

# Parallel-in-time methods for fluid dynamics problems

João Guilherme Caldas Steinstraesser

Instituto de Matemática e Estatística da Universidade de São Paulo

In collaboration with

Pedro Peixoto (IME-USP)  
Martin Schreiber (Univ. Grenoble Alpes)

Antoine Rousseau (Inria)  
Vincent Guinot (Univ. Montpellier)

# Full Outline

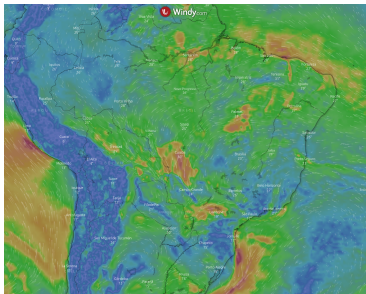
- Introduction
- Parallel-in-time methods
  - Parareal
  - MGRIT
- Some ideas for improving PinT
- Applications
  - Urban floods
  - Atmospheric circulation models

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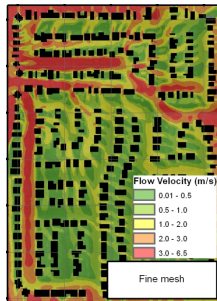
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# Challenges for numerical simulations in fluid dynamics

- Accuracy and time-to-solution requirements in several applications
  - Weather forecast and climate modelling
  - Urban floods
  - Real-time forecast and risk assessment



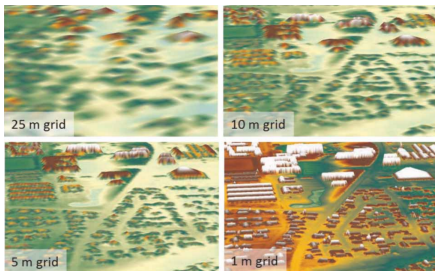
[ECMWF, windy.com]



[Guinot, Sanders, and Schubert (2017)]

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[Hénonin et al. (2013)]

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  - High computational costs
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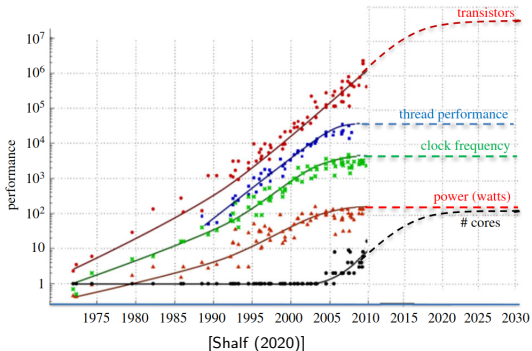


# A new direction of parallelism

- Stagnation of CPUs speed  $\implies$  performance gains via parallelism;
- Saturation of spatial parallelism;
- Parallelize the temporal direction?

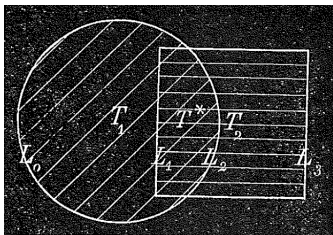
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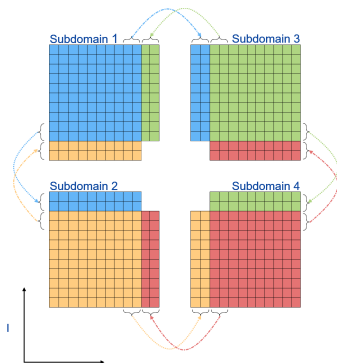


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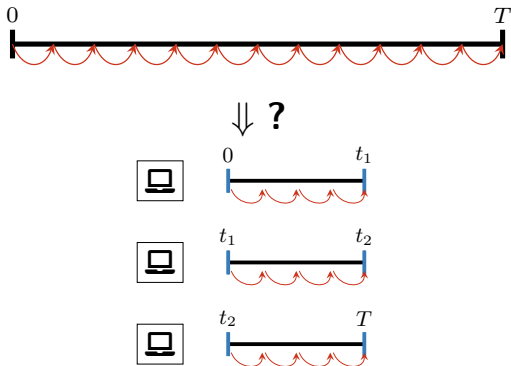
[Schwarz (1870)]



[Craig and Tien Lam (2022)]

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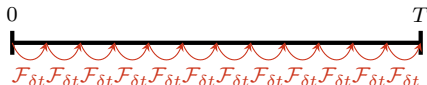
## ■ Iterative predictor-corrector algorithms

- Use of **fine** and **coarse** timestepping schemes
- Simultaneous computation of several time steps
- **Objective:** fast convergence to the fine solution

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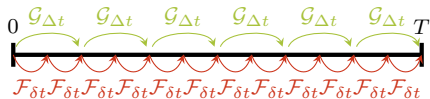
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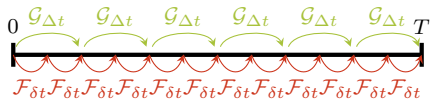




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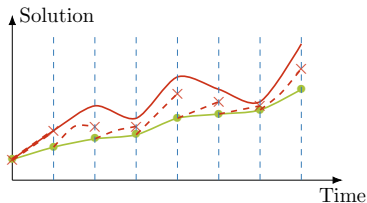
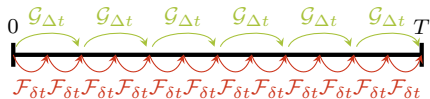
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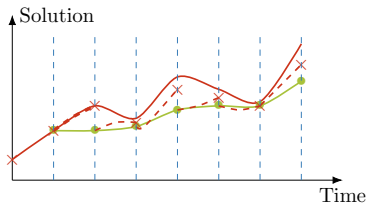
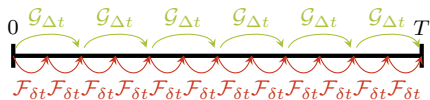
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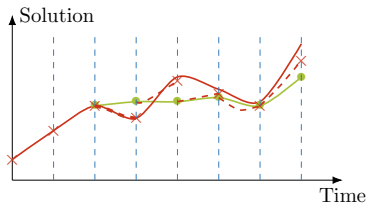
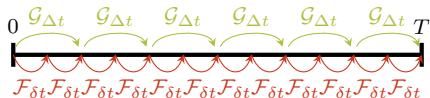
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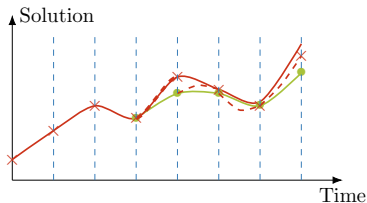
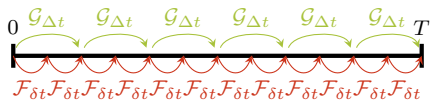
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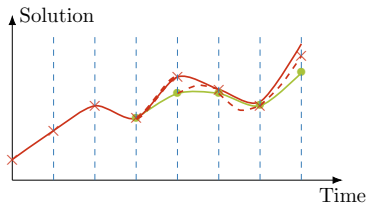
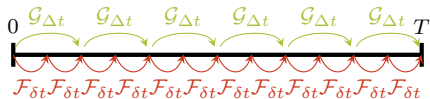
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# The parareal method

Jacques-Louis Lions, Yvon Maday, and Gabriel Turinici, "Résolution d'EDP par un schéma en temps "pararéel"", *Comptes Rendus de l'Académie des Sciences - Series I - Mathematics* (2001)

■ Solve  $\frac{du}{dt}(t) = F(u(t)), \quad u(0) = u_0$

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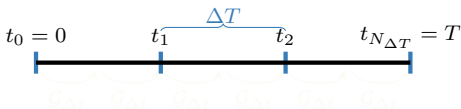
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$$u_{n+1}^{k+1} = \underbrace{\mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(u_n^{k+1})}_{\text{prediction}} + \underbrace{\mathcal{F}_{\delta t}(u_n^k) - \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(u_n^k)}_{\text{correction}}, \quad n = 0, \dots, N_{\Delta T} - 1$$

- $N_{\Delta T}$  time slices
- Sequential coarse prediction
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- $\mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{\delta t}$ : user-defined schemes





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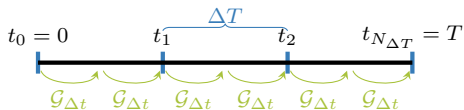
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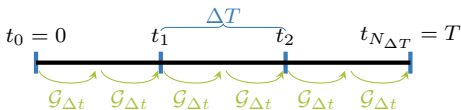
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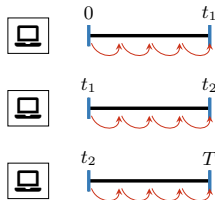
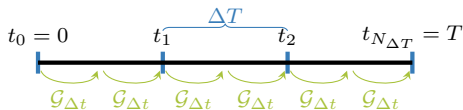
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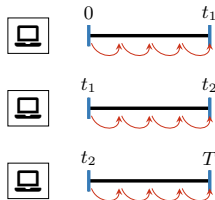
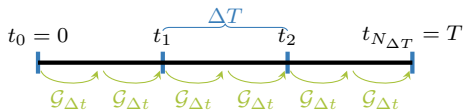
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S. Friedhoff et al., "A Multigrid-in-Time Algorithm for Solving Evolution Equations in Parallel", *Presented at: Sixteenth Copper Mountain Conference on Multigrid Methods* (2013)

- Multilevel PInT approach inspired on spatial multigrid (MGR)
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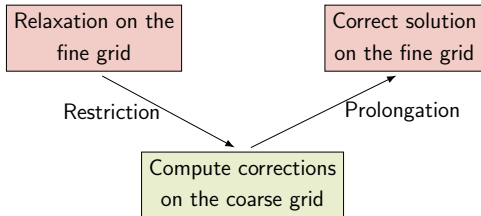
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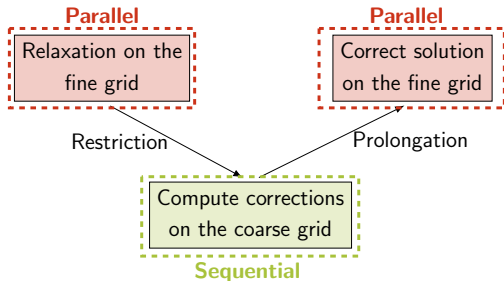




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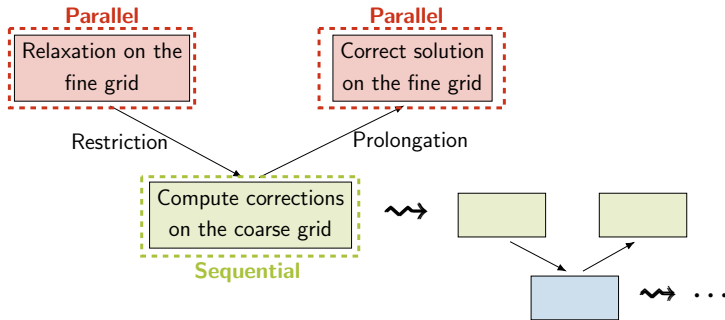
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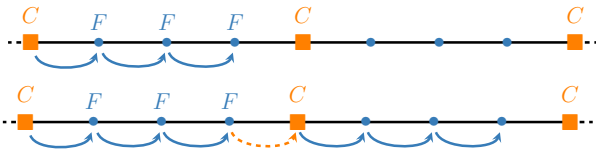
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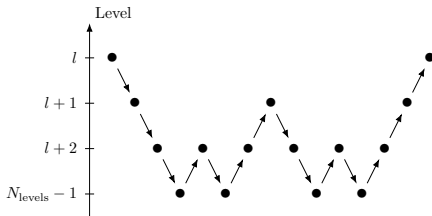
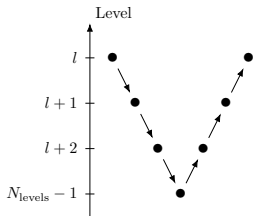
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# Not so easy for hyperbolic problems!

Daniel Ruprecht, "Wave propagation characteristics of Parareal", *Computing and Visualization in Science* (2018)

- Successful application to parabolic, diffusive problems;
- Hyperbolic problems: instabilities and slow convergence;
- Causes:
  - Mismatch of coarse and fine discrete phase speeds;
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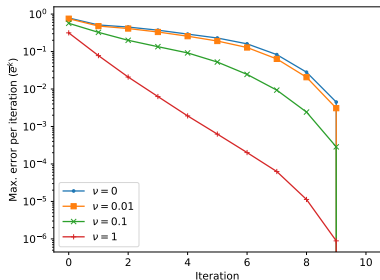
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$$u(x, t = 0) = \exp(-a(x - x_0)^2)$$

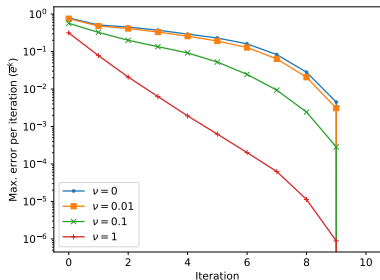


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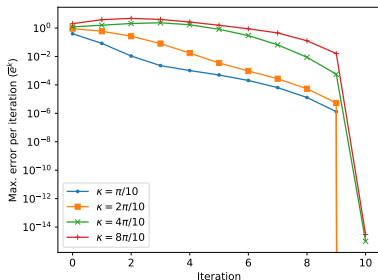
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$$u_t + u_x = 0$$
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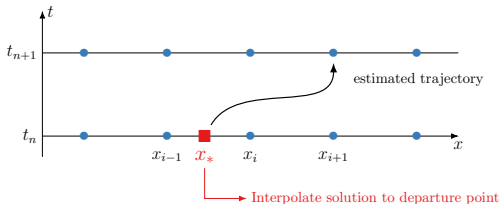
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# PlnT using semi-Lagrangian methods

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- Semi-Lagrangian treatment of advection: follow characteristics and interpolate solution from Eulerian grid

□ Improved stability  $\implies$  large time steps



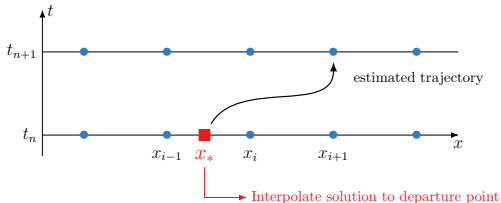
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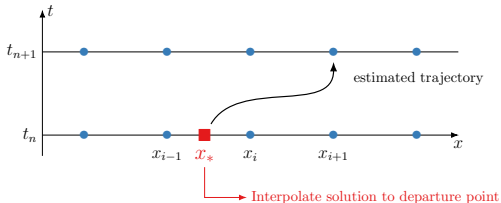


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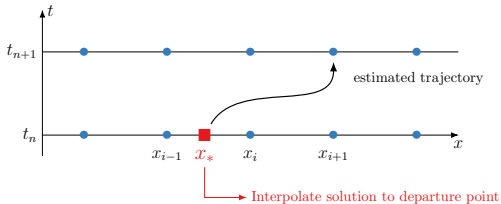


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- Replace coarse timestepping scheme by a reduced-order model (ROM):

- Low-dimensional approximation for the fine model
- Solved with the same small time step  $\delta t$  of  $\mathcal{F}_{\delta t}$
- Constructed from snapshots of the fine solution

$$u_{n+1}^{k+1} = \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(u_n^{k+1}) + \mathcal{F}_{\delta t}(u_n^k) - \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(u_n^k) \implies u_{n+1}^{k+1} = \mathcal{R}_{\delta t}^k(u_n^{k+1}) + \mathcal{F}_{\delta t}(u_n^k) - \mathcal{R}_{\delta t}^k(u_n^k)$$

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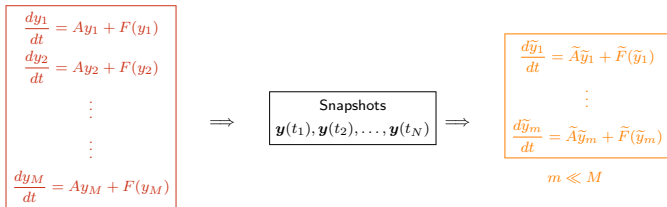
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$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\mathbf{U}(t)) + \frac{\partial}{\partial x} (\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{U}(t))) + \frac{\partial}{\partial y} (\mathbf{G}(\mathbf{U}(t))) = \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{U}(t))$$

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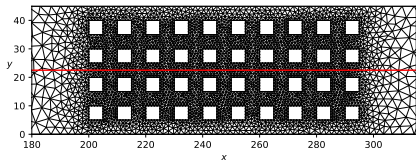
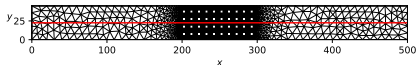
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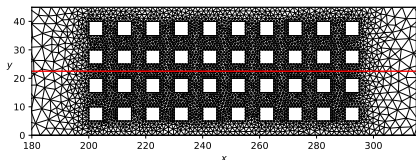
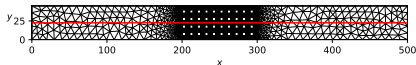
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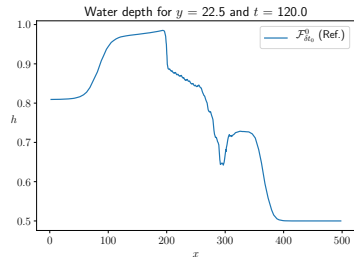
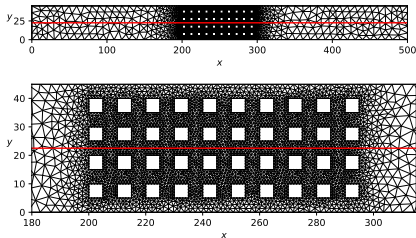




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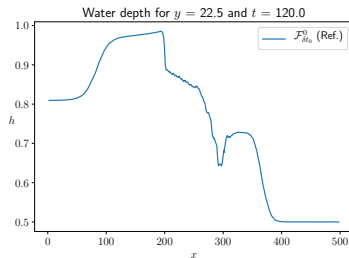
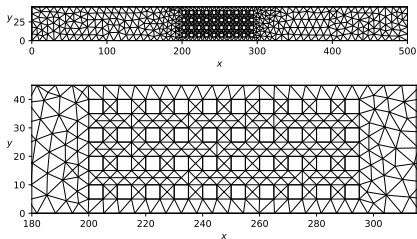
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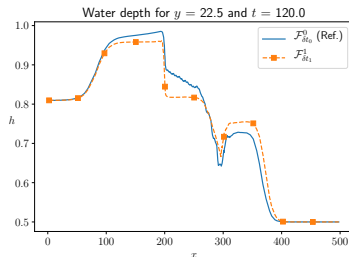
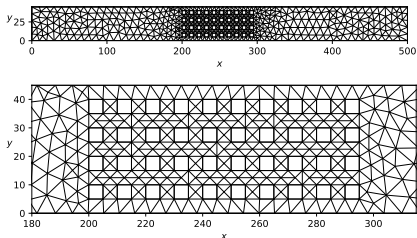
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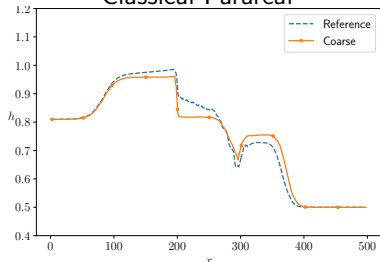


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Classical Parareal



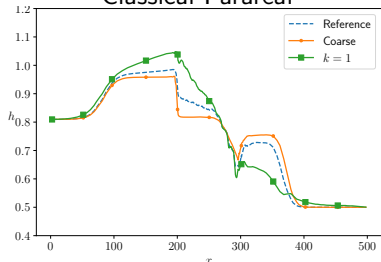
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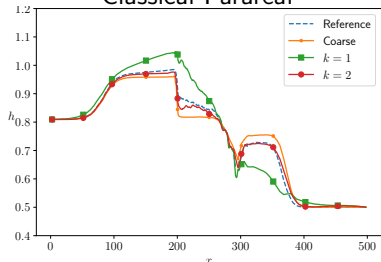
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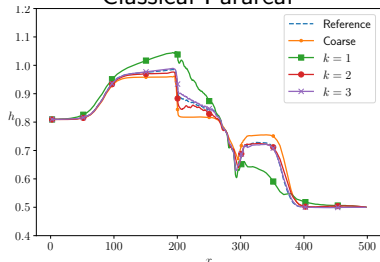
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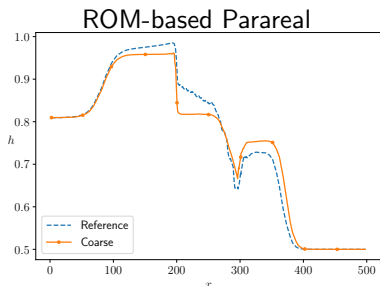
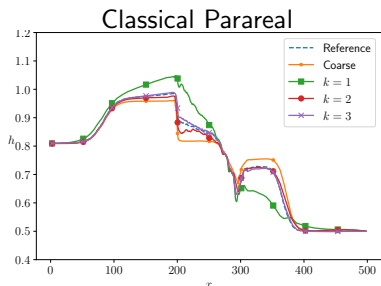


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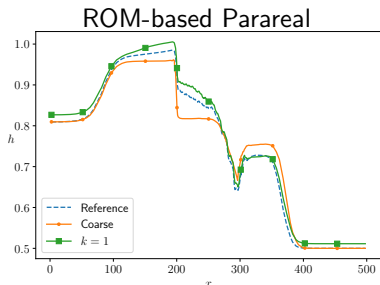
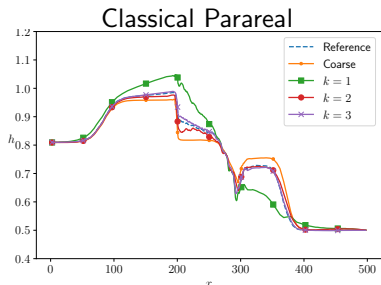
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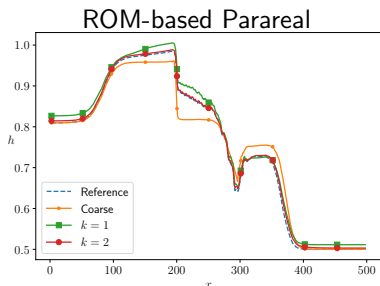
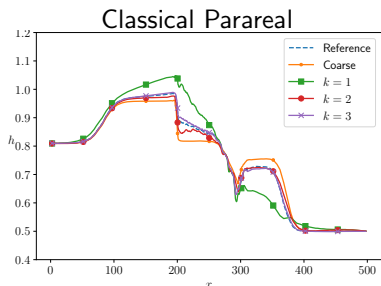
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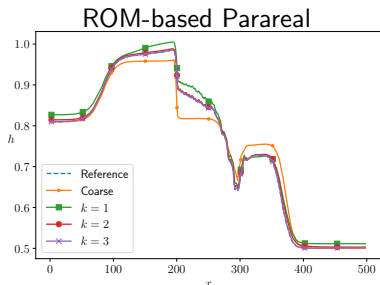
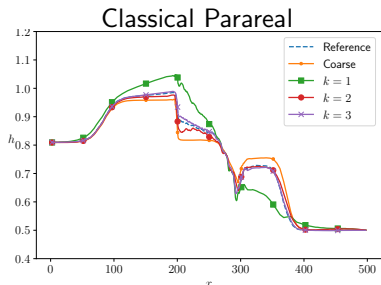
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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{U} &= \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{L}_C \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}_A(\mathbf{U}) + \mathbf{N}_R(\mathbf{U}) \\ &= \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U})\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi \\ \xi \\ \delta \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{L}_G(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\Phi} \delta \\ 0 \\ -\nabla^2 \Phi \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{L}_C(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\nabla \cdot (f\mathbf{V}) \\ -\mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla \times (f\mathbf{V}) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{N}_A(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \Phi \\ -\nabla \cdot (\xi \mathbf{V}) \\ \nabla^2 \left( \frac{\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{2} \right) + \mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla \times (\xi \mathbf{V}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{N}_R(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} -\Phi' \delta \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

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$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{U} &= \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{L}_C \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}_A(\mathbf{U}) + \mathbf{N}_R(\mathbf{U}) \\ &= \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U})\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{U} = \begin{pmatrix} \Phi \\ \xi \\ \delta \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{L}_G(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} \bar{\Phi} \delta \\ 0 \\ -\nabla^2 \Phi \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{L}_C(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -\nabla \cdot (f\mathbf{V}) \\ -\mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla \times (f\mathbf{V}) \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{N}_A(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} -\mathbf{V} \cdot \nabla \Phi \\ -\nabla \cdot (\xi \mathbf{V}) \\ \nabla^2 \left( \frac{\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{V}}{2} \right) + \mathbf{k} \cdot \nabla \times (\xi \mathbf{V}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{N}_R(\mathbf{U}) = \begin{pmatrix} -\Phi' \delta \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

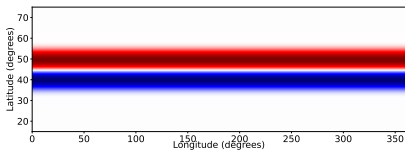
# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

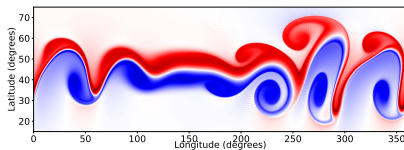
- Climate modelling and numerical weather prediction
- Shallow water equations on the rotating sphere
- Spatial discretization using spherical harmonics
- Challenges: large domains, development of small-scale spatial features

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \mathbf{U} &= \mathbf{L}_G \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{L}_C \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}_A(\mathbf{U}) + \mathbf{N}_R(\mathbf{U}) \\ &= \mathbf{L} \mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U})\end{aligned}$$

Vorticity field at  $t = 0$



Vorticity field at  $t = 144h$



[Galewsky, Scott, and Polvani (2004)]

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

- Two- and multilevel PinT (Parareal and MGRIT)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U})$$

- Which coarse time integration method?



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$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U})$$

- Which coarse time integration method?

- Implicit-Explicit (IMEX)

$$\mathbf{U}^{n+1} = \mathbf{F}_E^{\Delta t/2} \left( \mathbf{F}_I^{\Delta t} \left( \mathbf{F}_E^{\Delta t/2} (\mathbf{U}^n) \right) \right)$$

- Linear term: implicit
- Nonlinear term: explicit

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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- Which coarse time integration method?

- Implicit-Explicit (IMEX)

- SL-SI-SETTLS [Hortal (2002)]**

$$\frac{U^{n+1} - U_*^n}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{2} (\mathbf{L}U^{n+1} + \mathbf{L}U_*^n) + \mathbf{N}^{n+1/2}$$

- Semi-Lagrangian + semi-implicit
- Operational use in IFS-ECMWF

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

- Two- and multilevel PinT (Parareal and MGRIT)

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- Which coarse time integration method?

- Implicit-Explicit (IMEX)
- SL-SI-SETTLS [Hortal (2002)]
- Exponential integration: ETD RK [Cox and Matthews (2002)]**

$$\mathbf{U}^{n+1} = e^{\Delta t \mathbf{L}} \mathbf{U}^n + e^{\Delta t \mathbf{L}} \int_{t_n}^{t_{n+1}} e^{-(s-t_n)\mathbf{L}} \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U}(s)) ds \implies$$

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{U}_{\text{ETD1RK}}^{n+1} = \varphi_0(\Delta t \mathbf{L}) \mathbf{U}^n + \Delta t \varphi_1(\Delta t \mathbf{L}) \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U}^n) \\ \mathbf{U}_{\text{ETD2RK}}^{n+1} = \mathbf{U}_{\text{ETD1RK}}^{n+1} + \Delta t \varphi_2(\Delta t \mathbf{L}) [\mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U}_{\text{ETD1RK}}^{n+1}) - \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U}^n)] \end{cases}$$

- Linear term solved exactly
- Approximation for the nonlinear term
- $\varphi_k$ : matrix exponential functions

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

- Two- and multilevel PinT (Parareal and MGRIT)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} = \mathbf{L}\mathbf{U} + \mathbf{N}(\mathbf{U})$$

- Which coarse time integration method?

- Implicit-Explicit (IMEX)
- SL-SI-SETTLS [Hortal (2002)]
- Exponential integration: ETDK [Cox and Matthews (2002)]
- SL - Exponential integration: SL-ETDRK [Peixoto and Schreiber (2019)]**

$$\begin{cases} \mathbf{U}_{\text{SL-ETD1RK}}^{n+1} = \varphi_0(\Delta t L) \left[ \mathbf{U}^n + \Delta t \psi_1(\Delta t L) \tilde{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{U}^n) \right]^n_* \\ \mathbf{U}_{\text{SL-ETD2RK}}^{n+1} = \mathbf{U}_{\text{SL-ETD1RK}}^{n+1} + \Delta t \varphi_0(\Delta t L) \left[ \psi_2(\Delta t L) \tilde{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{U}_{\text{SL-ETD1RK}}^{n+1}) - \left( \psi_2(\Delta t L) \tilde{\mathbf{N}}(\mathbf{U}^n) \right)^n_* \right] \end{cases}$$

- SL-version of ETDK
- Improved stability

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Stability analysis:

- Consider the ODE (e.g. spectral discretization) and its linearization:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \lambda_L u + N(u), \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = \lambda_L u + \lambda_N u$$

- Stability in function of  $\xi_L := \lambda_L \Delta t \in \mathbb{C}$  and  $\xi_N := \lambda_N \Delta t \in \mathbb{C}$ :

$$|A_{\text{scheme}}(\xi_L, \xi_N)| \leq 1$$

where

$$u^{n+1} = A_{\text{scheme}} u^n$$

- Plot stability regions in function of  $Re(\xi_N)$  and  $Im(\xi_N)$  for fixed  $\xi_L = 0$  (geostrophic mode) and  $\xi_L \in i\mathbb{R}^*$  (inertia-gravity modes)

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# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Stability of Parareal [Staff and Rønquist (2005)]

- Fine scheme: timestep  $\delta t$  and stability function  $A_f$
- Coarse scheme: timestep  $\Delta t = m\delta t$  and stability function  $A_c$

$$u_n^k = \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(u_{n-1}^k) + \mathcal{F}_{\delta t}(u_{n-1}^{k-1}) - \mathcal{G}_{\Delta t}(u_{n-1}^{k-1})$$
$$\Rightarrow u_n^k = A_c u_{n-1}^k + (A_f^m - A_c) u_{n-1}^{k-1}$$

- Recurrence relation:

$$u_n^k = \underbrace{\left( \sum_{i=0}^{k-1} \binom{n}{i} (A_f^m - A_c)^i (A_c)^{n-i} \right)}_{A_{\text{parareal}}} u_0$$

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# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Stability of Parareal along iterations

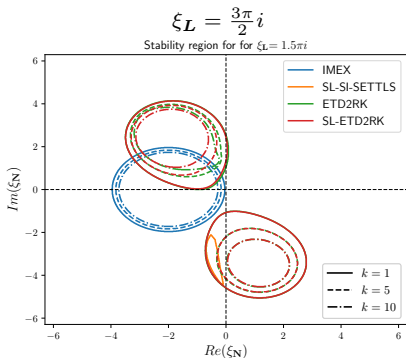
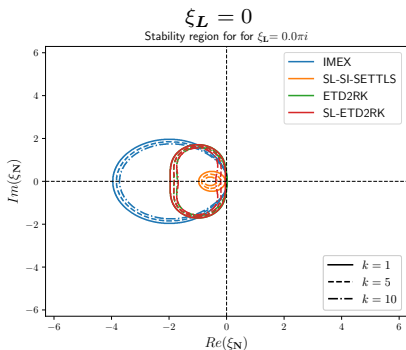
- Fine scheme: IMEX
- Coarse scheme: IMEX, SL-SI-SETTLS, ETD2RK, SL-ETD2RK
- $n = 2, m = 100$

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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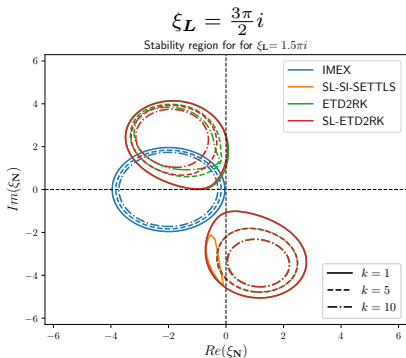
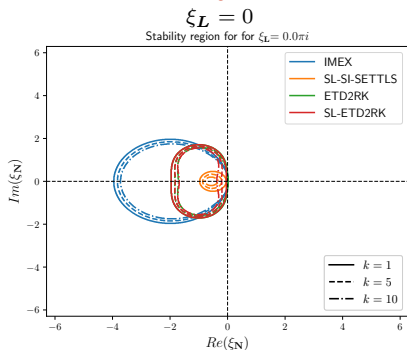
# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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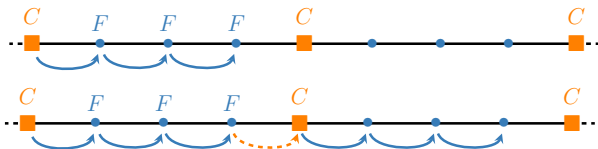
## ■ Loss of stability with SL-SI-SETTLS



# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

- Stability of MGRIT (two levels with  $F(CF)^{N_{\text{relax}}}$ )



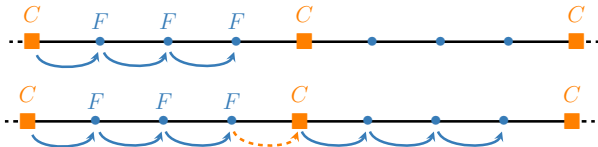
- Recurrence relation:

$$u_n^k = \underbrace{\left( \sum_{i=0}^{\lfloor k/(N_{\text{relax}}+1) \rfloor} \binom{n-iN_{\text{relax}}}{i} A_f^{mN_{\text{relax}}} (A_f^m - A_c)^i A_c^{n-i(N_{\text{relax}}+1)} \right)}_{A_{\text{MGRIT}}} u_0$$

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

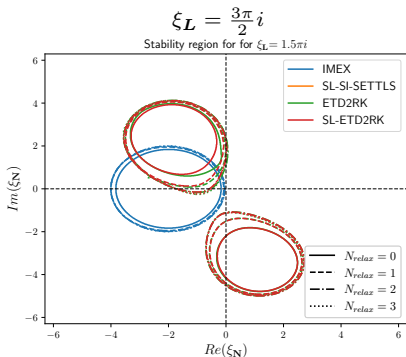
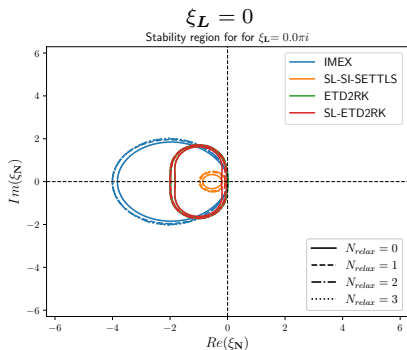
- Stability of MGRIT (two levels with  $F(CF)^{N_{\text{relax}}}$ )
  - Fine scheme: IMEX
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  - $n = 2, m = 100, k = 5$

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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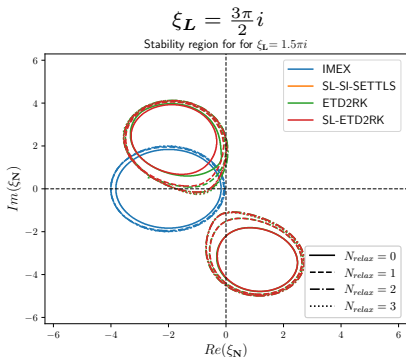
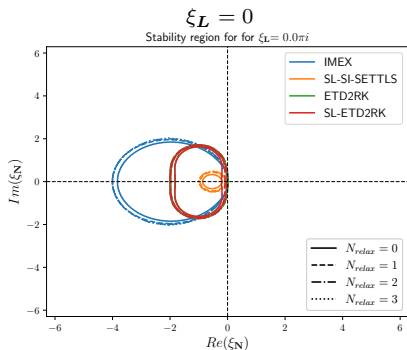
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Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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## ■ Increasing stability with more expensive relaxation



# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Test case: Gaussian bump

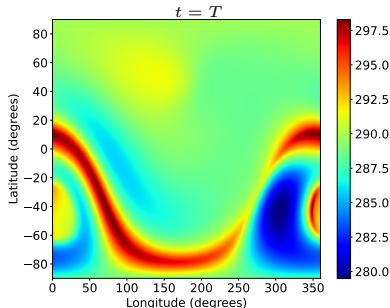
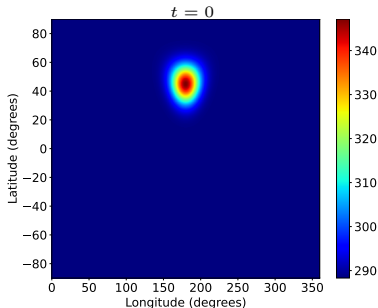
- $T = 102400$
- Reference solution:  $\delta t = 60$ , spectral resolution  $M = 256$
- Coarse levels: coarsening factor  $m$ , spectral resolution  $M_{\text{coarse}} = 128$
- Artificial diffusion
- Reference solution (geopotential field  $\Phi$ ):

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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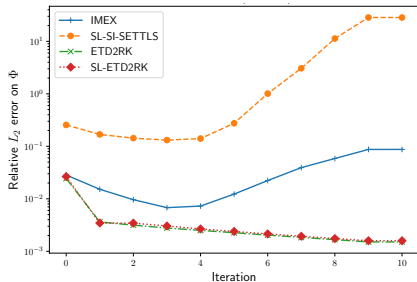
# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Test case: Gaussian bump

Errors in function of the coarse time stepping method

$$N_{\text{levels}} = 2, m = 2, N_{\text{relax}} = 4$$



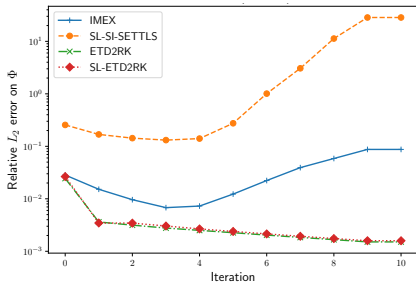
# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

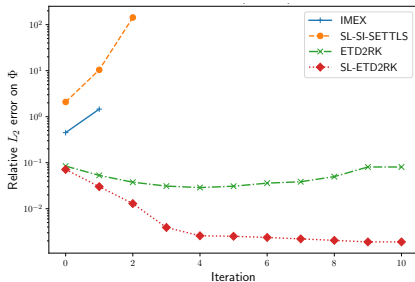
## Test case: Gaussian bump

Errors in function of the coarse time stepping method

$$N_{\text{levels}} = 2, m = 2, N_{\text{relax}} = 4$$



$$N_{\text{levels}} = 3, m = 4, N_{\text{relax}} = 1$$



- More levels  $\implies$  larger timestep in coarsest level  $\implies$  stability issues
- More convergence and stability with exponential methods, mainly SL

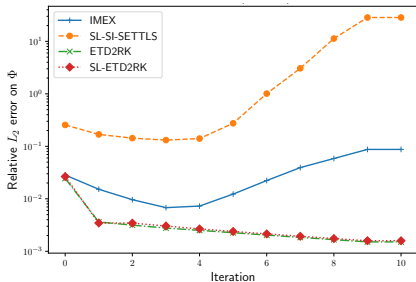
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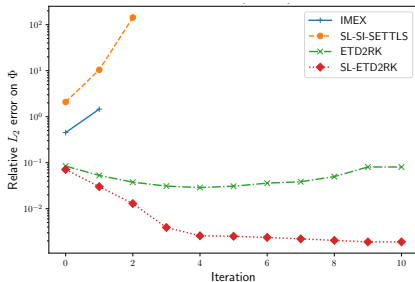
## Test case: Gaussian bump

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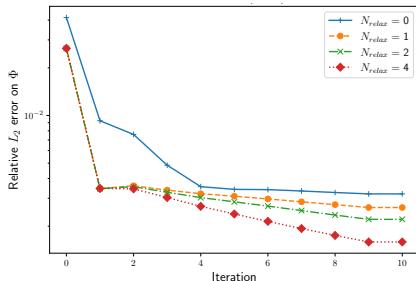
# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## Test case: Gaussian bump

Errors in function of  $N_{\text{relax}}$

$N_{\text{levels}} = 2$ ,  $m = 2$ , coarse time stepping method: SL-ETD2RK



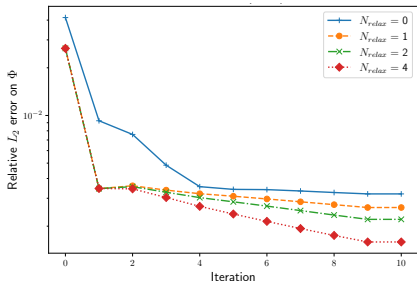
# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

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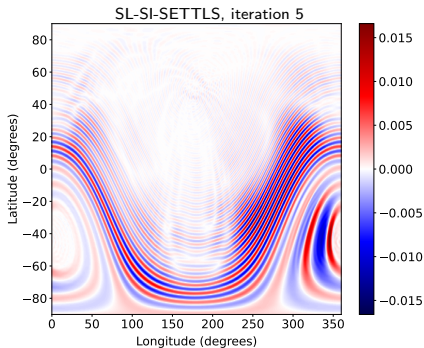
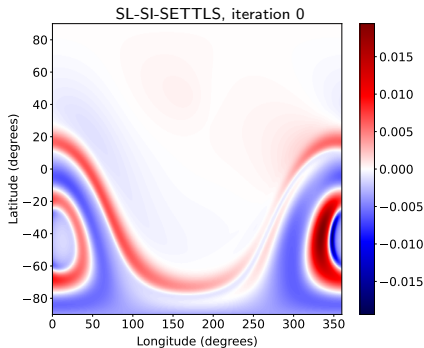
- Better convergence with more expensive relaxation;
- Convergence vs computational cost?

# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Test case: Gaussian bump

Relative error of geopotential  $\Phi$  at  $t = T$ :

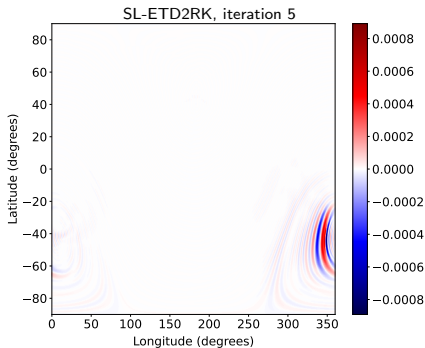
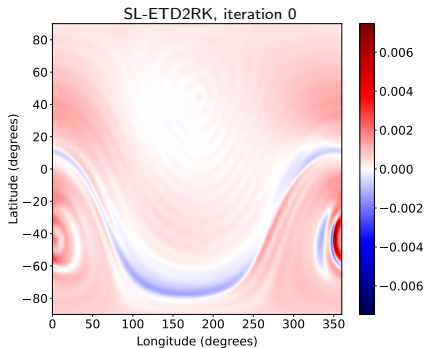


# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Test case: Gaussian bump

Relative error of geopotential  $\Phi$  at  $t = T$ :

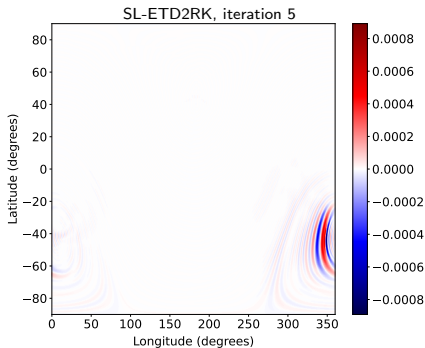
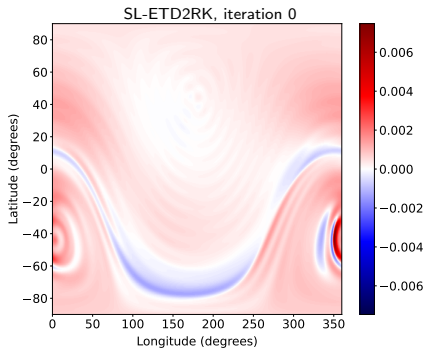


# Application: atmospheric circulation models

Ongoing work with Pedro Peixoto and Martin Schreiber

## ■ Test case: Gaussian bump

Relative error of geopotential  $\Phi$  at  $t = T$ :



## ■ Errors on small-scale spatial features



# Conclusions and perspectives

## ■ Parallel-in-time for fluid dynamics

- Demands from operational applications
- Challenges due to hyperbolic nature
- Configurations for improving convergence and stability
  - Choice of coarse time stepping method
  - Multilevel and relaxation strategies
- Trade-off with computational cost

## ■ Application to atmospheric circulation models

- Forecasting need to bring 2D - 5D models
- Short ranging operations
- Convergence and stability of small scale spatial features are still a challenge
- Parallel-in-time methods are promising for long range forecasting
- Evaluation of influence of operational choices

# Conclusions and perspectives

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## ■ Application to atmospheric circulation models

Forecasting need to employ 3D - GCM models

Short ranging operations

Convergence and stability of parallel-in-time methods for 3D GCM models

Parallel-in-time methods for operational forecasting

Forecasting of influence of operational decisions

# Conclusions and perspectives

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## ■ Application to atmospheric circulation models

Forecasting need to employ 3D - GCM models

Large temporal extension

Convergence and stability of small scale spatial features are still a challenge

Need for parallel-in-time methods for atmospheric models

Development of influence of operational schemes

# Conclusions and perspectives

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► Parallelization of the coarse solver

► Parallelization of the fine solver

► Parallelization of the relaxation (multigrid) solver

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► Parallelization of the relaxation (multigrid) solver

# Conclusions and perspectives

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  - Promising results using SL-EXP methods
  - More complex problems?
  - Convergence and stability of small-scale spatial features are still a bottleneck
  - Parallel implementation and evaluation of feasibility in practice
  - Evaluation of influence of artificial diffusion

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# Thank you!

joao.steinstraesser@usp.br

www.ime.usp.br/~joao.steinstraesser



Processo nº 2021/03777-2

# Outline

- Introduction
- Parallel-in-time methods
  - Parareal
  - MGRIT
- Some ideas for improving PinT
- Applications
  - Urban floods
  - Atmospheric circulation models



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