

# **Finite Elements in Fluids**

## **Assignment-2**

### **Assignment on “Viscous Incompressible Flows”**

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## Cavity Flow Problem

The cavity flow problem is a standard benchmark test for incompressible flows. The goal of this exercise is to analyse the results obtained when adopting either the Stokes or the Navier-Stokes equations. Using the code in (*HW2Files-Cavity*) to compute the Finite elements approximation of these problems, the questions of this assignment are answered.

a) Using the script *mainStokes.m* the solution of the Stokes problem is computed using a uniform, structured mesh of  $Q_2Q_0$ ,  $Q_2Q_1$ ,  $P_1P_1$  and MINI ( $P_1+P_1$ ) elements, with 20 elements per side. The following figures (Fig. 1 to Fig. 16) illustrates the plots of meshes and the results. Mesh for velocity is shown in figure 1 to 4. And figure for pressure is shown in Figure 5 to 8.

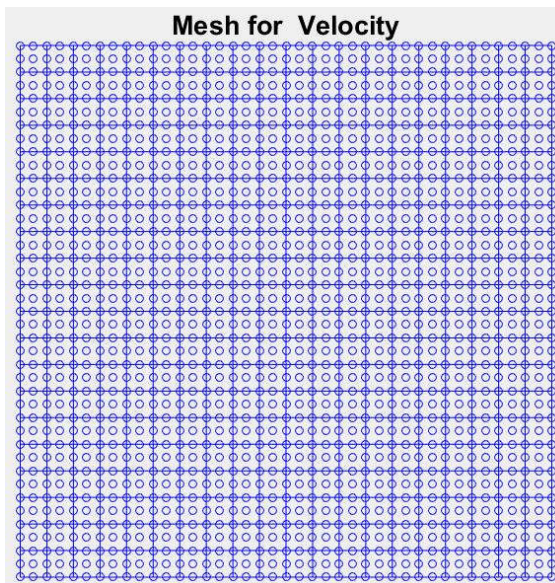


Figure 1. Mesh For Velocity of  $Q_2Q_0$

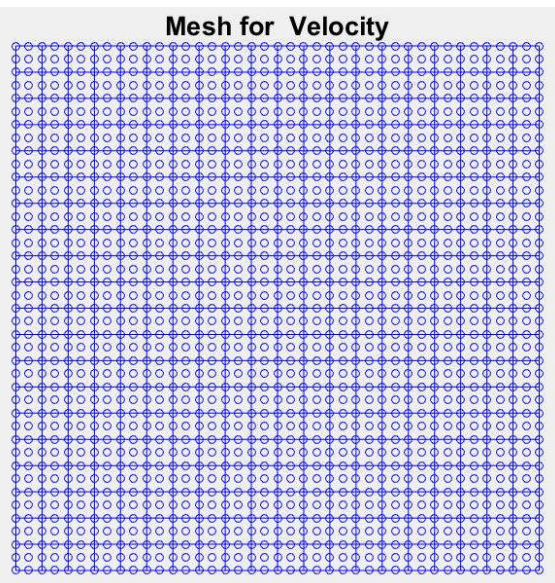


Figure 2. Mesh For Velocity of  $Q_2Q_1$

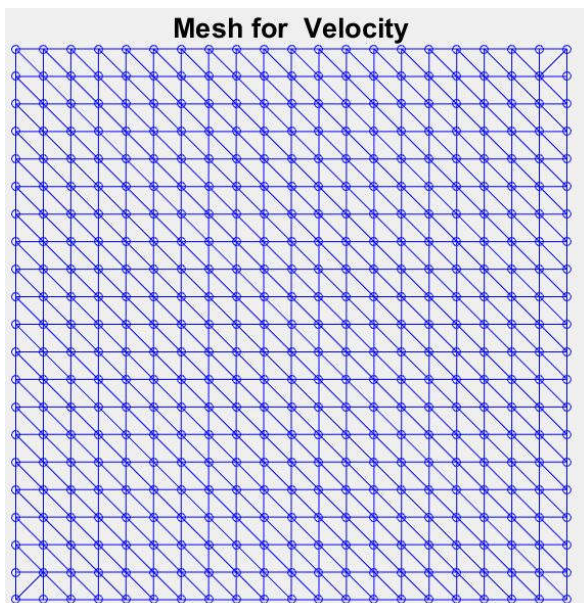


Figure 3. Mesh For Velocity of  $P_1P_1$

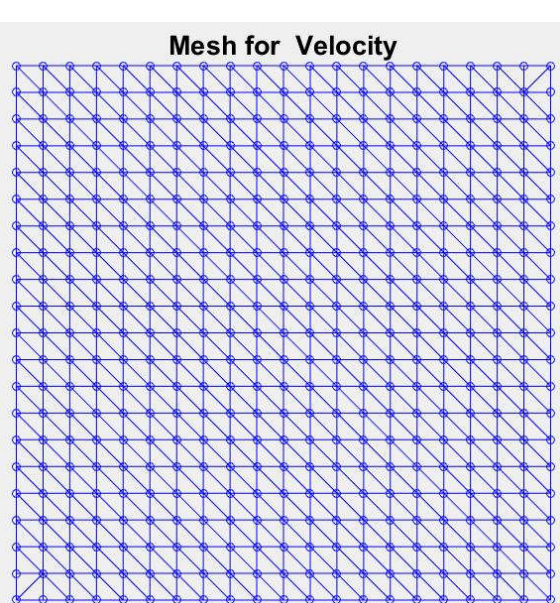


Figure 4. Mesh For Velocity for MINI( $P_1+P_1$ )

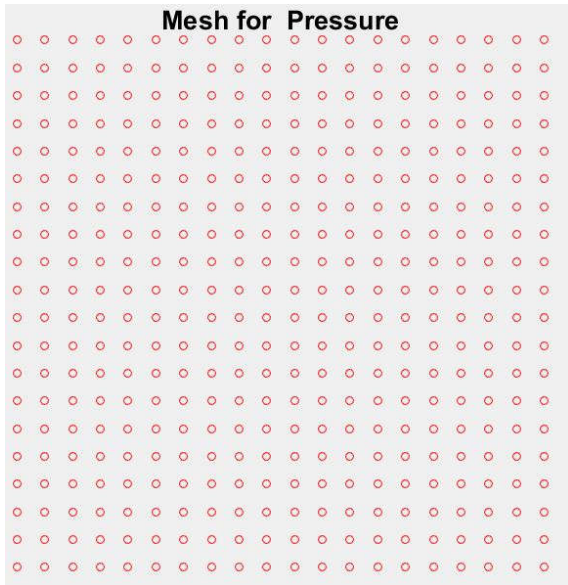


Figure 5. Mesh For Pressure of  $Q_2Q_0$

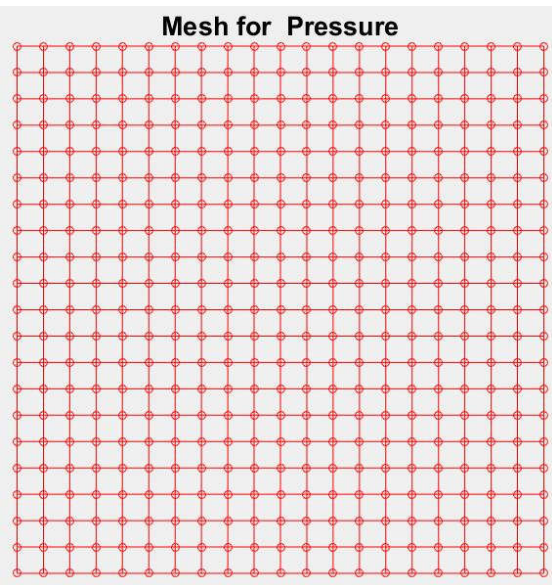


Figure 5. Mesh For Pressure of  $Q_2Q_1$

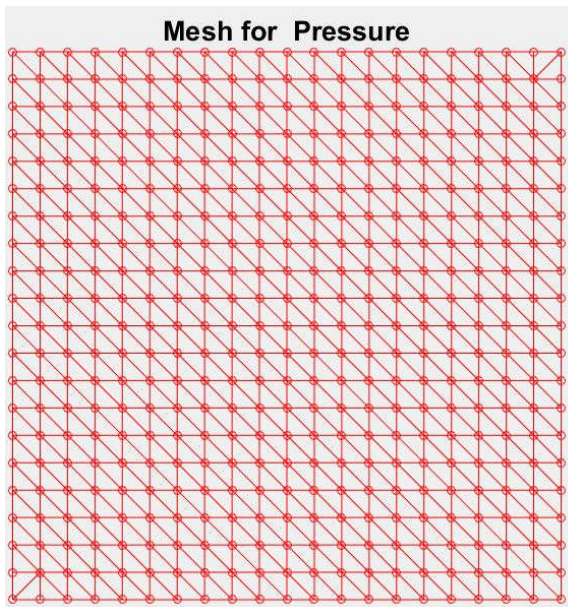


Figure 7. Mesh For Pressure of  $P_1P_1$

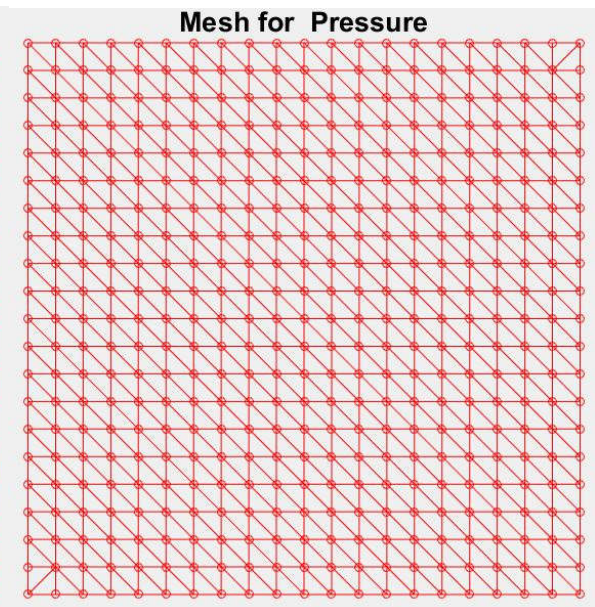


Figure 8. Mesh For Pressure of MINI ( $P_1+P_1$ )

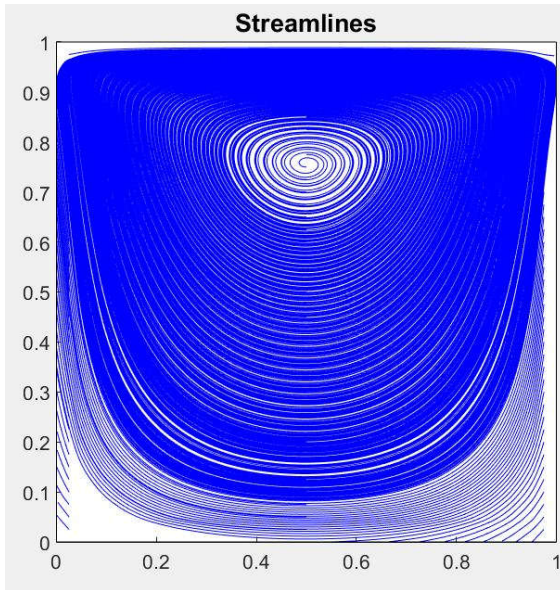


Figure 9. Streamlines of  $Q_2Q_0$

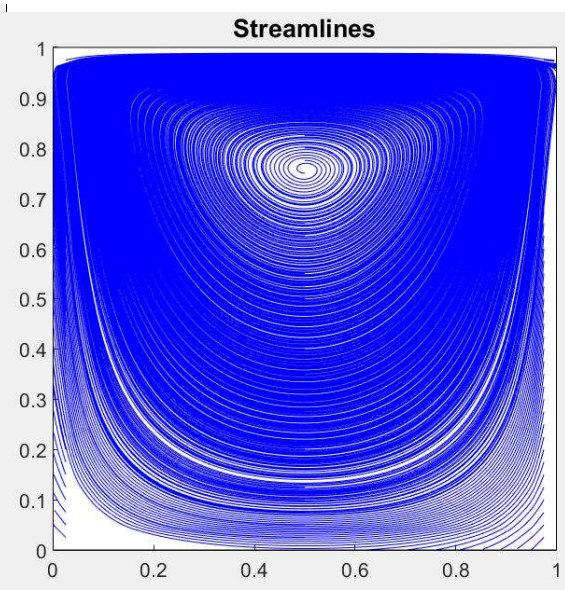


Figure 10. Streamlines of  $Q_2Q_1$

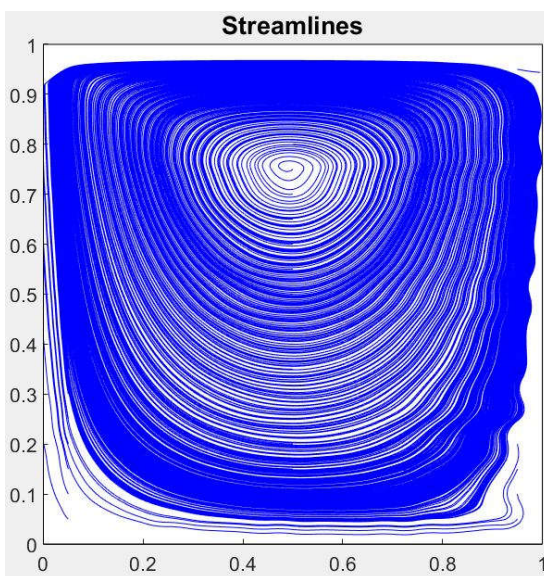


Figure 11. Streamlines of  $P_1P_1$

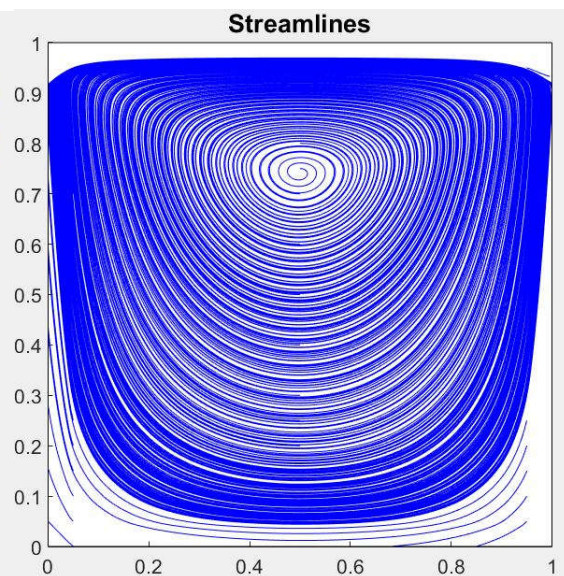


Figure 12. Streamlines of MINI ( $P_1+P_1$ )

Figures 9 to 12 shows the streamlines for all four elements. For  $Q_2Q_0$  and  $Q_2Q_1$  the streamlines are smoother and better, as the velocity is approximated using biquadratic interpolation polynomials. For solution using  $P_1P_1$  element (Figure 10) there is slight oscillations near the boundaries, owing to linear approximation of velocity. This problem is overcome in  $P_1+P_1$  due to the cubic bubble function

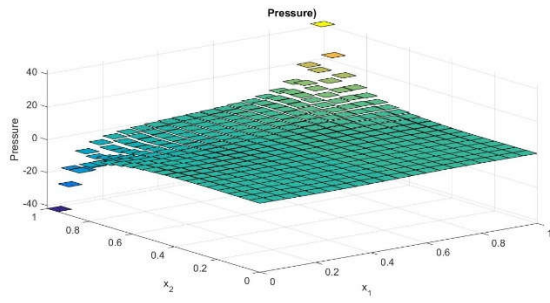


Figure 13. Pressure Field for  $Q_2Q_0$

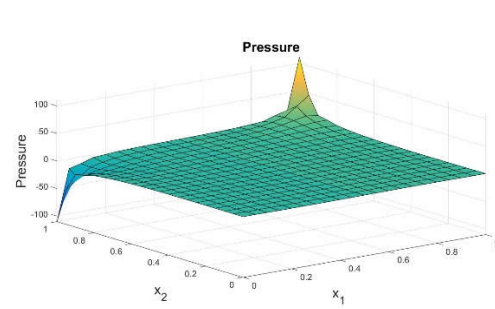


Figure 14. Pressure Field for  $Q_2Q_1$

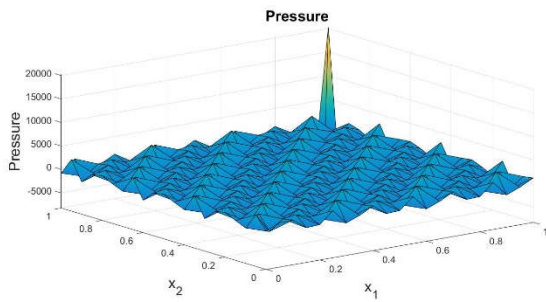


Figure 15. Pressure Field for  $P_1P_1$

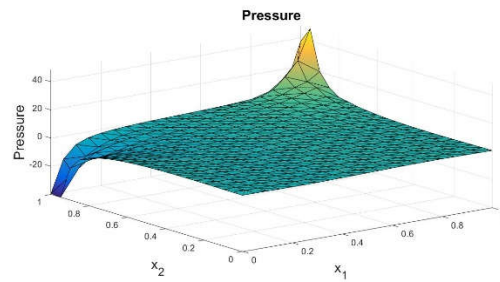


Figure 16. Pressure Field for MINI ( $P_1+P_1$ )

The above four graphs illustrates the solution for pressure. In  $Q_2Q_0$  (Figure 13) pressure is discontinuous between elements, this is due to constant pressure approximation. There are spurious oscillations in solution with  $P_1P_1$ , owing to the linear approximation in triangular elements. In solutions from  $Q_2Q_1$  (Figure 14) and MINI ( $P_1+P_1$ ) (Figure 16), which LBB, pressure is continuous and there are no spurious oscillations.

b) The solution of the Stokes problem is computed considering, (i) a structured, uniform mesh of  $Q_2Q_1$  elements with 20 elements per side, (ii) a structured mesh of  $20 \times 20$   $Q_2Q_1$  elements refined near the walls. The meshes and results are compared in following figures (17 to 24).

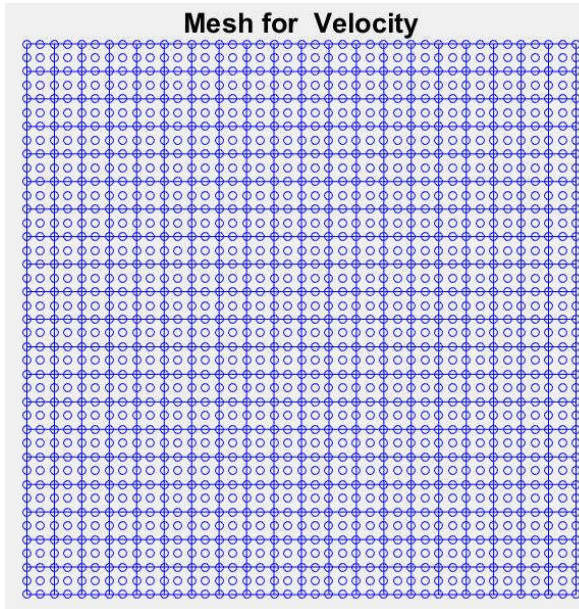


Figure 17. For of  $Q_2Q_1$  (uniform mesh)

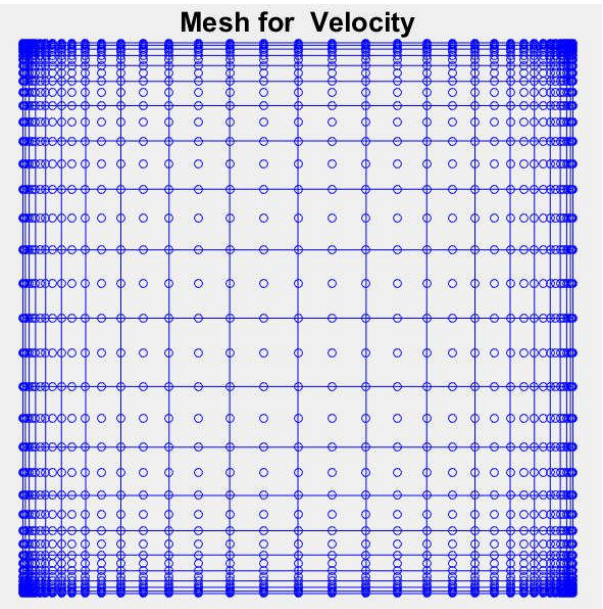


Figure 18. For of  $Q_2Q_1$  (refined mesh)

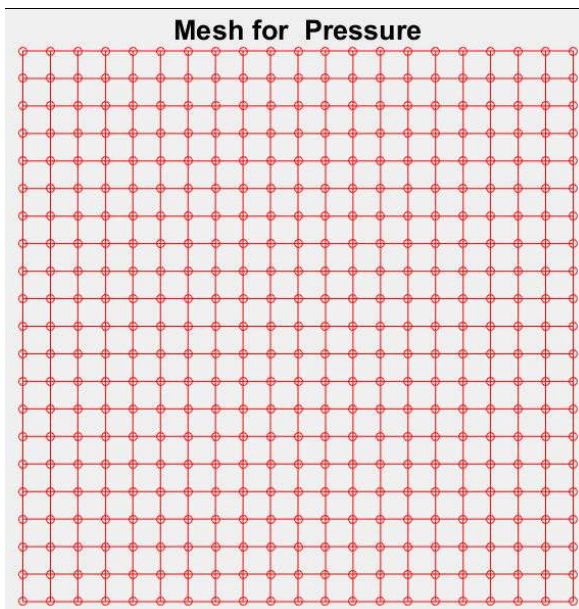


Figure 19. For of  $Q_2Q_1$  (uniform mesh)

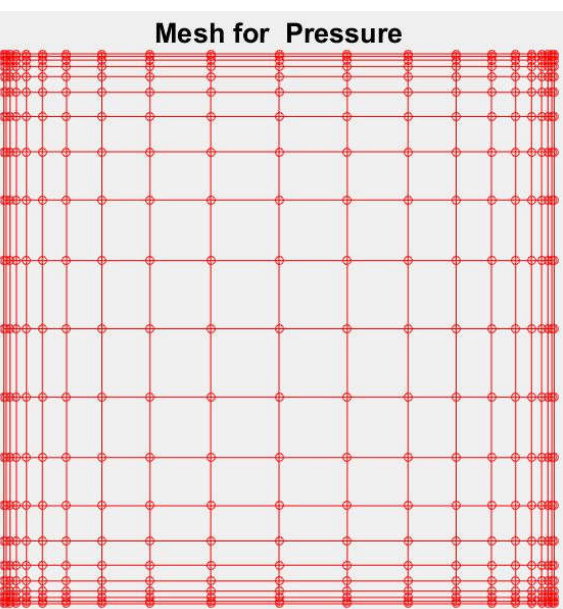


Figure 20. For of  $Q_2Q_1$  (refined mesh)

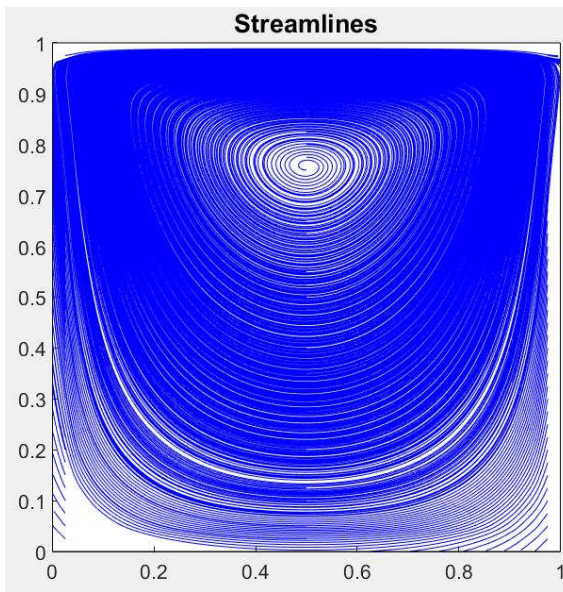


Figure 17. Streamlines of  $Q_2Q_1$  (uniform mesh)

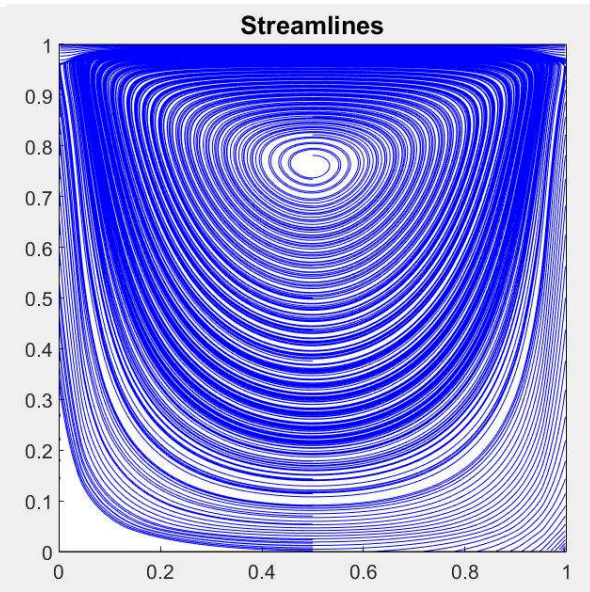


Figure 18. Streamlines of  $Q_2Q_1$  (refined mesh)

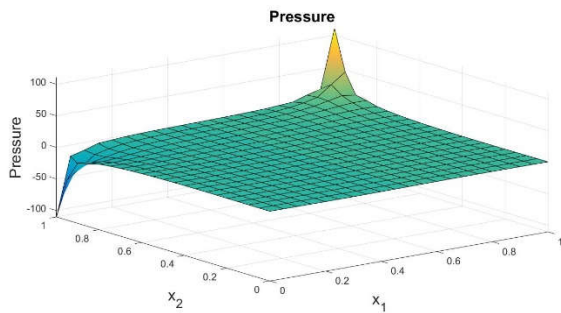


Figure 19. Pressure of  $Q_2Q_1$  (uniform mesh)

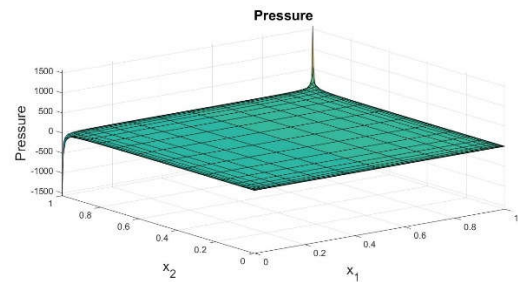


Figure 20. Pressure of  $Q_2Q_1$  (refined mesh)

Consider the results. There is not much difference in velocity fields or streamlines. Whereas pressure is more refined at the boundaries. The results are improved in adaptive mesh (refined mesh). Especially, at the boundaries solution is better captured in adaptive mesh. The pressure at the boundaries is of the range of  $\pm 1500$ , while it is of the range of  $\pm 100$  in the case of the uniform mesh. Since, the results are accurate with adaptive mesh and computational costs are same both the methods, adaptive meshing is best option. Considering practical aspects, in many problems, boundaries are the most critical regions and hence mesh is to be refined at boundaries. Therefore, adaptive mesh is better option for such applications.

c) The Stokes code is modified to solve the problem using a GLS stabilized formulation with  $P_1P_1$  elements. The stabilization of the Stokes problem is obtained by adding stabilisation term to the Galerkin weak form of the Stokes equations. The following stabilisation terms are considered,

$$\begin{cases} (-\nu \nabla^2 w, -\nu \nabla^2 v + \nabla p - b) = 0 & \forall w \in \mathcal{V} \\ (\nabla q, -\nu \nabla^2 v + \nabla p - b) = 0 & \forall q \in \mathcal{Q} \end{cases}$$

The reduced GLS form is given by: find  $v^h \in \mathcal{S}^h$  and  $p^h \in \mathcal{Q}^h$ , such that, for all  $(w^h, q^h) \in \mathcal{V}^h \times \mathcal{Q}^h$ ,

$$\begin{cases} a(w^h, v^h) + b(w^h, p^h) = (w^h, b^h) + (w^h, t^h)_{\Gamma_N}, \\ b(v^h, q^h) - \sum_{e=1}^{n_{e1}} \tau_e (\nabla q^h, \nabla p^h)_{\Omega^e} = - \sum_{e=1}^{n_{e1}} \tau_e (\nabla q^h, b^h)_{\Omega^e} \end{cases}$$

The stabilization parameter chosen is,

$$\tau_e = \alpha \frac{h_e^2}{4\nu}$$

Where,

$\alpha = 1/3$  is optimal for linear elements.

$h_e$  is measure of element size.

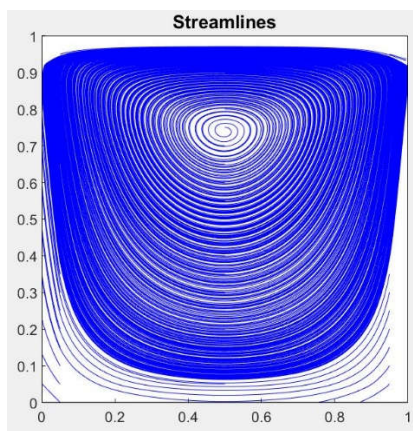


Fig 21. Streamlines for GLS ( $P_1P_1$ )

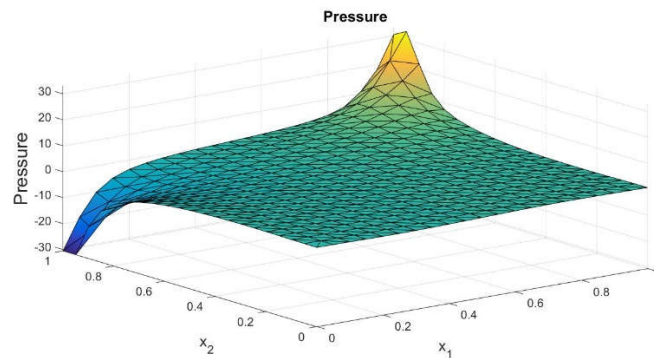


Figure 22. Pressure for GLS with  $P_1P_1$  elements

Above two figures illustrates the results using GLS stabilised formulation for  $P_1P_1$  element. Comparing with the galarking form (Fig.11 & Fig.15), the velocity and pressure solution are improved by GLS stabilisation for  $P_1P_1$  elements. The oscillations near the boundary are reduced and the spurious oscillations of pressure are absent in the stabilised solutions. The optimal value  $\alpha = 1/3$ , is considered for plotting.

The following plots (Fig. 23 to Fig. 28) compare the results for higher values of ' $\alpha$ ' or stabilisation parameter ' $\tau$ '. From the below graphs we can observe that for higher value stabilisation parameter the solution is deviated from the actual solution. Hence, smaller and optimal value of the stabilisation parameter is to be chosen for accurate results.



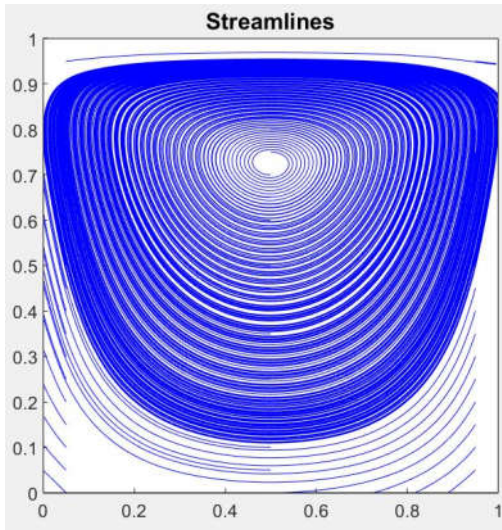


Fig 23. Streamlines for GLS ( $\alpha=3$ )

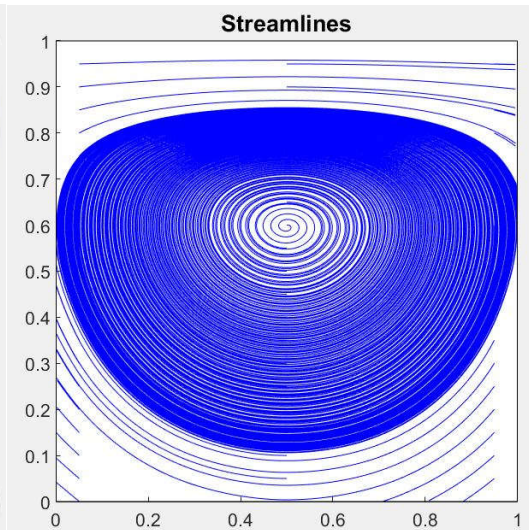


Fig 24. Streamlines for GLS ( $\alpha=30$ )

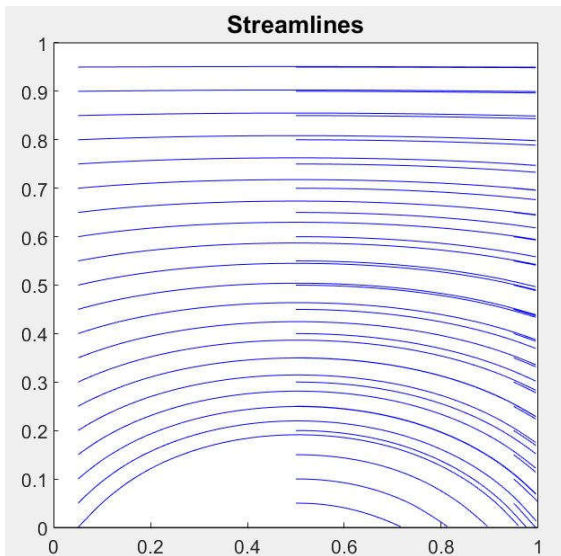


Fig 25. Streamlines for GLS ( $\alpha=300$ )

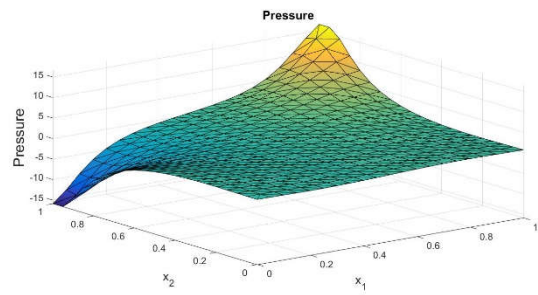


Fig 26. Pressure output for GLS ( $\alpha=3$ )

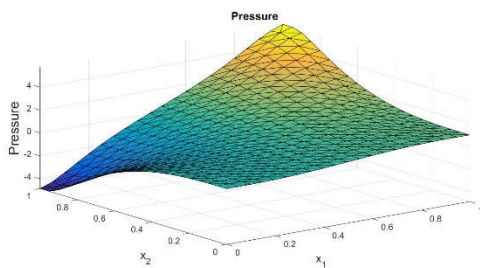


Fig 27. Pressure output for GLS ( $\alpha=30$ )

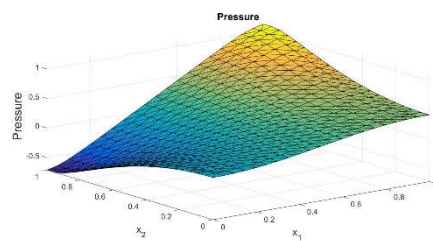


Fig 28. Pressure output for GLS ( $\alpha=300$ )

d) The script *mainNavierStokes.m* is used to solve the Navier-Stokes equations with Picard method. Matlab function *ConvectionMatrix.m* is coded to evaluate the matrix arising from the discretization of the convective term. The Navier- Stokes equations is solved using a structured mesh of  $Q_2Q_1$  elements with 20 elements per side, considering the Reynolds numbers  $Re = 100, 500, 1000$  and 2000. The number of iterations required for convergence of Picard method are tabulated as,

Re	No. of Iterations
100	13
500	29
1000	35
2000	69

From the table we can conclude that the number of iterations required for convergence increases with increase in  $Re$ .

The flowing plots (Fig. 29 to Fig. 36) illustrates the solutions using naiver stokes for different  $Re$ . It can be observed the plots of streamlines that as  $Re$  is increased the position of the main vortex moves towards the centre of the cavity. Observing the streamlines it can be concluded that, for higher  $Re$  the stabilisation of the galarkin is required.

The range of pressure decreases with increase in  $Re$ . This is matching with the reference solution shown in Fig. 37. Reference solution is taken from the textbook. (Finite Element Methods for Fluid Flow Problems, Donea and Huerta, Wiley 2003)

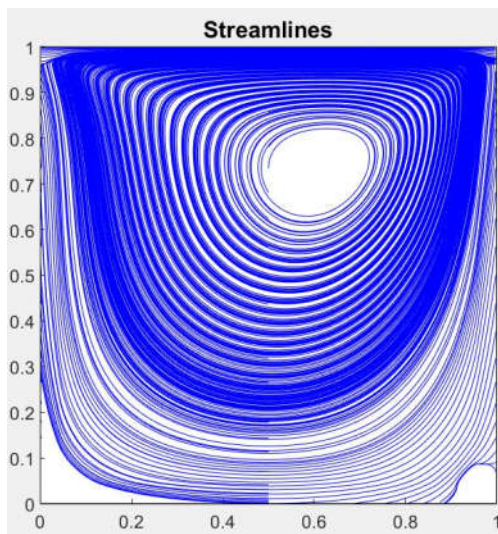


Fig.29 Streamlines for  $Re=100$

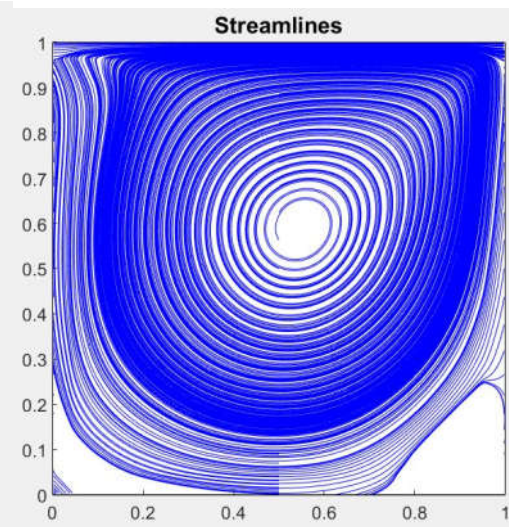


Fig. 30 Streamlines for  $Re=500$

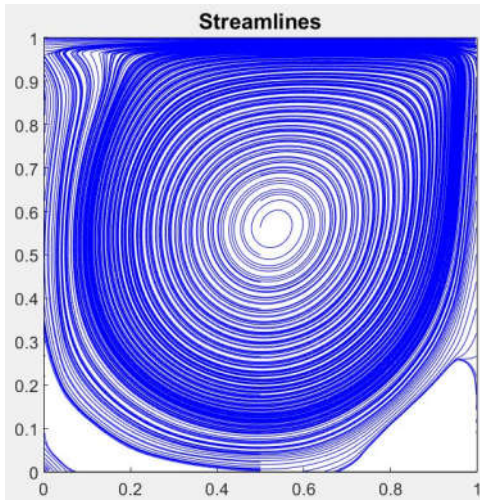


Fig.31 Streamlines for  $Re=1000$

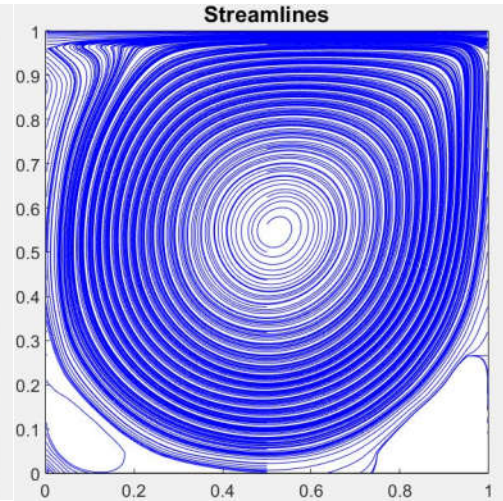


Fig. 32 Streamlines for  $Re=2000$

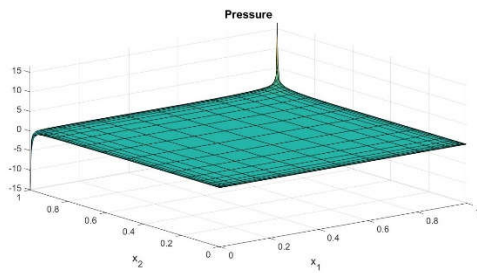


Fig.33 Pressure for  $Re=100$

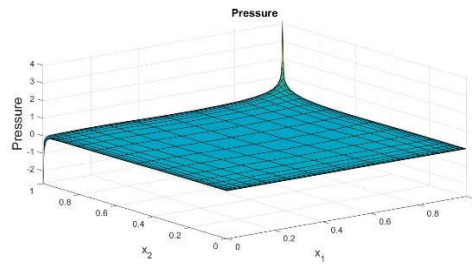


Fig. 34 Pressure for  $Re=500$

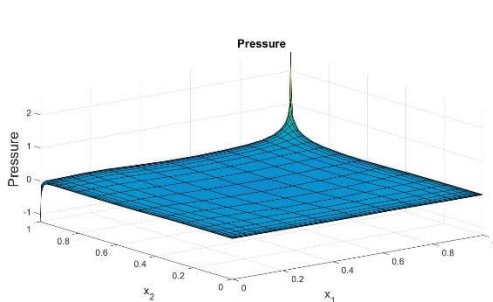


Fig.35 Pressure for  $Re=1000$

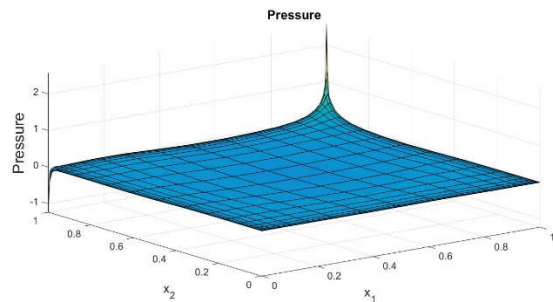
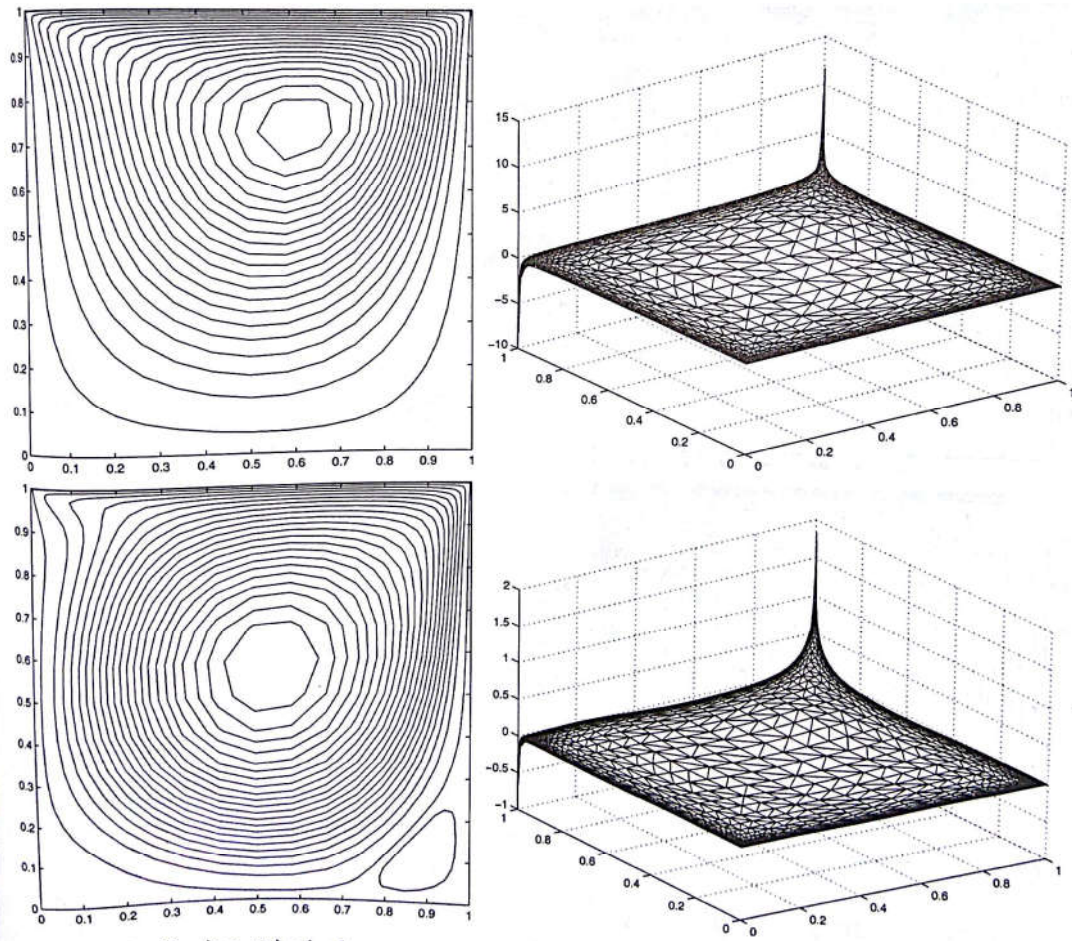


Fig. 36 Pressure for  $Re=2000$



**Fig. 6.12** Cavity: Mini element, streamlines and pressure for  $Re = 100$  (top) and 1000 (bottom).

Fig. 37 Reference Solution from Text Book