

# Optimal control of complex flows

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# Outline

- 1 Introduction of classical approach
- 2 Motivation of new approaches
- 3 Minimal-energy control feedback + application
- 4 Riccati-less optimal control + application

Application: control vortex shedding behind circular cylinder

- 5 Conclusions

# Definitions

## Complex flows

here problems with **large** number of degrees of freedom

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## Control

The nonlinear governing equations

$$\frac{\partial \bar{\mathbf{x}}}{\partial t} = N(\bar{\mathbf{x}}, \bar{\mathbf{u}}) \quad \text{on} \quad 0 < t < T, \quad \text{with} \quad \bar{\mathbf{x}} = \bar{\mathbf{x}}_0 \quad \text{at} \quad t = 0.$$

- $\bar{\mathbf{x}}$  is the state vector of dimension  $n$
- $\bar{\mathbf{u}}$  is the control of dimension  $m$

# Definitions

## Complex flows

here problems with **large** number of degrees of freedom

## Optimal control

The linearized system with  $\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}(\bar{\mathbf{x}})$  and  $\bar{\mathbf{u}} = 0$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} = A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u} \quad \text{on } 0 < t < T, \quad \text{with } \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_0 \quad \text{at } t = 0.$$

- $\mathbf{x}$  has dimension  $n$  and  $\mathbf{u}$  dimension  $m$
- here  $n \gg m$
- find  $\mathbf{u}$  that minimizes a quadratic cost function  $J$
- consider: full state information, no estimation

# The linear optimal control problem

The classical full-state-information control problem is formulated as: **find** the control  **$\mathbf{u}$**  that **minimizes the cost function**

$$J = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^T [\mathbf{x}^H Q \mathbf{x} + l^2 \mathbf{u}^H R \mathbf{u}] dt,$$

where  $l$  is the penalty of the control, and the state  **$\mathbf{x}$**  and the control  **$\mathbf{u}$**  are **related via the state equation**

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The solution depends on:  **$\mathbf{x}_0$** ,  **$T$** ,  **$Q$** ,  **$R$**  and  **$l$** .

## Solution approaches

- With a feedback rule  $\mathbf{u} = K\mathbf{x}$ , and a system which is LTI, then the feedback matrix  $K$  is computed **once off-line** (**convenient** since  $K$  is independent of  $\mathbf{x}_0$ ).
- Optimal control  $\mathbf{u}$  corresponding to the state at each time step is computed in **real time**, normally with a **finite horizon** (value of  $T$ ) to make it tractable.  
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Both approaches can be solved using the **adjoint** of the state equation.

# Why introduce Adjoint equations ?

Example gradient computation:

$$J = \mathbf{w}^H \mathbf{x}, \quad \text{where} \quad A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \text{Ex. find} \quad \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{b}}$$

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and

$$\frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{b}} = \mathbf{p}^H \quad \text{One Solution.}$$

## Derivation of adjoint

The **adjoint variable  $\mathbf{p}$**  is introduced as a **Lagrange multiplier**. The **augmented cost function** is written

$$J = \int_0^T \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{x}^H Q \mathbf{x} + l^2 \mathbf{u}^H R \mathbf{u}] - \mathbf{p}^H \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} - A \mathbf{x} - B \mathbf{u} \right] dt,$$

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integration by parts and  $\delta J = 0$  gives

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$$\mathbf{u} = -\frac{1}{l^2} R^{-1} B^H \mathbf{p}. \quad \text{means} \quad \frac{\partial J}{\partial \mathbf{u}} = 0$$

# Optimal control using feedback

If we consider a feedback rule  $\mathbf{u} = K\mathbf{x}$  then

$$\mathbf{u} = K\mathbf{x} = -\frac{1}{J^2}R^{-1}B^H\mathbf{p}.$$

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How does it work ?

Note that **state** is often denoted **direct**

# Two-point boundary value problem

Write the **direct and adjoint equations** on a **combined matrix form**

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = Zz \quad \text{where} \quad Z = Z_{2n \times 2n} = \begin{bmatrix} A & -I^{-2}BR^{-1}B^H \\ -Q & -A^H \end{bmatrix} \quad (1)$$

$$z = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix}, \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{cases} \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}_0 & \text{at } t = 0, \\ \mathbf{p} = 0 & \text{at } t = T. \end{cases}$$

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( $Z$  has a **Hamiltonian symmetry**, such that **eigenvalues** appear in pairs of **equal imaginary and opposite real part**.)

This linear ODE is a **two-point boundary value problem** and may be solved using a linear relationship between the state vector  $\mathbf{x}(t)$  and adjoint vector  $\mathbf{p}(t)$  via a matrix  $X(T)$  such that  $\mathbf{p} = X\mathbf{x}$ , and inserting this solution ansatz into (1) to eliminate  $\mathbf{p}$ .

# The Riccati equation

It follows that **matrix**  $X$  obeys the **differential Riccati equation**

$$-\frac{dX}{dt} = A^H X + X A - X I^{-2} B R^{-1} B^H X + Q \quad \text{with} \quad X(T) = 0. \quad (2)$$

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Once  $X$  is known, the optimal value of  $\mathbf{u}$  may then be written in the form of a feedback control rule such that

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It follows that **matrix**  $X$  obeys the **differential Riccati equation**

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Finally, if the system is time invariant (**LTI**) and we take the limit that  $T \rightarrow \infty$ , the matrix  $X$  in (2) may be marched to steady state. This steady state solution for  $X$  satisfies the continuous-time **algebraic Riccati equation**

$$0 = A^H X + XA - XI^{-2}BR^{-1}B^H X + Q,$$

where additionally  $X$  is constrained such that  $A + BK$  is stable.

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$$Z = V\Lambda_c V^{-1} \quad \text{where} \quad V = \begin{bmatrix} V_{11} & V_{12} \\ V_{21} & V_{22} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{z} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x} \\ \mathbf{p} \end{bmatrix}$$

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the **solutions**  $\mathbf{z}$  that **obey the boundary conditions** at  $t \rightarrow \infty$  are spanned by the **first  $n$**  columns of  $V$ . The direct ( $\mathbf{x}$ ) and adjoint ( $\mathbf{p}$ ) parts of these columns are related as  **$\mathbf{p} = X\mathbf{x}$** , where

$$[\mathbf{p}_1, \mathbf{p}_2, \dots, \mathbf{p}_n] = X[\mathbf{x}_1, \mathbf{x}_2, \dots, \mathbf{x}_n] \quad \rightarrow \quad X = V_{21} V_{11}^{-1}$$

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- **Optimal control** via application of modern control algorithms (**Riccati equation**) is **intractable** because of the very **large number of degrees of freedom** deriving from the discretization of the Navier-Stokes equations.

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- 2 For any value of  $l^2$ , more general, **Riccati-less optimal control**

# Minimal-energy control feedback

In the limit that  $l^2 \rightarrow \infty$  we consider

$$J = \int_0^T \frac{1}{2} [l^{-2} \mathbf{x}^H Q \mathbf{x} + \mathbf{u}^H R \mathbf{u}]$$

With this definition the same derivation as before leads to

$$\frac{dz}{dt} = Zz \quad \text{where} \quad Z = Z_{2n \times 2n} = \begin{bmatrix} A & -BR^{-1}B^H \\ -l^{-2}Q & -A^H \end{bmatrix}$$

Taking the limit  $l^2 \rightarrow \infty$  we get

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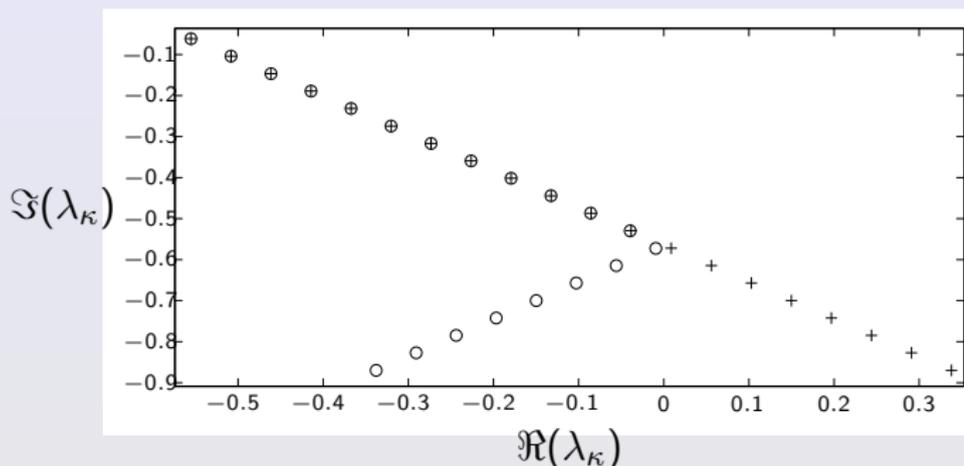
$$\frac{d\mathbf{z}}{dt} = Z\mathbf{z} \quad \text{where} \quad Z = Z_{2n \times 2n} = \begin{bmatrix} A & -BR^{-1}B^H \\ \underbrace{-l^{-2}Q}_{\rightarrow 0} & -A^H \end{bmatrix}$$

$Z$  becomes **block triangular**. The direct and adjoint equations are

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} = A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{u} = -R^{-1}B^H\mathbf{p}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial t} = -A^H\mathbf{p} + 0$$

# Minimal-energy control feedback

The **eigenvalues** of this system is given by the **union** of the eigenvalues of  $A$  and the eigenvalues of  $-A^H$ .



The eigenvalues of (+) the discretized open-loop system, and (o) the closed-loop system  $A + BK$  after minimal-energy control is applied.

# Minimal-energy control feedback

Here we **know** the eigenvalues and only need to compute

$$X = V_{21} V_{11}^{-1}$$

It can be shown that  $X$  is only function of  $V_{21}$ .  $K$  is finally given as a function of the **unstable eigenvalues** and corresponding **left eigenvectors**.

$$K = -B^H T_u F^{-1} T_u^H$$

where  $F$  has elements

$$f_{ij} = c_{ij} / (\lambda_i + \lambda_j^*)$$

and

$$C = T_u^H B B^H T_u$$

$T_u$  is the matrix containing unstable left eigenvectors

# Numerical procedure

- All equations are discretized using second-order finite-differences over a staggered, stretched, Cartesian mesh.
- An immersed-boundary technique is used to enforce the boundary conditions on the cylinder.
- The nonlinear mean-flow equations, along with their boundary conditions, are solved by a Newton-Raphson procedure.
- The linear and nonlinear evolution equations are solved using Adams-Bashforth/Crank-Nicholson.
- The eigenvalue problems are solved using an Inverse Iteration algorithm
- Discrete adjoint equations (accurate to machine precision).

# Application

The linear feedback matrix  $K$  which suppresses vortex shedding from a circular cylinder has been computed using:

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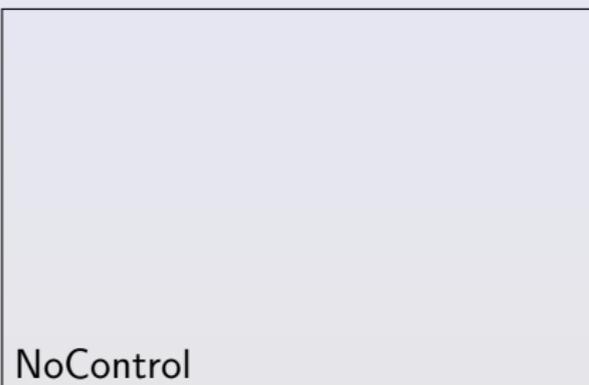
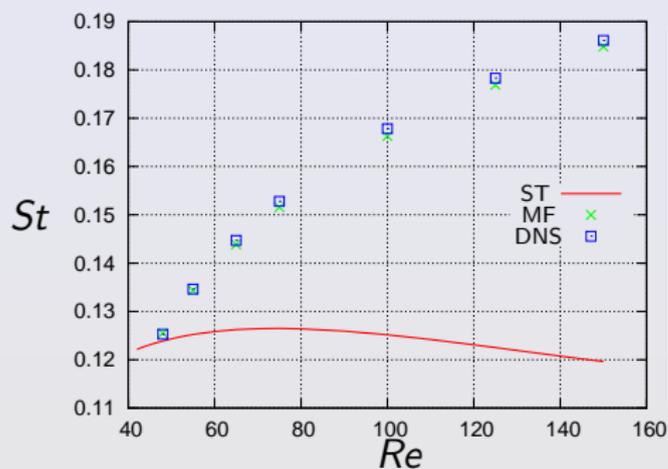
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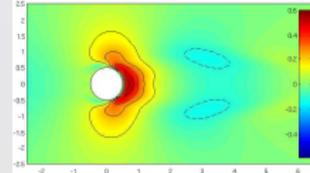
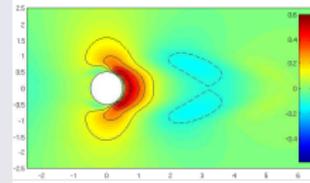
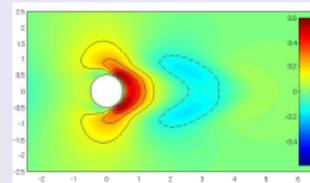
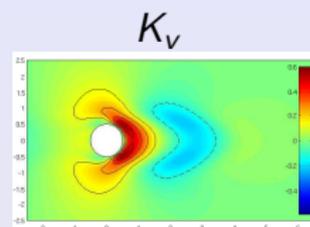
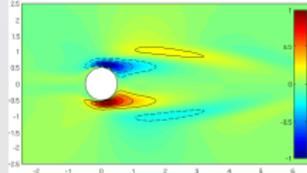
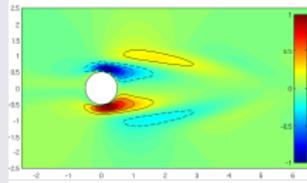
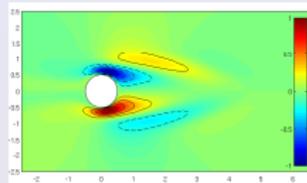
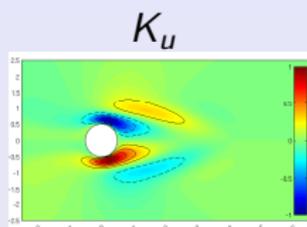
Full state information, Actuator: angular oscillation,  $Re = UD/\nu$

Dimension of control  $\mathbf{u}$  is  $m = 1$



# The feedback matrix $K$ ( $u = Kx$ )

- $Re = 55$
- $Re = 75$
- $Re = 100$
- $Re = 150$

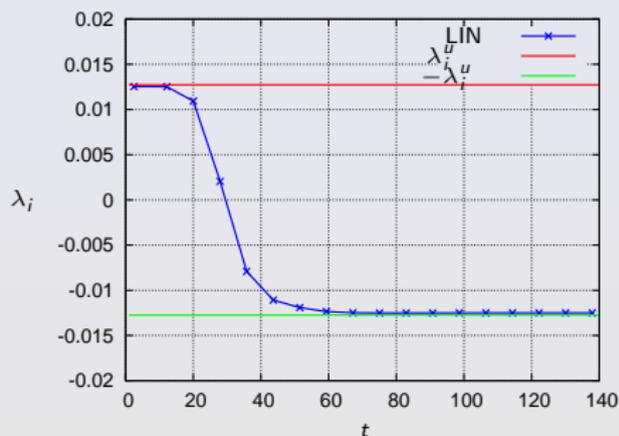
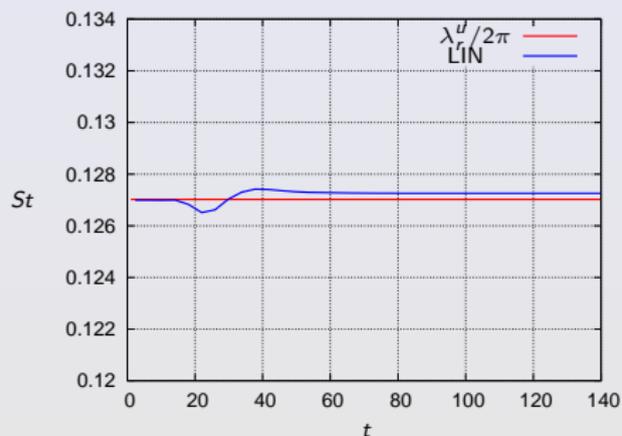


# Results: linearized N-S equations

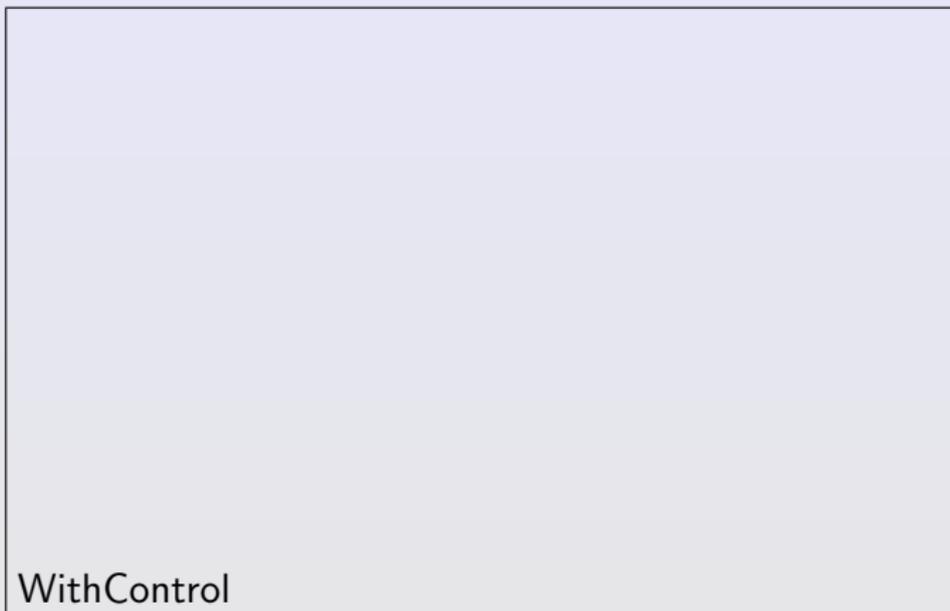
The temporal evolution of the frequency and growth rate is compared with the eigenvalue  $\lambda$

- The Strouhal number:  $St = fD/U$  compared to  $St = \lambda_r/2\pi$
- The growth rate:  $\sigma = \frac{d}{dt} \log(u(t))$  compared to  $\lambda_i$

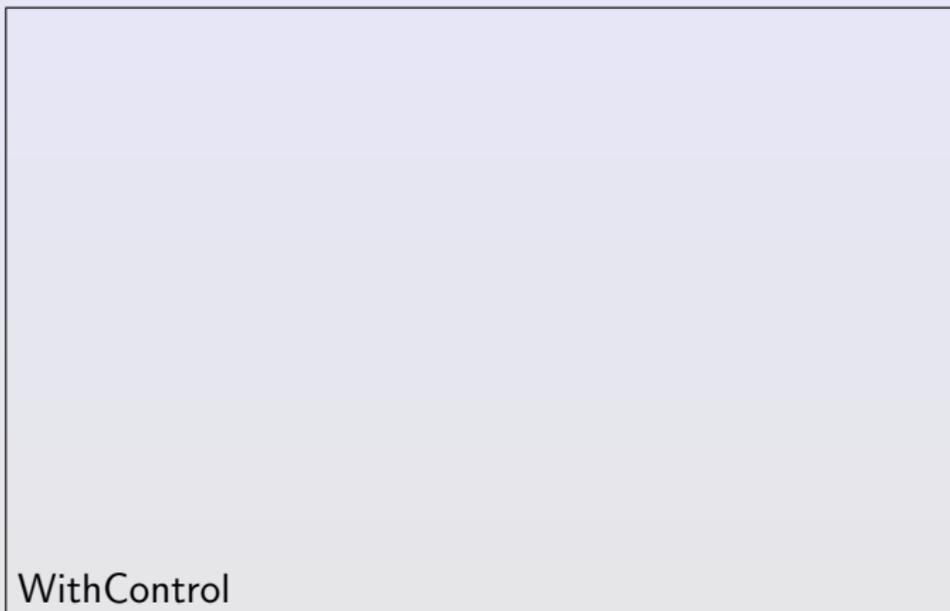
Test case:  $Re = 55$ , control is turned on at  $t = 18$



# Control of vortex shedding: $Re = 55$

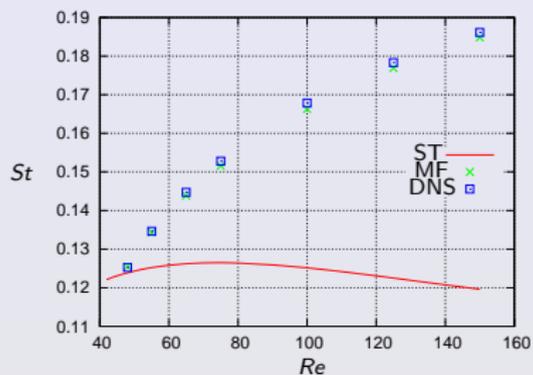


# Control of vortex shedding: $Re = 55$



# Stationary vs. mean flow

$St$  for **limit cycle** coincide with **mean-flow** eigenfrequency

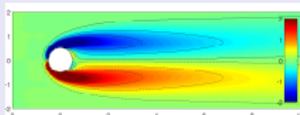
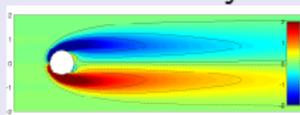


$Re$

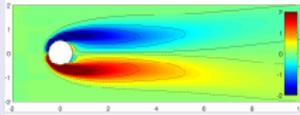
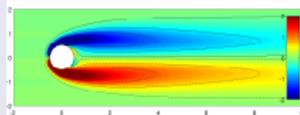
stationary

mean

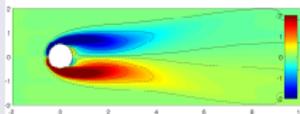
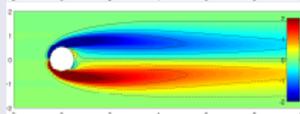
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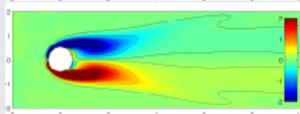
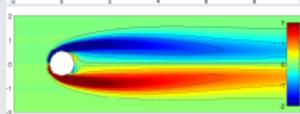
55



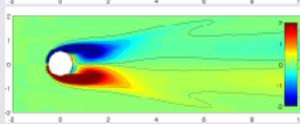
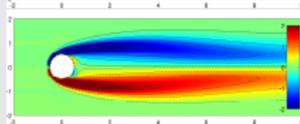
75



100



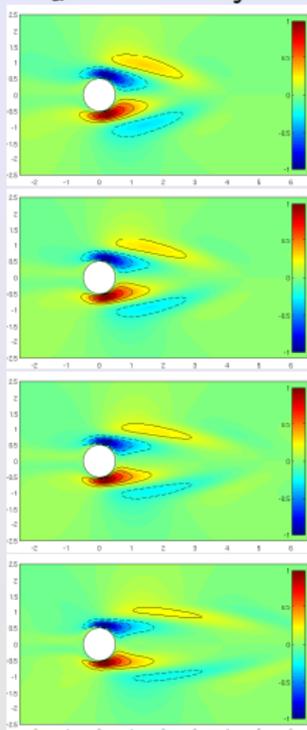
150



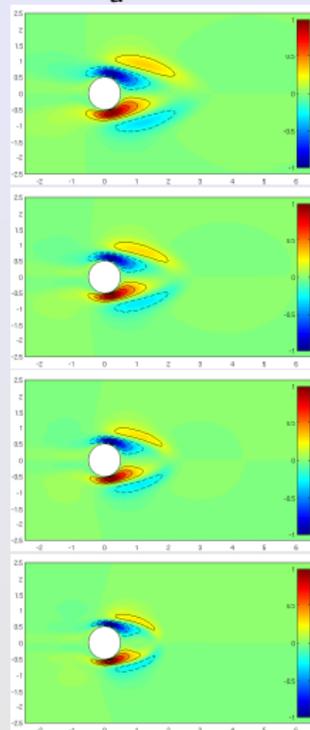
# $K_U$ stationary vs. mean

- $Re = 55$
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### $K_U$ stationary



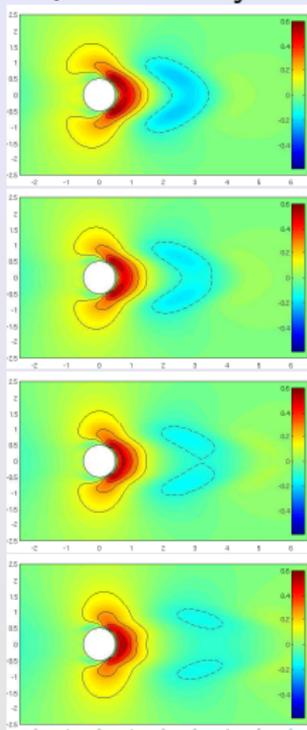
### $K_U$ mean



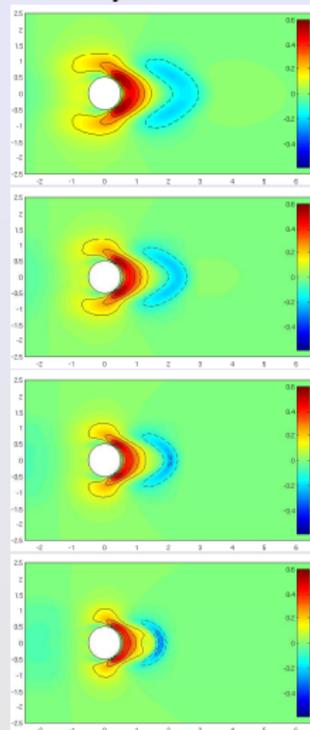
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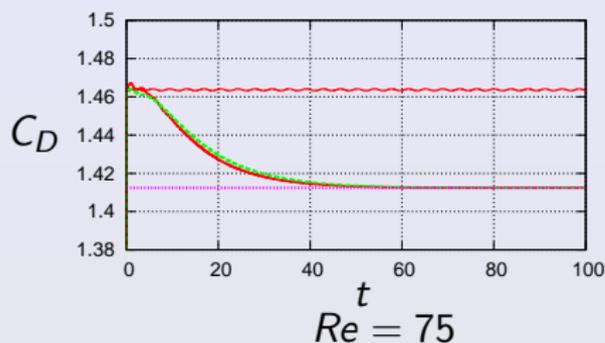


### $K_V$ mean

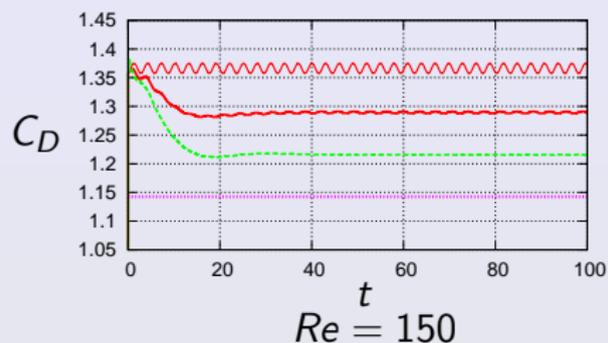


# Control of vortex shedding: stationary vs. mean

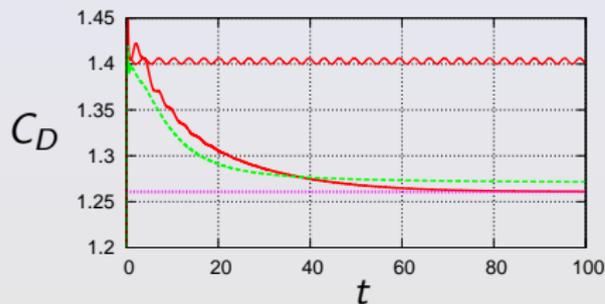
$Re = 55$



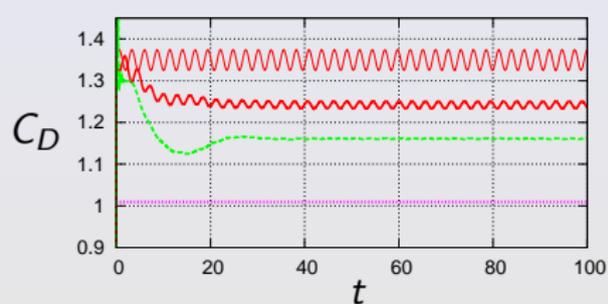
$Re = 100$



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$Re = 150$



Red: stationary flow, Green: mean flow

# Riccati-less optimal control

The **aim** is to compute the solution for  $K$ , which is **independent of  $x_0$**  and **time invariant**. This can be solved using an iterative procedure to “try” different  $x_0$  (**computationally expensive**).

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This is a **linear relation** between the **input  $x_0$**  and **output  $\mathbf{u}$** .

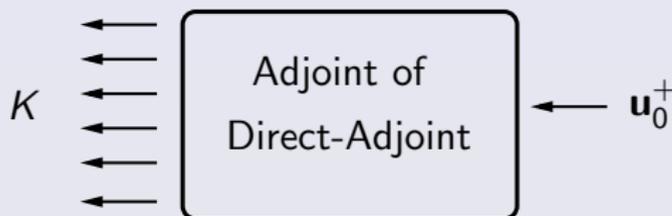


The input has a **large** dimension and the output a **small** dimension.

# Riccati-less optimal control

Such a problem is efficiently solved using the adjoint equations.

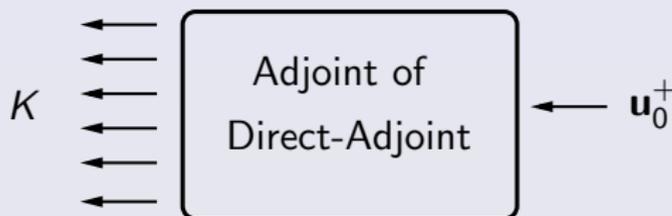
The adjoint input has a **small** dimension and the output a **large** dimension.



# Riccati-less optimal control

Such a problem is efficiently solved using the adjoint equations.

The adjoint input has a **small** dimension and the output a **large** dimension.



$K$  is obtained from the solution of the **adjoint** of the **direct-adjoint system**.

## Adjoint of the Direct-Adjoint system

Introduce the adjoint variables  $\mathbf{x}^+$  and  $\mathbf{p}^+$  and multiply with the direct-adjoint equations, then integrate in time from  $t = 0$  to  $t = T$ . Obs! here we consider that  $\mathbf{u}$  has dimension  $m = 1$ .

$$\int_0^T \mathbf{x}^{+H} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} - A\mathbf{x} + \frac{1}{l^2} BR^{-1} B^H \mathbf{p} \right) dt + \int_0^T \mathbf{p}^{+H} \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial t} + A^H \mathbf{p} + Q\mathbf{x} \right) dt = 0.$$

## Adjoint of the Direct-Adjoint system

Using integration by parts, and considering that both  $R$  and  $Q$  are symmetric, we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
 & - \int_0^T \mathbf{p}^H \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}^+}{\partial t} - A\mathbf{p}^+ - \frac{1}{l^2} B R^{-1} B^H \mathbf{x}^+ \right) dt - \int_0^T \mathbf{x}^H \left( \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}^+}{\partial t} + A^H \mathbf{x}^+ - Q\mathbf{p}^+ \right) dt \\
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with  $\mathbf{x}^+(t = T) = 0$  and  $\mathbf{p}(t = T) = 0$ , the remaining terms are

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- we can **identify** one row of  $K$  as  $\mathbf{x}^{+H}(0)$ . ( $m = 1$ )

# Riccati-less optimal control: solution procedure

If we let  $\mathbf{x}^+ \rightarrow -\mathbf{p}$  and  $\mathbf{p}^+ \rightarrow \mathbf{x}$  we easily obtain the original (Direct-Adjoint) system. (self-adjoint)

Finally: solve the **original** linear system with **new** b.c.

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} = A\mathbf{x} - \frac{1}{l^2} BR^{-1} B^H \mathbf{p} \quad \text{on } 0 < t < T, \quad \mathbf{x}^H(0) \text{ is one row of } \frac{1}{l^2} R^{-1} B^H,$$

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Avoid solving  $X_{n \times n}$

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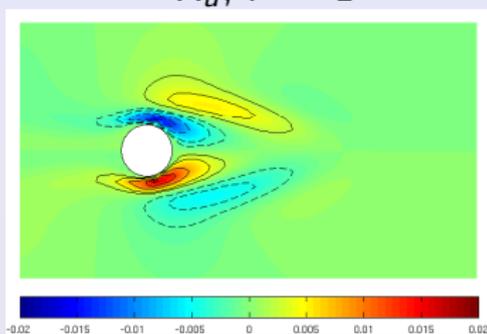
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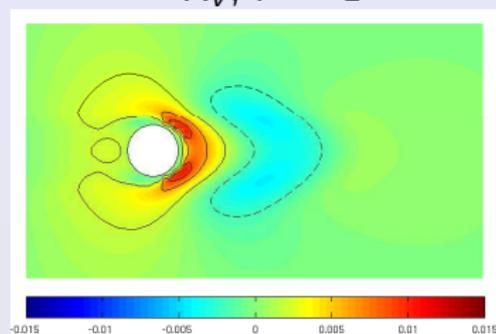
Avoid solving  $X_{n \times n}$       solve original system  $\mathbf{x}_{n \times 1}$   $m$  times

# Results: $K$ for $Re = 55$

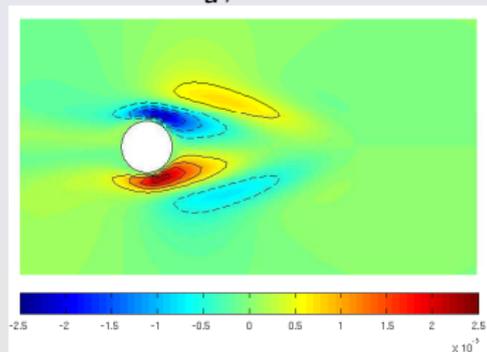
$$K_u, l^2 = 1$$



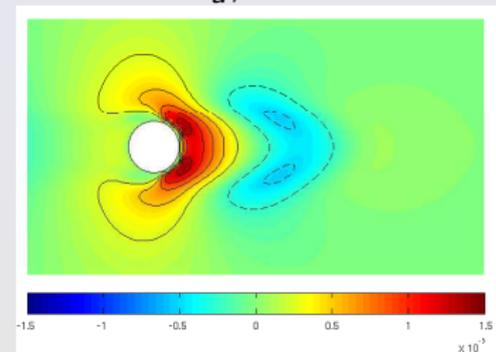
$$K_v, l^2 = 1$$



$$K_u, l^2 \rightarrow \infty$$



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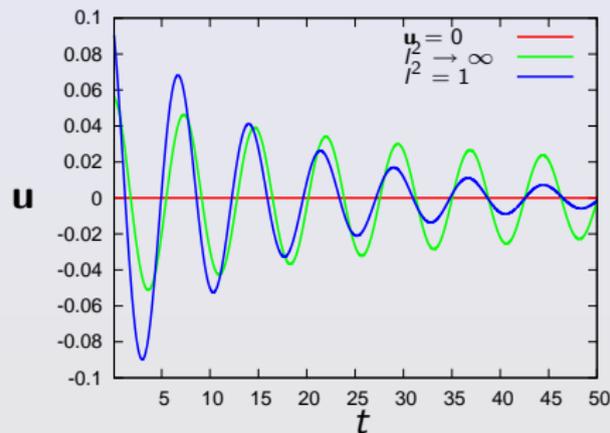
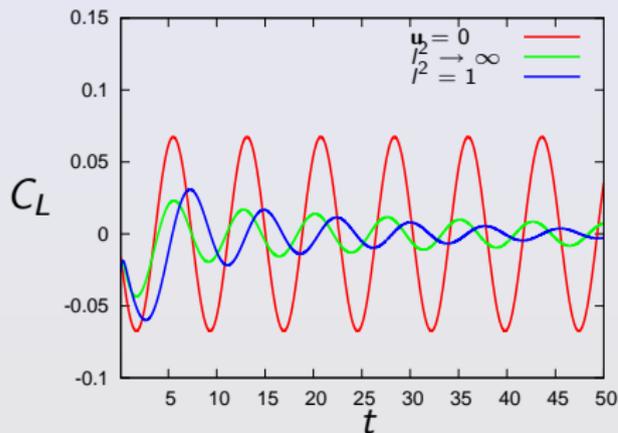


# Control of vortex shedding

In the temporal evolution of the lift ( $C_L$ ) and control  $\mathbf{u}$ :

- $C_L$  and  $\mathbf{u}$  tend to zero as the control is applied
- Control  $\mathbf{u}$  strengthens as  $l^2$  decrease

Test case:  $Re = 55$ , control is turned on at  $t = 0$

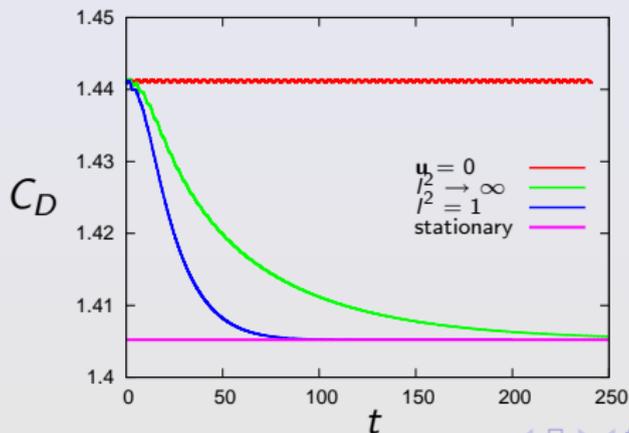


# Control of vortex shedding

In the temporal evolution of drag ( $C_D$ ) coefficient:

- As the control is applied  $C_D$  tends to the constant value corresponding to the steady state solution
- The control acts more quickly as  $l^2$  is decreased

Test case:  $Re = 55$ , control is turned on at  $t = 0$



# Summary and Conclusions

- Two exact methods to **enable** solving optimal control for complex flows,

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- The methods have been applied to control vortex shedding behind a cylinder.

# EXTRA SLIDES

# Background: control using rotational oscillation

Aim: reduce  $C_D$

Exp. Tokumaru & Dimotakis (1991), **-20%**,  $Re = 15000$

*Feedback control:*

Exp. Fujisawa & Nakabayashi (2002) **-16%** ( $-70\% C_L$ ),  $Re = 20000$

Exp. Fujisawa et al.(2001) “**reduction**”,  $Re = 6700$

*Optimal control (using adjoints):*

Num. He et al.(2000) **-30** to **-60%** for  $Re = 200 - 1000$

Num. Protas & Styczek (2002) **-7%** at  $Re = 75$ , **-15%** at  $Re = 150$

Bergmann et al.(2005) **-25%** at  $Re = 200$  (POD)

Aim: reduce vortex shedding

*Feedback control:*

Num. Protas (2004) **reduction**, “point vortex model”,  $Re = 75$

*Optimal control (using adjoints):*

Num. Homescu et al.(2002) **reduction**,  $Re = 60 - 1000$

# Minimal-energy control feedback

Denoting:

- $\mathbf{x}^i$  and  $\lambda^i$  the  $i$ -th right eigenvector and eigenvalue of  $A$ ,
- $\mathbf{y}^i$  and  $-\lambda^{i*}$  the  $i$ -th right eigenvector and eigenvalue of  $-A^H$ ,
- $\mathbf{y}^{i*}$  is left eigenvector of  $A$ ,

we see that the stable eigenvectors of

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}}{\partial t} = A\mathbf{x} + B\mathbf{u}, \quad \mathbf{u} = -R^{-1}B^H\mathbf{p}, \quad \frac{\partial \mathbf{p}}{\partial t} = -A^H\mathbf{p}$$

are of two possible types:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \mathbf{p} = 0, \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{x}^i & \text{if } \Re(\lambda^i) < 0 \quad (\text{stable}) \\ \mathbf{p} = \mathbf{y}^i, \mathbf{x} = (\lambda^{i*} + A)^{-1}BR^{-1}B^H\mathbf{y}^i & \text{if } \Re(\lambda^i) > 0 \quad (\text{unstable}) \end{array}$$

We now project an arbitrary initial condition  $\mathbf{x}_0$  onto these modes,

$$\mathbf{x}_0 = \sum_{\text{stable}} d_j \mathbf{x}^j + \sum_{\text{unstable}} f_j (\lambda^{j*} + A)^{-1} B R^{-1} B^H \mathbf{y}^j \quad (4)$$

and note that in order to reconstruct  $\mathbf{p}$  we only need the  $f_j$ 's, because the stable modes have  $\mathbf{p} = 0$ . The coefficients  $d_j$  can be eliminated from (4) by projecting the left eigenvectors:

$$\mathbf{y}^{i*} \mathbf{x}_0 = \mathbf{y}^{i*} \sum_{\text{unstable}} f_j (\lambda^{j*} + A)^{-1} B R^{-1} B^H \mathbf{y}^j = \sum_{\text{unstable}} c_{ij} f_j$$

where, since  $\mathbf{y}^{i*}$  is also a left eigenvector of  $(\lambda^{j*} + A)^{-1}$ ,

$$c_{ij} = \frac{\mathbf{y}^{i*} B R^{-1} B^H \mathbf{y}^j}{\lambda^i + \lambda^{j*}}$$

Only the **unstable eigenvalues** and **left eigenvectors** are needed.

## The main theorem

Summarizing, the solution of the minimal-energy stabilizing control feedback problem can be written in terms of the unstable left eigenvectors only.

**Theorem 1.** *Consider a stabilizable system  $\dot{\mathbf{x}} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} + \mathbf{B}\mathbf{u}$  with no pure imaginary open-loop eigenvalues. Determine the unstable eigenvalues and corresponding left eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}$  such that  $\mathbf{T}_u^H \mathbf{A} = \Lambda_u \mathbf{T}_u^H$  (equivalently, determine the unstable eigenvalues and corresponding right eigenvectors of  $\mathbf{A}^H$  such that  $\mathbf{A}^H \mathbf{T}_u = \mathbf{T}_u \Lambda_u^H$ ). Define  $\bar{\mathbf{B}}_u = \mathbf{T}_u^H \mathbf{B}$  and  $\mathbf{C} = \bar{\mathbf{B}}_u \bar{\mathbf{B}}_u^H$ , and compute a matrix  $\mathbf{F}$  with elements  $f_{ij} = c_{ij}/(\lambda_i + \lambda_j^*)$ . The minimal-energy stabilizing feedback controller is then given by  $\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{K}\mathbf{x}$ , where  $\mathbf{K} = -\bar{\mathbf{B}}_u^H \mathbf{F}^{-1} \mathbf{T}_u^H$ .*