

Numerical Modelling in Geosciences

Lecture 9

Discretization of momentum and continuity equations

Discretization of momentum + continuity equations in 2D

$$\text{Continuity: } \frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$X - \text{Stokes: } \frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = -\rho g_x$$

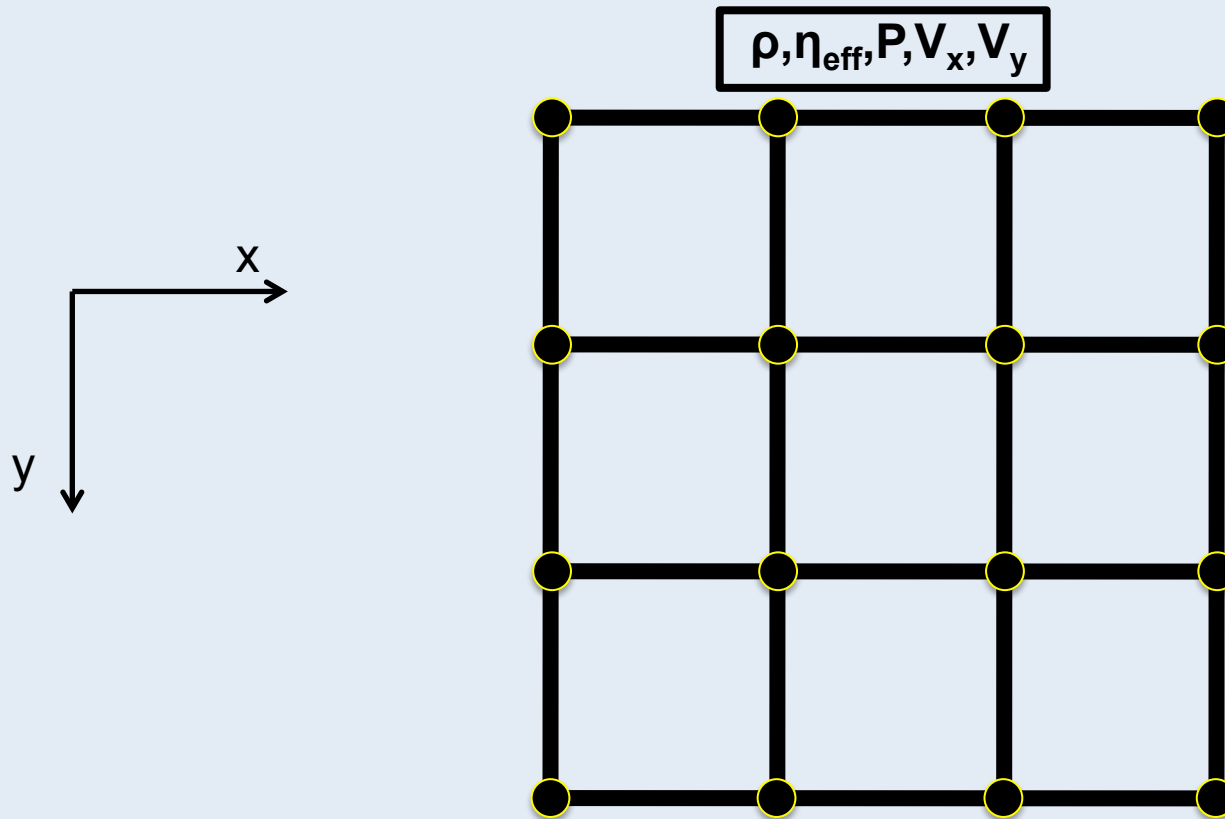
$$Y - \text{Stokes: } \frac{\partial \sigma_{yx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yy}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = -\rho g_y$$

How to apply finite differences

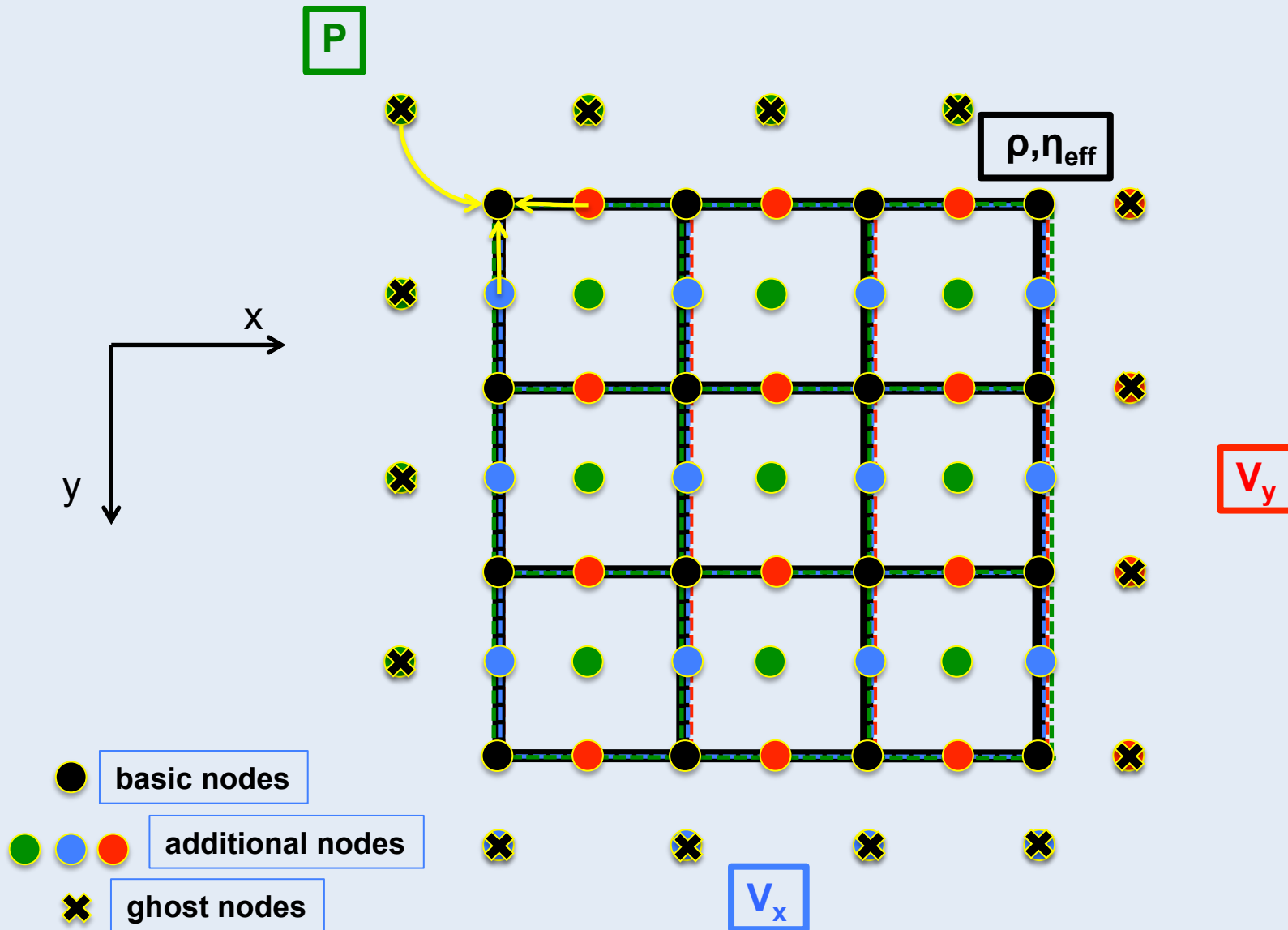
- 1) Define an Eulerian grid of nodal points
- 2) Assign input field variables to the nodes
- 3) Apply PDEs and boundary conditions to each nodal point
- 4) Solve the system of equations to get output field variables

1) Define an Eulerian grid of nodal point

Non-staggered grid



Staggered grid



Indexing

equations = # grid points * # of unknown field variables = 90

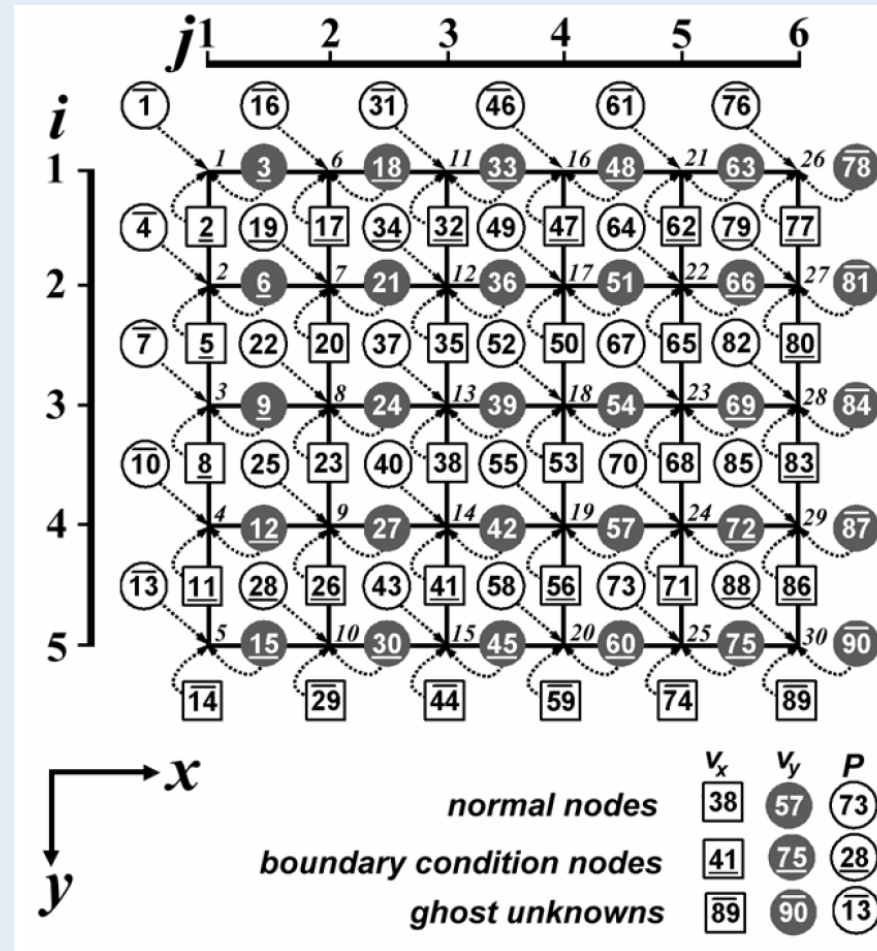
2D global indexing:

$$g_i = i + N_j * (j-1)$$

$$g_{ip} = g_i * 3 - 2$$

$$g_{ix} = g_i * 3 - 1$$

$$g_{iy} = g_i * 3$$



2) Assign input field variables to the nodes

In the case of Stokes equation:

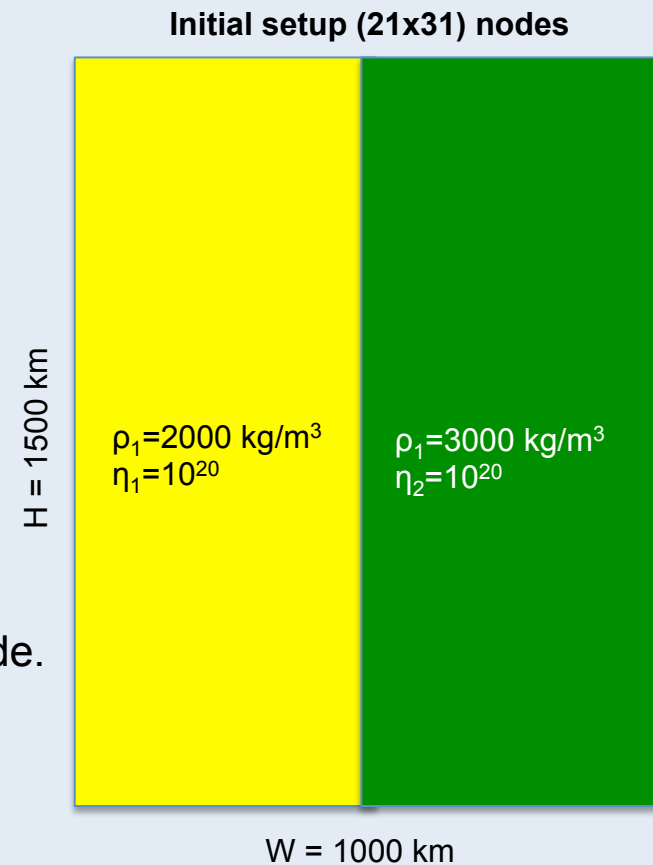
$$\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = -\rho g_x$$

$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{yx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{yy}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial y} = -\rho g_y$$

we need to define as initial input density at each node.

We assume gravity components and viscosity as constant values for all nodes.

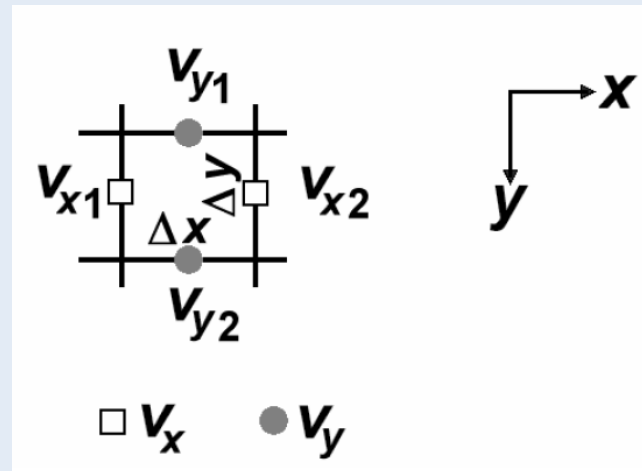


3) Apply PDEs to internal nodes: continuity equation

The continuity equation is formulated in the additional nodes at the centre of the cell where Pressure is obtained.

Coefficients in L matrix must be scaled by $2*\eta/(\Delta x+\Delta y)$

$$\frac{\partial v_x}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial v_y}{\partial y} = 0$$



3) Apply PDEs to internal nodes: X-Stokes

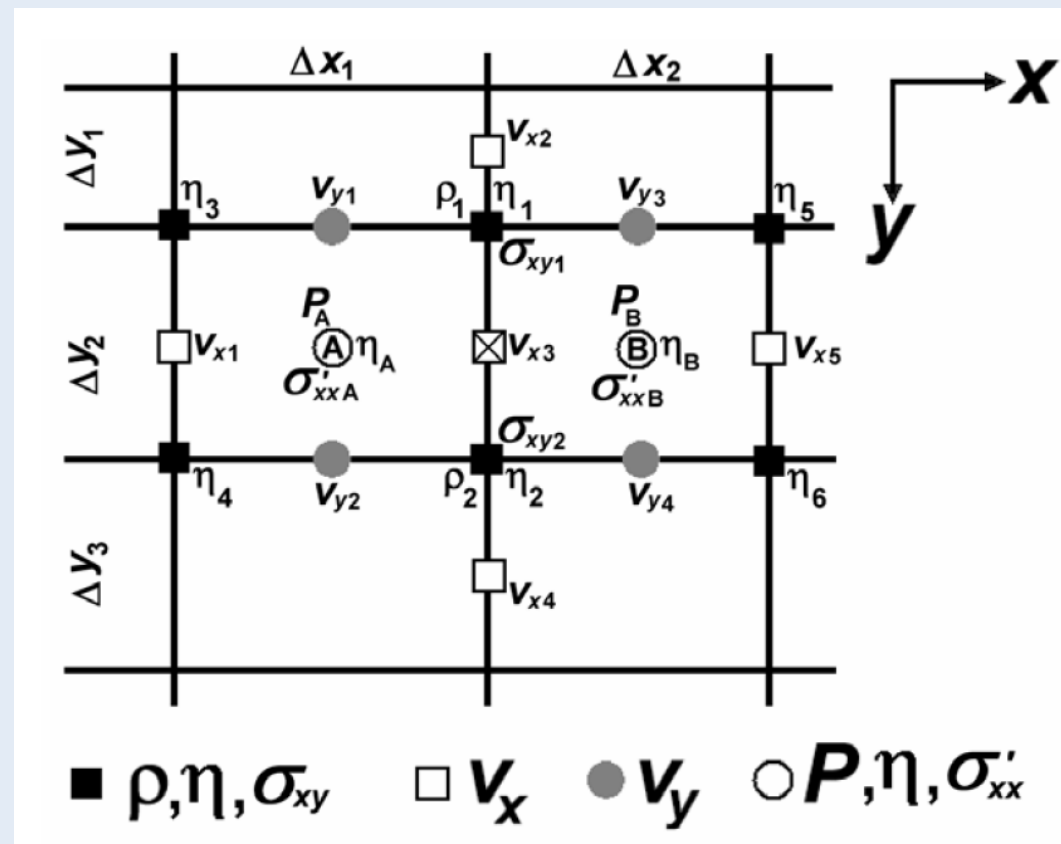
The X-Stokes equation is formulated in the additional nodes halfway two basic nodes along the y direction where \underline{v}_x is obtained.

Pressure coefficients in L matrix must be scaled by $2*\eta/(\Delta x+\Delta y)$

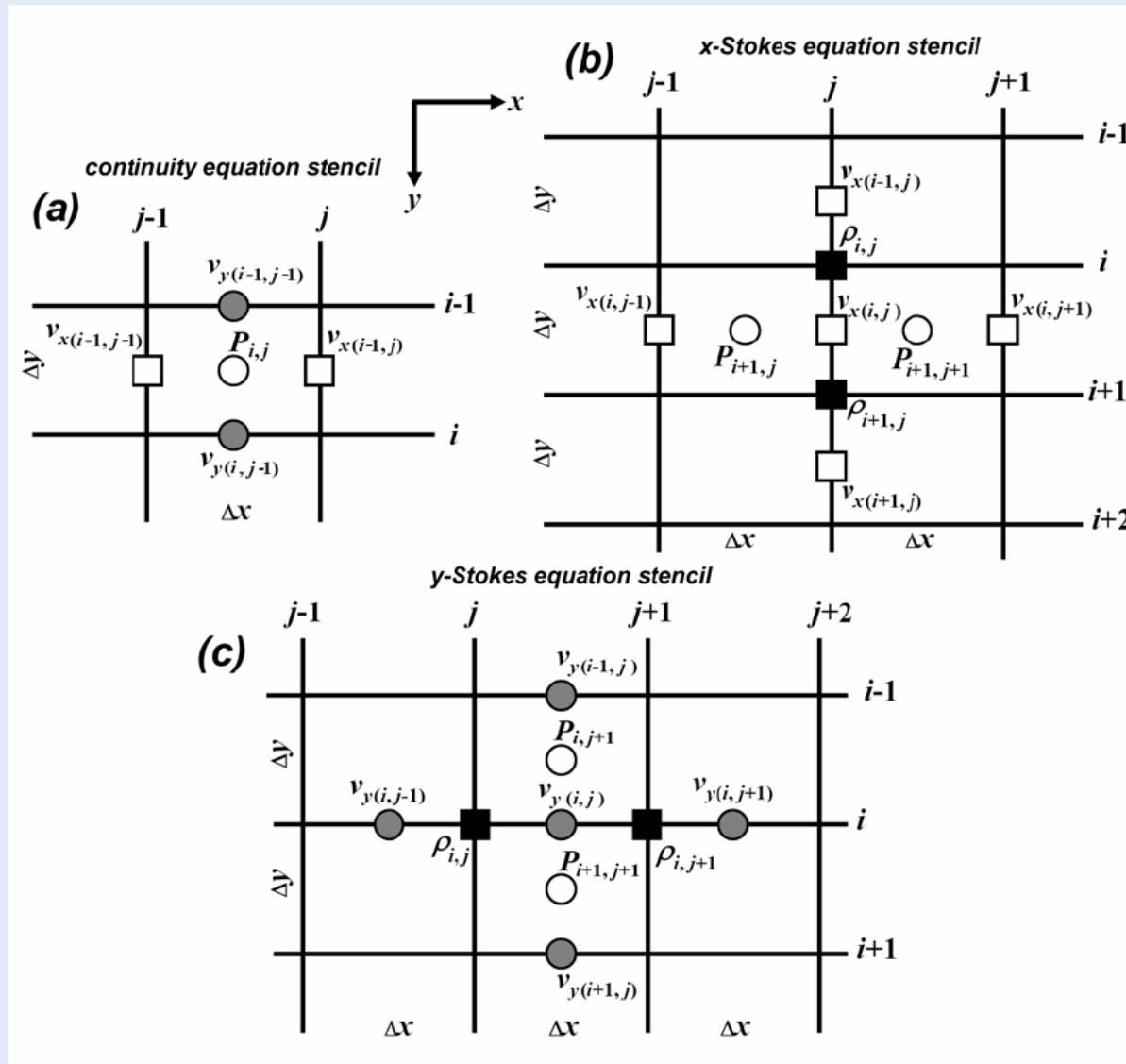
$$\frac{\partial \sigma_{xx}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \sigma_{xy}}{\partial y} - \frac{\partial P}{\partial x} = -\rho g_x$$

$$\eta_A = \frac{\eta_1 + \eta_2 + \eta_3 + \eta_4}{4},$$

$$\eta_B = \frac{\eta_1 + \eta_2 + \eta_5 + \eta_6}{4}.$$



3) Apply PDEs to internal nodes: geometric indexing



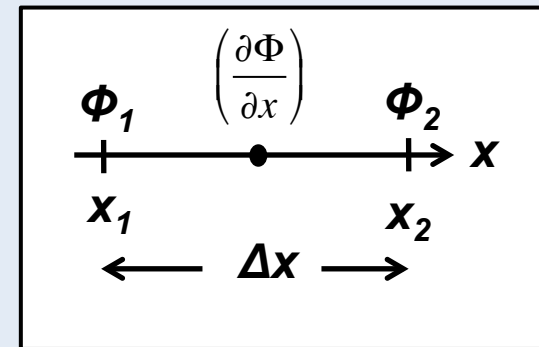
Boundary conditions

Dirichlet BC: specify the value of the solution on the boundary nodes

Example: $\Phi_1 = 0$

Neumann BC: specify the value of the derivative of the solution on the boundary nodes

Example: $\frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial x} \approx \frac{\Delta \Phi}{\Delta x} = 4.2 \Rightarrow \Phi_1 = \Phi_2 - 4.2 \cdot \Delta x$



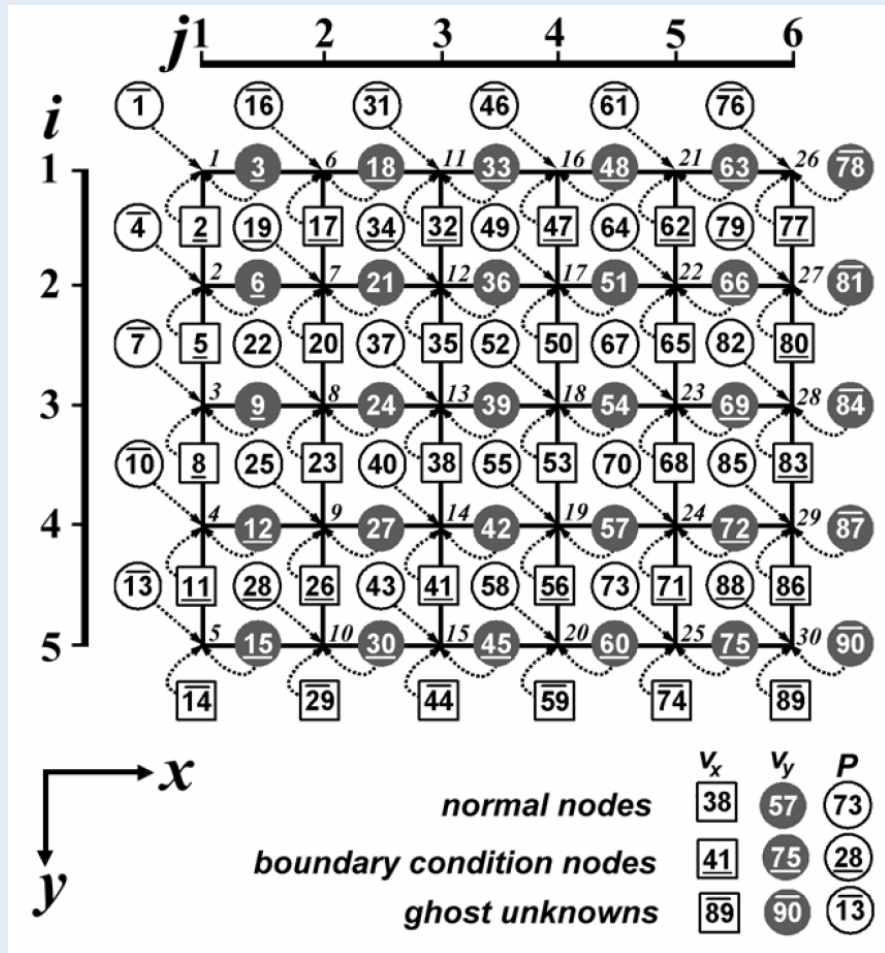
Very important in finite difference method:

For each output (unknown) field variable (e.g., P, T, v_x , v_y , etc.), we must assign a Dirichlet BC to at least 1 node. This is required in order to compute finite differences from an initial value.

Boundary conditions

Left and right coefficients of all BC must be scaled by $4*\eta/(\Delta x+\Delta y)^2$

Set BC at ghost nodes ($P = 0, V_x = 0, V_y = 0$)

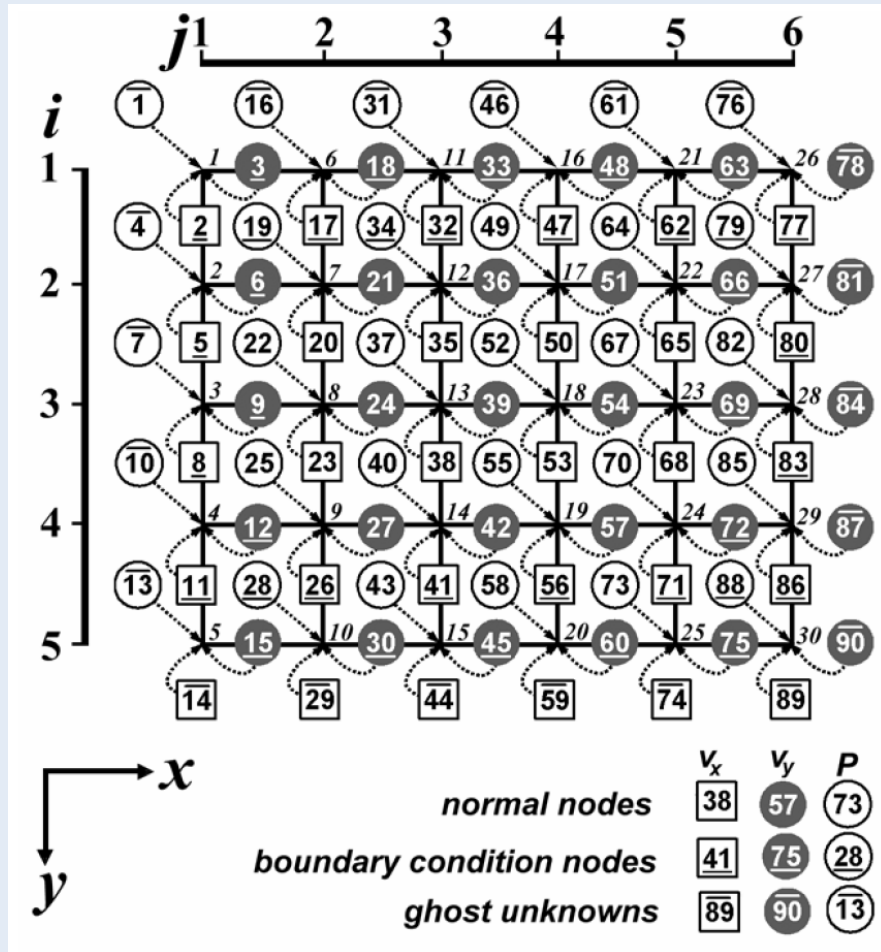
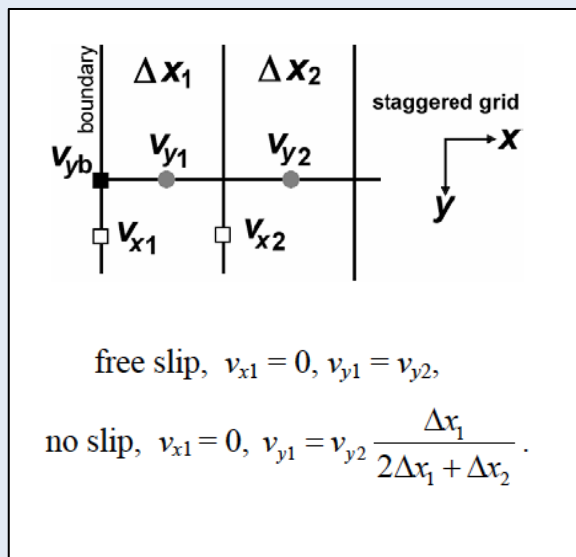


Boundary conditions

Left and right coefficients of all BC must be scaled by $4*\eta/(\Delta x + \Delta y)^2$

Vx and Vy:

- 1) free slip
- 2) no slip
- 3) moving boundary



How Pressure is obtained from continuity eq.?

Important: global index of pressure must be always bigger than those of surrounding v_x and v_y nodes

We apply Gaussian elimination (Eq. 3.12-3.18) to the analogue system of three equations with variables v_x , v_y and P having the global indexes 1, 2 and 3 respectively

$$\text{equation A1 (formulated for } v_x\text{): } 2v_x + 4v_y + 2P = 10,$$

$$\text{equation A2 (formulated for } v_y\text{): } 3v_x + 9v_y + 6P = 21,$$

$$\text{equation A3 (formulated for } P\text{): } v_x + 3v_y = 5.$$

Dividing all equations to by a number to normalise the coefficient of v_x , we get

$$\text{equation B1: } v_x + 2v_y + P = 5,$$

$$\text{equation B2: } v_x + 3v_y + 2P = 7,$$

$$\text{equation B3: } v_x + 3v_y = 5.$$

Eliminating v_x by subtracting equation B1 from B2 and B3 yields

$$\text{equation B1: } v_x + 2v_y + P = 5,$$

$$\text{equation C2: } v_y + P = 2,$$

$$\text{equation C3 : } v_y - P = 0.$$

Note that after the elimination operation, P indeed appears in equation C3.

Eliminating v_y by subtracting equation C2 from C3 yields

$$\text{equation B1: } v_x + 2v_y + P = 5,$$

$$\text{equation C2: } v_y + P = 2,$$

$$\text{equation D3 : } -2P = -2,$$

Obtaining the solution for P from equation D3

$$P = -2/(-2) = 1.$$

Obtaining solution for v_y from equation C2

$$v_y = 2 - P = 2 - 1 = 1.$$

Obtaining the solution for v_x from equation B1

$$v_x = 5 - 2v_y - P = 5 - 2 \cdot 1 - 1 = 2.$$

If the order is inverted (i.e., the global index of pressure is higher), we cannot solve for pressure

$$\text{equation 1 (formulated for } P\text{): } 3v_y + v_x = 5,$$

$$\text{equation 2 (formulated for } v_y\text{): } 6P + 9v_y + 3v_x = 21,$$

$$\text{equation 3 (formulated for } v_x\text{): } 2P + 4v_y + 2v_x = 10.$$

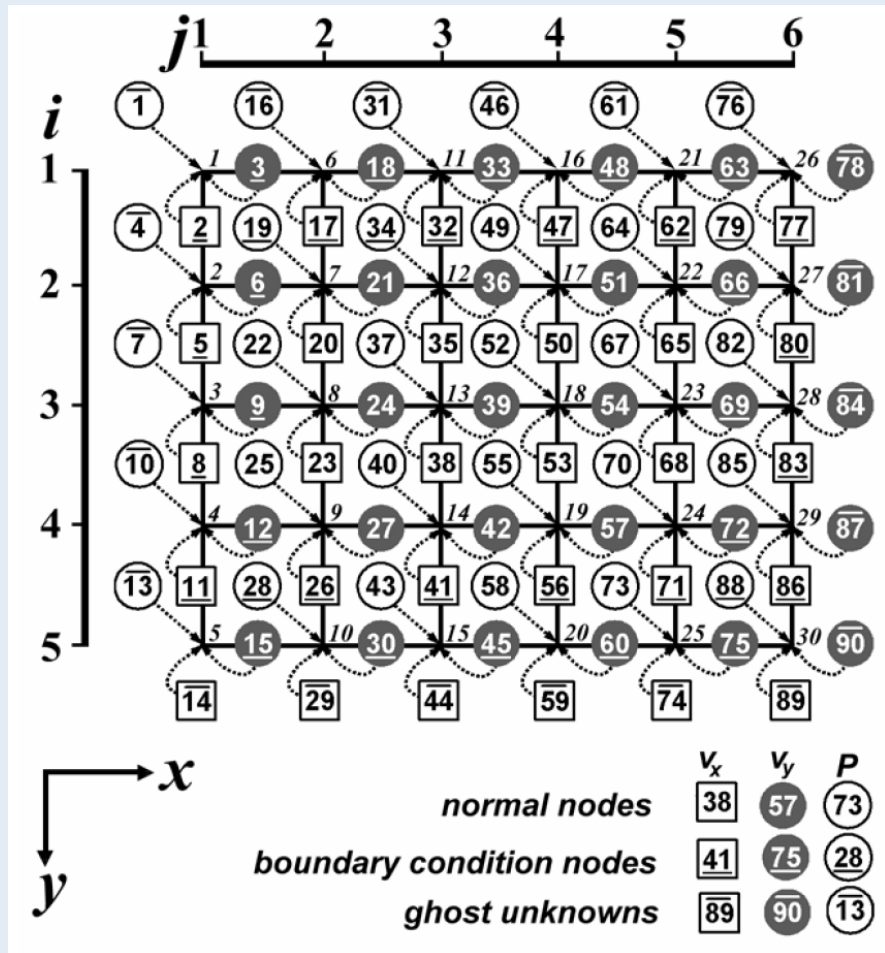
Boundary conditions

Left and right coefficients of all BC must be scaled by $4*\eta/(\Delta x+\Delta y)^2$

Pressure:

continuity eq. for pressure in a given cell is processed after processing all Stokes eqs. for all surrounding v_x and v_y nodes. Hence, pressure in the 4 corners of the grid cannot be computed since these nodes are surrounded by v_x and v_y nodes were Stokes eq. (that contains pressure) has not been formulated, but only BC.

horizontal symmetry condition at the 4 corners ($dP/dx = 0$) + 1 additional node with Dirichlet BC



Homework

Read chapter 7 of textbook:

Gerya, T. *Introduction to numerical geodynamic modelling*.
Cambridge University Press, 345 pp. (2010)

