

FLUID-STRUCTURE INTERACTION  
IN ARTERIAL BLOOD FLOW:  
MODELING ANALYSIS AND SIMULATIONS

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FREE BOUNDARY FLOWS  
WITH STRONG INTERFACIAL EFFECTS

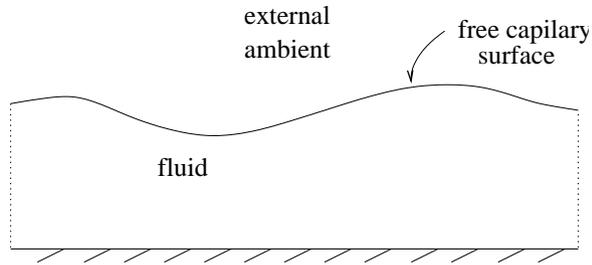
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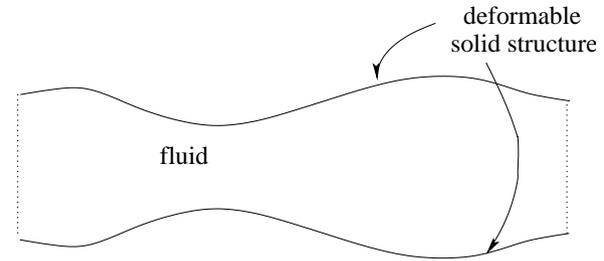
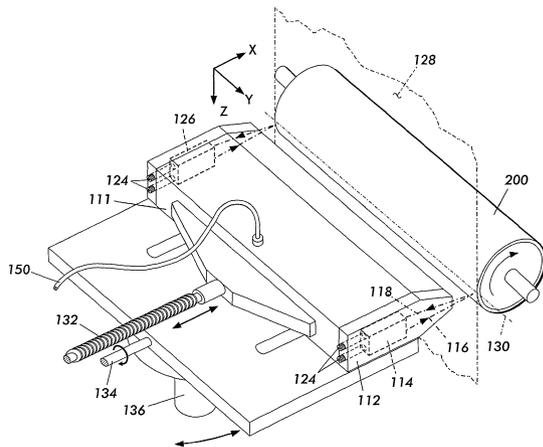
MODELING ANALYSIS AND SIMULATIONS

# Free Boundary Flows

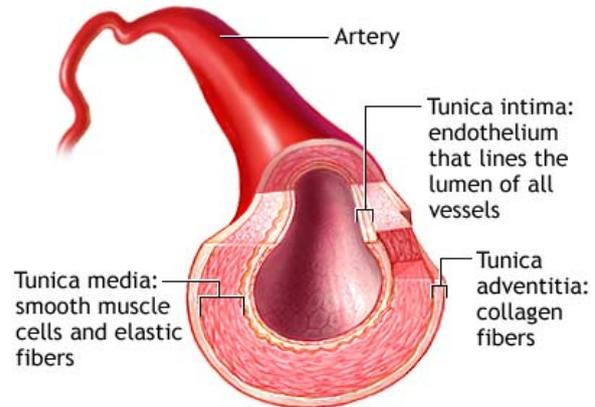
Free boundary flows involve deformable interfaces



Coating Flows

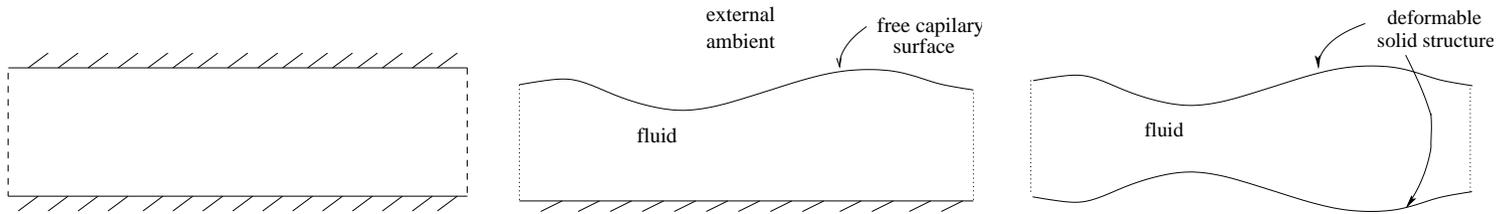


Arterial Blood Flow



# Free Boundary vs Fixed Domains

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- ▷ **Additional Unknowns.** one has to solve not only for the fluid velocity and pressure, but simultaneously also for the location of the interface and its evolution in time:

$$\mathbf{u}(x, y; t), p(x, y; t), \eta(x; t) \quad (1)$$

Fluid-structure interaction: solve elasticity equations

- ▷ **Additional Nonlinearities.** The interface deformation is coupled to the fluid flow both kinematically (continuity of the velocities) and dynamically (balance of stresses), and the coupling is nonlinear.

# Strong Interfacial Effects

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## Coating Flows

flow dominated  
by capillary effects

$$Ca = \mu V / \sigma < 1$$

$Ca$ : Capillary number

$\mu$ : fluid viscosity

$V$ : characteristic velocity

$\sigma$ : surface tension

## Arterial Blood Flow

fluid and structure  
of comparable densities

$$\rho_s / \rho_f \leq 1$$

$\rho_s$ : structure density

$\rho_f$ : fluid density

When interfacial effects are strong  
the coupling at the deformable interface is highly non-linear  
→ numerical instabilities

# Main Goal

---

**STATE OF THE ART:** Several commercial and non-commercial codes. Free boundary flows with strong interfacial effects are usually solved using **strongly coupled schemes**:  
robust and stable  
but with high computational costs and convergence issues

**MAIN GOAL:** Design schemes which combine  
stability  
low computational costs  
modularity

**STRATEGY:** use operator splitting method for time-discretization. Numerical instabilities can be controlled by treating carefully the kinematic and the dynamic coupling conditions.

# Plan of the talk

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## ▷ Arterial Blood Flow

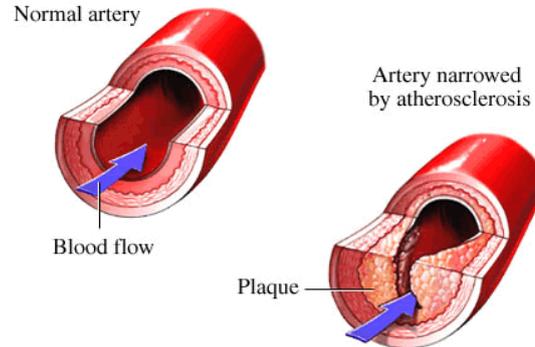
- Modeling: blood and vessel wall
- Full Problem vs Reduced Effective Models
- Numerical solutions of the Full Problem
  - Kinematically-coupled algorithm

## ▷ Coating Flow

- Slot Coater
- Comparison with Monolithic Scheme by Pasquali (Rice U.)

# Arterial Blood Flow - Motivation

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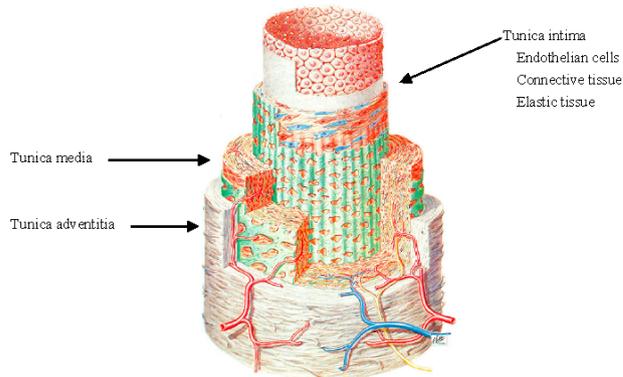
- cardiovascular diseases  $\leftrightarrow$  changes in blood flow and wall deformation (e.g. atherosclerosis, aneurysms,...)
- long-term success of clinical treatments  $\leftrightarrow$  changes induced on blood flow and body reaction
- fluid-structure interaction are mathematically very challenging

Proper resolution of fluid-structure interaction is one of the core problems!

# Arterial Blood Flow - Modeling

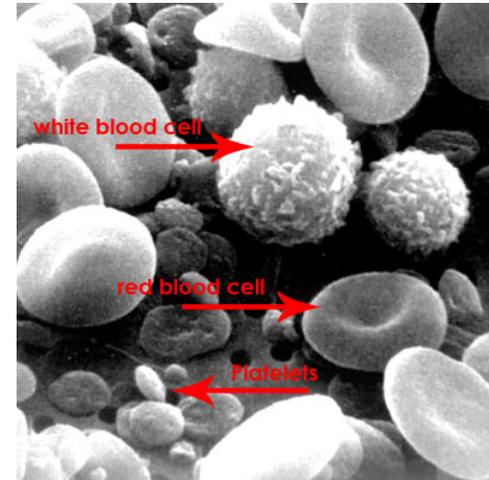
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Arterial wall



heterogeneous and anisotropic  
nonlinear and viscoelastic  
pre-stressed

Blood

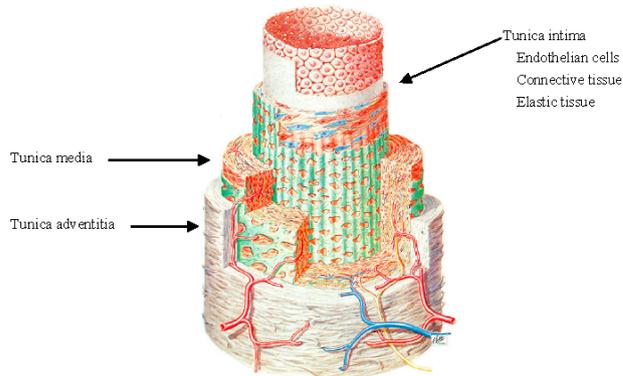


suspension  
cells and plasma  
complex rheology

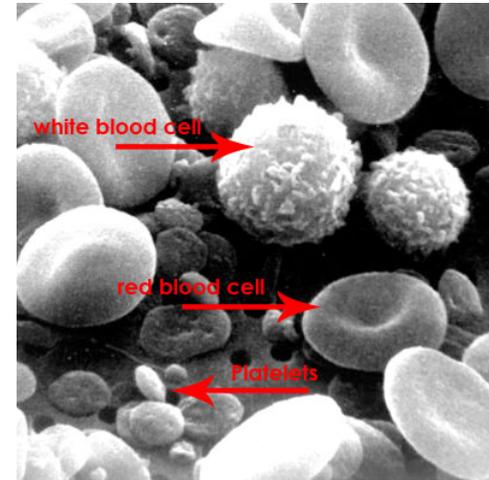
# Arterial Blood Flow - Modeling

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Arterial wall



Blood



Models for vessel wall (structure) and blood (fluid) which is:

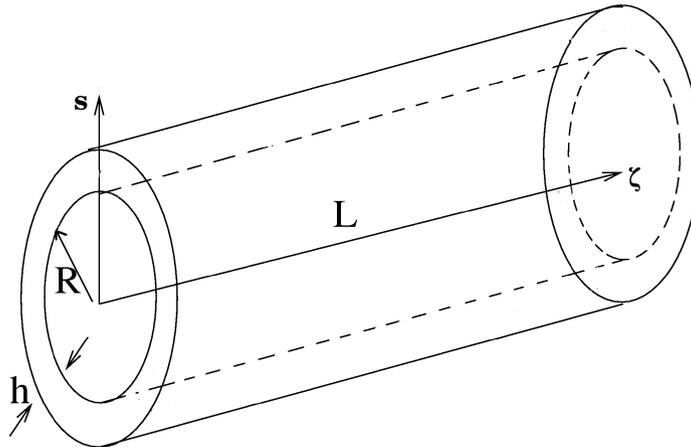
- **complicated** enough to catch the interesting phenomena
- **simple** enough to be solved in a reasonable way

→ **Reduced Effective Models helps!**

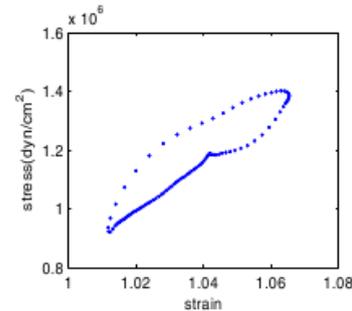
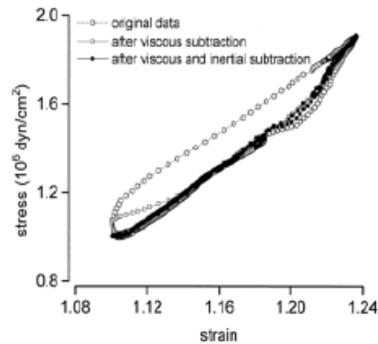
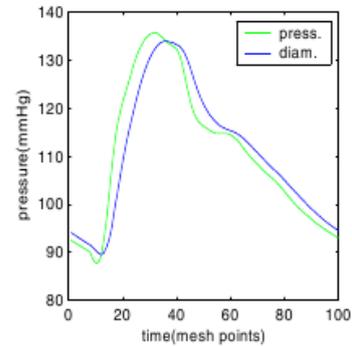
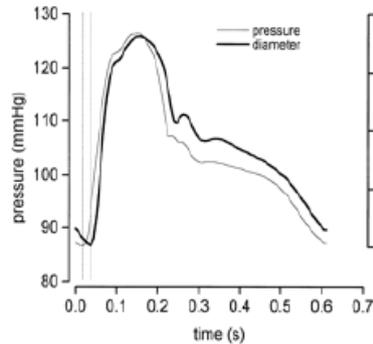
# Reduced Effective models

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- based **multiscale analysis** (e.g.  $R/L = \varepsilon$ ). Huge literature  
Barnard et al. 1964, Nosedà 1974, Quarteroni et al. 2000, Olufsen et al. 2000,  
Formaggia et al. 2002, Smith et al. 2002
- **averaged equations** on cross section  $\rightarrow$  **ad hoc closure**
- **homogenization theory** (Canic and Mikelić 2002)  $\rightarrow$  **no ad hoc closure**



# Wall viscoelasticity: mathematical or physiological?



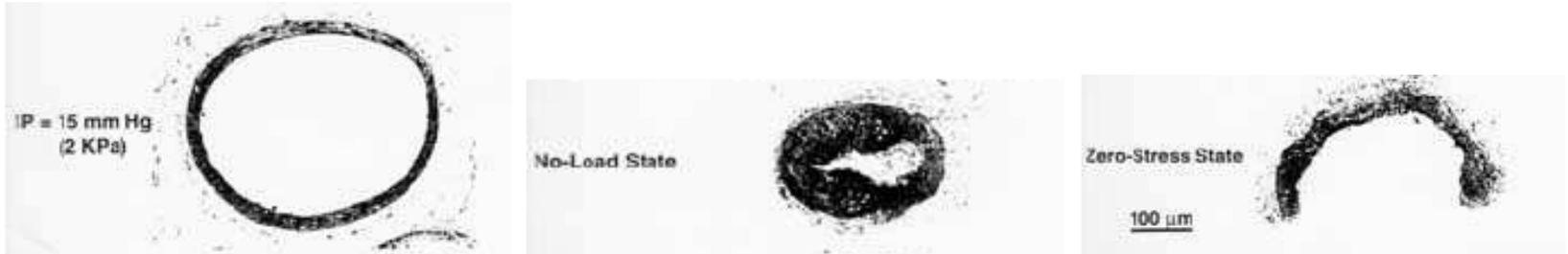
Left: In Vivo. Armentano et al. 1995

Right: Reduced Effective Model. Canic, Tambaca, Guidoboni, Mikelic, Hartley, Rosenstrauch 2006

(large-to-medium arteries, linear elasticity, thin shell, Kelvin-Voigt viscoelasticity)

# Other Modeling Issues

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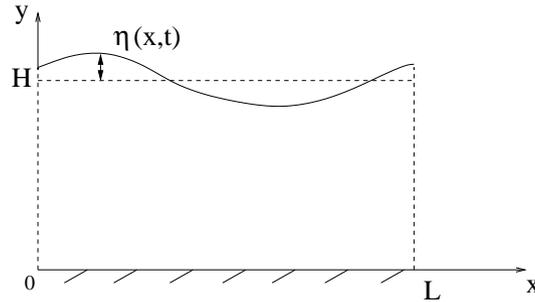


- **Prestress:** present but not very important (Mikelic, Guidoboni, Canic 2007)
- **Wall Displacement:** radial  $\gg$  longitudinal  $\rightarrow$  consider only radial
- **Wall Thickness:** we will consider thin walls
- **Blood:** large arteries: small non-Newtonian effects  $\rightarrow$  Navier-Stokes
- **Well-posedness:** open field!!!

Now we will see a specific model as a benchmark to present and test our novel numerical approach

# Benchmark Problem: Mathematical Model

---



Fluid: Navier-Stokes eqs

$$\rho_f(\partial_t \mathbf{u} + \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}) = -\nabla p + \mu \Delta \mathbf{u}, \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T),$$

$\mathbf{u} = (u_1, u_2)$ : fluid velocity;  $p$ : pressure,  $\rho_f$ : fluid density,  $\mu$ : fluid viscosity.

Dynamic and Kinematic Interfacial Coupling:

$$\rho_s h_s \partial_t^2 \eta + a \eta - b \partial_x^2 \eta - \gamma \partial_t \partial_x^2 \eta = p|_{y=\eta(x,t)} \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T),$$

$$\partial_t \eta = u_2|_{y=\eta(x,t)}, \quad u_1|_{y=\eta(x,t)} = 0$$

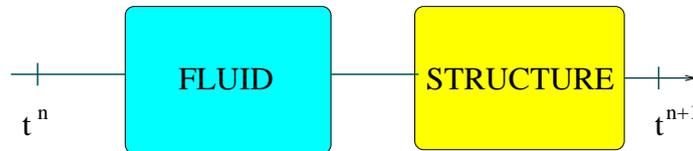
$\eta$ : transverse displacement;  $\rho_s$ : structure density;  $h_s$ : structure thickness;  $a, b, \gamma$ : elastic constants. (Causin, Gerbeau, Nobile 2005)

# Traditional Partitioned Schemes (Loosely Coupled)

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Farhat et al. 1998, Zhao et al. 1998, Quarteroni et al. 2000

1. Given  $\eta$  and  $\partial_t \eta$  at  $t^n$
2. Use  $\partial_t \eta$  at  $t^n$  as Dirichlet condition for the fluid  $\rightarrow$  compute  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $p$   
fluid solver with given b.c.
3. Use it to force the structure  $\rightarrow$  compute  $\eta$  and  $\partial_t \eta$   
structure solver with given load
4. go to  $t^{n+1}$  and Step1



cheap and modular

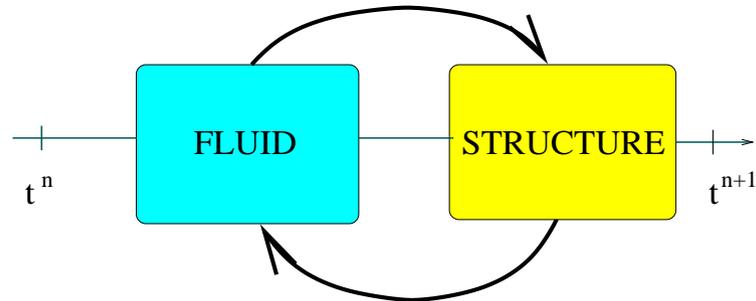
stable in aeroelasticity, unstable in blood flow

ADDED MASS EFFECT Causin, Gerbeau, Nobile 2005

# Strongly Coupled Schemes

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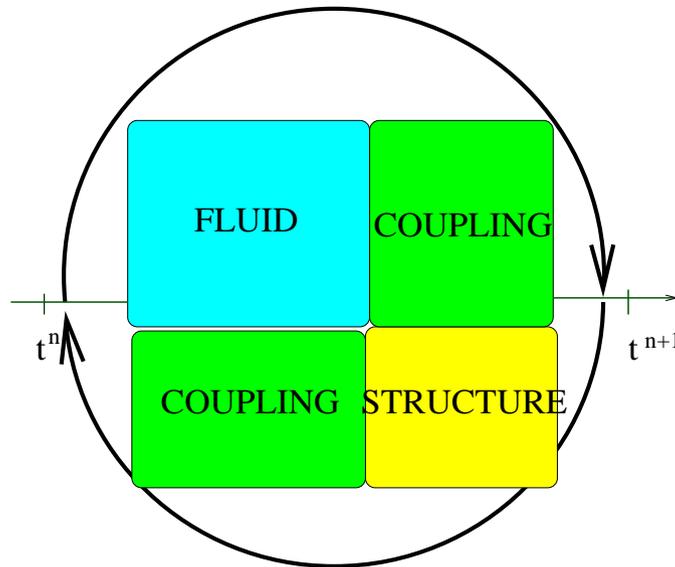
- **Implicit:** iterate between fluid and structure till the coupling conditions are satisfied to a certain tolerance. Quarteroni, Nobile, Formaggia



# Strongly Coupled Schemes

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- **Implicit:** iterate between fluid and structure till the coupling conditions are satisfied to a certain tolerance. Quarteroni, Nobile, Formaggia
- **Monolithic:** linearize the problem, write a large system involving all the unknowns, use iterative techniques to solve the nonlinear problem. Hughes, Taylor



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- **Quasi-Monolithic:** a thin structure is incorporated into the fluid equations via a Robin-like boundary condition. Nobile, Vergara

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Our Goal: combine stability of strongly coupled schemes with low computational cost and modularity of loosely coupled schemes

# Kinematically-coupled scheme: Main Ideas

---

Guidoboni, Glowinski, Cavallini, Canic, Lapin (AML)

→ Time-discretization via operator splitting.

Splitting at differential level: freedom to use different time steps and/or space approximations in different substeps

→ Cardinal role of kinematic condition. (Kinematically-coupled scheme)

(1) first-order formulation → operator-splitting theory

(2) link velocities of fluid & structure → Added-Mass Effect

→ Split hyperbolic & parabolic parts.

Traditional schemes follow multi-physics: fluid vs structure

Our scheme follows multi-math: hyperbolic vs parabolic

Deeply related to our analytical studies on well-posedness

Kim, Canic, Guidoboni, Mikelic

# Mathematical Model: New notation

---

Assume small displacement  $\rightarrow$  fix fluid domain

$$\begin{aligned}\rho_f \partial_t \mathbf{u} &= \Phi(\mathbf{u}, p), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \rho_s h_s \partial_t^2 \eta &= \Psi(\eta) + \Pi(\partial_t \eta) + \Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p) \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T), \\ \partial_t \eta &= u_2|_{y=H} \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T),\end{aligned}$$

with:

$$\Phi(\mathbf{u}, p) = -\rho_f \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - \nabla p + \mu \Delta \mathbf{u}$$

$$\Psi(\eta) = -a\eta + b\partial_x^2 \eta \rightarrow \text{elasticity}$$

$$\Pi(\partial_t \eta) = \gamma \partial_x^2 \partial_t \eta \rightarrow \text{viscoelasticity}$$

$$\Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p) = p|_{y=H} \rightarrow \text{interfacial hydrodynamic load}$$

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$$\Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p) = p|_{y=H} \rightarrow \text{interfacial hydrodynamic load}$$

Use the kinematic condition  $\partial_t \eta = u_2|_{y=H}$   
to obtain a first-order formulation

# Mathematical Model: New formulation

---

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becomes:

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Now we can properly apply the operator splitting technique  
for the time discretization

# Operator Splitting Method

---

Consider the initial value problem:

$$\partial_t \varphi + A(\varphi, t) = 0 \quad \text{in } (0, T), \quad \varphi(0) = \varphi_0 \quad (2)$$

Assume  $A = A_1 + A_2$ .

Let  $\varphi^n = \varphi(t^n)$  be given.

1. Solve first

$$\partial_t \varphi + A_1(\varphi, t) = 0 \quad \text{in } (t^n, t^{n+1}), \quad \varphi(t^n) = \varphi^n \quad (3)$$

and then set  $\varphi(t^{n+1/2}) = \varphi^{n+1/2}$ .

2. Then solve

$$\partial_t \varphi + A_2(\varphi, t) = 0 \quad \text{in } (t^n, t^{n+1}), \quad \varphi(t^n) = \varphi^{n+1/2} \quad (4)$$

and then set  $\varphi(t^{n+1}) = \varphi^{n+1}$ .

(see e.g. Yanenko (1971), Marchuk(1975,1990), Glowinski (2003))

# Operator Splitting Method - Remarks

---

- the decomposition is **not unique**
- the **communication** between sub-steps is through the initial conditions  
→ modules of black boxes
- **freedom** of using different time steps and/or spatial approx. for the same variable in different substeps
- **stability** may be achieved with different choices for the decomposition of  $A$
- splitting error may compromise **accuracy**  
→ symmetrization

# Kinematically-coupled scheme

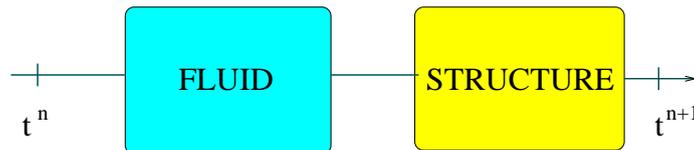
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Step1:

$$\begin{aligned}\varrho_f \partial_t \mathbf{u} &= \Phi(\mathbf{u}, p), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \varrho_s h_s \partial_t u_2|_{y=H} &= \Psi(\eta) + \Pi(u_2|_{y=H}) + \Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p) \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T) \\ \partial_t \eta &= u_2|_{y=H} \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T).\end{aligned}$$

Step2:

$$\begin{aligned}\varrho_f \partial_t \mathbf{u} &= \Phi(\mathbf{u}, p), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (0, T), \\ \varrho_s h_s \partial_t u_2|_{y=H} &= \Psi(\eta) + \Pi(u_2|_{y=H}) + \Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p) \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T) \\ \partial_t \eta &= u_2|_{y=H} \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (0, T).\end{aligned}$$



# Kinematically-coupled scheme: Step1

---

Given  $\mathbf{u}(t^n) = \mathbf{u}^n$ ,  $\eta(t^n) = \eta^n$ , and  $\partial_t \eta(t^n) = g^n$ , solve:

$$\begin{aligned} \varrho_f \partial_t \mathbf{u} &= \Phi(\mathbf{u}, p), \quad \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u} = 0, \quad \text{in } \Omega \times (t^n, t^{n+1}), \\ \varrho_s h_s \partial_t u_2|_{y=H} &= \Pi(u_2|_{y=H}) + \Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p), \quad \text{on } (0, L) \times (t^n, t^{n+1}), \end{aligned}$$

and then set  $\mathbf{u}(t^{n+1}) = \mathbf{u}^{n+1/2}$  and  $p(t^{n+1}) = p^{n+1}$ .

## MAIN IDEA:

The hydrodynamic part of the structure equation

$$\Pi(u_2|_{y=H}) + \Upsilon(\mathbf{u}, p)$$

(viscoelasticity and fluid stress on the interface)

are treated together with the fluid equations

→ more inertia on the interface avoiding Added-Mass effect

## Kinematically-coupled scheme: Step2

---

Given  $\eta(t^n) = \eta^n$ , and  $\partial_t \eta(t^n) = u_2|_{y=H}^{n+1/2}$ , solve:

$$\partial_t \eta = u_2|_{y=H}$$

$$\rho_s h_s \partial_t u_2|_{y=H} = \Psi(\eta)$$

on  $(0, L) \times (t^n, t^{n+1})$ , and then set  $\eta(t^{n+1}) = \eta^{n+1}$  and  $\partial_t \eta(t^{n+1}) = u_2|_{y=H}^{n+1}$ .

**MAIN IDEA:**

The elastic part of the structure equation

$$\Psi(\eta)$$

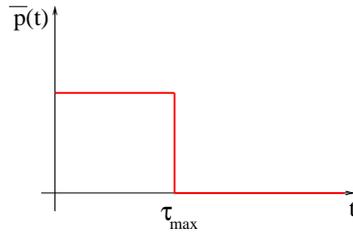
is non-dissipative and it is treated in a separate step

→ non-dissipative solver

# Blood Flow - Numerical Test

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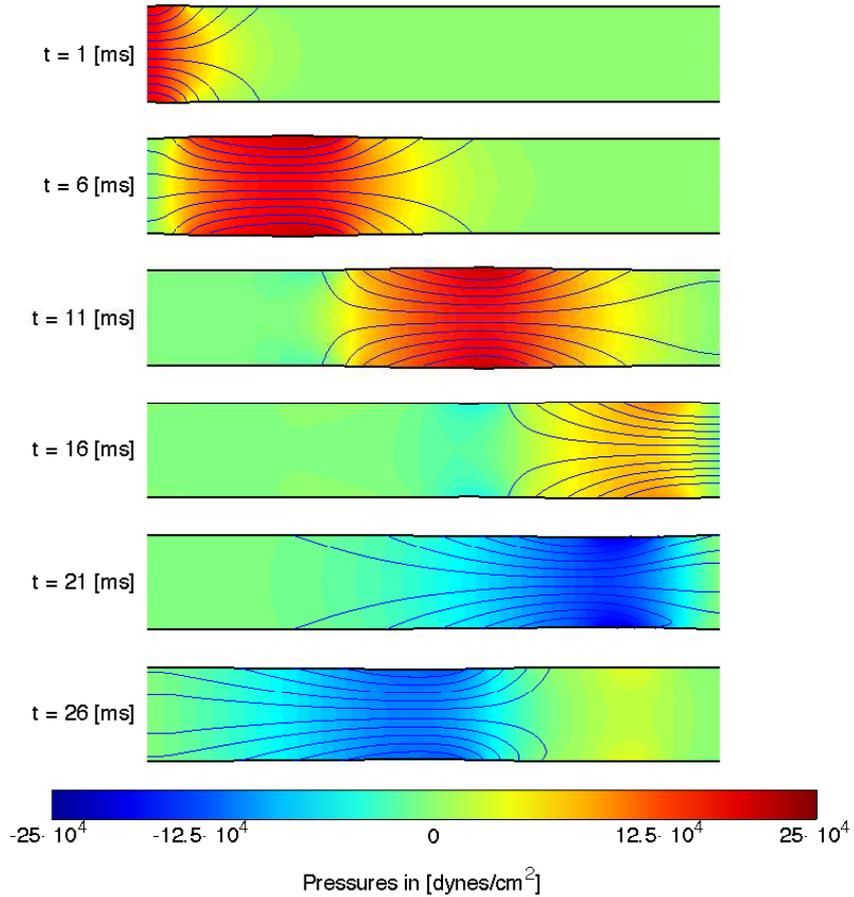
Benchmark Test: Formaggia et al. 2001. [SHOW MOVIE](#)



|                           |                 |                             |                            |
|---------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| viscosity                 | $\mu$           | 0.035                       | poise                      |
| fluid density             | $\rho_f$        | 1                           | $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$     |
| young modulus             | $E$             | $0.75 \cdot 10^6$           | $\text{dynes}/\text{cm}^2$ |
| poisson coefficient       | $\sigma$        | 0.5                         | [1]                        |
| structure density         | $\rho_s$        | 1.1                         | $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$     |
| structure thickness       | $h_s$           | 0.1                         | cm                         |
| shear modulus             | $G$             | $\frac{E h_s}{2(1+\sigma)}$ | $\text{dynes}/\text{cm}^2$ |
| structure viscoelasticity | $\gamma$        | 0.01                        | poise $\cdot$ cm           |
| inlet pressure            | $\bar{p}_{max}$ | $2 \cdot 10^4$              | $\text{dynes}/\text{cm}^2$ |
| inlet pressure duration   | $\tau_{max}$    | 5                           | ms                         |

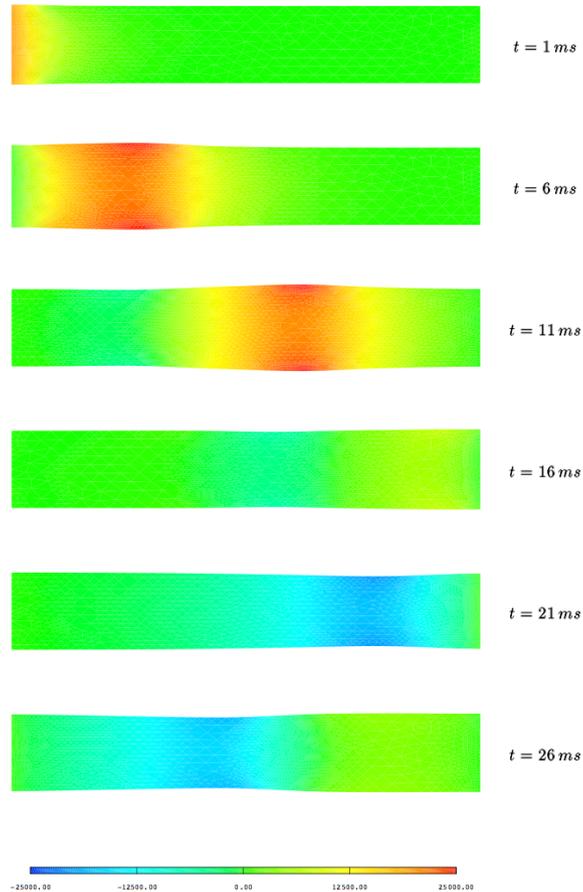
# Results with the kinematically-coupled scheme

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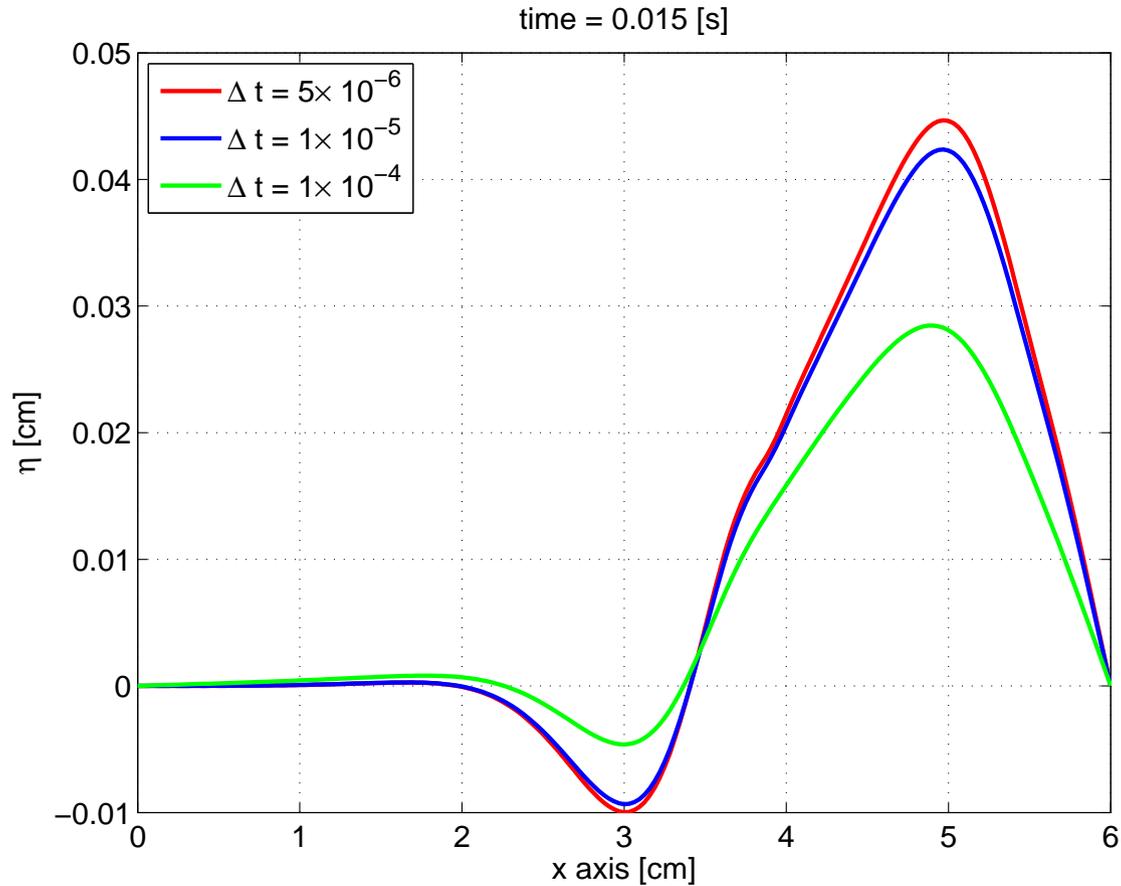
# Results with implicit scheme by Formaggia et al. 2001

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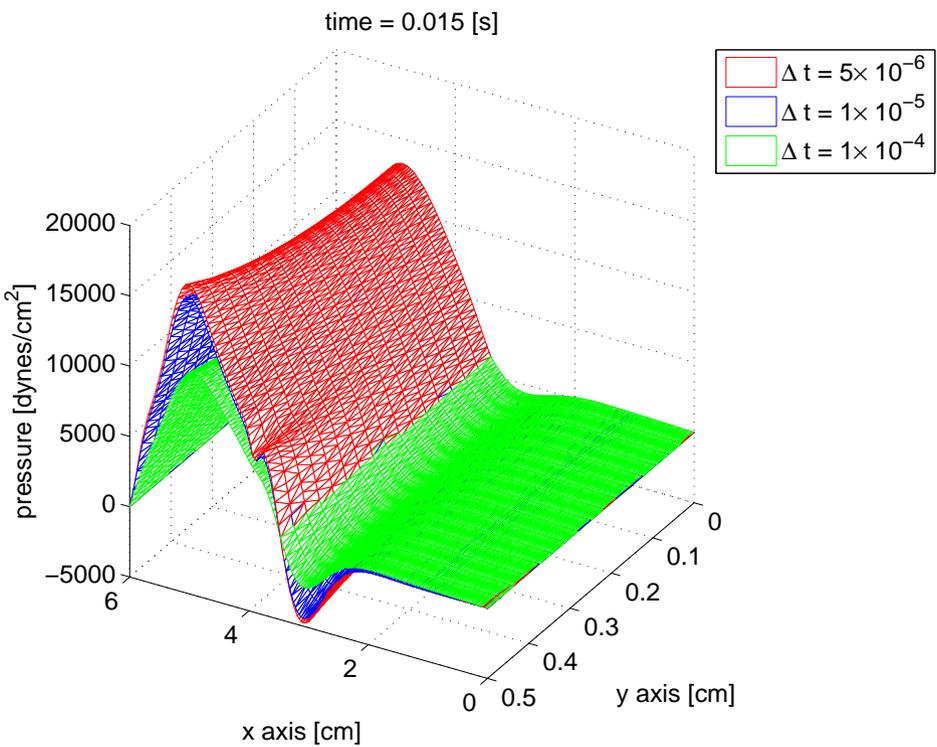


# Different time steps: displacement

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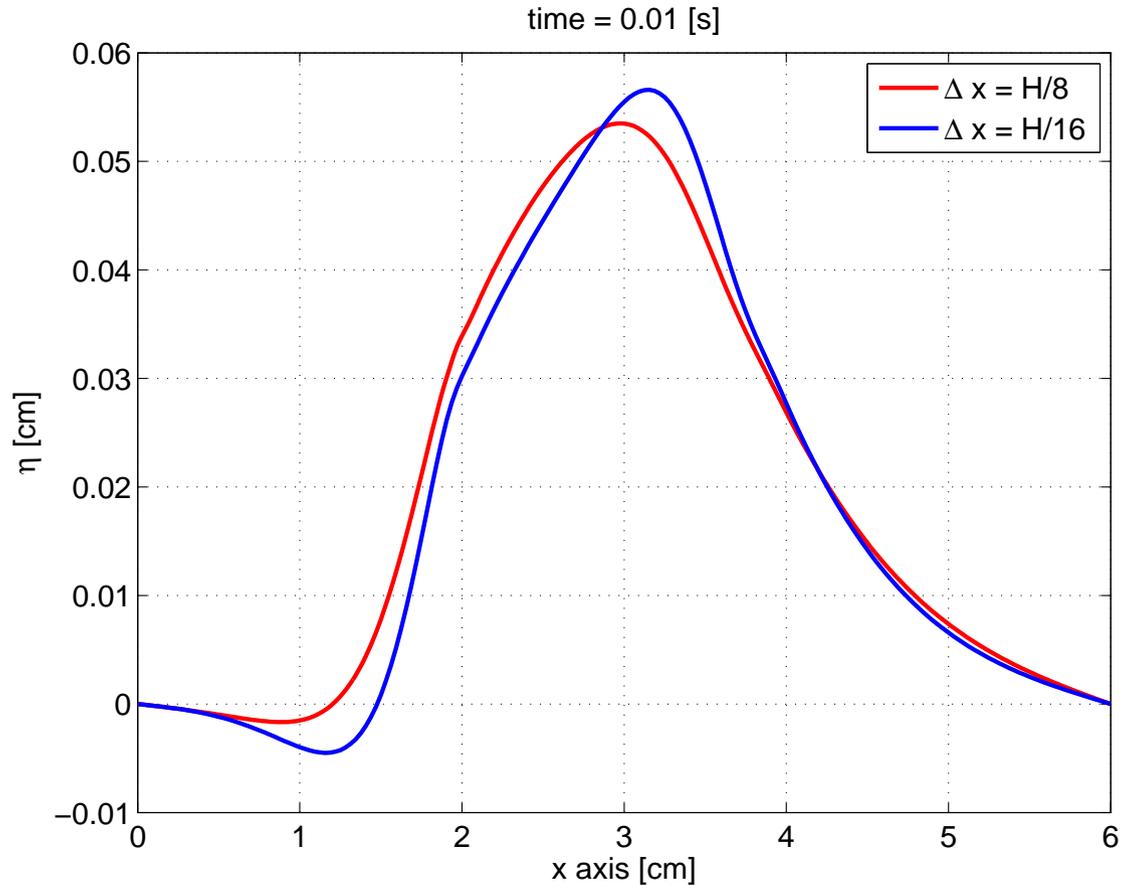


# Different time steps: pressure



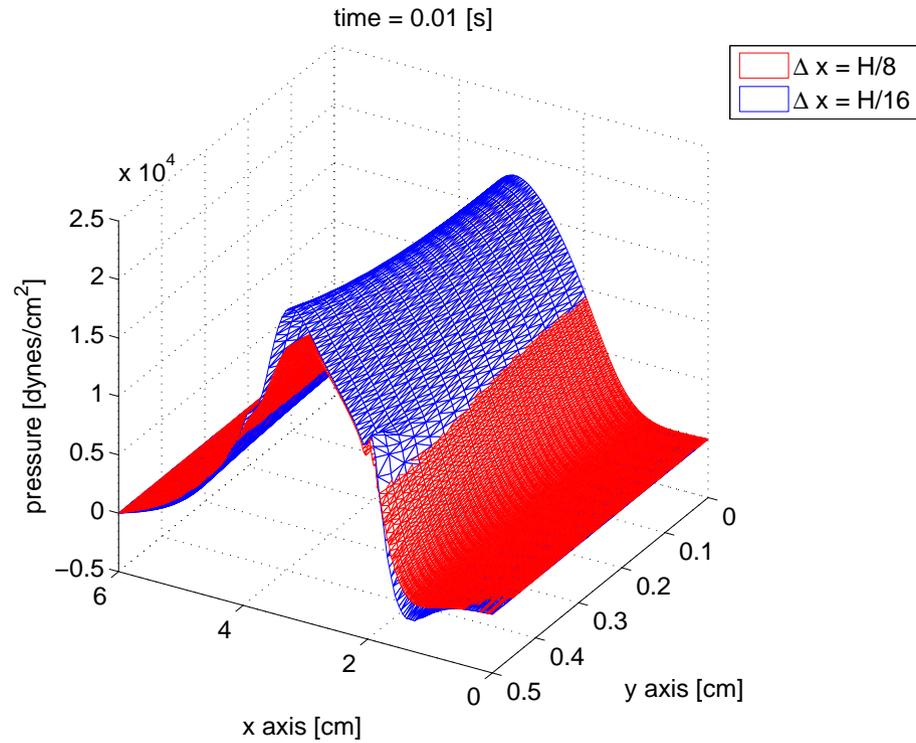
# Different time steps and mesh size: displacement

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# Different time steps and mesh size: pressure

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# Blood Flow - Numerical Test

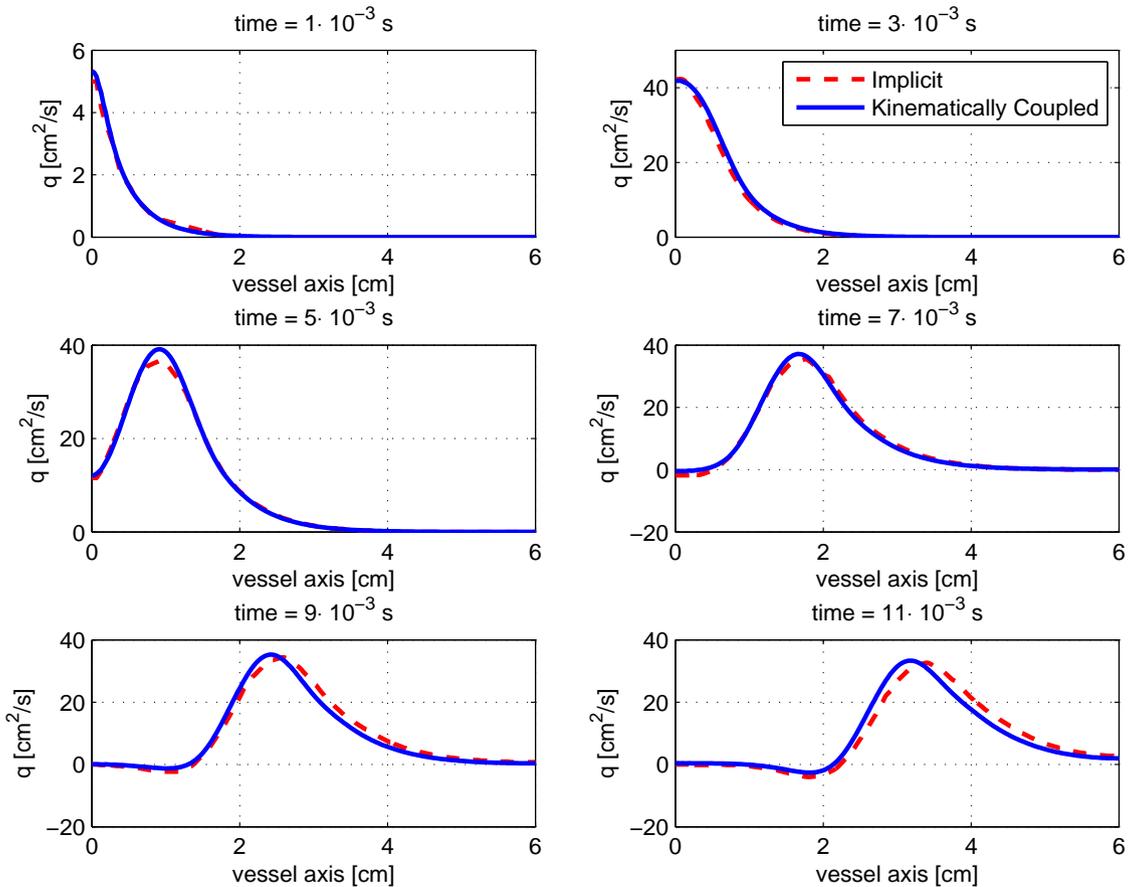
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Benchmark Test: density ratio beyond critical limit

|                          |                 |                             |                                |
|--------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| viscosity                | $\mu$           | 0.035                       | poise                          |
| fluid density            | $\rho_f$        | 10                          | $\text{g/cm}^3$                |
| young modulus            | $E$             | $0.75 \cdot 10^6$           | $\text{dynes/cm}^3$            |
| poisson coefficient      | $\sigma$        | 0.5                         | [1]                            |
| membrane density         | $\rho_s$        | 1.1                         | $\text{g/cm}^2$                |
| membrane thickness       | $h_s$           | 0.1                         | cm                             |
| shear modulus            | $G$             | $\frac{E h_s}{2(1+\sigma)}$ | $\text{dynes/cm}$              |
| membrane viscoelasticity | $\gamma$        | 0.01                        | $\text{poise} \cdot \text{cm}$ |
| inlet pressure           | $\bar{p}_{max}$ | $2 \cdot 10^4$              | $\text{dynes/cm}^2$            |
| inlet pressure duration  | $\tau_{max}$    | 5                           | ms                             |

SHOW MOVIE

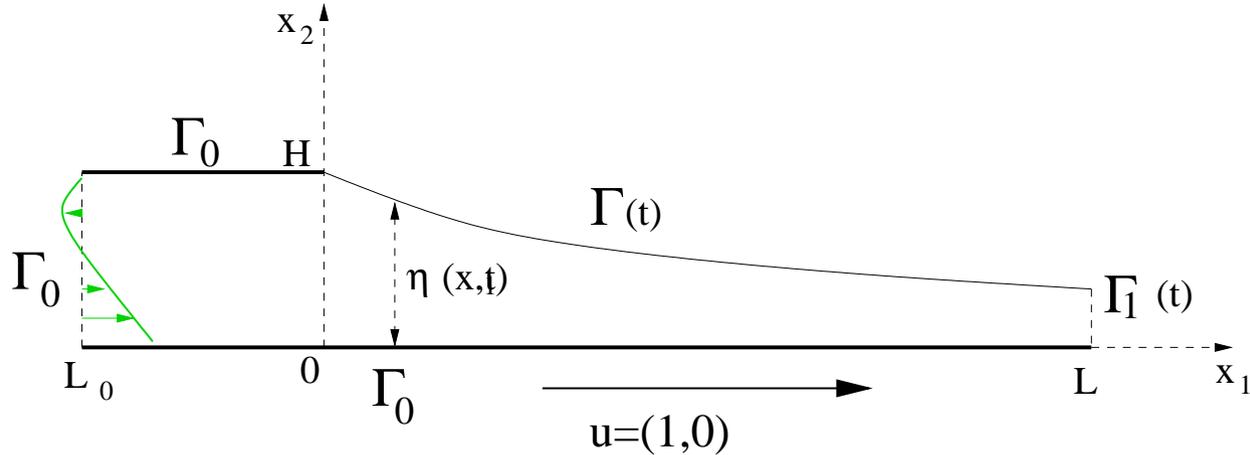
# Comparison with implicit schemes - Flow rate



(Implicit scheme results from Nobile PhD Thesis)

# Capillary Surface - Slot Coater

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Milestone work: Silliman (1979)

Monolithic Algorithm: Pasquali and Scriven (2004).

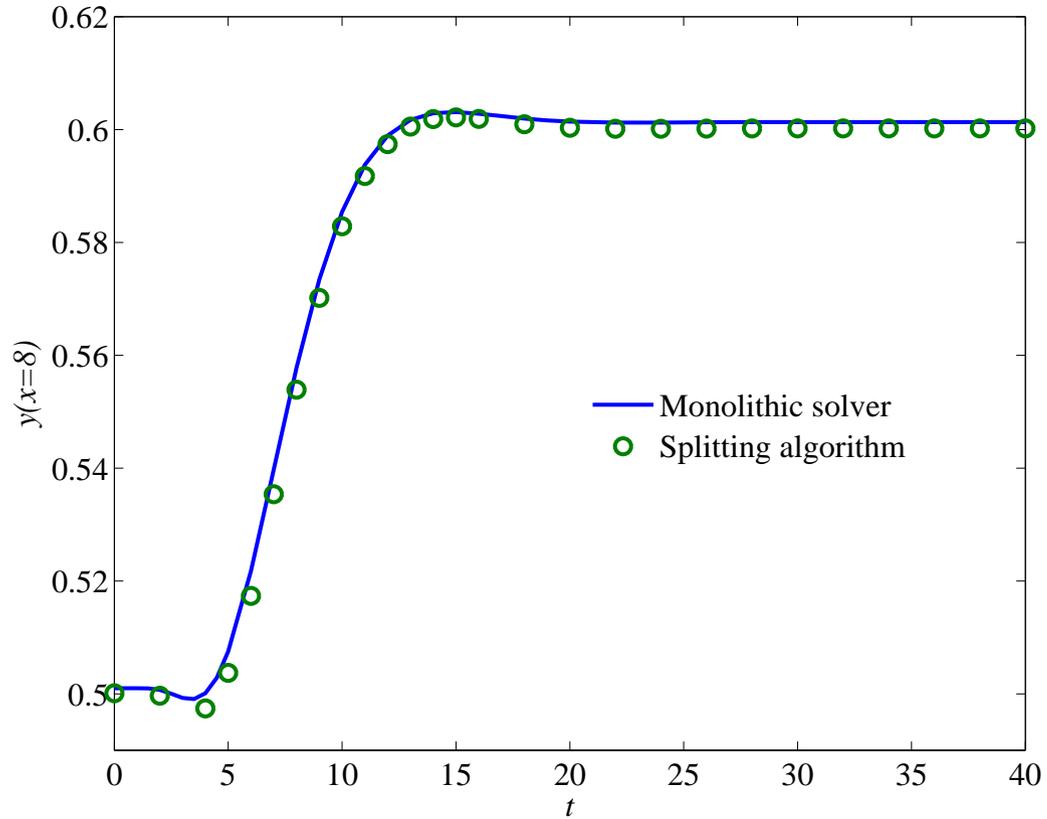
Comparison splitting/monolithic:

G. Guidoboni, R. Glowinski, M. Pasquali. Submitted to JCAM.



# Time evolution of the height of the free surface at $x = 8$

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# FUTURE DIRECTIONS

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- *Thick structure*: work in progress
- *Accuracy*: first-order. Symmetrization?
- 3-D
- Clinically relevant problems

# Thank you!

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## GRANTS

NSF/NIH NIGMS, ARP Texas Higher Education Board, UH