

Management Center Innsbruck

Department of Technology & Life Sciences

Master's program Mechatronics & Smart Technologies



Report

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WS 2024 Computational Methods of Fluid Dynamics
(MECH-M-3-CFD-NSM-VO)

about

Optimization Study of a flow heater

from

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Chapter 1

Meshing of the Domain

The meshing of the domain is a crucial step in the simulation process as it directly affects the accuracy of the results. The following settings were used:

- item size of 2 mm
- 5 inflation layers

The mesh of the whole domain for the basic geometry is shown in [Figure 1.1](#) while [Figure 1.2](#) shows a detailed view of the meshing at the walls and heater element.

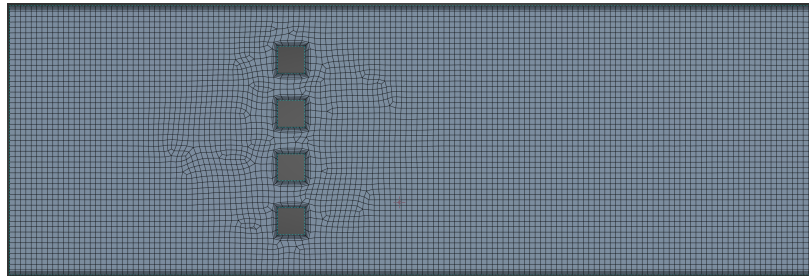


Figure 1.1. Full view of the base geometry meshing

1.1 Grid Convergence Study

To ensure the mesh independency of the results, a grid convergence study was performed. The mesh size was varied between 4 mm, 2 mm and 1 mm whilst keeping the number of inflation layers constant. To evaluate the results, the area-weighted average static temperature 25 mm before the outlet was used. The results are shown in [Table 1.1](#) and [Figure 1.3](#).

The grid convergence study yields an asymptotic range of convergence of 0.99911, a 0.19 % Grid Convergence Index (GCI) between 4 mm and 2 mm and a 0.08 % GCI between 2 mm and 1 mm mesh sizing and thus shows that the results can be seen as mesh independent for a mesh size of 2 mm.

1. Meshing of the Domain

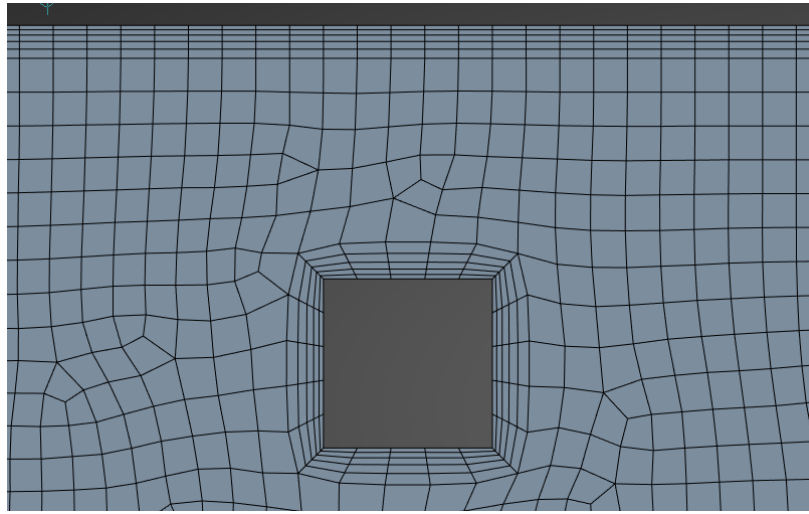


Figure 1.2. Detailed view of the base geometry meshing

Table 1.1. Grid convergence study

Mesh size	Temperature [K]
4 mm	305.62
2 mm	304.96
1 mm	304.69
Richardson Extrapolation	304.503

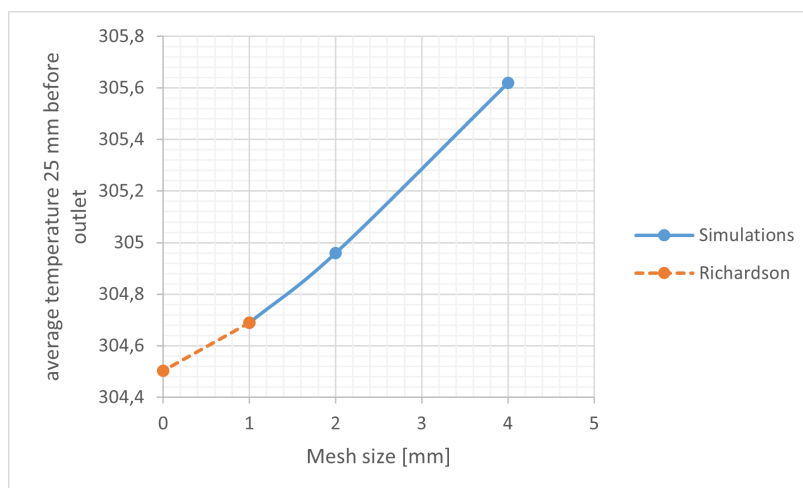


Figure 1.3. Grid convergence graph showing the variation of temperature with mesh size

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Appendix A

MATLAB scripts

As attachment, all Matlab live scripts and Simiulink files used in in the context of this laboratory are submitted as *.mlx*-files and *.slx*-files. Additionally, the following live scripts are also directly attached to this report in written format:

- `response_fitting_lab_data.mlx`
- `aerodynamic_state_observer_controller_init.mlx`