

# Examples of how to use some utilities and functionObjects

(and some Gnuplot, Python, Matplotlib)

## Some utilities and functionObjects

- We will now learn how to use a small number of useful utilities and functionObjects. Some of them are described in the UserGuide and ProgrammersGuide, some are described in the OpenFOAM Wiki (e.g. Turbomachinery Working Group) and some of them have been discussed in the Forum.
- It is **HIGHLY** recommended that you dig through ALL of the UserGuide and ProgrammersGuide (before complaining that there is not enough OpenFOAM documentation).

## The mapFields utility

- The `mapFields` utility maps the results of one case to another case. We already did the procedure while running the `icoFoam/Allrun` script, but let's do it again by hand:

```
cd $FOAM_RUN/icoFoam
```

- Run the cavity case:

```
blockMesh -case cavity  
icoFoam -case cavity >& log_cavity
```

- Prepare the `cavityClipped` case and map the `cavity/0.5` results to it:

```
blockMesh -case cavityClipped  
cp -r cavityClipped/0 cavityClipped/0.5  
mapFields cavity -case cavityClipped -sourceTime latestTime
```

- We first copied the `0` directory to `0.5`, since `mapFields` applies the mapping to the `startFrom/startTime` directory of the `cavityClipped` case, which is by default set to `0.5`. Try setting `startTime 0`; to map to that time directory.
- The flag `-sourceTime latestTime` sais that the `cavity/0.5` results should be used.

## The mapFields utility

- Type `mapFields -help` to get the optional flags
- The flag `-consistent` is used if the geometry and boundary conditions are identical in both cases. This is useful when modifying the mesh density of a case, while preserving the geometry and patch names.
- For non-consistent cases a `mapFieldsDict` dictionary must be edited, see `cavityClipped/system/mapFieldsDict`:

```
patchMap          ( lid movingWall );  
cuttingPatches    ( fixedWalls );
```

The first line sais that the name of the top patch has different names in the cases.  
The second line sais that the `fixedWalls` patch is cutting through the cavity case.

- The flags `-parallelSource` and `-parallelTarget` are used if any, or both, of the cases are decomposed for parallel simulations.

## The sample utility

- The `sample` utility is used to produce graphs for publication or to extract surfaces.
- Type `sample -help` to get the optional flags
- Copy the `sampleDict` from the `plateHole` tutorial:

```
cd $FOAM_RUN/icoFoam
cp $FOAM_TUTORIALS/stressAnalysis/solidDisplacementFoam/plateHole/system/sampleDict cavity/system
```

- Modify the `sampleDict` to make it match the `cavity` case:

```
sed -i s/"leftPatch"/"horizontalLine"/g cavity/system/sampleDict
sed -i s/"0 0.5 0.25"/"0.001 0.05 0.005"/g cavity/system/sampleDict
sed -i s/"0 2 0.25"/"0.099 0.05 0.005"/g cavity/system/sampleDict
sed -i s/"axis    y"/"axis    distance"/g cavity/system/sampleDict
sed -i s/"sigmaxx"/"p U"/g cavity/system/sampleDict
```

Running `sample -case cavity`, the variables `p` and `U` are extracted along a horizontal line at 100 points, and the results are written in `cavity/postProcessing/sets`.

- Plot in `gnuplot` (first type `gnuplot` in a terminal window):  

```
plot "cavity/postProcessing/sets/0.5/horizontalLine_p.xy"
exit
```
- Some info about plotting, in the two next slides...

## Plotting with Gnuplot

- Read more about Gnuplot at <http://www.gnuplot.info/>
- Example of Gnuplot script (copy to `myPlot.gplt`, run with `gnuplot myPlot.gplt`, show plot with `display myPlot.png`):

```
set title "Velocity components"
set xlabel "Y-position"
set ylabel "Velocity"
set yrange [-0.3:0.3]
set xtics 0.02
set grid xtics noytics
set terminal png
set output "myPlot.png"
plot "cavity/postProcessing/sets/0.5/horizontalLine_U.xy" \
    using 1:2 every ::5 with lines title "U_X", \
    "cavity/postProcessing/sets/0.5/horizontalLine_U.xy" \
    using 1:3 every ::5 with lines title "U_Y"
```

- using `1:2` means plot column 2 against 1
- every `::5` means start at line 5
- Short format: `u 1:2 ev ::5 w l t "U_X"`

# Plotting with Python and Matplotlib

- You can also use Python and Matplotlib to plot your results
- See [http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Sig\\_Turbomachinery/\\_Timisoara\\_Swirl\\_Generator#Post-processing\\_using\\_Python](http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Sig_Turbomachinery/_Timisoara_Swirl_Generator#Post-processing_using_Python) and [http://www.scipy.org/Plotting\\_Tutorial](http://www.scipy.org/Plotting_Tutorial)
- Type EPD, copy text below to `plotPressure.py` (make sure the indentation is correct), type `python plotPressure.py`

```
#!/usr/bin/env python
description = """ Plot the pressure samples."""
import os, sys
import math
from pylab import *
from numpy import loadtxt
def addToPlots( timeName ):
    fileName = "cavity/postProcessing/sets/" + timeName + "/horizontalLine_p.xy"
    i=[]
    time=[]
    abc =loadtxt(fileName, skiprows=4)
    for z in abc:
        time.append(z[0])
        i.append(z[1])
    legend = "Pressure at " + timeName
    plot(time,i,label="Time " + timeName )
figure(1);
ylabel(" p/rho "); xlabel(" Distance (m) "); title(" Pressure along sample line ")
grid()
hold(True)
for dirStr in os.listdir("cavity/postProcessing/sets/"):
    addToPlots( dirStr )
legend(loc="upper left")
savefig("myPlot.jpeg")
show() #Problems with ssh
```

## Plotting with xmgrace

- You can plot the pressure with xmgrace:

```
xmgrace cavity/postProcessing/sets/0.5/horizontalLine_p.xy
```

- and the velocity components:

```
xmgrace -block \  
cavity/postProcessing/sets/0.5/horizontalLine_U.xy -bxy 1:2 -bxy 1:3 -bxy 1:4
```



## The sample utility - surfaces

- Addition to `sampleDict` for extracting surfaces:

```
surfaceFormat    vtk;

surfaces
(
    myPlane
    {
        type plane;
        basePoint (0.05 0.05 0.005);
        normalVector (0 0 1);
    }
    myMovingWall
    {
        type          patch;
        patches        ( movingWall );
        triangulate false;
    }
);
```

- Run with `sample -case cavity`
- The files are written in `cavity/postProcessing/surfaces`
- Visualize the surfaces in paraview (File / Open and find a `vtk` file in the `cavity/postProcessing/surfaces` directory).

## The sample utility - alternatives

- Use dummy entries to see the alternatives (one at a time):

```
interpolationScheme dummy;  
setFormat dummy;  
surfaceFormat dummy;
```

also for each of `sets` and `surfaces`:

```
type dummy;
```

- See the source code for good descriptions and exact implementation:  
`$FOAM_UTILITIES/postProcessing/sampling/sample/sample.C`
- Search for `sample.C` in the Doxygen documentation:  
<http://www.openfoam.org/docs/cpp/>

## The foamCalc utility

- This utility calculates new fields from existing ones.
- Usage (NOTE that `foamCalc` doesn't accept usual flags, and must be run from within the case directory):  
`foamCalc <calcType> <fieldName1 ... fieldNameN>`
- To get a list of available `<calcType>`s, write:  
`foamCalc xxx` and get the following list (version dependent):  
`randomise, magSqr, magGrad, addSubtract, div, mag, interpolate, components`
- Examples:  
`cd $FOAM_RUN/icoFoam/cavity`  
`foamCalc div U #(needs: div(U) Gauss linear; in: system/fvSchemes)`  
`foamCalc components U`
- The new fields are written in the time directories.
- Code:  
`$FOAM_APP/utilities/postProcessing/foamCalc`  
`$FOAM_SRC/postProcessing/foamCalcFunctions`

## The setFields utility

- The `setFields` utility is used to set values to the fields in specific regions. You use this if you do the `interFoam/damBreak` tutorial in the UserGuide.
- Type `setFields -help` for optional flags
- A `setFieldsDict` dictionary is used. Find an example in the `damBreak` tutorial.
- We here copy the `setFieldsDict` from `damBreak`, and modify and run it for `cavity`:

```
cd $FOAM_RUN/icoFoam
cp $FOAM_TUTORIALS/multiphase/interFoam/ras/damBreak/system/setFieldsDict cavity/system/
sed -i s/"alpha1"/"p"/g cavity/system/setFieldsDict
sed -i s/"box (0 0 -1) (0.1461 0.292 1)"/"box (0 0 -1) (0.05 0.05 1)"/g cavity/system/setFieldsDict
setFields -case cavity
```

- Have a look at the `cavity/system/setFieldsDict`:
  - The `defaultFieldValues` sets the default values of the fields.
  - A `boxToCell` bounding box is used to define a set of cells where the `fieldValues` should be different than the `defaultFieldValues`.
  - Use a dummy instead of `boxToCell` to see the `topoSetSource` alternatives.

# The funkySetFields, groovyBC and swak4Foam utilities (related to setFields)

These are really useful community contributions!

- `funkySetFields` is a development of the `setFields` utility, and it includes the option of specifying mathematical expressions etc.:

[http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib\\_funkySetFields](http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib_funkySetFields)

- The `groovyBC` utility is similar, but for boundaries:

[http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib\\_groovyBC](http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib_groovyBC)

It should be noted that from 2.0.x, there is a new way of setting boundary conditions similar to `groovyBC`, but with C++ syntax (`codedFixedValue` - google it!).

- The above have now been merged into `swak4Foam` (Swiss Army Knife For Foam):

<http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib/swak4Foam>

See also the OpenFOAM Workshop training material:

[www.openfoamworkshop.org](http://www.openfoamworkshop.org)

## The foamToVTK, checkMesh, and flattenMesh utilities

- The foamToVTK utility can be used in many different ways. Example:
- The two empty sides of a 2D mesh must have the same mesh distribution. Add 0.0001 to the z-position of one of the `constant/polyMesh/points` of the cavity case.
- The checkMesh utility can be used to verify this. If not, it will complain:

```
***Number of edges not aligned with or perpendicular to non-empty directions: ????  
Writing ??? points on non-aligned edges to set nonAlignedEdges
```

- The point labels are written to `constant/polyMesh/sets/nonAlignedEdges`
- Take the opportunity to visualize the point set in paraFoam: First open the cavity case in paraFoam, then use **File/Open** `<case>.OpenFOAM` to read in the same case again. This time mark **Include Sets**, mark *only* **Mesh Parts/NonAlignedEdges**, and visualize using box glyphs.
- Another way to view the problematic points in *paraview* (not paraFoam):  

```
foamToVTK -case cavity -pointSet nonAlignedEdges
```

The result appears in the VTK directory.
- The flattenMesh utility can sometimes fix the problem, like in this case.

## The transformPoints utility

- Moves, rotates and scales the mesh.
- Usage (transformPoints -help, version dependent):

```
transformPoints [-translate vector] [-yawPitchRoll (yaw pitch roll)]  
               [-rotateFields] [-parallel] [-rotate (vector vector)]  
               [-rollPitchYaw (roll pitch yaw)] [-scale vector] [-case dir]  
               [-help] [-doc] [-srcDoc]
```

- Example:

```
run  
cp -r cavity cavityMoved  
transformPoints -case cavityMoved -translate "(0.1 0 0)"
```

- Have a look in paraFoam:

```
run  
touch cavityMoved/cavityMoved.OpenFOAM  
paraFoam -case cavity
```

Click Apply and then use File/Open to open the cavityMoved.OpenFOAM file at the same time.

## The mergeMeshes utility

- Takes the meshes from two different cases and merges them into the master case.
- mergeMeshes reads the `system/controlDict` of both cases and uses the `startTime`, so be careful if you have a moving mesh for example. The first case that you specify will be the master, and a new time (`startTime+deltaT`) will be written in which a new polymesh is located. Move it to the correct position (`constant/polyMesh`), and you have a case with the merged mesh.

- Example (start from clean cases):

```
run
cp -r $FOAM_TUTORIALS/incompressible/icoFoam/cavity cavityMerged
cp -r $FOAM_TUTORIALS/incompressible/icoFoam/cavity cavityTransformed
blockMesh -case cavityMerged
blockMesh -case cavityTransformed
transformPoints -case cavityTransformed -translate "(0.1 0 0)"
mergeMeshes cavityMerged cavityTransformed
mv cavityMerged/0.005/polyMesh/* cavityMerged/constant/polyMesh
```

- Note that the two meshes will keep all their original boundary conditions, so they are not automatically coupled. Try `icoFoam`! To couple the meshes, use `stitchMesh`...



## The stitchMesh utility

- Couples two uncoupled mesh regions, belonging to the same case.
- You should have a patch in one region of the mesh (`masterPatch`) that fits with a corresponding patch in the other region of the mesh (`slavePatch`). If you have that, then the command is:

```
stitchMesh masterPatch slavePatch
```

- After `stitchMesh`, `masterPatch` and `slavePatch` are still present in the new `polymesh/boundary`, but they are empty so just delete them. The same thing can be done as well for the boundary conditions in the `0` folder.
- We have to re-organize the patches for this to work with our `cavityMerged` case, so we will do it for another case.

First let's run and have a look at the original `interFoam/ras/damBreak` tutorial (not in slides)

## Example: mergeMeshes and stitchMesh

Create two fresh interFoam/ras/damBreak cases:

```
run
cp -r $FOAM_TUTORIALS/multiphase/interFoam/ras/damBreak damBreakLeft
cp -r $FOAM_TUTORIALS/multiphase/interFoam/ras/damBreak damBreakRight
chmod +w -R damBreak* #I need this since I copy from protected files
```

**Change the right wall name of damBreakLeft to rightWallLeft, and the left wall name of damBreakRight to rightWallRight, since they are to be stitched (make sure to do this only once!):**

```
sed -i s/rightWall/rightWallLeft/g damBreakLeft/constant/polyMesh/blockMeshDict
sed -i s/leftWall/leftWallRight/g damBreakRight/constant/polyMesh/blockMeshDict
```

**Modify the number of cells in damBreakRight and create the meshes of both parts.:**

```
sed -i s/" 42 "/" 43 "/g damBreakRight/constant/polyMesh/blockMeshDict
blockMesh -case damBreakLeft
blockMesh -case damBreakRight
```

## Example: mergeMeshes and stitchMesh

**Move the damBreakRight case so that its leftWallRight coincides with the rightWallLeft patch of damBreakLeft, and merge the meshes into damBreakLeft:**

```
transformPoints -translate "(0.584 0 0)" -case damBreakRight
mergeMeshes damBreakLeft damBreakRight
rm -r damBreakRight
rm -r damBreakLeft/constant/polyMesh
mv damBreakLeft/0.001/polyMesh damBreakLeft/constant
rmdir damBreakLeft/0.001
```

**Change the patch names in the 0-directory, using regex(7) POSIX expressions (make sure to do this only once!):**

```
sed -i s/"leftWall"/"leftWall.*/g damBreakLeft/0/*
sed -i s/"rightWall"/"rightWall.*/g damBreakLeft/0/*
```

**Run the case:**

```
setFields -case damBreakLeft
interFoam -case damBreakLeft >& log&
paraFoam -case damBreakLeft
```

**Clean up:**

```
rm -r damBreakLeft/{0.*,[1-9]*}
```

## Example: mergeMeshes and stitchMesh

Stitch the damBreakLeft case:

- Check that you have two regions:

```
checkMesh -case damBreakLeft #=> *Number of regions: 2
```

- Stitch the two regions into a single region:

```
stitchMesh -case damBreakLeft rightWallLeft leftWallRight
rm -r damBreakLeft/constant/polyMesh
mv damBreakLeft/0.001/polyMesh damBreakLeft/constant
rm -r damBreakLeft/0.001 #Also the variables have been saved, but we
                           #keep the original in the 0 directory!
```

- Check that you have one region:

```
checkMesh -case damBreakLeft #=> Number of regions: 1 (OK).
```

- Run and visualize (use Surface With Edges representation to see the stitching):

```
setFields -case damBreakLeft
interFoam -case damBreakLeft >& log&
paraFoam -case damBreakLeft
```

## The decomposePar utility

- `decomposePar` makes a domain decomposition for parallel computations. This is described in the UserGuide.
- Type `decomposePar -help` to see optional flags
- A `decomposeParDict` specifies how the mesh should be decomposed. An example can be found in the `interFoam/damBreak` tutorial: `system/decomposeParDict`.  
`numberOfSubdomains` specifies the number of subdomains the grid should be decomposed into. Make sure that you specify the same number of subdomains in the specific decomposition method you will use, otherwise your simulation might not run optimal.
- Try running in parallel:

```
rm -r damBreakLeft/{0.*,[1-9]*}  
decomposePar -case damBreakLeft  
mpirun -np 4 interFoam -case damBreakLeft -parallel >& log&  
top
```

## The reconstructPar utility

- `reconstructPar` is the reverse of `decomposePar`, reassembling the mesh and the results.
- Type `reconstructPar -help` to see optional flags
- This is usually done for post-processing, although it is also possible to post-process each domain separately by treating an individual processor directory as a separate case when starting `paraFoam`.
- Try reconstructing our case:

```
reconstructPar -case damBreakLeft
```

It will do the time directories that are available until now.

## functionObjects

- functionObjects are general libraries that can be attached run-time to any solver, without having to re-compile the solver.
- An example can be found in the `incompressible/pisoFoam/les/pitzDaily` tutorial.
- A functionObject is added to a solver by adding a `functions` entry in `system/controlDict`
- You can find functionObjects in the source code, in the OpenFOAM Wiki ([www.openfoamwiki.net](http://www.openfoamwiki.net)), and in the OpenFOAM-extend project ([www.sourceforge.net](http://www.sourceforge.net)).
- Search the tutorials for examples using:  

```
grep -r functionObjectLibs $FOAM_TUTORIALS
```
- The implementations can be found in:  

```
$FOAM_SRC/postProcessing/functionObjects
```

## The fieldMinMax functionObject

- Add to damBreakLeft/system/controlDict:

```
functions
(
    minMaxU
    {
        type            fieldMinMax;
        functionObjectLibs ("libfieldFunctionObjects.so");
        fields
        (
            U
        );
        mode            magnitude;
        outputControl    timeStep;
        outputInterval  1;
    }
);
```

- Run the case:

```
interFoam -case damBreakLeft >& log&
```

- Output in (time directory according to when it was initialized):

```
damBreakLeft/postProcessing/minMaxU/0/fieldMinMax.dat
```



## Plot the output of fieldMinMax

- The output of `fieldMinMax` is a bit complex:

```
# Time  field  min  position(min)  max  position(max)
0.00119048  U      0      (0 0.00299993 0.0073)  0.0553571  (0.146 0.296857 0.0073)
0.00258503  U      0      (0 0.00299993 0.0073)  0.124416  (0.171391 0.00299994 0.0073)
0.00422003  U      0      (0 0.00299993 0.0073)  0.238544  (0.171391 0.00299994 0.0073)
```

- Use `sed` and `gnuplot` to plot, removing headerline and unwanted characters (U, (, and ) ):

```
plot '<sed "s/U//g;s/(//g;s//g" damBreakLeft/postProcessing/minMaxU/0/fieldMinMax.dat'\
      using 1:7 every ::1 with lines title "X-position of maximum velocity magnitude"
```

## The probes functionObject

- The probes functionObject probes the development of the results during a simulation, writing to a file in the directory `postProcessing/probes`.
- Copy and modify the functions part at the end of the `controlDict` of the `incompressible/pisoFoam/les/pitzDaily` tutorial to the `damBreakLeft` case and run it:

```
probes
{
    type                probes;
    functionObjectLibs ("libsampling.so");
    enabled              true;
    outputControl        timeStep;
    outputInterval       1;
    fields
    (
        U
    );
    probeLocations
    (
        ( 0.1778 0.0253 0 )
    );
}
```

- Plot with `gnuplot` as for `fieldMinMax`
- Note that the values are the cell center values, i.e. not interpolated!

## The fieldAverage functionObject

- The `fieldAverage` functionObject calculates the time-average of specified fields and writes the results in the time directories.
- Copy and modify the functions part at the end of the `controlDict` of the `incompressible/pisoFoam/les/pitzDaily` tutorial the `damBreakLeft` case and run it:

```
fieldAverage1
{
    type                fieldAverage;
    functionObjectLibs ("libfieldFunctionObjects.so");
    enabled              true;
    outputControl        outputTime;
    fields
    (
        U
        {
            mean          on;
            prime2Mean    on; //RMS
            base           time;
        }
    );
}
```

## The surfaces functionObject

The surfaces functionObject writes out surface interpolated results to disk.  
If the surfaceFormat is VTK, those can be viewed in paraview.

### First example:

```
surfaceSampling
{
    type surfaces;
    functionObjectLibs ("libsampling.so");
    enabled            true;
    outputControl      outputTime;
    interpolationScheme cellPoint;
    surfaceFormat vtk;
    fields ( U );
    surfaces
    (
        nearWall
        {
            type          patchInternalField;
            patches        ( leftWall );
            distance        1E-6;
            interpolate     true;
            triangulate     false;
        }
    );
}
```

### Two more examples:

```
atmosphere
{
    type          patch;
    patches        ( atmosphere );
    triangulate    false;
}
plane
{
    type          plane;
    normalVector (0 0 1);
    basePoint (0 0 0.005);
}
```

## The forces functionObject

- The viscous and pressure forces and moments (about a center of rotation) is reported by the `forces` functionObject (try with `damBreakLeft`):

```
forces
{
    type forces;
    functionObjectLibs ("libforces.so");
    patches ( lowerWall );
    rhoName rho;
    pName p;
    UName U;
    CofR (0 0 0);
    rhoInf 1000;
    name forces;
    uitype forces;
    outputControl timeStep;
    outputInterval 1;
    format ascii;
}
```

## The forceCoeffs functionObject

- The lift and drag coefficients are reported by the forceCoeffs functionObject (try with damBreakLeft), see sonicFoam/ras:

```
forceCoeffs
{
    type                forceCoeffs;
    functionObjectLibs ( "libforces.so" );
    outputControl        timeStep;
    outputInterval       1;
    patches ( lowerWall );
    pName                p;
    UName                U;
    log                  true;
    rhoInf               1;
    CofR                 ( 0 0 0 );
    liftDir              ( -0.239733 0.970839 0 );
    dragDir              ( 0.970839 0.239733 0 );
    pitchAxis            ( 0 0 1 );
    magUInf              618.022;
    lRef                 1;
    Aref                 1;
}
```

## More functionObjects

- [http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib\\_simpleFunctionObjects](http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Contrib_simpleFunctionObjects)
- [http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Sig\\_Turbomachienry/\\_ERCOfTAC\\_centrifugal\\_pump\\_with\\_a\\_vaned\\_diffuser#Optional\\_tools](http://openfoamwiki.net/index.php/Sig_Turbomachienry/_ERCOfTAC_centrifugal_pump_with_a_vaned_diffuser#Optional_tools)

# Modifying dictionaries with changeDictionary

In system/changeDictionaryDict (test on clean cavity case):

```
FoamFile
{
    version      2.0;
    format       ascii;
    class        dictionary;
    object       changeDictionaryDict;
}
dictionaryReplacement
{
    boundary
    {
        frontAndBack
        {
            type      symmetryPlane;
        }
    }
    U
    {
        internalField    uniform (0.01 0 0);
        boundaryField
        {
            frontAndBack
            {
                type      symmetryPlane;
            }
            ".*Wall.*" // ".*" is for RegExp
            {
                type      fixedValue;
                value      uniform (0.01 0 0);
            }
        }
    }
}
```



## Questions

- Where can you find all the examples in the installation on the use of `mapFields` dictionaries?
- Where can you find all the examples in the installation on the use of `sample` dictionaries?
- Where can you find all the examples in the installation on the use of `setFields` dictionaries?
- What is the output of the `fieldMinMax` `functionObject` for the pressure of the cavity case, at the final time step?