

FINITE ELEMENT EXTERIOR CALCULUS APPLIED TO INCOMPRESSIBLE NAVIER-STOKES EQUATIONS.

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We study the application of discrete de Rham complex to incompressible fluid equations in three dimensions. The discrete de Rham complex we use is based upon exterior calculus and was introduced by D. Arnold [4]. We devise a new formulation and scheme to solve the Navier-Stokes equations that preserve desirable properties: mainly the solutions are pointwise divergence free and the scheme is pressure-robust ([3]). Our scheme works for arbitrary order and keeps a low number of unknowns at low order. The use of rather common elements (i.e. belonging to the periodic table [2]) allows for an easy implementation using e.g. the FEniCS computing platform [1].

We prove the well-posedness as well as an error estimate in space for the linearized equations. We validate our results numerically and show some interesting perspectives, especially for rotating fluids for which we found convincing prediction of their qualitative behavior.

References

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