Computational Hypersonics @ UQ: in-house development and application

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Hypersonic flow simulation tools: GDTk

GDTk Docs Blog



Gas Dynamics Toolkit

GDTk is a collection of software for doing gas dynamics, from simple desktop calculations through to





2D/3D CFD code for compressible flows.



Impulse Facility Estimators

State-to-state estimator for flow processes in impulse facilities including: Pitot, ESTCN, and NENZF1d.



Documentation Head here for the project docs!

- + Simulation tools covering a range of fidelities
- + 30+ years of development, primarily at UQ
- + Development team:
 - core of 4 developers + grad student contributions
- + User base:

6 9

- + local at University of Queensland
- + University of Southern Queensland
- + University of New South Wales
- + CalTech
- + Purdue
- + Oxford
- + User support:
 - + monthly meet-ups
 - + issue tracker
 - + email (point-to-point with developers)
- + Documentation:

user guides, reference manuals, technical notes, and catalogue of examples

Eilmer: UQ's in-house hypersonic flow solver



+ as a wind tunnel substitute



Flowpath design and optimisation

+ impulse facility nozzles

(a)

+ aerodynamic shape optimization



Eilmer for use in support of experiments



BoLT-II flight experiment (with ground testing)

+ simulations of flow field to help with sensor placement

+ simulations of coupled heat transfer in fluid/solid domains to inform hot-wall testing



Eilmer for flow physics investigation

and flow conditions



(a)

Cone 2 shock

(b)

Cone 2 shock

Hornung, Gollan & Jacobs (2021) Journal of Fluid Mechanics, v.916

Eilmer for flow physics investigation

(a) Cone 2 shock Separation shock Cone 1 shock $\ell_1 \quad \theta_1$ (b) Cone 2 shock $\ell_2 \quad \theta_2$ Cone 1 shock $\ell_1 \quad \theta_1$ (c) Cone 2 shock Cone 1 shock $\ell_1 \quad \theta_1$

90 85 e 80 c 75 a θ_2 (deg.) 70 f65 d 60 55 g Α 50 10 15 20 25 30 35 40 θ_1 (deg.)

Hornung, Gollan & Jacobs (2021) Journal of Fluid Mechanics, v.916

Steady and unsteady flow over double-cones

- + 300+ simulations to sweep geometric parameter space and flow conditions
- + aim to determine unsteadiness boundaries

Eilmer for flowpath design

Efficient multi-parameter aerodynamic shape optimization

+ in-built state-of-the-art adjoint solver, allowing "open-box" optimization



Optimization target: minimum drag shape for given length and base diameter constraints

Eilmer for flowpath design

Efficient multi-parameter aerodynamic shape optimization

+ in-built state-of-the-art adjoint solver, allowing "open-box" optimization



Optimization target: minimum deviation from design pressure at inlet throat

Damm et al. (2020) AIAA Journal, 58(6)

Eilmer: features and capabilities



- + 2D/3D compressible flow simulation
- + Gas models include ideal, thermally perfect, multi-temperature and state-specific
- + Finite-rate chemistry

- + Inviscid, laminar, turbulent flows
- + Solid domains with conjugate heat transfer
- + User-controlled moving grid capability
- + Shock-fitting method for blunt body show layers
- + A rotating frame of reference for turbomachine modelling
- + Transient, time-accurate updates with Runge-Kutta family integrators
- + Steady-state accelerator using Newton-Krylov approach
- + User-defined customisations available for boundary conditions, source terms, and pre- and post-processing
- + Parallel computation using shared memory or distributed memory (MPI)
- + Multiple-block structured and unstructured grids
- + Native grid generation and 3rd-party import capability
- + Unstructured-mesh partitioning via Metis
- + Adjoint solver for efficient sensitivies evaluation