

Optimization of relaxation factor for simple solver

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Guideline for Practical Applications



Working Group in Architectural Institute of Japan

Akashi Mochida, Yoshihide Tominaga, et al.

“Guidebook for Practical Applications of CFD to Pedestrian Wind Environment around Buildings”

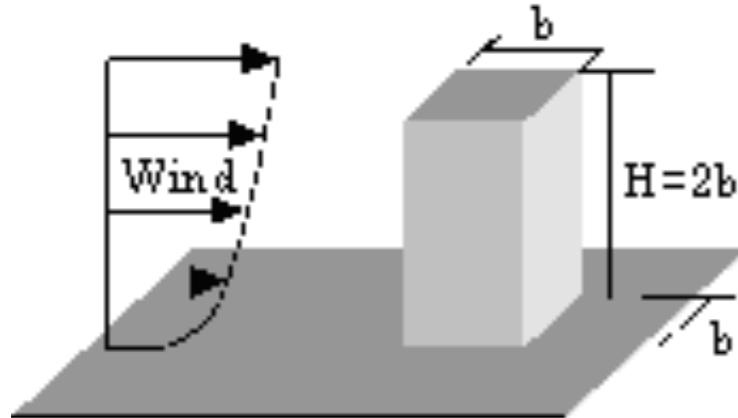


(in Japanese)

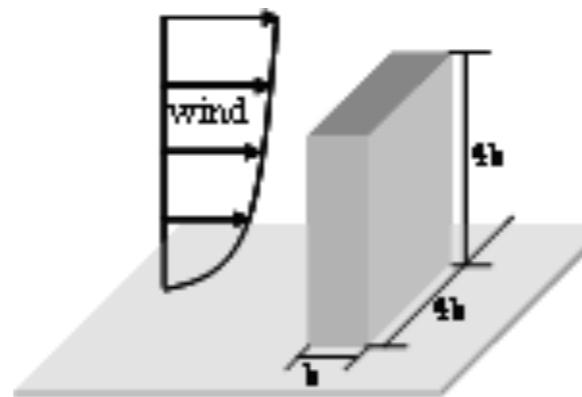
test case	dataset	Ref.
A 2:1:1 shape building model	Data file : CaseA(1_1_2).xls	[1]
B 4:4:1 shape building model	Data file : CaseB(4_4_1).xls	[2][3]
C Simple Building blocks	Data file : CaseC(City_blocks).xls	-
D A high-rise building in city blocks	Data file : CaseD(Highrise+Blocks).xls CAD File(DXF) : CaseD_dxf.zip CAD File(MCD) : CaseD_mcd.zip	[5]
E Building complexes with simple building shape in actual urban area (Niigata)	Data file : CaseE(Niigata).xls CAD File(DXF) : CaseE_dxf.zip CAD File(MCD) : CaseE_mcd.zip	[6]
F Building complexes with complicated building shape in actual urban area (Shinjuku)	Data file : CaseF(Shinjuku).xls CAD File(DXF) : CaseF_dxf.zip CAD File(MCD) : CaseF_mcd.zip CAD File(STL) : CaseF_stl.zip	[6]
G Two-dimensional pine tree	Data file : CaseG(Tree).xls	[7]

Web site (in Japanese and English)

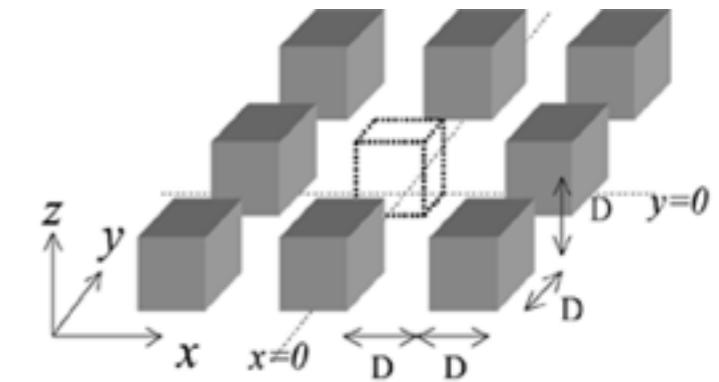
Benchmark tests



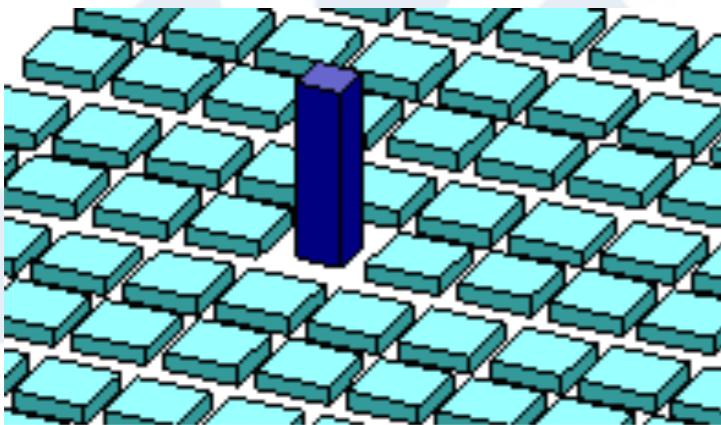
Case **A**
(2:1:1 shape)



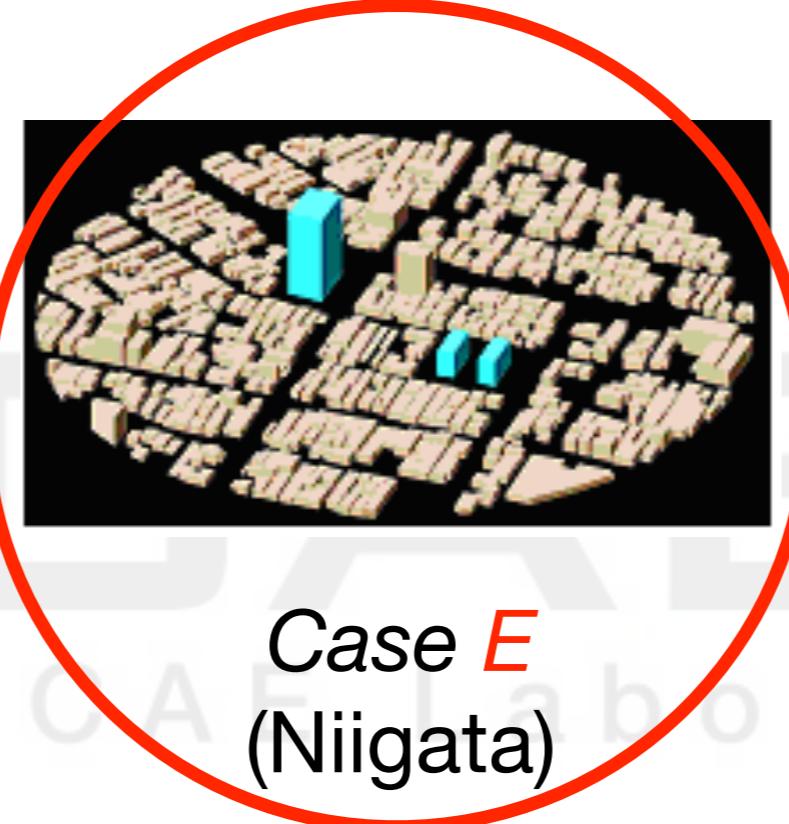
Case **B**
(4:4:1 shape)



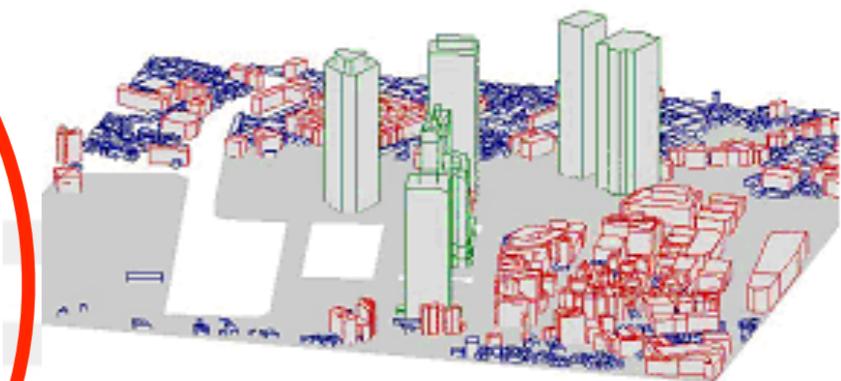
Case **C**
(Simple blocks)



Case **D**
(High-rise bldg.)



Case **E**
(Niigata)

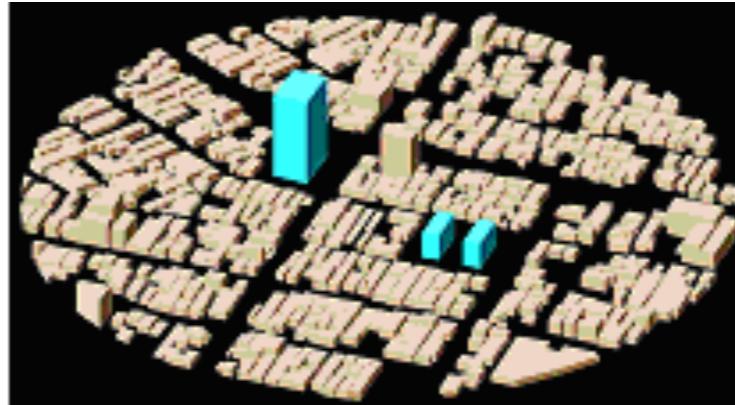


Case **F**
(Shinjuku, Tokyo)

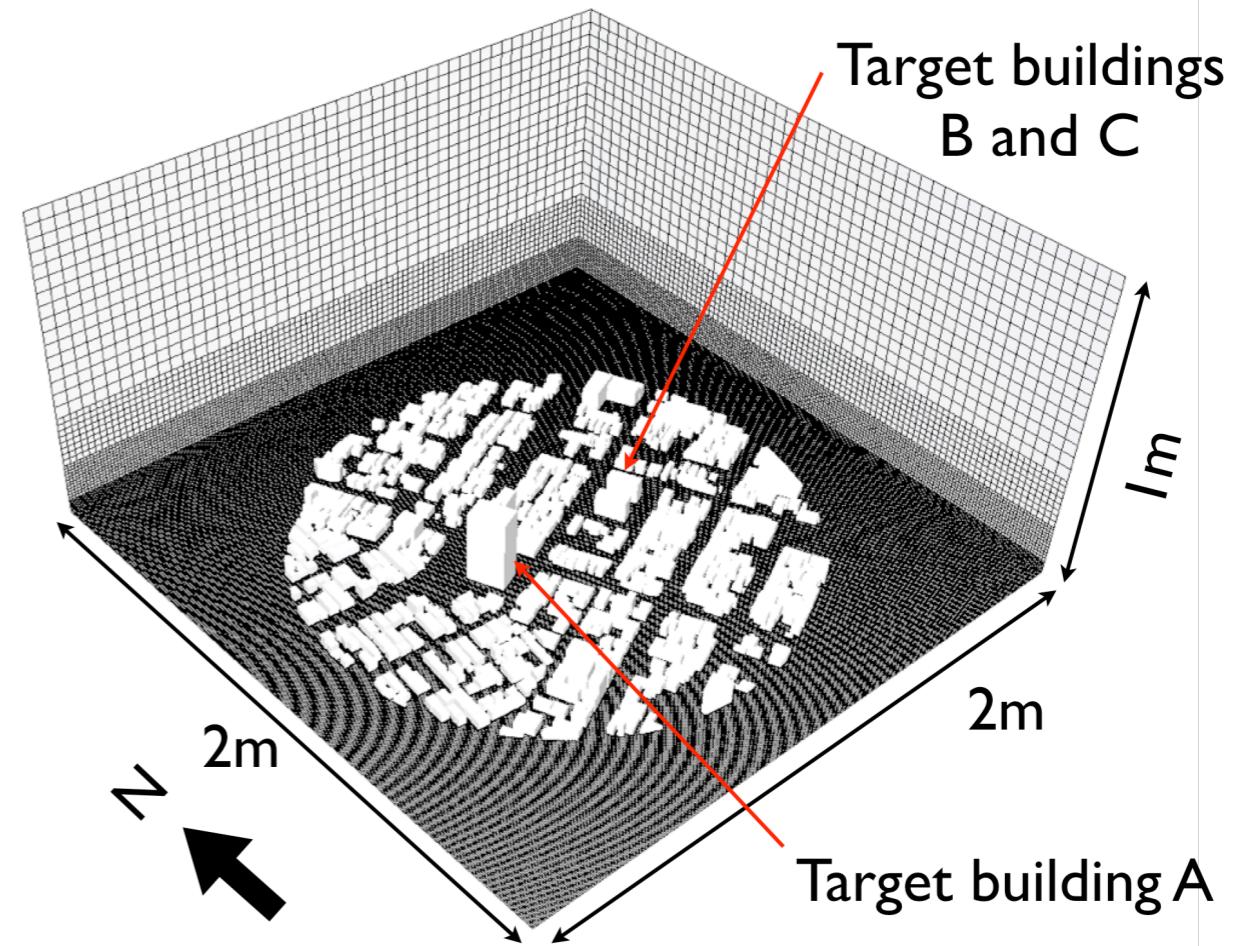
Case E - Calculation condition



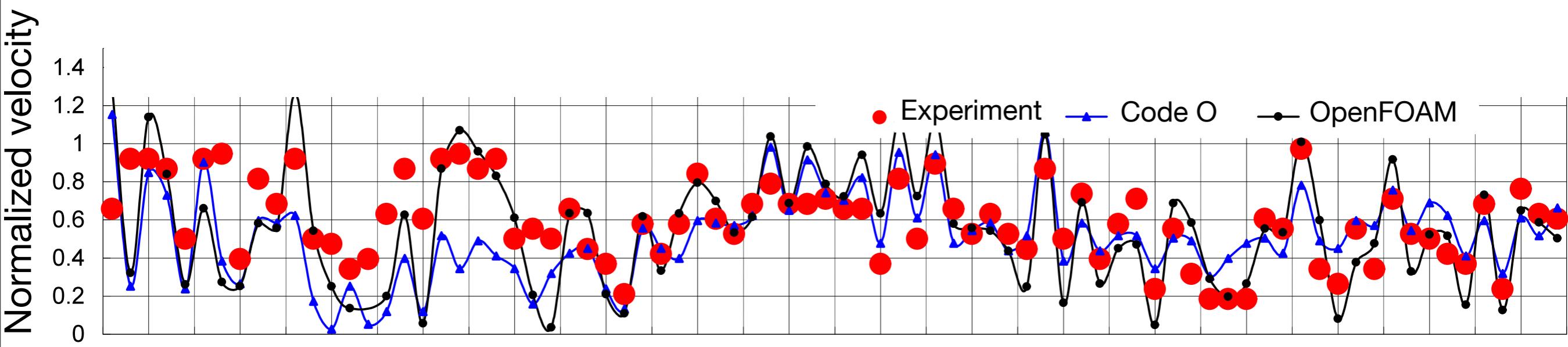
Mesh	Cartesian mesh (snappyHexMesh)
Inflow	Interpolate from wind tunnel results
Top & Side wall	Zero gradient
Ground and bldg. wall	Generalized log law for a smooth wall
Turbulence model	Standard k-epsilon
Advection scheme	Upwind
Algorithm	SIMPLE (simpleFoam)
Wind direction	NNE



Building complexes with simple building shape in actual urban area (Niigata)



Case E - Validation



RMSE(Root Mean Square Error)

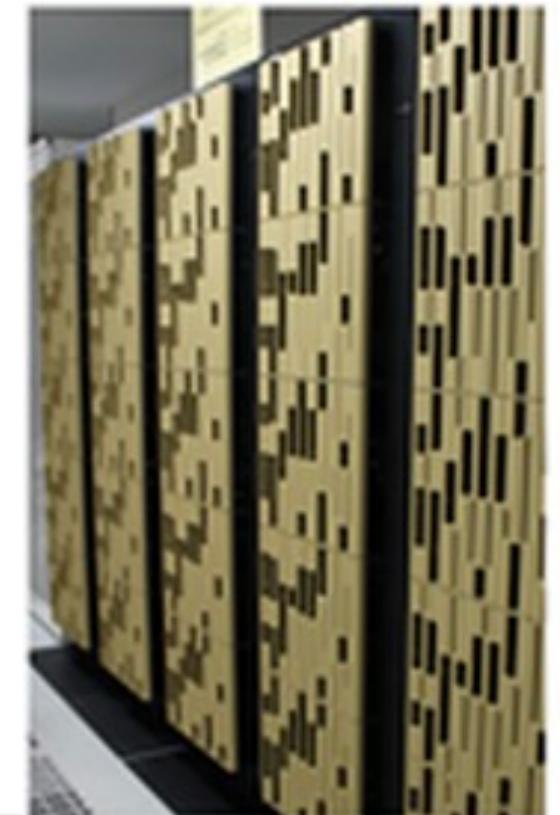
Code O(Overlapping structured grid)
0.24

OpenFOAM (Unstructured grid)
0.22

Test cluster condition



- **Project XL server @ Hokkaido University**
- **Hardware:** HITACHI BladeSymphony BS 2000
- **CPU:** Intel Xeon E7-8870 2.4GHz, 10 cores
- **Node:** 4CPUs (40 cores)
- **Memory:** 128GB/node
- **HDD:** 2TB/node
- **OS:** Any OS (root account is available)
- **Rental fee:** 21,000 yen/month
- **Other project server:**
✓ **L server:** 10 cores(1CPU), 5,250 yen/month



Accelerate simple solver

- Relaxation parameters for pressure and velocity are important for steady state incompressible flows
(solver: simpleFoam)

system/fvSolution:

```
relaxationFactors // 0 < relaxationFactors <= 1
{
    p          0.3; // for pressure (important)
    U          0.5; // for velocity vectors (important)
    k          0.5; // for turbulence kinetic energy
    epsilon   0.5; // for turbulence kinetic energy
                // dissipation rate
}
```

Convergence criteria

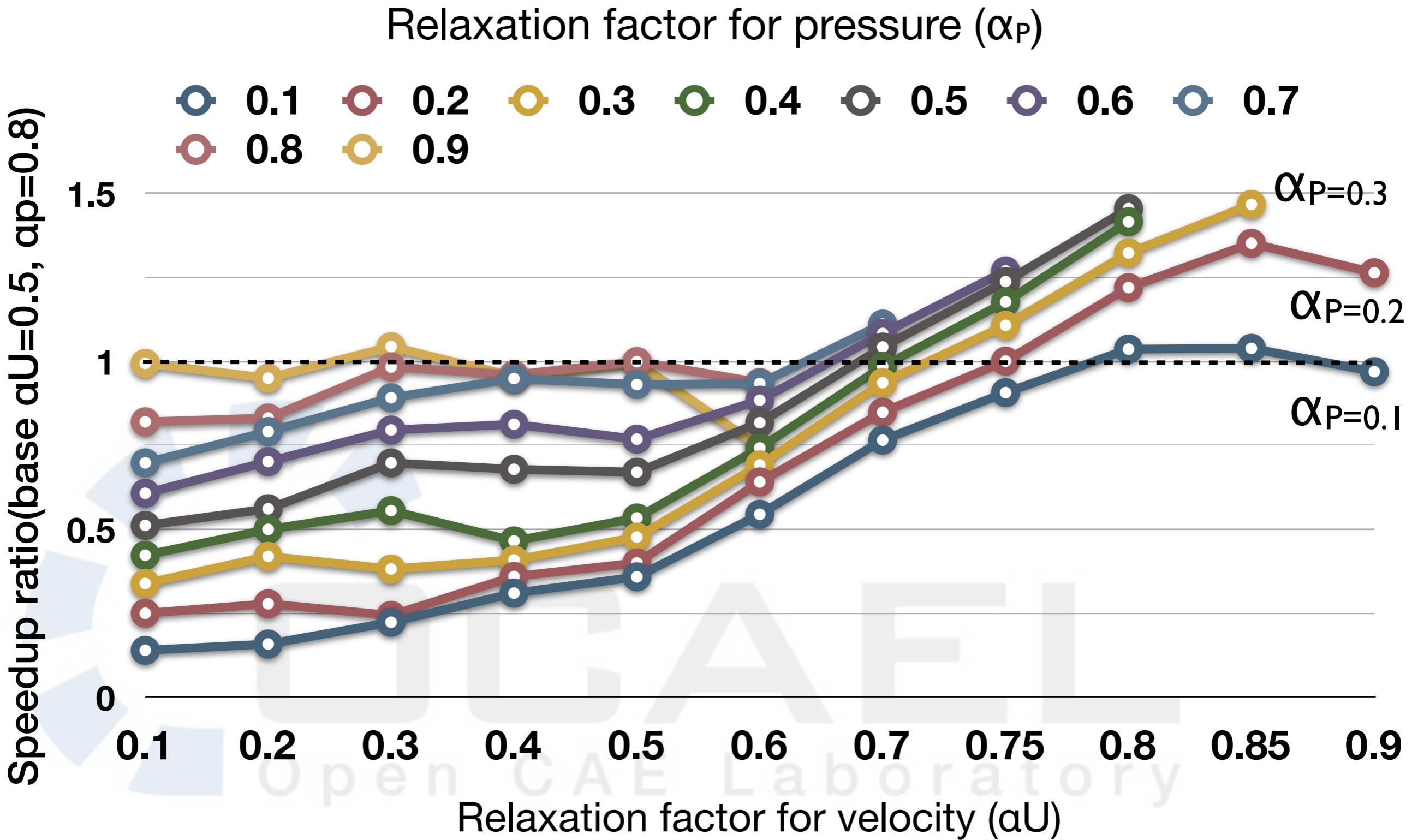


system/fvSolution:

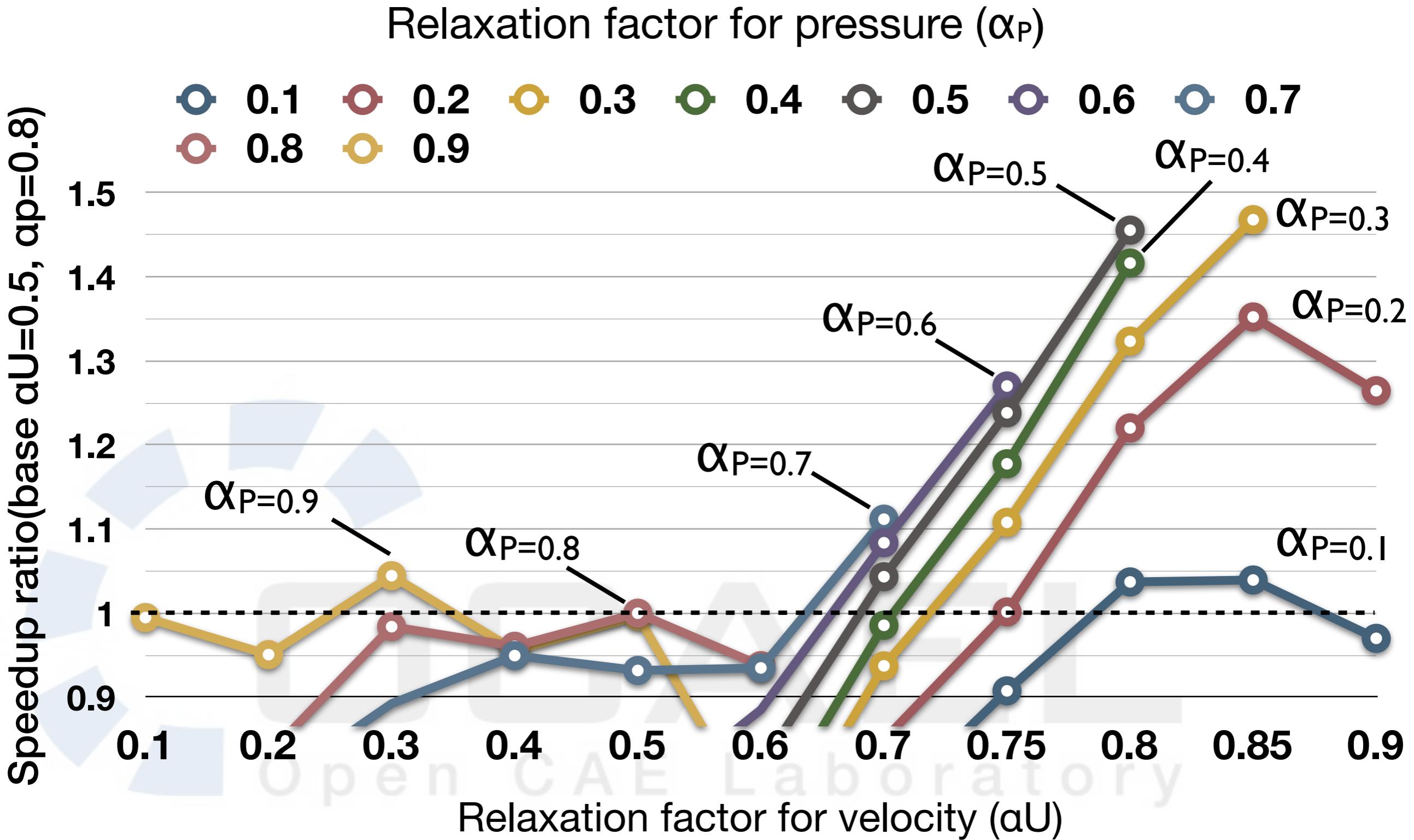
SIMPLE

```
{  
    nNonOrthogonalCorrectors 0;  
    residualControl // convergence criteria  
    {  
        "(p|U|k|epsilon|omega)" 2e-3;  
    }  
}
```

Results of speedup in SIMPLE 1



Results of speedup in SIMPLE 2

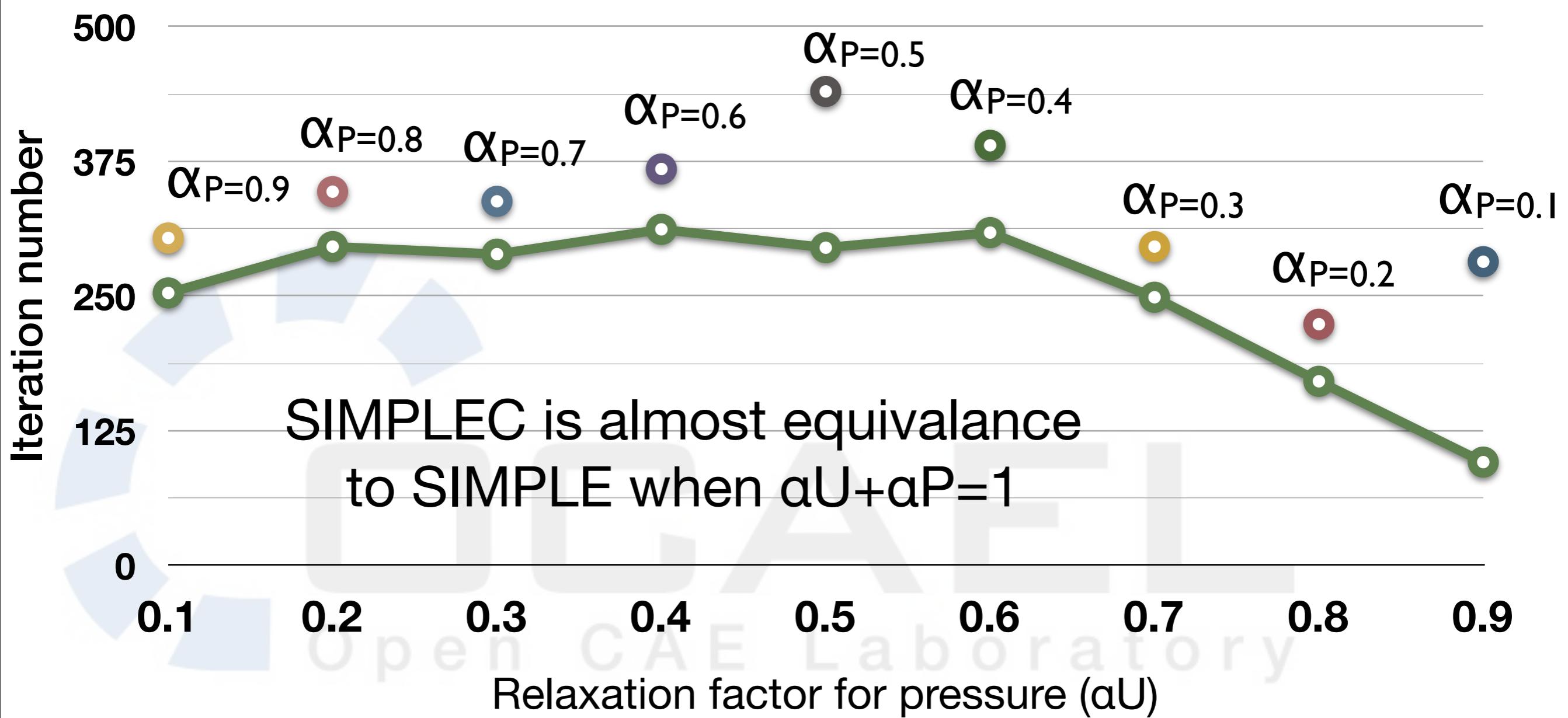


Results of speedup in SIMPLEC

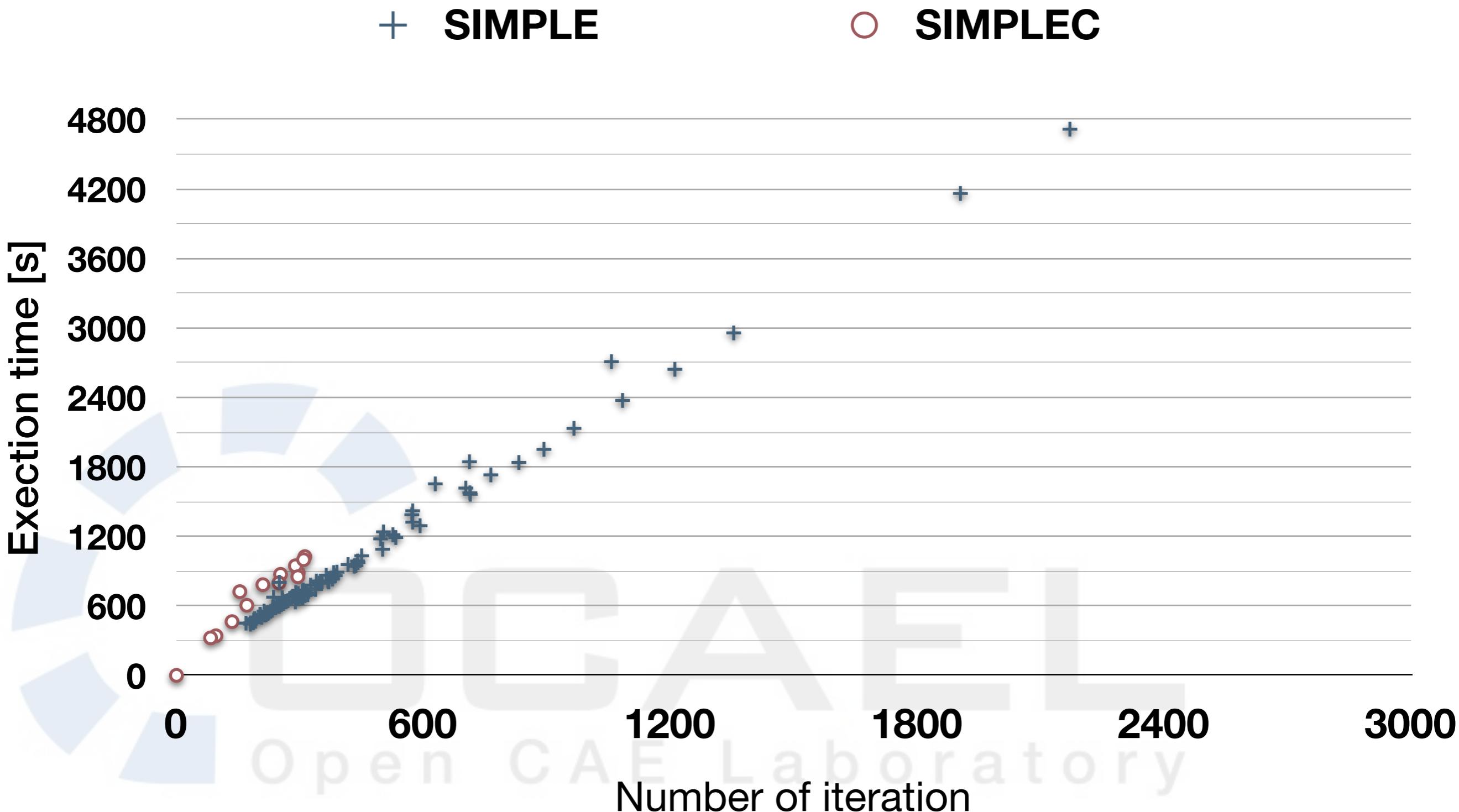


Relaxation factor for velocity (α_P)

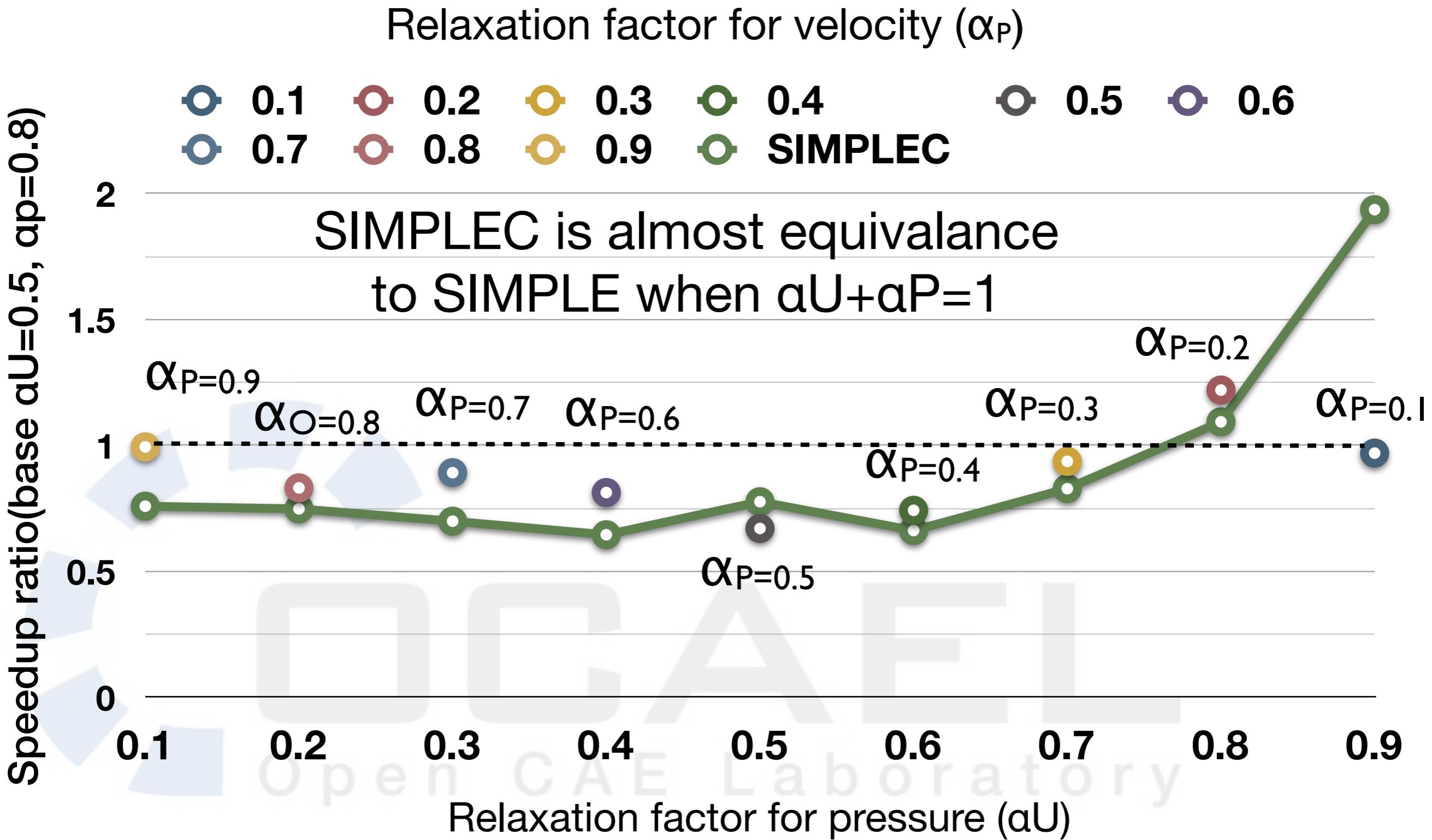
0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6
0.7 0.8 0.9 SIMPLEC



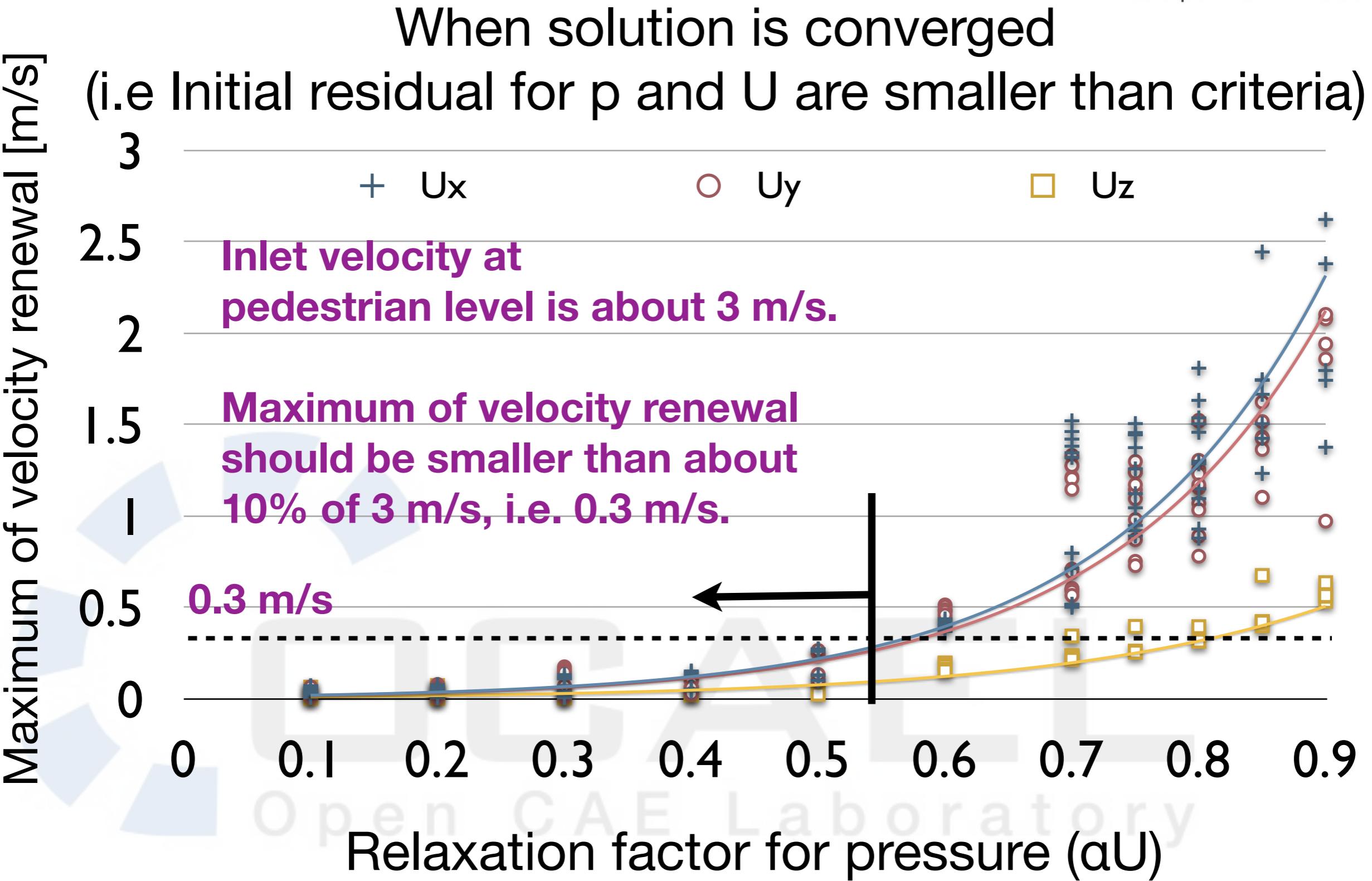
Execution time per iteration



Results of speedup in SIMPLEC 2



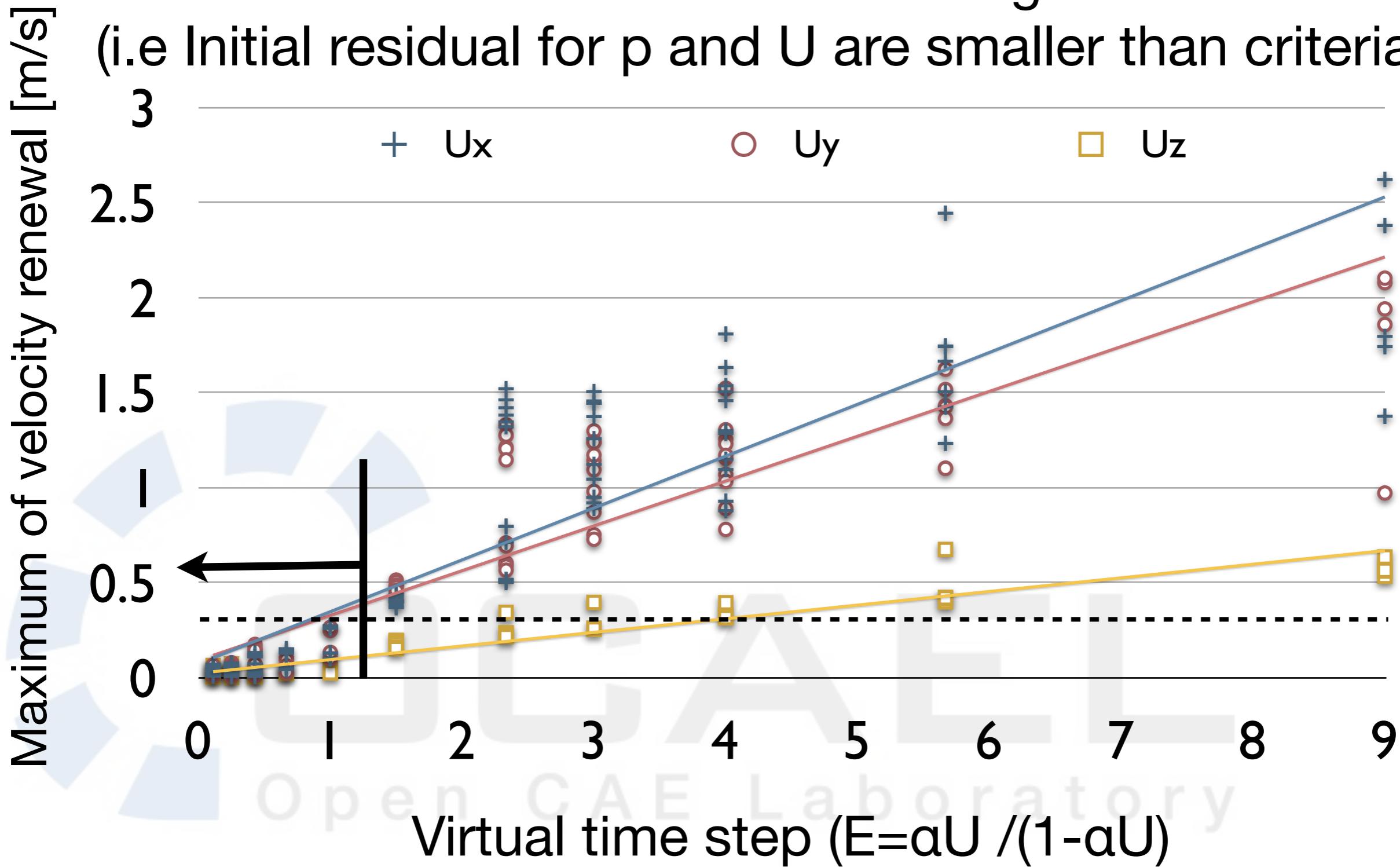
Maximum of velocity renewal 1



Maximum of velocity renewal 2

When solution is converged

(i.e Initial residual for p and U are smaller than criteria)



Any Questions?

