

1                   **A STABILIZED FINITE ELEMENT METHOD FOR**  
2                   **INCOMPRESSIBLE, INERTIAL FLOWS IN INHOMOGENEOUS**  
3                   **POROUS MEDIA**

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6                   **Abstract.** We present a finite element method for a generalized version of the Navier-Stokes  
7 equations that is applicable to (highly permeable) porous media flows. We rely on the variational  
8 multiscale (VMS) framework to produce a stabilized numerical method that allows the use of equal-  
9 order finite element spaces for all the problem unknowns, while also preventing the instabilities  
10 associated to convection-dominated flows or strong reaction terms. Two variants of the basic algo-  
11 rithm are considered and tested in a selection of numerical experiments designed to examine their  
12 performance when changing the relative magnitudes of the different terms in the momentum balance  
13 equation.

14                   **Key words.** finite element, stabilized, variational multiscale, VMS, OSGS, generalized Navier-  
15 Stokes, Darcy-Brinkman-Forchheimer, particle-laden flows

16                   **AMS subject classifications.** 65Z05, 65M60, 65N30, 65N12

17                   **1. Introduction.** Porous media flows are typically modelled by a pointwise gen-  
18 eralization of the classical Darcy equation, which results from postulating that the  
19 flow is in a state of permanent local mechanical equilibrium, with the pressure gradi-  
20 ent and external body forces balancing the interfacial viscous resistance caused by the  
21 fluid’s motion relative to the porous matrix. In these conditions, the fluid’s inertia,  
22 as well as the contribution of the viscous forces arising from the fluid motion relative  
23 to itself, can be neglected.

24                   The adequacy of the Darcy model in describing a wide range of porous media  
25 flows is empirically well established and has even been rigorously derived in a number  
26 of idealized scenarios by applying homogenization theory, with the Stokes equations  
27 as a description of the microscopic flow [19, 6]. However, the underlying assumptions  
28 of negligible inertia and clear separation of scales fail to hold in a number of practical  
29 scenarios encountered in the oil and gas [32, 29], biomedical [27, 17] or food [30] indus-  
30 tries, to name but a few. Nonetheless, the application of homogenization theory under  
31 relaxed assumptions is still possible, yielding generalized equations that encompass  
32 the Darcy equation as a limiting case [7, 5].

33                   Non-Darcy effects can be mathematically captured by incorporating a more so-  
34 phisticated, nonlinear resistance term into the momentum conservation equation,  
35 along with additional terms: the inertia term that stems from taking the material  
36 derivative of the flow when describing the local conservation of momentum in an Eu-  
37 lerian framework, and a viscous term (the Brinkman term) representing the intra-fluid  
38 viscous forces<sup>1</sup>. As a result, the equations of motion acquire the basic form of the  
39 Navier-Stokes equations for incompressible flow (generalized to include a viscous re-  
40 sistance term), with modifications to account for the varying porosity that affect both  
41 the momentum and mass conservation equations [3]. A widely used model conform-  
42 ing to the preceding description is that defined by the Darcy-Brinkman-Forchheimer  
43 (DBF) equations, applicable to high-permeability, low viscosity flows; see [18] for a

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<sup>1</sup>Even though the relevance of this term in particular seems to be very restricted [1]

44 discussion about the applicability regimes of various porous media flow equations,  
45 including DBF.

46 From the numerical standpoint, the generalized equations bring about all the well-  
47 known problems associated with the discretization of the generalized Navier-Stokes  
48 system. That is, the Galerkin form of their finite element discretization suffers from  
49 instabilities that appear when the viscous term is dominated by any of the lower-order  
50 terms such as in convection-dominated or reaction-dominated flows. Furthermore, the  
51 use of equal-order interpolations for the velocity and the pressure leads to the vio-  
52 lation of the Ladyzhenskaya-Babuška-Brezzi (LBB) condition, requiring stabilization  
53 regardless of the situation.

54 For the Navier-Stokes system, all of these numerical issues have been successfully  
55 addressed in the past [10, 11, 16] using the Variational Multi-scale (VMS) frame-  
56 work [21] to design stabilized methods. In [10], the so-called Algebraic Sub-Grid  
57 Scale (ASGS) formulation is applied to the Navier-Stokes system, including a reactive  
58 term (as well as additional terms related to Coriolis forces which we will not consider  
59 here), where optimal error estimates are proven for the linearized problem.

60 Our goal in this work is to present a numerical method for highly permeable  
61 porous media flows. To accomplish this, we generalize the formulation presented  
62 in [10], allowing for the presence of an externally-imposed porosity field, and analyze  
63 the extent to which the various results obtained in this work carry over to the present  
64 setting. Indeed, our analysis shows that essentially the same stability and convergence  
65 properties are preserved for the problem analyzed herein if the porosity field is smooth  
66 and has bounded gradients that are sufficiently resolved by the mesh. This conclusion  
67 is backed up by a battery of numerical tests that explore the robustness of the method  
68 with respect to changes in the physical parameters. Over the course of drafting the  
69 present paper, we came across the work [22], which applies VMS to the so-called  
70 Navier-Stokes-Brinkman system, applicable to highly-permeable porous media flows  
71 with a *uniform* porosity field. Except for the presence of a nonlinear reaction term,  
72 the theory in [10] fully applies to this case, so no need for revisiting the theory was  
73 required there.

74 The formulation presented here is general enough to encompass alternative vari-  
75 ants of the VMS formulation, defined by different choices of the space where the  
76 sub-grid scales (SGS) live (see [subsection 3.2](#)). This generality can be useful for re-  
77 searchers or engineers looking to explore alternative possibilities to the basic method.  
78 In particular, we consider the so-called Orthogonal Sub-Grid Scale (OSGS) [11, 12]  
79 alongside the ASGS in all our numerical tests.

80 Our approach has some advantages over previous efforts that were able to succes-  
81 sively address the numerical challenges mentioned above, including the use of inf-sup  
82 stable element pairs [8], with the associated complexity increase in the associated  
83 data structures required; or the only precedent of a stabilized finite element method:  
84 the Local Projection Stabilization [28], which, apart from requiring the use of special  
85 enrichment functions, introduces some constraints on the mesh topology.

86 The rest of the paper is organized as follows. The continuous problem is intro-  
87 duced in [section 2](#). In [section 3](#) we rewrite the strong problem in standard form and  
88 apply the VMS approach. In [section 4](#) we provide a rationale behind the design of  
89 the unspecified algorithmic parameters. Their design is motivated by an argument  
90 based on the Fourier transform that can be found in [11, 26, 13] but that, to our  
91 knowledge, had not yet been applied to the Navier-Stokes system in its most recent  
92 form. In [section 5](#) the convergence analysis in [10] is extended to the current setting,  
93 validating our choice of stabilization parameters. In [section 6](#), we analyze the robust-

94 ness of the formulation with respect to variations in the physical parameters. Finally,  
 95 in [section 7](#) we present the results from the numerical experiments, followed by the  
 96 main conclusions of our work in [section 8](#).

97 **2. The porous Navier-Stokes problem.** Let our problem spatial domain be  
 98  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ , with  $d \in \{2, 3\}$  its dimension and let  $\Gamma := \partial\Omega$  be its boundary. For simplicity,  
 99 we will consider  $\Omega$  to be polyhedral. Let  $\alpha : \Omega \rightarrow (0, 1]$  be a given scalar field over  $\Omega$   
 100 representing the fluid volume fraction. We will assume this field to be differentiable,  
 101 with a uniformly bounded gradient in  $\Omega$ . The continuous form of the problem consists  
 102 in finding (fluid-averaged) pressure and velocity fields,  $p$  and  $\mathbf{u}$ , such that

$$103 \quad (2.1) \quad \alpha \mathbf{u} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u} - 2\nabla \cdot (\alpha \nu \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}) + \alpha \nabla p + \boldsymbol{\sigma}(\alpha, \mathbf{u}) \mathbf{u} = \mathbf{f} \quad \text{in } \Omega,$$

$$104 \quad (2.2) \quad \varepsilon p + \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u}) = 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega,$$

105 where  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  represents a viscous resistance tensor (the inverse of the permeability ten-  
 106 sor), which we will assume to be symmetric and positive semidefinite,  $\mathbf{f}$  is a forcing  
 107 term representing external body forces, such as gravity, which for simplicity we will  
 108 assume to be independent of the solution. Finally,  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  represents a small compress-  
 109 ibility, which we mainly include for numerical reasons (i.e., in order to implement the  
 110 *iterative penalty method* [9]), as in some cases it helps to ensure the well-posedness of  
 111 the problem; see [subsection 7.2](#).

112 By defining  $\overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} := \overset{\text{D}}{\Pi} \overset{\text{S}}{\Pi}$ , where  $\overset{\text{D}}{\Pi}$  and  $\overset{\text{S}}{\Pi}$  are (commutative) orthogonal linear projection  
 113 operators, and considering different versions of the latter two, we obtain alternative  
 114 formulations found in different contexts in the literature. Our particular choice for  
 115 these operators in the examples presented, corresponds to taking  $\overset{\text{D}}{\Pi}$  and  $\overset{\text{S}}{\Pi}$  as the  
 116 operators that extract, respectively, the deviatoric and symmetric components of the  
 117 tensor upon which they act. This yields

$$118 \quad (2.3) \quad -2\nabla \cdot (\alpha \nu \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}) = -2\nabla \cdot (\alpha \nu \nabla^{\text{S}} \mathbf{u}) + \frac{2}{3} \nabla (\alpha \nu \nabla \cdot \mathbf{u}),$$

119 where  $\nabla^{\text{S}} \mathbf{u} := \frac{1}{2}(\nabla \mathbf{u} + (\nabla \mathbf{u})^{\text{T}})$ . This particular formulation for the second term in  
 120 (2.1) is based on the assumption that the bulk viscosity is zero (Stokes' hypothesis)  
 121 and it is consistent with the formulation used in multicomponent fluid formulations,  
 122 where the full system involving several phases is solved in a segregated way, taking  
 123 one phase at a time and assuming the porosity to be given [24, 23]. Note that for  
 124  $\alpha \equiv 1$  the incompressible Navier-Stokes system is recovered from (2.1) and (2.2).

125 As mentioned, other combinations are possible. For instance, taking  $\overset{\text{D}}{\Pi} \equiv \mathbb{I}$ ,  $\overset{\text{S}}{\Pi} = \nabla^{\text{S}} \mathbf{u}$ ,  
 126 together with a particular expression for  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ , we recover the DBF equations [8]<sup>2</sup>

127 To complete the definition of the problem, it is necessary to supply the above  
 128 equations with suitable initial and boundary conditions, whose form will be specified  
 129 in the following sections. We are not aware of any analysis addressing the well-  
 130 posedness of resulting problem in its full generality, although in [8] it is proven for the  
 131 particular case of  $\overset{\text{D}}{\Pi} \equiv \mathbb{I}$ ,  $\overset{\text{S}}{\Pi} = \nabla^{\text{S}} \mathbf{u}$ , a resistance term of the form  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \sigma(\alpha, \mathbf{u}) \mathbb{I}$ , with  $\sigma$   
 132 a scalar function defined in terms of additional scalar functions  $a(\alpha), b(\alpha)$  as

$$133 \quad (2.4) \quad \sigma(\alpha, \mathbf{u}) = a(\alpha) + b(\alpha) |\mathbf{u}|,$$

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<sup>2</sup>Although in other works we find  $\overset{\text{D}}{\Pi} = \overset{\text{S}}{\Pi} \equiv \mathbb{I}$  [28], even though the name used for the equations is also DBF.

134 and a combination of Dirichlet (walls and inlet) and Neumann (outlet) boundary  
 135 conditions. While we have not attempted a generalization of the results presented  
 136 in [8], we note that finding an alternative to the explicit use of Korn-type inequalities  
 137 as done in this work may be nontrivial for  $\overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} = \overset{\text{DS}}{\text{D}\overset{\text{S}}{\Pi}}$ , by which the deviatoric part of the  
 138 velocity gradient is removed from the viscous term. We will nonetheless proceed by  
 139 assuming that the solution always exists, and that uniqueness holds for sufficiently  
 140 large values of  $\nu$  and of  $\inf_{\Omega}\{\alpha\}$ .

141 **2.1. Abstract reformulation of the problem (Strong form).**

142 Let  $\mathcal{X} := \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{Q}$  be the space of unknowns, with  $\mathcal{V}$  the space of velocity components  
 143 and  $\mathcal{Q}$  that of the pressure; and let  $\mathcal{X}'$  be the topological dual of  $\mathcal{X}$  (the precise notion  
 144 of duality to be employed will be determined later). Let us also denote by  $n = d + 1$   
 145 the number of components of the elements  $U$  in  $\mathcal{X}$ . Consider the following differential  
 146 operator:

$$147 \quad \mathcal{L}: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'$$

$$148 \quad (\mathbf{w}, U) \mapsto \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{w}}U,$$

149 where  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{w}}: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}'$  is a linear differential operator defined by:

$$150 \quad (2.5) \quad \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{w}}U = -\partial_i(\mathbf{K}_{ij}\partial_jU) + \mathbf{A}_{c,i}(\mathbf{w})\partial_iU + \mathbf{A}_{f,i}\partial_iU + \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{w})U.$$

151 In the equations above, the  $n \times n$  matrices  $\mathbf{K}_{ij}$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_{c,i}(\mathbf{w})$ ,  $\mathbf{A}_{f,i}$  and  $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{w})$  are either  
 152 constant or dependent on  $\mathbf{w}$ ;  $i, j$  run over all the spatial dimensions and  $\partial_i$  denotes  
 153 differentiation with respect to the corresponding spatial coordinate. The usual sum-  
 154 mation convention for repeated indices is assumed.

155 Using these definitions, the boundary value problem defined by Equations (2.1)  
 156 and (2.2), together with appropriate boundary conditions can be cast in the following  
 157 standard form: *Find*  $U = [\mathbf{u}; p] \in \mathcal{X}$  *such that*

$$158 \quad (2.6a) \quad \mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{u}}U = F \quad \text{in } \Omega,$$

$$159 \quad (2.6b) \quad \mathcal{D}U = \mathbf{g} \quad \text{on } \Gamma,$$

160 where  $F = [\mathbf{f}; 0] \in \mathcal{X}'$  and  $\mathbf{g}$  belonging to the appropriate trace space; with  $u_i, f_i, g_i$   
 161 ( $i = 1 \dots d$ ) the Cartesian components of  $\mathbf{u}$  and  $\mathbf{f}$ , and  $\mathbf{g}$ .  $\mathcal{D}$  is the trace operator that  
 162 defines the boundary conditions:

$$163 \quad (2.7) \quad \mathcal{D}: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow L^2(\partial\Omega)^d$$

$$U \mapsto \mathcal{D}U =: \mathcal{D}U,$$

164 where we have emphasized the linearity of  $\mathcal{D}$  (see for example [25]).

165 The abstract setting above will allow us to directly apply the VMS theory to our  
 166 particular equations. The specific forms that the different operators take for (2.1) and  
 167 (2.2) (for  $d = 3$ ) are

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathbf{K}_{ij} = \nu \alpha \begin{bmatrix} \delta_{ij} + \frac{1}{3}\delta_{1i}\delta_{1j} & \delta_{2i}\delta_{1j} - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{1i}\delta_{2j} & \delta_{3i}\delta_{1j} - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{1i}\delta_{3j} & 0 \\ \delta_{1i}\delta_{2j} - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{2i}\delta_{1j} & \delta_{ij} + \frac{1}{3}\delta_{2i}\delta_{2j} & \delta_{3i}\delta_{2j} - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{2i}\delta_{3j} & 0 \\ \delta_{1i}\delta_{3j} - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{3i}\delta_{1j} & \delta_{2i}\delta_{3j} - \frac{2}{3}\delta_{3i}\delta_{2j} & \delta_{ij} + \frac{1}{3}\delta_{3i}\delta_{3j} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
168 \quad (2.8) \quad \mathbf{A}_{c,i}(\mathbf{w}) = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} w_i & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & w_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_i & 0 \\ \delta_{i1} & \delta_{i2} & \delta_{i3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}_{f,i} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta_{i1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta_{i2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta_{i3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \\
\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{w}) = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{11}(\mathbf{w}) & \sigma_{12}(\mathbf{w}) & \sigma_{13}(\mathbf{w}) & 0 \\ \sigma_{12}(\mathbf{w}) & \sigma_{22}(\mathbf{w}) & \sigma_{23}(\mathbf{w}) & 0 \\ \sigma_{13}(\mathbf{w}) & \sigma_{23}(\mathbf{w}) & \sigma_{33}(\mathbf{w}) & 0 \\ \partial_1 \alpha & \partial_2 \alpha & \partial_3 \alpha & \varepsilon \end{bmatrix},
\end{aligned}$$

169 where  $\delta_{\bullet\bullet}$  is the Kronecker delta and where in the reaction matrix the dependence of  
170  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$  on  $\alpha$  has been (and will henceforth be) omitted for brevity.

171 The particular version of the trace operator that we will be interested in is given  
172 by

$$\begin{aligned}
& \mathcal{D}_U: \Gamma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\
173 \quad (2.9) \quad \mathbf{x} \mapsto \begin{cases} \mathcal{D}_{D,U}(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_D, \\ \mathcal{D}_{N,U}(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_N, \end{cases}
\end{aligned}$$

174 where  $\Gamma = \Gamma_D \cup \Gamma_N$ ,  $\Gamma_D \cap \Gamma_N = \emptyset$  and where the Dirichlet and Neumann linear  
175 operators are defined (for smooth enough fields where the boundary normal  $\mathbf{n}$  is  
176 defined) by

$$\begin{aligned}
177 \quad (2.10) \quad \mathcal{D}_{D,U}: \Gamma_D \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\
\mathbf{x} \mapsto \mathbf{u}|_{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x}),
\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
178 \quad (2.11) \quad \mathcal{D}_{N,U}: \Gamma_N \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3 \\
\mathbf{x} \mapsto \alpha \left( \nu \Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{u}|_{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x}) - p|_{\Gamma}(\mathbf{x}) \mathbb{I} \right) \cdot \mathbf{n},
\end{aligned}$$

179 where  $|_{\Gamma}$  denotes the trace of the function on  $\Gamma$  (we may assume  $\alpha$  to be defined on  
180 the whole of  $\partial\Omega$ ). Moreover, we take

$$181 \quad (2.12) \quad \mathbf{g}(\mathbf{x}) = \begin{cases} \mathbf{0} & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_D, \\ \mathbf{t}_N(\mathbf{x}) & \text{if } \mathbf{x} \in \Gamma_N, \end{cases}$$

182 where  $\mathbf{t}_N$  is the given traction condition. Thus, note that here we have considered  
183 only homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions for simplicity, even though all the  
184 developments apply equally to the non-homogeneous case, which can be dealt with  
185 by applying the standard lifting of the non-homogeneous boundary function to the  
186 whole domain.

## 187 2.2. Weak form of the problem.

188 Let us reformulate (2.6) into a form more amenable to the finite element method.  
189 We begin by introducing some standard notation. The space of square-integrable  
190 functions in a domain  $\omega$  is denoted as  $L^2(\omega)$ ; the space of functions whose weak  
191 derivatives of (integer) order  $m \geq 0$  and lower belong to  $L^2(\omega)$  is denoted by  $H^m(\omega)$ ;

192 and, for  $m = 1$ , the subspace of functions in the latter space that additionally fulfill  
 193 the homogeneous Dirichlet boundary conditions on  $\partial\omega$  is denoted  $H_0^1(\omega)$ . The  $L^2$ -  
 194 inner product in a subdomain  $\omega \subseteq \Omega$  is denoted  $(\bullet, \bullet)_\omega$  and the integral over  $\omega$  of  
 195 the product of two generic functions is written as  $\langle \bullet, \bullet \rangle_\omega$ , where in both cases the set  
 196  $\omega$  is omitted when  $\omega = \Omega$ . In particular, the latter notation is used for the pairing  
 197 between  $H_0^1(\omega)$  and its topological dual  $H^{-1}(\omega)$ . The norm in a space  $Z$  is denoted  
 198  $\|\bullet\|_Z$ , except when  $Z = L^2(\Omega)$ , in which case the subscript is omitted.

199 Let us now identify the spaces where we will seek the solution to the weak form  
 200 of the problem. The velocity components will be assumed to belong to  $\mathcal{V}_0 := H_0^1(\omega)^d$ .  
 201 The pressure will be assumed to belong to  $\mathcal{Q}_0 := L^2(\Omega)$  in general, while  $\mathcal{Q}_0 := \{q \in$   
 202  $L^2(\Omega) \mid \int_\Omega q \, d\Omega = 0\}$  when the boundary conditions in the problem are all-Dirichlet  
 203 (as with the regular Navier-Stokes system, constraining the solution to this subspace  
 204 fixes the free constant when  $\varepsilon = 0$ ; for  $\varepsilon > 0$  this condition is met automatically).

205 Using the above notation, the weak form of the problem defined by (2.6) consists  
 206 in finding  $U \in \mathcal{X}_0 := \mathcal{V}_0 \times \mathcal{Q}_0$  such that for all  $V \in \mathcal{X}_0$ ,

$$207 \quad (2.13) \quad \langle V, \mathcal{L}U \rangle + \langle V, \mathcal{D}U \rangle_{\Gamma_N} = \langle V, F \rangle + \langle V, G \rangle_{\Gamma_N},$$

208 where  $G := [\mathbf{g}; 0]$ . We will assume  $\mathbf{f} \in \mathcal{V}'_0$  and  $\mathbf{g} \in H_1^{-1/2}(\Gamma_N)^d$ , the latter being the  
 209 dual of the space of traces on  $\Gamma_N$  of functions in  $H^1(\Omega)$ . Here and in the sequel we  
 210 omit the explicit dependence of  $\mathcal{L}_\mathbf{u}$  on  $\mathbf{u}$  unless we need to emphasize it.

211 Note that we have not yet specified the space where  $\alpha$ , the porosity field, belongs.  
 212 We will simply assume  $\alpha \in W^{1,\infty}(\Omega)$ , which ensures that all the terms on the LHS of  
 213 (2.13) are bounded.

214 In order to conveniently reexpress this problem in terms of linear functionals, let  
 215 us introduce the form  $B: \mathcal{V} \times \mathcal{X} \times \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , bilinear with respect to the second and  
 216 third arguments:

$$217 \quad B(\mathbf{w}, U, V) := \langle \partial_i V, \mathbf{K}_{ij} \partial_j U \rangle + \langle V, \mathbf{A}_{c,i}(\mathbf{w}) \partial_i U \rangle \\ 218 \quad (2.14) \quad - \langle \partial_i (\mathbf{A}_{f,i}^\top V), U \rangle + \langle V, \mathbf{S}(\mathbf{w}) U \rangle,$$

219 and the linear form  $L: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , defined as

$$220 \quad (2.15) \quad L(V) := \langle V, F \rangle + \langle V, G \rangle_{\Gamma_N}.$$

221 Using (2.9), (2.11), (2.14), and (2.15), the weak form of the problem can be  
 222 reexpressed in terms of the linear forms as follows: Find  $U = [\mathbf{u}; p] \in \mathcal{X}_0$ , such that

$$223 \quad (2.16) \quad B(\mathbf{u}, U, V) = L(V) \quad \forall V \in \mathcal{X}_0.$$

### 224 3. Variational multiscale approach.

225 We are now ready to apply the VMS framework to derive a stabilized finite element  
 226 formulation. Thanks to the abstract formulation introduced in the previous section,  
 227 we can do this systematically, directly following the most general description of the  
 228 method [15]. In fact, we have chosen to repeat some nonessential parts of the method-  
 229 ology here for the sake of notational conformity and ease of comprehension.

#### 230 3.1. Scale Splitting.

231 Let us consider generic finite-dimensional subspaces  $\mathcal{X}_{h0} := \mathcal{V}_{h0} \times \mathcal{Q}_{h0} \subset \mathcal{X}_0$  and the  
 232 space  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}_0$  such that

$$233 \quad (3.1) \quad \mathcal{X}_0 = \mathcal{X}_{h0} \oplus \tilde{\mathcal{X}}_0,$$

234 so that  $U = U_h + \tilde{U}$  (with  $U_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0}$  and  $\tilde{U} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}_0$ ). Equation (2.13) can now be  
 235 equivalently written as the following system:

$$236 \quad (3.2) \quad \langle V_h, \mathcal{L}(U_h + \tilde{U}) \rangle + \langle V_h, \mathcal{D}(U_h + \tilde{U}) \rangle_{\Gamma_N} = \langle V_h, F \rangle + \langle V_h, G \rangle_{\Gamma_N} \quad \forall V_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0},$$

$$237 \quad (3.3) \quad \langle \tilde{V}, \mathcal{L}(U_h + \tilde{U}) \rangle + \langle \tilde{V}, \mathcal{D}(U_h + \tilde{U}) \rangle_{\Gamma_N} = \langle \tilde{V}, F \rangle + \langle \tilde{V}, G \rangle_{\Gamma_N} \quad \forall \tilde{V} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}_0.$$

238 Or, in terms of bilinear forms,

$$239 \quad (3.4) \quad B(\mathbf{u}, U_h, V_h) + B(\mathbf{u}, \tilde{U}, V_h) = L(V_h) \quad \forall V_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0},$$

$$240 \quad (3.5) \quad B(\mathbf{u}, U_h, \tilde{V}) + B(\mathbf{u}, \tilde{U}, \tilde{V}) = L(\tilde{V}) \quad \forall \tilde{V} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}_0.$$

241 Equations (3.4) and (3.5) are the starting point of the VMS methodology. Equa-  
 242 tion (3.5) will be used to derive an approximation to the SGSs, while (3.4) will become  
 243 the modified weak form of the problem once the approximate SGSs are introduced in  
 244 the second term of its left-hand side.

245 To clarify the motivation behind the scale-splitting strategy, let us note that it is  
 246 possible to formally eliminate  $\tilde{U}$  from the equations above to obtain

$$247 \quad (3.6) \quad B(\mathbf{u}, U_h, V_h) - \langle \mathcal{L}\tilde{\mathcal{L}}^{-1}\mathcal{R}U_h, V_h \rangle = L(V_h) \quad \forall V_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0},$$

248 where  $\mathcal{R}$  is the residual operator, i.e.,  $\mathcal{R}\mathbf{w} := F - \mathcal{L}\mathbf{w}U$ , whose explicit dependence  
 249 on  $\mathbf{w}$  we will also omit when  $\mathbf{w} = \mathbf{u}$  (except where emphasis is required), and  $\tilde{\mathcal{L}}^{-1}$   
 250 is the fine-scale Green's operator, which gives  $\tilde{U}$  from the coarse-scale residual, i.e.,  
 251  $\tilde{U} = \tilde{\mathcal{L}}_U^{-1}(\mathcal{R}U_h)$ . Its expression can, in fact, be calculated explicitly [20]:

$$252 \quad (3.7) \quad \tilde{\mathcal{L}}^{-1} = \mathcal{L}^{-1} - \mathcal{L}^{-1}\Pi_h^\top (\Pi_h\mathcal{L}^{-1}\Pi_h^\top)^{-1} \Pi_h\mathcal{L}^{-1},$$

253 where  $\Pi_h$  is a linear projection onto  $\mathcal{X}_{h0}$  and  $\Pi_h^\top$  its transpose. Equation (3.6) is  
 254 exact and (assuming the continuous problem is well posed) the second term must be  
 255 providing the desired stability that the first term alone (i.e., the Galerkin method)  
 256 lacks. Moreover, note that the equation that we obtain by substituting (3.7) in (3.6)  
 257 is entirely in terms of  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}$  and  $\Pi_h$ . Accordingly, all VMS-stabilized methods are  
 258 characterized by the way in which these two operators are approximated. The idea  
 259 is always to obtain a computable numerical method, while *still preserving the desired*  
 260 *stability properties of the original equation*. In the following subsection, we describe  
 261 the particular choices made here in order to achieve this.

### 262 3.2. Finite element discretization & modelling of SGSs.

263 The standard Galerkin finite element method consists in replacing the infinite-dimen-  
 264 sional space  $\mathcal{X}$  by a finite-dimensional analogue, leading to a problem that is finite di-  
 265 mensional and therefore computable. Thus, let us consider a finite element discretiza-  
 266 tion  $\bigcup_{K \in \mathcal{T}_h} K = \bar{\Omega}$  (the closure of  $\Omega$ ), constructed with a mesh of diameter  $h$ . Let  
 267 us denote the velocity and pressure finite element spaces as  $\mathcal{V}_{h0} \subset \mathcal{V}_0$ , and  $\mathcal{Q}_{h0} \subset \mathcal{Q}_0$   
 268 with  $\mathcal{X}_{h0} := \mathcal{V}_{h0} \times \mathcal{Q}_{h0}$  and the finite element functions  $U_h = [u_{h,1}, \dots, u_{h,d}, p_h] \in \mathcal{X}_{h0}$   
 269 (identifying  $[[\bullet_1 \cdots \bullet_d], \bullet]$  with  $[\bullet_1 \cdots \bullet_{d+1}]$ ). To simplify the exposition, we will con-  
 270 sider that  $\mathcal{V}_{h0}$  and  $\mathcal{Q}_{h0}$  are constructed using continuous polynomial interpolations.

271 As mentioned in the introduction, the discretized problem obtained with the  
 272 Galerkin method will suffer from numerical instabilities due to the violation of the  
 273 LBB condition (e.g., for equal-order spaces) and from the degeneration of its inherent  
 274 stability for extreme values of the physical parameters. Let us therefore use the VMS  
 275 framework to produce a stabilized formulation of the discrete problem. Considering

276 the finite element spaces defined by the discretization above in (3.4) and applying  
 277 Stokes' theorem to each element domain (which, in particular, is possible for piecewise  
 278 polynomials), we obtain

$$279 \quad (3.8) \quad B(\mathbf{u}, U_h, V_h) + \sum_K \left[ \langle \mathcal{L}^* V_h, \tilde{U} \rangle_K + \langle \mathcal{D}_N^* V_h, \mathcal{D}_K \tilde{U} \rangle_{\partial K} \right] = L(V_h) \quad \forall V_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0}$$

280 with

$$281 \quad (3.9) \quad \mathcal{D}_N^* V = n_i \mathbf{K}_{j_i}^\top \partial_j V + n_i \mathbf{A}_{c,i}^\top(\mathbf{w}) V,$$

$$282 \quad (3.10) \quad \mathcal{L}^* V = -\partial_i (\mathbf{K}_{j_i}^\top \partial_j V) - \partial_i (\mathbf{A}_{c,i}^\top(\mathbf{w}) V) - \partial_i (\mathbf{A}_{f,i}^\top V) + \mathbf{S}^\top(\mathbf{w}) V,$$

283 and where the asterisks denote duality with respect to the pairing;  $\tilde{U}$  represents  
 284 an approximation to the SGS that must be provided in terms of the finite element  
 285 solution; and  $\mathcal{D}_K$  is the trace operator that sends sufficiently smooth functions in the  
 286 interior of  $K$  to their evaluation on the boundary  $\partial K$  ( $\mathcal{D}_K U := U|_{\partial K}$ ). Note that we  
 287 omit the subscript of  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{u}}^*$  for brevity, just as we have done with  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{u}}$  and  $\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{u}}$ .

288 In order to produce an algorithm for the computation of  $\tilde{U}$ , one must make certain  
 289 approximations. There are many options, each defining a particular VMS method [15].  
 290 Here we will proceed conventionally, adopting the following assumptions:

291 A.1  $\mathcal{D}_K \tilde{U} = 0$ ; as a consequence,  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}} = \tilde{\mathcal{X}}_0$  and thus we assume that the finite  
 292 element functions are able to resolve the boundary conditions *exactly*.

293 A.2 The SGSs are functions of rapid decay, in such a way that their contribution  
 294 at the element at the inter-element boundaries can be neglected.

295 A.3  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{u}}^{-1}|_K \approx \boldsymbol{\tau}_K(\mathbf{u})$ ; that is, that the inverse of the differential operator of the  
 296 strong problem restricted to the finite element  $K$  can be approximated by  
 297  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$ , the matrix of stabilization parameters, which inherits from  $\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{u}}^{-1}$  its de-  
 298 pendence on  $\mathbf{u}$  and whose definition will be discussed later.

299 Note that it is only after these approximations are made, that problem ceases to  
 300 be equivalent to the original one. In spite of this, we will be keeping the same symbols  
 301 for the finite element component of the solution,  $U_h$ , for the SGS component,  $\tilde{U}$ , and  
 302 for the *total* solution  $U = U_h + \tilde{U}$  from this point on, so it is important to bear in  
 303 mind the abuse of notation involved.

304 Using (2.14) and (2.15) and Assumptions A.1 and A.2, (3.3) can be rewritten as

$$305 \quad (3.11) \quad \langle \tilde{V}, \mathcal{L} \tilde{U} \rangle = \langle \tilde{V}, F - \mathcal{L} U_h \rangle \quad \forall \tilde{V} \in \tilde{\mathcal{X}}$$

306 or, in terms of the residual operator,

$$307 \quad (3.12) \quad \tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{L} \tilde{U}] = \tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{R} U_h],$$

308 where  $\tilde{\Pi}$  a projection operator onto the space of SGSs  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$ .

309 Using Assumption A.3, this equation can be approximated, within any element  
 310 domain  $K$ , by [15]

$$311 \quad \tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{R} U_h]|_K = \tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{L}_{\mathbf{u}} \tilde{U}]|_K \approx \tilde{\Pi}[\boldsymbol{\tau}_K^{-1}(\mathbf{u}) \tilde{U}]|_K = \boldsymbol{\tau}_K^{-1}(\mathbf{u}) \tilde{U}|_K$$

$$312 \quad (3.13) \quad \implies \tilde{U}|_K = \boldsymbol{\tau}_K(\mathbf{u}) \tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{R} U_h]|_K.$$

313 Note that (3.13) is nonlinear, due to the dependence of both  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$  and  $\mathcal{R} U_h|_K$  on the  
 314 SGS. Thus, it will be necessary to linearize it at each integration point to obtain a  
 315 solution in the final formulation; see subsection 3.3.



316 Summarizing, under A.1 to A.3, (3.8) can be written as the following stabilized  
 317 system:

$$318 \quad (3.14) \quad B(\mathbf{u}, U_h, V_h) + \sum_K \langle \mathcal{L}^* V_h, \tau_K(\mathbf{u}) \tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{R}U_h] \rangle_K = L(V_h).$$

319 Different VMS methods are obtained by different choices of the SGSs space. Here  
 320 we will consider the following methods:

- 321 • The ASGS method, where  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  is taken as the space of finite element residuals,  
 322 and thus  $\tilde{\Pi} = \mathcal{I}$ .
- 323 • The OSGS method, where  $\tilde{\mathcal{X}}$  is taken as  $\mathcal{X}_{h0}^\perp$ .

324 The projection operator for the OSGS method is

$$325 \quad (3.15) \quad \tilde{\Pi} = \mathcal{I} - \Pi_{\tau h},$$

326 where  $\Pi_{\tau h}$  is the projection onto  $\mathcal{X}_{h0}$  associated to associated to the inner product  
 327 defined as

$$328 \quad (3.16) \quad (\bullet, \bullet)_\tau := \sum_K \langle \tau_K \bullet, \bullet \rangle_K.$$

329 In practice, it is often convenient to make the further simplification:

$$330 \quad (3.17) \quad (\bullet, \bullet)_\tau \approx \sum_K \langle \bullet, \bullet \rangle_K,$$

331 with the corresponding effect on the computation of  $\Pi_{\tau h}$ . This simplified projection  
 332 corresponds to the standard  $L^2$ -projection, which can be computed very efficiently  
 333 and has similar stabilizing properties [11].

334 Taking this approach, and using (3.15) in (3.14), we obtain the following stabilized  
 335 formulation of the discrete problem: Find  $U_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0}$  such that for all  $V_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0}$  and all  
 336  $W_h \in \mathcal{X}_{h0}$ ,

$$337 \quad (3.18a) \quad B_S(\mathbf{u}, U_h, V_h) = L_S(\mathbf{u}, V_h, \boldsymbol{\pi}_h),$$

$$338 \quad (3.18b) \quad \tilde{U}|_K = \tau_K(\mathbf{u}) (\mathcal{R}U_h - \boldsymbol{\pi}_h)|_K \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h,$$

$$339 \quad (3.18c) \quad \langle W_h, \boldsymbol{\pi}_h \rangle = \langle W_h, \mathcal{R}U_h \rangle,$$

$$340 \quad (3.18d) \quad U = U_h + \tilde{U},$$

341 where

$$342 \quad (3.19) \quad B_S(\mathbf{w}, U, V) := B(\mathbf{u}, U, V) - \sum_K \langle \mathcal{L}_\mathbf{w}^* V, \tau_K(\mathbf{w}) \mathcal{L}_\mathbf{w} U \rangle,$$

$$343 \quad (3.20) \quad L_S(\mathbf{w}, V, \boldsymbol{\pi}) := L(V) - \sum_K \langle \mathcal{L}_\mathbf{w}^* V, \tau_K(\mathbf{w}) (F - \boldsymbol{\pi}) \rangle_K.$$

344 Equation (3.18) is the complete discretized system of equations to be solved cor-  
 345 responding to the OSGS method. The ASGS method is then recovered by simply  
 346 taking  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_h = \mathbf{0}$ . This system is nonlinear and of a larger size (in the OSGS case)  
 347 than the original Galerkin system due to the introduction of the residual projections  
 348  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_h$ . In subsection 3.3 we describe the particular way in which we have decoupled and  
 349 linearized the system.

### 3.3. Linearization of the coupled system of discrete equations.

The process of approximating (3.18) to make it numerically tractable involves both its linearization with respect to  $U$ , and the decoupling of (3.18a)–(3.18d). To the latter end, note that, while equations (3.18a) and (3.18c) involve the resolution of two global systems, and must therefore be solved separately, (3.18b) and (3.18d) are local, in the sense that they express elemental equations, only involving a reduced number of unknowns. Therefore, it is possible to consider the latter two equations both separately or as a single (monolithic) system to be solved independently on each element without running into unacceptable numerical costs.

Here we have opted for the following iteration scheme for (3.18):

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.21a) \quad & B_S(\mathbf{u}^{m-1}, U_h^m, V_h) = L_S(\mathbf{u}^{m-1}, V_h, \boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m), \\
 (3.21b) \quad & \tilde{U}^m|_K = \boldsymbol{\tau}_K(\mathbf{u}^{m-1}) (\mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{u}^{m-1}} U_h^m - \boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m)|_K, \\
 (3.21c) \quad & \langle W_h, \boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m \rangle = \langle W_h, \mathcal{R}_{\mathbf{u}^{m-1}} U_h^{m-1} \rangle, \\
 (3.21d) \quad & U^m = U_h^m + \tilde{U}^m,
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $m$  is the iteration counter. Such iteration can be used to solve the system of equations as shown in Algorithm 3.1.

In all rigor, we should point out that in the implementation of Algorithm 3.1 we do not include the reaction terms in the calculation of the orthogonal projection. The reason is that these terms belong to the finite element space where the solution lives, and so their projection is exactly zero (for constant  $\boldsymbol{\sigma}$ ). However, note that  $\boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m$  is calculated with an outdated value of the unknown when one is performing the projections, within the nonlinear iterations loop, using (3.21c). So, were we to include these terms in (3.21c), the projection of the reaction terms would not exactly cancel. Following standard practice, we have modified the algorithm slightly by removing these terms altogether, which is equivalent to considering that their projection is evaluated at the next (still to be reached) iteration step in (3.21a), as the resulting algorithm has been observed to facilitate the convergence of the nonlinear iterations. We have chosen not to include this in Algorithm 3.1 for the sake of generality.

---

#### Algorithm 3.1 Solving the nonlinear problem

---

```

 $m \leftarrow 0$ 
 $U_h^m, \tilde{U}^m \leftarrow \text{SetInitialGuesses}()$ 
 $U^m \leftarrow U_h^m + \tilde{U}^m$ 
while NotConverged() do
   $m \leftarrow m + 1$ 
   $\boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m \leftarrow \text{ProjectResidual}(U^{m-1}, U_h^{m-1})$  ▷ Solve (3.21c)
   $U_h^m \leftarrow \text{SolveGlobalSystem}(U^{m-1}, \boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m)$  ▷ Solve (3.21a)
  for  $K \in \mathcal{T}_h$  do
     $\tilde{U}^m|_K \leftarrow \text{CalculateSubscales}(U^{m-1}, U_h^m, \boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m)$  ▷ Solve (3.21b)
  end
   $U^m \leftarrow U_h^m + \tilde{U}^m$  ▷ (3.21d)
end
 $U_h^\infty \leftarrow U_h^m$  ▷ Set converged solution

```

---

### 4. Design of the stabilization parameters: Fourier analysis.

In section 3, we have used (3.12) to propose a computable approximation to (3.7)

380 that can be introduced in (3.4) to define the (stabilized) discrete problem. The basic  
 381 assumption is that, if this approximation is reasonable, the finite element solution  
 382 of this problem should be closer to the component of the solution of the continuous  
 383 problem contained in the finite element space than the Galerkin approximation is.  
 384 The hope is that this improvement results in a stable method.

385 Since the matrix of stabilized parameters  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$  is the only part of the formulation  
 386 that remains undetermined, our task now reduces to finding suitable approximations  
 387 for each of its entries (i.e., the stabilization parameters). We will show in this section  
 388 how the expressions for the stabilization parameters that work for the incompressible  
 389 Navier-Stokes system can be generalized to the equations we are interested in,  
 390 preserving the stability of the discrete system.

391 To achieve this, it is clear that we must somehow relate  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$  to the original differ-  
 392 ential operators that define the problem at hand which it purports to approximate. In  
 393 order to do so, we rely on a heuristic argument based on comparing the norms of  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$   
 394 to that of the Fourier-transformed versions of the original operators. This approach  
 395 was first published in [11] for the incompressible Navier-Stokes equations and later  
 396 applied and further developed to several other systems [12, 2, 26].

397 We begin by defining suitable inner products in the space of forcing terms,  $\mathcal{X}'$ :

$$398 \quad (4.1) \quad (F, G)_\Lambda = F^\dagger \Lambda G,$$

399 where the  $\dagger$  symbol indicates the conjugate transpose and where  $\Lambda$  is a positive definite  
 400 matrix that is introduced to make the inner product dimensionally well-defined. It is  
 401 enough to take (for  $d = 3$ )

$$402 \quad (4.2) \quad \Lambda = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \lambda \end{bmatrix},$$

403 where  $\lambda$  is a scaling factor with units of velocity squared, to achieve this. Its particular  
 404 definition will be given later. This inner product defines the norm  $|\bullet|_\Lambda := (\bullet, \bullet)_\Lambda^{1/2}$ . It  
 405 is straightforward to check that the inner product  $(\bullet, \bullet)_{\Lambda^{-1}}$  in  $\mathcal{X}$  (with its associated  
 406 norm  $|\bullet|_{\Lambda^{-1}}$ ) is also dimensionally consistent. Finally, we may define the functional  
 407 norm

$$408 \quad (4.3) \quad \|\bullet\|_{L^2_\Lambda(K)} := \left( \int_K |\bullet|_\Lambda^2 d\Omega \right)^{1/2},$$

409 with  $\|\bullet\|_{L^2_{\Lambda^{-1}}(K)}$  defined analogously.

410 The argument to *motivate* the design of the stabilization parameters, adapted  
 411 from [12] (see also [26]), goes as follows. There holds

$$412 \quad \|\tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{L}\tilde{U}]\|_{L^2_\Lambda(K)}^2 \approx \|\tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{L}\tilde{U}]\|_{L^2_\Lambda(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 = \|\widehat{\tilde{\Pi}[\mathcal{L}\tilde{U}]}\|_{L^2_\Lambda(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 = \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\widehat{\mathcal{L}\tilde{U}}|_\Lambda^2 d\mathbf{k}$$

$$413 \quad (4.4) \quad \leq \int_{\mathbb{R}^d} |\widehat{\mathcal{L}}|_\Lambda^2 |\widehat{\tilde{U}}|_{\Lambda^{-1}}^2 d\mathbf{k} = |\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2 \|\tilde{U}\|_{L^2_{\Lambda^{-1}}(\mathbb{R}^d)}^2 \approx |\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2 \|\tilde{U}\|_{L^2_{\Lambda^{-1}}(K)}^2,$$

414 where  $\mathbf{k}$  is the dimensionless  $h$ -normalized wave number. The first (strict) equality  
 415 stems from Plancherel's theorem, while the approximations in the first and second  
 416 line are the result of neglecting the value of the SGSs (and of their derivatives) on the

417 element boundary (cf. Assumption A.2). The first equality in the second line is due  
 418 to the mean value theorem, which predicts the existence of a  $\mathbf{k}_0$  which, assuming the  
 419 SGSs are dominated by large wave numbers, must be  $|\mathbf{k}_0| \gtrsim 1$ .

420 So, if we are to approximate  $\mathcal{L}^{-1}$  on each element  $K$  by a matrix  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$ , a possible  
 421 design restriction could be that the approximate version of the inequality in (4.4)  
 422 holds. This is automatically achieved if one imposes that

$$423 \quad (4.5) \quad |\boldsymbol{\tau}_K^{-1}|_\Lambda^2 \leq |\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2.$$

424 In particular, we take  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K$  so that the equality holds. A convenient way to impose such  
 425 condition is to consider the set of eigenvalues of the generalized eigenvalue problem  
 426 given, for any matrix  $\mathbf{A}$ , by  $\text{spec}_{\Lambda^{-1}}(\mathbf{A}) = \{\lambda : \mathbf{A}\mathbf{x} = \lambda\Lambda^{-1}\mathbf{x}\}$ . It can be shown that  
 427 (4.5) can be achieved by imposing that the spectral radius of  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K^{-1}\Lambda\boldsymbol{\tau}_K^{-1}$  be equal to  
 428 that of  $\widehat{\mathcal{L}}^\dagger(\mathbf{k}_0)\Lambda\widehat{\mathcal{L}}(\mathbf{k}_0)$ , where the definition of spectral radius in this context is given  
 429 by  $\rho_{\Lambda^{-1}}(\mathbf{A}) := \max(\text{spec}_{\Lambda^{-1}}(\mathbf{A}))$ .

430 Now comes a step that is not completely systematic: we are looking for a decom-  
 431 position of the differential operator in (2.5) that leads to a simplified version of (4.5).  
 432 This decomposition is not unique and may require a few iterations, even though it  
 433 can be motivated by previous similar decompositions and the physics of the problem  
 434 (decompose the matrices into similar physical effects). Here we propose the following:

$$435 \quad (4.6) \quad \mathcal{L}W = (\mathcal{L}_\nu + \mathcal{L}_c + \mathcal{L}_b + \mathcal{L}_\sigma + \mathcal{L}_{\nabla\alpha})W,$$

436 with

$$437 \quad (4.7) \quad \mathcal{L}_\nu W := -\partial_i(\mathbf{K}_{ij}\partial_j W),$$

$$438 \quad (4.8) \quad \mathcal{L}_c W := \mathbf{A}_{v,i}\partial_i W,$$

$$439 \quad (4.9) \quad \mathcal{L}_b W := \mathbf{A}_{b,i}\partial_i W,$$

$$440 \quad (4.10) \quad \mathcal{L}_\sigma W := \mathbf{S}_\sigma W,$$

$$441 \quad (4.11) \quad \mathcal{L}_{\nabla\alpha} W := \mathbf{S}_{\nabla\alpha} W,$$

442 where

$$443 \quad (4.12) \quad \mathbf{A}_{v,i}(\mathbf{w}) = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} w_i & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & w_i & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & w_i & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \mathbf{A}_{b,i} = \alpha \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta_{i1} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta_{i2} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \delta_{i3} \\ \delta_{i1} & \delta_{i2} & \delta_{i3} & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$444 \quad (4.13) \quad \mathbf{S}_{\nabla\alpha} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ \partial_1\alpha & \partial_2\alpha & \partial_3\alpha & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

445 and where  $\mathbf{S}_\sigma = \mathbf{S} - \mathbf{S}_{\nabla\alpha}$ . Note that different physical parameters appear in different  
 446 operators and that different-order derivatives do as well.

447 Now, due to the complexity of the operator  $\mathcal{L}$ , instead of (4.5), we will consider

$$448 \quad (4.14) \quad \boldsymbol{\tau}_K^{-1} = \boldsymbol{\tau}_\nu^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\tau}_c^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\tau}_b^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\tau}_\sigma^{-1} + \boldsymbol{\tau}_{\nabla\alpha}^{-1}.$$

449 For simplicity, we take  $\boldsymbol{\tau}_K = \text{diag}(\tau_1, \tau_1, \tau_1, \tau_2)$  (for  $d = 3$ ) and every matrix on the  
 450 right-hand side of (4.14) is taken of the same form. Every approximate operator is  
 451 thus defined by a pair of (positive) eigenvalues, whose value is fixed by the following

452 design criterion: their value should be taken as the minimum still ensuring that the  
 453 spectral radius of the approximate operator is as large as that of its corresponding  
 454 Fourier-transformed differential operator, and such that the kernel of the former is  
 455 contained in that of the latter. Note that this condition guarantees that

$$456 \quad (4.15) \quad |\tau_K^{-1}|_\Lambda^2 \leq |\tau_\nu^{-1}|_\Lambda^2 + |\tau_c^{-1}|_\Lambda^2 + |\tau_b^{-1}|_\Lambda^2 + |\tau_\sigma^{-1}|_\Lambda^2 + |\tau_{\nabla\alpha}^{-1}|_\Lambda^2$$

$$457 \quad (4.16) \quad = |\hat{\mathcal{L}}_\nu(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2 + |\hat{\mathcal{L}}_c(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2 + |\hat{\mathcal{L}}_b(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2 + |\hat{\mathcal{L}}_\sigma(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2 + |\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\nabla\alpha}(\mathbf{k}_0)|_\Lambda^2$$

458 which, while not strictly implying (4.5), reduces to it in the limit when any of the  
 459 operators becomes dominant. The same design criterion has been successfully ap-  
 460 plied to other problems [26]. The expression of the Fourier-transformed operators is  
 461 (summation over repeated indices is implied)

$$462 \quad (4.17) \quad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_\nu(\mathbf{k}_0) \approx \frac{k_{0,i}k_{0,j}}{h^2} \mathbf{K}_{ij},$$

$$463 \quad (4.18) \quad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_c(\mathbf{k}_0) \approx i \frac{k_{0,i}}{h} \mathbf{A}_{v,i},$$

$$464 \quad (4.19) \quad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_b(\mathbf{k}_0) \approx i \frac{k_{0,i}}{h} \mathbf{A}_{b,i},$$

$$465 \quad (4.20) \quad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_\sigma(\mathbf{k}_0) \approx \mathbf{S}_\sigma,$$

$$466 \quad (4.21) \quad \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{\nabla\alpha}(\mathbf{k}_0) \approx \mathbf{S}_{\nabla\alpha},$$

467 where  $i$  denotes the imaginary unit and where we have used the fact that the fluid  
 468 volume fraction field  $\alpha$  (and likewise  $\nabla\alpha$ ) is slowly varying compared to the SGSs, so  
 469 it may be taken as a constant in the Fourier transform.

470 Using these definitions and applying the design criteria above yields the following  
 471 stabilization parameters:

$$472 \quad (4.22) \quad \begin{aligned} \tau_{\nu,1}^{-1} &= \frac{4}{3} \alpha \nu \frac{|\mathbf{k}_0|}{h^2}, & \tau_{\nu,2}^{-1} &= 0, \\ \tau_{c,1}^{-1} &= \alpha \frac{\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{k}_0}{h}, & \tau_{c,2}^{-1} &= 0, \\ \tau_{b,1}^{-1} &= \alpha \frac{|\mathbf{k}_0|}{h} \sqrt{\lambda}, & \tau_{b,2}^{-1} &= \alpha \frac{|\mathbf{k}_0|}{h} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\lambda}}, \\ \tau_{\sigma,1}^{-1} &= \rho \Lambda^{-1}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}), & \tau_{\sigma,2}^{-1} &= \varepsilon, \\ \tau_{\nabla\alpha,1}^{-1} &= \sqrt{\lambda} |\nabla\alpha|, & \tau_{\nabla\alpha,2}^{-1} &= 0. \end{aligned}$$

473 Now, we must specify an expression for the scaling parameter  $\lambda$  which, as we have  
 474 seen, has the units of a velocity squared. A convenient choice is to take

$$475 \quad (4.23) \quad \lambda = \frac{h^2}{|\mathbf{k}_0|^2 \tau_{1,\text{NS}}^2},$$

476 where  $\tau_{1,\text{NS}}$  corresponds to the usual expression for  $\tau_1$  for the Navier-Stokes equa-  
 477 tions [10], so as to recover the expected expression for  $\tau_1$  at  $\alpha \equiv 1$  (see (4.27) below).  
 478 Note that, in the latter case, the contribution  $\tau_{b,1}^{-1}$  becomes equal to the LHS of (4.14)  
 479 which, if taken literally, leads to a nonsensical equation where  $\tau_1$  cancels out. This  
 480 should be interpreted as meaning that this contribution *has the same asymptotic be-*  
 481 *havior* as the full  $\tau_1$ . Therefore, it is superfluous to include it as its effect will be

482 absorbed in the algorithmic constants. In fact, neglecting the contribution to  $\tau_1$  of  
 483 the mass conservation equation is also done in [11] using a different reasoning. For  
 484 similar reasons, we will ignore the coefficient  $4/3$  in the expression of  $\tau_{\nu,1}^{-1}$ .

485 Furthermore, since  $\alpha$  is assumed to be slowly varying over the element, it will be  
 486 taken as a constant over each element and, in particular, we will take it to be equal to  
 487 the maximum value it attains in it. Similarly, we will take the modulus of its gradient  
 488 to be constant over the element and equal to its maximum value.

489 With these simplifications, the expression for the both stabilization parameters  
 490 are given by

$$491 \quad (4.24) \quad \tau_1 = \left( C_\alpha \tau_{1,NS}^{-1} + \rho_{\Lambda^{-1}}(\boldsymbol{\sigma}) \right)^{-1},$$

$$492 \quad (4.25) \quad \tau_2 = \frac{h^2}{c_1 \alpha \tau_{1,NS} + \varepsilon h^2},$$

493 where

$$494 \quad (4.26) \quad C_\alpha := \alpha + \frac{h}{|\mathbf{k}_0|} |\nabla \alpha|,$$

$$495 \quad (4.27) \quad \tau_{1,NS} := \left( c_1 \frac{\nu}{h^2} + c_2 \frac{|\mathbf{w}|}{h} \right)^{-1},$$

496 and where  $c_1 := |\mathbf{k}_0|^2$ ,  $c_2 := |\mathbf{k}_0 \cos \phi|$ ,  $\phi$  being the angle between  $\mathbf{k}_0$  and  $\mathbf{w}$ , can be  
 497 treated as numerical parameters (see, e.g., [10, 12]). Note that the expressions in  
 498 (4.27) reduce to that corresponding to the stationary Navier-Stokes equations when  
 499  $\alpha \equiv 1$  [10], which supports the choice made in defining the length scale  $\lambda$ . The second  
 500 term in (4.25) is only strictly necessary for large of  $\varepsilon$  (see (5.10) below).

501 Moreover, note that the second term in the definition of  $C_\alpha$  is in fact unnecessary  
 502 if

$$503 \quad (4.28) \quad \frac{h}{|\mathbf{k}_0|} |\nabla \alpha| \lesssim \frac{h}{|\mathbf{k}_0|} \frac{\alpha}{h} \sim \alpha.$$

504 That is, if the porosity changes are well resolved by the mesh. We will assume this  
 505 to hold in the following, leaving issues related to steep porosity gradients to future  
 506 work. We will therefore neglect the above-mentioned contribution in what follows.

507 It is not clear from the analysis above how one must evaluate the varying param-  
 508 eters  $\alpha, \mathbf{w}$  since, given that we are solely interested in their asymptotic properties as  
 509 the physical parameters take extreme values, it is only important that their values  
 510 remain of the order of that of the varying fields they represent within each elemental  
 511 domain. A common criterion is to evaluate the velocity modulus to its elemental  
 512 maximum (a straightforward way to avoid setting it to zero when the velocity does  
 513 not exactly vanish within the element). For simplicity, we will take this route in the  
 514 theoretical considerations that follow, as well as evaluating  $\alpha$  to its elemental mini-  
 515 mum. However, while the optimization problem is trivial for some types of elements  
 516 (e.g., linear elements), it can be cumbersome for others. Thus, in practice, the sta-  
 517 bilization parameters can be taken as variable within the elements without altering  
 518 their performance. This is what we have done in all the simulations presented.

## 519 **5. Stability and convergence for the linearized problem and the ASGS** 520 **method.**

521 In this section we analyze the stabilization brought about by the method in a simplified

522 setting. The idea is to highlight why the generalization of the stabilization parameters  
 523 given by (4.24) and (4.25) with respect to the case  $\alpha \equiv 1$  (standard Navier-Stokes)  
 524 still provides the necessary stability in the generic case. This stability is proved in a  
 525 slightly weaker norm when  $\alpha \neq 1$ , although the numerical tests presented in section 7  
 526 indicate that, in practice, the accuracy of the method does not significantly deteriorate  
 527 in this case.

528 We consider the ASGS algorithm with a uniform viscosity  $\nu$ . For simplicity, we  
 529 also consider  $\boldsymbol{\sigma} = \sigma \mathbf{1}_3$  to be uniform. Under these conditions, and taking into account  
 530 that we consider the porosity field well-resolved by the mesh in the sense of (4.28),  
 531 we have

$$532 \quad (5.1) \quad \tau_1 = \frac{1}{\alpha_K \tau_{1,NS}^{-1} + \sigma},$$

$$533 \quad (5.2) \quad \tau_2 = \frac{h^2}{c_1 \alpha_K \tau_{1,NS}},$$

534 where  $\alpha_K$  is some representative value of the porosity field within element  $K$ , such  
 535 that  $\alpha_{0,K} \leq \alpha_K \leq \alpha_{\infty,K}$ , where we define  $\alpha_{0,K} > 0$  and  $\alpha_{\infty,K}$  to be the infimum and  
 536 the supremum of  $\alpha|_K$ . As with the convective velocity norm in the definition of  $\tau_{1,NS}$ ,  
 537 we will take  $\alpha_K = \alpha_{\infty,K}$ , which is also the natural choice according to the analysis  
 538 presented below, as it yields to simplified estimates.

539 First, let us look at the stability of the Galerkin method for the linearized problem.  
 540 Let us begin by expressing its associated bilinear form in terms of the velocity and  
 541 pressure unknowns  $\mathbf{u}_h$  and  $p_h$  as well as a given convective field  $\mathbf{a}$ :

$$542 \quad B(\mathbf{a}, U_h, V_h) = (\mathbf{v}_h, \alpha \mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) + 2(\nabla \mathbf{v}_h, \alpha \nu \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) \\ 543 \quad (5.3) \quad + (\mathbf{v}_h, \alpha \nabla p_h) + (\mathbf{v}_h, \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{u}_h) + (q_h, \varepsilon p_h) + (q_h, \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u}_h)).$$

544 Using the finite element unknown as the test function and assuming  $\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{a}) = 0$  and  
 545  $\mathbf{u}_h = \mathbf{0}$  on  $\partial\Omega$ , we obtain

$$546 \quad (5.4) \quad B(\mathbf{a}, U_h, U_h) = 2\nu \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|^2 + \|\sigma^{1/2} \mathbf{u}_h\|^2 + \varepsilon \|p_h\|^2,$$

547 which generalizes the stability estimate obtained for the Galerkin method for the  
 548 standard Navier-Stokes equations. Note that, for very small viscosities or fluid volume  
 549 fractions, the first term above will provide almost no control over the gradient of the  
 550 velocity, leading to oscillations on the solution. This is what happens in the standard  
 551 case, but here the problem is aggravated for small porosities.

552 Let us now study the stability of the stabilized bilinear form. We follow the  
 553 analogous procedure to that in [10]:

$$554 \quad B_S(\mathbf{a}, U_h, U_h) = B(\mathbf{a}, U_h, U_h) - \sum_K \langle \mathcal{L}^* V_h, \boldsymbol{\tau} \mathcal{L} U_h \rangle \\ 555 \quad = 2\nu \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|^2 + \|\sigma^{1/2} \mathbf{u}_h\|^2 + \varepsilon \|p_h\|^2 \\ 556 \quad + \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} \alpha X(U_h) \right\|_h^2 - \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} (2\nabla \cdot (\alpha \nu \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) - \boldsymbol{\sigma} \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h^2 \\ 557 \quad (5.5) \quad + \left\| \tau_2^{1/2} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h^2 - \varepsilon^2 \left\| \tau_2^{1/2} p_h \right\|_h^2,$$

558 where  $\|\bullet\|_h := \sum_K \|\bullet\|_{L^2(K)}$  and  $X(U_h) := \mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{u}_h + \nabla p_h$ . Note that, strictly speaking,  
559 one has the term  $\frac{1}{\alpha} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{a}) \mathbf{v}_h$  in the expansion of  $\mathcal{L}^* V_h$ . The inclusion of such term  
560 generates a number of crossed terms in (5.5) that actually harm stability. This could  
561 be solved by adding an analogous term on the original equation to reestablish that  
562 symmetry. By doing this, the strong form of the problem would not be changed, and  
563 one would have none of the undesirable crossed terms. This was the case analyzed  
564 in [10], where it is mentioned that such a formulation helps to make the problem  
565 well posed, especially for large values of  $\varepsilon$ . Here, we have opted for simplifying the  
566 formulation by removing the aforementioned term from  $\mathcal{L}^* V_h$ , leading to a simpler  
567 formulation with similar stability properties. Given that our focus is on small values  
568 of the compressibility, we do not miss out much in terms of the numerical advantages  
569 of the alternative formulation.

570 Let us bound the negative term in the second line of (5.5):

$$\begin{aligned}
571 & - \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} (2 \nabla \cdot (\alpha \nu \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) - \sigma \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h^2 \\
572 & = - \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} 2 \nabla \cdot (\alpha \nu \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h^2 - \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} \sigma \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_h^2 \\
573 & \quad + 2 (2 \tau_1 \nabla \cdot (\nu \alpha \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h), \sigma \mathbf{u}_h)_h \\
574 & \geq \sum_K \left\{ -4 \frac{C_{\text{inv}}^2}{h^2} \nu^2 \tau_1 \alpha_K \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 - \tau_1 \sigma^2 \left\| \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 \right. \\
575 \quad & \left. - \frac{4}{\xi} \nu \sigma \tau_1 \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 - \frac{\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2}{h^2} \nu \sigma \tau_1 \alpha_K \left\| \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 \right\},
\end{aligned}
\tag{5.6}$$

576 where the last two terms have been bounded by the term on the third line, as shown  
577 next:

$$\begin{aligned}
578 & 2 (2 \tau_1 \nabla \cdot (\nu \alpha \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h), \sigma \mathbf{u}_h)_h \\
579 & = 2 (2 \nu^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2} \frac{\tau_1^{1/2}}{\alpha_K} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h), \nu^{1/2} \alpha_K^{1/2} \tau_1^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2} \mathbf{u}_h)_h \\
580 & \geq -2 \left\| 2 \nu^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2} \frac{\tau_1^{1/2}}{\alpha_K} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h \left\| \nu^{1/2} \alpha_K^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2} \tau_1^{1/2} \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_h \\
581 & \geq -\frac{h^2}{\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2} \left\| 2 \nu^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2} \frac{\tau_1^{1/2}}{\alpha_K} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h^2 - \frac{\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2}{h^2} \left\| \nu^{1/2} \alpha_K^{1/2} \sigma^{1/2} \tau_1^{1/2} \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_h^2 \\
582 \quad & \geq \sum_K \left\{ -\frac{4}{\xi} \nu \sigma \tau_1 \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 - \frac{\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2}{h^2} \nu \sigma \tau_1 \alpha_K \left\| \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 \right\},
\end{aligned}
\tag{5.7}$$

583 where we have used the inequality  $-2xy \geq -\frac{1}{\xi} x^2 - \xi y^2$ , valid for any real numbers  
584  $x, y, \xi$ , with  $\xi > 0$ , as well as the following inverse estimate, which guarantees the  
585 existence of a constant  $C_{\text{inv}}$  independent of the mesh size such that

$$586 \quad (5.8) \quad \left\| \psi_h \right\|_{W_p^1(K)} \leq C_{\text{inv}} h^{l-m+d/p-d/q} \left\| \psi_h \right\|_{W_q^m(K)},$$



587 which is valid for  $0 \leq m \leq l$  and  $1 \leq p, q \leq \infty$  and any function  $\psi_h$  belonging to  
588 a finite-dimensional subspace of  $H^l(K)$ , under the assumption that the sequence of  
589 mesh refinements is non-degenerate (see, e.g., [4]).

590 Now, using (5.6) in (5.5) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned}
591 \quad B_S(\mathbf{a}, U_h, U_h) &\geq \sum_K \left\{ \varepsilon(1 - \varepsilon\tau_2) \|p_h\|_K^2 \right. \\
592 &\quad + \nu\tau_1 \left( \frac{2}{\tau_1} - 4C_{\text{inv}}^2 \alpha_K \frac{\nu}{h^2} - \frac{4}{\xi} \sigma \right) \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2 \\
593 &\quad + \sigma\tau_1 \left( \frac{1}{\tau_1} - \sigma - \xi C_{\text{inv}}^2 \alpha_K \frac{\nu}{h^2} \right) \|\mathbf{u}_h\|_K^2 \\
594 \quad (5.9) &\quad \left. + \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} \alpha X(U_h) \right\|_K^2 + \left\| \tau_2^{1/2} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_K^2 \right\}.
\end{aligned}$$

595 We have mentioned that  $\varepsilon$  must be small. In particular, we will require that

$$596 \quad (5.10) \quad \varepsilon < c_1 \inf_K \left\{ \frac{\alpha_K^2 \tau_{1,K}}{h^2} \right\}.$$

597 From (5.10), we have that the coefficient of the norm of the pressure term is

$$598 \quad (5.11) \quad \varepsilon(1 - \varepsilon\tau_2) > C\varepsilon,$$

599 with  $C > 0$ , so as to make sure that the compressibility term does not switch, from  
600 adding, to removing stability. Using (4.24), the coefficient of  $\left\| \alpha^{1/2} \Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_K^2$  in (5.9)  
601 can be expanded into

$$602 \quad (5.12) \quad \nu\tau_1 \left( \alpha_K \left( 2 - 4 \frac{C_{\text{inv}}^2}{c_1} \right) \frac{c_1 \nu}{h^2} + 2\alpha_K \frac{c_2 |\mathbf{w}|_{\infty, K}}{h} + 2 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\xi} \right) \sigma \right) \geq C\nu,$$

603 if we take

$$604 \quad (5.13) \quad C = \min \left\{ 2 - 4 \frac{C_{\text{inv}}^2}{c_1}, 2 \left( 1 - \frac{2}{\xi} \right) \right\}.$$

605 On the other hand, the coefficient of  $\|\mathbf{u}_h\|_K^2$  becomes

$$606 \quad (5.14) \quad \alpha_K \tau_1 \sigma \left( \left( 1 - \frac{\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2}{c_1} \right) \frac{c_1 \nu}{h^2} + \frac{c_2 |\mathbf{w}|_{\infty, K}}{h} \right) \geq C \tilde{\sigma}_\alpha,$$

607 where

$$608 \quad (5.15) \quad \tilde{\sigma}_\alpha := \frac{\tau_{\text{NS}}^{-1} \sigma}{\tau_{\text{NS}}^{-1} + \sigma / \alpha_K},$$

609 if we take

$$610 \quad (5.16) \quad C = 1 - \frac{\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2}{c_1}.$$

611 In both cases it can be guaranteed that  $C > 0$  by taking  $\xi > 2$  if the condition

$$612 \quad (5.17) \quad c_1 > 2\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2.$$

613 is met.

614 *Remark 5.1.* Condition (5.17) implies that the optimal value of  $c_1$  depends on  
615 the element types involved through the inverse estimate constant. In particular, for  
616 elements of the same polynomial order  $k$  for the velocity and the pressure, taking  
617  $c_1 = 4k^4, c_2 = 2k^2$  turns out to be effective [14, 31], and was the choice made in  
618 all the numerical experiments presented below. This scaling is consistent with the  
619 quadratic dependence of  $C_{\text{inv}}$  on the polynomial order, which is known to grow as  $k^2$   
620 (see [14] for details). It is also consistent with the interpretation given above of  $c_1$   
621 as the square of the characteristic wave number of the oscillations produced by the  
622 *unresolved* part of the solution in terms of their contribution to  $|\mathcal{L}U|_{\Lambda}^2$ ; see (4.4).

623 We have just shown that the following stability bound holds for the stabilized  
624 method:

625 **LEMMA 5.2.** *Assume that  $\tau_1$  is defined as in (4.24) and that  $c_1 > 2\xi C_{\text{inv}}^2$ , with*  
626  *$\xi > 2$ . Then there exists a positive constant  $C$  such that for any  $U_h = [\mathbf{u}_h; p_h] \in \mathcal{X}_h$*   
627 *it holds that*

$$628 \quad (5.18) \quad B_S(\mathbf{a}, U_h, U_h) \geq C \|U_h\|^2,$$

629 where  
630 (5.19)

$$630 \quad \|U_h\| := \left( \nu \left\| \alpha^{1/2} \Pi \nabla \mathbf{u}_h \right\|^2 + \left\| \tilde{\sigma}_\alpha^{1/2} \mathbf{u}_h \right\|^2 + \varepsilon \|p_h\|^2 + \left\| \tau_1^{1/2} \alpha X(U_h) \right\|_h^2 + \left\| \tau_2^{1/2} \nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{u}_h) \right\|_h^2 \right)^{1/2},$$

631 with  $\tilde{\sigma}_\alpha$  given in (5.15).

632 *Remark 5.3.* Note that the quantity  $\tilde{\sigma}_\alpha$  differs from the quantity  $\tilde{\sigma}$  defined in [10]  
633 simply by the division of  $\sigma$  by  $\alpha_K$  in the denominator. This seems to indicate a  
634 weaker control on  $\mathbf{u}_h$  for large reaction terms when  $\alpha_K$  is simultaneously very small.  
635 It turns out this not to be the case, as the asymptotic analysis presented below shows  
636 (see subsection 6.3) and the numerical tests corroborate.

637 It is also straightforward to follow an analogous process to that used in the proof  
638 of Lemma 2 in [10] to prove a certain continuity of the bilinear form  $B_S$ . In particular,  
639 it is possible to show that

640 **LEMMA 5.4.** *Assume that  $\tau_1, \tau_2$  are defined as in (4.24) and (4.25) and that all the*  
641 *algorithmic constants involved are positive. Assume also that the field  $\alpha \mathbf{a}$  is (weakly)*  
642 *divergence-free and  $\nabla \alpha$  is uniformly bounded in  $\Omega$ . Then, there exist a positive con-*  
643 *stant  $C$ , such that*

$$644 \quad (5.20) \quad B_S(\mathbf{a}, U_h, U_h) \leq C \left( \left\| \frac{\tau_2^{1/2}}{h} \mathbf{u}_h \right\|_h + \left\| \frac{\tau_1^{1/2}}{h} p_h \right\|_h \right) \|V_h\|,$$

645 for all  $U_h, V_h \in \mathcal{X}_h$ .

646 Using Lemma 5.2 and the modified version of Lemma 5.4, and assuming that the  
647 solution of the linearized problem is sufficiently smooth, convergence follows as in [10]:

648 **THEOREM 5.5.** *Let  $U$  be the exact solution of the linearized problem corresponding*  
649 *to (3.21a), where  $\mathbf{u}^{m-1}$  is replaced by a given  $\mathbf{a}$  such that  $\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{a}) = 0$  and where*  
650  *$\boldsymbol{\pi}_h^m = \mathbf{0}$  (ASGS method). Then, under the assumptions of Lemmas 5.2 and 5.4, there*  
651 *exists a positive constant  $C$ , such that*

$$652 \quad (5.21) \quad \|E_h\| \leq C \sum_K \frac{1}{h_K} \left( \tau_{2,K}^{1/2} E_{\text{int},K}(\mathbf{u}) + \tau_{1,K}^{1/2} E_{\text{int},K}(p) \right),$$

653 where  $E_h := U - U_h$  and where the interpolation error is defined as

$$654 \quad (5.22) \quad E_{\text{int},K}(\psi) := h_K^{k_\psi+1} \|\psi\|_{H^{k_\psi+1}(K)},$$

655 where  $\psi$  is the field being interpolated and  $k_\psi$  the corresponding polynomial order of  
656 the interpolation.

657 **6. Robustness of the formulation with respect to changes in the phys-**  
658 **ical parameters.** Let us investigate how our convergence results are affected when  
659 the physical parameters take extreme values. We begin by writing down a dimension-  
660 less version of the momentum conservation equation:

$$661 \quad (6.1) \quad Re \alpha^* \mathbf{u}^* \cdot \nabla^* \mathbf{u}^* - 2 \nabla^* \cdot (\alpha^* \overset{\text{DS}}{\Pi} \nabla^* \mathbf{u}^*) + (1 + Re + Da) \alpha^* \nabla^* p^* + Da \mathbf{u}^* = \mathbf{f}^*,$$

662 with

$$663 \quad (6.2) \quad Re = \frac{UL}{\nu}, \quad Da = \frac{\sigma L^2}{\alpha_\infty \nu},$$

664 where  $L$ ,  $U$ , are the characteristic length and velocity scales, and  $\alpha_\infty > 0$  is the  
665 supremum of the porosity field in the domain of interest. These scales are used in  
666 (6.1) to define the dimensionless counterparts of the various variables and differential  
667 operators:  $\mathbf{u} = U \mathbf{u}^*$ ,  $\alpha = \alpha_\infty \alpha^*$ ,  $\nabla = L^{-1} \nabla^*$  and  $\mathbf{f} = L^2 / (\alpha_\infty \nu U) \mathbf{f}^*$ . For the  
668 pressure, we have used a scaling that reflects our implicit assumption of the pressure  
669 gradient term being always of relevance. It is based on taking  $p = P p^*$ , with

$$670 \quad (6.3) \quad P = (1 + Re + Da) \frac{U \nu}{L}.$$

671 Clearly, such a scaling is not universally valid for all the solutions of (2.1) and (2.2)  
672 (e.g., at sufficiently low Reynolds numbers, one can pick the force term to achieve a  
673 null pressure field), but is valid in most flows of interest.

674 Equation (6.1) is particularly convenient for analyzing the relative weight of the  
675 various terms involved, given by their respective coefficients. In particular, we will  
676 study next the robustness of the convergence result (5.21) by considering different  
677 combinations of limiting values for  $Re$  and  $Da$ . For that, note the following asymptotic  
678 dependencies (as  $h \rightarrow 0$ ):

$$679 \quad (6.4) \quad \begin{aligned} \tau_1 &\sim \frac{1}{\alpha_K (1 + Re_h + Da_h)} \frac{h^2}{\nu}, \\ \tau_2 &\sim \frac{1 + Re_h}{\alpha_K} \nu, \\ \tilde{\sigma}_\alpha &\sim \frac{(1 + Re_h) Da_h}{1 + Re_h + Da_h} \frac{\nu}{h^2}, \end{aligned}$$

680 where the  $h$  subindices refer to the fact that the element is considered the *domain of*  
681 *interest* (i.e.,  $L = h$ ).

682 **6.1. Dominant viscous diffusion ( $Re_h, Da_h \rightarrow 0$ ).**

683 In this case we have that

$$684 \quad \tau_1 \sim \frac{h^2}{\alpha_K \nu},$$

685

$$\tau_2 \sim \frac{\nu}{\alpha_K},$$

686

$$\tilde{\sigma}_{\alpha_K} \sim Da_h \frac{\nu}{h^2}.$$

687 With these estimates, (5.21) yields

$$688 \quad (6.5) \quad \|\Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{e}_u\| + \frac{1}{\nu} h \|\nabla e_p\|_h + \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \|\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{e}_u)\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h} + \frac{1}{\nu} \mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p) \right).$$

689 Note that this result leads to the same drop in convergence order for the pressure  
 690 as compared to the velocity that occurs in the conventional Navier-Stokes equations.  
 691 The error is inversely proportional to  $\alpha_0$ , so the estimate deteriorates as  $\alpha_0$  decreases,  
 692 even though the third term on the LHS partially balances this deterioration. We will  
 693 see that this linear drop in accuracy with decreasing minimal porosity is ubiquitous  
 694 over the space of physical parameters. This is because the terms involving derivatives  
 695 of the velocity are multiplied by the porosity in the continuous problem, which means  
 696 that any inaccuracies in the velocity are weighted by the porosity, leading to (inversely  
 697 proportional) larger errors in regions with smaller porosities. This is also manifested  
 698 in the presence of  $\alpha$  in the working norm of the problem.

699 It is interesting to examine what this result implies in terms of the control attained  
 700 in practice for specific terms on the left-hand-side of (6.5). In particular, let us focus  
 701 on the equal-order interpolation for the velocity and for the pressure, which is the case  
 702 considered in the numerical experiments. Let  $U$  and  $P$  be the velocity and pressure  
 703 characteristic values, such that  $\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u}) = U \mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}^*(\mathbf{u})$  and  $\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p) = P \mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}^*(p)$ , where  
 704 the asterisks denote dimensionless interpolation errors. Let us also define  $\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}^* :=$   
 705  $\max \{ \mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}^*(\mathbf{u}), \mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}^*(p) \}$ .

706 In these conditions, and assuming that the scaling for the pressure given by (6.3)  
 707 holds, (6.5) implies that

$$708 \quad (6.6) \quad \|\Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{e}_u\| \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( 1 + \frac{Ph}{U\nu} \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( 1 + \frac{h}{L} \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h},$$

709 where in the second estimate is obtained from  $P \sim U\nu/L$  as  $Re, Da \rightarrow 0$ . This result  
 710 is clearly optimal. Similarly, we have that

$$711 \quad (6.7) \quad \|\nabla e_p\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( \frac{U\nu}{h} + 1 \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p)}{h} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( \frac{L}{h} + 1 \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p)}{h},$$

712 which shows why the pressure convergence rate will in general be one order below  
 713 that of the velocity when viscosity is important.

## 714 6.2. Dominant convection ( $Re_h \rightarrow \infty$ ).

715 In this case, we have the following estimates:

$$716 \quad \tau_1 \sim \frac{h}{\alpha \|\mathbf{a}\|_{\infty, K}},$$

$$717 \quad \tau_2 \sim \frac{h \|\mathbf{a}\|_{\infty, K}}{\alpha},$$

$$718 \quad \tilde{\sigma}_\alpha \sim Da_h \frac{\nu}{h^2},$$

719 from which (5.21) yields

$$720 \quad (6.8) \quad \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty} \|\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{e}_u + \nabla e_p\|_h + \|\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{e}_u)\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h} + \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p)}{h} \right),$$

721 where  $\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty$  is the supremum of  $\|\mathbf{a}\|$  over  $\Omega$ . Here again the error control is very  
 722 similar to that one obtains for the regular Navier-Stokes equations as shown in [10].  
 723 For equal-order interpolations, we can use  $P \sim U^2$  as  $Re \rightarrow \infty$  to derive the following  
 724 estimate:

$$725 \quad (6.9) \quad \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty} \|\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{e}_u + \nabla e_p\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( U + \frac{P}{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty} \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}^*}{h},$$

726 which is optimal whenever the term  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{e}_u + \nabla e_p$  is of the same order as any of its  
 727 two terms separately:

**Dominant  $\mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{e}_u$ .**

$$728 \quad (6.10) \quad \left\| \frac{1}{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty} \mathbf{a} \cdot \nabla \mathbf{e}_u \right\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( 1 + \frac{U}{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty} \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h}.$$

**Dominant  $\nabla e_p$ .**

$$729 \quad (6.11) \quad \|\nabla e_p\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( \frac{\|\mathbf{a}\|_\infty}{\sqrt{P}} + 1 \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p)}{h} \sim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p)}{h}.$$

### 730 **6.3. Dominant reaction ( $Da_h \rightarrow \infty$ ).**

731 The estimates for the numerical parameters are now as follows:

$$732 \quad \tau_1 \sim \frac{\alpha}{\sigma},$$

$$733 \quad \tau_2 \sim \frac{1 + Re_h}{\alpha} \nu,$$

$$734 \quad \tilde{\sigma}_\alpha \sim \alpha(1 + Re_h) \frac{\nu}{h^2}.$$

735 They yield the following error bound:

$$736 \quad \|\Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{e}_u\| + (1 + Re_h)^{1/2} \frac{\|\mathbf{e}_u\|}{h} + \frac{\alpha_0}{\sigma^{1/2} \nu^{1/2}} \|\nabla e_p\|_h + \frac{(1 + Re_h)^{1/2}}{\alpha_0^{1/2}} \|\nabla \cdot (\alpha \mathbf{e}_u)\|_h,$$

$$737 \quad \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( (1 + Re_h)^{1/2} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h} + \frac{\alpha_0}{\sigma^{1/2} \nu^{1/2}} \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(p)}{h} \right).$$

738 Here the bound can again be considered optimal, even though the first term on the  
 739 LHS will provide a more or less weak control, depending on the particular form of the  
 740  $\Pi^{\text{DS}}$  operator. Furthermore, note that the control on the pressure term deteriorates for  
 741 very large Reynolds numbers, although this deterioration is slow, growing only with  
 742 its square root. For equal-order discretizations, we can derive the following estimates:

$$743 \quad \|\Pi^{\text{DS}} \nabla \mathbf{e}_u\| \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( (1 + Re_h)^{1/2} + \frac{\alpha_0}{\sigma^{1/2} \nu^{1/2}} \frac{P}{U} \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h}$$

$$744 \quad (6.12) \quad \sim \left( \frac{1}{\alpha_0} (1 + Re_h)^{1/2} + \frac{Da^{1/2}}{\alpha_\infty^{1/2}} \right) \frac{\mathbf{E}_{\text{int}}(\mathbf{u})}{h}.$$

745 where we have used that  $P \sim Da U \nu / h$  as  $Da_h \rightarrow \infty$ . It implies that the growth  
 746 of either  $Re_h$  or  $Da$  could potentially undermine the optimality of the approxima-  
 747 tion of the gradient. Note however that the latter is the Damköhler number based  
 748 on the macroscopic length  $L$ ; that is,  $Da = Da_h L^2 / h^2$  and is thus is not expected

749 to be relevant except perhaps in extremely reaction-dominanted flows. The depen-  
 750 dence of accuracy on the Reynolds number is similar to that of convection-dominated  
 751 flows. These dependencies remain unaltered for  $\alpha \equiv 1$ . A similar reasoning leads to  
 752 analogous estimates for  $\|\mathbf{e}_u\|$ .

753 Let us thus derive estimates for the norm of the gradient of the pressure. In this  
 754 case, we have:

$$755 \quad (6.13) \quad \|\nabla e_p\|_h \lesssim \frac{1}{\alpha_0} \left( \frac{(1 + Re_h)^{1/2}}{\alpha_0} Da_h^{-1/2} \frac{L}{h} + 1 \right) \frac{E_{\text{int}}(p)}{h}.$$

756 Here the situation is reversed with respect to the dependence on  $Da_h$ . The loss of  
 757 one order in the pressure accuracy is greatly mitigated by the presence of  $Da_h^{-1/2}$  in  
 758 reaction-dominated flows, except for the very finest meshes.

759 **7. Numerical examples.** We will resort to the method of manufactured so-  
 760 lutions, deriving the exact expression for the forcing term that corresponds to the  
 761 chosen velocity and pressure fields. We consider the unit square  $(0, 1) \times (0, 1)$  as the  
 762 fluid domain with null Dirichlet boundary conditions on all sides. Our pick for the  
 763 fluid and pressure fields are

$$764 \quad (7.1) \quad \begin{aligned} \mathbf{u}(x_1, x_2) &= U \frac{\alpha_0}{\alpha} (\sin(\pi x_1) \sin(\pi x_2) \mathbf{e}_1 + \cos(\pi x_1) \cos(\pi x_2) \mathbf{e}_2), \\ p(x_1, x_2) &= P \cos(\pi x_1) \sin(\pi x_2), \end{aligned}$$

765 where  $\mathbf{e}_i$  is the  $i$ -th coordinate basis vector and where  $U, P$  are the characteristic  
 766 velocity and pressure scales that we take, as before, to be related by (6.3). The  
 767 porosity field is defined in terms of the radial coordinate  $r$ , centered in the domain,  
 768 as follows:

$$769 \quad (7.2) \quad \alpha(r) = \begin{cases} \alpha_0 & r \leq r_1, \\ 1 - \frac{1 - \alpha_0}{1 + e^{\gamma(r)}} & r_1 < r < r_2, \\ 1 & r \geq r_2, \end{cases}$$

770 where  $\gamma: (r_1, r_2) \rightarrow (-\infty, \infty)$  is a monotonically increasing function defined by

$$771 \quad (7.3) \quad \gamma = \frac{2\eta - 1}{\eta(1 - \eta)},$$

772 and

$$773 \quad (7.4) \quad \eta := \frac{r^2 - r_1^2}{r_2^2 - r_1^2},$$

774 where  $0 < r_1 < r_2 < 1$ . The formulas above define a smooth bump function with  
 775 a central circular plateau where  $\alpha = \alpha_0$  surrounded by the annular region defined  
 776 by  $r \in (r_1, r_2)$ , on which the porosity monotonically increases with  $r$  up to  $\alpha = 1$  at  
 777  $r = r_2$ . Figure 1 shows  $1 - \alpha$ , i.e., the matrix's volume fraction.

778 The objective of this example is to check the robustness of the empirical con-  
 779 vergence rates obtained for the ASGS and OSGS formulations and to compare them  
 780 to the analytical estimates derived in the previous sections. In particular, we will  
 781 focus on the  $L^2$ -norm and the  $H^1$ -seminorm of the error, normalizing the velocity and  
 782 pressure errors using their respective characteristic values  $U$  and  $P$ .

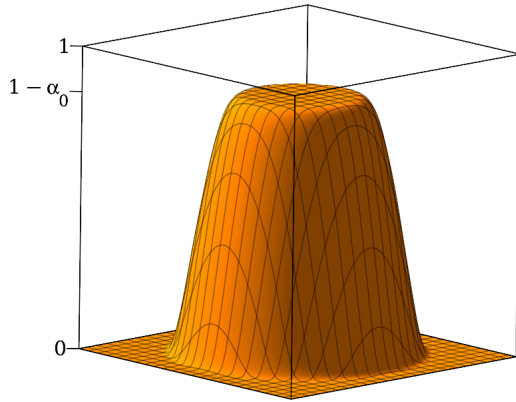


Fig. 1: Porous matrix's volume fraction field  $1 - \alpha$  used for manufactured tests.

783 In order to cover a wide range of regimes, we will consider all the combinations  
 784 resulting from taking  $Re, Da \in \{10^{-6}, 1, 10^{-6}\}$  and  $\alpha_0 \in \{0.05, 0.5\}$ . The large separa-  
 785 tion between the different values taken by  $Re$  and  $Da$  guarantees that the various flow  
 786 regimes considered are approximately independent of the mesh refinement level. As  
 787 the characteristic velocity and length scales are fixed, we vary the value of  $Re$  by  
 788 changing the viscosity. The value of  $Da$  is varied through  $\sigma$ . Doing so will allow us  
 789 to analyse the performance of our formulation in the three limiting cases of interest,  
 790 i.e., convection, diffusion and reaction-dominated flows.

791 For both 2D and 3D tests, we have considered the problem defined by (7.1). In  
 792 the following subsections we present the particularities of the various simulations and  
 793 the results obtained.

#### 794 7.1. 2D cases.

795 We consider two types of elements: linear triangles ( $\mathbb{P}_1$  elements) and biquadratic  
 796 quadrilaterals ( $\mathbb{Q}_2$  elements). The sequence of structured meshes is in both cases  
 797 obtained by successively dividing the nodal distance by two, the coarsest one being  
 798 given by a  $10 \times 10$  grid, and the finest being  $640 \times 640$ . The triangle elements are  
 799 obtained by dividing every resulting square into two triangles. In all the examples we  
 800 take  $\varepsilon = 0$ .

801 Tables 1 and 2 contain the measured convergence rates for the  $L^2$ -norm and  $H^1$ -  
 802 seminorm for the  $\mathbb{P}_1$  elements, along with the absolute errors in these norms measured  
 803 on the finest mesh, i.e., the finest mesh error (FME). Tables 3 and 4 are the analogues  
 804 for  $\mathbb{Q}_2$  elements. Overall, let us note that there are no significant differences in accu-  
 805 racy between the ASGS and the OSGS methods over all the test cases. Furthermore,  
 806 the results are compatible with the error estimates provided in section 6.

807 Indeed, one can immediately check that the effect of variations in the minimum  
 808 porosity is consistent with the asymptotic analysis above. When passing from  
 809  $\alpha_0 = 0.5$  to  $\alpha_0 = 0.05$  (even vs. odd-numbered lines in Tables 1 to 4), we observe a loss

810 in accuracy corresponding of around half an order of magnitude in terms of the FME.  
811 This tendency is quite robust although not without a few exceptions, particularly for  
812 the pressure when using linear elements.

813 For viscosity-dominated flows (rows 1-4, 7-8), the results are consistent with the  
814 predicted asymptotic bounds given by (6.6) and (6.7). Note that the FME values  
815 indicate that both the ASGS and OSGS methods show a very similar accuracy inde-  
816 pendently of the values taken by the physical parameters in this regime, except for  
817 the above-mentioned decrease in accuracy as  $\alpha$  decreases. The predicted drop of one  
818 order in the pressure accuracy is observed in most cases for linear elements and is  
819 even more prevalent for biquadratic elements. The velocity error is optimal in call  
820 cases.

821 With respect to convection-dominated flows (cf. rows 5-6, 11-12, 17-18), we were  
822 unable to get the nonlinear iterations to converge with quadratic elements on the  
823 finest mesh when  $\alpha = 0.5$ , probably due to the stationary problem becoming ill-  
824 defined in this case. Such cases are identified in Tables 3 and 4 by the notation *n.c.*  
825 (not converged). For the remaining cases, the picture is very similar to that seen  
826 in the viscosity-dominant regime: The predicted optimal asymptotic behavior is  
827 observed for the velocity and the pressure (which this time converges quadratically in  
828 all cases), as the estimates (6.10) and (6.11) suggest.

829 For reaction-dominated flows (rows 13-16), the analysis indicates a slightly more  
830 complex convergence profile. As a preamble, let us note the relation  $Da = Da_h L^2/h^2$ .  
831 The latter implies that the values of  $Da_h$  actually exhibit considerable variation  
832 across the different meshes, becoming about 64 times smaller when passing from  
833 the coarsest discretization to the finest one. In particular, we can estimate  $Da_h \approx$   
834  $10^6/80^2 \approx 150$  for the finest mesh, which could be considered marginally reaction-  
835 dominated. Nonetheless, note that the 3-order increase in  $Da_h^{1/2}$  over the range that  
836 goes from 1 to  $10^6$  (compare rows 7-10 with rows 13-16) still leads to a quite robust  
837 decrease of the pressure error by a similar amount in the  $L^2$ -norm. For the  $H^1$ -norm,  
838 the decrease in error is smaller, although a consistent optimal-order (i.e., one order  
839 above the general case) convergence rate is only observed in the high- $Da$  cases. These  
840 results are all consistent with (6.13). For the velocity error, the deterioration of its  
841 bound with  $Da$  suggested by (6.12) is not realised for linear elements (the FME barely  
842 grows when increasing  $Da = 1$  to  $Da = 10^6$  while leaving the other parameters un-  
843 changed). For biquadratic elements, a noticeable error growth is observed (compare,  
844 e.g., rows 9 and 15 in Tables 3 and 4), although still very far from the estimated  
845  $\sim Da^{1/2}$  effect.

## 846 7.2. 3D cases.

847 For the 3D examples, we use the  $z$ -wise extruded version of the same manufactured  
848 field. However, in order to break the symmetry, in this case we focus on unstructured  
849 meshes to make sure that the velocity vectors have a nonzero  $z$ -component due to the  
850 discretization errors. The domain is defined by a  $(0, 1) \times (0, 1) \times (0, 0.4)$  parallelepiped.  
851 Once again, the sequence of meshes is obtained by successively splitting the initial  
852 unstructured mesh sizes in two. In this case we consider only linear tetrahedra. The  
853 physical parameters are fixed to  $(\alpha, Re, Da) = (0.5, 1, 1)$  for all the cases run.

854 The unstructured nature of the mesh makes it difficult to ensure that the boundary  
855 conditions imposed by the manufactured field are compatible with mass conservation  
856 in the discrete case, leading to an ill-posed problem. Thus, in this case we have  
857 resorted to the compressibility, taking  $\varepsilon > 0$ , which makes the problem well-posed.  
858 This also eliminates the indeterminacy in the pressure, removing the need to fix it



Table 1: Observed convergence rates and normalized finest mesh error (FME) for the 2D problem ( $\mathbb{P}_1$  elements), calculated from the  $L^2$ -norm of the error obtained with the two finest meshes (theoretical convergence rates in parentheses)

velocity						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (2)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.00	2.00	$8.48 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.38 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.00	2.00	$2.95 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.78 \times 10^{-5}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.00	2.00	$8.48 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.38 \times 10^{-6}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.00	2.00	$2.95 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.78 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.20	2.81	$2.20 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.22 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.07	2.08	$1.10 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.10 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	2.00	2.00	$8.46 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.31 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	2.00	2.00	$2.90 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.39 \times 10^{-5}$
1	1	0.5	2.00	2.00	$8.46 \times 10^{-6}$	$6.31 \times 10^{-6}$
1	1	0.05	2.00	2.00	$2.90 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.39 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	2.20	2.81	$2.20 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.22 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	1	0.05	2.07	2.08	$1.10 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.10 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	2.57	2.85	$7.42 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.94 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	2.11	2.83	$2.20 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.02 \times 10^{-5}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	2.57	2.85	$7.42 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.94 \times 10^{-5}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	2.11	2.83	$2.19 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.02 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	2.60	2.56	$2.60 \times 10^{-6}$	$3.85 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	2.08	2.11	$7.44 \times 10^{-6}$	$7.58 \times 10^{-6}$
pressure						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (1)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.00	1.83	$1.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.85 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.55	2.00	$1.61 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-3}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.00	1.83	$6.51 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.43 \times 10^{-4}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.55	2.00	$8.04 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.89 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.95	1.66	$8.92 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.07 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.02	2.03	$1.51 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.52 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	1.00	1.83	$6.51 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.42 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	1.55	2.00	$8.05 \times 10^{-4}$	$5.92 \times 10^{-4}$
1	1	0.5	1.00	1.83	$4.34 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.47 \times 10^{-5}$
1	1	0.05	1.55	2.00	$5.37 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.94 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	1.95	1.66	$8.92 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.07 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	1	0.05	2.02	2.03	$1.51 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.52 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	3.16	3.21	$1.20 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.22 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	2.95	2.97	$1.98 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.02 \times 10^{-6}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	3.16	3.21	$1.20 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.22 \times 10^{-6}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	2.95	2.97	$1.98 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.02 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	1.89	1.66	$6.26 \times 10^{-7}$	$1.03 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	2.03	2.05	$1.33 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.35 \times 10^{-6}$

Table 2: Observed convergence rates and normalized finest mesh error (FME) for the 2D problem ( $\mathbb{P}_1$  elements), calculated from the  $H^1$ -seminorm of the error obtained with the two finest meshes (theoretical convergence rates in parentheses)

velocity						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (1)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.00	1.00	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.00	1.00	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.00	1.00	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.00	1.00	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.02	1.09	$9.88 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.90 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.00	1.01	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.11 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	1.00	1.00	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	1.00	1.00	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$
1	1	0.5	1.00	1.00	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$
1	1	0.05	1.00	1.00	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	1.02	1.09	$9.88 \times 10^{-3}$	$9.90 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^6$	1	0.05	1.00	1.01	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.11 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	1.00	1.82	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.77 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	1.00	1.49	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.06 \times 10^{-2}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	1.00	1.82	$9.86 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.77 \times 10^{-2}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	1.00	1.49	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.06 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	1.05	1.12	$1.00 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.07 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	1.00	1.01	$3.10 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.11 \times 10^{-2}$
pressure						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (-)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	0.53	0.56	$1.52 \times 10^{-1}$	$2.88 \times 10^{-1}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.94	1.90	$6.54 \times 10^{-2}$	$7.02 \times 10^{-2}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	0.53	0.57	$7.61 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.44 \times 10^{-1}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.92	1.90	$3.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.53 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	0.53	0.57	$7.61 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.44 \times 10^{-1}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	1.92	1.90	$3.30 \times 10^{-2}$	$3.55 \times 10^{-2}$
1	1	0.5	0.53	0.57	$5.09 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.56 \times 10^{-2}$
1	1	0.05	1.91	1.89	$2.24 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.40 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^6$	1	0.05	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.46 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.46 \times 10^{-3}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.46 \times 10^{-3}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.46 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	1.00	1.00	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$	$5.45 \times 10^{-3}$

Table 3: Observed convergence rates and normalized finest mesh error (FME) for the 2D problem ( $\mathbb{Q}_2$  elements), calculated from the  $L^2$ -norm of the error obtained with the two finest meshes (theoretical convergence rates in parentheses)

velocity						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (3)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	3.14	3.15	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	3.15	3.15	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	3.14	3.15	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	3.15	3.15	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	4.00	4.01	$7.28 \times 10^{-8}$	$7.27 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	3.14	3.15	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	3.15	3.15	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$
1	1	0.5	3.14	3.15	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$	$5.60 \times 10^{-9}$
1	1	0.05	3.15	3.15	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$	$4.03 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	1	0.05	4.00	4.01	$7.28 \times 10^{-8}$	$7.27 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	3.86	4.10	$4.89 \times 10^{-8}$	$3.39 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	3.58	3.59	$5.89 \times 10^{-8}$	$5.13 \times 10^{-8}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	3.86	4.10	$4.89 \times 10^{-8}$	$3.39 \times 10^{-8}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	3.58	3.59	$5.89 \times 10^{-8}$	$5.13 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	3.65	3.66	$6.43 \times 10^{-8}$	$6.44 \times 10^{-8}$
pressure						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (2)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.10	2.05	$5.23 \times 10^{-6}$	$5.18 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.09	2.00	$3.73 \times 10^{-5}$	$3.66 \times 10^{-3}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.10	2.05	$2.61 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.59 \times 10^{-5}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.09	2.00	$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.83 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	4.07	4.11	$9.20 \times 10^{-9}$	$9.24 \times 10^{-9}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	2.10	2.05	$2.61 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.59 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	2.09	2.00	$1.86 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.83 \times 10^{-4}$
1	1	0.5	2.10	2.05	$1.74 \times 10^{-6}$	$1.73 \times 10^{-5}$
1	1	0.05	2.09	2.00	$1.24 \times 10^{-5}$	$1.22 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	1	0.05	4.07	4.11	$9.20 \times 10^{-9}$	$9.24 \times 10^{-9}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	3.10	2.92	$5.63 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-8}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	3.10	3.14	$5.64 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.02 \times 10^{-9}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	3.10	2.92	$5.63 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.18 \times 10^{-8}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	3.10	3.14	$5.64 \times 10^{-10}$	$1.02 \times 10^{-9}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	3.97	4.00	$4.64 \times 10^{-9}$	$4.65 \times 10^{-9}$

Table 4: Observed convergence rates and normalized finest mesh error (FME) for the 2D problem ( $\mathbb{Q}_2$  elements), calculated from the  $H^1$ -seminorm of the error obtained with the two finest meshes (theoretical convergence rates in parentheses)

velocity						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (2)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.10	2.10	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.10	2.10	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	2.10	2.10	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.10	2.10	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	2.95	2.96	$3.61 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.61 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	2.10	2.10	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	2.10	2.10	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$
1	1	0.5	2.10	2.10	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.78 \times 10^{-5}$
1	1	0.05	2.10	2.10	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	1	0.05	2.95	2.96	$3.61 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.61 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	2.81	3.05	$2.13 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.68 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	2.49	2.55	$2.73 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.54 \times 10^{-4}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	2.81	3.05	$2.13 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.68 \times 10^{-4}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	2.49	2.55	$2.73 \times 10^{-4}$	$2.54 \times 10^{-4}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	2.60	2.61	$3.19 \times 10^{-4}$	$3.19 \times 10^{-4}$
pressure						
$Re$	$Da$	$\alpha_0$	slope (1)		FME	
			ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.04	1.00	$2.59 \times 10^{-2}$	$2.56 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.03	0.94	$1.85 \times 10^{-1}$	$1.81 \times 10^{-1}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.5	1.04	1.00	$1.29 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.28 \times 10^{-2}$
1	$10^{-6}$	0.05	1.03	0.94	$9.23 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.05 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^{-6}$	0.05	3.02	3.05	$4.55 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.57 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.5	1.04	1.00	$1.29 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.28 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^{-6}$	1	0.05	1.03	0.94	$9.23 \times 10^{-2}$	$9.06 \times 10^{-2}$
1	1	0.5	1.04	1.00	$8.62 \times 10^{-3}$	$8.53 \times 10^{-3}$
1	1	0.05	1.03	0.94	$6.15 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.04 \times 10^{-2}$
$10^6$	1	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	1	0.05	3.02	3.05	$4.55 \times 10^{-5}$	$4.57 \times 10^{-5}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.5	2.10	2.10	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^{-6}$	$10^6$	0.05	2.09	2.09	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$
1	$10^6$	0.5	2.10	2.10	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$
1	$10^6$	0.05	2.09	2.09	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$	$2.00 \times 10^{-6}$
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
$10^6$	$10^6$	0.05	2.92	2.94	$2.29 \times 10^{-5}$	$2.29 \times 10^{-5}$

859 at one point (it imposes that the average pressure is zero, see [9]).

860 We make sure that condition (5.10) is met, by using the conservative value  $\varepsilon =$   
 861  $0.0001\varepsilon_{\text{ref}}$ , where

$$862 \quad (7.5) \quad \varepsilon_{\text{ref}} := \frac{\alpha_0}{\nu(1 + Re + Da)} \leq \frac{\alpha_K}{\nu(1 + \frac{c_2}{c_1} Re_h + \frac{100}{c_1} Da_h)} \leq 100 \frac{c_1 \alpha_K^2 \tau_{1,K}}{h^2},$$

863 where the first inequality holds for the parameter ranges chosen for the numerical  
 864 experiments.

865 Additionally, we also add the previous value of the compressibility term to the  
 866 right-hand side (i.e., we add  $\varepsilon p^{n-1}$  to the right-hand side of ??) at every nonlinear  
 867 iteration. This *iterative penalty method*, analyzed in [9], ensures that the manufactured  
 868 solution is not altered.

869 Tables 5 and 6 list the results for the  $L^2$ -norm and  $H^1$ -seminorm. As in the 2D  
 870 case, the results can be considered optimal, with very similar results for ASGS and  
 871 OSGS.

Table 5: Observed convergence rates and normalized finest mesh error (FME) for the 3D problem, calculated from the  $L^2$ -norm of the error obtained with the two finest meshes (theoretical convergence rates in parentheses)

velocity				
element type	slope		FME	
	ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$\mathbb{P}_1$ (2)	2.01	2.07	$3.27 \times 10^{-4}$	$1.79 \times 10^{-4}$
$\mathbb{Q}_2$ (3)	3.18	3.22	$8.20 \times 10^{-5}$	$7.20 \times 10^{-5}$
pressure				
element type	slope		FME	
	ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$\mathbb{P}_1$ (1)	1.09	1.01	$3.55 \times 10^{-2}$	$4.13 \times 10^{-2}$
$\mathbb{Q}_2$ (2)	2.32	2.44	$1.13 \times 10^{-3}$	$2.37 \times 10^{-3}$

872 **8. Conclusions.** We have applied the VMS framework to generalize the formu-  
 873 lation and analysis presented in [10] to the porous Navier-Stokes system, in such a  
 874 way that the original method is recovered when  $\alpha \equiv 1$ . By using the abstract no-  
 875 tation introduced in later works on VMS [15], we have strived to make it clearer to  
 876 the less versed reader how the whole process is largely systematic once the particular  
 877 equations are fit to the general framework.

878 Our analysis and numerical experiments show that the convergence properties  
 879 of the original Navier-Stokes formulation are essentially preserved in the generalized  
 880 setting. The analytical results have been corroborated in the numerical experiments,  
 881 which show that the method remains just as robust in front of extreme variations  
 882 in the physical parameters in the general case, as it is well-established to be for the  
 883 original problem.

884 The specialization of the robustness analysis to equal-order polynomial elements  
 885 presented in section 6 shows a few details previously not discussed, such as the mech-

Table 6: Observed convergence rates and normalized finest mesh error (FME) for the 3D problem, calculated from the  $H^1$ -seminorm of the error obtained with the two finest meshes (theoretical convergence rates in parentheses)

velocity				
element type	slope		FME	
	ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$\mathbb{P}_1$ (1)	1.04	1.03	$6.15 \times 10^{-2}$	$6.14 \times 10^{-2}$
$\mathbb{Q}_2$ (2)	2.02	2.10	$1.31 \times 10^{-2}$	$1.20 \times 10^{-2}$
pressure				
element type	slope		FME	
	ASGS	OSGS	ASGS	OSGS
$\mathbb{P}_1$ (-)	0.18	0.20	$9.09 \times 10^{-1}$	$5.14 \times 10^{-1}$
$\mathbb{Q}_2$ (1)	0.95	1.23	$2.01 \times 10^{-1}$	$3.67 \times 10^{-1}$

886 anism of pressure error improvement with growing  $Da_h$  or the (very weak in prac-  
887 tice) deterioration of the velocity error with  $Da$ . By normalizing all the variables  
888 adequately, we have shown that the absolute errors are very stable with respect to  
889 changes in the physical parameters when the convergence rate is similar.

890 The abstract framework favored here makes it natural to include different partic-  
891 ularizations of VMS in a very concise way. This has allowed us to implement both the  
892 ASGS and the OSGS versions of the method, showing through the many numerical  
893 experiments that both variants have very similar properties, at least for the problem  
894 considered.

895 There are several directions in which we think it is interesting to take the for-  
896 mulation developed here. First, we would like to study the possibility of simplifying  
897 the stabilized linear forms, given that not all the terms included are strictly neces-  
898 sary to obtain optimal convergence rates. In this sense, the so-called term-by-term  
899 stabilization approach [12] is a promising alternative.

900 Moreover, we are interested in studying the possibility of rewriting the formulation  
901 to make it suitable for large porosity gradients, including the possibility of consid-  
902 ering discontinuous step-like changes, which have many engineering applications. As  
903 pointed out in [8], such formulations would likely require the integration by parts of  
904 the terms involving  $\nabla\alpha$  in order to weaken the smoothness requirements of this field.

905 Another question not considered above is the effect of using the finite elements  
906 to interpolate the porosity field, as it would be natural to do in some applications.  
907 The error introduced by the interpolation can be treated similarly to quadrature  
908 error, but the simple convergence proof presented here would require cumbersome  
909 alterations due to the presence of  $\alpha$  in the working norm of the problem, so we  
910 decided to leave this task for future work. Notwithstanding this, let us tentatively  
911 mention that our numerical experiments indicate that the model error introduced by  
912 the interpolation of  $\alpha$  does not spoil the convergence properties of the method. For a  
913 work fully addressing this question, see [8].

914 Finally, we are also interested in the unsteady version of the equations, where  $\alpha$   
915 becomes a function of time too. This is the subject of current work.

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