

# **Adjoint-Based Sensitivity Analysis for Computational Fluid Dynamics**

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# Motivation

- Computational fluid dynamics analysis capabilities commonplace today
- In addition to analysis capability, sensitivity capability is highly desirable
  - Design optimization
  - Error estimation
  - Parameter sensitivity
- Sensitivities may be obtained by:
  - Perturb input, rerun analysis code (Finite difference)
  - Linearizing analysis code (tangent method)
    - Good for 1 input, many outputs
  - Adjoint method
    - Good for many inputs, one output

# Motivation

- Continuous vs. Discrete Adjoint Approaches
  - Continuous: Linearize then discretize
  - Discrete: Discretize then Linearize
- Continuous Approach:
  - More flexible adjoint discretizations
  - Framework for non-differentiable tasks (limiters)
  - Often invoked using flow solution as constraint using Lagrange multipliers
- Discrete Approach:
  - Reproduces exact sensitivities of code
    - Verifiable through finite differences
  - Relatively simple implementation
    - Chain rule differentiation of analysis code
    - Transpose these derivatives
      - (transpose and reverse order)
    - Includes boundary conditions

# Generalized Discrete Sensitivities

- Consider a multi-phase analysis code:

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{D}) = \mathbf{L}(F_{n-1}(F_{n-2}(\dots F_2(F_1(\mathbf{D}))\dots))))$$

- L = Objective(s)
- D = Design variable(s)

- Sensitivity Analysis

$$\delta \mathbf{L} = \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} \delta \mathbf{D}$$

- Using chain rule:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial F_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\partial F_{n-1}}{\partial F_{n-2}} \cdots \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial F_1} \cdot \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$$

# Tangent Model

- Special Case:
  - 1 Design variable  $D$ , many objectives  $L$
- Precompute all stuff depending on single  $D$
- Construct  $dL/dD$  elements as:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial F_{n-1}} \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial F_{n-1}}{\partial F_{n-2}} \left[ \dots \left[ \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial F_1} \left[ \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \mathbf{D}} \right] \right] \right] \right]$$

# Adjoint Model

- Special Case:
  - 1 Objective L, Many Design Variables D
  - Would like to precompute all left terms

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial F_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\partial F_{n-1}}{\partial F_{n-2}} \cdots \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial F_1} \cdot \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$$

- Transpose entire equation:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}}^T = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \mathbf{D}}^T \cdot \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial F_1}^T \cdot \frac{\partial F_{n-1}}{\partial F_{n-2}}^T \cdots \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial F_{n-1}}^T$$

# Adjoint Model

- Special Case:
  - 1 Objective L, Many Design Variables D
  - Would like to precompute all left terms

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial F_{n-1}} \cdot \frac{\partial F_{n-1}}{\partial F_{n-2}} \cdots \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial F_1} \cdot \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$$

- Transpose entire equation: precompute as:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}}^T = \frac{\partial F_1}{\partial \mathbf{D}}^T \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial F_2}{\partial F_1}^T \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial F_{n-1}}{\partial F_{n-2}}^T \cdot \left[ \cdots \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial F_{n-1}}^T \right] \right] \right] \right]$$

# Shape Optimization Problem

- Multi-phase process:

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathbf{D}) = \mathbf{L}(F_3(F_2(F_1(\mathbf{D}))))$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{surf} = F_1(\mathbf{D})$$

$$\mathbf{x}_{int} = F_2(\mathbf{x}_{surf})$$

$$\mathbf{w} = F_3(\mathbf{x}_{int})$$

$$L = L(\mathbf{w}, \mathbf{x}_{int})$$



# Tangent Problem (forward linearization)

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$$

- Examine Individual Terms:
  - $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$  : Design variable definition (CAD)
  - $\frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}}$  : Objective function definition

# Tangent Problem (forward linearization)

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$$

- Examine Individual Terms:

$$- [K] \delta x_{int} = \delta x_{surf}$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}} = [K]^{-1}$$

$$- \mathbf{R}(\mathbf{w}(\mathbf{x}_{int}), \mathbf{x}_{int}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} = - \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}$$

# Sensitivity Analysis

- Tangent Problem:

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = -\frac{\partial\mathbf{L}}{\partial\mathbf{w}} \cdot \left[ \frac{\partial\mathbf{R}}{\partial\mathbf{w}} \right]^{-1} \frac{\partial\mathbf{R}}{\partial\mathbf{x}_{int}} [\mathbf{K}]^{-1} \frac{\partial\mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial\mathbf{D}} + \frac{\partial\mathbf{L}}{\partial\mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot [\mathbf{K}]^{-1} \frac{\partial\mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial\mathbf{D}}$$

- Adjoint Problem

$$\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}}^T = \frac{\partial\mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial\mathbf{D}}^T [\mathbf{K}]^{-T} \left[ \frac{\partial\mathbf{L}}{\partial\mathbf{x}_{int}}^T - \frac{\partial\mathbf{R}}{\partial\mathbf{x}_{int}}^T \left[ \frac{\partial\mathbf{R}}{\partial\mathbf{w}} \right]^{-T} \frac{\partial\mathbf{L}}{\partial\mathbf{w}}^T \right]$$

# Tangent Problem

- 1: Surface mesh sensitivity:  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$
- 2: Interior mesh sensitivity:  $[K] \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$
- 3: Residual sensitivity:  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$
- 4: Flow variable sensitivity:  $\left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right] \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} = - \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$
- 5: Final sensitivity  $\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}} = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{w}}{\partial \mathbf{D}} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}} \cdot \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}$

# Adjoint Problem

- 1: Objective flow sensitivity:  $\frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}}$
- 2: Flow adjoint:  $\left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{w}} \right]^T \Lambda_w = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{w}}^T$
- 3: Objective sens. wrt mesh:  $\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{x}_{int}^*}^T = \frac{\partial \mathbf{L}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}^T - \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}}{\partial \mathbf{x}_{int}}^T \Lambda_w$
- 4: Mesh adjoint:  $[\mathbf{K}]^T \Lambda_x = \frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{x}_{int}^*}^T$
- 5: Final sensitivity:  $\frac{d\mathbf{L}}{d\mathbf{D}}^T = \frac{\partial \mathbf{x}_{surf}}{\partial \mathbf{D}}^T \Lambda_x$

# General Approach

- Linearize each subroutine/process individually in analysis code
  - Check linearization by finite difference
  - Transpose, and check duality relation
- Build up larger components
  - Check linearization, duality relation
- Check entire process for FD and duality
- Use single modular AMG solver for all phases

# General Duality Relation

• Analysis Routine:  $f = f(x)$

• Tangent Model:  $\delta f_1 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x} \delta x_1$

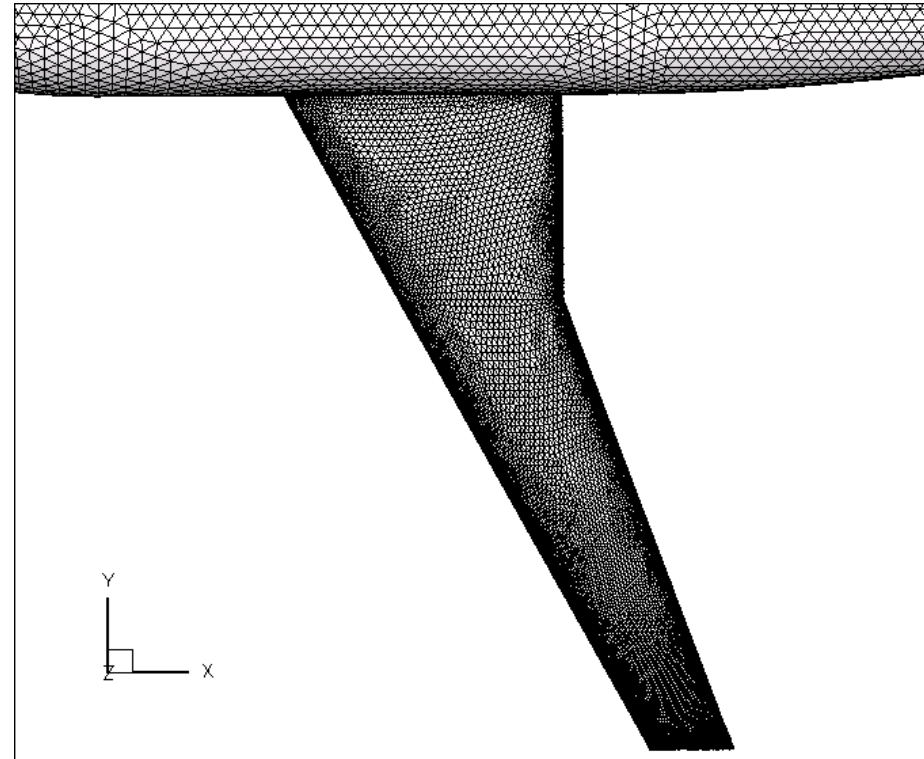
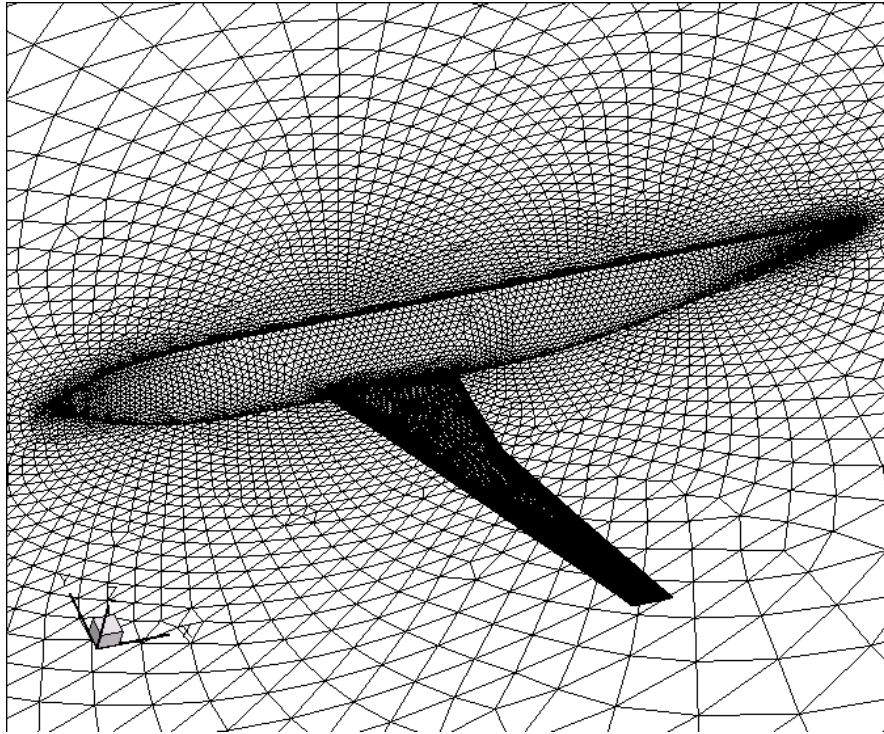
• Adjoint Model:  $\delta x_2 = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x}^T \delta f_2$

• Duality Relation:  $\delta f_2^T \cdot \delta f_1 = \delta x_2^T \cdot \delta x_1$

- Necessary but not sufficient test

– Check using series of arbitrary input vectors  $\delta x_1$   $\delta f_2$

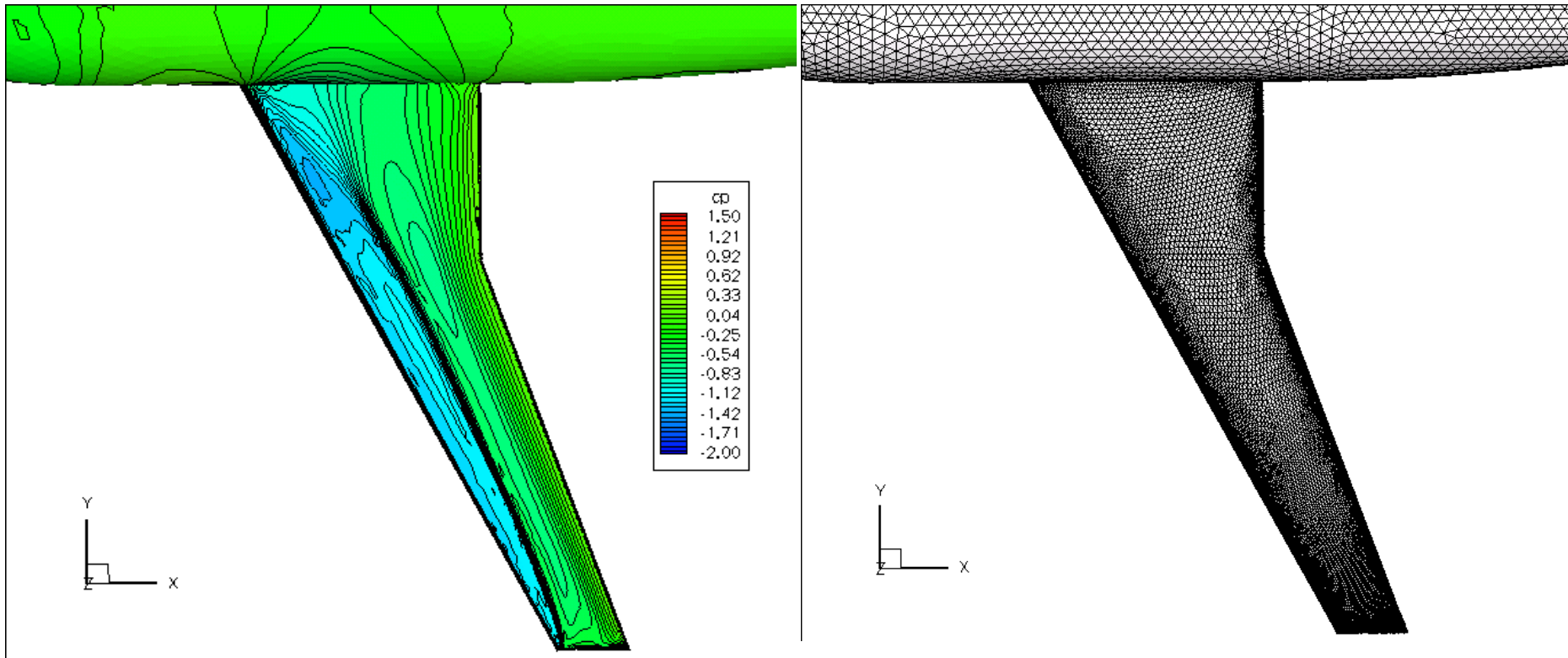
# Drag Minimization Problem



- DLR-F6 Wing body configuration
- 1.12M vertices, 4.2M cells

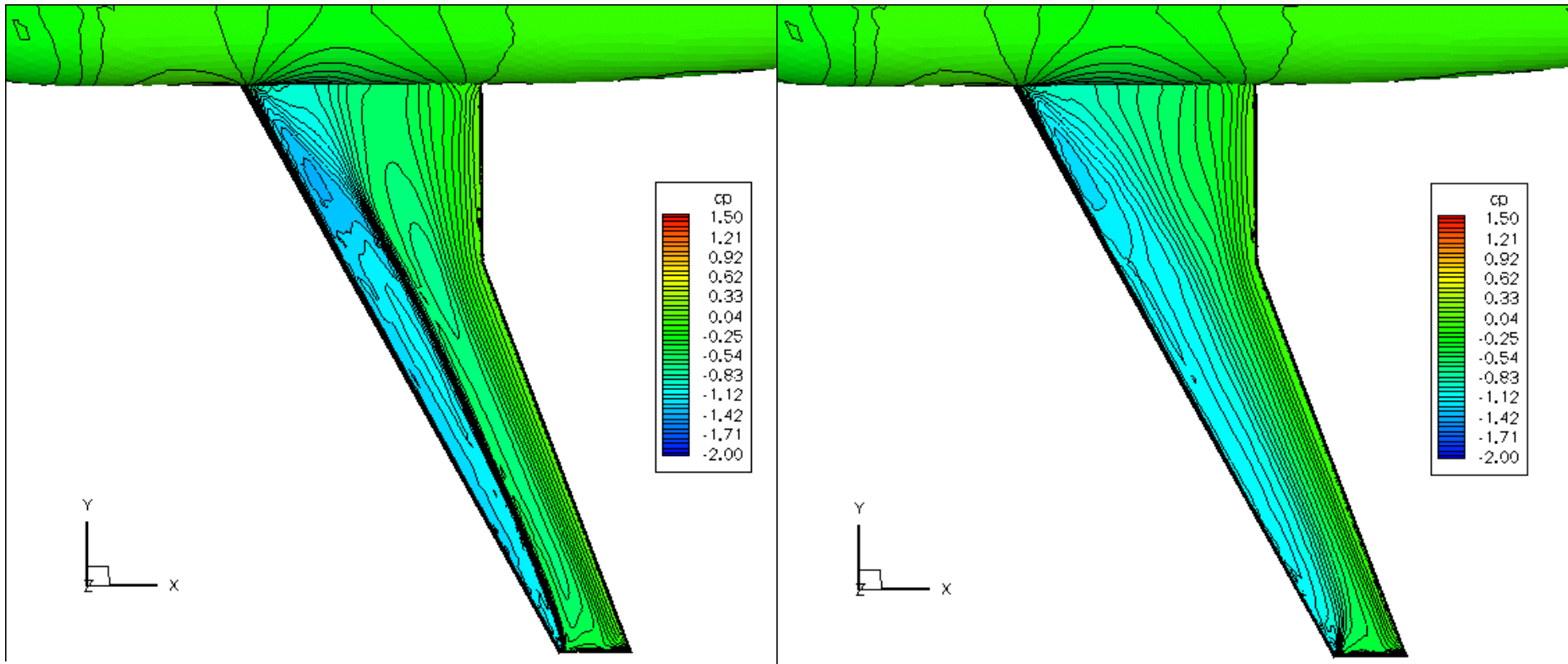


# Drag Minimization Problem



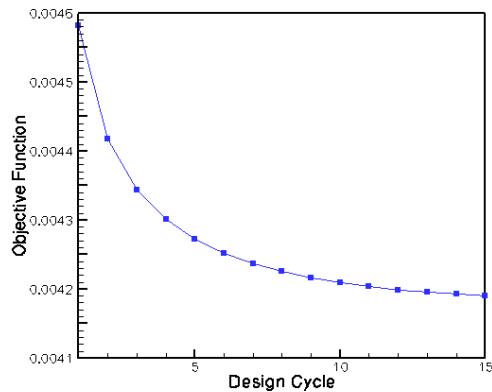
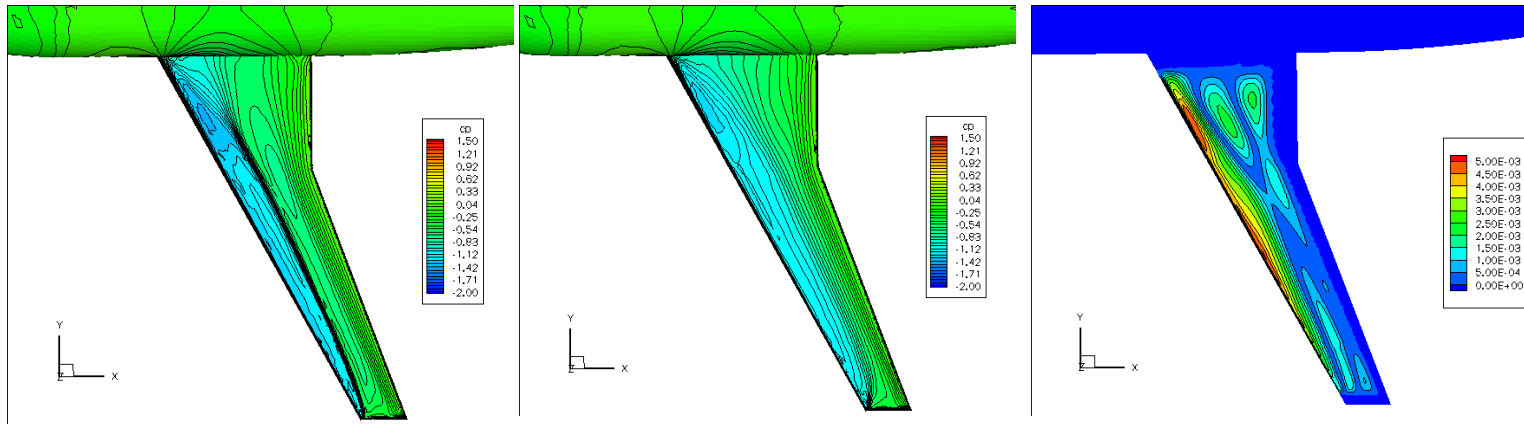
- DLR-F6 Wing body configuration
- Mach=0.75, Incidence=1° , Re=3M

# Drag Minimization Problem



- Substantial reduction in shock strength after 15 design cycles
- CD: 302 counts  $\rightarrow$  288 counts : -14 counts
  - Wave drag

# Drag Minimization Problem



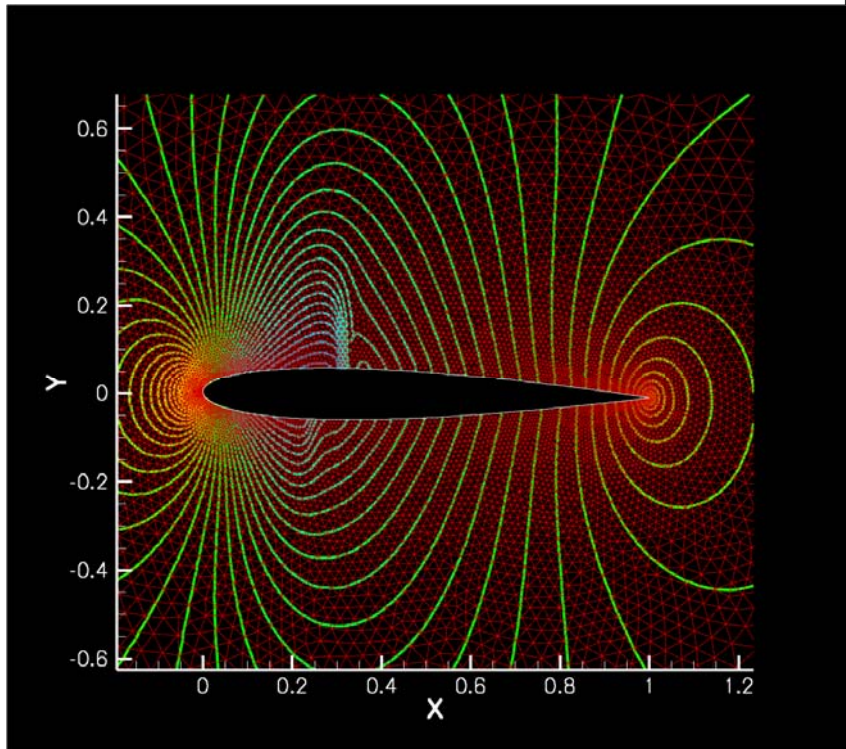
Total Optimization Time for 15 Design Cycles:  
6 hours on 16 cpus of PC cluster

- Flow Solver: 150 MG cycles
- Flow Adjoint: 50 Defect-Correction cycles (x 4 MG)
- Mesh Adjoint: 25 MG cycles
- Mesh Motion: 25 MG cycles

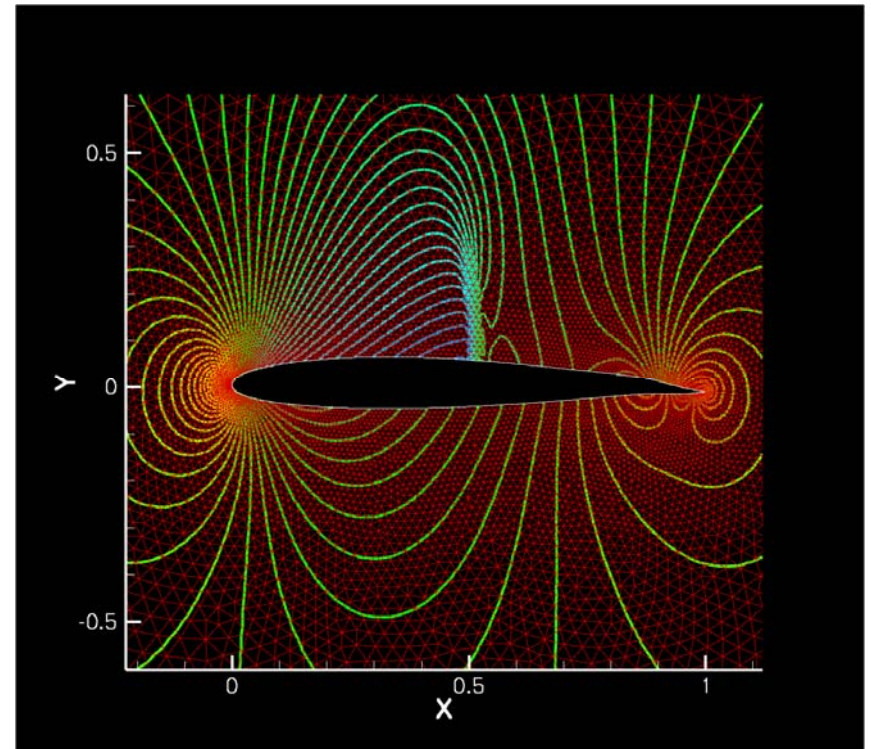
# Extension to Unsteady Problems

Pressure Contours for Pitching Airfoils

$M_{\text{inf}} = 0.755$ ,  $\alpha_0 = 0.016^\circ$ ,  $\alpha_{\text{max}} = 2.51^\circ$ ,  $\omega = 0.1628$ ,  $t=0$  to 54  
27 time-steps with  $dt=2.0$



NACA0012 Baseline Airfoil



Optimized Airfoil

# Governing Equations (ALE)

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{w}(\mathbf{x}, t)}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot \mathbf{F}(\mathbf{w}) = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial V \mathbf{w}}{\partial t} + \int_{dB(t)} [\mathbf{F}(\mathbf{w}) - \dot{\mathbf{x}} \mathbf{w}] \cdot \mathbf{n} dB = 0$$

- In ALE Form:
  - $V(t)$  = control volume
  - $\int \dot{\mathbf{x}} \cdot \mathbf{n} dB$  = Face integrated mesh velocity
    - Formulated to obey GCL =  $f(x^n, x^{n-1}, x^{n-2}, \dots)$
    - Mavriplis and Yang (AIAA 2005-5114) for high order IRK
    - Mavriplis and Nastase (AIAA/JCP to appear) for DG methods

# Unsteady Residual Form

- BDF1:

$$\mathbf{R}^n(\mathbf{w}^n, \mathbf{w}^{n-1}, \mathbf{x}^n, \mathbf{x}^{n-1}) = \frac{1}{\Delta t} V(x^n) \mathbf{w}^n - \frac{1}{\Delta t} V(x^{n-1}) \mathbf{w}^{n-1} + \mathbf{S}^n(\mathbf{w}^n, \mathbf{x}^n, \mathbf{x}^{n-1})$$

Due uniquely to ALE grid speed terms

- BDF2: Similar expression depending on  $\mathbf{w}^n, \mathbf{w}^{n-1}, \mathbf{w}^{n-2},$   
 $\mathbf{x}^n, \mathbf{x}^{n-1}, \mathbf{x}^{n-2}$

# Shape Optimization

- Per design cycle (Steady Case)
  - One mesh deformation problem
  - One flow analysis
  - One flow adjoint solution
  - One mesh adjoint solution
- Unsteady Shape Optimization
  - General functional dependence involves previous time step values
  - Chain rule results in forward time recurrence relation
  - When transposed (adjoint) results in backwards “integration” in time
  - Time history of solution must be stored for use by adjoint in reverse time integration
    - Write out to local cluster disks, read back in during adjoint phase



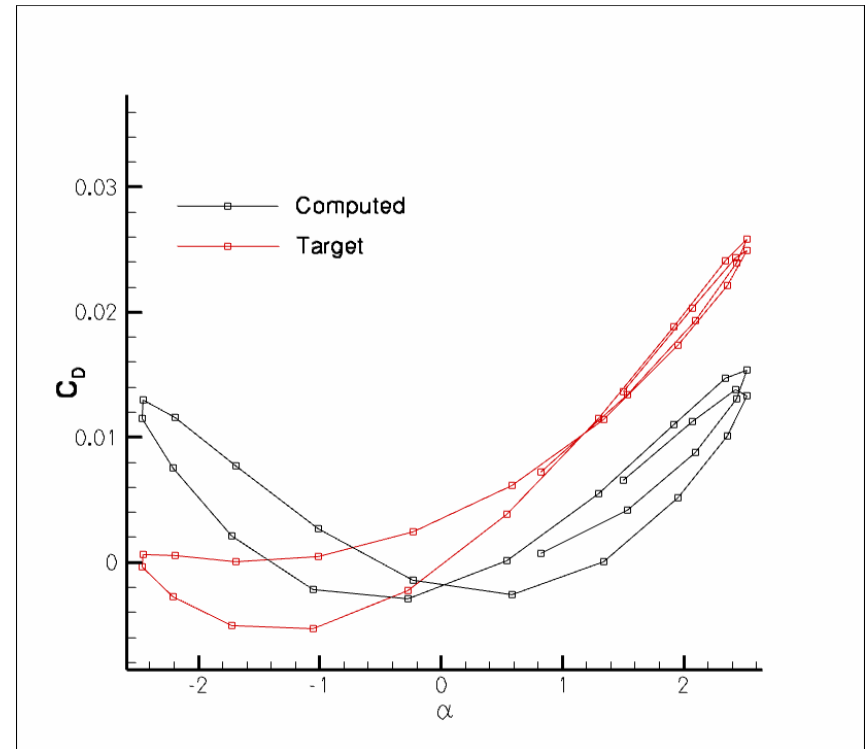
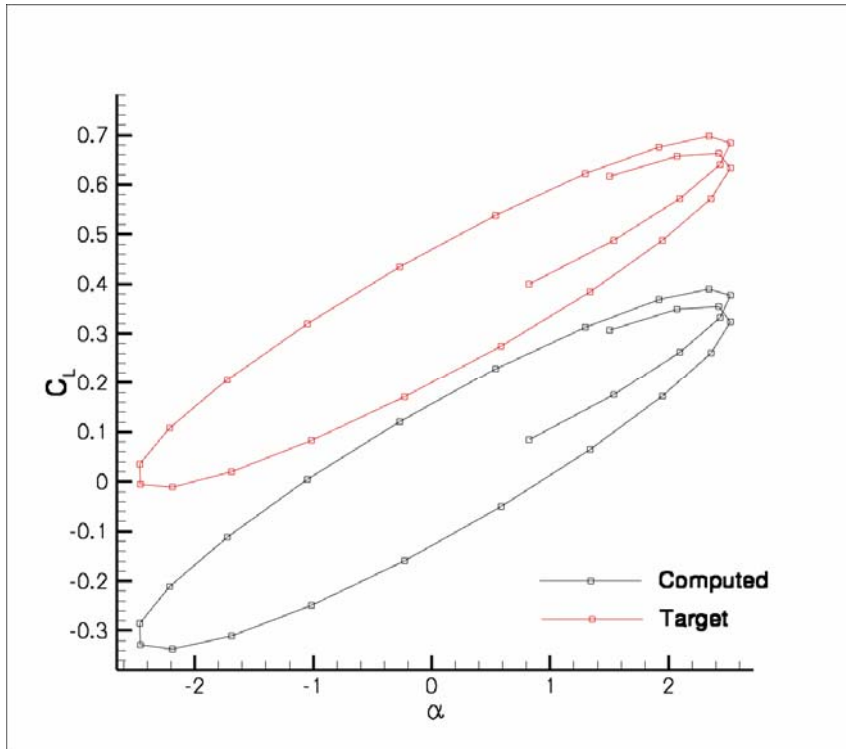
# Validation of Sensitivities

	Steady State		Time = 1		Time = 10	
	$C_L$	$C_D$	$C_L$	$C_D$	$C_L$	$C_D$
FD: $\epsilon = 10^{-08}$	-0.3520915892	0.2643615382	-0.3768952150	0.2413373861	-	-
FD: $\epsilon = 10^{-09}$	-0.3520720937	0.2642965013	-0.3768726442	0.2412741950	-0.3504422307	0.2730632664
FD: $\epsilon = 10^{-10}$	-0.3521249958	0.2642880359	-0.3768896306	0.2412681165	-	-
Tangent	-0.3516050678	0.2652594347	-0.3759034567	0.2425679122	-0.3494761235	0.2746345922
Adjoint	-0.3516050677	0.2652594347	-0.3759034566	0.2425679122	-0.3494761233	0.2746345923

- Steady/Unsteady sensitivities compare well with finite difference values
- Tangent/Adjoint values equivalent to machine precision
  - Duality principle



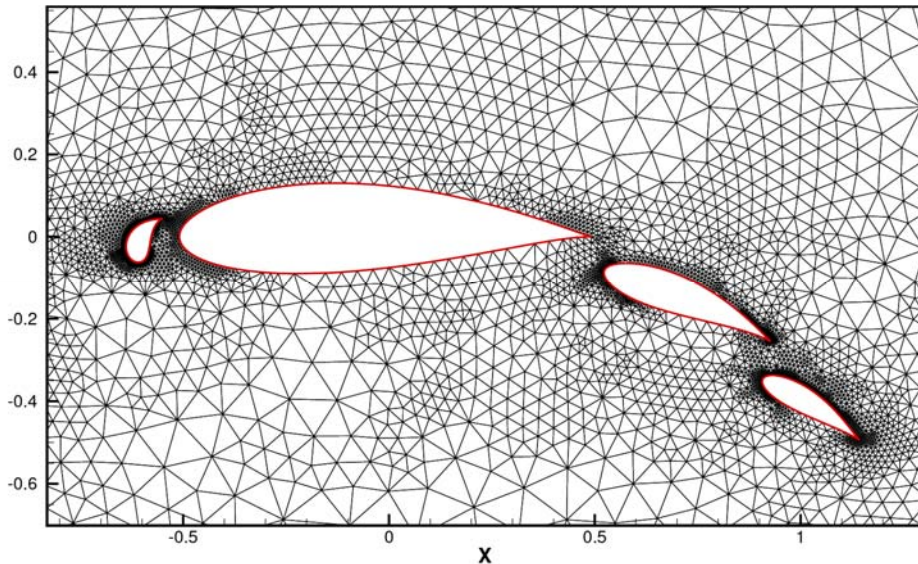
# Time-Dependent Load Convergence/Comparison



# Adjoint-Based Error Estimation

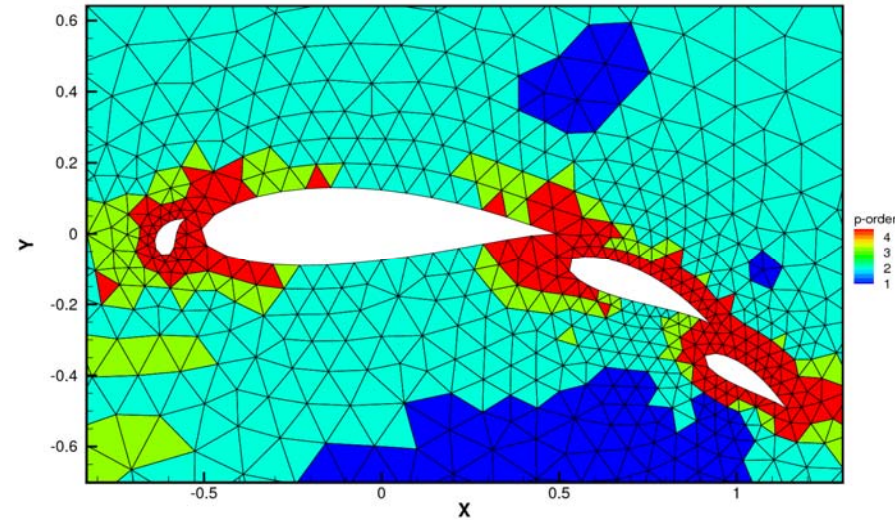
- Complex simulations have multiple error sources
- Engineering simulations concerned with specific output objectives
- Adjoint methods / Goal Oriented Approach
  - Methodical approach for constructing discrete adjoint
  - Use for a posteriori error estimation
    - Spatial error
    - Temporal error
    - Other error sources
  - Use to drive adaptive process

# Goal-Oriented Spatial Adaptivity (steady-state)



h-adaptivity  
(Drag)

## DG Discretization



p-adaptivity  
(Drag)

# ADJOINT-BASED ERROR ESTIMATION

- Formulation

- Taylor series

$$J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h) = J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) + \left. \frac{\partial J_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \right|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) + \dots \quad (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h = \mathbf{I}_H^h \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H)$$

$$\mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h) = \mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) + \left[ \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \right|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \right] (\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) + \dots = 0$$

$$(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h - \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) \approx - \left[ \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \right|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h)$$

$$J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h) \approx J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) - \left. \frac{\partial J_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \right|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \left[ \left. \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \right|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \right]^{-1} \mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h)$$

$$\Lambda_h^T \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h}, \text{ adjoint solution}$$

# ADJOINT-BASED ERROR ESTIMATION

- Formulation

- Discrete adjoint problem

$$\Lambda_h^T \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} = \frac{\partial J_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \right]^{-1} \quad \text{or} \quad \left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \right]^T \Lambda_h \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} = \left( \frac{\partial J_h}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h} \right)^T \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h}$$

*Transpose of Jacobian matrix*

- Linear system of equations
  - Delivers similar convergence rate as the flow solver
- Approximated objective becomes

$$J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h) \approx J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) - \Lambda_h^T \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h} \mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h)$$

# ADJOINT-BASED ERROR ESTIMATION

- Formulation
  - Avoid solving the adjoint variables on the fine mesh, instead,
  - Solve  $\Lambda_H$  on the coarse mesh

$$\left[ \frac{\partial \mathbf{R}_H}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H} \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H} \right]^T \Lambda_H = \left( \frac{\partial J_H}{\partial \tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H} \Big|_{\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H} \right)^T$$

- Reconstruct  $\Lambda_H$  onto the fine mesh by using least squares method

$$\Lambda_H^h = \mathbf{J}_H^h \Lambda_H$$

- Approximated objective becomes

$$J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h) \approx J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) - (\Lambda_h^H)^T \mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h)$$

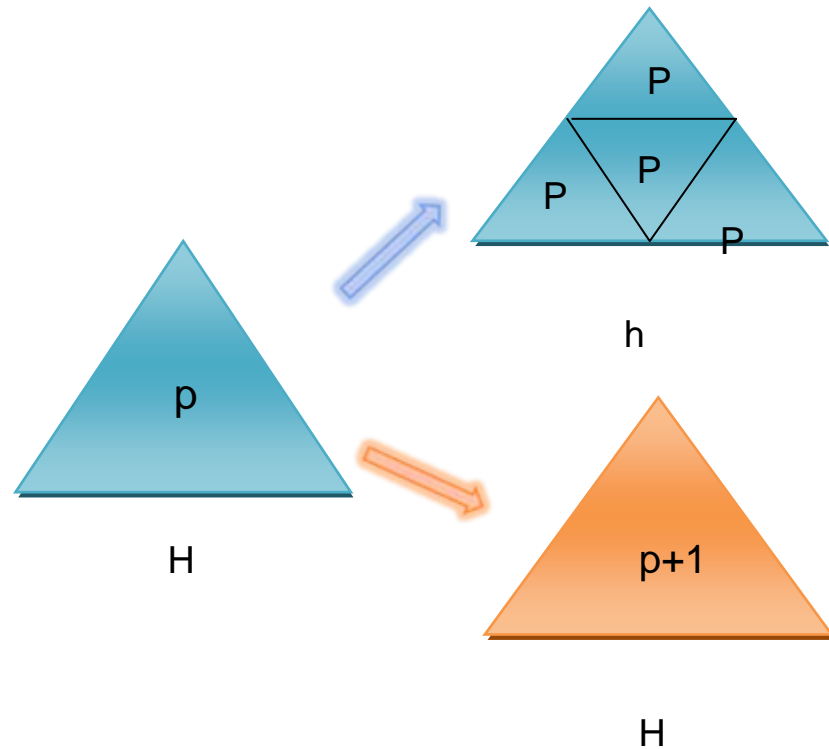
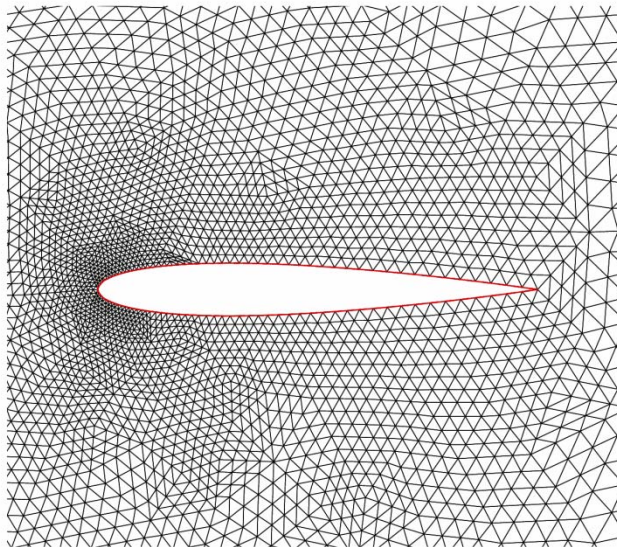
or

$$J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_h) - J_H(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H) \approx J_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h) - J_H(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H) - (\Lambda_h^H)^T \mathbf{R}_h(\tilde{\mathbf{u}}_H^h)$$

**correction**
 $\epsilon_1$ 
 $\epsilon_2$

# ADAPTIVE MESH STRATEGIES

- $h$ -refinement
  - Local mesh subdivision



- $p$ -enrichment

- Local variation of discretization orders

- $hp$ -refinement

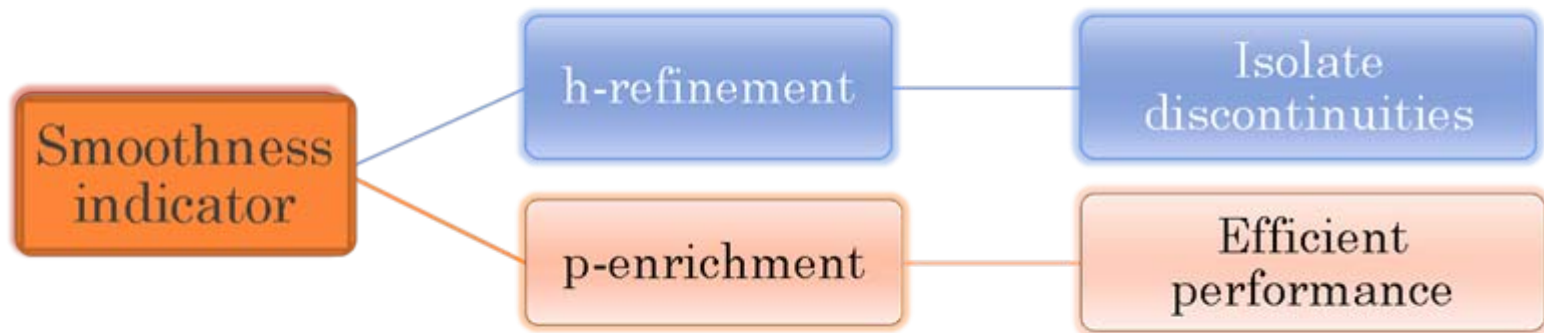
Local implementation of the  $h$ - **or**  $p$ -refinement individually



# ADAPTIVE MESH STRATEGIES

- *hp*-refinement (contd.)
  - For **EACH** flagged element,

**How to make a decision between *h*- and *p*-refinement??**



- Local smoothness / shock indicator



# ADAPTIVE MESH STRATEGIES

– Local smoothness / shock indicator

- Element-wise smoothness [Persson, Peraire],

$$S_{ek} = \frac{(u_p - u_{p-1}, u_p - u_{p-1})_k}{(u_p, u_p)_k} \quad \text{where} \quad u_p = \sum_{i=1}^{N(p)} U_i \phi_i \quad u_{p-1} = \sum_{i=1}^{N(p-1)} U_i \phi_i$$

$$s_{ek} = \log_{10}(S_{ek})$$

$$s_{ek} > \frac{1}{p^4} - \kappa \quad h\text{-refinement; otherwise, } p\text{-enrichment}$$

- Inter-element jumps [Krivodonova, Xin, Chevaugeon, Flaherty],

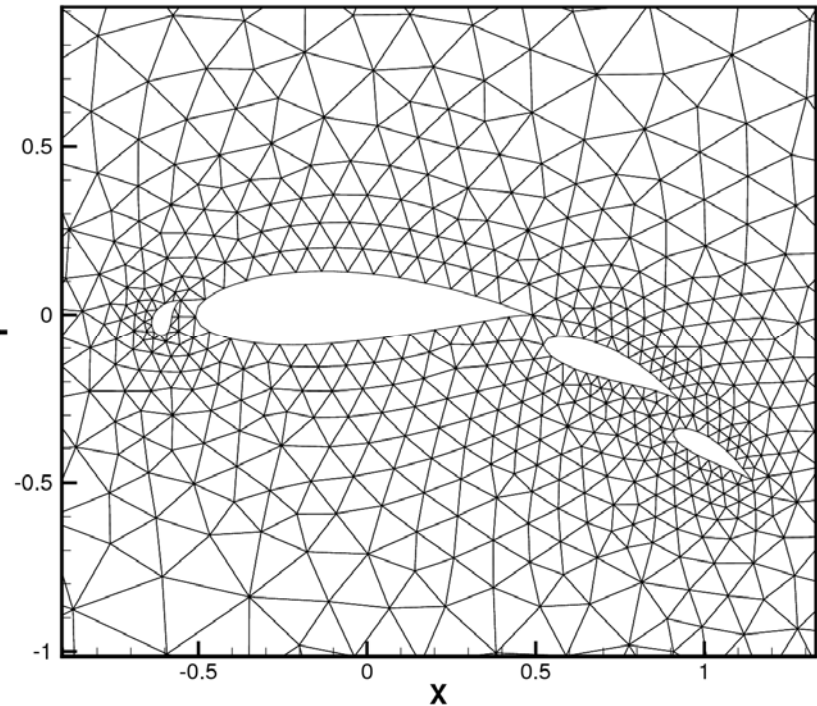
$$S_{ek} = \frac{1}{|\partial l|} \int_{\partial l} \left| \frac{q^+ - q^-}{\frac{1}{2}(q^+ + q^-)} \right| dS$$

$$s_{ek} > \frac{1}{K} \quad h\text{-refinement; otherwise, } p\text{-enrichment}$$

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )

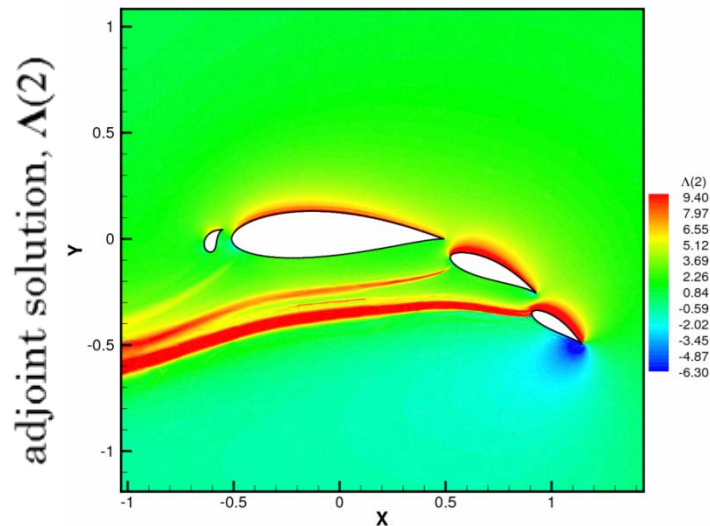
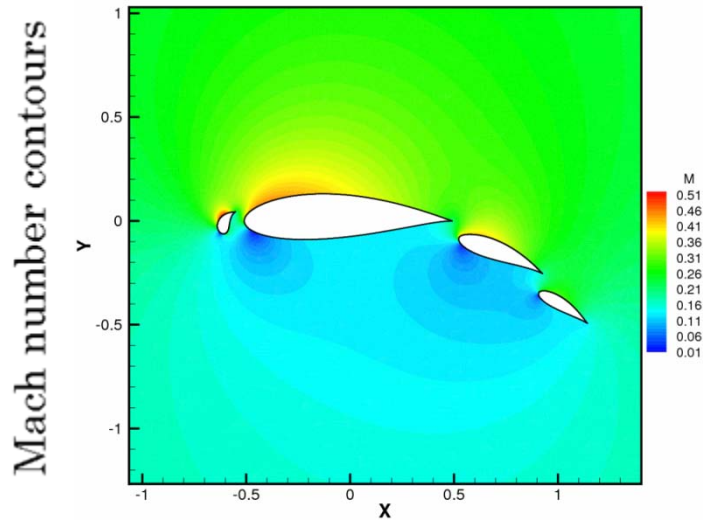
- Zero angle of attack,  $\alpha=0$
- Target function: lift or drag
$$J = \int_{\partial\Omega_w} pn_x dS \quad J = \int_{\partial\Omega_w} pn_y dS$$
- Starting interpolation order  $p = 1$
- *HLLC* Riemann solver & special wall boundary treatment
- ***hp*-Multigrid accelerator**
- Various adaptation algorithms
  - ✓ *h*-refinement
  - ✓ *p*-refinement
  - ✓ *hp*-refinement



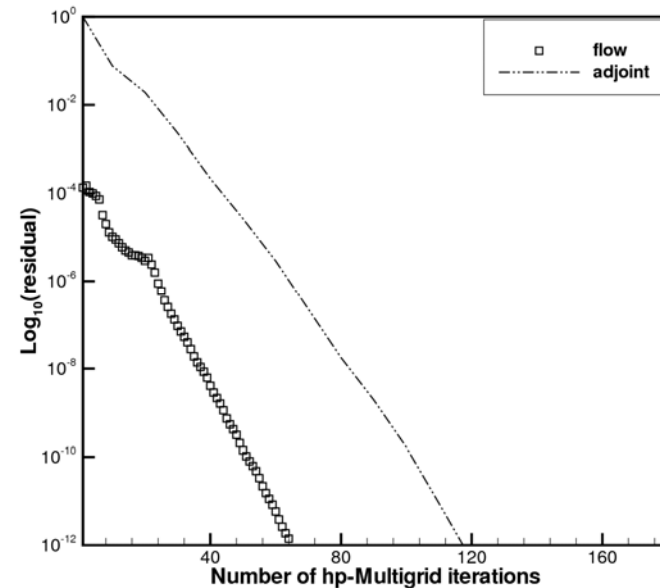
initial mesh (1508 elements)

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )



Primal and dual problems  
target function : lift

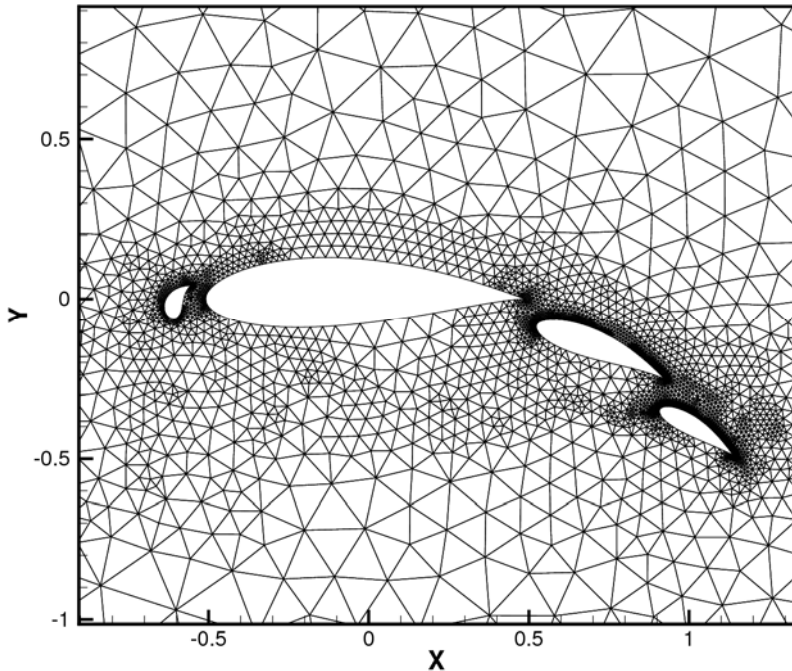


Comparisons on *hp*-Multigrid convergence for the flow and adjoint solutions

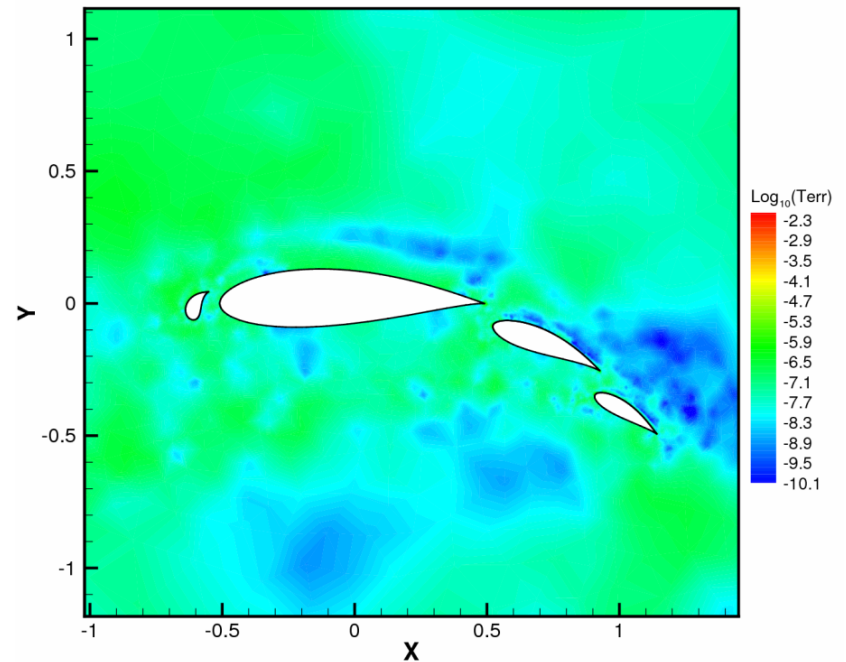
# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )

Target function of lift ( $p = 1$ )



adapted mesh (8387 elements)

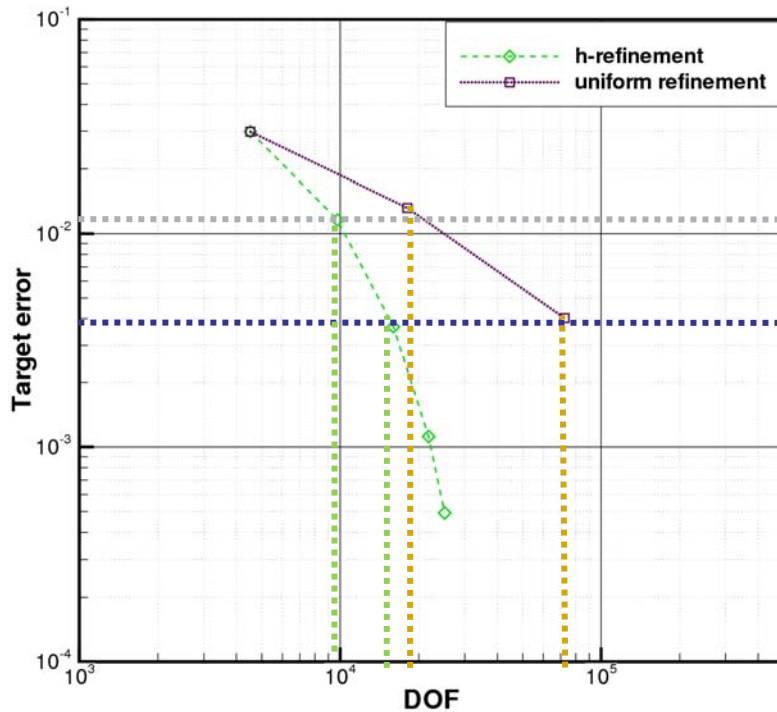


spatial error distribution in the objective functional of lift

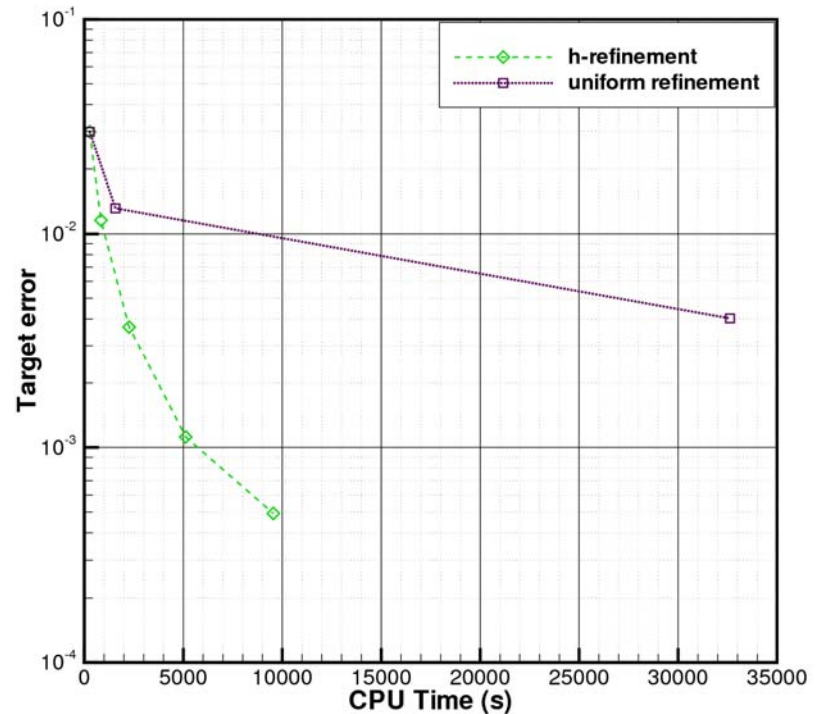
# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )

Target function of lift ( $p = 1$ )



error convergence history vs. degrees of freedom

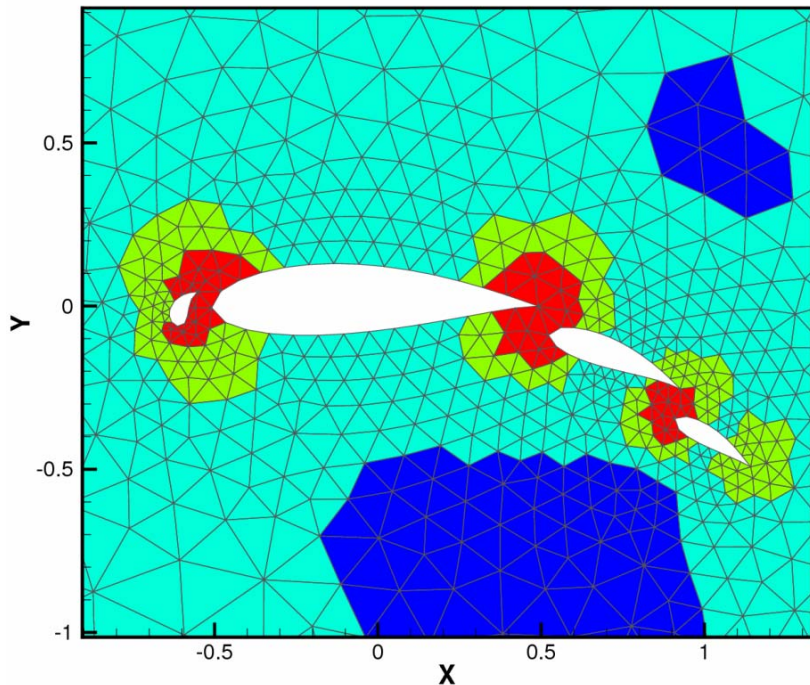


error convergence history vs. CPU time (sec)

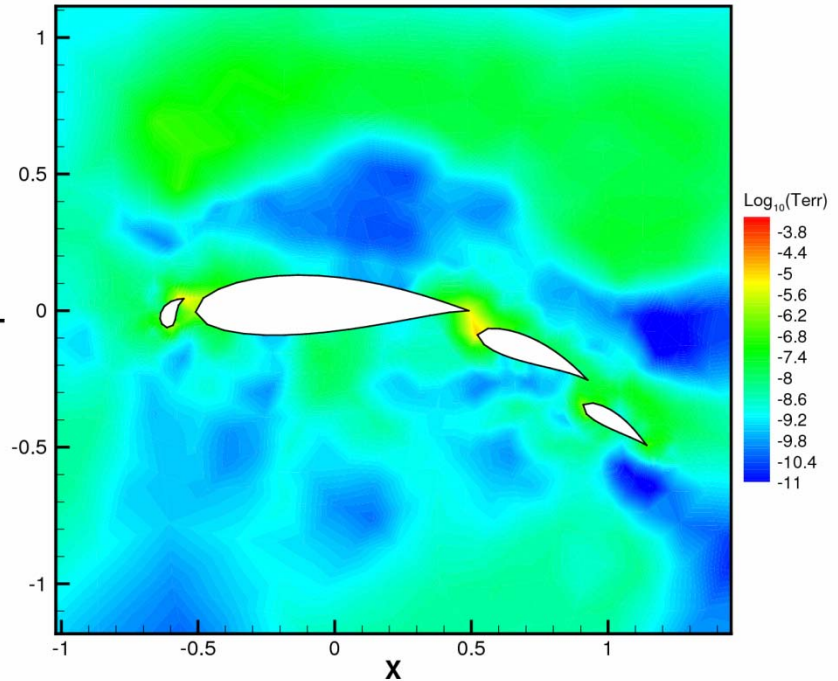


# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )
  - $p$ -enrichment, Target function of drag



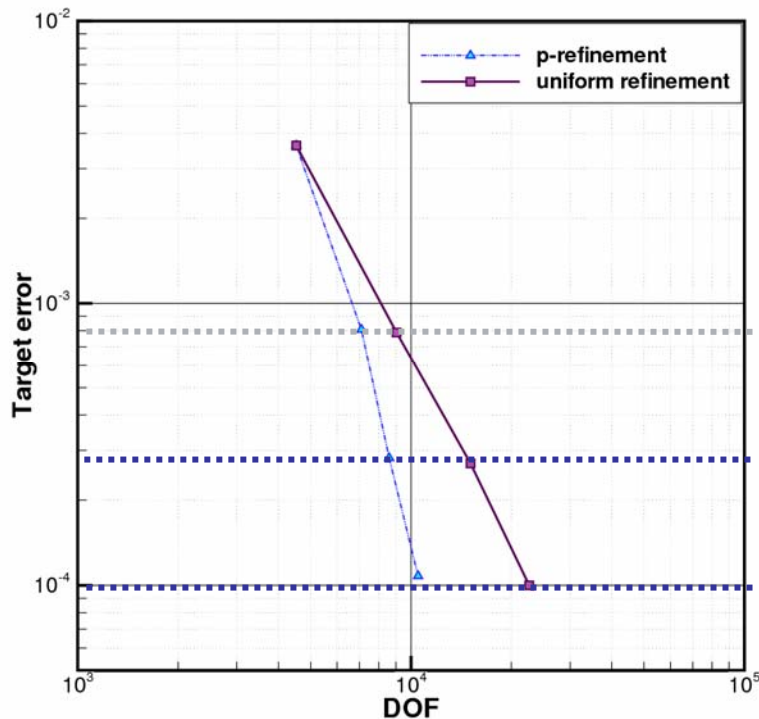
adapted mesh (1508 elements)  
discretization orders:  $p=1\sim 4$



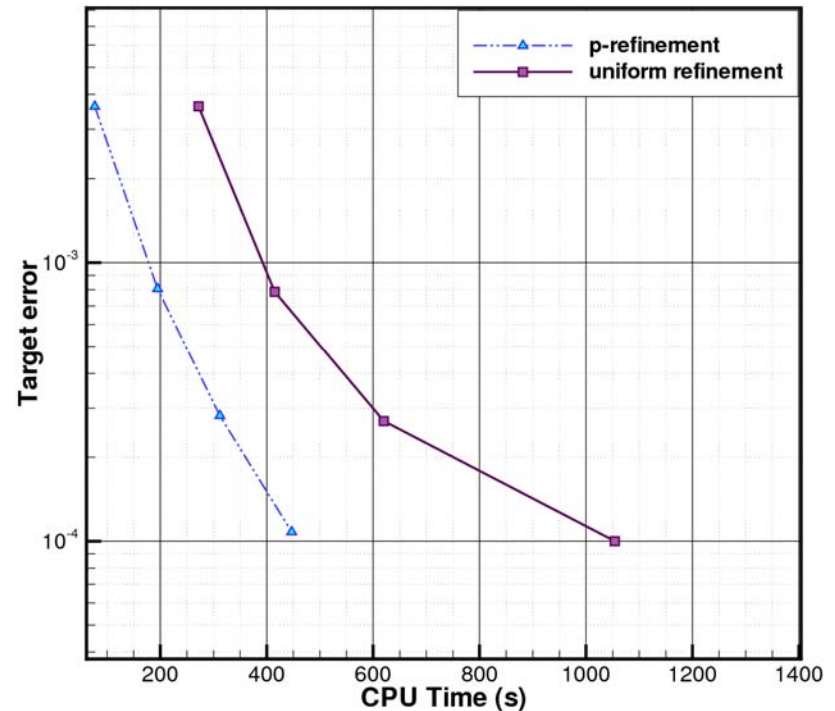
spatial error distribution for  
the objective functional of drag

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )
  - $p$ -enrichment, Target function of drag



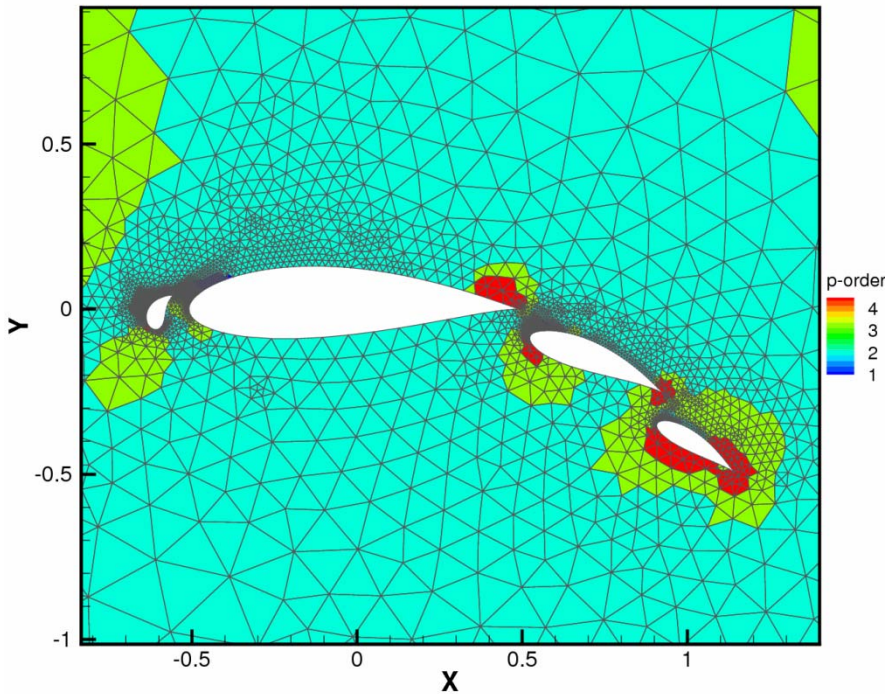
error convergence history  
vs. degrees of freedom



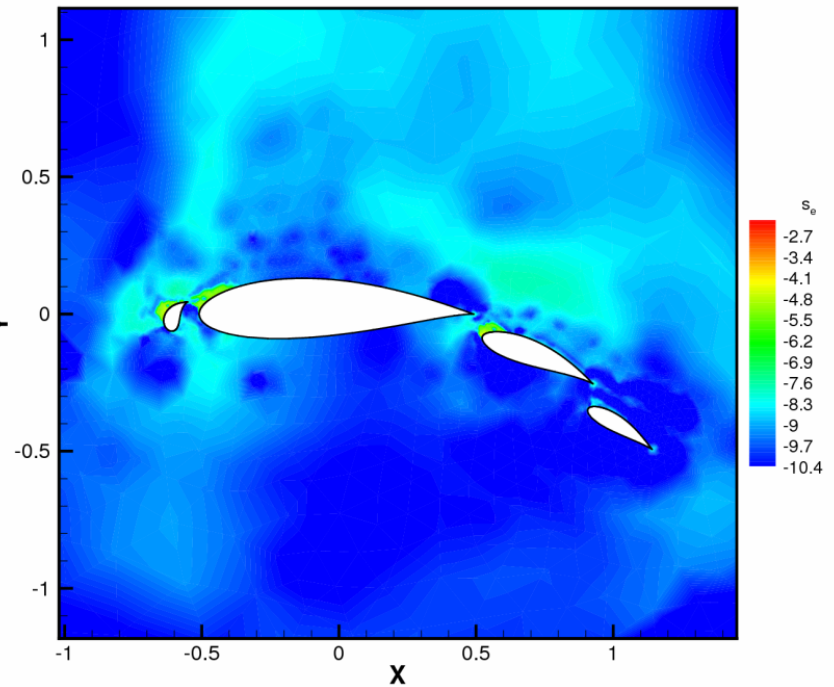
error convergence history vs.  
CPU time (sec)

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )
  - *hp*-refinement, Target function of drag



adapted mesh (7,105 elements)  
discretization orders:  $p=1\sim 4$

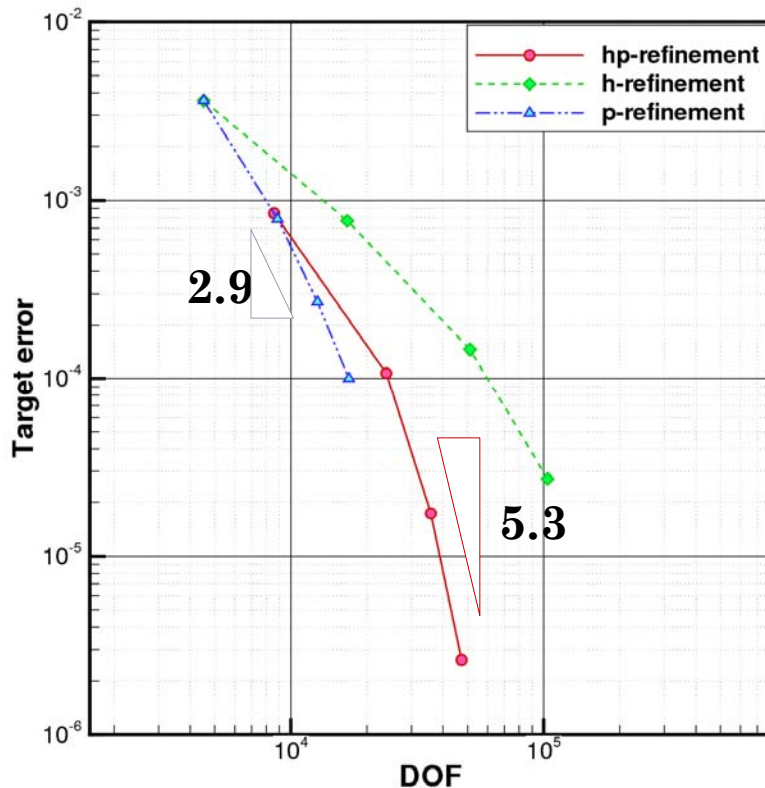


smoothness indicator

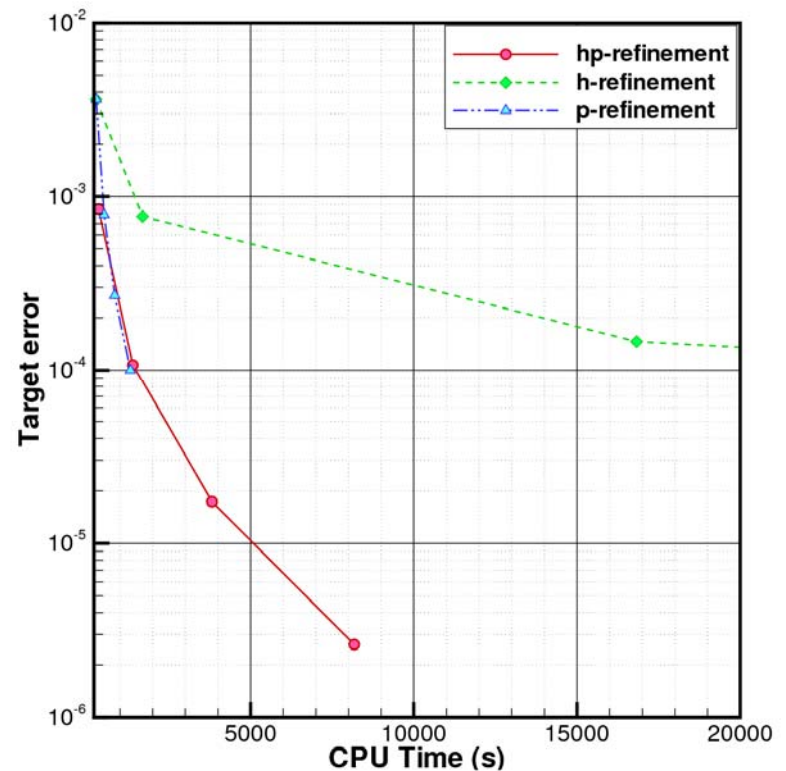


# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- Subsonic flow over a four-element airfoil ( $M_\infty=0.2$ )
  - *hp*-refinement Target function of drag



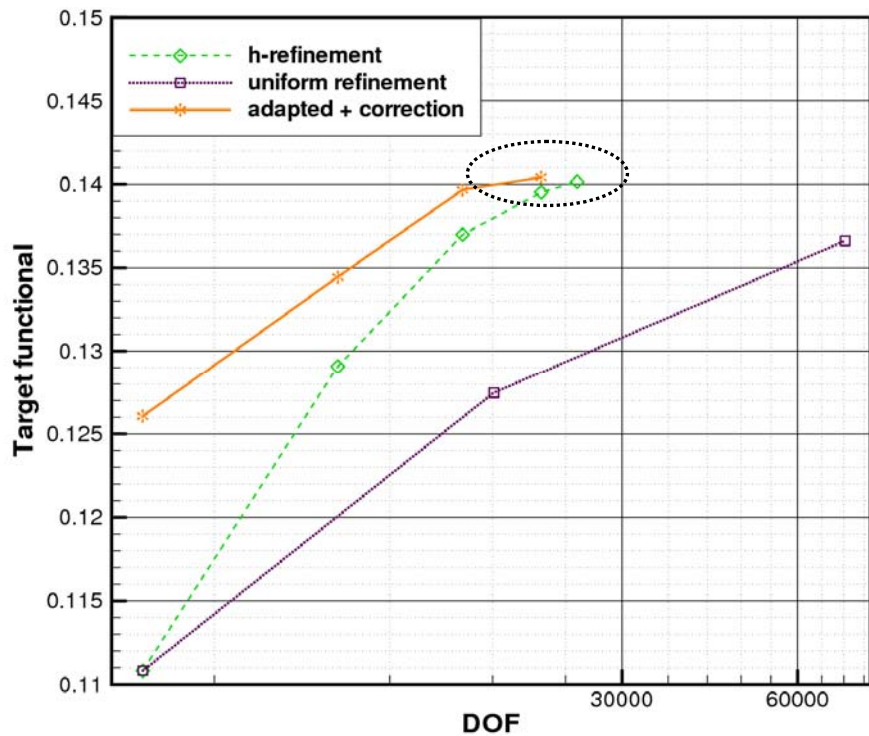
error convergence history  
vs. degrees of freedom



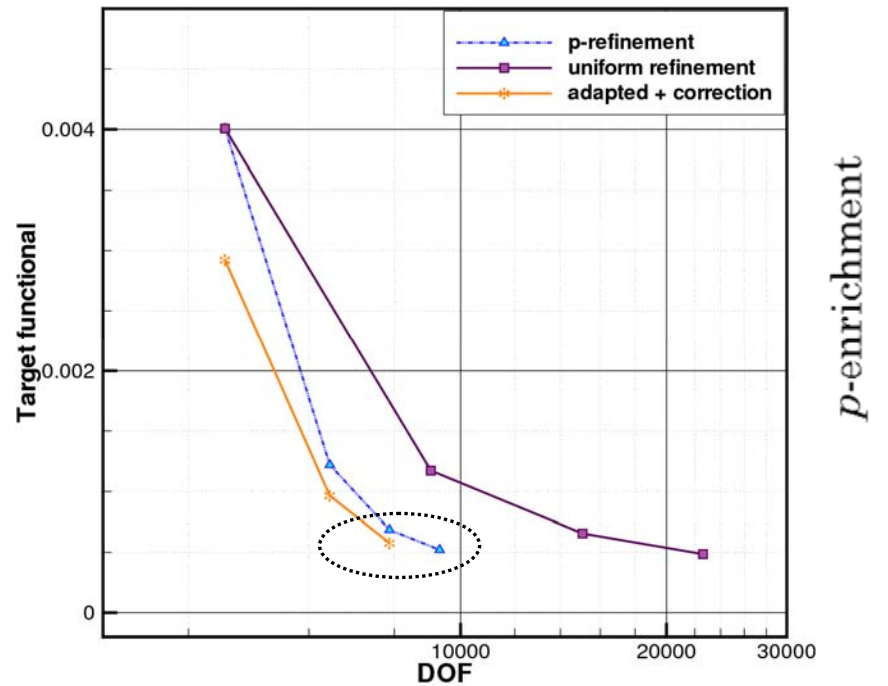
error convergence history vs.  
CPU time (sec)

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

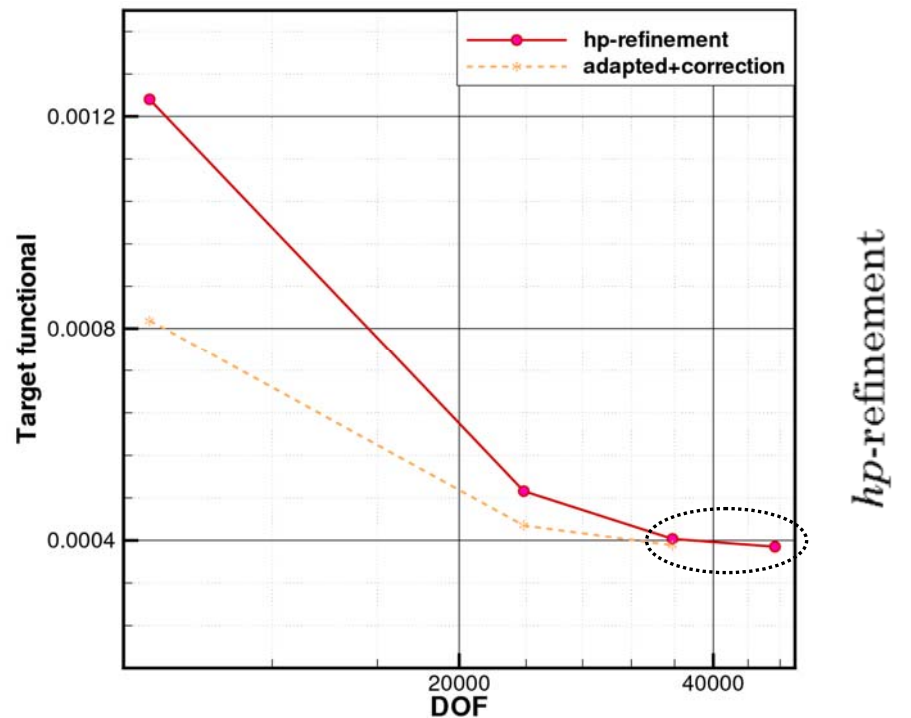
- Comparisons on convergence of objective functionals



*h*-refinement



*p*-enrichment



*hp*-refinement

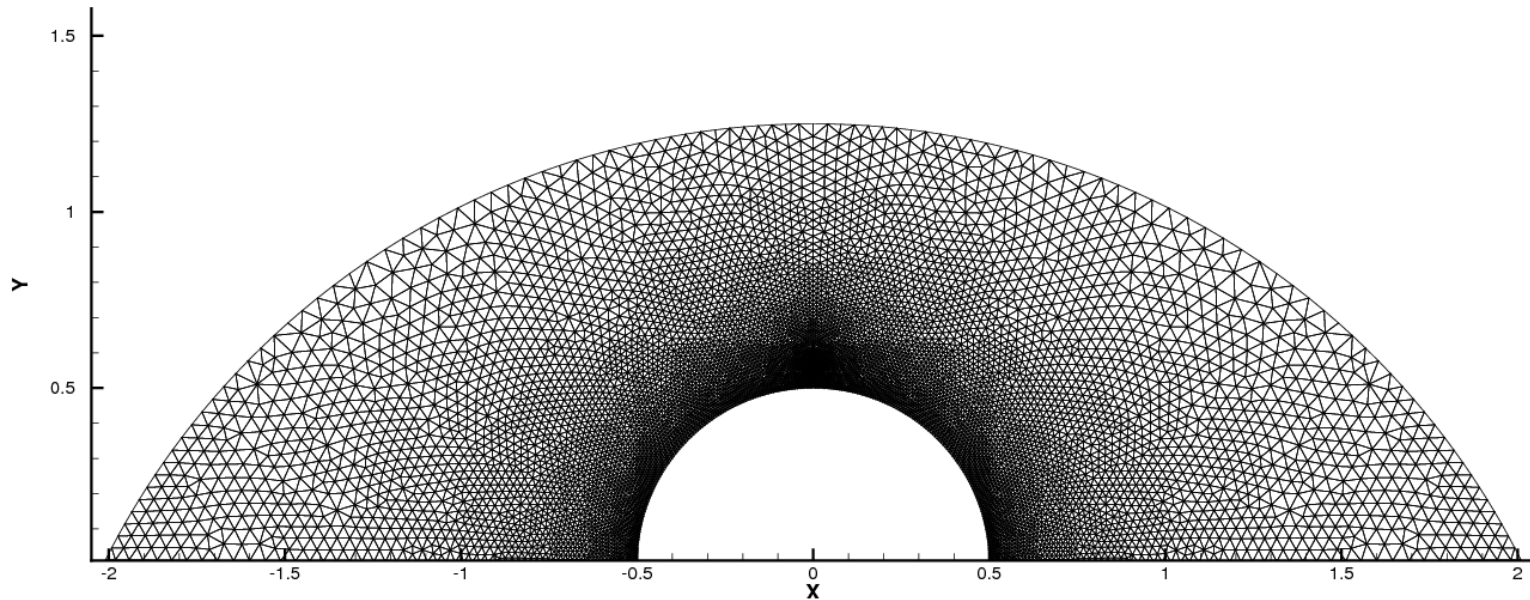
# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- High-speed flow over a half circular-cylinder

Target function of integrated temperature

$$J = \int_{\partial\Omega_w} T dS$$

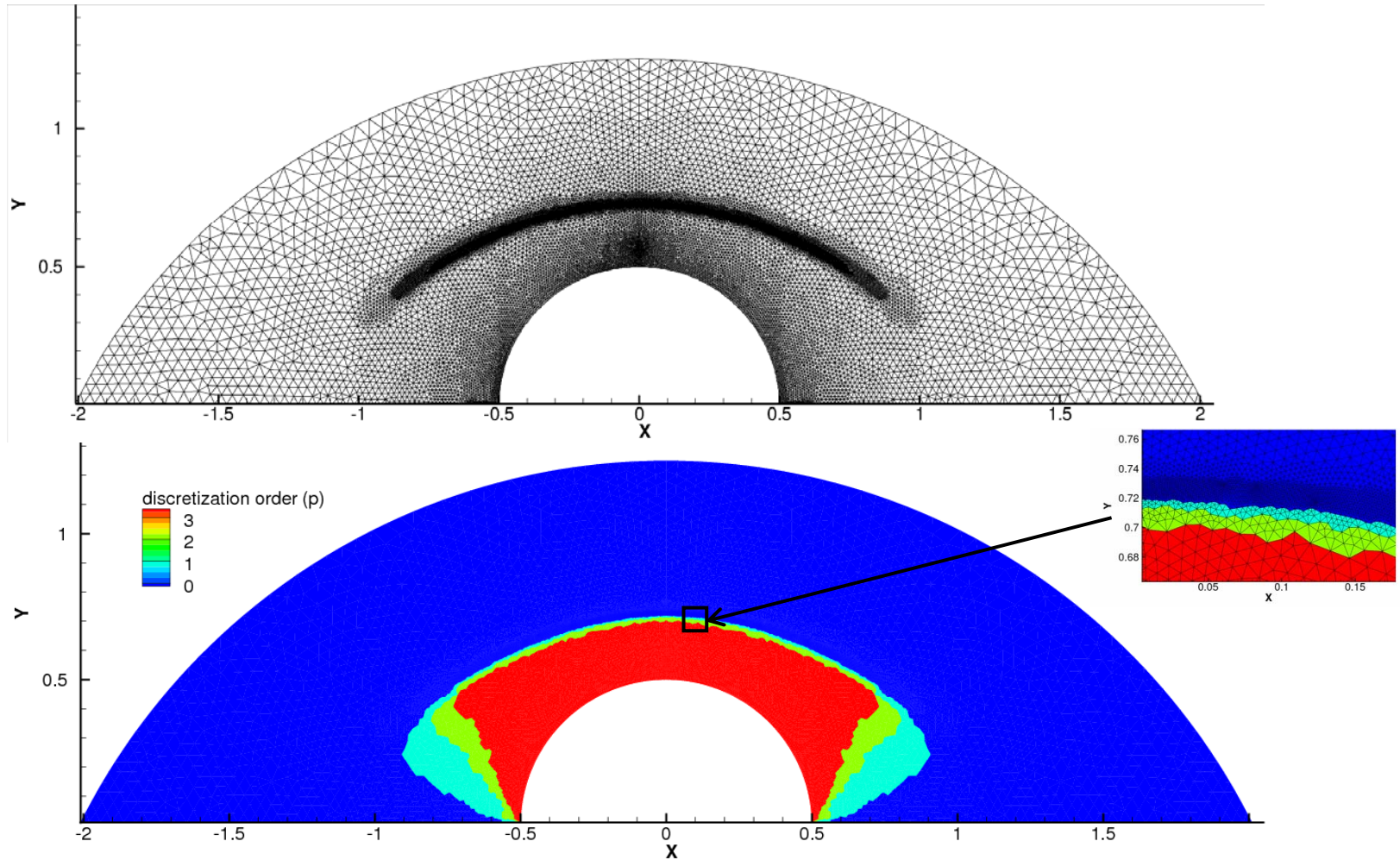
- $hp$ -refinement
- starting discretization order  $p = 0$  (first-order accurate)



initial mesh: 17,072 elements

# NUMERICAL RESULTS

- High-speed flow over a half circular-cylinder ( $M_\infty=6$ )



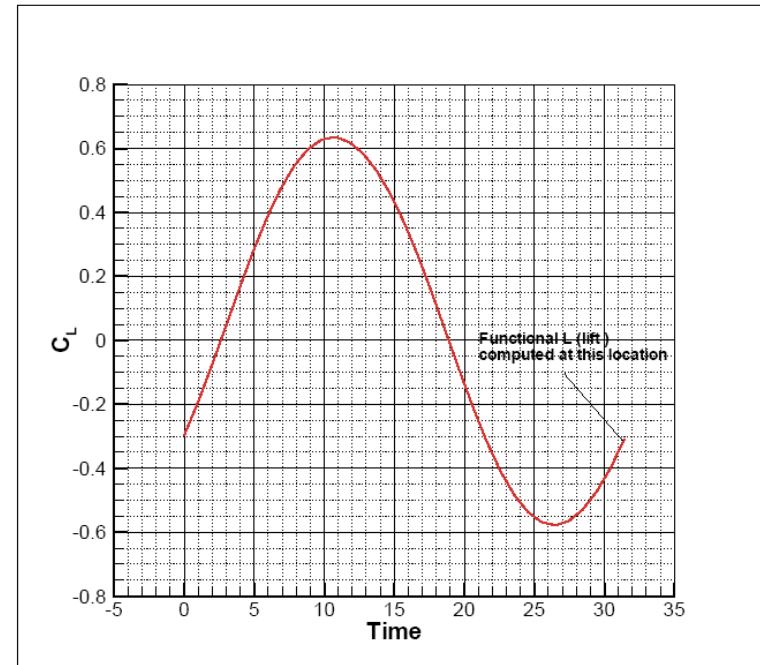
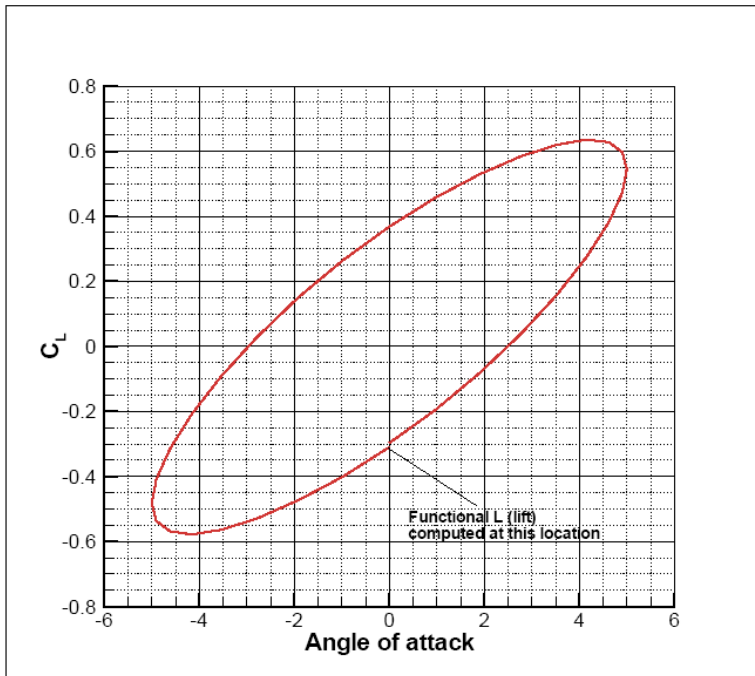
adapted mesh: 42,234 elements,  
discretization orders  $p=0\sim 3$



# Error Estimation for Time Dependent Problems

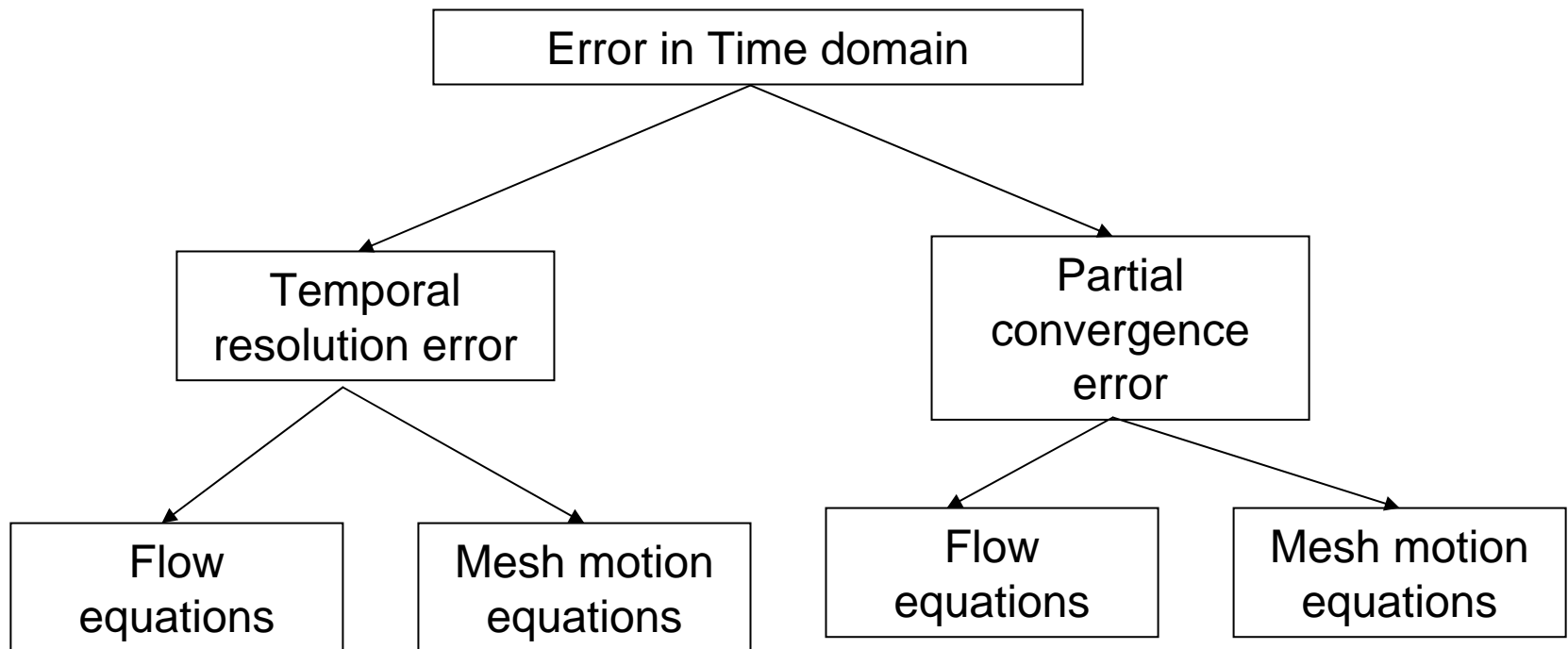
## Test Case Description

Sinusoidally pitching airfoil  
Functional scalar is Lift after 1 period



Easily extended to estimate error in time-integrated Lift history

# Sources of Error



# Flow equations

Conservative form of  
Euler equations:

$$\frac{\partial U}{\partial t} + \nabla \cdot F(U) = 0$$

Integrate over moving control volume to get Arbitrary-Lagrangian-Eulerian  
(ALE) finite-volume form:

$$\frac{\partial AU}{\partial t} + \oint_{dB(t)} [F(U) - \dot{x}U] \cdot \vec{n} dB = 0$$

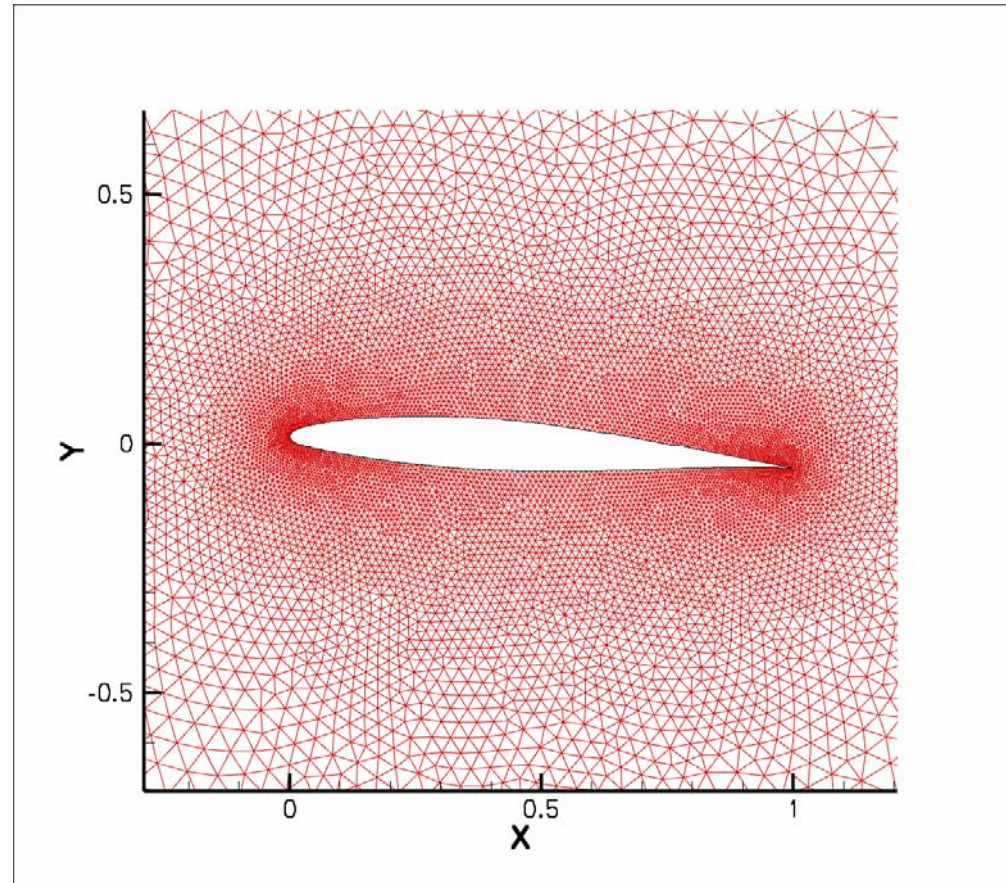
# Mesh Deformation

## Linear Tension Spring Analogy:

Mesh is a series of interconnected springs

$$[K]\delta x_{\text{int}} = \delta x_{\text{surf}}$$

2 independent force balance equations at each node





# Temporal Resolution Error

Fine level Taylor expansion of functional objective L:

$$L_h(U_h, x_h) = L_h(U_h^H, x_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H, x_h^H} (U_h - U_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H, U_h^H} (x_h - x_h^H)$$

h = fine time domain :  $\Delta t/2$

H = coarse time domain :  $\Delta t$

# Evaluation of Flow Contribution to Temporal Resolution Error

Fine level flow residual Taylor expansion

$$R_h(U_h, x_h) = R_h(U_h^H, x_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H, x_h^H} (U_h - U_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H, U_h^H} (x_h - x_h^H) = 0$$

# Continued...

$$(U_h - U_h^H) = - \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H x_h^H}^{-1} \left\{ R_h(U_h^H, x_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H U_h^H} (x_h - x_h^H) \right\}$$

$$\left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H x_h^H} (U_h - U_h^H) =$$

$$- \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H x_h^H} \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H x_h^H}^{-1} \left\{ R_h(U_h^H, x_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H U_h^H} (x_h - x_h^H) \right\}$$

$$= -\Lambda_{U_h}^T$$

# Continued...

Adjoint equation over entire fine time domain:

$$\left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H x_h^H}^T \Lambda_{U_h} = \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{U_h^H x_h^H}^T$$

Recast on coarse time domain:

$$\left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{U_H x_H}^T \Lambda_{U_H} = \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{U_H x_H}^T$$

$$\Lambda_{U_h} = I_h^H \Lambda_{U_H}$$

# Continued...

$$\Lambda_{Uh}^T R_h(U_h^H, x_h^H) + \left\{ \Lambda_{Uh}^T \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H U_h^H} + \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H U_h^H} \right\} (x_h - x_h^H)$$

Contribution to  
temporal resolution  
error from flow  
equations

$$E_h(x_h - x_h^H)$$

Remaining temporal resolution error  
(due to mesh motion equations, but also feeds into flow state)

$$\Lambda_{Uh}^T R_h(U_h^H, x_h^H) = \Lambda_1^T R_1 + \Lambda_2^T R_2 + \Lambda_3^T R_3 + \dots$$

Interpret as sum of dot products of adjoint and residual at each time step

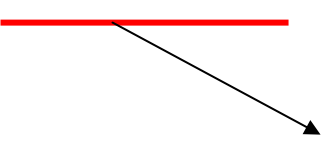
# Evaluation of Mesh contribution to Temporal Resolution Error

$$G(x) = [K] \delta x - \delta x_{surf} = 0$$

$$G(x_h) = G(x_h^H) + \left[ \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \right]_{x_h^H} (x_h - x_h^H) = 0$$

$$(x_h - x_h^H) = -[K]^{-1} G(x_h^H)$$

$$E_h(x_h - x_h^H) = \underline{-E_h [K]^{-1} G(x_h^H)}$$


$$= \Lambda_{x_h}^T$$

# Continued...

$$[K]^T \Lambda_{x_h} = -E_h^T$$

$$[K]^T \Lambda_{xH} = -E_H^T$$

$$\Lambda_{xh} = -I_h^H \Lambda_{xH}$$

$$\Lambda_{x_h}^T G_h(x_h^H)$$

Contribution temporal  
resolution error from mesh  
motion equations

$$\Lambda_{U_h}^T R_h(U_h^H, x_h^H)$$

Contribution temporal  
resolution error from flow  
equations

# Summary of Temporal Resolution Error Evaluation

- Compute unsteady flow solution on coarse time domain
- Compute adjoint variables on coarse time domain
  - Integrating backward in time
- Project adjoint variables, flow solution and mesh solution onto fine time domain
- Temporal resolution error is then inner product of adjoint with corresponding non-zero residual on fine time domain
  - Distribution in time is used to drive adaptation



# Validation

Description	Functional value	% Error vs. Target	% Predicted Error
Target functional - exact at 32 steps (fully converged)	-0.309957065250867	-	-
Fully converged flow and mesh at 16 steps	-0.285768366164898	+7.804	+7.463
Corrected for resolution from 16 to 32 steps	-0.3089006774509025	+0.341	-

- Adjoint is linearization about current state (16 time steps) to predict objective value on modified state (32 time steps)

# Partial Convergence Error

Coarse level Taylor expansion about partial solution functional:

$$L_H(U_H, x_H) =$$

$$L_H(\bar{U}_H, \bar{x}_H) + \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{\bar{U}_h^H \bar{x}_h^H} (U_H - \bar{U}_H) + \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial x} \right]_{\bar{x}_h^H \bar{U}_h^H} (x_H - \bar{x}_H)$$

$\bar{U}_H, \bar{x}_H =$  Partially converged flow and mesh solution

$U_H, x_H =$  Fully converged flow and mesh solution

# Partial Convergence Error

Fine level flow residual Taylor expansion

$$R_H(U_H, x_H) =$$

$$R_H(\bar{U}_H, \bar{x}_H) + \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{\bar{U}_h^H \bar{x}_h^H} (U_H - \bar{U}_H) + \left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial x} \right]_{\bar{x}_h^H \bar{U}_h^H} (x_H - \bar{x}_H)$$

non-zero due to partial convergence



# Continued...

$$\left[ \frac{\partial R}{\partial U} \right]_{\bar{U}_H \bar{x}_H}^T \Lambda_{U_H} = \left[ \frac{\partial L}{\partial U} \right]_{\bar{U}_H \bar{x}_H}^T$$

Same adjoint equations as those for temporal resolution error

$$\left[ K \right]_{\bar{x}_H \bar{U}_H}^T \Lambda_{xH} = -E_{\bar{x}_H \bar{U}_H}^T$$

Partial convergence error due to flow equations:

$$\Lambda_{U_H}^T R_H(\bar{U}_H, \bar{x}_H)$$

Partial convergence error due to mesh equations:

$$\Lambda_{xH}^T G_H(\bar{x}_H)$$

Non-zero residuals due to partial convergence

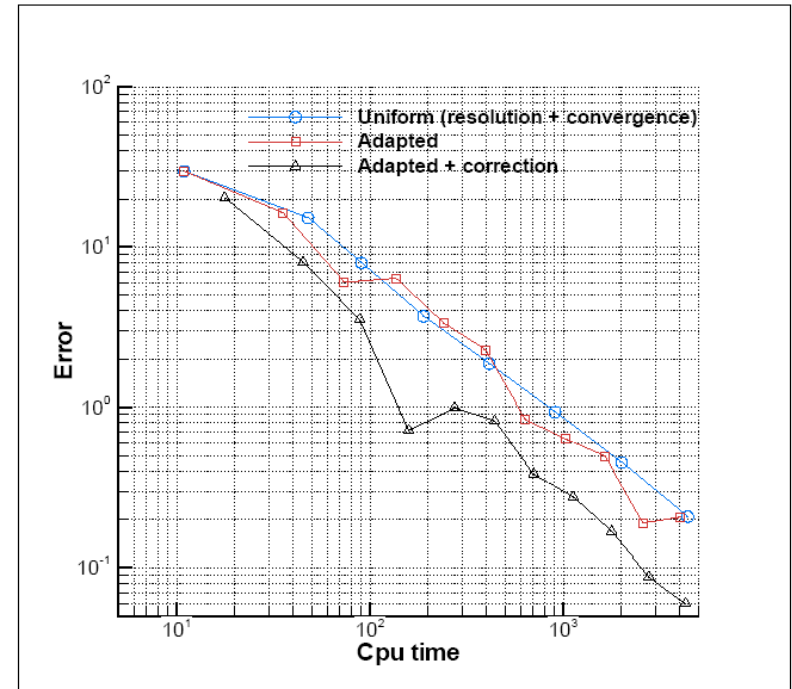
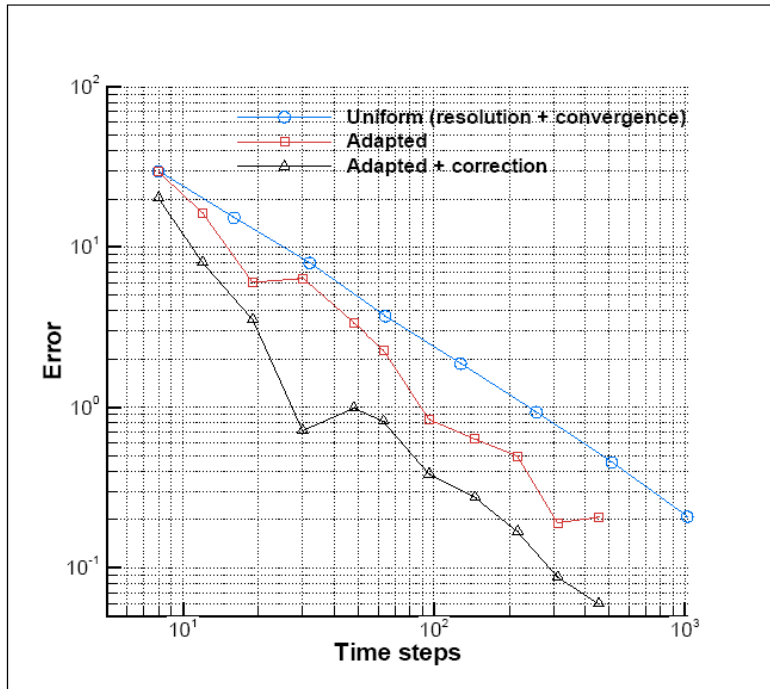
# Summary of Total Error Evaluation and Decomposition

- Compute partially converged flow and mesh solution on coarse time domain
- Compute adjoint variables on coarse domain using partially converged solution
- Compute partial convergence error on coarse level time domain
  - Inner product of adjoint with partially converged (non-zero) residual
- Project partially converged solution and adjoint variables onto fine time domain
- Evaluate fine level error estimate as previously
  - Combined temporal resolution and partial convergence error
- Determine temporal resolution error by subtracting partial convergence error from total error estimate on fine time domain

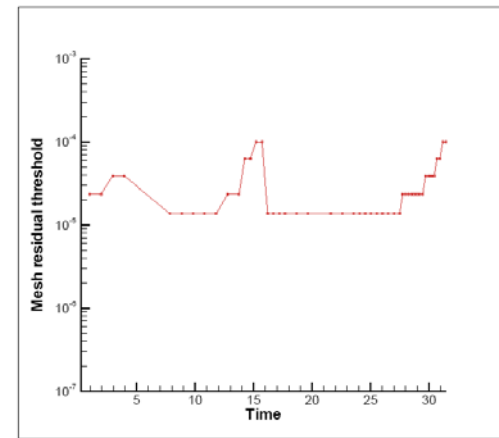
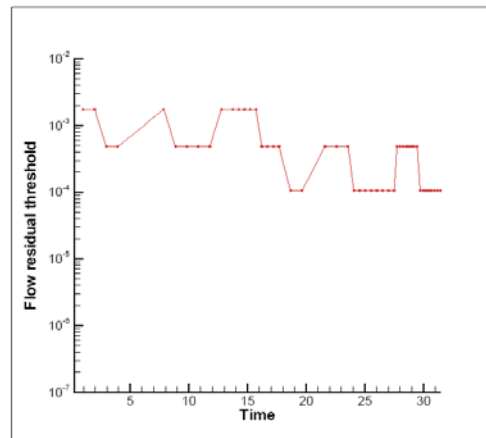
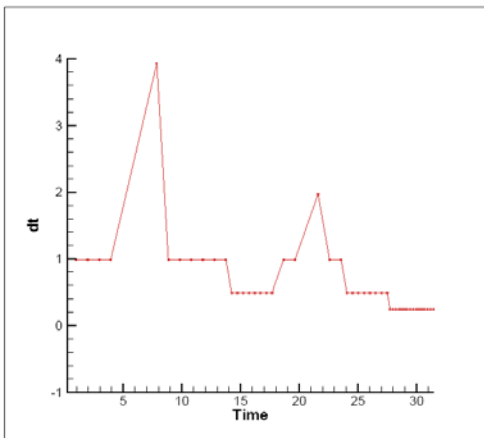
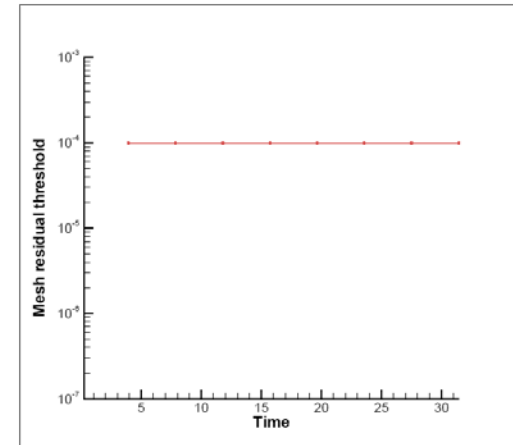
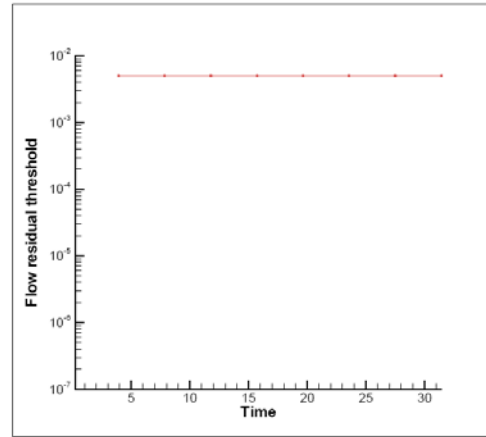
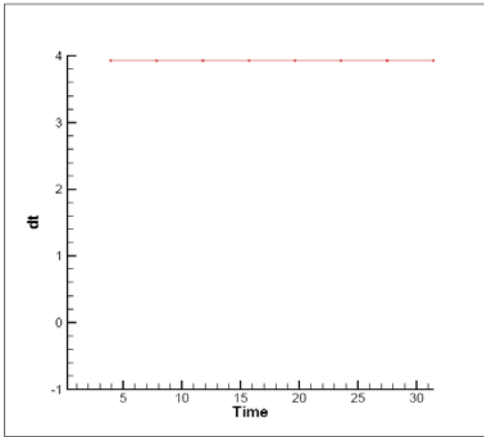
# Adaptation

- Compute time-integrated averages of error component distributions
- Adapt where error is greater than time-integrated average
  - Time resolution error: divide time step by 2
  - Convergence error: tighten tolerance by predetermined factor

# Adaptive Time Step and Convergence Criteria Example



# Distribution of time steps and convergence limits in the time domain after 6 adaptation cycles



Time steps

Flow limits

Mesh limits

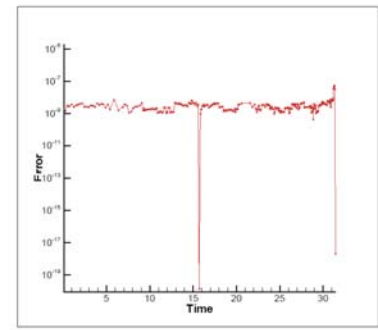
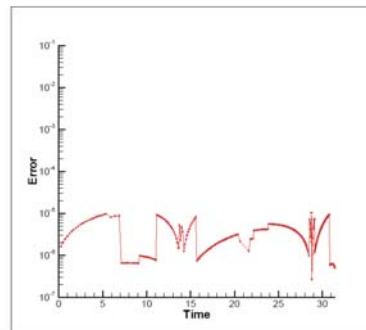
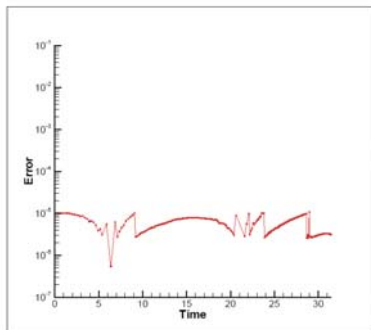
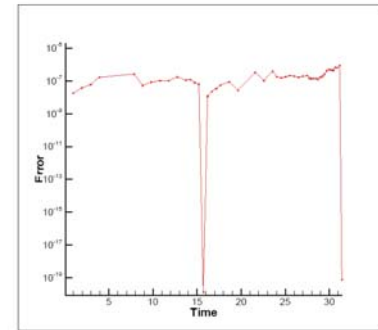
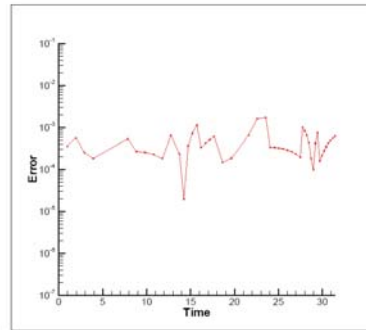
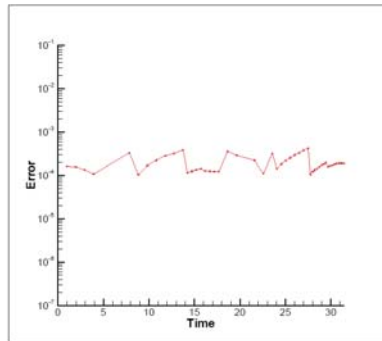
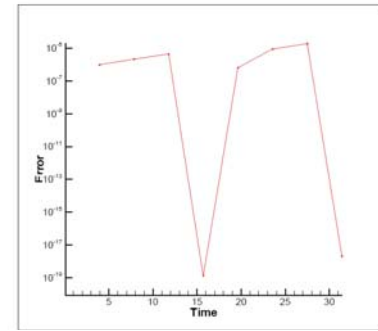
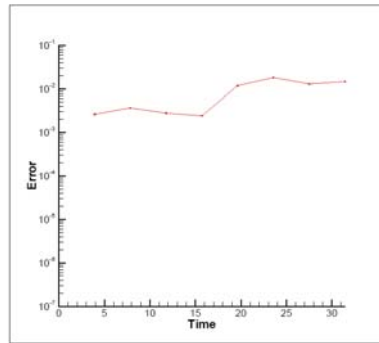
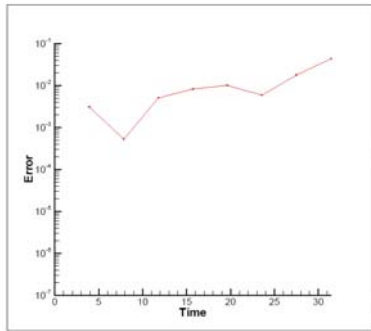


# Distribution of Error Components

Resolution error

Flow convergence error

Mesh convergence error



# Conclusions

- Rigorous procedure for determining global error
- Identifies individual error contributions from each set of governing equations
- Distribution of each component available and can be used for adaptation
- Can be extended to problems involving multiple sets of governing equations such as conjugate heat transfers, structural equations etc.
- Future Work
  - Temporal adaptivity work extended to BDF2
  - Temporal adaptivity for DG methods
  - Combined Spatial – Temporal Adaptivity
  - Multi-physics and coupling error sensitivity
  - Parameter sensitivities