



Science and  
Technology  
Facilities Council

# Introduction of STFC and the computational engineering group

Scientific Computing Department, STFC Daresbury Laboratory, UKRI

UK high-speed aerodynamics SIG meeting 2022  
10th June, STFC Daresbury Laboratory, Keckwick Lane,  
Daresbury, WA4 4AD

# Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)



ATC Edinburgh



Daresbury Laboratory



4.2m William Herschel  
Telescope, La Palma



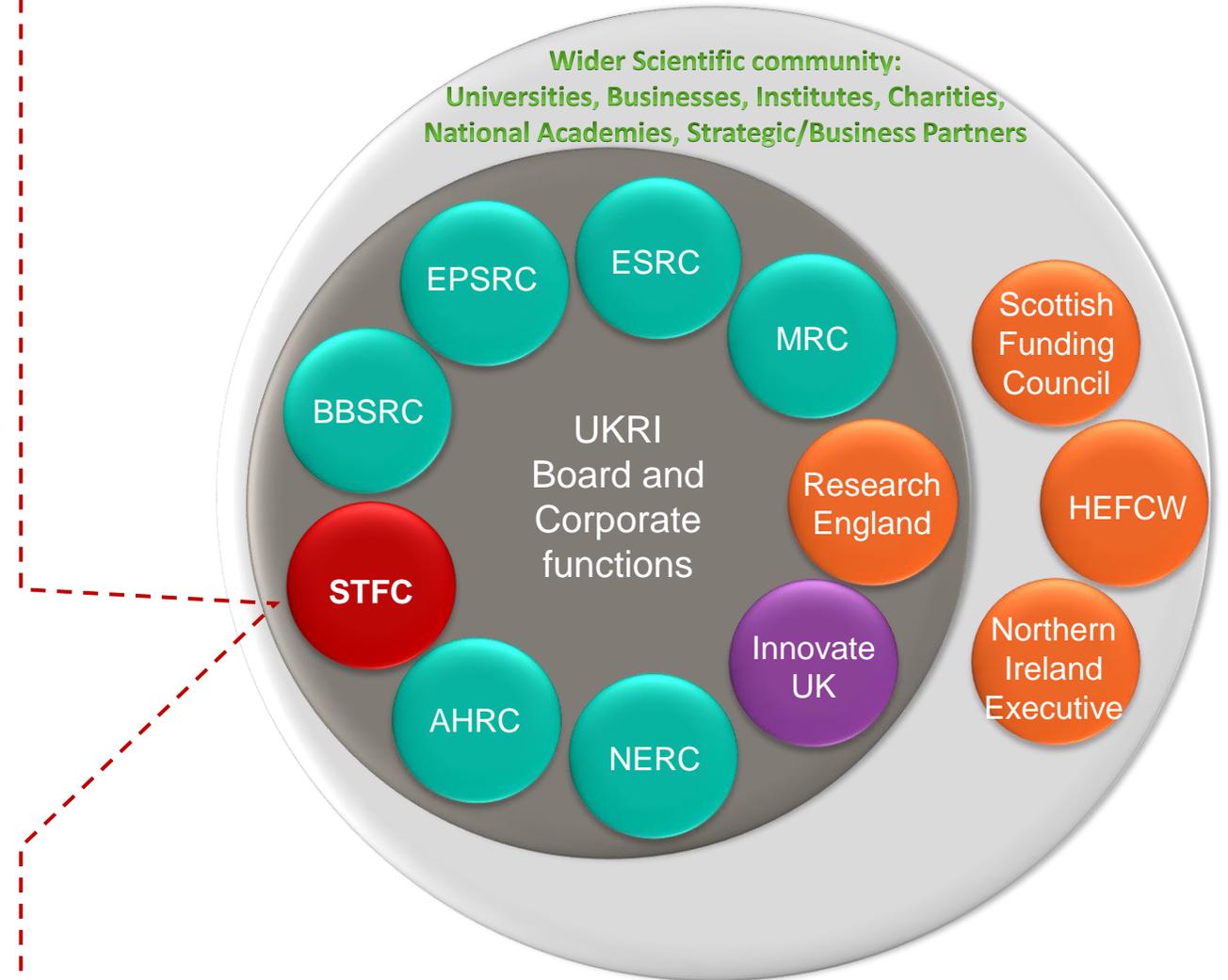
Rutherford-Appleton  
Laboratory



Chilbolton Observatory

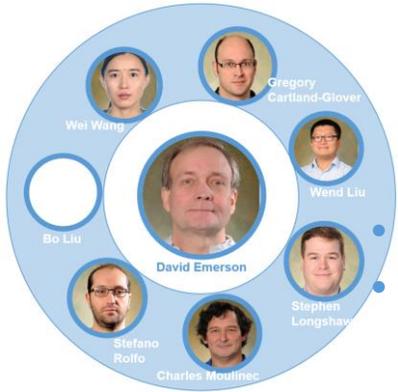


15m James Clerk Maxwell  
Submillimetre Telescope,  
Hawaii





# CFD for Low Carbon Energy



- General thermal hydraulics
- CFD in Gen IV nuclear reactors: SCWR, MSR
- CFD Gen II & III nuclear reactors: AGR, PWR
- General thermal FSI
- Multi-scale and multi-physics simulations
- Code-coupling
- Renewable energy (off-shore wind turbines)
- Numerical methods
- High Performance Computing (HPC)

# CFD for Space



## Space-related research topics:

- Hypersonic aero-thermodynamics
- Shock-Boundary layer Interactions
- Rarefied Gas dynamics
- Satellite aerodynamics and Thruster propulsion modelling
- Multi-Scale & Multi-Physics Simulations
- High Performance Computing (HPC)

## Key Software and capabilities:

- CFD – ASTR, FLASH, Code\_Saturne
- DSMC – SPARTA, dsmcFOAM+
- PIC – PICLas
- Code coupling – MUI
- All codes highly scalable, typically over 100,000 cores

# Development of Subchannel CFD for Nuclear Thermal Hydraulics (B. Liu)

- **What is Subchannel CFD?**

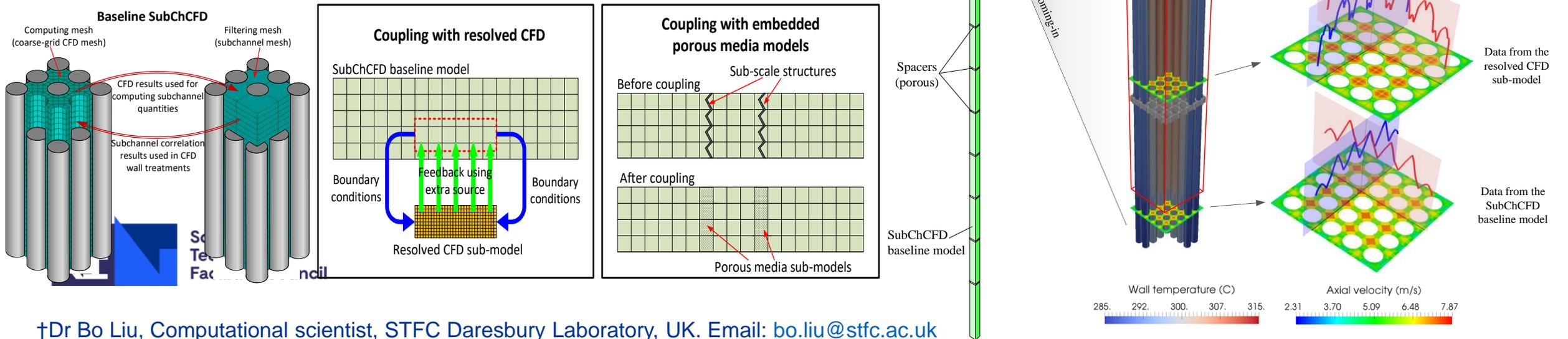
- A coarse-grid CFD-based subchannel framework for nuclear reactor thermal hydraulic analyses, combining features of modern CFD and traditional subchannel code

- **Key features**

- Dual mesh system (coarse-grid computing + subchannel mesh)
- Sub-channel correlations used to replace CFD wall functions
- Models can be calibrated for specific reactor designs to reduce calculation uncertainties
- Can naturally be coupled with conventional resolved CFD for flexible local refinement of simulations
- Can also be coupled with porous media CFD for handling of subscale complex reactor structures

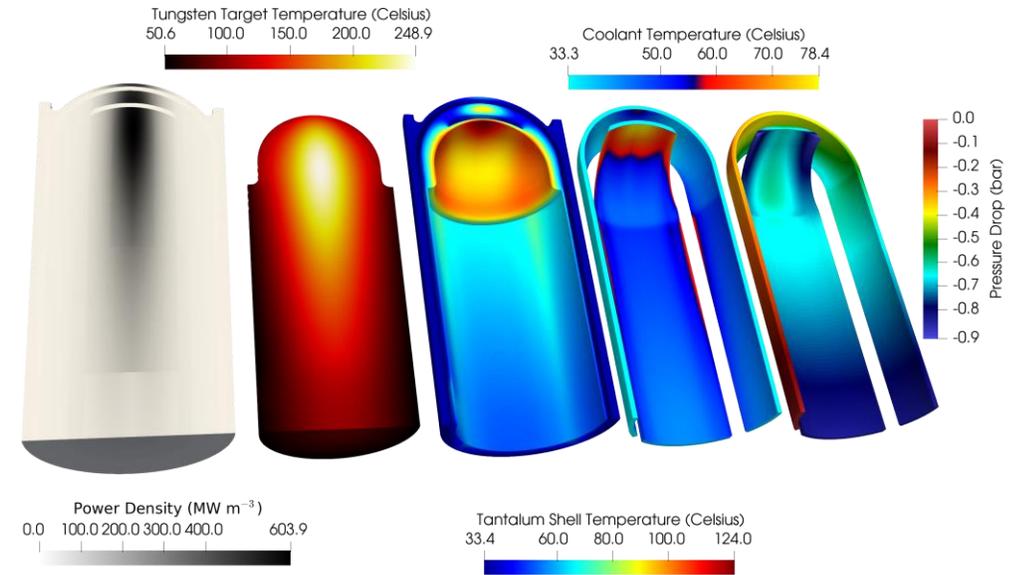
- **A demonstration case**

- A 5x5 rod bundle with spacers: i) coarse-grid for the entire heated length with porous media for the spacers, ii) detailed CFD for one span with spacer resolved explicitly

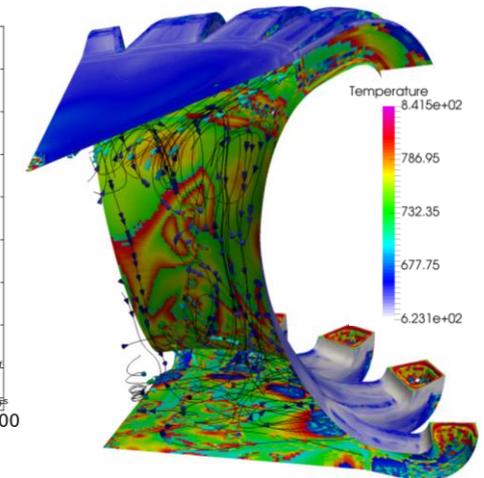
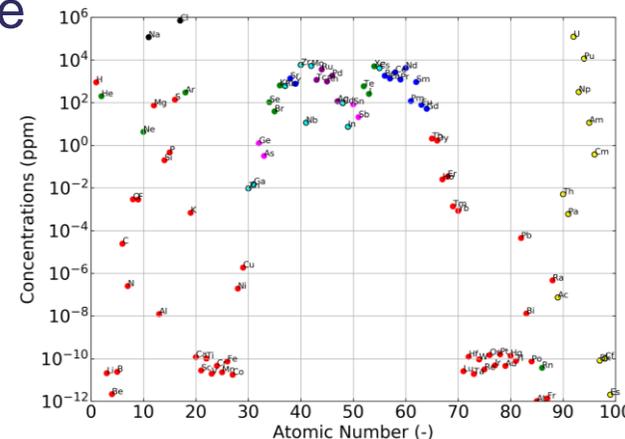


# Neutron Source & Molten Salt Reactor (G. Cartland-Glover)

- ISIS Muon and Neutron Source: Conjugate heat transfer and interphase mass transfer in Target Station 2
  - To try to understand the potential impact of radiolysis and thermal striping on target operational lifetime
- Molten salt fast reactors - Deposito MSFR with University of Liverpool and Computational and Theoretical Physics:
  - Depletion of nuclear fuel salts and conjugate heat transfer modelling
  - To try to understand the impact of plating of noble metals on CHT

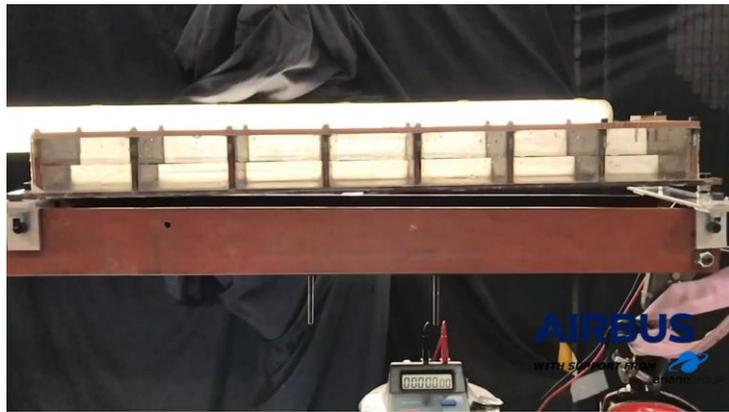


ISIS Target Station 2



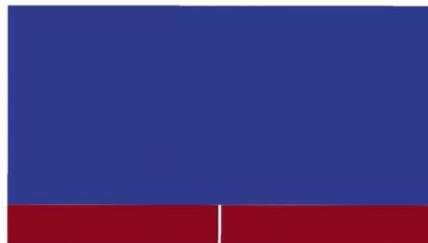
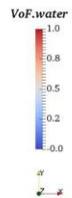
# Flow-Structure Interaction (W. Liu & S. Longshaw)

## SLOWD

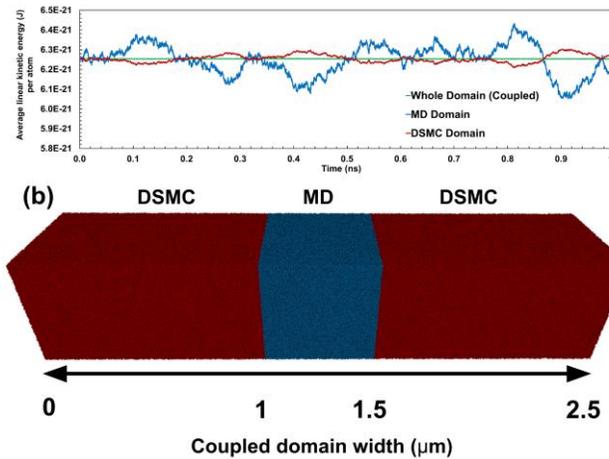


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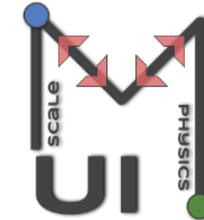
Time: 0.007 [s]



2-D roll tank with flexible beam



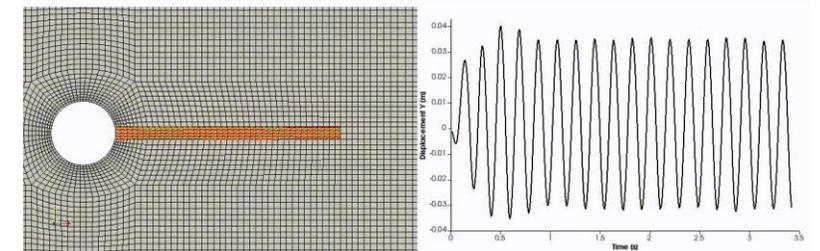
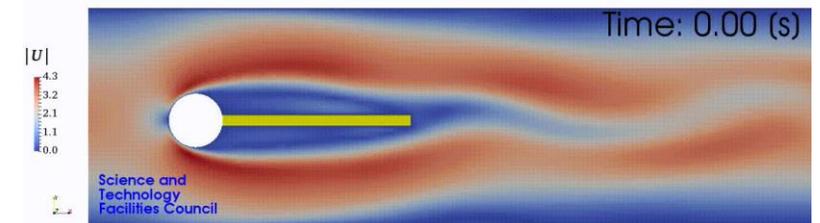
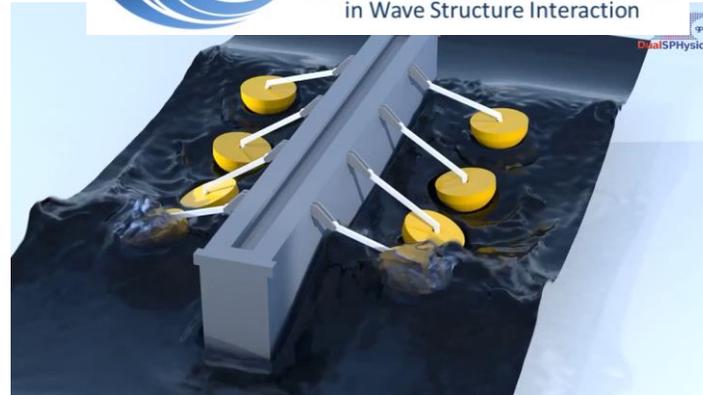
## Multiscale Universal Interface Coupling Library



<https://github.com/MxUI>

## CCP-WSI

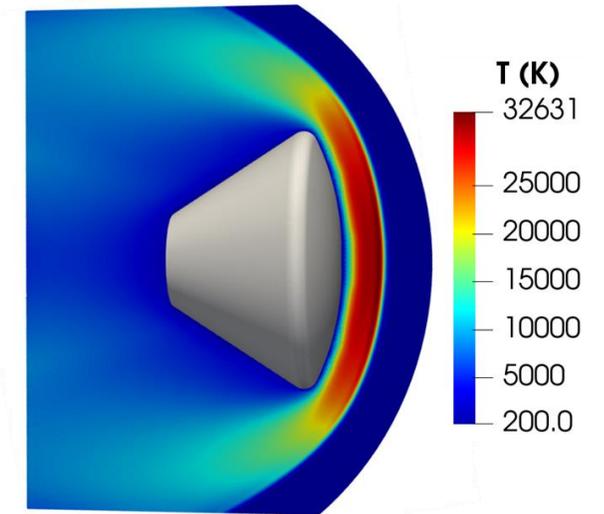
a Collaborative Computational Project in Wave Structure Interaction



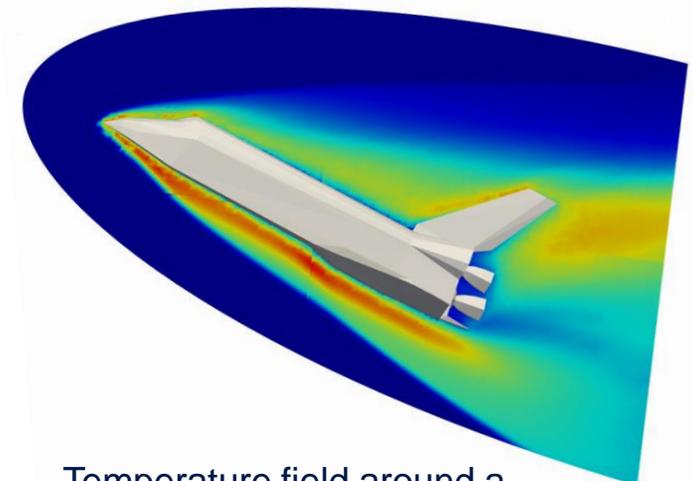
2-D Flow Pass Elastic Plate Behind a Rigid Cylinder

# Hypersonics – DSMC (B. John)

- Hypersonics is a key feature of the UK's involvement in future **satellite deployment, sub-orbital flights** and for partnering in **space exploration** programmes.
- Hypersonic simulations (**Mach>5**) require a multi-model approach. Gas-phase chemical reactions, ionization, radiation etc. need to be considered as gas temperature increases with Mach number, e.g. in designing materials for **thermal protection systems (TPS)**.
- SCD has capabilities in computational fluid dynamics (**CFD**) and molecular level methods (**DSMC**) for modelling a range of high-Mach flight conditions ranging from **low-altitude supersonic** to **high-altitude hypersonic** flight.
- A key example is aerothermodynamics of **re-entry** of capsules, probes, UAV etc. to planetary atmosphere. The images on the right are our simulation results from the open-source DSMC code, SPARTA.

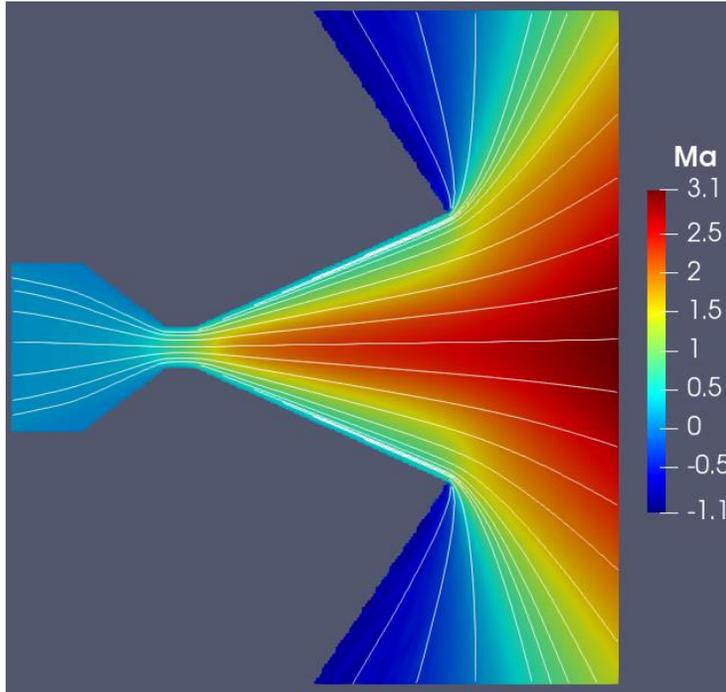


**Orion capsule** re-entry simulation at Mach 25 (Temperature field)

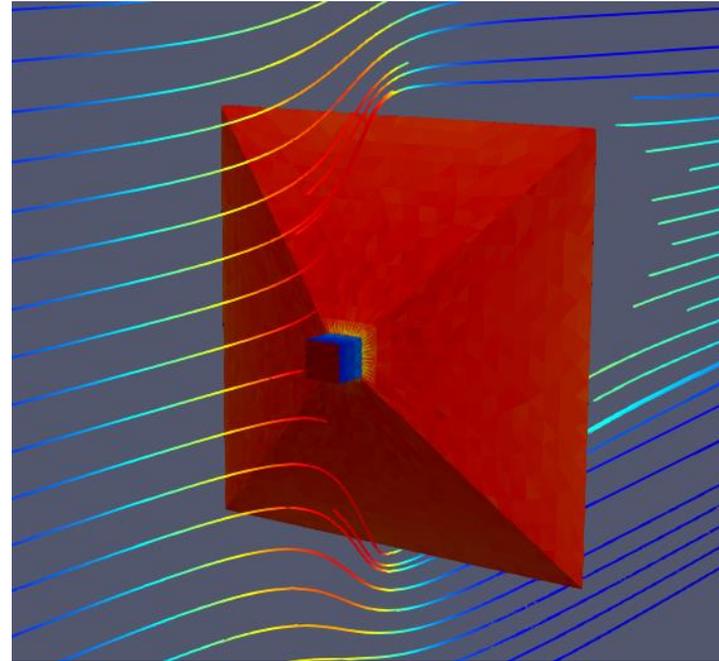


Temperature field around a **NASA Space Shuttle** (Mach 25)

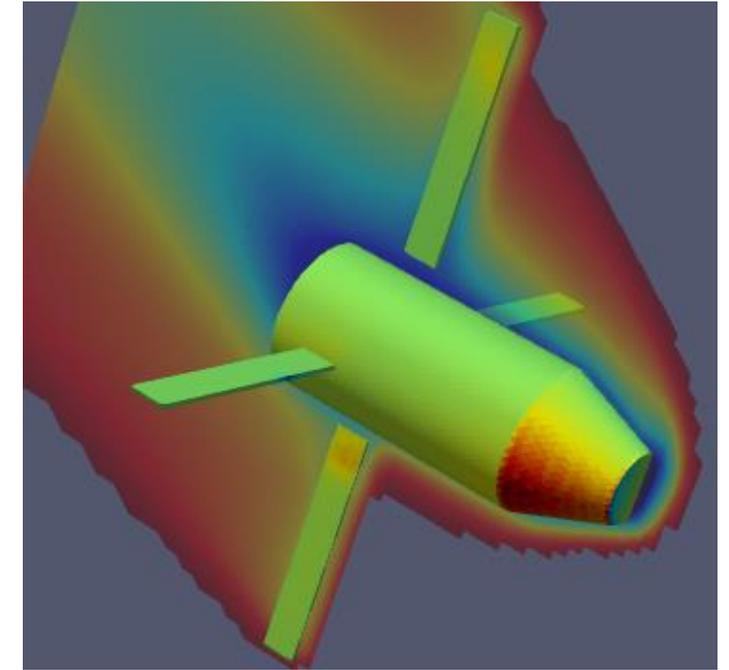
# Modelling and Simulation for Satellite Applications - Thruster Propulsion and Satellite Aerodynamics



Representative simulation result showing  
Thruster propulsion and Nozzle plume  
expansion



Flow-field & thermal load on a **CubeSat**  
**De-orbit Sail** satellite (at H=125 km)



Flow-field & forces on a descending satellite  
(**ESA satellite debris** test case)



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# Research on Shock-Wave/Boundary Layer Interaction

Jian Fang

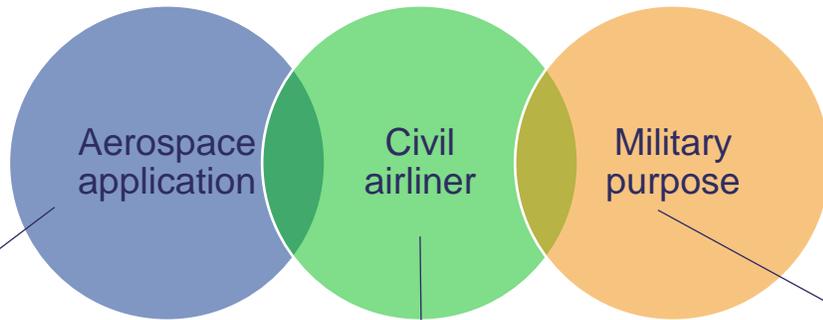
Scientific Computing Department, STFC Daresbury Laboratory, UKRI

May 30, 2022, Visit to Prof. Sergio Pirozzoli at Università di Roma Italy



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# Hypersonic vehicles



Boeing's Hypersonic Passenger Plane

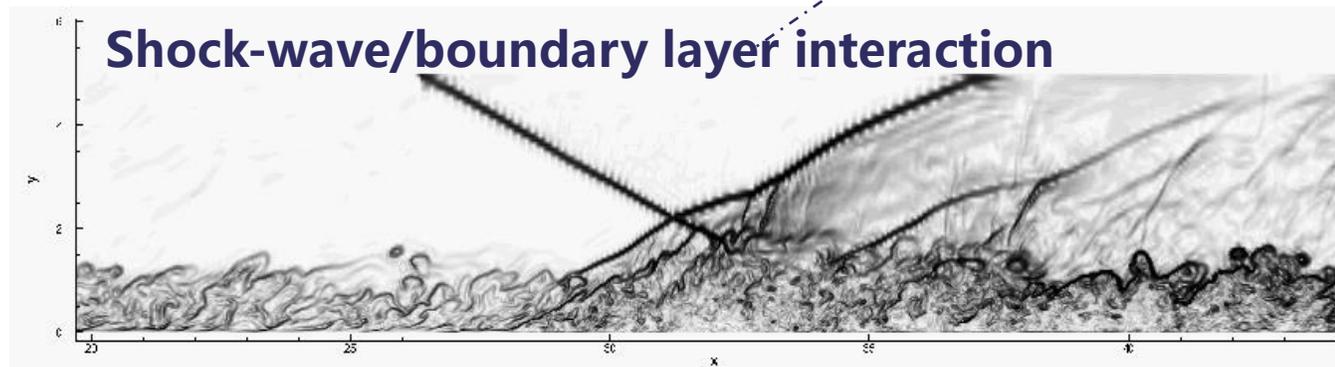
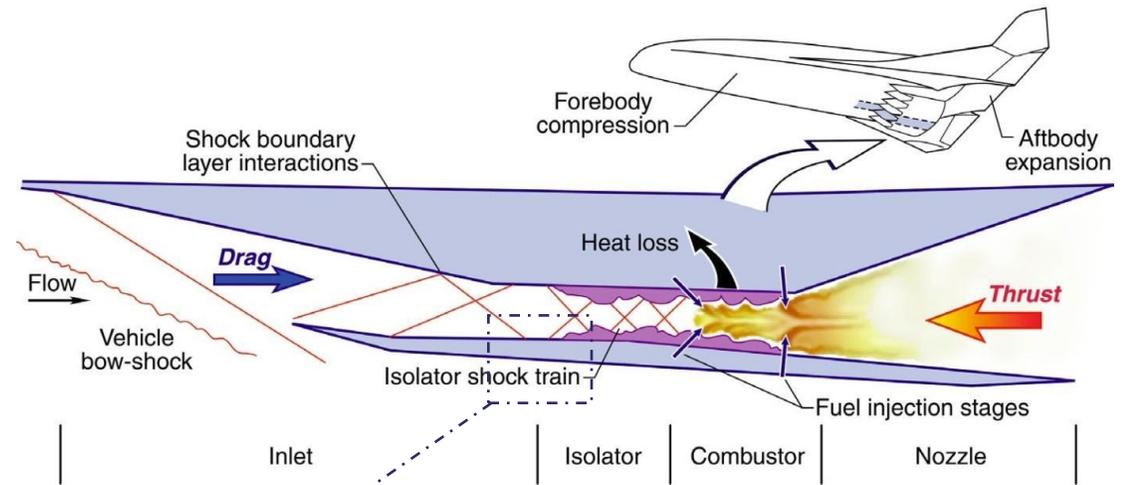
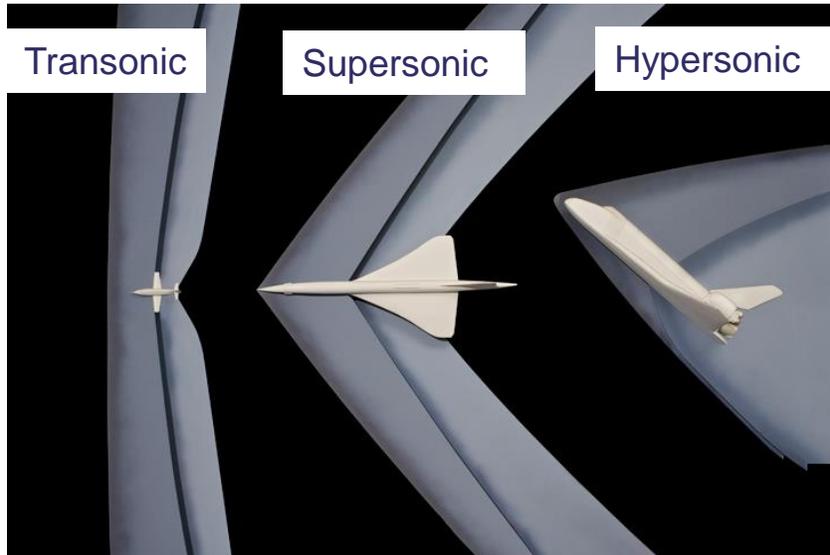


SR-72

<p><b>RUSSIA</b></p> <p><b>Yu-71</b> Project 4204 aircraft</p> <p>11,200 km/h, 5,500 km, 80,000 m</p> <p><b>AS-19 «Koala»</b> Strategic hypersonic air-to-surface cruise missile Tu-95 used as delivery vehicle</p> <p>5,310 km/h, 3,000 km, 7,000 m (launch altitude)</p>	<p><b>Zircon 3M22</b> Sea-based hypersonic missile</p> <p>50 times stronger kinetic energy at strike than existing air-to-ship or ship-to-ship missile Will possibly enter service in 2018</p> <p>6,500 km/h, 30,000 m</p>	<p><b>CHINA</b></p> <p><b>DF-ZF (American designation Wu-14)</b> Hypersonic aircraft</p> <p>Can be used as nuclear warhead delivery vehicle, or for high-precision conventional strikes</p> <p>6,173-12,359 km/h</p>
<p><b>USA</b></p> <p><b>Lockheed Martin SR-72</b> A successor of the SR-71 Blackbird spy plane, decommissioned in 1998</p> <p>6,400 km/h, 24,000 m</p> <p><b>Boeing X-51 Waverider</b> Hypersonic cruise missile</p> <p>6,200 km/h, 740 km, 21,300 m</p> <p><b>Advanced Hypersonic Weapon (AHW)</b> Part of the Prompt Global Strike program</p>	<p><b>Hypersonic Technology Vehicle 2</b> Developed by DARPA</p> <p>Passes 17,000 km, the distance from London to Sydney, in 49 minutes</p> <p>21,000 km/h</p> <p><b>HTV-3X</b> Project Blackswift Halted in 2008, said to be revived. The HTV-3X is the size of an ordinary fighter jet</p> <p><b>Boeing X-37B</b> Could potentially be used as a hypersonic delivery system. Can spend extended periods time in orbit</p> <p>28,044 km/h</p>	<p><b>INDIA</b></p> <p><b>BrahMos-2</b> Hypersonic cruise missile</p> <p>Developed in cooperation by NPO Mashinostroyeniya (Reutov, Russia) and India's Defence Research and Development Organization</p> <p>7,434 km/h, 290 km (estimated)</p> <p><b>Shaurya</b> Tactical surface-to-surface hypersonic missile Nuclear warhead-capable</p> <p>7,434 km/h, 750-1,900 km</p>

Hypersonic vehicles proposed around the world via Naval News Instagram Page

# Shock-wave

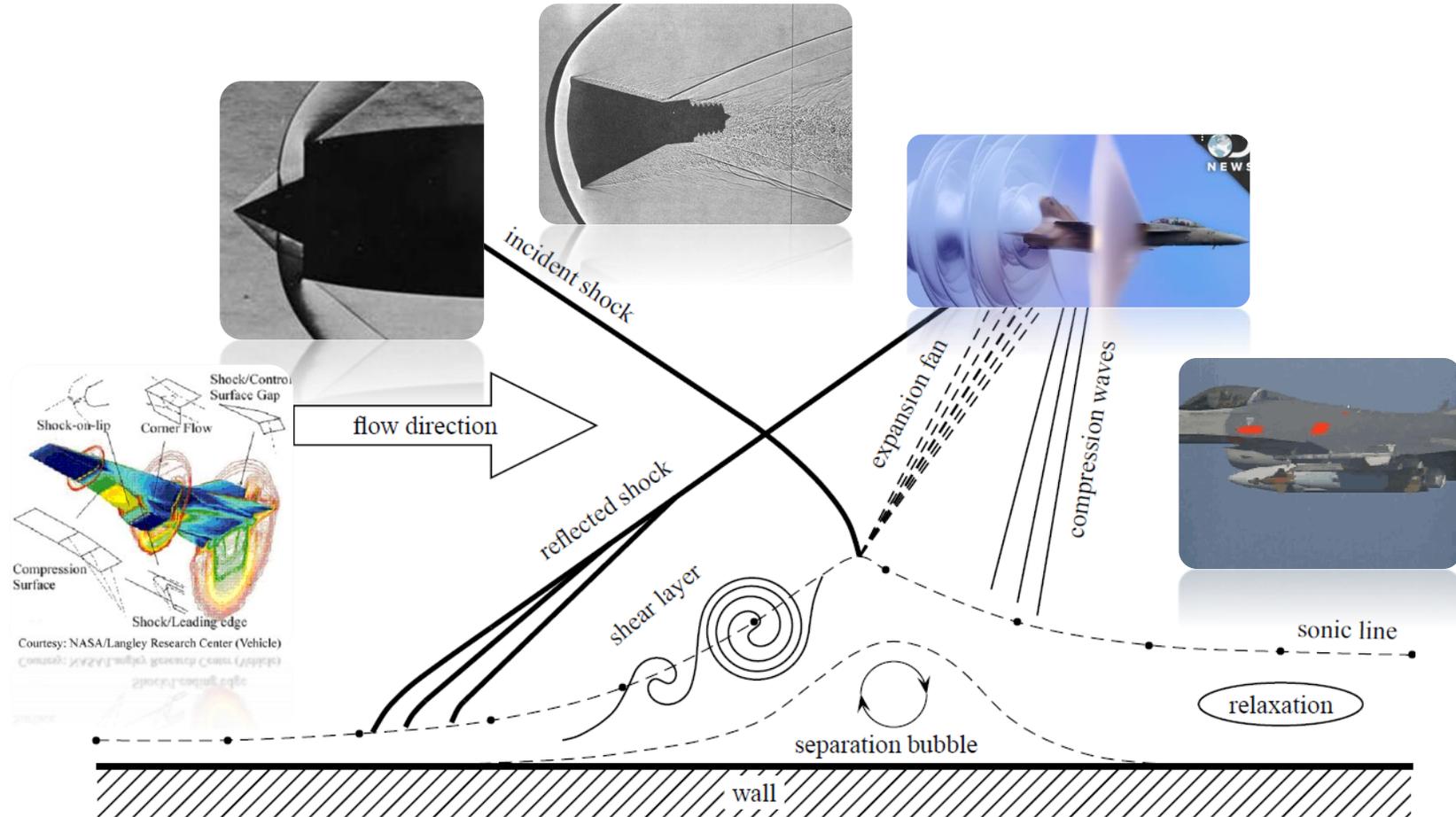


# Introduction

SWTBLI connects to

- Intake unstart
- Low-cycle fatigue
- Wing vibration
- Control efficiency
- Heat flux
- Noise...

The lack of understandings of SWBLI and the uncertainty in engineering CFD are the two significant bottlenecks of developing hypersonic



# Computational fluid dynamics (CFD)

## Direct-numerical Simulation

- Resolve all spatial-temporal flow structures
- Accurate
- Very expensive and mainly used in academics
- Not ready for industry



## Reynolds-averaged Navier–Stokes

- Resolve only mean flow, and model turbulence
- Affordable for engineering design
- Uncertainty is from the turbulence model

- Affordable and much faster
- Detailed flow field data
- Extensively applied in engineering design and academic research

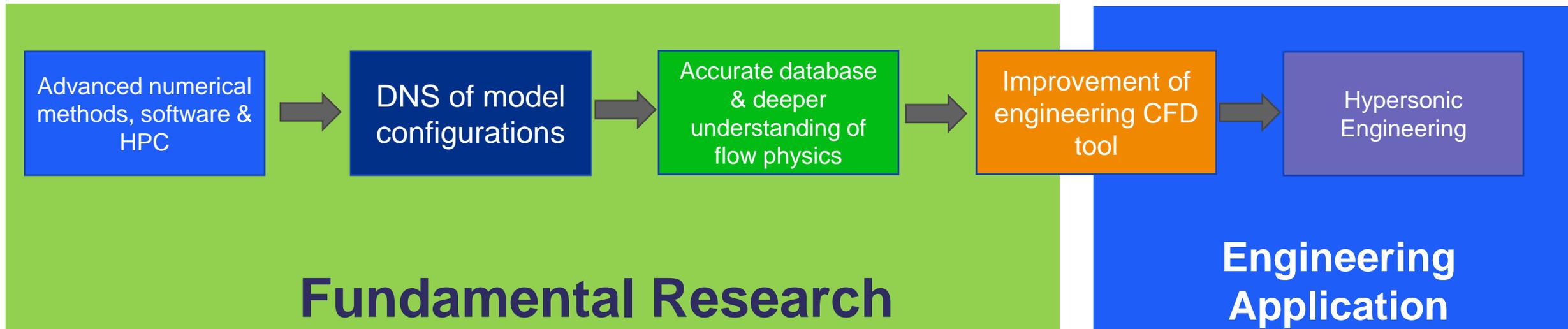


Source: KTH Mechanics

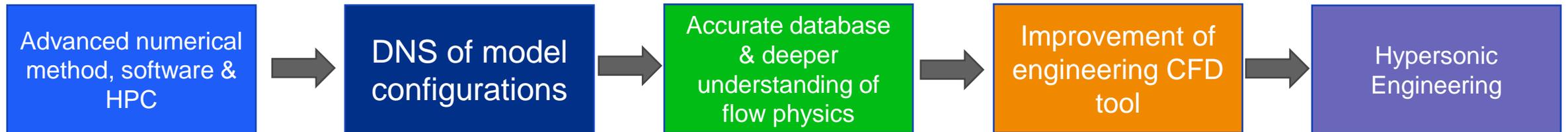


[https://www.simscale.com/projects/Ali\\_Arafat/compressible\\_aerodynamics\\_of\\_commercial\\_aircraft/](https://www.simscale.com/projects/Ali_Arafat/compressible_aerodynamics_of_commercial_aircraft/)

# Computational fluid dynamics (CFD)



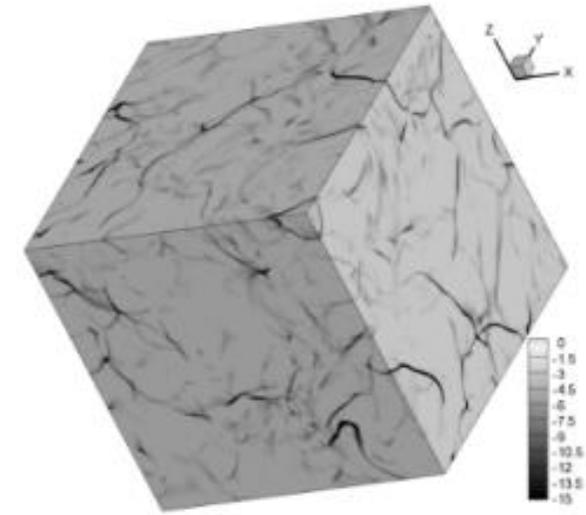
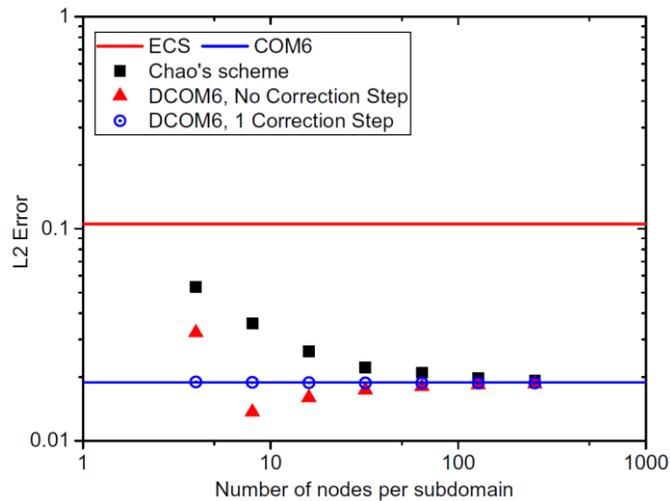
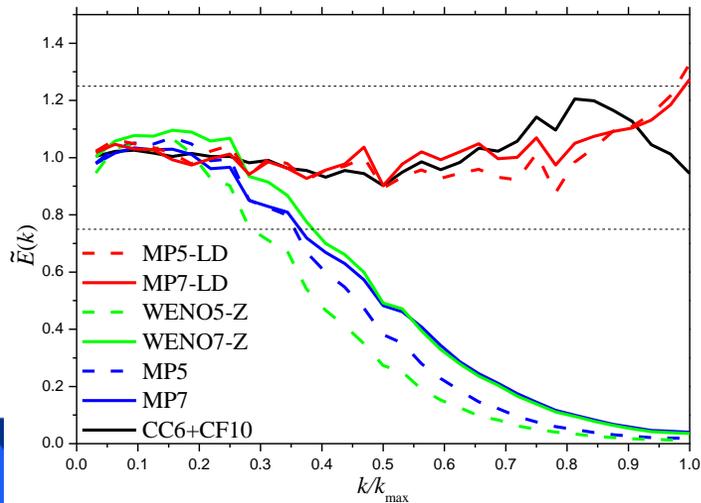
# Computational fluid dynamics (CFD)



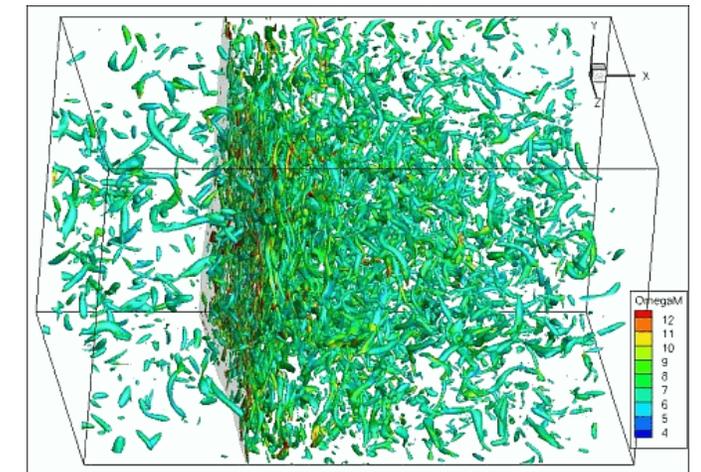
# What have we done

Advanced numerical  
method, software &  
HPC

- *Development of high-order shock-capturing schemes*
- *Improvement of the parallel performance of compact scheme*



Shocklets in strongly compressible turbulence



Direct interaction between shock and turbulence

# What have we done

Advanced numerical method, software & HPC

J Sci Comput  
https://doi.org/10.1007/s10915-018-0717-7



## Hybrid Optimized Low-Dissipation and Adaptive MUSCL Reconstruction Technique for Hyperbolic Conservation Laws

Jie Wu<sup>1,2</sup> · Yuan-yuan He<sup>2</sup> · Guo-hao Ding<sup>2</sup> · Yi-yu Han<sup>2</sup>

ENGINEERING APPLICATIONS OF COMPUTATIONAL FLUID MECHANICS, 2017  
https://doi.org/10.1080/19942060.2017.1348991



OPEN ACCESS Check for updates

## Assessment of the IDDES method acting as wall-modeled LES in the simulation of spatially developing supersonic flat plate boundary layers

Yiyu Han<sup>a</sup>, Guohao Ding<sup>a</sup>, Yuanyuan He<sup>a</sup>, Jie Wu<sup>a,b</sup> and Jialing Le<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Science and Technology on Scramjet Laboratory, China Aerodynamics Research and Development Center (CARD), Mianyang, China; <sup>b</sup>School of Power and Energy, Northwestern Polytechnical University, Xi'an, China

Aerospace Science and Technology

Contents lists available at  
Aerospace Science and Technology  
www.elsevier.com

### Assessment of a hybrid RANS/LES simulation method in depicting the unsteady motion of a scramjet combustor

Yiyu Han<sup>a</sup>, Yuanyuan He, Ye Tian, Fuyu Zhong, Jialing Le

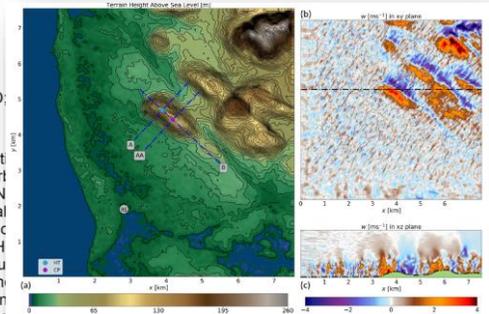
Science and Technology on Scramjet Laboratory of Hypervelocity Aerodynamics Institute, CARD, China

## 3B.5 Improving Spectral Resolution of Finite Difference Scheme for Multiscale Modeling Applications Using Numerical Weather Prediction Model

Monday, 20 June 2016: 2:30 PM  
Bryce (Sheraton Salt Lake City Hotel)

Branko Kosovic, NCAR, Boulder, CO  
Recorded Presentation

Advances in high performance computing for resolving large synoptic scales and turbulence in numerical weather prediction (NWP) simulations represent a number of challenging physical processes, numerical effects of different schemes vs. spectral resolution, etc. High order numerical schemes for multiscale simulations of canonical, horizontally homogeneous flows with periodic lateral boundary conditions. Pseudospectral simulations achieve maximum possible spectral resolution on a given grid. Good spectral resolution can also be achieved with high even order finite difference schemes. However, in the presence of strong gradients such schemes can result in spurious high frequency oscillations. Such numerical artifacts can be avoided if upwind differencing is utilized. Upwind schemes are numerically dissipative and result in inferior spectral resolution. We therefore propose a hybrid scheme developed by Fang et al. (2013) that combines high order upwind and centered schemes. We implemented the hybrid scheme in the Weather Research and Forecasting model and HIGRAD model. We then carried out a series of LES of convective boundary layers characterized by different stability parameters  $z_i/L$ . The results of these LES were compared to pseudospectral LES. The results show that the hybrid scheme provides optimal performance with enhanced spectral resolution compared to upwind schemes and no undesired numerical artifacts associated with centered schemes of similar order.



See more of: Theoretical and Practical Issues Associated with Multi-Scale Simulations  
See more of: 22nd Symposium on Boundary Layers and Turbulence

🔗 - Indicates paper has been withdrawn from meeting  
🏆 - Indicates an Award Winner

AIAA JOURNAL

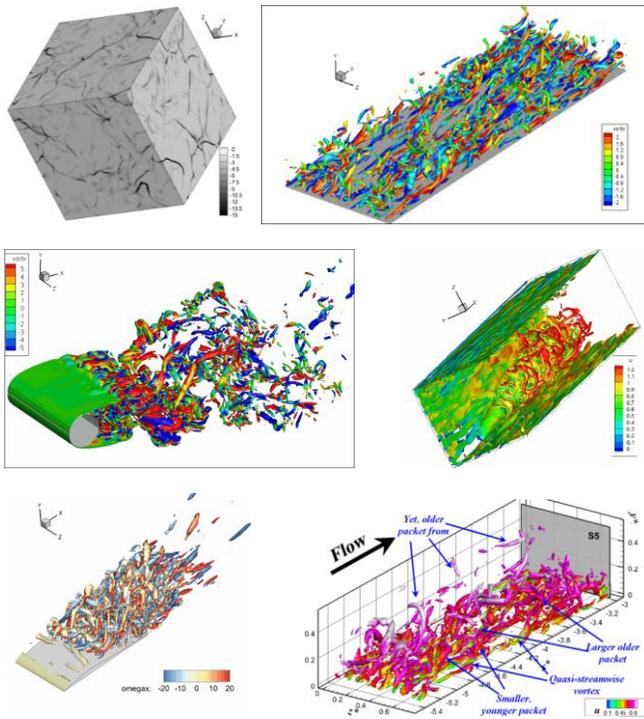
## Modification to Improved Delayed Detached-Eddy Simulation Regarding the Log-Layer Mismatch

Yiyu Han,<sup>a</sup> Yuanyuan He,<sup>1</sup> and Jialing Le<sup>1</sup>  
China Aerodynamics Research and Development Center, 621000 Mianyang,  
People's Republic of China



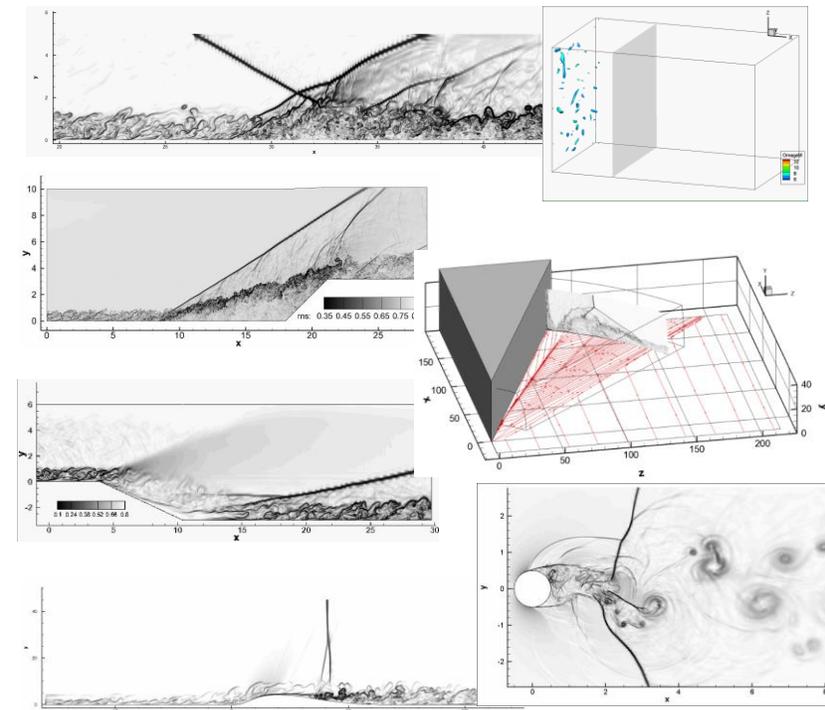
# What have we done

Advanced numerical  
method, software &  
HPC



## ASTR code

- A high-order FDM solver for compressible Navier-Stokes equations on a generalised coordinate system.
- Modern FORTRAN language and MPI parallelisation.
- Different types of high-order schemes:
  - 6<sup>th</sup>-order compact schemes
  - 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>-order upwind-biased shock-capturing schemes
  - Several Riemann solvers: Steger-Warming, AUSMPW+
- Installed and tested on many HPC systems
  - HECToR, ARCHER, ARCHER2, HAWK
- Linear acceleration up to 100k cores



SWBLI Flows

# What have we done

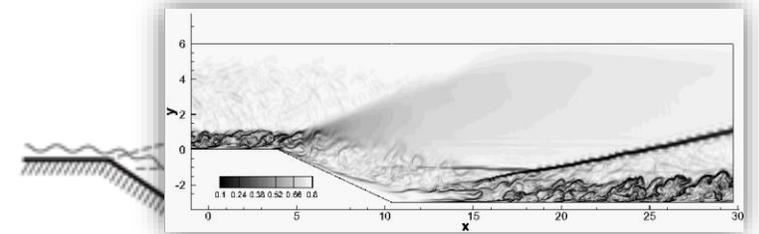
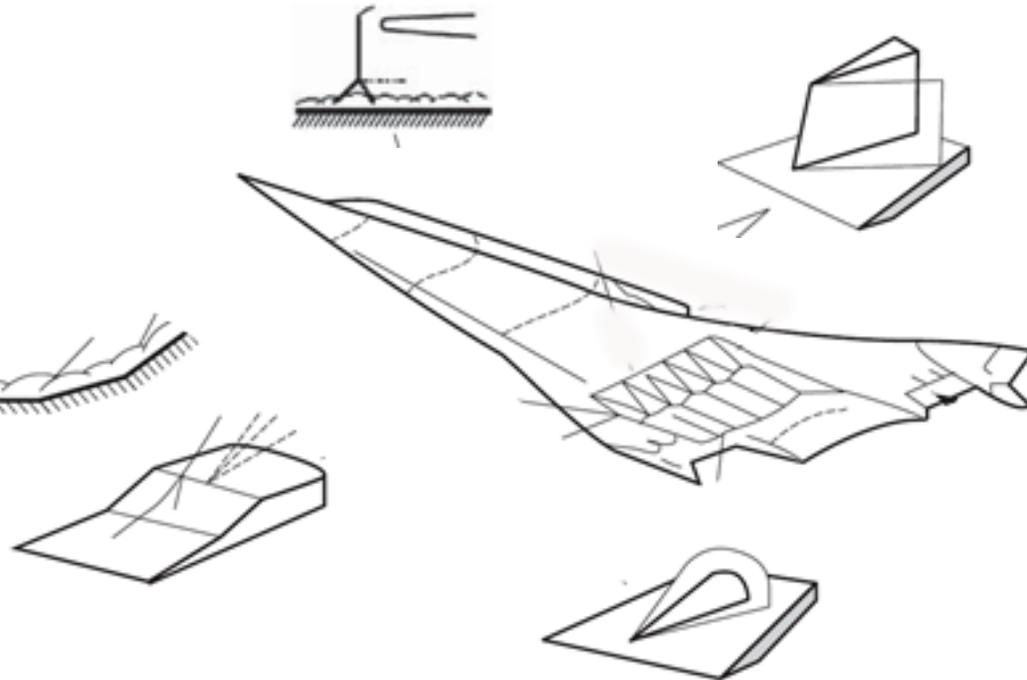
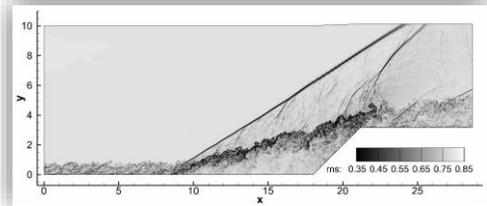
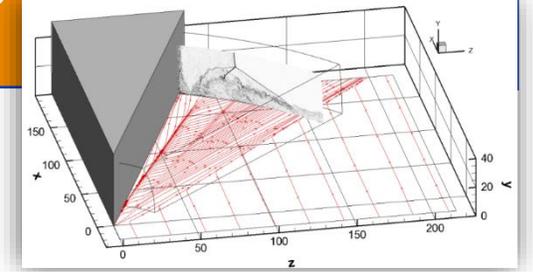
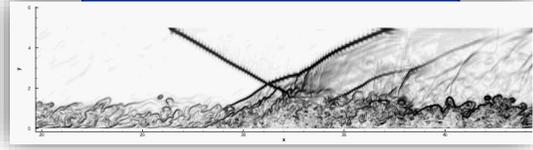
Advanced numerical method, software & HPC

DNS of model configurations

Accurate database & deeper understanding of flow physics

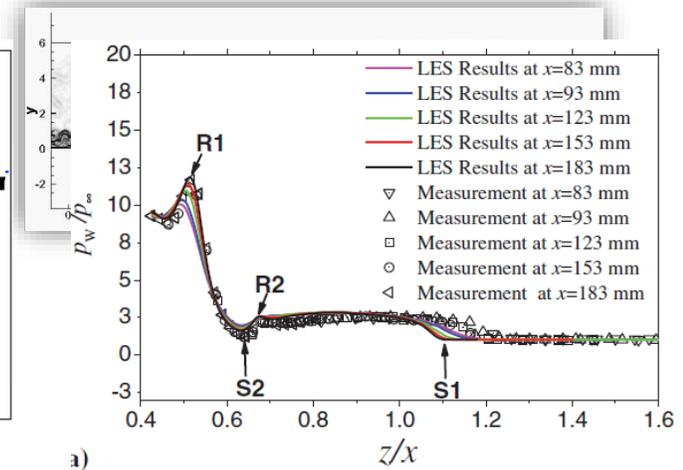
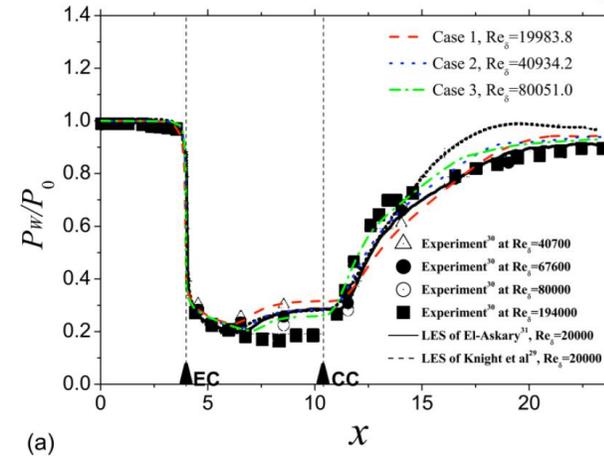
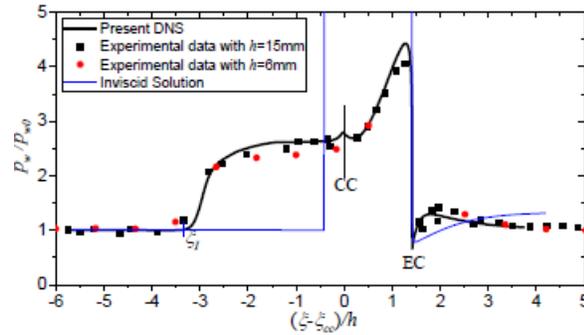
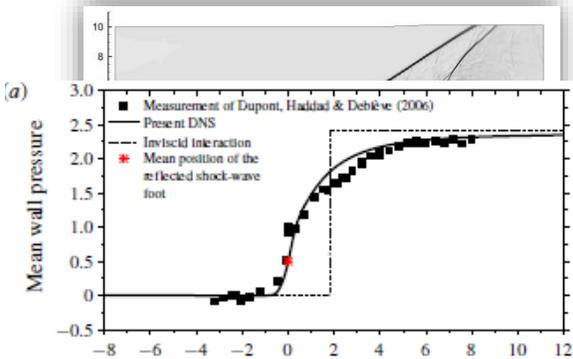
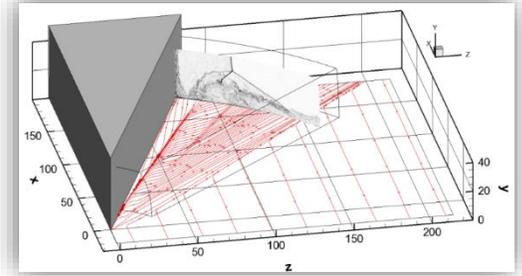
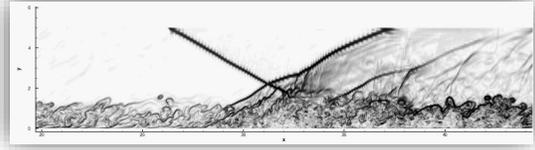
Improvement of engineering CFD tool

Hypersonic

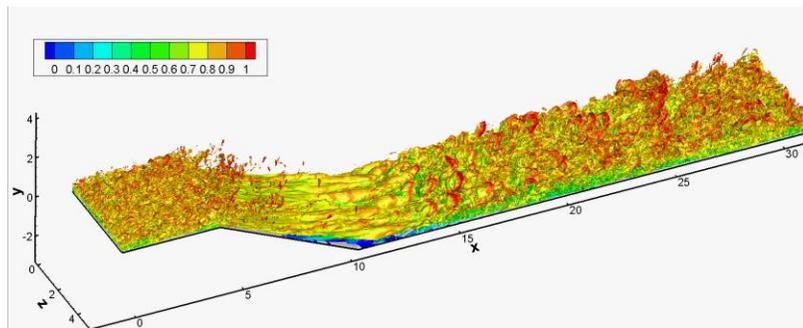
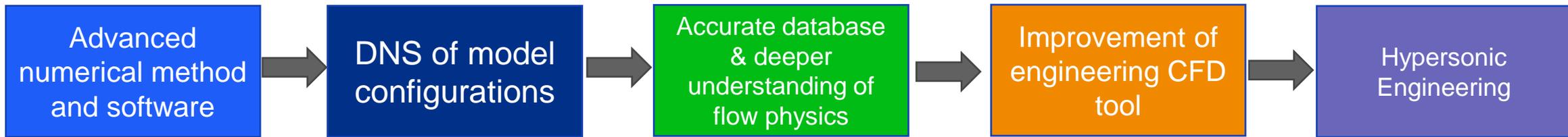


# What have we done

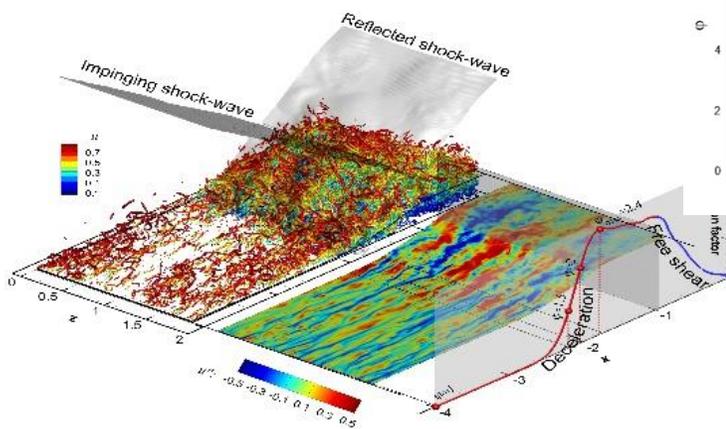
DNS of model configurations



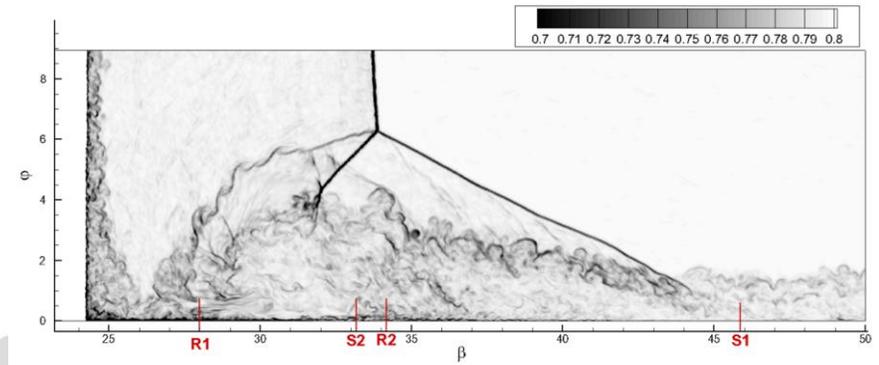
# What have we done



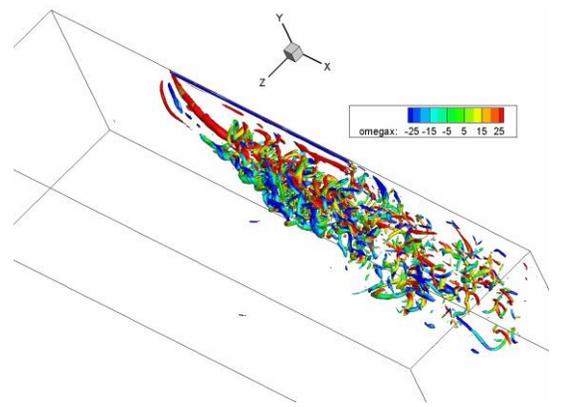
Görtler-like vortices for the supersonic backward facing step flow



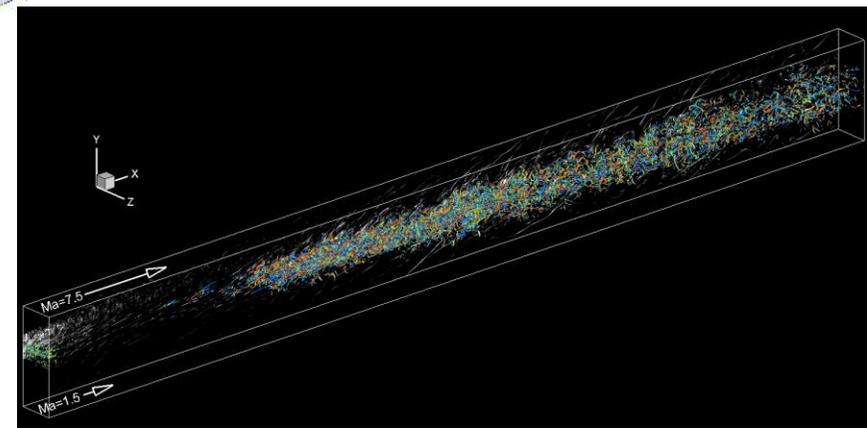
Amplification of turbulence in SWBLI



Flow structures in 3-D SWBLI

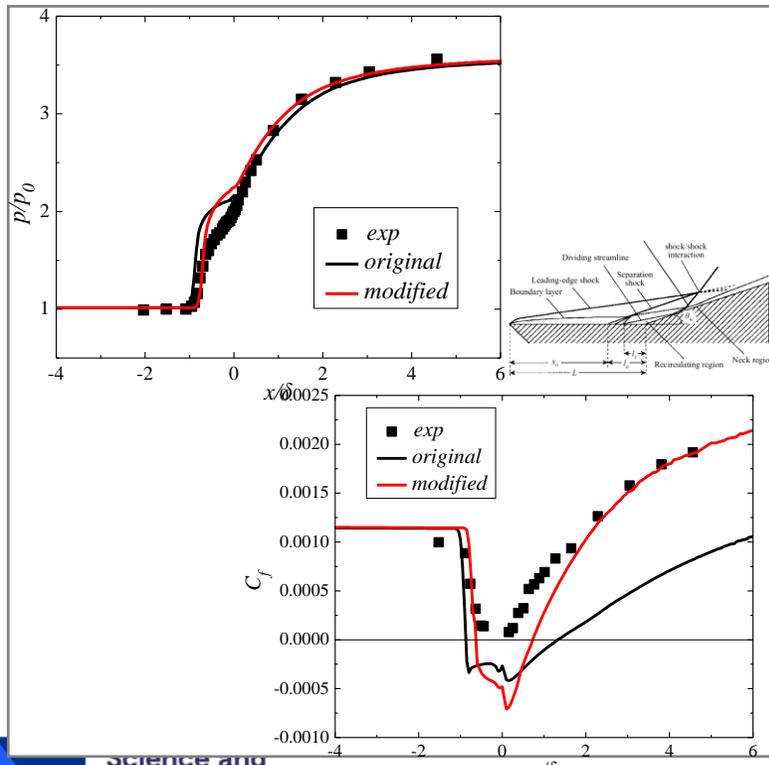
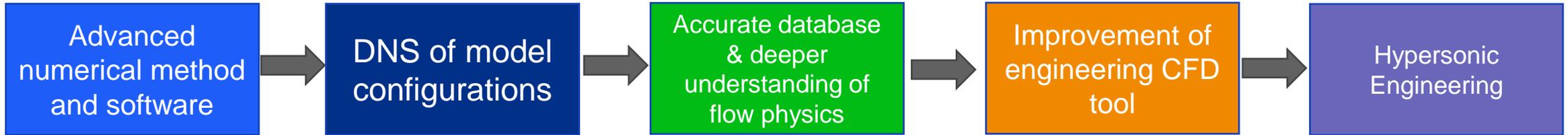


Wall jet

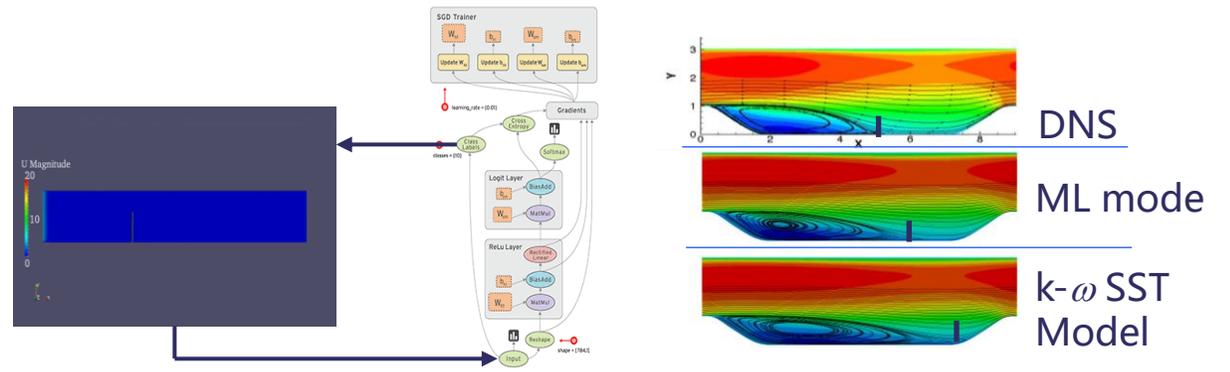


Turbulence structures in supersonic mixing layer

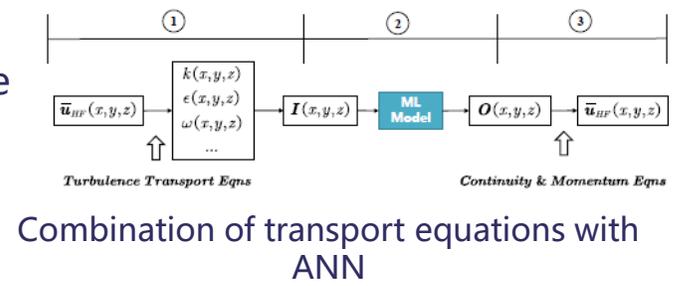
# What have we done



Improvement of the S-A turbulence model



The development of the TensorFlow-OpenFOAM Interface



Data driven turbulence modeling

# What have we done

Improvement of engineering CFD tool

**Normalized pressure ratio**

**Normalized fan inlet mass flow func.**

Measured data  
Steady, MSA  
Time-averaged unsteady, MSA  
Time-averaged unsteady, OSA

Full-span rotating stall

**Numerical Study on Aeroelastic Instability for a Low-Speed Fan**

**Validation of a Numerical Model for Predicting Stalled Flows in a Low-Speed Fan**

**Effects of Inlet Disturbances on Fan Stability**

(a)  $k-\omega$  SST

(b) ML-RANS

**Computers and Fluids**

**Data driven turbulence modeling in turbomachinery - An applicability study**

L. Fang<sup>a,b</sup>, T.W. Bao<sup>a</sup>, W.Q. Xu<sup>a</sup>, Z.D. Zhou<sup>a,b</sup>, J.L. Du<sup>a,b</sup>, Y. Jin<sup>c,\*</sup>

**ARTICLE INFO**

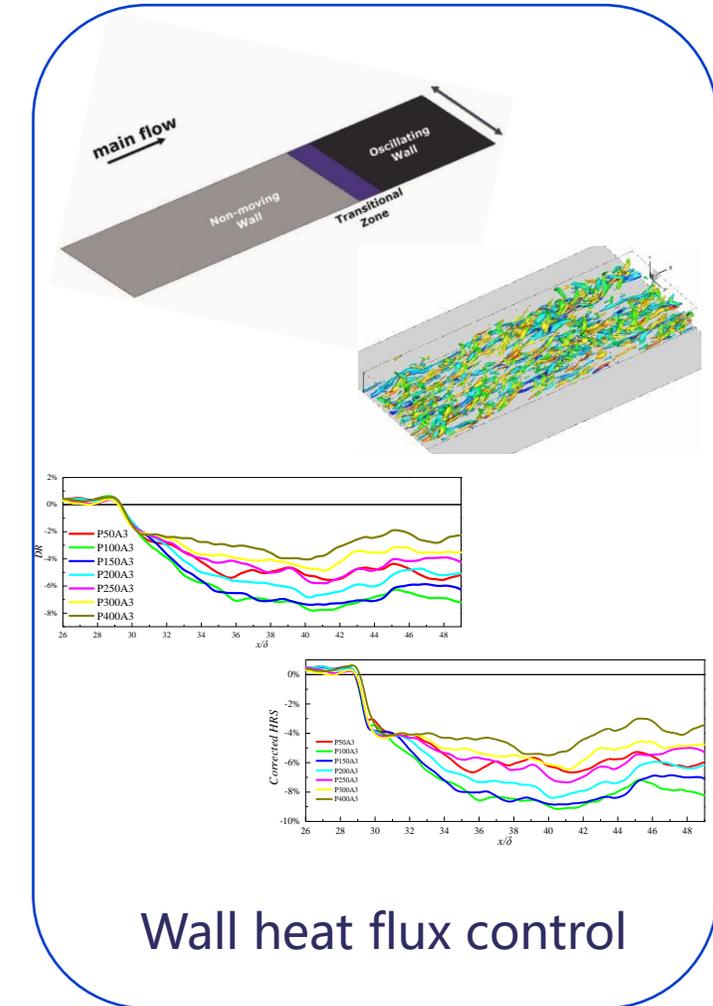
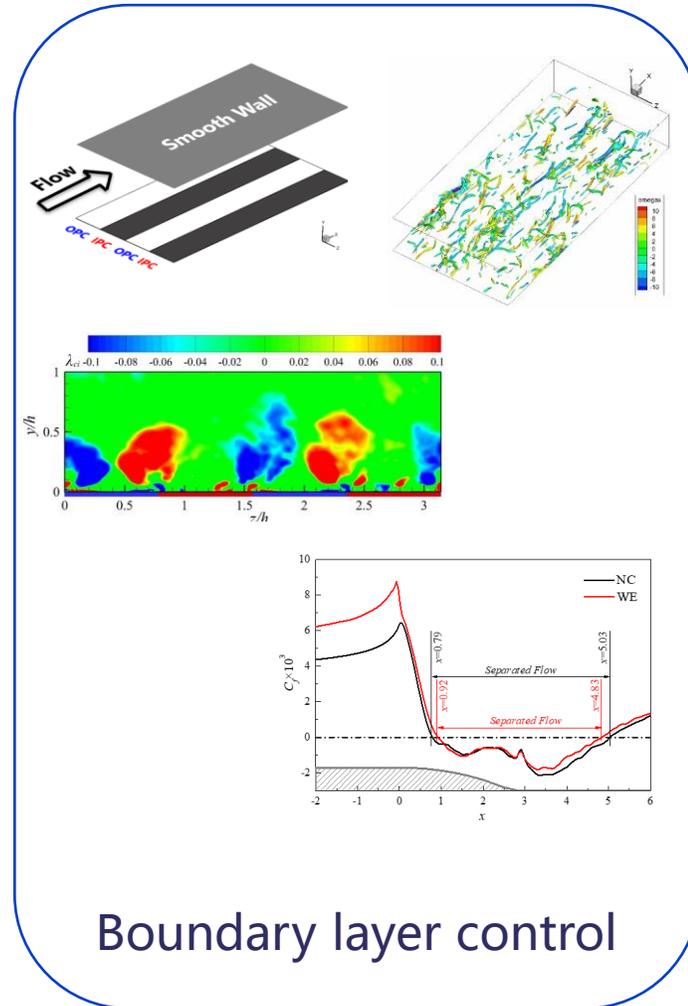
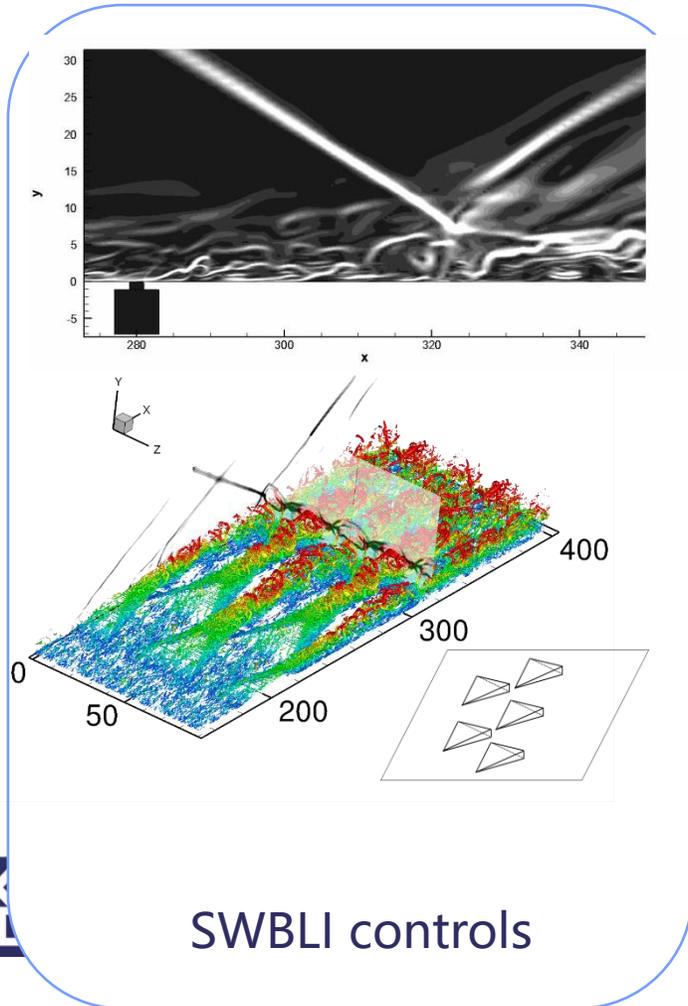
**ABSTRACT**

The machine learning (ML) approaches have been introduced in Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes (RANS) modeling in recent years. These ML-RANS models are usually trained from a training flow database, and are employed in the simulations of other flow cases. The training flows and real simulations can have different underlying physics. When the training flows have a typical physical constraint but real simulations do not have, the applicability of ML-RANS models should be evaluated. The present paper first aims at exploring the underlying physics and responsibility of a novel ML-RANS approach (Liu et al., 2021). A database of transitional channel flow is first used to estimate the flow states and data constraints, and to clarify the calculation methods for the input features. An industrial low pressure turbine (LPT) configuration is then calculated to test the applicability of the applied ML-RANS model. Analysis on the responsibility of constraints shows that the non-equilibrium turbulence and transitional flow cannot be correctly calculated by using a ML-RANS model learned from database of equilibrium turbulence.

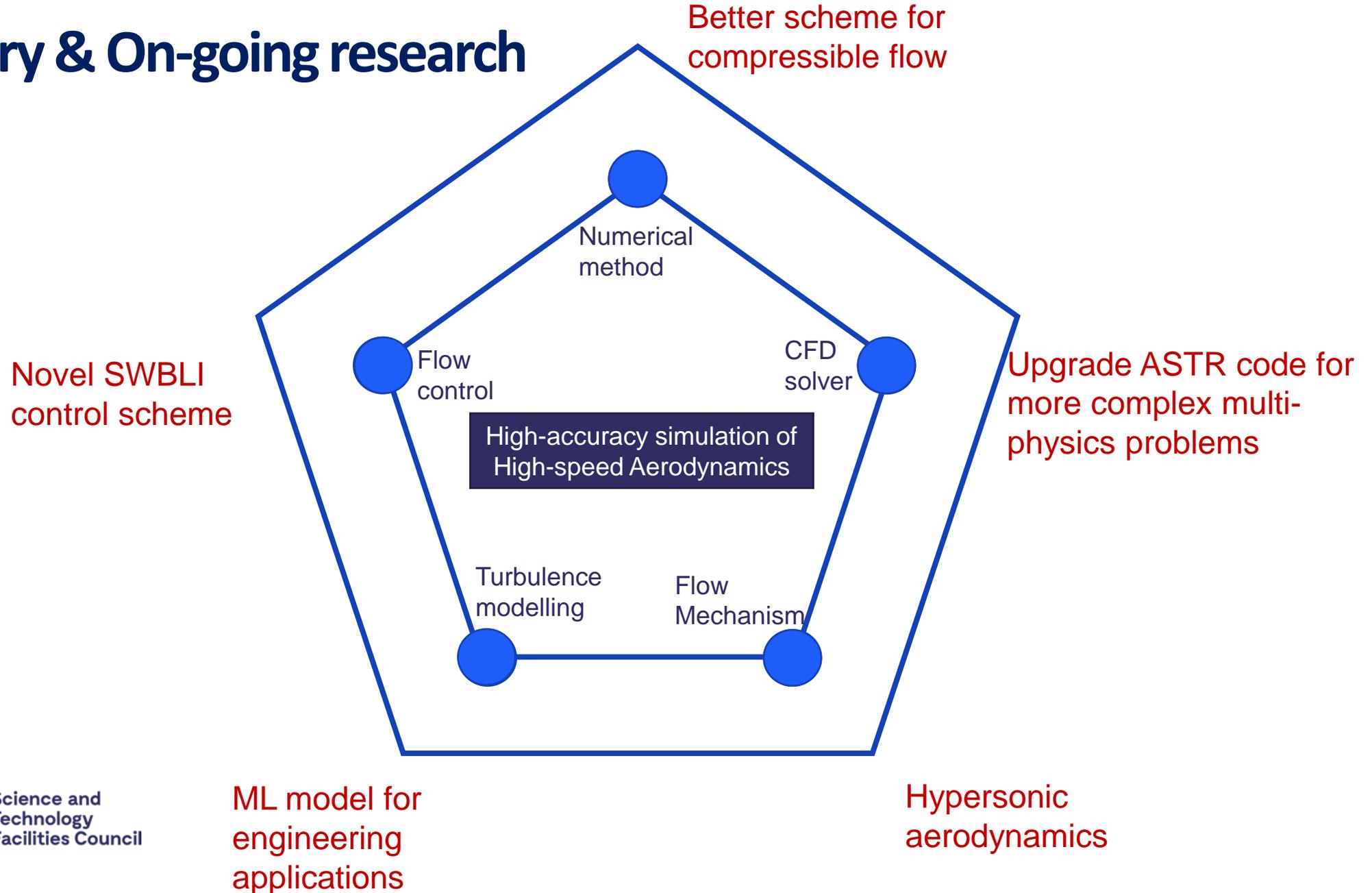
The model has been applied by R&R company in aeroengine

The machine-learning model has been used by southern Snecma company to study flow in turbine

# Research of BL control

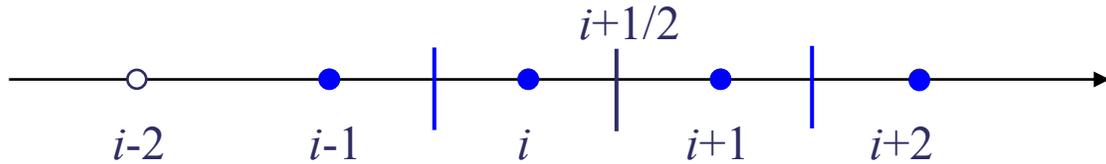


# Summary & On-going research

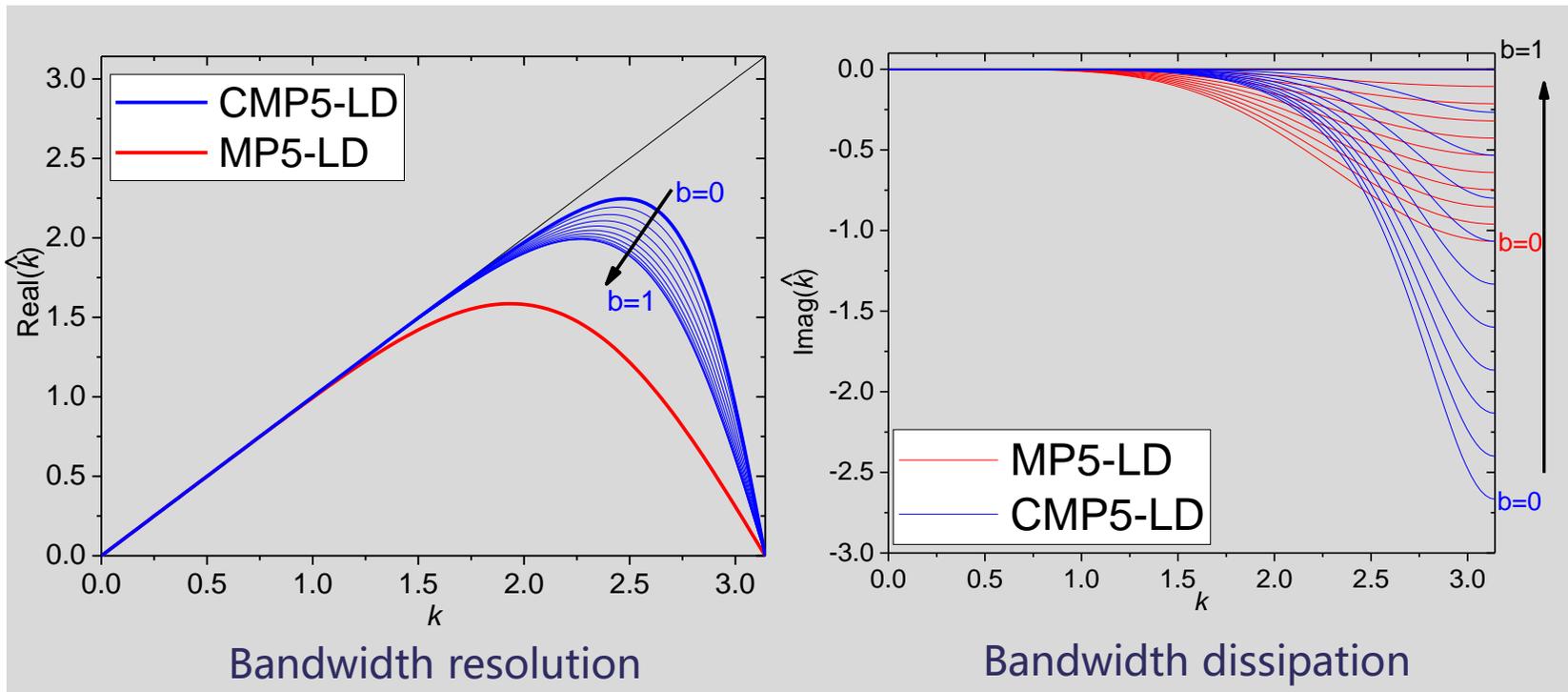


# High-order compact MP scheme

$$\text{CMP5-LD: } \alpha_{-1}F_{i-1/2}^L + F_{i+1/2}^L + \alpha_1F_{i+3/2}^L = a_{-1}F_{i-1} + a_0F_i + a_1F_{i+1} + \frac{b}{36}F_{i+2}$$



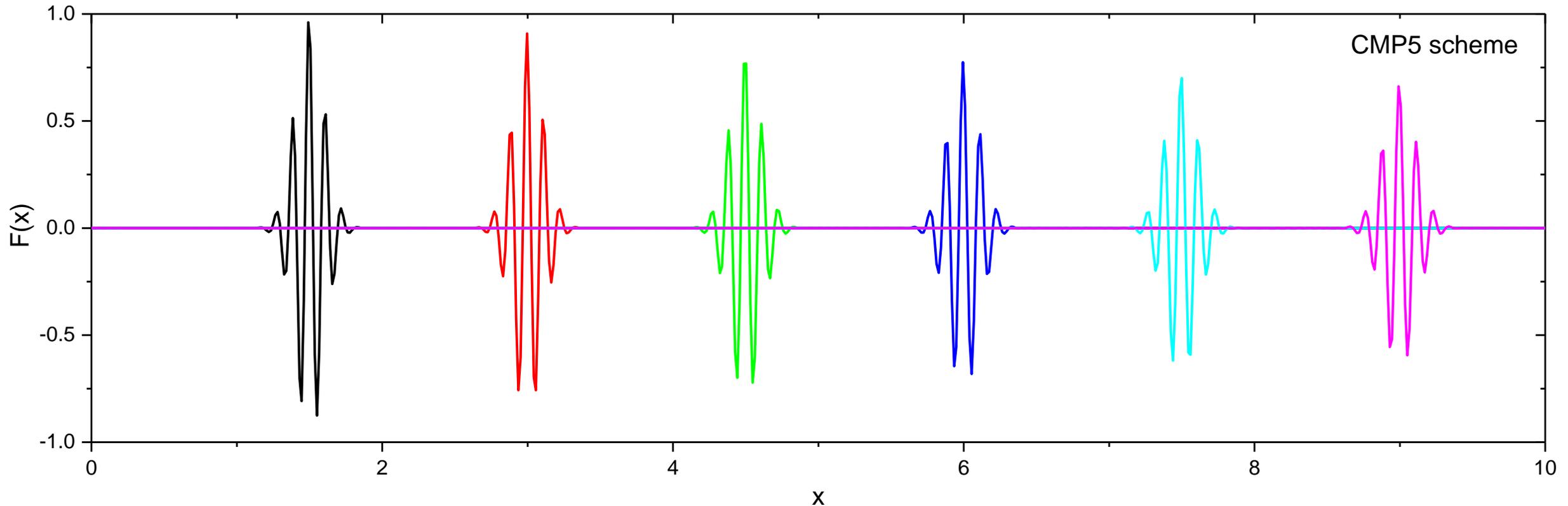
$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{-1} \\ a_0 \\ a_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & b \\ \frac{18}{18} - \frac{b}{36} & \frac{b}{4} \\ \frac{5}{9} + \frac{b}{40} \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{-1} \\ \alpha_1 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} - \frac{b}{6} \\ \frac{1}{6} + \frac{b}{6} \end{pmatrix}$$



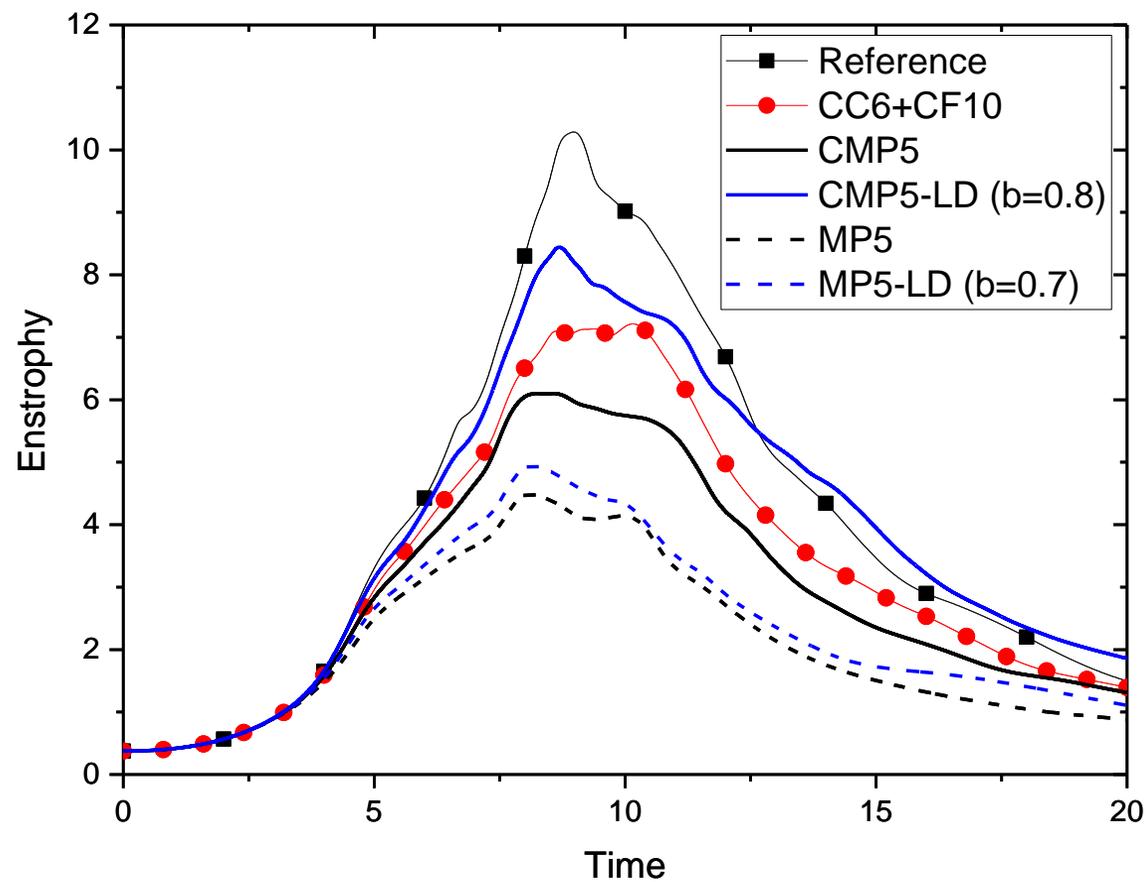
# High-order compact MP scheme

$$\frac{\partial F(x,t)}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial F(x,t)}{\partial x} = 0, x \in [0,10) \quad F(x,0) = e^{-A(x-x_0^2)} \sin(\omega_0 x)$$

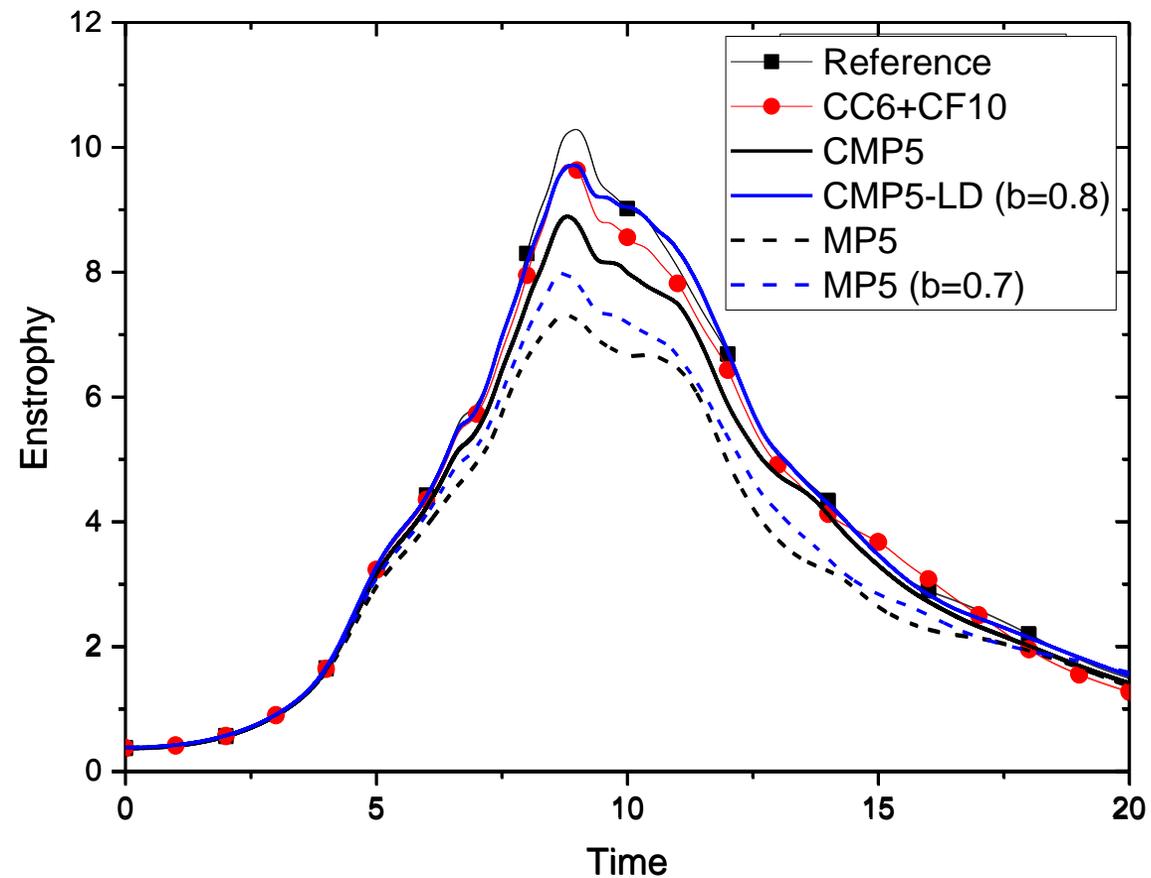
$c$	$A$	$\omega_0$	$x_0$
0.5	50	$0.838242/\Delta x$	1.5



# High-order compact MP scheme

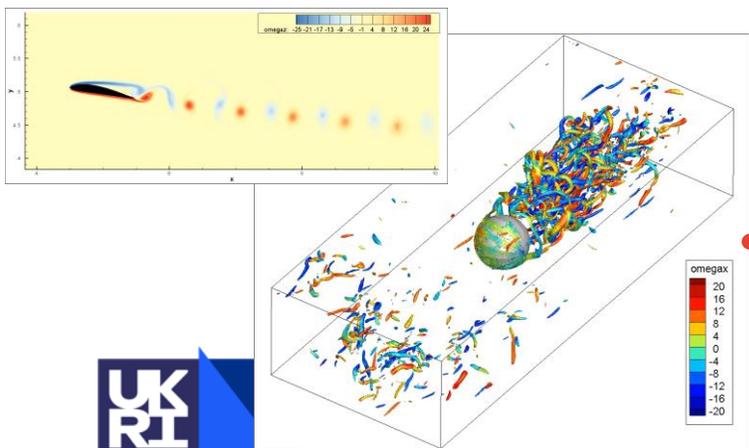
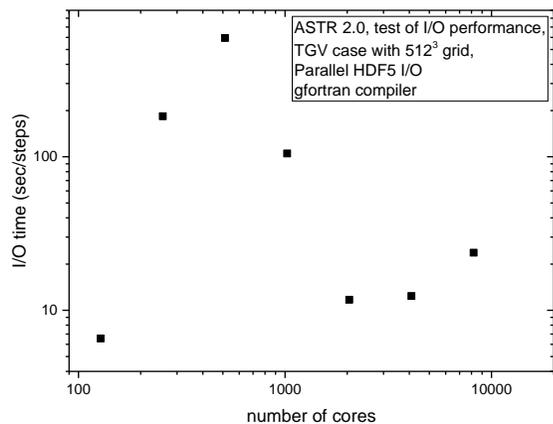
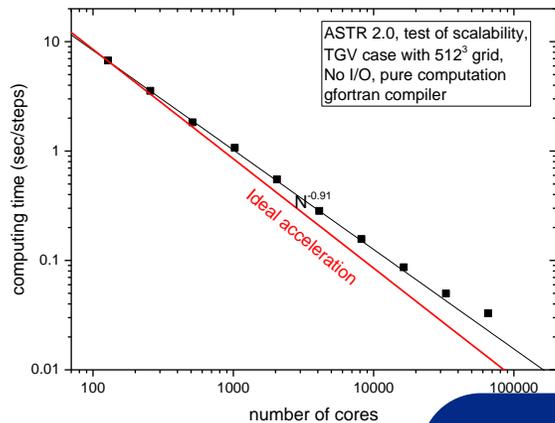


Evolution of enstrophy under  $128^3$  mesh



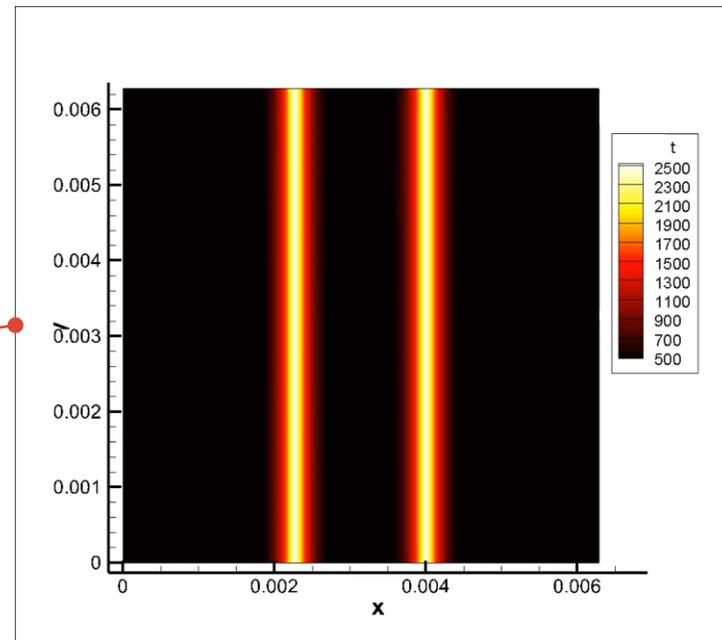
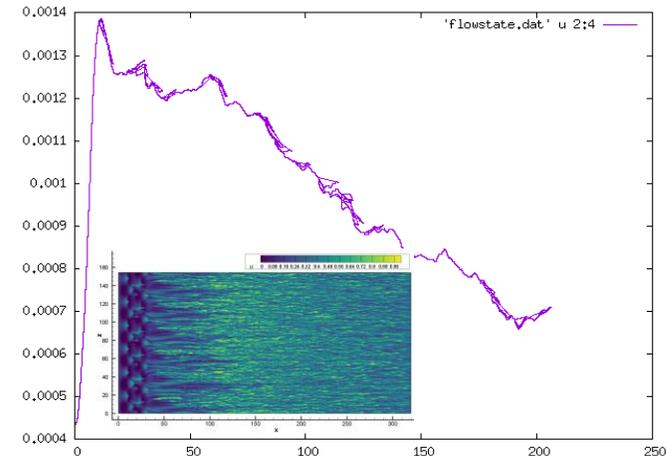
Evolution of enstrophy under  $256^3$  mesh

# ASTR 2



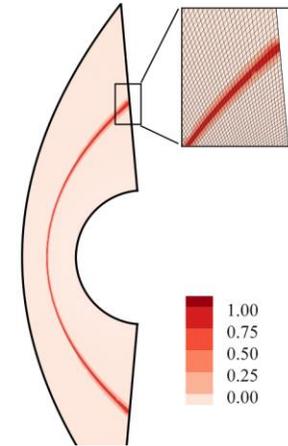
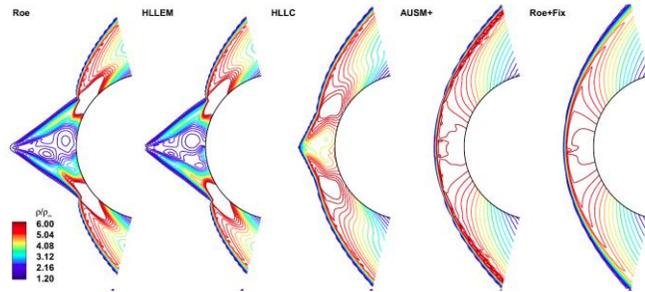
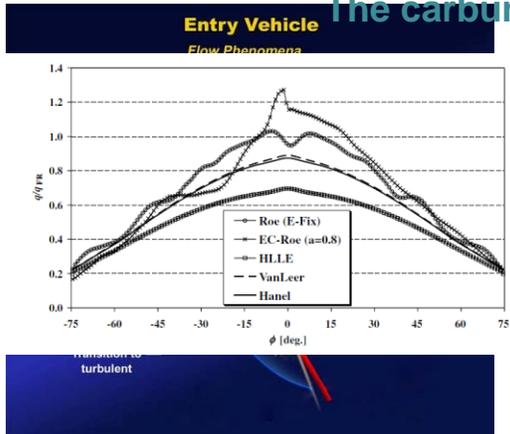
## ASTR 2

- High-speed, complex geometry, multi-physics problems
  - Compressible flow solver
  - High-order FDM
  - Structured mesh
  - ✓ Object-oriented FORTRAN
  - ✓ User-defined transport equations (5+x equations)
  - ✓ Parallel HDF5 I/O
  - ✓ Crash control
  - ✓ Fully compact
  - Immersed boundary
  - ❖ Chemical reaction
  - ❖ Machine-learning model
  - Method of Moment
  - Multi-block mesh
  - Adaptive mesh refinement
- ✓ Fully implemented & tested  
 ❖ Partly Implemented  
 ○ Plan to do

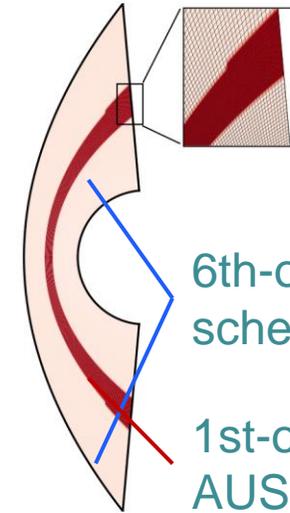


# Hypersonic flow over blunt body

The carbuncle phenomenon

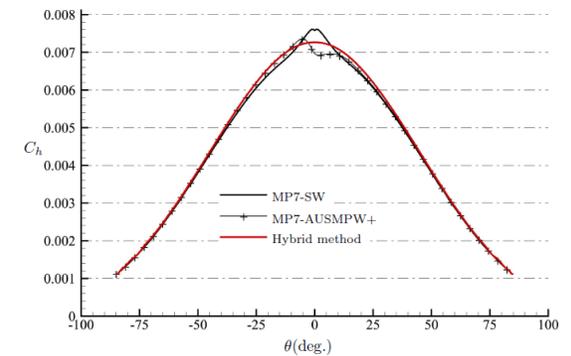
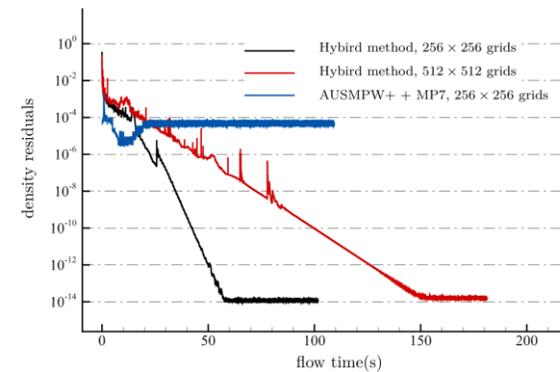


Shock sensor

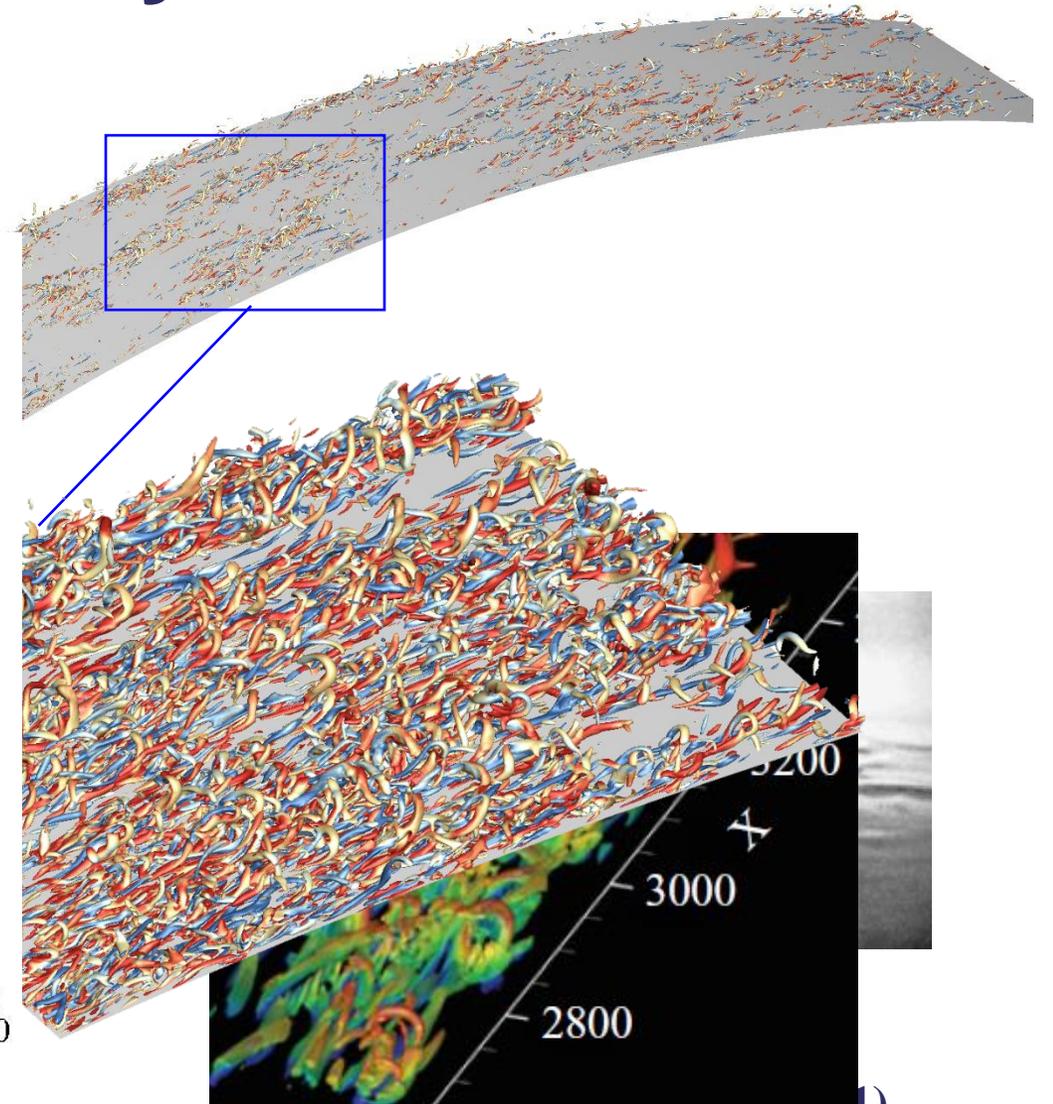
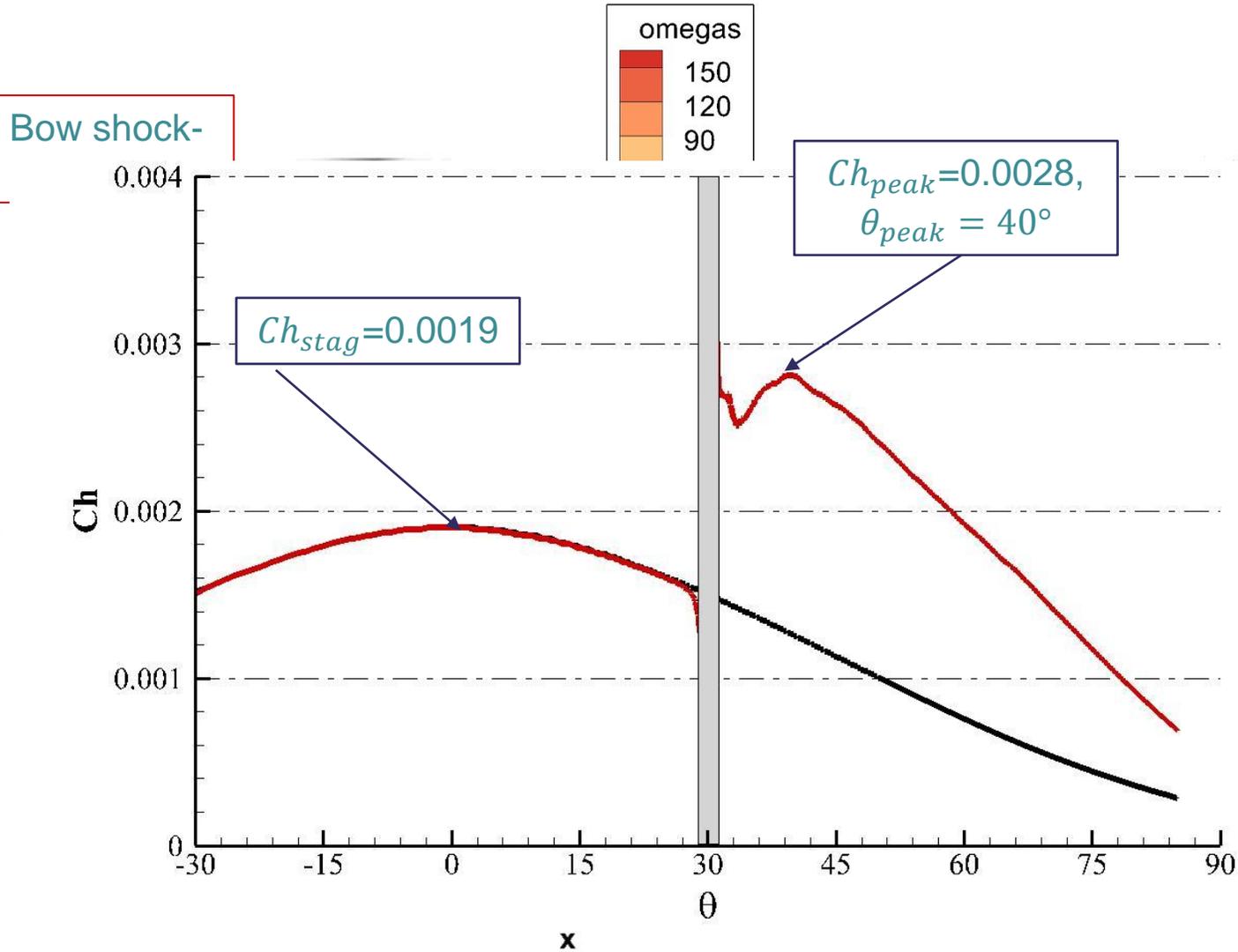


6th-order central scheme

1st-order AUSMPW+ scheme

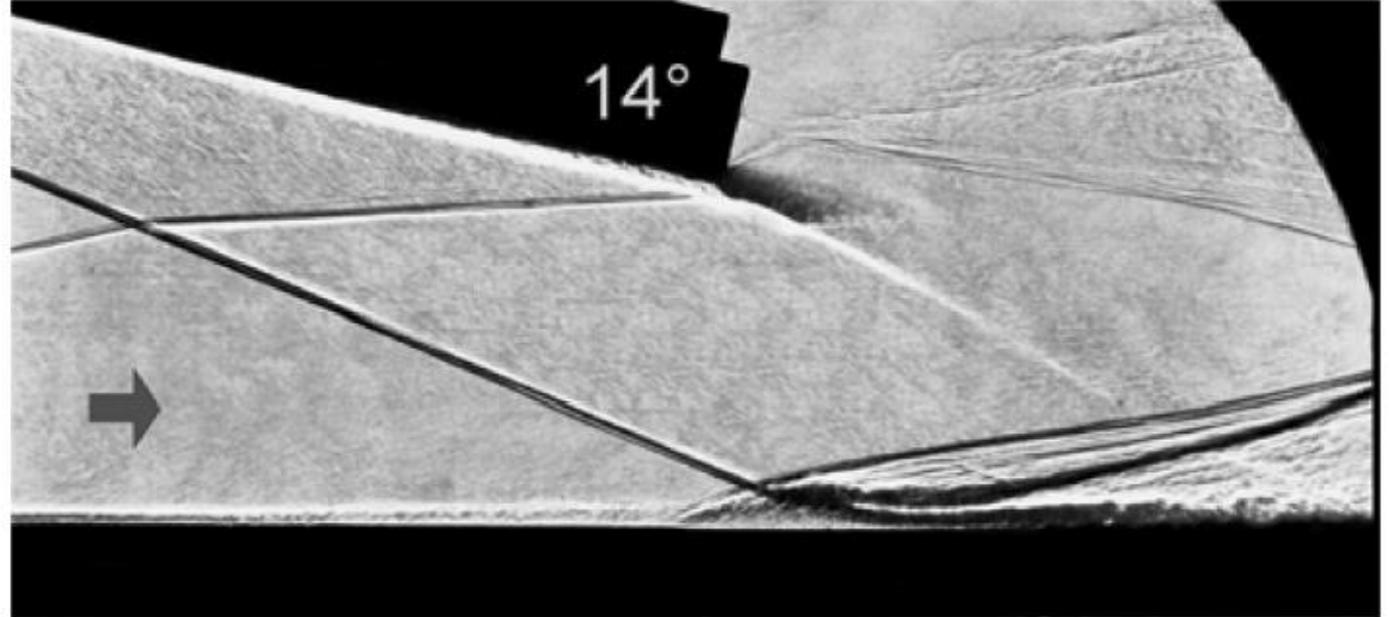
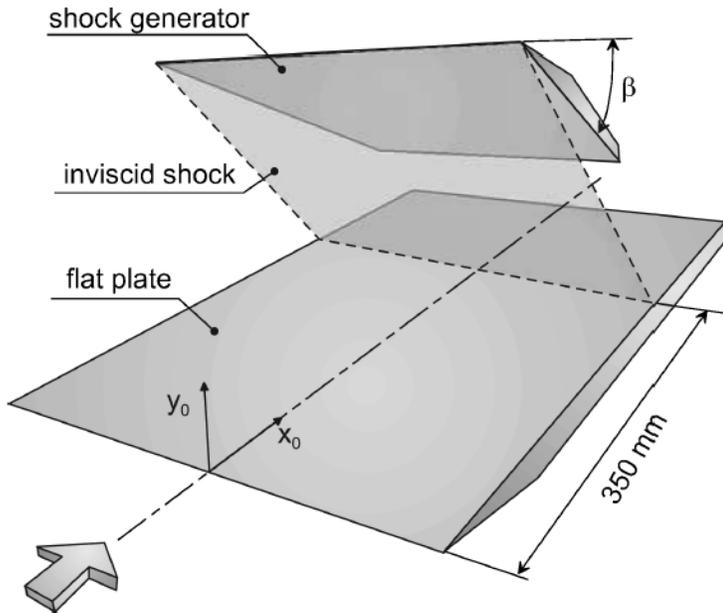


# Hypersonic flow over blunt body

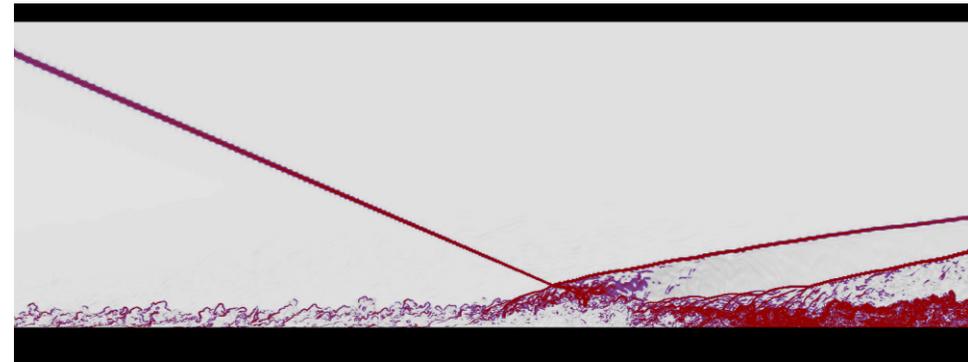


boundary layer (Cantwell, 1961).  
Horseshoe vortex in a incompressible  
turbulent BL (Wu & Moin 2009)

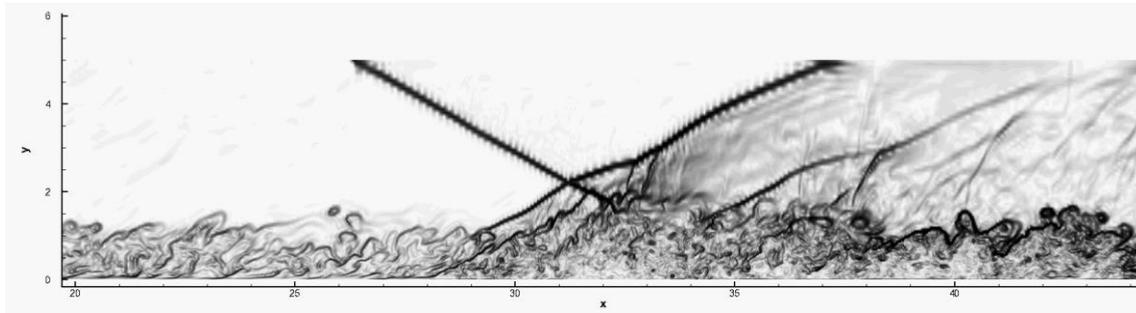
# Hypersonic SWTBLI



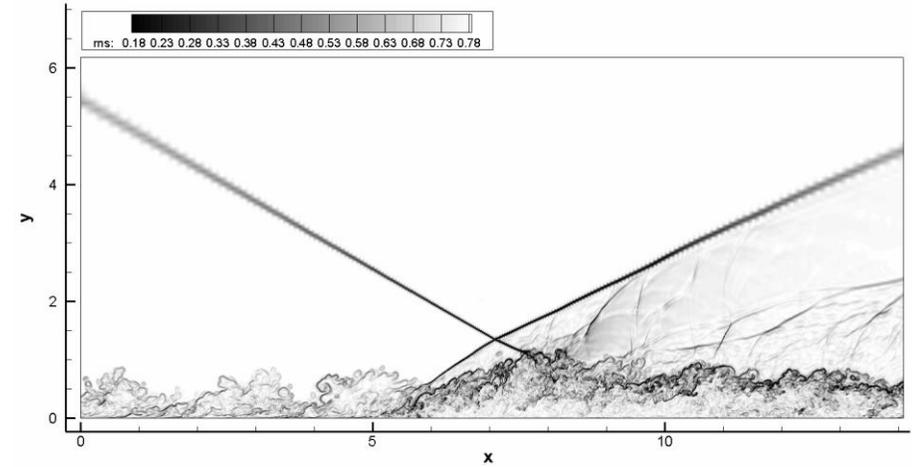
- $Ma=5$ ,  $Re_\delta = 71,566$
- $\beta = 14^\circ$ ,  $\alpha = 23.3^\circ$ ,  $T_s = 62.5k$ ,  $T_w = 5.24645T_s$ ,
- Computational Domain size:  $65\delta \times 20\delta \times 4\delta$
- Mesh:  $1450 \times 260 \times 256$
- CFD solver: ASTR 2, MP7-LD+CC6+RK3
- Experiment data from Schülein (2006)
  - $Ma=5$ ,  $Re_\delta = 173,900$



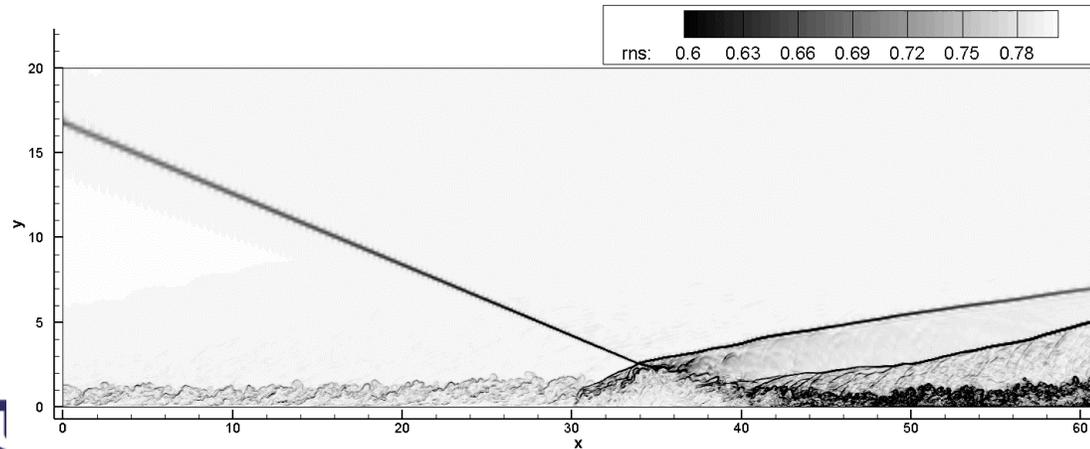
# Hypersonic SWTBLI



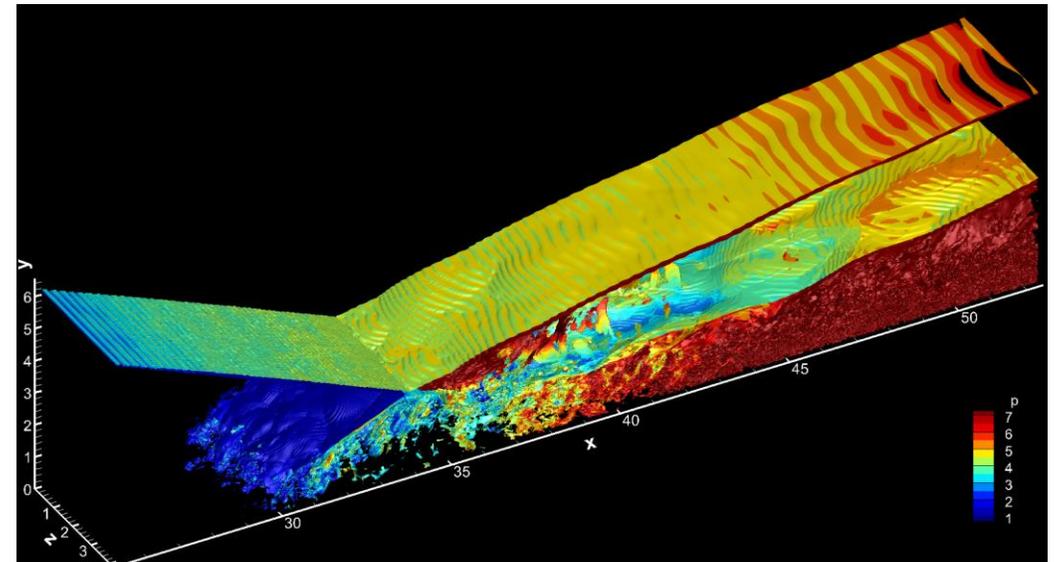
$Ma=2.25, \alpha=33.2^\circ$



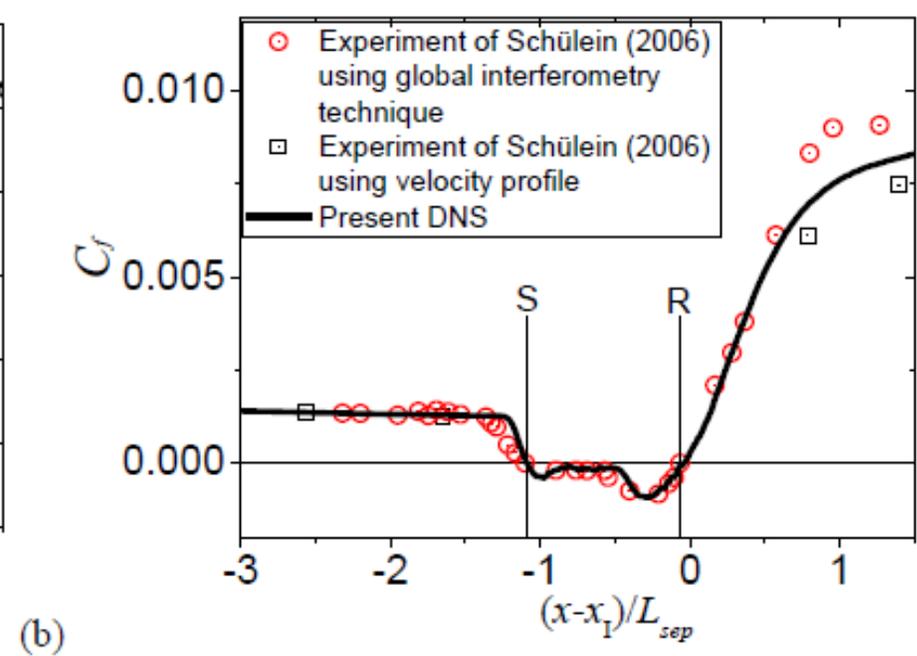
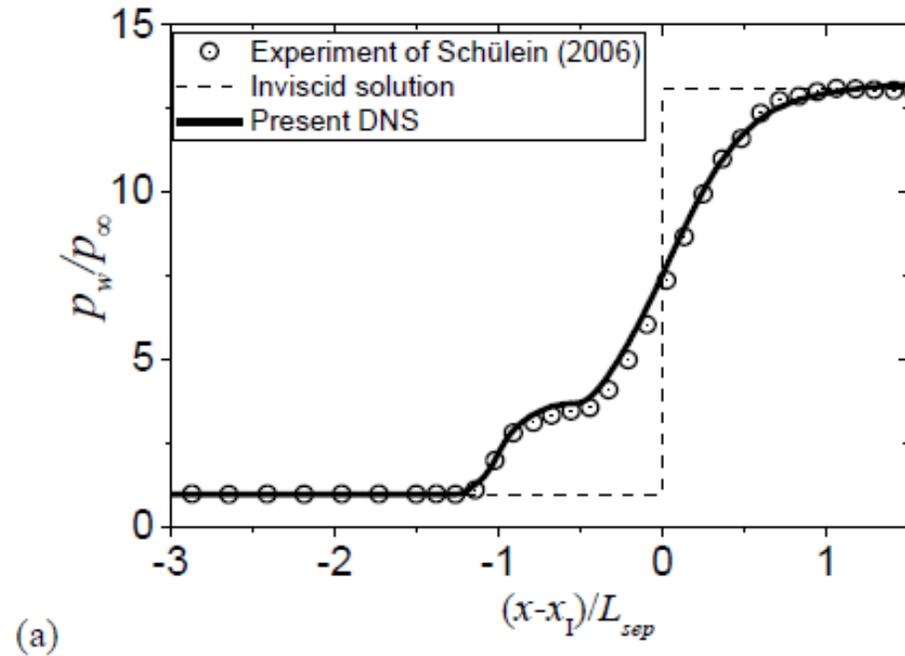
$Ma=3, \alpha=33^\circ$



$Ma=5, \alpha=23.3^\circ$



# Hypersonic SWTBLI



# Summary

- We have conducted a systematic research focused on high-speed flows:
    - from the derivation of numerical scheme to the development of CFD code
    - from the study of fundamental fluid mechanics to the development of engineering models.
  - The outcomes have shown some positive impacts to research communities and aerospace industries.
- 
- There is a current clear push for hypersonic in the UK, as shown by the National Space strategy recently released by the government, and the opening of the new North West Space Cluster this May
    - there are a clear opportunities for us to develop further some of our activities