

On Richards' equation and its numerical solution

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Séminaire d'analyse numérique, IRMAR

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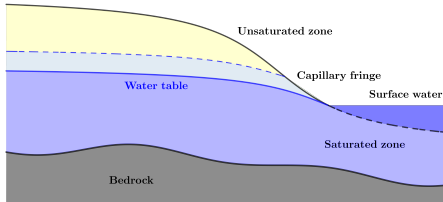
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Applications of Richards' equation

Unsaturated/saturated groundwater flow

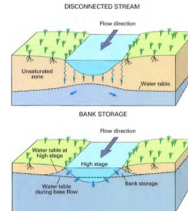
- ▶ pores occupied by water + air



Michel et al. '19

Applications:

- ▶ Water resource estimation
- ▶ Irrigation
- ▶ Contaminant transport
- ▶ Interaction with surface water

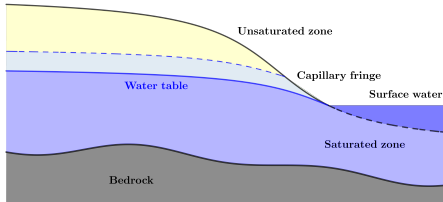


Reilly '01

Applications of Richards' equation

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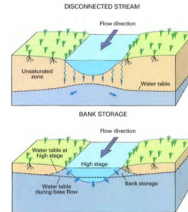
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Michel et al. '19

Alternatives:

- ▶ Saturated flow
- ▶ Richards' (air at equilibrium)
- ▶ Two-phase flow



Reilly '01

Why Richards' equation?

French Wikipedia: La résolution numérique de l'équation de Richards demeure l'un des problèmes d'analyse numérique **les plus difficiles** pour les **sciences naturelles**¹.

English Wikipedia: The numerical solution of the Richards' equation is one of **the most challenging** problems in **earth science**¹.

Original article¹: Richards' equation is . . . arguably one of **the most difficult** equations to reliably and accurately solve in all of **hydrosciences**.

¹Farthing and Ogden, Numerical solution of Richards' Equation: a review of advances and challenges, 2017

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Major numerical challenge: Robustness and efficiency of the nonlinear solvers.

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Outline

Introduction to Richards' equation

- ▶ From saturated to unsaturated flow

Monotone Newton Theorem

- ▶ Convergence proof \neq performance

Nonlinear preconditioning

- ▶ Convergence proof + performance

Conclusion

Outline

Introduction to Richards' equation

- ▶ From saturated to unsaturated flow

Monotone Newton Theorem

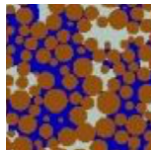
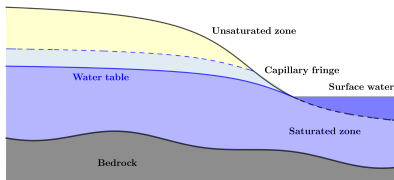
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Conclusion

Saturated vs. unsaturated incompressible groundwater flow



$$s = \frac{|\text{water}|}{|\text{void}|} \text{ in a REV}$$

Saturated flow

Continuity equation:

$$\operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 0$$

Darcy law:

$$\mathbf{v} = -\frac{\mathbb{K}}{\mu} (\nabla p - \rho \mathbf{g})$$

Find p satisfying

$$-\operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\mathbb{K}}{\mu} (\nabla p - \rho \mathbf{g}) \right) = 0$$

Unsaturated flow

Continuity equation:

$$\phi \partial_t s + \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = 0$$

Darcy-Buckingham law:

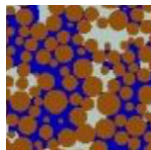
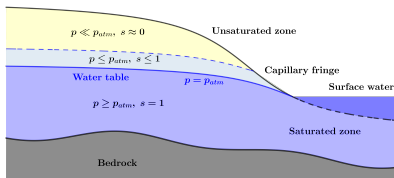
$$\mathbf{v} = -\frac{\mathbb{K}k(s)}{\mu} (\nabla p - \rho \mathbf{g})$$

Find p and s satisfying

$$\phi \partial_t s - \operatorname{div} \left(\frac{\mathbb{K}k(s)}{\mu} (\nabla p - \rho \mathbf{g}) \right) = 0$$

together with $s = S(p)$

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Hydrodynamical properties

Find p and s satisfying

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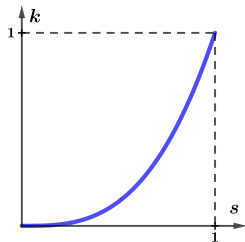
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Parameters:

- ▶ Porosity $\phi \approx 0.01 - 1$
- ▶ Permeability $\mathbb{K} \approx 10^{-7} - 10^{-20} m^2$, possibly a full tensor

Closure laws:

- ▶ Relative permeability $k(s) \approx s^m, m > 1$
- ▶ Retention curve S : increasing, $S(-\infty) = 0$ and $S(p \geq p_e) = 1$



Relative permeability k as a function of saturation

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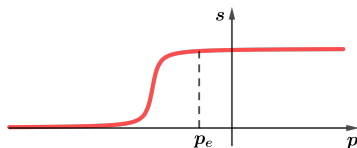
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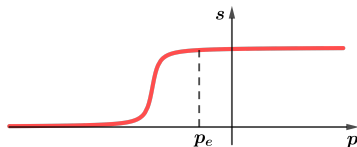
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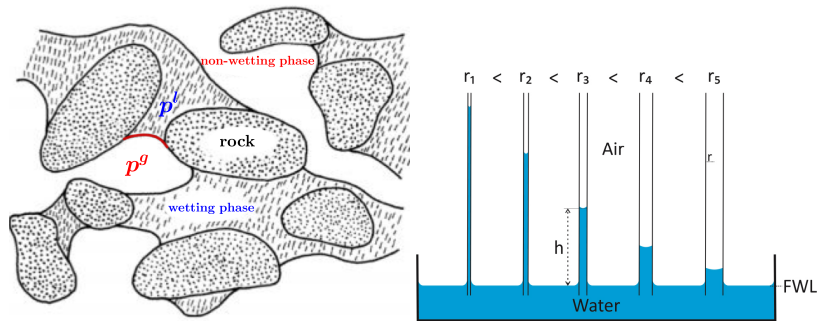
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Retention curve $s = S(p)$

Capillary pressure at the pore-scale



Nemes '16

Assumptions:

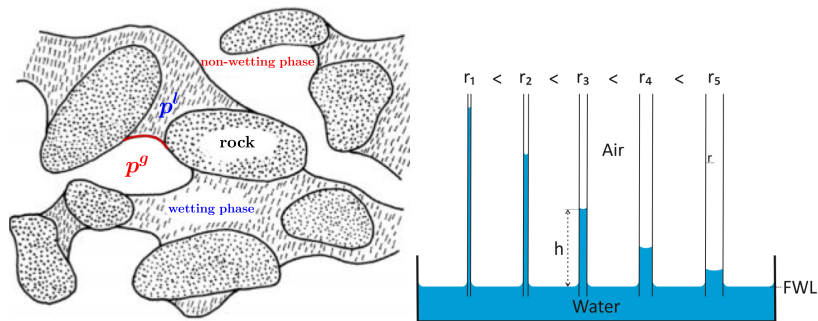
- ▶ Two **immiscible** phases: sharp interfaces at pore scale
- ▶ **Wetting** (liquid) and **non-wetting** (gas) phases

Pressure jump across the **interface**

- ▶ **Young-Laplace law**

$$p^g - p^l = \sigma \left(\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right)$$

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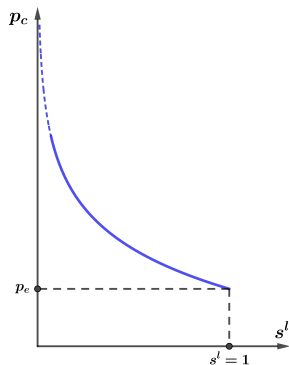
$$p^g - p^l = \sigma \left(\frac{1}{R_1} + \frac{1}{R_2} \right)$$

Observation: Wetting phase “prefers” small pores

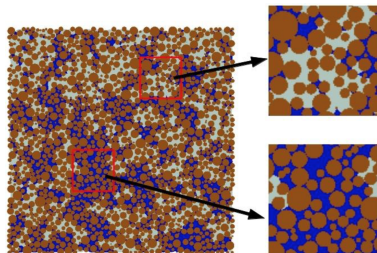
Macroscopic capillary pressure

Capillary pressure at Darcy (macroscopic) scale

$$p^g - p^l = p_c(s^l)$$



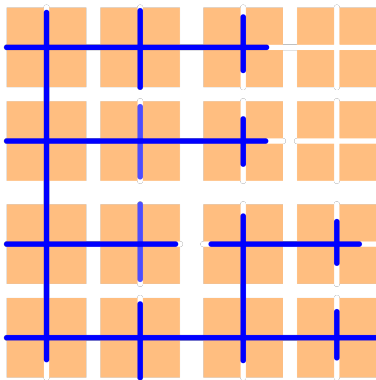
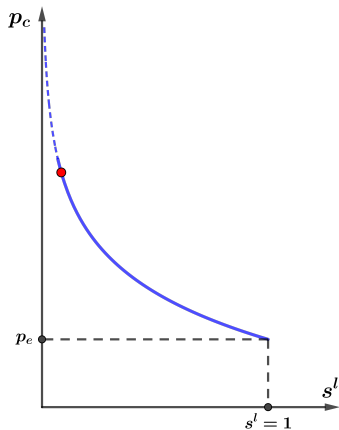
- ▶ Entry pressure p_e



Yuan et al. '16

- ▶ Capillary pressure law depends on pore-size distribution

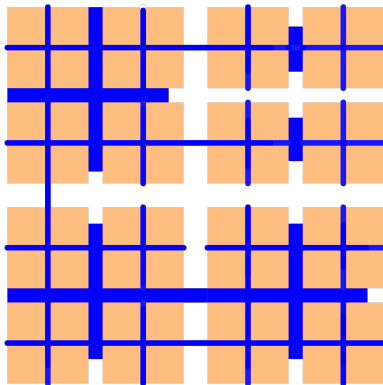
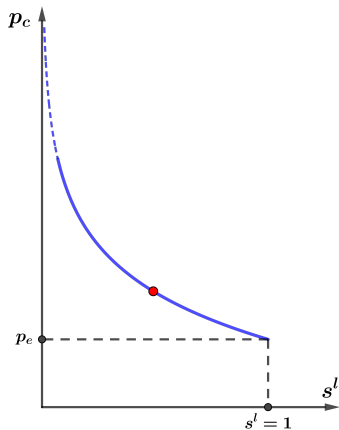
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Wetting of the rock:

- ▶ Interface between the phases moves to **larger pores** \Rightarrow pressure jump decreases

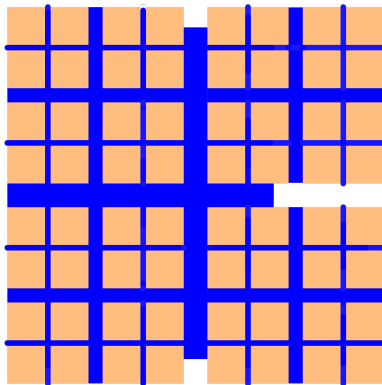
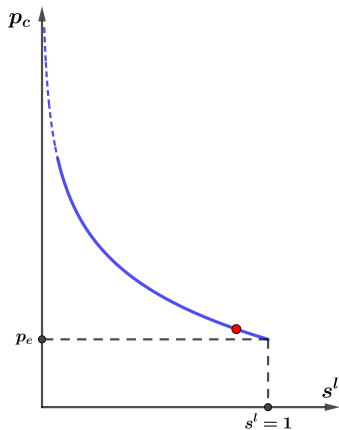
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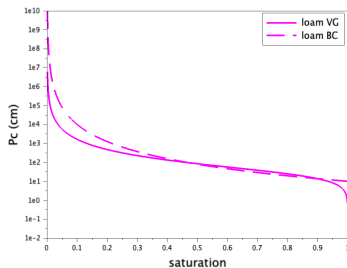
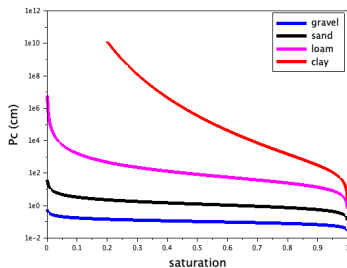
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Capillary pressure curves



Macroscopic capillary pressure:

- ▶ p_c law depends on pore-size distribution;
- ▶ pressure jump may be neglected/assumed constant for some soils.

Van Genuchten model

$$p_c(s) = p_{\alpha} \left(s^{-\frac{1}{m}} - 1 \right)^{\frac{1}{n}}$$

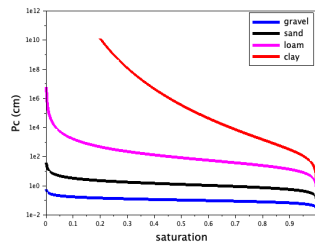
Brooks-Corey model

$$p_c(s) = p_e s^{-\lambda}$$

Retention curve

Set $p^g = p_{atm}$ from capillary pressure law:

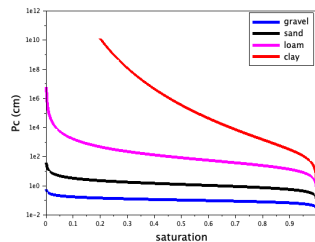
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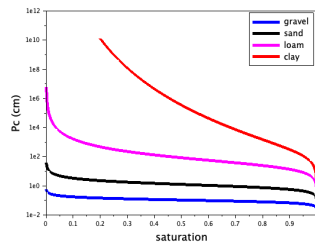
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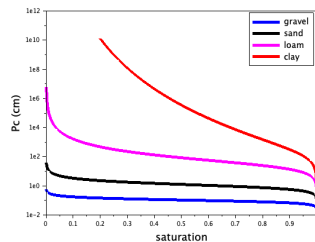
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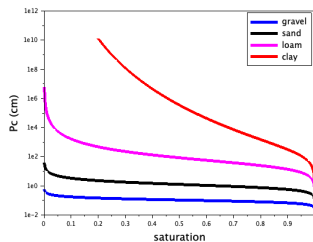
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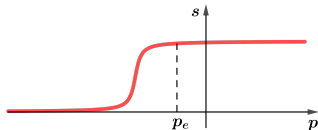
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Functional closure $s = S(p)$



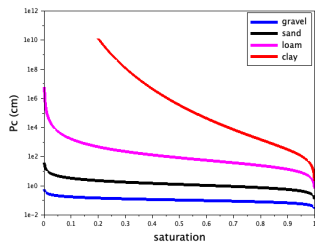
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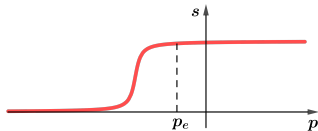
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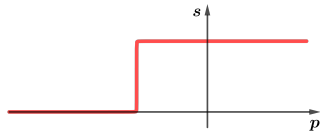
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Functional closure $s = S(p)$



Graphical closure $s \in S(p)$



Formulation using Kirchhoff transform

Richards' equation

$$\partial_t s - \operatorname{div}(k(s)(\nabla p - \mathbf{g})) = 0$$

Natural **energy estimate**

$$\sup_{t \leq T} \int_{\Omega} \Psi(p) \, d\mathbf{x} + \int_0^T \int_{\Omega} k(s) |\nabla p|^2 \, d\mathbf{x} < +\infty, \quad \Psi(p) = S(p)p - \int^p S(\pi) \, d\pi$$

does not provide control on $\|\nabla p\|_{L^2}$

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Kirchhoff transform

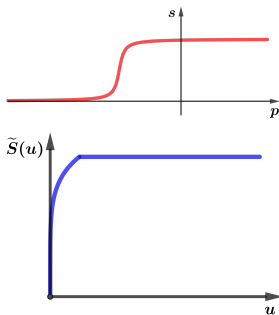
$$U(p) = \int^p k(S(\pi)) \, d\pi$$

Reformulated equation

$$\partial_t s - \operatorname{div}(\nabla u - k(s)\mathbf{g}) = 0$$

with $s = \tilde{S}(u) := S(U^{-1}(u))$

Equation is linear w.r.t. "generalized pressure" u .

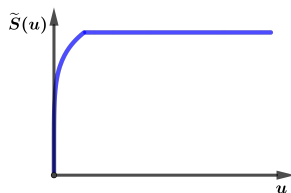
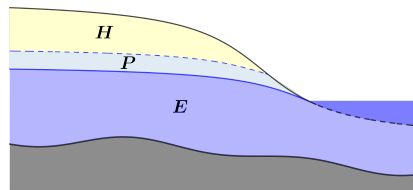


Formulation using Kirchhoff transform

Richards' equation using Kirchhoff transform

$$\partial_t s - \operatorname{div}(\nabla u - k(s)\mathbf{g}) = 0$$

Coexistence of **multiple “regimes”**



Typically $\tilde{S}(u) \sim u^{1/m}$, $m > 1$ near $u = 0$,

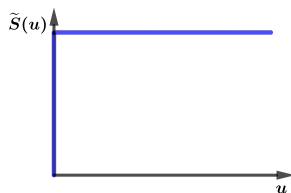
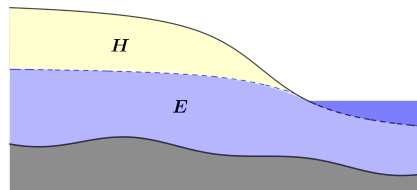
- ▶ connections to **porous medium equation**: $\partial_t u^{1/m} = \Delta u$
- ▶ almost **hyperbolic** behavior near $u = 0$: $\partial_t s + \operatorname{div} k(s)\mathbf{g} = 0$.
Set of **1d** problems!

Formulation using Kirchhoff transform

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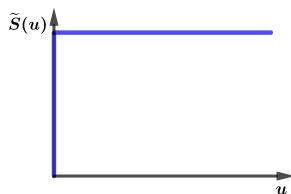
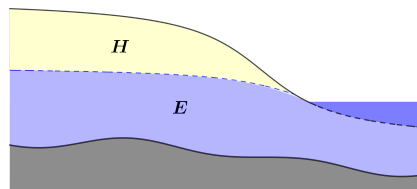
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Existence and uniqueness

- ▶ Parabolic-elliptic: Van Duijn & Peletier '82, Alt & Luckhaus '83
- ▶ Hyperbolic-elliptic (**Dam problem**): Visintin '80, Carrillo '94
- ▶ Hyperbolic-parabolic-elliptic: Carrillo '99

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Pros & cons of Kirchhoff formulation

Makes mathematicians 😊

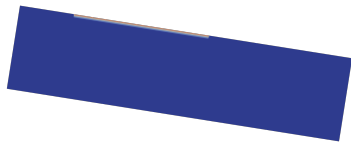
- ▶ Analysis and discretization friendly
- ▶ Easier to solve the discrete problem

Makes engineers 😞

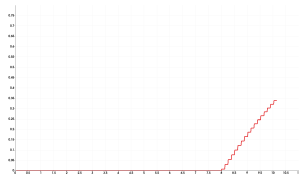
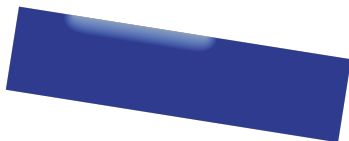
- ▶ No analytical expression of $U(p)$ for some closure laws
- ▶ Harder to incorporate additional physics

Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

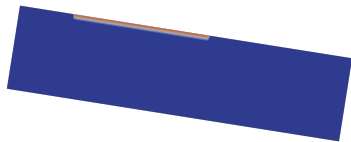


Clay

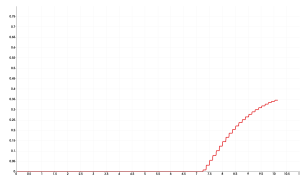
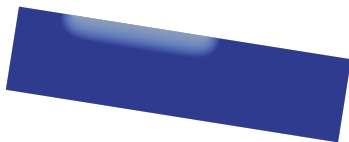


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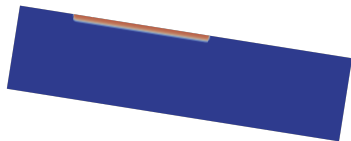


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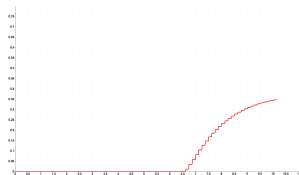
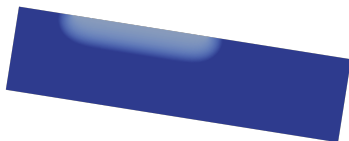


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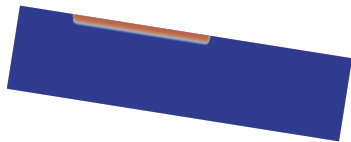


Clay

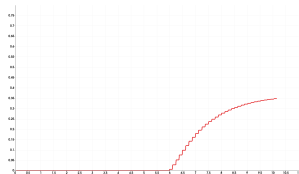
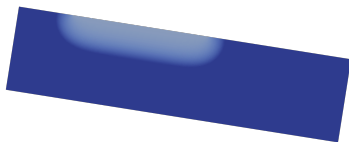


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

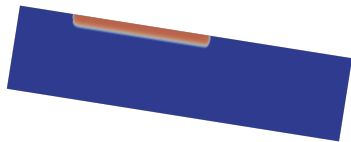


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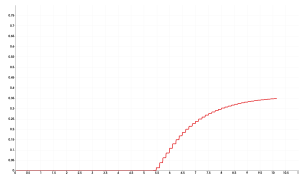
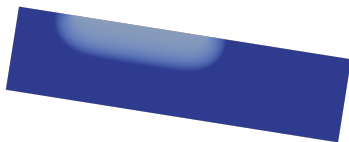


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

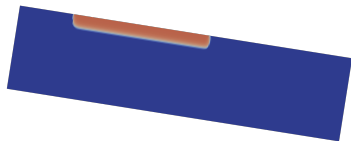


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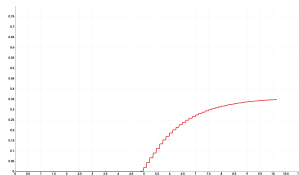
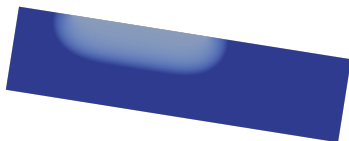


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

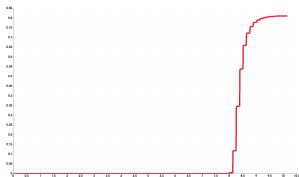
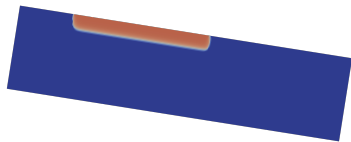


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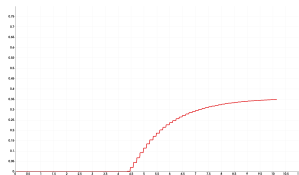
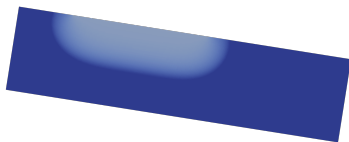


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

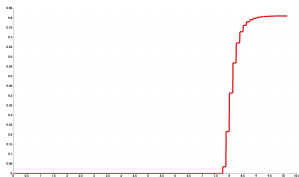
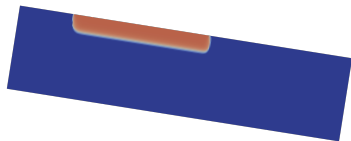


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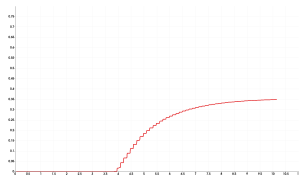
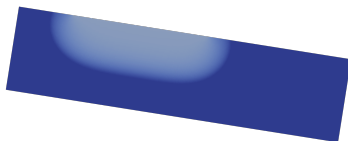


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

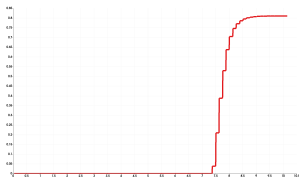
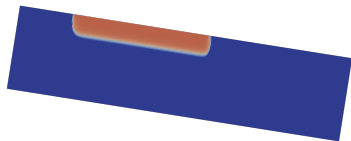


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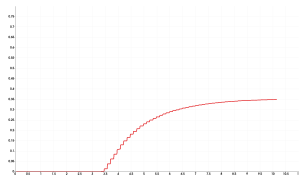
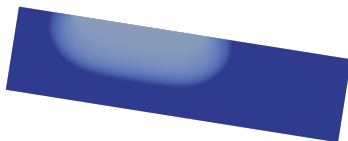


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

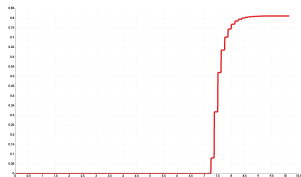
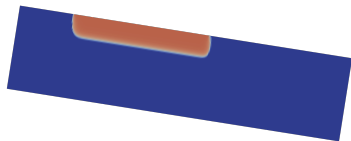


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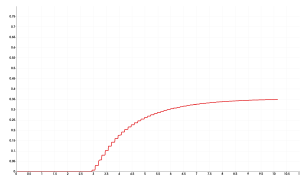
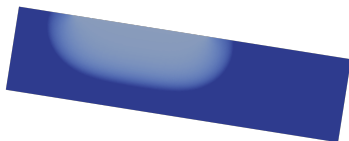


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

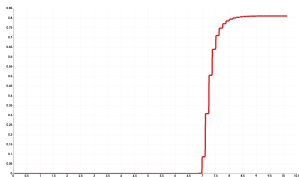
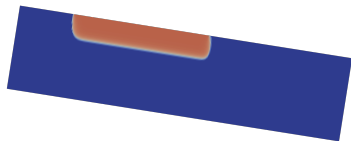


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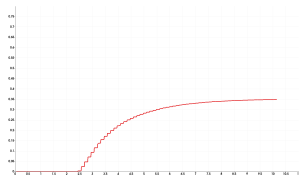
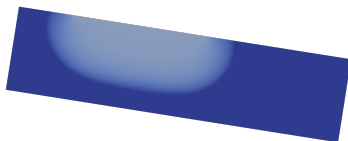


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

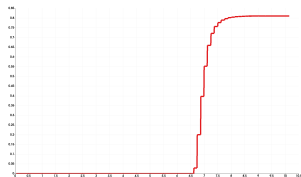
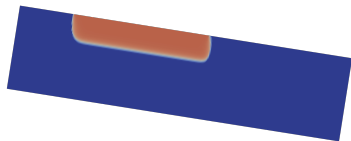


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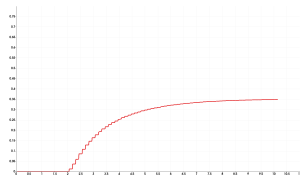
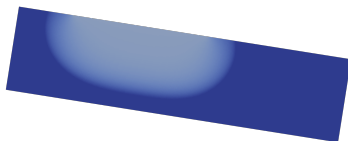


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

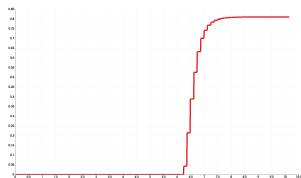
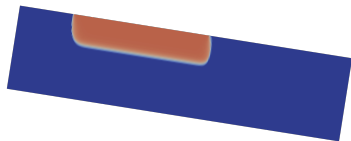


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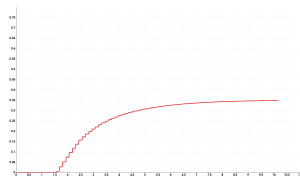
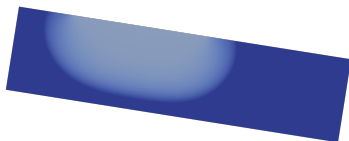


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

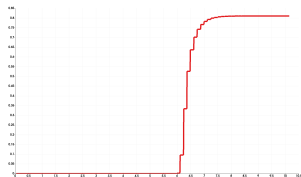
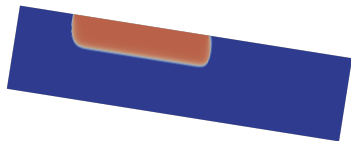


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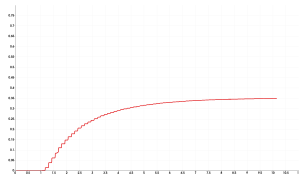
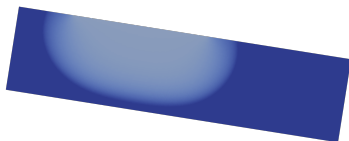


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

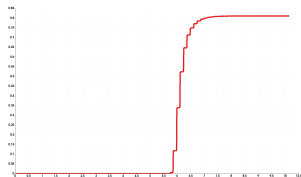
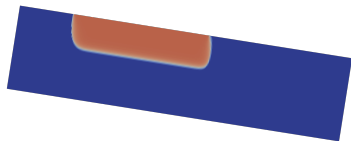


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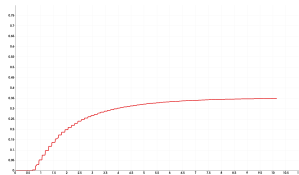
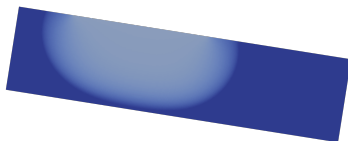


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

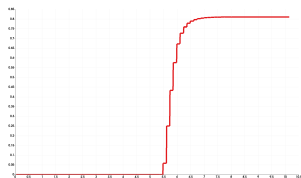
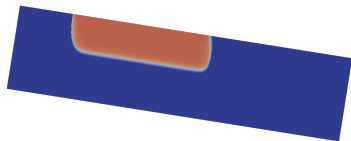


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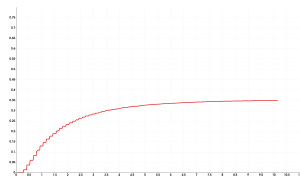
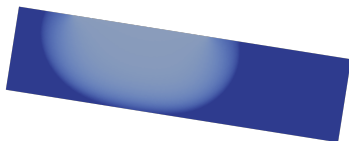


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

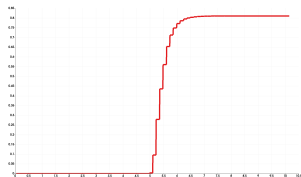
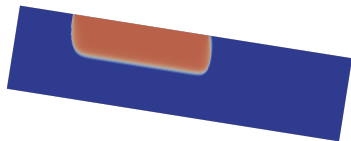


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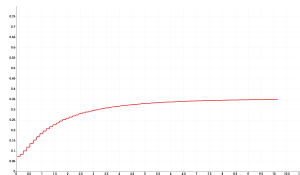
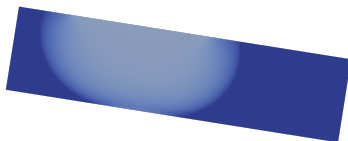


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

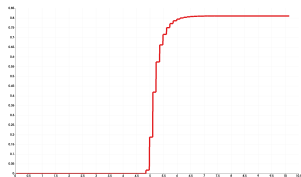
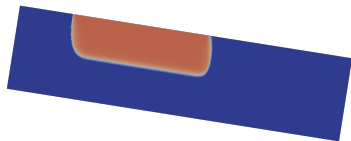


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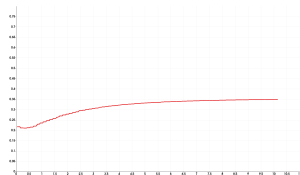
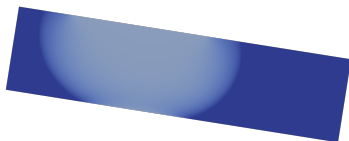


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

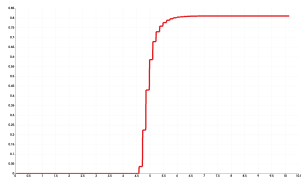
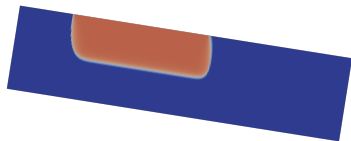


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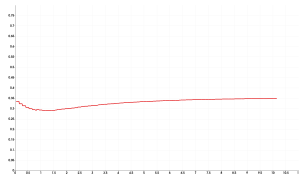
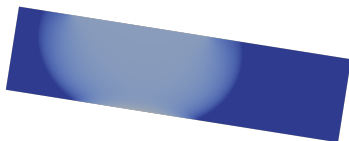


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

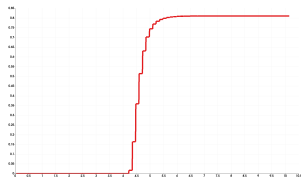
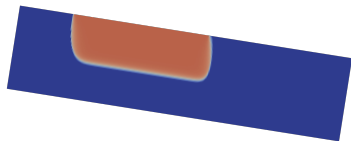


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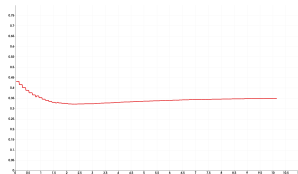
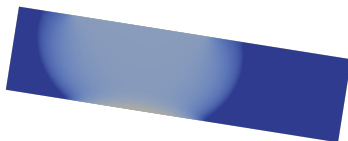


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

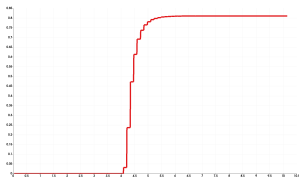
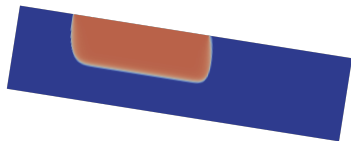


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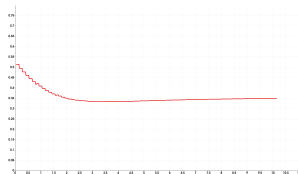
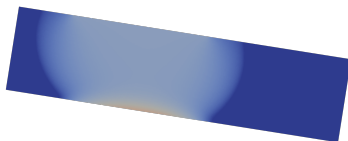


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

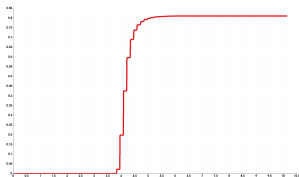
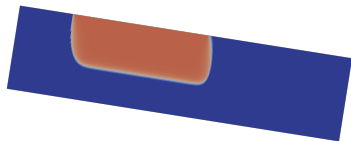


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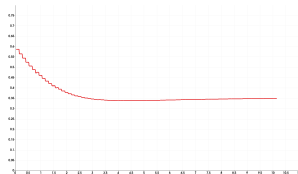
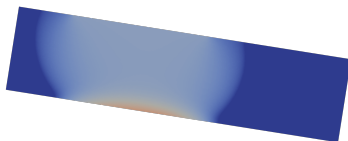


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

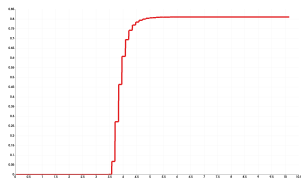
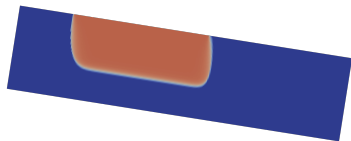


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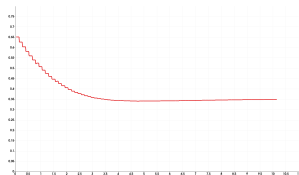
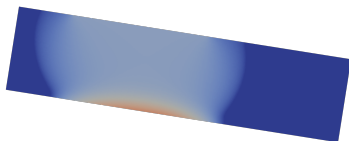


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

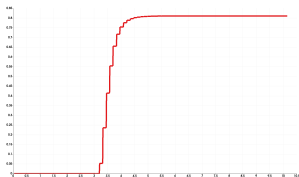
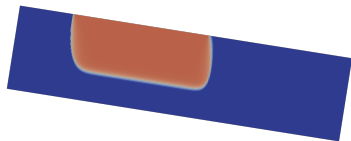


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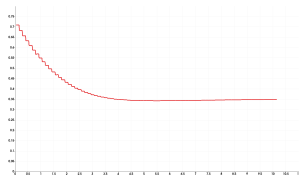
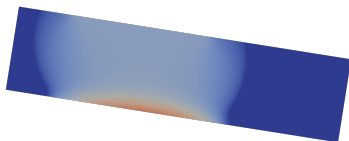


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

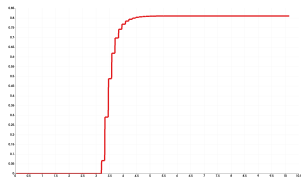
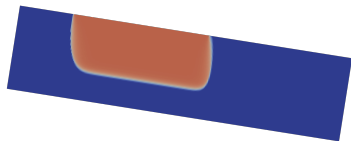


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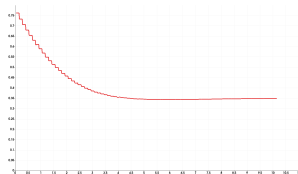
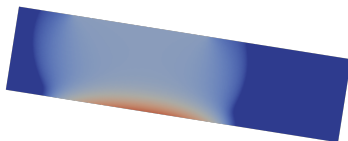


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

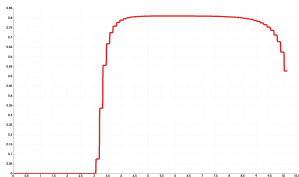
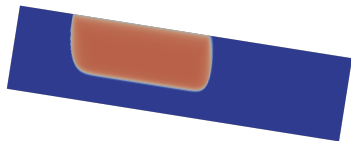


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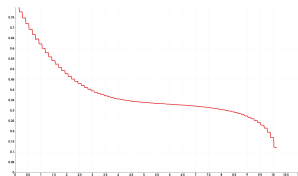
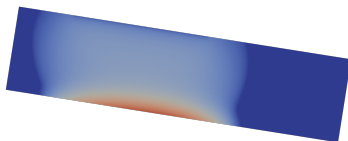


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

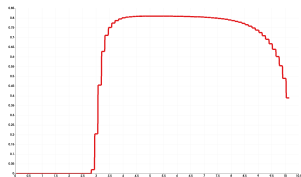
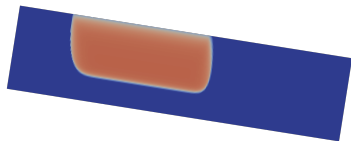


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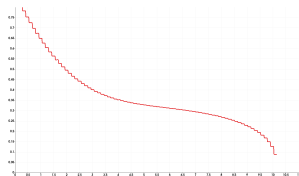
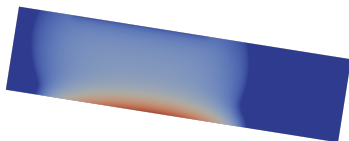


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

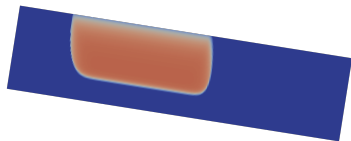


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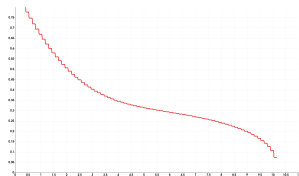
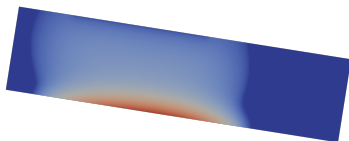


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

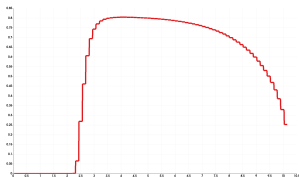
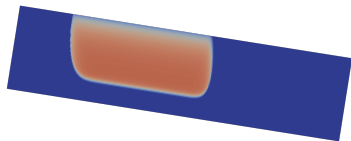


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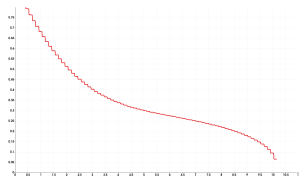
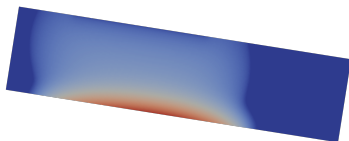


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

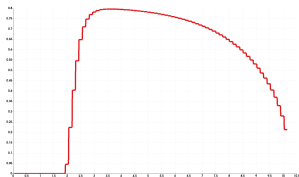
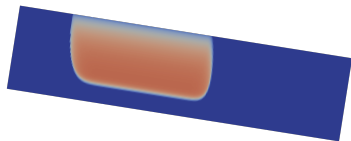


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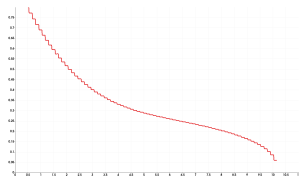
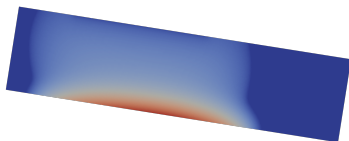


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

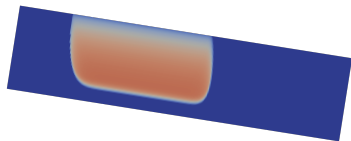


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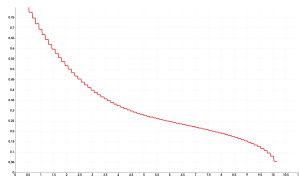
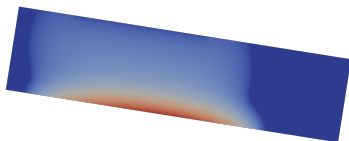


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

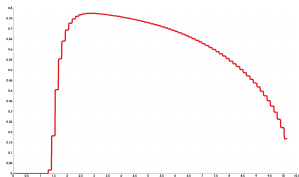
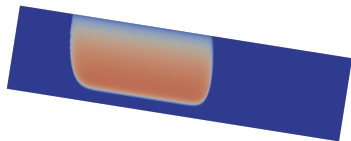


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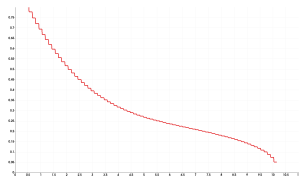
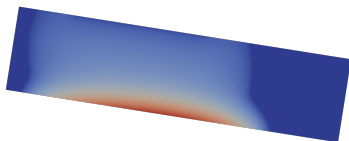


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

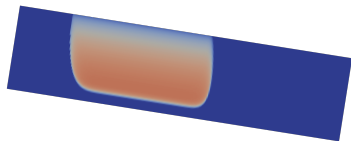


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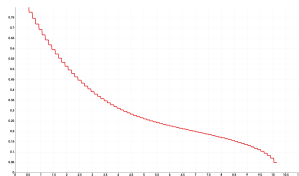
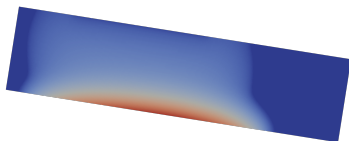


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

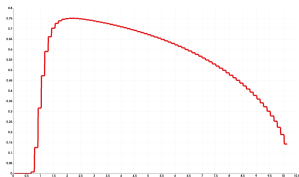
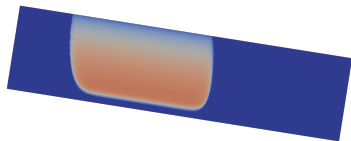


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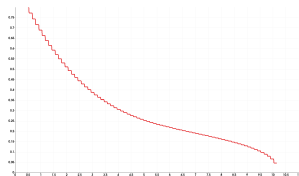
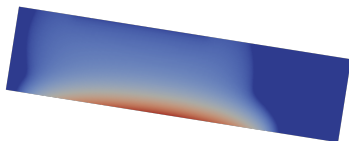


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

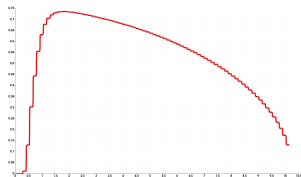
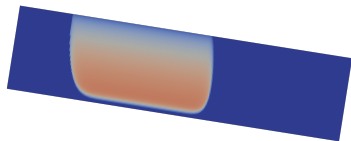


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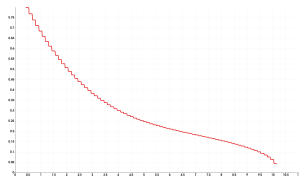
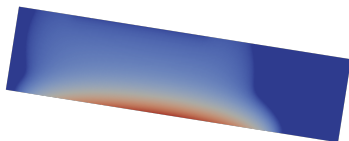


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

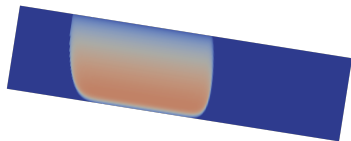


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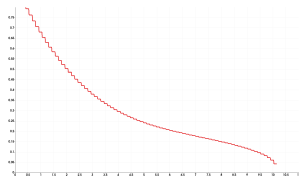
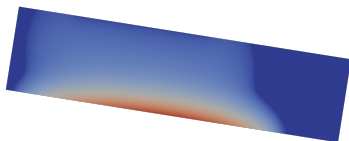


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

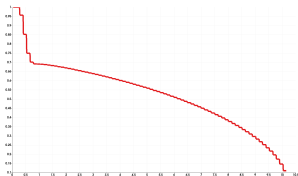
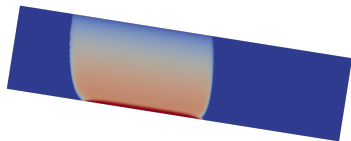


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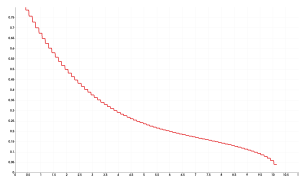
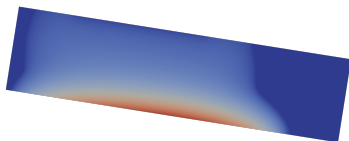


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

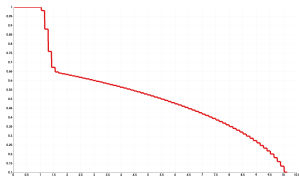
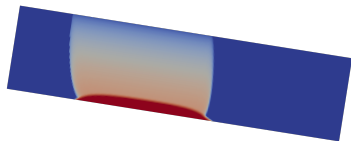


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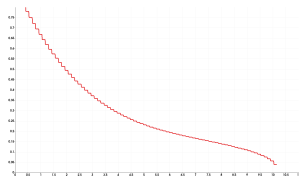
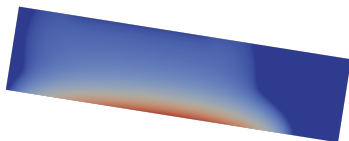


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

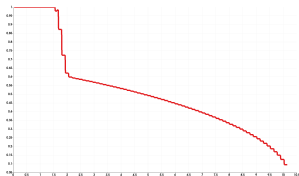
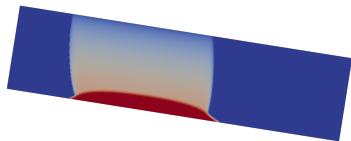


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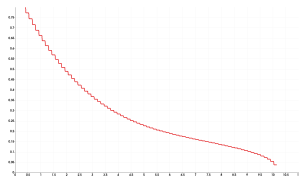
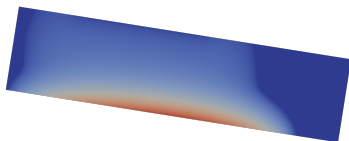


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

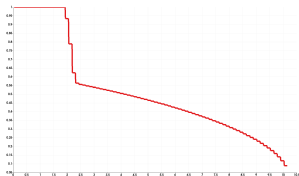
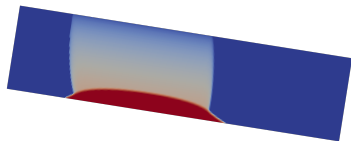


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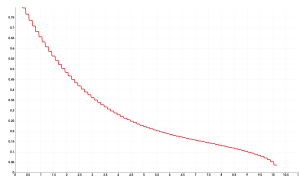
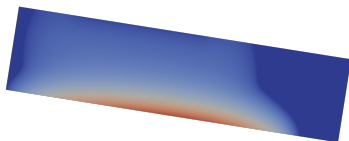


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

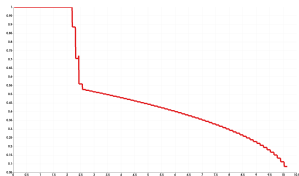
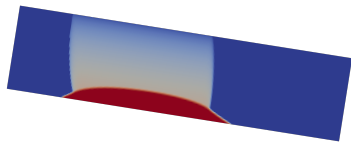


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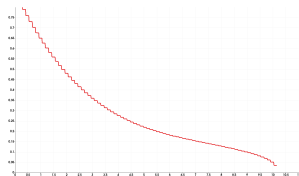
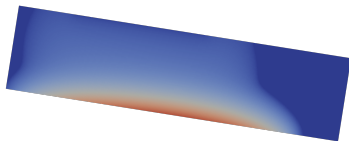


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

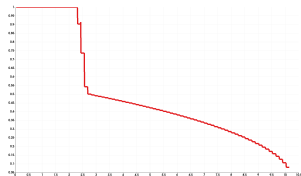
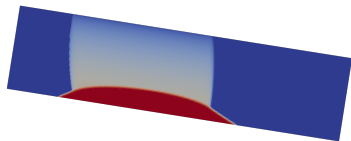


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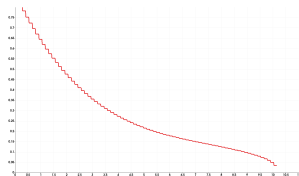
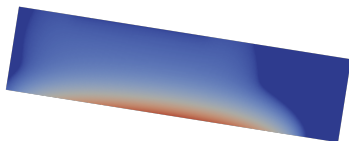


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

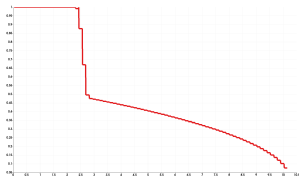
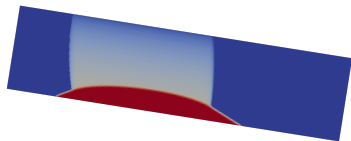


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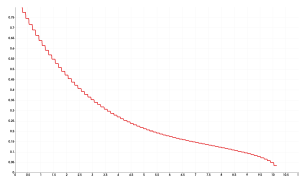
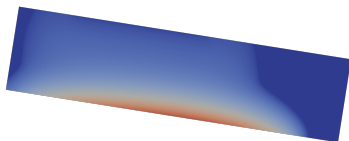


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

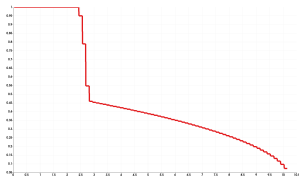
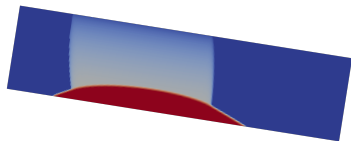


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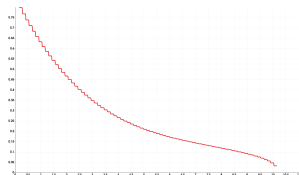
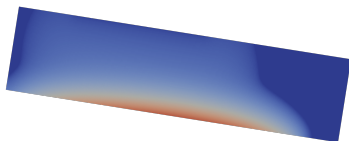


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

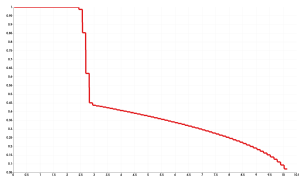
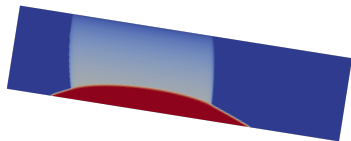


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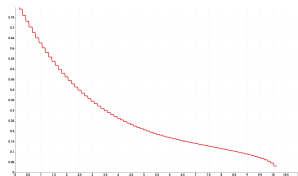
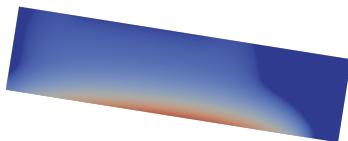


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

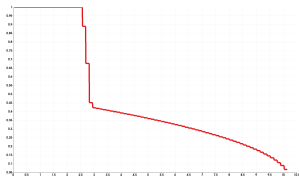
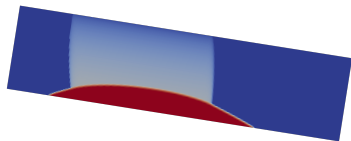


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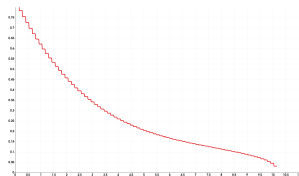
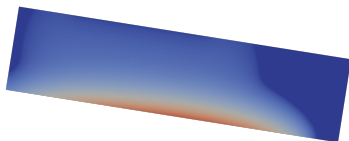


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

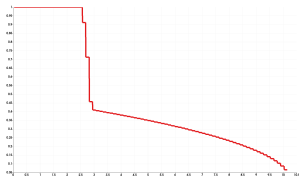
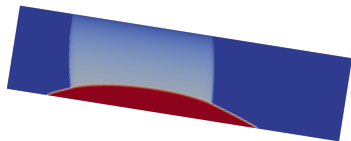


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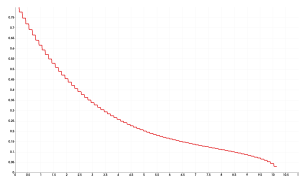
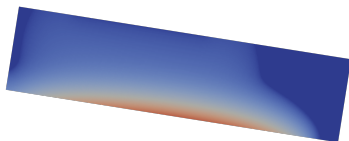


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

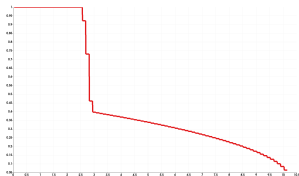
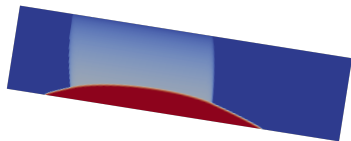


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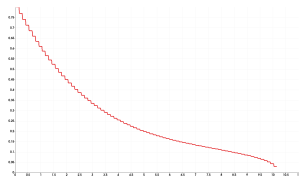
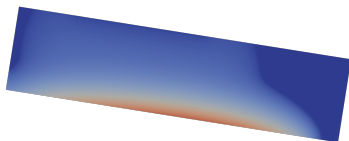


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

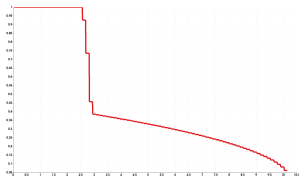
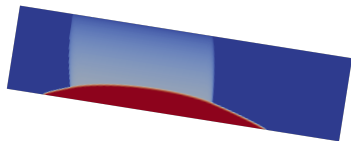


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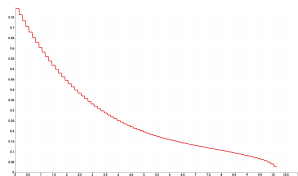
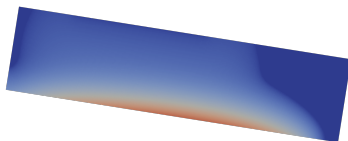


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

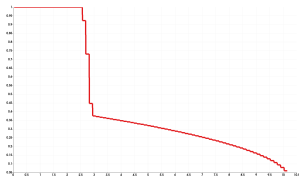
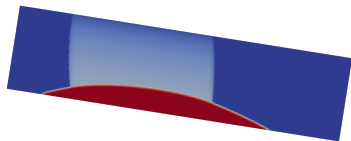


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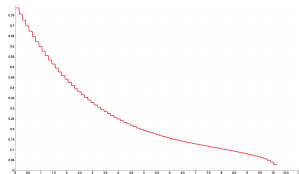
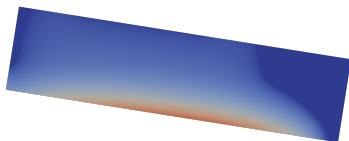


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand

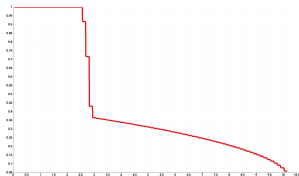
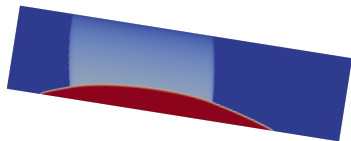


Clay

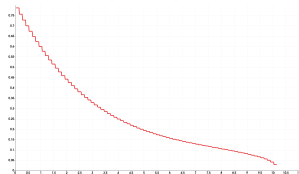
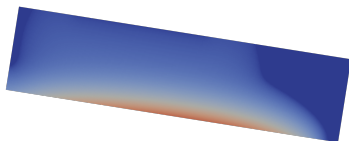


Rainfall over a dry soil

Sand



Clay



Classical discretizations: Kirchhoff pressure

Implicit finite volume scheme

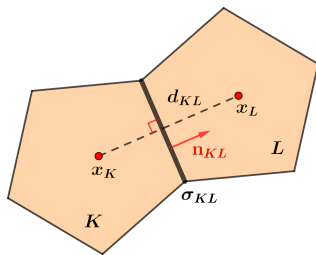
$$|K| \frac{s_K^n - s_K^{n-1}}{\Delta t_n} + \sum_L q_{KL}^n = 0$$

Flux discretization

$$\frac{1}{|\sigma_{KL}|} \int_{\sigma_{KL}} \nabla u - k(s) \mathbf{g} d\sigma \approx \frac{u_K - u_L}{|x_K - x_L|} - k(s_{KL}) \mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{KL}$$

with upwinding

$$s_{KL} = \begin{cases} s_K, & -\mathbf{g} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{KL} \geq 0 \\ s_L, & \text{else} \end{cases}$$



Admissible mesh

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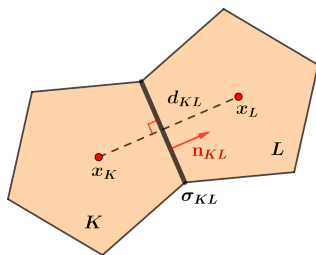
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Implicit discretization:

$$\mathbf{s} + A\mathbf{u} + Bk(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{s}^{n-1}, \quad \mathbf{s} = \tilde{S}(\mathbf{u})$$

Structural properties:

- ▶ A and $Bk'(\mathbf{s})$ are M-matrices



Admissible mesh

Classical discretizations: Kirchhoff pressure

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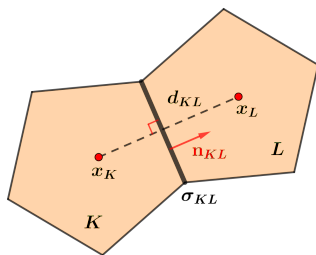
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Classical discretizations: Kirchhoff pressure

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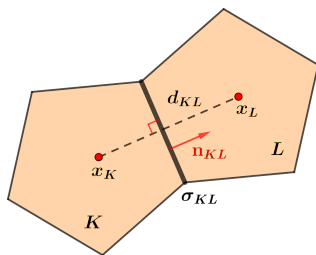
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Admissible mesh

Semi-implicit discretization:

$$\mathbf{s} + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} + Bk(\mathbf{s}^{n-1}) = \mathbf{s}^{n-1}, \quad \mathbf{s} = \tilde{S}(\mathbf{u})$$

Structural properties:

- ▶ \mathbf{A} and $Bk'(\mathbf{s})$ are M-matrices \Rightarrow discrete maximum principle under CFL cond.

Outline

Introduction to Richards' equation

- ▶ From saturated to unsaturated flow

Monotone Newton Theorem

- ▶ Convergence proof \neq performance

Nonlinear preconditioning

- ▶ Convergence proof + performance

Conclusion

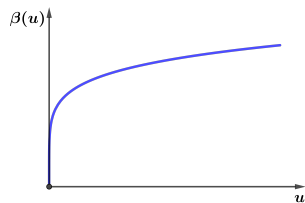
Model algebraic system

Find $\mathbf{u} \in \mathbb{R}^N$

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{b} \geq 0$$

Objective: Newton-like iterative method

- ▶ efficient and robust w.r.t. to the shape of β
- ▶ with guaranteed (semi-)global convergence



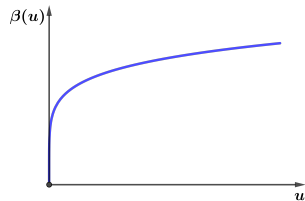
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Assumptions:

- ▶ $J(\mathbf{u}) = \beta'(\mathbf{u}) + A$ is **M-matrix**:
 $J(\mathbf{u})^{-1} \geq 0$ and $(J(\mathbf{u}))_{ij} \leq 0, i \neq j$
- ▶ $\beta_i : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ diagonal, increasing and **concave**, $\beta'_i(0) \leq +\infty$

Other applications in geosciences

Porous medium equation

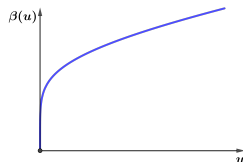
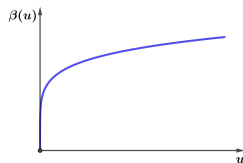
$$\partial_t u^{1/m} - \Delta u = 0, \quad m > 1$$

Contaminant transport with adsorption

$$\partial_t \underbrace{(u + a(u))}_{\text{dissolved + adsorbed conc.}} - \operatorname{div}(\nabla u + u\mathbf{V}) = 0$$

Freundlich isotherm

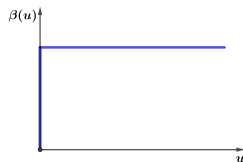
$$a(u) = cu^{1/m}, \quad c > 0, \quad m > 1$$



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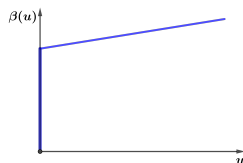


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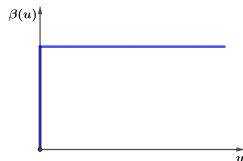
Limit case $m \rightarrow +\infty$

$$\partial_t v + L(u) = 0, \quad v \in \beta(u)$$

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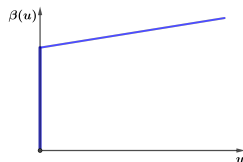


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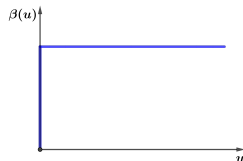
$$\partial_t v + L(u) = 0, \quad v \in \beta(u)$$

- ▶ β is maximal monotone
- ▶ Connections to [obstacle problems](#) (Brugnano & Sestini '09)

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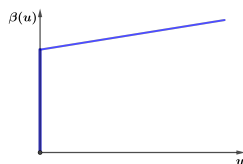


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Nonlinear solver must be robust w.r.t. to the shape of β

Monotone Newton's method

Notations

$$F(\mathbf{u}) = \beta(\mathbf{u}) + A\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{b}$$

Newton's method

$$F'(\mathbf{u}_k)(\mathbf{u}_{k+1} - \mathbf{u}_k) + F(\mathbf{u}_k) = 0$$

Monotone Newton Theorem (Baluev '52; Ortega & Rheinboldt '70)

Let \mathbf{u}_0 satisfy $F(\mathbf{u}_0) \leq 0$, then

- ▶ \mathbf{u}_k converges to the unique solution \mathbf{u}_*
- ▶ $F(\mathbf{u}_k) \leq 0$ and $\mathbf{u}_k \leq \mathbf{u}_{k+1} \leq \mathbf{u}_*$ for all $k \geq 0$

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Main ingredients:

- ▶ F is concave (or convex)
- ▶ $F'(\mathbf{u})^{-1} \geq 0$

Illustration (N = 1)

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The method is **semi-globally convergent**. Is it **efficient**?

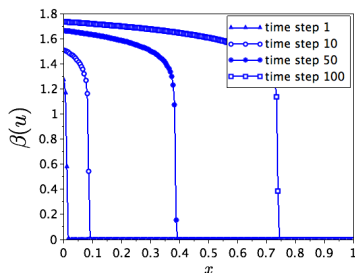
1D numerical experiment

Porous medium equation on $(0, 1) \times (0, T)$

$$\partial_t \beta(u) - \partial_{xx}^2 u = 0, \quad \beta(u) = u^{1/m}$$

with Neumann boundary conditions

- ▶ Inflow at $x = 0$: $-\partial_x u(0, t) = q > 0$
- ▶ No-flow at $x = 1$
- ▶ Almost “dry” initial condition: $\beta(u(x, 0)) = 10^{-10}$

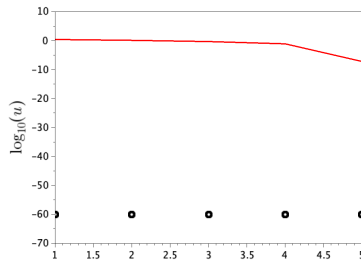
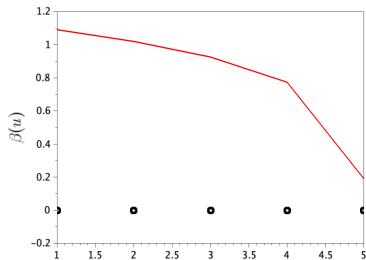


Solution profile at different time steps

Newton's iterates over a single time step

Newton's method applied to

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \beta(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}^{1/10}$$



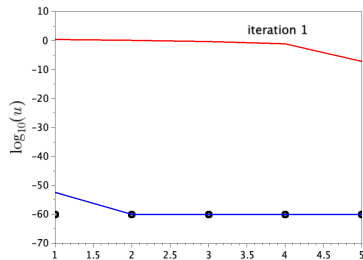
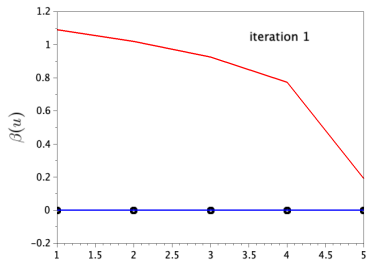
first last jacobi

- ▶ Slow convergence
- ▶ Iteration count grows with m and N

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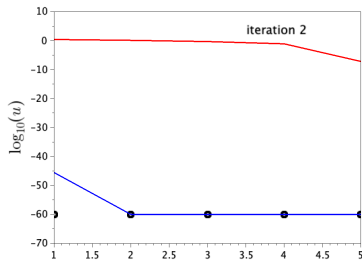
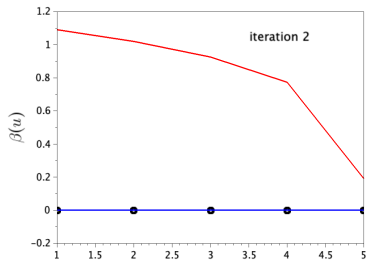
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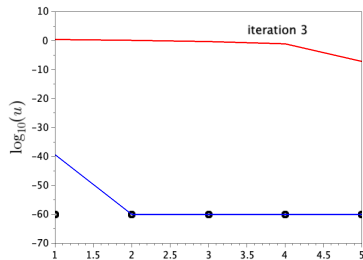
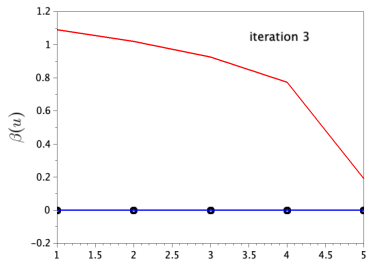
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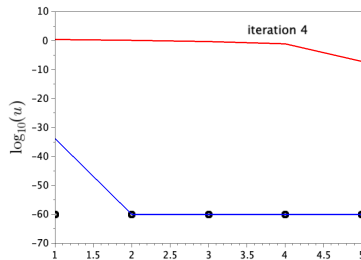
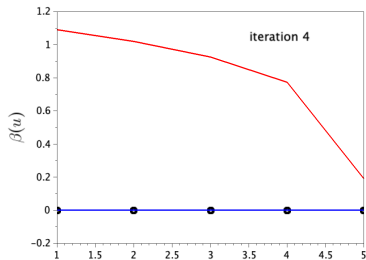
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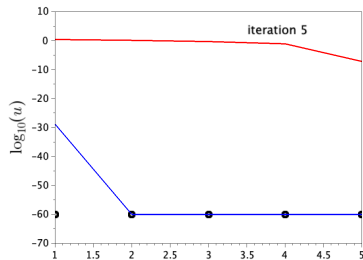
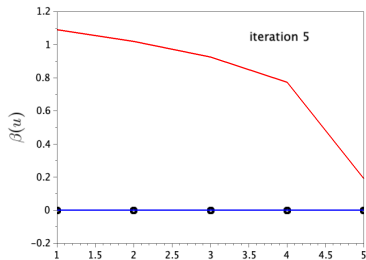
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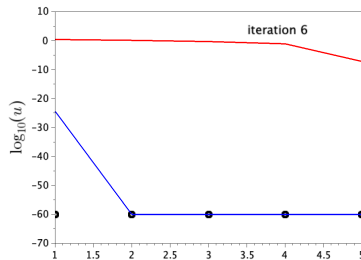
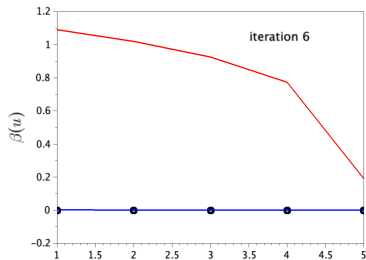
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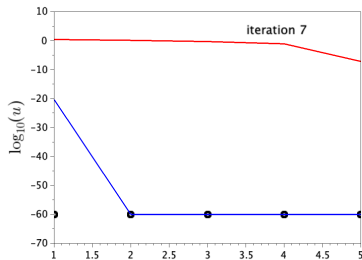
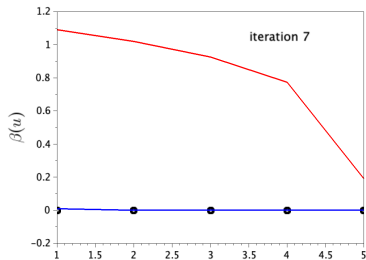
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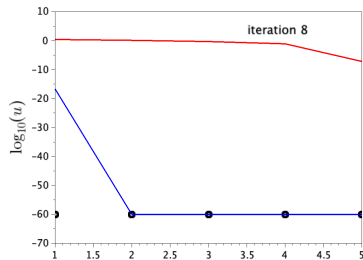
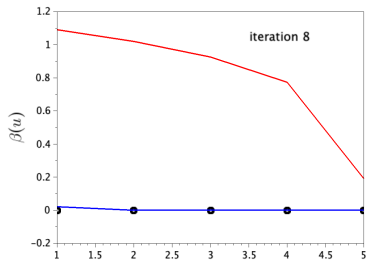
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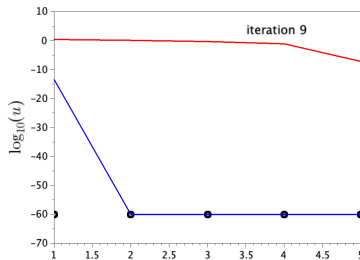
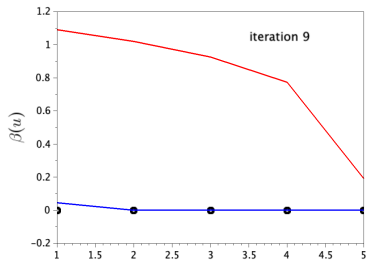
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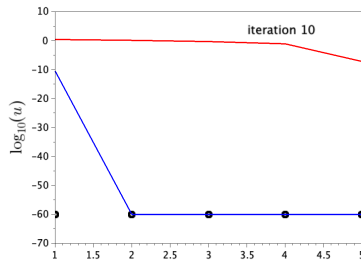
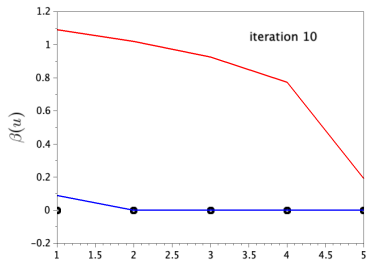
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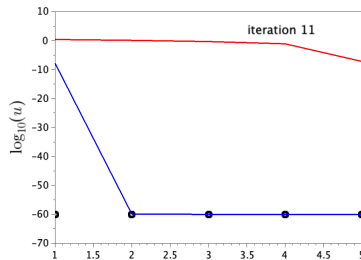
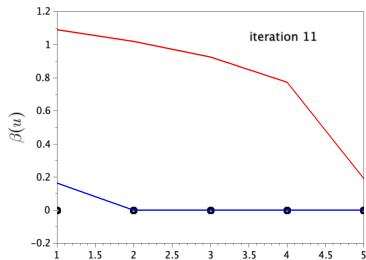
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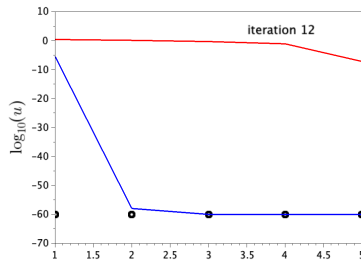
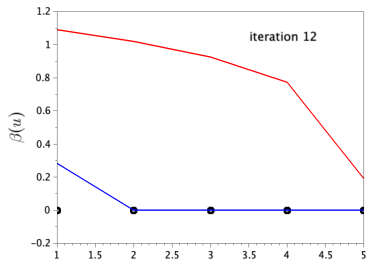
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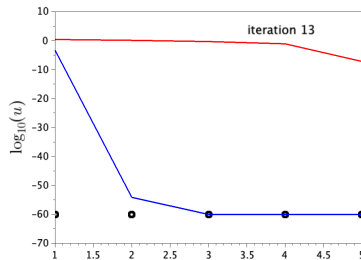
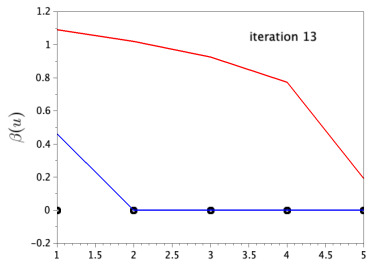
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$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \beta(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}^{1/10}$$



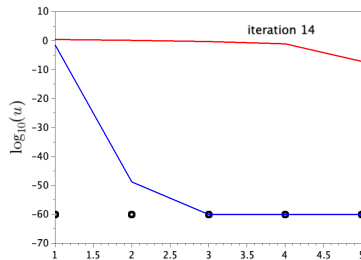
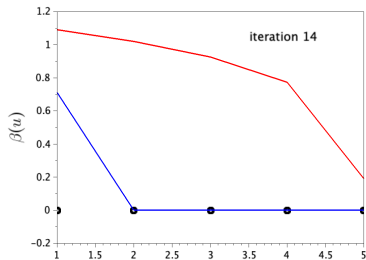
first last jacobi

- ▶ Slow convergence
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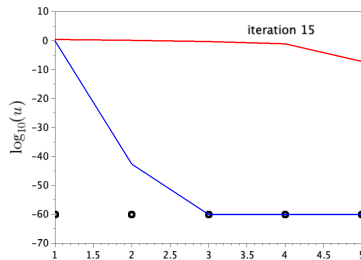
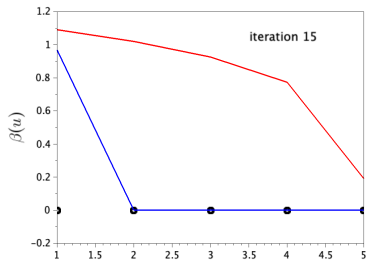
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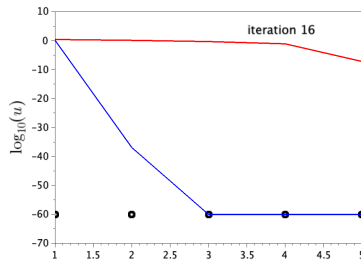
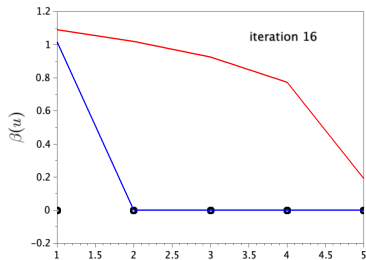
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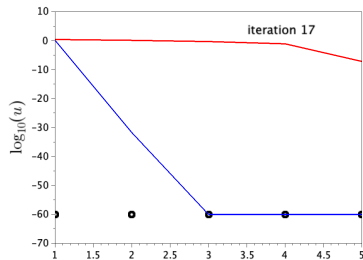
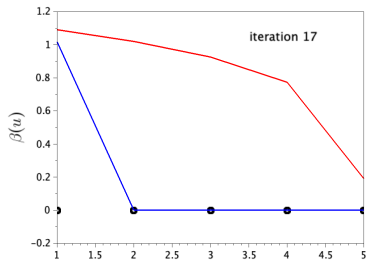
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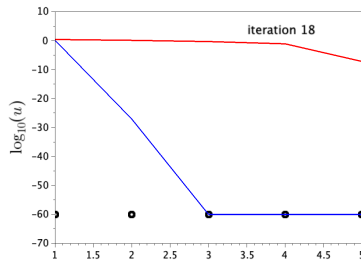
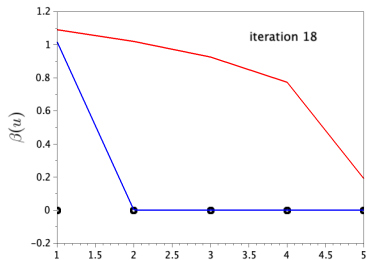
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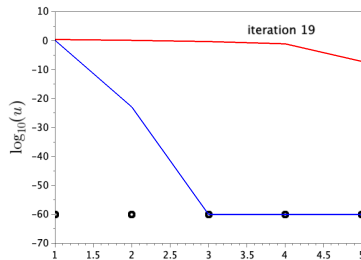
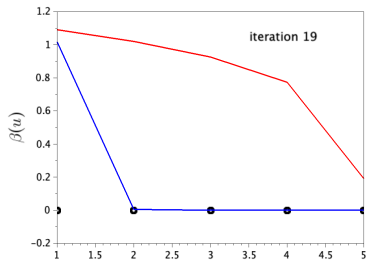
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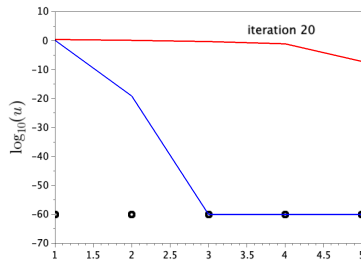
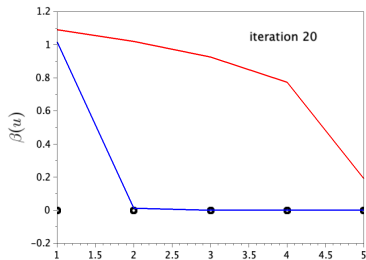
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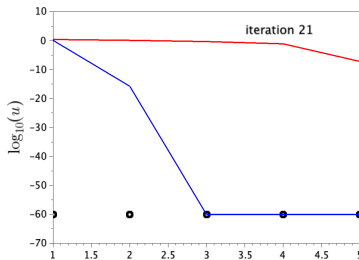
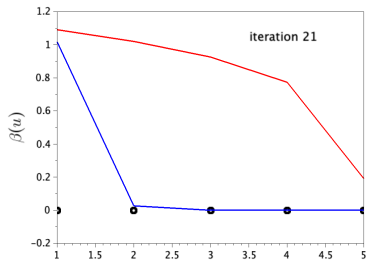
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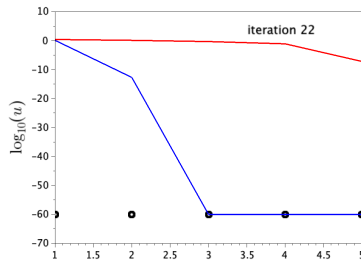
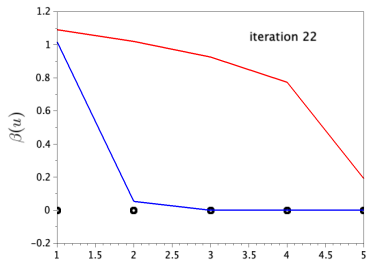
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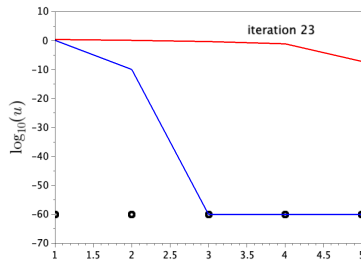
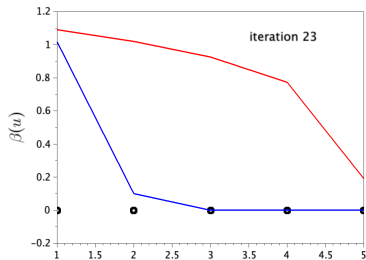
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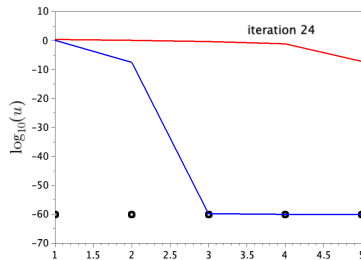
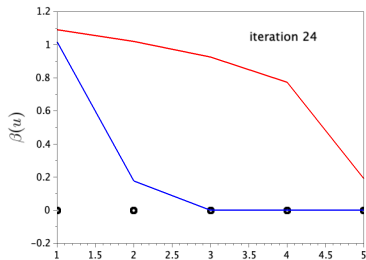
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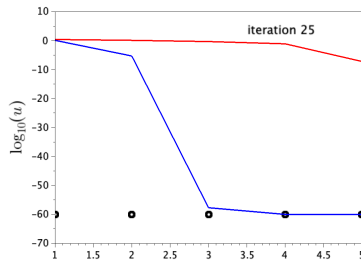
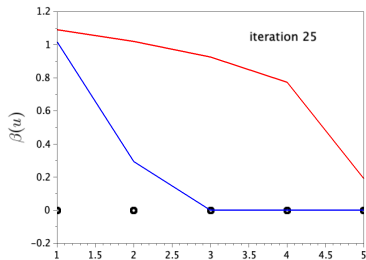
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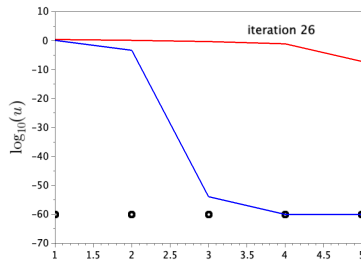
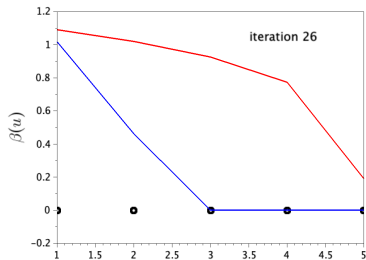
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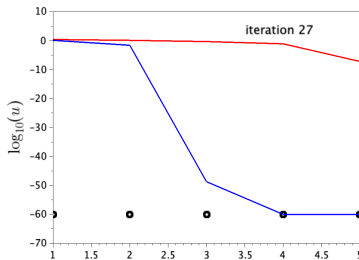
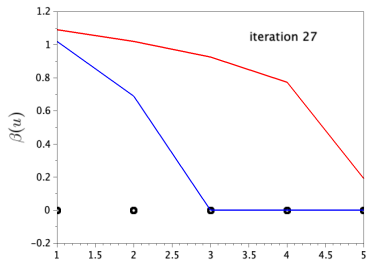
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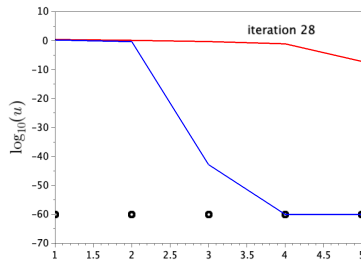
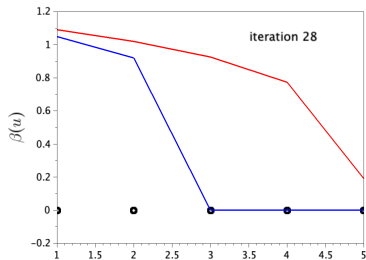
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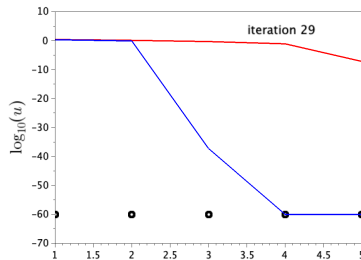
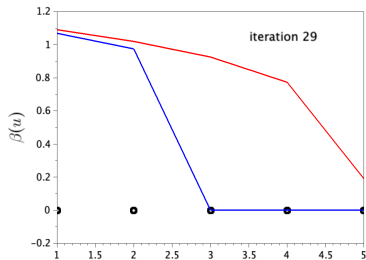
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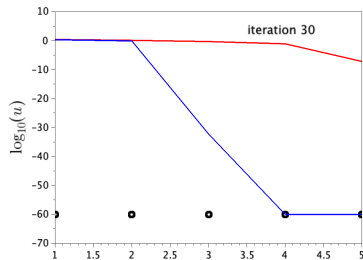
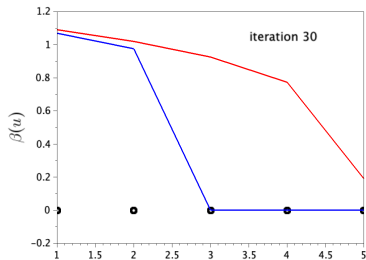
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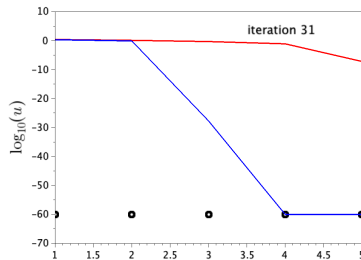
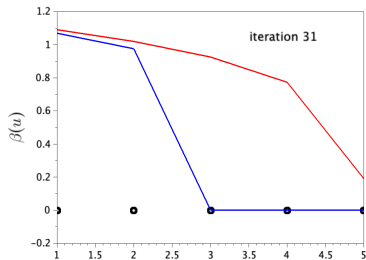
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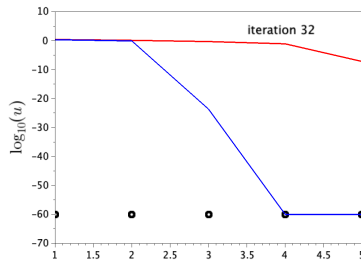
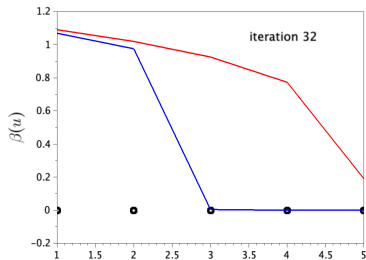
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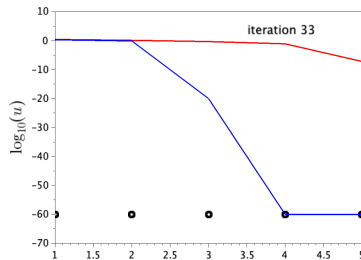
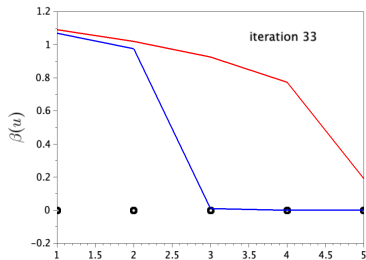
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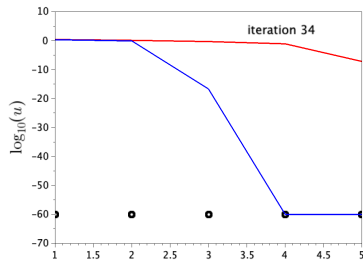
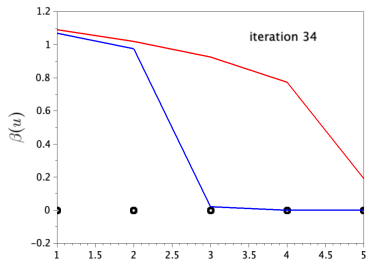
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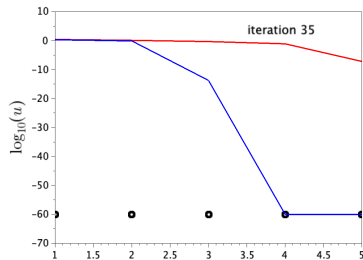
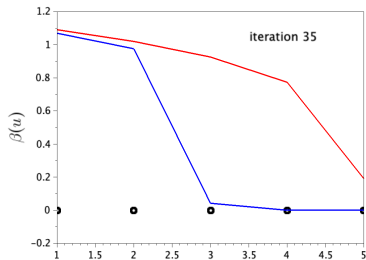
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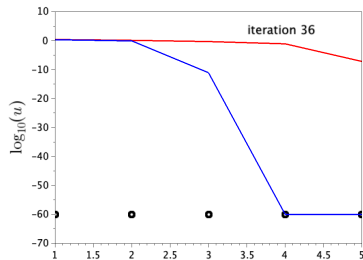
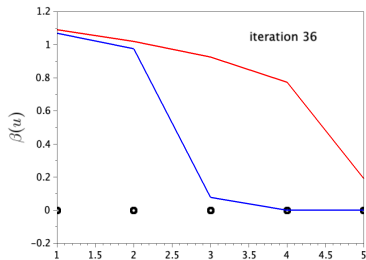
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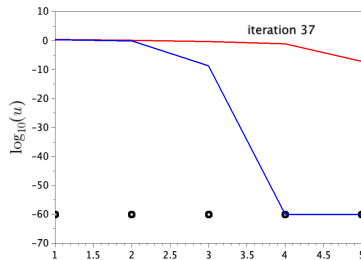
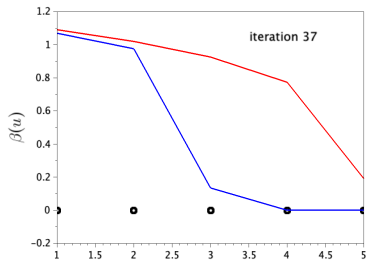
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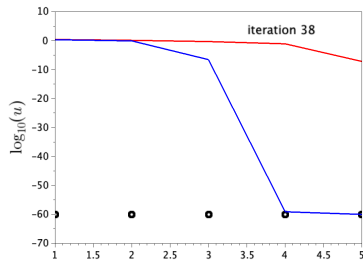
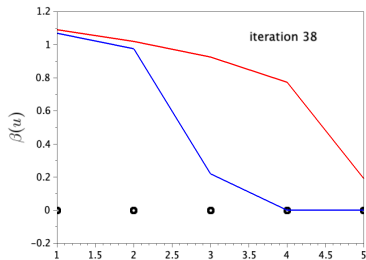
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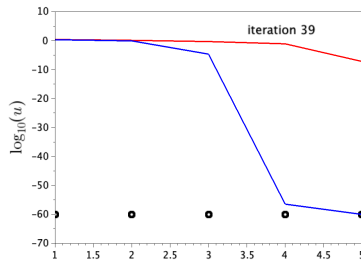
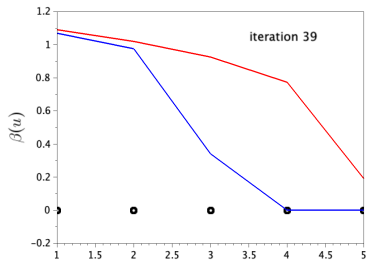
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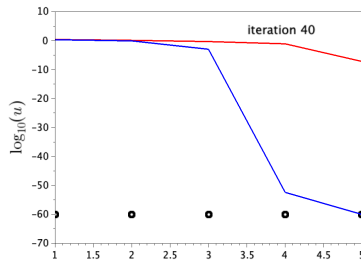
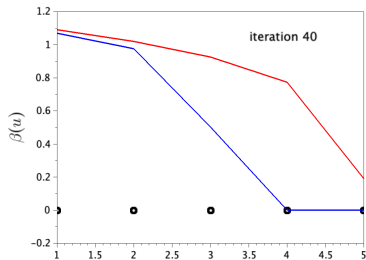
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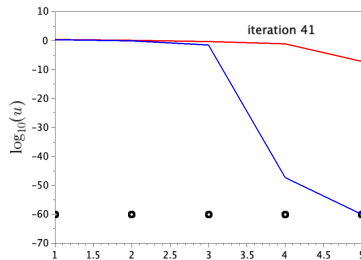
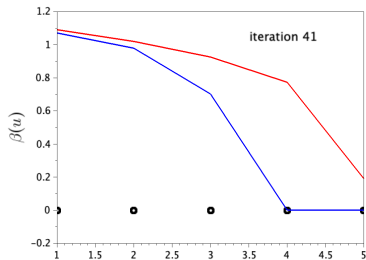
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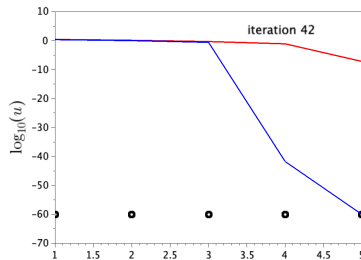
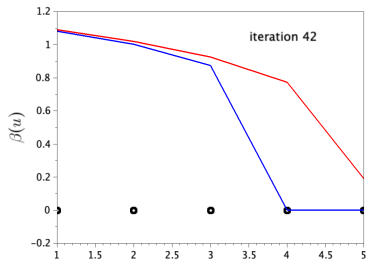
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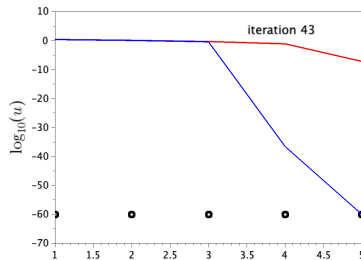
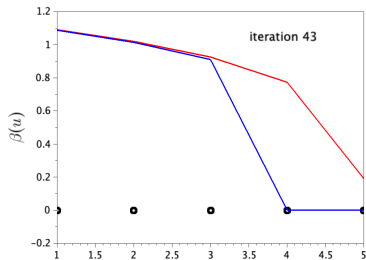
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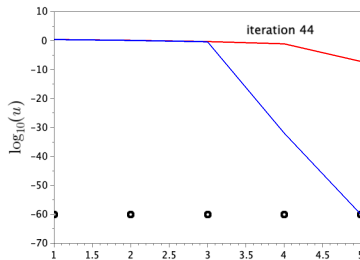
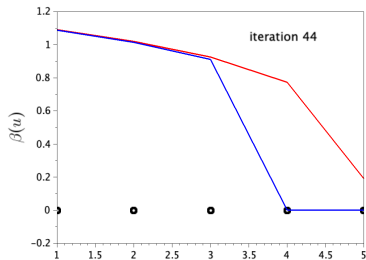
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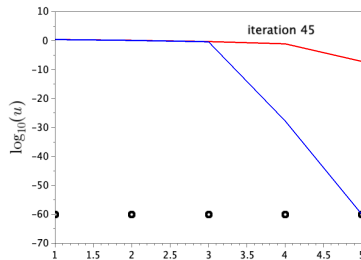
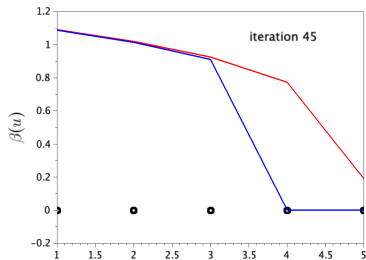
first last jacobi

- ▶ Slow convergence
- ▶ Iteration count grows with m and N

Newton's iterates over a single time step

Newton's method applied to

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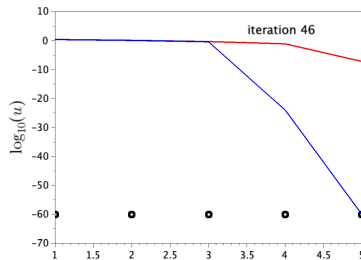
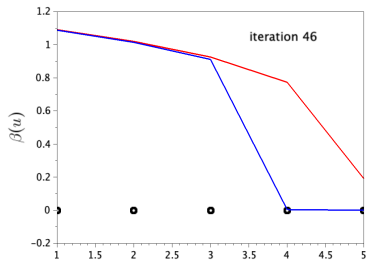
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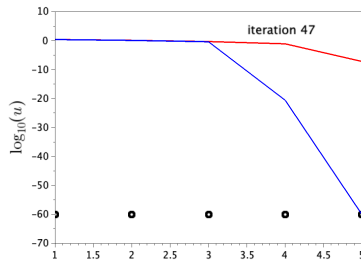
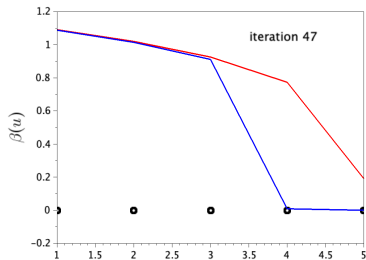
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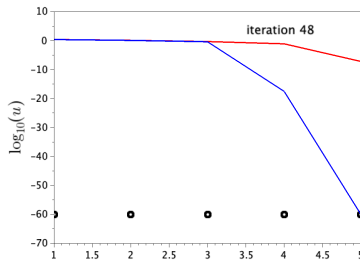
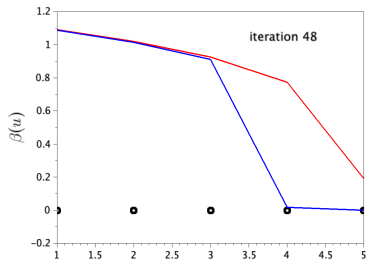
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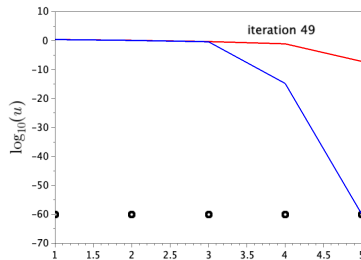
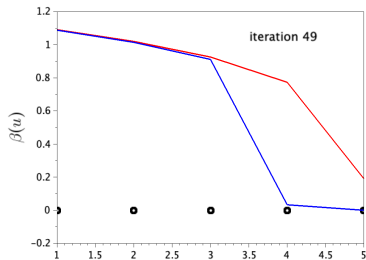
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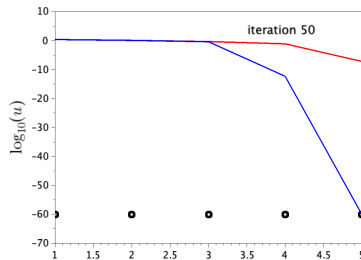
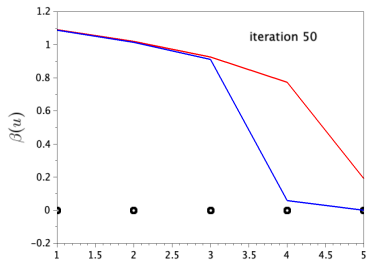
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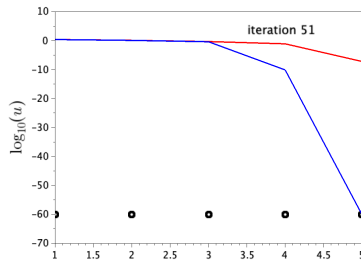
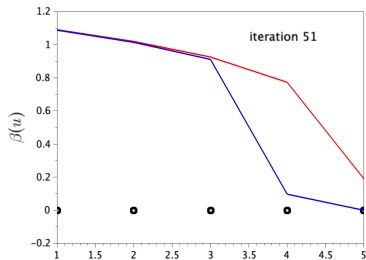
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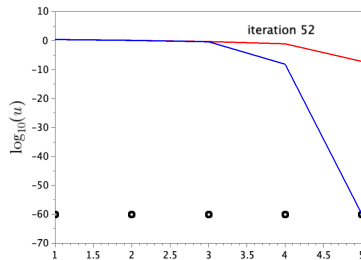
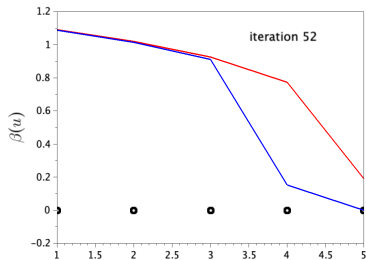
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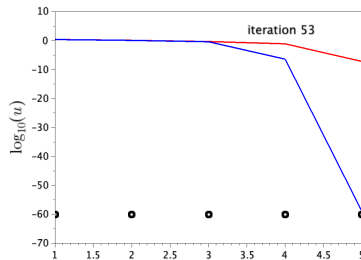
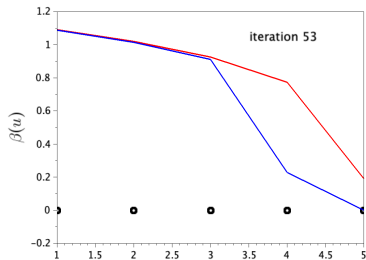
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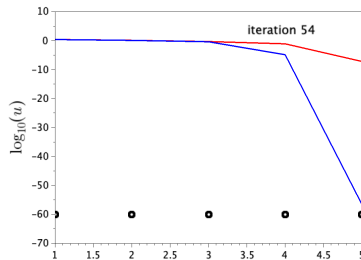
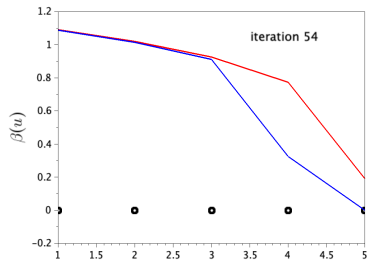
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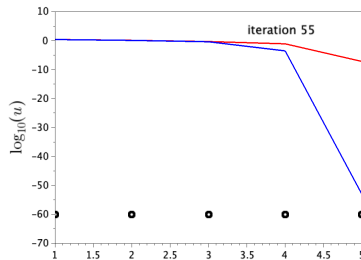
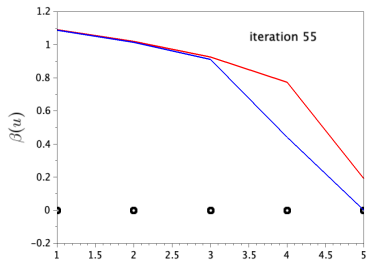
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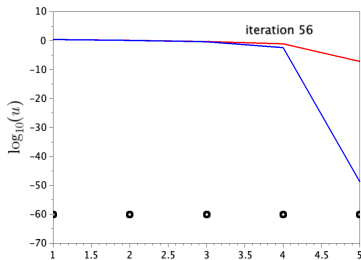
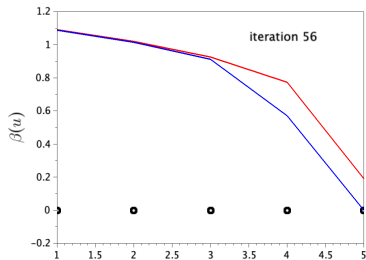
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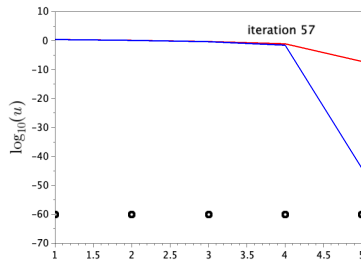
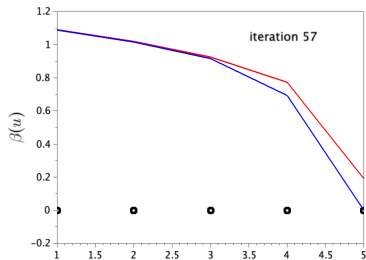
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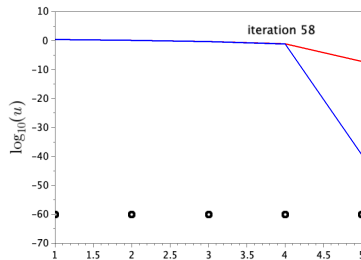
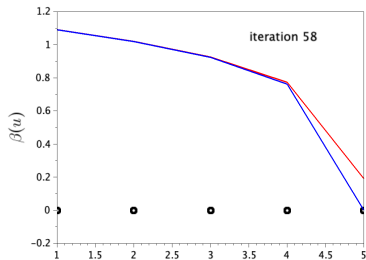
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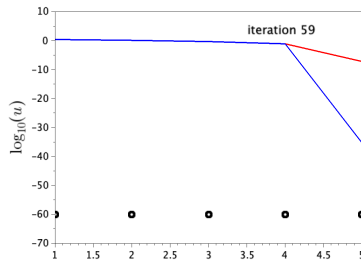
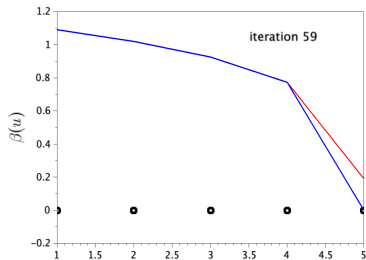
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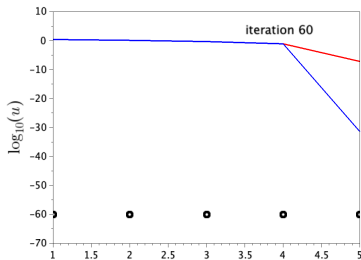
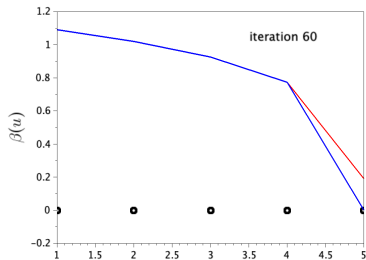
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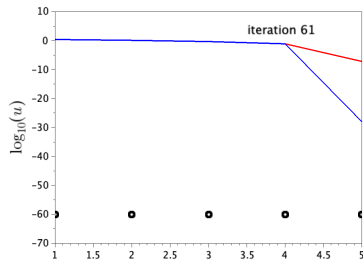
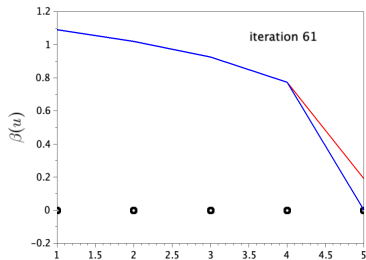
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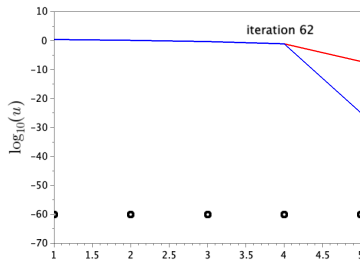
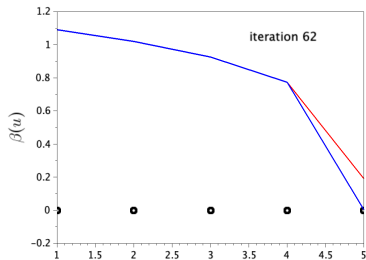
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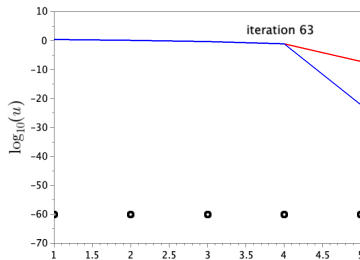
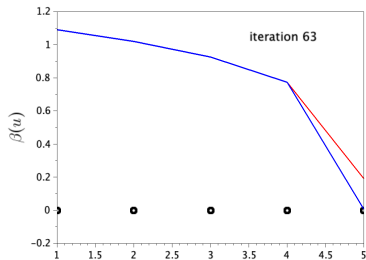
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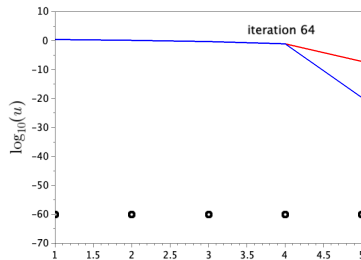
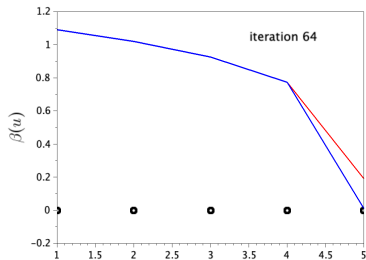
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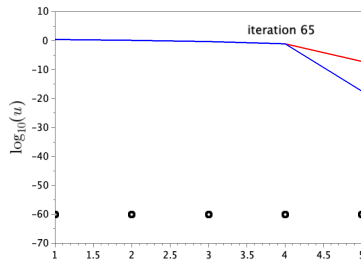
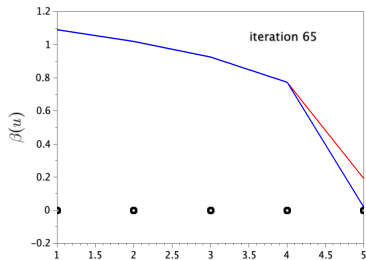
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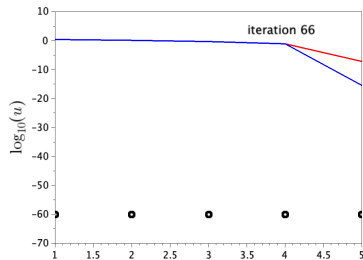
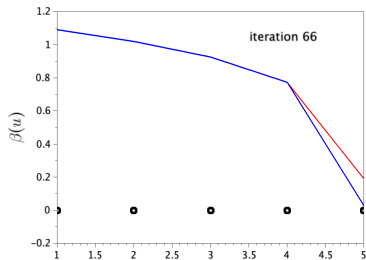
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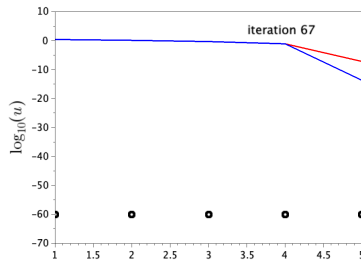
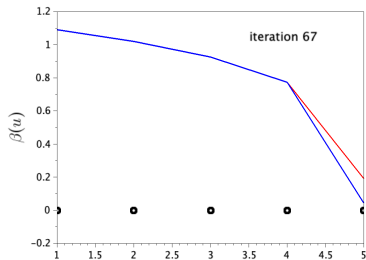
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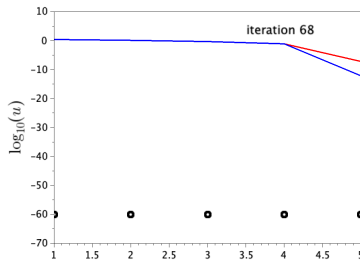
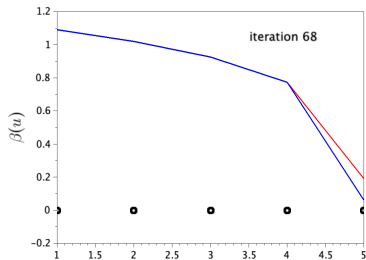
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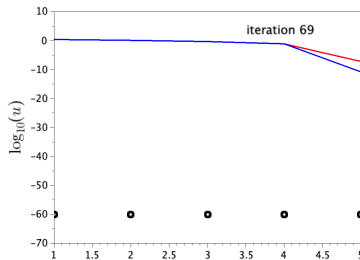
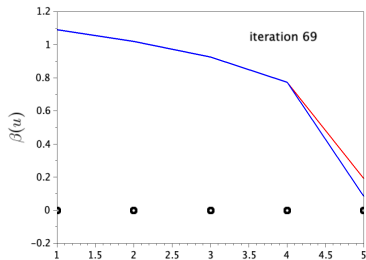
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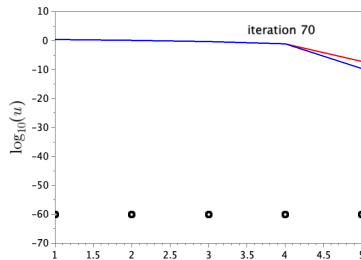
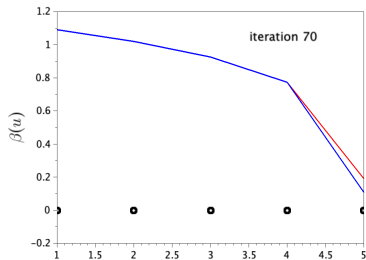
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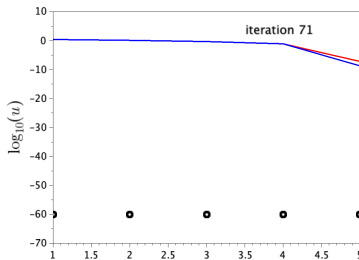
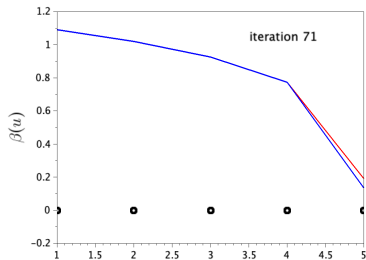
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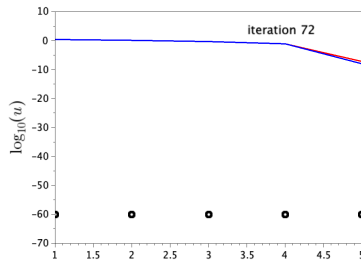
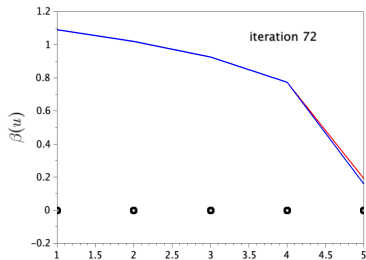
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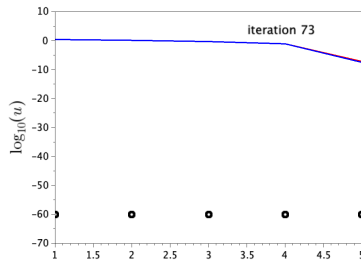
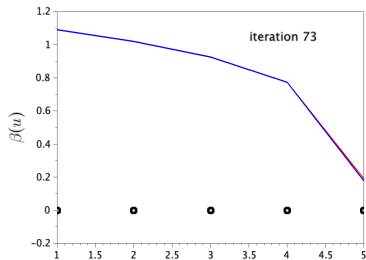
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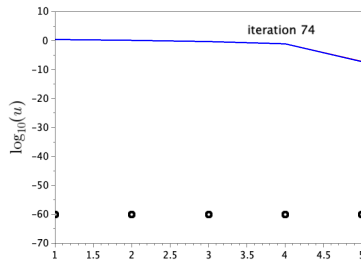
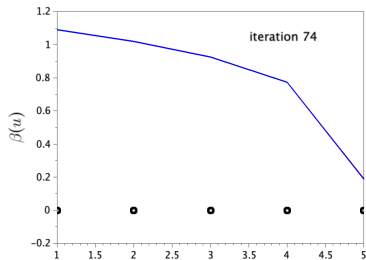
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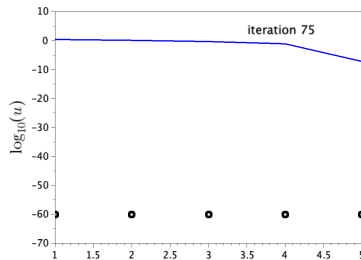
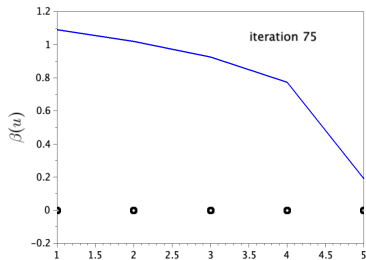
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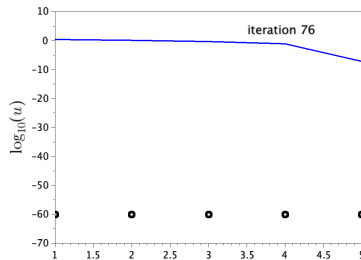
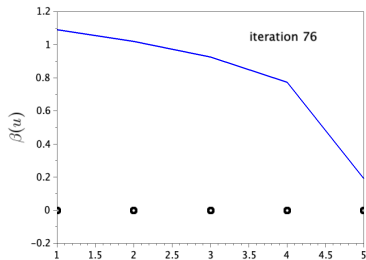
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- ▶ Iteration count grows with m and N

Newton's iterates over a single time step

Newton's method applied to

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \beta(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u}^{1/10}$$



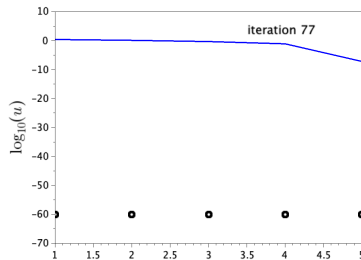
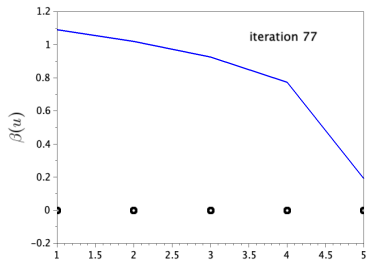
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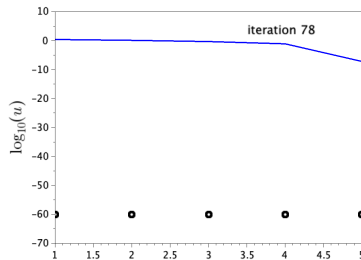
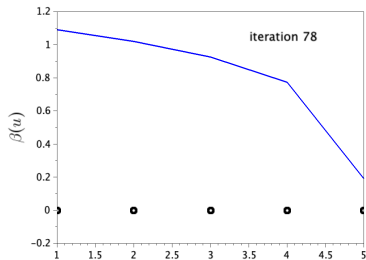
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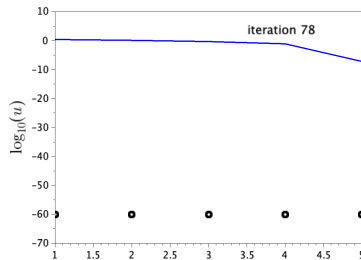
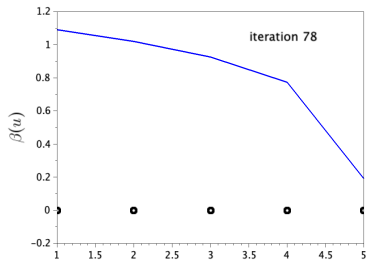
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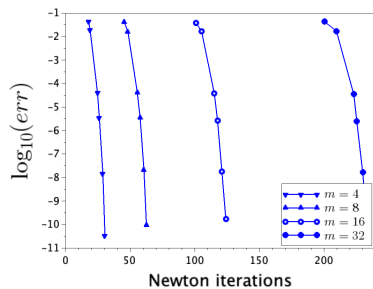
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Alternative formulations

Original u -formulation:

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{b} = 0$$



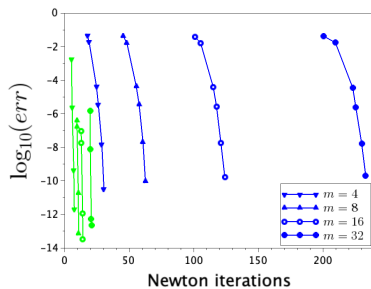
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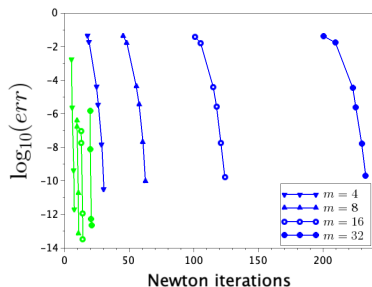
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- ▶ **Blue:** Original formulation is **inefficient**, mainly because $\beta'(0) = +\infty$.
- ▶ **Green:** Alternative formulation is more efficient, but **concavity is lost**:
note that $(A)_{ii}(A)_{ij} \leq 0, i \neq j$

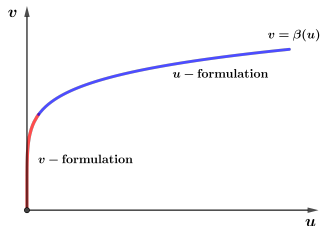
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Parameterized τ -formulation:

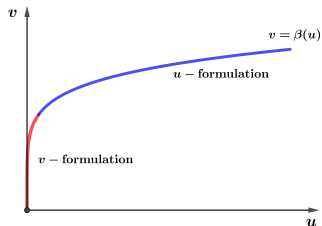
$$\bar{\mathbf{v}}(\tau) + A\bar{\mathbf{u}}(\tau) - \mathbf{b} = 0$$

- ▶ Generic parameterization: $\bar{\mathbf{v}}(\tau) = \beta(\bar{\mathbf{u}}(\tau))$ for all τ
- ▶ Variable switching: $\max(\bar{\mathbf{v}}'(\tau), \bar{\mathbf{u}}'(\tau)) = 1$

Alternative formulations

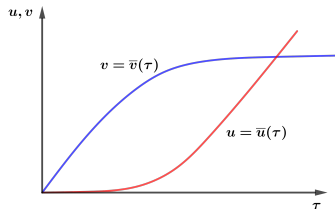
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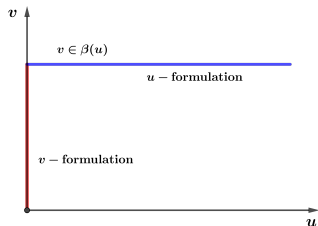
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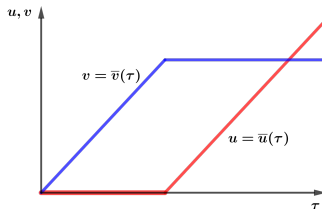
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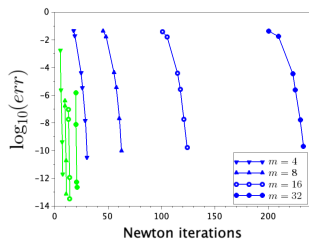
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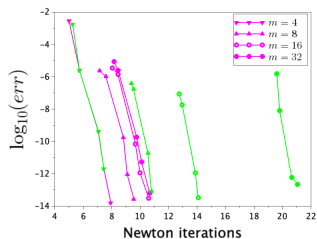
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Outline

Introduction to Richards' equation

- ▶ From saturated to unsaturated flow

Monotone Newton Theorem

- ▶ Convergence proof \neq performance

Nonlinear preconditioning

- ▶ Convergence proof + performance

Conclusion

Splitting methods: linear case

Model problem

$$A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}$$

(Weak) regular splitting

$$A = M - N$$

such that

$$M^{-1} \geq 0, \quad N \geq 0 \quad (M^{-1}N, NM^{-1} \geq 0)$$

Stationary iterations

$$\mathbf{u}_{k+1} = M^{-1}(N\mathbf{u}_k + \mathbf{b})$$

Preconditioned Krylov applied to

$$(I - M^{-1}N)\mathbf{u} = M^{-1}\mathbf{b}$$

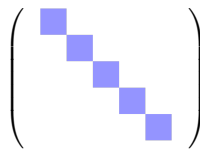
Jacobi



Gauss-Seidel



Block Jacobi



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If $A = M - N$ is a weak regular splitting, then

$$\rho(M^{-1}N) < 1 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad A^{-1} \geq 0.$$

Splitting methods: mildly nonlinear case

Model problem

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + A\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad A = P - Q$$

Splitting

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + P\mathbf{u} = Q\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b}$$

Splitting methods: mildly nonlinear case

Model problem

$$\beta(\mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} = \mathbf{b}, \quad \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{P} - \mathbf{Q}$$

Splitting

$$\underbrace{\beta(\mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{P}\mathbf{u}}_{M(\mathbf{u})} = \underbrace{\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b}}_{N(\mathbf{u})}$$

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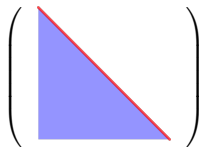
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$$\left(\begin{array}{c} \color{red}{\diagdown} \\ \color{red}{\diagdown} \\ \color{red}{\diagdown} \\ \color{red}{\diagdown} \\ \color{red}{\diagdown} \end{array} \right)$$

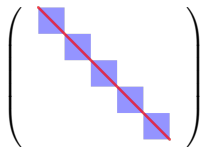
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Splitting methods: mildly nonlinear case

Model problem

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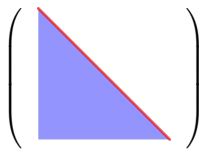
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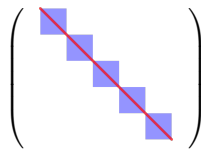
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If $\beta'(\mathbf{u}) + A = M'(\mathbf{u}) - N'(\mathbf{u})$ is a w.r.s., then

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathbf{u}) = \mathbf{u} - M^{-1}(N(\mathbf{u}))$$

satisfies the **MNT**.

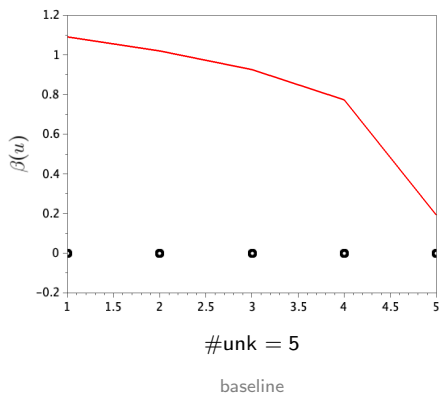
Jacobi-Newton's iterates

Preconditioned Newton's method

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with

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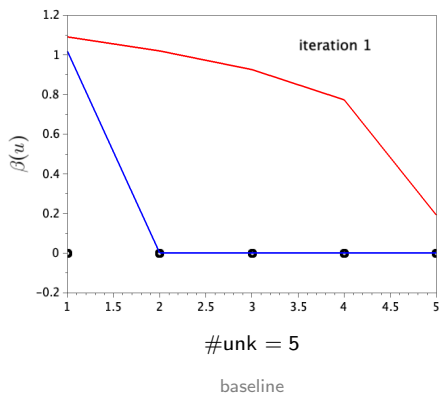
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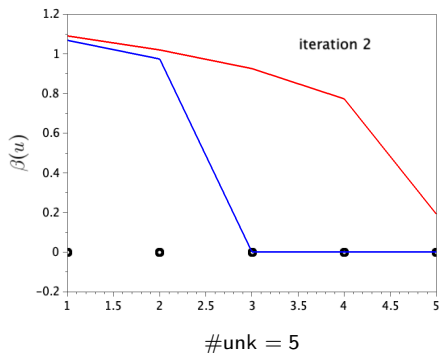
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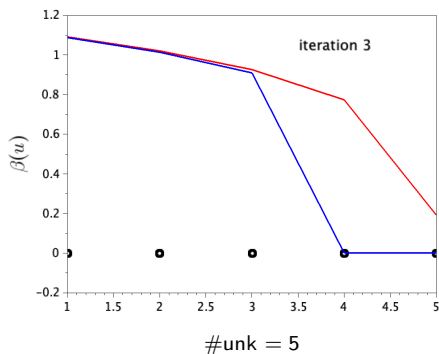
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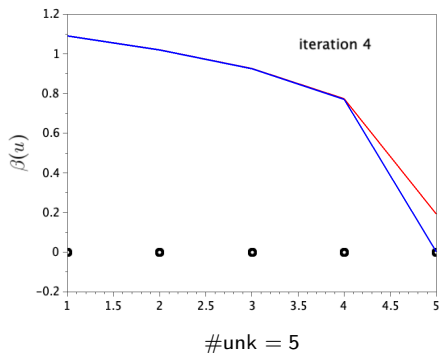
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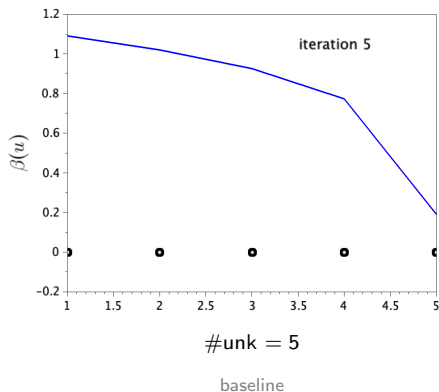
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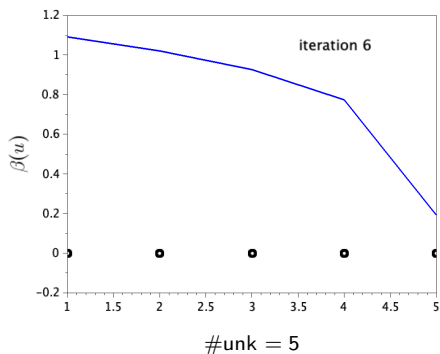
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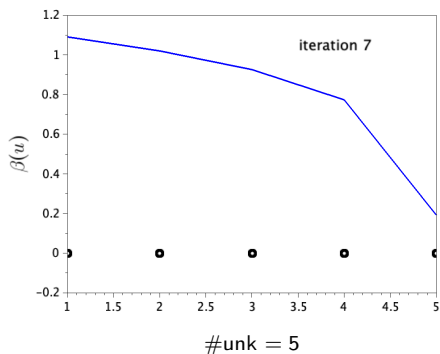
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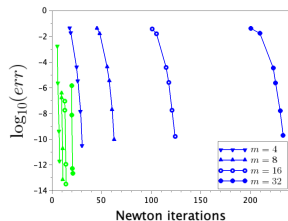
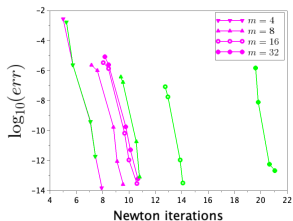
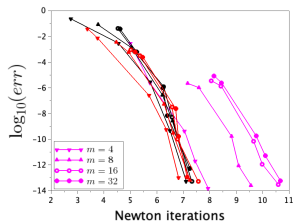
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Jacobi-Newton versus variable substitution methods

Nonlinear Jacobi preconditioning

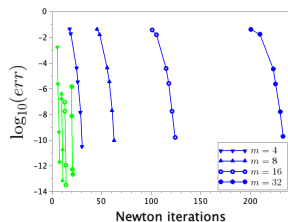
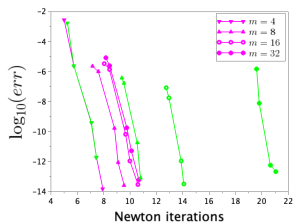
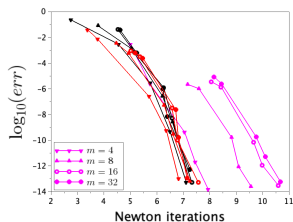
- ▶ accelerates convergence of Newton's method,
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Jacobi-Newton versus variable substitution methods

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$$\begin{aligned} u - \text{formulation} : & \quad \beta(\mathbf{u}) + \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u} - \mathbf{b} &= 0 \\ v - \text{formulation} : & \quad \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{A}\beta^{-1}(\mathbf{v}) - \mathbf{b} &= 0 \\ \tau - \text{formulation} : & \quad \bar{\mathbf{v}}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) + \mathbf{A}\bar{\mathbf{u}}(\boldsymbol{\tau}) - \mathbf{b} &= 0 \\ \text{Left-preconditioned} : & \quad \mathbf{u} - \mathbf{M}^{-1}(\mathbf{Q}\mathbf{u} + \mathbf{b}) &= 0 \\ \text{Right-preconditioned} : & \quad \boldsymbol{\xi} + \mathbf{Q}\mathbf{M}^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\xi}) - \mathbf{b} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

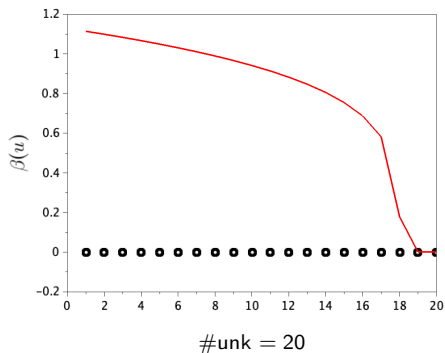
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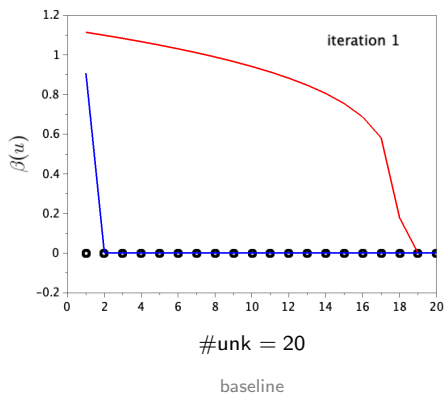
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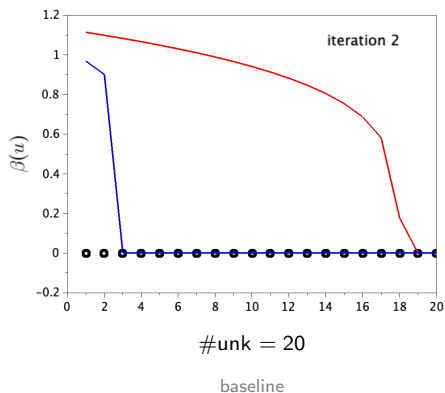
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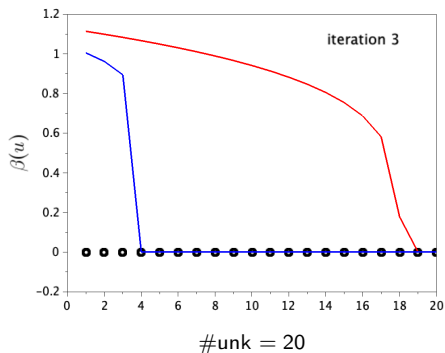
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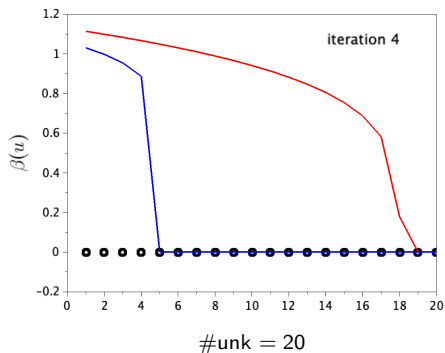
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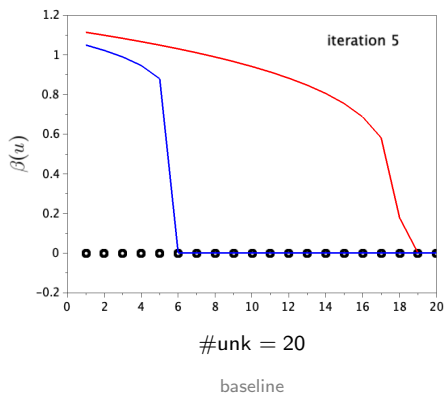
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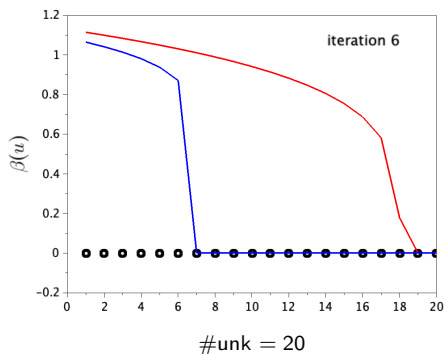
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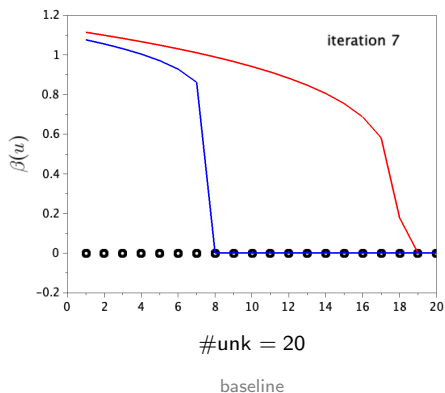
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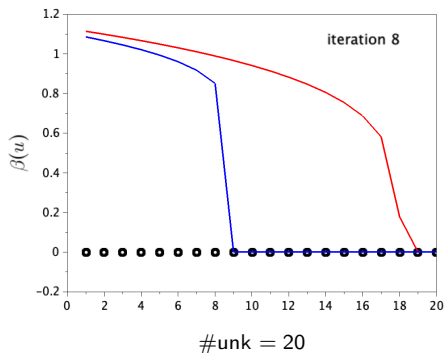
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$$M(\mathbf{u}) = \beta(\mathbf{u}) + \text{diag}(A)\mathbf{u}$$



baseline

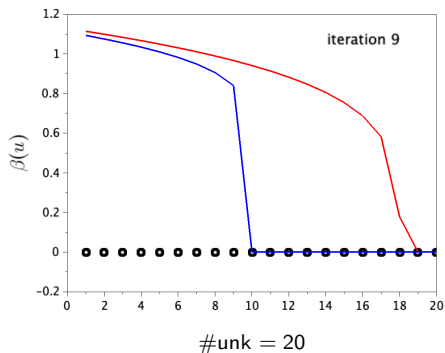
Jacobi-Newton's iterates

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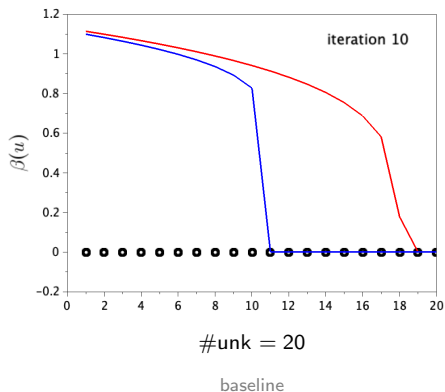
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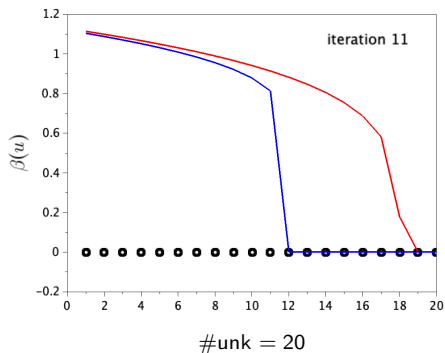
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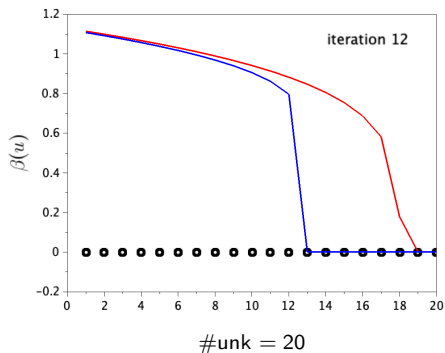
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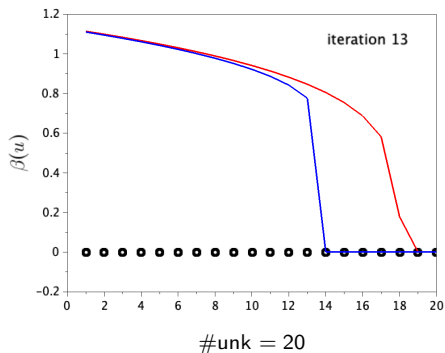
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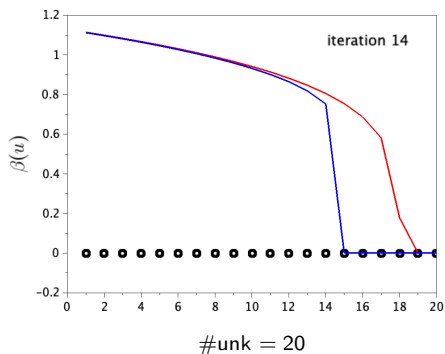
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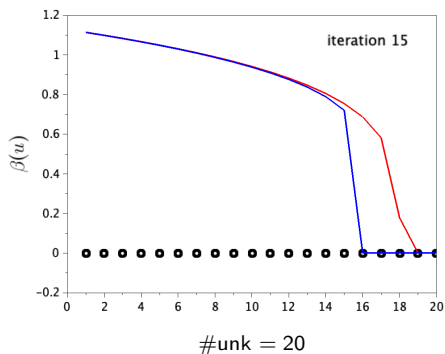
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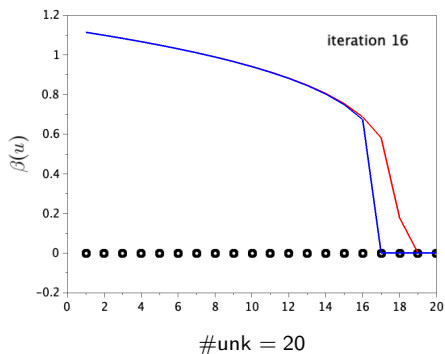
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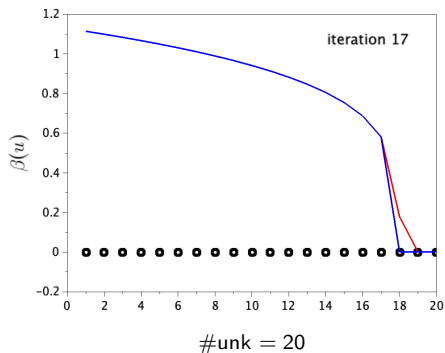
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baseline

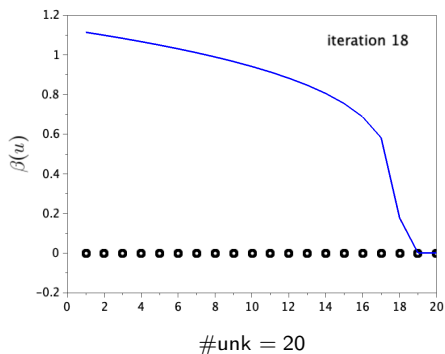
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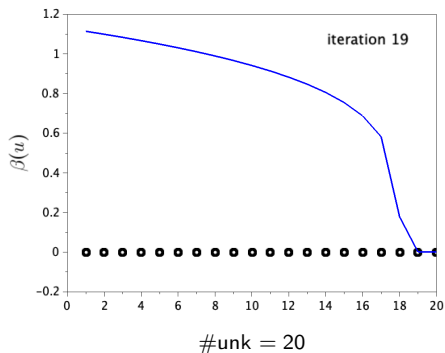
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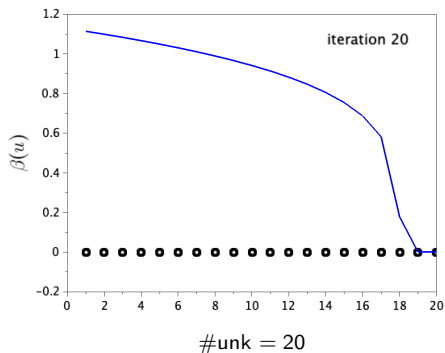
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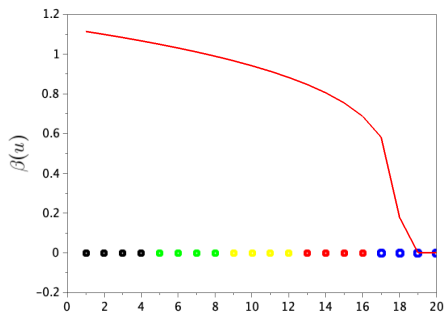
Block Jacobi-Newton's iterates

Preconditioned Newton's method

$$\mathbf{u} - M^{-1}(M(\mathbf{u}) - F(\mathbf{u})) = 0$$

with

$$M(\mathbf{u}) = \beta(\mathbf{u}) + \text{BlockDiag}(\mathbf{A})\mathbf{u}$$



#blocks = 5, #unk = 20

baseline jacobi

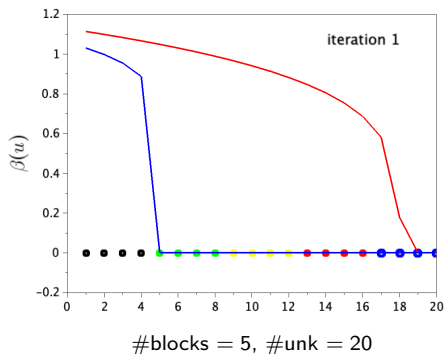
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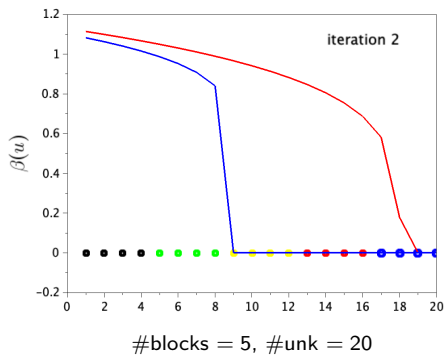
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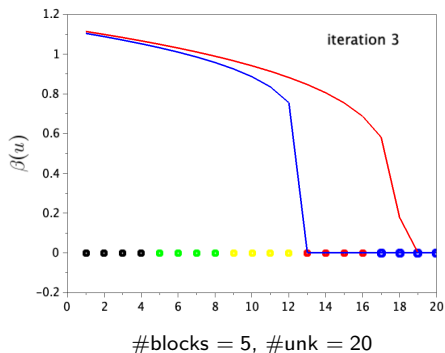
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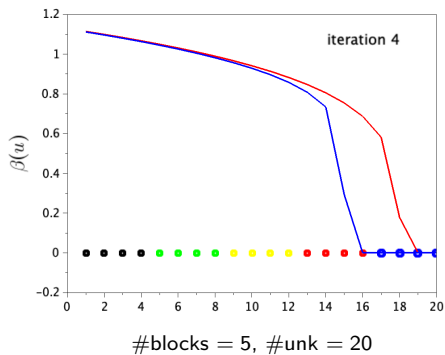
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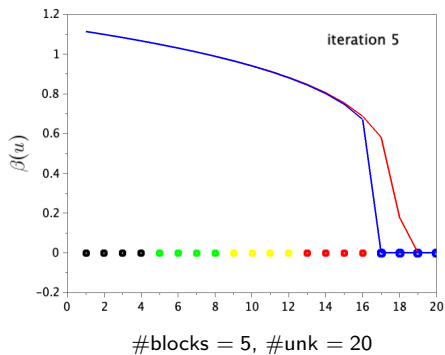
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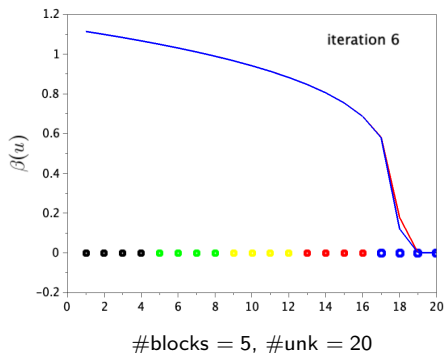
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baseline jacobi

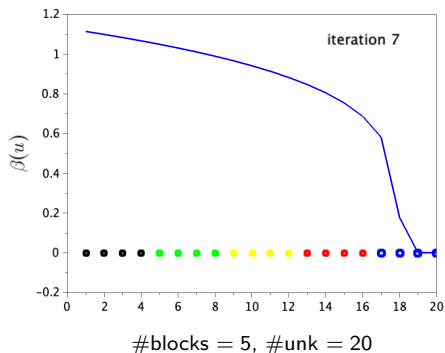
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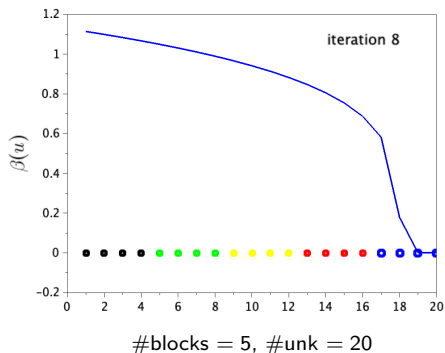
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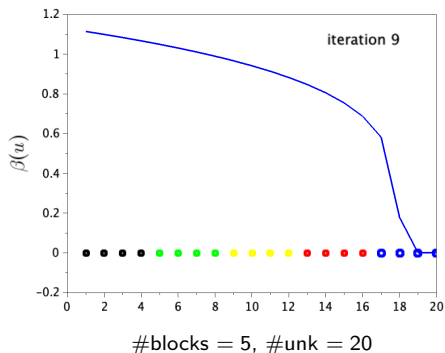
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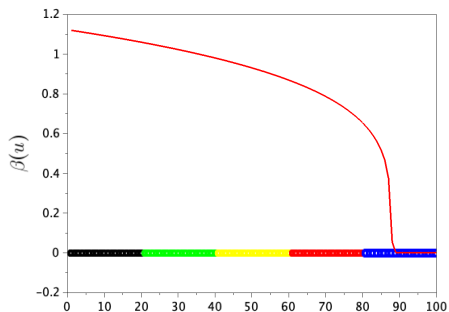
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#blocks = 5, #unk = 100

baseline jacobi

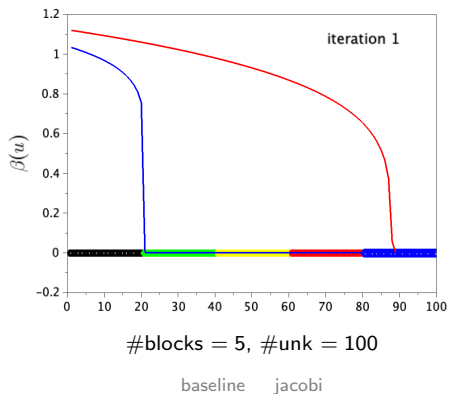
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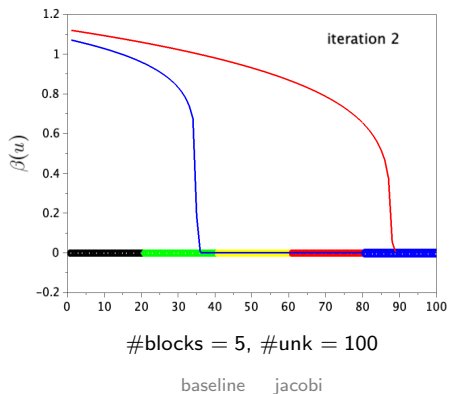
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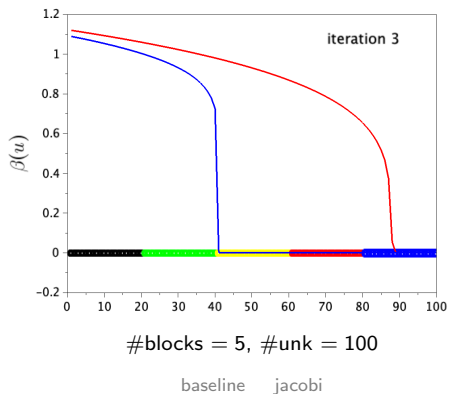
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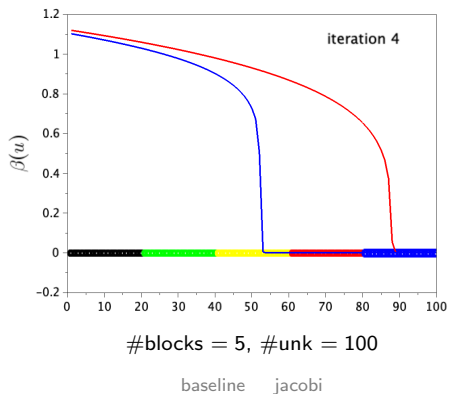
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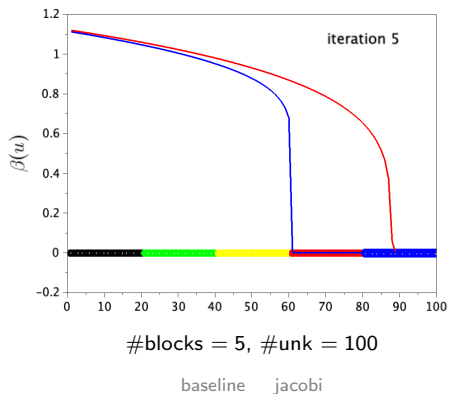
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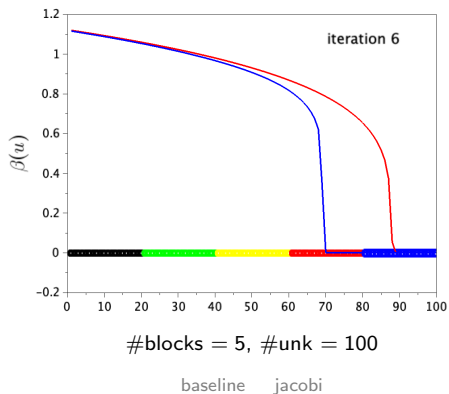
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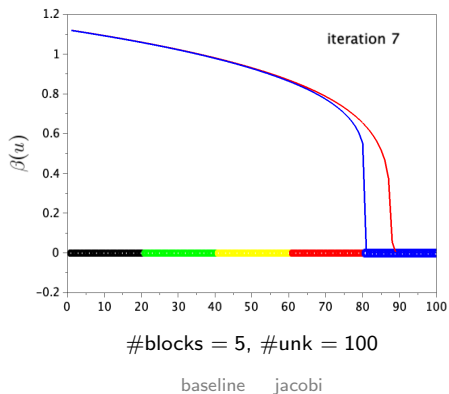
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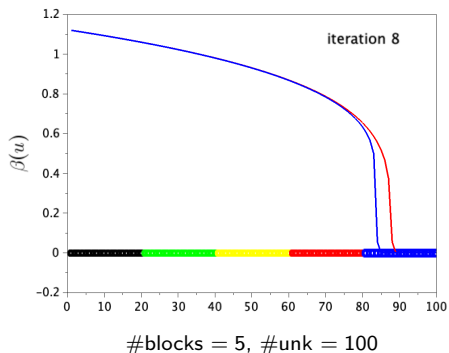
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baseline jacobi

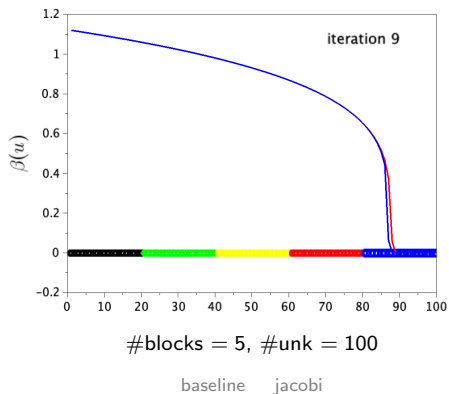
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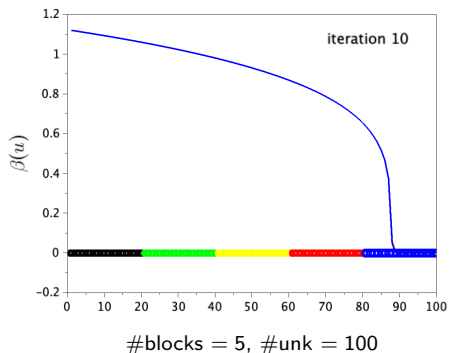
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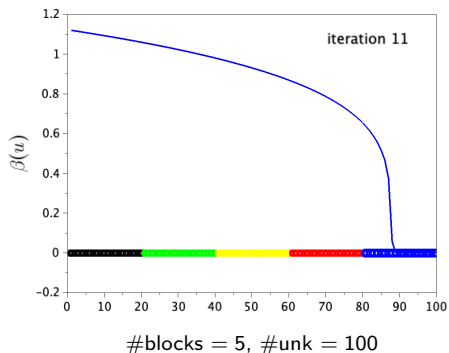
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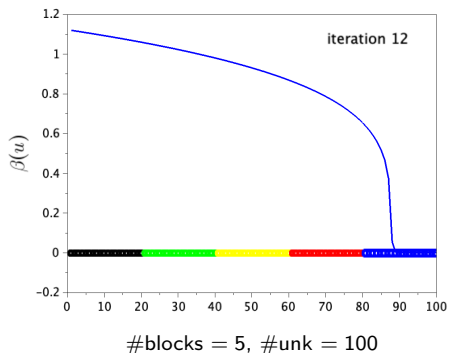
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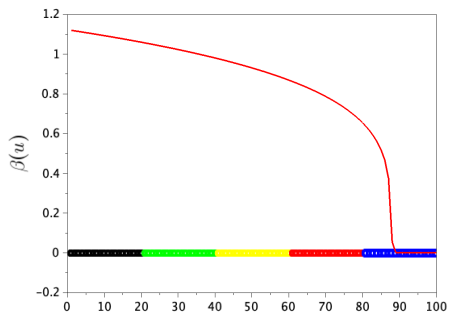
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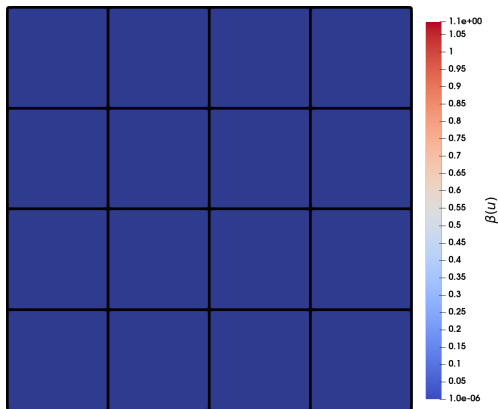


#blocks = 5, #unk = 100

baseline jacobi

Porous medium equation in 2D case

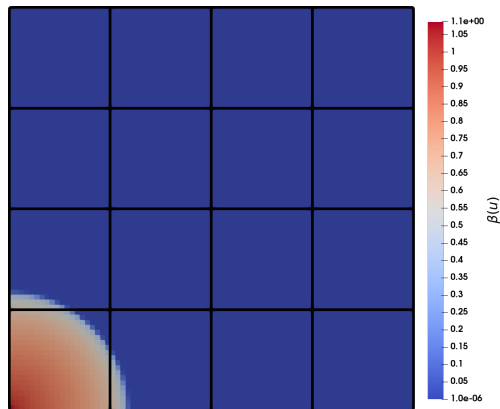
$$\partial_t \beta(u) - \Delta u = \delta_{\mathbf{x}=0}, \quad \beta(u) = u^{1/10}$$



	$Nt = 1$			$Nt = 5$			$Nt = 10$		
$\sqrt{\#\text{unk}}$	20	40	80	20	40	80	20	40	80
Jac.	28	54	106	43	66	114	66	86	136
B.Jac.	10	11	13	30	33	38	50	58	62

Porous medium equation in 2D case

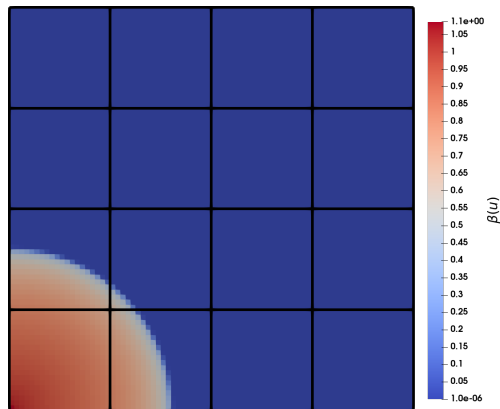
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Porous medium equation in 2D case

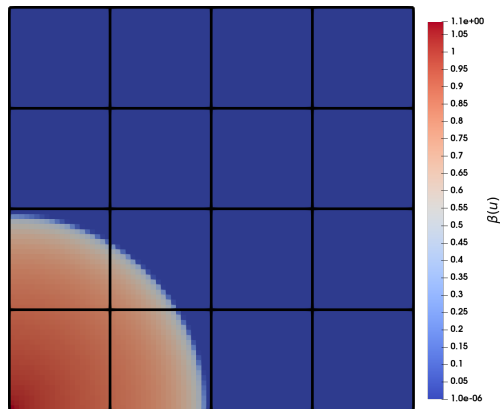
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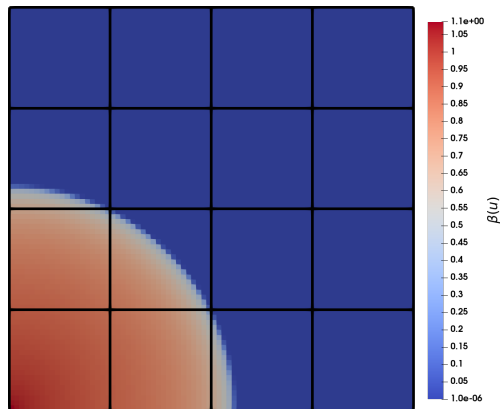
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Porous medium equation in 2D case

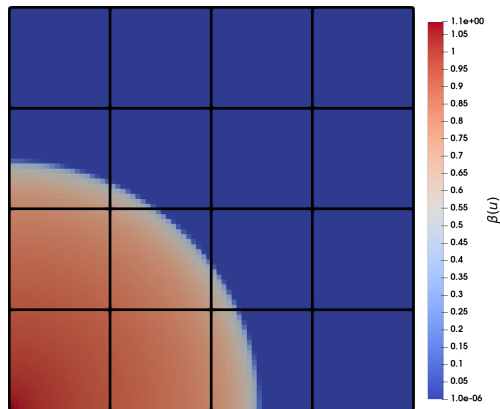
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Porous medium equation in 2D case

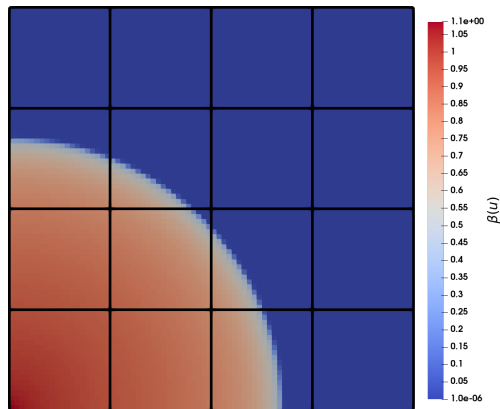
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Porous medium equation in 2D case

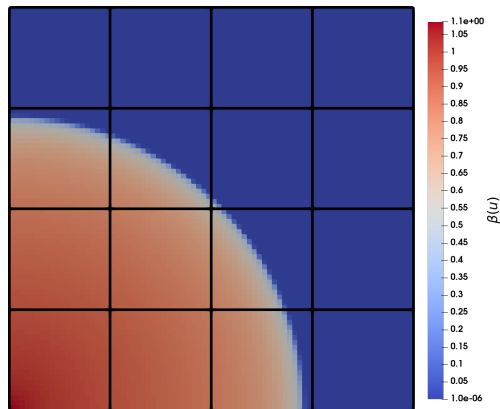
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Porous medium equation in 2D case

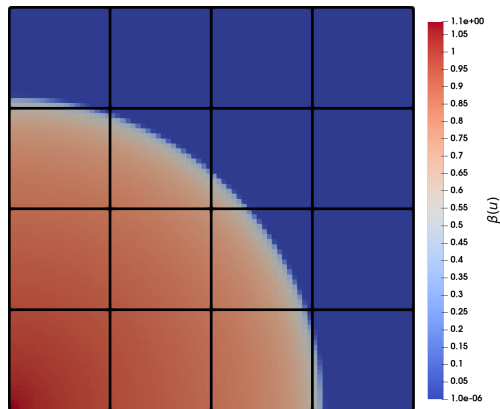
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Porous medium equation in 2D case

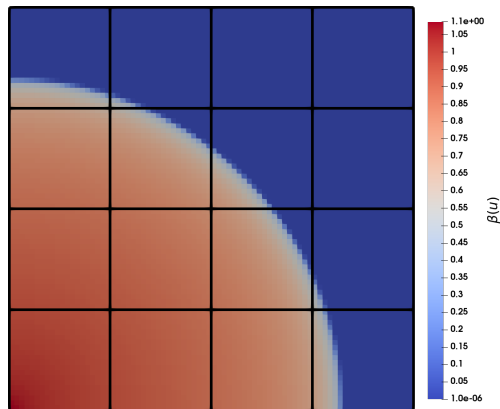
$$\partial_t \beta(u) - \Delta u = \delta_{\mathbf{x}=0}, \quad \beta(u) = u^{1/10}$$



	$Nt = 1$			$Nt = 5$			$Nt = 10$		
$\sqrt{\#\text{unk}}$	20	40	80	20	40	80	20	40	80
Jac.	28	54	106	43	66	114	66	86	136
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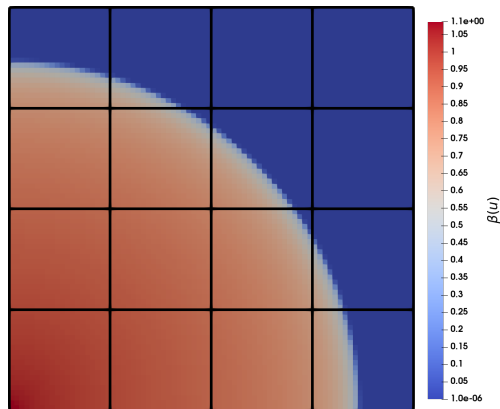
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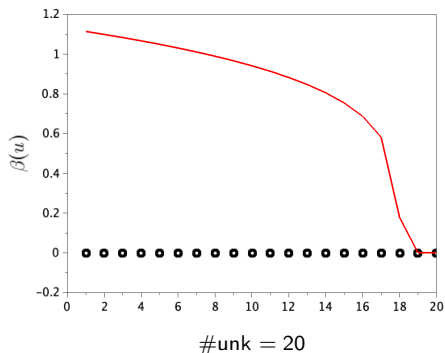
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baseline jacobi

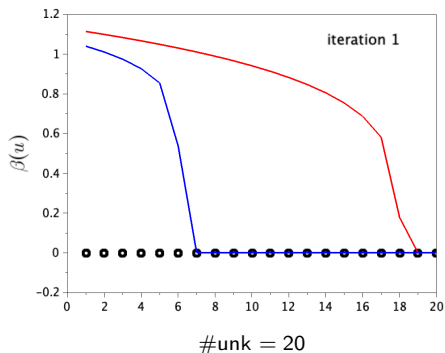
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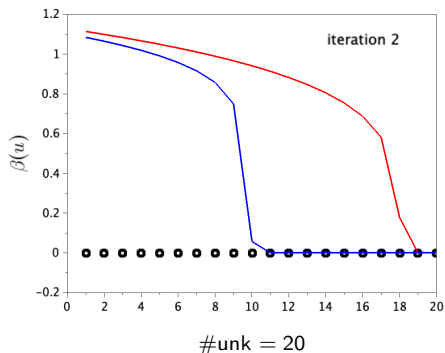
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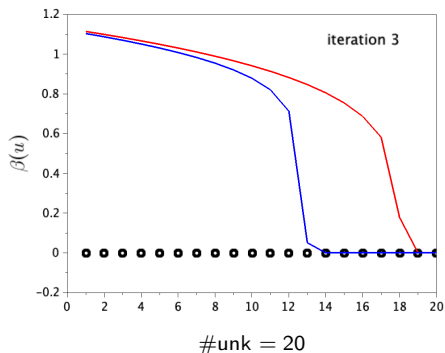
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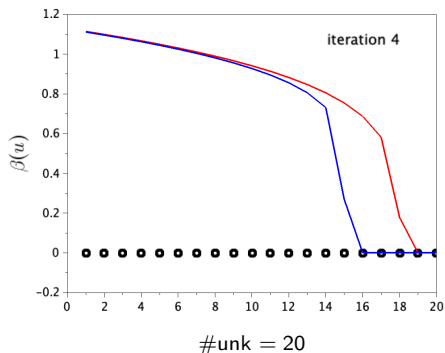
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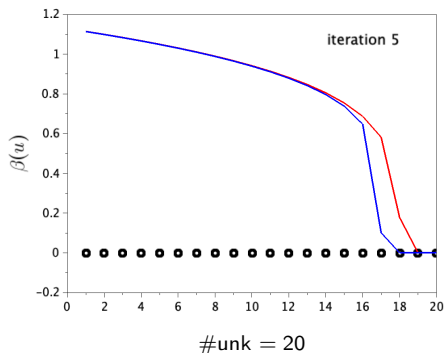
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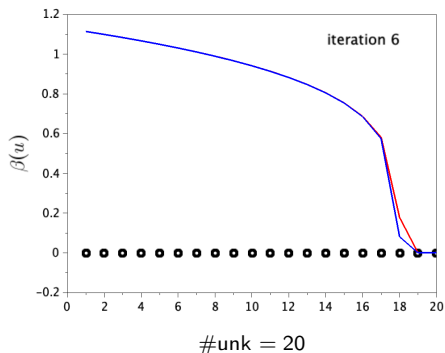
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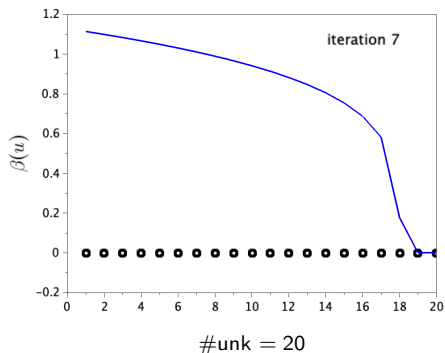
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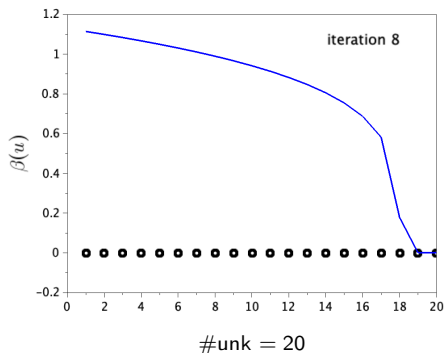
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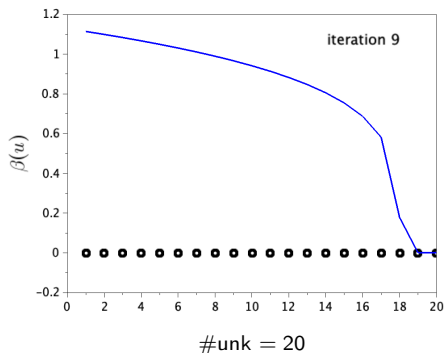
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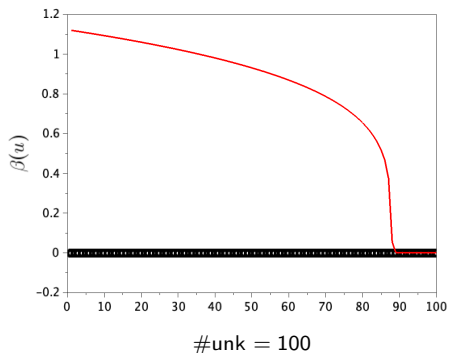
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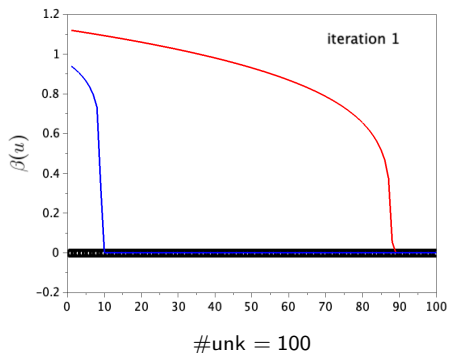
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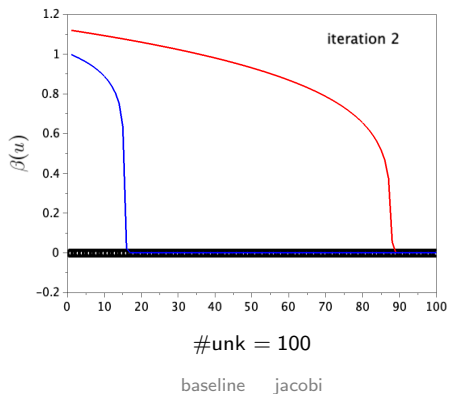
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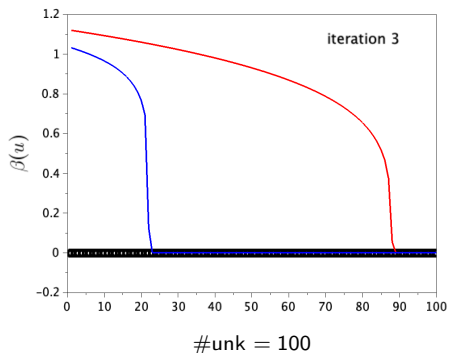
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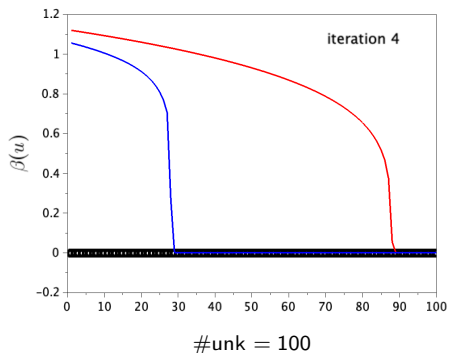
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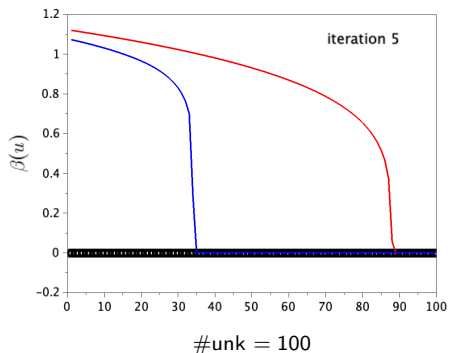
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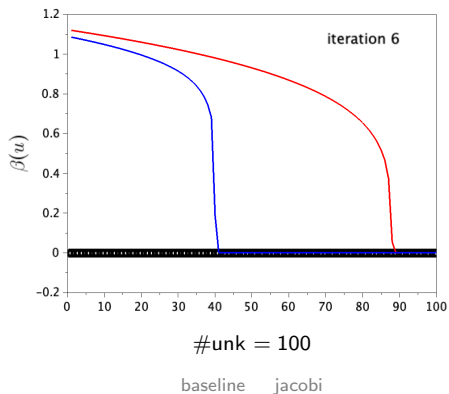
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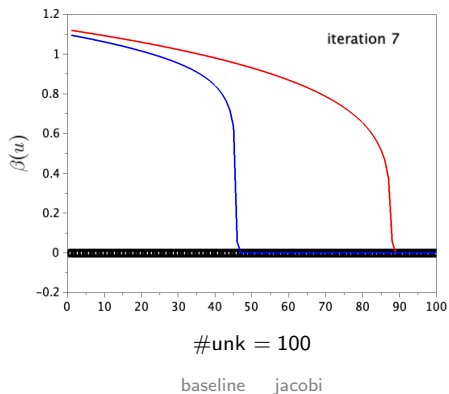
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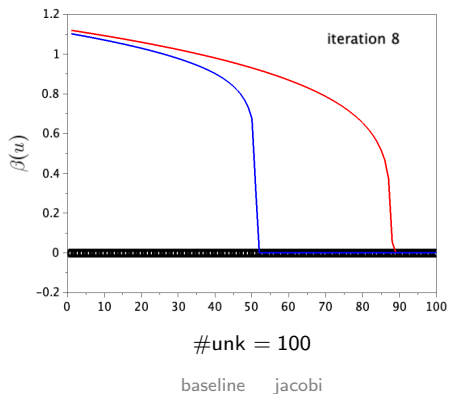
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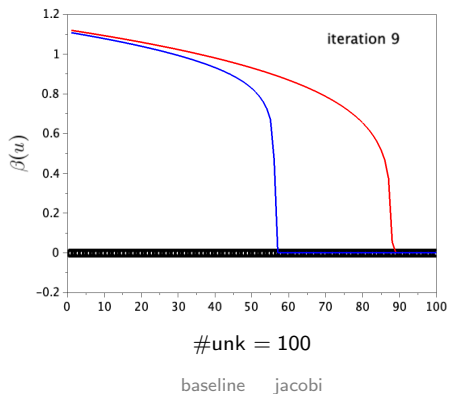
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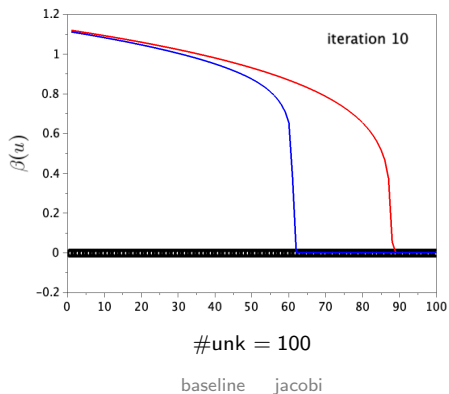
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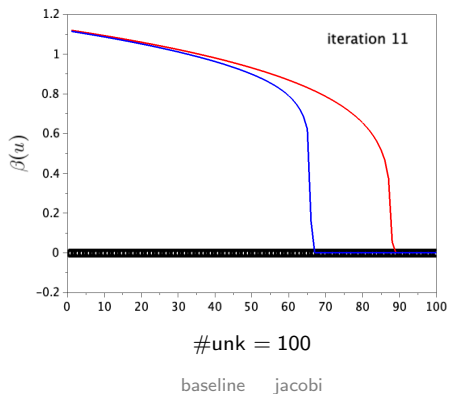
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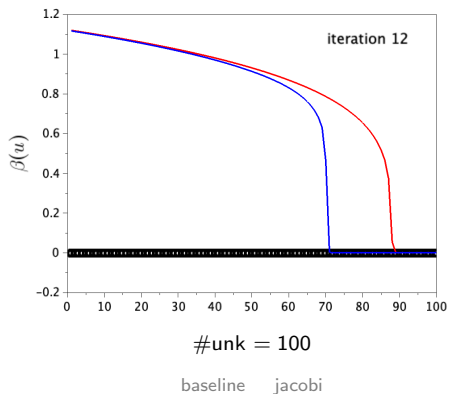
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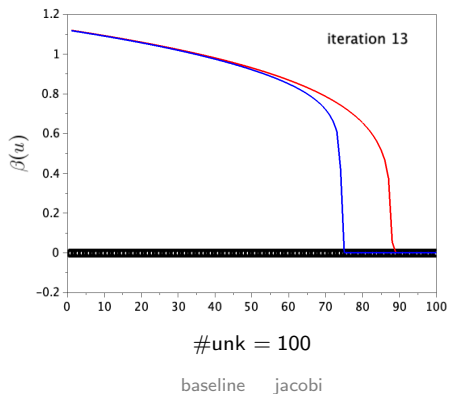
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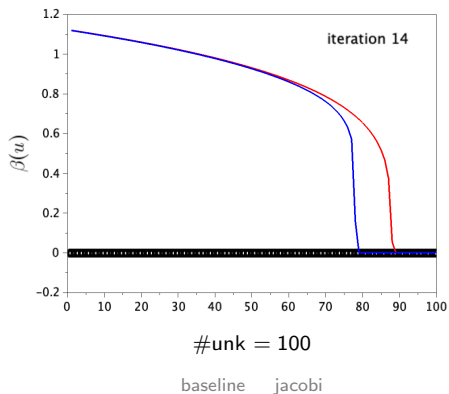
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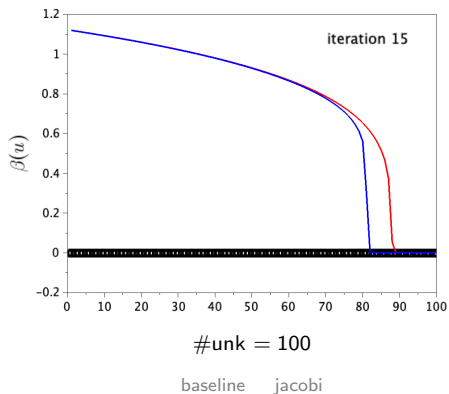
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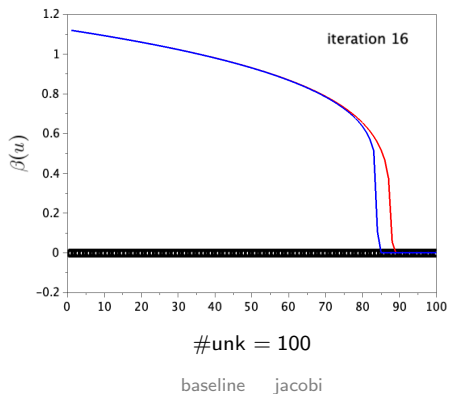
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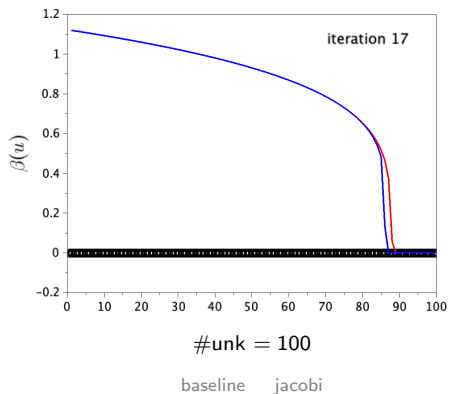
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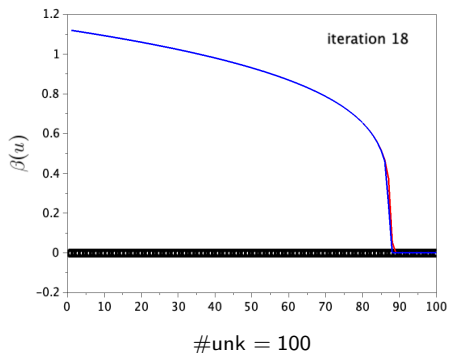
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baseline jacobi

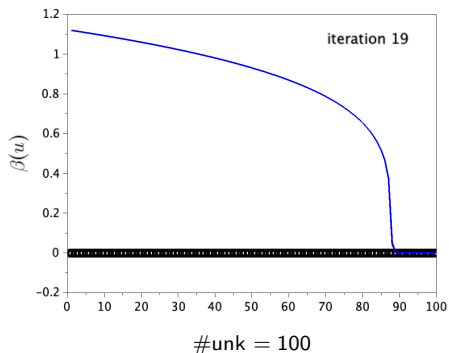
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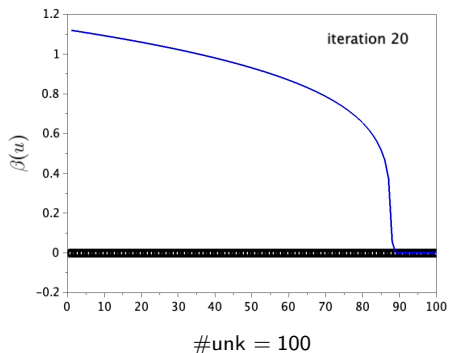
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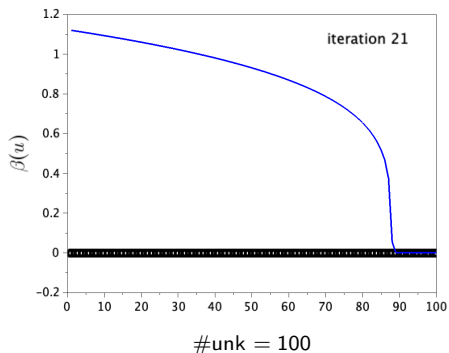
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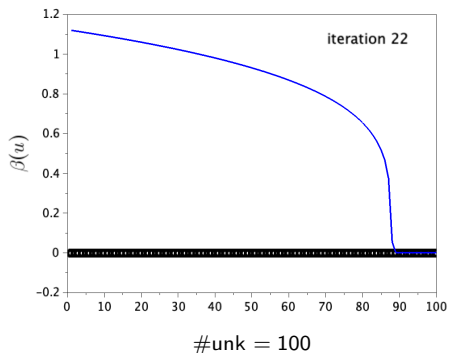
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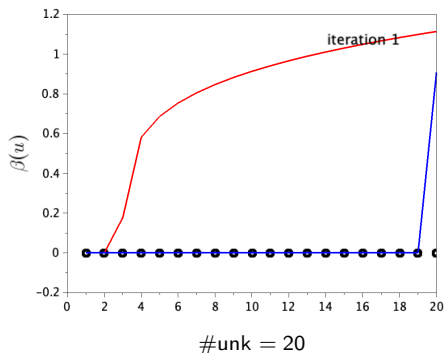
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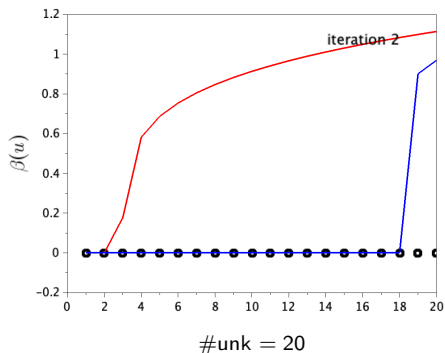
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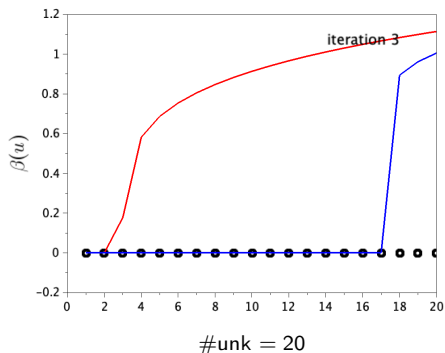
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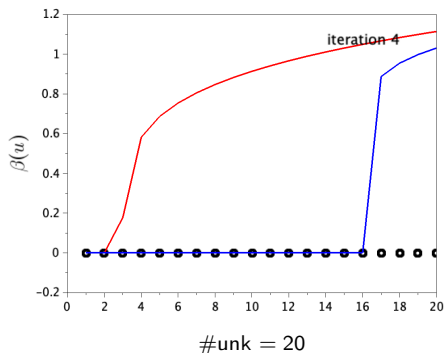
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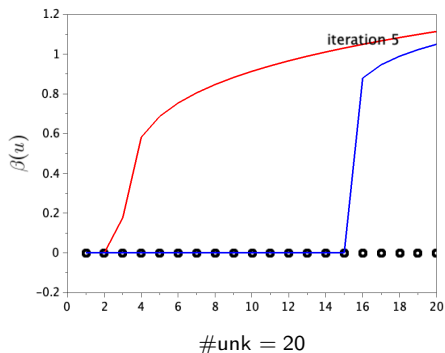
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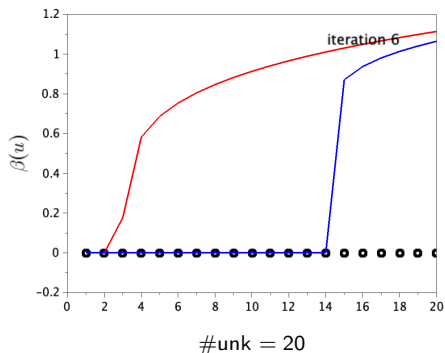
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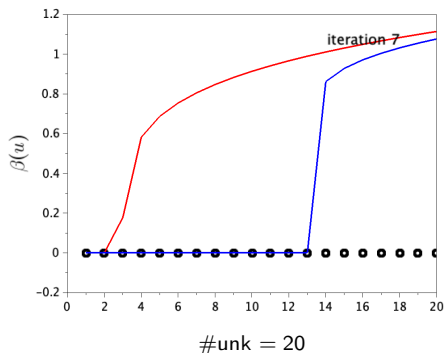
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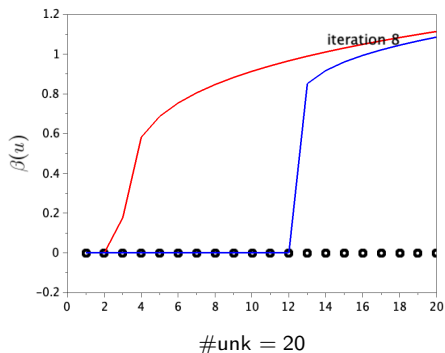
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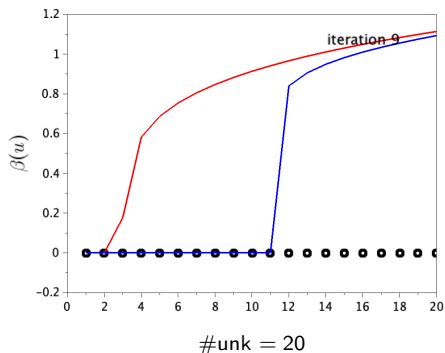
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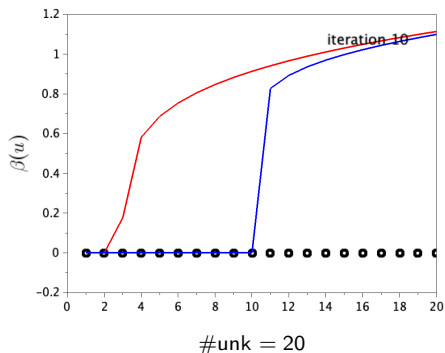
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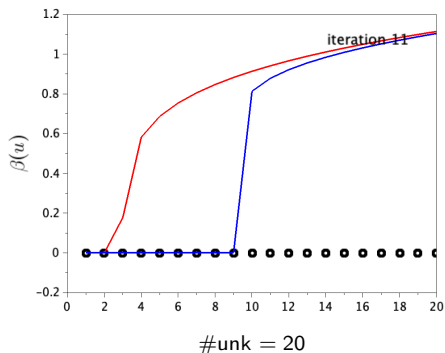
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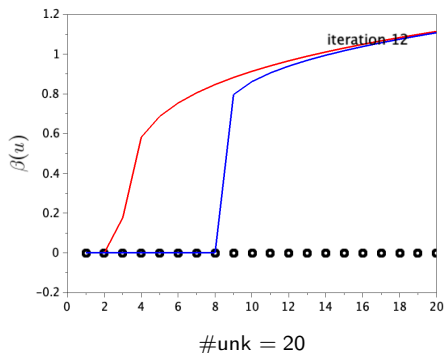
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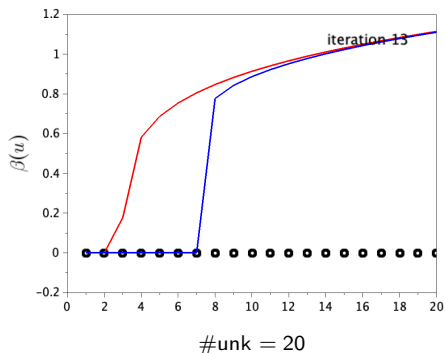
GS-Newton's iterates, but wrong ordering

Preconditioned Newton's method

$$\mathbf{u} - M^{-1}(M(\mathbf{u}) - F(\mathbf{u})) = 0$$

with

$$M(\mathbf{u}) = \beta(\mathbf{u}) + \text{LowerTri}(A)\mathbf{u}$$



baseline jacobi

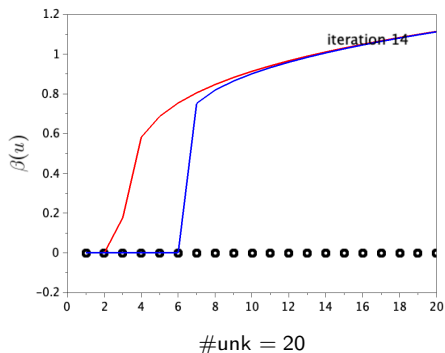
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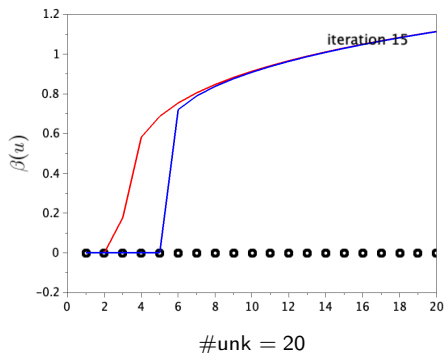
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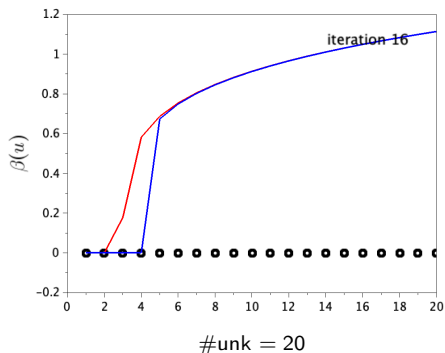
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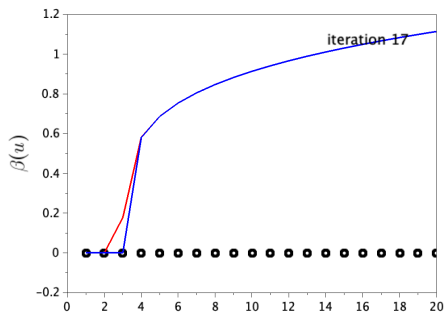
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#unk = 20

baseline jacobi

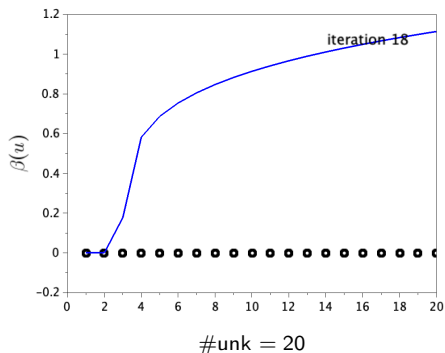
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baseline jacobi

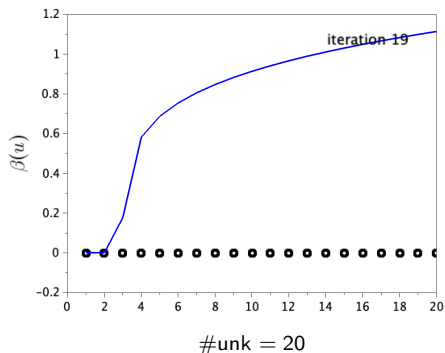
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baseline jacobi

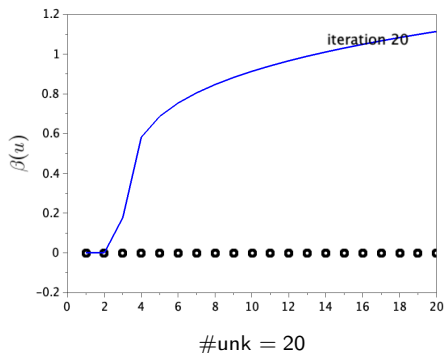
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baseline jacobi

Outline

Introduction to Richards' equation

- ▶ From saturated to unsaturated flow

Monotone Newton Theorem

- ▶ Convergence proof \neq performance

Nonlinear preconditioning

- ▶ Convergence proof + performance

Conclusion

Conclusions

Improved Newton's method

- ▶ Nonlinear preconditioning can greatly improve performance and robustness
- ▶ Splitting methods with provable **global** convergence

Perspectives & ongoing work

- ▶ Non-convex diagonal nonlinearities
- ▶ More complex systems: *true* Richards', heterogeneous problems
- ▶ Nonlinear two-level AS/RAS methods (urban flood modeling)

Nonlinear preconditioning via Domain Decomposition

Observation: Small % of dofs is often responsible for the nonlinear convergence issues

- ▶ Material interfaces
- ▶ Sharp fronts
- ▶ Small/ill-shaped elements

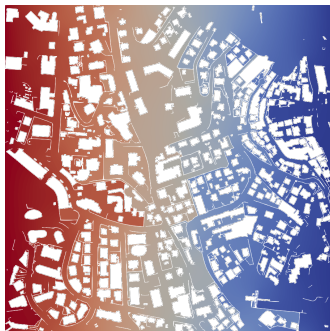
Opportunity: Intensity of the computations can be localized in DD approach

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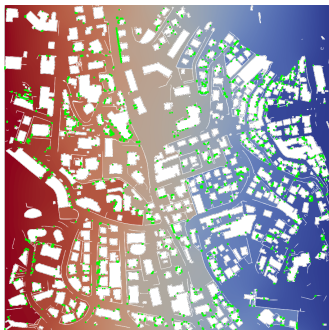


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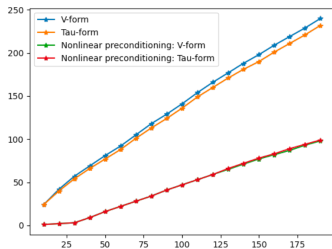
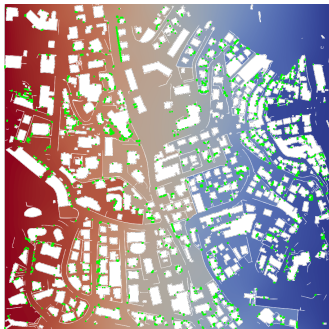


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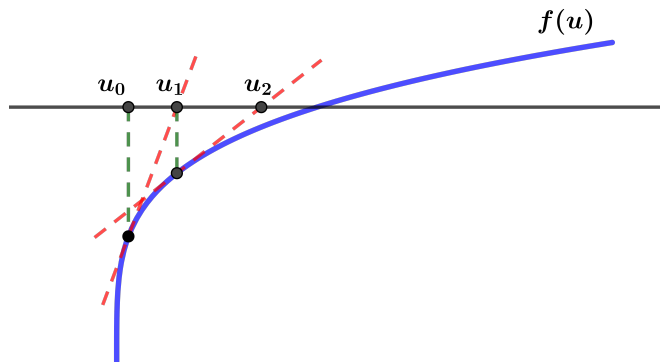


Appendix: Newton's method for a scalar concave problem

Newton's method for

$$f(u) = 0, \quad u \in \mathbb{R}$$

- ▶ f concave and increasing



Go back