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***Efficient Interpolant-Based Spatial Error  
Estimation for B-Spline Collocation Solutions  
of 1D Parabolic PDEs***

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- Examples
- General Problem Class
- Method-Of-Lines(MOL) Software
- Overview of B-spline based, Adaptive COLlocation software for 1D PDEs: BACOL
- Alternative Error Estimation Schemes
- Future Work: Extensions to 2D PDEs
- Joint work with:  
Tom Arsenault, Tristan Smith, Jack Pew

# Burgers' Equation

See, e.g., Adjerid et al. [1995]

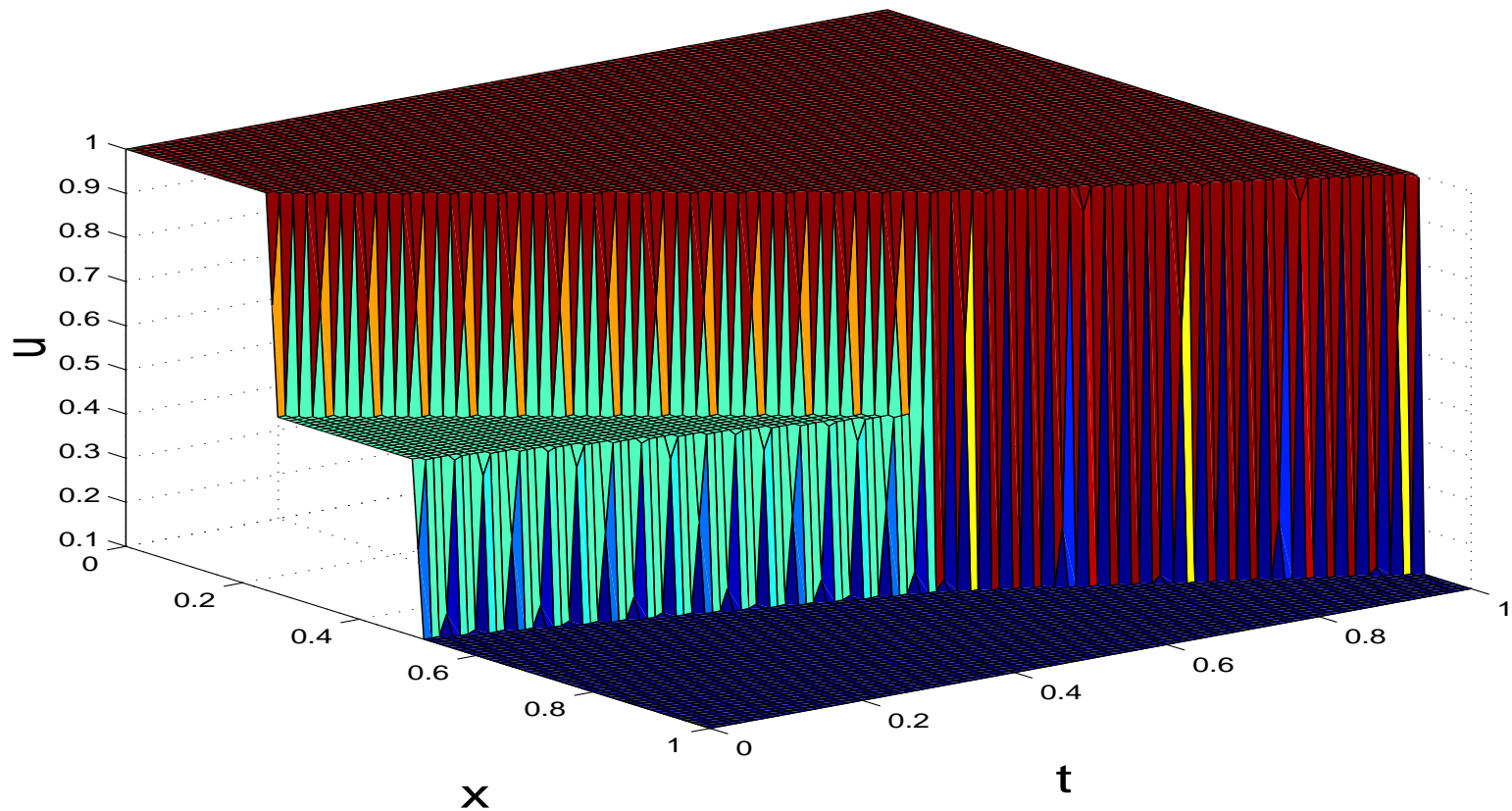
$$u_t = -uu_x + \epsilon u_{xx}, \quad 0 < x < 1, \quad t > 0, \quad \epsilon > 0$$

Initial condition and boundary conditions chosen so that the exact solution is given by

$$u(x, t) = \frac{0.1e^{-A} + 0.5e^{-B} + e^{-C}}{e^{-A} + e^{-B} + e^{-C}},$$

where  $A = \frac{0.05}{\epsilon}(x - 0.5 + 4.95t)$ ,  $B = \frac{0.25}{\epsilon}(x - 0.5 + 0.75t)$ ,  $C = \frac{0.5}{\epsilon}(x - 0.375)$ , where  $\epsilon$  is a problem dependent parameter

# Burgers' Equation



Solution of Burgers' equation with  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$

# Catalytic Surface Reaction

Reaction-diffusion-convection system, [Zhang, 1993]

$$(u_1)_t = -(u_1)_x + n(D_1 u_3 - A_1 u_1 \gamma) + (u_1)_{xx}/Pe_1,$$

$$(u_2)_t = -(u_2)_x + n(D_2 u_4 - A_2 u_2 \gamma) + (u_2)_{xx}/Pe_1,$$

$$(u_3)_t = A_1 u_1 \gamma - D_1 u_3 - R u_3 u_4 \gamma^2 + (u_3)_{xx}/Pe_2,$$

$$(u_4)_t = A_2 u_2 \gamma - D_2 u_4 - R u_3 u_4 \gamma^2 + (u_4)_{xx}/Pe_2,$$

where  $\gamma = 1 - u_3 - u_4$ ,  $0 < x < 1$   $t > 0$ , and

$Pe_1, Pe_2, D_1, D_2, R, A_1$ , and  $A_2$  are problem dependent parameters, with initial conditions

$$u_1(x, 0) = 2 - r, \quad u_2(x, 0) = r, \quad u_3(x, 0) = u_4(x, 0) = 0,$$

# Catalytic Surface Reaction

and (mixed) boundary conditions:

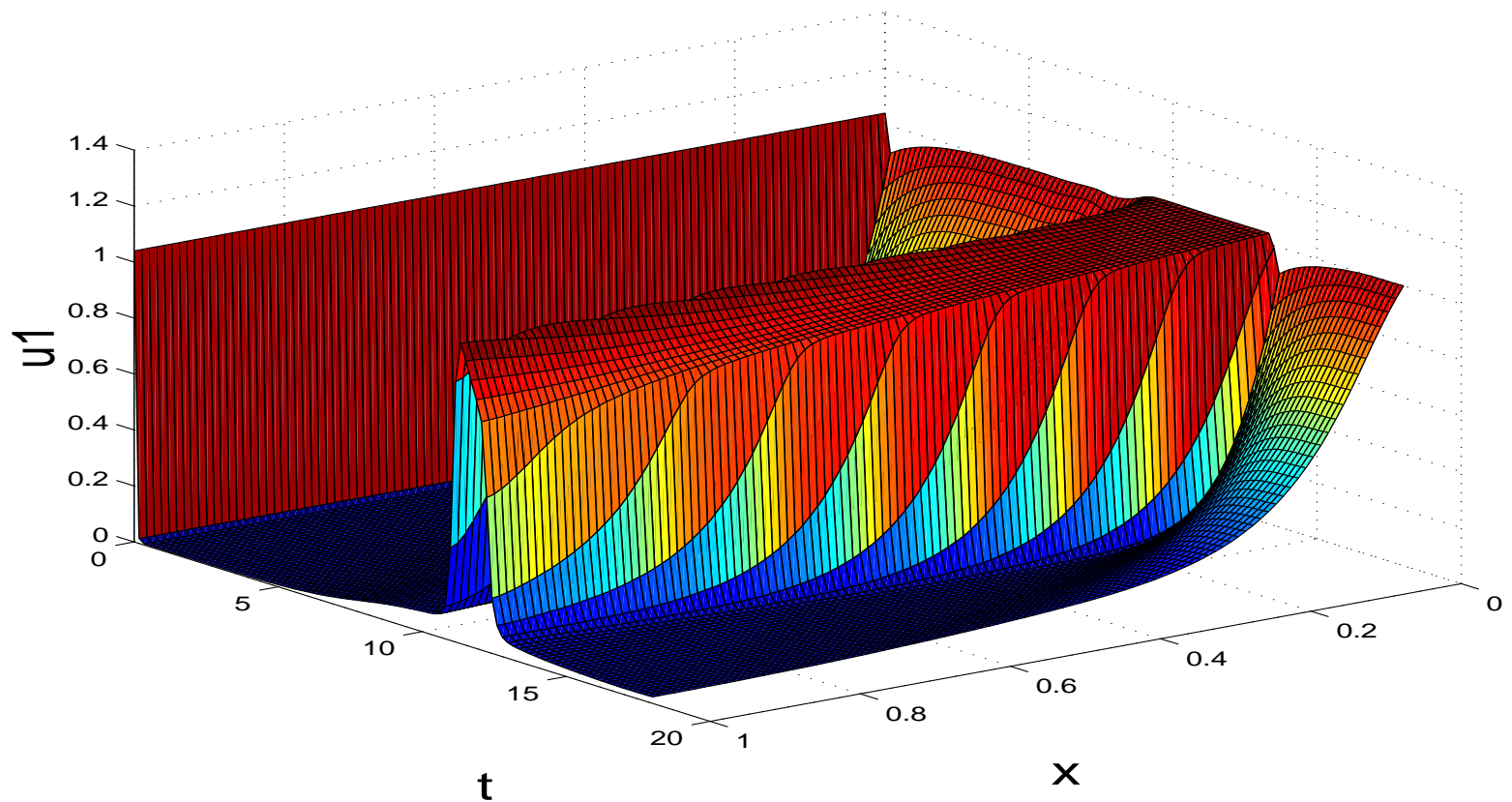
$$(u_1)_x(0, t) = -Pe_1(2 - r - u_1(0, t))$$

$$(u_2)_x(0, t) = -Pe_1(r - u_2(0, t))$$

$$(u_3)_x(0, t) = (u_4)_x(0, t) = 0$$

$$(u_1)_x(1, t) = (u_2)_x(1, t) = (u_3)_x(1, t) = (u_4)_x(1, t) = 0$$

# Catalytic Surface Reaction



Catalytic Surface Reaction Model,  $u_1(x, t)$

# General Problem Class

*NPDE* partial differential equations

$$u_t(x, t) = f(t, x, u(x, t), u_x(x, t), u_{xx}(x, t)),$$

$$a \leq x \leq b, \quad t \geq t_0,$$

initial conditions

$$u(x, t_0) = u_0(x), \quad a \leq x \leq b,$$

(separated) boundary conditions

$$b_L(t, u(a, t), u_x(a, t)) = b_R(t, u(b, t), u_x(b, t)) = 0$$



- “Production Level” or “Library Level” software packages based on well-established algorithms, designed for a general problem class
- e.g.,
  - LINPACK, LAPACK, in numerical linear algebra,
  - QUADPACK in numerical integration,
  - IMSL, NAG, Netlib
- We focus on “Library Level” software packages for 1D time-dependent PDEs

- Spatial mesh which partitions spatial domain + spatial discretization of PDE by, e.g., finite differences, finite elements, collocation  
⇒ PDE approximated by system of ODEs
- ODEs + boundary conditions  
⇒ Differential-Algebraic Equations (DAEs)
- ⇒ Takes advantage of the availability of high quality DAE solvers that adapt stepsize/order of formula to control temporal error estimate

## Spatial Error Adaption/Control

- I: No spatial adaptation/error control  
PDECOL, [Madsen, Sincovec, 1979],  
EPDCOL, [Keast, Muir, 1991]
- II: Adaptive spatial mesh via moving mesh strategy  
( $r$  refinement) but no spatial error control  
D03PPF, [NAG] from SPRINT,  
[Berzins, Dew, Furzeland, 1989],  
TOMS731, [Blom, Zegeling, 1994],  
MOVCOL, [Huang, Russell, 1996]

- III: Spatial adaptation and error control
  - Computation of a high order estimate of spatial error
  - Tolerance check of spatial error estimate for every successful timestep
  - Mesh adaptation: refinement and redistribution
  - Adaptation of order of discretization method

HPNEW, [Moore,2001],  $hp$  refinement

BACOL [Wang,Keast,Muir, 2004a, 2004b, 2004c],  
 $h$  refinement

BACOLR [Wang,Keast,Muir, 2008]  $h$  refinement

# ***B-spline Adaptive COLlocation***

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- BACOL
  - spatial discretization
  - spatial error estimation and adaptive control
  - temporal error estimation and adaptive control

# Spatial Discretization

- Spatial mesh,  $\{x_i\}_{i=0}^N$ ,  $x_0 = a$ ,  $x_N = b$
- Approximate solution,

$$U_s(x, t) = \sum_{i=1}^{NC} y_{i,s}(t) B_i(x), \quad NC = N(p - 1) + 2,$$

$s=1, \dots, NPDE$

$\{B_i(x)\}_{i=1}^{NC}$  - B-spline basis polynomials of degree  $p$   
based on **B-Spline Package**, [deBoor, 1977]

- $y_{i,s}(t)$  are unknown time-dependent coefficients for the  $s$ th PDE component

# Spatial Discretization

- $U_s(x, t)$  required to satisfy PDEs at collocation points on each subinterval  $\Rightarrow$  system of ODEs
- ODEs plus boundary conditions give index-1 DAE system:

$$\begin{aligned}0 &= b_L(t, U(0, t), U_x(0, t)) \\ \frac{d}{dt} U_s(\xi_l, t) &= f_s(t, \xi_l, U(\xi_l, t), U_x(\xi_l, t), U_{xx}(\xi_l, t)), \\ & s = 1, \dots, NPDE, l = 1, \dots, N(p-1) \\ 0 &= b_R(t, U(1, t), U_x(1, t))\end{aligned}$$

where  $\xi_l$  is  $l$ th collocation point (Gauss points on each subinterval)

# Spatial Error Estimate

- For spatial error estimate, a second (global) collocation solution,  $\bar{U}(x, t)$ , of degree  $p + 1$  is computed
- DAE systems for  $U(x, t)$  and  $\bar{U}(x, t)$  are integrated simultaneously
- After every successful timestep, we compute,  $E_s(t)$ , for  $s$ th solution component over whole problem interval:

$$E_s(t) = \sqrt{\int_a^b \left( \frac{U_s(x, t) - \bar{U}_s(x, t)}{ATOL_s + RTOL_s |U_s(x, t)|} \right)^2 dx}$$

- $t$  is current time;  $ATOL_s, RTOL_s$ :  
absolute, relative error tolerances



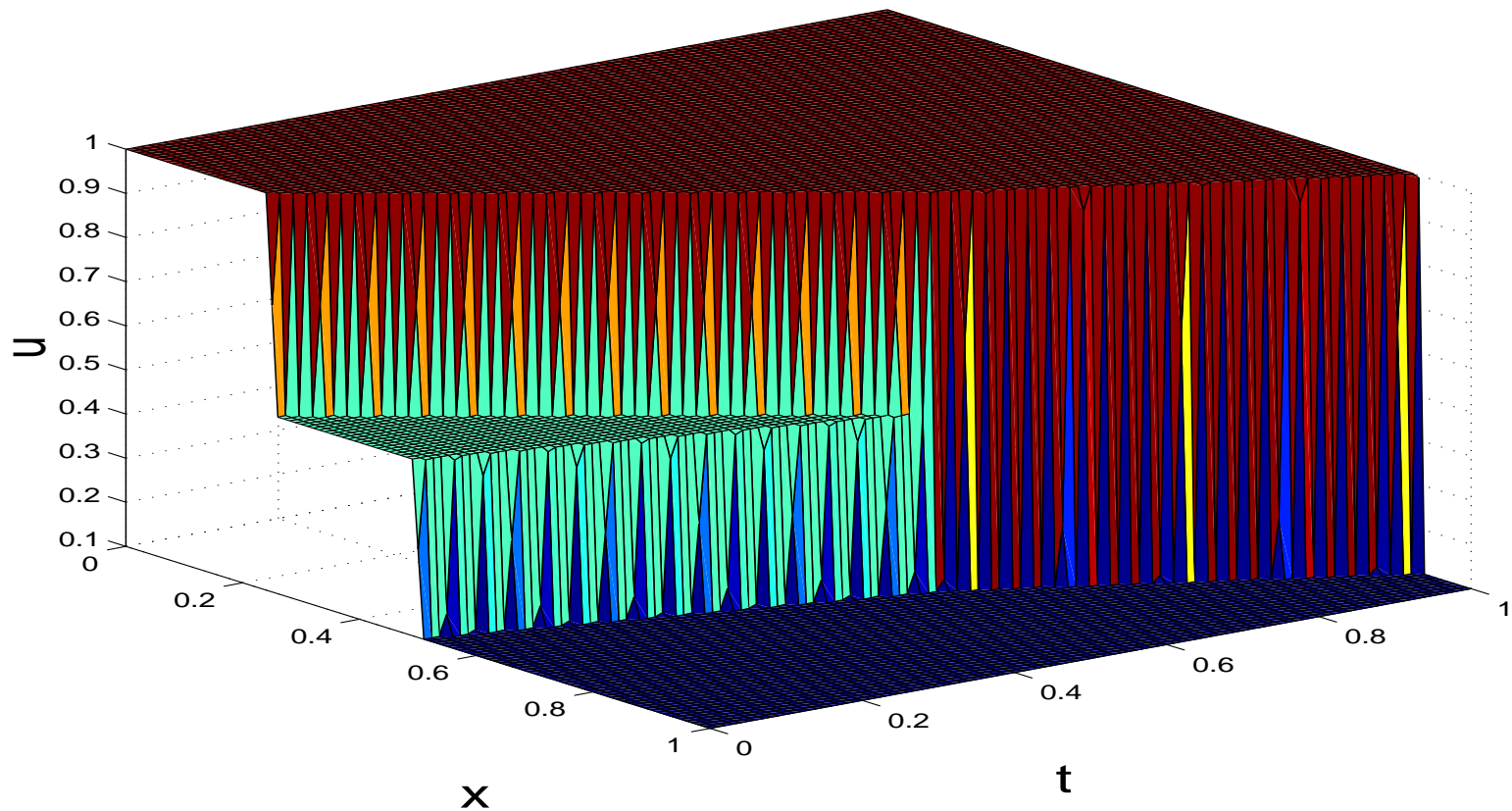
# Spatial Error Estimate

- If  $\max_{s=1}^{NPDE} E_s \geq 1$ , (tolerance not satisfied), then
- reject current step and perform global redistribution/refinement of spatial mesh based on error estimates,  $\hat{E}_i(t)$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$ , where

$$\hat{E}_i(t) = \sqrt{\sum_{s=1}^{NPDE} \int_{x_{i-1}}^{x_i} \left( \frac{U_s(x, t) - \bar{U}_s(x, t)}{ATOL_s + RTOL_s |U_s(x, t)|} \right)^2 dx}$$

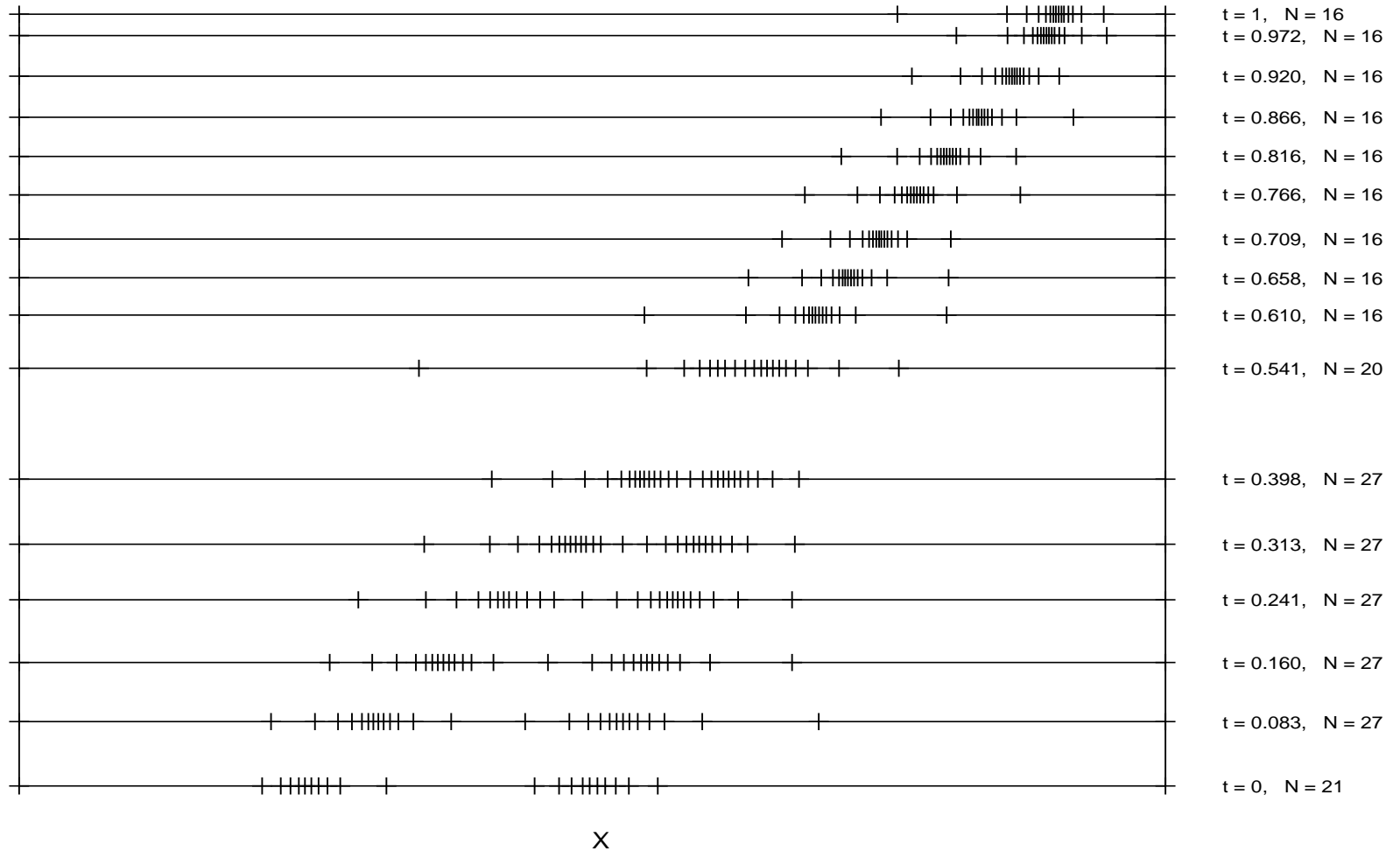
- These give a measure of the error distribution over the subintervals of the spatial mesh at time  $t$ .
- Spatial remeshing based on **equidistribution principle**

# *Spatial Mesh Adapt.*



Solution of Burger's equation,  $\epsilon = 10^{-4}$

# Spatial Mesh Adapt.



## BACOL/DASSL:

- “Double” DAE system treated by **DASSL**, [Petzold, 1982] modified to add option for **COLROW** package
- Family of Backward Differentiation Formulas (BDF) - Multistep Methods
- “**Warm**” restarts (same order, same stepsize) after remeshings, based on **high order interpolation of solution values from previous mesh**
- Variable order, 1 to 5

## *Relation to BVODE Software*

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- MOL Software (with Adaptive Spatial Error Control)  $\approx$  Boundary Value ODE Software for spatial domain coupled with DAE software for time stepping
- In particular, spatial discretization scheme of BACOL  $\approx$  discretization scheme of BVODE solver COLSYS [Ascher, Christensen, Russell 1981]
- Software consisting of COLSYS interfaced with DASSEL would be similar to BACOL, although (spatial) error estimation scheme is fundamentally different

- **BACOL:** [Wang, Keast, Muir, 2004b], "A comparison of adaptive software for 1-D parabolic PDEs"
- BACOL compared with EPDCOL, D03PPF, TOM731, MOVCOL, HPNEW
- **BACOL shown to be more efficient than these packages, especially for higher accuracy computations and problems with rapid spatial variation**

# Alternative Error Estimates

- Recall that BACOL error estimate involves the computation of two global collocation solutions

$$E_s(t) = \sqrt{\int_a^b \left( \frac{U_s(x, t) - \bar{U}_s(x, t)}{ATOL_s + RTOL_s |U_s(x, t)|} \right)^2 dx}$$

- Approach I: Replace **higher** order collocation solution,  $\bar{U}(x, t)$ , by interpolant of same order; uses a **Superconvergent Interpolant (SCI)**
- Approach II: Replace **lower** order collocation solution,  $U(x, t)$ , by interpolant of same order; uses a **Lower Order Interpolant (LOI)**

# *Superconvergent Interpolant*

- Lower order collocation solution,  $U(x, t)$ , is the primary solution; higher order collocation solution,  $\bar{U}(x, t)$ , is computed only for use in error estimate
- (Auxiliary computation to obtain a higher accuracy solution for error estimation, e.g., Gauss-Kronrod quadrature, formula pairs for IVPs, etc. )
- Basic idea: replace **higher** order collocation solution,  $\bar{U}(x, t)$ , by interpolant of same order; need extra computation to obtain higher order values?
- No, higher accuracy solution info for interpolant is available for free!



# *Superconvergent Interpolant*

- BACOL spatial discretization: collocation at Gauss points
- Theory from BVODEs: collocation solution has leading order error term containing the following factor:

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{p!} \int_0^x (t - x) \prod_{l=1}^p (t - \rho_l) dt,$$

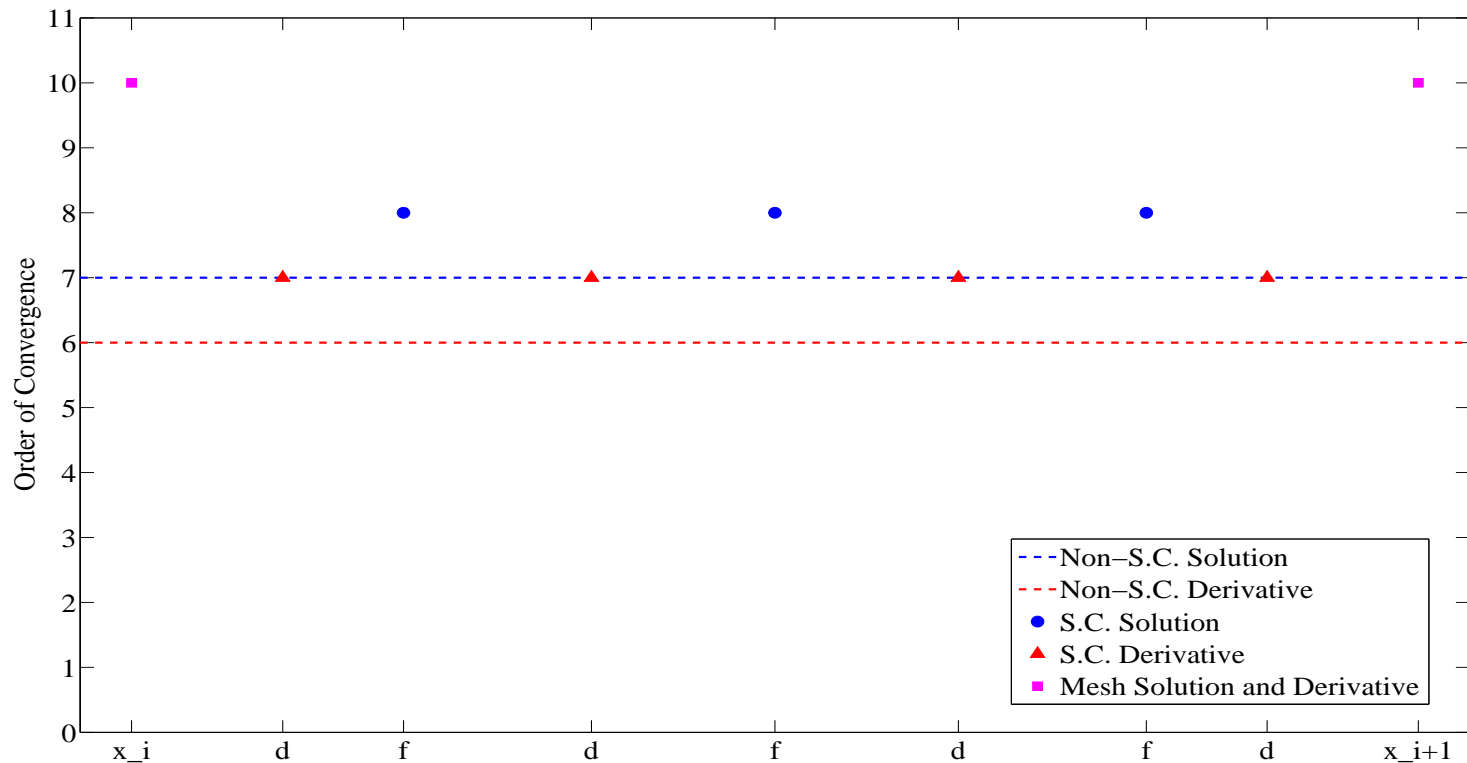
where  $\rho_l$  are Gauss points on  $[0, 1]$

# *Superconvergent Interpolant*

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- Evaluation of collocation solution at points corresponding to roots of  $P(x)$  on each subinterval
  - $\Rightarrow$  leading order error term is zero
  - $\Rightarrow$  collocation solution is **superconvergent** at such points on each subinterval
  - $\Rightarrow$  one extra order of accuracy
- Even better superconvergence at mesh points

# Superconvergent Interpolant

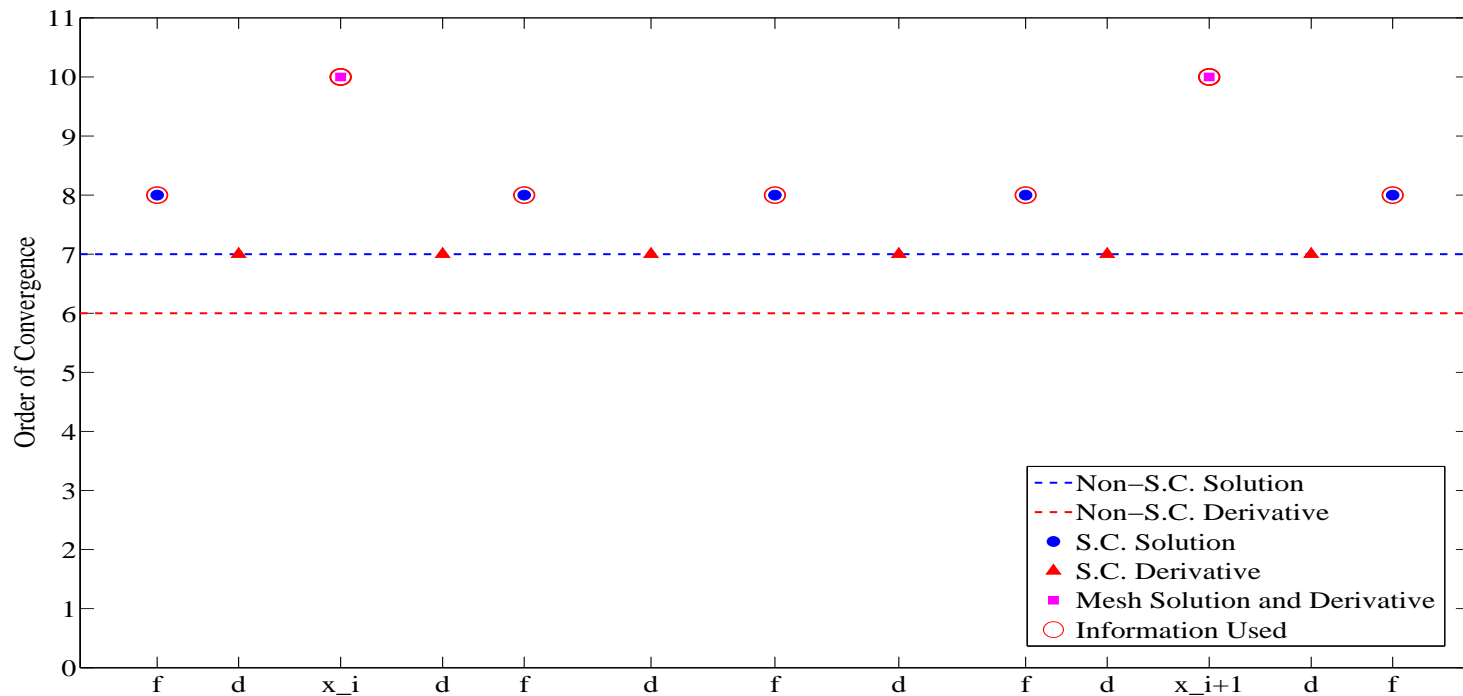


Collocation solution: superconvergent points ( $p = 6$ )

# *Superconvergent Interpolant*

- Main idea:  
Replace order  $p + 1$  global collocation solution with local interpolant, of order  $p + 1$ , based on superconvergent solution and derivative values
- Want data error to dominate interpolation error
- However, interpolant existence issues arise if data values are all from local subinterval
- $\Rightarrow$  Need to use two superconvergent values from outside subinterval

# Superconvergent Interpolant



SCI uses **mesh point solution/derivative** values, all **internal solution** values and two **external solution** values

# Hermite-Birkhoff Interpolant

- SCI based on Hermite-Birkhoff interpolant, using superconvergent solution and derivative values
- Interpolation error term [Finden, 2008] for  $p = 6$ , on  $i$ th subinterval,  $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ , depends on

$$\phi(x) = \left[ x^2 - (R\alpha + L\beta)x - R\alpha + L\beta + \frac{LR}{3} - 1 \right]$$

- where  $\alpha = \frac{1}{2} - \frac{1}{6}\sqrt{3}$ ,  $\beta = \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{6}\sqrt{3}$ ,

$$R = \frac{x_{i+2} - x_{i+1}}{x_{i+1} - x_i}, \quad L = \frac{x_i - x_{i-1}}{x_{i+1} - x_i}$$

are left and right adjacent subinterval ratios

- $\Rightarrow$  Issues when adjacent subinterval ratios are large

# Lower Order Interpolant

- $\Rightarrow$  A change in viewpoint: Higher order collocation solution,  $\bar{U}(x, t)$ , is propagated forward in time; lower order collocation solution is used only for error estimate (Local extrapolation)
- For error estimate, we replace lower order collocation solution,  $U(x, t)$ , by interpolant of same order - the LOI
- LOI interpolates data from higher order solution  $\bar{U}(x, t)$
- Main idea: Interpolation points chosen so that leading order term in interpolation error is asymptotically equivalent to leading order term in lower order collocation solution error [Moore 2004]

# Lower Order Interpolant

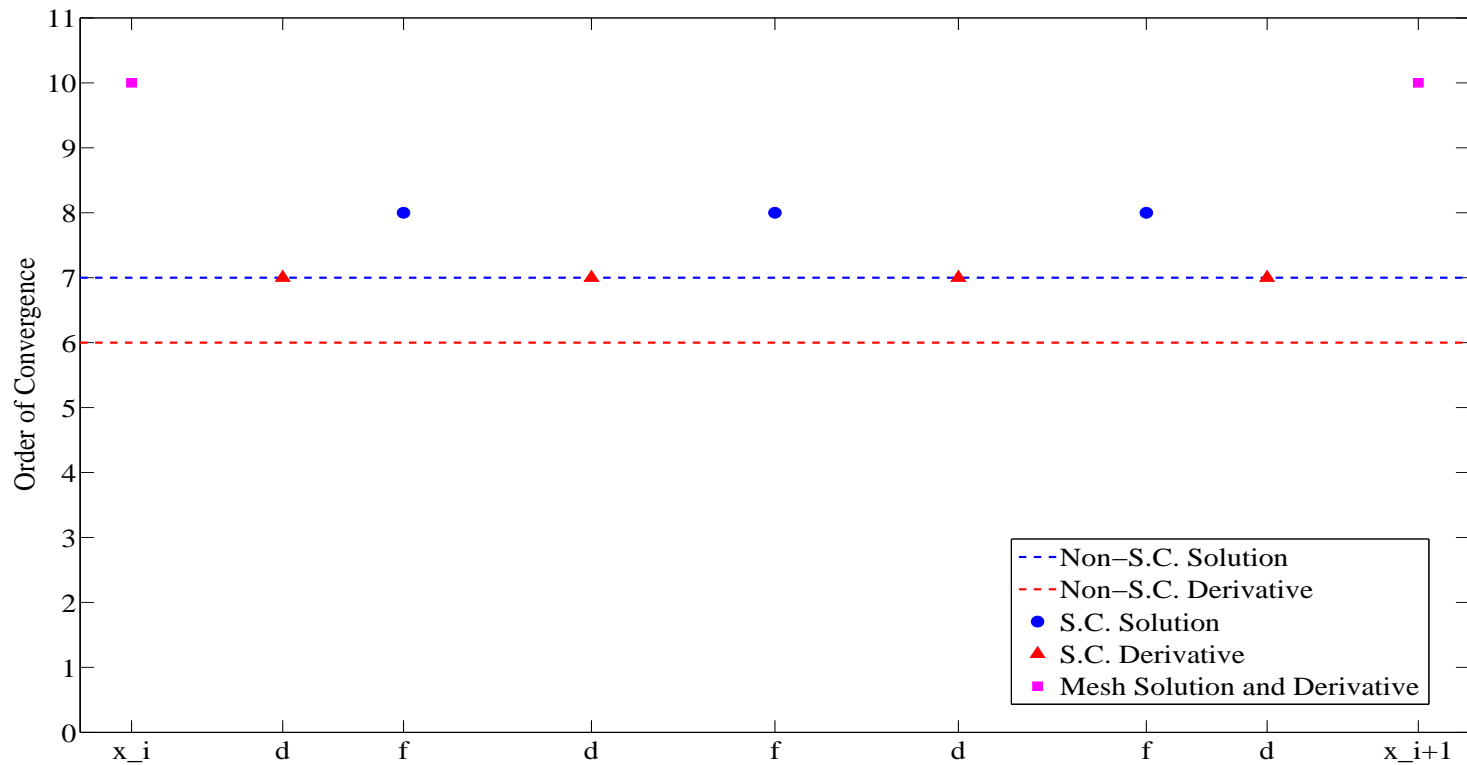
- We want interpolation error to dominate data error
- Interpolation points chosen so that factor that depends on  $x$  in leading order term in interpolation error equals factor that depends on  $x$  arising in leading order term in collocation error:

$$P(x) = \frac{1}{p!} \int_0^x (t - x) \prod_{l=1}^p (t - \rho_l) dt,$$

- LOI based on Hermite-Birkhoff interpolant
- All interpolation points are from current subinterval  $\Rightarrow$  Error does not depend on adjacent subinterval ratios



# Lower Order Interpolant

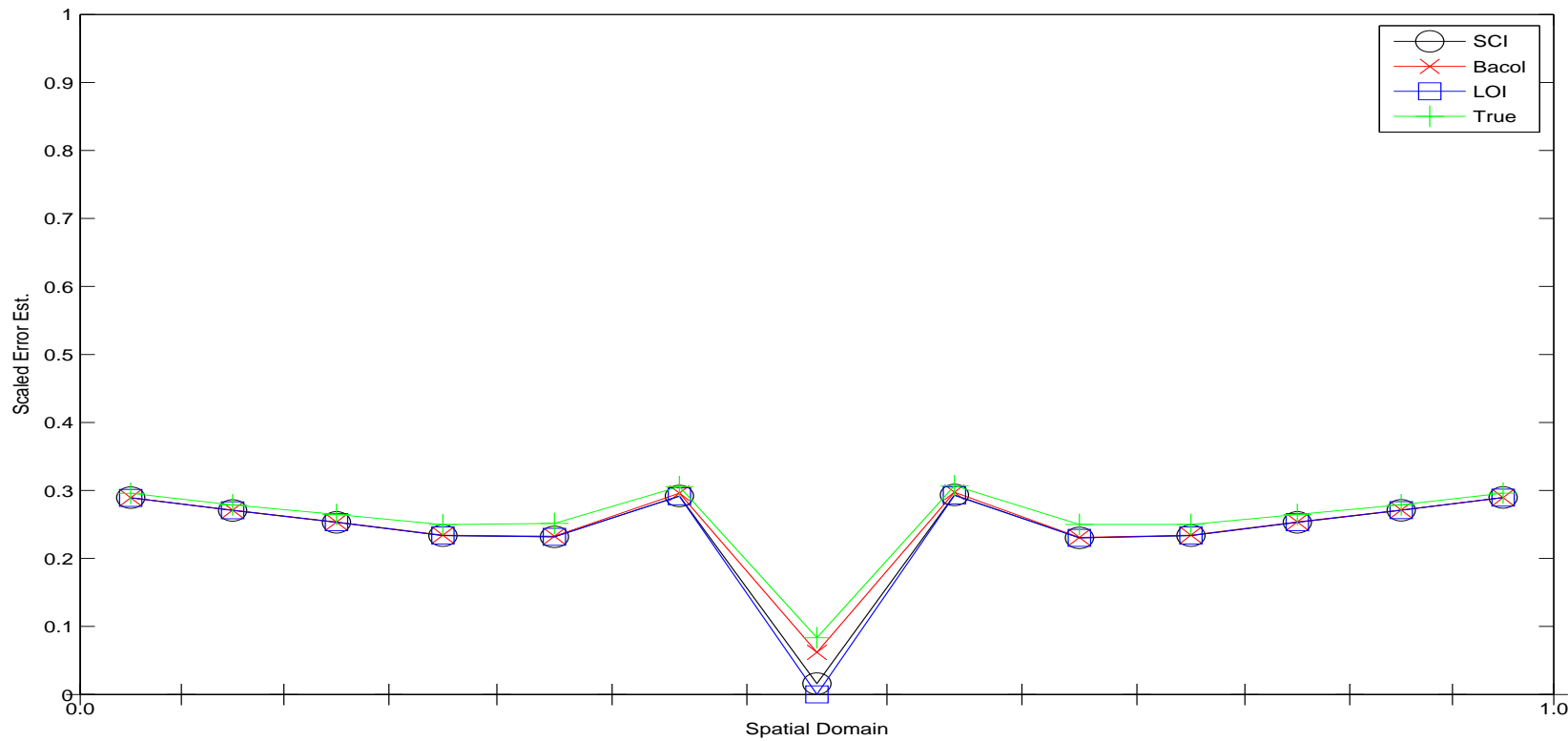


## Interpolation points for LOI

# Numerical Results

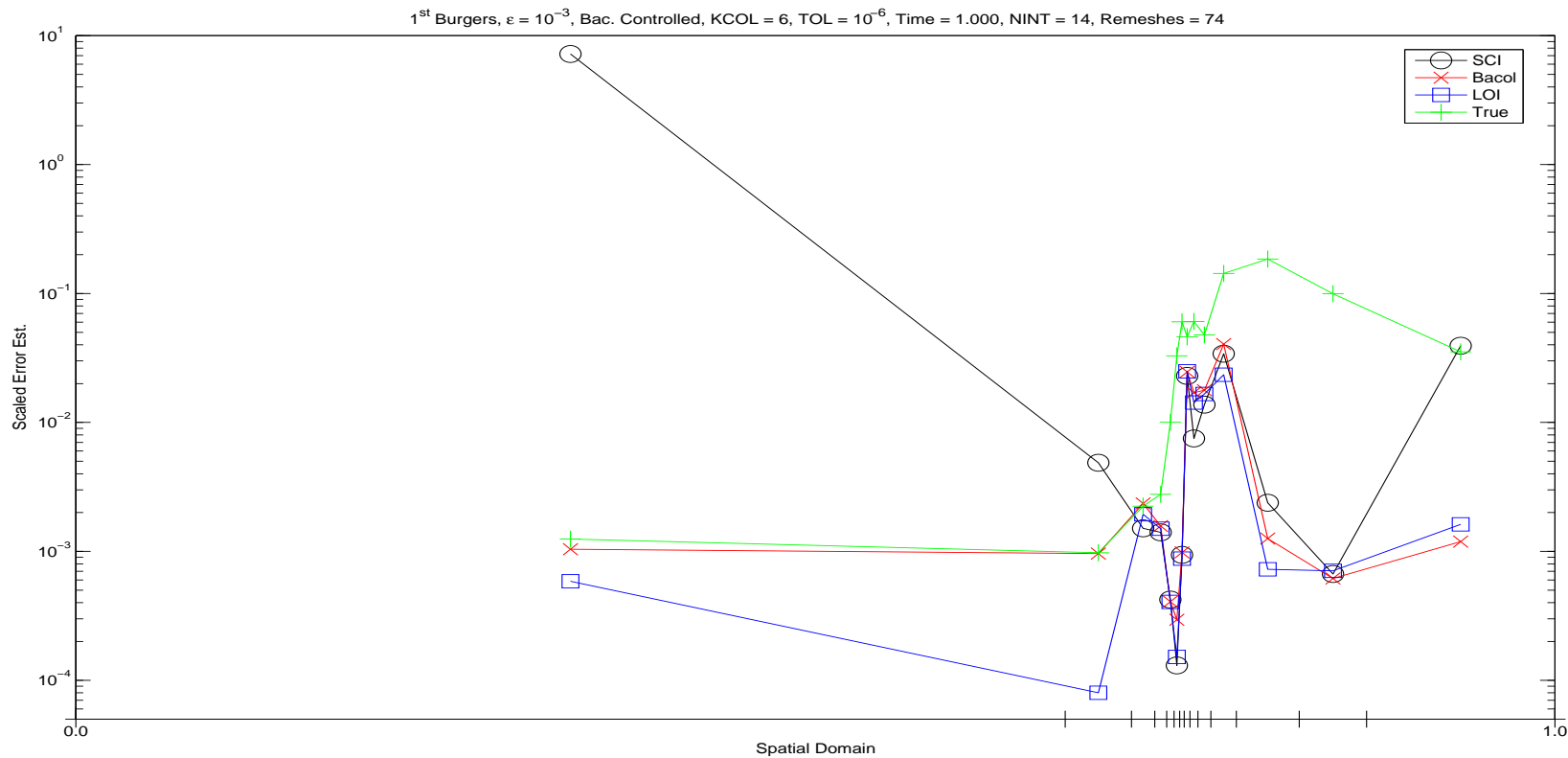
- Error estimate from SCI - ○, from BACOL - ×, from LOI - □; True Error - +
- Mesh adaptation
  - controlled by BACOL estimate
  - controlled by SCI estimate
  - controlled by LOI estimate
- Results for simple test problem [Sincov, Madsen, 1979], with  $p = 4$ ,  $ATOL_s = RTOL_s = 10^{-8}$
- Results for Burgers' equation, with  $\varepsilon = 10^{-3}$  ( $p = 7$ ,  $ATOL_s = RTOL_s = 10^{-6}$ )

# Numerical Results



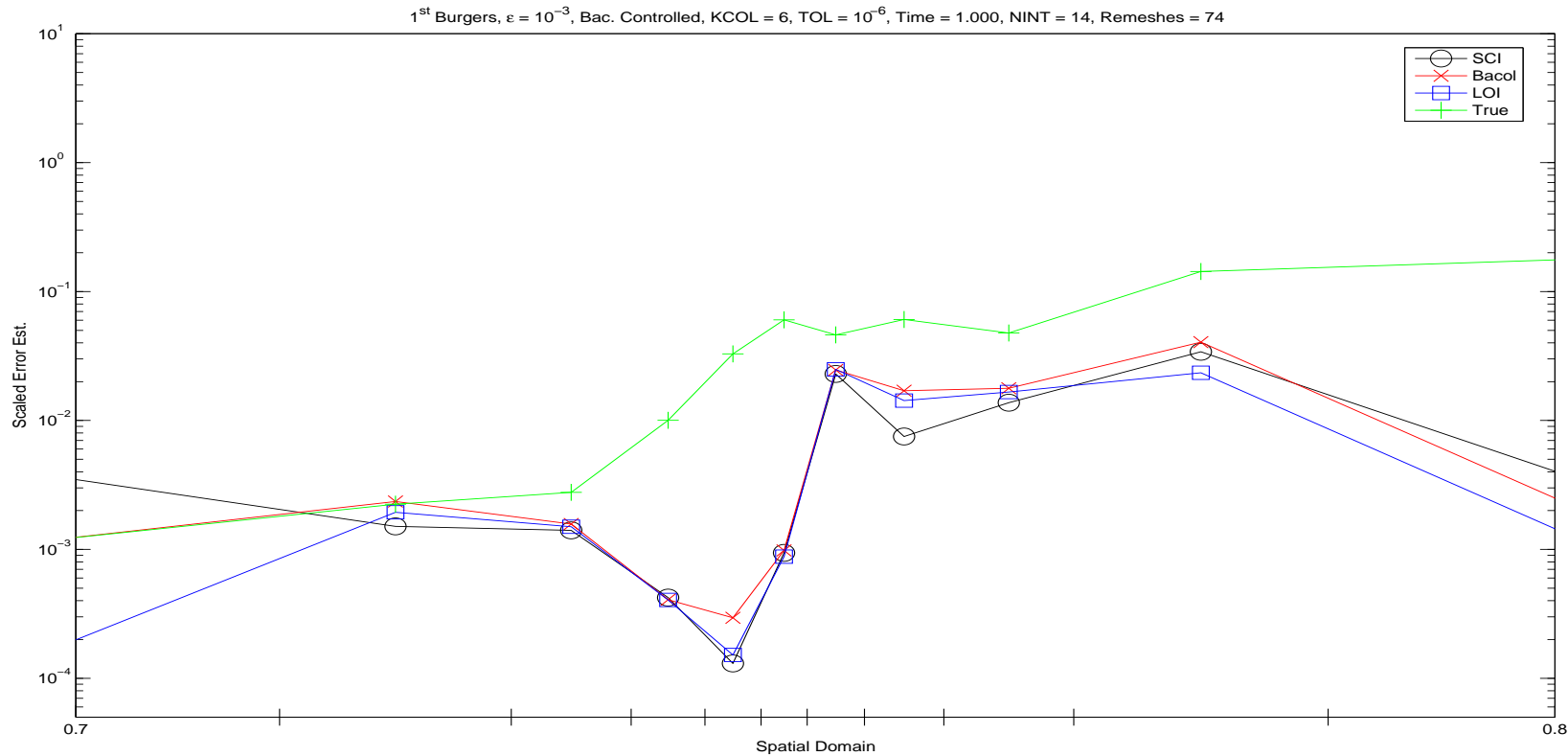
BACOL estimate controls mesh

# Numerical Results



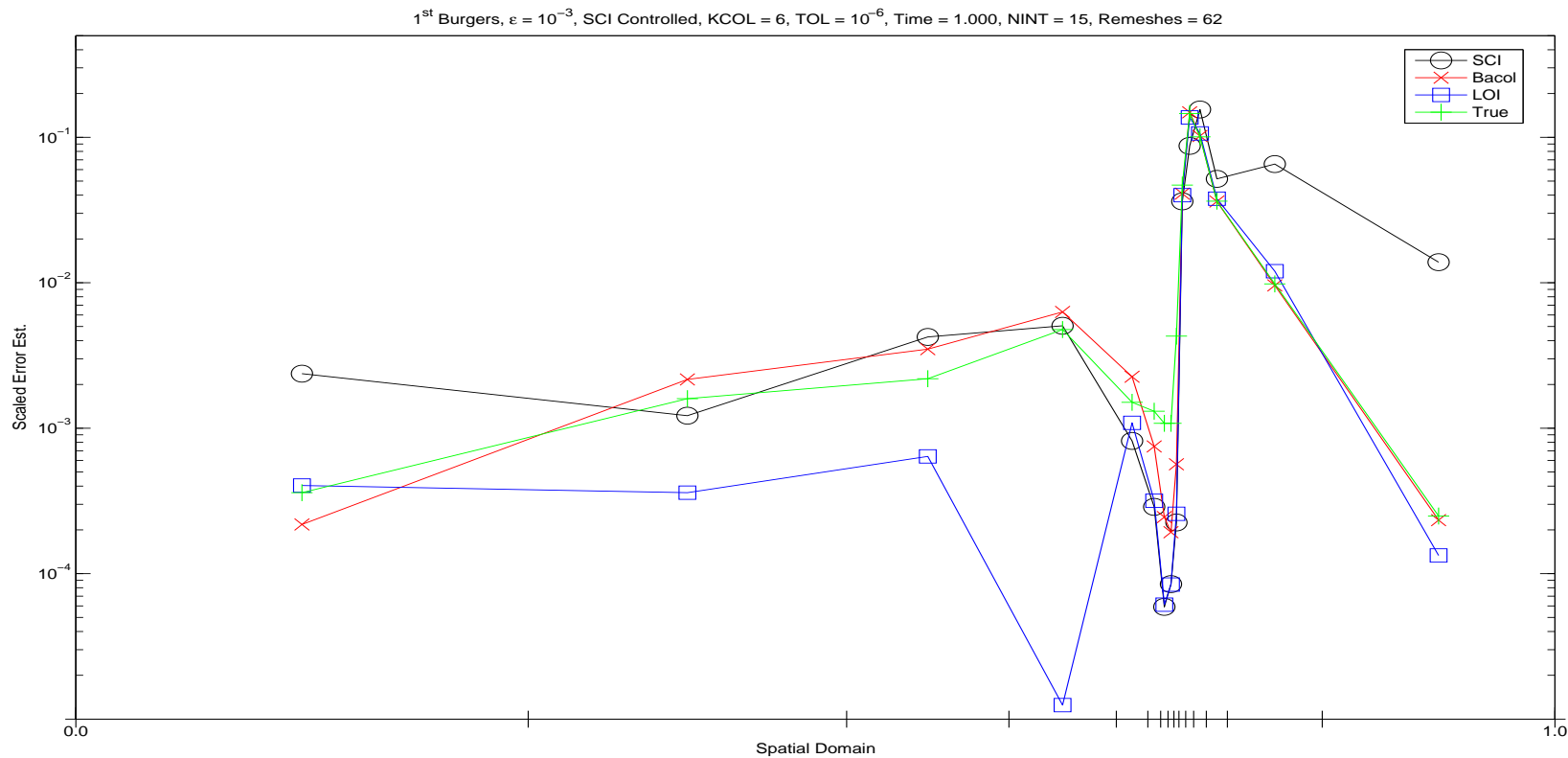
**BACOL estimate controls mesh, Full Spatial Domain**

# Numerical Results



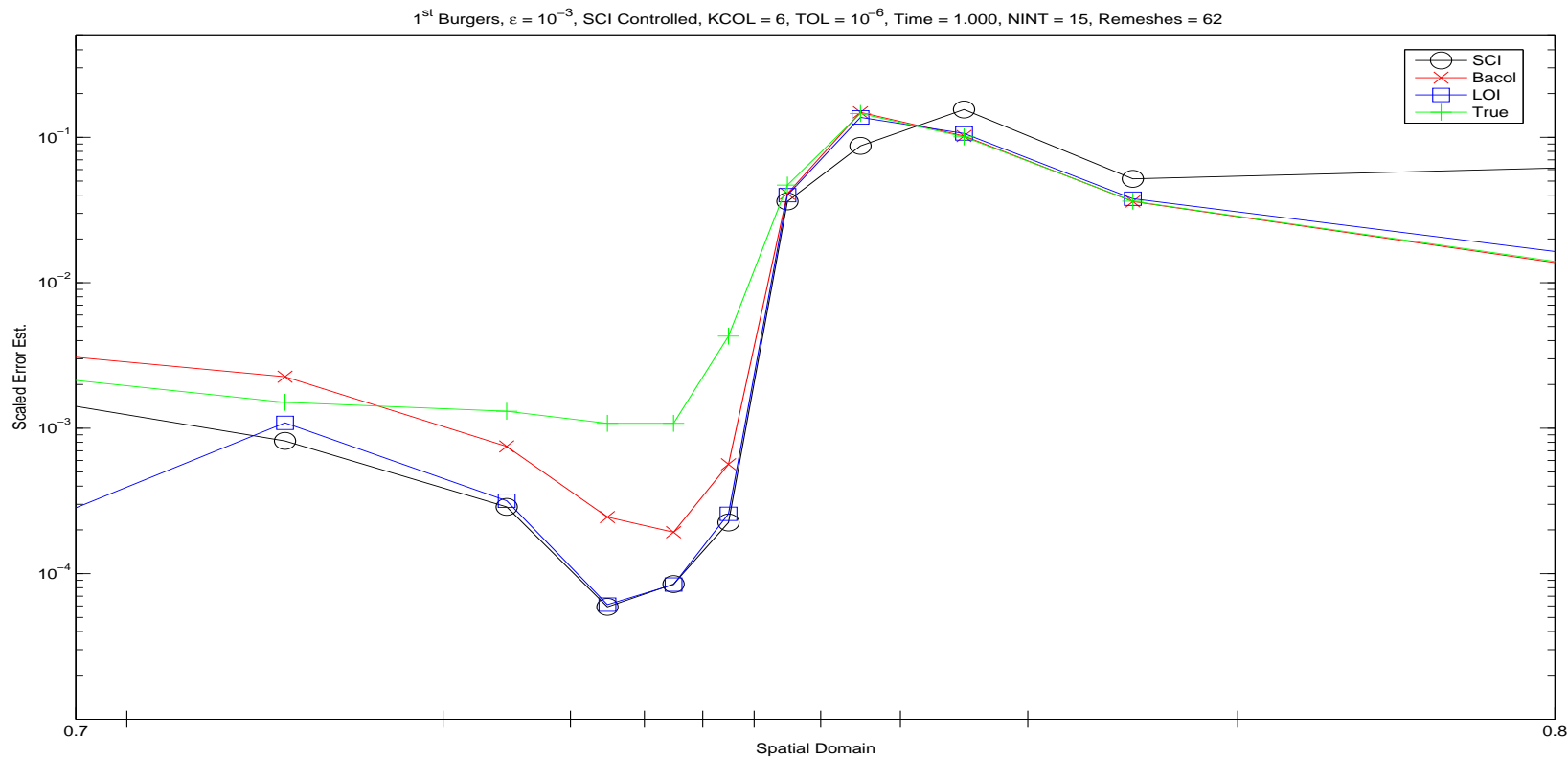
**BACOL estimate controls mesh, Layer Region**

# Numerical Results



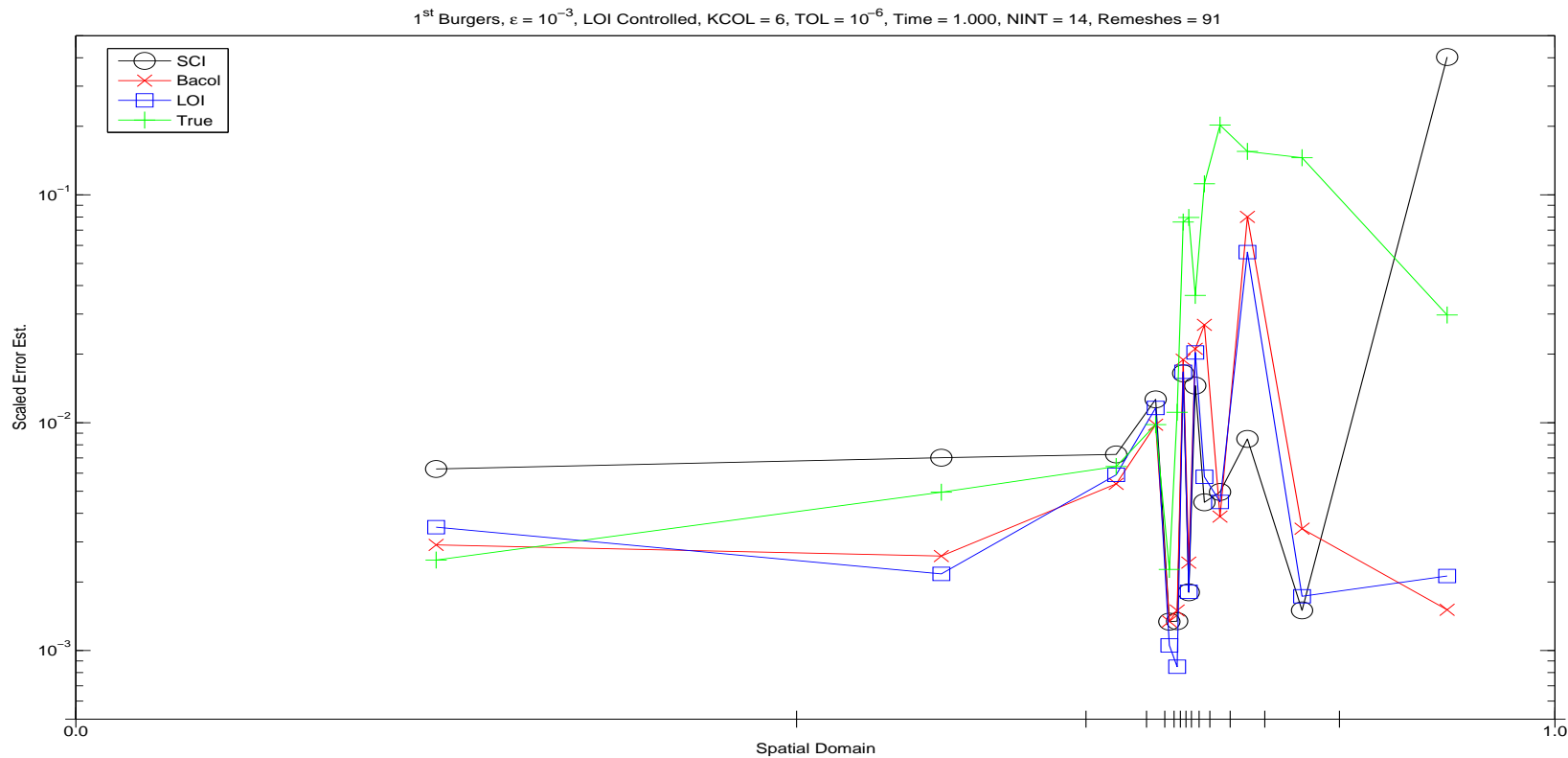
**SCI estimate controls mesh, Full Spatial Domain**

# Numerical Results



**SCI estimate controls mesh, Layer Region**

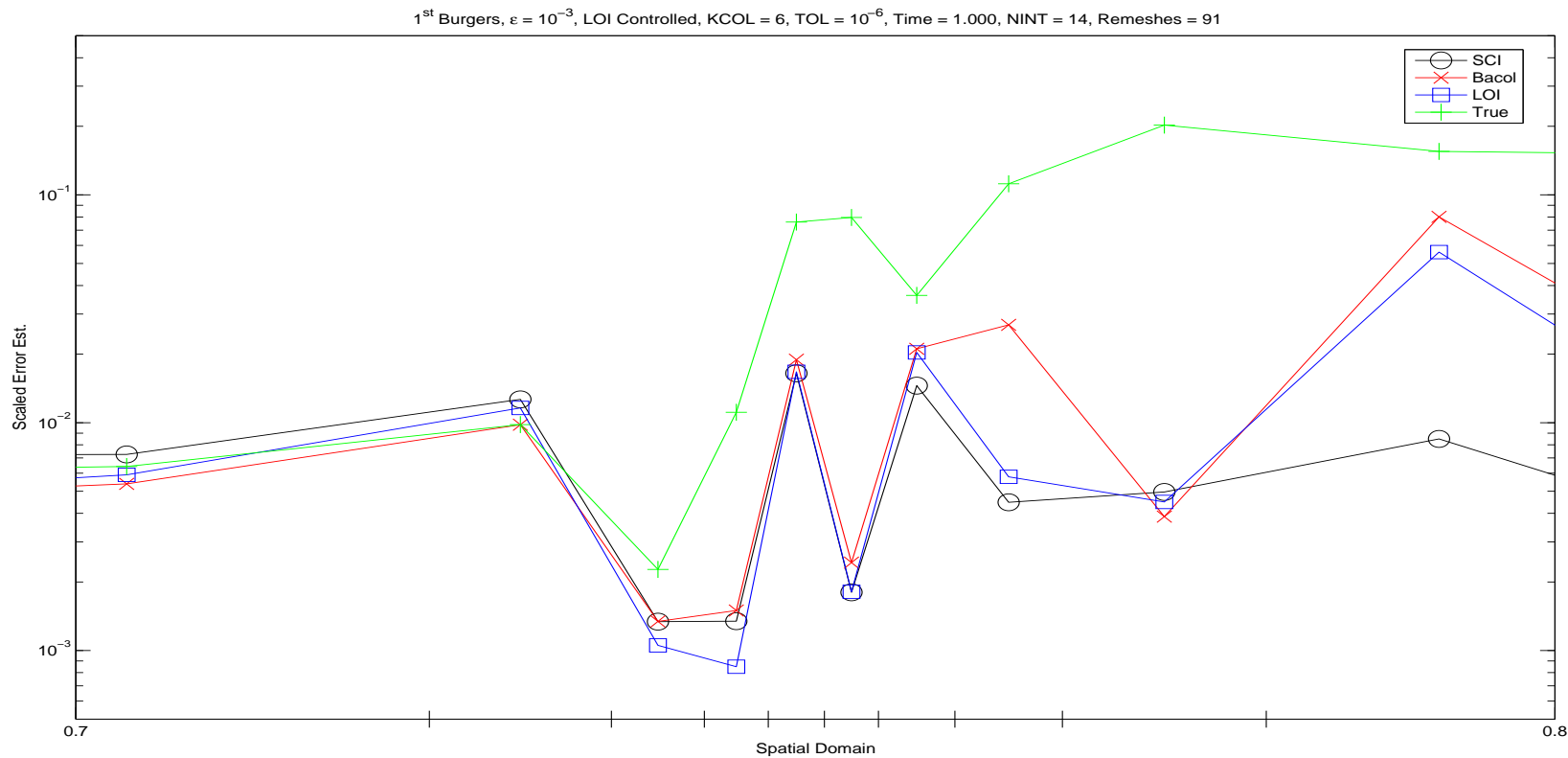
# Numerical Results



**LOI estimate controls mesh, Full Spatial Domain**



# Numerical Results



**LOI estimate controls mesh, Layer Region**

# Numerical Results - Observations

- For simple problems, all estimates in good agreement with each other and true error
- For problems with sharp layer regions:
  - For **BACOL controlled meshes**, some SCI error estimates are too large but ...
  - **SCI controlled meshes** lead to “self correction”: meshpoints are moved, a few added,
  - **LOI estimates are generally in good agreement with BACOL estimates (LOI control  $\approx$  BACOL control)**
  - All schemes underestimate error in layer region to some extent

# Computational Costs

- Order  $p + 1$  global solution computation about same cost as order  $p$  computation: setup extra B-spline basis, solution of second DAE system  $\Rightarrow$  standard BACOL error estimate doubles cost of computation
- SCI/LOI approaches involve only evaluation of global solution and evaluation of Hermite-Birkhoff interpolant
- SCI self-correction  $\Rightarrow$  small number extra subintervals
- Number of remeshings  $\approx$  same for all schemes
- $\Rightarrow$  SCI/LOI-based error estimates much less expensive than original BACOL error estimate

## The Method of Surfaces [Zhi Li 2011]

- Takes advantage of the presence of good quality software for time-dependent 1D PDEs
- Apply a standard discretization (as in the standard MOL algorithm) to discretize the  $y$  domain, reducing the 2D PDE to a **system** of 1D PDEs
- Apply software for 1D PDEs to return a set of surfaces (in  $t$  and  $x$ ), each of which is associated with a discrete point of the  $y$  domain
- No adaptation or error control in  $y$  domain

## Generalization of BACOL to 2D: [Zhi Li 2011]

- 2D collocation (tensor product formulation)
- DASPK/sparse linear system solver
- Efficient error estimators for 2D Gaussian collocation solutions
- 2D mesh adaptation

- See Technical Report  
([cs.smu.ca/tech\\_reports/txt2011\\_001.pdf](http://cs.smu.ca/tech_reports/txt2011_001.pdf)) for many more numerical results
- SCI approach [Arsenault, Smith, Muir, CAMQ, 2011]

## Thank You