Galerkin method

Operators

Solvers

Input-Output

Practical implementation

Stationary Stokes problem

Convection-Diffusion Equation

Consider the convection equation in  $\Omega \times (0, T)$

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + a \cdot \nabla u = f, \quad u|_{\partial\Omega} = 0$$

## Characteristic-Galerkin method

The convection equation can be discretised as [See FreeFem++ documentation]

$$\frac{u^{n+1}(x) - u^n(X^n)}{\Delta t} = f^n(x).$$

- ▶ Euler scheme:  $X^n = x - a^n(x) \Delta t$
- ▶ Second order Runge-Kutta:  $X^n = x - a^n(x - a^n(x) \frac{\Delta t}{2}) \Delta t$

The problem becomes: find  $u_h^{n+1} \in Vh_0$  such that  $\forall v_h \in Vh_0$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{dt} u_h^{n+1} v_h - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{dt} u_h^n \circ X^n v_h - \int_{\Omega} f v_h = 0$$

Find  $u_h^{n+1} \in Vh_0$  such that  $\forall v_h \in Vh_0$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{dt} u_h^{n+1} v_h - \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{dt} u_h^n(X^n) v_h - \int_{\Omega} f v_h = 0$$

FreeFem++ provides an interpolation operator

`convect`( $a^n, -\Delta t, u^n$ )  $\approx u^n(X^n) = u^n(x - a^n(x) \Delta t)$  such that the code for the problem is

```

1  problem  convect (u,w)
2           = int2d(Th) ( 1/dt*u*w)
3           - int2d(Th)(1/dt*convect([a1 , a2], -dt , up)*w)
4           - int2d(Th)(f*w);

```

FreeFem++ provides many operators

- ▶ `dx(u)`, `dy(u)`, `dxx(u)`, `dyy(u)`, `dxy(u)`
- ▶ `convect(a,dt,u)`
- ▶ `sin(u)`, `exp(u)`, ...
- ▶ `int1d(u)`, `int2d(u)`

but you can make your own

- ▶ `macro div(u,v) ( dx(u)+dy(v) ) //EOM`

Exercise : Write macros to enhance your codes.



The user can provide the solver to solve the linear problem associated.

FreeFem++ provides a large variety of linear direct and iterative solvers (LU, Cholesky, Crout, CG, GMRES, UMFPACK, MUMPS, SuperLU, ...).

A useful option is `init`. If `init`  $\neq 0$ , then the decomposition of the stiff matrix associated to the problem is reused.

Exercise :

- ▶ Change the solver used.
- ▶ Use the `init` parameter to save computational time.

# Input-Output in FreeFem++

The user can import/export data from FreeFem++ such as meshes files, postscript images, text files. Other format are handle with FreeFem++ to interact with third parties softwares.

## Terminal

The syntax write/read in the terminal is similar to C++ with the keywords `cin`, `cout`, `<<`, `>>`, `endl`.

```
1  int nn ;
2  cout << "number of nodes on the borders nn=" << endl; //writing in
   the terminal
3  cin >> nn; //read value from the terminal
4  mesh Tht=square(nn,nn);
```

## Files

To write/read a file, first the user need to declare a variable with `ofstream` (output) or `ifstream` (input). Then, the syntax for input and output in a file remains the same.

```
1  ifstream fin("data.txt"); //declare an input from file
2  real ff, fg;
3  fin >> ff; //reads the 1st value from the file
4  fin >> fg; //reads the 2nd value from the file
5  func f=ff;
6  func g=fg;
```

## Mesh

To import/export mesh the function `read mesh` and `save mesh` are available. Refer to the documentation for full list of format one can import in FreeFem++.

```
1  savemesh(Th," meshfile .msh"); //export mesh
2  mesh Th = readmesh(" meshfile .msh"); //import mesh
```

## Finite element function (array of value)

To import/export the solution of a finite element function we use the following syntax

```
1  {
2  ofstream fout(" solution.txt");
3  fout << u[]; //export the solution
4  } //use bracket to close to file (call the destructor)
```

```
1  Vh u4plot;
2  {ifstream fu(" solution.txt");
3  fu >> u4plot[];} //import a FE solution
4  plot(u4plot , ps=" Laplace.eps"); //export image
```

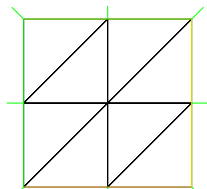
Exercise : use input/output functionalities in your codes.

# Mesh file

```
9 8 8
0 0 4
0.5 0 1
1 0 2
0 0.5 4
0.5 0.5 0
1 0.5 2
0 1 4
0.5 1 3
1 1 3
1 2 5 0
1 5 4 0
2 3 6 0
2 6 5 0
4 5 8 0
4 8 7 0
5 6 9 0
5 9 8 0
1 2 1
2 3 1
3 6 2
6 9 2
8 7 3
9 8 3
4 1 4
7 4 4
```

```

NbVertices NbElements NbBorderElem
//coordinates of vertices
x1 y1 label //1srst vertice
x2 y2 label //2nd vertice
...
//element with 3 vertices 1,2,3
v1 v2 v3 region
v1 v2 v4 region
v3 v4 v5 region
...
// boundary element is a segment
of 2 vertices
v1 v2 label
v2 v3 label
...
```

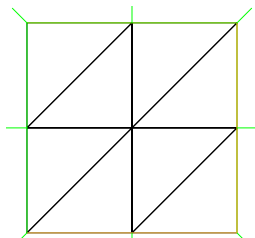


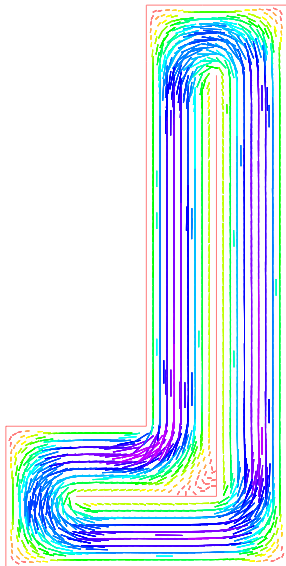
9

6.25e-62	6.25e-32	6.25e-62	6.25e-32
	0.0625		
6.25e-32	6.25e-62	6.25e-32	6.25e-62

NbVertices

u(1)	u(2)	u(3)
u(4)	u(5)	...
...		u(NbVertices)





## Generating the mesh

```
1  real Lx = 10;
2  real Ly = 20;
3
4  real [int] A(2), B(2), C(2), D(2), E(2), F(2), G(2), H(2), I(2);
5
6  A=[0,0]; B=[Lx,0]; C=[Lx,Ly]; D=[Lx/2.,Ly];
7  E=[Lx/2.,Ly/4.]; F=[0,Ly/4.];
8  G=[Lx/4.,Ly/8.]; H=[3*Lx/4.,Ly/8.]; I=[3*Lx/4.,7*Ly/8.];
9
10 border i1 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*A[0]+t*B[0];y=(1-t)*A[1]+t*B[1]; label=0;}
11 border i2 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*B[0]+t*C[0];y=(1-t)*B[1]+t*C[1]; label=0;}
12 border i3 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*C[0]+t*D[0];y=(1-t)*C[1]+t*D[1]; label=0;}
13 border i4 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*D[0]+t>E[0];y=(1-t)*D[1]+t>E[1]; label=0;}
14 border i5 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*E[0]+t>F[0];y=(1-t)*E[1]+t>F[1]; label=0;}
15 border i6 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*F[0]+t>A[0];y=(1-t)*F[1]+t>A[1]; label=0;}
16
17 border i1 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*G[0]+t>H[0];y=(1-t)*G[1]+t>H[1]; label=0;}
18 border i2 (t=0,1){x=(1-t)*H[0]+t>I[0];y=(1-t)*H[1]+t>I[1]; label=0;}
19
20 int nn=4;
21 mesh Th=buildmesh (i1 (nn*Lx)+i2 (nn*Ly)+i3 (Lx/2.*nn)+i4 (3.*Ly/4.*nn)+
    i5 (Lx/2.*nn)+i6 (Ly/4.*nn)+i1 (Lx/2.*nn)+i2 (Ly*6./8.*nn));
22
23 plot (Th, wait=1, ps="pureconvect.eps");
```

## Generating the velocity field

```
1 func fy=x-Lx/2;
2 fespace Uh(Th, P1b);
3 fespace Vh(Th, P1);
4 Uh a1, a2, a1h, a2h;
5 Vh p, ph;
6
7 solve Stokes([a1, a2, p],[a1h, a2h, ph])
8   = int2d(Th)(dx(a1)*dx(a1h)+dy(a1)*dy(a1h))
9   + int2d(Th)(dx(a2)*dx(a2h)+dy(a2)*dy(a2h))
10  + int2d(Th)(dx(p)*a1h+dy(p)*a2h)
11  + int2d(Th)(dx(a1)*ph+dy(a2)*ph)
12  - int2d(Th)(fy*a2h)
13  + on(0, a1=0, a2=0);
14
15 plot([a1, a2], ps="velocity.eps", wait=1);
```

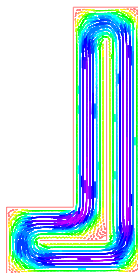


Figure :  
Velocity field  
 $a = [a_2, a_2]$



# Pure convection

```
1  Vh u = (sqrt((x-Lx/2.)^2+(y-Ly/16.)^2)<Ly/32.);
2  real masse0 = int2d(Th)(u); //initial mass
3  cout << "initial mass M0=" << masse0 << endl;
4  plot(u, nbiso=40, fill=1, wait=1);
5
6  real time = 0; //current time
7  real dt=1; // time step
8  real itmax=30; // max iterations
9  real[int] itplot(itmax), masse(itmax);
10
11 for (int it=0; it<itmax; it++){ //time iteration
12     itplot[it] = it;
13     u = convect([a1,a2], -dt, u);
14     time += dt;
15     plot(u, nbiso=40, fill=1);
16     cout << "Masse0 = " << masse0
17     << "; Masse(t) = " << masse[it] << endl;
18     plot(u, nbiso=60, fill=1, cmm="u("+time+")",
19         ps="u_time="+time+".eps");
19 }
```

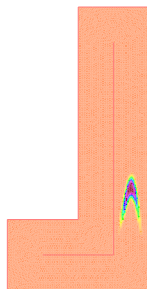


Figure :  
Velocity field  
 $a = [a_2, a_2]$

Introduction

First FreeFem++ first code

## Numerical examples

Heat equation

Convection

Stationary Stokes problem

Governing equations

Variational formulation

Practical implementation

Convection-Diffusion Equation

We consider the pseudo-compressible Stokes equations on the smooth spatial domain  $\Omega$  :

$$\begin{aligned} -\frac{1}{\text{Re}} \nabla^2 u + \nabla p &= f, \\ \nabla \cdot u + \varepsilon p &= 0, \\ u &= g \text{ on } \Gamma_1, \\ u &= 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_2, \\ p &= 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_3, \\ \nabla u \cdot n &= 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_3. \end{aligned}$$

where  $u = (u_1, u_2)$  is the velocity vector and  $p$  the pressure.  $\nabla^2$ , here, stands for the vector Laplacian. In Cartesian coordinates,  $\nabla^2 u = (\nabla^2 u_1, \nabla^2 u_2)$ .

To solve a problem in FreeFem++, let us write the variational formulation of the problem. We multiply the first equation by a smooth test function  $v = (v_1, v_2)$ , we get after applying the Green's formula

$$\frac{1}{\text{Re}} \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_i \nabla v_i - \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \int_{\partial\Omega} \nabla u_i \cdot n v_i - \int_{\Omega} p \partial_i v_i + \int_{\partial\Omega} p n_i v_i - \int_{\Omega} f_i v_i = 0.$$

And we multiply the second equation by a smooth function  $q$  and integrate over  $\Omega$ . We get

$$\int_{\Omega} \nabla \cdot u q + \int_{\Omega} \varepsilon p q = 0.$$

We consider the space  $V_{\phi} = \{(w, r) \in [H_0^1(\Omega)]^2 \times L^2(\Omega) \mid w|_{\Gamma_1} = \phi, w|_{\Gamma_2} = 0\}$  and choose  $(u, p) \in V_g$  and  $(v, q) \in V_0$ . The variational form reduces to

$$\frac{1}{\text{Re}} \int_{\Omega} \nabla u_i \nabla v_i - \int_{\Omega} p \partial_i v_i - \int_{\Omega} f_i v_i = 0, \quad i = 1, 2,$$

## Variational problem

The problem is to find  $(u, p) \in V_g$  such that for all  $(v, q) \in V_0$ . The variational form reduces to

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{1}{\text{Re}} \int_{\Omega} (\nabla u_1 \nabla v_1 + \nabla u_2 \nabla v_2) - \int_{\Omega} p(\partial_x v_1 + \partial_y v_2) \\ & + \int_{\Omega} (\partial_x u_1 + \partial_y u_2) q + \int_{\Omega} \varepsilon p q - \int_{\Omega} (f_1 v_1 + f_2 v_2) = 0 \end{aligned}$$

```
1 //-----
2 //Finite Element Spaces
3 //-----
4 fespace Xh(Th, P2);
5 fespace Mh(Th, P1);
6 Xh u2, v2;
7 Xh u1, v1;
8 Mh p, q;
9
10 //-----
11 //Stokes
12 //-----
13 func g=4*y*(1-y);
14
15 solve Stokes ([u1, u2, p], [v1, v2, q], solver=UMFPACK) =
16 //Implement the stokes problem
17 + on(1, u1=g, u2=0)
18 + on(2, 4, u1=0, u2=0)
19 + on(3, p=0);
```

# Implementation of the Stokes problem

```
1  //-----
2  // Finite Element Spaces
3  //-----
4  fespace Xh(Th,P2);
5  fespace Mh(Th,P1);
6  Xh u2,v2;
7  Xh u1,v1;
8  Mh p,q;
9
10
11 //-----
12 // Stokes
13 //-----
14 func g=4*y*(1-y); //*(cos(0.1*i)+2); //pulsative flow
15
16 solve Stokes ([u1,u2,p],[v1,v2,q],solver=Crou) =
17     int2d(Th)( ( dx(u1)*dx(v1) + dy(u1)*dy(v1)
18               + dx(u2)*dx(v2) + dy(u2)*dy(v2) )
19               + p*q*(0.000001)
20               + p*dx(v1)+ p*dy(v2)
21               + dx(u1)*q+ dy(u2)*q
22             )
23     + on(1,u1=g,u2=0)
24     + on(2,4,u1=0,u2=0)
25     + on(3,p=0);
26
27 plot(coef=0.2,cmm=" [u1,u2] and p ",p,[u1,u2],wait=1);
```

Introduction

First FreeFem++ first code

## Numerical examples

Heat equation

Convection

Stationary Stokes problem

Convection-Diffusion Equation

Governing equation

Variational formulation

Practical implementation

## Convection-Diffusion Equation

The convection-diffusion equation describes the physical phenomena where particles or other physical quantities are transferred inside a physical system due to two processes: diffusion and convection.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot (u\phi) - \nabla \cdot (\nu \nabla \phi) &= 0, \\ \phi|_{t=0} &= \phi^0, \\ \phi &= \phi_D \text{ on } \Gamma_D \\ \nabla \phi \cdot \vec{n} &= u \cdot \vec{n} \phi \text{ on } \Gamma_N.\end{aligned}$$

where  $u = (u_1, u_2)$  is the velocity vector of a fluid vector, such that  $\nabla \cdot u = 0$  in  $\Omega$  and  $\nu$  is the diffusion coefficient.

In most common situation, the diffusion coefficient is constant and the velocity field describes an incompressible flow i.e.  $\nabla \cdot u = 0$ . Then the problem simplifies to

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla \phi - \nu \nabla^2 \phi &= 0, \\ \phi|_{t=0} &= \phi^0, \\ \phi &= \phi_D \text{ on } \Gamma_D \\ \nabla \phi \cdot \vec{n} &= u \cdot \vec{n} \phi \text{ on } \Gamma_N.\end{aligned}$$



# Diffusion-convection of a pollutant in a lake

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} + u \cdot \nabla \phi - \nu \nabla^2 \phi = 0,$$
$$\phi|_{t=0} = \phi^0,$$
$$\nabla \phi \cdot \vec{n} = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma.$$

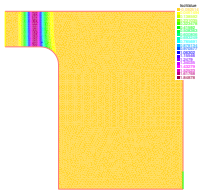


Figure :  $\phi^0$

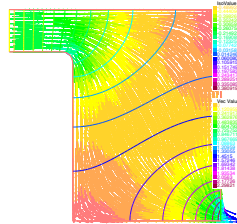


Figure : Flow potential  $\Phi$  and vector fields  $u = \nabla \Phi$  in a model lake with a river inlet and a river outlet. A pollutant will be released on one side of the lake and transported by the water flow.

We model the the evolution of the density of particles in a Stokes flow. The the evolution of the density of pollutant  $\phi$  is described by the following problem : find the numerical solution  $\phi_h \in V_h$  such that  $\forall v_h \in V_h$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial \phi_h}{\partial t} v_h - u \cdot \nabla v_h \phi_h + \nu \nabla \phi_h \cdot \nabla v_h = 0, \quad (1)$$

where  $u = (u_1, u_2)$  is the velocity of the fluid and  $\nu$  is the diffusivity of the particles.

## Diffusion-convection of particles in a Stokes flow

```
1  //////////////////////////////////////
2  //Defining the time problem
3  //////////////////////////////////////
4  real nu=0.01; //difusivity
5  real dt=0.01; //time step
6  int M=300; //time iterations
7  int ite=0; //time iteration
8
9  //bilinear form
10 macro at(phi,h,vh) (1./dt*phi*h*vh + nu * ( dx(phi)*dx(vh) + dy(phi)
    )*dy(vh) ) + (u1 * dx(phi) + u2 * dy(phi) ) * vh //eom
11 //linear form
12 macro l(vh) (1./dt*phi*h*vh) //eom
13
14 problem CD (phi,w,init=ite) =
15     int2d(Th) ( at(phi,w) )
16     -int2d(Th)(l(w));
```

Ex1 : Write the loop in time.

Ex2 : Write a Cranck-Nicolson scheme in time.

## Diffusion-convection of particles in a Stokes flow

```
1  //////////////////////////////////////  
2  //Solving the problem  
3  //////////////////////////////////////  
4  //initial condition : pollution  
5  func initphi = 2*exp(-500*((x-0.5)^2+(y-0.5)^2));  
6  phi= initphi;  
7  plot(phi, fill=1, value=1, wait=1 , cmm=" phi(0)");  
8  
9  for(ite=0; ite<M; ite++){  
10     phip=phi;  
11     CD;  
12     plot(phi, wait=0, fill=1, cmm=" phi("+ite*dt+" )");
```

Ex : Reduce the diffusivity. What do you observe ?

## Exercise : convect operator and solver

FreeFem++ provides an interpolation operator `convect` for the  $\partial_t u + ((u \cdot \nabla)u)$ . We can rewrite the problem giving the discretisation in time :

find  $\phi_h^{n+1} \in V_h$  such that  $\forall v_h \in V_h$ :

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{dt} (\phi_h^{n+1} - \phi_h^n \circ X^n) \cdot v_h + \nabla \phi_h^{n+1} \cdot \nabla v_h - u \cdot \nabla \phi_h^{n+1} v_h = 0$$

The term  $\phi_h^n \circ X^n$  will be computed by the operator `convect`.

```
1 macro grad(u) [dx(u), dy(u)] //eom
2
3 problem CDconvect (phi, w) =
4     int2d(Th) ( 1/dt*phi*w + nu*grad(phi)'*grad(w) )
5     - int2d(Th)(1/dt*convect([u1, u2], -dt, phi)*w)
6 ;
```

## Exercise : different meshes

1. Use different meshes provided in the website to compute the convection-diffusion of particles in a stokes flow in different situation.
2. Change the value of the diffusivity to observe different results. Be sure you computation are stable using more grid points or the Characteristic method.



Figure : Aneurysm



Figure : Bifurcation



Figure : Stenosis