



FLUID DIODES DESIGN BY USING TOPOLOGY OPTIMIZATION METHOD

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Research Centre
for Gas Innovation

cleaner energy for a sustainable future

RCGI intern Workshop
August 20th, 2018



Outline

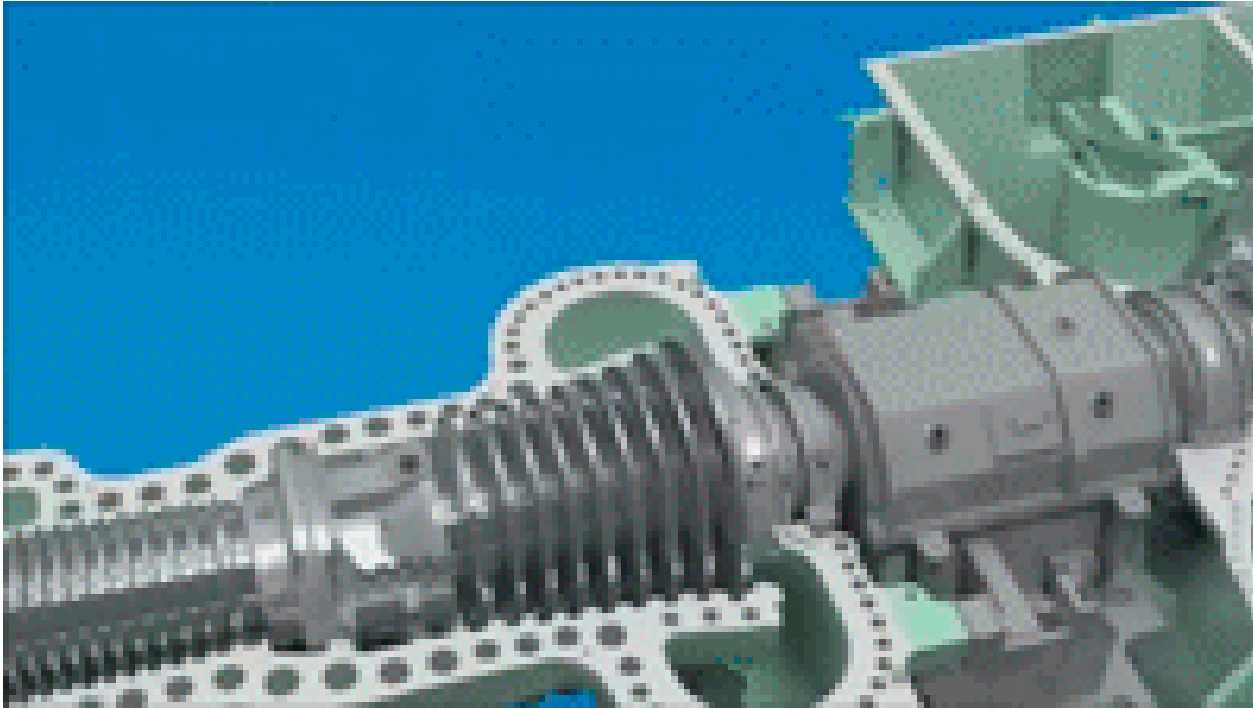
- Introduction to Fluid Diodes
- Motivation of the Project
- Objective
- Problem Formulation
- Topology Optimization Method
- Results
- Conclusions

Introduction – Fluid Diodes

- A fluid diode is a device without moving parts which causes smaller flow resistance in one direction compared to the opposite.
- The basic concept is shown on the right and it was patented by Nikola Tesla in 1916.
- A special kind of fluid diodes applied to turbines is the labyrinth seal.



Labyrinth Seal Application Example

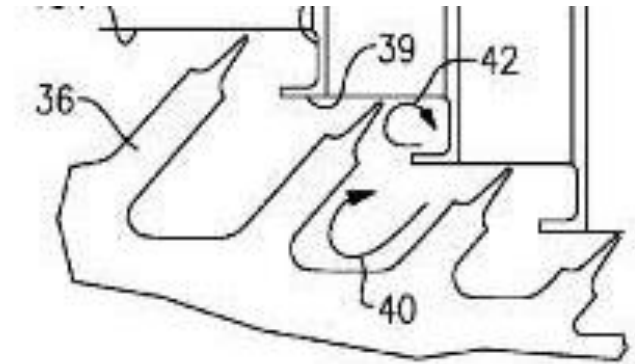


Turbo parts steam turbine advanced sealing system (Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=942gtbwBmcw>)



Introduction – Motivation

- Labyrinth Seals are used extensively in machines with high pressure and temperature, like turbines and pumps [1], even with their inherent leakage.
- 60% of methane emissions are caused by leaks in pumps, turbines or pneumatic devices, coming to leak about 4m^3 a day, which amount to about $3,965\text{ m}^3$ per year for each device [2].
- Supercritical Carbon Dioxide (S-CO₂) is a promising working fluid for future high efficiency power cycles, but the leakage from compressors may be considered. [3]
- The factors influencing this fluid loss include the design and their maintenance. The first is the most effective in combating gas emissions.
- The shape of these kind of devices are so relevant that there are patents [4] exploring design.



[1] M.P. Boyce. Gas Turbine Engineering Handbook, 4. ed., Elsevier, 2012

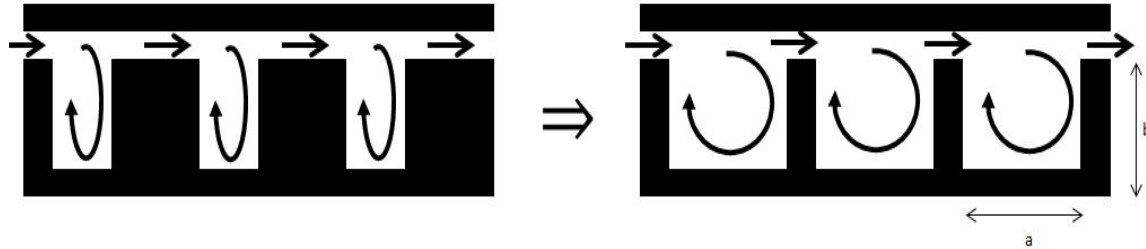
[2] EPA, Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks 1990 – 2009. April, 2011

[3] Yuan, Haomin, et al. "Experiment and numerical study of supercritical carbon dioxide flow through labyrinth seals." The 4th International Symposium-Supercritical CO₂ Power. 2014.

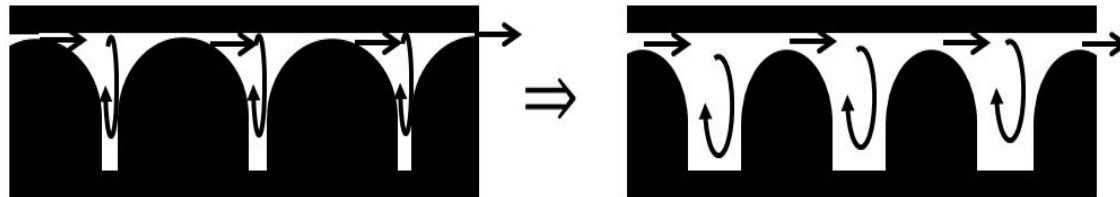
[4] UNITED TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION; Charlos C.W et al; Gas Turbine Engine with canted pocket and canted knife edge seal;2012.

Topology Optimization of Labyrinth Seals

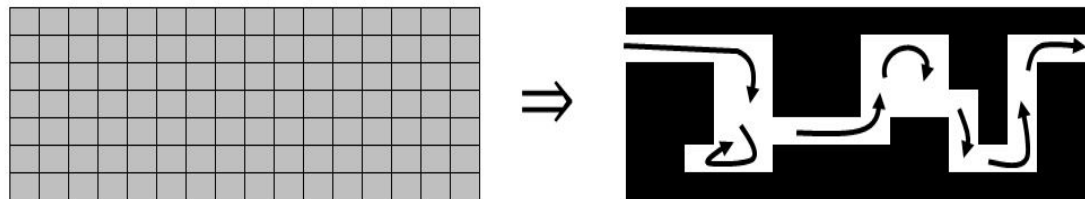
Parametric Optimization



Shape Optimization



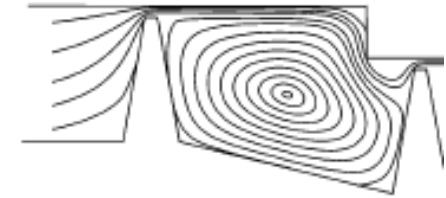
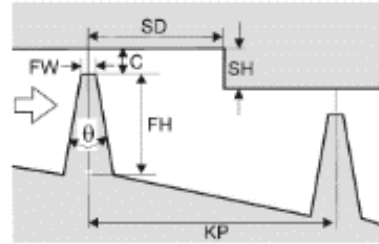
Topology Optimization



Relevance of Labyrinth Seals Geometry

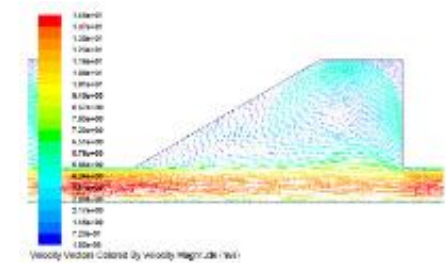
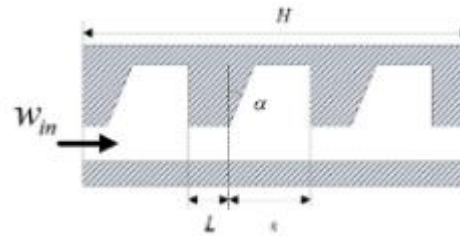
V. Schramm¹

Optimization of sealing parameters such as length and width in order to minimize flow



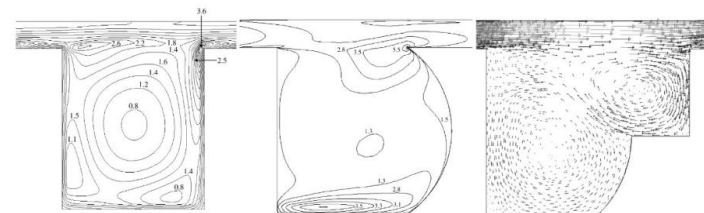
S.J. Yoon²

Optimization of parameters with experimental and statistical data in order to maximize the pressure loss



S.P. Asok³

Neural Networks combined with CFD analysis to optimize parameters of one square and another curve joint



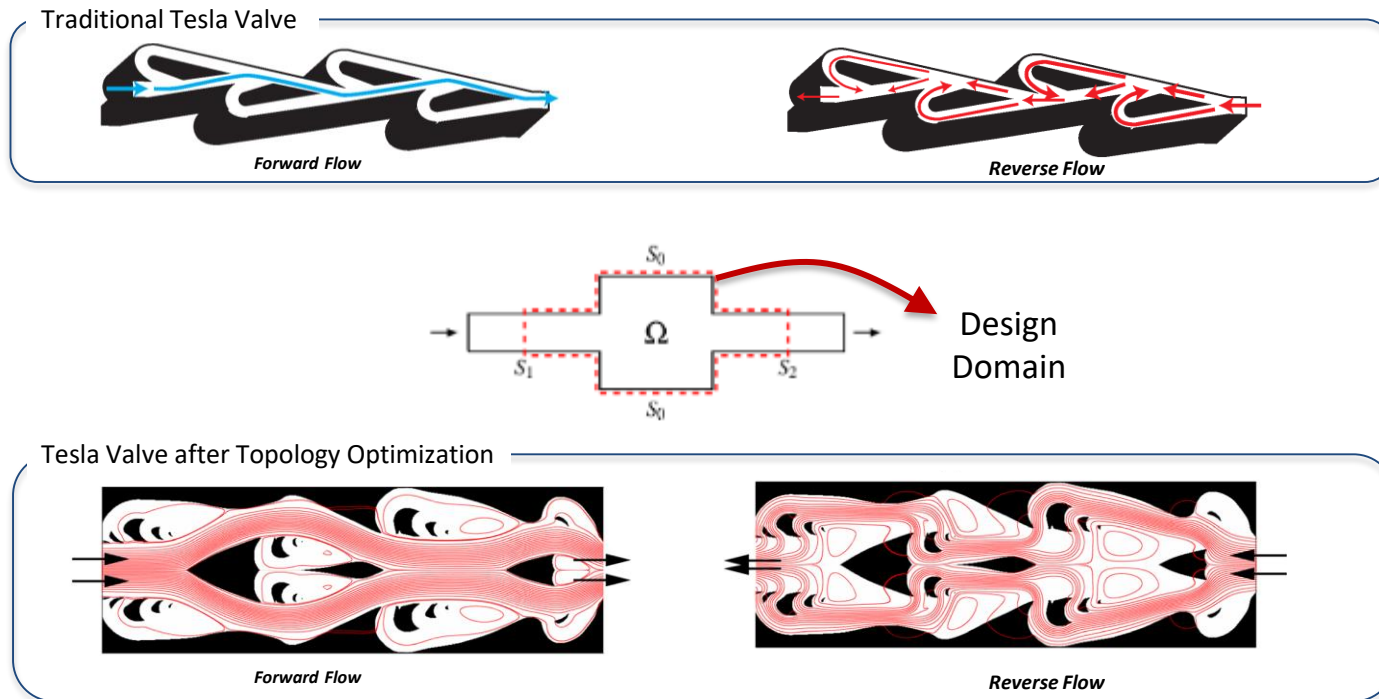
[1] V. Schramm et al.; Shape Optimization of a Labyrinth Seal Applying the Simulated Annealing Method 2004.

[2] S.J. Yoon et al.; Numerical and experimental investigation on labyrinth seal mechanism for bypass flow reduction in prismatic VHTR core, 2013

[3] S.P. Asok et al.; Neural network and CFD-based optimisation of square cavity and curved static labyrinth seals 2007

Topology Optimization applied to Tesla Valves

- Another approach is similar what Lin, Sen(2015) [1] performed in Tesla Valves, minimizing "diodicity", or in other words, maximizing the viscous dissipation



[1] Sen Lin, et al. ; Topology Optimization of Fixed-Geometry Fluid Diodes; Journal of Mechanical Design, 2015

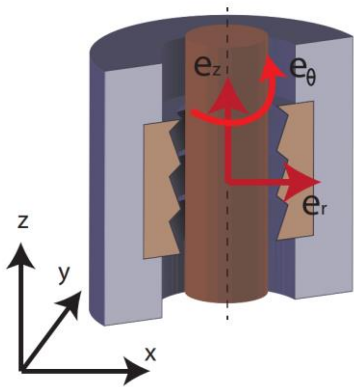
Objective

- Study of the design of labyrinth seal using topology optimization method for turbines and compressors.
- Implementation of a Topology Optimization Method of labyrinth seals considering the rotation of the moving parts (2D-Swirl).

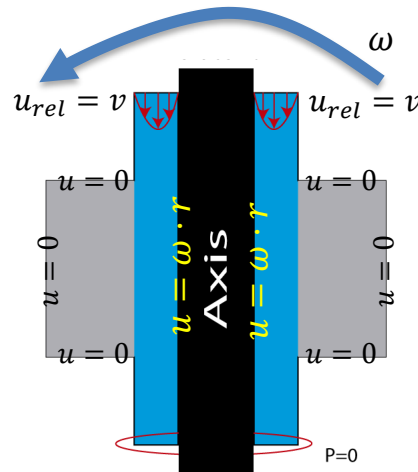
Hypothesis

- Incompressibility
- Time-Independency

Problem Formulation – NS Equation – 2DSwirl



For the design of fluid diodes with rotational axis, the 2D Swirl modeling with relative velocities may be necessary



- Domain to Optimize
- Fluid

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0 \\ \rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u} + \underbrace{\rho \mathbf{f}}_{\text{Inertial forces}} + \alpha \mathbf{u} \end{array} \right.$$

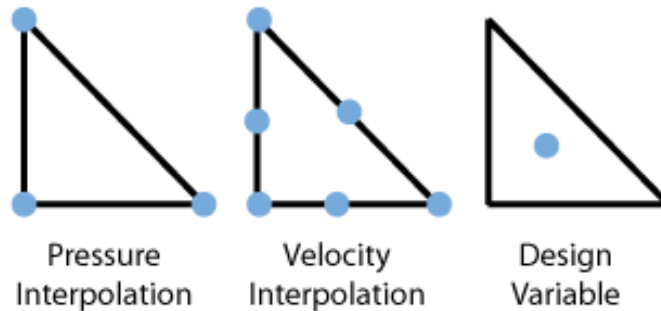
$$\rho \cdot f_{centrif} = -\rho \boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge (\boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge \mathbf{r})$$

$$\rho \cdot f_{coriolis} = -2\rho \boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge \mathbf{u}_{rel}$$

$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}_{rel}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}_{rel} - \rho \boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge (\boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge \mathbf{r}) - 2\rho \boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge \mathbf{u}_{rel} + \alpha \mathbf{u}$$

Finite Element Method

- This work uses the Taylor-Hood element for the finite element analysis, because it has been shown one fast and easy element to converge.



Problem Formulation – Material Model

- The material model [1] is implemented into the Navier-Stokes Equation:

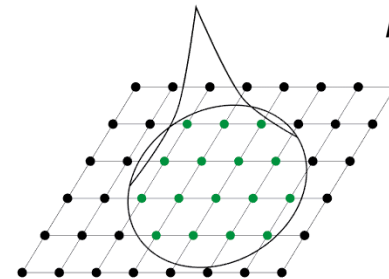
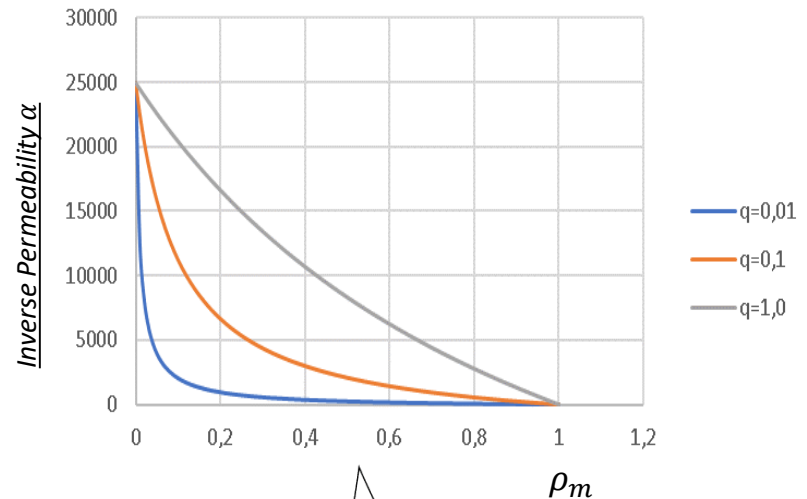
$$\rho \frac{D\mathbf{u}_{rel}}{Dt} = -\nabla p + \mu \nabla^2 \mathbf{u}_{rel}$$

$$-\rho \boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge (\boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge \mathbf{r}) - 2\rho \boldsymbol{\omega} \wedge \mathbf{u}_{rel} + \alpha \mathbf{u}$$

$$\alpha(x) = \alpha_{min} + (\alpha_{min} - \alpha_{max}) \rho_m \cdot \frac{1+q}{\rho_m + q}$$

- Filtering in topology optimization based on Modified Helmholtz Equation[2]:

$$\tilde{\rho}(x) = (F * \rho)(x) = \int_{\Omega_F} F(x-y)\rho(y)dy \quad \text{and} \quad -r^2 \nabla^2 \tilde{\rho} + \tilde{\rho} = \rho$$



[1] Borrvall, Thomas, and Joakim Petersson. "Topology optimization of fluids in Stokes flow." *International journal for numerical methods in fluids* 41.1 (2003): 77-107.

[2] Lazarov, Boyan Stefanov, and Ole Sigmund. "Filters in topology optimization based on Helmholtz-type differential equations." *International Journal for Numerical Methods in Engineering* 86.6 (2011): 765-781.

Topology Optimization Formulation

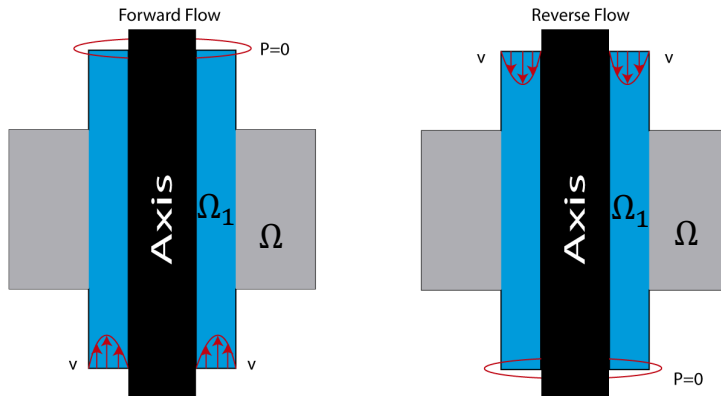
- Diodicity of Energy Dissipation:

$$\min \frac{1}{\text{Di}} + \int_{\Omega} \rho \cdot (1 - \rho) dx = \frac{\Phi(\mathbf{u}_f, p_f)}{\Phi(\mathbf{u}_r, p_r)} + \int_{\Omega} \rho \cdot (1 - \rho) dx = \frac{\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mu (\nabla \mathbf{u}_f + \nabla \mathbf{u}_f^T) + \alpha \mathbf{u}_f^2 dx}{\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{2} \mu (\nabla \mathbf{u}_r + \nabla \mathbf{u}_r^T) + \alpha \mathbf{u}_r^2 dx} + \int_{\Omega} \rho \cdot (1 - \rho) dx$$

s. t:

$$\alpha_{\min} \leq \alpha \leq 1$$

$$V_{\min} \leq V \leq V_{\max}$$



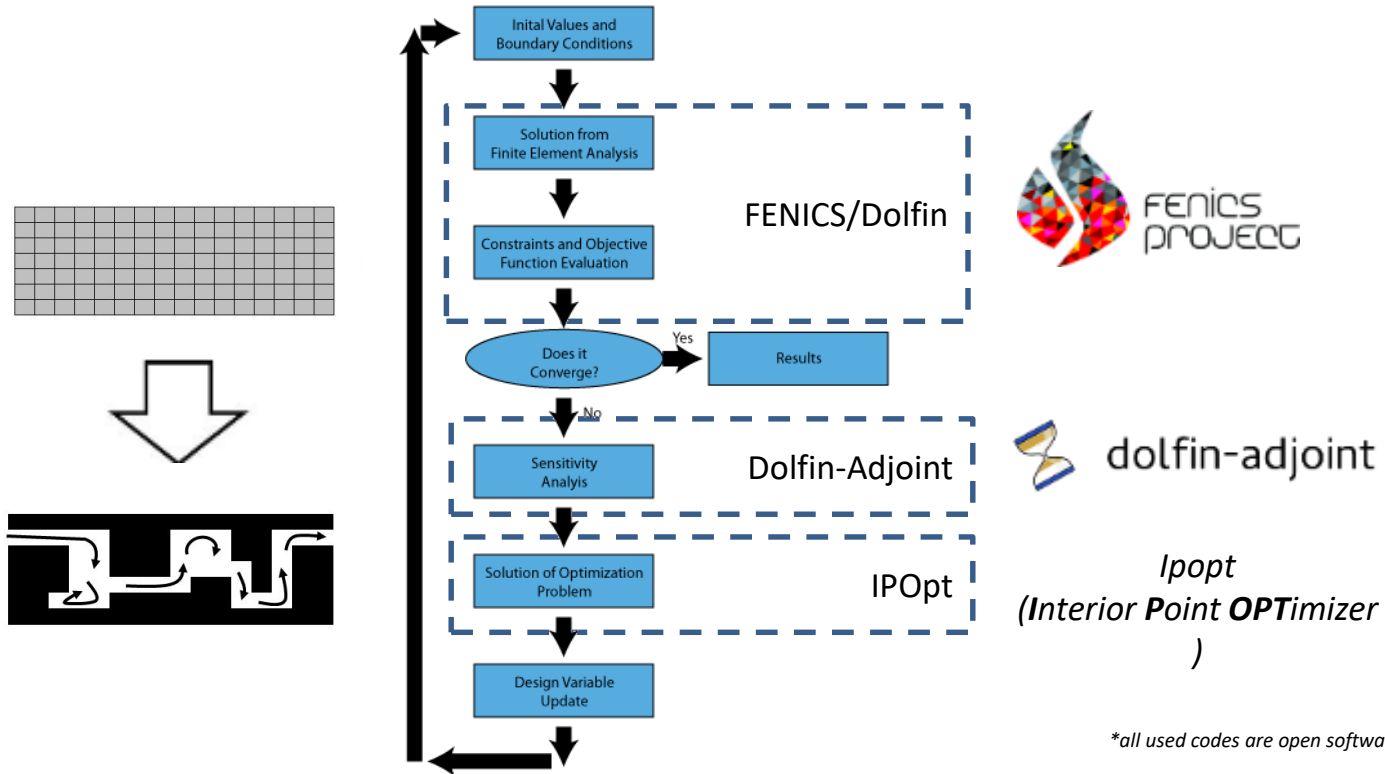
Domain to Optimize Ω
 Fluid Ω_1

Φ_f : Energy Loss in the forward flow
 Φ_r : Energy Loss in the reverse flow

Diodicity is the concept of the difference in loss energy mechanisms in the two flow directions

Local Volume Constraint: $V_{fluid} = 100\%$

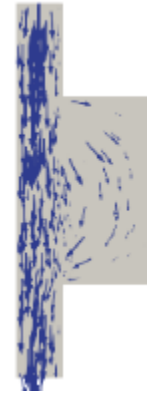
Methodology



Results – Flow direction

Low Velocities

High Velocities

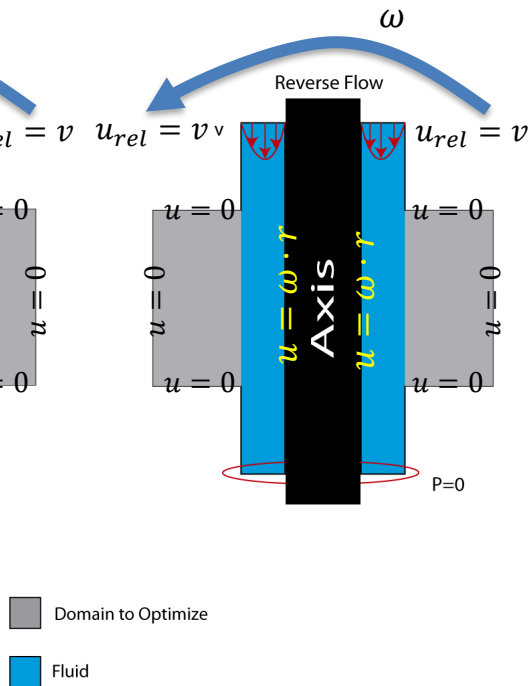


$Re = 100$

$Re = 300$

$Re = 600$

$Re = 1000$

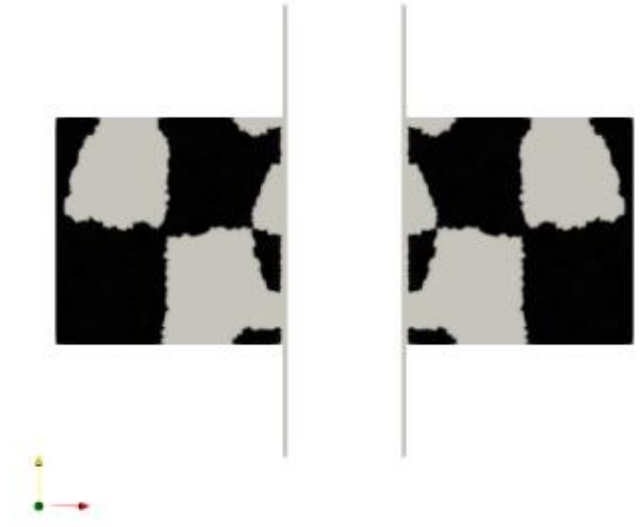
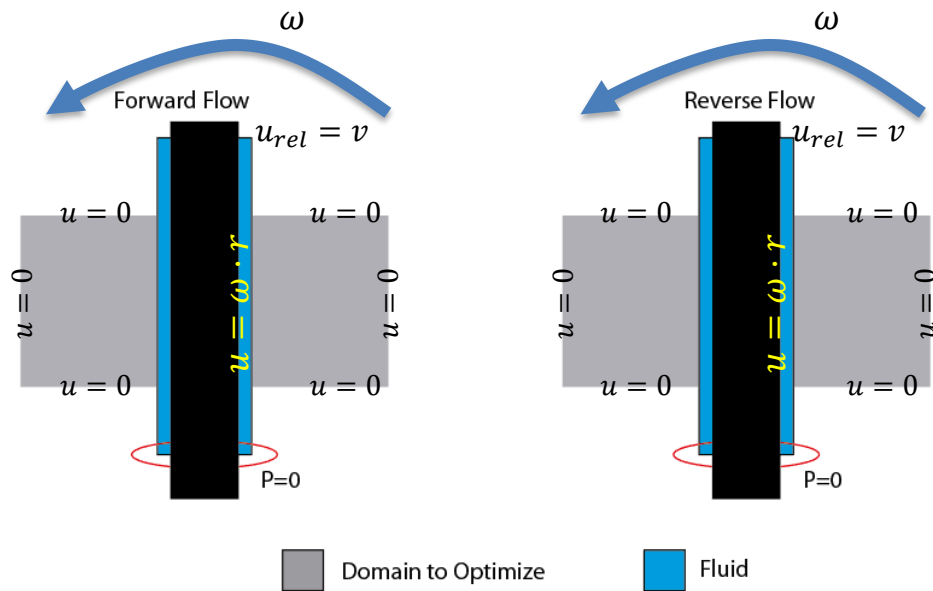


Results – Helmholtz-type equations

Specifications:
2,5D plane

$Re = 50$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$
 $\omega = 100rad/s$

$r=0$

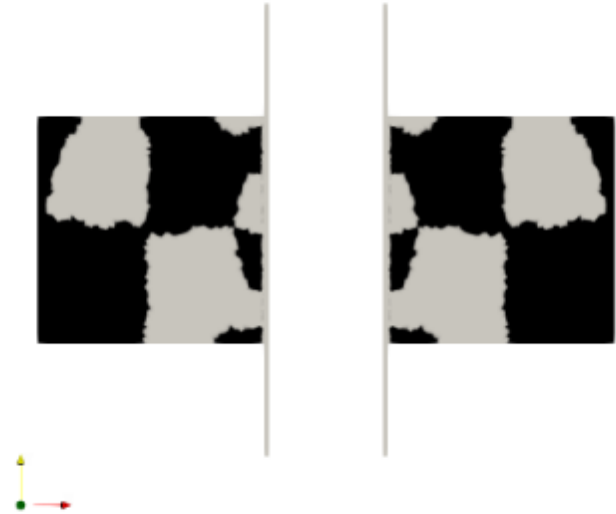
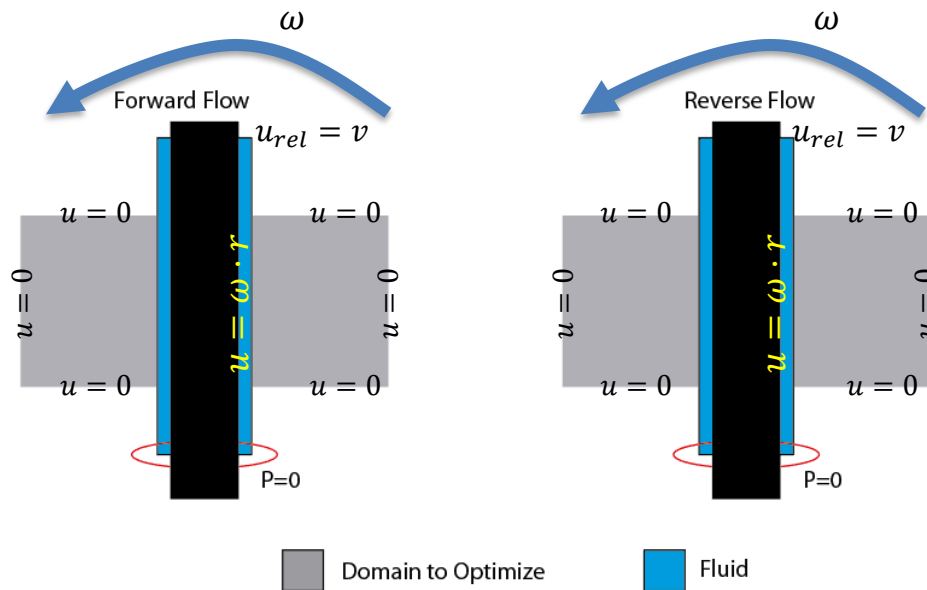


Results – Helmholtz-type equations

Specifications:
2,5D plane

$Re = 50$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$
 $\omega = 100 \text{ rad/s}$

$r=0.1$

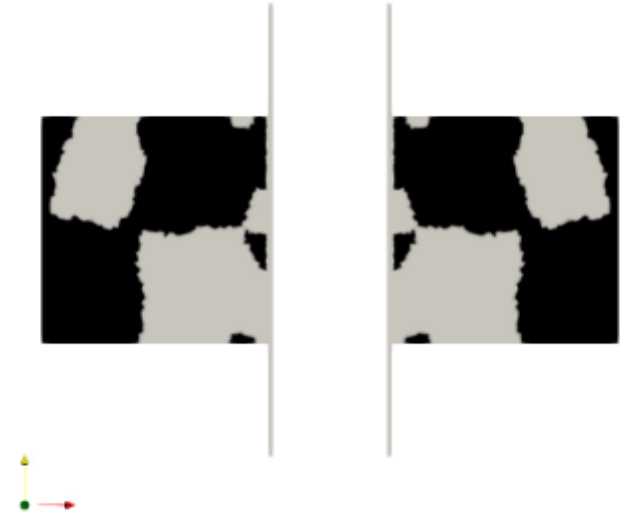
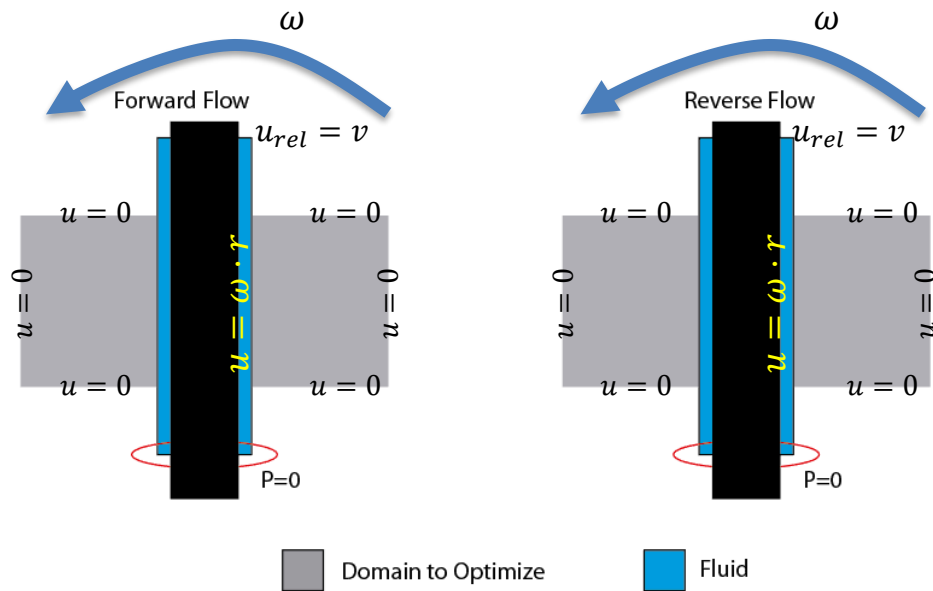


Results – Helmholtz-type equations

Specifications:
2,5D plane

$Re = 50$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$
 $\omega = 100rad/s$

$r=0.4$

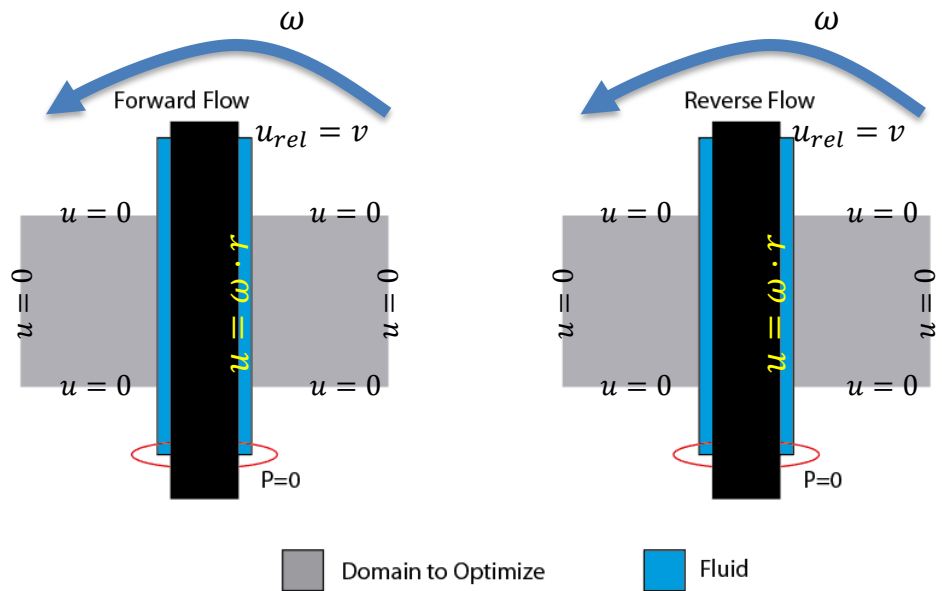


Results – Helmholtz-type equations

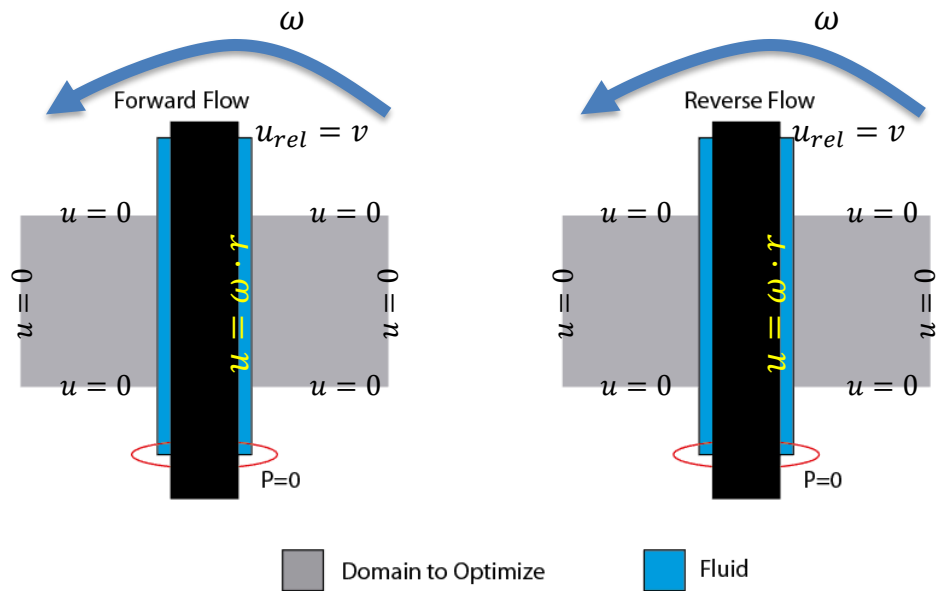
Specifications:
2,5D plane

$Re = 50$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$
 $\omega = 100 \text{ rad/s}$

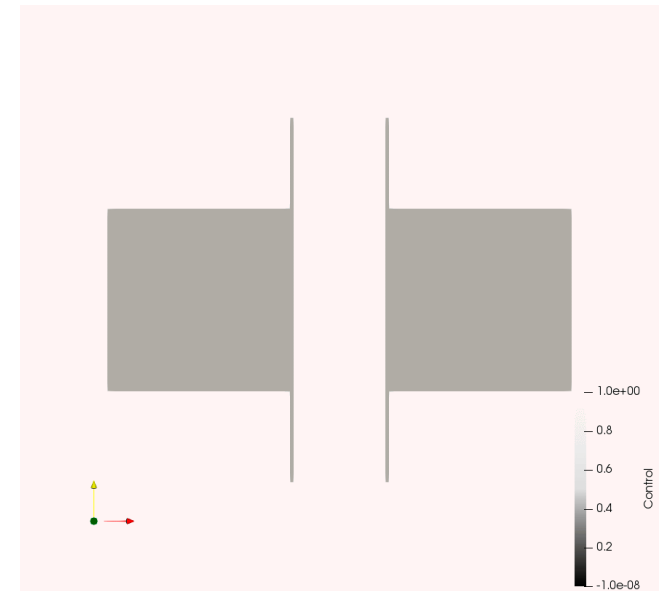
$r=0.8$



General Results

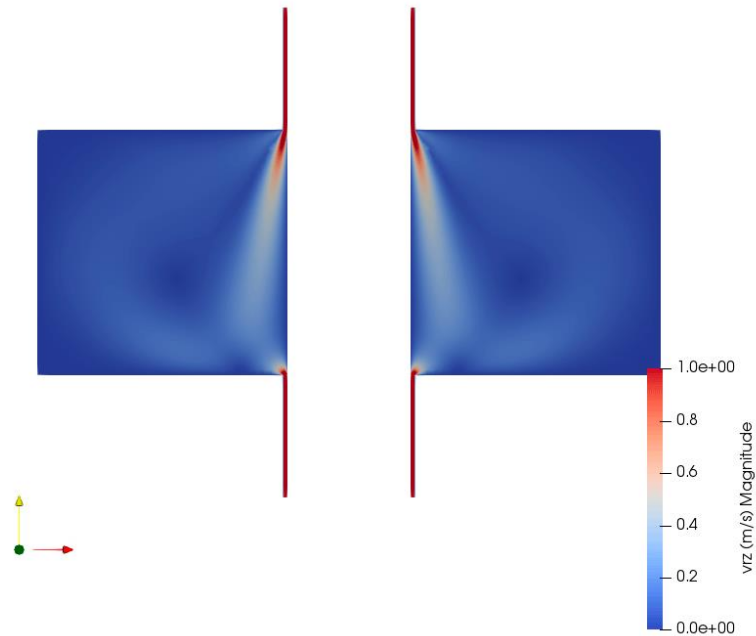


$\omega = 10 \text{ rad/s}$
 $Re = 400$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$

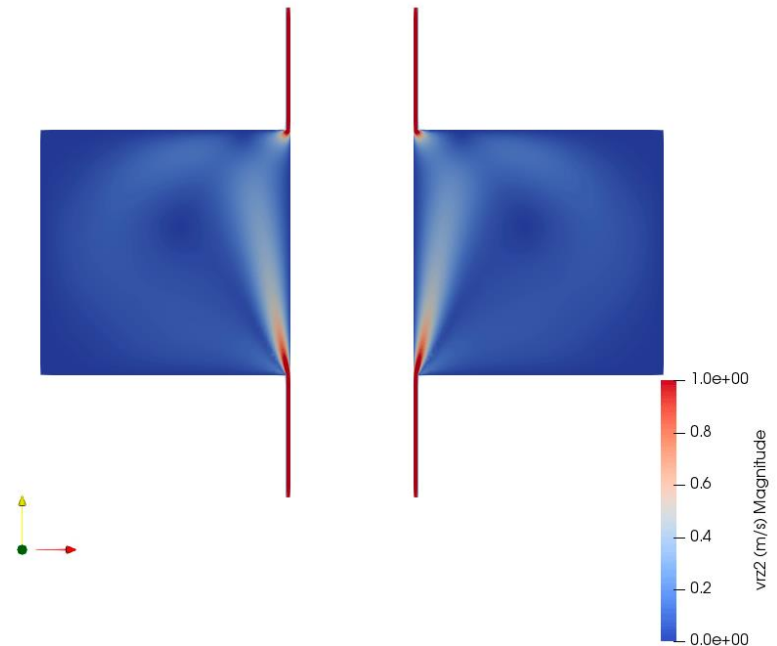


General Results – Velocity Plot during Optimization

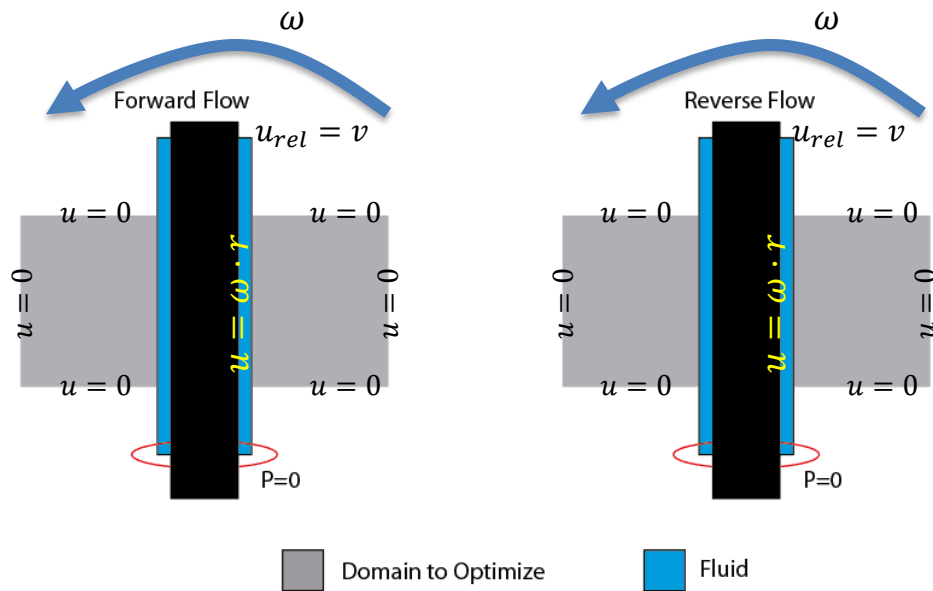
Forward Case



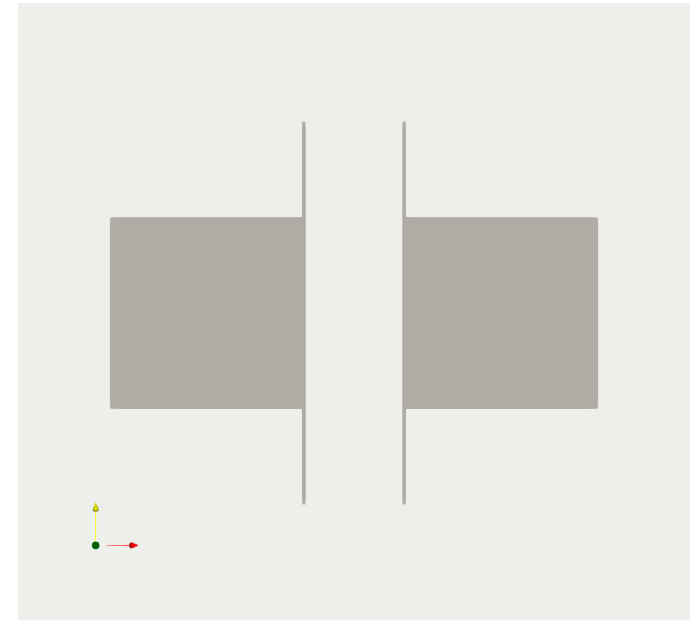
Reverse Case



General Results

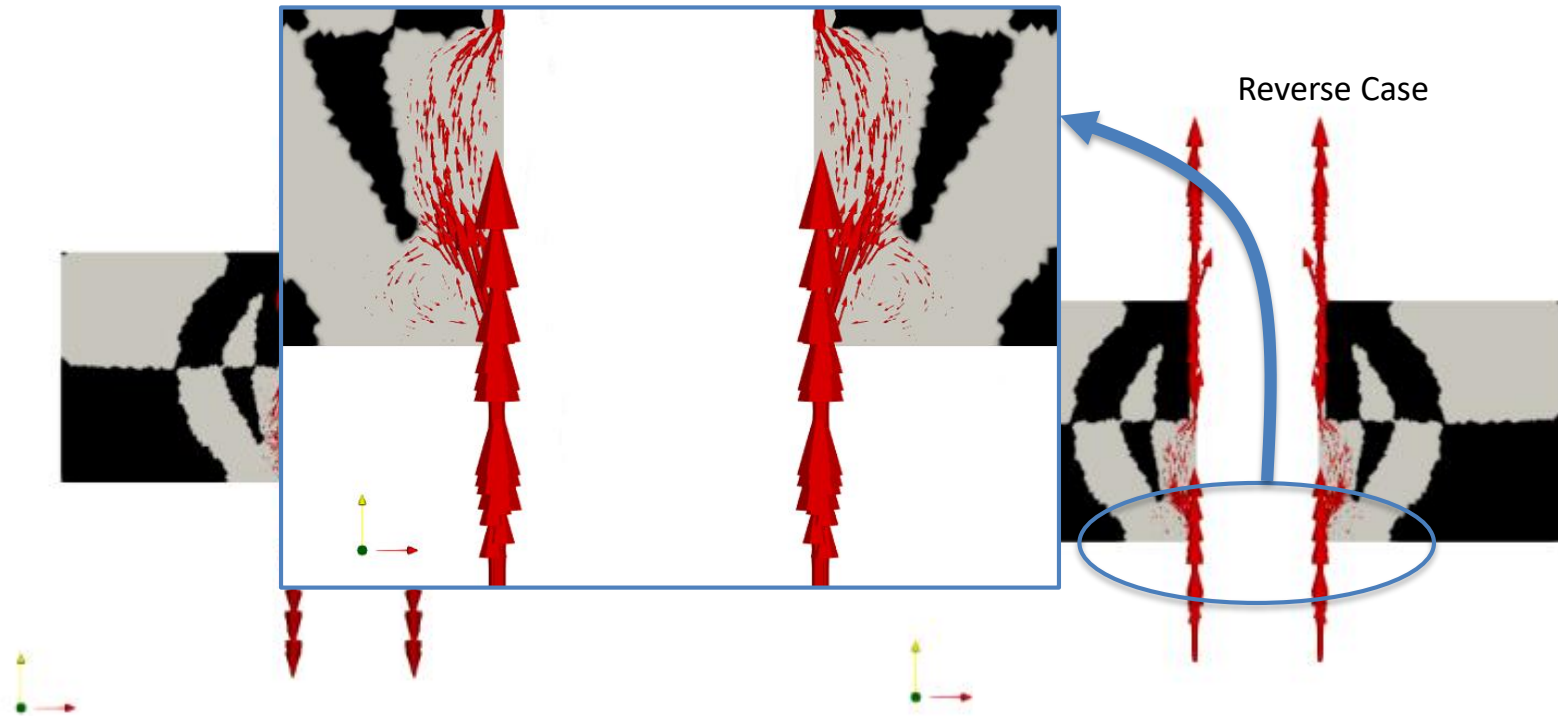


$\omega = 100 \text{ rad/s}$
 $Re = 300$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$



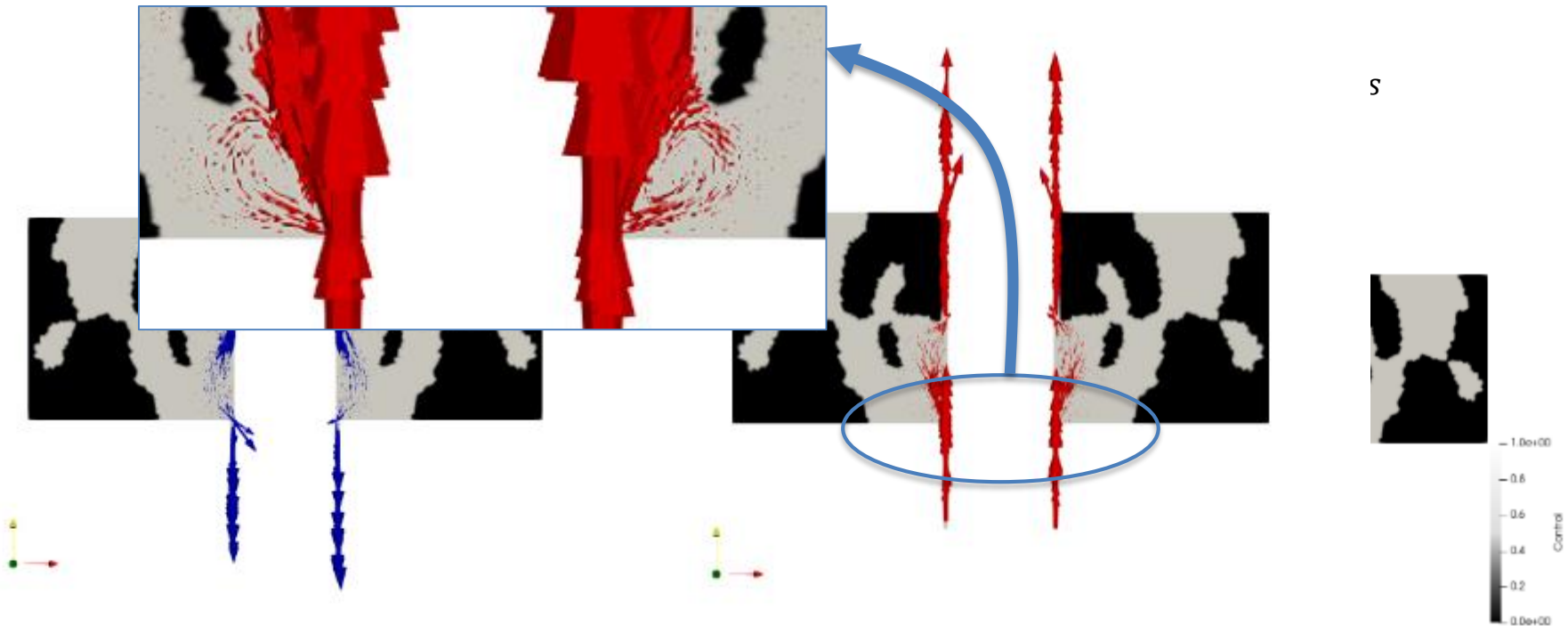
General Results – Fluid Flow

Specifications:
2D plane
 $Re = 100$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$



Results – Influence of Angular Velocity

Specifications:
2,5D plane
 $Re = 300$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$



[1] Subramanian, S., Sekhar, A.S. and Prasad, B.V.S.S.S., 2015. Influence of combined radial location and growth on the leakage performance of a rotating labyrinth gas turbine seal. Journal of Mechanical Science and Technology, 29(6), pp.2535-2545.

Results – Aspect Ratio

Specifications:
2,5D plane
 $Re = 50$
 $Da = 3,3 \cdot 10^{-5}$
 $\omega = 100rad/s$



Aspect 1:1



Aspect 1:1



Aspect 1:3



Conclusions

- Labyrinth Seals design can be improved considering rotation.
- Small values for rotation may influence the final topologies.
- There are several geometry parameters that may influence the flow circulation.
- Helmholtz-type equations can be used as results' filter and may be used with caution.
- The aspect ratio of the design domain is of medium importance to the final geometry.

Future Work:

- Turbulence Models
- Hydraulic Application
- Efficiency of the simulation
- Prototyping



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