CONTRIBUTIONS OF APPLIED MATHEMATICS TO MESHING TECHNOLOGIES AND THEIR APPLICATIONS TO AEROSPACE SIMULATIONS

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INRIA - Gamma3 Project - Saclay, France

Future CFD Technology Workshop - 2018

- Contribution of computational geometry
- 2 Contribution of differential geometry
- Contribution of set theory
- 4 Aerospace examples



Meshing Research Area: Gallery

Meshing historical principles after some famous people:



-300 Euclidean Geometry



1785 - 1836 181 Boundary Layer



1819 - 1903 ayer



1826 - 1866 Riemannian Geometry Anisotropy



1838 - 1916 Shock Wave Mesh Adaptation



1862 - 1943 HPC



1868 - 1908 Diagram



1890 - 1980 Triangulation



1910 - 1999



1930 -

CAD High-Order

Outline

Contribution of Computational Geometry





- 2 Contribution of Differential Geometry
- 3 Contribution of Set Theory
- 4 Anisotropic Mesh Adaptation for Steady Flows
- 5 Anisotropic Mesh Adaptation for Unsteady Flows
- Conclusions and Remaining Challenges

Numerical Simulation Pipeline

- $\mathsf{CAD} \, \longrightarrow \, \mathsf{MESH} \, \longrightarrow \, \mathsf{SOLVER} \, \longrightarrow \, \mathsf{VISU} \, / \, \mathsf{ANALYSIS}$
- \bullet no mesh = no simulation

Structured Mesh Generation Methods:

- Cartesian (grid) or IJK meshes
- Structured by block hex mesh generation
- Medial axis hex mesh generation
- Octree hex mesh generation (automatic)
- ...

(Too) difficult to handle complex geometries

Semi-automatic → manual intervention is time-consuming

Automatic methods do not put structure where needed

Mesh adaptation is limited

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Automated Unstructured Tetrahedra Mesh Generation Methods:

- Octree-like [Yerry and Shephard, IJNME 1984], ...
- Advancing front [Lohner and Parikh, IJNMF 1988], [Peraire et al., IJNME 1988], [Jin and Tanner, IJNME 1991], ...
- Delaunay [Hermeline, RAIRO AN 1982], [Baker, AIAA 1987], [George, Hecht and Saltel, ICSE 1990],
 [Weatherhill, CMA 1992], ...
- Minimal volume [Coupez, REEF 2000], ...
- Coupled Delaunay-frontal [Marcum and Weatherhill, AIAA 1995], ...

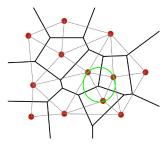
At the end of 90's

3D powerful and mature mesh generation methods become available

Delaunay Triangulation

Properties:

Dual of the Voronoï Diagram (nearest neighbor diagram)
 Delaunay triangulation connect the site that share a diagram edge



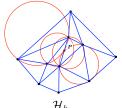
- Unicity
- Empty circle/sphere property
- Maximize the smallest angle
- ...

Delaunay-Based Meshing

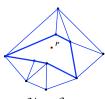
Locally Delaunay everywhere \iff Globally Delaunay Insertion of P (incremental Delaunay context)

$$\mathcal{H}_{k+1} = \mathcal{H}_k - \mathcal{C}_P + \mathcal{B}_P$$

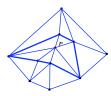
[Bowyer, CJ 1981], [Watson, CJ 1981], [Hermeline, RAIRO 1982], ...







 $\mathcal{H}_k - \mathcal{C}_n$



$$\mathcal{H}_{k+1} = \mathcal{H}_k - \mathcal{C}_p + \mathcal{B}_P$$

Delaunay criteria principle

- a) \mathcal{H}_k is Delaunay
- $\Longrightarrow \mathcal{H}_{k+1}$ is Delaunay b) Circumcircles of elements of C_P contain point P

Delaunay-Based Meshing

But Delaunay criteria is not suitable for meshing:

- In 2D, the Delaunay criteria is NOT a quality criteria for highly anisotropic meshes
 We want to minimize the maximal angle [Barth, AIAA 1991]
- In 3D, the Delaunay criteria is NOT a quality criteria (slivers)

Robust extension to meshing \Longrightarrow Constraint cavity and cavity correction

[George et al, ICSE 1990], [George et al, CMAME 1991], [George et al, IJNME 1992], ...

In 2001, R. Löhner (GMU) in his book wrote:

"The best way to avoid slivers is by relaxing the Delaunay criterion ... This fundamental departure from the traditionnel Delaunay criterion, first proposed by George et al. (1990) to the chagrin of many mathematicians and computational geometers has allowed this class of unstructured grid generation algorithms to produce reliably quality grids. It is a simple change, but has made the difference between a theoretical exercise and a practical tool."

Unique Cavity-Based Operator

Difficulties:

- Many mesh modification operators: split, collapse, swap, relocation and all possible combinations
- Many kinds of elements: triangles, quads, tetrahedra, prisms, pyramids, hex, ...
- Many kinds of meshes: surface, volume, boundary layer, structured, curved, ...
- Severals kinds of geometry: manifold, non manifold, ...

Conclusion:

It becomes too difficult to (i) maintain the code and (ii) gather all functionalities

We propose a **unique cavity-based operator** inspired from the Delaunay method

Unique Cavity-Based Operator [Loseille and Lohner, AIAA 2010], ...

Unique meshing operator

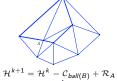
Each operator \equiv a node (re)insertion:

$$\mathcal{H}^{k+1} \equiv \mathcal{H}^k - \mathcal{C} + \mathcal{R}$$





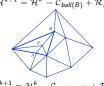




Insertion



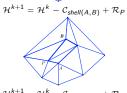




Swap







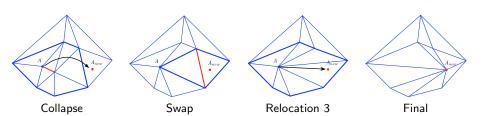
Unique Cavity-Based Operator [Loseille and Lohner, AIAA 2010], ...

Unique meshing operator

Each operator \equiv a node (re)insertion: $\mathcal{H}^{k+1} \equiv \mathcal{H}^k - \mathcal{C} + \mathcal{R}$

Cavity correction(s) to create combination of meshing operators

Example: Relocate vertex A to new position A_{new} requires 1 edge collapse + 1 edge swap + 1 vertex relocation



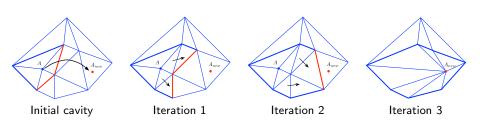
Unique Cavity-Based Operator [Loseille and Lohner, AIAA 2010], ...

Unique meshing operator

Each operator \equiv a node (re)insertion: $\mathcal{H}^{k+1} \equiv \mathcal{H}^k - \mathcal{C} + \mathcal{R}$

Cavity correction(s) to create combination of meshing operators

Example: Relocate vertex A to new position A_{new} requires 1 node reinsertion with the appropriate cavity definition



Red edges have no visibility w.r.t $A_{new} \Longrightarrow \text{Correct}$ (enlarge) the cavity Final cavity bold blue edges

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- $\mathsf{CAD} \ \longrightarrow \ \mathsf{MESH} \ \longrightarrow \ \mathsf{SOLVER} \ \longrightarrow \ \mathsf{VISU} \ / \ \mathsf{ANALYSIS}$
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- 2 a "bad" mesh implies a wrong or inaccurate solution

Let's give two catastrophic examples

Numerical Simulation Pipeline

- no mesh = no simulation
- 2 a "bad" mesh implies a wrong or inaccurate solution

Examples of catastrophic events:

- Roissy Terminal 2E roof collapse [Feghaly, SC 2008]
- Sinking of Sleipner-A offshore platform
 [Jakobsen, SEI 1994], [Collins, CI 1997]





Due to errors in numerical simulations

Numerical Simulation Pipeline

$$\mathsf{CAD} \, \longrightarrow \, \mathsf{MESH} \, \longrightarrow \, \mathsf{SOLVER} \, \longrightarrow \, \mathsf{VISU} \, / \, \mathsf{ANALYSIS}$$

- \bullet no mesh = no simulation
- 2 a "bad" mesh implies a wrong or inaccurate solution
 - Address ever increasing geometrical complexity
 - Address ever increasing physical complexity
 - Address the large variety of numerical schemes
 - Address convergence studies in 3D

Require tailored meshes to address and certify numerical results



Modify discretization of Ω to control numerical solution accuracy

How to prescribe size in any directions

Main idea: change mesh generator distance and volume computation

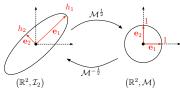
[George, Hecht and Vallet., Adv. Eng. Software 1991]

Fundamental concept: The notion of metric and Riemannian metric space

ullet Euclidean metric space: $\mathcal{M}: d \times d$ symmetric definite positive matrix

$$\begin{split} \langle \textbf{u} \,,\, \textbf{v} \rangle_{\mathcal{M}} &= {}^t \textbf{u} \mathcal{M} \textbf{v} &\implies \quad \ell_{\mathcal{M}}(\textbf{a},\textbf{b}) = \sqrt{{}^t \textbf{a} \textbf{b} \,\, \mathcal{M} \,\, \textbf{a} \textbf{b}} \\ |K|_{\mathcal{M}} &= \quad \sqrt{\det \mathcal{M}} |K| \end{split}$$

Distance unit ball is an ellipse



• Riemannian metric space: $(\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}))_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$

$$\ell_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{ab}) = \int_{0}^{1} \sqrt{^{t}\mathbf{ab} \, \mathcal{M}(\mathbf{a} + t\mathbf{ab}) \, \mathbf{ab}} \, dt$$
$$|K|_{\mathcal{M}} = \int_{K} \sqrt{\det \mathcal{M}} \, dK$$

How to prescribe size in any directions

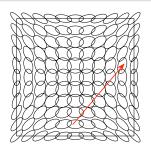
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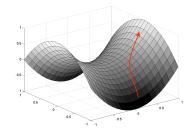
[George, Hecht and Vallet., Adv. Eng. Software 1991]

Fundamental concept: The notion of metric and Riemannian metric space

Computing geometric quantities in Riemannian metric space $\mathbf{M}=(\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}))_{\mathbf{x}\in\Omega}$

Computing geometric quantities on ${\mathcal S}$





How to prescribe size in any directions

Main idea: change mesh generator distance and volume computation

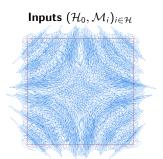
[George, Hecht and Vallet., Adv. Eng. Software 1991]

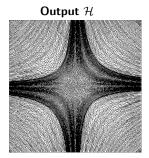
Fundamental concept: Generate a unit mesh w.r.t $(\mathcal{M}(x))_{x \in \Omega}$

$$\forall \mathbf{e}, \ \ell_{\mathcal{M}}(\mathbf{e}) \approx 1 \ \mathsf{and} \ \forall \mathcal{K}, \ |\mathcal{K}|_{\mathcal{M}} \approx \ \begin{cases} \sqrt{3}/4 & \mathsf{in} \ \mathsf{2D} \\ \sqrt{2}/12 & \mathsf{in} \ \mathsf{3D} \end{cases}$$









We proposed a continuous mesh framework to theorize mesh adaptation

[Alauzet et al., IMR 2006], [Alauzet, IJNMF 2008], [Loseille and Alauzet, SINUM 2010]

Discrete

Element K

Volume |K|

Mesh \mathcal{H} of Ω_h

Number of vertices N_{ν}

Linear interpolate $\Pi_h u$

Continuous

Metric tensor M

Volume $\alpha (\det \mathcal{M})^{-\frac{1}{2}}$

Riemannian metric space $\mathbf{M} = (\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}))_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$

Complexity
$$\mathcal{C}(\mathbf{M}) = \int_{\Omega} \sqrt{\det(\mathcal{M}(\mathbf{x}))} \, d\mathbf{x}$$

Continuous linear interpolate $\pi_{\mathcal{M}} u$

Local interpolation error duality

For all K unit for M and for all u quadratic positive form $(u(\mathbf{x}) = \frac{1}{2} {}^t \mathbf{x} H_u \mathbf{x})$:

$$\|u - \Pi_h u\|_{L^1(\mathcal{K})} \ = \ \frac{\sqrt{2}}{240} \ \underbrace{\det(\mathcal{M}^{-\frac{1}{2}})}_{mapping} \ \underbrace{\operatorname{trace}(\mathcal{M}^{-\frac{1}{2}} H_u \ \mathcal{M}^{-\frac{1}{2}})}_{anisotropic \ term} = \ \|u - \pi_{\mathcal{M}} u\|_{L^1(\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{M}))}$$

Working in this framework enables us to use powerful mathematical tool

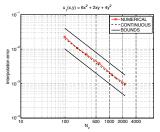
Set the sequence of 2D embedded continuous meshes $\mathbf{M}(\alpha) = (\mathcal{M}_{\alpha}(\mathbf{x}))_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$ defined on $\Omega = [0,1] \times [0,1]$ by:

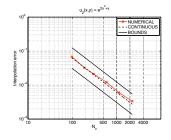
$$\mathcal{M}_{\alpha}(x,y) = \alpha \left(\begin{array}{cc} h_1^{-2}(x,y) & 0 \\ 0 & h_2^{-2}(x,y) \end{array} \right) \text{ with } \begin{array}{c} h_1(x,y) = 0.1(x+1) + 0.05(x-1) \\ h_2(x,y) = 0.2 \end{array}$$

Analyze the interpolation error of functions:

$$u_1(x,y) = 6x^2 + 2xy + 4y^2$$
 and $u_2(x,y) = e^{(2x^2+y)}$







Application: Minimizing the Interpolation Error in L^p -norm

An ill-posed discrete problem

Find
$$\mathcal{H}_{L^p}^{opt}$$
 having N vertices such that
$$\mathcal{H}_{L^p}^{opt}(u) = \operatorname{Arg\,min}_{\mathcal{H}} \|u - \Pi_h u\|_{\mathcal{H}, L^p(\Omega_h)}$$

• A well-posed continuous problem

Find
$$\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^{opt} = (\mathcal{M}_{L^p}^{opt}(\mathbf{x}))_{\mathbf{x} \in \Omega}$$
 of complexity N such that
$$E_{L^p}(\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^{opt}) = \min_{\mathbf{M}} E_{L^p}(\mathbf{M}) = \min_{\mathbf{M}} \|u - \pi_{\mathcal{M}} u\|_{L^p(\Omega)}$$
$$= \min_{\mathbf{M}} \left(\int_{\Omega} |u(\mathbf{x}) - \pi_{\mathcal{M}} u(\mathbf{x})|^p \, d\mathbf{x} \right)^{\frac{1}{p}}$$

⇒ Solved by a calculus of variations

Optimal metric [Alauzet et al., IMR 2006], [Loseille and Alauzet, SINUM 2010]

$$\mathcal{M}_{L^p}^{opt}(\mathbf{x}) = \mathcal{N}^{\frac{2}{d}} \left(\int_{\Omega} (\det |H_u|)^{\frac{p}{2p+d}} \right)^{-\frac{2}{d}} (\det |H_u(\mathbf{x})|)^{\frac{-1}{2p+d}} |H_u(\mathbf{x})|$$

- M^{opt} is unique
- \bullet $\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^{opt}$ has for optimal directions and ratios the Hessian ones
- $\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^{opt}(u)$ provides an optimal explicit bound of the interpolation error in L^p norm:

$$\|u-\pi_{\mathcal{M}^{opt}_{L^p}}u\|_{L^p(\Omega)}=d\ \mathcal{N}^{-\frac{2}{d}}\left(\int_{\Omega}\left(\det|H_u|
ight)^{rac{p}{2p+d}}
ight)^{rac{2p+d}{dp}}$$

• Global second order of convergence for a sequence of embedded continuous meshes $(\mathbf{M}_{L^p}^N(u))_{N=1...\infty}$

Error Estimates for Steady Problems

Feature-based anisotropic mesh adaptation [Loseille and Alauzet, IMR2009 & SINUM2011]

Deriving the $\frac{\mathbf{best}}{\mathbf{mesh}}$ to compute the characteristics of a given solution \mathbf{w}

To this end, optimal control of the interpolation error in L^p norm :

$$\|W - \Pi_h W\|_{L^p(\Omega_h)} \implies \mathcal{M}_{L^p}(H_W) = D_{L^p}(N) (\det|H_W|)^{\frac{-1}{2p+d}} |H_W|$$

Goal-oriented anisotropic mesh adaptation [Loseille et al., JCP2010], [Belme et al., submitted]

Deriving the **best mesh** to observe a given functional $\mathbf{j}(\mathbf{w}) = (\mathbf{g}, \mathbf{w})$

To this end, optimal control of the functional approximation error in L^1 norm

$$\begin{split} \|J(W) - J(W_h)\|_{L^1(\Omega_h)} \\ &\approx \quad \int_{\Omega} |W_h^*| \; \Big| \nabla \cdot (\mathcal{F}^E(W) - \mathcal{F}^E(\Pi_h W)) - \nabla \cdot (\mathcal{F}^V(W) - \mathcal{F}^V(\Pi_h W)) \Big| \; d\Omega \\ &\leq \quad \int_{\Omega} G_{\mathcal{F}^E} \; \Big| \mathcal{F}^E(W) - \Pi_h \mathcal{F}^E(W) \Big| \; d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} G_T \, |T - \Pi_h T| \, d\Omega \\ &+ \int_{\Omega} G_{u_1} \, |u_1 - \Pi_h u_1| \, d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} G_{u_2} \, |u_2 - \Pi_h u_2| \, d\Omega + \int_{\Omega} G_{u_3} \, |u_3 - \Pi_h u_3| \, d\Omega \,, \end{split}$$

where the G depend on $|\nabla W^*|$ and $|H_{W^*}|$.

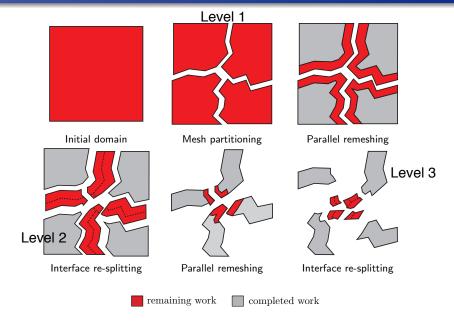
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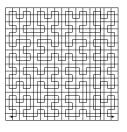
Coarse-Grained Parallel Process Overview



Mesh Partitioning Methods

Three methods have been considered:

1 Geometric: Hilbert space filling curves Ordering depends on the position in space (x, y, z)

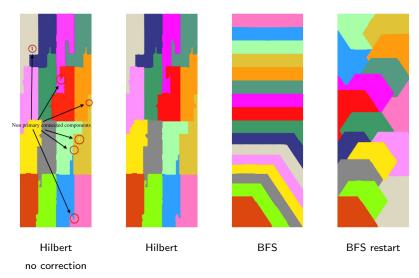




- Topologic: Breadth first search (BFS)
 Ordering depends on the connectivity of the mesh
 Start from a germ, then add its neighbors, then add the neighbors of the neighbors, ... using a stack
- Topologic: Breadth first search (BFS) with restart Ordering depends on the connectivity of the mesh Same as previously but only the first element is kept in the pile when a new partition is defined

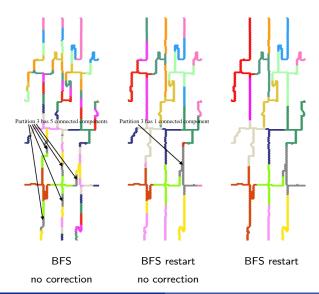
Mesh Partitioning Methods

Level 1 partitioning:



Mesh Partitioning Methods

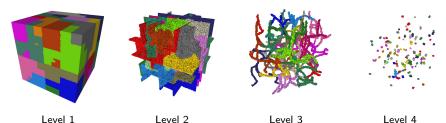
Level 2 partitioning:



Hierarchical metric-based mesh partitioning

Interface size converges toward zero for hierarchical partitioning

- Level 1: Hilbert-based mesh partitioning
- Level k > 1: Interfaces: BFS restart partitioning
- Maximum numbers of level 5 (final level in serial)



Shared/Distributed Parallelization

Cluster

- 40 nodes with 48Gb of memory composed of two-chip Intel Xeon X56650 with 12 cores
- \implies 480 procs
 - A high-speed internal network InfiniBand (40Gb/s) connects these nodes

Presents results for 120 procs

Landing Gear

- Targeted applications: Acoustic/Turbulent flows
- High-resolution of the complex geometry
- Initial mesh: 2658753 vertices 844768 tris and 14731068 tets
- Final mesh: 183 334 265 vertices 14 263 732 tris and 1081 733 853 tets
- Parallel remeshing time is 10min (7m36s) on 120 cores
 The total CPU time is 17 min (IOs, final gathering)
 The serial CPU time is 14h (speed-up 84 without IOs 50 with IOs)

Speed (without IOs) is 1.810^6 (2.3710^6) elements / second

Level	% done	# of tets in interface	# of tets inserted	CPU time (sec.)	# of cores used
1	97 %	30 681 418	1 043 004 327	379	120
2	100 %	2 866 212	1 078 867 641	56	12
3	100 %	5 304	1 081 733 853	21	1







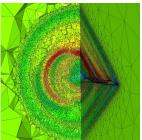
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Supersonic Aircraft Simulation

A bit of history: chronology of the results

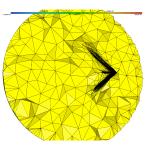
[Alauzet, PhD 2003]
Isotropic L^{∞} error estimate



798 756 vertices 4714 162 tetrahedra $\frac{R}{I} = 1.25 (50m)$

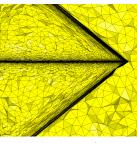
[Alauzet, ECCOMAS 2006]

Anisotropic L^{∞} error estimate



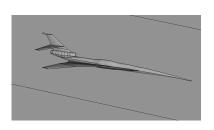
1775 049 vertices 10 474 598 tetrahedra $\frac{R}{I} = 3 (120m)$

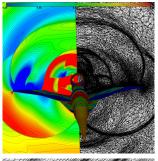
[Loseille et al., AIAA 2007]
Anisotropic L^p error estimate



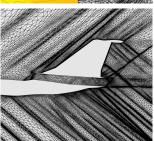
3764591 vertices 22324258 tetrahedra $\frac{R}{I} = 40 (1.6 km)$

AIAA Sonic Boom Workshop Results

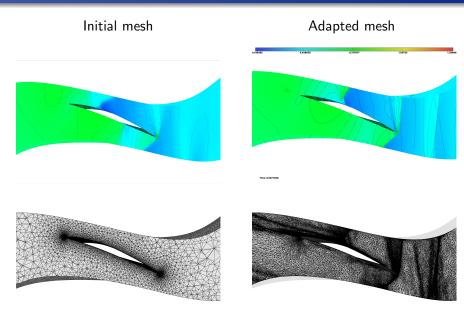




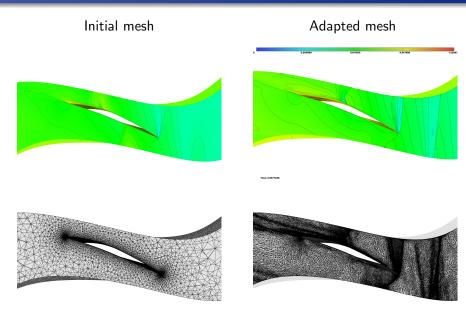




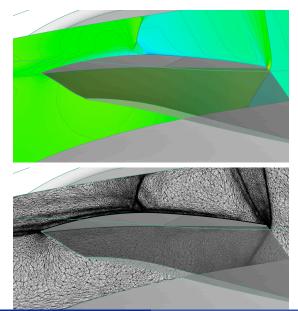
Turbomachinery Application: Turbulent NASA RO37



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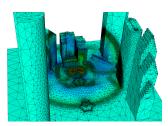
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Blast in a town

A bit of history: chronology of the results

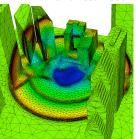
[Frey and Alauzet, IMR 2003] Isotropic $n_{adap}=30$ $L^{\infty}-L^{\infty}$ error estimate



743 735 vertices 4 328 741 tetrahedra 87 322 triangles

Accuracy > 30cm

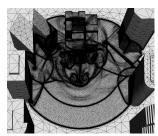
[Alauzet and Olivier, AIAA 2011]
Anisotropic $n_{adap} = 40$ $L^{\infty} - L^{p}$ error estimate



185 148 vertices 1 027 537 tetrahedra 50 250 triangles

Accuracy 11cm Mean quotient 56

[Alauzet et al., IMR 2014] Anisotropic - $n_{adap} = 128$ $I^p - I^p$ error estimate

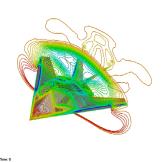


4 187 548 vertices 25 249 618 tetrahedra 329 610 triangles

Accuracy 5mm Mean quotient 249

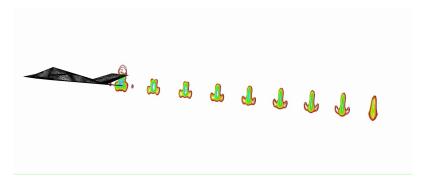
Vortical Flow Behind a F117 fighter





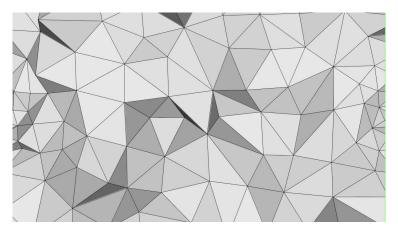
Nosing-up F117

- A nosing-up f117 creates a vortical wake
- Ascending and descending phases are split into an accelerated and a decelerated phase



Two F117s crossing flight paths

- Two aircrafts moved at Mach 0.4 inside inert air
- The planes are translated and rotated



Outline

- 1 Contribution of Computational Geometry
- 2 Contribution of Differential Geometry
- 3 Contribution of Set Theory
- 4 Anisotropic Mesh Adaptation for Steady Flows
- 5 Anisotropic Mesh Adaptation for Unsteady Flows
- 6 Conclusions and Remaining Challenges

Conclusions

Meshing technologies progresses have relied on Mathematics

- Euclidean and Riemannian geometries
- Computational geometry
- Differential geometry calculus of variation
- Set theory space filling curves
- Error estimate theory
- Adjoint techniques

and computer science

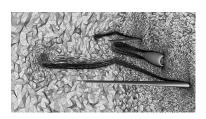
- Algorithms (hashing, coloring, pile, chain list, dynamic allocation, ...)
- HPC (MPI, p-threads, ...)

Interdisciplinary contributions are fundamental to meshing technologies

There is still a lot of work to do in meshing technologies for aerospace application. But, some recent advances are promising

Turbulent flows: RANS simulations

- Results on the ONERA M6 wing are encouraging (see the presentation of D. Kamenetskiy AIAA Paper 2018-0920 (Tuesday))
- We still have to work on the goal-oriented error estimate for the turbulence model
- Analyze the impact of the metric gradation control (blending)



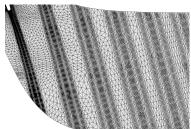


There is still a lot of work to do in meshing technologies for aerospace application. But, some recent advances are promising

Metric-aligned and metric-orthogonal approaches

- Structured meshes with an automated unstructured method
- Still some slivers remaining in 3D
- Better metric field blending to avoid large angle 2-to-1 transition
- Convert full tet meshes to multi-elements meshes

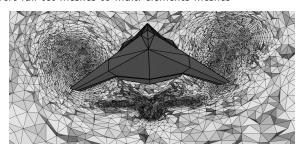




There is still a lot of work to do in meshing technologies for aerospace application. But, some recent advances are promising

Metric-aligned and metric-orthogonal approaches

- Structured meshes with an automated unstructured method
- Still some slivers remaining in 3D
- Better metric field blending to avoid bad 2 to 1 transition
- Convert full tet meshes to multi-elements meshes



There is still a lot of work to do in meshing technologies for aerospace application. But, some recent advances are promising

Unsteady mesh adaptation for turbulent flows (URANS - LES - DES - VMS)

- Dedicated error estimates
- Check efficiency of the fixed-point mesh adaptation algorithm

Curved mesh generation

- Mesh quality and validity to govern meshing algorithm
- Robust boundary layer meshing
- High-order error estimates
- Curved mesh adaptation

Thank you for your attention

