
Numerical simulations of rarefied gases in curved channels: thermal creep, circulating flow, and pumping effect.

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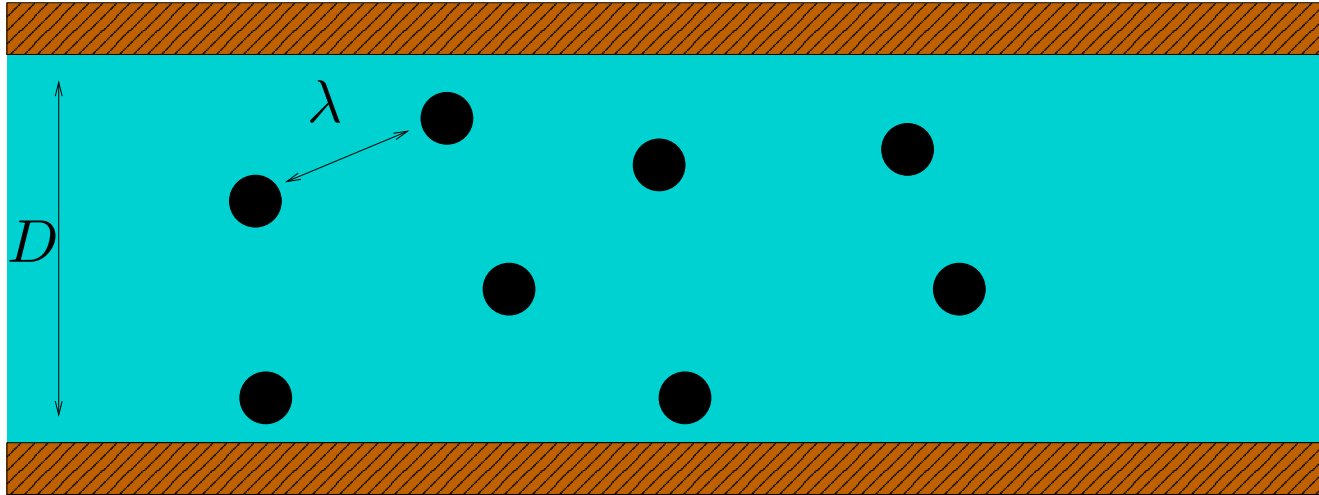
Toulouse

collaborators: K. Aoki, S. Takata, H. Yoshida (Kyoto), P. Degond (Toulouse)

1. Introduction
2. Thermal creep flow and pumping effect
3. A new Knudsen compressor
4. Kinetic theory
5. Deterministic numerical method
6. Numerical simulations
7. Asymptotic model
8. Perspectives

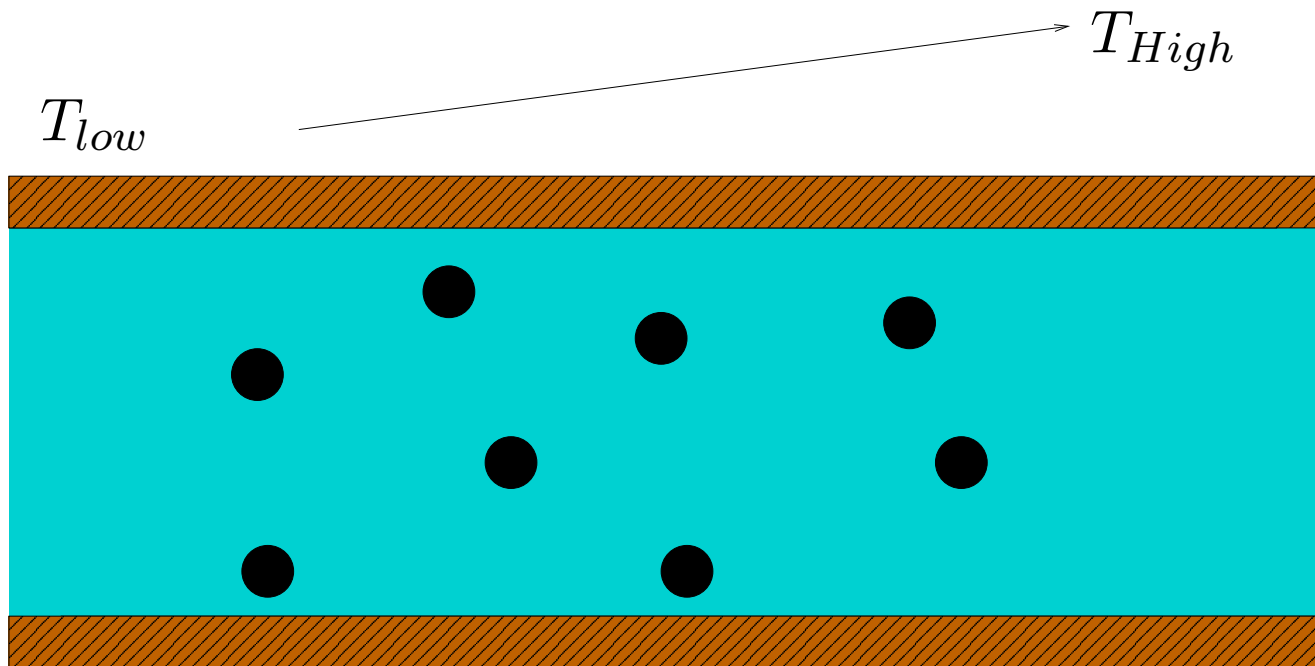
- ▶▶▶▶ study new systems of micro-pumps by using properties of rarefied gases
- ▶▶▶▶ simplified mathematical and physical models
- ▶▶▶▶ numerical simulations

Rarefied gas: $\text{Kn} = \frac{\text{mean free path}}{\text{characteristic length}} = \frac{\lambda}{D} \approx 1$

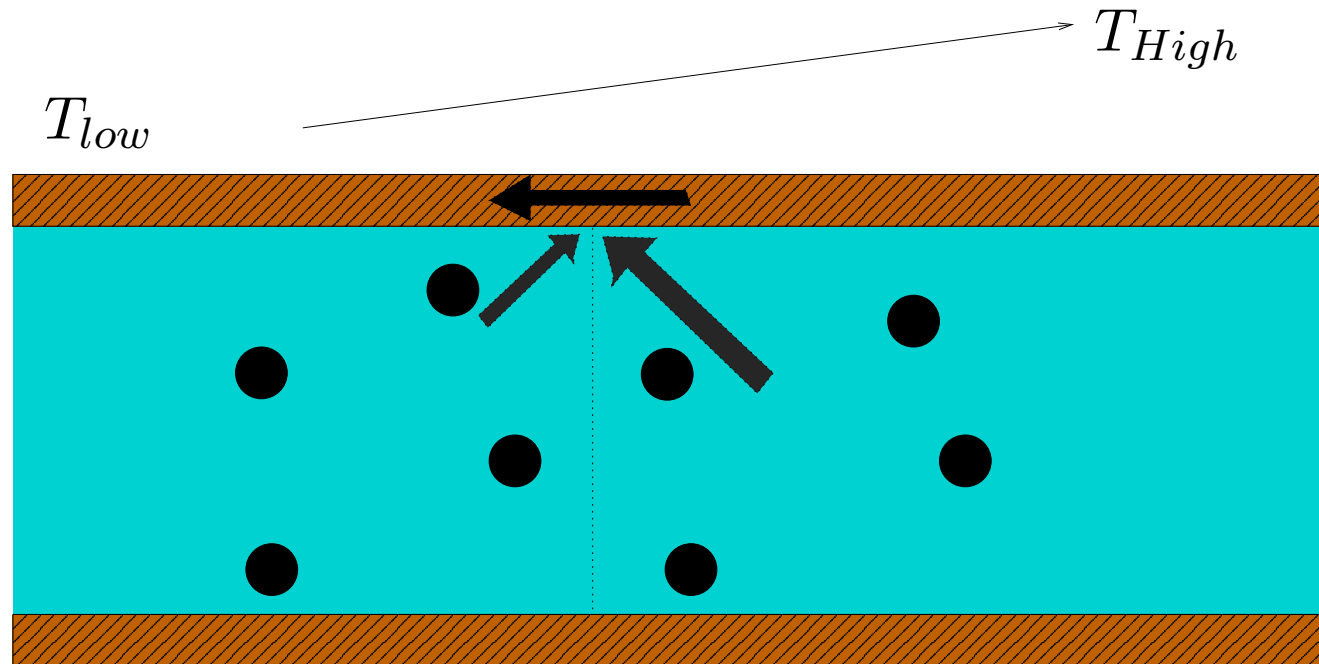


- the density of the gas is small enough
- or the width of the channel is small enough

► apply a temperature gradient on the wall

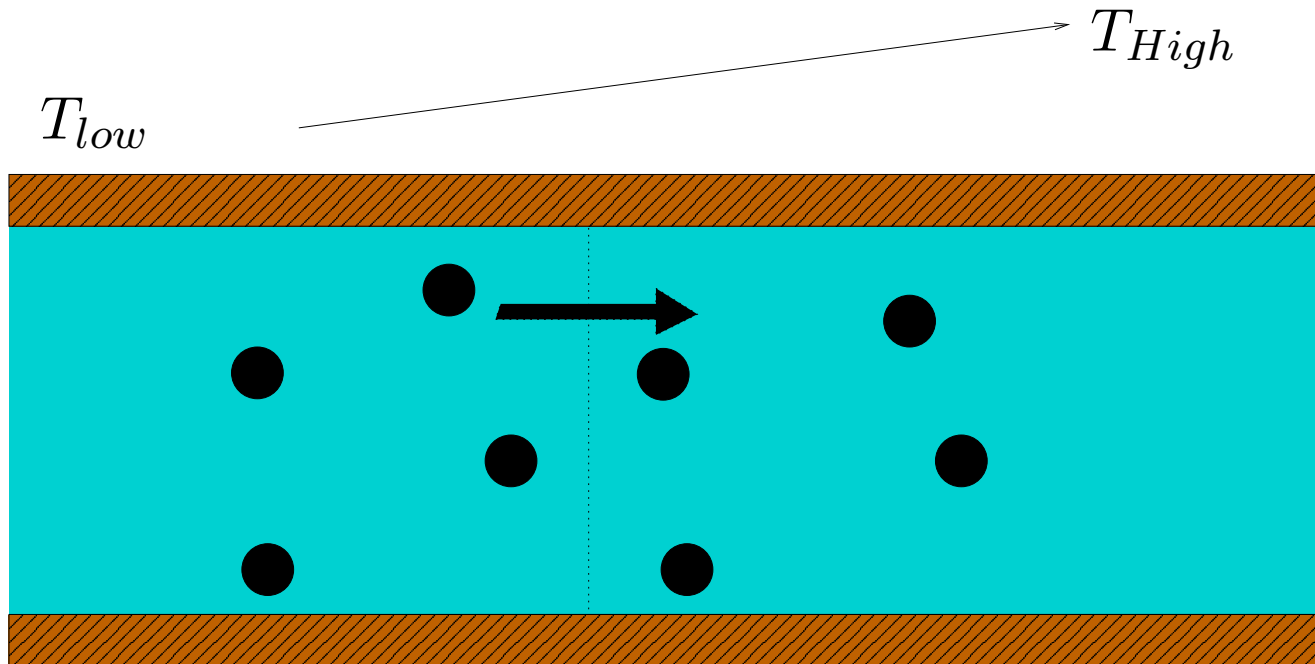


- on the walls: particles coming from the right have more energy than particles coming from the left



- the gas gives a net momentum from right to left to the walls

- the walls are fixed: by reaction, the gas moves from the left to the right



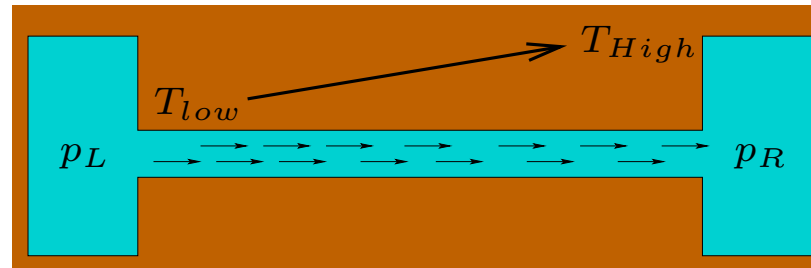
- this is the thermal creep flow

- ▶ the thermal creep flow disappears if $\frac{\lambda}{D} \rightarrow 0$ (fluid regime)
- ▶ known as “thermal transpiration” since Reynolds (1888), Maxwell (1889), Knudsen (1910)
- ▶ Sone (1966): analytical demonstration of the thermal creep flow by asymptotic theory

- natural application:
create flow and pumping effect without moving mechanical part
- physical conditions: rarefied regime

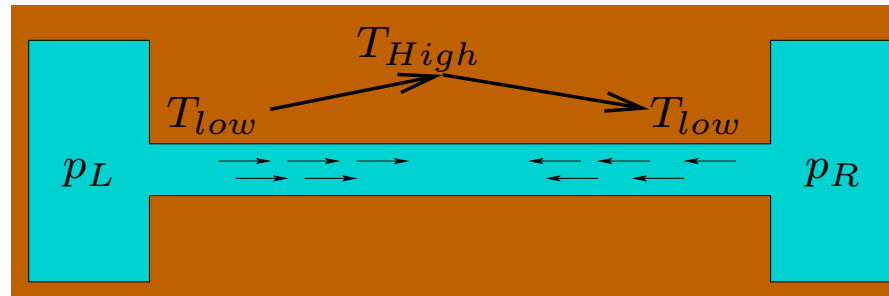
$$\text{Kn} = \frac{\text{mean free path}}{\text{characteristic length}} \quad \text{is not too small}$$

- weak pressure gas
- or small devices: Micro-Electro-Mechanical-Systems (MEMS)
(e.g.: air at atmospheric pressure \Rightarrow width $\approx 0.1\mu\text{m}$)



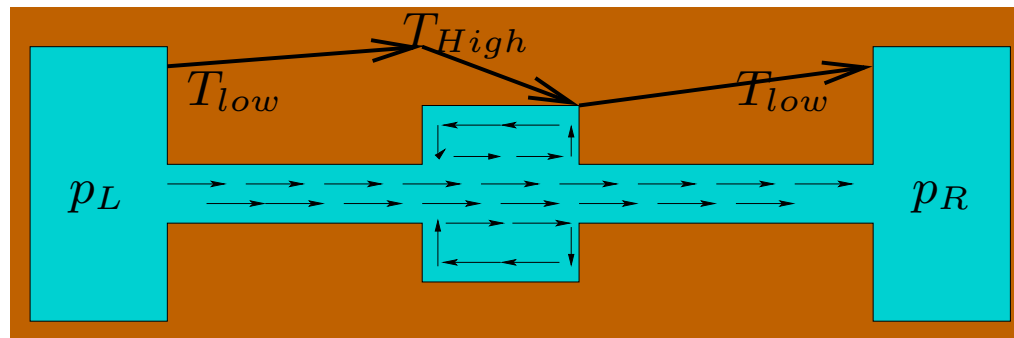
- thermal creep flow \Rightarrow a flow is generated, and a pressure difference is obtained ($p_R > p_L$)
- problem:
 - very weak effect: velocity u is small
 - u depends on the temperature gradient
 - a very large temperature gradient is technologically impossible

- idea: maintain the two tanks at the same temperature
- increase and decrease the wall temperature



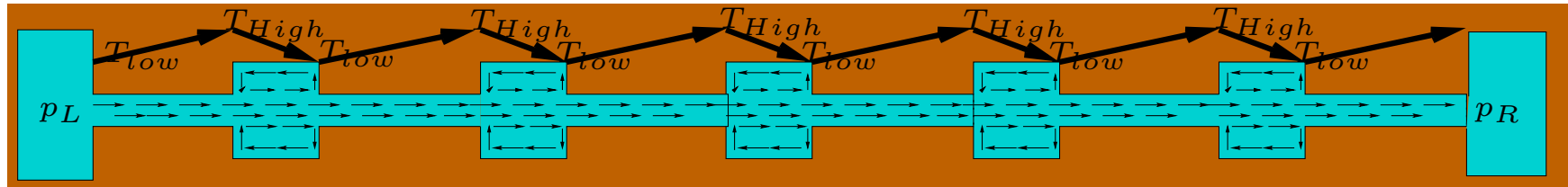
- two opposed thermal creep flows
- no pressure difference

- ▶ how to get a net flow with two opposed temperature gradients ?
- ▶ idea: use a ditch (Aoki, Sone et al, 1996)



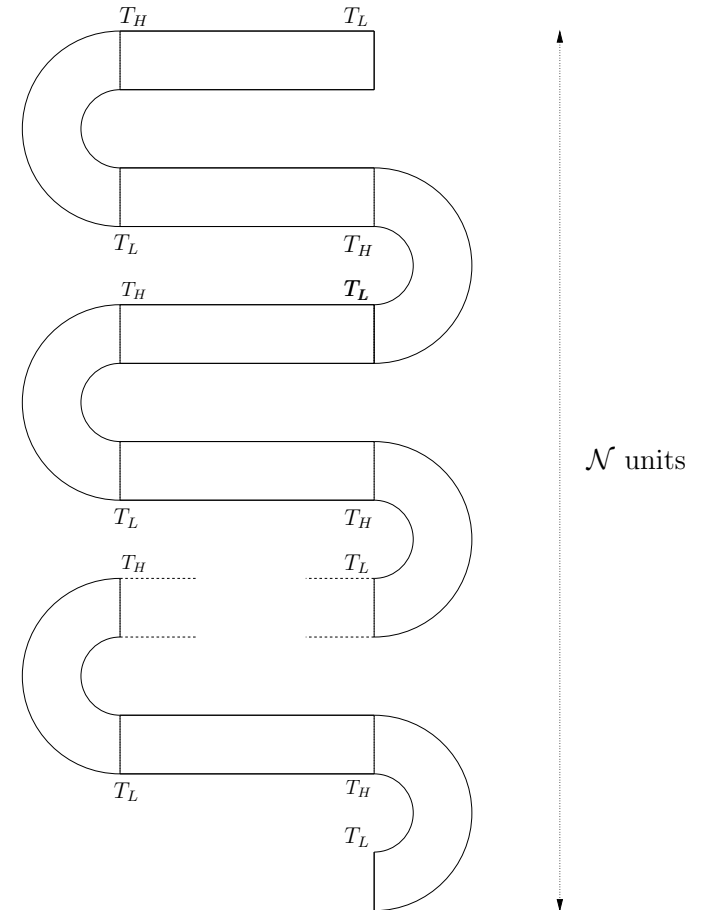
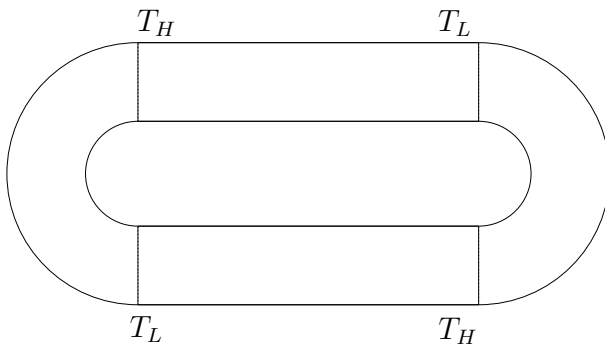
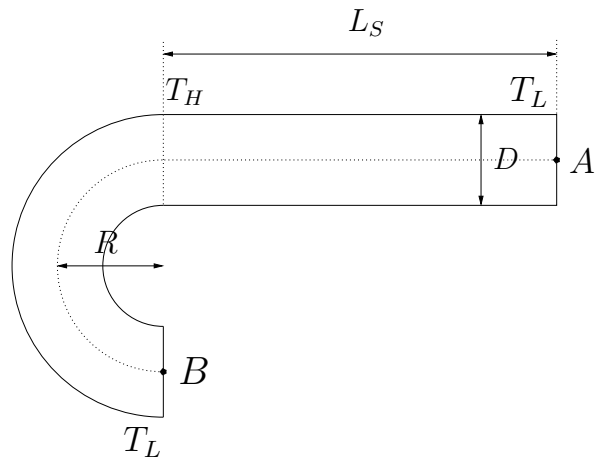
- ▶ the opposite flow is confined to the ditch
- ▶ there is a global mass flow
- ▶ a pumping effect is possible
- ▶ similar idea by Knudsen (1910)

- more efficiency of the pump with a cascade system: Knuden compressor



- experiments and numerical simulations (Aoki, Sone et al.),
- mathematical modeling (Aoki, Degond)

- new (simpler) idea: channel with varying curvature
(Aoki-Degond-LM-Takata-Yoshida)



- project: numerical simulations and mathematical modeling

- ▶▶▶▶ steady 2D kinetic simulations: standard method is DSMC → very expensive (slow flow)
- ▶▶▶▶ instead: deterministic kinetic simulations
- ▶▶▶▶ for large number of units: asymptotic model (small width approximation)

- ▶ monoatomic gas: distribution function of molecular velocities $F(t, x, v)$
- ▶ defined such as $F(t, x, v)dx dv =$ mass of molecules that at time t have position $x \pm dx$ and velocity $v \pm dv$
- ▶ macroscopic quantities: moments of F w.r.t v

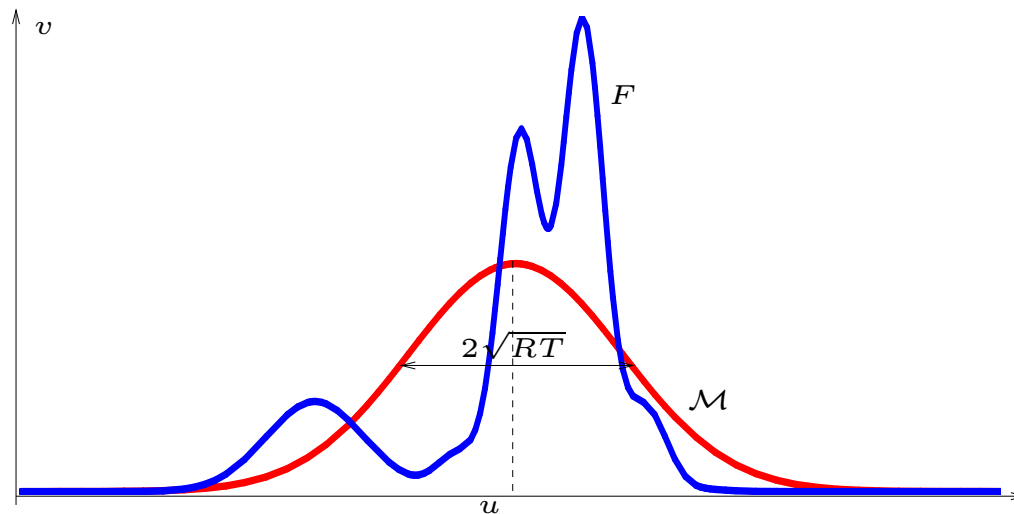
$$\text{mass density } \rho = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} F(t, x, v) dv,$$

$$\text{momentum } \rho u = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} v F(t, x, v) dv,$$

$$\text{total energy } E = \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{2} |v|^2 F(t, x, v) dv.$$

- temperature T defined by $E = \frac{1}{2}\rho|u|^2 + \frac{3}{2}\rho RT$
- equilibrium state: Maxwellian distribution, depends only on v, ρ, u, T

$$\mathcal{M}[\rho, u, T](v) = \frac{\rho}{(2\pi RT)^{\frac{3}{2}}} \exp\left(-\frac{|v - u|^2}{2RT}\right)$$



- evolution of F described by a kinetic equation

$$\underbrace{\partial_t F + v \cdot \nabla_x F}_{\text{transport}} = \underbrace{Q(F)}_{\text{collisions}}$$

- $Q(F)$ is the Boltzmann collision operator, but often the simpler BGK model is used:

$$Q(F) = \nu(\mathcal{M}[\rho, u, T] - F)$$

effect of collisions = relaxation of F towards the Maxwellian equilibrium

- ▣➤ main ingredients: [LM (JCP 00)]
 - ▣➤ plane flow: 2D BGK Model
 - ▣➤ conservative and entropic velocity discretization
 - ▣➤ space discretization: finite volume, curvilinear grids
 - ▣➤ time discretization: backward Euler (transient solutions), linearized implicit scheme (steady flows)

- ▶▶▶▶ new features: [Aoki-Degond-LM (JCP 07)]
 - ▶▶▶ reduced distribution technique: $v \in \mathbb{R}^2$ instead of \mathbb{R}^3
 - ▶▶▶ implicit boundary conditions (faster convergence to steady state)
- ▶▶▶ parallel implementation (Open-MP)
- ▶▶▶ typical simulation for 1 unit: 400×100 space cells, 40×40 discrete velocities

▣▣▣▣ F is independent of $z \Rightarrow$ the transport operator does not contain explicitly the velocity v_z .

▣▣▣▣ define the reduced distribution function

$$f(t, x, y, v_x, v_y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} F dv_z, \text{ and integrate BGK w.r.t } v_z$$

$$\partial_t F + v \cdot \nabla_x F = \nu(\mathcal{M}[\rho, u, T] - F)$$

$$\Downarrow \int_{\mathbb{R}} \cdot dv_z$$

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f = \nu(M[\rho, u, T] - f),$$

where $M[\rho, u, T]$ is the reduced Maxwellian defined by

$$M[\rho, u, T] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \mathcal{M}[\rho, u, T] dv_z = \frac{\rho}{2\pi RT} \exp\left(-\frac{(v_x - u_x)^2 + (v_y - u_y)^2}{2RT}\right),$$

but T cannot be defined through f only:

$$\begin{aligned} E &= \frac{1}{2}\rho|u|^2 + \frac{3}{2}\rho RT \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{2}|v|^2 F(t, x, v) dv \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} \frac{1}{2}|v_x^2 + v_y^2 + v_z^2| F(t, x, v) dv \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{2}|v_x^2 + v_y^2| f(t, x, v) dv_x dv_y + \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} g(t, x, v) dv_x dv_y \end{aligned}$$

where $g(t, x, y, v_x, v_y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{2}v_z^2 F dv_z$.

- as for f , an equation for g is derived
- finally, we get the coupled system of kinetic equations:

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f = \nu(M[\rho, u, T] - f),$$

$$\partial_t g + v \cdot \nabla_x g = \nu\left(\frac{RT}{2}M[\rho, u, T] - g\right),$$

and the macroscopic quantities are obtained through f and g by

$$\rho = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f \, dv^2, \quad \rho u = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} v f \, dv^2,$$
$$\frac{1}{2}\rho|u|^2 + \frac{3}{2}\rho RT = \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \left(\frac{1}{2}|v|^2 f + g\right) \, dv^2.$$

► for given ρ, u, T , the Maxwellian $M[\rho, u, T]$ satisfies

$$\text{conservation: } \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ v \\ \frac{1}{2}|v|^2 \end{pmatrix} M[\rho, u, T] dv = \begin{pmatrix} \rho \\ \rho u \\ \frac{1}{2}\rho|u|^2 + \rho RT \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{entropy: } \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} M[\rho, u, T] \log M dv = \min \left\{ \int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f \log f dv \right\}$$

► \mathbb{R}^2 is truncated to $[v_{\min}, v_{\max}]^2$ and discretized by $(v_k)_{k=1}^N$

► $\int_{\mathbb{R}^2} f dv$ is replaced by $\sum_{k=1}^N f_k \Delta v$

► we can define $(M_k)_{k=1}^N$ that satisfies discrete conservation and entropy properties (\Rightarrow existence and convergence results)

equation for f : finite volumes, upwind scheme, curvilinear grid

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f = \nu(M[\rho, u, T] - f),$$

↓

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t f_{\mathbf{k},i,j} + \frac{1}{\Delta x} (\phi_{i+\frac{1}{2},j}(f_{\mathbf{k}}) - \phi_{i-\frac{1}{2},j}(f_{\mathbf{k}})) + \frac{1}{\Delta y} (\phi_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}}(f_{\mathbf{k}}) - \phi_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}(f_{\mathbf{k}})) \\ = \nu_{i,j} (M_{\mathbf{k}}[\rho_{i,j}, u_{i,j}, T_{i,j}] - f_{\mathbf{k},i,j}), \end{aligned}$$

where the numerical fluxes are defined by

$$\begin{aligned} \phi_{i+\frac{1}{2},j}(f_{\mathbf{k}}) &= \frac{1}{2} \left(v_{x,k}(f_{\mathbf{k},i+1,j} + f_{\mathbf{k},i,j}) - |v_{x,k}|(\Delta f_{\mathbf{k},i+\frac{1}{2},j} - \Phi_{\mathbf{k},i+\frac{1}{2},j}) \right) \\ \phi_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}}(f_{\mathbf{k}}) &= \frac{1}{2} \left(v_{y,k}(f_{\mathbf{k},i,j+1} + f_{\mathbf{k},i,j}) - |v_{y,k}|(\Delta f_{\mathbf{k},i,j+\frac{1}{2}} - \Phi_{\mathbf{k},i,j+\frac{1}{2}}) \right) \end{aligned}$$

transient solutions: first order backward euler

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Delta t} (f_{k,i,j}^{n+1} - f_{k,i,j}^n) &+ \frac{1}{\Delta x} (\phi_{i+\frac{1}{2},j}(f_k^n) - \phi_{i-\frac{1}{2},j}(f_k^n)) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Delta y} (\phi_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}}(f_k^n) - \phi_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}(f_k^n)) \\ &= \nu_{i,j}^n (M_k[\rho_{i,j}^n, u_{i,j}^n, T_{i,j}^n] - f_{k,i,j}^n) \end{aligned}$$

stability if

$$\Delta t \leq \frac{1}{\max_{i,j}(\nu_{i,j}^n)} \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{\Delta t}{\Delta x} \leq \frac{1}{\max_k |v_k|}$$

restrictive condition for: rapid or dense flows, and steady state

steady solutions: forward euler (implicit)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\Delta t} (f_{k,i,j}^{n+1} - f_{k,i,j}^n) &+ \frac{1}{\Delta x} (\phi_{i+\frac{1}{2},j}(f_k^{n+1}) - \phi_{i-\frac{1}{2},j}(f_k^{n+1})) \\ &+ \frac{1}{\Delta y} (\phi_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}}(f_k^{n+1}) - \phi_{i,j-\frac{1}{2}}(f_k^{n+1})) \\ &= \nu_{i,j}^n (M_k[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{i,j}^{n+1}] - f_{k,i,j}^{n+1}) \end{aligned}$$

then linearization:

$$M_k[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{i,j}^{n+1}] \approx M_k[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{i,j}^n] + \partial_{\boldsymbol{\mu}} M_k[\boldsymbol{\mu}_{i,j}^{n+1}] (\boldsymbol{\mu}_{i,j}^{n+1} - \boldsymbol{\mu}_{i,j}^n)$$

where $\boldsymbol{\mu} = (\rho, \rho u, \frac{1}{2}\rho|u|^2 + \frac{3}{2}\rho RT)$

δ -matrix form of the scheme: set $U^n = (\{f_{k,i,j}^n\}_{k,i,j}, \{g_{k,i,j}^n\}_{k,i,j})$

Then the scheme is

$$\left(\frac{I}{\Delta t} + T + B + R^n \right) \delta U^n = RHS^n,$$

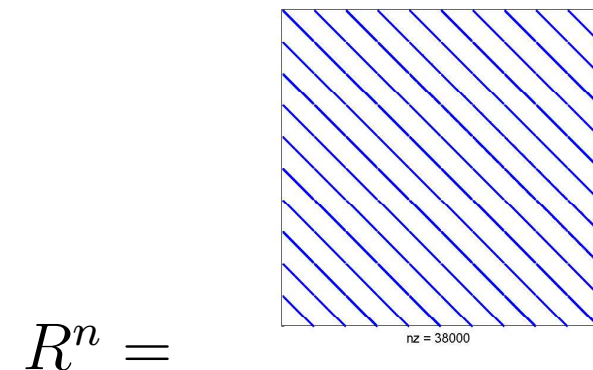
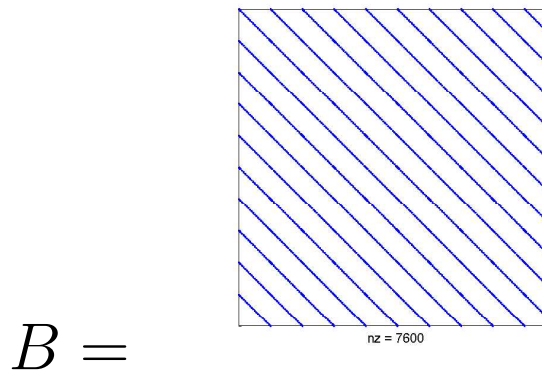
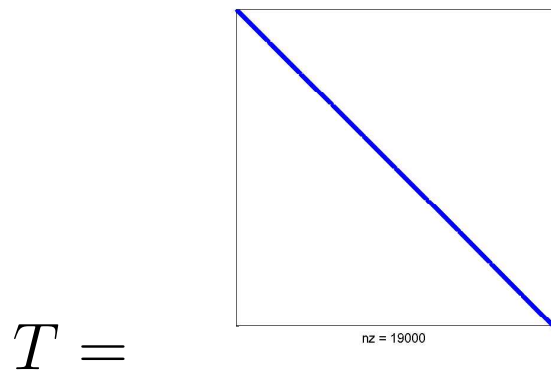
where

- $\delta U^n = U^{n+1} - U^n$,
- I is the unit matrix,
- T contains the transport coefficients, (b. c. in in B)
- R^n is the Jacobian matrix of the collision operator,
- RHS^n is the residual (transport and collision operators applied to U^n).

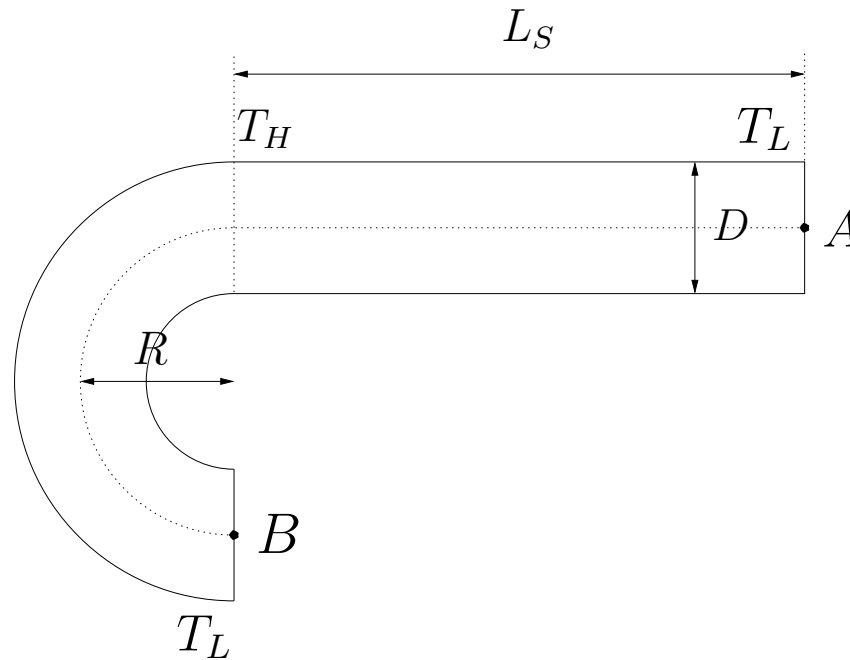
$$\left(\frac{I}{\Delta t} + T + B + R^n \right) \delta U^n = RHS^n,$$

➡ very large linear system

➡ sparse matrices



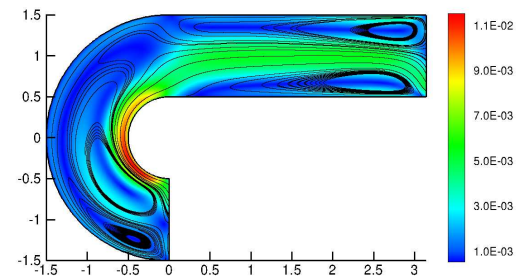
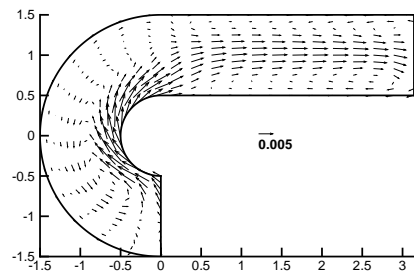
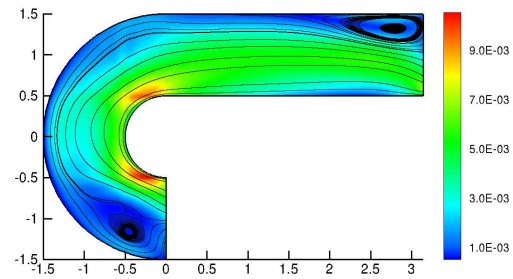
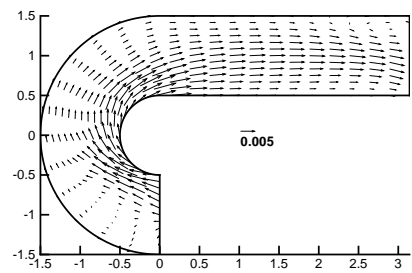
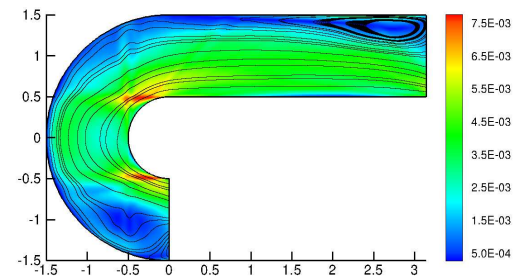
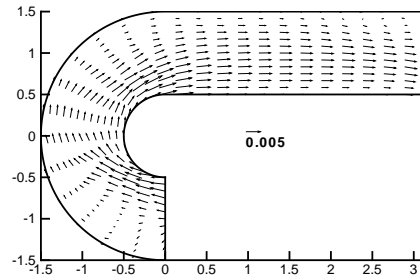
➡ an adapted iterative solver is used

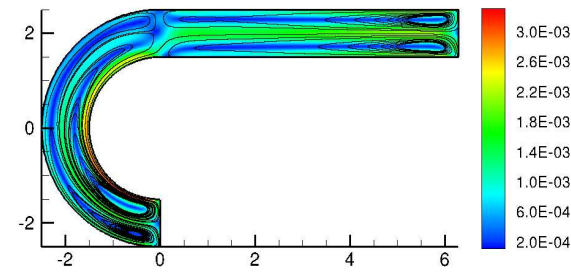
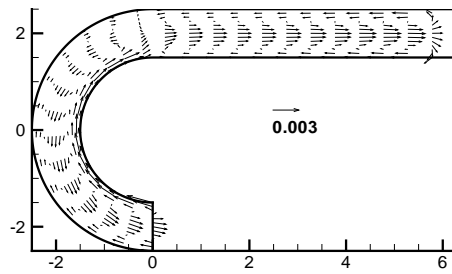
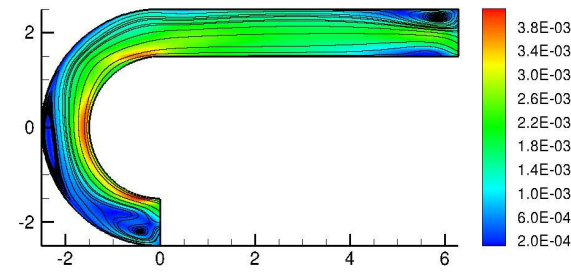
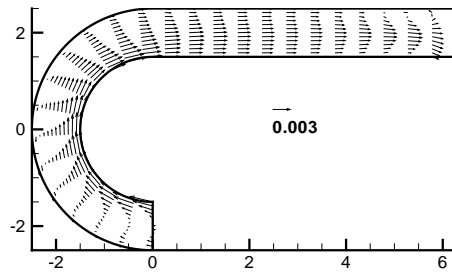
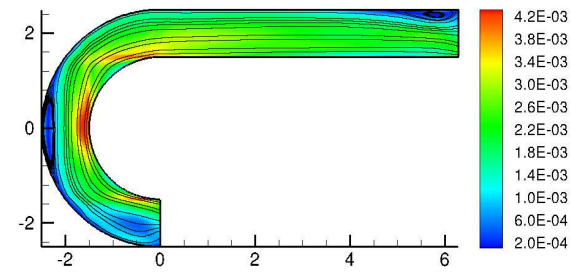
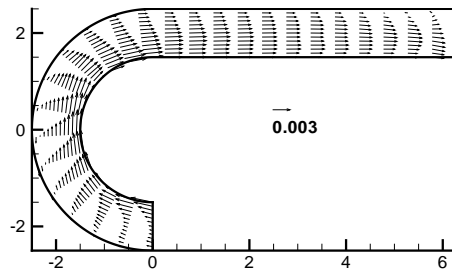


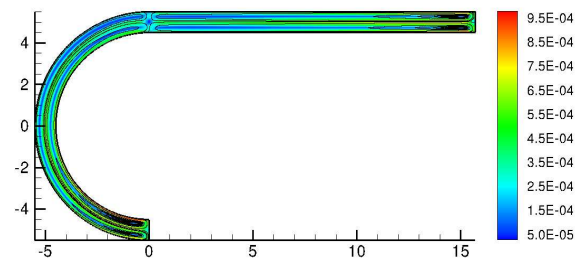
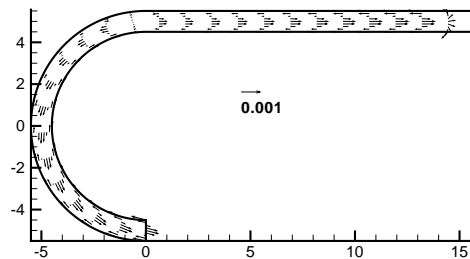
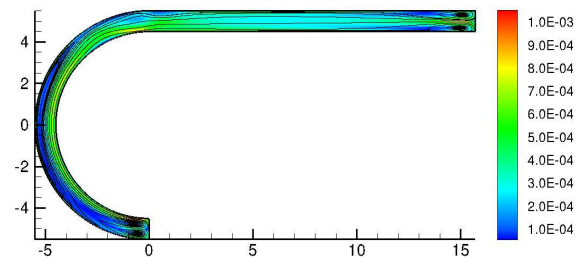
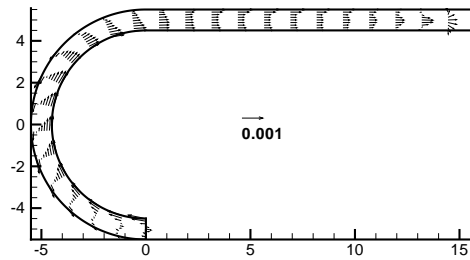
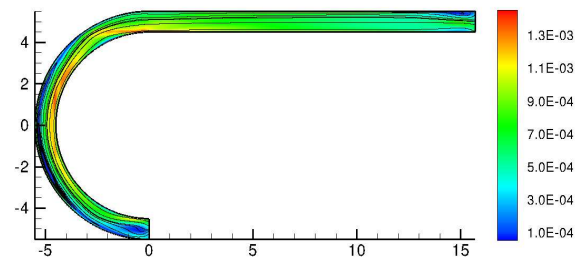
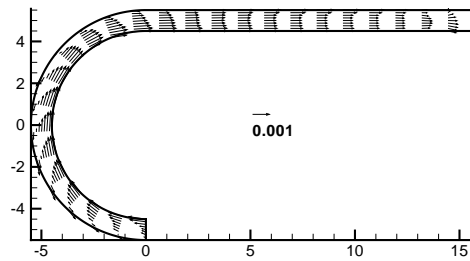
Basic unit of our devices : a hook shaped channel.

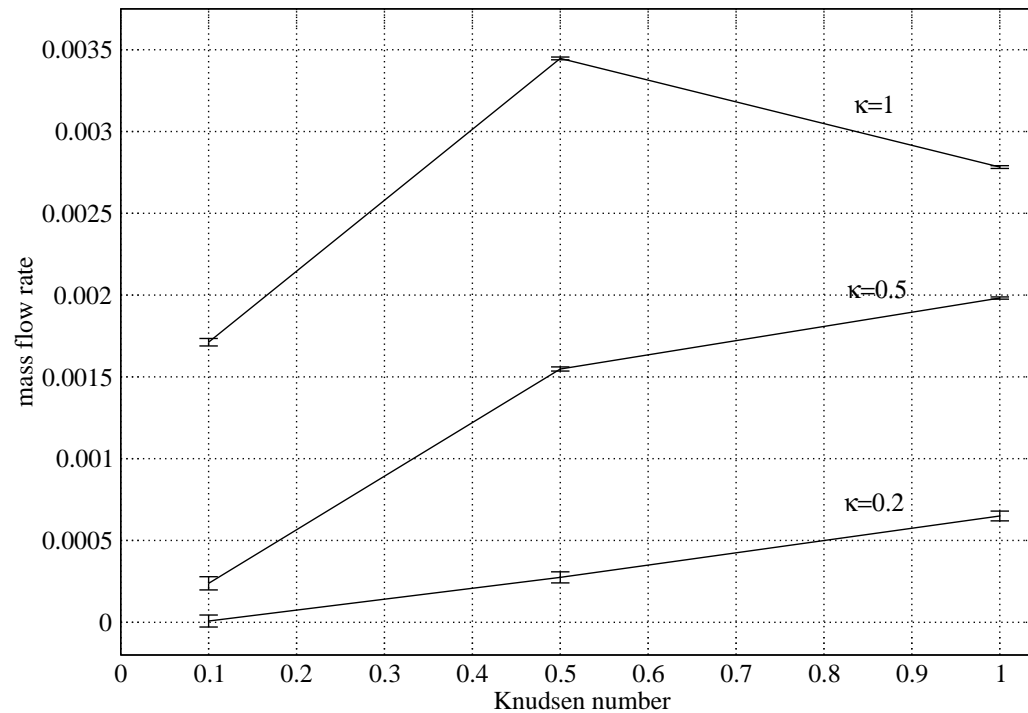
Three sizes: thick ($D/R = 1$), medium (0.5), thin (0.2)

Three Knudsen numbers: $\text{Kn} = 1, 0.5, 0.1$





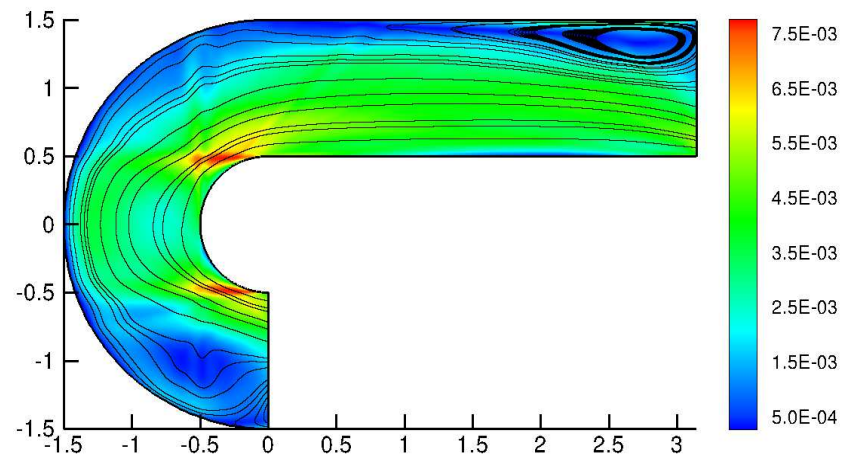


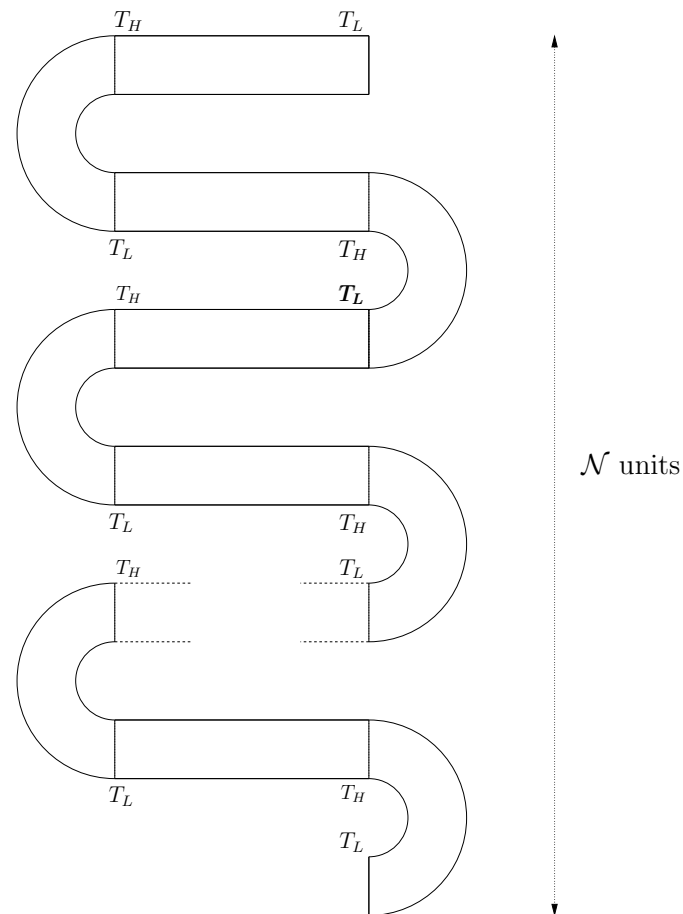


Mass flow rate in the ring-shaped channel as a function of the Knudsen number.

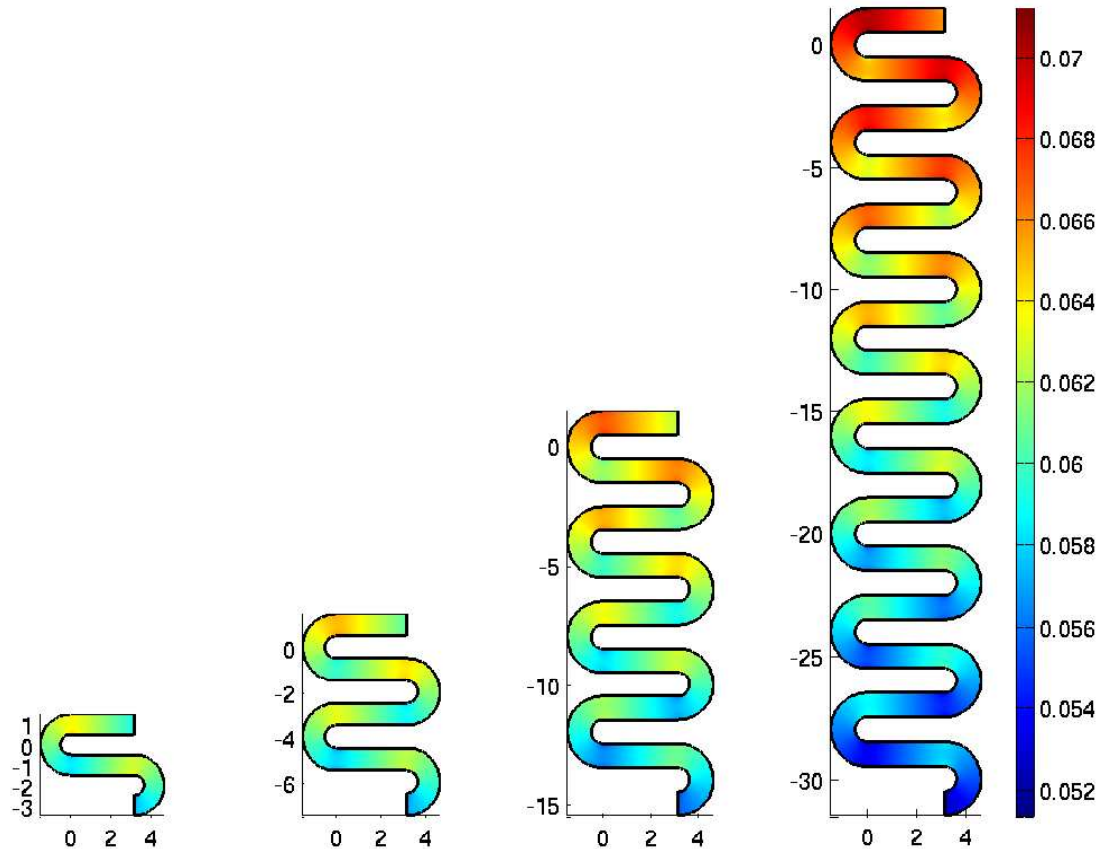
Each curve corresponds to one of the three different size of channel

time evolution of the density and velocity fields + mass flow rate:

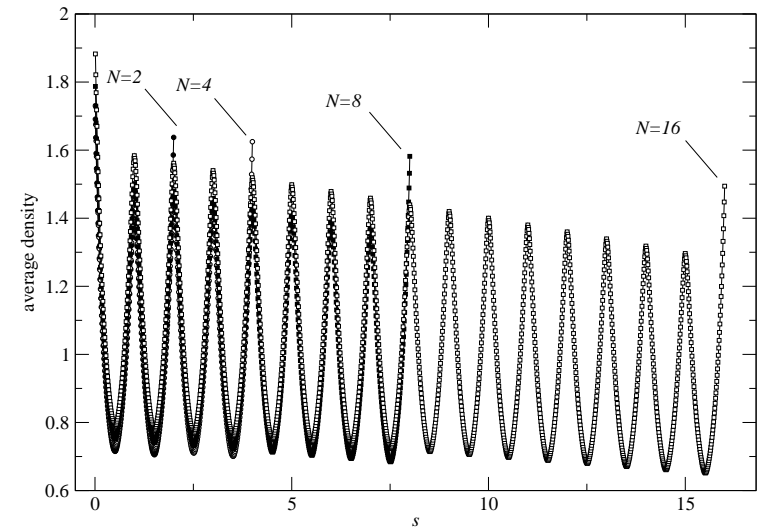
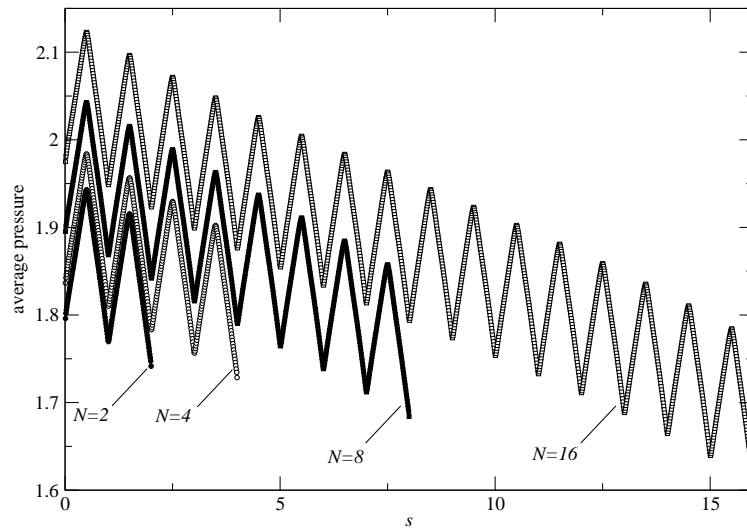




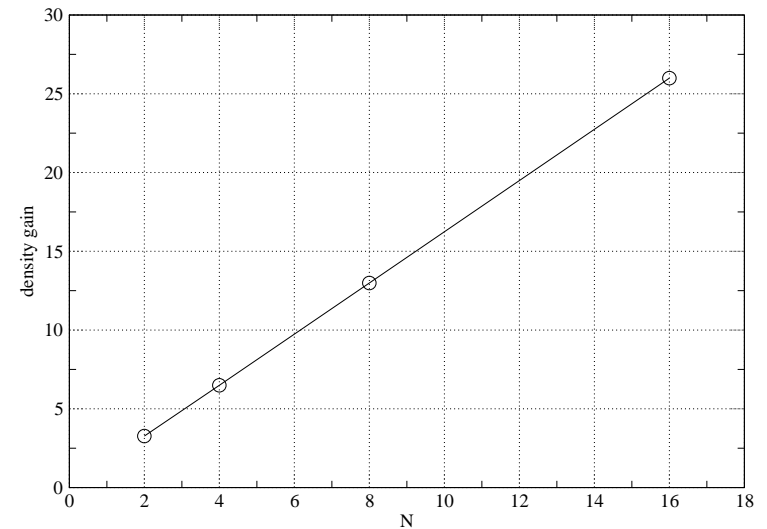
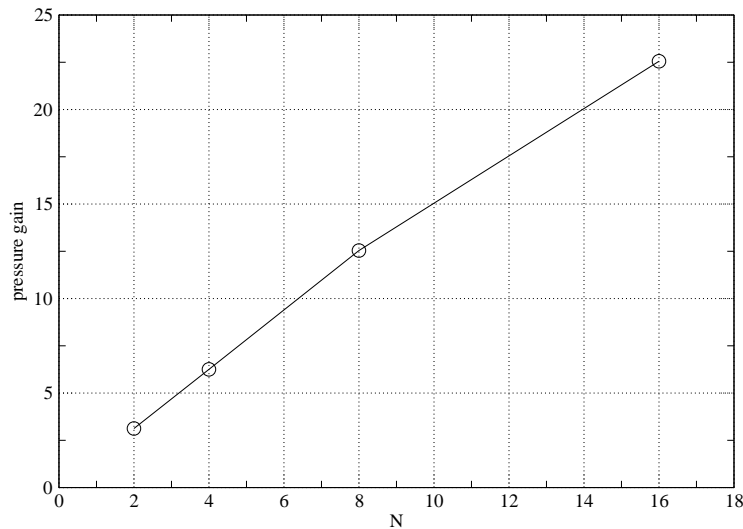
Closed cascade device to generate a pumping effect.



Pressure field in the closed cascade device: 2, 4, 8 and 16 units.

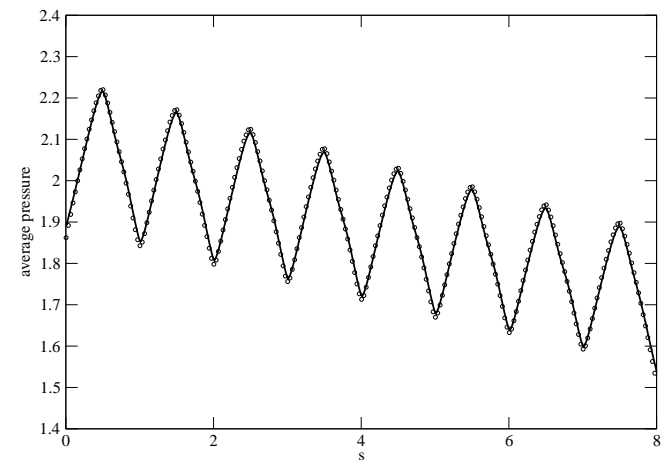
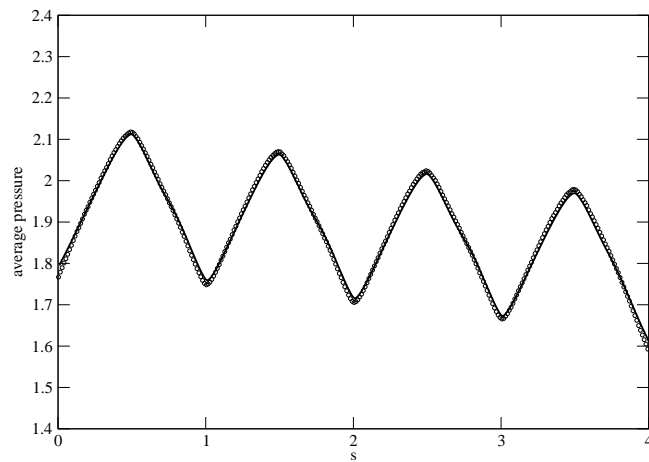
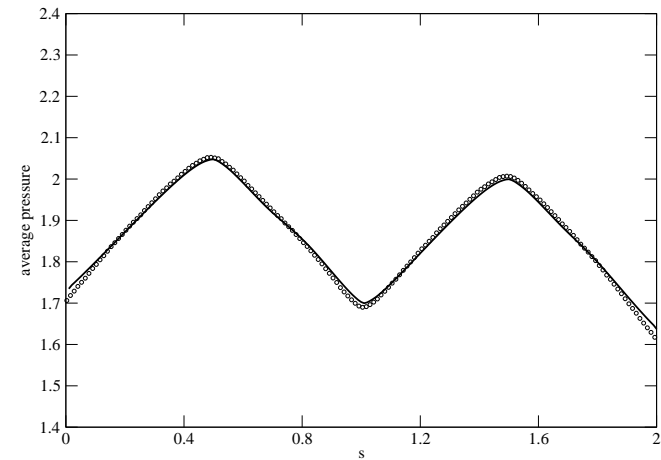
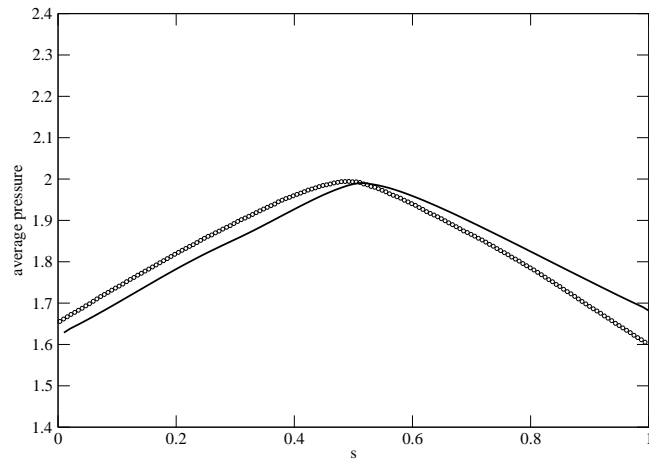


Non-dimensionalized average pressure (left) and density (right) profiles for the pumping device with several numbers N of units. Thick case with $\text{Kn} = 0.5$.

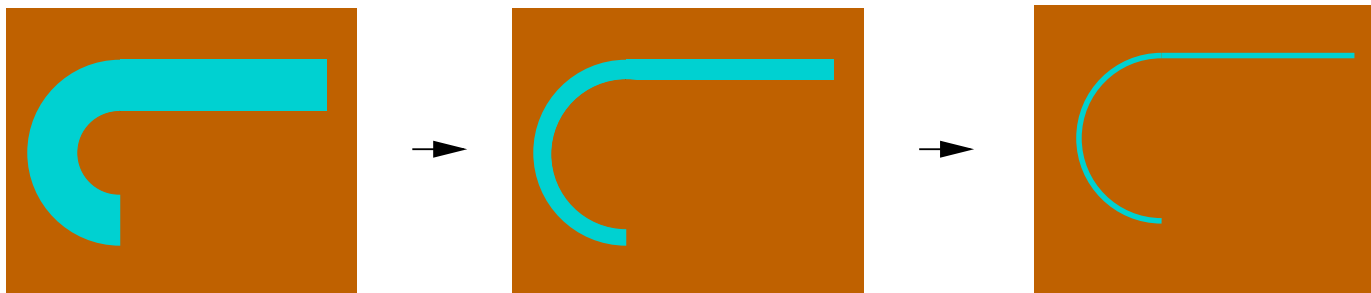


Pressure (left) and density gain (right) for the pumping device with several numbers N of units. Thick case with $\text{Kn} = 0.5$.

comparison BGK/DSMC



- ▶▶▶▶ problem: simulation impossible for a large number of units
- ▶▶▶▶ idea: develop a simplified mathematical model (asymptotic analysis)

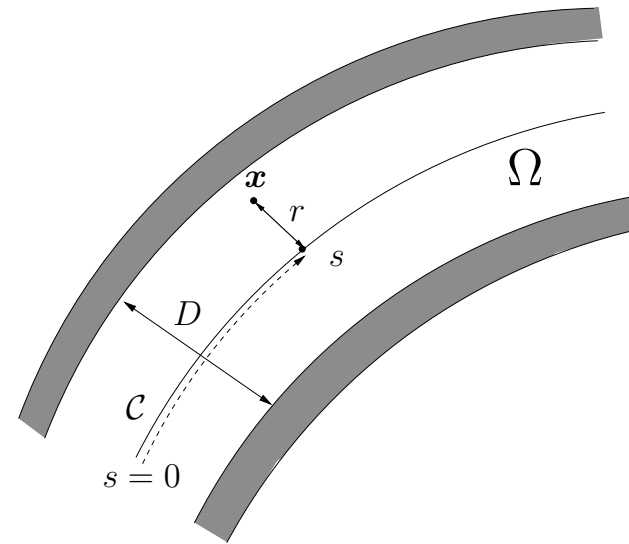


- ▶▶▶▶ result: fluid model (no particles), one space dimension only
- ▶▶▶▶ diffusion model, induced by the boundaries
- ▶▶▶▶ very fast simulations, arbitrary number of units

[Aoki-Degond-LM-Takata-Yoshida (MMS 07)]

BGK equation:

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f = Q(f),$$



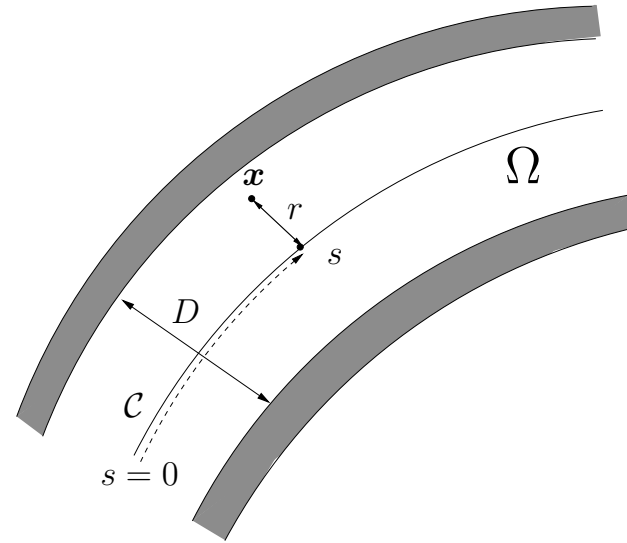
Local coordinates:

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t f + (1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s \partial_s f + v_r \partial_r f + \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_r v_s \partial_{v_s} f \\ - \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s^2 \partial_{v_r} f = A_c \rho(M[\rho, \mathbf{u}, 2RT] - f). \end{aligned}$$

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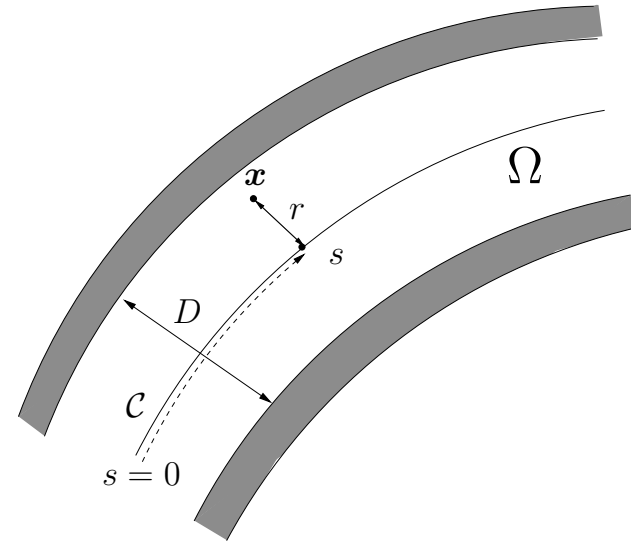
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re-scaling: $\epsilon = \frac{D}{L_s} \ll 1, \quad t' = \epsilon^2 t \quad \text{and} \quad s' = \epsilon s$

[Aoki-Degond-LM-Takata-Yoshida (MMS 07)]

BGK equation:

$$\partial_t f + v \cdot \nabla_x f = Q(f),$$



Local coordinates:

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon^2 \partial_t f + \epsilon(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s \partial_s f + v_r \partial_r f + \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_r v_s \partial_{v_s} f \\ - \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s^2 \partial_{v_r} f = \frac{1}{K_0} \rho(M[\rho, \mathbf{u}, T] - f) \end{aligned}$$

re-scaling: $\epsilon = \frac{D}{L_s} \ll 1$, $t' = \epsilon^2 t$ and $s' = \epsilon s$

conservation of the averaged density:

$$\partial_t \varrho + \partial_s j = 0,$$

where

$$\varrho(s, t) = \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} f(1 - \kappa r) d\mathbf{v} dr \quad \text{and} \quad j(s, t) = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} v_s f d\mathbf{v} dr$$

limit $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$: 1D macroscopic model (variable s only)

Theorem (formal)

(i) $\varrho \rightarrow \rho_0$, solution of

$$\partial_t \rho_0 + \partial_s j_1 = 0,$$
$$j_1 = \underbrace{\sqrt{T_w} M_P \partial_s \rho_0}_{\text{diffusion}} + \underbrace{\frac{\rho_0}{\sqrt{T_w}} (M_P + M_T) \partial_s T_w}_{\text{drift=thermal creep !}},$$

(where M_P and M_T are non-linear functions of ρ_0)

(original method: Babovski, Bardos, Platkowski (1991))

(ii) $M_P \leq 0$

(iii) $\varrho - \rho_0 = O(\epsilon^2)$ and $j - j_1 = O(\epsilon^2)$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon^2 \partial_t f + \epsilon(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s \partial_s f + v_r \partial_r f + \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_r v_s \partial_{v_s} f \\ - \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s^2 \partial_{v_r} f = \frac{1}{K_0} \rho(M[\rho, \mathbf{u}, T] - f) \end{aligned}$$

Hilbert expansion: $f = f_0 + \epsilon f_1 + \epsilon^2 f_2 + \dots$

$$f_0 = \rho_0(s, t) M[1, 0, T_w(s)]$$

\Downarrow

$$\rho_0 \text{ to be determined, and } j_0 = \frac{1}{\epsilon} \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} v_s f_0 d\mathbf{v} dr = 0$$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon^2 \partial_t f + \epsilon(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s \partial_s f + v_r \partial_r f + \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_r v_s \partial_{v_s} f \\ - \kappa(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s^2 \partial_{v_r} f = \frac{1}{K_0} \rho(M[\rho, \mathbf{u}, T] - f) \end{aligned}$$

Hilbert expansion: $f = f_0 + \epsilon f_1 + \epsilon^2 f_2 + \dots$

$$L f_1 = -(1 - \kappa r)^{-1} v_s \partial_s f_0 \quad (1\text{D linear kinetic eq.})$$

\Downarrow

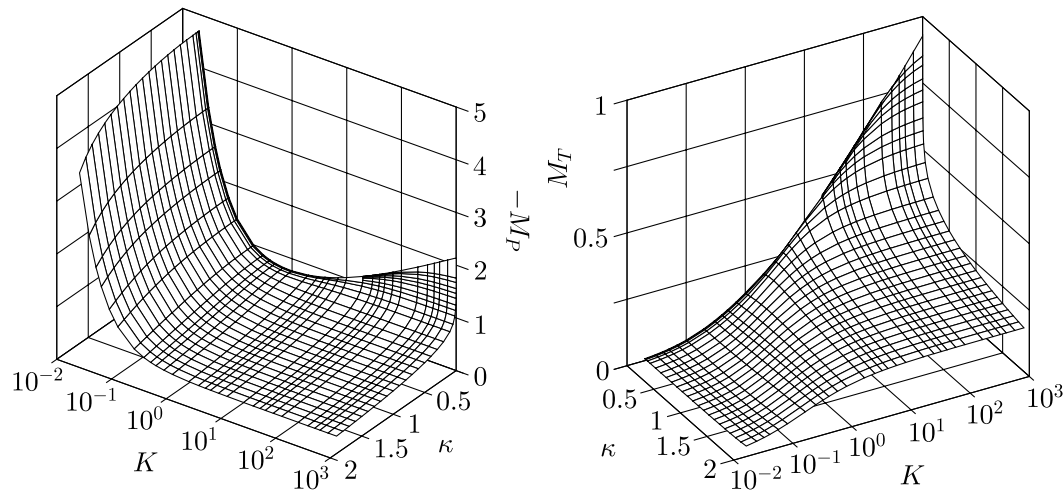
$$\rho_1 = 0 \quad \text{and}$$

$$j_1(s, t) = \int_{-1/2}^{1/2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^3} v_s f_1 dv dr = \sqrt{T_w} M_P \partial_s \rho_0 + \frac{\rho_0}{\sqrt{T_w}} (M_P + M_T) \partial_s T_w$$

Numerical computations:

➡ M_P and M_T :

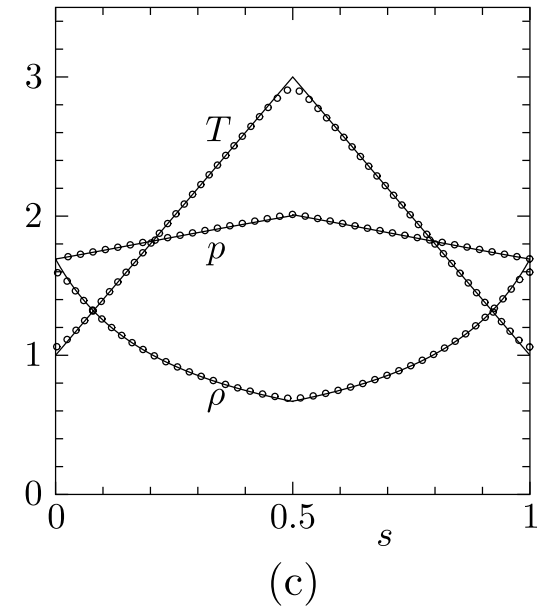
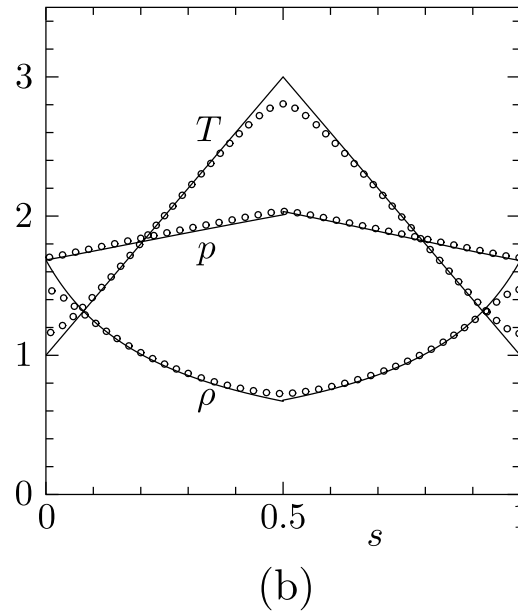
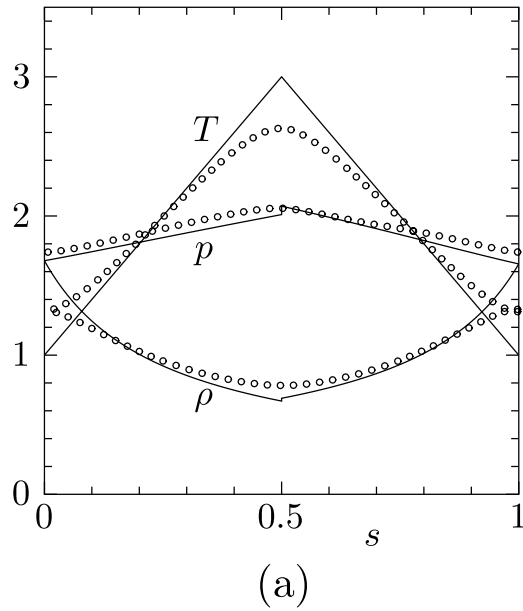
- ➡ depend only on s through K and κ
- ➡ are averaged fluxes given by solutions of auxiliary linear kinetic problems, 1D in r , local in s
- ➡ these problems are numerically solved for many values of K and ε
- ➡ construction of a database for M_P and M_T



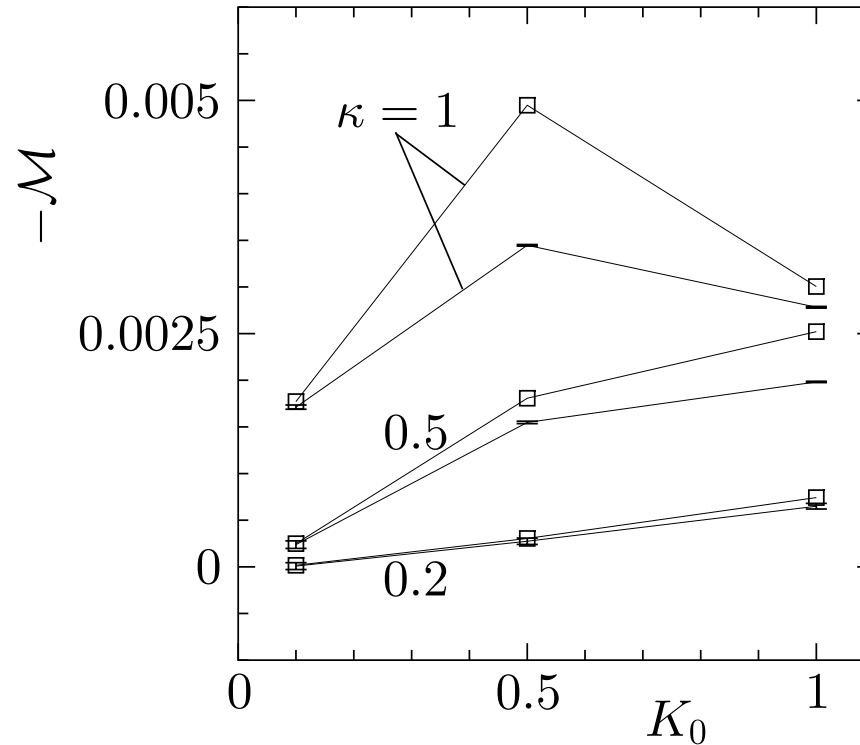
Numerical computations:

- ▶▶▶▶ discontinuity of the curvature is taken into account (boundary layer corrector)
- ▶▶▶▶ the diffusion model is numerically solved
- ▶▶▶▶ comparison with a fully kinetic simulations (2D BGK)
- ▶▶▶▶ simulation of a 100 unit pump

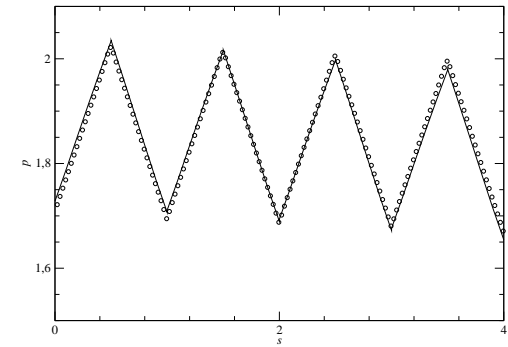
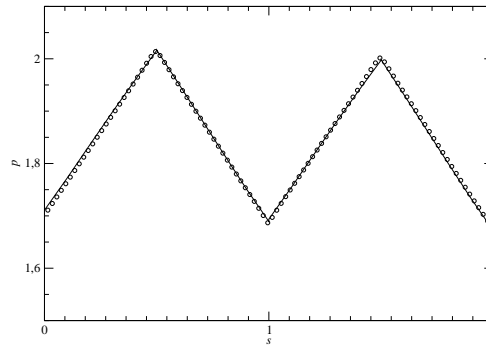
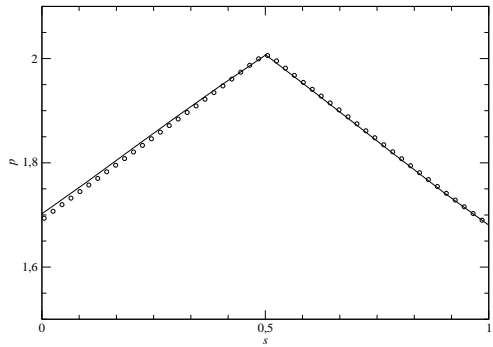
Comparison with 2D BGK: circulating flow



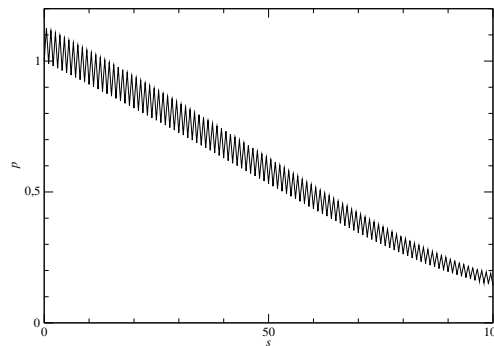
Comparison with 2D BGK: circulating flow



Comparison with 2D BGK: micro-pump



100 unit pump: pressure gain = factor 6



- ▶▶▶▶ test different geometries
- ▶▶▶▶ optimization of the shape of the channel
- ▶▶▶▶ simulation of a 3D Knudsen pump (pipe):
 - ▶▶▶▶ *Derive a diffusion model*
 - ▶▶▶▶ *Compute the transport coefficients*
- ▶▶▶▶ experimental studies