Mesh adaptation (r & p) for compressible flows in Nektar++

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What is mesh adaptation?





Adaptation strategies

Aim: to reduce the error through numerical resolution

What do we need?

- 1. A computed solution u_h
- 2. An *a posteriori* error estimator $e_h(u_h, h, p)$ a. Interpolation theory b. Adjoint

3. A method for increasing resolution (h and/or p)

How to increase mesh resolution?



How to increase mesh resolution?



How to increase mesh resolution?





Regions of smooth flow separated by discontinuities

Compressible flow solver

Governing equations

$$oldsymbol{R}(oldsymbol{u},
ablaoldsymbol{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^d rac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left\{oldsymbol{f}_i^c(oldsymbol{u}) - oldsymbol{f}_i^v(oldsymbol{u},
ablaoldsymbol{u})
ight\} = oldsymbol{0}; \quad oldsymbol{u} \in \Omega \ oldsymbol{d} = 2 ext{ or } 3 ext{ dimensions}$$

Mixed formulation

d

 \mathbf{O}

$$oldsymbol{g}-
ablaoldsymbol{u}=oldsymbol{0}$$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{O} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left\{ \boldsymbol{f}_i^c(\boldsymbol{u}) - \boldsymbol{f}_i^v(\boldsymbol{u}, \boldsymbol{g}) \right\} = \boldsymbol{0}$$

Discontinuous Galerkin discretization

$$oldsymbol{u}_e^{\delta}=\phi_eoldsymbol{ar{u}}_e=\sum_{p=0}^P\sum_{q=0}^Q\phi_{pq}(\xi_1,\xi_2)oldsymbol{ar{u}}_{pq}$$



Discrete equations

$$\begin{split} &\sum_{e=1}^{N_{el}} \left\{ \int_{\Omega_{e}} \phi^{e} \boldsymbol{g}_{e}^{\delta} d\Omega - \int_{\Gamma_{e}} \phi^{e} \boldsymbol{u}_{e}^{\delta} \vec{n} \, d\Gamma + \int_{\Omega_{e}} \nabla \phi^{e} \boldsymbol{u}_{e}^{\delta} \, d\Omega \right\} = \boldsymbol{0} \\ &- \sum_{e=1}^{N_{el}} \int_{\Omega_{e}} \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{\partial \phi^{e}}{\partial x_{i}} \left\{ \boldsymbol{f}_{i}^{c}(\boldsymbol{u}_{e}^{\delta}) - \boldsymbol{f}_{i}^{v}(\boldsymbol{u}_{e}^{\delta}, \boldsymbol{g}_{e}^{\delta}) \right\} d\Omega \\ &+ \sum_{e=1}^{N_{el}} \int_{\Gamma_{e}} \phi^{e} \left[\boldsymbol{f}_{n}^{c}(\boldsymbol{u}_{e}^{\delta}) - \boldsymbol{f}_{n}^{v}(\boldsymbol{u}_{e}^{\delta}, \boldsymbol{g}_{e}^{\delta}) \right] d\Gamma = \boldsymbol{0} \\ &\text{Interface fluxes} \end{split}$$

Treatment of interface fluxes

Convective flux

$$\boldsymbol{f}_n^c(\boldsymbol{u}_e^\delta) \approx \mathcal{H}^c(\boldsymbol{u}_{ex}^\delta, \boldsymbol{u}_{in}^\delta; \vec{n})$$

 \mathcal{H}^c : exact or approximate Riemann solver

Viscous flux (LDG) $\boldsymbol{f}_n^v(\boldsymbol{u}_e^{\delta}, \boldsymbol{g}_e^{\delta})\big|_{\Gamma_e} = \sum_{i=1}^d \boldsymbol{g}_{i,in} n_i$





Variable p

Ensure flux continuity

$$\int_{\Gamma_{f_r}} \boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{u}_{ex}^{\delta}) d\Gamma = \int_{\Gamma_{f_l}} \boldsymbol{f}(\boldsymbol{u}_{in}^{\delta}) d\Gamma$$

Shock capturing terms

$$\begin{split} \boldsymbol{f} & \rightarrow \boldsymbol{f} - \mu_a(s_e) \nabla \boldsymbol{u} \\ & \text{Artificial dissipation} \end{split} \quad s_e = \log_{10} \left(\frac{||\beta(\mathbf{u})_e^p - \beta(\mathbf{u})_e^{p-1}||_{L_2}}{||\beta(\mathbf{u})_e^p||_{L_2}} \right) \\ & \text{Shock sensor} \end{split}$$

Viscosity blending

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Laminar flow past a NACA0012 (Ma = 1.2; Re = 1000; $\alpha = 0^{\circ}$)

Shock



Flow simulation: Mach number

Mach number based sensor

Interpolation-based error estimation

The shock sensor is used as a "smoothness" sensor

$$p_e \longrightarrow \begin{cases} p_e + 3 & \text{if } s_e > s_3 \\ p_e + 2 & \text{if } s_2 < s_e < s_3 \\ p_e + 1 & \text{if } s_1 < s_e < s_2 \\ p_e & \text{if } s_e < s_1 \end{cases}$$







Flow past a sphere Ma=0.5

p-adaptation



Uniform P	P=2	P = 6	P = 7
N_Q	55296	442368	629856
ϵ_{L_2}	2.1×10^{-3}	3.17×10^{-7}	1.10×10^{-7}
Variable P	$2 \le P \le 6$	$3 \le P \le 7$	
N_Q	160588	255700	
ϵ_{L_2}	1.6×10^{-5}	1.15×10^{-6}	

$$\epsilon_{L_2} = \sqrt{\frac{\int_{\Omega} \frac{p/\rho^{\gamma} - p_{\infty}/\rho_{\infty}^{\gamma}}{p_{\infty}/\rho_{\infty}^{\gamma}} d\Omega}{\int_{\Omega} d\Omega}}$$

 L_2 entropy error

r-adaptation for shocks

High-order degrees of freedom are wasted at shocks



Increase resolution by clustering nodes near shocks





Mesh deformation: thermo-elasticity



Relate temperature changes to shock sensor to "cool" elements near the shock

Transonic NACA0012







r-adaptation: inviscid flow past a step (Ma=3.0)







Why adjoint-based error estimation?



R. Hartmann and P. Houston. Adaptive Discontinuous Galerkin Finite Element Methods for the Compressible Euler Equations. J. Comput. Phys. 183(2):508-532, 2002.

What is an adjoint method?

Consider a function $\mathcal{J}(\boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{p})$ where $\,\boldsymbol{u}$ is the solution of a non-linear equation $(\mathcal{R}(\boldsymbol{u},\boldsymbol{p})=0)$ and \boldsymbol{p} is a set of control parameters. Calculate sensitivity to parameters: $\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\mathbf{n}}(\mathbf{u}(\mathbf{p}),\mathbf{p})$ $\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{d\boldsymbol{p}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} \frac{d\boldsymbol{u}}{d\boldsymbol{p}} + \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}}{\partial \boldsymbol{p}} \qquad \text{How to evaluate this?}$ $\hat{\mathcal{J}} = \mathcal{J} + \psi^t \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \frac{d\hat{\mathcal{J}}}{d\boldsymbol{p}} = \left(\frac{\partial\mathcal{J}}{\partial\boldsymbol{u}} + \psi^t \frac{\partial\mathcal{R}}{\partial\boldsymbol{u}}\right) \frac{d\boldsymbol{u}}{d\boldsymbol{p}} + \frac{\partial\mathcal{J}}{\partial\boldsymbol{p}} + \psi^t \frac{\partial\mathcal{K}}{\partial\boldsymbol{p}}$ We do not! = 0Adjoint: $\frac{\partial \mathcal{J}}{\partial u} + \psi^t \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial u} = 0$ Sensitivity: $\frac{d\mathcal{J}}{dn} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{J}}{\partial n} + \psi^t \frac{\partial \mathcal{R}}{\partial n}$

Goal-based adaptation

Error in a target functional $J(\boldsymbol{u})$ where $\boldsymbol{R}(\boldsymbol{u}) = \boldsymbol{0}$

$$\begin{aligned} \epsilon_{J} &= \{J_{\delta}(\boldsymbol{u} + \delta \boldsymbol{u}) - J(\boldsymbol{u})\} \\ &= \{J_{\delta}(\boldsymbol{u} + \delta \boldsymbol{u}) - J_{\delta}(\boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}_{\delta})))\} \\ & \text{Error in discrete solution} \\ \epsilon_{J} &\approx J_{\delta}(\boldsymbol{u} + \delta \boldsymbol{u}) - J_{\delta}(\boldsymbol{u}(\boldsymbol{x}_{\delta})) \\ &\approx \{\frac{\partial J_{\delta}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}\}^{t} \delta \boldsymbol{u} \approx \{\frac{\partial J_{\delta}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}\}^{t} \left[\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{R}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}}\right]^{-1} \delta \boldsymbol{R} = \psi^{t} \delta \boldsymbol{R} \\ & \underset{\text{interpolated to}}{\overset{\text{Low order}}{\underset{\text{high order}}{\underset{\text{logh order}}}}}}}}}}}}}}}} \right)}$$

Compressible flow

Governing equations (non-linear)

$$\boldsymbol{R}(\boldsymbol{u},\nabla\boldsymbol{u}) = \sum_{i=1}^{d} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i} \left\{ \boldsymbol{f}_i^c(\boldsymbol{u}) - \boldsymbol{f}_i^v(\boldsymbol{u},\nabla\boldsymbol{u}) \right\} = \boldsymbol{0}$$

Adjoint equations (linear)

$$\hat{\boldsymbol{R}}(\boldsymbol{\psi}) = -\sum_{i=1}^{d} \left[\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{f}_{i}^{c}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} - \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{f}_{i}^{v}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}} \right]^{t} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\psi}}{\partial x_{i}} - \sum_{i,j=1}^{d} \left[\frac{\partial \boldsymbol{f}_{j}^{v}}{\partial \boldsymbol{u}_{x_{i}}} \right]^{t} \frac{\partial^{2} \boldsymbol{\psi}}{\partial x_{i}^{2}} = \boldsymbol{0}$$

Goal functional appears in the BCs.

Subsonic laminar flow past a NACA0012 (Ma = 0.1, Re = 5000, $\alpha = 2^{\circ}$)

Goal: minimize error in drag coefficient





Where in Nektar++?

Current release of Nektar++ (4.3.2)

- Compressible flow solver
- Variable polynomial order
- Shock capturing

Next release

- Adjoint solver
- Development versions in the git repository: branch feature/cfs-adjoint