

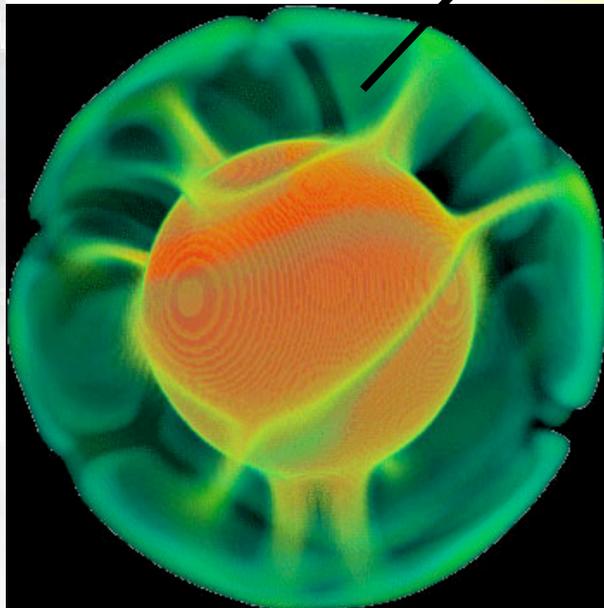
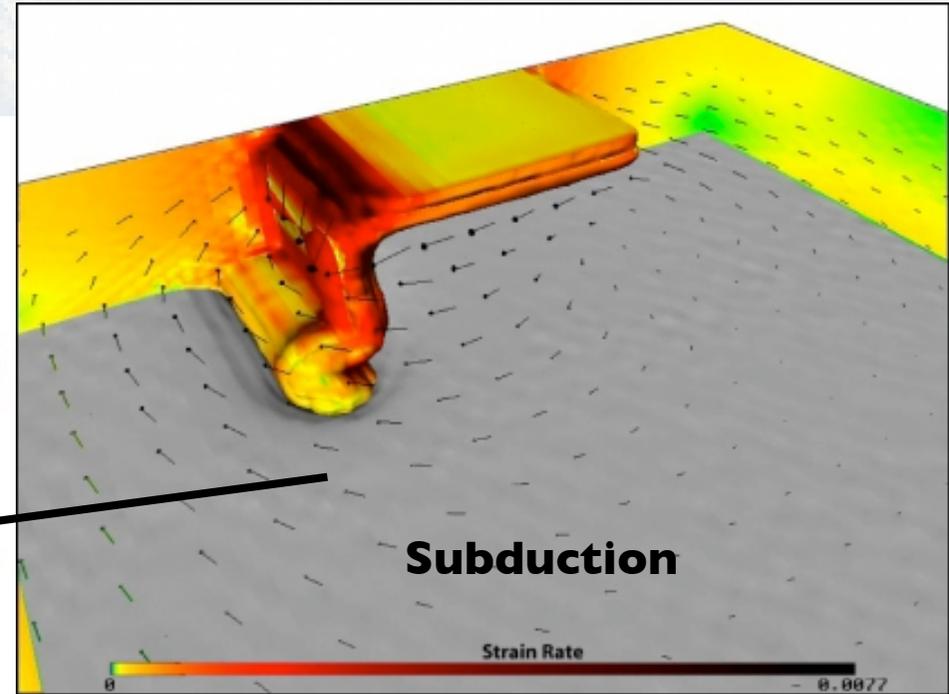
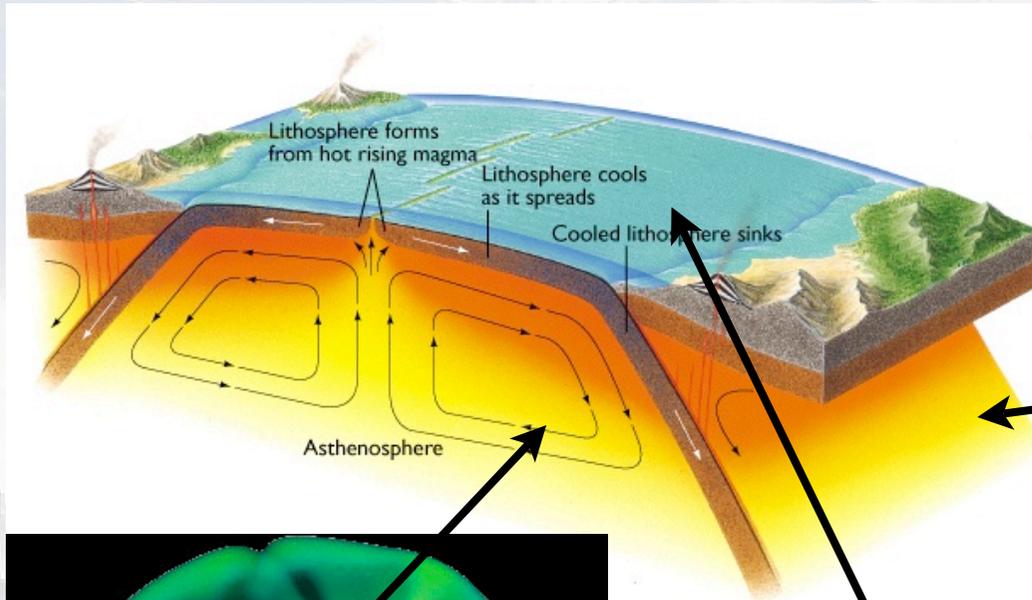
# **Preconditioning variable viscosity Stokes flow problems associated with a stabilised finite element discretisation**

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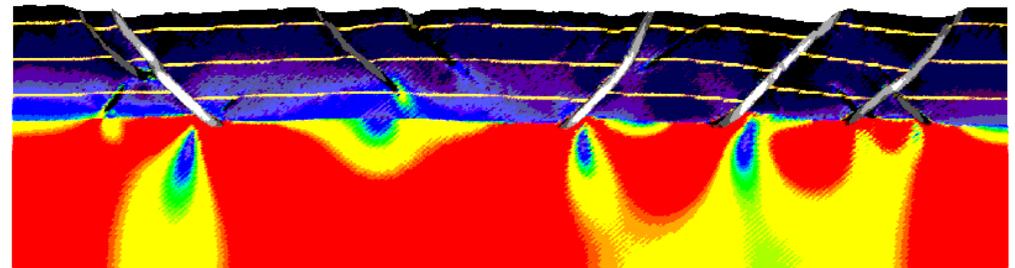
# Outline

- Motivation
- The stabilised Q1-Q1 element
- Errors
- Preconditioning
- Summary

# Motivation



**Convection in the mantle**



**Lithospheric deformation**

# Stokes Flow

- Incompressible Stokes flow with general constitutive tensor.

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Momentum} \quad \tau_{ij,j} - p_{,i} + f_i = 0, \\ \text{Mass} \quad \quad \quad - u_{i,i} = 0, \end{array} \right\} \text{ in } \Omega$$

subject to

- i) the boundary conditions

$$\begin{array}{ll} u_i = g_i, & \text{on } \Gamma_{g_i} \\ \sigma_{ij} n_j = h_i, & \text{on } \Gamma_{h_i}, \end{array}$$

- ii) the pressure constraint

$$\int_{\Omega} p \, dV = p_s, \quad \text{for some constant } p_s$$

$$\text{Constitutive} \quad \tau_{ij} = \Lambda_{ijkl} \dot{\epsilon}_{kl},$$

$$\text{Strain rate} \quad \dot{\epsilon}_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} (u_{i,j} + u_{j,i}),$$

We formulate the problem entirely in terms of velocity  $u$ , and pressure  $p$ .

# Stokes Flow + Finite Elements

- Variational problem

$$A(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}) + B(\mathbf{v}, p) + B(\mathbf{u}, q) = F(\mathbf{v}),$$

$$A(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}) := \int_{\Omega} 2\eta \sum_{i,j=1}^d \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}(\mathbf{u}) \dot{\epsilon}_{ij}(\mathbf{v}) dV$$

$$B(\mathbf{v}, p) := - \int_{\Omega} p \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} dV$$

$$F(\mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{f} dV - \int_{\partial\Omega_N} \mathbf{v} \cdot \mathbf{h} dS.$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} K & G \\ G^T & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f \\ h \end{pmatrix}$$

**Stability issues**

# Q1-Q1 stabilised

*Dohrmann & Bochev, 2004*

- Stabilised formulation

$$A(\mathbf{v}, \mathbf{u}) + B(\mathbf{v}, p) + B(\mathbf{u}, q) - C(p, q) = F(\mathbf{v}),$$

$$C(p, q) := \int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\eta} (p - \Pi_0 p) (q - \Pi_0 q) dV.$$

Here,  $\Pi_0$  is L2 projection operator which maps C0 functions onto the space of constant functions.

$$\Pi_0 p^h|_{\square} = \frac{1}{\|J^e\|} \int_{\square} p^h dV, \quad \forall K \in \mathcal{T}_h$$

$$\Pi_0 p^h|_{\square} = \frac{1}{4} (p_1^e + p_2^e + p_3^e + p_4^e).$$

$$C(p^h, q^h) = \sum_{\square \in \mathcal{T}_h} \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}^e} \int_{\square} (p^h - \Pi_0 p^h)|_{\square} (q^h - \Pi_0 q^h)|_{\square} dV. \quad \bar{\eta}^e = \int_{\Omega} \eta(\mathbf{x}) dV / \int_{\Omega} 1 dV$$

# Q1-Q1 stabilised

$$\begin{aligned}
 C^e &= \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}^e} \int_{\square} (I - \Pi_0) (I - \Pi_0) \|J_e\| dV \\
 &= \frac{1}{\bar{\eta}^e} (M^e - \mathbf{q}\mathbf{q}^T \|J_e\|) \quad \mathbf{q} = \left(\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{4}\right)^T
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} K & G \\ G^T & C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f \\ h \end{pmatrix}$$

- **Benefits**
  - Parameter free
  - No macro elements
  - Simple mesh structure can be used
  - Data structure re-use
  - Low order and stable!
- **Used by**
  - Rhea: [Burstedde et. al., 2008](#)
  - Underworld: [Moresi et. al., 2008](#)
- No systematic studies for variable viscosity

# Errors

- Is the discretisation appropriate for variable viscosity flow?
- $Q1-P0$  examined by *Moresi et. al., 1996*
- Dohrmann & Bochev error estimates

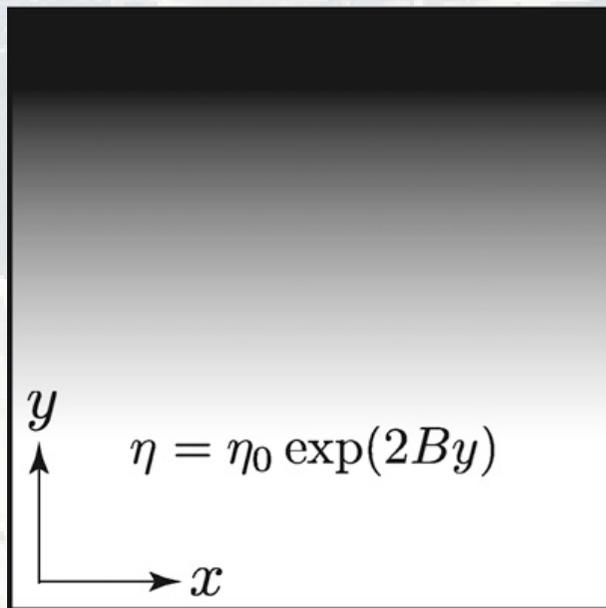
$$(e_u^h)_{L_2} = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^d \int_{\Omega} (u_i^h - u_i)^2 dV}$$

$$(e_p^h)_{L_2} = \sqrt{\int_{\Omega} (p^h - p)^2 dV}$$

$$(e_u^h)_{L_2} = O(h^2)$$

$$(e_p^h)_{L_2} = O(h)$$

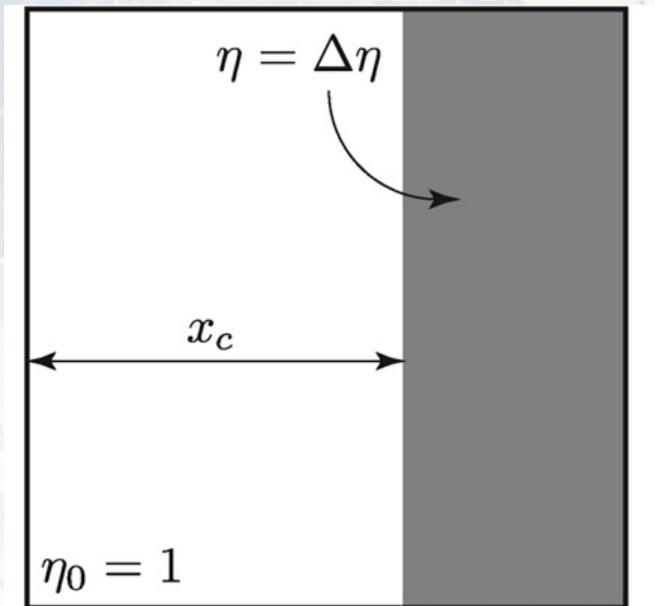
# Exponentially varying viscosity: $\exp(y)$



$\Delta\eta$	$u$	$p$
$10^2$	1.99	1.49
$10^4$	1.97	1.37
$10^8$	1.91	1.24

(Revenaugh & Parsons, 1987)

# Step function viscosity: $\text{step}(x)$



$\Delta\eta$	$u$	$p$
$10^2$	1.91	0.49
$10^4$	2.00	0.49
$10^8$	2.00	0.78

(Zhong, 1996)

# Finding 1

- Optimal convergence rates for velocity and pressure were obtained for viscosity structures which are continuous.
- For discontinuous viscosity structures, optimal convergence rates were obtained for velocity but sub-optimal convergence rates were obtained for pressure.

# Iterative methods for Stokes flow

The ideal approach should be *optimal* in the sense that the convergence rate of method will be bounded independently of

- the discretisation parameters (*Example; grid resolution*)
- the constitutive parameters (*Example; smoothly varying vs. discontinuous viscosity*)
- the constitutive behaviour (*Example; isotropic vs. anisotropic*)
- the solution is obtained in  $O(n)$  time... ie. multigrid

**These are a challenging set of requirements**

# Preconditioners...

- The number of iterations required for convergence is related to the distribution of eigenvalues.
- Preconditioning is the process of “improving” the distribution of eigenvalues, such that the number of iterations is reduced  
=> accelerator

$$Ax = b$$

$$AP^{-1}Px = b \longrightarrow AP^{-1}y = b$$

$$x = P^{-1}y$$

i)  $P^{-1} \approx A^{-1}$

ii) should be cheap to construct the preconditioner,  $P^{-1}$

iii) should be cheap to apply the preconditioner,  $P^{-1}$

# Schur Complement Reduction

- Decouple  $u$  and  $p$
- Solve the Schur complement system

$$\text{solve for } p : \quad (G^T K^{-1} G - C)p = G^T K^{-1} f - h,$$

$$\text{solve for } u : \quad Ku = f - Gp.$$

where  $S = G^T K^{-1} G - C$  is the Schur complement.

- Represent  $S$  as a matrix-free object. To compute  $y = Sx$  we compute:  
compute:  $f^* = Gx,$   
solve for  $u^* : \quad Ku^* = f^*,$   
compute:  $y = G^T u^* - Cx.$
- Outer Krylov iterations performed on  $Sp=h'$ ,  
inner iterations performed on  $Ky=x$ .
- Need preconditioners for  $S$  and  $K$ .

# Fully Coupled

- Treat the Stokes problem as single coupled system

$$\begin{pmatrix} K & G \\ G^T & C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ p \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f \\ h \end{pmatrix} \longrightarrow \mathcal{A}x = b, \quad \mathcal{A} \in \mathbb{R}^{(m+n) \times (m+n)}$$

- Apply any suitable Krylov method to  $\mathcal{A}x = b$
- We require preconditioner for  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Block diagonal or block upper triangular

$$\hat{\mathcal{A}}_d = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{K} & 0 \\ 0 & -\hat{S} \end{pmatrix}, \quad \hat{\mathcal{A}}_u = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{K} & G \\ 0 & -\hat{S} \end{pmatrix}.$$

*Elman, Silvester (1994)*  
*Rusten, Winther (1992)*  
*Silvester, Wathan (1994)*

*Bramble, Pasciak (1988)*  
*Murphy, Golub (2000)*

**Both options require preconditioners for K and S**

# *K: Velocity Component Decomposition (VCD)*

- Bilinear form of the deviatoric stress tensor gradient

$$a(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} 2\eta \epsilon_{ij}(\mathbf{u}) \epsilon_{ij}(\mathbf{v}) dV$$

- Discrete operator

$$\mathbf{K} = \begin{pmatrix} K_{11} & K_{12} \\ K_{21} & K_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

- A spectrally equivalent bilinear form is

$$\hat{a}(\mathbf{u}, \mathbf{v}) = \int_{\Omega} \eta (\nabla u_k) \cdot (\nabla v_k) dV$$

with discrete operator given by

$$\hat{\mathbf{K}} = \begin{pmatrix} K_{11} & 0 \\ 0 & K_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

[ Axelsson, Padiy, "On a robust and scalable linear elasticity solver based on a saddle point formulation" ]

# *K: Velocity Component Decomposition (VCD)*

- Block Gauss-Seidel

$$Ax = b$$

$$x^{k+1} = (D + L)^{-1} (b - Ux^k)$$

$$A = D + L + U$$

- Discrete counterpart of the stress gradient is given by

$$\begin{pmatrix} K_{11} & K_{12} \\ K_{21} & K_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} u \\ v \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} f_x \\ f_y \end{pmatrix}$$

$$D = \text{diag} [K_{11}, K_{22}]$$

*Mijalkovic & Mihajlovic, 2000*

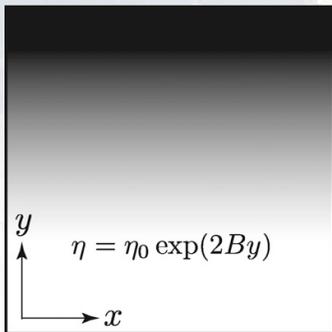
*Mihajlovic & Mijalkovic, 2002*

- Treat each velocity component as scalar, variable coefficient diffusion problem.
- Each scalar problem permits effective multigrid preconditioning.

Each  $K_{ii}^{-1}$  given by CG, with  $\frac{\|r_k\|}{\|r_0\|} < 10^{-2}$ , preconditioned via ML.

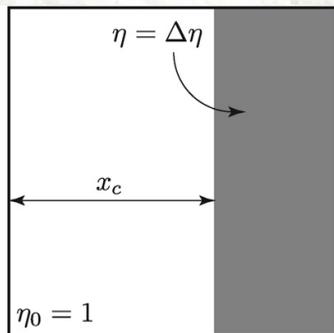
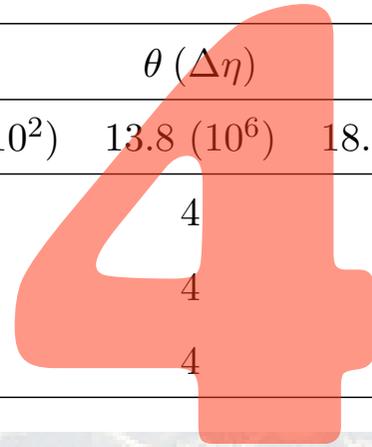
ML: <http://software.sandia.gov/Trilinos>

# Results: $\exp(y) + \text{step}(x)$ (robustness)



**$\exp(y)$**   
 $\eta = 10^6 \exp(\theta y)$

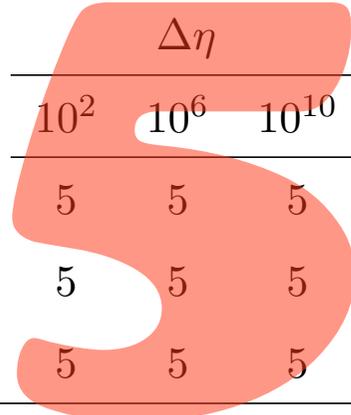
elements $M \times N$	$\theta (\Delta\eta)$		
	4.6 ( $10^2$ )	13.8 ( $10^6$ )	18.4 ( $10^8$ )
$100^2$	4	4	4
$200^2$	4	4	4
$300^2$	4	4	4



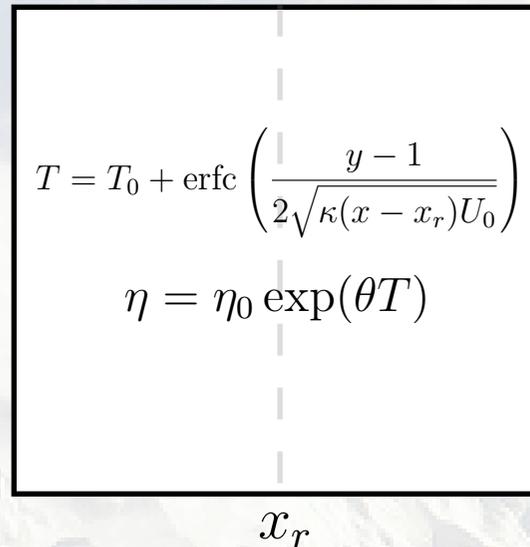
**$\text{step}(x)$**   

$$\eta = \begin{cases} 1 & x < \frac{1}{2} \\ \Delta\eta & x \geq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

elements $M \times N$	$\Delta\eta$		
	$10^2$	$10^6$	$10^{10}$
$100^2$	5	5	5
$200^2$	5	5	5
$300^2$	5	5	5

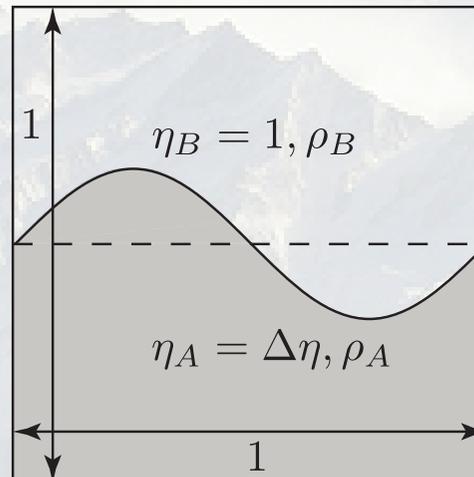


# Additional test problems



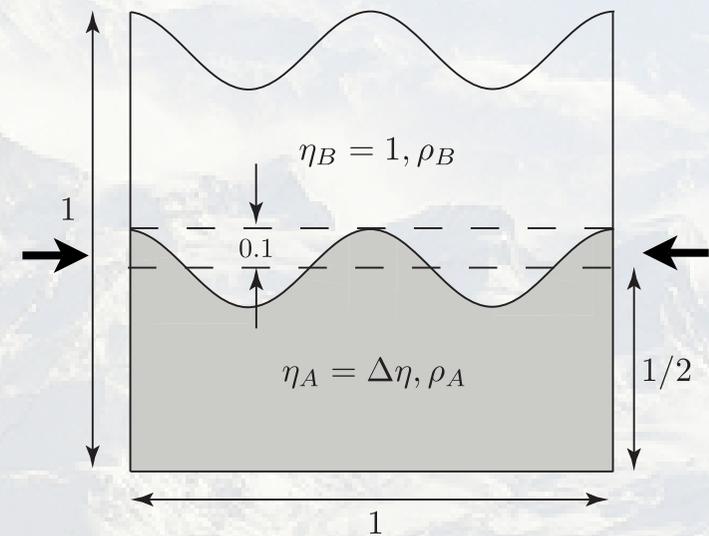
## ridge

- discontinuous / continuous viscosity
- outflow boundaries



## diapir

- discontinuous viscosity
- free surface



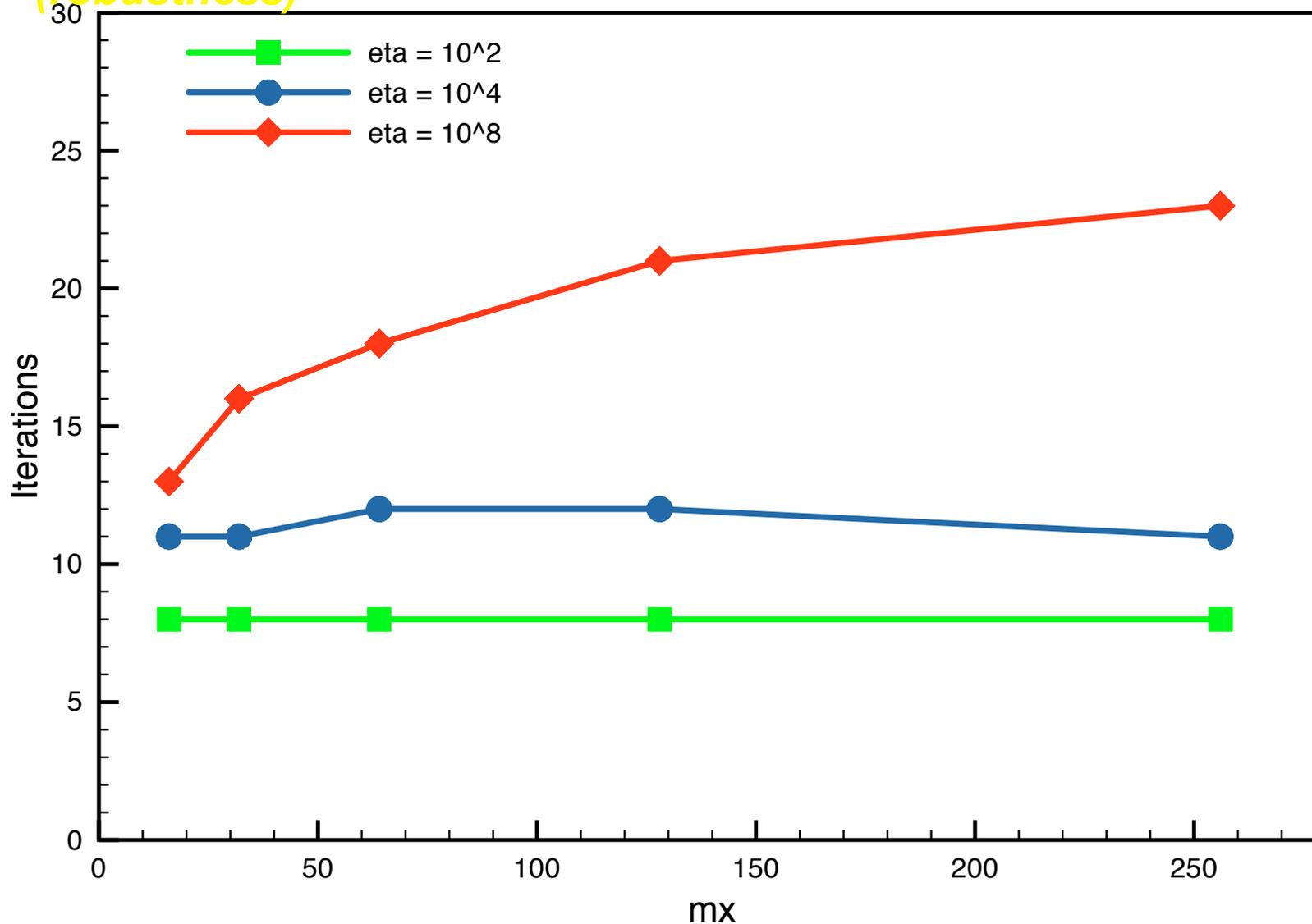
## layer

- discontinuous viscosity
- compressional bc's
- free surface
- deformed elements



# Results: ridge

(robustness)

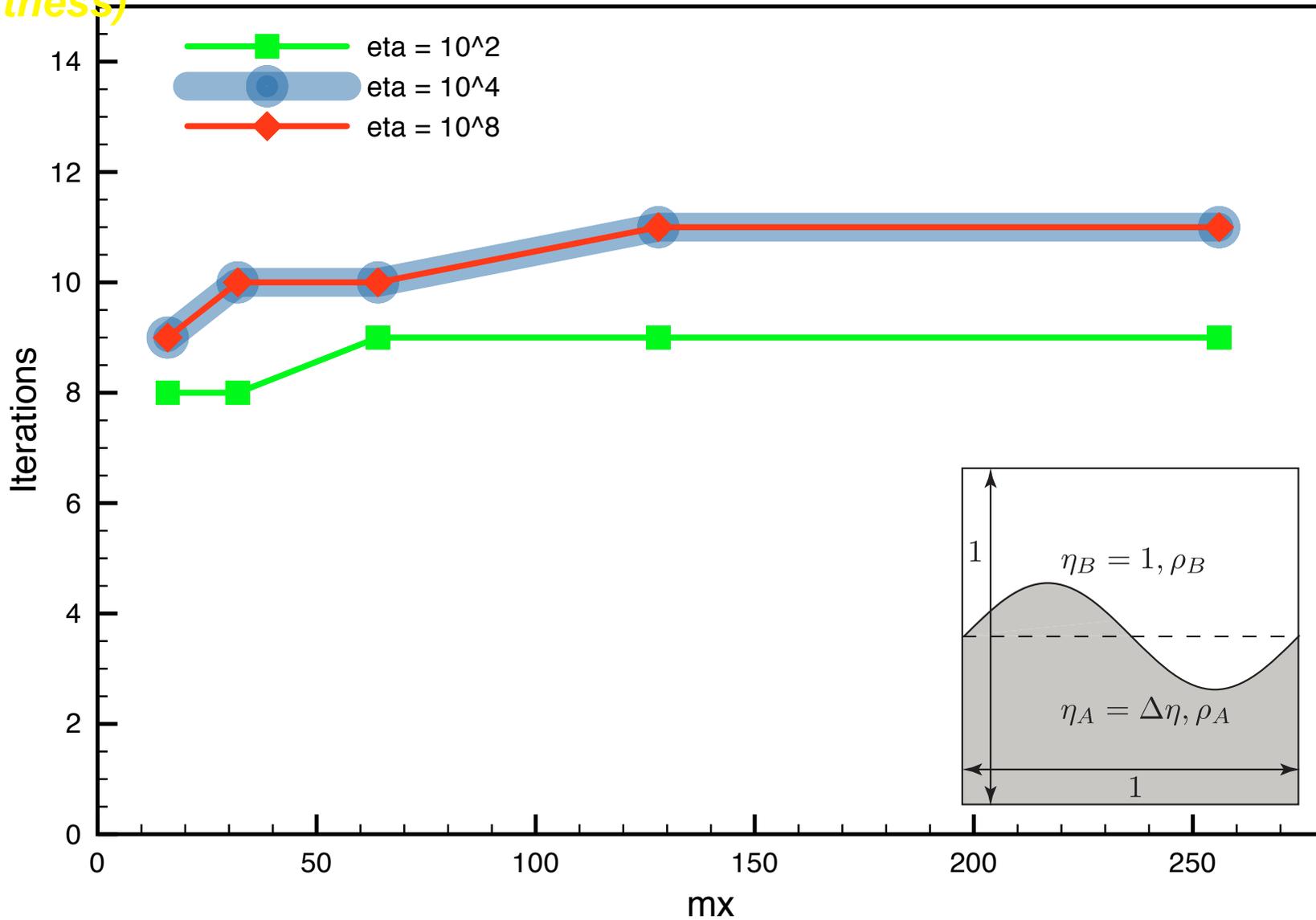


$$T = T_0 + \operatorname{erfc}\left(\frac{y-1}{2\sqrt{\kappa(x-x_r)U_0}}\right)$$

$$\eta = \eta_0 \exp(\theta T)$$

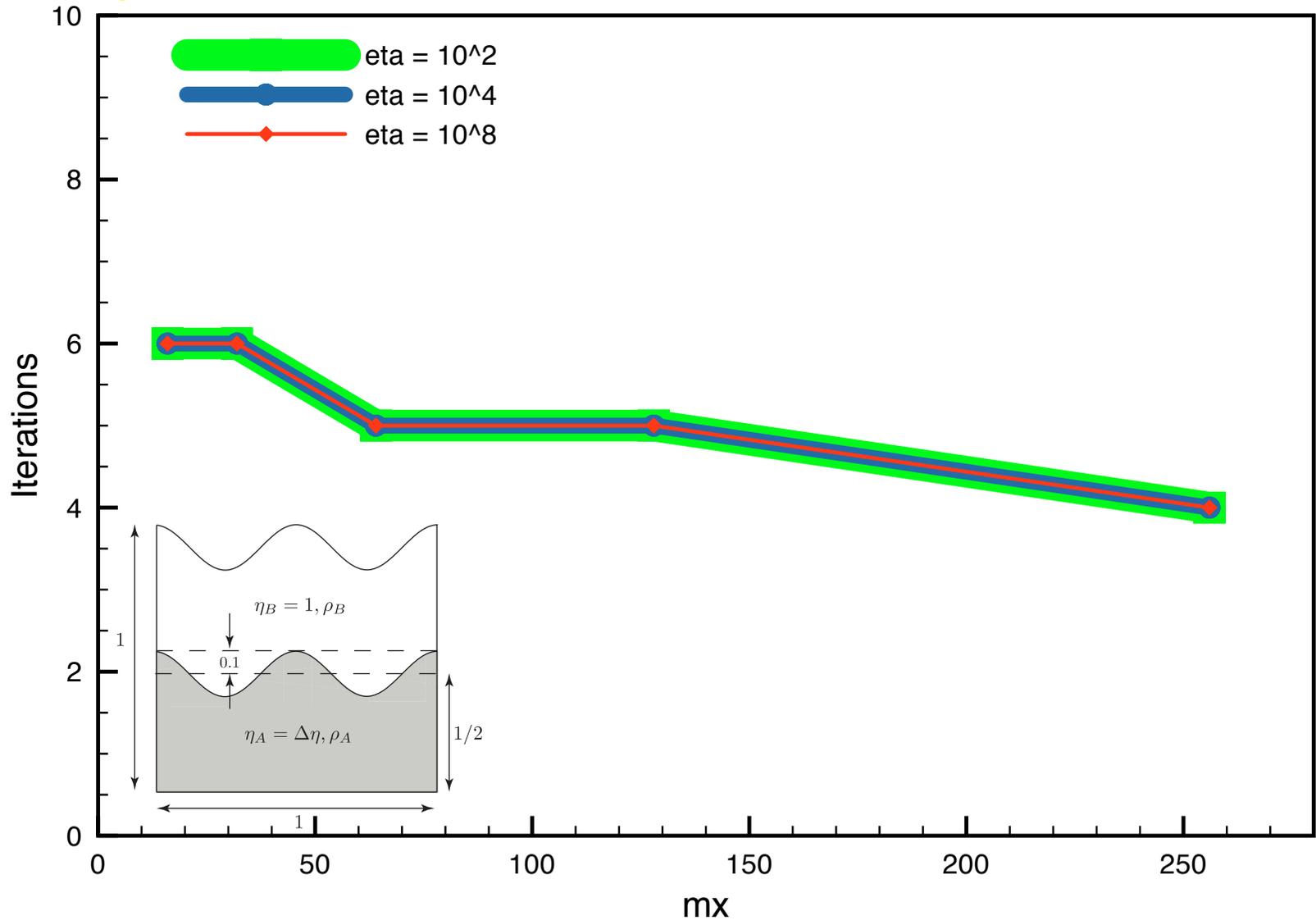
# Results: diapir

(robustness)



# Results: layer

(robustness)

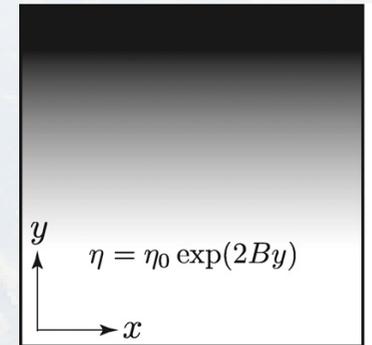


# Results: $\exp(y)$

(optimal)

$$\eta = 10^6 \exp(\theta y)$$

$$\theta = 13.8, \Delta\eta = 10^6$$

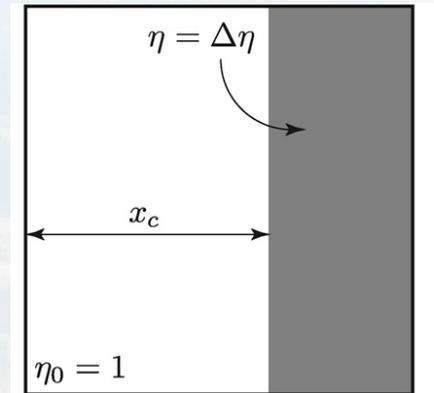


$M \times N$	unknowns	outer its.	avg. inner its.	CPU time (sec)
$200^2$	80,802	4	3	1.9
$284^2$	161,450	4	3	4.3
$400^2$	321,602	4	3	9.3
$566^2$	642,978	4	3	19.0
$800^2$	1,283,202	4	3	37.0
$1134^2$	2,576,450	4	3	59.6
$1602^2$	5,139,218	4	3	116.7

# Results: $step(x)$

(optimal)

$$\eta = \begin{cases} 1 & x < \frac{1}{2} \\ 10^6 & x \geq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$



$M \times N$	unknowns	its.	avg. inner its.	CPU time (sec)
$200^2$	80,802	5	3	1.91
$284^2$	161,450	5	4	6.00
$400^2$	321,602	5	4	11.55
$566^2$	642,978	5	4	27.38
$800^2$	1,283,202	5	4	50.46

## Finding 2

- Block Gauss-Siedel based preconditioner is robust
- Mild dependence on dimension of viscosity structure
- Approach is optimal and maintains robustness, exhibiting  $O(n)$  solution times when used in conjunction with *ML*
- Parallel efficiency not explored here. Others have demonstrated scalability with *ML*.

*Arbenz et. al., 2008*

*Burstedde et. al., 2008*

*Thomas Geenan (in yesterdays poster session)*

# Schur complement (S): ???

- Based on previous ideas...

Scaled BFBt for stabilised systems (compressible)

- Scaled mass matrix

$$\hat{s}_{ij} = -\frac{1}{\bar{\eta}^e} \int_{\square} M_i M_j \|J_e\| dV$$

i) For constant viscosity, the scaled mass matrix is spectrally equivalent to S.

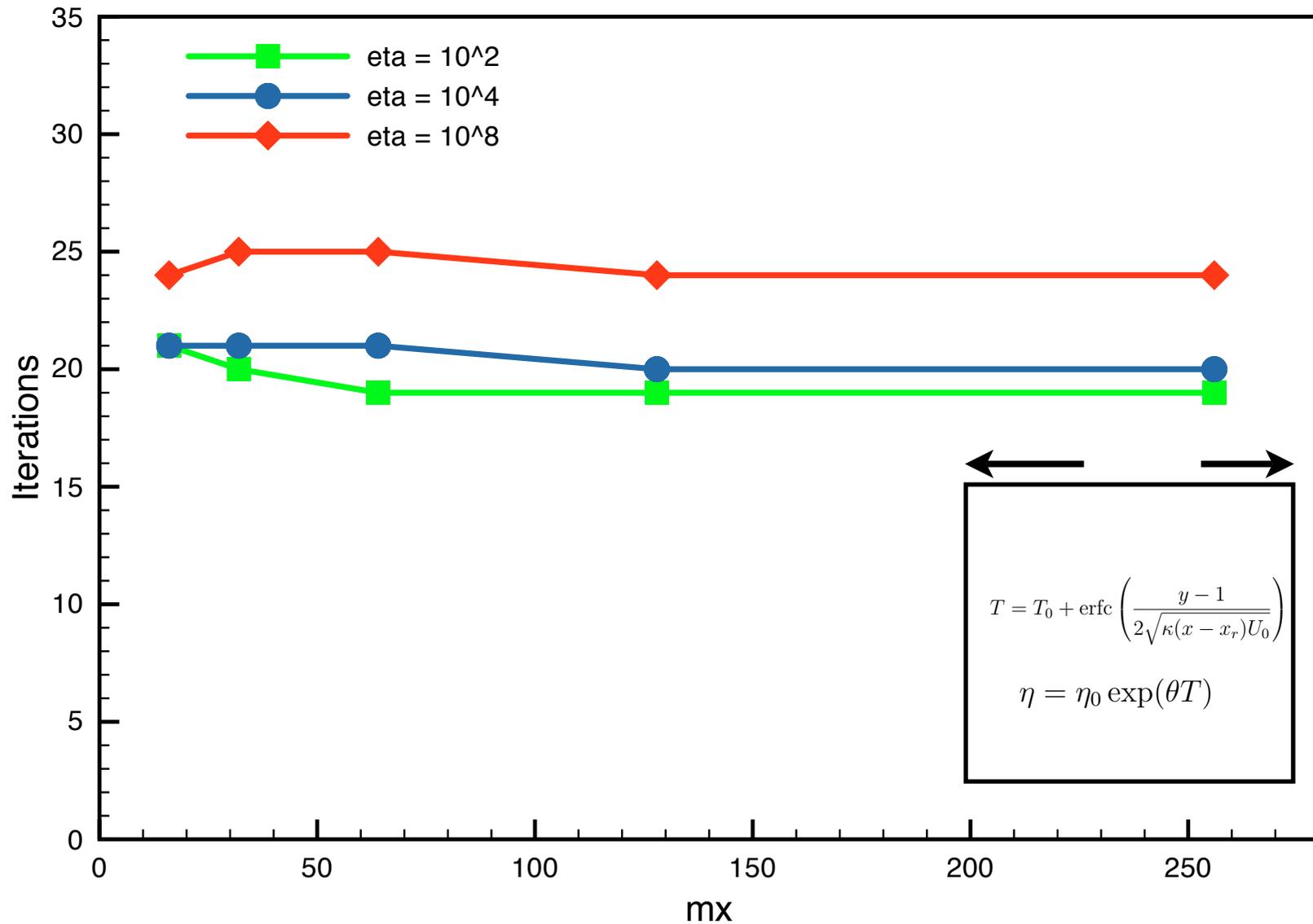
ii) There is a proof that the same result holds for *variable* viscosity.

*Thanks Thomas :)*

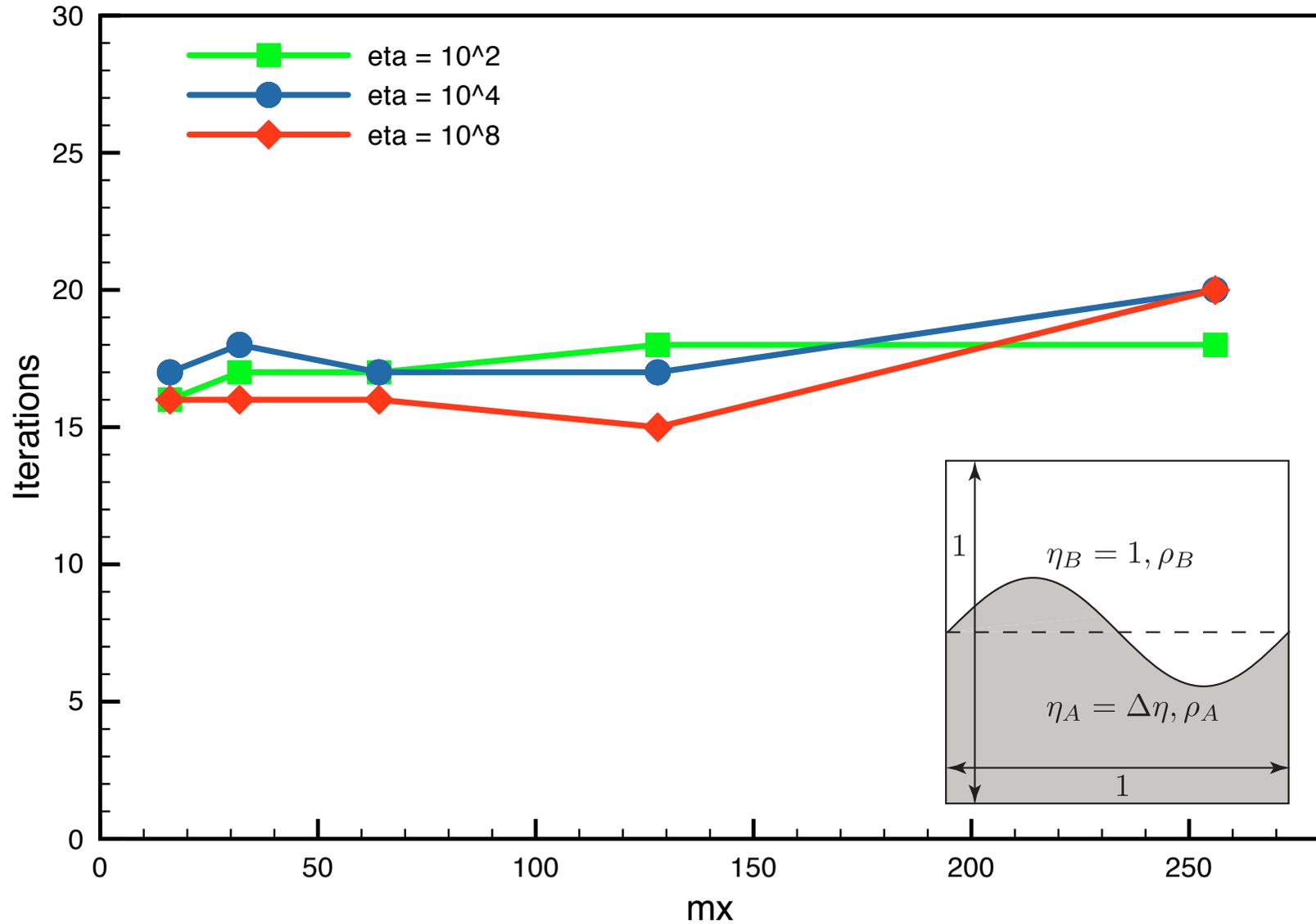
For continuous pressure elements, if the scaled mass matrix is spectrally equivalent to S, then the *diagonal* of the scaled mass matrix is also spectrally equivalent to S (*Elman, 2005*).

**We examine these ideas numerically.**

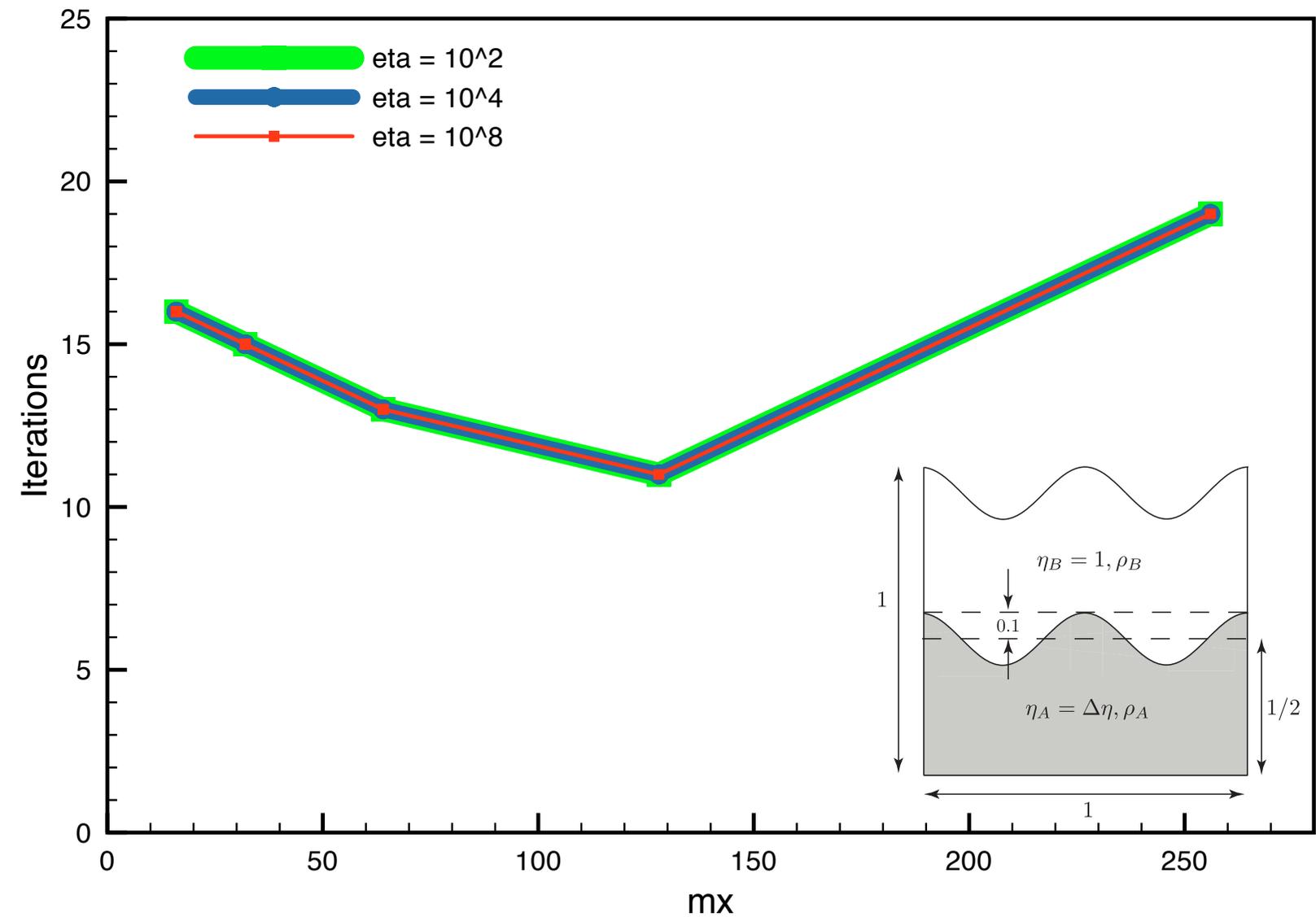
# Results: ridge



# Results: diapir



# Results: layer

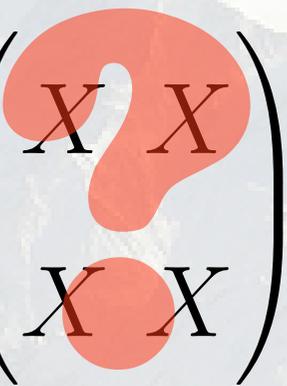


## Finding 3

- The diagonal of the scaled mass matrix is a surprisingly robust preconditioner, with little dependence on the viscosity contrast.
- The number of iterations required to solve the pressure Schur complement was  $\approx 20$  for all viscosity structures (ridge, diapir, layer).

# Preconditioning strategies

- Putting it all together

$$\begin{pmatrix} K & G \\ G^T & C \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} X & X \\ X & X \end{pmatrix}^{-1}$$


- Schur complement reduction versus fully coupled approaches?
- Combinations of the two maybe the answer, but the optimal setup seems to be problem dependent.

# Summary

- Stabilised Q1-Q1 discretisation is a robust element for studying Stokes flow with large variations in viscosity (smooth or discontinuous).
- Optimal error estimates are preserved for continuous viscosities.
- Velocity component decomposition (VCD) preconditioner is shown to be optimal & robust for variable viscosity Stokes flow.
- The simple diagonal mass matrix preconditioner is a robust and optimal choice for preconditioning the Schur complement when using Q1-Q1 stabilised elements.

# *Thank-you.... Questions???*